

JOHN HARRIS "HARRY" BOORD

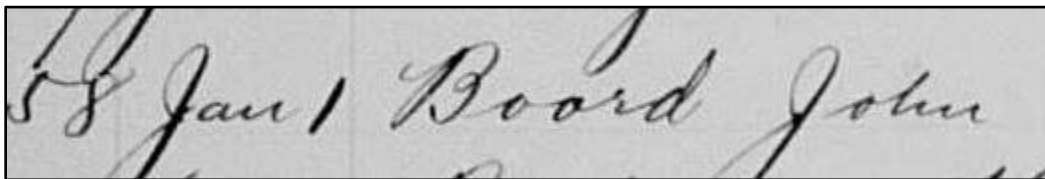
U. S. Army? - Perhaps not

Died of Pneumonia October 18, 1918 in New York After Falling from Scaffold

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

No records of military service for John Harris Boord have been found. His name appears, with few details, in the West Virginia Archives & History Memory Project list as one who died during service in the U. S. Army.

John Harris Boord is stated as John Boord in the West Virginia birth records but his father's name is misstated as C. E. rather than H. E. The birth record is in the list of 1890 births.



Harry, born in Wheeling, was the son of Harris Elmer Boord and Mary Anna Cain, residents of Market Street, Wheeling, at the time of the 1900 census. Harris was a Railroad Conductor. Mary had given birth to 5 children and 4 were living: Zella, 17, Charlie, 14, Bernard, 11, and Harry, 9. Harry's birth is stated as January 1891. In 1910, the family lived on 20th Street, Wheeling, and the children at home were Charles E., Thomas B., and John H.

In the 1909 Wheeling City Directory, the Boord sons are listed as Charles E., J. Harry, and T. Bernard.

When John Harris Boord registered for the World War I Draft, he was living in Wheeling and was employed there. He said he was married.

Form 1 1935 REGISTRATION CARD No. 72		47-1-32-A	
1 Name in full <i>John Harris Boord</i>	Age in yrs. <i>26</i>	REGISTRAR'S REPORT	
2 Home address <i>2303 Main St Wheeling W. Va</i>		1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <i>Short</i>	Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <i>Stout</i>
3 Date of birth <i>Jan 1 1891</i>		2 Color of eyes? <i>Blue</i>	Color of hair? <i>Brown</i>
4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>I a natural Born</i>		3 Has service lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?	
5 Where were you born? <i>Wheeling W. Va U.S.</i>		I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:	
6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? <i>U.S.</i>		<i>James A. Byrne</i> (Signature of Registrar)	
7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <i>Laborer</i>		Precinct <i>3 Centra</i>	
8 If whom employed? <i>Mrs. Gilbert</i>		City or County <i>Ohio</i>	
9 Where employed? <i>Wheeling</i>		State <i>W. Va.</i>	<i>June 5 1917</i> (Date of registration)
10 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother 21 or 12, wholly dependent on you for support (specify which)? <i>No</i>			
11 Married or single (which)? <i>Married</i>			
12 What military service have you had? Rank _____; branch _____; years _____; Nation or State _____			
13 Do you claim exemption (from draft) (specify grounds)?			
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.			
<i>John Harris Boord</i> (Signature of Registrant)			

Harry's obituary does not state military service. It indicates he was a "former" resident of Wheeling and had gone to Camp Lee (Virginia) with his brother, Bernard. They got separated, it says, and Harry was "sent" from Camp Lee to New York. Bernard enlisted in the U. S. Army on May 28, 1918, but there is no record of John Harris Boord's enlistment – or Harry Boord's.

In New York, Harry had an accident "a few weeks" before his death on October 18, so the accident would have been in September 1918. At that time, it had been about 4 months since Harry and his brother were allegedly "separated" at Camp Lee. Perhaps Harry was never inducted into the U. S. Army.

Harry had fallen from a scaffold and was seriously injured, according to the obituary, but he must have contracted pneumonia, which was the cause of his death, per the West Virginia death records.

<p><i>Wheeling Intelligencer, 19 Oct 1918</i></p>	<p><i>Wheeling Intelligencer, 24 Oct 1918</i></p>
<h1>HARRY J. BOORD CALLED BY DEATH</h1>	<h2>Boord Funeral Today.</h2>
<p>POPULAR YOUNG WHEELING LAD PASSES AWAY IN NIAGARA, N. Y. FOLLOWING ACCIDENT.</p>	<p>This afternoon at 1 o'clock in the home of his brother, Charles Boord, on the National road, in Glenwood, funeral services will be held for Harry J. Boord, who died in Niagara Falls, N. Y., last Friday of injuries received when he fell from a scaffold. Interment will be in Mount Calvary. He was 29 years old and was a former resident of this city. He is survived by his father, one sister, Mrs. Charles Wertzbacher, and two brothers, Bernard, with the United States army in France, and Charles Boord, of Glenwood.</p>
<p>Brother Is A Soldier With The 314th Field Artillery Somewhere In France.</p>	
<p>Word was received in the city last evening telling of the death of Harry J. Boord, popular and well known young man of this city who passed away at one of the hospitals at Niagara, N. Y., where he had been confined for several weeks as the result of an accident, when he fell from a scaffold. He was a son of H. E. Boord, of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company and resident of Glenwood, out the pike.</p>	
<p>The deceased, in company with his brother, Bernard Boord, was sent with the draftees to Camp Lee, Virginia, but they were separated there and Harry was sent to Buffalo, N. Y., and later to Niagara Falls, N. Y., where he was located when he met with the accident.</p>	
<p>He is survived besides his father by one sister, Mrs. A. W. Wurtzbacker, of Glenwood, Bernard in France and Charles of Glenwood. He was a member of the St. Josephs Cathedral and at one time was connected with the drum corps of that school. The remains will be conveyed to this city for interment.</p>	

John Boord's surname was spelled BOARD in the New York Death Index and the information from that record was then reproduced in the West Virginia death record. – He is buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling.

His brother, Bernard T. Boord, served in the U. S. Army Military Police in France during the war. He died of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in 1956 at the Veterans' Hospital in Pittsburgh. He is buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling. The following August 1918 article about Bernard Boord sheds light on some family history.

Daily intelligencer | Thursday, Aug 29, 1918

Bernard Boord



Private Bernard Boord, one of the most prominent local boys now serving with the colors in France, was among the draftees who went to Camp Lee several months ago, and is in the artillery.

Private Boord is a descendant of the pioneer Boord family, and is the son of H. E. Boord. His great-grandfather, Daniel Hall, was a famous soldier who served through the Civil war with the Pennsylvania volunteers, and his grandfather, Thomas H. Boord, was also in the Civil war. His uncle, Mike Glenn, was killed when Custer made his last stand at Big Horn.