

# JOHN ELSON SOLE

U. S. Army Corporal, Company "D" 139<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion

Died of Pneumonia on October 16, 1918; buried at Suresnes American Cemetery, France

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

Born in Sardis, Ohio on September 7, 1891, John Elson Sole was the son of George Sole and Mary Jane Barker, married in Monroe County, Ohio on September 22, 1889. At the time of the 1900 census, George and Mary Sole, both born in Ohio, were residents of Green, Wetzel County, West Virginia. Mr. Sole was employed as a Tool Dresser, and he and his wife were the parents of John, 9, Rosy, 7, and Harold, 2.

By 1910, Mary was living in Guernsey County, Ohio with her second husband, Ellie [Alex A.] Hoskins. Son, John, was 19, and Rosie was 17. Harold was not named with the family but he is found in the 1910 census in Calhoun County, West Virginia as the "Adopted Son" of L. Francis Norman and his wife, Phoebe A.

John E. Sole, 26, born in Sardis, Ohio, residing in Spencer Station, Guernsey County, Ohio, married Lydia McDermott, 23, born in & residing at Wheeling, on June 14, 1917 in Wheeling.

When John Elson Sole registered for the World War I Draft, he was employed as an engineer at Kalbitzer Packing Company. He married 9 days later.

Form 1 REGISTRATION CARD No. 23		47-1-32-A	
1	Name in full <i>John Elson Sole</i> (Given name) (Family name)	Age, in yrs. <i>26</i>	REGISTRAR'S REPORT
2	Home address <i>13 1/2 N. Huron Wheeling W. Va.</i> (No.) (Street) (City) (State)		1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <i>Med</i> Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <i>Med</i>
3	Date of birth <i>Sept 7th 1891</i> (Month) (Day) (Year)		2 Color of eyes? <i>Brown</i> Color of hair? <i>Brown</i> Bald? <i>No.</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>Natural Born</i>		3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <i>No.</i>
5	Where born? <i>Sardis Ohio W. Va.</i> (Town) (State) (Country)		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?		
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <i>Engineer</i>		<i>Phil. P. Wood</i> (Signature of registrar)
8	By whom employed? <i>Kalbitzer Packing Co.</i>		Precinct <i>6 Mad.</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>		City or County <i>Ohio</i>
10	Married or single (which)? <i>Single</i> Race (specify which)? <i>White</i>		State <i>West Va</i>
11	What military service have you had? Rank <i>None</i> branch <i>None</i> years <i>None</i> Nation or State <i>None</i>		Date of registration <i>June 5th 1917</i>
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <i>No. Phy. Unfit</i>		
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.			
630 <i>John Elson Sole</i> (Signature or mark)			

John's cause of death – pneumonia - is stated in *Revised List of Deceased Soldiers, World War, January 1, 1922*. (West Virginia.)

SOLE JOHN ELSON					
				XC	75 416
Corp Co D 139 Mach Gun Bn				K	
46 New Jersey St Wheeling				A	3 851 480
Sn	1 563 152	W Va	Died 10/16/18	T	1 400 025
Born	9/7/91			B	
Enl	10/6/17			Cl.	
				I	88 824
U. S. VETERANS BUREAU MAIL AND RECORDS Form 7202--Rev. Sept., 1926			INDEX CARD		2-13889

John's widow, Lydia Sole, is not named among the Gold Star Mothers who planned to travel to France to visit the graves of their sons or husbands, but she may have gone for that reason. She never remarried and she died on August 4, 1971.

John's sister, Rosa Sole, married Russell Hall on March 15, 1922 in Guernsey County, Ohio.

Brother, Harold Sole, was a farmer residing in Grantsville, Calhoun County, West Virginia when he registered for the World War I Draft. He named his mother, Mary J. Hoskins, Spencer Station, Ohio, as his contact. He married Jessie May Brawley on December 26, 1918 in Wood County. He died in Calhoun County on July 6, 1945 and is buried there.

John's stepfather, Alex Hoskins, died in 1942 at Belmont County, Ohio. His obituary stated his residence as "Spencer Station, where he had lived for 34 years." Mary Jane Barker Sole Hoskins died in 1960. Both are buried at Friends Cemetery, Quaker City, Guernsey County, Ohio.