



Lewis Young, son of Wm H.
Young Died in Bordeaux,
France in the flu epidemic.



Lewis Young

(COPY)

U. S. S. "Marietta"
15th October, 1918.
In France.

My dear Mr. & Mrs. Young:-

It is with a saddened heart that I have to write that Lewis passed out of this life this morning at 4:25 o'clock, and is now sleeping the long sleep in a beautiful spot on the western coast of France.

He died from Influenza and from the time he was taken sick he grew steadily worse. Doctor did all possible to save him but without avail, and he passed peacefully and quietly to that land from whose bourne no traveller returns. He died as he had lived, courageous and true, every inch a sailor, and a man, and was all that you could expect of him.

Lewis had many friends, and was well liked by the officers and men. Words are inadequate to express a thought that would compensate your loss, yet the knowledge that he has given his life towards the winning of this greatest of all struggles for mankind, will, I feel sure, make your loss a little easier to bear.

It was impossible to give Lewis a truly Masonic funeral, but instead, his burial was strictly military, and was attended by all the Master Masons at this place. I tried to find some one who could officiate at a Masonic funeral, but none of us came prepared to act in that capacity.

If there is anything I can do to help you, or any questions you wish to ask me, in regard to Lewis, I shall only be too glad to do all I can for you.

We all send you our deepest sympathy, and Lewis' memory will be cherished by us until the end.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

(Signed) George O. Hadfield, Lt.

October 4, 1918

Dear Dad:

Well we have been kept pretty busy of late. I have been making some forty-eight hour liberties lately. At the present time I am off the ship on duty since last Monday, I have just missed my train so came down to the Y.M.C.A. to wait for the next one. This sure is a great country. I like it very much. Paul Reese is on board ship now was transferred there last week. He does not like her very well but I am contented, have been on her so long now that I would hate to leave her. I am acting as chief now and I guess that next quarter I will make it. You may send me the blue working shirts and a couple of dress shirts to wear with my chiefs suit. I have given up the idea of ever going back to U.S.A. now until the war is over. I do not see the least possible chance and I am used to the sign language now so get along in fine shape. I received the last letter of mothers with the picture of the others it sure made me think of home. Well here's the best of luck to you all. I have not received a letter from you for some time, do not let your pen rest.

So long, your son
Lewis

264 Boylston St., Boston, Mass.
April 26, 1918.

Dear Lewis:

Your very welcome letter, ^{received} this week, and you don't know how welcome it was. You see I am still very childish in my likes, and dislikes, and I do like to receive letters. That is the reason that I am taking the liberty of writing you again so soon, I hope you will forgive me.

Here is a little Provincetown gossip- I hear that Gertrude Benson has left Clarence and her baby, what do you think of that? I don't see how she could do it, do you? I'm awfully sorry for Clarence tho.

Grandpa and Gran have both been up here this winter, and we had a fine time to-gether, isn't it wonderful how well Grandpa keeps his youth and may it continue.

Please forgive a typewritten letter but I can write more and more rapidly than in long hand. I guess I told you that I was doing clerical work at the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, on Boylston St., didn't I? Well I still like my work immensely, and will have a profession if anything ever happens that I need it and one never knows what might happen nowadays.

Where is Louise, and how is she?

What do you know, I am going to a real swell dance at the Copley Plaza this Saturday night, it is a private affair, so bet I'll have a fine time, might be dissappointed tho, what an optimist???? I am. Wish you were going to be at it, I know you'd have a good time, they are all such a jolly bunch, especially Elsie Smith, who is giving the dance. She is a peach of a sport, and just loads of fun.

Of course everything has to come at once, and this week I am trying to do my packing as we are planning to move out to Arlington. Victor has been promoted to manager of this store at the centre, and in order to get out of the hot city, and into the country for the

summer we are going to move there and try to stay out there this winter. A steam-heated apartment in a large apartment house is alright in the winter, but in the summer I'm afraid they are rather warm.

Wish you were near so that you might run in to see us, you haven't met Victor yet, and I'd like you to have heard me speak of you so often, and of course reads all my letters.

Lewis have you found any occasion to use all the French you learned at Provincetown High? ha! ha! Never mind we had a good time in the classes anyway.

Suppose you knew that Blanche Small had gone out as an army nurse, and that she had died from pneumonia.

Perhaps you knew about the big Liberty Loan parade here in Boston, it lasted from 1:30 to 9:30, and was a very pretty thing I understand. The thing that interested me most was the tank Britannia, and several days afterwards I had a fine view of it. It stopped out in front of the Union and let some passengers off, so that we saw the whole of it. Then the other morning as I was coming to work I saw the America, in the distance.

We saw the Soldiers & Sailors' parade the 19th, it certainly was a grand sight. The uniforms made it so much more attractive. We were with Dr. and Mrs. Saunders, of the White Dental Parlors, and so had a splendid view of the boys as they came down Washington and went up Temple Place.

Well Lewis I'll close now but will write you again when I think you will have recovered from this one.

Take good care of yourself, and just have the best time you possibly can, and remember we'll all be very glad to see you back again.

Your old classmate,

Evelyn M. Stevens.

Please address my next
letter to 264 Boylston St.
Handwork Shop Personal

8th December, 1918

Dear Louise and Arthur:-

The box arrived yesterday containing Lewis things. It came by mail and I had it brought over to the bank and carried it home at supper time. It was a sorrowful time we had opening it because everything it contained seemed so near to Lewis but on the other hand we were glad to get it and know that everything was accounted for. It did not contain any money, I suppose that will come through some other channel as he must have had some with him; neither did it contain any of his clothes excepting a sweater, thick stockings, mittens and things of that kind that he had never worn; but it did contain his watch, fountain pen, money belt, kit bag and things of that kind besides a lot of letters, post cards he had collected in the different posts in which he had been and a lot of linen fancy work, doilies, tea sets, etch which he had written us about. There was some very fine pieces among the lot, he used excellent taste in picking it out. The set for Louise was there although nothing was marked.

He kept a log, or diary, of different things that had happened and it was very full and complete for him and from it we can tell about everywhere he has been and what dates, and some of the experiences he had with U-Boats, etc. No less than three encounters, being fired upon and firing in return, dropping depth charges, etc. And to think the he went through all that only to be stricken down by that dread disease.

We learned that on Sep.30 he started from the ship with a piece of machinery to go to Pauillac on board the Ship Panther to have a new casting made and machined, he was to stay on the Panther until it was finished and take it buckwheat the ship and it was while he was on this trip that he contracted the disease. His letter of Oct. 4th says that he was on his way back to the ship. When Rees said he was sick for a few days before going into "Sick Bay" and he was there "a little over a week before he died" so that accounts for all the time from the time he was taken until he died on the 15th.

There is no entry in his diary after Sep.9th however.

Nothing else had happened this week, or if anything has happened it is completely over-shadowed by the arrival of Lewis box so that it has been crowded out of my mind.

With lots of love,

It looks to me as though this would be comparatively safe work, a kind of work that Lewis likes and would give him some valuable experience and adventure.

Rufus lives at 38 Mount Pleasant Ave., Roxbury (near Dudley St. Transfer Sta.) and works for the Erickson Machine Shop at 475 Atlantic Ave. I thought that perhaps you could see him or talk with him over the 'phone and find out what he thinks of it. The place to register and get information is at Barristers Hall (Pemberton Sq).

I expect to get a letter from you at any time now (as we are not sure of your present address) I think now that I will go to Boston Friday P.M. and have a talk with you Friday night, then Sat. morning I can get what information I can about these things and Sat. P.M. we can go around together; and if necessary, in order to look up the Squantum Aviation business, I can stop over Sunday.

Remembering Lewis A. Young and Armistice Day

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

BY LAUREL GUADAZNO

November 11, 1918 was the day on which a truce or armistice was signed terminating World War I, thus this day became known as Armistice Day. The following year, Nov. 11 was formally declared a day of mourning for the soldiers killed in World War I.

World War I (1914-1918) involved many countries and caused terrible devastation. The war started when an assassin's bullet killed Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary, and a series of military alliances drew the main European powers into the fight. All sides expected a quick victory. The war lasted for four years and almost 10 million troops lost their lives.

The United States did not enter the war until 1917. Most Americans opposed involvement in a European war. The sinking of the Lusitania and other actions against civilians by Germany changed American's minds. In the spring of 1917 several events led President Woodrow Wilson to call for war because "the world must be made safe for democracy."

On April 6, 1917, Congress declared war on Germany. Manpower was America's chief contribution to the war. When the U.S. entered the war, there were 128,000

men in the Regular Army. Soon a draft was organized that required all men between the ages of 21 and 30 to register for military service. Many young men enlisted voluntarily. Women also signed up to serve as nurses and office workers.

The Veterans of Foreign War Post in Provincetown is named after Lewis A. Young, a well-known and popular local young man who died while serving in the United States Army during the first World War.

Lewis Armstrong Young was born in Provincetown on February 8, 1896, the oldest son of William H. and Anna M. (Hughes) Young. He attended Provincetown High School and Worcester Academy. He graduated from Wentworth Institute in Boston and the Y.M.C.A. Auto School. Lewis Young was also a member of King Hiram's Lodge of Masons in Provincetown.

On July 26, 1917 he enlisted in the Navy R.F. as a machinist's mate second class and was assigned to the U.S.S. Marietta. Soon after enlisting he was promoted to Machinist's Mate, First Class.

When Lewis Young was only 22 years old he died while serving in World War I, but not of wounds suffered in battle. He



This photo appeared in the Boston Post with Lewis Young's obituary.

died of influenza on Oct. 15, 1918, during the worst pandemic on record. The 1918-1919 influenza outbreak killed more than 10 million people world wide, including 500,000 in the U.S. The outbreak was made worse by the crowding of soldiers on ships and in the trenches. More people died of influenza than in the war. Lewis Young was buried in France. After the war his body was returned to the U.S.

Lewis Young's family kept many of his letters and papers. These private family documents put a personal face on World War I. They tell the touching story of one young man's service and sacrifice, from enlistment to his parents' sorrow on receiving the box containing his belongings and the return of his body after the war.

In one letter dated Dec. 18, 1918, Lewis Young's father wrote the following about receiving the box containing his son's personal belongings, "The box arrived yesterday containing Lewis's things. It came by mail and I had it brought over to the bank and carried it home at supper time. It was a sorrowful time we had opening it because everything it contained seemed so near to Lewis but on the other hand we were glad to get it and know that everything was accounted for. ... Nothing else has happened this week, or if anything has happened it is completely over-shadowed by the arrival of Lewis's box so that it has been crowded out of my mind."

In 1954 the name of the federal holiday honoring veterans was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day in order to honor soldiers killed in all wars. Now Veterans Day is celebrated to honor all those who have served in wars.

[Laurel Guadagno is visitor services manager for the Pilgrim Monument & Provincetown Museum. She also writes "History Highlights," heard regularly on WOMR, 92.1 FM.]

LEWIS YOUNG DIES OVERSEAS

Provincetown Boy Victim of Influenza



LEWIS ARMSTRONG YOUNG,
Provincetown boy, whose death in
France from influenza, has been re-
ported.

PROVINCETOWN, Nov. 5.—The sad news of the death of Lewis Armstrong Young, which occurred in Bordeaux, France, Oct. 15, was received with deep regret by relatives, friends and people generally here, where he was well known and popular.

The deceased was a native of Provincetown, the elder son of William H. and Anna M. (Hughes) Young, and grandson of G. A. R. veterans, H. P. Hughes, and the late Paron C. Young. Lewis A. Young was 22 years old, Feb. 8, 1918. He finished his high school course in Provincetown, and entered Worcester Academy for a special course, and later graduated from the Wentworth Academy and the Y. M. C. A. Auto School.

On July 26, 1917, he enlisted in the U. S. N. R. F., as machinist's mate, second class, and assigned to U. S. S. Marietta, and soon after was promoted to machinist's mate first class. This ship has been in foreign waters since August, 1917. She remained at the Azores and in the Mediterranean several months, visiting the Barbary States ports, and proceeding east as far as Port Said, again at the Azores, and then at Bordeaux, where she arrived last September. A long and interesting letter, dated a month before his death, told of his good health, and was followed by an official telegram from Washington announcing his death. Particulars are not at hand, other than that he died of influenza at Bordeaux. His is the sixth gold star to be placed on the service flag at Provincetown.


DIES BEFORE PROMOTION

Full Military Honors for Provincetown Boy

PROVINCETOWN, Nov. 13.—A letter has been received here giving some details as to the death in France of Lewis Armstrong Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Young of this town. Lewis Young was stationed on the Marietta, which ship had been engaged for some time in Mediterranean waters.

It seems that Lewis had an intimate friend named Rees from Syracuse, N. Y. Both young fellows were stationed at the Commonwealth pier in August, 1917. They were both Masons and formed a warm friendship. They tried to get on the same ship, but Rees was sent to the Covington and Lewis to the Marietta. They recently met in France. The Covington had been torpedoed. Rees got transferred to the Marietta, so the two friends were together again, and Rees was with Lewis when he died.

Just before his fatal illness Lewis had been recommended for promotion as a chief engineer, as he had an absolutely clear record on the ship. He was buried with full military honors and accompanied to the grave with the full ship's crew, as well as by over 100 Masons from the shore station.

A black and white photograph of a gravestone in a cemetery. The gravestone is a simple cross shape, with a vertical rectangular base and a horizontal rectangular top. The top part of the cross has an inscription. The background shows other gravestones and trees under a cloudy sky. The ground in the foreground is gravelly.

Lewis A. Young
M.M.I. USN.R.F.
Born Feb. 8, 1890.
Died Oct. 15, 1918.

PROVINCETOWN HERO BURIED

Honors Paid to L. A. Young, Who Died in France

PROVINCETOWN, Nov. 4.—Hundreds of the town's people, municipal officials, members of the wireless station and the local military forces this afternoon attended the funeral services in the Town Hall in honor of Lewis Armstrong Young, whose body had lain in state in the Town Hall since its arrival from France.

Young was machinist's mate, first class, on the United States gunboat Marietta. He died of influenza in October, 1919, and was buried in the military cemetery at Pollyac. It was the

first Provincetown body to be brought back from France.

The very impressive service, with full military honors and the Masonic burial ritual, was under the direction of the Morris Light Post of the American Legion. The Rev. Joseph Montgomery delivered the prayer. The Masonic service was under the direction of the King Hiram Lodge of Masons.

In full regalia the large delegation of Masons attended the exercises. The representatives of the army and navy wore the uniforms of their organizations.

The casket was covered by Old Glory and beautiful floral tributes. At the head of the casket were red and yellow poppies, symbolic of Flanders field, whence was taken the soldier's body. At the foot of the casket was a beautiful bouquet of roses. A touching tribute was an immense floral piece from the local post of the American Legion. It was a fac-simile of the legion button.

Members of the wireless station at Highland Heights attended the funeral, and were added to the firing squad at the cemetery. Taps were sounded by

Frank Barrett, bugler, and members of the legion.

The pallbearers were John Cook, William Pierce, Carl Snow, Frank Paige, Edward Gasple, Joseph Nunn, William Drisko and Manuel Prada. Louis Armstrong Young is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Young, and a sister, Miss Josephine Young.

NOVEMBER 4, 1920

WHOLE TOWN TO HONOR SEAMAN

Funeral Services for Louis A. Young Today

PROVINCETOWN, Nov. 3.—Impressive ceremonies will mark the funeral tomorrow of Louis Armstrong Young, machinist's mate, first class, on the United States gunboat Marietta, who died of influenza aboard his ship off the French coast two years ago. The local post of the American Legion will have charge of the burial service which is to be held at the Town Hall. Full military honors will be paid the deceased. The Rev. Joseph Montgomery, pastor of the Centre Methodist Episcopal Church, will officiate, using the Masonic ritual. Between the hours of 2 and 3 o'clock while the funeral is being held there will be a general suspension of business, and flags will be flown at half mast throughout the town.

A life size portrait of Mr. Young, the work of Richard D. Miller, which hangs in the Town Hall, will be draped in

black. Interment will be in the family lot in Provincetown cemetery.



Arthur Young

J. E. PURDY & CO
BOSTON



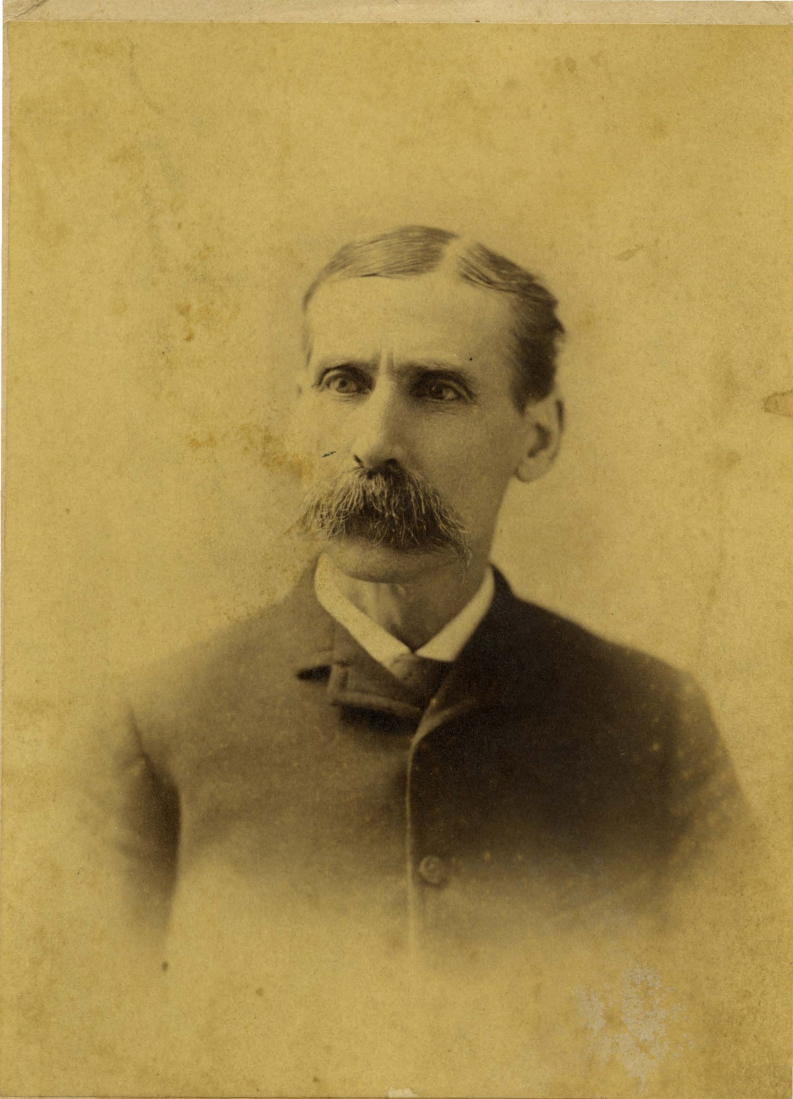
Arthur Young - WWI uniform
Student at B.U.

J. E. PURDY & CO.
BOSTON.



Arthur Young

F. B. Rosenthal
Provincetown,
Mass.



Smith,

• Photographer, •

• Providence, R.I. •

Hezekiah P. Hughes
son of John Hughes
one of 12 children



W. ROSENTHAL'S
STUDIO.

PROVINCETOWN,
MASS.

Orianna Armstrong Hughes



**NICKERSON
PHOTO**

FIRST DOOR EAST OF P.O.
PROVINCETOWN.
MASS.

Ann Hughes Young



Josephine Young McKenna holding William Henry McKenna