

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

The logo for Tuscania, featuring the word "TUSCANIA" in a stylized, black, serif font with a double outline, set against a solid red rectangular background.

Mayer, Joseph Eugene
1896 NY – 1978 NY



Joseph Eugene Mayer – left: Find A Grave 169568107 and in “Brooklyn Daily Eagle” Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 2 – right: “NY Evening World” 8 Feb 1918 p 3



MYRIAD OF 'MUMS. Joseph E. Mayer, foreground, and several members of his staff check over some of the 125,000 'mums that will soon be on their way from Mayer's greenhouses, in North Patchogue, to New York City and other more distant markets.

'Mum Grower Tells Dark Secret: Spurs Flowers With Black Cloth

By Frank Mooney

North Patchogue—While Suffolk sleeps these October nights, trucks roll out of this village nightly on nocturnal trips, transporting to markets in New York City and Washington, D.C., over 125,000 chrysanthemums that are well accustomed to darkness.

The flowers are the products of Joseph E. Mayer, of Medford Ave., here, whose greenhouses are said to be the largest on Long Island using the "black cloth" method of growing 'mums.

From Aug. 1 on, the Mayer 'mums are given the black cloth treatment daily so as to spur the growth of the flower. At 4:30 PM each day, Mayer and other members of the greenhouse staff, including his two sons, Robert and Richard, begin the routine task of unrolling nearly three-quarters

of a mile of black cloth over the flowers.

The cloth remains there until 8 AM the next day. "Longer 'nights,'" Mayer explained, "bring them into flower sooner."

During the uncovered hours, each 'mum plant is checked for extra buds, which must be removed so as to improve the strain of the one flower left atop each plant. Mayer estimates that between May 15, when the young cuttings are first set out, until Oct. 1, 20 buds are removed from

the average plant. This means a total of over two million buds removed from this season's 125,000 'mum plants.

Mayer, who operates under 30,000 square feet of glass, has followed the flower-growing business for 20 years, growing only for the wholesale market. He also grows sweet peas, camillias, orchids, iris and calla lilies.

Originally an automobile mechanic, he decided to enter the greenhouse business at the start of the 1929 depression.

"Newsday" (Suffolk Edition) (Melville NY) Friday 12 Oct 1951 p 21

Mayer, Joseph E		250,192	600	White	1½
(Surname)	(Christian name)	(Army serial number)	(Race: White or colored)		
Residence:	74 Maple Ave	Patchogue	Suffolk	NEW YORK	
	(Street and house number)	(Town or city)	(County)	(State)	
* Enlisted in	RA Mineola LI NY	—	Aug 1/17	—	
† Born in	Patchogue NY	—	21 4/12 Yrs	—	
Organizations:	15 Aero Sq Sig C to-Dec 1/17; Sig C AS 213 Aero — Sq to disch				
Grades:	Pvt 1cl Sept 30/18;—Corp Feb 1/19; Sgt Apr 1/19; — Sgt 1cl May 1/19				
Engagements:	—				
Wounds or other injuries received in action: None.					
‡ Served overseas:	Jan 24/18 to May 31/19				
§ Hon. disch.	June 10/19 on demobilization				
Was reported	0 per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.				
Remarks:	—				
Form No. 724-1½, A. G. O. March 12, 1920.					
3-7688					

*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.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3030/images/40808_1120704930_0416-00170?usePUB=true&_phsrc=hFB31090&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=176420

Joseph E. Mayer, 82, noted flower grower

Joseph E. Mayer, 82, an unsurprising lifelong Patchogue who established his own business at age 16, and subsequently went on to become one of Suffolk County's best-known flower growers, died Saturday in Brookhaven Memorial Hospital.

Born in Patchogue, Mayer, as a youth, leaned toward the mechanic's trade, and, at age 16, launched a bicycle repair shop in Sayville, which he operated for a few years.

When World War I came along, he joined the 212th Aerial Squadron. His route to France, he narrowly escaped death when the transport, Tuscania, was torpedoned. He spent several hours in the water before being rescued.

On being discharged from military service, he went to work for the New South Shore Contracting & Dredging Corp., in Patchogue, but all the while, his love for flowers seemed to be charting his course in life. In 1928, he established Mayer's Greenhouses on three acres of its present eight-acre site on Medford Avenue, just above Sunrise Highway.

With the aid of his late wife, Elsie, he operated the flower-growing business for about a year as a part-time basis while he

was grower on Long Island.

After the firm had developed a wholesale business to the point where it was servicing customers over a large section of the nation, Mayer and his sons decided nearly 30 years ago to offer their products locally by establishing Mayer's Flower Cottage, a facility that is today considered one of Suffolk's largest retail outlets.

Robert Mayer recently retired from the firm, which is presently conducted by Richard Mayer and a third-generation Mayer, the latter's son, Jeffrey, who studied horticulture at Cornell University, and up to last year, taught the subject at SUNY A & Y College, Farmingdale.

As a young man, the senior Mayer belonged to the Patchogue Volunteer Fire Department. He subsequently became a charter member of the North Patchogue Volunteer Fire Department, whose first headquarters, incidentally, was situated on the Mayer property at Medford Avenue and Clark Street.

He was also a charter member of Patchogue Post, American Legion, and a member of Patchogue Council, Knights of Columbus.

Throughout his many years in

worked as a mechanic for Mulhourn's Garage on East Main Street, on the present site of the Patchogue Stationery Store.

From its original size of 25,000 square feet of glass, the Mayer enterprise was steadily increased to its present 85,000 square feet of glass, plus field acreage.

Meanwhile, Mayer had taken his two sons, Richard and Robert, into the firm.

Throughout the firm's expansion, Mayer proved to be one of the most progressive growers in the industry, not only introducing and experimenting with many innovative ideas aimed at improving production, but also pioneering in the growing of chrysanthemums on a year-round basis. At one time, the Mayer firm was the largest

chrysanthemum grower in the business, then which he semi-retired 18 years ago, the son-in-law Mayer had the untiring assistance of Mrs. Mayer. She died five years ago, shortly after their 52nd wedding anniversary.

He was a resident of Longh. Fla., for six months of the year.

Besides his two sons, Mayer leaves a brother, John of Patchogue, a sister, Mrs. Mary Grunig of Brightwaters, and six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The body reposed in the Roland Funeral Home, Patchogue, where a Wake Vigil was held Monday evening. A Requiem Mass was offered Tuesday in St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church. Interment took place in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Coram.

Wartime:



Joseph E. Mayer and Francis X. Mayer, brothers, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank X. Mayer. Both are in the Aviation Branch of the service.

"Brooklyn (NY) Daily Eagle" Sunday 23 Dec 1917 p 47 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/686925909/?terms=%22joseph%20e%20mayer%22&match=1>

Joseph Mayer, of Sayville, Was Member of Air Unit Aboard Ill-Fated Tuscania

**Prosperous Motorcycle Repair Man
May Have Lost Life in Attack
By U-Boat.**

(Special to The Brooklyn Times.)

Sayville, Feb. 7.—Joseph Mayer, who for three years had conducted a bicycle and motorcycle repair shop here, was a member of the 313 Aerial Squadron, one of the air units reported aboard the transport Tuscania, sunk by a German submarine.

Mayer, whose father, F. X. Mayer, is in business in Patchogue, came here three years ago and established the repair shop. He was industrious and soon built up a large business. Last August he enlisted as a machinist in the aviation service, and his sister, Mary Mayer, took over the management of his business here. He has a brother, Frank, who is also in the army.

"Brooklyn Times Union" Thursday 7 Feb 1918 p 1

RESCUE SIX FROM DROWNING IN BAY

**Patchogue Party Cling to Boat
When Capsized in a
Squall**

SAVED IN NICK OF TIME.

**Loughlin and Cooper Reach Dis-
tressed Yacht as Exhausted Boys
Are Sinking.**

(Special to The Eagle.)

Patchogue, L. I., June 22—The cap-
sizing of a yacht in a squall in the
middle of Great South Bay, late yes-
terday afternoon, nearly cost the lives
of six persons.

Capt. Fred Waltman, in the yacht
Emily J, accompanied by John and
Francis Niquet, two sons of Frank
Niquet, a florist of this place; William
and Jack Briscoe, sons of John Bris-
coe, and Joseph Mayer, son of Frank
X. Mayer, a b.ayer of Patchogue, were
the ones who nearly lost their lives.
All of them are boys under twenty and
could not swim.

The boat capsized in a squall which
struck them a mile and a half west of
Lone Hill, as they were returning from
a pleasure trip to Cherry Grove on
Great South Beach. They were all
thrown out in deep water, but fortu-
nately held onto the sides of the cap-
sized boat.

A power boat, Alkali Ike, owned by
William J. Loughlin, was a half mile
away from the distressed party, but
made for the rescue with all speed.
In the boat with Mr. Loughlin was a
friend, Percy B. Cooper.

By the time they had reached the
overturned yacht, the boys were in a
state of exhaustion from gripping the
boat in the choppy sea. Several of
them lost their grasps before the res-
cue party arrived, and were hauled
out half drowned by Mr. Cooper and
Loughlin. It was a difficult task to
get the men into the launch in the
wild sea, and several times the rescue
boat was nearly swamped. Just as Mr.
Loughlin was pulling in one of the
drowning men, a huge swell broke
against the side of the launch, and he
was pitched overboard, but managed
to get back in by the assistance of a
pike pole with Mr. Cooper on the other
end.

Several of the rescued yachtsmen
were unconscious, and had to be re-
vived by the application of first aid.
They were brought ashore at Jones'
Dock, and, after warming up and dry-
ing their clothes, were little the worse
off for the ducking.

Unlucky with water? — almost drowned in 1914 — “Brooklyn Daily Eagle” Monday 22 Jun 1914 p 4 -
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/59737802/?terms=%22joseph%20mayer%22%20florist%20brookhaven&match=1>

LIFEBOAT LEAKED; GLAD HE MISSED IT, WRITES SURVIVOR

**"No Plug in Bottom, and Would
Probably Have Been Lost,"
Says Patchogue Man.**

WORD FROM TUSCANIA MEN

Patchogue, L. I., March 2—Mrs. Frank N. Mayer of this village has received a letter from her son, Joseph E. Mayer, one of the Tuscania survivors of the 213th Aero Squadron. Mayer states that he is in good health and at the time he wrote the letter which arrived yesterday, he states, he is going to Liverpool. The letter was dated Belfast, Ireland. Mrs. Mayer received another letter from her son which was dated the day before he sent the second one, but both arrived together. Mayer goes on to say:

"Dear Mother—I am now in Belfast. We're leaving today and expect to go to Liverpool. Was in town last night and had a fine time. It did not cost me a cent, as I had lost all of my money and other belongings when the ship went down."

Mayer vividly describes in his letter how he was down in the hold of the ship getting bread in a bakery and doing kitchen police when the torpedo struck. Mayer writes:

"The lights went out and it took me fully ten minutes to find my way up on deck. I could find no lifebelt and the lifeboat I was assigned to had been launched. I was some glad of that afterward, for if we had gotten into it we would probably have been lost as there was no plug in the bottom of it. We stayed on deck until 8:30 p.m. and a torpedo boat came and picked us up."

In closing, Mayer signs his name and writes:

P. S.—Please send some cigarettes.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Saturday 2 Mar 1918 p 3

Wife:



Joseph Mayer, 24, Patchogue, Long Island NY & Elsie Newmann, 26, 62 Grand Ave. – surname also found as Neumann & Neuman - "Brooklyn (NY) Times Union" Wednesday 5 May 1920 p 7

—Miss Elsie L. Neumann, of 63 Grant avenue, and Joseph E. Mayer, 47 Maple avenue, will be married at the Blessed Sacrament Church, Pine street, near Fulton street, on May 23. The officiating clergyman will be the Rev. John M. Kiely, pastor of the church.

Marriage of Joseph Eugene Mayer & Elsie L. Neumann on 23 May 1920 – “Brooklyn (NY) Chat”

Saturday 8 May 1920 p 13 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/576542366/?terms=%22joseph%20e%20mayer%22&match=1>

Father:

F. X. MAYER DIES OF AUTO INJURIES

Oldest Patchogue Barber Active in Fraternal Circles— Run Down at Crossing.

Patchogue, Oct. 17.—Frank X. Mayer, 68, of 74 Maple ave., oldest barber in Patchogue, died today in Patchogue's Private Hospital of injuries received Monday night when he was struck while crossing Waverly ave. on his way to attend a meeting of the Foresters by a car operated by William Arnott, of 93 Cedar ave., Patchogue.

Mr. Mayer suffered a concussion of the brain, a fracture of both bones of the right leg and other injuries.

He had been a barber for 54½ years and had followed that trade in Patchogue for 43 years, having operated his own shop in the same location on South Ocean ave. for 35 years.

Born in Alsace-Lorraine in 1867, Mr. Mayer became a barber apprentice at 14 in Nancy. He later went to Paris, where he worked for three years before coming to this country in 1889 and locating in Jersey City. In 1893 he came to Patchogue and, after a short time, purchased the shop in which he was working. He continued it in its same stand until 35 years ago when he moved it across the street.

Mr. Mayer was active in fraternal organizations, having been a charter member of Patchogue Lodge of Elks and Patchogue Council, K. of C. He was also a member of and trustee of many years of the Foresters of America, Patchogue Lodge of Moose, the Royal Arcanum, and the Shepherd. He was an exempt member of the Hook and Ladder Co. of the Patchogue Fire Department and retired during the past year as president of the Exempt Firemen's Association.

He leaves his wife, Mrs. Ellen Mayer; a daughter, Mrs. Charles Grampp, of Brightwaters, and three sons, Frank X. jr., of Islip, and Joseph and John, of Patchogue, and one brother and two sisters in France.

Funeral arrangements are not yet complete.

Obituary of father Frank X. Mayer – “Brooklyn Times Union” Thursday 17 Oct 1935 p 17 - <https://www.newspapers.com/image/577611780/?article=4aec780d-75be-4674-8552-46b8bae73be5>

A recent signed photograph of the applicant must accompany the application. The photographs must be on this paper, should have a light background, and be not over three inches in size.

See this block must be carefully filled out. The instructions refer to country of birth, date of birth, and the applicant's intention of naturalization must accompany the application. The rules should be carefully read before making the application in the Department of State, Division of Passport Cases, Washington, D. C.

(Edition of January, 1922.)
FORM FOR NATURALIZED CITIZEN.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
 STATE OF New York
 COUNTY OF Suffolk
 I, Frank Xavier Mayer, a NATURALIZED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport.

England, Germany + France

I solemnly swear that I was born at Hagenau France on June 21, 1862; that my father, Ignatz Mayer, was born in France and is now residing at now dead; that I emigrated to the United States, sailing from France about Oct 29, 1889; that I resided about years, uninterruptedly, in the United States, from 1889 to 1922 at New York; that I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States by the County Court of Suffolk at Patchogue N.Y. on Aug 2, 1895, as shown by the Certificate of Naturalization presented herewith; that I am the IDENTICAL PERSON described in said Certificate; that I have resided outside the United States since my naturalization at the following places for the following periods:

from _____ to _____
 from _____ to _____

and that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at Patchogue in the State of New York, where I follow the occupation of Owner of a Bath Shop. My last passport was obtained from _____ on _____ and was _____ I am about _____ months with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein; and I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereafter named for the following purpose:

Germany Switzerland Belgium
France Italy United States

I intend to leave the United States from the port of New York sailing on board the _____ (Date of departure.) 1922

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; So help me God.

Sworn to before me this 2 day of February, 1922
William B. Smith
 Special deputy Clerk of the Supreme Court at Patchogue, N.Y.

15 Bureau Field File

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 55 years. Mouth: medium, lower lip
 Stature: 5 feet, 6 inches, Eng. Chin: square, firm
 Forehead: medium Hair: brown-gray
 Eyes: brown Complexion: ruddy
 Nose: medium, pointed Face: oval
 Distinguishing marks: none

IDENTIFICATION.

I, James P. Buxton, Feb 7, 1922, solemnly swear that I am a native citizen of the United States; that I reside at Patchogue NY; that I have known the above-named Frank X Mayer personally for 18 years and know him to be the identical person referred to in the within-described certificate of naturalization; and that the facts stated in his affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

James P. Buxton
Signer
Patchogue, NY
 (Signature of witness)

Sworn to before me this 7 day

of February, 1922

[SEAL]

William B. Smith
 Special Deputy
 Clerk of the Supreme Court at Patchogue N.Y.

Applicant desires passport to be sent to the following address:

Frank X Mayer
34 Ocean Ave.
Patchogue, N.Y.

A signed duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto must be sent to the Department with the application, to be affixed to the passport with an impression of the Department's seal.



Passport application of father Francis Xavier Mayer 7 Jan 1922 -
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1174/images/USM1490_1831-0450?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pld=81512

Children:

Patchogue Rites Held on Sunday

Miss Betty Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson of Oak St., Patchogue, became the bride at 5 PM yesterday of Richard Mayer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mayer of Medford Ave., Patchogue. The marriage was performed in St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Patchogue, by the Rev. William Hanlon of Seaford, formerly of Patchogue.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore an off-white satin gown, the skirt of which was caught up with a cluster of orange blossoms. Her fingertip veil was fastened to clusters of orange blossoms, and she carried a bouquet of orchids and bouvardia.

Mrs. Martin Kissen of Patchogue was matron of honor for her sister. She was attired in a gold satin gown with a bustle back and off-the-shoulder neckline. She wore a headdress of bronze pompoms and carried a bouquet of the same.

Mrs. Edwin Bailey and Mrs. Robert Hughes of Patchogue, Mrs. Louis Perrino of Medford, and Miss Theese McGuire of Bay Shore also attended the bride. They wore green satin gowns similar in style to that of the matron of honor and also carried pompoms.

Robert Mayer, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Ushers were Robert Hughes, Arthur Fucciolo, Buddy Graniello, and John Ransome of Patchogue.

Mr. and Mrs. Mayer are honeymooning in the Poconos and will make their future home at 70 Clark St., Patchogue. The bride was graduated from Seton Hall Catholic High School, Patchogue.

Marriage of son Richard Walter Mayer to Grace Elizabeth (Betty) Wilson on 12 Sep 1940 – “Newsday (Suffolk Edition) (Melville NY) Monday 13 Sep 1940 p 18

Siblings:

MAYER—Frank X. Jr., on August 17, at Largo, Florida, formerly of Islip, N.Y., in his 75th year. Survived by wife, Kitty Frame Mayer. Father of Mrs. Beatrice Anderson of Babylon, Mrs. Helen Buschbaum of Hialeah, Florida, Frank X. Mayer III of Islip, N.Y. Brother of Mary Grampp of Brightwaters, Joseph and John of Patchogue. Also survived by 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Memorial service Wednesday, 11:00 AM at the Overton Funeral Home, 172 Main St., Islip, N.Y. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the "Sight Conservation Fund," c/o Bay Shore Lions Club, would be appreciated.

Obituary of Frank Xavier Mayer, Jr. on 17 Aug 1969 in Largo FL – "Newsday" (Nassau Edition) (Hempstead NY) Saturday 23 Aug 1969 p 25

GRAMPP—Mary E., on December 16, 1987, of Brightwaters, NY. Wife of the late Charles L. Grampp. Loving mother of Ellen G. Doan and Charles F. Fond sister of John Mayer. Also survived by her nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends at the George C. White Funeral Home, 364 E. Main St., Bay Shore, NY, today, 2-5 and 7-9 PM. Mass of Christian Burial, Saturday 10 AM, St. Patrick's R.C. Church, Bay Shore. Interment St. Lawrence Cemetery, Sayville, NY.

Obituary of sister Mary E. Mayer Grampp – "Newsday" (Suffolk Edition) (Melville NY) Friday 18 Dec 1987 p 190

Mayer—Helfenstein

Patchogue, June 9.—Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, in St. Francis de Sales R. C. Church, John J. Mayer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank X. Mayer of 74 Maple avenue, and Miss Ruth D. Helfenstein, daughter of Mrs. Ralph Brainard, of the Bronx, were married by the Rev. J. J. Cronin. Joseph E. Mayer, a brother of the groom was best man and Miss Dorothy Helfenstein, a sister of the bride, was bridesmaid.

The bride wore a white crepe de chine dress and veil and carried white roses. The bridesmaid wore green silk and pale pink and hat to match. She carried pink roses. Miss Mary Stanton sang "O Promise Me." Following the church ceremony a reception was held at the Laurel House, which was attended by twenty-seven invited guests. Following a honeymoon in New England, Mr. and Mrs. Mayer will reside on Thorne street.

Marriage of brother John J. Mayer to Ruth D. Helfenstein 7 Jun 1925 – "Brooklyn Times Union"

Tuesday 9 Jun 1925 p12 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/558641832/?terms=%22joseph%20mayer%22%20florist%20brookhaven&match=1>

Name: Joseph Eugene Mayer

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 213th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 250,192

Entered service from: Patchogue, Suffolk NY

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Joseph E. Mayer

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": mother Mrs. Frank X. Mayer, Patchogue NY

Returned from war on: "Louisville" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Joseph E. Mayer

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Mrs. Marie Mayer, Patchogue NY (sgt 1st class, 213th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Joseph Eugene Mayer - b. 19 Mar 1896 Patchogue NY; res: 74 Maple Ave., Patchogue, Suffolk NY. Single. Bicycle repairer for myself, Sayville, Long Island NY. Tall & slender.

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): Medford Ave., Rte #8, Patchogue, Long Island NY

World War II draft registration (1942): as Joseph E. Mayer - b. 19 Mar 1896 Patchogue NY; res: Medford Ave., Patchogue, Suffolk NY. NOK Elsie Mayer, same address. Self-employed on Medford Ave., Patchogue, Suffolk NY. Height: 5'8" – 185 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index: cannot locate

Enlisted:

Discharged:

Address:

Rank/unit:

NY, WWI Army service record:

Joseph E. Mayer, serial 250192. Resident of 74 Maple Ave., Patchogue, Suffolk NY. Enlisted at Mineola, Long Island NY on 1 Aug 1917 at age 21 years 4 months. Born Patchogue NY. In 15th Aero Squadron, Signal C to 1 Dec 1917 – in 213th Aero Squadron, Signal C to discharge. Promoted to private 1st class 30 Sep 1918 – to corporal 1 Feb 1919 – to sergeant 1 Apr 1919 – to sergeant 1st class 1 May 1919. Overseas 24 Jan 1918 to 31 May 1919. Discharged 10 Jun 1919. 0% disabled.

Birth & death:

Born: 19 Mar 1896 Patchogue, Suffolk NY

Died: 17 Jun 1978 Patchogue, Suffolk NY

Find A Grave record: 169568107 – photo – presence on Tuscania indicated in text & flower

Burial location: Coram, Suffolk NY

Cemetery: Holy Sepulchre

Tombstone:

Father: Francis/Frank Xavier Mayer, 21 Jun 1867 Alsace, France – 17 Oct Patchogue, Suffolk NY. Son of Ignatz Mayer. The oldest barber in Patchogue NY, he was hit by a car while walking in the crosswalk on the way to a Foresters meeting. The car was driven by William Arnott. Frank suffered a brain concussion & two fractures in his right leg. His obituary notes he became a barber's apprentice in Nancy, France, at age 14, then moved to Paris, France, where he worked for 3 years before coming to Jersey City NJ in 1889. In 1892 he moved to Patchogue NY. Buried in St. Francis DeSales Cemetery, Patchogue, Suffolk NY.

Find A Grave: 137407847

Mother: Ellen Rogers Mayer, 1875 (Find A Grave) or Dec 1876 Irish Free State [Ireland] – 8 Oct 1956 Patchogue, Suffolk NY. Arrived in the US in 1891 or 1892. Buried in St. Francis DeSales Cemetery, Patchogue, Suffolk NY.

Find A Grave: 137407932

Parents' marriage: 24 Sep 1893 Patchogue, Suffolk NY

Spouse: Elsie Neumann Mayer, 10 Mar 1894 Kings Co. NY – died or was interred 12 Jul 1972 (also found as 1973). Daughter of Louis & Annie L. Neumann. In the 1915 NY state census, Louis (50

Germany, barber) & Annie L. (47 US, housework) Neumann lived at 62 Grant Ave. [the address Elsie used on her marriage license] with daughters Elsie (21 US) & Ernestiene (24 US), both stenographers. Buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Coram, Suffolk NY.

Spouse Find A Grave: 169568105

Marriage: 23 May 1920, at Blessed Sacrament Church, Pine St. near Fulton, Brooklyn NY. License announced in newspaper of 3 May 1920.

Children:

- Robert Joseph Mayer, 27 Nov 1921 Patchogue, Suffolk NY – 2 May 2003. SSN 399-24-0407. On his WWII (1942) draft registration, Robert lived on Medford Avenue in Patchogue NY. His NOK & his employer were Joseph Mayer. Richard Walter Mayer, 2 Feb 1927 Patchogue, Suffolk NY - . Married Grace Elizabeth (Betty) Wilson (1927-2011). On his WWII (1942) draft card, he lived at 399 Medford Ave., Patchogue NY. His NOK & his employer were Joseph Meyer. He enlisted in the US Army Air Corps on 9 Jun 1945. – A summarized obituary lists “Marie Rosina” as his surviving wife.

Siblings:

- Francis (Frank) Xavier Mayer, Jr., 15 Jan 1896 NY – 17 Aug 1969 Largo, Pinellas Co. FL. Married in 1912 in NY to Mary Pokorny (1893-1975). Apparently married again.
- Mary Mayer Grampp, 3 Nov 1897 NY – 19 Dec 1987 Brightwaters, Suffolk NY. SSN 082-26-8877. Wife of Charles Grampp (1894-1965, F: 218368911). Buried in St. Lawrence Martyr Roman Catholic Cemetery, Sayville, Suffolk NY. F: 218368945
- John J. Mayer, 25 Dec 1900 Patchogue, Suffolk NY – 19 Dec 1989. SSN 130-26-2405. Name is John J.C. Mayer on his NY birth record. Husband of Ruth D. Helfenstein, whose mother at the time of their marriage on 7 Jun 1925 in Patchogue, Suffolk NY was Mrs. Ralph Brainard of the Bronx. Ruth was born 1903, died 1990, F: 137408351. Buried in St. Francis DeSales Cemetery, Patchogue, Suffolk NY. F: 137408330

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

“NY Sun”: son of F.X. Mayer of Patchogue NY) (enlisted Mineola NY 1 Aug 1917)

“New York Tribune” Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 2 – on board: Joseph E. Mayer, private, Patchogue, Long Island NY. Mother Mrs. Frank X. Mayer.

“NY Herald” 9 Feb 1918: enlisted as mechanic at Mineola NY Jul 1917. Well-known in town as he ran a bicycle store in nearby Sayville.

“Brooklyn Times Union” Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 2 – reported safe: Joseph E. Mayer, Patchogue NY.

"Brooklyn Daily Express" 13 Feb 1918 p 8 - Michael Rogers died 9 Feb 1918 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank X. Mayer, Maple Avenue, Patchogue NY, a few hours after she received news that her son Joseph E. Mayer was safe following the Tuscania sinking.

Post-war:

Obituary:

According to the obituary found on Find A Grave 169568107, Joseph had started his own business at age 16, of bicycle repair. He became a flower grower in Suffolk Co. NY. In 1978 he established Mayer's Greenhouses, on 3 acres of what became an 8-acre plot on Medford Avenue, just above Sunrise Highway. Twenty years before his death, he established the retail Mayer's Flower Cottage. At the end of his life, he lived in Largo FL six months of the year.

Social Security number: 126-30-7931

Censuses:

1900 Brookhaven, Suffolk NY –

Frank X. MEYER, 32 France, Jun 1867, parents b. France, emigrated 1889, in US for 10 years, naturalized, barber

Nellie, 23 Ireland, Dec 1876, parents b. Ireland, emigrated 1891, in US for 9 years, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

Frank, 5 NY, Jul 1894, at school

Joseph, 4 NY, Mar 1896

Mary Helen, 1 NY, Nov 1898

& sister-in-law Mary Rogers, 22 Ireland, Apr 1878, parents b. Ireland, single,

& boarder Charles P. Smith, 42 NY, Mar 1858

1910 Brookhaven, Suffolk NY – Jayne/Jane Ave.

Frank Mayer, 42 France, parents b. France, in 1st marriage, married 17 years, emigrated 1891, naturalized, barber, own shop

Ellen, 33 Ireland, parents b. Ireland, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 4 children, 4 are living, emigrated 1894 (?) or 1897? Or ?

Frank, 15 NY

Joseph, 14 NY

Mary E., 12 NY

John, 9 NY

1915 NY state census – Brookhaven, Suffolk NY – 49 Jayne Ave.

Frank E. Mayer, 45 France, barber

Helen, 38 Ireland, housewife

Joseph, 18 US, bicycle store

Mary, 17 US, school

John, 14 US, school

& father-in-law Michael Rogers, 73 Ireland, no occupation

1920 Patchogue, Suffolk NY – 74 Maple Ave.

Frank X. Mayer, 50 France, parents b. France, emigrated 1890, naturalized 1897, barber, store

Ella, 43 Ireland, parents b. Ireland, emigrated 1891, naturalized 1891

Joseph, 23 NY, machinist, garage

Mary, 22 NY, bookkeeper, meat market

John, 19 NY, barber, store

& boarder Gustave Seyfreid, 60 Germany, barber, helper

1925 NY state census – Brookhaven, Suffolk NY – Jayne St.

Jos. E. Mayer, 29 US, auto mechanic

Elsie L., 31 US, housework

Robt. Jos., 3 US

1930 Brookhaven, Suffolk NY – 425 Medford Ave. – conducted 17 May 1930

Joseph Mayer, 34 NY, father b. France, mother b. Irish Free State, age 25 at 1st marriage, proprietor, greenhouse, WWI veteran

Elsie, 36 NY, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, age 27 at 1st marriage

Robert J., 8 NY

Richard W., 3 years 1 month NY

1940 Brookhaven, Suffolk NY – Medford Ave. – same house in 1935

Joseph Mayer, 44 NY, florist, greenhouse

Elsie, 46 NY

Robert, 18 NY

Richard, 13 NY