

### The Descendants of William Lawson Smith (1852-1906?) and Emily Spartis Guthrie (1855-1939) of Texas

This is the continuing saga of the descendants of Jesse R. Smith and Elizabeth Harrison Smith and an examination of the life of their 3rd child and his children and an introduction of his grandchildren. As usual, I'll leave a brief introduction of John and Lucy before delving into the children.

- 4. **William Lawson Smith** 27 NOV 1852 • Washington, TX - DEATH Before 1910 Bell, TX?  
 Emily Spartis Guthrie 3 MAY 1855 • Lavaca County, TX - 1 APRIL 1939 • Olton, Lamb, TX  
 Marriage: 10 Jul 1873 • Bell, TX

William was the 3rd child of Jesse and Elizabeth arriving in 1852 probably in Washington County before the move to Atascosa in late 1850's. He first appears in the 1860 Census in Atascosa County with 6 siblings, his parents, and an uncle. He shows up next in 1870 after the family moved to Atascosa and everyone is still at home. Records show that in Jul 1873, he has made his way to Bell County and married Emily Spartis Guthrie. He would have been 20 and Emily almost 18. Emily had been born near Hallettsville, TX in Lavaca County in 1855 and she was one of the youngest children of William Guthrie and his last of several wives.

- 18. **Cora Beatrice Smith Bennett** 3 NOV 1877 • Bartlett, TX-10 DEC 1964 • Olton, Lamb, TX  
 Summie Fee Bennett 5 DEC 1874 • Bartlett, TX - 21 MAR 1972 • Littlefield, Lamb, TX  
 Marriage: 2 Dec 1895 • Williamson, TX



One photo that I have for the Bennett's is their grave marker from the Olton Cemetery in Olton, TX

Olton is a small town in the Texas Panhandle west of Plainview. The other is of Cora with her granddaughter Jolene and her oldest daughter Velvia. This was posted on Ancestry by Sue Buerk as was the picture of Summie.

Cora was the 2<sup>nd</sup> child born to William and Emily in 1877 when they lived on the farm near Bartlett, TX. She appears there in the 1880 Census, but in Dec 1895, she married Summie Fee Bennett who was also from Bartlett. In examining their marriage certificate, I was surprised to see that the pastor who performed

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Race	Gender	Birth Month	Birth Year	Marital Age Status	Years Married	Number of Children		Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	House Owned Free or Mortgaged	Farm or House
									Born	Living						
1900 Census	Summie	Head	White	Male	Dec	1875	24	Married	4		Texas	Texas	Tennessee	Trader		H
Bennett	Cara	Wife	White	Female	Nov	1878	21	Married	4	2	1	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Bennett	Velva	Daughter	White	Female	Oct	1896	3	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas		

their wedding was the same W. H. Calhoun who had performed her sister, Pearl's wedding in 1891.

The final child born to Summie and Cora was their Ivey Eloyce. I think that she is the only sibling for which I have actually found a birth certificate. That birth certificate tells us that she was the 7<sup>th</sup> child born to Cora but only 5 were surviving. Having just noticed this is troubling as it indicates that I am missing two children! Looking at the birthdates of her siblings, there are a couple of possibilities. Velvia was born in 1896 and then Minnie didn't arrive until 1903, a seven-year gap. That might suggest that Cora lost children in 1898 and 1900. There is also a 6-year gap between Summie and Mary and then a 5-year gap between Mary and Eloyce so there seem to be a lot of possibilities. Looking more closely at the 1900 Census in Bell County for Cora, I see that she had lost one child before 1900. Looking at the 1910 Census for Cora in Motley County, she had lost two children, so this narrows down the missing children to one after Velvia and before Minnie and then after Summie and before Mary. Velvia was born in Granger, Minnie claims to have been born in Houston so there is no telling where that missing child was born. Summie was born in Bartlett and Mary in Northfield, so that missing child may have arrived before they left central TX or after they got to Motley. As such, as much as I hate too, I'm going to add these two missing children and give them a sequence number, the bane of all genealogists as it leads to the need to go back and renumber old stuff! Alvy has devised a system that automatically rennumbers which I have printed out to learn, but as such have not yet taken the time, but maybe this will be my incentive.....

#### Children of Cora and Summie

94	<b>Velvia Mae Bennett</b>	1896	1988	Child #1 - Cora and Summie
95	<b>Unknown Bennett</b>	1899	1899	Child #2 - Cora and Summie
96	<b>Minnie Bell Bennett</b>	1903	1988	Child #3 - Cora and Summie
97	<b>Summie Lawson Bennett</b>	1906	1981	Child #1 - Cora and Summie
98	<b>Unknown Bennett</b>	1908	1908	Child #2 - Cora and Summie
99	<b>Mary Martha Bennett</b>	1912	2007	Child #3 - Cora and Summie
100	<b>Ivey Eloyce Bennett</b>	1917	2014	Child #1 - Cora and Summie

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**94. Velvia Mae Bennett** 4 OCT 1896 • Granger, TX - 17 NOV 1998 • Dallas, TX  
 William Edwin Hardison 11 JUN 1895 • Childress, TX - Before 1930 • Motley County  
 Married: about 1917 probably Childress



Photo from Sue Buerk on Ancestry – a granddaughter.

Cora and Summie's first child was Velvia Bennett who was born in Granger, TX on 4 Oct 1896 when they still lived in Granger in Williamson County just north of Georgetown. She appears at home in 1900 and 1910 and then around 1917, she married William (or Eddie) Harrison probably in Childress, but records have not been found by me. William, according to his WW1 Draft registration was born in Childress, TX a year before Velva. In the registration on 5 June either 1917 or 1918, he was married, working in Channing, TX which is a small town north of Amarillo. He was working on a farm for John Shelton. This was in Hartley County. He was medium height and build with brown eyes and hair. Daughter Esta Beatrice Hardison arrived in 1918. William was the son and oldest child of William and Mollie Foster Harrison. His father was originally from Missouri and his mother from Texas. William's father died in 1908 and his mother later married Jefferson Davis "Turk" Brown. Pardon the distraction, but that led me down a big rabbit hole that was interesting. Turk's father was Captain James M. Brown who had been a soldier of some note during the Civil War. His biography can be found here. It's worth a read.

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph821501/m1/961/zoom/?q=%22John%20M%20Brown%22&resolution=2&lat=2911.5&lon=750>

Back to Velvia. After their marriage, their first child, Esta Beatrice Hardison arrived in 1918 and they appear in the 1920 Census in Childress TX where William is farming. They were renting their land.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1920 Census	Justice Precinct 2, Childress, Texas													
Hardison	W E	Head	Rented		Male	White	24	1896	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer	Own Farm
Hardison	Velvia	Wife			Female	White	23	1897	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Hardison	Estar	Daughter			Female	White	1	1919	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas		

Two more children arrived in the early 1920's with Louie Jolene Hardison in 1923 and Malcom Edwards Hardison in 1926. Sometime in this period, William disappeared, presumably died as Velvia appears as a widow in the 1930 Census. By now we have experienced enough instances of "widows" actually being divorced, but no record of William has been found after a listing in the 1923 Amarillo City Directory when he and Velvia lived at 707 Fillmore and he was a clerk. That's right in the middle of downtown Amarillo today, but that specific address does not exist. He was around in April 1926 when his son was born and was farming and was 30 so sometime between 1926 and 1930 something happened.

In the 1930 Census, we find Velvia with her three children, her "widowed" mother, and a 17-year-old Otho Irven helping run the farm. I put that in quotes, because, as a reminder, Cora's husband reappears

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	
1930 Census	Precinct 3, Motley, Texas																		
Hardison	Velvia	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Female	White	33	1897	Widowed		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer	
Hardison	Esta	Daughter					Female	White	11	1919	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Hardison	Joeline	Daughter					Female	White	7	1923	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas		
Hardison	Malcom E	Son					Male	White	3	1927	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas		
Irven	Otho	Boarder					Male	White	17	1913	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Laborer	
Bennett	Cora	Mother					Female	White	53	1877	Widowed		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas		

in the 1940 Census. Maybe he and William ran off somewhere together? I haven't found either of them in the 1930 Census.

The 1940 Census finds Velvia living in Olton, TX which is a small town north of Amarillo between Plainview and Muleshoe. At this time, she is "divorced" instead of widowed which makes me think that William must be around somewhere. She is the owner of a school lunch room. Her oldest daughter is no longer at home, but the two youngest, Jolene and Malcom are at home and both in high school. She is renting rooms to a local teacher, Fred Gordon and a local pharmacist, Kenneth Straw. You can see everyone's educational achievements below. As I mentioned above, her father has resurfaced and reunited with her mother. Her oldest daughter, Esta was a newlywed to Winfred Wink Dye and they were living in Plainview where Wink worked as a deliveryman for the railroad.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Live on Farm	Occupation	Industry	
1940 Census	No Street Name: Olton, Lamb, Texas Rented 22													
Hardison	Velvia	Head	Female	White	42	1898	Divorced	No	High School, 3rd year	Texas	No	Proprietor	Pta School Lunch Room	
Hardison	Jolene	Daughter	Female	White	17	1923	Single	Yes	High School, 3rd year	Texas				
Hardison	Malcolm	Son	Male	White	13	1927	Single	Yes	High School, 1st year	Texas				
Gordon	Fred	Lodger	Male	White	26	1914	Single	No	College, 4th year	Texas		Teacher	Public School	
Straw	Kenneth	Lodger	Male	White	24	1916	Single	No	College, 4th year	Oklahoma		Pharmacist	Retail Drug Store	

After 1940, Velvia was now in Motley County, perhaps Matador TX and she was now "widowed" again, meaning either William reappeared and died, or the earlier "divorced" was a mistake. Cue head spinning! She was now living in Childress and working as a clerk at Watkins Dry Goods and providing rooms to a bunch of young folks working to area to include Fred Deusinger and Don Reiman who were working on a seismograph crew for Amerada Oil. There was also Marlene Kindle who was a telephone operator and Mary Corgell who worked for Doctor Borum. I wonder if any of these young folks ended up getting married. All of her kids were out of the house and I will give a brief update on the below.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry	Worker Class
1950 Census	101 N.E. Main		Childress, Texas, USA										
Hardison	Velva	Head		Female	52	1898	Widowed	Texas		42	Clerk	Walkins Dry Goods	Private
Deusinger	Fred	Lodger		Male	22	1928	Never Married	(Arkansas)		48	Sirimogocph Comp	Amerada Oil Co	Private
Reiman	Don	Lodger		Male	22	1928	Never Married	(Oklahoma)		48	Sirimogocph Comp	Amerada Oil Co	Private
Kindle	Marlene	Lodger		Female	18	1932	Never Married	(Texas)		40	Operator	Bell Telephone Co	Private
Corgell	Mary	Lodger		Female	20	1930	Never Married	(Texas)		48	Office Assistant	Dr J U Borum	Private

In 1950, Esta and Wink were in Odessa and Esta was working as a draftsman for Shell Oil and Wink was still working as a freight delivery man for the railroad. They did not have children. I believe that they eventually had at least one son in 1951.

Daughter Jolene had married Thomas Buerk and they were living in Cincinnati, OH in 1950 where Thomas was working as an accountant for the phone company and they had a son Thomas who had been born in 1948. I believe that they had at least two other children, but that will be explored in the next generation. I know that there is a Sue Buerk active on Ancestry, but I don't know if she is a child or granddaughter.

Son William had married Dorothy Boles before 1950 and he was working for a water softener company in Childress in 1950. I have not yet discovered any children.

Searching newspapers after 1950, I found several articles about Velvia visiting various family members through the 1960's. They will be referenced more when I explore her children. It was reported that she moved to Fort Worth in 1962, Her mother died in 1964 and her father in 1972. Her daughter Esta died in 1978 and her son in 1989. She lived to the ripe old age of 102 when she died in Dallas. Her obituary reads:

*Velvia Hardison Velvia Hardison, 102, was born Oct. 4, 1896, in Granger, Texas, and passed away Tuesday. She is survived by a daughter, Jolene Buerk and husband, Harold of Dallas; two sisters, Mary Patrick of San Antonio and Eloyce Smith of Olton, Texas; daughter-in-law, Dorothy Hardison of Amarillo; three grandchildren, Tom Buerk and wife, Sue of Fort Worth; Diane Maxson and husband, Sam of McKinney and Jerry Dye and wife, Mickey of Whitney, Texas; five "great-grand-children, Chrissa Mitchell, Jesse Maxson, Cory Maxson, Jerrid Dye and Jeff Dye; three great-greatgrandchildren, Joseph Dye, Jeremy Dye and Emily Mitchell. She was a member of the Edgefield Church of Christ. Memorial services are scheduled for noon Friday at the Laurel Land Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Clifton Rogers officiating. Interment will follow at Laurel Land Memorial Park: The family will receive visitors from 6 to 8 tonight at the funeral home.*

#### Children of William and Velvia Bennett Hardison

280	<b>Esta Beatrice Hardison</b>	1918	1978	Velvia and William Edward - Child #1
281	<b>Louie Jolene Hardison</b>	1923	2015	Velvia and William Edward - Child #2
282	<b>Malcom Edward Hardison</b>	1926	1989	Velvia and William Edward - Child #3

**95. Unknown Bennett** About 1899-1900 – see explanation above

**96. Minnie Bennett** 22 APR 1903 • Houston, TX - 17 AUG 1988 • Pilot Point, TX

Emmett Steve Vaughn 4 APRIL 1899 • Navarro, TX (or Johnson County) - 2 DEC 1988 • Plano, TX

Married: about 1923 – probably Childress



Photo of Minnie from Sue Buerk – Grave marker from Findagrave

Minnie was the 3rd child born to Summie and Cora on 22 April 1903 allegedly in Houston, though I have trouble placing the family anywhere near Houston during this period. In 1900 her parents were in Bell County and in 1910 they were in Motley County so a detour to Houston in 1903 seems implausible. She appears with her parents in Motley in 1910 and in Childress in 1920. Probably in early 1924 (based on the birthdate of their son) Donald Maurice Vaughn in Dec 1924, she married Emmett Steve Vaugh. At that time Emmett was working as a machinist for the railroad. I'm uncertain how Steve got out to Childress in 1924 but maybe his job with the railroad took him there. He was found in 1917 when he registered for the draft in Burleson, Johnson County, TX which is just south of Fort Worth, TX. He was farming for M. D. Thornton and listed his mother Anna as his point of contact. He was medium height and build with blue eyes and light hair. I have not found him in the 1920 Census, but per the 1930 Census he was not a veteran. He was the 5<sup>th</sup> of 9 children born to Alonzo and Anna Ralph Vaughn who were both from Tennessee and had arrived in Texas about 1891 after passing briefly through Arkansas where their first child was born. Since they were in Navarro in 1900 and Emmett was one year old, I suspect that he was born there, though he claims that he was born in Johnson County. I have not been able to find him in the 1920 Census, but he and Minnie appear in 1930 in Olton TX which is way out in the Panhandle. He is a laborer doing odd jobs and he is 29, Minnie is 26 and they have been married 6 years implying a 1924 marriage. They do not live on a farm and no address is given. They are paying \$15/month rent and he was not a veteran.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	
1930 Census		Olton, Lamb, Texas																
Vaughn	E S	Head	Rented	15	No	No	Male	White	29	1901	Married	23	No	Yes	Texas	Tennessee	Tennessee	Laborer
Vaughn	Minnie	Wife					Female	White	26	1904	Married	20	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Vaughn	Don	Son					Male	White	5	1925	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	

The 1940 Census found Emmett, Minnie, and son Donald in Earth, TX a small-town northeast of Lubbock toward Muleshoe. They have opened a café and Emmett is running it and Minnie is helping out as the waitress. They were renting their home for \$20/month. We see that Emmett had only gone through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, while Minnie was a high school graduate. Don at 15 had finished 6<sup>th</sup> grade. That seems to be a few grades less than where he should have been at that age.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	on Farm	Occupation
1940 Census		Lamb, Texas			20							
Vaughn	Emmett S	Head	Male	White	42	1898	Married	No	Elementary school, 7th grade	Texas	No	Proprietor
Vaughn	Minnie B	Wife	Female	White	40	1903	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas		Waitress
Vaughn	Donald M	Son	Male	White	15	1925	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 6th grade	Texas		

Sometime after the 1940 Census, they seem to have upgraded their café business by renting a place in Dumas TX that per newspaper articles was called The Palm Café on Hwy 87 and Hwy 287 facing east. That is the main intersection in Dumas. *A bit of trivia for your enjoyment - The Dumas government claims, with some documentation, that the song "I'm a Ding Dong Daddy From Dumas" was written about the city.* Other news articles indicate that in 1948, Emmett was trying to sell the restaurant because "he needed a rest." As of 1950, he had not yet sold it and other articles refer to a bowling team that was sponsored by the café.

When he registered for the WW2 Old Man's Draft in 1942, he had not yet made the move to Dumas and was still running his first café in Earth. He was 42 and 5'-11"-147lbs-blue eyes-brown hair and light complexion. Their address was simply Earth, TX. Their son turned 18 in 1942 and he also registered for the draft and claimed to be working on his father's farm which seems to suggest that in addition to his café,

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		212 East 1st Dumas, Moore, Texas, USA										
Vaughn	Emmet S	Head	White	Male	51	1899	Married	Texas		140	Manager	Cafe
Vaughn	Minnie B	Wife	White	Female	46	1904	Married	Texas		105	Cashier	Cafe
Vaughn	Don M	Son	White	Male	25	1925	Married	Texas				
Vaughn	E Sue	[Daughter-in-law]	[White]	[Female]	23	1927	Married	Texas				
Vaughn	Donald S	Grandson	White	Male	2	1948	Never Married	(Texas)				

Emmett and Minnie owned some property. I will cover it in more detail in the next generation, but Donald enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and served aboard the USS Idaho which will be a very exciting story to read as they served in all of the major Pacific campaigns during the war. Upon his return he married Ellen Sue McCarty in 1946 and they had a son, Donald in 1948. They were living with Emmett and Minnie in 1950. Emmett had not yet sold his café so I guess he still needed a rest. In a report about Donald in 1945, Emmett and Minnie were reported to be living in Littlefield so maybe it was after the war that Emmett bought The Palm Café as Littlefield is down near Earth. They lived at 212 E. 1<sup>st</sup> in Dumas which is now occupied by Memorial Hospital. Emmitt's father died in 1942.

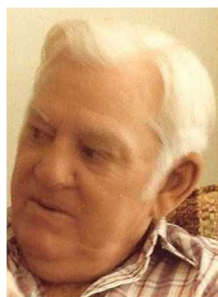
Sources fade as usual after 1950. It appears that Don and E. Sue had at least 3 additional children in 1953, 1956, and 1958. I will dig into that in the next generation.

I have not found obituaries for either Emmett or Minnie but their death records indicate that Minnie died in Pilot Point, Tx in Aug 1988 and then Emmett died in either Rockwall or Plano in December of the same year. Minnie was 85 when she died and Emmett was 89. It's unclear if they split up later in life or perhaps were living with separate grandchildren. Perhaps the next generation will bring some clarification.

**Child of Minnie Bennet and Emmett Vaughn.**

284 **Donald Maurice Vaughn** 1924 2013 Minnie and Emmett Child#1

**97. Summie Lawson Bennett** 21 APR 1906 • Bartlett, TX - 3 DEC 1981 • Austin, TX  
 #1 Olive Lucille Brown 16 OCT 1906 • Texas - 4 JAN 1994 • Randall County, TX  
 Married: About 1925 – Texas based on birth of first child and 1930 Census  
 #2 Beulah Lee Tilly 5 SEP 1919 • Arkansas - 19 MAY 2006 • Georgetown  
 Marriage: 4 Apr 1946 • Deaf Smith, TX



Summie from Findagrave. Olive from Ancestry, Beulah's grave marker from Findagrave.

Summie was the third child and first son born to Cora and Summie. He arrived on 21 Apr 1906 in Bartlett which seems reasonable based on his parent's location. That is near Georgetown, TX. As I start this, I'm going to throw up a bit of caution. Summie's children with Olive seemed to have been born to be bad as you will see, but history is history and we have to live with what happened.

Summie appears at his parent's home in 1910 and 1920, first in Bartlett and then in Motley. In 1925, probably in Childress, he married Olive Brown. As I got to investigating be, it all of a sudden struck me that the Brown name had appeared before when I was studying his older sister, Velvia and the fact there her husband's stepfather was "Turk" Brown. As I continued to dig, I discovered that "Turk" had a son Hardy Brown from his first marriage to Sarah Blanchard. Hardy had married Margaret Lemon and Olive was their oldest child. She had two younger sisters, Mona and Mary and three younger brothers, Bill Beebe, and Hardy. They began their family with the arrival of Billy Jack Bennett in 1927 and Peggy Joyce Bennett in 1929. The 1930 Census found them living near his mother in Motley, and this was the period when his father and Velvia's husband disappeared. They had been married 5 years and Olive's brother Bill was living

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Can Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census																		
Bennett	Summie L	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Male	White	24	1906	Married	19	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Ollie	Wife					Female	White	21	1909	Married	17	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Bennett	Billie J	Son					Male	White	2	1928	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Peggie J	Daughter					Female	White	0	1930	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Brown	Bill	Brother-in-law				Yes	Male	White	14	1916	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	

with them. This may be related to the fact that her father died in 1928 and her mother had married Paul Bridgewater and moved to Tulsa. They were renting farmland and did not have a radio.

In 1940, they were in Lamb County, probably Earth where his sister lived and still farming and hopefully eating at Minnie and Emmet's café. They had a daughter, Cora Catherine who was born in 1933, but she died in Mar 1934. Son Joe Bob Bennett had arrived in 1935 to join Billy Jack and Peggy who were 7 and 6 when he arrived. They were working their way through school. They were still renting farmland. You can see everyone's academic achievements below.

In 1940, Summie registered for the WW2 Draft. I don't know what the cutoff was for the Old Man's Draft, but he was 34 and living in Olton and still farming. He was 6'-0" – 170lbs – brown eyes – black hair and dark complexion. Before Summie and Olive split, they had one more son, Summie Rex who was born Dec 1943. In 1945, son Billy Jack reached 18 and registered while working in Kermit, TX for Noble Drilling. He mentioned that he had a crooked left arm from an old fracture. Sometime during this period,

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Live on Farm	Occupation
1940 Census												
Bennett	S L	Head	Male	White	33	1906	Married	No	High School, 3rd year	Texas	Yes	Farmer
Bennett	Ollie	Wife	Female	White	31	1909	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	Texas		
Bennett	Billie Jack	Son	Male	White	12	1928	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 6th grade	Texas		
Bennett	Peggy Joyce	Daughter	Female	White	10	1930	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 3rd grade	Texas		
Bennett	Joe Bob	Son	Male	White	5	1938	Single	Yes		Texas		

he and Olive separated in and 1946, he married Beulah Tilly Boyles who I don't have a lot of information on except that she seemed to be the youngest daughter of Columbus and Rosa Tilly from Arkansas and she had married a Charly Boyles in Oklahoma in 1935 and they had a son Jerry in 1941. After their marriage, and Beulah had a son Mickey Lawson in July 1946. Joe Bob, Jim Rex, and Mickey along with stepbrother Jerry Boyles all appear with Summie and Beulah in Pleasanton where Summie is driving a road grader for a construction company. Billy Jack had married Verda Ross in 1944 and then got into trouble and the 1950 Census found him as a guest of the State of Texas in the penitentiary at Huntsville. I haven't found the cause of this initial incarceration, but it goes downhill from there.

Olive appears in Amarillo in 1950 with her daughter Peggy who seems to have married Elmer Ray Green in 1944 and divorced and then married Clyde Mote before 1950. Olive seems to have taken in a ward, Anna Van Meter who was born in Illinois in 1933. I have not been able to discover anything about her.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	Start N W Corner Block 66 Goi Wa				5	Pleasanton, Atascosa, Texas, USA						
Bennett	Summie L	Head	White	Male	42	1908	Married	Texas		40	Maintainer Operatc	Construction Co
Bennett	Beulah	Wife	White	Female	30	1920	Married	Arkansas				
Bennett	Joe B	Son	White	Male	15	1938	Never Married	(Texas				
Bennett	Rex	Son	White	Male	7	1943	Never Married	(Texas				
Bennett	Jerry D				9	1941	Never Married	(Texas				
Bennett	Mickey	Son	White	Male	3	1947	Never Married	(Texas				
Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	4200 E 14th Ave		Amarillo, Randall, Texas, USA									
Mote	Curtis F	Head	White	Male	24	1926	Married	Texas				
Mote	Peggy J	Wife	White	Female	20	1930	Married	Texas				
Bennett	Ollie	Mother-in-law	White	Female	42	1908	Divorced	Texas		54	Cook	Drive Inn
Van Meter	Anna M	Woia Eins Mard	White	Female	17	1933	Never Married	(Illinois		48	Waitress	Drive Inn

There seems to have been a lot of activity for Summie after 1950. First, he and Beulah had two more sons, Danny Ray Bennett in 1954 who only lived 4 days and then Dickie Joe Bennett in 1957. Both of these children were born in Austin. I'm not sure what job Summie was doing at that time, but probably road construction. I will just briefly touch on it here and go into more detail in the next generation, but Billy Jack seems to have gotten out of prison around 1951 and promptly went on a crime spree with his sister's

husband, Curtis Molt. He got sent back to prison for that, and then in 1969 he was out again and getting his little brother Joe Bob involved in crime. He finally married an Oklahoma girl, Mable Moser and settled down.

Peggy who had married Elmer Greene in 1944 and then Curtis Mote before 1950 finally found a keeper in 1953 when she married Gerald Gurn. She seems to have had at least two children.

Joe Bob married several times before getting led astray by his big brother in 1969, but finally settled down and married Juanita Davis and lived in Amarillo until his death.

Summie Rex took after his big brother and in 1968 was sentenced to life in prison in 1968 for being a habitual criminal after 3 felony convictions. The last article I have found about him was from 1976 when

**BENNETT, Sonny**, of Austin, died Thursday. Services 2 p.m. Saturday at Cook-Walden Funeral Home. Survivors: wife, Beulah L. Bennett of Austin; sons, Jack Bennett of Binger, Okla., Joe Bob Bennett, Sonny Rex Bennett, both of Amarillo, Mickey Bennett, Jerry Boyles, both of Zapata, Dickey Bennett of Austin, Harlan Boyle of Houston; daughters, Peggy Gurn, Carolyn Bennett, both of Amarillo; sisters, Eloyce Smith of Olton, Velvia Hardison of Dallas, Mary Patrick of San Antonio, Minnie Vaughn of Hereford; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

he was still appealing his sentence. Mickie married several times and seems to have had a couple of children. He seems to have spent a lot of time as a hunting guide and died in Rockport in 2013.

The youngest, Dickie seems to have married Clarissa Schiller in 1985 in Austin and I have not yet fully researched them. They seem to have at least two children.

Summie died in Austin on 3 Dec 1981. They couldn't get

his name right in his obituary!

I do need to insert a story here about Olive. As I mentioned, her father died in 1928 and her mother remarried a P. A. Bridgewater. Her next two younger sisters, Mona and Mary had both married and had 5 children between them before 1940. Mona got divorced before 1950 and Mona, Mary and her husband Lloyd Jenkins, and her mother were in Galveston in Sep 1950, and Mary's son was driving a car with all of the family in it, and both Mona and Mary were killed. Their mother was seriously injured, but recovered.

Olive died in Amarillo in 1994 at age 87. I think that she probably bore the brunt of raising Joe Bob and Summie Rex. Although they were with their father in 1950, I saw an article from 1957 in Amarillo when Summie was declared a delinquent. She does not appear to ever have remarried.

Beulah died in Georgetown on 19 May 2006. Her obituary is not too informative.

**BENNETT, Beulah Lee**, 86, homemaker, of Georgetown died Friday. Services 11 a.m. Tuesday, Cook-Walden/Capital Parks Cemetery, Pflugerville. Arrangements by the Gabriels, Georgetown.

**Children of Summie Bennet and his two wives Olive Brown and Beulah Tilly**

285	<b>Billy Jack Bennett</b>	1927	1985	Summie and Olive Child#1
286	<b>Peggy Joyce Bennett</b>	1929	2018	Summie and Olive Child#2
287	<b>Cora Catherine Bennett</b>	1933	1934	Summie and Olive Child#3
288	<b>Joe Bob Bennett</b>	1938	2001	Summie and Olive Child#4
289	<b>Summie Rex Bennett</b>	1943	2017	Summie and Olive Child#5
201	<b>Mickey Bennett</b>	1946	2013	Summie and Beulah Child#1
291	<b>Danny Ray Bennett</b>	1954	1954	Summie and Beulah Child#2
292	<b>Dickie Joe Bennett</b>	1957	XXXX	Summie and Beulah Child#3

**98. Unknown Bennett** About 1899-1900 – see explanation above

**99. Mary Martha Bennett Patrick** 29 JUL 1912 • Northfield, TX - 11 JUN 2007 • San Antonio, TX  
 Herman K. Patrick 21 NOV 1909 • Wann, OK - 20 SEP 1999 • San Antonio, TX



Married: About 1933 probably Pampa, TX



Mary and Herman’s grave markers from Findagrave. Mary from Keetch Brothers site on Ancestry.

Mary was 4<sup>th</sup> child born to Summie and Cora. With the 6-year gap between her and Summie, I wonder if her mother lost a child. She appears first in the 1920 Census and then goes missing until 1940. If you recall, in 1930 her father had gone missing and her mother was living with her married older sister Velvia. The older kids are accounted for in 1930, but Mary and her younger sister Ivey are not to be found. My speculation is that they were with their grandmother, Emily Guthrie Smith who has not been found in the 1930 Census either, but died in 1939 in Lamb County where the rest of the Bennetts lived.

When she finally does appear in 1940, she was living in Dumas, TX and married to Herman K. Patrick and has a 6-year-old son, Kae Thomas who arrived in 1934 probably in Pampa, Tx where I found Herman and Mary in 1934 living at 216 W. Brown and Herman was working for Krieger Radio Service. In 1936, they had moved to 411 S. Russell and Herman was a salesman for Tarpley Music. Neither of those address exist today, and Pampa looks pretty bleak. Krieger Radio became Pampa Radio in 1936 and this may have prompted Herman’s exit as new management took control.

Herman was born in Oklahoma in 1909 to John and Ethel Jones Patrick. His father is listed as being a native American. In 1910 he owned a grocery, in 1930 he was a pipeline inspector and in 1930 he was a stationary engineer in Pampa which is how Herman got to Pampa and married Mary. We see their education on this census. The 1940 address on the census is unclear.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Live on Farm	Occupation
1940 Census	Rear	Parter Avenue	Dumas, M	Rented	15							
Patrick	Harman K	Head	Male	White	30	1910	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Oklahoma	No	Radio/Refrigerator M
Patrick	Mary M	Wife	Female	White	27	1913	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	Texas		
Patrick	Kar Thomas	Son	Male	White	6	1933	Single	No	None	Texas		

In 1940, Herman registered for the WW2 Draft and they were still living in Dumas. His mother who was living in Medina, TX was his point of contact and he worked for the Gray Supply Company. He was 5’-9” – 150lbs – gray eyes – black hair – light complexion. His military records are a little disorganized to follow, but it appears that he enlisted in the Navy in Feb 1942 in Dallas. His service number was 616-35- 06 and in Feb 1943 he was with the Fleet Air Wing 15 Headquarters Squadron. In June 1944 he was with Squadron 5-2. It will take a significant amount of time to sort all of this out. At one time he appeared to be serving on the USS Threat which was a minesweeper. Some later reports have him in Aug 1945 at the Naval Hospital at Norfolk VA, but I cannot tell if he had been wounded.

After the war, Herman returned to Dumas where he opened his own radio shop. The street address is very unclear in the census and I do not find a City Directory listing for him during this period. These were the radio businesses in Pampa in 1950. I searched the news to try and make a connection without success. Just a lot of ads for each. Both Herman and Mary were 40

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**Radio Repairing**  
 Bill's Radio Shop 906 W Brown av  
 D & O Radio Service 328 S Cuyler  
**HAWKINS RADIO LABORATORIES, 917 Barnes, Tel 36**  
 Lee's Radio Repair Shop 421 S Russell  
 Pampa Radio Lab 717 W Foster av

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		2 Pace Place	Dumas, Moore, Texas, USA									
Patrick	Herman K	Head	White	Male	40	1910	Married	Oklahoma		60	Radio Mechanic	Radio Shop
Patrick	Mary M	Wife	White	Female	40	1913	Married	Texas				
Patrick	Kaye T	Son	White	Male	16	1933	Never Married	(Texas				

and Kae was 16 and playing football for the Dumas Demons.

In the 1960 San Antonio City Directory, I found Herman working as a technician for RCA and they lived at 135 Future Drive. It's still there. It is near Balcones Heights, just south of IH610 and east of IH10. Mary was also listed as working at Dell-View Pharmacy. US Phone and Address Directories indicate that they probably lived at that same address until Patrick's death in 1999.

The only other addition I have at this point is that their only child, Kae married Joyce Von Scheele in 1959 and they had three children between 1960 and 1968.

Herman died in 1999 and the only obituary I have found is nothing more than a notice of his passing. Mary died in 2007 and her obituary reads:



San Antonio Express-News (TX) - Wednesday, June 13, 2007

*Mary M. (Bennett) Patrick passed away on June 11, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas. She was born on July 29, 1912 in Northfield, Texas, to S.F. Bennett and Cora Smith. She was of the "greatest generation". Mary was a very loving person who liked to give big hugs. She enjoyed working in her garden and adored her grandkids. Mary was a truly devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will be dearly missed by everyone who knew and loved her. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Herman K. Patrick. She is survived by her son, Kae T. Patrick and wife, Vicki of Odessa, TX; and the mother of Kae's children, Joyce Keller; sister, Eloyce Smith of Olton, TX; grandchildren, Dane Herman Patrick and wife, Kelly of San Antonio, TX, Kae Lynn Patrick of San Antonio, TX and Julie*



*Von Gardener and husband, Oscar of Allen, TX; great-grandchildren, Ashley Plauche of San Antonio, TX, Jacqueline and Gracie Gardener of Allen, TX. SERVICES Visitation will be held on Thursday-June 14, 2007 from 6:00PM until 8:00PM at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North. Graveside Services will be on Friday-June 15, 2007 at 10:00AM at Mission Burial Park North, 20900 IH-10 West, San Antonio, TX 78257, with Rev. Bill Shockley officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 8115 Datapoint Drive, San Antonio, TX 78229. You may sign the on-line guestbook at [www.missionparks.com](http://www.missionparks.com) under the obituary section. Mission Park Funeral Chapels North.*

#### **Child of Herman and Mary Bennett Patrick**

293 **Kaye T Patrick** 1933 XXXX Herman and Martha's - Only child

**100. Ivey Eloyce Bennett** 6 AUG 1917 • Northfield, TX - 31 MAR 2014 • Olton, TX

William Melvin Smith Sr 8 SEP 1914 • Grandfield, OK - 14 SEP 1988 • Lubbock, TX

Married: 11 June 1933 – Clovis, NM – per her obituary



Eloyce from her obituary and Ivey and Bill's grave marker from Findagrave.

The final child born to Summie and Cora was their Ivey Eloyce. I think that she is the only sibling for which I have actually found a birth certificate. That birth

certificate tells us that she was the 7<sup>th</sup> child born to Cora but only 5 were surviving. See my comments at the beginning of this family which prompted a renumbering.

As with her next older sister, she is missing in 1930 as is her grandmother and my suspicion is that Mary and Eloyce were with their grandmother Cora in 1930 as their parents seemed to be having some issues. Per her obituary, she married William Melvin Smith in Clovis NM on 11 June 1933. I found this interesting story about William's older sister, Opal. *by Opal Smith Huckabee - Everett and I met in the fall of 1932 at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in the Circle Community west of Olton, Texas. We were married December 17, 1933 at Clovis, New Mexico by a Justice of the Peace. Jess Farris and Leora Jones were with us.* It would seem that she must have gotten that idea from her younger brother. I'm not sure what the attraction with Clovis as a marrying place was, but maybe it was easier to get a license there. It is only about 65 miles from Olton.

William was the third child of Charles Henry and Mellie Barton Smith. Charles was born in Texas but spent a number of years as a cotton farmer in Oklahoma where William was born in 1914. He was still

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	on Farm	Occupation
1940 Census				Lamb, Te:	Rented	15						
Smith	W M	Head	Male	White	26	1914	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Oklahoma	Yes	Farmer
Smith	Eloyce	Wife	Female	White	22	1918	Married	No	High School, 3rd year	Texas		
Smith	W M	Son	Male	White	3	1940	Single	No		Texas		

in Oklahoma in the 1930 Census, but must have moved to Olton around 1933 which enabled him at 19 to marry Eloyce who was 16. The 1930 Census shows William was still in Oklahoma working on his father's cotton farm. William had his older sister Opal and three brothers, Elbert, Fred, and Wayne. Elbert was older. The couple seemed to have waited a few years before starting their family, but their only child, William Melton Smith Jr arrived in Nov 1937 and they all appear in the 1940 Census in Olton on rented land for which they paid \$15/month. You can see their education below.

In 1940, William registered for the WW2 Draft. He was 26 and was working temporarily for the Texas Highway Department, but was normally a farmer in Littlefield. He and the family lived on Star Route, Olton. I seem to recall that my uncle's ranch had a Star Route address for many years and my research noted that Star routes were not really addresses, but referred to mail delivery contracts that the post office had to make sure that rural customers got their mail. Interesting. He was 5'-11"-143lbs-blue eyes-brown hair-light complexion. I have not found any evidence that William was called to serve during WW2. There was a Willaim M. Smith that enlisted in Feb 1942 at Fort Bliss, TX, but there is not enough information to confirm if this was our William, and most men who served had some confirmation of that service when they died. I noticed that in 1950, he lived next door to his youngest brother Wayne and his wife Eva. The 1950 Census found William back to farming and Eloyce working as a secretary though I am not sure where.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census		Lamb, Texas, USA									
Smith	William M	Head	White	Male	36	1914	Married	Oklahoma		36	Farmer
Smith	Eloyce I	Wife	White	Female	32	1918	Married	Oklahoma		40	Secretary
Smith	William M J	Son	White	Male	12	1938	Never Married	Texas			

Living his whole life on a farm in a small town in the Texas Panhandle does not lead to many bits of information about the Smiths. I have not found that William has any link to the Smith side of the family. Their only son, William Jr. married Geneva Bosley around 1955 and they seem to have had at least 3 children between 1957 and 1966.

William died in Lubbock in 1988. While I have not found an obituary for him, I did find this interesting story about his father's death in 1956. *Charles H. Smith Dies At Farm Home OLTON, Feb. 5 (Special) Charles H. Smith, 66, died of heart attack about midnight Saturday at his home in the Circle community about eight miles southwest of here. Smith, who was at the home with his wife, had been in ill health for several years.*

#### Eloyce Smith

(August 06, 1917 - March 31, 2014)

Eloyce Smith, 96, of Olton, died Monday, March 31, 2014, in Olton. Graveside services will be 11:00 A.M., Thursday, April 3, 2014 at Olton Cemetery with Gail Bizzell officiating and under the direction of Ramage Funeral Directors. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

Eloyce was born August 6, 1917, in Northfield, Texas to S.F. and Cora Smith Bennett. She was a lifetime Olton resident and married W.M. Smith, Sr. on June 11, 1933, in Clovis, New Mexico. She was a member of Main Street Church of Christ and devoted herself to serving others whenever needed at the church. She was a homemaker which included taking care of her family by working alongside them on the farm and at home. She was named Olton's Sandhills Queen in 1999.

She was preceded in death by her husband, W.M. Smith, Sr. in 1988, three sisters, one brother, and a grandson, Nicky Smith in 2000.

Survivors include her son W.M. "Billy" Smith, Jr. and his wife, Geneva, of Olton, two grandchildren, Ricky Smith and his wife, Deborah of Olton and Kelli Smith and her husband, Daniel of Olton, five great-grandchildren, Chris Smith, Crystal Salinas, Logan Smith, Zeppelin Smith, and Bonham Smith, and three great-great-grandchildren, Taelyn Salinas, Kurt Salinas, and Aiden Smith.



*His wife telephoned a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Fred Smith of Olton, and reported the death, however, no one was able to get to the home until 4 p.m. today. National Guardsmen from Plainview went to the home to pick up the body this morning and were to pick up the body of a Latin-American infant in Olton on the way back and take both bodies to Plainview, the nearest site of a funeral home. However, after picking up the body, the guardsmen apparently became stranded in the snow and nothing had been heard from them until a late hour tonight.*

*Funeral services are pending. Survivors include: his wife; three sons, Wayne, W. M., and Fred, all of Olton; a daughter, Mrs. J. E. Huckabee, Olton; and six grandchildren.*

Sue Buerk posted this obituary for Eloyce on Ancestry.

### Child of William and Eloyce Bennett Smith

294 **William Melton Smith Jr** 1940 2023 Ivey and William Only Child

A bonus story about Olive Brown's youngest brother Hardy Brown - <https://petesperspective.com/the-masonic-home-mighty-mites-monroe-journal-may-31-2018/>

A little excerpt: *After graduating from the Masonic School in 1940, Hardy Brown signed a scholarship with the University of Tulsa where he was All Missouri Valley Conference linebacker for three years. The 6-foot, 190-pound Brown played for 10 seasons in the National Football League with the Baltimore Colts, San Francisco 49ers, and Washington Redskins. Hardy Brown ranks No. 5 on the Top 10 Hardest Hitters in NFL history list.*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardy\\_Brown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardy_Brown) - another couple of stories about Hardy  
<https://www.sfgate.com/49ers/article/49ers-meanest-player-nfl-history-18624227.php>

I'm adding these stories to help try and understand why Summie's sons were so mean. I don't know if there was a mean "gene" in the Brown family, but there seems to have been a pattern of violence. Shortly Olive and Summie married, her father was shot to death in front of her younger brothers who were sent off to the Masonic Orphanage in Fort Worth. These stories talk about how violent Hardy was. The next older brother Reb John Brown had multiple convictions and was in the Tulsa jail for the 1940 Census. It's an interesting and somewhat sad tale.