

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

Phipps, John Vester
1900 VA – 1982 VA

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA—CERTIFICATE OF DEATH											
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH—BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS AND HEALTH STATISTICS—RICHMOND											
COPY A FOR BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS	REGISTRATION AREA NUMBER 138	CERTIFICATE NUMBER 13	STATE FILE NUMBER 82-009981								
DECEDENT	1. FULL NAME OF DECEDENT (Print) (Indicate)						2. SEX Male ☒ Female ☐		3. RACE White		
1	John Vester Phipps										
	4. DATE OF DEATH (Day) (Month) (Year) 03 25 82		5. AGE (Years) (Months) (Days) 81		6. DATE OF BIRTH (Month) (Day) (Year) 11/10/1900				7. WAS DECEDENT EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? Yes ☒ No ☐		
PLACE OF DEATH	8. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION OF DEATH (If none, so state) None						9. COUNTY OF DEATH Grayson		(If independent city, name same)		
91	10. CITY OR TOWN OF DEATH Independence						11. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO. OF PLACE OF DEATH Rt. #2, Box 130H				
USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEDENT	12. STATE (OR FOREIGN COUNTRY) OF DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE Virginia						13. COUNTY OF DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (If independent city, name same) Grayson				
138	14. CITY OR TOWN OF RESIDENCE Independence						15. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO. OF RESIDENCE Rt. #2, Box 130H				
	16. ZIP CODE 24348										
PERSONAL DATA OF DECEDENT	18. NAME OF FATHER OF DECEDENT Noah Rush Phipps						17. MOTHER NAME OF DECEDENT Emma Luper				
5473	19. CITIZENSHIP OF DEATH COUNTRY U.S.A.						20. BIRTHPLACE (State or Country) Virginia				
	21. NEVER MARRIED ☐ DIVORCED ☐ IF MARRIED OR WIDOWED, NAME OF SPOUSE (If divorced, last name) Anna Pierce Phipps										
	22. USUAL OR LAST OCCUPATION Farmer (ret.)						23. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Own farm.				
	24. INFORMANT OR SOURCE OF INFORMATION Billy P. Phipps										
MEDICAL CERTIFICATION	25. CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line for ICD, (II), and (IC). PART I: DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (A) MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION DUE TO (B) CORONARY ARTERY DZ DUE TO (C) PROSTATIC CANCER PART II: OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL ILLNESS CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (A): PROSTATIC CANCER										
TO PHYSICIAN:	26. IF FEMALE, WAS THERE A PREGNANCY IN PAST 3 MONTHS? Yes ☐ No ☒ UNKNOWN ☐ 27. TIME OF INJURY (Hour) (Day) (Year) A.M. _____ P.M. _____ 28. INJURY OCCURRED While at work ☐ Not while at work ☐ 29. PLACE OF INJURY (Home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.) Home 30. Injury or trauma (Describe) (none)										
1	31. To the best of my knowledge, death occurred at 4:30 (p.m.) on the date and place and from the cause(s) stated. ACTUAL SIGNATURE Tom Hunsund M DATE SIGNED 3/30/82 NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN Tom ADDRESS OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN _____										
FUNERAL INSTRUCTION	32. BURIAL REMOVAL CREMATION ☒ ☐ ☐ 33. PLACE OF BURIAL REMOVAL, ETC. Bridle Creek Cemetery Independence, Va. Name of funeral director or person filing this certificate Reins-Sturdivant F. Home, Inc. P.O. Box 206, Independence, Va. 24348										
REGISTRAR	34. Signature of registrar Edith Massey, Deputy DATE RECORD FILED 4-7-82										

https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/164970507/person/352147211611/media/bc75a013-d20d-45ef-8390-787177506a01?_phsrc=hFB45084&_phstart=successSource

9-17-40 30 M

30
922

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH—BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS 13852

THIS FORM TO BE USED ONLY FOR REPORTING A BIRTH WHICH OCCURRED BEFORE THE PRESENT VITAL STATISTICS LAW BECAME EFFECTIVE JUNE 14, 1912, OR FOR A LONG DELAYED REPORT AFTER THAT TIME

1. PLACE OF BIRTH
County of Grayson } If birth occurred in a hospital or other institution, give name of same instead of street and number.
Town or city of Bridle Creek Va. No. _____ Sr. _____

2. Full name of child John Vester Phipps

3. Sex of child Male To be answered only in the event of plural births } 4. Twin, Triplet, or other. _____
5. Number in order of birth 1

6. Were parents married to each other yes 7. Date of birth November 10th 1900
(Month by name) (Day) (Year)

FATHER OF CHILD MOTHER OF CHILD

8. Full name Noah Rush Phipps 14. Full maiden name Martha Emma Lupen

9. Place of residence Bridle Creek Va. 15. Place of residence Bridle Creek Va.
(At time of this birth) (At time of this birth)

10. Color or race White 11. Age at time of this birth 40 Yrs. 16. Color or race White 17. Age at time of this birth 18 Yrs.

12. Birthplace Bridle Creek Va. 18. Birthplace Cherokee co. N.C.

13. Occupation Farmer 19. Occupation House wife
(At time of this birth) (At time of this birth)

20. How many children were born to this mother up to and including this child? One Did any of these children die before this child was born? _____ If so, how many _____

Certification of Attending Physician, Parent, or an Older Relative Who Was Nearby. I hereby certify that the above statements are correct:
(Sign here) Martha Emma Bagwell (Present address) Darlington Md.

ATTESTATION OF NOTARY PUBLIC

I, W. E. Taylor, Notary Public of City or County of Grayson
State of Virginia do attest that the above certificate of birth was signed in my presence by Martha Emma Bagwell, who declares under oath that the statements made in reporting the birth, especially as to date and place of birth, names of child and parents, and their race, are correct, and known to be so because of relationship as: Mother Age of person signing 59

Furthermore, I have before me a family Bible, printed in the year no date containing an unaltered record, apparently made near the time, showing that the birth of John Vester Phipps occurred on Month November Day 10th Year 1900

Other evidence or comments: _____

Date April 25 1942 Attest: W. E. Taylor
My commission expires July 16 1944 Notary Public
Filed May 13 1942 W. E. Taylor State Registrar.

Notary public should describe Bible record with a pen, not with a typewriter. He (no one else) must attest that he witnessed the signing of this certificate. Seal desirable.

A church record of baptism in infancy is acceptable evidence to present with the certificate (with or without the Bible record). Without satisfactory written evidence the date of this birth cannot be certified to.

1 born before June 14, 1912.

Delayed VA birth record filed 25 Apr 1942 -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9277/images/44187_162028006072_0441-00113?pld=8329988

PHIPPS JOHN VESTER			C	1 092 413
Pvt Hq 158 Aero Sqdr			K	
Bridle Creek Va			A	2 862 604
Sn	250 041	Died	T	4 687 043
Born	11/10/98		R	
Enl	11/4/17	Dts 3/22/19	Cl	1 623 130
			I	

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7262—Rev. Sept., 1925

INDEX CARD

2-15009

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/ark:/61903/1:1:7BL6-F5PZ>

ENLISTMENTS YESTERDAY

Five Men Join Aviation Section of Signal Corps—Currie Re-Enlists in Navy.

Recruiting yesterday showed a slight improvement over the day before. At the army station the following five men enlisted in the aviation section of the signal corps: Julius W. Council, Apex, N. C.; John V. Phipps, Fox, Va.; Joseph S. Cornett, Independence, Va.; Nathan Keen, 103 South Third Street, Richmond; Tolvie L. Shirah, Columbia, S. C. Two colored men joined the stevedore regiment. They were Edmund Gregory, of Henderson, N. C., and Aubrey Thompson, of Mineral, Va.

"Richmond (VA) Times Dispatch" Sunday 4 Nov 1917 p 52

TUSCANIA'S LIST HAS NOT AS YET BEEN COMPLETED

Washington, Feb. 11.—From a list of 1,832 American soldiers saved from the torpedoed Tuscania thus far reported to the war department, The Associated Press today is enabled to give the names of more than 300 troops aboard still unaccounted for. No report has reached the department to change the estimate that only 113 American soldiers were lost and officials, although expecting additional names to come in slowly, could give no assurance as to when the list would be complete.

The names already received by the war department checked against the sailing list of troops shows 345 men unaccounted for, but thirty-five names of survivors were made public last night which do not appear on the sailing list. It is assumed that some soldiers possibly went aboard the Tuscania at the last moment without being recorded on the sailing list and also that members of the crew may have been among the military survivors.

The list compiled by The Associated Press represents an aggregate of 142 hours work. The war department had issued an official roster of the troops aboard the ship, the committee on public information has made no effort to compile a list of missing, merely issuing a list of the survivors.

THOSE FROM THE SOUTH.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Following were among the Tuscania survivors: William G. Buhmann, Greensboro, N. C.; Ora H. Campbell, Maynards-

ville, Tenn.; Albert S. Hucks, Branchville, S. C.; Edward B. Adams, Knoxville, Tenn.; Robert Love, Greenville, Tenn.; John V. Phipps, Fox, Va.; Milton Pittman, Wilmington, N. C.; Macey E. Evans, Stem, N. C.; Francis B. Hutton, Abingdon, Va.; Stanley F. Wellman, Gibsonburgh, (Gibsonville?) Va.; Newman J. Galloway, Memphis, Tenn.; R. Stewart Lillard, Decatur, Tenn.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Following is the list of those on board the Tuscania, who so far have not been reported among the survivors:

Casuals.

Captain Leo P. Lebron, Guthrie, Okla.; Captain Philip Kilburn Light-hall, Syracuse, N. Y.; Captain Philip Vincent Sherman, North Field, Vt.; First Lieut. William Binnie, Fridley, Minn.; First Lieut. Clifford Wellington Waller, Fenton, Mich.; Second Lieut. Charles Scott Patterson, Los Angeles, Cal.; Civil Employee Edward T. Fitzgerald, Detroit, Mich.; Abner E. Larned, Detroit, Mich.

Headquarters Detachment, Sixth Battalion, 20th Engineers, National Army.

Private Raymond Butler, New Richmond, Wis.; Irene Smith, Spokane, Wash.; Herschell O. Baird, Wagoner, Okla.; Walter L. Brown, Pera, Va.; Clarence H. Bradshaw, Haverhill, Mass.; Edwin R. Burkey, Bermidji, Minn.; William E. Bennett, Rogers,

(Continued on Page Seven.)

SOUTHERNERS AMONG TUSCANIA SURVIVORS

Washington, Feb. 10.—Following were among the Tuscania survivors:

William G. Buhmann, Greensboro, N. C.

Ora H. Capbell, Maynardsville, Tenn.

Albert S. Hucks, Branchville, S. C.

Edward B. Adams, Knoxville, Tenn.

Robert Love, Greenville, Tenn.

John V. Phipps, Fox, Va.

Milton Pittman, Wilmington, N. C.

Macey E. Evans, Stem, N. C.

Francis B. Hutton, Abingdon, Va.

Stanley F. Wellman, Gibonsburgh, (Gibbonsville?), Va.

Newman J. Galloway, Memphis, Tenn.

R. Stewart Lillard, Decatur, Tenn.

"Charlotte (NC) Observer" Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 2

Wife:



wife Anna Lee Pierce (1902-1981) – Find A Grave 71094895

No. 41708 State of North Carolina, County of Guilford
Office of Register of Deeds

To any Ordained Minister of any Religious Denomination
or any Justice of the Peace of said County

Greensboro, N. C. January 29, 1953

having applied to me for a LICENSE for the marriage of

James Lee Phipps of Independence and Louis Marie Thornton of Independence

age 24 years; color W; the son of John Thornton and Marie Taylor

the father now Living the mother Living

resident of Independence Va

And the written consent of _____, the _____ of the said _____, to the proposed marriage having been filed with me.

And there being no legal impediment to such marriage known to me, you are hereby authorized, at any time within sixty days from the date hereof, to celebrate the proposed marriage at any place within the said County. You are required, within sixty days after you shall have celebrated such marriage, to return this License to me, at my office, with your signature subscribed to the Certificate under this License, and with the facts therein filled according to the facts, under penalty of forfeiting \$100.00 to the use of any person who shall sue for the same.

James Lee Phipps being duly sworn, says:
That he knows of his own certain knowledge that the parties applying for License are both over _____ years of age, and
that as he knows or is informed and believes, there is no lawful cause or impediment forbidding said marriage.

Subscribed and subscribed to before me, this 29 day of January, 1953

James Lee Phipps
Register of Deeds

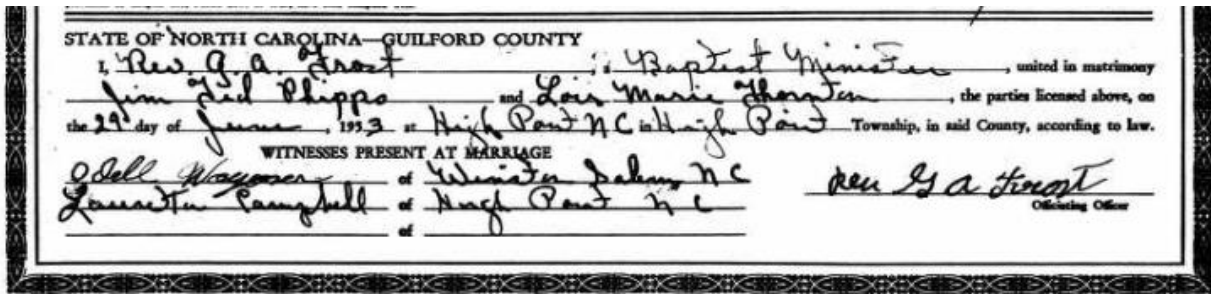
Louis Marie Thornton
By W. G. Phipps Deputy

John Thornton and Marie Taylor
the father now Living the mother Living
resident of Independence Va

James Lee Phipps
Register of Deeds

W. G. Phipps
Deputy

*Have been either "18" or "over 18" (just over 18) it shall be the duty of the Register of Deeds to see that the provisions of Chapter 141, Public Laws of 1929, have been complied with.



Marriage of son Jim Ted Phipps to Lois Marie Thornton on 29 Jun 1953 Guilford Co. NC -
<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/6481183:60548>

Father:

INSTRUCTED FOR SAUNDERS.

Delegates for Congressional Convention Named by Democrats of Grayson.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Independence, Va., June 6.—The Democrats of Grayson met in convention Saturday and elected the following delegates and alternates to the congressional convention, which will convene at Rocky Mount on the 16th to nominate a candidate for Congress in this, the Fifth, District:

Delegates for Elk Creek District—J. H. Rhudy, W. J. Roberts, J. E. Collins, W. S. Barbary and R. L. Kirby; Alternates—T. L. Gwyn, Marvin Vaughan, J. S. Bourne, R. C. Phipps and J. L. Reeves.

Delegates for Old Town District—S. W. Fielder, R. E. Cox, S. E. Young, Thomas Higgins and Emmet F. Cox; Alternates—A. C. Maiter, M. H. Carico, O. A. Carson, Ellis F. Cox and E. P. Osborne.

Wilson District: Delegates—G. C. Graham, Boyden Cox, J. P. Bryant, C. E. Porter and Mack Cole; Alternates—Alex. Bryant, Oscar Grubb, Rush Phipps, Bruce Wells and Alex. Cornett.

Delegates-at-Large—J. Mc. Dickey and J. C. Padgett.

Resolutions were adopted indorsing the course of Hon. E. W. Saunders in Congress, condemning the Payne-Aldrich tariff, and instructing the delegates to vote for the renomination of June Saunders.

“Richmond (VA) Times Dispatch” Tuesday 7 Jun 1910 p 7

Stepfather:

Winfield Calloway Bagwell – Find A Grave 103927197

Name: John Vester Phipps

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 158th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 250,041

Entered service from: Fox, Grayson VA

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: John V. Phipps

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": stepfather Win. C. Bagwell, Fox VA

Returned from war on: "Mexican" Feb 1919

Sailed on return ship as: John V. Phipps

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Mrs. Winfield Bagwell, Fol (sic/Fox) VA (pvt, 158th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917):

World War II draft registration (1942): as John Vester Phipps – b. 10 Nov 1900 Fox VA; res: Fox, Grayson VA. NOK wife Mrs. John V. Phipps, same address. Employed at Hercules Powder Co., New River Ordnance Works, Dublin, Pulaski VA. Card is signed J. Vester Phipps. "tattoo on left and right arm" – Height: 5'8" – 175 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 4 Nov 1917

Discharged: 22 Mar 1919

Address: Bridle Creek VA

Rank/unit: private, HQ, 158th Aero SquadronBirth & death:

Born: 10 Nov 1900 Fox, Grayson VA

Died: 25 Mar 1982 Independence, Grayson VA

Find A Grave record: 71094800 – presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Independence, Grayson VA

Cemetery: Bridle Creek

Tombstone:

Father: Noah Rush Phipps, 10 Jun 1852 Grayson Co. VA – 11 Nov 1912 Grayson Co. VA.
 Son of Benjamin H. ("Preacher Ben") Phipps & Eleanor Ann Long. Buried in B.H. Phipps
 Family Cemetery, Bridle Creek, Grayson VA.
 Find A Grave: 91804169

Mother: Martha Emma Looper Phipps Bagwell, 25 Feb 1883 Taylorsville, Alexander NC – 22
 Sep 1974 Sparta, Alleghany NC. Daughter of Bascomb Francis (Franklin) Looper & Susan
 Pauline Campbell. Buried in Bridle Creek Cemetery, Independence, Grayson VA.
 Find A Grave: 71094708
 Parents' marriage:

Stepfather: Winfield Calloway Bagwell Sr., 27 Jul 1855 Independence, Grayson VA – 3 Oct
 1938 Fox, Grayson VA. Son of Hiram Burton Bagwell & Mary Calloway Has.
 Had married in 1879 to Jane ("Jency") Bryant (14 Nov 1858 Grayson Co. VA – 4 Jan 1907 VA,
 F: 103927240) by whom he had children Bessie Emeline Bagwell Young (1885-1969) –
 Joseph Burton Bagwell (1887-1967) – Tina Ludema Bagwell (later Busic) (1889-1972) –
 Carrie Moelick Bagwell (later Roberts) (1893-1987) – Annie Laura Bagwell (later Andrews)
 (1895-1978) – Winnie Grace Bagwell (1897-1987).
 After Jane's death, Winfield married Martha Emma Looper Phipps and had 4 children
 (listed below as John Vester's half-siblings).
 Buried in Billy Bryant Cemetery, Fox, Grayson VA.
 Stepfather's Find A Grave: 103927197
 Stepfather's marriage:

Spouse:
 Spouse Find A Grave:
 Marriage:

Children:

Siblings: John Vester was the oldest of the Phipps siblings.

- Ray Watson Phipps, 21 Feb 1903 Grayson Co. VA – 11 Jul 1964 Bel Air, Harford MD. Married
 in 1933 to Eva Wave Mink (1913-2008, F: 152077484) who in 1973 married Vincent Worth
 Sebastian (1908-1987). – Also married to Mary Almina Daubert (1915-1989, F: 212321405).
 Buried in Bel Air Memorial Gardens, Bel Air, Harford MD. F: 167230128
- Benjamin Hurley Phipps, 31 Jul 1907 Grayson Co. VA – 17 Apr 1991 Galax, Galax City VA.
 Husband of Velva Cox (1909-1995, F: 71096246), the daughter of Troy T. Cox & Sophronia
 Sissico Taylor. Buried in Bridle Creek Cemetery, Independence, Grayson VA. F: 71096216
- Lena Pauline Phipps Cox, 17 Feb 1909 Grayson Co. VA – 22 Jan 1995 Mira Loma, Riverside
 CA. Married 3 May 1925 in Alleghany Co. NC to Dane Cox (also found as David Cox and
 John D. Cox), the son of Aros Bishop Cox & Lucy Ellen Boyer. Buried in Olivewood
 Cemetery, Riverside, Riverside CA. F: 145746018

- Ethel Mamie Phipps Phipps, 28 Dec 1910 Bridle Creek, Grayson VA – 19 Apr 2004 Laurel, Howard MD. Wife of Kyle Charles Phipps (1904-1965, F: 133202867). Buried in Felts Memorial Cemetery, Galax, Galax City VA. F: 132232769

Half-siblings: by his mother Martha Looper's 2nd marriage, to Winfield Calloway Bagwell

- William Calloway Bagwell Jr., 4 Sep 1914 VA – 30 Dec 1997 Kingsport, Sullivan TN. Husband of Frances Fay (Frankie) Stallard (1919-1996, F: 117554089). Buried in Oak Hill Memorial Park, Kingsport, Sullivan TN. F: 117554090
- Glen Scott Bagwell, 4 Dec 1916 Bridle Creek, Grayson VA – 16 Mar 1976 Aberdeen, Harford MD. Husband of Helen Virginia Sunday (1910-2000, F: 87324710) who was also married to Charles E. Vaught (1911-1953). Buried in Baker Cemetery, Aberdeen, Harford MD. F: 87324709
- Samuel Stuart Bagwell, 26 Jan 1919 Grayson Co. VA – 13 Nov 2009 Miami, Miami-Dade FL. Husband of Mozell Amanda Luper (1919-1985, F: 117761702). Buried in Woodlawn Park Cemetery South, Miami, Miami-Dade FL. F: 117761701
- Lewis Gale Bagwell Sr., 13 Nov 1921 Bridle Creek, Grayson VA – 9 Aug 1976 Harrisonburg, Harrisonburg City VA. Buried in Lindale Mennonite Church Cemetery, Linville,, Rockingham VA. F: 138174901

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number: 224-24-8194

Censuses:

1900 – not born

1910 Wilson Creek, Grayson VA

Rush Phipps, 57 VA, parents b. VA, in 1st marriage, married 9 years, farmer, own farm