

Everett Gerald Mason

Born: August 10,
1910 on Island

Died: August 1, 1982

Period of Service WW II
Army

Sources: Daughter-in-law
Sue F. Mason

Everett was born on Washington Island to William Claud Mason of Escanaba, Michigan and Christine M. Foss of Washington Island (Born August 23, 1888- died March 26, 1951). William sailed on the boats out of Escanaba and died when Everett was a toddler. Christine left the Island to find work in Chicago, and left Everett with his grandmother, Annie Anderson Foss, and her second husband, Jacob Young, who resided on a small farm on Little Lake Road. When Everett was 13 years old Christine Foss remarried (Lawson John McClurg) and took Everett to live with them in Chicago. He attended Tilden Technical School in Chicago and was an electrical motor inspector and repairman. He later attended Armour Technical School (now known as Illinois Institute of Technology) in Chicago, and studied machine drawing. He married Ellen Eperjesi of Chicago on August 25,, 1938 and they had one son, William Gerald Mason, born January 1, 1940.

Everett entered the Army July 7, 1943 at Fort Custer, Michigan, and trained as a radio technician and repairman. He maintained and repaired radios and transmitters; was familiar with all units of radio and could take apart and rebuild sets; he installed inspected and tested amplitude or frequency modulated radio transmitting and receiving instruments and related equipment; tested equipment using voltmeter, ohmmeter, tube testers and oscilloscope; had general knowledge of theory of radio transmitters, receivers and related equipment; performed these duties in New Guinea and the Philippines. He was honorably discharged December 30, 1945 at Camp Grant, Illinois with a rank of Tech 4. He was awarded three overseas bars, Asiatic-Pacific Theater ribbon with two bronze battle stars, the Philippine Liberation medal with one bronze star, the Good Conduct Medal and a World War II Victory Medal. He had a marksman rating with the M-1 rifle.

He worked for Wisconsin Steel Works, International Harvester as an electrician and maintained a basement workshop in his home where he repaired radios and televisions. He retained a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre plot of the original farmstead on Little Lake road belonging to Jacob Young and Annie Anderson Foss eventually building a summer cottage on the property with the help of his carpenter/fisherman cousins Spencer Nelson and Russell Nelson, lifelong Island residents. After his death August 1, 1982, Ellen moved to the Island and resided in the cottage.