

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

36. Dixie Virginia Smith 30 APR 1909 • New Mexico - 24 DEC 1986 • Inyo County, CA
 Earl R Brown 28 NOV 1909 • Pasadena, CA - 26 JUN 1968 • Riverside, CA
 Marriage: 1 Nov 1928 • Pasadena, CA

The final child born to Sam and Mary Smith was their daughter Dixie Virginia who arrive in New Mexico in 1909 as has been detailed earlier. She lived with her parents in New Mexico and Arizona and in 1928 she ended up in Pasadena, CA where she met and married Earl Brown. We had a brief peek at here when she and Earl were witnesses to her big brother, James Harvey Smith's wedding to his 2nd wife after his first wife died very young. They must have thought marriage was a good idea, because 6 months later, they tied the knot. Her wedding was witnessed by Earl's mother, Ida and her brother James Andy. Earl was 18 and Dixie was 19. A funny note is that Earl's mother had to give him permission to marry as he was considered to be a minor.

In the 1930 Census we find Earl and Dixie living at 176 South Sierra Bonita, Pasadena with Earl's widowed mother and their new daughter, Patricia who had arrived in Aug 1929. A little background on Earl. He was the youngest son of Charles and Ida Brown. He had an older sister who was born in California, and then twin brothers, Ray and Roy who were born in Oregon. By 1910 his parents were back in California where his father worked as a Teamster. His father was from California and his mother from Iowa and they married in CA in 1896. Unfortunately, he died in 1915 at the age of 44 leaving Ida with a 15-year-old daughter, 11-year-old twin boys and 5-year-old Earl. She was a seamstress and dressmaker and was supporting her family doing that work. Ida owned her house in 1930 and it was worth \$4000. It seems to have been bulldozed at some point to enable the construction of Pasadena City College's Robinson Stadium which was named for baseball great Jackie Robinson and his brother. Earl was a messenger boy for Western Union. I took a quick look at the neighbors on the census and it looks like a fairly nice place with quite a few teachers living nearby.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Estimate d Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	176 So Sierra Bonita		Pasadena, Los Angeles, California															
Brown	Ida M	Head	Owned	4000	Yes	No	Female	White	58	1872	Widowed		No	Yes	Iowa	New York	Ohio	Dressmaker
Brown	Earl	Son					Male	White	20	1910	Married	19	No	Yes	California	United States	Iowa	Messenger Boy
Brown	Dickie	Daughter-in-law					Female	White	20	1910	Married	19	No	Yes	New Mexico	Texas	Texas	
Brown	Patricia	Granddaughter					Female	White	1	1929	Single		No		California	California	New Mexico	

Children of Dixie and Earl

147	Patricia Mae Brown	1929	1987	Dixie and Earl's Child#1
148	Earl Robert Brown Jr	1931	1978	Dixie and Earl's Child#2
149	Roy Arlen Brown	1936	1994	Dixie and Earl's Child#3

147. Patricia Mae Brown 21 AUG 1929 • Pasadena, CA - 28 APR 1987 • Clark, NV
 William Arnell 8 APR 1925 • Philadelphia, PA - 15 JUL 2001 • Clark, NV
 Marriage: 5 Jul 1949 • Clark, NV

Dixie and Earl's first daughter was Patricia Mae who was born in Pasadena, CA in 1929. I do not have any photos of either of them so I will proceed without. She appears in her grandmother's home in Pasadena where her newly married parents lived Earl's father who had the glorious job of Messenger Boy. By 1940, they were still living with Grandmother Brown and she had two little brothers Earl Jr and Roy. Dad had become a plumber. Right before the 1950 Census, she married William Arnell and they appear together in the 1950 Census. They had married in July 1949, and in Jan 1950 their first child, Christopher

arrived in Kern County where William was working as a machinist at the US Naval Ordnance Test Center. There seem to be a lot of connections to that place in this branch of the family.

On 26 March 1946, William completed a WW2 Draft Registration which noted that he lived at 543 West, Blvd, Pico, LA with his father, Vincent Arnell. It was noted that he was 20 and a returned veteran. Notes in his biography indicate that he had served in the Coast Guard during WW2. I haven't found any documentation, but based on his age, he probably enlisted when he turned 18 in 1943 and served until shortly before this registration. The obituary indicates that he attended Fullerton College in 1947 and then got a job as a machinist for the US Navy as a civilian employee. He was born in Philadelphia and was 5'-10 1/2"-162lbs-blue eyes-brown hair-ruddy complexion.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		U.S. Naval Ordnance Test Station, Kern, California										
Arnell	William	Head		Male	25	1925	Married	Pennsylvania		40	Machinist	Navy Ordnance
Arnell	Pat M	Wife		Female	20	1930	Married	California				
Arnell	Christopher	Son		Male	Aug	1950	Never Married	(California				

I'm going to wander off of the reservation here into one of my side trips where I found many interesting things related to William, who had no middle name. It seems that right after his birth and probably as a result of it, his mother died leaving his father as a young widower with William and his sister, Jean Catherine who was about 18 months older. While I couldn't find William and his father in 1930, his sister was in an orphanage called the Maud B Booth Home for Boys and Girls of Los Angeles. Not one to miss an opportunity to learn something, I explored that and discovered this fascinating person and story. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maud_Ballington_Booth She was a young lady from England who was involved there with the Salvation Army and came to America in 1887, worked for the Salvation Army for a period before founding the Volunteers of America. Several orphanages named in her honor were established and she did much good work. The family was back together in 1940 where the father Vincent was digging ditches for the city of Whittier.

In 1950, Vincent was in The Brentwood Neuropsychiatric Hospital. I found this notice in the newspaper, and then found that he died in 1962 at the age of 73 after falling in his home. His son, Will was the informant on his death certificate and his occupation was listed as having been a pipefitter in the California shipyards.

Just to go totally off of the reservation, I followed William's sister a bit. She seems to have married a fellow named Robert Weeks Deegan, had a child around 1950 that died. Robert had previously been married to a young German immigrant named Olga Wertshing in 1927, but she seemed to have run off with a friend of his named Allen H. Worcester who was in the hotel business in LA and ran for congress in 1942. After the war, he led a very active organization trying to get Douglas McArthur to run for President.

Back to the principals. Following the birth of their first son Chris in Jan 1950, they didn't waste any time growing the family. Coming along in short order were Donna Ann Arnell in Dec 1950, William Arnell Jr in 1952, and Pamela Jean Arnell in 1953.

Patricia died in Clark County, NV in 1987 and I have not found a Findagrave or an obituary for her. William died in 2001. His Findagrave has the following biography and an obituary I found is shown below –

Daily Independent newspaper Ridgecrest, CA Kern County - August 15, 2001
WILLIAM ARNELL

Former Ridgecrest resident, William Arnell, died on July 15, 2001, at Desert Spring Hospital in Las Vegas, Nev. He was 76. Private services were held, with burial at Mountain View Cemetery in Altadena.

Mr. Arnell was born on April 8, 1925, in Philadelphia, Penn. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1943 to 1946. He attended Fullerton College in 1947, and graduated from Bakersfield College with an AA degree in 1950. He participated in an apprentice training program at China Lake from 1951 to 1955 and worked as a mechanical engineering technician until his retirement in 1976. He moved to Laughlin, Nev. in 1994. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Arnell.

William Arnell

William Arnell, 76, died Sunday.

He was born April 8, 1925, in Philadelphia. A Coast Guard veteran of World War II, he was a machinist with Navy civil service and a seven-year resident of Laughlin.

He is survived by his sons, Christopher of Laughlin and William Jr. of Ridgecrest, Calif.; daughters, Pamela Martin of Union, Ore., and Donna Kruse of Ridgecrest; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Bunkers Mortuary handled the arrangements.

His family says this about him: "Our dad was a very giving and loving man. We will miss him. Rest in peace, dad."

Mr. Arnell is survived by a son, Chris Arnell of Laughlin, Nev., daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Rob Kruse of Ridgecrest, son, William Arnell Jr. of Inyokern; daughter and son-in-law, Pam and Melvin Martin of Union, OR, eight grandsons, Mark Arnell, Christopher Arnell, Alex Arnell, Michael Kerwin, Robby Kruse, Jeffrey Kruse, Brian Kruse, all of Ridgecrest, and Michael Martin of Union, Ore.; granddaughter, Stephanie Martin of Union, Ore.; great-grandchildren, Tony Kruse and Tawni Kruse of Ridgecrest, Dakota Kruse and MaKayla Kruse of Hanford.

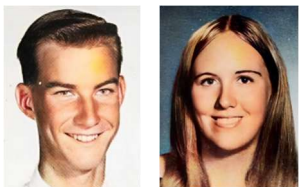
Children of William and Patricia Brown Arnell

391	Christopher Dean Arnell	1950		Patricia and Williams child#1
392	Donna Ann Arnell	1950	2022	Patricia and Williams child#2
393	William Arnell Jr	1952	2009	Patricia and Williams child#3
394	Pamela Jean Arnell Martin	1953		Patricia and Williams child#4

391 Christopher Dean Arnell 9 JAN 1950 • Kern, CA - Living

Elaine M. Mikkelsen Arnell 23 MAR 1952 • Ridgecrest, CA - 3 DEC 2012 • Ridgecrest, CA

Marriage: 28 Feb 1987 • Clark, NV – Divorce: before 1993



My discoveries about Chris and Elaine have been rather limited and is mostly facilitated by the fact that Elaine died as age 60 and we have an obituary. I was able to find that they married in Las Vegas in 1987 and then her obituary mentions two Arnell children. Let me post it and unpack it.

***Elaine Jackson**, a lifelong resident of Ridgecrest, CA, was born in Ridgecrest to Emmett L. and Dagny C. Mikkelsen, the second of five daughters.*

She passed away peacefully in her sleep with her husband R.C., the love of her life, at her side. Elaine worked for many years on the base, retiring several years ago.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons Christopher (C.J.) and Alex Arnell of Ridgecrest, stepdaughter Rondalyn Jackson of California City, CA, sisters June Mikkelsen of Portland, OR, Lois Weathersbee and husband David of Trona, CA, Charlene Bielecki and husband John of Chicago, IL, Cheryl Roberts and husband Tom of Medford, OR, four nieces, one nephew and one great-nephew.

From this I was able to discover her parents who are mentioned here. Emmet Lou Mikkelsen (1917–1982) and Dagny Caroline Danielsen (1921–1974) were both from Iowa. They married after his service in the Navy during WW2 and in 1950 they had moved to Ridgecrest where Emmet ran a retail poultry business and then they began having daughters to include June Laura Mikkelsen who arrived just after the census, (1950), Elaine Louise Mikkelsen (1952–2012), Lois A Mikkelsen (1953–2013), and twins Charlene A Mikkelsen Bielecki 1956 and Cheryl Mikkelsen Roberts 1956. Both Emmet and Dagny's parent were from Denmark. It was interesting to note that both had died rather young 53 and 65 and before any of their daughters' marriages except for one on the twins, Cheryl who married in 1976. It also made me curious if she had perhaps married earlier as she was 34 when she and Dean got married. I did find that in 1993, she

married Ronald Charles Jackson in Nevada and it would appear that Ron had a previous marriage and a daughter Rondalyn. He is identified as R. C. in her obituary. Her sister Lois died a year after her.

Of more interest to me is the mention of Christopher and Alex Arnell which I was able to find as arriving Christopher Dean Arnell 24 Mar 1988 and Alex Emmett Arnell 30 Nov 1990. It looks like Christopher took part of his dad's name while Alex got his maternal grandfather's name for a middle name.

Going back to his father's 2001 Obituary, Chris was in Nevada and grandson's Chris and Alex are mentioned. There is also a Mark Arnell who is probably a son of Chris's brother William. I will keep an eye out for that. The other grandchildren have to be children of the daughters.

Children of Chris and Elaine Mikkelsen Arnell

850	Christopher Dean Arnell Jr	1988	Chris and Elaine Mikkelson Dean child#1
851	Alex Emmett Arnell	1990	Chris and Elaine Mikkelson Dean child#2

392 Donna Arnell 27 DEC 1950 • Kern, CA - 28 JAN 2022 • Ridgecrest. CA

Robert G Kruse 1 SEP 1949 – Living

Marriage: 19 Jul 1968 • Kern, CA



There are a few anomalies in Donna's biography that I have not completely ironed out. She arrived in Ridgecrest just after the 1950 Census. Records show that she was freshman at Burroughs HS in Ridgecrest in 1966 which meant that she should have graduated in 1969, but instead, she got married in 1960 to Robert Kruse. He is a bit of a mystery as to his parentage. He was 2 years ahead of her at Burroughs in 1966 so he would have graduated in 1967. That yearbook is missing, but he would have been a year out of high school when they got married, she at 17 and he at 19. Records then show that they had a son Robert Vincent Kruse on 16 Dec 1968 which implies that he was either very premature or they had an accident. Robert was followed by Jeffrey on 21 Mar 1972. Her father's obituary mentions a Brian Kruse so we must assume that this is their son, but if so, he was not born in California. I did find a Brian John Kruse born in Nov 1973, but his mother's maiden name was Carlton. Confusing. Another theory is that perhaps Robert enlisted in the service after Jeffrey's birth and Brian was born elsewhere.

The next mention that we see of the Kruse's is in 2001 when their oldest son, Robert Vincent Kruse passes away on 19 Dec 2001 at age 33 in Ridgecrest. This was only months after his grandfather's death in July. I cannot find any details of his death, but there is a SSID confirming his death and parents.

Continuing the saga, Donna apparently died in 2022 in Ridgemoor, but the only evidence I can find of that is a note on FamilySearch by someone saying that she was my sister-in-law.

Children of Donna and Robert Kruse

852	Robert Vincent Kruse	1968	2001	Donna Arnell and Robert Kruse's child#1
853	Jeffrey M Kruse	1972		Donna Arnell and Robert Kruse's child#2
854	Brian John Kruse	1973		Donna Arnell and Robert Kruse's child#3

393 William Arnell Jr 24 FEB 1952 • Kern, CA - 25 OCT 2009 • Kern, CA

#1 Christine Inez Loper 8 APR 1952 • Ft Monmouth, NJ - 15 NOV 1987 • CA

Married: about 1972

#2 Marsha J Dau 31 JAN 1953 CA – Living

Marriage: 9 May 1975 • Kern, CA – Divorce: 21 Mar 1978 • Kern, CA



William Jr was the 2nd child born to William and Patricia arriving in Kern County in 1952. As usual, there are some documents and a lot of confusion about William. I have not found any marriage records between he and Christine, but they had a son, William Mark Arnell 18 Nov 1973 who died on 5 Mar 2006 when he was not yet 30. I have not discovered his cause of death, but records and a Findagrave site, confirm it. What makes this confusing is that when I search the newspaper in Kern County during this period I came across a couple of disturbing articles. In 1974 when he was 22, he was arrested for selling

marijuana and given a jail sentence and probation. Ironically, at the same time, Christine Loper was a witness in a trial against a man who had been arrested for selling heroin. This suggests that she and William may have already been divorced by this time, but I cannot find any marriage or divorce records for them. Christine, who was the daughter of John Emory Loper (1928–2013) and Marie Socorro Herrera (1928–2009). John was from Florida and Marie from California and they married in 1952 and had at least two children, Christine M. and John Mark Loper. I have learned that Maria had a younger sister, Teresa D. who was born in 1933 and married Richard Hubert Knipe in 1958. Richard was from Idaho, born in 1929 and attended Cal-Tech before enlisting in 1946.

Back to William – records show that he married Marsha Dau briefly in 1975 and divorced in 1978 with no apparent children. He then died in 2009 of cardiac arrest according to a death certificate that a family member posted on Ancestry. He was working as a mechanic in Kern County and was divorced at the time of his death. He was only 57. Kind of a sad family. Their son must be the Mark Arnell referenced in William Sr.'s obituary.

Child of William and Christine Loper Arnell

855	William Mark Arnell	1973	2006	Child of William and Christine Loper Arnell
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394 Pamela Jean Arnell 27 FEB 1953 • Kern, CA – Living

Melvin Wesley Martin 16 AUG 1951 • San Diego, CA - Living

Marriage: 21 Nov 1981 • Clark, NV



Pamela was the final child born to William and Patricia and she arrived in San Diego in 1953 to round out the Arnell household. Records show that they ended up in Ridgecrest, CA and like her siblings, Pamela attended Burroughs HS. She appears as a Junior in 1971, but I have not found her senior photo. Judging from the gap between her graduation and marriage, she may have gone off to college, but in 1981 she married Melvin Martin in Las Vegas. Melvin seems to

have been the son of Melvin R. and Rose Porrazzo Martin, but I have not closed all of those loops. He was born in San Diego, and in 1971 he married Leone Marie DeJean in Washington and they divorced in Napa, CA in 1976. There was some evidence that he may have had a son in Charlotte, NC in March 1976 who died, but I just have an inconclusive newspaper article about that.

Based on her father's obituary, it appears that Pamela and Melvin had a son, Michael and a daughter Stephanie.

Children of Pamela and Melvin Martin

856	Michael Martin	1983	Pamela Arnell and Melvin Martin's child#1
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857	Stephanie Martin	1986	Pamela Arnell and Melvin Martin's child#2
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Let me go through William Sr's obituary as a finale. *Mr. Arnell is survived by a son, Chris Arnell of Laughlin, Nev., daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Rob Kruse of Ridgecrest, son, William Arnell Jr. of Inyokern; daughter and son-in-law, Pam and Melvin Martin of Union, OR, eight grandsons, Mark Arnell, Christopher Arnell, Alex Arnell, Michael Kerwin, Robby Kruse, Jeffrey Kruse, Brian Kruse, all of Ridgecrest, and Michael Martin of Union, Ore.; granddaughter, Stephanie Martin of Union, Ore; great-grandchildren, Tony Kruse and Tawni Kruse of Ridgecrest, Dakota Kruse and MaKayla Kruse of Hanford.*

The only unidentified grandchild is Michael Kerwin. My thoughts as to his identity is that Donna of Pamela may have had a marriage to someone named Kerwin. My best guess is that most likely Pam may have married during the 10-year gap between her high school graduation and her marriage to Melvin. I will do some checking, but that is my best guess. (No luck)

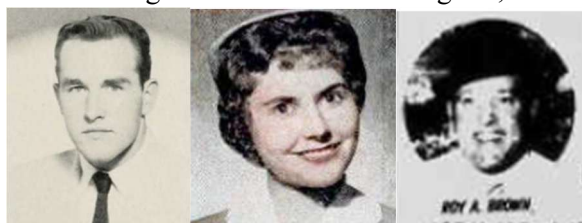
This completes my analysis of the Patricia Brown and William Arnell family. It was completed on 25 Mar 2025.

148 Earl Robert Brown Jr - 20 NOV 1931 • Pasadena, CA - 26 DEC 1978 • Los Angeles, CA

Earl's grave marker at The Mountain View Cemetery, Altadena, CA

Dixie and Earl's 2nd child was Earl Jr who arrived just before Thanksgiving on 20 Nov 1931. I have not found that he ever married. He served in the US Navy from 6 Sep 1950 and served until 2 July 1954. He rose to the rank of YN-2 which stands for Yeoman 2nd Class, someone typically in an administrative position. I have been unable to discover where he served but he enlisted 3 months after the Korean War broke out in June 1950 so I would surmise that he probably saw some action there since active fighting lasted until 1953. His application for his grave marker was filled out by his brother Roy who was living in Odessa, TX when he filled it out.

149. Roy Arlen Brown 20 SEP 1936 • Los Angeles, CA - 5 MAR 1994 • Ector County, TX (probably)
 Anna Eva Rulapaugh 26 MAY 1940 • Detroit, MI - 28 SEP 2012 • Lubbock, TX
 Marriage: 22 Jul 1961 • Los Angeles, CA



Roy at Pasadena City College 1955.
 Not great photos from newspaper articles.

Roy was the youngest child of Earl and Dixie. At this point, I had been getting a little frustrated about discovering anything about this branch of the family, but I've had a bit of success with Roy. He appears in the 1940 Census with his parents at his grandmothers and then I could not find him in 1950. His mother was still up the US Naval Ordnance Testing Center while his father was working down in Covina, CA and staying with one of his sisters and her family. It looks like he must have finished high school in the early 1950's before enrolling at Pasadena City College. From 27 Jan 1955 to 19 Dec 1957, Roy served in the US Army per his records conveniently missing Korea and Vietnam. While his grave marker indicates Korea, if he served the years that his records indicate, then it's unlikely that he actually served in Korea. Also, he would have been only 14 when the war started.

In July 1961, He married Ann Rulapaugh. Here is a description of that service:

REV. HILL PRESIDES AT ALTAR - Roy Arlen Brown and Anne Eva Rulapaugh were united in marriage on July 22 in the Chapel of Roses. About one hundred guests witnessed the solemnizing of their vows in a double ring ceremony by the Rev. Alden Lee Hill.

The bride, beautiful in a traditional wedding gown with veil and train, was given in marriage by Lyle Morehouse, uncle of the bridegroom. She carried white roses and stephanotis. Sandra Lee Brink was maid of honor, and bridesmaids were Mary Bornheimer and Judith Shisler. The bride's attendants were gowned in blue chiffon over satin and carried blue carnations. Earl Robert Brown, Jr., brother of the groom, was best man.



AIRLINES HOSTESS — Miss Anne E. Rulapaugh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Rulapaugh, 18 Via Grande, San Carlos, has won the silver wings of a United Air Lines stewardess. After 4½ weeks at the company's stewardess training school in Cheyenne, Wyo., she now serves aboard planes flying in and out of Los Angeles.

Floyd Odegaard and William Arnell, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, served as ushers. James C. Witt sang "O Promise Me," "How De I Love Thee," and "The Lord's Prayer." Following the reception, the newlyweds left by air for a honeymoon at Nassau. They will make their home in South Pasadena. The bridegroom served three years in the U.S.

In 1966, their only child, daughter Cynthia Lynn Brown was born in Pasadena, CA. Sometime between her birth and 1977, they made the move from California to Odessa, TX. His father died in Riverside CA in 1968 and the obituary seems to suggest that he was still in California at that time.

Researching Anne was interesting. At first, the only information I had about her came from their wedding announcement and this article from 1960 which gave me her father's name and the fact that she was a stewardess for United Airlines. Digging deeper, I was able to track down her father in various censuses and discovered that he had originally from Philadelphia, but had ended up in Detroit in 1933 where he married Geraldine Ryan in 1933, and Anne was born on 26 May 1940 which was just after the 1940 Census. I then found her in 1950 living in Mad River, Ohio as a 10-year-old sister-in-law to either Elmo Adkins or Velma Adkins. Meanwhile, I found her mother in an insane asylum in Michigan and her father was out in Oregon having divorced her mother in Oct 1948 and married Dimple Marion Daily in Nov 1948. Now Dimple had married Joseph Jones in 1923 and had a daughter, Velma in 1927 before, Joseph died in 1942 so about the time Dimple was marrying Charles, Velma was marrying, Elmo Adkins in Dayton OH and for some reason, Charles offloaded Anne to her older half sister in 1950.

It must have been a temporary situation because she was back in California and off to Wyoming to earn her wings, before running into that handsome Roy Brown, fresh out of the Army and probably school and ready to tackle the world. When I next encounter them is in 1977 in Odessa when Roy and Anne were



opening a Mr. Gatti's Pizza at 3900 Andrews Highway, Odessa. It looks like there are multiple fast-food stores at that location today. In 1982, they sold their Mr. Gatti's and opened a new place called the Red Derby Pizza Parlour at 1119 E. 52nd. This location is not far from the famous Permian High School featured in Friday Night Lights and was probably a popular hangout for the kids involved in that drama. In late 1983, someone broke into their restaurant and stole a large screen TV and an air-conditioner worth \$4100.

In 1985, their daughter married Hunter Willis. She had graduated from Permian and attended Odessa College and worked for her parent's company, Rulapaugh Enterprises. Roy and Anne lived at 1713 Royalty Ave. (shown above)

I have totally wrapped it up conclusively, but it appears that Cynthia and Hunter divorced and she later remarried and ended up for some time in Lubbock maybe finishing her education at Texas Tech. I believe that Roy and Anne ended up moving there where Roy died in 1994 and Anne in 2012. Their bodies were both returned to California for burial next to one another in the Mountain View Cemetery in Altadena, CA where there seem to be a fair number of family members buried.



Child of Roy and Anne Brown

395 Cynthia Lynn Brown 1966 Roy and Anne's Child

395 Cynthia Lynn Brown 26 APR 1966 • Los Angeles, CA - Living

#1 Hunter Wade Willis 19 JAN 1962 • Ector, TX - Living

Marriage: 1 Aug 1981 • Ector, TX – Divorce: 12 Dec 1983 • Ector, TX – No children

#2 Troy Donn Melugin 14 AUG 1953 • Lubbock, TX – Living

Marriage: May 1995 – got marriage license in Santa Fe, NM



Cynthia was the only child of Roy and Ann Rulapaugh Brown. She was born in LA before they moved to Odessa and mad their life there. Cynthia grew up there and graduated from Permian HS in the middle of the Friday Nigh Lights era. She graduated in 1971 and headed off to South Plains College in Levelland (where my sister was born) and

then returned to Odessa where in 1981, she married Hunter Willis which lasted about 2 ½ years until Dec 1983 when they divorced without having children. I think that she worked with her parents on various enterprises until in 1995, she married Troy Melugin who was a young man (though 7 years her senior) from Lubbock. It turns out that they had been classmates in Levelland in 1972 so maybe they were old friends. He had married Henrietta Quinero in 1982 and they were married for 10 years and divorced in 1992 with one child from the marriage (who I have not found). He was 41 and she 29 when they married so they could have had children, but I have not found any.

Dixie's biography brings us to the end of the line for Samuel Oscar Smith and his descendants. By my count, Sam and Mary Renfro Smith had 7 children who were born between 1893 and 1909. Those kids had 26 children and stepchildren of half children from 1914 to 1946, and those kids had at least 45 children between 1944 and 1967. This was completed on 11 September 2024, the 13th anniversary of the World Trade Center tragedy in New York. This leaves me 6 more family lines to complete before this branch of my family is done. I look forward to sharing it with you and as usual, if you have suggestions, corrections, or edits, do not hesitate to contact me at rbills_houston@yahoo.com.

Updated 25 Mar 2025.

Descendant count changed to 7-26-49-55 (children-grand-great grand-great great grand – 137 total)