

Local Boy Receives Coveted Purple Heart

The past week Mr. and Mrs. Birdge B. Babcock received notification of the awarding of the "Purple Heart Medal" to their son Pfc. George V. Babcock, which stated:

"In the name of the President and by direction of the Secretary of the Navy the Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 2nd Marine Division to Pfc. George V. Babcock, USMCR for wounds received in action during the Gilbert Island occupation, 20 November, 1943."

The Babcocks have received word from their son stating he was in a hospital (they think in Hawaii) from wounds and was getting along fine, but he was not allowed to give any explanation as to the extent of his wounds.

George Babcock Killed In Action

The war has again taken one of our young men in this community and brought sadness to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Birdge Babcock.

Tuesday they received a telegram from A A Vandegrift, Lt. Gen. of U. S. Marine Corps, stating their son, Pfc George V Babcock, had been killed in action in the performance of his duty at Saipan.

George was a Marine, having enlisted in the service December 11, 1942, and had seen action at Tarawa, where he was injured and confined in a hospital for some time. He also was awarded the Purple Heart for bravery.

The Babcock's have another son, Birdge, who is in the Navy and stationed somewhere in the South Pacific.

Most likely from the:
West Concord Enterprise
Date Unknown - 1944

Memorial Service Held Friday

**Service for George V. Babcock
Held At Baptist Church; Legion
Pre-
sents Flag to the Mother.**

A memorial service for George Vernon Babcock, son of Mr. & Mrs. Birdge Babcock who was killed in action about a year ago, was held in the Baptist Church on Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The service was very impressive and well attended. The pastor, Rev. Irving Larson, was in charge, and Rev. George Freerksen of LeRoy, brought the message.

Special musical numbers were sung by Lois Jean Nelson and Joan Glarner, and by Rev. & Mrs. I. Larson. Members of Langemo Post No. 295, American Legion attended and presented a flag to Mrs. Babcock, the mother of the fallen hero, and following the benediction by Rev. Andrew Nelson of Pemberton, the Legion bugler sounded "Taps."

George Vernon Babcock was born August 24, 1924 on the Babcock farm at Brook Park in Pine County, Minn. As a boy he moved to West Concord with his parents where he attended school and Sunday School. In early life he was led to accept Jesus Christ as his Personal Savior and was baptized in the First Baptist church of West Concord on December 28, 1941, by Rev. George Freerksen.

On December 11 of 1942 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and went overseas in April, 1943. He saw action in several invasions and was awarded his first Purple Heart for wounds received during the invasion of Tarawa. Then on June 15th, 1944 while in the performance of his duty in the invasion of Saipan, he was killed by enemy fire.

His passing is deeply regretted by his family and a host of friends. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Birdge Babcock, three brothers, Birdge Jr. in the navy, Harold and David, seven sisters - Elaine, Irene, Eunice, Lola, Mary, Beverly and Pearl, his grandfather, Burt Babcock, and aunts uncles, cousins, and many many friends.

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