

11. The children and grandchildren of Benjamin Benton Smith Sr and his two wives Lucretia Ann Gilliland and Mary Margaret Wilson

11. Benjamin Benton Smith Sr 11 SEP 1867 • Pleasanton, TX - 4 NOV 1939 • Silver City, Grant, NM
 Lucretia Ann Gilliland 31 OCT 1876 • Kimble County, TX - 11 FEB 1962 • Newberg, Yamhill, Oregon
 Marriage: 30 Mar 1892 • Dona Ana, New Mexico – Divorce 16 Apr 1909
 Mary Margaret Wilson 23 JAN 1872 • Bosque County, TX - 19 FEB 1939 • Silver City, NM



Photos of Benjamin, Lucretia, and Ben and Mary's gravestone borrowed from FamilySearch.

One of the final two children of Jesse and Elizabeth was Benjamin Benton, the twin brother of Jesse. We don't have birth certificates to know who came first, but they arrived in Pleasanton 12 years before the family's move north to the San Angelo area. I think I stated it wrong earlier, but it appears as though they moved to Runnels County in 1879 and then in 1880 at the time of the Census, they moved to nearby Tom Green County and bought a ranch. Not knowing where they would be when the Census counter arrived, they were actually counted in both places. I guess if you are a twin you need to be double counted.

71. Alvy Ray Smith 9 JUN 1894 • Cloudcroft, Otero, NM - 21 OCT 1964 • Delta, Delta, CO
 #1 - Sina Maudie McKindry 22 JUN 1885 • Barstow, Ward, TX - 16 JUN 1944 • Las Cruces, NM
 Marriage: 31 Dec 1914 • Mayhill, Otero County, New Mexico
 #2 - Nellie Pearl Latham Posey 4 DEC 1894 • Cranfills Gap, TX - 12 JAN 1982 • Lincoln County, NM
 Marriage: 27 Jun 1945 • Graham, Arizona



Alvy and his two wives, Sina and Nellie from various people on Ancestry.

Since this is Alvy's direct line, his account on <http://alvyray.com/> should be read as his knowledge is more intimate and a very interesting story that would be

impossible for me to recreate from the normally available records.

Ben and Lucretia's 2nd child was Alvy Ray identified as 15-year-old Ray in his first census appearance in 1910 when they lived in Hope, NM. While he has not been found in the 1920 Census, there are records (that I cannot find, but that Alvy III references) that he married Sina McKindry in Otero County on the final day of 1914. If their birthdates are correct, Sina was 9 years older than Alvy, he was 20 and she was 29. Sina's background is a little tricky. Records seem to indicate that her father was William McKindry, an Irish immigrant who married Mary Baker in Uvalde, TX in 1885 and Sina was their oldest child. Various records indicate that she had a sister Laura born in 1886 and a brother William born in 1888 and died in 1907. William died in 1893 and Mary married Green Miller in Texas before moving to New Mexico.

I will caveat this section of this biography with the knowledge that these folks are Alvy Ray Smith's uncles and aunts, and his much more detailed information can be found on his genealogical masterpiece found here. <http://alvyray.com/Family/default.htm> I will try to add some additional tidbits that I may run across in my own research.

Children of Alvy and Sina

243	Lawrence Albert Smith	1915	2010	Alvy and Sina's Child#1
244	Margaret Smith	1918	2015	Alvy and Sina's Child#2
245	Alvy Ray Smith II	1920	2015	Alvy and Sina's Child#3
246	Lucy May Smith	1929		Alvy and Sina's Child#4

243. Lawrence Albert Smith 25 NOV 1915 • Mayhill, NM - 7 OCT 2010 • Plano, TX

Bernice Victoria Holt 1 SEP 1916 • Petersburg, TX - 25 JAN 2005 • Plano, TX

Married: 19 Sep 1936 – Alamogordo, NM (Per Alvy)



Lawrence and Bernice's grave marker in Plano. A photo of Bernice from FamilySearch and an enhanced version.

Lawrence was the first child born to Alvy and Sina and arrived while Alvy was farming in Mayhill, NM. I have not found the 1920 Census for this family, so Lawrence first appears as a 14-year-old in 1930 along with his parents and younger sister Margaret and brother Alvy II. His father was still farming at this time in Mayhill a small town east of Alamogordo past Cloudcroft.

1930 Census	Above Mayhill-Penasco R.	Mayhill, Otero, New Mexico														
Smith Alvy Ray	Head	Owned	No	Yes	Male	White	35	1895	Married	20	No	Yes	New Mexico	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Smith Sina M	Wife				Female	White	43	1887	Married	28	No	Yes	Texas	Iowa	Texas	
Smith Lawrence	Son				Male	White	14	1916	Single		Yes	Yes	New Mexico	New Mexico	Texas	
Smith Margaret	Daughter				Female	White	12	1918	Single		Yes	Yes	New Mexico	New Mexico	Texas	
Smith Alvy	Son				Male	White	9	1921	Single		Yes	Yes	New Mexico	New Mexico	Texas	

In 1936, he married Bernice Holt in Alamogordo. She had just turned 20, while Lawrence was almost 21. They were blessed with their only child, William Lawrence Smith in April 1939. I don't know why his name was spelled that way, but that is how it appears in all of his documentation. Newspapers generally used the Lawrence spelling.

In the 1940 Census, Lawrence, Bernice, and little Lawrence were still living in Mayhill and farming.

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	Industry
1940 Census	Mayhill, Otero, New Mexico												
Smith	Lawrence	Head	Male	White	24	1916	Married	No	High School, 4th year	New Mexico	YES	Operator	Farm
Smith	Bernice	Wife	Female	White	23	1917	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas			
Smith	Lawrence	Son	Male	White	1	1939	Single	No	None	New Mexico			

Browsing the NM newspapers of the era was not real fruitful but I did find the following articles from the 1940's

Mr. Clarence Miller and Miss Roberta Smith were dinner guests in the Lawrence Smith home last Thursday. They were enroute to State College, N. M. where Miss Roberta was to spend the weekend visiting a school friend and Clarence to visit Mr. Alva Smith and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith took their son, Lawrence, Jr. to a doctor in Artesia one day last week. Lawrence has been suffering with a kidney infection but is improving and back in school again.

I have not identified Clarence Miller or Roberta Smith at this point, but maybe they will surface as I progress.

Shortly after the census, the WW2 Draft was implemented and Lawrence registered in October 1940 when he was 24 and farming in Mayhill. Bernice was his point of contact. He omitted his height and weight, but had brown hair-gray eyes-light brown complexion.

Bessie was the 7th child of William Thomas and Essie Williams Holt of Petersburg, TX a small town east of Lubbock. She had 3 older sisters, 3 older brothers, and 3 younger sisters and 1 younger brother ranging in birthdates from 1905 to 1924. Per Alvy, she came to NM to help a sister who was having a baby and they met and married. That was probably her sister Adora who had a daughter, Peggy Caldwell in Feb 1935.

There is no indication that Lawrence was drafted or enlisted and Alvy indicates that he ran the family farm during the war and even took advantage of getting some cheap labor from the many German POWs that were housed in NM during the war. Read about it here.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Albuquerque#:~:text=Camp%20Albuquerque%20was%20an%20American,POW%20camp%20for%20New%20Mexico.

After the war, it appears that Lawrence and family had moved per this article from 1948. *Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith and son, Lawrence, Jr., of Fabens, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coleman of Las Cruces, spent the week end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith.* Fabens is a small town south of El Paso and hometown of the famous jockey Bill Shoemaker.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	West 1st St Fabens, El Paso, Texas											
Smith	Lawrence A	Head	White	Male	33	1916	Married	New Mexico		47	Parts Manager	Myers Imple Co
Smith	Bernice H	Wife	White	Female	33	1917	Married	Texas				
Smith	Lawrence V	Son	White	Male	11	1939	Never Married	New Mexico				

The 1950 Census confirms that the family was in Fabens living at W. 1st Street. I don't have a street address, but it is a pretty forlorn looking little town. Lawrence's job was as a parts manager at the Myers Implement Company. Newspaper searches were not too fruitful. There were quite a few Lawrence Smith's in the El Paso area during the 1950's, but none that I can pinpoint to our Lawrence. Alvy indicates that he spent his career with International Harvester throughout Texas and NM and retired in 1985. He and Bessie seem to have retired to Plano TX. I found then in Lubbock in 1957 Lawrence A (Bernice H) supervisor Lubbock Implement Co Inc h3515 33rd and at the same address in 1958 and 1959 where he had been promoted to Department Manager. I find him at this same address as late as 1996. The final address that I find at is 1940 W Spring Creek Pkwy Apt 219, Plano, Texas, USA which is the location of Solstice Senior Living. Lawrence and Bernice must have spent their final days here. Bernice died in 2005 at age 88 and Lawrence lived 5 more years when he died at age 94. I will see if an investigation of their son will yield any additional information.



Son William (Bill) Lawrence Smith married Judith Lynn Hilgers in 1962 in Amarillo. Their careers are best covered from their biographies on Findagrave. Alvy's genealogy adds additional insight.



William Lawrence Smith of Allen, Texas passed away on October 19, 2018 at the age of 79. He was born on April 9, 1939 in Alamogordo, New Mexico to Lawrence and Bernice (Holt) Smith. Lawrence was a graduate of Texas Tech University with a Master's Degree in Mathematics. He proudly served his country as a 1st Lieutenant Artillery in the United States Army. He married the

love of his life, Judith Lynne Hilgers on October 13, 1962 in Amarillo, Texas. Upon his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Lawrece and Judy moved to Minnesota where they raised their three children and Bill (as he was known professionally) enjoyed a stellar career at Sperry Univac (now known as Unisys). He served as an elder of the Richfield Church of Christ. In 1987, they returned to the warmer climate of Dallas to continue his career with Verifone and Saraide. He was a long-time member and (former) elder of the Waterview Church of Christ in Richardson, Texas. Above all else, Lawrece loved God and enjoyed teaching countless bible classes. Among Lawrece's last words of wisdom to his family was to never let go of God's hand.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Judy of Allen, Texas; daughter, Kari Smith of Melissa, Texas; son, Gerry Smith and wife, Angela of Richardson, Texas; grandchildren, Madeline and Daniel Smith; son-in-law Ken Martin of Spring, Texas and grandchildren Emily, Ryan and Jonathan Martin and Jonathan's wife, Madeline and numerous other loving family and friends. Lawrece was preceded in death by his precious daughter, Casandra Martin.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at Waterview Church of Christ, 1409 North Waterview Drive, Richardson, Texas. The family will receive friends during a visitation on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home, 2525 Central Expressway North, Allen, Texas.

Memorial donations may be made to the Breakfast for Children Program in Managua, Nicaragua. Please make checks payable to: Waterview Church of Christ (with the notation of Breakfast Program/Smith).

Judith died a year later and her obituary reads:

Judith Lynne (Hilgers) Smith of Melissa, Texas passed away on December 18, 2019 at the age of 77. She was born on July 19, 1942 to Harold Hilgers and Lavera (Jones) Hilgers in Amarillo, Texas. Judy graduated from Amarillo High School and then attended one year at Abilene Christian. She met Lawrece Smith while visiting in Lubbock and they married on October 13, 1962 in Amarillo. They moved to Oklahoma where Lawrece served in the army. Then they settled in Minnesota for the next 22 years, finally leaving the cold weather for Texas in 1987. Judy was a passionate Sunday School, Ladies Bible Class and sign language teacher and loved to work with children. Her family remembers her love for quilting, sewing, the Bible, playing games, her church family and zealous devotion to serving others.

Judy is survived by her son, Gerry Smith and his wife, Angela; daughter, Kari Smith; grandchildren, Madeline Miller and her husband, Caleb, Daniel Smith, Emily Martin, Ryan Martin, and Jonathan Martin and his wife, Madeline; son-in-law, Ken Martin; her 2 brothers, Wayne Hilgers and his wife, Betty Kay, and Larry Hilgers and his wife, Ann, and numerous other loving family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrece Smith; daughter, Casandra Martin; and her parents, Harold and Lavera Hilgers.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, December 22, 2019 at the Waterview Church of Christ, 1409 North Waterview Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080. The family will receive friends during a visitation on Saturday, December 21, 2019 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home, 2525 Central Expressway North, Allen, Texas.

Memorial donations may be made to your favorite children's charity.

From these two obituaries we can determine that Bill and Judy had a son Gerry who is married to Angela, a daughter Kari who may or may not have married. A granddaughter Madeline who is married to Caleb Miller, a grandson Daniel Smith who is probably Gerry's son, Emily, Ryan, and Jonathan Martin (married to Madeline) who are probably the children of their deceased daughter Casandra whose husband

must be Ken Martin who lived in Spring, TX in 2019. Let me see if I can trace any of those children. Also, Judy had two brothers, Wayne and Larry and they are married to Betty Kay and Ann. I verified her brothers.

I have been able to verify all of the children. The oldest was born in Oklahoma in 1963 and died in Houston in 2015. She married Kenneth Phillip Martin, Jr from Virginia in 1983 in Minnesota before moving to Texas where they had Emily, Ryan, and Jonathan. It looks like they lived quite close to me at various points in the last 20 years. She died in 2015 and her obituary reads:

Obituary for Casandra Martin

Casandra Martin, age 52, passed away December 19, 2015, surrounded by her loving family. Casandra is survived by her husband, Ken Martin; children, Emily Martin, Ryan Martin, Jonathan Martin; parents, William and Judy Smith; sister, Kari Smith; brother, Gerry Smith and wife Angela; niece, Madeline Smith; nephew, Daniel Smith; and numerous close friends. She is Preceded in Death by her Grandparents.

Being like Jesus is the purpose for which we were created. It is God's ultimate desire for you. It is the reason behind the cross and the empty tomb. God wants to transform you to look like Jesus. He wants to form you into a mirror image of Christ. He wants others to look at your life and see His Son. He wants your words to be an echo of His voice. He wants the way you move, work, serve, love, and play to resonate with the person of Jesus.

Paul lived and spoke about this. He tells his friends in Corinth – "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (I Corinthians 2:2) John writes to his loved ones and says, "Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did." (I John 2:6)

So here is my resolution – I want to immerse myself in Jesus. I want Him to soak into every part of who I am. I want to spend my life learning and surrendering to what it means to walk as Jesus did. I resolve to know nothing except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I commit to living more fully in the transformation God wants to work within me.

Kari, the 2nd was born in Minnesota in 1965. She does not appear to be married and she lives in the Austin area where she is currently serving as General Counsel for NRG Utility Company for which the stadium for The Houston Texans is named. She has lived in Texas not far from me some years back but according to Linked-In she is now in Austin.

Gerald, the youngest was born in Minnesota in 1967 and married Angela Zann Cathey in 1988 in Rains County, TX which is up east of Dallas. Alvy says that they have two children, but I have not been able to verify either of them.

Child of Lawrence and Bernice Holt Smith

591 William Lawrence Smith 1939 2018 Lawrence and Bernice's son

244. Margaret S Smith 17 JAN 1918 • Otero, NM - 17 OCT 2015 – uncertain

Clarence William Coleman 1 DEC 1924 • Creighton, MO - 22 OCT 1974 • Las Cruces, NM

Marriage: 3 Jul 1945 – Las Cruces, NM



Alvy and Sina's 2nd child was Margaret Smith who arrived in Mayhill just as WW1 was at its peak. My bio is not going to do her and Clarence (Bill) justice and you really need to read Alvy's account to get a good understanding of their lives. I will write what I find, but there is much that is not readily findable. This is a photo of Margaret in 1941 when she and her younger brother, Alvy II were attending New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. She appears at home in the 1920 – 1940 Census. In 1940, her father was away on

a CCC Project, but her mother and two younger siblings were home with their mother and her older brother had gotten married in 1936.

Based on her age, it would seem that she probably graduated from high school around 1936. I'm not sure what she did after graduation, but she was still in college in 1941, so perhaps she pursued a master's degree, but as noted above, she and her younger brother ended up in the same class. Again, it is unclear what she did after graduation, but from Alvy, we learn that in 1945, she married Clarence Coleman. (Note: Alvy has a thorough biography – I'm writing from the viewpoint of information I can find online) I used Alvy's book to get some leads on Clarence and was able to document that he was born and raised in Cass, Missouri. He was the youngest of 5 children born to William and Lois Kimble Coleman. He had 1 older brother and three sisters. On 29 Dec 1942, he registered for the WW2 at the age of 18 while a student of Garden City HS. His father was his point of contact and for some reason, he was in Kansas City and not in Garden City. He was 6'-2-172lbs-blue eyes-brown hair-ruddy complexion. About 2 weeks later, his father died. On 26 May 1943, he drove to Ft Leavenworth, KS and enlisted in the Army. His service number was 37527266. His enlistment records indicate that he had 3 years of high school. At his time, 3 of his older siblings were married leaving his youngest sister Florence at home with his widowed mother. She was to wed in 1945. His mother married later Charles Masonbrink and he died in 1973 and she in 1976.

The local newspaper was full of good information about Clarence beginning in 1943 with this:

Pvt. Clarence Coleman is assigned to the medical corps and classified as assistant typist-clerk. He is very glad he took First Aid while at home, as he has need for that now. He does not like the flat sandy country there, nor the wind blowing all the time, but states the nights are so cool one needs good blankets. He would not trade one acre of Missouri soil for all like that part of Texas.

He wishes all the Cass County folks would write him as he would like to hear news from home. He was not homesick but mail from home is always very welcome to the boys away from home. His address is Pvt. Clarence W. Coleman, (37527266) Co. "A," 51st M.R. T. C., Camp Barkeley, Texas, U. S. Army.

Later that year in November: *USA Pvt Clarence W Coleman medical detachment is somewhere in Alaska' He will receive The Missourian as a Christmas gift from his sister-in-law s Mrs. Milton Coleman whose husband Pvt Coleman is overseas from an eastern port.* In May 1944, he was redeployed from Alaska and made this report:

Home from Alaska Pvt. Clarence Coleman Back From Skagway, Says Alaska Has Great Possibilities. Pvt. Clarence Coleman, lately of Skagway, Alaska, arrived here last Friday for a visit with his sister-in-law, Mrs. Mickey Coleman and with his mother, Mrs. W. J. Coleman at Adrian. Clarence was attached to a medical corps at Skagway several months and tells us that of all the periods in his life his Skagway stay and experiences are the greatest of all. The army hospital to which he was attached is located up the Skagway River above Skagway at a point called Liarsville.

In the early day gold rush, he says, Skagway was overrun by inhabitants and the town was built up the river as the basin in which Skagway is located was not big enough to accommodate all the prospectors who wished to make their base while on the hunt for riches. The basin contains only about twenty acres and the town proper has scarcely more than five hundred population. The town, he says, is a typical gold rush town with small frame buildings and board sidewalks.



On June 11 Clarence is ordered to report for duty at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, therefore he bade Alaska a fond farewell until after the war when he expects to return there. He says people in the United States proper don't know what we have in Alaska. The coldest it got last winter, he said, was zero, and in the summer the mercury will rise to 85. Dairying and poultry raising are being made a success of up there and gardens develop very quickly. Berries of many kinds are in great abundance. Believe it or not, he says,

two strawberries make a handful. This photo of Clarence and brother Milton was part of this report.

In 1944 this report was posted: *ATTENDED GRANDATHER'S FUNERAL Cpl. Clarence Coleman spent Monday in Harrisonville greeting old friends He had been visiting his mother Mrs. W J Coleman at Adrian who is quite ill with quinsy. He was called home early last week on account of the death of his grandfather Joseph M. Coleman who had lived in his father's home quite a number of months in recent years Cpl. Coleman is now company clerk in the army specialized training reserve program and is stationed since July at Baton Rouge, La at the University of Baton Rouge This company of boys (ASTRP) are seventeen years of age and are in this sort of training until they become eighteen when they will go into the regular army Cpl. Coleman was inducted into service in May 1943 After 3 months training he was sent to Skagway Alaska where he remained eight months. His brother Pfc Milton K Coleman has been in Italy the past sixteen months His wife (Milton's) Mrs. Melvina Coleman lives here with her mother.*

March 1945 brought yet another transfer after a promotion:

TRANSFERRED TO NEW MEXICO T. Sgt. Clarence W. Coleman, a Garden City boy, has been transferred from Baton Rouge, La., to State College, New Mexico, Clarence spent several months Alaska, been several months in Louisiana.

He writes "everything has been happening to me. Just got notice they were transferring me to New Mexico State College, A & M. A. as a clerk in A. S.T. R. P. Unit. This is located about 2½ miles from Las Cruces. Very dry and hot and lots of cactus. I have nice quarters in the home of a wealthy lady. The house is large, all on the ground floor. I eat at the dining hall on the campus. This is a small school of about 400 students. They tell me it seldom rains here and March is the worst month for dust and wind. It rains in July. I can tell by my breathing that it is higher than where I came from. Looking north and east I see big mountains 20 miles away, while some smaller ones are within 2 miles of us. Be sure and send me my Missourian (newspaper), for it is rather lonesome out here."

He must have been very lonely, because within 4 months, he and Margaret got married. I cannot find evidence of it, but Alvy indicates that they went back to New Orleans until his discharge in April 1945 at which time, Clarence completed his schooling and in the 1950 Census, both Clarence and Margaret were elementary school teachers in Mesilla Park, an area of Las Cruces.

There are not a lot of records after 1950, but sadly Clarence (Bill) died in Oct 1974 and it fills in some gaps:

Funeral Services Set For Principal

Funeral services for Clarence W. (Bill) Coleman, 49, of 1730 Boston Dr and principal al Central Elementary School, are scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday al Graham's Mortuary. He died this morning at a local hospital. He was principal at Central since 1957.

Rev. James Wright, Calvary Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery. The family requested that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Bill Coleman Organ Fund at Calvary.

Coleman was born in Creighton, Mo. He served in the Army during Work War II -1943-46. He earned his bachelor's degree in 1950 at New Mexico State University and his master's in 1956, also at NMSU.

He joined the Dona Ana County School System in 1950 as an elementary school teacher. In 1955, he was named principal at the old South Ward Elementary School, which stood at the intersection of Alameda Blvd. and Amador Ave. and the present site of the School Administration Building.

He is survived by his widow Margaret; two sons, Larry and Gary, both Las Cruces; his mother. Mrs. Louis Masonbrink. Harrisonville, Mo.; a brother, Milton, Adrian, Mo., and two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Stephens, Kansas City. Kan. and Mrs. Luella Siegenthaler, Harrisonville. Pallbearers will be Bill Osuna, Ray Sedillos, Fred Bargess, Paul Taylor, Jim Fowler and J.T. Horton.

The obituary gives us a good resume of his educational background and his work as an educator. It also alerts us to the fact that He and Margaret have two sons, Larry and Gary who were born after the 1950

Census. It also gives valuable information about his siblings. I added it to his Findagrave page to help others. With that information, I will see what I can find about Larry and Gary.

Since birth records are difficult to find in New Mexico, I was able to find a marriage record for their oldest son, Larry. He was born in 1953 in Las Cruces and I found him as a Jr in HS in 1970 and he was unpictured his senior year, but was in the Chess Club. He may have headed to college after that, but I cannot find evidence of that but with both of his parents being teachers, that would be a reasonable assumption. In Jan 1974 about six months before his father's death, he married Sharene Mann in Las Cruces. She was a little older than Larry he being born in 1953 and she in 1951. Sadly, shortly after their marriage, Larry died in a climbing accident.

Fall Kills Hiker

A 23-year-old Las Cruces man, apparently hiking in the Organ Mountains Sunday afternoon, fell 50 feet and died from massive head and chest injuries.

State Police identified the man as Larry Coleman, Box 4198 University Park. According to state policeman Oscar Frietza, Coleman, and two other hikers, were in the "Las Cuevas" region near the base of the mountains when the accident occurred. Accompanying Coleman were John Smedley, 1400 Telshor and Denise Dellangelo, New Mexico State University. Police reported the two were not injured.

This was followed by his obituary which read:

Coleman

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. today for Larry Ray Coleman, 23, who died Saturday in Memorial General Hospital. He was a lifelong resident of Las Cruces and a student at New Mexico State University. The Rev. Darrell Topley, of the First Baptist Church of Chama, officiated, with burial in the Masonic Cemetery with graveside services conducted by Jornada Lodge.

He is survived by his wife, Sherri, and a daughter, Andrea; his mother, Mrs. Margaret Coleman and a brother, Gary Coleman, all of Las Cruces.

Pallbearers named: Johnny Douglass, Richard Berry, Bob Mitchell, Keith Riddle, Carl Thompson, H. C. Stanford Jr.

This indicates that he was attending NMSU at the time of his death and that he and Sharene had a daughter who have been born late 1974 to 1975 I would guess. I'm not completely sure about Sharene's path after Larry's death, but in 1986 she married Jess Wesley Bethany who had been previously married to Patricia Burkardt. Jess was 6 years younger than Sharene (or Shari). I found them living in Albuquerque in 1989 where he was a shop mechanic and she a teacher. She died in 2023 in Las Cruces.

Moving on to the younger son, Gary I have not found any records so I will lean on Alvy's account. Before that, in a somewhat confusing news report from Sept 1976. As this was a month after Larry's death, it must have been an announcement printed a month after the fact since Larry was the best man and Gary was playing the organ.

Sowers-Hicks

Jerry E. Hicks and his bride, the former Naney Sowers, are now at home in Greenville, S.C., following a wedding trip to Dallas, Tex. The couple recited vows in an evening ceremony in Mesilla Park Baptist Church with the Rev. Cliff Hutchins officiating at the double-ring candlelight rite.

*The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Sowers, 1205 Mesilla, Las Cruces, and parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hicks of Roy. Music for the occasion was provided by **Gary Coleman**, organist.*

The bride's gown was in flocked sheer styled with rounded neck and long full in sleeves trimmed with light green ribbons in Empire-mode.

*Her father gave her in marriage. Matron of honor was **Shari Coleman** of Las Cruces and best man was **Larry Coleman**. Ushers were Bob Mitchell and John Douglas.*

A reception followed in the church fellowship hall with Frances Sowers, sister-in-law of the bride, presiding at the table. A sister to the bride, Colleen M. Sowers, registered guests.

The bride attended New Mexico State University and the bridegroom is a May 1976 graduate of NMSU with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He is currently employed at Fiber Industries, Greenville, S. C.

There seem to be several articles about Gary being a talented musician and playing at various weddings. He graduated from Las Cruces HS in 1977 and his only senior credits indicate that he was in the French Club. That is the extent of what I have been able to find in the public records. According to Alvy, he married Elanor Grove Ellis. I find an Elanor Ellis in the Las Cruces 1978 Yearbook who is in the Orchestra which might suggest a connection with Gary's musical involvement. She was born about 1962. Alvy then indicates that he married Lori Johnson and had 2 children. The only references that I can find to a Lori Johnson is someone with that name serving at her sister Kathy Johnson's marriage to David Ewing in Feb 1976. The parents were Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Johnson. I did find a Lori Johnson graduating in 1981 suggesting that she was born about 1963. I found these two yearbook photos of Kathy (who married David Ewing) and Lori and I would venture to say that they are sisters and this is the Lori I am looking for. Finally,



Alvy says he married Tammy (Carrol) Templeton. I'm assuming that this is Tammy Carrol who married first someone named Templeton. They only reference to a Tammy Carroll that I could find was an article from 1976 when a young lady by that name from Kansas City was attending NMMI in Roswell. Who knows.

I have added in all of the marriage and divorce and birthday dates from Alvy's book and can find no corroborating records and no news articles, but I will take his word for it. In his final comment, Alvy says that Gary goes by Gareth and his mother Margaret lived with him until her death 17 Oct 2015 in Leavenworth, KS.

Children of Margaret Smith and Clarence Coleman

592	Larry Ray Coleman	1953	1976	Margaret and Clarence's child#1
593	Gary Bill Coleman	1959		Margaret and Clarence's child#2

245 Alvy Ray Smith II - 8 JUN 1920 • Mayhill, Otero, NM - Death 13 MAR 2015 • Clovis, NM
 Edith Hortense Sanders 23 AUG 1921 • Tularosa, NM - 21 APR 2015 • Clovis, NM
 Marriage: 24 June 1942 – Truscott, TX



Alvy from his 1941 Yearbook. Edith from Ancestry posted by Mae Craig.

Alvy and Sina's third child was Alvy II who arrived in Mayhill in the summer of 1920. He appears in the 1930 Census having arrived just after the 1920 Census where he joined his two older siblings, Lawrence and Margaret and was followed a few years later by younger sister Lucy. By 1940, Lawrence and Margaret were married and his father was off on a project, so Alvy and his mother and sister were staying with his grandmother in Mesilla, NM just outside of Las Cruces. He and his father both went by Ray so newspaper searches can get a little tricky although I did see a mention of him in 1933 being called Alva. Also, adding to the challenge is that when his mother died in 1944, his father married Nellie Latham (Posey) who had 6 children from a previous marriage to Claude Posey. I had initially decided not to explore those children, but in order to better understand the relationships and who is who in the newspaper, it looks like I need to do so. These children include Gladys Hazel Posey (Elver

Hadley) 1914–2003, Edwin William Posey 1915–1995 (Jessie Pearl Vaught), Herbert Alvin Posey 1918–1990 (Lola Fay McClain), Martha Genevieve Posey), 1921–2010 (Urban Zimmerman, Delbert Earnest Posey 1923–2008 (Mary Herren North, Anna Judie), and Maudie Mae Posey 1927–2015 (Eugene Crockett). In going back and rereading the newspapers, I get a better understanding of the relationship that Alvy Sr and Pearl maintained with Pearl's children from her first marriage. As the years progress, it also appears that Alvy II and Edith were connected with his step siblings,

A little bit of trivia here. When looking for yearbook photos, I noticed the somewhat unique name of the NM A&M (now NMSU) Yearbook where many of the Smith kids went to college. I thought it was ironic that as Alvy was preparing to head off to war, he was featured in this yearbook.



Swastika Abandoned - May 27, 1983

*A Weekly Survey of News From Other Campuses
NO WRITER ATTRIBUTED*

While activists here are fighting to prevent World War III, the memories of World War II are still raising deep concern elsewhere.

In a decision counter to student opinion the Board of Regents for New Mexico State University has voted to drop the name Swastika from the university's student yearbook and to find a new symbol for the institution which has used the swastika since 1907.

Zuni Symbol

According to a spokesman for the university students had voted to keep the name, but the Publications Board, which assists in publishing the yearbook voted for a name change.

The use of the swastika a Zuni Indian symbol depicting the gods of rivers and mountains, had raised controversy at the university because of its use as a Nazi emblem in Germany. The Chronicle of Higher Education

Alvy II graduated from high school and headed off to college at nearby New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts where in July 1941 at the age of 21 he registered for the draft. His father was his point of contact and he was 5'-8"-162lbs-gray eyes-brown hair-light brown complexion. His military record shows that he enlisted on 12 May 1942. His DD-214 shows that he attended Basic and Officers Advanced courses at Ft Benning GA. From News articles and from his son, we learn that in June 1942 while in Texas for training, Edith and Alvy got married at the home of one of Edith's sisters in Truscott, TX and then in Mar 1943, Alvy got a furlough and came home to visit his family in New Mexico. This visit was shortly followed by a news announcement on 16 Sep 1943 of the birth of son Alvy III on 8 Sep in Weatherford, TX.

Looking more closely at his DD-214, we find that his service number was O 461 799 and he achieved the rank of 1st LT. He served in Co C, 303 Infantry, 97th Infantry Division. He had grown an inch to 5'-9" and was up to 185lbs. Good Army chow! On 19 Feb 1945 he departed the US enroute to the European Theater of Operations arriving on 1 Mar 1945. He then departed Europe on 16 June 1945 back to the US arriving 24 June 1945 where his unit must have been readied to head to the Pacific to fight the Japanese. On 30 Aug 1945 they headed out on a 5-week trip to somewhere in the Pacific arriving on 6 Oct 1945. As you may recall, the atomic bombs were dropped in early August so when they shipped out, the war against Japan was over so perhaps they were intended to serve as occupation troops. A month after arriving, they were shipped back home on 4 Nov 1945 arriving back in the US on 15 Nov 1945. Must have had a faster ship this time. He was eventually discharged on 21 Jan 1946. This provides an account of the 97th actions during WW2 including the liberation of Flossenbürg concentration camp. Another bit of trivia - *The 97th Infantry Division was credited with firing the last official shot in the European Theatre of Operations during World War II. This shot was fired by Pfc. Domenic Mozzetta (1925-2001) of Company B, 387th*

*Infantry Regiment, 97th Infantry Division, at a German sniper near Klenovice, Czechoslovakia shortly before midnight, 7 May 1945 **Another unit history.***

https://www.genealogycenter.info/military/wwii/results_97infantry.php

Also, of note on his DD-214 was that he had 3 dependents which means that a 2nd child had arrived before his deployment. Without birth certificates in New Mexico, we have to wait until the 1950 Census arrives to learn that the 3rd dependent was Rita Lousie Smith who arrived on 4 Dec 1944 in Las Cruces. The 1950 Census also shows that following the war, a 2nd daughter, Valerie Lynn Smith arrived on 1 Feb 1947.

Late me take a side trip to visit Edith Sanders. She was born in 1921 to Jefferson Jackson Sanders, a gentleman that had been born in Australia in 1863 but was in Williamson County TX by 1880. He first married Ada Williamson in 1887 in Tennessee which is interesting. It seems like most Tennesseans were moving to Texas rather than the other way. Jefferson and Ada had 3 sons and two daughters before her death in 1915 in New Mexico. I did a little research as to what led to his birth in Australia and that is another interesting tale that I won't go into in much depth except to say that Jefferson's father had ended up in California during the Gold Rush, met an Australian girl, followed her to Australia about 1853 where they were married and had a family and returned to the US about 1873 having missed the Civil War. His father was in New Mexico in 1900. I wonder if he knew the Goodsells and Jim Smith?

After the death of Jefferson's first wife Ada in 1915, he married a 2nd time to Hazel Sifleet, a woman from Ohio who was 30 at the time of their marriage in 1919. I'm not sure what brought him to El Paso in 1919 as her parents were in Ohio and her brother had headed east to New York. Hazel and Jefferson had two daughters, Alice in 1920 and Edith in 1921. Hazel then died in 1924 leaving Jefferson, a 61-year-old widower running a farm, with two babies that he was in no position to raise. All of his older children who were anywhere from 23 to 32 years older than the babies must not have been in a position to help, so the



girls ended up with the McGuire family. Her sister Alice married Warren Morton before 1940, while Edith was still with the McGuires in 1940 listed as a boarder and going to school. In her father's obituary in 1939, it was mentioned that she was a student at McMurray College in Abilene, TX. That enabled me to find her in that yearbook as I had been looking for her in New Mexico. In 1940 as a member of the class of 1943 and in 1941 while a sophomore, she was VP of Alpha Theta Nu Literary Society. She and Alvy may have met while she was home on summer break. It was mentioned above that she and

Alvy married at a sister's house in Truscott, TX and this would have been Alice who was living there in 1940 with her new husband.

Getting back to Alvy and Edith, the 1950 Census found them in having settled in to Clovis, NM where they lived at 1109 Thornton and Alvy was the sales manager of a feed store. He was 29, Edith 28, and the children were 6, 5, and 3.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	1109 Thorn	Clovis, Curry, New Mexico										
Smith	Alvey R.	Head	White	Male	29	1921	Married	New Mexico		44	Sales Manager	Feed Man. Co.
Smith	Edith H.	Wife	White	Female	28	1922	Married	New Mexico				
Smith	Alvy R. III	Son	White	Male	6	1944	Never Married	(Texas)				
Smith	Rita Louise	Daughter	White	Female	5	1945	Never Married	(New Mexico)				
Smith	Valerie Lyn	Daughter	White	Female	3	1947	Never Married	(New Mexico)				



I don't know what it looked like in 1950, but here is what was there in 2013. In the latest photo, the big tree is gone. Alvy had the foresight to live in a city with a very informative local paper that is available online through 1977, so there is a lot of information up until that year. Alvy's son Alvy III has filled in most of the blanks at alvyray.com but I will add some items that I found interesting. The first articles I found begin in 1946 with stories about Alvy's participation in the grain

dealer business and giving a talk on "The Analysis of Your Business" at a dealer's meeting. In 1949 he was elected VP of his Alumni Association from NM A&M. His work with the local 4H club is mentioned and his participation in the Army Reserve is noted. Participation in the Central Baptist Church activities appear and Alvy is noted for being training chairman for local Boy Scout leaders. In 1952, he was active in the Chamber of Commerce and Edith is mentioned as a Den Mother for Cub Scouts and active in church and other social events. In 1953, Alvy was Sunday School superintendent. In 1954, he represented New Mexico in Washington DC on meetings about the drought. In 1955 he was promoted to Major in the reserves. In 1955 he was on a board seeking a new site for an airport. He was also Sales Manager at El Rancho Feed Company. Edith was president of the PTA. Later in 1955, he was VP and on the Board at El Rancho.

In 1961, Alvy ran for and won a seat on the Clovis school board where he served in leadership roles and garnered multiple news articles through his tenure. His 1961 campaign ad read:

ALVY SMITH

Having announced for the six-year term on the School Board - one more hurdle exists. I need to be elected - and for this - I need your vote.

Our schools are important to all of us – and proper balance is required to see that maximum education is received by our children for the taxes we pay.

I certainly do not have solutions to all the problems - but believe that my background of experience coupled with what I hope is good, sound judgment will enable me to make wise decisions.

You might be interested in a brief resume:

- Native of New Mexico
- Graduate of New Mexico State University
- Resident of Clovis since 1946
- Edith and I have 3 children: Jerry-a Senior at CHS, Rita - a Junior at CHS, and Lynn-8th grade at Marshall Junior High.

Employment: Vice President and Director - El Rancho Milling Company.

Member Central Baptist Church: Deacon and currently serving as Church Moderator.

Veteran - combat experience -- hold rank of Major in Reserves.

Member and past officer and director of Clovis Lions Club.

Have served as president or chairman - Clovis Stockyards Association, City Youth Recreation Board, Vice President and director Clovis Chamber of Commerce.

I am for an elected School Board - working toward a sound, orderly expansion to take care of actual educational needs - proper balance between teaching and administration.

I would appreciate your vote on February 1 for the 6 six-year term.

In 1965, he petitioned to be the person who handed out diplomas at graduation because his daughter was graduating that year and would "skin him if he didn't."

Alvy ran for reelection in 1967 and won, but then in 1968 he resigned to become a teacher and administrator at Clovis High School. In 1975, the High School Yearbook was dedicated in his honor. That dedication accompanied by several pictures read:

Dedication

The Plainsman Staff proudly dedicates the 1974-1975 Plainsman with deep appreciation to one whose friendliness, skills, and dedication have reflected upon the students and faculty at Clovis High School.

During his years at Clovis High, he has taught biology and is now an assistant principal.

Not only is he dedicated to his work with the students, but he also takes an active part in school activities.

It is with grateful appreciation that we dedicate the 1974-1975 Plainsman to Mr. Alvy Smith.

Alvy II and Edith died a month apart in 2025 and their obituaries read:

***Alvy Ray Smith**, 94, a longtime resident of Clovis passed away on March 13, 2015. He first came to Clovis in 1946 and raised a family of three children here. He was first employed in the management of El Rancho Milling Company, a cattle feed manufacturing company here, and then served prominently in the Clovis school system for many years.*

Alvy was born on June 8, 1920, in Mayhill, NM the son of Alvy Ray Smith who was born in Cloudcroft, and Sina Maudie McKindrey who was born in Texas. He grew up in Mayhill and attended high school in Cloudcroft. Alvy received the bachelor of science degree in Range Management from New Mexico State University (then A&M) in Las Cruces. From its ROTC program, he also received a commission as a second lieutenant in the US Army shortly after Pearl Harbor.

Despite Alvy's tight association with New Mexico, his paternal heritage was Texian: his great-great-grandfather, James M. Smith fought in the Battle of San Jacinto and was thus a founding citizen of the Republic of Texas. His great-grandfather Jesse Richard Smith was also a Texian. Alvy's maternal heritage was Irish from the part now known as Northern Ireland. His great uncle James Gililand was accused, along with Oliver Lee, of the infamous murders of Judge Albert Fountain and his young son in early New Mexico Territory, but both were found not guilty. The unsolved murders continue to rankle southern families to this day.

Before departure for World War II service, Alvy married Edith Hortense Sanders of Tularosa on June 24, 1942 in Texas near where he was stationed. After the war, they moved to Clovis and remained there for most of their married life, except for 15 years in Las Cruces after their retirement. They returned to Clovis, in 2012.

Alvy's first service in World War II was in Europe in the 97th Infantry Division, where he attained the rank of Captain and was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism. Although he was never able to talk about it, he helped liberate a Nazi concentration camp, Flossenburg, in Germany in 1945. At the defeat of Germany, he was then sent to the Pacific theatre to begin the invasion of Japan. He was enroute aboard a ship in the Philippines when the atomic bombs and surrender were announced, thus surely saving his life. He was instead part of the occupying forces of Japan. After the War he was promoted to Major.

Alvy received a Master's degree in School Administration from Eastern New Mexico University. He served on the Clovis School Board for many years, Several as President. Alvy taught biology at Clovis High School for three years, then was Vice Principal for 17 years.

Alvy joins in death his daughter, Rita Louise Echols, buried in Clovis and a son-in-law Doug Lockwood. He is survived by his wife, sisters Margaret Coleman and Lucy Gray, daughter Valerie Lynn Aucutt (Bobby) of Clovis, his son Alvy Ray Smith III, "Jerry" (Alison) of Berkeley, California, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Alvy and Edith were longtime members of Central Baptist Church of Clovis. They joined the charter members before they even had a building. This obituary gives us a fuller understanding of his later life and later work in education. It yields clues as to the fact that he had lost a daughter Rita before 2015 and that she was married to someone named Echols. We learn that one of his daughters had been married to Doug Lockwood who was deceased before 2015. At this point, it is not clear if he was the husband of Rita or Valerie, but that will be explored later with these clues in hand. We have discussed his sister Margaret already, but now know that his sister Lucy married someone named Gray. Valerie was married to Bobby Aucott and Alvy III went by Jerry and was married to Alison and lived in Berkeley.

Moving to Edith's obituary a month later it reads:

***Edith Smith**, 93, a longtime resident of Clovis, passed away at Retirement Ranch on April 21, 2015. She came to Clovis in 1946 and raised a family of three children. She was a bank teller for many years and then a school teacher for even more in her long career.*

She was born Edith Hortense Sanders on August 23, 1921, in Tularosa, daughter of Jefferson Jackson Sanders, born in Australia, and Hazel Ada Sifleet, born in Ohio. Edith lost her mother at age two and was raised in Tularosa by foster parents, Dan and Dottie McGuire.

Edith's father Jeff was the son of an American gold prospector in Australia and an English immigrant to that country, explaining the hundreds of Edith's relatives in Australia. Jeff famously played poker for three days with Oliver Lee, Albert Bacon Fountain, George Curry (namesake of this county), and Sheriff Pat Garrett. This was just days before the infamous Fountain murders in early New Mexico Territory for which Lee was accused. Garrett sought to arrest him, and Col. Fall defended him at trial.

In Yankee contrast, her mother's family formally traces its roots to immigrants fleeing France in the late 1600s, because they were Protestants, to colonial Connecticut and New Jersey, where several of her male ancestors fought in the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Edith married Alvy Ray Smith of Mayhill on June 24, 1942, in Texas near where he was stationed before departure for World War II service. After the war, they moved to Clovis where they lived most of their married life together, except for about 15 years in Las Cruces after their retirement. They returned to Clovis in 2012.

Edith received her higher education at McMurray University in Abilene, TX, New Mexico State University, and Eastern New Mexico University. She worked for 13 years at Clovis National Bank. She then taught English, literature, speech, and history-especially New Mexico history of which she had a unique personal perspective for 17 years at Yucca Junior High (now Middle) School.

Edith joins in death her husband Alvy; her daughter, Rita Louis Echols; her son-in-law, Doug Lockwood; sister, Alice Morton; and brother-in-law, Warren Morton. She is survived by her daughter, Valerie Lynn Lockwood Aucutt (Bobby) of Clovis, and her son, Alvy Ray Smith III "Jerry" (Alison) of Berkeley, CA; and by five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Edith and Alvy were longtime members of Central Baptist Church of Clovis. They joined the charter members before there was a building.

Her obituary adds a bit more color to her father. Since they died so close to each other, the family information is fairly similar except we learn that her sister died before her. No mention is made of her older half siblings and I suspect that they may not have had much of a relationship due to the age differences.

Let's explore the children beginning with "Jerry", but more famously as Alvy Ray Smith III. In the Clovis newspapers, Alvy is mentioned in 1960 as being a National Merit Semifinalist. In his 1961 Senior Year he was a finalist and received scholarships to NMSU in Las Cruces. His high school credits read:

ALVY RAY SMITH, III

"Jerry"- La Sesalpa 4; Boys' State 3; Band 2, 3, 4; All-State Band 2, 3; Swing Band 2; NHS 3, 4; Jr. Rotarian 4; Typing Award 3; Pep Band 2, 3, 4; Finance Committee 3; Jr. Class Play Stage Manager 3; Quill and Scroll 4; Band Attendant 4; NMSQT Finalist 4; NHS Reporter 4; Mr. Success 4.

In 1963 he was reported as having received all A's at NMSU. In Feb 1965, he was engaged to Nancy Marie Denzler. I am not sure that this marriage ever came to fruition as it is not mentioned by Alvy and in March 1965, she married James Rooker from Oklahoma and died in 1994.

Denzler, Smith Rite Planned DENZLER MISS Special to EL PASO TIMES Las Cruces, N.M. - Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Denzler of Las Cruces announce the betrothal of their daughter, Nancy Marie, to Alvy Ray Smith III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvy Ray Smith II of Clovis, N.M. The couple will be married June 26. The bride elect is a graduate of West Babylon High School in New York. She attended New York State University at Albany, N.Y. She has three sisters, Cathie, Barbara and Rosemarie, and a brother, Edward. Mr. Smith is a senior at New Mexico State University where he is majoring in electrical engineering. He is

a member of Eta Kappa Nu and Sigma Tau Honorary fraternities. He was graduated from Clovis High School. He has two sisters, Lynn and Rita

Alvy was off to Stanford for graduate work after his graduation from NMSU and he reports in his genealogy that he obtained his PHD from Stanford in 1970 in Computer Graphics and taught briefly at UCLA, worked at Xerox briefly, then headed to New York Institute of Technology before ending back in California in 1980 working as the graphics director for Lucasfilm during the period when the first Star Wars movies were being created. He was deeply immersed with the legends of the day in the rise of computers appearing on panels with Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple, Adam Osbourne, founder of Osbourne Computers, and Adam Kay of Atari fame. This was all in 1984 about the time of the famous Apple Computer commercial and the release of the first IBM PC and the rise of its most successful clone, Compaq Computer in Houston, where I personally landed in 1984 building buildings instead of computers.

Later in 1984 at age 41, Alvy married Sandra (Zu) Marilyn Horowitz aged 37 in Seattle in the presence of his soon to be partner in Pixar, Ed Catmull. She was the daughter of Albert and Bertha Horowitz who are shown in the 1950 Census in Ohio with Sandra being the youngest of 2 girls, the oldest, Judith being Alvy's age. Per Alvy, she went to Ohio State and the University of Mexico and lived in various places in South America. He also shared that they had two children together between 1984 and 1986 when he and Ed Catmull with funding from Steve Jobs founded Pixar. The children were Samuel born in 1984 in Seattle and Jesse born in 1986 in California. Sandra and Alvy divorced in 2009 in Seattle and in 2010 he married Alice Gopnik who was born in 1955 in Philadelphia to Irwin and Myrna Shapiro Gopnik. I did a little research on Alice. She seems to be one of 6 children. Her father was the son of a Russian immigrant and he and Myrna married in 1954 in Philadelphia and by 1972 they had 6 children. Her mother was from Portugal. Both were professors and in 1967, they were teaching at McGill University in Montreal and at one point were residents of Habitat '67. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habitat_67 Alice currently is a professor at Berkeley. I will leave the rest of Alvy's biography to his own story at alvyray.com.

Alvy's next younger sister was Rita Lynn Smith who arrived in Dec 1944 shortly before her father shipped out to Europe. Researching her in the paper I find her first in the 1950 Census. In 1961 she was named the "Sunshine Queen" in Clovis. In 1962, she had graduated from high school and headed off to NMSU. This article appeared: *a Clovis Student Elected To AWS Council, NMSU UNIVERSITY PARK, N. M. Miss Rita Smith of Clovis has been elected representative to Associated Women Students General Council from Hamiel Hall at New Mexico State University. Hamiel Hall is one of three wings of the Women's Residence Center, undergraduate women's living area. Miss Smith will represent the Hall at all AWS meetings and make periodic reports back to her dormitory, council. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvy Smith, 1109 Thornton, Clovis, Miss Smith is a freshman speech student at NMSU. She is a member of the New Mexico State Baptist Student Union. A 1962 graduate of Clovis High, Miss Smith was senior favorite, junior attendant to band royalty and AAUW Girl of the Month She was president of the band and a member of. Hi-AK.* The credits from her Senior Yearbook read: Like her big brother, she seemed to have been a high achiever.



RITA LOUISE SMITH "Smitty"

Hi-AK 3, 4; Senior Syndicate 4; Band 2, 3, 4; All-State 3, 4; Swing Band 3, 4; Contest Winner 3, 4; Girls State Alternate 3; Registration Work 4; Typing Award 3; Band President 4; Band Queen Attendant 3; Class Favorite 4. A.A.U.W. March 4.

This is here Senior Favorite photo with Bob Bogle.

I have not found marriage records, but in 1966, Rita begins appearing as Mrs. Rita Smith Echols. Per Alvy, she married Horace Richard Echols who I found to be "Dick" Echols who was born in about 1942 and like Rita was into music. He was apparently an award-winning band director in Clovis for many years. Rita seems to have changed schools or pursued higher education because she was on the Dean's list at

Eastern NMU. By 1969, she was back in Clovis and working at the Clovis Special Service Center as a speech therapist. In 1971, she was in charge of the Clovis Heart Fund Drive. In 1971, she became ill and was taken to Texas for surgery where it was determined that she had Hodgkin's Disease and had to have her spleen removed. She seemed to recover and was back in Clovis quite busy with the AAUW, teaching at church, and being nominated to Phi Kappa Phi – National Honor Society. Again, I have not found divorce records, but in July 1977 she married Darrell Arnold Bryant who appears to have been born in 1934 in Kansas. He had divorced his wife Patricia a month before and seems to have had a son Larry Wayne Bryant who was born in 1955 in Kansas and died in 2023. Rita and Darrell divorced in San Antonio in May 1980, and in November 1980, Rita died from complications of her Hodgkin's disease while living in Lubbock. I have not found an obituary for her. Alvy mentions that Rita and Dick Echols had a child, but the grandchildren are not named in obituaries, so I do not know who this child might be. Turning to Alvy once again, I found the child to be Amy Echols born in Clovis July 1968 while the Echols lived at 116 Westerfield. When she was 6 in 1974, she and her mother watched her daddy make a hole-in-one. She appears to have married Michael Floyd White in Waco, TX in 1990 and they had at least one son, Hunter in 1994.

The final child born to Alvy and Edith was Valerie Lynn Smith who arrived 1 FEB 1947 in Clovis, New Mexico. She seems to have gone by Lynn at times and Valerie at others. Per her 1965 Senior graduation credits, her nickname was Flitz. She graduated before her father began his teaching career but while he was on the school board and as I mentioned, he petitioned to pass out diplomas at her graduation. Here are her credits and senior picture:



VALERIE LYNN SMITH "Flitz"

Hi-AK 3, 4; Spanish Club Secretary 3, President 4; Spanish Honor Society 3, 4; Band 2, 3, 4, Contest Winner 2, 3, 4; Sr. Syndicate 4; Prom Decorations 3; Spanish Festival 3; AAUW March; Typing Award 3.

In browsing the papers, I found that she was the AAUW Girl of the Month in 1965. In 1967, she was at the College of Teacher Education at NMSU in Las Cruces and on the honor roll. In 1968 she was on the Dean's List and doing well. In a rather lengthy article in June 1969, her marriage to James Douglas Lockwood was described. It was at the Central Baptist Church where her parents had been founding members. She wore the same dress that her sister had worn and her sister Rita Echols was her matron of honor and her brother-in-law Dick Echols was an usher. Two of her aunts, Margaret Smith Coleman and Bernice Holt Smith helped out. This portion of the announcement suggested that she might be marrying an adventuresome young man. Also, she got to teach for a bit with her father at Clovis HS.

The bride is a graduate of Clovis High School and was an honor graduate of New Mexico State University in May. She completed her studies in January and taught at Clovis High School during the Spring semester. The groom is a graduate of Sandia High School in Albuquerque. He has been on the Cooperative Program at NMSU and had work tours in Hawaii, Africa, Alaska, and the Antarctica, as well as the Christmas Islands.

Apart from the finding that they had a son daughter, Joy, born in El Paso in 1973, I am pretty dependent upon Alvy's description of his sister's life. James's death in 2006 does provide some clues. It reads:

***Doug Lockwood** Memorial services for Doug Lockwood 59, of Granbury, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 20, 2006 at the Acton United Methodist Church. He passed away Thursday, March 16, 2006, in Dallas. It is requested that memorials be made to the Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/EMS or Aplastic Anemia and MDS International Foundation. Lockwood was born Nov. 14, 1946, in Abington, Penn. He married Lynn Smith, June 15, 1969, in Clovis, N.M. He was a mechanical*

engineer and worked for the Cabot Corp. Lockwood was a member of the Acton United Methodist Church, the Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department and the New Mexico State University Mechanical Engineering Academy. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ivan and Dorothy Lockwood.

Survivors are wife, Lynn Lockwood of Granbury; daughter, Dr. Joy Berry and husband, Dr. Stuart Berry of Amarillo; son, Todd Lockwood and wife, Abbey, of Seattle, Wash.; a granddaughter, brothers, Richard Lockwood and wife, Aurora, of Greensboro, N.C., Bruce Lockwood and wife, Linnae, of Granbury; sisters, Barbara Bruno and husband, Vic, of Albuquerque, N.M., Margie Lockwood and husband, Richard Romero, of Albuquerque, N.M.; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Alvy and Edith Smith of Las Cruces, N.M.; brother-in-law, Dr. Alvy Smith and wife, Zu, of Seattle, Wash.; and several nieces and nephews. Wiley Funeral Home of Granbury.

From this we can see that he and Lynn ended up in Granbury, TX. Their daughter, Joy is a doctor of some sort in Amarillo and married to Stuart Berry who is also a doctor. They have a son, Todd who is married to Abbey and they live in Seattle. We learn about his siblings, Richard (Aurora, Greensboro, NC), Bruce (Linnae, Granbury), Barbara (Vic Bruno, Albuquerque) and Margie (Richard Romero, Albuquerque). Alvy III was still married to his first wife.

Using this, I was able to find that Todd was born about 1975 and married Abbey Crooks in 2003 in Seattle. Joy and her husband are both eye doctors in Amarillo and have a joint practice there.

Looking for news articles about Doug and Lynn, I found this from 1970.:

LAS CRUCES (AP) – The Seychelles, Kodiak, Alaska and Christmas Island - faraway places and strange sounding names to most people are a common part of life in the New Mexico State University Cooperative Education Program. Many Physical Science Laboratory co-op students work their ways through school in those places

Doug Lockwood, 23, Albuquerque, went on three "work phases" that took him to Hawaii; Madeira Island in the Atlantic off the coast of Portugal; Dakar, Senegal; Rome, Italy; Kodiak, Alaska; St. Paul Island in the Bearing Sea, and Palmer Station in Antarctica.

As far as Doug and Lynn, Alvy shares that they initially moved to Las Cruces when Lynn taught and then to El Paso where Doug worked for a subsidiary of Corning Glass and daughter Joy was born there. Corning transferred him to Chemung, NY where their son Todd was born in 1975. Doug then joined the Cabot Corporation which took him to Pampa, Big Spring, and Fulton (Atlanta). Lynn taught in all of these places. In 1992, they moved to Melbourne, Australia for 5 years before returning to headquarters near Boston in 1997. They retired in 2001 and moved to a retirement community in Granbury, TX. As noted, Doug died in 2006 and Lynn married Bobby Gerald Aucutt who had been in high school with her. He had married Carolyn Culpepper previously and had a daughter in 1977. Per Alvy, Bobby and Lynn were living in Clovis in 2014.

Children of Alvy II and Edith Sanders Smith

594	Alvy Ray Smith III	1943	Alvy and Edith's child#1
595	Rita Louise Smith	1944 1980	Alvy and Edith's child#2
596	Valerie Lynn Smith	1947	Alvy and Edith's child#3

This completes my study of Alvy and Edith Sanders Smith and their most interesting children. It was completed on 27 Dec 2024 and will probably be my final edition until the New Year. I think that I have 5 more to complete before I have finished the Jesse R. Smith Saga. Please contact me at rbills_houston@yahoo.com for additions and corrections.