

CHESTER HERBERT FREESE

11th Infantry Regiment, 5th Division, American Expeditionary Forces

Born in Wheeling 17 June 1894; K.I.A. 5 Nov 1918, Lorraine, France

Buried at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, France

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

Chester Herbert Freese was born in Wheeling on June 17, 1894 to Herbert D. Freese and Mary Elizabeth Hess, both born in Wheeling, and married in Wheeling on January 15, 1882.

In the 1900 census of Ohio County, the Freese family lived on Merritt Street, Webster District. The father, Herbert D., 40, born in February 1860, was employed as a "catcher in plate mill." Wife, Mary, 36, was born in November 1863. Their children were Frank D., 16, born in June 1883, Chester H., 5, born in June 1894, and William M., 3, born in September 1896.

By 1910, Mr. Freese, age 50, was working as a janitor at the Post Office, and the family resided on 29th Street, Webster District. Mrs. Freese stated she had given birth to 5 children and 3 were living: Frank D., Chester, and William McKinley.

Form 1 659 REGISTRATION CARD		No. 1
1	Name in full <i>Chester Herbert Freese</i>	Age, in yrs. 22
2	Home address <i>159 29th St. Wheeling W Va</i>	
3	Date of birth <i>June 17 1894</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>Yes</i>	
5	Where were you born? <i>Wheeling W Va USA</i>	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? <i>U.S.A</i>	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <i>Janitor 30</i>	
8	By whom employed? <i>Wheeling S. Co. Warwood</i>	
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? <i>No</i>	
10	Married or single (which)? <i>No</i> Race (specify which)? <i>White</i>	
11	What military service have you had? Rank <i>No</i>	
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <i>No</i>	

47-1-32-A REGISTRAR'S REPORT	
1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <i>Tall</i> Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <i>Medium</i>
2	Color of eyes? <i>Blue</i> Color of hair? <i>Light</i> Bald? <i>No</i>
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <i>No</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:	
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>John Hall</i> (Signature of registrar)</p>	
Precinct	<i>Webster</i>
City or County	<i>Ohio</i>
State	<i>W Va</i>
	<i>5 June 1919</i> (Date of registration)

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

3136 **3134** *Chester Freese*
(Signature or mark)

1. Properly filed in office of Registrar of Ohio County

Father's Obituary

Daily Intelligencer, 6 Jan 1919

OBITUARY

HERBERT D. FREESE HAS PASSED AWAY

Widely Known Night Custodian at Post
Office Dies of Grief for His
Soldier Son.

Following a nervous collapse upon receipt of a message several weeks ago that his son had been killed on the battlefields of France, Herbert D. Freese, one of the most widely known men in this community, and for the past several years night custodian at the post office, died in the family home, 159 Twenty-ninth street, yesterday morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Freese was born in this city 59 years ago, and had lived here all his life. For many years he was employed in La Belle mill, South Wheeling, and later became a federal employe. He was a man of an unusually good and accommodating disposition, and for the past many years all who had occasion to visit the post office late at night were usually greeted by Mr. Freese in the lobby. Immediately following the telegram that his son had been killed in action he began rapidly to fail, and only death relieved his mental anguish and suffering. He was a consistent member of Chapline Street Methodist Episcopal church.

Surviving are his widow and two sons, William Freese of this city, and Frank of Glenwood. He also leaves two brothers and two sisters, Silas and W. E. Freese, both of Wheeling, and Mrs. Seth Jewell of Bellaire, and Mrs. Fred Baker of Marietta, Ohio.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete last evening, awaiting the arrival of relatives, but it was announced that the services will be held in the family home. The Rev. G. D. Sampson of Chapline Street M. E. church will officiate. Interment will be in a local cemetery.

SERVICES HELD IN MEMORY OF YOUNG HERO

**MEMORIAL TABLET FOR LATE
CHESTER H. FREESE UNCOVERED
AT CHAPLINE M. E. CHURCH**

**Pastor Relates of Young Man's Faith
When He Received Call From
His Country**

Solemnly impressive were the memorial services held last evening in the Chapline Methodist Episcopal church, honoring the memory of a former zealous member of the congregation, Chester H. Freese, who was killed in action fighting for his country in the battle of Meuse on November 5, 1918, six days before the signing of the armistice that brought the war to a close.

A bronze tablet, commemorating the death of the young man, appropriately inscribed, has been set into the church wall. This was literally embowered in flowers last evening and over it was draped a silken American flag. Underneath was a smaller silk banner bearing one star in gold.

In one of the pews were seated two relatives of the dead boy, his mother, Mrs. Mary E. Freese and a brother, William M. Freese.

The choir rendered beautiful vocal music during the service and a sextette of male voices sang "We Shall Miss Him When We Breathe Our Evening Prayer".

Rev. J. H. Hess, pastor of the congregation, who officiated at the services, spoke of the dead young man as a useful and faithful member of the congregation, who had given his life for his country and stated that it gave him, as pastor, a great satisfaction to have the memorial tablet placed in the church as it would constantly remind his comrades in arms and members of the congregation of one who had made the supreme sacrifice in the interest of righteousness.

"I did not know Chester H. Freese personally," said Pastor Hess. "But I can join you in praises for him and mourn with you. I will ask Rev. S. C. Jones, of New Martinsville, former pastor of this church, who knew the young man well, to address you."

Rev. Dr. Jones then spoke of young Freese as he had known him. He was assistant superintendent of the Chapline street M. E. Sunday school. Ever foremost in church work, the young man was a devoted Christian. Dr. Jones remembered that at a picnic given by the congregation shortly before the young man went to the front, Freese had been one of those in charge of the affair and saw that every one had a good time.

He spoke to his pastor just after that event and told him he had been called. He was reminded that he had Christianity behind him and a Christian mother who would pray for him.

"I am not afraid to go," Freese told his pastor "but I fear I will never return. But if anything happens to me you will know that I was not afraid to meet my God."

Rev. Jones drew a lesson from the life of this earnest, devoted young man who had given his life to his country and spoke words of condolence to the sorrowing mother.

The service ended with prayer by Pastor J. H. Hess and the entire congregation then sang America.

FREESE CHESTER HERBERT		X	C	123 116
A E F Go B 11 Inf			K	
Wheeling W Va			A	
Ssn	3 174 585	Died	11-5-18	T 2 774 926
Born	6-17-94		R	
Enl		Dis	Ct.	
			I	104 625

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1925

INDEX CARD

GPO 2-13969

The mother, Mary Elizabeth Hess Freese, died March 1, 1937.

**MRS. MARY H. FREESE
RITES ON WEDNESDAY**

**TWENTY-NINTH STREET RES-
IDENT SUCCEMBED TO
HEART ATTACK
MONDAY**

Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Belwenger chapel of the Bertachy Memorial mortuary, funeral services will be held for Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Hess Freese 74, widow of Herbert D. Freese who died suddenly Monday morning at 8 15 o'clock at her home 189 Twenty-ninth street, following a heart attack.

Rev. Ben F. Donley, pastor of the Chapline Street M. E. church, will be the officiating minister. Interment will follow in Greenwood cemetery.

A native of Wheeling, Mrs. Freese was born November 9, 1862 a daughter of Anthony and Wil-melia Hanke Hess. She had resided here her entire life and was a member of the Chapline Street M. E. church.

Surviving are two sons, Frank I. and William M. Freese, both of Wheeling, one sister, Miss Bertha Hess, of this city, and four grandchildren.