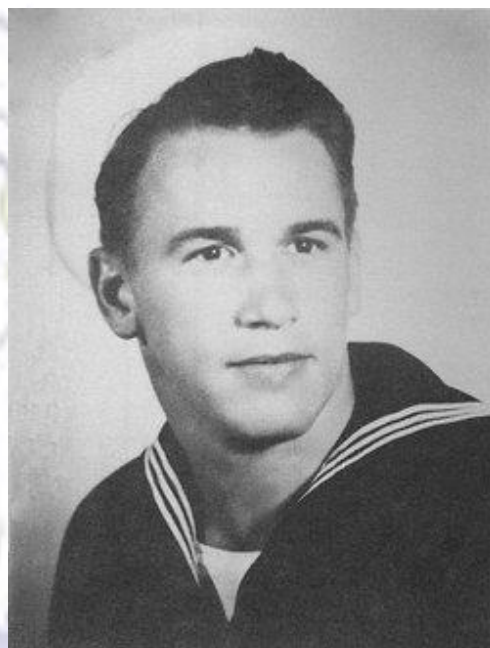


Milton Lawrence Francis, T-42

6 October 1923 – 26 February 1944

(aged 20)



Navy Department announcement of the loss of the 1,475-ton submarine USS Grayback opened the way from disclosure that a Memphis sailor who had also served in the Army was lost with the submersible.

The Memphis sailor was Milton Francis, son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Francis of 963 Arkansas. He was motor machinist's mate, 3-c, on the submarine.

In 1941 he was discharged from the Army after one year's service when it became known that he was only 17. He bided his time and returned to school receiving his diploma in 1942 from Tech High School.

Almost immediately he enlisted in the Navy and volunteered for submarine duty after completion of "boot" training. He had been in combat duty about 18 months.

He has two brothers in the service. They are Lieutenant Marion Francis, stationed at Greensboro NC with the Army Engineer Corps and Staff Sergeant William Owen Francis, on maneuvers in Florida. His sister, Mrs. W.W. Coalston, lives at 327 Rhode Island.

Information from The Commercial Appeal, Thursday, June 22, 1944.

