

**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](http://www.findagrave.org))

NOK = next-of-kin

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**TUSCANIA**

**Kirby, Edward James**  
**1891/1892 PA – 1944 PA**



Edward John Kirby – “Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette” 8 Feb 1918 p 1 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/85860046/?terms=kirby&match=1>



**EDWARD J. KIRBY.**

Announcement yesterday of the rescue of several local men from the transport Tuscania, brought relief to Pittsburgh relatives and friends of the soldiers on board the ill-fated ship when she was torpedoed off the Irish coast, Tuesday.

“Arrived safe.” This terse cablegram was received from Edward J. Kirby by his father, Alderman James J. Kirby. The cablegram was sent from Duncranna, Ireland. Kirby is a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Aero squadron. After his enlistment he was in camp at San Antonio, Tex.

Edward John Kirby – “Pittsburgh (PA) Press” Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 1 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/144802424/>



A Pittsburgh youth probably was a passenger on the ill-fated Cunard liner, Tuscania, which was sent to the bottom off the Irish coast, by a German torpedo.

Edward J. Kirby, aged 23, only son of Alderman J. J. Kirby, is thought by his father to have been on the liner.

Dispatches say that many members of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Aero squadron were being transported on the boat. Young Kirby enlisted with this company last November and was immediately ordered to report to San Antonio for training. From that camp he was sent to Lake Charles, La., and still later to Mineola, L. I.

Kirby was home on a furlough three weeks ago, and after returning to Mineola he sent word to his father that their squadron had been ordered abroad. The date of sailing was not given.

Several messages to the navy department and Congressman Morin have been sent by Alderman Kirby in hopes of learning the fate of his son. Up until late today, no answer to the communications have been received.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Thursday 7 Feb 1918 p 1

300M-7-61 HVS-20142 REV. 11/59 LOCAL REG. NO. 5668 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VITAL STATISTICS 072883-64

PRIMARY DIST. NO. 700 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. DEATH OCCURRED IN: a. County Allegheny b. City or borough Pittsburgh

2. DECEASED'S MAILING ADDRESS: a. Street address, R. D., or Box Number 348 West Penn Place b. Post Office, Zone, and State Pittsburgh 24 Pa

3. VETERAN Yes ☐ NO ☒ a. Which War..... b. Serial No.....

4. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) a. (First) Edward b. (Middle) J c. (Last) Kirby 5. DATE OF DEATH (Month) (Day) (Year) Aug 4 1964

6. WHERE DID DECEASED ACTUALLY LIVE? a. State Penna c. Did deceased live in a township? ☐ Yes, deceased lived in..... township. b. County Allegheny ☒ No, deceased lived within actual limits of Pittsburgh city or borough.

7. SEX Male 8. COLOR OR RACE white 9. MARRIED ☐ NEVER MARRIED ☐ 10. DATE OF BIRTH 1/28/1899 11. AGE (in years last birthday) 64+ If under 1 year Months Days Hours Min.

12. USUAL OCCUPATION (even if retired) retired 13. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. -- 14. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Penna 15. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA

16. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE Kathryn Geary Kirby dec'd 17. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Ellen Deenihan

18. DECEASED'S NAME James J Kirby 19. INFORMANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS Patricia Flaherty 311 Jacob Dr Pgh 35 pa daughter

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE (Items 20 through 23 must be completed by physician only)

20. CAUSE OF DEATH: Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b) & (c).

PART I. Death was caused by: Coronary Occlusion

IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a).....

Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause DUE TO (b).....

(a) stating the underlying cause last. DUE TO (c).....

PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS: contributing to death but not related to the immediate cause given in Part I (a).....

21. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? Yes ☐ No ☒

22. a. ACCIDENT Yes ☐ No ☐ 22. b. DESCRIBE HOW ACCIDENT OCCURRED..... 22. c. TIME OF ACCIDENT Hour Month Day Year m E.S.T.

22. d. ACCIDENT OCCURRED While at work ☐ Not while at work ☐ 22. e. PLACE OF ACCIDENT (e.g., home, farm, street, etc.)..... 22. f. CITY, BOROUGH, TOWNSHIP COUNTY STATE

23. I hereby certify that I attended the above named deceased and that death occurred from the causes and on the date stated above at 3:30 P. M., E.S.T.

a. Signature R. K. Quinn M.D. b. Address 407 Liberty Ave c. Date signed 8-5-64

24. a. BURIAL ☒ CREMATION ☐ REMOVAL ☐ 24. b. DATE 8/8/1964 24. c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Calvary Cemetery 24. d. LOCATION (City, Boro., Twp., & County) (State) Pittsburgh Pa

25. DATE REC'D BY REG. 8-5-64 26. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Geo. J. Quinn 27. SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR McCabe Bros Inc 3300 Penn Av Pgh 24 pa

SUPVSR

Death certificate of Edward James Kirby

| HVS-20143 REV. 11/59                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                           | COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA<br>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH<br>VITAL STATISTICS                                                                                       |                                                                                                          | 072883-64                                                                  |                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LOCAL REG. NO. <u>5668</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                           | PRIMARY DIST. NO. <u>700</u>                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                          | CERTIFICATE OF DEATH                                                       |                                                                                                   |
| 1. DEATH OCCURRED IN:<br>a. County <u>Allegheny</u><br>b. City or borough <u>Pittsburgh</u><br>c. If death did not occur in City or borough, give name of township (Do not use R. D. or Box Number)<br>d. Full Name of Hospital or Institution (if not in hospital, give street address) <u>348 West Penn Place</u>        |                                                           | 2. DECEASED'S MAILING ADDRESS<br>a. Street address, R. D., or Box Number <u>348 West Penn Place</u><br>b. Post Office, Zone, and State <u>Pittsburgh 24 Pa</u> |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 4. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print)<br>a. (First) <u>Edward</u><br>b. (Middle) <u>J</u><br>c. (Last) <u>Kirby</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                           | 5. DATE OF DEATH <u>Aug 4 1964</u><br>(Month) (Day) (Year)                                                                                                     |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 6. WHERE DID DECEASED ACTUALLY LIVE?<br>a. State <u>Penna</u><br>b. County <u>Allegheny</u><br>c. Did deceased live in a township?<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, deceased lived in _____ township.<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, deceased lived within actual limits of <u>Pittsburgh</u> city or borough. |                                                           | 3. VETERAN<br>a. Which War _____<br>b. Serial No. _____<br>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                 |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 7. SEX <u>Male</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 8. COLOR OR RACE <u>white</u>                             | 9. MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> NEVER MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED <input type="checkbox"/>       | 10. DATE OF BIRTH <u>1/28/1899</u>                                                                       | 11. AGE (in years last birthday) <u>64+</u>                                | If under 1 year If under 24 hours<br>Months Days Hours Min.                                       |
| 12. USUAL OCCUPATION (even if retired) <u>retired</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                           | 13. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. <u>--</u>                                                                                                                              | 14. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) <u>Penna</u>                                                   | 15. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? <u>USA</u>                                    |                                                                                                   |
| 16. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE <u>Kathryn Geary Kirby dec'd</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                           | 17. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME <u>Ellen Deenihan</u>                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 18. FATHER'S NAME <u>James J Kirby</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                           | 19. INFORMANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS <u>Patricia Fisherty 311 Jacob Dr Pgh 35 pa</u><br>daughter                                                                   |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| MEDICAL CERTIFICATE (Items 20 through 23 must be completed by physician only)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            | INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH                                                                  |
| 20. CAUSE OF DEATH: Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b) & (c).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| PART I. Death was caused by:<br>IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) <u>Coronary Occlusion</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause (a) stating the underlying cause last.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| DUE TO (b) _____                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| DUE TO (c) _____                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS: contributing to death but not related to the immediate cause given in Part I (a)                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            | 21. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED?<br>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. a. ACCIDENT<br>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 22. b. DESCRIBE HOW ACCIDENT OCCURRED                     |                                                                                                                                                                | 22. c. TIME OF ACCIDENT<br>Hour _____ m _____<br>Day _____ Year _____<br>E.S.T.                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 22. d. ACCIDENT OCCURRED<br>While at work <input type="checkbox"/> Not while at work <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 22. e. PLACE OF ACCIDENT (e.g., home, farm, street, etc.) | 22. f. CITY, BOROUGH, TOWNSHIP COUNTY STATE                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| 23. I hereby certify that I attended the above named deceased and that death occurred from the causes and on the date stated above at <u>3:23 P</u> m., E.S.T.                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |
| a. Signature <u>R. K. Quinn M.D.</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                           | b. Address <u>4107 Liberty Ave</u>                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                          | c. Date signed <u>8-5-64</u>                                               |                                                                                                   |
| 24. a. BURIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CREMATION <input type="checkbox"/> REMOVAL <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 24. b. DATE <u>8/8/1964</u>                               | 24. c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY <u>Calvary Cemetery</u>                                                                                                   |                                                                                                          | 24. d. LOCATION (City, Boro., Twp., & County) (State) <u>Pittsburgh Pa</u> |                                                                                                   |
| 25. DATE REC'D BY REG. <u>8-5-64</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 26. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE <u>G. E. Greenwood</u>          |                                                                                                                                                                | 27. SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR<br><u>McCabe Bros Inc 5300 Penn Av Pgh 24 pa</u><br>SUDVER |                                                                            |                                                                                                   |



Find A Grave 113104783 – the names are grouped in vertical columns but horizontally left to right  
 top row: “husband” James T. Kirby - son of Kathryn Geary Kirby (labeled mother) – his brother-in-law James John Flaherty (married to James’s sister Helen). Second row, left to right: James’s wife Jane W. - Edward James Kirby (of the Tuscania, labeled father) & sister Helen Kirby Flaherty (wife of James John Flaherty)

# **KIRBY**

Suddenly Tuesday afternoon, Edward J. Kirby, husband of the late Kathryn Geary Kirby, of 348 West Penn Place; father of Patricia Flaherty and James T. Kirby; uncle of Margaret Crowley; also three grandchildren. Friends received at **McCABE BROS. INC. FUNERAL HOME**, 5300 Penn Ave. Funeral Saturday, August 8, 1964 at 8:30 a. m. Solemn Funeral mass in St. Lawrence's Church at 9:30 a. m.

# **Edward J. Kirby**

Mass will be sung for Edward J. Kirby, a retired police lieutenant, at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, East End, Saturday at 9:30 a. m.

Mr. Kirby, 64, died Tuesday at his home, 348 West Penn Pl.

He had served for 24 years on the police force.

His survivors include a daughter, Patricia Flaherty, and a son, James T., both of Pittsburgh, and three grandchildren.

Mr. Kirby was a member of the American Legion, Police Post No. 710, and the Fraternal Order of Police.

Friends are being received at McCabe Brothers Funeral Home, 5300 Penn Ave., East End.

Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

Obituaries of Edward James Kirby – left: "Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Friday 7 Aug 1964 p 24 – right: "Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Thursday 6 Aug 1964 p 52

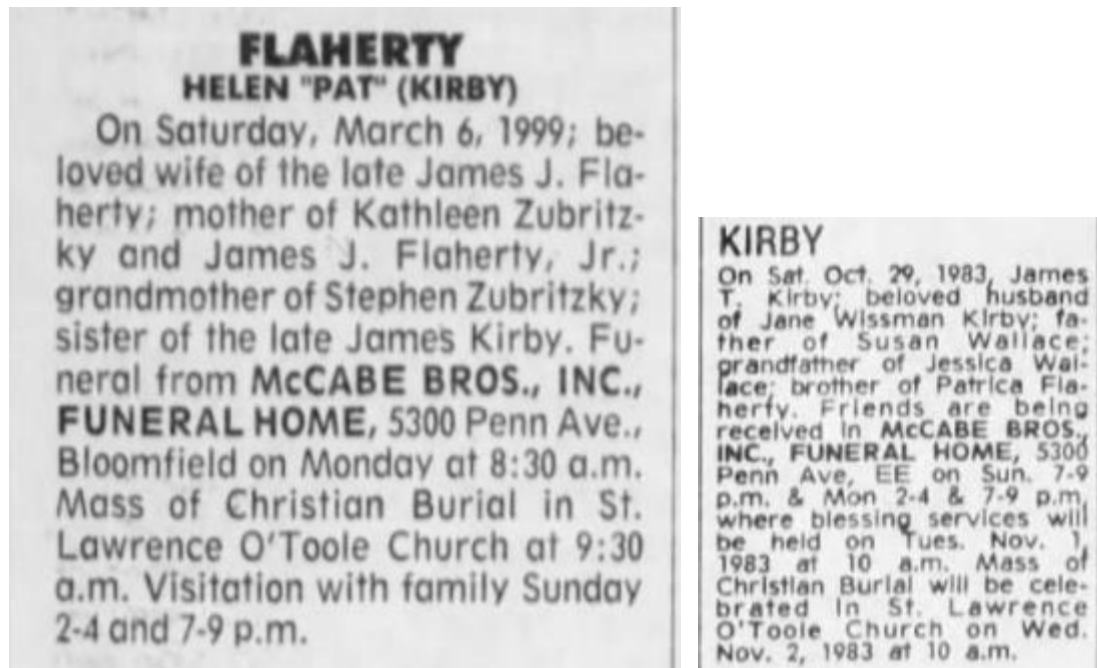
**Mrs. Kathryn Kirby**  
 Solemn requiem high mass for Mrs. Kathryn Kirby, wife of former Pittsburgh Police Lt. Edward J. Kirby, will be sung tomorrow in St. Lawrence Church, East Liberty.  
 Mrs. Kirby of 348 West Penn Pl., East Liberty, died Wednesday in St. Francis Hospital.  
 Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, James T.; a daughter, Mrs. Patricia Flaherty; a brother, Thomas M. Geary, and two grandchildren.  
 Friends are being received in the McCabe Bros. Funeral Home, 5300 Penn Ave.

**FLAHERTY**  
 Suddenly Friday Dec. 30, 1966, James J. Flaherty; beloved husband of Patricia Kirby Flaherty; father of Kathleen and James Flaherty Jr., brother of Mary Margaret, Catherine and Herbert A. Flaherty; nephew of Margaret M. Flaherty. Friends received at McCABE BROS. INC. FUNERAL HOME, 5300 Penn Ave. Funeral Monday Jan. 2, 1967 time later.

Left: Obituary of wife Kathryn Geary Kirby – “Pittsburgh (PA) Sun-Telegraph” Friday 17 Aug 1956 p 9 – right: obituary of son-in-law James John Flaherty – “Pittsburgh (PA) Press” Saturday 31 Dec 1966 p 12

Ellen Kirby, South Evaline street, willed her \$8,000 estate to her son, Edward J. Kirby. It includes a house at 321 South Evaline street. Mrs. Kirby died December 31.

“Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette” Friday 29 Jan 1943 p 6



Left: Obituary of daughter Helen ("Patricia"/"Pat") Kirby Flaherty – "Pittsburgh (PA) Press-Gazette" Sunday 7 Mar 1999 p 24 – right: obituary of son James T. Kirby – "Pittsburgh (PA) Press-Gazette" Monday 31 Oct 1983 p 13

**KIRBY JANE (WISSMAN)**

85, died July 25 in Lancaster, following a prolonged illness. Born in Garfield, she spent most of her life in Penn Hills and moved to Lancaster in 2010. Mrs. Kirby graduated in 1945 from Peabody High School and worked for many years as a bookkeeper for the former Main & Co. of Pittsburgh. An avid follower of the Steelers and Pirates, she also enjoyed reading the newspaper and People magazine, conversing and "nebbing." Mrs. Kirby was known for her sharp sense of humor, hearty laugh and ability to love unconditionally without judging others. She was married to James Kirby, who died in 1983. Mrs. Kirby was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Helen Wissman; four brothers, Howard, Robert, William and Dale Wissman; and a sister, Ethel Horne. Surviving are her daughter, Susan, wife of Brian Wallace of Lancaster; five grandchildren, Jess, Jimmie, Anne, Colleen and Owen Wallace; and a twin sister, Jean, wife of Otto Kellman of Pittsburgh. Interment will be at a later date. AUER CREMATION SERVICES OF PA, INC.  
 Send condolences at [post-gazette.com/gb](http://post-gazette.com/gb)

Published in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Aug. 13, 2012.

Obituary of daughter-in-law Jane Wissman Kirby, wife of son James T. Kirby -  
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?n=jane-kirby-wissman&pid=159154036>

|                                |             |               |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| KIRBY EDWARD JAMES             |             | 8-20-64       |
| Pvt Hdq Co 158 Aero Sqdn 17 Bn | 153 DB      | X/C 1 364 435 |
| 321 S Evaline St. Pgh. Pa-     |             | K             |
| Sn 249 995                     | Died 8/4/64 | A 3 860 021   |
| Born 11/26/92 Pgh              |             | T 2 511 582   |
| Ent 11/15/17                   | Dis 4/8/19  | R             |
|                                |             | Ct 3 032 263  |
|                                |             | I             |

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

INDEX CARD

GPO 2-12989

The Pittsburgh Press - Aug 29, 1931

**KIRBY**—On Friday Aug 28, 1931, at 7 15 a m., James J. Kirby, beloved husband of Ellen Kirby (nee Denham) and father of Mrs. Mary Crowley and Edward J. Kirby. Funeral from the family home 321 South Evaline St., on Monday morning, Aug. 31, at 8 30 a m. Solemn requiem high mass at St. Lawrence's Church at 9 a. m. Friends and.

Obituary of father James J. Kirby – Find A Grave 54974193 and “Pittsburgh (PA) Press” Saturday 29 Aug 1931 p 21

## VETERAN POLITICAL LEADER HERE DIES

**J. J. Kirby Police Magistrate  
16 Years and Alderman**

John J. Kirby, 65, veteran police magistrate and alderman, a leading figure in the city's political life two decades ago, died today at his home at 321 South Evaline Street. He was ill three weeks.

Mr. Kirby served as magistrate 16 years. He was appointed by Mayor Hayes. Mayors Guthrie and Magee re-appointed him.

For 26 years Mr. Kirby was an alderman, serving first in the old Ninth Ward and later in the Second Ward. He was one of the first ward chairmen in the city, holding that designation in the old Ninth.

His widow, Helen; a son, Lieutenant Edward J. Kirby of the motorcycle division, and a daughter, Mrs. Frank M. Crowley, wife of Homicide Detective Crowley, survive.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Friday 28 Aug 1931 p 1

# **JAMES J. KIRBY BURIAL MONDAY**

## **Former Magistrate And Alderman Dies in Home.**

Funeral services for James J. Kirby, 65, veteran police magistrate and alderman, will be held Monday morning in St. Lawrence's Church, Atlantic and Penn avenues. Burial will be in St. Mary's cemetery. Mr. Kirby died early yesterday morning in his home, 321 South Evaline street after an illness of three weeks. He served as magistrate for 16 years. He was appointed by Mayor Hayes and Mayors Guthrie and Magee re-appointed him. He had been an alderman, serving first in the old Ninth ward and later in the Second ward. He was one of the first ward chairmen in the city, holding that office in the old Ninth ward.

He leaves his widow, Mrs. Helen Kirby; a son, Lieutenant Edward J. Kirby, of the police motorcycle division, and a daughter, Mrs. Frank M. Crowley, wife of Homicide Detective Crowley.

Obituary of father James J. Kirby – "Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette" Saturday 29 Aug 1931 p 13

## Alderman Kirby Arrested On Chauffeur's Complaint

Alderman J. J. Kirby was arrested yesterday charged with aggravated assault and battery by James R. Moore of 8839 Marchand street, a chauffeur. The alderman was released on his own recognizance for a hearing before Alderman Samuel McKinley next Monday night.

Alderman Kirby and Moore are said to have engaged in a fist fight following a collision between their automobiles after the baseball game last Thursday. Moore declares he was assaulted by Kirby, who, he said, struck the first blow.

His father's "road rage" – 1918 style – "Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette" Wednesday 1 May 1918 p 2

## LIEUTENANT, JUDGE HAVE VERBAL FIGHT

**Turets Orders Kirby fro mCourt at  
Morals Hearing**

Magistrate David Turets and Police Lieutenant Edward J. Kirby, of Oakland Station, had a bitter verbal fight in Morals Court today after the magistrate dismissed two youths and held one for court in a morality case involving a 15-year-old girl.

The magistrate ordered the lieutenant from the court room when he took exception to the release of the two boys and threatened to re-arrest them. He also called Superintendent of Police Jacob Dorsey and demanded Lieutenant Kirby be placed "on the carpet." Later, however, the magistrate and the lieutenant got together, patched up their difference and shook hands.

The youth held for court is George Kotcha, 21, of 713 Naylor Et. The two released are Michael Elash, 20, of 603 Forward Ave., and Steve Calso, 22, of 702 Naylor St.

Edward's "court rage" - "Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Friday 9 Aug 1935 p 2

## LIEUTENANT COLLAPSES

Edward J. Kirby, veteran police lieutenant, in charge of police in the downtown area, collapsed at his post at Fifth Avenue and Smithfield late yesterday. Lt. Kirby had been at his post day and night during the flood. He was taken to the Mercy Hospital.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Tuesday 24 Mar 1936 p 3

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
County of Allegheny  
Township of ...  
or Borough of ...  
City of Pgh.  
Registration District No. 610  
Primary Registration District No. ...  
File No. 75900  
Registered No. 7039  
[If death occurred in a Hospital or Institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.]

2. FULL NAME James J. Kirby

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

3. SEX Male  
4. COLOR OR RACE White  
5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Married  
(Write the word)

6. DATE OF BIRTH July 3 1866  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

7. AGE 65 1 25  
If LESS than 1 day how many ... hrs. or ... min.

8. OCCUPATION  
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Retiree  
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) Allderman 2nd Ward.

9. BIRTHPLACE (State or Country) Johnstown Pa

**PARENTS**

10. NAME OF FATHER Edward Kirby

11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or Country) Ireland.

12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Anna

13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or Country) Ireland

14. THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.  
(Informant) Edward J. Kirby  
(Address) 371 So. Lorain St

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

15. DATE OF DEATH Aug 28 1931  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

16. I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased from 7-16 31 8-28 31  
that I last saw him alive on 8-28 1931  
and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 7 20 M.  
The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:  
Cardiac renal-vascular disease  
129  
(Duration) 1 yrs. 6 mos. ... ds.

Contributory (Secondary) (Duration) ... yrs. ... mos. ... ds.

(Signed) Edith M. Work M. D.  
8-28 1931 (Address) 1108 East St

\*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH: or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS OF INJURY; and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL.

18. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents).  
At place of death ... yrs. ... mos. ... ds. In the State ... yrs. ... mos. ... ds.  
Where was disease contracted, If not at place of death?  
Former or usual residence ...

19. PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL St Marys Cemetery DATE OF BURIAL Aug 31 1931

20. UNDERTAKER John J. Baker ADDRESS 2618 New Ave.

Filed AUG 31 1931 Vincent St. Caranagh Local Registrar

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK-THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD  
N. B.-Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

PA death certificate of his father James J. Kirby -

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342\\_647661\\_0629-03280?pld=4274527](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342_647661_0629-03280?pld=4274527)

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

File No. **106633**  
Registered No. **9186**

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

HVS-5P-650M-2-40  
Primary Dist. No. **2**

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
WRITE PLAINLY WITH INK  
DO NOT SIGN IN PLAIN  
N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact Statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

**1. PLACE OF DEATH:**  
(a) County ALLEGHENY  
(b) City or borough or township PITTSBURGH  
(c) Name of hospital or institution: 321 SO. EVALINE ST - PGH PA  
(If not in hospital or institution write street number or location)  
(d) Length of stay: In hospital or institution —  
(Specify whether In this community — years, months or days)

**2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:**  
(a) State PENNA (b) County ALLEGHENY  
(c) City or town: PITTSBURGH  
(If outside city or town limits, write RURAL)  
(d) Street No. 321 SO. EVALINE ST  
(If rural give location)  
(e) If foreign born, how long in U. S. A.? — Years.

**3. (a) FULL NAME** Ellen Deenihan Kirby  
3. (b) If U. S. Veteran, complete reverse side of certificate 3. (c) Social Security No. —

**4. Sex** FEMALE **5. Color or race** WHITE **6. (a) Single, widowed, married, divorced** WIDOW  
**6. (b) Name of husband or wife** JAMES J. KIRBY **(c) Age of husband or wife** — years if alive

**7. Birth date of deceased** FEB 21 1866  
(Month) (Day) (Year)  
**8. AGE:** Years 76 Months 10 Days 10 If less than one day — hr. — min.

**9. Birthplace** IRELAND  
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)  
**10. Usual occupation** RETIRED HOUSEWIFE  
**11. Industry or business** —

**12. Name** MARTIN DEENIHAN  
**13. Birthplace** IRELAND  
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)  
**14. Maiden name** MARY FITZGERALD  
**15. Birthplace** IRELAND  
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

**16. (a) Informant's own signature** Ellen Kirby (SON)  
**(b) Address** 321 SO EVALINE ST PGH PA  
**17. (a) BURIAL** — **(b) Date thereof** 1/4/43  
(Burial, cremation, or removal) (Month) (Day) (Year)  
**(c) Place: burial or cremation** ST MARY'S CEM.

**18. (a) Signature of funeral director** John J. McKeever  
**(b) Address** 5300 PENN AV PGH PA  
**19. (a) 1/2/43** **(b) John E. Boulton**  
(Date received local registrar) (Registrar's signature)

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATION**  
**20. Date of death:** Month Dec. day 31 year 1942 hour 8 minute 25 PM.  
**21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from** May, 1942 to Dec 31, 1942 that I last saw her alive on Dec 31, 1942 and that death occurred on the date and hour stated above.  
**Immediate cause of death** Coronary failure **DURATION** 24 hrs.  
Arteriosclerotic heart disease. 1 yr.  
**Due to** Generalized arteriosclerosis 5 yrs.  
**Due to** 93d  
97  
**Other conditions** —  
(Include pregnancy within 3 months of death)  
**Major findings:**  
Of operations —  
Of autopsy —  
**PHYSICIAN** —  
Underline the cause to which death should be charged statistically.

**22. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following:**  
(a) (Probably) Accident, suicide, or homicide (specify) —  
(b) Date of occurrence —  
(c) Where did injury occur? —  
(City or town) (County) (State)  
(d) Did injury occur in or about home, on farm, in industrial place, in public place? —  
(Specify type of place)  
While at work? — (e) Means of injury —  
**23. Signature** Emmett J. McKeever **(b) M. D. or other** —  
**Address** Oakmont Pa **Date signed** 2-31-42

PA death certificate of his mother Ellen Deenihan Kirby -

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342\\_3421606190\\_0672-03234?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pId=455157551](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342_3421606190_0672-03234?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pId=455157551)

### The Pittsburgh Press - Jan 2, 1943

**KIRBY**—On Thursday evening, Ellen Deenihan Kirby, widow of James J. Kirby, mother of Mrs. Mary Crowley and Lieut. Edward J. Kirby. Funeral from the family home, 321 S. Evaline St., Monday, January 4, 1943, at 9.30 a. m. Solemn requiem high mass at St. Lawrence Church 10 a. m. Friends invited.

Obituary of mother Ellen Deenihan Kirby – Find A Grave 15731709 and “Pittsburgh (PA) Press” Sunday 2 Jan 1943 p 17

## **\$65,000 Will Filed**

James J. Kirby, 321 South Evaline Street, disposed of his estate worth \$65,000 in his will filed for probate yesterday in the Register of Wills office. His widow, Ellen Kirby, is to receive the interest on the principal during her lifetime. At her death the estate is to be distributed between his two children, Edward J. Kirby and Mary Crowley.

Will of father James J. Kirby – "Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Thursday 10 Sep 1931 p 26

## **Mary Kirby Crowley**

Solemn requiem high mass will be sung for Mary Kirby Crowley on Monday at 9 a. m. in St. John the Baptist Church, at 36th and Liberty Ave.

Mrs. Crowley, mother of City Detective Edward Crowley, died at her home, 237 38th St., Lawrenceville, on Thursday evening. She would have been 64 years old on September 17.

Besides her son, she is survived by her husband, Frank Crowley, a retired precinct detective, and a brother, Edward Kirby, a retired police lieutenant.

Friends are being received at the McCabe Funeral Home.

Obituary of his sister Mary Kirby Crowley – "Pittsburgh (PA) Press" Saturday 25 Aug 1951 p

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/143008250/?terms=%22mary%20crowley%22%20kirby&match=1>

8-9  
1957

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD  
N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms.

BVS 20020-800M-5-49 10 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
74170  
File No. 640  
Registered No. 4768

### CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. PLACE OF DEATH<br>a. COUNTY <b>Allegheny</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                        | 2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived, if institution: residence before admission).<br>a. STATE <b>Penna</b> b. COUNTY <b>Allegheny</b> |                                                                                     |
| b. CITY (If outside corporate limits, write RURAL and give township) OR BOROUGH <b>Pittsburgh</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                        | c. CITY (If outside corporate limits, write RURAL and give township) OR BOROUGH <b>Pittsburgh</b>                                          |                                                                                     |
| d. FULL NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION <b>237 - 38th St</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                        | d. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) <b>237 - 38th St</b>                                                                           |                                                                                     |
| 3. NAME OF DECEASED<br>a. (First) <b>Mary</b> b. (Middle) <b>Crowley</b> c. (Last) <b>Crowley</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                        | 4. DATE OF DEATH (Month) (Day) (Year)<br><b>8-23-51</b>                                                                                    |                                                                                     |
| 5. SEX <b>Female</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 6. COLOR OR RACE <b>white</b>                                                                          | 7. MARRIED, NEVER MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED, <b>married</b>                                                                               | 8. DATE OF BIRTH (Month) (Day) (Year)<br><b>9/17/1886</b>                           |
| 10a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired)<br><b>housewife</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                        | 10b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY<br><b>own home</b>                                                                                       | 9. AGE (In years last birthday) <b>62-11-6</b>                                      |
| 11. BIRTHPLACE (Also give State or foreign country)<br><b>Penna</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                        | 12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY?<br><b>USA</b>                                                                                                 |                                                                                     |
| 13. FATHER'S NAME<br><b>James Kirby</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                        | 14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME<br><b>Ellen Deenihan</b>                                                                                          |                                                                                     |
| 15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U. S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown)<br><b>No</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                        | 16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.<br><b>442X</b>                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
| 17. CAUSE OF DEATH<br>Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c)<br>*This does not mean the mode of dying, such as heart failure, asthma, etc. It means the disease, injury, or complication which caused death.<br>i. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH* (a) <b>Chronic Interstitial Nephritis</b><br><b>Cachexia Renal-Vascular</b><br>DUE TO (b) <b>Essential</b><br>DUE TO (c)<br>ii. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS<br>Conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing death. |                                                                                                        | INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH<br><b>2</b>                                                                                               |                                                                                     |
| 19a. DATE OF OPERATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 19b. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION                                                                       |                                                                                                                                            | 20. AUTOPSY?<br>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 21a. ACCIDENT SUICIDE HOMICIDE (Specify)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 21b. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.)               | 21c. (CITY, TOWN AND TOWNSHIP) (COUNTY) (STATE)                                                                                            |                                                                                     |
| 21d. TIME (Month) (Day) (Year) (Hour) OF INJURY<br><b>m. E.S.T.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 21e. INJURY OCCURRED While at Work <input type="checkbox"/> Not While at Work <input type="checkbox"/> | 21f. HOW DID INJURY OCCUR?                                                                                                                 |                                                                                     |
| 22. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from <b>Aug. 28, 1951</b> to <b>Aug. 23, 1951</b> , that I last saw the deceased alive on <b>Aug. 29, 1951</b> , and that death occurred at <b>8:25 p.m. E.S.T.</b> , from the causes and on the date stated above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |
| 23a. SIGNATURE<br><b>J. Klatman</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | M.D. or other                                                                                          | 23b. ADDRESS<br><b>3513 Penn Ave</b>                                                                                                       | 23c. DATE SIGNED<br><b>8/24/51</b>                                                  |
| 24a. BURIAL CREMATION REMOVAL (Specify)<br><b>burial</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 24b. DATE<br><b>8/27/51</b>                                                                            | 24c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY<br><b>St Mary's Cemetery</b>                                                                            | 24d. LOCATION (Town, township and county) (State)<br><b>Pittsburgh Pa</b>           |
| DATE REC'D BY LOCAL REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE<br><b>8-25-51 J. B. McCall</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                        | 25. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR<br><b>McCabe Bros Inc 5300 Penn Av Pgh Pa</b>                                                            |                                                                                     |

PA death certificate of his sister Mary Kirby Crowley -

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42410\\_2421406260\\_0708-02550?pId=6051337](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42410_2421406260_0708-02550?pId=6051337)

## FRANK CROWLEY

Frank Crowley, 76, a retired city detective, died yesterday at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Charles Neppach, of 305 North Winebiddle Avenue. A member of the police force for 26 years, he retired in 1936 after serving for 12 years in the homicide division. He worked in uniform Downtown and on the North-side. While a member of the homicide division he and his partner, the late Frank Morgan, were assigned to many gangland murder cases. Mr.

Crowley was a member of the Veterans Police Association. Besides Mrs. Neppach he leaves a son, City Detective Edward Crowley, and two other daughters, Miss Margaret Crowley and Mrs. Lorraine Hooley; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Friends will be received at the McCabe Funeral Home, 5300 Penn Avenue, where services will be held at 10 a. m. Friday. Burial will be in Union Dale Cemetery.

Obituary of his brother-in-law Frank Crowley, married to his sister Mary – "Pittsburgh (PA) Press-Gazette" Tuesday 18 Aug 1953 p 16

662 1½

662

APPLICATION No. 662 37 APPROVED

Kirby Edward J 249,995 White

(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number) (Race: White or colored)

Residence: 819 Wylie Ave Pittsburgh ALLEGHENY PENNSYLVANIA

(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

Enlisted in RA at Columbus Bks, Ohio Nov 15/17

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa 24 10/12 yrs

Organizations: 158 Aer Sq todisch

Grades: Corp May 3/18

Engagements:

Wounds or other injuries received in action: None.

‡ Served overseas: Jan 24/18 to Mch 24/19

§ Hon. disch. Apr 8/19 on demobilization

Was reported 0 per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.

Remarks:

Form No. 724-1½, A. G. O. \*Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of enlistment. † Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment. ‡ Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. § Give date.

Pennsylvania, U.S., World War I Veterans Service and Compensation Files, 1917-1919, 1934-1948 for Edward J Kirby

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60884/images/41744\\_3421606186\\_0994-00945?pid=1098189](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60884/images/41744_3421606186_0994-00945?pid=1098189)

KIRBY EDWARD JAMES

Pvt Hdq Co 158 Aero Sqdn 17 Bn

153 DB

321 S Evaline St. Pgh. Pa-

Sn 249 995 Died 8. 4 64

Born 11/26/92 Pgh

Enl 11/15/17 Dis 4/8/19

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

INDEX CARD

GPO 3-12960

8-20-64

X/C 1 864 435

K

A 3 860 021

T 2 511 582

R

Cl. 3 032 263

I

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1R-DZDF-5?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPY5-SK9V>

Form 1 214 REGISTRATION CARD No. 220

1 Name in full Edward James Kirby Age in yrs 24

2 Home address 819 Mylie Ave. Pittsburg Penn.

3 Date of birth Nov 26 1892

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Natural Born

5 Where were you born? Pittsburgh Penn. U.S.

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? Citizen

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Automobile Salesman

8 By whom employed? H. H. McNaalden

Where employed? Ponca City Okla.

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? None

10 Married or single (specify which)? Single Race (specify which)? Caucasian

11 What military service have you had? Rank None Branch None

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? None

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Ed. Kirby  
Signature of registrant

37-1-22. A REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Short Slender, medium, or stout (specify which)? Slender

2 Color of eyes? Gray Color of hair? Light Bald? No

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Ed. H. Stalwarts  
County Clerk & Rec. Co.  
by H. E. McNaalden

Presided by H. E. McNaalden

City or County Pittsburg

State Penn. 6-2-17  
(Date of registration)

WWI draft registration on 2 Jun 1917 while a resident of Ponca City, Kay OK -

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-91VW->

[PLP?i=5091&cc=1968530&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AK6KF-YKB](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-91VW-PLP?i=5091&cc=1968530&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AK6KF-YKB)

### **ALDERMAN KIRBY'S SON AND BEAVER SOLDIER SEND GLAD WORD HOME**

Edward Kirby, son of Alderman J. J. Kirby, is safe at Buncara, Ireland. Yesterday the alderman received the glad news via a cablegram from abroad which said simply that the young man was safe. Young Kirby's name was signed to the message.

Frank B. Thomson of Beaver received a cablegram from Loren Thompson, his son, saying "have crossed safely." The young man had sent the message as soon as he had found an opportunity. Both young Kirby and Thompson were on the Tuscania.

Richard J. Given, 808 Grant street, is among the survivors. His name came through via the War Department last night. He is a member of the aero squad and enlisted last summer. He finished his training at Minneola, L. I. He formerly lived in Homestead and Duquesne.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Press-Gazette" Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 1

## TUSCANIA SURVIVOR TELLS OF EXPERIENCE

Edward Kirby of Pittsburgh  
Describes Attack in Let-  
ter to Friend.

Edward Kirby, a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Aerial Service Squadron of the United States army and who is a son of Alderman James J. Kirby of this city, has written a letter of his arrival in England after passing through the experience of being on the transport Tuscania, when it was submarined, resulting in the loss of many of Uncle Sam's fighting men.

The letter, which was received yesterday by Police Magistrate Clerk Evan Thomas of Central station, was written from a camp somewhere in England where the rescued men of the Tuscania are recovering from their experience with the Boche submarine. The letter says in part:

"Well, old boy, we finally got over, and we certainly had one exciting and thrilling time getting here. We are all right now, and all of the boys who were saved from going to the bottom when that old torpedo banged us have gotten over the shock and exposure that followed in getting to land. All of them are now ready and anxious to take a good big fall out of the Huns when we get to France, and you can bet your last cent that not one of the men who was aboard the Tuscania will stop fighting until revenge is secured for our brave fellows who lost their lives that night.

"Our squadron was one of those on the Tuscania. Everything was going fine until we met with the submarine. Very few of the men saw it or the periscope, and did not know anything serious had happened until the explosion occurred and there was a heavy list to starboard and the stern began to rise into the air.

"Say, Evan, you have no doubt seen movies of boats being sunk at sea. Well, to my mind, it was about the same in the case of the Tuscania. Only in this instance it was a bit too realistic for me. I must say that the boys conducted themselves like regular fellows and real heroes. There was no excitement to speak of and every man's son of them who was not assisting in lowering the lifeboats went about his duties as though being submarined was an everyday business with him.

"There was no pushing or crowding to get off. Those who were not busy, lined up and stood at attention until they were assigned their places in the boats. It was simply wonderful the way the fellows acted during those dreadful minutes when it seemed as though a lot of us were going over for the last time and would never get a chance to even up with the Huns.

"Every man on the doomed ship assisted his partner, and I never saw so much comradeship and good feeling displayed since I have been in the service. That is the reason so many were saved. I suppose the sinking of the Tuscania caused some stir back in dear old Pittsburgh. Well, that is what you all needed back there—something to wake you up and let you know you are really at war with the Huns.

"EDWARD KIRBY."

"Pittsburgh (PA) Daily Post" 1 Mar 1918 p 6

# Sub Skipper's Version of Ship Disaster Disputed

**Editor's Note—**A survivor of the British transport *Tuscania*, torpedoed with a loss of 204 American troops by Capt. Wilhelm Meyer, commander of the German U-77, Friday took issue with several incidents in Captain Meyer's account of the disaster. The survivor is Police Lieut. Edward Kirby of Pittsburgh.

*By International News Service.*

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 6. — Police Lieut. Edward Kirby, conceding a general maritime knowledge to Capt. Wilhelm Meyer, retired commander of the German U-77 which sank the British transport *Tuscania* during the war, Friday questioned if the submarine skipper could tell the time of day.

Kirby was aboard the transport, the sinking of which was described for International News Service by Captain Meyer. The police officer was a member of the One Hundred Fifty-

eighth Aerial Pursuit which lost 24 members when the *Tuscania* foundered.

He grinned as he read Meyer's tale of fearing detection and pursuit by destroyers which were convoying 13 vessels into port. Asserting that there were no destroyers with the convoy for about 10 hours before the first torpedo hurtled into the *Tuscania*, Kirby gave this version of the disaster:

"Captain Meyer says it was dark and that he fired two torpedoes at 7:40 p. m.

"It was 5:45 p. m. when we were hit. We were just filing in for mess. It was still daylight and the Irish shore was in plain view.

"There were no destroyers to give chase. They had shoved off to their base 10 hours before the sub attacked.

"The *Tuscania* was the twelfth boat in the 13-ship convoy. That sure made it easy for the sub to hit something, since each boat was about 1,000 feet apart."

Edward disputes German submarine UB-77 Wilhelm Meyer's account of the torpedoing of the *Tuscania* – BUT he fails to realize that Meyer's statement that he shot the torpedoes at

7:40 p.m. used German naval time, which was 5:40 p.m. British/American time & is in agreement with the time of the torpedo strike. Edward was mistaken about the destroyers because 8 destroyers had JOINED the convoy as the "*Tuscania*" neared Ireland & did not leave until after the torpedoing, with destroyers "Grasshopper," "Mosquito" & "Pigeon" returning to rescue *Tuscania* survivors – "Fort Worth (TX) Star-Telegram" Saturday 7 Jan

# POLICE CHIEF DOUBTS PART OF SHIP STORY

---

Kirby Aboard **Tuscania**  
When German Sub  
Sank It

---

## NO DESTROYERS NEAR

---

Pittsburgh, Jan. 6.—Police Lieut. Edward Kirby, conceding a general maritime knowledge to Capt. Wilhelm Meyer, retired commander of the German U-77 which sank the British transport **Tuscania** during the war, today questioned if the submarine skipper could tell the time of day.

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"There were no destroyers to give chase. They had shoved off to their base 10 hours before the sub attacked us.

"The **Tuscania** was the twelfth boat in the 13-ship convoy. That sure made it easy for the sub to hit something since each boat was about 1,000 feet apart.

"The boat took three hours to sink."

Kirby said his outfit, one of the last to leave, was able to step from the deck of the **Tuscania** onto the British destroyer Pidgeon which had rushed to the scene. He added:

"The funny thing was, the **Tuscania** was the only camouflaged boat in the convoy."

## May—the Month of Queens



—Post-Gazette Photo

—Post-Gazette Photo

And no fairer queen there was than Miss Patsy Kirby, who received her crown last evening from the Reverend Joseph Leonissa, O. M. Cap., as the climax of May festivities at Ursuline Academy. The queen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Kirby, of South Evaline street, had two fellow seniors as her maid of honor, Miss Jeanne Clark and Miss Mary Somers. Father Leonissa has presided over the Ursuline coronation for more than 25 years.

Daughter Helen ("Patsy") Kirby – Queen of May – "Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette" Monday 12 May 1941 p 8



321 S. Evaline St., Pittsburgh PA, built 1898 - [https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/321-S-Evaline-St-Pittsburgh-PA-15224/11524316\\_zpid/](https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/321-S-Evaline-St-Pittsburgh-PA-15224/11524316_zpid/)

**Name: Edward James Kirby**

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 249,995

Entered service from: Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Edward J. Kirby

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father James J. Kirby, 819 Wylie Ave., Pittsburgh PA

Returned from war on: "Manchuria" Mar 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Edward J. Kirby

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father James J. Kirby, 819 Wylie Ave., Pittsburg [sic] PA (cpl, 158th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Edward James Kirby - b. 26 Nov 1892, Pittsburgh PA (age 24); res: 819 Wylie Ave., Pittsburgh PA. Single. Employed as an automobile salesman at W.H. McFaldren (spelling?:), Ponca City OK. Short & slender. Registered 2 Jun 1917 by county clerk, Kay Co. OK but listed at Pittsburgh PA. Found at:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K6KF-YKB>

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939 roster): 1115 Stanhope, Pittsburgh PA

World War II draft registration (1942): as Edward James Kirby - b. 28 Nov 1891 [the last digit is unclear], Pittsburgh PA (age 50); res: 321 S. Evaline St., Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. NOK Mrs. Kathryn Kirby, same address. Employed by City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, City County Bldg., Pittsburgh PA. "scar on right arm" Height: 5'8" – weight 200 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 15 Nov 1917

Discharged 8 Apr 1919

Address: 321 S. Evaline St., Pittsburgh PA

Rank/unit: private, HQ Co., 158<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 153<sup>rd</sup> Depot Brigade

PA, WWI service card:

Edward J. Kirby, serial 249995, resident of 819 Wylie Ave., Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. Enlisted in Army at Columbus Barracks OH on 15 Nov 1917 at age 24 years, 10 months. Born Pittsburgh PA. In 158<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron to discharge. Promoted to corporal 3 May 1918. Overseas 24 Jan 1918 to 24 Mar 1919. Discharged 8 Apr 1919. 0% disabled.

Birth & death:

Born: 26 Nov 1892 (WWI draft registration & Veterans Administration Military Index) or 28 Nov 1891 (WWII draft registration & 1900 census) or 1899 (tombstone) Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA [obituary in the "Pittsburgh Press" 6 Aug 1964 p. 52 says he died at age 64 years old)

Died: 4 Aug 1944 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA

Find A Grave record: 113104679, presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA

Cemetery: Calvary

Tombstone: joint tombstone with his wife Kathryn Geary Kirby, son James T. Kirby & his wife Jane, and daughter Helen ("Pat") & her husband, James John Flaherty

Father: James J. Kirby, 3 Jul 1866 Johnstown, Cambria PA – 28 Aug 1931 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. Buried St. Mary Catholic Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA.

Find A Grave: 54974193

Mother: Ellen (Helen/Ella) Deenihan Kirby, 21 Feb 1866 Ireland – 31 Dec 1942 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. Daughter of Martin Deenihan & Mary Fitzgerald, both born in Ireland. Died of cardiac failure at her home, 321 S. Evaline St., Pittsburgh PA. Buried in Saint Mary Catholic Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA.

Find A Grave: 157319709

Parents' marriage: 20 Dec 1890 Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co. PA – James J. Kirby, b. Johnstown PA, peddler, resident Pittsburgh PA & Ella Dinighan, b. Ireland, resident of Mansfield PA. [This is 2 years after the birth of their daughter Mary.]

Spouse: Kathryn Geary Kirby, 9 Jun 1899 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – 15 Aug 1956 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. Daughter of Thomas M. Geary & Ellen Driscoll. Buried in Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA.

Spouse Find A Grave: 113104351

Marriage:

Children:

- Helen Ann ("Patricia"/"Pat"/"Patsy") Kirby Flaherty, 11 Aug 1923 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – 6 Mar 1999 PA. Wife of James John Flaherty (1920-1966, F: 113104783). Buried in Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. F: 113104827
- James Thomas Kirby, 13 Oct 1928 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – 29 Oct 1982 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. SSN 175-22-2792. Husband of Jane Wissman (1927-2012, F: 113104275), the daughter of Howard Frederick Wissman (F:33407703) & Helen Voight Abraham (F: 33407694). Buried in Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. F: 113104236

Siblings:

- Mary Kirby Crowley, 17 Sep 1888 PA – 23 Aug 1951 Lawrenceville, Tioga PA. Wife of Frank M. Crowley (1877-1953, F: 216240183) whom she married 14 Feb 1906 in Jefferson Co. OH. Her husband Frank Crowley was a retired precinct detective & her brother Edward Kirby a retired police lieutenant at the time of her death. She died at her home at 237 – 28<sup>th</sup>, in Lawrenceville PA. Buried in Saint Mary Catholic Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA. F: 156902726

Notes:

Pre-war:

1915 Pittsburgh PA city directory:

Kirby

Edward J., clerk, 206 Sycamore

Jas. J., alderman, 505 Wylie Ave., Bell Grant 1914 P & A Main 1566, resident of 819 Wylie Ave.

Wartime:

"Pittsburgh Post-Gazette" 8 Feb 1918 p 1 - photo, son of Alderman J.J. Kirby of Pittsburgh PA

"Latrobe [PA] Bulletin" 9 Feb 1918 p 1 - he cabled his father Alderman Kirby of Pittsburg from Duncranna [Buncrana] Ireland that he was safe. Enlisted 15 Nov 1917, discharged 8 April 1919.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Daily Post" 11 Feb 1918 p 1 – reported safe: Edward J. Kirby, Pittsburgh

Post-war:

"Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette" Monday 29 May 1922 p 1, continued on p 5 – a speeding automobile driver, when told to halt & move to the curb by motorcycle police officer Edward J. Kirby, swerved his car & knocked the officer off his motorcycle. Kirby had been following the speeder on Bigelow Boulevard. When Kirby caught up with him, he had given him instructions to stop. A passing taxicab took Kirby to West Penn Hospital; he has a broken leg. Edward is the son of former police magistrate & alderman, James J. Kirby. Within the hour before the accident, Edward had completed arrangements for a 2-week vacation in Canada, to begin 1 Jun 1922. The driver has not been identified; he left the scene.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Daily Post" Thursday 22 May 1924 p 1 – Edward J. Kirby is 1 of the new acting lieutenants.

"Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette" Friday 1 Aug 1924 p 2

Transfer: Lt. Edward J. Kirby from Traffic Bureau to Penn Ave.

Edward a police lieutenant (1940) & policeman (1942) for Pittsburgh

## Obituary:

"Pittsburgh (PA) Press" 6 Aug 1964 p 52, retired police lieutenant, d. 4 Aug 1964 at age 64 at his home, 348 W. Penn Place, Pittsburgh PA. Served 24 years on the force. Survived by daughter Patricia Flaherty & son James T., both of Pittsburgh. Member American Legion.

"Pittsburgh Press-Gazette" 7 Aug 1964 p 21 - d. 4 Aug suddenly. His wife was the late Kathryn (Geary). Resident of 348 W. Penn Place, Pittsburgh. Survived by son & daughter. Funeral 8 Aug 1964.

Social Security number: 179-36-5797

## Censuses:

1900 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – 1115 Penn Ave.

James J. Kirby, 31 PA, Jul 1868, parents b. Ireland, married 13 years, alderman

Ellen, 31 Ireland, Jun 1868, parents b. Ireland, emigrated 1883, in US for 17 years, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Mary, 12 PA, Sep 1887, at school

Edward, 8 PA, Nov 1891, at school

& 4 boarders

1910 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – Penn Ave.

James J. Kirby, 42 PA, parents b. Ireland, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, married 24 years, alderman

Ellen, 43 PA, parents b. Ireland, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage

Edward J., 17 PA

1930 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA - 321 S. Evaline, Pittsburgh – there are 2 entries for 321 S. Evaline St. - This is an odd entry in format, because it attaches Edward's wife Kathryn Geary ("Catherine Kirby") to his parents:

James J. Kirby, 62 PA, parents b. Irish Free State, age 22 at 1<sup>st</sup> house [head of household]

Helen Kirby, 60 PA, parents b. Irish Free State, age 20 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage [wife]

Margaret Crowley, 15 PA, parents b. PA [granddaughter]

Catherine Kirby, 34 PA, parents b. PA, age 26 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage [wife]

Edward Kirby, 36 PA, parents b. PA, age 28 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, lieutenant, police department, WWI veteran [head of household]

Helen, 6 PA, parents b. PA [daughter]

James, 1 PA, parents b. PA [son]

1940 Pittsburgh, Allegheny PA – 321 Evaline St. – same house in 1935 – indexed incorrectly as KUBY

Helen Kirby, 74 Eire [Ireland], widow [head of household]

Edward J. Kirby, 48 PA, lieutenant, police force [son]

Katherine, 40 PA [daughter-in-law]

Patricia Kirby, 16 PA [granddaughter]

James F. Kirby, 11 PA [grandson]

Margaret Crowley, 25 PA [granddaughter]