

# Leon Joseph Poissant/Fisher Biography

## by John Fisher Sr - 2012

**BIRTH - MALE**

Name of Child *Joseph Leandre Poissant*  
 Color *white* No. of Child of Mother *3<sup>rd</sup>*  
 Date of Birth *1909* Month *March* Day *15*  
 Maiden Name of Mother *Octavie Dore* Age *25*  
 Mother's Birthplace *Vermont*  
 Mother's Residence *Burlington, Vt.*  
 Full Name of Father *Joseph Poissant* Age *27*  
 Father's Birthplace *Mass.*  
 Father's Occupation *Laborer*  
 Condition of Child as to Live or Still Birth  Live  Still  
 If Still Birth the Cause  
 Name of Informant *G. D. Loutin, M.D.*  
 Town *BURLINGTON, VT.* *M. G. Grandy* Town Clerk

My uncle Leon was born as Joseph Leandre Poissant (Fisher) on 15 March 1909 in Burlington, Vermont; the son of Joseph Arthur Poissant (age 27) and Octavie Dore (age 25) who lived at 38 Decatur Street.

He went to Nazareth School (Ecole Nazareth) on Allen Street in Burlington, and he attended 1 year at Cathedral High School; assuming he attended the same schools as my Dad Arthur who was the first born in the Poissant / Fisher family in 1905.

From the City Directories we see that in 1927 to 1929 he worked at Moquin's bakery with his brother Arthur. In 1930 he is listed in the census as a chauffeur for a private family. However, on his US Navy enlistment record, he stated that he had worked at the following places; (1) National Bread Company bakery at 82 Rose Street from 1927 to 1930; he assisted the baker to mix, mold and bake bread. [this was on his 1947 Navy document describing his civilian experience; he also stated that he enjoyed bowling and reading] [Note: My dad began working at National Bread Company in 1926 after attending the University of Vermont for 1 year, and may have helped him get this job] (2) At the New Sherwood Hotel (corner of Church & Cherry Streets) for the Manager Francis Panton from 1920 to 1930 [Leon's father, Joseph worked at the New Sherwood many years and was most likely instrumental in getting the job - Leon's brother Paul also worked there]. In 1920 he would have been 11 years old. (3) Miles & Perry Men's Clothiers for M. Murphy at 108 Church Street from 1920 to 1930. (The store was Miles & Riley in 1948 and then the Mayfair in 1958).



Joseph & Octavie Poissant

Irene and Leon

## Leon was on the battleship USS Arkansas during all of WWII

Escorted 11 convoys across the North Atlantic
Supplied war materials to Casablanca twice for the Invasion of North Africa
Provided artillery support at Omaha Beach on D-Day from 4000 yards of the coast
Provided artillery support at Cherbourg after D-Day to enable the capture of the port.
Provided artillery support at Frejus France for the Invasion of Southern France
Provided artillery support at Iwo Jima from Feb 16 to the 7th of March
Provided artillery support at Okinawa, and also the Kerama islands in Japan for 46 days while under constant Kamikaze attack

On the tenth of June, 1930 Leon applied for enlistment into the US Navy at the age of 21 years and 3 months. This was during the depression. He stated that he wanted to learn a trade and that he desired to be a stenographer. His application was accepted on 17 July 1930 and he was assigned this serial number 212-31-50. They noted his physical description as: a 1 inch diameter birthmark on the back of his left forearm. He was 5 FT and 6 1/2 inches tall; 125 lbs; brown eyes and brown hair; ruddy complexion; had a 32 inch chest and he was missing his 2 upper wisdom teeth. His initial pay as an Apprentice Seaman was \$21.00 monthly.

On August 25 1930 Leon qualified in the 50 yard swim event, and on 9-26-1930 he qualified as Marksman with a score of 123 and on 11-17-1930 he was promoted to Sea2c.

On 12-28-1930 he was a member of a Special Drill Squad which won in competition with Army and Marines in Boston on 12-5-1930.



### **USS Detroit CL-8 Light Cruiser - (Built 1922 - Scrapped 1946) [On board 1-3-1931 to 3-19-1931]**

In January 1931, she sailed for a combined fleet problem off Balboa, then became flagship for Commander, Destroyer Squadrons, Battle Force on 19 March 1931, based on San Diego, CA. She was at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked but escaped without any damage.



### **USS Omaha CL-4 Light Cruiser - (Built 1918 - Scrapped 1946) [On board 3-19-1931 to 7-14-1937]**

*Omaha* joined the Atlantic Fleet in peacetime. At this time, her primary mission was training, and she proved to be very capable by consistently winning fleet awards in gunnery and communications. She made many ports of call throughout the Mediterranean and Caribbean during her peacetime cruises, displaying the US flag. Balboa, in the Canal Zone in Panama was a frequent stop.

On Oct 2, 1931 Leon was promoted to Sealc.  
 On 6-23-1932 Sick at Long Beach, CA  
 On 3-31-1933 he was Coxswain on a motor whaleboat.  
 On 7-27-1933 at San Pedro, CA he was forced to pay a delinquent bill (overdue 4 months) of \$12.50 to Kay Jewelers of Long Beach, CA.  
 On 2-13-34 Sick & treated aboard the USS Omaha  
 On 5-26-1934 while enroute to New York City, Leon signed up for 2 more years in the Navy.  
 On 8-9-1934 he had his reenlistment physical aboard the USS Omaha. He is now 5 ft 7 1/4 inches and 146 lbs. Has the same birthmark but now has a 1/2 inch scar on the chin and a 1 inch scar below his left knee; probably due to a shipboard accident.  
 On 10-1-1934 he was sick at Guantanamo Bay Cuba after Port Call at Galveston Texas on 9-23-34.  
 On 11-4-1934 Leon received the GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL  
 On 11-16-1934 to 11-30-1934 he was in sick bay aboard the USS Omaha.  
 On 1-16-1935 Leon was instructed in using a Gas Mask. He wore a size 2 mask.  
 On 11-5-1935 he completed the Bureau of Navigation Training Course for COXSWAIN with a final avg of 3.2.  
 On 1-20-1936 the USS Omaha was at San Diego, CA again.  
 On 7-17-1936 the USS Omaha was at Seattle, WA.  
 On 7-18-1936, since it was the end of his 2 yr enlistment, he had another physical. He was now 68 1/4 inches tall, and 135 lbs. He now had 2 new scars in the area of his knees and 3 new moles. The Next of Kin was changed from his father, Joseph A. Fisher to his wife: Mrs Virginia Rose Fisher at 1605 Fountain Ave, Evansville, Indiana. However, this physical document went from 1936 to 1940 so I assume that it was marked up about 1938 after their marriage. [I found a document online, and on 2-25-1936 Virginia Schaad, born 9-17-1912 age 23, took the ship SS Pennsylvania from the Canal Zone (E.G. Panama) and arrived in New York on 3-2-1936 where she went to the Peerless Hotel in NYC. Was Virginia visiting Leon? It may be unrelated because Leon never took any Authorized Leave around that time.] **Actually wed on 18 Aug 1936 in Manhattan, NY.**  
 Reenlistment Financials: His pay was now \$59.40 a month. It appears he was paid \$160.38 ; of which \$155.30 was travel expenses to go from Seattle, WA to Springfield, MA. Honorable Discharge. His home address was 310 W. York Street, Norfolk, VA.  
 On 8-31-1936 the ship was in San Diego, CA



On 9-23-1936 he was paid an extra \$5.00 monthly due to being qualified as G.P. 1st Class at S.R.B.P. (Short Range Battle Practice) on one of the ships guns.  
 On 12-1-1936 Leon filled out a beneficiary slip while on the Omaha at Balboa, CZ which listed Virginia Rose Fisher (formally typed) and living at 1205 (1605 written over) Fountain Ave, Evansville, IN. In the space for a child it said NONE but hand written over it was Charmene Virginia Fisher. (Was he really married in 1936? - I don't have the actual record) **Actually wed on 18 Aug 1936 in Manhattan, NY.**  
 12-1-1936 Promoted from Sealc to COXSWAIN (Navy boat coxswains are specially trained sailors who command small boats during shore landing and retrieval operations.)  
 On 12-9-1936 aboard the Omaha at Balboa, Canal Zone he had a severe case of hemorrhoids and was transferred to the navy Dispensary,

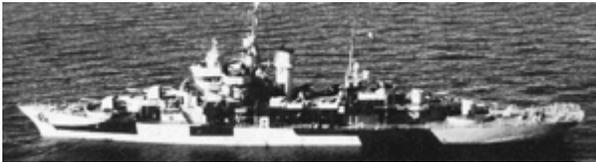
US Submarine Base at Coco Solo, Canal Zone. He was operated on on 12-11-1936, numerous details about it, and he returned to duty on 12-24-1936

On 1-1-1937 he was sick; after Port Call at Panama City, Panama.

On 5-4-1937 his \$5.00 a month discontinued because his qualification expired.

### **US Naval Hospital, Puget Sound, WA. on 7-13-1933 to 8-4-1933**

SKMC - Treated for illness after Port Call on 6-23-1932



### **USS Charleston PG-51 Gunboat - (Commissioned 1936-1946) [On board 7-14-1937 to 2-28-1938]**

On July, she sailed to Balboa, Panama for extensive training and combat exercises in the Panama area before returning north back to Charleston on 1 March 1938.



### **USS Erie PG-50 Gunboat - (Commissioned 1936-1946) [On board 2-28-1938 to 1-24-1939]**

**USS Erie (PG-50)** was the lead ship in a class of two US Navy Patrol Gunboats, launched and commissioned in 1936, she operated in the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea until torpedoed and fatally damaged by a German submarine in 1942. (It's a good thing that Leon did not stay on that Gunboat!)

On 7-25-1938 Leon was AOL for 3 hours and 8 minutes. He was picked up for creating a disturbance while ashore on Liberty and on 7-26-1938 at a CAPTAINS MAST he was awarded 10 days deprivation of liberty.

On 8-18-1938 Leon married Virginia Schaad. (This info came from Octavie's scrapbook and I don't know how reliable it is because I do not have the actual document) **Wed on 18 Aug 1936 in Manhattan, NY.**

On 11-7-1938 AOL 1 hour. MAST awarded 5 days deprivation of liberty.

On 11-17-1938 while on the USS Erie at Balboa in the Canal Zone, Leon requested to be transferred to any cruiser in the Atlantic Squadron. His reason was that he had completed 2 years service in the Special Service Squadron and desired this duty because his family was on the East Coast. His current enlistment expires on 17 July 1940. (10 years in the service). This was approved on 12-1-1938.

### **Online History of the USS Arkansas**

#### **USS Arkansas BB-33 Battleship - (Commissioned 1912-1946 ) [On board 2-6-1939 to 6-16-1945]**

USS Arkansas was a Wyoming-class battleship was the third ship of the United States Navy named in honor of the 25th state. Arkansas was laid down on 25 January 1910 at Camden, New Jersey, by the New York Shipbuilding Corporation. She was launched on 14 January 1911 sponsored by Miss Nancy Louise Macon of Helena, Arkansas, daughter of Congressman Robert B. Macon. The ship was commissioned at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on 17 September 1912, Captain Roy C. Smith in command.

Arkansas served in both World Wars. She was part of the U.S. battleship squadron attached to the British Grand Fleet during World War I, Battleship Division Nine. During World War II she escorted convoys in the Atlantic and bombarded shore targets during the invasions of Normandy, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.



## **World War II -**

The outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939 found the battleship Arkansas (BB-33) at Hampton Roads, Virginia preparing for a Naval Reserve cruise. She soon got underway and transported seaplane mooring and aviation equipment from the Naval Air Station at Norfolk to Narragansett Bay for the seaplane base that was to be established there. While at Newport, Arkansas took on board ordnance material for destroyers and brought it back to Hampton Roads.

Arkansas departed from Norfolk on 11 January 1940, in company with USS Texas and USS New York, and proceeded thence to Guantanamo Bay for fleet exercises. She then participated in landing exercises at Culebra that February, returning to Norfolk. Following an overhaul at the Norfolk Navy Yard (18 March – 24 May), Arkansas shifted to the Naval Operating Base (NOB), Norfolk, where she remained until 30 May 1940. Sailing on that day for Annapolis, the battleship, along with Texas and New York, conducted a midshipman training cruise to Panama and Venezuela that summer. Before the year was out, Arkansas would conduct three V-7 Naval Reserve training cruises, these voyages taking her to Guantanamo Bay, the Canal Zone, and Chesapeake Bay.

Over the months that followed, the United States gradually edged toward war in the Atlantic; early the following summer, after the decision to occupy Iceland had been reached, Arkansas accompanied the initial contingent of Marines to that place. That battleship – along with New York and Brooklyn – provided the heavy escort for the convoy. Following this assignment, Arkansas sailed to Naval Station Argentia, Newfoundland for the Atlantic Charter conference between President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, which took place onboard HMS Prince of Wales. During the conference, Arkansas provided accommodations for the Under Secretary of State, Sumner Welles, and Mr. Averell Harriman from 8–14 August 1941.

The outbreak of war with the Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor found Arkansas at anchor in Casco Bay, Maine. On 14 December, she sailed to Hvalfjordur, Iceland. Returning to Boston via Naval Station Argentia on 24 January 1942, Arkansas spent the month of February carrying out exercises in Casco Bay in preparation for her role as an escort for troop and cargo transports. On 6 March, she arrived at Norfolk to begin overhaul. The secondary battery was reduced to six 5 in (130 mm)/51 cal guns.[1] Underway on 2 July, Arkansas conducted shakedown in Chesapeake Bay, then proceeded to New York City, where she arrived on 27 July 1942.

The battleship sailed from New York on 6 August as flagship of Task Force 38 (TF 38), a convoy of 12 transports – with 14 destroyers – bound for Greenock, Scotland. Two days later, the ships paused at Halifax, Nova Scotia, then continued on through the stormy North Atlantic. The convoy reached Greenock on 17 August, and Arkansas returned to New York on 4 September. She escorted another Greenock-bound convoy across the Atlantic, then arrived back at New York on 20 October. With the Allied invasion of North Africa, American convoys were routed to Casablanca to support the operation 'Torch'. Departing from New York on 3 November, Arkansas covered a convoy to Morocco, and returned to New York on 11 December 1942 for overhaul.

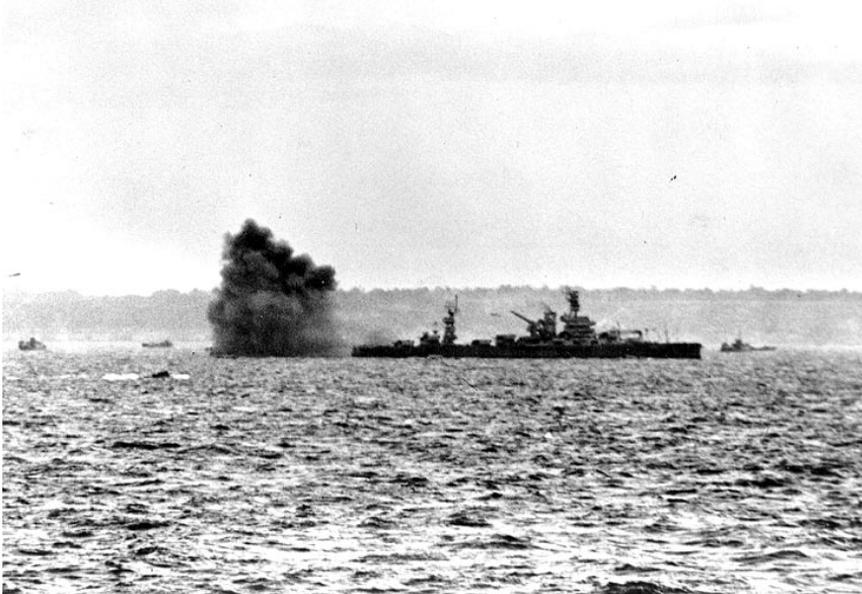
On 2 January 1943, Arkansas sailed to Chesapeake Bay for gunnery drills. She returned to New York on 30 January and began loading supplies for yet another transatlantic trip. The battleship made two runs between Casablanca and New York City from February–April. In early May, Arkansas was dry-docked at the New York Navy Yard, emerging from that period of yard work to proceed to Norfolk on 26 May 1943.

Arkansas assumed her new duty as a training ship for midshipmen, based at Norfolk. After four months of operations in Chesapeake Bay, the battleship returned to New York to resume her role as a convoy escort. On 8 October, the ship sailed for Bangor, Northern Ireland. She was in that port throughout November, and got underway to return to New York on 1 December. Arkansas then began a period of repairs on 12 December 1943. Clearing New York for Norfolk two days after Christmas of 1943, Arkansas closed the year in that port.

The battleship sailed on 19 January 1944 with a convoy bound for Northern Ireland. After seeing the convoy safely to its destination, the ship reversed her course across the Atlantic and reached New York on 13 February. Arkansas went to Casco Bay on 28 March for gunnery exercises, before she proceeded to Boston on 11 April for repairs. In all, the Arkansas escorted a total of 11 convoys across the Atlantic.

On 18 April, Arkansas sailed once more for Bangor, Northern Ireland. Upon her arrival, the battleship began a training period to prepare for her new role as a shore bombardment ship.

Photo # 80-G-231250 USS Arkansas bombarding off Normandy, 6 June 1944



**On 3 June, Arkansas sailed for the French coast to support the Invasion of Normandy. The ship entered the Baie de la Seine on 6 June 1944, and took up a position 4,000 yd (3,600 m) off "Omaha" beach.**

At 0552, Arkansas' guns opened fire. During the day, the venerable battleship underwent shore battery fire and air attacks; over ensuing days, she continued her fire support. On 13 June, Arkansas shifted to a

position off Grandcamp les Bains. VCS-7, a US Navy Spotter Squadron flying Supermarine Spitfire VBs and Seafire IIIs, was one of the units which provided targeting coordinates and fire control for targets of tanks and truck convoys which were 10 miles inland.

**On 25 June 1944, Arkansas duelled with German shore batteries off Cherbourg, the enemy repeatedly straddling the battleship but never hitting her. Her big guns helped support the Allied attack on that key port, and led to the capture of it the following day.** Retiring to Weymouth, England, and arriving there at 2220, the battleship shifted to Bangor, Northern Ireland on 30 June. Arkansas stood out to sea on 4 July, bound for the Mediterranean Sea. She passed through the Strait of Gibraltar and anchored at Oran, Algeria on 10 July. On 18 July, she got underway, and reached Taranto, Italy on 21 July. The battleship remained there until 6 August, then shifted to Palermo, Sicily on 7 August 1944.

**On 14 August, Operation Anvil – the invasion of the southern French coast between Toulon and Cannes, began. (Mom's brother, my uncle Alphonse Bourassa took part in this landing manning a 105 mm gun)** Arkansas provided fire support for the initial landings on 15 August, and continued her bombardment through 17 August. After stops at Palermo to deliver German prisoners, and Oran, Arkansas set course for the United States. On 14 September 1944, she reached Boston, and received repairs and alterations through early November. The yard period completed on 7 November, Arkansas sailed to Casco Bay for three days of refresher training.

On 10 November, Arkansas shaped a course south for the Panama Canal Zone. After transiting the canal on 22 November 1944, Arkansas headed for San Pedro, California. On 29 November, the ship was again underway for exercises held off San Diego, California. She returned on 10 December to San Pedro.

After three more weeks of preparations, Arkansas sailed for Pearl Harbor on 20 January 1945. One day after her arrival there, she sailed for Ulithi, **(My sister Janice's husband; Jim Canole's ship was also here near this time)** the major fleet staging area in the Caroline Islands **(At one time during the war**

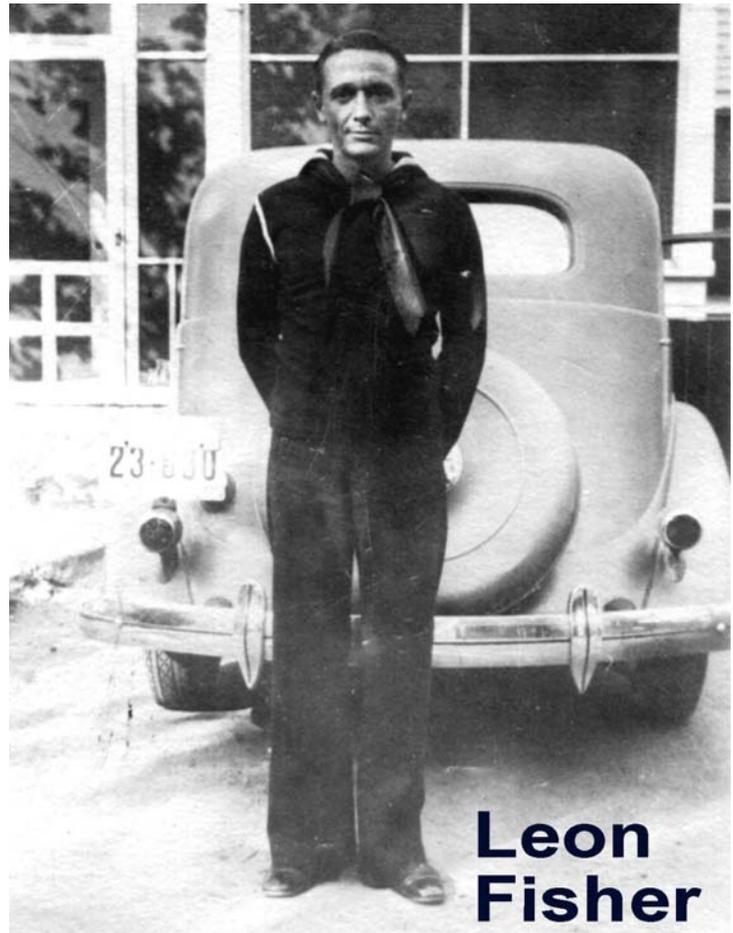
there were **723 ships at Ulithi, in the Caroline Islands**), and continued thence to Tinian, where she arrived on 12 February 1945. For two days, the vessel held shore bombardment practice prior to her participation in the assault on Iwo Jima.

**At 0600 on 16 February, Arkansas opened fire on Japanese strong points on Iwo Jima** as she lay off the island's west coast. The old battlewagon bombarded the island near Mount Suribachi through 19 February, and remained in the fire support area to provide cover during the evening hours. During her time off the embattled island, Arkansas shelled numerous Japanese positions, in support of the bitter struggle by the marines to root out and destroy the stubborn enemy resistance. She cleared the waters off Iwo Jima on 7 March to return to Ulithi. After arriving at that atoll on 10 March 1945, the battleship rearmed, provisioned, and fueled in preparation for her next operation, the invasion of Okinawa.

Getting underway on **21 March 1945, Arkansas began her preliminary shelling of Japanese positions on Okinawa** on 25 March, some days ahead of the assault troops which began wading ashore on 1 April. The Japanese soon began an aerial onslaught, and Arkansas fended off several kamikazes. For 46 days, Arkansas delivered fire support for the invasion of Okinawa and also the Kerama islands. On 14 May, the ship arrived at Apra Harbor, Guam, to await further assignment. After a month at Apra Harbor, part of which she spent in dry-dock, Arkansas got underway on 12 June for Leyte Gulf. She anchored there on 16 June 1945, and remained in Philippine waters until the war drew to a close in August.

After a month spent in port, Arkansas embarked approximately 800 troops for transport to the United States as part of **Operation Magic Carpet** to return American servicemen home as quickly as possible. Sailing on 23 September 1945, Arkansas paused briefly at Pearl Harbor en route, and ultimately reached Seattle, Washington on 15 October 1945. During the remainder of the year, the battleship made three more trips to Pearl Harbor to shuttle soldiers back to the United States. Leon transferred off the ship on 6-16-1945. During the first months of 1946, USS Arkansas lay at San Francisco, California. In late April, the ship got underway for Hawaii. She reached Pearl Harbor on 8 May 1946, and stood out of Pearl Harbor on 20 May, bound for Bikini Atoll, earmarked for use as target for atomic bomb testing in Operation Crossroads. On 1 July, the Arkansas was exposed to an air burst in ABLE, but survived with extensive shock damage to her upper works, while her hull and armored turrets were little damaged.

**On 25 July 1946, the battleship was sunk by the underwater nuclear test BAKER at Bikini Atoll.** Un-attenuated by air, the shock was "transmitted directly to underwater hulls", and Arkansas, only 250 yards from the epicenter, appeared to have been "crushed as if by a tremendous hammer blow from



below". It appears that the wave of water from the blast capsized the ship, which was then hammered down into the shallow bottom by the descent of the water column thrown up by the blast.

Decommissioned on 29 July 1946, Arkansas was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 15 August. The ship lies inverted in about 180 feet of water at the bottom of Bikini Lagoon and there are many pictures of the wreck on the National Park Service website. During World War II the USS Arkansas traveled more than 134,000 miles in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

One of Leon's shipmates on the USS Arkansas was interviewed about his experiences on the ship during World War II. You can view this very interesting video on the Internet at [www.natickvets.org](http://www.natickvets.org). Click on Manuel Witt. It is 1 hour and 39 minutes in length.

### **Ancestry.com Records**

I find Leon for the first time on 30 Sep 1941 on a Muster Sheet on the USS Arkansas. He is a BM1C (Boatswain's Mate, First Class) and it stated that he enlisted on 30 May 1940 but was received on board the ship on 7 Feb 1939.

MUSTERS on the USS Arkansas: Leon's serial number was 212-31-50

<b>Date</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Enlisted</b>	<b>Received on Board</b>	<b>Comment</b>
30 Sep 1941	BM1C	30 May 1940	2/7/39	Same info for 31 Dec 41; 31 Mar 42; 30 Jun 42; 30 Sep 42; 31 Dec 42; 31 Mar 43;
30 Jun 1943	BM1C	30 May 1940		Enlisted at NOB Norfolk, VA
30 Sep 1943	CBM(AA)	30 May 1940		Same info for 31 Dec 43; 31 Mar 44; 3 Jun 44
30 Jun 1944	CBM(PA)	30 May 1940	2/7/39	Same info for 30 Sep 44
5 Nov 1944	CBM(PA)	30 May 1940	2/7/39	Sailing from Boston
31 Dec 1944	CBM(PA)	30 May 1940	2/7/39	Same info for 31 Mar 1945
1 Jul 1945	CBM(PA)	30 May 1940	2/7/39	Last muster I found

Leon J. Fisher until 31 Mar 44 when they then used Leon Joseph Fisher until the end.

BM1c = Boatswain's Mate 1st Class

CBM(AA) Chief Boatswain's Mate; Master at Arms

CBM(PA) Chief Boatswain's Mate; Permanent Appointment

### **End of Ancestry.com Records**

### **From Leon's Navy Records**

On 2-6-1939 Leon transferred to the USS Arkansas. He received travel pay from Norfolk, VA to Seattle, WA which was 3,166 miles of \$158.30 for a total of \$190.62.

On 12-18-1939 Virginia and Leon had a daughter named Charmene Virginia Fisher.

On 5-30-1940 aboard the USS Arkansas at Norfolk, VA, Leon changed his Next of Kin back to his father, Joseph Arthur Fisher. His 1940 reenlistment allowance was \$100.00 and he was now making \$69.00 a month.

Physical: Now 5 ft 8 1/2 inches, 140 lbs at age 31. His Blood Type was A int.

On 8-16-1940 He is now promoted to BM 2nd Class.

BM is Boatswain Mate (Boatswain's mates train, direct, and supervise personnel in ship's maintenance duties in all activities relating to marlinspike, deck, boat seamanship, painting, upkeep of ship's external structure, rigging, deck equipment, and boats. Boatswain's mates take charge of working parties; perform seamanship tasks; act as petty officer-in-charge of picket boats, self-propelled barges, tugs, and other yard and district craft. They serve in, or take charge of damage control parties. BM's also operate and maintain equipment used in loading and unloading cargo, ammunition, fuel, and general stores. BMs take charge

of and supervise UNREP (Underway Replenishment) procedures and equipment. They are integral to ship's navigation and serve as ship's Helmsman and the ship's Lee Helmsman.)

On 11-4-1940 Virginia served Leon with divorce papers in Evansville, IN. It was approved on 2-1-1941. Virginia had custody of their daughter Charmene and Leon was to pay her \$20.00 a month of his \$69.00 a month pay, before taxes. It was also signed by Leon's commander

On 5-1-1941 He is promoted to BM 1st Class in Battleship Division Five

In January, 1942 Leon obtained a life insurance policy on himself for \$10,000 at the cost of \$7.40 a month for 59 months. The primary beneficiary was his daughter Charmene Virginia Fisher at 1605 Fountain Ave, Evansville, IN and the contingent beneficiary was for \$10,000 for his ex wife Virginia Rose Fisher. This was automatically taken out of his pay monthly.

7-21-1942 Leon was promoted from Boatswain Mate 1st Class to Navy Mail Clerk aboard the Arkansas effective 8-1-1942 The ships complement is 1534 men. He will get extra compensation of \$30.00 a month.

On 6-1-1943 He was promoted to CBM(AA)

6-4-1943 Authorized to wear American area and European-African Middle Eastern area campaign ribbon for participation in the Invasion of the French Coast 6 to 25 June, 1944.

On 10-9-1943 Virginia restated her divorce claim and asked for the alimony to be increased to \$25.00 monthly. Charmene was now 3 years old.

On 5-30-1944 He reenlisted for 3 more years. His physical: Still had 20/20 vision, and now at 145 lbs.

On 6-1-1944 Leon was promoted from CBM(AA) to CBM(PA)

CBM(AA) = Chief Boatswain's mate (Acting Appointment)

CBM(PA) = Chief Boatswain's mate (Permanent Appointment)

On 6-26-1944 Participated honorably in the Naval Bombardment support of the Allied Landings in the Western Sector Beachheads of the Baie de la Seine. France from 6 June to June 18, 1944. Also participated in the Naval Bombardment of the Cherbourg fortifications on June 25, 1944.

On 10-2-1944 Leon married Ora Galaise at Mobile, Alabama. He had taken Leave from the battleship Arkansas from 9-30-1944 to 10-14-1944.

On 10-26-1944 Promoted to CMaM. From Chief Boatswain's Mate to Chief Mailman.

On 12-27-1944 He changed his Life Insurance Beneficiaries to Ora Galaise Fisher at 80 Jefferson Rd, Princeton, NJ; and kept Charmene at 224 Clark St, Evansville, IN as contingent; each for \$10,000.

On 3-8-1945 Leon is a CMaM(PA). Now authorized to wear Asiatic-Pacific area campaign service ribbon. Now authorized to wear one star in the European-African-Middle eastern area service ribbon for participation in the Invasion of Southern France in the Gulf of Frejus 15-17 August 1944. Participated honorable in the Naval Bombardment Support of the Invasion of Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, Western pacific during 16 Feb to 7 March 1945. Serving outside the Continental limits of the United States this date.

6-16-1945 Authorized to wear one star in the Asiatic-Pacific area for participating honorably in the Invasion



of the Kerama Islands, and Okinawa Island, Main Japanese Chain from 25 March to 10 May 1945. Transferred to the nearest REC. Ship or station on the west coast via USS Attala APA 130 for transportation.

7-8-1945 Received aboard the REC. ship at San Francisco, CA

7-11-1945 to 8-5-1945 Leon took 25 days of Rehabilitation leave at the Birmingham, Ala. Sep. Ctr. and reported in at the Separation Center at Shelton, Norfolk, VA. (Probably went home to NJ at this time)

6-16-1945 to 8-25-1945 Claim for dependents transportation from Pensacola, Florida to Norfolk, Virginia.

Ora left Pensacola on 9-29-1945 and arrived at Norfolk on 9-30-1945 for a distance of 940 miles, and at 4 cents per mile = \$37.60.

8-25-1945 Promoted to CMAMP

11-15-1945 Designated Navy Mail Clerk for zip 10207 by the 2nd Assistant Postmaster General.

### **USN Hospital NNMC Bethesda, MD**

8-23-1946 Reported in for Duty at Bethesda

10-18-1946 Transferred to **Potomac River Naval Command Headquarters** for Duty in Washington, DC for duty in the Post Office.



### **RS, WASHINGTON, DC**

Physical: Living with wife Ora at 6610 Eastern Ave, N.W. Washington, DC; dark complexion, 20/20 vision; tonsils present; curvature of the spine of the lower cervical and in the upper dorsal;

2-28-1947 Beneficiary change. Ora now living at 100 N. Winooski, Ave, Burlington, VT and Charmene still at 224 Clark St in Evansville.

3-20-1947 CBM(PA) appointed to pay grade 1. (PA) no longer used in the Navy.

5-27-1947 Discharged Honorably and recommended for the Good Conduct pin.  
CER:C1567937

5-28-1947 Now in the Navy 16 yrs 10 months and 11 days. Reenlisted for 4 more years. Chief Mailman, reenlistment allowance of \$150.00

Physical: Now 5 ft 7 inches and 149 lbs. Blood pressure 130/80 (Its always been in this range)

Medals earned:

**American Theater**

**American Defense**

**European African Theater**

**Asiatic Pacific Theater**

**Victory Medal WWII**

**Good Conduct Medal**

On 6-13-1947 Transferred to Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA

On 7-1-1947 Transferred to Comservron 3 in China

### **Tsingtao, China Navy Port Facility - 3913**

On 8-4-1947 Reported in at US Naval Port Facilities in Tsingtao, China

On 8-21-1947 Leon received 2 medals; World War II Victory medal and American Defense medal with Fleet Clasp.

9-4-1947 Appointed the "Assistant Navy Mail Clerk" CMaM rating (Chief Mailman)

4-2-1948 Rating changed to TEC (Chief Petty Officer Teleman Mailman)

6-24-1948 7-10-1948 Now designated as "Navy Mail Clerk"

On 1-20-1949 Transferred to US Naval Port facility at Shanghai, China

### Ora returns home from China

I found this passenger list Online previously and wondered if Leon had been in China, now I know that Ora was there with him in Tsingtao, China but came back to San Francisco when Leon was transferred to Shanghai. She traveled on a Navy Ship from 1-10-49 to 2-4-49. (25 days seems excessive, they probably stopped at Pearl harbor or Guam for several days) The USS General Mann was a troopship during the war and later servicemen and their families were carried to and from the Far East. She stood duty as a "Guam Ferry" and continued to transport men and material until transferred to MSTs in October 1949.

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
(Rev. 1-6-48)

LIST OF IN-BOUND PASSENGERS  
(United States Citizens and Nationals)

Class \_\_\_\_\_ from TSINGTAO, CHINA, 10 JANUARY, 19 49  
(Port of embarkation) (Date)

U.S.S. GENERAL W. A. MANN (AP112) arriving at port of SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 2-4, 19 49  
(Name of vessel)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)		
FAMILY NAME—GIVEN NAME DESTINATION IN UNITED STATES	AGE (Years)	SEX (F-M)	MAR- RIED OR SINGLE	U. S. PASSPORT No. PLACE OF BIRTH	NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PIECES OF BAGGAGE	THIS COLUMN FOR USE OF MASTER, SURGEON, AND U. S. OFFICERS
FISHER, Ora Naval Housing San Francisco, California	35	F	M	Virginia 11703 Montpelier, Vermont	3 suitcases 3 wooden boxes 1 steamer trunk 1 foot locker	

She brought a lot of items from China and it makes me wonder where Leon & Ora's belongings (family photos and souvenirs) went after her death.

### US Naval Port facility at Shanghai, China - 3930

2-1-1949 Beneficiary change: Charmene now 10 yrs has moved to 1102 C. East L.A. St., Evansville, IN

3-28-1949 Transferred to REC. Station for leave and reassignment by CWSF

Traveled on the USS Thomas Jefferson and arrived at Rec. Sta. San Francisco, CA on 4-29-1949

7-7-1949 Transferred from Rec. Sta. SF to Rec. Sta. Seattle, WA.

7-11-1949 Transferred to Hdqtrs, 17ND, Kodiak, Alaska

7-19-1949 Reported in at Kodiak, AK



### Naval Air Station, Kodiak, AK

8-24-1949 Designated as TEC, "Mail Clerk" for the Naval Air Station, Kodiak, AK

9-16-1949 Requested a transfer to shore duty. Answer: He has been placed on the Shore Duty Eligibility List.

10-28-1949 Beneficiary change: Ora now living at 123 States St., San Francisco, CA

11-18-1949 Leon requested a transfer to Fleet reserve and to Home Naval District (12). I desire to apply for employment in the San Francisco area and to handle financial matters requiring my immediate attention. Answer from Commanding Officer. Suggest we wait until after the Christmas mail rush; and he requested a relief person.

12-8-1949 Transfer approved. 12-26-1949 "Mail Clerk" designation revoked.

12-29-1949 Transferred to US Navy Communication Station, 12th Naval District room 356, Federal Office Bldg, San Francisco, CA for shore duty.

1-3-1950 Arrived at Treasure Island Naval Station, San Francisco, CA.



#### **Treasure Island Naval Station, San Francisco, CA**

1-1-1950 Beneficiary change: Charmene moved to 1119A East L.A. St.

2-28-1950 Physical: 19 years, 7 months and 15 days in Navy; vision still 20/20; weight 150; 132/80

2-24-1950 Transferred to Fleet Reserve and reported to Rec. Station, SF

On 3-2-1950 Transferred to the Fleet reserve and released to inactive duty; living at 123 States Street, San Francisco, CA

3-2-1950 Total payment of \$986.79 of which \$162 was for mileage or travel. Pay accounts and health records are closed. Age equals 40 years and 11 months old.

#### **8-22-1950 Ordered to Active Duty. Report to Treasure Island, CA**

9-19-1950 Reported to Rec. Station, San Francisco. Rating changed to TEMC; received \$150.00 clothing allowance. Physical: 5 ft 7 inches, 146 lbs; 20/20 vision; 140/80; Fit for Active Duty.

##### Medical History:

Father age 65 good condition

Mother died at age 51 of drowning

Brother age 45 good

Sister age 43 good

Brother age 37 good

Sister age 35 Fair

Wife age 37 good

Child age 11 good

9-21-50 Dependents: Ora, wife, 123 States St, S.F,CA; Charmene 1119A L.A. St., Evansville age 11; guardian Lutie Schaad, ex mother-in-law. Divorced from Virginia Rose Fisher on September 1943.

Allotments of \$25.00 monthly to Charmene's guardian and \$125 month to wife Ora. (Virginia's father was Jacob Schaad)

10-5-1950 Transferred to CWSF for duty in Fleet Post Office

#### **COMMUNICATION Dept WESTERN SEA FRONTIER (CWSF) Treasure Island, SF, CA**

10-6-1950 Reported in at the Treasure Island Fleet Post Office

12-18-1950 Drivers test. Normally drives a sedan and a station wagon about 20,000 miles a year.

Drives too fast for conditions; twice in wrong lane; corners too wide; slips clutch to hold the vehicle; fails to make full stop; fails to anticipate the actions of others; fails to yield to pedestrians. (Hmmm, was Leon trying to get bounced out of the Navy?) **Failed the road test!**

1-15-1951 Received an excellent evaluation

4-23-1951 New address is 1649 Ruth Drive, Concord, CA

7-15-1951 Received a good evaluation  
 7-19-1951 Passed his driver's test. Did much better this time.  
 9-5-1951 Treasure Island Infirmary - Leon had a fissure in anus complicated by hemorrhoids long ago. Transferred to US Naval Hospital in Oakland for treatment.  
 10-4-1951 Transferred back to Treasure Island, CA for Duty  
 1-15-1952 Received an excellent evaluation but they noted that he has no qualifications for Officer Status.  
 6-15-1952 Received a good evaluation; with same comment.  
 6-18-1952 Received clearance for SECRET security information.  
 9-12-1952 Transferred to US Naval Receiving Station pending release to Inactive Duty & Fleet Reserve  
 9-19-1952 Honorable Discharge. Recommended for reenlistment  
 Presently living at 275 Fairmont Ave, Oakland, CA

Afterwards Leon was a Field Representative for the US Post Office for 9 years.

Evidently while in the Fleet Reserve, one had to let them know when you move:

6-15-1953 New address is 5350 Manila Ave, Oakland, CA  
 2-1-1954 New address is 245 Fairmont, Oakland, CA  
 8-30-1956 Medical Exam 5 ft 8 inches; 146 lbs; 144/86 Pulse sitting =86, after exercise 104; 2 minutes later = 98 (this is much worse than past physicals) Eyes 15/1 [also worse] He noted that my Dad and Irene had passed. The doctor said that his health was good, but there were many problems flagged like; frequent headaches; dizziness; eye trouble; severe tooth or gum trouble; high blood pressure; leg cramps after walking 5 blocks; piles; blood in urine 9 months ago; painful shoulder and numbness foot trouble. For the first time they noted that Leon was **left handed**.  
 3-27-1957 Rating changed from TEMC to YNMC (Yeoman Mailman)

11-6-1959 Received his **National Defense Service Medal**

12-1-1959 Now living at 2988 26th Street San Francisco 10, CA Rating = YNMC  
 3-21-1960 Leon will complete his 30 years of service on 5-27-1960 and he will be transferred to the Retired List on 6-1-1960.



6-1-1960 Completion of 30 years service. Last released from Active Duty on 9-19-1952  
 Placed on the Permanent Retired List  
 10-20-1960 Applied for Armed Force ID Card (Medicare authorized)

**6-5-1961 Leon died.**

6-12-1961 Request for confirmation of Leon's death from the Navy  
 6-21-1961 Letter to Secretary of the Navy indicating that Leon died 5 June 1961 at Letterman general Hospital Presidio of San Francisco of Thrombosis of the Coronary Artery - Wife is Ora G. Fisher 2988 26th Street, SF - Burial at San Francisco National Cemetery Presidio on 8 June 1961.

"This 52 year old Retired Navy man was dead on arrival on 5 June 1961 at the Letterman General Hospital, Presidio of San Francisco, California. The State of California Certificate of Death stated that the cause of death was "Acute occlusion left coronary artery - due to; Arteriosclerotic heart disease". Autopsy performed.

6-26-1961 Complete verification of all his service dates. YNC rating  
8-1-1961 FINAL REPORT Leon's SSN 556-42-4524 E7 rating 22 years Active Service  
Base Pay \$320 a month  
FINAL LETTER - No Date.

**My Dear Mrs. Fisher:**

**I have recently learned of the death of your husband, Leon Joseph Fisher, Chief Yeoman, United States Navy, Retired, which occurred on 5 June 1961.**

**His many years of service stand as a testimonial of fidelity to his country and the Navy.**

**Your great loss is shared in and may the knowledge that your husband served his country ably during a long career be a source of consolation to you in your sorrow.**

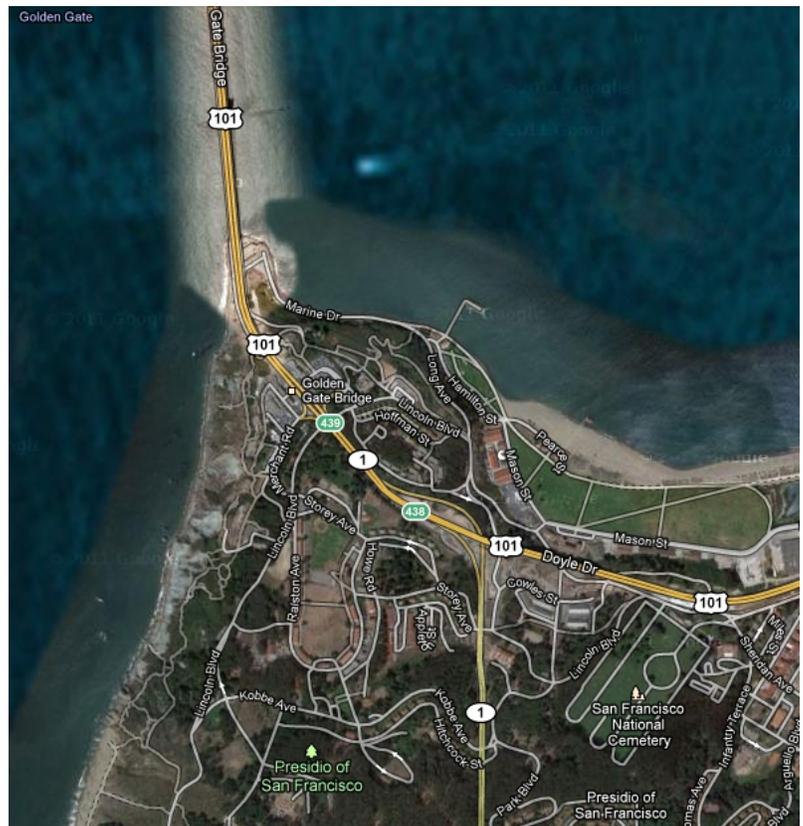
**Sincerely yours,  
JOHN B. CONNALLY**

Note: John Boyden Connally was the 39th Governor of Texas and was the Secretary of the Navy under President Kennedy. While he was Governor in 1963, Connally was a passenger in the car in which President Kennedy was assassinated. Connally was seriously wounded during the shooting.

**NOTE:**

Leon died in San Francisco on 5 June 1961 at age 52 and he was buried on June 8 at the Presidio San Francisco National Cemetery (The Golden Gate National Cemetery) as a CHIEF YEOMAN US NAVY in Plot B 997-A.

He was survived by his sister Alba Berry and his brother Paul, since Arthur and Irene had died earlier. His father Joseph Poissant (Peper) had died 1 year before in June 1960.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

STATE FILE NUMBER 61-057803 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND 3801 4374 CERTIFICATE NUMBER

Form with fields for Name (Leon Joseph Fisher), Sex (Male), Birthplace (Vermont), Date of Birth (March 15, 1909), Date of Death (June 5, 1961), Cause of Death (Acute occlusion, left coronary artery), and Registrar information.

46X DECEDENT PERSONAL DATA 906 301-2

PLACE OF DEATH

LAST USUAL RESIDENCE

PHYSICIAN'S OR CORONER'S CERTIFICATION

FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND LOCAL REGISTRAR

CAUSE OF DEATH

OPERATION AND AUTOPSY

INJURY INFORMATION

905084



This is to certify that this document is a true copy of the official record filed with the Office of Vital Records.

Michael L. Rodrian, STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS

00 MAY 10 AM 10: 33

DATE ISSUED

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying seal and signature of Registrar.



ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

**ABSTRACT OF SERVICE**

<b>Ship or Station</b>	<b>Date attached</b>	<b>Date detached</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Naval Training Station Newport RI	7-17-1930	1-3-1931	Basic Training
USS Detroit CL-8	1-3-1931	3-19-1931	Light Cruiser
USS Omaha CL-4	3-19-1931	7-13-1933	Light Cruiser
US Naval Hosp. Puget Sound, WA	7-13-1933	8-4-1933	
USS Omaha	8-4-1933	8-8-1934	Light Cruiser - Reenlisted
USS Omaha	8-8-1934	7-17-1936	Honorably Discharged - reenlisted
USS Omaha	7-18-1936	12-9-1936	Light Cruiser
Submarine Base Coco Solo, Canal Zone	12-9-1936	12-24-1936	
USS Omaha	12-24-1936	7-14-1937	Light Cruiser
USS Charleston PG-51	7-14-1937	2-28-1938	Gunboat
USS Erie PG-50	2-28-1938	1-24-1939	Gunboat
USS Arkansas BB-33	2-6-1939	5-20-1940	Battleship - Reenlisted
USS Arkansas BB-33	5-30-1940	6-16-1945	COX, BM2, BM1, CBMA, CBM, CMaM
RS, San Francisco, CA	7-8-1945	7-11-1945	CMaM RS=Receiving Station
USNRS Birmingham, AL	8-5-1945	8-6-1945	CMaM
RS, Norfolk, VA	8-7-1945	8-25-1947	CMaM
PSC, Shelton, Norfolk, VA	8-25-1945	8-17-1946	CMaM
USNH, NNMC, Bethesda, MD	8-23-1946	10-18-1946	CMaM Hospital
RS, Washington, DC	10-18-1946	5-27-1947	CMaM RS=Receiving Station
			Reenlisted
RS, Washington, DC	5-28-1947		
Tsingtso Navy Port Fac. 3913		1-20-1948	
Navy 3930 Shanghai, China	1-21-1949	3-25-1949	
RS, San Francisco, CA	4-29-1949	7-8-1949	
NAS Kodiak, Alaska	7-19-1949	12-28-1949	
Treasure Island, SF, CA	1-4-1950	2-24-50	
Transfer to FNR & RAD CL F6	2-28-1950		
RS, San Francisco, CA	9-19-1950		
CWSF (COM WESTERN SEA FRONTIER ) T. Island	10-9-1950	9-5-1951	
US Naval Hosp. Oakland, CA	9-5-1951	10-4-1951	
CWSF Treasure Island, SF, CA	10-7-1951	9-11-1952	
RS, Treasure Island, SF, CA	9-15-1952		

### AUTHORIZED LEAVE TAKEN

Ship or Station	Days	From	To	Remarks
USNTS Newport	10	10-6-1930	10-16-1930	Recruit Leave
USNTS Newport	16	12-11-1930	12-27-1930	Special Drill Squad
USS Omaha	7	5-9-1931	5-16-1931	Regular
USS Omaha	3	9-5-1931	9-7-1931	Regular
USS Omaha	5	12-20-1931	12-24-1931	Regular - Christmas
USS Omaha	10	6-10-1932	6-21-1932	Regular
USS Omaha	8	12-26-1932	1-4-1933	Regular
USS Omaha	13	6-16-1933	6-30-1933	Annual
USS Omaha	3	11-3-1933	11-6-1933	Annual
USS Omaha	17	6-1-1934	6-17-1934	Annual
USS Omaha	15	8-28-1934	9-11-1934	Extension
USS Omaha	5	3-7-1935	3-11-1935	Annual
USS Omaha	3	3-29-1935	3-31-1935	Annual
USS Omaha	4	8-1-1935	8-4-1935	Annual
USS Omaha	30	7-18-1936	8-16-1936	Reenlistment (total=45 days)
USS Omaha	15	8-16-1936	9-1-1936	Annual - In Burlington - pics
USS Erie	7	4-8-1938	4-15-1938	Annual
USS Erie	3	8-19-1938	8-22-1938	Annual - 8-18-1938 Wed to Virginia
USS Erie	26	10-3-1938	11-7-1938	Annual (9 days travel time)
USS Arkansas	2	3-31-1939	4-3-1939	Annual
USS Arkansas	2	4-28-1939	5-1-1939	Annual
USS Arkansas	10	9-23-1939	10-3-1939	Annual
USS Arkansas	7	11-25-1939	12-2-1939	Emergency - <b>Octavie's Death</b>
USS Arkansas	9	12-18-1939	12-27-1939	Annual
USS Arkansas	15	3-13-1940	3-28-1940	Annual
USS Arkansas	7	5-30-1940	6-6-1940	Reenlistment
USS Arkansas	1	8-15-1940	8-17-1940	Annual
USS Arkansas	6	11-18-1940	11-25-1940	Annual 11-4-1940 Served Divorce
USS Arkansas	14	12-20-1940	1-3-1941	Annual
USS Arkansas	9	3-26-1941	4-4-1941	Annual
USS Arkansas	6	5-6-1941	5-12-1941	Annual
USS Arkansas	6	3-21-1942	3-27-1942	Annual
USS Arkansas	11	5-7-1942	5-18-1942	Annual
USS Arkansas	14	9-30-1944	10-14-1944	Regular - Married Ora 10-2-1944
Birmingham, Ala. Sep. Ctr	20+5	7-11-1945	8-5-1945	Rehabilitation after WWII
Norfolk, VA Sep. Ctr	18	11-13-1945	11-30-1945	----- - Separation Center
Norfolk, VA Sep. Ctr	8	8-1-1946	8-8-1946	Annual
RS, Washington, DC	21	2-3-1947	2-24-1947	Annual
RE-ACTIVATED 9-19-1950				
FPO, WSF Treasure Island	22	4-26-1951	5-17-1951	Annual
FPO, WSF Treasure Island	6	1-1-1952	1-6-1952	Annual
Days remaining at retirement	33			



In late 2011 I finally located Leon's daughter, Charmene Fisher Smith, in Evansville, Indiana. She is now 72 years old and lives there with her husband Jerry Smith. She had married first to Charles Minnis, and their daughter Chantel has 2 children, Bailey and Casey who were ages 16 and 11 in 2011.

### Ora Charlotte Galaise (Gover) Fisher

Ora was born in Montpelier on 5 June 1913 to Henry Galaise and Grace Bush.

Name of Child	Ora Charlotte Galaise	<b>BIRTH-FEMALE</b>	
Color	White	No. of Child of Mother	Second
Date of Birth	1913	Month	June
Maiden Name of Mother	Grace Bush	Day	5 <sup>th</sup>
Mother's Birthplace	Chateaugay, N. Y.	Age	17
Mother's Residence	41 Elm St., Montpelier, Vt.	Ward	5.
Full Name of Father	Henry Emile Galaise	Age	25
Father's Birthplace	Montpelier, Vt.		
Father's Occupation	Granite Lumber		
Condition of Child as to Live or Still Birth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Live		
If Still Birth the Cause			
Name of Informant	M. F. McGuire		
Town	Montpelier, Vt.	Certified Copy	T. R. Merrill, City Clerk

In the **1920 census** at age 6 she was living in Montpelier with her grandparents William Cayhue (54) and Agnes Cayhue (41).

In the **1930 census** at age 17 she was living in Burlington and was the step-daughter of Angelo Benedetti and Grace (Bush) Benedetti.

She was married first on 15 Sep 1934 to Arthur Gover at the Cathedral in Burlington, VT and lived at 100 N. Winooski Ave in Burlington, VT. Arthur Gover owned the Gover's TV and Appliance store on Church St. Arthur and his sister Doris Gover raised their nephew Howard Gover in Burlington.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

3801

8320

STATE FILE NUMBER		STATE OF CALIFORNIA		LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND CERTIFICATE NUMBER	
1A. NAME OF DECEDENT—FIRST		1B. MIDDLE	1C. LAST	2A. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY, YEAR)	
ORA		GALAISE	FISHER	December 31, 1984	
3. SEX	4. RACE/ETHNICITY	5. SPANISH/HISPANIC NO	6. DATE OF BIRTH		7. AGE
Female	White	NO	June 5, 1913		71 YEARS
8. BIRTHPLACE OF DECEDENT (STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)		9. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER		10. BIRTH NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER	
Vermont		Henry Galaise Vermont		Grace Bush Vermont	
11. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY		12. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	13. MARITAL STATUS		14. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE (IF WIFE, ENTER BIRTH NAME)
U.S.A.		008-03-0771	widowed		N/A
15. PRIMARY OCCUPATION		16. NUMBER OF YEARS THIS OCCUPATION	17. EMPLOYER (IF SELF-EMPLOYED, SO STATE)	18. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS	
credit manager		16	W.P. FULLER PAINT	PAINT	
19A. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)		19B.	19C. CITY OR TOWN		
6468 Washington Street Space #9		800	Yountville		
19D. COUNTY		19E. STATE	20. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT—RELATIONSHIP		
Napa		California	Self Pre-need		
21. PLACE OF DEATH		21B. COUNTY			
Letterman Army Medical Center		San Francisco			
21C. STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)		21D. CITY OR TOWN			
Presidio of San Francisco		San Francisco			
22. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR A, B, AND C) IMMEDIATE CAUSE		23. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS—CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN 22A	24. WAS DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER?	25. WAS BIOPSY PERFORMED?	26. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED?
06 CAUSE OF DEATH 1629 04 (A) Overwhelming Sepsis (B) Pneumococcal Pneumonia (C) Metastatic Adenocarcinoma of Lung		3 Days 1 Wk 1 Yr	APPROXIMATE INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH	NO	NO
27. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEMS 22 OR 23? TYPE OF OPERATION		NONE			
28A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.		28B. PHYSICIAN—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE	28C. DATE SIGNED	28D. PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE NUMBER	
11/25/84		[Signature]	12/31/84	U.S. Army	
29. SPECIFY ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, ETC.		30. PLACE OF INJURY	31. INJURY AT WORK	32A. DATE OF INJURY—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	
33. LOCATION (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION AND CITY OR TOWN)		34. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN INJURY)			
35A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. AS REQUIRED BY LAW I HAVE HELD AN INQUEST- INVESTIGATION		35B. CORONER—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE	35C. DATE SIGNED		
36. DISPOSITION		37. DATE—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	38. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY	39. EMBALMER'S LICENSE NUMBER AND SIGNATURE	
Burial		Jan. 4, 1985	Presidio San Francisco National Cemetery San Francisco, Ca.	Not Embalmed	
40A. NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR (OR PERSON ACTING AS SUCH)		40B. LICENSE NO.	41. LOCAL REGISTRAR—SIGNATURE	42. DATE ACCEPTED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR	
Claffey & Rota Funeral Home		969	[Signature]	JAN 04 1985	
STATE REGISTRAR	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.

3802436919 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

This is to certify that the image reproduced hereupon is a true copy of the record on file in the SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH as of the date issued.

OCT 30 2000

DATE ISSUED

This copy is not valid unless prepared on an engraved border, displaying the date, seal and signature of the City and County Health Officer.

Mitchell Katz, M.D.  
Health Officer and Local Registrar



ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

## Memories of Uncle Leon

It was tough for me to find anyone with a good memory of Uncle Leon. It's probably because he was always away in the Navy somewhere. My brother Joe who was born in 1929 would have been a good source of info but he passed away at age 72. My Brother Bob and Sister Nancy only remember seeing him go into Pepere's old house at 38 Decatur Street. Uncle Paul & Marion lived there after Pepere remarried in 1942, so I am not sure who Leon was visiting or exactly when.

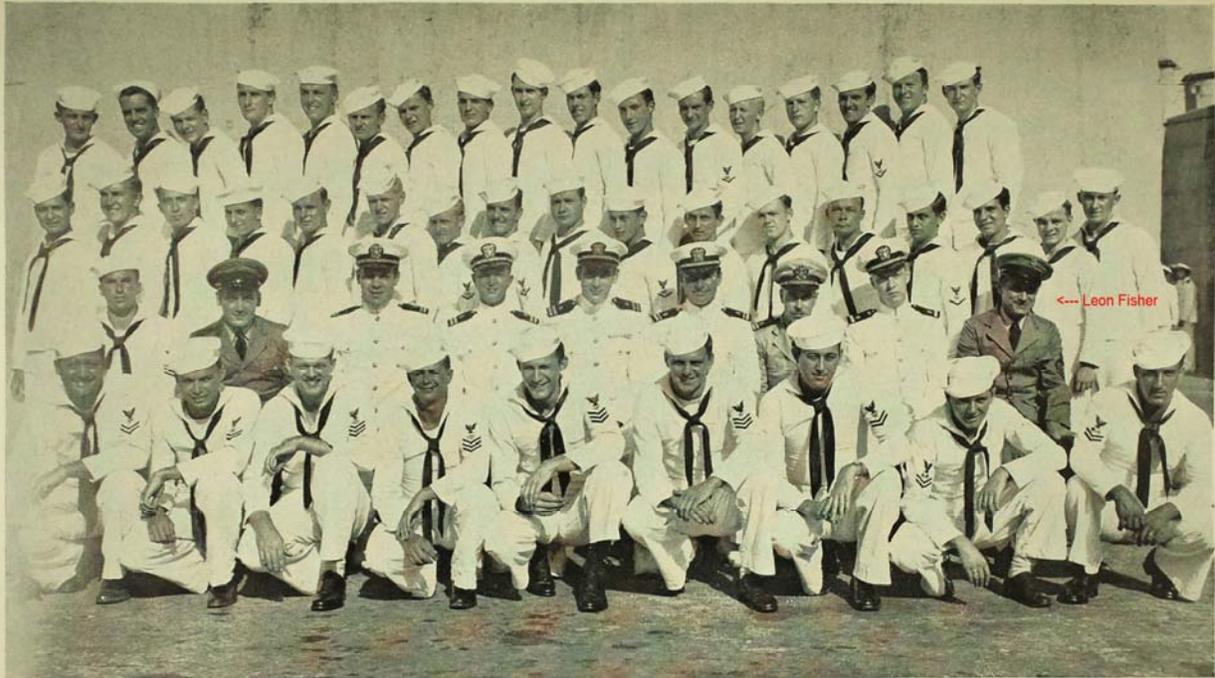
I did receive this info from Barbara Berry Reed who lives in South Burlington, VT.:

John, I don't remember much but Dick reminded me that Uncle Leon came and stayed with Dick and me at camp so it had to be some time after '59. As far as Charmaine (sic) - I remember Leon and Ora invited her to visit in VA. She was living with her grandmother because her Mom was in the mental hospital. She visited and they bought her a bunch of stuff including a bike and after her shopping spree she said she wanted to go home. I know they found her when Pepere died to give her a share of the inheritance. That is all I know. Dick and I loved Uncle Leon. He was such a kind gentle soul. We as kids also visited them at Virginia Beach when he was in the Navy. I think I might have been about 8. That is all I remember. Never even knew when they died.

### WHY THIS BIOGRAPHY OF UNCLE LEON?

Over the past 20 years I have periodically searched for Leon's daughter Charmene, with little success. However in November of 2011 I finally did locate her and have spoken with her, and I have emailed her several times. This lead me to search and to find more on Ancestry and the Internet about Leon and then I thought I would attempt to get Leon's Navy records at the National Archives. I filled out forms for both Leon and his wife Ora since they were both in the Navy, Ora for just 2 years. I received letters that their records were available for \$60.00 each. Being frugal, I emailed them and asked how many papers of information I would get for my \$60.00. They responded and said that they usually send anywhere from 20 to 100 pages of information. OK, I sent for Leon's records and 6 weeks later the mailman delivers a 6 pound package of papers! About 450 pages!! Wow, now I have a job to do and I thought it would take at least a month. They were a scrambled mess. The 1st day I did a quick review of each page. On day two I went thru them again and circled the dates with red ink and stapled together all the multipage records, mostly info on physicals etc. On day three, I sorted them all into date order; first for decades, then by years and finally by month and day, so that I could begin putting together all the info on his historic US Naval career. On day four and five I put about 12 hours on my computer, entering his information and searching the Internet for additional data on the ships that Leon was on, especially during WWII, and adding that information into my document which is now 22 pages in length.

I am glad that I started this effort. I never really knew or saw my Uncle, since his was a career of service in the Navy. I learned that he was involved in many actions during World War II and I am proud that he contributed to our nations success in the war. This will also help my siblings, cousins and other family members learn of his contribution to our country; and maybe understand Leon Joseph Fisher more.



**C DIVISION (Con.)**

★ *First Row* — Schwartz, B., Y2/c, Plank, D. M., RM2/c, Searls, G. R., RT1/c, Millard, W. H., RM1/c, Morton, R. T., Y1/c, Schmatz, L. K., Y1/c, Overstreet, T., Y2/c, Witt, M., SM2/c, Allaire, R. L., SM2/c. ★ *Second Row* — Sturtz, G. A., RM1/c, Merson, W., CY, Lt. (jg) J. P. Clancy, Lt. S. S. Stephens, Lt. S. S. Hatch, Lt. (jg) P. H. Glatfelter, Lt. (jg) A. M. Ferres, Ens. J. A. Melia, Fisher, L. J., CBM. ★ *Third Row* — Policastro, R. L., S1/c, Rogers, G., S1/c, Nowlin, S. E., SM3/c, Ruggieri, D., Y3/c, Crowell, T. C., SM3/c, Tyberg, I. F., SM3/, Mack, R. G., RM3/c, McDonald, E. B., RM3/c, Merson, W., RM3/c, Richardson, H. E., RM3/c, Golba, J. V., RM3/c, Gerehman, J. J., Y3/c, Carter, R. E., RT3/c, Marot, N. H., Y3/c, Vitale, J., S2/c, Myers, J. E., S1/c, Naylon, D. J., RM3/c. ★ *Fourth Row* — Leatherman, J. E., RM3/c, Barker, J. L., S2/c, O'Neal, P. I., S2/c, Ince, J. L., S2/c, Brooks, R. R., RM2/c, Bunch, R. E., RM3/c, Doerfer, R. C., S1/c, Kuber, J. L., S2/c, Regers, F. V., S1/c, Lonigan, B. V., S2/c, Heffelfinger, M. J., S1/c, Meek, F. B., RM3/c, Lewis, J. D., Y3/c, Schmidt, D. J., S1/c, Crowell, L. W., RM3/c, Blanton, B. B., SM3/c, Noll, R. L., S1/c.

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