

## Story #161a Edward Lins

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Edward Lins (1913-1970) was a Mazomanie World War II veteran and a charter member of the Mazomanie Greening – Buelow American Legion Post #437.

Edward enlisted in the Army on January 24, 1941 from Milwaukee. He mustered out on October 22, 1945 having served nearly five years in the 99<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division known as the “Checkerboard” or “Battle Babies.” The Division was deployed overseas in 1944, landing at Le Havre, France and proceeding to Belgium. It was involved in the Battle of the Bulge, where it held its defensive position against heavy German attacks. The Division was recognized for its role in liberating Nazi concentration camps, including Dachau, during the liberation of Europe in 1945.

Edward George Lins was born in Highland Township, Iowa County WI on March 21, 1913 to George Lins and Katherine Volk. George was a Mazomanie farmer and miller at the Mazomanie Mill. Edward is first found as a five year old with his Mazomanie family at the 1920 US Census and a fifteen year old at the 1930 US Census. Edward is still living with his farming family in Mazomanie Township at the 1940 US Census. He is listed as a 26 year single man working as a carpenter for the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad. Edward graduated from the Mazomanie High School in 1932. His October 16, 1940 Draft Card listed the 26 year old as 6', 178 # with a ruddy complexion, brown hair and blue eyes. He was listed as living in Monticello WI working for the railroad.

After the war, Edward returned to Dane County and married Lenora Muriel Mickelson (1924-1993) on September 8, 1951. She was born in Vermont Township, Dane County, the daughter of farmers Gilman Mickelson and Lillie Schlick. She had been an accountant for many years with an Oldsmobile car dealership in Janesville. They had no children. Edward was a carpenter on the Mazomanie railroad bridge and building crew for over thirty years. Many of the years he was the crew foreman. He died in a Madison hospital and Muriel at her residence in Sun Prairie. Both are buried in the Mazomanie Cemetery.

