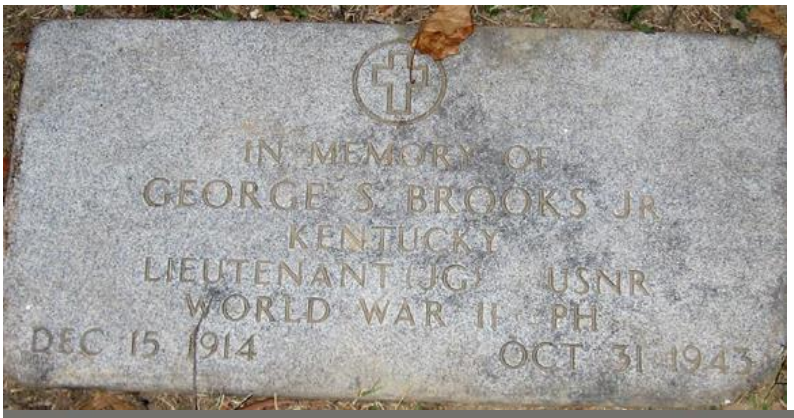
Brooks, George Savage “June”





Lieut George Savage Brooks Jr.

BIRTH	15 Dec 1914 Clark County, Kentucky, USA
DEATH	31 Oct 1943 (aged 28) At Sea
BURIAL	Winchester Cemetery Winchester, Clark County, Kentucky, USA Show Map

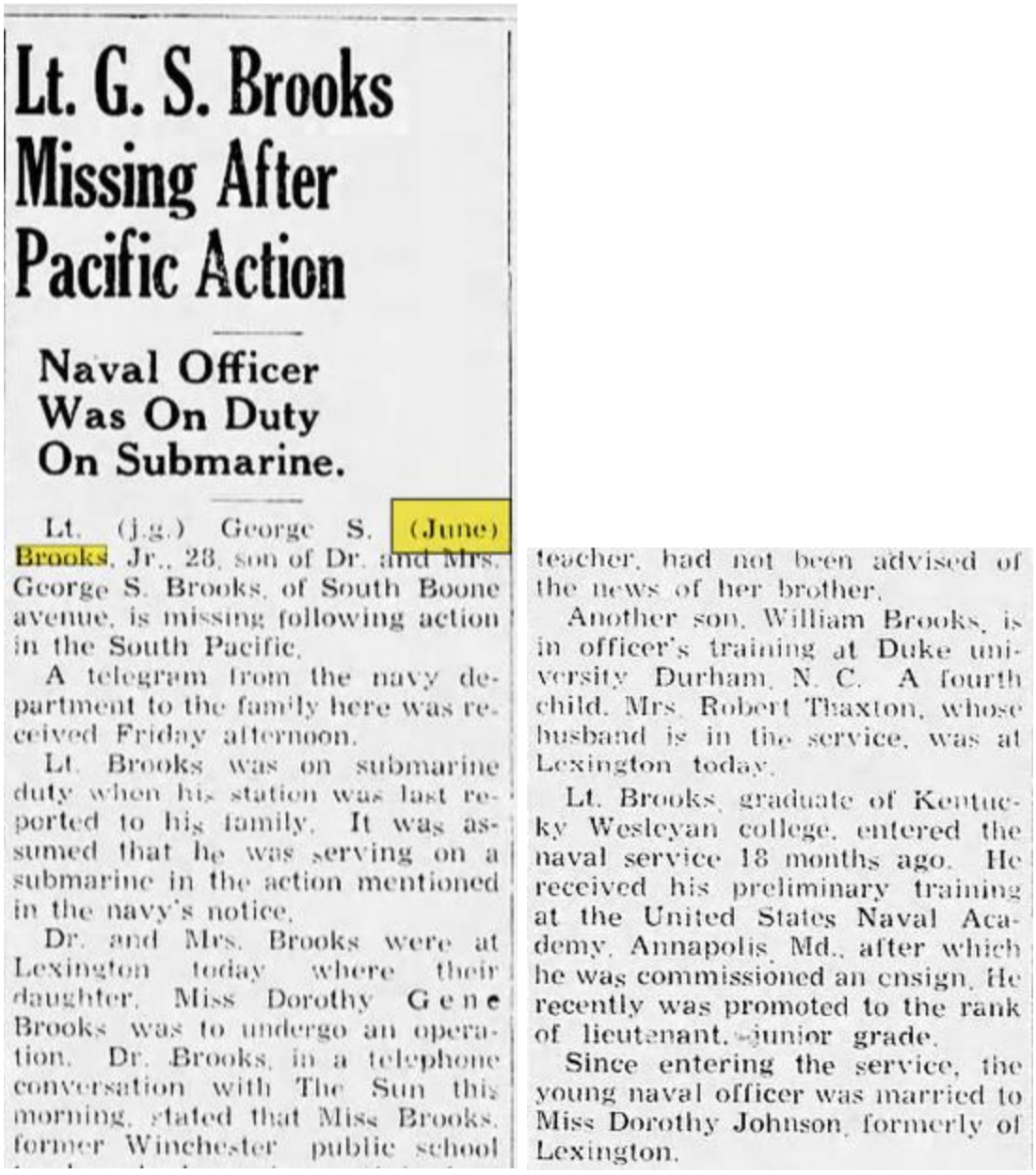
Lt Brooks served aboard the submarine, USS Pompano (SS-181), which disappeared with all hands near Japan while on her seventh war patrol on approximately September 17, 1943, due to possible mines or a catastrophic operational failure.

Parents


George Savage Brooks
1879–1972


Willie Ruth *Tucker* Brooks
1886–1975

The Winchester Sun
30 Oct 1943, Sat ·Page 1



Lt. G. S. Brooks Missing After Pacific Action

Naval Officer Was On Duty On Submarine.

Lt. (j.g.) George S. (June) Brooks, Jr., 28, son of Dr. and Mrs. George S. Brooks, of South Boone avenue, is missing following action in the South Pacific.

A telegram from the navy department to the family here was received Friday afternoon.

Lt. Brooks was on submarine duty when his station was last reported to his family. It was assumed that he was serving on a submarine in the action mentioned in the navy's notice.

Dr. and Mrs. Brooks were at Lexington today where their daughter, Miss Dorothy Gene Brooks was to undergo an operation. Dr. Brooks, in a telephone conversation with The Sun this morning, stated that Miss Brooks, former Winchester public school teacher, had not been advised of the news of her brother.

Another son, William Brooks, is in officer's training at Duke university Durham, N. C. A fourth child, Mrs. Robert Thaxton, whose husband is in the service, was at Lexington today.

Lt. Brooks, graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan college, entered the naval service 18 months ago. He received his preliminary training at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., after which he was commissioned an ensign. He recently was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, junior grade.

Since entering the service, the young naval officer was married to Miss Dorothy Johnson, formerly of Lexington.

Pompano left Midway on 20 August, bound for Hokkaidō and Honshū. She was never heard from again, and when she failed to return, was presumed lost. The Japanese knew she was in her area, however, for two ships fell to her torpedoes during September: *Akama Maru* on 3 September, and *Taiko Maru* on 25 September. The enemy made no anti-submarine attacks during this period in *Pompano*'s area, so newly-laid mines in the vicinity, not known to U.S. Navy intelligence until after she sailed,[25] probably sank her. *Pompano* was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 12 January 1944.

The official version is that she was lost while patrolling off the coasts of Hokkaido and Honshu, probably to Japanese mines. The date usually given (27 September) is an approximate one. However Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk on 17 September by air attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Though it is not certain the boat was actually sunk here, it must be taken into consideration since it could only have been directed against *Pompano* since this was within her patrol area and there were no other submarines operating in that area.[*citation needed*] The Japanese said a seaplane based on Ominato attacked a surfaced sub which returned fire (this is critical since it leaves little doubt about what the plane attacked) then dived. The Japanese minelayer *Ashizaki* dropped depth charges the following day on a spot where oil was surfacing, bringing up more oil.

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The Winchester Sun
06 Jan 1944, Thu Page 1

U. S. Sub Sunk Near Nip Coast

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Loss of the submarine Pompano, which had operated in the immediate vicinity of the Japanese coastline, was announced by the navy Wednesday.

Following custom, the navy did not disclose where the Pompano, a 1,330-ton submarine, made her last war patrol. However, she had operated in the Pacific, and her skipper, Comdr. Willis M. Thomas, Vallejo, Calif., was awarded the Navy Cross and the Silver Star for daring exploits against the Japanese.

He was listed as missing.

Lt. Brooks On Pompano

Lt. George S. (June) Brooks, Jr., of Winchester, whose family here was notified several weeks ago that he was missing in action, was serving on the Pompano. At the time of the first report, however, no identification of the submarine was given.

The citation accompanying award of the Navy Cross told of the Pompano carrying out "an aggressive and successful submarine war patrol in the immediate vicinity of enemy Japanese coastline."

The citation added that the submarine on that particular patrol sank one Japanese destroyer, a 900-ton Japanese patrol vessel and 6,900 tons of enemy merchant shipping.

In a citation accompanying award of the Silver Star the submarine was credited with inflicting severe damage on an aircraft carrier.

The Pompano, commissioned in 1937, carried a complement of approximately 75 men. She is the seventeenth submarine reported lost since the war started.

Lexington Herald-Leader
20 Jan 1944, Thu · Page 1

Lexington Man Missing

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—Casualties of the United States naval forces, as announced by the Navy Department today, included the following from Kentucky.

Lt. George Savage Brooks Jr., U. S. Naval Reserve, missing, wife, Mrs. Dorothy J. Brooks, 484 East High street, Lexington, parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Savage Brooks Sr., 131 Boone avenue, Winchester.

Quartermaster, second class, Huston Quinn Cravens, U. S. Navy, missing, mother, Mrs. Mary Burke, Louisville.

Pfc. Harold J. Sullivan, U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, dead, guardian, Henry Meimen, Fort Mitchell, Erlanger.

Cpl. Winston Wells, U. S. Marine Corps, dead (previously reported wounded on report of naval casualties for Feb. 10, 1943), sister, Mrs. Estella Elkins, Winchester.

Lexington Herald-Leader
15 Jan 1946, Tue · Page 5

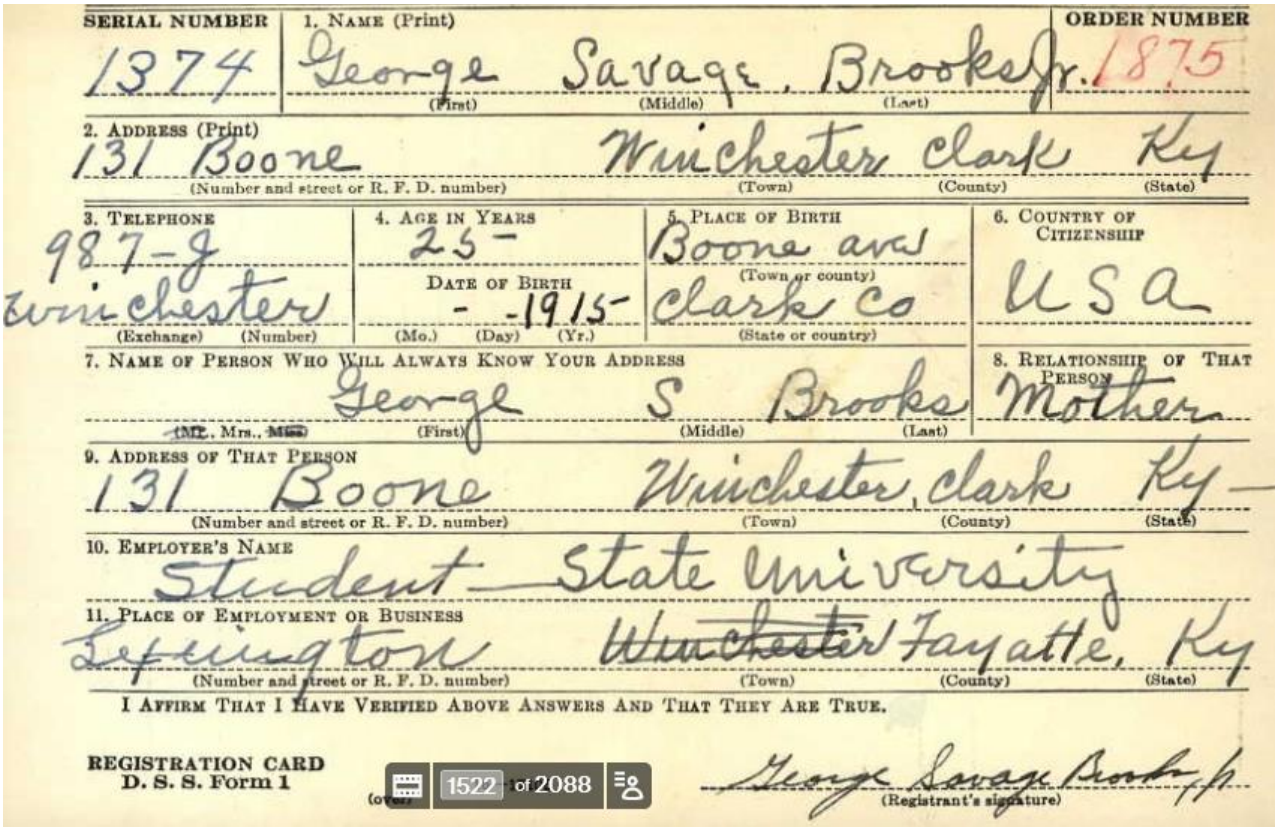
Official Death Notice Sent Lieutenant's Wife

The Navy Department at Washington officially has notified Mrs. Dorothy Johnson Brooks, of 476 East High street that her husband, Lt. (j.g.) George S. Brooks Jr., is dead. He had been missing in action since Oct. 29, 1943.

An officer aboard the United States submarine, Pompano, in the Pacific, Lieutenant Brooks was first reported missing when his ship failed to return to base and did not respond to signals. The Pompano was officially listed as missing in January, 1944.

Lieutenant Brooks was a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College at Winchester, where his parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. S. Brooks, reside. He was also a student at the University of Kentucky before he entered the service in May, 1942, and was connected with the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. He was commissioned an ensign from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, in September, 1942.

Besides his wife and parents, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Robert M. Thaxton and Miss Dorothy Gene Brooks, both of Winchester, and one brother, Lt. William O. Brooks, with the Army in North Carolina.



SERIAL NUMBER 1374 — 1. NAME (Print) George Savage Brooks Jr. — ORDER NUMBER 1875

2. ADDRESS (Print) 131 Boone — Winchester — clark — Ky
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

3. TELEPHONE 987-J Winchester (Exchange) (Number)

4. AGE IN YEARS 25 — DATE OF BIRTH - - 1915 (Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)

5. PLACE OF BIRTH Boone ave (Town or county) — clark co (State or country)

6. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP USA

7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS George S Brooks (Mr., Mrs., ~~Miss~~) (First) (Middle) (Last)

8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mother

9. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON 131 Boone — Winchester, clark — Ky
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

10. EMPLOYER'S NAME Student — State University

11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Lexington — ~~Winchester~~ Fayette, Ky
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

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

REGISTRATION CARD
D. S. S. Form 1

(over) 1522 of 2088

George Savage Brooks Jr. (Registrant's signature)

Rank	Lieutenant Junior Grade U.S. Navy
Entered Service From	Kentucky
Date of Death	January 4 1946
Status	Missing In Action
Memorialized	Courts of the Missing Court 5 Honolulu Memorial Honolulu Memorial 2177 Puowaina Drive 96813-1729 HI United States

"In Defense of Humanity"

A Study of Clark County Soldiers who Gave Their Lives in World War I, World War II, Korean War, and the Vietnam War

Compiled by Michael F. Tyler

Brooks, George Savage, Jr.



Ensign Brooks graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, on September 8, 1942. He was a previous graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College, and the son of Dr. and Mrs. George Brooks, Senior.

Brooks served aboard the U.S.S. Pompano, off of the coast of Japan. He was killed in action on January 4, 1946. Ensign Brooks was survived by his parents and his brother, William O. Brooks, who served in the U. S. Army.