

## 8. The children and grandchildren of Sophronia Paralee Smith Hudman and Benjamin Monroe Hudman

As usual I will leave a brief introduction of the parents below before starting the children's stories.

- 52. Ollie Josephine Hudman** 21 JAN 1896 • Alamogordo, Otero, NM - 31 OCT 1971 • Siskiyou Co, CA  
 Robert Walter Zenker 26 JAN 1896 • Chickashee, OK - 7 NOV 1978 • Lane County, OR  
 Marriage: 6 Sep 1921 • Alamogordo, NM



The knife I inherited from my Maternal Great-Grandfather, Robert (Bob) Zenker of German ancestry. The rock because that is a Jewish custom to place a simple rock on the grave of an ancestor. Acorns because I am also of Native American ancestry. – note on Findagrave photo posted by Wayne William Whitehead, Jr.



Ollie and Robert's Child

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194	<b>Ada Pauline Zenker</b>	1924	Unknown	Ollie and Robert's Child
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- 194. Ada Pauline Zenker** 23 SEP 1923 • New Mexico - Death Unknown  
 #1 - Joe Harold Hearne 11 SEP 1920 • Cashion, AZ - 17 MAR 2010 • Moab, UT  
 Marriage: 4 Mar 1940 • Maricopa, AZ  
 #2 - Arbee Edward Freeman 7 MAR 1919 • Curry County, OR - 28 DEC 1994 • Eugene, OR  
 Marriage: 17 Oct 1941 • Crescent City, CA



This photo of Arbee from Findagrave is the only photo of any of the principals in this section that I could find.

Ada was the only child born to Ollie and Robert Zenker and has proven to be a little frustrating to research as I can usually find valuable information by looking at obituaries of siblings. Since she didn't have any, I decided to dig a little deeper into her father Robert's siblings to see if I could dredge up any clues. While it did not cause me to hit paydirt, it was an interesting journey which I will share briefly.

Robert's father was born in Germany in 1857 and arrived in Baltimore in 1880. His wife was also German and was named Christiana Wilhelmenia, but went by Minnie. They worked their way across the country with their oldest daughter, Ada, being born in Austin. She must have been the inspiration for the name of their daughter. The next two aunts, Bertha and Myrtle, were born in Texarkana, Ark, and then Robert and his youngest sister Minnie were born in Oklahoma. By 1930, they had made it to Arizona and I have detailed Robert's adventures in Arizona and later move to California and Oregon.

The oldest, Ada married John Newell in the early 1900's in Texas and had two sons before divorcing and marrying Hugh McMichael in El Paso in 1914 and had no other children. They had moved to Arizona by 1920 which probably prompted her parents later move there. Aunt Bertha married someone named Bailey then someone named Patrick before 1930 and then someone named Wells before 1950 and when she died in 1985, she mentions her niece Ada Pauline as Pauline Walsh so we know that Ada and Arbee were no longer together. Bertha does not seem to have had children. She appears with her sister Myrtle in 1940 and 1950 with both being divorced in 1950. Aunt Myrtle married James MacArthur in El Paso in 1914. They had two children, Gerald in 1916 and Bertha in 1920. Then came Robert, Ada's father, followed by his youngest sister, Minnie who was born in Oklahoma in 1898. Minnie married Samuel Byrd from Virginia about 1915 and they had three children, Clara 1916, Staten 1919, and Barbara 1924. Clara was killed in a car wreck in Mesa, AZ in 1942 and Staten seems to have been killed in a WW2 Training accident in Louisiana in 1943, Barbara married Arthur Hauler around 1947 and had a son Wesley in 1948. Going through all of this, I also discovered that Robert had an older brother who for some reason went by Emil Zanker instead of Zenker. Emil was born in Austin in 1883 married Clara Fritter in 1908 and had a son Charles 1911 and daughter Anita (or Annetta) 1915, before Clara died in 1918. He appears to have married again, but I have not discovered who that person is except for a reference to a stepmother Mrs. C. Hyman on an application that Charles filled out in 1933 for a Seaman's Protection Certificate in New Orleans. Emil ran a plumbing business in El Paso for years, and in 1950, he was living with his son Charles in El Paso and they were plumbing together at Zanker Plumbing. While all of that was interesting, it didn't add any details that led to me to more discoveries about Ada and Arbee, so I will share what I have found.

It starts off a little confusing, because records seem to indicate that her parents moved out to California and then Oregon beginning as early as 1932, yet I found mention of Pauline Zenker being at Scottsdale High School in 1939. In Mar 1940 when she was 18, she got a marriage license in Scottsdale with Joe H. Hearne who was 21 and said that he was from New York, but census and birth records show that he was actually born in Cashion, NM to Orville Bradley and Margaret Sullivan Hearne. I'm not sure what happened, but just over a year in Aug 1941, they divorced. She must have quickly headed west to where her parents were, because in Oct 1941, she married Arbee Freeman in Crescent City, CA. They were to divorce in Aug 1964 in Lakeview, OR at which time they had two children under 18. From the 1950 Census, we learn that they had the following children - Shirley K Freeman 1942, Sandra Lee Freeman 1943-2005, Arbee Freeman Jr 1948, and Robert W Freeman 1949.

Arbee has kind of an interesting story. He was born to Raymond Freeman and May McClung in Curry, OR in 1919. In December 1919 when he was only 9 months old, Raymond took ill and died leaving May and Arbee. A family member tells the story, that Raymond told his younger brother Wilson to take care of May and the baby and it seems that Wilson did because in 1930, Wilson, May, Arbee and two half brothers Theodore and Edward appear together in the census. I must not that I believe that the death date for Raymond has to be incorrect, because he appears in the 1920 Census living with May, Arbee, and his brother Wilson so I suspect that his death must really be Dec 1920. Wilson and May had a daughter in 1935, so Arbee was the oldest of 4. I found that on 15 Aug 1944, Arbee enlisted in the US Army in Portland. His service number was 39346023. I could not find much about his service, but in Dec 1945 he was reported to be on a troop ship called the USS Mendocino carrying 1749 servicemen home from Korea so he must have been part of the post war occupation forces in that country. Here is information about the ship.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Mendocino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Mendocino). Upon his return from war, he and Ada or Pauline as she may have preferred, resumed the building of their family as we saw above.



It seems that upon his return he became a farmer in Coos Bay, OR and there seems to have been an outbreak of Bangs Disease that were killing off the cattle. Arbee lost several and was able to collect compensation from a government program to set up to assist. It didn't seem to pay very much as one report was that he got \$8.00 for one cow. A couple of reports that I

read talked about the kids participating in a piano recital in 1955 and Arbee and Pauline participating in a couple's club in the local Episcopal Church in 1957. They seemed to fall on hard times in 1963 when a notice of a foreclosure sale of their land was posted followed by a notice of a collection lawsuit against Arbee for some debts. These are the events that most likely prompted their divorce. When they did divorce in 1964, Pauline was reportedly managing a radio station. In Sept 1961, daughter Shirley married Stanley Gribble who was a young serviceman who was in the Marines, but they divorced less than a year later. Also in Aug 1961, daughter Shirley married Terry Allen Moore who was a fisherman and she worked at Beulah's Beauty Shop. They divorced in 1967. I'm sure that their wedding of two daughters did not help their financial situation in the early 1960's. Son Arbee Jr seems to have married Betty James Briggs in Sacramento, CA in 1965. Son Robert seems to have married Neva Cook in Oregon in 1970.

Arbee married a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to Jeanette Ellis in 1966 and they divorced in 1971 at which time, Arbee was living in Eugene, OR and was an insurance salesman while Jeanette was a pharmacy clerk at Sacred

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**HERB MJOUD AUG. 24**  
7:00 pm Spirit Filled Lutheran Seattle Atty. battled cancer five times & won.  
NCC is a center for Full Gospel charismatic healings & teachings - taking place for THE BODY MINISTRY.  
**ARBEE FREEMAN AUG. 28**  
6:00 pm. Come early ALL SEATS ARE FREE  
NCC on Sun. 8:30 am & 11:00 am has been in double services for 6 mo. Dr. & Mrs. J.R. Roper Sr. Pastors, welcome you to all services.  
**COME, BELIEVE FOR A MIRACLE!**

Heart Hospital in Eugene. She was from Iowa and had previously been married to Merle Shorey in 1938 and had a couple of kids. I found Merle in jail in Iowa in 1939 for desertion and he was in the Iowa State Penitentiary for the 1940 Census. I did not study him enough to know what he deserted from, but he did get out and serve in in the Navy in WW2 from 1944 to 1946.

I have not found marriage records for Pauline, but due to numerous references in obituaries, we know that she became Pauline Walsh. If I search that in newspapers, I found a Pauline Walsh active in Oregon politics, but cannot determine for sure if that is our Pauline. I did find this ad from 1983 that suggests Arbee Jr may have gotten into religion. This is a little late in life for Arbee Sr to have changed to evangelism, and the name is unique enough for me to have my suspicions, but I'm not sure. I think I've run out of leads. I will take one last look for marriage records, but have not been successful to date.

B. MIKE: Residents of Lakeview are beginning to wonder if only articles of ridicule can come from behind the Sage Brush Curtain. In regard to the recent article about the announcer at KQIK, we would like to correct this article. Some of the mistakes listed were not made at all, they were made over a period of four years and were not made by one announcer. Perhaps KQIK should be congratulated. What other radio station can fascinate their listeners and hold them to the point that they can write every mistake made over a four-year period? — MRS. **PAULINE WALSH**, KQIK, Lakeview.

I did find this story from 1967 that may be Pauline as she was a radio station manager when she and Arbee divorced. If so, she was married again by 1967 after her 1964 divorce from Arbee

### Children of Ada Pauline Zenker and Arbee Freeman

479	Shirley K Freeman	1942		Ada and Arbee's Child#1
480	Sandra Lee Freeman	1943	2005	Ada and Arbee's Child#2
481	Arbee Freeman	1948		Ada and Arbee's Child#3
482	Robert W Freeman	1949		Ada and Arbee's Child#4

This concludes the study of Ollie Hudman and Robert Zenker. It's rather short and quite a few holes still remain to be filled. As usual, if you have any updates, corrections, or comments do not hesitate to contact me at [rbills\\_houston@yahoo.com](mailto:rbills_houston@yahoo.com). This was completed on 21 Oct 2024.