

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

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 line and have much regret that of the people on this list, I only met my grandmother Della and her brother Arthur.

Elijah and Fanny's children

56	Ora Lea Smith	1887	1962	Elijah and Fannie's Child#1
57	Arthur Alton Smith	1889	1968	Elijah and Fannie's Child#2
58	Della Mae Smith	1893	1987	Elijah and Fannie's Child#3
59	Eliza Franklin Smith	1896	1974	Elijah and Fannie's Child#4
60	Jesse Floyd Smith	1898	1978	Elijah and Fannie's Child#5
61	Unknown Smith	1900	1900	Elijah and Fannie's Child#6
62	Samuel Randolph Smith	1902	1992	Elijah and Fannie's Child#7
63	James Ewell Smith	1904	1958	Elijah and Fannie's Child#8

56. Ora Lea Smith 9 NOV 1887 • Runnels County, TX - 28 SEP 1962 • Midland, TX
 Otis Arthur King 19 FEB 1884 • Denton County, TX - 7 AUG 1934 • Young County, TX
 Marriage: 9 Feb 1908 • Young, Texas



Photo of Ora from my family photos. Photo of Otis's gravestone.

Ora was the first child of Elijah and Fannie. She was born before they moved out of Runnels County to Jack County. She hasn't been found in the 1900 Census, but in 1908 she married Otis King in Young County which is in central Texas and home of Graham, TX which I kind of identify

as my “home” since both of my parents were from there. Otis’s background is a little convoluted. He doesn’t show up in a census until he was 26 and married to Ora. In looking at his background, it looks like his father was Henry King. Henry married Sarah Pitts in Denton in 1881 and Otis was born there in 1884. Henry then died in 1888, and Sarah married Jefferson Davis Burk shortly thereafter and they had 3 children between 1889 and 1896. This would suggest that Otis was probably raised in the Burk household with Daniel Wesley Burk 1889, Edward Hughes Burk 1891, and Sarah Bessie Burk 1896 but without being able to find them in the 1900 Census, this is only a conjecture. Sarah also reported having 5 children with 4 surviving in 1910 but there are only three kids in the 1910 Census and Otis was still alive, so I don’t know who the 4th was. With the 5-year gap between Edward and Sarah, it may have been during that period, or perhaps Otis had a sibling that died.

Ora and Otis show up first in the 1910 Census having moved to Jack County from her birthplace in Runnels County. They started their family right away with the arrival of Henry in 1909 and Odessa in 1910, just in time for the census which was in April that year. As usual, Otis was a farmer. I doubt that they were too far away from Ora’s parents who were also in Jack County.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Present Marriage	Children Born	Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1910 Census	Justice Precinct 5, Jack, Texas, USA													
King	Otis A	Head	Male	White	26	1884	Married	2			Texas	Texas	Missouri	Farmer
King	Ora L	Wife	Female	White	22	1888	Married	2	2		2 Texas	Texas	Georgia	
King	Henry D	Son	Male	White	1	1909	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Odessa	Daughter	Female	White	0	1910	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	

Based on the birth locations of their children it looks like they did a bit of moving around in the 1910’s. While Douglas Henry King 1909 claims to have been born in Graham, Odessa Mae King 1910 and Clayburn Edwin King 1911 had been born in Bryson, Jack County. Travis Harold King 1913 was born in Spiro, OK while Kenneth Smith King 1918 was born in Jean back in Young County. At the end on the decade, they were in Newcastle which is in Young County and the location of Fort Belknap, an old frontier fort from the Indian fighting days. When I looked up Newcastle, it stated that it had been a coal mining town from 1908 to 1942. Researching that a little more, I found that coal had been discovered there in 1908 and the town that sprung up was named after the English mining town of Newcastle upon Tyne. I then looked at Otis’s WWI Draft registration card, and lo and behold, he was living and working as a coal miner in 1918. He was 34, married to Ora, and worked for The Belknap Coal Company. He was medium height

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1920 Census	Newcastle, Young, Texas												
King	Otis A	Head	Owned	Mortgaged	Male	White	38	1885	Married	Texas	Texas	Missouri	Farmer
King	Ora	Wife			Female	White	31	1889	Married	Texas	Kentucky	Texas	
King	Daryess	Son			Male	White	11	1909	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Odessa	Daughter			Female	White	9	1911	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Clayburn H	Son			Male	White	8	1912	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Travis	Son			Male	White	6	1914	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Kennith	Son			Male	White	1	1919	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	

and build with brown eyes and black hair. He did not get drafted for WW1. While there is no evidence, the 5-year gap between Travis and Kenneth suggests that possibility of another child. They were farming and were in the process of buying their land.

The family reached its peak in the 1920’s with the addition of two more sons and a daughter Otis Jan King 1920. Charles Noel King 1921, and Mary Louise King 1928. The 1930 Census found Otis and Ora and all of the children living back in Young County probably north of Graham in the Loving area where Ora’s sister Della Butler lived with her family. My mother had this picture of some of her cousins which includes Odessa, Douglas, Clayburn, and Charles Noel. Based on Noel’s age, this must have been around 1924 or 1925. They were back to renting their farm again. They had been married 22 years and had 6 boys and 2 girls ranging in age from 20 to 1. It is interesting to me to see how much older these cousins were than their later cousins. The Kings first cousin would have been Della’s son Clinton, Jr who was born in 1921, the same year as Ora’s youngest son.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Estimate d Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	New Casth and Profit road		Precinct 6, Young, Texas															
King	Otis A	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Male	White	46	1884	Married	24	No	Yes	Texas	North Carolina	Missouri	Farmer
King	Ora L	Wife					Female	White	42	1888	Married	20	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Georgia	
King	Douglas H	Son					Male	White	20	1910	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
King	Odessa M	Daughter					Female	White	20	1910	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Clayburn E	Son					Male	White	19	1911	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
King	Travis H	Son					Male	White	16	1914	Single		Yes	Yes	Oklahoma	Texas	Texas	
King	Kenneth M	Son					Male	White	11	1919	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Otis J	Son					Male	White	10	1920	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Noel C	Son					Male	White	8	1922	Single		Yes		Texas	Texas	Texas	
King	Mary L	Daughter					Female	White	1	1929	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	



In 1934, tragedy struck the King family when Otis was killed by a drunk driver. I found a couple of news articles about his death.

Vehicles In Tragic Crash Meet Head-On

Two men. were killed and one seriously injured in a head-on collision of two trucks seven miles east of Graham on the Jacksboro highway Tuesday afternoon shortly before 10 o'clock. Four persons figuring in the accident escaped with minor bruises.

O. A. (Blackie) King, well-known Young County cattleman, died short after reaching a Graham hospital. Cecil Williams, 28, of Hico, hitchhiker, was killed instantly.

James D. (Red) Morrow of Wichita Falls, driver of a Falstaff beer truck received fractures of both arms and three fingers, and two torn from his hand. fingers were was in a Graham hospital Tues. night.

King and Williams were riding in truck operated by Bob Bullock of Newcastle. Joe Chappell, owner the truck, and Bullock's, son, John R. Bullock, 11, also were passengers on the truck. Bullock was enroute to Newcastle from a trip Fort Worth. His cattle truck was empty.

Bullock, his son, and Chappell were released from the after receiving first aid hospital treatment.

Trucks Hit Head On

Morrow was accompanied by Eldon Wharton of Megargel, beer distributor of Archer County, Morrow was driving east on the highway. As two trucks met the beer truck cut to the left and struck the right front wheel of the cattle truck, throwing the two machines into a head-on crash. Both trucks were demolished, according to statements by County Attorney W. W. Farmer and Mr. Chappell.

Wharton escaped with minor injuries and was questioned by officers and later released, it was learned. Mr. Farmer and Judge J. Rickman, justice of the peace, questioned Morrow at the hospital. The trucks crashed near Dakina switch #1 the Rock Island railway. Crews of workmen were called to scene to remove the smashed machines from the highway. The cattle truck was moved to allow rescue workers to remove Williams' body.

Native of County King was a native of Young County and was well known as cattle breeder and buyer. He survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Odessa Robinson and Miss Louise King of Graham, and six sons, Clayburn, Douglas, Travis, Kenneth, O. J. and Noel King, all Graham.

Williams was believed enroute Wichita Falls. He carried a telegram telling him to report to the Panhandle Refining Company of Wichita Falls for work. County officials said his parents in Hico had been notified of his death.

CHARGE DRIVER IN FATAL TRUCK CRASH GRAHAM Aug 8. *J. D. Morrow of Wichita Falls, driver of one at two automobile trucks which collided yesterday resulting in two deaths was charged today by Assistant District Attorney C E Penix with driving while intoxicated. His bond was set at \$1000. Suffering from broken arms and other injuries Morrow is in a hospital here. His injuries required the amputation of two fingers. J E Wharton of Megargel who was with Morrow was not injured. The two deaths were those of Otis A King 50 of Newcastle and Cecil Williams 23 of Hico who were in the other truck. Funeral services*

for Mr. King were held at Newcastle this afternoon. Services for Mr. Williams will be held Thursday morning. The collision five miles east of Graham on the road to Fort Worth. (probably SH16).

From these stories we gather the valuable information that Otis was nicknamed Blackie and was a cattle breeder rather than a farmer. At the time of his death, daughter Odessa was married. Some things to think about. The first is that the driver of a beer truck appears to have been drinking his product and appears to have been riding with his boss. The 2nd is poor Cecil Williams who had just gotten a lucrative job offer, hitched a ride to report, and was killed instantly.

As far as the King family was concerned, Ora was left with six sons of which 3 were 20 or older when Otis died so hopefully, she had lots of help. Her oldest daughter had married a year before her father's death. The younger three sons and one youngest daughter would have been 15, 14, 12, and 5 so Ora still had a lot of mothering to do. I did try to find out what happened to the driver that killed Otis, J. D. (Red) Morrow, but was only able to find that he was brought up on charges, but I never found trial results. It does appear that he had a son who was killed in WW2 while piloting a bomber.

As we look ahead to the 1940 Census, we find Ora still living in Young County, probably of the same ranch that they lived on for a while when Otis was still around. Douglas, Odessa, Clayburn and Travis were no longer at home.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		Old New Castle	Young, Texas										
King	Ora	Head	Female	White	52	1888	Widowed	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		Rural	
King	Kenneth	Son	Male	White	22	1918	Single	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Rural	Common Laborer
King	Otis	Son	Male	White	20	1920	Single	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Rural	Farming
King	C Noel	Son	Male	White	18	1922	Single	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Rural	Common Laborer
King	Mary L	Daughter	Female	White	11	1929	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 4th grade	Texas		Rural	

Douglas had married Marie Walons (Walonus) in Chicago in 1936 and had a son Arthur D. in 1939. Odessa married Jennings Robertson in Young County in 1933 and they had Gary O'Neil and Sally in 1934 and 1937. These would have been the first cousins that my mother met. Clayburne married Pauline Leard in Oklahoma in 1937. I do not believe that they had any children, though he did have one later. Travis married Norma Havens in Young County in 1936 and had a son Harold Dwayne in 1938.

Ora being the mother of 6 draft aged boys and one son-in-law had reasons to be concerned with the outbreak of WW2. While we will explore them more closely in the next generation, I will note that Douglas, still in Chicago did not seem to serve. He also added a son Robert John in 1944. Son-in-law Jennings Robertson also missed serving. They had a 3rd child Martha May in 1943. Clayburne enlisted in 1944 though his branch was not indicated. I have a picture of him in uniform, so hopefully my research will yield more information. I haven't found that Travis served either. He and Norma had a second son, Kent in 1948.

Son Kenneth married in 1941 to Frances Singleton and went about eclipsing his siblings in the children department. They had Carolyn Wynell King 1942, Noel Lorraine King 1943 and Kenneth Smith King Jr. 1946 with more to come. While I cannot find specific service records, I know that he did serve in the US Navy during WW2. Otis enlisted in the Army Air Force in 1941 and ended up have a military career



in the Air Force serving until 1963. He married Sarah Ausborn in Mississippi in 1944 and they had a daughter, Patty in 1947. Charles married Virginia Freyer in Graham, TX in 1946 and they had Ted Otis King in 1947 and Deborah Lea King in 1949 both in Oklahoma. Finally, the youngest, Mary got married in 1945 to Henry Singleton in Graham. They had Judy Sue Singleton in 1945, Douglas Paul Singleton in 1946, and Linda Kay Singleton in 1949.

The 1950 Census found the still widowed Ora living in Brownwood, TX at 812 Ave A with no occupation shown. I haven't been able to determine what took her to Brownwood since I don't see any of her children there. This is that house. My youngest sister lived in Brownwood for a few years. During WW2, it was the home of Camp Bowie, a major training base that is still in use today.

I have not found a lot of information about her after the 1950 Census. She died in Midland TX in 1962 and I will have to ask my cousin Sue who grew up in Midland if she has recollections. Here is her

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census	812 Ave A					Brownwood, Brown, Texas					
Smith	Ora E	Head	White	Female	62	1888	Widowed	Texas			

obituary. It looks like she may have been living with her son Clayburne. He had married Pauline Leard who had two children from a previous marriage.

Midlander's Funeral Set GRAHAM (Staff) - Mrs. Oral Lee King, 74, of Midland, was to be buried today in the Newcastle Cemetery following 2 p.m. funeral services in the East Side Church of Christ in Graham. Johnny Thompson, minister, was to officiate. Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home of Midland was to be in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. King, a resident of Midland since 1957, died late Friday at her home. A native of Runnels County, Mrs. King had lived many years in Bryson and Graham. She was married in 1908 to the late Otis A. King, a cattle buyer and farmer. Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Odessa Robertson of Roswell; N. M. and Mrs. Mary E. Singleton of Odessa; six sons, C. E., of Midland, Travis of Crystal City. Kenneth of Andrews, Otis of Amarillo, Noel of Dover, OK. and Douglas of Chicago, Ill.; one sister, Mrs. Butler of Graham; and four brothers, A. A. Smith of Graham. Sam Smith of Olney, Frank Smith of Bryson and Floyd Smith of Albuquerque, N. M.

There are 29 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Children of Ora and Otis King

208	Douglas H King	1909	1990	Ora and Otis's Child #1
209	Odessa M King	1910	1993	Ora and Otis's Child #2
210	Clayburne Edwin King	1911	1983	Ora and Otis's Child #3
211	Travis Harold King	1913	1999	Ora and Otis's Child #4
212	Kenneth Smith King	1918	1994	Ora and Otis's Child #5
213	Otis Jan King	1920	2012	Ora and Otis's Child #6
214	Charles Noel King	1921	2007	Ora and Otis's Child #7
215	Mary Louise King	1928	2008	Ora and Otis's Child #8

57. Arthur Alton Smith 3 SEP 1890 • Bryson, Jack, TX - 29 DEC 1968 • Tucson, Pima, AZ
 Petrice Bertye 17 Aug 1910 • Baytown, TX – 30 Nov 1968 • Houston, TX
 Marriage: 30 Nov 1968 • Houston, Harris, TX



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

Arthur was the 2nd 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. He was tall and stout with grey eyes and brown hair. This has puzzled me for a while because we know that he gets married again and I have been unable to find any marriage records that are definitely him. There are quite a few Arthur Smith marriages, but without further clues, I'm afraid that his first wife will remain a mystery. On FamilySearch, there is a WW1 Military service card which indicates that he was drafted and inducted in Kansas City, MO on 2 Sep 1918. It appears that he served in a Medical Detachment Stateside and was promoted to Private First Class in Nov 1918 before being discharged on 18 Jan 1919 just in time to get home for the 1920 Census. There is another card which confirms these dates and has him listed as serving at 205 Continental Building in Oklahoma City. His serial number was 3-047-018. A Search of Fold3 was to no avail. As a last resort, due to the mention of the enlistment at Kansas City, I did a search there and bingo! I found 26 Mar 1918 he enlisted into L Company of the 7th Regiment of the National Guard of Missouri. He was 5'-11 3/4" - 160lbs – with fair complexion and dark hair. He lived at 3642 Frost Ave, St Louis, MO. He was a merchandise broker for Merrimath Brokerage Co. I cannot find any information about this company. His wife was with him. One of the amusing questions on the enlistment form was "Have you ever since childhood wet the bed when asleep?" All of that information is definitely confirmed by his obituary, but the next part bears some more investigation. *I then found a marriage license notice in an Oct 1916 newspaper for an Anna M. Mohls and Arthur A. Smith which led to a marriage license. Unfortunately, there is not enough solid evidence to confidently confirm that this is our Arthur, but it is certainly suspicious. The absence of Arthur in a 1920 Census makes confirmation of this relationship even more difficult. Further chasing this rabbit, there is a Robert Arthur Smith born to a Arthur Smith and Anna M. Mehls in 1919.*

Arthur's next appearance comes on 18 July 1929 when A. Arthur Smith and Miss Bertie Brown apply for a marriage license and after getting the required medical certificate on 23 July, they tie the knot. Arthur gave his address as #1407 Telephone Road and that he was 32. Bertie was 23 and was from Alvin which is in Brazoria County, south of Houston. The witness was J. E. Smith who was probably his youngest brother.

They had their first child, son Arthur Jr before the 1930 Census and had moved to 2609 Persa which today is on the edge of the Montrose area of Houston. Somehow, Arthur had gotten 3 years older in a year and a half since their wedding, and Bertie had only aged a year. He was a broker for a sugar company and they were renting their home for \$50. The Census did confirm that he had served in WW1. It appears that Arthur may have been fudging his age with his new wife because in reality, he was born in Sep 1890 so in

1930, he would have been 39, not 35. I had been having trouble finding background on Pet, but finally pieced together her family. Her father was King Dallas Brown and her mother was Emma Ricker Brown. She was one of 6 kids and fell 4th. Her father was a farmer in Baytown, TX. She had 3 brothers and 3 sisters and it appears that she may have had one of her brothers die as an infant, but I have not been able to confirm

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
Harris, Texas	Arthur A	Head	Rented		50 Yes	No	Male	White	35	1895	Married		34 No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Broker
Smith	Pet Bertie	Wife					Female	White	19	1911	Married		18 No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Housewife
Smith	Arthur A	Son					Male	White	0	1930	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	

this.

Pet's father died in 1932 and his obituary indicated that she was still in Houston. According to the 1940 Census, they had moved to California by 1935 and were living at 3196 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco and paying \$50/month rent. Arthur had admitted his proper age, but it seems that Pet was claiming to be a little older than she actually was. Her real birth appears to have been 1910 and not 1907. Arthur's job was not given, but I think the census taker must have listed it next to Pet instead of him. They had added a daughter, Sanda Smith in 1932 before they moved to Texas. Arthur had a year of college, Pet 8th grade, and the kids were in school. The grade for Sandra is incorrect. The house is attractive and the street was steep. It looks like a classy neighborhood at the entrance to The Presidio.



This headline appeared in 1941 - ***Sugar Official Stricken On High Sierra Trek*** Through eighteen miles of rugged high Sierra terrain yesterday trekked a rescue party carrying out Arthur A. Smith, San Francisco sugar company executive who had collapsed from a heart ailment while on a pack train trip. He was stricken in a remote region of Kings Canyon National Park. Companions on

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		3196 Pacific Avenue											
Smith	Arthur A	Head	Male	White	49	1891	Married	No	College, 1st year	Texas		San Francisco	
Smith	Pet Budeke	Wife	Female	White	33	1907	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		San Franc Mgr	Salesman
Smith	Arthur A	Son	Male	White	10	1930	Single	No	Elementary school, 3rd grade	Texas		San Francisco	
Smith	Sandra	Daughter	Female	White	8	1932	Single	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		San Francisco	

the trip enlisted the aid of Park Rangers and CCC youths.

Bearing him on a stretcher, they made their way to distant Zumwalt Meadows, eighteen miles away where an ambulance was waiting. He was rushed to a hospital in Fresno.

Smith, vice president and sales training manager of the California Hawaiian Sugar Company, lives at 1 3196 Pacific Avenue. His wife who had not accompanied him and on being informed of his collapse rush by plane to Fresno to be with him.

Then in 1943, he received this good news. *Sugar Co. Official Appointment of Arthur A. Smith as first vice president of California and Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corporation, Ltd., was announced yesterday. Smith, who has been vice president in charge of sales, will continue to direct the sales and distribution activities of the company the announcement stated.*

In 1944 they lost their ration books. Sadly, in Jan 1945, Arthur and Pet divorced and sue was awarded \$1000/month alimony and child support. A somewhat funny family story involving Arthur happened in this period. His nephew, Robert Butler (Della's son) was in San Francisco while station in the Navy during WW2 and tells the story about being on leave with a friend and deciding to drop in on his uncle. He told of asking the receptionist to see him and they were seated in the lobby and told to wait. Presently, they were ushered into uncle Arthur's quite large and formal office and seated in front of his desk where they had a brief visit and got caught up. Robert said that he was quite intimidating.

Various news reports throughout the late 1940's indicate that he continued to do well at the company. On an undated form but probably 1942, he registered for the WW2 Old Man's Draft and was still at the same address and was still a C&H Executive. He was 5'-11 1/2" – 170lbs – blue eyes – gray hair – ruddy complexion. The 1950 Census found Arthur and Pat living apart and divorced with Arthur Jr with

him at 1938 Gough and Sandra with her mother at 2547 Chestnut. Gough is near Lafayette Park while Chestnut is near the Marina District. Arthur Jr was 20 while Sandra was 18.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
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				
Not in Census												
Not in Census												
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				

In 1951, he was elected to the Board of Directors at C&H. In 1955, he announced his retirement from C&H. His younger brother James Ewell died in 1958 and his sister Ora in 1962. I'm not totally sure what he did in his retirement years, but will share this personal story. Apart from my two grandmothers, Arthur is the only member of his generation that I recall meeting. My father worked overseas and we joined him when I was just about 4 in 1954 in Venezuela for 11 years. We would come back to Graham and stay mainly with my grandmother Butler (Della Smith) and frequently when we were at her home, she would receive a large box of samples from C&H Sugar from her big brother. It was always exciting to open up the box and see what sort of treasures were included. We had this outsized impression of this important and powerful California executive. Later, probably when I was in boarding school in San Antonio in 1967, I drove up to visit my grandmother and enroute, I stopped by to see that little cabin that she owned at Possum Kingdom where we had spent several exciting times during our summer visits. As I drove up to the cabin, it was a pile of ashes. I drove on into town, and Uncle Arthur was there and said that he had been staying there for a while and had gotten hot, so he took his cot outdoors to sleep. He said that he was suddenly awakened by gunfire and turned to see the cabin in flames and all of his ammunition was exploding! He would have been about 77 at that time, but my memory of him was that he was tall, thin, and nice looking with sharp features. I was a bit in awe of him having heard stories of him when I was growing up.

Arthur died not long thereafter and his obituary reads: Even in death his age is messed up!

ARTHUR A. SMITH Arthur A. Smith. 73, retired first vice president in charge of sales and director of the C and H Sugar Company of San Francisco died from a heart attack December 29 in Tucson. Arizona, where had lived recently with his daughter in recent years.

Mr. Smith was associated with The Meinrath and Seavey-Flarsheim brokerage companies in the Midwest before joining C and H as assistant sales manager in Chicago in 1930. He was elected vice president in charge of sales in 1937, made first vice president in charge of sales in 1943 and elected to the board of directors in 1951. Although he retired in January, 1956, Mr. Smith served the company in a consulting capacity for a year after his retirement. A resident of Hillsborough and San Francisco until 1961, Mr. Smith was a member of the Bohemian Club and the San Francisco Golf Club.

Born in Granger, Texas, September 3. 1890, he was a graduate of the University of Texas. He is survived by a son, Arthur A. Smith, Jr., of Daly City, Mrs. Dwight Webb, and a granddaughter, Petrice Ann Webb, both of Tucson. Private services and cremation were in Tucson.



This is where Arthur probably spent a lot of time when working for C&H. This is their factory in Crockett, CA.

I found this information about Meinrath and Seavy-Flarsheim "Grocery brokerage storage, commission agent, food marketers." Originally established in 1882 by J. C. Salmon & Co. The company had large branches at St. Joseph, Omaha and Wichita, and did an immense business throughout the south and west at the turn of the

century.

I found this article about their divorce in 1945.

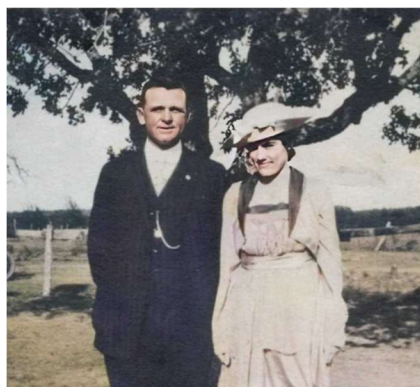
Socialite Wins Divorce Wife of Sugar Executive Gets \$1,000 Month Superior Judge Thomas M. Foley yesterday awarded Mrs. Pet Smith, 2435 Divisadero Street, an interlocutory decree of divorce from Arthur Smith, vice president of the California- Hawaiian Sugar Company. According to Walter McGovern, her attorney, she was awarded a property settlement, \$1,000 a month alimony, \$1,000 attorney's fees and custody of two children, Arthur, 14, and Sandra, 12. She charged extreme cruelty and withholding of information in respect to financial matters and community property.

Pet seemed to have moved to Daly City, CA in her later years and in 1968, she visited her son in TX shortly after Arthur's death where she died of cerebrovascular hemorrhage at the age of 58, a month after Arthur. I have not found an obituary for her, but did note that Arthur Jr. was the informant on her death certificate and that he filed for probate for her estate in California in 1969.

Children of Arthur and Pertie Brown Smith

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

58. Della Mae Smith 24 MAR 1893 • Bryson, TX - 19 JUN 1984 • Lometa, Lampasas, TX
 Thomas Clinton Butler Sr 8 DEC 1886 • Denton, TX - 27 MAR 1946 • Young County, TX
 Married: 5 May 1918 • Loving, Young, TX



Personal family
 photos from
 Richard Bills.
 Tom and Della on
 their wedding day.

Tom and Della were my grandparents. I never met granddad since he died in 1946, but spent a lot of time with grandmother over the years as her home was our home base when we travelled home for vacations while living overseas for many years. Della was the third child of Elijah and Fannie. She was at home in 1910 and in 1916, she headed off to The Normal School at Denton and got her teaching certificate. After a few years of teaching at small country schools in the north Texas area, she met and married Thomas Clinton Butler.



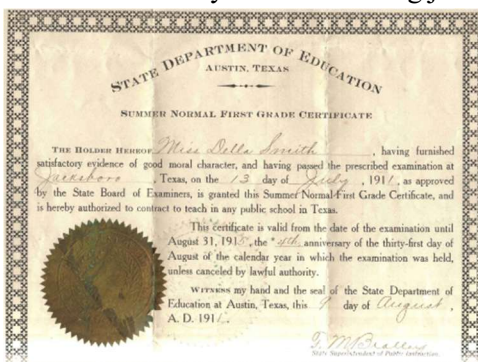
Tom was born most likely in Krum Texas in 1886 when his parents were newly married and farming in that community near Little Elm. He doesn't appear in a Census until 1900 where he appears while living on the family farm in Palo Pinto County.



Sometime early in the 1900's, his family moved to Young County. I think that they were initially in an area called Indian Mound, but wound up in Loving. A rail line came to the area around 1902 spurring growth. The 1910 Census showed TC living with the Beard family in Loving Texas. While AJ Beard is listed as a farmer, from reading the papers, it appears that he was a local businessman who owned a successful retail store that his son worked at, while TC was the listed as a druggist. Rules must have been different then, because TC education stopped after graduating from high school. I found the news article from August 1909 when TC bought the drugstore for a short time, but it must not have worked out as he reverted to farming. Here's Tom and his crew in front of the store and another with Dr Smith, his partner, inside. There are a couple of articles about his participation as the guitarist in the Loving String Band. Here he is on the mandolin.



Probably after selling the drugstore in 1913, TC headed out to Mexico for a couple of weeks. The article does not indicate the purpose of his trip, but he reported it to be a very fine country. Upon his return, he seemed to be spending some time with a Miss Vera Dowdy. Inquiring minds want to know! Anyway, the romance must have fizzled because in 1915 there appeared a series of tongue in cheek articles about displaying an unusual interest in the schools over in Monument. Needless to say, this is where Miss Della Smith had recently taken a teaching job. Alas, she was to head off to Denton later that year to attend North



Texas Normal School. Della was a young lady from Bryson TX who had started her teaching career in 1911 in Antelope, followed by assignments at Flint Creek and Monument where she served as the principal. Mind you, Della's education consisted of a high school diploma at this point.

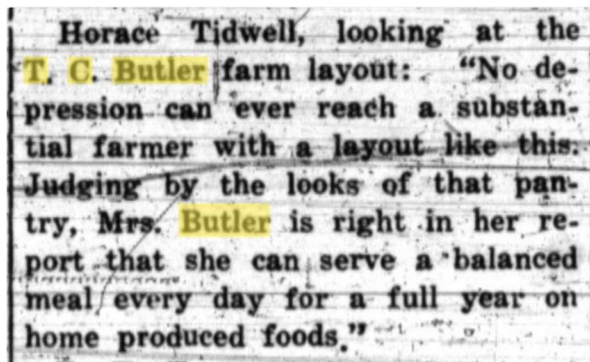
After graduating from NTWC, Della returned to the area for a new teaching job and it seems that Tom closed the deal as they got married in Graham in 1918. Tom was 32 and Della was 25. In the 1920 Census, Tom and Della appear to be living on her father's farm in the Red Top Area. Tom was farming by this time and Della is not listed as a teacher. Tom had registered for the

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1920 Census													
Butler	Tom C	Head	Owned	Free	Male	White	33	1886	Married	Texas	Mississippi	Texas	General Farm
Butler	Della	Wife			Female	White	27	1893	Married	Texas	Texas	Georgia	

WW1 Draft in 1918, but was not selected. He was medium height, stout, with gray eyes and dark brown hair.

Tom and Della started their family shortly after the 1920 Census with the birth of son Clinton Jr. He was followed in 1923 by sister Mary Dell. There are several articles in this period talking about Tom raising leghorn chickens very profitably, and Della selling eggs. A second son, Charles Robert was born in 1925. The article describes them to be living in the Indian Mound area at this time. I'm a little confused by the geography of the area. There seemed to have been a lot of small wide spots in the road that all were centers of some farming community. Anyway, other articles describe their activities in many civic activities to include donating to the library and raising funds who had lost his eyes in a hunting accident when someone's shotgun exploded. Tom was active in politics and was elected to the local Democrat Executive Committee. Meanwhile, Della was active in the Red Top Club which seems to have been a women's organization dedicated to exchanging ideas about living on a farm and food preparation and preservation. Tom's father died in 1926. In early 1927, he gave a talk to the PTA about music appreciation in the home. In 1927, Della and the ladies discovered pressure cookers. In the summer of 1927, their 3rd son James Harold was born, but sadly, he died 7 months later from complications of appendicitis. A couple of years later in 1930, Betty Ruth (my mother) was born. This would complete their family. At the time of the 1930 Census, they lived at Red Top with all the kids at home save for James Harold. Also, Tom's widowed mother lived next door where she continued to live until her death in 1957.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Value	Home Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census		Precinct 7, Young, Texas															
Butler	Tom C	Head	Owned	Yes	Yes	Male	White	42	1888	Married	31	No	Yes	Texas	Mississippi	Texas	Farmer
Butler	Della	Wife				Female	White	36	1894	Married	25	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Georgia	
Butler	Clinton	Son				Male	White	8	1922	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Butler	Mary Della	Daughter				Female	White	6	1924	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Butler	Robert	Son				Male	White	4	1926	Single		Yes		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Butler	Betty Ruth	Daughter				Female	White	0	1930	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	



The 1930's started with a bang with Della winning a braided rug contest, Tom being elected to the Farm Board, diversification of farming into turkeys and syrup. This include setting up a sorghum syrup mill on the farm. In 1932, they won prizes at the Farm Bureau Food Contest. Recalling that this was the onset of the great depression, self-sufficiency was important and judging from the article here, Tom and Della were doing it right. There are several articles praising their farm. There are also many reports of various elections in which Tom served as the precinct chair for his district. Clinton Jr had spent some time at Tarleton

going to college, while all of the other kids were making their way through school.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		Red Top and Ind Young, Te Owned				2500							
Butler	Tom C	Head	Male	White	54	1886	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas			Farmer
Butler	Della	Wife	Female	White	44	1896	Married	No	College, 2nd year	Texas			
Butler	Thomas C	Son	Male	White	18	1922	Single	Yes	College, 1st year	Texas			
Butler	Mary D	Daughter	Female	White	16	1924	Single	Yes	High School, 3rd year	Texas			
Butler	Char Robt	Son	Male	White	14	1926	Single	Yes	High School, 1st year	Texas			
Butler	Betty Ruth	Daughter	Female	White	12	1928	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 3rd grade	Texas			

The early 1940's was an active social time for the Butlers. There are articles about Tom being the superintendent of the Sunday School at their church in Graham and various picnics and literary events that they participated in. There was an article about some oil drilling on Tom's property in 1940. I think they made a little money from this, but no gushers unfortunately. In a bit of a surprise in 1941, Clinton Jr got married to Christine Newman. Family lore is that this was an elopement, but if so, it was well concealed as there are several articles about wedding ceremonies and showers for the bride. I distinctly remember my Uncle Robert telling me about Clinton showing up in the middle of the night with his new bride and kicking him out of his room. Additionally, Clinton had enlisted in the Army Air Corp. While this was going on, daughter Mary was off at TSWC Texas State Women's College which was the evolution of the old College of Industrial Arts in Denton. She attended one year then transferred to Texas Tech where she met and

married CW “Red” Ellis. They had the first grandchild Patricia Suzanne Ellis in 1944 in Fort Worth. Clinton finished his pilot training and in Dec 1943 he was sent to join the 322 Squadron of the 91st Bomber Group. This unit was famous for having been the home of the famous “Memphis Belle” which was an aircraft that was used to sell war bonds after successfully completing its 25 combat missions. Sadly, Clinton’s plan was shot down on Jan 11, 1944 on what I believe to have been only his 2nd mission. I will go into more detail later. His brother Robert enlisted in the Navy in Oct 1943 and finished his training in June 1944 wherein he was shipped off to the south Pacific. (A little sidenote here – His mother had a brother named Arthur Smith who had risen high in the executive ranks of C&H Sugar and had an office in San Francisco. While passing through on the way to his assignment, Robert and a friend made a detour to visit Uncle Arthur in his office there. He said it was a little nerve wracking.) Meanwhile, Betty was the only child remaining at home. I’m a little uncertain of these facts so perhaps my cousins will send me updates, but I think that Mary’s husband, Red Ellis, also went away to war and Mary and Suzanne were either staying at home, or with her grandmother. Nonetheless, Tom must have been taking an emotional toll. He had been selected to serve on the local draft board and was sending young men off to fight and die and he had lost a son himself. On Betty’s 16th birthday, while returning from town, he stopped to check on his mother who lived near their farm. I believe that Mary was in the car with him, but when he got out to open the gate, he dropped dead of a heart attack.

Following Tom’s death, Robert mustered out of the Navy and enrolled in Texas Tech to study Agriculture. Mary and Red moved to Santa Fe and had a son, Robert. Betty finished high school at Graham and despite her mother’s encouragement to go to business school, she fell in love with Jack Bills (my dad), who was 4 years older. Jack had also served in the Navy, but was still in training when the war ended. After he mustered out, he like Robert, headed out to Texas Tech, but he studied Petroleum Engineering. They got married in 1948 and had a daughter, Sharon in 1949 while living in the west Texas oilfields. Della, decided that she too would go back to school, so she also enrolled at Texas Tech and got a Bachelors in Education.

She returned to teaching, first in Motley our in west Texas and then in Graham and continued to teach until her retirement in 1967.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		Motley, Texas										
Butler	Della	Head	White	Female	55	1895	Widowed	Texas		38	Primary ???	County School

Mary and Red, moved to Alaska where they had another daughter and then to Midland where they lived for many years and had yet a third daughter. Robert got married in 1950 and bought a ranch near Lometa, Texas which became a center for family gatherings for many years. Betty and Jack had a son (me) in 1951 in Andrews TX, but in late 1953, Jack took a job with Gulf Oil in Venezuela and the family followed him in early 1954. They pretty much remained overseas until 1984 when Jack retired. Della’s home at 915 Cherry Street became their headquarters for their home leave from overseas. Della was able to visit them in Venezuela after she retired. As she got older, Della developed severe Alzheimer’s and lost most of her memory and was unable to recognize her family members. Unable to care for herself, she was taken in by son, Robert and moved to Lometa TX, where Robert managed her care until her death in 1984 at the age of 1984. Tom and Della had 5 children and 10 grandchildren. With Tom’s early death, he would only have met Suzanne, but Della knew all of her grandchildren and many of her great grandkids.

Children of Tom and Della:

219	Thomas Clinton Butler Jr	1921	1944	Della and Tom's Child#1
220	Mary Dell Butler	1923	2016	Della and Tom's Child#2
221	Charles Robert Butler	1925	2021	Della and Tom's Child#3
222	James Harold Butler	1927	1928	Della and Tom's Child#4
223	Betty Ruth Butler	1930	2021	Della and Tom's Child#5

59. Smith BIRTH ABT. 1894 • Bryson, Jack County, TX - ABT. 1894 • Bryson, Jack County, TX

There are no records for this child, but in 1910, Fannie reported 8 children with 7 survivors and this is the most likely gap for that to have happened.

60. Elija Franklin Smith 2 OCT 1896 • Bryson, TX - 11 FEB 1974 • Wichita Falls, TX

Frances Alma Griggers 18 MAY 1898 • Throckmorton, TX - 17 AUG 1977 • Odessa, TX

Marriage: 15 May 1926 • Young, TX



Frank, Della, Arthur, Jesse, and Sam Smith. All the kids except Ora and Arthur. Persona family photo – Richard Bills

Elijah Franklin who went by Frank, was the 5th child of Elijah and Fannie, likely arriving after the death of another sibling. After appearing in the 1910 Census, Frank next shows up in the WW1 Draft Registration. He was 21 and was working in Burkburnett, TX for B.A. Freeman. The portion with his physical characteristics were not filled out. Burkburnett in just north of Wichita Falls which is north of the family home in Bryson. He ended up

getting drafted and serviced with the 165th Dep Brig from 4 Sep 1918 to 22 Dec 1918. Having been drafted as the war was ending, he never deployed. I have not found him in 1920 so he may have been celebrating a bit of his freedom after having spent time in the Army.

Frank's next appearance is not until 1926 when he and Frances Alma Griggers got married in Young County. With his common name of Frank Smith, searches of newspapers have proven to be futile. Too many Franks. On his marriage records, he goes by E. F. Smith and Frances uses Alma. They got their license in Graham on 11 May 1926 and married on 15 May 1926. Their minister was Rev. Miles B. Hayes. On 28 May 1928 they had their 2nd child in rural Throckmorton County. The baby was named baby Smith, but was later named Patsy Ruth. She had been preceded in 1927 by May Frances Smith, but I don't have her birth certificate. The 1930 Census found them in Jack County where Frank was farming and the two girls were at home. They were renting their home and had been married for 4 years. Alma was the 5th child and 2nd daughter of Daniel and Mary Wright Griggers, a farmer from Alabama and a mother from Texas. She had 2 sisters and 4 brothers. They did not have a radio. The census confirms his WW1 service. His father died two years after his wedding.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended and School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupati
1930 Census		Precinct 3, Jack, Texas																
Smith	Frank	Head	Rented	No	Yes	Male	White	34	1896	Married		30	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Georgia	Farmer
Smith	Francis A	Wife				Female	White	31	1899	Married		27	No	Yes	Texas	Alabama	Texas	
Smith	Mary Francis	Daughter				Female	White	2	1928	Single			No		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	Patsy Ruth	Daughter				Female	White	1	1929	Single			No		Texas	Texas	Texas	

The 1940 Census shows us that Frank had a couple of years of college. Maybe that is where he was in 1920. He had gotten into the oil business and was working as a pumper in the oil fields. They added daughters Bettie Ann Smith in 1932 and Barbara Smith in 1935 bringing the crew up to 4 girls. Alma had her hands full with two almost teens and two elementary school girls. They lived on Rock Creek Road in Jack County and you can see their educational levels below. That appears to be just south of Bryson and north of Possum Kingdom Lake. In case you are curious, here is some information on Possum Kingdom. When you are driving to Graham from the south and see the Possum kingdom signs, you know you are getting close.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Possum_Kingdom_Lake

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		Rock Creek Road, Jack, Tex.	Owned		380								
Smith	Frank	Head	Male	White	43	1897	Married	No	College, 2nd year	Texas			Oil Field Pumper
Smith	Alma	Wife	Female	White	40	1900	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas			
Smith	Mary F	Daughter	Female	White	12	1928	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 3rd grade	Texas			
Smith	Patsy Ruth	Daughter	Female	White	11	1929	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 3rd grade	Texas			
Smith	Betty Ann	Daughter	Female	White	7	1933	Single	Yes	None	Texas			
Smith	Barbara	Daughter	Female	White	4	1936	Single	No	None	Texas			

While Frank was too old for WW2, he did have to register for the Old Man's Draft in 1942. He was 45 and did not indicate his employment. He was 5'-11" – 175lbs – gray eyes – black hair and light complexion. Fortunately, his daughters were too young to marry young men who were heading off to war so from that aspect, they were relatively unaffected. The 1950 Census found Frank and Alma with the two younger girls living at 140 Refinery Road in Jack County and Frank was driving a truck in the oil field. Daughter Mary Frances married Bobby Ponder in 1948 in Wichita Fall and had a son Franklin Ponder in 1949. Daughter Patsy married Walter Wolfe in 1949 but they waited awhile before having children.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census	140 Refinery Road		Jack, Texas									
Smith	Frank	Head	White	Male	55	1895	Married	Texas		36	Trucker	Oil Field
Smith	Alma	Wife	White	Female	51	1899	Married	Texas				
Smith	Betty Ann	Daughter	White	Female	17	1933	Never Married	(Texas)				
Smith	Barbara	Daughter	White	Female	14	1936	Never Married	(Texas)				

Their 3rd daughter, Betty Ann, married Ted Blanchette not long after the 1950 Census in Jan 1951. He was a Sgt in the Air Force at Shepherd AFB. About 7 months after their marriage, they were involved in an accident in a car that he was driving and she died from her injuries in Aug 1951. Youngest daughter Barbara did not marry until 1958 when she married David Kurtenbach in Colorado. The children will be discussed in more detail in the next generation.

I have been unable to unearth more information about Frank and Alma after the 1950's. Frank died in 1974 in a Wichita Falls nursing home, while Alma died in 1977 in Odessa, TX probably near the home of one of her daughters.

Children of Frank and Alma Griggs Smith

224	Mary Frances Smith	1927	2011	Elija and France's Child#1
225	Patsy Ruth Smith	1928	2018	Elija and France's Child#2
226	Bettie Ann Smith	1932	1951	Elija and France's Child#3
227	Barbara Smith	1938	1988	Elija and France's Child#4

61. Jesse Floyd Smith 25 AUG 1898 • Jack County, TX - 22 JAN 1978 • Big Spring, TX
Never married



While this is the person labelled Floyd in an old family picture, I'm inclined to think that this is probably Frank and this on the right is probably Floyd based on their ages. It's hard to tell, but the more current photo above is correct. Floyd seemed to have generally gone by Floyd rather than Jesse. Since we haven't found the 1900 Census, Floyd's first appearance is in 1910 and then he disappears until 1930 being absent for the 1920 Census along with his brother Frank. He was



not away serving in WW1 like Frank had been. He did register in 1918 at which time he was 20 and working for his father on the farm in Bryson. He was medium height – slender build – gray eyes and black hair. In searching the Jacksboro newspapers, I find a mention of Floyd Smith is 8th grade in 1915 which seems a

little iffy since he would have been 17, but who knows. In 1918, his name appears as number 702 on a list of 1120 registrants from Jack County for the WW1 Draft.

When Jesse next appears, it is after the death of his father in 1926 and he is living with his widowed mother, Fannie (listed as Annie) in Graham at 731 Texas St. (incorrectly transcribed in the census) She owns the house which is worth \$1000. Jess is working in the oilfields and they have a couple of boarders who are stringing telegraph line. Floyd is 30 and not married and did not serve in WW1.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1930 Census	731 Indiana Street		Graham, Young, Texas																
Smith	Annie	Head	Owned	1000	Yes	No	Female	White	63	1867	Widowed	No	No	Yes	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia		
Smith	Floyd F	Son					Male	White	30	1900	Single	No	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Illinois	Tool Dresser	Oil Fields
Nell	Jimmy	Boarder					Male	White	26	1904	Single	No	No	Yes	Illinois	Kansas	Illinois	Line Man	Telegraph
Young	Guy	Boarder					Male	White	21	1909	Single	No	Yes	Yes	Illinois	Texas	California	Lineman	Telegraph



Through the 1930's. Floyd continued to look after his widowed mother in Graham where they lived at the same address of 713 Texas. This isn't too far from where my grandmother (who was her daughter) ended up living for many years, but not at this time as she was still on the farm in Loving. The census shows that Floyd had 2 years of high school and was still working in the oilfield. I don't think that I realized that there was that much oil activity in Young County during this era, but in looking at the old papers, there are lots of articles about leases and drilling. Floyd was now 40 and still not married and his mother

was 73.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census	731 Texas		Graham, TX	Owned	1000								
Smith	E F	Head	Female	White	73	1867	Widowed	No	Elementary school, 4th grade	Georgia		Graham	
Smith	Floyd Jim	Son	Male	White	40	1900	Single	No	High School, 2nd year	Texas		Graham	Tool Dresser

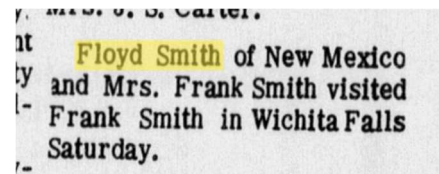
In 1942 at the age of 43 and still living at 731 Texas he registered for the WW2 Old Man's Draft. He was working for S. C. Roberts and J. C. Hunter who officed at the Mims Building in Abilene, TX. Here is a photo of that building. They officed on the 5th floor. I cannot tell if it still exists. Floyd was 6'-2"-178lbs- blue eyes – brown hair – light complexion. For whatever reason, Floyd at 43 decided to join the



Navy. His service records are a bit sketchy, but he served enough to qualify for a veteran's grave marker from the VA which his nephew Claybourne King applied for. His service number was C547792, but Clay did not know his service dates. A search of Fold3 was unsuccessful. On the back of his death certificate, I found another serial number 625-51-20, but it too proved fruitless. I finally found on his U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File that he served from 23 Oct 1942 to 20 Jul 1945.

After his term in the Navy, Floyd cannot be found in a census, but the two clues that I have about his location are from my cousin, Suzanne who

remembers that he lived in Moriarity NM. The 2nd is this small article in the Jacksboro newspaper from 1971 which seems to confirm this. Here a Suzanne's recollection when I asked her about Ora moving to Midland - *It may have been during the time when Uncle Floyd moved here from Moriarity, NM. He was in a trailer or camper, I think, and I know that he did come to the house once when Mom invited him over at Christmas. I later heard rumors that Clay had taken financial advantage of Floyd, but I don't know that.*



The Clay mentioned is Claybourne King, Ora's 3rd child. It appears that the rumor may not be true, because indications are that Floyd ended up living with of near Clay and family in Midland in his later

years. Floyd's death certificate indicated that at the time of his death he had lived at 1101 W. Illinois (this is only blocks from my Aunt Mary Butler Ellis and her family) in Midland and had been engaged in farming. He took ill in early Jan 1978 from central nervous system hypoxia and was taken to the VA Hospital in Big Spring, TX where he died on 22 Jan 1978 at the age of 79. His body was taken to the Ellis Funeral Home in Graham for burial in the Rock Creek Cemetery. His obituary reads:

J. Floyd Smith MIDLAND Services for J. Floyd Smith, 82, of Rock Midland, were set for 2 p.m. today in the Creek Cemetery in Graham, with burial in Graham. Morrison Funeral Home of Graham is in charge of arrangements.

Ellis Funeral Home of Midland is in charge of local arrangements. He was born Aug. 25, 1895 in Bryson, and spent his early life in Young County and Tyler. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy during World War 11, and after his discharge moved to Moriarty N.M. and farmed there.

He and moved to Midland in 1971. Survivors include one brother, Sam Smith of Olney; and one sister, Mrs. Della Butler of Goldthwaite.

62. Samuel Randolph Smith 18 AUG 1902 • Bryson, TX = 2 FEB 1992 • Graham, TX

Artie Estelle Slater 8 AUG 1907 • Young, TX - 28 SEP 1982 • Young, TX

Marriage: 4 Dec 1926 • Young, TX



The Smith kids in later life with Sam at the right front.

Sam Smith was the first of the children to be born in the 20th Century arriving in Bryson in the summer of 1902. He appeared at his parent's home in 1910 and 1920 at ages 7 and 17. In Dec 1926, he married Artie Slater in Graham. The marriage records indicate that a license was purchased on 3 Dec 1926 by Mr. S. R. Smith and Miss Artie Slater and that their wedding was performed by Pastor J. H. Baldrige the following day at the M. E. Church South in Graham. On 28 Aug

1928, their first child, daughter Sammy Lee Smith was born in Graham. Sam had been too young to register for the WW1 Draft so there is no record about him in 1917-1918. I did encounter an article from the Jacksboro newspaper in 1924, the he was living in Red Top (north of Graham) and visiting friends in Bryson. In the 1930 Census, we find Sam, Artie, and their new daughter (incorrectly identified as a son) living on a farm in rural Young County. They had been married 3 years and did not have a radio. Artie was the 2nd child of 5 of the union of George Washington and Mabel Kerr Slater who were from Arkansas and Mississippi and who farmed in Young County.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended and School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	Precinct 7, Young, Texas																
Smith	Sam R	Head	Owned	No	Yes	Male	White	27	1903	Married	24	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Georgia	Farmer
Smith	Artie	Wife				Female	White	22	1908	Married	19	No	Yes	Texas	Arkansas	Mississippi	
Smith	Samie Lee	Son				Male	White	1	1929	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	

The 1940 Census found that he had abandoned the farm and gotten into the oil business. A new son, Gordon was born in Nov 1931 in Young County before their move back to Jack County. He was living next door to his older brother Frank, so in 1940 Frank, Sam, and their wives along with a passel of cousins

ranging in age from 4 to 12. I hope that they got along as well as our cousins. Sam had graduated from high school while Artie had a year of college. The kids were in elementary school.

As was usual, Sam registered for the 1942 WW2 Old Man's Draft when he was 39. His children

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		Rock Creek Road, Jack, Tex. Owned			250								
Smith	Sam	Head	Male	White	40	1903	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas			Oil Field Employee S
Smith	Artie	Wife	Female	White	32	1908	Married	No	College, 1st year	Texas			
Smith	Sammye Lee	Daughter	Female	White	11	1929	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 5th grade	Texas			
Smith	Gordon H	Son	Male	White	8	1932	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 2nd grade	Texas			

were too young to have been affected by selective service during WW2. His address was PO Box 195, Bryson/ He was 5'10"-155lbs-brown eyes and hair – light brown complexion. He was self-employed presumably farming based on what I have read in newspapers. There is a news article from 1944 where he had a 20 acres farm and was experimenting with different types of corn with great success in production. Artie was involved in the local Home Demonstration Club which taught housewives how to be more productive around the house. In 1945, he was involved in local politics as he was elected as the alternative community representative. Sometime before 1946, he took on a job of cashier at the 1st State Bank of Bryson. His name appears several times through the years on the annual statement of assets and liabilities. The only other mention I saw of him in 1946 was when he attended my grandfather's funeral who was his brother-in-law. I thought that the one bank statement from 1949 was unique as he was attesting and his wife Artie was the notary. In the mid 1940's he seems to have become quite active with his local Lions Club and in 1947 he was President. He seemed to be a frequent guest at the Jacksboro Lions. Sam seems to have been very civic minded. In 1948, he was the local Red Cross Chairman and the chair of the Security Bond Drive. In 1949, he chaired the Savings Bond Drive and the Cancer Fund Drive. In 1950, he headed up the March of Dimes when polio struck the country. In the 1950 Census, he indicated that he was an insurance agent, but I never saw any mention of that in the news. Artie was working as a cashier at the local public utility. Daughter Sammye had attended college at Tarleton State and was back home working for an oil refiner. Son Gordon was away at college at Tarleton and involved in ROTC. I haven't found him in the 1950 Census.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		N. Mc Clard St				Bryson, Jack, Texas						
Smith	Sam	Head	White	Male	47	1903	Married	Texas		40	Insurance Agent	Insurance Co
Smith	Artie	Wife	White	Female	42	1908	Married	Texas		20	Cashier	Public Utility Co
Smith	Sammye	Daughter	White		21	1929	Never Married	(Texas		42	Bookkeeper	Gasoline Ref.

In Jun 1950, Sam and family attended son Gordon's graduation in Stephenville, home of Tarleton State. Sam was reported to be a Lt. Col. in the ROTC. It was also reported that daughter Sammye had attended Tarleton 20 years after her father. This conflicts a little bit with the 1940 Census where he only claimed to be a high school graduate. A month after Gordon's graduated, their daughter married Jerome Marchman and they had a son Randolph in 1951. Around 1953, Gordon married Joan Klaevemann and they seem to have had at least 4 children. More to come in the next generation.

Sam was reported to have retired from the bank in 1972 after 23 years of service. He must have changed banks because we know he at been at 1st State in 1946 which was more than 23 years before 1972. I'm a little confused in that his obituary says that he moved to Olney in 1962 and then spent his final two years in Graham where his daughter lived, but the Olney paper after 1950 never mention him.

Artie died in 1972 and her obituary reads:

OLNEY, Texas Mrs. Artie E. Smith, 75, died Tuesday. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Lunn Funeral Home with the Rev. Jay Beavers, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in the Rock Creek Cemetery in Bryson, Texas. A native of Young County, Texas, Mrs. Smith was born Aug. 8, 1907.

She was married to Sam Smith in Graham in 1926. She had retired from Community Public Service and had resided in the Olney area for about 30 years. She was a Methodist. Survivors include her husband, a daughter, Sammie Marchman of Graham; a son, Gordon of Baytown, Texas; a sister, Lois Shahan of Graham; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Sam lived an additional 10 years and passed away in 1992. His obituary reads:

GRAHAM: Samuel Smith, a retired oilfield worker and farmer died Sunday in a Graham hospital. He was 89. Graveside service will be at 4 p.m. today in Rock Creek Cemetery in Jack County. Morrison Funeral Home of Graham is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Smith was born in Bryson and lived in Olney for 30 years before moving to Graham two years ago. He was a member of the Church of Survivors: Daughter, Sammie Marchman of Graham; son, Gordon Smith of Yorktown; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Children of Samuel and Artie Smith

228	Sammye Lee Smith	1928	2008	Samuel and Artie's Child#1
229	Gordon Hugh Smith	1931	2005	Samuel and Artie's Child#2

63. James Ewell Smith 15 JUL 1904 • Bryson, Jack, TX - 28 NOV 1958 • Anderson, TX
 Leni Hinson 14 FEB 1905 • Anderson County, TX - 18 JUL 1974 • Anderson County, TX
 Marriage: 18 Feb 1929 • Harris, Texas



Ewell and Sweetie – personal family photos from Richard Bills

Elijah and Fannie's final child was James Ewell who seems to have gone by Ewell. He first appeared in the 1910 Census mistakenly identified to be Jane Smith. He and brother Sam were the only children remaining at home in the 1920 Census when they were 17 and 15. Ewell's father died in 1926, and he must have moved to Houston because he married Leni Henson there in 1929 when they were both 24. Leni was the daughter

of David and Pearl Hinson who were farmers in Palestine. She was apparently the first surviving child after twins died two years before her arrival. She had one younger brother, Lloyd. In 1930, the newlyweds lived at 1406 Telephone Road in Houston and Ewell worked as a radio technician. That location is a warehouse today in south Houston not too far from the University of Houston and IH45S. If you will recall, his older, brother Arthur lived nearby and had also recently married though it was Arthur's 2nd. Ewell was a witness at Arthur's wedding. They were renting their place for \$45/month. He had been too young for WW1.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Marital Status	First Marriage	Attended School	Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	Telephone Rd		1406 Houston, Harris, Texas															
Smith	James E	Head	Rented	45	Yes	No	Male	White	25	1905	Married	24	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Georgia	Technician
Smith	Leni	Wife					Female	White	25	1905	Married	24	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Louisiana	



Something happened between Leni (who my mother says went by Sweetie) and Ewell in the 1930's because the 1940 Census found Ewell in a lodging house at 1510 Pearson in Houston which is a nice little place today only a couple of blocks from his previous address. He was still working as a radio technician. His landlords were Fred and Madge Hudson who owned the place that was worth \$3000. Fred also owned a service station and the other lodger worked at various jobs. Ewell was 38 and had 2 years of college. Meanwhile, Sweetie was still in town at 403 W. Pierce which is in what is now known as Midtown in Houston and had been redeveloped as a trendy condo today. She was working as secretary for a radio and

record store. She had a year of college. Her place was rented by Willam and Louis Brown who were subletting to Leni and Ann Broughton. William sold neon signs and had a 10-year-old daughter. I just noticed that her mother's maiden name was Broughton, so her roommate must have been related in some way. I did a quick check of her uncles to see if Ann may have been a cousin, but did not discover and likely candidates. Maybe it's a coincidence.

In 1942, Ewell at 37 registered for the WW2 Old Man's Draft and he indicated that he was working

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	e City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		1510 Pearson Street	Houston,	Owned	3000								
Hudson	Fred	Head	Male	White	52	1888	Married	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Conroe	Owner
Hudson	Madge	Wife	Female	White	47	1893	Married	No	High School, 1st to 4th year	Tennessee		Conroe	
Cordes	Elsie	Lodger	Female	White	30	1910	Divorced	No	Elementary school, 7th grade	Texas		Lustre	Rouche Clerk Ste
Smith	J Ewell	Lodger	Male	White	38	1905	Divorced	No	College, 2nd year	Texas		Houston	Radio Rephirman
Luther	Henry	Lodger	Male	White	29	1911	Single	No		Texas		Bastrop	Export Billing Cle

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	e City in 1935	Occupation
1940 Census		403 West Pierce	Houston,	Rented	40.5								
Brown	William	Head	Male	White	33	1907	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas		Houston	Salesman
Brown	Louise	Wife	Female	White	28	1912	Married	No	High School, 2nd year	Texas		Houston	
Brown	Barbara	Daughter	Female	White	10	1930	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 6th grade	Texas		Houston	
Smith	Levi	Lodger	Female	White	38	1905	Divorced	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Houston	Secretary
Broughton	Ann	Lodger	Female	White	30	1910	Single	No	College, 3rd year	Texas		Rural	Steno Bool

for himself at 1708 Fannin Street while living on Braniff St in the Airport Gardens section of Houston. He was 5'-10 1/2" - 165lbs - blue eyes - black hair and a ruddy complexion. He listed his mother back in Graham as his point of contact. Braniff St is right by Hobby Airport and 1708 Fannin is now a parking garage in downtown Houston not too far from the Downtown YMCA. Per marriage records, Leni and Ewell married a 2nd time on 14 Dec 1940.

Whatever their differences had been, Ewell and Sweetie reconciled and the 1950 Census found that they had moved back to her hometown of Palestine in East Texas and gotten into farming. They never had any children.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census			Anderson, Texas								
Smith	James E	Head	White Male		45	1905	Married	Texas		60	Farmer
Smith	Leni	Wife	White Female		45	1905	Married	Texas			

Items about Ewell and Sweetie are a little scarce after the 1950 Census. Ewell seems to have been found dead in 1958 of an apparent heart failure while working as a dairyman in Palestine, TX. His estimated time of death was 2:30PM on 28 Jan 1958 which must have been right around Thanksgiving. I looked it up and it was the day after. Sweetie as the informant on his death certificate. His body was removed to Land of Memory Cemetery in Palestine for burial. Sweetie lived until July 1974 and remained in Palestine after Ewell's death. She probably lived her widowed mother who had been staying with her brother in Palestine since her husband's death in 1921. Her name was Pearl and she died in 1971 at age 93 and then Sweetie died only 3 years later when she was 69. She had rheumatoid arthritis and died of heart problems. As earlier mentioned, they had no children.

Thus ends this generation for Elijah and Fannie Morris Smith. When I make my way through the woods, we will explore the children that have been briefly introduced here. It will be a while since the first grandchild is Douglas King, Ora's first child and his number is 205 and I'm just finishing 63.

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

This was completed 23 July 2024. - Revised 18 Feb 2025