

Mary Coffay Lee

New Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland, Section B Lot 6

Mary Coffay was born in Kiltewan, County Roscommon, Ireland, and she was the oldest daughter of **John** and **Catherine Coffay**. Mary had her share of troubles throughout her life. She married **Thomas Lee** in 1863. Thomas was an Irish immigrant from County Leitrim and had been living on Mt. Royal Hill in Baltimore near the Coffays. He was probably a quarry worker like many of the other Irish immigrant men who lived there. The 1880 census recorded Thomas Lee as being “paralyzed” and unable to work while they were raising five children at home. There is no record, so far, of Thomas Lee’s death or burial.

After 1880, Mary was twice sentenced to the Maryland House of Correction, for being “habitually disorderly.”

The 1900 census lists a Mary Lee living in the Mt. Hope Retreat as a patient. The birthplace given is Ireland and the birth place of both parents is Ireland. Her age is 58 and marital status is: “unknown.” There is a Baltimore death certificate dated, 1908, for that same Mary Lee which gives her birthplace as Ireland and her age as 66 years. Mary’s baptism record in Roscommon Parish, Ireland, was dated 1840, so it’s possible that the death record and the 1900 census record could be for Mary Coffay Lee. The place of death was Mt. Hope Retreat (asylum) and the cause of death was “chronic mania.” With the troubles Mary Coffay Lee endured throughout her life, it’s very likely that this was her fate. The certificate also gives the burial place as New Cathedral Cemetery, Section B - Lot 8. There are several other individuals, unrelated to Mary, buried in the same lot. There is no marker there, just a grassy area.

Rest In Peace

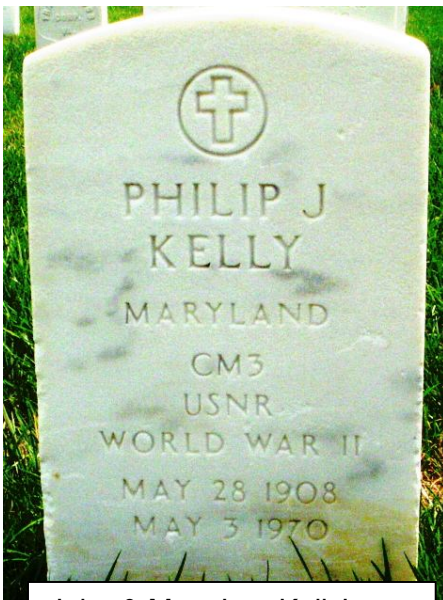


Mary Ann Lee & John Kelly
New Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland, Section CC Lot 304

Mary Ann Lee was the daughter of Mary Coffay & Thomas Lee. In spite of the family troubles, Mary Ann remained involved with her relatives, acting as a sponsor at several cousins' baptisms and even married **John Kelly**, the brother-in-law of her uncle, John Coffay, Jr. John Kelly and Mary Ann Lee had eight children. At least two daughters and one son had families of their own.



Mary Ann Lee Kelly's daughter, **Magdalene Kelly**, married **Milton A. Bankard** in 1935. Milton and Magdalene (Kelly) Bankard are buried in New Cathedral Cemetery in Section JJ, Lot 743. Catherine V. Bankard (Milton's mother) is buried in the same lot.



John & Mary Lee Kelly's youngest child, **Philip Kelly**, is buried in **Loudon Park National Cemetery**, Baltimore, MD.



Mary Lee Kelly's other daughter, **Agnes Kelly**, married **James Smith**, an immigrant from County Cavan, Ireland. James worked for the Baltimore Transit system and they had at least eight children. They are buried together at **Gardens of Faith Cemetery, Baltimore**.

Frank Lee – St. Mary’s Cemetery, Hampden, Baltimore, Maryland

Frank Lee was the son of Mary Coffay & Thomas Lee. As a boy, Frank lived on Mount Royal (Grasshopper Hill) with relatives, during his mother’s troubles. He became an iron worker, married Lena Poulson, and had two children. Frank Lee is buried in St. Mary’s Cemetery in Hampden, Baltimore. The church has closed and the cemetery records are not easily accessible, so the exact location of Frank’s grave is uncertain at this point.

