

6. The Descendants of Samuel Oscar Smith (1856-1920) and Mary Elizabeth Virginia Renfro (1869-1934) of Texas, Arizona. and California

30. Nannie May Smith 19 MAY 1893 • New Mexico - 10 JUL 1977 • Ventura, CA

John Edward Gallagher 30 OCT 1893 • Portage County, Wisconsin - 19 AUG 1945 • Las Vegas, NV

Married: about 1912 – New Mexico. Records have not been found by me, but someone has posted on FamilySearch that it was 12 Oct 1912 in Silver City.



As we learned from Nannie's fathers' biography, she was a well-traveled young lady in her early years, as he went out mining in New Mexico and seemed to have done well as a miner as well as a father since Nannie was one of three siblings born there before he headed back to Texas and bought a ranch in Sterling County where Nannie first appears in a census. There is some confusion if Nannie was their first child since in the 1900 Census, her mother

claims to have had 8 children with only 4 surviving and in 1900, there are 4 children in the household. Records seem to indicate that her parents were married in 1885, so they may well have lost 4 between 1885 and Nannie's arrival in 1893. If that is the case, I'm sure that she was a blessing.

In the 1900 Census, Nannie was 6 and had three brothers, William 6, Jesse 1, and Patrick 0 and born after their arrival back in Texas. A copy of that census is shown below. In addition to her brothers, her grandfather Jesse was living with them and he was 80 and widowed.

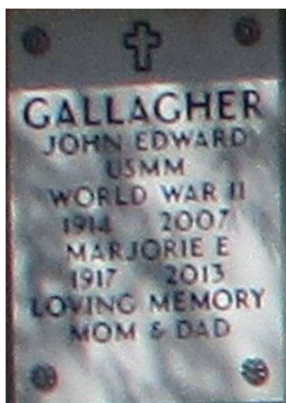
Children of John and Nannie

129	John Edward Gallagher Jr	1914	2007	John and Nannie's child#1
130	Virginia Ruth Gallagher	1917	1994	John and Nannie's child#2
131	Mary Lura Gallagher	1919	1973	John and Nannie's child#3
132	Gwendolyn Laverne Gallagher	1930	1995	John and Nannie's child#4
133	Gordon Frederick Gallagher	1933	2021	John and Nannie's child#5

129. John Edward Gallagher 21 OCT 1914 • Fierro, Grant, NM - 15 FEB 2007 • Riverside, CA

Marjorie Eloise Stricklin 29 JUN 1917 • Illinois - 10 JUN 2013 • Redding, CA

Marriage: 2 Jul 1938. Clark, NV



John and Marjorie's grave marker from Findagrave. Marjorie's photo from Ron Hampton on Ancestry.

Nannie and John's first child was John Edward Gallagher who was born in Grant NM on the eve of WWI. By the time his first census rolled around in 1920, he had been joined by two younger sisters and lived in Douglas AZ where we have seen many relatives. His father was a fireman for the railroad. They had moved to the LA area by 1930 and he had a 3rd sister. I don't think that I ever discovered why there was such a gap between Mary Lura and Gwendolyn. His father was still working

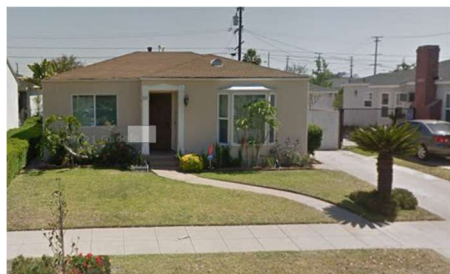
for the railroad.

Records on FamilySearch show that he married Marjorie Stricklin in Clark, NV in 1938. The wedding was performed by Methodist Minister Ford L. Gilbert on 2 Jul 1938 in the presence of Ramona Lee Bucholy and Eugene F. Bealer. John was from LA and Marjorie was from Huntington Park, CA. These are two small towns near each other south of downtown LA. John and Marjorie appear in the 1940 Census living at 3872 Percy St, Montebello. He was 25 and Marjorie 22. He was working as a receiving clerk for a wholesale can company. You can see their education below. Marjorie was from Illinois. Looking at her background we see that she was one of two children born to William and Anna Burkey Stricklin. Her father was involved in drilling oilwells and was probably drawn to the Montebello area by the discovery of large oil reserves there in the early 1910's. He had been a coal miner in Illinois, but got out of the mines and started drilling wells and had moved to CA after the birth of his son William in 1919 when Marjorie was 3.

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	3872 Percy Street	Montebello, Los Angeles, CA	Rented		23							
Gallagher	John E	Head	Male	White	25	1915	Married	No	High School, 4th year	New Mexico		Receiving Clerk
Gallagher	Marjorie E	Wife	Female	White	22	1918	Married	No	High School, 3rd year	Illinois		

In 1940, John registered for the WW2 Draft at which time they lived at 2205 Southside Dr, Montebello and he worked for Continental Can Company which you have probably heard of. They plant was at 3820 Union Pacifica Blvd which was right by the train tracks to allow easy shipping of their cans to their customers. He was 5'-10"-175lbs-gray eyes-brown hair-ruddy complexion. Here is some information about Continental. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_Can_Company

I haven't found any news or record from the early 1940's, but records indicate that John enlisted in the Merchant Marine on 23 Mar 1944 and served until 22 Aug 1944. I'm not sure why his service was so short or where he sailed, but from what I've read, the Merchant Marines did some pretty dangerous duty during the war shuttling supplies to our fighting men and facing the constant danger from submarines trying to stop them.



Upon his return from sea duty, their first child, daughter Kathleen Susan was born in Jan 1945. She was to be followed by William Daniel in Jul 1949 who was probably named after Marjorie's only brother William. John's father died in 1945 and his mother moved in with John's younger sister Gwendolynn while Marjorie's mother died just before the 1950 Census in March so in 1950, her father was living with them. The 1950 Census shows that they were living at the same house as they had been in 1940. John had moved into

Industrial Relations at Continental which was confirmed by a City Directory in 1948. He was now 38 and Marjorie was 32 while the kids were 5, 2, and about 8 months.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	2205 South Side Drive	Montebello, Los Angeles, California										
Gallagher	John E	Head	White	Male	38	1915		New Mexico		40	Industrial Relations	Can Factory
Gallagher	Marjorie E	Wife	White	Female	32	1918	Married	Illinois				
Gallagher	Kathleen S	Daughter	White	Female	5	1945	Never Married	(California				
Gallagher	John E	Son	White	Male	2	1948	Never Married	(California				
Gallagher	William D	Son	White	Male			Never Married	(California				
Stricklin	William D	Father-in-law	White	Male	56	1894	Widowed	Illinois		48	Oil Pumper	Oil Field

I found City Directories for John through 1952, but while there are a lot of John E. Gallaghers after that I have trouble determining which if any are our John. The earlier one's list Marjorie, but after that there is no certain connection. I did find two news articles from 1977 and 1978 where John was serving as Secretary for the Merchants & Manufacturers Association which is a labor relations organization started in California in 1896 with a bit of a sordid past at the turn of the century in union busting.

At this point, all that I have found definitively is that their daughter Kathleen seems to have married Emil Lepage in 1966 and divorced in 1967 and then someone named Duncan before 1976 and then married Jody Bell in Nevada in 1976. Son John III married Nicollette Price in 1966 and had a daughter before

marrying Colette Richey in 1986 who had two children from her first marriage. He died in 2015 and his obituary mentions his siblings, but both of his parents were already dead at this point. It looks like William

Obituary for Mr. John Edward Gallagher Jr.

John E. Gallagher Jr. 67, passed away at his home in Lake Arrowhead on June 20, 2015. John was a truck driver for over thirty years.

He is survived by his wife Collette, his daughter Alisa Jansen, his two step sons Robert and Anthony Esteron, his brother William (Shirley) Gallagher and his sister Kathleen Bell

married Shirley Sparks/Johnson in 1981 suggesting that Shirley had been previously married, but I haven't yet tracked that down.

John died in 2007 in Riverside CA. I have not found an obituary for him. Marjorie died 6 years later in Redding, CA at age 95 and her obituary is fairly meager and does not provide much information. It reads:

GALLAGHER - Marjorie Gallagher, 95, of Redding, died Monday at Mercy Medical Center in Redding. Arrangements are pending at Allen Dahl Funeral Chapel in Redding (243-1525).

My only take away from this is that one of her children must have lived in Redding and taken her in after John's death. They both lived long lives. John was 92 and Marjorie 95.

Children of John and Marjorie Stricklin Gallagher

355	Kathleen S Gallagher	1945	XXXX	John and Marjorie Child #1
356	John Edward Gallagher	1947	2015	John and Marjorie Child #2
357	William Daniel Gallagher	1949	XXXX	John and Marjorie Child #3

355. Kathleen Susan Gallagher 19 JAN 1945 • Los Angeles, CA – Living
 #1 Emil Everett Lepage 19 NOV 1939 • Connecticut - 27 NOV 2015 • Ohio
 Marriage: 2 Jul 1966 • Orange, CA
 #2 Edward R Duncan 18 APR 1945 • Whittier, CA - Living
 Marriage: Divorce: May 1970 • Whittier, CA
 #3 Jody Clint Bell 3 AUG 1956 • Los Angeles, CA - 23 DEC 2015 • Alabama
 Marriage: 29 Aug 1976 • Clark, Nevada – Divorce before 1988?



Kathleen, Edward, and Jody from yearbooks.

I've done a little more digging about Kathleen and have come up with these conclusions. She graduated from St Anthony's HS in Long Beach in 1965. Her high school credits show that she seemed to be active there.

KATHLEEN GALLAGHER St. Cyprian
 Sodality 1, 2, 3, 4; G.A.A. 1, 2, 3, 4; G.A.A.
 Publicity Head 3; Letter girl Club 4;
 French Club 2; Spanish N.H.S. 4; G.A.A. 4.

The year after graduating, she married an older guy name Emil Lepage from Connecticut. He seems to have been the youngest of 9 children born to Joseph Washington Lepage 1902 and Fabiola Girard Lepage 1906. I think that he may have been in the Navy and see indications that he had a daughter in 1968 in Tacoma, WA which is after they were divorced.

Following her divorce from Emil, she married Edward R. Duncan who was about her age and from Whittier, CA. Edward had married Nicole Gillis in 1964, got sent to Vietnam and they divorced while he was there in 1966. Ed and Kathleen must have married around 1967, because on 3 Dec 1968, they were blessed with daughter Noelle K. Duncan. They then divorced in May 1970.

Records then show that in Aug 1976, she married a third time to a much younger man, Jody Clint Bell who was born 3 Aug 1956 in LA to Dale V. Bell 1915–1983 Wilma Jean Warricks Bell 1918–2005. Jody and Kathleen were blessed with daughter Erin Elizabeth Bell on 22 APR 1978 in California. I don't

know if they stayed together, but in 2005 when his mother died in Las Vegas, two grandchildren were mentioned and I suspect that this must be Noelle and Erin. Kathleen is not mentioned in her obit.

Wilma Jean Bell, 87, of Las Vegas died Saturday in a local care center. She was born Jan. 21, 1918, in Mattoon, Ill. A resident for 13 years, she was a retired teachers assistant. She is survived by one son, Jody Clint Bell; one brother, Jim Warrick of Las Vegas; and two grandchildren.

Jody died in Alabama in 2015 supposedly on Christmas day, but I have not found a comprehensive obituary or a death record. (*Owens Cross Roads, AL*) | *Date of Publication: 25 Mar 2023 Obituary for Jody Clint Bell; born 3 Aug 1956; died 23 Dec 2015.* I wonder why the obit was printed 8 years after his death?

Children of Kathleen Gallagher and Edward Duncan and Jody Bell

805	Noelle K. Duncan	1968	Kathleen and Edward Duncan's child
806	Erin Elizabeth Bell	1978	Kathleen and Jody Bell's child

356. John Edward Gallagher 21 SEP 1947 • Los Angeles, CA - 20 JUN 2015 • San Bernardino, CA

#1 Nicolett Alexandra Price 7 JAN 1948 • Los Angeles, CA – Living

Marriage: 23 Jul 1966 • Orange County, CA – Divorce: Sep 1967 • Orange, CA – 1 child

#2 Collette Richey Esteron 4 FEB 1953 • California – Living

Marriage: 30 Aug 1986 • Clark, Nevada



John was the 2nd child born to John and Marjorie Stricklin Gallagher and arrived in LA in time for the 1950 Census. I did not find a high school photo of him or evidence that he got called up for Vietnam, but I found that he married Nicolette Price in July 1966 and then they divorced a little over a year later after having a daughter, Alisa Gallagher 16 JUN 1967.

As improbable as it seems, Nicolette seems to have married her brother-in-law, Edward R. Duncan who was just coming off of a divorce from John's older sister Kathleen. That didn't last and as they divorced in 1976 and she later married Delbert Wymore in Oregon.

I did not encounter another marriage for John until he married Collette Richey in Nevada in 1986. I suspect that there may have been another wife in that 20-year interval between Nicolett and Collette. Collette had been previously married to Alan Esteron who has a normal sounding name, but was actually born in Hawaii to parents who had immigrated there from The Philippines. They had two sons Anthony and Robert in 1972 and 1975. John died in 2015 and his obituary reads:

John E. Gallagher Jr. 67, passed away at his home in Lake Arrowhead on June 20, 2015. John was a truck driver for over thirty years.

He is survived by his wife Collette, his daughter Alisa Jansen, his two step sons Robert and Anthony Esteron, his brother William (Shirley) Gallagher and his sister Kathleen Bell.

From this we learn that in 2015, his sister was still married to Jody Bell and he died 6 months after John. We also learn that His brother is married to Shirley and his daughter is married to someone named Jansen.

Children of John and Nicolette and stepchildren with Collette

807	Alisa Gallagher	1967	John and Nicolette's child
807.2	Anthony Esteron	1972	Collette and Alan's child#1
807.3	Robert Esteron	1975	Collette and Alan's child#2

357. William Daniel Gallagher 29 JUL 1949 • Los Angeles, CA – Living

#1 Diana Lee Rogers Hill 1947 California – Death Living

Marriage: 25 Mar 1972 • Santa Clara, CA – Divorce; Dec 1976 • Orange, CA

#2 Shirley Berniece Sparks 18 DEC 1952 - Living

Marriage: 16 Aug 1981 • Orange, CA

I have very little information about William Gallagher. He was born just in time to make the 1950 census so he is my oldest sister's age. It looks like in 1972 when he was 25, he married Diana Rogers who was a couple of years older and had already been married and divorced with one child. She had married Dennis Richard Hill in 1962 when she was 16 and had a son, Richard Hill in 1965. They divorced in 1972 and 4 years later Diana and William married. Her son would have been 7 at that time. William and Diana only stayed married for 4 years at which time he married Shirley Sparks. She is a little confusing in that there are two marriage records, one to Shirley Sparks and another to Shirley Johns, which is an indication that she had been previously married and I have not been able to determine if she was Shirley Johnson who married someone named Sparks or someone named Shirley Sparks who married someone named Johnson. It looks like they were still married in 2015 when his brother John died. I have not found any children. Ancestry seems to keep popping up suggestions that William may have been a high school football coach, but I have not been able to confirm this.

This ends the John and Marjorie Stricklin Gallagher family study. It was completed on 5 Mar 2025.

130. Virginia Ruth Gallagher 10 MAR 1917 • Duncan, AZ - 13 JAN 1994 • Riverside, CA
 Charles Thomas Siddle 24 JUL 1914 • Winnipeg, Canada - 20 JAN 1996 • San Bernardino, CA
 Marriage: 1 Mar 1943 • Clark County, Nevada



Photo of Ruth from DSSmith on Ancestry. Charles High School yearbook photo from 1933.

Virginia (or perhaps Ruth) arrived after her big brother John when they were still in Arizona and had not yet moved to California. She was followed shortly by a younger sister, Lura, and then didn't have another sibling until they moved to Montebello, CA just before the 1930 Census when Gwendolyn arrived followed by a little brother in 1933. She appeared at home in 1920 and 1930, but then in 1940 she must have decided that she needed to get out of the house and she was living at 3931 Percy Street with Fred and Florence Bealer and running a beauty shop. Fred was a collector for an insurance company. That address is just outside of Montebello, so not too far from home. I found a couple of City Directories where she was running a beauty shop and living at 710. S Ford which is also nearby.



Records show that she followed in her brother's footsteps and trotted off to Nevada in 1943 where she married Charles Thomas Siddle. Per the marriage records, F. C. Lovett performed the ceremony on the 1st of March 1943. At the time, Charles was living in Las Vegas and Virginia lived in LA. Her mother, Nannie and a Margaret Boyd were the witnesses.

Looking at Charles, we find that he was born in Winnipeg, Canada in 1914 to American parents living abroad. Actually, his father was from Michigan and his mother was Canadian. His father was an auto mechanic and had returned to the US by 1930. I noticed in the 1940 Census, there was a divorced Alfred Boyd living with Charles' parents and I have not chased the leads, but I suspect that he is related to the Margaret Boyd mentioned above. In 1933, when he was 18, Charles ran off to Arizona to get married. That story is told here: *Miss Margaret Davis, Mr. Chas. Siddle Married Miss Margaret Esther Davis, attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Davis of Los Angeles and Charles Thomas Siddle, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Boyd of Bella Vista married afternoon, April 22, at Rev. Saturday, Raymond Acheson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at his home in Yuma. Arizona. The bride wore a tailored suit of horizon blue with Navy accessories and an attractive dusty rose crepe ensemble. flowers consisted of and that, completed the corsage of pink camellias.*

The marriage was. a complete surprise to the friends of the young couple, who when they learned Rev. Acheson, had been transferred from the Wilshire Church in Los Angeles, a personal friend of both the bride and groom they decided on a Yuma marriage. Rev. Acheson presented the couple with a beautiful white suede e prayer book after the ceremony.

The bride is a graduate of the Wilmington High School. while the groom is a graduate of the Montebello High School class of '33. He is past master councilor of the Whittier DeMolay. The young couple will be at home to their many friends after 1, at the new home 1030 Arapahoe Avenue. Hollywood.

They appeared together in the 1940 Census where he was working at an automobile factory and she was stenographer at the fruit exchange. I'm not sure when they broke up, but both were marrying other people in 1943 and there do not appear to have been any children from that marriage.

In 1940 Charles Siddle completed his WW2 Draft Registration. He was living at 1030 Arapahoe which was the address mentioned in his wedding. His first wife was his point of contact and he worked for



US Tire and Rubber. He was 6'-0"-155lbs-blue eyes-brown hair-light complexion. I see no evidence that he served. Perhaps the making of tires was a critical war industry.

After Virginia and Charles' marriage in 1943, their only child, daughter Terry was born in 1945 in California. This was about the time that Virginia's father died. The 1950 Census found them living at 863 Long Beach Dr, Colton, CA which is a town in a county just east of LA in an area known as the Inland Empire. Charles was reportedly selling dog food. He was 38 and she was 33 while daughter Terry was 5. I found an obituary for Charles' father in

1949 which reveals that he had at least two aunts and an uncle, a couple of which lived in Canada still, but one aunt was nearby in Pasadena CA.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		863 Long Beach Dr	Colton, San Bernardino, California									
Siddle	Charles J	Head	White	Male	38	1915	Married	Canada, Ont	Born Abroad	48	Sells Dog Food	Salesman
Siddle	Virginia R	Wife		Female	33	1917	Married	Arizona				
Siddle	Terry C	Daughter	White	Female	5	1945	Never Married	(California)				

I have found City Directories and voting records for Charles and Virginia for the following dates and places. 1949 – 477 ½ E. G St, Colton – Salesman, 1952 - 863 Long Beach, Colton – Virginia was also recognized for her work with the Girl Scouts, 1954 – 655 Kippy, Colton, 1956 – 2598 Leebee, Pomona – working for Peiks & Vets Dog Food Company, 1959 and 1960 – same address – working for Prudential Insurance, 1980 – 5540 W. 5th, Oxnard, CA – Manager - Oxnard Shores Mobile Home Park, 1984 – 36585 W. Florida, Hemet.



The other items that I have been able to discover revolve around their daughter, Terry. She graduated from high school in Pomona in 1962.

In 1965, she married Leonard Charles Nunnally. It looks like they had children in 1966, 1968, 1970, and 1974 however the son born in 1968 died in 1969. Terry died in 2007.

Virginia died in 1994, two years before Charles. At the time of her death, they lived in Helendale, CA which is out in the Mojave Desert east of LA. I have not found her obituary. Charles died in 1996 and I was able to find his obituary. It reads:

CHARLES T. SIDDLE Material supervisor Charles Thomas Siddle, 81, of Pomona died Saturday of a heart attack at U.S. Family Care Medical Center in Montclair. Siddle, a native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, formerly lived in Fontana two years. He worked as a material handling supervisor for Freightliner Corporation for 16 years. He also managed several mobile home parks. He was a member of the Elks Lodge in Hemet and was past master counselor for DeMolay in Montebello. Survivors include his daughter, Terry Siddle-Nunnally; three grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren. Memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Ingold Chapel, 8277 Juniper Ave., Fontana. Interment is private.

Child of Virginia and Charles Siddle

358 Terry Charlene Siddle 1944 2007 Charles and Virginia Only Child

358. Terry Charlene Siddle 23 DEC 1944 • Los Angeles, CA - 28 JUL 2007 • Pomona, CA

Leonard Charles Nunnally 29 MAY 1945 • Los Angeles, CA - Living

Marriage: 1965 • Los Angeles, CA



TERRY SIDDLE Thespians - Girls League Treas. - N.F.L.

Terry was the only child born to Charles and Virginia arriving 2 days before Christmas 1944. At the time her father was selling dog food. She went on to graduate from Ganesha HS in Pomona, CA in 1962 and three years later in 1965 when she was 20, she married Leonard Nunnally. Leonard was a year older and had graduated from Acadia HS. Both of these are in the eastern suburbs of LA. In 1950, his father, Leonard Nunnally Sr. was a wholesale liquor salesman in San Diego and His father was from Washington State and his mother from North Dakota and he seems to have had an older sister Sharon who was born in 1939.

Terry and Leonard began building their family with the arrival of Sean Nunnally in 1966. He was followed by brother Brennan Nunnally in Apr 1968 who unfortunately died 3 weeks before Terry's 25th birthday in 1969. The two boys were followed by two girls with the arrival of Cory C Nunnally in 1970 and Caitlin C Nunnally in 1974.

Terry died in Pomona in 2007. I've been unable to find an obituary. Leonard appears to still be alive and is 79 as of this writing in 2025. I have not explored grandchildren.

Children of Terry and Leonard Nunnally

808	Sean Nunnally	1966		Terry and Leonard Nunnally's child#1
809	Brennan Nunnally	1968	1969	Terry and Leonard Nunnally's child#2
810	Cory C Nunnally	1970		Terry and Leonard Nunnally's child#3
811	Caitlin C Nunnally	1974		Terry and Leonard Nunnally's child#4

131. Mary Lura Gallagher 26 JAN 1919 • Lowell, AZ - 13 DEC 1973 • Travis County, TX

George Ellis DeVries 10 FEB 1921 • Winfred, SD - 11 AUG 1982 • Austin, TX

Married: About 1945 – Unknown



I think this is Mary's yearbook photo, but I am not sure. George's grave marker in Austin, TX.

Mary was the third child born to John and Nannie and she joined John and Virginia in Arizona in 1919 and then moved with the family to Montebello, CA when she was about 10. Shortly after that she gained a little sister and a

little brother. She appears at home in the 1920 and 1930 Censuses, but I have not found her in 1940.

It appears that around 1945, she married George DeVries. I have not found marriage records, but based upon the birth of their daughter in Nevada in 1947, I would suspect that is where she got married and why not, both of her older siblings did, but I cannot find any records.

In 1950, we find her living in Vallejo, CA. George is in the Armed Forces and they have been joined by their daughter, Sharon. My suspicion is that he was stationed at nearby Travis AFB. George was the 9th of 10 children born to Albert and Trientje DeVries who had both immigrated from The Netherlands. When George was young, his father was a janitor at a public school in Winfred, SD. On 21 Jan 1946, George filled out a WW2 Draft Registration while living at 1008 East Mesquite, Las Vegas, NV. The card noted that he had been honorably discharged on 17 Jan 1946. He was 5'-10"-175lbs-blue eyes-blond hair-ruddy complexion. His point of contact was Mrs. J. E. Gallagher, 1621 Coban Road, La Habre, CA. My assumption is that this was Mary's mother who had been recently widowed. It suggests that he and Mary were already married or about ready to get married. Since their daughter was born in Dec 1946, it would suggest that they probably got married after his discharge. Looking at his other records, we find that he had initially enlistment on 15 Sep 1941 and served until 17 Jan 1946. After 3 years as a civilian, he reenlisted in the Air Force on 11 Jan 1949 and served until 19 Aug 1966 giving him enough years to qualify for retirement from the Air Force. So, when the 1950 Census was taken, he was a newly enlisted airman. While I have not found his WW2 Service records, my hunch is that he served in the Army Air Corp.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census	380 Hobbs	Vallejo, Solano, California									
De Vries	George E	Head	White	Male	29	1921	Married	South Dakota		60	Armed Forces
De Vries	Mary L	Wife	White	Female	31	1919	Married	Arizona			
De Vries	Sharon L	Daughter	White	Female	3	1947	Never Married	(Nevada)			

A City Directory from 1953 places him at 302 Hobbs in Solana servicing in the Air Force. Tracking military folks gets a little tricky, but based on his military records, we know that he served in Korea which basically ran from 1950 to 1953 so he must have been recently back from that conflict and had left Mary and Sharon behind while he served.

In 1956, George and Mary had a son, George Jr who was born in El Paso. I would guess that George may have been stationed at Ft Bliss which is an Army Base, but different branches often have assignments at other branch facilities for joint training. George was followed by a sister, Cindy who was probably born at Dyess AFB when George was stationed there.

It looks like George then retired and settled in Austin and his last assignment was probably at Bergstrom AFB when it was still active and not the current main airport for Austin replacing the old Austin Municipal Airport which was almost in the middle of town with no room to grow to serve booming Austin. Sadly, in Dec 1973, Mary died at Bergstrom. Ironically, this was almost exactly a year to the date that I graduated from The University of Texas. At the time of her death, they lived at 5409 Manor Road. She was only 54 and died from a heart attack and had chronic obstructive lung disease. Her obituary reads:



MRS. MARY L. DeVries Mrs. Mary L. DeVries, 51, 5409 Manor Rd., died Thursday in a local hospital.

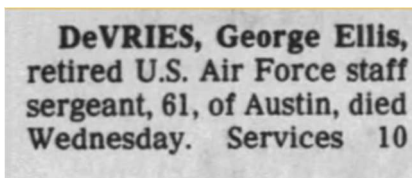
Mrs. DeVries had been a resident of Austin for 10 years, and was a member of A Place of Worship. Survivors are her husband, George E. DeVries of Austin; a son, George DeVries Jr.; two daughters,

Cynthia Denise DeVries and Mrs. Sharon Spates; and grandchildren, all of Austin.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at Bergstrom Air Force Base Chapel, with Chaplain Mai. Gene K. McIntosh officiating. Burial be in Austin Memorial Park.

George would have been left with three children, Sharon (who was married), George who would have been 17, and Cindy who would have been 15. Taking a quick look at the children, I find that Sharon married Gary Whitlock in 1966 and had two daughters in 1966 and 1969 shortly thereafter before divorcing in 1969 and then having a third daughter in 1971 with Whitlock last name. She then married Melvin Spate in 1973 and they had a daughter in 1975 and a son Melvin III in 1977, but he died in 1982 when he was 5. Sharon died after having a heart transplant in 1999. Gary Jr. married Cindy Roberts in Austin in 1980. Cindy married briefly Sam Bishop in 1981, but it didn't last.

I have not found records, but it appears that George must have remarried after Mary Lura's death, and it is confusing because his 2nd wife was also named Mary. He died in 1982 and his obituary is not too informative. It simply states as shown here. The request for his veteran's headstone was completed by Mary DeVries and he still lived at the 5409 Manor Road address when he died. I've looked unsuccessfully for that 2nd wife. Her existence is reinforced when Melvin Spates Jr died in 1982 and a grandmother Mary DeVries of Austin was referenced.



Children of George DeVries and Mary Lura Gallagher

359	Sharon Louise Devries	1946	1999	Mary and George's child#1
360	George Ellis Devries Jr	1956	2014	Mary and George's child#2
361	Cynthia Denise Devries	1958		Mary and George's child#3

359. Sharon Louise Devries 15 DEC 1946 • Las Vegas, NV - 8 MAY 1999 • Tyler, TX

#1 Gary William Whitlock 16 DEC 1946 • Texas or Missouri – Living

Marriage: 15 Aug 1966 • Travis, TX – Divorce: 13 Jun 1969 – Travis County, TX

#2 Melvin Robert Spates Jr. 21 MAR 1943 • Lawrence, MA - 12 SEP 2005 • Tyler, TX

Marriage: 26 May 1972 • Travis. TX



Sharon's obituary photo. Gary's 1962 Honey Grove HS photo. Melvin in 1982 news article.

Sharon was born in Las Vegas, NV to George and Mary Devries when her father was still in the Air Force. When they settled in Austin in 1966, Sharon got married to Gary Whitlock. I've had trouble tracking down his family.

One birth record on Ancestry suggest that he was born in Missouri, but parents are not listed. Residence records point to Honey Grove, TX which is where I found him as a junior in high school in 1962, presumably graduating in 1963 and heading to Austin where he met and married Sharon.

They had daughters Pamela Lee Whitlock in 1966 and Jennifer Lynn Whitlock 1969 both born in Travis County, TX and then they divorced on 13 Jun 1969. The divorce records indicate that there were 2 minor children involved. This divorce was only two months after Jennifer's birth. Then on 1 Apr 1971, Tanya Whitlock was born with no father listed.

I haven't found marriage records, but it appears that Gary married Cathy Ruth Page around 1970 and they had Jody Dwayne Whitlock in Houston in 1971, Michael Jay Whitlock in 1972, and Jana Dianne Whitlock in 1974. The last two in Lamar County which is where Paris, TX and near Honey Grove where he grew up.

Sharon married Melvin Spates Jr in Travis County in 1972 and they had Mary Laura Spates in 1975 and Melvin Robert Spates, III who had a short life from 1977 to 1982. His obituary reads:

Melvin Robert (Bobby) Spates, age 5, of 7029 East Calderon, Buda, Texas, died Sunday.

Survivors: parents, Melvin and Sharon Spates of Buda; sisters, Pamela Whitlock of Buda, Jennifer Whitlock of Buda, Tanya Whitlock of Buda, Mary Laura Spates of Buda; grandparents, Mary DeVries of Austin, Melvin and Theresa Spates of Salem, New Hampshire; aunt, Cindy DeVries of Austin; uncle, George DeVries, Jr. of Austin; two step-aunts and one step-uncle, all of Austin; several nieces and nephews.



Graveside services will be held at 10:00 AM Thursday at Austin Memorial Park with the Reverend Richard H. Strait of Weed-Corley Funeral Home officiating.

A new article from this period describes a lot of problems that the Spates were having. They lived in Buda, TX, south of Austin where Melvin was working as a custodian at Barton Creek Square and Sharon

was a cook at a cafeteria at the mall. Their mobile home had burned down in 1980 and they lived in a tent for 6 months. They bought a portable building to put on their mobile home lot and were trying to rebuild their lives when Sharon accidentally ran over her 5-year-old son.

This gives me a chance to introduce Melvin. In looking at his background, His parents were Melvin Sr and Theresa Messineo Spates of New Hampshire and Lawrence, MA. They had married in 1939 and had two daughters and maybe two sons to include Melvin Jr. I'm not sure what happened in 1950, but his father had worked in a woolen mill in 1940 and in 1950 he was a janitor in a café in Lawrence, MA while Theresa was a waitress and Melvin Jr and his two older sisters were in the Protectory of Mary Orpanage in Lawrence. In 1962, I found a Notice of Intent to marry between Melvin Jr and Rose Marie Ann Flagg. I've not found any marriage license, but if they were married, by 1972, they were no longer together as Melvin had found his way to Austin where he married Sharon who was divorced with three daughters.

Sharon died in Tyler in 1999 and her obituary reads: **Sharon Louise Spates** – *Special Lady Sharon Louise Spates, age 52, of Tyler, formerly of Austin, passed away May 8, 1999, following a heart transplant on April 10, 1999. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mary Laura DeVries, father, George S. DeVries, Sr., and a son, Melvin Robert Spates III "Bobby".*

Survivors include her husband, Melvin Robert Spates Jr.; her four daughters, Pamela Whitlock, age 32, Jennifer Marley, age 30, Tanya Whitlock, "Pete" age 28, and Mary Laura Spates, age 23; brother, George E. DeVries Jr.; sister, Cynthia Denise Bishop "Cindy"; and six grandchildren. She was loved dearly by all.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 15, 1999, in the Weed-Corley-Fish Chapel. A reception will follow at the home of Barbara Thorpe, 545 S. Turnersville, Buda, Texas 78610.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, at Austin Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to the Baylor University Medical Center.

"She has fought her battle and now she has won her crown."

We learn that in 1999, daughters Jennifer was married while Pamela, Tanya and Mary were not. Melvin died in Tyler in 2005, but I have not found an obituary for him.

Looking briefly at the girls. I have not found any marriage records for Pamela before or after 1999. I found that Jennifer married David Marley in 1999 although they had a son, David Terrell Marley in 1997 so that accounts for 1 of the 6 grandchildren. Daughter Tanya married David Yaw from California in Denton in 1993 and had a daughter Danielle Jeanette Yaw in 1994, I have not found other children or a divorce So that covers 2 of the grandchildren.

On a side note, David Marley was born to Carl Albert Marley and Barbara Braziel in 1960 and had an older brother Carl 1957 and a younger sister and Connie 1961 when their parents divorced in 1963. A year later, his father murdered an Austin policeman while he was in the process of robbing a tavern. He was ultimately tried, sentenced to 99 years in 1995, yet was paroled in 1984 and arrested in 1999 for felony possession of a weapon. This was about the same time his son was getting married.

Daughter Mary Spates seems to have David L. Allen in Gregg, TX in 2003 so any grandchildren from her would not have been in play in 1999. I think that this is about as far as I can go.

Children of Sharon Devries and Gary Whitlock and Melvin Spates

812	Pamela Lee Whitlock	1966	Susan and Gary Whitlock's child#1
813	Jennifer Lynn Whitlock	1969	Susan and Gary Whitlock's child#2
814	Tanya Marie Whitlock	1971	Susan and Gary Whitlock's child#3
815	Mary Laura Spates	1975	Susan and Melvin Spates's child#1
816	Melvin Robert Spates, III	1977 1982	Susan and Melvin Spates's child#2

360. George Ellis DeVries II 7 MAY 1956 • El Paso, TX - NOV 2014 • Kingsland

Cindy Roberts 19 OCT 1959 • Travis County, TX – Living

Marriage: 8 Sep 1980 • Travis, TX

George DeVries, 58, passed away on November 6, 2014. He was born to George E. and Mary Lura (Gallager) DeVries, Sr. in El Paso, Texas on May 7, 1956. He was a kind soul who touched the lives of those who knew him.

The middle child of two siblings, he grew up a military brat moving from place to place before finally settling in Austin. He graduated at Travis High School in Austin in 1975. and this is where he met his wife of thirty-four years, Cindy Lou Roberts. After a lengthy courtship they were married on September 8, 1980, and a year later their son was born.

In 1986 George and his family moved from Austin and located themselves in Kingsland, Texas, where he resided until his death. "Big George" was a caregiver who did his best to provide for his family despite his handicaps. He was well known throughout the community to always be in positive spirits and would could often be seen walking the streets of Kingsland taking care of his business by stopping place to place.

At home he spent the majority of his time providing for his wife. They were each other's rock and found nothing but enjoyment with one another. When he wasn't doing that, he was in front of the television cheering on his beloved Texas Longhorns and Dallas Cowboys. Football truly was his life and he knew it well. During the off season he spent his time watching other sports, relaxing in "his spot" doing his puzzle books, cooking and listening to good old country music.

He was a simple man who led a simple life, a good man who had a good life. He loved and he was loved, He will always be missed and will remain forever in our hearts. He is survived by his wife of thirty-four years, son, both of Kingsland, Texas, younger sister of Whitehouse, Texas, numerous nieces and nephews all around the state.

George was preceded in death by his parents and older sister, Sharon Spates. Memorial Services will be held at the Putnam Funeral Home Chapel on Friday, November 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. with Brother George Hogwood officiating.

Picking up from his father's biography, we note that George Jr graduated from Travis HS in 1975 and that was noted in the newspaper. A yearbook has not been found. His obituary describes his courtship if Cindy Roberts who was born in Travis County in 1959 to Murray and Lila McKee Roberts and she seems to have had a brother, Murray W. Roberts, Jr who was born in Arizona in Aug 1951 and then died in Nov 1951 while Murray was serving in the Air Force. They were in Austin by 1955 where her sister, Debra was born followed by another sister, Donna who was born in Leander in Apr 1957 and then died in Nov 1957 of pneumonia. Finally, Cindy arrived in Oct 1959 in Austin. In searching the newspapers for Cindy, I was surprised to find that she was born with cerebral palsy. She was featured in the paper a couple of times relative to Easter Seal fund drives. A couple of months before her birth, he mother and older sister were nearly shot when some 16 year old kid was firing his 22 rifle near their house and a bullet came through the wall of their house.

In 1965, Murray and Lila divorced and in 1968, Lila married Walter Gresham for a couple of years and then in 1986, she married Leslie Riordin.

As we see in the obituary, they had one child, son George Ellis Devries III on 24 July 1981 in Austin before moving to Kingland which is west of Austin near Marble Falls. I was intrigued by the comments about being a caregiver and that led me to the discovery that she had cerebral palsy.

It appears that their son got married in 2015 to Kelsey Stanley, a classmate at Llano HS.

Child of George and Cindy Roberts Devries

817 George Ellis Devries III 1982

361. Cindy D Devries 10 NOV 1958 • Taylor, TX – Living

Sam Douglas Bishop Sr 1947 • Charlotte, NC - 5 DEC 2007 • Texas

Marriage: 3 Jul 1981 • Travis, TX – Divorce: 13 Dec 1982 • Travis, TX

Cindy has been a little hard to figure out. Records show that she was born near Abilene, TX in 1958 probably at Dyess AFB when her father was still in the Air Force and his final move to Austin. She was 2 years younger than her brother so she likely graduated from Travis HS around 1977, but I haven't found

any yearbooks. The fact that she has the same first name as her sister-in-law makes it tricky to understand which Cindy Devries is being referred to after 1980.

The next record for Cindy comes in 1979 when she welcomes her first child Christopher Michael DeVries on 7 JUL 1979 in Travis County with no father in the picture. In July 1981, she married Sam D. Bishop, a young man from North Carolina who had previously married Linda Lapole in North Carolina and had a son Sam Jr there in 1968 before moving to Texas where he and Linda divorced in 1977 in Pecos, TX. Sam and Cindy's married lasted about a year and a half at which point, she had Sean Ellis DeVries on 5 Jul 1983 in Travis County again with no father mentioned.

Scanning the newspapers led me to Cindy's family ending up in Tyler in the 2000's which is where her big sister ended up. Unfortunately, there were several reports of activities by her son's that were a bit disturbing. I trust that they have gotten straightened out by now, but in the early 2000's they were both on the wrong path.

Children of Cindy Devries and unknown fathers

818	Christopher Michael Devries	1979	Cindy Devrie's child#1
819	Sean Ellis Devries	1983	Cindy Devrie's child#2

This completes the George and Mary Lura Gallagher family. It was completed on 11 Mar 2025.

132. Gwendolyn Laverne Gallagher 10 FEB 1930 • Los Angeles, CA - 12 FEB 1995 • Riverside, CA
 John Amos Dolph Sr 25 AUG 1928 • Norfolk, VA - 3 NOV 2008 • San Clemente, CA
 Marriage: 25 Aug 1953 - Las Vegas, Clark, NV



Gwendolyn and John from their daughter Heather on Ancestry.



Gwendolyn was the first of the two children born to John and Nannie after their move to California in 1929. Since the 1930 Census was in April, she showed up just in time to be listed in that census at 2/12th years old. With her father's death in 1945, she appears in the 1950 Census as a 20-year-old at home with her widowed mother. I just noticed that she and her mother were just a few houses away from her older married sister Virginia Siddle. She was at 887 Long Beach Dr while Virginia and Charles were at 863. There were two houses between them.

Per records on FamilySearch and Ancestry, she followed in her sibling's footsteps and married John Dolph in Clark, NV in Aug 1953, but before that Gwen had a lively time as a young lady. I found a trove of news articles about her beginning in 1946 when she was in high school and completed a Red Cross nursing class. In 1947, she was in the Latin Club and appeared in a production of a play called Freckles. In 1948, she seemed to be attending San Bernadino Valley College and appeared in a production of "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthurs Court." In 1949, she was in another production where she played a negro servant. In 1950, she was in the choir at her Catholic church. In 1951, she took a job in Barstow as a kindergarten teacher and one of her fellow teachers was a lady named Marge Dolph. Could that be how she met John? In 1953, she was still teaching and was selected to present the principal of her school, Mrs. James C. Reilly, the first ever Life Membership in the Mountain View PTA Association.

Looking at John Dolph, I found an interesting family. He was the youngest of 7 with three older brothers followed by 3 older sisters including twins Marjorie and Marion right before him. His father, Sam Melvin was originally from Urbana, Ill where I went to graduate school. He lost a leg in the Navy presumably during WW1. John's three older brothers served in the Navy like their father before them and his third brother William Lorry Dolph lost his life during WW2 when his submarine the USS Snook was

sunk in the Philippines. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Snook_\(SS-279\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Snook_(SS-279)) It's an interesting but sad story. John's father, despite his wooden leg worked for the sheriff's department in Barstow for a number of years. He died the four months after John and Gwen married.

In 1946 when he turned 18, John registered for the WW2 Draft although the war was now over. He lived at 228 Hutchinson, Barstow, CA and was unemployed. His mother was his point of contact. He was 5'-10"-136lbs-hazel eyes-brown hair-light complexion. He enlisted in the Navy as was the family tradition on 11 Aug 1948 and was discharged on 22 Jul 1952 having served during Korea.

This article appeared in the local Barstow paper about John's enlistment displaying a bit of humor at the end: *Along with the many boys signing up for the navy, Johnnie Dolph, popular son of Mr. and Samuel Dolph of 228 Hutchinson Street, enlisted for three years and is now stationed at a San Diego Training Center where will receive his basic training. John Dolph joins U. S. Navy following family tradition. Johnnie was a graduate of Barstow Union High school in 1947 and was very active in the boy scouts.*

He has been a member of the Barstow Volunteer Fire Department and Barstow Band for several years. Keeping up the family tradition of Navy men, he hopes it will be some benefit to him either in his military career or his return to civilian life. His father, Sam Dolph, now of the Barstow police force is a retired Boatswain, and an older brother Melvin, now is a chief radio operator on the U. S. S. Scarfield - D. D. 873. His other two brothers, Franklin Dolph served on board the USS Nevada during World War and William Lory Dolph was lost on board the USS Submarine Snook May 8, 1945. In a recent letter to his parents he stated, Barstow will always be a monument to his memories where he enjoyed all the pleasures of his boyhood days. Sending his best wishes to all of his friends, his new address is U. S. Navy Brig, cell No. 3.

John and Gwen were blessed with 5 children during their marriage beginning with Jennifer Ann Dolph in 1955, Wendy Lea Dolph in 1956, John Amos Dolph in 1958, Heather Dolph in 1964 (who I correspond with), and Virginia Ellen Dolph in 1967.

At this point in my research, I resorted to a search of newspapers and was richly rewarded to the point of being overwhelmed. I will summarize my findings here, but in essence, John returned to civilian life after a very distinguished service in the Korean War. He married Gwen who was very active as a kindergarten teacher and per her daughter continued teaching until 1984. John became a police officer like his father before him in Barstow. Barstow happens to be the town nearest to Fort Irwin and Edwards AFB and as a police officer he seemed to have had a lot of interesting involvement with some of the young men away from home for the first time and raising a little hell. Meanwhile, Gwen in addition to her teaching was very active in Beta Sigma Pi. A little background on that organization can be found here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta_Sigma_Phi. It is primarily a social organization and perhaps catered to Gwen's earlier involvement in acting and cultural improvement. In 1957, it was reported that after attending

on particular meeting, John and Gwen got concerned about the way children were being raised and started an organization to educate parents about child raising.

In 1958, Gwen was reported as having attended summer school to keep her teaching credentials current. The next few years the papers were full of stories about John's law enforcement efforts. In 1961, his work was recognized and this nice article appeared which highlights his Naval heroics, as well as some of his police work.



I'm not going into great detail about the children except for daughter Wendy. She was born in 1956 and in 1977 had headed off to college when this incident happened: *Former Local Woman Slain In Street Shooting BARSTOW* A former Barstow resident was killed by a gun blast in Pomona Sunday night as she drove through a "rough" neighborhood with two girlfriends. Wendy Lea Dolph, 20, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Dolph, also former Barstow residents, was pronounced dead on arrival at a Pomona hospital, after her car was fired on by at least two assailants standing on a Pomona street corner, police said. Three Pomona men were arrested by police on suspicion of the murder yesterday.

They were identified as Rudy E. Garcia, 20, Rolando D. Requena, 21, and Daniel Duenas, 20. Detective Gordon Zbinden of the Pomona Police Department said that Dolph and two friends had driven through the area, near W. Grand Avenue, several times Sunday evening before the shooting.

According to several witnesses, Dolph "tossed or threw" a bottle out of the driver's window with several men standing in front of a

residence responding by firing on the car with a shotgun and a revolver, Zbinden said. One of the shots hit Dolph who then slumped over on to the lap of a girlfriend in the front seat. The girl in the back seat then reportedly grabbed the steering wheel, while the front seat passenger maneuvered the accelerator and brake pedals to get the girls out of the area. The girls quickly encountered a patrol car, reported the crime and rushed to a nearby hospital but failed to reach help in time to save their companion's life, police said. Police surrounded the shooting scene and rounded up approximately ten individuals within minutes.

Through investigation, the shotgun and suspects were located, Zbinden reported. Miss Dolph was attending college in Pomona and had been living approximately five or six miles from the scene of the shooting. Funeral services are scheduled for the young woman in Barstow later this week.

The accused shooters were arrested, but later released due to lack of evidence and were never brought to trial.

Gwendolyn died in 1995 at the fairly tender age of 65. I finally found her obituary on Genealogybank. It reads:

Press-Enterprise, The (Riverside, CA) - Thursday, February 16, 1995

A Mass of Christian Burial for Gwendolyn Laverne Dolph, 65, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. tomorrow at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Barstow. She died Sunday of complications of diabetes at Riverside Community Hospital. Friends may call from 4 until 8 p.m. today at Mead Mortuary in Barstow, where the rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. Burial will be in Mountain View Memorial Park in Barstow.

Mrs. Dolph, who was born in Los Angeles, lived in Riverside 13 years. She graduated from Colton High School in 1947. She earned her associate of arts degree from San Bernardino Valley College in 1950

and her bachelor of arts degree in education from the University of Redlands in 1962. She received her life diploma from the state Board of Education in 1970.

She was a teacher at Inyokern Elementary School in Inyokern for 11 years before retiring in 1984. She previously taught at Waterman Elementary School and Ruth Thompson Elementary School, both in Barstow, and Highland Elementary School and Cole Avenue Elementary School, both in Highland, between 1950 and 1964. She also taught at Armada Elementary School in Moreno Valley for two years and Val Verde Elementary School in Perris for seven years. Mrs. Dolph was a member of the American Association of University Women. She enjoyed painting and classical music.

She is survived by her husband, John; three daughters, Ellen Childress of Lake Elsinore, Heather Dolph and Jennifer Nutter, both of Riverside; a son, John Jr. of Hayward; eight grandchildren; and two brothers, John Gallagher of Orange and Gordon Gallagher of Blowing Rock, N.C.

John lived until 2008 and his obituary reads:

John Dolph A memorial service with military honors was held at Riverside National Cemetery for John Amos Dolph, who died on Nov. 3. John Dolph was born on Aug. 25, 1928, in Norfolk, Va., the youngest of seven born to Sam and Ruth Dolph. The family moved to the Barstow area in 1930 at the height of the Great Depression.

John grew up attending Barstow schools, where he excelled at both sports and music. He graduated in 1947 from Barstow Union High School and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He was assigned to squadron VP-6 and served three years in the Korean War. He was decorated numerous times for his service in combat, including the Korean Air Medal. After his discharge from active duty in 1953, he married Gwendolyn Laverne Gallagher; they were married for 42 years and had five children. John returned to Barstow in 2002, where he resided until his recent illnesses in 2007.

John continued to serve his country in both the Naval (Seabees) and Air Force Reserves until the mid-1980s. He was a 3rd degree Mason and was recently involved with the Shriners in Barstow.

He was also an artist, musician, and woodcarver. John was preceded in death by both parents; his wife, Gwen; his daughter, Wendy Lea Dolph; his brothers, Lory, Melvin (Pete), and Frank; and his sisters Revilla "Tootie" Jackson and Marion "Dee Dee" White. Survivors include his children, Jennifer Rausch of San Clemente, John Dolph Jr. of San Francisco, Heather Kinkennon of Rosamond, and Ellen Childress of Cave Junction, Ore. He is also survived by his sister Margie Dillingham of Barstow; his brother-in-law, Gordon Gallagher of North Carolina; 14 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a bevy of "adopted" grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and friends both old and new.

The family would like to acknowledge and thank the medical, social, and spiritual professionals at Mission Hospital in Mission Viejo for their dedication and caring in Dad's final days, including his primary physician, Dr. Sherif Elsokkary. Funeral services provided by Lesneski Mortuary, Inc., San Clemente, 949-492-1717. Media information provided by the family: Nemesio Varela Nemesio J. Varela 86, a resident of Barstow, passed away Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008. Visitation will be held Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Mead Mortuary, 36930 Irwin Road. Funeral service will be held Friday, Dec. 5, 2008, at 10 a.m. at First Assembly of God Church, 501 Ave A.

Children of John and Gwendolyn Gallagher Dolph

362	Jennifer Ann Dolph	1955	XXXX	Gwen and John's child#1
363	Wendy Lea Dolph	1956	1977	Gwen and John's child#2
364	John Amos Dolph	1958	2009	Gwen and John's child#3
365	Heather Dolph	1964	XXXX	Gwen and John's child#4
366	Virginia Ellen Dolph	1967	XXXX	Gwen and John's child#5

362. Jennifer Ann Dolph 31 JUL 1955 • San Bernardino, CA – Living
 Kenneth H Luhrs Jr 3 NOV 1953 • California - Living
 Marriage: 15 Sep 1973 • Riverside, CA – Divorce: 27 Jan 1983 • Riverside, CA



Jennifer was the first Dolph child and the oldest of 4 sisters and one brother. She was raised in Bartow and Riverside and I found her as a junior in 1972 at John W. North HS in Riverside. There was not a 1973 yearbook. She seems to have married right after graduation to Kenneth Luhrs Jr. whose father was in the Armed Forces (probably Air Force). His parents were Kenneth and Delores Estelle Luhrs Sr from New Jersey. They divorced after 10 years and I have not found that they had any children. After that, Jennifer is mentioned as Jennifer Nutter in 1995 when her mother died and Jennifer Rausch in 2004 when her father died, but I have been unable to locate who those husbands may have been. I did find a Paul Nutter whose wife gave birth to a Bradley Paul Nutter in 1994. His mother's maiden name was Dodt which could be a typo, but her mother mentioned 8 grandchildren when she died in 1995, so this could well be Jennifer's son. There is a Justin Luhrs on Ancestry that I am communicating with and he has confirmed that Jennifer is his mother. I've asked about siblings.

Child of Jennifer and Kenneth Luhrs

820	Justin Luhrs	1979	Jennifer and Kenneth Luhr's child
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363. Wendy Lea Dolph 16 JUL 1956 • Barstow, CA - 18 APR 1977 • Pomona, CA



I detailed Wendy's sad story in her parent's biography above. I found her photo in the same Yearbook as her sister in 1972 as a sophomore.

Wendy Dolph of 2239 Ann Arbor St., Pomona, died Monday morning in Pomona Valley Community Hospital as a result of a gunshot wound. Police reported Miss Dolph was the victim of a shooting in the southwest portion of Pomona late Sunday evening.

Miss Dolph was born July 16, 1956 in Barstow. She lived in Riverside for 10 years before moving to Pomona where she had resided for the past 5 years. She had been a student and nurse's aide at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pomona.

Miss Dolph is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Dolph of Ridgecrest; three sisters, Jennifer Luhrs of Riverside and Heather and Ellen Dolph of Ridgecrest; a brother, John of San Francisco; and a grandmother, Nannie Gallagher of Ridgecrest.

Rosary will be recited Thursday at 7 p.m. in Mead Mortuary, Barstow. Mass will be celebrated at 10a.m. Friday in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Barstow. Burial will follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery.

This suggests that the family may have moved to Pomona in 1972 as she had lived there since 1972 per her obituary. At this point, her older sister was married to Kenneth Luhrs and brother John was in San Francisco.

364. John Amos Dolph Jr 17 MAY 1958 • Barstow, CA - 19 JUN 2009 • San Francisco, CA

Tammy Jo Saulsman 10 FEB 1959 • Des Moines, IA - 18 NOV 1996 • Dallas, TX

Marriage: 24 Mar 1978 • Alameda, CA



There is a bit of confusion about John Jr. He was born in Barstow in 1958 and died in San Francisco in 2009. From records, we know that he married Tammy Saulsman who seems to have been from Des Moines, IA and like, John had joined the Air Force, so they must have met and married while in the service. It's unclear where they travel then but they probably had two children together, John Dolph III in 1979 and Sarah Dolph shortly thereafter. The challenge that I am having is that there is a John Dolph III who was born on 14 March 1979 in North

Carolina and who died 24 May 2008 in Rowlett, TX. John Jr's obituary mentions that his son was in Texas, but if the son died in 2008, he should have been noted as predeceased. As far as daughter Katie, I found birth records for a Katie Ann Dolph in Richmond, VA on 5 Aug 1979. Obviously, something is wrong here as the two 1979 birthdays could not happen.

Tammy, had married Leslie Beer in Rockwall, TX in 1993 and then died in 1996, so I am uncertain what happened to John III. Leslie was the youngest son of Elmer and Carrie Beer from Kansas and was born in 1943 and died in 1998. Per his grave marker, he was a Vietnam Vet. Interestingly, he had an older brother named Billy Beer!

There is a report of a marriage of John Dolph to Robin Petty in 1995 in Nevada which seems to be accurate, but they did not stay married as she married Phillip Turner in 2000.

John Dolph Jr. - Former Barstow resident John Dolph Jr., died June 19, 2009 in San Francisco. He was 51. John Jr. was born in Barstow, the third of five children born, to John and Gwen Dolph. The family moved to Ridgecrest in 1973. John Jr. attended Burroughs High School and served in the US Army and Air Force. Later, he also worked as a paramedic and airplane mechanic. He was recently employed as a support technician for Panasonic.

John Jr.'s hobbies included playing guitar, computers, motorcycles, and his beloved birds. He enjoyed attending metal concerts with his girlfriend, especially by Iron Maiden and Motorhead. John Jr. was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister, Wendy Dolph.

Survivors include his son, John Dolph III of Texas; daughters, Katie Dolph of Portland, Ore., and Sarah Dolph of Reno, Nev.; sisters, Jennifer Rausch of San Clemente, Heather KinKennon of Rosamond, and Ellen Childress of Cave Junction, Ore.; aunt, Margie Dillingham of Barstow; and uncle Gordon Gallagher of North Carolina. A host of friends and coworkers, including girlfriend Julie Zberg of San Francisco, also mourn his death.

A memorial gathering was held at Zeitgeist in San Francisco. Services will be held Aug. 14, 2009 10:15 a.m. at Riverside National Cemetery. Services by Tradition Care Funeral Services of Pleasant Hill.

From John's obituary, we learn that he had three children. I've discussed John and Katie above. I found a Sarah Dolph born in CA in 1992 to a mother whose maiden name was Law, but I have been unable to identify a marriage of someone with that name to John. With his daughter Sarah being reported as living in Nevada, perhaps she was a daughter born to John and Robin between 1995 and 2000. In looking at newspapers, I found an 18-year-old Sarah Elizabeth Dolph getting married in Reno in 2011 which suggest a 1992/1993 birthday so she must be the daughter of whoever Law was. I've looked for Katie Dolph in Portland without success, but there is a Katie Dolph on FamilySearch that is very active.

Children of John Dolph Jr and uncertain wives

821	John Dolph III	1979	2008?	John and Tammy Saulsman Dolph child#1
822	Katie Dolph	1980		John and Tammy Saulsman Dolph child#2
823	Sarah Elizabeth Dolph	1992		John and unknown Law Dolph child

365. Heather Marie Dolph 1 AUG 1964 • Barstow, CA - Living

Scott Thomas Kinkennon 4 JUL 1959 • Kern, CA - Living

Marriage: 30 May 1999 • Clark, NV



Heather at UCLA in 1988. Scott at Burroughs HS in 1971

Heather was the 4th child born to John and Gwen and got them back on the girl track after having a son. What I have been able to discover about Heather is that she seems to have been musical. When the 1984 Olympics came to LA, she was part of a choir that performed there. She headed off to UCLA where she got a BA in Music in 1988 and may have continued her education after that as she also appears in the 1989 Yearbook. I'm not sure what she did between 1989 and 1999, but when she was 34, she married Scott Kinkennon in Nevada.

Scott had been busier than Heather before their marriage. He was 6 years old having been born in Bakersfield, but he attended the dame high school in Ridgefield that Heather probably attended after he graduated about 1976. He married Cindy Riggs for a year in 1980-1981, and then married Lisa Walker in 1986. I'm not where and when they divorced, but it seems like a lot of folks were in the military so Scott may have enlisted or been drafted. I did not find any children. Heather was still married to Scott in 2008 (or at least still had his surname) when her father died and in 2009 when her brother died. At both times she was reported to be in Rosamond which is in the Mojave Dessert between LA and Bakersfield. Those are the last mentions of Heather in the newspapers. I did find her on Facebook and she appears to be active in her local Methodist Church.

366. Virginia Ellen Dolph 9 NOV 1967 • Barstow, CA – Living
Unknown Childress

I haven't been able to discover much about the youngest. She seems to have gone by Ellen and is mentioned in her mother's obituary as Ellen Childress in 1995 living in Lake Elsinore which is south of LA toward San Diego. In 2008 and 2009, she had moved to Cave Junction, OR which is just north of the California border. I'm still missing 4 grandchildren, but I have not found any birth records from any of the girls.

This completes the Gwen Gallagher and John Dolph study. It was completed on 12 Mar 2025.

131. Gordon Frederick Gallagher 23 JAN 1933 • Los Angeles, CA - 20 FEB 2021 • Waxhaw, NC
#1 Linda Joan Rowan 27 JUL 1939 • Los Angeles, CA – Living
Marriage: 12 Oct 1958 • Los Angeles, CA – Divorce 1981



Wedding photo from Pomona Progress Oct 1958.
Gordon's high school yearbook photo

Gordon was the final child born to John and Nannie Gallagher and the 2nd born in California. My research on Gordon has been frustrating but I will share what I know and hopefully get some additional information later from a family member. Having been born in 1933, he appears in the 1940 Census with his parents and sister Gwendolyn when they lived in Las Vegas, NV and before his father's death in 1945. His older siblings had married and moved out by this time as detailed above in 1938, 1943, and 1945 so I'm not sure how much time he spent with his older brothers and sisters. He then appears in the 1950 Census with his widowed mother and older sister at 887 Long Beach, Colton and as I mentioned above, a couple of doors down from his married sister Virginia Siddle.

In Aug 1950, Gordon was a member of Co. B, 224th Infantry, California National Guard and was headed out for training at Camp Cooke. In 1958, Gordon married Linda Rowan as reported here:

GALLAGHER-PHILLIPS RITES HELD BEFORE 120

Miss Linda Joan Phillips, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Phillips, 1465 Tulane F Rd., Claremont, was escorted to the altar by her father for her marriage to Gordon F. Gallagher. He is the son of Mrs. John E. Gallagher, Barstow. The wedding was solemnized before 120 guests in the First Church of God, with the Rev. Herschell D. Rice officiating.

The church was decorated with baskets of pink and white gladioli, chrysanthemums and larkspur, with candelabra in the background. The bride wore a gown made with square neckline, pointed waistline and full skirt and chapel train. French tucked ribbon and tiny buttons down the front and back were used to trim the imported silk taffeta gown. The imported silk illusion veil was fingertip length. The bride carried a white orchid, stephanotis and feathered carnations. She wore a single pearl on a chain and pearl earrings. Miss Nancy Ann Stewart, Pomona, was maid of honor. She wore pink satin brocade and a pink silk illusion crown and carried a crescent bouquet of feathered carnations. Deborah Ann Banks, Pomona, niece of the bride, was flower girl. She carried a basket of pink roses, delphinium and carnations.

Philip Winston Banks, nephew of the bride, Pomona, was ring bearer. John E. Gallagher, brother of the groom, La Habra, was best man. Guests were ushered by Ted Rokos, Inglewood, and Chuck Gormley, San Diego.

Mrs. Rice was organist and accompanied the soloist, Ray Collings. A reception followed at the church. Mrs. Charles G Banks, sister of the bride. Pomona, and Mrs. John V. Myers, Upland, served. Mrs. Gerald Stevens, sister of the bride, Santa Ana, held the guest book and Miss Della Kahn, Santa Ana, received gifts. The couple honeymooned along the coast and are making their home now at 1095 Pavilion Dr.

The new Mrs. Gallagher is a graduate of Claremont High School. She is a secretary at HYGE Engineering Project in Pomona. Her husband graduated from Colton High School and served in the Armed Forces two years. He is employed at Kaiser Steel Corp., Fontana.

A bit of clarification on the bride's name. Her parents were Ivan and Elnora Otto Rowan, but Ivan, an auto mechanic from Indiana, died in 1943 and Elnora married A. W. Phillips after his death, though all I know is that it was before 1958. I think that I found her married to an Alger Phillips in 1950, but not all of the places of birth match as they should, but Linda had a stepsister Marlene who married Charles Banks in 1951 so the niece Deborah Ann Banks may be the child of that marriage. I spent a lot of time on this and it was complicated and doesn't add much to the narrative. I straightened it out on FamilySearch if you would like to try and follow the relationships.

From what I can tell, Linda and Gordon divorced in 1981 in Mecklenburg, North Carolina but their residence was given as South Carolina. I then don't find anything until I find Gordon's obituary. It reads:

Gordon Gallagher January 23, 1933 - February 20, 2021

Waxhaw, North Carolina - Waxhaw resident Gordon Gallagher passed away February 20, at age 88, of heart failure. Those who knew him will miss his friendly greetings and conversations. He was indeed a "never met a stranger" kind of guy. Gordon was active in the Banks Presbyterian Church in Marvin and the Moose Lodge in Lancaster, SC, as well as the local Snap Fitness gym, where he was a regular, five-day-a-week trainer. His proudest achievement was co-founding a Scout Troop in Monroe for which he was awarded the District Award of Merit for his work.

Gordon leaves behind his wife Janice, his son, Rod and his two daughters, Michele and Dana, along with his grandchildren Bryan, Brittany, Blake and Imogen.

While this gives me some clues, I have not been able to close the loop on his new wife and children. I believe that I found Dana L. Gallagher born 18 Jan 1965 to a mother with the maiden name Rowan in California. I suspect that must be the Dana mentioned in his obituary. I have not been able to track down Rod and Michelle and it may well be that they are children of his 2nd wife Janice. I will have to end it here with a few hanging chads.

Children of Gordon Gallagher – with some uncertainty

367	Rod Gallagher	1961	Gordon and Linda's child#1 - Maybe?
368	Michelle Gallagher	1963?	Gordon and Linda's child#2 - Maybe?
369	Dana Gallagher	1965	Gordon and Linda's child#3 - Likely

367 Rodney Steven Gallagher 31 JAN 1961 • Los Angeles, CA – Living

Wendy Marie Finnegan 24 MAR 1964 • Ohio – Living

Marriage: 14 Feb 1987 • Charlotte, NC – Divorce 12 Apr 2002 – Cleveland, OH

Rodney is the only child that I have been able to find any information about. His birth records show that he was born in LA to a mother whose maiden name was Phillips. As you recall, Linda was born as Rowan and her father died in 1943 so she may have taken her step father's name. This is my assumption, but then when I started looking for his sisters, I found Michelle born in 1960 to a mother whose maiden name was Gallagher and I found a Dana born in 1965 to a mother with the maiden name Rowan. As such, it introduces uncertainty.

Rodney's marriage and subsequent birth of a son, Blake Richard Gallagher on 12 Aug 1988 in Charlotte is confirmed by his father's obituary naming Blake as a grandson. The order of the grandchildren in the obituary - Bryan, Brittany, Blake and Imogen – suggests that one or both of the daughters had children before Rodney and Wendy (who divorced in 2002) or Rodney and Wendy had other children that I have not found. With no last names given. It is hard to find out.

Child of Rodney and Wendy Finnegan Gallagher

824	Blake Richard Gallagher	1988	Rodney and Wendy Finnegan's son
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368 Michelle I Gallagher 27 AUG 1960 • Los Angeles, CA – Living – maybe

369 Dana L Gallagher 18 JAN 1965 • Los Angeles - Living

Children of Gallagher children

825	Bryan	Grandchild of Gordon and Linda Gallagher
826	Brittany	Grandchild of Gordon and Linda Gallagher
827	Imogene	Grandchild of Gordon and Linda Gallagher

This completes the study of Nannie Mae Smith and John Edward Gallagher in the continuing saga of the Samuel Oscar Smith and Mary Renfro line. This was completed on 3 Sept 2024. Please send any comments, corrections, or edits to rbills_houston@yahoo.com.

This completes the Samuel Oscar Smith (1856-1920) and Mary Elizabeth Virginia Renfro line. It was completed on 13 Mar 2025 and is the 5th of 10 lines of descendants in the Jesse R. and Elizabeth Harrison family. At this point in my narrative, I am showing that Sam and Mary had 7 children, 26 grandchildren, 45 great grandchildren, and at least 25 great great grandchildren. Overall through the first 5 children of Jesse and Elizabeth, I am up to 827 descendants with 5 families to go.