

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

Letters from Richard Kissman #3

The following letter is the third of three letters 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

October 1, 1918

My Dear Beloved Ones at Home:

Your letters were all received, also those pictures and many thanks for same. Sure wish I could have been with you all, but don't worry, it will be some time soon, for the way it looks now about the war. I don't believe it will last much longer. Well, you wrote me that some of the boys had been at the front. Well, I went through that too. We got back last night.

This is some German stationery that I found in the trenches. They didn't get time to take everything with them, for we sure made them go, they went so fast I even didn't get time to take everything with them, for we sure made them go. They went so fast I even didn't get a chance to shoot at one. Also got me a pair of German boots out of a dug out and they just fit me. I'll bring them with me as a souvenir from the war. I wrote you all from the trenches that I didn't feel good, but am now fine and dandy again, so don't worry, for the good Lord has been with me so far and He will be with me furthermore, and if we don't meet any more in this world it will be in that Beautiful Place, where there will be no more grief and sorrow and no parting forever. You asked about my pay: that is just like back in the states, paid by the month, of course, in French money. When I get paid next time I will send a little money home, as I don't need it all over here. And about papa selling my mules, that was some good news for me. If you can sell the old horse just sell her too, but the young horses, don't know if you should sell them, but do just as if they belonged to you. I am satisfied. I received about twelve letters from you all since I have been over here.

Will close for this time in hopes that this will find you all as healthy as it leaves me. With best wishes and regards from

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