

Critchett, Harry

11/26/18

Harry Critchett is Dead

Grinnell Soldier Boy Officially Reported as Dead From Injuries in a Railroad Accident.

HARRY CRITCHETT WENT TO CAMP PIKE LAST JULY

Another Grinnell Boy Gives His Life to Aid the Cause of Freedom.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Critchett have just received a telegram telling them their son, Harry, is dead, Oct. 3, from injuries received as the result of a railroad accident.

This is the first word the parents have received from him since the card came saying that he had arrived overseas.

Harry went to Camp Pike the latter part of July. He was later sent to Halifax and from there overseas. A letter written in mid ocean was received. This letter was mailed on a returning ship, and is the only real word they had from him after sailing.

H. C. Critchett was nearly 29 years old. He was serving in the "August Automatic Replacement Camp." Failure to hear from him for so long has filled his parents with much anxiety. It is now seven weeks since his death that the word is received from Adjutant Harris.

BOY BOYS IN FRANCE

WW1

HARRY C. CRITCHETT

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Critchett Make
Sacrifice for Uncle
Sam.

MEMBER OF C. 21 AUG-
UST REPLACEMENT

Grinnell Gives One More Soldier Boy
To the Cause of Free-
dom.

As told in the Herald Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Critchett on that day received a telegram telling them of the death October 3, of their son, Harry C. Critchett. No further particulars are yet received except that he was killed in a railroad accident.

Harry was employed at Des Moines when he went into the service, and was sent to Camp Pike July 22. He was transferred to Camp Merritt September 1, and Sept. 14 sailed for overseas via Halifax.



HARRY C. CRITCHETT.

The last word his parents received from him was written and mailed in mid ocean, Sept. 19.

Harry was the fifth of nine children. He was born Oct. 22, 1888. So at his death looked but a few days of being 30 years of age.

Harry was as fine a young man as has given his life to the great cause of freedom.

Many friends sorrow with the saddened family in this time of their deep but holy sorrow. With many others the name of Harry Critchett will occupy a place in the niche of honor along with those who gave their lives to make the world a world of peace and joy.

A letter just received from Hines Critchett says nothing about Harry's death. It was written November 12th. He said the soldiers went wild at the news. Sure, what did we do here?

Critchett, Harry C.
GH 11/29/1918

A HERO'S MEMORIAL

Service Held Sunday Forenoon to
Honor the Memory of Harrison
C. Critchett.

A COMRADE'S TRIBUTE TO DEAD SOLDIER

Words of Praise Spoken by Pastor of
Young Man Whom They Came
to Honor.



HARRISON C. CRITCHETT.

A memorial service was held in the Congregational church Sunday forenoon in honor of Harrison C. Critchett, a soldier of the U. S. army, who was killed in a railway accident in France, October 3, 1918.

It was a beautiful service. The prayer, the songs, the readings and the addresses were all devoted to patriotism—extolling the life of the young man whom they came to honor, who made the supreme sacrifice for his country.

After the opening exercises the pastor read a poem, "The Burial of a Soldier." This was followed by a song, "Battle Hymn of the Republic," by the audience. Mrs. F. J. Kiser then sang very beautifully, "O Holy Night."

W. J. Carter.

W. J. Carter, a comrade of the dead soldier, was then called upon.

He spoke feelingly of his friendship with Harrison for the past eight years. They spent much of their spare time in each other's company, often riding through the countryside together. He had a good opportunity to know his friend intimately, and it was glad to say that Harrison was high minded young man.

The speaker said he remembers

Critchett, Harrison
GH 12/24/1918

REVEREND E. M. VILTUM.

The speaker said he remembered distinctly a conversation at a little picnic party concerning religion. Harrison spoke quite emphatically that the beliefs he held at home and in Sunday school remained the same with him.

When the call to arms came both men went into different parts of the service. When at Little Rock, Ark., Mr. Carter accidentally met his friend on the street, and this was a very pleasant surprise to both. They talked for more than an hour together, then went their different ways little thinking this would be their last meeting on earth.

He said he was impressed then with Harrison's appearance—a clean looking, stalwart, straight young man. In this conversation Harrison told the speaker that he was doing his best to get into a unit that would soon go overseas. In this he succeeded, but the fates prevented him reaching the firing line as was his great desire.

In closing Mr. Carter said that the great sacrifice of his friend should make us all pause and consider well what it all means—then we can better appreciate the loss of families who have given their loved ones to this sacred cause.

Rev. E. M. Viltum.

The pastor devoted his entire sermon to eulogizing the life of the deceased and the cause for which he gave his life.

The speaker said that when the war came Harrison Critchett was engaged in an occupation of his choice and was happy and contented. He left all this and withstood resolutely all the hardships and dangers of the camp, not because he liked war, but because it was his duty.

The speaker read excerpts from letters of his employer and camp master who speak in praise of Mr. Critchett.

The life of this young man exemplifies well so many young Americans. They were going on in the quiet tenor