

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

## Wayne Garfield Lee

"loyal American citizen, kind husband and father, and a true man"

Wayne G. Lee was born in Springfield, Ohio, where he attended public school and through his own efforts continued his education in Antioch College and later in the Defiance Business College. His career in Dayton began in 1896 as an employee of the National Cash Register Company as a mechanic and rose to the position as clerk in the office of Robert Patterson.

Lee's activities in life were many and varied. He was at one time managing editor and part owner of the *Defiance Crescent News* in Defiance, Ohio, and later political writer for *The Gazette* in Springfield, Ohio, also for the *Dayton Evening News* in Dayton where he was the city hall reporter and a political writer. In 1910 he served as city clerk of Dayton lasting there for four years until in 1914, Governor James M. Cox named him to organize the publicity and educational bureaus for the Ohio State Highway Department. Much of the publicity literature he prepared was reprinted throughout the United States.

In 1915 Mr. Lee became secretary to Henry M. Waite, the first manager of the then new city manager plan of municipal operation in Dayton. From 1920 to 1926 he served as director of finance of Dayton and from 1926 to 1939 as managing director of the Dayton Chamber of Commerce; this



WAYNE G. LEE

position he filled for twelve years with credit to himself and to the community he so dearly loved. His last few years of life were spent in peaceful retirement with his wife and family at his beautiful country home, Avalon Farms, near Dayton.

His life was a fine exemplification of Masonic principles and teachings of Honesty, Truth, Charity and Benevolence. He was associated with the following lodges: Tuendawie Lodge No. 195 at Defiance, Ohio; Stillwater Lodge No. 616 of Dayton; and Miami Valley Lodge No. 660 of Dayton. He was a member of Unity Chapter No. 16, Royal Arch Masons, Reese Council No. 9, Royal and Select Masters and Reed Commandery No. 6, Knights Templar. He received the degrees of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and was active in Gabriel Lodge of Perfection, occupying all offices from Master of Ceremonies to that of Thrice Potent Master.

He was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary, at Indianapolis, Indiana, on September 21, 1932.



Wayne G. Lee was born in Springfield, Ohio, on September 17, 1880 and died November 10, 1940, in Dayton, Ohio. He is buried in Section 121 Lot 164. Wayne G. Lee was also affiliated with Antioch Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Dayton and with various other organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, Dayton Art Institute, the National Aeronautical Association and several National Chamber of Commerce organizations and was a loyal member of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Dayton.

Mr. Lee was survived by his wife Maytie (nee Dicus), one son, Winston, of Sarasota, Fla., two sisters and two halfsisters.

You can take your own walking tour at the cemetery or a virtual tour from the comfort of your couch by visiting our website at: <u>woodlandcemetery.org/tours</u>.

From your phone you will be prompted to download our app. Take one of 12 walking tours we have available for your enjoyment at the cemetery. If you are on your desktop, laptop or tablet, you can take the tour right from the tour page. We will be adding more tours so come back often to learn about the men and women who made it Great in Dayton.

Download the mobile app for your phone by clicking here.





## THANK YOU for supporting us through our 180th Anniversary!

We hope you will continue to support the Woodland Arboretum Foundation as we move through 2022. Support of the Chapel restoration and preservation project is our most critical need as you will soon see the outside of the Chapel and Administration Building receiving new sandstone pieces and eroding and disintegrating elements

replaced. Once the stonework is complete, the beloved Tiffany windows will return and be put back in place. The Tiffany mosaic floor will be restored and the beautiful interior woodwork will also receive a facelift. We are hopeful to open the doors to the public once again in late 2022.

Please consider making a first time donation or an annual donation to the Chapel Fund. Donate on our secure website by clicking below or click on the check to receive a donation form to mail in.





Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum |<u>Visit our website!</u>

