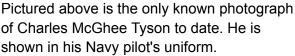
Charles McGhee Tyson (1889–1918)

- A World War I veteran from Knoxville, TN.
- Graduated from Princeton University.
- Enlisted as a second-class seaman; trained at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
 - Rose to the rank of lieutenant.
- Assigned to the United States Naval Reserve Flying Corps.
- Initially ordered to load supplies onto aircraft in Washington, D.C., but requested to join his squadron.
- Deployed to battle; served as a bow gunner on a Naval seaplane mission.
- Died in action on October 11, 1918, in a head-on plane collision.
- Buried in Old Gray Cemetery, Knoxville, Knox County, TN.

Works Cited

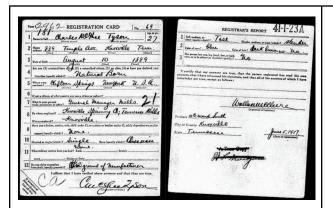
- Berry, Jeff. "Charles McGhee Tyson." *Find a Grave*, 11 June 2011, www.findagrave.com/memorial/71189278/charles mcghee-tyson/photo.
- "East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association Tyson, C. McGhee." *ETVMA*, www.etvma.org/veterans/c-mcghee-tyson-6690/. Accessed Sept. 2025.
- McRary, Amy. "WW1: McGhee Tyson's Life of Privilege, Valor Ends with North Sea Plane Crash." *Knoxville News Sentinel*, Knoxville, 11 Nov. 2018, www.knoxnews.com/story/life/2018/11/09/world-war-charles-mcghee-tyson-airport-knoxville/1824648002/.
- Smith, Master Sgt. Mike R. "The Amazing World War I Story of McGhee Tyson." *IGB Training & Education Center*, 7 July 2017, www.angtec.ang.af.mil/News/Commentaries/Display/Article/1240611/the-amazing-world-w ar-i-story-of-mcghee-tyson/#:~:text=j.g.%20Charles%20McGhee%20Tyson%20who,Guar d%20photo%20by%20Master%20Sgt.
- Stahl, Nicole. "Charles McGhee Tyson: The Story behind the Name of the Knoxville Airport." Knoxville History Project, 18 Aug. 2025, knoxvillehistoryproject.org/2025/02/03/charles-mcghee-tyson-the-story-behind-the-name-o f-the-knoxville-airport/.







Tombstone of Charles McGhee Tyson located in Old Gray Cemetery, Knoxville, Knox County, TN.



SON OF GENERAL TYSON LOST IN SEA ACCIDENT

Knoxville, Tenn., October 15.—Lieutenant Charles M. Tyson, reported as missing in a seaplane accident off the English coast last Friday, is the son of General and Mrs. L. D. Tyson, of this city. His father is in France in command of the Fifty-ninth brigade, 30th division, which recently has been in action near Cambrai. Lieutenant Tyson was well known over the south in social and business circles. He enlisted in the naval aero service in July, 1917, and was made an ensign in January and lieutenant, Junior grade, in May. He sailed for England in August. According to official advices received by his mother today, the accident was a collision of seaplanes, and he is reported as "probably drowned" and "body not recovered." He was a grandson of the late Colonel Charles M. McChee, banker of Knoxville and New York.

Above is a copy of Charles McGhee Tyson's United States Military registration card.

This newspaper article is the closest thing to an obituary for Charles McGhee Tyon. It explains the travesty that was his death.