

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.

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Pictured above is the only known photograph of Charles McGhee Tyson to date. He is shown in his Navy pilot's uniform.



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

REGISTRATION CARD		REGISTRAR'S REPORT	
1. Name (last, first, middle initial)	Charles McGhee Tyson	1. Full name, as given	Tyson
2. Home address (city, state, county)	ES 9 Temple Ave. Knoxville Tenn.	2. Color of eyes	Blue
3. Date of birth	August 10 1889	3. Has he ever been in the military service? (If so, where and for how long?)	No
4. Are you (1) a natural born citizen, (2) an alien, (3) have you declared your intention to become a citizen?	Natural Born		
5. Where born	Chillicothe Springs, Kentucky, U.S.A.		
6. If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?			
7. What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	General Manager, Hill's Knoxville, Tenn.		
8. By whom employed?	Hill's Knoxville, Tenn.		
9. How long have you been employed by him?	Since 1917		
10. Married or single?	Single		
11. What military service have you had? (If any)	None		
12. Do you claim exemption from military service?	Yes, on the ground of being a father		

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

**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. McGhee, banker of Knoxville and New York.

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