

**Clarence Barss Robinson**, son of Clarence B. (1899-1961) and Mary Eleanor (Barss) (1904-1985) Robinson, was born 13 October 1925, Newaygo County, Michigan. Clarence Sr., a World War I US Navy veteran, owned and ran a grocery store in Okemos prior to his 1941 election to the office of *Lansing State Journal, January 19, 1961*



*Robinsons Store, circa 1915, Meridian History Museum*

Meridian Township Clerk. He held the Township Clerk office until his death in 1961. Mary Eleanor and Clarence were divorced in 1941. She remarried a man named Meeker and moved to San Diego County, California where she died in 1985.

## Meridian Aide Dies

**Clarence B. Robinson, Township Clerk, Has Heart Attack**

Clarence B. Robinson, 61, Meridian township clerk, died unexpectedly Wednesday afternoon, the second township official to succumb to a heart attack within three days.

Mr. Robinson suffered the fatal attack in the office of an East Lansing eye specialist. He was pronounced dead on arrival at a local hospital.



Summer H. Lyman, 69, of 2122 Clinton st., Okemos, a member of the township water department, died Tuesday at his home following an attack.

Mr. Robinson had been township clerk for 20 years. He was unopposed for re-election on the spring ballot.

He had worked until 3 p. m. Wednesday when he left the office for the doctor's appointment.

A veteran of World War I, he was a member of the Haslett American Legion post and the Michigan Townships association.

He operated the Robinson grocery store in Okemos for several years prior to his election as a township official.

Surviving are his widow, Wilma; two sons, Clarence B., Jr., of San Diego, Cal., and Robert G. of Okemos; a daughter, Mrs. Arlene Davis of Long Beach, Cal., four grandchildren and two sisters.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 1 p. m. in the Okemos Community church. Burial will be in the Glendale cemetery.


The Gorsline-Runciman funeral home is handling the arrangements.

Young Clarence left school and joined the United States Marines Corps 5th Division in 1943. He was described as 6'1" with dark complexion, brown hair

*Lansing State Journal, April 2, 1945*

**Wounded in Three Places**

Private Robinson, who was with the Fifth marine division on Iwo Jima was wounded in the leg, arm and back February 24, according to letters received by his parents from the navy department and from him. Private Robinson who is hospitalized somewhere in the Marianas, reported that all but one member of his squad had been wounded. Entering the service in November, 1943, he received his training at San Diego, and Oceanside, Cal., and left for overseas last August.



**Robinson**

and brown eyes.

After stateside military basic training, Clarence was shipped to the South Pacific. His 5th Division saw its first combat action at Iwo Jima, taking part in the island landing 19

February 1945. The "Fighting 5th" sustained the highest number of casualties of the Marine invasion force losing over 2,400 men killed, over

6,000 wounded and having 19 MIA's.

Clarence was among the wounded number sustaining wounds to back, arm and leg. He was out of action by the 24 of February and hospitalized until receiving an honorable discharge in 1946.

Along with 6 other veterans, Clarence returned to Okemos and completed the requirements for his high school diploma in 1947.

**4 Lansing Men Are Casualties**

**2 Missing in Germany; 2 Wounded on Iwo**

A Lansing officer serving with the Eighth air force and a local infantryman have been reported by the war department as missing in action in Germany and two marines have been wounded on Iwo Jima, relatives revealed here Monday.

The men reported missing are: First Lieut. William V. Gorringer, husband of Mrs. Margaret E. Gorringer, 612½ South Pine street, and Corp. Harry C. Wilkins, jr., 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Wilkins, sr., 1120 West Michigan avenue. Wounded in action were: Pfc. Clarence B. Robinson, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Robinson, Okemos, and Pvt. William G. Byrne, 23, husband of Mrs. William Byrne, 1983

*Lansing State Journal, May 26, 1947*

**Okemos Class Night Program Is Unusual**

(Special to The State Journal)

OKEMOS, May 26—Seven young men, who were entered in the United States armed forces before receiving their complete high school work, will receive diplomas Thursday evening at the annual commencement program of the Okemos high school. They have completed their courses since leaving the service, returning to school to do the work. Those completing are: Joseph Griffith, Russell Leach, William Leverett, Clarence Robinson, Ronald Sweetland and Martin Munckel. An unusual presentation of the

1947 Okemos Tomahawk, Senior Pictures Class of '47 page

V E T E R A N G R A D U A T E S

The following veterans, who for various reasons had not completed their high school work before entering the armed service, have now satisfied all requirements for graduation. They shall be considered members of the class of 1947 and will receive their high school diplomas with the other members of the class at Commencement time.

Joseph Griffith	United States Marines	1943-46
Russell R. Leach	United States Marines	1941-46
William Leverett	United States Army	1942-46
Clarence Robinson	United States Marines	1943-46
Ronald Sweetland	United States Navy	1943-46
Gerald Thiel	United States Navy	1945-46
Martin Wunkel	United States Navy	1945-46

Clarence married Irene Florence MacDonald 23 October 1946, Lake Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan. Irene was born 11 March 1928, Saginaw County, Michigan. The couple moved to San Diego County, California where, after 62 years of marriage, Irene died 24 April 2009. Clarence, as of 2018, was still living.



**MISS IRENE F. MacDONALD**

Mr. and Mrs. W J. MacDonald, R. 1, East Lansing. announce the engagement of their daughter, Irene, to Clarence C. B. Robinson, son of C. B. Robinson of Okemos and Mrs. Robinson of Hollywood, Cal. The wedding date has not been set.