

## VINCENT L. DORRIS

U. S. Army Private, Company "L" 30<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

Killed in Action in France on October 8, 1918

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

Born in Claysville, Washington County, Pennsylvania, on December 31, 1894, Vincent Dorris was the son of James L. Dorris and Fannie Leonard, married in Washington County on September 6, 1897. James Dorris was living in Pittsburgh, according to the marriage record.

At the time of the 1900 census, Fannie, born in 1877, was a widow living in Washington County with her two children, Vincent, 5, and Thomas Paul, 1. Fannie was a Dressmaker.

The presumed father, James L. Dorris, was from Cumberland, Maryland, the son of Thomas Dorris, a jeweler in Cumberland. James worked as a brakeman for the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railroad. He died after falling from his train; his brother had died a few months earlier.

<p><i>Baltimore Sun, April 3, 1900</i></p> <p><b>A BRAKEMAN KILLED</b></p> <p><b>Accident Near Potomac Station— Other Allegany Items.</b></p> <p>[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.] CUMBERLAND, MD., April 2.—James Dorris, aged 28 years, a West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh brakeman, who resides in Sinclairville, opposite Cumberland, fell from his train near Potomac Station, ten miles west of Cumberland, today and was cut in two, dying instantly. A leg was also cut off. He leaves a wife and two children. Mr. Dorris was a son of Thomas Dorris, jeweler, of this city. In December last his brother, Winfield Scott Dorris, a Baltimore and Ohio brakeman, was killed in the yards here.</p>	<p><i>Wheeling Intelligencer, 5 Apr 1900</i></p> <p><b>Cut in Two by Freight Train.</b></p> <p>Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer KEYSER, W. Va., April 4.—James L. Dorris, of Sinclairville, this county, was cut in two yesterday by a West Virginia Central freight train, on which he was a brakeman, the accident occurring twelve miles east of Keyser. He leaves a widow and two children. He was twenty-five years old. This is the second of the family killed in the past few months, a brother, who was a Baltimore &amp; Ohio brakeman, being killed in the Cumberland yards in December.</p>
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Fannie Leonard Dorris married Riley McCamick in Claysville in 1902. In the 1911 Wheeling City Directory, they were living on 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Wheeling, where Fannie is described as a grocer, and Riley was a proprietor of The American Stogie Company. In 1911, Vincent was at the same address and he was an Apprentice Stogiemaker. In the 1917 directory, Vincent was a Glass Worker.

When Vincent registered for the World War I Draft, he said he worked at the Hazel Atlas Company in Wheeling and lived on McColloch Street. According to his obituary, he was employed by Pollock Stogie Company at the time he entered service.

Form 1 **549** REGISTRATION CARD No. **73** 47-1-32-A

1 Name in full **Vincent L Dorris** Age in yrs. **22**

2 Home address **944 Mc Coll**

3 Date of birth **Dec 31st 1894**

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? **Natural Born**

5 Where were you born? **Clayville Pa**

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? **Boasting Clerk 10**

8 By whom employed? **State of Pa**

9 Where employed? **State of Pa**

10 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, wholly dependent on you for support (specify which)?

11 Married or single (which)? **Single** Race (specify which)? **White**

12 What military service have you had? Rank \_\_\_\_\_; branch \_\_\_\_\_; years \_\_\_\_\_; Nation or State \_\_\_\_\_

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?

I certify that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

**502** **Vincent Dorris**  
(Signature of registrant)

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? **5'6"** Slender, medium, or stout (which)? **Slender**

2 Color of eyes? **Blue** Color of hair? **Red** Bald?

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

**Vincent Dorris**

**Jos A Schmitt**  
(Signature of Registrar)

Precinct **10 Wash**

City or County **Elkies**

State **West Va** **June 5 1917**  
(Date of registration)

DORRIS VINCENT L C 109 445

Pv Co L 30 Inf K

134 Gamble Av Elm Grove W Va A 1 838 945

Su 548 109 Died 10-8-18 T 4 750 610

Born 12-31-94 R

Enl 9-20-17 Dis 10-8-18 Ct.

I 137 303

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU  
MAIL AND RECORDS  
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD GPO 2-13509

*Wheeling Intelligencer, 20 July 1921*

## ANOTHER SOLDIER'S BODY COMING HOME

Remains of Private Vincent Dorris  
Enroute from France to  
New York

The body of Vincent Dorris, aged 21, former well known Wheeling boy, who met death in the Meuse-Argonne drive on October 8, 1918, is expected to arrive in the city very shortly, according to information received by the lad's mother, Mrs. Fannie McCamic, of No. 944 McCulloch street. She recently received word from the war department that the body had left France and is now awaiting word of the arrival in New York.

Young Dorris was formerly employed

at Jones's stogie factory and had many friends in this vicinity. He was in the infantry service and was engaged in some of the hardest fought battles of the war having taken part in six major battles

*Wheeling Intelligencer, 18 Oct 1921*

The last rites for Private Dorris were held yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the home of his mother Mrs. Fannie McCamic, No. 944 McCulloch street. Dr. Samuel M. Gibson, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, officiated. Burial was made in the Greenwood cemetery with the usual ritualistic service conducted by the Legion.

Buried at Greenwood Cemetery, Wheeling, on October 17, 1921.

In 1932, the soldier's mother ordered a government headstone for her son's grave. At that time, she was married to Oswald Brandau. Fannie died in 1958 and is interred at Greenwood Cemetery.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
O. Q. M. G. Form No. 633  
Approved Aug. 13, 1913  
Revised July 15, 1922

S# 540  
**APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE**  
**ORIGINAL**

(PLEASE MAKE OUT AND RETURN IN DUPLICATE)

Name	Rank	Company	U. S. Regiment, State Organization, or Army, N. Y.	Date of Death
Vincent Dorris	Pvt. 1/4	Co. B 30th	30th Infantry	Oct. 8, 1918
Name of Cemetery	Located in or near—		If World War Veteran—	
Greenwood	City	State	Division	State Emblem
	Wheeling	W. Va.	3rd	WV

TO BE SHIPPED TO Mrs. Fannia Brandau at Wheeling, Ohio County, W. Va.  
(Name of consignee) (Give town, county, and State)

POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE 918 McCulloch St., Wheeling, W. Va.

**DO NOT WRITE HERE** JUL 23 1932 I hereby agree to accept the headstone at above destination, freight prepaid, and properly place same at decedent's grave.

Verified PROCTOR, VT. AUG 5 1932 This application is for the UNMARKED\* grave of a soldier. It is understood the stone will be furnished and delivered at the railroad station or steamboat landing above indicated, at Government expense, freight prepaid, and agreed to be promptly removed and set up at private expense.

Ordered 464272 J. H. B. Biddle U. S. Army, Adjutant General Applicant.

From 10/28/32 Address 918 McCulloch St., Wheeling, W. Va. JUL 23 1932

\*Stones must not be requested for any grave at which a private stone, monument, or other permanent marker is already erected or is to be erected.  
State whether soldier, sailor, marine, Army nurse, etc.