

**National Archives & Records Administration  
War Department Files**

**2 LT James H. Wangelin  
Class 75-43**

**ID: O1184327**

**Branch of Service: U.S. Army  
Hometown: Marion County, IN  
Status: KIA January 9, 1945**



**2LT Wangelin died near Brest, France serving with the 56th Field Artillery Battalion,  
8th Infantry Division. His body was moved to the U.S. in 1948 at the request of the family.**



**Second Lt. James H. Wangelin, 21, will be buried in Crown Hill Cemetery following services at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday in Flanner & Buchanan Mortuary. He died September 2, 1944, near Brest, France.**

A native of Tuscola, Ill., he was a member of the University Heights Christian Church. Active in Scouting, he attained the Eagle rank and was a Firecrafter. He was graduated from Arsenal Technical High School and was a pre-medical student at Indiana University when he entered service. At Indiana, he was a member of the Indiana Band.

Receiving his commission in July, 1943, at Ft. Sill, Okla., he was sent overseas in June, 1944, and served in the 56th Field Artillery Battalion.

Survivors are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Wangelin; a brother, William R. Wangelin, and his grandmother, Mrs. Ethel Coverston.

*Buried in Crown Hill Cemetery  
Indianapolis, Indiana*

Stunned by the message that told of the death of his son, Lieutenant James H. Wangelin, who was assigned to the 56th field artillery battalion in Normandy and Brittany, Richard D. Wangelin, 1304 Edwards avenue, finally put some of his thoughts on paper. These he sent to The News, with the modest comment that they might be of some value in stimulating the sale of War bonds.

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Mr. Wangelin wrote as follows: "Today, I am an old man. Yesterday with its sunshine and hopes and plans is gone and this morning I am an old man. Years of planning and struggles for righteous upbringing and education and hopes for the continued advancement for my beloved son are gone.

"For twenty-one years I have struggled and striven to mold and lead aright one of God's chosen, whom all liked. His Scout friends, his high school and college associates, even the maligned A. J. A. S., with whom he trained, called him Lieutenant Jim. And all for what?

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"Yesterday, September 29, I was interested in advancement, plans and hopes—all to be dashed to the ground by the expression, 'The secretary of war desires me . . .' Just four words, and this morning I am an old man, trying to start anew—to begin life as I did when we were young—and for what?

"God give me strength to carry on."