Timothy Thomas Jones

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Timothy Thomas Jones was born 4 May 1887 (some records say 1885 or 1886) in Morton, Renville County, Minnesota. His parents were Robert Jones (1838-1929, born in Canada) and Ellen M. Lorden (1862-1937, born in Ireland). The family is recorded in the 1895 census at Redwood County, Minnesota, but by 1900 they had moved to Renville County, where they were engaged in farming. Timothy's siblings were James Francis (1881-1949), John R. (1882-1937), Michael (1887-1974), Frank G. (1889-1969), Mary F. (1893-1959), Raymond J. (1893-1945) and Charles Joseph (1896-1960).

Timothy registered for the draft on 12 September 1918 at Hastings, Dakota County, Minnesota. He was working as a barber in Rosemount, and was 31 years old and single. He enlisted 22 October 1918 and was assigned as a private to the 387th Regiment of the 97th Infantry Division. He was sent to Camp Cody, New Mexico for training. The 97th Division was one of the divisions planned to be deployed to France in 1919 to reinforce the American Expeditionary Forces. The division's cadre consisted of over 1,000 trained officers and enlisted men. The division was intended to be composed of National Army draftees mainly from Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, but in October, over 5,000 draftees, mainly from Oklahoma and Minnesota, were sent to Camp Cody. Initial instruction went relatively well, but its regiments were at less than half-strength as late as the beginning of November. In late October, the 97th was struck by the 1918 flu pandemic, which sickened over 500 soldiers and killed more than 100. The War ended with the Armistice of 11 November, and the 97th was ordered to be demobilized on 20 November. At the time, it was only partially organized and consisted of 402 officers and 7,889 men. The demobilization was completed on 22 December. As a result, Timothy was not sent to fight in Europe.

After the War, Timothy returned to Rosemount, where he continued to work as a barber. In the 1920 census, he is a lodger in the household of Dennis Gibson, who was also a barber. But by 1930, Timothy had returned to live with his family at Morton, probably to help on the farm because his father had died in 1929. In the 1930 census, Timothy is shown as a laborer at a steel plant, and in 1940 he was a kitchen helper and barber at the State Park CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) development. His mother Ellen died in 1937. It does not appear that Timothy ever married or had children.

Timothy Thomas Jones died on 29 August 1952 and is buried in the Saint John's Catholic Church Cemetery in Morton.