

Oliver Perry Southwick (b. 26 Aug 1869, d. 17 Sep 1934)

Oliver Perry Southwick was born 26 Aug 1869 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI, and died 17 Sep 1934 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI. He married [Mary Arline Ladd](#) on 04 Mar 1896 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

📖 Notes for **Oliver Perry Southwick**:
[Southwick.FTW]

Reg. Marr. Film 1420736 Mc Henry Co. IL., no. 10142, Mar. 2, 1896.

It is a compliment worthily bestowed to say that Walworth state is honored by the life-long citizenship of Oliver Perry Southwick, of Williams Bay, for he has achieved definite success through his own efforts and is thoroughly deserving of the proud American title of self-made man, the term being one that, in its Better sense, can not but appeal to the loyal admiration of all who are appreciative of our national institutions and the privileges afforded for individual accomplishment, and it is a privilege, ever gratifying in this day and age, to meet a man who has the courage to face the battles of life with a strong heart and steady hand and to win the stern conflict by bringing to bear only those forces with which nature has equipped him, self-reliance, self-respect and integrity. Mr. Southwick was born in Walworth Township, this state, near where the Yerkes Observatory now stands, August 26, 1869. He is the son of George and Emma [Russell] Southwick. The father came from Ohio with his parents, Jonas Southwick and wife, and settled in Turtle Prairie, this state.

George Southwick, father of Oliver, married Emma Russell, dau. of Marcus and Rebecca [Potter] Russell. George Southwick bought a farm near where the Observatory stands and there spent the remainder of his life. When he was 33 he met with an accidental injury from which he died Nov. 10, 1870. His son, Oliver P., was then only 15 months old. After his father died Oliver lived with his grandfather Southwick and his uncle, William Southwick, north of Williams Bay. When 18 he went to work for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad and was with them eight years, having been in the service of this Road at various stations; he was cashier and clerk. Leaving the road in March, 1895, he turned his attention to other pursuits. Mr. Southwick was married on March 4, 1896, to Mary A. Ladd, dau. of Wesley Ladd & Phoebe [Haley] Ladd, at Ringwood, Ill. Oliver P. & wife have one daughter, Mary Arline Southwick, who was born Nov. 3, 1904. After his marriage Mr. Southwick entered the general merchandise business at Williams Bay, buying out C.W. Williams and Co., and he has been in business here ever since, enjoying a large trade, keeping his store well stocked with a large and carefully selected stock of goods at all seasons and he is one of the best known merchants and progressive business men in the Southern part of Walworth state. He sustained a serious loss by fire in 1903, his store taking fire from the adjoining hotel. He then purchased the building where the store is now located. He has two store rooms, neatly kept and well arranged. Personally, he is a straightforward, honest and obliging gentlemen who has the interests of his locality at heart."

After his wife Mary died of cancer, he remarried several times and ended up very much in debt and as a result he committed suicide in 1934 by shooting himself.

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After his wife Mary died of cancer, he remarried several times and ended up very much in debt and as a result he committed suicide in 1934 by shooting himself.

More About **Oliver Perry Southwick** and **Mary Arline Ladd**:
Marriage: 04 Mar 1896, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

Children of **Oliver Perry Southwick** and **Mary Arline Ladd** are:

- i. +[Arline Southwick](#), b. 03 Nov 1904, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI¹⁶², d. 27 Jan 1987, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI⁴
- ii.  **Mary Arline Ladd (b. 14 Mar 1865, d. 31 May 1927)**
- iii. **Mary Arline Ladd** was born 14 Mar 1865 in Ringwood, McHenry, IL, and died 31 May 1927 in Richland Center, Chippewa, WI. She married [Oliver Perry Southwick](#) on 04 Mar 1896 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

📖 Notes for **Mary Arline Ladd:**
[Southwick.FTW]

Died of cancer. Obituary - "Mary Arline Ladd Southwick passed away at the Richland Center Hospital May 31, after a lingering illness. Interment was held at the East Delavan cemetery. Mrs. Southwick was born on a farm one mile north of Ringwood, Ill., Mar. 14, 1865, where she spent her childhood days. She was married to Mr. O.P. Southwick on March 4, 1896. They moved to Williams Bay, where she lived until her death. She was a faithful worker and member of the WCTU and was well liked by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, O.P. Southwick; one daughter, Arline; two sisters, Mrs. C.M. Prickett, Denver, CO. and Mrs. E.H. Carter, Minneapolis, MN; and one brother J.C. Ladd, Ringwood, ILL. Out of town people who attended the funeral were: Mr. Carter, Minneapolis, MN; Geo. Southwick; Doris(c) Southwick, Beloit. WI; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Southwick & family; and Mr. & Mrs. C.M. Williams, Lake Geneva; Miss Lizzie Norton, Burlington; Mr. & Mrs J.C. Ladd, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Stevens; Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Hughes; Mrs. Will Smith; Miss Taylor; Miss Bigelow & John Buckland, all of Ringwood, ILL."

Died of cancer.

More About **Mary Arline Ladd** and **Oliver Perry Southwick:**
Marriage: 04 Mar 1896, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

Children of **Mary Arline Ladd** and **Oliver Perry Southwick** are:



Arline Southwick (b. 03 Nov 1904, d. 27 Jan 1987)

Arline Southwick (daughter of [Oliver Perry Southwick](#) and [Mary Arline Ladd](#)) was born 03 Nov 1904 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI¹⁶², and died 27 Jan 1987 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI¹⁶². She married [Harold Leroy Pierce](#) on 20 Jun 1928 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI, son of [John Dennis Pierce](#) and [Inez Salome Vandresser](#).

📖 Notes for **Arline Southwick:**

OBIT: " Arline Pierce, age 83, passed away Wed., Jan. 27, 1988 at Sherwood Care Center, Williams Bay, WI. She was born Nov. 3, 1904 in Williams Bay, the daughter of Oliver and Mary (Ladd) Southwick. She married Harold L. Pierce June 20, 1929 in Williams Bay. He preceded her in death in Sept of 1985. She was employed at Yerkes Observatory in Williams Bay and was a librarian at the Williams Bay Public Library for many years. She was a member of the Williams Bay United Church of Christ and its Ladies Aid, a member of the Friends of the Library, the Study Club and the Woman's Club.

She is survived by 2 daughters, Marilyn Woods of Richmond, IL and Marjory Friestad of Santa Barbara, CA; 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Williams Bay United Church of Christ. Rev Cathey Rennick officiating. Burial will be in the

East Delavan Cemetery. Visitation is from 3:00 until 5:00 and from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. Friday at the Walworth Funeral Home. The family would appreciate memorials to the United Church of Christ or the Williams Bay Public Library."

Certificate of Birth - No. 162925, 5:30 A.M. Thursday, Nov. 3, 1904 Williams Bay Birth Record - Reel 291 - Record 2413 Marriage License No. 41 Williams Bay, Walworth Co., WI.

The following is from a paper Arline wrote to remember early life in Williams Bay. My great grandfather, Jonas Southwick and family came to Wisconsin in 1840 living west of Delavan. Then they built the house where Fridlund's lived (Southwest corner of Golf Course) and farmed there many years. My father Oliver, and two sisters, Hettie and Jennie, and a brother Doric were born there. I am the only descendent of that family. Two brothers of George Southwick also lived in the area. Charles lived in the house next to where we now live. (40 W. Geneva St.) They operated a boarding house there for several years, later moving to a house across the corner from the Mormon Church, which later became the Belfry Theater; and William H. lived on a farm just north of the village on Hwy. 67 (Elkhorn Rd.). his son Ernest and family also lived there. Ernest's daughter Mary (Mrs. John Ingersoll) and her family lived there until a couple of years ago. Several cousins of the Southwick family lived in the Delavan area.

At the turn of the century building went on at a rapid rate. Families of several astronomers and employees there moved to the area and built homes. Among the early ones were E.B. Frost, E.E. Barnard, Storrs Barrett, D.J. Oetjen and Francis Sullivan. Other residents of the area were Henry Francis, Alfred Piehl, Harry Brumgard, Ed Williams and George Williams (grandson of Israel Williams) who lived in the Israel Williams house which was torn down several years ago and is now the Bayside Motel. He did odd jobs, kept the village clean picking up papers (many of which were stored in his house). He was the first person to keep a fire in the library. The history of the library (at the library) can give much more information.

The first post office was located where the village park now is, and Mrs. Ed Williams was the postmistress. Various people would bring books which they had read to the post office to exchange with other people who had books which they had also read. It was at this time that Mr. Barrett became interested in a library, and was instrumental in starting a traveling library (books borrowed from the state library and loaned for a three week period, then exchanged for another group). It was at that time that a building from the Sturgess Estate was to be torn down, but several men from the Bay purchased the land where the present municipal building stands and the first library know as the Barrett Memorial Library, was in the front of the building which was moved from the Sturgess estate. The back part of the building was a bowling alley for several years and then changed into a community room, complete with kitchen and wash rooms. This room served as a meeting place for many groups, was the polling place and where the first members of the Lutheran Church met. Ned Grim was one of the first Sunday School teachers. My father operated a grocery store next to a hotel and tavern know as the Vista House on the corner where the Lackey Building now stands (Geneva and Walworth). My parents built a general merchandise store in 1903. This is where the Hotton building now stands. The Vista House burned on a cold night in Feb. or March 1903. Mr. Lackey built the present building in 1905. Before that he had a business which later became Hollister and sons Lumber Company and was located near the railroad tracks so that lumber and feed could be brought in easily. The

Office Tavern is now located on that part of the property. There was a wooden building just north of the Lackey building which was a harness shop, operated by Dan Beard. It later was a drug store and ice cream parlor operated by William Stein. A blacksmith shop stood just north of the present post office. It was owned by Oscar Roaker and later Louis Rasmussen, until he retired and the building was torn down. Mr. DeGroff lived in a house which was remodeled many years ago into a dining room owned by Melvin Spence and is now Charlie O's. A meat market was where Doc's Delicatessen is now located. It burned in the early 1900's. Edwin Hermanson built the present building and operated a bakery there, followed by George Anderson until Doc's Delicatessen (Doc. Boyd) took over. A wooden building just south of the village hall was operated by Mr. Schroeder as a livery stable. This building was later razed.

The Lackey Building was built in 1905 by W.A. Lackey (father of Vera Granath) where the old tavern stood. Mr. Lackey operated a hardware store where the present hardware store now is, and a dry goods store next door. The first postmistress was Anna Peterson. A pool hall operated by Roy Colby was where the present barber shop now is, and a grocery store operated by Granzow and Peterson was where the present grocery is located. (In 1996 a Carpet Store) A Tea Room was where the present Ice Cream Store is, it later was an ice cream store operated by Arthur Ohl followed by many others including W.H. and Gordon Burton, William Amundsen and Arthur Keach.

A restaurant operated by Loren Taylor was where the Laundromat now stands. The cement block building on the corner was built and operated by Leslie Sawyer and is now the Keg Room. (In the 40's and 50's it was Fish Line Grocery Store). A small room which is now part of the Keg Room was operated by Chauncey Grim as a restaurant. The building where the Beauty Parlor now located was an A&P Store for a short time. Then for many years it was a restaurant known as Lee's Kitchen. (Operated by Lela Hopkins) The present Mall on Geneva and Walworth was built and operated as a garage by Hopkins and Walker for many years. The shop west of the Lackey Building (up Geneva St.) was originally a shoe repair shop, followed by an ice parlor and motor repair shop operated by Elmer Hopkins.

The Shell Station, across from the park, was originally owned by Arthur Anderson and the Country Store was originally operated by Ed Hollister.

There was a hotel where the Condominium South now stands. It was originally Frencha Inn, the Somerset Lodge. Fernwood Inn stood where Boro Spatz now lives. Condominium North stands where Rose Lane Lodge once stood.

The social life of the village, centered around churches: The Congregational, and Swedish, later the Calvary Church. The Tuesday Evening Study Club was the first Women's organization in the Bay. It consisted of single women originally, but later (1929) accepted married women. It was originally known as the Cross & Crescent Society & consisted of single women of the Congregational Church.

Conference Point Camp and the Y.M.C.A. (now George Williams) brought many groups to the village as they still do. Eleanor Camp for Girls no longer exists.

Probably what impressed me most was the development of Cedar Point Park. As a child I went there to Sunday School picnics. There was only one building at the very end of the point - used a yacht in the summer.

As for me I helped in my parents store till I went to Whitewater Normal, and taught at Sheboygan for four years, then I married Harold Pierce and came back to Williams Bay to live. I was the librarian here for twelve years and helped out part time until my retirement in November 1977.

[Brøderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 2, Ed. 4, Social Security Death Index: U.S., Social Security Death Index, Surnames from M through Z, Date of Import: aug 5, 1996, Internal Ref. #1.112.4.43931.43]

Individual: Pierce, Arline
Birth date: nov 3, 1904
Death date: aug 14, 1987
Social Security #: 399-28-0926
Last residence: 53191
State of issue: WI
Zip of last payment: 53191

More About **Arline Southwick**:

Burial: Unknown, Social Security #: 399-28-0926.¹⁶²
Footnote: State of issue: WI.¹⁶²

More About **Arline Southwick** and **Harold Leroy Pierce**:

Marriage: 20 Jun 1928, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

Children of **Arline Southwick** and **Harold Leroy Pierce** are:

- i. [Marilyn Elizabeth Pierce](#).
- ii. +[Marjory Ann Pierce](#).

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Harold Leroy Pierce (b. 29 Jan 1906, d. 28 Sep 1985)

Harold Leroy Pierce (son of [John Dennis Pierce](#) and [Inez Salome Vandresser](#)) was born 29 Jan 1906 in Walworth, Walworth, WI¹⁴³, and died 28 Sep 1985 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI¹⁴³. He married [Arline Southwick](#) on 20 Jun 1928 in Williams Bay, Walworth, WI, daughter of [Oliver Perry Southwick](#) and [Mary Arline Ladd](#).

📖 Notes for **Harold Leroy Pierce**:

Harold Pierce was born in North Walworth on his fathers' farm. He ran a gas station in Williams Bay for many years. Most of the young men growing up in Williams Bay worked for Harold over a period of 30 years. After he retired from the service station, he became the director of the

Glenview Community Church (ILL.) Camp on the old Edward Ayer Estate on Lake Geneva. He was president of the village, Williams Bay, for many years, was a charter member of the Lions Club and served as president of that organization. Walworth newspaper, The Times, 12 Apr 1969, "Past Times" 9 Apr 1959 "Williams Bay voters - a whopping total of 564 of them - spoke their minds in a decisive fashion in Tuesdays village election to re- elect Harold Pierce village president ..." He was member of the United Church of Christ. He had serious knee problems and choose to have a knee replacement performed even though it was not recommended by his doctor due to his health. He died, at Monroe Hospital, several days after the operation due to a blood clot that went to his lung. A few years previously he had had a lung removed at the hospital in Racine. Harold was well liked and respected for his honesty and love of mankind. SS: 394-03-2777.

Original certificate of death. Memorial from service: B.29 Jan 1906, D. 28 Sep 1985, service-- Williams Bay United Church of Christ, 3pm, Tue., Oct. 2 1985. Interment: East Delavan Cemetery. Will names wife Arline Pierce, and daughters, Marilyn Pierce Woods and Marjory Pierce Friestad.

Birth certificate no. 170948, reg. Walworth Co. no.118 (00380).

Along with three Burton brothers he took out a Tucker Franchise on 19 May 1947. (I have the stock and memorabilia.)

QUIT CLAIM DEED: Vol. 608 201,4 Aug 1964, lot 14 of blk.3 of the original plat of the village of Williams Bay, WI.

[Brøderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 2, Ed. 4, Social Security Death Index: U.S., Social Security Death Index, Surnames from M through Z, Date of Import: aug 5, 1996, Internal Ref. #1.112.4.43982.56]

Individual: Pierce, Harold
Birth date: jan 29, 1906
Death date: sep 1985
Social Security #: 394-03-2777
Last residence: WI 53191
State of issue: WI
Zip of last payment: 53191

More About **Harold Leroy Pierce**:

Burial: Unknown, Social Security #: 394-03-2777.¹⁴³

Footnote: State of issue: WI.¹⁴³

More About **Harold Leroy Pierce** and **Arline Southwick**:

Marriage: 20 Jun 1928, Williams Bay, Walworth, WI.

Children of **Harold Leroy Pierce** and **Arline Southwick** are:

- i. Marilyn Elizabeth Pierce.
- ii. +Marjory Ann Pierce.