

10. The children and grandchildren of Jesse Richard Smith and Bessie Lee Hudman

10. Jesse Richard Smith 11 SEP 1867 • Atascosa County, TX - 2 FEB 1944 • Tuolumne County, CA
 Bessie Lee Hudman 17 APR 1882 • Texas - 26 FEB 1955 • Los Angeles, CA
 Marriage: 25 March 1899 Fresnal School, Doña Ana, New Mexico
 Anna May Bowen Smith 8 SEP 1872 • Ostego, Allegan, MI - 17 MAY 1950 • Tuolumne, CA
 Married between 1930 and 1940



Photos from Ancestry posted by Gwen Childs and Bonnie Dean.

In 1867, Twins Jesse (or Jessie) Robert (or Richard) was born along with his twin brother Benjamin Benton. I'm inclined to think that it is probably Jesse Richard after his father, but it is not clear. Like his brothers and sisters, he was born in Pleasanton, Tx and moved to Runnels, then Tom Green County in 1879. In an undefined manner between 1880 and 1899, he made

his way to Otero, NM where he married Bessie Hudman. Recognizing the familiar Hudman name from his older sisters' marriages to Phineas and Benjamin

As usual, I left the brief biography of the previous generation above before I explore their offspring shown below.

64	Joseph Lucas Smith	1900	1978	Jesse and Bessie's Child#1
65	Jesse Robert Smith	1902	1981	Jesse and Bessie's Child#2
66	Unknown Smith	1906	1906	Jesse and Bessie's Child#3
67	Maude Alice Smith	1908	1959	Jesse and Bessie's Child#4
68	Maryanne Evalyn Smith	1910	1957	Jesse and Bessie's Child#5
69	Aileen Effie Johnson	1915	2018	Jesse and Bessie's Child#6

64. Joseph Lucas Smith 29 AUG 1900 • Mineral Wells, TX - 4 MAY 1978 • Los Angeles, CA
 Lorene Marie Atherton 6 JUL 1912 • Belvedere, CA - 19 JUN 1967 • Culver City, Los Angeles, CA
 Marriage: 22 Dec 1929 • Buena Park, California



A young Joseph Lucas posted by Kristin Lee on FamilySearch and Lorene Acherton posted by DebraT2579.

This is a family that is somewhat frustrating to research as there are so many gaps in Census records and they moved to a big city where the chances of getting a news write-up diminish. Let's see what we can find.

Joseph was the firstborn of the union between Jesse Richard and Bessie Hudman. Somewhat confusing is the fact that we know that his parents married in New Mexico in Dec

1899 and then Joseph was born 9 months later in Mineral Wells, TX. The 1900 Census was taken in June and Jesse was born in August, so he would have missed that Census. When the Census was taken, they lived in Sterling which is a good way west of San Angelo, yet he claims to have been born in Mineral Wells which is a good 200 miles back to the east toward Fort Worth. It's a little hard to piece it all together without the 1910 Census, but his mother ended up leaving Jesse and marrying Jesse Paul Johnson in El Paso in

1919. Tracking his siblings, we see births in New Mexico in 1902 and 1908 followed by 2 girls in Arizona in 1910 and 1915. It was during the 1914-1915 timeframe that his parents parted ways. I should note that Joseph was named after Bessie's father, who was the older brother of his Aunt Sophronia's husband, so his grandfather was also his uncle.

By the time we finally see Jesse in a census, it is 1920 and he and his 5 4 siblings appear as step children to their new father, Jessie Johnson and their mother who is identified as Hudman Johnson. They lived in Globe, Arizona where their stepfather worked as a machinist in a shop, while Joseph had taken up his father's habits of working in the mines. Prior to this in 1918 when he turned 18, he registered for the WW1 Draft and at that time, he was working for the Arizona Commercial Mine Co. His point of contact was Mrs. Bessie Smith who lived on Bailey Street in Globe. He was medium height, slender, with blue eyes and light hair. It gets frustrating here because on Ancestry a file from the U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010 for Joseph appears, but there is no form to look at and no film number to help find a hard copy. A similar form cannot be found on FamilySearch so I'm conflicted as to whether Joseph was a veteran or not. In the 1930 Census, he does not claim veteran's status so this remains a puzzle.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	or Rented	or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1920 Census	239 Decoux St	Globe, Gila, Arizona												
! Johnson	Jessie J	Head	Rented		Male	White	33	1886	Married	Arizona	USA	New Mexico	Machinist	Shop
! Johnson	Hudman	Wife			Female	White	38	1885	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas		
! Smith	Jo	Stepson (Step Son)			Male	White	19	1901	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Miner	Mine
! Smith	Jessie	Stepdaughter (Step Daughter)			Female	White	18	1902	Single	New Mexico	Texas	Texas	Clerk	Department Store
! Smith	Maudie	Stepdaughter (Step Daughter)			Female	White	13	1907	Single	New Mexico	Texas	Texas		
! Smith	Mary	Stepdaughter (Step Daughter)			Female	White	10	1910	Single	Arizona	Texas	Texas		
! Smith	Alein	Stepdaughter (Step Daughter)			Female	White	4	1916	Single	Arizona	Texas	Texas		

Records show that Joseph married Lorene Atherton in Buena Park, Orange County, CA in Dec 1929 and they show up together in Anaheim, CA as newlyweds where Joseph is working as a plasterer in the construction business. They are renting their home for \$16 and live on w 8th – the third house. Joseph was 12 years older than Lorene. She was the middle child and only daughter of John and Emma Seffrin Atherton who was a vegetable farmer born and raised in California. When they married, Lorene's father was farming in Anaheim.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned	Home Rented	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census		W. 8th - 3rd house				Anaheim, Orange, California												
Smith	Joe L	Head	Rented		16 Yes	No	Male	White	29	1901	Married		29 No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Contractor
Smith	Lorene M	Wife					Female	White	17	1913	Married		17 No	Yes	California	California	California	

Shortly after the 1930 Census, Joseph and Lorene were blessed with their first child Robert Leroy. For some reason, his birth is recorded in Las Angeles County rather than Orange County and his mother's name is spelled Athertin instead of Atherton. Robert was followed in Dec 1942 by Shirley Joan who was born in Anaheim. I looked for Jesse in the City Directories and discovered that in 1931, they were living with Lorene's father, J W Atherton, and Jesse was working as a ranch hand. That was also the case in the 1932 and 1934 directories. In 1934, they had moved to 348 Western Ave, Buena Vista and Joseph was a cement finisher. The following year they were at the same address, but he had finally found his niche as a plasterer. In 1936, they had moved to the 2020 Cotner address where they were found in 1940. They had lived at 2020 Cotner Ave in LA and Joseph was still working as a plasterer. They were renting their house for \$30/month. Joseph had completed 2 years of high school while Lorene had only gone a year. By 1940, the kids were growing and had finished 1st and 2nd grade. 2020 Cotner is in west LA toward Santa Monica near the intersection of IH10 and IH405 which I believe is the San Diego Freeway.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	e City in 1935	Occupation	Industry
1940 Census	2020 Cotner Ave	Los Angeles, Los Angeles	Rented		30									
Smith	Joseph	Head	Male	White	39	1901	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	Texas		Los Angel	Plaster	
Smith	Lorene	Wife	Female	White	28	1912	Married	No	High School, 1st year	California		Los Angeles		
Smith	Robert	Son	Male	White	9	1931	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 2nd grade	California		Los Angeles		
Smith	Shirley	Daughter	Female	White	7	1933	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 1st grade	California		Los Angeles		

They were living at the same address in 1942 when Joseph registered for the 1942 WW2 Old Man's Draft. He was 41 and worked for Gust Bohman at 4257 Hargis who was a plastering contractor from Culver City, CA. This appears to have been pretty close to his home, just south of IH10. I wonder what IH10 looked like in 1940? I did a quick search and discovered that it had not yet been built and was not started until the 1950's and that there was a system of streetcars and surface roads to serve the public. Route 66.



Santa Monica Blvd, and Olympic Blvd would have been the main drags. That's interesting to see. I went and looked at a few old 1940 LA Maps and it was certainly a different place than it is today. Anyway, Joseph was 5'-8 1/2" – 162lbs – blue eyes – blonde hair – light complexion. The 1950 Census found them living at 11157 Barman Ave, Culver City, CA which was essentially in the same neighborhood that they had been in before. This is the house that is there today. Looking on Realtor sites, it was built in 1944, so they were probably the first owners and Joseph who was working as a plasterer in home construction may have taken part in building it. I'm not sure

what they paid for it, but it is valued at \$1,550,000 today. It's 1490SF with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. His son Robert was 19 and learning the building trade from his father. Joseph was now 49 and Lorene 40 which seems a little off since their age difference has always been a little greater. Lorene fell on the "extra" question line and she now claimed to have had 2 years of high school. They had also lived at that address in 1949.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Ir
1950 Census	11157 Barman Ave	Culver City, Los Angeles, California										
Smith	Joseph A	Head	White	Male	49	1901	Married	Texas		40	Plasters Walls	H
Smith	Lorene	Wife	White	Female	40	1913	Married	California				
Smith	Robert	Son	White	Male	19	1931	Never Married	California			Plasters Walls	H
Smith	Shirley	Daughter	White	Female	17	1933	Never Married	California				

Information gets pretty scarce after 1950. Their daughter Shirley married Neal Burns in 1950 and they had a child in 1952. Son Robert married Teresa Lurch in 1960 and I have not yet determined if they had children. Lorene died in 1967. I have no detail except for the date. I have not been able to find an obituary for either of them. Lorene is buried in Oakwood Memorial Park Cemetery in Chatworth, CA. I have not located Joseph's gravesite. There is a Joseph L. Smith in Minnesota with the same birth and death years, but since he died in CA, it seems unlikely that he would have married a different lady from Minnesota after Lorene's death, but strange things have happened.

Children of Joseph and Lorene

230	Robert Leroy Smith	1930	2007	Joseph and Lorene's child#1
231	Shirley Joan Smith	1932		Joseph and Lorene's child#2

65. Jessie Robert Smith 16 OCT 1902 • Cloudcroft, NM - 30 NOV 1981 • San Bernardino County, CA
 Viola May Scott - APR 1906 • Los Angeles County, CA - 12 NOV 1994 • San Bernardino County, CA
 Marriage: 3 Jan 1934 • Los Angeles, CA



Jesse as a young boy from Kristin Lee and Viola as a nurse in 1929 from Heather Oplinger – both on FamilySearch.

The 2nd son of Jesse and Bessie arrived in 1902 after their move back to New Mexico from Texas, and like his brother siblings, he cannot be found in censuses until he pops up with his mother and her new husband in Globe, AZ in 1920 at which time he was erroneously identified as a

female/stepdaughter. He had begun his retail career early as he was working as a clerk at a department store at the age of 18. See the census above with Joseph. He was too young for WW1 so we lack that registration card to provide clues so the first time that we encounter him is in 1934 when he and Viola Scott get married. Looking at Viola, we find that she was the oldest daughter of Walter and Eva Scott, a couple originally from Ohio and Illinois. He had come to California after 1900 and was a carpenter. Viola had become a nurse and the best I can tell; she was working at Los Angeles General Hospital in 1929 based upon some photos posted by her granddaughter. She seems to have graduated from Lincoln High School in 1926. There was apparently another Viola Scott in LA in the late 1920's who was a bit of a celebrity that was known for her beauty and was labelled Miss Los Angeles by the news. Interesting reading, but I don't think that it was our girl. I found that they applied for their marriage license in Dec 1933 and then tied the knot in Jan 1934. Jesse was 31 and Viola 27. Having started their marriage later than seemed to have been the norm, they got down to the family business in short order with the arrival of Richard Milton Smith in 1935, Margaret Elaine Smith in 1936, and Dorothy Irene Smith in 1937. All of these children were born in the Los Angeles area, the first two in Orange County, and Dorothy in Los Angeles. They all show up in the 1940 Census where the family lived at 6211 Albans in Los Angeles and Jesse was a manager at a retail



department store. From looking at City Directories, we find that in 1934, he was a salesman for Famous Department Stores and that they lived at 1212 Cypress in Santa Ana, CA. It's half of a duplex and still there today. Here is a photo of that store and a link to its history. By 1935, he had been promoted to Department Manager and they had moved to 1027 Kilson. There are several St Albans so I cannot find that



location today, but based on Dorothy's birth in LA County, it was not in Orange County as the other addresses had been. The record shows that Jessie had a year of high school, while Viola was a graduate. The kids had not started school.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famous_Department_Store

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census	6211 St Albans	Los Angeles, Los Angeles,	Owned		2500								
Smith	Jesse R	Head	Male	White	40	1903	Married	No	High School, 1st year	New Mexico		Santa Ana	Manager-Dept Stor
Smith	Viola M	Wife	Female	White	33	1906	Married	No	High School, 4th year	California		Santa Ana	
Smith	Richard N	Son	Male	White	5	1938	Single	No		California		Santa Ana	
Smith	Margaret E	Daughter	Female	White	3	1940	Single	No		California			
Smith	Dorothy I	Daughter	Female	White	2	1938	Single	No		California			

In 1942, Jesse registered for the WW2 Old Mans Draft when he was 39. He was still working for Famous Stores at 901 S. Broadway which is the location pictured above. It had been acquired by Famous in 1939. It still exists today and has been converted to condos known as The Blackstone and is right near The Orpheum Theater in downtown LA. Jesse was now a assistant buyer in Men's Furnishings for Famous. His point of contact was his mother Bessie (Mrs. J P Johnson) who lived at 348 E. 84th, Los Angeles. He was 5'-7 1/2" – 160lbs – blue eyes – auburn hair – light complexion. He signed his name Jesse, not Jessie. That same year, their 4th child, son Charles Beauford Smith 1942 arrived in LA County. His address matched the 1940 Census, but by 1950 they had moved to 2461 Sichel. It does not exist today. Viola's father had died in 1940 so in 1950, her widowed mother, Eva, had moved in with them. The kids were all growing up. Daughter Margaret had landed on the extra question line and it indicated that she had finished 9th grade in 1950 so she would be entering high school in 1951 and son Richard was already in high school. Dorothy must have been in middle school while the youngest Charles had probably finished 1st grade. His father died in 1944 and in that obituary he is called Jessie, so I'm confused about his real name.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census	2461 Sichel	Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California									
Smith	Jesse R	Head	White	Male	47	1903	Married	New Mexico		48	Assistant Buyer Ma
Smith	Viola M	Wife	White	Female	43	1907	Married	California			
Smith	Richard	Son	White	Male	15	1938	Never Married	California			
Smith	Margaret	Daughter	White	Female	14	1936	Never Married	California			
Smith	Dorothy	Daughter	White	Female	12	1938	Never Married	California			
Smith	Charles	Son	White	Male	7	1943	Never Married	California			
Scott	Eva D	Mother-in-law	White	Female	67	1883	Widowed	Illinois			

In 1955, his mother Bessie Lee Johnson died and he's Jesse to her. Like his brother, records unfortunately get a little scarce after 1950. He lost his sisters Maude and Maryanne in 1957 and 1959, both quite young. I will cover their children later, but they began marrying at various times during the 1950's and I have not yet confirmed their grandchildren, but I'm aware of at least 6. Jesse died in San Bernadino, CA in 1981, and Viola followed 13 years later in 1994.

Children of Jesse and Viola Scott Smith

232	Richard Milton Smith	1938	2018	Jesse and Viola's Child#1
233	Margaret Elaine Smith	1936		Jesse and Viola's Child#2
234	Dorothy Irene Smith	1940	2019	Jesse and Viola's Child#3
235	Charles Beauford Smith	1942	2013	Jesse and Viola's Child#4

66. Unknown Smith 1908– Arizona - **DEATH** Unknown

This is just a speculation based on Bessie's report of having 9 births and 7 deaths and the 6-year gap between Jesse and Maude.

67. Maude Alice Smith Clark 25 JUL 1908 • Cloudcroft, NM - 18 FEB 1959 • Madera County, CA

#1 Claude Harold Adams 8 SEP 1898 • Idaho - 6 JAN 1977 California

Marriage: 24 Jul 1927 • Los Angeles, CA

#2 William G. Clark 17 MAY 1911 • Kern, California - 15 JUN 1991 • Clovis, CA

Marriage: 1 Jan 1936 • Orange County, California, USA



A childhood photo of Maud from Kristin Lee on FamilySearch. Claude's gravestone from Findagrave.

Maude is what I'm calling the 4th child of Bessie and Jesse. She was the 2nd child born in New Mexico, before the move to Arizona. Like her siblings, we first see her in the 1920 Census with her siblings and her new stepfather and mother. At that appearance,

she is a just turned teenager who has had quite an eventful childhood. We don't know exactly when her parents split up and when her mother and Jessie Paul Johnson started their relationship, but it's been a bit of a trip for these youngsters.

My records indicate that in 1927 on what looks like the day before her 19th birthday, she married her first husband, Claude Harold Adams in Los Angeles, California. That record yields the following information. Claude was 28 and claimed to be from Illinois and a resident of San Francisco while Maude said that she was 20 and a resident of Los Angeles. The applied for the license on the 19th of July, and on the 24th, a Baptist Minister whose name looks like Gordan Palmer joined them in marriage in the presence of Mary Smith and Jesse R. Smith. These were probably her sister MaryAnne and brother, rather than her

father. Claude lived at 938 Post St in San Francisco and was a salesman whose parents were W. L. Adams and Emma Sutton, both from Illinois. Maude claimed to be 20 and was a cashier and lived at 348 E. 84th which we have seen before as Bessie's address in LA. She was a cashier and she listed her parents as Jesse and Bessie. Both claimed that it was their first marriage. They appear together in the 1930 Census living at 223 W. 55th St, Los Angeles where Claude was a salesman at a jewelry store and Maude was a cashier at a department store. I'll bet you dollars to doughnuts that she worked at Famous Department Store with her brother Jesse. They were renting their place for \$38/month. Claude seemed to be confused about where his parents were from which probably indicates that Maude answered the questions for the enumerator since he claims he was born in Idaho. The confusion probably results from the fact that in 1917, he had been living and farming in Twin Forks, Idaho when he registered for the WW1 Draft. His family had worked their way west from Illinois to St Louis to Chicago to Idaho and finally San Francisco. He had been a picture mounter, a printer, and a real estate salesman. Claude was the oldest of 3 children. In the 1920 Census, Claude at 20 had left home and moved to LA to try and get into the movies. That did not seem to have worked out for him, and he became a jeweler. I couldn't find any news articles related to his efforts at acting.



Radio	Lives on	Gender	Race	Age	Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
California	No	Male	White	30	1900	Married	27	No	Yes	Idaho	United States	United States	Salesman	Jewelry store
Adams	Maude	Female	White	23	1907	Married	21	No	Yes	New Mexico	Texas	Texas	Cashier	Department Store

I don't know when they broke up, but in the 1940 Census, Claude was back in San Francisco living with his parents and his brother and still selling jewelry. Maude meanwhile had moved on and on New Years Day 1936, she married William Gerald Clark. In this marriage record, we find that William was 3 years younger than Maude, his 24 to her 27. He was a native Californian, and was an oil worker. His parents



were William H. Clark of New York and Cecelia Weaver of Iowa. He lived at 1354 Euclid Ave, Long Beach. The blank for the number of marriages is left blank. Maude gave Bessie's address on E. 84th and for some reason claimed to be from Nebraska. Their wedding was performed on the 1st of January by Cecil Aker in Santa Barbara, CA and witnessed by her brother-in-law, Joty Falvo and her younger sister,

Aileen (Smith) Johnson, Joy's wife. They appear in the 1940 Census living at 2828 E. 16th St, Long Beach, CA where William (going by his middle name Gerald) is working on building sewers. He's 28 and Maude is 31 and both have two years of high school. They are renting their house. Gerald's history is a little complicated. He was born in Kern, CA in 1911 to William Clark and Celia Weaver, but then his father died when he was 4. His mother married Loy Tracy in 1917 and they had at least 9 children between 1910 and 1934, so Gerald had plenty of half siblings. His stepfather was a clerk at an oil company and Gerald was 7 years older than his first half-brother. He was not at home in 1930, but I possible found him working on a dairy farm in 1930, but it is not certain that this is the correct person. In 1936, I found William and Maude in City Directories living in Long Beach and he was an oil worker. In 1939, they lived at 25 E. Louise, Long Beach and he was working as a laborer. The 1940 Directory does not give a trade, but they were living at the 1940 Census address. Ditto for 1941.

In 1940, he registered for the WW2 Draft at which time he was working on a WPA Project in Long Beach. They had moved to 3040 Thompson St, Long Beach. He was 29 – 5'9 1/2" – 155lbs – blue eyes – red hair – light complexion. He listed his mother as his point of contact and she lived in Buena Park, CA.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1935	Occupation	I
1940 Census	2828 E. Sixteenth	Long Beach, Los Angeles, (Rented)												
Clark	Gerald W	Head	Male	White	28	1912	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	California		Long Beach	Laborer-Sewer Cons	
Clark	Maude	Wife	Female	White	31	1909	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	New Mexico		Los Angeles		

Frustratingly, they both disappear for the 1950 Census, but indications are that they may have moved up to Fresno at some point in the 1941-1959 period. I have not found any confirmation that William served in WW2, but that is a probability. There are a lot of William G. Clark's listed in the Navy, but none that I can tie to him definitively. What I have been able to discover with a high degree of certainty is that Maude died as Maude Clark in Madera County in Feb 1959. That is up near Fresno. I then find that William married a Dorothy Freeland Stansberry in Las Vegas in 1965. She was born Dorothy Freeland in 1930 and was about 20 years younger than William when they married. She had married Herschel Stansberry in 1948 and they had at least two sons, Mick and Ron Stansberry. William then died in Fresno in 1991 and his obituary mentions the two Stansberry boys, but it also mentions a son, Don Clark which leads me to believe that William and Maude may have had a son together. So far, I have been unable to track down a birth

William Gerald Clark

Arrangements for William Gerald Clark, 80, of Clovis are under the direction of The Neptune Society.

Mr. Clark died Saturday. He was a retired scaler for the U.S. Forest Service.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; three sons, Ron Stansberry and Don Clark, both of Fresno, and Mick Stansberry of Nevada; three brothers, Earl Tracy of West Virginia, and Warren Tracy and Art Tracy, both of Long Barn; two sisters, Edith Lux of Bonita and Patsy Van Derloo of Fair Oaks; three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

record for a Don Clark with a mother named Smith. I did find one in 1943, but his mother turned out to be Ethel Smith and not Maude. If I search in Fresno for Don Clark, there is a Building Official that pops up frequently, but there is nothing I can find that ties him to William and Maude. The list of Donald's with a Smith mother that pop up are shown below. I cannot find an obituary for Maude or Findagrave sites for either one. Dorothy was from Fort Worth and in 1950, her husband Herschell and her father Louie Freeland were musicians in Phoenix per the 1950 Census.

Donald Elvin Smith Principal California Birth Index, 1905-1995	Birth 7 February 1941 San Diego, California, United States	Parents Smith
Donald Lee Smith Principal California Birth Index, 1905-1995	Birth 23 March 1948 Alameda, California, United States	Parents Smith
Donald Raymond Smith Principal California Birth Index, 1905-1995	Birth 19 December 1942 Los Angeles, California, United States	Parents Smith

Possible child – Donald Clark.

68. Maryanne Evalyn Smith 12 NOV 1910 • Copper Hill, Arizona - 26 MAR 1957 • Los Angeles, CA
 #1 William James Mildren Sr 11 MAY 1907 • Perry, Armstrong, PA - 11 JULY 1966 • Colorado
 Marriage: 7 May 1928 • Los Angeles, CA
 #2 Arnold Morris Ness 5 JUL 1913 • Minnesota - 17 DEC 1978 • Redding, CA
 Married: Before 1940, CA



Photos of Maryanne and William from Bonny Dean on Ancestry. Arnold from Michelle Rich on Ancestry.

Maryanne was the 5th child of Jesse and Bessie. She was the first of the two girls born in Copper Hill, AZ after the family moved from New

Mexico. Her middle name seems to vary between Evalyn and Evelyn. I'll go with the one from her birth certificate. She is another one with a lot of holes in the trail of documents so there has to be a bit of speculation based on the available evidence. Like the others in her family, we don't see her until the 1920 Census, which in her case is actually the first one that she would have been around for and as previously noted her early childhood was a bit tumultuous with her parents separating and her mother remarrying. They were in Globe, AZ in 1920 soon to head west to California.

In 1928, she married William James Mildren in Los Angeles. Their marriage certificate shows that William was 25 and Maryanne 19. He was a native of Pennsylvania and she of Arizona. They were married on the 7th of May at St Mark's Episcopal Church by Philip K. Kemp. One of the witnesses was his sister Phyllis Mildren. He lived at 110 S. Columbus St, Glendale and was an insurance underwriter for Central Life Insurance Co. She lived at 811 E84th which is near her mother Bessie's address of 348 E84th (but Bessie may have moved by now). She used the Evelyn name. She was not working. His parents were Jacob T. Mildren and his mother was Stella Freeman. Maryanne's were Jesse and Bessie. St Marks is still there. Glendale is north of downtown LA and appears to be the home of the famous Forest Lawn Cemetery. Daughter Patricia Lorraine arrived 21 Nov 1928 in San Francisco. I'm not sure what took them there, but in 1930, they were back in LA living with Williams's parents and family at 856 N. Berendo. His father was a police officer and William was now a book salesman. William's two younger brothers, Freeman and Charles, and one younger sister Phyllis were also in the home. Freeman and Phyllis were both working at a local movie theater as a lobby boy and usherette.

A little background on William. When he was born in PA in 1907, his father was pumping oil. From 1916 to 1919, he was living and going to school in Muskogee, Oklahoma but in 1920, his father was in Fort Worth and working in the oil business. We then find them in LA in 1930 and his father has become a police officer. This will be ironic as we will later see.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or	Home Owned Home	Radio	Lives on	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Marital Status	First	Attended and	Write	Birthplace	Father's	Mother's	Occupation
		Value	Set	Farm							Marriage	School			Birthplace	Birthplace	
1930 Census	856 N. Berendo		Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California														
Mildren	Jacob R	Head	Rented	Yes	No	Male	White	51	1879	Married	23	No	Yes	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Police Office
Mildren	Stella	Wife				Female	White	42	1888	Married	17	No	Yes	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	
Mildren	William J	Son				Male	White	22	1908	Married	21	No	Yes	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Salesman
Mildren	Freeman J	Son				Male	White	21	1909	Single		No	Yes	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Lobby Boy
Mildren	Phyllis M	Daughter				Female	White	19	1911	Single		No	Yes	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Asherette
Mildren	Charles	Son				Male	White	14	1916	Single		Yes	Yes	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	
Mildren	Mary E	Daughter-In-Law				Female	White	21	1909	Married	20	Yes	Yes	Arizona	Texas	Texas	
Mildren	Patricia J	[Granddaughter]				[Female] [White]		1	1929	[Single]		No		California	Pennsylvania	Arizona	

On 23 Apr 1931, their 2nd daughter arrived in the form of Diana Mary Mildren in Los Angeles. Things started to go bad for William in the 1930's. I'm not sure when William and Maryanne

divorced, but in 1939 in Sacramento, William was arrested for trying to pass a bad check at the Westwood Country Club.

The 1940 Census for him sitting in the Pomona County Jail. He had returned to the insurance industry and was apparently not a good fiduciary. In Sep 1940, he was in San Quentin Prison inmate 65430. He was 33, 5'-6 1/2 "with medium complexion, brown eyes, dark brown and gray hair. I have not found Maryanne and the children in 1940, but William's census says that he was divorced. Subsequent records show that he was paroled on 2 June 1942. He ended up in the Oakland YMCA when he filled out his WW2 Draft Registration card on the day of his parole. He was now 5'-8" – 133lbs – brown eyes and hair – light complexion. Three months later in Sep 1942, he enlisted in the Army and served until Sep 1943. I have not been able to find his military records, but his headstone shows that he served with the 512 Service Squadron in the Army Air Force. I get the impression that he may have been wounded because the short length of service and the fact that he was a patient in the VA Hospital in Vancouver, WA. He had achieved the rank of SGT.

Eureka! While working on this and being frustrated about not finding Maryanne in 1940, I decided to give it one more try and it yielded genealogy gold. There were several transcription errors which made it a challenge. First, her name was Mary Milbern instead of Mildred. Her age was given as 20 instead of 29, and the kids last names were Milbern instead of Mildred. Finally, we see that she also has a son who had not been identified before, James born in California about 1933. It also gives the name and information about her husband. From her grave and 1950 Census, we knew she had married someone named Ness and now we know something about him. Now we know he was Arnold Ness. I have not found marriage records for them but we know that it was in the 1930's. I did find James's birth certificate with this new information, and he was born 21 Nov 1932 in LA.

Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1935	Residence County in 1935	Residence State in 1935	Live on Farm	Occupation	Industry
1940 Census	1624 Duma Street	Owned		2450												
Ness	Arnold	Head	Male	White	28	1912	Married	No	Elementary school Minnesota		Bakersfield	Kern	California			Boiler Maker
Ness	Mary Mildred	Wife	Female	White	29	1920	Married	[No]	[High School, 4th Arizona		Los Angeles	Los Angeles	California			
Milbern	Patricia	Stepdaughter	Female	White	11	1929	Single	Yes	Elementary school California		Los Angeles	Los Angeles	California			
Milbern	Diana	Stepdaughter	Female	White	8	1932	Single	Yes	Elementary school California		Los Angeles	Los Angeles	California			
Milbern	James	Stepson	Male	White	7	1933	Single	Yes	Elementary school California		Los Angeles	Los Angeles	California			

Knowing Arnold's name, I was able to find his WW2 Draft Registration in 1940 which has the same address as the census and gives Bessie (Maryanne's mother) as his point of contact. He was 27 and worked for Lacy Manufacturing as a boilermaker. He was 5'-7"-16-lbs-blue eyes-brown hair-light complexion. Arnold's father was from Norway and named Narve Ness married to Alma Olive from Minnesota. They married in 1911 and had a son John in Wisconsin, followed by Arnold in Minnesota in 1913. They then had Archie in High Plains, Canada in 1919, and finally Gordon in Moose Jaw, Canada in 1924. They moved to Seattle in 1942 arriving by stage! Obviously, Arnold was already here, but that note about the stage amused me. As a boilermaker, it is unlikely that he was drafted as his skills would have been needed to build ships for the war. I have not found any military records for him. Maryanne and Arnold's marriage did apparently did not last long and did not produce children that I have found. He married Marian Hofland in Seattle in 1946 and they had two sons in 1948 and 1949.

The 1950 Census finds Maryanne with her daughter Patricia at 1256 68th St, Long Beach, CA working as a traffic supervisor at the phone company. I cannot find that address today. Her younger daughter Diana was 19 and not working. Mary's last name was Ness, and she was divorced. Daughter Patricia had married John Caruthers in 1948 and he was the owner of an Art Studio in LA. I cannot find son James in 1950. He would be 18 and possibly married or away at school. I will continue to search.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	1256 68th	Long Beach, Los Angeles, California										
Ness	Mary	Head	White	Female	39	1911	Divorced	Arizona		40	Traffic Supervisor	Telephone Co
Mildred	Diana	Daughter	White	Female	19	1931	Never Married	California				

Diana married John Dean in 1951 and it appears that they had 3 children before divorcing. That still needs to be verified. I still am looking for William. I did find a City Listing from 1957 where he was a student at Long Beach and married but I'm not 100% sure that is him.

Maryanne died in California and is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Glendale. I have been unable to find any obituary. I did discover that her 2nd husband had two additional children than the two sons mentioned above. I have a message in to one of her grandchildren to see if I can get anymore light shed on this line of our family.



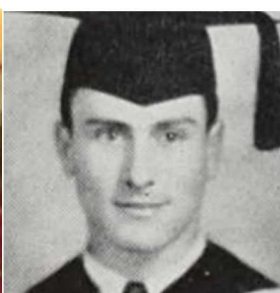
I should close the loop on her husbands. After getting out of the VA Hospital in 1950, William seemed to return to a life of crime. He was arrested in Bremerton, OR in 1956 for attempted forgery. He then ended up getting arrested in Tucson in 1958 for trying to buy a car with a bad check and was sentenced to 4 years in prison. He died apparently in Denver in 1966 and was buried in Fort Logan National Cemetery. I had wondered why his grave marker listed him as William James Mildred Sr. until I discovered his son.

Arnold died in Redding California in 1978 having had a life separate from Maryanne and raising at least 4 children with his 2nd wife.

Children of Maryanne and William James Mildren

236	Patricia Lorraine Mildren	1928	2016	Maryanne and William's child#1
237	Diana Mary Mildren	1931	1995	Maryanne and William's child#2
238	William James Mildred, Jr	1932	1995	Maryanne and William's child#3

69. Aileen Effie Smith Johnson 13 FEB 1915 • Copper Hill, Gila, AZ - **DEATH** Unknown
 Giotti Jotty Falvo 5 NOV 1914 • Los Angeles, CA - 7 APR 1995 • Los Angeles, CA
 Marriage: 29 Jul 1936 • Ventura, California



Aileen on her 102nd birthday in 2017 posted by Nancy Nielson on FamilySearch. Jotty's graduation photo from Ancestry.

Aileen has been a little confusing to me. She was born in Globe Arizona supposedly to Jesse Richard and Bessie Hudman, but in looking at the birth certificate, it is signed by Bessie Lee Johnson and Bessie did not marry Jesse Paul Johnson until 1919, but this sort of shows that they may have been living together. Also on the certificate, it says that Aileen was her 7th child with 5 surviving. It also notes that Aileen was a female, and in the box about twins, triplets, or other she has marked other. At that point, we know that she has 4 living children and I had speculated that she may have lost one in 1908 without any evidence, this record might suggest that Aileen was the only surviving triplet and that my 1908

Name Kathleen Joan Falvo
 Sex Female
 Mother's Name Johnson
 Event Type Birth
 Event Date 27 Jan 1945
 Event Place San Diego, California, United States

speculation was incorrect. Unfortunately, there are no records to confirm this and without the 1910 Census, we cannot see what she claimed for births and deaths. Enough about that. The other thing that gives me pause is that when I look at the birth records of her children, their mother's maiden name is given as Johnson at least for her first child. I'm calling her the 6th and last child of Jesse and Bessie.

Like her siblings, we have a big hole without the 1930 Census and Aileen shows up next in 1936 when she gets married to Jotty Falvo. They were both 21 and living in Los Angeles. At the time of their marriage, Jotty was a football star at USC. The 1930 LA newspapers are full of Jotty (Fidgety) Falvo and his on-field exploits for Freemont High School as a running back. USC had their eye on him as early as 1933. In addition to being a star athlete, he ran for student council president and was the favorite to win.



SIX TROJANS IN A ROW—Six University of Southern California quarterbacks as they lined up during a practice session at Los Angeles. Front to back: Jotly Falvo, David Davis, Nick Pappas, Ambrose Schindler, Oliver Day and Don Keller. They play strictly Western schedule this year.

He was also a track star in high school. He seems to have broken his leg in practice his senior year, but that did not stop him from joining the team at USC, where in addition to football, he was a rugby star.

Newspapers indicate that Jotly graduated in 1937 and based on the 1940 Census, he spent another year in school and went on to become an educator. In this census, he and Aileen lived at 928 ½ - 78th St, Los Angeles and Jotly was a teacher. Aileen had spent a year in college and was not working. They were both 25 and had been married for 4 years. Jotly was one of two sons and 6 daughters on Vincent and Rose Falvo, Italian immigrants. Vincent was a tailor and had immigrated in 1897, and Rose arrived in 1900. It looks like he spent a number of years in Kentucky before moving to California about 1910 where his last 4 children were born with Jotly being the 2nd from the last.

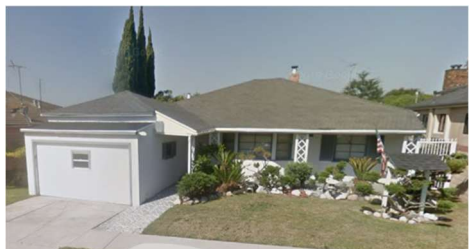
Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	City in 1935	County in 1935	State in 1935	on Farm	Occupation
1940 Census	928 1/2 78th Street	Los Angeles, California	Rented	28												
Falvo	Jotly	Head	Male	White	25	1915	Married	No	College, 5th or subsequent year	California		Los Angeles			No	Teacher
Falvo	Aileen E	Wife	Female	White	25	1915	Married	No	College, 1st year	Arizona		Los Angeles				

Jotly registered for the WW2 Draft in 1940 at which time he was working for the City Board of Education. He lived at the address that appears in the 1950 Census. He was assigned to John Muir Jr High which is



this nice-looking building today. Surprisingly after all of his football heroics, he was only 5'-7 ½" – 160lbs with hazel eyes – brown hair and a light brown complexion. Apparently, Uncle Sam liked what they saw because Jotly enlisted in the Navy in Apr 1943 and he served until Dec 1945. From what record I can gather, he seemed to have spent a lot of time at the San Diego Naval Training Center and then later in the war at the Bremerton Naval Hospital in Bremerton Washington. I do not see evidence of any overseas deployment, but with his background in athletics and education, I suspect that he trained many young sailors as they headed off to war.

Jotly and Aileen show up in the 1950 Census living at 5481 Valley Ridge Blvd, Culver City, CA



which looks like this today. Culver City is in west LA out toward the Los Angeles International Airport. Jotly had been promoted to Training Supervisor for the City Schools and they had two daughters, Kathleen who had been born on 27 Jan 1945 in San Diego and Donna Eileen who was born 27 Aug 1946 in Los Angeles. They had waited quite a while after their 1936 marriage to start their family, but I can understand that having waited a few years myself. I guess going off to war may also had an impact.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		5481 Valley Ridge Blvd										
Falvo	Jotly (Nmn)	Head	White	Male	38	1915	Married	California		47	Training Supervisor City Schools	
Falvo	Aileen E	Wife	White	Female	38	1915	Married	Arizona				
Falvo	Kathleen J	Daughter	White	Female	5	1945	Never Married	California				
Falvo	Donna E	Daughter	White	Female	3	1947	Never Married	California				

Per my research, they took another big break before having a third daughter, Laura on the 4th of July 1958. Aileen would have been 43 when Laura was born 11 years after her next older sister. I'll bet that was a surprise!

I have not found much information specifically about Aileen, but Jotty made plenty of news and was apparently a very loved and respected educator in LA for many years. I found a news article about his retirement in 1975 after what would have been almost 40 years as an educator.



Photograph caption dated October 16, 1961 partially reads, "Back-to-school nights at many Valley PTAs are acquainting parents with children's curricula...Mrs. Elmont Dawson, 6609 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, president of Van Nuys Junior High PTA, receives supplies from Principal Jotty Falvo in preparation for her classroom visit."

I have not found obituaries for either Jotty or Aileen. In fact, I haven't been able to confirm Aileen's death, but the post below from FamilySearch posted by Nancy Nielson shows he celebrating 102 years in 2017, having lived at the Oakmont Retirement home having been a resident since 2003 when she was 88. That move was 11 years after Jotty's death in 1992.



Aileen Falvo is truly "Oakmont's Sweetheart". Born 2/14/1915, we will celebrate Aileen's 102nd birthday on Valentine's Day. Aileen is one of the original residents of our community, moving in when she was 88. She always has a beautiful smile and warm words for everyone and we are honored to be her neighbors and friends. Happy Birthday, Aileen!

Children of Aileen and Jotty

239	Kathleen J Falvo	1945	Aileen and Giotti's Child#1
240	Donna Eileen Falvo	1946	Aileen and Giotti's Child#2
241	Laura A Falvo	1958	Aileen and Giotti's Child#3

I have chosen not to dig too deeply into the either two or three other children that Bessie had with Jessie Paul Johnson. The first is kind of confusing as there is a birth certificate for a Louie Harley Johnson in 1920 as well as a Julian Paul Johnson on the same date. I don't know it was twins with one dying, or if they just changed their mind about the name.

Enjoy this edition and if you have any corrections, photos, etc. do not hesitate to contact me at rbills_houston@yahoo.com. I've met several new cousins online that are providing priceless information. This version was completed 25 July 2024. – revised 18 Feb 2025