

### **TRAFKA Orine L.**

Private Co K, 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 37<sup>th</sup> Division

KIA 31 October 1918

Plot A – Row 01 – Grave 04

Army Serial Number 2824685



Orine Lee Trafka was born in Beaver Dam, WI on 3 December 1889. He was the son of Lawrence (Lorenz) and Annie Trafka who had 3 sons and 4 daughters. The photo on the right was taken in 1900: Back row from left to right: sister Ida, brother Walter with his wife. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> row; father Frank, mother Annie and sister (name unknown). Front row; sister Marthe, brother Frank and Orine. Orine spent his whole life in Beaver Dam. He was employed at the Monarch Range plant and during his leisure time liked to go hunting.

Orine was drafted on 27 May 1918 and sent to Camp Grant, IL for his basic training with the 161<sup>st</sup> Depot Brigade. After a short training period of 30 days he was transferred to the 344<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 86<sup>th</sup> Black Hawk Division. Upon arrival in Europe he was reassigned to the 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.



Orine was killed in action near Olsene at the start of the offensive. He was buried in grave nr.11 of an American plot along the road to Gent. On 4 June 1919 his remains were disinterred and moved to Waregem where he was buried in Plot B, grave 108.




Left: wooden marker Orine Trafka at Cemetery 1252.

Below: telegram informing on the death of Orine Trafka

Form 1204

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

# WESTERN UNION



# TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT      GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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**RECEIVED AT** BEAVERDAM  
108 SO. SPRING ST.

1AU A 39 GOVT

WA WASHINGTON DC702PM DEC 4 1918

IR FRANK TRAFKA 207 ROSENDALE ST BEAVERDAM WIS

DEEPLY REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT IT IS OFFICIALLY REPORTED  
THAT PRIVATE ORINE L TRAFKA INFANTRY DIED OCTOBER THIRTY FIRST - 1918  
FROM WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION

HARRIS THE ADJT GENERAL 817AM DEC 5

86 Dime Co's - Artillery!