

Celebrating Women's History Month Jesse Leech Davisson

A Miami Valley Champion for Women's Suffrage

Jesse Leech was born February 5, 1860 in Sewickley, Pennsylvania. She came to Ohio at an early age and to Dayton in the early 1880s to teach piano. In 1889, she married Oscar F. Davisson, a prominent barrister in Dayton.

Mrs. Davisson was one of the most widely known women in the social and club scene of Dayton. In 1896 she was a charter member of the Jonathan Dayton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She helped to organize the Mozart Club which later became the Dayton Music Club as well as the Woman's Literary Club. She was a charter member of the Dayton Woman's Club and a life member of the Dayton Art Institute.

From 1912 to 1920 she was president of the Montgomery County Woman Suffrage Association. Additionally, she served on the Executive Committee of the Ohio State Woman Suffrage Association and on the Advisory Council of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage.

In 1914 Jesse helped to organize the first Woman's Suffrage Parade in Dayton and in 1921, she was one of many founders of the Dayton and Montgomery County League of Women Voters and served as its first vice president.



Sources: The Journal Herald and Wikipedia



Photograph of Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage Advisory Council leaving the Peg Woffington Coffee House in New York City, March 1915.

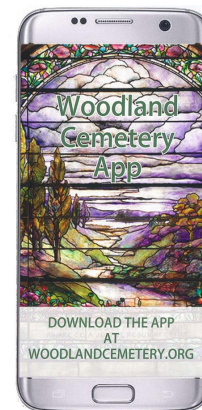


Jesse Leech Davisson died June 29, 1940 at the age of 80. She is buried in Section 113 Lot 17.

As Spring comes upon us, 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: woodlandcemetery.org/tours.

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.](#)



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Using our app, you can:

- Navigate to your relative or friend's grave using our GPS-based system
- Share stories about your family
- Upload photos and video
- Share memories with your family on Facebook

Your loved one's memorial page is automatically created when you make cemetery arrangements with our office. You may also share and upload information by using our burial database via our website (woodlandcemetery.org). (please contact our office if you need assistance)

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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.

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