

HARRY JOSEPH WAYWACKER

U. S. Army Private, Company "C" 11th Machine Gun Battalion

Killed in Action on September 28, 1918 in France

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

Born in Wheeling on March 11, 1891, Harry Joseph Waywacker was the son of Frank Waywacker and Rebecca Heine, both born in Germany.

Frank Waywacker was named in Wheeling City Directories, 1891-1892, residing on Wetzel Street, South Wheeling. He was a millhand. He must have died shortly after but no record is found. A news article in June 1895 states that "Mrs. Waywacker," who was surely Rebecca, had attempted to commit suicide by drowning. One of her sons found her and took her home. "Financial troubles are thought to be the cause of her attempt at self-destruction."

At the time of the 1900 census, Harry Waywacker is found living in the City of Benwood with his mother, Rebecca. Rebecca's marital status is "married" but she was likely a widow. She had given birth to 7 children and 5 were living - all living with her: John, 22, Matthew Amil, 20, Sophia, 17, Mary, 11, and Harry, 9.

Several Wheeling City Directories, 1904-1913, indicate that Harry, his mother, and siblings moved to 4734 Eoff Street Wheeling. According to a news article, Mrs. Waywacker had paid \$850 for a half lot on the east side of Eoff Street.

Harry Joseph Waywacker was living in Detroit when he registered for the World War I Draft.

Form 7 REGISTRATION CARD No. 751		REGISTRAR'S REPORT A 21-15				
1	Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) <i>Harry Joseph Waywacker</i>	Age in yrs. <i>26</i>	1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <i>Medium</i>	Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <i>Medium</i>	
2	Home address (No., Street, City, State) <i>67 Abbott St Detroit, Mich</i>		2	Color of eyes <i>Dark brown</i>	Color of hair <i>Dark brown</i>	Bald? <i>No</i>
3	Date of birth (Month, Day, Year) <i>March 11 1891</i>		3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <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>						
5 Where were you born? (Town, State, Nation) <i>Wheeling West Va.</i>						
6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?						
7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <i>Inspector</i>						
8 Where employed? <i>Detroit Sea & Machine Co</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>Single</i>						Race (specify which)? <i>Caucasian</i>
11 What military service have you had? Rank <i>None</i>						branch
12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <i>Yes</i>						
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.						
Signature of registrant <i>Harry J. Waywacker</i>						Signature of registrar <i>W. H. Marshall</i>
Date of registration <i>June 5/17</i>						
City or County <i>Detroit</i>						
State <i>Mich</i>						

The remains of Harry J. Waywacker left Antwerp, Belgium on September 20, 1921 and arrived at Hoboken, New Jersey. He was buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling on October 17, 1921.

Daily Intelligencer, 4 Oct 1921

HARRY WAYWACKER'S BODY SENT FROM PARIS

According to word received by his mother, Mrs. Rebecca Waywacker of No. 4734 Eoff street, the body of Harry Waywacker, who was killed in the Argonne, has been sent from Paris and will arrive at Hoboken shortly. The young man, who was with a machine gun outfit, met death September 25, 1918. He was well known locally and his death was a source of regret to a wide circle of friends.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by two brothers, John and Max, and two sisters, Mrs. Chris Cook and Mrs. Joseph S. Greer.

WAYWACKER HARRY JOSEPH	X	C	129 257
Pvt Co C 11 M G Bn		K	
4734 Eoff Wheeling W Va		A	3 726 921
Sr 2 020 826	Died 9/29/18	T	2 68448
Born 3/11/91		R	
Enl 11/18/17	Dis	Cl	
		I	81943

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1920

INDEX CARD

3-1000

Rebecca Waybacker, born in Germany in 1853, had a stroke and died in Wheeling on February 15, 1926. She is also buried at Mt. Calvary.

Wheeling Intelligencer, 16 Feb 1926

MRS. REBECCA WAYWACKER.

Mrs. Rebecca Waywacker, aged 73 years, well-known South Side resident died at the family home, 4734 Eoff street, early yesterday morning, following a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Waywacker was the widow of the late Frank Waywacker and had been a resident of the South Side practically her entire life. She was born in Germany but came to this city while still very young.

She is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Cris Cook, of this city, and Mrs. J. S. Greer, of Glenwood Heights, and two sons, John and Max Waywacker, both of this city.

Funeral services will be conducted from the family home at 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning. Requiem high mass will be solemnized at the St. Mary's Catholic church at 9:30 o'clock. Interment will be made in the Mount Calvary cemetery.