Verne Arile Miner

Verne Arile Miner was born on February 23, 1895 in Brunswick to Thomas and Sarah Alice Thomas Miner, the youngest of three sons. Miner Drive still remains in Brunswick, the site of the Miner farm. The house still stands where my mother, Miriam W. Miner Heffelfinger was born. My Great-Grandfather Thomas was a prominent citizen of Brunswick as well as a Trustee and county representative.

Verne was a graduate of Brunswick High School where he was known as a superior athlete. It was told Verne was known as the “Babe Ruth” of Medina County for being the only non-professional to hit a home one in the old Cleveland Stadium in the early 1900’s.

He met my Grandmother Letha Louise Gibbs in school, married on August 18, 1918 and worked on the family farm until enlisting in World War 1. Grandfather was the member of the 159 Depot Brigade, attended the Field Artillery Officers Training school, serving as a Sergeant. He returned to Brunswick and worked as a rural mail carrier for Medina County. My Grandparents eventually moved to Wooster where he was a mail carrier finally moving to Lodi in 1938. My Grandfather became Post Master of Lodi in 1955 until his retirement. It is my understanding that Grandfather requested through the Lodi American Legion the need for house to house delivery of mail. Joe Miller with Joe Warner spent many weekends assigning a number to each home. Wilbur Wood became Lodi’s first house to house mail carrier.

My Grandparents only had one child, a daughter, Miriam my beloved mother.

My Grandmother Letha passed away on June 13, 1940 from appendicitis. Grandfather then met and married Mabel Clinker Arnold on September 9, 1941. Mabel worked at the Ford Dealership Lodi and Grandfather was a confirmed Ford man. He always said the ford was the only car to hold up while delivering mail. Mabel had a daughter, Patricia whom he adopted.

My Grandfather, Verne Arile Miner was a kind old soul that loved his family and his community. He remained active with the American Legion as well as other organizations.

Submitted by Letha Heffelfinger Mapes, Granddaughter