

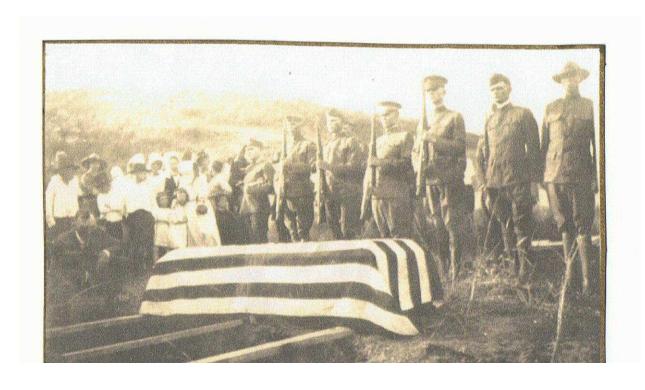
# Tuscania casualty Barker, Ben 1895 TX – 5 February 1918 Tuscania



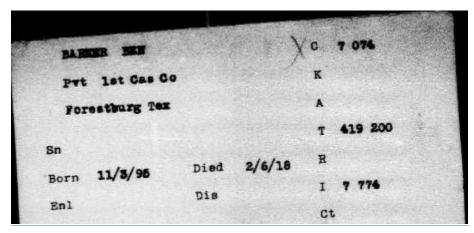
Ben Barker - Find A Grave 50231360



Ben Barker is standing, in the middle
Forestburg (F B) basketball team
He is described on his 1917 draft card as being of medium height, a stout build, gray eyes
and brown hair. https://www.ancestry.com/mediauiviewer/tree/76034965/person/40337368757/media/b1c05e10-45c4-4f04-adfef697ead5d7ae? phsrc=yGI520& phstart=successSource



The reinterment of Ben Barker's body - <a href="https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/76034965/person/40337368757/media/32146842-f972-4361-9ee1-72f8df66c873?">https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/76034965/person/40337368757/media/32146842-f972-4361-9ee1-72f8df66c873?</a> phsrc=yGl521& phstart=successSource



https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1M-H5MP?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQP8D-ZCJM&action=view

#### Ben Barker

Military • United States, World War I American Expeditionary Forces Deaths, 1917-1919

Page 15				
TEXAS WHITE:	ENLISTED IN REGULAR ARMY	OR ASSIGN	ED THERETO UPON INI	DUCTION
NAME	SERIAL NO	BANK	ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF DEATH	DATE OF DEATH
Barker, Ben	Party and the second	Pvt	165 Depot Brig 7 Tng Bn 33 Co	Peb 5/18

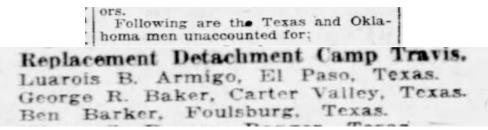
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AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Barker,	Be	71		* White * Gold	6
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Served overses Killed in actio Other wounds Person notified	as from † Jan 2 on Februar or injuries receive	24/18 <sub>to †</sub> Fry 5 , ed in action :	eb 5/18, from 19_18 in si	t nking of Tu  (If none, so state) (Degree of r	Father	

Texas WWI Military Records: Camp Travis Det. 1 - 23rd Military Police Btn., 165th Depot Brigade, 28th Co. from 8 Oct 1917 to death. Inducted 8 Oct 1917 Bowie, Montague TX. Age 21 years 11 months. Overseas 24 Jan 1918 – 5 Feb 1918. Killed in action 5 Feb 1918 in sinking of Tuscania. NOK father G.W. Barker, Forestburg TX. -

https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV18-JL15

Life:



Forestburg TX was spelled FOULSBURG - "Fort Worth (TX) Star-Telegram" Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 7

## Home Addresses of Those Laid to Rest in Scotland

Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The home addresses of the American soldiers buried in the Scottish coast, taken from the Associated Press list of those unaccounted for, as checked up with the Tuscania's passenger list, follows:

In some instances the spelling from the Scotch seaport does not agree with the official passenger list.

CUIKS, MIHH.

Barker, Ben, Foulsburg, Texas.

"Waco (TX) Times-Herald" Wednesday 13 Feb 1918 p 1

#### Names of Those Buried.

The following is the first complete list of Americans now buried on the Scottish coast. Each body, whether identified or not, was given a number.

At a third place forty-four victims are buried in three trenches, the largest holds 18 bodies, another 16 and a third 10. In the first named the bodies have been numbered from 1 to 18 in this order:

Harry Carpenter, two unidentified privates, John A. Laakko, Rocco Calarese, Ade McCoy, two unidentified privates, Stanley A. Anspurger, É. A. Houston, Stanley L. Collins, Joseph G. Maxstruck, Otto Ray Martin, Columbus Hill, Clare Metzenbaumer, Wilbur Clark Jackson, John Eichammer, Ben Barker.

"Liberty (TX) Vindicator" Friday 22 Feb 1918 p 1

#### ALVORD NEWS.

Mrs. Emmett Taylor was in Forrestburg Sunday to attend the memorial services held for her brother, Ben Barker, a U. S. soldier who lost his life on the ship Tuscania.

Sister Sophrona Barker Taylor (Mrs. Robert Emmett Taylor) – "Wise County Messenger" (Decatur TX) Friday 22 Feb 1918 p 4

### List of Victims of the Ill Fated Tuscania Sunk in North Sea by Submarine

The following list of names are those of persons reported to the war department as among the known dead, missing or unidentified dead in the Tuscania disaster. There have been reported 144 known dead and 65 missing or among the unidentified dead. The death of two survivors also has been reported. The emergency address given by each follows immediately after his name List of Known Dead.

Ben Barker, G. W. Barker, father, Forestburg, Texas.

"Waco (TX) Times-Herald" Sunday 31 Mar 1918 p 14

Parents:



George Washington Barker & Mary Frances (Sherman) Barker – Find A Grave 50231310

Father:

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(b) General nati	ere of Industry.	mes		- Table Table 1	
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TX death record of father George Washington Barker -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394\_b062009-02742?pld=24139967

Mother:

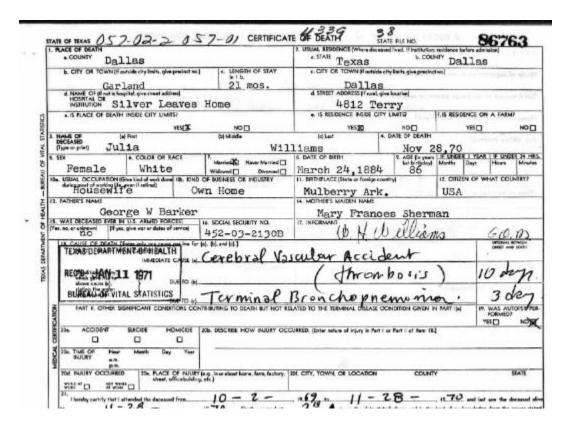
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TX death record of mother Mary Frances Sherman Barker - https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394\_b062287-00896?pId=22089018

Siblings:



Sister Julia Darlene Barker Williams (1884-1970) - https://www.ancestry.com/mediauiviewer/tree/14797578/person/164749410/media/c977bd26-a9a7-4a18-9fd9aa8e74edc807



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TX death record of Julia Darlene Barker Williams - <a href="https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1196198:2272?tid=14797578&pid=29571489545&queryId=b0d92a38457e9e">https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1196198:2272?tid=14797578&pid=29571489545&queryId=b0d92a38457e9e</a>
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TX death record of sister Alabama (Bamma) Barker White (1886-1960) - https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394\_b062561-00582?pId=22849792



Sister Eliza (Liza) Barker Willis (1888-1974) - https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/76034965/person/40337368754/media/19bbe72f-7618-4fc0-92e6-f75bf6d393b6?\_phsrc=cPx4065&\_phstart=successSource



Brother Robert Harden Barker (1887-1961) - https://www.ancestry.com/mediauiviewer/tree/14797578/person/164752674/media/4c4af5eb-de83-49fa-827c-3edcea61f735

> Lizzie Gardner in the U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014

Name	Lizzie Gardner
Social Security Number	451-90-1549
Birth Date	2 Sep 1892
Issue year	1986
Issue State	Texas
Last Residence	74401, Muskogee, Muskogee, Oklahoma, USA
Death Date	May 1984

#### Sister Elizabeth (Lizzie) Barker Gardner (1892-1984) -

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryuicontent/view/21382703:3693?tid=14797578&pid=402415577138&queryld=885d225a9e05 e68266398f3d9463cb52&\_phsrc=cPx4071&\_phstart=successSource



Sister Grace Curtis Barker Orrell Swanson (1902-1937) – Find A Grave 49962885

_	PRECINCT SO. 3 FORSE LINE TO EAST OF BARRIES.	
•	Length of residence in city where death occurring Tra	
4		Forestburg, Texas
3	PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS	MEDICAL PARTICULARS
	female White This Married Married	(month, day, and year) February 14, 199
	5a. If married, widowed, or divorced.  HUSBAND of (or) Wiff of C.E.SWanson	22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I stiended deceased from
1	4 X NATH OF BIRTH	d 100.1 100.1 10.2 100.1
	(uonth, day, and year) February 2, 1902	I last saw hed alive so Z 190.4 .; death to said
	5 Years Months 12 Days or	have occurred on the date stated above 10:20 P. W. The principal cause of dath and related causes of importance were as follows:
:	8 Trade, profession, or particular kind of work dose, as splinser, Housewife	Casting 12-73
	5 Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw	- itas v 111 sovetyca
	Date decreased last   11. Total time	Other contributery causes of imperiance:
7	2   1 tion (month and year)   this occupation	AND
1	(Chir or Town) Montague Co, Texas	Name of operationDate of
		What test confirmed diagnosis? Was there an autopsy!
	14. BIRTHPLACE (City or Town) (City or Town) Mary F.Sherman  16. BIRTHPLACE (City or Town)	Accident, suicide, or homicide!
1	Mary F.Sherman	Date of injury
1	E 16 BIRTHPLACE	
	(City or Town) (State or Country) Crofford Co.Ark.	Where did injury occur! (Specify city or town, county, and Stall) Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in hope, or in yubile, his
1	ouza presen	— //3 · 3
	18 BURIAL	Manner of injury.
1	BEMOVAL Place Hardy, ToxasDate 2/16, 199 37	Nature of Injery 48 8 19:
ESIDEN	10. UMDERTAKER A A 2	Was disease or injury in any way
~ I	La Charles In	lated to correlation of deceased!

Birth date incorrect on sister Grace Curtis Barker Swanson's TX death record – she was 1 year old in 1900 census, not born 2 Feb 1902 – lived 1898 to 1937 -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394\_b062124-00599?pId=24081840

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394\_b062124-00599?pld=24081840

#### **Abbreviations:**

b = born

d = died

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

NOK = next-of-kin

#### Name: Ben Barker

Name variations: Benjaman Barker (1900 census) – Benjamin Barker – Bennie Barker <u>Military:</u>

On Tuscania: 7th Training Btn., 165th Depot Brigade, 33rd Co. - private

Serial number: US Army enlisted men were not assigned serial numbers until after the sinking of the Tuscania showed their value, so Ben died without a number.

Entered service from: Forestburg, Montague TX

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Ben Barker

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father G.W. Barker, Fouslburg (sic) TX

Islay, Scotland, burial: 1st buried at Kinnabus, Islay, Scotland - grave 18, as Ben Barker

Body returned from war on: on "Antigone" arriving Hoboken 29 Sep 1920

Listed on return ship as: Ben Barker

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: NOK not included on this list – private, Cas. Co. #1 World War I draft registration (1917): as Ben Barker b. 3 Nov 1896 Forestburg TX; res: Forestburg, Montague TX. Single. Farming for self near Forestburg. TX. Medium height, stout build.

Veterans Administration Military Index: birthdate of 3 Nov 1895

Enlistment date not listed

Discharge date note listed – death date of 6 Feb 1918

Address: Forestburg TX

Rank/unit: private, 1st Cas Co

#### Birth & death:

Born: 3 Nov 1896 (WWI draft) Forestburg, Montague TX - or 4 Nov 1895 (tombstone & Find A Grave record) – or born Hardy, Montague TX (TX Militaryu Records) obituary – was 22 years 3 months 3 days old when entered Army [which computes to 1895i.e. 1895] – or Jan 1894 in 1900 census.

Died: 5 Feb 1918 Tuscania

Find A Grave record: 50231360 - presence on Tuscania noted in flower

Burial location: Hardy, Montague TX

Cemetery: Hardy

Tombstone: tombstone - Prvt. 1st. Cas Co A.E.F. "He died that we might live"

Father: George Washington ("Pa") Barker, 14 Feb 1857 Martinsburg, Crawford Co. AR – 2 Nov 1930 Forestburg, Montague TX. Found as son of Martin Barker & Mary Ann Hargrove – and of Charles Gates Baker. "Parents" listed on Find A Grave as BAKER. Buried in Hardy Cemetery, Hardy, Montague TX.

Find A Grave: 50231310

Mother: Mary Frances ("Polly") Sherman Barker, 28 Feb 1859 Lafayette, Crawford Co. AR – 24 Feb 1946 Alvord, Wise TX. Daughter of George Sherman (according to her Find A Grave record) or of William L. Sherman Jr. & Cynthia Ann Fulka.. Buried in Hardy Cemetery.

Find A Grave: 50231264

Parents' marriage – George W. Barker, age 21, married Mary Ann Sherman, age 20 on 22 Dec 1878 in Crawford AR.

#### Spouse:

#### Spouse Find A Grave:

#### Children:

#### Siblings:

- Sophrona ("Fronie") Barker Taylor, 31 Oct 1880 [Oct 1879 in 1900 census] AR 4
  May 1973 Bridgeport, Wise TX. Wife of Robert Emmett Taylor (1873-1954, F:
  16498331). Erroneously linked on Ancestry.com to a husband named Robert A.
  (Bert) Raney; the incorrect Sophronia Raney is at F: 14984880. Buried in Alvord
  Cemetery, Alvord, Wise TX. F: 16498330
- Julia Darlene Barker Williams, 24 Mar 1884 Mulberry, Crawford AR 28 Nov 1970 Garland, Dallas TX. Listed as Darlene Barker, b. Mar 1884 AR, in 1900 census. Wife of William H. Williams (1883-1971, F: 136323958), whom she married 23 Jul 1905 Montague Co. TX. Married at time of death, a resident: of 4812 Terry, Dallas TX. Buried in Grove Hill Memorial Park, Dallas, Dallas TX. F: 136323798
- Alabama (Bamma/Bama) Barker White, 2 Oct 1886 Mulberry, Crawford AR [Oct 1886 AR in the 1900 census] 9 Jan 1960 Forestburg, Montague T. Married 9 Jul 1911 in Montague Co. TX to Nathan Edward ("Ed") White (1871-1940, F: 54400816). Buried in Perryman Cemetery, Forestburg, Montague TX. F: 5440822.
- Eliza (Liza) Barker Willis, 25 Aug 1888 Alma AR 1 Jun 1974 Muenster, Cooke TX.
   Birth date of Aug 1887 AR in 1900 census. She is listed as older than her brother
   Robert in the 1900 & 1910 censuses, but her tombstone disagrees. Married 15 Jan 1919 in Montague Co. TX to Claude Alvin Willis (1881-1971, F: 54400842). Widowed at the time of her death, a resident of Rte. 1, Forestburg TX. Buried in Perryman Cemetery, Forestburg, Montague T. F: 54400843
- Robert Harden Barker, 25 Feb 1887 Little Rock, Pulaski AR 9 Oct 1961 Bakersfield, Kern Co. CA. Listed with a Feb 1889 birth in 1900 census. Husband of Myrtle Bea Hester (1895-1970, F: 343598841) on 3 Nov 1912 in Montague Co. TX. Obituary: "Napa Valley Register" 18 Oct 1961 p 6 d. at age 74, no siblings listed. Buried in Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary, Bakersfield, Kern CA. F: 90023842
- Elizabeth (Lizzie) Barker Gardner, 2 Sep 1892 on Social Security records, agreeing with Sep 1892 TX in 1900 census, but 1894 used on tombstone, born Forestburg, Montague TX May 1984 Forestburg, Montague TX. Social Security lists last residence in Muskogee Co. OK. "Lizzie Barker" married J.W. Gardner on 26 Mar 1913 in Montague Co. TX. James William Gardner (1893-1966, F: 40823156). Buried in Perryman Cemetery, Forestburg, Montague TX. F; 54400183
- Grace Curtis ("Sister Grace") Barker Orrell Swanson, 2 Feb 1898 [listed as 1902 on her TX death record & on Find A Grave] Montague Co. TX 14 Feb 1937 Forestburg, Montague TX. Birth listed as Feb 1898 in the 1900 census. She could not have been born in 1902 since she was already 1 year old in 1900. The 1900 census records her birth as Feb 1898. Married William Paul ("Willie") Orrell (1897-1986, F: 54400454). Married in 1933 to Robert E. Swanson (1911-2000, F: 134865714). Married when

died, listed as the wife of C.E. Swanson. Buried in Hardy Cemetery, Hardy, Montague TX. F: 49962885

Also 3 other siblings, dead by 1900 census (conducted 2 Jun 1900)

#### Notes:

Unreliable family trees on Ancestry.com, which have mixed two separate families. "Siblings" claimed on these trees that were not linked on Find A Grave are not included below.

#### Wartime:

First Montague Co. TX casualty in WWI.

"El Paso (TX) Herald" 13 Feb 1918 p 2 Ben Barker was buried in Scotland in a trench holding 18 bodies.

"Wise County Messenger" (Decatur TX) 22 Feb 1918 p 4 Mrs. Emmett Taylor [Ben's sister Sophrona] attended a memorial service on Sunday, 17 Feb 1918, in Forestburg TX for her brother Ben, a Tuscania casualty.

#### Censuses:

1900 Forestburg, Montague TX - conducted 2 Jun 1900
George Barker, 41 AL, 1859, father b. KY, mother b. AL, married 23 years, farmer
Mary, 41 AR, Feb 1859, father b. TN, mother b. KY, gave birth to 11 children, 8 are living
Safronia, 20 AR, Oct 1879, at school
Darlene, 16 AR, Mar 1884, at school
Alabama, 13 AR, Oct 1886, at school [female]
Liza, 12 AR, b. Aug 1887, at school
Heardin, 11 AR, Feb 1889, at school
Elizabeth, 7 TX, Sep 1892
Benjaman, 6 TX, Jan 1894
Gracie, 1 TX, Feb 1898
With servant James Loveday, 16 AL, Apr 1884

1910 Justice Precinct 3, Montague Co. TX

George W. Barker, 51 AR, father b. MO, mother b. TN, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, married 26 years, farmer, general farm

Mary, 52 AR, parents b. KY, 1st marriage, gave birth to 11 children, 8 are living

Alabama, 24 AR, farm laborer, home farm

Eliza, 22 AR, farm laborer, home farm

Harden, 21 AR, farmer, general farm

Lizzie, 18 TX, farm laborer, home farm

Bennie, 15 TX, farm laborer, home farm

Gracie, 11 TX