

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)

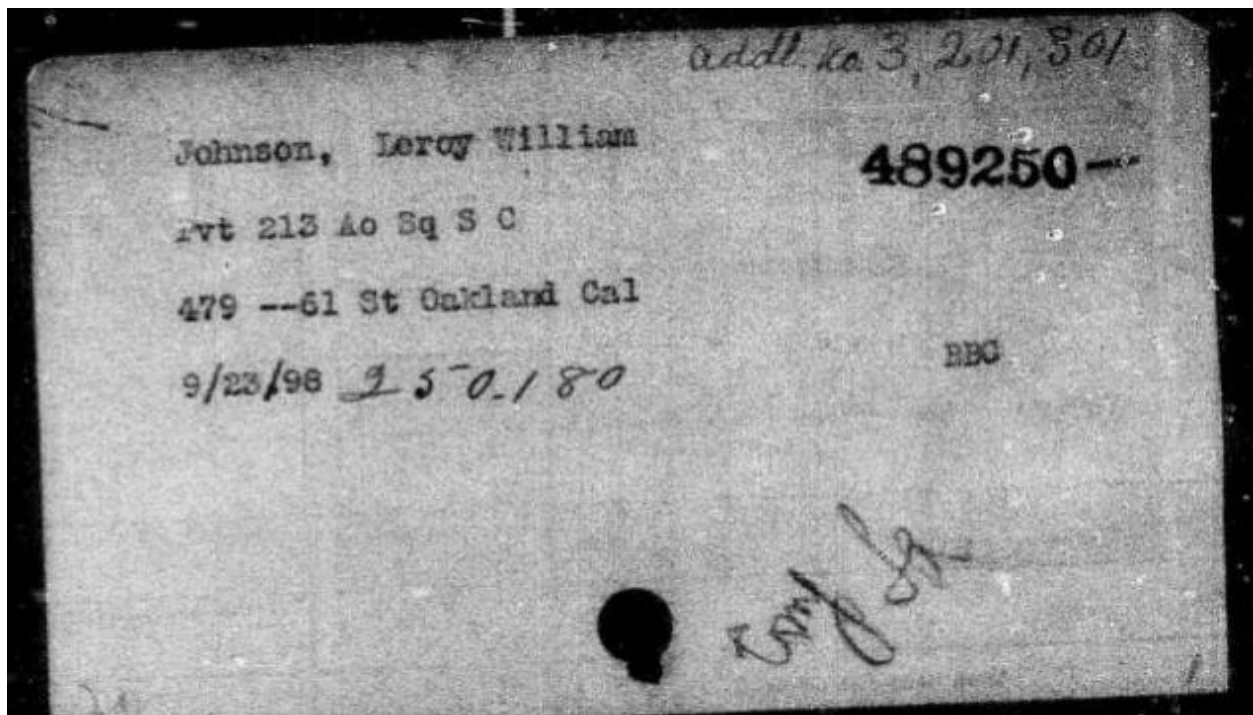
NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Johnson, Leroy William
Ca. 1900 MN -



Leroy William Johnson – “San Francisco Chronicle” 10 Feb 1918 p2



Veterans Administration Master Index [but not the usual card] -
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1R-D3NC-L?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPY5-XCV1>

Interment, Evergreen Cemetery.
JOHNSON—In Oakland, December 26, 1935, Frank A. Johnson, loving husband of Nellie Johnson, loving father of Earl F. Johnson and Grant Johnson; a native of Sweden, aged 71 years.
 Private funeral Monday, December 30, 1935. (Truman Service).

Obituary of father Frank A. Johnson – does not mention sons Edward or Leroy – “Oakland (CA) Tribune” Sunday 29 Dec 1935 p 18

Leroy W. Johnson and his brother, Edward B. Johnson, 479 Sixty-first avenue, have been accepted by the aeronautical branch of the army. Leroy was accepted last Saturday, and after one day's weighing of the problems pro and con, Edward joined yesterday. Both are expert machinists.

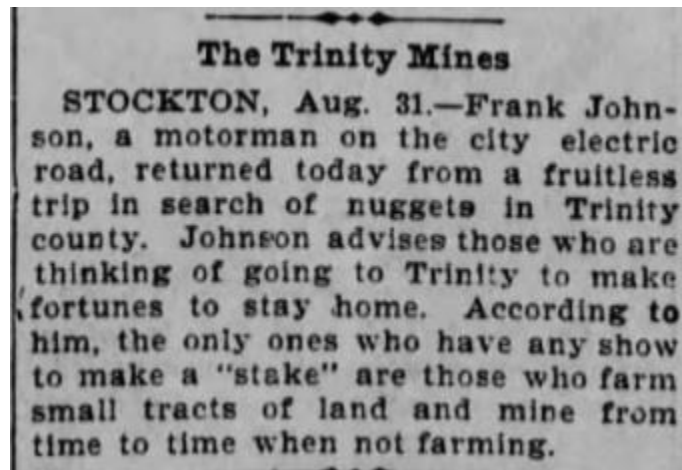
“Oakland (CA) Tribune” 27 Mar 1917 p 11

[https://www.newspapers.com/image/81035935/?terms=%22leroy%20w%20johnson%22&match=](https://www.newspapers.com/image/81035935/?terms=%22leroy%20w%20johnson%22&match=1)

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The Oakland boys named are Leroy W. Johnson, James O. Blackford, Charles H. Ostrander, Stephen W. Ryan, Edgar F. Brownell, Bruce D. Bowring.
 Johnson lived at 479 Sixty-first street, and is the son of Frank A. Johnson, a motorman employed by the San Francisco-Oakland Terminal Railways Company, on the Ashby avenue line. Young Johnson left for France via the eastern training camps, last November.

“Oakland (CA) Tribune” 9 Feb 1918 p 1 “Local Men Numbered With Those Rescued”



<https://www.newspapers.com/image/80592771/?terms=%22frank%20johnson%22&match=1>

Name: Leroy William Johnson

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 213th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 250,180

Entered service from: Oakland, Alameda CA

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Leroy W. Johnson

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": mother Mrs. Nellie Johnson, 479 - 61st, Oakland CA

Returned from war on: "Pocahontas" Jul 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Leroy W. Johnson

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: Mrs. Nellie J. Johnson - 479 - 61st St., Oakland CA (PFC, 5th Photographic Section)

World War I draft registration (1917):

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939 roster):

World War II draft registration (1942):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted

Discharged

Address:

Rank/unit:

Birth & death:

Born: MN. According to his Veterans Administration Master Index card – which is not the usual card – Leroy William Johnson was born 23 Sep 1898. However, a Leroy William Johnson with the same birthdate lives in Milwaukee WI. That man's military serial number is 1547330. - - possibly 13 Mar 1900 Pipestone Co. MN (son of Johnson & Trotgig) or 17 May 1900 St. Paul, Ramsey MN

The 1910 census lists "Roy" Johnson as age 10, b. MN.

Is he the Leroy W. Johnson, born 1900, died 1966, buried in Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside, Riverside CA, F: 96702835

Died:

Find A Grave record: perhaps 46702835?

Burial location:

Cemetery:
Tombstone:

Father: Frank A. Johnson, b. 1864 Sweden. Appears to have died 26 Dec 1936 Napa Co. CA.

Find A Grave:

Claimed he was age 25 at 1st marriage in 1930 when he was 65 years old, making his 1st marriage occur around 1880 – and Nellie was not yet alive or a newborn.

Did Frank A. Johnson, age 24, 6067 Linden St., married Amanda Johnson, age 27, resident of St. Paul MN in First Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Ramsey MN on 18 Oct 1888?

Mother (or is this stepmother?): Nellie J. (Jane?) Frye Roses Johnson, b. ca. 1881 WI - Not alive or a newborn when husband Frank married the 1st time. She might be the Nellie Jane Johnson, SSN 571-72-6831, born 5 Sep 1880 WI, d. 21 Jan 1970 Alameda Co. CA. In the 1940 census, she resided at 5482 Taft Ave., Oakland, Alameda CA, age 59 WI, widow, same place in 1935, house work for a private family. She was interred 20 Feb 1970 in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Alameda CA. F: 166762345

Find A Grave:

Frank & Nellie's marriage: 1901, likely Oct, which matches the "9 years married" statement of Frank & Nellie in the 1910 census. "San Francisco (CA) Call" Tuesday 1 Oct 1901 p 11 – marriage license: Frank A. Johnson, 36, Oakland & Nellie Roses, 21, Berkeley.

Spouse:

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

Siblings: full brother or half-brother? Edward is older than Leroy; Edward claimed his mother was Nellie Frye.

- Edward Barnard Johnson, 18 Nov 1893 Green Bay, Brown WI – 1 Sep 1956 West Los Angeles, Los Angeles CA. In the 1940 census, Edward B. Johnson was in the Veterans Home of CA in Napa, Napa Co. CA. Age 41, b. WI, divorced. In 1935 had lived in Los Angeles, Los Angeles CA. – An Edward B. Johnson, age 43, b. WI, son of Frank A. Johnson (b. Sweden) & Nellie Frey (b. Holland) married on 14 Jun 1941 in Los Angeles Co. CA to Lorna [Closson] Deadman, age 35, b. KS, daughter of John Closson & Ellen Swofford. He worked for USG [U.S. government?] & she was a dressmaker. – According to his CA death record, his father's surname was Johnson & his mother's 1st name was Nellie. Chemist – roofing/printing. Wife: Lorna Johnson. WWI veteran. SSN unknown. Buried in the Veterans Cemetery on 6 Sep 1956. – Veteran tombstone: WI / PFC US Army / WWI. Buried in Los Angeles National Cemetery, Los Angeles, Los Angeles CA. F: 3721479

Siblings: likely half-brothers, by his father's marriage to Nellie

- Earl Francis Johnson, 5 Feb 1904 Oakland, Alameda CA – 7 Jun 1953 Alameda Co. CA. Married Agnes Veronica McDaniel (1907-2002) on 27 Dec 1925 in Alameda Co. CA. Earl, b. CA ca. 1902, son of Frank Johnson & Nellie Fry, resident of 466 – 61st, Oakland CA, Agnes a resident of 2006 E. 26th, Oakland CA. On 1942 WWII draft card, resident of 5160 Claremont Ave., Oakland CA, NOK Grant Johnson at 505 Alcatraz, Oakland CA. Self-employed at 3580

Redwood Rd., Oakland CA. - Interred 11 Jun 1953 in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Alameda CA. He is buried next to Bernie Mae Johnson, who died 5 Jul 1944 (F: 167334101). F: 167334102

- (Jesse) Grant Johnson, 22 Nov 1908 Oakland, Alameda CA – 15 Nov 1993 Orange Co. CA. SSN 565-09-9953. His CA death record lists his mother's maiden surname as Fry. WWII draft (1942): resident of 505 Alcatraz, Oakland CA; NOK wife Mrs. Gladys Johnson. Employed by Earl F. Johnson at Fairview Meat Market, Oakland CA.

Notes:

Older brother Edward B. Johnson was born in WI, ca. 1898. Leroy was born in MN, ca. 1900. Then his two "brothers" (half-brothers?) Earl Francis and Grant were born in CA.

Information on family derived from CA newspaper reports at the time of the Tuscania sinking in 1918.

Pre-war:

Family in CA by 1897 as "Los Angeles Herald" 1 Sep 1897 reports motorman Frank A. unsuccessfully tried gold mining in Trinity Co. CA & has returned

Wartime:

"Oakland (CA) Tribune" 27 Mar 1917 p 11 - Leroy W. & brother Edward B., of 479 - 61st Ave., Oakland CA, have enlisted in Army's aeronautical branch, Larry was accepted 24 Mar 1917 & Edward joined 26 Mar 1917, both are expert machinists

"Oakland (CA) Tribune" 9 Feb 1918 p 1 says father Frank A. is motorman for San Francisco-Oakland Terminal Railways Co. on Ashby Ave. line, left for training Nov 1917.

"Los Angeles Times" 11 Feb 1918 p 2 – among the survivors: Leroy W. Johnson, 479 – 61st St., Oakland CA

"San Francisco Chronicle" 10 Feb 1918 p 2 - photo

Post-war:

Not the Leroy Johnson who died 10 Dec 1972 CA or 28 Feb 1974

Obituary:

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1910 Oakland, Alameda CA – 479 – 61st St.

Frank A. Johnson, 46 Sweden, parents b. Sweden, in 1st marriage, married 9 years, emigrated 1884, naturalized, street car motorman

Nellie, 29 WI, parents b. WI, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 4 children, 4 are living
Edward, 12 WI

Roy, 10 MN

Earl, 6 CA

Grant, 1 CA

[Since Frank & Nellie have been married 9 years, is she the mother of Edward & Leroy? Edward's marriage license claims his mother is Nellie Frye.]

1920 Oakland, Alameda CA – 479 – 61st St.

Frank Johnson, 55 Sweden, parents b. Sweden, motorman, street cars

Nellie, 39 WI, father b. PA, mother b. WI

Earl, 15 CA

Grant, 11 CA

& boarder Carl Hansen, 33 Sweden, single, emigrated 1906, naturalized 1911

1930 Oakland, Alameda CA – 466 – 61st St. – parents & brothers/half-brothers

Frank A. Johnson, 65 Sweden, parents b. Sweden, age 25 at 1st marriage, emigrated 1880, naturalized 1890 [no occupation]

Nellie, 49 WI, father b. PA, mother b. WI

Earl, 26 CA, married, age 21 at 1st marriage, meat cutter, market [no wife is listed here]

Grant, 21 CA, single, meat cutter, market

1940 census Imperial Co. CA?