

## What Happened to Mary Lukemire?

by Steven Nelson Jonnes

The mystery of lost family members can haunt relatives an entire lifetime.

In 1920 or 1921, Mary Lukemire left home as a young woman and never returned. Her family believed she went to Chicago. At least one postcard was received, but then she disappeared and was not heard from again.



Mary Lukemire, about 1921, from the back of a postcard in the author's possession)

### The Family

Home was Williamsburg, Clermont County, Ohio – about 30 miles east of Cincinnati. Thomas Wilber Lukemire (1868-1946) and Centrilla Blalock (1868-1921), called Trilla, were Mary's parents. Wilber, as he was known, was the sexton of the Williamsburg Cemetery.

Seven children of this couple lived to adulthood. Their names and birth years were:

Mary – 1889  
Frank – 1893  
Edith – 1896  
Barbara – 1899  
Ed – 1905  
John – 1907  
Grace – 1910



The Lukemire family in 1906. Left to right: Barbara, Frank, Edith, Mary, Trilla, Ed on Trilla's lap, Wilber, Maggie on Wilber's lap, and Wilber's parents Kate Homan (1845-1912) and Leonidas Lukemire (1843-1928). Maggie died in 1912, age 8. Original in the author's possession, enhanced by *MyHeritage*.)

## The Loss

Mary's departure mystified her brothers and sisters. The loss grieved Barbara Lukemire (1899 - 1974), for example, for the rest of her life. In 1967, the author witnessed Barbara's anguish when he was an adolescent.<sup>1</sup> Barbara had gone to live with her son Nelson Jonnes (1926 - 2011) and his family in Minnesota after suffering a medical scare and leaving her job in San Bernadino, California. She remained about nine months. Barbara's health issues and loss of independence affected her deeply; she was withdrawn and depressed.

However, Barbara became visibly animated one evening when the subject of Mary's disappearance was raised by Nelson. Barbara was still upset about it, almost 50 years later. She could not understand what happened and said everyone in the family worried that Mary might have been abducted and sold into "white slavery."<sup>2</sup> In a private conversation later, Nelson relayed to the author that his mother always feared Mary had gotten involved with the mob, been sold into prostitution, or met some other horrible fate.

But it was not just Barbara. All the siblings were affected. Mary was the oldest child and acted to some extent like a second mother. Edith Lukemire (1896 - 1980) reportedly even traveled to Chicago to search for Mary – to no avail.<sup>3</sup> Cousins descended from other siblings of Mary are also familiar with the story. A daughter of Grace Lukemire (1910 - 2001) remembers Aunt Edith discussing it in her old age and how she remained perplexed by Mary's disappearance.<sup>4</sup>

Many theories were discussed. None of them could understand why Mary never reached out to them. In his 1995 genealogy report, Nelson reported that "Mary ... went to Chicago when (his mother) Barbara was in high school and was never heard from again – lost."<sup>5</sup> He believed that a man was somehow involved and that Mary had likely run off with a boyfriend.



**Barbara Lukemire, about 1923.**  
Original in the author's possession.

## The Mystery

The question, therefore, is what happened to Mary Lukemire? When did she leave home and why, and what was her fate?

The Lukemire family of Williamsburg, Ohio, was enumerated in the 1900,<sup>6</sup> 1910,<sup>7</sup> and 1920<sup>8</sup> federal censuses. Their ages in the three censuses were:

<i>Name</i>	<i>1900 Census</i>	<i>1910 Census</i>	<i>1920 Census</i>
Wilber	32	42	51
Trilla	31	41	51
Mary	10	20	30
Frank	7	16	-
Edith	5	14	-
Barbara	1	10	-
Edith		4	14
John		2	12
Grace			9

Mary Lukemire is conveniently aged 10, 20, and 30 in these enumerations. Grace, the youngest, finally showed up in the 1920 census, but by then some of the older children had already left home. Frank Lukemire (1893 - 1947)<sup>9</sup> and Edith married before 1920,<sup>10</sup> and Barbara was in nursing school at the University of Cincinnati.<sup>11</sup>

Three vital records were discovered for Mary Lukemire, covering her birth, marriage, and death. The first of these appears in the Clermont County register of births. Mary Lukemires [*sic*] was born 19 September 1889 in Clermont County, Ohio.<sup>12</sup> The date tracks nicely with the ages cited in her federal enumerations.

Marriage records were then searched extensively because of the suspicion that Mary may have left home with an unknown boyfriend. No such record was found in her home county of Clermont – nor for that matter in the entire states of Ohio or Kentucky. The family legend speaks of her going to Chicago, so a search was then conducted of Cook County, Illinois, marriage records.

Voila! An online index of Cook County marriages displays a listing on 24 August 1921 for Mary Lukemier and James Dwyre [*sic*].<sup>13</sup> She would have been nearly 31 at the time.

### **The Beau**

James Henry Dwyre (1874 - 1964), of Irish descent, was born and raised in Oswego, Kendall County, Illinois, the son of a horse trainer.<sup>14</sup> He was 15 years older than Mary Lukemire and was married at least once previously. His first wife, Anna Elizabeth McMurtrie, died during childbirth in 1898.<sup>15</sup> The child, Juanita Elizabeth Dwyre (1898 - 1990), survived, however.<sup>16</sup> James was listed in the 1900 census as a widowed harness maker living with his McMurtrie in-laws in Aurora, Illinois.<sup>17</sup>

At some point after 1900, James Dwyre made the wise decision to transition from

horses to cars because he became a chauffeur for well-to-do men at the dawn of the automobile age. He also apparently married a woman named Margaret, maiden name unknown.<sup>18</sup> In the 1910 U.S. census, James and Margaret were enumerated as husband-and-wife servants in the family of Parke E. Simmons, a prominent attorney in Evanston, Illinois.<sup>19</sup> James was the chauffeur and Margaret the cook. It was his second marriage and her first; no children were cited.

James filed a U.S. passport application on 21 November 1908 for the purpose of accompanying his employer, Mr. Simmons, to Europe.<sup>20</sup> Mr. Simmons attested that he had known James “nearly five years.” According to a short *Dwyre Family History* provided to the author by a descendant, James chauffeured Mrs. Simmons “all over Europe.”<sup>21</sup>

James Dwyre was still married to Margaret in 1918.<sup>22</sup> His World War I registration card indicated that he and Margaret resided at 435 Webster Avenue in north Chicago and that he was a chauffeur for E. F. Swift Company at Union Stock Yards, a large meat-packing firm. His signature on the registration card matches the one on the 1908 passport application.

The *Dwyre Family History* references his employment at Swift Company as well, stating that James was “a chauffeur for the Swift family.”<sup>23</sup> It does not mention which Mr. Swift, but it must have been one of the six sons of company founder Augustus Swift.<sup>24</sup>

It is unknown what happened to Margaret Dwyre after 1918. No death or divorce record can be found, and neither she nor James can be clearly identified in the 1920 U.S. census.<sup>25</sup> The *Dwyre Family History* does not even mention Margaret; it states that Mary Lukemire was James’ second wife.<sup>26</sup> This is another mystery that has not been resolved.

### **The Timing**

Mary Lukemire was enumerated in the 1920 U.S. census residing with her parents, so she must have run away sometime between that

date – 24 January 1920 – and when she married James Dwyre in Chicago – 24 August 1921.

A key event during the intervening 19 months was the death of Mary’s mother. Centrilla Lukemire passed away from chronic interstitial nephritis on 20 April 1921.<sup>27</sup> If the diagnosis was correct, then Trilla may have suffered the enervating symptoms of nephritis for months, and Mary could not bring herself to leave earlier. In any case, it is curious that she married someone in Chicago only four months after her mother died.

One hypothesis, therefore, is that Mary Lukemire left home in the summer of 1921 after her mother’s passing. If so, the speed with which she married Mr. Dwyre suggests prior acquaintance. Could James have driven to Williamsburg because of his driving expertise? Since Mary was listed in the 1910 census as a “restaurant saleswoman,” might they have first met when he ate at her restaurant?<sup>28</sup> It is plausible, although driving the 330 miles from Chicago to Williamsburg would have taken two or three days in 1921 because of the road conditions.

On the other hand, maybe Mary did leave for Chicago before her mother died and simply met James Dwyre there. It could make sense if we assume that Mary left in 1920 and her mother’s nephritis had not yet manifested itself. On the back of one of the few existing photographs of Mary, someone wrote “Disappeared in Chicago, Ill., 1920.”

### The Postcard

After her departure, Mary corresponded with her family at least once. An undated postcard that has survived all these years was sent from Chicago to her family. It must have been inserted in an envelope when mailed because it shows no date or postage mark. It is a studio photograph of Mary on the front, and on the back, it reads:

This is not very good. I look like a long neck turkey but I guess I have not changed much. How is everybody? Well and

happy I suppose. Have you got all your housecleaning done yet? Well, love and kisses to all from Mary. This looks better if you hold it far away from you than if it is close.<sup>29</sup>



Back of postcard mailed to Lukemire family from Mary Lukemire, about 1921. Original in the author’s possession.

Regardless of how long before communication from Mary ended, it remains unknown why she discontinued contact and disappeared. No one in the family knew that she married James Dwyre. Barbara certainly did not know. If the Lukemire family had known James’ name, that would have made tracking Mary down much easier.

### Northern Wisconsin

At some point in the 1920s, James and Mary moved to northern Wisconsin. A mere three months after their marriage, James was in the process of clearing a piece of property he bought in Bayfield County, over 400 miles north of Chicago.

James Dwyer who purchased land in 31-46-5 ... has had Steve Welch and crew at work all fall clearing land. The writer could not help but notice the fine improvement which has been made to this place. This was one of the heaviest piece of poplar brush land in the Mason District but the woodman’s axe is making it give way and Mr. Dwyer will have a fine place before long.<sup>30</sup>

The phrase “31-46-5” refers to Township 46 North, Range 5 West, Section 31 in the Public Land Survey System. Although the acreage is not stated, James purchased a lot in what was then Mason Township of Bayfield County, Wisconsin. It was 60 miles east of Superior, Wisconsin.

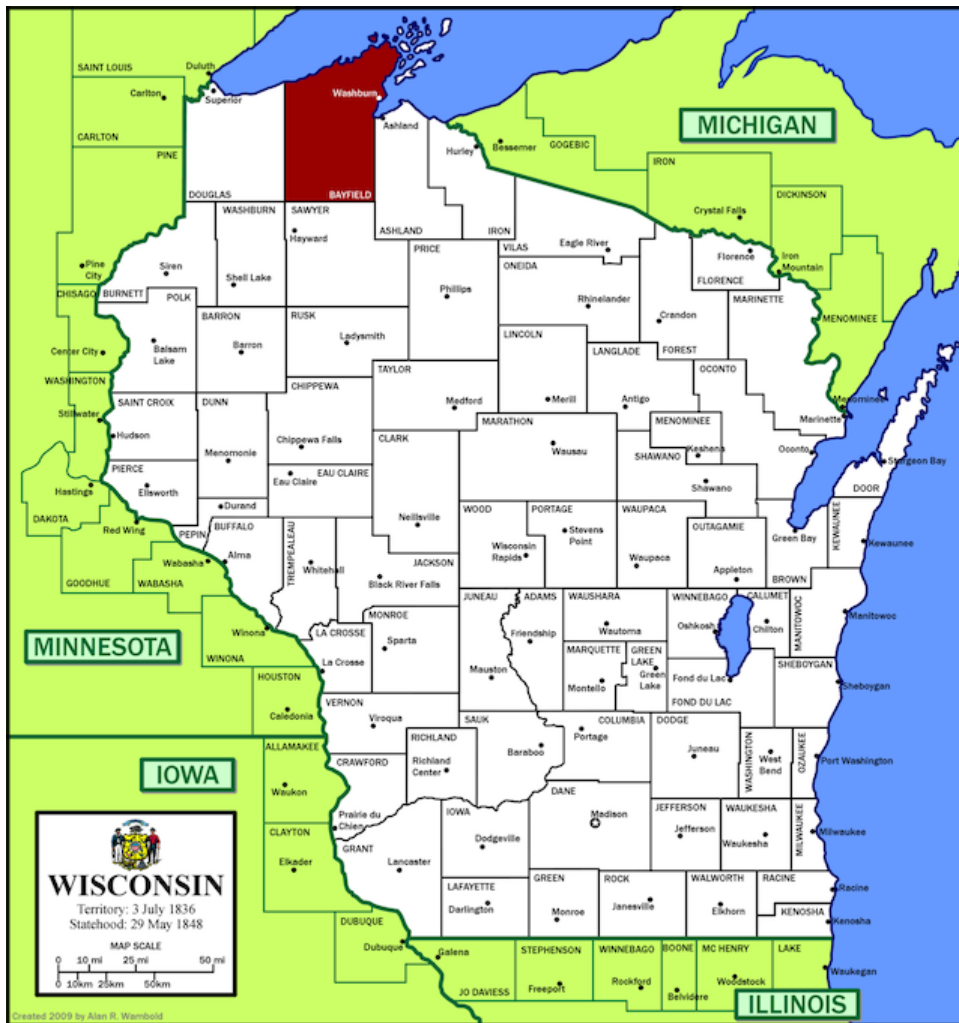
Seven months later, a social item in an Ashland, Wisconsin newspaper referred to Mary directly:

Mrs. James Dwyer of Chicago is spending some time here with friends.<sup>31</sup>

This is intriguing. The Mason property must have been cleared and a house built. Could it

have been intended initially as a vacation home?

Regardless, Mason, Wisconsin eventually became James and Mary’s permanent residence. On 27 April 1929, “James H. Dwyre, Mason” was listed as an out-of-town visitor by a Superior, Wisconsin newspaper.<sup>32</sup> Moreover, the 1930 U.S. census enumerated James and Mary in Mason village, where James was the proprietor of a confectionary shop.<sup>33</sup> He owned a house with a value of \$1500 and possessed a radio.



Map of Wisconsin with Bayfield County shown in red. Map is from familysearch.org.

They were still residing in Mason in June 1931 when a local newspaper noted Mary's visit to nearby Ashland:

Mrs. James Dwyre of Mason visited the city on Saturday.<sup>34</sup>

James and Mary subsequently moved to Ashland because they appear in its city directories in the years 1937 and 1939.<sup>35</sup> James was the proprietor of a gas station, Bay City Service Station at 1022 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

### **Tucson, Arizona**

Mary Katherine Dwyre died at the age of 50 of chronic endocarditis on 12 December 1939 in Tucson, Arizona.<sup>36</sup> Her state-level death certificate provides a great deal of useful information. According to it, her heart condition first appeared in 1936. Her home address was Ashland, Wisconsin, and she had been in Tucson only two months. She was buried at Evergreen Memorial Park on 15 December 1939.<sup>37</sup>



**Mary Lukemire, age unknown.  
Original in the author's possession.**

A Superior, Wisconsin newspaper reported her death:

Word was received here Wednesday of the death of Mrs. James Dwyre, which occurred at Tucson, Ariz., Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Dwyre left Ashland October 1 for Arizona because of Mrs. Dwyre's health. Mr. Dwyre operated a gasoline filling station in the East end of the city for a number of years. Funeral services and burial are to be made in Tucson.<sup>38</sup>

James Dwyre served as the informant for the death certificate. Interestingly, the birth information he provided is incorrect. The date given was 29 September 1890, which is precisely one year and ten days off her true birth date, and the location was Covington, Kentucky. Mary's 1930 U.S. census enumeration also cited Kentucky as her birth state.<sup>39</sup> One can imagine these subtle birth data changes as a subterfuge on Mary's part to avoid being found.<sup>40</sup> Her maiden name on the death certificate is Lukemire, confirming her identity.<sup>41</sup> In the spaces where her parent's identities should be listed, it simply says "Not Known."

In summary, Mary Lukemire was born in 1889 in Williamsburg, Ohio as the first-born child of a sexton father and housewife mother. She remained in her parents' home until the age of 30, maybe 31, when she left for Chicago and soon disappeared. Mary married James Henry Dwyre in Chicago in August 1921, following the death of her mother four months earlier. She and James lived in northern Wisconsin for many years, where James owned first a confectionary shop and then a gas station. Mary developed heart trouble in 1936, of which she died in Tucson, Arizona on 12 December 1939. As best can be determined, she never had children.

### **The Theories**

Various theories have been developed by descendants about why Mary Lukemire cut off contact with her family. One theory is that her

new husband was the controlling sort and demanded it. Possibly he was running from something, a crime perhaps, and required her to cease contact with her family to keep his identity safe.

A second theory is that her father Wilber arranged for her to marry a local man, but she refused and ran away to avoid that fate. Grace reportedly said that Wilber wanted Mary to marry an older man, they argued, and that was why she left.<sup>42</sup> This theory would explain the departure, but not why she would cease all communication.

A third theory is that Wilber himself behaved badly in some secret manner to Mary, especially after Trilla died. This idea is distasteful to contemplate but cannot be ruled out. There must be an awfully strong motivation to never contact your family again, so the shame of this theory gives it merit. However, no family source raises this possibility, and no information exists to suggest that Wilber was capable of such behavior.

### **The First Marriage**

One odd detail in Mary's 1910 and 1920 federal enumerations leads to a fourth theory.

This went unnoticed at first, but in the small column for marital status, Mary's 1910 and 1920 entries both display an "M" for married (v. "S" for single or "W" for widowed), despite living with her parents and using her maiden name.<sup>43</sup> The handwriting is unambiguous.

Mary's 1930 enumeration also indicated an earlier marriage. It displays "19" in the column for "Age at First Marriage."<sup>44</sup> By calculation, that would mean a wedding in 1908, long before she left home and long before she married Mr. Dwyre. The 1910 and 1920 census information would have been reported by her father, but the 1930 information came from Mary (or her husband James). This is crucial because it shows that Mary herself believed she was previously married, and James was aware of it.

Those are three censuses that reference an earlier marriage, making it difficult to avoid the conclusion that Mary Lukemire was married twice. Possibly Mary found the first husband incompatible and moved back home immediately, or she was forced into a marriage by her father but never consummated it. No divorce record can be located, however. If she was divorced, the enumerations would have said so; if the first husband had died, she would have been listed as widowed.

Efforts to locate an earlier marriage in Clermont County came up empty. Expanding the search to include neighboring counties, however, produced a likely hit. On 18 September 1908, "Marie Lukemire" married Roy Smith, a baker in Blanchester, Clinton, Ohio.<sup>45</sup> Is this our Mary? The timing is perfect, and Blanchester is only 20 miles from Williamsburg. Marie was described as a domestic servant residing in Blanchester, a plausible scenario.

There are discrepancies, however. Most obviously, Marie instead of Mary, and her father was listed as Henry Lukemire. The age is incorrect, too. She was one day shy of her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, not 21. The certificate was filled out in cursive by the judge of the probate court, which if filled out hastily, possibly explains the contradictions. Or maybe Mary fudged the names and her age. A marriage in Blanchester rather than in Williamsburg could suggest an elopement.

In any case, it is difficult to imagine this is not Mary's marriage record even if all the information does not fully correspond. No one in America named Henry Lukemire could be found. One of Frank's grandsons remembers that someone told him that Mary married a man named Roy Smith.<sup>46</sup>

Less than two years later, the 1910 census captured Roy and Mary living apart, both back with their parents in Blanchester and Williamsburg, respectively, so whatever cohabitation might have occurred ended quickly. None of Mary's records indicate a

divorce, while Roy's subsequent census enumerations are confusing. In 1910, he was listed as divorced;<sup>47</sup> in 1920, widowed;<sup>48</sup> 1930, divorced;<sup>49</sup> 1940, single;<sup>50</sup> and 1950, widowed.<sup>51</sup> His full name was Roy Kirk Smith (1885 - 1955). He had a sixth-grade education, worked most of his life as a farm laborer, never owned a home, and never remarried.

Thus, the fourth theory is that Mary was engaged in bigamy when she and James Dwyre married in 1921. The fear of legal action by the authorities could have forced her to stay silent and might explain the subtle changes to her birth data. James Dwyre certainly knew of her first marriage, but maybe Mary did not tell him that she never divorced, and she avoided contacting her family because she did not want him to find out.

Why did it take Mary so long to leave home, though? Did she ever try to get a divorce? Did Wilber apply pressure for her to move back with Roy and that prompted the flight? How does the family legend that Wilber was pushing Mary to marry an older man fit with these facts, if at all? A conflict between Wilber and Mary seems to be at the root of all family stories. Many questions remain.

### A Bittersweet Summary

Vital records, census enumerations, family stories and memorabilia, city directories, land records, and newspaper clippings have helped to resolve our research questions about Mary Lukemire. They answered approximately when Mary left home and provided enough information to understand the basis of her life after her disappearance. Unfortunately, we may never know why Mary Lukemire left home and ceased all contact. But at least we know a little of her life after she left and where and how she died. Thankfully, none of the more tragic outcomes imagined by surviving family members and descendants turned out to be true.

After Mary's death in 1939, her widowed husband ended up in San Gabriel, Los Angeles

County, California, where he lived with his daughter Juanita, now Mrs. Roy Dimond, and his grandchild Lillian.<sup>52</sup> He never married again. He died in southern California in 1964 at the ripe old age of 90.<sup>53</sup>



**Mary Lukemire Dwyre headstone, Tucson, Arizona.  
Photo from *Findagrave.com*.**

According to James' wishes, his body was shipped to Tucson where he was buried in the same grave with Mary, 25 years after her passing. The inscription on their tombstone reads:

The soul's light is the star that burns forever.<sup>54</sup>

It is heartwarming to think that Mary, although estranged from her family, found true love in the end.

### Endnotes

1. Barbara Lukemire is the author's paternal grandmother.
2. The author remembers the conversation partly because it was the first time he had ever heard the term "white slavery," an anachronism now.
3. Janet Proknychak, Sarasota, Florida, to Steven Nelson Jonnes, e-mail, 28 June 2011, "Lukemire Family," Personal Correspondence Folders, Lukemire Research File; privately held by Jonnes, Ashburn, Virginia, 2025.
4. Ibid.
5. Nelson Jonnes, "Jonnes Family Record 1995," 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, unpublished manuscript, p. 25; bound copy #6 privately held by Steven Nelson Jonnes, Alexandria, Virginia, 2025.
6. 1900 U.S. Census, Clermont County, Ohio, population schedule, Williamsburg Village, enumeration district 56, p. 14B, family 358, Wilber Lukemire household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1247.
7. 1910 U.S. Census, Clermont County, Ohio, population schedule, Williamsburg Village,

- enumeration district 56, p. 9A, household 267, Wilber Lukemire household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 1160.
8. 1920 U.S. Census, Clermont County, Ohio, population schedule, Williamsburg Village, enumeration district 77, p. 16A, dwelling 301, Wilber Lukemire household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 1355.
9. "Kentucky, County Marriage Records, 1783-1965," database (*Ancestry* : 2025), entry for Frank Lukemire–Mabel Lewis, 13 February 1915; citing Campbell County, Kentucky, 1913-1915; FHL microfilm #001913166.
10. 1920 U.S. Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, population schedule, Dayton Ward 12, enumeration district 211, p. 11B, dwelling 34, Arthur B. and Edith Ross; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 1422.
11. No 1920 census record can be found for Barbara, but she started at the University of Cincinnati in 1919 and married Lloyd Jonnes in November 1920.
12. "Ohio, County Births, 1841-2003," database with images (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), Mary Lukemires, 19 September 1889; citing Birth, Batavia Twp., Clermont, Ohio, county courthouses, Ohio; FHL microfilm 327,581.
13. "Cook County, Illinois Marriage Indexes, 1912-1942," database (*Ancestry.com* : 2025), entry for Mary Lukemier – James Dwyre, 24 August 1921, serial no. 0920138. The "u" in Dwyre is possibly a transcription error.
14. 1880 U.S. Census, Kendall County, Illinois, population schedule, Oswego village, enumeration district 140, p. 409A, family 303, James H. Dwyer in William Dwyer household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 219.
15. "Find A Grave Index," database (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), Anna McMurtrie Dwyre, 23 July 1898; Burial, Yorkville, Kendall, Illinois, Elmwood Cemetery; citing record ID 44086656, *Find a Grave*.
16. Social Security Administration, "U.S. Social Security Death Index," database (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), entry for Juanita E. Dimond, 1990, SS no. 346-10-9206.
17. 1900 U.S. Census, Kane County, Illinois, population schedule, Aurora Ward 1, enumeration district 62, p. 310A, family 309, James H. Dwyer in Matt McMurtrie household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1247.
18. One possibility is Margaret McDonough, who married James Dwyer on 13 July 1905. See "Illinois Marriages, 1815-1935," database (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), entry for James Dwyer – Margaret Mcdonough, 13 Jul 1905.
19. 1910 U.S. Census, Cook County, Illinois, population schedule, Evanston Ward 7, enumeration district 109, p. 8A, household 164, James H. and Margaret E. Dwyre ; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 240.
20. "U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925," database with images, (*Ancestry.com* : 2025), James H. Dwyer, 23 November 1908, Certificate no. 64445; citing NARA Series: Passport Applications, January 2, 1906 - March 31, 1925; Roll 74 – Certificates: 64339-65243, 20 Nov 1908-15 Dec 1908.
21. Robert J. Grange, Cary, North Carolina, to Steven Nelson Jonnes, e-mail, 4 May 2019, "Dwyre Family History," two-page excerpt, author unknown, Personal Correspondence Folders, Lukemire Research File; privately held by Jonnes, Ashburn, Virginia, 2025. (Mr. Grange is James Henry Dwyre's great-grandson.)
22. "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," database with images (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), James Henry Dwyre, 1917-1918; citing Chicago City no 51, Illinois, United States, NARA microfilm publication M1509.
23. Grange to Jonnes, e-mail, 2019, "Dwyre Family History."
24. It may have been Edward Foster Swift (1863-1932), who resided only a mile away at 1550 North State Parkway.
25. There are 50 males named James Dwyre or Dwyer in Cook County, Illinois in the 1920 U.S. census, five of whom have wives named Margaret! None of the five seems a correct match.
26. Grange to Jonnes, e-mail, 2019, "Dwyre Family History."
27. "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953," digital image (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), death certificate, Centralia Lukemyer, 20 April 1921, Williamsburg, Clermont, Ohio, no. 65, Ohio Bureau of Vital Statistics.
28. 1910 U.S. Census, Clermont Co. Ohio, pop. sch., household 267, Mary Lukemire.
29. Mary Lukemire (Chicago, Illinois) to [unknown], postcard with cover image of subject, [date unknown]; privately held by Steven Nelson Jonnes, Ashburn, Virginia, 2018. [This item was handed down from Edith Lukemire to Janet Proknichak, who provided the original to the author in 2014.]
30. "Mason Times," *The Washburn times* (Washburn, Wisconsin), 10 November 1921, vol. 28, p. 6; digital image (*GenealogyBank.com* : 2025).
31. "Mason Times," *The Washburn Times* (Washburn, Wisconsin), 11 May 1922, vol. 29, p. 4; digital image (*GenealogyBank.com* : 2025).
32. "Out of Town Residents," *The Evening Telegram* (Superior, Wisconsin), 27 April 1929, p. 9; digital image (*Newspapers.com* : 2025).
33. 1930 U.S. Census, Bayfield County, Wisconsin, population schedule, Mason village, enumeration district 19, p. 1B, household 17, James H. and Mary

Dwyer; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T626, roll 2560.

34. "Ashland News in Brief – From Mason," *The Evening Telegram* (Superior, Wisconsin), 8 June 1931, p. 14; digital image (*Newspapers.com* : 2025).

35. R.L. Polk, compiler, *Ashland (Ashland County, Wis.) City Directory 1937-38, Vol. XXII* (St. Paul, Minnesota: R.L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1937), entry for Jas H Dwyre (Mary), p. 82; also, subsequent year by the same title: (1939) 59.).

36. "Arizona Deaths, 1870-1951," digital image (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), death certificate, Mary Katherine Dwyre, 12 December 1939, Tucson, Pima, Arizona, no. 361; citing Arizona Department of Library and Archives, Phoenix, Arizona.

37. Find A Grave, database (*Findagrave.com* : 2025), memorial ID 52678910 for Mary Lukemire Dwyre, 1890-1939, Evergreen Memorial Park, Block 18, Tucson, Pima, Arizona.

38. "Former Ashlander is Dead in Arizona," *The Evening Telegram* (Superior, Wisconsin), 14 Dec 1939, p. 12; digital image (*Newspapers.com* : 2025).

39. 1930 U.S. Census, Bayfield Co., Wisc., pop. sch., household 17, Mary Dwyer.

40. As a result, the year 1890 is incorrectly etched on her tombstone.

41. Arizona death certificate no. 361 (1939), Mary Katherine Dwyre.

42. Janet Proknichak, Sarasota, Florida, to Steven Nelson Jonnes, e-mail, 25 June 2011, "Re: Mary Lukemire," Personal Correspondence Folders, Lukemire Research File; privately held by Jonnes, Ashburn, Virginia, 2025.

43. 1910 U.S. Census, Clermont Co. Ohio, pop. sch., household 267, Mary Lukemire; 1920 U.S. Census, Clermont Co. Ohio, pop. sch., dw. 301, Mary Lukemire.

44. 1930 U.S. Census, Bayfield Co., Wisc., pop. sch., household 17, Mary Dwyer.

45. "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016", database with images (*FamilySearch.org* : 2015), entry for Ray Smith and Marie Lukemire, 18 September 1908; citing Clinton County Ohio Marriage Records, 1811-2013, p. 433.

46. Teddy R. Lukemire, posting at "Lukemire Family," private group (*Facebook* : 28 May 2018), comment by Steve Jonnes, 27 May 2018 at 10:25 am.

47. 1910 U.S. Census, Clinton County, Ohio, population schedule, Blanchester Village, enumeration district 69, p. 6b, family 161, Roy K Smith in John C Smith household; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 1160.

48. 1920 U.S. Census, Clinton County, Ohio, population schedule, Adams Township, enumeration district 110, p 4B, dwelling 96, Roy K Smith in J.C. Smith household;

digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 1355.

49. 1930 U.S. Census, Clinton County, Ohio, population schedule, Adams Township, enumeration district 14-1, p. 5B, Roy K Smith in David R Larrick household; digital image, (*Ancestry.com* : 2025).

50. 1940 U.S. Census, Clinton County, Ohio, population schedule, Union Township, enumeration district 14-21, p. 3B, house 56, Roy Smith; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T626, roll 2560.

51. 1950 U.S. Census, Clinton County, Ohio, population schedule, village, enumeration district 19, p. 1B, household 17, James H. and Mary Dwyer; digital image (*Ancestry.com* : 2025); citing NARA microfilm T626, roll 2560.

52. The *Dwyre Family History* states that James found his daughter Juanita (now divorced with one daughter) back in Chicago. They lived on his ranch in Tucson for several years before moving to California. An Arizona deed dated 28 May 1940 confirms his purchase of Tucson property. See Pima County, Arizona, Deed Book 230: p. 319, "Bargain and Sale Deed, Wilbur Sickler & James H. Dwyre," 28 May 1940; digital image, Pima County Recorder (*Pimacountyaz-web* : 2025).

53. "California Death Index, 1940-1997," database (*FamilySearch.org* : 2025), James H. Dwyre, 3 December 1964; citing Department of Public Health Services, Sacramento.

54. Find A Grave, digital images, (*Findagrave.com* : 2025), photograph, gravestone for Mary Lukemire Dwyre, 1890-1939, Tucson, Arizona.

## About the Author

Steven Nelson Jonnes is a native Minnesotan who retired ten years ago from a research and analysis career in the federal government. He is descended on his paternal side from six generations of Ohio ancestors, primarily in Pickaway, Ross, and Clermont Counties. He also has ancestors who resided in old Portage (now Summit) and Medina Counties on his maternal side. Steve and his wife currently live in Loudoun County, Virginia. His blog is [www.jonnesgenealogy.com/blog](http://www.jonnesgenealogy.com/blog).