

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE MEN OF FAIRFAX COUNTY WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR I

WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL PLAQUE FAIRFAX VA COURTHOUSE



Erected for the men from the Mt.
Vernon and Lee Districts.



Pohick Plaque was
dedicated by
President Harding in
1921.



THOMAS LEMUEL BRADY



Date of Birth: June 6, 1890

Date of Death: November 30, 1918

Residence: Great Falls VA

Occupation: Carpenter

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Sergeant

Unit: Co. B, Heavy Tank Corps, 301st Battalion

The Tank Corps of the American Expeditionary Force was the mechanized unit that conducted American tank combat. Sgt. Brady was a member of one of the four tank corps units which saw combat operations.

Sgt. Brady died overseas from pneumonia. Originally buried in the British Military Cemetery, Awoingt-Nord, France, in 1921 he was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18 Grave 2856).

In a letter to his sister published in the Fairfax Herald, Brady wrote: *"It is a great sight to see an aeroplane come down. I see one almost every night. They usually catch on fire as they are struck and come down in a hurry. A few nights ago, one was brought down in this section with eight Germans in it besides a number of bombs.*

I had some mighty nice letters from my friends in Fairfax. If people back home knew how much we appreciate letters they would never have to be asked to write."

JAMES FREDERICK CARPER



Date of birth: April 3, 1893

Date of death: September 13, 1918

Residence: McLean VA

Occupation: Worked with his father farming and dairying

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. A, 23rd Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division

The 2nd Infantry Division fought in several key battles, including the Battle of Belleau Wood and the decisive battle for the St. Mihiel. Pvt. Carper was killed in action in the Battle of Belleau Wood in September 1918.

Pvt. Carper was originally buried in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery in Thiaucourt, France. He was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18 Grave 3262) in August 1921

CHARLES HENRY CONIC



Date of birth: September 1, 1894

Date of death: October 31, 1918

Residence: Fairfax VA

Occupation: Laborer for SA Donohoe in Fairfax VA

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. H, 808th Pioneer Infantry Battalion, 371st Infantry Regiment, 93th Infantry Division

Following basic training, Pvt. Conic was assigned to the 808th Pioneer Regiment comprised of African Americans. Pioneer units primarily worked improving and building roads, bridges, railroads and hospitals.

Pvt. Conic died in Nantes, France from disease.

Originally buried in the American Cemetery in Nantes France, he was reinterred in Arlington National Cemetery (Section 19, Grave 119).

His wife, Helen, is also buried there.

FRANK COOK

Date of Birth: June 24, 1887

Date of Death: September 28, 1918

Residence: Burke Station VA

Occupation: Laborer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Pvt. Cook died of disease.

Further information on Pvt. Frank Cook, including where he is buried, could not be substantiated.

CLARENCE MILLICON DAWSON



Date of Birth: April 14, 1892

Date of Death: January 11, 1918

Residence: Lorton VA

Occupation: Railroad Section Hand

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. A, 318th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division

Pvt. Dawson trained at Camp Lee in Petersburg, VA. More than sixty thousand “doughboys” trained at Camp Lee. About 10,000 doughboys contracted the pandemic flu and about 700 died.

Pvt. Dawson died from disease, possibly from the pandemic flu.

He is buried in the Cranford United Methodist Church Cemetery in Lorton, VA.

WILLIAM ISAAC DEARDORFF



Date of Birth: March 18, 1896

Date of Death: October 25, 1918

Residence: Occoquan

Occupation: Preparing to enter the ministry

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Battery A, 315th Field Artillery Regiment, 80th

Division (nicknamed "The Blue Ridge Division")

Pvt. Deardorff was mortally wounded in the American victory in the Meuse-Argonne located in Montfaucon (Mount Falcon) France. He died in Base Hospital No. 116 in Vosges Bazoilles-Sur-Meuse, France.

He is buried in the Pohick Episcopal Church Cemetery in Lorton VA.

The inscription on his headstone reads:

He died that others may live

Greater love hath no man than this

Howard Lee Derr



Date of Birth: July 16, 1896

Date of Death: October 3, 1918

Residence: Dranesville VA

Occupation: Federal Government

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Pvt. Derr was with the Dept. of Agriculture working along the Mexican border. The work involved monitoring, inspecting and preventing new flu cases from entering the U.S.

Pvt. Derr died from pneumonia resulting from the flu at St. Anthony's Sanitarium in Amarillo. He is buried in a family plot in Fairfax City Cemetery.

PERCY JENNINGS DOVE



Date of Birth: September 3, 1897

Date of Death: October 27, 1918

Residence: Accotink VA

Occupation: Carpenter, employed by federal government at Camp Humphreys (now known as Fort Belvoir)

Military Service: U.S. Army

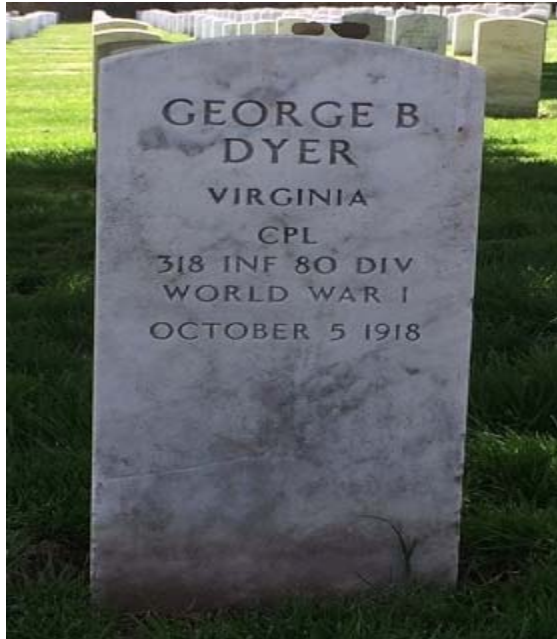
Rank: Private 1st Class

Unit: Co. L, 116th Infantry, 29th Division

Pvt. Dove's unit, also known as the Blue and Gray Division, participated in Meuse-Argonne offensive as part of the French XVII Corps. Thirty percent of the division became casualties. Pvt. Dove became one of the casualties when he was killed in action.

He was originally buried in France at the Argonne American Cemetery and was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 3591) on September 29, 1921.

GEORGE BRYANT DYER



Date of Birth: November 19, 1895

Date of Death: October 5, 1918

Residence: Vienna, VA

Occupation: Employed by the federal government as a Navy ordnance powder factory attendant in Indian Head MD

Military Service: U.S. Army

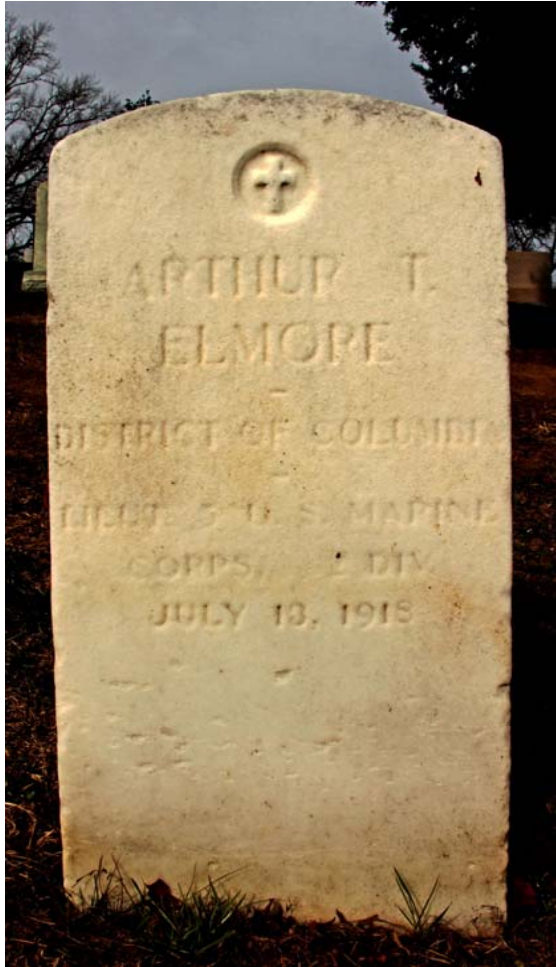
Rank: Corporal

Unit: Co. F, 318th Infantry, 80th Division

The 80th Division was also known as the Blue Ridge Division. The Division was involved in the First Battle of the Somme and the Meuse-Argonne Battle of St. Mihiel.

Cpl. Dyer was killed in action. He was originally buried in France and later reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 1943).

Arthur Thomson Elmore



Date of Birth: about 1897

Date of Death: July 13, 1918

Residence:

Occupation: Student at the Citadel

Military Service: U.S. Marine Corps

Rank: 1st Lieutenant

Unit: 16th Co., 5th Regiment, 2nd Marine Division

The 5th Regiment of Marines was activated on June 8, 1917 in Philadelphia and soon after was deployed to France. Lt. Elmore graduated early from the Citadel in order to enlist. He was commissioned in Washington DC in June 1917 and trained at Front Royal VA.

The 5th Regiment participated in the Battle of Belleau Wood and the offensive campaigns Aisne, Battle of Saint-Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne.

Lt. Elmore's name is included on a plaque at Pohick Church which was dedicated by President Harding in 1921. The plaque recognized men from Mt. Vernon and Lee Districts of Fairfax County who died in service during World War I.

Lt. Elmore died from wounds received and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (Section SW H, Grave 4371).

WILLIE R FAIRFAX



Date of Birth: June 24, 1893

Date of Death: October 1, 1918

Residence: Fairfax

Occupation: Laborer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Prior to the war, Pvt. Fairfax had 5 months of Army experience. He had been released from the army and then subsequently drafted for World War I.

Pvt. Fairfax died from the pandemic flu. He is buried in the Fairfax-Lacy Family cemetery located in Fairfax Station.

CORLISS MONTGOMERY FOX



Date of Birth: September 11, 1890
Date of Death: September 29, 1918
Residence: Vienna VA
Occupation: Farmer with father

Military Service: U.S. Army
Rank: Private
Unit: Not substantiated

After his induction into the Army, Pvt. Fox was likely trained at Camp Lee in Petersburg VA.

Approximately 60,000 soldiers trained there, prior to being assigned permanent units. Of these about 10,000 caught the pandemic flu, including Pvt. Fox who died from the disease.

Pvt. Fox is buried alongside his family. The gravestone is a four-sided monument at Andrew Chapel Cemetery in Vienna VA. The inscription for Pvt. Fox reads *"What hopes have perished with you, our soldier boy"*.



CLARENCE LEITH GUNNELL

Date of Birth: June 24, 1892

Date of Death: September 29, 1918

Residence: Vienna VA

Occupation: Lunchroom worker

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. D, 54th Pioneer Infantry

Pvt. Gunnell was one of the few Virginians who volunteered rather than being drafted.

The 54th Pioneer Infantry had about 3,400 men. The unit participated in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, which took place between September 26 and November 11, 1918. This battle was part of the final Allied offensive of World War I.

Pvt. Gunnell died from wounds received in the above offensive and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 780).

CALEB WALTON HALL



Date of Birth: January 7, 1892

Date of Death: September 28, 1918

Residence: Vienna VA

Occupation: Laborer with the Curtis Manufacturing Co. in St. Louis, Missouri

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Battery C, 28th Field Artillery, 10th Division

Pvt. Hall's unit was organized in August 1918 at Camp Funston in Kansas. Pvt. Hall died at Camp Funston as a result of the influenza outbreak.

He is buried at the Sydenstricker Methodist Church Cemetery in Springfield VA.

The gravestone's inscription reads:

God gave me my son in trust to me/Christ died for him, and he should be/A man for Christ. He is his own/And God's and man's; not mine alone/ He was not mine to "give." He gave/Himself that he might help to save/All that a Christian should revere/All that enlightened men hold dear.

JOHN W HARRIS

Date of Birth: September 10, 1881

Date of Death: October 7, 1918

Residence:

Occupation:

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Pvt. Harris may have died of disease.

Further information on Pvt. John W Harris, including where he is buried, could not be substantiated.

HARRY HATCHER



Photo Source: Findagrave.com
Photo posted by soilsister

Date of Birth: April 24, 1893

Death of Death: October 8, 1918

Residence: Theological Seminary VA

Occupation: Laborer at Potomac Yards in Alexandria VA

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: 372nd Infantry, 93rd Division

Pvt. Hatcher was in the first group of African Americans to be drafted under the first call. After his induction, Pvt. Hatcher was assigned to the 93rd Division, a segregated army division. The division was nicknamed the “Blue Helmets” and served on detached service to the French 10th Army Corps. The African American soldiers were issued French rations, equipment and the distinct French helmets.

The 372nd Infantry was awarded the French Croix de Guerre medal for gallantry on the battlefield.

Pvt. Hatcher died from combat wounds and is buried in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial (Plot A/Row 27/Grave 10) in France.

ROBERT N KENDALL



Photo Source: Findagrave.com
Posted by Anonymous Graver

Date of Birth: January 26, 1895

Date of Death: April 17, 1919

Residence: Herndon VA

Occupation: Farmer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: 318th Infantry Regiment, 80th Division

Research indicates that he was the first of Fairfax County men to be inducted during the national call-up. While serving with the 318th Infantry in France, after the fighting had ended, Pvt. Kendall was involved in an accident and subsequently died.

The men of the 80th Division were primarily made up of draftees from VA, WVA, and PA. The division became known as the "Blue Ridge" Division.

Pvt. Kendall is buried at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery and Memorial in Picardie France.

MORRIS LUCAS

Date of Birth: December 25, 1894

Date of Death: February 16, 1918

Residence: Fairfax VA

Occupation: Laborer for Bethlehem Steel Co.

Military Service: U.S. Army

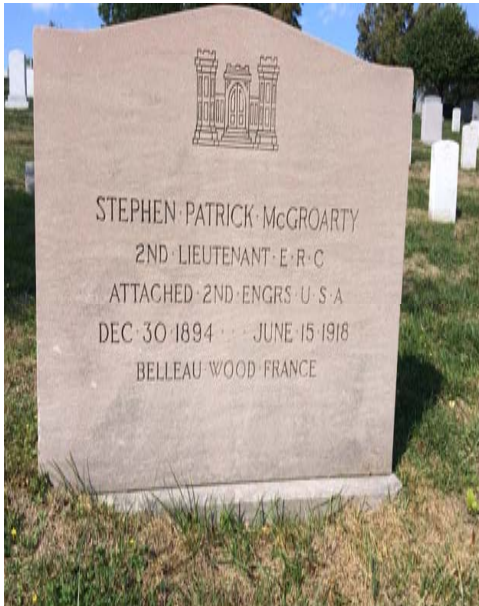
Rank: Private

Unit: Co. L 368th Infantry

Pvt. Lucas likely died of disease.

Further information on Pvt. Morris Lucas, including where he is buried could not be substantiated.

STEPHEN PATRICK McGROARTY



Date of Birth: December 30, 1894

Date of Death: June 15, 1918

Residence: Falls Church VA

Occupation: Civil Engineer for the George A. Fuller Co.

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant, US Engineers Reserves

Unit: 2nd Engineers, 2nd Division

Lt. McGroarty was attending the University of Virginia when the war began. He volunteered to serve and after completing basic training at Camp Gordon, GA, Lt. McGroarty served in France. The unit's duties included railway construction and building defense positions.

The 2nd Division fought in the Battle of Belleau Wood. Lt. McGroarty died from combat wounds and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 3, Grave 4472-EH).

American Legion McGroarty – Stambaugh Post No. 124 in Falls Church, VA is named in memory of the only two men, Stephen McGroarty and Ralph Stambaugh, in Falls Church who made the supreme sacrifice.

WARNIE VERNON McINTOSH



Date of Birth: February 25, 1891

Date of Death: May 10, 1918

Residence: Chesterbrook, East Falls Church VA

Occupation: Clerk with the Federal Government
Commerce Dept.

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Pvt. McIntosh died of spinal meningitis at Camp Judson in South Carolina. He is buried at the Oakwood Cemetery in Falls Church.

JOHN RUSSELL MITCHELL



Date of Birth: October 6, 1895

Date of Death: October 17, 1918

Residence: South Washington, Alexandria VA

Occupation: Miller

Military Service: U. S. Army

Rank: Corporal

Unit: Co. A, 116th Infantry, 29th Division

The 116th Infantry was deployed to France where Gen. Pershing insisted they fight under American leadership, not act as support to the French. The division faced difficult terrain and fighting in the Argonne Valley. They were able to capture 16,000 prisoners. The 116th suffered 30% casualties during the battle.

Cpl. Mitchell was killed in action by a machine gun sniper at Meuse Argonne. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 2771).

ARTHUR C MORGAN



Date of Birth: June 28, 1887

Date of Death: December 3, 1918

Residence: Falls Church VA

Occupation: Laborer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. A, 550 Engineers Service Battalion

Pvt. Morgan died of disease. He was originally buried at the American Cemetery Lambazellec, Finistere Commune France. Pvt. Morgan was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 19, Grave 58) on August 3, 1920.

John E Reed



Date of Birth: Unknown

Date of Death: October 11, 1918

Residence: McLean VA

Occupation:

Military Service: U. S. Army

Rank: Corporal

Unit: Co. C, 16th Infantry, 1st Division

The 16th infantry division was the first to engage in combat with the Germans. They entered Paris on July 4, 1917, announcing "Lafayette we are here." The division fought in the Meuse-Argonne Campaign where the division earned the Croix de Guerre for bravery in battle.

Cpl. Reed was initially reported in the 9/7/1918 issue of the Washington Times as having been severely wounded. The 11/13/1918 issue of the Washington Herald reported that Cpl. Reed had died from his wounds.

Cpl. Reed was originally buried in France. In January of 1922 he was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 4074).

PERRY ROBINSON



Date of Birth: March 14, 1894

Date of Death: October 23, 1918

Residence: Falls Church VA

Occupation: Laborer

Military Service: U. S. Army

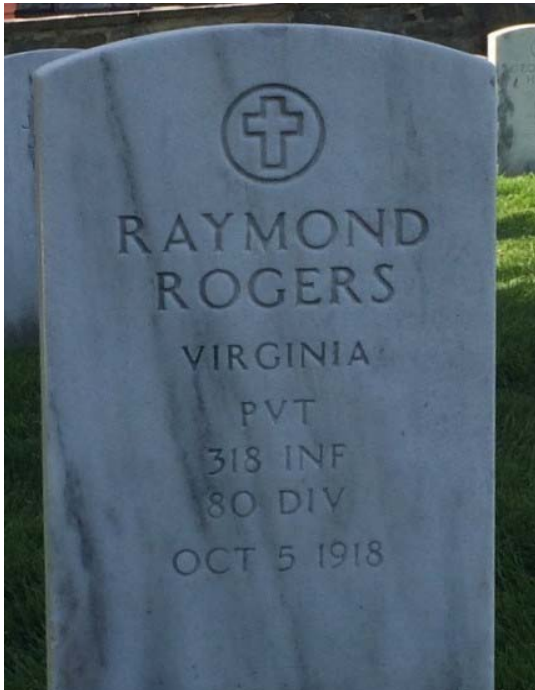
Rank: Private

Unit: 155th Depot Brigade

Pvt. Robinson was in the first county military draft. He was denied a draft exemption.

Pvt. Robinson died of disease and is buried at the Second Baptist Church in Falls Church VA.

RAYMOND ROGERS



Date of Birth: March 12, 1899

Date of Death: October 5, 1918

Residence: Accotink, Mt Vernon VA

Occupation: Farmer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. H, 318th Infantry, 80th Division

The division was organized at Camp Lee and shipped out June 1918. The draftees from Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania were nicknamed "The Blue Ridge Division." When they reached France the division initially trained with the British Army. Later the division moved to the American Sector.

Pvt. Rogers' unit fought in the Meuse Argonne Offensive. He died of wounds received in combat.

Pvt. Rogers was originally buried in Senoncourt (Meuse) in France. He was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 3936) on January 12, 1922.

WILLIAM J SAMPSON

Date of Birth: Unknown

Date of Death: October 9, 1918

Residence: Swetnam VA

Occupation: Not substantiated

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: AEF Quartermasters Corps

Prior to the war, Pvt. Sampson was a member of the Fairfax Council.

Pvt. Sampson died from pneumonia at Camp Johnston located in Jacksonville FL. He is buried at St. Mary of Sorrows Cemetery in Fairfax Station VA.

However, while the church records show that a Pvt. Sampson as being buried there, a gravestone could not be found.

RALPH STAMBAUGH



Photo of Pvt Stambaugh
provided by Brad Lakritz of CA

Date of Birth: January 19, 1894

Date of Death: July 17, 1918

Residence: Falls Church VA

Occupation:

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. L, 38th Infantry, 5th Division

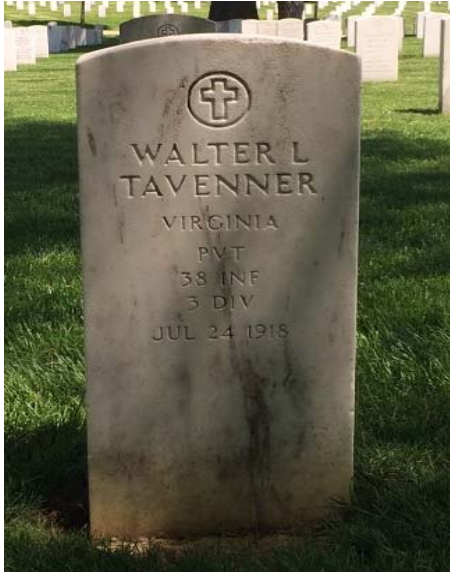
Prior to the war, Pvt. Stambaugh was a member of the National Guard and the State Militia. He trained at Camp Greene in North Carolina and received honors for his shooting skills. He wrote frequent letters home which documented his life as a soldier.

In WWI, the 5th Division was engaged in the Aisne-Marne Offensive and earned the nickname "Rock of the Marne".

Pvt. Stambaugh was killed at the battle of Chateau Thierry. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 2518).



WALTER LEWIS TAVENNER



Date of Birth: December 16, 1889

Date of Death: July 24, 1918

Residence: West Falls Church VA

Occupation: Trucker for Texas Oil Co. in Washington D.C.

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. L, 38th Infantry, 3rd Division

Pvt. Tavenner trained at Camp Shelby in Mississippi. After the camp was damaged by a tornado, the division was nicknamed the "Cyclone Division". They were deployed to France and near the end of the war the men joined other units to fill vacancies.

Pvt. Tavenner was killed in action and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (Section 18, Grave 4496).

JOSEPH THOMPSON



Date of Birth: May 31, 1896
Date of Death: February 7, 1919
Residence: Herndon VA
Occupation: Laborer on farm

Military Service: U.S. Army
Rank: Private
Unit: Not substantiated

Pvt. Thompson died from disease and is buried at Chestnut Grove Cemetery in Herndon VA.

His gravestone has the quote: "*Gone but not forgotten.*"

RICHARD WEAVER

Date of Birth: May 1895

Date of Death: September 18, 1918

Residence: Herndon VA

Occupation: Laborer

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Co. E, 810th Pioneer Infantry

Pvt. Weaver died from disease at Camp Greene in Charlotte, NC.

Information on where Pvt. Weaver is buried could not be substantiated.

GEORGE WHITE

Date of Birth: December 3, 1895

Date of Death: November 17, 1918

Residence: Herndon VA

Occupation: Wood Chopper

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

Further information on Pvt. George White, including where he is buried could not be substantiated.

DANIEL WEBSTER WILLIAMS

Date of Birth: March 30, 1897

Date of Death: October 31, 1918

Residence: Herndon VA

Occupation:

Military Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Private

Unit: Not substantiated

A FBI file on Pvt. Williams reported that while in a store in Vienna, Pvt. Williams was overheard saying that the soldiers at Fort Lee were treated all right, but the "Negros" were not going to Germany to use the pick and shovel; that if they wanted the negroes to go over they would have to issue them guns. And that Germans were better friends of the negroes than the Americans.

Pvt. Daniel Webster Williams died in France from disease. Where Pvt. Williams is buried could not be substantiated.