Lt. Wortman Gives Life In Action

Popular Grinnell Boy Dies In India July 26

Lt. Wilbur Wortman

News that another of Grinnell's promising young men had given his life for his country came when Mrs. Anna Wortman received the fateful telegram from the War Department announcing that her son, 2nd Lieut. Wilbur Wortman, had been killed in action in India on July 26. Only Saturday Mrs. Wortman had received—a letter—from her flyer son, written the day before his death, stating that he was bombardier and navigator on one of the new B-29 bombers. He was 22 years old.

A young man of fine personality and brightest prospects, Wilbur grew up in Grinnell. He attended high school, where, in addition to fine scholastic attainments, he took an active part in athletics as halfback on the football team and a broad jumper on the track team. He was a consistent winner in this event and for a time held the state high school record. After his graduation in 1940, he attended Iowa University for two years, interrupting his college work to enter the army air corps in December of 1942. He received his wings at San Marcos, Texas, and graduated as a bombardier at Roswell, N.M. He had been overseas since March.

A brother, Dale, is now serving in the army in France.