

2LT Robert H. Zwicky

Location - East-A: R15, C16



12'45



KILLED IN ACTION—Second Lt. Robert H. Zwicky, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zwicky, 65 Parkway, has been reported killed in action in Germany Sept. 17, 1944. He was first reported missing in action, but later it was learned that he had been killed in active duty.

6-12-45

ROBERT ZWICKY KILLED IN ACTION, PARENTS INFORMED

6-11-45 —

After nine months of waiting without any news of their son, Second Lt. Robert H. Zwicky, since he was reported missing in action, the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zwicky, 65 Parkway, have been informed by the war department that he was killed in action.

On Oct. 9, the parents were told their 22-year-old son was missing in action in Germany. His last letter home, written in September, said he was in Luxembourg with an infantry company.

Killed in September

The war department wire stated that reports have been received which placed the date of his being killed in action as Sept. 17, 1944, in Germany. The message also stated that "through unavoidable circumstances it was necessary for an unusual lapse of time to pass" before definite word on him could be reported.

He was inducted into military service Sept. 13, 1942. He went overseas in April, 1944, serving in France, Luxembourg and Germany. His company was the first to march into Paris.

Born in Oshkosh, Feb. 27, 1922, he attended the Dale elementary, Merrill Junior High school and Oshkosh High school. He graduated from the latter in June, 1939, and then attended the Oshkosh State Teachers college for one year.

Was Insurance Clerk

Lieutenant Zwicky was employed as an office clerk at the Wisconsin National Life Insurance Company before leaving for military service.

At Dale school he was a member of the first drum corps organized by the school. He played in the Merrill honor band and the Oshkosh High school band. He was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church, the junior and senior choir and was a past president of the Junior league of that church.

Surviving are the parents; one brother, Alan, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Zwicky, all of Oshkosh.

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HISTORICAL
COLLECTION

6-11-45

Corp. Robert H. Zwicky, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Zwicky, 65 Parkway, was commissioned a second lieutenant upon successful completion of the officer candidate course at the infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga. He was inducted into the army Aug. 29, 1942. He is a graduate of Oshkosh High school and attended Oshkosh State Teachers college, where he was prominent as a member of Phila-kean fraternity.

Pvt. Robert Zwicky, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zwicky of 65 Parkway, has been transferred from Camp Wheeler, Ga., to a non-commissioned officers' school, where he will spend a month, after which he will go to Fort Benning, Ga., for officers' training.

Lt. Robert H. Zwicky Marches Ahead of 28th Division on New U.S. Stamp

Fifteen thousand men marched with the 28th division into Paris on the day of that city's liberation. Of those 15,000 troops only a handful remain.

Marching in the front ranks was an Oshkosh man. Second Lt. Robert H. Zwicky. The 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zwicky, 65 Parkway, was one of the 48 officers making up the first two rows of the parade which marched through Paris. Lieutenant Zwicky was also one of the 46 two-front-row officers who did not return from the battlegrounds of Europe.

The 28th suffered 24,508 casualties in eight months of bitter combat. Replacements came and went—the hard way.

Just a few "28th" men can be found today, just one in a hundred remains to tell how it felt to march three hours through hilarious Paris while pretty girls threw their arms around your necks or handed out bottles of champagne.

Lieutenant Zwicky was in the front row of the parade leading his men when Associated Press Photographer Peter J. Carroll, "caught" the 28th with his camera the day the men, with the dust and sweat of hedgerow fighting in Normandy still on their faces, paraded 24 abreast down the broad Champ Elysees, around the Arce de Triomphe, and through the lanes of wildly cheering Parisians, who were celebrating their city's liberation.

That was the picture Gen. George G. Marshall, army chief of staff, selected as the one best honoring the GI's in World War II, a photograph which is being used in an army commemorating stamp, the second in the series of U. S. stamps honoring the various branches of the armed

forces, now on sale at U. S. post-offices.

The late Lieutenant Zwicky is shown in the front row, the end man in the left corner of the stamp, as he pridefully strode down the Parisian streets with his comrades, men who were doubtful as to what lay ahead in Germany, France and Luxembourg.

The story of how Lieutenant Zwicky lost his life was told to his parents in a letter from a sergeant who served as his runner and was one of the lucky ones to come out of the war alive, but not without a scratch.

S/Sgt. Foster E. Phenix, of Camp Shelby, Miss., who said that he knew him more intimately than the other men, wrote as follows:

"At the time we entered Germany on Sept. 14, 1944, Lieutenant Zwicky was the platoon leader of the second platoon. On the afternoon of Sept. 16 we entered Wallendorf, Germany, and under a heavy barrage of artillery and mortar fire advanced to the hill where we were given orders to dig in and hold our position. . . .

"At 5:40 o'clock in the morning of Sept. 17, a Sunday, the lieutenant went to sleep. While he was asleep a new barrage of artillery started to come over. I heard a shell coming and could tell from the sound of it that it was going to hit very close. It was an air burst and the concussion and noise were terrible.

"When things cleared away Lieutenant Zwicky asked me if I had been hit and I replied that I had but I did not think it was very serious. I could tell by the sound of his voice that he was hit pretty bad. I then told him I would try to get a medic for

him and he said, 'It won't do any good to get one for me, but get yourself fixed up.' Those were the last words that he spoke and went to his death very easily."

It was also from Sergeant Phenix that Mr. and Mrs. Zwicky learned of the picture appearing on the stamp.

On Oct. 9, 1944, the parents of Lieutenant Zwicky received a report that their son was missing in action in Germany. On June 11, 1945, the war department sent a message stating that he was reported "killed in action Sept. 17, 1944."



IN MEMORIAM

LT. ROBERT H. ZWICKY

CO. B, 112TH INF., 28TH DIV.

1922 — 1944

SON OF

HERBERT & JULIA ZWICKY

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LC=Deferred Cable

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MRS JULIA J ZWICKY=

65 PARKWAY OSHKOSH WIS=

1944 OCT 9 PM 7 16

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP
REGRET THAT YOUR SON SECOND LIEUTENANT ROBERT H ZWICKY
HAS BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION SINCE SEVENTEEN SEPTEMBER
IN GERMANY IF FURTHER DETAILS OR OTHER INFORMATION ARE
RECEIVED YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED=
ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Called in to add
F AT 943P TO BE FILED

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