# OUR CURTIS FAMILY

## COMPILED BY

# **GRANT N. CARLSON**

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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION

This book is an ongoing project. As long as time shall last, it should never by completed. You will note it is presented in loose leaf format so that you may make future changes and additions as needed.

At this printing, the book contains 639 descendants of John L. and Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis. Together with spouses, the total number of persons is 933 and there are approximately 242 families.

Likely this book is not errorless, however I have done the best that I could with the materials you gave to me. Spellings of names often varied as submitted by different persons. I apologize if your name is spelled incorrectly.

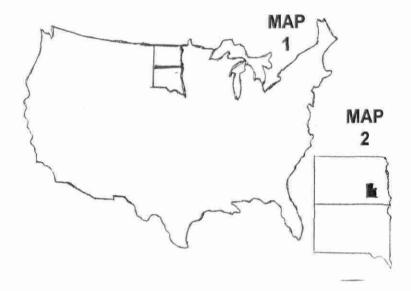
I wish to thank all Curtis family members who submitted facts, stories and photos, without which this aggregation would not have been possible. It would be wrong if I failed to give special recognition to my dear wife, Ruth. Without her many, many hours and days of editing, correcting and doing the bulk of the computer work, this task would not have been completed. Appreciation also goes to our son, David, who came from Texas 3 times to guide us through the purchase of the computer and to teach us how to operate it! (We're still learning!)

I have done my best to provide you with a production of which you can feel justly proud. Only you can determine whether or not I have succeeded.

Grant Carlson

As we think of history, and particularly family history, let us pause to consider excerpts from the 90th Psalm:

> "Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn men back to dust, saying, 'Return to dust, O sons of men'. For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night ... The length of our days is seventy years, or eighty, if we have the strength; ... Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."



MAP 1 The United States of America outlining the location of Dakota Territory 1861-1889, now the states of North Dakota and South Dakota since 2 Nov. 1889.

MAP 2 Dakota Territory. Heavy shading marks the location of Griggs and Barnes Countles.

MAP 3 The top portion portion is Griggs Co. with its 20 townships. Lower portion is Barnes Co. with 42 townships. The two shaded townships are Broadview in Griggs and Sibley Trail in Barnes. This is the the area where Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis settled with her family in Dakota Territory when she came from Michigan.

MAP 4 (on following page) The southern portion of Griggs Co. and the northern part of Barnes Co. This is from a 1910 atlas. Note where the various Curtis families owned land at that time. The numbers mark the site of the homes where each family lived. Some moved more than once, so their number appears wherever they lived as best as determined from research. The final residence is the larger number.







MAP 4



1-Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis

2-Thomas & Ellenor

3-John & Adelaide

4-Charles & Rose

5-Elizabeth & John Warner

6-Samantha & Les

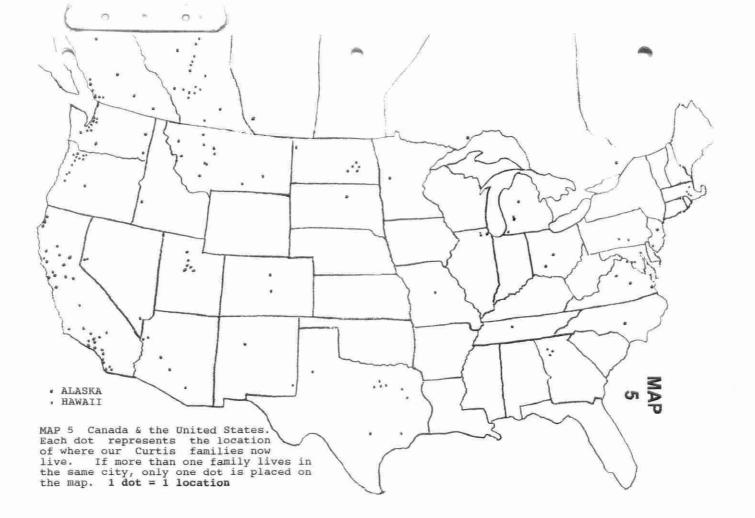
7-Jane & Charles Ladbury

8-William & Eva

9-Mark & Anna

10-Henry & Christine

Not positive about #7's location.



ALASKA 4 Palmer ALBERTA 1 Brooks 27 Calgary 1 Gibbons ARIZONA 1 Kingman 2 Phoenix 3 Riviera 1 Tucson 1 Wickenburg BRITISH COLUMBIA 3 Delta 1 Kamloops 1 Ladner 1 Langley 1 Nelson 1 Prince George 1 Squamish 1 Surrey 4 Vancouver CALIFORNIA 1 Arcata 2 Bakersfield 1 Chico 1 Costa Mesa 1 Diamond Bar 1 Downey 1 El Cajon 1 Encinitas 4 Eureka 1 Fallbrook

CALIF (cont.) 1 Fortuna 1 Fresno 1 Grass Valley 1 Lakeside 1 Canmore3 LaMirada1 Canmore1 Long BeachMICHIGAN1 Cochrane1 Pasadena1 Belmo1 Drayton Valley1 Pleasant Hill1 Grance1 Edmonton1 Rohnert Park1 Lake1 Gibbons1 Pielto1 Cance 3 LaMirada 

 1 Gibbons
 1 Rialto
 1 Niles

 1 Innisfail
 1 Rio Nido
 1 MINNESOTA

 1 Morrin
 4 Sacramento
 MINNESOTA

 1 Okotoks
 1 Solana Beach
 1 Erhard

 1 Olds
 1 San Diego
 1 Penhold
 1 San Francisco

 2 Red Deer
 4 San Jose
 1 Colur

 2 Rockyford
 1 San Luis Obispo
 2 Standard
 1 Sonora

 10 Strathmore
 1 Stockton
 9 Billi
 1 Butte

 1 W. Lethbridge
 3 Ukiah
 1 Butte
 1 Vista
 2 Chota

 1 Rialto 1 Vista2 Guiter2 Walnut Creek2 Cut Bank1 Whittier1 E. Helena1 Yuba City14 Great Falls 1 Whittier 1 Yuba City COLORADO 1 Broomfield 1 Colorado Springs 4 Missoula GEORGIA 1 Atlanta 1 Lawrenceville 1 Roswell HAWAII 1 Oahu IDAHO 3 Boise ILLINOIS 1 Chicago 2 Geneva 1 St. Charles MARYLAND 1 Indianhead 1 Waldorf

WHERE DO WE LIVE ?

1 Belmont 1 Bridgewater 1 Brockton 2 W.Bridgewater 1 Belmont 1 Grand Rapids 1 Lake George 1 Niles MINNESOTA 1 Erhard 1 Columbia 9 Billings 1 Butte 2 Choteau 1 Helena 1 Kalispell 1 Miles City 1 Stockett NEVADA 3 Las Vegas 3 Reno 1 Sparks NEW JERSEY 2 Bridgeton 1 Old Bridge NEW MEXICO 1 Albuquerque 1 Hobbs NORTH CAROLINA 1 Fayetteville

MASSACHUSETTS

#### NORTH DAKOTA

#### OHIO

- 1 Columbus
- 1 Wilmington

#### ONTARIO

- 1 Ottawa
- 1 Thunder Bay

#### OREGON

- 1 Albany
- 1 Aloha
- 1 Bend

- 1 Boring 4 Corbett 1 Corvallis
- 2 Eugene 5 Gresham
- 5 Gresham 1 Happy Valley WASHINGTON 1 Milwaukee 1 Auburn 1 Oregon City 1 Bellevue 10 Portland 1 Des Moines 1 Woodburn 1 Federal Way 1 Kirkland

- PENNSYLVANIA 1 city unknown
  - 1 York
  - 1 York Springs
- SASKATCHEWAN
  - 1 Swift Current

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

2 Aberdeen

#### TENNESSEE

1 Nashville

- DRTH DAKOTATEXAS3 Cooperstown2 Arlington2 Hannaford1 Austin1 Jamestown1 Chandler2 Luverne1 Dallas3 Valley City1 Euless1 Williston1 Fort Worth3 Jacksonville
  - 1 Lubbock
  - 3 Spring
  - UTAH
    - 1 Heber City
    - 1 Holladay
  - 1 Layton 1 Midway

    - 5 Salt Lake City area
    - 1 Sandy
  - VIRGINIA
    - 1 McLean
  - 1 Richmond 1 Standardville 1 Virginia Beach

- 1 Milton 1 Milton 1 Olympia 1 Pullman 1 Redmond 2 Seattle

  - 2 Spokane
  - 1 Yakima

The numbers in front of the cities on these two pages represent how many family units of our Curtis family live there. For use in this book, a family unit may be a group containing parents and children, a parent and children, a widow or widower or any single person over the age of 20, not living with parents.

Due to the mobility of this generation, some of the above information may have changed by the time the printing is completed.

## FOREIGN 2 England

1 Japan

#### ENGLISH ORIGIN OF CURTIS FAMILIES

Curtis as a surname has its derivation from the word courteous, meaning having courtly manners, or elegance of manners. From "Surnames of the United Kingdom," by Henry Harrison, published in London, is quoted: "Anglo-French, Courteous; Old-French, Curteis and Corteis; French, Courtois; Middle English (12th to the 15th centuries) Curteys and Curteis." Mr. M. A. Lower, in his "Patronymica Britannica," states that Curteis and Curtois are Norman French.

Courteous first became a surname in England after William, Duke of Normandy, won the Battle of Hastings in 1066, and became known as William the Conqueror. Robert, Duke of Normandy, eldest son of the Conqueror, was accustomed to calling himself courteous, alluding to his own personal courtesy. Thus the word courteous was eventually assumed as his surname.

The "Cre de Guerre" (war cry) appears on the Bayeux Tapestry as Qui fit Francois, fit Courtois. "He who is a Frenchman is always polite." His tomb at Gloucester, England, bears the inscription "Robert Curteis."

Curtis as a family name in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries occurs as Curtys, Curteys, Corteys, Curthays, Curtheys, and Curteis in many counties in England, as recorded in "Rotuli Hundredorum" (The Rolls of the Hundreds) which contain lists of all taxable persons in every county in England. These rolls were made by order of King Edward I, in the year of 1272. Among the entries are William le Curteis, Walter Curteys, Richard le Corteys, and numerous persons named Curteys and Corteys in many parts of England.

Mr. William Berry, in his "Encylopaedia Heraldica," mentions the names Courtois, Courtoys, Cortess, Cortesy, Cortessey, Corteysee, Cortoyse and Cortouse.

In the "Rolls of the Hundreds," vol. 1, page 160, appears the name Osebtus le Curteys, a tenant in Nasyng (Nazing) in the Hundred of Wautham (Waltham), County Essex, Osebtus le Curteys appears in Latin text; in English translations the name is Osbert le Curteys.

The earliest record of the name Curteis is found in "Rotuli Curiae Regis," by Sir Francis Palgrave, K. H. These volumes contain the Rolls and Records of the King's Court in the years 1194-1199. The entries are Willielmus le Curteis, Co. Norfolk, Gilebertus Curteis (fillus), Canterbury; Adam Curteis, Hunted; Rogerus Curteis, Canterbury, and Rogerus Curteis, Co. Kent. The Court Records are adequate evidence of two generations of the family of Curteis having resided in County Kent prior to the entry on the "Rolls of the Hundreds" of the name Osbert le Curteis in County Essex in 1272.

The Great Britain Public Record Office in London has this record: "List of tax-payers under the twentieth of Edward III, A.D. 1327, Thom' Curteys, Colchester Borough, County of Essex. Hence it is confirmed that the family of Curteys was in County Essex in the fourteenth century.

The records seem to indicate that the Curtis emigrants from Nazing, who settled in Roxbury, Mass., and Stratford, Conn., were descended from the family of Curteys found recorded in Nazing in the year 1272. The parish registers do not begin early enough to make it possible to trace the lineage from the thirteenth century.

The Heralds' Visitations of the County of Essex do not include a pedigree of a Courteys family. These Visitations taken in the years 1552, 1558, 1570, 1612 and 1634 show no record of a family of that name. The Heralds' Visitations registered only the Landed Gentry. It therefore, appears that the Essex families of Curteys or Curtis were not of the gentry. And Burke's "Landed Gentry" contains no pedigree of a family of this name in County Essex.

So far as evidence can be obtained no family of Curtis or Curtiss in County Essex has been granted a coat of arms. Neither have they ever been authorized to use the name of Curtis or Curteis families of Warwickshire and Kent, since these families have no known kinship with the families of County Essex.

Pedigrees of the Curteis family of Kent appear in Sir Bernard Burke's "Landed Gentry," William Berry's "Pedigrees of Families of County Kent," and in "Heralds' Visitations of the County of Kent," taken in the year 1619.

Eminent British authors have produced no evidence of kinship of the families of Curteys, Curtiss, or Curtis of Nazing, County Essex, to those of Warwickshire and Kent.

> Contributed by Mrs. Sophia M. Hoyt of 121 St. Stephen St., Boston, MA in March 1952, a professional genealogist and a direct descendant of the original Stratford, CT Curtiss family.

#### JOHN L. CURTIS story told by Grant N. Carlson

John L. Curtis, the ancestor of this project, is given as generation (1). His ten children are each given as generation (2). Their children are generation (3), etc. down to and including the youngest members of this family who are generation (7).

Who were John's parents? There is good reason to believe they were William Curtis and Jane Love for the following reasons:

(1) When I was a young man, I was invited to the home of Clarence Ladbury. "Claire" was the son of Ellenor Ladbury who married Thomas Curtis, the first child of John L. Curtis. Thomas had passed away in 1896, Ellenor in 1938, and it seemed reasonable to me that the oldest child in a family would be the likely one to have the family Bible. It proved to be a very interesting visit. In the Bible that Claire had, in handwritten form was the following:

> "William Curtis and Jane Love was married May the 16th 1807. Samantha Curtis was Born February 14th 1810 Fisher Curtis was born Nov. 20th 1812 & Died Charles Curtis was born Feby. 14th 1814"

From there on, the remainder of the page is torn off, except to show some "Curtis" was born on either the "20th" or "30th" 1815. The month is torn off as are all other names.

As a teenager, I spent time during some summers on the Mark Curtis farm. Mark was the 8th child in the John L. Curtis family. How Mark happened to tell me about his family, I do not know, but I vividly recall (and wrote down and preserved what he said) Mark stating his father, John L. Curtis, "had an older brother, Charles, and a younger brother, Frank." According to other family sources, David and Comfort Curtis could be two other children who could well have been written on the torn-off portion of the page.

(2) Federal census records indicate John L. Curtis was born in 1820, and that he was born in the state of New York. We also know that he moved to Ontario, where in or about 1848, he married Elizabeth Spencer. My wife and I traveled to Northumberland County, Ontario (n. e. of Toronto), and were successful in locating descendants of John Spencer, the father of Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis! Of the 10 children of John L. and Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis, seven were born in Ontario, most of these in Percy or Seymour Townships of Northumberland County. These two townships border Rawdon township where Elizabeth Spencer's family settled. The Ontario West 1842 census for the township areas of Northumberland County list on the same page: William Marq Curtis, John Curtis and Comfort Curtis.

There are reasons to believe, although not proven, that Cayuga County, New York was the birthplace of John L. Curtis.

The entire family of John L. and Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis is as follows (the 1st 7 children being born in Ontario):

Thomas	born	22	June 1849	died	29	February 1896
John		22	June 1851		14	January 1921
Charles		21	January 1854		7	July 1893
Elizabeth	0	14	March 1856	н	20	August 1934
Samantha	#		April 1859		14	Aug. 1891
Jane	17		1860 or 1861	11	20	April 1891
William	"	9	March 1864	11	28	March 1901

Charles is reported as having been born at Toronto, Ontario. Some, if not all the other above listed children were born in Percy or Seymour Townships of Northumberland County, Ont. These two townships are adjacent to each other.

Sometime after the birth of William, John L. and Elizabeth Curtis moved to Kent County, Michigan, east of Grand Rapids, near Ada, where the other three children were born:

Mark born 20 August 1866 died 11 May 1950 Henry " 15 June 1869 " 26 November 1929 Daniel " 22 May 1871 " Daniel died as a child although we have no record of his death.

John L. Curtis was a farmer. Mark Curtis told me his father died when he was seven and one-half years old. This would place John L.'s death as February 1874. A number of years later, John L.'s widow, Elizabeth, and the entire family moved to Dakota Territory, coming to Dakota at various intervals. (See individual stories under Elizabeth and each of the ten children.) John L. Curtis died of cancer in Michigan.

#### ELIZABETH SPENCER

Elizabeth Spencer was born in or near Manchester, England, the 4th of 12 children born to John Spencer and Alice Scofield. According to a niece, Ida Spencer Raney, Elizabeth was born on the 20th of February. Some records indicate the year of her birth as 1827, other records as 1830.

Elizabeth's father was a silk and woolen manufacturer in Manchester, owning or managing several mills, and at one

time was very wealthy. Quoting about his life from the Spencers of Canada:

"John Spencer was fair, slim, and tall. 6' in sock feet. Fair hair, not light, not dark. Even temper, was a man of his word. His word was law in his own household. He took everyone to be honest. He had lots of money when he came here, but lost plenty thru taking everyone to be honest. He would walk 5 miles to tell anyone he could not get a piece of work done, if he had promised at a certain time and it was not done. His grandchildren all liked him. He always brought licorice or something to them on his visits. Maybe he would give them a piece the size of a pea. Then after noticing their attitude, would give them a complete or whole stick."

Elizabeth's mother, Alice, was spoken of as being "a very religious and fine woman."

At the coronation of Queen Victoria of England on 20 June 1837, Elizabeth was one of the flower girls and was attired in white silk. When she came to America, Elizabeth was one of a group of children escorted to the ship by the Queen.

After leaving England, John Spencer settled between Norham and Warkworth, in Northumberland County of Ontario. Here he continued weaving. Together with two of his daughters, they created many fine pieces, and Ontario homes were adorned with their prize winning workmanship. John Spencer was born in England in 1796, and died 15 October 1869 from gangerene in his big toe. His wife, Alice, (b. November 1803?), died 26 September 1856. Both are buried in the cemetery at Warkworth, Northumberland County, Ontario. Inscribed on their gravestone are the words:

> "Our father and mother are gone. They lie beneath the sod. Dear parents though we miss you much, We know you are with God."

The entire family of John and Alice Spencer is given: Mary Anne, Cresey (both Mary Anne and Cresey died young), John (married Sarah Jane Dunk), Elizabeth (also called Betsy who married John L. Curtis), Alice (married John Petherick), Anne (married Wm. Rusaw), James (married Ann McFarlen), Eli (who died young), Eliza (married Comfort Curtis), Jane (married Dave Swinton), Mathew and Mark (twins who married Ellen Banon and Sarah Anne Martin respectively).

After Elizabeth's marriage to John L. Curtis (in 1848?), the family resided in Northumberland County until their move to Michigan. Following the death of her husband, the 1880 federal census of Ada, Kent County, Michigan states:

Curtis,	Elizabeth	50	widowed	keeping hour	se
	Henry	11	son	at school	
	Elizabeth	24	married d	aughter dre	ssmaker
	Samantha	22	daughter	at home	
	William	15	son	at school	
	Mark	14	son	at school	

The 1885 Dakota Territorial Census for Griggs County lists the following:

Lizabeth Curtis	55	mother	widowed	farmer	b.	in	England
William Curtis	21	son	single	farmer	b.	in	Canada
Mark Curtis	18	son	single	farmer	b.	in	Michigan
Henry Curtis	16	son	single	farmer	b.	in	Michigan

It would appear from other records, Elizabeth came to Dakota Territory in the fall of 1881 or the spring of 1882 where she homesteaded on the SE 1/4 of Section 14-144-58 which is Broadview Township of Griggs County. Coming with her were at least the three youngest of her children then living: William, Mark, and Henry. The family, being poor, could not afford train passenger tickets for everyone. (See story of this trip under Henry Curtis.) Some of the Spencer family also came to Dakota Territory, maybe at the same time as Elizabeth. The Spencers also settled in Broadview Township of Griggs County in the area later known as Spencer ravine.

In January 1891, an item in the Griggs Co. Courier relates that Samantha and her mother "have moved down to the river for the winter. They occupy the old home homestead."

Elizabeth Spencer Curtis passed away 16 February 1892 at her Broadview Township, Griggs County homestead. The following news article was taken from the Cooperstown paper, The Griggs County Courier, issue of February 26, 1892:

"Ashtabula--Mrs. Curtis was buried at the Hillside Cemetery at Ashtabula, Thursday February 18th. Rev. McClure preached an excellent and appropriate sermon, and very touchingly consoled the grief-stricken family who remain to mourn the loss of a devoted mother, sister and grandmother. Among the ladies who followed the remains to the last resting place was Miss Jessie Saunders of Gallatin, Mrs. Dyer, Mrs. Lilly, and Mrs. W. Curtis who braved the disagreeable weather through a hard twelve mile drive. Messrs, John Atchinson Alex Saunders both of Gallatin were among and the pallbearers. Among the many friends who on their way home from the burying ground .... James Spencer and brother .... Mr. Fred Newsted and his man worked two days to get the grave dug at Ashtabula for the late Mrs. Curtis. He said they got through the frost within one foot of the required depth, besides getting their noses peeled by rubbing them too hard against the frosty side of a northwester that swept over them while at work."



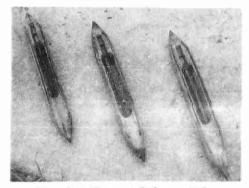
John L. Curtis



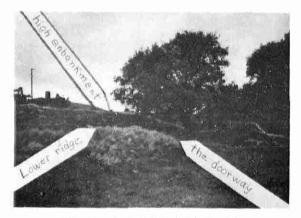
Elizabeth Spencer, the wife of John L. Curtis



John Spencer, father of Elizabeth Spencer Curtis



The shuttles used for weaving by John Spencer and his daughters.



This is where Elizabeth Curtis had her barn. You can still see where the opening for the door was. The roof was probably made of timbers reaching from the high enbankment to the lower ridge. October 1992



Looking northward to the area where Elizabeth Spencer Curtis homsteaded, just beyond the grain bin and down into the trees. To the left is the Sheyenne River which is somewhat backed up at this location due to the Baldhill Dam downstream.



John D. Spencer holding the shuttles that his great, great grandfather John Spencer used for weaving.

Thomas Curtis, the oldest child of Le. John Curtis and Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis was born in Percy Township, Northumberland County, Ontario, 22 June 1849. With his parents, brothers, and sisters he moved to Kent County, Michigan in or While there he was about 1865. converted and joined the Ada Baptist church.

Coming to North Dakota in the spring of 1880, he was one of the early settlers of Dakota Territory. He homesteaded on the NE 1/4 of Section 6 of Sibley Trail Township, Barnes County. He also owned a portion of section 32 in Griggs County and may have at one time also lived on the Charles Curtis farm in Barnes County after Charles and his family returned



to Michigan in the late 1880's. On 23 December 1890, at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Valley City, with E.B. Stull as pastor, Thomas was united in marriage to Ellenor Ladbury, daughter of Lewellyn and Harriet (Shephard) Ladbury. Two children were born to this couple:

#### Freeman Glen Curtis Harriet (Hattie) Spencer Curtis

Thomas also had a stepson, Clarence Ladbury, child of Ellenor Ladbury before her marriage to Thomas.

Thomas appears to have loved children and horses. He had seven horses at the time of the 1885 Dakota Territory Census. One day he rode over to brother Charles' place with a puppy for Charles' two girls, Ada and Alta.

Following a trip to Brainerd, Minnesota to get lumber, he returned home, where he passed away 29 February 1896 from (as the obituary says) "pneunomia of the lungs." He was buried by the side of his mother, Elizabeth, and two sisters (Samantha and Jane) in the Hillside cemetery at Ashtabula. Sometime later his body was removed to the Sunnyside Cemetery, Section 7, of Sibley Trail Township, Barnes County. This cemetery is located about 8 miles n.e. of Dazey, N.D. and is also known as the Ladbury Cemetery. Many of the Curtis family are buried there, some bodies having been moved from Hillside Cemetery to Sunnyside Cemetery. Thomas' wife, Ellenor (Ellen), is also buried at Sunnyside, she having died 3 January 1938. Thomas Curtis Obituary Cooperstown, ND newspaper Issue of March 6, 1896

Died Saturday evening, February 29, 1896, Thomas Curtis at age 47, from pneumonia of the lungs.

He was taken sick weeks ago at Brainerd where he had gone to get lumber. He came home about 3 weeks ago and after receiving medical aid was pronounced well and he continued to improve until Thursday of last week when he was taken down with the grippe which caused partial paralysis which finally caused his death.

Born at Percy, Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada 22 June 1849. Moved to Kent County, Michigan in 1865. While there he was converted and united with the Ada Baptist Church. He came to Barnes County, North Dakota, in the spring of 1880, and was one of the early settlers. In December 1891 he was married to Ellen Ladbury. Leaves his widow and 2 children, Freeman 4, Hattie 2. Leaves 4 brothers, John, William, Mark, and Henry and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Warner of Spokane, Washington. Funeral at the farm home Tuesday 2 P.M., Rev. E.P. Johnson, assisted by Rev. E.S. Shaw. Buried by the side of his mother and two sisters in the cemetery at Ashtabula.

(Note: Barnes County did not become a state until 1889, so he actually came to Dakota Territory. Marriage document shows his marriage as 23 December 1890.)

#### Ellenor Ladbury Curtis Obituary

As death has called Mrs. Ellen Curtis we feel we have lost a dear pioneer friend and neighbor from our midst. She was born at Warwick, England, December 3rd 1849, and passed away January 3rd 1938, at the age of 88 years and 1 month. From England the family moved to Ontario, Canada. In the year of 1886 she came to Dakota Territory and has lived in this community the remainder of her life.

She leaves to mourn her departure three children: Clarence, who resided with her; Freeman, of Choteau, Mont., and Mrs. Ed Ronnie of Laurel, Mont.; also a sister, Miss Emma Ladbury of Valley City, besides nephews and nieces and a host of friends.

Before her last illness she remarked to a friend that it doesn't matter when our life ends here if we are only prepared to go. Her unselfish nature and cheerful disposition won the love of all who knew her and we shall greatly miss Aunt Ella as she was better known to us, but the memory of her sunny smile will still live on and help us bear the burdens of life with the same uncomplaining fortitude that she met them.

Beckoning hands of a mother whose love Sacrificed life, its devotion to prove; Hands of a mother to memory dear, Beckon up higher the waiting ones here. -Contributed by a friend.

(Note: Aunt Ella is a newspaper misprint. She was commonly known as "Aunt Ellen.")

Further notes: Ellenor Ladbury was the 2nd of five children born to Lewellyn and Harriet (Shephard) Ladbury. Her siblings were Agnes, Charles (who married Jane Curtis), Fred and Edwin. Lewellyn married a second time (to Charlotte Bodill) and to this marriage was born Emma Ladbury. Lewellyn was born 20 April 1825 in England, near Stratford-Upon-Avon (Shakespeare's old home) in Warwickshire. His early youth was spent in the neighborhood of his birth, and as a young man he was Gamekeeper on the estate of Sir John Mordant.

In 1858, Mr. Ladbury and his family came to Canada and settled in Oxford County, Ontario. In March of 1864 he moved with his family to Michigan and settled near Grand Rapids. He came in April 1880 to Dakota (then a territory) and located in Barnes County east of Dazey. In 1881 Mr. Ladbury established himself and his family on a farm on the Sheyenne River southeast of Cooperstown and for many years resided in that location. He and his family moved to Cooperstown in 1906 where he resided until he passed away the night of 16 Sept. 1915.

I (Grant Carlson) remember Aunt Ellen very well. She indeed was a very cheerful person. In the late 1930's, she lived in a tiny house on the extreme SW corner of section 32, Broadview Township, Griggs County. Her son Clarence resided with her.

### Clarence A. Ladbury

Clarence A. Ladbury was born 17 May 1877 in Ontario, Canada, the son of Ellenor Ladbury. Ellen and Clarence moved to Dakota Territory when Clarence was nine years of age. He lived with his mother, Ellenor, and step-father, Thomas Curtis. After Thomas passed away in 1896, Clarence continued to live with his mother until her passing in 1938. "Claire" remained in the Karnak area and was a trucker. He passed away 5 October 1962 and was buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery, Barnes County, ND.

#### THOMAS CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

- (1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) THOMAS CURTIS born: 22 June 1849 at: Percy Township, Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada died: 29 Feb. 1896 at: Barnes County, North Dakota married: 23 Dec.1890 at: the Methodist Episcopal Church

in Valley City, ND

to: ELLENOR LADBURY born: 3 Dec. 1849 at: Warwick, England died: 3 Jan. 1938 at: North Dakota father: Lewellyn Ladbury mother: Harriet Shephard

Ellenor had a son, Clarence Ladbury born in 1877.

(3) FREEMAN GLEN CURTIS

born: 26 October 1891 at: near Karnak ND died: Jan 1964 at: Choteau MT married: 25 Sept 1920 at: LaMoure ND

to: INGA GUNHILDA FREDRICKSEN ROBBINS born: 30 July 1884 at: Norway died: 2 May 1983 at: Choteau MT father: Fredrick Fredriksen mother: Lisa Andersen Freeman's occupation was Implement blockman and John Deere dealer "F. G. Curtis & Son" Freeman and Inga lived at Choteau MT

Freeman and Inga were married by R. H. Myers, Presbyterian minister. Inga was previously married to L. Robbins and were parents of at least 3 children: Kirk, Mike and Orin.

(4) JUNE ELAINE CURTIS born: 10 June 1921 at: near Karnak ND married: 8 Feb. 1950 at: Las Vegas NV

> to: **RAY VICTOR OLSON** June and Ray were divorced. June was married: 14 Aug 1991 at: Choteau MT

to: CHARLES WILSON GRAY III born: 6 June 1923 at: Choteau MT father: Charles Wilson Gray II mother: Irene Askew occupation: farmer, banker & real estate dealer June worked for many years as a bookkeeper address: Choteau MT

#### (4) GRANT WELLINGTON CURTIS

born: 9 December 1922 at: Cooperstown ND married: 29 Dec. 1946 at: Billings MT

#### to: JOYCE LOGAN

born: 28 Aug. 1926 at: Billings MT
father: "Dick" Richmond Logan
mother: Marjorie Ethel Powell
occupation: Implement Dealer until 1964, farming
Joyce is a registered nurse & works hard as a
volunteer.
address: Choteau MT

## (5) GREGORY LOGAN CURTIS

born: 18 December 1947 at: Great Falls MT married: 25 Mar. 1970 at: Great Falls MT

#### to: KATHLEEN STEVENS

born: 10 Aug. 1948 at: Great Falls, MT father: George A. Stevens mother: Martha Fultz Gregory and Kathleen divorced Jan. 1990. Gregory is an attorney. address: Bellevue WA

- (6) CHAD RICHMOND CURTIS born: 9 April 1976 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) TYLER STEVEN CURTIS born: 23 July 1980 at: Great Falls MT

#### (6) CHELSEY VICTORIA CURTIS born: 17 Dec. 1982 at: Great Falls MT

#### (5) JEFFREY GLENN CURTIS born: 14 June 1950 at: Great Falls MT married: 14 Jan. 1973 at: Reno NV

to: ELAINE ROSE NOVOTNY born: 2 Sept. 1951 at: Sacramento CA father: Sylvester B. Novotny mother: Dorothy Ellen Kaliher occupation: Boeing-computor Elaine-R.N. address: Federal Way WA

- (6) NATHAN GLEN CURTIS born: 10 May 1975 at: Missoula MT
- (6) ANGELA ROSE CURTIS born: 7 July 1977 at: Missoula MT

(5) MARCIA ELLEN CURTIS born: 2 Dec. 1952 at: Choteau MT married: 6 Sept. 1971 at: Choteau MT

> to: THOMAS LEROY ECKERSON born: 7 Feb. 1951 at: Helena MT father: William Eckerson mother: Teola Dorinne Johnson occupation: Thomas-National Guard Marcia-3rd year in nursing program address: Helena MT

- (6) DAVID GRANT ECKERSON born: 26 Apr. 1974 at; Billings MT Freshman at Montana State University
- (6) DANIEL WILLIAM ECKERSON born: 26 Apr. 1974 at: Billings MT Freshman at Montana State University
- (6) ERICA ELLEN ECKERSON born: 19 Dec. 1977 at:Great Falls MT
- (5) TODD ALAN CURTIS born: 27 Mar. 1960 at: Choteau MT married: 6 Apr. 1979 at: Choteau MT

to: BRENDA ANN BAUMGARTNER born: 28 Jan. 1960 at: father: Donald Baumgartner mother: Carole Smith occupation: Todd-computer scientist Brenda-bank teller address: Redmond WA

- (6) BRANDON TODD CURTIS born: 3 Oct. 1979 at:Great Falls MT
- (6) BRITNI CAROLE CURTIS born: 29 July 1981 at:Great Falls MT

#### (3) HARRIET SPENCER CURTIS

born: 18 Apr. 1894 at: near Karnak ND died: 1974 at: Great Falls MT married: 11 June 1920 at: Valley City ND to: EDWARD O. RONNIE born: 18967\* at: Wisconsin?\* died: 6 Nov. 1966 at: Laurel MT father: mother:

Ed Ronnie worked as a blacksmith in the railroad yards in Laurel, Montana where he and "Hattie" made their home and later worked for the city water department.

- \* Wedding license states Edward O. Ronnie's age as 24 and is from Mindoro, Wisconsin. Harriet is listed as age 26 and from Sibley Trail Township, Barnes Co. ND. They were married at the Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church in Valley City ND by John S. Wilds, pastor.
- (4) STANLEY E. RONNIE (adopted) born: 4 Sept. 1928 at: Miles City MT died: 6 Nov. 1966 at: Chicago Il

Stanley was very interested in sports and, as a youth, had his walls covered with sports memorabilia. He never married. Stanley traveled a lot and was a school teacher in the state of Washington.



Thomas Curtis Ellenor Ladbury Ellenor Curtis Ellenor Curtis ( Curtis

Clarence A. Ladbury



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Freeman Curtis and horses



Freeman Curtis about 1950



Inga Curtis & Hattie Ronnie



40th Wedding Anniversary of Freeman & Inga Curtis. Marci & Joyce Curtis, Sharon Geske (Inga's grand-daughter), Freeman holding Todd, Inga, Grant, Greg, June and Jeff.



40th Wedding Anniversary of Freeman & Inga Curtis



Front-Grant & Joyce Curtis with children Marci, Todd, Jeff & Greg



Nathan, Elaine, Angela & Jeff Curtis



Tom, Marci, Daniel, Erica & David Eckerson



1991 Wedding of June Curtis & Charles Gray



Marriage of Grant Curtis & Joyce Logan



Greg Curtis with children Tyler & Chelsey



Brenda & Todd Curtis with Britni & Brandon



Ed & Hattie Ronnie

(



Stanley Ronnie



Hattie Curtis (1) & cousin Hazel Curtis



All CURTIS folks summer of 1949: Joyce, Joyce (Mark's grand~dau.), Anna, June, Inga, Gregory, Freeman, Mark, Grant & Jack.



Karnak ball players: 1-r unknown, Florence, Myrtle & Hattie Curtis.

John Curtis was born 22 June 1851 in Northumberland County, Ontario, two years to the day after the birth of his brother, Thomas. John came to Michigan in or about 1865 with his parents, brothers and sisters. He appeared to have been one of the last, if not the last, of the John L. Curtis children to move to Dakota. John was married 1 August 1877 in Courtland Township, Kent County, Michigan to Adelaide Emmaline Rykert. She was from Kent County, Michigan, living east of Grand Rapids and was three years older than her husband. John and Adelaide were living in Kent County, Michigan in 1880. Sometime before December 1884, they moved to the Kalkaska, Michigan area, some 130 miles north of Grand Rapids, where Herbert was born. Nina was also born in Michigan. John and Adelaide had three children, seemingly in this order:

#### Herbert C. Curtis Nina Curtis Feron Curtis

According to Blanche Curtis (granddaughter of John and Adelaide), her father, Herbert, was four years old when he moved to Dakota. This would indicate John and his family moved to Dakota Territory in 1889, possibly in the spring so that he could farm that season. John and Adelaide homesteaded on the NW 1/4 of Section 5, Sibley Trail Township of Barnes County, Dakota Territory.

Feron died about age four. He was reportedly buried on the Henry Curtis farm which would seem to indicate Feron was born in Dakota Territory. Nina died at the age of 17, while a student at the Valley City State Normal School.

John was elected as a steward of the Broadview Church, Griggs Co, ND in August 1907. He was a large man, measuring over 6 feet tall, and suffered much from rheumatism. A niece, Hazel Curtis Carlson, at the age of 4 1/2, remembers John lifting her up to view her father's body in the casket and saying to her "See, he is just sleeping." John seems to have liked children, which was true of many of the Curtis men.



Following the death of his brother-in-law, John Warner, John went to visit his sister, Elizabeth, near Grey Eagle, Minnesota. While there, he suffered a stroke and then a second more severe stroke and died on 14 January 1921. Following a funeral service at Grey Eagle, his body was returned to North Dakota for a second service, after which he was buried in the same plot as his daughter, Nina. This was in the Sibley Trail Sunnyside Cemetery also known as the Ladbury Cemetery.

#### Adelaide Emmaline Rykert

Adelaide "Addie" Rykert was born 5 May 1848 at Ada, Kent County, Michigan. When a very young girl, she was stricken with scarlet fever. A severe eye infection followed which caused her to lose the sight in her left eye. She also suffered a hearing loss. In spite of these handicapping conditions, she carried on through life with courage. On most photographs, Addie is facing left, turning her "bad" eye away from the camera.

Adelaide related that some of her ancestors came to America on the Mayflower. Wilbur Rykert (see below) does not agree.

Adelaide lived with her husband, John, from marriage in 1877 until his death in 1921. They made their homes in Michigan and North Dakota. After John's death, she moved to Montana. Adelaide died in December of 1925 and was buried at Brady, MT. Later her body was moved to Highland Cemetery south of Great Falls, MT.

The Hannaford Enterprise of 18 Jan. 1921, Karnak News, relates:

"Herbert Curtis was called to Gray Eagle, Minn., Friday afternoon, owing to the sudden illness of his father, John Curtis, who has spent the winter with his sister there. Later reports tell that John Curtis died Friday evening and the remains will be brought back to Karnak for burial. His bereaved wife and family have the sympathy of the community."

#### 

For anyone who may be interested in tracing the Rykert family, we suggest you contact Mr. Wilbur Rykert who lives at 204 Old Bond Court #3, Louisville, Ky. 40222. His phone number is (502)-426-4210. Adelaide Rykert's brother was Wilbur's great-great grandfather.

The following is from Wilbur Rykert in a 1992 telephone call:

"Adelaide's father was George William Rykert, her mother was Emmaline Sprague. The Rykerts came from Dutchess County, New York. On early records the name is also spelled Rikert. Adelaide's grandfather, Peter Zachariah Rykert, came to Michigan about 1833. The Sprague family came first to Canada, and Elijah Sprague to Michigan by 1839."

#### Stories of Herbert Curtis and Family as told by daughter Laura

My impression of dad is that he was quite austere, although a good man. His father, John, fit that description also. Maybe it was a Curtis trait. Dad was also a very honest person and generous. He also was very friendly. I don't think he ever met a stranger. The stories I remember my dad telling were of the things he and his cousin, Freeman, used to do to a Joe Webber. They would re-live and laugh over these rather unusual stories when they were together. Poor Joe!

Raising all of us during some very hard years wasn't easy. By the time I was old enough to start school, Clifford and Blanche were away from home working. Ethel, David, Clayton, Jack, myself, Alan & Dick were still at home. We all graduated from Brady High School in Montana except our youngest brother, Dick. He graduated from Great Falls High School. Alan is the only one that went on to college. He graduated from Northwestern University in Chicago. He has a DDS degree in dentistry and practices in San Diego, California.

My brothers Clayton, John (Jack) and Alan all served in the military during WW2. Clayton lost his life in the Battle of the Bulge, he was a Sgt. in the Armored Force. Jack was an infantry man and received a medical discharge because of asthma. Alan was a Navy man. Richard (Dick) served in the Korean War where he was a radio operator.

We lived on a farm 4 miles west of Brady. Raised some of many things, grain, cattle, horses, chickens, ducks, turkeys, etc., as well as the huge garden my mother had every year. With the various things available we were never hungry and always were clothed properly.

After my brother, Clayton, was killed our mother wanted to leave the farm so they came to Great Falls in 1945. Dad didn't care much about life in the city, so he would spend a lot of time on the farm and he also did landscaping in Great Falls. It was sort of like farm work, I suppose.

He died of a heart attack, was riding his Ford tractor on the way to a landscaping job. A R.N. happened to be driving behind him, she said he threw up his hands and slumped over, and was gone when she got to him. His doctor had told him he would have to slow down as he had heart attacks before this. He wasn't much for sitting around and said he wanted to die happy.

In closing, here is just a little insight into the character of my dad. A banker with whom he had many dealings told someone that he (my dad) was the most honest man he had ever met. He was crippled with arthritis and rheumatism badly, but he never gave up.

#### Story as told by son Alan

My father, Herbert C. Curtis, the "C", his middle initial I am given to understand, he gave to himself after not having been given a middle name at birth. He tired of being asked so many times and cured the problem with the "C". I was one of his younger children, not nearly as close to knowing him as I would have liked.

The demands of such a large family growing up in the depression years left him little time for anything but work. Farming, ranching, custom horse team or tractor work, selling insurance, working on dams, no let up, a true workaholic. With all this work he still remained a fun person. Loved music, especially Irish Jigs. To this day I never met anyone who enjoyed teasing as much, almost too much! Frank Harriman and Freeman Curtis were his cohorts in some of his more outlandish pranks. One Joe Webber was their favorite victim. He preferred fish to candy and loved his tea.

He was an extremely kind and compassionate man, during the middle of harvest he shut the harvesting down to take me to the hospital with my acute appendicitis when others could have taken me. When my arm was broken at twelve years of age he would come to my bed in the middle of the night to comfort and try to ease my pain, this was after a hard days work and another ahead at daybreak. I am certain many others can recall his kindness.

He was a very strong and devoted fundamental Christian, a credit to the human race and to the family Curtis, past and present!

#### Story as told by son Richard

One of my interesting memories of my Dad and Mom is of an experience that they had in driving (a 1936 Ford) to Great Falls, Montana, on a moonless night and the lights went out on the car. Well, in those days "freeways" were not as yet and the two-way road had a deep coulee with a narrow bridge at the bottom, and dad very fortunately was able to keep the car on the road, without colliding with the bridge at the bottom!

#### Story as told by son David L.

Dad was married January 1909, in, I believe, Dazey, ND, and moved soon afterward to Irricana, Alberta, a town approximately 30 miles n.e. of Calgary. The early frosts took their crops three years in a row. That was all they could take, so they moved to Brady, Montana where I was born in 1918. (I was the 7th of 12 children.) In 1919 the folks moved to North Dakota to help dad's parents who were in poor health. Grandpa Curtis passed away in 1920 and in 1925 the folks moved back to Brady, Montana. Dad was a hard working man and cared a lot for his family. As the saying goes "he would take the shirt off his back" to help any of his children.

Dad was an honest man. I was visiting with a bank president in one of our Great Falls banks many years ago, and the banker made the remark to me that he had never dealt with a more honest man than Dad. That made me very proud of him.

I remember one time, the family was going to Conrad, our County Seat, about 12 miles north of Brady. Dad had a Model T Ford in which he had converted the ignition system over to distributor from the conventional magneto and coil standard arrangement. A few miles out of Brady the Model T quit and Dad went about to repair it. He fixed the points, etc., but couldn't get it started. He took the rotor and threw it out into the adjoining field. Well, he needed that rotor so had to go search for it. He found it after a long search and that seemed to do the job. It started and he cooled off and we proceeded on toward Conrad. I was just a child then but often remember that little incident and have to smile to myself even yet.

Dad wasn't one to complain about his personal pain or problems. He broke his arm once, suffered from arthritis and had acute appendicitis, from which we nearly lost him. Dad raised his large family through the depression years. There wasn't much money available but we always had plenty to eat and good clothes to wear.

There are many memories of my Dad that make me glad he was mine, but the most important thing about Dad and Mom were their religious beliefs and what they upheld before us children. I'm thankful for that.

#### Story as told by granddaughter Mavis

My grandfather, Herbert C. Curtis, was a delightful man. He was the best grandpa any girl could have had. His specialty was teasing in a fun and loving way. I remember grandpa as always being bald with just a fringe of hair around the edges. One day his grand-daughter, Kay, when a very little girl--probably a toddler, found a comb without any teeth. She held it up and said, "a comb for grandpa." Grandpa Herbert laughed and laughed in his sweet way. He was delighted with her observation.

Grandpa always gave me a lot of attention. I have many happy memories of my visits to his Brady farm and times with him and my grandmother. Also fun times in Great Falls, MT with them when they moved there. I can still see him in his living room chair in Great Falls, reading the Life magazine. I never heard him complain although, walking with a limp, he must have been in pain at times. Grandpa was thoughtful and kind, always thinking of those around him.

During my growing up years they visited at our home in Winnett, MT many times. Grandpa (Herbert Curtis) always teased me about Bobby "Flatwheel" (not his real last name), a local boy about my age who had fallen off the rimrocks near where we lived. "Bobby Flatwheel fell for Mavis"--giggle, giggle--what a grandpa! My wish would be for every child to have such a wonderful grandpa!!

#### Memories of Lillian from three of her children

I'll try to make a few comments of some things that stand out in my memory concerning our mother. Like most children who have had the loving care of parents, it isn't easy to put into words some things that seem so precious and could I say, 'sacred'.

I can remember mother singing, "Good Morning, Mary sunshine; What makes you wake so soon" etc. when we'd come down the stairs after 'sleeping in' during our summer vacation from school. THAT made our day!!! Also she would make us tiny loaves of bread and little pats of butter to eat in our 'play house' which was made of just laying some boards on the ground to make a room. The blue sky was our roof.

----daughter Blanche

Mom was as kind and loving a person as any person could ask for. She was so concerned about the welfare of all her children and our family was large.

The folks had many sorrows throughout life, but as the saying goes - it brought the gold in their lives. That we appreciate very much. There are many memories which come back so often that make one glad we had such a mother.

---son David

Our mother was a very patient, kind and gentle person. She loved to have company, can still hear her whistling as she prepared a meal for her guests. She could put a meal on the table faster than anyone I have ever known, and by the way she was an excellent cook. She had a nice sense of humor. One 'April Fools Day' it sort of backfired on her though. My brother, Clifford, was outside working and she yelled out to him to "come quick, the house was on fire!" I can remember how bad she felt when he came running, scared to death. It just wasn't supposed to be any more than a harmless April fools joke.

As you know, we had a very large family. During the depression days when money was scarce it was because of her gardening and canning that we were able to get through some pretty bad years. She did a lot of sewing for us. I can still smell the home made bread which she baked by the dozens of loaves every week, I can't recall just how many. I remember her as a very loving Mother and feel blessed for having one such as she for a Mother.

--- daughter Laura Curtis Jacobs

#### Nina Curtis

Nina Curtis, one of three children born to John and Adelaide (Rykert) Curtis was born 12 May 1887 in Michigan. She came with her parents to Dakota (in 1889?) and died 19 January 1905 from pneumonia. At the time she was a student at the Valley City Normal School, preparing to teach.

She has been spoken of as a very sweet girl, a true Christian. She was laid to rest in the Sunnyside Cemetery with a tall white stone marking her gravesite. A printed tribute to her, following her death, says:

> "This lovely bud, so young and fair, Called hence by early doom, Just came to show how sweet a flower In paradise would bloom. E're sin could harm or sorrow fade, Death came with friendly care, The opening bud to Heaven conveyed And bade it blossom there.

A very pretty wedding occurred Wednesday at Mr. & Mrs. LaValley's home when their daughter Lillie was united in marriage to Herbert Curtis. The wedding march was played by Miss Florence Curtis (cousin of the groom) and during the rendering the bridal party took their places in a room most beautifully decorated, where the ceremony was performed by Rev. Hayes of Dazey. The bride was attired in white silk, wore carnations in her hair and carried roses....The bride is one of Barnes county's charming young ladies and the groom is a prosperous young farmer in Griggs county...A very elaborate dinner was served after which the bridal party left on the afternoon train for Duluth and other points where they will visit for some time.

#### Married in Great Falls

Clifford C. Curtis of Brady and Miss Alice E. Johnston of Cut Bank, were married in Great Falls Thursday evening by Justice Bert P. Christie. The witnesses were Mrs. Lillian Curtis and Dr. Macauley.....The groom is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Curtis of Brady and one of the well known young men of that community. The newly married couple will make their home west of Brady where the groom is engaged in farming.....The entire Brady community offers Mr. and Mrs. Curtis congratulations.

#### Jerome and Frances Sprague

Frances Marie Curtis (6-19-37 Cut Bank, Montana to 4-26-73 Sacramento, California) and Jerome Harvey Sprague (9-14-36) were first introduced in Great Falls, MT in 1957. Frances was attending nurses training at Columbus School of Nursing and I was working while attending the College of Great Falls. By chance our paths crossed again in downtown Seattle in the summer of 1958. I was working for Boeing while Frances completed nursing school and was waiting for the results of her state exams.

We were married on Dec. 27, 1958 and settled in the Capital Hill district of Seattle. Jerome Jr. arrived on April 4, 1960 and the family was started.

We became homesick for family and moved to Great Falls, MT the following year. After settling into the Riverview section of Great Falls in 1961, James Anthony was born just in time to break up a good night's sleep. I remember the time well (broke up an intense bridge game) Oct. 28, 1961. The following two years went well while I was working for the Minuteman Missile Project in central Montana. Julie Ann blessed the long cold winter of 1963 on January 13, 1963.

The economy changed for central Montana at the completion of the missile project and caused many families to become uprooted. I felt compelled to complete a formal education. Frances was fortunate enough to always find work as a nurse. In the fall of 1964, we moved into family housing at Northern Montana College, in Havre. Janell Marie arrived into close quarters on November 25, 1964.

The summer of 1966, we returned to our house in Great Falls where I taught at C.M.Russell High School and Paris Gibson Jr. High School. During the summer of 1967, I had the opportunity to complete my Master's program. An itch for adventure sent us to LaGrande, Oregon to finiish my Masters. We enjoyed the next nine months there with Jerry and Jim attending school.

In the summer of 1968, we settled in the Riverpark section of Sacramento, California. Life was good to us. Frances nursed at Sacramento State College - Health Dept. while I taught drafting at Sacramento High Scool.

As life takes it's turn, Frances became ill with cancer and passed away three years later on April 26, 1973. She left behind four wonderful children (Jerome Harvey Jr., James Anthony, Julie Ann and Janell Marie.) To date the four children and eight grandchildren are sixth and seventh generation of the Frances Marie Curtis branch of the J.L. Curtis Tree.

#### Jerome and Lori Sprague

Lori Loretta Holsey (8-26-60 Sacramento, CA) and Jerome Harvey Sprague Jr. (4-4-60 Seattle, WA) first met in Sacramento in 1981. On Dec. 4, 1982 we were married in Lake Tahoe, NV. While I was working for United Parcel Service and Lori for a local supermarket, on June 2, 1987 Ryan Dean and Calvin Rocky were born weighing in at a tad over 5 lbs, each.

During the summer of 1989, we both decided to change careers. Lori began working for American Airlines in the Dallas/Fort Worth area while I am completing a financial degree at the University of Texas and working for a financial firm.

#### Mrs. Ernest Freburg Taken By Death Tuesday Morning

"Mrs. Ethel Freburg, 25, wife of Ernest Freburg, salesman in the Winnett Mercantile store, died at the St. Joseph's hospital at 10:45 Tuesday morning, death resulting from pneumonia with which she was stricken Sunday. She was taken to the hospital in Lewistown Sunday afternoon.

Born in Brady, Montana, June 27, 1914, Ethel Curtis attended the grade school and graduated from the high school in that community.

She was married to Ernest Freburg in Great Falls, October 24, 1936, and soon thereafter moved with her husband to Winnett where they have lived since.

Beside the husband, she is survived by a daughter, Mavis Rae, age two years; the parents Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Curtis of Brady; two sisters and six brothers....She was of sterling character and held in high esteem by those who knew her."

#### JOHN CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

(1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS

(2) JOHN CURTIS

born: 22 June 1851 at: Northumberland Co., Ontario died: 14 Jan. 1921 at: near Grey Eagle, Minnesota buried at Sibley Trail Cemetery, Barnes Co., ND married: 1 Aug. 1877 at: Courtland Twsp., Kent Co. MI

to: ADELAIDE EMMALINE RYKERT born: 5 May 1848 at: Ada, Kent Co., Michigan died: December 1925 at: buried at Brady, Montana. Later her body was moved to Highland Cemetery south of Great Falls, MT. father: George William Rykert mother: Emmaline Sprague

John & Adelaide were parents of Herbert, Nina & Feron.

(3) HERBERT C. CURTIS

born: 7 Dec. 1884 at: Kalkaska, MI died: 11 April 1959 at: Great Falls MT married: 27 Jan. 1909 at: Dazey ND

to: LILLIAN VICTORINE LAVALLEY born: 23 Jan. 1889 at: Fergus Falls MN died: 15 Nov. 1964 at: Great Falls MT father: Prosper H. LaValley mother: Sophia Wing

Herbert & Lillian were parents of Clifford, Clinton, Feron, Blanche, Ethel, Glenn, David, Clayton, John, Laura, Alan and Richard.

#### (4) CLIFFORD CLINTON CURTIS born: 13 Oct. 1909 at: Irricana, Alberta died: 3 May 1949 at: Cut Bank MT married: 23 Aug. 1934 at: Great Falls MT

to: ALICE ELETTA JOHNSTON born: 28 Sept. 1910 at: Lansford ND died: 25 Feb. 1986 at: Cut Bank MT father: Dean Johnston mother: Bertha E. Johnson

Clifford was a twin. His brother, **CLINTON**, was stillborn. Clifford was an oil field worker and died in an oil field accident. Alice was a registered nurse. (5) DOROTHY ANN CURTIS

born: 29 April 1935 at: Conrad MT married: 11 June 1955 at: Cut Bank MT

to: PATRICK WILLIAM GILLIGAN born: 16 Sept. 1930 at: West Rutland VT father: John Harry Gilligan mother: Anna Mae Harrison occupation: custodian address: Cut Bank MT

(6) DEBORA ANN GILLIGAN born: 5 Sept. 1956 at: Proctor VT married: 9 Aug. 1975 at: Cut Bank MT

> to: JOHN MICHAEL GREALISH born: 18 August 1954 at: Great Falls MT father: John Grealish mother: Clela Goldrick occupation: communications technician address: Butte MT

- (7) KEVIN JAMES GREALISH born: 15 Mar. 1979 at: Great Falls MT
- (7) TRAVIS JOHN GREALISH born: 17 July 1981 at: Helena MT
- (7) SEAN PATRICK GREALISH born: 9 Apr. 1985 at: Helena MT
- (7) BRENDAN MICHAEL GREALISH born: 29 Aug. 1989 at: Helena MT

#### (6) JEANNE MARIE GILLIGAN

born: 16 Sept. 1958 at: Cut Bank MT married: 31 Aug. 1979 at: Cut Bank MT

to: RONALD ARMBRUSTER born: 3 Oct. 1956 at: Cut Bank MT father: Howard Henry Armbruster mother: Rose Mary Kraus occupation: Ron-florist Jeanne is a cosmetologist address: Cut Bank MT

- (7) ANGELA MARIE ARMBRUSTER born: 11 Nov. 1981 at: Shelby MT
- (7) JEFFREY HOWARD ARMBRUSTER born: 9 Oct. 1984 at: Shelby MT
- (7) ERIN ALLISSE ARMBRUSTER born: 21 July 1986 at: Shelby MT
- (6) MARY FRANCES GILLIGAN born: 16 Feb. 1960 at: Proctor VT married: 1 Aug. 1981 at: Cut Bank MT

to: THOMAS EDWARD PETAJA born: 18 Apr. 1954 at: father: Arne M. Petaja mother: Regena Kenczka occupation: Thomas-electronic tech. Mary is a coloranalyst address: Layton UT

- (7) REGEE THOMAS PETAJA born: 30 June 1984 at: Bozeman MT
- (7) TIFFANY MARIE PETAJA born: 21 Feb. 1987 at: Layton UT

- (6) BRENDA CHRISTINE GILLIGAN born: 30 Nov. 1963 at: Cut Bank MT occupation: cosmetologist lives at: East Helena MT
- (6) DENNIS PATRICK GILLIGAN born: 20 Nov. 1965 at: Cut Bank MT married: 15 June 1985 at: Powell WY

to: KIMBERLY DAWN FINLEY born: 11 Apr. 1966 at: father: Patrick Finley mother: Barbara Harksen occupation: Dennis-Journeyman plumber Kimberly-special education teacher address: Reno NV

- (7) TREVOR PATRICK GILLIGAN born: 28 Nov. 1985 at: Helena MT
- (7) TIMOTHY JAMES GILLIGAN born: 18 June 1989 at: Reno NV

(5) FRANCES MARIE CURTIS born: 19 June 1937 at: Cut Bank MT died: 26 Apr. 1973 at: Sacramento CA married: 27 Dec. 1958 at: Seattle WA to: JEROME HARVEY SPRAGUE, SR born: 14 Sort 1026 at: Cut Bank MM

born: 14 Sept. 1936 at: Cut Bank MT father: Jack Henry Sprague mother: Mary Klein occupation:Jerome-retired teacher, contractor Frances was a registered nurse. address: Sacramento CA (6) JEROME HARVEY SPRAGUE JR. born: 4 Apr. 1960 at: Seattle WA married: 4 Dec. 1982 at: Lake Tahoe NV

> to: LORI LORETTA HOLSEY born: 26 Aug. 1960 at: Sacramento CA father: Alton Ray Holsey mother: Marea DeRosa occupation: Jerome-investment counselor Lori-Flight Attendant for Am. Airlines address: Arlington TX

- (7) CALVIN ROCKY SPRAGUE born: 2 June 1987 at: Sacramento CA
- (7) RYAN DEAN SPRAGUE born: 2 June 1987 at: Sacramento CA
- (6) JAMES ANTHONY SPRAGUE SR. born: 28 Oct. 1961 at: Great Falls MT married: 28 Nov. 1981 at: San Diego CA

to: LISA SUSANNE STONE born: 19 Aug. 1961 at: Oceanside CA father: Frederick W. Stone mother: Lois Hackenberg occupation: James-maintenance supervisor Lisa-homemaker address: Sacramento CA

- (7) JAMES ANTHONY SPRAGUE JR. born: 22 Sept. 1982 at: Sacramento CA
- (7) JACOB WILLIAM SPRAGUE born: 24 Nov. 1985 at: Roseville CA
- (7) JONATHAN MICHAEL SPRAGUE born: 10 June 1988 at: Roseville CA
- (7) JOSHUA DAVID JEROME SPRAGUE born: 2 May 1992 at: Sacramento CA

(6) JULIE ANN SPRAGUE born: 13 Jan. 1963 at: Great Falls MT married: 6 Dec. 1986 at: Sacramento CA

> to: KENNETH FREDRICK FURRER SR. born: 23 Mar. 1956 at: Woodland CA father: Herbert Fredrick Furrer mother: Barbara Lee Manners occupation: Ken-salesperson Julie-in school administration address: Encinitas CA

- (7) JESSICA MARIE FURRER born: 1 June 1987 at: Sacramento CA
- (7) KENNETH FREDRICK FURRER JR. born: 18 June 1989 at: Sacramento CA
- (6) JANELL MARIE SPRAGUE born: 25 Nov. 1964 at: Havre MT occupation: interior designer address: Solana Beach CA
- (5) DENNIS LEE CURTIS born: 21 May 1939 at: High River Alberta married: June 1958 at: Cut Bank MT

to: SHARON MILDRED DAVIS born: 16 June 1940 at: Cut Bank MT father: Harold Davis mother: Elma Bedord Dennis & Sharon are parents of Virginia and Charlotte. Dennis & Sharon divorced. Dennis married 13 Dec. 1974 at Reno NV

(6) VIRGINIA LEE CURTIS born: 26 Mar. 1959 at: Rutland VT married: 1 April 1975 at: Reno NV

> to: RONALD DARROW METHVIN born: 3 Sept. 1954 at: Ecuador, S. AM father: Randell Dure Methvin mother: Luzmilla

- (7) RONALD CONRAD METHVIN born: 23 July 1976 at: Paradise CA
- (7) ASHLEY LAYNE METHVIN born: 1 Dec. 1985 at: Reno NV

Ronald and Virginia were divorced. Virginia is a nursing student at the University of Nevada. address: Sparks NV

(6) CHARLOTTE JOAN CURTIS born: 12 Sept. 1960 at: Cut Bank MT occupation:Just completed CPA internship address: Walnut Creek CA

 (5) EDITH ELAINE CURTIS born: 12 Apr. 1946 at: Cut Bank MT married: 20 June 1964 at: Cut Bank MT to: BOB B. BRASHEAR JR. born: 27 Jan. 1946 at: Brady TX father: Bob Brashear mother: Catherine Squires

occupation: Bob in U.S.A.F. address: Jacksonville TX (6) DOUGLAS MICHAEL BRASHEAR born: 13 Apr. 1965 at: Cut Bank MT married: 7 Nov. 1987 at: San Antonio TX

> to: JENNIFER LYNN ESTES born: 2 Aug. 1967 at: San Antonio TX father: Robert Estes mother: Janie Burgess occupation: Douglas is a truck driver. address: Jacksonville TX

- (7) AARON EARL BRASHEAR (adopted) born: 21 Apr. 1986 at: San Antonio TX
- (7) CODY MICHAEL BRASHEAR born: 5 Feb. 1989 at: Tyler TX
- (7) JOEL THOMAS BRASHEAR born: 15 August 1991 at: Jacksonville TX

(6) RICHARD WAYNE BRASHEAR born: 12 Dec. 1968 at: Waco TX married: 27 July 1991 at:Jacksonville TX

# (5) EVELYN LAURA CURTIS

born: 10 May 1949 at: Great Falls MT married: 27 Nov. 1970 at: Cut Bank MT

to: EDWIN ARTHUR ANDERSON

born: 8 Sept. 1945 at: Butte MT father: Oscar Anderson mother: Emma Louise

Evelyn & Edwin are the parents of Justin & Jeanette. Evelyn & Edwin were divorced in 1984. Evelyn married 6 July 1985 at Reno NV

to: ALAIN RENE' PAUL JOUAN born: 18 July 1948 at Suresnes, France father: Rene' Georges Jouan mother:Paulette Emilienne Marie-Louise Carrel occupation: Sales-manufacturer's representaddress: Spokane WA ative

- (6) JUSTIN MATTHEW ANDERSON born: 27 Feb. 1973 at: Las Vegas NM
- (6) JEANETTE MARIE ANDERSON born: 2 Aug. 1977 at: Reno NV
- (4) FERON HOWARD CURTIS born: 25 Feb.1911 at: Irricana, Alberta died: 25 Dec. 1932 at: Boulder MT buried at Boulder, Montana
- (4) BLANCHE LILLIAN CURTIS born: 1 June 1912 at: Irricana, Alberta address: Whittier CA

# (4) ETHEL NINA CURTIS

born: 27 June 1914 at: Brady MT died: 10 Oct. 1939 at: Lewistown MT (Ethel died suddenly from pneumonia.) married:24 Oct. 1936 at: Great Falls MT

to: ERNEST A. FREBURG born: 24 Oct. 1909 at: Anaconda MT died: 23 Oct. 1992 at: Winnett MT father: Henry Freburg mother: Anna C. Carlson occupation: Grocery clerk, dairyman, custodian address: Winnett MT

# (5) MAVIS RAE FREBURG born: 27 Oct. 1937 at: Lewistown MT married: 8 Oct. 1961 at: Winnett MT

to: ROBERT LOUIS SHOTWELL born: 2 May 1929 at: Forsyth MT father: Bert C. Shotwell mother: Emile Marie Schoessler occupation:Rob't-retired employment counselor Mavis is a registered nurse. address: Billings MT

# (6) MELANIE SUE SHOTWELL born: 6 Nov. 1962 at: Billings MT married: 20 July 1985 at: Billings MT

to: CHRIS ALAN MUNSON born: 23 Jan. 1963 at: Billings MT father: Leo C. Munson mother: Lois J. Kirkenslager occupation: Chris-owner Billings Typewriter & Video Recorder Melanie-Bank customer service repre. address: Billings MT

### (6) DAVID ROBERT SHOTWELL born: 20 Apr. 1965 at: Billings MT occupation: student address: Billings MT

(6) LAURIE ANN SHOTWELL born: 12 July 1969 at: Glasgow MT occupation: student address: Billings MT

# (4) GLENN HERBERT CURTIS

born: 19 Aug. 1916 at: Brady MT died: 1 Apr. 1917 at: Brady MT buried at Highland Cemetery, Great Falls MT

# (4) DAVID LAVALLEY CURTIS born: 4 Sept. 1918 at: Brady MT married: 27 Sept. 1941 at Havre MT

to: PHYLLIS LOIS REYNOLDS born: 25 Feb. 1921 at: New Ulm MN father: John Reynolds mother: Pauline Buck occupation: Machinery equipment dealer and manufacturer of RITE tractors address: Great Falls MT

# (5) LYNNE CORRINE CURTIS born: 17 Aug. 1942 at: Conrad MT married: 1 Dec. 1958 at: Great Falls MT

to: GARY ELTON GOOD born: 27 Oct. 1940 at: Great Falls MT father: Elton Good mother: Doris Mauers occupation: Rancher address: Great Falls MT

#### (6) JEFFREY STEPHAN GOOD born: 26 July 1959 at: Great Falls MT occupation: Farmer address: Great Falls MT

# (6) CHRISTOPHER LEE GOOD born: 12 June 1962 at: Great Falls MT occupation: Stock rancher address: Stockett MT

## (5) CLAYTON DOUGLAS CURTIS born: 3 Mar. 1945 at: Conrad MT died:3 June 1961 auto accident near Shelby MT buried at Highland Cemetery, Great Falls MT

(5) CAROL DAWN CURTIS

born: 15 Oct. 1946 at: Great Falls MT married: 20 July 1966 at: Corpus Christi TX

to: LARRY DEAN HAGBOM born: 8 Aug. 1945 at: Helena MT father: Erwin Hagbom mother: Lulu Davies occupation: Loan consultant address: Auburn WA

(6) RONALD DOUGLAS HAGBOM born: 23 Oct. 1967 at: SanDiego CA married: 10 Aug. at: Great Falls MT

> to: VICKIE LYN ESTES born: 14 Feb. 1971 at: Yuba City CA father: Patrick Estes mother: Ruth Coleman occupation: carpentry work Vickie-RN address: Yuba City CA

- (7) CAMERON PATRICK HAGBOM born: 10 April 1990 at: Yuba City CA
- (6) JENNIFER DEANNE HAGBOM born: 21 Oct. 1969 at: Whidbey WA married: 28 Dec. 1991 at: Auburn WA

to: WESTON OTT born: May 1970 at: Federal Way WA father: John Ott mother: Beverly occupation: Weston-civil engineer Jennifer-teacher address: Pullman WA

(6) DAVID ERWIN HAGBOM born: 28 Aug. 1974 at: Shelby MT (5) CHARLENE RAE CURTIS born: 4 July 1952 at: Great Falls MT married: 16 July 1971 at: Great Falls MT

> to: WILLIAM LOREN KITTO born: 12 July 1954 at: Bozeman MT father: Kenneth Kitto mother: Lorraine Heeb occupation: Insurance Salesman and Charlene is a medical secretary address: Great Falls MT

- (6) KORI RENEE KITTO born: 8 Aug. 1973 at: Shelby MT
- (6) BRANDON MICHAEL KITTO born: 29 Aug. 1975 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) JODI LYNN KITTO born: 8 Sept. 1979 at: Great Falls MT

(5) RENEE JO CURTIS born: 21 Feb. 1957 at: Conrad MT lives at Great Falls MT

# (4) CLAYTON DOUGLAS CURTIS

born: 26 Nov. 1920 at: Karnak ND died: 31 Jan. 1945 at: Belgium

Clayton was reared at Brady, Mont. where he graduated from high school in 1938 and worked on his parents' farm. Clayton was killed in the Battle of the Bulge, World War II. Clayton entered the army June 14, 1942 and took his basic training at Fort Knox, Ky. and was a medium tank specialist. Sergeant Curtis went overseas in July 1944. He was a Tank Commander...He is buried at Henri Chappelle Cemetery near Leige, Belgium.

#### (4) JOHN LOWELL CURTIS

born: 2 Mar. 1923 at: Cooperstown ND died: 27 June 1988 at: Great Falls MT married: 3 Nov. 1945 at: Great Falls MT

to: LILA ARNOLDA MORK born: 23 Apr. 1923 at: Arnegard ND father: Ludvik Mork mother: Anne Kristine Elizabeth Hines occupation: John-Lila is a registered nurse. address: Great Falls MT

(5) KENNETH DUANE CURTIS born: 15 Oct. 1946 at: Great Falls MT married: 26 Aug. 1967 at: Ronan MT

> to: MARILYN MAE VOTH born: 20 June 1946 at: Missoula MT father: Elmer Voth mother: Mae Reiter occupation: Kenneth-teacher Marilyn-x-ray technician address: Missoula MT

(6) CHAD MICHAEL CURTIS born: 15 Apr. 1969 at: Ronan MT occupation: musician address: Missoula MT

> Margarett Geraldine Moore (fosterchild) born: 10 June 1972 at: Billings MT married: 29 June 1991 at: Missoula MT

to: Robert Ron Cornelius born: 22 April 1972 at: father: mother: occupation: both are students at MSU address: Bozeman MT

(5) JEANINE RAE CURTIS born: 9 July 1948 at: Great Falls MT married: 9 Sept. 1967 at: Wichita KS

> to: BURNELL HATTON KENNEDY born: 10 Nov. 1945 at: York PA father: David Kennedy mother: Betty Herschner occupation: Burnell-pipe insulator address: York PA

(6) JOHN LUDVIK KENNEDY born: 25 Feb. 1969 at: York PA married: 23 July 1992 at: Penn State College PA to: ANN SCHULER born: at:

father: mother: occupation: address: Missoula MT

- (6) KRISTINE ANN KENNEDY born: 25 May 1972 at: York PA occupation: address: Missoula MT
- (5) JOHN LOWELL CURTIS JR. born: 20 Sept. 1950 at: Great Falls MT married: 3 Oct. 1975 at: Great Falls MT

to: SYLVIA ANN HEISER born: 4 Apr. 1953 at: Billings MT father: Frank Heiser mother: Gladys Bonar occupation: John is a meat cutter address: Williston ND

- (6) TARA MARIE CURTIS born: 9 Sept. 1973 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) MICHELLE RENE CURTIS born: 1 Aug. 1977 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) BRENDA DIANE CURTIS born: 28 Nov. 1980 at: Great Falls MT
- (5) JANICE FAYE CURTIS born: 15 Nov. 1952 at: Great Falls MT married: 1 June 1974 at: Great Falls MT

to: DAN THOMAS BROWN born: 2 Mar. 1953 at: Dillon MT father: Dan Brown mother: Jean Lyness occupation: Sales address: Great Falls MT

- (6) RYAN SCOTT BROWN born: 8 Aug. 1979 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) LARISSA NICHOLE BROWN born: 21 Sept. 1982 at: Great Falls MT

# (4) LAURA SOPHIA CURTIS

born: 2 June 1925 at: Havre MT married: 7 Sept. 1946 at: Great Falls MT

to: RALPH DUNCAN JACOBS
born: 1 May 1918 at: Almont ND
father: Ralph P. Jacobs
mother: Florence Matter
occupation: Ralph is retired from USAF. Served in
 World War II, Korean War and in Viet Nam
address: Great Falls MT

# (5) KAY LEONE JACOBS

born: 7 Oct. 1944 at: Cut Bank MT married: 18 Feb. 1963 at: Orofino ID

#### to: BRUCE JESSE GIBBS

born: 24 July 1941 at: father: Jesse Gibbs mother: Aletha Kay & Bruce - parents of Kathi, Craig & Laura Kay & Bruce were divorced. Kay was married: at:

# to: PATRICK CAHILL

occupation: Kay is a finance consultant address: Boise ID

# (6) KATHI DIANE CAHILL

born: 8 Dec. 1963 at: Great Falls MT occupation: graduate student at Boise State Universisty address: Boise ID

## (7) HEATHER MARIE CAHILL born: 28 Aug. 1984 at: Haley ID

# (6) CRAIG STEVEN GIBBS born: 4 Jan. 1968 at: Amarillo TX occupation: student at Boise State U. address: Boise ID

## (6) LAURA MICHELLE GIBBS born: 30 Nov. 1970 at: Great Falls MT occupation: student at Evergreen College address: Olympia WA

# (5) PATRICIA JEAN JACOBS

born: 2 June 1947 at: Great Falls MT married: Aug. 1966 at: Amarillo TX

to: DANIEL OWEN OWSLEY

born: 2 July 1947 at: Amarillo TX father: Jim Owsley mother: Erline occupation: Daniel-self employed Patricia-college student in Yakima address: Yakima WA

(6) SHANON LYNNE OWSLEY born: 17 May 1966 at: Amarillo TX married: 9 May 1991 at: Seattle WA

> to: ALBERT FRITZ GALE born: at: father: mother: occupation: Albert-mechanic address: Niles MI

- (7) SPENCER ALBERT GALE born: 8 June 1992 at: Niles MI
- (6) JIMMIE ERLINE OWSLEY born: 16 Dec. 1970 at: Amarillo TX occupation: sales clerk for Penny's address: Lubbock TX
- (6) JERRI GRACE OWSLEY born: 16 Dec. 1970 at: Amarillo TX married: 15 June 1991 at: Bothel WA

to: TAYLOR THOMPSON born: 2 July 1969 at: The Dalles OR father: Richard George Thompson mother: Shari occupation: Taylor-store manager Jerri-nurses aid address: Seattle WA

 (5) STEPHEN RALPH JACOBS born: 13 Nov. 1948 at: Edmonton, Alberta died: 13 Nov. 1948 at: Edmonton, Alberta (5) ROBERT ALLEN JACOBS born: 12 Mar. 1950 at: Fort Belvoir VA married: July 1977 at: Helena MT

> to: DEBRA ANN SHY born: 26 July 1954 at: Miles City MT father: Robert Shy mother: Ann Churchill occupation: Robert is chief pharmacist at V. A. Hospital, Debra Ann is a teacher address: Dallas TX

- (6) RACHEL ANN JACOBS born: 10 Feb. 1979 at: Shreveport LA
- (5) ANNE MARIE JACOBS born: 25 Jan. 1954 at: Fort Belvoir VA married: April 1972 at: Great Falls MT

to: DOUGLAS LEROY PIERCE born: 7 Sept. 1953 at: Belgrade MT father: David Pierce mother: Peggy Lyness occupation: Douglas-computer specialist Anne-travel agent address: Great Falls MT

- (5) STEPHEN DOUGLAS PIERCE born: 25 Jan. 1973 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) MICHAEL BRIAN PIERCE born: 22 Aug. 1976 at: Great Falls MT
- (6) CHRISTINA ANNE PIERCE born: 28 May 1981 at: Great Falls MT
- (5) CAROLYN JOAN JACOBS

born: 27 Mar. 1959 at: Burtonwood AFB in England married: 10 Sept. 1988 at Great Falls MT

to: PAUL MICHAEL MEIER born: 22 Jan. 1953 at: Devils Lake ND father: Leo T. Meier mother: Margaret VonRuden occupation: Paul-aircraft mechanic Carolyn-a pay technician Both work for Montana Air National Guard address: Great Falls MT (5) SHARON JOYCE JACOBS born: 5 Dec. 1959 at: Wichita Falls TX married:27 Nov. 1984 at: Virginia Beach VA

to: TRACY C. JOHNSON
born: 11 Oct. 1963 at: Springfield TN
father: Robert Johnson
mother: Frances Utley
occupation: Tracy is in the Navy. Sharon is
 now a civilian and works for L.A.N. CORP
 computer company
address: Virginia Beach VA

- (6) SCOTT ALAN JOHNSON born: 18 June 1986 at: Norfolk VA
- (4) ALAN BURNEL CURTIS born: 15 May 1927 at: Joplin MT married: 1 Sept. 1956 at: Evanston IL

to: CLAIRE ANN WUERL born: 12 July 1932 at: Great Falls MT father: Leo Wuerl mother: Alice Lochray occupation: Alan is a dentist Claire is a physical therapist address: El Cajon CA

(5) CLINTON LEO CURTIS born: 29 June 1957 at: Chicago IL married: 27 June 1981 at: LaJolla CA

> to: **YVONNE MARES** born: 25 June 1958 at: father: Paul Mares mother: Yvonne Chavez occupation: Teacher address: Bend OR

- (5) CARLA MARIE CURTIS born: 19 Dec. 1959 at: San Diego CA occupation: accountant address: San Diego CA
- (5) CRAIG HERBERT CURTIS born: 3 Apr. 1962 at: San Diego CA occupation:University of Arizona-PHD physics address: Tucson AZ

# (4) RICHARD LEE CURTIS

born: 5 Nov. 1929 at: Conrad MT married: May 1960 at: Colorado Springs CO

(5) DONALD MARC CURTIS born: 13 June 1961 at: Great Falls MT married: July 1980 at: Lakeside CA

> to: BERNADETTE OTERO born: 13 April 1960 at: Albuquerque NM father: Robert Otero mother: Ninfa Chavez occupation: partner in overhead sprinkler business address: Lakesside CA

- (6) TYRELL MARC CURTIS born: 14 Aug. 1983 at: Tempe AZ
- (6) TRENT JOHN CURTIS born: 6 Feb. 1985 at: Delta CO
- (6) OWEN ROBERT CURTIS born: 15 Mar. 1987 at: El Cajon CA
- (5) ROSS ELDON CURTIS born: 23 Sept. 1962 at: Ogden UT married: 16 May 1986 at: Fargo ND

to: MARILYN RICHTSMEIER born: 31 Jan. 1963 at: Hunter ND father: Wallace Richtsmeier mother: Evelyn Krisher occupation: In the insurance business address: Fallbrook CA

- (6) BENJAMIN ELDON CURTIS born: 25 Aug. 1988 at: Escondido CA
- (6) ALEXANDER RICHARD CURTIS born: 3 Sept. 1992 at: Poway CA

- (5) GARY LEE CURTIS born: 20 Mar. 1964 at: Great Falls MT occupation: Mechanical engineer-Semi-Tool Inc address: Kalispell MT
- (5) LORETTA BLANCHE CURTIS born: 24 June 1967 at: LaMesa CA occupation: Minister of the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus address: Phoenix AZ
- (5) ANNA RUTH CURTIS born: 25 May 1969 at: LaMesa CA occupation: Lead Teacher, Mercy Day Care Center & attending college address: Bakersfield CA
- (5) REBECCA MARIE CURTIS born: 25 May 1969 at: LaMesa CA occupation: Accounts Payable Clerk & attending college address: Bakersfield CA
- (3) NINA CURTIS born: 12 May 1887 at: Michigan died: 19 Jan. 1905 at: North Dakota buried at the Sunnyside Cemetery northeast of Dazey, ND
- (3) FERON CURTIS

born: at: died: at: buried on the Henry Curtis farm south of Karnak, ND. His niece, Blanche, thinks he was about 4 years old.



John & Adelaide "Addie" Curtis and children, Herbert & Nina



John Curtis



Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis with grandchildren Herbert & Nina Curtis



Herbert Curtis



Nina Curtis



Nina & Herbert Curtis



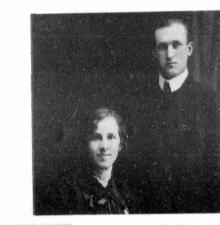
Nina Curtis



Herbert & Nina Curtis



Herbert & Lillian Curtis



Herbert & Lillian Curtis



Feron Curtis, brother of Herbert Curtis



Blanche Curtis & mother Lillian



Back: Alan, Clifford, David, Clayton, John & Richard. Front: Laura, Herbert, Lillian & Blanche Curtis. 1939



1958. Back-Alan, David, Richard & John. Front-Laura, Herbert, Lillian & Blanche Curtis.



50th Wedding Anniversary Herbert C. & Lillian Curtis



Clifford Curtis



Lillian & Herbert Curtis



Clifford Curtis



Back-Clifford, Dennis & Alice Front-Dorothy & Frances Curtis



Family of John & Debbie Grealish Children 1-r: Brenden, Kevin, Sean & Travis



Back-Dorothy, Clifford, Alice & Frances Front-Dennis & Edith Curtis.



Dorothy Ann Curtis



Marriage of Patrick W. Gilligan & Dorothy A. Curtis



Dorothy & Patrick Gilligan



Ronald & Jeanne Armbruster children 1-r: Erin, ... Jeff & Angela



Tom & Mary Frances Petaja Frances Marie Curtis Regee & Tiffeny





Brenda Gilligan with her God-children: holding Brenden Grealish, other 1-r are Angie Armbruster, Trevor Gilligan & Erin Armbruster



Kimberly & Dennis Gilligan with Trevor & Timothy (being held



Sprague Family-Julie, Jerome Sr., Janell, James & Jerome Jr.



1968-Jerome & Frances Sprague with 1-r Jim, Julie, Jan & Jerry



Frances & Jerome Sprague Sr.-1972



1992-Jim Sprague Family James & Lisa with Jonathan, Jacob, James & Joshua being held



1992-Kenneth Sr., Jessica, Julie & Kenny Furrer



Kenneth Jr. & Jessica Furrer



Jessica Furrer



Sprague Family-1983 Jerome Jr., Jim Jr., Lorie, Janell, Jerome Sr., Julie, Lisa & Jim Sr.



Jerome Sprague Jr. Family Ryan, Jerome, Lori & Calvin



Sharon & Dennis Lee Curtis with children Virginia & Charlotte



Dennis Curtis with daughters Virginia & Charlotte. Front, Virginia's son, Ronald.



Ken & Julie Furrer with Jessica & Ken Jr.



Dennis Curtis with his wife, Tonya, & grandchildren Ashley & Ronald Methvin



Dennis Lee Curtis



Ashley Methvin, age 5 61



Dennis Curtis, Ronald, Virginia & Ashley Methvin, Charlotte Curtis



Edith Elaine Curtis



Evelyn Laura Curtis





Bobby B. & Edith Elaine Brashear



Douglas & Jennifer Brashear with Cody, Aaron & Joel



Justin Matthew Jeanette Marie Anderson

Richard Wayne & Jennifer Ann Brashear

Evelyn Laura Curtis & Edwin Arthur Anderson-1969

Anderson



Al Jouan, Jeanette Anderson, Evelyn Jouan & Justin Anderson



Blanche Curtis High School Graduation



Blanche Curtis



Ethel Nina Curtis 3 weeks & 4 days



Feron, David & Ethel Curtis



Ethel & Ernest Freeburg



Mavis Rae Freburg-1938



Mavis Rae Freburg



Mavis Rae Freburg



Bob & Mavis Shotwell with Melanie, Laurie & David-1977



Melanie Shotwell-1981



David Shotwell-1983



Laurie Shotwell-1987



Chris Alan & Melanie Munson



Glenn Herbert Curtis



David Curtis



David Curtis-1937 High School Graduation



David & Phyllis Curtis



David Curtis Family-1958 Charlene, Carol, Doug, Lynne, Phyllis, David & Renee



Larry & Carol Hagbom Family Jennifer, Larry, Carol, David, Vickie (Ron's wife) holding Cameron and Ron.



David & Phyllis Curtis, seated with 1-r daughters Carol, Lynne, Renee & Charlene



Gary Good Family Gary, Chris, Lynne & Jeff





Clayton Douglas Curtis

William Kitto Family front-Charlene, Jodi & William back-Kori & Brandon



Clayton Curtis



Clayton Curtis



John L. Curtis and wife, Lila-1945



David Curtis Family standing-Lynne & David seated-Charlene, Carol, Renee & Phyllis



John Curtis Family-1958 Kenneth, Janice, Lila, John Jr., John L. & Jeanine



"Jack" John L. Curtis-1923



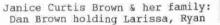
John Lowell Curtis -1942

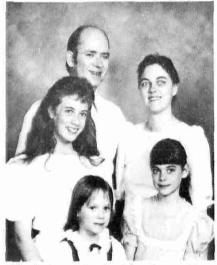


40th Wedding Anniversary of John & Lila Curtis John Jr., Kenneth, John Sr. Lila, Jeanine & Janice



John Curtis Family back-Kenneth, Jeanine & Janice front-John L., Lila & John Jr.





Clockwise-John Curtis Jr., wife Sylvia, Michelle, Brenda & Tara



back-Chad & Margaret front-Marilyn & Ken Curtis





John L. & Lila Curtis



Kay & Bruce Gibbs



Craig Gibbs



Patricia & Dan Owsley



Laura Curtis -9 months



Laura Curtis-1943



Heather Marie Cahill



Kathi Cahill



Laura Gibbs



Laura & Ralph Jacobs



1990-Burnell Kennedy Family front-Jeanine & Burnell with children Kristine & John in back.



Jimmie Erline & Jerrie Grace Owsley, twin daughters of Patricia & Daniel Owsley



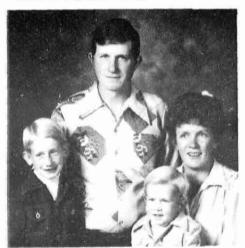
Sharon & Albert Gale



Spencer Albert Gale



Debra Ann Jacobs & daughter Rachel



Douglas & Anne Pierce with Stephen & Michael



Robert A. Jacobs



Rachel Ann Jacobs 6th grade-1991



Michael Pierce



Christina Pierce





(

Back-Anne, Carolyn, Patricia, Sharon & Laura. Front-Robert, Kay & Ralph Jacobs

Stephen, Pierce



Paul & Carolyn Meier

68



Ralph & Laura Jacobs



Tracy "T.C." & Sharon Johnson with their son, Scott Alan.





Alan Burnel Curtis U.S. Navy College Graduation



Four Generations Laura's daughter-Kay, Kay's daughter-Kathi Seated-Laura Jacobs & Heather, Kathi's dau.



Alan Curtis, his son Craig & Aunt Blanche Curtis



Dr. Alan B. Curtis

Alan Curtis Family Carla, Craig, Yvonne & Clinton with Claire in front.



1945-H.S.

Graduation

Claire & Alan Curtis



Clinton Leo Curtis & his wife Yvonne



Bride & Groom-1956 Alan B. Curtis & Claire A. Wuerl







Richard Lee Curtis 1947 H.S. Graduation



The Richard Curtis Family back-Donald, Loretta, Gary, Rebecca & Ross front- Bernadette (wife of Don), Richard, Freda and Anna





Anna Curtis

Rebecca Curtis



Donald Curtis Family Donald holding Owen, Bernadette, Tyrell (1) and Trent (r)



Gary Curtis



Richard & Freda Curtis & daughter, Loretta



Ross & Marilyn Curtis with son, Benjamin



While most of the John L. Curtis family were born in Percy and Seymour Townships of Northumberland County, Ontario, Charles' birthplace is given as Toronto. He was born on the 21st or 22rd of January 1854, and died on 7 July 1893 at Belding, Michigan.

Tn or about 1865, John L. S Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis left Ontario to move to Michigan, settling east of Grand Rapids in Kent County near Ada, Here Charles met Rose Adela Fedelia Smith. Their marriage license is dated 31 December 1876 and they were married 1 March 1877 at Ada. Rose was an

older sister of Eva Almeda Smith who married Charles' brother, William S. Curtis.

Two children were born to Charles and Rose:

Ada May Curtis \* Alta Belle Curtis

\* On the 1880 Federal Census for Caledonia Township, Kent Co., Michigan, she is listed as Adella May and is two months old.

Ada was born at Ada, Michigan, 29 March 1880. Alta was born in Barnes County, Dakota Territory, 30 May 1883. Most of this history about Charles M. Curtis is taken from the autobiography of Alta Belle. Charles, his wife Rose, and daughter, Ada, moved to Dakota Territory by the spring of 1882, perhaps earlier. Charles homesteaded on Section 8 of Sibley Trail Township, Barnes County where he farmed and was a buyer of wild horses. He made trips to Montana to get many of these horses, and on at least one occasion Alta Belle tells the story of the family being with him at Helena, Montana.

Dakota winters were cold. Most men wore mustaches and Alta tells of her father and uncle Thomas going to Valley City and coming home with icicles hanging from their eyebrows and mustaches and from their fur coat collars.

The death of the mother of Rose and Eva occured in Michigan 12 January 1887. Charles and his family went to Michigan to attend the funeral. Eva was only fifteen years of age at that time and being left alone in Michigan without a mother was unthinkable, so she returned to Dakota with Charles and his family. Just barely over the age of sixteen, she was married to Charles' younger brother, William, 7 August 1887 at Sanborn, Dakota Territory.

In the summer of 1888, Charles and his family moved back to Michigan where Charles purchased a farm about five miles n.w. of Cedar Springs in Solon Township of Kent County. It was known as the Obadiah Smith farm. Charles was away from home much of the time after their return to Michigan. He would return to Dakota, then go on out to Montana and buy a carload of wild horses, bring them to Michigan, and turn them loose in his pasture. He would never think of breaking in a horse without his wife's help. He would lasso a horse, get it partially broken in, hitch it up to the buggy with a trained horse, and then he and wife Rose would go riding-very dangerous indeed!

Because of the poor health of Charles, due to the beginnings of tuberculosis, the family left the farm and moved into Cedar Springs where he purchased stock and ran a livery barn. After living in Cedar Springs about three years, the family moved to Belding, Michigan. Charles was moving the stock from the livery barn, a distance of sixteen miles, and was caught in a cloudburst. He braved the storm until he got to Greenville. There he went into a livery barn owned by a Mr. Johnson, a dear old man who cared for Charles who by now had a terrible chill. That was the turning point after which Charles failed fast. For a time he would go to the livery barn, sit in the office and keep the books, but in a short time was bedfast. Marsh Wood, who worked for him, was dishonest, so the family went through hard times with doctor bills and little income. There were many wonderful friends. The story of Charles's suffering, his conversion and death, and the fact of how hard it was for Alta to give up her father is a touching story. Let her tell it in its entirety in her own words:

"One day, I remember it so well. Ada and I had come home for dinner from school and mother told us that father couldn't get well, and that we couldn't keep him much longer. That was the first I had thought of his dying, and I just thought I couldn't give him up. I dearly loved my father and I just thought life wouldn't be worth living without him. And I just couldn't think of anything else until one day a dear friend and a great helper, told us about her little girl that was very sick and she said she just couldn't let her die. She couldn't live without her. The Dr. told her that if she lived she would be a cripple. She said she wanted her anyway and she prayed that God would let her live even if she would be a cripple. But when she watched her suffer so much, all at once it dawned on her how

selfish she was. And as she thought of it all, she saw her mistake so she stopped praying for her to live and told God if it was His will, to take her out of her suffering. And she said from then on she was reconciled and had such a peaceful feeling. And of course, God did take her.

But that was a new thought to me. I began to wonder if that was what I should do. I was only ten years old and I knew my father was suffering terribly. So I did just that. I began to change my prayers too--if he couldn't get well, to help me be willing to give him up. And even though I was just a child, I felt it was better and I became reconciled. But it was awful hard when the time came. And I did miss him so much.

Well just a few weeks before he passed away, all at once one afternoon his speech was taken from him. At the time he wasn't a Christian. But Christians had been trying to lead him to Christ but he didn't accept Him. Then when he knew he couldn't speak, he knew what it was for. Several days went by. Then one day he let us know that he wanted a paper and pencil. And when he wrote that he would accept Christ, then he could talk. I think he lived two weeks after that.

How well I remember that death bed scene. He called for his girls, Ada and I. Mother was sitting in front of him. As we came to him he let loose of one of mother's hands and took ours, Ada's first, then mine, and looked us straight in the eyes as if he was trying to tell us something. Then he took her hand again and said, 'Lord! Open the gates of Thy kingdom for I am coming.' Then he fastened his eyes on mother's face and he was gone."

Charles is buried in the Solon Cemetery in Kent County, Michigan, although the grave can no longer be located. The gentleman in charge of the cemetery records stated that all the records were destroyed in a fire some years ago; therefore, there is no way today to determine the precise location of the graves--especially the earlier burials and those graves where there was no stone, or where the writing on the stone is now obliverated with the passage of time.

After the death of Charles Curtis, Rosa married Edgar A. Lewis on 12 Nov. 1895 in Belding, Michigan. Mr. Lewis sold and installed windmills.

## Rose Smith

The wife of Charles Curtis was Rose Smith, yet there are early census records and legal documents which list her first name as "Rosa". She also loved the middle name of her aunt, Charlotte Fidelia Sisson; therefore, her full name is sometimes given as Rosa Adela Fidelia Smith. Rose was born 6 December 1858 (some records say 1859), in Wells County, Indiana. When a child she moved with her parents, Henry K. & Nancy Elizabeth (Sisson) Smith, to a farm morth of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Charles and Rose probably were school friends, and it is stated she "loved Charles above anyone she had ever known, and her love for Charles could never be replaced." The wedding license of Charles and Rose is dated 31 December 1876 and they were married 1 March 1877 in a double wedding ceremony at Ada, Michigan. The other bridal couple was Rose's half sister, Adellah Jane Smith and her husband, Cyrus Charles Thompson.

Duane Van Ess, great grandson of Rose, gives the following facts and characteristics of her life: She was 5' 4" tall, had long brown hair which she would roll up into a bun at the back of her head. She had blue-gray eyes and wore glasses. Rose was an extremely active, hyper-type person, suffered from headaches and eye flashes. She was plagued with rheumatism from which she would get relief by placing mustard leaves in water and would roll these around her body. Rose had very small hands, short finger nails and was left handed. She was troubled with high blood pressure and a hardening of the arteries. Duane (who got much of his data from his grandmother, Alta Belle) states she was an excellent nurse and did veterinarian services as well. Neighbors would bring their animals to her for care. She loved horses, had a riding horse, but never drove a car. She had a foot pump organ of dark walnut, a very nice organ, which was probably purchased for her by Charles. Rose also owned a second hand antique store at Cedar Springs, and was very capable of fixing and refinishing furniture.

After the death of Charles, Rose married Edgar Alphonse Lewis on 12 November 1895 at Belding, Michigan.. (according to Alta; The county record says 11 November 1894 in Ionia County, Michigan.) Ed repaired, sold and installed windmills. After a fall from a barn where Ed injured himself, Rose would get him about in a wheelbarrow. Rose and Ed had one child, stillborn, which caused serious long She was bedfast for much of three term illness for Rose. years after that. Rose died on 3 December 1939 at her Bostwick Lake farm home in Cannon Township of Kent County, Michigan. Following a 1 p.m. service on Wednesday, 6 December, in the parlor of her home and a 2 p.m. service at the Methodist church, burial was in the Solon Cemetery of Kent County, Michigan.

### Edgar A. Lewis

Edgar Alphonse Lewis was born in 1858 in Indiana. His first marriage was to Lillie M. Morningstar on 18 March 1889 which ended in divorce. Ed was 5' 8" tall, of slender build with white shaggy hair and beard. Besides being active in repairing, selling and installing windmills, he was good with horses. He babied them, never wanting anyone to ride them. He was a tender-hearted person, but not religious. Unless spoken to, he never talked much. Yet, you did not push him around and he was not afraid to express his Several men worked for him, but being a opinion. perfectionist, he was not easy to please. He caught his ring finger in a windmill gear and lost two fingers. Other injuries were a broken nose, broken leg and skull fracture. Ed's death occurred 3 May 1941 on the Bostwick farm and he is also buried in the Solon Cemetery of Kent County.

### Ada May Curtis

The oldest of two children born to Charles Curtis and Rose Smith, Ada May Curtis was born 29 March 1880 at Ada, Michigan. According to the 1880 federal census for Caledonia Township, Kent Co. Michigan, she is listed as "Adella May" and her age as two months. She was a cute looking child, shorter than her younger sister, Alta. She began her schooling in Dakota Territory where the family moved in the early 1880's. The 1887 Gallatin School District of Griggs County lists her as age 7. The next year (1888) she is enrolled in the Ladbury S.D. #43 of Sibley Trail Township of Barnes County and is 8 years of age. Interestingly, her sister Alta age 5, is enrolled also. The school term closed 29 June 1888 and the family moved back to Michigan that same summer.

Both Ada and Alta loved and rode horses. Riding the same horse, the girls were nearly involved in a fatal accident. The horse they were riding tripped and fell. Both were thrown to the ground. Ada was unconscious. Alta could not shake her awake, ran home to Rose, her mother, saying "Ada is dead!" Thankfully, Ada recovered from that scary accident and grew to a fine young woman. The accident took place in Michigan.

After the death of her father, Charles, the family faced poverty largely because of huge medical expenses. Ada, for a time, had to quit school to begin work in a box factory even though she was only 13 years of age.

On 24 July 1899, Ada married Ralph R. Brooks, a policeman. They had two boys: Cecil Ray, and Clayton L. Ada was a piano teacher and also played piano for the silent movies which were the only movies of that time. Her son, Cecil, was known as Rockford's (Mich.) "music man". For over 30 years he collected unusual and antique musical instruments.

Quoting from the Rockford (MI) Squire of Dec. 11, 1984 Letter to the Editor: "...we wish to share...a few additional memories of Cecil R. Brooks.

Except for the many kids whose musical instruments that he would repair, none of the rest of Rockford ever called him 'Mr. Brooks". He was always just "Cece" to his hundreds of friends. On that score, Cece was in that enviable group of persons who had only friends, no enemies!

Even while in the car business, Cece was a hardworker and a true friend, especially for those customers a little short of cash. Whether they were kids buying a fine used instrument for the band or a car customer, Cece made sure that they were satisfied, and that they all made their payments promptly.

There's a whole generation of Rockford kids who bought their band instruments from Mr. Brooks. With Byrl his wife, their home on Lincoln was always open for a cockie for the young musicians from high school to have Cece do quick repairs.

His fun-instruments were not only the marimba, but also the flute, sax, oboe, clarinet and banjo.

We should remember their kindnesses of those days of W.W.II when Cece and Byrl were opening Kincheloe Air Base and the two of them were the only ones to feed the Corps of 60 Engineers until the mess hall opened. And, even the sweet-memories of how Byrl met Cece when he was in the orchestra at the Aragon Ballroom in Chicago.

His many friends mourn the passing of this colorful, kind character and prefer to remember him in his days of glory when he was always so helpful." Yours truly,

John Reed of Rockford, Mich

Ada's granddaughter, Joan Brooks, shares that "Ada was a wonderful lady, always busy. She kept quite a garden, sewed beautifully on an old treadle machine, was a great cook...grandma and grandpa lived in a little white house in Belmont. Janet (Joan's daughter) could never understand how come they didn't have a bathtub and her bath had to be in an iron tub on the kitchen sink."

Ada drove a 1936 Ford for about 20 years, owned a parrot at their Bostwick Lake farm. Ada passed away 8 March 1956 at Rockford, Michigan and is buried in the Rockford cemetery. Her husband, Ralph, preceeded her in death 9 April 1953 at Belmont, Michigan and is also buried in the Rockford cemetery.

# Alta Belle Curtis (Most data is taken from her autobiography)

Alta was born on the Charles Curtis homestead on section 8 of Sibley Trail Township, Barnes County, Dakota Territory on 30 May 1883 "in a little old sod shanty on the plains." In speaking of her grandmother Curtis (Elizabeth Spencer Curtis), she makes the comment: "I do not remember much about my grandparents. I remember seeing grandma Curtis once, on a Thanksgiving. We went there in a sleigh for Thanksgiving dinner. My grandfather Curtis had passed away before that."

All of the travel in those early days on the Dakota prairies would have been by walking, horseback, carriage or sleigh, depending on the season. There were not what we would call "roads" -- mainly just trails and often trails formerly used by Indians, military expeditions or stagecoach routes. To get across the river to grandma Curtis' homestead, Alta and her sister and parents would have had to cross the Sheyenne River, probably fording it at a familiar shallow spot. There were likely no bridges of any kind in those early pioneer days. It is also possible on their trip to grandma Curtis' house for Thanksgiving, they simply cut across the prairie in a diagonal line as much as possible, which would have been a distance of about 5 miles.

Alta spent her early childhood on the Charles Curtis homestead on the Dakota prairies. On her 4th birthday, she went with her mother to Helena, Montana. Charles was already there buying wild horses, which was his trade along with farming. They remained in Montana most of that summer (1887), then returned to their Dakota home. Although Alta was only 5 years old, she enrolled in school in the spring of 1888 with her older sister, Ada, at the nearby Ladbury school. In the summer of 1888 the family moved back to Michigan where they arrived "uncle Cyrus Thompsons at night."

The next day they went to a place they had bought just a mile from uncle Cyrus in Solon Township of Kent County. This was about five miles n.w. of Cedar Springs, called the Obadiah farm. They had purchased this farm from Obadiah Smith, who was a cousin of Alta's mother, Rose. Ada and Alta attended school, "walking a mile through the woods." Charles was away from home much of the time buying horses. The next of many moves for Alta was into Cedar Springs where her father bought livery stock and ran a livery barn. After living in Cedar Springs about three years they moved to Belding, Michigan where Charles died. (See Charles Curtis story.) There were other moves, at least one in which Rose took in boarders, one of whom was Ed Lewis who became Alta's step-father. In another move, they lived on the 80 acre Ben

Ensley farm. Alta says, "I loved that old farm, and I loved the school (Baptist Lake school) and every teacher."

Alta suffered a nervous breakdown about the time she attended high school at Cedar Springs, so gave up the idea of becoming a teacher. Eva Hollister (a teacher) had tried to persuade Alta to seek a career in teaching.

On 29 April 1905 at Cedar Springs Alta married Fred Roy Garlick. She had met him at "Reamer's Bean House" where she was employed. After an injury to Fred, where he had lost fingers while cutting wood for the home, they moved to Grand Rapids. There were other moves in the city and on 17 May 1908 their first child, Freda Rose, was born. Nile Elloyd was the 2nd child and their 3rd child was Alton Dale. All three were born in Grand Rapids. Fred and Alta lived through many good and many difficult times--many jobs and many home moves throughout their marriage which ended in divorce.

Alta then married Melvin Heaton, who had been a neighbor. Melvin was born in 1885. He had managed a hotel in San Francisco earlier in life. They moved out West where Melvin died 2 May 1970. Alta passed away 23 August 1976 at LaMirada, California at the age of 93 yrs. 2 mo. & 23 days.

> Charles Curtis made a sled out of a frozen horse hide and used it to clean out the barn. - Tom Mosher

Duane Van Ess, the great grandson of Charles Curtis, has done some interesting research on sod houses. Many of the early pioneers to the Dakota prairies began their lives in this region by building and living in a sod house. This was true of most of our Curtis family as well. Quoting from Duane's letter:

"My great grandfather Charles Curtis, Rose and Eva Curtis likely built a sod house on their place in North Dakota. Its usually dug into the side of a hill ... Most sod houses only had 1 room. A large sod house was usually no larger than 16 by 20 feet. It took approximately 1/2 acre of sod ground to make it. The ground was plowed first and the sod bricks were carefully cut from furrows. Each brick was about 3 feet long and several inches thick. The bricks were then carried to the building site and placed like clay bricks. Frames for doors and windows were set into the walls and sod placed around them. Cracks were filled with dirt or clay. Sometimes the walls were reinforced with hickory stems driven into them. The financial status of a pioneer was revealed by the roof. The poorer the settler, the cruder the roof. Brush for sheeting was placed on rafters followed by a layer of prairie grass and finally a layer of sod. The grass side was always faced downward. Some settlers used lumber and tar paper for their roof. Sod bricks for the roof were not as thick. Some interiors were finished with plaster, some just spaded smoothly. There was usually only 1 window. Rooms were divided by hanging a quilt or rag carpet down from the ceiling. Doors were made from anything from buffalo robes and blankets to wood and glass panes. Furniture was often nothing more than nail kegs and soap boxes for chairs and a dry goods box for table(s). Few roofs were leak proof. Several days were required to dry out after a rain. Often they would have to prop up the roof with posts. Even when the sun shown, dirt grass fell like rain on occupants. They hung and cheesecloth to catch it. They often cooked using umbrellas to keep food clean and dry while it was raining. Sod houses were cool during hot summer and warm in the winter and very rarely destroyed by wind or storms. Also they were fireproof which was a major asset because prairie fires were left to burn in those days with rarely no attempt to put them out. When settlers became richer, they would build a wood frame house and their old sod house would be converted to a barn. Sod houses generally lasted only 7 years and then they'd build a new one ... "

My feeling is that Thomas, Charles, Rose and Eva likely all built the sod house together that my grandmother Alta Curtis was born in. If not, they possibly added a room when Eva moved in with them. The life experiences Charles, Rose and Eva went through when they first arrived up there in North Dakota are hard to imagine.--Duane VanEss

### CHARLES CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

- (1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) CHARLES M. CURTIS born: 21 or 22 Jan 1854 at: Toronto, Ontario died: 7 July 1893 at: Belding, Michigan married: 1 March 1877 at: Ada, Michigan

to: ROSE ADELA FIDELIA SMITH born: 6 Dec. 1858 or 1859 at Wells County, Indiana died: 3 Dec. 1939 at: Kent County, Michigan father: Henry Kellog(g) Smith mother: Nancy Elizabeth Sisson After the death of Charles, Rose married 12 Nov. 1895 to Edgar Alphonse Lewis

Charles & Rose were the parents of Ada and Alta.

(3) ADELLA MAY "ADA" CURTIS born: 29 Mar. 1880 at: Ada MI died: 8 Mar. 1956 at: Rockford MI married: 24 July 1899 at: Michigan

# to: RALPH BROOKS

born: 16 Dec. 1876 at: Ensley Twsp., Newaygo Co., MI died: 9 Apr. 1953 at: Belmont MI father:Samuel Brooks-son of Elisha & Marion Cook Brooks mother: Elizabeth Tower-dau. of Joseph & Philura Tower Ralph was a policeman. He and Ada lived first on a farm and later lived at Belmont MI.

Ada and Ralph were parents of Cecil and Clayton.

(4) CECIL RAY BROOKS

born:	24	Aug.	1900	at:	Cedar	Springs	MI
died:	24	Nov.	1984	at:	Rockfo	ord MI	
marrie	ed:			at:		Michi	gan

### to: ESTHER JANE WHEELER

born: 18 Jan. 1899 at: Muskegon MI died: 17 Feb. 1955 at: Flossmoor IL father: Edson Kingkade Wheeler-son of Shepherd & Nancy Kingkade Wheeler..spelled Kincaid in England. mother: Emma Heinbeck-dau. of Joseph & Marguerite Mines Schaffer Heinbeck. Cecil and Esther were divorced about 1930. Esther married Alvin Louis Wagner in 1938 in Chicago. They had 2 children: Alvin Louis Wagner

Jr. & Mary Ann Wagner.

Cecil married on 28 Feb. 1942 to:

# BRYL MASON DONOVAN.

Bryl was born 31 March \_\_\_\_\_ and died on 21 August 1992. She was in a nursing home in Sparta, MI

(5) HELEN "JOAN" BROOKS born: 24 Oct. 1926 at: Hastings MI married: 26 Nov. 1947 at: Chicago IL

> to: ROBERT K. JOHNSON born: 28 Aug. 1924 at: Chicago IL father: Archie Leslie Johnson mother: Esther Helena Schwartz occupation: Federal employee for 30 years address: Atlanta GA

> (6) JANET JOAN JOHNSON born: 21 Aug. 1948 at: Chicago IL married: 30 May 1967 at:

> > to GEORGE BENJAMIN WOODRUFF born: 3 Jan. 1948 at: Atlanta GA father: Robert Hallock mother: Frances "Tut" Woodruff (George Woodruff's real name is Hallock, but after the divorce of his parents, he took his mother's maiden name.)

- (7) CHRISTINE LESLEY WOODRUFF born: 9 Aug. 1971 at: Clearwater FL lives in Pennsylvania
- (7) ROBERTA LYNN WOODRUFF born: 18 Jan. 1973 at: New Port Richey FL lives in Bridgeton NJ

Janet and George were divorced 24 Oct. 1974. Janet married 2 Dec. 1976 at Sandy Springs Ga

to: ALBERT REEVES ROBERTS born: 27 Oct. 1946 in New Jersey father: Roy Roberts mother: May Reeves

- (7) ELIZABETH ANN ROBERTS born: 28 Feb. 1978 at: Vineland NJ
- (7) ALISON MAY ROBERTS born: 27 Sept. 1980 at: Vineland NJ
- (7) SARAH BROOKS ROBERTS born: 11 July 1982 at: Vineland NJ

Janet and Albert were divorced in 1984 Janet married: 1 Nov. 1986 at Elmer NJ

to: NICKOLAS FRANCIS BAFFONE born: 20 Oct. 1956 at Wilmington DE father: Francis Michael Joseph Baffone mother: Rose Marie Warren occupation: Pipefitter address: Bridgeton NJ

(6) ROBERTA ANN JOHNSON born: 25 Feb. 1958 at Chicago IL married: 25 Aug 1985 at Atlanta GA

> to: RANDALL JACK VAUGHN born: 15 Aug. 1960 at Dalton GA father: Osmond Farell " Jerry" Vaughn mother: Joanna Barbara "Bobbie" Maddock occupation: Randall owns a Beauticians school address: Lawrenceville GA

- (7) CAMERON TYLER VAUGHN born: 10 Apr. 1986 at: Sandy Springs GA
- (7) EVAN DANIEL VAUGHN born: 21 Aug. 1987 at: Sandy Springs GA

(6) ROBERT WAGNER JOHNSON born: 19 Mar. 1961 at Chicago IL married:18 Apr. 1986 at Dunwoody GA

> to: NANCY JEAN PISARCIK born: 14 March 1962 at Tarentum PA father: Donald Andrew Pisarcik mother: Barbara Elaine Talloram occupation: Robert-state employee Nancy-employed at Wright's Gourmet address: Roswell GA

- (7) MICHAEL ALEXANDER JOHNSON born: 9 Feb. 1992 at: Sandy Springs GA
- (4) CLAYTON L BROOKS born: 15 Apr. 1904 at: Ensley Center MI died: 14 Dec. 1979 at: MI Clayton first married to Betty Miller, then married: 26 Nov. 1956 at:

to: MARION FISK born: at: father: mother: Marion lives in a nursing home-Lake George MI

(3) ALTA BELLE CURTIS

born: 30 May 1883 at: Sibley Trail Twsp. Barnes Co., Dakota Territory died: 23 Aug. 1976 at: LaMirada CA married: 29 Apr. 1905 at: Cedar Springs MI

to: FRED ROY GARLICK
born: 1 June 1882 at: Belmont MI
died: 29 Oct. 1961 at: Grand Rapids MI
father: Robert Roy Garlick
mother: Elizabeth Jane Tucker
Alta and Fred were the parents of Freda,
Nirum and Alton.
Fred and Alta were divorced.
Alta married: 26 Aug. 1946 at: Belmont, MI

to: MELVIN HEATON
born: 14 March 1885 at: Michigan
died: 2 May 1970 at: Las Vegas NV
father: Charles Henry Heaton
mother: Effie Lamphier
For a time Melvin & Alta lived in Mesa, AZ and
were later divorced.

# (4) FREDA ROSE GARLICK

born: 17 May 1908 at: Cedar Springs MI married: 22 Aug. 1925 at: Saranac MI

### to: ALFRED JOHN VanESS

born: 9 Sept. 1904 at: Grand Rapids MI died: 24 Dec. 1962 at: Grand Rapids MI father: John VanEss mother: Jenny M. Roest occupation: Alfred was a power plant engineer at Grand Rapids MI Freda-housewife & professional singer Freda lives at LaMirada CA

#### (5) MADELINE JOAN VANESS

born: 8 Apr. 1927 at: Cannon Twsp. Rockford MI married: 3 Jan 1947 at Grand Rapids MI

#### to: MARSHALL GRAHAM HEATON

born: 7 Jan. 1923 at: Masonbourgh NC died: 15 Jan. 1983 at: Long Beach CA father: Melvin Heaton mother: Winnie Bole occupation: Marshall was a steam fitter and welder. He was in charge of a group of men that were to remove an atom bomb that had lodged half-way down a pipe shaft during testing in Nevada. Most of the men died of radiation. Marshall died of bone cancer, believed from radiation.

Madeline married to: HERBERT VOYLES Madeline & Herbert are divorced. Madeline lives at Riviera AZ

## (6) DANIEL GRAHAM HEATON born:17 Aug 1949 at Grand Rapids MI married:18 Jan.1969 at:Las Vegas NV to: KARNE E. JESPERSON

### (7) NATALIE DAWN HEATON born: 9 Jan. 1972 at: Las Vegas NV married on: 3 Oct. 1992 at: Las Vegas NV

to: JEREMY BENSON born: 29 Nov. 1970 at: Granger UT father: Nathan M. Benson mother: Patricia occupation:BioMedical Engineer address: Las Vegas NV Daniel and Karne divorced. Daniel's occupation: Professional Gardener lives at: Las Vegas NV

(6) THOMAS LEE HEATON born:14 Aug 1952 at Grand Rapids MI married:14 Oct 1989-Santa Monica CA

> to: EILEEN FRANCES MacMURDEN born: 23 Dec. 1955 at: Burbank CA father: John MacMurden mother: Virginia Widiner occupation: Tom-attorney address: Pasadena CA

(6) BRIAN ROY HEATON born:20 Aug 1955 at Grand Rapids MI married: 16 Sept. at LaMirada CA

> to: CANDACE "CANDY" MARIE LAMARRE born: at Providence RI father: George Noe LaMarre mother: Mary Kathryn Crowell occupation:Brian-mechanic/Business Mgr. Candy-at Cal State preparing to be a teacher address: Rialto CA

- (7) MARK ANDREW HEATON born: 7 May 1980 at: Whittier CA
- (7) LAURIE MARIE HEATON born: 6 Dec. 1981 at: Whittier CA
- (7) MICHELLE CHRISTINE HEATON born: 29 April 1985 at: San Bernardino CA
- (7) GARY DANIEL HEATON born: 25 Sept. 1986 at: San Bernardino CA

(6) ROSE ANN HEATON born: 30 Sept 1959 at GrandRapids MI married: 11 June 1977 at Yorba Linda CA to: SAMMY JAMES DIFFERDING

born at Duluth MN

(7) APRIL MARIE (DIFFERDING)HARVEY born: 23 Feb. 1978 at Cherry Point MCAS-Havelock NC

Rose and Sam were divorced. Rose married 19 Nov 1983 at Las Vegas NV in "The Little Church of the West"

to: LARRY JOHN HARVEY born: 5 Mar 1948 at Morenci MI father: John Harvey mother: Katherine Anderson occupation: Larry-Boiler & condensor mechanic address: Kingman A2

(April adopted by Larry Harvey)

(5) La"JEAN" RAE VanESS born: 6 Oct. 1932 at: Lowell MI married: 6 April 1953 at Grand Rapids MI

to: DONALD BLAIR WYLIE born: 20 July 1929 at: Grand Rapids MI died: 20 Mar. 1983 at: Grand Rapids MI father: Harvey Wylie mother: Zelda Blair occupation: Donald owned large auto sales business Jean is a Round-up Hotline & Reservation operator. Jean married on: at: to: "CURLY" MORRISON address: Riviera AZ

Don has a son, Don Wylie Jr. by a previous marriage, born-Grand Rapids MI

(6) GREGORY STEPHEN WYLLE born:13 Apr 1954 at Grand Rapids MI married:23 June 1974- Gr. Rapids MI

> to: SHARON SACKET born: 8 Jan. 1956 at: Fremont MI father: Richard Sacket mother: Joey Peterson occupation: auto sales mgr. address: Belmont MI

- (7) MATTHEW STEPHEN WYLIE born: 25 July 1981 at: Grand Rapids MI
- (7) JUSTIN GREGORY WYLIE born: 23 Nov. 1983 at: Grand Rapids MI
- (7) COREY JORDAN WYLIE born: 23 July 1987 at: Grand Rapids MI
- (6) MICHAEL DENNIS WYLIE born:21 Oct 1955 at Grand Rapids MI married: 22 Aug. 1975 at:

to: MARY BELLE PARM born: 29 April 1955 at: Grand Rapids MI father: Charles Parm mother: Grace Michael and Mary divorced Sept.1983 occupation: auto mechanic address: Riviera AZ

- (7) MERCEDES GRACE WYLIE born: 25 June 1978 at: Grand Rapids MI
- (7) MELANIE JOY WYLIE born: 19 Nov. 1979 at: Grand Rapids MI

(6) JEFFERY DAVID WYLLE born: 25 May 1957 at Grand Rapids married: 25 Sept. 1976 at: MI

> to: CINDY FREET born: 1956 at Sekuoka, Japan father: Nile Freet mother: Ann occupation: Jeff in Air Force (special forces) address: Las Vegas NV

- (7) EMBER SUE WYLIE born: 24 Nov. 1974 at: Phoenix AZ Ember is Cindy's daughter from a previous marriage. Adopted by Jeff. Ember tested 3rd highest in the United States in a scholastic test!
- (7) COURTNEY LEE WYLIE born: 6 Sept. 1977 at: Agana, Guam

(5) DUANE CURTIS VanESS born: 11 Jan 1934 at: Rockford MI married: 30 Nov 1956 at: Culver City CA

> to: CONNIE JEAN LOWERY born: 19 Mar. 1938 at: Tulsa OK father: Linnie Lowery mother: Anna Ray McCustin occupation: Duane-retired space engineer with 25 yrs in quality, reliability & address: LaMirada CA safety

(6) STEPHANIE JEAN VanESS born: 24 Mar 1959 - Grand Rapids MI married:22 July 1978 at LaMirada CA

to: DANIEL JOHN STUART born: 4 Sept 1958 at California father: John Stuart mother: Beverly

(7) JOSHUA DANIEL STUART born: 23 Jan. 1979 at: Orange CA

Stephanie and Dan divorced. • Stephanie was married: at:

to: WILLIAM CHARLES BAUMGARDNER born: 16 Sept. 1948 at: Ohio father: Charles Markus Baumgardner mother: Bridget Rose Burke occupation: air traffic control instructor address: Langley BC Canada

- (7) BRITTANY ROSE BAUMGARDNER born: 9 Sept. 1988 at: Yorba Linda CA
- (7) EMILEE JEAN BAUMGARDNER born: 10 Aug, 1990 at: White Rock BC
- (6) KAREN DENISE VanESS born: 8 Nov. 1962 at:Rapid City SD married: 21 Sept. 1991 at Maui HI

to: THOMAS JOSEPH FAIN
born: 24 Jan. 1960 at Mt. Vernon NY
father: Joseph Altmann Kain
mother: Lorraine Theresa Sposato
occupation: Tom is on the Nat'l Bd
of Directors of Taco Bell
Karen-accountant supervisor for a
golfing firm
address: Costa Mesa CA

(6) DEANNA LEWYN VanESS born: 25 July 1966 at LaMirada CA married:11 June 1988 -Fullerton CA

> to: WILLIAM "SAM"UEL RASCOE born: 20 Nov. 1964 at Morristown IN father: Thomas Cecil Rascoe mother: Rosalita Dunham occupation: Sam-office manager address: Vista CA

- (7) MacKENZIE NICOLE RASCOE born: 26 Dec. 1988 at: Whittier CA
- (7) BAILEE DOROTHY RASCOE born: 10 Oct. 1991 at: Upland CA
- (5) WARREN ALFRED VanESS born: 4 Sept. 1936 at: Grand Rapids MI occupation: Warren had polio and is paralyzed. He is an artist and does extensive painting by holding the brush in his mouth. address: LaMirada CA
- (4) NIRUM "NILE" ELLOYD GARLICK born: 1 Oct. 1909 at: Cedar Springs MI died: 25 Aug. 1969 at: Yucca AZ was an artist, cook, miner, sign painter and rancher. Traveled extensively. Was in Army air force, injured in airplane accident

ALTON DALE GARLICK (4)born: 7 Nov. 1911 at: Cedar Springs MI died: 20 Dec. 1959 at: Chicago IL to: NELLIE HOLMES born: at: died: at: father: mother: Alton was a sign painter & did auto body work lived at:





Charles Curtis

Rose Smith



Charles Curtis (L) with brother Thomas on the right



1-r Ada & Alta Curtis



Rose Smith



Three Sisters 1-r Adella Thompson, Eva Curtis and Rose Curtis



1-r Ada, Rose and Alta Curtis



1-r Ada, Rose & Alta Curtis



1-r Rose, Ada, Alta & Ed Lewis,



Ada Curtis



Rose & Ed Lewis



Ada Curtis Brooks



Ada Brooks



1-r Clayton, Ada & Cecil Brooks



Cecil Brooks



Ralph Brooks-1922 Policeman at Plainfield MI



Clayton Brooks



Cecil Brooks



Ralph & Ada Brooks



Cecil & Beryl Brooks & son-in-law, Bob Johnson



Cecil Ray Brooks & his wife, Byrl Donovan-1979



10

1

Esther Jane Wheeler Brooks Wagner & Alvin Wagner



Joan (Brooks) & Robert Johnson



Joan & Bob Johnson -1989





Cecil Brooks



Cecil Brooks & grandson Bobby Johnson

50th Wedding Anniversary of Ralph & Ada Brooks 1-r back Clayton & Marion Brooks Ralph Brooks, Beryl Brooks Ada Brooks. In front Joan Johnson with daughter Janet and Joan's father, Cecil Brooks



Bobby, Berta & Janet Johnson-1962

1964-Robert K. & Joan Johnson with children: 1-r Roberta & Janet. Robert W. in front.





Joan & Bob Johnson with Michael Alexander Johnson



Christine Baffone with Cameron Vaughn



Nancy & Robert Johnson & baby Michael May 1992





Roberta & Randall Vaughn with sons Evan & Cameron

Randy & Roberta Vaughn with Cameron & Evan-1992



In Back: Roberta l-r: Sarah, Janet,Nicholas, Allison & Elizabeth Baffone



Alta Belle Curtis



Fred & Alta Garlick



Alta & Melvin Heaton



Freda Rose Garlick



Freda Van Ess



Alfred VanEss



Alta Belle



Madeline VanEss



Dan Heaton



Natalie Heaton



Madeline Heaton Voyles



Madeline & Marshall Heaton & son Dan



Rose Farvey & her daughter, April (Rose was named for her great,great grandmother Rose.)



The Wylie Family Greg, Cory, Sharon, Justin & Matthew



l-r Emilee, Stephanie & Brittany Baumgardner



LaJean VanEss



"Jean" VanEss



Connie VanEss



(

Duane VanEss



Joshua Stuart



Baby Bailee Rascoe, William Baumgardner & MacKenzie Rascoe



Joshua "Dan" Stuart with 1-r Emilee & Brittany Baumgardner



Deanna & MacKenzie Rascoe



Stephanie & Brittany Baumgardner



1-r Tom Kain, MacKenzie Rascoe & Karen Kain



l-r MacKenzie, Bailee & William "Sam"uel Rascoe



MacKenzie Nicole Rascoe



Bailee Dorothy Rascoe



l-r MacKenzie Rascoe, Brittany Baumgardner, Joshua Stuart holding Bailee Rascoe & Emilee Baumgardner



Warren VanEss just before he had polio



Warren VanEss doing a mouth painting



1-r MacKenzie Rascoe, Brittany & Emilee Baumgardner



Alton Garlick



Nirum "Nile" Garlick



Painting by Warren VanEss



Alton Garlick



Nellie Holmes, wife of Alton Garlick

### ELIZABETH M. CURTIS

record, According to a legal Elizabeth stated she was born in March 1855. (Her death certificate records her birth as 14 March She born 1856.) was in Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada, the fourth child and first daughter of John L. and Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis. Elizabeth moved from Ontario to Michigan about 1865 and came to Dakota Territory in March 1882.

Elizabeth was married twice. The SPENCER history from Ontario, Canada states "Elizabeth married Charles Morgan. They had 2

born in rtificate 4 March orn in Ontario, ind first flizabeth th moved pout 1865 itory in ce. The Ontario, married bad 2

daughters named Ruth and \_\_\_? \_\_. Ruth married (name unknown) and they had two daughters: Ruth and Abbie. Abbie died at age 17 while training to be a missionary to China." Some of the information from the above Spencer history is in error. Elizabeth's two daughters were named Nellie Mae and Lettie. Nellie had a daughter, Ruth. However, to date, we cannot find a record of anyone named Abbie. Records show Elizabeth's marriage to Charles Morgan took place 1 April 1875. We don't know where they married, although likely it was in Michigan.

The 1880 Federal Census for Ada, Kent County, Michigan gives the age of Elizabeth as 24, that she is married and is a dressmaker. She is enumerated in the household of her mother and no mention is made of a child. Elizabeth married John E. Warner, 4 May 1884 at Cooperstown, Griggs County, Dakota Territory with Judge William Glass officiating. The 1885 Griggs County, Dakota Territory Census shows Elizabeth, age 28, married to John E. Warner, age 29, (a farmer). Two children are listed: Nellia (Nellie), age 9, born in Michigan and Lothy (Lettie) age 3, born in Dakota Territory. These children are definitely the children of Elizabeth and Charles Morgan, although some school records show Nellie as Warner. Whether or not the girls were legally adopted by Mr. Warner is not known. A letter dated 12 December 1888 at Dazey was written by Nellie Warner to her cousin Ada and also mentions Lettie.

John Warner homesteaded on NW 32-144-58 (Broadview Township), Griggs County, Dakota Territory. His homestead patent is dated 16 June 1890. On 11 December 1890 John and Elizabeth Warner of Kootina County, Territory of Idaho, deeded the above land (NW 32) to Thomas Curtis of Barnes County, North Dakota for \$1000. At the time of the death of Thomas Curtis in 1896, Elizabeth's address was Spokane, Washington.

John E. Warnar is listed on the 1900 Federal Census in Grey Eagle Township, Todd County, Minnesota as head of the house, (no one else is listed in that household), age 45, single, and born September 1854 in Michigan. His parents were born in New York. (Always keep in mind that census records are no more accurate than the information given to or assumed by the census taker!)

John Warner passed away 22 February 1920 at his home on SW 27-127-32, Todd County, Minnesota, where Elizabeth and he were then living. Their address was Grey Eagle, Minnesota. The farm which they owned was a small one--80 acres, about 5 miles southeast of Grey Eagle. Legal description was south 1/2 of SW quarter of Sec. 27-127-32, Todd County, Minnesota. Mr. Warner was a very heavy man known as "Big John" by his friends.

The obituary for John Warner taken from the Grey Eagle Gazette states:

"John Warner, a resident of Grey Eagle Township for over 20 years, passed away at his home on the night of February 22nd, 1920. Mr. Warner had been in ill health for some time, but a fall which he had during the middle of last month resulted in the breaking of one of his ribs, incapacitated him to the extent that he was obliged to take to his bed and gradually failed. Mr. Warner was about 67 years of age and leaves to survive him, his widow. The deceased was a very hard working man and very much respected by all his aquaintances. A private funeral was made at Lakeview Cemetery, Grey Eagle, Miss Scultz officiating."

According to the Final Decree of Distribution, dated 14 Jan. 1921, Elizabeth Curtis Warner was the only surviving heir. There were no children listed. Mr. Warner died intestate leaving no will. Probate Court, Todd County, Minn. deeded all property to Elizabeth Warner, a widow.

Following Mr. Warner's death, Elizabeth Warner's brother John, came to be with her for a time and he died while on this visit. (See details in John Curtis story.)

Mrs. Warner sold her personal property at public auction 12 July 1921. Research in the Todd County Courthouse revealed 16 July 1921, Elizabeth Warner sold SE SW of Sec. 27 to Jacob N. Paavola. (At that time, Elizabeth was still living in Todd County.) On 16 Oct. 1929 Elizabeth sold SW SW to the same man, Jacob Paavola, and her address then was Multnomah County. Oregon. (Portland is in Multnomah County.) NOTE: In October 1992, as we were complifing this book, the death certificate for Elizabeth was obtained! Elizabeth had been living in Portland, Oregon with her daughter, Nellie Daus. Elizabeth had been confined to bed for the last 3 years of her life due to a fractured hip. She passed away the 20th of August, 1934. Phone calls to the two DAUS names in the Portland phone book located the daughter-in-law of Nellie and the grandson of Nellie!

Information gathered from descendants indicates Nellie was first married to a Mr. Silverman and they had:

### Abraham Silverman

#### Ruth Silverman

Her second marriage was to Maxwell Daus. To this union were born the following children:

### Ernestine Elizabeth Daus

#### David Alexander Daus

Nellie passed away in the 1940's? at the home of her son and her daughter-in-law, David and Alice Daus in Portland, Oregon. Most of the descendants, located to date, live in the Portland area.

We have not been able to find any information concerning Lettie since she was enrolled in school in Griggs County, Dakota Territory, in the late 1880's.

Much of the data in the following Descendant Directory for Elizabeth Curtis is incomplete. We are hopeful that more information can be obtained in the coming months.

#### ELIZABETH M. CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

(1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS

Charles' father: Charles' mother:

(2) ELIZABETH M CURTIS born: 14 March 1856 at: Northumberland Co, Ontario father: John L. Curtis mother: Elizabeth Spencer died: 20 August 1934 at: Portland OR married: 1 April 1875 at: Michigan? to: CHARLES (A. or H.?) MORGAN born: at: died: at:

Elizabeth & Charles Morgan were the parents of two daughters: Nellie and Lettie. Nellie was born in Mich. on 21 June 1876. When Nellie was pregnant with Lettie, she left Charles because of non-support and moved to Dakota Territory in March 1882. Lettie was born 5 June 1882 in Dakota Territory.

Elizabeth was divorced from Charles Morgan. Elizabeth married 4 May 1884 at Cooperstown, Griggs Co., Dakota Territory

to: JOHN E WARNER born: Sept 1854 at: Michigan died: 22 Feb. 1920 at: Grey Eagle, Minnesota John's father: John's mother: John was a farmer near Grey Eagle, Minnesota.

(3) NELLIE MAE MORGAN (WARNER?)
born: 21 June 1876 at:
died: 1946 or 1947 \* at: Portland OR
married: at:
to: SILVERMAN

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\* One source says Nellie was 70 years old when she died. Also that Nellie was short, chubby and had red hair. Another says Nellie was very "old-fashioned and proper!"

(4)	ABRAHAM	۱٤	SILVERMAN			
	born:		at:			
	died:		at:			
	married	1:	at:			
		MA (WARNER OF	ZIMMER or SIMM	IONS?)		
	born: died:		at: at:			
	Card and the fact of the	: father:	dL:			
	Sector sector and the	mother:				
		C. Martin Martin and Street 1971	al Estate & Ent	repropelly		
			R on SE 40th &			
(4)	RUTH	SILVE	MAN			
3.2.4	born:	1896 or 97		Washington		
	died:	2020 02 21	at:	Habitangeon		
	married	:	at:			
	to: GE	ORGE VE	RT SR.			
	born:	Contraction of Contra	at:			
	died:		at:			
	George'	s father:				
		s mother:				
	George'	s occupation:				
	Lived a	t Portland OR.	George was a	veteran.		
	Ruth wa	s buried at Su	inset Cemetery	in Portland.		
	(5) GE	ORGE	ERT JR.			
	bo	en:	at:			
	di	ed:	at:			
	ma	rried:	at:			
		: MARGARET				
		rn: ed:	at:			
			at:			
Margaret's father: Margaret's mother: Geroge worked for Reynold's Aluminum.						
	(6			VERT		
		born:	at:			
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Sometime after Mr. Silverman died, Nellie married: at:

to: MAXWELL DAUS born: 1874-75 or 76 at: Illinois died: at: N. 82nd & Holgate in Portland Maxwell's mother: Ernestine Lashinsky or Warshawsky occupation: Maxwell was an upholsterer in a factory and built furniture at home.

The 1920 Federal Census lists Max and Nellie Daus with their children: Ernestine-age 12, David-age 3 8/12 and Ruth Silverman-age 23-stepdaughter to Max Daus.

# (4) ERNESTINE ELIZABETH DAUS

born:	6 June	1907	at:	Portland	OR
died:	30 Aug	. 1963	at:	Portland	OR
marri	ed:		at:		

to: WILLIAM HENRY MAYBEE
born: 8 July 1906 at: Springdale OR
died: 7 Aug. 1952 at:
Wm.'s father: Alph L. Maybee
Wm.'s mother: Emma C. Palmquist
Wm.'s occupation: Carpenter
lived at: Portland OR

(5) PHYLLIS DOROTHY MAYBEE born: 4 March 1927 at: Gresham OR married: 31 Oct. 1946 at: San Diego CA

> to: **THEODORE HAINES** Theodore & Phyllis are the parents of two sons, Robert & Russell, & are divorced. Phyllis is an accountant and lives in Portland, OR.

(6) ROBERT WILLIAM HAINES born: 12 Aug. 1947 at: Portland OR married: 21 Dec. 1969 at: Gladstone OR

> to: DeNELL JERIS SKOW born: 24 Jan. 1948 at: her father: William C. Skow her mother: Deannie occupation: Robert-attorney/Mobil Oil address: McLean VA \Grad. of West Point

(6) RUSSELL LYNN HAINES born: 10 May 1952 at: Portland OR married: 27 June 1972 at: Gresham OR

> to: DEBERA ANN HART born: 7 Jan. 1951 at: Sadler TX her father: James D. Hart her mother: Velma occupation: Russell-Printer foreman Debera-secretary address: Corbett OR

- (7) NICOLE LYNN HAINES born: 22 Jan. 1973 at: Portland OR
- (7) ANTHONY LEE HAINES born: 10 Feb. 1977 at: Portland OR
- (7) GEOFFREY LEWIS HAINES born: 7 Nov. 1989 at: Portland OR

# (5) GLORIA ANN MAYBEE

born: 16 May 1932 at: Portland OR died: 25 Sept. 1976 at: Corbett OR married: 11 Nov. 1959 at: Gresham OR

to: ROBERT LEWIS VanSPEYBROCK
born: 17 May 1933 at: Portland OR
his father: Leon VanSpeybrock
his mother: Viola Pye
occupation: Robert-construction inspector of
 roads & bridges for city of Gresham.
 Semi-retired.

address: Corbett OR Robert & Gloria have 2 adopted sons. Robert remarried after Gloria's death to Joyce Hanks, a descendant of Abe Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks.

- (6) LEE LEWIS VanSPEYBROCK (adopted) born: 18 June 1964 at: Portland OR occupation: worker for city-Troutdale OR address: Corbett OR
- (6) DAVID JEFFREY VanSPEYEROCK(adopted) born: 23 June 1967 at: Portland OR occupation: construction worker and college student address: Corbett OR

### (4) DAVID ALEXANDER DAUS

born: 27 May 1916 at: Portland OR died: 12 May 1975 at: Portland OR buried at Lincoln Memorial Park, Portland OR married: 1 Aug. 1942 at: Vancouver WA

to: ALICE LOUISE WYNN born: 13 May 1921 at: Hibbing MN Alice's father: Lloyd Jenkins Wynn Alice's mother: Alice Louise Resel

David's occupation: carpenter, worked in the saw mill and later for Portland School Dist. #1 as a custodian. address: Portland OR

David and Alice had 3 children: Judy, Maxwell and Patricia

Alice says David was 6 feet tall.

# (5) JUDY LOUISE DAUS born: 11 Nov. 1943 at: Portland OR married: 16 July 1965 at: Portland OR

# to: LEE NICHOLAS SMITH

born: 7 Sept. 1942 at: Multnomah Co., OR father: Lee Arthur Smith mother: Helen Haun occupation: Lee-Plant supervisor for Union Camp Corporation Judy-office mgr.-software consulting firm address: Portland OR

# (6) CHRISTOPHER DAVID SMITH

born: 18 Sept. 1970 at: Portland OR occupation: quality control for plastics company address: Aloha OR (5) MAXWELL LLOYD DAUS born: 1 March 1947 at: Portland OR married: 15 Oct. 1966 at: Portland OR

> to: RONDA LEE ELLINGSON born: 28 Dec. 1946 at: Portland OR father: Harold Oren Ellingson mother: Dorothy Loraine Jones occupation: Max-works for Union Camp Corp. address: Boring OR

- (6) LISA ROSA' DAUS born: 16 Oct. 1973 at: Portland OR occupation: College student
- (6) TRACY RENE' DAUS born: 28 Aug. 1975 at: Portland OR

NOTE: Maxwell was named after his grandfathers.

(5) PATRICIA ANN DAUS born: 29 Jan. 1950 at: Portland OR married: 26 Aug. 1972 at: Portland OR

to: DEL EDWARD MORGAN
born: 17 Feb. 1946 at: Hampton IA
father: Bernard Morgan
mother: Irene Hines
occupation:Del-trucker
 Patty-works in admission dept. of
 Good Samaritan Hospital
address: Portland OR

- (6) SHANNA MARIE MORGAN born: 17 Jan. 1973 at: Portland OR
- (6) ADAM KEAN MORGAN born: 13 Jan. 1976 at: Portland OR

DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT Nellie's sister, LETTIE?

MORGAN (WARNER?) (3) LETTIE born: 5 June 1882 at: (Griggs or Barnes County??) Dakota Territory died: at: married: ?? at: to: born: at: died: at: his father: his mother: Where did Lettie live?

#### LETTIE MORGAN (WARNER?)

Lettie's mother was Elizabeth (Curtis) Morgan. Lettie's father was Charles Morgan.

Elizabeth and Charles were divorced and Elizabeth married John E. Warner on 4 May 1884 at Cooperstown, Griggs Co, Dakota Territory.

Nellie & Lettie were listed on census and school records as Warner, however it is not known if John Warner adopted the girls. We have a letter in Nellie's own handwriting written in 1888 where Nellie mentions Lettie and Nellie signs the letter as "Nellie Warner".

When John Warner died in 1920, his final decree listed Elizabeth as the sole survivor. No children were listed, so it might mean that he did not adopt Nellie & Lettie.

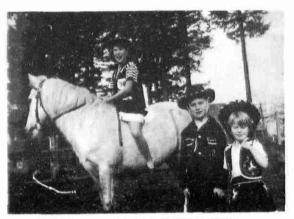
### WHAT BECAME OF LETTIE ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

For those interested in the WARNER name, the 75th WARNER reunion was held recently near Lansing, Michigan. Marsha (Warner) Miller of the Kalkaska, MI area is the family genealogist.

According to Wilbur Rykert (see story under John Curtis) "the Curtis' are tied into the Warners in the Grand Rapids (Michigan) area." (This must be Elizabeth Curtis and John Warner.)



Elizabeth Curtis



Children of David & Alice Daus Judy (on horse), Max & Patty



1972-David & Alice Daus



1969-David & Alice Daus



David & Alice Daus with grandson, Christopher Smith 109



David A. Daus with daughter Judy

(



1982-Alice Daus



Lisa Rosa' Daus 1991 H.S. Grad.



Rhonda Daus



Tracy Rene' Daus Class of 1993



Grandchildren of David & Alice Daus 1-r back: Christopher Smith, Lisa Daus & Adam Morgan front-Shanna Morgan & Traci Daus (These are great-great grandchildren of Elizabeth Curtis Morgan Warner)



Maxwell & Rhonda Daus



Lee, Judy & Christopher Smith

#### SAMANTHA M. CURTIS

The fifth child and second daughter, Samantha, was born in April 1859 in Northumberland County, Ontario. She moved to Kent County, Michigan about 1865 and came to Dakota Territory in April 1883.

Samantha's marriage to Leslie Herman Harriman probably took place in or around 1884. We do not know where they were married. Three children were born to Samantha and Leslie:

### Frank Henry Harriman Ella Elizabeth Harriman Amy Harriman

According to the "Griggs Courier" of 15 March 1889, a daughter was born to Samantha and Leslie. We have no other information on Amy, other than she died as a child.

The 1885 census taken 1 June 1885, for Griggs County, Dakota Territory, lists Leslie Harriman, age 27, a farmer, born in Maine (also the birthplace of both of his parents), Mattie M. Harriman, wife, age 25, born in Canada, Frank Harriman, son, age 3 months and born in Dakota.

Ella Elizabeth Harriman was born in November 1887.

On 12 December 1888 Samantha was visiting at Dazey, Dakota Territory and "....Aunt Mate came yesterday and stayed all night....Aunt Mate don't feel very well. She is laying down." This was written in a letter by Samantha's niece, Nellie Warner, to a cousin.



We have a photo of a person in an aerial tumbling posture with a crowd of people gathered. On the back of this photo are the words "Aunt Samantha with the carnival." Nothing more is known about this.

Samantha died Friday evening, 14 August 1891 of consumption (tuberculosis) and was buried in the Hillside Cemetery at Ashtabula. Her body was later moved to Sunnyside Cemetery northeast of Dazey, ND. (She was only 32 years old.)

# Leslie Herman Harriman

According to the 1900 Federal Census for Richland County, North Dakota, Les Harriman was born in January 1864 in Maine. He was living in Wahpeton, ND on 9th Street West as a boarder with Sherman and Viola A. Smith. His occupation was listed as "livery barn." His age was given as 36.

The 1910 Census for Dwight Township, Richland County, ND Lists Les' occupation as a horse trainer. The 1920 Census for the same township lists his occupation as a "hired man." The 1910 and 1920 Census both show Les living with Charles H. Gudger and William Burton who were partners in farming.

Les died 16 July 1929 at the Wahpeton, North Dakota Hospital from "basal cell carcinoma of the face" following an illness of six years. He was buried in the Richland County Cemetery which is on the east side of the Bohemian Cemetery. The cemetery is located just south of Wahpeton on the east side of Center Street which is "old" highway 81. (No grave marker could be located. 1992-Grant Carlson)

The Harriman family was from the Augusta, Maine area. In one report Les was spoken of as being a close relative of the American railroad magnate, financier and millionaire Edward Henry Harriman.

#### Frank Harriman

Frank Harriman was born 2 March 1885 at Hannaford, Dakota Territory, the oldest child of Leslie and Samantha Curtis Harriman. After the death of his mother, Frank went to live with his uncle, Mark Curtis. On 17 March 1909, he married Mary Koch at the home of her parents at Cooperstown, N. D. She was a successful school teacher. After their marriage, Frank and Mary moved to Alberta where they raised a family of nine children. Frank passed away 26 October 1950 in a farm accident at Strathmore, Alberta, Canada, at the age of 65 years, 7 months. He is buried in the Strathmore Cemetery beside his son, Mark.

### Frank & Mary Harriman by Florence Downey, Calgary

(Note: Large portions of the following excellent story are quoted. Florence Downey is the oldest child of Frank and Mary (Koch) Harriman.)

"Frank Henry Harriman, born in Hannaford, North Dakota, USA, March 2, 1885, and Mary Koch, born in Elderslie Township, Bruce County, Ontario, on April 28, 1887, were married in Cooperstown, North Dakota, March 17, 1909. They came to Strathmore (Alberta) in April 1909, to homestead two miles north of town. (NE 1/4 22-24-25)."

Quoting in part from Mary's first letter home to Dakota to her sister, Annie, April 19, 1909:

"This is a fine country here, just like North Dakota: only on the west we can see the mountains, looking like a range of snow hills. Our farm is in a nice location. We can see the whole town - depot and country for quite a distance There was a prairie fire near, such a fire as I around. never saw in North Dakota. All the people are very friendly, they come from all over the world...Strathmore... is quite a town. It has this hotel (King Edward) and a new one called the Alberta which will soon open, three livery barns - three hardwares - three groceries and general stores - two machine sheds, and they are going to build two elevators here this We drove all over our farm, and picked out the summer. building place. They are going to start the barn April 20. We had a cent a mile rate on the train and had to go second class, but we went first class all the way, and we certainly had dandy accomodations."

Quoting again from Florence Downey's story:

"The reason that the folks decided to come to Alberta to make their home was the price of land in North Dakota. One could not get started there. They came on a railroad car, horses, cows, pigs, chickens, farm equipment, house furnishings and seeds together. The barn was built first, with the animals on the ground and the people in the hayloft while the house was built.

Our young pioneers were hard workers and cheerful but weather, frost and wind made farming a real gamble. They never had a crop on the original homestead. Dad broke land and horses for other farmers in the summer and hauled coal from Carbon (about 35 miles away) in the winter to pay expenses. I remember Mother saying that she could hear Dad whistling before she could see him as he came in at night with a four horse team on the bobsled with three or four tons of coal on. These were hard years. Dad also worked in Strathmore one winter in a livery barn, but he wanted to farm, so gave that up...

Florence Ella, their eldest daughter, was born on January 29, 1910..." (See Samantha Curtis Descendant Directory for listing of all the children.) "Mark Clifton, who was born on June 4, 1917, died on July 22, 1917, with whooping cough. He was buried in the Strathmore Cemetery. I remember the horses and buggles in the procession and bouquets of beautiful prairie flowers for the wee casket. I remember the neighbors coming to help, the food they brought and how it helped. The early settlers helped each other at births and deaths, rejoicing with the good that came and supporting each other in the difficulties as they arose. It was a hard and wonderful time to be a part of a developig and growing country. About this time there was an influx of American money to be invested. They bought up sections of prairie land, built buildings if they had to, to get renters to come and do their farming for them. In 1917, Dad moved us north to the Nightingale district where he farmed and raised his family on land bought by Mr. Dygert of Idaho...As soon as we were old enough, we drove a horse and buggy to school at Nightingale (about six miles) till the Valley Gardens School was built in 1919. Dad was active on the board most of the vears the school existed. It burned down in 1944. All of the Harriman children attended Valley Gardens School and all have wonderful memories of Christmas concerts and community dances that took place there...

We were a fortunate community, with many talented and generous members...who all took the responsibility of organizing Sunday School for the children, either in the Nightingale Hall or Valley Gardens School...The student ministers of the United and Anglican churches, who came for the summer months were also greatly appreciated. It was a wonderful part of our growing up and we owe much to these people and the high standards of citizenship they gave us...We remember the first cars...The crystal radio, then the radio with speaker came into use. The old time parties that we had to the music of CFCN's Oldtimers and Foster Hewitt's hockey broadcasts were all highlights...

Dad and mother were always responsible citizens, taking their places as officers and members of all community organizations, school board and hall board, United Farmers, Wheat Pool, Women's Institute, Eastern Star and Dad was Past Master of Strathmore Masonic Lodge. Harley, Weldon and Kathleen were all members of the Airforce during the Second World War. Mother and Dad were good neighbors, always ready to lend a helping hand where it was needed. Many a new farmer came for help and advice and was never sent away without encouragement and help. Dad was always very proud of "His Boys" all who grew up with his own family. The forks were happiest when there were lots of young people around...

It was a wonderful day when Mother and Dad moved onto their own farm in July 1946. He loved the trees and working in their own yard. In 1949, the community gave a 40th wedding anniversary celebration in honor of Mother and Dad at the Hall. The folks were surprised and pleased with the beautiful chime clock that they received.

Dad was killed in a farm accident in October 1950. It was a terrible shock to the family and friends. He was buried in the family plot in Strathmore. Mother died quickly while resting in April 1964. She was buried in Strathmore Cemetery with Dad and Mark."

### Excerpts from MEMORIES By Mary (Harriman) Hildahl

"Dad always liked horses and always had a team and pony around ... Dad kept a team in the barn in winter and at Christmas time hitched them to the bobsled and with the bells ringing, took us to the School Christmas Concert. T well remember one Christmas he challenged a neighbor to a race going home; the result being that when he turned the corner south of the Valley Gardens School we upset and we were all dumped out. No one was hurt and nothing lost or broken... How nice it was to get home and gather round the heater and talk, then Mother would scoot us up to bed and come and tuck us in with a warmed blanket. Believe me! it was cold upstairs in our house in winter... There were three or four winters in the early thirties when the children stayed at school till after the Christmas program. The mothers always supplied a supper on these occasions... I know Mother always sent a crock of scalloped potatoes, and ... remember one Christmas when the men played ball in their shirt sleeves before the program? ...

Mother kept busy at home, sewing for all us girls and all the mending for everyone. How she managed with the old hand-power washer and wringer, I can't guess...She always counted herself lucky if she finished the washing before the train came by our place at three in the afternoon. We milked cows...as many as fourteen head...Mother made butter and sold it locally as well as shipping cream to Calgary...

Who can forget the dirty thirties?...Mother would have to light the lamps at three in the afternoon and what a chore it was to get that fine dust out of the house...The reliable school pony made many a trip home with no guiding human eyes, as we all covered our heads and let her go and she always got us home safely.....Mother had hired girls, Florie Gibson, the longest, about 5 years. She came when Norman was a baby....We had a wonderful home life, with the family doing much together...All in all we enjoyed life and we learned to work and play together."

# Excerpts from AS I REMEMBER by Milly (Harriman) Miller

"The mile horse race on the way home from school ... "

"We chased the milk cows to pasture on the way to school and brought them home with us at night."

"Looking out the upstairs window and watching a prairie fire. I believe it was started by the train. The people looked so small against the flames." "When most of the girls wore long-johns to school."

"During the harvest when Mother cooked fried potatoes, bacon, eggs, bread and butter for breakfast every morning."

"Mom putting small candles in clothespin-type candle holders and clipping them to the branches of the Christmas Tree; making sure they stood straight and tall, so there was little danger of fire, and the little trays would catch the wax."

#### Ella Harriman

Ella was born in November 1887. Following the death of her mother, Samantha, she was raised by her aunt Eva Curtis and also by her uncle Mark Curtis. While Eva was in Fargo, N.D. to be with her husband who was ill with tuberculosis, Ella at only age 12 was on the farm caring for Eva's children: Niram, less than 8, Myrtle 6, and Hazel, not quite 4. Ella married James A. McDiarmid 26 July 1911 at Cooperstown, N.D. James was from Minnesota, and in 1910 while living in Valley City, N. D. managed the Valley City state championship baseball team. After the 1911 baseball season, Ella moved with her husband to Melville, Sask. Canada, where he went into business with his brother. James and Ella raised a family of three children:

> Hazel Jessie McDiarmid Maxwell Curtis McDiarmid Josephine Beth McDiarmid

Ella died at Regina, Saskatchewan in March 1938.

# Obituary of Mrs. Ella McDiarmid

"Regina, Sask.-Mrs. Ella Elizabeth McDiarmid, 50, former North Dakota resident, died in a hospital here, March 30.\* She was born at Dazey, N. D., and was married to James A. McDiarmid at Cooperstowwn, N.D., in 1911, moving to Melville, Sask. She had been secretary of the Melville Liberal Women's association for four years. She leaves Mr. McDiarmid, one son and one daughter." \* Ella died on March 26.

James McDiarmid married the second time in December 1939 to Elizabeth Armbruster in the province of Manitoba, Canada. They had one child, Marlene Marie, who died in 1957.

### Retired railman passes (Obituary)

"James Alexander McDairmid, a CN railway conductor, died in Grey Nuns Hospital in Regina on Thursday, August 15.

Born January 19, 1883, in Minnesota in the US, Mr. McDairmid emigrated to Canada in 1911, coming to Saskatchewan at that time. Serving with the railway, the deceased retired in 1946.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and an ardent baseball fan.

Left to mourn his passing are his widow Beth and daughter Marlene at home, another daughter Mrs. Don McConaghy of Vancouver, B.C., and a son Maxwell in Regina.

Funeral services for the late Mr. McDairmid were held in the Baugh Funeral Chapel on Saturday, August 17, conducted by Rev. J. D. McMurtry with burial following in the Melville Cemetey. A body of Masons attended the funeral, conducting graveside rights. Also attending were a number of members of the LA to the B of RT.

Pallbearers were Harry Goundry, Harry McDonald, Don Pilon, Clint Barker, Tom Clarke, and Peter Blake."

(Copied as spelled from the Melville Advance.)

### SAMANTHA CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

- (1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) SAMANTHA M. CURTIS born: April 1859 at: Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada died: 14 August 1891 at: likely Griggs Co, ND married: at:

to: LESLIE HERMAN HARRIMAN born: January 1864 at: Maine died: 16 July 1929 at: Wahpeton, North Dakota father:

Samantha and Leslie were the parents of Frank, Ella and Amy.

(3) FRANK HENRY HARRIMAN

born: 2 Mar. 1884 at: Hannaford ND died: 26 Oct. 1950 at: Strathmore, Alberta Frank died in a tractor accident. Both Frank and Mary are buried at Strathmore. married: 17 Mar. 1909 at: Cooperstown ND

to: MARY KOCH born: 28 Apr. 1887 at: Chesley, Bruce Co, Ontario died: 18 Apr. 1964 at: Calgary, Alberta father: Frederick William Koch (spelled KOSH in the old mother: Maria Evers country)

Frank & Mary were the parents of the following: Florence, Harley, Weldon, Rachel, Mark, Kathleen, Mary Norman and Millicent.

(4) FLORENCE ELLA HARRIMAN born: 29 Jan. 1910 at: Strathmore AB married: 24 Sept.1928 at: Strathmore AB

Florence was one of the first blue eyed blond babies born in Strathmore. She attended school at Nightingale, Strathmore & Calgary. In 1928 she married Alvah Downsy at Strathmore. Florence and Alvah have 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 13 greatgrandchildren. In 1952 when Alvah became ill with arthritis, Florence went to work with Alvah in his Dental office as his assistant. Florence took courses and later became the first person in Canada to receive her diploma as a qualified Dental Nurse.

# (5) FLORENCE MARY-MARTHA DOWNEY

born: 2 June 1932 at: Strathmore AB married: 2 Oct. 1954 at: Calgary AB

to: JOHN STANLEY MCFETRIDGE born: 17 Dec. 1927 at: Grand Prairie AB father: Thomas McFetridge mother: Minnie Whitehead occupation: John-a medical doctor John and Florence divorced Nov. 1976. address: Florence lives in Kirkland WA

(6) GRANT THOMAS MCFETRIDGE born:13 Sept 1955 at San Francisco CA married: June 1981 at: Wausau WI

> to: CINDY WHETZEL born: at: father: Vernan Whetzel mother: Ruth occupation: Electrical engineer address: Grass Valley CA Grant and Cindy divorced.

- (6) SCOTT DOUGLAS MCFETRIDGE born: 13 Mar. 1957 at: Calgary AB occupation: Mechanical engineer address: Seattle WA
- (6) ALISON MARY MCFETRIDGE born: 30 Sept. 1964 at: New York City NY occupation: Office Mananger of Jewelry firm address: Vancouver BC

(5) ALVAH "FRANK" DOWNEY born: 5 Jan. 1934 at: Baintree AB married: 1 May 1954 at: London ON

> to: LAURA "ELAINE" HUMPHRYS born: 1 Dec. 1934 at: Regina SK father: Griffith Humphrys mother: Arabel Wilson occupation: Frank-reg. industrial accountant address: Calgary AB

(6) GLENN ALVAH DOWNEY born: 27 Oct. 1954 at: Calgary AB married: 11 Feb.1984 at: Calgary AB

> to: SUSAN "JANE" MARTIN born: 19 Sept. 1959 at: Calgary AB father: James Martin mother: Susanne Wheatley occupation: Geologist address: Calgary AB

- (7) STEPHEN JAMES DOWNEY born: January 1986 at: Calgary AB
- (7) JOHN THOMAS DOWNEY born: 26 Oct. 1987 at; Calgary AB
- (7) PAMELA JANE DOWNEY born: 28 Aug. 1991 at: Calgary AB
- (6) LLOYD GRIFFITH DOWNEY born: 8 Sept. 1955 at: Calgary AB married: 19 July 1986 at: Calgary AB

to: BRENDA ANNE FRASER born: 31 January 1957 at: Calgary AB father: James Allan Fraser mother: Jose Maubert occupation: McDonalds Consolidated address: Calgary AB

- (7) DOUGLAS FRASER DOWNEY born: 30 March 1988 at: Calgary AB
- (7) CHRISTOPHER JAMES DOWNEY born: 5 March 1990 at: Calgary AB
- (6) JOYCE ELAINE DOWNEY born: 15 Aug. 1956 at: Calgary AB occupation: Secretary & Homemaker address: Calgary AB
  - (7) ROBERT SHANE WALFORD DOWNEY born: 29 Feb. 1992 at: Calgary AB
- (6) NEIL FRANK DOWNEY born: 25 Jan. 1958 at: Calgary AB occupation:Technician in precious metals address: Calgary AB recovery
- (6) DIANE LOUISE DOWNEY born: 6 Mar. 1961 at: Calgary AB married: 2 Oct. 1989 at: Calgary AB

to: NEVILLE VINCENT GIBERSON born: 8 August 1950 at: New Brunswick father: Ralph Giberson mother: Hazel Lovely occupation: Contractor address: Calgary AB

- (7) LAURA AMELIA GIBERSON born: 5 January 1987 at: Calgary AB
- (7) SEAN NEVILLE GIBERSON born: 6 October 1989 at: Calgary AB

(5) KAREN LOUISE DOWNEY

born: 24 Sept. 1936 at: Strathmore AB married: 31 May 1958 at: Calgary AB

(6) FREDDIE WILLIAM EMMS born: 20 Dec. 1958 at: Calgary AB married: 31 May 1980 at: Calgary AB

> to: BEVERLY ANN DIELISSEN born: 4 July 1957 at: Calgary AB father: Laurence Dielissen mother: Florence occupation: Freddie-Survey Dept.-Calgary Beverly-City of Calgary Information address: Calgary AB

- (7) ASHLEY MARIE EMMS born: 30 April 1985 at: Calgary AB
- (7) JEFFERY THOMAS EMMS born: 31 August 1988 at: Calgary AB

Freddie and Beverly divorced.

# (6) TRACY DOUGLAS EMMS

born: 14 Dec. 1963 at: Calgary AB married: 16 Sept.1989 at: Calgary AB

to: SUSAN MARIE HORANSKY born: 24 April 1959 at: Quebec father: mother: Jenine occupation: Tracy-electrician address: Vancouver BC

- (7) SAMANTHA LEANNE EMMS born: 27 Feb. 1989 at: Vancouver BC
- (7) CODY MICHAEL EMMS born: 14 Aug. 1991 at: Calgary AB
- (6) ROBIN PAUL EMMS born: 16 July 1965 at: Calgary AB occupation: Wood finisher address: Calgary AB

# (5) BRENDA JOY DOWNEY born: 11 Apr. 1943 at: Calgary AB married:18 Sept. 1961 at:

to: STEPHEN RICHARD HANSEN born: 20 June 1941 at: Innisfail AB father: Siegfried Richard Hansen mother: Dorothy Brenda & Stephen are parents of Michael and Laura, then divorced in 1974. Brenda married in 1982

to: HUGH MacLEAN BLAIR born: 25 August 1931 at: Regina SK occupation: Business address: Calgary AB

- (6) MICHAEL ELLIOT HANSEN born: 25 Mar. 1962 at: Halifax NS occupation: Law Student address: Calgary AB
- (6) LAURA LEIGH HANSEN born: 29 Apr. 1964 at: Calgary AB married: 23 July 1988 at: Calgary AB to: ALAN CUCHOW born: 6 March 1961 at: England father: Beverly Cuchow mother: Tanya occupation: Electrician address: Cochrane AB
  - (7) CHRISTOPHER ALAN CUCHOW born: 16 April 1991 at: Calgary AB

(5) BRUCE DOUGLAS DOWNEY born: 28 Apr. 1944 at: Calgary AB married: 26 June 1965 at: Swift Current SK

to: ISLAY JEAN SMITH born: 11 July 1944 at: Swift Current SK father: William mother: Donna Lee

- (6) LISA ANN DOWNEY born: 18 Apr. 1970 at: Calgary AB occupation: teacher address: Swift Current SK
- (6) DAVID BRUCE DOWNEY born: 22 Sept. 1972 at Swift Current SK occupation: Aviation Student address: Calgary AB

Bruce and Islay divorced 1976. Bruce married: 15 Feb. 1980 at: Calgary AB

to: MADELINE "CAROLE" LITTLE born: 20 June 1949 at: Bogey MB father: Charles mother: Doris occupation: address: Wickenburg A2

- (5) ANGELA CAROLE DOWNEY born: Sept. 1981 at: Calgary AB
- (5) LINDA ANN DOWNEY born: 28 Jan. 1948 at: Calgary AB married: 22 Jan. 1977 at: Calgary AB

### (4) HARLEY FRANK HARRIMAN

born: 22 May 1912 at: Strathmore AB died: 14 Dec. 1980 at: Red Deer AB, buried in the Field Of Ronor in Strathmore Cemetery. married: 7 Dec. 1945 at: Strathmore AB

#### to: AGNES MOORE

born: 5 Oct. 1915 at: Jackson, Maine father: Samuel Cassius Moore mother: Helene Elizabeth Johnson occupation: Harley-was in RCAF, NATO peace-keeping force 1958-62, then a mechanic Agnes-an accountant address: Red Deer AB

Harley was stationed in the Maritime Provinces for a time and went to Maine trying to find Harriman records. He met Agnes, who worked in the office!

#### (5) LELAND GEORGE HARRIMAN

(son of Agnes by a previous marriage, adopted by Harley in 1952) born: 5 Apr. 1937 at: Gardiner, Maine married:30 June 1967 at: Calgary AB

# (5) FRANK HENRY HARRIMAN

born: 23 Aug. 1947 at: Calgary AB married: 7 Aug. 1971 at: Withrow AB

to: PATRICIA MARIE MEYERS born: 27 July 1950 at: Eckville AB father: Edward John Meyers mother: Bertha Marie Lingren occupation: Master Electrician address: Calgary AB

- (6) TERENCE HARLEY HARRIMAN born: 23 May 1974 at: Calgary AB
- (6) CHERYL RISHA HARRIMAN born: 19 July 1976 at: Calgary AB

(5) ELIZABETH HELEN HARRIMAN born: 6 Feb. 1956 at: Red Deer AB married: 26 June 1982 at: Calgary AB

> to: GORDON HENDERSON CROOKS born: 20 Nov. 1954 at: Broyburn, Scotland father: John Crooks mother: Lillias Henderson occupation: Petroleum Geologist address: Calgary AB

- (6) ROBERT JAMES HARRIMAN CROOKS born: 9 Mar. 1983 at: Calgary AB
- (6) WILLIAM HENRY HARRIMAN CROOKS born: 29 Mar. 1985 at: Calgary AB
- (6) MALCOLM ALEXANDER HARRIMAN CROOKS born: 4 Oct. 1987 at: Calgary AB

### (4) WELDON HENRY HARRIMAN born: 7 July 1913 at: Strathmore AB married: 24 Feb. 1945 at: Vancouver BC

to: CATHRINE "KITTY" MARION AIRD born: 15 Apr. 1919 at: Scourie, Scotland father: John Aird mother: Joan Morrison occupation: Weldon-teacher Kitty-clerk address: Delta BC

(5) FRANK "IAN" HARRIMAN born: 7 May 1946 at: Calgary AB married: 6 Sept. 1969 at: North Vancouver BC

> to: CHERRY PYE born: 8 May 1947 at: Vancouver BC father: John Pye mother: Barbara Ellis Frank & Cherry are parents of Sharel, Julie and David...were divorced in 1987. Frank married: 15 Apr. 1988 at: Nelson BC

to: MERINA DiPRETTO born: 19 Oct. 1950 at: Pozina, Italy father: Merino DiPretto mother: Alda occupation-Frank-Ford Dealership Merina-stenographer address: Nelson BC

### (6) SHAREL ANNE HARRIMAN born: 27 Mar. 1974 at: Vancouver BC

- (6) JULIE CATHERINE HARRIMAN born: 17 Feb. 1977 at: Richmond BC
- (6) DAVID IAN HARRIMAN born: 15 Oct. 1980 at: Richmond BC

### (5) MARGARET JOAN HARRIMAN born: 26 May 1949 at: Medicine Hat AB married: 18 May 1991 at: Ladner BC

to: REGINALD NORBERT FREY
born: 4 August 1945 at: Cudworth, Sask.
father: Francis Frey
mother: Adiline Bader
occupation: both are teachers
address: Surrey BC

Reg has children by a previous marriage: Greg Frey born in 1978 Carly Frey born in 1980

(5) NORMAN CHARLES HARRIMAN born: 22 Oct, 1953 at: Vancouver BC occupation: airline pilot address: Ladner BC

### (4) RACHEL MARGARET HARRIMAN

born: 29 Jan. 1915 at: Strathmore AB married: 23 Dec. 1935 at: Calgary AB

to: NORMAN PRESCOTT BRAGG born: 1 Aug. 1912 at: Calgary AB died: 13 Sept. 1960 at: Standard AB father: John Bragg mother: Julia Gamble (from Nova Scotia) occupation: was a school principal address: Calgary AB

(5) JOHN NORMAN BRAGG born: 1 Nov. 1936 at: Calgary AB married:16 Dec. 1963 at: Dallas TX

> to: BARBARA KEAY WESTMANCOAT born: 1 Oct. 1936 at: Ryley AB father: Robert Westmancoat mother: Marjorie Gray occupation:John-geologist Barbara-former teacher address: Calgary AB

(6) MICHELLE MARJORIE BRAGG born: 17 June 1971 at: Sydney, Aust. occupation: University student address: Calgary AB

### (5) NORMA RAE BRAGG born: 1 Aug. 1939 at: Calgary AB married: 10 Nov. 1956 at: Standard AB

to: CLARK ALAN CHRISTENSEN born: 10 April 1937 at: Standard AB father: Marius Christensen mother: Evelyn Orford occupation: retired oil dealer address: Standard AB

(6) JACQUELINE LEE CHRISTENSEN born: 28 Sept. 1956 at: Calgary AB married to WOLFGANG SCHIMECK Jacqueline and Wolfgang divorced-1987. Jacqueline was married: 20 Aug. 1988 at: Standard AB

to: NEIL ALBERT FIRKUS

born: 12 July 1956 at: father: Albert Firkus mother: Donna occupation: Neil-dispatcher, at truck terminal. Jacqueline-librarian at the Calgary Herald. address: Calgary AB

# (6) SHARON LYNN CHRISTENSEN

born: 15 Nov. at: Calgary AB married: 9 July 1977 at: Rockyford AB

to: DANIEL JAMES GREGORY
born: 3 July 1956 at: Calgary AB
father: Ralph Gregory
mother: Muriel
occupation: Daniel with Alberta Gov't
Telephone, Sharon is a nurse.
address: Calgary AB

- (7) DANIELLE LYNN GREGORY born: 26 April 1982 at: Calgary AB
- (7) SARAH JANE GREGORY born: 1 August 1984 at: Calgary AB
- (7) JAMES PATRICK GREGORY born: 24 January 1987 at: Calgary AB
- (6) GRANT ALAN CHRISTENSEN born: 7 Nov. 1959 at: Calgary AB occupation: student address: Calgary AB
- (6) ANGELA JANE "JANIE" CHRISTENSEN born: 5 May 1965 at: Calgary AB occupation: address: Calgary AB

(5) RUSSELL "ALLAN" BRAGG born: 19 May 1944 at: Calgary AB married: 26 Dec. 1970 at: Gleichen AB

> to: SUSAN JANE BOLINGER born: 4 April 1951 at: Gleichen AB father: Mars W. Bolinger mother: Elizabeth Ticknor occupation: Allan is Principal at Standard address: Standard AB

- (6) ROSS EDWARD BRAGG born: 28 May 1973 at: Innisfail AB occupation: Student at Lethbridge University address: Calgary AB
- (6) DAVID ALLAN BRAGG born: 4 Nov. 1975 at: Calgary AB
- (5) ROBERT PRESCOTT BRAGG born: 17 Feb. 1947 at: Calgary AB married: 6 May 1972 at: Calgary AB

to: LANA STEWART Robert and Lana divorced 1980. Robert married: 10 July 1982 at: St. Thomas, Ontario

to: JOANNE RAMONDT born: 20 May 1951 at: Ontario father: Jack Ramondt mother: Marie occupation: Robert-editor, Calgary Herald JoAnne-Reporter, Calgary Herald address: Calgary AB

- (6) BRONWYN SUZANNE BRAGG born: 9 June 1984 at: Calgary AB
- (6) MEREDITH ROBYN BRAGG born: 16 October 1986 at: Calgary AB

# (5) MARY LEE BRAGG

born: 20 July 1949 at: Calgary AB married: 30 Aug. 1969 at: Calgary AB

to: COLIN TODD MORTON
born: 25 July 1948 at: Thornhill,Ontario
father: Arthur Morton
mother: Jean Hicks
occupation: famous poet & works in Federal
Civil service, Mary works in Dept
of Official Languages at Federal Civil Ser.
address: Ottawa, Ontario

(6) JEFFREY COLIN MORTON born: 7 Apr. 1975 at: Edmonton AB

### (4) MARK CLIFTON HARRIMAN

	born:	4 June 1917	at:	Strathmore	AB
	died:	22 July 1917	at:	Strathmore	AB

### (4) KATHLEEN "KAY" GRACE HARRIMAN born: 25 May 1918 at: Strathmore AB died: 4 May 1989 at: Innisfail AB married: 8 Nov. 1947 at: Calgary AB

to: HOWARD RUSSELL CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 21 June 1913 at: Gleichen AB father: John Christoffersen mother: Grace Lord occupation: retired farmer. Kay was a teacher. address: Innisfail AB

(5) RUSSELL JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 4 Dec. 1949 at: Calgary AB married: Sept 1974 at: Red Deer AB

> to: LINDA CHRISTINE DESCHNER born: 25 May 1956 at: Red Deer AB father: Stephen Micheal Deschner mother: Christina Isabel Shirreff occupation: Engineer with Amoco Oil Co. address: Brooks AB

- (6) SHANNON MICHELLE CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 28 Jan. 1977 at: Red Deer AB
- (6) RYAN HOWARD CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 9 Aug. 1978 at: Red Deer AB
- (5) HOWARD "FRANK" CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 28 March 1952 at: Calgary AB married: 2 Aug. 1975 at: Westlock AB

to: DONNA MARIE ELLIOT born: 15 July 1954 at: Berwyn AB father: William John Elliott mother: Lola Agnes Wolfe

- (6) IAN TODD CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 16 Oct. 1978 at: Calgary AB
- (6) GRAHAM FRANK CHRISTOFFERSEN born: 6 Jan. 1981 at: Calgary AB

Frank and Donna are divorced. Frank-a carpenter & lives at Thunder Bay ON Donna & children at Penhold AB

### (5) EDNA KAYE CHRISTOFFERSEN

born: 25 Apr. 1954 at: Calgary AB married: 24 Oct. 1975 at: Bowden AB

to: TERENCE ROY STICKLAND born: 25 July 1953 at: Red Deer AB father: William Gordon Stickland mother: Blanche Viola Ramsay occupation: Farmer and he is a Heavy Duty Mechanic Instructor at Red Deer College address: Red Deer AB

- (6) CAROLYN KATHLEEN STICKLAND born: 3 Feb. 1978 at: Innisfail AB
- (6) BRIAN TERENCE STICKLAND born: 15 April 1980 at: Innisfail AB

### (4) MARY LOUISE HARRIMAN born: 15 Apr. 1920 at: Nightingale AB married: 30 Oct. 1942 at: Vancouver BC

to: PENARD HERVIG HILDAHL born: 7 June 1918 at: Strathmore AB father: Andrew Emil Hildahl mother: Elise Hervig occupation: farmer, formerly was a diesel engineer, worked on tug boats, was in the navy and served in a machine shop in Halifax address: Morrin AB

(5) BEVERLY ELISE HILDAHL born: 16 July 1943 at: Calgary AB married: 5 Mar. 1966 at: Morrin AB

#### (6) KAREN LYNN MCINTOSH

born: 14 Dec. 1970 at: New Westminster BC occupation: in hospital Staff Placement personnel address: Kelowana BC

- (6) RICHARD LAWRENCE MCINTOSH born: 20 Sept. 1973 at: New Westminster BC
- (5) HARVEY EIVEN HILDAHL born: 17 Apr. 1946 at: Calgary AB married: 6 July 1974 at: Saskatoon SK

to: WENDY FAY BANMAN born: 28 May 1953 at: Saskatoon SK father: Peter Banman mother: Mary Fehr occupation: Heavy duty mechanic for ESSO Wendy-works in ESSO office address: Drayton Valley AB

- (6) CRYSTAL DAWN HILDAHL born: 29 Aug. 1976 at: Calgary AB
- (6) KENDALL ALAN HILDAHL born: 25 Aug. 1978 at: Wetaskiwin AB
- (6) ROBYN NICOLE HILDAHL born: 30 June 1981 at: Drayton Valley AB

# (5) PENNY MARIE HILDAHL

born: 28 Sept. 1947 at: Drumheller AB married: 1 Oct. 1978 at: Winnipeg MB

to: GORDON GEORGE ENGLAND born: 28 Apr. 1943 at: father: Donald Gordon England mother: Jean occupation: Gordon-Psychologist Penny works in Gordon's office address: Prince George BC

- (6) ERIN MARIE ENGLAND born: 25 Feb. 1980 at: Prince George BC
- (6) SAMANTHA JEAN ENGLAND born: 23 June 1982 at: Prince George BC
- (5) FRANCES LOUISE HILDAHL born: 5 Nov. 1949 at: Drumheller AB married: 3 Jan. 1970 at: Calgary AB

to: ROBERT EDMUND BRIAN AVRAMENKO born: 15 Dec. 1950 at: Drumheller AB father: George Avramenko mother: Gertrude Ragin occupation: Robert-Shift supervisor for Commenco, Frances-Library assistant with Calgary School Board address: Calgary AB

(6) ANGELA LOUISE AVRAMENKO born: 2 Apr. 1970 at: Calgary AB married: 30 Dec 1989 at: Calgary AB

> to: MICHAEL FRANCIS born: 28 May at: Calgary AB father: Lorne Francis mother: Cherry Scott occupation: Mike-Bakery Angela-construction secretary address: Calgary AB

- (7) SHAYLA ANNE FRANCIS born: 23 April 1992 at: Calgary AB
- (6) ROBERT DEAN AVRAMENKO born: 26 Feb. 1973 at: Calgary AB occupation: works in bakery, also farms address: Calgary AB

(5) PETER ANDREW HILDAHL

born: 26 July 1952 at: Drumheller AB married: 8 Dec. 1973 at: Calgary AB

to: HAZELINE MARIE BELMONTE born: 2 Feb. 1953 at: Phillipine Islands father: Remie Belmonte mother: Ethel Taguinod occupation: Peter-electrician Hazeline-Medical Records-Lethbridge Hospital address: West Lethbridge AB

- (6) JASON KEITH HILDAHL born: 10 Dec. 1976 at: Calgary AB
- (6) COLIN PATRICK HILDAHL born: 2 August 1979 at: Lethbridge AB
- (6) MICHAEL ANDREW HILDAHL born: 23 June 1981 at: Lethbridge AB

### (5) ELLEN CHRISTINE HILDAHL born: 25 July 1954 at: Drumheller AB married: 4 May 1974 at: Morrin AB

to: JAMES MITCHELL MOORE born: 16 Feb. 1955 at: Stettler AB father: Raymond Moore mother: Lorraine Fraser occupation: James-Electrical maintenance director at Didsbury Hospital Ellen-loans officer at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Olds address: Olds AB

- (6) NEIL ANDREW MOORE born: 18 Oct. 1976 at: Calgary AB
- (6) TRACY LEANNE MOORE born: 22 August 1980 at: Calgary AB

#### (4) NORMAN ALLEN HARRIMAN

born: 13 Nov. 1921 at: Nightingale AB married: 7 June 1952 at: Carseland AB

to: EDNA MABEL GROVES born: 24 June 1932 at: Carseland AB father: James Groves mother: Mabel Bernice occupation: Retired farmer address: Strathmore AB

(5) NORMA "JEAN" HARRIMAN born: 2 June 1953 at: Calgary AB married: 14 Aug. 1982 at: Strathmore AB

> to: JOSEPH KEDMY born: 19 Feb. 1949 at: Israel father: mother: Susy

- (6) RACHEL HELENE KEDMY born: 22 Oct. 1984 at: Calgary AB
- (6) ADAM JAMES KEDMY born: 11 Sept. 1986 at: Calgary AB

Norma and Joseph are divorced. Norma is a student and lives in Edmonton AB

(5) CAROL EDNA HARRIMAN born: 2 May 1955 at: Calgary AB married: 27 June 1970 at: Strathmore AB

> to: CALVIN GEORGE MURRAY born: 25 Mar. 1952 at: Calgary AB father: Donald Murray mother: Irene Alice occupation: aerial applicator and farmer address: Strathmore AB

(6) KAREN ALICE MURRAY born: 16 Feb. 1972 at: Calgary AB married: 14 Mar. 1992 at: Strathmore AB

> to: ROBERT WALLACE CARLSON born: 20 March 1963 at: Strathmore AB father: Robert Carlson mother: Marie Occupation: Robert-trucker Address: Strathmore AB

- (6) PAMELA LOREEN MURRAY born: 21 Apr. 1976 at: Calgary AB
- (6) SANDRA JOANNE MURRAY born: 14 May 1982 at: Calgary AB
- (5) EARL KENNETH HARRIMAN born: 11 Dec. 1956 at: Calgary AB married: 5 Feb. 1983 at: Kindersly SK

to: SHELLY MURIEL HOWARD born: 22 Apr. 1960 at: Kindersly SK father: Douglas Howard mother: Muriel occupation: farmer & rancher address: Strathmore AB

- (6) KRISTIN DAWN HARRIMAN born: 13 Nov. 1986 at: Calgary AB
- (6) JENNA MARIE HARRIMAN born: 1 July 1989 at: Calgary AB
- (6) CALEY ANN HARRIMAN born: 25 Oct. 1991 at: Calgary AB

(5) VERNA KAY HARRIMAN born: 18 July 1959 at: Calgary AB occupation: Bookkeepper address: Strathmore AB (4) MILLICENT "MILLY" EDITH HARRIMAN born: 6 Nov. 1923 at: Nightingale AB married: 8 June 1946 at: Strathmore AB

to: JOHN WALLACE MILLER born: 14 Feb. 1920 at: Rockyford AB father: Albert William Miller mother: Jessie Barnett occupation: retired farmer address: Rockyford AB

- (5) CAROLYN GRACE MILLER born: 5 Dec. 1947 at: Calgary AB married: at:
  - to: JAKE THIESSEN
  - (6) SHARON GAIL THIESSEN born: 1 Feb. 1969 at: Calgary AB married: 23 July 1988 at: Strathmore AB

to: KARL SCHULTZ born: 30 Oct. 1965 at: Calgary AB father: Roy Schultz mother: Lydia Thiessen occupation: Karl-County road Maintenance address: Strathmore AB

(7) KLAYTON CARL SCHULTZ born: 30 July 1991 at: Calgary AB

Carolyn and Jake are divorced. Carolyn married: 10 June 1989 at: Strathmore AB

(5) ALLISON JANE MILLER born: 15 Nov. 1950 at: Calgary AB married: 28 Nov. 1970 at: Calgary AB

> to: JOHN HARVEY SANDEM born: 26 May 1950 at: Calgary AB father: Harvey Sanden mother: Irene Thorsien occupation: John is a farmer, teaches 4-H small engines, has degree in enviromental technology address: Strathmore AB

- (6) MICHAEL JOHN SANDEN born: 28 Apr. 1971 at: Calgary AB occupation: machine technician for AGCO address: Strathmore AB
- (6) THOMAS ALLEN SANDEN born: 5 April 1973 at: Calgary AB occupation: mechanic address: Strathmore AB
- (6) GRANT IAN SANDEN born: 9 Dec. 1977 at: Calgary AB
- (5) WELDON FREDERICK MILLER born: 22 June 1952 at: Calgary AB married: 22 Nov. 1976 at: Morrin AB

to: BONITA MOORE born: 18 Sept. 1958 at: Drumheller AB father: Raymond Moore mother: Laureen Frazer occupation: Traveling Salesman-Snap On Tools address: Gibbons AB

- (6) CHAD RICHARD MILLER born: 18 May 1979 at: Grand Prairie AB
- (6) DANIELLE DAWN MILLER born: 14 Dec. 1980 at: Grand Prairie AB

### (5) LYLE KENDRICK MILLER

born: 26 Dec. 1958 at: Calgary AB married: 10 Oct. 1981 at: Strathmore AB

to: CINDY FLOWERS

- (6) CHRISTOPHER SCOTT MILLER born: 7 Feb. 1982 at: Calgary AB
- (6) ELISA JAQUELYN MILLER born: 4 Apr. 1985 at: Calgary AB

Lyle and Cindy were divorced. Lyle was married: 2 Nov. 1991? at: Rockyford AB

to: PAMELA ANNE MAWLEY born: 19 Aug. 1961 at: Ontario father: William Sydney Mawley mother: Pirjo Kyllykki occupation: farmer address: Rockyford AB

Pamela has a daughter: Jennifer Rose Lauren born: 15 June 1979 at: Calgary AB

(3) ELLA ELIZABETH HARRIMAN born: Nov. 1887 at: Dazey ND died: 26 Mar. 1938 at: Regina SK married: 26 July 1911 at: Cooperstown ND

> to: JAMES ALEXANDER McDIARMID born: 19 Jan. 1883 at: Minnesota died: 15 Aug. 1957 at: Regina SK buried at Melville SK father: mother:

After marriage James and Ella moved to Melville SK, and were located on a farm there. James was in business with a brother. James was also a CN railroad conductor and retired in 1946. After Ella died, James married Elizabeth Armbruster and they were the parents of a daughter, Marlene, who died in 1957.

Elizabeth was living in Neudorf SK in 1990.

(4) HAZEL JESSIE MCDIARMID born: 29 May 1912 at: Melville SK died: 22 Oct. 1975 at: Vancouver BC married: 1929 at: Melville SK to: ELMER JAMES HEPBURN born: Mar. 1911 at: Melville SK died: 5 Oct. 1943 at: Germany buried in France. Elmer was a Bombardier Flying officer in the RCAF. Was lost over Germany in World War II. father: William James Hepburn mother: Rankin Hazel (after the death of Elmer) married: at: to: DON McCONAGHY born: at: died: at: Melville SK father: Grant McConaghy mother: occupation: CNR engineer lived at: (5) GLEN "ALLAN" HEPBURN born: 21 Feb. 1930 at: Melville SK died: 1981 at: Calgary AB married: at: to: MARILYN born: at: father: mother: Glen Allan Hepburn and Marilyn divorced. Glen married: at: to: JEAN born: at: father: mother: occupation: address: (6) TRACY HEPBURN born: at: Vancouver BC

Allan & Jean divorced. Jean & Tracy went to England.

## (5) JOAN ALISON HEPBURN

born: 1 Sept. 1932 at: Melville SK married: 15 June 1957 at: Carmel CA

to: RUSSELL JAMES HERBERT JR born: 10 Oct. 1930 at: Barnhart, Missouri father: Russell James Herbert Sr. mother: Bernice Hercher occupation: Russell-retired from 3M National outdoor advertising Joan is a nurse address: Stockton, California

- (6) CURTIS JAMES HERBERT born: 17 June 1958 at: Sacramento CA occupation: electrician in US Navy stationed at Long Beach CA
- (6) DOUGLAS PAUL HERBERT born: 23 Apr. 1960 at: Sacramento CA married: 22 Mar. 1986 at: Stockton CA

to: MINDY NEUMAN born: 17 March 1961 at: father: Roger Neuman mother: Judith occupation: Douglas: Environmental Engineer address: Pleasant Hill CA

(6) ROGER ALLAN HERBERT born: 7 Mar. 1962 at: Sacramento CA occupation: Mechanical engineer address: Fresno CA

(6) JEFFREY DEAN HERBERT born: 12 Oct. 1966 at: Stockton CA occupation: taking classes at Chico State in industrial management address: Chico CA

#### (4) MAXWELL CURTIS MCDIARMID

born: 23 Jan. 1914 at: Melville SK died: 10 Mar. 1976 at: Vancouver BC married: 2 Nov. 1939 at: Sunny Bank Farm SK

(5) MAXWELL JAMES McDIARMID, in the early 1970's legally changed his name to: PATRICK "JAMES" MacFARLAN born: 17 Nov. 1943 at: Sunny Bank Farm SK married: 12 Dec. 1972 at: Mexico City, Mexico

- (6) JENNIFER MARIE MacFARLAN born: 23 Sept. 1978 at: Fairview AB
- (6) HEATHER COLEEN MacFARLAN born: 27 Sept. 1980 at: Fairview AB
- (6) LESLIE ANNE MacFARLAN born: 3 Apr. 1982 at: Fairview AB
- (6) JAMIE KATHLEEN MacFARLAN born: 13 Feb. 1984 at: Fairview AB

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- (5) SUSAN JOAN McDIARMID born; 30 Sept. 1945 at: Regina SK married: at: Regina SK
  - to: WILLIAM GREGORY HEISLER
  - (6) RHONDA JILL HEISLER born: 5 June 1962 at: Regina SK occupation: address:
    - (7) BODHI HEISLER born: 27 Dec. 1989 at: Vancouver BC

Susan and William were divorced. Susan married at Vancouver BC

- to: DAVID KNOX SCOTT
- (6) CARLEY JOANNE SCOTT born: 28 July 1973 at: Vancouver BC
- (6) DAVID "TYLER" SCOTT born: 10 Sept. 1975 at: Vancouver BC

Susan and David were divorced. Susan married at Ladner BC

to: CHARLES ALEXANDER RIESTERER Susan and Charles were divorced.

occupation: Susan is a psychiatric nurse. Susan McDiarmid lives at Delta BC (5) MARJORIE "JILL" McDIARMID

born: 27 Aug. 1947 at: Regina SK died: 20 Feb. 1991 at: Langley BC was killed in a traffic accident buried at Ladner BC married: 5 Oct. at: Ladner BC

to: ISTVAN VAZUL ADORJAN VARGA born: 14 April 1950 at: West Germany father: George Alexander Varga mother: Martha Maria Csiffary occupation: Istvan is a house painter. Jill was a draftsperson. address: Delta BC

- (6) MORGANA VIVECA VARGA born: 27 Feb. 1985 at: Vancouver BC
- (4) JOSEPHINE "BETH" MCDIARMID born: 13 Mar. 1919 at: died: 4 July 1925 at:
- (3) AMY HARRIMAN born: Feb. or Mar. 1889 at Barnes Co., North Dakota died: at:

# "THAT CURTIS RED!"

When visiting the Carlsons in Nov. 1992, Mary (Harriman) Hildahl told how her mother (Mary Koch Harriman) would exclaim about the beautiful red hair of her children. She would say "That CURTIS RED!". Of the nine children of Frank and Mary, the following had red hair: Harley, Rachel, Kay and Millie and Millie's daughter, Allison, has red hair. Mary Hildahl went on to explain that the red is a beautiful dark auburn red, not a "carrot red".

As I was doing a final check on the photos for this book, I began to notice many of the Curtis descendents of other families than Samantha's also have this beautiful dark red hair! Since this book is not in color....take my word for it! I wonder if Samantha had red hair.

Later, I was asking one of Elizabeth's descendents what Nellie looked like and asked what color hair she had...."Oh, beautiful RED hair!" How many of generations 1, 2 and 3 had red hair?...."THAT CURTIS RED!"

P.S....Since writing the above, I found out that Charles Curtis and John's daughter, <u>Nina</u>, had red hair!

submitted by Ruth Carlson





Samantha Curtis



Ella & Frank Harriman



Ella & Frank Harriman



Samantha Curtis & Ada Jane Smith



Frank Harriman



Ella Harriman Age 18



Mary Koch Graduation



Frank Harriman & Mary Koch



Frank Harriman

Florence & Harley Harriman







1992 photo of Florence Downey and her grandchildren. 1-r back-GLEN & Jane Downey, Susan Emms, DAVID Downey, TRACY & FRED Emms, Brenda & LLOYD Downey holding Christopher Downey. Front-LAURA Cuchow, Florence Downey, DIANE Giberson & JOYCE Downey. (8 of 16 GRANDCHILDREN)

Four Generations 1-r back-Florence (Harriman) Downey, Mary (Koch) Harriman and her mother Mary (Evers) Koch. Children are Florence "Mary Martha" and Alvah "Frank" Downey



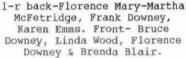
Florence & Alvah Downey 40th Wedding Anniversary

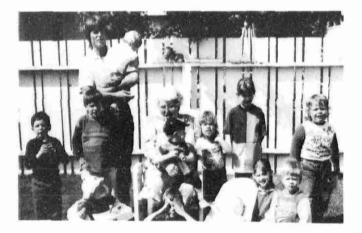


Dr. & Mrs. A. Downey (Alvah & Florence) 50th wedding anniversary









Florence Downey with her GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN. (Missing is CODY Emms) 1-r back- JOHN, STEPHEN & Lloyd Downey holding CHRISTOPHER Downey, Florence Downey holding CHRISTOPHER Cuchow, SAMANTHA & ASHLEY Emms and DOUGLAS Downey. Front-PAMELA Downey, JEFFERY Emms, SHANE Downey, LAURA and SEAN Giberson.



Marriage of Grant McFetridge & Cindy Wetzel 1-r Scott & Allison McFetridge, Florence Ella Downey, Cindy Wetzel, Grant McFetridge, Florence Mary Martha & John McFetridge



1-r top-Florence Mary Martha McFetridge, Grant McFetridge Florence Ella Downey Seated: Mary (Koch) Harriman, Scott McFetridge & man unknown.



Seated: Frank & Elaine Downey Standing: 1-r Neil Downey. Diane Giberson, Lloyd, Brenda, Joyce, Jane & Glenn Downey.



Fred, Robin, Karen & Tracy Emms - 1990



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Fred & Karen Emms



l-r Michael Hansen Brenda & Hugh Blair and Laura Cuchow



1-r Samantha, Karen, Jeffery & Ashley Emms





Cody Emms-1991



David & Linda Wood

l-r Lisa, Carol, Bruce & David Downey. Front-Angela Downey



l-r Agnes & Harley Harriman, Patricia & Frank Harriman & Patricia's parents Marie & Edward Meyers

Frank & Patricia Harriman's Wedding. 1-r Elizabeth Harriman, Mary-bride's friend, Patricia (Meyers) & Frank Harriman, Richard Meyers and Russell-groom's cousin.





l-r Elizabeth, Malcolm, William, Robert & Gordon Crooks-1992



back 1-r Leland, Harley & Frank. Front Agnes & Elizabeth



Agnes & Harley with Cheryl & Terance



l-r Frank, Agnes, Elizabeth & Leland Harriman





Weldon Harriman

Harley Harriman



Kitty & Weldon Harriman

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Marriage of Margaret Harriman & Reginald Frey-May 1991 1-r: Norman Harriman, Weldon Harriman, Margaret Harriman & Reg Frey, Kitty Harriman, Merina & Ian Harriman



Kay & Howard Christoffersen Wedding-1947





Kay & Howard Christoffersen 40th Anniversary-1987

Standing 1-r Robert, Allan, Norma & John. Seated are Mary Lee & Rachel Bragg at Rachel's 75th Birthday-1990



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l-r Ian, Frank & Graham Christoffersen



Russell & Linda Christoffersen with children Ryan & Shannon



l-r Jackie, gr-daughter of Rachel Bragg, Penny England, Pat & Frank Harriman.



Terence & Edna Stickland with children Carolyn & Brian



Carolyn & Brian Stickland



Penard & Mary Hildahl



Penard & Mary Hildahl family-Back: Harvey Hildahl, Ellen Moore, Frances Avramenko, Penny England, Bev McIntosh & Peter Hildahl.



l-r Penard & Mary Hildahl with grandchildren Karen & Richard McIntosch



Crystal, Kendall, Wendy, Robyn & Harvey Hildahl



Front-Frances & Robert Avramenko Back-Robert Avramenko, Angela & Michael Francis



Angela & Michael Francis



Brian, Bev, Karen & Richard McIntosh



Aaron, Penny, Gordon & Samantha England



Neil, Ellen, Jim & Tracey Moore



Michael, Peter, Hazeline, Jason & Colin Hildahl



Mike & Angela Francis holding Shayla, Frances, Bob & Robbie Avramenko



Sharon Schultz



Klayton Carl Schultz



Jason Hildahl



Colin Hildahl



Carolyn & Don Larden





Back: Robert & Karen Carlson, Pamela Murray, Calvin & Carol Murray, Verna Harriman & Shelly Harriman. Front: Norma Jean Harriman, Rachel & Adam Kedmy, Norman & Edna Harriman & Sandra Murray behind, Jenna, Caley, Earl & Kristin Harriman





Pamela & Lyle Miller

Back-Millie & John Miller Front-Lyle, Carolyn, Allison & Weldon





The Sanden Family back 1-r Michael & John front Tom, Allison & Grant

l-r Danielle, Chad. Bonita & Weldon Miller



Jennifer Rose Lauren



Christopher Miller



Elisa Miller





1942 Harley, Mary & Weldon Harriman

Harriman Family-1928 1-r back: Florence, Harley, Weldon, Rachel, Mary & Frank. Front-Kathleen, Mary, Norman & Milly



Frank Harriman & Sons 1-r Weldon, Harley, Frank & Norman 1940





1941-Frank Harriman & his team.

1945-the Harriman Family back l-r-Harley, Frank & Mary, Norman, Milly & Weldon. Front-Kay, Mary, Rachel & Florence.



1957-the Harriman Family back 1-r: Florence, Norman, Mary, Weldon & Harley. Front-Kathy, Rachel, Mary & Milly.



Harriman Family in 1957 Front 1-r: Harley & Agnes Harriman. Middle row: Howard & Kathleen Christoffersen, (mother) Mary Harriman, Rachel & Norman Bragg. Back: Penard & Mary Louise Hildahl, Norman & Edna Harriman, Wallace Miller looking over shoulder of his wife-Millie, Kitty Harriman, Florence Downey, (in back-Weldon Harriman) and Florence's husband-Alvah Downey.



Front 1-r-Agnes Harriman, Howard Christoffersen, Mary Hildahl, Rachel Bragg, Florence Downey, Weldon & Kitty Harriman. Back-Penard Hildahl, Edna & Norman Harriman, Milly & Wallace Miller.



1991 1-r-Weldon & Kitty Harriman, Rachel Bragg, Agnes Harriman, Milly Miller, Norman Harriman and Florence Downey



Back: Kathleen, Millicent & Mary. Front: Rachel & Florence.



1976-the children of Frank & Mary Harriman back 1~r: Weldon, Harley & Norman Harriman. Seated-Mary Hildahl, Rachel Bragg, Florence Downey, Kathleen Christoffersen & Millicent Miller.



Harriman Women 1-r back- Millie & Rachel Front-Agnes, Edna, Kitty, Kathy, Mary & Florence. (Pianist unknown.)



Sealed Row I-r. Edna & Norman Harriman, Agnes Harriman. Rachel Bragg. Howard Christoffersen, Mary & Pennard Hildahl, Florence Downey, Weldon & Kitty Harriman, Milly Miller holding Elisa Miller, Wallace Miller, Gordon Crooks holding Malcolm Crooks, Jean Hatriman, Ellen Moore, Frances Avramenko, Hazeline & Jason Hildahl

Seated on floor I-r Adam Kedmy, David Harriman, Ian, Ryan & Shannon Christoffersen, Carolyn & Brian Stickland, Graham Christoffersen, Samanlha England, Crystal & Robyn Hildahl, Erin England, Tracy Moore, Danielle, Christopfer & Chad Miller, Sandra Murray, Robert & William Crooks, Sheryl Harriman holding Rachel Kedmy, Pam Murray holding Kristin Harriman, Julie Harriman, Michael & Kendal Hildahl. Back Row I-r Allan Bragg, Harvey Hildahl, Wendy Hildahl, Penny England, Beverly McIntosh, Jeffery Morton, David Bragg, Frank Downey, Laura Giberson, Elaine Downey, Karen Emmis, Florence McFetridge, Margaret Frey, Ross Bragg, John Bragg, John Sanden, Alison Sanden, Merina Harriman, Ian Harriman, Norman Harriman, Neil Moore, Terry Stickland, Edna Stickland, Verna Harriman and Russell Christoffersen

2nd Back Row I-r. Don & Carolyn Larden, Weldon & Bonnie Miller, Gordon England, Brian McIntosh, Michael Hansen, Diane Giberson, Laura Cuchow, Brenda & Hugh Blair, Carole, Karen & Calvin Murray, Tom, Grant & Michael Sanden, Elizabeth Crooks, Pat, Frank, Cheryl & Terrance Harriman, Lloyd & Douglas Downey, Lyle Miller, Brenda Downey, Earl Harriman, Peter Hildahl, Jim Moore, Linda Christoffersch, and Robert Avramenko.



Niram Curtis & Ella Harriman



l-r Hazel Curtis & Ella Harriman

back 1-r Jill, Marjorie & Maxwell McDiarmid, Hazel Hepburn holding baby Tracy Hepburn. Front: Jean & Allan Hepburn, Tracy's parents.



Allan Hepburn & his mother, Hazel



Hazel McDiarmid age 4 1/2 months



Hazel McDiarmid





Maxwell & Hazel McDiarmid



Elmer James Hepburn

Ella Harrimam taken on her 18th birthday while attending Norman School in Valley City ND





Joan & Russell Herbert





Curtis Herbert

Douglas Herbert



the Herbert family back 1-r Jeff, Douglas, Roger & Curt. Front: Russell & Joan



Douglas & Mindy Herbert



Jeff Herbert on return home from Saudi Arabia



Marjorie & Maxwell in England



Mary MacFarlan & children Jennie & Heather 163



Maxwell McDiarmid

1-r Jeff, Roger, Doug, Curt & Russell Herbert



Maxwell & Marjorie McDiarmid



MacFarlan Children: back Jennifer, front l-Leslie, center-Heather & right-Jamie



Jim MacFarlan(r) & friend fishing in Alaska near Yukon border.Jim, a pilot in summer & house designer in winter.

#### JANE CURTIS

Jane Curtis was born in Northumberland County, Ontario likely in 1860 or early 1861. She is recorded on the 1861 census in Seymour Township of that county as age 1 and is called "Eliza". Jane was also known as Jennie E., Jan and Eliza Jane.

Jane moved to Kent County, Michigan about 1865 and on 1 May 1880 at Ada, Kent Co., Michigan she was married to Charles Ladbury. Three children were born to this union:



# Sophia Mae Ladbury William Ladbury Pearl Ladbury

The first two children were born in Michigan and Pearl was born in North Dakota. Charles and Jane moved to Dakota, settling in Dakota Territory in 1887. Jane died of tuberculosis on Monday, the 20th of April 1891, leaving her husband and three children to mourn her passing. She was buried in the Hillside Cemetery at Ashtabula. It has been reported that when the bodies of other Curtis family members were moved from Hillside Cemetery to Sunnyside Cemetery, Jane's body was not moved.

After Jane's passing, Charles Ladbury married Mrs. Lena Sands about 1902. Charles and Lena are buried in Sunnyside Cemetery. Charles was a brother to Ellen Ladbury who married Thomas Curtis.

# Sophia Ladbury

Sophie Ladbury was born 4 March 1881 in Michigan, the oldest of three children born to Charles Ladbury and Jane Curtis. On 8 March 1899, she was married to Oscar Mosher at Cooperstown, N. D. Eight children were born to this couple, a story of courage filled with sadness. Most of this family succumbed to tuberculosis over a span of 40 years. Seven of the eight children, Sophie's mother Jane and Sophie's husband all contracted and died from the deadly disease. Despite all of this trauma and tragedy, Sophie remained a brave, faithful, cheerful and kind person. She must have known weeks of agony at a time, over the loss of so many of her family, yet she did not become bitter.

Sophie lived most of her life on the Sibley Trail Twp. farm east of Dazey. While her daughter, Marjorie, was in the sanitorium in Dunseith, N.D., Sophie raised Marjorie's three children. In 1956 Sophie sold the farm and moved to Valley City, living for a time in the Hilmer and Hazel Carlson home. She passed away 4 October 1960 at Mercy Hospital in Valley City and is buried in Sunnyside Cemetery.

#### Oscar Mosher husband of Sophie Mosher

Oscar Mosher and his brothers, Obed, Elihue, Emmett, and his sister, Phila came to the Dazey community from the Grand Rapids, Michigan area. Oscar was born near Howard City, Michigan 5 August 1870, a son of Obed and Mary Mosher.

Oscar visited Dakota twice before making a permanent home here in 1890. Years of his marriage to Sophie Ladbury vary from 1897, 1898, 1899, but 1899 seems the most likely.

Mr. Mosher passed away the morning of 10 September 1923, after suffering for sometime from tuberculosis. His funeral was held on the lawn of the Ed Ladbury home and he was laid to rest in the Sunnyside Cemetery.

## William Ladbury

William (Willie) Ladbury was born 29 August 1886 in the state of Michigan and moved with his parents to Dakota in 1887. Not much is known about this young man who died at age 21. He was sent by his stepmother out to the field to plow on a bitterly cold and wet day, got wet and chilled, developed pneumonia and died 18 November 1907. He is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery. However, an obituary gives a somewhat different account of his brief life, as taken from the Valley City, ND Evening Times-Record of Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1907.

# Death of William Ladbury

"William Ladbury, son of Ed\* Ladbury of Dazey died yesterday at a local hospital. His death resulted from typhoid fever. He had been in ill health for the past month. He was born in Kent County, Michigan and came to Dakota with his parents when he was a few months old, and he was 21 years of age at the time of his death. The remains were taken to Dazey this morning, and the funeral will occur from the farm home tomorrow afternoon, and his remains will be laid to rest in the cemetery at Dazey.\*\*"

- \* This is a newspaper error. William was the son of Charles Ladbury.
- \*\*William is definitely buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery east of Dazey, where many of the Curtis family are laid to rest.

#### Pearl Ladbury

August 1889, 1890, May 1891--the first and last are birthdates which appear on census records. The 1890 figure is Pearl's birth year from her cemetery marker at Sunnyside Cemetery. She was born in Dakota. As with her brother, William, not much information is available. She never married. She died 23 November 1919, following an illness of ten days. An obituary says, "Miss Pearl Ladbury was taken to Fargo Hospital for an operation Friday evening. It being a very serious case the operation was performed at once. Later reports inform her relatives and friends she passed away Sunday afternoon. She leaves an aged father and one sister besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn her untimely death." An obituary from the Fargo Forum of Nov. 24, 1919 states, "Miss Ladbury was born in Dazey and was 29 years old." (This would indicate her year of birth as 1890.) From the same Fargo Forum obituary, "A brother-inlaw and sister, Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Mosher of Dazey were with her when she died."

## Charles Ladbury (husband of Jane Curtis)

Charles Ladbury was born 21 February 1851, the oldest son of a family of five children born to Lewellyn Ladbury and Harriet Shephard. His father was born 20 April 1825 in England, near Stratford-Upon-Avon, Shakespeare's old home, in Warwickshire. As a young man, Lewellyn was Gamekeeper on the Estate of Sir John Mordant. After leaving England, the family migrated to Canada in 1858, settling in Oxford Co. of Ontario, and six years later (in March 1864) the family moved to Michigan, settling in the Grand Rapids area.

As mentioned in the Jane Curtis story, Charles was married to her in 1880. After Jane's death in 1891, he remained a widower until in or about 1902 when he married Mrs. Lena Sands. Charles Ladbury died 17 July 1931, and is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery. The obituary from the Valley City Times-Record, issue of Sat. July 18, 1931 follows and gives us more details regarding Charles:

#### Charles Ladbury Dies Of Heart Ills Pioneer Settled on Farm East of Dazey 35 Years Ago

"Charles Ladbury, 80, pioneer resident of Dazey community died suddenly at his farm home yesterday morning of heart disease. Funeral services are to be held today in the Union Congregational Church at two o'clock with internment in the church cemetery. Charles Ladbury was born in Warwickshire, England, on February 21, 1851, a son of the late Lewellyn Ladbury of Cooperstown who died in 1915. Mr. Ladbury's father emigrated to Canada in 1858 and later removed to Michigan. Mr. Ladbury was married to Jennie Curtis in 1880. Three children were born to this union, Sophy, William, and Pearl. The latter two passed away some years ago, leaving only one daughter, Mrs. Sophy Mosher.

In 1887 Mr. Ladbury removed to North Dakota, settling first on a farm north of Karnak, later going to another 7 miles east of Dazey where he resided 35 years. Mr. Ladbury's wife died in 1891 and he married Mrs. Lena Sands who preceded him 2 1/2 years. Since that time Mr. Ladbury passed most of his time with his daughter, Mrs. Sophy Mosher of Dazey township.

A sister, Mrs. Agnes Taylor, and two brothers, Fred and Ed Ladbury passed away some years ago, and two sisters, Mrs. Ellen Curtis and Miss Emma Ladbury still survive.

Although not in the best of health of late years, Mr. Ladbury busied himself with many acts of thoughtful kindness. He held the office of school clerk of Ladbury School District for 30 years. A quiet, retiring man, Mr. Ladbury will be mourned by a large circle of relatives and friends in Dazey and Sibley Trail townships, and the neighboring districts."

(Note: In the obituary above, Mr. Ladbury actually moved to Dakota Territory as North Dakota did not become a state until November 1889. Also, Miss Emma Ladbury was his halfsister. Following the death of Lewellyn Ladbury's first wife, Harriet Shephard, Lewellyn married Miss Charlotte Bodill, and Emma Ladbury was the offspring of that union.)

## JANE CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

- (1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) JANE CURTIS born: 1860 or 1861 at: Northumberland Co, Ontario died: 20 April 1891 at: North Dakota married: 1 May 1880 at: Ada, Kent Co., Michigan

to: CHARLES LADBURY born: 21 Feb. 1851 at: England died: 17 July 1931 at: his farm home, Barnes Co. ND father: Lewellyn Ladbury mother: Harriet Shephard

(3) SOPHIA MAE LADBURY born: 4 Mar. 1881 at: Michigan died: 4 Oct. 1960 at: Valley City ND married: 8 Mar. 1899 at: Cooperstown ND

> to: OSCAR SAMSON MOSHER born: 5 Aug 1870 at: Michigan near Howard City died: 10 Sept 1923 at: rural Dazey ND home father: Obed Mosher mother: Mary Ocsar was a twin to Orrin, who died at birth. Oscar was also a brother to Elihue Mosher, who later was married to Eva Smith Curtis.

(4) HAROLD GLENN MOSHER born: 7 Dec. 1900 at: farm near Dazey ND died: April 1963 at: Spokane WA married: at:

to: MARGARET DuVALL born: 1913 at: father: mother: Harold was a carpenter. Margaret is living in Spokane WA

- (4) ROY DELBERT MOSHER born: 26 Mar. 1902 at: farm near Dazey ND died: 20 Oct. 1956 at: Valley City ND
- (4) CLIFFORD W. MOSHER born: 6 Dec. 1903 at: farm near Dazey ND died: 6 Dec. 1941 at: Dunseith ND

- (4) CECIL RICHARD MOSHER born: 6 July 1906 at: farm near Dazey ND died: 29 June 1929 at: farm near Dazey ND
- (4) WILLIAM LLOYD MOSHER
   born: 4 Apr. 1908 at: farm near Dazey ND
   died: 25 Aug. 1934 at: farm near Dazey ND
- (4) CHARLES LEWELLYN MOSHER born: 20 Apr. 1910 at: farm near Dazey ND died: 15 Feb. 1929 at: farm near Dazey ND
- (4) MARJORIE PEARL MOSHER born: 28 Feb. 1913 at: farm near Dazey ND died: 22 Nov. 1957 at: Valley City ND married: July 1933 at: Valley City ND

to: JOHN ALOYSIUS LANGER born: 24 Dec. 1893 at: Council Bluffs IA died: 21 June 1965 at: Wadena MN father: Reinhold Langer mother: Anna Kunze

(5) ROBERT ALLEN LANGER born: 1 Mar. 1934 at: Valley City ND married: 9 Nov. 1957 at: Randolph MA

> to: ROSEMARIE MAXINE MAKER born: 12 Oct. 1935 at: Boston MA father: Maxwell Manning Maker mother: Louise Rose Garaffo Robert was a paper hanger, now retired. They live in West Bridgewater MA

(6) ROBERT ALLEN LANGER, JR. born: 18 Sept. 1958 at: Great Lakes Naval Training Center IL married: 7 July 1985 at: Warwick RI

> to: DONNA CHRISTINE BOYIJIAN born: 23 Mar. 1959 at: Providence RI father: Paul Boyijian mother: Etta Mastrano occupation:Dist. Mgr. Kids OR Us Donna is a homemaker address: Old Bridge NJ

- (7) CHRISTINE MARIE LANGER born: 30 Nov. 1986 at: Queens, New York City NY
- (7) ROBERT ALLEN LANGER III born:14 Oct. 1989 at Old Bridge NJ
- (7) PAUL EDWARD LANGER born: 1 May 1992 at: Old Bridge NJ
- (7) TIMOTHY MAXWELL LANGER born: 1 May 1992 at: Old Bridge NJ
- (6) DOREEN MARIE LANGER born: 30 Aug. 1959 at: Stoughton MA Doreen is a school teacher. address: Bridgewater, Mass
- (6) MICHAEL JOHN LANGER born: 21 Nov. 1960 at: Stoughton MA Michael is a postal worker address: West Bridgewater MA
- (6) PATRICIA ANN LANGER born: 28 May 1962 at: Brockton MA married: at:

to: EDWIN C. CANINO born: 13 April 1960 at: San Juan PR father: mother: occupation: address: Brockton MA

(7) EDWIN ROBERT CANINO born: 20 June 1985 at Baltimore MD (5) MARILYN ANN LANGER

born: 6 Apr. 1935 at: Valley City ND married: 28 Nov. 1964 at: Chicago IL

to: JAMES ANDREW CRAWFORD born: 1 Dec. 1931 at: Belvidere IL father: Francis Crawford mother: Madalene Fane occupation: James-insurance salesman at bank Marilyn-secretary for insurance company, now works with Senior Citizens business office at Geneva Care Center as office clerk & Human Resources person address: Geneva IL

- (6) LAURA ANN CRAWFORD born: 21 Dec. 1966 at: Geneva IL occupation: Elementary Education Teacher at Dundee IL lives at St. Charles IL
- (6) LINDA MARIE CRAWFORD born: 23 Dec. 1969 at: Geneva IL occupation: Administrative Assistant in Chicago address: Geneva IL
- (6) MAUREEN ANNE CRAWFORD born: 19 Jan. 1972 at: Geneva IL occupation: Student at Northern Illinois address: Geneva IL
- (5) DONALD LANGER born: 24 May 1936 at: Valley City ND address: Aberdeen SD

# (4) LELAND WRIGHT MOSHER

born: 12 Mar. 1920 at: rural Dazey ND died: 17 June 1986 at: Valley City ND married: 15 Nov. 1953 at: Valley City ND

to: IONE FLORENCE STAUB born: 12 March 1934 at: Valley City ND father: Ernest Staub mother: Mary Henricks Leland & Ione - parents of Cecil and Gloria. Leland & Ione divorced. Ione married Arthur Odegaard & they live in Valley City ND (5) CECIL IRELAND MOSHER born: 16 Mar. 1955 at: Valley City ND married: 10 July 1976 at: Valley City ND

to: PENNY MICHELLE MASON born: 19 July 1955 at: Valley City ND father: George Mason mother: Helen Ladbury Cecil is a salesman in a sports shop. address: Erhard MN

- (6) NICOLE KRISTIN MOSHER born: 12 Sept 1980-Thief River Falls MN
- (6) ERIC JOSHUA MOSHER born: 7 Apr 1983 at Thief River Falls MN

## (5) GLORIA JOANNE MOSHER born: 14 April 1957 at: Valley City ND married: 27 Jan. 1978 at:

to: DAVID ROBERT KUNZE father: Frank Kunze mother: Anna Rasmussen Gloria and David were divorced. Gloria was married: 2 Mar. 1991 at: Valley City ND

(6) HUDSON TUCKER BURKETT born: 30 Oct. 1989 at: Valley City ND

#### (3) WILLIAM LADBURY

born:	29	Aug.	1886	at:	Kent Co	ounty,	Michigan
died:	18	Nov.	1907	at:	Valley	City	ND

#### (3) PEARL LADBURY

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born: at: Dazey ND died: 23 Nov. 1919 at: Fargo ND (age 29)



l-r Charles Ladbury, Ellenor Ladbury & Jane Curtis



Oscar & Sophia Mosher just after they were married.



Sophia Ladbury



Marjorie & Pearl Ladbury, her niece



in back, Claire Ladbury in front, Sophia Mosher



Harold Mosher's wife, Margaret



Pearl Ladbury

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Sophia Mosher



Sophia & Oscar Mosher



1-r Donald Langer, Harold & Sophia Mosher



Roy Mosher



Jane Ladbury

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Clifford Mosher



Cecil Mosher



Cecil & Charles Mosher



1-r Roy, Leland, Clifford and William Mosher



l-r Donald Langer, Marilyn Crawford & Robert Langer



Marjorie & Charlie Mosher



Marjorie & Leland Mosher



l-r Leland Mosher and Lester Ladbury

RoseMarie & Robert Langer





The John Langer Family back 1-r Donald, John & Robert front 1-r Marilyn & Marjorie



Robert in back 1-r Donald & Marilyn Langer



RoseMarie & Robert Langer



Cecil Mosher 6 months old



Daughters of Marilyn & James Crawford: Laura in back, l-r Maureen & Linda



Nichole Mosher



Eric Mosher



Penny & Cecil Mosher



Marilyn & James Crawford



Marilyn & James Crawford



l-r Leland, Cecil, Penny and Ione Mosher in front-Eric & Nichole



The Cecil Mosher Family Nichole in back 1-r Penny & Cecil in front-Eric



Hudson Tucker Burkett



Marc & Gloria Burkett



l-r Margaret Mosher, Ione Staub Mosher, Donald Langer, John Langer, Harold Mosher, Sophia Mosher, Marilyn Crawford, In front: Gloria & Cecil Mosher

## WILLIAM S. CURTIS by Grant Carlson



William S. Curtis was born 9 March 1864 in either Percy or Seymour Township of Northumberland County, 75 Ontario, about miles east-northeast of Toronto. He was the 7th of 10 children born to John L. & Elizabeth Spencer Curtis and the last to be born in Canada. (Percy & Seymour Townships lie adjacent to each other and it seems the family lived in both townships at one time or

another during their stay in Canada.) Sometime between March 1864 and August 1866, the family moved from Ontario to Kent County, Michigan, settling on a farm near Ada, about 5 miles east of Grand Rapids. John L. farmed until his death from cancer about February 1874. Elizabeth, (John L.'s widow), left with her three youngest boys William S., Mark, and Henry for Dakota Territory in late 1881 or early 1882, taking a homestead on the SE 1/4 Sec.14-144-58, which is Broadview Township, Griggs Co. ND. The "S" in William's name supposedly stands for "Short," although pictures do not show him to be an especially short man in stature.

On 7 August 1887 at Sanborn, Dakota Territory, William married Eva Almeda Smith, who was only 16 years of age. Eva had come to Dakota Territory with her married sister, Rose and Rose's husband, Charles Curtis (a brother of William), following the death of the mother of Rose and Eva in Michigan in January 1887. One of the first places William and Eva lived after their marriage was the shanty on the SW 1/4 of Section 32, Broadview Township, Griggs County. William and Eva homesteaded on Section 4 of Sibley Trail Township, Barnes Co., just inside the Barnes-Griggs Co. Township line. Later the family also owned the S 1/2 of Section 33, Broadview Twsp.

William S. lived a short life. He developed tuberculosis, as did several others in the Curtis family. Because of William's illness, it is my understanding he and his devoted wife, Eva, spent time in the South (Arkansas, New Mexico, or both). The 1900 federal census shows William S., Eva, and their youngest child, William L. Curtis living in Fargo at the Emma Knowlton address, 1422-1st Ave. S. The 1900 census of Barnes County lists Ella Harriman, born in 1887, as "Head" of the household taking care of three cousins: Niram 8, Myrtle 6, and Hazel 2. William S. Curtis passed away at home in Sibley Trail Township on 28 March 1901 at the age of 37. William and Eva had the following children:

Glenn Henry Curtis Niram Henry Curtis Myrtle Rose Curtis Hazel Adella Curtis William Lloyd Curtis I never knew my grandfather, William S. Curtis, since I was born 22 years after he died. He is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery, Sibley Trail Township of Barnes County, N. D.

## Obituary of William S. Curtis

"The Courier is called on to record the death of a well known citizen of Barnes County, Mr. William S. Curtis, who passed away last Thursday evening after a protracted illness. Mr. Curtis was born in Seymour, Canada, March 9, 1864, and came to this country about 20 years ago settling in the Ladbury settlement where he has lived ever since. August 7, 1887, he was married to Miss Eva A. Smith who with four children born to them and three brothers, John, Henry and Mark remain to mourn his loss. Mr. Curtis was a consistent member of the Congregational Church with which he united about two years ago. He was patient under suffering. During the last few days of his life he improved every opportunity to recommend his Saviour to his neighbors and friends.

The funeral services were held in the Ladbury school house after brief services at the home, Sunday at 11 a.m., conducted by Rev. E. S. Shaw of Wahpeton, and the remains interred in the cemetery recently established nearby. The sermon was from Ps. 116:15, a verse marked by the deceased in his favorite Psalm. The entire community feels the loss as evidenced by the large attendance at the services and the many acts of kindness shown to the family and friends during their sorrow."

# Eva Almeda (Smith) Curtis by Grant Carlson

Eva Almeda Smith was born 14 July 1871 on a farm near Ada, Michigan, about 5 miles east of Grand Rapids. She was the youngest child of Henry Kellogg Smith and Nancy Elizabeth Sisson. I have a picture which says on the back:

"Glenn took this December 1937, my old birthplace 5 miles east of Grand Rapids, just as it looked when I was a child, only they built on a new porch and chimney. Eva Curtis Mosher"

Glenn Williams and I visited this farm on 19 August 1979 and took pictures. It is the same home my grandmother Eva Smith Curtis lived in as a child, and is between Grand Rapids and Ada, Michigan. (The person living there in 1979 was John Gritter. The address was 5450 Ada Road. Mrs. Dorothy Keeling of Grand Rapids owns the home, and her mother, Mrs. Elsie Carew, who lived to about age 97, lived there about 60 years.)

Eva was a faithful Christian and a courageous woman. Losing two children early in life, plus living with and caring for a husband who had tuberculosis and died in 1901 at the age of 37, life must have been hard. After her husband died, Eva continued living on the farm, raising four small children, ages 8, 6, 4, and 1. Still she carried on with courage and faith in God. Some of her husband's brothers who lived nearby, as well as good neighbors, helped with the farming operations.

I remember Eva well from about 1930 to the time of her death in 1939. My parents and I often drove to the farm to visit, and she occasionally came down to Valley City where we lived to spend a few days with us. In all the years I can remember her, I never knew her to say an unkind word about dy. She was a caring person, thoughtful of others, mannered, and well liked by everyone in her anybody. mild She was instrumental in neighborhood. getting a Congregational Church moved into the Sibley Trail country community in the 1920's. The area was heavily populated by Lutherans and Catholics, but she was a friend to all of them and well liked by everyone. My grandmother was also very talented musically, both vocally and on the piano. She was active in the church, sang for funerals, played for services, and was a willing and hard worker. She also taught piano lessons.

On 24 March 1933, at Valley City, N.D., after being widowed for nearly 32 years, Eva married Elihue John Mosher of the Dazey community. He was a gentleman about her age and well liked by her family.

On 22 April 1939, at our home in Valley City, where she spent her last weeks following failing health for two years, Eva passed to her heavenly home. Just an hour or less before her death, she would motion with her hands as she said: "Death is nothing to fear. It is just passing on, passing on." Knowing death was not far away, she said in quoting scripture: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Then she would say, "I may not have fought a good fight, but I have kept the faith." Truly she had! I can truthfully say I have never known anyone more worthy of the name "Christian." She died at 11:45 p.m. from a stomach-digestive problem. My father felt she had cancer. I really do not know.

Reading not long ago from her Bible, I came across the words from Psalm 118:24, "This is the day which the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it." Then, following the verse, Eva had written in pencil, "May 25, 1934." I often wonder what happy event took place that date. At least she found some joy in a life clouded with trials, suffering and sadness. I am sure that most of her joy in this life came from the inner peace she knew in her relationship with her Savior.

#### Niram Henry Curtis

Niram Henry Curtis was born 10 October 1892, the second child of William S. and Eva Smith Curtis. He was only eight years old when his father died. Since his brother, Glenn, had died, this left Niram as the oldest child in the family and most likely with much more responsibility.

Niram and a cousin went to Montana where they intended to make big money plowing the land. The project turned out to be a business failure. To make matters worse, Niram contracted tuberculosis and returned to North Dakota. His mother took him to a southern state for treatment, but to no avail. Elihue Mosher and his wife, Inez, thought a lot of Niram and assisted in his care at the Curtis home. Niram died 4 May 1914. Niram is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery. There is no gravestone.

# Walt and Myrtle Rose (Curtis) Williams by Glenn Williams

Myrtle Rose Curtis and Joseph Walton Williams (a.k.a. Walt) were married in 1914. Over the next several years Walt ran elevators in Karnak and in Blabon, N. D. Doctors advised his health made it necessary for him to change his occupation.

The family, now of three, returned to Myrtle's family's home state - Michigan where her mother's (Eva (nee Smith) Curtis) brothers and sisters lived. Walt and Myrtle lived out their days in Michigan. Myrtle was in her element: as an accomplished pianist she was urged by friends, uncles, aunts and cousins alike to play at all gatherings, and there were many. But her religion was the most important part of her Walt found work in a Michigan factory, studied at life. home and became a journeyman electrician, his occupation until his retirement. Walt was an inventor at heart: he a dumping device for use in grain elevators, patented perfected a method which made it possible for a neon sign to spell words or otherwise show action at a time when neon signs were new and sterile. He experimented with many ideas which were not patented but which were used in the home.

Walt and Myrtle celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with their family and friends. They were separated a few years later with Walt's death. They are buried side by side at the Restlawn Cemetery in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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Regarding Myrtle's musical talent, I add the following as taken from a Valley City, N. D. newspaper: "One of the most attractive recitals of the year was held in the auditorium last night. The program was an artistic one and was remarkably well executed. Miss Myrtle Curtiss, who gave a piano number has exceptional technique for one so young." I can recall Myrtle playing the piano on several occasions. She was brilliant! ---- Grant N. Carlson

#### Hazel Adella (Curtis) Carlson

Hazel Carlson was born 27 August 1896 on the home farm in Sibley Trail Twp. of Barnes Co. N.D. She was the 4th of five children born to William S. and Eva Smith Curtis. As a young girl, and throughout much of her life, she was of a nervous temperament, but in general was a well-liked, cheerful person.

She attended Valley City Normal School in 1913-14, receiving her teaching certificate, then taught three years in rural schools in Broadview Township, Griggs County, N. D. On 23 June 1920 she was united in marriage to Hilmer Carlson at the farm home of her mother, Eva, (Mrs. William S. Curtis). An account of the wedding follows:

"A very pretty and quiet wedding took place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Eva Curtis, last Wednesday when Miss Hazel A. Curtis was united in marriage to Mr. Hilmer Carlson, Rev. Nathan Wood officiating. The bride was becomingly dressed in white Georgette and carried a bouquet of roses. The ring service was used. The groom is cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Karnak and is highly esteemed. The bride is a popular young lady of Sibley Trail Township where with her mother she has resided most of her life. Just a few immediate relatives were present. Mr. & Mrs. Carlson will reside in Karnak."

Two children were born to this union:

### Grant Nyram Carlson Keith Curtis Carlson

Hazel was a good mother, faithful to her husband and children. She loved to visit people, possessed musical talent in singing and piano playing. Following the death of her husband, Hilmer, in 1958 she lived alone in their home in Valley City. For a time after his death she worked in the kitchen at Mercy Hospital and the kitchen at Lincoln Elementary School, both in Valley City. Finding it increasingly difficult to manage on her own, she became a resident of the Sheyenne Manor Nursing Home in Valley City from September 1972 until the Lord called her to His eternal home on 30 November 1979. Funeral services were conducted at the Evangelical Free Church in Valley City with Rev. Don Nydam officiating. She is buried beside her husband in Memory Gardens, two miles east of Valley City, just south of Interstate 94.

#### Hilmer Carlson by Grant Carlson

Hilmer Carlson was born 5 April 1891 on the home farm in Greenview Twp. of Steele Co. N.D., the 3rd of 11 children born to Emil Carlson and Johanna Hindriksson. Growing up as a child on the home farm he must have been fun loving, and involved in typical boyhood pranks, which could have resulted in serious injury or even death. I recall him telling how he had placed his tongue on the cold windmill frame, and through hard breathing managed to energize enough heat to free his tongue. Then there is the story of his riding the calves and pigs, once leaving the back of his coat hanging on the fence as he returned to the house. Or the time when while riding a calf he ran into a barbed wire fence, gashing the calf of his leg badly. His mother slapped a handful of liniment on the wound, and he really "danced" as he tells it, but he never got an infection! Some of the old remedies worked very well!

Hilmer had only an 8th grade education, but he was brilliant with figures, especially addition. He could add a column of figures, accurately too, in his head faster than anybody I have ever seen. In the 3rd grade he easily out-added the 8th graders. He was accepted some years later at Dakota Business College in Fargo, N.D. where he did very well. His penmanship was a thing of beauty to behold!

Hilmer clerked in a grocery store in Finley, was employed at banks in Powers Lake and Finley, both in N. D., before serving his country overseas in World War I. He was shipped to France and served 11 months overseas. Upon discharge from the service at the conclusion of hostilities, Hilmer returned to the business world, and had the bank at the little village of Karnak, N.D. He was well liked, highly respected, a man of integrity, and I am sure it hurt him deeply when Karnak was one of the small banks that went "under" during the early twenties. In June 1920, he married Hazel Curtis, and they raised two boys. (See Hazel Curtis story).

After the closure of the Karnak State Bank, Hilmer moved his family to Valley City on 15 November 1924, the day son Grant was exactly thirteen months old. Here his first job was that of Fuller Brush salesman. Hilmer had a way with people which seemed to "catch on", and he was, therefore, an excellent salesman.

During his more than 33 years in Valley City he held numerous jobs. During the later twenties he was employed as a clerk in a grocery store, bookkeeper for Straus Clothing Co., deputy sheriff and deputy treasurer for Barnes County. When the nation was hit by the Great Depression, Hilmer did not want to be under government programs, so he turned again to salesmanship, sold Watkins Products door to door in Valley City where he did surprisingly well financially, in spite of depressing times. Urged to run once again for a Barnes County office (he had ran unsuccessfully for county auditor in 1932, losing to the long term incumbent by 96 votes), he ran in a field of five candidates for Register of Deeds, won the election, and served in that capacity for fourteen years (seven two year terms), from 1938 to 1952.

Hilmer was a good provider for his family. When mother was ill he could and did care for the household tasks and children as well as any woman could do. He loved children. He had a sense of humor which was contagious. He never forgot his love for the farm, and he considered it a vacation to spend as much time as possible on the farm of his brother-in-law, working in the harvest fields, as well as with many other farming interests. In fact, it was his love for the farm which was the main cause for his defeat in the election after 14 years as Register of Deeds. The farm held more appeal than the office by 1952.

Hilmer faced the final months of his life with courage and a deep faith in God. Developing a cancer of the liver and pancreas, he succumbed to the disease 9 September 1958 at the Veteran's Hospital in St. Cloud, Minnesota. He was one of the first to be buried in the newly developed Memory Gardens just east of Valley City.

#### William Curtis

William Lloyd Curtis (better known as Willie) was born 13 July 1899 on the home farm. He was the youngest of the five children. Following his education in the rural schools, Willie remained on the farm of his mother, and married Orla Williamson from Nebraska. They were married 29 Dec. 1927 at Valley City, N. D. Willie and Orla had one child:

#### Nyle Donovan Curtis

Willie was a farmer and a trucker. Having purchased a large Diamond T truck, he did a lot of hauling, often to Fargo and Duluth and also hauled coal from western North Dakota. After his divorce from Orla, he married Doris Thornburg Klein, a widow with two children. This marriage took place at Webster, South Dakota on 14 Sept. 1946. They farmed in Ashtabula Township in Barnes County. Two children were born to Willie and Doris:

> Gary William Curtis Verna Faye Curtis

Willie passed away on the farm Saturday afternoon, 18 Dec. 1976. His funeral was held 22 Dec. 1976 at the Dazey United Methodist Church, with his nephew, Rev. Grant N. Carlson, officiating. Willie is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery of Sibley Trail Township.

> William Lloyd Curtis excerpts of his life as told by son, Nyle

William Lloyd Curtis, born July 13, 1899, was my father...The best father I know of never had a father. His father died when he was 3 years of age...(William) had his brother Niram who himself must have been hardly ten when their father William S. Curtis died. In his way, this brother, Niram, became the person my father revered...

One instance my father told me of ... was in directing a team of horses in harness into or out of the barn, lightning struck. A bolt of lightning actually picked Willy Curtis (my father) up and threw him many feet out of the barn, stunned him, but other than that he was not apparently seriously injured. Niram came to his rescue or rather help. An addition here: Concerning lightning, 'Willy' had a second experience. In standing by an automobile with his hand on the door, in the twilight of his life, lightning struck and he was knocked to the ground. Twice in one life and Yes...Niram may have had the most lasting on 'Willy' Curtis...But Niram contracted survive? influence tuberculosis ... and died ... This left my father ... as the man of the house. His teen years? His two closest friends were his cousin, Howard Curtis...and William Thompson, a little older and an immediate neighbor. William Thompson apparently had a type of tuberculosis that affected bones and/or muscles. It was somewhat challenging for him to walk.

Willy Curtis challenged life ... The Great Northern railroad trestle was built across the Sheyenne River Valley. This went east to west through Luverne, N. D., and on the west side, through Karnak. Our Curtis home farm was s.e. of Karnak. This trestle may be one of the highest of such type in the nation. One day, William Thompson and Willy Curtis chose to cross this trestle on foot ... At intervals there were small spaces for barrels of water or such. Well, these two young men, one a vigorous extremely healthy young man, the other a partial cripple, were crossing this trestle. About in the middle, they heard a train! My father grabbed William and ran as fast as he could to the nearest offset from the track, dragging William and jumped head first off the track. He told me the train had passed them before he could look up.

1916...Willy did try to enlist but was too young. Eva, his mother took him to Valley City...and she bought him a brand new model T Ford. Had to have been an open car...My father had hardly even been in a car, let alone having actually driven one. The roads were merely trails at this time and subject to becoming mud bogs when it rained. Still he managed to drive this 'new car' back home. I don't know if his mother rode with him. She may have returned in the buggy they must have gone to town in--about 25 miles. Willy entered this car in track races..These cars were run on magnitos for the spark. He said at times he would have to climb over the front of the car to manipulate the magnito while at the same time keeping the car racing. What excitement and what a man! Then he had motorcycles. My grandfather (my mother's father) had told me my father was a wild man on a motorcycle. He said my father used to ride up and down rows in corn field showing off!...This is Willy Curtis. This is your life, Willy Curtis!

Willy, Bill, Billy, William, he in turn followed in his brother's footsteps. He was one of the first in his neighborhood to have the new inventions, the new types of agricultural machinery...He tried everything he could think of to survive, to get ahead and to support his family...He went to school, apparently across the Sheyenne River. How he managed to cross the river I don't know. In the winter, of course, the water would be frozen. He attended through the 7th grade, but that doesn't place him in an ignorant class. Henry Ford had little formal education...

My birth was in 1930. Before this my father spent a winter with my mother in Minneapolis and vicinity. This just before the great depression...He worked on a Model T Ford assembly line and he worked in a cason in digging a tunnel under the Mississippi River...Air pressure is forced into the cason and the workers then would 'dig'...if for any reason the air pressure let up, the river would start to rise in the cason...one time in particular it neared disaster. Power was restored without much extra time to spare. Due to good fortune, luck if you will? the workers weren't trapped and drowned...

Somehow my grandfather Williamson had chosen to make his move to North Dakota from Kansas/Nebraska. Why to a colder climate I do not know...They came in 1914 in an honest to goodness coverd wagon!...they ended up being next 'farm' neighbors to Eva Curtis and her family. By now, their two eldest daughters had become attractive teenagers...my father was certainly attracted to one - Orla Irene who became my mother.

My father was an animal lover. Horses were a near passion and he sent away for a correspondence course in horse training. He became quite accomplished at this also. Trained horses, broke horses, rode horses, raced horses...

Oct. 23rd was the great stock market crash of 1929-and that about issued me in. I was in the womb - truly a depression baby. I was the only issue of my father and mother. Spoiled, I expect? Reasonably sharp. Generally near the top of my classes in school. Insecure. Possessive of my parents...I wasn't deliberately mean or destructive...Willy did everything possible to succeed during the 30's, experiencing year after year of drought, dust bowl, crop failure. At times he was trying to farm 4

distant pieces of land at one time. The frustrations in seeing even the tiny growth that might be, eaten by swarms of grasshoppers, must have been heart wrenching. Also during this time he also had a truck...hauled cattle to market, hauled hay, hauled coal from the western N.Dak. mines, hauled sugar beets... In 1939 he managed to buy a new Ford truck, hired it out hauling gravel on new highway construction and with his capabilities, he himself began driving the distributors, a semi used at that time for shooting hot oil (tar/black top) in laying a new road bed. During this period of time the distributoring was done driving in reverse and at a relatively high rate of speed so it required someone with a great deal of coordination. He All these efforts were a decade early or he likely fit. would have become wealthy ... having to mortgage the farm deeply...he somehow managed to gain ownership of it and keep it in the family ...

The 40's, the era of the Wincharger, wind powered electrical generation for areas not then having access to power lines. A new brother-in-law, Jack Deist, ... was selling these Winchargers...His installer was killed when he made an error and the tower he was on, fell. My father was available - he raised that tower for Jack, and had a new business...until rural electrification via power line near finally made this obsolete 1950...Howard Curtis...started working with Willy in installing and servicing these wind power plants (until he was killed in a tragic truck accident) ... Installing Winchargers was at least a two man job ... A steady partner, Zene Taylor now filled the bill...Zene was the husband of my mother's sister, Thelma. Zene and Willy were also very close. Willy was good natured and when people work together, it can be enjoyed ... During this decade (40's), family dissolution ruled for all three of these men, Willy, Jack, Zene .... Willy bought a farm down near Hastings, N. D...also farmed land near Rogers ... what he did seem to enjoy most in his life, living on a farm, one to finally call his own...He met Doris Thornberg Klein...She widow with two young children, Robert SEW a and Carol...purchased cattle in '46, rented pasture near Valley City on the Sheyenne River ... still holding ownership of the Hastings farm, he...traded/purchased the farm at Ashtabula crossing, directly north of Valley City ... This farmstead is still occupied by my brother, Gary, his family, and his mother Doris. At the time of moving out there, Gary was a baby ... This ended the hectic, confusing life my father, through the circumstances he was dealt, had fought throughout his first near 50 years. Life for him didn't become easy here either, but he fought it out, doing the best he could, and the home is still intact to a point. And it has been good ...

# WILLIAM S. CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

- (1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) WILLIAM S. CURTIS

born: 9 March 1864 at either Percy or Seymour Twsp. of Northumberland Co., Ontario, Canada died:28 March 1901 at Sibley Trail Twsp, Barnes Co, ND married: 7 Aug. 1887 at: Sanborn, Dakota Territory

to: EVA ALMEDA SMITH born: 14 July 1871 at: farm near Ada, Kent Co. MI died: 22 Apr. 1939 at: Valley City ND father: Henry Kellogg Smith mother: Nancy Elizabeth Sisson Many years after the death of William, Eva was married on 24 March 1933 at Valley City, ND

to: ELIHUE JOHN MOSHER of Dazey ND.

(3) GLEN HENRY CURTIS

born: 22 July 1888 at: Dakota Territory died: 30 Oct. 1890 at: (Barnes County ?) ND

Glen died after eating poisonous berries or rose buds. He was buried on the old Henry Curtis farm just south of Karnak, ND on SW 1/4 of Sec. 20, Broadview Twsp., Griggs Co., North Dakota. (All attempts to locate his grave have failed and the entire farmstead was bulldozed just a few years ago by the present owner and is now all farmland.)

A letter from Nellie Warner (daughter of Elizabeth Curtis Warner) written Dec. 12, 1888 at Dazey to her cousin Ada (daughter of Charles & Rosa Curtis) in Michigan gives the following information:

"Aunt Eva was hear sunday. little glan is in short dresses now. he is the cuteest little boy you ever saw. he gut over the huping cof right away after you laft.....Little frank and Ella and Lettie is all eatting on a chair all by thair selefs."

(3) NIRAM HENRY CURTIS

born: 10 Oct. 1892 at: Dakota Territory died: 4 May 1914 at: home in Sibley Trail Twsp, Barnes Co, ND Died at age 21 from tuberculosis.

# (3) MYRTLE ROSE CURTIS

born: 22 Apr. 1894 at: Dazey ND died: 14 Oct. 1974 at: Grand Rapids MI married: 8 July 1914 at: Valley City ND

#### to: JOSEPH "WALT" WALTON WILLIAMS

born: 22 June 1891 at: Blanchard ND died: 20 July 1971 at: Grand Rapids MI father: Hayden Monroe Williams mother: Teresa Cruden occupation: electrician address: moved to Grand Rapids MI in fall of 1923

# (4) GLENN CURTIS WILLIAMS

born: 13 July 1915 at: Karnak ND married: 4 July 1941 at: Benton Harbor MI

#### to: MARY JEAN KRANENBERG

born: 11 Mar. 1918 at: Detroit MI father: Harry George Kranenberg mother: Cora Estella Lounsbury occupation: Glenn-Graduated from Northwestern University with a B.S. degree. He is a Michigan Certified Public Accountant with special emphasis upon health-care facilities-i. e. Director of two different hospitals and a Bureau Chief for State of Michigan for Institutional Review. Was a Lt. in the Army Air Corps (pilot) in World War II. Mary Jean-graduate of Calvin College with B.A. degree in teaching. Was an elementary school

teacher with oil and water-color as hobbies and remains a homemaker.

address: Grand Rapids, MI

#### ROBERT CURTIS WILLIAMS (5)

born: 12 June 1945 at: Grand Rapids MI married: 6 Jan. 1974 at: San Francisco CA

#### to: AMY LAURA ROBBINS

born: 26 Nov. 1950 at: Washington DC father: Boris Robbins mother: Frances Hershey occupation: Robert-Grad. of Central Michigan

University with an A.B. degree in teaching. Has Masters of Divinity degree from Andrews University and is working on a Ph.D. He was ordained in 1983 and is a pastor of two S.D.A. churches, one in Gettysburg and one in York Springs PA. Amy-Is an executive secretary & homemaker. address: York Springs PA

- (6) HOLLY ANN WILLIAMS born: 3 Nov. 1974 at: Ringold GA
- (6) JENNIFER LYNN WILLIAMS born: 19 Apr. 1978 at:Berrien Springs MI
- (6) REBECCA JEAN WILLIAMS born: 3 May 1980 at: Cory PA

# (5) DIANA LYNN WILLIAMS born: 19 May 1950 at: Grand Rapids MI married: 5 May 1973 at: Grand Rapids MI

# to: THOMAS ELDER BLUE born: 4 July 1950 at: Lafayette IN father: James Wilbert Blue mother: Beatrice Kuhlmann occupation: Tom-Grad. of Miami University in Ohio-B.S. degree. Earned a Master of Science Degree and a Ph.D. degree in nuclear engineering at U. of Michigan. Is now a professor at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. Diana-Grad. of Michigan State University with an A.B. degree and a Masters Degree in Medical Social Work from U. of Mich. At present is employed at Arthur James Cancer Hospital in Columbus and is on staff at Ohio State University. address: Columbus OH

- (6) LAURA ELIZABETH BLUE born: 29 Nov. 1975 at: Ann Arbor MI
- (6) ELIZABETH LYNN BLUE born: 4 April 1981 at: Champaign IL
- (6) LESLIE ROSE BLUE born: 9 June 1983 at: Champaign IL

# (5) GARY SCOTT WILLIAMS

born: 16 Mar. 1952 at: Grand Rapids MI died: 13 May 1972 at: Grand Rapids MI Was student at Grand Rapids Junior College at the time of his accidental death at age 20 (3) HAZEL ADELLA CURTIS born: 27 Aug. 1896 at: Sec.4, Sibley Trail Twsp. Barnes County ND died: 30 Nov. 1979 at: Valley City ND married: 23 June 1920 at: Sibley Trail Twsp., Barnes County ND to: HILMER CARLSON born: 5 Apr. 1891 at: Greenview Twsp, Steele Co. ND died: 9 Sept. 1958 at: St. Cloud MN, VA Hospital buried at Valley City ND father: Emil Carlson mother: Johanna Hindriksson occupation: Hilmer-banker, register of deeds Hazel-teacher and homemaker Lived in Karnak and Valley City ND

(4) GRANT NYRAM CARLSON born: 15 Oct. 1923 at: Fargo ND married: 14 June 1953 at: Bristol SD

From the ones who compiled the "Curtis book": We would be pleased to have you stop for a visit if you are in the area! Valley City is right on Interstate 94, 60 miles west of Fargo.....36 miles east of Jamestown.....300 miles NW of Minneapolis....about 275 miles east of Medora and the North Dakota Badlands.....all of this on I-94! Since our children have "left the nest", we have an abundance of room for an overnight stay.....be our guests! We would like to meet you!

Grant and Ruth

(5) MARILEE JOY CARLSON born: 7 May 1956 at: Bismarck ND married: 27 Oct. 1990 at: Evanston IL

> to: MICHAEL FRAZIER BAINBRIDGE born: 28 Oct. 1960 at: Chicago IL father: Frazier Bainbridge mother: Hazel Mae Robinson occupation: Michael-maintenance technician Marilee-registered nurse address: Chicago IL

(5) DAVID GRANT CARLSON

born: 5 Nov. 1958 at: Bismarck ND married: 29 Mar. 1986 at: Denison TX

to: PAULA KAY RICE born: 6 Nov. 1957 at: Denison TX father: Paul Everett Rice mother: Melba Hamill occupation:David-Retail sales management Paula-works for American Airlines, news anchor for USA News address: Arlington TX

- (5) JERRY GLENN CARLSON born: 25 Aug. 1962 at: Jamestown ND occupation: college food service-Sonoma U. address: Rio Nido CA
- (4) KEITH CURTIS CARLSON born: 28 June 1933 at: Valley City ND married: 17 Dec, 1955 at: Juanita ND

to: ELEANOR RUTH TOPP born: 28 Jan. 1934 at: farm near Grace City ND father: Donald Topp mother: Margerite Stedman occupation: both in food service & janitorial work address: Aberdeen SD

(5) JULIE LARAE CARLSON (adopted) born: 5 June 1965 at: Jamestown ND married: 2 Jan. 1988 at: Minneapolis MN

> to: WILLIAM PAUL HICKS (adopted) born: 31 Oct. 1965 at: father: William Hicks mother: Mary Farina occupation: Bill-clerical work-Westinghouse near Roswell NM address: Hobbs NM

- (6) HANNAH ELIZABETH HICKS born: 17 Feb. 1989 at Hobbs NM
- (6) CALEB MICHAEL HICKS born: 25 July 1992 at Andrew TX

(5) JOY RENEE CARLSON (adopted) born: 23 Feb. 1969 at: Fargo ND married: 19 Sept 1992 at: Columbia MO

> to: DAVID EUGENE BASSETT born: 31 Jan. 1962 at: Oskaloosa IA father: Harold Eugene Bassett mother: Ethel Ann Hughes occupation: David-Appliance technician Joy-Pharmacy technician address: Columbia MO

(3) WILLIAM LLOYD CURTIS

born: 13 July 1899 at: Barnes County ND died: 18 Dec. 1976 at: farm in Barnes Co. ND married: 29 Dec. 1927 at: Valley City ND

to: ORLA IRENE WILLIAMSON born: 17 April 1910 at: Bellvidere, Nebraska father: Charles Williamson mother: Mary Ellen O'Hearn William and Orla had one child, Nyle, and were later divorced. Orla married a Christiansen. She lives in Portland OR

(4) NYLE DONOVAN CURTIS born: 17 May 1930 at: Cooperstown ND married: 27 June 1954 at: Highland Falls NY

to: THEODORA CLAIRE WEYANT born: 13 Sept. 1935 at: Newburgh NY father: Vincent Kenneth Weyant mother: Esther TenBroeck

Nyle and "Teddy" had the following children: Kathie, Blaine, Sherri, Darren, Shayne, Cory and Dawn, then were later divorced.

Nyle is a welder and lives in Portland OR.

Teddy lives in Utah.

# (5) KATHIE RENE' CURTIS

born: 21 Apr. 1955 at: Valley City ND married: 16 Apr. 1976 at: Fargo ND

- to: GLEN UNDERBERG
- (6) MEIRA MATTEA UNDERBERG born: 8 Nov. 1976 at: Murray UT

Kathie and Glen were divorced. Kathie was married: 25 Apr. 1980 at: Raytown MO

# to: CHARLES THOMAS CLAYTOR JR.

(6) SHAELON TYRUS CLAYTOR born: 28 Oct. 1982 at: Long Beach CA

Kathie and Tom are divorced. Kathie lives in Utah.

(5) BLAINE CHARLES CURTIS born: 23 Aug. 1957 at: Valley City ND occupation: business mgr. of heavy equipment address: Downey CA

# (5) SHERRI DIANE CURTIS

born: 4 June 1960 at: Valley City ND married: 16 Apr. 1983 at: Indian Head MD

to: DAVID JOHN GIBSON born: 23 Nov 1957 at: Kingston NY father: Albert Jack Gibson mother: Katherine Jean Hartfuer occupation: contractor/fire fighter address: Holladay UT

- (6) JOSHUA JOHN PAUL GIBSON born: 20 July 1981 at: Murray UT
- (6) MATTHEW JOHN GIBSON born:18 Sept. 1989 at: Salt Lake City UT

# (5) DARREN TENBROECK WEYANT CURTIS

born: 21 Mar. 1964 at: Cheyenne WY married: 21 Mar.1986 at: San Diego CA

to: CRYSTAL LEE MOUNT born: 27 June 1967 at: NJ father: Louis Bernard Pomidor Crystal's father died before she was born. Her mother was married then to William Edward Mount & Crystal was adopted by him. mother: Sandra Lee Farrell occupation: Darren is in the Navy address: Japan

# (6) DARREN TENBROECK WEYANT CURTIS II born: 5 June 1989 at: Sandy UT

# (5) SHAYNE DARRICK CURTIS born: 21 Nov. 1965 at: Valley City ND occupation: Manager at a Game Store address: Diamond Bar CA

# (5) CORY GORDON CURTIS born: 19 Apr. 1968 at: Valley City ND married: 27 Feb. 1988 at: Murray UT

to: JANN MARIE HADFIELD born: 16 Jan. 1968 at: Salt Lake City UT father: Glen J. Hadfield mother: Karla Jansen occupation: Cory on submarine in Navy address: Oahu, Hawaii

# (5) DAWN TANYA CURTIS born: 23 June 1970 at: Valley City ND married: 2 July 1991 at: Salt Lake City UT

to: RANDAL GENE SWINK born: 31 Jan. 1968 at: St. Louis MO father: Charles Randal Swink mother: Brenda Joyce Evans occupation: two-way radio telecommunications address: Salt Lake City UT

(6) SAMUEL XAVIER SWINK born: 24 Jan 1992 at: Salt Lake City UT William Curtis married: 14 Sept. 1946 at: Webster SD

to: DORIS THORNBURG KLEIN born: 8 Feb. 1917 at: Sanborn ND father: Orville Roland Thornburg mother: Minnie Anderson Doris has two children by a previous marriage to Mr. Klein, who died. They are Carol Jean and Robert. Doris Curtis lives on the farm north of Valley City. Her address is Luverne ND.

(4) GARY WILLIAM CURTIS born: 20 Apr. 1947 at: Valley City ND married: 25 Sept 1976 at: Valley City ND

> to: LORRAINE JUNE HOWE born: 30 Apr. 1959 at: Lincoln NE father: Delbert Howe mother: Gladys Lovell occupation: farming address: Luverne ND

- (5) ANGELA MARIE CURTIS born: 11 Feb. 1977 at: Valley City ND
- (5) HEATHER MAE CURTIS born: 27 July 1979 at: Fargo ND
- (5) JOSEPH ROBERT CURTIS born: 7 Sept. 1983 at: Fargo ND
- (5) KELSEY ANN CURTIS born: 22 Aug. 1986 at: Fargo ND
- (5) TYLER LLOYD CURTIS born: 21 Oct. 1992 at: Valley City ND

# (4) VERNA FAYE CURTIS

born: 31 Dec. 1949 at: Valley City ND

(5) KRISTI DAWN WURZER born: 12 Aug. 1970 at: Missoula MT father is John Ronald Wurzer married: May 1988 at: Valley City ND

> to: DALE BERCIER born: 13 Aug. 1969 at: Jamestown ND father: Joseph Louis Bercier mother: Delema Azure occupation: Dale is in the Army and is stationed at Fort Bragg address: Fayetteville NC

(5) COLE JOSEPH BERCIER born: 2 Aug. 1988 at: Jamestown ND

- (5) WILLIAM JAMES COX born: 17 Oct. 1980 at: Salem OR father is Roger Cox
- (5) TIMOTHY TRAVIS GRENZ born: 13 Mar. 1987 at: Reno NV father is Timothy Grenz
- (5) ALESHA LESLIE GRENZ born: 15 Mar. 1988 at: Jamestown ND father is Timothy Grenz

Verna Curtis lives in Reno NV

Eva took Niram to Albuquerque NM when he had tuberculosis. She returned home, a week later he got worse so Elihue Mosher went down and brought Niram home and he lived longer. Elihue and Inez were over at Eva's a lot helping care for Niram. They were very fond of the boy. -Tom Mosher

A statement in the stat



l-r Henry, William & Mark Curtis taken May 18, 1881



William S. & Eva (Smith) Curtis



1-r Hazel, Eva, Myrtle and Niram Curtis



Eva Smith



Eva Smith, age 12



William & Eva Curtis taken shortly before Wm. died at age 37





Glen Curtis

Niram H. Curtis age 5





William L. & Hazel Curtis



Eva and Hazel Curtis



Niram Curtis



Curtis Brothers Niram-back William L.-front



William L. & mother, Eva Curtis



Curtis Sisters 1-r Myrtle & Hazel



Eva Curtis Family 1-r Niram, Myrtle, Eva, Hazel & William



Glenn & Myrtle Williams



Eva, William & Hazel



1-r Elihue Mosher Eva, Anna & Mark Curtis



Myrtle Rose Curtis



Eva Curtis with her four grandsons: 1-r Glenn Williams, NyleCurtis, Keith & Grant Carlson







Myrtle, Glenn & Walt Williams



Jean & Glenn Williams



Jean & Glenn Williams & son, Robert



Glenn Williams



Glenn C. Williams, Lt. US Army Air Corps



Diana Williams



Diana Williams, age 17



Robert Williams age 18



Gary Scott Williams



Grandchildren of Glenn & Jean Williams 1-r Becky, Laura, Holly Beth, Jenny with Leslie in front



Robert, Amy & Holly Williams seated Rebecca & Jennifer-1992



1-r Beth, Diana, Leslie, Laura & Tom Blue-1987



Robert & Amy Williams with children clockwise: Holly, Jenny & Becky 1987



Glenn & Jean Williams 50th Wedding Anniversary



Hazel Curtis 8th Grade Graduation



Hazel Curtis, teacher



Hilmer Carlson Dierdorf, Germany World War I



Hilmer Carlson in the bank





Wedding Photos of Hilmer & Hazel (Curtis) Carlson



Grant Carlson on the bank counter...Dad was the banker!



Hilmer Carlson



Hilmer & Hazel with 1st

grandchild-Marilee

Grant Carlson



Hazel Carlson



Grant Carlson, age 1



Grant & Ruth (Moir) Carlson Wedding Photo-1953



David, Hazel & Marilee Carlson

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H.S. Graduation 1941



Marilee Joy Carlson



the Grant Carlson Family 1-r Ruth, Marilee, Jerry, Grant & David-1965



Grant & daughter, Marilee







David Carlson, H.S. Graduation-1977



Marilee & Michael Bainbridge with Grant & Ruth Carlson



Marilee & Michael Bainbridge



Marilee & Michael Bainbridge-1990





Paula & David Carlson 202

Paula Rice & David Carlson-1987







Jerry Carlson



Grant & Ruth Carlson



Carlson

Baby Photo Keith Carlson



Keith Carlson & dog



Keith Carlson Graduation



1968-Julie Carlson



Hazel Carlson with sons 1-r Grant & Keith



Keith & Eleanor (Topp) Carlson

Joy, Julie, Eleanor (seated) and Keith Carlson



Eleanor & Keith Carlson with daughter, Julie-1967





Keith & Eleanor Carlson



Julie & William Hicks



Julie & Bill Hicks & dau. Hannah



Carlson, Bill & Julie Hicks

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Caleb Michael Hicks b. 25 July 1992

Hannah & Caleb Hicks



Willie Curtis & calf



Willie Curtis & horse



Willie on horse Willie Curtis





Orla, wife of Willie Curtis



David & Joy Bassett



William L. & Orla (Williamson) Curtis



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Nyle Curtis



Nyle Curtis



Teddy Curtis with 1st two children: Kathie & Blaine



Nyle & Theodora "Teddy" (Weyant) Curtis Wedding



Kathie Curtis Claytor with daughter, Meira & son, Shealon



Kathie Rene' Curtis at 21 months



Kathie Curtis -1961



Blaine Curtis -1959

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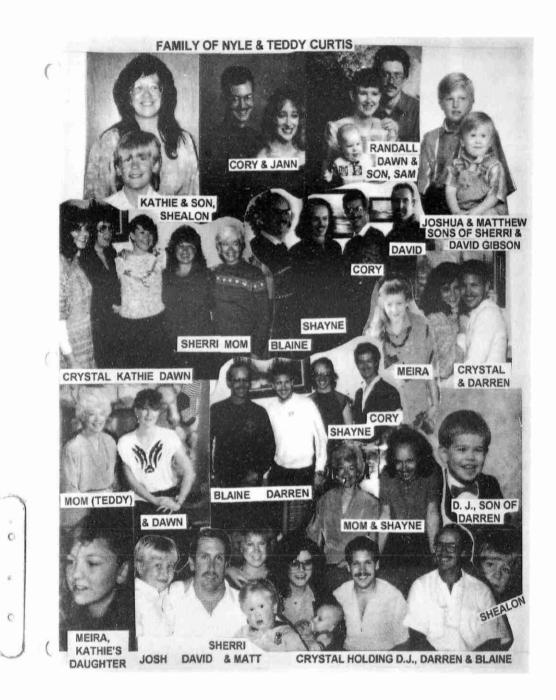
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Curtis Family Photo top 1-r Jann & Cory, Shealon Kathie, Meira. Joshua & David Gibson. Front 1-r Dawn, Theodora, Darren & wife Crystal and Blaine Curtis

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Orla Christiansen, Nyle's mother



Shayne Curtis



Nyle Curtis

Cory Curtis



Darren, Crystal & Darren Jr. Curtis



Darren Curtis Jr. age 21 months



Nyle & Gary Curtis



William L. "Willie" & Doris (Klein) Curtis



Cory & Jann Curtis



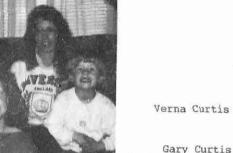
Gary Curtis



Doris Curtis



Doris & son, Gary





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Gary Curtis Family back-Angela, Gary & wife Lori front-Joseph, Heather & Kelsie 207







1992 1-r Kelsie, Angela holding Tyler, Heather & Joseph Curtis

the Gary Curtis family 1988 1-r Angela, Gary holding Joseph, Heather & Lori holding Kelsie.



Curtis



Tyler Lloyd Kristi Dawn, dau. of Verna Curtis



1988-Kristi Wurzer High School Grad.





1-r Kristie, Cole & Dale Bercier



their new jackets!

1972-John Wurzer, Verna & Kristi



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Dale & son, Cole Bercier taken the morning Dale was to go to Panama, he went to Saudi Arabia! 200 208

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Bercier age 3 in 1991



1991 Billy Cox with his father, Roger Cox

1992 1-r Billy Cox,Travis Grenz Alesha Grenz



Tim Grenz with children Alesha and Travis





Tim Grenz & Verna Curtis



Verna Curtis

Three Cousins: 1-r Glenn Williams Gary Curtis & Grant Carlson





Alesha Grenz

Standing: 1-r Jean & Glenn Williams & Lori Curtis. Seated: 1-r Grant Carlson, Doris Curtis, Heather Curtis Ruth Carlson, Gary & Kelsie Curtis. Front: Joseph & Angela Curtis.



back 1-r Nyle & William Curtis & Raynard Kinn. Middle 1-r Verna & Gary Curtis. Front 1-r Hazel Carlson, Harriet Curtis & Florence Kinn. 209

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#### MARK CURTIS

#### Personal Memories by Irwin A. Willson

I did not know Mark Curtis until I began courting his daughter, Rachel, which was in the fall of 1931. Our parents knew each other since they were both pioneers, my Dad in 1883 and Mark about 1890. The exact date I do not know. Our homes were about twenty-three miles apart but both of us had gone away to teach before that time except for holidays and sometimes summer vacations. It was during Thanksgiving vacation in 1931 that I drove up to the Curtis home south of Karnak to see Rachel. That was the beginning of a long and lasting friendship.



Mark was a very private person. One could not guess what he was thinking at

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any given time for he seldom expressed his innermost thoughts. During the first year, it became gradually evident that he accepted me fully. In the years that followed it became clear that he did not have an intimate friend with whom he could speak freely. Without realizing it, I had become that intimate friend.

Our conversations ranged from pioneer days to the current depression...On two or three occasions we talked about pioneer days and how tough you had to be to get a start. It seems to me that it was Mark's mother who was the pioneer. I never heard him talk about his father. I do not know if his father had died or if his mother and dad had separated. I believe his Mother and family of children came out from Ada, Michigan somewhere around 1890--maybe before that. I think they settled east of the Sibley Trail area. Later, Mark and one of his brothers, I think Henry, staked a claim in the vicinity of Karnak. Maybe a third brother did too, I'm unsure.

I do know there were no buildings built the first couple of years - I think three years, and so they all went back to Ada, Michigan for the winters. What they did for a living during the winters is unclear to me. I believe they hired out for wages one winter - Mark as a teamster in the woods. Teams of horses were used to pull the logs to the loading dock. On the hillsides it was a very dangerous job for both the team and the driver. I believe one winter Mark stayed out in North Dakota - around Valley City. About five years after staking his claim, Mark had built a small cabin-like structure, a shelter barn for the animals and added a chicken coupe lean-to on to this barn. The heat from the animals kept the chickens from freezing - (most of them). I believe for about three or four years they went back to Ada for the winter.

Mark proved to be an excellent farmer. It took years to develop the land for farming, maintaining the productivity of the soil. When I came on the scene, the systematic way he rotated his crops in the right sequence produced good crops each year. Mark loved horses! He bred percherons and clydesdales. They were beautiful animals. He also dressed them up pretty with white and colored spreaders and brass hames, well groomed from head to tail. One bay team I especially remember was a well trained chore team. Mark could clean the barn, pitching the manure onto a spreader, move from stall to stall including occasionally backing without touching the reins; just by voice commands. That team could be called "automatic" whether working in the barn or in the yard. He took excellent care of them.

Mark had a surrey or phaeton at one time and a team of buggy horses that were the envy of the community. Yes he really loved horses and knew how to train them.

Mark also had one of the best herds of cattle in the country. All the neighbors wanted to borrow his bulls so they could upbreed their herds. He always got top price for his steers at the market. When his milk cows were getting a little too old to maintain milk production and calf production too, they became range cows for the spring and summer. Early in the fall, he would then "stall" them to fatten them for the market. He would feed them heavily and only let them walk to the water trough for exercise. The last two weeks before selling them, he would carry the water to them. Being on the range, developed a lot of muscle not available to milk cows status. But it would also be fairly tough meat. They produced wonderful meat.

The depression got worse. Each year there were poor crops and less feed for livestock. After two more years of no crop and buying feed for the cattle, it became apparent he was going to have to curtail his livestock enterprise. We sat and talked about what to do many times that summer. Some of us still remember the "dust bowl". How horrible it was! Cattle began losing weight. Lots of farmers were selling part or all of their cattle to stockyards in West Fargo. This brought the price down to almost nothing. Being in debt from buying seed each year and feed for the livestock posed an ugly dilemma. Taking a lesson from my Dad's experience who had tried to hang on to all of his farms only to lose them all, I suggested to Mark that he pick out six or eight of his finest cows and keep them as a nucleus to start rebuilding again when times got brighter. This also would provide milk and meat which they could use to live on together with the luscious garden that Anna

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always had. And by salting away the proceeds from the sale of the rest of the herd, he would have enough to get off the ground in his come back. This he felt wasn't right. He owed the bank money. He felt he had to pay them back as much as he could. He did take the suggestion of keeping out of the sale of cattle a few of his best specimens but only about half as many as would have been prudent. He sold off all the herd - to the slaughter yards. This was a traumatic experience for Mark. His hands were tied and he could not do anything about it. He felt that his life work was going down the chutes that day. It was as if he was in love with each one of his cows and calves. He never got over it!

Our relationship stood strong and firm to the end of his life. When he was on his death bed, he didn't want any one else to wait on him or nurse him except me. I was at his side trying to give him comfort and relief when he died. How I wished I could have measured up to his expectancy - I lost a real friend and father-in-law.

# Tribute by Irwin Willson

Mark Curtis was born Aug. 20, 1866 at Ada, Michigan in Kent Co., the son of John & Elizabeth Curtis, of English descent. They had immigrated from Canada in 1865. Mark was the last survivor of a family of 10 children. At the early age of 7 years, his father passed away and a few years later, 1880, the family moved to Sibley Trail community in Dakota Territory where he resided until his death.

In 1905, he was united in marriage to Anna Williams of Sparta, Wis. Three children were born from this union:

Kenneth Mark Curtis Rachel Kathryn Curtis Theodore Henry Curtis

Mark Curtis was one of the last of the early settlers of this community. His contributions to its development were many. Those who knew him best well remember his faithfulness in caring for the sick and the needy during his long and useful life.

Mark was a firm believer in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Saviour of Men. His last request was that all the family might turn to the Lord, so that we might be reunited with him thruout all eternity. Mark passed away on May 11, 1950 at the age of 83 years, 8 months, and 21 days.

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"Mark Curtis went by Sophie Ladbury's farm on a hot summer day. He saw Sophie pumping water. On his way home from town he stopped in, gathered Robert, Donald and Marilyn together, and told us in no uncertain terms that he never wanted to see Sophie pumping water again, and that he would check when he went by. He only wanted to see one of us pumping. Needless to say, he was not one of our favorite people for a few years. Later we learned to love him". ---Marilyn Langer Crawford

"I am glad one of my great uncles on mother's side of the family lived long enough for me to know him. Our family had many nice visits at Mark's farm. He loved children, and would take the younger ones in his arms and rub his heavy thick mustache over their cheeks and say, "My tikes, my tikes!" I often tried to avoid the mustache rub.

During a part of one summer (maybe about 4 to 6 weeks) I stayed out at the Mark Curtis farm and learned to know him even better. I can see him standing, looking out the east kitchen window and often saying, "When, oh when, will I ever see the day when I stop siming?" That statement puzzled me then as I felt he was a saintly man. But we are all human and we all have our weaknesses. He was a good man--stern, but good. He could get very angry I learn, but I never saw that side of him. I shall never forget the night Mark and the family attended the revival meetings at the Evangelical Free Bible camp. It was Mark -- bless him -- who said to me at the close of the meeting, "Are you a Christian?" I thought about it, and one of the most sacred memories in my life is that night, in the upstairs guest bedroom, I got down on my knees and prayed, making my commitment to Christ. It was a decision I have never regreted, and I owe a debt of gratitude to Mark Curtis for asking me that guestion." -----Grant N. Carlson

# Obituary of Mark Curtis Griggs County Sentinel-Courier Cooperstown, N.D. Issue of May 18, 1950

Funeral services were held on Monday in Sibley Congregational Church south of Karnak for Mark Curtis, North Dakota resident since 1880\* who passed away at his farm home near Karnak on Thursday May 11. The service was conducted by Rev. O. A. Monson and Rev. Busse.

Born August 20, 1866 at Ada, Michigan, Mr. Curtis came to Dakota Territory in 1880 and had farmed here ever since. He was married to Anna Williams in Wisconsin in 1905.\*\*

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Surviving are Mrs. Curtis and three children, Kenneth of Cooperstown, Mrs. Irwin Willson of Denver, Colorado, and Theodore at home. There are also numerous nieces and nephews, three of whom attended the funeral from a distance: Herbert Curtis of Great Falls, Mont., Freeman Curtis of Choteau, Mont., and Frank Harriman of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Pallbearers were Maxwell and Ernest Ladbury, August Steiner, George Kerber, Hugh Mosher, and John Nolting. Burial was in the church cemetery.

\*While Mark Curtis may well have come to Dakota Territory as early as 1880, he did not homestead until some years later. The earliest trips to Dakota may well have been with an older brother or other Michigan relatives. Along with his mother, and brothers William and Henry, he definitely came to Dakota Territory in the fall of '81 or spring of '82. (See story of this trip under Henry Curtis.) It is recalled on one trip from Michigan to Dakota, he got off the train at Valley City and walked the 26 miles to his homestead site.

\*\*The Hannaford, N. D. Enterprise, issue of January 30, 1906, says under the heading "Hannaford and vicinity news": "Cards are out announcing the marriage on January 17 at Sparta, Wisconsin of Miss Anna Williams and Mark Curtis. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis will be at home on the bridegroom's farm in Broadview after February 17."

A further piece of interesting information was sent by Vy Andrews, a daughter of Edgar Curtis, who was a son of Henry Curtis. The information from Vy are three letters--two from Henry and one from Mark, written in 1891 from Valparaiso, Indiana, where they are attending school. Two of the letters are dated January 12, 1891 -- one each from Henry and Mark -- and a second letter from Henry dated March 23, 1891. These three letters are schoolwork. Mark's letter in part states: ..."I was born and raised in the state of Michigan until I was twelve years old and then moved to Dakota, have been there ever since..."

If the above is correct, since Mark was born in 1866, his first visit to Dakota would have been 1878.

Mark Curtis always furnished the team and buggy for funerals.

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# Anna Williams (wife of Mark Curtis)

Anna Williams was born 30 May 1874 at Aberystwith, Tregaron, Cardigan Co., Wales.Her father, Peter D. Williams and family left Wales when Anna was five and one-half years old. They landed in New York 13 October 1879, and took the train to Ixonia where uncle Robert Williams lived. Peter rented a farm for three years after which the family moved to Sparta, Wisconsin where they purchased a farm.

The maiden name of Anna's mother was Catherine Jones. Both parents were devoted Christians. Her father was a deacon in their church, and a good singer as was Anna's brother, Dave. Anna's father, Peter, died at age 54, her brother William two months after the death of his father Peter, and the poor mother was left to mourn the loss of a husband and a son so closely together. The parents always spoke Welsh at home and when Anna started school she could not understand a word of English. The children tried to talk English, but when they got into an argument they talked Welsh! Only the rich folk had white bread to eat. Anna's family had barley bread.

In her early twenties, Anna moved to North Dakota. Here she met Mark Curtis, and was married to him at Sparta, Wisconsin 17 January 1906. To this union was born two sons and a daughter: Kenneth, Rachel, and Theodore in that order.

After many years on the farm, Anna moved to Valley City and lived with her son, Theodore, and family. When Theodore moved his family to California, Anna accompanied them and spent her remaining years in that state. The Cooperstown paper (Griggs Co. Sentinel Courier) of July 10, 1969, has an interesting article which is quoted in part below:

#### Mrs. Mark Curtis Notes 95th Birthday

"A former Cooperstown lady, Mrs. Mark Curtis, was honored on her ninety-fifth birthday May 30. Open house was held at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Willson of San Luis Obispo, California. The former Anna Williams married Mark Curtis January 17, 1906 and went to reside with him on a wheat farm in Griggs Co. N. D...Mrs. 15 20 Curtis has grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren....Her early life was spent near Sparta, Wis. She came from a family of five children and cooked for her father's farm help. She also worked for other families. Although she completed her education at the eighth grade, Mrs. Curtis is an enthusiastic reader and letter writer ... "

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Anna passed away 6 February 1972 at the age of 97 years, 8 months at the home of Theodore Curtis in Eureka, California where she had been living. Funeral services were held at

Eureka with Rev. Samuel Sanders of Eureka officiating. Concluding services were held at Valley City, North Dakota, with Rev. Irving Standley in charge. Burial was in the Sunnyside Cemetery east of Dazey, North Dakota.

Interesting comments made by Anna just three days before her death told of hearing the most beautiful music she had ever heard in her life. Some of her comments follow:

"They are on every little while. It sounds just like hearing my brother and nephew."

"The choir is on every little while."

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"It's all heaven there, everything is so pleasant!"

"Can't you hear it? You don't have it turned on."

"It is so touching to the soul, everything is so pleasant!"

While she was talking about this music, one of her grandchildren asked her: "Grandma, do you suppose that is the heavenly choir you have been hearing?" "Oh", she said, "of course it is. There is no music like it down here on earth. Oh the music and the harmony! I never heard anything like it!"

Three days later, following dinner on Sunday afternoon 6 February, she was preparing to dress, combed and fixed her hair, then suddenly fell. The family was on the scene at once but Anna was already gone. God had called her home.

# Anna was a superb cook! I remember as a child -- this would be after the Mark Curtis home burned in 1923 and before they moved on to the Henry Curtis farm just s.w. of Karnak -- the annual New Year's Day dinners to which it seems people of the whole countryside were invited! Relatives and neighbors from far and near (we were invited from Valley City every year) came to visit and enjoy the sumptuous feast. I may be wrong, but it seems to me we walked into the home -- just the main floor, no upstairs -- by walking down a few steps east into the kitchen where Anna was bustling around with final preparations for the big meal. It seems she thrilled to do the task, and as I recall nearly all alone. Talk about an ambitious woman! Anyway, we would turn left into the dining room where the meal had to be served in shifts, and on to our right into the living room where people would mingle and visit until their turn was called to come eat. It seems about 20-25 people could be served at one time and I would think there were at least three, if not more, "shifts" to eat. And, oh what pies for dessert! Several varieties--pick your choice! When dear

# Aunt Anna ate, I never knew. She seemed to relish the thought of serving this big annual affair!

#### Kenneth Mark Curtis written by his wife, Gladys

Kenneth was a very out-going person. He took part in all kinds of sports--baseball, bowling, hunting and fishing. He also had varied occupations, from farming, owning a country store, and when we moved to Montana he worked for a John Deere dealer and then as an office manager for R.E.A. He bought a Fort Peck cabin which he remodeled and turned it into a lovely summer home. He even made most of the furniture and enjoyed working with wood. He acquired trees from the government--gave them to many cabin owners which really beautified the area. He put in a lovely lawn, had a big garden which he shared with all the neighbors and friends. Ken loved his family and enjoyed his many friends.

#### Story About Myself by Rachel Kathryn Curtis Willson

I was born April 21, 1908 on the Mark Curtis farm in Griggs County North Dakota a few miles south of Karnak. I had two brothers--Kenneth, 13 months older and Ted (Theodore), 3 1/2 years younger than I. We lived on this farm until I was in fourth grade when our family moved to Hannaford--a distance of 11 miles while the new house was being built. A double garage was built before the house, into which we moved while waiting for the house to be ready.

The first building my father had built on this new farm site was a 200+ foot barn. A strong, sturdy swing was made and hung in one of the barn stalls for us kids. I have memories of swinging for hours at a time out there in the barn. I would swing at top speed and top height, then jump off and land in a pile of straw in the opposite stall. What FUN! I was never allowed to be around the barn when men or animals were there. During the day time while the men were in the fields the barn was a favorite place to play. Another fun time was when my brothers and I would climb to the opening of the hay mow door where the hay was reeled in, which was the highest point available to us. From there we would take turns jumping off into the soft hay below. Great sport!

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We moved into the new house when I was in the seventh grade. What a palace to me, that was. All the woodwork was solid oak as were the floors upstairs and down. Beautiful staircase which was also made of solid oak, enhanced the beauty of the entire house. It was a three story house with a full basement. Electricity and running water through out. Tiled floor and pedestal lavatory were especially intriguing to me. We had never had a bathroom before. The most wonderful thing about it all was that I had my own bedroom. And they furnished it with a beautiful brass bedstead. True luxury to me!

We lived in that house three and a half years. Then one afternoon coming home from High School as we approached the brow of the hill - looking toward home - there stood a huge TALL chimney. The house had burned to the ground. I really don't remember my feelings. All I remember is that I wore the same middy and skirt to school for a week after that. Everything we had in the house was gone. As I remember, Mother lamented losing our pictures more than anything else.

I was always a loner. I was not privileged to bring friends home with me. In fact I don't think I had any friends. I was my father's pet. He over protected and spoiled me. There is nothing that money could buy that he would not give me. One morning on the way to High School in Cooperstown, I remember commenting to him that I was the only kid in school that didn't have a watch. He stopped at the Drug Store before taking me to school that morning and bought me a Much later he wanted to buy a fur coat for me. watch. T insisted 'No'. I told him I wouldn't wear it if he did buy it, explaining that the kids would have less to do with me if I wore a fur coat. I was always over dressed according to the other kids as it was. I was very sensitive about all this.

In spite of the difficulty in relating to my peers, there were several things I did enjoy. For example, playing basket ball was lots of fun. I loved drama. I was in several plays and loved them all. One play especially, I remember acting the role of a French Maid. My coach was a very personable lady. I related well to her--consequently enjoyed my classes with her.

My brother Kenneth was a winner in High School. He was voted "The Best Looking Boy in Cooperstown High School." He was also a Basketball Star. Since I was a little on the puggy side, he wanted little to do with me. This didn't help my self-esteem much!

It wasn't until I got to Valley City State Teachers College that I found my personal interest. The classes in Child Development and Child Psychology really intrigued and inspired me. I always thought I wanted to be a teacher. It was when I got into Student Teaching classes and the actual classroom with the primary children that I was turned on and motivated. Outside of being a wife and mother, teaching First Grade has been my vocation. I graduated from VCST in 1928 with a Life Credential for teaching Primary level. Much later, while teaching - attending afternoon and evening classes, I earned a BE degree in Elementary Education from California State Polytechnic University, 1965.

I taught two years in Lucca, one year in Rogers, and one year in Fessenden - all in North Dakota. Then beginning all over again, in California I taught 14 years in three different school districts. I retired in 1972 - four months after my Mother went to Heaven.

It was while I was teaching in Fessenden, N.D. that I met Irwin, my husband. We were married April 10, 1932. God gave us four wonderful children. Each one is now serving the Lord in their respective communities. Curtis was born April 6, 1933; Janis December 4, 1934; Jacquelyn July 29, 1936 all three born in Valley City, N.D. David was born October 8, 1946 in Pueblo, Colorado. It was while I was pregnant for David that I gave my life to Jesus Christ. T dedicated him to God's service before I ever saw him. Truly God has been faithful. In fact, looking back I can see how God's hand has been evident in my life long before I ever knew Him. He has been so patient and long suffering with me, waiting for me to come to the end of myself and ask Him to take over my life. II Cor. 5:17 has been my assurance of salvation: "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things are become new." Truly this was my experience. Even the grass was greener! There have been may ups and downs in our lives BUT God has been more than faithful.

We are retired now and currently living in San Luis Obispo, CA. We attend a Bible teaching undenominational church (Grace Church) in our city.

--Rachel K. Willson

A Tribute to Theodore Curtis as told by Dr. M. S. Ward (Dr. Ward was a former superintendent of the Valley City, N.D. public school system.)

"There was a time some 18 or 20 years ago when Ted Curtis of near Karnak in Griggs County, seriously doubted that he would ever have the essential things which every normal American youth justifiably desires--his own home, a family, a lucrative occupation, ability to make a living, and health to enjoy both work and life. During the first 24 years of his life Ted was subject to a series of illnesses that

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threatened to deny him these vital objectives. But throughout those long years of illness, pain, doubt, and uncertainty Ted waged as heroic a fight as any warrior on any battlefield, and in the end he won.

The story of Theodore Henry Curtis is at once both a lesson and an inspiration. It is a lesson of vital import to all those youth and adults, who, possessing splendid health and no handicaps, are often inclined to grumble at their present lot in life. It is a powerful inspiration to those youth and adults who do have various handicaps, who can learn through this story that courage, will, determination, faith, and God's help can transform a handicap into a source of power.

Ted Curtis was born on the homestead of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Curtis, in Griggs County, just a few miles north of the Barnes County line. Mark Curtis, the father, was born on a farm a few miles south of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was of English descent, his mother having served as a flower girl at the coronation of Queen Victoria of England.

In 1887 Mark Curtis came west into Dakota Territory to file for a homestead. He left the Northern Pacific train at Valley City and started northward across Barnes County to Griggs County. The first night he slept under a wagon. Crossing the county line into Griggs County he soon came to his homestead land, filed the claim and proceeded to prove his ownership.

Ted's mother, Anna Curtis, was born in Wales. When she was five years old her family came to the United States and out to Dakota Territory where they settled on a farm in Griggs County not far from Cooperstown. Growing to womanhood she met and married Mark Curtis and on his homestead they began their married life. Ted was born on this homestead in 1911. He was one of three children, one girl and two boys. Sickness beset him when he was only three months old. This he overcame in a few months. At the age of five his left hip became affected and for four years it was necessary for him to wear a cast on his leg and move about on crutches.

Ted struggled through these difficulties, attended the district school nearby which was the Curtis school, in Griggs County, and graduated from the eighth grade at the age of 13. In the fall of 1926 he came to Valley City and enrolled in the Valley City High School. Here he roomed at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Hilmer Carlson, Mrs. Carlson being his cousin. At the end of the first semester in January 1927, Ted found it necessary to give up school on account of his health. He went back to the farm and there seemed to improve in the out-of-doors, but at the age of 19 he developed a serious heart condition which confined him to his bed for four years.

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It was during this serious and continued illness that he became vitally interested in the Bible, the Christian religion, faith, and prayer. Many conferences with Rev. G. O. Vikan of the nearby Presbyterian church renewed Ted's faith in religion and gave him new hope. Under this influence, and the tender, devoted care of his mother, Ted gradually but surely regained his health. Then he began to attain the great objectives of which he had once despaired.

With returning health Ted acquired a farm, secured farm machinery, planted the farm in crops, and began raising turkeys. His mother had raised a few turkeys and Ted became interested in this project. He began with 250 turkeys, received valuable help and advice from representatives of the Kimball Brothers of Hillsdale, Michigan, dealers in turkeys, and was successful from the start. Gradually he increased the number of birds to a peak of 4000, constantly increasing his profits. Now after 18 years of continuous, intelligent work, Ted has good health, a fine farm, 1/2 mile south of Karnak, 27 miles northwest of Valley City, just west of the north shore of Lake Ashtabula, and a wonderful family.

On August 12, 1944 Ted married Miss Phyllis Lende of Cooperstown, North Dakota, who he had first met some years before at Cooperstown. They were married at Oakland, Neb. by Rev. Irving Standley, a brother-in-law of the bride. Mr. Lende, the father of Phyllis, was born at Stavanger, Norway, came to this country, and out to Cooperstown, N.D. where for many years he conducted a produce business. Phyllis' mother was born at Muskegon, Michigan, of Swedish and Danish ancestry, one of twelve children.

Phyllis, Mrs. Ted Curtis, was born at Cooperstown, N. D., one of twelve children, six boys and six girls. She went through the public schools at Cooperstown and graduated from the Cooperstown High School, after which she worked for her father of the produce company. Gifted musically, Phyllis was one of the Lende Trio of sisters who formerly sang frequently over KOVC at Valley City.

Ted operates his grain farm, raises annually about 16 head of cattle, 32 sheep, 3500 turkeys and numerous chickens. For the turkeys Ted has a 30 x 100 foot brooder house, automatically operated. He uses commercial feeds entirely. Ted is an expert mechanic, with a completely stocked machine shop where he repairs his own and neighbors machinery, and has even built a windrower which he used for two years. He has a complete line of modern machinery, including 3 tractors and 1 combine. He has a private pilot's license for flying, with 225 hours in the air.

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Ted has never forgotten the tremendous help he received from religion in his "storm and stress" period. For two years he

did evangelistic work throughout N. D., S. D., and Minn. Besides church work, Ted has been president of the community club, member of the Farm Bureau, township clerk and assessor for 19 years, and member of the Wildlife Association. In this latter capacity he propigated 200 pheasants for stocking Griggs County. His hobbies are fishing and machine work.

Triumphing over all difficulties, including 24 years of serious illness, Ted Curtis has now achieved the great objectives of a useful life--head of a fine family, owner and operator of a productive farm, generous community worker, honest and competent public official, builder of God's kingdom here on earth--these are the positive accomplishments of a great citizen and a valiant hero. In the spirit of gratitude for your indomitable courage, we salute you, Ted Curtis, and your wonderful wife, Phyllis, and wish for you and your family great happiness and success in all the years that lie ahead."

## Theodore Henry Curtis by daughter, Erleen Staley, for the family

Theodore Henry Curtis was born in Cooperstown, N. D. on 8 November, 1911, to Mark & Anna Curtis. He weighed 6 1/2 lbs. at birth and also weighed the same at 6 months old. He was a sickly child all of his preschool days. He fell from a horse at the age of 6 and developed a hip disease. When he was 19 years of age he helped push a car out of the ditch while he had the flu and brought on the enlargement of his heart from one side of his chest to the other. The doctor told him he would never get out of bed. For 3 1/2 years he was flat on his back and could barely turn over. During this time he read the Bible from cover to cover. A pastor from a local church led him to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as his own personal Savior.

During this time he cried out to God and told Him if He would heal him and raise him up he would serve Him the rest of his life and raise a family for Him. The Lord heard his prayer. He healed his heart totally. At the age of 33 Ted married Phyllis Lende from Cooperstown, N. D. who was 23. They met in church. Phyllis was from a family of 12 children and helped her father in the local creamery business. Times were hard. It was during the depression. The Lord blessed Ted & Phyllis with 8 children: Erleen, Mary Lou, Bonnie, Joel, Virginia, Rachel, Esther and John. Jesus Christ was the center of their home and life.

Ted was known for his spiritual gift of teaching and evangelism. He was an evangelistic speaker at times, lay pastor and Sunday School teacher.

When Erleen was 6 months old, she developed an incurable childhood disease of the intestine. Ted & Phyllis had faith to act on God's Word, according to James chapter 5 and call for the elders of the church to anoint her with oil in the Name of the Lord and pray for her. Jesus Christ chose to hear their prayer and heal her.

They were known for their gift of hospitality and giving. They saw many of their friends and family come to know Jesus over the years, before they died. When they were first married they farmed a section and one-half south of Karnak, N.D. They raised 5,000 turkeys, 2,500 broilers, and 300 pheasants all in one year. They released the pheasants for hunting for the government. Anna Curtis taught Phyllis to cook. The only thing they ever went to town for was flour, sugar, and hardware. They grew all their own food and canned it and stored it for winter.

Ted was an active member of the community. He was President of PTA, and Gideons local chapter, County Assessor for many years and later on opened an Oliver Implement business in Hannaford, N.D. From here they moved to Valley City, N.D. where they built a 22 room home for income purposes. They rented rooms to 18 college students at one time. They also had 4 elderly people upstairs, 8 children, and a 24 hour Tari and Ambulance Service. The children were trained in all the business to take their share of responsibilities.

One winter during the Winter Show several of the local motels sent their overflow guests to Ted & Phyllis because of their gift of hospitality. Our home ended up with 37 people spending 3 days and 2 nights because of a blizzard howling outside. Some were playing games, cards, sleeping and eating. All of them will never forget the open heartopen home of the Curtis family.

They were also known for their open heart to help those in need whether spirit, soul, or body. Ted would bring a person home who was too drunk to tell him where he was going. He would then sleep it off on the couch. Phyllis would serve this person breakfast while Ted gave him the gospel. After eating he would then take the person home. The home was a hustle and bustle of activity 24 hours a day. After 7 years of this they moved to California and bought a resident care home for the elderly in Fortuna. Erleen and Mary Lou had already moved out West. All of their children married spouses from California. They then moved to Eureka where they settled for the next 25 years. Ted went home to be with the Lord on 10 March, 1982. Ted is survived by his loving wife Phyllis, 8 children, and 22 grandchildren. Phyllis has just purchased a home in Hannaford, N.D. and has plans to move back there this year, Lord willing. She is 71 years young. She has many brothers and sisters back there and also a son John. She has a burden to see everyone know Jesus. He's been her husband since Ted's homegoing.

Ted & Phyllis realized all their lives how short this life is and how instant and forever eternity is. They always looked at everything with eternity in view. His last words to Phyllis were, "God will take care of you."

We as a family thank and praise God for such a Godly Christian Heritage. Our prayer is, "Lord Jesus, say hi to Dad from us. We love you and can hardly wait to be with You."

Love and Prayers,

Erleen, for the family.

#### Mary Lou Curtis (Bravo) Ted & Phyllis Curtis' second oldest daughter

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I graduated from high school in Valley City, N. D. in 1964. I attended Valley City State College for almost two years taking up Elementary teaching courses. I had a chance to move out to California so I did, settling in the Bay area. I worked as a nurse's aid at Eden Hospital in Castro Valley for quite some time before transferring up to northern California, (Eureka) to work for my folks. I spent some 24 years working in their guest homes. My dad passed away at 70 years of age in 1982. My dad sure thought I got a good man, and he got to share some special times with my two boys who were two and one at the time of his death. My oldest son, Lance, is 12 and in 6th grade. He's a good student and is super in every sport he's in. He wears size 10 shoe already. My second oldest son, Chad, is in 5th grade, also a good student and great in every sport also. My husband who is the best husband ever, is a foreman in Samoa, Calif. for Louisiana Pacific Lumber Mill. He also commercial fishes and crabs on the side.

Our church is a wonderful Christian group in Rio Dell Assembly at Rio Dell, California. Pastor Kenworthy. Lanny and I have been married 13 years and the Lord blessed us with two beautiful children for which we are so grateful."

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#### MARK CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

(1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS

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(2) MARK CURTIS born: 20 August 1866 at: Ada, Michigan died: 11 May 1950 at: home (Griggs Co., ND) married: 17 Jan. 1906 at: Sparta, Wisconsin

to: ANNA WILLIAMS born: 30 May 1874 at: Aberystwith, Wales died: 6 Feb. 1972 at: Eureka, California father: Peter D. Williams mother: Catherine Jones

(3) KENNETH MARK CURTIS born: 28 Feb. 1907 at: farm south of Karnak ND died: 12 Sept. 1988 at: Billings MT married: 10 Apr. 1929 at: Langford farm, Cooperstown ND

to: GLADYS MAURVEEN LANGFORD born: 16 Dec. 1909 at: Cooperstown ND father: John Herbert Langford mother: Bertha Evelyn Sansburn occupation: Kenneth was manager of McCone Electric Co. address: Gladys lives at Cooperstown ND

(4) JOYCE KARLEEN CURTIS born: 12 Mar. 1931 at: Cooperstown ND married: 25 Apr. 1953 at: Williston ND

> (5) ELIZABETH "BETH" ANN GARNER (adopted) born: 1 May 1959 at: Fort Worth TX married: 1989 at:

> > to: THOMAS FOSTER Elizabeth and Thomas are divorced. occupation: employed at an Art Gallery Elizabeth lives at Fort Worth TX

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- (5) KENNETH GLENN GARNER (adopted) born: 12 Feb. 1966 at: Houston TX occupation: college student address: Austin TX
- (4) JOHN "Jack" KENNETH CURTIS born: 6 May 1932 at: Cooperstown ND married: 29 Oct. 1955 at: Cooperstown ND

to: LOIS MAE FINK born: 29 Aug. 1933 at: Breckenridge MN father: Ben Henry Fink mother: Esther Gertrude Dinger occupation: Jack: Air conditioning technician Lois: nurse and homemaker address: Cooperstown ND

(5) GREGORY KENNETH CURTIS born: 27 Oct. 1956 at: Valley City ND married: 4 Sept. 1983 at: Red Willow Lake ND

to: JUDY MARIE HAGEN born: 24 May 1957 at: Glenwood MN father: Paul Jerome Hagen mother: Marlyn Arlene Hanson occupation: Government engineer address: Broomfield CO

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- (6) GRETCHEN HAGEN CURTIS born: 3 May 1980 at: Richland WA
- (6) HEIDI HAGEN CURTIS born: 13 Apr. 1990 at: Denver CO
- (5) MARK ALLEN CURTIS born: 2 Mar. 1958 at: Cooperstown ND married: 13 Oct. 1984 at: Jamestown ND

to: MICHELE JEAN HIMMELSPACH born: 13 June 1958 at: Mandan ND father: Mike A. Himmelspach mother: Viola Hoffman occupation: EMT with ambulance service address: Jamestown ND

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(4) CARYL MADLYNN CURTIS born: 4 May 1935 at: Cooperstown ND married: 15 Nov. 1954 at: Fargo ND

(5) **KEVIN JAY BEDNAR** born: 7 May 1956 at: Cooperstown ND married: 11 July 1981 at: Jamestown ND

> to: CATHERINE KNUTSON born: 29 Dec. 1950 at: Kevin and Catherine are divorced. occupation: machinist & construction worker address: Euless TX

(6) JENNIFER KAY BEDNAR born: 26 Jan. 1982 at: Valley City ND

(5) JACQUELINE KAY BEDNAR born: 20 Aug. 1959 at: Valley City ND married: 3 May 1985 at: Phoenix AZ

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to: DONALD JOSEPH MacLEOD born: 23 Nov. 1956 at: Grand Forks ND father: Robert Malcolm MacLeod mother: Isabelle Mary Hosley occupation: address: Phoenix AZ

- (6) MARC ROBERT MacLEOD born 27 June 1986 at: Phoenix AZ
- (6) KRISTINE CARYL MacLEOD born: 25 Apr. 1990 at: Phoenix AZ
- (5) KEITH DANNEL BEDNAR born: 26 Oct. 1960 at: Cooperstown ND occupation: airline pilot address: Wilmington OH

- (5) KELLY GENE BEDNAR born: 19 Feb. 1964 at: Cooperstown ND occupation: estimator & architect-Kirby Steel address: Nashville TN
- (3) RACHEL KATHRYN CURTIS born: 21 Apr. 1908 at: farm south of Karnak ND married: 10 Apr. 1932 at: farm south of Karnak ND

to: IRWIN ATWOOD WILLSON born: 22 June 1909 at: Leal ND father: Howard Atwood Willson mother: Mary Elizabeth Hilborn occupation: teacher & college professor address: San Luis Obispo CA

(4) CURTIS ROBERT WILLSON born: 6 Apr. 1933 at: Valley City ND married: 1 July 1955 at: Modesto CA

> to: GRACE ELIZABETH THOMPSON born: 28 Jan. 1933 at: Waterloo IA father: Forrest Vern Thompson mother: Tessie Florence Sterling occupation:Curtis-Grace-Staff IV OR nurse address: San Jose CA

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(5) REBECCA LYNN WILLSON born: 21 Nov. 1956 at: Modesto CA married: 16 Nov. 1979 at: San Jose CA

> to: JEFFREY LEE BONTRAGER born: 24 Nov. 1956 at: Hutchinson KS father: Clell Eugene Bontrager mother: Janet Marie Hoffman occupation: Jeff-field rep/Pratt & Whitney/ jet engines address: San Jose CA

- (6) KRISTIN GRACE BONTRAGER born: 14 Oct. 1981 at: San Jose CA
- (6) MEGAN NICOLE BONTRAGER born: 29 Nov. 1983 at Honolulu HI
- (6) JUSTIN LUKE BONTRAGER born: 16 May 1986 at: San Jose CA

(5) RUTH ELIZABETH WILLSON born: 7 Aug. 1959 at: Modesto CA married: 5 Aug. 1984 at: San Jose CA

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- (6) MICHAEL ALLEN REITON born: 27 Oct. 1987 at: San Jose CA
- (6) MATTHEW DOUGLAS REITON born: 18 May 1989 at: San Jose CA
- (6) NATALI GRACE REITON born: 30 Mar. 1992 at: San Jose CA
- (5) DOUGLAS CURTIS WILLSON born: 7 Feb. 1961 at: San Jose CA occupation: Interactive Business Network/ Customer Service address: San Jose CA

# (4) JANIS RAE WILLSON born: 4 Dec. 1934 at: Valley City ND married: 15 Dec. 1973 at: Hayward CA

to: DAVID NOVY HARDISTY born: 22 Dec. 1933 at: Washington DC father: Norris Montague Hardisty mother: Edith Kathleen Pilke occupation: Hospital Chaplain address: Gresham OR

Scott and Holly are David's children by a previous marriage.

(5) SCOTT MARDISTY born: 6 May 1959 at: Minneapolis MN died: July 1980 at: Prescott AZ Scott died while jogging.

(5) HOLLY HARDISTY born: 17 Oct. 1956 at: Fort Knox KY married: 6 Aug. 1988 at: Tacoma WA

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to: MAX LEGG born: at: father: mother: occupation: Purchasing agent/Boeing Aircraft Alaskan Airlines address: Milton WA

# (4) JACQUELYN KAY WILLSON born: 29 July 1936 at: Valley City ND married: 15 June 1957 at: Mt. Hermon CA

to: JOHN WILLIAM VISS JR born: 15 Feb. 1935 at: Modesto CA died: 7 May 1976 at:Fort St.James BC Canada in a boating accident father: John William Viss Sr. mother: Anne Travaille occupation: John was a medical doctor. address: Gresham OR

(5) RUTH MIRIAM VISS born: 28 June 1958 at: French Camp CA married: 2 Sept. 1978 at: Fort St.James BC

to: KENNETH ALLAN FAST born: 31 Aug. 1955 at: father: George Fast mother: Martha Goertzen occupation: Geologist/oil exploration address: Okotoks AB

- (6) SHARON RACHEL FAST born: 7 Mar. 1981 at Vancouver BC
- (6) KRISTIN MIRIAM FAST born: 26 Sept. 1983 at Saskatoon SK

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(5) JOHN WILLIAM VISS III born: 19 Dec. 1959 at: Oakland CA occupation: litigation Attorney address: Sacramento CA

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#### (5) PHILLIP ANDREW VISS

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born: 3 July 1961 at: Vallejo CA died: 2 Nov. 1976 near Ft. St. James BC Phillip died in a plane crash at or near Frazer Lake, BC while returning from a hunting trip with 3 missionaries, their goal was to shoot a moose for winter meat for Phillip's mother and family. Phillip was a sophmore at Fort Saint James High School.

- (5) STEPHEN MARK VISS born: 18 July 1964 at: Ft. St. James BC occupation: American West customer service/ airline address: Des Moines WA
- (5) DANIEL WILLSON VISS born: 30 Oct. 1968 at: Vallejo CA occupation: landscaping & student address: Sacramento CA

Jacquelyn and John Viss adopted two Carrier Indian sisters.

- (5) LAURA LEE VISS (adopted at age 5 years) born: 24 Dec. 1962 at: Vanderhoff BC occupation: Preschool daycare worker address: Squamish BC
  - (6) JOSHUA ROBERT BILLIE born: 22 April 1988 at: Squamish BC
- (5) MARYANNA LYNN VISS (adopted at age 3.5 weeks) born: 8 Feb. 1967 at: Vanderhoff BC married: 2 Sept. 1989 at: Portland OR

to: JAMES ANDERSON born: 10 Apr. 1961 at: Portland OR father: James Anderson mother: Genevive occupation: U S Bank/Loans address: Oregon City OR

- (6) DANIEL JAMES ANDERSON born: 5 April 1991 at: Oregon City OR
- (6) IAN BRICE ANDERSON born: 27 May 1992 at: Oregon City OR

 (4) DAVID IRWIN WILLSON born: 8 Oct. 1946 at: Pueblo CO married: 1 Apr. 1967 at: Hayward CA
 to: ANITA LOUISE ESPASANDIN born: 9 Sept. 1948 at: Hayward CA father: Louie Leroy Espasandin mother: Betty Jane Atsalis occupation: David-Anita-Medical Technician address: Sonora CA
 (5) MARK DAVID WILLSON born: 6 Aug. 1971 at: San Luis Obispo CA

- (5) LISA JANENE WILLSON born: 4 Sept. 1972 at: Sonora CA
- (5) CORY BRANDON WILLSON born: 6 Mar. 1977 at: Sonora CA

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# (3) THEODORE HENRY CURTIS born: 8 Nov. 1911 at: Cooperstown ND died: 10 Mar. 1982 at: Eureka CA married: 12 Aug. 1944 at: Oakland NE

to: PHYLLIS DELORES EVANGELINE LENDE born: 18 Apr. 1921 at: Cooperstown ND father: Thorvald T. Lende mother: Hilda Marie Johnson Phyllis lives at Hannaford ND

(4) ERLEEN RAE CURTIS born: 10 May 1945 at: Valley City ND married: 11 Feb. 1967 at: Mount Hermon CA

to: WARREN GRAY STALEY born: 3 June 1944 at: Kansas City MO father: Warren Gray Staley mother: Bonnie Vivian Crippen occupation: Warren-accountant/CPA address: Arcata CA

- (5) WARREN GURDON "SKIP" STALEY born: 15 Aug. 1968 at: San Leandro CA
- (5) MELODEE KAYE STALEY born: 10 Jan. 1971 at: Atascadero CA
- (5) KEITH EDWARD STALEY born: 23 Nov. 1972 at: Phoenix AZ
- (5) GRACE CORINN STALEY born: 23 Mar. 1976 at: Arcata CA
- (5) MARK THEODORE STALEY born: 2 Aug. 1983 at: Fortuna CA
- (4) MARY LOU CURTIS born: 17 July 1946 at: Valley City ND married: 27 Apr. 1979 at: Reno NV

to: KENNETH "LANN" BRAVO born: 21 Jan. 1947 at: Scotia CA father: mother: occupation:Lann-foreman for Louislana/Pacific Lumber Mill, also a commercial fisherman. Mary Lou-24 yrs. in nursing home care address: Fortuna CA (5) LANCE KENNETH BRAVO born: 7 Dec. 1979 at: Fortuna CA

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- (5) CHAD STEVENS BRAVO born: 5 March 1981 at: Fortuna CA
- (4) BONNIE JEAN CURTIS born: 6 Dec. 1947 at: Valley City ND married: 12 June 1971 at: Eureka CA

- (5) KRISTI MARIA MABON born: 7 Mar. 1972 at: Fortuna CA
- (5) JESSE DANIEL MABON born: 1 Mar. 1973 at: Fortuna CA
- (5) JASON ANDREW MABON born: 15 Mar. 1976 at: Bishop CA
- (4) JOEL THOMAS CURTIS born: 26 Mar. 1949 at: Valley City ND married: 4 Apr. 1971 at: Rhonerville CA

to: RACHEL KAY RIDDLESPERGER born: 8 June 1951 at: Harrison AR fathar: Jay Riddlesperger mother: Agnes Mae Terherst occupation: Joel & Rachel-21 years of geriatrics and ministry. Now both House Doctors. address: Eureka CA

(5) TODD MARK CURTIS born: 28 Jan. 1972 at: Fortuna CA occupation: Preparing for career in Law Enforcement address: Eureka CA

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(5) TAMMY RENAE CURTIS born: 21 Apr. 1974 at: Harrison AK occupation: Preparing for R.N. address: Eureka CA

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- (5) STEVEN EUGENE CURTIS born: 23 Jan. 1978 at: Ukiah CA occupation: Plans to be FBI agent
- (5) BRIAN LEE CURTIS born: 9 April 1980 at: Fortuna CA Plans to be sports broadcastor on ESPN
- (4) VIRGINIA MAE CURTIS born: 7 Oct. 1950 at: Valley City ND married: 1 Nov. 1969 at: Fortuna CA

to: THOMAS EDWARD THOMPSON born: 22 June 1950 at: Tacoma WA father: Earl Henry Thompson mother: Opal M. Rodden occupation: Thomas-lube technician for auto dealer Virginia-beautician address: Gresham OR

(5) TERRI LYNN THOMPSON born: 9 Sept. 1970 at: Arcata CA married: 25 Aug. 1990 at: Eureka CA

> to: JOHN ROYAL SELVAGE born: 11 Feb. 1967 at: father: Jack Selvage mother: Leslie occupation: John-engineer Terri-receptionist address: Rhonert Park CA

- (5) KIMBERLY KAY THOMPSON born: 14 Nov. 1973 at: Inglewood CO
- (5) JENNIFER LeANN THOMPSON born: 12 Feb. 1977 at: Eureka CA.

(4) RACHEL MARIE CURTIS born: 27 Nov. 1952 at: Cooperstown ND married: 1 Apr. 1972 at: Eureka CA

> to: DAN LEE GRAYBILL born: 20 Aug. 1949 at; Twin Falls ID father: Carl Graybill mother: Rosie Klundt occupation: Owns insect extermination business address: Portland OR

- (5) CAMMY SHERI GRAYBILL born: 17 Mar. 1973 at: Eureka CA
- (5) SHANNON MARIE GRAYBILL born: 18 June 1975 at: Eureka
- (4) ESTHER JANE CURTIS born: 4 Feb. 1955 at: Cooperstown ND occupation: works in resident care home address: Eureka CA
- (4) JOHN MARK CURTIS born: 26 Nov. 1957 at: Cooperstown ND married: 7 Feb 1982 at: Eureka CA

to: LORRAINE ANNE SAVAGE born: 20 Nov 1962 at: Santa Monica CA father: Earl Sherman Savage mother: Victoria Leonetti occupation: Amway & antique dealer address: Hannaford ND

- (5) JAROD JOHN CURTIS born: 12 Nov. 1982 at: Fortuna CA
- (5) KENNETH KYLE CURTIS born: 6 Nov. 1984 at: Fortuna CA
- (5) ANGELE' LORRAINE CURTIS born: 26 Aug. 1988 at: Fortuna CA

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Mark Curtis



Anna & Mark Curtis



Kenneth & Rachel Curtis



Standing-Kenneth Seated-Theodore & Rachel



Theodore, Rachel & Kenneth Curtis





Rachel & Kenneth Curtis

Grandma Curtis (Anna Williams Curtis) was 5 1/2 years old when she came to this country with her father, mother, and brother William who was 3 years old, Rachel was born 10 days after they arrived at Watertown, Wisconsin, our father (Mr. Williams) died in Sept. 1892, William passed away in Feb. 1893 and Rachel passed away June 12, 1964. (On the back of the photo is: Aunt Mary 14 years, Aunt Rachel 20 years, Mother Curtis (Anna) 27 years.)



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Mark Curtis with Kenneth, Ted and Rachel



Ted, Mark & Kenneth Curtis



Mark & Anna Curtis



Mark and Anna Curtis at Regina



Mark Curtis



Anna Curtis age 84 in 1959



Kenneth Curtis



Kenneth & Gladys Curtis



Kenneth & Gladys Curtis Joyce & Jack Curtis





John "Jack" & Lois Curtis



Joyce & Orville Glen Garner



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1-r Joyce, Glen & Ken Garner and Beth Foster



l-r Greg, Heidi, Judy & Gretchen Curtis



Beth & Kenneth Garner



Michele & Mark Curtis



Edward & Caryl Bednar 25th Anniversary



Keith Bednar



Kelly Bednar

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Kevin & Jennifer Bednar



1-r Kristine, Jackie, Marc & Donald MacLeod

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Rachel Curtis



Rachel & Irwin Willson wedding Apr. 10, 1932



Curtis & Janice Willson



Rachel Curtis one hour before marriage.



Curtis, Jacqueline and Janice Willson



1-r Irwin, Rachel, Jackie, Jan, Grace & Curt-1986



Rachel & Irwin Willson 54th wedding Anniversary April 10, 1986



Irwin & Rachel Willson - 1991



Grace & Curtis Willson



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l-r Jeff, Megan, Kristin, Justin & Becky Bontrager



Jeff & Becky Bontrager with Megan, Kristin & Justin



1-r Kristin, Megan and Justin Bontrager



Ruth & Jerry Reiton with children 1-r Michael, Natalie & Matthew



Jerry & Ruth Reiton & son Michael



Matthew & Michael Reiton



Natalie Reiton 5 months old on Mar. 30, 1992



Douglas Willson with nephew Matthew Reiton 241

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David & Janice Hardisty



Scott Hardisty



Holly Ann Hardisty Legg



The Viss Family l-r back: Phillip, John III, Jackie, John & Ruth. l-r front: Laura, Daniel, Maryanna & Stephen.



1-r back: Laura, Jackie, Ruth & Steve
1-r front: Maryanna, John, Phil & Dan
The Viss family 4 months after Dr. John
Viss' death & 2 months before Phil's death.



top row 1-r: Jackie, Ken & Jan bottom 1-r: Kristin Fast, Rachel Willson & Sharon Fast



John W. Viss III Kristen & Sharon Fast





1-r Steve, Maryanna & Daniel seated: Jackie

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l-r Jackie, Curtis & Grace



Anita & Dave Willson



David Willson



Irwin & Rachel Willson Anita & David



l-r Lisa, David, Anita, Mark & in front, Cory



Maryanna's Wedding 1-r: Irwin & Rachel Willson, John, Jackie, Ruth, Joshua, Laura, Steve & Dan. Front: Maryanna & Jay Anderson



Grandma Curtis and ten of her greatgrandchildren: back 1-r: John Viss III, Becky Willson, Ruth Viss, Ruth Willson, Doug Willson. front 1-r: Phillip, Laura, Maryanna & Steven Viss, Grandma holding baby Daniel.



1-r Irwin, Rachel & Grace. Kristin & Justin Bontrager, Matthew, Michael, Jerry & Ruth Reiton, Becky & Jeff Bontrager with Megan Bontrager in front.



l-r Rachel, Jackie, Irwin, Jan & Dave Hardisty, Grace & Curtis Willson



1-r Anna, Theodore, baby Erleen and Mark Curtis



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Theodore Curtis



Theodore & Phyllis Curtis Wedding Photo



Erleen Curtis

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Mary Lou Curtis

Chad Bravo

Lance Bravo

Lanny & Mary Bravo



back-Mary Lou center-Lance, Kenneth "Lann" front-Chad Bravo



Clockwise: Warren "Skip", Keith, Melodee, Grace, Mark, Erleen and Warren Staley



1-r Keith, Skip, Grace, Melodee and in front-Mark Staley



back-Jason, Jesse & Kristy front-Lon & Bonnie Mabon

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Front-Tom & Ginny Thompson Back-Jennifer & Kim Thompson, John & Terry Selvage



Cammy & Shannon Graybill



back-Todd center-Joel, Rachel, Steven & Tammy front-Brian Curtis





Rachel Curtis

Virginia Curtis



Lorraine & John Curtis



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Joel, Rachel, Steven, Todd, Brian and Tammy Curtis



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Dan & Rachel Graybill



l-r Thomas, Kimberly, Jennifer, Terri and Virginia Thompson.



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l-r Kenneth & Jarrod front-Angele' Curtis





Esther Curtis

Esther Curtis



Ted & Phyllis Curtis 35th Wedding Anniversary

Ted Curtis Family back 1-r: Ginny, Erleen, Joel, Mary Lou and Rachel front 1-r: John, Ted, Phyllis, Esther and Bonnie



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Year 1914 - Mark Curtis and his 5 grain tanks full of grain on the way up to the Karnak Elevator during threshing. The following was taken from conversation of Anna Curtis at the dining table, Dec. 6, 1966. "The tractor was bought in March 1912 from the proceeds of a horse sale. Thirty head of work horses, beautiful ones, brought \$7,000. He paid \$3,000 for the tractor, an Allis Chalmers. One team was bought by the brewery for \$600."



top-Erleen, Anna & Mark botton-Rachel, Mary Lou & John



The Mark Curtis home which burned in 1923.



The Mark Curtis shanty in Dakota



Anna Curtis, Mary Lou & Erleen Joel, Ginnie & Bonnie

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Henry Curtis was born at Ada, Michigan, the 9th child of John L. and Elizabeth Spencer Curtis. There is a discrepency on Henry's birth. His tombstone says 16 February 1868. Obituaries say 15 June 1869. There is also a one day variance in the date of his death. One obituary says 25th November, another says 26th November 1929. The stone in the Sunnyside Cemetery, Barnes Co. where he is buried says 26 November 1929. He died on the home farm in Griggs County, North Dakota of pulmonary tuberculosis.

There is an interesting story of Henry's coming to Dakota. Apparently his mother, Elizabeth Spencer Curtis, perhaps two or three of her Spencer relatives, including at least one brother, and at least three of her children, William, Mark, and Henry came to Dakota at the same time in the fall of 1881 or the spring of 1882. At any rate, let Vy Andrew, (Henry's granddaughter), tell the story in her own words. (Vy is the daughter of Edgar Curtis, Henry's oldest son.)

"A couple of chats with daddy (Edgar) about grandpa Henry that the family moved from Ada, Michigan, to Valley City, N. D.--two boys had to ride in a cattle car with 2 or 3 horses, a cow or 2, hay and feed--as the family could not afford fare for all. Another time he said Henry and Mark were the boys that traveled in the cattle car. One brother emigrated to the Sheyenne River s.e. of Cooperstown where he lived with his mother."

The brother who lived with his mother was William S. Curtis. The story is also told that the conductor knew the boys were in the cattle car but realized the family could not afford fare for everyone and said nothing. Another report tells how when the train stopped at a station, the boys would either get out of the cattle car or hide among the hay and feed in the car-apparently not to attract attention-perhaps fearing the conductor would not let them ride since they had not paid the fare.

Another version of the story of Henry Curtis' trip from Ada, Michigan, to Griggs Co., Dakota, was told by Edgar Curtis to Myron & Betty Lou Curtis, as follows:

"We were driving back to Oregon from a visit with Vyolette and family in Maryland. It was late at night when we saw a sign to Ada, Michigan. Myron and "Grampa" Eddy had been reminiscing about the farm and the old days. It was then that Grampa Eddy decided to tell us how his father travelled to his new home.

When the Curtis boys came West with their mother, they did not have enough money for all to ride in the passenger car of the train. At that time it was common practice for a family to move all their belongings with them, including their farm animals, chickens and such. When the train stopped for a long enough time, the people were expected to go and feed and water their animals in the cattle cars. One brother rode with the mother as a passenger, and the other two were put in a crate and rode with the cows and chickens. Henry was one of those in the crate. The mother would go and give them food and water and sometimes take them out for exercise.

Grampa Eddy said he was sure the train people knew the boys were in there, but probably realized it was necessary if the whole family was to make it out West. Apparently the family was reluctant to talk about this as Grampa Eddy had not told anyone. No one else in the family (cousins etc.) that we have told the story to, had heard it. People in those days did not like to admit to being poor so it was kept a secret."

Looking back on that night I often wonder about the way things worked for the story to come out. We had been talking so much about the farm and hardships they faced in those early days. Then seeing the sign to Ada it was as tho, then (in) the dark, he could tell the story.

Henry homesteaded in Griggs County, North Dakota and probably made several trips over a period of years to and from Michigan before completing his homestead requirements. In 1891, in January and March, there are letters written by Mark and Henry, showing they were attending school at the city of Valpariso, Indiana, not far from Chicago. At any rate Henry returned to N. D. to continue farming in Griggs Co. On 23 May 1894, he married Christine Gillis Stewart in Riverside Township of Steele Co., N.D. (Steele Co. borders Griggs Co. on the east.) Henry & Christine had 4 children.

> Florence Elizabeth Curtis Edgar Thomas Curtis Howard Angus Curtis Myrl Henry Curtis

Henry was a well respected citizen of Griggs County. He outlived his wife by more than ten years. The federal census of 1920 for Broadview township of Griggs Co. shows him as head of a household with sons Edgar 22, Howard 20, and Myrl 18 living in the same household. Daughter Florence on the same 1920 census, same township & county, is married to Raynard Kinn, and have two daughters, Minerva & Mildred.

# Henry Curtis, My Paternal Grandfather By Vyolette Curtis Andrew

My Grandfather Henry Curtis passed away when I was seven. In that he was ill for a long time prior to his death my most vivid memories are going to his house and seeing him ill in bed in the living room. It was difficult to understand why I was not allowed my usual hugs and kisses and recalling how much his mustache tickled me. He died of tuberculosis and at that time it was highly contagious and without the wonder drugs many passed away from the disease.

Tho the memories of him when he was well was riding the old turkey gobbler and also my daily visit to see him. As soon as my folks would come for me, I would be hidden in conspicuous places and the mock tears and anxiety my parents would have looking for me could not keep me from giggling.

My Dad and Grandpa were terrible teases as all the children and grandchildren will attest.

One story that I have always loved to hear is about how Daddy, Aunty Florence and Uncle Howard would wait until their parents left for awhile, then the three of them would head for the music room - Aunty Florence to the old pump organ and the boys to their violins. They were doing quite well - all playing by ear until one day their parents, Grandma and Grandpa, arrived sooner than expected and heard the music. Evidently pleased with the sounds, they were then allowed to play their instruments at will. Daddy still played his violin until he became too ill.

Both Daddy and Grandpa were devoted to their families and each of us have learned from their values and the love they have given us.

Love, Vyolette

# Henry Curtis Obituary

Mr. Henry Curtis, one of our most highly esteemed and beloved citizens passed away Tuesday morning, November 26, 1929, (another obituary says he passed away Monday Nov. 25). He was born at Ada, Michigan and moved to North Dakota with his mother, brothers, and sisters, at the age of 12 years where he has ever since made his home. He was one of the true pioneers, having seen the country change from virgin prairie to a well settled and cultivated country, dotted with small towns and he has done his share toward the building.

He was united in marriage with Miss Christine Stewart, May 23, 1894, which union was blessed with four children,

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Florence, Edgar, Howard, and Myrl. They made their home on the homestead in Broadview township, where Mr. Curtis was honored with many positions of trust in the church, the township and in the school district. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis early affiliated themselves with the Congregational Church of Sibley Trail, and also aided in the building of a church at Karnak, the townsite of which is on their land. His son Myrl and Mrs. Curtis, preceded him to their heavenly home, the former May 25, 1924, and the latter January 3, 1919. Although the loss of his dear companion left him lonely and desolate he carried on with courage and cheerfulness for the sake of his children, and grandchildren. During the trials and vicissitudes which everyone must meet in this life, he sought and found strength from the One who never fails to guide us through the Valley of the Shadow.

He leaves to mourn his passing his daughter, Mrs. Raynard Kinn, and two sons, Edgar and Howard, his brother, Mark, and sister, Elizabeth, other relatives and a host of friends. Services were conducted at the Congregational church of Sibley Trail, arrangements for which were cared for by E. J. Mosher, who had been a friend of the family for many years. Rev. Meyers gave a fine address to the relatives and many friends who assembled to pay their last respects. Interment was made at Sunnyside Cemetery, adjacent to the Congregational Church. The community and other friends extend sympathy to the family in their bereavement.

#### Christine Gillis Stewart

Christine Gillis Stewart, wife of Henry Curtis, was born either 21 December 1873 or 1874 at Mitchell, Ontario, north of London, Ont.

She was the daughter of Angus Stewart and Margaret Patterson. Angus and Margaret had the following children: Neal, Christine, Alexander, who married Emily Dow. He, (Alexander), died at age 40, about a month of the time of Christine's death. A 4th child was a girl who died at age 18. The families of Mr. & Mrs. Angus Stewart, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Ladbury, and Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Morgan, were friends, and all came to Dakota from Mitchell, Ontario.

Christine Stewart's great-grandmother was a sister of David Livingstone, the missionary-explorer to Africa. Another source says that Christina's mother was a first cousin to Dr. David Livingstone. We do not have a great deal of information about Christine beyond her obituary which is now quoted.

"Hannaford Enterprise. Christine Gillis Stewart was born in Ontario, December 21st, 1873, and was called to her long

home Jan. 3rd, 1919, at the age of 45 years and 12 days, having been stricken with the Spanish influenza about a week before her departure, the disease developing into pneumonia.

In 1883, when only 10 years old, she came with her parents to Riverside township, Steele County, where she resided until May 23rd 1894, at which time she was married to Henry Curtis and came to the present Curtis homestead where she resided until her Master called her to be with Him in that better land. To this union were born four children, Florence Elizabeth, now Mrs. H. R. Kinn, Edgar Thomas, Howard Angus, and Myrl Henry; the latter three residing on the old homestead with their parents, and the former with her husband and two children on their farm just across the road from the Curtis homestead.

Mrs. Curtis confessed Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at about the age of fifteen and after her marriage placed her membership in the Union Congregational church of Ladbury. Upon answering the call of her Heavenly Father, she leaves us with her mother, Mrs. Stewart of Valley City, her husband, her four children, two grandchildren and a large circle of friends who in a measure expressed their love and friendship through an elaborate floral display on the day of the funeral. The services were conducted from the home by Rev. J. C. Wilson of Hannaford, and her remains were laid to rest in the Ladbury cemetery.

Mrs. Curtis was not only highly respected by all but made the stranger, as well as the friend and neighbor full welcome in her home. Many hearts are sad because she is missed, but they are not without hope."

> IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF Our Dear Mother Christine G. Curtis Born Dec. 21, 1874 Died Jan. 3, 1919 Age 45 yrs. 12 days. GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A precious one from us has gone, A voice we loved is stilled; A place is vacant in our home, Which never can be filled. God in His wisdom has recalled, The boon his love had given, And though the body slumbers here, The soul is safe in Heaven.

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# My Tribute to Mother and Daddy (Harriet and Edgar) By Vyolette Curtis Andrew

My mother was born in Fountain Prairie Township, Minnesota There were twelve children in the family. in 1896. Mother's parents were Holland Dutch, both being born in the Netherlands. Mother was named Hattie (no middle name) and changed her name to Harriet after Mother and Daddy were married. Before they were married, Mother was a teacher at the Greenland Consolidated School in Litchville, N. D. The first year she taught there was in 1919. Daddy was born in 1897 in Karnak, N.D. of English, Irish and German extraction in a family of four children. Mother and Daddy met in N. D. and were married in Baldwin, Wisconsin in 1920. They had three children, myself, my brother Myron and sister Betty. Daddy was a farmer working with his Dad on the family farm at the time of their marriage.

My first remembrances were living in a small house across the road from my Grandfather, Henry Curtis. My Grandmother passed away in 1919 from the flu and I do not remember my maternal Grandmother Margaret Patterson, who lived at the home place until her death in 1924. When my Grandfather became ill, we exchanged houses and Grandpa went to live in the little house and we moved into the large family home place. My Grandpa then had a live-in woman who was a wonderful caretaker for him until he passed away in 1929.

Daddy farmed the property and Mother raised a large garden, had chickens and turkeys. I recall her getting up early to water and care for her garden before the heat of the day. She also had a chicken hatchery where she did custom hatching for family and friends. We always had the Curtis school teacher living with us so it was a busy household.

Living on the farm we were all busy with our chores. Summers as I recall were very busy with threshing and helping neighbors and families with their crops.

I just do not recall any problems the folks had with us children. I am certain we were not angels because I recall that when we returned from visiting or shopping we always asked if we had been good and could we go again. One time Daddy caught me on the top of the windmill. He must have had eyes in the back of his head as I was certain I was unnoticed. After being told to get down, the palm of his big hand left a great understanding that would be the last time I would climb the windmill and it was possibly the first and last time I would get a spanking.

Mother and Daddy had an interesting social life with many relatives and friends nearby. They had numerous whist parties in the south room. Mother and Daddy loved to dance and helped to plan many social events. I recall them

putting on plays for the community. One of them was "A Prairie Rose". Mother was Rose and Daddy was Rob, the dashing suitor. The play's cast were close family and friends.

Sunday was a day of rest, as much as it could be on a farm. The menu of the day was always fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy. Daddy always made homemade ice cream. The ice used was cut from the river during the winter freeze and then stored underground with straw covering. The ice cutting again was a family endeavor.

As a family we enjoyed many fun times like sledding and tobogganing down the big hill south of the barn. Others may dispute me as they could never find "the big hill". I recall family picnics down by the river and under the railroad trestle. What a temptation to walk across. We had fun playing in our Grandpa's horse drawn buggies in the large shed across the road.

Mother and Daddy finally gave up the farm in 1934. The Depression and dust storms were too much. I vividly recall the day of the farm auction. It was a very sad day for all of us to leave our roots and many of our personal belongings and move across the country from farm to city. Fortunately we moved to Eugene, Oregon, an area where many relatives and friends from N. D. would be moving.

They did not find life too easy in Eugene, but it did become their final destination. Daddy had odd jobs to begin with, a service station for awhile and then later built a garage and did auto repair. In later years they had RV sales with Myron's help.

Mother worked at the Eugene cannery for many years. It was somewhat seasonal, early spring thru late fall. She started on piece goods, then was inspector and also worked in various receiving offices. Fortunately Betty always lived close by and was always a helping hand for our parents.

Mother and Daddy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1970 with many friends and relatives in attendance.

The folks lived in the same house for all the remaining years of Mother's life. She passed away in 1972. Daddy moved to Gresham in 1975 when he married Emma MacGregor, who had been a neighbor and friend from the time we moved to Eugene. Daddy became ill and passed away in 1985. They are buried in the Resthaven Memorial Mausoleum, Eugene, Oregon.

Life was not always easy for Mother and Daddy, but what they made of their lives shows their true character. When I asked my girls what they remembered the most about their Grandparents, the answers were all the same. The feeling of

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comfort and warmth and of being loved while Mother read a favorite fairytale, while rocking in her favorite chair; the wonderful aroma and treat of her delicious cinnamon rolls; or the Sunday morning teddy bear pancakes made by Daddy and the candy that Daddy always had in his pocket or desk, ready for a willing little hand to find. Mother and Daddy's memory lives on in the lives of all their family. Their values and beliefs will live for generations in our hearts.

Lovingly, Vyolette

The following is taken from a newspaper article, Howard Johnson, correspondent:

#### CURTIS FAMILY LEAVES FOR OREGON

Edgar Curtis and family of Karnak left for Eugene, Oregon on Wednesday, October 15, where they intend to make their future home. Vyolette, their oldest daughter, has been a member of the freshmen class for the past five weeks. The Curtises have taken an active part in community affairs and we know they will make many friends at their new home. We wish them good luck and happiness. H. J.

# Edgar T. Curtis

Cryptside service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Resthaven Memorial Park in Eugene for Edgar Thomas Curtis, retired owner and operator of Curtis Motors and Trailer Sales in Eugene. Mr. Curtis, a Gresham resident, died Thursday at the age of 87. Mr. Curtis was born in Karnak, N. D. He was the Southeast Portland Lions member of Club and International Union of Operating Engineers. Following his retirement in Eugene, he moved to Gresham. Surviving are his wife, Emma M.; two daughters, Vyolette C. Andrew of Corvallis and Betty E. Large of Eugene; a son, Myron H. of Portland; nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

# Myrl Henry Curtis

Myrl Henry Curtis, the youngest child of Henry Curtis and his wife, Christine was born at Karnak, N.D. 14 November 1901. His childhood was spent in their Griggs County home. On 24 January 1923 at Minneapolis, Mn. he married Miss Lillian Pederson. She was the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Pederson who apparently were from Ladysmith, Wisconsin.

Myrl lived a short life. Following marriage Myrl and Lillian moved to Karnak where he lived until the day of his death, 21 May 1924 at midnight. He had contracted tuberculosis about the first of September 1923 which resulted in his early death less than nine months later.

Myrl and Lillian had one child. His name is not known and there is no record of this death in the Griggs County records. A newspaper article dated 11 March 1924 says: "The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Curtis died when but a few days old and was laid to rest at Ladbury Cemetery."

Two weeks later, newspaper article dated 25 March 1924 says "Mr. and Mrs. Merle Curtis have moved into the Joe Griesinger house."

From the obituary of Myrl Curtis we also note the following:

"...He was preceded in death by his mother who died in the year 1919. He is survived by his wife, Lillian, and father, Henry, one sister, Mrs. Henry Reynard Kinn, and two brothers, Edgar and Howard. Visitors from out of Karnak were Mrs. Eugene Pederson from Ladysmith, Wisconsin, the mother of the bereaved wife, and her sister from Page, N.D...Funeral services were conducted from the Karnak church on Saturday May 24th at two o'clock p.m. and the remains were laid to rest at Ladbury Cemetery, Rev. John Haaland conducting the services."

We have been unable to find further information regarding Myrl's wife, Lillian, and do not know how long she lived, nor when or where she died.

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#### HENRY CURTIS DESCENDANT DIRECTORY

(1) JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS

(2) HENRY CURTIS born: 15 June 1869 ? at: Kent County, Michigan died: 26 Nov. 1929 ? at: Griggs County, ND married: 23 May 1894 at: Riverside Township, Steele County, ND to: CHRISTINE GILLIS STEWART born: 21 Dec. 1874 at: Mitchell, Ontario, CANADA died: 3 Jan. 1919 at: Griggs County, ND father: Angus Stewart mother: Margaret Patterson

Henry and Christine were the parents of Florence, Edgar, Howard and Myrl.

# (3) FLORENCE ELIZABETH CURTIS born: 6 Oct. 1895 at: Karnak ND died: 11 Sept. 1966 at: Valley City ND married: 24 Nov. 1915 at: Valley City ND

to: HENRY RAYNARD KINN born: 2 Sept.1891 at: Barnesville MN died; 26 Dec.1975 at: Billings MT father: Henry Hanson (The whole family changed mother: Maria Kinn their name to Kinn, their

mother: Maria Kinn their name to Kinn, their mother's maiden name.) occupation was: Livestock dealer

lived at: North Dakota near Karnak & Walum & in Montana Florence and Henry were the parents of Minerva, Mildred and Vernon.

# (4) MINERVA CHRISTINE KINN born: 14 Feb. 1916 at: Karnak ND died: 19 Mar. 1964 at: Great Falls MT married: 27 Mar. 1938 at: Valley City ND

to: WILLARD VELO BRURUD born: 13 Jan. 1915 at: Hill MT father: Willard C. Brurud mother: Tilda "Tillie" Marie Velo

After Minerva died, Willard married on: 26 Mar.1970 at: Alaska

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to: GLORIA MURIEL SMITH born: 23 June 1931 at: Cloquet MN father: Lauren Foy Smith mother: Hollis Muriel Johnson occupation: Willard-meat cutter & furniture work address: Great Falls MT

Willard & Gloria had a daughter: Tami Lyn Brurud born: 11 October 1971 died: 1 January 1973

- (5) BARBARA JOANNE BRURUD born: 3 Jan. 1940 at: Valley City ND
  - (6) TRACY RAYE BRURUD born: 30 Oct. 1960 at: Great Falls MT married: Jan. 1984 at: Great Falls MT

to: CARL RAY TRUJILLO born: 8 October 1947 at: Great Falls MT father: Alfonso Trujillo mother: Vera Romero occupation: Carl-behavioral psychologist address: Albuquerque NM

- (7) REGINA MICHELLE TRUJILLO born: 27 June 1984 at: Great Falls MT
- (7) ANTHONY BRANDON TRUJILLO born: 9 July 1985 at: Great Falls MT
- (7) ALICIA MARIE TRUJILLO born: 31 Mar. 1988 at: Albuquerque NM
- (6) CAL A. LANCASTER SMITH born: 22 Mar. 1966 at; Anchorage AK occupation: auto body work address: Great Falls MT
- (6) JEANIE ROBERTA LANCASTER SMITH born: 6 Oct. 1968 at: Great Falls MT married: 30 Oct. 1986 at: Palmer, Alaska

to: RODNEY VERNON ERICKSON born: 28 Sept. 1963 at: Minnesota father: Arlo Erickson mother: Florence Wilson occupation: tests for oil rigs address: Palmer, AK

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- (7) LYNNETTE RAYE ERICKSON born: 23 August 1986 at: Palmer AK
- (7) JUSTINE DAWN ERICKSON born: 1 September 1989 at: Palmer AK
- (6) JANIE LYNNETTE LANCASTER SMITH born: 6 October 1968 at: Great Falls MT occupation: waitress address: Great Falls MT
  - (7) BRITTANY JOANNE LANCASTER born: 4 August 1991 at: Reno NV

Barbara married: 10 Oct.1970 at: Anchorage AK

to: KEITH MYRON SMITH born: 30 July 1938 at: Alaska father: Lauren Foy Smith mother: Hollis Muriel Johnson

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- (6) MISTY DAWN SMITH born: 10 Oct. 1971 at: Palmer AK occupation: waitress address: Great Falls MT
  - (7) KaSANDRA ANN SMITH born: 19 July 1990 at: Great Falls MT
  - (7) LEON KEITH SMITH born: 8 Jan 1992 at: Great Falls MT

Barbara and Mr. Smith divorced. Barbara married: 14 Sept. 1984 at:

to: PATRICK WOODS born: 4 Mar. 1953 at: Great Falls MT died: 25 Dec. 1986 at Reno NV father: mother:

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Barbara married 14 August 1992

to: CURTIS WAYNE MOE born: 17 March 1950 at: Grafton ND father: Leo Glenn Moe mother: Delores Ann Indridason occupation: auto body work address: Great Falls MT

Curt's children:

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Cody Christian Moe born: 2 Feb. 1977 at: Great Falls MT

Cimmberley Dawn Moe born: 22 May 1980 at Great Falls MT

(5) BETTE JANE BRURUD born: 30 Dec. 1941 at Valley City ND married: 10 Sept. 1962 at Fort Benton MT

to: ARTHUR HENRY ISH born: 2 May 1933 at: Great Falls MT died: 13 Oct. 1974 at: Palmer AK Injured in an airplane crash which necessiated kidney transplant, then died. father: William Arthur Ish mother: Amy María Garvin Art did auto body work. After Art's death, Bette was married: 23 Nov. 1977 at: Palmer AK

to: RANDY BROWN born: 1 Aug. 1944 at: Phoenix AZ father: Travis John Brown mother: Pauline Feller occupation: welding-builds & repairs address: Palmer AK

(6) RICHARD " RICKY" DARREL ISH born: 7 May 1963 at: Great Falls MT married: 15 Nov. 1990 at: Palmer AK

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to: BOBBI JO CORRIGAN born: 5 April 1968 at: Great Falls MT father: Robert Corrigan mother: Karen occupation: geo physical-testing for oil wells, oil driller address: Palmer AK

- (7) TREVOR CORRIGAN ISH born: 20 September 1990 at: Palmer AK
- (7) BLAKE DARREL ISH born: 20 June 1992 at: Palmer AK
- (6) WILLARD ARTHUR ISH born: 28 May 1965 at: Anchorage AK married: 19 July 1985 at: Palmer AK

to: CONNIE JEAN CORRIGAN born: 8 July at: Great Falls MT father: Robert Corrigan mother: Karen occupation: Fish & Game ~ Fish Hatchery address: Palmer AK at Tucka Bay

(7) RANDY ROBERT ISH born: 14 Sept. 1985 at: Palmer AK

(7) ANNALISHA JANE ISH born: 13 Sept. 1988 at: Palmer AK

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- (7) ANDREW CHARLES ISH born: 11 June 1991 at:Great Falls MT
- (5) BEVERLY JEAN BRURUD born: 26 Feb. 1943 at: Breckenridge MN married: 14 Apr. 1959 at: Fort Benton MT

to: DENNIS MILLER WETZEL born: 9 May 1940 at: Great Falls MT father: Charles Miller Wetzel mother: Mary Funk

(6) JOSEPH ALLEN WETZEL born: 9 August 1960 at: Great Falls MT married: 19 Mar. 1979 at: Heber City UT

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to: MANDY LEE ANDERSON born: 29 Jan. 1963 at: Grant's Pass OR father: Andy Anderson mother: Betty Lee occupation: Joseph-drywaller address: Salt Lake City area

- (7) CRYSTAL LEE WETZEL born: 7 Sept. 1979 at: Great Falls MT
- (7) PRISCILLA ANN WETZEL born: 7 Dec. 1983 at: Great Falls MT
- (7) CHARLES CHANCE WETZEL born: 21 Sept. 1992 at: Heber City UT
- (6) JODY ANN WETZEL born: 9 Sept. 1962 at: Great Falls MT married: 10 June 1983 at: Midway UT

(7) NICOLE JO NICOL born: 23 April 1985 at: Provo UT

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Beverly and Dennis Wetzel divorced 29 Nov. 1962. Beverly married: 9 Sept. 1965 at Couer d'Alene ID

to: JOSEPH MURRAY SAKAYE born: 2 Dec. 1938 at: Great Falls MT father: Kuskai K. Sakaye (Saki-Japanese) mother: Ella Caulder (Indian) occupation: Joe-drywall contractor address: Midway UT

(6) JOHNNY K. SAKAYE born: 9 April 1966 at: Great Falls MT married: 31 Dec.1990 at: Midway UT

> to: GAYLENE ANN McDONALD born: 23 April 1965 at: Heber City UT father: Jim McDonald mother: Sherry Pedersen occupation: Drywaller address: Heber City UT

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- (7) ELEXA RAE SAKAYE born: 22 August 1989 at: Heber City UT
- (4) MILDRED KINN born: 8 Oct. 1918 at: Karnak ND died: 29 Jan. 1976 at: St. Cloud MN married: at:

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to: GEORGE S. LOCKNER born: 21 Jan. 1916 at: Cooperstown ND died 3 June 1966 at: St. Cloud MN father: R. J. Lockner mother:

Mildred married: 4 Sept. 1965 at: St. Cloud MN

to: WILFRED MILLER born: 14 May 1922 at: died: 5 Oct. 1990 at: father: mother: occupation: lived at:

(4) VERNON CURTIS KINN born: 3D July 1926 at: Cooperstown ND married: 5 Feb. 1945 at: Hannaford ND

to: VIVIAN ERICKSON
born: 31 Dec. 1925 at: Towner ND
father:
mother:
Vernon and Vivian had 4 children:
 Vernon, Keith, David and Grant
Vernon and Vivian divorced.
Vernon married 5 Dec. 1963 at Sheridan WY

to: PAULA MAE JOHNKE born: 15 July 1931 at: Flatwillow MT father: Otto Johnke mother: Lois Pallock occupation: Vernon is a trucker address: Billings MT

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#### (5) VERNON ARLIN KINN born: 8 Aug. 1946 at: Val

born: 8 Aug. 1946 at: Valley City ND married: 2 July at: Billings MT

# (6) RHONDA MAY KINN born: 26 Mar. 1971 at Ft. Monmouth NJ married: Oct. 1989 at Sierra Vista AZ

to: JOE GOTTO born: at: father: mother: occupation: his-cook hers-homemaker address: Richmond VA

(7) ROBERT KINN born: 11 Aug. 1987 at: Colorado Springs CO

(7) DANNY KINN born: Dec. 1989 at: Colorado Springs CO

(7) JOEY GOTTO born: 26 Dec. 1990 at: Sierra Vista AZ

# (6) KATHLEEN RENEE KINN born: 23 Nov. 1974 at: married: at: Colorado Springs CO

to: VICTOR QUINTANA born: at: father: mother: occupation:his-maintenance address: Colorado Springs CO ,

- (7) ELIZABETH ANN KINN born: June 1988 at: Ft. Huachucha AZ
- (7) VICTOR QUINTANA born: Jan. 1990 at: Colorado Springs CO
- (5) KEITH LONNY KINN born: 22 Sept. 1948 at: Fargo ND married: 6 May 1967 at: Billings MT

to: BEVERLY CHUPP

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- (6) HARVEY R. KINN born: 17 Aug. 1967 at: died: 19 Aug. 1967 at:
- (6) LONNI LOUISE KINN born: 27 Feb. 1969 at: Billings MT married: 4 Mar. 1989 at: Billings MT

to: TIM PATRICK GLENN born: 19 Aug. 1962 at: Billings MT father: Thomas William Glenn mother: Dolores Elayne Bingaman occupation:Tim-General Contractor Lonni-Housewife address: Billings MT

- (6) KYLE CURTIS KINN born: 9 June 1971 at: Billings MT occupation: Cook address: Billings MT
- (6) LORRI ELIZABETH KINN born: 15 Jan. 1973 at: Billings MT occupation: address: Billings MT
  - (7) ROBIN LEIGH KINN born: 5 Jan. 1990 at: Helena MT
  - (7) ASHLEY ELIZABETH KINN born: 8 Nov. 1992 at: Billings MT

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Keith and Beverly divorced 6 Feb. 1976 Keith married ALTA LOY STOVALL on: 14 Nov. 1979

(6) LEVI JUSTIN KINN born: 11 June 1981 at: Billings MT

Keith and Alta divorced 13 June 1984 Keith married 24 Apr. 1987 at Newell SD

to: DEBORAH "DEBBIE" KAY WANNER born: 9 Apr. 1956 at: Dickinson ND father: Donald Wanner mother: LaDonna Sauvageau occupation: Keith-Truck driver Debbie-Day care provider address:: Miles City MT

(6) RANEE WHITNEY KINN born: 29 Feb. 1988 at: Billings MT

(6) MATTHEW ALAN "LIVINGSTON" KINN born: 8 Apr. 1990 at: Billings MT

Debbie has a child by a previous marriage to Frank Baxter:

Tera Lee Baxter born: 10 June 1979 at Leavenworth KS

# (5) DAVID CRAIG LIVINGSTON KINN born: 12 Sept. 1951 at: Valley City ND

married: 28 Mar. 1986 at: Bozeman MT

to: SHAUNA MARIE CUDNEY born: 12 March 1959 at: Castro Valley CA father: David Cudney mother: Shirley Douglas

(6) AMANDA MARIE KINN born: 23 May 1988 at Colorado Springs CO

David and Shauna divorced. occupation: David is a welder on ships. address: Portland, OR (5) GRANT ALON KINN born: 29 May 1956 at: Billings MT married: at:

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to: ROKANNE ELAINE RADECKI born: 4 Nov. 1956 at: Seattle WA father: Leo Radecki mother: Betty McMurray occupation: Distribution Center Manager for McKesson Drug address: Sandy UT

- (6) HEATHER RACHELLE KINN born: 20 Oct. 1977 at Billings MT
- (6) BEAU MICHAEL KINN born: 10 Apr. 1980 at Billings MT
- (6) PAUL ALON KINN born: 24 Feb. 1983 at Billings MT
- (6) NICOLE ELAINE KINN born: 20 July 1985 at Billings MT
- (3) EDGAR THOMAS CURTIS born: 26 Sept. 1897 at: Karnak ND died: 9 May 1985 at: Gresham OR married: 30 June 1920 at: Baldwin WI

to: HARRIET LOKHORST born: 26 July 1896 at: Pipestone MN died: 25 June 1972 at: Eugene OR father: Eibert Lokhorst mother: Hattie VanEssen

Edgar and Harriet had three children: Vyolette, Myron and Betty

After Harriet died, Edgar married 21 June 1975 at Vancouver WA

to: EMMA McGREGOR born: 15 Mar. 1900 at New Martins Village WV died: 28 July 1988 at: Gresham OR

Edgar owned Curtis Motor and Trailer Sales in Eugene OR

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(4) VYOLETTE HARRIET CURTIS born: 6 Oct. 1921 at: Karnak ND married: 6 June 1943 at: Portland OR

> to: WILLIAM McGILLIVARY ANDREW born: 29 Sept. 1916 at: Nauvoo AL father: William Kaiser Andrew mother: Christine MacGillivary occupation: Wm: retired engineer Vy: homemaker address: Corvallis OR

(5) BILLIE EILEEN ANDREW born: 12 Mar. 1945 at: Eugene OR married: 15 Aug. 1963 at: Eugene Or

> to: JACK ANTHONY ROLFE born: 23 June 1942 at: England Billie Eileen & Jack had a daughter Tracy Ann Billie Eileen & Jack were divorced in 1968. Billie married 29 June 1974 at Waldorf MD

to: JOHN MATTHEW HALLORAN born: 19 Oct. 1939 at: Washington DC father: Matthew Valentine Halloran mother: Helen Christine Mathews occupation: John-business owner Billie-office manager address: Waldorf MD

(6) TRACY ANN ROLFE born: 11 Oct. 1967 at: Annapolis MD married: 12 May 1990 at: Bryantown MD

to: THOMAS MYRON LOYD, JR. born: 12 Mar. 1967 at: Washington DC father: Thomas Myron Loyd, Sr. mother: Maxine Zucker occupation: Thomas: policeman with Capital State Police Tracy: Director of Day Care Center address: Indianhead MD

(7) MICHAEL ANDREW LOYD born: 26 Mar. 1991 at Washington DC

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(5) DIANE KAY ANDREW born: 18 July 1947 at: Portland OR married: 30 Dec. 1966 at: Las Vegas NV

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to: JOSEPH EDWARD PARSONS born: 4 April 1947 at: Milton FL father: Joseph Martin Parsons mother: Martha Louise Johnson occupation: Joseph-Human Resources Mgr. Diane-executive secretary address: Spring TX

- (6) JONATHAN ANDREW PARSONS born: 16 June 1971 at: Twentynine Palms CA occupation: finished college in fireman training address: Spring TX
- (6) KIMBERLEY LOUISE PARSONS born: 25 May 1973 at: Quantico VA occupation: attending college address: Spring TX
- (5) CHRISTINE CURTIS ANDREW born: 5 Nov. 1955 at: Seattle WA married: 12 Feb. 1977 at: Corvallis OR

to: RANDALL GARY KRIEG born: 2 June 1954 at: Corvallis OR father: Richard Albert Krieg mother: Virginia Hammerness occupation: Randall-mgr. of heavy equip. firm Christine-employed-State of OR address: Albany OR

- (6) GREGORY WILLIAM KRIEG born: 17 Oct. 1978 at: Corvallis OR
- (6) KELLIE CATHERINE KRIEG born: 17 Apr. 1980 at: Corvallis OR

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(4) MYRON HENRY CURTIS born: 13 Dec. 1922 at: Cooperstown ND married: 2 June 1946 at: Reno NV

> to: ELIZABETH "Betty Lou" LOUISE KIRKLEY born: 2 Nov. 1924 at: Reno NV father: Joseph Leland Kirkley mother: Louise Mae Piggot occupation: Owner-Trailer & RV Dealership address: Portland OR

> (5) MYRON LEE CURTIS born: 19 Dec. 1948 at: Portland OR married: 23 Aug. 1969 at: Portland OR

> > to: KRISTINA BUTLER born: 10 Nov. 1950 at: Portland OR father: Eugene Butler mother: Bonnie Lee Myron and Kristina divorced. address: Mryon in care home in Gresham OR

(6) MICHELLE LEE CURTIS born: 9 May 1971 at: Portland OR married: 17 Oct. 1992 at: Reno NV

> to: THOMAS ANTHONY SEARLE born: 25 July 1968 at: Portland OR father: George Raymond Searle mother: Gloria Ann Johnson occupation: Cabinet maker address: Gresham OR

- (6) MYRON MICHAEL CURTIS born: 11 May 1973 at: Portland OR
- (6) TREVOR JAMES CURTIS born: 1 Oct. 1977 at: Portland OR

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(5) CAMELIA LOUISE CURTIS born: 4 Nov. 1950 at: Portland OR married: 30 Jan. 1969 at: Reno NV

> to: THOMAS EDWARD GOETZ born: 22 Jan. 1950 at: Portland OR father: Lee Goetz mother: Alma occupation: Thomas-Regional sales manager for Orowheat Bakery Camelia-Vice Pres/Curtis Trailers Inc. address: Milwaukee OR

- (6) KOREN RENAE GOETZ born: 16 Sept. 1969 at: Portland OR occupation: Travel Agent/Educational Tours address: Standardville VA
- (6) KORY THOMAS GOETZ born: 3 July 1973 at: Portland OR
- (5) MYLO EDGAR CURTIS born: 29 Aug. 1952 at: Portland OR occupation: Fireman address: Portland OR
- (5) CARLENE HARRIET CURTIS born: 3 June 1954 at: Portland OR married: 6 June 1946 at: Gresham OR

to: ROBERT JOHN SCHRIEVER born: 7 May 1951 at: SD father: Al Schriever mother: Lucille occupation: Robert-General Mgr.-Curtis Trailers, Inc. Carlene-Sec./Treas. Curtis Trailers, Inc. address: Happy Valley OR

- (6) KARRA JILL SCHRIEVER born: 26 July 1978 at: Portland OR
- (6) KELSEA ALLISON SCHRIEVER born: 7 Feb. 1982 at: Portland OR
- (6) ROBERT JOHN SCHRIEVER born: 16 Oct. 1983 at: Portland OR

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(4) BETTY EILEEN LIVINGSTON CURTIS born: 5 Dec. 1924 at: Cooperstown ND married: 1 Sept. 1960 at: Eugene OR

- (5) LISA KATHERINE LARGE born: 16 Dec. 1961 at: Eugene OR occupation: Legal Secretary address: San Francisco CA
- (5) CURTIS LEON LARGE born: 14 Jan. 1963 at: Eugene OR occupation: Owns a Roofing business address: Eugene OR
- (3) HOWARD ANGUS CURTIS born: 3 Sept. 1899 at: died: 26 Dec. 1941 at: near Galesburg ND married: 29 June 1939 at: Valley City ND

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to: FRANCELLA MARIE JOHNSON
born: 9 Oct. 1912 at: Hope ND
died: 22 Jan. 1965 at: Valley City ND
father: Francis Godfred Johnson
mother: Alva Charlotte Lind
Howard was a mechanic & farmer & an excellent violinist

- (4) ARLEN HOWARD CURTIS born: 23 June 1940 at: Valley City ND occupation: High School Mathematics Teacher address: Walnut Creek CA
- (4) LONA JEAN CURTIS born: 18 Sept. 1941 at: Hannaford ND married; 1 Feb. 1964 at: Valley City ND

to: DONALD ANDREW KNIGHT born: 27 June 1939 at: Hunter ND father: Andrew Knight mother: Louise Ethel Horning occupation: owns a sign business address: Ukiah CA

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(5) CURTIS TODD KNIGHT born: 5 Dec. 1965 at: Aberdeen SD married: 30 April 1988 at: Roseville MN

> to: HELEN ELAINE GINGERICH born: 24 Feb. 1969 at: Albert Lee MN father: Clifford John Gingerich mother: Mary occupation: Works in family sign business Youth Pastor in Assembly of God Curtis & Helen in Christian band address: Ukiah CA

- (5) DANIEL LEE KNIGHT born: 22 Mar. 1967 at: Aberdeen SD occupation: 1-works in family sign business 2-race car business & driver address: Ukiah CA
- (5) KRISTIE LYNN KNIGHT born: 13 Nov. 1970 at: Ukiah CA occupation: Graduated from cosmetology school address: Ukiah CA

# (3) MYRL HENRY CURTIS born: 14 Nov. 1901 at: Karnak ND died: 21 May 1924 at: Karnak ND (of tuberculosis) married: 24 Jan. 1923 at: Minneapolis MN

to:	LI	LLIAN	PI	DERSON	
born					at:
died	12				at:
father:		Eugene		Pederson	
moth	er:				

(4) CURTIS according to the Hannaford Enterprise of . 11 March 1924 "the infant son of Mr. & Mrs. Myrl Curtis died when but a few days old."

The infant is buried at the Ladbury Cemetery.



l-r Henry, William S. & Mark Curtis taken May 18, 1881



Henry Curtis & "Tina" Stewart, who he afterwards married



4 Generations- Christine Curtis, Margaret Patterson Stewart holding Minerva Kinn & Florence Kinn





Henry Curtis

Christine Gilles Stewart, wife of Henry Curtis



1-r Henry & Mark Curtis



Edgar & Florence Curtis



Henry & Tina Curtis with Florence & Edgar

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Christine Curtis holding daughter, Florence & Christine's mother, Mrs. Stewart



1-r Henry & Christine Curtis, & their children Florence, Edgar, Howard & Myrl.



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Florence Curtis



Howard in buggy, Curtis Children Florence & Edgar



Florence Curtis Kinn



Henry Curtis with granddaughter Minerva Kinn

Florence Kinn, Edgar Curtis, Blanche Stewart, Raynard Kinn and Emily Stewart



l-r Mildred (Kinn), Harriet Curtis, Florence Kinn, Phyllis Curtis, Hazel Carlson



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Minerva Kinn



l-r Three Brurud Sisters: Bette Brown, Barbara Moe & Beverly Sakaye



Curt & Barbara Moe



Willard Brurud



ud Willard & Minerva Brurud



1-r back: Janie, Jeanie, Cal front: Misty & Tracy Children of Barbara



Trujillo Children: 1-r Anthony Regina & Alicia



Brittney, dau. of Janie



Lynnette Erickson

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Justine Erickson



KaSandra Smith



Leon Smith

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Arthur Ish



Randy Brown



Ricky Ish & son, Trevor



1992-Blake Ish



1992-Willard Ish



Randy Ish



Annalisha Ish



Andrew Ish



1992-Andrew Ish



l-r back-Priscilla & Crystal Wetzel, Mandy & Joseph Wetzel, John Sakaye. front-Nicole & Judy Nicol, Joe and Beverly Sakaye, Gaylene Sakaye holding Elexa Sakaye.



Charles Wetzel



Nicole Nicol



John Sakaye

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Elexa Sakaye 278

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Vernon & Paula Kinn



Debbie Kinn holding Matthew, Tera Baxter, Keith Kinn holding Ranee



Lonni & Tim Glenn

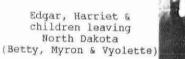


Levi Kinn

Robin Leigh Kinn



Lorri Kinn & brother, Kyle Kinn







Edgar Curtis & Harriet Lokhorst Wedding



Edgar on his motorcycle 279

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Edgar & Harriet Curtis



Edgar Curtis



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Wedding Photo of Vyolette Curtis & William Andrew



Bill & Vy Andrew taken Oct. 1991



Billie Eileen & John Halloran



Billie & John



Jack Rolfe



Myron & Tracy Loyd wedding photo



Joseph & Diane Parsons with Jonathon & Kimberly



Myron & Tracy Loyd with Michael



Randall & Christine Krieg Wedding Photo-1977



Joseph & Diane Parsons Wedding Photo-1956



Randall & Christine Krieg & children Gregory & Kellie 280

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Myron H. & Betty Lou Curtis at their dealership



1-r Myron M., Michelle & Trevor Howard Curtis Curtis. Seated-Myron Lee Curtis



Robert Schriever Family 1-r Robert, Carlene, Kelsea, Robert & Karra





Francella Johnson & Howard Curtis



1-r Tom, Koren, Cammy & Kory Goetz



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Mylo Edgar Curtis



Arlen Curtis

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Betty & Herbert Large



Sister & Brother Lisa & Curtis Large 281

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(and party of

Lona Curtis & Don Knight wedding



Donald & Lona Knight



Myrl Curtis age 17 months



Myrl Curtis



the Knight Family l-r Daniel, Don, Lona, Kristi, Curtis & his wife, Helen



Myrl & Lillian Curtis



l-r Edgar Curtis, Lillian & Myrl Curtis



back 1-r: Willie Curtis, Myrl Curtis center; Howard, Florence, Myrtle & Hazel Curtis, front: Edgar Curtis



Henry Curtis farm home near Karnak, ND

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l-r Back: Harriet Curtis, Florence Kinn, Francella Curtis, Hazel Carlson, Lona Curtis & Hannah Ladbury. Front: Arlen Curtis, Raynard Kinn and Ernest Ladbury.

the Sunnyside Congregational Church in Sibley Trail Township. The cemetery (known as Ladbury, Sunnyside or Sibley Trail) is just to the south of this church. This is where most of the early pioneers of the Curtis family are buried. The church is closed but the cemetery is kept up.

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Henry Curtis farm

#### DANIEL CURTIS

- (1) JOHN L. & ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS
- (2) DANIEL CURTIS born: 22 May 1871 at: Ada, Michigan died: at:

The Kent County, Michigan birth records, Book 1, Page 244 list Daniel Curtis born 22 May 1871 at Ada, Michigan. Mark Curtis stated in naming the family, "And then there was little Daniel." This indicates Daniel probably died as a child. Nothing more is known about him. We do not have a picture of Daniel.

To date, no one has found death records for either John L. Curtis or his youngest child, "little Daniel" Curtis. It is highly probable both Daniel and his father, John L. Curtis, are buried somewhere on the land once owned by John L. & Elizabeth Curtis, his wife, and later owned by John and wife Adelaide Curtis and Thomas Curtis. The legal description of this land is:

E 1/2 SW 1/4 and SE 1/4 NW 1/4 of Section 26, Township 7 North, Range 10 West. (Ada Township, Kent County, Michigan)

Warranty Deed dated 1 Sept. 1868 conveys the above land from Edward and Maria W. Pettis to John L. Curtis.

Warranty Deed dated, 26 December 1871 conveys the same land from John L. & Elizabeth Curtis to Edward Pettis.

Quit Claim Deed dated 10 Sept. 1877, covering the same land is from Edward and Maria W. Pettis to Thomas & John Curtis.

QCD on same land and dated 8 August 1879, is from John and Adelaide Curtis to Thomas Curtis.

Here is a sketch of Section 26. The shaded area is the portion of the section once owned by the Curtis family.

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# EXCERPTS FROM NEWSPAPERS OF Cooperstown, Hannaford, Valley City regarding CURTIS-SPENCER FAMILIES Time period covered: 1884 - 1924

9 May 1884--JOHN E. WARNER and ELIZABETH MORGAN were married by Judge Wm. Glass on May 4. (Note: Marriage was at Cooperstown, Dakota Territory.)

26 September 1884--With fine weather threshing will be completed on the Nelson Bros. farm Saturday. **CURTIS BROTHERS**, who have the contract are our boys for threshing.

19 September 1885--Estray Notice. Strayed on to my premises, a bay horse pony with whiter nose and four white feet. Owner can have same by proving property and paying charges. THOMAS CURTIS- Sec. 14-144-58

16 October 1885--THOS. CURTIS sold 1000 bushels of barley to S.K. Nestor of Valley City which is being shipped to Duluth, 48 cents per bu. being the price paid.

29 April 1887--JOHN WARNER'S dog attempted to go through one of Syverson & Co.'s windows (at Cooperstown) Tuesday. The result was a broken pane of glass and a badly scared canine.

July 1887--JAMES SPENCER has been elected to the Gallatin School Board.

23 December 1887--TOM CURTIS who lives south between the river and the creek has killed two glandered horses and has another one on the sick list.

December 1887--NELLIE WARNER, 12, is attending school at Gallatin during this year.

13 January 1888--MRS. HERMAN and her brother, CHARLES CURTIS started out in the blizzard Thursday to go 16 miles south. Two little children of MRS. HERMAN at home urged them out. They probably had to stop on the way.

20 January 1888--Cooperstown was thrown into a state of mild excitement by the reports of farmers coming in to trade that Sheriff Michaels, Chris Jackson, Mrs. Carl Ohde, I. E. Mills, A. Cameron & wife, CHARLES CURTIS & MRS. HERMAN had been lost in the blizzard that struck here Wednesday at 4 p.m...CHARLES CURTIS & MRS. HERMAN were later in the day reported safe...One poor woman insufficiently clothed died,--Mrs. Carl Ohde while walking through the drifts to her husband and child...

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20 April 1888--CHARLEY LADBURY tried to get down to the river after wood...can't cross creek...came back empty.

27 April 1888--MR. LESS HERMAN bought 100 bu. of the finest seed wheat this season for 73 cents and no interest from Mr. Root of Valley City.

18 May 1888--We could see from this place a furious prairie fire in the neighborhood of Stoddard and up around **TOM CURTIS'** last Wednesday night.

11 January 1889--Surprise parties have been the latest amusements...Mr. & Mrs. Ladbury...and MR. TOM CURTIS.

15 March 1889--Dad said a boy. LESS HERMAN knows better. It is a girl. Dad's mistake. (Note: Dad is the writer of the Ashtabula news which appears periodically in the Cooperstown paper. Also, the paper nearly always refers to the surname, "HARRIMAN" as "HERMAN".)

5 April 1889--It gives us great pleasure to report that MRS. HERMAN is gaining and recovery is beyond doubt. The little girl is well cared for by Mrs. Ladbury.

1 July 1889--LESS HARRISON is reported to be in Watertown, Dakota.

18 July 1889--JAMES SPENCER JR. is back from Montana. JAMES went this spring with a car load of horses for CURTIS.

26 July 1889--LESLIE HERMAN, the man supposed to have been kidnapped, a brother-in-law of CURTIS, is in Wahpeton, Richland County, Dakota...SPENCER saw him there...

1 November 1889--MISS ELLEN LADBURY was appointed clerk for the Ladbury School District.

\_\_\_November 1889--JIM SPENCER is moving up the river, now near Gallatin.

6 December 1889--Notice. I wish the public to understand that the note taken by MATHEW SPENCER from me and due Nov. 1, 1889 has been fully complied with and duly paid. THOMAS CURTIS.

13 December 1889--CURTIS is still threshing with horsepower and has a long job before him.

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20 December 1889--MR. SPENCER bruised himself by a fall downstairs. JAMES SPENCER JR. had the time of a hayfork run through his hand.

10 January 1890--MR. TOM CURTIS is not through threshing yet. He will thresh out the 89 and thresh in 90.

24 January 1890--Pardon me, ye editor, this time I hardly think it is a skip but something like it. The report is that Mr. Carl Zimmerman, next neighbor to the disappearing LESS HERRIMAN, has also skipped...Dad

31 January 1890--JAMES SPENCER called as usual. Jim says he has bought his father's place.

31 January 1890--Ashtabula. Atchison says there is only one settler between here and Gallatin, a distance of 12 miles. Almost as wild now as it was 8 or 9 years ago.

18 April 1890--They say MR. SPENCER has gone to the new promised land, and no telling whether the Turtle Mts. may check his progress, or the ice at the North Pole. MR. SPENCER has been an old settler here and will be missed.

23 May 1890--We understand that Sidney Pierce has bought 160 acres formerly owned by CHARLES CURTIS.

11 December 1890--Warranty Deed- JOHN & ELIZABETH WARNER of Kootenai Co., Idaho Territory, to THOMAS CURTIS of Barnes Co., N.D. for \$1000. NW 1/4 32-144-58

9 January 1891--MRS. HERMAN (SAMANTHA), and her mother, (ELIZABETH SPENCER CURTIS), have moved down to the river for the winter. They occupy the old homestead.

16 January 1891--JOHN CURTIS of Barnes County is hauling ice from the river.

January 1891--WILL CURTIS saw gophers, a sign of spring coming.

6 February 1891---There was a small social gathering at WILL CURTIS' residence last week...excellent singing by MRS. CURTIS, MISS TENA STEWART, & John Dyer, and an excellent supper served by MRS. CURTIS. The entertainment was enjoyed by all.

20 February 1891--JOHN CURTIS & FAMILY, MRS. HERMAN, Fred Ladbury, JOHN & JAMES SPENCER...were guests of MR. & MRS. THOMAS CURTIS.

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20 March 1891--THOMAS CURTIS has moved his house from Barnes County to the old homestead on the river, a distance of 5 miles with 16 horses.

3 April 1891--The house of MR. LESS HERRIMAN is moving up the river...

24 April 1891--MRS. CHARLEY LADBURY, (nee JANE CURTIS), died last Monday from quick consumption. She was buried at Ashtabula. Rev. C. W. Collinge preached the funeral sermon. 1 May 1891--Ashtabula. A large number of friends and relatives followed the remains of MRS. CHAS. LADBURY to her last resting place at Ashtabula Cemetery, April 22. The husband and 3 children remain to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and mother...

8 May 1891--Ashtabula. Saturday April 25th was a very hot day with a scorching south wind, prairies were never in better condition for a blaze...between 10 and 11...a terrible fire sweeping over the hills at the rate of 8 miles an hour, moving straight north, rapidly spreading east and westward...two stacks of hay belonging to **THOMAS CURTIS** and Ed Ladbury went up in smoke...The fire started in the vicinity of Rapp's place.

12 June 1891--Devils Canyon. MRS. HERRIMAN is very sick with some lung trouble. JOHN SPENCER is expected back to Griggs County in a few days.

19 June 1891--Devils Canyon. JOHN SPENCER arrived at the Canyon last Sunday.

19 June 1891--Our genial postmaster, and son Fred Ladbury, Dunk Parks, and MARK CURTIS dined at the Canyon Friday last. Call again gents.

19 June 1891--MRS. HERMAN is feeling somewhat better.

17 July 1891--Devils Canyon. MR. MATHEW SPENCER and family of Manitoba started for Tennessee 3 weeks ago. They are now at the Canyon House and in all probability will be there the rest of the summer...oldest daughter taken sick with convulsions.

7 August 1891--Devils Canyon. THEO. SPENCER and Dave Swinton have started for Buffalo. THOMAS CURTIS has stopped his cream cart to Valley City on account of the low prices...now selling at Cooperstown.

14 August 1891--Ashtabula. MR. JAMES & MISS ANNIE SPENCER of Canyon, were pleasant callers at our place last Sun. Dad

14 August 1891--(reported from "Pembina Express"). A farmer named **JAMES S. SPENCE** with family reported to customs Saturday on his way back to his former home in Griggs County. Mr. Spence (r) is one of the Manitoba victims who was deluded two years ago to move to Manitoba. He located 40 mi. n. of Winnipeg where he remained until he had nearly exhausted what little he had when he came here...This makes the 3rd family within 2 weeks that have returned from north.

21 August 1891--Devils Canyon. JAMES SPENCER SR., and housekeeper and family, have returned from Manitoba. They say Dakota is good enough for them.

21 August 1891--JOHN SPENCER and MATHEW SPENCER and family have gone to Buffalo.

21 August 1891--MRS. HERIMAN, of Gallitan, died last Friday evening of consumption. MRS. HERIMAN was a cousin of J. S. SPENCER.

March 1892--ELIZABETH (MRS. JOHN L. CURTIS), died 16 February. Burial at Hillside Cemetery, Ashtabula. (Note: See story under Elizabeth Spencer).

17 June 1892--Gallatin. WILL CURTIS has moved on to the old homestead again.

30 December 1892--Dave Swinton and MARK CURTIS have gone to Ontario to spend the winter among friends and relatives.

21 January 1905--Valley City Normal. The school will observe Saturday afternoon out of respect for MISS NINA CURTIS, a student who while attending school here, was taken with an attack of pneumonia from which she did not recover.

7 November 1905--HENRY CURTIS has put up two immense stacks of corn on his Pleasant View Farm. MARK CURTIS also has a lot of corn...A few years ago people claimed they could not raise corn in North Dakota.

28 November 1905--MR. & MRS. HENRY CURTIS have gone to Weyburn, Assiniboia, to attend the funeral of MRS. CURTIS' brother.

12 December 1905--There was a surprise birthday party on **HERBERT CURTIS** last Thursday. It was his 21st birthday.

30 January 1906--Cards are out announcing the marriage on January 17 at Sparta, Wisconsin of MISS ANNA WILLIAMS and MARK CURTIS. MR. & MRS. CURTIS will be home on the bridegrooms's farm in Broadview after February 17.

27 February 1906--A surprise party was sprung on MR. & MRS. HENRY CURTIS last Friday evening. A large number of friends gathered together and proceeded to the Pleasant Hill Farm. There the couple was royally entertained...

25 September 1906--JOHN CURTIS is laid up with a bad attack of rheumatism.

13 November 1906--HENRY CURTIS is building a barn 28' by 40' with 16' posts. The McCoy Lumber Co. has contracted to furnish the material.

20 November 1906--HENRY CURTIS served on the jury at Cooperstown last week.

27 November 1906--The following were jurors in the Frank Smith murder case at Cooperstown. (One juror listed was HENRY CURTIS).

18 December 1906--HENRY CURTIS came in from his Pleasant View Farm in Broadview Saturday.

26 March 1907--HENRY CURTIS was in town one day last week to have the doctor examine his hand which was effected with a very painful sore.

25 June 1907--Miss Inez Floyd and Mrs. Williams of Sparta, Wis. are visiting in the home of MARK CURTIS.

23 March 1909--FRANK H. HARRIMAN and MARY KOCH were married Wednesday March 17 at the home of the bride's parents in Cooperstown.

2 May 1911--The baseball team who are expected to win the pennant for Valley City are expected in the city this evening...Manager MACDIARMID is confident we will have fully as good, if not better team, than last season.

31 July 1911--D. W. Clark received a card Saturday evening from J. A. MACDIRMID announcing his marriage to MISS ELLA HARRIMAN at Cooperstown on July 26. The contracting parties are well know in Valley City...They will be located at Melville, Saskatchewan...

12 May 1914--JOHN MCDERMOTT, former manager of the city baseball team, passed through Valley City last night enroute to Carrington where he will spend time with his brother. MR. MCDERMOTT is located on a farm in Canada at the present time with his wife and two small babies. (Note: These babies would be HAZEL and MAXWELL.)

24 November 1919--MISS PEARL LADBURY of Dazey died yesterday in a Fargo Hospital. (Note: See obituary under JANE CURTIS section.)

25 November 1919--HILMER CARLSON helped WILLIE CURTIS last week, filling barn with feed etc.

25 November 1919--HENRY CURTIS has left on a trip to the Pacific Coast, going by way of....Seattle, San Diego, San Francisco, Kansas City, St. Paul.

6 January 1920--MARK CURTIS and THEODORE expect to leave for St. Paul Monday evening where THEODORE has been receiving medical aid.

13 January 1920--MARK CURTIS and THEODORE came back from St. Paul Saturday, and we are glad to hear that THEODORE has improved wonderfully.

30 March 1920--HENRY CURTIS returned Wednesday from a four months sojourn in California. His health is much improved and he reports a very enjoyable trip.

30 November 1920--Born to MR. & MRS. HERBERT CURTIS on Thanksgiving, a twelve pound boy.

21 June 1921--A dainty bit of feminnity arrived at the FREEMAN CURTIS home June 11. All concerned are doing nicely and FREEMAN wears a lengthy smile that won't come off.

19 July 1921--MR. & MRS. FREEMAN CURTIS spent the week end at Edgeley visiting relatives.

6 September 1921--MR. FREEMAN CURTIS had one of his eyes slightly burned last week with scalding water from his tractor.

13 September 1921--MISS LILLIAN PETERSON who is home from Minneapolis on her vacation, is helping MRS. EDGAR CURTIS during threshing.

13 September 1921--Mrs. Sven Boe is at her brother's home, MR. ED RONNIE, where she will keep house during the absence of MRS. RONNIE.

13 September 1921--KENNETH and RACHEL CURTIS started to attend school in Cooperstown Tuesday. They will drive night and morning with the car while the weather permits.

27 September 1921--MRS. ED RONNIE returned home Sunday from Cooperstown.

25 October 1921--MR. and MRS. ED RONNIE are moving to their farm west of Hannaford this week.

25 October 1921--MRS. HILMER CARLSON had her tonsils removed at Valley City Monday morning. She is improving rapidly.

6 December 1921--The Curtis school has been closed by the county physician of Griggs when it was discovered that one child has small pox.

20 December 1921--HOWARD CURTIS appeared Friday morning with a new Ford coupe. O see the lucky girl.

7 March 1922--MILDRED and MINERVA KINN are the proud owners of a shetland pony.

14 March 1922--THEODORE CURTIS was seen on the streets of Karnak last Saturday training a shetland pony for REYNARD KINN.

4 April 1922--We understand HILMER CARLSON will be our future postmaster-Karnak news.

18 April 1922--The post office fixtures were moved into the bank building Saturday.

12 December 1922--Little VIOLET CURTIS is visiting at the HENRY CURTIS home for a few days.

19 December 1922--A little chore boy arrived at the EDGAR CURTIS home Wednesday of last week.

7 March 1923--A baby boy was born to MR. & MRS. HERBERT CURTIS at Cooperstown, N. D. March 2, 1923. They have named him John Lowell. (Note: The name John Lowell Curtis could be very significant. It tells us John L. Curtis' (Gen. 1) middle name might have been Lowell.)

16 March 1923--Friends gathered at the home of MR. & MRS. OSCAR MOSHER March 8 to celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary.

1 August 1923--MR. & MRS. MARK CURTIS entertained the following Sunday: EDGAR CURTIS and RAYNARD KINN families, MR. HENRY CURTIS, GRANDMA and MRS. MERLE CURTIS.

16 August 1923--The following were callers at the OSCAR MOSHER home Sunday: MR. & MRS. WALT WILLIAMS, MRS. EVA CURTIS, MR. & MRS. MARK CURTIS.

2 October 1923--The splendid new farm home of MARK CURTIS on the farm about 2 miles south of Karnak burned down last Thursday afternoon. MRS. CURTIS was alone in the house at the time, and before a threshing crew at work not far away could be summoned the fire had gained too great a headway, and it was found impossible to save the building...efforts were directed to save as much as possible of the household goods...The building was without doubt the finest and most expensive farm residence in the county and was practically new, having been completed in 1919.

23 October 1923--HILMER CARLSON motored to Fargo Sunday to spend the day with MRS. CARLSON. They are rejoicing over the arrival of a little son, born October 15.

30 October 1923--HILMER CARLSON came up from Karnak last Saturday evening and took No. 2 for Fargo. MRS. CARLSON and young son returned home with him on Sunday October 28. 6 November 1923--J. W. WILLIAMS left Monday evening for Grand Rapids, Michigan where he intends to locate...A farewell party was given MR. & MRS. WILLIAMS at the EVA CURTIS home Saturday evening.

11 March 1924--The infant son of MR. & MRS. MERLE CURTIS died when but a few days old.

25 March 1924--WILLIE CURTIS arrived from St. Paul Friday.

25 March 1924--HILMER CARLSON and MRS. EVA CURTIS motored to Finley Sunday, leaving little GRANT CARLSON to stay with grandma Carlson for a while.

25 March 1924--MRS. EVA CURTIS and son WILLIE have moved back to the farm.

25 March 1924--MR. & MRS. MERLE CURTIS have moved into the Joe Griesinger house.

15 April 1924--HILMER CARLSON went to St. Paul Tuesday evening returning with MRS. CARLSON Thursday morning.

15 April 1924--MR. & MRS. HILMER CARLSON spent Sunday at the EVA CURTIS home.

19 November 1924--MR. FREEMAN CURTIS and family left last week for Montana where they expect to make their future home. The best wishes of the community go with them.

19 November 1924--MR. & MRS. HILMER CARLSON and family arrived in the city by car from Karnak, N.D., and have taken a residence at 915 First Street where they expect to make their future home. MR. CARLSON is a representative of the Fuller Brush Company and believes Valley City is an ideal location for his work. We welcome the new family to Valley City and trust they will enjoy making this their home.

#### IF YOUR ANCESTORS KNEW YOU WERE THEIR DESCENDANTS, WOULD THEY BE PLEASED?

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Some of the information in this book will have changed between the time the manuscript is taken to the printer and the time of completion. PLEASE send your changes and additions so that a supplement might be made later. I also need your changes of address. Kindly call or send to:

> GRANT N. CARLSON 403 11 1/2 ST. NW VALLEY CITY ND 58072

> > (701) 845-0838

January 1888 was not the only year of near tragedy for Curtis family members due to blizzards. (See excerpts from newspapers 13 and 20 January 1888.) 104 years later another fast moving but dangerous storm affected Curtis persons. These Dakota blizzards are not as frequent as in years gone by, but they do occur and are life threatening as noted by the following article taken from the Valley City (ND) Times-Record issue of Monday, December 28, 1992:

#### THERE ARE STILL HEROES

To the editor:

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"There are still heroes today. On Christmas Eve a young family of five, the parents and three young children and also their 17 year old niece from Portland, Ore., went to deliver some Christmas goodies to some friends in the country. At 5:30 p.m. they called their mother and told her that they were leaving for home as the wind was coming up. The weather was awful, the wind came up so fast. They crept along so slow and couldn't see the road good enough. They turned a little bit to stay on what they thought was the road. The wind blew them into a drift and they were stuck. So there they sat.

They were driving their International Scout. They didn't have any blankets along. All they had was one sheet. One of the hinges on the tailgate was broken and the snow was blowing in there. Also the driver's door was sprung so the snow was blowing there, too. They all crowded in the front seat and tried to keep warm. Snow was in their hair and all over them.

It was only eight miles from Hannaford and when they didn't come and didn't come, their mother called me and told me that they hadn't come back yet and she was so worried. Someone notified the sheriff and he said that no one should go out in that kind of weather.

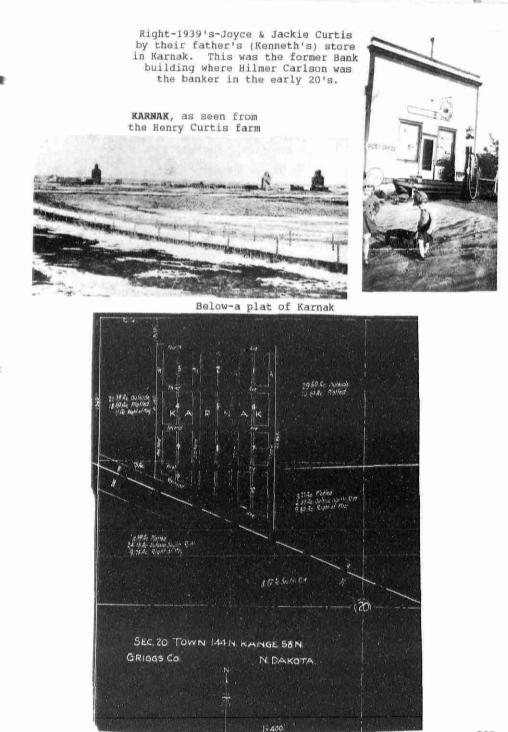
I called my nephew, Merlin Lende, and he said he would get his heavy clothes on and go and look for them. My nephew took another fellow, Omar Abraham, along with him. Owen Vincent was kind enough to let them borrow his four-wheel-drive Suburban. They would never have made it without it. They just crawled along until they finally found them. They were stuck and out of gas. They had been out for 5 1/2 hours. They were two miles from the family they were visiting. They all went back there and stayed overnight. By that time they were 6 1/2 hours out in the cold. They all came back the next day.

Much prayer went up for them all across the country. They found them safe and sound but covered with snow and very cold. If they hadn't gone out and found them, it may have been a very sad Christmas for their mother and us.

God does answer prayer. I think these two men are real heroes. Their names again are Merlin Lende and Omar Abraham from Hannaford. The people who were rescued were the John Curtis family and their niece Shannon Greybil, who is visiting them.".

Mrs. Dennis Anundson, Hannaford, ND

When asked if they ever felt this was the end as far as this life is concerned, John said, "We had a peace about it. We knew we were going home. We didn't know if it was to Heaven or Hannaford." (The John Curtis family moved from California to North Dakota this year, 1992.)

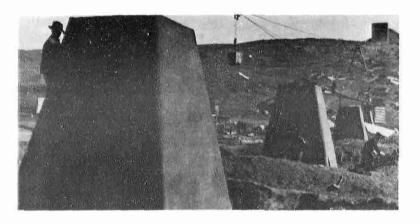


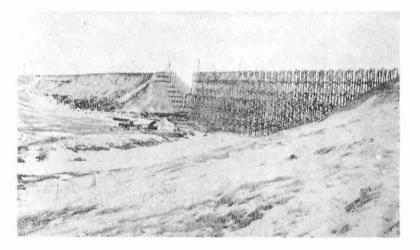
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#### THE "BRIDGE"

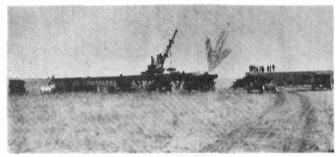
From the farm where Elizabeth (Spencer) Curtis homesteaded, you can look to the southwest and see one of North Dakota's few "high line" bridges. An envelope of old photos was sent by descendants of Henry Curtis showing various stages of construction of the bridge. Some of the photos are marked "March 1912". The building of the bridge must have been a very exciting happening in the lives of our descendants! This bridge is still in use today. Most of the Curtis homesteads were on the opposite side of the Sheyenne River from Elizabeth's place.



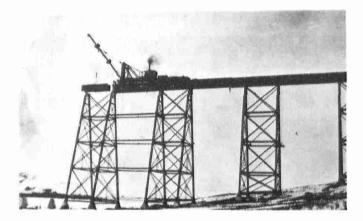


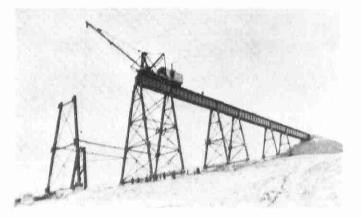
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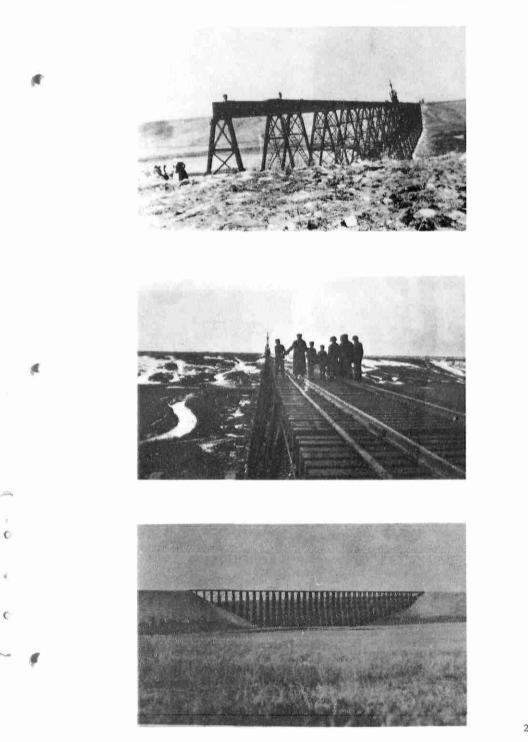
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1912 Our Cadillac (belonged to Henry Curtis)









Home of William & Eva Curtis, still occupied.



Oct. 1992 This is now the Lausch farm...,Mark Curtis used to live here.



Grant Carlson, center, shows his 2nd cousins some of his Curtis research... David Curtis, from Billings and David's sister Blanche from Whittier, Ca.

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Grant Carlson with 3rd cousin, John D. Spencer of Campbellford, Ontario-fall of 1990



Myron & Betty Lou Curtis



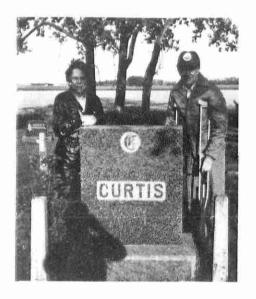
Duane VanEss from LaMirada, Ca reflects on the location of his great grandfather's homestead (as indicated by arrow).



the Sibley Trail Congregational Church east of Dazey ND where most of the Curtis families worshipped and were later buried in the cemetery south of the church.



Grant & Ruth Carlson October 1992 "Compilers" of this book



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Sunnyside Cemetery

# WHO ARE THEY ?

Photographs have been sent to me to see if I would be able to identify them. In many cases, identical photos came from different sources with the identification being on one of them. However, there are many photos not yet identified. Can you help? If you have any of the following photos or know who the people are, please let me know! Any help that you can give will be greatly appreciated.







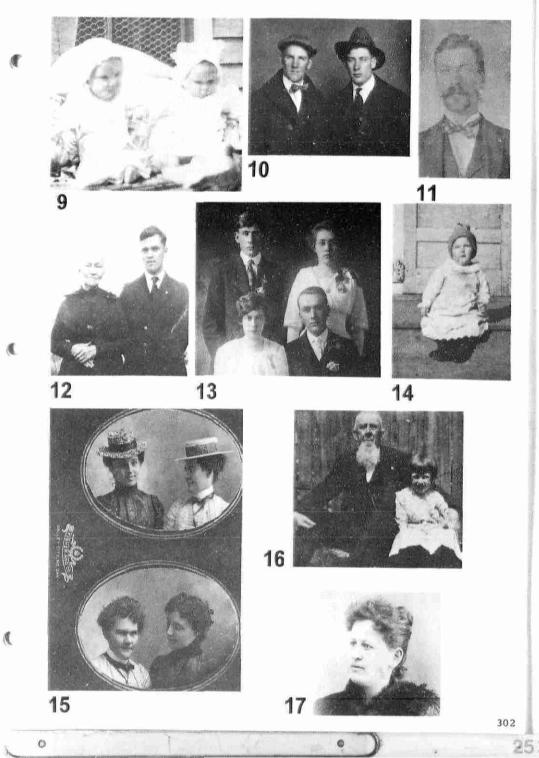














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DESCENDANT DIRECTORY OF JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (SPENCER) CURTIS The following directory lists the women by their maiden names, if known. This listing includes all who are or were part of a family unit, but not necessarily descendants. Parents of spouses are not listed.

AIRD, CATHRINE MARION	126	BRAGG, MEREDITH ROBYN	130
ANDERSON, DANIEL JAMES	231	BRAGG, MICHELLE MARJORIE	128
ANDERSON, EDWIN ARTHUR	42	BRAGG, NORMA RAE	128
ANDERSON, IAN BRICE	231	BRAGG, NORMAN PRESCOTT	128
ANDERSON, JAMES	231	BRAGG, ROBERT PRESCOTT	130
ANDERSON, JEANETTE MARIE	42	BRAGG, ROSS EDWARD	130
ANDERSON, JUSTIN MATTHEW	42	BRAGG, RUSSELL ALLAN	130
ANDERSON, MANDY LEE	262	BRASHEAR, AARON EARL	41
ANDREW, BILLIE EILEEN	269	BRASHEAR, BOB B. JR.	40
ANDREW, CHRISTINE CURTIS	270	BRASHEAR, CODY MICHAEL	41
ANDREW, DIANE KAY	270	BRASHEAR, DOUGLAS MICHAEL	41
ANDREW, WILLIAM MCGILLIVARY	269	BRASHEAR, JOEL THOMAS	41
ANTONSEN, TONYA	39	BRASHEAR, RICHARD WAYNE	41
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ARMBRUSTER, RONALD	36	BROOKS, CLAYTON L	83
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AVRAMENKO, ROBERT DEAN	135	BROOKS RALPH	80
AVRAMENKO, ROBERT EDMUND BRIAN	135	BROWN DAN THOMAS	48
BAFFONE, NICKOLAS FRANCIS	82	BROWN, LARISSA NICHOLE	48
BAINBRIDGE, MICHAEL FRAZIER	190	BROWN, RANDY	261
BANMAN, WENDY FAY	134	BROWN, RYAN SCOTT	48
BASSETT, DAVID EUGENE	192	BRURUD, BARBARA JOANNE	259
BAUMGARDNER, BRITTANY ROSE	89	BRURUD, BETTE JANE	261
BAUMGARDNER, EMILEE JEAN	89	BRURUD, BEVERLY JEAN	262
BAUMGARDNER, WILLIAM CHARLES	89	BRURUD, TAMI LYN	259
BAUMGARTNER, BRENDA ANN	20	BRURUD, TRACY RAYE	259
BAXTER, TERA LEE	267	BRURUD, WILLARD VELO	258
BEARDEN, JENNIFER ANN	41	BURKETT, HUDSON TUCKER	172
BEDNAR, EDWARD J	227	BURKETT, MARC HUDSON	172
BEDNAR, JACQUELINE KAY	227	BUTLER, KRISTINA	271
BEDNAR, JENNIFER KAY	227	CAHILL, HEATHER MARIE	49
BEDNAR, KEITH DANNEL	227		49
BEDNAR, KELLY GENE	228	CAHILL, KATHI DIANE	49
BEDNAR, KEVIN JAY	227	CAHILL, PATRICK	
BELMONTE, HAZELINE MARIE	136	CANINO, EDWIN C	170
		CANINO, EDWIN ROBERT	170
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BERCIER, COLE JOSEPH		CARLSON, GRANT NYRAM	190
BERCIER, DALE	195	CARLSON, HILMER	190
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BLUE, LAURA ELIZABETH	189	CARLSON, JULIE LaRAE	191
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BLUE, THOMAS ELDER	189	CARLSON, MARILEE JOY	190
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BONTRAGER, JUSTIN LUKE	228	CHRISTENSEN, CLARK ALAN	128
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BONTRAGER, MEGAN NICOLE	228	CHRISTENSEN, JACQUELINE LEE	128
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BRAGG, DAVID ALLAN	130	CHRISTOFFERSEN, GRAHAM FRANK	132
BRAGG, JOHN NORMAN	128	CHRISTOFFERSEN, HOWARD FRANK	132
BRAGG, MARY LEE	131	CHRISTOFFERSEN, HOWARD RUSSELL	132

SHOULD WE HAVE A CURTIS REUNION ?

## "OULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A CURTIS REUNION ?

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CHRISTOFFERSEN, IAN TODD	132	CURTIS, DARREN TENBROECK WEYANT	194
CHRISTOFFERSEN, RUSSELL JOHN	132	CURTIS, DARREN TENBROECK WEYANT II	
CHRISTOFFERSEN, RYAN HOWARD	132	CURTIS, DAVID LaVALLEY	44
CHRISTOFFERSEN, SHANNON MICHELLE		CURTIS, DAWN TANYA	194
CHUPP, BEVERLY	266	CURTIS, DENNIS LEE	39
CLAYTOR, CHARLES THOMAS JR.	193	CURTIS, DONALD MARC	53
CLAYTOR, SHAELON TYRUS	193	CURTIS, DOROTHY ANN	35
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CORRIGAN, BOBBI JO	261	CURTIS, EDITH ELAINE	40
	262		102
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COX, WILLIAM JAMES	196		
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		CURTIS, ETHEL NINA	43
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CRAWFORD, MAUREEN ANNE	171	CURTIS, FERON HOWARD	42
CROOKS, GORDON HENDERSON	126	CURTIS, FLORENCE ELIZABETH	258
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CROOKS, WILLIAM HENRY HARRIMAN	126	CURTIS, GARY LEE	54
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CUCHOW, CHRISTOPHER ALAN	123	CURTIS, GARY WILLIAM CURTIS, GLEN HENRY	187
	267	CURTIS GLENN HERBERT	44
CURTIS, ADELLA MAY	80	CURTIS, GRANT WELLINGTON	19
CURTIS, ALAN BURNEL	52		226
CURTIS, ALEXANDER RICHARD	53		
	83	CURTIS, GREGORY LOGAN	19
CURTIS, ALTA BELLE CURTIS, ANGELA MARIE CURTIS, ANGELA ROSE			226
CURTIS, ANGELA MARIE	195	CURTIS, HARRIET SPENCER	21
o or the other the other	19		190
	236	CURTIS, HEATHER MAE	195
CURTIS, ANNA RUTH	54	CURTIS, HEATHER MAE CURTIS, HEIDI HAGEN CURTIS, HENRY	226
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CURTIS, baby	274	CURTIS, HERBERT C.	34
CURTIS, baby CURTIS, BENJAMIN ELDON CURTIS, BETTY FILLEEN LIVINGSTON	53	CURTIS, HOWARD ANGUS	273
CURTIS, BETTY EILEEN LIVINGSTON	273	CURTIS, JANE	168
CURTIS, BLAINE CHARLES	193	CURTIS, JANICE FAYE	48
CURTIS BLANCHE LILLIAN	42		236
CURTIS, BONNIE JEAN	234	CURTIS, JEANINE RAE	47
CURTIS, BRANDON TODD	20	CURTIS, JEFFREY GLENN	19
CURTIS, BRENDA DIANE	48	CURTIC JOEL THOMAS	234
CURTIS, BRIAN LEE	235		
CURTIS, DRITHI CAROLE	20	CURTIS, JOHN	34
			226
	272	CURTIS, JOHN LOWELL	47
CURTIS, CARLA MARIE	52	CURTIS, JOHN LOWELL JR.	48
CURTIS, CARLENE HARRIET		CURTIS, JOHN MARK	236
	45		195
CURTIS, CARYL MADLYNN	227	CURTIS, JOYCE KARLEEN	225
CURTIS, CHAD MICHAEL	47	CURTIS, JUNE ELAINE	18
CURTIS, CHAD RICHMOND	19	CURTIS, KATHIE RENE	193
CURTIS, CHARLENE RAE	46		195
CURTIS, CHARLES M	80	CURTIS, KENNETH DUANE	47
CURTIS, CHARLOTTE JOAN	4.00		236
CURTIS, CHELSEY VICTORIA	19	CUDTIC KENNETH MARK	225
CURTIS, CLAYTON DOUGLAS	40 19 44 46 34	CURTIS, KENNETH MARK	
	48	CURTIS, LAURA SOPHIA	49
CURTIS, CLAYTON DOUGLAS	40	CURTIS, LONA JEAN	273
CURTIS, CLIFFORD CLINTON	34	CURTIS, LORETTA BLANCHE	54
CURTIS, CLINTON	314	CURITS, LYNNE CORRINE	44
CURTIS, CLINTON LEO	26	CURTIS, MARCIA ELLEN	20
CURTIS, CORY GORDON	194		225
CURTIS, CRAIG HERBERT	52	CURTIS, MARK ALLEN	226
CURTIS, DANIEL	284	CURTIS, MARY LOU	233

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CURTIS, MICHELLE LEE	271	DOWNEY, DIANE LOUISE	121
CURTIS, MICHELLE RENE	48	DOWNEY, DOUGLAS FRASER	121
CURTIS, MYLO EDGAR	272	DOWNEY, FLORENCE MARY-MARTHA	
CURTIS, MYRL HENRY	274	DOWNEY, GLENN ALVAH	120
CURTIS, MYRON HENRY	271	DOWNEY, JOHN THOMAS	120
CURTIS, MYRON LEE	271	DOWNEY, JOYCE ELAINE	121
CURTIS, MYRON MICHAEL	271	DOWNEY, KAREN LOUISE	122
CURTIS, MYRTLE ROSE	188	DOWNEY, LINDA ANN	124
CURTIS, NATHAN GLEN	19	DOWNEY, LISA ANN	124
CURTIS, NINA	54	DOWNEY, LLOYD GRIFFITH	120
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