

Frank Alfred Kummer



Frank Kummer was born on February 7, 1893 in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin to Nicholas Kummer (1859-1937) and Theresa Weiss Kummer (1865-1947). Frank's father was a farmer and his parents were both born in Wisconsin. Frank left home at an early age. In 1910 at age 17 he was working and boarding on the Hammer Farm. He registered for the draft in Hastings on June 5, 1917. He is 24 and a mechanic on the Robert Christian Farm. He enlisted in the National Army on July 24, 1918 and left for training at Camp Grant, Illinois. His training was exactly one month long. On August 28, 1918 he was on his way to New York with the 343rd Infantry (Ambulance & Field Hospital), 86th Division, Company C. They sailed on the SS Olympia on

September 7, 1918 and arrived in South Hampton, England on September 14th. His Division camped at LeMans, France but did not see action. They received orders to return home and boarded the SS Siboney on May 11, 1919. They arrived in Hoboken, New Jersey on May 20th and he was released from Camp Dodge, Iowa on May 29, 1919. He applied for and received a \$60 travel bonus and a \$165 Tuition Bonus.

He returned to Hastings, Minnesota where he would live until he died. He married Hazel Burwell (1899-1967) on June 10, 1919, who was from Cottage Grove. She graduated from Hastings High School in 1917 and at one time worked as a reporter for the Hastings Gazette Newspaper. The couple had two daughters, Marjorie who they lost to Pneumonia when she was just ten years old and Dorothy. Frank opened a full-service auto repair business in Hastings.

Hazel died on April 1, 1967 and Frank remarried in 1968. His new wife was Bertha Sandau Hullander Kummer (1904-1988). She had also lost her husband in 1958. She was an energetic lady. The couple once owned a dairy farm where they raised chickens and grew vegetables for the many restaurants that they owned over the years. These included The Dug Out, Art's Café and the Diner Café. Frank died on November 6, 1974 at Regina Hospital in Hastings. He was 81. He is buried in the St Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Cemetery in Hastings.

Frank was a charter member and past President of the Eagles Club in Hastings.

His brother Arthur also served in WWI. He was a sergeant in the 109th Engineers, 34th Division.