
Obituaries & Memorials

Connections, Concoctions,
Embellishments & **Errors!**

Obituaries & Memorials

Obituaries, funeral notices, death notices, and memorials differ in content but have the same purpose...

To chronicle the passing of a loved one and honor their life, no matter if measured in decades or in hours.

Karam Gannam Dies at 100

Deaths

Neil Fischer II

Neil Joseph Fischer II, of 7485 N. Overton Dr., Leesburg, born 5:08 p.m., May 29, 1985, died Thursday (May 30, 1985) around noon at Shands

Hospital in Gainesville. Survivors include his parents, Neil J. and Judy S. Fischer of Leesburg; his parental grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil J. Fischer Sr. of Savannah, Ga. and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Swiderski of Leesburg.

Obituaries & Memorials

- Newspapers began promoting the publication of obituaries in the late 1800s.
- Memorials and Obituaries were placed throughout the paper as space permitted.
- Obituaries and Funeral Notices gained popularity in the early 1900s and were grouped together.
- Death Notices are usually free but Obituaries and Memorials are considered to be classified ads.
- In years past, a wife may have been identified as Mrs.+ husband's name. Search for both to find all entries.

Mrs. Elizabeth Travers.
Mrs. Elizabeth Travers, the wife of Owen Travers died at the residence at No. 510 East Bryan street last night at 9:30 o'clock after an illness of one week. The funeral will take place from the residence some time Monday. The exact hour has not been decided. Services will be conducted from the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. The interment will be in the Cathedral Cemetery.
Mrs. Travers was 55 years old and a native of Georgia. She is survived by her husband, Owen Travers; two sons by a previous marriage, T. W. Ivey, of Norfolk and Asa Ivey, of Savannah; three daughters, Mrs. Nell Glides, Miss Annie M. Travers and Miss Elizabeth J. Travers and nine grandchildren, all of Savannah.

Mrs. Owen Travers' Funeral.
The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Travers, the wife of Owen Travers, will take place from the residence at No. 510 East Bryan street this morning at 9 o'clock. Services will be held at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist at 9:30 o'clock, with requiem high mass. The interment will be in the Cathedral Cemetery.

Savannah Morning News, Sunday, 17 March and Monday, 18 March 1912.
Funeral Notice and Obituary found using death date on tombstone.

Obituaries & Memorials

Funeral Notices or Invitations

- Usually include the name and age of the deceased.
- Announce wakes, funerals, and burials.
- May be published in the paper's evening edition on the day of death, as burials often took place from the home the next day.

FUNERAL INVITATIONS.

GILDEA—The relatives and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Nell Gildea are invited to attend the funeral of their daughter, Florence Gildea, from residence, No. 514 Bryan street, east, this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Services will be conducted at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist at 4 o'clock.

FLORENCE GILDEA
DEC 18 1902
AUG 31 1910



Savannah Morning News, Thursday, 1 September 1910
Funeral Invitation found using death date on tombstone.

Obituaries & Memorials

Death Notices

- Usually are one or two lines.
- Include the deceased's name and age.
- Include name of funeral home or crematory.
- Usually appear a day or two after death.
- Usually free.



ELINOR WILLIAMS, 80, Orlando, died Friday. Brinson's Funeral Home, Orlando.

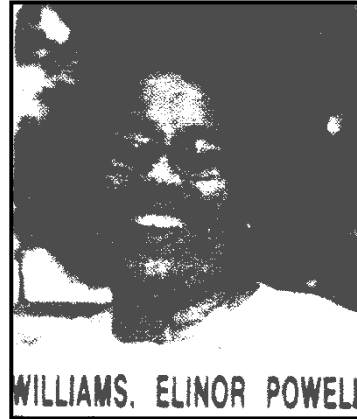
Note error in age – Elinor was 60.

Orlando Sentinel, Sunday, 20 November 2005, p. B6
Death Notice found using *Orlando Sentinel* database at www.ocls.info

Obituaries & Memorials

Obituaries

- Usually include biographical information.
- Usually identify surviving family members and sometimes, ancestors.
- Usually include funeral and burial information.
- Usually published in local and hometown newspapers.
- May include a photo.
- Are now considered to be classified ads.



Elinor Powell Williams was the first born of Thomas and Delilar Powell, on December 1, 1944 in Oakland, California.

She transitioned into eternity on November 19, 2005. Her great love for reading and books led her to earn a Master's degree in Library Science at Atlanta University and resulted in nearly 30 years of service to the Orlando Public Library. She is survived by her

daughter, Audrey June (Dwuan), and son, David Williams, grandtwins Galen and Alicia, nephews, cousins

and friends. Service will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2005 at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church at 11AM. Family will receive friends at the church from 10-11AM. Interment at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens. Final services

entrusted to the professionals at Brinson's Funeral Home of Orlando, Inc. 431 N. Kirkman

Orlando Sentinel, Monday, 21 November 2005, p. B4
Obituary from microfilm located using Orlando Sentinel database at OCLS.info

Obituaries & Memorials

News Articles

- Highlight the death of an individual who is of interest to the community at large.
- Are composed by newspaper writer.
- May include biographical information.
- May include a photo.

Librarian Elinor Williams loved books, promoted lifelong learning

By **TAMMIE WERSINGER**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

For nearly 30 years, Elinor Williams was on the front line of the Orange County Library System, helping tens of thousands of people find books and information.

While the Orlando woman loved books and instilled that love in everyone she could, she blew the "bookwormish" librarian stereotype out of the water, said her daughter Audrey June of Alexandria, Va.

"She could talk to anyone. She was so friendly and outgoing," June said. "I used to joke that we couldn't get through a



WILLIAMS

Williams started working for the Orlando Public Library after moving here from Tampa in 1975.

"Elinor was a strong, intelligent, highly energetic, verbal person who simply made an impact on others," said John Martin, a former co-worker. "Although I only knew her in the workplace, I have to believe that her personal style and her value system must have impacted many in her non-work life, as

"She always told my daughter to read every book before she let my grandchildren read it," Pelt said. "And she would ask them to send her book reports, and they would do it." Williams used books as a parenting tool for her own children as well.

Her son and daughter had library cards as soon as they were allowed to get them, and both spent hours reading — either at the library or at home, where books filled shelves in most rooms.

"She always pushed reading as an activity, as opposed to watching TV or playing video games," said her son, David

Orlando Sentinel, Tuesday, 22 November 2006, pg. B6

Feature story found using *Orlando Sentinel* database at www.ocls.info.

Obituaries & Memorials

Memorials

- Usually composed by friends or family.
- Usually appear at death or on an anniversary of the death.
- Often employ emotional and flowery language.
- May include omissions and embellishments.

In Memoriam

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Elinor P. Williams

December 1, 1944-November 19, 2005

It is still hard to believe that God called you home one year ago today. But even with Heaven as your new residence, you are still with us in so many ways. The strong legacy you left is evident in the way your children find comfort in remembering all the things you said or did to make us the people that we are today. It is evident in the way your parents, who are forever grateful for the sacrifices you made to care for them, cherish the many memories of your loving ways. It is evident in the way your sisters and brothers talk fondly of how seriously you

took being the oldest sibling and how you would always find a way to do things for them that showed you cared. It is evident in the way your friends reminisce about your zest for life, the sound of your laughter and your sage advice. Your legacy is evident in the love your twin grandchildren have for books, some of which you bought for them before they were even born. They are truly a blessing and it is impossible to measure how proud you must be of them right now. Your legacy will live on in them. Until we meet again, know that you are not forgotten, nor will you ever be. As long as life and memory last, we will remember thee.

Love always Audrey David
and The Powell Family

Microfilm: *Orlando Sentinel*, Sunday, 10 November 2006, p. B7. "In Memoriam" does not appear in the online NewsBank database as it is considered a classified advertisement.

Memorial found searching *Orlando Sentinel* database & microfilm.

Why Search For Obituaries?

For the clues they provide
and for where they lead!

- Identify family → prove relations
- Maiden name → birth records
- Place and date of birth → parents
- Cemeteries → other family members
- Religious affiliations → church records
- Military branch → Service records
- Places they lived → Property records

Note name errors on probate file.

File No. *2102*

IN RE ESTATE OF

Adrian M. Upton

Adaran *Decd.*

ADMINISTRATION

Began *August 18-1891.*

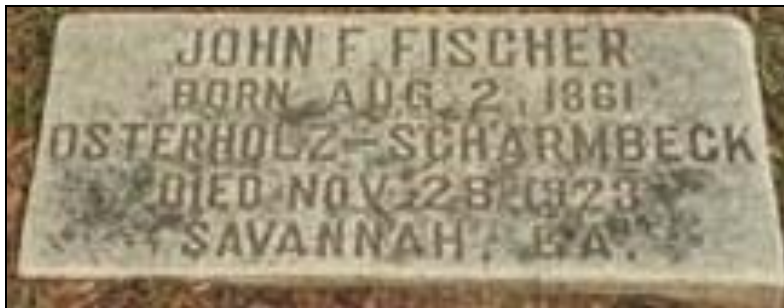
*Benjamin Upton &
Eliza Travis* **Travers**

Executor & Executrix

IN THE COUNTY JUDGE'S COURT,
DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA.

How to find an Obituary – The Basics

1. Name, date, and place of death.
2. Identify and locate newspapers published at the time of death.
3. Check for online or local obit index.
4. Request a copy directly from archive or library or contact lookup volunteer.



Note name errors within the same news article.



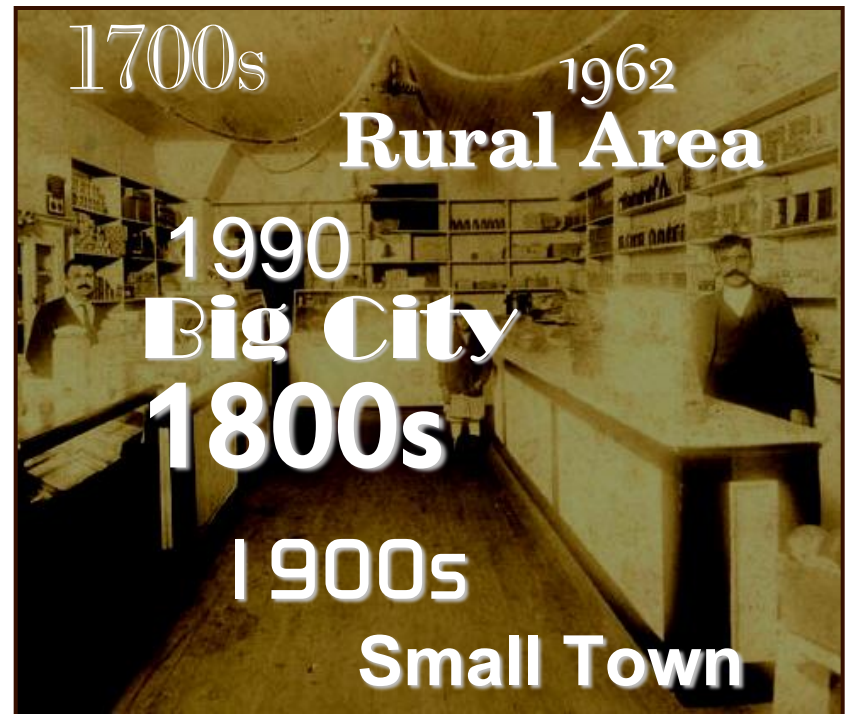
Live Oak Public Libraries: *Savannah Morning News* Online Obituary Index
Fischer, John F : 29 November 1923, section A, p. 2, col. 1; section A, p. 5, col. 2.

Locating Date & Place of Death

Resource Timeline

- 1790→ Military pension files, census records, probate records, church records, cemetery surveys, vital records, tax digests, property records +
- 1800→ City directories and newspaper transcriptions +
- 1850-1880→ Mortality schedules +
- 1900→ State death indexes +
- 1935→ Social Security Death Index +
- 1990→ Online newspaper and obituary databases.
- 2000→ Digitized historic newspapers.

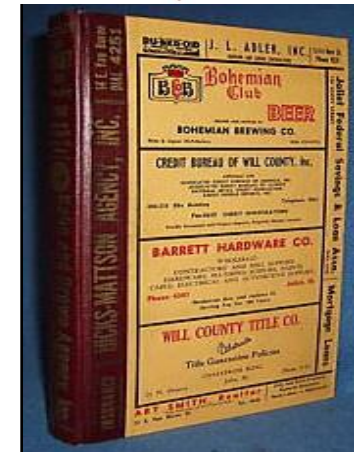
To find date and place of death, you need to know when and where your ancestor died!



Locating Newspapers

Identify newspapers in print at the time and place of death – including ethnic and religious denomination newspapers.

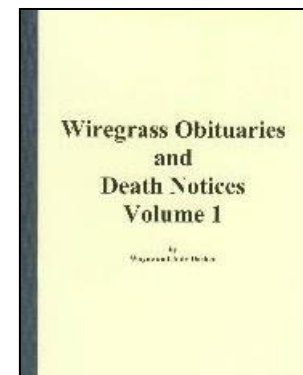
- Check city directory or local library.
- American Newspapers 1821-1936 RG 016.07 AME
- Search online databases like Newsbank.
- Search state archives for digitized newspapers.
- Check WorldCat.org and FamilySearch.org for newspapers on microfilm or newspaper extracts or abstracts. Borrow microfilm or request a copy of obit from library or contact local lookup volunteer. (ROAGK).



Locating Date and Place of Death

Resources at OCLS Libraries

- Orlando area obituary index books 1949-1991; index cards 1992-1997 (OPL); digital index books 1949-1991 on OrlandoMemory.info (ALL); New York Times index (OPL)
- State death indexes: microform (WO); Ancestry (ALL)
- Historical Florida (excluding Orlando) newspapers (WO); Orlando and NY Times newspapers (OPL). U.S. newspapers in Newsbank (ALL)
- Census records, city directories, military records, wills & probate, SSDI – Ancestry & Heritage Quest (ALL)
- Cemetery surveys, newspaper extracts or abstracts, bible transcriptions, 1700+ family histories, genealogy periodicals, and the Florida D.A.R. Collection (WO)
- Directories: Pre-1860 & 1890 Census Substitute, Orlando 1915-1960 (WO); Orlando directories in print (OCLS); U.S. directories – Heritage Quest and Ancestry (ALL).



Locating Date & Place of Death

Free Online Resources



- SSDI, wills & probate, city directories, census, 28,000 local and family histories - HeritageQuest at OCLS.info (access with library card)
- SSDI, state death indexes, wills & probate, census, and more - FamilySearch.org
- Cemetery surveys: USGenWeb.org and Findagrave.com
- CFMemory.org: Orlando area directories, Carey Hand Funeral Home records, Central Florida directories, and more.
- State archive digital collections: Death certificates
- Use search engine for funeral home obituary listings.



Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries – Ancestry

Select "Death Records" under Quick Links on Ancestry home page.



Start searching billions of records and discover your family's story.

[Begin Searching](#)

Receive Records at Home

Send Your Find Home!

Enter your email address and we will send you a link to your personalized Discovery Page where you can view and download all of the great finds you make while here.

[Send document](#)

We value your privacy. [Read our Privacy Statement](#)

U.S. Public Records

Name
Address

Source Information:
Ancestry.com,
UT, USA: Ancestry
Original data: U.S. Public
Records, and C

Description:
The U.S. Public
all 50 states in

Five Minute Find: Sending Documents Home From the Library
[View Video](#)

Quick Links

- [Public Member Trees](#)
- [Birth, Marriage & Death Records](#)
- [Military](#)
- [Tax, Criminal, Land & Wills](#)
- [Stories, Memories & Histories](#)
- [Pictures](#)
- [Message Boards](#)

- [City Directories](#)
- [Immigration & Travel](#)
- [Schools, Directories & Church Histories](#)
- [Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs](#)
- [Newspapers](#)
- [Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers](#)
- [Recently Added/Updated Collections](#)

U.S. Census Records

1940	1930	1920	1910	1900
1890	1880	1870	1860	1850
1840	1830	1820	1810	1800
1790				

[All >>](#)

SEARCH IMMIGRATION



Select Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries

Narrow by Category

- [Birth, Baptism & Christening](#)
- [Marriage & Divorce](#)
- [Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries](#)

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries – Ancestry

Do not choose
“Match exactly”

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries

View sample images and collection details

Search Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)
Hatabel
 Exact...

Last Name
Hyer
 Exact...

Birth
Day: Month: Year:

Death
Day: Month: Year:

Lived In
Day: Month: Year:

Any Event
Day: Month: Year:

Location
City, County, State, Count

Orlando, Orange, Florida,
Orlando, Orange,
Florida, USA

Add family member: Father Mother Spouse

Father
First & Middle Name(s): Last Name:

Mother
First & Middle Name(s): Last Name:

Featured data collections

- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014
- England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837-1915
- England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995
- 1932, 1938-

Type first and last name and location
“Lived in”.
Add more info if known, but don’t make assumptions.

- Notice featured data collections.
- SSDI dates included 1935-2014. Don’t limit data collections, yet. Keep search broad.
- Heritage Quest has SSDI, but NOT state death indexes.
- FamilySearch.org has SSDI and state death indexes.

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries – Ancestry

- SSDI: died June 1980, Orlando (last residence NOT necessarily place of death)
- Find A Grave: born 10 Oct. 1889, died 1 June 1980.
- FL Death Index: born 10 Oct. 1889, died 1 June 1980 in Seminole County.

The screenshot shows the Ancestry search interface. On the left, the 'Search Filters' panel is visible, with 'Broad' selected for the filter type. The search criteria include 'Hatabel', 'Hyer', and 'LIVED IN: Orlando, ...'. A red box highlights the filter sliders, and a red arrow points from the 'Update' button to the 'Broad' filter. The main results area shows 'Results 1-3 of 3' and lists three records from different sources: 'U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014', 'U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current', and 'Florida Death Index, 1877-1998'. On the right, a detailed view of the records is shown, with a red box highlighting the information for 'Hatabel Hyer'.

Search Filters Broad Exact

Hatabel

Hyer

LIVED IN: Orlando, ...

Edit Search | New Search | **Update**

[All Categories](#)

> [Birth, Marriage & Death](#)

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries

- U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current 1
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014 1
- Florida Death Index, 1877-1998 1

Shortcut Keys ▶

Results 1-3 of 3

U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014
DEATH, BURIAL, CEMETERY & OBITUARIES

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current
DEATH, BURIAL, CEMETERY & OBITUARIES

Florida Death Index, 1877-1998
DEATH, BURIAL, CEMETERY & OBITUARIES

Records Categories

NAME: **Hatabel Hyer**
BIRTH: 10 Oct 1889
DEATH: Jun 1980 - Orlando, Orange, Florida, USA
CIVIL: Florida
OTHER: Orlando, Orange, Florida, United States of America

NAME: **Hatabel Hyer**
BIRTH: 10 Oct 1889
DEATH: 1 Jun 1980

NAME: **Hatabel Hyer**
BIRTH: 10 Oct 1889
DEATH: 1 Jun 1980 - Seminole, Florida, United States

The broad search returned numerous hits that were incorrect. Moving the filter sliders from Broad to Exact narrowed the results to only three, however, moving the “Lived in” slider off of Broad, changed results to “0” for some unknown reason. Usually, it is best not to set filter to “Exact”.

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries – Ancestry

Hatabel Hyer in the U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935

Name: Hatabel Hyer

SSN: 266-46-5912

Last Residence: 32806 Orlando, Orange, Florida, USA

Born: 10 Oct 1889

Last Benefit: 32806, Orlando, Orange, Florida, United States of America

Died: Jun 1980

State (Year) SSN issued: Florida (Before 1951)



Hatabel "Hattie" Hyer

BIRTH 10 Oct 1889

DEATH 1 Jun 1980 (aged 90)

BURIAL [Greenwood Cemetery](#)
Orlando, Orange County, Florida, USA

PLOT E1-6

MEMORIAL ID

[Find A Grave](#)

Family Members

Parents

 Edward Pringle Hyer
1853–1909

 Josephine E Hyer
1858–1903

Siblings

 Dorothy Hyer
1888–1888

 Edward Pringle Hyer
1896–1967

Hatabel Hyer

Florida Death Index, 1877-1998

Tools

Affiliate CD Number:	FDI11
Certificate Number:	54819
Name:	Hatabel Hyer
Event Type:	Death
Event Date:	01 Jun 1980
Event Place:	Seminole, Florida, United States
Gender:	Unknown
Age:	90
Race:	White
Birth Date:	10 Oct 1889

- SSDI – SS number, last residence and state issued.
- Find A Grave – name of cemetery, plot number, family members and photos of tombstones.
- FL Death Index – place of death, age, race, and death certificate number.

Social Security Application

FORM NO-3
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
INTERNAL SECURITY SERVICE
(Revised 7-60)

APPLICATION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER: **255-52-4347**
REQUIRED UNDER THE FEDERAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS ACT
READ INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK BEFORE FILLING IN FORM
DO NOT WRITE IN THE ABOVE SPACE

FILE IN EACH FOR: PRINT IN BLACK OR DARK BLUE INK OR USE TYPEWRITER FOR ALL ITEMS EXCEPT SIGNATURE. IF THE INFORMATION CALLED FOR IN ANY ITEM IS NOT KNOWN, WRITE "UNKNOWN."

1. FULL NAME (IF YOU USE NO MIDDLE NAME OR INITIAL, DRAW A LINE —) LAST NAME
 FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME
KARAM GEORGE GAWAN **GAWAN** **550**

2. HOME ADDRESS (NO. AND ST., P. O. BOX, OR RFD) (CITY) (COUNTY) (STATE)
3702 HOPKINS ST. SAMANAH, GA.

3. PRINT FULL NAME GIVEN YOU AT BIRTH
KARAM GEORGE GAWAN

4. AGE ON LAST BIRTHDAY
69

5. DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR)
7-20-21

6. PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY) (COUNTY) (STATE)
ALMAN SAIDA LEONON

7. FATHER'S FULL NAME, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER LIVING OR DEAD
GEORGE STARBUCK GAWAN

8. MOTHER'S FULL NAME BEFORE EVER MARRIED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER LIVING OR DEAD
KHISKY MANSOUR

9. (MARRIED) (SINGLE) (WIDOW) (SEPARATE)

10. CIVIL OR (NAME (X) WHICH) (OF OTHER SPECIFY) (IN SERVICE RECORDS OTHER) (S) (S) (S)

11. HAVE YOU EVER BEFORE APPLIED FOR OR HAD A SOCIAL SECURITY OR RAILROAD RETIREMENT NUMBER? YES NO (MARRIED) (SINGLE) (WIDOW) (SEPARATE)
EGORC

12. BUSINESS NAME OF EMPLOYER, IF UNEMPLOYED WRITE "UNEMPLOYED"
UNEMPLOYED

13. EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS (NO. AND STREET) (CITY) (COUNTY) (STATE)
 NONE

14. SIGN YOUR NAME AS USUALLY WRITTEN (DO NOT PRINT)
K. G. GAWAN

15. YOURS DATE
3/19/52

16. RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO NEAREST SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION FIELD OFFICE

You can request a copy of the Social Security application that a deceased family member completed using form SSA-711, allowing you to discover the names and birthplace of applicant's parents. There is a direct link to the application from Heritage Quest and Ancestry sites.

GENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

No Image
Text-only collection


Request copy of original application


SSDI – FamilySearch.org

▼ **H Gannam**
United States Social Security Death Index

birth: 20 July 1882
death: November 1980 Chatham, Georgia

📄 COPY 🖨️ PRINT 📦 SOURCE BOX ▼ 📁 SHARE ▼

 **H Gannam**
United States Social Security Death Index

 No image available

UNITED STATES SOCIAL SECURITY

Age	98
Given Name	H
Surname	Gannam
Birth Date	20 Jul 1882
State	Georgia
Last Place of Residence	Chatham, Georgia
Previous Residence Postal Code	31404
Event Date	Nov 1980

<

CITING THIS RECORD

"United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JPVZ-CW5> : accessed 25 September 2015), H Gannam, Nov 1980; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

- Karam George Gannam died in Savannah, GA on November 28, 1980.
- SSDI has his last name and first initial "H", which is incorrect.
- Always investigate close matches as errors abound.

Note the source citation at the bottom of screen.

SSDI – FamilySearch.org

Michael J Gannam United States Social Security Death Index	birth: 10 November 1922	
	death: 10 June 2003	Savannah, Chatham, Georgia
H Gannam United States Social Security Death Index	birth: 20 July 1882	
	death: November 1980	Chatham, Georgia

- Karam died in 1980. His obituary is not currently included in any online obituary collections or historic newspaper databases. To find Karam's obituary: identify newspaper in city where he died; identify who owns the microfilm with WorldCat.org or local library catalog; request a copy from the library or find a lookup volunteer (ROAGK.org).
- Michael Gannam, Karam's son, died in 2003. His obituary and other articles can be found in NewsBank.

If name is not found in the SSDI, search state death indexes, as individual might not be included in the SSDI or name may be grossly misspelled.

Online Obituaries – NewsBank at www.ocls.info

NewsBank
America's News

Georgia (42 sources)

All Text [v] [] Search

and [v] Date [v] []

and [v] Readability (Lexile) [v] any [v] Remove Row Add Row

Sort by: Newest First [v]

Want to be alerted to the latest news on a topic? [Learn More](#)

- Access NewsBank from home with library card.
- SSDI shows Michael Gannam died 10 June 2003 in Savannah, GA.
- Search for his name in Georgia Newspapers.

Shortcuts

Christian Science Monitor, The
El Sentinel
El Sentinel
Orlando Sentinel, The
Orlando Weekly
Major Metro Titles
South East Regional Newspapers
Acceda Noticias
America's News Magazines
Florida
United States

Locations Source Types Source List

Source List: Georgia - Selected Source Types [Clear All](#)

Excluding magazines

[The World](#) » [North America](#) » [United States](#) » [GA](#)

Click the column headers to sort your matching titles

jump to: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [J](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#)

	Title	Date Range	Location	Source Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Albany Examiner	11/25/2009-Current	Albany	Web-Only Sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Americus Times-Record	06/21/2008-Current	Americus	Newspapers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associated Press State Wire: Georgia	07/11/2011-Current	GA	Newswires
<input type="checkbox"/>	Athens Banner-Herald	01/01/1999-Current	Athens	Newspapers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Atlanta Examiner	08/22/2008-Current	Atlanta	Web-Only

Currently, the *oldest editions* available in NewsBank are from 1978. Most, however, begin in the 1990s or mid-2000s. The Orlando Sentinel begins with the April 1, 1985 edition.

NewsBank

- NewsBank has two publications from Savannah, Georgia.
- One includes Michael Gannam's death date – 10 June 2003.
- Insert date range to limit results.
- Remove date range and search more newspapers for additional articles.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Savannah Examiner	05/12/2009-Current	Savannah
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Savannah Morning News	07/01/1999-Current	Savannah

[World](#) » [North America](#) » [United States](#) » [Georgia](#)

Savannah Morning News

All Text	▼	michael gannam	Search
and	▼	Date	6/10/2003 - 6/30/2003
and	▼	Readability (Lexile)	any ▼
Sort by:	Newest First	▼	Remove Row
			New Search

To find an exact match or phrase, use quotes. Custom date example:
Jan 1, 2000 - Feb 3, 2000.

Search using “first name AND surname.” If no results, verify date of death, limit dates, and search using only the surname. If no results, search for a family member’s name. REMINDER: In days gone by, a married woman was often identified by her husband’s name, i.e., “Mrs. George Saraf”. Search for husband’s name if wife’s name is not found.

NewsBank

Three items were found relating to Michael Gannam's death.

Save

1. **OBITUARIES**

Savannah Morning News (GA) - June 12, 2003

Length: 2759 words (Estimated printed pages: 10)

Readability: 6-7 grade level (Lexile: 980L)

...Gannam , Michael...Michael...Michael J. Gannam , 80, died Tuesday, June 10, ...

2. **MICHAEL JOSEPH GANNAM ATTORNEY 1922-2003 - LONG-TIME LAWYER CARED FOR PEOPLE**

Savannah Morning News (GA) - June 11, 2003

Length: 496 words (Estimated printed pages: 2)

Readability: 6-7 grade level (Lexile: 990L)

Michael Gannam walked to his Bay Street law office each ...Gannam walked to his Bay Street law office each day. ... ended Tues

3. **OBITUARIES**

Savannah Morning News (GA) - June 11, 2003

Length: 2845 words (Estimated printed pages: 10)

Readability: 6-8 grade level (Lexile: 1020L)

Gannam , Michael...Michael...Michael J. Gannam , 80, died Tuesday, June 10, ...

Note: Some newspapers treat obituaries or funeral notices as classified ads. They are sometimes not included in the NewsBank database.

NewsBank

Obituaries can be a veritable gold mine! The can provide names of ancestors and relatives, military service, religious affiliation, education, civic associations, philanthropy, and career information.

OBITUARIES

Savannah Morning News (GA) - Wednesday, June 11, 2003

Readability: 6-8 grade level (Lexile: 1020L)

Gannam , Michael J.

Michael J. Gannam , 80, died Tuesday, June 10, 2003.

He was born in Savannah to Karam and Annie **Gannam** and was a communicant of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. Mr. **Gannam** graduated from Benedictine Military School in 1941 and served with the U.S. Army Air Corps in the South Pacific during World War II. He attended Armstrong Junior College and received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Georgia in 1948.

He was the senior partner in the law firm of **Gannam & Gnnam**, LLP. Mr. **Gannam** taught business law, political science and history at Armstrong State College from 1951 to 1962.

He was active in his community serving on many boards and with community organizations, including the Historic Savannah Foundation, the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Savannah Arts Commission, the Savannah Council of World Affairs, and the Gilmer Lecture Series Fund. Mr. **Gannam** was a former president of the Savannah Bar Association and served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia from 1968 to 1999.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marion DeFrank **Gannam** ; four children, James **Gannam** and Cynthia Heitger, Ann **Gannam** and Dan Gourde, Elizabeth and Ron Jorde, and Joe **Gannam** and Melanie Marks; and three grandchildren, Joshua, Nathan, and Joseph **Gannam** .

The family will receive friends from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Thursday, June 12 at the residence.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 13 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.

Burial: Bonaventure Cemetery.

Remembrances: In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to Armstrong Atlantic State University, **Michael J. and Marion DeFrank Gannam** Scholarship Fund, 11935 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31419.

Fox & Weeks Funeral Directors Hodgson Chapel



Savannah Morning News - Article

Karam George Gannam, 100, of 8 Durant Ave., father of Savannah's first World War II hero, Sgt. George K. Gannam, died Friday at Memorial Medical Center almost exactly 39 years after his son's death at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The father was a native of Sidon, Lebanon, and was one of a number of Lebanese Christians who moved to Savannah. He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

He became an American citizen in 1952, but his patriotic feelings for America were expressed publicly year after year, especially from 1945, when members of American Legion Post 184, named for his son, began holding an annual memorial ceremony on Pearl Harbor Day on the parade ground at that hero's alma mater, Benedictine Military School.

As Mr. Gannam and his family knew, the ceremony honors all of Chatham County's war dead. Yet each year the new flag raised during the Dec. 7 event was given to Karam Gannam. He built a flagstaff in the yard behind his grocery store and residence at Hopkins and 53rd streets and held daily flag-raising and lowering ceremonies.

An editorial in the Savannah Morning News on Dec. 10, 1957, described Mr. Gannam's picture at that year's rain-swept and windy Pearl Harbor ceremony: "News photogra-



KARAM GANNAM
At 1957 Ceremony

—See Page 6B, Col. 5

Karam Gannam Dies at 100

Continued From Page 1B

pher Andy Hickman was there, and his picture of Karam Gannam, father of George, with head bowed in prayer was one of the most poignant we have ever seen.

"Did you see it in yesterday's Morning News? If not, find it — study it. It will tell you why, if indeed you must ask why, there should never be another war."

Surviving Mr. Gannam are his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Gannam of Savannah; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Sarah Beeches of Savannah; three sons,

Anthony K. Gannam and Michael K. Gannam, both of Savannah, and Nazer K. Gannam of Fairfield, Me.; and 18 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church, with burial in Bonaventure Cemetery.

A rosary service will be held today at 7:30 p.m. at Fox and Weeks Funeral Home.

Remembrances may be sent to the Armstrong State College Library Fund.

- Karam Gannam is probably 98 not 100.
- His daughter's name is misspelled. Should be "Beecher".

Savannah Morning News, 29 November 1980, pp. 1B, 6B.
Ordered via email directly from Live Oak Library on Bull Street in Savannah.

Death Date - City Directory

Webb's 1896 Jacksonville Directory states Ben Upton died 19 November 1895. This led to Ben's obituary.

Upton Benjamin, died Nov. 19th, 1895.
Upton Elizabeth, wife Benj., h 520 w Monroe.

DEATH OF BENJAMIN UPTON.
One of Duval County's Oldest Citizens Dies of Congestion.
Benjamin Upton, aged 64 years, one of the oldest settlers and best known citizens of Duval county, died at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his residence, 520 West Monroe street, of congestion of the liver. The deceased had been ill only a few days.
Mr. Upton was a native of Jefferson county, Georgia, and came to Florida shortly after the civil war. He has resided in this county during that entire time, principally at Baldwin. He leaves a wife and infant child, besides several grown sons and daughters by his first wife.
The funeral will take place this morning at 7:15 from the Church of the Immaculate Conception, at which the Requiem mass will be celebrated. The body will then be sent to Baldwin for interment in the family cemetery.



Ben's obituary led to the family cemetery in Baldwin, Florida.

Times Union, Jacksonville, Florida, 20 November 1895

Death Date – Tombstone

IN MEMORIAM.

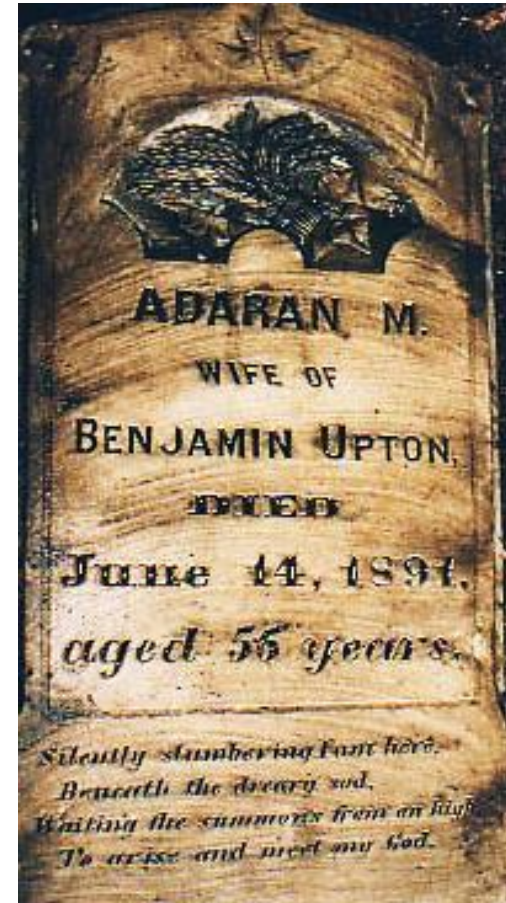
A Tribute to the Life and Christian Character of Mrs. A. M. Upton.

Died, at Baldwin, Fla., on the 13th day of June, 1891. In the 55th year of her age, Mrs. A. M. Upton, wife of Benjamin Upton.

Mrs. Upton, was born in Jefferson county, Ga., where she joined the Methodist church and professed religion in her Lord and Savior early in life. At the age of 22 years she married Mr. Upton and became a devoted and affectionate wife and mother, living a quiet and Christian life. Her health was generally good up to about eight months ago, when, her lungs becoming affected, she rapidly failed in health, and for the last three months had been confined to her room, lashed by the unrelenting scourge—consumption. And while she well knew that the dreaded monster must soon claim his victim, yet she opened not her mouth in complaint, but was resigned to her Maker's will, and on nearing death, when she realized that she must soon leave the present and those who were

Times Union, Jacksonville, Florida, 19 June 1891.

Adaran Upton's tombstone indicates she died June 14th 1891. A lengthy memorial in the *Times Union* states she died on June 13th.



Death Date – Census Records

- 1885 Florida State Census of Duval County shows widow Eliza Ivey with a two year old child, indicating that her husband, the child's father, died after 1882.
- Family stories about the death, state that Eliza's spouse, Milton Ivey, committed suicide shortly after Christmas.
- A newspaper account of Milton's suicide was found by searching the 1882, 1883 and 1884 *Times Union* from late December through the middle of January each year.

A MURKIN SUICIDE.

Sitting Down to Dinner With a Poisoned and Dying Husband.

Sunday afternoon, a white man by the name of M. M. Ivey, of Baldwin, and a son-in-law of Mayor Benjamin Upton, of that place, killed himself by taking morphine. He was employed by Messrs. Alsop & Clark, doing some work at their log camp, some distance from Baldwin, on the Transit road, but since Christmas has been drinking considerably. He went home from his work Sunday, partly under the influence of liquor. At 12:30 p. m. he signified his determination to take morphine and thus end his existence, and at once put about two spoonful of the poison in a tumbler, and walked to the well for some water to take with it. His wife went out and begged him not to take the poison. He had his knife in his hand with which he threatened to cut her throat if she interfered. He then turned round and drank the poison. The family went immediately into dinner, and while eating he fell asleep. He was removed to a bed and every possible effort made to counteract the action of the poison, but to no effect, and he died Sunday night at 11 p. m.

He leaves a wife and four little children.

Times Union, Jacksonville, Florida, Tuesday, 15 January 1884.

Concoction or Error?

- George K. Gannam died 7 December 1941 at Pearl Harbor.
- George was born in Manchester, NH on **24 October 1919**.
- He moved with his family to Savannah in **1922**, when he was just two years old. He attended grades 1-8 at Sacred Heart School and Benedictine Military Academy.

STAFF SGT. G. K. GANNAM.

Word has been received in this city of the death of Staff Sgt. George K. Gannam in Hawaii during the opening Japanese attack.

Sergeant Gannam was born here and lived in the city until eight years ago when he moved to Savannah, Ga., with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Katan G. Gannam. He is believed to be the first soldier of Lebanese - American nationality to lose his life in the conflict.

He was serving as a staff sergeant in the Army Air Corps. Gannam was educated in the old Holy Rosary school in this city. He was born in this city in 1920.

Relatives in Manchester include a cousin, Mrs. Adele Solomon of 20 Waterman street.



Manchester Union, Manchester, New Hampshire, December 1941

Errors: Article states George was born in 1920, lived in Manchester until 1931, and attended Holy Rosary School.

Concoction or Error?

Killed In Action



STAFF SGT. GEORGE K. GANNAM,
Who was killed in the Japanese attack on Hickam Field, Hawaii, becoming Savannah's first fatality of the present war.

SGT. G. K. GANNAM KILLED IN HAWAII

He Becomes Savannah's
First Fatality of the War

PARENTS ARE NOTIFIED

Several Savannahians In
War Area Are Safe

This information
is accurate.

Staff Sergeant George K. Gannam, 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Karam Gannam of Fifty-third and Hopkins streets, was killed in action in the defense of Hickam Field, near Honolulu, Hawaii, it was announced yesterday by the army, becoming Savannah's first fatality in the present conflict.

Sergt. Gannam's parents, who operate a store at Fifty-third and Hopkins streets, were notified of their son's death yesterday afternoon. The news, received from Fort McPherson, stated that he had been "killed in action." He was attached to headquarters squadron of the Eighteenth Pursuit Group, stationed at Wheeler Field, Honolulu, several miles from Hickam Field.

A graduate of Benedictine Military School, where he made an excellent record in military, Sergt. Gannam enlisted in the army in August, 1939. Besides both parents, he is survived by two brothers, Michael Gannam and Anthony Gannam, and one sister, Mrs. Mary Saraf, all of Savannah; and another brother, Nazer Gannam, who is in the United States navy stationed at Norfolk, Va.

He will be buried in Hawaii until after the war, it was announced by the army.

Obituaries & Memorials - Recap

- Locate date and place of death.
- Identify local newspaper at time of death
- Locate microfilm, database or digitized online images.
- Request copy from library or ask a lookup volunteer.
- Use info you find to locate additional family members and documents.
- Visit the cemetery or find a survey; locate more ancestors and start all over again!

UPTON CEMETERY

Located in the town of Baldwin, Florida, on U. S. 90, the cemetery is on the north side of the road about 500 feet from the highway. It started as the burying ground of the Benjamin Upton family. The part of the cemetery west of the drainage ditch which runs through the cemetery is for Negroes. Earliest grave 1839.

Benjamin Upton Born May 26, 1853 Died Nov. 19, 1895

Floresice W. wife of R. G. McMorell and daughter of B. and A. M. Upton, born May 1, 1865, died Oct. 23, 1887

Sissy, infant daughter of B. and A. M. Upton
Born July 16, 1859 Died Dec. 30, 1859

Annie L. daughter of B. and A. M. Upton
Born Apr. 21, 1861 Died Dec. 6, 1885

Benjamin LaFayette, son of R. F. and F. M. McMorell
Born Sept. 5, 1867 Died Nov. 12, 1887

Miss N. W. Walden Born Apr. 25, 1840 Died Aug. 22, 1898

Jordan A. J. Born Mar. 9, 1868 Died July 7, 1868

Jessie Fay Born Sept. 23, 1876 Died Sept. 6, 1877
Daughter and Son of B. and A. M. Upton

Adaran M. Wife of Benjamin Upton
Died June 14, 1891 Age 55 years

James A. Son of A. M. and B. Upton
Born Feb. 1, 1875 Died Feb. 2, 1908

Obituaries & Memorials . . .

Chronicle the passing of a loved one and pay tribute to their life.

Lead to cemetery plots, birth certificates, and property records.

Identify or confirm relationships with other family members.

Lead to military service records, immigration & naturalization documents, church and school records, and more!

May help you make **Connections** but may contain

Concoctions, Embellishments & **Errors!**
