

**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.  
Please return to [Tuscania1918.org](http://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](http://www.findagrave.org))

NOK = next-of-kin

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**TUSCANIA**

**Purington, James Alson**  
**1894 NH – 1963 MA**



REP. J. A. PURINGTON

## J. A. Purington Of Exeter Dies After Brief Illness

EXETER — State Rep. James A. Purington, Republican member of the General Court and veteran county agricultural agent, died this morning in Boston. He was 68.

He died at the New England Medical Center after a brief illness.

Purington, who retired as county agricultural agent in June 1960, after 38 years in the post, was serving his second term as a state representative at the time of his death.

His residence here was at 36 High St.

He was born in Weare Oct. 24, 1894, the son of James A. and Louise (Osborne) Purington.

He had lived in Exeter since 1922.

He was a member of the Congregational Church and chairman of its assessors.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Winifred Purington; two daughters, Mrs. Charles Chapman of Windsor, Conn., and Mrs. William G. Barber Jr. of Portsmouth, R.I.; three grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Gladys Locke of Hopkinton; and nieces and nephews.

## **James A. Purington**

EXETER — Funeral services for veteran county agricultural agent James A. Purington were held yesterday at the Congregational Church.

The Rev. George Booth, pastor, officiated.

Bearers were F. Winter Eastman, Samuel Hoitt, Win Drown, Fred Moore, John Taylor and Charles Bickel.

Head usher was John Anderson and ushers were Henry Shute, Richard Baybutt, Donald Cole, Howard Easton, H. Gray Funkhouser and Frank Smith.

In the attendance were former Gov. Wesley Powell; Commissioner of Agriculture Frank T. Buckley; Jere Chase, representing UNH President James McConnell; Stewart Lamprey, speaker of the New Hampshire House; representatives of various county and state agricultural organizations; and the Rockingham County legislative delegation.

Burial was in the Exeter Cemetery with committal prayers by the Rev. Mr. Booth.

Mr. Purington's organization affiliations and posts included: Charter member of the Exeter Lions Club, for which he served as Deputy District Governor; life member of Pacific Lodge, AF & AM, of Amherst, Mass.; a past patron of Orient OES Chapter of Exeter; 2nd degree member of the New Hampshire Consistory; member of the DeWitt Clinton Commandery of Portsmouth; a 50-year member of the Grange; past president of the New England Association of County Agricultural Agents.

A member of the Audubon Society; recording secretary of the Rockingham County YMCA; chairman of the Exeter District Salvation Army; secretary of the Rockingham County Soil Conservation District; honorary life member of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation and Rockingham County Farm Bureau.

Secretary of the Exeter Circuit of the New Hampshire-Vermont Breeding Association; trustee of Putnam Agricultural Foundation; director of the Exeter Cooperative Bank; secretary of the Rockingham County Farm Bureau; president of the University of New Hampshire Class of 1916; and honorary life member of the New Hampshire Young Farmers Association.

James Alson Purington's obituary – "Portsmouth (NH) Herald" Monday 6 May 1963 p 3

|                                                                          |          |             |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------|
| PURINGTON JAMES ALSON                                                    |          | 5-8-63 KE   |               |
| Pvt 1c St Aignan Cas Co 6451                                             |          | K           | 1 526 174     |
| 55 Columbus Av Exeter NH                                                 |          | A           | 1 976 283     |
| Sa                                                                       | 250 847  | Died 5-3-63 | T 456 808     |
| Born                                                                     | 10/24/94 | R           |               |
| Enl                                                                      | 12/13/17 | Dis 7-10-19 | Ct. 1 129 676 |
|                                                                          |          | I           |               |
| U. S. VETERANS BUREAU<br>MAIL AND RECORDS<br>Form 7202--Rev. Sept., 1926 |          | INDEX CARD  |               |

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:7BNT-F2T2>

## NEW HAMPSHIRE BOY IN WATER THREE HOURS BEFORE RESCUE

LONDON, Feb 7—James Alson Turrington of New Hampshire, a college student on the Tuscania, said:

"I was on the upper deck when the torpedo struck the vessel on the starboard side. There was a terrific explosion. I went to the stairs to reach my station.

"The dynamo was blown up by the explosion, but the auxiliary plant was put into operation immediately.

"There was great difficulty in lowering our lifeboat, the chains being broken and the tackles entangled. Several boats capsized, and the struggle in the water of the men thrown out added to the tragedy.

"I entered a boat with 40 others, but it became filled with water and we had to jump out. I caught two oars which had been lashed together and held on. I was in the water three hours before I was picked up."

Note surname has become TURRINGTON - "Boston Globe" Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 4 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/430958224/?terms=tuscania%20boston%20february&match=1>  
h=1

## PURINGTON BEARS CHARMED LIFE, SAY ACQUAINTANCES

MANCHESTER, N. H., Feb 8—James Alson Purington, a New Hampshire State College student who was on board the *Tuscania* when it was torpedoed, and who was saved, is looked upon by his friends as bearing a charmed life.

He was in the water, clinging to a pair of paddles, for three hours before being rescued, after the *Tuscania* was torpedoed. In Manchester, in December,

he was in an automobile accident in which Thomas Comiskey of New York was killed and two other persons seriously injured, while Purington escaped unscathed.

He was born in Weare, graduated from the Contoocook High School, and worked his way through the State College at Durham. Besides a brother, George A., in Manchester, and his mother, Mrs James A. Purington of Hopkinton, he has another brother, Fred Purington, residing in Weare, and two sisters, Mrs James W. Locke of Hopkinton and Mrs Clarence Hall of Heniker.

## EXPERIENCE OF PRINCETON MAN ON THE TUSCANIA

LONDON, Feb 8—Private James Alen Purlington, an undergraduate of Princeton, describing his experiences on the Tuscania, said chains were broken and the tackle tangled, and in one or two cases the boats were overturned, their occupants struggling in the water, adding to the confusion and tragedy.

Purlington got into a boat with about 10 others, but in lowering it it was half

filled with water and all the men in it had to jump overboard. Purlington managed to keep afloat for three hours, until picked up by a mine sweeper. One survivor said he witnessed a terrible incident as one of the vessel's lifeboats, with a goodly number of men aboard, appeared to him to have been sucked into the hole in the Tuscania's side made by the torpedo.

(Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening World.)

Note misspelling as PURLINGTON – appears on same page in “Boston Globe” as other article –  
“Boston Globe” Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 5

## J. A. PURINGTON, '16 ABOARD TUSCANIA

### Remains in Water on Pair of Oars for Three Hours

#### DESCRIBES EXPERIENCE

**Capsizing of Life Boats Added to the  
Tragedy. Many Drowned**

James Alson Purington, the New Hampshire College man who was among the survivors of the *Tuscania*, was a member of the class of 1916, coming here from Hopkinton. He belonged to the Beta Phi fraternity, and was vice-president and treasurer of the Agricultural club.

Purington, it is recalled, was a member of Prof. H. H. Scudder's newspaper class, but it is doubtful if he ever expected to get such a "story" as that of the sinking of the big transport.

#### GIVES FACTS

James Alson Purington of New Hampshire, a college student, was one of the survivors of the *Tuscania*, escaping death by a narrow margin. In describing his experiences, he said:

"I was on the upper deck when the torpedo struck the vessel on the starboard side. There was a terrific explosion. I went to the stairs to reach my station.

"The dynamo was blown up by the explosion, but the auxiliary plant was put into operation immediately.

"There was great difficulty in lowering our lifeboat, the chains being broken and the tackles entangled. Several boats capsized and the struggle in the water of the men thrown out added to the tragedy.

"I entered a boat with forty others but it became filled with water and we had to jump out. I caught two oars which had been lashed together and held on. I was in the water three hours before I was picked up."

#### IN AUTO WRECK

Something very like a charmed life must be borne by James Alson Purington, for his rescue from the sinking *Tuscania* follows closely upon a narrow escape from death or serious injury in an automobile collision in this city.

Young Purington is well known in Manchester, having been a frequent visitor here before enlisting in the army. He has a brother, George A. Purington, living at 70 Third street, this city, who is a part owner of the Manchester Machine works. The young soldier worked at one time as clerk for his brother.

It will be recalled that James Purington figured in an auto accident at the corner of Webster and Union streets late in the fall which resulted in the death of Thomas Comiskey of New York and in injuries to others. Purington was one of the occupants of a small car, driven by his brother, George Purington, which collided with a much larger machine in which Mr. Comiskey was a passenger.

James Purington was a member of

Young Purington was a member of Company D, Sixth Battalion, 20th regiment, army foresters, having been transferred from the Tenth Battalion a short time ago. He enlisted in December of last year from Amherst, Mass., where he was attending college.

No letters had been received here from the young soldier since Jan. 20, when a letter from him reached Mr. and Mrs. George Purington, advising them that he expected to be transferred to the Sixth Battalion. When Mr. Purington read the account of the sinking of the Tuscania in the Union he feared that his brother was among the lost, the Sixth Battalion being given as one of the units on board. The first news that reached him regarding his brother's escape came when a reporter from the Union visited him.

Private Purington was born in Weare. After being graduated from  
(Continued on Page Four.)

## J. A. PURINGTON, '16 ABOARD TUSCANIA

(Continued from Page One.)

the high school at Contoocook, he took up his studies at New Hampshire State College at Durham. He worked his way, practically unaided, through college. It was during vacation a few years ago that his brother engaged him as a clerk at the Manchester Machine works for a short time.

Besides his brother in this city, Purington has a mother, Mrs. James A. Purington, living in Hopkinton; a brother, Fred Purington, of Weare; and two sisters, Mrs. James W. Locke of Hopkinton and Mrs. Clarence Hall of Henniker.

### POPULAR YOUNG MAN

James Alson Purington was graduated from the Contoocook high school five years ago, after which he went to the State college. For the last year or so he had been at Amherst college where he had been teaching and where he had taken up some post-graduate work.

—Manchester Union.

"The New Hampshire" (Durham NH) 16 Feb 1918 p 1 and 4 -

[https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1437&context=tnh\\_archive](https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1437&context=tnh_archive)

## Local Man a Survivor of Torpedoing of the Tuscania

The National Tuscania Survivors' Association is holding its annual reunion at Chicago, Ill., on February 4 and 5. This announcement brings to the mind of a local man a great adventure and narrow escape from death, which he experienced. It recalls memories of high courage displayed by American soldiers and memories of comrades who gave their lives in this tragic chapter of the World war.

Aboard the big liner Tuscania, then in use as a transport vessel for American troops, was James A. Purington of Exeter, now serving Rockingham County as agricultural extension agent. It was the afternoon of February 5, 1918. The big vessel was ploughing through rough seas between Ireland and Scotland with about 2,400 soldiers aboard who were being rushed to France from American training camps to support the hard-pushed and weary troops of the Allied nations. Most of these men were from the West. Mr. Purington was a member of the 18th Company of the 20th Engineers.

At 5.50 p. m., Mr. Purington had come up to the deck after having supper and was standing on the starboard side talking with a Massachusetts doughboy when suddenly, without warning, a torpedo from a German U-boat submarine crashed into the starboard side of the Tuscania just in front of where they were standing. The ship lurched to starboard and the huge waves broke over the deck.

Orders were given for all to go to their stations and Mr. Purington made his way to his post mid-way of the boat on the starboard side to await orders with his company. Night soon closed around the doomed vessel and distress flares were sent up, making a weird and awful scene. Dozens of men had been killed outright as the torpedo struck and exploded, and before the night was over the total number to die of wounds or of drowning was to reach 266 persons.

The lowering of lifeboats began almost immediately. After his company had stood in formation for an hour, Mr. Purington was called upon to leave the vessel with part of his company. The lifeboat partially filled with water as soon as it was lowered into the heavy seas. Forty-five men slid down ropes from the deck into the small boat, which was wallowing and pitching dangerously, standing waist-deep in water. Seeing that the lifeboat was in imminent danger of being swamped, Mr. Purington finally jumped overboard to relieve the over-loaded boat and to take his chances on floating with the life-preserver with which all were equipped. The seas were so heavy, however, that many were drowned by the smother of breaking waves and foam, despite their life-preservers. Fortune favored him in this perilous situation and he espied two oars floating nearby. Swimming toward these, he managed to get one under each arm and just then a floating plank bumped against him, which he also secured beneath his legs, making a raft of sufficient buoyancy to lift him above the smother of waves which strangled so many.

After floating around for three hours he was picked up by a small English fishing craft which had rushed to the scene upon catching the appeal by ra-

dio of the sinking *Tuscania*. This boat had been engaged in dropping depth bombs at a distance of 20 miles away when she picked up the SOS signals. Four other soldiers were rescued by this craft, which landed them at daybreak at the town of Larne, on the coast of northern Ireland.

Meanwhile, the British destroyer *Grasshopper* had taken off a large number of men from the port side of the *Tuscania*, and other boats which rushed to the aid of the big transport were engaged in picking up survivors.

Shortly after being installed at a hotel in Larne, having changed to dry clothing and recovered from the shock of exposure in the icy waters for hours, a representative of the Associated Press talked with Mr. Purington, gaining one of the first eye-witness accounts of the tragedy. The Associated Press notified the Manchester Union that Mr. Purington, whose family resided in Manchester, was among the survivors and they immediately notified his family of his safety, thus preventing the terrible anxiety experienced by so many families of soldiers on that vessel.

After two days spent among the hospitable people of Larne, Mr. Purington was sent to a rest camp in Scotland and after four days there he crossed Dublin Bay on the way which led before many days to France and the battlefield.

At this meeting in Chicago of the men who survived the torpedoing of the Tuscania, the man who was responsible for that tragedy will be present as the principal speaker and guest of the Association. He is Captain Dr. Wilhelm Meyer of the German Navy, commander of the German U-Boat No. 77, the submarine which fired the torpedo which sank the Tuscania. The enmity of the war years has died away and today American soldiers can greet this man who caused the deaths of so many of their buddies in a spirit of friendliness, conscious of the fact that he was but doing his duty as he saw it, even as they, and that the fault must be laid at the door of the dread God of War.

Commander John M. Smith of the British Destroyer Grasshopper, who saved the lives of so many of the men on that dread night, and Captain Peter McLean of Glasgow, Scotland, the grand old master of the Tuscania, who was the last man to leave the sinking ship, will also be honored guests of the National Tuscania Survivors' Association.

Captain Meyer & Captain Smith & Captain McLean did NOT attend the 1933 NTSA reunion –  
 "Portsmouth (NH) Herald" Thursday 19 Jan 1933 p 9

## M. A. C. IN THE WAR

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LETTER FROM JAMES A. PURINGTON, GRADUATE STUDENT

*Graphic Story of "Tuscania" Tragedy*

ON ACTIVE SERVICE WITH AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE,  
SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND.

The first part of my trip over was enjoyable in that I was not seasick. The waves ran high at times, even coming over deck and giving some good duckings. Some days the waves rolled up as huge mountains, bursting at the top with a white crest, just like a snow-capped peak. These would toss and bob us about like a top out of balance.

Then came the thrilling part of the trip, all of which, I understand, is well known in America. Each had his story varied in nature, but being a representative of M. A. C., possibly my story may be of interest. This I can best tell by quoting the following article published in one of the papers — somewhere: —

"A graphic account of the torpedoing of the troopship was given by James Alson Purington, a university graduate of New Hampshire (graduate assistant at the Massachusetts Agricultural College), serving with the 20th Regiment of Foresters. Private Purington said that he was on the upper deck when a torpedo struck them on the starboard. There was a terrific explosion and the steamer took on a great list. He made his way to the stairs to get to his boat station, but was stopped by the life-saving crew, who immediately came to their stations. With the explosion, the dynamo was blown up and the lights failed, but almost at once the auxiliary lighting plant, worked by another engine, was put into operation, and flares were lit on every deck. In the first darkness that succeeded the explosion there was some difficulty in lowering the lifeboats, chains being broken and tackle getting tangled. One or two boats capsized, and the occupants struggling in the water added to the confusion and tragedy. Private Purington ultimately got into a boat with about 40 others, but in being lowered it was half filled with water, and in a short time all had perforce to jump out. Fortunately for himself, Purington managed to clutch a couple of oars lashed together

after he had floated for some time, and later he also secured a

## M. A. C. IN THE WAR

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plank that in comparison seemed to promise safety. For nearly three hours he managed to keep afloat until picked up by a mine-sweeper, but confesses that when the welcome boat appeared on the scene he was 'nearly all in.' He had nothing but praise for the treatment on the rescue boat, where plenty of blankets and hot drinks soon drove out the terrible cramps that had tormented him during the last part of his stay in the icy cold water. His rescuers informed him that there were many dead bodies floating around, but he himself was not conscious of very much during the latter part of the immersion."

Before the disaster I stood on the deck for some time enjoying the sunset over the water. A finer one I had never seen. Then I little realized that shortly the Huns would (as many times elsewhere) spoil such a peaceful time, the end of a perfect day. When the explosion came I was talking with a friend from Springfield whose father has a store there. By aid of his searchlight we proceeded over the watery deck to our places.

Well, take it from one who knows, there were many prayers that night. I was strangled a "wee bit" more than once, and sure felt my prayer was answered when the oars and especially the plank came. I had no fear for myself, personally, for I feel prepared any day if my time is due. My only thoughts during those moments were of the folks at home and how they would take it.

I cannot say too much in favor of the Red Cross and the work of the Y. M. C. A. Few people outside of the soldiers, I suppose, hardly appreciate their value.

THE M. A. C. BULLETIN—AMHERST, MASS.

Vol. XIII

MAY, 1921

Number 4

PUBLISHED EIGHT TIMES A YEAR BY THE  
MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE:  
JAN., FEB., MARCH, MAY, JUNE, SEPT., OCT.,  
NOV. ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE, AM-  
HERST, MASS., AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

## Massachusetts Agricultural College In the War

Above from pages 138 & 139 -

[https://books.google.com/books?id=gEdAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA183&lpg=PA183&dq=%22james+also+n+purington%22&source=bl&ots=QRetiU8SKt&sig=ACfU3U3SB2Kd5SroXxDmz93\\_eQqdu7-poQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjX3qjC\\_4AhWwDkQIHb1kB7UQ6AF6BAgDEAM#v=onepage&q=%22james%20alson%20purington%22&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=gEdAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA183&lpg=PA183&dq=%22james+also+n+purington%22&source=bl&ots=QRetiU8SKt&sig=ACfU3U3SB2Kd5SroXxDmz93_eQqdu7-poQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjX3qjC_4AhWwDkQIHb1kB7UQ6AF6BAgDEAM#v=onepage&q=%22james%20alson%20purington%22&f=false)

**PURINGTON, JAMES A.**, Dec. 13, 1917. A. E. F., Jan. 23, 1918, to July 2, 1919. 18th Co., 20th Engrs. Wrecked on "Tuscania." Discharged July 10, 1919.

From page 144

[https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1437&context=tnh\\_archive](https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1437&context=tnh_archive)

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A third Portsmouth area salary bill has been filed by Exeter Reps. James A. Purington and Edwin W. Eastman. It would increase the Rockingham County treasurer's salary \$200, to \$1,200 a year.

Action in the NH state legislature a few months before James's death – "Portsmouth (NH) Herald"  
Wednesday 9 Jan 1963 p 1

Rep. James A. Purington (R) of Exeter, introduced a measure to require that when a farm product is labelled "native" it must also include the name of the state in which it is grown. Agricultural organizations are supporting this bill.

"Concord (NH) Daily Monitor" Thursday 14 Feb 1963 p 10

| Massachusetts, U.S., Mason Membership Cards, 1733-1990 for James Alson Purington |                                     |                                               |                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name <i>Purington, James Alson</i> ✓                                             |                                     |                                               |                             |
| Residence<br><i>Amherst</i>                                                      | Occupation<br><i>Grad<br/>Arch.</i> | Nativity<br><i>1894-10-24<br/>Ware, N. H.</i> |                             |
| Lodge<br><i>Pacific</i>                                                          | Initiated<br><i>1917-5-29</i>       | Passed<br><i>1917-10-23</i>                   | Raised<br><i>1917-12-7</i>  |
| Membership<br><i>1917-12-7</i>                                                   | Dim.<br>Sus.<br>Dis.                | Reinstated                                    | Deceased<br><i>1963-5-3</i> |

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/252092:5061?tid=71217991&pid=32236137991&queryId=0d65fa8bff68d391f80afa6145def000&phsrc=hFB46267&phstart=successSource>

Children:



Daughter Muriel Ellen Purington Chapman - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/71217991/person/32236138000/media/38da50e6-defe-43c2-9242-9f1d458971b1>

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### CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION OF MARRIAGE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE 59- 4458

|       |              |                   |                                    |                             |  |                                                     |                                                      |  |                                              |                                            |  |                                             |                                             |  |  |
|-------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--|--|
| GROOM | RES.         | 4                 | 1. FULL NAME                       |                             |  | a. (First) <u>William</u>                           |                                                      |  | b. (Middle) <u>Gerard</u>                    |                                            |  | c. (Last) <u>Barber, Jr.</u>                |                                             |  |  |
|       | NAT.         | 1                 | 2. FULL NAME                       |                             |  | a. (First) <u>Jean</u>                              |                                                      |  | b. (Middle) <u>Anne</u>                      |                                            |  | c. (Last) <u>Purinton</u>                   |                                             |  |  |
|       | AGE          | 28                | 3. RESIDENCE                       |                             |  | a. STATE <u>R. I.</u>                               |                                                      |  | b. COUNTY <u>Washington</u>                  |                                            |  | 20. RESIDENCE                               |                                             |  |  |
|       | COLOR        | 1                 | c. CITY OR TOWN <u>Hope Valley</u> |                             |  | d. STREET ADDRESS <u>26 Maple Street</u>            |                                                      |  | c. CITY OR TOWN <u>Exeter, New Hampshire</u> |                                            |  | d. STREET ADDRESS <u>86 High Street</u>     |                                             |  |  |
| BRIDE | NO. MARRIAGE | 1                 | 4. AGE                             |                             |  | 5. COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>                       |                                                      |  | 6. SINGLE, WIDOWED, DIVORCED <u>Single</u>   |                                            |  | 21. AGE                                     |                                             |  |  |
|       | AGE          | 28                | 7. NO. OF MARRIAGE                 |                             |  | 8. OCCUPATION <u>1st. Club Agent</u>                |                                                      |  | 9. BIRTHPLACE <u>Westerly, R.I.</u>          |                                            |  | 22. COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>              |                                             |  |  |
|       | COLOR        | 1                 | 10. FULL NAME                      |                             |  | a. (First) <u>William</u>                           |                                                      |  | b. (Middle) <u>Gerard</u>                    |                                            |  | c. (Last) <u>Barber</u>                     |                                             |  |  |
|       | SWD          | 1                 | 11. RESIDENCE                      |                             |  | a. (City, Town, or County) <u>Hope Valley, R.I.</u> |                                                      |  | b. (State or Foreign Country) <u>R.I.</u>    |                                            |  | 23. SINGLE, WIDOWED, DIVORCED <u>Single</u> |                                             |  |  |
|       |              | NO. MARRIAGE      | 1                                  | 12. LIVING - DEAD           |  |                                                     | 13. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                          |  |                                              | 14. BIRTHPLACE <u>RI.</u>                  |  |                                             | 24. NO. OF MARRIAGE                         |  |  |
|       |              | AGE               | 28                                 | 15. FULL MAIDEN NAME        |  |                                                     | a. (First) <u>Mary Emma</u>                          |  |                                              | b. (Middle) <u>Hoxsie</u>                  |  |                                             | c. (Last) <u>Winifred Maud Taylor</u>       |  |  |
|       |              | COLOR             | 1                                  | 16. RESIDENCE               |  |                                                     | a. (City, Town, or County) <u>Hope Valley, R. I.</u> |  |                                              | b. (State or Foreign Country) <u>R. I.</u> |  |                                             | 25. OCCUPATION <u>1st. Club Agent</u>       |  |  |
|       |              | SWD               | 1                                  | 17. LIVING - DEAD           |  |                                                     | 18. COLOR OR RACE <u>L.</u>                          |  |                                              | 19. BIRTHPLACE <u>W.</u>                   |  |                                             | 26. BIRTHPLACE <u>Exeter, New Hampshire</u> |  |  |
|       |              | NO. MARRIAGE      | 1                                  | 18. COLOR OR RACE <u>L.</u> |  |                                                     | 19. BIRTHPLACE <u>W.</u>                             |  |                                              | 20. BIRTHPLACE <u>Scotland</u>             |  |                                             | 27. FULL NAME                               |  |  |
|       |              | PLACE OF MARRIAGE | 8-11                               | 19. BIRTHPLACE <u>RI.</u>   |  |                                                     | 20. BIRTHPLACE <u>RI.</u>                            |  |                                              | 21. BIRTHPLACE <u>RI.</u>                  |  |                                             | 28. RESIDENCE                               |  |  |
|       |              | DATE OF MARRIAGE  | 8-09-59                            | 22. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u> |  |                                                     | 23. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                          |  |                                              | 24. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                |  |                                             | 29. LIVING - DEAD                           |  |  |
|       |              |                   |                                    | 25. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u> |  |                                                     | 26. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                          |  |                                              | 27. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                |  |                                             | 30. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                 |  |  |
|       |              |                   |                                    | 28. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u> |  |                                                     | 29. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                          |  |                                              | 30. COLOR OR RACE <u>W.</u>                |  |                                             | 31. BIRTHPLACE                              |  |  |
|       |              |                   |                                    | 31. BIRTHPLACE              |  |                                                     | 32. BIRTHPLACE                                       |  |                                              | 33. BIRTHPLACE                             |  |                                             | 34. BIRTHPLACE                              |  |  |
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|       |              |                   |                                    | 34. BIRTHPLACE              |  |                                                     | 35. BIRTHPLACE                                       |  |                                              | 36. BIRTHPLACE                             |  |                                             | 37. BIRTHPLACE                              |  |  |
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|       |              |                   |                                    | 36. BIRTHPLACE              |  |                                                     | 37. BIRTHPLACE                                       |  |                                              | 38. BIRTHPLACE                             |  |                                             | 39. BIRTHPLACE                              |  |  |
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|       |              |                   |                                    | 38. BIRTHPLACE              |  |                                                     | 39. BIRTHPLACE                                       |  |                                              | 40. BIRTHPLACE                             |  |                                             | 41. BIRTHPLACE                              |  |  |
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We hereby certify that the above record of Marriage Intention is a true and correct statement of facts, and was subscribed to by us on this 24th day of July, 19 59.

Signatures: William Gerard Barber, Jr.  
Jean Anne Purinton

Notice of the intention of marriage between the persons above named was entered with me, and was recorded by me, the 24th day of July, 19 59.

Physician's statements and the record of blood tests, as required by law, were received by me on August 3, 19 59.

Waivers: Five Day ☐ Blood Test ☐  
 Age: Bride ☐ Groom ☐

This Certificate issued August 3, 19 59

CLERK'S SIGNATURE Evelyn H. Zarnowski  
 CLERK OF Exeter, New Hampshire

### CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the persons above named were joined in marriage by me at Congregational Church Exeter New Hampshire, this 9th day of August, 19 59.

And that I am a Christian Minister (Insert here your official designation) in good and regular standing, authorized to solemnize marriage by the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

I reside in the town of Exeter County of Rockingham

Signature George H. Booth

This record of marriage filed August 10, 19 59  
Evelyn H. Zarnowski Clerk of Exeter, N.H. Registered No. 63

A true copy, Attest: Evelyn H. Zarnowski Clerk of Exeter, N.H. Dated Aug. 16 19 59

NH marriage record of daughter Jean Anne Purinton to William Gerard Barber Jr. – 9 Aug 1959 -  
[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/90587911:61836?tid=&pid=&queryId=66812c82ccee0e8fc0c5f6e6c246bd6&\\_phsrc=hFB46262&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/90587911:61836?tid=&pid=&queryId=66812c82ccee0e8fc0c5f6e6c246bd6&_phsrc=hFB46262&_phstart=successSource)



JEAN ANNE PURINGTON

Exeter

Major: Home Economics Extension;  $\Phi\Upsilon\Theta$  Editor 3,  
Chaplain 4; Dean's List 1; Home Economics Club 2,  
3, 4; Durham Reelers 3, 4; Student Union 3; Band  
3, 4; SCM 1.

Jean Anne Purington – University of NH yearbook, 1952 - <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/281828834:1265>



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM GERAUD BARBER JR.

(Photo by Swierzynski)

## Miss Jean A. Purington Wed To William Barber in Exeter

EXETER — Miss Jean Anne Purington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Purington of 86 High St., was married to William Gerard Barber Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Barber of Hope Valley, R. I., recently in the Exeter Congregational Church.

The double ring ceremony was performed by the Rev. George H. Booth, pastor of the church. John D. Wicks, instructor of music at the University of New Hampshire, was organist and Ward Abramo, instructor of music at the University of Rhode Island, was soloist.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of white nylon lace and net and an illusion veil. Her bouquet was of white carnations and stephanotis.

\*\*\*

Mrs. Charles C. Chapman of Windsor, Conn., was matron of honor for her sister. Her dress was of Mayflower lace and she wore a matching headress and she carried a bouquet of white daisies.

The bride's niece, Miss Susan D. Chapman, was junior bridesmaid. Her dress was of mint green lace and she chose a matching headress and a bouquet of white

...and a bouquet of white daisies.

Mr. Chapman was best man and ushers were Maurice V. Murphy Jr., Thomas M. Maines, Henry A. L. Brown and Charles James.

The bride's nephew, James W. Chapman of Windsor, was ring bearer.

\*\*\*

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Purington wore a navy blue dress and white accessories. The bridegroom's mother chose a turquoise chiffon dress and white accessories.

Miss Ruth Ennis of Warwick, R.I., presented the guest book at the wedding reception.

For a wedding trip, Mrs. Barber wore a light blue outfit and white accessories. The couple will live in Middletown, R.I.

Mrs. Barber was graduated from Robinson Seminary, Exeter, and the University of New Hampshire. She is a 4-H Club agent for the extension service in southern Rhode Island. Her husband, a graduate of Ward High School, Westerly, R.I., and the University of Rhode Island, is a 4-H club agent with the extension service in eastern Rhode Island.

Marriage of Jean Anne Purington -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/56454424/?article=e335236a-75fb-4a92-aeda-efcece32e95c&focus=0.016627869,0.02267039,0.24135032,0.617463&xid=3398>

**Jean Purington  
Takes 4-H Post**



Miss Jean A. Purington, 22, of Exeter, N.H., has assumed her duties as assistant 4-H Club agent of Berkshire County. She succeeds Miss Harriett E. Poor who will be married Saturday to Elmer Chamberlain of Amherst. Miss Poor will teach in Amherst.

Miss Purington, a native of Exeter, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Purington of Exeter. She graduated from Robinson Seminary there, and this June got her B.S. in home economics from the University of New Hampshire.

Temporarily, Miss Purington is living with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Austin of New Lenox Road. Miss Poor is conducting her on a tour of Berkshire County to meet others in 4-H work.

Miss Jean A. Purington

"Berkshire Eagle" (Pittsfield MA) Monday 18 Aug 1952 p 12

Mr. and Mrs. William Barber of Randall Lane have returned home after spending a week in Exeter, N.H., where they were called by the death of Mrs. Barber's father, James A. Purington. Mrs. Purington is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Barber.

Daughter - "Newport (RI) Daily News" Monday 13 May 1963 p 5



## William G Barber Jr

Torrington, Connecticut

March 9, 1931 - June 25, 2022

William G. "Bill" Barber Jr., died on June 25, 2022, aged 91. He was the beloved husband of Jean (Purington) Barber of Torrington. Bill was born in Westerly R.I. on March 9, 1931. He was the son of the late William and Mary (Hoxie) Barber of Hope Valley RI. He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1955 with a B.S. degree in Agriculture and in 1968 completed a Master's Degree. He served in the US Navy and US Navy Reserve from 1955-61, two of those years as a hospital corpsman in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Shortly after serving active duty in the Navy, Bill launched a career as a Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Agent. in Middlesex County MA. It was with great fortune that Bill met his devoted wife Jean, also a 4-H agent in Middlesex County MA., at a New England 4-H Conference in Chicago. The two wed in 1959 and soon relocated to Newport County where Bill served as the Newport County 4-H Agent. Two daughters, Carol and Cindy, as well as a happy -go-lucky Cocker Spaniel named Heidi completed the family. Bill was devoted to both his work and his family, often bringing his girls along with him to the 4-H office. His family was deeply devoted to the 4-H way of life. Bill was proud to say that four generations later his great grandson Danny was a 4-H Dog Club member. At home Bill thoroughly enjoyed working in his gardens while listening to the Red Sox on the radio, ever hopeful that his Sox would capture the pennant. In 1970, Bill moved his family to Connecticut where he served as 4-H Agent for Litchfield County. Bill was instrumental in building a robust and innovative 4-H program. Under his tutelage the Litchfield County program flourished and had record setting participation. Bill worked long hours, his dedication to the 4-H program was unequalled.

Later in his career he rose to administrative positions at the county and state level, highly respected and liked by all.

Bill retired in 1988 and with his wife Jean, explored the world, traveling to 22 countries, as well as many destinations in the US and Canada. Bill and Jean shared a passion for photography. They brought their photos and Joy to travel to many groups across Connecticut with their gorgeous slide shows. When they weren't traveling, Bill was busy in his yard working in his gardens and cultivating his famous tulip gardens. For years folks would drive by their home on Torrington Heights Road to photograph his spectacular displays. Bill also was a music man; as a youngster he mastered the trombone, euphonium, coronet, and he was an avid singer. He thoroughly enjoyed singing in his church choir and later Bill could be found singing the golden oldies with his family and friends at Geer Village.

Bill was a consummate organizer and in his retirement he was a member of the 4-H Advisory Committee and served on the Litchfield County 4-H Scholarship Committee. He was also an active member and officer in the Connecticut State Employees Association. Bill was much loved and made friends wherever he landed. He was known to strike up conversations with strangers which often fostered friendships which spanned the globe. He enjoyed bringing joy to others and it was that joy for living that carried with him each day of his long and fruitful life. In later years if you ever asked Bill how he was doing, with a twinkle in his eye he would reply, "Fine!, Just like pulverized pepper". He always said "I'm a lucky guy", and truly he was.

Bill leaves behind his wife of 62 years, Jean Barber and daughters Carol Blouin and husband Robert of West Hartland, Cindy Deane and husband Ron of Winchester Center, grandchildren Jessica Diamond, Katie Blouin, Matt Blouin and great grandson Danny Diamond. The family would like to thank Geer Village for the outstanding care given to Bill over the last three years, he always commented to his family "They take such good care of me here".

The family will receive relatives and friends Thursday June 30 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Phalen Funeral Home in Torrington. Donations can be made to Litchfield County 4-H Foundation 843 University Dr Torrington CT 06790. [www.phalenfuneral.com](http://www.phalenfuneral.com)

Obituary of William Gerard Barber Jr. (1931-2022) -

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/25230235/william-g-barber-jr>

Father:

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Groom               | James A. Purinton   |
| Bride               | S. Louise Osborn    |
| Residence of Groom  | Weare, N.H.         |
| " Bride             | Weare, N.H.         |
| Age of Groom        | 19                  |
| " Bride             | 15                  |
| Color of Groom      | White               |
| " Bride             | White               |
| Occupation of Groom | Mechanic            |
| " Bride             |                     |
| Birthplace of Groom | Canada              |
| By whom Married     | A.B. Palmer         |
| Residence           | Acting Pastor       |
| Official Station    | Union Cong'l Church |
| Date of Marriage    | March 29, 1877      |
| Place               | South Weare, N.H.   |
| Reported from       | Weare, N.H.         |

marriage of James Almeron Purington (here Purinton) to S. Louise Osborne 29 Mar 1877 -  
[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5241/images/41267\\_308270-02617?pId=457688](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5241/images/41267_308270-02617?pId=457688)

Mother:

**Mother Of Exeter Man Dies**

Mrs. S. Louise Purington of Hopkinton, who died on Sunday at the home of her son, George A. Purington in Manchester, was the mother of James E. Purington of Exeter. She was a native of South Weare and had resided in Hopkinton for 30 years.

Obituary of mother S. Louise Purington – “Portsmouth (NH) Herald” Monday 2 May 1938 p 3

Siblings:

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH** Registered No. ....

**1. PLACE OF DEATH**

County ..... **Hillsborough** <sup>6</sup>  
 Town or city ..... **Weare** <sup>29</sup>  
 No. .... St.; (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)  
 ..... **Rockland**  
 Ward. Village .....

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred.

| Yrs. | Mos. | Dys. |
|------|------|------|
| 59   | 8    | 18   |

How long in U. S. if of foreign birth?

| Yrs. | Mos. | Dys. |
|------|------|------|
|      |      |      |

If death occurred while an inmate of an institution, give (a) how long an inmate?

| Yrs. | Mos. | Dys. |
|------|------|------|
|      |      |      |

(b) where from .....

**2. FULL NAME**

**Fred Ernest Purington**

3. Residence (Usual place of abode) County ..... **Hillsborough** <sup>6</sup>  
 Town or city ..... **Weare** State ..... **N.H.** <sup>29</sup>  
 No. .... St.;  
 Ward. Village ..... **Rockland**

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

|                       |                                  |                                                                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4. SEX<br><b>Male</b> | 5. COLOR OR RACE<br><b>White</b> | 6. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced<br>(write the word)<br><b>Married</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

7. If married, widowed, or divorced  
 HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of

**Eulalia Lincoln Purington**

|                                                             |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|
| (Maiden name of wife in full (or) Husband's name in full)   |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| 8. DATE OF BIRTH month, day and year) <b>Nov. 6th. 1878</b> |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| 9. AGE                                                      | Years                                                                                                                                       | Months   | Days      | If LESS than 1 day,     |
|                                                             | <b>59</b>                                                                                                                                   | <b>8</b> | <b>18</b> | ..... hrs. or .....min. |
| OCCUPATION                                                  | 10. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. .... <b>Road Agent</b>                          |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | 11. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc. ....                                                    |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | 12. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year) <b>June 23rd</b> 13. Total time (years) spent in this occupation <b>8</b> |          |           |                         |
| 14. BIRTHPLACE                                              |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| Town or City <b>Weare,</b>                                  |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| State or Country <b>N.H. Hillsborough</b> <b>27</b>         |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| FATHER                                                      | 15. NAME <b>James A. Purington</b>                                                                                                          |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | 16. OCCUPATION <b>Farmer</b>                                                                                                                |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | 17. BIRTHPLACE                                                                                                                              |          |           |                         |
| Town or City <b>Canada</b> <b>50</b>                        |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| State or Country                                            |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| MOTHER                                                      | 18. MAIDEN NAME <b>Sarah Louise Osborne</b>                                                                                                 |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | 19. BIRTHPLACE                                                                                                                              |          |           |                         |
|                                                             | Town or City <b>Weare</b> <b>27</b>                                                                                                         |          |           |                         |
| State or Country <b>N.H. Hillsborough</b>                   |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| 20. THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE           |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| (Signature of Informant) <b>Eulalia L. Purington</b>        |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |
| (Address) <b>Weare, N.H.</b>                                |                                                                                                                                             |          |           |                         |

NH death record of brother Fred Ernest Purington (1878-1938) -

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5242/images/41267\\_312209-00044?pid=428572](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5242/images/41267_312209-00044?pid=428572)



Obituary of Fred Purington's wife Eulalia Farnham Purington — "Concord (NH) Mirror" Friday 3 Apr 1953 p 3

Do not write in this space — Margin reserved for CODING and BINDING.

## CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN OR CITY 245  
CLERK'S NO. 59-1777  
STATE FILE NO. 1777

DATE OF DEATH 30159

PLACE OF DEATH 617

INSTITUTION 6

RESIDENCE 617

SEX 1

SC 1

AGE 78

OCCUPATION

BIRTHPLACE 28

CITIZENSHIP 1

VETERAN 2

USE OF DEATH 332X

DIAGNOSIS 12

1. NAME OF DECEASED (TYPE OR PRINT) A. (FIRST) George B. (MIDDLE) Albert C. (LAST) Purington

2. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR) March 1, 1959

3. PLACE OF DEATH A. COUNTY Hillsborough B. CITY OR TOWN Manchester C. LENGTH OF STAY (IF THIS PLACE) 4 weeks

4. USUAL RESIDENCE (WHERE DECEASED LIVED, IF INSTITUTION, RESIDENCE BEFORE ADMISSION) A. STATE New Hampshire B. COUNTY Hillsborough C. CITY (IF ACTUAL TOWN OF RESIDENCE, NOT MAILING ADDRESS), OR TOWN Manchester

5. SEX male 6. COLOR OR RACE white 7. MARRIED ☒ DIVORCED ☐ NEVER MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED ☐ 8. NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE (MAIDEN NAME IF WIFE) Ella F. Ladue

9. DATE OF BIRTH (LAST BIRTHDAY) 12-13-1880 10. AGE (IN YEARS) 78 11. USUAL OCCUPATION (KIND OF WORK DONE DURING MOST OF WORKING LIFE, EVEN IF RETIRED) machinist 11B. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY

12. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN, STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY) Weare, N.H. 13. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA 14. FATHER'S NAME James A. Purington

15. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Louise Osborne 16. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (YES, NO, OR UNKNOWN) (IF YES, GIVE WAR OR DATES OF SERVICE) no 17. SOC. SEC. NO. 003-20-7496

18A. INFORMANT Mrs. George A. Purington 18B. ADDRESS 301 Walnut St., Manchester, N.H.

19. CAUSE OF DEATH (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR (A), (B), AND (C))

PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY:

IMMEDIATE CAUSE (A) Cerebral thrombosis INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH 6 mos.

CONDITIONS, IF ANY, WHICH GAVE RISE TO ABOVE CAUSE (B), STATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSE LAST. } DUE TO (B) Cerebral arteriosclerosis years

DUE TO (C) Hypertension

PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART (A)

20. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES ☐ NO ☒

21. TIME OF INJURY (MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR) (HOUR) (MIN.)

21D. INJURY OCCURRED NOT WHILE AT WORK ☐ AT WORK ☐ 21E. PLACE OF INJURY (E. G., IN OR ABOUT HOME, FARM, FACTORY, STREET, OFFICE BLDG., ETC.)

21F. CITY, TOWN OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE

22. I attended the deceased from 1956 to 3-1-59 and last saw him alive on 2-28-59. Death occurred at 8:40 P. on the date stated above; and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.

23A. SIGNATURE (DECEASED OR TITLE) David B. Snow, M.D. 23B. ADDRESS Manchester, N.H. 23C. DATE SIGNED 3-2-59

24A. BURIAL ☒ CREMATION ☐ 24B. DATE 3-4-59 24C. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Pine Grove Cem. 24D. LOCATION (CITY, TOWN, OR COUNTY) (STATE) Manchester, N.H.

24E. PLACE OF BURIAL (NAME OF CEMETERY) LOCATION (CITY, TOWN, COUNTY) (STATE) DATE

25. FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE ADDRESS COUNTERSIGNED-AGENT (CITY OR STATE) DATE

D.P. Goodwin, Manchester, N.H. James J. Powers, M.D. 3-3-59

DATE REC'D BY TOWN OR CITY CLERK CLERK'S OWN SIGNATURE CLERK OF

March 3, 1959 M.J. Quinn Manchester, N.H.

A true copy, Attest: Manchester Clerk of Manchester Dated 4-10-59

18-14 C.O. 18648-10-57-25M

NH death record of brother George Albert Purington (1880-1959) -  
<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/728355:61834>

### MRS. GOLDIE M. HALL

EAST WEARE, Feb. 25—Funeral services for Mrs. Goldie M. Hall, 68, who died at her home Tuesday, will be held Saturday at 2 o'clock at the Baptist church.

Mrs. Hall, wife of Clarence C. Hall, was a native of Weare, the daughter of J. Almeron and S. Louise (Osborne) Purington.

Surviving, besides her husband, are three daughters, Mrs. Pauline L. Davis of East Weare, Mrs. Mildred J. Jessiman, Needham Heights, Mass., and Mrs. Marion E. Hayes of Goffstown; three sons, George E. Hall, South Weare, Clarence R. Hall of Bradford and Harold O. Hall of East Weare; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Gladys A. Locke of Hopkinton; two brothers, George A. Purington, Manchester and James A. Purington of Exeter.

Burial will be in Pine Grove cemetery in Weare Center. Friends may call at the Woodbury and Son Funeral home in Hillsboro.

Child's Name, *Galche May Purinton*  
Date of Birth, *Dec. 11 1885*  
Place of Birth, *Ware N. H.*  
Sex, *F.* Color, *W*  
Living or Stillborn, *L*  
No. of Children, 1st, 2d, etc., *3d*  
Father's Name, *James A. Purinton*  
" Birthplace, *Cananda*  
" Color, *W* Age, *27*  
" Residence, *Ware N. H.*  
" Occupation, *Farmer*

Mother's Maiden Name, *Sarah S. Osborne*  
" Birthplace, *Worcester N. H.*  
" Color, *W* Age, *23*  
" Occupation, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Physician (or other person) reporting said Birth,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.**  
*I hereby certify that the above birth record is correct to the best  
of my knowledge and belief.*  
*Wm. L. Rogers.*  
Clerk of *Worcester N. H.*  
Date *June 6. 1902.*  
[OVER.]

NH birth record of Goldie - <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/150355917:61833>

### MRS. GLADYS A. LOCKE

HOPKINTON — Mrs. Gladys A. Locke, 71, died Monday night at Concord Hospital after a brief illness.

She was born in Weare and had made her home in the Hatfield district of this community for 37 years. She was the widow of James W. Locke.

Mrs. Locke was a member of the Contoocook Baptist Church and the church missionary society.

She leaves her daughter, Miss Geraldine M. Locke of Hopkinton, several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 3 p.m. at the Holmes Funeral Home in Henniker. Rev. Ransom L. Webster Jr., pastor of Contoocook Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery in Weare.

Friends were invited to call at the funeral home Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. Kenneth W. Holt is funeral director.

Obituary of sister Gladys Purington Locke (1893-1965) – “Concord (NH) Daily Mirror” Tuesday 18 May 1965 p 14

#### **Name: James Alson Purington**

Name variations:

#### Military:

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

Serial number: 250,847 (Veterans Administration Military Index) or 220,847

Entered service from: Hopkinton, Merrimack NH

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: James A. Purington

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: mother Mrs. J.A. Purington, Hopkinton NH

Originally was scheduled to return: as James A. Purington, was to sail on "Santa Paula" May 1919 but crossed off with note: "did not sail" - NOK mother Mrs. Louise Purington, Hopkinton NH (PFC, 1st Replacement Depot)

Returned from war on: "America"

Sailed on return ship as: James A. Purington (Fold3 indexed as Jared A. Purington but correct James A. on original form),

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Mrs. Louise Purington, Hopkinton (indexed as Millington) NH (PFC, 18th Co, 20th Engrs - indexed as 10th Co. 20th Coor)

World War I draft registration (1917): as James Alson Purington - b. 24 Oct 1894 Weare NH; res: Amherst MA. Single. Instructor in agriculture, Mass. Ag. College, Amherst MA. Registered on 4 Jun 1917, in advance of national registration day on 5 Jun 1917. Height: 5'4" – 135 lbs.

[Massachusetts Agricultural College is now [2022] the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.]

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): 86 High St., Exeter NH

World War II draft registration (1942): as James Alson Purington - b. 24 Oct 1894 Weare NH; res: 86 High St., Exeter, Rockingham NH. NOK Mrs. Winifred M. Purington, same address.

Employed by Rockingham County CLR (?) Extention [sic] Service, 100 Water St., Exeter, Rockingham NH. "scar on forehead" – Height: 5'4" – 130 lbs. [same height as 1917 but 5 pounds lighter!]

#### Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 13 Dec 1917

Discharged: 10 Jul 1919

Address: 55 Columbus Ave., Exeter NH

Rank/unit: private 1<sup>st</sup> class, St. Aignan Casual Co. 6451

#### Birth & death:

Born: 24 Oct 1894 Weare, Hillsborough NH

Died: 3 May 1963 Boston, Suffolk MA (in New England Medical Center, after short illness)

Find A Grave record: 185274334 – presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Exeter, Rockingham NH

Cemetery: Exeter

Tombstone: Find A Grave text: AEF 18th Co. 6th Battalion 20th Engineers

Father: James Almeron PURINTON, May 1858 East Farnum/Farmer (?), Canada – 22 Jun 1913 Hopkinton, Merrimack NH. Son of James A. Purinton & Angeline Rockwell. Buried in Pine grove Cemetery, Weare, Hillsborough NH.

Find A Grave: 63337034

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5242/images/41267\\_311800-01616?pId=653669](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5242/images/41267_311800-01616?pId=653669)

Mother: Sarah Louise Osborne PURINTON, Mar 1862 South Weare, Hillsborough NH – 1 May 1938 Manchester, Hillsborough NH. Buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Weare, Hillsborough NH.

Find A Grave: 63337044

Parents' marriage: 29 Mar 1877 South Weare, Hillsborough NH

Spouse: Winifred Maud Taylor Purington, 18 Nov 1896 Arbroath, Angus, Scotland – 1 Mar 1983 Raymond, Rockingham NH. Daughter of Andrew Taylor & Mary Walker. Buried in Exeter Cemetery, Exeter, Rockingham NH.

Spouse Find A Grave: 185274354

Marriage: 2 Aug 1922 Lowell, Middlesex MA in First Presbyterian Church

#### Children:

- Muriel Ellen Purington Chapman, 27 Mar 1925 Lowell, Middlesex MA – 29 Mar 1987 Hartford, Hartford CT. Married 17 Aug 1947 in Exeter, Rockingham NH to Charles Colman Chapman (1919-2010, F: 54824752) whose birthname was Casimir Ceckawski. Buried in Exeter Cemetery, Exeter, Rockingham NH. F: 83696395
- Jean Anne Purington Barber, ca. 1931 Exeter, Rockingham NH – alive when her husband died 25 Jun 2022. At age 28, Jean married William Gerard Barber Jr. (9 Mar 1931 – 25 Jun 2022) on 9 Aug 1959 in Exeter, Rockingham NH. Resident of Portsmouth RI in May 1963 when her father James died.

Siblings: James was the youngest of 5 children.

- Fred Ernest Purington, 6 Oct 1878 Weare, Hillsborough NH – 24 Jun 1938 Weare, Hillsborough NH. Married on 24 Jun 1938 in Weare, Hillsborough NH to Eulalia M. Farnham (d. 31 Mar 1953 Weare, Hillsborough NH, daughter of David Farnham & Mary Harris). Not on Find A Grave as of 17 Jul 2022.
- George Albert Purington, 13 Dec 1880 Weare, Hillsborough NH – 1 Mar 1959 Manchester, Hillsborough NH. Married 12 Feb 1908 in Manchester, Hillsborough NH to Ella Frances Ladue (1884-1974, F: 195459039). Buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Manchester, Hillsborough NH. F: 195225032
- Goldie May Purington Hall, 11 Dec 1885 Weare, Hillsborough NH – 23 Feb 1954 East Weare, Hillsborough NH. Wife of Clarence Cofran Hall (1882-1961, F: 154503071) whom she married 17 Nov 1901 in Manchester, Hillsborough NH. Buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Weare, Hillsborough NH. F: 154503072
- Gladys Angie Purinton Locke, 19 May 1893 Weare, Hillsborough NH – 17 May 1965 Concord, Merrimack NH (in Concord Hospital). Birth certificate uses name Angie Gladys. Married 18 Jun 1914 in Portland, Lincoln ME to James Wright Locke (1881-1960, F: 154478225). Her tombstone reads: PURINTON. Buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Weare, Hillsborough NH. F: 154478259

#### Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

"Boston Globe" 8 Feb 1918 p 4 - lengthy story about Purington's 3 hours in the water

"Boston Globe" 9 Feb 1918 p 5 has 2 stories - NH State College student has had a charmed life. In Dec 1917 was in a car accident in Manchester NH in which Thomas Comiskey of NY was killed & 2

others seriously injured. Born Weare NH, Contoocock High School graduate. Worked his way through State College at Durham. Mother Mrs. James A. Purington (Hopkinton), brothers George A. (Manchester) & Fred (Weare) & sisters Mrs. James W. Locke (Hopkinton) & Mrs. Clarence Hall (Henniker).

"Boston Globe" 9 Feb 1918 p 5 - dateline London - James Alen Purlington of Princeton says lifeboat chains broke & tackle was tangled. He got in a boat with about 10 others but it filled with water so he jumped over & floated 3 hours until picked up by a mine sweeper.

#### Post-war:

Considering his agricultural extension work, his presence in the New Hampshire state legislature and his extensive civic involvement, there are hundreds of newspaper articles about him found on Newspapers.com.

#### Obituary:

"Portsmouth [NH] Herald" 6 May 1963 p 3 & 3 May 1963 p 3 (poor photo) & "Nashua [NH] Telegram" 4 May 1963 p 2 – Died in his 2nd term as a NH state representative. U of NH graduate 1916. U of NH Extension Service agricultural agent for 40 years, retiring in June 1960. UNH scholarship in his name,. Funeral was attended by NH governor, commissioners, legislators, UNH representatives. Son of James A. & Louise (Osborne), b. Weare NH 24 Oct 1894. Resident of 86 High St., Exeter NH. Exeter resident since 1922. Survived by wife Winifred & 2 daughters.

Social Security number: 001-36-0259

#### Censuses:

1900 Weare, Hillsborough NH

Elinson Purington, 42 Canada, May 1858, parents b. NH, married 23 years, emigrated 1863, in US for 37 years, naturalized, teamster

Sarah D., 38 NH, Mar 1862, parents b. NH, gave birth to 5 children, 5 are living

Fred E., 21 NH, Oct 1877, day laborer

George A., 19 NH, Dec 1885, at school

Goldie M., 14 NH, Dec 1880, day laborer

Angie G., 7 NH, May 1893, at school

James E., 5 NH, Oct 1894, at school

1910 Hopkinton, Merrimack NH

James A. PURINTON, 51 Canada, parents b. Canada, married 32 years, farmer, general farming

S. Louise, 48 NH, parents b. NH, gave birth to 5 children, 5 are living

Gladys A., 16 NH

James A. Jr., 15 NH, in school

& farm hand Henry Carter, 19 NH, farmer, general farmin

1920 cannot locate census for James

1920 Hopkinton, Merrimack NH – sister & mother

James W. Locke, 38 NH, parents b. NH, farmer, general farm [head of household]

Gladys A. Locke, 26 NH, father b. NH [wife]

Geraldine M. Locke, 3 NH [daughter]

Louise S. Purington, 57 NH, parents b. NH, widow [mother-in-law]

1930 Exeter, Rockingham MA – 86 High St. – conducted 22 Apr 1930

James C. Purington, 35 NH, parents b. NH, age 27 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, extension work, agent, Rockingham County, WWI veteran

Winnifred M., 33 Scotland, parents b. Scotland, age 25 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage

Murel E., 4 years 11 months NH

1940 Exeter, Rockingham NH – 86 High St. – in same house in 1935

James A. Purington, 45 NH, agricultural agent, extension work

Winifred T., 43 Scotland,

Murriel E., 14 MA

Jean A., 9 NH

& lodger Constance Amsden, 24 NH, single, in Boston MA in 1935, teacher, private school

1950 Exeter, Rockingham NH – 86 High St.

James A. Purington, 55 NH, agricultural agent, extension service

Winifred M., 53 Scotland

Jean A., 19 NH