

Mount Horeb American Legion, Post 113 M1113 Commander's Corner

Last week I talked about Richard Moody, a Gold Star Boy from WWI. Richard's mother died when he was very young, so his father remarried. His second wife was Clara Dahle from Mount Horeb. Richard attended Mount Horeb schools and graduated from Mount Horeb. Richard was killed serving in the Army in the Aviation Corps flying with a French Unit.

For several years after WWI the Gold Star Mothers petitioned the United States Government to send Gold Star Mothers and Widows to Europe to get closure, and to have a better understanding of where their sons died serving our great Country. The American Legion, the Gold Star Mothers Association and other Veterans Organizations pushed the government to send these Gold Star Mothers and Widows to Europe. Eleven years after World War I ended Congress authorized the United States Government to send Gold Star Mothers to Europe. Over 17,000 women were declared eligible to make the trip.

Richard Moody's step mother Clara Dahle-Moody was one of the approximately 6000 Gold Star Mothers and widows who made the trip. The Army sent each individual a letter of instruction telling them what to pack for the trip, as well as, information about their arrangements, rooms on the ship, hotel accommodations, travel information, etc...

Clara boarded a train from Minnesota to New York and then sailed to Europe. She had an opportunity to visit Richard's grave site and to see the battlefields in France. When Clara returned home she wrote a letter to the Army Quartermaster that had coordinated the trip and thanked them for sending her and all the other Gold Star Mothers and Widows. She was very grateful for the opportunity to visit Richard's grave.

If you want to read more about Clara's experience please read the story at <https://nhdsilentheroes.org/richard-willard-moody> and <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1999/fall/gold-star-mothers.html>

We would like to honor all Veterans that have served our great country in peace time and in all conflicts. Please help us honor these men and women that have given us the freedoms we enjoy today by submitting Veterans Paver Enrollment Forms.

We would like to start sending inscriptions to the company that is going to engrave the pavers for us but we could need some help. If there is a student that needs hours for their silver cord or an adult that has time that they would like to dedicate to this project we need someone to send information off, get proofs back, coordinate with families to ensure everything is correct before they engrave on the pavers. Our email is mhamlegionpost113@gmail.com or mhvma315@gmail.com

If you need help gathering information for a Veterans Paver please contact us and we will provide as much assistance as we can.