9.8.

THE GELLERSTEDT TAILORING COMPANY

FOR HALF A CENTURY

ALABAMA'S LEADING TAILORS

9/7/21.

TROY, ALABAMA
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

TELEPHONE 1351
J. O. BENTON, Manager

BELL BUILDING,
MONTGOMERY, ALA., 8./30./21.

Mrs. Marie B. Owen,
City.

Dear Mrs. Owen:-
Enclosed please find photo & short sketch of our only son who lost his precious young life in the world war.
When the companies were first forming for service on the Mexican Border our son, then just out of school, Edwin James Benton enlisted as musician in Co. F. of Gadsden, Ala. On his return from the Border he was honorably discharged from the army, tho held as a Reservist, on Dec. 31st 1916.
Called back in service Aug. 1917. at Montgomery, Ala. where the Co. were in training.

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Left the N.Y. camp for over-sea duty Nov. 1917. Edwin was in every battle fought, except that of the Marne being then in the hospital with wound in hand received in battle of Chateau Thierry.
He was killed by the explosion of a shell very near him, in that last terrible battle of Argonne Forest, Oct. 15. 1918.

The photo is not a good one but tis the best I have. taken in Spring of 1917. after his discharge from army.

Sincerely.
(Mrs J.O.) Alva T. Benton.