

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

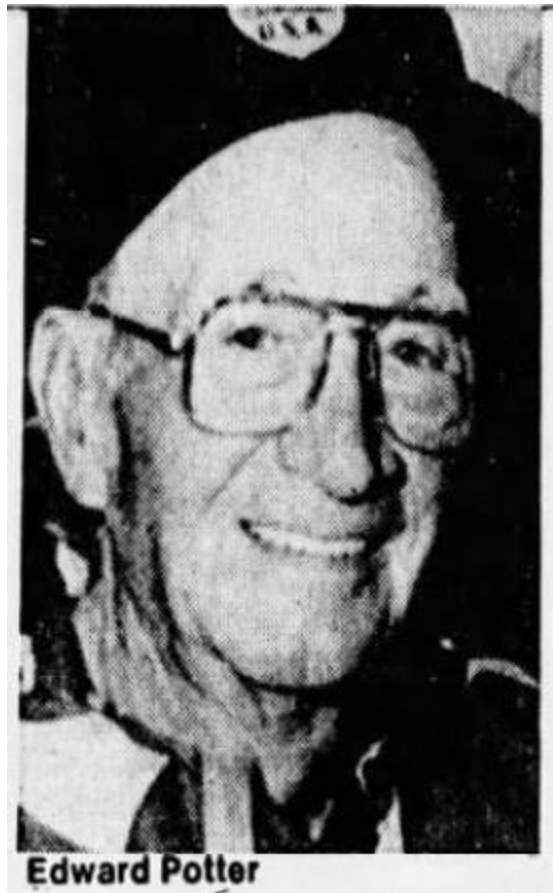
d = died

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

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Potter, Edward Thomas
1896 WI – 1990 AZ



Edward Thomas Potter – “Arizona Republic” (Phoenix AZ) 15 Dec 1985 p 30 (pages B1 & B6 in paper itself)



Alan Thurber

Republic Columnist

Memories of WWI sinking dredged up by lifeboat drill

On Feb. 5, Edward Potter of Sun City was on a cruise off the Hawaiian Islands.

"They had a routine lifeboat drill," he reports, "and made us put on our life preservers. I looked at my watch. It was 5 p.m. on February 5. That took me back 67 years."

At 5 p.m. on Feb. 5, 1918, Edward Potter's life jacket saved his life. He floated around the North Atlantic in it for several hours.

He was aboard the American troopship *Tuscania*, which was torpedoed off northern Ireland by a German U-boat.

"We were on our way to England, and eventually France," he said. "I had joined the National Guard

because my friends told me it would be fun. Three days later, war was declared.

"My outfit, a supply company from Wisconsin, trained in Texas and then sailed from New Jersey on January 24. We were in a convoy of 20 ships, zigzagging all over the Atlantic.

"We were down in steerage when we heard one big explosion. The torpedo knocked a big hole just below us. We scrambled up on deck.

"We were just a bunch of dumb kids. We had never had a boat drill. A lot of the boats were lowered badly and capsized, spilling men into the water. Ours was supposed to have a plug in it, and didn't, so it sank.

— Thurber, B6

Thurber

Continued from B1

"It was very cold, but I was so scared it kept me alive.

"It was dark, and after the lifeboat sank, I was alone. It couldn't see or hear anyone, but I could see the ship, and I watched it go down."

One of the leading journalists of the day, Irvin S. Cobb, also watched the sinking of the *Tuscania*. He was aboard the ship just ahead in the convoy and reported the incident in the March 9, 1918, issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*.

"The memory of what happened that night off the Irish coast is going to abide with me as long as I

live," he wrote.

He had watched the *Tuscania* for 12 days, because it had followed so close astern. And suddenly it was sinking and falling farther and farther back.

Cobb wrote of the shock he felt when he saw that the lights of the damaged ship were slanting downward toward the bow, and the shame he felt when he realized that his ship was fleeing from the stricken vessel (under orders) instead of going to its aid.

The men on his ship were silent as they watched, he wrote, and he jumped when a young American officer near him suddenly spoke up.

"If what I heard before we sailed is true," Cobb quoted the man as saying, "my brother is in the outfit on that boat."

Potter has a copy of that article.

"The brother the officer referred to," he said, "was me."

He was eventually picked up by a motor launch and taken ashore, where the survivors (266 of the men aboard the ship died) were given the only uniforms available.

"For a couple of days," he said, "I wore the uniform of a general in the Irish home guard."

The group was eventually reoutfitted and sent to France, where Potter served for more than a year.

A retired engineer, Potter will be 90 in June, but he's an active man who walks five miles a day and does a lot of work for his church.

And his memory is good. Just ask him about his evening off the coast of northern Ireland the night of Feb. 5, 1918.

"Arizona Republic" (Phoenix AZ) Sunday 15 Dec 1985 p 30 (pages BA & B6 in paper itself) -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/120185187>

Book excerpt:

Cobb wrote: "So quiet were we that I jumped when right at my elbow a low, steady voice spoke. Turning my head I could make out the speaker was one of the younger American officers.

"If what I heard before we sailed is true," he said, 'my brother is in the outfit on that boat yonder. Well, if they get him it will only add a little more interest to the debt I already owe those damned Germans.'"

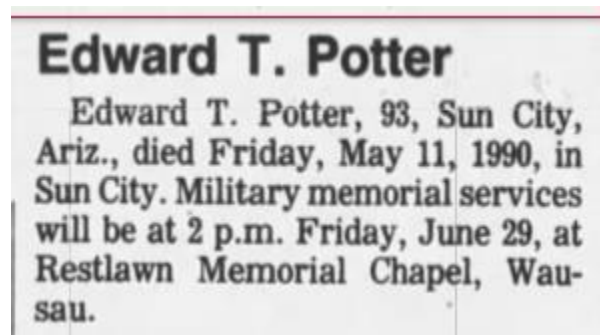
Lieutenant Robert Potter, who was aboard the *Baltic*, did comment to Cobb that he (Robert) thought his brother, Edward Thomas Potter, was on the *Tuscania*, according to Edward's daughter Betty J. Thompson. It is likely that this conversation was the one reported by Cobb in his article, as Robert's brother Edward was indeed on the *Tuscania*. Edward leaves the sinking ship with only three things: the suit of long underwear he was wearing, his lifebelt – and the Bible his aunt Lydia had given him on his farewell visit to her.

From Marilyn C. Gahm's "The Sinking of the *Tuscania*" – pages 106-107

MY DAD'S CIVILIAN OCCUPATION WAS ENGINEER. FIRST FOR THE PEAVY PAPER MILLS IN LADYSMITH, WISCONSIN; FROEDERT MALTING COMPANY IN WINONA, MINNESOTA. I'M NOT SURE BUT I THINK IT WAS ALLEN BRADLEY IN MILWAUKEE DURING WWII BUT THEN HE WENT TO A SUBSIDIARY OF RAY-O-VAC BATTERY COMPANY (SIGNAL BATTERY OF MILWAUKEE) AND CONTINUED HIS CAREER WITH RAY-O-VAC AT JACKSON, TN; PADUCAH, KY; AND WILLIAMSPORT, PA. RETIRING AFTER HIS TIME AT LANCASTER, OHIO. DUE TO MY MOTHER'S ILLNESS, HE WANTED A WARMER CLIMATE AND AT HIS REQUEST, I MOVED THEM TO SUN CITY, AZ. MY PARENTS ARE BOTH BURIED AT WAUSAU, WI. RESTLAWN MEMORIAL PARK, SECTION 4, BLOCK H, LOT 52, GRAVE 6. I MIGHT ADD THAT MY FATHER HAD A CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP, GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA, ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, SO IT READS. I HONORED THAT AT HIS MEMORIAL SERVICES HERE IN SUN CITY AND AT WAUSAU. HIS RELIGIOUS WAS CONGREGATIONAL.

Name:	Stewart Edward Potter
Gender:	Male
Birth Date:	16 Jun 1896
Birth Place:	Lake Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Baptism Date:	9 Nov 1898
Baptism Place:	Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Father:	William Potter
Mother:	Helen
FHL Film Number:	1316553

Apparently baptized Stewart Edward Potter on 9 Nov 1898 –
<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1114212:2544>



Death notice – “Wausau (WI) Daily Herald” Wednesday 27 Jun 1990 p 26

POTTER EDWARD THOMAS		c2/-77/-630	
Pvt 1cl Co F 107 Sup Tn		K	713 313
802 Miner Ave Ladysmith Wis		A	3 485 038
Su	251 308	Died	T 535 375
Born	6/16/96		R
Enl	7/15/17	Dls	5/29/19 Cl 2 311 888
			I

U.S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202--Rev. Sept., 1935

INDEX CARD

2-10000

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MS-W36R-R?cc=2968245&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AWSYV-453Z>

Edward Thomas Potter

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Edward Thomas Potter, 93, died Friday (May 11, 1990) at Phoenix Baptist Hospital. He was born in Stanley, Wis., and moved to Arizona in 1972 from Lancaster, Ohio, where he had retired as an industrial engineer from Ray-O-Vac Battery Company.

Mr. Potter is survived by a son, William E. Potter, of Vero Beach, Fla.; a daughter, Betty J. Thompson of Sun City, Ariz.; and his special friend, Martha Potter of Sun City. He has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He has two surviving sisters, Dr. Ruth McCann of Phoenix, and Eva Soli of L'Anse, Mich.

His wife passed away March 1, 1976.

He was a veteran of World War I, Rusk County, Wis., Barracks 2925, and a survivor from the S.S. Tuscania which was sunk by a German torpedo in the North Channel of the Irish Sea in February 1918. In 1987 U.S. Senator Robert W. Kasten of Wisconsin sent Mr. Potter his World War I Victory Medal, 69 years late. Recently he received a certificate from the French Government for his contribution to the Allied Victory during World War I.

Mr. Potter was employed by Froedert Malt Co. of Winona in the 1930s-1940. He also ran the Goodview Food Mart in the 1950s. He was a 68-year member of Masonic Lodge #18 of Winona. He'd visited Winona each summer for the past 8 years.

Dr. John Alexander of Sun City will conduct a service at Restlawn Memorial Park, Wausau, Wis., on June 29. A Memorial Service of Happy Memories will be held at the Congregational Church of Sun City on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 3 p.m.

The family prefers memorials to the Congregational Church of Sun City, P.O. Box 1596, Sun City, Ariz. 85372.

TO VISIT HERE—

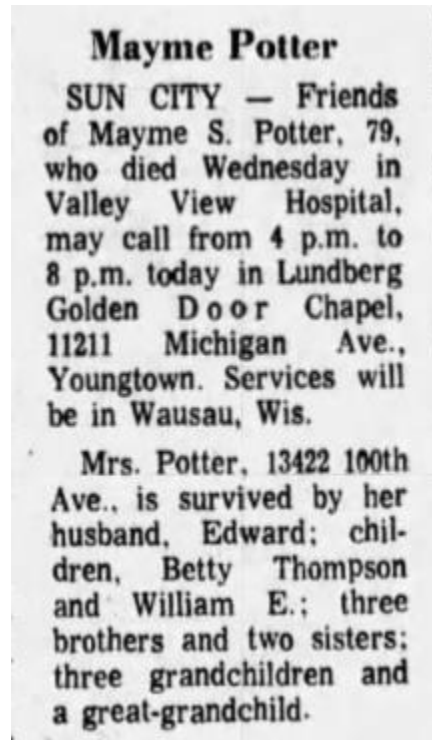
Guests expected at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Thompson, Goodview, are Mrs. Thompson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Potter, Lancaster, Ohio, formerly of Winona. Accompanying the Potters will be Major and Mrs. Kevin McCann, Washington, D. C., who will also spend a few days here.

"Winona (MN) Daily News" Tuesday 15 Jul 1947 p 8

Nearer home, other former Winonans, Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Potter, now of Jackson, Tenn., recently were guests along with Vice President and Mrs. Richard Nixon, at an annual celebration at Trowbridge Hall, Defiance College, Oct. 14 and 15. Mr. Potter's sister, Mrs. Kevin McCann, is acting president of the college in the absence of her husband, who at present, is serving as special assistant at the White House. Other house guests included Dr. Ken Wells, president of Freedom Foundation, who furnished the Black Angus cattle for the celebration barbecue. Freedom Foundation promoted the doorbell ringing and the hanging of "Liberty Bells" the past weekend. The day after the barbecue, the anniversary of President Eisenhower's visit to the college, the Nixon plane arrived, and Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. McCann received orchid corsages and Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Potter rose corsages.

Edward's sister Ruth is acting president of Defiance College in Ohio while her husband Kevin McCann is a special assistant to President Richard Nixon at the White House - "Winona (MN) Daily News" Wednesday 7 Nov 1956 p 16

Wife:



Obituary of wife Mayme Selma Kratwell Potter – “Arizona Republic” (Phoenix AZ) Thursday 4 Mar 1976 p 15

Mrs. Edward T. Potter

Funeral services for Mrs. Edward T. Potter, 79, Sun City, Ariz., former Winona resident who died March 3 in Youngtown, Ariz., were held March 6 at Helke East Chapel, Wausau, Wis.

The Rev. W. H. Ortwein, St. Paul's United Church of Christ, officiated, and burial was in Restlawn Memorial Park, Wausau.

The former Mayme Kratwell she was born in Edgar, Wis., Nov. 5, 1896, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kratwell. On Sept. 1, 1920, she married Edward T. Potter.

Survivors are: her husband; one son, William, Granville, Ohio; one daughter, Mrs. Betty Thompson, Tustin, Calif.; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; three brothers, Walter, Edgar, Wis., and Harold, Wausau, Wis., and two sisters, Mrs. Werner Esser, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., and Mrs. Marvin Plautz, Wausau.

"Winona (MN) Daily News" Thursday 11 Mar 1976 p 11

Potter Service

Service for Mrs. Mayme (Kratwell) Potter, 79, of Sun City, Ariz., formerly of Lancaster, who died March 3, in Youngstown, Ariz., was March 6 at the Helke East Chapel, Wausau, Wis., the Rev. W. H. Ortwein officiating; burial in Restlawn Memorial Park, Wausau.

Survivors include husband, Edward T.; daughter, Betty Thompson, Tustin, Calif.; son, William, Granville, O.; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild brothers, Walter Edgar, Wis., Edward and Harold of Wausau, Wis., sisters, Mrs. Werner Esser, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. and Mes. Marvin Plautz, Wausau, Wis.

The family suggests contributions be made to the Boswell Memorial Hospital, Sun City, Ariz.

Obituary of wife Mayme Selma Kratwell Potter – "Lancaster (OH) Eagle-Gazette" Saturday 13 Mar 1976 p 11

Children:

Betty Potter, Former Winonan, Married at San Antonio, Texas

Lieutenant and Mrs. Frederick S. Thompson, who were married in a candlelight service performed by the Rev. Albert P. Shirkey in the Cagle chapel of Travis Park Methodist church, San Antonio, Texas, April 19 at 8 p. m., are now at home in Apartment 2, 105 Glenwood Court, San Antonio.

The bride is the former Betty Potter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Potter, 4884 N. Pt. Washington road, Milwaukee, former Winona residents, and the bridegroom is the son of Warrant Officer and Mrs. Andrew J. Thompson, Kensal, N. D.

Attendants at the double-ring ceremony were Lieutenant and Mrs. Roy P. Stipe, Jr., Tuscaloosa, Ala. The bride wore a pale coral gabardine suit, a halo of white flowers on her head and silver accessories. She carried a white prayerbook on which was a white orchid showered with carnations and ribbon. Mrs. Stipe wore a black suit, yellow accessories and a shoulder bouquet of daffodils and cornflowers. She carried a lace handkerchief given her by the bride, and wore a seed pearl bracelet, also a gift from the bride.

The bride is a graduate of Winona Senior High school and attended the Winona Business college and Milwaukee Business institute. At one time she was employed at the Winona National & Savings bank and prior to her marriage was supervisor of the personnel file room at the Signal Battery Company, Milwaukee.

She was honored at several parties, Miss Beverly Vater entertaining for her in Winona March 30, employees of the Signal Battery Company giving a party for her in Milwaukee April 6 and Miss Evelyn Pietach acting as hostess at a linen and personal shower April 8 at Milwaukee.

Lieutenant Thompson, a graduate of the Kensal, N. D., High school, attended Jamestown, N. D., college where he took a premedicine course, and took extension work through the University of Indiana for special training before enlisting in the army air corps in 1943. He is now in the pilots pool at Brooks Field, Texas.

Wedding of daughter Betty Jane Potter to Frederick S. Thompson on 19 Apr 1945 in San Antonio, Bexar TX – "Winona (MN) Daily News" Saturday 28 Apr 1945 p 5

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED—

Announcement of the engagement of Miss Betty Potter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Potter, Milwaukee, former Winonans, to Lieutenant Frederick S. Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Thompson, Kensal, N. D., has been received here. Wedding plans are indefinite. Miss Potter, who is a supervisor at the Signal Battery Company plant, Milwaukee, will visit at the home of Miss Beverly Vater, 611 West Broadway, over the Easter holiday.

Engagement – “Winona (MN) Daily News” Thursday 29 Mar 1945 p 4



Betty Jane Potter Thompson

<https://www.facebook.com/betty.j.thompson> (7 Jul 2022)



HOBE SOUND

William Potter

William Eugene Potter, 84, died April 26, 2010, at the Treasure Coast Hospice Residence, Stuart.



He was born in Lady Smith, Wis., and lived in Hobe Sound for 40 years, coming from Columbus, Ohio.

Before retirement, he was a sales representative in the photographic industry for many years.

He was a veteran of the Army and Army Air Forces, serving in World War II.

Survivors include his son, Scott Potter of Hobe Sound; sister, Betty Thompson of Sun City, Ariz.; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice, 1201 S.E. Indian St., Stuart, FL 34997.

SERVICES: A memorial celebration will be at 2:30 p.m. May 6 at The Manors of Hobe Sound, Hobe Sound, with Chaplain Hoss Wiggins

officiating. Military honors will be provided by the Army. Arrangements are by Martin Funeral Home & Crematory, Stuart. A guest book may be signed at heavencalled.com.

Father:

William Potter.

William Potter, of Stanley, aged 59, who has been lying ill at the Sacred Heart Hospital for some time, died last night at 8:30 p. m. The remains will be taken to his home at Stanley, Saturday morning, and burial services will be conducted on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. He is a prominent Woodman and Odd Fellow of that place, and those lodges will undoubtedly take charge of the burial, though no final arrangement has yet been made.

Mr. Potter was a victim of blood poisoning. So ill has he been for the past week that report was erroneously given out early in the week that he had died Sunday night, and the report was published as such. Later on it was discovered that he had not died, that he was apparently getting better, and that hopes were entertained for his recovery. From this time on he lingered, only to succumb last night. Stanley has lost a good citizen.

Obituary of father William Henry Potter – "Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Friday 29 Jul 1910 p 8

WILLIAM POTTER IS STILL ALIVE

STANLEY CITIZEN AT SACRED
HEART DENIES THAT HE IS
DEAD.

Yesterday the Telegram and Leader published the death of William Potter, and had his remains shipped to Stanley for burial. It appears now that the gentleman is not dead, represents the report given out by the papers, and is fairly on the road to recovery. The surprise of a man in discovering that he is reckoned among the dead, when he has a fair chance for recovery, can only be imagined. It was an error that a paper is only too glad to rectify.

Edward's father William "denies that he is dead" – "Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Wednesday 27 Jul 1910 p 5

DEATHS.

Stanley Man Dead.

William Potter, one of Stanley's best known citizens, died at the Sacred Heart hospital in Eau Claire at Midnight on Sunday. The remains were removed to that city for burial.

The erroneous obituary – William Potter died 28 Jul 1910, not 24 Jul 1910 – “Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram” Tuesday 26 Jul 1910 p 5

Mother:

DEATHS

Mrs. Helen Hazen

Mrs. Helen Hazen, 76, died Friday, 12:55 a. m., at the home of her son, Edward T. Potter, 263 East Fifth-av.

She is also survived by five other sons, Albert of Tacoma, Wash., Robert of Portland, Ore., Marion of Owen, Wisc., Marcus of Menasha, Wisc., and Eugene Potter, Chicago, Ill.; two daughters, Mrs. Gus Soli, L'Ause, Mich., and Mrs. K. C. McCann, Washington, D. C.; 22 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; and three sisters.

The body was removed to the Ward Halteman Funeral Home where friends may call this evening. Saturday morning the remains will be sent to Stanley, Wisc., for funeral and burial.

Obituary of mother Helen Jane Hayes Potter Love Hazen - “Lancaster (OH) Eagle-Gazette”
Friday 11 Jul 1947 p 2

Funeral of Mrs. Helen Hazen

Funeral services for Mrs. Helen Hazen who died July 11 after a long illness at the home of her son, Edward T. Potter, Lancaster, Ohio, formerly of Winona, were conducted at Stanley, Wis. Mrs. F. S. Thompson, Goodview, is a granddaughter of Mrs. Hazen.

“Winona (MN) Republican-Herald” Tuesday 15 Jul 1947 p 3

1st SELF SERVICE Meat Department
IN THIS AREA

- ★ Cuts of Safranek's Fresh Meats, Bologna and Wieners.
- ★ A Complete Line Of Cold Meats.

COMPLETE LINES OF
 NOTIONS — HOUSEHOLD DRUGS — GROCERIES
 FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES AND BEVERAGES

STORE HOURS
 Week Days — 7:30 A. M. to 9 P. M.
 Sundays and Holidays — 9:00 A. M. to 1 P. M. and 4 P. M. to 9 P. M.

GOODVIEW FOOD MART

Co-Owners — Edward T. Potter and Mrs. Fred Thompson
 4340 Seventh St. Phone 7485

Goodview Food Mart co-owned by Edward Thomas Potter & daughter Betty Jane Potter Thompson –
 “Winona (MN) Republican-Herald” Saturday 29 Oct 1949 p 2

Siblings:



Last Rites —Services for Albert C. Potter will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Tuell Chapel, with the Rev. Jack M. Tuell officiating. Burial will follow in Mountain View Memorial Park. Active pallbearers will be W. A. Drahos, G. L. Schaefer, C. F. Nack, P. M. Ryan, C. A. Cowan and Floyd Tharp. Honorary pallbearers will be A. G. O'Brien, E. W. Mitchell, J. R. Keizer, L. A. Borden, William Jones, Charles Olson and Harold Pierce.

Obituary of brother Albert Charles Potter (1889-1955) – “Tacoma (WA) News Tribune” Friday 23 Sep 1955 p 26

SOLI, Eva

Age 100

L'Anse, Michigan

Died, Monday (1 June 1992), at the Winkler Nursing Home in L'Anse, Michigan. Born 6 April 1892 in Stanley, Wisconsin to the late William and Helen Potter. Married 25 April 1913, Gust Soli Sr, in Stanley, Wisconsin. He died in 1965.

DMJ 2 June 1992

Eva Soli

L'ANSE — Eva Soli, 100, died Monday at the Winkler Nursing Home in L'Anse. Arrangements will be announced by the Jacobson Funeral Home of L'Anse.

DMJ 3 June 1992

Eva Soli

L'ANSE — Services for Eva Mae Soli, 100, of L'Anse, who died Monday at the Winkler Nursing Home after a long illness, will be 1 p.m. Thursday at the Jacobson Funeral Home in L'Anse with the Rev. Robert Manthei officiating.

Visitation is from 6 to 8 tonight at the funeral home with an Eastern

Star service at 7. There will also be a visitation one hour prior to services Thursday. Burial will be in the L'Anse Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Soli was born April 6, 1892 in Stanley, Wis., to the late William and Helen Potter. She attended school in Stanley and moved to L'Anse in 1933.

She married Gust Soli Sr., on April 25, 1913 in Stanley. He died in 1965.

She was a member of the United Lutheran Church of L'Anse. She helped organize the Maplewood Chapter 511 of the Order of the Eastern Star of L'Anse and was the first president of the Baraga County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

Surviving are one son, Gust Jr. of L'Anse; one sister, Mrs. Ruth McCann of Phoenix, Ariz.; seven

grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, C. James and Robert; and seven brothers, Burt, Bob, Edward, Marion, Roy, Mark and Eugene.

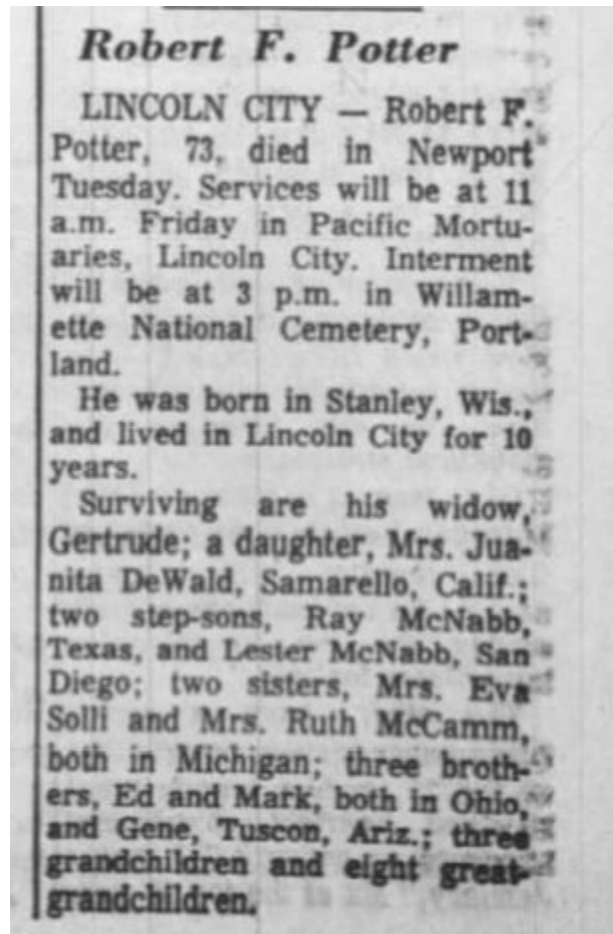
Obituaries of **sister Eva Mae Potter Soli (1891-1992)** –

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99VR->

[ZZL3?i=570&cc=2215693&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQGPY-Z58J](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99VR-ZZL3?i=570&cc=2215693&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQGPY-Z58J)



Brother Robert F. Potter (1894-1967) – the Army officer aboard “Baltic” in the same convoy as Edward on “Tuscania” who commented to journalist Irwin Cobb and whose quote was published in the “Saturday Evening Post” of WHAT - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/35534614/person/18824603303/media/6cdd5921-b551-49ec-b242-e8244f245d0e>



Obituary of brother Robert F. Potter – “Salem (OR) Capital-Journal” Thursday 16 Feb 1967 p 13



Sister Christina Ruth Potter Andrews McCann (1898-1998) - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/35534614/person/19437220700/media/a35e4ab4-ce21-44d3-bfd9-b8aeb5f520a9>



Christina Ruth Potter Andrews McCann with husband, Dr. Kevin Coyle McCann – Find A Grave
134751566

No. 95**Marriage License** 7 1155 1942BARAGA County, MichiganTo any person legally authorized to solemnize marriage in the
State of Michigan,**Greeting:****Marriage May Be Solemnized in the State of Michigan Between**Mr. Kevin McCann and Mrs. Ruth C. Andrewsaffidavit having been filed in this office, as provided by Public Act No. 128, Laws of 1887, as amended, by which it
appears that saidKevin McCann is 38 years of age,
color is White, residence is Chicago, Illinois, and birthplace was
Ireland, occupation is Printer, father's name
Patrick J. McCann, and mother's maiden name was Mary Coyle andhas been previously married no time 8; and that said Ruth C. Andrews
is 42 years of age, color is White, residence is Miblethian, Illinois andbirthplace was Stanley, Wisconsin, occupation is Printer, father's name
William Henry Potter, and mother's maiden name was Helen Hayesand who has been previously married one time 8, and whose maiden name wa
Ruth C. Potter, and whose ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ consent, in case sh
Parent's or Guardian's

has not attained the age of eighteen years, has been filed in my office.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto attached my hand and th

seal of Baraga County, Michigan, this 28thday of March, A. D. 19 42.

L. S.

Francis Tolson
County Clerk

This space reserved for binding

Certificate of Marriage

Between Mr. **Kevin McCann** and Mrs. **Ruth C. Andrews**

I hereby certify that, in accordance with the above license, the persons herein mentioned were joined in marriage by me, at **L'Anse**, County of **Baraga**, **MICHIGAN**, on the **28th** day of **March**, A. D. 19**42**, in the presence of **Gust Soli**, of **L'Anse, Michigan**, and **Mrs. Eva Soli**, of **L'Anse, Michigan**, as witnesses.

Ray Newland
Name of Magistrate or Clergyman.
Justice of the Peace
Official Title

This copy is to be retained by the County Clerk until the original is returned; then it is to be completed by endorsement and forwarded on the first of the following month to the Michigan Department of Health.

2nd marriage of sister Christine Ruth Potter Andrews (1898-1998), to Kevin McCann on 28 Mar 1942
L'Anse, Baraga MI -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9093/images/41326_342259-03115?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pld=1505332768

Ruth C. McCann, 99, of Phoenix, a retired newspaper publisher, died June 30, 1998. She was born in Stanley, Wis. Survivors include her daughters, Marie Joy Falcon and Patricia Schwabe; son, Eugene R. Andrews; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Services will be held in Ohio. A.L. Moore-Grimshaw Mortuary.

Obituary of sister Christina Ruth Potter Andrews McCann - "Arizona Republic" (Phoenix AZ)
Thursday 2 Jul 1998 p 41

In a recent issue of Life which featured Dwight Eisenhower, president of Columbia university, pictures of his paintings were included and reference was made to his assistant, presidential adviser Kevin McCann, also an amateur artist. McCann, an ex-newspaper man, is the husband of Ruth Potter, aunt of Mrs. F. S. Thompson, Goodview. She is a sister of Edward T. Potter, former Winona resident, who is returning here, and father of Mrs. Thompson, the former Betty Potter. One picture in the article shows Mr. McCann and a still life painting which is his work. The Potters are returning here this week from Jackson, Tenn.

“Life” magazine features Edward’s brother-in-law Kevin McCann – “Winona (MN) Daily News”
Wednesday 3 May 1950 p 13

Roy William Potter

in the Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947

Detail	Source
Name:	Roy William Potter
Birth Date:	2 Mar 1900
Birth Place:	Stanley, Wisconsin
Death Date:	7 May 1939
Death Place:	Midlothian, Cook, Illinois
Burial Date:	10 May 1939
Burial Place:	Worth, Cook, Illinois
Death Age:	39
Occupation:	Printer
Race:	White
Marital Status:	M
Gender:	Male
Residence:	Midlothian, Cook, Illinois
Father Name:	William Potter
Father Birth Place:	Quebec, Canada
Mother Name:	Helen Hayes
Mother Birth Place:	Quebec/Canada
Spouse Name:	Louise Pattee
FHL Film Number:	1819831

IL death record of **brother Roy William Potter (1900-1939)** - [ncestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1534883:2542?tid=172013331&pid=312231137842&queryId=ffe676a765e8238b33800c216d448633&_phsrc=hFB45779&_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1534883:2542?tid=172013331&pid=312231137842&queryId=ffe676a765e8238b33800c216d448633&_phsrc=hFB45779&_phstart=successSource)

Roy William Potter.

The funeral of Roy William Potter, a printer for the Messenger Press, Midlothian, for five years, will be held at 9 a. m. tomorrow from his home at 147th street and Avers avenue to St. Christopher church. Mr. Potter, who was 39 years old, died in his home Sunday of heart disease. He is survived by his widow, Louise, a daughter, Judith, a son, James, and his mother, Mrs. W. A. Hazen of Stanley, Wis.

Obituary of brother Roy William Potter – “Chicago Tribune” Tuesday 9 May 1939 p 25

Marion O. Potter

OWEN — Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Maurina Funeral Home for Marion O. Potter, 75, Owen, who died Wednesday at Clark County Health Care Center in Owen.

The Rev. E.N. Stillings, pastor of St. Katherine's Episcopal Church, will officiate and burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Withee. Visitation will be after 6 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Mr. Potter was born Dec. 18, 1902 in Stanley. He moved to Owen in 1918 and worked for Owen Box and Crating Co. until 1944. He later moved to Waukegan, Ill., where he worked at Downey Veterans Hospital. Before retirement in 1971 he was employed by Mirro Aluminum Co., in Two Rivers.

He married Agnes Scheel Nov. 18, 1920 in Ladysmith. The marriage ended in divorce.

He was a member of St. Katherine's Episcopal Church.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Harold (Elaine) Kuehn of Owen; one brother, Edward Potter of Sun City, Ariz.; two sisters, Mrs. Eva Soli of L'Aanse, Mich., and Mrs. Kevin (Ruth) McCann of Phoenix; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Miss Florence Spellman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Spellman, High street, Menasha, and Marcus Potter, son on Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Love, Menasha, were united in marriage Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock at St. Patrick's church, Rev. George A. Clifford officiating. They were attended by Miss Helen Krablean and Emmet McQuillan. The bride was attired in blue, with hat to match, and wore a corsage bouquet. Her bridesmaid wore tan, with hat to match, and also wore a corsage bouquet. The ceremony at the church was followed by a breakfast at the bride's home, with a reception in the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Potter will make their home in Menasha.

Marriage of brother Marion Oscar Potter (1904-1975) to Florence Spellman 12 Feb 1929 – "Neenah (WI) News-Record" Wednesday 13 Feb 1929 p 3

EUGENE H POTTER

EWEN—Funeral services for Eugene H. Potter, who died Sept. 8 at Northwoods Hospital, Phelps, Wis., were held last Saturday morning at Sacred Heart Church with the Rev. Raymond Valerio officiating. Burial was in Ewen Cemetery.

Pallbearers were James Miesbauer, Jack Staff, Joseph McGinty, George DuCleaux, Edward Greeno and Gaspard Wolfe.

Attending from out of town were Mrs. Owen Sommers, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Houle and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gronwald, Green Bay; Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hansen and Mrs. Blyn Hall, Munising; Mrs. Gust Soli Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Gust Soli Jr., L'Anse; Mr. and Mrs. James Soli, Marquette, and Robert Soli, Escanaba.

Obituary of **brother Eugene Herman Potter (1907-1971)** – “Ironwood (MI) Daily Globe” Thursday 16 Sep 1971 p 16

Name: Edward Thomas Potter

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. F – private 1st class

Serial number: 251,308

Entered service from: Owen, Clark WI

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: as Edward Potter (Fold3, p. 366) & Edward T. Potter (p. 563)

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: mother Mrs. J.D. Love, Owen WI

Returned from war on: "Virginian" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Edward T. Potter

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Mrs. Helen Love, Owen WI (PFC, Co. F, 107th Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917):

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): 1955 WI Survivors: 615 Durkett Ave., Jackson TN

World War II draft registration (1942): as Edward Thomas Potter - b. 16 Jun 1896 Stanley WI; res: Goodview Rd., Winona #1, Winona MN. NOK Maym Potter, 328 E. Smith St., Milwaukee WI. Employed at Filer & Stowell, E. Beecher St., Milwaukee WI. "crippled fingers on left hand" - Height: 5'9" – 155 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 15 Jul 1917

Discharged: 29 May 1919

Address: 802 Miner Ave., Ladysmith WI

Rank/unit: private 1st class, Co. F, 107th Supply Train

Birth & death:

Born: 16 Jun 1896 Chippewa Co. WI

Died: 11 May 1990 Sun City, Maricopa AZ

Find A Grave record: 217790964 (BillionGraves 24502169)

Burial location: Marathon, Wausau WI

Cemetery: Restlawn Memorial Park

Tombstone:

Father: William Henry Potter, Jul 1852 Canada (Quebec?) – 28 Jul 1910 Eau Claire, Eau Claire WI. Son of Thomas Potter & Margaret E. Churchill. Buried in Oakland Cemetery, Stanley, Chippewa WI.

Find A Grave: 172774136

Mother: Helen Jane Hayes Potter Love Hazen, 24 Feb 1871 St. Johns, New Brunswick, Canada – 11 Jul 1947 Lancaster, Fairfield OH. Daughter of Matthew Patrick Hayes Jr. & Sarah Tipping.

In the 1920 census of Ladysmith. Rusk WI, Helen Jane Love (48 Canada, parents b. Canada) lived with husband James D. Love (49 OH, parents b. OH) & James's stepsons: Marcus N. Potter (14 WI), Roy William Potter (20 WI, box factory), Oscar M. Potter (18 WI, match factory) & Eugen [sic] Herman, 12 WI.

In the 1930 census, Helen J. Love (58 Canada), saying she is widowed, lives in Midlothian, Cook IL with daughter Ruth C. Andrews (30), Ruth's husband Roy G. Andrews (28) & their 4 children.

After the death of William Potter, Helen married James D. Love, 18 Apr 1871 – 6 Sep 1934, Riverside Cemetery, Withee, Clark WI, F: 120885781. According to James Love's Find A Grave record, Edward & several of his siblings attended James's funeral. His former wife did not.

Helen then married Wallace Abner Hazen (1864-1941, F: 60004868). Two other wives are listed on his Find A Grave record.

In the 1940 census for Thorp, Clark WI, Helen Hazen (69 Canada) lives with Wallace A. Hazen (75 WI, dairy farmer). He had lived in the same house in 1935; she lived in Clark Co. WI then. Helen's son Robert had been married to Wallace's daughter, Edna A. Hazen. Buried in Oakland Cemetery, Stanley, Chippewa WI.

Find A Grave: 172774134

Parents' marriage: 1889

Spouse: Mayme Selma Kratwell Potter, 5 Nov 1896 Edgar, Marathon WI – 3 Mar 1976 Phoenix, Maricopa AZ. Daughter of Joseph Kratwell (F: 234319063) & Bertha Schempl (F: 234319089). Buried in Restlawn Memorial Park, Marathon, Wausau WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 217791004

Marriage: 1 Sep 1920 Ladysmith, Rusk WI

Children:

- Betty Jane Potter Thompson, ca. 1923 WI. She reported she was 18 months older than brother William. Married on 19 Apr 1945 in San Antonio, Bexar TX to Frederick Sturdy Thompson, son of Andrew J. Thompson & Ada E. Macdonald. Frederick was born 2 Mar 1922 in Kensal, Stutsman ND & died 13 Apr 2003. Betty & Frederick divorced Jun 1972 in Orange Co. CA. Frederick then married Marguerite Martha Ekren on 28 Dec 1979 in Clark Co. NV. He is buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, Phoenix, Maricopa AZ, F: 36519197.
- William Eugene Potter, 1925 Ladysmith, Rusk WI – 26 Apr 2010 Stuart, Martin FL (Treasure Coast Hospice Residence).

Siblings:

- Albert Charles Potter, 12 Dec 1890 Porter's Mills, Chippewa WI [online sources say this is in Eau Claire Co. WI] – 21 Sep 1955 Tacoma, Pierce WA. SSN 701-09-0271. Husband of Genevieve Gretchen Stilts (1894 WI – 1981 WI, F: 108555329), daughter of Bernard E. Stilts & Regina S. Deutsch. Buried in Mountain View Memorial Park, Lakewood, Pierce WA. F: 108555265
- Eva M. Potter Soli (Soil/Solie), 6 Apr 1892 Porters Mills, Chippewa WI [online sources say this is in Eau Claire Co. WI] – 1 Jun 1992 L'Anse, Baraga MI. SSN 377-50-9065. Married ca. 1913 in WI to Gustave Adolphe Solie/Soli/Soil (1892-1965). Their children use the surname Soli; her obituary uses Soli.
- Robert F. Potter, 16 Jan 1894 Porter Mills, Chippewa Co. WI [online sources say Porter's Mills is in Eau Claire Co. WI] – 14 Feb 1967 Silverton, Marion OR. Married to Edna A. Hazen (1896-1972) & by the time he registers for the WWI draft, they have 2 children. One (Juanita) was born in 1914. Robert's mother Helen will marry, as her 3rd husband, Edna's father, Wallace Abner Hazen. Serves as a 1st lieutenant in the 148th Field Artillery, 32nd Division, and while aboard the "Baltic" – in the same convoy as his brother Edward on "Tuscania" – Robert tells noted journalist Irwin S. Cobb that Edward is on board, and the conversation is quoted in the "Saturday Evening Post" of 9 March 1918. – Marries after 1930 to Gertrude Irene Kells (1898-1986). Buried in Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, Multnomah OR. F: 3924641
- Ruth Christina / Christina/Christine Ruth Potter Andrews McCann, 5 Sep 1898 Stanley, Chippewa WI – 30 Jun 1998 Phoenix, Maricopa AZ. – Married Royer Gardner Andrews, with

whom she had 4 children. Royer's middle name is listed as Gardner on a son's marriage license. Ancestry.com also lists as Gilbert. He was supposedly 21 years old, a resident of South Bend IN, b. WI, printer, son of James Andrews, mother's maiden name Royer, when he married Ruth Potter, 21, b. WI, resident of Chicago IL, on 17 Nov 1919 in Niles, Berrien MI with officiant pastor Harry T. Scherer. He seems likely to be younger. Royer Gardner Andrews gives a birthdate of 17 Nov 1901, born Curtiss WI, on his WWI draft card. Might he be the Roy G. Andrews buried in St. Benedict Catholic Cemetery, Crestwood, Cook IL, F: 182667497, died 1962? – Ruth then marries on 28 Mar 1982 in L'Anse, Baraga MI. Dr. Kevin Coyle McCann (1904 Ireland – 1981 AZ, F: 134751484). They are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance, Defiance OH. F: 134751566

- Roy William Potter, 1 Mar 1900 Stanley, Chippewa WI – 7 May 1939 Midlothian, Cook IL. Died of a heart attack. Married to Louise M. Pelot (1903-1985, F: 228518750); their 2 children are born in 1923 & 1927. In 1942, Louise marries Earl ("Pops") Lieder (1892-1960, F: 88319494) – Buried in St. Benedict Catholic Cemetery, Crestwood, Cook IL. F: 181430698
- Marion Oscar Potter, 18 Dec 1902 Stanley, Chippewa WI – 12 Oct 1978 Withee, Clark WI. SSN 393-10-1809. Also found as Oscar Marion. – Married Florence Spellman, daughter of M.J. Spellman, on 11 or 12 Feb 1919 in Neenah-Menasha WI. - Married 18 Nov 1920 to Ladysmith, Rusk WI to Agnes Anna Scheel (1899-1978, F: 111142061). – Anna died 13 Dec 1978 & Marion died 12 Oct 1978. Marion is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Withee, Clark WI. F: 111142146.
- Eugene Herman Potter, 27 Apr 1907 Chippewa Co. WI – 8 Sep 1971 Phelps, Vilas WI, in the Northwoods Hospital, listed in WI death index]. Married 30 Aug 1925 to Donna Marcella Hanson (1906-1999, F:P 130654835), daughter of Helmer Gustav Hanson & Elise G. Kittleson. Buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Ewen, Ontonagon MI. F: 130654793

Notes:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/35534614/person/19437220707/facts>

Pre-war:

Wartime:

"Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 1 – among WI survivors: Edward Potter, Owen WI.

Post-war:

Obituary:

"Arizona Republic" [Phoenix AZ] 15 Dec 1985 p 30 – photo - Potter finds himself at a lifeboat drill on a cruise ship off Hawaii 67 years to the day (5 Feb 1965), Confirms the Tuscania story that journalist Cobb was speaking to his brother on the "Baltic." Saw Tuscania sink, claims to have floated for hours in lifebelt [maximum time in water before death would have been 3 hours], his replacement uniform was that of an Irish Home Guard general.

Social Security number: 471-10-6464

Censuses:

1900 Stanley, Chippewa WI – Oak St.

William Potter, 43 Canada, Jul 1856, father b. Scotland, mother b. England, married 11 years, emigrated 1882, in US for 18 years, naturalized, carpenter

Helen, 28 Canada, Feb 1872, parents b. Canada, no information given for immigration, gave birth to 5 children, 5 are living

Albert C., 10 WI, Dec 1889, at school

Eva M., 8 WI, Apr 1892

Robert F., 6 WI, Jan 1894

Edward D., 3 WI, Jun 1896

Christine R., 1 WI, Sep 1898

1910 Stanley, Chippewa WI – conducted 30 Apr 1930 – father William died 28 Jul 1910

William H. Potter, 57 Canada, parents b. England, married 21 years, in 1st marriage, carpenter, lumber mill

Helen J., 38 Canada, parents b. Canada, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 9 children, 9 are living

Albert C., 20 WI, carpenter, lumber mill

Eva M., 18 WI

Robert F., 16 WI, teamster, lumber mill

Edward T., 14 WI

Christena R., 12 WI

Roy W., 9 WI

Oscar M., 7 WI

Marcus N., 5 WI

Eugene H., 2 WI

1920 Stanley, Chippewa WI

Edward Potter, 24 WI, parents b. Canada, single, cutter, baggage company, nephew of:

Ernest Henning (35 WI, cattle dealer) & Maude Henning (35 WI, parents b. Canada) – their 2 sons, daughter, servant & lodger are also in the household

1930 Winona, Winona MN – 960 W. Broadway

Edward Potter, 33 WI, father b. US, mother b. WI, age 24 at 1st marriage, chief engineer, fiber mills, WWI veteran

Maym, 33 WI, father b. US, mother b. Germany, age 23 at 1st marriage

Betty J., 6 WI

Billy, 4 WI [this entry is linked on Ancestry.com records. The first 3 names are on one page & the next entry on the top of the next page is NOT Billy.]

1940 Winona, Winona MN – on Rural Route 2, Highway 61 – in 1935 in Winona, Winona MN

Edward T. Potter, 42 WI, truck engineer

Mame, 42 WI

Betty Jane, 16 WI

Billy, 14 WI

1950 Jackson, Madison TN – 1441B Highland

Edward T. Potter, 53 WI, mechanical engineer, wholesale battery co.

Mayme K., 53 WI, proprietor, retail grocery