

Fred Amstutz

April 17, 1897 - August 5, 1918

Fred Amstutz was born the seventeenth of April, 1897, at Argyle, Wisconsin. He attended grade school at Dill, Winslow, Browntown, and Monticello, having moved here in 1910 with his parents.

He enlisted in Co. H in 1916 when only nineteen years of age and was with the boys in Texas during the Mexican trouble. He was a young man who was full of life and action and never lacking in enthusiasm and courage. After he came back from the Mexican border, he was busily engaged in getting new members for Co. H. When our country entered the Great World War, he left for Camp Douglas with his company and remained at this place until September 13, 1917, then was transferred with his company to Waco, Texas for further drilling.

In February, 1918, he was again transferred to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, and shortly after, sailed for France, and soon to the front. He became a Corporal, and on taking a special course in bayonet fighting, he was promoted to a Sergeant. He served in the Alsace sector, Aisne Marne sector, in the great battle of Chateau Thierry and also at Fismes, France. At the last place he made the supreme sacrifice, giving up his life for the cause of his country, dying the honorable death of a brave soldier, August 5, 1918.

With military honors, his remains were laid to rest in France, but the grave beyond the sea was not to be his final resting place. His remains were brought home, to be buried, on Easter Sunday 1922, in Monticello, Wisconsin, where comrades from Monroe, Juda, and New Glarus, and many other friends and relatives attended.

Rev. Muehlmeier, pastor of the Reformed Church of Monticello gave the address and read the service at the grave. Major A. E. Mitchell, Fred's captain during the war, spoke briefly of the fine qualities and bravery of this soldier. A firing Squad saluted this hero, and taps were sounded from a hill, a little removed from the grave, closing the ceremony.

