Granville Douglas Judkins

Granville Douglas Judkins was born 30 March 1893 in either Stillwater or Oneka Township (today Hugo), Washington County, Minnesota to Everett P. Judkins (1859-1929) and Adella Masterman (1862-1960), both born in Maine. Granville's parents married in Stillwater, Minnesota in 1882, and raised their family in Oneka Township. In addition to Granville, they had Archie Clifford (1883-1962), Elton Louis (1886-1974), Alice Melissa (1889-1966), Leslie Raymond (1897-1967) and Claire Irene (1899-1997).

By 5 June 1917 when Granville registered for the draft, he was 24 years old and lived at 439 1st Avenue S. in South St. Paul, where he worked as a laborer at Swift & Company. He was single.

Granville enlisted in the service on 26 August 1918 and was discharged on 23 August 1919. He served as a private in the U.S. Army, 20th Company, 161st Depot Brigade, 86th Division. The division saw no combat in WWI. Granville trained at Camp Grant in Illinois. The role of depot brigades was to receive and organize recruits, provide them with uniforms, equipment and initial military training, and then send them to France to fight on the front lines. The depot brigades also received soldiers returning home at the end of the war and completed their out-processing and discharges.

Granville married Elizabeth "Elsie" Baesch (1900-1974) in 1919 in South St. Paul. After the War, Granville returned to live in South St. Paul; he and wife Elsie lived at 439 1st Avenue S. as renters in 1920. They were still renting at that address by the time of the 1940 census, when Granville was working as a truck driver, and in 1942 when he registered for the draft and continued to work for Swift. They had a son, Gordon, and a daughter, Betty Jean. Son Gordon also worked for a meat packing company.

Granville Douglas Judkins died at age 68 in Hastings, Dakota County, Minnesota on 8 July 1961. He is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota. His widow was Mrs. Elsie Judkins at 418 8th Ave. S. in South St. Paul.

Note: There are a military service questionnaire and a bonus file available for research at the Minnesota Historical Society for Granville Judkins.