

4-20-1944

Bonnors Ferry Herald

MANY ATTEND FUNERAL FOR ROBERT GROSS

Local Young War Veteran Died
Thursday In Government
Hospital Near Chicago

MILITARY HONORS

Death—Result Of Battle Wounds
In Tunisian Campaign

Funeral services for Robert Arthur Gross, age 24, son of Clarence Gross, who passed away Thursday evening, April 13, at the Hines Memorial hospital, Hines, Illinois, were held Wednesday afternoon at the Morse Funeral Home, with the Rev. Erling C. Thompson officiating. Interment was had at Grandview Cemetery.

Pallbearers, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, were: Wade Reburn, Walter Ellersick, Henry Spalding, Harold Starmer, Glenn Fairchild and Myrl Felch. A firing squad, members of the American Legion, fired three volleys in honor of the deceased.

They were: G. G. McBride, commander, Carmen Gigliotti, Gene Florea, Rudy Peterson, Dr. H. A. Wagar, Lloyd Reed, George Bruce, A. P. Zimmerman and George Unternahrer. B. E. Markham, bugler, sounded taps.

Several hundred of the friends of the deceased and his family at-

tended the services, many unable to secure seats or standing room within the chapel, listening to the impressive services from the sidewalk. There were numerous floral tributes gracing the funeral bier and the walls of the chapel.

Assisting Rev. Mr. Thompson in the service was R. N. Soderling, who sang two hymns, "Old Rugged Cross," and "Nearer My God, To Thee," Mrs. Erling C. Thompson being the accompanist.

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Auxiliary, attended the funeral services in a body.

Robert Gross was born October 10, 1919, at Bowman, North Dakota, and came to Bonnors Ferry with his family about eight years ago. He was one of the first boys from Boundary county to volunteer for service, and was inducted into the Army on April 10, 1941, from Bowman, serving almost three years in the Infantry, of which two years was overseas service. He took part in seven major battles in the European, African and Middle Eastern areas, and wore the bronze campaign star and the Purple Heart. While fighting in the Tunisian campaign, he was wounded three times, on April 9, 1943, one lung wound resulting in his death.

Gross was brought back to the States in July, 1943, and from that time until he was given a medical discharge on January 26, 1944, he was a patient at Bushnell General hospital, Brigham City, Utah. About six weeks ago, he left here for Bowman, North Dakota, to visit relatives, and at the time of his last illness, he was employed by the Standard Oil Company.

He is survived by his father, two sisters, Dorothy, at home, and Mrs. Lavonne Stickland, San Diego, California, and five brothers: Arnold, in the Navy at Farragut, Idaho; Lawrence, Army Air Corps, stationed in England, and Earl, Darrell and Ralph, at the home, and his mother, Mrs. John Rouse.

Mrs. Gladys Padgett, of Bowman, sister of Clarence Gross, arrived here Sunday to attend the funeral services.