

Collection #
M 1297

VICTOR HUGO NYSEWANDER
CORRESPONDENCE, 1913–1919

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box; 1 folder black and white photographs

COLLECTION DATES: 1913–1919

PROVENANCE: Beltrone and Company, Keswick, Virginia, June, 2017

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2017.0187

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Victor Hugo Nysewander (1886–1918) was born in Plainfield, Hendricks County, and moved to Jonesville, Bartholomew County in 1910. Victor was one of four children born to Jasper and Anna Nysewander. In 1911 Nysewander graduated from the University of Michigan Law School and began practicing law in the firm of Zewadski and Nysewander in Tampa, Florida. Nysewander entered the Army in November, 1917, and graduated from Officers Training Camp at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis and was commissioned a first lieutenant. In June, 1918, with Company K, 369th infantry, 90th Division he was promoted to captain. Victor Nysewander was killed in action on 4 November 1918 near Bantheville, France and was buried in Romagne Cemetery.

Sources:

Oliver, John W. *Gold Star Honor Roll. A Record of Indiana Men and Women who Died in the Service of the United States and Allied Nations in the World War 1914-1918.* Fort Wayne, Indiana: Indiana Historical Commission, 1921. [F 521 .I38 v. 6]

Ancestry, Library Edition accessed 31 July 2017

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of the collection contains the correspondence of Victor Nysewander with family and friends. Most of the approximately one hundred and twenty letters were written during his time in the Army during World War I November, 1917–November, 1918, but there are a few written while an attorney in Tampa, Florida. The majority of the letters were exchanged between his parents and his sister, Margaret, February, 1913–November, 1918. Other correspondents include his sister, Phyllis, December, 1917–July, 1918; Lucille Anderson, December, 1917–April, 1918; "Lulu Mae," a friend he met while stationed in Texas, 1918; and a number of friends, July, 1915–June, 1918.

Most of the topics in the letters exchanged while in the service include camp life, training, attending training, news from home, and waiting to be sent overseas. Letters exchanged while in Europe are more somber in tone, but with a positive outlook. Victor writes how successful the Americans are in pushing back the Germans. In his letter of 27 August, 1918, he writes that he is company commander and are preparing to engage in their first fight. People such as Margaret and his mother are hopeful that the war will be over soon and the troops will be home by Thanksgiving. Two of the letters in the collection were returned to sender and marked as deceased. One was from 10 November 1918 sent by his mother and the other was from 8 October 1918 written by his sister, Margaret while a student at Indiana University.

Additional items in the collection include several official orders pertaining to Victor Nysewander's assignments to units, May, 1917–July, 1918, and several photographs of Nysewander and other in uniform presumably taken while stationed in Texas.

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