

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.

73. George Richard Smith 10 NOV 1897 • Cloudcroft, NM - 18 DEC 1971 • Riverside, CA
 Erva Gnekow 3 FEB 1899 • San Joaquin, CA - 21 NOV 1994 • San Bernardino County, CA
 Marriage: 20 Aug 1921 • San Francisco, CA

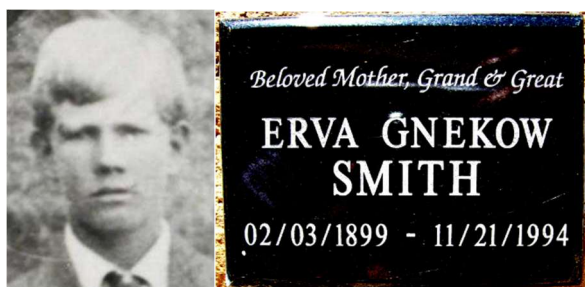


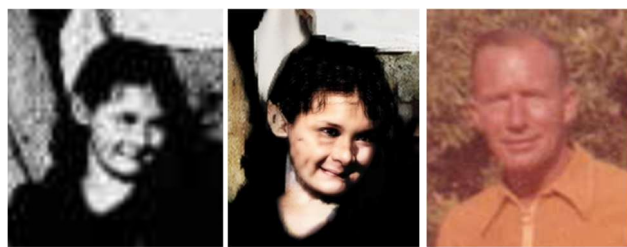
Photo of George from Ancestry and Erva's grave marker from Findagrave.

George was the 4th child of Benjamin and Lucretia and like his siblings is a mystery until the 1910 Census when he appears as a stepson with his mother and siblings. He shows up next in 1918 when he registers for the WW1 Draft at which time he is farming for himself in Sheldon, AZ. Lucretia Schindler of Sheldon is his point of contact. He is tall, medium build, with blue eyes, and white hair. His date of registration is 2 months before the end of the war so he does not get drafted. He next appears in the 1920 Census with his mother, now divorced from her third husband Frank Schindler and his two younger siblings. Shortly after the census, he found his way to San Francisco where he married Erva Gnekow.

George and Erva's Children

247	Hazel Jean Smith	1929	2015	George and Erva's Child#1
248	Georgia Ann Smith	1937		George and Erva's Child#2

247. Hazel Jean Smith 29 JUL 1929 • Bakersfield, CA - 17 JAN 2015 Per Alvy cannot confirm
 Marvin Robert Green 10 DEC 1925 • Mesa, AZ - 5 MAY 1999 • Bullhead City, AZ
 Marriage: 26 Nov 1947 Newport Heights, CA



News photo from 1943 Bakersfield (enhanced version) – Marvin from niece on Ancestry.

Hazel was the first of two daughters born to George and Erva arriving just in time to make the 1930 Census when her parents were living in Bakersfield, CA and her father was working as a service station attendant. In 1940, they had been joined by daughter Georgia and Erva's divorced mother, Laura who was 69. Hazel was 11 and Georgia was 2. Hazel had finished 5th grade. Her parents were 41 and 40 and they lived on Rosedale Highway. George was working as a distributor for a wholesale bakery.

A newspaper search yielded the following information about Hazel's early years. (Interestingly, there were several Hazle Smith's in Bakersfield at the time) In 1936, the family to a vacation to the beach at Cayucos. In 1939, she had a pet goat and her father built a cart for it to pull her in the local parade. Beginning in the 1940's when she was 10, she was very involved in the local 4-H Club with a specialty in sewing. Their chapter won an award in 1941 and that is where the picture came from. In 1941 she joined a group called the Rosedale Juvenile Grangers. In 1942, when she was 12 and living in Green Acres on Rosedale Highway, she lost her 4lb terrier. Her friends threw her a surprise party for her 13th birthday in 1942. She was in the 8th grade in 1943 and graduated from 8th grade that year. There is no yearbook that I can find, but that would suggest that she probably continued to high school between 1943 to 1947. She may not have graduated because in 1947 she married Marvin Green. That wedding was reported

Smith-Green Wedding Ceremony Held at Newport Heights; Live in South

Announcement is being made here of the marriage of Miss Hazel Jean Smith to Marvin Green on November 26 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Fidler of Newport Heights. Mr. and Mrs. Fidler are former Bakerfield residents.

For the ceremony the bride wore a white satin gown. Her veil of Chantilly lace was held in place by a crown of white flowers. She carried a white Bible. Miss Shirley Fidler formerly of Bakersfield, and Stanley Green of Coachella attended the couple. Miss Fidler sang, "Because" and "I Love You Truly." Miss Georgia Ann Smith presided at the guest book.

Following the ceremony the young couple motored to the southland for a honeymoon. They will live in Whittier.

The bride, who formerly made her home in Bakersfield, attended schools here until last year when her family moved south. At present she is a senior at Santa Ana High School. She expects to be graduated this January. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Smith, formerly of Green Acres.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Green of Coachella. He was educated in schools in Mesa, Ariz., and Oregon, He is a Navy veteran of World War II. Attending the wedding from Bakersfield were Mr. and Mrs. Pearle Green and Miss Norma Fidler.

Of the people mentioned here, I only recognize are Marvin's parents and his brother Stanley. I will detail his family. He was the middle of three sons born to Charles Baird Green and Hazel Marks Green. While born in Arizona, his family moved to Oregon before 1940 where his father was a farm worker and then to Coachella, CA before 1950 where his father continued farming and his mother was a nurse. His older brother was Kenneth Green born in 1923 and his younger brother was Stanley born in 1928. His older brother was unable to attend his wedding as he appeared to have been in the Navy and pursuing a degree in Colorado. I will discuss his family a little more later in looking for clues.

Marvin's WW2 Draft Registration Card was completed in May 1946 and it noted that he had been discharged from the Navy on 13 May 1946. He was in Thermal, CA and his father also was there and was his point of contact. He was 6'-0"-153lbs-green eyes-brown hair-light complexion. Other records show his service number was 386 89 32. From one version of his wedding announcement: *The bridegroom attended schools in Arizona and Oregon. He served three years in the Navy as radioman second class, two of the years in the Philippines.* This means that he enlisted about May 1943.

The 1950 Census found Hazel and Marvin along with their son Glen living in Coachella, CA.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	Coachella,	Riverside, California										
Green	Marvin R	Head	White	Male	24	1926	Married	Arizona		48	Veg Farming	Farm
Green	Hazel J	Wife	White	Female	20	1930	Married	California				
Green	Glen A	Son	White	Male	1	1949	Never Married	California				

15	Green Charles B	Head	W	M	54	Mar	Arizona
	— Cleone H	Wife	W	F	47	Mar	Kansas
2	Green Marvin R	Head	W	M	24	Mar	Arizona
	— Hazel J	Wife	W	F	20	Mar	California
	— Glen A	Son	W	M	1	Mar	California
3	Green Stanley C	Head	W	M	21	Mar	Arizona
	— Shirley N	Wife	W	F	19	Mar	California
	— Michael	Son	W	M	2	Mar	California

At the time of this census, he lived next door to his parents and his younger brother who was newly married with a son. Later birth records show that they had two daughters, Barbara Lynn in 1952 and Sherrol Elizabeth in 1953. I looked for a high school picture of her in California since the wedding announcement indicated that she intended to finish

school in Santa Barbara after the wedding. Apart from the birth announcements, I've found Marvin and Hazel in a couple of directories. In 1960 they were at 1373 Billie Rd, Chico, CA and Marvin was driving a truck. In 1962 they were at 14021 Dillardale, La Puente, CA and Marvin was driving a truck. They seem to have been a bit mobile. Son Glen was born in 7 May 1949 in Riverside CA which is in the LA area near Pomona. Barbara was born in Jan 1952 also in Riverside, and then the youngest Sherrol was born Nov 1953 near Chico which is way north and where the 1960 Directory shows them. Looking for high school photos for the children, I found Glenn as a sophomore in 1966 in West Covina at Edgewood HS showing him to be Class of 1969. I found a Barbara Green as a senior in 1968 at Marlborough HS in LA, but this is probably the wrong person unless she outdid her brother in school by 2 years. Finally, I found Sherrol as a sophomore in 1969 at Bassett HS in La Puente, CA. This is close to West Covina, but I would expect her brother and sister to be at the same school. It is puzzling.

The next mention that I find is the death of Marvin's father in 1971. Let's see if there are any clues therein:

Charles Green - PARADISE, Butte County

Funeral services were held in the Paradise Chapel of the Pines for Charles Baird Green, 75. He died Thursday in a local hospital.

A native of Phoenix, Ariz., Green moved to Paradise in 1952 and operated a local taxi service and a bus service between Chico and Paradise for a number of years before his retirement.

He was a veteran of World War I and a member of the local World War I Veterans Barracks, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Pine Ridge Duplicate Bridge Club.

Survivors include his widow. Cleone Hazel: son, Kenneth B. of Oklahoma City, OK., Marvin R. and Stanley C, both of LaPuente, Los Angeles County; sisters, Mabel Harleson of Tempe, Ariz, and Helen Camel of Fort Defiance, Ariz, and several grandchildren.

About the only good information I get from this is that in 1971, Marvin was in La Puente, CA as was his younger son, Stanley while his older son was in Oklahoma.

The following year, Marvin and Hazel divorced. At this time, their children would have been 23, 20, and 19. Let me see what they were up to beginning with Glenn. On 4 Jan 1969 which would have been

before the end of his Senior Year in HS, he married Susan Jean Diederichs. She was the oldest daughter of Eugene Diederichs from Minnesota and Lucy Enriquez a first-generation Mexican immigrant. She had one younger sister. Sandra. Her father's obituary from 2004 should give some clues:

Eugene M. Diederichs, 76
Frenchtown, MT
July 13, 1928-Dec 30, 2004

Eugene M. Diederichs, 76, passed away Thursday, December 30, 2004 at his home in Frenchtown, Montana of male breast cancer (Men, if you feel a lump in your breast, see your doctor immediately.)

He was born on July 13, 1928 in St. Cloud, MN to John and Mary (Mecthenberg) Diederichs (Martini), one of seven children. He lived on the 700 block of 18th Ave So., St. Cloud until he joined the Navy at the age of 17 where he served in WWII. While stationed in Long Beach, CA., he met and married Lucy Enriquez. He was a good husband and a great dad to his girls, Susie and Sandy. He loved his sons-in-law, five grandsons (he always wanted a boy) and absolutely adored and cherished his two great-grandkids,

Nova and Camilo. One thing about Eugene is that he never met a stranger and oddly enough, he always met a person who knew someone he knew, from somewhere he'd been. He got the biggest kick out of that.

He worked as a roofer and a painter for a few years and found his niche as a crankshaft grinder, owning his own crankshaft grinding business. He moved to Fallbrook, CA and worked at the Fallbrook Public utilities (water District) for sixteen years until he retired. He moved to Anza, CA and lived there for eight years before moving to Frenchtown, MT until his death (Living in Montana was a life-long dream). He was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting birds and big game in California, Utah, Colorado and Montana. He also enjoyed fishing (fresh and salt water) from the big and small waters of Minnesota to the west of the Rocky Mountains to the west coast and all the way to Alaska.

Eugene had a competitive side when it came to fishing. He always reminded his sons-in-law that he had fun "skunking" them and never let them forget it. Eugene took pride in all he did, from working on vehicles to working around the house and outside in the yard. When he touched a project of any kind, it was built to last forever.

*He is preceded in death by his father, John, mother Mary and six siblings: Bill, Aggie (Althaus), Nick, Lorraine, (Henning), Peter and Jerome (Eugene is the last to die of the John Diederichs family). He is survived by his loving family-his wife Lucy of 56 years; daughters, **Susie Green and Husband Glenn (Frenchtown, MT)** Sandy Espinosa and husband Andy (Lakewood, CA); grandchildren **Tim and Cristi Green** (Missoula, MT), **Travis Green and Gillian Bardsley** of Frenchtown, MT, Brian Espinosa (Los Angeles, CA), Stephen Espinosa and Michael Espinosa (Lakewood, CA); great-grandchildren Nova Green and Camilo Green.*

He is also survived by his cousins, nieces and nephews of the Diederichs, Althaus and Henning families still living in Minnesota. Cremation has taken place under the care of the cremation and Burial society of the Rockies.

In Lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Hospice or Partners In Home Care, 2687 Palmer St., Suite B, Missoula, MT. 59808, Camp-Make-A-Dream, P.O. Box 1450, Missoula, MT. 59806, or any Veteran organizations of your choice.

What we are searching for here is information about Glenn Green and we see that he and Susan have ended up in Montana and they appear to have 2 married sons, Tim and Travis who have two children between them, Nova and Camilo. I am not going to sort that out.

Let's move on to daughter Barbara. With a birthday in 1952, I would expect her to have graduated from high school about 1968 or 1969. I have not found her high school records, but in 1970, she married Ralph Lloyd Schloderer who was born to Joseph and Anna Heck Schloderer in 1949. He was the youngest

of 5 with an older sister born in 1926 and 3 older brothers born in 1936, 1945, and 1946. Both of his parents were born in Germany. That is crazy. His older sister was born the same year as my father and her youngest brother was born the same year as my sister! Anyway, John and Barbara had a son John in 1970. They then divorced in 1974. Getting a clue from Alvy, I learned that she married Luigi Manfred Nino and I was able to confirm that this was the case. He was a German immigrant born in 1950 and they married in Hawaii in 1977. Unfortunately, things did not seem to have gone too well for Luigi. He was in the news multiple times for various legal problems. He and Barbara had their house foreclosed in 1989. They seem to have had two children, Kali and Waioli. In 1997, Barbara had some involvement in the estate of a Robles Miller who died without a will. I found reports of her son John Schloderer involved in surfing in the 1980's.

LUIGI MANFRED NINO, 56, of the North Shore, died April 12, 2007. Born in Munich, Germany. A musician. Survived by daughter, Kali; son, Waioli; sister, Rosita; one grandchild. Private service held. Arrangements by Moanalua Mortuary.

I have not been able to find any definitive birth information about Kali and Waioli apart from an article about Kali Nino being involved in 4-H in Hawaii on 1987. Lots of mysteries here.

Continuing with daughter Sherrol. Marriage records are found from 22 Nov 1975 between Sherrol and Gary Leighton Voigt (or Voight) in Orange County, CA. They had a son Shiloh Robert Voight in 1976. The divorce in Feb 1983 after which she married Ronald Leroy Maloof and had a son Brandon Leroy Maloof in 1984 and per Alvy a daughter Tanya Maloof who I have not been able to confirm.

One of Marvin's brothers died in 2016, and while it does add any clues to Marvin and Hazel, I found it interesting due to his assignment in Venezuela at one point in his career. I'm also struck by the difference in careers that Kenneth had based on his opportunity to get a degree at the outbreak of WW2.

Kenneth Baird Green

Kenneth Baird Green passed away on October 3, 2016, at University Retirement Center in Davis, CA. He was born to Cleone and Charles Green in Inglewood, CA on August 16, 1923. After living in various places in California, Arizona, and Oregon with his parents and two brothers during the Great Depression, Ken entered Oregon State University where he met his future wife, Esther Voget. When WWII erupted, he was commissioned as an officer in the Navy and transferred to the University of Colorado where he earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering. After the war Ken joined General Petroleum in Southern California which became Mobil Oil.

Ken and Esther lived in Taft, CA., Oklahoma City, London, Lagos, Nigeria, Westport, CT, Caracas, Venezuela, and Stavanger, Norway. Ken retired in Grass Valley, CA. in 1984. Esther died in 1994. Ken and Esther are survived by their children, Keith, Elaine, Nancy, grandchildren Erin and Alex, and great grandson, Wilder.

Ken married Dorothy Merritt in 1996, and they moved to the University Retirement Center in Davis where they took active roles in resident activities. Dorothy has survived as Ken's widow.

Ken's interment ceremony will be at 3:00 on October 21 at Sierra Memorial Lawn Cemetery, Nevada City, CA. A Celebration of Life is planned for Tuesday, October 25, 2- 4pm at University Retirement Center, 1515 Shasta Dr., Davis, CA 95616.

Arrangements are under the care of Hooper and Weaver Mortuary.

Children of Hazel and Marvin

600	Glen A Green	1949	Hazel and Marvin's child#1
601	Barbara Lynn Green	1952	Hazel and Marvin's child#2
602	Sherrol Elizabeth Green	1953	Hazel and Marvin's child#3

248. Georgia Ann Smith 15 SEP 1937 • Bakersfield, CA – Living

#1 Paul D' Earl Lund 23 JUL 1937 • Cutbank, MT - 25 OCT 1986 • Cascade County, MT

Marriage: 21 Mar 1957 • Mexico - Per his obituary

#2 John Gilbert Welton 5 JUL 1936 • Cumberland, IA - 23 AUG 2010 • Spokane, WA

Marriage: 19 Sep 1987 • Jefferson, Montana, USA



Georgia from her HS Yearbook. Paul and John from their obituaries.

George and Erva's 2nd and last child was Georgia Ann who arrived in the summer of 1937 to ruin the life of her older sister Hazel who most certainly inherited the task of babysitting this new youngster.

She appears in the 1940 Census with her parents, big sister and widowed grandmother while they were still in Bakersfield. Her big sister got tired of babysitting and got married in 1947 when she was only 10 where Georgia was in charge of the guest book. From news clippings of her early years, I found her having a 4th birthday celebration in 1941 and also appearing in a community fashion show featuring the town's children. She was mentioned in 1944 when her grandmother died, Erva's mother.

By 1950, her family had moved to Coachella, CA where her parents were 52 and 51 to her 12 and her father was engaged in Alfalfa Farming. She was in Coachella HS by 1953, but probably only a freshman and later yearbooks are not available, but I would guess that she graduated about 1956. In March 1957, she married Paul Lund.

Paul was the youngest son of Jesse and Frances Adams Lund from Iowa and Missouri. In 1940, he was a baby in Montana and in 1950, he and his two older brothers, Harold and Clinton were living on the family farm in Iowa but shortly thereafter, moved to California per his father's obituary upon his death in 1970. I'm going to rely mainly on Paul's obituary to describe his career as he died young in Oct 1986. His obituary reads:

Paul Lund

Born July 23, 1937, in Cut Bank to the late Jesse Frances Lund, he moved to a ranch near Big Sandy at age 6 and attended schools there. At age 14 the moved to San Bernadino, Calif., where he graduated from

San Bernadino Union High School in 1955. He attended San Bernadino Valley College for two years and later graduated from the University of Montana School of Pharmacy in 1961 where he was a member of the Rho Chi Pharmacy Honorary Society.

Mr. Lund worked for the Northside Drug in Great Falls for two years and came to Helena in 1963 where he was a pharmacist at Western Drug. For the past 14 1/2 years he has owned and operated Paul's Pharmacy at 2225 11th Ave.

Mr. Lund was active in the Clancy Quick Response Unit and was an ardent outdoorsman, enjoying hiking, hunting and skiing. He was a member of the Montana Pharmaceutical Association and the National Rifle Association.

On March 21, 1957, in Mexico, he married the former Georgia A. Smith. Survivors include his wife, Georgia; a son, Scott J.; a daughter and son-in-law, Don and Bob McCullough, all of Clancy; a son, Ross K. of Bozeman; two grandchildren, Nakoa and Austin McCullough of Clancy; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harold J. and Shirley Lund of Tacoma, Wash., and Clinton G. and Nelline Lund of Phelan, CA.; and several nieces and nephews.

Chapel services will be conducted Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Hagler-Anderson Chapel with the Rev. Hap Piper of the Clancy United Methodist Church officiating. Cremation has taken place.

From his obituary we learn when he a Georgia were married and that they have a son Scott J., a daughter Don (Dawn who is married to Bob McCullough and a son Ross. Don and Bob have two children Nakoa and Austin. Let me see if I can document these people. From his obituary, I would guess that they children were born in Montana perhaps while he was the University of Montana.

Looking at the records, I have in fact identified the three sons, Scott Joseph born in 1957, Dawn Paulette born in 1959, and Ross Keith born in 1961. Scott was not married when his father died but is currently married to Deborah Monson born in CA in 1963. They married in Montana in 1994. Dawn is married to Robert John McCullough and they have two sons, Nakoa and Austin born in 1980 and 1981 in Montana. I'm not showing any marriage records for Ross yet.

Following Paul's death, Georgia married a 2nd time to John Gilbert Welton who was born in Iowa in 1936 to George and Goldie Lechner Welton. Let's explore his obituary from 2010 to discover his career.

WELTON, John G. (Age 74) Passed away August 23, 2010. John was born July 5, 1936, to George and Goldie Welton. He grew up in the Coachella Valley in Southern California, and graduated from the Coachella Valley Union High School in 1954. John entered the U.S. Air Force in 1955 and served four years. After being discharged from the Air Force he served eight years with the Spokane Police Department. John left the SPD in 1969 and joined the Washington Air National Guard. John retired as a Master Sergeant after 32 years of service. In his military career, he served in the Strategic Air Command and stood SAC alert from beginning to end as well as being deployed to Desert Storm.

In 1994, John went to work for the United States Marshals as a Lead Court Security Officer. He retired from the US Marshals in 2002. Over the course of his lifetime, John wore many hats-Farmer, Policeman, Expert Marksman, Crew Chief, War Veteran, Cattle Rancher, Husband, Father and Grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Georgia Smith Lund Welton; his sister Georgia Sue Welton (Johnny) Campbell; sister-in-law, Hazel Smith; daughter, Darcie Welton Lindsley; step-daughter, Dawn (Bob) McCullough; step-sons, Scott (Deb) Lund, and Ross (SueAnn) Lund; seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and five nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, and recently his aunt Emma Lou Riggs.

Family and friends, please join us for a celebration of John's life on Sunday, August 29, 2010, at 1:00 pm, at the home of Butch and Kymn Johnson, 7414 S. Vicari Rd, Spokane Valley, WA. Please bring a dish of your choice to share in a barbeque potluck with meat and beverages provided by the family. Military Honors will be presented at 3:00 pm. Call Darcie for more information at 847-4239.

Memorial contributions can be made to the local animal shelter or rescue of your choice. Community Cremation Service Spokane Valley 13127 E. Sprague, Spokane Valley, WI 9921B 509-92B-2020. CommunityCremationService.com.

From this obituary, we can deduce that he and Georgia married about 1987 by virtue of the 23 years comment. That means that they had a daughter Darcy Welton or he had a previous marriage that would be hard to pinpoint with all of his military service. In 1987, Georgia would have been 50, so my suspicion is that Darcy was not Georgia's daughter. All indications are that she was born in Sep 1970 which suggests that John had a previous marriage that I have not discovered. I then looked further and found that he was married twice previously in 1958 to 1968 to Margaret Fitschen from Iowa and then from 1968 to 1987 to Devryn Blumhagen who was Darcy's mother. Devryn seems to have been born about 1947 in probably Idaho. I am not going to try and ferret out the grandchildren mentioned.

Children of Georgia Smith and Paul Lund

603	Scott Joseph Lund	1957	XXXX	Georgia and Paul's child#1
604	Dawn Paulette Lund	1959	XXXX	Georgia and Paul's child#2
605	Ross Keith Lund	1961	XXXX	Georgia and Paul's child#3

This is the final episode of the children of George and Erva Gnekow Smith. It was completed on 30 Dec 2024 as the year comes to a close. I look forward to hearing from you at rbills_houston.com. Any additions, feedback, corrections would be appreciated. Rich