

TUSCANIA

Ferris, James
1888 MA – 1945 NE

FERRIS JAMES X 2121853
C-22-867

Pvt 18 Co 20 Engrs K

Co C 82 FA

3610 Sacramento St El Paso Tex A 4 355 881

Sa 250 723 Died 11-19-45 T 377 837

Born 11/26/88 R

Enl 12-20-17 Dis 6-9-19 Ct. 3 903 707

12-10-20 7-23-21

11-7-21 4-16-22 I

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1931

MASTER INDEX CARD 2-13969

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1N-Q3YS?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQR3D-JHW2&action=view&cc=2968245&lang=en&groupId=>

140. FERRIS, JAMES 250,723		PVT ENGRS	MR CLARENCE WORTHAM FRIEND BILLBOARD, CINCINNATI OHIO	
FOR NAME OF ORGANIZATION, AND THE EMBARKATION SERVICE NUMBER, SEE THE INDEX IN THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE SIGNATURE OF ORGANIZATION COMMANDER.				
To be filled in by company or detach- ment commander	Give full name of organization including company and regimental designation			To be filled in by Debarkation Personnel Adjutant, U. S. A.
Name of vessel		Port of sailing	Date of sailing	Port of Arrival
To be filled in by Embarkation Person- nel Adjutant, A. E. F.		Date of Arrival		
NAME AND SERIAL NUMBER HENDERSON, HARRIS F. 1,234,567		Rank & Arm or Staff Company Example: Capt A. G.	Organization (regiment and company or detachment)	NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. (Give name in full, for example; Mrs. Mary A. Smith.)
Relationship Example: Foster- mother		ADDRESS (Number, Street, City and State) Do not abbreviate.		

Leave double space between entries. All typewriting must be in CAPITAL LETTERS.

Return from WWI on "Santa Paula" - serial 250723 - <https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/627774308/ferris-james-us-army-wwi-transport-service-passenger-lists-1918-1919?terms=james,incoming,ferris>

Form 1		REGISTRATION CARD		No. 38	
1	Name in full	31 James Ferris (s)	Age, in yrs.	28	
2	Home address	16 S. Vermilion Danville Ills			
3	Date of birth	November 26th, 1888			
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)?	Natural Born.			
5	Where were you born?	Sumnerville Mass. U. S. A.			
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?				
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	Laborer			
8	By whom employed?	C. A. Wortman Shows			
	Where employed?	En Route			
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)?	No.			
10	Married or single (specify which)?	Single			
	Race (specify which)?	Caucasian			
11	What military service have you had? Rank	None.			
	years				
	Nation or State				
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	No.			
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.					
If person is of African descent, tear at this corner		James Ferris			
		(Signature or mark)			
		242			

12-8-27-A
REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which) <i>Medium</i>	Slender, medium, or stout (which) <i>Slender</i>
2	Color of eyes <i>Hazel</i>	Color of hair <i>Black</i> Bald? <i>No</i>
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? <i>None</i>	

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Grace Barton City Clerk
(Signature of registrar)

Ward *I*, Precinct *1*

Precinct *Danville*

City or County *Ill.*

State *Ill.* Date of registration *June 1, 17*

Billingsworth from del. June 27

WWI draft registration - <https://www.fold3.com/image/561144035/ferris-james-page-1-us-wwi-draft-registration-cards-1917-1918>

Transient, 57, Found Dead on Street Here

James Ferris, 57, a transient, was found dead early Monday at Fifteenth and California Streets. Clifton Krueger, 538 South Twenty-fourth Street, discovered the body. N. P. Swanson Mortuary is in charge.

Evening World-Herald
Mon, Nov 19, 1945 - Page 24

Omaha NE

For James Ferris, 57, a World War I veteran, Friday at 10 a. m. at the N. P. Swanson Chapel; burial West Lawn Cemetery.

Evening World-Herald
Wed, Nov 21, 1945 · Page 18

Omaha NE

James Ferris

in the Nebraska, U.S., Index to Deaths, 1904-2022

Detail Source

Name	James Ferris
Death Date	1945
Death Place	Douglas, Nebraska, USA
Certificate Number	10200

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62095/records/542600?tid=&pid=&queryId=5647226e-3628-4ea1-a484-141e014bfab3&_phsrc=cPx49469&_phstart=successSource

James Ferris

in the U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail Source

Name	James Ferris
Gender	Male
Race	White
Birth Date	26 Nov 1888
Birth Place	Somerville M, Massachusetts
Father	Asa Ferris
Mother	Jane Giles
SSN	507224269
Notes	Oct 1942: Name Listed As James Ferris

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/60901/records/13759814?tid=&pid=&queryId=99da5ae5-6597-4c5d-b244-30eca7a7cf0c&_phsrc=cPx49471&_phstart=successSource

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER U 1266	1. NAME (Print) James Ferris	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 622 - S. 20th Omaha Douglas Nebraska (Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)		
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]		
3. MAILING ADDRESS Same		
[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]		
4. TELEPHONE	5. AGE IN YEARS 53	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Summersville
	DATE OF BIRTH Nov 6 1888	(Town or county) (State or country)
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mr. Hillen - American Legion City Hill - Omaha Neb.		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS none		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42) (over) 16-21630-1		
James Ferris (Registrant's signature)		

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT			
RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION
White	5'7"	140	Sallow
	EYES	HAIR	Light
Negro	Blue	Blonde	Ruddy
	Gray	Red	Dark
Oriental	Hazel	Brown	Freckled
	Brown	Black	Light brown
Indian	Black	Gray	Dark brown
		Bald	Black
Filipino			

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification
fungus on left hand glove

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Registrar for Local Board 2 - Omaha, Nebraska
Date of registration 4-27-42

Douglas County Local Board #3
Fontenelle Hotel Building
Omaha, Nebraska
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant shall be placed in the above space)

16-21630-2

WWII draft registration -

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1002/records/16194313>

Life:

Names of Tuscania Survivors Are Received in Washington; Ohioans Among Soldiers Who Escaped Death in Disaster

Texas,

CLAUDE H. FORBES, Kenosha, Wis.

JAMES FERRIS, Danville, Ill.

LEWIS M. FELLOWS, 500 Central
Building, Los Angeles, Cal.

The Cincinnati Enquirer
Sun, Feb 10, 1918 - Page 1

Cincinnati OH

Jobless Offered at Auction

Unemployed Men Attempt to Sell Services to Highest Bidder, But Market Is Poor—Dog Brings Highest Price.

Boston, Sept. 8.—Jobless men were placed on the auction block on Boston Common today. Stripped to the waist, after the custom of the old slave auction, they declared their willingness to work by standing before a crowd of thousands, offering their services to the highest bidder.

"Shorn lambs of unemployment," their auctioneer, Urbain Ledoux, called them. Ledoux, a philanthropic worker who recently opened the "Church of the Unemployed," led 50 men to the common to bring home, he said, to the people their stories of human misery, just as William Lloyd Garrison pleaded for the slaves there 70 years ago. It was to prove his charges were good citizens out of a job, that he put some of them on the block, he explained.

Ledoux's efforts were not rewarded. Of the three who stood up for bids, none got a job, although the crowd pledged help to tide them over a week or two while they sought employment. Their leader said, however, he considered he had brought their plight and the honesty of their purpose to public attention and he announced that the auction was to be a daily event, to be continued at least this month.

War Veterans in Crowd.

Ledoux and his men, box lunches in hand, came to the common from his headquarters where he has fed hundreds. While they ate he called for volunteers to stand at auction prepared to work for a week for the highest bidders. Eight men stepped out, two World War veterans, most of them in clothing and shoes well worn. Each was asked how long he had been out of work and without food and shelter.

One man had not worked for a year. Another had eaten only twice a week in six months of unemployment.

James Ferris, 25, an upstanding man who said he had served four years in the army, was called to the

block. He stripped to the waist and while Ledoux directed, went through the army calisthenics to show his muscular development. Bids were called for.

"This is one of the men that you used during the war. What will you do with him now? How much will you bid for this man's services for a week, in order that he may have food and shelter?" the auctioneer asked. Bids were made, but when they were called those who had made them had slipped away. Ferris was then declared to be without a bidder.

Dog Sells for \$5.

A dog was brought to the block. He was knocked down for \$5 with the condition, accepted by the successful bidder, that he be returned to the "Church of the Unemployed" as its mascot.

Joseph Mitchell, a negro, was called. His shoes were without soles and his clothing was ragged. Replying to Ledoux's questions he said he had been without food for days at a time in the six months he had been out of a job.

There was no bid and the auctioneer called on the crowd to pledge him food and shelter for a week. Mrs. Annie Jackson responded and went the auctioneer one better by saying she would be responsible for Mitchell's sustenance and shelter for a second week if necessary. John Farley, wearing a G. A. R. button added a dollar, another man promised a suit of clothes and a second man passed Ledoux \$2 to "buy some beans for the boys."

William Davis, a boy of 18, out of a job for a year, was offered. He said he had kept himself going for a time on \$300 that he had saved, but had reached the end of his rope and was in hunger yesterday. He was promised a home for a week by Mrs. J. H. Granninger, and the man who promised the clothing to Mitchell gave \$2 to Davis.

With no bids for the three men set up, Ledoux suspended his auction until tomorrow.

Omaha Daily Bee
Sat, Aug 29, 1925 -Page 11

Courthouse Wall Cleaning—James Ferris and Herman Kessler are constructing scaffolds above the sixth floor in the courthouse, from which they will clean the mural paintings on the dome of the building.

James Ferris, janitor at the Douglas county courthouse, faces the prospect of losing at least two fingers on each hand as result of the severe cold, a police surgeon said. Ferris also suffered frost bites on his face and ears.

The Grand Island Independent
Fri, Jan 17, 1930 -Page 1

Grand Island NE

The Omaha Evening Bee-News
Fri, Jan 17, 1930 -Page 14

James Ferris, 1418 Elm street, is in Lord Lister hospital with both hands frozen, after lying for several hours on the porch of a neighbor, Mrs. Mary Rozmahz, 1925 South Fourteenth street. When she found the man, she called police.

LOSES FROZEN FINGERS

Courthouse Janitor Found Frostbitten by Midnight Exposure.

James Ferris, 42, of 1418 Elm street, a janitor at the courthouse, will probably lose at least two fingers on each hand as a result of exposure early today, according to Dr. Will Adams. His face and ears were also frostbitten.

Police found Ferris on the front porch at 1925 South Fourteenth street, home of Mrs. Mary Rozmajel and her daughter, Anna. At 1 a. m. he stumbled onto the porch, rose and pounded at the door, then fell again. The frightened women called police three times, as he repeated his knocking, before the police wagon arrived.

Omaha World-Herald
Fri, Jan 17, 1930 -Page 8

Man Given Chance Fixes Own Sentence

James Ferris, 57, of 201 South Thirteenth Street, told Judge Perry Wheeler in South Side Police Court Wednesday he thought he ought to have five days "to settle my nerves" after officers testified they arrested him at Twenty-fourth and N Streets Tuesday night. Later, he said he thought 10 days "would do me more good."

The court complied.

Evening World-Herald
Wed, Aug 08, 1945 -Page 6

Omaha NE

Fred H. Johnson, over 21, Lincoln, Neb., and Cleo Franklin, over 21, Lincoln, Neb.

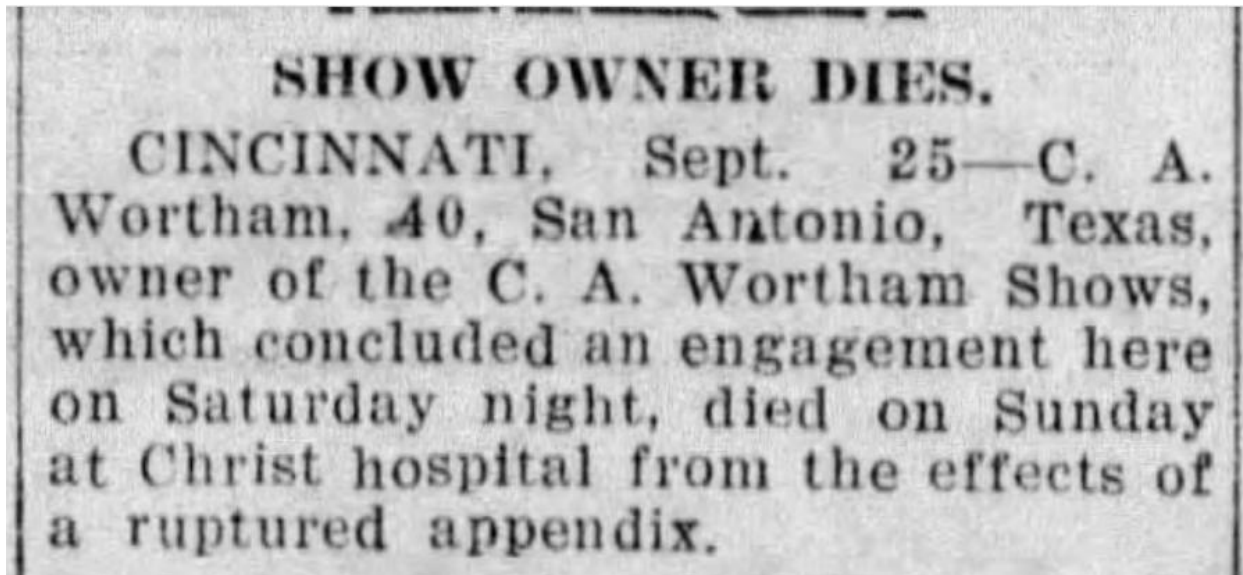
Omaha NE

in the Nebraska, U.S., Index to Marriages, 1909-2022

[illegible]

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62096/records/813301?tid=&pid=&queryId=d215898e-f6a0-4a8e-8f26-f48e1c3206c5&phsrc=cPx49482&phstart=successSource>

Wartime next-of-kin Clarence Augustine Wortham Sr.



<https://www.newspapers.com/image/291872926/>

News Journal
Mon, Sep 25, 1922 - Page 3 Mansfield OH

THE BILLINGS GAZETTE SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 26, 1915 5

The C. A. Wortham Shows, World's Premier Gala Week Organization, Exhibits in Billings, Montana, During the "Passing of the West", Commencing June 29th, to and Including July 5th, 1915--Showing Every Evening During Above Dates.

FREE BAND CONCERTS. 20 REAL ATTRACTIONS. Fun for Everyone. Age Cuts No Figure. Largest Aggregation of its Kind in America.

Mammoth Tented Attractions, High-Class and Strictly Up to the Minute--Nothing to Offend on Wortham Joy-Way

THE BIG HIPPODROME, consisting of 14 Sensational Acts; largest Animal Show ever carried with a Carnival organization.

ESSIE FAY and her wonderful horse "ARABIA," the fire-fighting horse, the horse with a human brain.

THE MIRACLE, featuring Etta Louise Blake, presenting the spectacular illusion "THE KING'S DAUGHTER" and Tableaux d'Art.

THE CRYSTAL TANGLE MAZE, the House With a Thousand Reflections; replete with surprises.

THE AUTODROME, Coghlan's Sensational Thriller, featuring MLLIE MARIE. The limit of all human daring, all doubts set aside, all skeptics convinced. Actually drives an automobile in a circle on a perpendicular wall.

THE TRIP TO MARS, something new. Never seen in Billings before. Every move you make, every step you take—laugh. That eminent comedian Bill Rogers pilots the ship.

On the Interesting Moral Pike Will Be Seen:

THE FILIPINO MIDGETS: Positively the smallest people on earth; Lilliputians in stature but bright and intelligent and REAL entertainers.

DYER'S JUNGLELAND: An interesting collection of birds and animals from all over the world.

ZETTA AND HER TANGO GIRLS: First time with a tented aggregation; elaborately staged and magnificently costumed, a rhyemful, timeful, musical show catering to the best.

FARLEY'S WONDERLAND, featuring Princess Carita, a wonderful little entertainer. Wonderland is well worth your time. See it.

THE PANAMA CANAL: One of the biggest features of the Wortham Shows; an ingenious replica in miniature of America's greatest engineering feat.

NEPTUNE'S DAUGHTER: Presenting Miss Lillian Cooley, champion lady high diver, and her troupe of water nymphs.

THE TITANIC DISASTER: Interesting from start to finish.

CARRY-US-ALL, FERRIS WHEEL, OCEAN WAVE and STARTLING FREE ACTS TWICE DAILY. Something doing all the time. Not a dull moment.

1st Ave. and 25th St. The Place: Billings, Montana. The Name: C. A. Wortham Shows

The Billings Gazette
Sat, Jun 26, 1915 - Page 5 Billings MT

Legion Carnival To Open Tonight On 19th Avenue

Tonight opens the midsummer carnival of the American Legion, Moline post, No. 246, on the spacious lot at Twelfth street and Nineteenth avenue.

The C. A. Wortham shows, said to be the largest of their kind in the world, will furnish all the amusement features. With their arrival late last night, a veritable Coney Island was brought to Moline. The amusements and riding devices which have made the New York pleasure resort popular, are reproduced among the Wortham attractions, and new innovations are added. The Wortham show is known as the show "different."

Mr. Wortham is a native of this state, having been raised at Danville, Ill., and there are many in Moline who know him personally, who are glad to renew acquaintance with the genial showman.

This is the show which has Jan Van Albert, the tallest man in the world. He stands 9 feet 5 inches high, and is still growing. He is but 19 years old. He created a sensation when he arrived in New York from Holland, five weeks ago. The Dispatch and most of the leading papers in this country have used his picture.

Among the other Wortham attractions are: Beach models, autodrome, beautiful Bagdad, wild west, giant and midgets, palace of wonders, illusion show, jungleland, athletic stadium, war trophy exhibit, monkey hotel, barrel of fun, O'Daddy, Ferris wheel, etc.

The Legion's carnival will last throughout the week, the shows to be open every afternoon and evening.

The Dispatch
Mon, Jun 14, 1920 Page 9

Moline IL

OWNER OF WORTHAM CARNIVAL IS DEAD

C. A. Wortham, owner of the carnival company of that name, which showed here this summer, is dead, following an operation in Cincinnati, according to the following from Quincy:

"Clarence A. Wortham, most extensive carnival owner in the country, died in Cincinnati Sunday after an operation for appendicitis. The announcement will be received with regret by many Quincyans to whom he was well known and who were his associates while he attended the Gem City Business college and played with the Quincy Reserves baseball team under the management of Harry F. Hofer, now his partner in the show business. Mr. Wortham was about 45 years of age and came from Danville to Quincy.

"Small in stature, but sturdily built and active, both mentally and physically, he as for one season a favorite player with the Reserves. After finishing his term here at the business college he left for his home in Danville. The next heard of him he had started a small carnival company, and one of the first cities played was Quincy where his show appeared

for the benefit of the baseball club, showing on the lot at Tenth and Vermont streets. His first experience in the show business was a clown playing with his brother John."

The Macomb Daily By-Stander

Tue, Sep 26, 1922 Page 8

Macomb IL



The Rock Island Argus
Wed, Sep 27, 1922 ·Page 1

Rock Island IL

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

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

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: James Ferris

Name variations:

Military:

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

Serial number: 250,723

Entered service from: Danville, Vermilion IL

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: James Ferris

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": friend C.A. Wortham, Danville IL

Returned from war on: "Santa Paula" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: James Ferris

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: friend Clarence Wortham, Billboard, Cincinnati OH (pvt, 18th Co., 20th Engrs, Forestry)

World War I draft registration (1917): as James Ferris – b. 26 Nov 1888 Summerville MA; res: 16 S. Vermilion, Danville IL. Single, Laborer, C.A. Wortham Shows, en route. Mailing address: General Delivery, Billings MT. Medium height, slender build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association 1939 roster: Danville IL (Reverend)

World War II draft registration (1942): as James Ferris – b. 6 Nov 1888 Summerville MA; res: 622 S. 20th, Omaha, Douglas NE. Contact: Mr. Gillin, American Legion, City Hall, Omaha NE. Not employed. “fingers on left hand gone” – Height: 5’7” – 140 lbs. Registered 27 Apr 1942.

Veterans Administration Military Index: serial 250723

Enlisted 20 Dec 1917 – discharged 9 Jun 1919

Enlisted 10 Dec 1920 – discharged 27 Jul 1921

Enlisted 7 Nov 1921 – discharged 16 Apr 1922

Address: 3610 Sacramento St., El Paso TX

Rank/unit: private, 18th Co., 20th Engineers – Co. C, 82nd Field Artillery

Birth & death:

Born: 26 Nov 1888 Somerville, Middlesex MA

Died: 19 Nov 1945 Omaha, Douglas NE (found dead on the street, described as a transient)

Find A Grave: 287804795 (created 10 Oct 2025)

Burial location: Omaha, Douglas NE

Cemetery: Westlawn-Hillcrest Memorial Park

Tombstone:

Father: Asa Ferris (according to his Social Security record)

Mother: Jane Giles Ferris (according to his Social Security record)

Spouse: Anna Perchal [Prchal?] Ferris, ca. 1887 NE (based on 1930 census) –

Marriage: obtained marriage license in Omaha, Douglas NE in Jul 1923. Both were residents of Omaha. James Ferris was age 36 and Anna Perchal was age 37.

Children:

Siblings:

Notes:

James Ferris was employed when he registered for the WWI draft in 1917 by C.A. Wortham. Clarence Augustine Wortham Sr., 14 Oct 1882 Paris, Lamar TX – 24 Sep 1922 Cincinnati, Hamilton OH, is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery & Mausoleum, Danville, Vermilion IL, F: 46915842. He operated a traveling variety show.

James listed friend C.A. Wortham as his next-of-kin contact on his voyages to & from WWI.

Wartime:

“Cincinnati (OH) Enquirer” 10 Feb 1918 p 1 – James Ferris, Danville IL, a Tuscania survivor

Post-war:

According to the 1930 census, James Ferris was a janitor at the county courthouse [i.e. Douglas Co. NE]

In Jan 1930, he loses the fingers on his left hand when he pounds on the door of a neighbor woman who does not let him in. He is found lying on her porch with frostbitten fingers and face. His 27 Apr 1942 WWII draft registration notes that the fingers on his left hand are “gone.”

Obituary:

Social Security Number: 507-22-4269

Censuses:

Might this be him?

1910 Chicago, Cook IL – conducted Apr 1910 – line 11

Found at: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9RNV-GX?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AMKZ8-S6V&action=view&cc=1727033&lang=en&groupId=>

James Ferris, 21 MA, parents b. MA, single, salesman, electrical supplies
Roomer with Rose Begue & 8 other roomers

1930 Omaha, Douglas NE – 1418 Elm St. – conducted 9 Apr 1930

James Ferris, 45 MA, parents b. MA, age 36 at 1st marriage, janitor, county court house
Anna, 43 NE, parents b. Czechoslovakia, age 34 at 1st marriage [wife]