



## Joseph John Heinen

Joseph Heinen was born on August 2, 1895 in Hastings, Minnesota to Peter Heinen (1853-1920) and Veronica R Fritz (1860-1926). He registered for the draft late on September 3, 1917 as he was in Canada.

He was 22 and had been working in his father's harness shop. He enlisted in the National Army on March 25, 1918. He trained at Camp Dodge and was assigned to the 313<sup>th</sup> Ammunition Train, Headquarters Company, 88<sup>th</sup> Division. The Ammunition Company was responsible for transporting the artillery and infantry ammunition from the ammunition refilling point to the area of engagement. The train itself may have been a literal train, but in most cases it was not. It could be horse-drawn wagons or trucks. His Company sailed for France on the SS Vedic out of the Hoboken, New Jersey on August 17, 1918. They arrived at Liverpool on August 28<sup>th</sup>. They traveled by train to South Hampton and took a ship to France. They spent more time training and were on the front lines by October 20<sup>th</sup> but the war ended before they

saw any action. They were assigned to the Army of Occupation and spent the next several months moving equipment that had been dumped throughout France. His Division returned to America from St Nazaire, France and he was released from Camp Dodge, Iowa on June 12, 1919.

He returned home and lived with his family. His friend, John McDermott, who had been orphaned and also served in WWI was living with the family as well. Joseph was working as a machinist and John as a carpenter and both were employed by the Rosemount Police Department as night watchmen. On the night of May 20, 1923, John was asked to work for Joseph, as he had been injured in an automobile accident and was in the hospital. John agreed. While on the job, he observed two suspicious men near the bank so he called for back-up. He was accidentally shot and killed by one of the policeman that had just arrived.

Joseph married Helen Pauline Danner (1903-1977) on June 6, 1928. They moved to West St Paul where Joseph was employed by the State of Minnesota Department of Insurance. The couple had two children. Joseph died on April 28, 1947 at the age of 51. He is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Joseph also had an older brother, John Henry Heinen that served in WWI.