



Charles Marshall Gere

Charles Gere was born on June 19, 1890 in Kenyon, Minnesota to John Gere (1859-1907) and Mary Ellen Jones White (1856-1946). John was in a partnership with James White, Mary's first husband. When he died, she married John. She brought her daughter, Gertrude, who was much older than Charles with her. John had a successful printing business in Hastings. One of his biggest clients being the Hastings Democrat newspaper. In 1907, John died at the age of 48. Charles and his mother moved to Minneapolis. His half-sister Gertrude was now married to Clinton Tuttle and the couple remained in the Hastings home. Charles graduated from Central High School and worked first as a Chamber Clerk and then at the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. On June 5, 1917 he registers for the draft in Minneapolis. He is working as a Clerk for the Minneapolis

Chamber of Commerce. He claims an exemption but is drafted anyway.

He enlists on June 24, 1918 in the Regular Army where he trains at Camp Grant, Illinois. He is assigned to the 86th Division, Headquarters Company, 333rd Field Artillery Regiment. They leave for France on September 17, 1918 on the SS Metagana out of the New York harbor. Charles is a musician in the Headquarters Band. He earns the rank of 2CL. Their Division leaves France, without seeing any action, on January 3, 1919 on the SS Siboney. They are in route to Hoboken, New Jersey and Camp Mills where Charles is released on January 19, 1919.

By early 1920, Charles and his mother are back living in the Hastings home on 6th Street. Gertrude and her family live there too. Both Clinton Tuttle and Charles are working for the County Register of Deeds. Charles married Helen Reissner (1896-1961) on July 26, 1928 in Hastings. Helen was a teacher. The couple had two daughters. Charles worked for Dakota County as a Civil Engineer and was Past Commander of the VFW#7. Both Charles and Helen were very active in Hastings clubs and activities. When Helen died in 1961, Charles married Lucille Jaeger. He was 72 and she was 52 on their wedding day, August 2, 1962. Charles died on November 11, 1968 in Hastings. He is buried at Lakeside Cemetery.