

William H. Osborn 1942-1948



William Osborn was born on May 7, 1843 to Jonathan and Mary Ann (MacDonald) Osborn in Putnamville, In. During the war he served in the 117th Indiana Inf. He lived at 2201 Pennsylvania, Joplin, MO and for years was a hardware merchant. Attended the last Missouri GAR encampment in 1940, for which there are records, representing post 14. He was the national patriotic instructor in 1942 & 1947. He died in office as the national GAR junior vice-commander on Oct 28, 1948. He is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Joplin, MO.

A note about G.A.R. encampments in Missouri. There apparently were several additional encampments in Missouri after 1940. In 1943, the Joplin paper reported

Osborn having been re-elected to the office of department commander. In 1947, the paper is still calling him the department commander as he left for Springfield and another encampment. He therefore became the longest serving commander of the Missouri G.A.R.