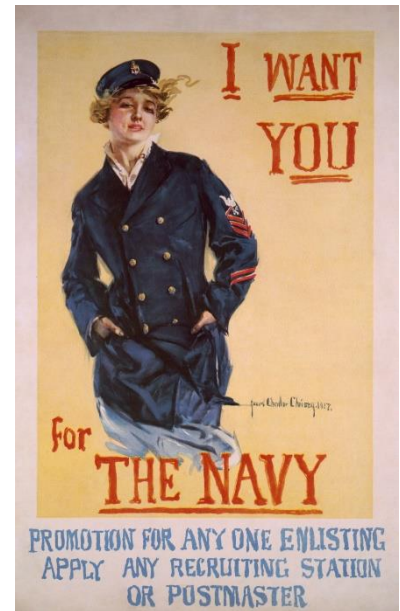


Harriet Jane Dodson

Harriet Dodson, daughter of Jacob and Narcissa Dodson, born June 1872 was working as an office clerk for the Muncie school superintendent when the United States declared war on Germany, April 6, 1917. Harriett wanted to do her part in the war effort. On May 2, 1917, at the age of 45, she enlisted in the United States Navy as a yeoman. When she enlisted, she became the first woman in Muncie to enlist as a yeoman. She was also one of the first women in the United States to receive her enlistment papers in the United States Navy as a yeoman. Prior to 1917, women were only allowed to serve as a nurse, but the U.S. Naval Reserve Act of 1916 permitted anyone qualified to enlist in the navy.

Harriet served most of her time with the Navy in Los Angeles, and when she was discharged May 2, 1920, she remained there until her death October 26, 1938. She was buried in the Los Angeles National Cemetery.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yeoman_\(F\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yeoman_(F))