

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

Knutson, Christian Emit/Emil
1873 Norway – 1936 WI

MAN HANGS SELF IN HIS WOODSHED EAST OF WAUTOMA

Wautoma, Wis. — (Special) — Chris Knutson, 64, was found hanging in the woodshed near his cottage on Fish lake, three miles east of this village, Sunday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock. The case was said to be clearly that of suicide, but no motive was learned.

Knutson was last seen Saturday morning between 7:30 and 8 o'clock. A neighbor, John Bishop, had gone to the woodshed to borrow an axe Sunday afternoon and noticed the body hanging from a rafter.

He notified Sheriff B. B. Schoultz and Frank Carley, coroner, and Buchanan Johnson, district attorney were called to make an investigation. Dr. Carlyle Dietrich was called from a nearby cottage and stated after investigation, that death was due to strangulation and the man had been dead from 12 to 24 hours.

Knutson had lived alone in a cottage for 10 years. He was a resident of the vicinity for many years and was a World war veteran.

A sister lives in Boston and a cousin, George Knutson, lives at Racine. Relatives were expected to come here today.

The American Legion was to make arrangements for the funeral. Those in charge are E. J. Fitzpatrick, J. J. Johnson and Frank Wiley. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been completed.

"Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern" Monday 12 Oct 1936 p 15

HANGS HIMSELF IN SHED WITH A ROPE AT LAKE PROPERTY

Wautoma, Oct. 12—(Special)—The body of Chris Knutson, 64, was found hanging by a rope from a rafter in the woodshed near his cottage at Fish lake three miles east of here Sunday evening at 3:30 by a neighbor, John Bishop. Bishop made the discovery when going to the shed to return an axe he had borrowed shortly before. He did not notice the body when he obtained the axe. It was estimated that Knutson had been dead between 12 and 24 hours. He was last seen Saturday morning.

The sheriff, coroner, district attorney and a doctor were called and the death was pronounced a suicide. Knutson a bachelor, was a World war veteran and a member of the American Legion. He had lived in this vicinity for many years and at his cottage for the past 10 years.

His relatives include a sister at Boston, Mass., and a cousin at Racine. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

"Stevens Point (WI) Journal" Monday 12 Oct 1936 p 8

KNUTSON CHRIS EMIL	WR X C	1 521 025
Pvt Co F 2 Sup Tn AEF	K	
Wautoma Wis	A	1 463 845
Ssn 251 079	Died 10/10/36	T 1 590 031
Born 10/28/73	R	
Enl 7/15/17	Dte 8/18/19	Cl 1 111 956
	I	

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

INDEX CARD

2-12000

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1R-D8PX-Q?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPTJ-J7YW>

WAR DEPARTMENT Q.O. M. G. Form No. 408 Approved Aug. 15, 1919 Revised May 14, 1941		APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE (PLEASE MAKE OUT AND RETURN IN DUPLICATE)				ORIGINAL	
Enlistment Date <u>June 27, 1917</u>		Discharge Date <u>August 18, 1919</u>					
<u>KNUTSON, Chris E.</u>		Rank <u>Corporal</u>		Company <u>Co 2</u>		U. S. Regiment, State Organization, or Vessel <u>5th Wisconsin</u>	
Christian Emil Knutson		Date of Death <u>October 10, 1936</u>					
Name of Cemetery <u>Holden Cemetery</u>		Located in or near City <u>Wautoma</u> State <u>Wis</u>		If World War Veteran Division <u>32</u> Branch <u>1st</u>		Emblem <u>Christian</u>	
To be shipped to <u>F. J. Fitzpatrick</u> at <u>Wautoma, Wisconsin</u>							
Whose post-office address is <u>Wautoma, Wisconsin</u>							
DO NOT WRITE HERE		This application is for the UNMARKED grave of a veteran. It is understood the stone will be furnished and delivered at the railroad station or steamboat landing above indicated, at Government expense, freight prepaid. I hereby agree to promptly accept the headstone at destination, remove it and properly place same at decedent's grave at my expense. NO FEE SHOULD BE PAID IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION.					
To A. G. O. <u>MAR 17 1942 DATE</u>		Address <u>Wautoma, Wis.</u> Date <u>May 20, 1942</u>					
Ordered <u>4599975</u>							
B/L							
Shipped <u>5/30/42</u>							

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-994Q-B9VH?i=2214&cc=1916249&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQV1Z-Z26G>

No. <u>194</u>		197 ORIGINAL	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Department of Commerce and Labor BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION DIVISION OF NATURALIZATION DECLARATION OF INTENTION (Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)			

State of Wisconsin }
County of Waushara } ss:

In the Biscuit Court
of Waushara County

I, Christian Knudsen, aged 36 years,
occupation Farmer, do declare on oath that my personal
description is: Color White, complexion Medium, height 5 feet 8 inches,
weight 165 pounds, color of hair Dark Brown, color of eyes Brown
other visible distinctive marks None
; I was born in Christiana Norway,
on the 28th day of October, anno
Domini 1873; I now reside at Waushara Wis.
I emigrated to the United States of America from Christiana Norway,
on the vessel United States; my last
foreign residence was Christiana Norway
It is my bona fide intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign
prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Osakou 111 ✓
King of Norway, of which I am now a citizen subject; I
arrived at the port of New York, in the
State
Territory of New York on or about the day
District of June, anno Domini 1903; I am not an anarchist; I am not a
polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith
to become a citizen of the United States of America and to permanently reside therein:
SO HELP ME GOD.

Christian Knudsen
(Original signature of declarant.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd
day of July, anno Domini 1910
W. G. Roberts,
Clerk of the Biscuit Court.

By , Clerk.

*If the alien arrived otherwise than by vessel, the character of conveyance or name of transportation company should be given.

11-2526

Christian Emil Knudsen

New York Passenger Arrival Lists (Ellis Island), 1892-1924

Tools

Name:	Christian Emil Knudsen • Edit
Sex:	Male
Age:	29
Immigration Date:	16 Jun 1903 • Edit
Immigration Place:	Ellis Island, New York City, New York, United States • Edit
Residence Place:	Norway • Edit
Marital Status:	Single
Nationality:	Norway, Norwegian
Second Additional Person's Name:	T Knudsen • Edit
Page Number:	112
Affiliate Line Number:	0002
Departure Port:	Christiania
Ship Name:	United States

SALOON, CABIN, AND STYERAGE ALIENS MUST BE COMPLETELY MANIFESTED.
 THIS SHEET IS FOR STYERAGE PASSENGERS.

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION.

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1893, to be delivered to the Commissioner of Immigration by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States.

S. S. *United States* sailing from *Christiania* *Norway*, 1903. Arriving at Port of *New York*, 16, 1903. 112

No. on List	NAME IN FULL.	Age.		Sex.	Married or Single.	Calling or Occupation.	Able to		Nationality.	
		Yrs.	Mos.				Read.	Write.	Country.	* Race or People.
✓ 1	<i>Bakke Oskar</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>S.</i>	<i>Child</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>Scand.</i>
✓ 2	<i>Knudsen Christian Emil</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>S.</i>	<i>Carpenter</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>Scand.</i>

Last Residence.	Final Destination. (State, City, or Town.)	Whether having a ticket to such final destination.	By whom was passage paid?	Whether in possession of \$30 or upward, and if less, how much?	Whether ever before in the United States; and if so, when and where.
Norway	Boston Mass	yes	Father	Goes with his mother Lorine Bakke	yes
Norway	Racine Wis	yes	Uncle	\$4.00	no

Whether going to join a relative; and if so, what relative, the name and address.	Ever in prison or almshouse or supported by charity? If yes, state which.	Whether a Poly- amist.	Whether under Contract, express or implied, to labor in the United States.	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical.	Deformed or Crippled, Nature and Cause.
Father B. Bakke F. Clark street Boston Mass	no	no	no	good	no
Aunt L. Lundsen Bank street 725 Racine Wis.	no	no	no	good	no

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9165-9579?cc=1368704&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AJFRV-5ZL>

Folketælling for Kongeriget Norge 1ste Januar 1891.

Kristiania By. Schema 2. Personseddel No. 8.....Tællingskreds No. 46..... Husliste No. 8.....

-
1. Fuldt Navn..... Christian Emil Kjøpman.....
 2. Kjøen¹⁾: Mandkjøn, Kvindekjøen.
 3. Stilling til Familiens Hovedperson¹⁾: Selv Hovedperson, Hustru, Son, Datter, Tjenestetyende, Logerende hørende til Familien, enslig Logerende, Besøgende Hovedpersonens Søster o. s. v.
 4. Ægteskabelig Stilling¹⁾ (for Personer over 15 Aar): Ugift, Gift, Enke-mand, Enke, Separeret efter Bevilling, Lovlig fraskilt.
 5. For gifte Kvinder: Er De og Deres Mand indbyrdes beslægtet, som Næstsøskendebrødre (Tremenninger) eller nærmere? Ja, Nei¹⁾.
 6. Fødselsaar: 18 73..... For Børn under 2 Aar: Fødselsmaaned.....
 7. Fødested: By, Herred eller Sogn..... Christiania.....
For de i Udlandet fødte: (Landets eller Stedets Navn).....
 8. Hvilken Stats Undersaat (for dem, der ikke ere norske Undersaatter).....
 9. Trossamfund (for dem, der ikke tilhøre den norske Statskirke).....
 10. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervs-gren (Hovednæring, Bieerhverv) og Stilling i samme.....
Tøjteser = Lørling.
 11. For de af Andre helt¹⁾ eller delvis¹⁾ Forsørgede:
Forsørgerens Livsstilling..... Værk- og Støjgerige.....
 12. Sindssvag, Døvstum eller Blind¹⁾.
 13. Er Sindssygdommen, Døvtamheden eller Blindheden medfødt (hvormed ligestilles, at den er kommen tilsyne i de første Barneaar), eller er den fremtraadt senere¹⁾?
 14. For de kun midlertidigt Tilstedeværende:
sædvanligt Bosted.....
 15. For de midlertidigt Fraværende:
antageligt Opholdssted.....



Is this his relative George Knudson? – “Racine (WI) Journal Times” Friday 25 Nov 1949 p 28

Name: Christian Emit/Emil Knutson

Name variations: Chris Knutson, Christian Knudsen

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. C - corporal

Serial number: 251,079

Entered service from: Racine, Racine WI

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: Chris E. Knutson

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: uncle George Knutson, 2203 Hanson Ave., Racine WI

Returned from war on: "Leviathan" Jul 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Chris E. Knutson

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: brother George Knutson, 2203 Hanson Ave., Racine WI
(mailing address: Wautoma WI) (pvt, Co. F, 2nd Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 15 Jul 1917

Discharged 18 Aug 1919

Address: Wautoma WI

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

Birth & death:

Born: 28 Oct 1873 Christiania (now Oslo), Norway

Died: 10 Oct 1936 Wautoma, Waushara WI (hanged himself in his woodshed at Fish Lake, 3 miles E. of Wautoma)

Find A Grave record: 113462250, presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Mount Morris, Waushara WI

Cemetery: Mount Morris Holden Lutheran

Tombstone: veteran tombstone - Chris E. - Wisconsin Corp 2 Sup Tn 2 Div

Father: ?

Find A Grave:

Mother: ?

Find A Grave:

Parents' marriage:

Spouse: ?

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

Siblings:

- A sister in Boston MA survived him when he committed suicide in 1936.

Notes: Most of what was discovered about him was found in the news stories about his suicide.

The family surname appears to have been spelled Knutsen.

Pre-war:

George Knutson of Racine WI is listed as his uncle on the Tuscania passenger list – his brother on his return voyage – and as a cousin in his obituary. An aunt Knutsen is listed in Racine WI on his sailing manifest when he immigrated to the US in 1906.

In the 1900 census for Racine, Racine WI, there is a George Knutsen, age 23, b. Norway, blacksmith, in the US for 16 years, naturalized, who is a boarder.

A George Knut Knutsen registered for the WWI draft in 1917 with a wife Otelia, residing at 1316 Howe St., Racine WI, born 12 Oct 1876 Norway. His estate – listing both Knutsen and Knutson as spellings of his surname – is probated in Racine in Feb 1948.

Or is this George Knutson, 1862-1949, F: 179298418 buried with his wife Christine (1865-1952, F: 179298523) in Racine, Racine WI – obituary copied above.

Christian Emil KNUDSEN, age 29, born 28 Oct 1873 in Christiania (renamed Oslo in 1925), Norway & arrived in NY on Jun 1903 aboard the ship "United States." The ship left Christiania, Norway, on 4 Jun 1903 & arrived in NYC at Ellis Island on 16 Jun 1903. He was a carpenter, single, heading to Racine WI. His uncle had paid his passage. The amount of money he had with him is illegible. His aunt T. (?) Knudsen lives at 725 Bank St., Racine WI.

Wartime:

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 10 Feb 1918 p 4 – "Tuscania Survivors – Maybe His Name is Here" included Chris E. Knutson of Racine WI.

Post-war:

Christian KNUDSEN submits a declaration of intent to become a citizen on 10 Jul 1922. He was born Christiania (Oslo), Norway on 28 Oct 1873. Farmer. Height: 5'8". Weight: 165 lbs. Resident of Wautoma WI.

Obituary:

"Stevens Point [WI] Journal" 12 Oct 1936 p 8 - age 64. Found hanging from a rope from a rafter in his woodshed at his cottage 3 miles east of Wautoma, where he had lived alone for past 10 years. Found by his neighbor John Bishop who was returning an axe. It was ruled that he had been dead for 12 to 24 hours. He was last seen around 8 a.m. the morning of 10 Oct 1936. A bachelor. WWI veteran. Member of the American Legion. Survived by 1 sister in Boston MA.

Social Security number:

Censuses: