

## 9. The children and grandchildren of Elijah Franklin Smith and Fanny Elam Morris

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**9. Elijah Franklin Smith** 24 MAR 1862 • Pleasanton, TX - 9 OCT 1928 • Bryson, Jack, TX  
 Fanny Elam Morris 29 SEP 1866 • Atlanta, GA - 7 MAR 1953 • Graham, Young, TX  
 Marriage: 14 Nov 1886 • Content, Runnels, TX



Elijah and Fannie around 1890 from my personal family photos. They were my great grandparents.

Elijah arrived early in the Civil War days, so he was technically born in the Confederate States of America. He came a couple of years after Sophronia and a couple of years before the twins Jesse Robert and Benjamin Benton in 1867. With the five-year gap between Elijah and the twins, I speculate that Elizabeth may have had another child

that did not survive as she had been on a pretty regular two-year cycle and a birth in 1865 would have been in keeping with the standard. Who knows? Since Elizabeth died before 1900, we do not have a way to confirm.

**I should note that this is my direct line.**

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**57. Arthur Alton Smith** 3 SEP 1890 • Bryson, Jack, TX - 29 DEC 1968 • Tucson, Pima, AZ  
 #1 Anna M Mohl - ABT 1895 • Missouri - Death Unknown  
 Marriage: 7 Oct 1916 • Clayton, MO  
 #2 Petrice Bertye Brown 17 Aug 1910 • Baytown, TX – 30 Nov 1968 • Houston, TX  
 Marriage: 5 Aug 1929 • Houston, Harris, TX



Family photo from Betty Bills. Arthur in 1960 meeting with his siblings. Arthur and sister Della about 1915.

Arthur was the 2<sup>nd</sup> child of Elijah and Fannie Smith arriving too late for the 1890 Census had it survived and then the 1910 Census cannot be found, so the first census he appears in is as a 20-year-old in Bryson TX, counted at home but working as a school teacher. My assumption is that he probably had gone to The Normal School in Denton because that is where his younger sister went. I found him in a Dallas City

Directory in 1915 working as a clerk at Sears, and then in 1917, he registered for the WW1 Draft and he had advanced to Office Manager for Sears. He was married and did not claim any exemptions. He was 27 and lived at 717 Rockwood in Dallas. There is a Rockwood St just by IH35E near the Dallas Zoo.



Update: As I began digging in more detail, I am 90% convinced that Arthur had a son from his first marriage to Anna Mohl during his stay in St. Louis prior to moving on to Chicago. Perhaps someday a DNA match will cement this relationship, but I am going to include him and provide some background that I did not in my earlier biography of Arthur's father Elijah.

### Children of Arthur and Pertie Brown Smith

214A	Robert Arthur Smith	1930	2003	Arthur and Anna's Child
215	Arthur Alton Jr. Smith	1930	1986	Arthur and Pertie's Child#1
216	Sandra Smith	1932	2012	Arthur and Pertie's Child#2

**214A Robert Arthur Smith** 16 AUG 1919 • St Louis, MO - 7 OCT 2003 • Lemay Township, MO  
 Bernice Vivian Woodworth 5 OCT 1920 • Maplewood, MO - 12 DEC 1978 • Lemay Township, MO  
 Marriage: 24 Oct 1942 • Clayton, MO



Robert's photo from a WW2 story. Bernice's yearbook photo. Grave markers for Robert and Bernice.

Let me go back and update my belief as to why Robert is the son of Arthur Smith. As I detailed in my earlier biography, I found definitive evidence of Arthur's presence in St

Louis in 1916 where he enlisted for WW1 Service. There are marriage notices in the newspaper and marriage records for the marriage between Anna Mohl and Arthur Smith in Oct 1916 and while there are not birth records or a 1920 Census, Robert appears with his mother, Anna Smith and a cousin in 1930 and then in 1940 with stepfather Oliver Kohring and his mother. There are marriage records showing that Oliver married Anna Smith in 1931 so all of the pieces fit together. We know that Arthur had moved to Chicago by 1930 per his obituary but we do not know when he and Anna divorced except that it was before his marriage in 1929 to Petrice Brown.



The 1940 Census found Robert working as a lab worker while attending college. Records show that he attended the University of Missouri, Columbia. Oliver was driving a truck for a packing house and Anna and Oliver were both 45. They lived at 4985 Quincy Street which they rented for \$26/month. It seems to have been a duplex as there were another couple at the same address, but a different household.

In Oct 1940 while at the University of Missouri, he registered for the WW2 Draft and his mother at the Quincy address was his point of contact. He was 6'-2"-185lbs-hazel eyes-brown hair- dark complexion. On 24 Oct 1942, he married Bernice Woodworth in Clayton, MO. I have not found any military records, but there are news article about his being commissioned as a LT in on 21 Apr 1943 and another from 1945 saying "Presidential Citation; Lt. Robert A. Smith, 4985 Quincy St., Air Medal." Another article from 1945 indicated that he received his citation for weather flights in the north Atlantic.

Records get a little scarce after this, but his grave marker indicate that he achieved the rank of Captain. We next see him in the 1950 Census where he and Bernice are living in St, Louis where his is working as a Structural Engineer for Big Construction Company and they have added two sons, Robert R. born in New York about 1946 and William O. born in Missouri around 1949.

Unfortunately, I run out of information at this point until Bernice's death in 1978 and Robert's death in 2003. I have not found obituaries for any of them or relatives that give me clues. I did explore Bernice's family some. Her father was Roy V. Woodworth and her mother was Myrtle Meyer. After Bernice's birth, she had a sister Lorraine in 1922 and then in 1924, her mother died in childbirth. In the 1930 Census, a stepsister, Shirley Wood is present, but I cannot figure out who she was. Roy seems to have

adopted her and she took his last name. Lorraine married Seymour Frisbee in the late 30's and ended up in Texas with 3 daughters. I have not discovered any connection to a certain toy, but I did try!

Bernice's father died in 1958 and his obituary reads:

*Roy Woodworth, Manufacturer, Dies Roy V. Woodworth, 61, president c of one of the founders of Progressive Service Company, a die manufacturing concern, at 2745. Locust st., died Monday night at Deaconess Hospital of heart disease. Mr. Woodworth became ill at the Park Plaza Hotel, where he was attending an executive board meeting of the Moolah a Temple.*

*He has been under a physician's care for several years. Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Ethel Holt Woodworth, of the residence at 12 Lindworth Dr., Ladue; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Woodworth, and three daughters, Mrs. Robert A. Smith, of St. Louis; Mrs. Seymour P. Frisbee, of Arlington, Tex., and Mrs. Jack A. Kemper of Albuquerque, N. M., and eight grandchildren.*

*Funeral services will be at 1:30 p. m. tomorrow at Moolah Temple, 3821 Lindell bl., with the Kron Funeral Home in charge. Burial will be in Valhalla Cemetery. Mr. Woodworth was former Potentate of Moolah Temple, and a member of the board of directors of Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. He had been president of the Optimist Club of St. Louis.*

*We can see that Robert was in St Louis in 1958, that Lorraine was in Arlington, TX, and Shirley was in New Mexico. I know Robert had at least two sons and Lorraine had 3 daughters so Shirley had three kids of Robert had additional children after 1950. Both Missouri and New Mexico are difficult to find birth records.*

#### Children of Robert and Bernice Woodworth Smith

541	Robert R Smith	1946	Robert and Bernice's Child#1
542	William O. Smith	1949	Robert and Bernice's Child#2

215. **Arthur Alton Smith Jr** 13 MAR 1930 • Harris, TX - 18 JUN 1986 • San Mateo, CA  
Patsy M Pickering 25 APR 1929 • San Francisco, CA - 29 APR 2005 • Daly City, CA



Arthur and Patty's grave marker

Arthur's 2<sup>nd</sup> son and the first with his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Petrice Brown was Arthur Smith Jr. who arrived in Harris County shortly after their marriage in 1929. He appears in the 1930 Census with his parents and younger sister Sanda in San Francisco at age 10. It looks like the enumerator credited

Patrice with holding Arthur Sr's job. His parents had a contemptuous divorce in 1945 and they went their separate ways.



The 1950 Census found a divorced Arthur Sr and his 20-year-old son living at 1935 Gough, San Francisco. It's a rather upscale residence within the confines of Lafayette Park befitting the stature of Arthur, who was Executive VP for C&H Sugar. He may have had some money problems as he was paying some pretty hefty alimony. I found Arthur Jr working as a hospital attendant in 1949 aboard the SS General Gordon. I found this item about what was going on at that time.

*While in civilian service the ship appears to have been painted in APL colors but retained the name General W. H. Gordon. She made numerous calls at Shanghai, China. In September 1949 the ship evacuated 1220 people of 34 different nationalities, most of them American citizens, after protracted negotiations by the U.S. State Department with both Nationalist Chinese and Communist Chinese authorities after the Communists had taken over the city.*

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Birth			Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
					Age	Date	Marital Status					
1950 Census	1938 Gough, Apt 204						San Francisco, San Francisco, California					
Smith	Arthur A	Head	White	Male	59	1891	Divorced	Texas		40	Executive Win Parl Sugar Company	
Smith	Arthur A Jr	Son	White	Male	20	1930	Never Married	(Texas				

I have not been able to find military records or news articles, but based on his gravestone, Arthur Jr. must have enlisted in the Navy shortly after the census as the grave marker indicates that he achieved the rank of AT2 which is Aviation Electronics Technician Petty Officer 2nd Class.

The next record that I find for Arthur is in May 1971 when he has a very short-lived marriage to Linda J Welk. Records indicate that he was 41 and she 23 at the time of their marriage and it lasted a little over a year. I do not find any children from this marriage.

In 1974, he married a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to Patty Pickering who was about the same age. Patty was the daughter of George and Effie Stahlnecker Pickering and she the youngest of 7 with an older sister and 5 older brothers. She had previously married Charles McEwing in 1947 and they had a daughter in 1948. Arthur and Patty were both 45 when they married and they did not have any children. The daughter had married in 1966 and then again in 1975.

Arthur's mother died in Nov 1968 and he managed her estate. His father died a month later in Arizona where he lived off and on with his daughter Sandra. Arthur died in 1986 in San Mateo, CA at the tender age of 56. Patty died in 2005 in Daly City, CA which is in the San Francisco area.

That is about all that I can find about him. I am in contact with his grandniece and she added to this narrative. *I never met Arthur Jr. He and my grandmother (Arthur's sister Sandra) were somewhat estranged. He and his mom were thick, and tended to gang up on her (Sandy). Pet didn't appreciate her taking in Arthur, and therefore Arthur Jr. didn't approve. Arthur had a spot of dementia before he died, as did Sandy. Just elderly forgetfulness, nothing more. Arthur Jr. died suddenly and unexpectedly on the golf course from "the silent killer" (sudden heart attack) after getting a perfect check-up just a couple of weeks before.*

It is interesting that in the 1950 Census, Arthur Jr. was with his father and Sandra was with her mother.

I am not aware of any children that Arthur was the father of.

**216. Sandra Smith** 18 FEB 1932 • Houston, Harris, TX - 12 MAY 2008 • Tucson, AZ  
 Dwight Edward Webb 28 AUG 1921 • Santa Cruz, CA - 9 DEC 2000 • Tucson, AZ  
 Marriage: 2 Jul 1960 • San Francisco, CA



Photo of Sandra from her obituary.

Arthur and Petrice's 2<sup>nd</sup> child was daughter Sandra who arrived in Houston on Feb 1932. Per her granddaughter, Petrice always went back home to have her babies event thought she lived in San Francisco. As mentioned above, she appeared in the 1940 Census with her whole family and then in 1950 she was with her mother. They lived at 2547

Chestnut, San Francisco. Pet and Arthur were divorced.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place
1950 Census	2547 Chestnut St					San Francisco, San Francisco, California		
Smith	Pet B	Head	White	Female	39	1911	Divorced	Texas
Smith	Sandra	Daughter	White	Female	18	1932	Never Married	(Texas

It gets a little confusing to me at this point, because in Jun 1953, daughter Petrice (Patrice) Webb was born in San Francisco. (See name explanation below from her daughter.) What is confusing, is that Petrice's father was Dwight Edward Webb, but as best I can tell, they did not get married until 1960. Dwight was quite a bit older by 11 years and had been previously married to Alice Hoffman about 1946 and they had two sons in 1947 and 1949. Dwight was the son of Herbert Webb who had immigrated from New Zealand and married Bertha Frembling in 1921. They appeared to only have had the one son before Herbert

died in 1938 and Bertha married Chester Ecker before 1940. Chester also had older children from an earlier marriage. When Dwight first shows up with him in the Census in 1940, he was 18 with a 52-year-old stepfather. This must not have sat well with Dwight as he seems to have gone to sea beginning in Sep 1940 when he was found aboard the SS Rheem which was an oil tanker owned by Standard Oil working as a wiper. He seems to have continued that job because when he registered for the draft in 1942 upon turning 20, he was working for the Standard Oil Marine Department based out of Richmond CA. He lived at 2313



Webster, SF while his parents lived at 225 Bush, SF. He was a big man at 6'-4"-180lbs-blue eyes-blond hair-light complexion. It appears that he must have joined the Coast Guard as in April 1945 he was 1<sup>st</sup> Mate aboard the Alcoa Patriot in New Guinea. The following year he was aboard the SS Alcoa Pennant going through the Panama Canal heading for New York. He must have headed back to California shortly thereafter as his first son was born in 1947. In the 1950, he was working for the San Francisco Public Utility Department and was

married to Alice and had two sons.

It is unclear what happened between 1950 and Patrice's birth in 1953 and his marriage to Sandra in 1960, but it was California! Sometime after 1960, they moved to Tucson and the first mention I have of him there is in 1967 when he reportedly tried to chase down a convenience store robber. His mother died in 1977 and surprisingly, she mentions that she was the grandmother to Dwight's two sons, but does not mention Patrice. This might suggest that Dwight and Sandy did not stay married. Dwight died in 2008 and his obituary does not provide any information other than his death. The fact that Sandra reverted to her maiden name seems to indicate that they probably separated after moving to Tucson.

It gets even more confusing here. It seems that around 1973, her daughter Patrice married Nicholas D. Lytwynczuk, a gentleman who was born in Munich, Germany in 1948. He and Patrice had a daughter Christine in 1974. A side story – my immediate family on my mother's side met for years at my Uncle Robert's ranch for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Thanksgiving. One year, Sandra and her granddaughter joined us. This was before the strange colored hair phase, but Christine was a bit ahead of her time with purple hair and maybe some piercings. It was a change of pace, but everyone was excited to meet another branch of the family and Sandra's father was always held in a bit of awe (at least by me) due to his success in business.

I'm not sure how long Patrice and Nick were married but he seems to have remarried about 1988 and then died in 2007. Patrice took a different path and she died in 2008. Her obituary reads:

*Patrice Webb 54, born on June 9, 1953, passed away on May 12, 2008 at 11:47 a.m., from complications of glioblastoma (an aggressive brain tumor). Patrice is survived by her daughter, Christine Pukalo; her son-in-law, Michael Pukalo; her mother, Sandy Smith; her partner, Lilly Morales and many friends who loved and adored her. Patrice was known for her sharp wit, profound intelligence, wonderful sense of humor, masterful gardening, beautiful piano playing, creativity, skillful poker-playing and business acumen. Patrice owned a successful process serving business for more than 18 years. She loved to spend time in her garden, cultivating breathtakingly beautiful flowers.*

*Patrice adored her dogs, Chelsea and Peanut. Her warm smile and luminous spirit will never be forgotten. Thank you, Patrice, for making us laugh and making us think. You were loved beyond words and will be in our hearts forever.*

In this obituary, we can see that her daughter has married Michael Pukalo so her name got a little easier than Lytwynczuk! See how she handled that name growing up in her comments at the end.

Sandy died in 2012 and her obituary reads:

*Sandy Smith 80, born February 18, 1932, passed away August 9, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. peacefully after a short illness. Sandy is survived by her granddaughter, Christine Pukalo and many dear friends who love and cherish her. Sandy will be remembered for her love of animals, her generosity, her baked goodies, "beautiful flower arrangements and strong faith. A Memorial Service will be held in her honor at 2:00 p.m.*

*on Saturday, September 8, 2012 at Kino School, 6625 N. First Ave. Donations can be given in her memory to Kino School. Our lives were made better for having you in them. We love you and will miss you, but know that you are full of joy and are where you want to be.*

These are a few comments that Christine shared with me about her knowledge of her family. Thanks for sharing. She and Michael still live in Tucson and I believe Michael is a real estate broker.

*I was told that Arthur and Pet lived in San Francisco pretty much from the beginning of their marriage, Pet would return to Texas to have her babies. I never met my great grandparents, but I grew up hearing stories. If you ever want any info, I may be able to fill in with some history.*

*Actually, I'm sitting at an indoor art market right now, and it is slow... so forgive me as I spatter family gossip and skeletons at you.*

*Arthur Jr. died suddenly and unexpectedly on the golf course from "the silent killer" (sudden heart attack) after getting a perfect check-up just a couple of weeks before.*

*Pet had "second sight". Someone in her family had died and she refused to go to the funeral. Her older sister bullied her into going after all. She had no sooner walked into the memorial service when she collapsed and died in her sister's arms.*

*Pet hated her name so much; she refused to give Sandy a middle name. She would cringe when she would visit her folks "Here comes Pet Birdie Brown!" And yet, she was offended that my grandma was not going to name my mom after her. Hence, Petrice. That was Sandy's compromise. She went by Trisy (tree-C) as a child, then Pat, then changed the spelling of her name to the normal Patrice, as people would pronounce it wrong when they read it "pet-rice".*

*The family had at least 2 places in San Francisco. A house on Lyon st. And the one that backed up to the presidio. They lived on Divisadero during WW2. The kids would get in trouble for riding their bikes in the presidio when "Sargent cherry nose" would catch them. They made friends with many of the guards and brought them treats.*

*The family was thought of as a big enough deal, that the Germans planted (or pressured) a spy in their house by way of a German Maid, Beena. She had a handler, "boyfriend" that would collect reports.*

*Arthur never made president of C&H because of the divorce scandal. The divorce was actually because Pet discovered that Arthur had a mistress. Though that was common back then, she would have none of it, so she did the very uncommon, divorce.*

*One of the many outrageous games the kids would play on the steep streets of San Francisco. One kid would be at the bottom of the hill and yell "all clear" and the other would lay on his/her belly, head first on a skate board and barrel down the hill. They would be going too fast to stop if a car did appear.*

*Yes, on one of our reunion trips, we stayed with Sue in Austin. I loved it. She is a very cultured, artsy and lovely lady.*

*We also stayed with your mom and dad for a few days in Kerrville. We had a grand time! Betty was the bee's knees. Lytwynczuk is my maiden name, I still use it as a DBA for one of my businesses. I am however married. Pukalo is my married name. It will be 22 yrs this November. Just the one husband. No kids, just pets.*

*When I was a kid, I used my grandmother's last name, it was easier. People could pronounce and spell Webb.*

### **Child of Sandra Smith and Dwight Webb**

543    Patrice A Webb    1953    2008    Dwight and Sandra's child

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Thus ends my biography for Athur Alton Smith. It was completed on 14 Nov 2024. He seems like a complicated man. He did well professionally.

Enjoy this edition and if you have any corrections, photos, etc. do not hesitate to contact me at [rbills\\_houston@yahoo.com](mailto:rbills_houston@yahoo.com). I've met several new cousins online that are providing priceless information.