



### Pacolet Soldiers Killed in World War 1

They are pretty well forgotten these days, but Pacolet lost at least three men to the carnage of World War 1. I have very little information about these three except their names. They are:

Corporal Rufus H. Genoble  
Corporal Smith J. Harvey  
Private John Reed

More is known about Cpl. Genoble than the other two because of a letter written by a fellow soldier. The soldier was 1st Lt. Lucius Samuel Bolt Jr. from Laurens, SC. Like Rufus Genoble, Lt. Bolt was in Company D, of the 81st Infantry “Wildcat” Division in France. Cpl. Genoble was in the platoon commanded by Lt. Bolt.

On Nov. 19, 1918, Lt. Bolt wrote to his parents in Laurens. In this letter he told how Rufus Genoble had been the first man in the “Wildcat” Division to be killed. He gave no more details. When he wrote the letter on Nov. 19, the War had been over for a week. The Armistice had been signed over a week before on Nov. 11, 1918. At that time, the 81st Division had been in France since August, 1918, a period of 3 months.

You can read his letter to his parents at [Lt. Bolt’s First Letter](#). Lt. Bolt also wrote a letter to Cpl. Genoble’s mother, Mrs. Sarah Louise Genoble. You can read his letter to Mrs. Genobles at [Lt. Bolt’s Second Letter](#).

Even though he is buried in France, Rufus Genoble is commemorated in the [Pacolet United Methodist Church Cemetery](#). See more at <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/47851285/rufus-haden-genoble>.

<b>CPL Rufus Haden Genoble</b>	
<b>BIRTH</b>	17 Jul 1894 Pacolet, Spartanburg County, South Carolina, USA
<b>DEATH</b>	20 Dec 1918 (aged 24) France

**There is a small amount of additional information relating to the family of Cpl. Genoble online. In the late 1920's the War Department of the United States compiled a list of mothers and widows of deceased soldiers killed in World War I and offered to send them to their loved one's final resting place in Europe. Cpl. Genoble's mother, Mrs. Sarah Louise Genoble, is on the list but it is not known if she ever actually made the trip.**

**If you know anything about Cpl. Genoble, Cpl. Harvey or Pvt. Reed, please let us know and we will put it on this website.**

**( I would like to thank Mr. Jerry Williams for bringing Lt. Bolt's letter and the information about Cpl. Genoble to my attention.)**