

# Remember When---

**Collins & Collins Twp.**

**1848 - 1976**

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The references I used are the following:

History of Story County 1887

Story County by William Allen

Nevada Journal

Maxwell Museum

Collins Library

Biographical & Historic Memoirs of Story Co. 1890

Collins Clipper Papers

Collins Liberator Papers

Collins Gazette Papers

Centennial Edition of Nevada Journal 1953

Iowa Hand Book by N. H. Parker

Scrapbooks of:

Ica Luing

Swalwell Sisters

Cressy Ball

Mildred Paul

**Nov. 19, 1975**

## **MERLE HAY'S COMRADE LAID TO REST**

Dewey Kern was buried Tuesday. There are no streets or shopping centers named after Dewey, but many residents of Collins attended services for him at the Christian Church.

Dewey survived a surprise raid by German soldiers on a November night 58 years ago. Another Iowa youth, Merle Hay of Glidden, was killed in that battle, one of the first three American soldiers to die in WWI.

Kern was listed as missing for a time, but that was because he did not sleep in his own bunk after the battle was over and officials believed him to be missing.

A street and a shopping center in Des Moines carry Merle Hay's name.

Kern was wounded twice during his two years overseas. He was a past commander of the Freland Carver Post 81, American Legion at Collins. He carried a gold life membership for his services to the post.