

Herman Eugene Rodgers, T-37

22 September 1919 – 26 February 1944

(aged 24)



HERMAN EUGENE RODGERS DIES IN KANSAS TRAGEDY

Herman Eugene Rodgers, printer 3rd class, son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Rodgers, Sr., of 2640 Yale was one of the 11 Navy personnel, including three WAVES, killed yesterday in the flaming crash of a transport training plane at the Olathe KS Naval Air Station. Five others were injured.

In the service almost two years, Seaman Rodgers was transferred to the Kansas base from the Naval Air Technical Training Station at Millington two weeks ago. The plane, carrying personnel from the Naval Primary Training Command Headquarters at Fairfax Airport, Kansas City, faltered in a takeoff from the Olathe field and "pan-caked" from a height of 75 feet, bursting into flames as it struck, according to the Associated Press.

The five survivors, including the pilot were thrown clear of the flaming wreckage. Born and reared in Memphis, the 24-year-old Navy man attended Tech High School. He was employed by Plough Printing Company and Latsch & Arnold, before entering the Navy. His father is employed at DeSoto Paint & Varnish Company as a painter. He was a Baptist. His wife, Mrs. Elouise Thorpe Rodgers and their two children are making their home with her parents in Dallas.

He also leaves two sisters, Miss Sarah Elizabeth Rodgers and Rita Rodgers, both of Memphis; two brothers, Albert E. Rodgers, with the Navy in the South Pacific, and John L. Rodgers, Jr., Memphis.

Information from The Commercial Appeal, Sunday, February 27, 1944.

