

WILLIAM ARTHUR WILSON

U. S. Army 1st Sergeant (or Private), Company "M" 11th Infantry Regiment, 5th Division

Died by Suicide on July 26, 1918; buried Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, France

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

William Arthur Wilson, born in Wood County, West Virginia on December 3, 1876, was the son of George Wilson and Maria Louisa (Waters), residents of 34th Street, Wheeling, at the time of the 1900 census. William was 23 and worked at the tin mill. Siblings were Oscar G., 22, Eliza M., 19, Maud, 17, Alice, 14, George, 10, John, 8, and David, 6. The family had lived in Tygart, Wood County in 1880.

From: in *U.S., Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914*: William A. Wilson, a tin worker, born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, residing in Wheeling, joined the regular U. S. Army on July 7, 1904; he was discharged in July 1907. He joined again in October 1907 at Robinson, Nebraska and was discharged September 17, 1910. On September 26, 1910, he re-enlisted; he was discharged in October 1913. That was the extent of records available online.

Apparently re-enlisted, when William A. Wilson left on April 24, 1918 to sail from Hoboken, New Jersey to Europe, his emergency contact was his wife, Mrs. Winnie Wilson, 425 Oak Street, Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee. - **Winnie Wade, 24, married William A. Wilson, 36, in Hamilton County, Tennessee on December 15, 1917.** His rank at the time of his departure was Battalion Sergeant Major. This information was found by searching his Service Number, which is shown on his Veterans Master Index card.

WILSON WILLIAM ARTHUR		X C	32 484
Co M 11 Inf 1 Sgt		K	
3136 McCollough St Wheeling		A	
W Va		T	541 232
Ssn	737 369	Died	7/26/18
Born	12/3/76	R	
Enl		Dis	
		CL	
		I	52 796
U. S. VETERANS BUREAU MAIL AND RECORDS FORM 7202--Rev. Sept., 1926		INDEX CARD	

William A. Wilson died in France. In *the West Virginia Adjutant General's Revised List of Deceased Soldiers, World War, January 1, 1922*, Private William A. Wilson's death was the "result of self-inflicted wounds."

His grave stone in France also indicates that his rank was "Private." Somehow, after years of service, he was reduced in rank. - The information on the Veterans card is in conflict. - The address of McColloch Street, Wheeling, is probably the address of a family member.

Nothing is known about the status of his brief marriage at the time of his death. The following articles state "Killed in Action" and "Accident or Other Cause."

Chattanooga News, 26 Oct 1918

Killed in Action.
Corpl. Walker A. Gaiuey, Defuniak Springs, Fla.
Private WILLIAM A. WILSON (Mrs. Winnie Wilson), Chattanooga, Tenn.

William A. Wilson, whose name, with a Chattanooga address, appears in today's casualty list, formerly lived at 425 Oak street, the residence of Prof. Samuel Prescott. His wife, Mrs. Winnie Wilson, no longer lives in Chattanooga. After her husband entered the army she went to live with her people in Kentucky.

TENNESSEE CASUALTIES

William A. Wilson, Chattanooga, died from accident or other cause.

Winnie Wade Wilson did return to Kentucky. On January 27, 1923, she married Garland P. Coates.