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Deaths Of Two More Mercer Men Confirmed

HARRODSBURG, Ky., Nov. 29 (Special)—Official notice from the War Department of the death of Sgt. Roy Edward Goodpaster, technician fourth grade, has been received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goodpaster Sr. A letter received this week from Maj. Gen. Edward Witsell, acting adjutant general of the U. S. Army, confirming a previous telegram, stated that Sergeant Goodpaster died on April 8, 1945, at Japanese prisoner of war camp No. 4, Fukuoka island, of pneumonia.

Sergeant Goodpaster was born January 4, 1920. He was one of Mercer county's 66 heroes taken prisoners by the Japanese after the fall of Bataan. He was a member of the Harrodsburg National Guard Tank Unit for two years before going in 1941 to Fort Knox, where the guards were merged with the 192nd Tank Battalion and sent to the Philippines in the fall of 1942. Thus he served in the Army of the United States for about five years.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Sallee Goodpaster; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goodpaster Sr.; two sisters, Mrs. W. L. Reed, Paris, and Mrs. James Hurts, Harrodsburg, and two nieces.

Preston Death Confirmed

The death of Lt. Everett R. Preston also was confirmed by a telegram to his mother, Mrs. William Preston, from Maj. Gen. Edward Witsell. The wire fixed the date of Lieutenant Preston's death as April 21, 1945, while he was a prisoner of the Japanese an Fukuoka. The cause of his death was active enteritis, the report said.

Lieutenant Preston was 27 years old and a graduate of the Harrodsburg high school. He joined the Harrodsburg National Guard Unit when he was 18 years old and attended all training maneuvers at Fort Knox, prior to 1940, the year the guards were called into military service and merged with the 192nd Tank Battalion. Several prisoner of war form cards were received by his mother after he became a prisoner.

Before entering military service, Lieutenant Preston was an assistant to the late Sam Curd in his electric sales and service shop in Harrodsburg.

He was the son of Mrs. Josephine Preston and the late William Preston. Besides his mother, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. William Bonta, Harrodsburg; three half-sisters, Mrs. Tom Price, Parksville; Mrs. Tom Montgomery, Mitchellsburg; and Mrs. Lonnie Jackson, Harrodsburg; four half-brothers, Bradley Preston, Harrodsburg; Howard Preston, Mitchellsburg; and Frank and Robert Preston, Oklahoma, and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Petra Hernandez, of Porto Rico.

Goodpaster & Preston Dead 30 Nov. 45

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