

Oscar Leroy Voight

Birth Oct 1878 in Nansemond Co., VA Death 25 Jun 1912 in Norfolk, Virginia

This chapter has been revised and updated February, 2014.



Once again, the stories of the last two children of John T. and Nancy J. Voight are intertwined in the documents from 1880 till 1910. The brothers John B. and Oscar Leroy Voight were born in the 1870s. They grew up together and until Oscar died in 1912 they always lived close to each other and worked together, too, according to the records. Oscar Leroy was the 13th and youngest of the Voight children.

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Above left: Nansemond County, VA, June 1880 census. "Leroy" is just two years old.

Above right: The next record of them is the 1900 Nansemond County census, where they are grown

men. Oscar Leroy, his wife Alice Wilkins and their first child Annie, who is one year old, live with John B. Voight and their mother, the widow Nancy Jane Voight. They probably lived all together on the family farm in Whaleyville after John T. Voight died in 1899. Oscar is listed as a "farm laborer."

Right: It's not long before Oscar Leroy makes the news for his distillery operations. The courtroom drama surrounding the denial of his license to distill spirits in Suffolk made the Washington Post on April 8, 1905. The "young women" who "went to the judge's bench and grasped his hand" sound as if they're likely to be members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, leading the battle for Prohibition.



Suffolk, Va April 7—The end of a bitter liquor fight at Harrell, Va, came in Nansemond Circuit Court this afternoon, when Judge Robert R Prentis denied the application of O L Voight for a license to distill whiskey and brandy Several clergymen, about thirty young women, and a large crowd of witnesses packed the courtroom

When Judge Prentis announced his decision there was subdued applause Several young women went to the judgo's bench and grasped his hand Fifteen licenses were granted in Suffolk, none being opposed

Right: Newport News *Daily Press*, December 5, 1908. About 3 ½ years later Oscar Leroy Voight was arrested for failure to pay tax on some of his spirits and he had to post a \$5000 bond. Charges were dropped later that same afternoon against his brother John B. Voight and two employees at the Belport distillery. Information about the outcome of this arrest is not readily available online at this time (2012).

Below: Oscar Leroy and John B. Voight are nextdoor neighbors in the Western Branch District of Norfolk in the 1910 census.

Undeterred by difficulties with the revenuers, each brother indicates his occupation is distiller of corn whiskey. Their mother Nancy Jane Voight is not mentioned and presumed deceased between 1900 and 1910.

Oscar Leroy, age 32, and Alice, 34, now have 5

Voight to Grand Jury. (By Associated Press.)

VA., Dec. NORFOLK. Belport distillery, on Voight, of the Paradise creek, back of Portsmouth. United was this afternoon held by s Percy Commissioner States Federal the next Stephenson for grand jury upon the charge of having in his retail department a package of intoxicants upon which the required government license had not been paid

fond was fixd at \$5,000 and this will be given by Mr Voight. Later this afternoon warrants against J B. Voight, S. H. Ellis and Henry Miller, a negro employe of the distillery in the same connection were dismissed.

children: Bertha M, age 11 (Where was Bertie at the time of the 1900 census? Maybe she's not really 11 years old.); John W, age 9; Oscar E, age 6; Jesse J, age 4; and the infant Othar whose name was misunderstood as "Arthur." Alice has had 6 children with 5 still living. The oldest child Annie is presumed deceased, likely from one of the lethal childhood illnesses that are prevented now by vaccinations. All the children of Alice and Oscar were probably all born here in rural Norfolk County.

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Oscar Leroy Voight died from appendicitis with complications in 1912. He was only 34 years old. He was buried in the same family cemetery with his father and his brother James in Whaleyville, VA. (Oscar's death certificate and photos from the cemetery are in the Addenda at the end of this chapter.)

We find Oscar's family back in Nansemond County in the Census of 1920, below, living next door to James M. Jones, who was the widowed husband of Oscar's sister Leona. Alice owns her land free and clear; it was probably part of the Voight family's original Cherry Grove Farm. The forty-five year old widow Alice Voight has 3 young boys still in school: Oscar E., age 16, Jesse T., age 14, and Othar L., age 10. The children can all read and write but Alice is illiterate. For "Occupation" Alice is listed as a farmer/operator. Bertie has married and left home. 18 year old John W. Voight has gone to work for his uncle Joseph Voight in Tanners Creek where he was counted in the census as part of Joseph Voight's household in 1920.

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Here's information connected to Oscar's wife Alice Wilkins from Carolyn Griffin of Summertown, TN:

"Alice E. Wilkins was born in 1875 in Nansemond Co. VA and married Oscar L. Voight. She was the daughter of George Wilkins and Ann Dunford. George Wilkins is in the Eason Voight Cemetery. [Photos from this cemetery are on the CD.] George Wilkins's father was Meredith Wilkins. Alice's brother Patrick H. Wilkins married Daisy Baines. [And the John Voight who married Barsheba Rawls had a daughter Nancy Ann Voight that married Quinton Baines. There are still other connections between the Baines and Voight families.] Uncle Hurley was the Sheriff of Whaleyville for years and broke up lots of stills. He told me that Oscar and John left home to work in AMO factory in Baltimore and Oscar became a boxer." Carolyn added "My grandmother's sister married a Wilkins; his father was George Wilkins who married Ann Dunford. Their daughter Alice Wilkins married Oscar Leroy Voight."



27 North Curry in Newport News (right) is a vacant lot in 2007.





Birth 1899 in VIrginia Death unknown

Records show that Oscar Leroy's and Alice's oldest child, Bertha Mae Voight married George Lenwood (or Linwood) Guthrie from Suffolk. He was the oldest child of Alida L. and William W. Guthrie. Wm W. Guthrie was a "carriage painter" in the 1900 Suffolk census when young George was just 4 years old. Bertie and George had 3 children that we know of.



In 1920 Bertie and George Guthrie live in the town of Suffolk. They rent space in a two-family home at 223 Park St. George works as a plumber. They have no children yet, but Bertie might be pregnant.

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By 1930 George has become a career soldier stationed at Ft. Story, VA. He and Bertie live on the base in Princess Anne County and they have two children; George Jr. is 10 already and Margie M. is 8. They do not have a radio set.

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The Guthrie family is still at Ft. Story in 1940. 44 year old George L. Guthrie Sr. is a "painter" now and his son George L. Guthrie Jr. is a "sailor." Margery is 18 now and there's a son named Oscar who's 9. They pay \$14/ month rent on base. We find that George finished 6th grade and Bertie the 7th.

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After 1940 the online public record trail for Bertie runs cold, but there is more information about her husband and children. It seems that George Senior was in and out of the service. Here's his World War II draft registration. At 47, he's signed for the "old man's draft." It looks like he registered at a Princess

Anne County address with a Norfolk address stapled to the front of the card. His mother Alida is the "person who will always know your address." George is described as 5'4", 138 pounds, with blue eyes, gray hair and a ruddy complexion.

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Bertie Voight Guthrie was still living in 1961 when she arranged for a veteran's burial for George at the Hampton National Cemetery. George served as a Sergeant First Class in the Army Transportation Corps in both WW I and WW II. He served again 1950 – 1957. Cemetery records do not indicate that Bertie was

also buried here. Maybe she married again. Maybe she was cremated.

The Social Security	Name:	Oscar L. Guthrie
Death Index tells us that	SSN:	231-34-2468
the youngest child, Oscar	Last Residence:	23703 Portsmouth, Portsmouth City, Virginia, USA
L. Guthrie, died in	BORN:	21 Jul 1930
Portsmouth in 1995.	Died:	7 Sep1995
He was 65.	State (Year) SSN issued:	Virginia (Before 1951)

The obituary for George Guthrie Junior tells us that George Junior was also a WW II vet and that his sister Margie – married name "Ray" – was still living in 2005 and residing in Churchland, VA.

Published in the Greensboro NC News and Record:

GEORGE L. GUTHRIE JR.

JAMESTOWN— George Leonard* Guthrie Jr., died peacefully on Thursday, June 23, 2005, at Wesley Long Hospital. He was 85.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. today at the Jamestown Presbyterian Church. The interment will be held Monday at the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Athens, Ga.

Mr. Guthrie was a WW II veteran and an avid golfer. He had been employed at the Jamestown Golf Course for the past 20 years. He was also an elder with the Presbyterian Church for over 43 years. He is survived by his wife, Grace Evelyn Guthrie; daughter Evelyn Virginia Shedd and her husband, Lewis of San Bernardeo, Calif.; sister Margie Ray of Churchland, Va.; grandson Wayne Shedd and his wife, Denise; great-granddaughter Sunnie Shedd; and two nephews.

The family will receive visitors from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today at the Hanes-Lineberry Funeral Home, Vanstory Chapel.

Why was he buried in Georgia? Was that his wife's home turf?

(*Middle name errors are too common. It's been written "Leonard," "Lenwood" and "Linwood.")



Birth 13 Mar 1901 in Virginia Death March 1970 in Baltimore, MD



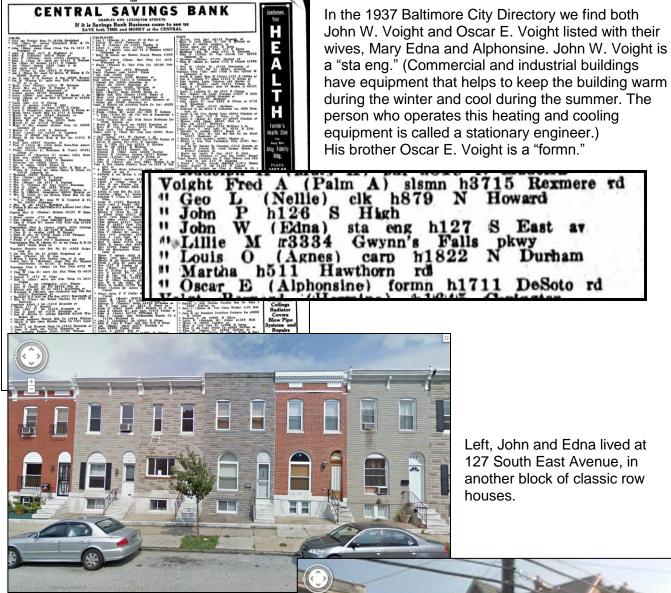
This is the same John W. Voight who lived in Tanner's Creek with Joseph Voight's family in the 1920 census. By 1930 he's moved to Baltimore and married Mary Edna (maiden name unknown). One can wonder if his aunt Ella Voight Jordan, who was already living in Baltimore by 1926, was an influence on this John W. Voight to relocate, as well as the other sons of Oscar Leroy Voight who moved to Baltimore. Baltimore was a growing industrial port city that needed labor and jobs were plentiful.

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John worked at the American Standard plumbing fixture foundry where he lost one leg in an industrial accident. Gene Voight Sr. remembers that his Uncle John liked to shock his nephews by removing the wooden leg whenever he had a chance. John's son. John W. Voight Jr., was an athlete who organized games and sports with boys in the neighborhood. Right, their 1930 home was one of Baltimore's



famous row houses. This Google Maps photo of 103 Rochester Place was taken in 2009.



Right, Oscar & Alphonsine's neighborhood: 1711 DeSoto Rd. might be the far house or the lot between these two houses. Alphonsine's parents lived on the same block, at 1704 DeSoto.



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John W. Voight Sr. died in 1970 at age 69.

Mary Edna Voight died in 1980, age 73.

I'm unable to find their obituaries, but John and his wife are listed in the Social Security Death Index:

no more significant information.

Name: SSN: Last Residence: Born: Died: State (Year) SSN issued: John Voight 213-01-4624 Baltimore, MD 21224 13 Mar 1901 Mar 1970 Maryland (Before 1951) Edna Voight 218-12-3058 Baltimore, MD 21224 17 Oct 1906 Jan 1980 Maryland (Before 1951)

John W. Voight Jr. became a star athlete. Like his second cousin Michael R. Voight (a grandson of Oscar Leroy Voight's brother John B. Voight), John W. Voight Jr. was a star in both track and football when he was in college. Also like his cousin Michael, John W. Voight Jr. later became a highly respected high school football coach. This tribute appeared in the Baltimore *Sun* in June, 1993.

John W. Voight Jr., athlete and coach, June 12, 1993

John Wesley Voight Jr., a Baltimore native and retired football coach and athletic director in Prince George's County, died Wednesday at the Washington Hospital Center in the District of Columbia of complications from a stroke.

He was 66 and had lived on South Savage Street in Baltimore for about the last eight months. Before then, he lived in Greenbelt and, earlier, in Silver Spring for many years.

Mr. Voight was a member of All-American track teams at Patterson Park High School and Oklahoma State University.

In 1990, he retired from High Point High School in Beltsville, where he had been athletic director, a physical education teacher and football coach whose teams won five county championships. He had also been an assistant track coach and coached golf and tennis teams.

He started his coaching career in Prince George's in the mid-1950s, moving to High Point after short stays at Oxon Hill High School and John Hanson Junior High School.

Born in Baltimore, he graduated in 1946 from Patterson Park, where he won letters in football, baseball, basketball and track.

In 1946, he was named to an All-Eastern track team and to the Look magazine All-American track team. Four years later, he was named an All-American in track at Oklahoma State, at that time the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College.

In 1947, he won the Amateur Athletic Union national pentathlon championship and in 1951 its national all-around championship, which involved 10 different track and field events.

In 1951, he ran 400- and 1,600-meter relay races for the United States team in the Pan American Games. He was ranked among the top 10 quarter-milers and long jumpers in the U.S. and in the world and was a member of teams that competed in South Africa, Portugal, New Zealand and Chile in the early 1950s. He also competed for the Baltimore Olympic Track and Field Club, and held its record of 1 minute, 11.5 seconds for the 600-yard run. The club disbanded shortly after naming him to its Hall of Fame in 1975. He was named to the Oklahoma State University Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1982 and to the Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame in 1984.

He entered the Army in 1952 before beginning his teaching and coaching career.

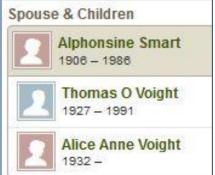
Services for Mr. Voight were to be conducted at 9:30 a.m. today at the Ruck Towson Funeral Home, 1050 York Road.

He is survived by an aunt, Catherine Foreman of Bel Air.

FOOTNOTE: Since 1994 the **John W. Voight Award** has been given annually by the Maryland Football Coaches Association to "outstanding assistant coaches in the state of Maryland with at least 20 years of loyal service."



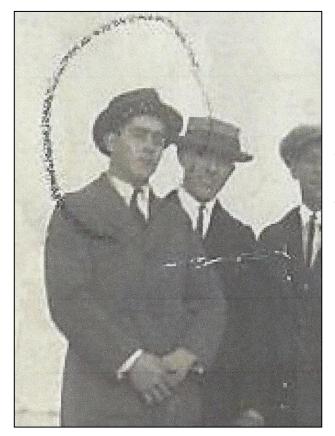
Oscar and Alphonsine Voight's home at 601 Rappolla Street. ("Rappolla" is the Google Maps spelling.) More Baltimore row houses!



There are a lot of Voights in the1928 Baltimore city directory. Oscar E. Voight is a Molder, married to Alphonsine Smart. Brother Othar Voight is a bachelor and a sheet metal worker living with Oscar and Alphonsine.

(As we saw in the city directory on the previous page, by 1937 Oscar had been promoted to a foreman.)





Oscar Leroy Voight's grandson, Gene Voight Sr., confirms that his uncle Oscar E. Voight (left) was considered a very good amateur boxer in Baltimore. His record in local matches was three wins, four losses and one tie.

The old family photos in this sketch are courtesy of Gene Voight Sr. who has been very kind and generous about sharing his photos and memories.

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In the 1930 census for Baltimore, Oscar and Alphonsine are still at 601 Rappolla Street. They own their home, valued at \$5,700. They also own a radio set. They have a son Thomas, who's 3. Oscar still calls himself a "moulder" in an iron foundry. That sounds like hot, hard work. Othar has moved on and there is another "boarder" living in the home. Perhaps Samuel Wilkins is related to Oscar's mother Alice Wilkins. Alice had an uncle named Samuel Wilkins; this man could be a cousin named for him.

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By 1940 Oscar and Alphonsine moved in with her parents and sister – Thomas, Eleanora and Mary Smart – at 1704 DeSoto Rd in Baltimore. It was a short move from their 1937 address at 1711 DeSoto as noted on page 10 of this chapter. Oscar is an oiler – does that say for "oil burning ships"? Thomas Voight is now 13 and daughter Alice Anne is 8. We learn that Oscar finished high school and Alphonsine the 8th grade. The Smarts own this home valued at \$5,000.

Oscar Edward Voight died in 1961. He was still young, only 58. Here's his listing in the Social

Security Death Index: Name: Oscar Voight SSN: 213-01-4633 Born: 1 Jun 1903 Died: Jan 1961 State (Year) SSN issued: Maryland (Before 1951)

I've been unable to track the daughter Alice Anne Voight, but there is death information for Oscar E. Voight's wife, son and daughter-in-law available online.

Alphonsine Voight Social Security Death Index Name: Alphonsine Voight SSN: 217-01-6348 Last Residence: 21222 Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America Born: 29 Sep 1906 Died: May 1986 State (Year) SSN issued: Maryland (Before 1951) U.S. Veterans Gravesites, ca.1775-2006 Name: Thomas O Voight Service Info.: TEC 5 US ARMY WORLD WAR II Birth Date: 3 Jan 1927 Death Date: 7 Oct 1991 Service Start Date: 23 Jun 1945 Service End Date: 15 Feb 1947 Interment Date: 11 Oct 1991 **Cemetery: Baltimore National Cemetery** Cemetery Address: 5501 Frederick Avenue Baltimore, MD 21228 Buried At: Section J Site 1223 U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 Name: Thomas O Voight Birth Year: 1927 Race: White, citizen (White) Nativity State or Country: Maryland State: Maryland County or City: Baltimore City Enlistment Date: 23 Jun 1945 Enlistment State: Maryland Enlistment City: Baltimore Branch: No branch assignment Branch Code: No branch assignment Grade: Private Grade Code: Private Term of Enlistment: Enlistment for the duration of the War or other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise according to law Component: Selectees (Enlisted Men) Source: Civil Life Education: 3 years of high school Marital Status: Single, without dependents

Sun, The (Baltimore, MD) - March 22, 2006 Voight, June Emma Lee

On March 20, 2006, June Emma Lee Voight (nee Lueckert). Beloved wife of the late Thomas O. Voight; devoted mother of Gale Voight-Carter and her husband Dennis, Dawn L. Kerner and her husband John, Sandra L. Trimble and her husband Frank and the late Paula Jean Voight; loving grandmother of Dana L., Denice L. and Dennis R. Carter, II, Jason E. Kerner, Scott L., Thomas N. and Frank E. Trimble, IV; great-grandmother of Dennis R. Carter, III, Makenzie L. Kerner and Nathan T. Trimble. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 10003 Bird River Road, on Thursday, 10am. Visiting hours will be held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex, 300 Mace Avenue on Tuesday, 6 to 8pm and Wednesday, 2 to 4pm and 6 to 8m. Interment Baltimore National Cemetery.

Jesse Thomas Voight Sr.

Birth June 25, 1905 in Virginia Death October 1972 in Baltimore, MD

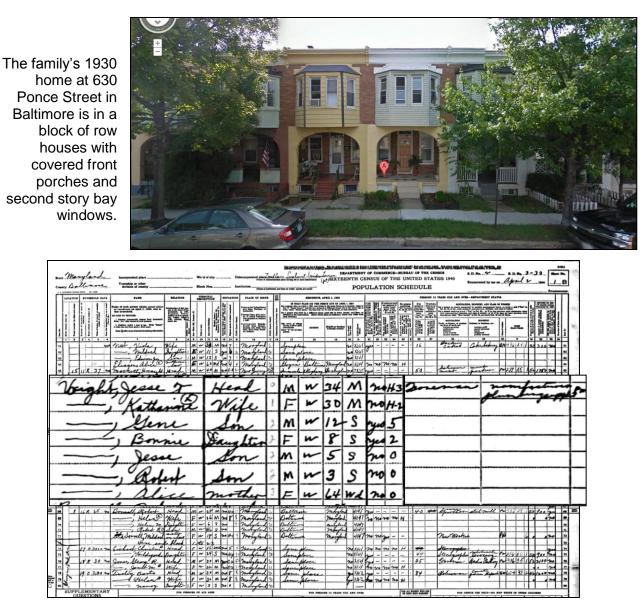




Jesse T. Voight's family was counted in the1930 Baltimore census, below. Jesse, 24, and his wife Katherine Hearl Voight, a 17 year old native of Maryland, were married in 1926. They have a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ year old son named Gene, misspelled "Jean" here by the census taker. A daughter Margaret was born and died as an infant before the census was taken.

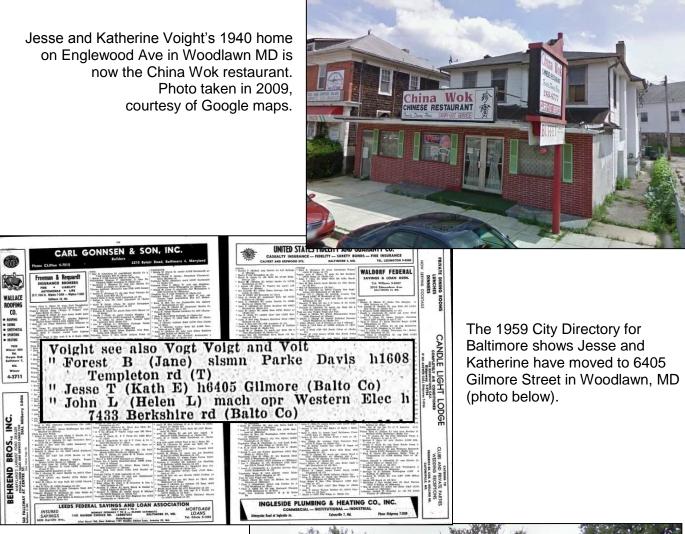
Info from the census: Jesse and Katherine owned their home valued at \$5,300 and they did not have a radio set. Jesse worked as a "moulder" at an enamel factory. They lived at 630 Ponce Street in Baltimore.

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1940 finds Jesse and Katherine's family in the Baltimore suburb of Woodlawn where they rent a house at 2039 Englewood Ave for \$30/month. After several transformations over the years, this house is a Chinese restaurant in 2012 (see photo next page.) In 1940 Jesse and Katherine have 4 living children: Gene is 12, Bonnie's 8, Jesse Jr. is 5 and Robert's 3. Jesse's mother Alice, the widow of Oscar Leroy Voight, makes her home with them. We learn that Jesse Sr. finished 3 years of high school, Katherine 2 years. Alice apparently had no formal schooling. (She did not read or write.) Jesse is still a foreman for a manufacturer of plumbing supplies, the American Standard Company

Alice Wilkins Voight died at home in 1942 with her son Jesse and his family present. Gene Voight Sr. remembers the shock of seeing his grandmother take her last breath when he was only fourteen years old. Alice's body was taken to Virginia and buried next to Oscar in the Cherry Grove Farm family cemetery in Whaleyville, not far from the Great Dismal Swamp. There are photos of the cemetery in the Addenda at the end of this chapter.



In 2012 the Zillow real estate web site shows 6405 Gilmore as a single family home built in 1925 with 1,152 sq ft on a 7,000 sq ft lot. It last sold in Oct 1993 for \$67,450. Zillow estimates the market value in 2012 at \$119,425. The house is "not on the market at this time." When the Voight family lived here there was a large porch across the front of the house and part way down one side.



Jesse's son Robert died in 1949, age 13. Two of Jessie's children are alive and well in 2012, Gene Voight and Bonnie Stith. There is death information on line for Jesse Thomas Voight Sr., his wife Katherine, son Jesse Voight Junior and Barbara Kemp.

Social Security Death Index Name: **Jesse Voight** SSN: 213-01-4635 Last Residence: 21207 Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America Born: 25 Jun 1905 Died: Oct 1972 State (Year) SSN issued: Maryland (Before 1951)

Social Security Death Index Name: **Katherine Voight** SSN: 218-10-8069 Last Residence: 21784 Sykesville, Carroll, Maryland, United States of America Born: 31 Aug 1909 Died: 6 Jan 2000 State (Year) SSN issued: Maryland (Before 1951)

From the Carroll County Times

Jesse T. Voight Jr.

Jesse Thomas Voight Jr., 68, formerly of Westminster, Md. died Aug. 13, 2003 at Virginia Beach General Hospital.

Born Sept. 15, 1934 in Baltimore, Md., he was the son of the late Jesse T. Voight Sr. and Katherine Hearl Voight. He was the husband of Barbara A. Kemp Voight who died Dec. 24, 2002.

Before retiring, he worked for the City of Baltimore for 44 years as an engineer and also worked for Sears for 19 years. He served in the U.S. Army.

He is survived by sons and daughters-in-law, Jay C. and Kathy Voight of Westminster, Md., Steven J. and Michele Voight of Clearwater, Fla.; daughter and son-in-law, Maryann and Scott Carlton of Virginia Beach; brother, Gene Voight of Eldersburg, Md.; sister, Bonnie Stith of Woodlawn, Md.; and grandchildren, Timothy C. Voight of Westminster, Krista L., Corinne N. and Jacqueline Carlton, all of Virginia Beach, Ryan J. and Tyler F. Voight, both of Clearwater, Fla. He was predeceased by a brother, Robert Voight and sister, Margie Voight. A funeral will be held Tuesday at 4 p.m. in Fletcher Funeral Home, 254 E. Main St., Westminster, Md., by the Rev. David S. Schafer. Interment will be private. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday and 5 to 8 p.m. Monday.

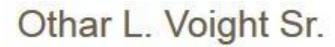
The Virginian-Pilot (Norfolk, VA) – December 27, 2002

Deceased Name: Barbara A. Voight

Barbara A. Kemp Voight, 63, formerly of Westminster, Md., passed away Dec. 24, 2002 in her residence. Mrs. Voight was born in Binghamton, N.Y. and was the daughter of the late Alexander Perry Kemp and Catherine Reilly Kemp. She attended Church of the Ascension Catholic Church.

Survivors include her husband of 46 years, Jesse T. Voight Jr.; two sons, Jay Cameron Voight of Westminster, Md. and Steven James Voight of Clearwater, Fla.; a daughter, Maryann Carlton of Virginia Beach; six grandchildren, Timothy Cameron Voight of Ellicot City, Md., Krista Lee Carlton, Corinne Nicole Carlton, Jacqueline Rose Carlton, all of Virginia Beach, Ryan James Voight and Tyler Frank Voight, both of Clearwater; her mother, Catherine Reilly Kemp of Virginia Beach; two brothers, William Kemp of Currituck, N.C. and John Kemp of Mishawaka, Idaho; and a sister, Elizabeth Reid of Virginia Beach.

The family will receive friends today from 2 to 4 p.m. at H.D. Oliver Funeral Apartments, Laskin Road Chapel. A chapel service will be conducted at 8 p.m. today at the funeral home with visitation one hour before the service. On Saturday the family will again receive friends at the funeral home from 2 to 4 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.



Birth 7 Jan 1910 in Virginia Death 8 April 1988 in Sheridan, WY

The unusual name "Othar" means sickly and weak. It's hard to imagine why Alice and Oscar named their youngest child "Othar." Our Othar Leroy Voight was certainly not a weak and sickly man.



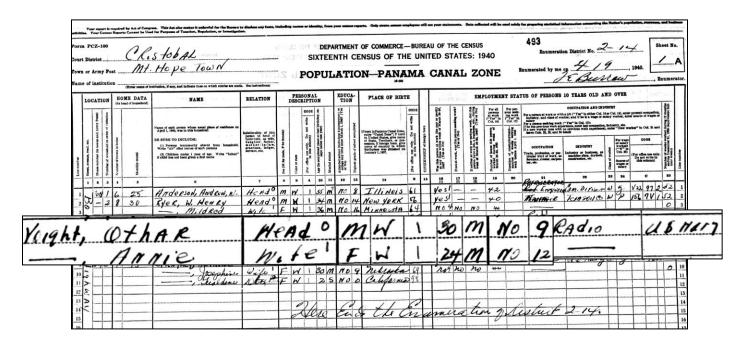
We saw him as a sheet metal worker in 1928, living in Baltimore with Oscar and Alphonsine. He left their home before the 1930 census. Apparently Othar decided to seek his fortune in the U. S. Navy.

Although Othar only finished the 9th grade, he took full advantage of all the educational opportunities in the service. Enlisting in 1931, Othar went far in his proud Navy career. He was a Lt.(jg) by the end of WW II and he retired as a Lieutenant Commander in 1959.



This clipping from the July 11, 1958 edition of *The Derrick* from Oil City, PA, tells us that Othar was the officer in charge of the Pittsburgh Navy Recruiting District.

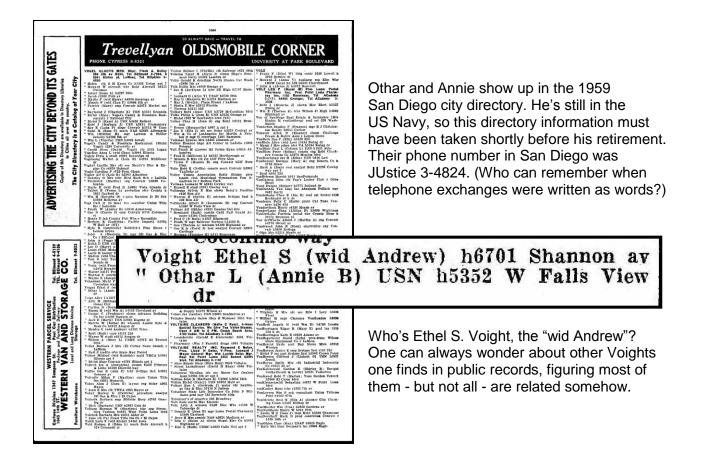
LT. COMMANDER OTHAR L. VOIGHT, officer in charge of the Pittsburgh Navy Recruiting District, visited the Oil City-navy recruiting station yesterday on an inspection tour of the tri-state area. Left to right are: Thomas M. Yest, 1MI; Harry C. Cravey, YNC; Commander Voight and Charles E. Lankerd, EN1, local navy recruiter.



In 1940 the census takers had to go to the Panama Canal Zone to find Othar and Annie. They were living in a 4 room house on Bolivar Highway in Mt. Hope Town. Though the Canal Zone census featured some different questions from the stateside census, we still get to learn that Othar finished nine years of school and Annie finished twelve. Othar is a radio operator for the U.S. Navy on the eve of WW II.

The handsome, blue-eyed Othar met his wife Annie Brassfield Woods (who originally came from Tennessee) in a bar where she had gone with her brother. When Othar asked Annie to dance with him, Annie's brother gave his permission for a dance that led to the altar.





Othar and Annie retired here at 5352 West Falls View Drive in sunny San Diego. Because of Annie's failing health due to cancer, this Navy couple made a final move to Wyoming in 1988 to be with their son, Othar Leroy Voight, Jr.



Annie died in 1986, Othar in 1988. They are buried in the Sheridan Municipal Cemetery in Sheridan WY

U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010

Name:Othar VoightBirth Date:7 Jan 1910Death Date:8 Apr 1988SSN:176322094Branch 1:NAVYEnlistment Date 1:17 Dec 1931Release Date 1:1 Jul 1959

SOCIAL SECURITY DEATH INDEX

Name: Othar L. Voight SSN: 176-32-2094 Last Residence: 82801 Sheridan, Sheridan, Wyoming, United States of America Born: 7 Jan 1910 Died: 8 Apr 1988 State (Year) SSN issued: Pennsylvania (1956-1958)



CEMETERY

Mt. Calvary

Copenoke NC

Churchland VA

Mt. Olive

Suffolk VA

Mt. Calvary

Mt. Olive

Oak Grove

Mt. Olive

Mt. Olive

Whaley VA

Mt. Olive

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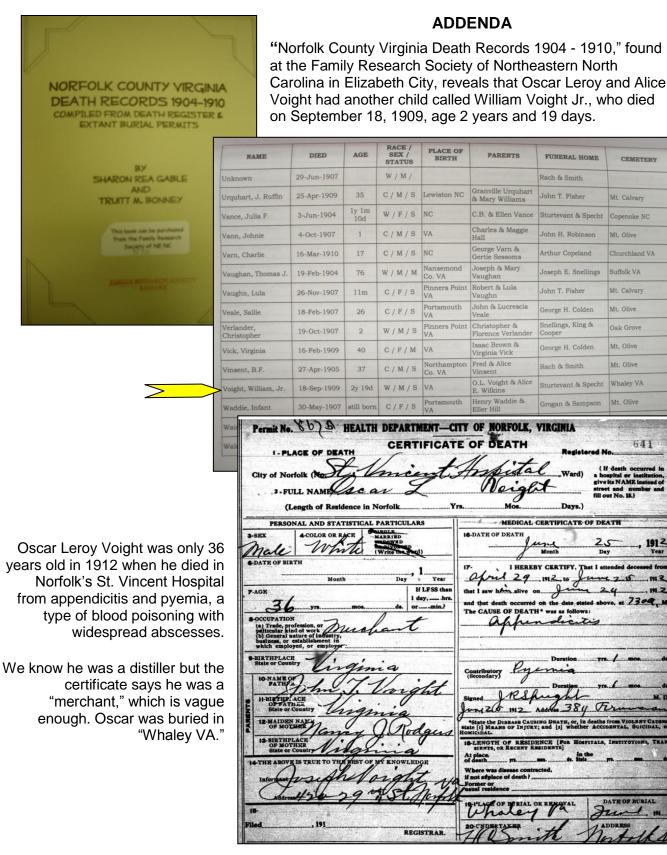
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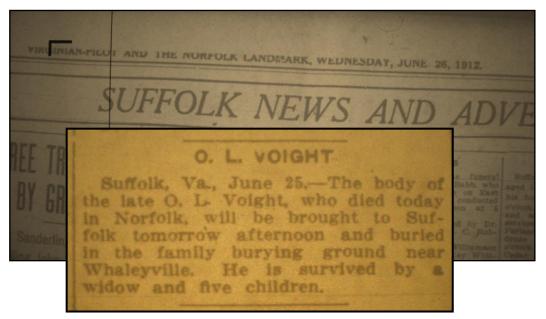
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There was only a small notice of Oscar's death in the Virginian-Pilot and the Norfolk Landmark.

Oscar and later Alice were buried in a small family plot in Whaleyville, Virginia, on the land of the old Cherry Grove Farm that once belonged to Oscar's parents John T. Voight and Nancy Jane Rogers. Oscar was born and raised on this land.

Oscar's stone suggesting a Christmas birthday is contradicted by the 1900 census which gives October 1878 for his birth.

Gene Voight Senior and other Voight descendents visited the cemetery on November 11, 2012, to pay their respects.







Gene Voight Senior, seated far right, met with descendents of some of Oscar Leroy's siblings in November, 2012: BACK ROW – second cousins once removed: BETTY EVANS and LYNETTE WHITE (great-granddaughters of Sally Voight White) and KAYE HOLLOWELL BARKER (great-granddaughter of Emily Julia Voight Mathias.) FRONT ROW- second cousins THOMAS P. WHITE (grandson of Sallie White), JACKIE BALLANCE (granddaughter of Joseph Voight), WILLIAM J. HOLLOWELL (grandson of Emily Mathias) and GENE VOIGHT (grandson of Oscar Leroy Voight.)



Gene T. Voight Senior (again, the son of Jesse Thomas Voight Sr. and the grandson of Oscar Leroy Voight) was a significant source of information and photos for this project. He is a retired printer, having worked as a production manager for Lewis Direct Mail Marketing. For twenty years he also ran his own offset printing business called Court Printing from his basement in Randallstown, MD.

As a young man Gene served two tours as a corpsman in the U.S. Navy, 1945 – 1948 and again 1950 – 1951, working for a while in a hospital, then aboard a couple destroyers and finally in the dispensary at the Naval Air Station in Lexington Park, MD. In 1953 he married Claudette Bray. They had four children: Gene Junior, Robert (Bobby), Russell and Sue Ellen. Claudette died from cancer in 1997; that same year Gene finally retired. In 2002 Gene was married again, to Jane Eckels, a widow who had been a high school acquaintance back in 1944. After decades of living their lives, and raising their families, they became reacquainted at the condo complex where they were both living and discovered a genuine friendship that led to a happy second marriage for both of them.

Thank you, Gene, once more and forever for your kindness, your generosity and your encouragement for the entire Voight Family History Project.



ABOUT PICKLES

The Voight Brothers had a reputation as "movers and shakers" in Norfolk before Prohibition.

In a conversation with William Henry Voight's grandson Melvin Liles in March 2013, he shared a story that for many years the Voight brothers permanently kept a suite on the top floor of the Monticello Hotel in downtown Norfolk for parties and business entertaining.

This photo of the hotel copied from the Sargeant Memorial Collection at the Norfolk Public Library.

The Monticello Hotel. The Monticello opened in 1898, and burned on New Year's Day 1918. It was rebuilt, with two additional stories, a year later. The building was demolished in 1976 to make way for the new Federal Building.

Mel added that the Voights sold whiskey wholesale in 55 gallon barrels for which they had a wagon specially made to haul the whiskey to town. (Mel's grandfather Charles Liles drove the wagon for the Voights and that's how he met Mel's grandmother Emma Voight.) Jesse T. Voight, John B. Voight and Oscar Leroy Voight, were known distillers from the turn of the Century until (and, no doubt, well into) Prohibition. Grandchildren of the brothers William Henry Voight, John B. Voight and Joseph Voight remember hearing about the Voight pickle business. I've searched without success to find any record of it. I found Nineteenth Century newspaper ads for Voight brand flour, but nothing about pickles. Seems like "pickles" was what they told the children and the revenuers about the family business. Most of the evidence suggests that the family business was corn whiskey. I suppose their products could have produced some pretty pickled people.

Mel Liles also reported that 3 of the Voight brothers together weighted 1,000 pounds. That would be Oscar Leroy and John B. Voight, but who was the third? Maybe the third 300 pound sibling was the sister Emily. Photos of these three are available in their individual chapters of our Voight Roots.