

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

Rothsteen, Lafayette William, Jr.
1895 NY – 1935 VA



Lafayette Willism Rothstein Jr. – Find A Grave180395147

ROTHSTEEN LAFAYETTE WILLIAM JR- IC 949 077		
Chauff 1st cl 215 Aero Squad K 643 539 F		
A S		
67 Fairview Ave Port Washing- A 4 123 994		
ton L I N Y		
Ssn 250 211	Died 11-7-35	T 489 390
Born 9-11-96		R
Enl	Dls	CL3 371 848
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U. S. VETERANS BUREAU		
MAIL AND RECORDS		
Form 1202-Rev. Sept., 1920		
INDEX CARD		
3-12900		

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQP1-7CN2>

SEA CLIFF AVIATORS HOME

Sea Cliff, L. I., June 2—There was great jubilation in a number of Sea Cliff homes yesterday when the Sea Cliff boys who were saved from the Tuscania sinking returned from their service abroad. They arrived on the transport Louisville early Saturday, were sent to Camp Mills and were in Sea Cliff on a few hours leave. The boys who returned were Fred Chace, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Chace; Frederick Chellborg, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Sackett Chellborg; Robert Kissam, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kissam; Howard Stevenson, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Stevenson; Kenneth Kay, grandson of Mrs. A. Queen; Winfield Norris, son of James N. Norris, and Lafayette Rothsteen Jr. All of the boys are members of the 213th Aero Squad. Yesterday for the first time their relatives listened to their harrowing experiences when the ship was torpedoed. Of the survivors Fred Chace probably had one of the worst experiences, being adrift for hours in a lifeboat which was finally dashed to pieces on the rocky Irish coast. The eighth Sea Cliff boy who did not come back was Richard Dreyer Jr., lost when the ship sunk. All of the boys are in splendid condition after their many months of active service in France and have taken on weight. But one boy's homecoming was sad, that of young Rothsteen, whose mother died two weeks ago.

Rothsteen – his mother died 2 weeks before he got home from war - "Brooklyn (NY) Daily Eagle" Monday 2 Jun 1919 p 10



Lafayette William Rothsteen, Jr. - "New York Daily News" 8 Nov 1935 p. 180



Lafayette William Rothsteen, Jr.'s funeral - "New York Daily News" 13 Nov 1935 p 577



Above, Patrolman Lafayette Rothstein at the controls of his plane which crashed yesterday in Virginia, causing the death of the pilot and Miss Anne Mullon, secretary to County Attorney James L. Dowsey. Miss Mullon (in dark dress) is shown with her sister, Vivian, who was seriously injured in the accident. The picture was taken at Roosevelt Field, from which the plane took off on the fatal trip.

Unsourced - Find A Grave 180395147

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

26043

1. PLACE OF DEATH
COUNTY OF Brunswick
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF Maherlin
OR
INC. TOWN OF Lawrenceville, Va
OR
CITY OF _____ (No. _____ St. _____ Ward _____)
(If death occurred in a hospital or other institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred _____ yrs. _____ mos. _____ ds. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? _____ yrs. _____ mos. _____ ds.

2. FULL NAME Lafayette W. Rothstein
(A) RESIDENCE Post Washington, Long Island, New York
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX male 4. COLOR OR RACE white 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (write the word) married
5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (on) WIFE OF ✓

6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) _____
7. AGE Years 37 Months _____ Days _____ IF LESS THAN 1 DAY, _____ HRS. OR _____ MIN.

8. TRADE, PROFESSION, OR PARTICULAR KIND OF WORK DONE, AS SPINNER, SAWYER, BOOKKEEPER, ETC. aviator
9. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS SILK MILL, SAW MILL, BAKERY, ETC. Commercial
10. DATE DECEASED LAST WORKED AT THIS OCCUPATION (month and year) _____ 11. TOTAL TIME (years) SPENT IN THIS OCCUPATION _____

12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Don't know
(State or country)

FATHER
13. NAME Don't know
14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Don't know
(State or country)

MOTHER
15. MAIDEN NAME Don't know
16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Don't know
(State or country)

17. INFORMANT Dr. F. N. Maloney
(Address) Lawrenceville, Va

18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL PLACE Post Washington DATE 11-8-1935

19. UNDERTAKER Thomas Newby Co
(Address) Lawrenceville Va

20. FILED Nov. 9 1935 Mr. Lela Clark

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Nov. 7, 1935
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM _____
after death, 11-7-1935 Unusual
I LAST SAW _____ ALIVE ON _____ DEATH IS SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE, AT _____
THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH AND RELATED CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE IN ORDER OF ONSET WERE AS FOLLOWS: _____ Date of onset _____
Injuries from accidental
airplane crash 11-7-1935

CONTRIBUTORY CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE NOT RELATED TO PRINCIPAL CAUSE: 214 G

NAME OF OPERATION none DATE OF _____
WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? _____ WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? no
23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSSES (VIOLENCE) FILL IN ALSO THE FOLLOWING: _____
ACCIDENT, CHANCE, OR HOMICIDE? Accident DATE OF 11-7-1935
WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR? Brunswick Co. Va
(Specify city or town, county, and State)
SPECIFY WHETHER INJURY OCCURRED IN INDUSTRY, IN HOME, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE. in airplane
MANNER OF INJURY airplane crash
NATURE OF INJURY head, arm, & knee crushed

24. WAS DISEASE OR INJURY IN ANY WAY RELATED TO OCCUPATION OF DECEASED? _____
IF SO, SPECIFY _____
(SIGNED) F. N. Maloney M. D. Co.
(ADDRESS) Lawrenceville, Va

VA death record -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9278/images/43004_162028006070_0071-00277?treeid=59335271&personid=112285063949&hintid=&queryId=7a8f357ade49713959fcda82beb27714&usePUB=true&phsrc=hFB51530&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=4263

1 1/2

Rothsteen, Lafayette Jr 250,211 White

(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number) (Race: White or colored)

Residence: Brooklyn NEW YORK

(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

* Enlisted in RA Aviation Station Mineola LI NY Apr 30/17 —

† Born in Sea Cliff LI NY 20 8/12 yrs —

Organizations: 15 Aero Sq to Dec -28/17; 213 Aero Sq to disch —

Grades: Cfr July 22/18; Cfr 1 cl May 1/19 —

Engagements: — —

Wounds or other injuries received in action: None. —

‡ Served overseas: Jan 24/18 to May 31/19 —

§ Hon. disch. June 10/19 on demobilization —

Was reported per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation. —

Remarks: — —

Form No. 724-1 1/2, A. G. O. *Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of enlistment. † Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment. ‡ Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. § Give date.

3-7688

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/233108:3030>

Among the recent guests at the hotels have been:

Kenwood Hotel, from Brooklyn—Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Rothsteen, Miss Irene Rothsteen, Lafayette Rothsteen, Miss A. F. Folger, Miss Clara Folger, Miss L. S. Stahmer, Miss Louise Stahmer, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Willdig, A. Mortimer Willdig, Robert S. Willdig, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Baldwin, Joseph S. Baldwin, Paul Baldwin, Alexander R. Baldwin, Leo Baldwin, Charles Edward Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Martyn, Miss May E. Bassett, Katherine Martyn, Miriam Martyn, Frederick S. Martyn, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. William H. Foster, Miss Mildred G. Foster, Master G. Rodney Foster, Mrs. W. H. Moger, Miss M. Estelle Moger, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wenzelberg and child, Ernest L. Loveridge. From Manhattan—Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Muldoon, Denis S. Dowd, Jr.; Katherine Dowd, Margaret Dowd, Marie Dowd, Roselle Dowd, D. P. Dowd, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Van Beurchooten, Miss Katherine Van Benschoten, W. H. Van Beurchooten, Jr.

Sea Cliff news – "Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Sunday 14 Jul 1907 p 30

THE FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE.

The list of names given below is of members of a new Fresh Air Club which has recently been organized. They meet once every two weeks, and dues are 10 cents a month.: Lafayette Rothsteen, president; Edith Arutzen, vice president; William O'Brien, secretary; Violet Timmermann, treasurer; Florence Soden, assistant treasurer; Ella Heissenbittel, Dora Hagerman, Amy Rudischauser. They will be photographed soon.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Thursday 11 Jun 1908 p 21

CANOE UPSET.

SEA CLIFF, May 13.--Lafayette Rothsteen, Jr. of Brooklyn, and Alfred Francis, of this place, took a sudden and unexpected bath in the harbor yesterday, when the former's canoe capsized, and both were thrown in the water fully clothed. Both could swim so that no serious results followed.

"Brooklyn Times Union" Monday 13 May 1912 p 8

Sumner Avenue M. E. S. S. Activities.

At the Fourth Avenue Baths last Saturday night the two entrants in the meet of Sumner Avenue M. E. Sunday school were successful. Gauld Stuart, in the junior class, took second prize for forty-yard swim, while Lafayette Rothsteen obtained first place in the intermediate class eighty-yard swim. Sumner avenue only had two entered.

"Brooklyn Chat" Saturday 1 Feb 1913 p 9

EUCLID BALL TEAM'S DANCE.

Everyone who is anything at Euclid was at the entertainment and dance given under the auspices of the Euclid baseball team, Friday evening, March 28, at Kismet Temple, Herkimer street and Nostrand avenue. Practically everyone connected or heretofore connected with the school attended, and for them a splendid program had been arranged which was followed by dancing. The arrangement committee consisted of E. A. Young, treasurer of the Athletic Society; George Macklin and Miss M. Martin.

A feature of the entertainment was a farce comedy in one act, "Securing a Stenographer," which set forth the task a man has to secure a capable stenographer, and was very well acted. The cast for this included Lafayette Rothsteen, E. A. Young, Edith Sturken, Laura Smith, Maud Conklin, Helen Gilbert and Bertha Spanier.

"Brooklyn Chat" Saturday 5 Apr 1913 p 5

MASQUE BALL AT SEA CLIFF.

One of the Most Interesting Social Events of Season.

Sea Cliff, L. I., July 28—One of the interesting social events of the summer was the annual masque dance given on Saturday evening at the Battershall Inn, which was attended by prominent summer guests from Brooklyn and New York. Lafayette Rothsteen of Brooklyn, assisted by J. H. Harmer of New Rochelle, N. Y., were responsible for the artistic decorations, and as favors to the women, William H. Loomis, a well-known artist, who is stopping at the inn, provided attractive hand-painted dance orders. Notable costumes were worn by Mrs. Kate Stachleberg; William H. Loomis, Mrs. W. P. Voorhees, Lafayette Rothsteen, Mrs. Haviland, Miss Pauline Haviland, Charles Parsons, William P. Voorhees, Miss Mary Keene, Mrs. R. A. Latimer, Mr. Latimer, Miss Dorothy Latimer, Miss Gretchen Latimer, Maurice Schoval, Omar Latimer, Miss Audrey Scholes, Miss Carol Hauck, Mrs. R. Farrier, Bert Scholes, Mrs. J. W. Schlegel, L. P. McKinley, Floyd Grant, John W. Schlegel, Ernest B. Castle, Mrs. Floyd Grant, Edward Church, Lafayette Rothsteen, jr.; Miss Mildred Voorhees, Mrs. William Downs, Reginald Allwork, Mrs. Joseph Enslow, Mrs. L. P. McKinley, Miss Elise Hauck, William Downs, jr.; Mrs. Henri Schoval, Busch Hauck. The last named appeared as an organ grinder, with his dog attired as a monkey.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Monday 28 Jul 1913 p 8

Blue Point, L. I.
Winfield Norris, of Greene avenue, and
Lafayette Rothsteen, of Van Buren
street, are with the Aviation Corps at
Mineola.

Norris will sail on Tuscania also – “Brooklyn Chat” Saturday 18 Aug 1917 p 15

Sea Cliff, Jan. 28.—Among Sea Cliff
boys who are departed for “some-
where” are William Kissam, Fred
Chase, Frederick Chellborg, Richard
Dreyer, Lafayette Rothsteen, Leonard
Morris, Harold Stevenson and Kenneth
Kay, who left their camp at the Avi-
ation Field, Mineola, recently with the
213th Aero Squad.
Another enlisted young man from

The newspaper would not have known that Lafayette & many of the group sailed 4 days earlier on
Tuscania – “Brooklyn Times Union” Monday 28 Jan 1918 p 9

Rothsteen Eighth of His Family Rescued at Sea

Not even German torpedoes have been able to smash the charmed life of that members of the Rothsteen family of Brooklyn seem to bear on the ocean, for officially numbered among those rescued from the *Tuscanis* were Lafayette Rothsteen Jr., of 235 Van Buren street and his brother-in-law, Winfield Norris of 703 Greene avenue, both members of the 213th Aero Squadron.

This was the third time that the sea endeavored to take members of this family into itself, and each time it was cheated. The grandfather on the mother's side, Thomas S. Gill, the grandfather on his father's side, his grandmother, three aunts and his own father were all rescued from the perils of the sea. In the other instances, however, ship fires were the cause of the peril to the family.

Young Rothsteen's grandfather and grandmother, with his own father, who was then a baby of 8 months, and three aunts, Antoinette, then a girl of 10; Clara, a girl of 6, and Selma a girl of 4, left Brest, France, for this country in the sailing ship, *William Nelson*, in the first days of June, 1855. When the ship had been out for four of the six weeks that it was estimated would be required for the journey, it took fire one afternoon at 5 o'clock and burned until 11 o'clock

that night, when it went down. Of the 450 passengers and crew aboard only 44 persons were saved. All of the Rothsteen family with the exception of Lafayette Jr.'s grandfather had managed to get into a boat that got away in safety. But his grandfather stuck to the ship trying to help in extinguishing the fire and when the boat went down had to swim for it. He rescued a 9-year-old boy who could not swim and with the boy in his arms managed to keep afloat all night and until 10 o'clock the next morning when the boat in which the other members of his family were huddled picked him up also.

Three days later these survivors were picked up by the steamship *Lafayette* of the French line, and on board this vessel Lafayette Rothsteen Sr., was christened by the Rev. Charles M. King of the Protestant Episcopal Church. In gratitude to the steamship that had rescued his family the grandfather named his son Lafayette, after the vessel. The witnesses to this unique christening were Captain Bencanda, commander of the ship; Cornelius De Boon of Manhattan and Edward Pierrepont of the family

that founded and owned the well-known Pierrepont Stores of Brooklyn.

Thomas S. Gill, the other grandfather, was one of the survivors of the steamship *Atlantic*, which was also burned at sea, and his family had mourned him as dead for fifty-seven days when he landed in New York along with the famous operatic star of those days, Jenny Lind, who had also been a passenger on and was rescued from the *Atlantic*.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 2 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/legacy/685865020/?terms=%22lafayette%20rothsteen%22&match=1>

Lafayette Rothsteen, of 235 Van Buren street, is in France with the Aerial Corps. Mr. Rothsteen is one of the survivors of the S.S. "Tuscania" and has been writing most interesting letters of his experiences to friends in Brooklyn.

"Brooklyn Chat" Saturday 23 Mar 1918 p 15

North Shore Briefs.

Sea Cliff aviators who were saved from the Tuscania sinking in the early stages of the war, visited their homes for the first time this week after returning from many months' service overseas. Richard Dreyer, Jr., was lost when the transport sank and to his memory an oak tree has been planted in Clifton Park. These boys who visited their homes are Fred Chace, Frederick Chellborg, Robert Kissam, Howard Stevenson, Kenneth Kay, Winfield Norris and Lafayette Rothsteen, Jr. All are members of the 213d Aero Squad.

"Brooklyn Times Union" Thursday 5 Jun 1919 p 7

Perverse Winds Thwart Gliders; Plan Air Circus

**Little Likelihood of Improvement in Weather
Conditions, Contest Observers Find —
Stunting Exhibition Saturday and Air
Circus Sunday to Bring Prominent Flyers
—11 Planes Coming from Long Island**

The weather jinx today continued its grip on the National Soaring Contest.

After making its morning readings, the M.I.T. weather bureau reported weather conditions would be unfavorable for soaring today and there were no indications it would improve for the close of the meet.

In view of the unfavorable report, the contest committee was making elaborate arrangements for a stunting exhibition Saturday and an air circus Sunday in order not to disappoint the many spectators expected.

Word was received this morning that the largest single group of airplanes ever to visit Elmira will drop down on the Caton Avenue Airport early Saturday afternoon.

National Air Cruise

The visit here is one of the national air cruises sponsored by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America. Eleven planes will leave Glenn Curtiss Airport, North Beach, L. I., at 10 a. m. on a non-stop flight to this city. They will leave late Sunday.

The squadron will include four Travel Air planes, one Stearman, three Moths, one Robin and two Birds. If the local airport is too crowded the pilots will land at the American Airways field.

One of the group will be Laura Ingalls, famous woman pilot, who holds an impressive string of aviation records. She now holds the world's women's record of 714 barrel rolls and the women's record of 980 loops.

Others will be Lafayette Rothstein, Eugene J. Detmer, Granville B. Smith, Capt. A. E. Neumann, Lawrence Turnure, James Wheeler, J. D. Henry, Gene C. Gann, A. G. Norwood, Everett Moniz and Peyton Gibson, manager of the Glenn Curtiss Airport.

If soaring is possible Sunday, visitors will be entertained at both the Big Flats takeoff site and the Caton Avenue Airport. If the weather continues unfavorable, activity will be centered at the Caton Avenue Airport.

Mummert to Participate

The program will include auto and airplane glider tow flights, glider and airplane stunting and a race between an automobile and airplane. Harvey Mummert of Hammondsport notified contest of-



LAURA INGALLS

ficials he will bring his high-speed plane here. This is the ship he flew in the air races at Chicago, in which he captured third place.

Danny De Mann of Binghamton will make a delayed parachute jump. "Peg" Nagle and William Dunlop will make spot landings. All manner of glider's stunts including bomb dropping and landing to a mark will round out the program.

Contest officials said the usual stunting performance will be held at the Big Flats field Saturday afternoon. This will include airplane tow and stunt flying by N.

[article continues]

"Elmira (NY) Star-Gazette" Friday 21 Jul 1933 p 13

NASSAU COUNTY COP HELD FOR GUN PLAY

Greenwich Village Restaurant Doorman Brings Charge.

A Nassau County patrolman, Lafayette W. Rothsteen, jr., 32, of 51 Bayside ave., Port Washington, was arrested today after he had allegedly chased the doorman of a restaurant at 51 Charles st., Manhattan, firing his service revolver in the air.

Rothsteen was charged with assault by Patrolman Frank Owens, of the Charles St. Station, who seized the Nassau County officer after pursuing him in a radio patrol car. Murray Piccinni, of 242 East Second st., Manhattan, the doorman, said Rothsteen had chased him without provocation.

Rothsteen told police he could not remember bothering the doorman. He was arrested July 22, 1922, on a charge of driving while intoxicated and was fined \$50. He was to be arraigned later today in Jefferson Market Court on the assault charge.

"Brooklyn Times Union" Friday 29 Dec 1933 p 2

ROTHSTEEN CLEARED

Mineola, Jan. 3.—Charges of assault made against Patrolman Lafayette Rothsteen of the Nassau County Police Department have been dismissed in a New York city court. However, Rothsteen will have to explain the situation to superior officers here.

Patrolman Rothsteen, flying cop of the county department, became embroiled in an argument with another patron of a city night club recently. It ended when the policeman, who was off duty, drew his gun, it is alleged. The complainants later withdrew the charges.

Chief Abram W. Skidmore is conducting an investigation. Rothsteen is working as usual pending completion of the inquiry.

"Brooklyn Times Union" Thursday 4 Jan 1934 p 11

COP PILOT AND WOMAN DIE IN MERCY FLIGHT

(Special to The News.)

Lawrenceville, Va., Nov. 7.—The merciful errand of a flying cop from Nassau County, L. I., was cut short by tragedy 15 miles south of here today. His plane crashed into the pine woods.



The late Anne Mullon.
*Death halts her flight to mother's
bedside.*

Patrolman Lafayette Rothsteen, 39, and Anne Mullon, 32, were killed. Anne's sister, Vivian, 20, with whom she was winging south to visit her ailing mother, was critically injured.

The elder sister, a leader in Republican women's circles in Nassau County, died a few minutes after she was taken to a hospital at Roanoke Rapids, N. C., just over the State line and not far from the scene of the crash.

Cop Dead When Found.

Rothsteen was dead when farmers reached the Cessna cabin monoplane, which was powered with a Warner 125 horsepower motor. The younger sister, injured internally, was taken unconscious to a hospital at Petersburg, Va.

The trio, too much in haste to wait for weather reports, took off from Roosevelt Field, L. I., at 7:10 A. M. They were hastening to Greencove Springs, Cal. There the

(Continued on page 10)

COP PILOT AND WOMAN KILLED ON MERCY HOP

(Continued from page 2)

Mullon sisters' mother, Mrs. Eleanor Mullon, is critically ill. Rothsteen obtained a five-day furlough. But he left in such a hurry that he failed to obtain the 8 A. M. weather map, which would have shown him storms over Virginia.

At 3:00 P. M., four witnesses saw the ship circle under the low-hanging clouds on the state line. Then, they said, it tumbled "end over end" toward the ground. It was headed north when the crash occurred. Apparently, Rothsteen was looking for a landing field. There is one at Lawrenceville.

Leader of G. O. P. Women.

Rothsteen was married. A war veteran, he had been an Air Corps machinist. After the war, he took up flying and earned a transport pilot's license. He joined the Nassau police force from Port Washington three years ago and was stationed at Manhasset. He was to have become the pilot of the police plane soon.

The elder Mullon sister lived at 99 Susquehanna Ave., Great Neck. She was leader of the Republican women in North Hempstead and political secretary to James L. Dowsey, County Attorney. Her father, William, was for years

Town Clerk in North Hempstead, Nassau.

The younger Mullon sister, Vivian, lives at 27 Remsen St., Williston Park, Nassau, with a sister, Mrs. Eleanor Anderson.

"New York Daily News" Friday 8 Nov 1935 p 2 & p 10

COP PILOT, WOMAN DIE RACING DEATH BY AIR

(Special to The News.)

Lawrenceville, Va., Nov. 7.—The merciful errand of a flying cop from Nassau County, L. I., was cut short by tragedy 15 miles south of here today. His plane crashed into the pine woods.

Patrolman Lafayette Rothsteen, 39, and Anne Mullon, 32, were killed. Anne's sister, Vivian, 20, with whom she was winging south to visit her ailing mother, was critically injured.

The elder sister, a leader in Republican women's circles in Nassau County, died a few minutes after she was taken to a hospital at Roanoke Rapids, N. C., just over the State line and not far from the scene of the crash.

Rothsteen was dead when farmers reached the scene.



The late Patrolman Rothsteen



Vivian Mullon

Victims of plane crash in woods.



Patrolman's flight

failed to obtain the 8 A. M. weather map, which would have shown storms over Virginia.

At 3 P. M., four witnesses saw the ship circle under the low-hanging clouds on the state line. Then, they said, it tumbled "end over end" toward the ground. It was headed north when the crash occurred. Apparently, Rothsteen



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*Death halts her flight to mother's
bedside.*

A. M. They were hastening to Greencove Springs, Cal. There the Mullon sisters' mother, Mrs. Eleanor Mullon, is critically ill. Rothstein obtained a five-day furlough. But he left in such a hurry that he

from (A) to (B) Cessna cabin ended in fatal monoplane, crash at (C). which was powered with a Warner 125 horsepower motor. The younger sister, injured internally, was taken unconscious to a hospital at Petersburg, Va.

The trio, too much in haste to wait for weather reports, took off from Roosevelt Field, L. I., at 7:10

was looking for a landing field. There is one at Lawrenceville.

Rothsteen was married. A war veteran, he had been an Air Corps machinist. After the war, he took up flying and earned a transport pilot's license. He joined the Nassau police force from Port Washington three years ago and was stationed at Manhasset. He was to have become the pilot of the police plane soon.

The elder Mullan sister lived at 99 Susquehanna Ave., Great Neck. She was leader of the Republican women in North Hempstead and political secretary to James L. Dowsey, County Attorney.

The younger Mullan sister, Vivian, lives at 27 Remsen St., Williston Park, Nassau, with a sister, Mrs. Eleanor Anderson.

"New York Daily News" Friday 8 Nov 1935 p 180

DIES IN AIR CRASH**ANNE MULLON****Anne Mullons' Sister, Injured
in Virginia Crash, Near
Death in Hospital.**

Mineola, Nov. 8.—County police today were awaiting further details of the airplane crash in Virginia yesterday which killed Patrolman Lafayette Rothsteen, of Port Washington, and Anne Mullon, well-known Nassau County Republican worker, and sent her sister, Vivian, to a hospital in a serious condition.

Meager reports of the crash, which occurred about 3 P. M., near Lawrenceville, Va., indicated the plane was back-tracking over its course to escape a storm when it crashed in a clump of trees.

Rothsteen was killed instantly and Miss Mullon died as she was being taken to a hospital. Her sister suffered a fractured right thigh and possible internal injuries.

The sisters were flying to Green Cove Springs, Fla., where their mother, Mrs. William Mullon, was reported seriously ill.

The plane, a five-passenger Cessna monoplane, powered by a 125-horsepower motor, was owned and piloted by Rothsteen. The trio took off from Roosevelt Field at 7:10 A. M. yesterday. Rothsteen had obtained a five-day leave of absence from his duties to fly the sisters to Florida.

Plane Turns Somersault

They left Roosevelt Field without waiting for the 8 o'clock weather report, which would have advised them of the type of weather which lay ahead of them, spotty but easily navigable to an experienced pilot.

Attendants at Roosevelt Field said the plane was heavily laden with baggage when it took off.

At Byrd Airport, Richmond, the plane was re-fueled and continued its southward flight. Authorities of Brunswick County, in Southern Virginia, who investigated the

(Continued on Following Page)

2 FROM NASSAU KILLED IN CRASH

(Continued from Preceding Page)

crash, said the plane had probably encountered heavy weather as it was apparently headed back north when it crashed in a low clump of trees.

One witness of the crash said the plane "turned a somersault in the air."

Rothsteen was dead when witnesses of the crash reached the airplane. Miss Anne Mullon was still breathing but died on the way to a hospital.

Miss Anne Mullon was 32 and lived at 99 Susquehanna ave., Great Neck. She was political secretary to James L. Dowsey, County Attorney of Nassau County and Republican leader of North Hempstead.

Ran for Town Clerk

Two years ago she was an unsuccessful candidate for the post of Town Clerk of North Hempstead Township, a position which her father had at one time held. Her father was with her mother and another daughter, Camille, in Florida at the time of the crash.

She was divorced two years ago from Harry Liljegren, a Nassau County policeman who lives in Port Washington.

Miss Vivian Mullen is 20 and resides with another sister, Mrs. Eleanor Anderson.

Rothsteen lived at 103 Webster ave., Port Washington, and joined the Nassau County Police Department three years ago after having served for three years as a member of the Port Washington police force.

He served as a mechanic with the United States Army Air Corps for 26 months during the World War. On his way to France he was aboard the Tuscania when it was torpedoed by a German U-boat. He was rescued and landed in Ireland.

Rothsteen held a transport pilot's license and usually piloted the Police Department plane. He was awarded the department's medal for first aid two years ago and in September was cited for excellent police work.

Active in G. O. P. Circles

The tragedy shocked leaders of the Nassau County Republican organization in which Miss Mullen had been active for several years. She was particularly active on the North Shore and had participated in the recent United Republican Campaign Fund drive. She was known by nearly every employe in the Nassau County Court House and in the North Hempstead Town Hall. Many of her friends wept when informed of her death.

Although not of a wealthy family, she was welcome in the homes of the North Shore society set. She had actively assisted the late Mrs. David Dows in publishing the Federation Bulletin, a Republican women's periodical. She also had been active in the Nassau County Women's Federation, of which Mrs. Robert L. Bacon has been a leader. In recent months she had worked in the Nassau County Tax Equalization office.

Miss Mullan was notified on Wednesday that her mother was in a dying condition in the village near Jacksonville, Fla. She immediately made arrangements with Rothstein to fly her South. She invited Harry Tangemann, of Williston Park, who organized the Republican Recruits in which she assisted, to make the trip with her. Tangemann told a neighbor he had a premonition that "death was in the air" and begged Miss Mullan not to make the trip in a private plane, but to go either by train or transport plane. Tangemann finally declined the invitation and Vivian Mullan was taken along instead.

Miss Mullan Has Fair Chance to Recover

Petersburg, Va., Nov. 8.—Vivian Mullan, survivor of an airplane crash which killed her two companions, was in critical condition at Petersburg Hospital today. Doctors gave her a "fair chance" to recover.

Miss Mullan, with her sister, Anne, and the amateur pilot, Lafayette Rothstein, all from Nassau County, N. Y., crashed near the North Carolina line last night in heavy fog and rain. Rothstein and Anne were killed.

The three were flying to Florida from New York when they lost their way in the fog. A few miles beyond the Virginia line, Rothstein turned his machine back. After several attempts to land, the plane plunged into a clump of trees 15 miles south of Lawrenceville, Va.

Miss Mullan And Officer Die in Crash

Nassau Mourns G. O. P.
Leader Killed on
Mercy Flight



Miss Anne Mullan, 32, of Great Neck was killed during a flying trip South, which ended yesterday with a crash in Virginia.



Nassau County Patrolman Lafayette W. Rothsteen (above) of Port Washington, L. I., was flying the plane in which Miss Anne Mullan was killed and her sister Vivian seriously injured in a crash in Virginia yesterday. Rothsteen himself was killed.

Great Neck, Nov. 8—Funeral arrangements were being completed today for Lafayette W. Rothsteen of Port Washington and Miss Anne Mullon of Great Neck, killed yesterday in an airplane crash near Lawrenceville, Va., while en route to Florida, where Miss Mullon and her younger sister, Vivian, were speeding to see their parents. Mr. and Mrs. William Mullon, at Green Cove Springs. Mrs. Mullon is ill.

According to word received here, Miss Vivian Mullon, who was rushed to a hospital in Petersburg, Va., following the crash, with a fractured thigh and possible internal injuries, has a fair chance to recover.

At the Austin F. Knowles Funeral Home in Port Washington it was said today that Rothsteen would be buried from there. It was not known when his body would arrive from the South. The bodies of both Rothsteen and Miss Mullon were still in Lawrenceville early today.

G. O. P. Leader Hurries to Scene

James L. Dowsey, Nassau County attorney and Republican leader of North Hempstead, left for the scene of the accident as soon as he was notified. Miss Anne Mullon was his secretary. Mr. Dowsey was accompanied by Egbert E. Le Cluse, Justice of the Peace of the Town of North Hempstead, a close friend of Rothsteen.

It was reported here that Mr. Mullon, for many years town clerk and building superintendent of the Town of North Hempstead and a leading figure in Nassau County Republican circles, had left Green Cove Springs for Lawrenceville.

Rothsteen, a member of the Nassau County police, who had served as a mechanic with the United States Army Air Corps for 26 months during the World War, was killed instantly. Miss Anne Mullon died later in a hospital at Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

The crash occurred when Rothsteen, piloting his own plane, reversed his course after encountering bad weather in the southern part of Virginia, and was apparently groping for a place to make an emergency landing. The plane suddenly went into a spin and crashed into a group of trees.

was one of the finest men on his force. Cyril J. Brown, Mayor of Great Neck, and Judge John Daly of this village, also praised him. Rothsteen was assigned to this village.

He was 39 and lived at 51 Fairview Ave., Port Washington. While on his way overseas during the World War he was rescued from the *Tascania*, which had been torpedoed. He became a member of the Port Washington Police Department six years ago and the Nassau County Police three years later. He flew the Police department's plane. Two years ago he was awarded the department's medal for first aid and he was cited for outstanding police work last September. He was married but had no children.

His last plane trip started at 7:10 a.m. yesterday from Roosevelt Field. He took off without waiting for weather reports at the field and he hoped to reach Florida in one day. He was considerably west of his course when he crashed.

Miss Anne Mullon's death shocked the Republican party in the Town of North Hempstead, which was still celebrating its victory over the Democratic forces at Tuesday's election. She was an outstanding woman political leader in Nassau County and, as executive secretary of the Republican Town Committee, was in the thick of the recent campaign, managing the headquarters in Manhasset.

Police Stunned by Death

Police of the 6th Precinct at Manhasset, where Rothsteen was stationed, were stunned when news of his death reached them. He was one of the best-liked officers of the department and was extremely popular because of his readiness to lend the use of his plane to his friends with himself as pilot.

Capt. Andrew Wells, in charge of the 6th Precinct, said Rothsteen

Two years ago she ran for Town Clerk of the Town of North Hempstead but was nosed out by the incumbent, Thomas W. Fitzgerald. She was an officer of the Nassau County Federation of Republican Women.

Miss Mullon, 32, lived at 99 Susannah Ave., Great Neck. Miss Vivian Mullon, who is 20, lives with her mother, Mrs. Eleanor Anderson, at 27 Remsen St., Williston Park. Another sister, Candice, and a brother were in Florida with their parents.

Plane Victim's Services Held

Policemen and Veterans Honor Rothsteen, Who Died With Anne Mullan

Port Washington, Nov. 11—Funeral services were held yesterday for Lafayette Rothsteen, Nassau County policeman, who was killed Thursday in an airplane crash near Lawrenceville Va., in which Anne Mullan of Great Neck, secretary to James L. Dowsey, Republican leader of North Hempstead, also met death.

Services were conducted in the Knowles Funeral Home by the Rev. William J. Woon of St. Stephen's Church. Masonic rites were held by William Voges of Clinton Lodge of Brooklyn. Alfred Angus officiated for the Henderson Marino Post, V. F. W., and Patrolman Albert Seam read the service for the Nassau County Post, American Legion.

Among the organizations represented were the Tailwind Club of Valley Stream, Roosevelt Field, the Port Washington Police Department, the Nassau County Police Department, the Nassau County Police Conference 213th Aero Squadron and the Police Officers' and Patrolman's Association of Nassau County.

Those present included Charles E. Hyde, Justice Egbert E. Le Cluse, Justice Leander B. Faber, Chief Abram W. Skidmore, Capt. Andrew Weiss, Charles Ransom, Charles E. Schmidt, Capt. William Allen, Chief Stephen Webber, Lt. John Lewis and Edward P. Alker.

The patrolman is survived by his widow, Mrs. Marguerite Seeley Rothsteen; his father, Lafayette Rothsteen Sr. of Gouverneur, N. Y., and a sister, Mrs. James Norris of St. Joseph, Mo. Burial took place this morning in Southampton. A police escort accompanied the funeral entourage to the cemetery.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Monday 11 Nov 1935 p 6

Wife:

Mrs. M. S. Rothsteen
 Port Washington, Feb. 19—Mrs. Margaret Seeley Rothsteen, secretary at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club since 1933, died here yesterday at her home, 103 Webster Ave., at the age of 52. She was the widow of Lt. Lafayette Rothsteen, veteran of World War I.
 Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Patten, wife of Capt. Ray Patten of St. Jo, Texas; a sister, Mrs. Marlon O'Connor of Southampton, and a grandson.
 Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Knowles Funeral Home, Port Washington.

Obituary of wife Margaret Seeley Leavitt Rothsteen – “Brooklyn Daily Eagle” Monday 19 Feb 1945 p

9

**Van E. Leavitt,
 Fruit Specialist,
 Died This Morning**

Van E. Leavitt, extension specialist in fruit growing at the State College of Agriculture, died of pneumonia at his home on George street at about 5 o'clock this morning. Mr. Leavitt contracted influenza about a week ago. He was improving last week, but on Friday an attack of pneumonia set in, which was so severe that his death soon resulted.

Mr. Leavitt came to New Brunswick last July. He was educated at the New Hampshire Agricultural College, graduating in 1913. For two years he was manager of the Ira S. Hoyt estate at Southampton, L. I. He then became horticulturist at the State School of Agriculture, Morrisville, N. Y., where he remained until coming to New Jersey.

Mr. Leavitt is survived by a wife and 18-months-old child. Mrs. Leavitt also is suffering from influenza.

Death of Marguerite Seeley's 1st husband, Van Earl Leavitt, of pneumonia following influenza in the 1918 pandemic – “Central New Jersey Home News” (New Brunswick NJ) Monday 23 Dec 1918 p 2

Lafayette W Rothsteen

Marriage • New York, County Marriages, 1847-1848; 1908-1936

Name **Lafayette W Rothsteen**
 Sex **Male**
 Age **28**
 Birth Year (Estimated) **1895**
 Father's Name **Lafayette Rothsteen**
 Mother's Name **Emma C Gill**
 Spouse's Name **Marguerite S Leavitt**
 Spouse's Sex **Female**
 Spouse's Age **31**
 Spouse's Birth Year (Estimated) **1892**
 Spouse's Father's Name **W Nelson Seeley**
 Spouse's Mother's Name **Mary Fowler**
 Marriage Date **12 Dec 1923**
 Marriage Place **Suffolk, New York, United States**
 Marriage Place (Original) **N Y**
 Event Type **Marriage**

No. 11417 FOR THE GROOM		FOR THE BRIDE	
NAME - <i>Lafayette W. Rothsteen Jr.</i>	COLOR <i>White</i>	NAME <i>Marguerite S. Leavitt</i>	COLOR <i>White</i>
RESIDENCE - <i>Southampton N.Y.</i>	AGE <i>28</i>	RESIDENCE <i>Southampton</i>	AGE <i>31</i>
OCCUPATION - <i>Police Officer</i>	NO. OF MARRIAGE <i>1</i>	OCCUPATION <i>Southampton</i>	NO. OF MARRIAGE <i>2</i>
BIRTHPLACE - <i>Sea Cliff N.Y.</i>	WIDOWER	BIRTHPLACE <i>Southampton</i>	WIDOW <i>Yes</i>
FATHER - <i>Lafayette Rothsteen</i>	DIVORCED	FATHER <i>W Nelson Seeley</i>	DIVORCED
BIRTHPLACE - <i>Holland</i>	" WHEN	BIRTHPLACE <i>United States</i>	" WHEN
MOTHER - <i>Emma C. Gill</i>	" WHERE	MOTHER <i>Mary Fowler</i>	" WHERE
BIRTHPLACE - <i>Sea Cliff</i>	RELATION	BIRTHPLACE <i>United States</i>	RELATION
CONSENT BY <i>James A. Early</i>	DATE OF MARRIAGE <i>12 Dec 1923</i>	CONSENT BY <i>Paul C. Warren</i>	DATE OF MARRIAGE <i>165 W 105 St NY</i>
PROFESSION <i>Minister</i>	WITNESS <i>Genevieve Duffee Hugh M. Harmer</i>	PROFESSION	WITNESS

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/G7XW-JVB>

Mrs Margaret Rothsteen of Webster Ave. is entertaining her mother, Mrs. Nelson Seely of Southampton.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Sunday 19 Mar 1939 p 19

Stepdaughter:

Mrs. Margaret Rothsteen of Webster Ave. announces the marriage of her daughter, the former Miss Dorothy Dudley Levitt, to Lt. Raymond Patten, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Patten of Port Washington Park, on July 31, at Camp Meade, Md.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Sunday 9 Aug 1942 p 16

DOROTHY DUDLEY LEAVITT,
ELMIRA, N. Y.

"What though care killed a cat,
Thou hast mettle enough in thee to kill
care."

Have you ever seen one of Dot's innocent looks?

Dot is a "Math Shark" and a "Movie" fiend. She says she loves dancing better than life. Seriously, we must admit that Dot is a good student but she firmly believes that 5:45 P. M. ends the day's work and then life begins. Wm! Wm!

Dudley Dorothy Leavitt, Elmira College yearbook, 1920 -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1265/images/41349_648472_0273-00041?treeid=&personid=&rc=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=hFB51567&_phstart=successSource&pld=295973880

Father:

ROTHSTEEN — At Gouverneur, N. Y., on September 18, 1940, LAFAYETTE W., beloved husband of Pearl McClellan and father of Mrs. Irene Norris. Services at the Fairchild Chapel, 86 Lefferts Place, on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Obituary of father Lafayette William Rothsteen Sr. — "Brooklyn Daily Eagle" Saturday 21 Sep 1940 p

Mother:

ROTHSTEEN—Suddenly, on Thursday May 8, after a short illness, Emma Catherine (nee Gill), aged 49 years, beloved wife of Lafayette W. Rothsteen and mother of Mrs. James N. Norris, Jr., and Lafayette W. Rothsteen, Jr.
Funeral services at her late residence, No. 235 Van Buren st., Saturday evening, at 8 o'clock. Interment private, Sunday morning, Greenwood Cemetery. (Sea Cliff, N. Y., papers please copy).

Obituary of mother Emma Catharine Gill Rothsteen – “Brooklyn Citizen” Saturday 10 May 1919 p 9

Mrs. Julia Boyd Gill.
SEA CLIFF, Aug. 7.—Mrs. Julia Boyd Gill, widow of the late Thomas Gill, died on Tuesday at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. William Wallace, of Rockville Centre, of a complication of diseases. Mrs. Gill was formerly a resident of Brooklyn, but of late years has lived at Rockville Centre and Sea Cliff part of the time. Mr. Gill died about five months ago. Mrs. Gill is survived by seven children, Harry F. Gill, Charles T. Gill, Mrs. Lafayette Rothsteen, Mrs. Frank Sherwood, Jesse Gill, Walter Gill and Mrs. William Wallace.

Death of maternal grandmother Julia Boyd Gill, widow of Thomas Gill, parents of Emma Gill -
“Brooklyn Times Union” Saturday 7 Aug 1909 p 8

Stepmother:

Mrs. Albert C. Dale; Resident Of Bradenton

BRADENTON—Mrs. Ada Pearl Dale, 77, died Thursday at her home, 4233 Riverview Boulevard West. She was a native of McCroys Mills, N.Y.

Mrs. Dale came here 18 years ago from Gouverneur, N.Y. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Bradenton.

Mrs. Dale is survived by her husband, Albert C. Dale, Bradenton.

Burial will be in Richville, N.Y. Funeral Home Shannon is in charge of local arrangements.

Obituary of stepmother Ada Pearl McClellan Rothsteen Dale – “Tampa Bay Times” (St. Petersburg FL) Saturday 27 Oct 1956 p 18

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Creditors, Legatees, Distributees and All Persons having Claims or Demands against the Estate of PEARL M. DALE deceased:

You and each of you, are hereby notified and required to file any claims and demands, which you, or either of you, may have against the estate of Pearl M. Dale, deceased, late of Manatee County, Florida, with the Honorable Robt. E. Hensley, County Judge of Manatee County, Florida, at his office in the Court House of said County, within eight calendar months from the time of the first publication of this notice. Date of first publication November 28th A. D. 1956.

Albert C. Dale,
as Executor of the Estate of
Pearl M. Dale, Deceased

Smythe & Kavanaugh,
Attorneys-at-law.

11-28; 12-5-12-19-'56

“Bradenton (FL) Herald” Wednesday 19 Dec 1956 p 2

DALE

Al C. Dale. Age 72. Of 2360 Cambridge-Blvd. Retired business man. Founder of the Al C. Dale and Son Co. 51 years ago. Member of Hum-Rite and Columbus Commandery. Right and Columbus Commandery. Survived by one son, Carl K. Dale with whom he made his home. 1 daughter, Mrs. Vaughn Taylor; 1 sister, Mrs. Karl Swisher; 3 grandchildren. Funeral 1:30 p. m. Monday at Jerry Spears, 2693 W Broad-St. Interment Sunset. Friends may call after noon Sunday.

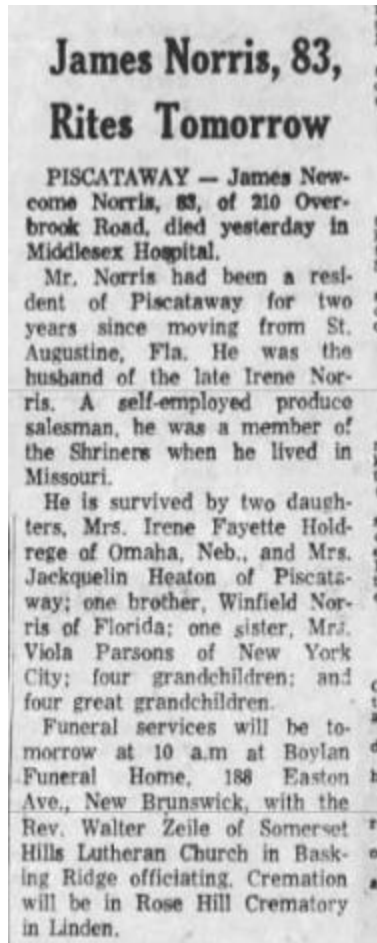
Obituary of Ada Pearl McClellan Rothsteen Dale's 2nd husband, Albert Charles Dale – Find A Grave
183740732

Sibling:

NORRIS—ROTHSTEEN.

Miss Irene Fayette Rothsteen was married on Wednesday, June 24, to James Newcome Norris, jr., at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette W. Rothsteen, 235 Van Buren street. Miss Rothsteen, who was given away by her father, wore a gown of cream white satin, entrain, trimmed with rose point and duchesse lace. Her tulle veil was festened with lilies of the valley and she carried a shower bouquet of bride roses and lilies of the valley. Her only ornament was a gold bracelet studded with diamonds and emeralds, the gift of the bridebroom. The bride's only attendant was her cousin, Miss J. Leonore Wallace of Rockville Centre, L. I., who wore white net over pink silk and carried a shower bouquet of pink roses. Winfield S. Norris was best man, and Leigh Turnbull and Frank H. Sherwood the ushers. Mr. and Mrs. Norris left on a trip to Niagara Falls, and upon their return will summer at Sea Cliff, L. I.

Wedding on 24 Jun 1908 of sister Irene Fayette Rothsteen to James Newcombe Norris Jr. –
“Brooklyn Daily Eagle” Tuesday 30 Jun 1908 p 6



Obituary of Irene's husband James Newcombe Norris Jr. – "Central New Jersey Home News" (New Brunswick NJ) Sunday 8 Feb 1970 p 31

Name: Lafayette William Rothsteen Jr.

Name variations: Rothstein – middle initial of J. – veteran tombstone application: Lafayette Military:

On Tuscania: 213th Aero Squadron - private

Serial number: 250, 211

Entered service from: Brooklyn, Kings NY

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Lafayette Rothsteen Jr.

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father Lafayette Rothsteen, 233 Van Buren St., Brooklyn NY

Returned from war on: "Louisville" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Lafayette Rothsteen

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father Lafayette Rothsteen, 235 Van Buren St., Brooklyn NY (chauffeur 1st class, 213th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): enlisted 30 April 1917 at Aviation Station, Mineola NY (pre-the national registration day of 5 Jun 1917)

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): Bayside Ave., Port Washington NY (posthumously)

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Born: 11 Sep 1896

No enlistment or discharge dates listed.

Address: 67 Fairview Ave., Port Washington, Long Island NY

Rank/unit: chauffeur 1st class, 213th Aero Squadron

Birth & death:

Born: 11 Sep 1896 Sea Cliff, Long Island NY (NY Army Card: was 20 years, 8 months old 30 Apr 1917)

Died: 7 Nov 1935 Lawrenceville, Brunswick VA (in an airplane crash - he was piloting his 3-passenger plane, passenger Anne Mullon died as did Lafayette, but her sister Vivien lived)

Find A Grave record: 180395147 – photo – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Southampton, Suffolk NY

Cemetery: Southampton

Tombstone: veteran tombstone application: Chauffeur 1st class, 213th Aero Squadron

Father: Lafayette William Rothsteen Sr., 30 Mar 1865 Germany – 18 Sep 1940 Gouverneur, St. Lawrence NY. Survived his son. Buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings NY.

Find A Grave: 227731856

Mother: Emma Catharine Gill Rothsteen, 7 Oct 1869 NY – 8 May 1919 Brooklyn, Kings NY.

Daughter of Thomas Gill & Julia Boyd. Buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings NY.

Find A Grave: 58367496

Parents' marriage: 1 Apr 1889 Kings Co. NY

Stepmother: Ada Pearl McClellan Rothsteen Dale, 14 Nov 1878 NY – 25 Oct 1956

Bradenton, Manatee FL. Daughter of George B. McClellan (F: 25691112) & Rhoda E. Wells (F: 25691118). Often used the name Pearl instead of Ada. A single schoolteacher, Ada Pearl McClellan was boarding in 1930 with Lafayette Sr. & Jr. in Brooklyn NY. She married Lafayette Rothsteen Sr. in 1923.

In the 1940 census, Lafayette D. Rothsteen (75 Germany) lived with wife A. Pearle Rothsteen (60 NY) in Gouverneur, St. Lawrence NY. They had lived in the same place in 1935; neither had an occupation.

Following Lafayette Sr.'s death, Pearl Rothsteen married Albert Charles Dale (SSN 280-09-6226) on 8 Jul 1945 in Canton Co. NY. Albert was born 24 Mar 1885 Columbus, Franklin OH & died 20 Apr 1957 in the same city. He had been married in 1904 to Katherine Trautman Dale (1886-1930) & in the 1940 census for Bradenton, Manatee FL, Albert C. Dale (55 OH)

lived at 1732 – 8th Ave. Dr. with wife Gertrude (42 OH). In 1935 they had lived in Columbus OH. Albert is buried in Sunset Cemetery, Galloway, Franklin OH, F: 183740732. Buried in Wayside Cemetery, Richville, St. Lawrence NY, in the same cemetery as her parents.

Stepmother's Find A Grave: 25691247

Stepmother's marriage: 21 (or 22) Dec 1923 Brooklyn, NYC, NY.

Spouse: Margaret/Marguerite Seeley Leavitt Rothsteen, ca. 1894 NY - 18 Feb 1945 Port Washington, Long Island, Nassau NY.

Married to Van Earl Leavitt in 1891. He was born 19 Sep 1891 in Sanbornton, Belknap NH & died 23 Dec 1918 New Brunswick, Middlesex NJ. Buried in Southampton Cemetery, Southampton, Suffolk NY. F: 180828302. Van was the son of George Avery Leavitt & Alice Woodman. Van was an extension specialist in fruit growing at the NY State Agricultural College when he died of pneumonia following influenza (in the WWI-era pandemic). They had 2 children: Dorothy Dudley Leavitt & Clinton Leavitt (see below).

She died at her home at 103 Webster, Port Washington NY at age 52. She had been the secretary at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club since 1933.

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage: 12 Dec 1923 in Manhattan NY

Children:

Stepchildren: by his wife Margaret's 1st marriage, to Van Earl Leavitt

- Dudley Dorothy Leavitt Patten, 30 Jul 1917 Southampton, Suffolk NY – 11 Nov 1992 Manhasset, Nassau NY. She was married to Captain Raymond Bostwick Patten (20 Jul 1915 NY – 8 May 2001 MA), the son of Leonard B. Patten & Edna Sidway.
- Clinton Leavitt, ca. 1922 NY. Appears in 1930 census as Lafayette's stepson, but he is not in the 1925 NY state census nor the 1940 federal census with them. Unable to trace. Not mentioned in his mother's obituary. A Clinton Leavitt did marry on 1 Sep 1945 in Wilmington Co. NY; bride not listed.

Siblings: an additional sibling died between the 1900 & 1910 censuses

- Irene Fayette Rothsteen Norris, Jun 1889 Brooklyn NY – 1964 St. Augustine, St. Johns FL. Wife of James Newcome Norris Jr. (1886-1970) whom she married 24 Jun 1908 Kings Co. NY. James Jr. was the brother of Winfield Scott Norris, who sailed with Lafayette Jr. on Tuscania. He was the son of James Newcombe Norris & Katherine Louise Peterson, born 23 May 1886 NJ. Her widowed husband died at age 83 in Piscataway NJ on 7 Feb 1970, having moved back from FL.

Notes:

According to the article in the "Brooklyn Daily Eagle" of Monday, 11 Feb 1918 p 2, Lafayette Jr. was the 8th member of his family to escape death at sea. The other 7 escaped from ship fires. His paternal grandfather & grandmother, their 3 daughters & 3-month-old son (Jr.'s father) had left Brest, France, for the US in Jun 1855 [according to other data, his father was

born Mar 1865, so perhaps the decade is incorrect]. Four weeks out, their ship "William Nelson" caught fire & burned 6 hours before sinking.

His grandmother, 3 paternal aunts & his infant father escaped in a lifeboat. Only 44 out of 450 passengers lived. His grandfather stayed behind to fight the fire, then rescued a boy and floated, holding the boy, until rescued in the morning by the lifeboat carrying his family. Three days later, the survivors were picked up by the steamship "Lafayette" of a French ship line. While on board, Jr.'s infant father was baptized Lafayette by Rev. Charles M. King of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in honor of the rescuing ship's name.

His maternal grandfather, Thomas S. Gill, survived a fire on the "Atlantic." He was thought for 57 days to have been dead, until he landed in NY. According to the story, a fellow passenger was the famous singer, Jenny Lind, known as "The Swedish Nightingale." [She did cross to the US aboard the US mail boat, "Atlantic" according to Internet accounts.]

Pre-war:

Spent his summers at Sea Cliff, Long Island NY & enlisted with boys from that town.

Wartime:

"NY Sun" 8 Feb 1918: from Sea Cliff NY – Rothstein, Lafayette William, Jr.

"Brooklyn Daily Eagle" 9 Mar 1918 p 2 – a lengthy account, some of it accurate, some not, in a letter to his parents on 235 Van Buren St. The letter was read to reporter by his sister Florence in the home at 1290 President St. Lafayette was on deck with Winfield Norris when Tuscania was torpedoed. He grabbed onto ventilator handles as smoke, water & smashed lifeboats rained on them. He smiled with rage at The Pigs. Helped to launch lifeboats but decided to stay on the ship. He saw a destroyer on the port side of Tuscania & slid down a rope just before it pulled away. "I wasn't scared once." He met Norris again on the boat. Watched the boat sink. It broke in half (its wreck does not indicate this). Was in 1 of the last lifeboats to get away. It was a heavy run. There were 3 dead in the bottom of boat. He said he saw the submarine. see separate document

Post-war:

Obituary:

Was a Nassau Co. NY police officer when he died. Member of VFW & American Legion. He was taking 2 sisters to visit their parents in FL. The 213th Aero sent representatives to his funeral. Survived by wife Marguerite (Seeley) & father Lafayette Sr. (Gouverneur NY) & a sister.

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1900 Brooklyn, Kings NY – 175 Hart St.

Lafayette W. Rothsteen [misread & misindexed as Rothstein], 35 Germany, Mar 1856, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, married 12 years, emigrated 1888, in US for 17 years, naturalized, commercial traveller

Emma, 29 NY, Oct 1870, parents b. NY, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Irene F., 10 NY, Jun 1889, at school

Lafayette W. Jr., 3 NY, Sep 1896

& servant Lottie Semmerman, 20 NY, May 1880, parents b. NY

1905 NY state census – 235 Van Buren

Lafayette Rooksteen [appears as Rothstein], 40 US, commercial traveler

Emma, 35 US, housework

Irene, 15 US, school

Lafayette Jr., 8 US, school

1910 Brooklyn, Kings NY – Van Buren St.

Lafayette W. Rothsteen, 45 Germany, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, in 1st marriage, married 21 years, emigrated 1865, naturalized, salesman, carpet house

Emma O. Rothsteen, 40 NY, parents b. NY, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 3 children, 2 are living [wife]

Lafayette W. Rothsteen Jr., 13 NY [son]

James N. Norris Jr., 23 NY, father b. NY, mother b. England, in 1st marriage, married 2 years, commercial merchant, country produce [son-in-law]

Irene F. Norris, 20 NY, married, in 1st marriage [daughter]

& servant Catharine Cone, 35 NY, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, housework, private family

1915 NY state census – Kings Co. NY – 235 Van Buren St.

Lafayette W. Rothsteen [misread & misindexed as a middle initial of N. & the spelling of Rothstein], 50 Germany, citizen, commercial traveller

Emma C., 45 US, housework

Lafayette W. Jr., 18 US, bookkeeping [middle initial misread & misindexed as N.]

1920 Brooklyn, Kings NY – at 171 ---

Lafayette W. Rothsteen Jr., 23 NY, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, single, salesman, dry goods, boarder

Jane C. Murray, 52, widow has 13 boarders. Besides Lafayette Jr. are his father & his father's future wife Ada Pearl:

Lafayette M. [sic] Rothsteen, 53 Germany, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, emigrated 1865, naturalized, salesman, carpets

Ada Pearl McClellan, 41 NY, single, teacher, public school

1930 North Hempstead, Nassau NY – 18 Bayside Ave. (or 16?) – conducted 28 Apr 1930

Found at: <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/41491296:6224?tid=&pid=&queryId=d186c99077a661a435ca7940ab102570&phsrc=hFB51541&phstart=successSource>

Lafayette Rothsteen, 32 NY, parents b. NY, age 26 at 1st marriage, motor squad, police force

Margareutte Rothsteen, 36 NY, parents b. NY, age 23 at 1st marriage [wife]

Dorothy Leavitt, 12 NY, father b. NH, mother b. NY [stepdaughter]

Clinton Leavitt, 8 NY, father b. NH, mother b. NY [stepson]

& roomer John ware, 22 NY, widowed, mechanic, air port

1925 NY state census – Southampton, Suffolk NY – Jennings Ave.

Lafayette Rothstein, 28 US, automobile mechanic

Marguriete, 31 US, housewife

Daorky Leavitt, 8 US [a written-over spelling of Dorothy]

[relationships are not indicated – all are US citizens]

1930 Brooklyn, Kings NY – 11th Ave. – his father & stepmother

Lafayette Rothsteen, 65 Germany, father b. Germany, mother b. NY, age 23 at 1st marriage, married, salesman, carpets

Pearl, 51 NY, parents b. NY, age 45 at 1st marriage, teacher, public school [wife]

1940 North Hempstead, Nassau NY – 103 Webster Ave.

Marguerite Rothsteen, 42 NY, widow, same house in 1935, secretary assistant, yacht club [misread & misindexed as Rothstein]

Sudley Leavitt, 22 NY, single, same house in 1935, saleswoman, retail shop [daughter – i.e.

Dudley Dorothy Leavitt, by Marguerite's 1st marriage]

Winfield Norris, 49 NY, single, cotton broker, own office [brother-in-law – actually,

Winfield's brother James Newcombe Norris Jr. is married to Lafayette Rothsteen Jr.'s sister Irene Fayette Rothsteen – Winfield & Lafayette Jr. survived the Tuscania together]