

World War I
Jul 28, 1914 – Nov 11, 1918
Soldier's Letter

Letter from Richard Kissman #2

The following letter is the second of three which were written by Corporal Richard Kissman, who has been the only hero up to this time from Paige, Texas, who has given his life on the battlefield of France for the cause of Liberty. A telegram was received from Washington by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kissmann, stating that he was killed in action November 4, 1918. Corporal Kissmann left his home for Camp Travis, Sept 20th, 1917, and had the misfortune to break his leg at Camp Travis in November, which kept him at the camp longer than some of the other members of the company. On June 6th, 1918, he left Camp Travis for overseas duty, and it was there where he met his death. Young Kissman was a faithful Christian and often expressed himself as having no fear of death. He was a good and loyal soldier, a devoted son and brother. He was aged 27 years, 8 months and 6 days:

Somewhere in France

September 19, 1918.

My Dear Beloved Ones:

Will try and write you all a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. I am fine and healthy again, had a little fever, but it did not amount to anything, for I am fine and healthy again and hope to hear the same from you all. I received Sophia's letter, also that card and a letter from Albert and one from Rev. Heinemeier and my Alma. I would have written sooner, but couldn't get a chance, for here where we are now it is pretty hard to get mail off.

We had some little scraps, but everything turned out fine and in in our favor. Here I saw the first German prisoners at a short distance, twenty-two of them were brought in by three American boys. Now about those other boys? I saw Hy. Koslan the other day, he is still O.K. and I can't understand why his folks don't get any mail from him if he writes. Also the other boys were getting along fine the last time I saw them.

So you all don't need to worry about anything. I just hope that you are all getting along O.K. Sophia wrote like she wanted to send me some little things if I needed something. All I need sometimes is paper and envelopes, for it is hard to get it sometimes. I don't need any stamps. This for instance, is some German stationery which I found over here, for they left lots of things as we beat them out of this sector. As I have written about all I know, will close with best wishes and regards. May God bless you all dearly, and write whenever you can. I am,

Your son and brother,
Corporal Richard Kissman
Co B, 360 Infantry, American E. F.