

## Walter Buell

Walter Joseph Buell was born on October 31, 1891 in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His parents were Thomas Finamus Buell of Poland and Laura Ries of Minnesota. Thomas immigrated to Minnesota in 1875. Walter had two siblings, Laura and Arthur. In 1900, the family lived in Mendota Township, Dakota County. In 1910, the family lived in St. Paul, Ramsey County. Prior to his military service, Walter worked as a pressman at Dispatch Printing.

Walter registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. He lived in West St. Paul at the time and claimed exemption on account of having an old mother and father of whom he supported. He enlisted on June 26, 1918. Walter served with Company C, 352nd Infantry, 88th Division, 302nd Ammunition Train, 302nd Trench Mortar Battery and 77th Infantry of the U.S. Army. He served in Iowa (Camp Dodge), France, and Belgium. His rank was Private, then Private 1st Class. Walter arrived in France in May, 1918. He first went into action on July 17, 1918. Walter fought in the battle of Argonne Forest. He sailed home in February 1919 and was discharged from service at Camp Dodge on March 6th, 1919.

After the war, in 1920, Walter was living with his parents. Walter married Elvina J. Holler. They had two children, Richard Walter (b. 1927) and Donald David (b. 1936). He worked as a carpenter and in construction. By 1930, they were living with Elvina's family in St. Paul. In 1940, they had their own home in West St. Paul. Walter died on January 4, 1980 of Acute Congestive Heart Failure in South St. Paul. Walter was buried at Riverview Cemetery in St. Paul.

Photo source: [Dakota County in the World War](#)

