

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.

This record also lacks 1950 federal census data.
Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

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

NOK = next-of-kin


TUSCANIA

Hopper, John Creal
1896 WI – 1962 WI

News Article Reunites Two Army Friends

BELOIT, Wis.—(U.P.)—Two friends who parted in the wild excitement on board the troopship *Tuscania* immediately after it was torpedoed 15 years ago have been reunited by a newspaper article. Each believing the other had perished in the disaster, they were amazed to learn they were living only 35 miles apart.

The men, John C. Hopper, Beloit, a corporal with C. Company, 107th Supply Train of the 32nd Division, and Asbury Vale, Lake Geneva, Captain of B Company, were united after the *Beloit Daily News* published an account of Vale's experiences after the *Tuscania* torpedoed.

Describing the night of Feb. 5, 1918, Hopper said, "Several of us were playing pinochle that night under the hatch. We had removed our shoes, leggins and blouses, and were spreading a blanket on the floor for the cards, when the crash came.

"I was a member of Company C, stationed just behind Company B, commanded by Captain Vale. His experience was our experience when we found the davits broken and the life boats smashed. We were among the last to leave the Tuscania.

"Captain Vale was picked up by the same destroyer, the Pigeon, that took a group of us to Ireland. But I didn't know that. I thought he was drowned. We had known each other at Camp McArthur, in Texas, and aboard the Tuscania."

Vale and Hopper plan to meet often to talk over their war experiences.

This story was repeated in newspapers across the country – "Green Bay (WI) Press Gazette" 28 Jan 1933 p 17

J. Creal Hopper

J. Creal Hopper, 66, Wild Rose, a salesman for the Central Petroleum Oil Co., died Saturday (Oct. 20, 1962) in a Madison hospital after a brief illness.

Born in Coloma, Waushara county, in 1896, he lived in Beloit for many years before moving to Wild Rose in 1955. He was an Army World War I veteran, and one of the survivors of a troop ship, the Tuscania, which sank off the coast of Wales in 1917.

Surviving are his wife, Kathryn; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Keyes, Rockford, Ill.; two sons, Edwin, Beloit; and Duane, Fremont; two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Quinn, 3102 Lindbergh st.; and Mrs. William Farmer, 5114 Marathon dr.; two brothers, Ira and Clifford, both of Milwaukee; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Gunderson funeral home, 1936 Winnebago st., where friends may call after 2 p.m. today. Burial will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday at East Lawn cemetery, Beloit.

Obituary for John Creal Hopper – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 22 Oct 1962 p 19

Another such letter, written before the ship sailed and mailed after it was accounted for on the other side, was received by Mrs. T. W. Parkin of Coloma. In view of what happened it turned out to be a remarkable document. Here is the letter:

"Dear Mother and All: I will drop you a few lines to let you know that we arrived safely over here. We are on the other side now. We had a fine trip and enjoyed it very much. I will write more as soon as we get settled down. Will give you my address at the end of this letter. Be sure to put it all on and write it very plainly.

"Creal Hopper wants you to let his parents know at once, and also Herman McLaughlin. Glen Diggles wants you to tell Ward's folks for him. You can tell everybody that we are 'over there,' Give them the address and have them write. This letter may look funny without any stamp on it but we don't have to use stamps on first class mail. When you write, be sure to put your address on the upper left hand corner of the envelope. Will stop now and write more later. Goodbye.

"PRIVATE JOSEPH E. PARKIN,
"Co. C, 107th Supply Train, Q. M. C.
"American Expeditionary Forces,
"32nd Division."

Describing a "camouflage" letter received by the mother of casualty Russell Bennett – another "good trip" letter received by relatives of John Creal Hopper - "New North" (Rhinelander WI) 14 Mar 1918 p 9

Saturday, March 15, 1941.

Gold Wedding Celebrated by Coloma Couple

Coloma, Wis.— Surrounded by their five children and eight grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Hopper celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage on Saturday, March 8, at their home in Coloma. A dinner was served for the family at noon and open house was held from 2 to 5 o'clock, when friends called to extend congratulations. In the evening a reception and program was held at the I. O. O. F. hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Hopper were married at Coloma and have lived in the community all of the 50 years. Their children are Ira, Mrs. Max Quinn, Clifford and Mrs. William Farmer of Madison and Creal of Beloit. One son, Hayden died in 1938.

Those present for the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. William Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hopper and Belva, Mr. and Mrs. Max Quinn and Robert Minch, all of Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Creal Hopper, Duane and Dorothy of Beloit, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Milligan of Milwaukee, Mrs. Ethel Hopper and George Hopper of South Milwaukee, Mr. and Mrs. John Ploetz, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Ploetz, Mrs. Nora Gerth and Frank McLaughlin of Coloma. Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hopper came from Madison for a short visit in the evening.

50th wedding anniversary of his parents – "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" Saturday, 15 Mar 1941 p 3

J. C. Hopper, Beloit, Heads Tuscania Survivors' Group

WISCONSIN RAPIDS — (U.P.) — J. Creal Hopper, Beloit, today was the new president of the Tuscania Survivors assn., composed of Americans who lived through the sinking of the troopship Tuscania off Ireland in World War I. Hopper succeeded Dr. F. F. Firnstahl, Wisconsin Rapids.

The association decided at its annual meeting here during the weekend to hold its next gathering in 1943 at Beloit.

Charles Kellogg, Janesville, was named vice-president.

The association conducted memorial services Sunday for 269 men who were lost in the sinking of the ship 24 years ago.

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 9 Feb 1942 p 7

Tuscania Survivors Pray for 'Happy Landings' by New AEF

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. — (AP)—Survivors of the torpedoed Tuscania, British ship carrying American soldiers which was sunk off the Irish coast in February, 1918, prayed for "happy landings" for America's new AEF at memorial rites Sunday for their 269 buddies who went down with the Tuscania.

Help make a decent America for the boys of the second AEF who return when this battle finally is won."

J. Creal Hopper, Beloit, Wis., succeeded Dr. Firnstahl as president. Charles Kellogg, Janesville, Wis., was named vice president.

Beloit was chosen as the 1943 convention city.

The occasion was the annual meeting of the national Tuscania Survivors association.

An American Legion firing squad blew taps as an airplane dropped a memorial wreath into the Wisconsin river.

Hopes for Safe Passage

Dr. F. F. Firnstahl, Wisconsin Rapids, retiring president of the association, expressed a hope that convoys would be successful in shepherding troop ships to the foreign battlefields of World war II with the least possible number of casualties.

"We weren't prepared in the last war," he commented. "We're really getting prepared now. We've got a bunch of good boats and a powerful navy of our own. We had-Englishmen taking us over."

James F. Bray, Baraboo, Wis., a past president, said that the American navy was strong "but needed to be strengthened because we're now convoying on two oceans and have airplanes to contend with, too."

Martin Speaks at Banquet

Speaking at the convention banquet Saturday night, Wisconsin Attorney General John E. Martin asked:

"Let there be no World war III.

John Creal Hopper is elected president of the National Tuscania Survivors Association – "Green Bay (WI) Press Gazette" 9 Feb 1942 p 2



—Home Art Studio Photo

Top representatives of the Central Petroleum Co. from Wisconsin recently met at a dinner-party held by George Millard, director at the American Legion clubrooms in Portage. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lemmenes, Waupun; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Terselic, Racine; Mr. and Mrs. Lou Eisch Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Theiss, Appleton; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bogenschutz, Plymouth; Mr. and Mrs. J. Creal Hopper, Beloit; Mr. and Mrs. William Gruenwald, Princeton; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Wenzel, Prairie du Sac; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schwanz, Portage; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mills, Monroe. The men will attend the company's annual national convention in Chicago on Jan. 28, 29 and 30.

Somewhere in the crowd – John & his wife - "Portage (WI) Daily Register" 20 Jan 1953 p 3

Mrs. John Hopper

BELOIT — Mrs. John C. Hopper, 80, died Tuesday (Nov. 7, 1972) in a hospital after a long illness.

The former Kathryn Wilson was born in Hancock and lived in Beloit for 50 years.

She was a member of the First Methodist Church, the Eastern Star, and the Beloit Homemakers Club.

She was a past commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxilliary.

Surviving are two sons, Edwin, Beloit; and Duane, Lake Geneva; a daughter, Mrs. Douglas Keyes, Rockford, Ill.; a sister, Mrs. Alphon Wilson, Waukesha; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday in the church.

Friends may call after 7 tonight at the Overton-Schoenfeld Funeral Home.

Hayden Hopper Dies Today After Long Illness

Hayden Hopper, 36, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hopper, 2302 Center ave., died this morning at his parents' home following a long illness.

Besides the parents, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Max Quinn and Mrs. William Farmer, both of Madison, and three brothers, Ira and Clifford, both of Madison, and Greal, Beloit.

The body was taken to the Gunderson funeral home, and will be taken to the residence Thursday. Funeral services will be held in the Coloma, Wis., Methodist church at 1:30 p. m. Friday. The Rev. J. Saunders will officiate and burial will be in Coloma cemetery.

Left: Obituary of his wife, Kathryn Wilson Hopper – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Thursday, 9 Nov 1972 p 6 – Right: Obituary of his brother Hayden Hopper (he is CREAL not GREAL) – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 9 Feb 1938 p 9

Quinn, Mildred H.

MADISON — Mildred M. Quinn, age 79, of 540 W. Olin Avenue, died on Thursday, June 20, 1974, at a Madison nursing home. She was born in Washara County, Wisconsin, August 27, 1894. She was the former Mildred Hopper. She has lived in Madison for more than 50 years. She was a 5000 hour volunteer worker at the VA Hospital. Mrs. Quinn was a member of St. Raphael's Cathedral and the Purple Heart Auxiliary. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Robert (Alma) Anderson of 5502 Flamingo Rd.; a sister, Mrs. William Farmer of 4308 Upland Dr.; and three granddaughters, Betty, Bonnie and Beverly Anderson of 5502 Flamingo Rd. She was preceded in death by her husband, Mark V. and a daughter, Mrs. Russell Milligan. Funeral services will be held at the SCHROEDER FUNERAL HOME, 3325 E. Washington Ave., at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 22. Burial in Resurrection Cemetery. Friends may call from after 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 22, at the funeral home.

Obituary of his sister Mildred M. Hopper Quinn – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Friday, 21 Jun 1974 p 7

Farmer, Margaret V.
 MADISON — Margaret V. Farmer, age 87, passed away on Saturday, January 4, 1992, at a local hospital. She was born on December 23, 1904, and was a lifelong Madison resident. She is survived by her son, Philip of Madison; and three grandchildren, Kristina Farmer of Merced, California, Nicole, and Lance Farmer of Madison. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Farmer. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 1992, at 2:00 p.m. at the CRESS FUNERAL HOME, 3610 Speedway Road. There will be visitation one hour prior to services beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, at the funeral home.

Obituary of his sister Margaret Vaughn Hopper Farmer – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 7 Jan 1992 p 11

Clifford W. Hopper
 PEWAUKEE — Clifford W. Hopper, 67, of W278-N2336 Edgewood Drive, died Friday at the Waukesha County Home after a long illness.
 He was a retired stock clerk with the Engine Power Co., Inc., Milwaukee.
 He is survived by son Robert of Racine; daughters Mrs. Belva Harting of Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Jeanette Zuehlke of Milwaukee.

Obituary of brother Clifford William Hopper – "Waukesha (WI) Daily Freeman" Monday, 8 Nov 1971 p 3

Charles W. Hopper

Funeral services for Charles W. Hopper, 81, who lived in Madison from 1927 to 1940, were held Friday at the John Plutz home and in the Methodist church, Coloma.

Burial was in the White cemetery, Coloma township.

Mr. Hopper died Tuesday in a Fond du Lac hospital.

While in Madison, he was employed by the Dane county highway commission.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. William Farmer and Mrs. Max Quinn, Madison; three sons, Ira, Madison; Creal, Beloit, and Clifford, Wisconsin Dells; a sister, Mrs. William Campfield, Chinook, Mont.; two brothers, John L., Friendship, and James, Minneapolis; 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Obituary of his father Charles William Hopper – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Saturday, 18 Feb 1950 p 3

Coloma

Creal Hopper of Beloit, Max Quinn and Ira Hopper of Madison were Coloma business visitors Tuesday. They brought C. W. Hopper to the old peoples' home at Friendship.

John Creal Hopper, brother Ira Hopper & brother-in-law "Max" Quinn (married to their sister Mildred) take father Charles Hopper to the "old peoples' home" - "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" 20 May 1948 p 8

Mrs. C. W. Hopper Dies at Wild Rose

Coloma—Mrs. C. W. Hopper, 75, Coloma, died at 8 o'clock Monday morning in the Wild Rose hospital following an illness of several weeks. She had suffered several strokes. Funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

Survivors include her husband at Coloma; three sons, Ira of Madison, Creal of Beloit and Clifford of Milwaukee; two daughters, Mrs. Max Quinn and Mrs. William Farmer of Madison; one sister, Mrs. John Ploetz, Coloma, and several grandchildren.

Obituary of mother Leta King Hopper – “Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune” Tuesday, 30 Mar 1948
p 9

Mr. and Mrs. William Farmer and son Phillip, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hopper and Mr. and Mrs. Max Quinn of Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Creal Hopper of Beloit and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hopper of Milwaukee came Sunday to visit Mrs. C. W. Hopper, who is critically ill at the Wild Rose hospital. C. W. Hopper returned to Madison with the Farmers.

Leta King Hopper visited by her children Margaret Hopper Farmer, Ira Hopper, John Creal Hopper & Clifford Hopper – she died on 28 Mar 1948 – “Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune” 24 Mar 1948 p 6

Powell-Hopper

Miss Mildred Elnora Powell, 321 Moulten court, daughter of C. W. Hopper, 1335 Dewey street, and Mark Vincent Quinn, 1217 East Dayton street, son of Mrs. James Quinn, Portage, were married Thursday morning at 8 o'clock in St. Raphael's church.

The Rev. Mr. Mahoney performed the wedding ceremony.

The bride wore a cream georgette frock trimmed in gold shadow lace with a hat to match the costume. She carried sweet peas and roses.

Miss Bertha Marsh, bridesmaid, wore a pale pink georgette frock, cream lace trimmed, with a hat to match. Her corsage was of sweet peas.

Harold Quinn, Portage, nephew of the bridegroom, was the best man.

The wedding dinner was served at the Quinn home in Portage. The couple left on a wedding trip to the Dells of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Quinn will be at home after July 1, at 321 Moulten court. Mr. Quinn is employed at the Fuller and Johnson Machine company.

Marriage of sister Mildred Elnora Hopper Powell – "Madison (WI) Capital Times" Sunday, 16 Jun 1929 p 16

Recently Wed



Miss Gordon Carl Nelson

That is, Mrs. Gordon Carl Nelson

MISS Dorothy Laurayne Hopper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hopper, Beloit, became the bride of **Gordon Carl Nelson**, son of Carl E. Nelson, Rockford, Ill., last Saturday at 3 p. m. in the Methodist parsonage, Beloit. The Rev. Earl Allen performed the ceremony before a candlelight altar decorated with white peonies.

The bride chose a taupe-colored suit for her wedding costume and her corsage was an orchid. Attending her was Miss Betty Wilson clad in a gray gabardine suit and gardenia corsage. Duane Hopper, brother of the bride, served as best man.

Nuptial festivities included a dinner served in the Martha Washington room at the Wagon Wheel, Rockton, Ill. Madison guests at the wedding and dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Max Quinn, uncle and aunt of the bride.

Mr. Nelson attended Champaign university, Urbana, Ill. After an eastern trip the couple will be home at 624 Paris ave., Rockford.

The first marriage of daughter Dorothy Laurayne Hopper – to Gordon Carl Nelson. She later marries Douglas Jay Keyes – “Madison (WI) Capital Times” Friday, 14 Jun 1946 p 10

HOPPER-FARMER

The marriage of Miss Margaret V. Hopper, 129 North Franklin street, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hopper, Coloma, and William P. Farmer, 316 State street, was solemnized this morning at 7 o'clock at the Catholic parsonage, Blanchardville, by the Rev. Father McMahon. The bride wore a gown of poudre blue georgette crepe with gold trimming and Miss Della Kittleson, bridesmaid, wore a gown of Nile green georgette and velvet. Both had corsage bouquets. The best man was Charles Farmer, brother of the bridegroom. A wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bridegroom's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Meyers. The couple left on a trip to various places in Wisconsin and will be at home at 3 North Blair street after December 1. The bridegroom is a son of Mrs. Frank Farmer, Blanchardville.

*Marriage of his sister Margaret Vaughn Hopper Powell to William P. Farmer on 10 Nov 1927 –
"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 10 Nov 1927 p 15*

Gerstad-Hopper

United in marriage Dec. 8 at Rockford, Ill., were Mary Gerstad, 2661 Milwaukee st., and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Halama, Pittsville, and Ira Hopper, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Hopper, 533 W. Washington ave. The bride was attired in a gray-blue suit with black accessories. In her corsage were red roses and white 'mums.

A wedding dinner was served to the immediate families at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Scheiber, Campbellsport, brother-in-law and sister of the bride, before the newlyweds departed for a week in northern Wisconsin. The couple is at home at 533 W. Washington ave.

The 2nd marriage of his brother Ira Milton Hopper - to Mary Halama Gerstad - "Madison (WI) Capital Times" 17 Dec 1947 p 14

WW I		WW II		KOREA		ORIGINAL	
1. NAME OF DECEASED - LAST - FIRST - MIDDLE (Print or Type)				14. NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY (City and State)			
HOPPER, John C.				Eastlwan Cemetery Beloit, Wisconsin			
2. SERVICE NUMBER		3. PENSION OR VA CLAIM NUMBER		IMPORTANT - Item 18 on reverse side must be completed. See attached instructions and complete and submit both copies.			
849576 251083		XC- 2 178 724		15. This application is submitted for a stone or marker for the unmarked grave of a deceased member or former member of the Armed Forces of the U. S., soldier of the Union or Confederate Armies of the Civil War or for an unmarked memorial plot for a non-recoverable deceased member.			
4. ENLISTMENT DATE (Month, day, year)		5. DISCHARGE DATE (Month, day, year)		I hereby agree to accept responsibility for proper placement at the grave or memorial plot at no expense to the Government.			
7-9-1917 4/12 7/15/17		8-14-1919 Don.		NAME OF APPLICANT (Print or Type)		RELATIONSHIP	
6. STATE		7. MEDALS		Kathryn Hopper		widow	
Wisconsin				ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Street address, City and State)			
8. GRADE OR RANK		9. BRANCH OF SERVICE, COMPANY, REGIMENT, DIVISION		1944 Pioneer Drive Beloit, Wisconsin			
Sgt 1		2nd Div Q.M. Corp Co F		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT		DATE	
Cpl. Co F 2 Supp TR MTC 2 Div				Kathryn M Hopper		10-22-62	
10. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day, year)		11. DATE OF DEATH (Month, day, year)		16. FREIGHT STATION			
2-26-1896		10-20-1962		Beloit, Wisconsin			
12. RELIGIOUS EMBLEM (Check one)		13. CHECK TYPE REQUIRED		17. NAME OF CONSIGNEE WHO WILL TRANSPORT STONE OR MARKER			
XX LATIN CROSS (Christian)		UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE		Kathryn Hopper			
STAR OF DAVID (Hebrew)		FLAT MARBLE MARKER		ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE (Street address, City and State)			
NO EMBLEM		XX FLAT GRANITE MARKER		1944 Pioneer Drive Beloit, Wisconsin			
		FLAT BRONZE MARKER		I HAVE AGREED TO TAKE THE STONE OR MARKER TO THE CEMETERY.			
DO NOT WRITE HERE				SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE			
FOR VERIFICATION		ORDERED		Kathryn M Hopper			
NOV 2 1962		FEB 8 - 1963					
B/L		CONTRACTOR					
B- 6275675		BRUCE MARBLE & GRANITE CO.					
FT. SCOTT, KANSAS							
Cpl Co F 2 Supp TR MTC 2 Div / war							
DD FORM 1330, 1 DEC 61		PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.		APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER			
				Form Approved Budget Bureau No. 22-R205			

Veteran tombstone application



Not pictured at Find A Grave website, but available at BillionGraves.com - <https://billiongraves.com/grave/John-C-Hopper/11071741>

HOPPER JOHN CREAL		10-22-68 <i>Handwritten</i>	
Corp Co F 2nd SupTrn		K 2178724	
Coloma Wis		A 1 598 390	
Sa 251 083	Died 10-20-68	T 785 742F	
Born 2/26/96		R	
Enl 7/15/17	Dis 8-19-19	Ct. 849 576	
		I	

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202-Rev. Sept., 1936

INDEX CARD

2-12900

Name: John Creal Hopper

Name variations: Creal Hopper (his usual form of his name)

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. C (1938 NTSA, 2nd Supply Train, Co. F) - corporal

Serial number: 251,803

Entered service from: Coloma, Waushara WI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: John C. Hopper

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father G.W. Hopper, Coloma WI

Returned from war on: "Leviathan" Jul 1919

Sailed on return ship as: John C. Hopper

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: C. [crossed off] William Hopper, Coloma WI (cpl, Co. F, 2nd Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as John Creal Hopper - b. 26 Feb 1896 Coloma, Waushara WI; res: Coloma, Waushara WI. Single. Farming for myself at Coloma WI. Medium height & build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association 1939 roster: 1939 NTSA: 861 Gartner St., Beloit WI - 1955 WI Survivors: Box 684, Beloit WI

World War II draft registration (1942): as John Creal Hopper - b. 26 Feb 1896 Coloma WI; res: 861 Gartner Ct., Beloit, Rock WI. NOK Mrs. Max Quinn, Marquette St., Madison WI [his sister Mildred]. Employed at Fairbanks, Morse & Co., Beloit, Rock WI. Height: 5'7" – 130 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 15 Jul 1917

Discharged 19 Aug 1919

Address: Coloma WI

Rank/unit: corporal, Co. F, 2nd Supply Train

Birth & death:

Born: 26 Feb 1896 Coloma, Waushara WI

Died: 20 Oct 1962 Madison, Dane WI (in Madison hospital, after brief illness)

Find A Grave record: 150017424 – presence on Tuscania noted in obituary, but says Tuscania sank in Wales; flower adds correct data

Burial location: Beloit, Rock WI

Cemetery: Eastlawn

Tombstone: buried as J. Creal Hopper - tombstone app: veteran flat: Wisconsin Cpl (Sgt crossed off), Co. F, 2 Supply TR MTC 2 Div

Father: Charles William Hopper, 27 Jul 1868 WI – 16 Feb 1950 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac WI. Son of William Hopper & Lucy Elnora Haskins. His obituary in the "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 18 Feb 1950 p 3 is copied above. Died at age 81 in a Fond du Lac WI hospital, having lived in Madison WI 1927-1940. Was employed by the Dane County Highway Commission. – In May 1948, his sons John Creal & Ira and his son-in-law Max Quinn [married to his daughter Mildred] took him to a nursing home in Friendship WI. Funeral at the Methodist Church, Coloma WI. Buried in White Cemetery, Coloma, Waushara WI.
Find A Grave: 136333627

Mother: Leta King Hopper, 1870 WI – 29 Mar 1948 Wild Rose, Waushara WI. Daughter of Joel T. King & Mary Rhoda Wheeler. Her obituary in the "Madison (WI) Capital Times" Monday, 29 Mar 1948 p 2 said she died today at age 77 in a Wild Rose WI hospital. Formerly of 2302 Center Ave., Madison WI, now a resident of Coloma. The "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" Tuesday, 30 Mar 1948 p 9 said she died on Monday morning in the Wild Rose WI hospital after an illness of several weeks, having suffered several strokes. All her 5 children – Margaret Farmer, Ira, Mildred Quinn, Creal, Clifford – had visited her when she was critically ill in the Wild Rose hospital. ("Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune" 24 Mar 1948 p 6),
Find A Grave: 136333640

Parents' marriage: 8 Mar 1891 Waushara Co. WI

Spouse: Kathryn Mae Wilson Hopper, 14 Oct 1892 Hancock, Waushara WI – 7 Nov 1972 Beloit, Rock WI. Daughter of Amos Henry Wilson & Mary E. Getman. Her obituary in the "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Thursday, 9 Nov 1972 p 6 is copied above. Died in a Beloit WI hospital after a long illness. Past commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Buried in Eastlawn Cemetery, Beloit, Rock WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 159608631

Marriage: 1 Mar 1920 Oxford, Marquette WI

Children:

- Edwin Thornton Hopper, 19 Jan 1921 Nekoosa, Wood WI – 9 Dec 1986 Beloit, Rock WI. Husband of Helen M. Chase (1924-1959, F: 159608679). Buried in Eastlawn Cemetery, Beloit, Rock WI. F: 159608655
- Duane Creal Hopper, 24 Sep 1923 Janesville, Rock WI – 5 Mar 1983 [Find A Grave says 1982] Beloit, Rock WI. Buried in Eastlawn Cemetery, Beloit, Rock WI. F: 186040584
- Dorothy Laurayne/Lorraine Hopper Nelson Keyes, 13 Oct 1925 Beloit, Rock WI – 23 Dec 1995. Birth: "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" 20 Oct 1925 p 7 – Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Hopper, formerly of Nekoosa, now of Beloit, announce the birth of daughter Dorothy Lorraine on 13 Oct 1925. – She attended the University of Illinois at Champaign IL. - The "Madison (WI) Capital Times" 14 Jun 1946 p 10 reports the marriage of Dorothy Laurayne Hopper, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Hopper, Beloit WI, to Gordon Carl Nelson, son of Carl E. Nelson (Rockford IL) in the Methodist Church parsonage in Beloit WI on Saturday, 8 Jun 1946. Her brother Duane Hopper was the best man. - Married in 1960 to Douglas Jay Keyes (1929-2012). Buried in Sauk City Cemetery, Sauk City, Sauk Co. WI. F: 144612416

Siblings:

- Ira Milton Hopper, 8 Mar 1892 Coloma, Waushara Co. WI – 11 Jun 1965 Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. Married to Augusta Marie Hermann (1892-1945, F: 86448795), daughter of Charles Hermann & Wilhelmina Jung. She had previously been married to Daniel Edward Grady (1889-1930, F: 105344918, obituary "Wisconsin State Journal" [Madison WI] 9 Mar 1930 p 1), by whom she had children Daniel Charles Grady (1915-2003, F: 32169670) & Mary Alice Grady (later Mrs. Norman Woodrow Niebuhr, 1920-2016, F: 169671778). - Second marriage: On 8 Dec 1947 in Rockford, Winnebago IL, he married Mary Halama, earlier married to a Gerstad. "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 17 Dec 1947 p 6 – Miss Mary Gerstad, 2661 Milwaukee St., married Ira Hopper, 533 W. Washington Ave. on 8 Dec 1947 in Rockford IL. Out-of-town guests included Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Hopper. The couple will visit his parents in Coloma for a week. - Marital troubles: "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" 15 Jan 1951 p 9 – Ira Hopper, 58, of Pittsville, was arraigned in justice court on the complaint of his wife, charging disorderly conduct in Rock township. [Two days later, the situation escalates to violence. Ira paid \$5 & costs when he appeared on 15 Jan 1951.] "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" 29 Jan 1951 p 1 – in a preliminary hearing, John Halama, age 28, of Marshfield WI, was bound over to circuit court. Ira Hopper, age 58, Pittsville WI, testified that on 13 Jan 1951 in Rock township Halama, brother of Ira's estranged wife, attacked him with a knife. The wound required 3 stitches behind Ira's right ear. Hopper was trying to remove his clothing from his house. Mrs. Hopper thought he shouldn't take the clothing, furniture & dishes & stood in the doorway to block him. He hit her over the head, then her brother grabbed Ira by the neck. Sister & brother claim her brother had no knife in his hand Resolution: "Marshfield (WI) News-Herald" 22 Mar 1951 p 18 – After analyzing blood evidence, it appeared that the cut on Ira's neck was made by a coffee can cover, which somehow got involved in the fight between the brothers-in-law. – Divorce: "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" Monday 19 Mar 1951 p 8 – an absolute divorce was decreed in district court Saturday for Mary Hopper, town of Rock, from Ira Hopper, town of Cary. A property settlement was made. The couple married in Rockford IL on 2 Dec 1947. - Died of a cerebral vascular accident. Retired service station attendant. He is buried with Auguste in Forest Hill Cemetery, Madison, Dane WI. F: 86448796

- Mildred Elnora ("Peg") Hopper Powell Quinn, 27 Aug 1894 Waushara Co. WI – 20 Jun 1974 Madison, Dane WI. First married to Burleigh Roy Powell (1892-1929, F:136557834). They seem to have been married in Iowa, although records were not accessible online. Burleigh ("Dwight") Powell was the son of John Henry Powell & Elizabeth Catherine Rittenhouse. On his 1917 WWI draft card, Burleigh notes he is married with 1 child. In the 1920 census for Richfield township, Adams WI, Dwight Powell (29 WI) lives with wife Mildred (26 WI) & daughters Evelyn (7 WI) & Alma (2 WI). He is a farmer - "Portage (WI) Daily Register" 15 Jan 1923 p 1 – Burleigh R. Powell, who was ill in a sanatorium at Battle Creek MI became violently insane on his way home. He was examined by 2 doctors in Portage WI & committed to the state Hospital for the Insane at Mendota by County Judge A.F. Kellogg. They had 2 daughters: Evelyn Grace Powell (1913-1997, Mrs. Wilbur Fredric Caldwell) & Alma Elizabeth Powell (1917-1992, surname Minch as of Dec 1943 & wife of Robert Archelaus Anderson, with Social Security recording name change in Jun 1993. Burleigh drowned AFTER Mildred had remarried, although his death notice does not indicate this. "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" Saturday, 24 Aug 1929 p 1 – Burleigh Powell, age 37, of Richfield township, Adams Co. WI drowned at 2:30 p.m. yesterday while fishing in the mill pond at Wyocena. Survived by his wife, 2 children & his parents. - - Wife of Mark Vincent ("Max") Quinn (1889-1956, F: 169058013). As "Miss Mildred Elnora Powell," daughter of C.W. Hopper, of 321 Moulten Ct., Madison WI, she married Mark Vincent Quinn, 1217 E. Dayton St., Madison WI, son of James Quinn, at St. Raphael's Church, Madison, on 13 Jun 1929. - Her obituary in the "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Friday, 21 Jun 1974 p 7 copied above. She died in a Madison WI nursing home. Buried in Resurrection Cemetery, Madison, Dane WI. F: 169058016
- Hayden Hopper, 17 Feb 1901 WI – 9 Feb 1938 Madison, Dane WI. His obituary in the "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI 9 Feb 1938 p 9 is copied above. He died at his parents' home (2302 Center Ave. Madison WI) after a long illness. Funeral was held at the Methodist Church in Coloma WI. Buried in White Cemetery, Coloma, Waushara WI. F: 136333647
- Clifford William Hopper, 5 Feb 1903 Coloma, Waushara WI – 5 Nov 1971 Waukesha Co. WI. His obituary in the "Waukesha (WI) Daily Freeman" Monday, 8 Nov 1971 p 3 copied above. Resident of W278-N2336 Edgewood Dr., Pewaukee WI. Died at the Waukesha County Home after a long illness. Retired stock clerk with the Engine Power Co. Inc., Milwaukee WI. Survived by a son & 2 daughters. - Husband of Thelma M. Roberts (1906-1957, F: 77994864) whom he married in 1926. Thelma was the daughter of James R. Roberts (1876-1950, F: 78002863) & Dora Beals (F: 78002831). Clifford, Thelma & her parents are buried in Newchester Cemetery, Grand Marsh, Adams WI. F: 77995908
- Margaret Vaughn Hopper Farmer, 23 Dec 1904 WI – 4 Jan 1992 Madison, Dane WI. Wife of William Philip Farmer (1894-1974), whom she married in Nov 1927. "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 4 Nov 1927 p 15 – approaching marriage of Miss Margaret V. Hopper, Madison WI, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Hopper of Coloma, to William P. Farmer, Madison WI. Wedding description appears in "Wisconsin State Journal" 10 Nov 1927 p 15. The couple married at the Catholic Church parsonage in Blanchardville WI. Her obituary in the "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Tuesday, 7 Jan 1992 p 11 copied above. Died in a Madison WI hospital. Lifelong Madison WI resident. Survived by son Philip. Buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Madison, Dane WI. F: 86426488

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

The day the Tuscania sank – 5 Feb 1918 – was his brother Clifford Hopper's 15th birthday.

"Green Bay (WI) Press-Gazette" 11 Feb 1918 p 2 – among the Tuscania survivors, J.C. Hopper of Coloma.

"Stevens Point (WI) Journal" 5 Mar 1918 p 1 - in a letter (which soldiers were urged to write before sailing), Joseph E. Parkin asks that his mother let Creal Hopper's parents know that they arrived safely & enjoyed the trip over!

Post-war:

His parents Charles & Leta celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Coloma, Waushara WI on 8 Mar 1941 at their home in Coloma. They were joined by their 5 children & 8 grandchildren for a family dinner at noon & an open house from 2 to 5 p.m., followed by an evening reception & program at the I.O.O.F. Hall. The couple married at Coloma & lived there for all of their 50 years of marriage. Their children are Ira Hopper, Mrs. Max [Mildred] Quinn, Clifford Hopper (Madison WI), Mrs. William Farmer [Margaret (Madison WI) & Creal Hopper (Beloit WI). Their son Hayden died in 1938.

Elected president of the National Tuscania Survivors Association in Feb 1942. The annual convention was held in Beloit WI (John's home) in Feb 1943.

Obituary:

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 22 Oct 1962 p 19 - J. Creal Hopper, age 66, of Wild Rose WI. Salesman for the Central Petroleum Oil Co. Died Saturday, 20 Oct 1962 in a Madison WI hospital after a brief illness. Born in Coloma WI in 1896. Lived in Beloit many years. Moved to Wild Rose in 1955. WWI Army veteran, Tuscania survivor, which sank off coast of Wales in 1917 (wrong place & date). Survived by wife Kathryn, daughter Mrs. Dorothy Keyes (Rockford IL), 2 sons: Edwin (Beloit WI) & Duane (Fremont WI), 2 sisters: Mrs. Mildred Quinn (3102 Lindberg St., Madison WI) & Mrs. William Farmer (5114 Marathon Dr., Madison WI), 2 brothers: Ira & Clifford (both of Milwaukee WI). Funeral 25 Oct 1962, with burial in East Lawn Cemetery (Beloit WI).

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1900 Coloma, Waushara WI

C. William Hopper, 31 WI, Jul 1868, father b. IL, mother b. NY, married 9 years, farmer
Seta [indexed as, but likely Leta], 29 WI, Jul 1870, father b. NY, mother b. OH, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

Ira, 8 WI, May 1892, at school

Mildred, 6 WI, Aug 1893, at school

Creal, 4 WI, Feb 1896

& Charles William's brother: George W. Hopper, 19 Wi, Oct 1881, farm laborer

1905 WI state census – Coloma, Waushara WI – as of 1 Jun 1905

Charles W. Hopper, 36 WI, father b. PA, mother b. NY, farmer

Leta, 34 WI, father b. NY, mother b. OH, house work

Ira M., 13 WI

Mildred E., 11 WI

John C., 9 WI

Hauden T., 4 WI

Clifford W., 2 WI

Margaret V., 6 months WI

1910 Coloma, Waushara WI

Charles Hopper, 40 WI, father b. NY, mother b. OH, in 1st marriage, married 19 years, farmer, general farm

Leta, 38 WI, parents b. WI, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 6 children, 6 are living

Ira M., 18 WI, farm laborer, home farm

Mildred E., 16 WI

John C., 14 WI

Hayden T., 9 WI

Clifford W., 7 WI

Marguerite V., 5 WI

1920 Coloma, Waushara WI

Charles W. [indexed as N.] Hopper, 51 Wi, father b. IL, mother b. NY, farmer, general farming

Leta, 49 WI, father b. NY, mother b. OH

John C., 23 WI, mechanic, garage

Hayden T., 18 Wi, farm hand, at home

Clifford V., 16 WI

Margaret V., 15 Wi

1930 Beloit, Rock WI – Indexed as HAPPER

J. Creal Hopper, 34 WI, parents b. WI, age 24 at 1st marriage, machine operator, gas engine shop, WWI veteran

Kathryn, 37 WI, father b. WI, mother b. NY, age 27 at 1st marriage

Edwin, 9 WI

Duane, 6 WI

Dorothy, 4 WI

1940 Beloit, Rock WI – same place in 1935

J. Ceral [sic] Hopper, 43 WI, lathe machinist, aerial engine factory

Kathryn, 46 WI

Edwin, 19 WI

Duana [sic/Duane], 16 WI

Dorthory [sic/Dorothy], 14 WI