

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

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TUSCANIA**Tuscania casualty****Lewton, Theodore Eugene****1892 VA – 5 February 1918 Tuscania**



Theodore E. Lewton ♦

Theodore Eugene Lewton – Find A Grave 169463028

Forest Grove Man Tuscania Survivor

Hillsboro, Or., Feb. 11.—Theodore E. Lewton, bugler, on the Tuscania, was from near Forest Grove, and is the son of a prominent contractor and builder. The dispatches give his name as Lawton. Lewton is known to have sailed on the ship. Before enlisting with the air squadron he had tried to enlist with the army, but had been rejected. He then went to Canada and upon his return passed a successful examination.

A false report that Theodore had survived – “Oregon Daily Journal” (Portland OR) Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 2

FOREST GROVE MAN VICTIM

T. E. Lewton, Reported Among Tuscania Dead, Former O. A. C. Man.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Theodore E. Lewton, bugler of Company F, 20th Engineers, reported drowned when the Tuscania was sunk by a German submarine, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lewton, who reside on a farm about four miles northwest of this city.

The young man was 23 years old, and, besides his parents, leaves two sisters, Mrs. R. N. Baker, wife of Dr. Baker, of this city, and Miss Adelaide, at home, and a younger brother, Edward, who is now serving in France.

For about 12 years his father resided in Portland and was a contractor and builder. The young man attended high school there, later taking a course at Oregon Agricultural College. He enlisted in the 20th Engineers last November. He had previously seen service in the Oregon National Guard.

On Find A Grave 169463028 – from "The Oregonian" Saturday 16 Feb 1918 p 7

Eugene Lewton

a Hun Victim

Among the Americans who perished on Feb. 6th, when a German submarine sank the transport Tuscania, was Theodore Eugene Lewton, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lewton of the Hill-side district. 'Gene Lewton was 26 years of age and was a bugler for company F, 20th engineers, having enlisted at Portland last November. He was a very popular young man and much genuine sorrow is felt in this city for his grief-stricken relatives. The body was recovered and buried on the Scottish coast.

"Forest Grove (OR) Express" 14 Feb 1918 - https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/42162621/person/28072316999/media/70876850-4324-4f97-aab6-a3236a85b7ca?_phsrc=hFB27241&_phstart=successSource

JAMES GURNEY, GLIDE MAN, AMONG DEAD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Home addresses of United States soldiers killed in the Tuscania torpedoing, who were buried on the Scottish coast, taken from the Associated Press list of those unaccounted for, show the following Oregonians:

Terry Tuttle, Elgin.
Wm. Morin, Portland.
Theodore Lewton, Forest Grove.
Percy Stevens, Bend.
George N. Bjork, Helena, or possibly St. Helens.
Curtis Wilson, Salem.
James Gurney, Glide.
James Pierce, Creswell.
Peter Agen, Jewell.
John Laakko, Astoria.
Elmer Houston, Held.
Riley Murray, Eugene.
Harry Bates, Baker City.

Buried on Islay, Scotland – “Roseburg (OR) News-Review” Wednesday 13 Feb 1918 p 1

• • •
The Mount Tabor Parent-Teachers' association will act as host at a meeting to be held Thursday evening at the school house to dedicate the service flag

of that school. There are 54 stars on the flag, one of them a gold one, to the memory of Theodore Eugene Lewton, a victim of the Tuscania, who was buried on the north coast of Scotland. Four of the stars represent one family, and two boys have gone from several families. Bishop Sumner will give the principal address and the speech of dedication will be made by D. A. Grout. There will be patriotic music by the audience and solos by well known local musicians.

“Oregon Daily Journal” (Portland OR) Sunday 14 Apr 1918 p 38

LEWTON THEODORE EUGENE C 7 016
 Pvt Co H 20 Engrs K
 Redford Va A
 Sa Died 2/6/18 T 295 259
 Born 3/25/92 R
 Enl Dis Ct.
 I 7 716
 U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
 MAIL AND RECORDS
 Form 7202-Rev. Sept., 1926
 INDEX CARD *** 3-13060

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1T-LQXX-K?cc=2968245&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3A7PKC-556Z>

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 OREGON

WHITE; INDUCED INTO NATIONAL ARMY OR ASSIGNED THERETO UPON ENLISTMENT.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF DEATH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Lewton, Theodore E.		Sgt	Co F 6 Bn 20 Engrs	Feb 5/18

Theodore H Lewton

United States, World War I American Expeditionary Forces Deaths, 1917-1919

From Oregon, page 7: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MW-K9KF-S?cc=2996059&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPH4-ZG8R>

Theodore Eugene Leuton

Military • Oregon, World War I, County Military Service Records, 1919-1920

Event Type **Military Service**
 Name **Theodore Eugene Leuton**
 Event Date **13 Dec 1917**
 Event Place **Vancouver, Clark, Washington, United States**
 Event Place (Original) **Vancouver, Washington**
 Residence Place **Forest Grove, Oregon**
 Birth Date **25 Mar 1892**
 Birthplace **Radford, Montgomery, Virginia**
 Military Service Branch **Army**
 Father's Name **James Edward Leuton**
 Father's Birth Date **19 Jun 1864**
 Father's Birthplace **Wisconsin**
 Mother's Name **Emma A Van Dorn**
 Mother's Birth Date **9 Jul 1864**
 Mother's Birthplace **New Jersey**

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QPTN-NF1Z>

History of Oregon

Vol. I

WASHINGTON COUNTY

NAME	RESIDENCE	CAUSE OF DEATH
Lewton, Theodore E.....	Forest Grove, Oregon.....	Killed in action—sinking of Tuscania.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/28737/images/dvm_LocHist012524-00470-0?pld=865

Service Flag With 75 Stars Dedicated

Mount Tabor School Emblem Bears Two
Gold Stars for Eugene Lewton and
Gerald Barrette; Hundreds Attend.

More than 700 people crowded the assembly room of the Mount Tabor school Thursday evening for the dedication of the service flag on which are emblazoned 75 stars. Two of the stars are of gold for Eugene Lewton and Gerald Barrette. When the list was read, the name of Charles Webster was mentioned as a Mount Tabor boy, although he had not attended the school, who had made the supreme sacrifice. The flag was unfurled by Mrs. J. O. Stearns, who has given four sons to the service, David, Kenneth, Ralph and Walter Stearns.

The meeting was arranged under the auspices of the Parent-Teacher association and the president, Mrs. J. O. Hall, presided. Mrs. E. A. McPherson arranged the program. D. A. Grout made the address of dedication, the names of those on the honor roll were read by W. M. Miller, principal of the school, and a special tribute was paid to those indicated by the gold stars by Rev. E. O. Eldridge. Dr. Stuart McGuire sang a patriotic song, "When the Boys Come Home."

The principal address of the evening was given by Bishop Sumner.

"Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland OR) Friday 19 Apr 1918 p 4

Memorial for Four Soldier Dead to Be Held at Mt. Tabor.

Sunday morning a memorial service will be held at Mount Tabor Methodist church for the four soldiers represented by the gold stars on the church service flag. Three of the men, Charles Webster, Clifford Harris and Walter Stearns, were killed in action in France, and the fourth, Eugene Lewton, died from exposure following the sinking of the Tuscania. Lewton's father and brother are with the American forces in France. There are 51 stars on the church service flag. Sunday evening Fred Lockley of The Journal will tell of his war experiences in France. There will be in attendance Troop 45 of the Boy Scouts' organization.

"Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland OR) Saturday 15 Mar 1919 p 16

Bodies of 5 Oregon Heroes Near Home

Portland, Or., Oct. 21.—The bodies of six war heroes who gave their lives in France will arrive in Portland Friday afternoon, according to Maj. Frank P. Tingley, depot quartermaster. They were members of the 20th engineers and all lived in Oregon save one. The bodies are those of Private John A. Laakko, Astoria; Private Sidney W. Bernitt, Marshfield; Private W. Matthews, Bellingham, Wash.; Private E. A. Houston, Prineville; Private William F. Morin, Tigard; and Private Theodore E. Lewton, Portland.

"Albany (OR) Democrat-Herald" Thursday 21 Oct 1920 p 3

Bodies of Heroes Will Arrive Friday

PORTLAND, Oct. 20.—The bodies of six war heroes who gave their lives in France will arrive in Portland Friday afternoon, according to Maj. Frank P. Tingley, depot quartermaster. They were members of the 20th engineers and all lived in Oregon save one. The bodies are those of Private John A. Laakko, Astoria; Private Sidney W. Bernitt, Marshfield; Private W. Matthews, Bellingham, Wash.; Private E. A. Houston, Prineville; Private William F. Morin, Tigard; and Private Theodore E. Lewton, Portland.

"Salem (OR) Statesman-Journal" Thursday 21 Oct 1920 p 1

CARD OF THANKS

Our sincere thanks is hereby tendered our friends who so kindly remembered us by their presence and floral tributes at the funeral services of our son, Private Theodore Eugene Lewton. Special appreciation is given the American Legion and the Mothers' club. J. E. Lewton and family, Forest Grove, Or.

"Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland OR) Wednesday 27 Oct 1920 p 11

Siblings:



Ethel Annette Lewis, chairman of the Bible Study Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association, Willamette University, 1913 - https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1265/images/40409_1821100517_1042-00055?pId=253274277

Two Weddings At Forest Grove

Forest Grove, Or., Aug. 28.—Ethel A. Lewton and Ruel N. Baker were married at the Hillside Congregational church Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Rev. J. M. Barber officiating. Mrs. James Bamford of Portland sang "Oh, Promise Me." The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lewton, and attended Willamette university for two years. The groom is a former student of Pacific university. After a trip thorough the Yellowstone park, the newlyweds will go to Chicago, where they will attend school.

Marriage of sister Ethel Annette Lewton to Ruel Nolan Baker - "Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland OR) Friday 28 Aug 1914 p 7

Collision Kills Woman, 5 Hurt

FOREST GROVE (AP) — An elderly woman was killed and five persons injured Sunday when two cars collided at an intersection near Forest Grove.

State police said the victim was Mary Wolfe, 77, Forest Grove, a passenger in a car carrying three other persons who were hospitalized in Forest Grove. None of the injuries were serious, officers said.

Police said one car traveling west on Carnation Road slammed into the other vehicle broadside. The second auto was heading south on Oregon 47. The impact knocked both over a bank.

Two teen-age girls in the second vehicle suffered minor injuries.

The death increased Oregon's traffic toll for the year to 218 in the Associated Press count, compared to 246 for a comparable period in 1970.

Death of sister Mary Adelaide Lewton Wolfe in a car accident – “Salem (OR) Statesman-Journal”
Tuesday 25 May 1971 p 3

WED IN NORTH BEND

One of the prettiest weddings of the spring season occurred on Friday evening at 8 o'clock at the Christian church in North Bend, when Pearl Isabel Edmonds, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Edmonds, became the bride of James Edward Lewton, Jr., of Forest Grove.

Preceding the ceremony, Mrs. Ormond Gildow of Portland sang "I Love You Truly," following which she played the wedding march from Mendelssohn. Yvonne and Virginia Bunnell, six and eight year old nieces of the bride, dressed in lavender voile, led the wedding procession down the aisle of the church, strewing roses in the path of the bride. Nadine Bunnell, their four year old sister, dressed in peach voile, followed, carrying the ring on a white satin cushion. Mrs. W. A. Bunnell, sister of the bride, as matron of honor, preceded the latter, who entered on her father's arm.



Wedding of brother James Edward Lewton Jr. & Pearl Isabel Emonds – "Coos Bay (OR) World" Saturday 26 Jun 1926 p 2

Name: Theodore Eugene Lewton

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 20th Eng. 18th/Co. F - bugler

Serial number: serial numbers were not assigned to Army enlisted men until after the sinking of the Tuscania showed their value

Entered service from: Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Theodore Lewton (Fold3.com page 411) and as Theodore E. Lewton (Fold3.com page 498)

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father James E. Lewton, Forest Grove OR

First buried on the isle of Islay, Scotland: Kilnaughton, Islay, Scotland - grave 28, as T.E. Lewton

Body returned from war on: "Antigone" arriving Hoboken NJ 29 Sep 1920

Body listed on return ship as: T.E. Lewton

Rank & unit on return ship: pvt, Co. F, 20th Engrs

World War I draft registration (1917): as Theodore Eugene Lewton - b. 25 Mar 1892 Radford VA; res: Forest Grove, Washington OR. Single. Farmer for self at Hillade (spelling?) near Forest Grove OR.

Served 2 years in the National Guard. Height: 5'8" – slender. Registered on 23 Oct 1917 (after the national registration day of 5 Jun 1917)

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Born 25 Mar 1892, died 6 Feb. 1918

Address: Redford [sic] VA

Rank/unit: private, Co. H, 20th Engineers

Birth & death:

Born: 25 Mar 1892 Radford [independent city] VA

Died: 5 Feb 1918 Tuscania

Find A Grave record: 169463028 – photo – presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Portland, Multnomah OR

Cemetery: Lincoln Memorial Park

Tombstone:

Father: James Edward Lewton Sr., 20 Jun 1864 Durand, Pepin WI – 18 Nov 1945 Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR. Son of the Rev. James Theodore Lewton, a Methodist minister (1838-1912, F: 124254758) & Mary Macauley (1843-1916, F: 124254750). Buried in Forest View Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR.

Find A Grave: 89332203

Mother: Emma Ann VanDoren/Van Doren Lewton, 5 Jul 1865 Morristown, Middlesex NJ – 4 Feb 1950 Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR. Her mother's maiden name was Stephenson. Buried in Forest View Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR.

Find A Grave: 89332202

Parents' marriage: 25 Dec 1888

Spouse:

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

Siblings:

- Ethel Annette Lewton Baker, 28 Nov 1891 Roanoke VA – 27 Nov 1966 Arlington Heights, Cook IL. Wife of Ruel Nolan Baker (1883 IA -1966 AZ, F: 192174771) whom she married 2 Sep 1914 in Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR. Graduate of Washington High School, Portland OR. Attended Willamette University; found in 1912 & 1913 yearbooks. She moved to Arlington Heights IL from Phoenix AZ a few months before her death, after the death of her husband Ruel on 3 Sep 1966. Buried in Green Acres Memorial Park, Scottsdale, Maricopa AZ. F: 192174885

- Mary Adelaide Lewton Wolfe, 13 Jan 1894 Radford, Montgomery VA – 23 May 1971 Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR. SSN 542-24-0054. Wife of Richard Felix Wolfe (1885 Germany – 1981 CA) whom she married 23 Oct 1920 in Washington Co. OR. Died in a car accident.
- James Edward Lewton Jr., 18 Feb 1899 VA – 6 Apr 1967 Gaston, Washington Co. OR. WWI veteran. Married 18 Sep 1919 in Clark Co. WA to Marjorie Fern Davis (1900 OR -1982 WA). She was listed as Fern M. Davis. - James & Marjorie had a son, Lloyd Eugene David Lewton (b. 31 Aug 1920 OR, d. 2008). - Marjorie married Robert Aloysius Twiss (1889 NE – 1971 OR, F: 32656020) on 21 Sep 1931 in Seattle, King WA & is buried as Marjorie Twiss, F: 32656032. - James Jr. married 18 Jun 1926 in Coos Co. OR to Pearl Isabell Edmonds Anderson (1903-1982). Pearl was the daughter of Harry A. & Ethel Edmonds & the twin sister of Earl David Edmonds, both born 22 Mar 1903. James & Pearl had 2 daughters. Buried in Forest View Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington Co. OR. F: 89332204

Notes: family tree at: <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/42162621/person/28072316999/facts>

In the autobiography written 20 Jun 1929 by George Halbert Parker, whose son Edward Frederick Parker had been removed from Tuscania due to mumps or exposure to mumps on 26 Jan 1918 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, but who later died in the Army in France – George Parker says that Theodore Lewton's grandfather was the Methodist minister who married George & Lydia Ann Campbell Saxon. <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/3388891/person/192059284111/media/df24fbac-86da-4a29-8c83-39b6b6e2eb1d>

Pre-war:

1911 Portland OR city directory:

Lewton:

Jas. E., bldg. contr, resident of 103 E. 61st

Jas T. Reverend, resident of 108 E. 60th

Theo. E., driver, Brubaker & Normandin, boards at 103 E. 61st St.

Was a student at Oregon Agricultural College (now Oregon State University) – “Corvallis (OR) Gazette-Times” Friday 24 Jan 1919 p. 1 – “Great Numbers of O.A.C. Soldiers in World War” – there were about 2,000 in service with 45 casualties. On page 4, a list of the Gold Star names, including Theodore E. Lewton of Portland OR.

Wartime:

"Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland OR) 11 Feb 1918 p 2 - bugler Lewton, from near Forest Grove OR, son of prominent contractor & builder, had been rejected by Army so went to Canada, upon his return successfully passed exam.

“Oregon Daily Journal” (Portland OR) Sunday 13 Oct 1918 p 37 – there are 162 names of Oregonians on the Roll of Honor. Among them: Lewton, Theodore Eugene, buglar in 20th Engineers, victim of Tuscania February 5, 1918, Forest Grove, mother Mrs. Emma A. Lewton.

Post-war:

"Salem (OR) Statesman Journal" 21 Oct 1920 p 1 & "Oregon Daily Journal" (Portland) 20 Oct 1920 p 11 - bodies of 6 war heroes arriving from France (actually Scotland) in Portland 22 Oct on 3 p.m. train, all privates from 20th Engineers, includes Theodore E. Lewton, Portland OR

"Corvallis (OR) Gazette-Times" Wednesday 5 Aug 1931 p 12 (continued from p. 9) – the Roll of Honor from Oregon State College includes among the names of alumni & students that of Theodore Eugene Lewton.

Obituary:

Censuses:

1900 Roanoke, Roanoke City VA – 608 Stewart Ave.

J.E. Lewton, 35 MN, Jun 1864, parents b. MN, married 11 years, contractor
 Emma A., 35 NJ, Jul 1864, parents b. NJ, gave birth to 4 children, 4 are living
 Ethel, 9 VA, Nov 1890, at school
 Eugene, 7 VA, Mar 1893, at school
 Adalaide, 4 VA, Jan 1896, at school
 Edwawrd, 1 VA, Feb 1899

1910 Portland, Multnomah OR

James E. Lewton, 44 WI, father b. KY, mother b. IL, married 21 years, contractor, building
 Emma A., 44 NJ, parents b. NJ, gave birth to 4 children, 4 are living
 Ethel A., 19 VA
 Theodore E., 18 VA
 Mary A., 15 VA
 James E., 11 VA
 &

James W. Allen, 74 FL, father b. RI, mother b. GA, in 2nd marriage, married 5 years, manager US mail
 [brother-in-law]

Angie A. Allen, 38 NY, parents b. NJ, in 1st marriage, stenographer, public office, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Florence L. Allen, 4 FL

Mary E. Allen, 1 OR