

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

FINDING ELLA VOIGHT

Ella Voight was the tenth child born to Nancy Rogers and John Voight. We find her first census record in 1880 (right) where she is 9 years old. So she was born around 1870/1871. Further search of the records for Ella Voight was unsuccessful until an examination of Joseph Voight's 1929 obituary (below) revealed that, among others, he was survived by a sister "Mrs. E. C. Jordan of Baltimore." The initial "E" suggests this is Ella. The sister named "Elizabeth" in the 1880 census was Sarah Elizabeth AKA "Mrs. J. E. White" in the obit. The sister "Julia M" was actually Emily Julia called "Mrs. T. M. Mathias" in the obit.

John J. Voight	W	M	48
Nancy J.	W	F	38
Leroak J.	W	F	30
Julia M.	W	F	16
Joseph	W	M	14
Jesse	W	M	12
Ella	W	F	9
Elizabeth	W	F	7
John	W	M	5
Leroy	W	M	2

DEATHS

Joseph Voight, aged 64, died yesterday afternoon at 1:40 o'clock at the residence, 632 Redgate avenue. He was a native of Nansemond County and had been a resident of Norfolk for 25 year and was prominent in business affairs of the city. Besides his wife, Mrs. Lillian O Voight, he is survived by three daughter, the Misses Jessie, Lillian and Marion Voight; one son, Joseph Voight Jr.; one granddaughter, Margaret Wright, all of Norfolk; three sisters, Mrs. T. M. Mathias, of Corapeake, N. C.; Mrs. J. E. White, also of Corapeake, N. C.; Mrs. E. C. Jordan, of Baltimore, and one brother, J. B. Voight, of Norfolk.

Mr. Voight was a member of Norfolk Lodge No. 38, B. P. O. Elks. Funeral services will be held at the residence tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be in Elmwood Cemetery.


"Mrs. E. C. Jordan" just had to be Ella. Joseph's obit held the first clue to Ella's whereabouts!

If Ella was living in Baltimore in 1929 with the last name "Jordan" it was worth a search of the Baltimore city directories of that period to try to find her. Fortunately there were only a couple columns of Jordans in the 1928 Baltimore directory and only one entry for an Ella Jordan - the wife of George W Jordan!

If there was only one Ella Jordan in Baltimore, the odds are very good that it's our Ella Voight. Her trail grew hot...

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

Here they are!
George W. and Ella
Jordan were found living
at 261 Colgate Av in
Baltimore in 1928!



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CALVERT 5500
—
Baltimore
Cleveland
St. Louis
Los Angeles
Denver

' Geo W (Ella) h261 Colgate av (StH)

(The earliest record of George and Ella in Baltimore is found in the 1926 directory.)

SEABOARD STEEL & IRON CORP.
STEEL AND DRUGS ELECTRIC TOOLS
OUTPOST STREET AT BALTIMORE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930
POPULATION SCHEDULE

Enumeration by no. on Virginia M. Rank

CALVERT TIRE CO.
Goodyear Tires
148 W. Mt. Royal 26 EAST LEE
Version 8610

The 1930 census for Baltimore also shows George and Ella at the 261 Colgate Ave address. The record indicates that both George and Ella are 50 years old, but she should be 59 or 60 in 1930. Maybe Ella married a man 10 years younger and she's lying about her age now? That's not terribly uncommon. This Mrs. Ella Jordan was born in Virginia which supports the proposition that she is indeed Ella Voight. The Jordans own their house worth \$2,000 and rent space to another couple. There are no children listed. George is a night watchman and he was born in North Carolina. This census also tells us that George was 18 when he first married and Ella was 16 at her first marriage. So maybe this is a second marriage for each of them.

NAME		RELATION	SEX	AGE	BIRTH	EDUCATION	CITIZENSHIP	OCCUPATION	PROPERTY	RENT	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE
261	29	43	Jordan, George W.	Head	0	2000	No	M	W	50	M	18	No	Yes	North Carolina					
			Ella T.	Wife - H				F	W	50	M	16	No	Yes	Virginia					
		44	Lowe, Carl T.	Head	R	25	No	M	W	49	M	19	No	Yes	Pennsylvania					
			Arnelia M.	Wife - A				F	W	48	M	18	No	Yes	South Carolina					

NAME	RELATION	SEX	AGE	BIRTH	EDUCATION	CITIZENSHIP	OCCUPATION	PROPERTY	RENT	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE	RENTAL VALUE
Yes	Night-Watchman	Standard Printing	7635																	
Yes	Catcher	Sheet Mill	3124																	

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

A search for a George W. Jordan born in North Carolina circa 1880 brings him up in the 1920 census. He's a 39 year old widower in Gates County NC living with his sixteen year old son Roy. George is farming. Roy has quit school and he's a laborer on a horse farm. And there's even more to learn from this 1920 census record...

STATE North Carolina COUNTY Holly TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY _____

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920—POPULATION

ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 17 DAY OF January 1920.

SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No. _____ SHEET No. 6 B
ENUMERATION DISTRICT No. 34 WARD OF CITY _____

PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME	RELATION	SEX	BIRTH DATE	CITIZENSHIP	EDUCATION	MARITAL STATUS				OCCUPATION			
							MARRIED	SINGLE	WIDOWED	DIVORCED	MANUFACTURING	MINING	AGRICULTURE	OTHER
North Carolina	<u>George W. Jordan</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>1881</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>7-8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>Farming</u>	<u>General Farmer</u>	
North Carolina	<u>Roy J. Jordan</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>1904</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>0-2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Laborer</u>	<u>Horse Farm</u>	
North Carolina	<u>Ellen M. Jordan</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>1891</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	

George and Roy Jordan are family number 111 in the 1920 census for Holly Grove Township. Family number 104 on the previous page is Ella's sister Sallie whose husband James White owns a horse farm. Sallie's son Romie White also lives nearby and runs his own horse farm. Did Roy Jordan work for the White family?

Ella had other relatives living near George Jordan, too. On the following page of the census we find that family number 117 is the family of Lillie Mathias and G.C. Hollowell. Lillie Hollowell is Ella's niece, the daughter of Emily Julia Mathias. Emily Julia's own household was family number 157. They all lived along Virginia Road in Holly Grove Township. Perhaps one of her sisters, Sallie or Emily, introduced Ella to the widowed man who lived down the road. Certainly the extended Voight family and George Jordan knew of each other by virtue of proximity in their small farming community.

Going back to that 1928 Baltimore City Directory and turning the page we find one listing for a Roy Jordan, a molder with a wife named Mary. This could be George's son, though Jordan is a common name and without more information it is impossible to say if this Roy Jordan might be George's son - who would be 24 in 1928, certainly old enough to be married...

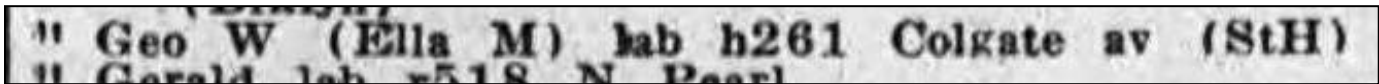


ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

George Jordan is still in his home at 261 Colgate in Baltimore in the 1940 census. But now he's a single white male working in the steel mills. He's listed as single – not widowed or divorced. There are two lodgers in the house and there's no mention of Ella. Were George and Ella divorced after more than a decade together? Did she die? There's still more to do to find out about her. What happened to Ella Voight?

The image shows a 1940 US Census form for Baltimore, Maryland. The household is headed by George Jordan, born in 1880, age 59, a laborer at the Steel Mill. He is listed as single. Two lodgers are also present: John Tobias, born in 1903, age 37, a wire cutter at the Wire Mill, and Della Boyd, born in 1913, age 27, a housewife at the Office. The form includes detailed information on birth dates, marital status, and occupations for all individuals listed.

The last record on Ancestry.com for a living Ella Jordan is in the 1937 Baltimore directory:



We've seen her given middle initials of "C," "T" and "M." One of them could be for her own middle name. One of them could have been the surname of a first husband. Any of them or all of them could be erroneous. But if one of them is an initial for her first husband's surname, then it could be a clue to finding out about her earlier history, including possible children.

Note to Self >>>September 2012, plans for further research: Searching line by line for "Ella" (last name maybe starting with "C", "T" or "M.") as a wife or a widow in the 1900, 1910 & 1920 census records for Nansemond Co VA & Gates Co NC. (How many records would that be? Maybe 2500? 5000? Do-able.) Did Ella have any children by her first husband, whoever he was? >>>Or follow up the Roy Jordan name for his living descendants who might know about Ella. >>>Or check Maryland death records and Baltimore obituaries 1937 - 1940.

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

At this point another researcher took the torch and ran on with the search for Ella's story. Thank you, Janie Evans, collaborator and genealogist extraordinaire, for unearthing Ella's first family!

A search on Ancestry.com of the 1900, 1910, and 1920 census records for any "Ella" born about 1870/71 in Nansemond County resulted in one Ella of the right age who was a widow in 1920. Ella Corbitt (there's the initial "C") was a candidate for our Ella Voight.

In the Cypress Magisterial District in 1900 Ella M Corbitt gives her birth as September 1870 in Virginia. She's 29. Ella and G B Corbitt have been married 11 years. Their children are Pearlie M age 10, McGregor age 8, Carrie L age 6, Grover Cleveland age 5, Waddell age 3 and Annie Susie age 1. Mr. Corbitt is from North Carolina. He's a farmer and he's 34 years old.

7-254. 71 A

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State Virginia County Nansemond Supervisor's District No. 2 Sheet No. 24
 Enumeration District No. 24

Township or other division of county Cypress Magisterial District (part of) Name of Institution, _____
 Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, _____ Ward of city, _____
 Enumerated by me on the 27 day of June, 1900. Lucie C. Parker Enumerator.

IN CITY	LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY			CITIZENSHIP	OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION	EDUCATION	SINGLE IF MARRIED
					Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of father of this person	Place of birth of mother of this person				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		<u>Corbitt G B</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>Aug 1866</u>	<u>NC</u>	<u>NC</u>	<u>NC</u>	<u>Farmer</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Ella M</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>Sept 1870</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Pearlie M</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Jan 1890</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>McGregor</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Jan 1892</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Carrie L</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Nov 1893</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Grover Cleveland</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>May 1895</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Waddell</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Aug 1896</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>
		<u>Annie Susie</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Aug 1898</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>M</u>

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

In 1910 "Gus" Corbitt is 47 years old and a general farmer. Ella is 38 and she reports being the mother of 11 children, 7 of whom are still living. Daughters Pearl and Annie, age 20 and 10 respectively, live at home. Sons Grover and Mack, 15 and 18 respectively, work on a horse farm. Grover and Mack may be working for their uncle James White (Sallie Voight's husband) who had a horse farm in North Carolina, just down the road and across the state line. At 14 Wardell is already a farm hand. Grover, Mack, Wardell and Annie have all attended school "anytime since Sept 1, 1909."

There are 2 new children since 1900 - sons Fitz Lee age 4 and Wilbur age 1. The daughter Carrie who was 6 in 1900 is missing in this census and presumably among the 4 children who are deceased. Childhood was much more dangerous then. Without vaccinations or antibiotics childhood mortality was much higher than it is in the 21st Century.

STATE		COUNTY		TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE		WARD OR CITY		SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No.		ENUMERATION DISTRICT No.		SHEET No.	
Virginia		Spencer		Lynchburg		Lynchburg		Lynchburg		2		10		B	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 14 DAY OF April 1910.															
SERIAL	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY	EDUCATION	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRIES	WEALTH	PROPERTY	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE	VALUE OF PERSONAL ESTATE	ANNUAL INCOME	DECEASED	REMARKS	AGE
33	Wm. A. Corbitt	Head	Married	North Carolina	8	Farmer	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	47
	Ella	Wife	Married	Virginia	12	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	38
	Pearl	Daughter	Married	Virginia	20	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	20
	Grover	Son	Married	Virginia	15	Laborer	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	15
	Mack	Son	Married	Virginia	18	Laborer	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	18
	Wardell	Son	Married	Virginia	14	Farm	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	14
	Annie	Daughter	Married	Virginia	10	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	10
	Fitz Lee	Son	Married	Virginia	4	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	4
	Wilbur	Son	Married	Virginia	1	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	General Farm	1

Corbin Dewey F, steno Navy Yd h Norfolk
 Corbitt Grover C, appr h 2020 North
 Corbitt Gustave B, supt h 2020 North
 Corbitt Pearl Miss, h 2020 North
 Corbitt Wardell, blksmith h 2020 North
 Corbitt Wm C, pres Portsmouth & Norf
 County Bldg & Loan Assn h 310 Dinwidd

By 1916 they moved to Portsmouth. In the city directory Gus is called Gustave (?) and he's a "supt" Grover's an "appr" and Wardell is a "blksmith." Pearl is over 18 & single so she gets a listing, too.

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

1920 finds Ella Corbitt is a 45 year old widow living at 1607 High St in Portsmouth City. Four of her sons are living with her and one daughter-in-law.

McGregor is 27, working as a street car conductor.

Grover is 24 and he's a cushion maker in a carriage factory.

Fitzhugh Lee is 14. He works in a carriage factory as a trimmer and he has attended school "any time since Sept 1, 1919."

22 year old Wardell is a boilermaker in the U.S. Navy ship yard. Wardell's wife Susie is 17. One imagines that Susie was expected to help Ella with all the cooking, cleaning, washing and ironing for those four hard-working men. Certainly Mack had uniforms to keep starched and pressed. Wardell's son Louis also reports that his mother Susie was a great cook. It seems like she might have been a breath of fresh air in the Corbitt home in 1920. A dose of young love and good food would be a blessing to a home that we will find has suffered great loss and grief.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920—POPULATION

176 (91-476) SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No. 377 SHEET No. 8 A
ENUMERATION DISTRICT No. 187

Corbitt Ella	Head	1	R	F	W	45	W	None	
McGregor	Son			M	W	27	S	Conductor	Street Car
Grover	Son			M	W	24	S	Cushion maker	Carriage fact
Fitzhugh Lee	Son			M	W	14	S	Trimmer	Carriage fact
Wardell	Son			M	W	22	M	Boilermaker	U.S. Navy yard
Susie	Daughter-in-law			F	W	17	M	None	

1607 High St	Corbitt Ella	Head	1	R	F	W	45	W	None	
	McGregor	Son			M	W	27	S	Conductor	Street Car
	Grover	Son			M	W	24	S	Cushion maker	Carriage fact
	Fitzhugh Lee	Son			M	W	14	S	Trimmer	Carriage fact
	Wardell	Son			M	W	22	M	Boilermaker	U.S. Navy yard
	Susie	Daughter-in-law			F	W	17	M	None	

Is Ella Corbitt really the same woman who married George Jordan from Holly Grove and moved off to Baltimore by 1926? We need more evidence.

Wardell and Susie Corbitt are in the 1929 Baltimore city directory. That supports the theory that we might have found Ella Voight. But it's not proof yet.

Corbitt Chas mldr r650 Holabird av (Colgate)
" Eliz (wid John) h2105 n Longwood
" Florence E clk r2105 n Longwood
" Jas B h409 e 25th
" Lorle tchr r409 e 25th
" Margt sec r2105 n Longwood
" Margt A sten r3021 Fdk av
" Wardell (Susie) mldr h6500 Holabird av (Colgate)

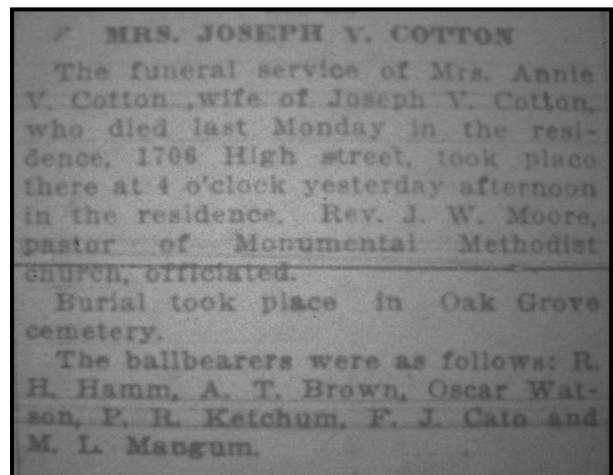
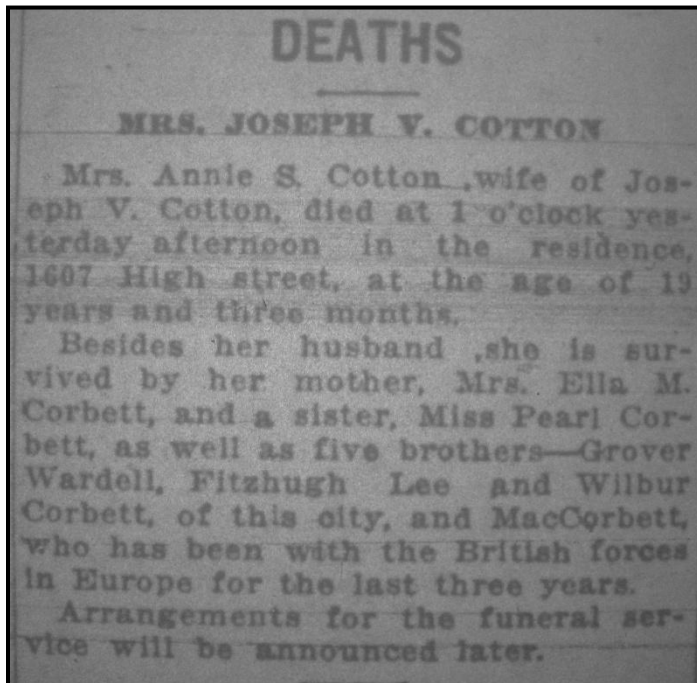
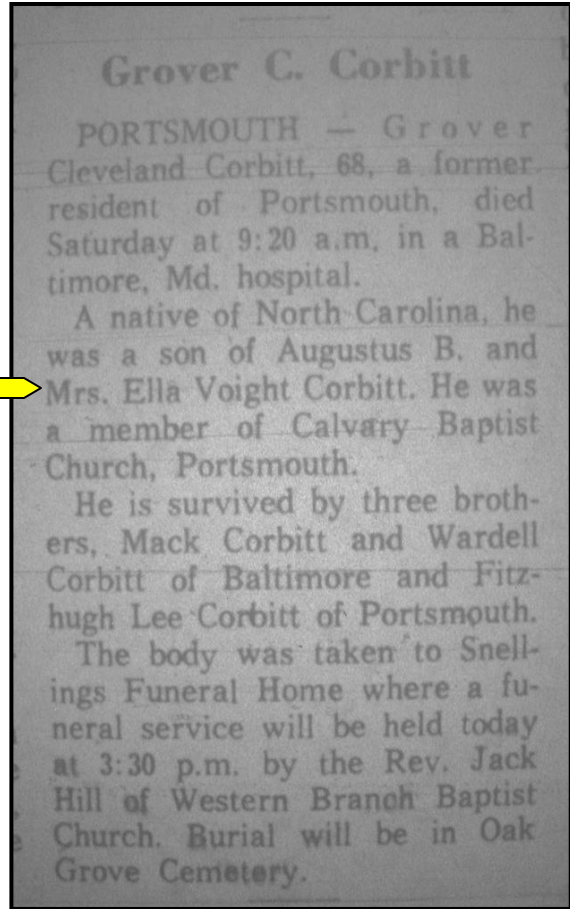
ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

Further searching of the Corbett family members on Ancestry.com leads to a cemetery record on Find-A-Grave. It lists a man named Grover Cleveland Corbett (spelled with an "e") buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth in 1964. Searching the Oak Grove Cemetery records with both spellings yields more of the family – A.G. Corbett deceased October 6, 1918, Pearl who died October 2, 1918 and Wilbur who died October 7, 1918. Annie Corbett Cotton is also there, died September 30, 1918. Perhaps one of the obituaries will reveal their mother's maiden name. And what's with 4 deaths in the fall of 1918?

Eureka! Grover Cleveland Corbett's 1964 obituary confirms that his mother IS ELLA VOIGHT. Now we know Ella Voight's first husband's name was Augustus B Corbett and the family we found is, in fact, hers. This obit does not mention her Jordan surname.

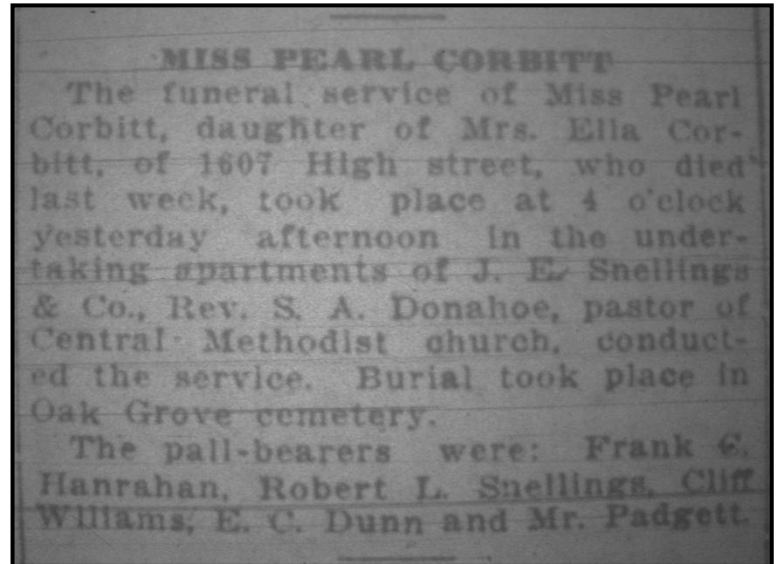
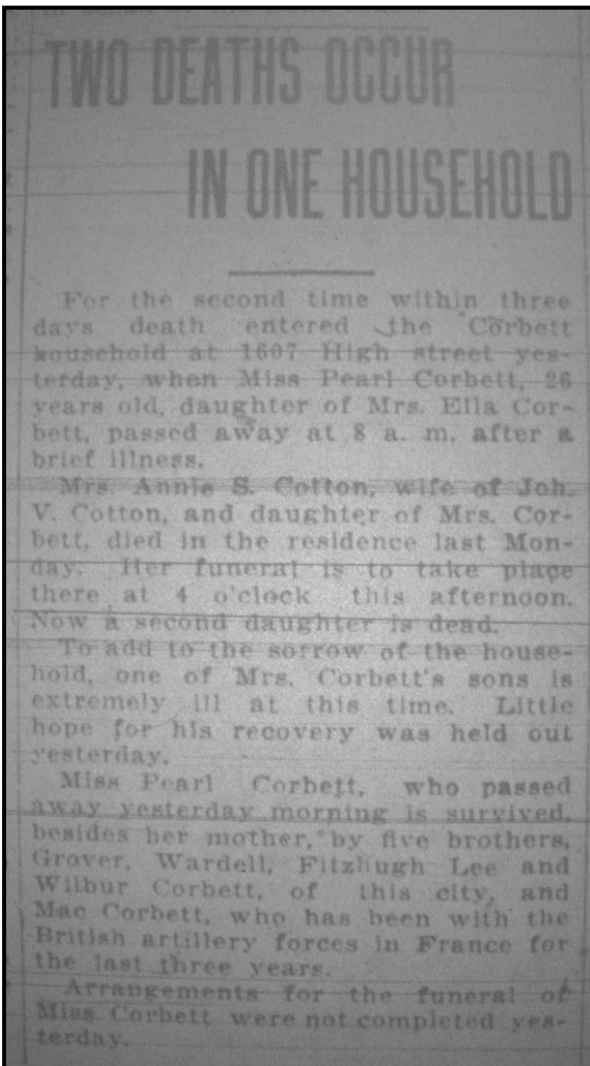
Obituaries for Pearl and Wilbur lead to another story...

We learn that 19 year old Annie was married to Joseph V. Cotton but she died at her parents' address on September 30, 1918.

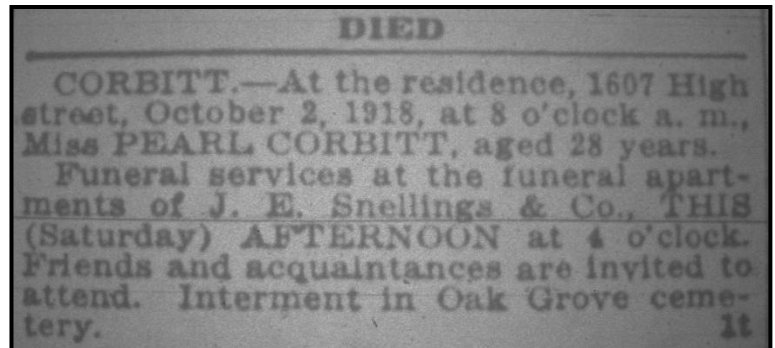


ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

Two days later on October 2, 1918, Pearl died - even before Annie's funeral which was held in the family's home on October 3. Pearl's funeral was scheduled to be held at the undertakers on October 5. Friends and acquaintances were invited to attend.



Pearl's funeral was reported in the paper on October 6.



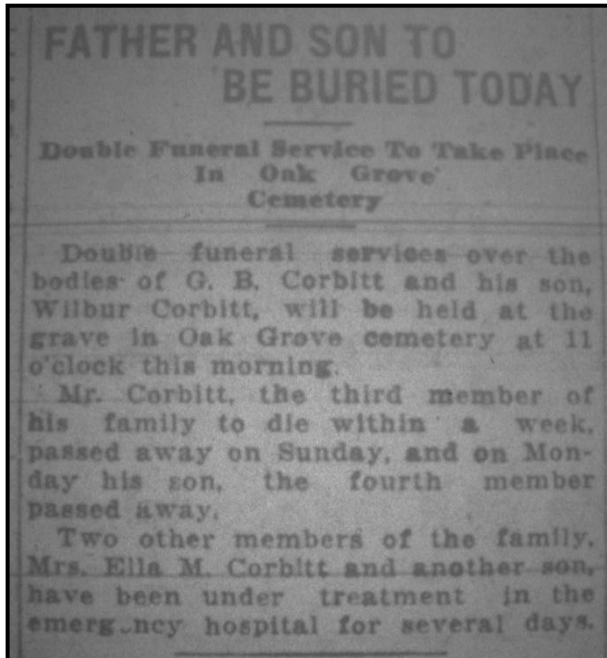
This was the flu pandemic of 1918 which peaked in the Norfolk area in October. Thousands in the Tidewater died within a few weeks. It hit young and healthy people the hardest. Pregnant women were the most vulnerable. Some places used steam shovels to dig the graves because there were so many to dig and many of the gravediggers were taken ill, too. Worldwide 500 million people were infected. Between 20 & 50 million died. Wikipedia has an excellent article about "the greatest medical holocaust in history."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1918_flu_pandemic



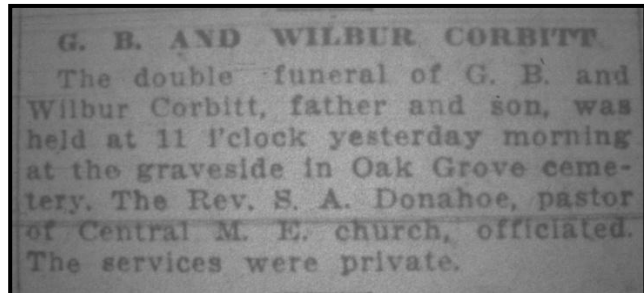
ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

The flu was not finished with the Corbitt family yet. Pearl was buried on Saturday. Then her father died on Sunday October 6. The youngest child Wilbur died on the 7th.

Ella and one of her other sons, Grover or Wardell or Fitzhugh, had already been in the "emergency hospital for several days." (The oldest son Mack was in France fighting with the British forces in WW I. He barely escaped succumbing to the flu in Europe, story on page 19.)



It's no wonder that the double funeral for Augustus "Gus" B Corbitt and his son Wilbur was a simple, private graveside service.

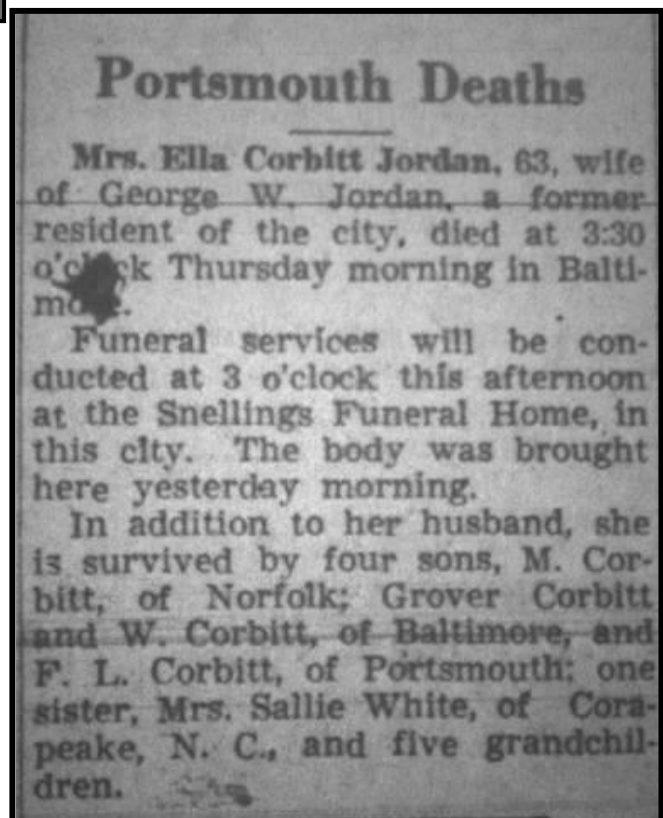


Between September 30 and October 7 – in just 8 days – Ella lost both of her daughters, her husband and her youngest child, her "baby" boy Wilbur. Who can imagine this mother's nightmare and her unspeakable heartbreak?

How does anyone recover from so much loss and suffering? Ella's story is a reminder that we can be thankful for and take joy in every day pleasures of ordinary lives - because it can all change in the twinkling of an eye.

We already know that Ella married a widower named George Jordan sometime between 1920 and 1926 when they show up in the Baltimore city directory. The last listing for them together in Baltimore is 1937. Ella's own obituary was found in Portsmouth newspaper archives. She died in 1939.

She was buried in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth where Gus Corbitt and their children Annie Susie Corbitt Cotton, Pearl and Wilbur had been buried in 1918. Grover would also be buried in Oak Grove in 1964.



ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN




Ella Voight
 Birth **Sept 1870** in Nansemond County, Virginia, USA
 Death **25 May 1939** in Baltimore?

In 1910 Ella had reported that she had given birth to 11 children. Only these eight listed here lived long enough to be named in any census. Carrie died before 1910. Pearl, Annie, Wilbur and Ella's husband Gus died in the flu of 1918. She and 4 sons survived - Mack, Grover, Wardell and Fitzhugh.



It was Grover's 1964 obituary which confirmed that Ella Corbitt was Ella Voight. Between 1920 and 1964 there's not much known about Grover. He had been a "carriage maker" and a cushion maker in a carriage factory in the Portsmouth records up until 1920. Grover's nephew Fitzhugh Corbitt Jr. remembers that Grover was "always nursing home in Baltimore." He does not remember Grover ever being married or having children.

Spouse & Children

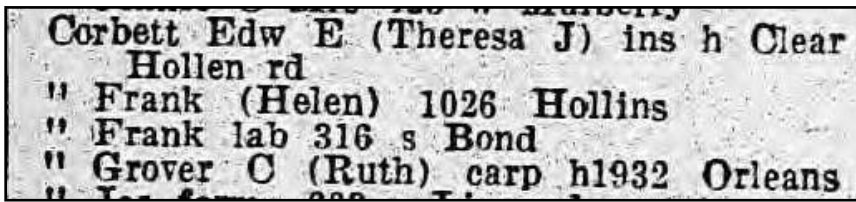
-  [Augustus B "Gus" Corbitt \(1863-1918\)](#) 
-  [Pearl Corbitt \(1890-1918\)](#) 
-  [Mcgregor "Mack" Corbitt \(1892-1974\)](#) 
-  [Carrie L Corbett \(1893-1910\)](#) 
-  [Grover Cleveland Corbett \(1895-1964\)](#) 
-  [Wardell Corbett \(1896-1983\)](#) 
-  [Annie Corbett \(1898-1918\)](#) 
-  [Fitzhugh Lee Corbett \(1905-1989\)](#) 
-  [Wilbur Corbett \(1909-1918\)](#) 

in a wheelchair" and "living at a

Spouse

-  [George W Jordan \(1880-\)](#) 

There is a Grover C Corbett listed in the 1924 Baltimore city directory. He's married to "Ruth" and works as a carpenter. Is it our Grover? We know that Ella was living in Baltimore with her



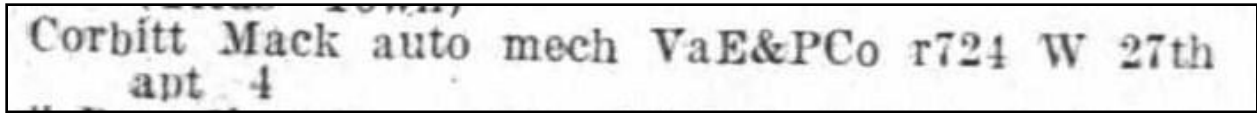
second husband George Jordan by 1926. Perhaps Grover moved there first. Grover's name does not appear again in the Baltimore city directories as either Corbett or Corbitt.

We find a 42 year old SWM named G. Corbett in the Spring Grove State Hospital in Catonsville MD in the 1940 census. According to his nephew Louis Corbett this is, indeed, Ella's son Grover. Lou remembers that Grover was only sometimes in a wheelchair. We don't know how he came to hospitalized or why he was confined to a wheelchair. Louis remembers that his father Wardell did visit Grover at the hospital but the children always waited outside.

<i>Corbett G</i>		<i>101</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>8 mo</i>	<i>Pa</i>	<i>North Carolina</i>
------------------	--	------------	----------	-----------	-------------	-----------	-----------------------

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

Ella's son Mack Corbitt is found in the 1935 Norfolk directory working as an auto mechanic for the Virginia Electric & Power Co.



That same year – 1935 - Mack Corbitt's cousin (Sallie White's daughter) Louise White and her husband George Chester Powell also lived at 724 West 27th St, Apt 4 in Norfolk. Now we know that the cousins shared apartment number 4 in this building, probably an upstairs unit. Nice front porches.



724 W 27th Street, Norfolk VA

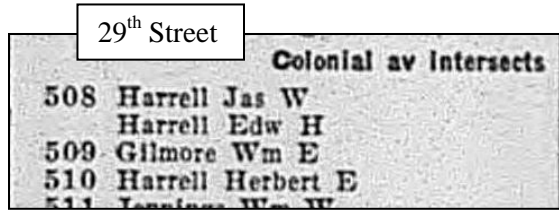
The 1940 census finds Mack still single at age 45, still living in Norfolk and working as a mechanic but residing as a lodger with Mr. & Mrs. Bowden at 508 29th St.

STATE	INCORPORATED PLACE	WARD OR CITY	UNINCORPORATED PLACE	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS	SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES 1940	P	E. D. No.	E. D. No.	SHEET NO.							
Virginia	Norfolk	25			POPULATION SCHEDULE	1274	100-2-100	100-2-100	1 A							
19	508 29th St	O 3000	no	Bowden, Daniel J.	Head	M	W	77	M	10	H	2	0	0	20	18
20				Josephine	wife	F	W	69	M	10	C	1	6	0	20	19
21				Brown, Charles	lodger	M	W	74	M	10	S	1	26	900	20	21
22				Corbitt, Mack	lodger	M	W	45	S	10	7	1	52	1675	20	22

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

Mack's 1940 address also rang a bell. From Sallie Voight's story we know that Mack's cousin Nannie White and her husband Herbert E Harrell lived in the same house in 1951!

" Nannie M Mrs (Harrell Gro) h508 W 29th



The earliest record found of Harrells at 508 W 29th St. is in the 1942 Norfolk city directory. Sometime before 1942 Mack's cousin's family had bought the house at 508 W 29th plus the one next door to it and by 1942 Nannie & Herbert are at 510 W 29th St. James W and Edward H Harrell live at 508.

Mack is definitely in touch with his Norfolk cousins from Sallie White's family. Remember, too, that Sallie lived very near to Ella's second husband George Jordan back in Gates Co, NC in 1920. It seems that Ella and Sallie had to be close because their children were close, too.

There is a record of a Mack Corbitt in the Florida Marriage index for August, 1962, but the index does not reveal any more identifying information about the man nor about the bride, not even her name. (The document can be seen in Mack's folder within Ella's folder on the CD.)

Again, the nephew Fitzhugh Corbitt Jr recalls that Mack was a machinist who married late in life and he had no children; also that Mack, too, eventually moved to Baltimore. Then when he retired Mack & his wife moved to a trailer somewhere in Gates Co., NC. The first name of Mack's wife might have been "Hattie."

The North Carolina Death record confirms that Mack was married when he died in Gates County in 1974.

North Carolina, Death Collection, 1908-2004	
Name:	Mac Corbett
Gender:	Male
Race:	White
Marital Status:	Married
Age:	82
Date of Birth:	1892
Residence County:	Gates
Date of Death:	27 Oct 1974
Death State:	North Carolina
Autopsy:	No
Institution:	General Hospital
Attendant:	Physician
Recorded Date:	1964
Source Vendor:	NC Department of Health, North Carolina Deaths, 1970-74
Certificate:	01A024

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



Wardell Corbitt

Birth **Aug 1896** in Virginia

Death **Nov 1983** in Baltimore

Spouse & Children



Susie M Corbitt (1903-)



Odell Corbett (1921-)



Katherine Corbett (1923-)



Louis P Corbett (1934-)



Louise A Corbett (1934-)

Wardell Corbitt, Susie and their two daughters, Odell 9 & Katherine 7, are living at 503 Rappolla St. in Baltimore in the 1930 census, just one block away from Wardell's first cousins Oscar E. and Othar L. Voight (they were sons of Ella's brother Oscar Leroy Voight.)

Wardell is a "moulder" in a foundry - as is his cousin Oscar E Voight. (Roy Jordan back on page 3 was another molder.) They were lucky men to find steady jobs in the Depression.

Wardell also became a deacon and lay minister in the Patterson Park Baptist Church. His special ministry was visiting the sick.

NAME	AGE	SEX	MARRIAGE	INDUSTRY	EDUCATION	RENTAL	PROPERTY	OWNERSHIP	RENTAL	PROPERTY	OWNERSHIP	RENTAL	PROPERTY	OWNERSHIP
Wardell Corbett	33	M	Married	Foundry	High School									
Susie M Corbett	27	F	Married	None	High School									
Odell Corbett	9	S	None	None	Elementary									
Katherine Corbett	7	S	None	None	Elementary									
Louis P Corbett	19	S	None	None	Elementary									
Louise A Corbett	22	F	None	None	Elementary									

House No.	Street	Name	Relationship	Age	Sex	Marriage	Industry	Education	Rental	Property	Ownership	Rental	Property	Ownership
503 96 118	Corbett	Wardell	Head	33	M	Married	Foundry	High School						
		Susie	Wife-H	27	F	Married	None	High School						
		Odell	Daughter	9	S	None	None	Elementary						
		Katherine	Daughter	7	S	None	None	Elementary						
		Pierce Earl	Boarder	19	S	None	None	Elementary						
		Elinor	Wife-H	22	F	Married	Electric Co.	High School						
		Doris	Daughter	19	F	None	None	Elementary						

The Corbitt's are sharing their rented row house with the Pierce brothers and the wife and daughter of one of the Pierce's. Each family pays \$20 monthly for rent. Neither family has a radio. In 2007 the house at 503 Rappolla (right) has more than a radio; it boasts a satellite dish and an air conditioner.



ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

In the 1940 census Wardell and Susie are still in Baltimore. Now he's working as an engineer of some sort in a power plant. Daughter Odell, who would be 19, has left the household. Catherine has finished 3 years of high school and she's still attending school. They have 6 years old twins Louise A and Louis P. We learn that Wardell finished 5 years of school and Susie one year of high school. They own their home at 605 Newkirk. (Remember Roy Jordan on page 3? He had also lived on the 600 block of South Newkirk back in 1928. Coincidence? Perhaps.)

INCORPORATED PLACE		INCORPORATED PLACE		INCORPORATED PLACE		INCORPORATED PLACE		INCORPORATED PLACE	
State	County	Township or other division of county	Block No.	Division	Household No.	Serial No.	Age	Sex	Color
MARYLAND	BALTIMORE	CHESAPEAKE	26	26C	2057	1	43	M	W

LOCATOR	HOUSEHOLD DATA	NAME	RELATION	SEX	AGE	EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH	PERIODS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER—EMPLOYMENT STATUS
1	605 S NEWKIRK ST BALTO MD	WARDEN	HEAD	M	43	5	MARYLAND	EMPLOYED
2		SUSIE M	WIFE	F	37	4	MARYLAND	HOUSEWIFE
3		CATHERINE	DAUGHTER	F	17	9	MARYLAND	ATTENDING SCHOOL
4		LOUISE A	DAUGHTER	F	6	0	MARYLAND	ATTENDING SCHOOL
5		LOUIS P	SON	M	6	0	MARYLAND	ATTENDING SCHOOL

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS		FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER		FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER		FOR OFFICE USE ONLY—DO NOT WRITE IN THESE COLUMNS	
1	NAME	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

Though he was too young at the time to play, Louis Corbett remembers his second cousin John W Voight Jr, the grandson of Oscar L. Voight, coaching other neighborhood boys & playing football. John later became a star athlete.

On his 1942 WW II draft card Wardell is working at Bethlehem Steel. The family still lives at 605 South Newkirk. The Social Security Death Index records Wardell's death in Baltimore in Nov. 1983.

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

SERIAL NUMBER 1003 **1. NAME (PRINT)** WARDEN CORBITT

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (PRINT) 605-S-NEWKIRK ST BALTO. MD

3. MAILING ADDRESS Same

4. TELEPHONE None **5. AGE IN YEARS** 45 **6. PLACE OF BIRTH** Suffolk Virginia

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS (mo) SUSIE MAY CORBITT 605-S NEWKIRK ST

8. EMPLOYER NAME AND ADDRESS Bethlehem Steel Co

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Sparrows Point Ind.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42) 16-2160-1 Warden Corbitt

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt

Birth **18 Jan 1905** in Virginia

Spouse & Children

Death **3 Dec 1989**

Helen Estelle (1909-1997)

Fitzhugh L Corbitt Jr (1932-)

The 1930 census show that Fitzhugh has married. He and his wife Helen live at 1713 Prentis Ave in Portsmouth. Fitzhugh is listed as an "interior decorator" for a "dry goods store."

NAME		RELATION	SEX	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACES OF BIRTH	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE	VALUE OF PERSONAL ESTATE	REMARKS
10212377	Fitzhugh, Fitzhugh L	Head	M	25	18 Jan 1905	Virginia	High School	Interior Decorator	\$2000	\$1000	
10212378	Helen E	Wife	F	20	18 Jan 1909	Virginia	High School				

Handwritten notes:
 Corbitt, Fitzhugh L Head R 20.00
 Helen E Wife N
 Interior Decorator Dry goods store
 None

1937 finds Fitzhugh Corbitt & his wife Helen in the Portsmouth city directory. Fitzhugh works in the upholstery department at W G Schwartz Co in Norfolk. They've moved a block away to 1612 Prentis Av.

SOUTHERN SAVINGS BANK
 2% ON SAVINGS
 1000 OCEAN VIEW

H. C. HOGGARD & CO., Inc.
 Real Estate - Real Estate Auctioneers - Appraisers

Norfolk Federal Savings & Loan Association
 The Ideal Home Loan
 Safe - Sound - Economical
 219 E. Main St.
 NORFOLK, VA 23502

Corbitt Fitzhugh L (Helen E) uphol W G Swartz Co (Nfk) h1612 Prentis av

IF YOU WOULD FIND WHAT YOU WISH TO BUY

Have goods are being classified Business List any other business on

THE DIRECTORY

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

In the 1940 census Fitzhugh and Helen are still in Portsmouth. Fitzhugh works in the interior decorating department of a department store and they have a baby boy, Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt Jr. Now the family owns their house at 1509 Atlanta in Portsmouth (photo inset).

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940
POPULATION SCHEDULE

Ward of city: Portsmouth, Incorporated place: Portsmouth, State: New Hampshire

Block No. 1 B

HOUSEHOLD DATA	NAME	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	SEX	RACE	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	RESIDENCE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	RECORDS, APRIL 1, 1940	PREVIOUS 12 YEARS (1928-1939)	INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, AND CLASS OF WORK	DATE OF ENTRY
1	Corbitt, Fitzhugh L.	Head	35	M	W	8	Interior Decor			1905	Portsmouth, N.H.	1940			
2	Helen E.	Wife	31	F	W	8				1909	Portsmouth, N.H.	1940			
3	Fitzhugh L.	Son	8	M	W	8				1932	Portsmouth, N.H.	1940			

Address: Department Store P.



Fitzhugh L. Corbitt
PORTSMOUTH — Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt, 84, of the 3900 block of Race St., a retired carpet installer, died Dec. 3, 1989, in a Portsmouth nursing home.

Mr. Corbitt had retired from M.M. Crockin Company. He was a member of Western Branch Baptist Church, where he was one of the oldest members.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Helen E. Corbitt; and a son, Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt Jr. of Portsmouth.

The funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Sturtevant Funeral Home by the Rev. George F. Mulinax. Burial will be in Olive Branch Cemetery. Friends may join the family from 7 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Fitzhugh Corbitt died in 1989.
Helen died in 1997.
They are buried in Olive Branch Cemetery in Portsmouth.



ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt, Jr.
Wilson Hi-Y, D. O. Club, History Club, Science Club, Traffic Assistant

Fitzhugh Corbitt Jr was an only child. His high school yearbook shows that he was busy in a variety of activities. Online records show his 1978 Las Vegas legal marriage to Patricia Lynn Corbitt. Fitzhugh explained that he and Patricia were first married in Portsmouth in 1953. The Las Vegas wedding was really a renewal of their vows. Fitzhugh and Patricia had no children.

Nevada, Marriage Index, 1956-2005 about Fitzhugh

Name:	Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt Jr
Gender:	Male
Residence State:	Virginia
Spouse:	Patricia Lynn Corbitt
Spouse residence state:	Virginia
Marriage Date:	29 Aug 1978
Marriage County:	Clark
Officiant Type:	Religious celebrant
Recorded Date:	8 Sep 1978
Recorded County:	Clark
Book:	547
Page:	B163054
Instrument number:	959494

Ella Voight's online story ends here with a flashback to the beginning of the search and her second husband George Jordan. In the January 1920 census in Gates Co, NC George Jordan was a 39 year old widower with a 16 year old son named Roy. Looking for his history reveals this family in April 29, 1910 census for Rowan Co, NC. This family is headed by 28 year-old George Jordan and there is a five year old son named Roy. If they each have birthdays between January 17 and April 29, the ages match perfectly. This 1910 George Jordan is a night watchman in a cotton mill. Ella's husband George Jordan is also a night watchman in the 1930 Baltimore census we already saw on page 2.

If this 1910 census records the same George Jordan that Ella married in the 1920's, one can

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 POPULATION

NAME	RELATION	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	ETHNICITY	PROPERTY	RENT	REMARKS
Jordan, George E.	Head	M	28	M	7-13	7-13	W	7-13	7-13	
—, Lilly	Wife	F	22	M	7-13	7-13	W	7-13	7-13	
—, Roy	Son	M	5	S	7-13	7-13	W	7-13	7-13	
—, Bessie	Daughter	F	4	S	7-13	7-13	W	7-13	7-13	
—, Myrtle	Daughter	F	2	S	7-13	7-13	W	7-13	7-13	

ask what happened to the rest of his family? His wife Lilly and the two youngest children, daughters Bessie and Myrtle, are gone by the time we meet him in 1920. Did he also lose multiple family members to the flu of 1918? Perhaps that connection of shared grief was strong enough to lead Ella and George to marry each other despite their ten year age difference. Every genealogical discovery leads to new questions. There's always more research that can be done.

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

ADDENDUM

The records are confusing with the family name originally spelled "Corbitt," then sometimes "Corbett." Wardell's family eventually adopted the "Corbett" spelling and Fitzhugh's family kept "Corbitt." It is not clear from the records which spelling Mack and Grover preferred to use.

TWO FAMILY ANECDOTES

From Louis P. Corbett, October 2012:

When Wardell and Susie Corbett got married they took a honeymoon trip to the Blue Ridge mountains, driving the family's old Model T with bad brakes. They were having a fine time going up the scenic mountain roads, but when when they started going downhill on the first steep, narrow and winding two-lane road, no doubt with a steep drop-off on one side, Wardell literally stood up on the brakes to maintain some kind of control of his car, lucky not to crash. It was a much more thrilling honeymoon than they had ever planned on!

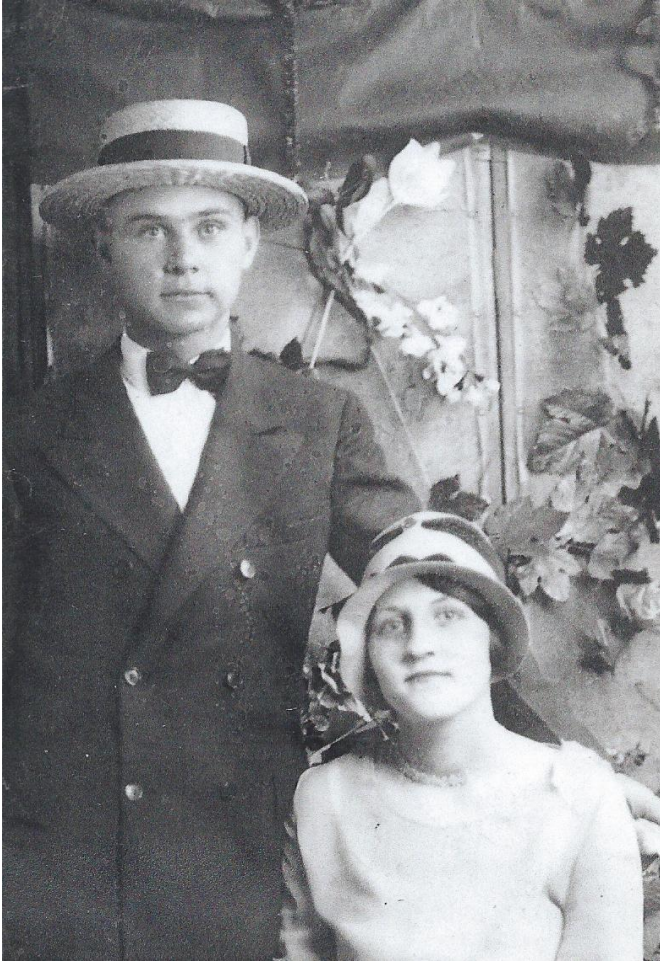
From Fitzhugh Lee Corbett Jr, October 2012:

Mack Corbett was on the front lines in France in 1918 when the flu went through the troops. The only thing they could do with the many corpses was to bury them right there on the battlefield. Mack was ill enough that he had been pronounced dead and his grave was being dug. Someone was going through the bodies "kicking" gold teeth out of the dead soldiers. When he was kicked, Mack regained consciousness, making it clear that he was, indeed, living. His gold tooth saved his life.

Form No. 12. **CERTIFICATE OF DEATH** File No.—For State Registrar Only
1. PLACE OF DEATH. COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
County of Boyd Bureau of Vital Statistics
District of _____ State Board of Health
Registered No. 581
or Inc. Town of _____ Registration District No. 2641 (For use of Local Registrar)
City of Portsmouth (No. Emergency Hospital) (If death occurred in a Hospital or Institution give the NAME instead of street and number.)
2. FULL NAME G. B. Corbett Residence In City Yrs. Mos. Days
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
3 SEX Male 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 MARRIAGE Married 16 DATE OF DEATH Oct 6, 1918
6 DATE OF BIRTH Oct 1, 1888 7 AGE 47 yrs. mos. days. If LESS than 1 day, hrs. or min. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Oct 5, 1918, to Oct 6, 1918 that I last saw h/a alive on Oct 5, 1918 and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 6:00 a.m. The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows:
8 OCCUPATION _____ (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer).
9 BIRTHPLACE (State or Country) M. G.
10 NAME OF FATHER _____ (Duration) yrs. mos. 2 da.
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or Country) _____ (Signed) J. H. Groves, M. D.
12 MARRIAGE (State or Country) _____ (Address) Portsmouth
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER _____ *State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or is death from VIOLENT CAUSE, state (1) Manner of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal or Homicidal.
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) _____
15 (Address) _____
16 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL _____ DATE OF BURIAL _____
17 LOCAL REGISTRAR _____

Gus Corbett's death certificate was written at the Portsmouth Emergency Hospital during the height of the flu epidemic. It gives very little information, not even his actual first name, his date of birth or his parents' names. It seems they were so busy with the flu patients that they took shortcuts with the paperwork.

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt & Helen Estelle Lilley
Photo from Fitzhugh Lee Corbitt, Jr.

Even though Fitzhugh's photo is the full front of his face and Mack's photo is in profile, they certainly look like brothers here. Fitzhugh Junior has said that they didn't look all that much alike in person, but after Fitzhugh Senior died, lying in his casket, he looked just like his brother Wardell.

Fitzhugh, Mack and Wardell are 3 of the 4 Corbitt children who survived the flu of 1918. Grover spent most of his life in a state hospital in Maryland and we have no photos of him.

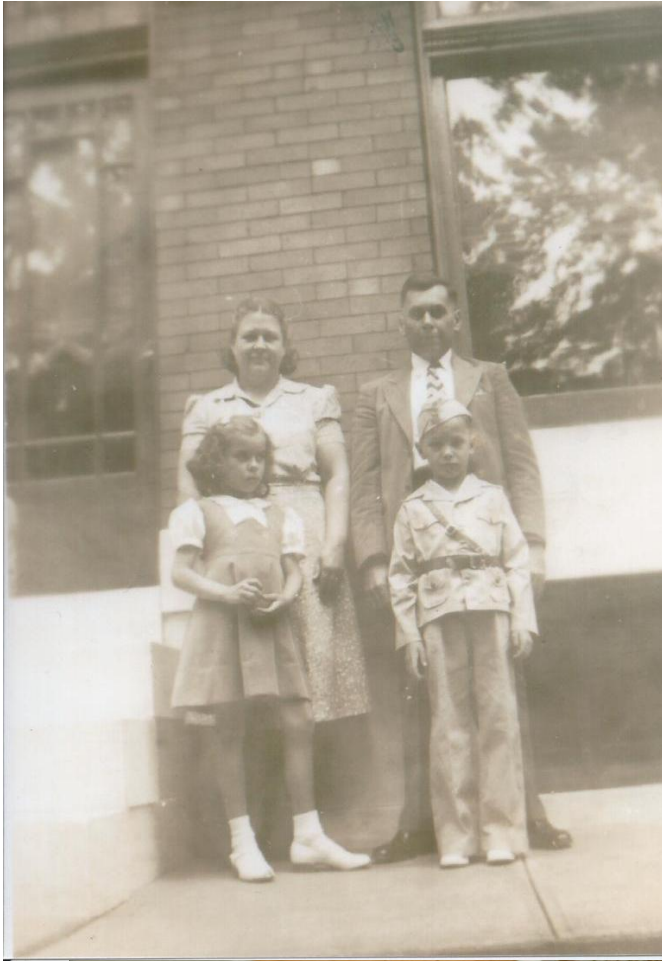
Wardell Corbett, age 22
Photo from Louis P Corbett



Mack Corbett , photo from Georgie Mae South
(Georgie's a granddaughter of Wm Henry Voight.)



ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



Left: Wardell and Susie Corbett with 7 year old twins Louise and Louis, outside their home at 605 South Newkirk, Baltimore.

Above: the twins, about 2 years old.
Below, Wardell and Susie Corbett years later, still in front of 605 South Newkirk, Baltimore.



ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WARDELL CORBETT'S DESCENDENTS

Odell was the first to leave home, she married a wonderful young man named Louis C. Becker and they lived in Baltimore all their lives.

They had one son and his name was Louis C Becker Jr. Louis Jr. is married and living in Baltimore County, Md. Guess what! They have twin girls.

Catherine married a young man named Jack Holmes and they lived in Baltimore but divorced later in life.

They had one daughter named Sharon and she is married and living in West Palm Beach in Florida.

Odell and Catherine are both deceased and Louise is in poor health.

Louise is married to Kenneth Willey and they have two children Debbie and Kenneth Jr. They live in Glen Burnie MD also.

I am 78 years old and in good health and also the last male in the Corbett line.

My wife's name is Catherine and we have two children, Karen Ingman and Joyce Kroneberger.

Karen is married and has daughter named Amy.

Joyce is married and has a daughter named Laura and a son named Kyle.

Laura is married and has two boys named Jacob and Nathan and they live in Shippensburg Pa . We are really Blessed to have two great grandsons.

I had the privilege to retire in 1996 from a company where I worked for 33 years [Signode strapping and packaging manufacturers]. I spend most of my time now serving my Lord and Savior JESUS CHRIST at Temple Baptist church in Glen Burnie, MD. I serve as a deacon and licensed minister at the church in some ways like my dad Wardell did at Patterson Park Baptist Church. I also minister at a homeless shelter for men as well as battered women and children in Baltimore. What a special blessing to share the Gospel to others and to help them get their lives together.

EMAIL FROM LOUIS CORBETT, FEBRUARY 27, 2013

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN

The next three photos came from Carolyn Griffin, a granddaughter of one of Helen Corbitt's five sisters. (Carolyn is also related to Alice Wilkins who was the wife of Ella Voight's youngest brother Oscar Leroy.)



Fitzhugh Corbitt's wife, Helen Estelle Lilly had an identical twin named Maggie.

Left: In this snapshot Helen and Maggie are joined by their nieces Flossie and Edna Burton.



Above: This little snapshot of newlyweds Helen and Fitzhugh Corbitt was taken in 1928.



Helen Lilly's father was Rufus Lilly, pictured right.



Left: Ella Voight's grandson Fitzhugh Corbitt Jr with his wife Patricia and Joseph Voight's granddaughter Jackie Ballance in 2012.

ELLA VOIGHT CORBITT JORDAN



These three older, unidentified photos came from Lou Corbett. They might well be from his mother's family... Each of them certainly looks like someone who would be interesting to meet.

