



Eugene Dennis McNamara

Eugene McNamara was born on October 6, 1896 in St Paul, Minnesota to John Dennis McNamara (1864-1954) and Fannie Erica Ringstrom McNamara (1874-1943). His family moved to Ravenna and farmed. Eugene attended the little county school and he is shown in the photo below with his classmates including his future wife. He was helping his parents on the farm when he registered for the draft on June 5, 1917 in Hastings, Minnesota. He was 21. He was drafted and enlisted on February 24, 1918. He was assigned to the 77th Field Artillery, 4th Division. After training at Camp Lewis, Washington, he went overseas on May 19, 1918 as part of the Medical Detachment for the 77th. We could find no other details of his service in France other than the fact that he was gassed. The 77th served in five major combat campaigns. He was mustered out of the service on January 28, 1919.

Eugene married Marie Maher (shown in the bottom row, Eugene is also on the bottom with the bow) in 1920. He drove a truck, was a teacher and finally worked as a mail carrier in Hastings until he retired. Eugene and Marie had eight children. He died on August 31, 1982 in Hastings and he is buried at St Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Cemetery.

