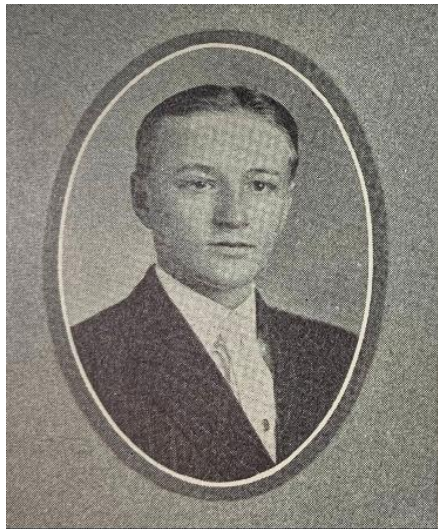


TUSCANIA

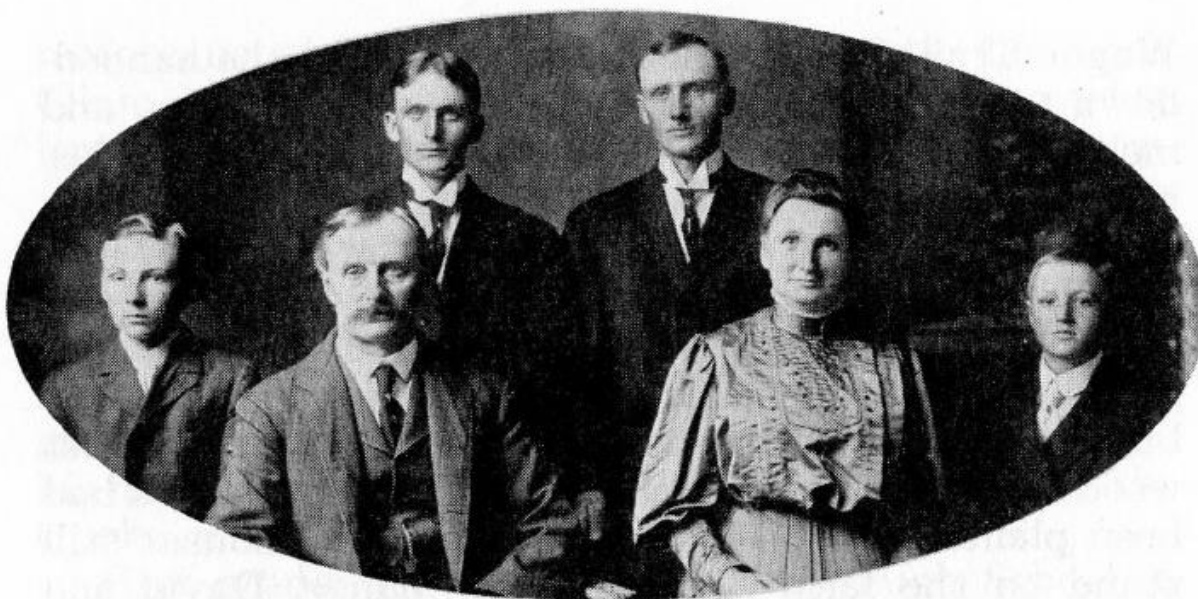
Aaron, Ralph Harold

1896 SD-1978 SD



Ralph Aaron, is another promising member of the class of 1914. He is a specially bright student in Physics along the line of Electricity (that is, talking over the phone to the girls). He has also shown a few of his boy friends how to run an automobile up hill without gasoline (getting them to help him push). His blonde hair, which he parts in the middle, gives him a girlish appearance. He has a tendency, also, to be poetical, but notwithstanding this fault he will, no doubt, be one of the graduates to win success in life.

From Find A Grave 143763337



**David Millard Aaron, Ellen Virginia (Abbott) Aaron
Sons, from left: Lester David, Earl Everett, Clinton Abbott, Ralph
Harold, Around 1900 to 1906**

From Ellen Virginia Abbott Aaron's Find A Grave 71554340





Uniform of Ralph Henry Aaron, acquired by Dr. Steven Trout, University of Alabama, in June 2023 – photographs courtesy of Dr. Trout – Aaron’s name is written inside the collar in bluish ink; his name is also written in his pants. The uniform also contained a card with a number “3” on one side and some notes about Aaron’s war service on the other side.

AARON RALPH HAROLD		3543333	
Chauffeur 1c 158 A Sqd A S		K 1 203 070	
Cas Det 135 163 DB		A 1 595 070	
Arlington S D		T 469 809	
Sn	249 942	R	
Born	3/7/96	Died	
Enl	11/24/17	Dis	3/22/19
		I	
		CT	815 72
U. S. Veterans Bureau Mail and Records Division Form 7202		mlp INDEX CARD	

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1M-W94Z-S?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQP8C-ZPCR>

Ralph Aaron

ARLINGTON, S.D.—Ralph Aaron, 82, died Monday at the Royal C. Johnson Memorial Hospital in Sioux Falls.

He was born in Arlington, was married to Jessie Turner on Sept. 16, 1933, and they farmed near Arlington for several years.

He is survived by his wife, Jessie; two stepsons, Paul, Arlington, and Ralph, Missouri; one stepdaughter, Mrs. Kermit Sperry, Groton; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the United Methodist Church in Arlington. Johnson-Henry Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Obituary of Ralph Harold Aaron: "Sioux Falls [SD] Argus-Leader" Tuesday 30 May 1978 p 2

Life:

Boy Wins Corn Prize

DeSmet, Dec. 17. —Ralph Aaron, a pupil of the Arlington high school, captured first prize over all in the boys' corn-growing contest held at DeSmet last Saturday. The sample was the Minnesota Number Thirteen variety and the ears were of the minimum length, seven inches. The contest was held in connection with the annual school officers and teachers meeting. Dr. A. N. Hume of the state college at Brookings awarded the prizes, and with Superintendent of C. G. Lawrence, addressed the sessions. Both educators presented splendid addresses and were heartily received. The Arlington public school teaches agriculture as a required subject in the seventh and eighth grades and offers one and one-half years in the high school.

COMMENCEMENT AT ARLINGTON

High School of Arlington Holds Interesting Exercises and Large Class Graduates

(Special to the Argus-Leader.)

Arlington, May 26.—The commencement exercises of the high school were held in the Christian church Friday evening. The building was taxed to its utmost to accommodate the crowd who attended. The class acquitted themselves in an admirable manner, each number being rendered in the best way possible. Never have we seen so large a class where each one did as well. The following program was rendered:

Entrance March, Minnie Hommersand and Ruth Maxwell.
Invocation, Rev. R. E. Tarleton.
Salutatory, "Responsibility," Dorothy D. Harrison.
Class poem, Julia E. Sabo.
Oration, "Opportunity," Ralph H. Aarop.
Essay, "An Aim in Life," Minnie L. Tuttle.
Song "Springtime," high school choir.
Oration, "The Crime of War," Chester A. Larson.
Essay, "The Value of Character," Archie E. LaBay.
Class history, Hugh V. Maxwell.
Class will, Glenn H. Richardson.
Class song, high school choir.
Oration, "A Glimpse into the Future," Howard H. Hewett.
Essay, "Power of Purpose," Carl W. Boldt.
Class Prophecy, Edward M. Carlson.
Song "Lovely Night," high school choir.
Valedictory, "Ideals," Matilda K. Tarleton.
Presentation of diplomas by the president of the school board, C. C. Maxwell.
Mrs. Dr. Harrison

Gives oration at Arlington (SD) High School graduation – "Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Tuesday 26 May 1914 p 5

Nine Dakotans on Submarined Ship Tuscania

**Fate of All But One From This
State Is Still Unknown—May Be
Among the Survivors**

Nine South Dakota boys were on the transport Tuscania which was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the north coast of Ireland on Tuesday night, according to advices from Washington. Up to today only one had been definitely located as among the survivors although the others may be included in the hundreds saved but whose names have not yet been received. Alva W. Bowman of Sioux Falls, 26th regiment of engineers, Company E, was landed at Fort Ellen, Islay, Scotland, as reported in the Argus-Leader yesterday.

The other South Dakotans on the Tuscania, whose fate is not yet known, were:

Private Otto J. Mathiasen of Canton, 160th aero squadron.

First Sergeant John Nelson, of Scotland; Privates Gust Friederich of Tripp, and Ralph M. Aaron, of Arlington, 158th aero squadron.

Privates Easter Padden of Camp Crook; Fred M. Unger of Parkston; J. C. Harles McMillian of Sturgis and Charles A. Clark of Camp Crook of the 20th engineers.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 1

FATE OR DAKOTANS ON THE TUSCANIA.

South Dakotans among the survivors of the Tuscania announced by the war department at Washington are:

Charles A. Clark, Camp Crook.

John Nelson, Scotland.

Frank Pew, Andover.

Alva W. Bowman, Sioux Falls.

John McMillin, Sturgis.

One list of the missing contains the name of Fred M. Unger of Parkston, but another dispatch numbers him among the survivors.

The following names have not appeared in the list of the missing, nor with present reports can it be definitely established that they are among the survivors:

Gust Friedrich, Tripp.

Ralph M. Aaron, Arlington.

Otto I Mathiason, Canton.

Easter Padden, Camp Crook.

—W. S. S.—

SURVIVOR'S STORY

Ralph Aaron of Arlington, was one of the survivors of the sinking of the transport *Tuscania*, and tells the story in a letter published in the Arlington

Sun, from which we take the following:

"I have refrained from mentioning our adventure while crossing, but it must be in the papers by now. On our last twelve hour stretch, off the Irish coast, we were plugged on the star-board side by a torpedo from a measely German "tin fish." They immediately let drive again from port-side—I presume to let the water run out, but luckily it went astern of us. I was sitting on a tea pail waiting for tea, it beng supper time, or to be exact, 5:50. My life preserver was in the mess hall and as I couldn't get to it went on deck without it. We had been hit in the coal bin and I could see that we were not sinking fast. The life boats were lowered in poor shape, from one cause and another, and I kept out of them. I went back to my room, got my blouse, overcoat, and scared up a life preserver. Then I went on deck and waited until a destroyer came up; I waited for the order from our commander before leaving. The two destroyers loaded before the one I got on.

"We were landed in Ireland and got swell treatment. I have a few essentials, given by the American Red Cross over here, and expect to get what more I need with some of the ten. They didn't pay in full because our service records are lost. I will make out fine though. I hated to lose that razor you gave me, but I would rather Bill would have it than my whiskers. I was on the ship about two and a half hours after we were hit. It was listing pretty badly and went down shortly after. Only those in life boats and some who jumped overboard lost their lives. Casualties were about two hundred out of twenty-five hundred. Our squad lost eighteen. One or two may turn up yet.

"We were up in review before America's English Ambassador Page, and also had three movies taken of us this week. Watch the papers and see if it is to be given in the States. People from Winchester have been out to entertain us, and we were also in town yesterday to a matinee. Tomorrow we go in to church, and Monday we go in to take in the points of historical note of which I am told there are many. They all seemed tickled to think we sort of slipped it over on Bill when we got away. He did a pile of damage, but we haven't played our hands yet."

Arlington — Ralph Aaron, an Arlington boy, who was one of the survivors of the ill-fated Tuscania, which was torpedoed and sunk February 5 of last year, has arrived home and was given a warm welcome by the residents of Arlington and vicinity.

"Madison (SD) Daily Leader" Friday 11 Apr 1919 p 2

BROTHER OF LOCAL MAN ON TUSCANIA

**PRIVATE RALPH E. AARON
WITH 158th AERO
SQUADRON.**

In addition to First Lieutenant Paul McCormick and Privates James Olson and Grover Rademaker who were on the ill-fated Tuscania when the transport was torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast Tuesday, it appears certain that at least one more Billings was aboard the ship when she went down. He is Private Ralph H. Aaron, brother of Earl E. Aaron, a deputy in the Indian Irrigation service here.

Private Aaron enlisted in the 158th
tro squadron in Arlington, S. D., No-
vember 22 and received training first
at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and later
at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas,
and Lake St. Charles, La., before en-
training for Hempstead, L. I., where
he boarded the Tuscania with his
company. Private Aaron wrote a
card to his brother here from Hemp-
stead January 22, saying his company
is to sail the following day. This is
the date on which the Tuscania left
Hempstead. Lieutenant McCormick
also was on the boat.
Another of the Aaron brothers, Ler-
oy D., is now at Camp Lewis. He left
Billings with the draft contingent
which entrained here September 20.

"Billings (MT) Gazette" Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 6

'Kingbrookers' Mark Anniversary



Arlington, S.D.—Thirty-nine years ago, 12 women met one afternoon to organize a small club. At their anniversary party recently, seven of the charter members of the Kingbrook Club were in attendance. Reading left to right, they are: Mrs. William Rumble, Mrs. Reuben Bennett, Mrs. Bertha Dill, Mrs. Carrie Tillinghast, Mrs. Michael Bennett, Mrs. Laura Liebsch, and Mrs. Walter Davison.

Almost 40 past and present members attended the last meeting which was held at the

Ralph Aaron home in Arlington. To begin with the group were close neighbors in western Brookings County. As the gasoline age came along women from Kingsbury County became members and as other community clubs were born they adopted the name, "Kingbrook."

Throughout the years the program has followed the inclinations of the membership but every meeting has given some time to recreation, singing, household hints and the welfare of others.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Sunday 7 Mar 1954 p 28

State Survivor Of Sunken Ship Bid to Reunion

Arlington, S.D., Feb. 5—Ralph Aaron, Arlington, has received an invitation to attend the 41st reunion of the survivors of the Tuscania. Aaron, then a member of the U.S. Army, was aboard when the English troopship was sunk Feb. 8, 1917.

The reunion this year is being held at Milwaukee.

After the sinking, memorial services were held for Aaron here before the family was finally notified that he had been rescued.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Wednesday 5 Feb 1958 p 2

Arlington Church Plans to Honor Pioneer Members

Arlington, S.D.—Sept. 27 has been set aside in the Arlington Methodist Church as the day of recognition for the longtime members of the church.

Bishop Edwin E. Voight will address the congregation and friends at the regular morning service. A reception for the guests of honor will be held in the church parlors in the afternoon. Carl Morrow is program chairman. The Women's Society of Christian Service will act as hostesses.

C. H. (Bert) Glendenning is dean of the honorary members. His membership dates back to 1895. Mrs. Laura Liebsch and Mrs. William Rumpel belong to the class of 1897; Michael Bennett to the class of 1904 and Mrs. Luella Benett to the class of 1905. Ralph Aaron, Albert Krahn, Charles Keuhn Jr., Mrs. Marvin Tuttle, Mrs. Michael Benett, George Krahn, Hugh Maxwell, Rollo Jack, W. A. Krahn and Mrs. Chas. Royer have been members since 1908, and Mrs. Jessie Glendenning has been a member approximately 50 years.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Friday 28 Aug 1959 p 15

Wife:

Jessie Aaron

ARLINGTON, S.D. — Jessie A. Aaron, 92, died Monday at Kingsbury Memorial Manor, Lake Preston, S.D.

She was born Sept. 20, 1888 in Faulkton, S.D., and married Earl Aaron in June, 1913. He died in 1925. In 1933 she married Ralph H. Aaron. The couple moved into Arlington in 1940. He died in 1978.

Survivors include two sons, Ralph T., Warsaw, Mo., and Paul, Arlington; a daughter, Mrs. Kermit (Jessie Mildred) Sperry, Groton, S.D.; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Arlington United Methodist Church. Johnson-Henry Funeral Home, Arlington, is handling the arrangements.

Jessie's obituary: "Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Wednesday 17 Jun 1981 p 13

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Aaron, of Bozeman, Mont., have sent announcements to Mitchell friends of the birth of a son, Ralph Turner Aaron. Both were former students at Dakota Wesleyan, Mr. Aaron coming from Arlington, S. D., and his wife, who was Miss Jessie Turner, from Faulkton, S. D.

"Mitchell (SD) Capital" Thursday 26 Nov 1914 p 3

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING—NO MUTILATED CERTIFICATE
WILL BE RECEIVED
Write plainly with unfading ink—This is a permanent record.
Use one blank for each Marriage

Clerk of Courts to fill this blank

162130

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

County YANKTON

DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

Registered No. 3781

Record of Marriage

{ Where
Solemnized }

Postoffice

Yankton

County

Yankton

Date of Marriage September 15 1933
(Month) (Day)

HUSBAND		WIFE	
Name	<u>Ralph H. Aaron</u>	Name	<u>Jessie Aaron</u>
Residence		Residence	
Postoffice	<u>Arlington</u>	Postoffice	<u>Arlington</u>
County	<u>Kingsbury</u>	County	<u>Kingsbury</u>
Age	<u>37</u>	Age	<u>45</u>
Nationality	<u>Native</u>	Nationality	<u>Native</u>
Bachelor		Maiden	
Widower		Widow	
Divorced	<u>Bachelor</u>	Divorced	<u>Widow</u>
Name of Clergyman or Officer Officiating		Official Character	

J.H. Kearton

Minister M.E. Church

COAT PRESERVED

"Waste not, want not," an accepted theory of living 40 years ago, led to the preservation of a child's coat now owned by Mrs. Ralph Aaron, east of Arlington.

Mrs. Aaron owns a small coat made from part of the inaugural gown of Mrs. Frank Byrne the year her husband became governor of South Dakota about half a century ago.

The former Jessie Turner, Mrs. Aaron and her parents were friends and neighbors of the Byrne family at Faulkton. Following Mrs. Aaron's marriage, Mrs. Byrne brought the material to make something for Mrs. Aaron's daughter, the present Mrs. Kermit Sperry of Groton, and a bonnet and small coat were made.

The bonnet long since disappeared but the coat was unpacked two weeks ago and was found to be in fair condition, although worn by several children.

Trimmed in fur and made of blue crushed velvet, the coat was made from the wide sash of the inaugural gown and was well used before being packed away as a relic.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Sunday 17 Dec 1961 p 21

Stepsons:

MARRIAGE LICENSE						
The State of Nebraska } ss. HALL COUNTY			OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE			
License is hereby granted to any person authorized to solemnize marriages according to the laws of said State, to join in Marriage						
Mr. Ralph T. Aaron			and Mrs. Leona L. Piehl			
of the County aforesaid, whose ages, residences, etc., are as follows:						
NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
Ralph T. Aaron	Groom	42	W.	Billings, Montana	Earl E. Aaron	Jessie A. Turner
Leona L. Piehl	Bride	39	W.	Arlington, South Dakota Oilton, Oklahoma Grand Island, Nebraska	Lon Neighbors	Mamie F. Combs
And the person joining them in Marriage is required to make due return of this license, together with the annexed Certificate, to the County Judge of said County within ninety days, of the names of the parties, time and place of marriage, and by whom solemnized.						
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at my office in Grand Island, in said County, this 13th day of February A. D., 1957.						
				CHARLES BOSSERT, County Judge		
				By <i>Alpe Thines</i> Clerk, County Court		
CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE						
TO THE COUNTY JUDGE OF HALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA:						
This Certifies, that on the 15 day of February A. D., 1957, at Grand Island in said County, according to law and by authority, I duly Joined in Marriage Mr. Ralph T. Aaron and Mrs. Leona L. Piehl and there were present as witnesses Mrs. Chas. Mosher of Grand Island, Neb. and Miss Joan Piehl of Grand Island Neb.						
Given under my hand the 15 day of February 1957.						
<i>Ran Charles E Mosher</i>						

Marriage of stepson Ralph Turner Aaron to Leona L. Neighbors Piehl 15 Feb 1957 Grand Island, Hall NE - https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61335/images/61335_2421406259_0110-00139?iId=337714

Leone Piehl
in the South Dakota, U.S., Marriages, 1905-2018

Name	Leone Piehl
Gender	Female
Marriage Age	34
Birth Date	abt 1920
Record Type	Marriage
Residence Date	1954
Residence Place	Arlington, Kingsburg, South Dakota, USA
Marriage Date	1 Feb 1954
Marriage Place	Brown, South Dakota, USA
Spouse	Ralph Aaron

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2636270:8561?tid=&pid=&queryId=77cb78a981aaf24b8424f9af3f44d183&phsrc=cPx304&phstart=successSource>

MARRIAGE LICENSE

STATE OF MISSOURI, COUNTY OF WAYNE AT _____

This license authorizes any clergyman, either active or retired, who is a citizen of the United States, and who is in good standing with any church or synagogue in this state, or any judge of a court of record in this state, or any religious society, religious institution, or religious organization of this state, when proceeding according to the regulations and customs of the society, institution or organization, and when either of the hereinafter named parties is a member of such society, institution, or organization, to solemnize marriage between

Ralph T. Aaron of Memphis in the County of Scotland and State of Missouri, who is of the age of 65 years, and Vaudeth D. Bird of Piedmont in the County of Wayne and State of Missouri who is of the age of 65 years.

Witness my hand and official seal as Recorder of Deeds of Wayne County, Missouri, this 17th day of March, 19 80

(L.S.)
By _____ /s/ James S. Cable
DEPUTY RECORDER OF DEEDS

* If the man is under 18 or the woman under 18, add the following: "_____, father, mother, or legal guardian, of the said _____, a minor has given consent to the said marriage." If both parties are minors, the statement shall be repeated in each case.

STATE OF MISSOURI,		RETURN OF PERSON SOLEMNIZING MARRIAGE	
County of <u>Wayne</u>	}	SS.	
This is to certify that the undersigned <u>C.M. Sheets</u> did at <u>Clubb, Missouri</u> in said County on the <u>17th</u> day of <u>March</u> , 19 <u>80</u> , unite in marriage the above named persons and I further certify that I am legally qualified under the laws of the State of Missouri to solemnize marriages.			
<u>/s/ C.M. Sheets</u>		<u>Missionary Baptist Minister</u>	
(SIGNATURE)		(TITLE)	
The foregoing Certificate of Marriage was filed for record in my office on the <u>20th</u> day of <u>March</u> A.D. 19 <u>80</u>			
By	Deputy.	<u>James S. Bird</u> Circuit Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder of Deeds	

marriage to Vaudeth D. Bird 17 Mar 1980 Clubb, Wayne MO -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1171/images/vrmmo1833_c28837-0062?pId=5782650

ARLINGTON RECEPTION HONORS SERVICEMEN HOME ON FURLOUGH

Arlington, S. D., Sept. 15.—A reception was held Tuesday night for four servicemen home on furlough. The group included Pvt. Archie Holcomb, Sgt. Clare Madsen, PFC. Ralph Aaron and Sgt. Wm. Burris. All are army men and with the exception of Burris, who is an instructor, have been overseas.

Holcomb went to north Ireland early in the war and was through the African and Italian campaigns up through the Anzio beachhead. When he went aboard ship after the grueling campaign there, he was surprised to learn that he was scheduled for the much-coveted trip home. Madsen was on the same ship. In one of the "wheat field" battles near Naples, a German sniper had shot him through the jaw. He had spent several weeks in the hospital. Aaron has been on one or another of the Aleutian islands since early in the war.

The reception Tuesday night was held in the Methodist church parlors. It is an established custom whenever possible to hold informal gatherings for men who have been long absent. Church groups cooperate in extending invitations to men of other affiliations.

Two other service men who have been home recently included Kermit Mattson, 2/c petty officer signalman and Lt. Merle Larson. Mattson has been on active duty with the navy now for several months following hospitalization incurred by floating on a life raft in the cold north Atlantic for 16 days. Larson won his leave by completing 50 missions over enemy territory from Italian air bases. Between missions he constructed a propeller-driven automobile from available junk heaps.

AARON, RALPH T., 85, of Hawarden, Iowa, died Wednesday, January 12, 2000, at the St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

Funeral service will be 1:30 p.m., Monday at the First Baptist Church in Hawarden, Iowa, with Rev. Stuart Schreur officiating. Burial will be in the Grace Hill Cemetery at Hawarden. Visitation will begin at 9 a.m., Sunday at PORTER Funeral Home in Hawarden.

Ralph T. Aaron was born November 4, 1914, at Billings, Montana, the son of Earl and Jessie (Turner) Aaron; he was baptized April 4, 1915, at the Methodist Episcopal Church. Ralph attended rural school near Arlington, South Dakota and graduated from Arlington High School. He served with the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945 at the Aleutian Islands and Rhineland Central Europe. Ralph later married Vaudeth D. Bird on March 17, 1980 in Missouri, the couple made their home in Hawarden, Iowa. Ralph was a lifetime member of the American Legion and enjoyed reading, history and gardening.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Vaudeth; brother, Paul E. Aaron of Arlington, South Dakota; sister, Mildred Sperry of Groton, South Dakota; nephews, Bruce Aaron, David Aaron and Ward Sperry; and nieces, Wanda Hildeson, Beth Larson and Patty Kratochvil; he was preceded in death by his parents; and a nephew, Kermit Willis Sperry.

Obituary of Ralph Turner Aaron – "St. Louis (MO) Post-Dispatch" Saturday 15 Jan 2000 p 16

Father:



David Millard Aaron – Find A Grave 71554438

Mother:

**rites at ARLINGTON
FOR TWO PIONEERS**

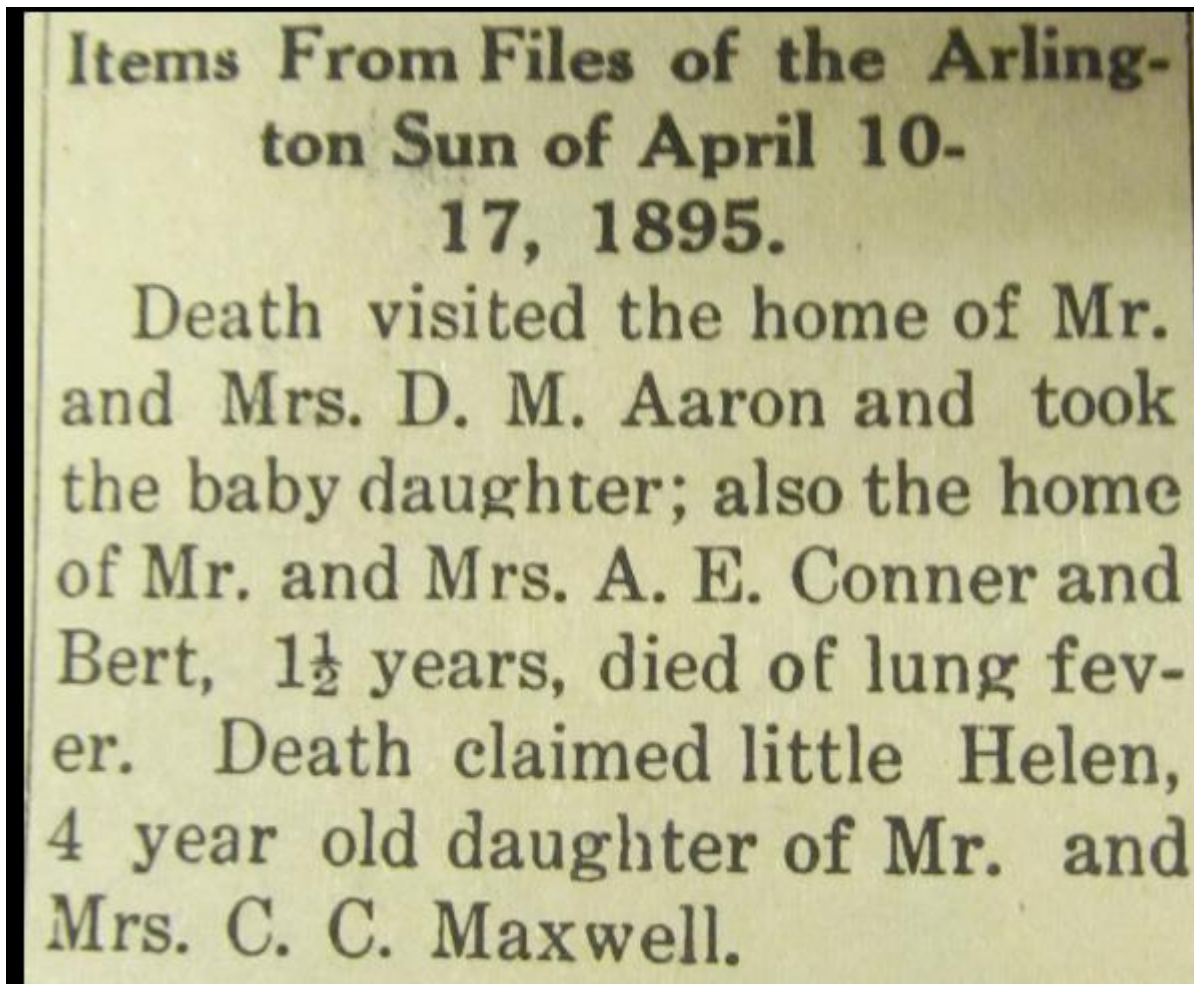
Arlington, S. D., June 24.—Funeral services were conducted for two of Arlington's pioneers the past week.

Leslie J. Allen, 70 succumbed to an illness of several months at the Volga hospital and was buried following services at the Christian church on Thursday. Mr. Allen was one of the pioneers of Winsor township. He was a member of Arlington's "board of trade," a group of "young" old men who meet regularly for visiting and recreation.

Services were held Monday at the Methodist church for Mrs. Ellen Aaron, another pioneer of the Winsor section. Mrs. Aaron, 88, died Friday evening following a heart attack. She is survived by three sons, Clinton, Ralph, and Lester, all of this locality.

"Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" Tuesday 24 Jun 1941 p 12

Siblings:



Sister Alice Myrtle Aaron (1894-1895) – Find A Grave 71545261

.....

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: Ralph Harold Aaron

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron, private

Serial number: 249,942

Entered service from: Arlington, Kingsberry SD

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: as Ralph H. Aaron

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father David M. Aaron, Arlington SD

Returned from war on: on "Mexican" Feb 1919,

Next-of-kin on return ship, sailed under name: indexed as Ralph R. Aaron but is Ralph H. Aaron on original form - NOK father David M. Aaron, Arlington SD [indexed as Arlinoton, Dakota] (chauffeur, 158th Aero Sq.)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Ralph Harold Aaron - b. 8 Mar 1896 Arlington SD, res: Arlington SD. Single. Farmer, for myself, Arlington SD. Tall & slender.

National Tuscania Survivors Association 1939 roster: Arlington SD

World War II draft registration (1942): as Ralph Harold Aaron - b. 8 Mar 1896 Brookings SD; res: Arlington, Brookings SD. NOK Mrs. Jessie A. Aaron, same address. Self-employed, farm, Brookings SD. Height: 5'10" – 165 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 24 Nov 1917

Discharged 22 Mar 1919

Address: Arlington SD

Rank/unit: chauffeur 1st class, 158th Aero Squadron A S / Cas Det 135 163 DB

Birth & death:

Born: 8 Mar 1896 Arlington SD (partially in Brookings, partially in Kingsbury Co.) [Veterans Administration Military Index: 7 Mar 1896]

Died: 29 May 1978 Kingsbury Co. SD (he was resident of Arlington, Kingsbury SD, but obit says died in Royal C. Johnson Hospital, Sioux Falls, Minnehaha Co. SD)

Find A Grave record: 143763337, photo, presence on Tuscania noted in text & flower

Burial location: Arlington, Brookings SD

Cemetery: Arlington Cemetery (in SD)

Tombstone: veteran flat - CFR 1CL, US Army, WWI

Father: David Millard Aaron, 20 Sep 1853 Plymouth, Marshall IN – 21 Sep 1937 Arlington, Brookings SD. Son of Michael Aaron & Anna King. Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington SD.

Find A Grave: 71554438

Mother: Ellen Virginia Abbott Aaron, 4 Jun 1853 NY – 20 Jun 1941 Arlington, Brookings SD. Daughter of James Abbott & Eleanor McGilton. Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD.

Find A Grave: 71554340

Spouse: Jessie Agnes Turner Aaron Aaron, 20 Sep 1888 Faulkton, Faulk SD - Jun 1981 Arlington, Brookings SD. Daughter of James Paul Turner & Isabelle Kate Puntine.

Jessie was the widow of Ralph's brother Earl Everett Aaron, who died 6 Jun 1925. Jessie & Earl married in Faulkton, Faulk SD on 26 Jun 1913.

Earl & Jessie's children were Ralph Turner Aaron, Paul Everett Aaron & Jesse Mildred Aaron (1918-2000). They became Ralph's "stepchildren" as well as being his nephews & niece.

Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD.

Spouse Find A Grave: 143763467

Marriage: 16 Sep 1933

Stepchildren (who were also his nephews & niece): by his wife Jessie Turner's 1st marriage, to his brother Earl Aaron

- Ralph Turner Aaron, 4 Nov 1914 Billings, Yellowstone MT – 12 Jan 2000 IA. – Married 1 Feb 1954 in Brown Co. SD to Leona L. Neighbors Piehl, daughter of Lon Neighbors & Mamie F. Combs. – They apparently married again, as Ralph T. Aaron & Leona L. Neighbors Piehl, on 15 Feb 1957 in Grand Island, Hall NE. - Married 17 Mar 1980 in Clubb, Wayne MO to Vaudeth D. Bird (1914-2003, F: 120483398). Buried in Grace Hill Cemetery, Hawarden, Sioux IA. F: 120483382
- Paul Everett Aaron, 27 Jun 1916 Billings, Yellowstone MT – 31 Aug 2005 Arlington, Kingsbury SD. Married in 1947 in NJ to Eileen Miriam Mollenhaur (1920-1991, F: 143763392). Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 11678412
- Jesse Mildred Aaron Sperry, 13 Apr 1918 Billings, Yellowstone SD – 21 Sep 2000 Groton, Brown SD. Arlington (SD) High School graduate 1936. Married Kermit Maurice Sperry (1914-1985, F: 170895894) on 4 Apr 1942 in Baltimore MD. Listed as Mrs. Kermit Sperry of Groton

SD in her stepfather/uncle's Jun 1978 obituary. Buried in Groton Cemetery, Groton, Brown SD. F: 12105893

Siblings:

- Harriet Maude ("Hattie") Aaron, 6 Apr 1882 Arlington, Kingsbury SD – 1 Jan 1902 Arlington, Kingsbury SD. Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 71554230
- Clinton Abbott Aaron, 6 Dec 1884 Arlington, Brookings SD – 15 Oct 1964. Married to Amelia Stumpf (1888-1968, F: 68377930). Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 68377790
- Earl Everett Aaron, 3 Feb 1887 Arlington, Brookings SD - 6 Jun 1925 Arlington, Brookings SD. Married Jessie Agnes Turner. Upon Earl's death, Jessie married Earl's brother Ralph. Earl is buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 72205526
- Lester David Aaron, 9 Dec 1892 Arlington, Brookings SD – 11 May 1962 Lake Preston, Kingsbury SD. Served in WWI as a wagoner. Married Leona L. (or H.) Payne (1895-1971, F: 72556390) on 21 Aug 1917 in Stillwater Co. MT. Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 72203082
- Alice Myrtle Aaron, 8 Apr 1894 Arlington, Brookings SD – 10 Apr 1895 Arlington, Brookings SD. Buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Brookings SD. F: 71545261

Notes:

Wartime: "Billings (MT) Gazette" 10 Feb 1918 p 6 - Ralph H. Aaron's brother is Earl E. Aaron, deputy in the Indian irrigation service in Billings. Ralph enlisted Arlington SD 22 Nov 1917, trained at Jefferson Barracks, Kelly Field, Lake Charles LA & then to Hempstead NY. Wrote 22 Jan that he was sailing the next day.

His first "funeral" - "Sioux Falls (SD) Argus-Leader" 5 Feb 1958 p 2 – Ralph Aaron of Arlington SD received an invitation to attend the 41st reunion of Tuscania survivors, this year held in Milwaukee WI. "After the sinking, memorial serves were held for Aaron here before the family was finally notified that he had been rescued."

Post-war:

Social Security Number: 504-44-8065

Censuses:

1900 Winsor, Brookings SD

David M. Aaron, 46 IN, Sep 1853, father b. OH, mother b. NY, married 19 years, farmer

Ellen V., 45 NY, Jun 1854, parents b. Canada (English), gave birth to 6 children, 5 are living

Hattie M., 18 SD, Mar 1882

Clinton A. 15 SD, Dec 1884

Earl E., 13 SD, Feb 1887

Lester D., 7 SD, Dec 1892

Ralf H., 4 SD, Mar 1896

& servant James S. Paulson, 22 Denmark

1910 Denver, Kingsbury SD – Allen St.

David M. Aaron, 55 IN, parents b. Germany, in 1st marriage, married 29 years, farmer, general farm

Ellen V. 56 NY, parents b. Canada (English), in 1st marriage

Lester D. 17 SD, farmer, general farm

Ralph H. 14 D

1920 cannot locate

1930 Winsor, Brookings SD

Ralph H. Aaron, 32 SD, single, father b. IN, mother b. NY, farmer, WWI veteran [head of household]

Jessie Aaron, 37 SD, parents b. Canada (English), widow, servant, private home [sister-in-law – later his wife]

Ralph T. Aaron, 15 MT [son]

Paul E. Aaron, 14 MT [son]

Mildred Aaron, 12 MT [daughter]

For the 3 Aaron children, both parents b. SD

On same page: Ralph's brother Lester D. & wife Leona

1940 Winsor, Brookings SD – same house in 1935

Ralph H. Aaron, 44 SD, farmer

Jessie A. 50 SD [wife]

Paul ,24 MT [son] – entry marked A.B. – likely “absent”

[on same page: Ralph’s brother Lester Aaron & wife Leona]

1950 Arlington, Kingsbury SD

Ralph H. Aaron, 54 SD, farmer, farm

Jessie A., 61 SD