

War's Hero Dead Arrive In City Bodies of Sergt. DeVries and Private Welmerink Reach Homes (News Article)

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WAR'S HERO DEAD ARRIVE IN CITY

Bodies of Sergt. DeVries and
Private Welmerink Reach
Homes Tuesday.

KILLED ON SAME DAY

Taps will sound this week for two Grand Rapids soldiers, Pvt. William Edward Welmerink and Sergt. Arthur David DeVries, comrades in arms who served overseas with the same organization and who were killed in action the same day, Aug. 2, 1918. Both bodies arrived in the city Tuesday evening.

Pvt. Welmerink was the son of Mrs. B. J. Welmerink, 30 Caroline-pl., N. E. He was born in Grand Rapids Jan. 28, 1897. Previous to his enlistment, Aug. 14, 1917, at Grayling he was employed at the Bissell Carpet Sweeper Co. He left from Camp Merritt, New Jersey, for France Feb. 16, 1918, and was killed in action with his fellow townsman less than six months later at Flsmes, France.

SURVIVING ARE HIS MOTHER AND four sisters, Mrs. J. Breas and Mrs. Minnie Mesecar of this city and Mrs. William Nichols and Mrs. George Warfel. Burial will be in Oak Hill cemetery Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The funeral services will be in charge of the American Legion.

Sergt. DeVries was the son of Dr. Mike DeVries, 1067 Bridge-st., N. W., and was nearly three years younger than his comrade. He is survived by his father, his mother and a brother, Ralph.

Funeral services will be held Saturday morning at 9 o'clock at St. Andrew's cathedral. The body was taken to 501 Lagrave-av., where it will lie in state until Saturday.

Both young men were members of Company M, 126th Infantry.