

Memorial Services Planned Sunday for S/Sgt. Melvin Marty

Friends to Pay Tribute to First Local Man to Die In Germany

The many friends and acquaintances of S/Sgt. Melvin Marty, 25, who died in action on the approaches to Aachen, Germany, on Sept. 20, 1944, will have the opportunity to pay their respects to the dead Monticello war hero at appropriate memorial services which will be held at 2:30 Sunday afternoon in the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church here.

The Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, church pastor, will officiate at the service.

Sgt. Marty, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Marty, Mt. Pleasant township, was one of the first two Monticello men to report for army service, having been called March 16, 1941, at the same time that Pfc. Emil Weigert, another Mt. Pleasant township man, entered service, the two being the first to leave from here.

Sgt. Marty had been with Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodge's First Army since D-Day. Press dispatches of Sept. 20 tell that the U. S. First army was engaged in fierce fighting with German forces in a breach which the American First had inflicted in the Siegfried line north of Aachen, Germany, and that the American forces were repulsing heavy tank and infantry attacks by the desperate Germans.

Sgt. Marty had spent the last nine months of his three and one half year army service over seas, having been sent to England in January of this year. A member of a motorized unit of the 8th infantry, Sgt. Marty had seen a great deal of action in the drive across France after landing on the Normandy beach on 'D-Day. His last letter to his parents was dated: Sept. 12, eight days: before he made the supreme sacrifice on German soil.

He was born Nov. 26, 1918, in Mt. Pleasant township. On Feb. 6, 1943, he was united in marriage to Mary Ellen Stoll, Monroe, the ceremony taking place in North Augusta, Ga. Sgt. Marty was one of two sons in service, the only sons in the Marty family. His brother S/Sgt. Wilbert Marty, arrived here in June from England after completing 27 missions as a tail gunner on a Flying Fortress on raid over Germany and Nazi-occupied European countries. He has been attending an instructors school at Laredo, Texas, and is now enjoying a 15- day furlough here at the home of his parents. He will report at Rapid City, S. D., where he will serve as a gunnery instructor.

Sgt. Marty is survived by his widow; a daughter, whom he saw on1y once; his parents, a brother and a sister, Miss Irene, at home.