Michael Paul Sperl

Michael Sperl was born 24 October 1886 in West St. Paul, Minnesota to Josef Sperl and Margretta Kaeck from Pullenried, Germany. The family farm was located on Wentworth Avenue between Humboldt and Charlton Streets in West St. Paul, Minnesota. The farm was torn down sometime in the late 1960s early 1970s

Michael attended Cretin High School and graduated in 1903. He worked as a bookkeeper and a salesman before the War. When he registered for draft in 1917 he was 30 years old, single and lived at 882 Dodd Road, West St. Paul.

During his service he was a US Army Staff Sergeant serving in Vladivostok, Russia. According to his wife, Marie Cenk Sperl, he was a staff sergeant in a medical corps.
He was discharged 14 October 1919.

He married Marie Agnes Cenk on June 17, 1924, in Omaha, Nebraska. They had three children in 14 years. Michael (who became a neurosurgeon), Robert (who became an architect) and Mary (who became a social worker). They lived at 944 Smith Avenue in West St. Paul then moved to 374 Mount Curve Avenue in St Paul. Mike had a successful career as a salesman for Shakespeare and Company Fishing Tackle. He served the upper Midwest territory for forty years. He retired in 1956 at the age of 70 and spent the remainder of his life playing cards (both bridge and poker), smoking cigars and enjoying life.

Michael died of cancer on February 8, 1978, in St. Paul, Minnesota, at the age of 91. He was survived by his wife Marie, who died in 1998. He is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Information from his granddaughter, Bridget Sperl