

Washington Island Military Archives

William Hansen

Born Nov 4, 1898
Milwaukee

Died: Nov 17, 1951
Island

Service # 137-460

Service: WW I, Navy
Sources: *Monument,
Cemetery 004 08, JG, JE, Am
Legion scrapbook- box 17e
Nephew Chuck Hansen*

Enlisted in Navy 1/8/1944

Stationed at Norfolk, VA, *USS Illinois*, Philadelphia Navy Yard on *USS Santa Teresa*, also as inspector at Pullman Shipyard, Pullman, IL. During WWII he was a ship inspector for Bay Ship.

Came to the Island in 1907, and was schooled here. Had six brothers. After service he sailed on many of the boats on the Great Lakes, and received his captain's papers at the record age of 25. Until World War Two, he was employed with Fitzsimmons And Connell Dredge and Dock in Chicago.

He was known on the Island for establishing businesses. He operated a fishing lodge on the Island with his wife for twelve years until they sold it because of a slight stroke he suffered and a major operation his wife underwent. He was the 'Bill' of Vi and Bill's Resort, now known as the Cedar Lodge. He also started Vi's Whatsoever Gift Shop, then as Brother's Two. Also Siever's Loom. He was part of the "Fat" Hansen family.

One of 20 charter members of the American Legion Post 402 in 1935. He was buried with full military honors and the Masonic rites in the American Legion Hall on 11/20/1951.

His parents were Carl (Charles) and Emma Frederickson (married in 1888).

He married Violet Pitts in Chicago on June 1, 1931. They had an adopted son, Allen, born in 1939, who now lives in Belvedere, IL.

William died in the woods along Swenson Road, hunting deer during the first gun season, possibly of a heart attack, on November 17, 1951.

Photo on second page.

William Hansen

