

John Ross Hendricks Rasnake



John Ross Hendricks Rasnake was born 23 January 1894 in Duty, Dickenson Co., Va., a son of Elijah Rasnake and Nancy Jane Skeen. He married Rebecca Owens 29 March 1917 in Judge, Va.

John Ross was inducted into service on 21 September 1917 in Clintwood, Dickenson Co., Va., as a private in the infantry. He was later promoted to Corporal and then to Sergeant. He was assigned to Co. L, 317th Infantry, 80th Division at Camp Lee, Va. He remained at Camp Lee until 25 May 1918 when he was sent to Newport News, Va., to board the ship, the USS Mongolia. He shipped out on 26 May 1918 and arrived at Brest, France 8 June 1918. From Brest he proceeded to Calais, on 12 June 1918 and on to Doullons on 18 June 1918. He was officially stationed at Souvaisy, France from 29 November 1918 to 20 May 1919

He first went into action at Artois Sector, 2 August 1918. He also saw action at St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne. His affidavit does not mention any commendations or medals.

He was not wounded or disabled. He arrived back at Newport News, Va., on the ship the Nansemond on 1 June 1919 from Brest, France. He was discharged from Camp Lee, Va., on 13 June 1919 at the rank of Sergeant.

John Ross was killed by a coal car at Hamlin, Va. (the city is very difficult to read in the record) on 26 October 1920. The information for his affidavit was submitted by his brother Douglas Rasnake and his mother. His brother, Douglas, also served during World War I.

He and Rebecca had two children: Olin E. and Velva Mildred.