

SAN ANDREAS GAZETTE

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Welcome to our first issue of the San Andreas Gazette. I envision a perpetual newsletter with period changes and updates, but it's according to how many people send articles to me, and how often they are submitted. I encourage each of you to submit an article. Don't worry about whether you can write or not, or spell. It will be edited to the best of our ability, before sending out to all the relatives! You know more about your parents than we do. Yes, you can be biased! I decided to start a newsletter, because several of us are researching our family's ancestry. It is so much easier on everyone, if we pool our info together, and this can be done through a newsletter. I want to keep this newsletter totally free, and the way to do that is having 100% distribution through Internet. This cuts the cost of paper, copying, and postage. We'll gladly add whomever to our distribution list, if they have e-mail and Internet, and are kin in one way or another. If your loved one doesn't have Internet, please print a copy for them. If any one knows how to build a website, I love to work with you on one for our family newsletter. So far, Lola Tucker, Dorothy Hess and GL Tucker have consented for me to use articles they have written. So, without further ado, we'll start with Lola's article.

Dick Gililand 8/7/1888—1/25/1962

By Lola Tucker

Richard Lafayette, known only as Dick L. even on legal papers, signed Marriage License “Dick L.” And, is Dick L. on tombstone born 7 August, 1888, Mountain Park, New Mexico Territory, New Mexico was not a State at that time and Otero County was not a County until when Uncle Jim Gililand and Oliver Lee were arrested for the murder of Judge Fountain and his small son. Dick died 25 January 1962, in Alamogordo buried 29 January in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Married 30 March 1911, Tularosa, Otero Co., New Mexico (Territory) Ginevra Madie (not Madie Ginevra) (Ginevra also Gin) Wood (not Woods), who was born 5 October 1892, Edward’s County, Texas, died 11 September 1986 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and was buried 13 September 1986 in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

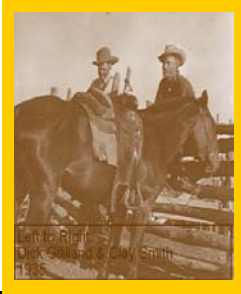
When he was 13, Dick went to Socorro County and the next year went to work for his father and brother, the late Jim Gililand, who was a companion of the late Oliver M. Lee.



Dick Age 72 or 73 years old



He started in the cattle business on his own in 1908. At the age of 19, when he went to W. C. McDonald, manager of the Bar W Ranch and later first Governor of New Mexico after Statehood, to borrow money to buy his brother’s share of the Gililand ranch. His security was about three saddle horses, a saddle, and a few head of cattle, yet McDonald helped him. I know my Mother said he bought their Ranch from Ed Brown, her cousin, and Alice and Pete have both confirmed that. But he bought more than one addition to his ranch. Pete and I know he bought the Smith Place, which we think belonged to his brother, George and later to Jim Smith, and think that is when he got the loan from W. C. McDonald. Years later, R. D. Champion asked him to take the Bradford Goat Ranches, which the Bank had repossessed, and he felt Dick could pay them off, and also pay out his own ranch, which he owed a large sum on. There were three of



L to R: Dick Gililand & Clay Smith 1935



The Gililand ranch house. Taken June 1985.

those ranches and a large herd of goats.

Dick asked Alice and her husband Clay, Dixie and husband Roy, and Sam who was single, if they wanted to all work together and take these ranches. They agreed. And, with Dick getting the loan and being in charge, in several years of hard work, everything including his home ranch was all paid off.

The Ranches were divided up, with Alice and Clay getting Sweetwater; Dixie and Roy getting Grapevine; Sam got the LW, and Dick's Ranch was all paid for. Sam had married Ina Ruth by then, and she wasn't happy there, so they sold the LW to Dick.

After about forty-nine years of ranching Dick had developed the land in the San Andres Mountains until it was valued at \$106,000 when the Government took it over in 1942. It was taken for about five percent of the value and is now part of the White Sands Missile Range. At that time, Dick had to sell all of his goats. He leased several ranches, after being forced to sell most of his cattle, when the Government wouldn't allow him to keep them on the Dave McDonald ranch any longer. This was the last ranch he was able to lease. He was forced to sell all his cattle except a few, which he was able to keep on a leased ranch, south of Alamogordo; just to make him happy. At the time he sold most of his cattle. He was paid \$40,000.00 in cash when the buyer had truckers load the cattle. That was a lot of money in those days. He took his son-in-law, Hansel Tucker, with him to count the money.

As to what happened with the ranches, that is a long story. The Government had promised the ranchers to return the land after the war, but never did. The Ranchers fought for years to get a good compensation, which they didn't get. Dick didn't get enough to even look at another ranch.

He worked as a firefighter at Holloman Army Air Base for a while, and was allowed co-use of the ranch for a year or so and thus returned. Then he was forced off permanently. He leased Dave McDonald's ranch for a while before being forced to sell most of his cattle. The McDonald ranch was the site of the first Atomic Bomb test. It was on the George McDonald Ranch, only a few miles from Dave's. This test had taken place before Dick leased the ranch. That ranch house has been restored and is part of the Atomic Bomb sight, twice a year, tour. Dick worked for the police force in Alamogordo for some time. He was a Deputy Cattle Band Inspector, and at the time of his death was serving as a Constable. He never got over being broken-hearted about losing his ranch.



**Dick & Gin
1953 at Mc Donald
Ranch**



**Family Reunion at Gililand Ranch '85
Only shade was bus storage area.**



Gililand ranch house-1985

During his 51 years of punching cattle in Otero and Socorro counties, he worked with such men as the famed Western Author, Eugene Manlove Rhodes. "In 1910 Dick Gililand " a Cowboy that is what he always called himself) on a cattle ranch, not a horse ranch, all ranchers had horses also, but he never worked on a ranch that was a horse ranch., " resides, as previously mentioned, with his father William F. Gililand, 69, and his mother, Rosetta M., 59, in Estey, Socorro Co., Territory of New Mexico, and next door to his brother, James R. Gililand, 36."

Dick was a rancher not a laborer

"1920 Dick 29,"a Cowboy (he would have been insulted to be called a ranch laborer, all cowboys had to labor, such as build fences, build water tanks and all work that had to be done to keep the ranch going.

When I was born in 1925 on the same ranch it was Socorro County and was all the time I was growing up. It is now Sierra County. Don't know just what year it was changed.

Dick loved family gatherings

Dick loved to get together with his family. He would call for a gathering at least once a year, or so it seemed. He would freeze ice cream.

Sometimes the parties would out at the White Sands. We didn't see some of our first cousins much, if at all, again. Now back to the rest of Lola's story.-Viola. Dick and Gin had six children: Alice, Sam, Dixie, Lola, Pete and Jess. Below is a synopsis of each of their families:

Alice Had Four Children

Alice Rosetta (Gililland) Smith born 5 July 1912, in Alamogordo, Otero Co., New Mexico, died 19 April 2004 in Alamogordo. Buried 23 April in Alamogordo. Married 27 May 1932 in Tularosa, Otero Co., New Mexico, Clay Lyman Smith, who was born 1 February 1911 in Lake Valley, New Mexico, died 11 May 1977 in Alamogordo. Buried 14 May 1977 in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

Richard Nathan Smith, born 12 April 1933 in Hot Springs, Sierra Co., New Mexico. Married Eva Cooper in June 1971 in Alamogordo, born 24 September 1933, in Lower Windsor Township, Penn. died February 1980 in Alamogordo and buried in Alamogordo. Eva had three sons, Thomas L. Runkle, Richard Runkle and Scott Runkle. Later married Patricia Van Brunt. She had four daughters. Tami, Cyndie, Jan and Leslie.

Lucy Alice (Smith) Sauerman born 23 April 1936 in Tularosa, Otero Co., New Mexico, died 7 September 1979 in El Paso, Texas, buried 11 September in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Married Paul Sauerman 26 May 1956 and had two sons:

Robert Paul Sauerman born 1957, married Jacki Starek and they have three children, Bryan Robert, Melanie Lucille, and Claire Alyse.

Richard Charles born in 1958, married Mary Delonjay and had one daughter, Stephanie. Divorced and later married Tamara Achille, she had three children, Joshua, Erica and Cassie.

Dorothy Ann (Smith) Hess born 20 December 1937 in Las Palomas, Sierra Co., New Mexico, who married Paul Hess of Wisconsin 4 August 1956 and had 6 children:

Annette (Hess), born in 1957, married Mike Langen and they have two daughters Erica and Sarah.

Dr. Lois (Hess) born in 1958, married Pat Connolly and they have two children, Megan and Branden.

Linda (Hess) born in 1959, married Todd Jones and they adopted two of Todd's grandchildren, David and Angela.

Carol (Hess) born in November 1963 Married Tom Saxton and they have three children, Miranda, Samantha and Jeffrey.

Gary Hess born in 1965 married Mary Jo Antony. *He's now service in the Seabees in Kuwait.*

Arlene (Hess) born in 1966 married Jeff Van Galder, and they had four children: Hannah, Alex, Charlie and Aaron. She and Jeff divorced, and she later married Jamie Hodenfield. They have a daughter, Grace.

Viola Murell (Smith) Hobbs born 2 May 1947 in Tularosa, New Mexico married Mike Hobbs of Oklahoma 19 March 1966 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and had two daughters, Janis and Sheryl.

Janis (Hobbs) born September 25, 1970, in Victorville, California. She married Mike Richardson and they have one daughter, Elise.

Sheryl (Hobbs) born 1 February 1974, in Clovis, New Mexico. She married Jim Borgelt who had a daughter; Kaitlyn and they have two daughters together, Elizabeth and Rebecca.

*I'll take the liberty of telling of a few of my memories of granddad here.
Do you remember how he loved hot stuff?*

Well one time I soaked toothpicks in some stuff, sold in drugstores for toothaches for several weeks. This stuff tasted like cinnamon, but was hot. We were out at the pasture. He drove up in his pickup. I asked him if he wanted a cinnamon toothpick and he took one and drove off. I never did get to see his reaction!!!

Hey, do you remember the boxes chocolate covered cherries granddad would bring to each family at Christmas time?

How about the hamburger stand he owned, on what was then, Pennsylvania Avenue...somewhere close to the Hi D Ho.



Gin, Alice, Sam, Dick 1915

Sam had Six Children

Samuel Wilson Gililand, born 22 July 1914, Alamogordo, Otero Co., New Mexico, died July 23, 1990 in Alamogordo. Buried 27 July 1990 in

Tularosa, New Mexico. Married Ina Ruth Cansler in 1937 in Tularosa. They had six children:

Cleo May (Gililland) Poindexter, born in Tularosa and died in Tularosa and was buried in Tularosa. She had one son, Dale Poindexter.

William Richard (Bill Dick) Gililland, was born *July 15, 1943*, in Tularosa. *He has two children: Tanya and Kevin.*

Jerry Neal Gililland, was born in Alamogordo, New Mexico, *on April 28, 1946*. *He married Frances Montier, in March 1966*. *They have two sons: Ryan and Aaron.*

Carolyn Sue Gililland, born 27 February 1948, drowned when about 1 1/2 years old, *May 6, 1949*, buried in Tularosa.

Roy Luther Gililland, *born March 29, 1950, and married Carol Roberts in 1970.*

Cara Madie (Gililland) Buchanan *was born February 1, 1962.*

Sam and Ina Ruth divorced. Later Sam married Bessie Lacy) Toncray, and divorced. Then he married Marian Elizabeth (Sitez) Lerke (his high school sweetheart) July 5, 1981 in Alamogordo. Beth had five children, Garold Lerke, Coelene Lerke, deceased when 14 years old, Jerry (girl) Lerke, Bonnie Lerke, and Debra D. Lerke.

Dixie Had Five Children and Raised Lee Correa

Dixie Cloma (Gililland)Tucker, born June 30, 1917 in Tularosa, New Mexico died 23 January, 2002 Tularosa, New Mexico. Married 27 September, 1934 to Roy Eugene Tucker, who was born 31 October, 1913 in Ada, Oklahoma, died 31, March, 1975 in Tularosa, New Mexico. Funeral 2 April 1975 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, and was buried same day in Tularosa, New Mexico. They had 5 children :

Roy Eugene Tucker, Jr. born 9 September, 1935 in Tularosa, died 17 March, 2000 in Three Rivers, New Mexico, funeral 20 March, 2000 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, buried in Tularosa, New Mexico same day. Married Illa Hall, deceased *April 6, 2000*, and they had seven children, Katherine (Kathy) Tucker) Danley, Jimmy Leon Tucker, born 29 September 1956, Debra Tucker, Linda (Tucker) Johnson, Janet (Tucker) Hobbs, Nancy Tucker and Leann Tucker.

Patrick Leon Tucker born 17 March, 1937 in Hot Springs, New Mexico (now T or C) died in Hot Springs, New Mexico in 1939, buried in Tularosa, New Mexico.

George Lafayette Tucker, known as G. L. born 23 December 1940 in Tularosa, New Mexico. He married Karon Beanblossom, and they had two children, Johnny Eugene Tucker known as Jet, born 5 September, 1966 and Renee' *Piper* (Tucker) Danley.

Cloma Jane (Tucker) Beanblossom, born 1 September 1942 in Tularosa, New Mexico, and married Tony Beanblossom in Three Rivers, New Mexico. He was born 17 February, 1937 and died 12 June, 2004 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, funeral in Alamogordo, NM buried in Tularosa, NM. They had two daughters, Alynn (Beanblossom) Hooper and Merlin (Beanblossom) Sedillo. Alynn *married Gary Hooper on August 8, 1980, and has four children: Bobby Joel, Cleve Michael, Kyndra Jean and Brett Levi.* Cloma *married Joe McCarley in the fall of 2005.*

Merlin married John David Sedillo, June 18, 1983, and has two children: Cruz Phillip and Croix Dwaine Sedillo.

Ginevra Gertrude (Tucker) Helms, born 24 November 1949 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, Married Larry Helms and they had two sons Dwaine (deceased *in 1989*) and Travis. Then she and Larry divorced.

Roy and Dixie Also raised another boy, Lee Correa from the time he was thirteen years old until he finished school.



Sam, Dixie, & Alice 1917 or 18

Lola Had 3 Children

Lola Tom (Gililland) Tucker, born 12 August, 1925 on father's ranch in the San Andreas Mountains, Socorro County, New Mexico. She was married on April 27, 1946 to Hansel Leon Tucker who was born 7 March, 1923 in Citra, Oklahoma and they had three children:

Alan Eugene Tucker born 15 April, 1947 in Alamogordo, New Mexico married Lucille Ellen Berg 8 June, 1968 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and

they had two children, Ronald Alan Tucker born 2 August, 1971 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Shauna Lucille Tucker born 3, May 1973 in Denver, Colorado. Then they divorced in 1985. The he married Marie Isabel (Soto) Lucero 21, November 1987 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She had one daughter, Emily Grace (Lucero) Gutierrez, who married Ramon Gutierrez in Roswell, New Mexico and they have two sons: Lukas Ramon and Mikah Manuel.

Billy Wayne Tucker, born 8 April, 1950 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, and married Patricia Elizabeth Dill 11 October, 1969 in Abilene, Texas. They had six children:

Tammi Elizabeth Tucker, born May 31, 1970, and married to Kevin Mossman in May 1993.

Tammi has three children: Alexander, Brendon & Aislynn.

Matthew Wayne Tucker, born April 9, 1974, died June 2004. *Matthew had two children: Savannah and Garrett.*

Benjamin Tucker, born April 7, 1980.

Martha Tucker, born September 7, 1982.

Rachael Tucker, born September 6, 1984.

Nathan Samuel Tucker, was born November 28, 1986.

Billy and Patsy divorced in May 2003. He married Susan D. (Rudd) Grammer 24 December 2003. She had two children: Geoffrey and Dayna who have two daughters, Kaylee and Isabel (Isa).

Karen Faye (Tucker) Zaleski born 6 August, 1956 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, and married Patrick Lewis Zaleski 30 June, 1979 in Alamogordo, New Mexico. They have two children: Richard Aaron Zaleski, born 24 November, 1984 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and Kimberly Michelle Zaleski, born 7 December 1986 in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

Pete Had 3 Children

Billy Pete Gililland, born 10 January, 1928 in Tularosa, New Mexico, married Wilma Lee Nowell, Deceased, and they had three Daughters:

Shirley Ann Gililland, born 24 February 1950 in Tularosa Shirley was born blind.

Rhonda Gaye (Gililland) Scripp Ballard was born 15 Sept 1954.

Connie Zoe (Gililland) Lyon born 11 November 1957.

Somewhere in here, I'm sure Pete's horse, ole Red deserves honorable mention. He'd ride in back of the pick up without sideboards!!!!

Jess' Family Roping Champions

Jess Had 5 Children

Andrew Jess Gililland (not Jess Andrew), was born 31 January 1930 in Hot Springs, New Mexico (now T or C). He married Edna Louise Hall and they had five children:

Jess Leslie Gililland, born 11 Oct 1951. He has three children: Jess Leslie "Scooter", Cheryl Raye, & Cory Andrew.

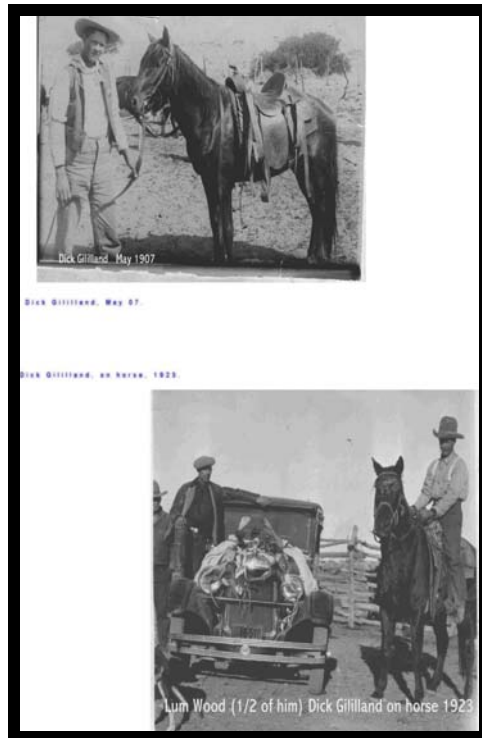
Edna Kay (Gililland) Hinkle, was born 24 Nov 1953. She married Donald Hinkle, Sept 21, 1971. She and Don had three children: Tommy (deceased), Jackie and Annette.

Tommy Pete Gililland, born 25 February 1957. He has two children: Tammi Rane and Tommy.

Donna Fay (Gililland) Danley, was born July 16, 1960. She has one daughter, Cassie Faye Danley.

Judy Annette (Gililland) Ratliff, was born 23 Aug 1962. She has one daughter, Jeslyn Page Ratliff

We can't mention ole Red, without remembering Shorty, Jess' rodeo horse in the 50's



Sam, Alice, Dick, Gin, Dixie, Lola & Pete
Celebrating Dick & Gin's 50th anniversary.
They were wed on March 30, 1911

Top Picture: Dick with ole Button-1907
Bottom Picture: Lum Wood (1/2 of him)-
Dick on horse, 1923.

Ginevra Wood Gililand 10/5/1892-9/11/1986

*This story was written by grandma Gililand for the Otero County
Pioneer Family Histories, Vol. 1. Pg 464-465.*

THE JOHN HENRY WOOD FAMILY *By Mrs. Ginevra Wood Gililand*

My dad and mother, John Henry Wood and Alice Johnson, were married about 1889 in Socorro, New Mexico, and, about that time, my granddad, Henry Wood, died in Taos, New Mexico. My dad was a cowboy and worked for mama's brother-in-law, Ed Brown. Ed was married to mama's sister, Nettie Johnson Brown. After Granddad Wood died, dad had to take Grandma Wood and family back to Edwards County, Texas. Most of dad's brothers lived in Edwards County. Dad raised goats and farmed there.

Dad and mama had seven children while in Texas: Riley, Ginevra (me), Cynthia, Pete, Amnon, John, and Cloma. We were all about two years a part.

In 1901, dad moved our family, along with Becky Wood (mama's sister), Lum (dad's brother), Lycenia Miles (mama's sister), my Grandma Johnson, and Charles Wood (dad's cousin that worked for him) back to New Mexico. Dad had two covered wagons and a hack. Grandma Johnson drove the hack as far as Pecos City, Texas; she left us there and went to her son, Jim Moore, in Oklahoma City. He was a son by her first marriage. Mama was driving one of the wagons, as was dad.

After grandma left us, I had to drive the hack on to La Luz, New Mexico. I felt very grown up and was determined to do a good job of it to prove my maturity. The trip itself was uneventful as far as trips went. I was ten years old at the time.

GIN DROVE THE HACK DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AT AGE 10!

We had to put up with heavy rain and wind storms, sick animals, and all the other discomforts associated with covered wagons, but we accepted the hardships and enjoyed the good times as they came. The worst part of our trip was coming off Cloudcroft hill in the Sacramento Mountains. When we got to Cloudcroft and started down the mountain, mama said to dad, "John, it's rough, lock both my hind wheels". I spoke up and said,

"Yes, dad, lock mine too". Dad said, "The horses will hold the hack back and you know how to use the brakes".



I'm not sure old Ginevra was here. She held her age so well!

I thought, "I know how to use the brake, but how will the horses hold the hack back?" I didn't know the harness would help them. I'm sure I stood much taller and straighter when dad said that, but I wasn't so tall and straight by the time we reached the bottom of the mountain. There were times when I wished dad didn't have so much confidence in me and I wondered if the horses were half as smart as he thought they were. However, we reached the bottom and arrived in La Luz late in the day. We met a man there who asked us to spend the night at his place and we gladly accepted his invitation. The next day we went to Grandpa Johnson's place in La Luz Canyon.

We located in La Luz Canyon, but when school started each year we moved to La Luz. The second time we moved out we moved to a farm below Grandpa Johnson's place. Miss Carrie Covington was our teacher and we only attended school three months a year.

Dad and mama had four more children born in New Mexico: Tom, Dollie, Grace, and King Franklin (Buster), who died at the age of two, supposedly from a spider bite.

In 1905, we moved to San Andres Mountains, in Good Fortune Canyon, while dad tended Angora goats over in Bear Den. We all later walked out to be with him and never went back to Good Fortune Canyon. Since there was no house at Bear Den, we lived in two big Army tents until dad built the two-room log house - he used pinion logs. The tents nearly rotted down before the log house was built. Both rooms of the house were long, the kitchen had room for a bed, and the front room had a big fireplace in the back of it. It took a lot of wood to keep warm. Bear Den was a pretty place with red hills and grassy flats. There was no school the first three years we lived out there, then we got a teacher three months a year. They built a log cabin down Bear Den Canyon. This

school house burnt down, it was supposed to have been struck by lightning but some of the kids books. were out under a tree, so it looked like someone had it in for some of the kids or the parents. They built another school house and had a teacher come to teach and she lived in one end of the school house.

GIN MEETS DICK AT A DANCE

Although she doesn't mention it here, Ginevra met Dick at a dance. I remember trying to picture that!!!!



Gin on windmill, 1923



Gin, Alice, Sam 1914

On March 30, 1911, I married Dick Gililland in Alamogordo. Dick was born in High Rolls, New Mexico on August 7, 1888. His dad was W.F. Gililland. He and Dick's brother, Jim Gililland, had moved to San Andres when Dick was a young boy. They had some cows in the Sacramento Mountains that they moved into Lava Gap, just this side of San Andres Mountains Dick was a cowboy wanting to settle down on a place of his own. So in 1912, after Alice was born, we bought a large ranch from Ed Brown on the northwest side of San Andres Mountains. We lived in a tent until Dick's dad built a two-room house for us.

Editor's note: Mother, (Alice), said, "Poppa wasn't very handy." They didn't have an outhouse or cistern, until Jim Smith spent a summer out there, building an outhouse and digging a cistern for them. When the windmill broke it was grandma who fixed it!

We had six children: Alice (Mrs. Clay Smith), Sam, Dixie (Mrs. Roy Tucker), Lola (Mrs. Hansel Tucker), Pete and Jess. All of them still live in Tularosa or Alamogordo.

The government took our ranch for part of the missile range in 1941. We moved to Tularosa and Dick went to work at Holloman Air Force Base as a fireman. This was when the base first opened. He worked there a little while and then gained co-use of the ranch. So, he quit out at the base and continued ranching, until the government decided they wanted everything off the range. He sold his cattle and we bought a house on Hawaii Avenue in Alamogordo. Dick died January 25, 1962. I bought a

house at 1305 Catalina, so I could be close to my daughter and her husband, Lola and Hansel Tucker. I'm 88 years old, born in 1892. I still enjoy traveling to visit my sisters and brothers, and to go anywhere when I can get a ride and don't have to stay too long.

The next article is about Dixie Tucker, written by GL Tucker. But first, I'd like to say a little bit about Dixie. When we found that daddy had cancer and would need surgery in El Paso, Dixie, Cloma Jane & GL were there for us. Dixie stayed by mother's side. She provided a motor home for us to stay in while we sat with daddy. Cloma Jane fixed Thanksgiving dinner, and took it to El Paso so our family could have a holiday meal. Jr and Illa kept my two girls several weekends, while I took over some of the sitting duties at the hospital. GL and Billy were sitting with daddy the night he died. We couldn't say thank you enough to all these people, for their kind deeds. Dixie was a second grandmother to my two girls. They really got to know her, right after daddy died, in the summer of 1977, when she rode to Alaska with us. Mother, Dixie, Janis, Sheryl, Lady (my dog) and I drove to Alaska. Dixie started crocheting an afghan as we pulled out of mother's driveway, and she finished it right as we got into Alaska. She, also, had to get a rock from each state she passed through. She and mother came up each year, and then they came up and rode back down with us three years later.



We were pretty darn proud that our tarp didn't flap! Not only did we drive to Alaska, we tented until it got to cold for our New Mexico sleeping bags...somewhere north of Calgary, Canada. Okay GL, you can have your turn now!

DIXIE CLOMA GILILLAND TUCKER **By GL Tucker**

Dixie Cloma Gililand was born on June 30, 1917 in Hot Springs, New Mexico (which is now Truth Or Consequences) to Richard Lafayette Gililand and Ginevra Madie (Wood) Gililand. They lived in the San Andres Mountains on what is called the Home Place. She attended school in several places. They were San Marcial, Hot Springs, Albuquerque, Tularosa, Bear Den and the Ritch School. She never did graduate except in the 8th grade at Tularosa. She had a sister, Alice, a brother Sam, then later came Pete, Jess and Lola.

There was a young man showed up in the San Andres from Texas. His name was Roy Eugene Tucker. He worked on several ranches in the area and trapped. One of the ranchers he worked for was Uncle John Wood who raised horses. There were dances on the platform at Millers Ranch. Everyone in the area came. They danced all night. Between seeing Roy working once in a while, and the dances, Dixie became very interested in him.

They got married on September 27, 1934, in Tularosa, New Mexico. They still lived in the San Andres. They went in with Richard (Dick) Gililand, Clay Smith and Sam Gililand to buy several ranches that had been repossessed by Mr. Champion in Tularosa. They split the ranches up with Dick keeping the Home Place, Sam took the LW, Roy and Dixie took Grapevine and Clay and Alice took Sweetwater.

They raised and herded goats at grapevine along with a few cows and horses. On September 8, 1935, Roy Eugene Tucker Jr.(Jr.) was born in Tularosa. On March 17, 1937 Leon Patrick Tucker was born in Hot Springs. On December 23, 1940, George Lafayette Tucker (G. L.) was born in Tularosa. (Aunt Lola put on the birth announcements to call him G.L.)

In 1939, Leon died from diarrhea and was buried in Tularosa. Dixie never got over him.

In 1941 the United States Army wanted the Ranches and a bunch of other ranches to practice their bombing for World War II. The Ranchers moved off. Roy and Dixie loaded their pickup with their yearly crop of mohair and along with Jr. and G.L. they started to Tularosa. It started raining and when they came to Mexican Tank Draw they got stuck and was stuck all day. They finally walked to the Home Place and spent the night. The next morning, with help and horses they finally got out.

They moved into Tularosa and put Jr. in school. Roy worked at the Fire Department at Holloman Air Base, farmed in Tularosa with a team of mules and ran cows at Three Rivers where they leased part of the Quatro Amigos Cattle Co. from Truman Spencer and his partners.

On September 1, 1942 Cloma Jane was born in Tularosa in the same house she lives in today.

In 1949 they moved to the Three Rivers Ranch they had leased.

On November 24, 1949 Gineva Gertrude was born in Alamogordo at Uncle Hansel and Aunt Lola's House.

They spent their time building up their herd of cattle. During the drought of 1954, 1955 and 1956 there was not much feed for the cows. Roy had bought some calves for the roping clubs in Alamo, Tulie and Cloudcroft. They were Brahman and Brahman cross. He kept the heifers to stock on the Ranch, and sold the steers. Dixie told him not to put her brand LTC on them ugly long eared Brahmans. She would keep her White-face cattle. When the drought broke, she said sell the white-face left and start putting her brand on some of the Brahmans, as they made it through the drought better than the white-face. They kept improving the herd and added Santa Gertrudis Bulls to put more weight on them.

In 1959 and 1960 they built some feed pens north of Tularosa to wean their calves and hold cows that needed feed. They put in scales so they could weigh and ship from there. A lot of Ranchers in the Sacramento Mountains trucked their calves there to weigh and ship them.

They moved to Tularosa by bits and pieces. They had a Railroad house moved there. In 1962, Roy had surgery and needed to be close to a phone and town. They had G.L. bring a table as he came from the Ranch, the chairs, until they got moved and stayed there.

On one occasion, there was a Brahman cow on the lift in the pens. Roy devised a britchen to put on the cows on the lift and would pick them up with his front- end loader. This Brahma cow was on the hook. When she got on her feet, she was ready to fight. Roy got Dixie to get in the loader bucket so she could reach down and unhook the cow , and he could back away from her and she wouldn't fight at them and go back down. Dixie was wearing a dress that day. When he went to raise the bucket and back up, he hit the wrong lever and dumped her out with that cow. She went to the house. Later when they were talking golf, and about teeing off he said that's what Dixie did. She teed off and went to the house.

They also raised another boy, Lee Correa during the time he was in High School in Tularosa.

In 1963 Jr. came back to run the ranch as Roy's health was starting to fail. Roy died in 1975. He died On March 30, 1975. Dixie continued living there. She kept Roy's horse and fed him for years until he died. The best we could figure, he was over 40 years old. She enjoyed him.

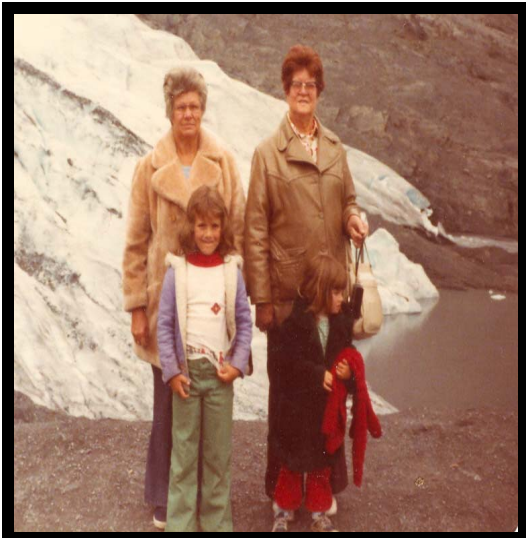
Dorsey Bonnell from Otero County State Bank, came to the ranch and took picture of the brandings. He painted the works and the bank put it on their calendar in 1975.

Dixie traveled to Hawaii with G.L. and Karon. She had never flown in an airplane. She didn't like the flight much, but really enjoyed Hawaii. After that she and her sister Alice, (After Alice lost Clay in 1975) traveled all over the country, both by car and airplanes. She really enjoyed traveling and visiting. If there was a go, she was ready. She helped with the cow works at the Ranch until it was sold in the late 1990s. She did the branding.

She lived by herself until her health became bad and she moved in with Cloma Jane. She died there on January 23, 2002 . She really enjoyed life until her lungs got so bad she was on oxygen all the time. She never smoked, but evidently by breathing the smoke from branding, smoke from campfires dust and whatever else, her lungs were like she had worked in coalmines.

There are people most every day that remark on missing her and her stories of growing up, ranching and her travels and just visiting.

She had several visits with the Old Wild Man at Grapevine. At first he scared her, then she got to where she would feed him when he came by. He wandered all over the San Andres and usually brought news from other Ranchers.



Front: Janis & Sheryl Hobbs
Rear: Dixie & Alice at Worthington Glacier in Alaska.

It's a good thing GL mentioned the old wild man. A paper on the San Andreas wouldn't be complete without reading about him. Here's what Dixie wrote for the Mountain Monthly, July 1990. I'll have to type it for you.-below

People in the San Andres Mountains area knew about the “old wild man” and wondered how he survived. He would go to goat camps or houses when no one was home and take food, but never all of it. He would sometimes find someone at home, but only wanted to eat and leave. He had long hair, a shaggy hat and clothes, carried a bedroll and a water canteen with a bailing wire handle that he never turned loose.

One day my dad, Dick Gililand, and my husband, Roy Tucker, were out riding and looked over a ridge and saw cows running. They thought there must be a mountain lion over there to make a kill. They went over there and saw this man tracks. They trailed him down the draw. It was the “old wild man.”

He saw them coming and laid down in a ditch, they said, like a little quail hiding. They didn’t bother him.

When I was first married, I was at a goat camp by myself and looked up and this man was standing at the door looking in? He was scared as I was. He had been coming by when we weren’t home and taking food, but he never would take all of it. On this day he said to me, “I would like to get something to eat.” I build a fire in my wood cook stove and made him a meal. After he had eaten he filled his water canteen and went on his way.

He met Roy around the hill and they had a short visit and he went on. He laid his pack down to rest but never turned loose of the water canteen.

In about four years he came by again. We were living at another place and by now we had two little boys, but they didn’t seem frightened by the “old wild man.” Again I fixed him a meal and he went on his way.

Sam, my brother, said he was told the “old wild man’s” body was found in the San Augustine plains near Magdalena, after a cold winter.

I just wanted to mention how successful Dick and Gin’s grandkids and great grandkids have been. I know of a doctor, a nurse, a lawyer, an architect/builder, a preacher/college professor, an interior designer, a physical therapist, and a schoolteacher, CPA, and professional ropers. To my knowledge none of their children, grandkids or great grandkids have been in jail. If your career didn’t get mentioned, please don’t take offense, as I can’t list everyone’s careers. I didn’t list my accomplishments either!

The next issue will be about Alice Gililand Smith, Lucy Smith Sauerman, and Roy Tucker, Jr. Remember, we’d love to hear from you. We’d love to include an article about Sam Gililand. How about it, Bill Dick and Jerry, up to writing it? Don’t stop here. You’ve got to see the Tulie water tank!

Picture taken by Billy Tucker.

Ranee, Annette, we are very proud of you and your accomplishments!

