

Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory

State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Lot Number: 67 Space: F

Find A Grave # 11900240

Name: **Baynard, PFC William Kirk**

Birth date: June 9, 1917 Death date: July 20, 1942 (March 12, 1943 on stone) Burial Date: 1948 Age: 25
b. Wilmington, DE

Spouse:

Children:

Parents: William Jackson Baynard (1895-1980) and Julia Sarah *Kirk* Baynard Biggs (1894-1997)

Siblings: Philip Gladwin Baynard (1919-1998); half brother Alfred (Jimmy) S. Biggs Jr. (1928-1968)

Residence: Died in Japan at Osaka Yodogawa Bunsho POW Camp; death date incorrect on marker

Cause of death/Burial/Obituary: Cardiac beri-beri; cremains; See next page for obituary

Service/occupation information: Prisoner of war, Japan, Osaka Yodogawa Bunsho POW Camp; PFC, Anti-Aircraft Warning Company of the Signal Corps

Officiate: Rev. Paul A. Kellogg

Lot Owner: Julia K. Biggs, September 22, 1948

Inscription:

William Kirk Baynard
Delaware
PFC Sig Corps
World War II
June 19, 1917 - March 12, 1943

DIMENSIONS: H 4" x W 25" x D 15"

STYLE: headstone, veteran's marker

Repairs: cleaned 2022



Inventory date: June 1, 2020 Recorder: Marcia Waters

William, who resided at 402 South State Street, Dover, Delaware, served as a Private First Class with the Anti-Aircraft Warning Company of the Signal Corps during World War II.

He enlisted in the Army on February 24, 1941 in Dover, Delaware and was noted as being in the Plumbing Field. He was also noted as single, without dependents.

He was captured by the Japanese while fighting on Corregidor in the Philippines.

He "Died of Cardiac beri-beri" while a POW at the Osaka Yodogawa Bunsho POW camp in Japan.

He was originally declared "Missing In Action" and the date of death on his tombstone is the date he was presumed dead by the U.S. Army. After the war it was discovered that he had died earlier on July 20, 1942.

He had served in the Army for one year and six months at the time of his death.

William was awarded the "**Prisoner Of War Medal**" and the Purple Heart.

Service # 12014073

Son of William J. Baynard and Julia Kirk Baynard.

(Bio by: [Russ Pickett](#) , [Find A Grave](#))

Documents retrieved from ancestry.com on February 4, 2023

Draft registration 1917

Data from US WW II Prisoner of War records, 1941-1946

SERIAL NUMBER 580	1. NAME (First) William Kirk Baynard	ORDER NUMBER 3677
2. ADDRESS (First) 402 S. State St. Dover, Delaware		
3. ADDRESS (Home) 714 Washington St. Delaware, Delaware		
4. TOWNSHIP Delaware	5. AGE IN YEARS 23	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Delaware
7. POST OFFICE 4-3038	8. DATE OF BIRTH 6/9/17	9. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.
7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Julia A. Baynard		8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mother
9. ADDRESS OF THIS PERSON 402 South State St. Dover Delaware		
10. EMPLOYER'S NAME Rec. Cont. Co.		
11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Deep Water New Jersey		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
REGISTRATION CARD D. S. S. Form 1 Covered William Kirk Baynard (Registrant's Signature)		

Name:	William K Baynard
Race:	White US WW II Prisoners of War record 1941-1946
Residence Place:	Delaware, USA
Report Date:	18 Jan 1943
Latest Report Date:	12 Mar 1943
Grade:	Private
Grade Notes:	Cadet, USMA or Chief Warrant Officer or Private or Apprentice, Seaman
Arm or Service:	Signal Corps
Arm or Service Code:	Signal Corps
Area Served:	Southwest Pacific Theatre: Philippine Islands
Detaining Country:	Japan
Camp:	Osaka Main Camp Chikko Osaka 34-135
Status:	Died as Prisoner of War, Not Above Cases
Report Source:	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.

William Jackson Baynard – Timeline (Father of William Kirk Baynard) Lot 67 F p. 3

1895-11-03 – Born at home in Wilmington DE to Charles Edward Baynard, (11-09-1858 to 04-24-1926) and Laura Ellen Layton Baynard (06-04-1869 to 09-30-1917). I could not find any record of his middle name being Jefferson outside of the inscription on his son's ledger gravestone. The marriage announcement lists his middle name as Jackson. All other references just provide a middle initial of J. He was the seventh of ten children.

1900 – Census shows him still living in Wilmington, his father working for the railroad.

1910 – Census shows him still living in Wilmington, his father working for the railroad.

1912 – Wilmington city directory lists him as a cigar maker, (at age 17), the same profession as is listed on his application for marriage to Julia.

1913 to 1915 – U.S. Navy? Although I could find no official record of this service, on his registration for the draft in WW I, he indicates two years spent as a seaman in the U.S. Navy.

1916-08-20 – Marries Julia S. Kirk. Announcement in paper was provided by her two maiden aunts, who lived in Dover. She is listed as a school teacher. His residence at the time of marriage was Richardson Park, DE, (Julia's was in Wilmington). Plans for after the marriage were to live in Camden, New Jersey.

1917 – Registered for WW I draft; residence is listed as Wilmington, DE and occupation as a brakeman for the railroad. His draft registration shows he spent two years prior in the Navy.

1917-06-09 – Son William Kirk Baynard is born.

1917-09-30 – Death of mother Laura Baynard.

1919-07-10 – Son Phillip Gladwin Baynard is born.

1919-10-28 – His father Charles remarries, (Nellie Stevens, a widow).

1920 – Census shows Julia living with her two maiden aunts and two sons in Dover. It also indicates she is married, but I could not find a record anywhere, on any census, of William's whereabouts.

1921-06-09 – Death of step mother Nellie Baynard.

1926-04-24 – Death of father Charles Baynard. Charles's obit indicates that William is living in Springfield, Massachusetts.

1928-08-02 – Ex-wife Julia marries Alfred Biggs. Her application for a marriage license indicates she is divorced.

1930 – No record of William Baynard on any census record.

1940 – Census shows he is single, living with older sister Lulu, (Laura May Baynard Wolf). Record also indicates he only completed one year of high school.

1941-11-26 – Marries Eleanor Brown, (D.O.B. 11-23-1905). Application for marriage certificate indicates this is the first marriage for both. It is uncertain if she's aware of his two children.

1942 – WWII Draft registration shows he is living in Wilmington and works for Pusey and Jones shipyard as a welder.

1943-12-03 – Delayed birth certificate is registered by his older sister, Lulu, indicating his D.O.B. as 11-03-1895 and that he was born at home in Wilmington.

1945-08-30 – Land records show he and Eleanor built a home in Elsmere, DE.

1950-06-21 – Property records show that he paid off the mortgage in Elsmere. (Possibly sold the home and moved to Texas?)

1950 – Census shows he is living with Eleanor in Texas working construction. His youngest brother Lawrence also lives in Texas. This is the last record of Eleanor I could find.

1955 – Sister Lulu's obituary indicates William is back living in Wilmington.

1972-11-14 – Youngest brother Lawrence dies in Texas.

1980 – Social Security Bureau indicates William died in Wilmington, DE in December, although it lists his birth as 11-03-1893, versus 11-03-1895.