

## Jackson County

### Johnson, George Washington,

(Jul. 4, 1847 - District of Columbia - Aug. 1, 1945 Kansas City, Jackson County, MO)

Obituary in Kansas City Times August 6, 1945 stated the 98-year-old man was Kansas City's last Civil War veteran

Attended the last GAR encampment in 1940. representing post 4. He lists his service as "Battle of the Potomac" from New York. Another source lists 2nd KS CT Co F (83rd US CT)

Burial: Highland Cemetery Kansas City Jackson County MO

### Van Zandt, Gilbert

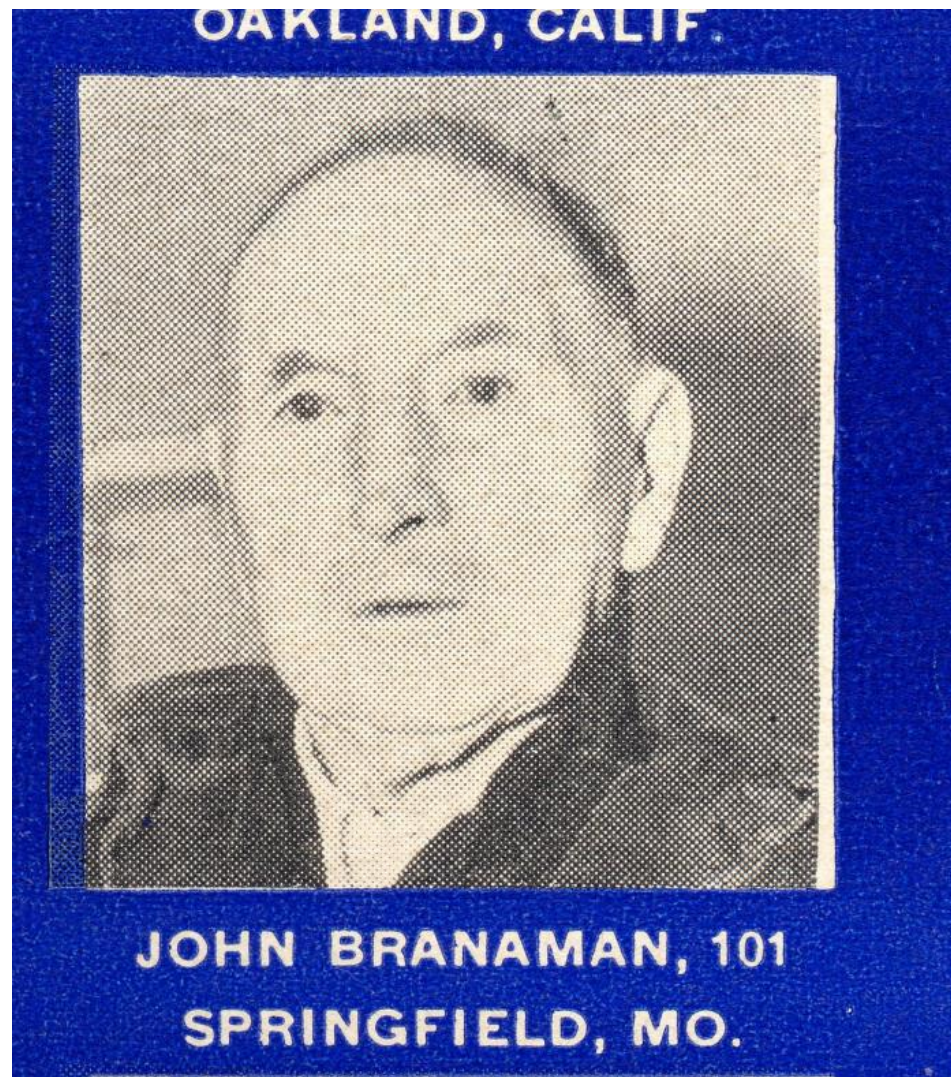
(20 Dec 1851 - 4 Oct 1944). Lived at 3702 Benton Blvd, KC, MO. Lived in area for 60 years. Private, Co. D 79th Ohio Volunteers.

Gilley, Stephen (10 Oct 1847 - 29 Dec 1943) Buried La Porte City Iowa. Lived 321 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Lived in area for 67 years. Possibly same as in 3rd Iowa Light Artillery as a private. Buried at Forest Hill Cemetery

SO WHY ISN'T JOHN F BRANAMAN LISTED AS THE CONFIRMED SOLDIER FOR THIS COUNTY???

For the most part, we need to find out for sure what county he lived in most of his life. Since there appears to be several John F. Branaman's it would also be appropriate to prove that the one passing in 1950 is the one born in Indiana in 1847.

Branaman, John F. (reportedly 27 Jul 1847-24 Apr 1950) served in the 138th IN Inf Co A, Living in Springfield, MO (or Kansas City or Topeka, Kansas) must be determined. He applied for a pension on 11 Aug 1910 and did receive one. He died in the veteran's hospital in Topeka, KS., and is buried Springfield, MO. His biography states he lived most of his life in the Kansas City area so he shouldn't be listed as the last Union soldier for Springfield,



MO. He was pictured in Life Magazine, May 30, 1949 ( which lists his home as being at Springfield, MO.)

Here is part of a newspaper article from the *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* from Logansport, Indiana · Page 9, for Monday, August 8, 1949.

“Native of City 102 Years Old John F. Branaman, who was born here July 27, 1847, recently celebrated his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday anniversary in the Veterans hospital at Topeka, Kans., according to information received here. A veteran of the Civil War, he met President Lincoln at Indianapolis during the 1864 campaign and shook hands with him there. He still has his original honorable discharge certificate signed by President Lincoln and keeps it in his bedside table. He enlisted in the Union army on May 7, 1864 and was discharged Sept. 30, 1864, as a private, Company A, 138<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry. While he was in the army he was assigned to help guard bridges and other points along the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad.”

According to the [thelincolnlog.org](http://thelincolnlog.org) , Lincoln was not in Indianapolis in 1864 during his campaign or before that.

From *The San Bernardino County Sun*, San Bernardino, CA, Thursday, 27 Apr 1950, page 6

TOPEKA, Kan., April 26 (IP) John F. Branaman, a Kansas City veteran of the Civil war, will be buried in a white pine coffin that he built for his own funeral. Branaman, a carpenter, died yesterday at Winter veterans hospital at the age of 102. He was only 17 when he joined the 138th Ind Inf.

If you go to the [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) website for him, someone who entered his data questions his service. It is curious that some sources say he was born 1876. Here is the application for his tombstone. Is the person suspicious because the date of birth is erased?

This and residency questions remain about Branaman and research needs to be done before he is recognized as a last soldier.

Branaman, John F. INTERMENT IN THE Springfield National, Mo.

CEMETERY ORIGINAL MAY 4 1950

TO: THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RELIGIOUS EMBLEM (Check One)  OMIT  LATIN CROSS  STAR OF DAVID

NAME (Last, first, middle initial)

STATE *omit*

SERVICE DATA (Company, regiment, or other organization or branch of service and division, if any.)

*✓ ✓ ✓*  
Branaman, John F.

RANK *omit*

Pvt. *✓*

*✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓*  
Co. A, 138th Regt. Ind. Inf.

SERIAL NO. *✓*

*CW*

DATE OF BIRTH			DATE OF DEATH			DATE OF INTERMENT			GRAVE LOCATION		DATES OF SERVICE			
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	SEC. OR PLOT	GRAVE OR LOT NO.	ENLISTMENT	DIED ON A. D.	DISCHARGE	RETIREMENT
<i>omit</i>			Apr	24	1950	Apr.	27	1950	28	1	5/7/64		9/22/64	

REMARKS (Authority for interment, pension or claim number, disinterment, etc.)

DATE HEADSTONE ORDERED AND B/L NUMBER *Hon*

"IA" Telegram QMC 331 AMLONG 4/25/50  
White, Single, 5 ft grave, Box  
Undertaker - Alma Lohmeyer Funeral Home.  
QMC Form 1287 furnished.

7931344  
TATE, GA. 14 JUL 1950

SHIPPING POINT FOR HEADSTONES  
RAILROAD STATION FOR FREIGHT

SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF NATIONAL CEMETERY OR QM OF POST OR POW CEMETERY

Springfield, Missouri  
POST OFFICE ADDRESS

*Leon P. Leonard*  
Leon P. Leonard

*all*

Rt. #3, Box 345, Springfield, Missouri 80001

Supt. (SIGNATURE)