

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 Baraboo 21 (Baraboo WI)
O'Brien, John Francis
1889 WI – 1935 WI**



PRIVATE JOHN T. O'BRIAN
H. Q. Co. 107th Supply Train

John Francis O'Brien – courtesy of Steven Schwartz of Renton WA

O'BRIEN JOHN FRANCIS		HOSP	2189801
Sgt Hq Co 107 Sup Tr QMC		Xc	
1634 McVicker Ave Chicago		K	
Ill		A	2 989 014
Su	250 922	T	362 702 F
Died 5 Apr. 35		R	
Born	3/30/89	CL	2 237 650
Enl	8/1/17	I	
Dis 5/29/19			

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7200—Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD

2-12960

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:W346-M1N2>

Form 1 <i>KA-3</i>		REGISTRATION CARD		No. <i>120</i>	
1	Name in full <i>John O'Brien</i>			Age in yrs. <i>28</i>	
2	Home address <i>223 Lynn Baraboo Wis.</i>				
3	Date of birth <i>March 30th 1889</i>				
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>Natural Born</i>				
5	Where were you born? <i>Baraboo Wis. U.S.A.</i>				
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? <i>Citizen</i>				
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <i>Bar tender</i> <i>29</i>				
8	By whom employed? <i>Rich Strauss</i>				
	Where employed? <i>Baraboo</i>				
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? <i>No</i>				
10	Married or single (which) <i>Single</i> Race (specify) <i>Caucasian</i>				
11	What military service have you had? Rank <i>None</i> ; branch <i>None</i> ; years <i>None</i> ; Nation or State <i>None</i>				
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <i>No</i>				
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.					
<i>John O'Brien</i> (signature or mark)					

#307
If person is of African descent, tear off this corner

REGISTRAR'S REPORT **48-4-22 A**

1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <u>short</u>	Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <u>medium</u>
2	Color of eyes <u>gray</u>	Color of hair <u>Brown</u> Bald? <u>No</u>
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <u>No</u>	

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

George W. Woodford
(Signature of registrar)

Precinct 3rd Ward
City or County Basalt
State Wisconsin

June 5th 1917
(Date of registration)

WWI draft registration 5 Jun 1917 – Ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/18986034:6482?_phsrc=hFB40531&_phstart=successSource&gsfn=john+francis&gsln=obrien&ml_rpos=24&queryId=1936c74ac39ef305e2cb67b6297808e3

Another Madison boy who was probably on the boat is John O'Brien, whose father is conductor on the Northwestern railroad, but nothing definite has been ascertained about him.

"Madison (WI) Capital Times" Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 1

Report All Baraboo Soldiers Saved

It is reported all Baraboo boys who were on the Tuscania were saved and the following boys have sent messages home in some manner: Earl Powell, Paul Stewart, Horace Cahoon, Ralph Sanderson, Edward Coughlin, Donald Duncan, Richard Mahler, Otto Bates, Otto Arndt, Arthur Bender. The other boys on the ship from Baraboo, George Hattle, Wayland Kier and John O'Brien, have been listed among the rescued.

"Wisconsin State Journal" Tuesday 12 Feb 1918 p 8

Baraboo Veterans Observe Tuscania Disaster Day

BARABOO — Eighteen Baraboo veterans of the World war who were aboard the Tuscania when the transport was sunk off the coast of Ireland will observe the 10th anniversary of the sinking of the vessel on Sunday.

There were 21 Baraboo men on board when a German torpedo sent the Tuscania to the bottom, but three of these have died, all as the result of their service. Russell Brodie died of a pneumonia in southern camp, after his return from overseas, Donald Duncan died in France of the flu, and Clarence Sanderson has passed away within the past year in a Texas sanitarium.

The 18 men who expect to take part in Sunday's reunion are James F. Bray, Paul L. Stewart, Otto Arndt, Earl F. Powell, Arthur Bender, Otto F. Bates, Edward E. Coughlin, Vernon Caffisch, Herbert E. Steckenbauer, and Clarence Braun, all of Baraboo; George W. Hattle, Beloit; Horace C. Cahoon of Kilbourn; Randall H. Herfort of Detroit; Charles M. Kellogg, Janesville; Richard Mahler of Maywood, Ill.; Earl W. Veerhusen, Milwaukee; Wayland Kier of Montana; and John T. O'Brien, Milwaukee. A

banquet Saturday night has been planned as part of the anniversary celebration.

Celebrate Sinking of S. S. Tuscania

Baraboo Survivors of Ill-Fated Ship Hold Annual Gathering

BARABOO—At the time of the sinking of the Tuscania in the early days of the entrance of the United States into the World war, there were 21 Baraboo boys aboard the transport. All escaped with their lives, although three have since died as the result of their service, and annually since the war ended the Tuscania survivors from Baraboo have gathered to celebrate the anniversary, which falls on Feb. 5. This year's observance took place on Saturday night at the American Legion hall with all but a few of the 18 present. "Baraboo's Twenty-one" were Donald Duncan, who died of pneumonia overseas, Russell Brodie who succumbed to the same disease on his return to this country, Ralph Sanderson who died in 1928 in Texas, Otto Arndt, Paul L. Stewart, George W. Hattle of Beloit, Arthur Bender, Earl L. Powell, Otto F. Bates, Horace Cahoon of Kilbourn, Edward W. Coughlin, Vernon E. Cafilisch, Herbert E. Steckenbauer, Randall H. Herfort of Detroit, Charles M. Kellogg of Janesville, James F. Bray, Wayland Kier of Montana, John T. O'Brien of Chicago, and Clarence Braun.

Baraboo Men, Who Survived Tuscania Mark Anniversary

BARABOO—When a German torpedo sank the American transport, the Tuscania, off the coast of Ireland, Feb. 5, 1918, there were 21 Baraboo boys aboard.

While the number is no longer 21 and there are several vacant places in the group, Saturday of this week will see the boys, together with their invited guests, assembling at the American Legion hall observing the anniversary.

Invitations have been sent to the following 18 guests of honor:

Paul L. Stewart, Otto Arndt, George W. Hattle of Beloit, Arthur Bender, Earl F. Powell, Otto F. Bates, Horace C. Cahoon of Kilbourn, Edward W. Coughlin, Vernon E. Caffisch, Herbert E. Steckenbauer, Randall H. Herfort, Charles M. Kellogg of Janesville, Richard L. Mahler of Maywood, Ill., Earl W. Veerhusen of Milwaukee, James F. Bray, Wayland E. Kier of Montana, John T. O'Brien of Milwaukee and Clarence Braun.

Vacant chairs will be those of Donald Duncan, who died of pneumonia overseas, Russell Brodie who died of the same disease after his return to this country, and Ralph Sanderson who passed away in 1928 in Texas.

Baraboo Tuscania Survivors Reunite

100 Attend Annual Meeting of Veterans at Legion Hall

BARABOO — About 100 Baraboo men gathered at the American Legion hall Saturday night to attend the annual reunion of "Baraboo's 21," the group of local boys who were aboard the Tuscania when the American transport was sunk off the Irish coast by a German U-boat on Feb. 5, 1918.

Those honored at the reunion Saturday night were Otto Arndt, Paul L. Stewart, George W. Hattle, Beloit; Arthur Bender, Earl L. Powell, Otto F. Bates, Horace C. Cahoon, Madison; E. W. Coughlin, Herbert Steckenbauer, Randall M. Herfort, Charles Kellogg, Janesville; Richard Mahler, Maywood, Ill.; Earl W. Veerhusen, Milwaukee; James F. Bray, Arthur H. Thayer, John T. O'Brien, Milwaukee, and Clarence Braun. Wayland Kier, who resides in Montana, could not be present.

Four of the original 21 in the group have passed away: Russell Brodie died of pneumonia on his return from over-seas; Donald Duncan died in France of influenza; Ralph Sanderson passed away in Texas three years ago, and Vernon E. Caffisch died in Baraboo a year ago.

This was the fifth annual reunion which the Baraboo boys have held.

"Wisconsin State Journal" Tuesday 10 Feb 1931 p 10

Phil to Talk at Tuscania Reunion

**Plans Completed For All-Day Program
At Baraboo on Feb. 5**

BARABOO, Wis. — Final arrangements for the 17th reunion of the National Tuscania Survivors association to be held here Feb. are now being made.

James F. Bray, Baraboo, president of the association, is daily receiving many registrations from all parts of the country, and a large attendance is expected.

The transport which was sunk by a torpedo off the coast of Ireland on Feb. 5, 1918, carried 21 Baraboo boys. They were Paul L. Stewart, Edward Coughlin, Otto Arndt, James F. Bray, Randall Herfort, Earl Powell, Wayland Kler, John O'Brien, Richard Mahler, Charles Kellogg, Clarence Braun, Horace Cahoon, Herbert Steckenbauer, Otto F. Bates and Ear Veerhusen and the following deceased: Russell Brody, Donald Duncan, Arthur Bender, George Hattle, Ralph Sanderson and Vernon Caffisch. Arthur Thayer, resident of this city, was on the boat when it was sunk, but he

lived in Reedsburg at that time.

Gov. Philip F. La Follette will appear on the speaking program with state commanders of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The banquet will be held at the Warren hotel at 7. John A. Malone acting as toastmaster.

The annual meeting and business session will be held at 3 at the American Legion home. New officers will be elected and the reunion city for 1936 chosen at that time.

The memorial service for the men who lost their lives in the disaster, will be held on the Broadway bridge at 6 p. m. There will be an invocation and taps will be blown following the military salute to the dead.

“Madison (WI) Capital Times” Tuesday 29 Jan 1935 p 8

Original Makeup Of The 107th

The 107th Supply Train of the 32nd Division, according to Capt. Oakley L. Parkhill, Fort Lincoln, N. D., was formed out of companies and officers of the old 4th, 5th, and 6th Regiments of the Wisconsin National Guard at Camp Mac Arthur, Waco, Texas, on October 15, 1917, by G. O. 4, 5th Depot Brigade.

It was originally made up of six companies and a headquarters company of one adjutant, who also acted as supply officer, and eight enlisted men.

The headquarters company was composed of the following officers and men: Major E. F. Kraning, 6th Wisconsin, commanding; First Lieut. Paul L. Stewart, Baraboo, 6th Wis., Co. I, adjutant and supply officer; Sergt. 1st O. Oakley L. Parkhill, Abbotsford, 6th Wis., Co. K; Q. M. Sergt. Q. M. C. George W. Hattle, Baraboo, 6th Wis., Co. I; Q. M. Sergt. Q. M. C. Otis E. Hutchins, Whitehall, 6th Wis., Co. L; Corp. James F. Bray, Baraboo, 6th Wis., Co. I; Corp. Omer Honkom, Blair, 6th Wis., Co. L; Pvt. 1st Cl. Ervin A. Eckel, Marshfield, 6th Wis., Co. K; Privates Wayland E. Krier and John F. O'Brien, both of Baraboo, 6th Wis., Co. I.

"Sheboygan (WI) Press" Wednesday 5 Feb 1936 p 23

A traditional, get-together dinner meeting is to be held tonight at the Warren hotel by "Baraboo's 21." They are veterans of the sinking of the Tuscania, army transport, in the Irish sea with 21 Baraboo men aboard. The national Tuscania survivors group is not meeting this year.

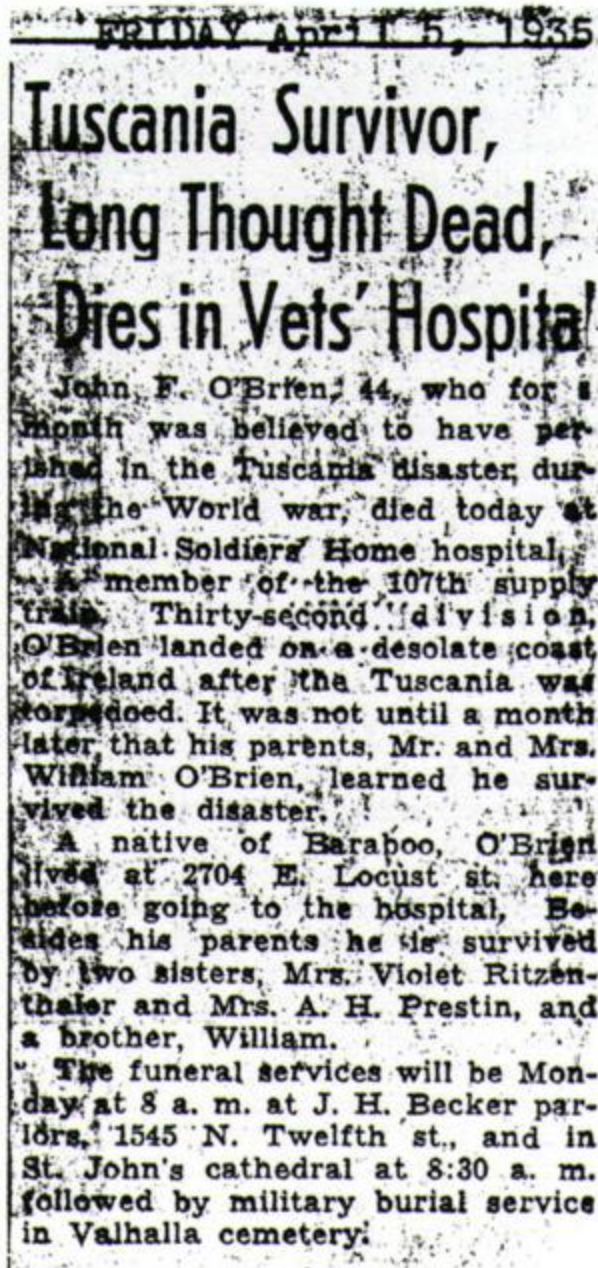
Planning to attend from Baraboo are Paul L. Stewart, James F. Bray, Clarence Braun, Horace Cahoon, Randall Herfort, Otto Arndt, Herbert Steckenbauer, Earl Powell, Ed. Coughlin, Otto Bates and Arthur Thayer. Wayland E. Kier resides in Montana and can not be here, but out-of-town members who it is hoped can be present are Charles Kellogg of Janesville, Richard Mahler of Maywood, Ill., and Earl Veerhusen of Milwaukee.

Deceased members of the group are Ralph Sanderson, Donald Duncan, Russell Brodie, George W. Hattle, Arthur Bender, Vernon Caffisch and John T. O'Brien.

"Madison (WI) Capital Times" Saturday 6 Feb 1943 p 7

Word has been received here of the death Friday of John O'Brien, world war veteran, at Milwaukee. O'Brien was one of "Baraboo's 21" survivors of the sinking of the Tuscania and had been in Baraboo to attend the recent meeting of the survivors' association. He is survived by his parents, Conductor and Mrs. William O'Brien, two sisters and one brother, Violet and Mrs. Ollie Preston and William, Jr., all of Milwaukee.

Obituary of John Francis O'Brien - "Madison (WI) Capital Times" Saturday 6 Apr 1935 p 2
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/517910453/?terms=%22baraboo%2021%22&match=1>



Unsourced obituary provided by Steven Schwartz of Renton WA – but “here” would imply Milwaukee WI & this is most likely a Milwaukee WI newspaper – 5 April 1935

Father:

Word has been received here of the sudden death of William O'Brien at Milwaukee Wednesday. He was a well known railroad conductor on this division and a resident of Baraboo for many years.

Survivors include his widow, a son and two daughters, William, at home, Mrs. Marlin Smith and Marcella, both of Milwaukee.

Funeral services are to be held Saturday at 8:30 at the Brecker funeral home, 12th st., Milwaukee, and at 9 at St. John's cathedral in that city.

In Baraboo WI news: Obituary of father William Henry O'Brien Sr. – "Madison (WI) Capital Times"
Thursday 19 Jan 1939 p 8

Siblings

Form 1 438 REGISTRATION CARD No. 65

1	Name in full <u>William H. O'Brien</u> Age, in yrs. <u>25</u>
2	Home address <u>203 Lynn Baraboo, Wis.</u>
3	Date of birth <u>February 7th 1892</u>
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <u>Natural Born</u>
5	Where were you born? <u>Baraboo Wis. U.S.A.</u>
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? <u>Citizen</u>
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <u>Call Boy 30</u>
8	By whom employed? <u>C. & N. W. Ry. Co.</u>
	Where employed? <u>Baraboo</u>
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? <u>no</u>
10	Married or single (which)? <u>Single</u> Race (specify) <u>Caucasian</u>
11	What military service have you had? Rank <u>none</u> ; branch <u>—</u>
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <u>no</u>

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

65 William H. O'Brien
 (Signature or mark)

11 person is of African descent, tear off this corner

REGISTRAR'S REPORT		48-4-22 A
1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? <u>Medium</u>	Slender, medium, or stout (which)? <u>Medium</u>
2	Color of eyes? <u>Blue</u>	Color of hair? <u>Light Brown</u> Bald? <u>No</u>
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <u>No</u>	
I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows: _____ _____ <u>George W. Woodford</u> (Signature of registrar) Precinct <u>3rd Ward</u> City or County <u>Baraboo</u> State <u>Wisconsin</u> <u>June 5, 1917</u> (Date of registration)		

Ancestry.com links his brother William Henry O'Brien Jr. to incorrect WWI draft cards – this is correct: <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/18986038:6482?tid=12465703&pid=26116267906&queryId=80aa3a17654c68450d6666cdcd7fabd4&phsrc=hFB40546&phstart=successSource>

Detail	Source
Name:	Viloet Frances Smith [Violet Frances Smith] [Violet Smith] [Viloet Frances Obriwn]
Gender:	Female
Race:	White
Birth Date:	4 Jul 1906
Birth Place:	Baraboo, Wisconsin [Barabool]
Death Date:	14 Nov 2005
Claim Date:	12 Jun 1971
Father:	William H Obriwn
Mother:	Alice McLaughlin
SSN:	388093059
Citizenship or Alien Status:	U.S. citizen.
Type of Claim:	Duplicate request; evidence of identity only submitted.
Signature on SSN Card:	Viloet Rieley
Notes:	18 Aug 1995: Name listed as VILOET FRANCES SMITH; 29 Aug 1995: Name listed as VIOLET FRANCES SMITH; 02 Sep 1977: Name listed as VIOLET F SMITH

Viloet Frances Smith

in the U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Violet F. "Smitty" Smith

FUNERAL HOME

BECKER RITTER ELMBROOK
FUNERAL HOME

14075 W. North Ave.

Brookfield, WI

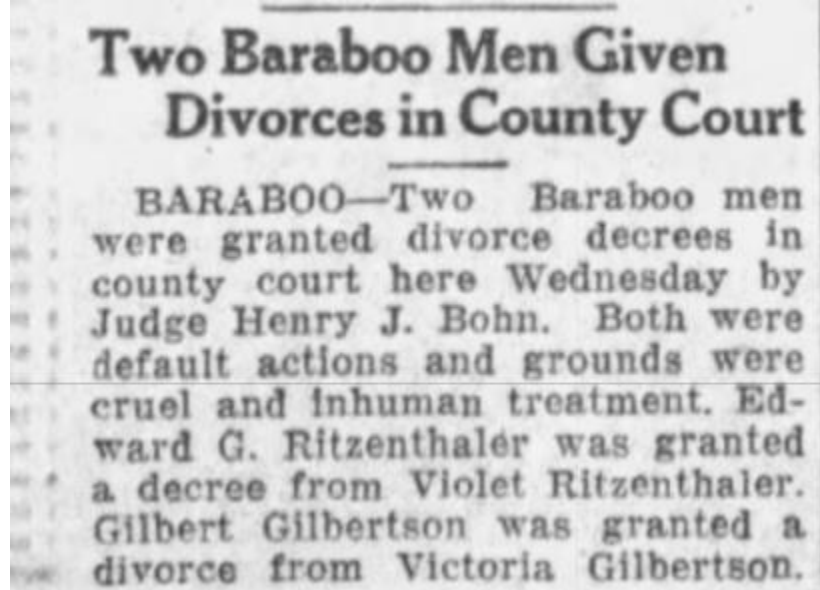
Passed away November 14, 2005 at the age of 99 years. Preceded in death by her parents, William and Alyce O'Brien; brothers, John and William O'Brien and her sister, Marcella O'Brien Prestin. Loving aunt of Jim (Carol) Prestin. Great-aunt of June (Tim) Prestin-Schleis and David (Kathie) Prestin. Great-great-aunt of Katharine and Nicholas Prestin. Further survived by other relatives and many friends.

Visitation at the Funeral Home Thursday, November 17 from 9 AM until the time of Service at 11 AM. Entombment Holy Cross Cemetery. Memorials requested to the charity of your choice.

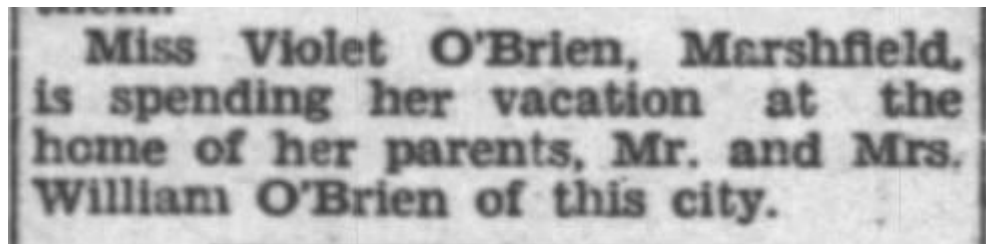
Published by Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Nov. 16, 2005.

Obituary of sister Violet Frances O'Brien Ritzenthaler Smith -

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/jsonline/name/violet-smith-obituary?id=3116743>



Divorce of Violet Frances O'Brien & Edward George Ritzenthaler – "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Thursday 26 Jan 1933 p 4



"Marshfield (WI) News-Herald" Tuesday 26 Jul 1932 p 2

Name: John Francis O'Brien

Name variations: John T. O'Brien

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Eng. HQ - private

Serial number: 250,922

Entered service from: Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: John F. O'Brien

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father William H. O'Brien, 420 Marshall St., Milwaukee WI

Returned from war on: "Virginian" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: John F. O'Brien

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father William O'Brien, 420 Marshall St., Milwaukee WI (sgr, HQ Co., 107th Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as John O'Brien - b. 30 Mar 1889 Baraboo WI; res: 203 Lynn, Baraboo, Sauk WI. Single. Bartender for Nick Strauss, Baraboo WI. Short in height, medium build.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 1 Aug 1917

Discharged: 29 May 1919

Address: 1634 McVicker Ave., Chicago IL

Rank/unit: sergeant, HQ Co., 107th Supply TrainBirth & death:

Born: 30 Mar 1889 Baraboo, Sauk WI

Died: 5 Apr 1935 Milwaukee Co. WI (at the veterans home)

Find A Grave record: 198055059

Burial location: Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI

Cemetery: Valhalla Memorial Park

Tombstone:

Father: William Henry O'Brien Sr., 20 Oct 1872 Eagle, Waukesha WI – 18 Jan 1939 WI. Son of Terrance O'Brien & Mary Catherine Smith. Railroad engineer/conductor. Buried in Valhalla Memorial Park, Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI.

Find A Grave: 198055023

Mother: Alice ("Allie") McLaughlin O'Brien, Oct 1876 Fond du Lac Co. WI (1900 census) or ca. 1869 (age 41 in 1910 census) or ca. 1871 (age 49 in 1920 census) – 1956. In the 1880 census Allie McLaughlin resided in Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac Co. WI with parents Patrick & Mary McLaughlin. - Buried in Valhalla Memorial Park, Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI.

Find A Grave: 198055011

Parents' marriage: 9 Apr 1888 Sauk Co. WI

Spouse:

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

Siblings: John was the oldest child.

- William Henry O'Brien Jr., 7 Feb 1892 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 12 May 1945. SSN 388-20-8138. Buried in Valhalla Memorial Park, Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. F: 198055320
- Marcella Marie O'Brien Prestin, 19 Jul 1901 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 20 Nov 1993. SSN 398-30-6305. Married 25 Jul 1925 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI to Arlie H. Prestin (1895-1952, F: 189721558). Buried in Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. F: 189721584
- Violet Frances O'Brien Ritzenthaler Smith, 4 Jul 1906 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 14 Nov 2005. SSN 388-09-3059. – Married on 27 Aug 1925 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI to Edward George Ritzenthaler (1894-1968, F: 22489712). They divorced 25 Jan 1933 in Baraboo, Sauk WI. Edward remarried, on 3 Apr 1936 in Sauk Co. WI to Margaret Rebecca Anna Hasz. He became the mayor of Baraboo WI. In the 1930 census for Baraboo, Sauk WI, Edward Ritzenthaler (35 WI, father b. France [Alsace] & mother b. Germany [Brandenburg]), lived

with wife Violet, 23 WI, parents b. WI, a stenographer at a wholesale grocery. - Married Marlin Duane Smith (25 Sep 1911 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 2 Nov 1977 Palm Beach Co. FL, buried in East Oak Grove Cemetery, Morgantown, Monongalia WV, F: 12485993). He was the son of Charles Henry Smith & Harriet M. Pierce. On his WWII (1942) draft registration, Marlin lived with wife Violet Smith at 2704 E. Locust St., Milwaukee WI; he worked for L.C. Smith Corona Typewriters. Marlin married 22 Oct 1949 in Winchester VA to Dorothy B. Brown Sidell. - Buried in Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. F: 172104315

Notes:

Milwaukee WI newspapers are not online, which restricts them as a source for Milwaukee residents.

Pre-war:

Wartime:

"Wisconsin State Journal" Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 4 – "Tuscania Survivors – Maybe His Name Is Here" includes the name of John F. O'Brien, Milwaukee WI.

Post-war:

1925 Milwaukee WI city directory:

O'Brien – all residents of 558 Folsom Place

John F., accountant

Marcella, stenographer

Violet F., stenographer, NW National Insurance Co.

William H. (Alice), conductor, C&NW Railway

William H. Jr., clerk

Obituary:

"Madison [WI] Capital Times" 6 Apr 1935 p 2 - news was received in Baraboo WI that 1 of the Baraboo 21 survivors of Tuscania had died in Milwaukee WI. John had visited Baraboo for a recent ship reunion (Feb 1935). He is survived by his parents Conductor & Mrs. William O'Brien, siblings Violet O'Brien, William O'Brien Jr. & Mrs. Ollie Preston, all of Milwaukee WI.

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1900 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 116 Ash

William O'Brien, 34 Wi, Apr 1866, parents b. Ireland, married 11 years, conductor (freight)

Alice, 23 WI, Oct 1876, parents b. Ireland, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

John, 11 WI, Mar 1889, at school
 William, 8 WI, Feb 1892, at school

1905 WI state census – Baraboo, Sauk WI
 Wm. Obrien, 39 Wi, parents b. Ireland, railway conductor
 Ella, 33 WI, parents b. Ireland
 John, 16 WI, student
 Willie, 13 WI, student
 Marcella, 5 WI, student

1910 Baraboo, Sauk WI – 110 ---
 Wm. O'Brien, 42 WI, parents b. Ireland, in 1st marriage, married 22 years, conductor, steam railroad
 Allie, 41 WI, parents b. Ireland, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 4 children, 4 are living
 John, 21 WI
 Willie, 18 WI, call-boy, railroad
 Marcella, 8 WI
 Violet, 3 WI

1930 Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI – 420 Marshall St.
 William O'Brien, 51 WI, parents b. Ireland, conductor, steam railroad
 Alice, 49 WI, parents b. Ireland
 John, 31 WI, single, timekeeper, steel factory
 William Jr., 27 WI, single, car clerk, steam railroad
 Marcella, 18 WI, single, stenographer, steam railroad
 Violet, 13 WI, single