

Wilbur Loving Hank

1915 – October 21, 1943

(From Ancestry and Findagrave.com)

Wilbur Loving Hank, 28, died Thursday, October 21, 1943 aboard the U.S.S. Murphy (DD-603) off the coast of New Jersey, USA.

Born at Hinton in 1915, he was the son of the late Beulah L. Loving Hank and William Coleman Hank of Hinton.

He was a graduate of Hinton High School, Class of 1932.

Wilbur served as a United States Navy Chief Yeoman, aboard the U.S.S. Murphy (DD-603). While heading out of New York harbor with a large convoy, the Murphy was struck on the port side between the bridge and forward stack by the oil tanker SS Bulkcoil, 75 miles (121 km) off the coast of New Jersey. The forward third of the ship sank in 265 feet (81 m) of water, taking 36 officers and men with it.

In addition to his father, he is survived by his wife, Sarah Evelyn Lee Hank, infant daughter, Sally Ann Hank; a brother, Andrew Coleman Hank; and sister Marian Hank O'Brien.

Wilbur's remains were never recovered. He and his fallen shipmates are memorialized with a monument at the East Coast Memorial, plot "Tablets of the Missing" in Manhattan, NY.