

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 in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

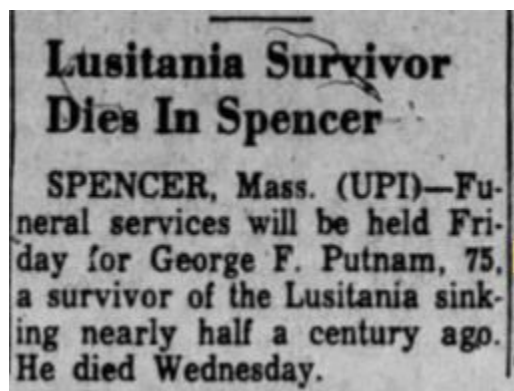
d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Putnam, George Frederick
1888 MA – 1964 MA



The obituary of George Frederick Putnam places him on the wrong ship "Lusitania" (1915) instead of "Tuscania" (1918, during war) – "Holyoke (MA) Transcript-Telegram" Thursday 27 Feb 1964 p 11

3-9-64 KE

PUTNAM GEORGE FREDERICK XC 1 525 666

Sgt 1st Co 1st Bn 151st D B K

35 Grove St Spencer Mass A 3 707 568

Ssn 4 765 Died 2-26-64 T 462 054

Born 5-7-88 R

Eul 8-1-17 Dis 4-10-19 Cl 2 848 565

I

U.S. VETERANS BUREAU
Mail and Records
Form 7392—Rev. Sept., 1935

INDEX CARD 2-12099

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:7BN5-J3W2>

George Putnam

Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915, 1921-1924

Name:	George Putnam • Edit
Event Type:	Birth
Event Date:	7 May 1888 • Edit
Event Place:	Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, United States • Edit
Event Place (Original):	Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, United States
Sex:	Male
Father's Name:	Austin G. • Edit
Mother's Name:	Jennie • Edit

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/KKQK-DRH>

X WW I		WW II	KOREA	HON.	ORIGIN
1. NAME OF DECEASED - LAST - FIRST - MIDDLE (Print or Type) Putnam George F.				14. NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY (City and State) Old Cemetery, Spencer, Mass.	
2. SERVICE NUMBER 4 765		3. PENSION OR VA CLAIM NUMBER ---		IMPORTANT - Item 18 on reverse side must be completed. See attached instructions and complete and submit both copies.	
4. ENLISTMENT DATE (Month, day, year) 8/1/1917		5. DISCHARGE DATE (Month, day, year) 4/10/1919		15. This application is submitted for a stone or marker for the unmarked grave of a deceased member or former member of the Armed Forces of the U. S., soldier of the Union or Confederate Armies of the Civil War or for an unmarked memorial plot for a non-recoverable deceased member. I hereby agree to accept responsibility for proper placement at the grave or memorial plot at no expense to the Government.	
6. STATE Mass.		7. DECORATIONS NO NE		NAME OF APPLICANT (Print or Type) Mrs. Alice Sebring	
8. GRADE OR RANK Sgt.		9. BRANCH OF SERVICE, COMPANY, REGIMENT, DIVISION Army 49th. Aero-Squadron Medical DET. 8888 Dept. ASSC		RELATIONSHIP Friend	
10. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day, year) 5/7/1888		11. DATE OF DEATH (Month, day, year) 2/26/64		ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Street address, City and State) 75 Main St., Spencer, Mass.	
12. RELIGIOUS EMBLEM (Check one) ☒ LATIN CROSS (Christian) ☐ STAR OF DAVID (Hebrew) ☐ NO EMBLEM		13. CHECK TYPE REQUIRED ☐ UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE ☒ FLAT MARBLE MARKER ☐ FLAT GRANITE MARKER ☐ FLAT BRONZE MARKER		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT Alice Sebring	
DO NOT WRITE HERE FOR VERIFICATION MAR 3 - 1964		ORDERED APR 24 1964		DATE 2/27/64	
DO NOT WRITE HERE FOR VERIFICATION MAR 3 - 1964		ORDERED APR 24 1964		16. FREIGHT STATION Worcester, Mass.	
B/L C-2189564		CONTRACTOR BARRETO GRANITE CORP. MILFORD, N.H.		17. NAME OF CONSIGNEE WHO WILL TRANSPORT STONE OR MARKER Mrs. Alice Sebring	
Sgt 49 Aero Sq 100 WT				ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE (Street address, City and State) 75 Main St., Spencer, Mass.	
DD FORM 1330, 1 NOV 62		EDITION OF 1 DEC 61 MAY BE USED.		I HAVE AGREED TO TAKE THE STONE OR MARKER TO THE CEMETERY SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE Alice Sebring	
		APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER 6 N H R A W		Form Approved Budget Bureau No. 2.	

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2265763:2375?tid=14812489&pid=29806521113&queryId=ddfa493a3970d2475b77f20ceb5e8ebc&_phsrc=hFB46288&_phstart=successSource

Connecticut, U.S., Military Census, 1917

Derby > Pp-Pz



State of Connecticut.

REC'D MAR 6 1917

073
J

By direction of an act of the Legislature of Connecticut, approved February 7th, 1917, I am required to procure certain information relative to the resources of the State. I therefore call upon you to answer the following questions.

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MARCUS H. HOLCOMB,
Governor.

TOWN or CITY Derby DATE Feb. 22, 1917
FULL NAME George Frederick Putnam
POST OFFICE ADDRESS 216 Minerva St.
(Street and Number or Rural Free Delivery Number)

1. What is your present Trade, Occupation or Profession? Forman in Suit case and hardware
2. Have you experience in any other Trade, Occupation or Profession? Bookkeeper Bookkeeper Chauffeur
(State which.)
3. What is your Age? 28 Height? 5'10" Weight? 180
4. Are you Married? Single? or Widower? Single

5. How many persons are dependent on you for support? none
6. Are you a citizen of the United States? yes
7. If not a citizen of the United States have you taken out your first papers? none
8. If not a citizen of the United States, what is your nationality? none
9. Have you ever done any Military or Naval Service in this or any other Country? none
Where? none How Long? none What Branch? none Rank? none
10. Have you any serious physical disability? none If so, name it. none
11. Can you do any of the following: Ride a horse? yes Handle a team? yes Drive an automobile? yes
Ride a motorcycle? yes Understand telegraphy? no Operate a wireless? no Any experience with a steam engine? yes Any experience with electrical machinery? little Handle a boat, power or sail? power
Any experience in simple coastwise navigation? no Any experience with High Speed Marine Gasoline Engines? some experience Are you a good swimmer? yes

I hereby certify that I have personally interviewed the above mentioned person and that the answers to the questions enumerated are as he gave them to me.

Harry A. Hough
Military Census Agent.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/390721:2277?tid=&pid=&queryId=32a499183af6e0ac50865c2033dfe000&phsrc=hFB46330&phstart=successSource>

PARENTS OF PRIVATE G. F. PUTNAM LIVE IN SPENCER

SPENCER, Feb. 8—Private George F. Putnam, son of Mr and Mrs Austin G. Putnam, North Spencer, was a member of the 158th Aero Squadron, which was on the ill-fated Tuscania.

His parents are anxiously awaiting news of his fate.

Private Putnam enlisted July 30 in the Medical Corps Reserve, but was later transferred to the Aero Squadron.

After enlisting he was stationed first at Fort Slocum, N. Y., then at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and then was sent to Fort Gerstner, La. He then came back to Hempstead, Long Island, where he was for a week before he sailed.

During this time he had a brief furlough and came home Jan 18 to say goodby.

The last word his parents received from him was a card, dated Jan 23, which said he was to sail soon.

He was born in Spencer 29 years ago, is a graduate of David Prouty High School, Spencer, and of a business college in Worcester.

He was working in Derby, Conn. and enlisted from there. He is on the honor roll of the First Congregational Church, Spencer.

"Boston Globe" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 5

Sibling:

Robert G. Putnam

DANBURY — Robert Garfield Putnam, 77, of 28 Southview avenue, a retired mathematics professor associated with New York university for 30 years, died yesterday in Danbury hospital.

Services will take place Thursday at 10 a.m. in the John C. Freeland funeral home, 91 West street, with the Rev. Clare Ingham, minister of Christian education at the First Congregational church, officiating. Burial will be in Wooster cemetery.

Mr. Putnam was born in Worcester, Mass., and lived for 30 years in Tarrytown, N.Y., before coming to Danbury three years ago. He is survived by two sons, Robert A. Putnam of Danbury and Harry R. Putnam of Ossining, N.Y.; a daughter, Mrs. F. Dwight Johnson of Columbus, Neb., and four grandchildren.

Obituary of brother Robert Garfield Putnam (1886-1964), who died less than 5 months after George
– “Bridgeport (CT) Telegram” Wednesday 15 Jul 1964 p 24

Name: George Frederick Putnam

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron, then 49th Aero Squadron - sergeant

Serial number: 4,765

Entered service from: Spencer, Worcester MA

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: George F. Putnam

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: mother Mrs. June Putnam, Spencer MA

Returned from war on: “Plattsburg” Feb 1919

Sailed on return ship as: George F. Putnam

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: NOK mother Mrs. Jane Putnam, Spencer MA (sgt, 49th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): as George Frederick Putnam - b. 7 May 1888 Spencer MA; res: 216 Minerva, Derby, New Haven CT. Single. Foreman, Suitcase Hardware Mfg., R.N.

Bassett Co., Shelton CT. Medium height & build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): 62 N. Summer, Spencer MA

World War II draft registration (1942): as George FREDRICK Putnam - b. 7 May 1888 Spencer MA; res: 75 Main, Spencer, Worcester MA. NOK Philip Putnam, Spencer MA [son]. Employed by NY Life Insurance Co., 332 Main, Worcester, Worcester MA. Height: 5'9" – 195 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 1 Aug 1917

Discharged: 10 Apr 1919

Address: 35 Grove St., Spencer MA

Rank/unit: sergeant, 1st Co., 1st Battalion, 151st Depot Brigade

Birth & death:

Born: 7 May 1888 Spencer, Worcester MA

Died: 26 Feb 1964 Spencer, Worcester MA

Find A Grave record: 120874917 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Spencer, Worcester MA

Cemetery: Old Spencer

Tombstone: veteran flat: Massachusetts Sgt 49 Aero Sq WWI

Father: Austin George (George Austin) Putnam, 23 Aug 1848 Rutland, Worcester MA – 8 Apr 1921 Spencer, Worcester MA. Son of Andrew Putnam & Nancy Woodward. Buried in Old Spencer Cemetery, Spencer, Worcester MA.

Find A Grave: 134306513

Mother: Jane Stearns ("Jennie") Garfield Putnam, 6 Aug 1852 Spencer, Worcester MA – 24 May 1932 Spencer, Worcester MA. Daughter of Joseph & Esther Jane Garfield. Buried in Old Spencer Cemetery, Spencer, Worcester MA.

Find A Grave: 134306538

Parents' marriage:

Spouse: In the 1930 census, George reports he is divorced. In the 1940 & 1950 censuses, he lists himself as widowed. Not clear if these are references to one or more than one woman. His son Philip was born in 1921. Unable to locate marriage records or the name of Philip's mother. She is reported to have been born in CT in the 1930 census.

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

- Philip/Phillip Garfield Putnam, 4 May 1921 Worcester Co. MA – 18 Oct 1976 San Francisco, San Francisco CA. SSN 068-20-3252. CA Death Index does not list mother's surname; his 1st name is spelled Phillip. On his WWII draft registration (15 Feb 1942) Philip [with one L] resides at 75 Main St., Spencer, Worcester MA. His next-of-kin is his father George F. Putnam. Philip is a student, height 5', weight 135 lbs. A note says "refer to W.A.T."] – In the 1945 FL state census for Pinellas Co. FL, Philip G. Putnam, 23 MA, resides at 2015 – 30th Ave. with Byron R. Underhill (45 NY) & Gladys Underhill (44 CT). He is listed with a grade

school education & employed at a shoe works. Byron & Gladys have high school educations, with Byron employed in awning repair & Gladys a housewife. – In the 1950 census for Worcester, Worcester MA, Philip Putnam, 29 MA, never married, “unable to work,” resides with Mae E. Hurd, her son Merton H. Hurd and several other lodgers on Pleasant St.

Siblings:

- Robert Garfield Putnam, 20 Nov 1886 Spencer, Worcester MA [also found as Worcester, Worcester MA] – 14 Jul 1964 Danbury, Fairfield CT. Husband of Mary Edna Schulte (1892-1964, F: 131548349). Teacher, primarily at the college level. Buried in Wooster Cemetery, Danbury, Fairfield CT. F: 131548259

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

“Fall River (MA) Evening Herald” Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 1 – on board Tuscania: Pvt. George F. Putnam, 213th Aero Squadron, Spencer MA, mother Mrs. Jane Putnam.

"Boston Globe" 9 Feb 1918 p 5 - son of Mr. & Mrs. Austin G. Putnam, North Spencer MA, who have received no news. Enlisted 30 Jul 1917 in Medical Corps Reserve but was transferred to 158th Aero Squadron. First trained at Ft. Slocum, then Ft. Oglethorpe GA, then Ft. Gerstner LA. Was at Hempstead, Long Island, 1 week before sailing. On a brief furlough made visit home in Jan 1918. His last message was a card dated 23 Jan 1918 saying he will sail soon. Born Spencer MA 29 years ago. Graduate of David Prouty High School & also a Worcester MA business college. Was working in Derby CT where he enlisted.

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number: 017-09-6833

Censuses:

1900 Spencer, Worcester MA

Austin G. Putnam, 51 MA, Aug 1848, parents b. MA, married 25 years, farmer

Jane S., 47 MA, Aug 1852, father b. MA, mother b. NH, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Robert G., 13 MA, Mar 1886, at school

George F., 11 MA, May 1889, at school

E. Jane Putnam, 78 Newfoundland, Mar 1822, father b. MA, mother b. NH,, widow [mother-in-law]

Edward J. Norton, 40 MA, May 1868, parents b. Ireland, single, farm laborer [boarder]

1910 Spencer, Worcester MA – 165 N. Sherman (spelling?)

Austin G. Putnam, 61 MA, parents b. MA, in 1st marriage, married 34 years, farmer, home farm

Jane S.G., 56 MA, parents b. MA, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Robert G., 22 MA, single [no occupation listed]

George F., 21 MA, farm laborer, home farm

1920 Derby, New Haven CT

<http://www.billputman.com/the-genealogy/putnam-putman-families/state-by-state-census-reports/connecticut/Connecticut1920-1940.htm> and

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/108273761:6061?tid=&pid=&queryId=9777da8edb94ee31e55961e05bcc97d0&phsrc=hFB46353&phstart=successSource>

Samuel Porter, 35 CT, parents b. CT, single, assistant undertaker

George PUTMAN, 31 Ma, parents b. MA, single, cost accountant, [illegible] ship [boarder]

1930 Spencer, Worcester MA – 75 Main St.

George F. Putnam, 41 MA, parents b. MA, divorced, accountant, office, WWI veteran

Jane S. Putnam, 78 MA, widow, parents b. MA [mother]

Philip G. Putnam, 8 MA, father b. MA, mother b. CT [son]

Amy E. Berry, 27 MA, married, parents b. Sweden [servant]

Phyllis L. Berry, 4 MA, parents b. MA [daughter – i.e. daughter of Amy]

1940 Spencer, Worcester MA – 75 Main St. – in 1935 in same place

GEORA F. PUTMAN, 51 MA, widowed, salesman, insurance

1950 Spencer, Worcester MA

George Putnam, 61 MA, widowed, accounting