

TUSCANIA

Clark, Valford Seibert Gardner Clark
1893 OH – 1970 TX



Valford Seibert Gardner Clark – from newspaper coverage after his arrest but before his faked suicide – “Pittsburgh (PA) Daily Post” 22 Jun 1923 p 2

**FORMER NEWSIE IS
SAVED FROM DEATH**



VALFORD CLARK.

**SENSATIONAL BRAVERY SHOWN
BY VALFORD CLARK ALTHOUGH
DEATH FACES HIM ON OCEAN**

**Springfield Boy, Saved
From Hun Torpedo, Tells
of Experience.**

**FIGHT FOR LIFE
IS WON BY HIM**

**"I Could See Men Go Down
and Others Killed By De-
stroyers," He Writes, Say-
ing Sight Was Terrible.**

Probably no more vivid and realistic description of the great Tuscania disaster on February 5, when the giant ship, struck by a German torpedo plunged to the bottom of the sea, killing hundreds of soldiers, can be obtained than that received in a letter which Valford Clark, a former Springfield boy and News carrier, one of the survivors, wrote to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Clark of Toledo, recently.

Young Clark was born and reared in Springfield and was a News carrier for a number of years. He left this city about four years ago, and enlisted in the regular army at Toledo last July. He was a member of the 158 aero squadron, stationed at Kelly Field, Texas.

Young Valford describes in his letter how all were happy, laughing and singing on the ill fated ship on Feb. 5th, at 5:45 p. m. He, together with several of his comrades, were on the underdeck, when he jokingly said, "Lets all get off this deck before we get hit with something. Instantly there was a boom, all lights went out and screaming the crowd rushed for the main stairs.

SENSATIONAL BRAVERY.

Valford was ordered by a Lieutenant to go down a rope into the sea and secure a raft. Despite the fact that he could not swim he complied with the order and found himself struggling in the sea, with his hands too stiff to tie the raft to the ship. He was knocked unconscious by a giant breaker, but the cold water caused him to regain consciousness. After he had heroically saved the raft, nine other men jumped in, but unfortunately the boat drifted out to sea. Hours later, after seeing men go down to their death, other boats upset and men were killed by shells, the occupants of the open raft were saved by an English patrol boat and

Continued on Page 2, Column 2.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Mar 31, 1918 Page 15

Springfield OH - page 1

Sensational Bravery Shown By Valford Clark, Although Faces Him On the Ocean

(Continued from First Page.)

landed in Ireland, and after receiving the hospitality of the Irish people for several weeks were finally sent to a rest camp in England.

Clark's letter follows:

"My Dear Folks: Have been unable to hear from you as yet, and don't suppose I will until I get caught up with my squadron. Well, I am fine and dandy and ready for duty again. I surely had some experience. It was on February 5th at 5:45 p. m. We were sailing along on a nice sea. The first nice sea we had had for a couple of days. We surely were a happy bunch, as we had just seen land at 4 o'clock that afternoon. And we were singing and laughing. We had just come from supper and had not thought of danger. We could be on deck until 8 p. m. And as we were standing on lower deck number 2, I turned to a couple of the boys and said, 'Let's all get off this deck before we get hit with something.' I hardly had this out of my mouth before 'boom.' And all of us cried 'there she is.' All the lights went out and the ship was shaken from bow to toe. The torpedo hit right under where I was standing. Well, we all made a

some of the men who were wild to make a big rush. But some of us were cool. And we kept saying 'Take your time, men.'

FACE DANGER SINGING.

Well, they did, and we all landed on deck safely. All fell in line, some of us singing, others very nervous. Well, my boat was No. 9 a. When she came overboard she went down nose first in the water, breaking all to pieces. Well it was lost. So we all made for the other side and took an air raft. Well we all worked hard and got the first raft off O. K. But it was still on ship with some others.

"We got the other raft overboard all O. K. Then the Lieutenant turned to me and said 'What is your name?' I told him and he said 'You go down the rope first.' You know what that

meant to me, for I am no swimmer. But down I went. The raft had gotten away from the ship and was about 200 yards away, and I was thrown in the water.

FIGHT FOR LIFE.

"Well, I made for it and tried to get on, but could not. I surely did have a fight for my life, and to save the raft, for I knew there were others depending on me. While struggling in the water, they let another boat overboard beside me and this wave, thus throwing the raft on top of me and knocking me out. The cold water soon brought me too, and I made another fight. I took hold of the raft and wrapped my feet in ropes. Then I called for the boys to pull on the rope. They did this a couple of times and I finally landed on my back on the raft. I called O. K.

"But somehow they misunderstood me and pulled again and off I went into the water again. Well I finally got back on the raft again. You see, I had on my overcoat, leather leggings, my pockets loaded with stuff, and a life belt on, and the raft stood about a foot out of the water. Well I made it at last so cold I could not tie the rope. I had to hold it. I let one man down and told him to hold the rope for the next one. He did, and I warmed my hands by rubbing them. I then took the rope and let down nine men. Our raft was full by this time, so we tried to get off, but could not do any-

thing but drift. We left the ship at 10 minutes to seven o'clock and drifted out to sea instead of going to shore. We were on the first raft or boat picked up by doing so. This was at 9:05 o'clock. We picked up many men from the water. Some were holding onto boats upside down and every other way. We had to work hard with many to bring them to consciousness.

TERRIBLE SIGHT.

"Well, folks, that riding on that open raft will never be forgotten by me. I could see the men go down, see other boats upset and men killed by destroyers hitting them. It surely was terrible. The red signal rockets in the air, men crying for help, and now and then the submarine that sank us would come to the surface. But English patrol boats came to our help and thanks to them, many of us were saved. The boat I was on took us to Larne, Ireland. We were met by small boats and rushed to a hotel. All went well with me for the first two days. Then I was taken down on my back and could not get out. We were certainly treated well. Nobody could have treated us better than the Irish people did. I soon got well and able to get around. The people came to the hospital and brought us everything we wanted, for you know we lost everything we had.

"The American Red Cross did fine

"The American Red Cross did fine work too, and we each received ten shillings from a man in New York city. A week ago Saturday we went to Belfast and were again treated when we left there last Monday, the band, the Colonel and the Irish Rifles went to the depot with us. All along the streets thousands of people followed us. We are now in the rest camp in England, but can't say how long we will be here. My squadron is gone 'somewhere in France' and I expect to follow them soon.

"This is my story of the sinking of the Tuscania. Of course I could write more if I was in the States. But I cannot go into details.

"We buried 167 men on an island off the coast of Scotland, and also two captains. There is also about 100 men missing, making a total of about 250 lost. We lost 20 men from my squadron.

SWEARS FOR REVENGE.

"Well, dear folks, I am safe and thank the good Lord. And leave it to me, I will get even with the Huns for such experiences, and the time I was sick. We left Winchester last Saturday and marched to the American rest camp, a distance of about 13 miles. Some march, for a man just coming out of the hospital.

"There is only three of my company here with me. We are only stray sheep now but we will join our comrades soon. And what we will do to the Boches will be plenty."

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Mar 31, 1918 · Page 16

Continuation on page 2 - Springfield OH 1918

Valford Silas Clark

in the Ohio, U.S., Births and Christenings Index, 1774-1973



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Valford Silas Clark [Valford Seibert Clark]
Gender	Male
Race	White
Birth Date	19 Feb 1893
Birth Place	Springfield, Clark, Ohio
Father	John W. Clark
Mother	Amelia L. Seibert
FHL Film Number	466658

OH birth certificate spells middle name as Silas (instead of middle names of Seibert Grant)

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2541/records/2340535?tid=&pid=&queryId=6e3dc312-9177-4eb8-a7f4-5cf79e2593bb&_phsrc=cPx36329&_phstart=successSource



military headstone in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Bexar TX – Find A Grave 496208 - https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/496208/valford-seibert_gardner-clark#view-photo=71491297

4123 32

STATE OF TEXAS 015-01-3 015-01 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH STATE FILE NO. 07948

1. PLACE OF DEATH a. COUNTY Bexar		2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived. If institution: residence before admission) a. STATE Texas b. COUNTY Bexar	
b. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) San Antonio		c. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) San Antonio	
d. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION DOA Robert B. Green Hospital		d. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) 903 Florida Street	
e. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐		f. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES ☐ NO ☒	
3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) a. First Valford b. Middle G. c. Last Clark		4. DATE OF DEATH February 26, 1970	
5. SEX Male	6. COLOR OR RACE White	7. Married ☒ Never Married ☐ Widowed ☐ Divorced ☐	8. DATE OF BIRTH February 19, 1893
9. AGE (In years last birthday) 77		10. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Patrolman	
10b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Merchant's Police		11. BIRTH-PLACE (State or foreign country) Ohio	
12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA		13. FATHER'S NAME John W. Clark	
14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Amelia E. Seibert		15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) Yes	
16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. 460-12-5322		17. INFORMATION received from Mrs. Evelyn Clark by: <i>Jean G. Clark</i>	
18. CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).) ARTERIOSCLEROTIC HEART DISEASE			
19. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES ☐ NO ☒			
PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (a)			
20a. ACCIDENT ☐ SUICIDE ☐ HOMICIDE ☐			
20b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of item 18.)			
20c. TIME OF INJURY Hour ☐ Month ☐ Day ☐ Year ☐			
20d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK ☐ NOT WHILE AT WORK ☐			
20e. PLACE OF INJURY (a.g. in or about home, farm, factory, street, office building, etc.)			
20f. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE			
21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from _____, 19____, and last saw the deceased alive on _____, 19____. Death occurred at _____, on the date stated above, and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.			
22a. SIGNATURE <i>M. D. Lapeyrolle</i> M.D.			
22b. ADDRESS 527 N. Leona San Antonio, Texas			
22c. DATE SIGNED 2/27/70			
23. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify) Burial			
23b. DATE March 2, 1970			
23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery			
24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Elizabeth Kearns-Downing-McClaugherty</i> #5340			
25a. REGISTRAR'S FILE NO. 1135			
25b. DATE REC'D BY LOCAL REGISTRAR FEB 27 70			
25c. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE <i>R. M. Wainwright</i>			

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
REC'D MAR 16 1970

VS-112, REV. 1/58

TX death certificate – died of arteriosclerotic heart disease -

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/496208/valford-seibert_gardner-clark#view-photo=136423042 and <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/1121184/person/46585075111/media/b940aafa-b114-44f1-8fe6-310eece69d28?queryId=2978d042-11ae-4a07-a05e-5533842dcb08&searchContextTreeld=&searchContextPersonId=&phsrc=cPx36322&phstart=successSource>

CLARK VALFORD SEIBERT 3-10-70 BA
XC 350 140

Sgt CFP USA 118 Aero Sqd 158 A S K

617 Hamilton St Toledo O A 4 589 944

Ssn 249 985 Died 2-26-70 T 3 160.595

Born 2/19/93 R

Enl Dis 7/11/19 Ct. 3 818 844

I

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD

GPO 2-14969

US Veterans Administration Master Index –

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS18-NQXX-Z?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPZX-7Z53&action=view&cc=2968245&lang=en>

Valford S Clark

Military • Ohio, World War I, Enrollment Cards, 1914-1920

Name	Valford S Clark
Age	24 years
Birth Year (Estimated)	1893
Birthplace	Springfield, Ohio
Residence Place	Toledo, Lucas, Ohio
Event Type	Military Service
Event Date	1 August 1917 ▼
Event Place	Frank, Seneca, Ohio, United States ▼
Event Place (Original)	Columbus Bks, Ohio

OH, WWI Enrollment Card - <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/sources/LX3V-G4Z>

Name Valford S. Clark

Serial Number 249985

Race White

Residence 617 Hamilton St., Toledo, O.

Enlistment Division Regular Army

Enlistment Location Columbus Barracks, O.

Enlistment Date 01 Aug 1917

Birth Place Springfield, O.

Birth Date / Age 24 6/12 Years

Assigns Comment 158 Aer Squadron (Service) to 22 Aug 1918; Headquarters American AS Base Section 3 American Expeditionary Forces London to 5 Nov 1918; Chief Intelligence Officer London England to 20 Nov 1918; Intelligence Officer Liverpool England to Discharge Sergeant 11 Jan 1919. American Expeditionary Forces 4 Jan 1918 to 7 July 1919. Honorable discharge 9 July 1919.

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/61994652/person/34088738054/facts> - *summary above, original below:*

CLARK, VALFORD S.,
249985, White,
617 Hamilton St.,
Toledo, O.

RA Columbus Bks, O. Aug 1/17. Br Springfield, O. 24 6/12 yrs. 158 Aer Sq (Serv) to Aug 22/18; Hq American AS Base Sec 3 AEF London to Nov 5/18; Chief Intelligence Officer London England to Nov 20/18; Intelligence Officer Liverpool Eng to disch. Sgt Jan 11/19. AEF Jan 4/18 to July 7/19. Hon disch July 9/19.

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7895/records/32041>

Ohio, Roster of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines in World War I, 1917-1918 for Valford S. Clark

Life (newspaper accounts, in chronological order):

Valford Clark, who underwent an operation for throat trouble, at the city hospital, has recovered sufficiently to return to his home at 231 North Light street.

Springfield News-Sun
Wed, May 04, 1910 - Page 7

Springfield OH 1910

JR. O. U. A. M.

Helping Hand met Monday evening and initiated six candidates into the mysteries of the order. The membership is steadily increasing as many are taking advantage of the reduced price of initiation. Capt. P. F. Combs was quietly married Thursday. It is needless to say that Press will be busy henceforth, now and forever giving "orders." Brother Val Clark, who underwent an operation at the hospital recently, has recovered sufficiently to have returned to his home. Brother Chester Gordon has moved back to Clifton avenue again, coincidentally he has lived in the same house several times previous. Monday is the next regular meeting night and all members are urged to be present.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, May 08, 1910 - Page 11

Springfield OH 1910

Jr. O. U. A. M.

Helping Hand Council No. 61, Jr. O. U. A. M., held their annual election of officers last Monday evening. The officers elected are as follows:

Past Councillor—Charles Jones.

Councillor—Willis Huffman.

Vice Councillor—Wm. Hyser.

Assistant Recording Secretary—Roy Howett.

Financial Secretary—Luther Stupp.

Recording Secretary—Floyd Stupp.

Treasurer—H. M. Henslee.

Conductor—Robert Miller.

Warden—T. M. Smith.

Inside Guard—Valford Clark.

Outside Guard—Walter Lambert.

Trustee—John Clark.

The council will give a bean supper Monday evening, Dec. 12. All brothers and their families are invited. There will be an entertainment and dancing. The committee has arranged everything for the comfort of all who attend.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Dec 11, 1910 · Page 11

Springfield OH 1910

PIRATES ENTER.

New Team is Organized and Joins Sunday School Basketball League.

The Pirates have been organized and have joined the Sunday School Basketball league. They will play their first game at 6 o'clock Tuesday evening at the Y. M. C. A. gym, having for their opponents the First Presbyterian team.

The Pirates are composed of the following players: Valford Clark, captain; Frank Schoonover, manager; Edgar Clark, Harvey Morey and Albert McCarthy.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Jan 14, 1912 - Page 5

Springfield OH 1912

The Algonas Pleasure club entertained the B. T. T. club at the residence of Miss Helen Cleary of West Main street last Monday evening. Dancing and games were the features of the evening.

The home of Miss Cleary was beautifully decorated with many flowers and the color combinations of the two clubs were prominent in the decoration of the house. The music was furnished by the Algonac orchestra.

Those present were: Miss Helen Cleary, Miss Gertrude Sucher, Miss Thresa Noeth, Miss Mary Robinson, Miss Mary Kenny, Miss Mayme Riley, Miss Catherine Deady, Miss Marie and Cecella Healy, Miss Alice Ziegler, Arthur Payne, Arthur Endter, Valford Clark, Edgar Clark, Walter Lambert, Harry Horlacher, Walter Weaver, Donald McCarter, Samuel Hurley, Bushnell Turner and Eugene Mattfield.

JR. O. U. A. M.

Helping Hand Council met in a very interesting session last Monday evening. A number of things of importance came before the council.

Of greater importance comes the regular meeting and installation of officers Monday night. The year of 1912 is past and gone, so let us all unite to make the year of 1913 memorable for our own council and for the spread and unbuilding of Juniorism throughout our county, state and nation.

Let us open the new year with a banner attendance and keep it up for the entire year. Make the retiring officers glad by your presence, and give the incoming officers the support that is due them. We have the call from the Past Councilers' association for a united effort to help our cause, and well may it be heeded for "In Union There is Strength."

Some new faces will be seen among the officers, so brothers—both old and young, come up and get acquainted, and enjoy the fruits of fraternalism in reality, and we will reap a reward which cannot be measured now, but will manifest itself in the years to come.

The following officers will be installed: C., Fred L. Wood; V. C., John Clark; R. S., F. W. Stupp; A. R. S., Edward Clark; F. S., B. L. Minturn; T., Charles Kells; C., George Stephens; W., Edward Smith; I. S., A. D. Rush; O. S., Ray Shaffer; T., (long term), H. M. Henslee; T., (short term), T. R. Foster; pianist, Charles Jones; chaplin, F. A. Ramsey; captain degree team, John Clark; reporter, Val Clark.

Let all officers and members be in attendance.

Brother J. E. Hawver has been appointed council deputy for the ensuing year.

Members of the order always welcome.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Jan 05, 1913 · Page 9

Springfield OH 1913

Valford S. Clark of 527 West Cedar street, has left for Galion, Ohio, where he will take charge of the welding department of the Galion Vault Co.

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Jul 27, 1913 · Page 4

Springfield OH 1913

Edward and Valford Clark have returned to their home in Springfield after a visit here.

The Galion Inquirer
Tue, Mar 17, 1914 · Page 3

Galion OH 1914

Valford S. Clark is in Kentucky and will also travel through Southern Ohio in the interest of the Galion Bronze & Brass Company.

The Galion Inquirer
Tue, Sep 28, 1915 · Page 4

1915

Galion OH

Valford Clark, of Bucyrus, was a Galion visitor Tuesday.

The Galion Inquirer
Thu, Jul 06, 1916 · Page 6

Galion OH 1916

Val S. Clark, electric welder at the Blower Works, left Saturday evening for Springfield in response to a message telling him that his grandfather had died there. He will return after the funeral.

The Bucyrus Evening Telegraph
Sat, Aug 05, 1916 - Page 2

Bucyrus OH 1916

Ohioans on Board.

Washington, Feb. 8.—There were four officers and twenty-five privates from Ohio on the passenger list of the ill-fated Tuscania. Of this list, Private Frank S. Broz, of Cleveland, was the only one definitely announced by the war department tonight to be among the survivors. The complete list of the Ohio soldiers on the Tuscania follows:

Captain Allan A. Jones, Toledo; First Lieutenant John W. Pattison, 2862 Coleridge road, Cleveland Heights; Private Charles W. Rinehart, Newark; Private Stanley R. Augspurger, Dayton; Private Wilbur S. Nutt, Spring Valley; Private Frank S. Broz, 3737 East Fifty-second street; Private Clell H. Cox, Columbus; Private James M. O'Leary, Crestline.

Captain Dan D. Casement, Painesville; Second Lieutenant John H.

Robinson, 13408 Forest Hill avenue, East Cleveland; Private George L. Gilmore, Portsmouth; Corporal Arthur P. Roth, Lorain; Private Frank W. McCarry, Chillicothe.

Private Walter Mason, Amsterdam; Private Edwin Wilkin, Amsterdam; Private Joseph F. Moore, 38 Bender Avenue, East Cleveland; Private Harry E. McCormick, Fredericktown; Private Guy L. Reed, Fredericktown; Private Frank D. Reilly, 1795 west Forty-Fifth street, Cleve-

land; Private Alexander G. Aldred, Amsterdam; Private Carl C. Noel, Lorain; Private Kenneth B. Hartin, West Amity; Private Richard A. Ninehart, Columbus; Private Philip R. Berkowitz, 1540 east Eighty-Second street, Cleveland; Private Caryl Mayer, Columbus; Private Valford S. Clark, Toledo; Private Gregg Gehring, Findlay; Private Hugh Zeller, Delaware; Private Howard G. Doll, Massillon.

The names of many Ohioans including Clevelanders, appear on the lists of survivors.

They are:

JOSEPH F. MOORE, 38 Bender avenue,
East Cleveland, O.

GUY L. REED, Fredericktown.

HUGH TELLER, Delaware.

GEORGE L. GILMORE, Portsmouth.

WILBUR S. NUTT, Spring Valley.

VALFORD S. CLARK, Toledo.

HARRY E. McCORMICK, Frederick-
town.

WALTER MASON, Amsterdam.

CARL C. NOEL, Sandusky.

ARTHUR J. ROTH, Lorain.

EDWIN WILKEN, Amsterdam.

WALLACE J. PATTISON, 2863 Coleridge
road, Cleveland Heights.

CHARLES W. RINEHART, Newark.

JOHN H. ROBINSON, 13409 Forest
Hill avenue, Cleveland.

The Plain Dealer
Sun, Feb 10, 1918 Page 1

Cleveland OH 1918

SPRINGFIELD BOY IS SURVIVOR OF TUSCANIA DISASTER

Valford S. Clark, of the 158th aero squadron, a survivor of the Tuscania disaster, was a Springfield boy, having been born in this city. He resided here until four years ago. He enlisted in the regular army in Toledo on July 26, and was stationed at San Antonio, Texas, and Lake Charles, Louisiana. From here he sailed for France on the Tuscania.

Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Clark of 315 West Columbia street, are grandparents of the young soldier.

Springfield News-Sun
Tue, Feb 12, 1918 · Page 1

Springfield OH 1918

63 SURVIVORS OF TUSCANIA NOW IN IRISH HOSPITALS

**First Official List of Injured is Announced by
War Department—None of the Cases Serious
and it is Expected that All of the Men Will Re-
cover.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Sixty-three American survivors of the torpedoed troop ship Tuscania were reported to the war department today as recovering in Irish hospitals from the effects of injuries or exposures. The dispatch says none of the cases were serious and that it was expected all the men soon would be discharged.

At Larne—Wm. N. Pope, Tykertown, Mass.; Virgie B. Brewer, Dextem, Mo.; Valford S. Clark, Toledo, O.; Earl G. Hinkley, Globe, Wash.; William J. Lee, Chico, Calif.; Clarence C. Norgren, Vancouver, Wash.; Warren A. Blackman, Oliver Gulch, Mont.; Lewis C. Pereira, Lagunitas, Calif.; Charles C. Stoddard, Mount Clemens, Mich.; Harry A. Benedict, Mt. Vernon, Wash.; Lewis C. Bliem, Dufur, Ore.; John L. Doane, Portland, Ore.; Julius Lewis Barbours, Pa.; John N. Stinson, Smith Center, Kan.; Geo. E. Schwartz, Richmond, Mich.; Charles R. Pelley, Farisville, Tex.; Walter Villines Stephenville, Tex.; Wesley LeRoy McCalley, Walker, Ia., and George Ellsworth Shaw, Chippewa Falls, Wis.

The Billings Gazette
Mon, Feb 25, 1918 -Page 1

Excerpts – hospitalized in Larne, Ireland -

Billings MT 1918

REPORT TUSCANIA MEN RECOVERING IN IRISH HOSPITAL

No Additional Names to List of Survivors—One Ohioan in Hospital

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Sixty-three American survivors of the torpedoed troop ship Tuscania were reported to the war department today as recovering in Irish hospitals from the effects of injuries or exposure. The dispatch said none of the cases was serious and that it was expected all the men would soon be discharged.

All of the 63 had previously been reported saved, and the presence of many of them in hospitals had been recorded in press dispatches, although today's dispatch brought the first official list of those in hospitals.

The list includes but one Ohioan. He is Valford S. Clark, 617 Hamilton street, Toledo, O. Clark is in a hospital at Laine.

The Times Recorder
Mon, Feb 25, 1918 - Page 1

Zanesville OH 1918

Former Galion Boy Tells Tale of Sinking of Tuscania

Valford Clark, of Toledo, former Galion boy, Tuscania survivor, had one reason to fight the Germans when he left America. This was to make the world safe for democracy. Now he has added another—revenge for the sinking of the Tuscania, causing the death of many of his companions.

Clark is a member of the 158th Aero Squadron, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Clark, who lived in Galion some years ago, while the father was employed at the Galion Iron

works, then moved to Orrville, and eventually to Toledo. While here young Clark was employed in the Galion Brass & Bronze factory, but eventually went to Toledo where he enlisted. He has written the following letter to his parents:

"My dear Folks:—

Have been unable to hear from you yet and don't suppose I will until I get caught up with my squadron. I am ready for duty again.

"It was on Feb. 5 at 5:45 p. m., we were sailing along on a nice sea. It was the first nice sea we had for a couple of days. We were happy, as we had just seen land at 4 o'clock. We were singing and laughing after

"We couldn't take on any more so at 10 minutes to seven we started to drift not toward shore, but to sea. We were picked up at 9:30. The boat that saved us picked up many men after that; some were holding to rafts and overturned boats. Many we had to work over.

"I never will forget seeing men go down to death or being killed when speeding destroyers hit them while maneuvering to pick them up. The red signal rockets in the air occasionally would reveal the sub that

sunk us when she came to the surface to review her work. British patrol boats came to our rescue and thanks to them many were saved.

"The boat I was on took us to Larne, Ireland. The Irish certainly treated us well. So did the Red Cross. A man from New York gave each of us 10 shillings. We were met by a band in Belfast. Thousands followed us through the streets. I am now in a rest camp. My squadron is in France. This is my story of the sinking of the Tuscania.

"We'll get even with the Huns. We marched 12 miles to the American rest camp recently. There are

supper.

"We were standing on deck No. 2. I said to some of the boys, 'Let's get off the deck before we get hit.' I had hardly said this when—'Boom!'

three of my squadron with me. We are stray sheep. We'll join our pals soon and what we'll do to those Boches will be plenty."

"We got another away and the lieutenant said to me, 'What is your name?' I told him and he said, 'You go down the rope first.' You know what that meant. I'm no swimmer, but down I went. The raft had gotten away from the side of the ship, and was about 200 yards away when I slid into the water. Well, I started to swim for it. I reached it, but couldn't climb on.

"I had a fight to get on, and a fight to keep the raft righted. They put another boat overboard and the back wash raised the raft and hurled it on top of me, knocking me out. I came to in a minute and wrapped my feet in the rope, which I was carrying from the ship.

"Then I yelled to the boys who were still on the ship to pull on the rope. They pulled me back until I reached the raft and climbed aboard and yelled I was O. K.; they misunderstood and pulled again and off I went into the water.

"I finally got back to the raft, which stood about a foot out of the water. Then, while I held the rope they let me down and held the rope while I warmed my hands by rubbing them. I was clad in a soaking overcoat and leather puttees. Then nine men came down the rope.

All of us yelled, "There she is!"

"All the lights went out and the ship was shaken from bow to stern. The torpedo hit right under where I was standing.

"We made a rush for the main stairs to the upper deck and, of course, some of the men were wild and made a big dash. Most of us were cool and we kept saying 'take your time.' Order was restored and all fell in line. Some were singing, others were nervous. My boat was No. 9 A.

"When my boat was lowered it went down nose first into the water, breaking all to pieces. We made for the other side and took an air raft. We got the first raft off O. K. but I was still on the ship.

JUDGE ON BENCH; AUTO IS STOLEN

Columbus, Nov. 12--Common Pleas Judge Evans, in open court, was considering the case of Val Clark, accused of stealing an auto.

The phone rang. The bailiff answered. The call came from the Judge's home. Some one had stolen his auto from in front of his family residence.

The Piqua Daily Call
Fri, Nov 12, 1920 Page 1

Piqua OH 1920

GOVERNOR COX

Pardons Four More Convicts and Grants a Stay.

Columbus, Jan. 8.—Nearing the close of his term as Ohio's chief executive Governor Cox tonight announced he has pardoned four more penitentiary prisoners and has granted a stay of execution to March 1 in the case of Nelson J. Bargar, Butler county murderer, sentenced to die Jan. 21. Those pardoned are:

Valford S. Clark, Columbus, who has been in the penitentiary about six weeks for receiving a stolen automobile; Robert Faber, Dayton, who has spent a month in the penitentiary for issuing a check to defraud; George Stanford, Franklin county, imprisoned over four years for burglary; Rudolph Bader, Tiffin, who has spent six months in the pen for auto stealing.

Clark was wounded on the European battlefields. He is released so he can join his wife, an English nurse and their three weeks' old babe. He has accepted employment with his wife's folks in England.

News Journal
Sun, Jan 09, 1921 Page 1

Mansfield OH 1921

James Cox



Cox c. 1920

46th and 48th Governor of Ohio

In office

January 8, 1917 – January 10, 1921

Lieutenant [Earl D. Bloom](#)
[Clarence J. Brown](#)

Preceded by [Frank B. Willis](#)

Succeeded by [Harry L. Davis](#)

In office

January 13, 1913 – January 11, 1915

Lieutenant [W. A. Greenlund](#)

Preceded by [Judson Harmon](#)

Succeeded by [Frank B. Willis](#)

Governor James Middleton Cox, who pardoned Valford on Cox's last day in office 1921
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_M._Cox

Cox Grants Pardons To Five and Halts Slayer's Execution, On Final Day in State Capitol

Columbus, Ohio, January 8. — Five pardons and one stay of execution for a condemned prisoner were announced to-night by Governor James M. Cox at the close of his last day in office.

Nelson J. Bargar, Butler County prisoner, sentenced to be electrocuted January 21, received a stay of execution until March 1.

He killed a night watchman in Hamilton, Ohio.

Those receiving pardons are:

Valford S. Clark, Franklin County, convicted of having received a stolen automobile.

Robert Faber, Montgomery County, convicted of having issued checks in order to defraud.

George Stanford, Franklin County, convicted of having looted an inhabited dwelling.

Rudolph Eader, Seneca County, convicted of having stolen an automobile.

Miss Betty Reeves, Hamilton County,

convicted of robbery.

The four men are serving indeterminate sentences in the Ohio Penitentiary.

Clark, one of the Franklin County prisoners pardoned, is a World War veteran, wounded when in battle, and whose ship was torpedoed when he was going overseas.

He was accompanied back to this country by his bride, an English girl, who had nursed him in the army.

A child recently was born to them in Columbus, and a leading society woman has arranged to pay for the transportation of Clark, his wife and their child back to England, where she has arranged for employment for him.

In granting a stay of execution to Bargar Governor Cox explained that he did so in order to give to counsel for the condemned man an opportunity to file application for rehearing of his petition to the Supreme Court.

The Court recently had overruled a petition for a review of the case.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24.

On the last day of his term, Governor Cox made the following pardons: Valford S. Clark, Franklin county, convicted of receiving a stolen automobile. He was wounded on the battlefields of Europe and the ship on which he sailed over seas was torpedoed. He is released now in order to enable him to join his wife who was an English nurse and their three weeks' old babe and take employment with her people in England. The Governor, however, does not forbid his return and his rights of citizenship are preserved on the theory that the man shed his blood for America.

Dayton Daily News
Sun, Jan 09, 1921 - Page 2

Dayton OH 1921

Man Fleeing Apartment In East End Captured

Val F. Clark, age 36, of Toledo, O., was arrested at Rippey and Beatty streets last night, after, police say, he fled from an apartment house window at 323 Beatty street, where occupants had summoned the police when they saw a man peeping through the window. He was lodged in the Franks-town Avenue Police Station, where women who have been attacked recently in the East End will attempt to identify him, police say. At the police station he told police, they say, that he had been "looking for a woman who lives on Beatty street." He is charged with being a suspicious person.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Tue, Jun 19, 1923 - Page 19

Pittsburgh PA

MENTAL TEST OF PRISONER MAY BE MADE, POLICE SAY

**Suspect Declares He
'Might Have Done It;'
Stories Fictitious.**

**SCORE EXPECTED
AT HEARING**



VALFORD D. CLARK -

Attacks on women in the East End, and reports to police stations in that section that a "Peeping Tom" had been terrorizing the district, resulted in the arrest of Valford A. Clark, 31 years old, of 248 North Rebecca street, who will be arraigned this morning in morals court, where women who have identified him will appear against him.

Clark, who was arrested Monday night, told police, they say, that at times he was unconscious of his actions.

"I might have done it," police say he replied repeatedly when asked about attacks of which he was suspected.

Clark was arrested when Mrs. Robert Dickey of 5902 Rippey street telephoned to the Frankstown avenue station that a man was peeping into the windows of the house at 325 North Beatty street, and police were rushed to the scene. Mrs. Dickey and Mrs. W. H. Turner told police that they had seen Clark looking into the windows of Mrs. Turner's home in Beatty street.

Stories Fictitious.

Francis Biggs of 325 Beatty street told the police, they say, that he had chased Clark from the window of his home about a week ago. Mrs. Fred Florig of 6373 Frankstown avenue identified Clark as the man who grabbed her by the arm at Highland and Stanton avenues about two weeks ago, police say.

Clark told police many fictitious stories and was unable to account for his movements, they say. He said, when arrested, that he was waiting for Edna Bach, who lived at 5932 Black street, and police declare that there is no such number and that they were unable to find a girl of that name.

Many women will be notified to appear, in an effort to identify Clark, police say. They believe that more than a score will appear against him.

Clark, who is said to be a disabled World war veteran, has frequent lapses of memory, he told police. He came to Pittsburgh from Toledo, O., in October, 1922, he said. An examination will be made to determine whether Clark is suffering from a mental affliction.

'Peeping Tom' Suspect Held Under \$1,000 Bail

Said by police to have annoyed women and girls in the East Liberty district, Valford D. Clark, aged 31, of 248 North Rebecca street, arrested last Monday, was held for court yesterday under \$1,000 bail in Morals Court. He is alleged to have peeped through a window in an apartment at 325 North Beatty street. A score of women who have complained of being annoyed by a man were at the hearing and several were said to have identified Clark as having accosted them.

Identified by five women, according to police, as the man who had been seen on the wall of Uniondale Cemetery peeping into windows of houses, Dave Gottshall, aged 26, of 1032 Morrison avenue, was fined \$25 in North Side Police Court yesterday. He was arrested shortly after midnight in the cemetery.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Sat, Jun 23, 1923 · Page 17

Pittsburgh PA

The letter, written on stationery of the central branch, Young Men's Christian Association, reads:

You will find my body where you find this letter. You and your men have wronged me, and as my nerves are all gone and my friends have turned from me I take this way to end it all. You will find how untrue the reports of your men are, and I am sure when you look up my case you will find I was falsely accused of things I never did. Send my body to Toledo, O.

The letter was signed "Valford Clark."

Valford's faked suicide note: "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette" 2 Jul 1923 p 1

RIVER DRAGGED FOR BODY OF MAN WHO WRITES PRESS; DENIES HE WAS 'PEEPING TOM'

Declaring he was the victim of a frameup by the police, and his nerves wrecked, Valford Clark, charged with being the East-end "peeping Tom," who is believed to have ended his life yesterday by leaping from the Manchester bridge into the Allegheny river; kept the promise made Superintendent of Police Jones in a note found yesterday, that he would write a local newspaper in explanation of his act.

THE PRESS today received a letter from Clark, in which the man made sensational charges, claiming he had a complete alibi, and was absolutely innocent of the charges against him.

Police last night and today dragged the river for the man's body, but to no avail. The belief that Clark, who was at liberty on \$1,000 bail on a misdemeanor charge, ended his life was strengthened yesterday when Patrolman John Keenan discovered a hat, lying on the foot path of the bridge, similar to one worn by Clark when last seen. Inside the hat was a note addressed to Superintendent of Police Jones in which the writer says he was accused falsely by the police and intended ending his troubles.

Police and detectives working on the case today expressed a suspicion that Clark instead of jumping from the bridge left the city.

Following is the letter received today by THE PRESS from Clark:

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FROM CLARK.
To the Editor of THE PITTSBURGH PRESS:

"By the time you receive this my body will no doubt be found in the Ohio river and I am writing this that you may print something that will help my good name.

"As you know I was arrested some time ago and am out on bond. I assure you I am not doing this because I wish to jump my bond, nor because I am guilty for I am not. For as you will see I was framed by the police of the Frankstown ave. station.

"The reason I am doing as I am is because I have lost all I have in my good name and my nerves are all gone.

"They were not very strong as it was and to go through what I did is enough to kill all your nerves.

"As you know, 50 or more people were there to see if I was the man. They all said no. The police got one man up there four times and at last he stated I was the man he saw on May 14. I am sure he does not know yet who the man was. I will say it was not myself and if you will send a reporter to the barber shop under 6019 Penn ave., Eastend, and ask 'Jim' if he remembers me with him on that date, I am sure he will. They also said I stopped a woman in Highland ave., on June 4. Mrs. Davis, where I room and all her family will state I was home around 9 p. m. and was in bed at the time this was supposed to have happened.

"Please send a reporter to this place and see if I do not speak the truth.

"But my will is gone and I don't seem to be able to face anyone. My friends all turn their heads when I pass them and it is nearly driving me mad. I am sure that what I am doing is for the best.

"I had a good job as foreman and inspector at the E. J. Thompson Co. Have a No. 1 character discharge from the U. S. army, with a record of two years overseas. I was saved from the S. S. Tuscania, which was sunk by the Germans off the Irish coast, Feb. 5, 1918.

"I was wounded at Albert, France, April 18. Received three citations, two from the English and one from France. Have always lived a good honest life and to think that I would have my name this way is enough to take all the heart out of me.

"These are my last words and I swear everything is the God's truth. So although I am gone where troubles are forgotten I hope that your reporters will try to clear my name for me. My best wish will be with you if you will then send a copy of your paper to my dear old mother, Mrs. J. W. Clark, 605 Hamilton st., Toledo, O., and show her that I am not as bad as your papers printed me last week.

"Yours with many thanks,"

(Signed,) VALFORD CLARK.

"P. S.—Am a member of the Toledo Chapter, No. 5, the Disabled American Veterans of the World War; Walter Miller Post, No. 135 of the American Legion; the F. and A. M.; Jr. O. U. A. M.; M. W. of A., and Y. M. C. A."

The letter was written on stationery of the Central branch of the Y. M. C. A. at Penn ave. and Seventh st., and dated June 29.

The note addressed to Supt. Jones was evidently written a day later, being dated June 30. It also was written on stationery from the Y. M. C. A. This note follows:

"Superintendent Jones,

"Pittsburgh Police Department:

"Dear Sir—You will find my body where you find this letter. You and your men have wronged me, and as

Continued on Page 2.

The Pittsburgh Press
Mon, Jul 02, 1923 Page 1

RIVER DRAGGED FOR BODY OF MAN

Continued from Page 1.

my nerves are all gone and my friends have turned against me, I take this way to end it all. See letter I write to a Pittsburgh newspaper, which will explain how untrue the reports of your men are, and I am sure when you look up my case you will find I was accused falsely of things I never did. Send my body to Toledo.

"VALFORD CLARK."

The letter and hat were turned over to Detectives John Lally and Morris Kennelly, who, after an investigation, said they believed the man who ended his life was Clark. It is known the latter recently visited Toledo, and that while there purchased a straw hat similar to the one found on the bridge, which carried the name of a Toledo haberdasher. The handwriting of the letter, the detectives said, corresponded in various ways with that of Clark.

That of Clark.

Clark was arrested by plainclothes officers of the Frankstown ave. station June 23 while, it is alleged, he was peeping into houses. Several women identified him, according to the police. He also was identified by policemen, it is said.

John Betz, a barber of 6019 Penn ave., stated today that he knew Clark well and on the night of the alleged peeping episode he was in the barber shop for about a half hour during the time the "peeping" with which he was charged took place. Betz further stated that Clark left the shop

and proceeded to his rooming house, after announcing his intention to retire early.

The Pittsburgh Press
Mon, Jul 02, 1923 - Page 2

1923

'PEEPING TOM' ENDS LIFE IN RIVER, NOTE TO POLICE AVERS

**Clark's Hat and Letter
Is Found on
Bridge.**

**IS INNOCENT
MESSAGE SAYS**

Valford Clark, the East End "peeping Tom," and who is alleged to have been badly frightening and annoying women residents of that section for weeks past, is believed by the police to have ended his life yesterday by leaping from the Manchester bridge into the Allegheny river.

Valford Clark, the East End "peeping Tom," and who is alleged to have been badly frightening and annoying women residents of that section for weeks past, is believed by the police to have ended his life yesterday by leaping from the Manchester bridge into the Allegheny river.

This belief that Clark, who was at liberty on \$1,000 bail on a misdemeanor charge, committed suicide was strengthened yesterday when Patrolman John Keenan discovered a hat, lying on the foot path of the bridge, similar to one worn by Clark when last seen. Inside the hat was a note addressed to Superintendent of Police E. N. Jones, in which the writer says he was accused falsely by the police and intended ending his troubles. The note follows:

"Superintendent Jones,

"Pittsburgh Police Department:

"Dear Sir—You will find my body where you find this letter. You and your men have wronged me, and as my nerves are all gone and my friends have turned against me, I take this way to end it all. See letter I write to a Pittsburgh newspaper, which will explain how untrue the reports of your men are, and I am sure when you look up my case you will find I was accused falsely of things I never did. Send my body to Toledo.

"VALFORD CLARK."

Had Visited Toledo.

The letter was written on stationery of the central branch of the Y. M. C. A. at Penn avenue and Seventh street, and dated June 30.

The letter and hat were turned over to Detectives John Lally and Morris Kennelly, who, after an investigation, said they believe the man who committed suicide was Clark. It is known the latter recently visited Toledo, O., and that while there purchased a straw hat similar to the one found on the bridge, which carried the name of a Toledo haberdasher. The handwriting of the letter, the detective said, corresponded in various ways with that of Clark. After a search of the haunts of Clark in the East End district the detectives were unable to find any trace of him. He has not been at an address on North Rebecca street, where he lived before being arrested.

Clark was arrested by plainclothes officers of the Frankstown avenue station June 23 while, it is alleged, he was peeping into houses. Several women identified him, according to the police, as the man they had seen loitering in the vicinity of their homes. He also was identified by policemen, who claim they saw him peeping into homes at unseemly hours. At a hearing he was held for court on a charge of misdemeanor and later released on bail.

Lieutenant of Detectives Edward Brophy said he is convinced the suicide is Clark, and detailed men to drag the river.

Jones Refutes Note.

Superintendent E. N. Jones last night branded as false the assertion in the note alleged to have been written by Valford D. Clark that he had been wrongly accused. Jones added that Clark had been positively identified by at least six women as having been caught peeping in windows of East End homes. Clark was also identified as the man who approached a woman at Jackson street and North Highland avenue several weeks ago and attempted to force her to go with him, according to Superintendent Jones.

When taken to morals court, Superintendent Jones stated, Clark was recognized by Sergeant Edwin Kirby, who had been in the army with him. Clark, Sergeant Kirby said, went insane while in the army and was put into confinement three times. Superintendent Jones said that preparations were being made to send Clark to the city home at Mayview pending his court trial.

MOTHER BELIEVES SON HAS DROWNED SELF

Mrs. J. C. Clark, of 605 Hamilton st., Toledo, Ohio, in a letter to Supt. Jones of the police department yesterday, regarding the disappearance of her son Valford Clark after he wrote a letter to THE PRESS stating that he was going to take his life and the finding of his hat with a note addressed to Supt. Jones on the Point bridge, stated she fully believed her son had ended his life and that she believed the police had hounded him to death.

Clark, was arrested several weeks ago by a squad of police sent out to investigate a complaint that a man was peeping in windows in the East-end. He was held for court after a hearing on a charge of eavesdropping and later released on \$1,000 bail. In the communication addressed to THE PRESS, he firmly stated that he was not guilty and had been "framed" by the police in the Frankstown ave police station. Police scout the story that he committed suicide, and believe that he has used this method of eluding the police and escaping from the jurisdiction of the local courts.

The Pittsburgh Press
Tue, Jul 03, 1923 - Page 2

1923

MAN BELIEVED SUICIDE



Valford D. Clark.

MOTHER'S NOTE LAYS SUPPOSED SUICIDE OF SON TO "HOUNDING"

**Toledo Woman Recites War Record of Her Boy Who Disap-
pears After Leaving Letter—Under Bail On Window-
Peeping Charge Here.**

"The police hounded my boy to death."

This is the belief of the grief-stricken mother of Valford D. Clark, aged 30, expressed yesterday in her home at Toledo, O., when informed of the disappearance of her son, the belief that he had taken his life by drowning, and the circumstances leading up to his action as expressed in a letter to Superintendent of Police Edward N. Jones. Mrs. Clark said she was confident that her son had taken his life.

Mrs. Clark said her son had been a complete nervous wreck since his return from France. It was with pride that she recited his war record. He first tasted the fortunes of war, she said, when the transport on which he was being taken to Europe was torpedoed and sunk off the coast of Ireland. Clark was rescued after he had been in the water several hours, she said, and after he had been given up for lost.

Recites His War Record.

War records, she asserted, showed that while in France Clark attacked a machine-gun nest single-handed and put the enemy to rout. Later he joined the aviation service, she said.

Upon his return from overseas, records show, he started a private detective agency in Columbus, O., but later got into trouble and was sentenced to the Ohio Penitentiary when found guilty of stealing an automobile. Because of his excellent war record, he was pardoned by the Governor.

Mrs. Clark said her son had been working in Pittsburgh since last Oc-

tober as a foreman in some shops here.

Investigation in Toledo showed that Clark had no police record there.

Cannot Find Body.

Clark's body, for which a search has been conducted since the finding of a note on the Manchester Street Bridge, informing the police of his intention to take his life, Sunday afternoon, had not been recovered late last night.

Police and city detectives still refused to take the note seriously, believing it was a ruse to mislead them and that the entire plan was one by which Clark hoped to evade a hearing on misdemeanor charges. Clark had been identified, it was asserted, as the man who had been seen peeping into windows of several East End homes. He was released from jail on \$1,000 bail June 28.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Tue, Jul 03, 1923 · Page 5

He was not in the water for several hours, as his mother claimed. He would have died of hypothermia. According to Valford's own letters in WWI, he had fallen in the water – twice – but was rescued shortly after the sinking from a life raft by a patrol boat

VALFORD CLARK, WAR HERO, KILLS SELF

Former Resident Jumps Into River at
Pittsburg, Says Report

Valford Clark, former Gallion resident, and Toledo's hero of the World war, committed suicide this week by jumping into the river near Pittsburg, according to word received by his mother, Mrs. J. W. Clark, at Toledo, where the family home is now located.

Mrs. Clark said her son was a nervous wreck after his return from France. He was cited for bravery on several occasions. He first tasted the fortunes of war when the transport Tuscania was torpedoed and sunk off the coast of Ireland. Clark was rescued after he was several hours in the water and had been given up for lost.

In France Clark found new adventures in the battlefields. He assailed a machine gun nest and put the enemy to rout. Clark put in two years overseas.

On his return Clark went to Columbus and started a private detective agency. He was sentenced to the Ohio penitentiary for an automobile theft but the governor, in

view of the excellent war record pardoned him.

Clark married an English woman who later divorced him. They had one son.

The Clark family lived here a number of years ago, when J. W. Clark, the young man's father was foreman of the Gallion Metallic Vault company factory.

D. A. V. OFFICIAL IS ATTACKED BY BANDIT

**Val G. Clark Shot in the Hand by
San Antonio Gunman**

SAN ANTONIO, Aug. 28.—(AP)—Val G. Clark, an official of the Disabled American Veterans here, was shot in the right hand early today by a man who leaped on the running board of his automobile near Brooks field. Clark knocked the man from the running board as the bandit fired.

The Waco Times-Herald
Wed, Aug 28, 1935 · Page 3

Waco TX

HIJACKER SHOT, BUT GETS AWAY

Austin police and other Central Texas officers today joined in a hunt for a hijacker who got \$5 in a New Braunfels filling station hold-up and then was wounded in a running gun fight as he abandoned his auto and swung onto a speeding freight train.

The hijacking and ensuing pistol battle occurred sometime between midnight and 2 a. m., according to the New Braunfels sheriff and city constable who communicated with officers here by telephone.

Young Hijacker

The hijacker, said to have been a young man dressed in a light suit and dark hat, threw a .32 calibre pistol on B. C. Reininger, filling station attendant and forced him to hand over \$5 from the cash register. Austin police were informed.

About this time Nightwatchman B. Bode came past on his beat, took in the situation at a glance and opened fire just as the bandit was leaving. Reininger also grabbed a pistol and opened fire, at the same time the fleeing bandit turned and returned the shots at the pair.

A new Ford coach, exactly fitting the description of a car used in two Austin filling station robberies on the night of Aug. 19, was parked some distance away but the hijacker didn't attempt to return to it. Running on, he caught a north-bound Katy freight which a check-up revealed was on its way to Lockhart.

Both Bode and Reininger told of—
Continued on Page 8, Col. 8.

Austin American-Statesman
Wed, Aug 28, 1935 · Page 1

DAV Official Shot in Hand by Robber

SAN ANTONIO, Aug. 28 (AP).—Val G. Clark, official of the disabled American veterans here, was shot in the right hand early Wednesday morning by a bandit who leaped on the running board of his automobile near Brooks Field.

Clark knocked the bandit from the running board as the bandit fired. Clark believed he injured the highwayman as the car was traveling at a high rate of speed.

Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Wed, Aug 28, 1935 · Page 4

Fort Worth TX

HIJACKER SHOT, BUT GETS AWAY

(Continued from page 1)

Officers they were certain their shots had taken effect. The bandit seemed to have been hit in the right side, as he staggered once and lifted a hand to his breast during the barrage of bullets, the pair said.

The bandit was described as being about five feet, six inches tall, weighing 135 pounds, and being dark-complexioned.

Investigation of the new car he abandoned because of the gun battle disclosed that the license numbers had been originally issued to another auto, registered at San Antonio.

* * *

Tallies With Austin Jobs

Whether the bandit left the freight before it had gone far from New Braunfels was unknown, but officers early today arrested two men for questioning at New Braunfels.

At the same time, the Associated Press reported Val G. Clark, official of the Disabled Veterans organization in San Antonio, was shot in the hand this morning by a man who leaped to the running board of his car near Brooks field. Police expressed opinion this man may have been the New Braunfels hijacker.

After Clark was wounded, he pushed the bandit off his car and drove away.

Austin officers said not only the description of the bandit's abandoned auto, but a description of the bandit himself tallied with those given them following the mid-August hijackings here.

Austin American-Statesman
Wed, Aug 28, 1935 - Page 8

Austin TX 1935

LEGION HOSPITAL NOTES

O-O

Admissions

Omer A. Newhouse, San Antonio; Roy Parker, San Antonio; George Feinweber, Alexandria, La.; Benito Valdez, Raymondville; Fuller Williams, San Angelo; Isador Fernberg, Galveston; Charles A. Miller, San Antonio; Howard B. Price Houston; Alien Daniels, Luling; Roger Cain, Melvin; William E. Lindsey, Bellevue; George B. Weldon, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roy Hines, Galveston; Eddie C. Simmons, San Antonio; Robert A. McDonald, Belton; W. Almer Thompson, Navice; George H. Spradlin, Wingate; Lawson M. Hagy, San Antonio; John McRight, San Antonio; Carl Chambers Hughes, San Antonio; Henry Hilt, San Antonio; Montie C. Sharp, Honey Grove; Joe B. Davenport, Abilene; William T. Webb, Petteway; Arthur Shick, Fort Worth; Charles Hansen, Corpus Christi; Judge T. Boone, Pittsburg; Allen A. Baker, Abilene; Howard L. Stewart, Dallas; Robbie W. Potter, Austin; Robert H. James, Austin; Valford S. Clark, San Antonio.

Kerrville Mountain Sun
Thu, Sep 12, 1935 - Page 8

Kerrville TX 1935

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Wife Ethel Coupe - 1919:

Valford S Clark's Spouses and Children

[CLOSE ALL](#)
[Coupe](#)

Spouse

^

Name	Valford S Clark
Event Type	Marriage
Event Date	1919
Event Place	Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, England
Registration District	Nottingham
Page	962
Volume	7B
Affiliate Line Number	65
Registration Quarter	Apr-May-Jun
Registration Year	1919
Spouse Name (available after 1911)	Coupe
Possible Spouse	Ethel Coupe

Marriage in 1919 in Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, England, to Ethel Couch -
<https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/sources/LX3V-G4Z>



Ethel Coupe Clark's passport application – she sailed to the US on the “Louisville” in Jun 1919

462		MARRIAGE RECORD	
No. 46323		MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATION	
In the Matter of <u>William O. Treverton</u> and <u>Ethel Clark</u>		Probate Court, Lucas County, Ohio	
The undersigned respectfully make application for a Marriage License for said parties, and upon oath state That said <u>Wm O Treverton</u> is <u>24</u> years of age on the <u>27</u> day of <u>Jan</u> 192 <u>4</u> his residence is <u>1816 North Ave</u> his place of birth is <u>Beach Lake Pa</u> his occupation is <u> salesman</u> his father's name is <u>John Treverton</u> his mother's maiden name was <u>Amelia Gaudin</u> that he was <u>once</u> previously married, and is now a <u>divorced</u> and that he has no legal wife living.		To the Honorable Judge of the Probate Court of Said County: <u>Ethel Clark</u> The said <u>Ethel Clark</u> is <u>24</u> years of age on the <u>27</u> day of <u>Apr</u> 192 <u>4</u> her residence is <u>1010 Dorr</u> in said Lucas County, Ohio her place of birth is <u>Little Rock Arkansas</u> her occupation is <u>at home</u> her father's name is <u>Fred Couper</u> her mother's maiden name was <u>Esther Maule</u> that she was <u>once</u> previously married, and is now a <u>widow</u> or divorced woman, her married name being <u>Mrs. Buford Clark</u> that she has no legal husband living.	
Said parties are not nearer of kin than second cousins, and there is no legal impediment to their marriage. That neither of said parties is an habitual drunkard, epileptic, imbecile or insane, and is not under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug. It is expected that <u>Rev. Buddy</u> will solemnize the marriage of said parties. <u>William O. Treverton</u> <u>Mrs. Ethel Clark</u> Sworn to before me and signed in my presence, this <u>29</u> day of <u>May</u> 192 <u>4</u> _____ Probate Judge.			
Consent _____			
No. 46323		MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE	
I Do Hereby Certify, That on the <u>30th</u> day of <u>May</u> A. D. 192 <u>4</u> , I solemnized the Marriage of		The State of Ohio, Lucas County, ss.	
Mr. <u>William O. Treverton</u> with M. <u>Ethel Clark</u>			
Filed and Recorded <u>June 1</u> 192 <u>4</u>		<u>Rev. Buddy</u>	
<u>Robert O'Donnell</u> Probate Judge.			

Ethel Coupe Clark's marriage to William Oliff Treverton on 30 May 1924 -
<https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/1121184/person/46585075111/media/1b5ab3e8-3d3b-4466-836e-94eda016c9dc?queryId=b8eefd79-2e5a-40bb-8517-65b9d86205b3&searchContextTreeld=&searchContextPersonId=&phsrc=cPx36323&phstart=successSource>

NOTE.—Two copies of this form should be filled out and forwarded to the Embassy at London.

APPLICATION BY THE WIFE OF A MEMBER OF THE NAVAL OR MILITARY
FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A CERTIFICATE TO DEPART FOR
THE UNITED STATES.

EMBASSY

No. 783

JUN 18 1919

I, Ethel Clark, hereby apply to the American Embassy at London,
England, for a certificate to depart for the United States, to enter subject to the immigration laws of that country,
for myself and my minor children, as follows:....., born at

....., on the..... day of.....; and
....., born at..... on the..... day of.....

I solemnly swear that I was born at Sutton-in-Ashfield, in Nottinghamshire, Eng.
on April 15, 1900, that my husband Valford Seibert Clark..... was born
in Springfield Ohio that he emigrated to the United States from the port of.....
on or about..... that he resided..... years, uninterruptedly, in the United States
from..... to..... at.....; and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, (that he
(Year) (Year) declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States on..... at.....),
that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the..... Court
of..... at.....; that I was married to my
said husband on June 8th, 1919, at Nottingham, as evidenced by the certificate of marriage
herewith submitted, and that I am still his legal wife and no judicial proceedings for separation or divorce are
pending; that my said husband is a member of the { naval } forces of the United States of America, serving
in the capacity of Sergeant, in the U.S. Intelligence Dept., that he entered the
above service on May, 1917, at Columbus Barracks (that he was discharged
(Date) (Full designation of Organization.)
on (not yet discharged) at..... on account
of.....).

I further swear that my father, Fred Coupe, was born
in So. Wingfield, Derbyshire, my mother, Constance Coupe Seagrave,
was born in Nottingham, England, and that my full name before my said marriage
was Ethel Coupe, (that my previous husband,..... was
born in..... and { he died } on.....; { was divorced } on.....);
(Town and Country) (Date)

(Town and Country) (Date) (Town) (Occupation)

that I last left the United States on arriving at
 on where I am now residing for the purpose of
 that I have resided outside of the United States at the following places for the following periods:

Nottinghamshire, England birth to present time
 from to
 from to
 and that my said husband is now at London, England, and
 my permanent address in the United States, provided I am allowed to enter, will be
 605, Hamilton St., Toledo, Ohio; and that I expect to sail for the United States on or
 about June 24, 1919, on the S.S. Louisville.

I further swear that all the facts set forth by me in this application are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ethel Clark
 (Signature of applicant)

American Consulate at Nottingham, England.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of June, 1919.
 (Month and year.)
 (Name.)
 American Vice-Consul
 (Title.)

[SEAL.]

*If the applicant's husband was born in the United States, lines should be drawn through the blanks in brackets.
 †To be filled in only in case the husband did not take out final naturalization papers.
 ‡If applicant has not been discharged, lines should be drawn through the blanks in brackets.
 §This is to be filled in where there was a previous marriage.

Ethel's passport application - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/1121184/person/46585075111/media/ef3727f8-b7db-4fe5-8b74-b6fcea9e5019?queryId=fa132840-7ab5-4a8c-bbf8-1b1b40861083&searchContextTreeld=&searchContextPersonId=&phsrc=cPx36325&phstart=successSource>

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 19 years Mouth: medium
 Stature: 5 feet, 5 inches Eng. Chin: pointed
 Forehead: High Hair: light brown
 Eyes: blue Complexion: fair
 Nose: prominent Face: oval

IDENTIFICATION.

17 JUN 1919

(Date.)

I, Valford S. Clark, solemnly swear that I am an American citizen, that I reside at Toledo, Ohio; that I have known the above-named Ethel Clark personally for 12 years, and she was married to me on June 8th, 1919, & that I am ~~xxxx~~ a member of the ~~xxxx~~ ^{military} forces of the United States, and that the facts stated in her affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Valford S. Clark *Sgt. C.*
 Belgrave Mansions, Room 151, London, E.C.1
 (Address of Witness)

American Consulate at Nottingham, England.

Sworn to before me this 17th day of June, 1919.

(Month and year.)

[SEAL.]

L. J. [Signature]
 (Name)

American Vice-Consul
 (Title)

Identifying documents submitted as follows:†..... Marriage Certificate, No. A. 424928, issued by A. L. Webb, Curate, St. Saviour's Church, Nottingham, dated June 8, 1919. Identity Book, No. 149768, issued by Nottingham City Police, dated June 14, 1919. Certificate from Headquarters, Base Section, No. 3. S.O.S. A.E.F., signed by L.A. Dunbar, 1st Lieut. Inf. Assistant Adjutant.

A duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto should be filed with the application retained by the Embassy, and one detached duplicate photograph should accompany the application to be affixed to the certificate.

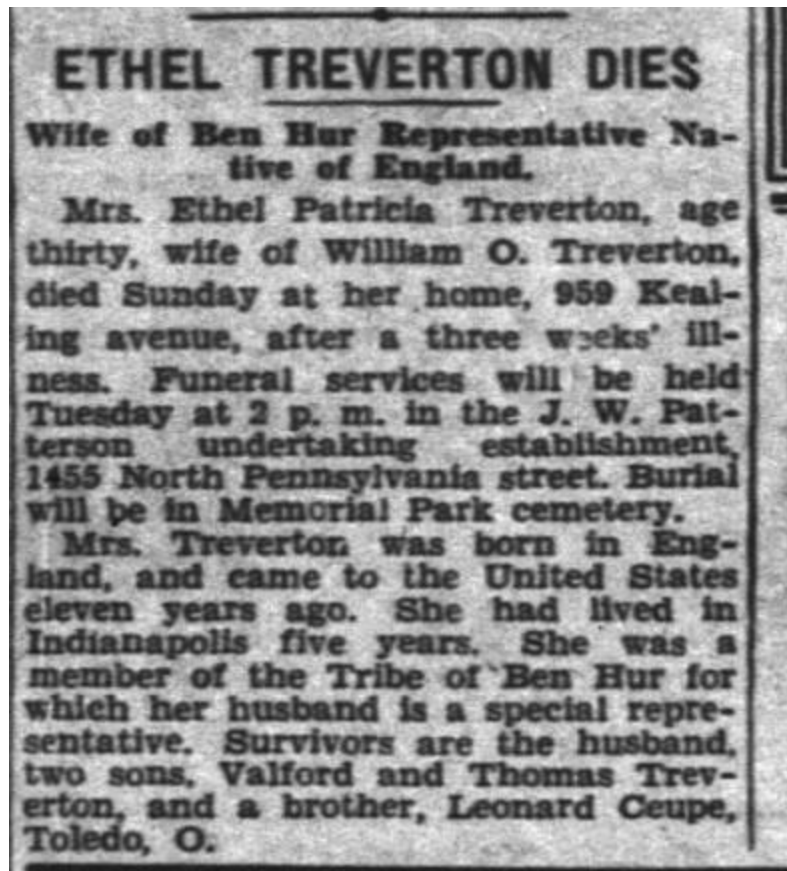
* An American citizen or British subject of good reputation should serve as the identifying witness.

† The applicant should exhibit her marriage certificate to the officer taking the application, also a statement from the office of the United States Naval Attaché, 30, Grosvenor Gardens, London, or the General Headquarters of the American Expeditionary Force, Belgrave Mansions Hotel, London, as to the respective naval or military status of applicant's husband. Such a statement will be furnished by either of the above offices to the applicant or consular officer upon request. If such a statement in any case is unobtainable, any other available evidence of the husband's naval or military identity should be noted.

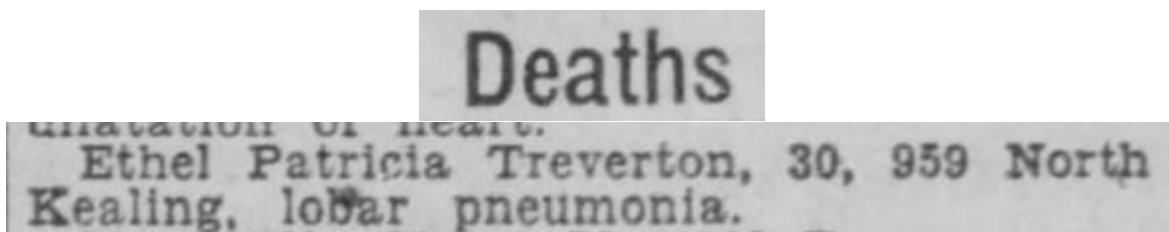
Best Available Image



https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/1121184/person/46585075111/media/b916395d-c6c4-4929-9503-7336b2fc6bb4?queryId=f19db9c2-a49e-460e-b46c-b8320e9b6151&searchContextTreeld=&searchContextPersonId=&_phsrc=cPx36324&_phstart=successSource



Ethel's obituary The Indianapolis News
 Mon, Mar 30, 1931 · Page 14 *Indianapolis IN*



The Indianapolis Times
 Wed, Apr 01, 1931 · Page 14 *Indianapolis IN*

TREVERTON—We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the members of Arrius No. 5 of the Ben-Hur friends and neighbors for the kindness shown us during the sickness and death of our wife and mother, Ethel Patricia Treverton; especially do we want to thank the officers and fancy drill team, the Rev. M. H. Reynolds, J. W. Patterson, funeral director, and every one for the beautiful floral offerings.—Husband, Brother and Sons.

The Indianapolis Star
Sun, Apr 05, 1931 - Page 33

Indianapolis IN

U. S. S. 2

PLACE OF DEATH
County Marion Local No. 9238
Incorporated Indianapolis **STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

Town or City Indianapolis No. 959 No. Kealing St. Ind.
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)
Length of residence in town or city 17 yrs. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth? 17 yrs. 11 mos. 14 ds.

FULL NAME Ethel Patricia Treverton
Residence: No. 959 No. Kealing St. Ind.
(Usual place of abode) (If non-resident give city or town and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

SEX F **COLORED OR RACE** W. **Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced** (article also valid) Married

HUSBAND (or) William C. Treverton

DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year) Apr. 15 1900

AGE 30 Years 11 Months 14 Days If LESS than 1 day, hrs. at min.

OCCUPATION
Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinning, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. Housewife
Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc.
Date deceased last worked at this occupation Mar. 29 1931 Total time (years) spent 9 2

BIRTHPLACE (State or country) England

FATHER
NAME Fred Coupe
BIRTHPLACE (State or country) England

MOTHER
MAIDEN NAME Constance Coupe
BIRTHPLACE (State or country) England

INFORMANT W. C. Treverton
(Address) 959 No. Kealing

PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Memorial Park Date Mar. 31 1931

EMBALMED? Yes **EMBALMER'S LICENSE No.** 4557

FILED 19 **Health Officer or Deputy**

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DATE OF DEATH March 29 1931
(Month) (Day) (Year)

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Mar 20 1931 to Mar 29 1931 and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 2 P. M.

The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:

Lobar Pneumonia Date of onset Mar 19, 31

Other contributory causes of importance: Acute Cardiac Dilatation Mar 28, 31

Name of operation None Date of None

What last confirmed diagnosis? None Was there an autopsy? No

If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following:
Accident, suicide, or homicide? None Date of injury None

Where did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county and State)
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.

Manner of injury None
Nature of injury None

Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? None

(Signed) Ray Egbert M. D.
Mar 31 1931 Address 406 Park Ave.

Ethel's Indiana death certificate -
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60716/images/44494_351251-00339?pld=454201649

.....

Wife Beatrice Reitze – 1924

V G Clark

in the Texas, U.S., Select County Marriage Records, 1837-1965



[Add or update information](#)

Detail	Source
Name	V G Clark
License Date	22 Jan 1924
License Place	Bexar, Texas, USA
Marriage Place	Texas, USA
Spouse	Beatrice Reitze
Certificate Number	69891

marriage to Beatrice Reitze on 22 Jan 1924 in Bexar Co. TX -
https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9168/records/132140490?tid=&pid=&queryId=4d859076-3107-4ded-9628-359585b449e8&_phsrc=cPx36330&_phstart=successSource

2

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
STATE OF TEXAS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

3310 25
STATE FILE NO. **55333**

1. PLACE OF DEATH a. COUNTY Bexar		2. USUAL RESIDENCE a. STATE Texas b. COUNTY Bexar	
3. CITY (If outside corporate limits, write 1 MI. and give precinct no.) San Antonio		4. CITY (If outside corporate limits, write RURAL and give precinct no.) San Antonio	
5. FULL NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION Baptist Memorial Hospital		6. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) 903 Florida Street	
7. NAME OF DECEASED a. (First) Mrs. Beatrice b. (Maiden) Clark		8. DATE OF DEATH November 19, 1951	
9. SEX Female	10. COLOR OR RACE White	11. MARRIED, NEVER MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED (Specify) MARRIED	12. DATE OF BIRTH July 16, 1892
13. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Housewife		14. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Housewife	
15. FATHER'S NAME George Lake Reitze		16. BIRTHPLACE Mississippi	
17. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Dora Ethel Schuster		18. BIRTHPLACE Mississippi	
19. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? No		20. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. None	
21. CAUSE OF DEATH Explain only cause per line for (a), (b), and (c) Cerebral hemorrhage - left side		22. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH	
23. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH* (a) Cerebral hemorrhage - left side		24. ANTECEDENT CAUSES General Arteriosclerosis	
25. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS Conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing death.		26. DATE OF OPERATION	
27. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION		28. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office, etc.)	
29. ACCIDENT SUICIDE HOMICIDE		30. TIME OF INJURY (Month) (Day) (Year)	
31. HOW DID INJURY OCCUR?		32. DATE SIGNED Nov. 20, 1951	
33. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from Nov. 19, 1951 to Nov. 19, 1951 , that I last saw the deceased alive on Nov. 19, 1951 , and that death occurred at 10:00 P.M. from the causes and on the date stated above.		34. SIGNATURE B. B. McLean	
35. ADDRESS M. D. Medical Arts Bldg.		36. DATE November 21, 1951	
37. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Port Sam Houston National Cemetery		38. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Port Sam Houston Texas	
39. REGISTRAR'S FILE NO. 3924		40. DATE REC'D BY LOCAL REGISTRAR NOV 20 1951	
41. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Stuart C. Fisher		42. SIGNATURE OF DECEASED'S SIGNATURE Beatrice Clark	

NOTE THE INFORMATION CALLED FOR ON THE REVERSE SIDE

VICTIM INFORMATION UNIT, 1207

Beatrice's TX death certificate -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394_b062394-00471?pld=22022055

Wife Evelyn Adeline Lenz – 1961

AAF. No. <u>155844</u>		} No. <u>255828</u>
THE STATE OF TEXAS,		
COUNTY OF BEXAR		
TO ANY REGULARLY LICENSED OR ORDAINED MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL, JEWISH RABBI, JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT, JUDGE OF THE COUNTY COURT, OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:		
YOU, or either of you, are hereby, authorized to celebrate the rites of matrimony by joining in the Holy Union of Matrimony		
<u>Valford Hardman Clark 58</u> and <u>Evelyn Adeline Lenz 32</u>		
in accordance with the Laws of this State and that you make due return of this, your authority, to my office, within sixty days after the celebration aforesaid, certifying how you have executed the same.		
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and the seal of the County Court of Bexar County, Texas, this <u>15</u> day of <u>August</u> , 19 <u>61</u> .		
	<u>Fred Huntress</u> County Clerk, Bexar County, Texas	
<u>20 J. T. Linder</u> <u>all 8/17/61</u>	By <u>L. J. Prange</u>	Deputy.
The foregoing License executed by joining the within named parties in the HOLY UNION OF MATRIMONY		
this the <u>15th</u> day of <u>August</u> , 19 <u>61</u> .		
Two Witnesses Sign Here		Official Performing Ceremony
		<u>A. A. Simaani J.P. Prec. no. 1</u> <u>Bexar Co. Tex.</u>
RETURNED the <u>15</u> day of <u>August</u> , 19 <u>61</u> . A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL, recorded this the <u>15</u> day of <u>August</u> , 19 <u>61</u> .		
By <u>Oliver Feldkamp</u>	Deputy.	<u>Fred Huntress</u> Clerk.

marriage to Evelyn Adeline Lenz on 15 Aug 1961 -

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9168/records/19224259>

Evelyn Adeline Lenz

in the U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail Source

Name	Evelyn Adeline Lenz [Evelyn A Clark] [Evelyn Clark]
Gender	Female
Race	White
Birth Date	26 Aug 1928
Birth Place	San Antonio, Texas [Lavernia, Texas]
Death Date	2 Dec 2002
Father	Herbert Lenz
Mother	Lillie Klatt
SSN	452585493
Disability Status	Disability denied - no record of type.
Notes	Jan 1954: Name listed as EVELYN ADELINE LENZ; Aug 1962: Name listed as EVELYN A CLARK; Jul 1973: Name listed as EVELYN ADE CLARK

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/60901/records/20727361?tid=&pid=&queryId=ea15ad3f-ba61-400d-9c82-ccc72fc3d264&_phsrc=cPx36344&_phstart=successSource

CHRIST.

Herbert P. Lenz

Herbert P. Lenz of La Vernia died Friday, Aug. 12, in Stockdale at the age of 91.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, at Finch Funeral Chapel in La Vernia with the Rev. Anderson officiating. Burial will follow at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in La Vernia.

Born May 16, 1903 in La Vernia, he was the son of Paul and Louise (Matke) Lenz. He was a farmer and repairman and a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife, Lillian (Klatt) Lenz of La Vernia; one son, Glenwood Lenz of La Vernia; one daughter, Evelyn Lenz Clark of La Vernia; four sisters, Stella Koepf of Seguin, Pauline Matke of La Vernia, Hermine Knepper of San Antonio, Adeline Pierdolla of La Vernia; two brothers, Charlie Lenz and Julius Lenz, both of San Antonio; numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggested that memorial contributions be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church of La Vernia.

The Seguin Gazette-Enterprise
Sun, Aug 14, 1994 · Page 2

Seguin TX

Obituary of Evelyn Lenz Clark's father

Eraline Lentz

in the Texas, U.S., Birth Index, 1903-1997



Order document

Add or update information

Report a problem

Detail Source

Name	Eraline Lentz
Gender	Female
Birth Date	26 Aug 1928
Birth Place	Wilson, Texas, USA
Father	Herbert Lentz
Mother	Lilly Klatt
Roll number	1928_0004

Evelyn Lenz's TX birth record -

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/8781/records/2259398>

Wilson County News

Evelyn Lenz Clark

December 11, 2002

Evelyn Lenz Clark of Floresville, daughter of Herbert P. and Lillian B. (Klatt) Lenz, formerly of La Vernia, passed away Monday, Dec. 2, 2002, at the age of 74.

She was born in La Vernia on Aug. 26, 1928.

Mrs. Clark was a homemaker and a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in La Vernia.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, in the Finch Funeral Chapel in La Vernia.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, in the Immanuel Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Robert Palan officiating the services.

Interment followed in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery.

She is survived by a brother, Glenwood "Buddy" Lenz of Seguin, and numerous cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Immanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund.

Feel free to contact the Wilson County News regarding content or any other questions/concerns.

[E-mail reader@wcn-online.com](mailto:E-mail_reader@wcn-online.com).

P.O. Box 115, Floresville, Texas 78114

830-216-4519, fax 830-393-3219

– [Wilson County News](#)

Evelyn's obituary - <https://www.wilsoncountynews.com/articles/evelyn-lenz-clark/>



Child:

VALFORD C. CLARK

Mr. Valford C. Clark, 61, of Natalia, died December 26, 1980 at his home in Natalia.

He was born December 14, 1920 at Columbus, Ohio.

Funeral services were held Friday at 10 a.m. from the Hurley Chapel in Devine. Rev. Carl Fuller officiated.

Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Devine.

Arrangements were by Hurley Funeral Home, Devine.

Son Valford Coupe Clark (1920-1980) – Find A Grave 82165980

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
REC'D APR 1 1981
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
REC'D MAR 9 1981
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

Texas Department of Health - BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

STATE OF TEXAS		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		STATE FILE NO.	
1. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print)		2. SEX		3. DATE OF DEATH	
Valford C. Clark		Male		12-26-1980	
4. RACE		5. DATE OF BIRTH		6. AGE (in years last birthday)	
White		12-14-1920		60	
7a. PLACE OF DEATH - COUNTY		7b. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.)		8. NAME (If not at home, give street address)	
Medina		Natalia		101 S. of Hwy 81 on	
9. MARITAL STATUS (Type or print)		10. CITIZENSHIP (What country?)		11. INSIDE CITY LIMITS?	
Never Married		U.S.		Yes	
12. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		13. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES?		14. SURVIVING SPOUSE (If wife, give maiden name)	
465 05 5502		No		N/A	
15. RESIDENCE - STATE		16. COUNTY		17. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY	
Texas		Medina		Civil Service	
18. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, show range)		19. STREET ADDRESS (If outside city limits, show range)		20. INSIDE CITY LIMITS?	
Natalia		101 S. of Hwy 81 on FM		Yes	
21. FATHER'S NAME		22. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME		23. SIGNATURE OF INFORMANT	
Valford S. Clark		Ethel Coupe		Sara Stalling	
24. PART		25. IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Enter only one cause per line for all deaths)		26. INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH	
2		Suffocation		Interval between onset and death	
27. CONDITIONS, if any, which gave rise to immediate cause (State the underlying cause last)		28. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF		Interval between onset and death	
		29. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF		Interval between onset and death	
30. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS - CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN PART 1 (a)		31. AUTOPSY?			
		No			
32a. ACC. SUICIDE, HOMICIDE, OR PENDING INQUIRY (Specify)		32b. DATE OF INJURY (Mo., Day, Yr.)		32c. HOUR OF INJURY	
Accident					
33. INJURY AT WORK (Specify yes or no)		34. PLACE OF INJURY - At home, farm, street, factory, office, building, etc. (Specify)		35. LOCATION - STREET OR R.F.D. NO. CITY OR TOWN STATE	
No					
36. To the best of the knowledge, death occurred at the time, date, and place and		37. On the basis of examination and/or investigation, in my opinion death occurred at the time, date, and place and due to the cause(s) stated (Signature and Title)		38. DATE SIGNED (Mo., Day, Yr.)	
		Sara Stalling, J.P.		12-31-80	
39. NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN (Type or print)		40. PRELIMINARY DEAD (Mo., Day, Year)		41. PRELIMINARY DEAD (Mo., Day, Year)	
		12-26-80		2:20 P.M.	
42a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify)		42b. DATE		43. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY	
Burial		1-2-1981		Evergreen Cemetery	
44. LOCATION (City, town, or county)		45. (State)		46. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR	
Devine Medina, Texas				Sara Stalling, J.P.	
47. PREVIOUS REGISTRAR NO.		48. DATE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR		49. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR	
1068		12/31/80		Sara Stalling, J.P.	

VS 112 REV. 1-80

TX death certificate of Valford Coupe Clark -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/33154_b063092-02755?pld=968974

Valford C. Clark, Natalia,
Kingfish Boat Trailer

Father:

JOHN W. CLARK

John W. Clark, 84, an Ohio Masonic Home resident, died at 3:10 a.m. Saturday in Rickly Memorial Hospital of the home.

His entrance to the home June 29, 1955, was sponsored by Toledo Lodge No. 144, F. and A. M., of Toledo.

A former Springfielder, Mr. Clark was a foreman in the vault department of the Springfield Metallic Casket Co. about 15 years. After living in this city about 20 years, he transferred in 1914 to the Galion Metallic Vault Co.

He had been a metal worker by occupation and was a member of the Baptist Church. His wife, Amelia Lizabeth, died May 27, 1955, and was buried in Springfield.

Surviving are two sons, Edgar E. of Adrian, Mich., and Val-ford Gardner Clark of San Antonio, Tex., three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

His body was taken to the Jackson-Lytle funeral home. Services will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in Rickly auditorium of the Masonic Home by the Rev. Edgar F. Drumel, pastor of the First Baptist Church. Burial will be in Ferncliff Ceme-

Springfield News-Sun
Sun, Feb 10, 1957 · Page 6

Springfield OH

noon.
CLARK — John W. Clark, 84, Ohio Ma-
 sonic Home resident, died 3:10 a.m.
 Saturday, Feb. 9, 1957, in Rickly Me-
 morial Hospital of home. Body to Jack-
 son-Lytle funeral home. Services 1:30
 p.m. Tuesday in Rickly auditorium of
 Masonic Home by the Rev. Dr. Edgar
 F. Drumel, pastor First Baptist Church.
 Burial Ferncliff Cemetery.

Springfield News-Sun
 Mon, Feb 11, 1957 · Page 11

Springfield OH

John W. Clark

in the Ohio Soldiers in the War with Spain, 1898-99



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	John W. Clark
Rank	Private
Residence	Springfield
Age	24
Page #	736
Unit	Tenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Company	Company E. Springfield

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/5306/records/2405?tid=4647670&pid=162240522438&queryId=b6e35ea0-a240-4d8d-be62-bd9b92e98688&_phsrc=cPx36339&_phstart=successSource

.....

Mother

John W. Clark

in the Ohio, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1774-1993



[Add or update information](#)
[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	John W. Clark
Gender	Male
Marriage Date	17 Nov 1892
Marriage Place	Clark, Ohio, USA
Spouse	Amelia Seibert
Film Number	000465394

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61378/records/2126807?tid=4647670&pid=162240522438&queryId=e097c796-368d-4264-b2ed-d6f3464ad87d&_phsrc=cPx36335&_phstart=successSource

MRS. JOHN W. CLARK

Mrs. Amelia L. Clark, former Springfield resident, died Friday morning in her home at 340 W. Woodruff st., Toledo. She moved from Springfield about 30 years ago.

Surviving are the husband, John W. Clark; two sons, Edgar E. of Adrian, Mich., and Valford G. of San Antonio, Tex.; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted at 7:30 p. m. Monday in the

Bennett funeral home, 2121 Adams st., Toledo. Graveside services will be conducted in Ferncliff Cemetery at 1 p. m. Tuesday.

Springfield News-Sun
Fri, May 27, 1955 - Page 2

Springfield OH

CLARK—Mrs. John W. (Amelia L.) Clark, of Toledo, formerly of Springfield, died Friday morning, May 27, 1955, in 340 W. Woodruff st. residence. Services 7:30 p.m. Monday in Bennett funeral home, 2121 Adams st., Toledo. Graveside services 1 p.m. Tuesday Ferncliff Cemetery.

Springfield News-Sun
Sat, May 28, 1955 - Page 7

Springfield OH

Sibling:

No. 336 **Marriage License** 46 4192
19 30
Leelanau County, Michigan

To any person legally authorized to solemnize marriage in the State of Michigan,

Greeting:

Marriage May Be Solemnized in the State of Michigan Between

Mr. CLIO SNOEDER and MRS. BETTY CLARK

affidavit having been filed in this office, as provided by Public Act No. 120, Laws of 1907, as amended, by which it appears that said

Clio Snoder is 30 years of age, color is white, residence is Adrian, Michigan, and birthplace was Michigan, occupation is Machinist, father's name Grant Snoder, and mother's maiden name was Vilma Voorhes

has been previously married No time S; and that said Betty Clark is 25 years of age, color is white, residence is Adrian, Michigan, and birthplace was Ohio, occupation is housewife, father's name Edgar E. Clark, and mother's maiden name was Maude Rickholder

and who has been previously married No time S, and whose maiden name was Maude Rickholder, and whose father or mother's consent, in case she has not attained the age of eighteen years, has been filed in my office.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto attached my hand and the seal of Leelanau County, Michigan, this 25th day of September, A. D. 19 30

L. S. Alice M. Ketch
County Clerk

Certificate of Marriage

Between Mr. Clio Snoder and MRS. Betty Clark

I hereby certify that, in accordance with the above license, the persons herein mentioned were joined in marriage by me, at Adrian, County of Leelanau, MICHIGAN, on the 25th day of September, A. D. 19 30, in the presence of P. J. Taylor, Edgar E. Clark, Maude Rickholder, and Maude Rickholder as witnesses.

James H. Hoffman
State of Michigan, Minister

James H. Hoffman
County Clerk

This entry is to be retained by the County Clerk until the original is returned; then it is to be completed by endorsement and forwarded on the first of the following month to the Michigan Department of Health.

Brother Edgar Emerson Clark (1894-1975) -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9093/images/41326_341746-01098?pld=1354171971

Michigan, Deaths, 1971-1996

View record

Name Edgar E Clark
Birth Date 11 Nov 1894
Death Date 29 May 1975
Gender Male
Residence California
Place of Death Alma, Gratiot, Michigan

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/61994652/person/34088738055/facts>

Ohio, Births and Christenings Index, 1800-1962

[View record](#)

Name	Edgar E. Clark
Gender	Male
Birth Date	6 Nov 1894
Birth Place	Springfield, Clark, Ohio
Father	John W. Clark
Mother	Amelia Siebert
FHL Film Number	466658

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/61994652/person/34088738055/facts>

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

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

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: Valford Seibert Gardner Clark

Name variations: Valford S. Clark, Valford Gardner Clark, Valford G. Clark, Valford Silas Clark [OH birth record – as indexed] – Valford Sailes Clark (1900 census), Valford A. Clark (return voyage) – also Val, Val S., Val G. Clark

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 249,968

Entered service from: Toledo, Clark OH

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: Valford S. Clark

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: mother Amelia Clark, 617 Hamilton St., Toledo OH

Returned from war on: "Louisville" Jun 1919 [brings English “war bride” Ethel Coupe Clark with him]

Sailed on return ship as: Valford A. Clark

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Amelia Clark, 617 Hamilton St., Toledo OH (sgt, C.I.P.)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Valford Seibert Gardner Clark - b. 19 Feb 1893 Springfield OH; res: 2837 N. 20th St., Philadelphia PA. Single. Captian [sic] infantry 5 years OH. [the military experience section has a dark line through it] Machinist & welder – secret service man. Employed by William Burns Detective Agents, Widener Bldg., Philadelphia PA. Tall in height, medium build.

World War II draft registration (1942): as Valford Gardner Clark - b. 19 Feb 1893 Springfield, Clark OH; res: 903 Florida, San Antonio, Bexar TX. NOK Mrs. Beatrice Clark, of same address. Night patrol, north of Romana Plaza, San Antonio, Bexar TX. “broken finger on left hand” - Height: 5’ 8 1/2” – 178 lbs. – Registered 27 Apr 1942.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlistment date not listed

Discharged 11 Jul 1919

Address: Toledo OH

Rank/unit: sergeant, CFP US Army, 158th Aero Squadron

OH Military Men – resident 617 Hamilton St., Toledo OH. Enlisted 1 Aug 1917 at Columbus Barracks OH, at age 24 years, 6 months, in regular Army.

Birth & death:

Born: 9 Feb 1893 Springfield, Clark OH

Faked death: faked suicide off Allegheny River bridge in Pittsburgh PA on 1 Jul 1923 after he was arrested, had left suicide note)

Died: 26 Feb 1970 San Antonio, Bexar TX (dead on arrival at Robert B. Green Hospital)

Find A Grave record: 496208, presence on Tuscania noted in flower

Burial location: San Antonio, Bexar TX

Cemetery: Fort Sam Houston National

Tombstone: veteran tombstone: Ohio Sgt 158 Aero Sq WWI

Father: John Wilford Clark, 3 Jun 1872 OH – 9 Feb 1957 Springfield, Clark OH.

Son of Sales G. Clark (1837-1922, F: 38734327) & Ruth Anna Watkins (1840-1923, F: 38673168). Sales Clark served in the Civil War, for the Union.

In the 1880 census for Springfield, Clark OH, John Clark (age 8, b. OH) lived at 19 S. Spring st. with parents Sales G. Clark (43 KY) & Ruth A. (40 OH).

Veteran of the Spanish-American War. In the 1930 census of Toledo, Lucas OH, John answered “yes” to the question, “Are you a veteran?”

Obituary: “Springfield Daily News” 10 Feb 1957 p 6 – age 84, died at Mason Home’s Richly Memorial Hospital. Entrance to home sponsored by Toledo Lodge 144 of the F. & A.M.

(Masons). Former resident of Springfield. Foreman in vault department of Springfield Metallic Casket Co. about 15 years, then transferred in 1914 to Galion Metallic Vault Co. after living 20 years in Springfield. His wife Amelia Lizabeth Clark d. 27 May 1955 & is buried in Springfield. Survived by 2 sons: Edgar E. Clark (Adrian MI) & Valford Gardner Clark (San Antonio CA).

Buried in Ferncliff Cemetery, Springfield, Clark OH.

Find A Grave: 37948059

Mother: Amanda Lizabeth Seibert Clark, Jul 1872 OH – 27 May 1955 Toledo, Lucas OH.

Daughter of Valentine Seibert (1843-1916, F: 61357324) & Elizabeth Steffant Reinheimer (1830 Germany – 1921 OH, F: 61357310). Elizabeth Steffant’s 1st husband was John Reinheimer, whom she married 2 Nov 1855 in Clark Co. OH; they had 3 children. Elizabeth Reinheimer married Valentine Seibert on 23 Jul 1869 in Clark Co. OH.

Obituary: “Springfield Daily News” – Mrs. Amelia L. Clark, former resident of Springfield OH, d. Friday morning at her at at 340 W. Woodruff St., Toledo OH. Moved from Springfield about 30 years ago. Survived by husband John W. Clark & 2 sons: Edgar E. Clark (Adrian MI) & Valford G. Clark (San Antonio TX).

Buried in Ferncliff, Springfield, Clark OH.

Find A Grave: 37967299

Parents’ marriage: 1892

Spouse: Ethel Patricia Coupe Clark Treverton, 5 Apr 1900 Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire England – 29 Mar 1931 Indianapolis, Marion IN.

Passport application to the US 17 Jun 1919 – application at American Consulate in Nottingham, England, to US Embassy in London, by wife of a military serviceman – Ethel Clark, age 19, b. Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, England. Married 8 Jun 1919 in Nottingham, England, to Valford Seibert Clark, b. Springfield OH, sergeant, US Intelligence Department, who entered the military service in Jul 1917 at Columbus Barracks & has not yet been discharged. Father: Fred Coupe, b. South Wingfield, Derbyshire, England. Mother: Constance Coupe Seagrave, b. Nottingham, England. Maiden name: Ethel Coupe. Lived in Nottinghamshire from birth to present. Husband stationed in London, England. Her permanent address to be 605 Hamilton St., Toledo OH. Will sail for US on 24 Jun 1919 on “Louisville.” Valford Clark signs a statement that he has known Ethel for 1 ½ years &

married her 8 Jun 1919. His residence is Belgrave Mansions, Room 151, London, S.W. 1, England.

Ethel's 2nd husband was William Oliff Treverton (22 Jan 1894 Berlin PA-19 Mar 1941 perhaps IN), whom she married 30 May 1924 in Lucas Co. OH. On 7 Dec 1916 William had married Faye R. Grubb in Franklin OH. On 30 May 1924 William married Ethel Clark in Lucas Co. OH, listing himself as divorced & a salesman. On 11 May 1933 William married Cora McCammon in Indianapolis, Marion IN, listing himself as an insurance agent & married twice before, with his previous marriage ending with the death of his wife [Ethel Coupe Clark Treverton]. In 1940, William & Cora Treverton were living in Portage IN.

Ethel died at the age of 30 years, 11 months, 14 days in Indianapolis, Marion IN. Obituary: "Indianapolis (IN) Star" 30 Mar 1931 p 10 – Mrs. Ethel Patricia Coupe Treverton, age 30, wife of William Treverton, d. 29 Mar 1931 at her home – 959 N. Kealing Ave., Indianapolis – after an illness of 3 weeks. Born in England. Lived in US past 11 years; lived 5 years in Indianapolis. Member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, of which her husband is a special representative. Survived by her husband William Treverton, 2 sons: Valford Treverton [i.e. Clark] & Thomas Treverton & brother Leonard Ceupe [sic] of Toledo OH. Funeral 31 Mar 1931 with burial in Memorial Park Cemetery. "Indianapolis Star" 2 Apr 1934 p 17 – Ethel Patricia Treverton, 30, 959 N. Kealing, lobar pneumonia.

Ethel's son Thomas William Treverton was born 29 Jul 1925 Fort Wayne IN & d. 12 Sep 1993 North Hills, Los Angeles CA.

Ethel Treverton is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Indianapolis, Marion IN,

Spouse Find A Grave: 176386536

Marriage: 8 Jun 1919 Nottingham, England. On Ethel's passport application in 1919, their marriage certificate is listed as A424928, issued by A.L. Webb, curate, St. Saviour's Church, Nottingham, England, on 8 Jun 1919. Valford & Ethel were together in the 1920 census; she remarried on 30 May 1924.

Spouse: Beatrice Reitze Clark, 16 Jul 1892 Rodney, Jefferson MS – 19 Nov 1951 San Antonio, Bexar TX.

Daughter of George Lake Reitze & Dora Ethel Schuster.

Died of a cerebral hemorrhage at Baptist Memorial Hospital, San Antonio TX; resident of 903 Florida St.

Buried in Fort Sam Houston Cemetery, San Antonio, Bexar TX, with Valford.

Spouse Find A Grave: 493449

Marriage: 22 Jan 1924 Bexar Co. TX

Spouse: Evelyn Adeline Lenz Clark, 26 Aug 1928 La Vernia, Wilson TX – 2 Dec 2002 TX.

Daughter of Herbert Paul Lenz & Lillie Klatt.

Buried in La Vernia Immanuel Cemetery, La Vernia, Wilson TX.

Find A Grave: 14818026

Marriage: Evelyn Lenz was age 32 & V.G. Clark was age 58 when they obtained a marriage license on 15 Aug 1961 in Bexar Co. TX & married the same day.

Child: by Ethel Coupe

- **Valford Coupe Clark**, 14 Dec 1920 Columbus, Franklin OH – 26 Dec 1980 Natalia, Medina TX. - Died at age 61 at his home in Natalia TX. Private 1st class, US Army, WWII. Enlisted 6 Jul 1943 at Fort Sam Houston, single, metal worker. Never married. - Died of accidental suffocation, ½ mile east of Hwy. 81 on F.M. Rd. 471. SSN 465-095-5502.- “Hondo (TX) Anvil Herald” 16 Apr 1981 p 13 – estate dispersal sale at Devine TX by Murdock Mini Storage. Auction of 270 items, including 3 boats, cars & guns. Buried in Devine Evergreen Cemetery, Devine, Medina TX.F: 82165980

Sibling:

- **Edgar Emerson Clark**, 6 Nov 1894 Springfield, Clark OH – 29 May 1975 Alma, Gratiot MI. - Married 2 Jul 1916 in Crawford Co. OH to Mauda Adelaid Sickmiller (1896-1977, F: 65954747). - Buried in Riverside Cemetery, Alma, Gratiot MI. F: 65954748

Notes:

Wartime:

“New York Tribune” 25 Feb 1918 p 3 – 63 survivors reported by the War Department today in Irish hospitals after Tuscania. Valford S. Clark is hospitalized in Larne (Ireland).

According to him, Valford was ordered to go down a rope by a lieutenant on Tuscania. He could not swim. He was knocked off the rope by a raft that was thrown on top of him. He was pulled onto a raft, but when he said he was OK, the men on the raft pulled again & he fell back in the water.

Valford said he saw men in the water hit by the rescuing destroyers but also that he saw the submarine come up now & then in the glare of the rockets that Tuscania was shooting. [This is doubtful.] He was picked up by a patrol boat & taken to Larne, Ireland, where he was hospitalized.

Before the war he had been a newspaper carrier for the Springfield OH “News” & enlisted at Toledo OH in Jul 1917.

His mother, following his faked suicide in 1923, claims he spent hours in the water (could not be true) and had been cited for bravery.

Post-war:

After his return from war, he operated a private detective agency in Columbus OH. His wife Ethel also listed her occupation as private detective.

Prison:

On the last day of his term in 1921, Ohio Governor James M. Cox pardoned Valford Clark, of Franklin County, who had been in the state prison for 6 weeks for receiving a stolen car. Clark was wounded in Europe & on a torpedoed ship. Clark was released to join his wife (an English nurse) & 3-week-old baby so he could go work with her family in England. He had accepted a job with her folks there. The governor did not forbid Clark's return or revoke citizenship because he shed blood for the US.

There was no evidence found of Valford's obtaining a passport or sailing to England. Instead, Ethel Coupe Clark divorced him.

Faked death:

Moved to Pittsburgh PA from Toledo OH in Oct 1922.

Foreman/inspector at E.J. Thompson Co. On 23 Jun 1923, Valford, age 31, 348 N. Rebecca St., Pittsburgh, is arrested in Pittsburgh for being a "peeping Tom" at several houses & for accosting women on the street & trying to force them to go with him. Freed on bond from morals court; he said he had frequent lapses of memory. Was identified by several witnesses to his crimes

When arrested, he told police he was at times unconscious of his actions. He told police many fictitious stories & was unable to account for his movements. "I might have done it," he said. Clark had moved to Pittsburgh from Toledo OH in Oct 1922. A mental examination will be given. It is believed that about a score of reported incidents may be solved with his apprehension. ("Pittsburgh Press" 2 Jul 1923 p. 1 – "Pittsburgh Press-Gazette" 2 Jul 1923 p 1 – "Pittsburgh Daily Post" 2 Jul 1923 p 2 – "Bucyrus (OH) Telegraph Forum" 9 Jul 1923 p 4 – "Pittsburgh Daily Post" 22 Jun 1923 p 2 & other papers.

Valford's hat is found at the Manchester Bridge on the Allegheny River on 1 July 1923 with a letter for Police Superintendent E.N. Jones, claiming he was innocent, had alibis, was "framed." The fake suicide note cites his war record of bravery citations & Tuscania experience, was wounded in war. Had spent several hours in the water after the sinking. [this could not have occurred] Suspected he killed himself by jumping off the bridge. But the body not found; police don't believe his death happened.

"Pittsburgh Press-Gazette" 3 Jul 1923 p 5 – photo of the suicide man - "The police hounded my boy to death" said his mother. The body has not been recovered & police & city detectives refuse to take the suicide note seriously, figuring it's a ruse to mislead them & so Clark can evade his hearing. He was released on a \$1,000 bond on 28 Jun 1923.

Have not found if the Pittsburgh PA police ever “got their man” or if Valford began a new life in Texas without being detected. Although he had been in prison in OH and faked his death in PA, his employment in Texas is usually as a patrolman or private policeman.

“Kerrville [TX] Mountain Sun” 12 Sep 1935 p 8 – Valford S. Clark, San Antonio, admitted to Legion Hospital

903 Florida Street, San Antonio, Texas (1942)(1970)

Obituary:

TX death record: Valford G. Clark, resident of 903 Florida St., San Antonio, Bexar TX, dead on arrival on 2 Feb 1970 at 12:05 p.m. at Robert B. Green Hospital, San Antonio, Bexar TX. Resident of area 48 years. Married. Born 19 Feb 1893 OH. Patrolman; merchant's police. Son of John W. Clark & Amelia E. Seibert. WWI veteran. SSN 460-12-5322. Information from Mrs. Evelyn Clark [his 1st wife?] Died of arteriosclerotic heart disease. Buried in Fort Sam Houston Cemetery 2 Mar 1970.

Social Security Number: 460-12-5322

Censuses:

1900 Springfield, Clark OH – 64 N. Factory St. – conducted 4 Jun 1900

John W. Clark, 27 OH, Jun 1872, father b. IL, mother b. OH, married 8 years, grave vault maker

Amelia, 27 OH, Jul 1872, parents b. Germany, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Valford Sailes, 7 OH, Feb 1892

Edgar, 5 OH, Nov 1894

1900 Beat 5, Jefferson Co. MS – conducted 12 Jun 1900 – Valford's 2nd wife Beatrice Reintze

George Reintze, 42 MS, Oct 1857, parents b. Germany, married 15 years, butcher

Dora, 38 MS, Jan 1862, parents b. MS, gave birth to 5 children, 4 are living

Ethel, 12 MS, Feb 1888, at school

Beatrice, 10 MS, May 1890, at school

Coralie, 7 MS, Dec 1892

Rosalie, 4 MS, Oct 1895

1910 Springfield, Clark OH – N. Light St. – conducted 21 Apr 1910

John W. Clark, 37 OH, father b. KY, mother b. OH, in 1st marriage, married 18 years, foreman, casket factory

Amelia L., 37 OH, parents b. Germany, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Valford S., 17 OH

Edgar E., 15 OH

1920 Cleveland, Cuyahoga OH – 2303 E. 103rd St. – conducted 10/12 Jan 1920

Elizabeth Sharon, 46 OH, widow, dressmaker, day

Her boarders:

Valford S. Clark, 26 OH, parents b. OH, private detective

Ethel Clark, 19 England, parents b. England, emigrated 1919, naturalized 1919, private detective

1930 San Antonio, Bexar TX – 1101 Victoria St. – conducted 7 Apr 1930

Val G. Clark, 37 OH, parents b. OH, age 31 at 1st marriage [not accurate], proprietor, auto body co., WWI veteran

Beatrice, 37 MS, parents b. MS, age 30 at 1st marriage

1930 Indianapolis, Marion IN – 159 Kealing – former wife & son Valford Coupe Clark – conducted 12 Apr 1930

William Treverton [indexed as Trevertoy, but also can be read as Treverton], 36 PA, parents b. PA, age 22 at 1st marriage, salesman, life insurance

Ethel Treverton, 29 England, parents b. England, age 19 at 1st marriage [William's wife]

Valford ~~Clark~~, 9 OH, father b. PA, mother b. England [“son” – i.e. stepson – Clark is crossed through & so Treverton is understood, should read father b. OH, as this is Valford S. Clark's son]

Thomas Treverton, 4 IN, father b. PA, mother b. IN [son – but mother not born in Indiana, but in England]

Wauynetta Arnold, 16 IN, boarder

1940 San Antonio, Bexar TX – 327 Crockett St. – same house in 1935 – conducted 15/16 Apr 1940

V.G. Clark, 47 OH, body-fender, own body shop

Beatrice, 47 MS

Valford, 18 OH

1950 San Antonio, Bexar TX – 903 Florida St. – conducted 19 Apr 1950

Valford G. Clark, 57 OH, proprietor, merchant police

Beatrice, 57 MS

Valford C., 28 OH, never married, makes plastic glasses, Army Air Base