

FIND THEM IN WORLD WAR II

Tips for finding answers in World War II military records on Ancestry.com

Start your search for World War II-related records by visiting www.ancestry.com/military, where you'll find all of the collections in one place. Having problems? Refine your search with the following tips.

The screenshot shows the search interface for World War II military records. At the top, there are tabs for "All Military Collections", "Revolutionary War", "Civil War", "World War I", and "World War II". Below this is a search bar for "Search World War II (1941-1945) Military Records". There are several search filters: "Match all terms exactly" (checkbox), "Name" (First & Middle Name(s) and Last Name), "Birth" (Day, Month, Year, +/-), "Exact Only" (checkbox), "Location", "Death" (Day, Month, Year, +/-), "Exact Only" (checkbox), and "Location". A sample record for Charles Valackas is shown, with fields for Name, Birth Date (4 Mar 1895), Birth Place (Valainikas, Lithuania), Residence (East Hartford, Connecticut), Race (White), Age, Nearest Relative, Height/Build, and Color of Eyes/Hair. There are buttons for "View Original Record" and "View Image". A "Save" button is also visible at the bottom.

1. Check birth years. Draft ages during World War II extended from ages 18 to 45. Search for people born between approximately 1897 and 1926 (give or take a few years) in both draft cards and enlistment records. You'll also find men born between the ages of 45 and 64 in the fourth registration, a.k.a. the "old man's draft"; note, however, that this group was never drafted.

2. Use the right name. Your relative may have gone by a nickname – but family members living today may know the given name, which is also likely to be the name used in military documents.

3. Look for clues to help you determine if you've found the right person. Military records may include hometown or place of enlistment, birth year and even the name of another family member (select "View Image" to see all details). Compare this to information you know about your family member already. If it fits, be sure to save it to your family tree. Don't have enough information yet to continue your search? Save the record to your computer or Ancestry.com shoebox and try the next tip.

4. Jump backwards. Remember, people you find in WWII military records at Ancestry.com will have left other trails at Ancestry.com. If the WWII military record is the first record you discover for this person on Ancestry.com, use its details to help you search for a 1930 census record (remember, he'll be 12-15 years younger), or a passenger list if the person is a recent immigrant. Also look for yearbooks, birth and marriage records, city directories and family trees.

Five Clues in a World War II Draft Card

Draft cards can point you to your next step. See how we used a card from the U.S. WWII Draft Cards collection to discover more answers and more records.

DSS Form 166

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1924)

SERIAL NUMBER N **486** **I. NAME (Print)** **JAMES FRANKLIN FRADY** **ORDER NUMBER** **11966**

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
BLACK MOUNTAIN AVE. BLACK MOUNTAIN BUNCOMBE N.C.
(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)

3. MAILING ADDRESS
BLACK MOUNTAIN NORTH CAROLINA
(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same name, word same)

4. TELEPHONE _____ **5. AGE IN YEARS** **18** **6. PLACE OF BIRTH** **GREENSBORO**
(Town or county) (State or country)

DATE OF BIRTH **FEB 14 1924**
(Month) (Day) (Year)

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
MRS. W. B. SCOTT

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
BEACON MFG. CO.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
SWANNANOA BUNCOMBE N.C.
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 6-1-42) (over) e16-21630-3 *James Franklin Frady*

1. Birth date

Use birth date plus James's name to locate his gravestone in Honolulu, Hawaii, Punchbowl National Cemetery, 1941-2011. Details on the tombstone reveal he was a staff sergeant in the 417th Bombardment Group, U.S. Army Air Force, when he died.



2. Birthplace and residence

Birthplace and residence will narrow down search results for James in the 1930 U.S. Federal Census. Two James Fradys born in the 1920s live in Buncombe County, North Carolina in 1930. Only one of them, though, has a middle initial "F." The birth year isn't identical to the one listed on the draft card but it is close, making it worth checking into further.

3. Birth details

Birthplace points to the North Carolina Birth Index, 1800-2000, where James F. Frady is listed with a birthdate exactly two years later than the draft card shows. His father's name is William Howard Frady, matching the 1930 census. But why the birth year discrepancy? James may have lied about his age because he was eager to serve — plus to register for this draft, James had to be born on or before June 30, 1924 (you'll find the date range at the top of the draft card).

State	County	Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Parents
NC	Buncombe	James F. Frady	1924	Greensboro	William H. Frady, Mary A. Frady
NC	Buncombe	James F. Frady	1926	Greensboro	William H. Frady, Mary A. Frady

State North Carolina Incorporated place _____

County Buncombe Ward of city _____ Block No. _____

Township or other division of county Swannanoa Township Unincorporated place _____

FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE POPULATION

PLACE OF BIRTH	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	RELATION	RACE	EDUCATION	HOME DATA			PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	PLACE OF BIRTH	MOTHER	FATHER	MOTHER	FATHER	MOTHER	FATHER	
							Married	Widowed	Never									
North Carolina	M	22	1	Head	W	8	W	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
North Carolina	F	18	0	Wife	W	8	W	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
North Carolina	M	17	0	Son	W	8	W	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
North Carolina	F	15	0	Daughter	W	8	W	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18

General Index to VITAL STATISTICS - Guilford County, N. C. - BIRTHS

DATE	NAME	SEX	PARENTS	AGE OF MOTHER	AGE OF FATHER
FEB 14 1926	FRADY	JAMES F.	WILLIAM HOWARD FRADY, MARY A. FRADY	22	18
FEB 15 1926	FRADY	JAMES F.	WILLIAM HOWARD FRADY, MARY A. FRADY	22	18
FEB 16 1926	FRADY	JAMES F.	WILLIAM HOWARD FRADY, MARY A. FRADY	22	18

REGISTRAR'S REPORT
DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION	
White	5'10"	140	Sallow	
	EYES		HAIR	
Negro	Blue	Blonde	Ruddy	✓
	Gray	Red	Dark	
Oriental	Hazel	Brown	Freckled	
	Brown	Black	Light brown	
Indian	Black	Gray	Dark brown	
		Bald	Black	

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification _____

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows _____

Registrar for Local Board: Mary Jones
S. WANNANOA NC.
(Number) (City or county) (State)

Date of registration: June 30, 1942

LOCAL BOARD NUMBER
305 CITY HALL
ASHEVILLE, BUNCOMBE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant shall be placed in the above space)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-21630-1

4. Enlistment date

Draft cards don't mean someone was drafted — just that the person registered. (The World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, is a great example. It registered men between the ages of 45 and 64, but none were drafted as a result.) Such is the case with James. Searching the military collections at Ancestry.com shows that James F. Frady enlisted in the Army Air Corps just few months after he filled out this card, before he was ever drafted.

U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1,438-1946 Source: James F. Frady

Name:	James F Frady
Birth Year:	1924
Race:	White, Citizen (White)
Nativity State or Country:	North Carolina
State of Residence:	North Carolina
County or City:	Buncombe
Enlistment Date:	7 Oct 1942
Enlistment State:	South Carolina
Enlistment City:	Camp Croft
Branch:	Air Corps
Branch Code:	Air Corps
Grade:	Private
Grade Code:	Private
Term of Enlistment:	Enlistment for the duration of the War or other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise



DSS Form 166

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1924)

SERIAL NUMBER 1. NAME (Print) ORDER NUMBER
N 486 JAMES FRANKLIN FRADY 11906
(First) (Middle) (Last)

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
BLACK MOUNTAIN AVE. BLACK MOUNTAIN BUNCOMBE N.C.
(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)

(THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL)

3. MAILING ADDRESS
BLACK MOUNTAIN NORTH CAROLINA
(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)

4. TELEPHONE 5. AGE IN YEARS 6. PLACE OF BIRTH
GREENSBORO
(Town or county)

DATE OF BIRTH FEB 21 1924
(Mo.) (Day) (Year) (State or country)

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
MRS. W.B. SCOTT

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
BEACON MFG CO.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
S. WANNANOA BUNCOMBE N.C.
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I ASSEVERATE THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (over) 616-21630-3
James Franklin Frady (Registered's Signature)

5. Name of someone who will always know your address

Typically a spouse, parent or sibling is listed as the contact — so who is Mrs. W.B. Scott? Working under the assumption that James's mother remarried after the 1930 census also assumes something happened to James's father. Sure enough it had: a search of the birth, marriage and death collection on Ancestry.com for William H. Frady using info from the 1930 census (born in North Carolina in 1893) surfaces a death certificate from 1932. The wife's name, Ella, matches. And the death certificate adds a new generation to search — William's parents' names and other details are included.

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
Bureau of Vital Statistics

STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County: Buncombe Registration District No. 11-243 Certificate No. 96
Township: Mission Hospital
City: Asheville N.C.

2. FULL NAME: William Howard Frady
3. RESIDENCE: Koon Development

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

1. SEX: Male 2. COLOR OR RACE: White 3. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (circle the word): Married

4. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year): May 21st 1892
5. AGE: 39 Years 6 Months 12 Days

6. TRADE, OCCUPATION, OR PROFESSION: Carpenter

7. INDUSTRY OF BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS WELL AS THE MILL, BANK, etc.

8. DATE DECEASED LAST NOTIFIED OF HIS OCCUPATION (month and year):

9. BIRTHPLACE (city or town): Broad River
(State or country): McDowell Co. N.C.

10. NAME: A. D. Frady
11. BIRTHPLACE (city or town): Flat Creek
(State or country): McDowell Co. N.C.

12. MARRIAGE: Madley Ombay
13. BIRTHPLACE (city or town): Flat Creek
(State or country): McDowell Co. N.C.

14. INFORMANT: A. D. Frady
(Address): Black Mountain N.C.

15. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL: Feb. 4 1932

16. OCCUPATION: Reynolds Underwriting Co.

17. PLACE OF DEATH: Asheville N.C.

18. FILED: 33 M. C. C.

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year): Feb. 3rd 1932

22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from mission hospital to his home in his death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at his residence.

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