

Fred Schaffner Obituary

Body of Fred C. Schaffner, first Rock Island boy to fall in the World war and first to win the Distinguished Service Cross, has arrived in Rock Island, and will be buried with military honors Sunday afternoon.

Services will be held in the Spencer Memorial church at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon. E. C. Fisher, superintendent of the schools, will give the memoriam address and Rev. Frank Marston, pastor, will deliver the funeral sermon. A male quartet, Messrs. Stokes, Kendall, Philbrook and Roberts, will sing. At the grave in Chippiannock cemetery special services will be conducted by the United Veterans of the Republic and a ladies' auxiliary of the order - both of which have honored Rock Island's hero in their unit name - and an arsenal firing squad will give the final salute

The 18-year-old lad died as result of a gas shell attack in the Verdun sector. As pharmacist mate, U. S. navy, he had been assigned to duty with a Marine hospital unit and in the attack volunteered to attempt rescue work. He brought back scores of boys before he finally fell. He had been a student in the Moline high school prior to his enlistment almost a year before his death. He was born Nov. 7, 1899, in Kewanee. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Schaffner, have resided in Rock Island five years, the family home being at 4405 Sixth avenue.

The body was twice buried in France. The first time in the cemetery which was designated for American burial ground.

(The Rock Island Argus and Daily Union - Oct. 13, 1921)