

Biography of Floyd Wilcox Carter

FLOYD WILCOX CARTER was born 01 August 1902 in San Francisco, California and died 18 June 1962, in Seattle, Washington of a heart attack. He first married LOUISA RACHEL GREATHEAD and second, CONSTANCE E THAYER. FLOYD was the youngest of six children to WILLIAM HENRY and MARY ADA (JYNES) CARTER. This biography of FLOYD's life is pieced together through historical documents and family stories.

Timeline:

FLOYD was born in San Francisco, California in 1902. At the time of his father's death, 04 December 1908, FLOYD was living with his mother at 608 B Haight in San Francisco, California. In 1910 FLOYD lived with his mother, JAMES (who was a widower), CHARLES, MINNIE and her husband, GEORGE MATTHAI, on Cole Street in San Francisco, California. By the 1920 U.S. Federal Census, FLOYD is living in a dwelling (apartment / group housing) with 16 other people on Post Street in San Francisco, California. In this housing complex it appears that FLOYD'S Mother, ADALINE, is remarried to EARL ZERRELL. It also appears JAMES CARTER; FLOYD'S brother, had also remarried to ADELINE. FLOYD at the time of the 1920 census was an automobile repairman.

Sometime after 06 January 1920 and before 1925, FLOYD moved to Illinois. It also appears his Mother, his brother JAMES, and his brother CHARLES moved to Illinois during this time period. In the 1930 U.S. Federal Census, FLOYD with his wife LOUISA and ALFRED, his 4 year old son, are living in an apartment on Ingleside Avenue in Chicago, Cook, Illinois. He was a driver for a package delivery company.

After this census was taken on 10 April 1930 and before 1932, FLOYD moved to Portland, Oregon. As told by LOUISA RACHEL (GREATHEAD) CARTER to her Granddaughter, FLOYD & LOUISA were married during the depression. FLOYD bought a truck and was trying his hand at catering. It didn't work out. FLOYD decided to go back west where he heard there was work. He sent for LOUISA and ALFRED after he was established, but LOUISA's family was so "English," conservative, strict, that they talked her out of going. It was a decision that LOUISA regretted.

FLOYD divorced LOUISA sometime after 1932 and married CONSTANCE THAYER, August 1937, in Portland, Oregon. At the time of their marriage, they lived on 108 NW 20th Place in Portland, Oregon. He listed his occupation on the marriage license as a fruit processor. According to the 1938 Portland City Directory, they continued to live on 20th Place and FLOYD worked for Gray & Company as a food processor. By 1940 FLOYD and CONSTANCE moved to 530 NE 11th Avenue in Portland, Oregon and he was employed by KCInc. On 12 August 1942, FLOYD enlisted in the army in Portland, Oregon. The enlistment indicated that he had completed 2 years of high school and was an elevator operator. Floyd and Constance moved to 5752 NE Mallory Avenue in Portland, Oregon by the 1943-1944 Portland, Oregon City Directory. On 03 February 1947, FLOYD received an oil burner permit application from the City of Portland at this Mallory residence.

In 1951, they moved to Seattle, Washington and remained there until his death in June 1962. At the time of his death they lived at 8019 California Avenue S.W., Seattle and he was a mechanic at Boeing.

Marriages:

Floyd married first LOUISA RACHEL GREATHEAD (born 1900 in Illinois – died 1998 in Illinois), daughter of ALFRED JOHN GREATHEAD and MARY LOUISA BERRY, between 1920 and 1925. It is assumed that they divorced after the census that was taken on 10 April 1930 and his move to Portland, Oregon in 1931 as indicated in his obituary in The Seattle Times, 06 June 1962.

Children of FLOYD W CARTER and LOUISA RACHEL GREATHEAD

i. ALFRED JOHN CARTER, b. 05 Jul 1925

Second, FLOYD married CONSTANCE E THAYER (born 1907 in Oregon, died 09 August 1964, Seattle, Washington), daughter of ROSEELL E and EMMA E THAYER, in 08 August 1937 in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. While living in Seattle, Floyd was a mechanic for Boeing and Constance was a school teacher.

Floyd belonged to the Free and Accepted Masons both in Portland and Seattle. In Seattle he was part of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Royal Arch Masons, the Scottish Rite and the Knights Templar. Constance in Seattle was also part of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Crown Chapter, the Madonna Shrine of Jerusalem and Order of Amaranth. They were both part of the Fourteenth Church of Christ, Scientist in Seattle.

Children of FLOYD W CARTER and CONSTANCE E THAYER

i. Delores Elaine Carter, b. abt. 1837

Death:

At the time of FLOYD's death, he was survived by two children and six grandchildren. CAROLYN, one of FLOYD's Granddaughters, was eleven years old at the time of his death and remembers that they were planning on going to Seattle to go to the World's Fair with Grandpa FLOYD and his wife, CONNIE. The week before their departure, FLOYD died of a heart attack at work. CONNIE held the funeral until they could get there on Amtrak. CAROLYN can remember being amazed by the funeral that the Masons arranged. After the funeral, as CAROLYN describes; CONNIE was wonderful and still took them to the World's Fair, camping in the rain forest and sightseeing in the redwoods.

Ancestral Background:

Floyd's parents WILLIAM HENRY CARTER (born 24 April 1856 in New York and died 04 December 1908 in San Francisco, California) and MARY ADDLIN JYNES (born August 1861 in Arkansas and died 23 August 1927 in Chicago, Illinois) were married 15 April 1879 in Knox County, Indiana. By the 1880 U.S. Census, they were living in Syracuse, New York where WILLIAM'S parents, GEORGE and MARY CARTER, lived. In 1895 they were living in Horton, Kansas and from there they moved by the 1900 U.S. Federal Census to El Paso, Colorado. Shortly after this census they moved to San Francisco, California where Floyd was born in 1902. WILLIAM HENRY CARTER died in 1908 in San Francisco.

Children of WILLIAM HENRY CARTER and MARY ADDLIN JYNES

i. James Cory, b. 31 Mar 1880, New York

ii. May Lillian, b. Mar 1881, Indiana, d. 28 Oct 1906, San Francisco

iii. Minnie Adele, b. 30 Nov 1883, Indiana, d. 20 Feb 1920, San Francisco

iv. Ruth Melissa, b. 16 Dec 1886, Vincennes, IN, d. 04 Dec 1958, San Francisco

- v. Charles George, 02 Jul 1894, Horton, Kansas, d. 15 Nov 1946, Chicago, Illinois
- vi. Floyd Wilcox, 01 Aug 1902, California, d. 18 June 1962, Seattle, Washington

There is very little known about GEORGE CARTER'S ancestral line, but there are some clues that he is a descendent of the Rev. THOMAS CARTER, one of the founders of Woodburne, Massachusetts. GEORGE throughout his life indicated he was born in New York. There is nothing known about MARY, his wife, other than she, throughout her life, indicated she was of Scottish descent.

There is also nothing known about MARY ADDLIN (JYNES) CARTER ancestral line other than both her parents were born in Missouri and they died during the Civil War.

Sources:

1870 United States Federal Census, Ward 5, Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York (page 49)
1880 United States Federal Census, District 65, Lenox, Madison County, New York (page 4)
1880 United States Federal Census, District 213, Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York (page 5)
1895 Kansas State Census, Brown, Horton County, Kansas (page 9)
1900 United States Federal Census, District 124, Ward 12, Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York (page 29)
1910 United States Federal Census, District 153, Ward 12, Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York (page 26)
1910 United States Federal Census, District 178, Assembly 37, San Francisco, San Francisco Co, Cal (page 13B)
1920 United States Federal Census, District 225, assembly 30, San Francisco, San Francisco Co, Cal (page 17B)
1930 United States Federal Census, District 365, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois (page 12A)
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1962-06-20 The Seattle Times
1964-08-11 The Seattle Times
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1938 Portland, Oregon City Directory
1940 Portland, Oregon City Directory
1943 - 1944 Portland, Oregon City Directory
1947-02-03 City of Portland, Oregon Oil Burner Permit Application
2011-02-25 E-mail by Carolyn Louisa Carter
Floyd W Carter – Constance E Thayer – Certificate of Marriage in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
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Floyd W Carter – The U.S. National Archives & Records Admin – Enlistment Records Index
William Henry Carter – Mary Addlin Jynes – Index to Marriage Records - Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800 – 1941
Delores Elaine Carter – John Wilbur McDougall – Certificate of Marriage in Seattle, King County, Washington
William Henry Carter – Certificate of Death in San Francisco County, California
Ada Zerull – Certificate of Death in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois