**William Blair**

William Blair was born in March of 1894 in South St. Paul, Minnesota. His parents were James and Rose Blair. William was one of eight children as of 1910. Prior to his military service, William attended two local schools.

William enlisted on June 19, 1916 and had already been in the service about a year previous to the outbreak of the War. He trained at Fort Snelling. His rank was corporal, then sergeant. William served at the Mexican border prior to joining the 151st Field Artillery, Battery C, Rainbow Division on the onset of war. He was then sent to France on the President Lincoln on December 13, 1917. He was gassed there twice, and his legs suffered ten wounds. William arrived back in America via the Dante Alighieri on June 17, 1919. After he returned to America, he was "enjoying the best of health".

After his military service, William married Martha Krumwiede on September 1, 1919. They had two children together: William Jr. in 1921 and Jennette in 1925. Blair worked as a car repairman for Swift & Company, as a Bookkeeper, was the dictator of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge No. 1088, and was a member at the St. Paulus Lutheran church. At some point in 1927, William contracted the flu and underwent treatment in Snelling Hospital and was later moved to Maywood, Illinois. He died of complications in August, 1927 in the Veterans' Hospital in Maywood, Illinois. He was only 33 years old. William was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Minneapolis.