

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.
Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA**Tuscania casualty****Rupp, Herman****1889 Switzerland – 5 February 1918 Tuscania**

158 Aero Sqdn Sig C
Rupp, Herman (Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number) 6
* White * Colored

Residence: 71 W 105 St New York NEW YORK
(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

* Enlisted * R. A. * N. G. * E. R. C. * Inducted at Ft Slocum N Y on Nov 27, 19 17
Place of birth: Igis, Switzerland Age or date of birth: 28 years
Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers: 177 Aero Sq Gerstner F
Lake Charles La to Jan 10/18; 158 Aero Sq to death

Grades, with date of appointment: Pvt

Engagements: Sinking of Tuscania

Served overseas from † Jan 24/18 to † Feb 5/18, from † to †
Killed in action Feb 5, 19 18

Other wounds or injuries received in action:

Person notified of death: Joseph Rupp (Name) Brother
255 West 80 St New York (Degree of relationship) N Y
(No. and street or rural route) (City, town, or post office) (State or country)

Remarks:

Form No. 724-6, A. G. O. * Strike out words not applicable. † Dates of departure from and arrival in the U. S.
Nov. 22, 1919. 3-7386

NY, WWI military card - https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/411276:3030?tid=&pid=&queryId=3238f30fdc11a5615faa75e09e27861e&p_hsrc=hFB51840&phstart=successSource

RUPP HERMAN C 7 084
Pvt 158 Aero Sqd K
New York NY A
Died 2/5/18 T 452 048
Born 11/18/89 R
Dis Cl
I 7 784

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 724-6—Rev. Sept., 1925

INDEX CARD

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQHZ-86N2>

Name:	Josef Rupp
Gender:	Male
Ethnicity/ Nationality:	German
Marital status:	Single
Age:	32
Birth Date:	abt 1878
Birth Place:	Switzerland
Other Birth Place:	Conan
Last Known Residence:	Johns Lan, U. S. A.
Departure Port:	Le Havre
Arrival Date:	8 Oct 1910
Arrival Port:	New York, New York, USA
Final Destination:	N. York, New York
Height:	5 Feet, 7 Inches
Hair Color:	Black
Eye Color:	Brown
Complexion:	Clear
Money in Possession:	60
Person in Old Country:	Rupp
Person in Old Country Relationship:	Mother
Person in Old Country Residence:	Couare
Person in US:	Mr Donavan
Mother:	Rupp
Ship Name:	Caroline

Name:	Herman Rupp
Gender:	Male
Ethnicity/ Nationality:	German
Marital status:	Single
Age:	21
Birth Date:	abt 1889
Birth Place:	Switzerland
Other Birth Place:	Conan
Last Known Residence:	N. York, U. S. A.
Departure Port:	Le Havre
Arrival Date:	8 Oct 1910
Arrival Port:	New York, New York, USA
Final Destination:	Brooklyn, New York
Height:	5 Feet, 6 Inches
Hair Color:	Black
Eye Color:	Brown
Complexion:	Clear
Money in Possession:	60
Person in Old Country:	Rupp
Person in Old Country Relationship:	Mother
Person in Old Country Residence:	Couare
Person in US:	Mr Donovan
Mother:	Rupp
Ship Name:	Caroline

https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=7488&h=4008395015&tid=&pid=&queryId=1350db8fc0d636bf1bc1f4c29949d9df&usePUB=true&_phsrc=hFB51873&_phstart=successSource

https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=7488&h=4008395014&tid=&pid=&queryId=27d741601edec87ceb8c5b35ec0e5926&usePUB=true&_phsrc=hFB51859&_phstart=successSource

Herman Rupp in the U.S., Headstone and Interment Records for U.S., Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil, 1942-1949	
Name:	Herman Rupp
Rank:	Private
Residence Place:	New York
Military Unit:	158th Aero Squadron
Military Branch:	U.S. Army
War:	World War I
Death Date:	5 Feb 1918
Cemetery Plot Number:	A
Cemetery Row:	4
Cemetery Section:	Grave: 9
Cemetery:	Brookwood American Cemetery
Burial Place:	Brookwood, England

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/30097721:9170?tid=&pid=&queryId=7cac5f39e601e76593db40b7499de7bd&_phsrc=hFB51843&_phstart=successSource

Herman Rupp, private; Joseph Rupp, brother, 255 West Forty-eight Street, New York.

On board Tuscania – “New York Tribune” Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 2

Private Herman Rupp of the 100th Aero Squadron, before enlisting, lived with his brother, Joseph Rupp, at 253 West Eighty-eighth Street. His brother said last night that he saw Herman two weeks ago.

“New York Times” Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 3

TUSCANIA DEAD BURIED ALONG SCOTCH COAST

Brief Services Mark the Final Tribute to American Soldiers Lost on Trip to France—All Bodies Tagged to Aid Identification.

[article continues]

List of Buried.

The following is the first complete list of Americans now buried on the Scottish coast. Each body, whether identified or not, was given a number. Thus, at a point where 78 victims were buried side by side in a long trench, the numbers run from one to 78 in the following order:

T. W. Herman, L. B. Reeder, William C. Keown, L. Roberts, Orville Casper, E. H. Duffy, Paul John C. Wood, W. R. Johnson, H. E. Page, C. B. West, T. Tuttle, Walter Brown, Clarence W. Short, H. Stewart, fireman, member of crew; Raymond Butler, state of Wisconsin; James Logan, member of crew; G. V. Zimmerman, J. Edwards Buttemont, George H. Reinhardt, Walter Crelline, William E. Bennett, G. E. Swanson, unidentified private, William P. Moran, G. J. Jenkins, Charles McMillan, crew; Raymond T. Hurst, T. E. Lawton, T. E. Davison, W. Hardey, C. H. Besner, B. L. Weeks, Henry F. Spidel, David G. Renton, Julius D. Wagner, William J. Tragesser, Alfio Lycarl.

Percy A. Stevens, W. W. Wright, Marcus B. Cook, G. N. Bjork, John C. Johnson, T. T. Saint Claire, Arthur W. Collins, G. Lankenau, J. U. Cheshire, Gerald K. Groves, Frank Burns, Milton Tully, Edwin R. Berkey, unidentified soldier, Philip E. Leigand, Curtiss Willard Wilson, unidentified member of crew, Frederick Allen, W. Raines, Homes L. Anderson, Fred M. Linton, J. B. Guernsey, J. L. Pierce, Elmer R. L. Cowan, William McMurray, Samuel A. Pentecost.

Russell E. Bennett, Robert F. Warren, L. W. Ozment, William I. Greys, I Sims, J. P. Hawley, W. Matthews, unidentified soldier, Samuel P. Riggis, Norman C. Crucker, P. A. Agrien, J. J. Byrge, Fred W. Rudolph, Milwaukee, Wis.; unidentified private, Herman Rupp.

Several Unidentified

[article continues]

"Buffalo (NY) Evening News" Wednesday 13 Feb 1918 p 12

REPORTS 82 DEAD OF THE TUSCANIA

**War Department List Reduces
New Yorkers Unaccounted
For to Nine.**

3 ADDED TO KNOWN LOST

**Ten Names Given That Did Not
Appear in the Record of
Those Buried.**

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The number of New Yorkers unaccounted for as a result of the sinking of the transport Tuscania was reduced to nine late tonight, when the War Department gave out its first officially received list of known and identified dead. There were eighty-two names of known dead on the list. Only three were New Yorkers: Joseph G. Maystrick, of Astoria, L. I., and Herman Rupp and Henry S. Speidel, both of New York City. All except twelve of the New Yorkers on board the Tuscania had been previously accounted for as saved.

As nearly as can be estimated from official information in Washington there appear to have been 2,192 officers and men on the Tuscania, after allowing for the twenty-one taken off at Halifax. The number of Tuscania survivors so far officially reported to the War Department in survivors' lists is 1,894. This leaves 298 to be officially accounted for by the department.

The eighty-two known dead reported tonight leaves 216 still to be accounted for officially. The list of known dead given out tonight follows:

[article continues]

“New York Times” Saturday 16 Feb 1918 p 1

Siblings:

Joseph Rupp

in the U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Name:	Joseph Rupp
Birth Date:	11 Apr 1878
Birth Place:	Switzerland
Claim Date:	15 Jul 1946
SSN:	100188657
Notes:	24 Sep 1976: Name listed as JOSEPH RUPP

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1403674:60901?tid=&pid=&queryId=272373dc40707ad110a1d0e28d0fdde2&_phsrc=hFB51877&_phstart=successSource

Joseph Rupp

in the U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1

Detail Source

Name:	Joseph Rupp
Race:	White
Birth Date:	11 Apr 1878
Residence Date:	1917-1918
Street Address:	255 W. 88 St.
Residence Place:	Manhattan, New York, New York, USA
Draft Board:	126
Physical Build:	Medium
Height:	Medium
Relative:	Martha Rupp

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/17521125:6482?tid=&pid=&queryId=f092b88cc24d86d22ec544cf7eeb978f&phsrc=hFB51880&phstart=successSource>

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER U 3005	1. NAME (Print) Joseph Rupp	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 133-31 39 ave. Flushing Queens N.Y.		
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]		
3. MAILING ADDRESS same		
[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]		
4. TELEPHONE Fl. 9-9232	5. AGE IN YEARS 64	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Switzerland
DATE OF BIRTH 11 Apr 1878		
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. M. French 133-31 39 ave Flushing		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS unemployed		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42)	16-21630-2	Joseph Rupp (Registrant's signature)

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/7784507:1002?tid=&pid=&queryId=7180fc28c04549cec0bb351e87d3e41e&_phsrc=hFB51888&_phstart=successSource

Name: Herman Rupp

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron, Signal Corps - private

Serial number: US Army enlisted men were not assigned serial numbers until after the sinking of the Tuscania showed their value, so Herman died without a number.

Entered service from: New York NY

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Herman Rupp

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": brother Joseph Rupp, 255 W. 88th St., NY, NY

First buried on the isle of Islay, Scotland: in Kilnaughton, Islay, Scotland - grave 78, as Herman Rupp

Buried in England.

World War I draft registration (1917):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Born: 18 Nov 1889

Enlistment & discharge dates not listed. Nor is death date.

Address: NY, NY

Rank/unit: private, 158th Aero Squadron.

NY Army Card: resident of 71 W. 105th St., NY, NY. Enlisted Ft. Slocum NY 27 Nov 1917, at age 28 yrs. Born Igis, Switzerland. In 177th Aero Squadron Gerstner F, Lake Charles LA to 10 Jan 1918, then 158th Aero Squadron to death.

Birth & death:

Born: 18 Nov 1889 (Veterans Administration Master Index) Igis, Landquart, Graubünden, Switzerland

Died: 5 Feb 1918 Tuscania

Find A Grave record: 56503844 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Brookwood, Woking Borough, Surrey, England

Cemetery: Brookwood American Military

Tombstone: veteran cross: Pvt 158 Aero Sqdn New York

Father:

Find A Grave:

Mother:
Find A Grave:
Parents' marriage:

Spouse:
Spouse Find A Grave:
Marriage:

Children:

Siblings:

- Joseph Rupp, 11 Apr 1878 Switzerland – alive in 1950
- Martha Rupp. Mentioned as Joseph's NOK on his WWI draft registration on 8 Sep 1918.

Notes:

Herman's brother Joseph was traceable more than Herman. Herman & Joseph emigrated in 1910, likely missing any 1910 census takers. And Herman was dead by the time of the 1920 census.

Joseph was a chauffeur when he emigrated & retained that occupation for decades.

Pre-war:

Herman's brother Joseph reports on censuses that he emigrated in 1904. That may be, but it appears that Joseph and younger brother Herman came to the US aboard the ship "Caroline" which sailed from Le Havre, France on 24 Sep 1910 & arrived in NYC on 10 Oct 1910. Josef Rupp, age 32, b. Switzerland, was a chauffeur. His last residence was NY; he was a non-immigrant alien. Herman Rupp, age 21, b. Switzerland, was a machinist. Their last residence according to the record indexed above was "Conan" but it appears to read Couare.

Wartime:

Joseph Rupp registered for the WWI draft on 8 Sep 1918. He resided at 255 W. 88th St., NYC, NY [the address provided by Herman for his NOK Joseph when Herman sailed on Tuscania]. Joseph was born 11 Apr 1878 in Switzerland. He was a chauffeur, employed by J.C. Freund, 760 West End Ave., NYC. His NOK was his sister Martha Rupp, of Sandgart 11 Switzerland. He signed the card "Josef."

Joseph's SSN was 100-18-8657. His records show a claim date of 15 Jul 1946 but not a death date.

"NY Times" 2 Feb 1918 p 3 - before enlisting Herman lived with brother Joseph at 225 W. 88th St., Joseph saw him about 2 weeks ago

“New York Herald” 9 Feb 1918 - age 28, lived with brother Joseph Rupp at 255 W. 88th St. Born Switzerland, naturalized citizen. Enlisted Nov 1917.

Post-war:

On his WWII draft registration (25 Apr 1942), Joseph Rupp repeated the birthdate of 11 Apr 1878 Switzerland. He resided at 133-31 – 39th Ave., Flushing, Queens NY. His contact was Mrs. M. French of the same address. He was unemployed. Height: 5’7” – 193 lbs.

Obituary:

Censuses:

1910 Manhattan NY – conducted 8 Apr 1910 – line 48

Joseph Rupp, 31 Switzerland, parents b. Switzerland, single, emigrated 1904, chauffeur, private, lodger with Pauline Deutsch & 2 other lodgers

1915 NY state census – NY, NY – 341 W. 58th St.

Joseph Rupp, 36 Switzerland, in US for 12 years, citizen, chauffeur

1920 New York NY – 255 W. 88th [the address given by Herman as Joseph’s residence on the Tuscania NOK information] - conducted 8 Jan 1920 – line 9

Joseph Rupp, 40 Switzerland, single, parents b. Switzerland (German), emigrated 1904, naturalized 1911, chauffeur, private family

Lodger with Anna Brugo, her 3 children, a son-in-law & 6 other lodgers.

1925 Queens NY – 202 Ivy St.

Joseph Rupp, 44 Switzerland, private chauffeur, US citizen

Mary A., 30 Switzerland, alien, housework [wife]

Note: A Joseph Rupp married Mary Chamay in Manhattan NY on 14 Feb 1923.

1950 NY, NY –

Joseph Rupp, 71 Switzerland, never married, unable to work [in 1925 he reported having a wife]