

CLEMENT OTTO KURNER

Painter 3rd Class, U. S. Navy

Lost at Sea on the U. S. Cyclops, June 14, 1918

Compiled by Linda Cunningham Fluharty.

The U. S. S. Cyclops disappeared in the Bermuda Triangle on March 4, 1918. All of the 306 on board were presumed dead and the designated death date for all of them is June 14, 1918.

Clement Otto Kurner, born on July 28, 1895, was the son of David C. Kurner and Barbara Ebbert, married in Ohio County in 1886. They were residents of 18th Street, Wheeling at the time of the 1900 census, at which time their children were Raymond, 12, Caritas, 11, David C., 9, Stella, 8, Robert, 6, Clemmons, 4, and Martha, 3. Mr. Kurner was a Painting Contractor. By 1910, two more children were added to the family, Paul J. and Ebbert F.

U.S., Navy Casualties Books, 1776-1941 for Clement Otto Kurner

Officers and Enlisted Men, 1917-1918

KURNER, CLEMENT OTTO, painter, third class, United States Navy.

Enlisted: Pittsburgh, Pa., May 18, 1917.

Died: Navy collier *Cyclops*, June 14, 1918.

Cause: On board missing ship.

Next of kin: Father, David C. Kurner, 77 Eighteenth Street, Wheeling, W. Va.

A letter received by Private John R. Kurner of the Armory guard quotes notice that the navy department has officially declared the officers and crew of the naval collier *Cyclops* dead. Clement Kurner, a brother of Private Kurner was a member of the collier's crew and was presumably lost.

Wheeling Intelligencer, 3 July 1918

Mass For Clem Kurner

This morning at 8 o'clock at St. Joseph's Cathedral a requiem high mass will be offered for Clement O. Kurner of the United States navy, son of Mr and Mrs. D. C. Kurner of Eighteenth street. Mr Kurner was on the steamer, "Cyclops" which disappeared some time ago and news from the officials of the navy department at Washington indicate that all hopes have been given up of finding the vessel. This is the first member of the Cathedral congregation who has given up his life in this war.

Very Rev. O. H. Moyer, V. G., will offer the mass. A catafalque covered with the American flag, will be placed in the center aisle. All friends of the family and members of the Cathedral congregation are asked to be present for this service.

Daily Intelligencer, 27 June 1918

D. C. KURNER RECEIVES WORD CYCLOPS IS LOST

**FATHER OF CLEMENT O. KURNER,
ON ILL-FATED BOAT, RECEIVED
SAD MESSAGE YESTERDAY.**

**Father of Edward Leo Blake, of Ben-
wood, Also on the Same Boat,
Receives Same Message.**

After waiting hopefully for more than ninety days Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Kurner yesterday received word telling of the U. S. Collier Cyclops having been officially declared lost. Clement O. Kurner, their son, was aboard the vessel when last he was heard of in April.

The message was official, having come from Secretary of the Navy Daniels and all hope has been given up for the safety of the officers, crew or passengers of the boat.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Blake, of Benwood, also received word their son, Edward Leo, who was on the boat, had been declared as lost.

Both young men enlisted in the Navy about a year ago, Blake going as a machinist, and Kurner as a painter. After a short training they had been assigned to the same boat and were together when they were heard from last.

The last heard of the vessel it was in the Barbadoes and since its mysterious disappearance the seas have been combed with wireless and vessels to find it, but to no avail.

Two more American Wheeling boys have given their bit.

KURNER CLEMENT OTTO

~~X~~C 21 744

Ptr 3C USN

K

Wheeling W Va

A 575 551

Sa 103 34 '74

Died 6/14/18

T 3 167 396

Born 7-28-95

R

Enl

Dis

Cl.

I 131 757

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

INDEX CARD

*** 2-13060