

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 document lacks 1950 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

**One of the Spooner WI boys
Kniss, Oliver Alvin
1891 IN – 1961 IL**

Oliver A. Kniss

LAWTON — Oliver A. Kniss, 69, of North Nursery street, Lawton, died late Monday afternoon in the Hines Veterans hospital, Hines, Ill., following a brief illness.

Mr. Kniss was born Sept. 28, 1889, in Rochester, Ind., and came here from Arkansas several years ago settling on a small farm.

Survivors include his wife, Goldie; eight sons, William Kniss of Lake Village, Ark., Robert and Leon Kniss, both of Kalamazoo, Harry Kniss of Downey, Calif., Sherman Kniss of Hartford, and John, Eugene and Robbie Kniss of Lawton;

four daughters, the Misses Betty, Grace and Carol Kniss, all at home, and Miss Marjorie Kniss of Carol, Mich.; six grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Gladys Martin of Battle Creek.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 1:30 p. m. in the Prindle funeral home, with the Rev. Luther Terry, pastor of the Lawton Church of God, officiating.

Burial will be in the Oak Grove cemetery here where military services will be conducted by the World War I veterans of Paw Paw.

1-10-61 *Km*
yc **1826449**

KNISS OLIVER ALVIN

Ck 107 Engr Trn K

Hamlin Ark A 3 953 685

Rt 1 Colt Ark T 400 694

Ssn 251 661 Died 1-9-61 R

Born 9/28/92

Enl 6-27-17 Dis 5-27-19 Cl 3 157 971

I

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

INDEX CARD

2-13960

Veterans Administration Military Index card

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1R-6V1Y?i=3899>

Oliver A Kniss

Arkansas, Military Discharge Records, ca.1917-1969

Tools

Name:	Oliver A Kniss
Discharge Date:	27 May
Discharge Place:	Arkansas, United States
Birthplace:	Rocheste, Ind
Military Service Number:	251661
Military Service Branch:	Army
Military Unit:	Co 107 32nd Div

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:D5V3-166Z>

Oliver A Kniss

Illinois, Cook County Deaths, 1871-1998

[Tools](#)

Name:	Oliver A Kniss
Sex:	Male
Age:	69
Address:	Route 2
Burial Place:	Lawton, , Michigan
Death Date:	09 Jan 1961
Death Place:	Proviso, Cook, Illinois, United States
Birth Date:	28 Sep 1891
Birthplace:	Rochester, , Indiana
Marital Status:	Married
Occupation:	Laborer
Race:	White
Mother's Name:	Margaret
Spouse's Name:	Goldie Kniss
Informant's Name:	Harold G Cobb
Cemetery:	Oak Grove
Funeral Home:	Suburban Funeral Home

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q2MC-7QXK>

FROM OLIVER KNISS.

Another interesting letter from Cook Oliver Kniss has been received by his mother, Mrs. Frank E. Smith, of R. F. D. No. 1, written from somewhere in France on September 26.

"I have been so busy the last two weeks that I hardly had time to think so don't get worried about me if you don't hear from me every few days," he writes, "for I will write just as often as I have time. Everything is coming our way over here. That's the reason I am so busy. I have sometimes five meals to get in one day. I suppose by the time this letter reaches there you will be picking corn, but I might get there in time to feed it up, anyway."

Mrs. Frank E. Smith is Oliver's sister – "Battle Creek (MI) Enquirer" Monday 11 Nov 1918 p

19

1. NAME OF DECEASED—LAST—FIRST—MIDDLE (Print or type)				APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER (See attached instructions. Complete and submit original and duplicate)	
Kniss, Oliver A.				12. EMBLEM (Check one)	
2. ENLISTMENT DATE (Month, Day, Year)		3. DISCHARGE DATE (Month, Day, Year)		13. CHECK TYPE REQUIRED	
Enl - 6/27/17- A10 7-18-17		5/27/19 HON		☐ CHRISTIAN (Latin Cross) ☐ HEBREW (Star of David) ☐ NONE ☐ UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE ☐ FLAT MARBLE MARKER ☒ FLAT GRANITE MARKER ☐ FLAT BRONZE MARKER	
4. SERVICE NO.		5. PENSION OR VA CLAIM NO.		14. SHIP TO (Name and address of person who will transport stone or marker to cemetery)	
251661 ✓				Mrs. Goldie Kniss	
6. STATE	7. GRADE	8. MEDALS		15. FREIGHT STATION	
Wisc. ✓	Cook ✓			Lawton, Michigan	
9. BRANCH OF SERVICE, COMPANY, REGIMENT, AND DIVISION OR SHIP				16. NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY (City and State)	
USA, Cook, Train Co. 107 Eng. 32nd. Div.				Oakgrove, Lawton, Michigan	
10. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)		11. DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day, Year)		17. THE APPLICANT FOR THIS STONE OR MARKER HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME TO TRANSPORT SAME TO THE CEMETERY.	
Sept. 28, 1889		Jan. 9, 1961		SIGNATURE DATE	
DO NOT WRITE HERE				18. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Print or type)	
RECEIVED JAN 23 1961				Mrs. Goldie Kniss, Lawton, Mich.	
VERIFIED				19. 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 United States, soldiers of Union and Confederate Armies of the Civil War.	
B/I A 3452673 H. E. FLETCHER CO., INC. WEST CHELMSFORD, MASS.				I hereby agree to accept responsibility for properly placing the stone or marker at the grave at no expense to the Government.	
ORDERED MAR 2 - 1961				SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE 1/11/61	

DA FORM 1815 1 JUN 57 EDITION OF 1 AUG 56, IS OBSOLETE. IMPORTANT—Reverse Side Must Be Completed. 16-11453-11 GPO



Parents:

Name:	John Kniss
Land Office:	Eau Claire
Sequence #:	1
Document Number:	622
Total Acres:	80
Misc. Doc. Nr.:	8473
Signature:	Yes
Canceled Document:	No
Issue Date:	1 May 1902
Mineral Rights Reserved:	No
Metes and Bounds:	No
Statutory Reference:	12 Stat. 392
Multiple Warantee Names:	No
Act or Treaty:	May 20, 1862
Multiple Patentee Names:	No
Entry Classification:	Homestead Entry Original
Land Description:	1 S½SW 4TH PM - 1831 MINNESOTA/WISCONSIN No 40 N 11 W 22

John Kniss

in the Wisconsin, U.S., Homestead and Cash Entry Patents, Pre-1908

https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=2079&h=89791&tid=&pid=&queryId=1ad1fb8db69e1bc1fc017c908623e389&usePUB=true&_phsrc=hFB23119&_phstart=successSource

DEATH in plain terms, that it may be properly classified. The "Special Information" for persons dying away from home should be given in every instance.

PLACE OF DEATH MEANS WHERE PERSON ACTUALLY DIED, NOT WHERE LIVED.

V. S. 2

PLACE OF DEATH
 County Lake
 Township of North
 Town or City Hammond

STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
 INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
 DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

Local No. 202
 Registered No. 14806

No. 4832 Cedar Ave St.
 (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

FULL NAME Margaret Thompson
 Residence: No. 4832 Cedar St.
 (Usual place of abode) (If non-resident give city or town and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
SEX <u>F.</u>	COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>	Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (write the word) <u>Married</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>5</u> <u>3</u> 19 <u>33</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	
NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE (if deceased) <u>Jaden Thompson</u>			I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>Oct</u> 19 <u>32</u> to <u>5-3</u> 19 <u>33</u>	
DATE OF BIRTH (of deceased) <u>April 5 1869</u>			and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>11 P.</u> M.	
AGE <u>64</u> years months <u>3</u> days If LESS than 1 day, hrs or min.			The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:	
OCCUPATION Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, Sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. <u>Housewife</u> Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc. Date deceased last worked at this occupation Total time (years) spent			<u>Primary Carcinoma of the bladder</u> Duration <u>2 years.</u> Other contributory causes of importance: <u>40</u> Name of operation <u>exploratory</u> Date of <u>Feb 1933</u> What test confirmed diagnosis? <u>Findings</u> Was there an autopsy? <u>no</u>	
BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Maryland</u>			If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: Accident, suicide, or homicide? _____ Date of injury _____, 19____ Where did injury occur? _____ (Specify city or town, county and State) Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.	
MOTHER, FATHER NAME <u>Martin Swope</u> BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Maryland</u> MAIDEN NAME <u>Kathleen Brunner</u> BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Maryland</u>			Manner of injury _____ Nature of injury _____ Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? _____ (Signed) <u>A. H. Hines</u> M. D. 19 (Address) <u>Hammond Ind</u>	
INFORMANT <u>Grace Swope</u> (Address) <u>4832 Cedar</u> PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Cal Hill</u> Date <u>5/6 1933</u> UNDERTAKER <u>J. E. Burns</u> ADDRESS <u>Hammond</u> WAS THE BODY EMBALMED? <u>Yes</u> EMBALMER'S LICENSE NO. <u>1144</u> Filed <u>5-5-33</u> <u>J. A. Chervigny</u> Health Officer or Deputy				

IN death certificate of his mother Margaret Swope Kniss McCall Thompson -
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60716/images/44494_351229-02815?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pId=4207110

MRS. THOMPSON PASSES AWAY

Mrs. Margaret Thompson, 64 years old, died this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Grace Lease, 4532 Cedar avenue, Hammond. She had been visiting there for the last three months.

Surviving are the husband, John Thompson, two sons, Wallace and Oliver Kniss of Colt, Ark., and four daughters, Mrs. Lease of Hammond, Mrs. Gertrude Haggerty of Miles City, Mont., Mrs. Bessie Green of Silsbee, Texas, and Mrs. Gladys Martin of Battle Creek, Mich. She also leaves two grandchildren, Mrs. Bertha Whaler of Los Angeles and Arthur H. Smith of East Chicago, three great grandchildren and three sisters, Mrs. W. O. Machlan of Plymouth, Ind., Mrs. James E. Shaul of Clam Falls, Wis., and Mrs. Ada Batcheler of Greensburg, Ind.

The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon from the Burns funeral home. Rev. Frank Watkins will officiate. Interment will be in Oak Hill cemetery.

Obituary of his mother Margaret Swope Kniss (McCall?) Thompson – “Munster (IN) Times”
Thursday 4 May 1933 p 4 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/306339092/?article=f89398f9-d637-4023-9bc4-e3280a4a8328&focus=0.877308,0.74603915,0.9866731,0.9112127&xid=3355>

Siblings:

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, and it may be properly classified. "Cause Unknown" for persons dying away from home should be given in every instance.

PLACE OF DEATH MEANS WHERE PERSON ACTUALLY DIED, NOT WHERE BORN

DECEASED'S NAME *Grace M. Kniss Lease*
FURNERAL DIRECTOR'S LICENSE No. *1783*

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
Division of Vital Records
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Local No. *38*
Death No. *1420*

1. PLACE OF DEATH a. COUNTY <i>LAKE</i> b. CITY OR TOWN <i>HAMMOND</i> c. FULL NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION <i>2922 Kenwood ST.</i>		2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived) (If institution, residence before admission) a. STATE <i>INDIANA</i> b. COUNTY <i>LAKE</i> c. CITY OR TOWN <i>HAMMOND</i> d. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) <i>2922 Kenwood ST.</i>	
3. NAME OF DECEASED a. (First) <i>GRACE</i> b. (Middle) <i>M.</i> c. (Last) <i>LEASE</i> d. DATE OF BIRTH <i>MARCH 5, 1887</i> e. AGE (In years) <i>66</i> (Months) <i>10</i> (Days) <i>12</i>		4. DATE OF DEATH <i>JAN. 17, 1954</i> 5. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? <i>USA</i>	
6. COLOR OR RACE <i>White</i> 7. MARRIED - <i>YES</i> (If divorced, give date of divorce) <i>MARRIED</i> 8. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work) <i>Housewife</i> 9. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY <i>Housewife</i>		10. BIRTH-PLACE (State or foreign country) <i>Fulton Co. Indiana</i> 11. MOTHER'S MARRIAGE NAME <i>MARGARET SMOKE</i>	
12. FATHER'S NAME <i>John Kniss</i> 13. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) <i>NO</i> 14. SOCIAL SECURITY No. <i>NONE</i>		15. INFORMANT (NAME AND ADDRESS) <i>HARRY LEASE - 2922 Kenwood ST.</i>	
16. CAUSE OF DEATH Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c): *This does not mean the mode of dying, such as heart failure, suffocation, etc. It means the disease, injury, or complication which caused death. 1. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH* (a) <i>Coronary thrombosis</i> (b) <i>Hypertensive heart disease</i> (c) <i>Cerebral apoplexy</i> 2. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS (Conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing death) <i>none</i>		INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH <i>9 days</i> <i>5 yrs</i> <i>3 yrs</i>	
17a. DATE OF OPERATION 17b. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION		18a. ACCIDENT SUICIDE OR HOMICIDE (Specify) 18b. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, other building, etc.) 18c. CITY, TOWN, OR TOWNSHIP (COUNTY) (STATE) 18d. INJURY OCCURRED While at Work ☒ Not While at Work ☐ 18e. HOW DID INJURY OCCUR?	
19a. ATTENDING PHYSICIAN I certify that I attended the deceased from <i>July 48 Jan</i> to <i>Jan 54</i> and that death occurred at <i>Hammond</i> from causes stated and on above date 20a. Signature of Attending Physician or Health Officer <i>J. M. Miller</i>		19b. HEALTH OFFICER I certify that I investigated cause of death of deceased and find that death occurred at <i>Hammond</i> from causes stated and on above date 20b. ADDRESS <i>Hammond, Indiana</i> 20c. DATE SIGNED	
21a. RITUAL CREMA TION - REMOVAL (Specify) <i>Burial</i> 21b. DATE <i>1-19-54</i> 21c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY <i>Elmwood</i> 21d. LOCATION <i>Hammond, Indiana</i>		22. FUNERAL DIRECTOR 22a. SIGNATURE OF HEALTH OFFICER <i>A. A. Muscarello, M.D.</i> 22b. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR <i>George H. Bocken</i> 22c. ADDRESS <i>7942 Kennedy Ave. Hammond, Indiana</i>	

IN death certificate of sister Grace M. Kniss Smith Lease -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60716/images/45232_356135-01390?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pId=601391708

LEASE—Grace M. Lease, 66, 2922 Kenwood St., Hessville, passed away at home Saturday, Jan. 17, following lingering illness. Funeral services Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m. Bocken Funeral Home, 7042 Kennedy Ave., Hessville, Rev. James Frink officiating. Burial Elmwood Cemetery. Survivors: husband, Harry; 1 daughter: Mrs. Bertha Mattix, Gary; 1 son: Arthur H. Smith, Hammond; 3 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters: Mrs. Gladys Martin, Battle Creek, Mich., Mrs. Gertrude Haggerty, Miles City, Mont.; 2 brothers: Oliver Kniss, Colt Ark., Wallace Kniss, Montana.

Obituary of sister Grace M. Kniss Smith Lease – “Munster (IN) Times” Monday 18 Jan 1954
p 14

Harry L. Lease

Harry L. Lease, age 69, of Middlesboro, Ky., formerly of 2922 Kenwood St., Hessville, passed away Mon., July 9, at Middlesboro Appalachian Hospital. Survivors: wife, Florence; one daughter, Mrs. Bertha Mattix of Hammond; one sister, Mrs. Alda Butcher of Danville, Ill.; one brother, Allen Lease of Joliet, Ill.; three grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services Thurs., July 12, 2 p.m. from Hessville Baptist Church, Rev. James Frink officiating. Burial Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens, Schererville. Friends are invited to call at Bocken Funeral Home, 7042 Kennedy Ave., Hessville, Wed 7 to 10 p.m.

He retired after 34 years' service with the East Chicago Post Office.

Obituary of sister Grace M. Kniss Smith Lease's 2nd husband, Harry Leon Lease – “Munster (IN) Times” Tuesday 10 Jul 1973 p 6

FORM V.S. 3-1988-revised

**MONTANA
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

91 002342

Local File Number: _____ State File Number: _____

DECEDENT'S NAME (Print) Gertrude		(Middle) P	(Last) HAGERTY	SEX Female	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year) May 27, 1991
RACE - American Indian, Black, White, etc. (Specify) White		AGE - Last birthday (month, day, year) 54 02	LISTED IN YEAR 20	LISTED IN DAY 20	DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, year) December 19, 1898
PL. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Foreign Country) Friendship Villa			COUNTY OF BIRTH Custer		
HOSPITAL: ☐ Incident ☐ X-rayed ☐ OGA ☐ OTHER: ☒ Nursing Home ☐ Residence ☐ Other (Specify): _____					
FACILITY NAME (If not institution, give street and number) Friendship Villa			CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION OF DEATH Miles City, Montana		
BIRTHPLACE (City and State or Foreign Country) Spooner, Wisconsin		MARRIAGE STATUS ☐ Never Married ☒ Widowed ☐ Married ☐ Divorced		SURVIVING SPOUSE (If wife, give maiden surname) No	
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER 517-94-2059		DECEDENT'S USUAL OCCUPATION (For retired or work during last 12 months, do not use retired) Housewife		KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Retired	
RESIDENCE - STATE Montana		COUNTY Custer		CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Miles City	
STREET NUMBER 1242 S. Scovell		CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Miles City		STREET NUMBER 1242 S. Scovell	
INSIDE CITY (Yes or No) Yes		ZIP CODE 59301		DECEDENT'S EDUCATION (Specify only highest grade completed) 8	
FATHER'S NAME (Print, Middle, Last) John Kniss		MOTHER'S NAME (Print, Middle, Maiden Surname) Margaret Swoop			
INFORMANT'S NAME (Last, first) Mary Clark		MAILING ADDRESS (Street and Number or Rural Route Number, City or Town, State, Zip Code) 507 S. Cale, Miles City, MT 59301			
METHODOLOGY OF DISPOSITION ☒ Burial ☐ Cremation ☐ Removal from State		PLACE OF DISPOSITION (Name of cemetery, church, or other place) Custer County		LOCATION - City or Town, State Miles City, Montana	
SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL SERVICE LICENSEE OR OTHER PERSON IN CHARGE OF DISPOSITION Tommy S. Stevenson		MONTANA LICENSE NUMBER (If Licensee) 463		NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home 1717 Main, Miles City, MT 59301	
IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Final disease or condition resulting in death) G-I. Bleeding					
SEQUENTIALLY LIST CONDITIONS IF ANY, LEADING TO IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Other than underlying cause of disease or injury that initiated process resulting in death in last) Site undetermined					
CAUSE OF DEATH Corbeller atrophy					
PART II. Other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in Part I. Corbeller atrophy		WAS AN AUTOPSY PERFORMED? (Yes or No) No		WAS CAUSE REFERRED TO CORONER? (Yes or No) No	
DATE OF DEATH 5/29/91		TIME OF DEATH 2:00 P.		HOUR OF DEATH 2:00 P.	
DATE OF DEATH 5/29/91		TIME OF DEATH 2:00 P.		HOUR OF DEATH 2:00 P.	
NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN (Other than Certifier) (Type or Print) E.L. Stickney, M.D.		DATE FROM WHICH DEAD (Month, day, year) May 31, 1991		HOUR OF DEATH 2:00 P.	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF CERTIFIER (Physician or Coroner) (Type or Print) E.L. Stickney, M.D., 2300 Box Elder, Miles City, MT 59301		DATE FROM WHICH DEAD (Month, day, year) May 31, 1991		HOUR OF DEATH 2:00 P.	
LOCAL REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Mary Clark		DATE FROM WHICH DEAD (Month, day, year) May 31, 1991			

MT death certificate of sister Gertrude F. Kniss Hagerty -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5437/images/47791_302022005556_0101-00344?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pld=61281765

Gladys E. Martin

Gladys E. (Kniss) Martin, 86, of 80 N. 20th St., died Saturday in Mercy Pavilion, where she had been a patient several months. She had been ill and in nursing homes 11 years.

She was born in Spooner, Wis., and moved to Battle Creek as a child with her family. She enjoyed crocheting and sewing and had been an avid gardener.

Her husband, Stephan A. Martin, died in 1956.

She is survived by daughters, Frances Casebeer of Tekonsha, Margaret Gifford of Crossville, Ala.; sons, Volney Martin of Edenburg, Texas, and Donald Martin of Hammond, Ind.; a brother, Bill Thompson of Colorado; a sister, Gertrude Haggerty of Miles City, Mont.; nine grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Morgan Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the oncology unit at Leila Hospital. Arrangements are by Royal Funeral Home.

Obituary of sister Gladys – “Battle Creek (MI) Enquirer” Monday 22 Dec 1986 p 11

Children:



Robert Kniss

December 5, 1932 - March 28, 2013
Kalamazoo, MI



Robert "Bob" Kniss was a man who loved fishing, bluegrass music, traveling, and most of all, his family. Seemingly gruff on the outside, but with a warm heart on the inside, Bob gave his all for his family. He was a man who cared for everyone he knew, and he expressed this care through his generosity and willingness to always lend a helping hand.

In the year 1932, America found itself in trouble as the Great Depression pushed toward new heights, as one out of every four individuals was unemployed. It was a hard and challenging time, but Oliver and Goldie (McMillan) Kniss of Colt, Arkansas maintained their positive spirits by focusing on a special blessing in their lives with the birth of their son, Robert James Kniss, on December 5, 1932. Bob, as he was called, was the third of thirteen children in his family, and grew up in the close-knit community of Wynne, Arkansas. He attended the town's small country school that served as the church on Sundays, and like most boys of the time, he left after the 8th grade to find work with his father as a woodsman. As a young man, after working hard, Bob spent what leisure time he had with his friends fishing and then cooking up their catch in a big washpot while they sang and played bluegrass music. This love of the outdoors, particularly fishing, would stay with him throughout his life and provide him with some of his favorite pursuits.

In April of 1953, Bob married his first wife, Nancy Smith. The couple moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Bob made a career as a polisher and buffer and later working in the manufacturing industry. Over the next few years, they became the proud parents of five children, who brought them great pride and joy. Unfortunately, after 24 years together, Bob and Nancy divorced and she later passed away.

After some time, Bob would find love again with Shirley Gray. She and her husband Charles and Bob and Nancy were friends and often spent time together. But later, after the divorce and Charles passed away, Bob and Shirley found comfort in each other and a romance blossomed. They were married on February 9, 1985, in Paw Paw, and made their home in Lawton. When they wed, it symbolized not only the merging of two lives, but also two families; Shirley had six children, Bob had five, and together they were one big blended family.

Music was always a big part of Bob's life. He was passionate about bluegrass music since he was a kid, and rarely missed a bluegrass festival that was in the area. His sister Betty and her husband had a band and Bob often joined in playing the mandolin and singing. He enjoyed watching the Three Tenors on TV and also enjoyed the men's singing group, Celtic Thunder. Although Bob loved bluegrass music, he always maintained that his favorite place to be was wherever the catfish were biting. When he was younger, Bob also liked to hunt for small game, like squirrels and rabbits.

As a couple, Bob and Shirley liked to travel, and had visited just about every state. They would start their trip somewhere down south and then travel up the east coast before heading home again. Once, they visited Puerto Rico and spent 2 weeks roaming the island. At home, Bob liked to ride his tractor around and maintain his lawn. He and Shirley also had a beautiful vegetable garden they tended together, much of which they canned. If that wasn't enough, they'd go out and get more vegetables from other places and can it too; however, by this time, they had more than they could use, so they shared their abundance with friends and family. Shirley did all of the cooking, and an excellent cook she was. There wasn't anything that she made that Bob wouldn't eat.

Bob wasn't much of a pet person until the couple got their Chihuahua, Sissy, who is now 17 years old. Five years after Sissy came to them, they got Suzie (another Chihuahua) and 2 cats, TC and Sammy, who sleep on Bob's chest. There was no doubt that they were part of the family! Perhaps while one of the cats was curled up on his lap, Bob caught up on his reading, which included the newspaper, Bluegrass Unlimited or a gospel magazine.

Bob was said to be a mighty bit stubborn and liked things his way, yet he was one of those unique people that simply made life more interesting. He was a man of many interests, but it was the moments he shared with those he loved that meant the world to him. Bob suffered with many health issues that eventually got to be too much, and he passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2013, at the age of 80.

Learn more about Bob, view his Life Story film, and visit with his family and friends on Monday, April 1, from 5:00 –

8:00 p.m. at the Life Story Funeral Home, Betzler & Thompson – Paw Paw, 60900 M-40; 657-3870, where services will be held on Tuesday, April 2, at 5:00 p.m. Cremation will follow with burial at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Bob was preceded in death by his first wife, Nancy Kniss, and 5 brothers: Bill, Leon, John, Harry and Sherman Kniss. Members of his family include his wife of 28 years, Shirley Kniss; 6 children: Carl, Bobby, Debbie, Libby, Deanna and Michael; 6 step-children: Frank, Ron, Kevin, Shirley, Beckie and Joey; many grand and great-grandchildren; 5 sisters: Margie, Robbie, Betty, Carole and Grace; a brother, Eugene; and many nieces and nephews. Please visit Bob's personal web page at www.lifestorynet.com, where you may archive a memory or photo and sign his online guest book before coming to the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to American Cancer Society.

Obituary of his son Robert James Kniss (1932-2013) -
<https://betzlerlifestory.com/obituaries/robert-kniss.88561>

Nancy Dinstett

LAWTON — Mrs. Nancy Kniss Dinstett, 54, of 1418 Alamo Hills, Kalamazoo, formerly of Lawton, died Saturday at Provincial House, Kalamazoo.

Friends will be received at Thompson-Lawton Chapel Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. where the funeral will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. Burial will be in Oakgrove Cemetery.

Mrs. Dinstett was born Nov. 13, 1933, in Arkansas. Survivors include: three sons — Jessie Baty and Michael Kniss, both of Kalamazoo, and Bobby Kniss of Lawton; three daughters — Debbie Wagner of Lawton, Libby Lull of Decatur, and Deanna Frisbie of Mattawan; 15 grandchildren; two brothers — Bob Smith of Niles and Jerry Gamble of Arkansas; and three sisters — Peggy Hancher of Delton, Mich., Mary Hopkins of California, and Linda Grounds of South Bend, Ind.

Obituary of son Robert James Kniss's 1st wife, Nancy Smith Kniss Dinstett – "St. Joseph (MI) Herald-Palladium" Tuesday 8 Dec 1987 p 12

Oliver Kniss

KALAMAZOO - Oliver Leon Kniss, 64, of Kalamazoo, died Friday, April 21, 2000, at his res-

idence. He was born August 30, 1935, in Wynne, Ark., the son of Oliver I. and Goldie (McMillan) Kniss.

He was employed by the Burrough's Corp., and was a Union member of Kalamazoo Local.

On June 29, 1968, he was united in marriage to the former MaryLee Pease, who survives.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by six children, Linda (Michael) Randall of Kalamazoo, Brenda Gower of Kalamazoo, Anthony (Nancy) Gower of Portage, Theodore (Karen) Gower of Galesburg, Mich., Michael Gower of Kalamazoo, and Jeanne (Patrick) Arnold of Paw Paw; 22 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; three brothers, Robert (Shirley) Kniss of Lawton, Harry (Gene-

vieve) Kniss and Eugene Kniss, both of Paw Paw; five sisters, Margie Kniss of Bangor, Robbie (Marshall) Glessner of LaPeer, Mich, Betty (Glen) Atkins of Portage, Mich., Carol (Larry) Pease of Lawton, and Gracie (David) Pease of Paw Paw; two sisters-in-law, Bonita Kniss of Lake Village, Ark., and Addie Kniss of Decatur; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by three brothers.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Adams-Zolp Funeral Home, Paw Paw, with Thomas Pease and Patrick Arnold, presiding. Interment followed in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.



Left: Obituary of son Oliver Leon Kniss (1935-2000) – “Paw Paw (MI) Courier-Leader” 28 Apr 2000 p 14 - <https://digmichnews.cmich.edu/?a=d&d=VanBurenCL20000428-01&e=-----en-10--1--txt-txIN-----> - Right: Oliver Leon Kniss – <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/111354465/person/210085337432/media/6cf7568e-f0af-42ff-ba08-f464c5ba104f>

Mary Kniss



KNISS, Mary

Age 80

Kalamazoo

Mary passed away Friday afternoon, September 30, 2011 in Kalamazoo. Mary was born on November 21, 1930 in Grand Rapids, MI, the daughter of the late Homer and Leola Pease. She is survived by her daughters, Linda (Michael) Randall, Brenda Gower and Jeanne (Patrick) Arnold; sons Anthony Gower, Theodore (Karen) Gower and Michael Gower; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; several brothers and sisters and a very special friend, Charlene Grisson. Mary was preceded in death by her first husband, Louis Gower; her second husband, Oliver Kniss; two brothers and two sisters. Family will receive friends on Monday, October 3 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Adams Funeral Home, Paw Paw where funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 11:00 AM with her son-in-law, Patrick Arnold officiating. Interment will follow at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Lawton. Memorial contributions may be made to the [Alzheimer's Association](#) or to Great Lakes Hospice Care. Arrangements are by the Adams Funeral Home, Paw Paw. Share a memory or condolence online at www.adamspawpaw.com

Obituary of the wife of Oliver Alvin Kniss's son Oliver Leon Kniss, Mary Lee Pease Gower Kniss - <https://obits.mlive.com/obituaries/kalamazoo/obituary.aspx?n=mary-kniss&pid=153949301>

KNISS, Harry Jerald
40th Street, Paw Paw

Passed away Wednesday, October 1, 2003 at home. Harry was born May 23, 1937 in Wynne, AR. He is married to Geneva Partain Kniss for the past 35 years, who survives. Also surviving are 2 brothers, Robert of Lawton, and Eugene of Paw Paw; 5 sisters, Margie, Robbie, Betty, Carol and Grace. He was preceded in death by his parents, Oliver and Goldie; 4 brothers, William, Leon, Sherman and John. The family will receive friends this evening (Thursday) 6-8 p.m. at the Center of Life Church, 34580 M-40 Highway, Paw Paw, where Funeral Services will be held Friday 1 p.m. with Pastor James Hatfield officiating. Interment will be in Cuddeback Cemetery, Paw Paw. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be directed to the family. Arrangements by

ADAMS
Funeral Home
Paw Paw

Published in Kalamazoo Gazette on Oct. 2, 2003.

Obituary of son Harry Jerald Kniss (1937-2003) -
<https://obits.mlive.com/obituaries/kalamazoo/obituary.aspx?n=harry-jerald-kniss&pid=1446032>

Sherman L. Kniss

DECATUR — Services for Sherman L. Kniss, 47, of 120 Champion St., who died at 12:15 a.m. Wednesday in Lee Memorial Hospital, Dowagiac, after an illness, will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Newell Funeral Home. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton. Friends may call from 5 to 9 p.m. today in the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Mr. Kniss was a crane operator at Watervliet Paper Co. for 10 years and also was employed as a polisher and buffer at several companies. He was born Feb. 27, 1940, in Wynne, Ark. He had lived in Decatur for 25 years after coming from Hartford and Lawton. On Oct. 17, 1959, in Kalamazoo, he married the former Addie L. Lawrence. She survives with three daughters, Sherri Price and Charlene Jackson, both of Decatur, and Linda Seals of Jackson, Mich.; a son, Sherman Jr. of Paw Paw; a grandson; five sisters, Margie Kniss of Gobles, Mich., Betty Adkins and Grace Pease, both of Paw Paw, Robbie Glessner of Jackson, Mich., and Carol Pease of Lawton; six brothers, Bill of Lake Village, Ark., Bob of Lawton, Leon of Kalamazoo and Harry, John and Eugene, all of Paw Paw; and his mother, Goldie Kniss of Paw Paw. He was a member of the Portage (Mich.) Eagles.

John Kniss

PAW PAW — John Kniss, 54, of Paw Paw died Saturday at home following a short illness.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Thompson and Hawley Funeral Home, Paw Paw, where visitation will be from 7 to 9 tonight and 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Van Buren County.

Mr. Kniss was born May 25, 1941, in Wynne, Ark. He had lived in this area the past 27 years and worked at the Buick-Olds-Cadillac Division of General Motors until retiring in 1993.

Survivors include: his wife, the former Bonnie Baker; three sons — Christopher Kniss of Lawrence; Micheal Kniss of Kalamazoo and Jason Kniss of Paw Paw; five grandchildren; his mother, Goldie Kniss of Lawton; five brothers — Harry Kniss, Eugene Kniss and Robert Kniss, all of Paw Paw, Bill Kniss of Lake Village, Ark., and Leon Kniss of Kalamazoo; and five sisters — Grace Pease of Paw Paw and Carole Pease of Lawton, Betty Adkins of Kalamazoo, Robbie Glessner of Lapeer, Mich., and Margie Kniss of Hartford. He was preceded in death by a son, Kevin.

Left: Obituary of son Sherman Leroy Kniss — “South Bend (IN) Tribune” Thursday 19 Nov 1987 p 15 — Right: obituary of son John H. Kniss — “St. Joseph (MI) News-Palladium” Monday 3 Jul 1995 p 7

Margie May Kniss

January 6, 1946 - September 6, 2018

Bangor, MI

Age 72, died on Thursday, September 6, 2018. She was born on January 6, 1946 in Wynne, AR the daughter of Oliver and Goldie (McMilan) Kniss and has lived in the Our House AFC in Bangor for more than 25 years. Margie had a sweet personality and liked to sing and laugh. She also enjoyed dogs and McDonald's cheeseburgers. Margie was loved and will be missed by her family and the people who took care of her. Members of her family include her sisters and brother: Edward Eugene "Geno" Kniss of Paw Paw, Betty (Larry) Fairlamb of Portage, Robbie Glessner of Lapeer, Carole J. (Lawrence) Pease of Lawton and Grace (David) Pease of Paw Paw; several nieces, nephews and cousins. Private graveside services will be held at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Lawton. Please visit Margie's personal memory page at www.BetzlerFuneralHome.com where you can share a favorite memory or photo and sign her guestbook. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice. Arrangements by Betzler & Thompson Life Story Funeral Home, 60900 M-40 Hwy; Paw Paw (269) 657-3870

obituary of daughter Margie May Kniss (1946-2018) -

<https://betzlerlifestory.com/obituaries/margie-may-kniss.123663>

Marshall Leon Glessner



Marshall Leon Glessner, 66, of Lapeer, Mich., went to be with the Lord on Monday, October 5, 2009, at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Kim Glessner, in Blue Ridge, Va. He was preceded in death by his father, Marshall Ray Glessner; and infant sister, Elizabeth Glessner. Marshall retired from the Michigan Department of Corrections on May 31, 1997, where he served as Chief Accountant. He was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in 1963 attaining the rank of Petty Officer. He was a Past President of the Michigan Motor Home Club, a member of Schoolcraft Lodge No. #118 F & AM in Schoolcraft, Mich., a member of the Elks Club in Lapeer, Mich., and an avid golfer and camper, loved to travel, and played cribbage with his internet friends from all over the world. He enjoyed spending time with his family, grandkids, and friends. Marshall is survived by his wife, Robbie Jean Glessner; his mother, Erna Mae Glessner; two sons, Raymond Oliver Glessner and his wife, Lauri, and Marshall Scott Glessner and his wife, Kimberly; four grandchildren, Corey Scott Glessner, Bryanna Danielle Glessner, Brittney Airanna Glessner, and Brayden Parker Glessner; sister and brother-in-law, Erna Kay and Rodger Bivens; seven sisters-in-law, Margie Kniss, Betty (Larry) Fairlamb, Carole (Larry) Pease, Grace (David) Pease, Benita Kniss, Mary Kniss, and Addie Kniss; two brothers-in-law, Bob (Shirley) Kniss and Edward Kniss; and a host of nieces and nephews. A funeral service will be held 7 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2009, at Oakey's East Chapel with Chaplain Marvin Barbre officiating. Military Honors performed by the U.S. Navy and Masonic Rites performed by Vinton Lodge No. #204 AF & AM. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the funeral. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Good Samaritan Hospice, 2408 Electric Road, Roanoke, Va. 24018. Arrangements by Oakey's East Chapel and Crematory, 540-977-3909.

Obituary of his daughter Robbie Jean Kniss's husband Marshall Leon Glessner –
<https://www.legacy.com/amp/obituaries/roanoke/134112037>

Name: Oliver Alvin Kniss

Name variations: Oliver T. Kniss (on Tuscania passenger list), which led to confusion

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Eng. - cook

Serial number: 251,661

Entered service from: Battle Creek, Calhoun MI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Oliver T. Kniss

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": sister Mrs. Frank Smith, RR 1, Box 85, Battle Creek MI (errors: she lived in Spooner WI at the time and his name is Oliver A. Kniss)

Returned from war on: "Haverford" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Oliver A. Kniss

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: sister Mrs. Grace Smith, Box 85, RR 1, Battle Creek MI (cook, 107th Engineer Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Oliver Alvin Kniss - b. 28 Sep 1892 Rochester IN; res: Springbrook, Washburn WI. Single. Farm laborer for J.H. Savage at Springbrook WI.

Medium height & build. Age listed as 25 (indicating an 1891 birthdate, not the 1892 he listed]

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939 roster):

World War II draft registration (1942):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 27 Jun 1917

Discharged 27 May 1919

Address: Route 1, Colt AR / Hamlin AR

Rank/unit: cook, 107th Engineers Train

Birth & death:

Born: 28 Sep 1891 (tombstone, Cook Co. IL death) or 28 Sep 1889 (Find A Grave, military tombstone & tombstone application)) or 28 Sep 1892 (WWI draft registration) Rochester, Fulton IN

Died: 9 Jan 1961 Hines, Cook IL (Hines Veterans Hospital, after brief illness)

Find A Grave record: 109054505 – presence on Tuscania indicated in text & flower

Burial location: Lawton, Van Buren MI

Cemetery: Oak Grove Memorial Gardens

Tombstone: veteran flat: Wisconsin Cook TN Co 107 Engrs 32 Div WWI

Father: John Kniss, Aug 1861 IN - . Son of Isaac Kniss & Ann Deitrick, both b. PA.

Find A Grave:

Mother: Margaret Ellen Swope Kniss McCall Thompson, 5 Apr 1869 MD – 3 May 1933 Hammond, Lake IN. In the 1870 census she lives with her parents Martin & Catharine/Katherine in Cavetown, Washington Co. MD. Daughter of Martin Luther Swope (1841 MD -1925 WI, F: 197205939, buried in Washburn Co. WI) & Catherine E. Brunner (1842-1896). On her father's Find A Grave record, she is listed as Mrs. John Thompson of Miles City MT in his Apr 1925 obituary.

According to <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KHWZ-P3Z>, Margaret was married to Robert J. McCall.

She was married to John Thompson at the time of her death. She died at her home at 4832 Cedar Ave., Hammond, Lake IN with the surname Thompson, of gall bladder cancer. Her IN death record lists her as the daughter of Martin Swope (b. MD) & Katherine Bu---s [illegible], also b. MD. The

informant was Grace Lease [her daughter Grace Kniss Lease]. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Hammond, Lake IN but not on Find A Grave as of 18 Jun 2021. (The cemetery is 57% photographed.)

Find A Grave:

Parents' marriage: 30 Nov 1885 Anderson, Madison IN. She was listed as Maggie E. Swope

Spouse: Goldie McMillan Kniss, 19 Jan 1912 Lynn Creek, Camden MO – 27 May 1949 Lawton, Van Buren MI. Daughter of James A. McMillan (1871-1966, F: 109137601) & Alice A. Smith (1883-1956, F: 109137487) who are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton MI as is Goldie. On some records McMillan is spelled McMillian. Goldie died at LakeView Continuing Care Center, Lawton, Van Buren MI. She had retired from the Paw Paw Laundry, where she was a press operator for many years. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton, Van Buren MI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 109097358.

Marriage: 22 Jun 1925 at Hamlin, Cross AR.

Children: Three of Oliver's children married the children of Homer Robert Pease (F: 130526259) & Leola Persis Dulyea Pease (F: 130526177).

- William Howard ("Bill") Kniss, 30 Apr 1927 AR – 18 Dec 1997 Lake Village, Chicot AR (Social Security Death Index lists date as 16 Dec 1997). SSN 371-30-2019. In 1942 (WWII draft registration), William lived in Wynne, Cross AR & worked at Tiller Tile Co. - Resident of Lake Village AR when Oliver died in Jan 1961. His tombstone is shared with Benita J. Knust (b. 22 Jun 1935) whom he married 28 Oct 1950 in St. Francis Co. AR. On their marriage license, her name is spelled Beneita; she was age 16. They were both residents of Colt, St. Francis AR. She is not on Find A Grave as of 18 Jun 2021. Buried in Lake Village Cemetery, Lake Village Chicot Co. AR. F: 44780967
- Robert ("Bob") James Kniss, 5 Dec 1932 AR – 28 Mar 2013 MI. His obituary says he was the 3rd child; there is a "gap" between older brother William's birth in 1927 & Robert's in 1932. Left school after 8th grade to work with his father as a woodsman. Husband of Nancy A. Smith (1933 AR – 1987 MI, F: 109054417), whom he married Apr 1953. Bob & Nancy moved to Kalamazoo MI. They had 3 children by Feb 1960 when twin daughters were born 21 Feb 1960, with 1 girl dying 22 Feb 1960 & the other on 24 Feb 1960 ("Benton Harbor [MI] News-Palladium" Wednesday 24 Feb 1960 p 16). - According to his obituary, they were parents of 5 children. After 24 years of marriage, Bob & Nancy were divorced; she died with the surname Dinstett. - He then married Shirley Gray, whose late husband Charles Gray had been friends with Bob & Nancy. Bob & Shirley married 9 Feb 1985 in Paw Paw, Van Buren MI. "St. Joseph (MI) Herald-Palladium" Saturday 9 Feb 1985 p 19 – at Paw Paw MI, the Van Buren Co. clerk issued a marriage license to Robert J. Kniss (52) & Shirley A. Gray (44), both of Lawton MI. - When Oliver died in Jan 1961, Robert resided in Kalamazoo MI. His wife (as of 2000) was named Shirley. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton, Van Buren MI. F: 185645147
- Oliver Leon Kniss, 30 Aug 1935 Wynne, Cross AR – 21 Apr 2000 Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo MI (at his residence). SSN 377-30-6371. Resident of Kalamazoo MI in Jan 1961 when his father Oliver died. Known as "Leon." Married MaryLee Pease (1930 MI – 2011 MI) on 29 Jun 1968. She was the sister of David Pease (who was married to Leon's sister Grace & Lawrence Pease (who was married to Leon's sister Carole). Mary Lee Pease had children by husband Lewis Eugene Gower (1918-1973), but died with the surname Kniss. Worked for Burroughs Corp. & labor union member in Kalamazoo MI. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton, Van Buren MI. F: 110185768

- Harry Jerald Kniss, 23 May 1937 Wynne, Cross AR – 1 Oct 2003 Paw Paw, Van Buren MI (at his home). SSN 566-62-7109. Married Geneva Genney Raines Partain Fuquey (22 Feb 1924 – 20 Jul 2006, with 2 Find A Grave records: 70772038 & 58632766) in Oct 1969; she was 15 years older than he was. Geneva was the daughter of Clifford Clarence Raines & Lena Mae Swords. Social Security recorded her surname change in Jan 1952 to Partain & in Feb 1963 to Fuquey & in Feb 1973 to Kniss. - “Benton Harbor (MI) News-Palladium” Monday 13 Oct 1969 p 28 – at Paw Paw MI, the Van Buren Co. MI county clerk issued a marriage license to Harry Gerald Kniss (30) & Geneva Genney Partain (45), both of Paw Paw. - Wife (as of 2000) was Genevieve. Resident of Downey CA in Jan 1961 when father Oliver died & of Paw Paw MI in 1995. – Harry & Geneva are buried in Threemile Cemetery, Paw Paw, Van Buren MI. F: 58632731
- Sherman Leroy Kniss, 7 Feb [obituary says 27 Feb] 1940 Wynne, Cross AR – 18 Nov 1987 Dowagiac, Cass MI (in Lee Memorial Hospital). SSN 378-38-0621 In Jan 1961 a resident of Hartford MI. Married on 17 Oct 1959 (according to tombstone & MI records) to Addie L. Lawrence (1942-2011, F: 109135846). They were married in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo MI. – Crane operator at Watervliet Paper Co. for 10 years, also as a polisher & buffer at several company. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton, Van Buren MI. F: 109135702
- John Henry Kniss, 25 May 1941 Wynne, Cross AR – 1 Jul 1995 Paw Paw, Van Buren MI (at his home). SSN 37142-8649. Married Bonnie Lake Baker on 23 Nov 1975. Resident of Lawton MI when his father Oliver died in Jan 1961. Resident of Paw Paw MI at the time of his death. Survived by 3 sons. Employee of BOC [Buick-Olds-Cadillac] Division of General Motors, retiring in 1993. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lawton, Van Buren MI. F: 108060437
- Edward Eugene (“Geno”) Kniss. Usually found as Eugene Kniss. “St. Joseph (MI) Herald-Palladium” Friday 16 Aug 1965 p 24 – Van Buren Co. MI county clerk issued a marriage license to Edward E. Kniss, 20, Paw Paw MI & Glenda F. Nelson, age 20, Lawton MI. - Resident of Lawton MI in Jan 1961 & Paw Paw MI in 1995.
- Grace Kniss Pease. At the time of her father Oliver’s death in Jan 1961, Miss Grace Kniss was living in her parents’ home in Lawton MI. Wife of David Pease, son of Robert (“Homer”) & Leola Pease. Her sister Carole Kniss married David Pease’s brother, Lawrence Pease & her brother Oliver Leon Kniss married David’s sister Mary Lee Pease. Resident of Paw Paw MI in 1995 & 1999.
- Carole Kniss Pease. Wife of Lawrence (“Larry”) Pease, whose brother David Pease was married to Carole’s sister Grace Kniss & whose sister Mary Lee Pease was married to Carole’s brother Oliver Leon Kniss. Listed as Miss Carol Kniss, living at her parents’ home in Lawton MI, in her father Oliver’s Jan 1961 obituary. Resident of Lawton MI in 1995 & 1999.
- Betty Kniss Atkins/Adkins Weingarden (?) Fairlamb. “Benton Harbor (MI) News-Palladium” Wednesday 19 Nov 1958 p 17 – 1 of the cases of polio, which turned out to be non-paralytic, was that of Betty Kniss, age 11, daughter of Oliver Kniss of Lawton MI. - When her father died in Jan 1961, Miss Betty Kniss lived in her parents’ home in Lawton MI. Wife of Glen Atkins/Adkins. Resident of Kalamazoo MI in 1995 & of Portage MI in 1999. Listed as Betty (Mrs. Larry) Fairlamb of Portage MI in Sep 2018. Her daughter, Tina Weingarden, was married in Portage WI in Aug 1998 to Shawn Andrews.
- Robbie Jean Kniss Glessner, b. 1947 MI. Wife of Marshall Leon Glessner (d. 5 Oct 2009 Blue Ridge VA). Marshall had retired from the MI Department of Corrections on 31 May 1997, where he served as chief accountant. Robbie & Marshall had 2 sons: Raymond Oliver Glessner & Scott Glessner. Robbie was a resident of Lapeer MI in 1995 & 1999 & appears to be living there in Jun 2021.

- Margie May Kniss, 6 Jan 1946 Wynne, Cross AR – 6 Sep 2018 MI. Resident of Hartford MI in 1995 & Bangor MI in 1999. At the time of her father's death in Jan 1961, Miss Marjorie Kniss resided in Carol MI. At the time of her death, she had been living in Our Haus Adult Foster Care (assisted living facility) in Bangor MI for over 25 years.

Siblings:

- Grace May Kniss Smith Lease, 5 Mar 1887 Fulton Co. IN – 17 Jan 1954 Hammond, Lake IN. Wife of Frank Smith, whom she married 28 Feb 1904 in Washburn Co. WI. In the 1905 WI state census, Frank (37, a laborer) & Grace (18) reside in Springbrook, Washburn WI with their son Arthur H. Smith (5 months). In 1910, Frank E. Smith (43 OH) is a farmer in Springbrook WI with wife Grace M. (23 IN) & their 2 children: Arthur H. (5 WI) & Bertha E. (3 WI). Their daughter Bertha Ellen Smith was born 14 Nov 1906 in Springbrook, Washburn WI, according to her WI birth record; on it, her father Frank's birth state is listed as IA. – Listed as Mrs. Lease of Hammond IN in her mother's May 1933 obituary. - Grace died of a coronary thrombosis at her home, 2922 Kenwood St., Hammond, Lake IN. She had been a Hammond IN resident for 13 years. Listed as the daughter of John Kniss & Margaret Swope, with the informant Harry Lease of the same address. Buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Hammond, Lake IN. F: 178132126
- Boy Kniss, b. ca. 1890 - The Spooner WI newspaper reports that the 8-year-old son of John Kniss died in Mar 1898. In the 1900 census, Margaret reports she has given birth to 5 children, 4 of whom are living (Grace, Oliver, Bobbie, Gertrude are listed).
- Robert ("Bobbie") Kniss, Jun 1894 IN (1900 census) –
- Gertrude M. or F. Kniss Hagerty, 19 Dec 1898 (Dec 1896 in 1900 census) Spooner, Washburn WI – 27 May 1991 Miles City, Custer Co. MT. SSN 517-94-2059. Wife of Stephen A. Hagerty. – Listed as Mrs. Gertrude Haggerty of Miles City MT in her mother's May 1933 obituary. - Died in Friendship Villa, Miles City MT; retired housewife. Widow. Resident of 1242 S. Strevell, Miles City MT. Daughter of John Kniss & Margaret Swoop. Buried in Custer City Cemetery, Miles City, Custer MT. F: 79169239
- Gladys Emma Kniss Smith Martin, 11 Jun 1900 WI – 20 Dec 1986. - On 6 Sep 1919 in Calhoun Co. MI, Gladys E. Smith, age 19, born Spring Brook WI, daughter of John Kniss & Margaret Swoop, married Stephen A. Martin, age 24, a machinist, b. Bellevue MI, son of Robert Martin & Josephine Mahoney. Both were residents of Battle Creek MI; a Presbyterian minister officiated. - Listed as Mrs. Gladys Martin of Battle Creek MI in her mother's May 1933 obituary & brother Oliver's Jan 1969 obituary. – Stephen A. Martin (1894-1956, F: 8285383) is buried with Gladys in Morgan Cemetery, Battle Creek, Calhoun MI. F: 8285373
- Bessie Bell Kniss Green, 7 Nov 1902 Veazie, Washburn WI – 18 Jun 1952 Galveston, Galveston TX (U of TX, Medical Branch) Her WI birth record lists her parents as John Kniss & Margret Swab. – On Find A Grave her birth surname is listed as McCall, not Kniss. A family tree alleges that her mother Margaret Swope Kniss was married to a Robert J. McCall. - Listed as Mrs. Bessie Green of Silsbee TX in her mother's May 1933 obituary. – Wife of Mose Green Jr. (1889 LA – 1972 TX, F: 282007520) with whom she had 9 children. They married 16 Dec 1920 in Deridder, Beauregard Parish LA. Her TX death record says she was separated from her husband at the time of her death. She was a resident at PO Box 114, Silsbee TX. Her birth is listed as "?? 1903" in WI, her father as "? Thompson" (b. WI) & Margaret Swop (b. MD). She died of a brain tumor & hemorrhage & is buried in Resthaven Cemetery, Silsbee, Hardin TX with Mose Green. F: 28200796

- Wallace Kniss, ca. 1906 WI. Living in Colt AR in May 1933 when his mother died. – Is he the Wallace Kniss/Kniess/Riess who is an “inmate” in the State Public School, Sparta, Monroe WI in the 1920 census, age 13, b. WI, parents b. US? - Did he, as Wallace M. Kniss, age 21, resident of Racine WI, marry Engried A. Osterlund, a resident of Ludington MI, on 24 Nov 1927 in Ludington, Mason MI, at Emanuel Lutheran Church? - Living in MT in Jan 1954.
- Infant boy Kniss, died Dec 1906
- James M. Kniss, 10 Apr 1906 Spooner, Washburn WI (WI birth record) - born to John Kniss & Margaret Scoope.
- Mildred Kniss, ca. 1909 WI (1910 census)
- Infant boy Kniss – died late Jul/early Aug 1910

Notes:

Family tree at: https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/111354465/person/210085398981/facts?_phsrc=hFB23124&_phstart=successSource

The name confusion:

The 1918 newspaper reports identified Tuscania survivor Oliver T. Kniss as a cook in the 107th Engineers, from the Michigan contingent. This is actually Oliver Alvin Kniss, cook, 107th Engineers. His military tombstone identifies him as entering the service from Wisconsin. He had been transferred to the 2nd Provisional Regiment, 56th Depot Brigade, when the original Company E from Spooner WI had been disbanded. Although the Tuscania passenger list (on which he appears as Oliver T. Kniss) lists his sister Mrs. Frank Smith, Rural Route 1, Box 85, Battle Creek MI as his next-of-kin, the Spooner WI newspaper lists her as residing in Spooner at the time.

Pre-war:

The *Spooner (WI) Register* publishes an obituary for an 8-year-old boy on page 1 of its March 5, 1898 issue. This would make his birth very close to that of Oliver's. The obituary in the “Spring Brook” news column reads: “Dr. Cox of Hayward was called in to attend the eight year old son of John Kniss, who was taken sick some time ago and was being taken care of by his father. Dr. Cox could not help him as he was too late. The little one had brain troubles of some kind, and passed away. It was buried in the Veazie cemetery last Wednesday. The REGISTER sympathizes with the bereaved parents, who did all they could to save their little one.” The mention of being cared for only by his father is unusual.

The *Spooner Advocate* publishes a “Card of Thanks” for an infant Kniss boy on page 4 of the December 7, 1906 issue. In this notice, only the infant's mother is mentioned. “Card of Thanks – I wish to extend my thanks to the many friends who assisted me during the sickness and at the death of my little son. Mrs. Margaret Kniss.” [In the 1910 census, Margaret Kniss is the “head of the household” in Spooner, but listed as married.]

The notice of the death of another Kniss infant (gender not indicated) appears on page 1 of the *Advocate's* August 5, 1910, issue. It too only mentions the baby's mother. “The infant of Mrs. John Kniss of Spooner was buried Friday. It was ill only a short time. Interment was in Earl cemetery.”

Oliver is mentioned in the February 9, 1912, *Spooner Advocate*, on page 1, in the "Springbrook" news column as visiting Spooner on Saturday. He was working for L.D. Slayton this winter.

The March 29, 1912 "Spooner (WI) Advocate", supplement page, again for Springbrook news, noted Oliver was helping L.D. Slayton put up ice. The ice would have been cut out of nearby lakes and then stored in sawdust for summer use.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate 29 Nov 1912 noted under Springbrook news: "Oliver Kniss is back from Battle Creek, Michigan and is now working with the railroad crew putting in new culverts."

Whatever connection Oliver had with Battle Creek, he will end up being identified as entering the Army from Battle Creek, although his tombstone will indicate he entered the service from Wisconsin.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate" 20 Dec 20, 1912 – Oliver Kniss, now a resident of Benoit WI, visited his sister, Mrs. Frank Smith.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate" 29 Aug 1913 - Oliver Kniss is working on the section for Anton Hanson. [The section reference means he is working for the railroad.]

"Spooner (WI) Advocate: 3 Oct 1913 - "Springbrook" news column: Oliver Kniss is digging potatoes for Frank Smith, his brother-in-law.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate" 24 Oct 1913 - Oliver did not have luck at the card game "flinch" as he won the "booby prize" at the Clover Leaf Flinch Club on October 16. The Clover Leaf Flinch Club announced in the 7 Nov 1913 "Spooner Advocate" that its next card party would meet with Oliver Kniss in two weeks, hosted at the home of his sister, Mrs. F.E. Smith. A reminder appeared in the November 21, 1913 "Spooner Advocate," again noting the Clover Leaf Flinch Club would meet with Oliver Kniss at his sister's home.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate" 5 Dec 1913 – Oliver Kniss left the area last Tuesday for A. Kennedy's logging camp near Superior WI, where he would be employed that winter.

Wartime:

Oliver A. Kniss was one of the 841 men in Washburn Co. WI who registered for the draft on 5 Jun 1917.

"Spooner (WI) Advocate" 27 Jul 1917 p 1 – "The Personnel of Company E" lists Oliver A. Kniss.

Oliver is not mentioned in the original "Spooner (WI) Advocate" reports on Tuscania, but in its 12 Apr 1918 issue: "We are advised through a letter to Mrs. Frank Smith his sister, that another Spooner boy was on the Tuscania and was saved. It was Oliver Kniss, who enlisted here in Co. E."

Post-war:

Obituary:

"Benton Harbor (MI) News-Palladium" 11 Jan 1961 p 16 - age 69 (?), b. 28 Sep 1889
 Rochester IN (not date on tombstone). Moved to small farm at Lawton MI from AR. Survived
 by wife Goldie, 7 sons, 5 daughters (misidentifies daughter Robbie as son) & sister Mrs.
 Gladys Martin. Funeral 13 Jan 1916 in Lawton MI with burial in Oak Grove Cemetery with
 military rites by WWI Veterans of Paw Paw MI.
 Oliver resided at North Nursery Street, Lawton MI at the time of his death.

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1900 Veazie township, Washburn Co. WI

John Kniss, 38 IN, Aug 1861, parents b. PA, married 14 years, blacksmith

Margaret E., 31 MD, Apr 1869, parents b. MD, gave birth to 5 children, 4 are living

Grace M., 13 IN, Mar 1887, at school

Oliver, 8 IN, Sep 1891, at school

Bobbie, 6 IN, Jun 1894, at school [male]

Gertrude M., 4 WI, Dec 1896

Name: Oliver Kniss

1905 Wisconsin state census: Springbrook, Washburn WI

John Kniss, 43 US, farmer

Margaret, 30 US

Oliver, 13 US

Robert, 11 US

Gertrude, 8 US

Gladys, 5 US

Bessie, 2 US

1910 Spooner, Washburn WI – Front St. (Ward 1)

Margaret E. Kniss, 41 MD, married, in 1st marriage, washerwoman, gave birth to 9 children, 7 are
 living [head of household]

Oliver, 18 IN, laborer, odd jobs

Gertrude, 13 WI

Gladis, 9 WI

Bessie, 7 WI

Wallace, 4 WI

Mildred, 1 WI

& her father, Martin Swope, 69 MD, parents b. MD, in his 2nd marriage

[For the Kniss children: father b. IN, mother b. MD]

1920 Richland, Lee AR – his wife to be

James McMillan, 50 MO, father b. IA, mother b. MO, laborer, log camp

Alice, 37 MO, parents b. MO [wife]

Steadman, 13 MO, parents b. MO [son]

Goldie, 7 MO, father b. IA, mother b. MO [daughter]

Cannot locate record for Oliver.

1930 L'Anguille, St. Francis AR

Oliver Kniss, 35 IN, parents b. IN, age 31 at 1st marriage, farmer, says "no" in the veteran column
(but all the answers on this page are "no" which is unlikely)

Goldie, 18 MO, parents b. MO, age 16 at 1st marriage

William H., 2 years 11 months AR

Also residing with them is Goldie's father, mother & brother:

James McMillan, 57 MO, parents b. MO, timberman

Alice McMillan, 46 MO, parents b. MO

Sherman McMillan, 21 MO, parents b. MO, laborer

1940 Ellis township, Cross Co. AR – resided in Ellis township in 1935 – census is undated

Name: Oliver Kniss, 49 [birth state left blank], road building for WPA [US Works Progress Administration]

Goldie, 25 MO

William, 13 AR

Robert, 7 AR

Leon, 4 AR

Harry, 2 AR

Sherman L., 1 month AR

& Goldie's parents:

James McMillan, 67 MO

Alice McMillan, 54 MO

The next census entry is for Goldie's brother:

Sherman, 43 AR & Susie (34 AR) McMillan, farmer, in the same house in 1935