

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

Norris, James Jay, Jr.
1896 IL – 1988 AZ



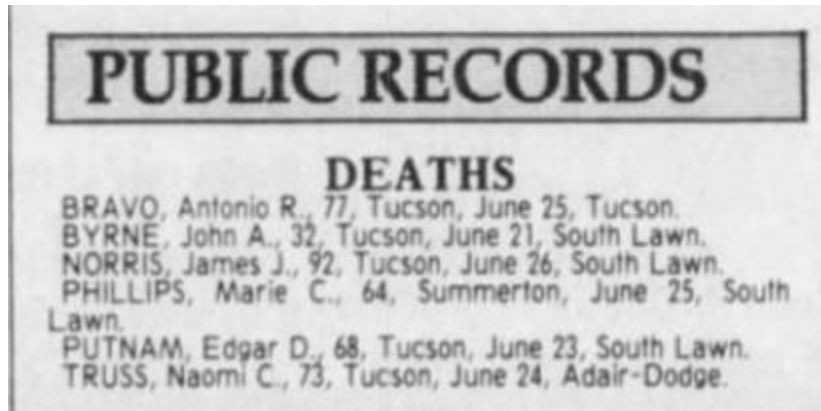
First cousins: Archibald Hall (left) & James Jay Norris (right) –
<https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/L87B-M3V/james-jay-norris-1896-1988>



Caption: Levi Gates Kaster (sitting) and cousin Jim Norris, Delaware, Iowa -
<https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/18324030/person/122098128709/media/9b2d0401-9bdb-482b-867c-c0497014528b>
AND <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/L87B-M3V/james-jay-norris-1896-1988>



The Norris siblings – Ruby, Della & James Jay Jr. (white dress, in front) -
<https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/L87B-M3V/james-jay-norris-1896-1988>



"Arizona Daily Star" (Tucson AZ) Monday 27 Jun 1988 p 4

NORRIS, JAMES J. JR.		c-21 968 313
Chauf. 158 Aero Bq. AS		RS-
Odin, Ill.		RH-
Sn. 250 031	Died	V-
Born 5 11 96		N-
Enl. 9 17 17	Dis. 4 8 19	K-
		A- 3 737 405
		H-
		T- 224 979 F
		Ct- 2 886 492

VA FORM 3-7202a Existing stocks of VA Form 3-7202a, Jul 1968, will be used. MASTER INDEX CARD 16-58777-2 SEP 1955

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MS-Z3MV-9?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3A7BNS-YKZM>

95. Norris, James J. Jr.	17 Sept 17	Survivor Transferred Cable HQ, 48 2-9-18
		Transf as Ret fr Hq Det Horsed Sec 311th
		Am Tn Div Tns, 86th Div Camp Grant Ill Dec
		4/17 to ASSC Kelly Field Tex per SO 93
		Hq Camp Grant Ill Dec 3/17. Assgd as Pvt
		to Sqdn par 11 SO 208 Hq Kelly Field Tex
		Dec 18/17 Joined sd.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-F3Z8-DXQ4?cc=3346936&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3A681Q-VC68>

Wife:



MYRTA COLLINS
Oloh, Miss.
A. B. DEGREE

"Those who make the least noise do the most work; an engine that expends all its steam whistling has nothing left with which to turn the wheels."

This quotation being true, we feel sure that Myrta's reserve force is great, for no girl has ever spent three years at the Woman's College, making as little disturbance as has she. Good work has characterized her career here, and a disposition to do her duty always, and when she is gone the quiet force of her character will yet linger in these walls to help many another girl.

Mission study leader '16 and '17.

President of Hermenian Society third term '17.

Norris Services Held At Oloh Tuesday Morning

Services for Mrs. Myrta Collins Norris of Baton Rouge and formerly of Oloh, were held at 9 a.m. Tuesday in Oloh Baptist Church. Rev. Earl Brooks, pastor, officiated with interment in Oloh Cemetery.

Mrs. Norris, who was 57, died at 6:15 p.m. Saturday in Methodist Hospital.

The body was taken to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Collins, Oloh, and remained there until time for services.

Other survivors include her husband, James J. Norris of Baton Rouge; three sisters, Mrs. J. C. Moody of Oloh, Mrs. J. U. Wilkinson of Dathne, Ala., and Mrs. Richard Bean of Elizabeth City, N. C.; five brothers, O. T. Collins of Denver, Colo., R. C. and Fleet Collins of Oloh, Rider Collins of Mobile and T. H. Collins of Lake Charles, La.

Mrs. Norris has a large family connection in this area, being a niece of the late Dr. M. P. Collins and Mrs. Z. E. Crawley of this city.

Obituary of wife Myrta Collins Norris – "Columbia (MS) Columbian-Progress" Thursday 18 Jun 1953

MRS. J. J. NORRIS

Services for Mrs. Myrta Collins Norris of Baton Rouge and formerly of Oloh, will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday in Oloh Baptist Church. Rev. Earl Brooks, pastor, will officiate. Interment will be in Oloh Cemetery.

Mrs. Norris, who was 57, died at 6:15 p.m. Saturday in Methodist Hospital.

The body will be taken to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Collins, Oloh, at 3 p.m. today and will remain there until time for services.

Other survivors include her husband, James J. Norris of Baton Rouge; three sisters, Mrs. J. C. Moody of Oloh, Mrs. J. U. Wilkinson of Dathne, Ala., and Mrs. Richard Bean of Elizabeth City, N. C.; five brothers, O. T. Collins of Denver, Colo., R. C. and Fleet Collins of Oloh, Rider Collins of Mobile and T. H. Collins of Lake Charles, La.

Hulett Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements

Obituary of wife Myrta Collins Norris – "Hattiesburg (MS) American" Monday 15 Jun 1953 p 6

SUMMER PLANS

The members of the faculty for the present session expect to spend the summer as follows: S. J. Ingram, graduate work at Tulane University; Miss Myrta Collins, graduate work at Peabody College, after a short trip to Washington D. C.; T. B. Depriest, graduate work at Peabody College; O. L. Brooks, special work at Millsaps College; Miss Mabel Burns, gra-



[article continues]

At Bay School – “Biloxi (MS) Sun Herald” Saturday 19 May 1928 p 9

Father:

from Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths, 1916-1947	
Name:	James J. Norris Sr.
Event Date:	26 Feb 1934
Event Place:	Odin, Marion County, Illinois
Sex:	Male
Race:	WHITE
Age:	66
Birth Year (Estimated):	1868
Birth Date:	13 Aug 1867
Birthplace:	Odin, IL
Father's Name:	Ben T. Norris
Father's Birthplace:	GREENVILLE, IN
Mother's Name:	Elizabeth M. Gwynn
Mother's Birthplace:	VT
Occupation:	ENGINEER
Residence Place:	ODIN, MARION COUNTY, IL
Spouse's Name:	Hattie Collis
Burial Date:	01 Mar 1934
Burial Place:	Village of Odin, Marion County, IL
Cemetery:	PEACEFUL VALLEY

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/93LF-13B>

**Mr. and Mrs. James Norris, of
Murphysboro, are visiting the family
of B. F. Norris.**

“Marion County Democrat” (Salem IL) Friday 14 Oct 1892 p 5

**Mr. and Mrs. James Norris, of
Murphysboro, are visiting their par-
ents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Norris, of
this place.**

“Marion County Democrat” (Salem IL) Friday 14 Jun 1895 p 5

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Norris spent a part of last week in Murphysboro, visiting their son, James Norris and family.

When his paternal grandparents came to visit in Odin IL in Jul 1896, James Jr. would have been 1 month old – “Marion County Democrat” (Salem IL) Friday 3 Jul 1896 p 5

ODIN VILLAGE TICKET.
The License and Anti-License tickets of the village of Odin have been nominated as follows: License Mayor J. F. Sugg; trustees, P. A. Broad, D. F. Reeves and J. J. Norris. Anti-License—Mayor, S. E. Thompson, William Moore, George Hoskinson and Blaine Pitts, trustees.

“Salem (IL) Republican” Thursday 4 Apr 1907 p 1

J. J. Norris and daughter, Della, and Miss Maud Norris of Odin are house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Norris.

James Jr.’s father & sister Della - “Belleville (IL) News-Democrat” Saturday 31 Oct 1931 p 5

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hawley, J. J. Norris, Mrs. B. J. Houtz and daughter Barbara Ann, all of Odin, Ill., and Mrs. A. Derleth were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Norris.

James Jr.’s sister Della Norris Hawley & father J.J. Norris Sr. – “Belleville (IL) News-Democrat” Thursday 7 Dec 1933 p 9

James Norris

Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940

Name:	James Norris
Event Type:	Marriage
Event Date:	21 May 1891 • Edit
Event Place:	Jackson, Illinois, United States • Edit
Event Place (Original):	Jackson, Illinois
Sex:	Male
Age:	24
Birth Year (Estimated):	1867
Birthplace:	IL • Edit
Father's Name:	B. F. Norris
Spouse's Name:	Hattie Collis
Spouse's Sex:	Female
Spouse's Age:	21
Spouse's Birth Year (Estimated):	1870
Spouse's Birthplace:	IL • Edit
Spouse's Father's Name:	Edward Collis
Spouse's Mother's Name:	Harriet Hall

marriage of parents on 21 May 1891 in Jackson Co. IL -
<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/9JBY-X4X>

Mother:



<https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/93LF-13B/edith-harriet-collis-1871-1916>

COLLIS Caroline Sophia (b1879) photo with
sisters, Elizabeth Jane COLLIS (b1860) and
Edith Harriet COLLIS (b1871)

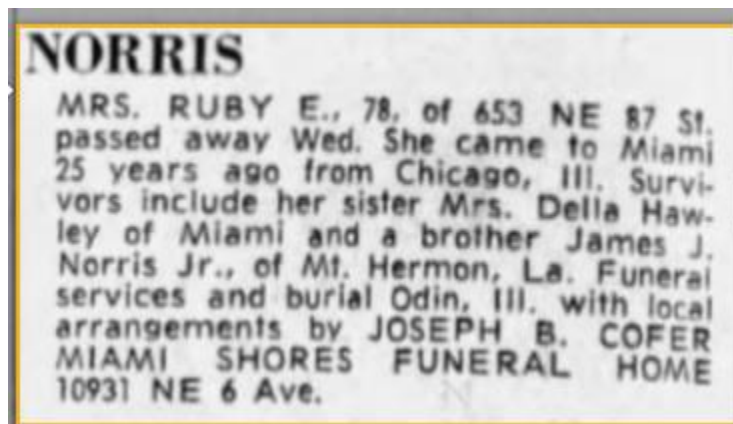
:

James Jr.'s mother is the oldest Collis daughter pictured (seated, front right) -
<https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/93LF-13B/edith-harriet-collis-1871-1916>

Siblings:

from Illinois Marriages, 1815-1935	
Name:	Linn G. Harris
Event Type:	Marriage
Event Date:	8 Nov 1916
Event Place:	Carlyle, Clinton, Illinois, United States
Event Place (Original):	Carlyle, Clinton, Illinois, United States
Sex:	Male
Age:	28
Birth Year (Estimated):	1888
Father's Name:	J. B. Harris
Mother's Name:	Kittie Hawkins
Spouse's Name:	Ruby E. Norris
Spouse's Sex:	Female
Spouse's Age:	24
Spouse's Birth Year (Estimated):	1892
Spouse's Father's Name:	J. J. Norris
Spouse's Mother's Name:	Harriet E. Collis

Marriage of sister Ruby Edith Norris to Linn G. Harris 8 Nov 1916 -
<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/9JBY-X4X>

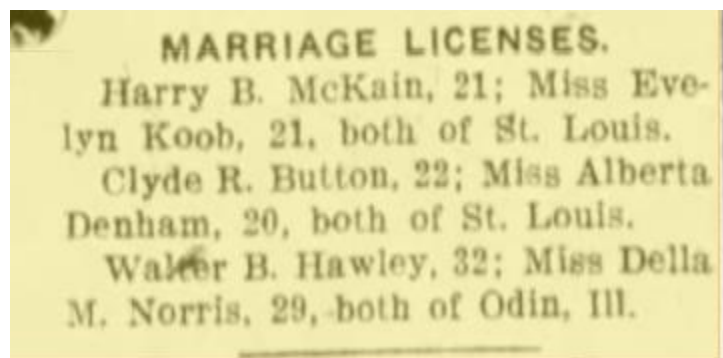


Obituary of sister Ruby Edith Norris (who reverted to her birth surname) – “Miami (FL) News” Friday
 1 Oct 1971 p 44

Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940

Name:	Walter B Hawley
Event Type:	Marriage
Event Date:	22 May 1926
Event Place:	Belleville, St. Clair, Illinois, United States
Event Place (Original):	Belleville
Sex:	Male
Age:	33
Birth Year (Estimated):	1893
Father's Name:	Elmer Hawley
Mother's Name:	Lorena McGill
Spouse's Name:	Della A Norris
Spouse's Sex:	Female
Spouse's Age:	30
Spouse's Birth Year (Estimated):	1896
Spouse's Father's Name:	J J Norris
Spouse's Mother's Name:	Hattie Collis

Marriage of sister Della A. Norris to Walter B. Hawley on 22 May 1926 in Belleville, St. Clair IL - <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/9JBY-XWY>



"Belleville (IL) News-Democrat" Saturday 22 May 1926 p 7

Name: James J. Norris, Jr.

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 250,031

Entered service from: Odin, Marion IL

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: James J. Norris Jr.

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father James J. Norris, Sr., Odin IL

Returned from war on: "Montana" Mar 1919

Sailed on return ship as: James J. Norris (Fold3 indexed as James J. Morris but correct Norris on the original form)

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father James J. Norris, Odin IL (cpl, 158th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): as James J. Norris Jr. - b. 11 May 1896 Murphysboro IL; res: one address crossed off, then added: Chicago IL Single. Fireman, Swift & Co., Union Stock Yards, Chicago IL. Tall, medium build.

World War II draft registration (1942): James J. Norris, Jr. - b. 11 May 1896 Murphysboro IL; res: 1920 Ave. "O," Galveston TX. NOK Mrs. M. Norris, Galveston TX. Employed by Kansas City Bridge Co., Boulevard 25 Th, Galveston, Galveston TX. "fractured skull" – Height: 6' – 206 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 17 Sep 1917

Discharged: 8 Apr 1919

Address: Odin IL

Rank/unit: chauffeur, 158th Aero Squadron AS

Birth & death:

Born: 11 May 1896 Murphysboro Township, Jackson IL

Died: 26 Jun 1988 Tucson, Pima AZ

Find A Grave record: interment info: "Arizona Daily Star" (Tucson AZ) 27 Jun 1988 p 4

Burial location: Tucson, Pima AZ

Cemetery: South Lawn Memorial

Tombstone:

Father: James Jay Norris, Sr., 13 Aug 1867 Odin, Marion IL - 26 Feb 1934 Odin, Marion IL. Son of Benjamin Frank Norris & Eliza Miriam Porter (F: 105681387). Buried Peaceful Valley Cemetery, Odin, Marion IL.

Find A Grave:

Mother: Edith Harriet (Hattie) Collis Norris, IL - 5 May 1871 Cook Co. IL - 28 Mar 1916 Odin, Marion IL. Daughter of Edward Collis & Harriet Hall. Buried in Odin, Marion IL.

Find A Grave:

Parents' marriage: 21 May 1891 Jackson Co. IL

Spouse: Myrta ("Mertie") Collins Norris, 20 May 1896 Marion Co. MS – 13 Jun 1953 MS. SSN 464-24-9487. Daughter of Elba Todd Collins (1874-1956, F: 34798102) & Elizabeth Ann ("Lizzie") Morris (1875-1968, F: 34797617). Graduate of Mississippi Woman's College (Hattiesburg MS) in 1915. Buried in Oloh Community Cemetery, Lamar Co. MS.

Spouse Find A Grave: 34823977

Marriage: 17 Jun 1935

Children:

Siblings:

- Ruby Edith Norris Harris, reverted to Norris, 8 Jul 1893 IL - 29 Sep 1971 Miami, Dade FL. SSN 253-03-9478. Married Lynn George Harris on 8 Nov 1916 in Carlyle, Clinton IL. Lynn, born 4 Aug 1889, d. Aug 1972, SSN 323-01-2055, had remarried as of 14 Sep 1923 to Mabelle L. Gorman in Cook Co. IL. Ruby's FL death record & obituary list her surname as Norris. Buried in Peaceful Valley Cemetery, Odin. Marion IL.
- Della A. Norris Hawley, 17 Nov 1895 Murphysboro, Jackson IL (Mar 1894 in 1900 census) – 21 Dec 1988 Tucson, Pima AZ. SSN 558-30-3628. Married Walter Bernice Hawley (1894-1947, F: 106055855, buried in Peaceful Valley Cemetery, Odin, Marion IL) on 22 May 1926 in Belleville, St. Clair IL. – In the 1930 census, Della Hawley, 34 IL, status: married, married for the 1st time at age 30, lived in Odin, Marion IL with her father, James J. Norris, 62 IL, parents b. IN, widowed, engineer, coal mine. Della was a drugstore clerk. – In the 1940 census, Della N. Hawley, age 43, b. IL, was the manager of a rooming house, divorced, on Florida Street in Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co. CA.

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

Very few Tuscania citations:

“Wisconsin State Journal” (Madison WI) Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 4 – “Tuscania Survivors – Maybe His Name is Here” – James J. Norris Sr., Odin IL

“Dayton (OH) Daily News” Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 2 – “American Boys Rescued When Tuscania Was Torpedoed” – list includes James J. Norris Jr., Odin IL.

Post-war:

James Jr. was a resident of Mt. Hermon LA when his sister Ruby Edith Norris d. in Miami FL 29 Sep 1971

Obituary:

Social Security number: 345-10-1517

Censuses:

1900 Murphysboro, Jackson IL – 503 N. 16th St.

James Norris, 36 IL, Aug 1863, parents b. IN, married 10 years, railroad engineer

Hattie, 29 IL, May 1871, parents b. England, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living
 Ruby, 6 IL, Jul 1893
 Della, 5 IL, Mar 1894
 James J., 4 IL, May 1896

1910 Odin, Marion IL
 James J. Norris, 42 IL, parents b. IN, in 1st marriage, married 19 years, engineer, coal mines
 Hattie E., 38 IL, parents b. England, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living
 Ruby E., 16 IL
 Della A., 15 IL
 James J., 13 IL
 & niece Maud H. Norris, 7 months IL, parents b. IL

1920 Chicago, Cook IL – W. Jackson Road – on line 3
 James Norris, 23 IL, parents b. Ireland, printer, job shop, boarder with:
 Michael & Mary Gaughan

1940 Chicago, Cook IL
 James Norris, 43 IL, engineer, construction, crane & shovel, in 1935 in same place
 Myrta Norris, 43 MS, in 1935 in rural Marion Co. MS [wife]