

Chapter V

The Koon (Coon) Family

The Philip Coon family was one of the first to settle in the Harrison-Marion County border area of West Virginia¹ two centuries ago. Perhaps fifty percent of the family still live within a radius of ten miles of the original settlement, several on land that was never bought or sold. In the main, the Koons were considered to be average Americans -- honest, industrious, law-abiding, God-fearing, country folk. They were neither political nor military leaders -- the type about whom so little has been written, but on whom this country has depended so much for its growth during the past two centuries.

The great intellectual awakening following the Middle Ages led courageous men with restless spirits to break the shackles of a conformity superimposed by the centuries of class domination, and to earnestly strive to attain a better way of life. Some sought to reform their governments with varying degrees of success. Many broke away from the Catholic Church which they felt had been a major factor in perpetuating the old feudal system which made servants of the many for the benefit of the few.

¹Most of this chapter, as well as the addendum which follows, is the work of Dr. Cline Koon of Los Angeles, California, and his cousin, Otis Koon, of Fairmont, West Virginia. Through their study -- which was completed during the 1960s -- this chapter will trace the lineage of Emma Blanche Koon, mother of Ulysses Buffington. This study was made available by Otis Koon's daughter, Eileen Koon, who now resides in Silver Spring, Maryland. The entire work, including individual statistical records for each generation, has been microfilmed by the L.D.S. Genealogical Library in Los Angeles, California, and is now available from them. The original material was compiled from the papers of W. Guy Tetrick, U.S. Census records, military pension and service records, wills, deeds, and various county court records, but most of the information was obtained directly from living members of the Koon families by Otis and others.

Rebelling at the slow progress being made from the hard struggle in their homelands, the more restless spirits chose to give up the struggle for equality of opportunity in their native lands and to seek their fortunes abroad. America beckoned as a promised land of freedom and opportunity. The struggle and hardships would be great, they knew, but worth all their sacrifices. So, from the beginning of the eighteenth century, on to the twentieth, a stream of immigrants poured into America -- first from Spain, Great Britain and France, and then from Holland, Germany, and the Scandinavian countries. During the last half of the nineteenth century, many came from Italy, Greece and other Mediterranean countries.

There was a great influx of laborers and middle-class immigrants from Middle Europe between 1700 and 1760. Among those were the Coon, Kuhn, Koon and Koontz families. They came principally from Germany and Holland, but some came from Scotland, Ireland, England, France, Switzerland and even Hungary. Families of these names seem to have been well established in nine or ten European countries before 1700. Probably the various families did not spring from a common origin. But if they did, it is likely to have been in northern Germany, where the name Kuhn appears as early as the eleventh century. Presumably it was derived from a root word meaning "hound," which would explain *raccoon* as meaning "a ring-tailed dog." Even today, the word *coon* in Welsh means "dog." Other historians have proposed different meanings for the name. One believes it derives from the Hebrew Kohen, which means "priest."

It is generally accepted that the Philip Coon family came from Holland before 1760, but a few people think they were of German origin. After more than 50 years of research, Dr. Kline Koon was inclined to believe that Philip and probably two brothers immigrated to Philadelphia in 1720. If so, it appears that they were originally Mennonites in Holland, of Walloon ancestry. Earliest records in America show they were Baptist, indicating they had separated from the Mennonite faith either before or shortly after coming to America.

According to this account, Philip and his brothers remained in the Philadelphia area until around 1760, when they joined the migration to the West -- over roads which had been started from horse-packed trails -- carrying only the minimum of provisions. Wild turkeys at that time were so numerous and so fat that they could hardly fly. When shot off a tree limb, one would occasionally burst when it hit the ground.

Presumably, one of Philip Coon's brothers went down into the valley of Virginia, but Philip and the other brother traveled on west to Fayette County, Pennsylvania. After living in German Township about two years, Philip and his family moved southwest about forty or fifty miles and established their new homes in the virgin forests on both the east and the west sides of the West Fork River. Here, seven or eight miles south of Fairmont, West Virginia, formerly Logstown, the Tygart River joins the West Fork to form the Monongahela River.

Thomas Hellen, presumably a son-in-law of Philip Coon, was the first to come to the area and walk through the sparsely settled Monongahela River valley. It is reported that he passed a house where Indians had just murdered five members of the family, but the bodies were not discovered until two hours after he passed. When asked later if he had seen the bodies, Hellen is reported to have said, "Yes, but I'm no tattletale." Apparently he was scared he might be accused of the crime.

Hellen went south through the unclaimed land until he came to the juncture of what is now Hellen's Run and the West Fork River, just north of the present town of Worthington. Here he built the first cabin in Lincoln District in 1770. One of Philip's older sons, Joseph, soon followed and built a cabin on adjacent land.

Philip Coon and his family may have come about the same time and located on the opposite side of the West Fork River. They built their home about four miles up Coon's Run and, in 1777, they built Coon's Fort on the same land.

The area in which the Coon family settled was hardly as rugged as the rest of the state, which is famed for its hills and minimal bottom land. As more settlers came into the area, the late-comers were forced to clear and cultivate hillsides so steep they joked about falling out of the cornfields and looking out their chimneys at night to see the cows coming home from pasture.

----000----

After choosing a home site, the first thing a settler did was to provide a temporary shelter, usually under a wide-spreading tree. Then with the minimum of tools and equipment, he cut and hewed logs to build a cabin which had no floor or glass windows, but a mud-lined log chimney. Then he would move his family in with its meager worldly possession, often sleeping at first on pine boughs or fern beds piled in corners of the room.

Food was cooked over open fires, sometimes outside of the cabin. For a generation, household utensils were scarce, a pot, a pan, or a piece of furniture

prized so highly, it was willed to a wife or daughter. A few pewter spoons were often the most cherished possession of a bride.

It took much courage to build a home in these western wilds, where marauding bands of savages, at home in the wilderness, seemed to spring from nowhere to slaughter whole families and leave their bodies to shock other settlers. Colonel William Crawford wrote to George Washington that, up until June, 1774, 16 settlers had been killed by savages in this general area. The number of frontier attacks by Indians increased along the border during 1775 and 1776, but 1777 was the bloodiest year of all. The horror of these brutal raids and the counter-attacks by the settlers have been graphically portrayed in Withers' *Border Warfare*.

At least four young men in the Coon family fought in the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution. All survived but one of Philip Coons' daughters, Elizabeth, who was shot just outside of her father's fort in the summer of 1777.

George A. Dunnington, in *A History and Progress of the County of Marion, West Virginia*, describes Elizabeth's death by Indians:

"In the summer of 1777, the bloody year of the three sevens, Thomas Cunningham and Enoch James were passing Coon's Fort when they saw 'Lizzie' Coon, daughter of Philip, outside the forest turning some hemp to dry. [Family legend is that she was pulling flax.] They stopped and visited with her for a few minutes and went on their way. In a very few minutes they heard a rifle shot and turned to run back, when they saw two Indians, one preparing to scalp the girl. James fired his rifle, but was too far away for the shot to be effective. It did, however, frighten the Indians away before they got the girl's scalp."

These hearty frontiersmen seemed to thrive under danger, and reveled in a life of freedom untamed by men's laws. They became strong and agile, and developed self reliance and individuality beyond anything we can conceive in our day.

In the *West Virginia Historical Magazine*, Adam O'Brien is quoted as saying, "There were no laws, courts, no sheriffs, and they all agreed pretty well. But after more settlers came there was need for law. Then came the lawyers, the preachers, and from then on they never had any peace."

A family legend says Philip had ten or 12 sons who moved to separate states and territories. Only four or five sons were accounted for in West Virginia, but

since Philip had children before 1830 to 1880, it seems safe to conclude that he had two or three wives. The same rumor says he had only one or two daughters. This is not so, because five daughters were born to the last wife.

All the people who moved into this unoccupied area west of the Alleghenies at this time were squatters on land to which the French, not the English, had prior claim. The Treaty of Quebec, in 1768, provided that no more settlements were to be made west of the mountains and all persons west of the mountains were to move back. A British colonel at Fort Pitt took his troops out, forced the settlers to vacate, and burned their cabins. After he left, however, the settlers went back and rebuilt their homes.

The first settlers in an area just moved in on any unoccupied land that suited them. But as more settlers came pouring into the area, it became necessary to locate boundaries. Neighbors would get together, fix corners, and make lines of their boundaries on trees. These "tomahawk rights" were not legal titles even if surveyed and the owners given warrants. This practice led to many conflicting claims and confusion for years to come.

It wasn't until 1779 that legal land grants were issued by the state of Virginia. These tracts were limited, however, to tracts of 400 acres. Original warrants indicate land grants to Philip Coon, Sr. for building Coon's Fort. Warrants were also given to Philip's son, Joseph, and to Joseph's sons Philip, Conrad, Joseph, Jr., and Anthony.

----000----

Emma Blanch Koon was born in 1888 in Basnetville, a suburb of Mannington, West Virginia. An item published in James M. Callahan's *Genealogical and Personal History of the Upper Monongahela Valley* is interesting:

"Mannington, which received its earliest stimulus from the construction of the railroad, stands on the site of a clearing first made in 1786, near the old Indian trail made memorable by the Indian attacks along Buffalo Creek in 1786 and 1787. By 1846, then known as Koontown, it became a center for mercantile transactions. In 1852, it was renamed for James Mannings, a civil engineer of the new railroad."

We reprint this article because there is some question as to when the "Coon" name was replaced by "Koon" in the family history. The first documented change

found is "Robert William Coon (Koon)," born 1841, recorded as shown here with both spellings. Since Mannington was known as "Koontown," it is likely there was some confusion at that time about the proper way to address a "Coon" family member.

At any rate, each generation after Robert William Coon appears to have spelled the name, "Koon." Seven generations after the first Koon (Coon) arrived in America, Emma Blanche Koon, daughter of William Lorington Koon, was born. She became the mother of Ulysses Buffington, and grandmother of Melissa, Suzanne, and Jody.

----000----

Other than the fact that several male members of the Coon family served in the wars during the 1700s and 1800s, and that most seemed to be involved in farming, there are few details for several generations.

William Lorington Koon, great grandfather of the Buffington girls, died in 1905 at the age of 38. He died just a year after his last child was born. His oldest son, Robert, was only 15-years-old at the time, and was forced to become breadwinner for the family. He worked for the railroad, but met a tragic death -- killed by a train -- in 1913, at the age of 23. He left a widow, Ruby, but no children. His younger brother, Hobart, became the head of the family at the age of 17.

Hobart's sister Blanche was married by this time, and her husband, Claude Westfall, was able to get Hobart a job at the Hazel-Atlas Glass Factory. Zella, the second daughter of William Lorington Koon, had also married -- three year's before her brother Robert's death -- to Ellery Duty. So Hobart was left with his mother, a 14-year-old deaf sister, Marie, and an 11-year-old brother, Albert (Buss).

Marie, the baby girl of the family, contracted spinal meningitis at age three, leaving her totally deaf. When she reached school age she was sent to the West Virginia School for the Deaf in Romney, West Virginia. After a brief bout of homesickness, her mother unfortunately insisted she be brought home. Consequently, Marie never received any formal education. Her older sister, Blanche, taught her to read and write and simple arithmetic, and Marie became very proficient at lip reading. However, other than two or three short-lived attempts of employment -- including employment at the glass factory and as a housekeeper at the Gore Hotel in Clarksburg, Marie's inability to hear or talk plainly kept her from being employed. It was most unfortunate because she had a keen mind. In today's

world, Marie would have had opportunities which would have enabled her to be gainfully employed, marry and lead a normal healthy life. As it was, she had to endure a life of depending on others to provide the basics.

Hobart married late in life to a widow, Maggie, who had one son, Walter Conners, by her previous marriage. Hobart continued to take care of his mother and Marie until his mother's death in 1934. Marie continued to live with Hobart and Maggie for an additional nine years until 1943, when she went to live with her sister Blanche, and Blanche's son Ulysses. Hobart and Maggie lived the last years of their lives in Huntington, West Virginia and are buried there. Marie had a stroke in California, while visiting her niece, Ruth Bolton (Blanche's daughter). She passed away there in 1988, at the age of 89.

Albert, called "Buss" by the family, was the baby boy of the family. One can gather that he was somewhat spoiled by his older brother and sisters. He became what, today, we might refer to as a "free spirit." He married twice, had no children, and ended up in Sao Paulo, Brazil as an assistant superintendent of the South American Glass Company of Sao Paulo. There were rumors that he married a third time and fathered a child while in Brazil, but this was never verified. He died in Brazil and was buried there.

Zella's first husband, Ellery, died at a young age. Like her sister Blanche, Zella was left with three young children, Charles, Genevieve and James. She married a second time to Floyd Comp, moved to Pennsylvania, and had additional children (number unknown). She survived her second husband and, this time in her late 60s, she married Ernie Sapp -- a man, then in his 80s, she had known since she was a child.

Blanche's life has been chronicled in Chapter IV.

NOTE: While Otis and Cline Koon's study of the Coon family did not give us details of each generation, it did paint a picture of life as it was for the early pioneers. Their lives undoubtedly were similar to those lived by the Buffingtons, the Westfalls, the Bryants, and the Millers in the same era. Their study gives us additional knowledge about the rich heritage of each family.

--- oOo ---

The Koon (Coon) Family

PHILLIP COON - b. about 1696 in Holland or Germany, m. 2 or 3 times. d. 1782 or 1783. Issue: Joseph, b. 4 April, 1720, m. Catherine Cunread about 1748, d. 6 April, 1798: Coonrod, m. ----: John: David, m. ---: Nancy, m. Thomas Hellen, d. before 1770: Madalei (sp), m. Archibal McKinney 13 October, 1791: Isaac, b. 4 October, 1756, m. Sarah ----, d. 11 May, 1817: Charity, b. 1760, m. Henry Hinzman 23 September 1794, d. 13 March, 1872: Anthony, m. Sarah Pyles 4 March, 1799: George, b. about 1780, m. Elizabeth Hoult 4 March, 1808: Anne, m. Henry Hardman 16 December, 1808.

JOSEPH COON - s. of Phillip Coon, and ----, b. 4 April, 1720, m. Catherine Cunread about 1748, d. 6 April, 1798. Issue: Conrad, b. 1751, m. Anne Barbara Stouffer about 1774: Joseph, Jr. b. 2 May 1752, m. Elizabeth Snider 9 April, 1795, d. about 1830: Anthony, b. 4 March, 1755, m. Ann Nancy Hellen about 1783, d. about 1835: Mary, m. George Tetrick 28 January, 1787: Philip, b. 15 August, 1757, d. after 1834: James, b. about 1759, unmarried, killed by Indians: Elizabeth, m. George Smith 22 July, 1850: Catherine, m. John Brooker: Maudline, killed by Indians 1777.

CONRAD COON - s. of Joseph Coon and Catherine Cunread, b. 1751, m. Anne Barbara Stouffer about 1774, d. 1817. Issue: Jacob, m. Elizabeth Ash 4 February, 1797: Joseph, m. Elizabeth Stackhouse 17 January, 1800: Phillip: Elizabeth, m. Elias Sapp 21 December, 1808: Anthony, b. 16 June, 1786, m. Judith Sapp, d. about December, 1867.

ANTHONY COON - s. of Conrad Coon and Anne Barbara Stouffer, b. 16 June, 1786, m. Judith Sapp 27 May, 1811, d. after 19 November, 1867 and before 13 January, 1868. Issue: Mary, b. 22 February, 1812, m. Nathaniel Barnes 4 November, 1845: John H. b. 30 November, 1813, m. Evaline Randall 22 November, 1836: Abram Miller, b. 16 December, 1815, m. Sarah J. Smith: Sarah, b. 5 April, 1817: Eli, b. 10 October, 1829, m. Susan ---- about 1854: Caroline, b. 20 February, 1865, m. Perry Heflin 12 August, 1880.

JOHN H. COON - s. of Anthony Coon and Judith Sapp, b. 30 November, 1813 m. Evaline Randall 22 November, 1836, d. 19 October, 1880. Issue: Thomas M. b. 4 September, 1837, m. Pauline ----: Robert William, b. 12 January, 1841, m. Malissa Janes 1866.

ROBERT WILLIAM COON (KOON) - s. of John H. Coon and Evaline Randall, b. 12 January, 1841, m. Malissa Janes 1866, d. 5 September, 1922. Issue: William Lorington, b. 8 March, 1867, m. Minnie Conaway 8 December, 1886: Ida Myrtle, b. 1869, m. James McIntire 4 April, 1894: Floyd C. b. 12 December, 1874, m. Lettie ---- 1884: John H. b. 12 January, 1880, m. Clara Brent: Nancy R. b. 7 August, 1881, m. Otis Martin b. 18 June, 1893: Sally Gertrude (twin) b. 20 July, 1883, m. Reese Wales: Seymour A., (twin) b. 20 July, 1883, m. Grace Smith: Earl Goff, b. 6 August, 1888: Lenna, b. 8 July 1893, m. William Saunders.

WILLIAM LORINGTON KOON (COON) - s. of Robert William Coon (Koon) and Malissa Janes, b. 8 March, 1867, m. Minnie Conaway 8 December, 1886, d. 23 September, 1905. Issue: Emma Blanche, b. 15 April, 1888, m. (1) Claude Westfall 7 November 1903, (2) Oren Branch Buffington 14 November 1917: Robert S. b. 8 May 1890, m. Ruby Morgan 17 September 1909: Zella B. b. 3 March, 1893, m. (1) Ellery Duty 5 May, 1910, (2) Floyd Comp, (3) Earnest Sapp: George Hobart, b. 30 September 1896, m. Maggie ----: Nina Marie, b. 31 July, 1899, unmarried: Albert W. (Buss) b. 13 September, 1904, m. (1) Ivy----, (2) Mary ----.

EMMA BLANCHE (KOON) BUFFINGTON d. of William Lorington Koon and Minnie Conaway, b. 15 April, 1888, d. 12 January, 1970. m. (1) Claude Westfall 7 November, 1903, (2) Oren Branch Buffington 14 November, 1917. Issue: (1) Harold, b. 1 March, 1905, m. Fairie Fisher 12 September, 1927; Woodward b. 20 May, 1908, m. Winifred Pritchard 24 December, 1934; Ellis Earl, b. 19 March, 1914, m. Evelyn Hooper 12 June, 1934. Issue (2): **Ulysses Pershing**, b. 22 September, 1918, m. Helen Lee Bryant 29 May, 1952; Pearl Ruth b. 24 November, 1921, m. Russell Kelso Bolton, Jr. 6 March, 1944.

See also: Buffington family (Chapter IV) and Westfall family (Chapter VII).

Chapter VI

The Bryant and Miller Families

In 1952, Ulysses Buffington married Helen Lee Bryant, the daughter of Alva Evermont ("Jack") Bryant and Gertrude Virginia Miller, descendants of two pioneer West Virginia families -- the Bryant family from Nicholas County and the Miller family from Webster County.

In the early 1970s, Gertrude supplied names and dates which helped to reconstruct the families' lines. Two books, *History of Nicholas County*, copyrighted in 1954 by William Griffee Brown, and *Annals of Webster County, West Virginia Before and Since Organization, 1860*, published by Sampson Newton Miller in 1969, have confirmed Gertrude's memory and established other dates and information which preceded Gertrude. To fully appreciate life in the late 1700s and early 1800s, these two volumes are highly recommended. In addition, a trip to the areas of present-day Nicholas and Webster counties will confirm the rugged beauty that still exists today.

From page 295 of the *History of Nicholas County*, we find:

BRYANT, Irish...Family tradition gives William Bryant as the first known ancestor of the Bryants in Nicholas County. He came from Massachusetts to Rockbridge County, Virginia with his wife and children, at an uncertain date. The family was broken up when his wife drowned in the James River.

Two sons of William Bryant, William H. Bryant (great grandfather of Helen Lee) and James, wandered into what is now West Virginia, and William found employment in Kanawha County with his uncle, Fielding Bryant, a tanner. The records show that he married Jane Groves, daughter of John Groves. In 1835, he purchased Lot No. 5 of Summersville, Virginia (now West Virginia) and built his home there. In 1868, the heirs of John Groves conveyed to him a tract of 179 acres

of land on Donally's Branch, now known as Camp Fork. Sons by his first wife were Harrison and John. Harrison lost his life as a Union soldier.

William H. Bryant's second wife was Ruth McClung. She was the mother of three daughters: Lizzie Copenhaver, Leticia Graves, and Cassie Alderson; and two sons: Richard and Edward Melville (grandfather of Helen Lee).

Edward Melville later married Roxanna Williams. Edward and Roxanna had four sons and two daughters: Marion, who died in his 40's; Alexander, who moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he passed away; Melville, who moved to Hollywood, California at an early age; Alva Evermont, who moved to Clarksburg, West Virginia; and Nettie and Nannie, both of whom married but died rather young.

Alva Evermont married Gertrude Miller from Webster Springs, West Virginia, and fathered three children: Alva Evermont, Jr., Barbara Joan, and Helen Lee. (Helen Lee recalls from her father that he was born and raised in Nettie, Nicholas County, West Virginia.)

----000----

On page 453 of the *Annals of Webster County*, it is said that Thomas Jefferson Miller (great, great grandfather of Helen Lee) was born in 1803 and was united in marriage to Annie Pritt, "sister of old James and William Pritt" of Randolph County. He was the first Miller to settle, about 1822, on Spillman Mountain in the Addison Addition of Webster Springs, West Virginia. In fact, the area is now called Miller Mountain.

Thomas Jefferson Miller had the following children: Robert Patrick, Thomas Jefferson (great grandfather of Helen Lee), Hannah, Jane, Mary (Polly), Eva, Sarah, and Rebecca.

Thomas Jefferson's first son, whom he named Thomas Jefferson Miller ("Jr." wasn't used in those days), was born in 1839. On 16 July, 1855, he married Elizabeth Cogar of Holly River, Webster County. He lived several years on part of his father's farm and finally moved to Grassy Creek, where he passed away at age 85. He and Elizabeth had a large family: Silas, William Charles, George Allen, Maggie, Patrick, Patton, Jane, Frana, Rachel, Sarah, and Ballard.

Gertrude (Helen Lee's mother) has provided family records that show she is the granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson Miller, and the daughter of George Allen Miller.

George Allen Miller (Helen Lee's grandfather) married Sarah Skidmore, daughter of John Skidmore, a cabinet maker. They had the following children and grandchildren:

Ida May married John M. Herold, Sr. and had four children: Charles, John Jr., Marjorie and Ruth;

John J. married May Miller and had no children;

Curry, an invalid his entire life, never married;

Arthur Kenna, born 17 March, 1891, married Tillie E. Novak on 18 June, 1913 in Lawrence, Nebraska and had three children: Donald, Arthur Jr., and Sterling;

Pearl married Hobart Doddrell and had one child: Virginia Mae, who married Reverend Curtis Seville;

Gertrude, born 30 June, 1894, married A.E. "Jack" Bryant on 8 November, 1916 and had three children: A.E. "Jack" Jr., Barbara Joan (who died at age nine), and Helen Lee;

Adam, married Grace Pugh and had three children: Adam Jr., Mildred, and Rosalene;

Jeanette, married Revy Golden 10 December, 1927 and had one child, Betty Lou. (Revy had been previously married and had two children, Revy Vance and Anna Marie.)

George Allen Miller died quite young with the measles, leaving Sarah with eight children to raise. Helen Lee recalls visiting the old primitive home site on Miller Mountain in Webster County, West Virginia, where Sarah Skidmore Miller raised those children and lived until she died at the age of 78. Helen also remembers going to her grandmother's funeral -- recalling that it was a snow-covered winter day and that the casket had to be put on a sleigh, with a team of horses to get to the mountain-side cemetery.

Helen Lee's memory of the Miller clan was that they were "hill people" and very proud. She said that her mother, Gertrude, referred to them as "settlers." Indeed, as you read the history of the Bryants and the Millers, you begin to understand the West Virginia state motto: "Mountaineers are always free."

----OOO----

While Jack Bryant and Gertrude Miller lived in neighboring counties in the mountains of West Virginia, they didn't meet each other until they both had gone to

Richwood, West Virginia to work. He went to work in a paper mill, while Gertrude started nurse training in the McClure Hospital.

Later, after they had both moved to Clarksburg, in Harrison County, West Virginia, they met again. Gertrude was pursuing her nursing career at the Kessler Hospital, later to become the Mason Hospital. Jack was employed as a policeman for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. They were married on the 8th of November 1916. Jack was then 27 years old and Gertrude was 22.

Their first child was born 19 May, 1918. He was named Alva Evermont Bryant, Jr. But he, like his father before him, went by the name "Jack" his entire life. A second child, Barbara Joan, was born on 9 March, 1930, but died at the age of nine from Hodgkin's disease. A second daughter, Helen Lee, was born on 19 November, 1928.

For a number of years, the Bryants shared their home with Roxanna, Jack's mother, who moved in with them after Jack's father passed away. Roxanna lived with them until she died in 1938 at the age of 83. Gertrude did not practice her nursing after her first child was born. Instead, she became a homemaker, and remained such until her death on 2 September, 1977 at the age of 83.

Jack Sr. was involved in police work for the better part of his life. He spent several years as a member of the Clarksburg Police Department, rising to the level of lieutenant. A memorable moment in his service was when he was one of the arresting officers of Harry Powers, a notorious mass murderer during the late 1920's whose sordid life is still being written about and is featured in movies and television. A newspaper article at the time referred to Jack as a "world class detective."

In those days, before civil service, a position on the police force was tied into politics. When the politicians changed at city hall, Jack became un-employed and the family went through several years when things were tough. Jack worked briefly selling candy for a wholesale house, then ran his own private detective agency.

Through the 1940s Jack held the job of Superintendent of Streets, and later Superintendent of the Waste Department of the City of Clarksburg. Another change in politicians in the city administration occurred, and he was without a job again. After a brief time supervising a metal salvage company, he took a desk job as a Harrison County Deputy Sheriff. He held that job until his retirement, and passed away 14 April, 1969, at the age of 80.

Jack Jr. attended Washington Irving High School in Clarksburg, but he quit before graduation to go to work. (He later was to get his diploma while in the armed forces.) Jack worked for two or three years in the oil fields of Ohio and then

for Martin Bombers in Baltimore, Maryland, manufacturers of the B-26 bombers. The environment affected his sinuses, however, so in April, 1942, he left for Hollywood, California, where his uncle, Melville Bryant, lived.

In California, Jack went to work for North American Aviation, where he was trained and then worked on the Engineering Flight Test Line. Here all the engineering changes on the B-25 and P-51 aircraft were tested. For awhile a defense industry deferment kept him in civilian life, but in 1943, he returned to his hometown of Clarksburg and enlisted in the Air Force.

Having already been trained by North American Aviation, it wasn't long before Jack was assigned to Kimbolton, England, and he became gunner on a B-17 flying over Germany. On his 25th mission his plane was shot down over Germany, and he spent the next four months in prisoner of war camps. He was released from a camp in Moosburg, Germany in June, 1945. Jack returned to the United States, and in October, 1945, he was separated from the service. Two weeks later he started work for the National Cash Register Company.

On 20 April, 1946, Jack married Bertha Isabel Cuppett, the daughter of Russell Welch Cuppett and Bertha Bell Waters, next door neighbors of the Bryants. In fact, Jack and Isabel had known each other since childhood.

Jack continued to work for National Cash Register, in both sales and service capacities. On 5 December, 1948, he and Isabel had their first child, a daughter named Linda Joan.

During the period that Jack lived in California, he had fallen in love with it. After several years of "selling," he finally convinced Isabel to move to California. In 1954, he was able to transfer to San Diego, California, and continued working for National Cash Register.

In San Diego, Jack and "Izzie" increased their family. Michael Kevin was born on 28 November, 1956, and Patrick Shawn was born on 17 February, 1958.

In 1980, Jack retired and he and Izzie continue to live in San Diego.

Daughter Linda married Glenn Haigh in 1968 and they became the parents of two children, Kimberly, born 12 November, 1968 and Brian, born 7 November 1974. They divorced and Linda, a computer programmer, remarried 25 May, 1985 to Michael Evans, an attorney. They make their home in the Monterey area near San Francisco, California.

After a brief first marriage, Kevin married Bonnie Castro 15 March, 1986. He works for a large food chain in the San Diego area and he and Bonnie have two children, Danielle, born 20 February, 1989 and Andrew, born 7 April, 1991.

Shawn married Donna Weber 7 April, 1984. He is a divinity student at Westminster Theological Seminary in Escondido, California and Donna is an elementary school teacher. Shawn is scheduled to be ordained in May of 1993.

--oOo--

The Bryant and Miller Families

BRYANT

WILLIAM H. BRYANT - s. of William Bryant and -----, b. ----, m. (1) Jane Groves, d. of John Groves, (2) Ruth McClung. Issue: Harrison: John. Issue (2): Lizzie, m. ----Copenhaver: Leticia, m. ---
-Graves: Cassie, m.-----Alderson: Richard M.: Edward Melville, m. Roxanna Williams.

EDWARD MELVILLE BRYANT - s. of William H. Bryant and Ruth McClung, b. ----, m. Roxanna Williams, b. 13 February, 1855, d. 23 July, 1938. Issue: Marion, d. in his 40s: Alexander: Melville: Alva Evermont, b. 8 April, 1889, m. Gertrude Miller 8 November, 1916. d. 14 April, 1969: Nettie: Nannie (both daughters married, but died young).

ALVA EVERMONT BRYANT - s. of Edward Melville Bryant and Roxanna Williams, b. 8 April, 1889, d. 14 April, 1969, m. Gertrude Virginia Miller, 8 April, 1916. Issue: Alva Evermont Jr., b. 19 May, 1918: Barbara Joan, b. 9 March, 1930, d. 23 July, 1938: Helen Lee, b. 19 November, 1928.

ALVA EVERMONT ("JACK") BRYANT JR. - s. of Alva Evermont Bryant and Gertrude Virginia Miller, b. 19 May, 1918, m. Isabel Cuppett 20 July, 1946. Issue: Linda Joan, b. 5 December, 1948, m. (1) Glenn Haigh, (2) Michael Evans 25 May, 1985: Michael Kevin, b. 28 November, 1950, m. (1) -----, (2) Bonnie Castro 15 March, 1986: Patrick Shawn b. 7 July, 1958, m. Donna Weber 7 April, 1984.

BARBARA JOAN BRYANT - d. of Alva Evermont Bryant and Gertrude Virginia Miller, b. 9 March, 1930, d. 23 July, 1938.

HELEN LEE (BRYANT) BUFFINGTON - d. of Alva Evermont Bryant and Gertrude Virginia Miller, b. 19 November, 1928, m. Ulysses Pershing Buffington 29 May, 1952. Issue: Melissa b. 8 February, 1954, m. William G. Murray 19 September 1981: Suzanne b. 20 February, 1956, m. Richard T. Berman 5 May, 1980: Jody Lynn b. 5 October, 1959.

LINDA JOAN (BRYANT) EVANS - d. of Alva Evermont Bryant Jr. and Isabel Cuppett, b. 5 December, 1948, m. (1) Glenn Haigh -- March, 1968, (2) Michael Evans 25 May, 1985. Issue (1): Kimberly, b. 12 November 1968: Brian, b. 7 November, 1974.

MICHAEL KEVIN BRYANT - s. of Alva Evermont Bryant Jr. and Isabel Cuppett, b. 28 November, 1950, m. (1) ---- (2) Bonnie Castro 15 March, 1986. Issue (2): Danielle, b. 20 February, 1989: Andrew, b. 7 May, 1991.

PATRICK SHAWN BRYANT - s. of Alva Evermont Bryant Jr. and Isabel Cuppett, b. 7 July, 1958, m. Donna Weber 7 April, 1984.

KIMBERLY HAIGH - d. of Linda Joan Bryant and Glenn Haigh, b. 12 November, 1968.

BRIAN HAIGH - s. of Linda Joan Bryant and Glenn Haigh, b. 7 November, 1974.

DANIELLE BRYANT - d. of Michael Kevin Bryant and Bonnie Castro, b. 20 February, 1989.

ANDREW BRYANT - s. of Michael Kevin Bryant and Bonnie Castro, b. 7 May, 1991.

MILLER

THOMAS JEFFERSON MILLER - b. 1803, m. Annie Pritt, Issue: Robert Patrick: **Thomas Jefferson Jr.**, b. 1839, m. Elizabeth Cogar 16 July, 1855, d. 1918: Hannah: Jane: Mary: Mary (Polly): Eva: Sarah: Rebecca.

THOMAS JEFFERSON MILLER JR. - s. of Thomas Jefferson Miller and Annie Pritt, b. 1839, m. Elizabeth Cogar 16 July, 1855, d. 1918. Issue: Silas: William: Charles: **George Allen**: Maggie: Patrick: Jane: Frana: Rachel: Sarah: Ballard.

GEORGE ALLEN MILLER - s. of Thomas Jefferson Miller Jr. and Elizabeth Cogar, b. ---, m. Sarah Skidmore, daughter of John Skidmore. Issue: Ida May, m. John M. Herold, Jr., John J., m. May Miller: Curry: Arthur Kenna, m. Tillie E. Novak 18 June, 1913: Pearl, m. Hobart Doddrill: **Gertrude Virginia**, b. 30 June, 1894, m. Alva Evermont ("Jack") Bryant 8 November, 1916.

GERTRUDE VIRGINIA (MILLER) BRYANT - d. of George Allen Miller and Sarah Skidmore, b. 30 June, 1894, m. Alva Evermont Bryant 8 November, 1916, d. 2 September, 1977. Issue: Alva Evermont Jr., b. 19 May, 1918, m. Isabel Cuppett, 20 July, 1946: Barbara Joan, b. 9 September, 1930, d. 23 July, 1938: Helen Lee, b. 19 November, 1928, m. Ulysses Buffington, 29 May, 1952.

See also: Buffington (Chapter IV).

Chapter VII

The Westfall Family

This author's knowledge of the early Westfall family is somewhat limited, but any history of the Ulysses Buffington family would be incomplete without writing about the three Westfall brothers, Harold, Woodward, and Ellis. While the three brothers were half brothers of Ulysses and Ruth -- having different fathers but the same mother -- no one ever gave a thought other than they were *one* family.

Claude Westfall married Emma Blanche Koon when she was 15. They had three children -- Harold, Woodward and Ellis -- and Claude died at the age of 31, leaving Blanche a widow at the age of 27. It is no surprise that, soon after Claude's death, she re-married. At the age of 29, she married Oren Branch Buffington, father of Ulysses and Ruth.

We know that Claude was born December 22, 1884, and that he came to Clarksburg, West Virginia from Buckhannon, West Virginia before the age of 20, sometime prior to 1903. Claude was one of several children born to Zebedee Westfall and Molly Simons. He apparently had a brother who was a minister in Upshur County, West Virginia, and his paternal grandparents were Samuel Westfall and Clarissa Debarr -- whose marriage produced eleven children.

Claude worked in a management position at the Hazel-Atlas Glass Factory in Clarksburg, until his early death on 3 August, 1915. We know that Claude and Blanche lived at 1302 Williams Avenue in the North View section of Clarksburg.

In 1942, an elderly uncle of Claude -- William Westfall -- claimed that the family was of German descent. He related the lineage of the Westfalls back several generations to a James Westfall, who built an Indian fort in Beverly, Virginia, now West Virginia, over 200 years ago. He also said that James was the father of Jacob, who was the father of Zachariah, who was the father of George, who was the father of Watson, who was the father of I.N., who was the father of G.G., who was the

father of Watson, who was the father of Samuel, who was the father of Zebedee, who was the father of Claude.

This chapter, however, is not intended to document direct lines of the descent, only to put into print what is known by living members of the family so that it may serve as a beginning for other members of the family who may wish to research further. This author is inclined to think that the parents and grandparents of Claude were long-time residents of Upshur County and/or Randolph County, where research would cast a great deal more light on the background of the family and the names of their ancestors.

With Emma Blanche Koon, Claude fathered three sons, Harold, who was ten years old when his father passed away; Woodward, who was seven; and Ellis, who was less than two.

All three sons attended high school, but all three dropped out to go to work to support the family. Only Ellis was later able to return to school and graduate. Both Harold and Ellis played football for Victory High School in Clarksburg. Ellis was named All-State halfback in his senior year.

All three worked for the Hazel-Atlas Glass Factory, as had their father. Although the Hazel-Atlas changed hands several times, both Harold and Woodward continued working for them or their successors until retirement. Ellis left the glass plant to work for National Carbon in Clarksburg.

All three married and raised fine families. Harold married Fairie Fisher and they had three children. Woodward married Winifred Pritchard and they also had three children, all daughters. Finally, Ellis married Evelyn Hooper and they raised two children.

Ellis was less than two years old at the time of his father's death and has no memory of him. Harold, however, was almost 13 when his mother (27 years old at that time) remarried a man who was only 19 years old. While there was eight years difference between the ages of his mother and his step-father, there was only seven years difference between him and his step-father. Therefore, there appears to have been more of a contemporary relationship between them than that of father-son.

History reflects these relationships. Harold appears to have easily accepted "OB" (as they called their new step-father, Oren Buffington). He took the role of a mediator between mother and father when circumstances called for it, and, at other times, Harold took over as male head of the family.

On the other hand, Woody joined the Navy while just a teenager, probably hoping to get away from it all. When he got older, however, he returned to share the load with Harold.

"Woody," a middle child seemed to find it difficult to accept a new father," while Ellis accepted him as the only father he knew. That feeling was illustrated during a recent conversation with Ellis. When questioned about his father, he answered, "Which one?"

But the whole history of the family shows that Blanche, the mother, was the real glue that held the family together.

----000----

Harold was not only the oldest of the three brothers, he was the first to get married. He was 22 years old. His bride, Fairie Fisher, was 17.

As a young man, Harold was also what you would call a "free spirit." He loved life. It was often said that he thought football games were planned to provide a place for fist fights. If one occurred, you could expect to find Harold in the middle.

Harold also loved practical jokes. Once in high school, he got a motorcycle ride back to the school football dressing room after a practice session, arriving well before the rest of the team. He quickly showered and dressed, and then exchanged all the combination locks on the other lockers, locked them and went home. The rest of the team spent hours trying each lock to find their own. Harold admitted he paid dearly for that caper at the next practice.

On a later occasion, as a married man, he and Fairie, had what they considered to be a nosy neighbor, who was frequently caught peeping through the curtains next door. One day, he and Fairie got in front of the window and Harold pretended to choke Fairie. She, in turn, went into her "act" for the benefit of the neighbor.

Above all, Harold loved to play cards -- pinochle and bridge -- and he was very good at it.

Harold and Fairie named their first child Claude Zebedee, after Harold's father. "Zeb" spent a time with the Marines in the Orient, married Rose Mae Zeller, and graduated with a degree in forestry from West Virginia University. He went on to teach at the University of Maine, authoring several college textbooks

before retiring from there. Zeb and Rose Mae have two sons and two grandchildren.

One recent experience of Zeb's is worth mentioning: each year in the state of Maine a fish is tagged and the person who catches it is given the privilege of presenting it to the President of the United States. In 1992, Zeb caught the "President's Fish." A short time later Zeb and Rose Mae, along with the Governor of Maine, went to the summer home of President George Bush. He and his wife spent almost two hours with President and Barbara Bush, who accepted the fish and gave Zeb and Rose Mae a tour of their home.

Harold and Fairie's second son, Harold Donald, attended West Virginia University for a short time, but didn't enjoy the academic life. He opted to leave school, entering an apprenticeship at the local glass factory, as his father and grandfather had both done before him. He continued working there as a moldmaker until retirement. "Donnie" married Joretta Cochran and they have a son, Jeffrey Lynn, and a married daughter, Cindy Springston. Cindy has a son by a previous marriage, and a daughter by her present marriage.

The third child born to Harold and Fairie was a girl, Barbara Joanne. Joanne trained as a lab technician and worked in a doctor's office. She married Donald Simpson, her high school sweetheart, and they had three children, Kimberly, Greg and Tracy. All three have married and there are four grandchildren.

--- 000 ---

The second Westfall brother, Woodward, was so young when he entered the Navy for a hitch of duty, that his mother was required to sign for him. He served four years, earning the rate of Storekeeper, 3rd Class. He spent most of the time in the Navy sailing back and forth between Norfolk, Virginia and Key West, Florida on a small supply vessel, the U.S.S. Nakomis. At the time of his honorable discharge at the end of his tour duty, he was a member of the crew of the battleship U.S.S. Wyoming.

When Woody was discharged from the Navy in July, 1930, it was in the middle of the depression and jobs were practically non-existent. He worked for a short time in Meadville, Pennsylvania, refinishing aluminum Maytag washing machines, and he also worked for a short time in Huntington, West Virginia in the Owens-Illinois Glass Factory. While in Huntington, he lived with his Uncle Hobart Koon, his mother's brother.

Woody was a bit of a free spirit too. While he was in the U.S. Navy, he acquired a taste for two things -- clothes and home brew. When he came back into civilian life he bought, among other clothes, a handsome white linen suit and a straw hat. On Saturday nights, you would always find him dressed up in that white linen suit and out on the town. Before the evening was over, Woody had usually consumed a good portion of home brew, and his white suit was usually in a sorry condition -- with dirt, grass stains, and other unrecognizable smudges all over it. However, no matter how late in the evening -- or morning -- he came home, he would be found early the next day hand washing and ironing that lovely suit, getting it ready for the next weekend. Like Harold and some of his escapades, Woody's white linen suit became one of the family's favorite stories.

Woody returned to Clarksburg around 1932 or 1933, and found employment in the mold shop of the Hazel-Atlas Glass Factory. In 1934, he met and married Winifred Pritchard. He eventually was promoted to foreman of the mold shop, and in the early 1940s he accepted the same position with Hazel-Atlas in Grafton, West Virginia. He moved to Grafton with the young family of three daughters, and the children grew up there. When Brockway Glass bought Hazel-Atlas, they transferred Woody and his family to Buffalo, New York, then to Montgomery, Alabama. He continued to work in Montgomery until his retirement.

All three daughters married young men from Grafton. Barbara Jean, the oldest of Woody and Winifred's daughters, married Jack Mays and they gave Woody and Winifred three grandchildren: Leland, Bobby Lynn and Melanie. Jacqueline married Robert Bolyard and had two children: Jon Robert and Michelle. The youngest daughter, Claudette, married James Knotts. They have two daughters: Melinda and Kimberly.

--- 000 ---

When Ellis, the youngest of the three brothers, graduated from Victory High School in 1935, he and Evelyn Hooper had been married for about six months. As a result of his being named All-State in football, he was offered an athletic scholarship to West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, West Virginia. In those days, however, athletic scholarships were not so lucrative and the country was still feeling the effects of the Depression. Ellis saw no chance of getting the extra money to complete even one month of school and was forced to decline the scholarship. He went to work at the glass factory.

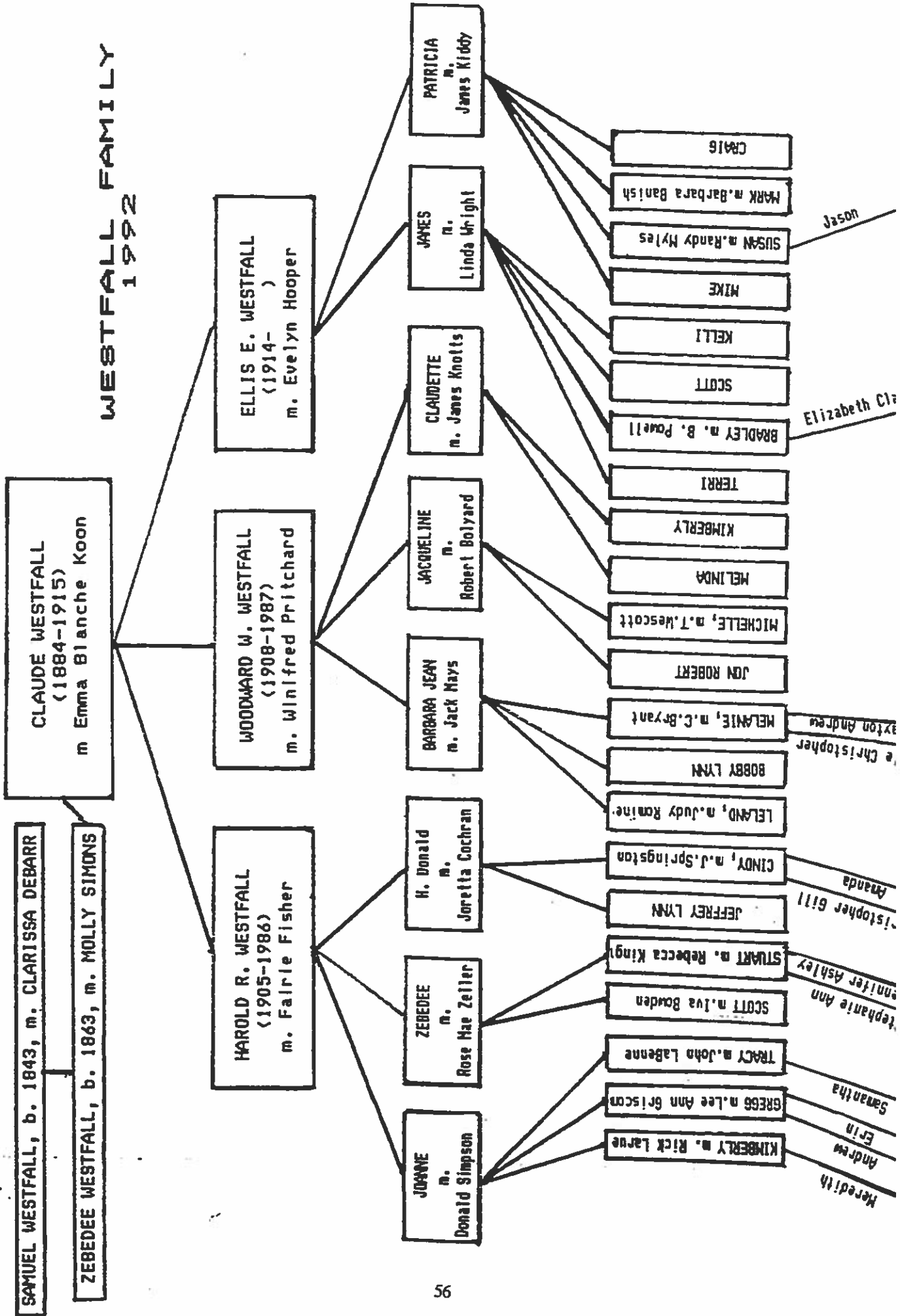
After several years with the glass factory he became a maintenance foreman with National Carbon in Clarksburg. He worked there until retirement. Ellis and Evelyn had two children, Patricia and James. Daughter "Patty" and her husband Jim Kiddy had four children: Mark and Susan, who are married, and Mike and Craig. Susan has one son, Jason. Ellis and Evelyn's other child, Jimmy, married Linda Wright and they had four children: Terry, Scott, Kelly and Brad, who is married with a daughter, Ellie.

In their later years, both Woody and Ellis suffered from respiratory problems. Although it was never medically confirmed, Woody attributed his problems to breathing aluminum dust in the early 1930s when he worked refinishing Maytag washing machines. Ellis, who worked most of his adult life for the National Carbon, was constantly subjected to carbon dust, which resulted in emphysema so severe that 24-hour-a-day oxygen assistance became necessary.

Harold passed away from heart-related problems on 19 March, 1986, at the age of 81, and is buried in Clarksburg. Woodward passed away -- apparently from a massive stroke or heart attack -- on 30 November, 1987 at the age of 79. At his request, most of his ashes were spread on his native West Virginia hills. His memory is marked by a marble tomb in Montgomery, Alabama, where his widow Winifred still lives.

--oOo--

WESTFALL FAMILY
1992



THE WESTFALL FAMILY

JAMES WESTFALL - Issue: Jacob Westfall

JACOB WESTFALL - Issue: Zachariah Westfall

ZACHARIAH WESTFALL - Issue: George Westfall

GEORGE WESTFALL - Issue: Watson Westfall

WATSON WESTFALL - Issue: I.N. Westfall

I.N. WESTFALL - Issue: G.G. Westfall

G.G. WESTFALL - Issue: Watson Westfall

WATSON WESTFALL - Issue: Samuel Westfall, b. 12 June, 1843, m. Clarissa Debarr.

SAMUEL WESTFALL - b. 12 June, 1843, m. Clarissa Debarr, b. 1 March, 1842, m. 16 October 1862. Issue: Claude Zebedee b. 30 August, 1863: Idella b. 24 May, 1865: Adda b. 4 February, 1867: Alla b. 23 December, 1868: Daniel b. 18 September, 1871: William b. 27 May, 1873: Homer b. 2 April, 1875 (twin): Stella b. 2 April, 1875 (twin): Markwood b. 13 November, 1876: Emma b. 26 January, 1879, m. --- Fretwell: Loy b. 1 October, 1884.

CLAUDE ZEBEDEE WESTFALL - s. of Samuel Westfall and Clarissa Debarr, b. 30 August, 1863, m. Molly Simons. Issue: Claude b. 22 December, 1884, m. Emma Blanche Koon 7 November, 1903, d. 3 August, 1915: Fred: Bessie: Audra.

CLAUDE ZEBEDEE WESTFALL (Jr.) - s. of Claude Zebedee Westfall and Molly Simons, b. 22 December, 1884, d. 3 August, 1915, m. Emma Blanche Koon 7 November, 1903. Issue: Harold Robert, b. 1 March, 1905, m. Fairie Fisher 12 September, 1927, d. 19 March, 1986: Woodward Wilbur, b. 20 May, 1908, m. Winifred Pritchard 24 December, 1934, d. 30 November, 1987: Ellis Earl, b. 19 March, 1914, m. Evelyn Hooper 12 June, 1934.

HAROLD ROBERT WESTFALL - s. of Claude Westfall and Emma Blanche Koon b. 1 March, 1904, m. Fairie Fisher 12 September, 1927, d. 19 March, 1986. Issue: Claude Zebedee b. 6 May, 1928, m. Rose Mae Zeller 29 May, 1948: Harold Donald, b. 11 November, 1929, m. Joretta Chochran 2 February, 1950: Barbara Joanne b. 8 July, 1934, m. Donald Simpson 23 January, 1954.

WOODWARD WILBUR WESTFALL - s. of Claude Westfall and Emma Blanche Koon, b. 20 May, 1908, m. Winifred Pritchard 24 December, 1934, d. 30 November, 1987. Issue: Barbara Jean b. 31 July, 1936, m. Jack Mays 29 January, 1954: Jacqueline b. 29 August, 1939, m. Robert Bolyard 19 October, 1961: Claudette b. 3 August, 1941, m. James Knotts 9 August, 1959.

ELLIS EARL WESTFALL - s. of Claude Westfall and Emma Blanche Koon, b. 19 March, 1914, m. Evelyn Hooper 12 June, 1934. Issue: James b. 30 December, 1939, m. Linda Wright 14 April, 1961: Patricia b. 19 February, 1938, m. James Kiddy 10 November, 1956.

CLAUDE ZEBEDEE WESTFALL - s. of Harold Robert Westfall and Fairie Fisher, b. 6 June, 1928, m. Rose Mae Zeller 29 May, 1948. Issue: Scott b. 24 October, 1956 m. Iva Bowden 20 October, 1984: Stuart b. 15 June, 1959, m. Rebecca King 7 August, 1982.

HAROLD DONALD WESTFALL - s. of Harold Robert Westfall and Fairie Fisher, b. 11 November, 1929, m. Joretta Cochran 2 September, 1950. Issue: Jeffrey Lynn b. 22 February, 1956: Cynthia Dawn b. 14 October, 1959, m. (1) Jeffrey Gill (2) James M. Springston 12 February, 1982.

BARBARA JOANNE (WESTFALL) SIMPSON - d. of Harold Robert Westfall and Fairie Fisher, b. 8 July, 1934, m. Donald Simpson, 23 January, 1954. Issue: Kimberly b. 10 January, 1956, m. Rick Larue 24 June, 1978: Greg b. 26 October, 1958, m. Lee Ann Griscom 1 August, 1981: Tracy b. 4 March, 1961, m. John LaBenne 24 August, 1984.

BARBARA JEAN (WESTFALL) MAYS - d. of Woodward Wilbur Westfall and Winifred Pritchard b. 31 July, 1936, m. Jack Mays 29 January, 1955. Issue: Leland, b. 27 January, 1956, m. Judy Romine, 17 June, 1984: Bobbie Lynne, b. 9 September, 1960: Melanie, b. 10 September, 1963, m. Christopher Bryant, 19 May, 1984.

JACQUELINE LOUISE (WESTFALL) BOLYARD - d. of Woodward Wilbur Westfall and Winifred Pritchard, b. 29 August, 1939, m. Robert Bolyard 19 October, 1961. Issue: Jon Robert b. 14 September, 1966: Michelle, b. 1 August, 1969, m. Terry Wescott, 17 October, 1992.

CLAUDETTE (WESTFALL) KNOTTS - d. of Woodward Wilbur Westfall and Winifred Pritchard b. 3 October, 1941, m. James Knotts 9 September, 1959. Issue: Melinda b. 10 October, 1960: Kimberly, b. 1 October, 1964.

JAMES WESTFALL - s. of Ellis Earl Westfall and Evelyn Hooper, b. 20 December, 1939, m. Linda Wright, 15 April, 1961. Issue: Terri b. 18 February, 1962: Bradley b. 29 June, 1963, m. Brenda Powell 16 June, 1964: Kelli, b. 30 December, 1969: Scott, b. 24 February, 1971.

PATRICIA (WESTFALL) KIDDY - d. of Ellis Earl Westfall and Evelyn Hooper, b. 19 February, 1938, m. James Kiddy 10 November, 1956. Issue: Mike b. 17 December, 1958: Susan b. 11 June, 1963, m. Randy Myles -- August, 1980: Mark b. 7 May, 1965, m. Barbara Banish 10 May, 1986: Craig, b. 17 March, 1973.

Chapter VIII

David Buffington Berman

On 25 May, 1980, Suzanne Buffington became the bride of Richard Todd Berman, son of Harry Berman of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and Florence Klebanow of Brooklyn, New York, and grandson of Russian immigrants whose lives read like a major television network mini-series.

Richard's paternal grandfather, Jacob "Jake" Berman fled Lithuania in 1900 at the age of 13, and his maternal grandfather, Nathan Klebanow fled Minsk in 1916. Jake fled to escape the Cossacks, Nathan to escape the Russian revolution. Both came to America, married, raised families, became businessmen in the "New World" and were successful.

Jake was born Jacob Addis in 1887, the third child of Tevya and Miriam Addis. He had an older brother and sister, Jenny and Harry, and a younger brother and sister, Maurice and Belle. The family lived in a small farming village, called Vhlitvia, on the eastern shore of Lithuania. The father, who had been a sergeant and a tailor in the Czar's Russian Army, had received a small tract of land in payment for his service in the army. The family used the land to grow and sell vegetables while the father ran a small tailor shop.

When Jake was 13 years old, the Cossacks began a program of raiding and killing Jews in their area. Jake fled on wooden skates, skating across a small body of water into Prussia. The rest of the family was later to migrate to the United States, but it wasn't until years later that the family were to be united.

Young Jake worked his way from Prussia northward to Copenhagen, Denmark, where he lied about his age and became a merchant seaman. This provided him with the means to travel to Liverpool, England, where he got a job with a retail merchant. Jake enjoyed telling and re-telling those early experiences and there were times when it was suspicious that he may have embellished a bit.

His grandson, Steven, remembers Jake telling him how he got that job with the retail merchant:

"Several young men were apparently apprenticing for the job of uncrating merchandise, untying string and strapping from the crates. Noting the time-consuming job of untying the strings, Jake produced his seaman's knife and cut the strings. The employer was so impressed by the efficiency thus displayed that he hired Jake on the spot, and Jake immediately became his employer's favorite. Steven also recalls, however, a framed quotation he has which reads: "The Older I Get, the Better I Was."

In 1903, Jake decided he wanted to go to America. Since he was only 16 at the time, his employer agreed to furnish him with money to purchase false seaman's papers. Thus, Jake was able to take a job as a member of a 12 man crew being put together to take a tugboat to Montreal, Canada. The name on the illegal papers was "Berman" and from that time forward, he was known as "Jacob Benjamin Berman."

When the boat finally arrived in Montreal, Jake Berman left the crew, hoping to enter the United States. He found out, however, that to enter the United States one had to have a guaranteed job. He quickly registered with a recruiting agent who signed him to become an apprentice tailor with a clothing firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

Upon arriving in Baltimore, Jake was assigned to a "master tailor," *who turned out to be his own father!* Tevya and Miriam and the rest of the family had migrated to the United States shortly after young Jacob had fled. The oldest daughter, Jenny, had married a man by the name of Hershel Yankiloff, and the whole family had adopted his last name. There had been no communication between members of the family during those years of separation, so the reunion seemed like a miracle to them all. They were all overwhelmed, but they were together again.

Richard's father, Harry Berman, remembers grandfather Tevya, who was very proud of his service in the Czar's Russian Army. He retained a neatly trimmed beard and a very erect posture until his death at the age of 96. Richard's brother Steve also recalls his great-grandfather, and laughingly says that the old gentleman was probably the only Jew in history who volunteered for a second tour of duty in the Russian army.

After completing his apprenticeship, Jake was employed as a tailor/salesman for a large clothing retailer located on the waterfront in Baltimore. During his travels he had learned 12 different languages which, along with his experiences as a merchant seaman, gave him the ability to converse with the international working class of the ocean port of Baltimore. He was quite successful in his job.

In 1907, when Jake was 20 years old, a merchant by the name of Joseph Cohen offered him a job as a salesman in his Clarksburg, West Virginia clothing store. Jake accepted, taking a cut in salary from \$10.00 per week to \$8.00 per week. Jake felt, however, that working as a full-time salesman on commission would be his opportunity to better himself. And so it proved.

Grandson Steve says that his grandfather told him that story hundreds of times -- especially when he asked the old gentleman for a salary increase.

The clothing store of Jake's new employer was located on Fourth Street in the Glen Elk district of Clarksburg near the railroad station. An oil and gas boom was on in the neighboring counties and there was considerable traffic of oil workers in the area of the store. When it was pointed out that most of the men left for work on the 5 a.m. train, Jake -- who lived in a room over the store -- started opening the store at 4 a.m., closing after the train left, and re-opening the store after 8 a.m. Jake's commission skyrocketed and his employer was delighted.

Jake told his son Harry that this was the period of time when he invented the "cocktail." He kept a jug under the counter and was known to serve some of his favorite customers a sip of watered-down "corn squeezin's." When it was pointed out that Jake may have been the first bootlegger in Glen Elk, Harry quickly corrected, saying "No, he gave it away."

Jake's employer, Joseph Cohen, was married to Dinah Rosenshine, third of 12 children of Mayer and Deborah Rosenshine. The Rosenshines had been bakers in Moscow and had left there around the turn of the century. After a short time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, they moved to Clarksburg and opened a livery stable on First Street. By the time Jake arrived in Clarksburg, the Rosenshines were a well established and prominent family.

Dinah Cohen had a younger sister, Florence, who Jake became attracted to and married in 1919. He was 32 years old, and his bride was 24. Jake used to tease her, saying he found her in Clarksburg only 12 years old and making mud pies. She had been a member of the first graduating class of the newly built Washington Irving High School in Clarksburg. Their marriage produced three sons: Harry Joel, born 20 April, 1920 and twins, Donald and Gerrard, born in 1928.

When Joseph Cohen, Jake's employer and brother-in-law, bought the Clarksburg Department Store on Main Street between 3rd and 4th Streets, he made Jake manager. The store prospered and expanded, but unfortunately Cohen had invested heavily. The market crash in 1929 left him broke and owing money to Jake.

Jake decided in 1932 that the time had come for him to go into business for himself, so he opened a small store in the 300 block of West Pike Street in Clarksburg, calling it the "Workingman's Store." He and wife, Florence, worked long hours and built a business known and respected throughout central West Virginia. As the three sons grew and graduated from college, they became working partners in the business. Later, their sons worked for them as well. The Workingman's Store became a landmark of Clarksburg. Additional stores were opened in Parkersburg, Fairmont and Morgantown in West Virginia, as well as Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

In 1972, one of the twin sons, Gerrard, passed away suddenly and the family was devastated. A Gerrard Berman Scholarship Foundation was established in his memory, and it continues to provide educational funds to deserving young men and women of the central West Virginia area. In 1980, Florence passed away.

In the early 1980s, a country-wide recession hit West Virginia harder than most states and the number of working West Virginians was drastically reduced. The market for "working" men's and women's clothing collapsed. Workingmen's Stores closed one at a time and, finally in 1982, the last one closed its doors after more than 50 years in business.

Jake, who had long before retired from the business, passed away in 1985, at the age of 98.

Son Don opened a new "Big and Tall" business on Main Street in Clarksburg, only a few doors from where his father had managed the Cohen Clothing Store many years earlier. Harry went into promotional work for a local shopping mall developer.

----000----

Richard's grandparents on his mother's side -- the Jaffess' -- were also immigrants who had fled Russia during the Russian Revolution. Florence, Richard's mother, remembers listening to her mother, Gertrude, tell of the family. Before coming to America, they lived in Minsk, where they were bakers. Gertrude sold bagels and pumpernickel bread on the streets. The family came to Brooklyn,

New York, in 1916, where they started a tire business which proved to be successful, and quite lucrative. Following ethnic tradition of the time, Gertrude's marriage was arranged in 1919 with Nathan Klebanow. Nathan -- along with brothers Hyman and Aaron and sister Dora -- had come from Moscow, also fleeing the Revolution.

Gertrude and Nathan's marriage produced two children -- a son Bertram who married Cynthia Winston and now operates a travel agency in Manhattan, and a daughter Florence, who married Harry Berman from Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Harry Berman had left Clarksburg to attend New York University, and there he met Florence Klebanow, a Brooklynite and member of the New York University swimming team. On 31 May, 1942, the two were married.

With World War II raging, Harry entered the United States Army soon after his marriage to Florence. While he was overseas, their first child, Steven David, was born in Brooklyn. When the war ended, Harry and Florence returned with their son to Clarksburg. In West Virginia, they had two more children; Robert Elliott and Richard Todd.

When Harry returned to Clarksburg after the war, he joined the Workingmen's Store, working for his father. Harry's two brothers, Don and Gerry later came to the store as well.

After their three sons were well along in school, Florence went to work in 1965 for the West Virginia Department of Human Services, but left there in 1969 to accept an appointment as Executive Director of the City of Clarksburg Housing Authority. After 23 years in that position she retired in 1992.

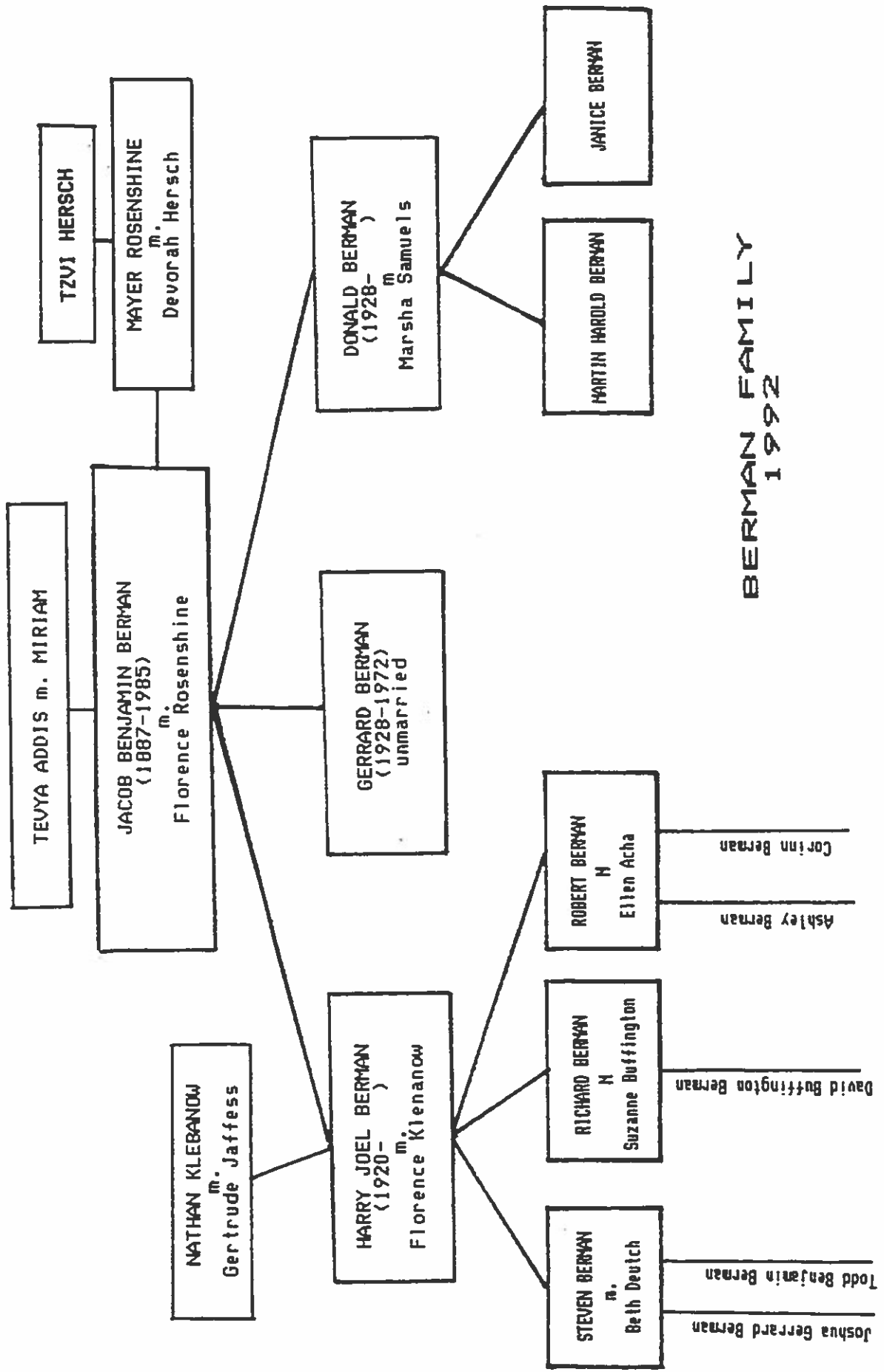
Both Harry and "Flo" were -- and remain -- active members of their synagogue and the community of Clarksburg. Harry actively participates nationally in B'nai Brith. One of Harry's great loves is community theater. As might be expected, the favorite role he has played several times is that of "Tevya" in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Son Steve married Beth Deutch and they have two sons, Joshua Gerrard and Todd Benjamin. Steve and his family live on Long Island in New York. Formerly a minor stockholder in a medical laboratory, he sold his interest but remains a key employee of the lab.

Robert married Ellen Ancha, producing two daughters, Ashley and Corrin. Bob is an executive officer of Physician's Weight Loss Inc., and lives near Akron, Ohio.

Richard married Suzanne Buffington of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and they have one son, David Buffington Berman. Richard is Director of Field and Career Services and Associate Dean of Students at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin.

--oOo--



BERMAN FAMILY
1992

DAVID BUFFINGTON BERMAN

BERMAN

TEVYA ADDIS (YANKILOFF) - m. Miriam, Vhlitvia, Lithuania. Issue: Jenny, m. Hershel Yankiloff: Harry: Jacob Benjamin, m. Florence Rosenshine: Maurice: Belle.

JACOB BENJAMIN BERMAN (ADDIS) - s. of Tevya Addis and Miriam, b. 15 December, 1887 in Vhlitvia, Lithuania, d. 1985, m. Florence Rosenshine 1919. Issue: Harry Joel, b. 20 April, 1920, m. Florence Klebanow 31 May, 1942: Gerrard (twin) b. 1928 d. 1972: Donald (twin) b. 1928, m. Marsha Samuels.

HARRY JOEL BERMAN - s. of Jacob Benjamin Berman and Florence Rosenshine, b. 20 April, 1920, m. Florence Klebanow 31 May, 1942. Issue: Steven David, b. 27 August, 1944, m. Beth Deutch 2 June, 1970: Robert Elliott b. 17 June, 1947, m. Ellen Ancha: Richard Todd b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980.

RICHARD TODD BERMAN - s. of Harry Joel Berman and Florence Klebanow b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980. Issue: David Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

DAVID BUFFINGTON BERMAN - s. of Richard Todd Berman and Suzanne Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

ROSENSHINE

JOSEPH HYMAN ROSENSHINE Issue: Mayer Rosenshine

MAYER ROSENSHINE - s. of Joseph Hyman Rosenshine, m. Deborah Hersch, daughter of Tzvi Hersch. Issue: Will m. Ann Miller: Tom m. Effie Slaster: Max: Dinah m. Joseph Cohen: Florence m. Jacob Berman: Joseph m. Viola Cohen: Gertrude d. in teens: Esther m. M. Bernstein: Jacob m. Pearl Greenberger: Reuben m. Elsie Goldberg: Hilda m. Jerome Katz: Harry unmarried.

FLORENCE (ROSENSHINE) BERMAN - d. of Mayer Rosenshine and Deborah Hersch m. Jacob Benjamin Berman. Issue: Harry Joel b. 20 April, 1920, m. Florence Klebanow 31 May, 1942: Gerrard (twin) b. 1928 d. 1972: Donald (twin) b. 1928, m. Marsha Samuels.

HARRY JOEL BERMAN - s. of Jacob Benjamin Berman and Florence Rosenshine, b. 20 April, 1920, m. Florence Klebanow 31 May, 1942. Issue: Steven David, b. 27 August, 1944, m. Beth Deutch 2 June, 1970: Robert Elliott b. 17 June, 1947, m. Ellen Ancha: Richard Todd b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980.

RICHARD TODD BERMAN - s. of Harry Joel Berman and Florence Klebanow b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980. Issue: David Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

DAVID BUFFINGTON BERMAN - s. of Richard Todd Berman and Suzanne Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

KLEBANOW

NATHAN KLEBANOW m. Gertrude Jaffess. Issue: **Florence** b. 29 May, 1920, m. Harry Joel Berman 31 May, 1942: Bertram, m. Cynthia Winston.

FLORENCE KLEBANOW d. of Nathan Klebanow and Gertrude Jaffess, b. 29 May, 1920, m. Harry Joel Berman 31 May, 1942. Issue: Steven David, b. 27 August, 1944, m. Beth Deutch 2 June, 1970: Robert Elliott b. 17 June, 1947, m. Ellen Ancha: **Richard Todd** b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980.

RICHARD TODD BERMAN - s. of Harry Joel Berman and Florence Klebanow b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980. Issue: **David Buffington** b. 9 September, 1982.

DAVID BUFFINGTON BERMAN - s. of Richard Todd Berman and Suzanne Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

JAFFESS

GERTRUDE JAFFESS m. Nathan Klebanow. Issue: **Florence** b. 29 May, 1920, m. Harry Joel Berman 31 May, 1942: Bertram, m. Cynthia Winston.

FLORENCE KLEBANOW d. of Nathan Klebanow and Gertrude Jaffess, b. 29 May, 1920, m. Harry Joel Berman 31 May, 1942. Issue: Steven David, b. 27 August, 1944, m. Beth Deutch 2 June, 1970: Robert Elliott b. 17 June, 1947, m. Ellen Ancha: **Richard Todd** b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980.

RICHARD TODD BERMAN - s. of Harry Joel Berman and Florence Klebanow b. 18 May, 1952, m. Suzanne Buffington 25 May, 1980. Issue: **David Buffington** b. 9 September, 1982.

DAVID BUFFINGTON BERMAN - s. of Richard Todd Berman and Suzanne Buffington b. 9 September, 1982.

Chapter IX

Brian Gerard Murray

In the country of Scotland they have identified and named 96 different family "clans." Any number of publications will give you a history of the various clans and can describe their tartans, their crest, and their motto. One of those clans is the "Murray" clan.

According to Scottish history, the Murray clan had its origin in the Princedom of Moray in 1120 when Freskin, ancestor of the great family of Murray and a noble of the old race of Moray, supported the Scottish kings and, in return, received lands and a castle from David I.

One of Freskin's grandsons, William, took the name, "De Moravia." This William de Moravia had, besides his heir Sir Walter, several other sons. From one of these sons is descended the great family of Murray of Tullibardine.

The House of Tullibardine springs from Sir Malcolm Moray whose son, Sir William, acquired Tullibardine through marriage . History provides a long line of the family tree down to the present day and to the Duke of Atholl whose seat is Blair Castle in Perthshire, Scotland.

It is probably impossible to prove, though easy to assume, that Brian Gerard Murray is a descendent of that Scottish family.

While the name of Murray is definitely of Scottish origin, Brian's father, William (Bill) Gerard Murray remembers that he and his brother and sister were always told the Murray's ancestors came from Ireland. However, if Brian's lineage cannot be traced back to Scotland through his paternal grandfather's side, it can definitely be traced through his paternal grandmother's side.

William Glass Wilson, Brian's great, great, great grandfather was born in Glasgow, Scotland on 27 October, 1888, the son of Joseph Walter Wilson and Rebecca Glass. He died in Hempstead, New York on 30 April 30 1947. Family records show that on 3 July, 1913, William Wilson married Elta Van Nostrand , the

daughter of George and Jennie Van Nostrand. They had three children, Walter, Janet, and Elta Wilma (Brian's grandmother) born 21 November, 1919.

To continue, however, with the Murray family history...Sylvester Murray (Brian's paternal great grandfather), son of Michael and Catherine Murray, was a successful merchant who owned several business properties in Glen Cove until he passed away there in 1929. He married Edith O'Brien, whose father, it is recalled, was the first licensed plumber in Glen Cove. In fact, the O'Briens were the first to have indoor plumbing in Glen Cove.

Sylvester and Edith Murray had four children: Lester, Paul Gerard, Edith and Anne. Brian is the paternal grandchild of Paul Gerard Murray.

Paul Murray was a long time resident of Glen Cove, New York, having graduated from the local high school. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, soon after their high school days, Paul entered the United States Army, going to the European theatre of World War II.

During the war Paul served as an Intelligence Officer, and as a Forward Artillery Observer. Later, during the occupation of Germany, he served as Military Governor of Oberkassel, a destroyed city with a demoralized population of 25,000. Later, he was placed in charge of a Polish Displaced Persons Camp of 500 men, women and children refugees.

Paul separated from the U.S. Army in 1946, with the rank of Captain and returned to Glen Cove, where he was appointed City Clerk. He held that office for four years, until he resigned to become associated with Silas Goldberg and Sons, a local real estate and insurance office. During his time there, he attended and graduated from the Marquand School of Insurance in Brooklyn, New York and the Aetna Casualty School in Hartford, Connecticut.

Until his retirement, Paul was very active in Glen Cove community affairs, especially in the area of education. He served as Clerk to the Board of Education, and later as a member and President of the Board of Education. In 1952, he ran for and was elected Commissioner of Accounts. In 1953, he met and married Elta Wilma (called "Wim" by friends and family), daughter of William Wilson, a well established builder on Long Island. Wim had been married before, to Lawrence Graham, a marriage which ended tragically when Graham was killed in a hunting accident on their honeymoon.

Paul and Elta had three children: William (Bill) Gerard Murray, David Richard, and Melinda Jean. Bill Murray is the father of Brian Gerard Murray.

As City Clerk, as a member of the Board of Education, and through working in real estate and insurance, Paul made many friends. In 1972, a local bank persuaded him to come to work there as Director of Community Relations. He held that position for 12 years until his retirement in 1984. Paul and Wim remained in Glen Cove until very recently, when they moved to Roanoke, Virginia, to live near son Dave.

----000----

On 19 September, 1981, Bill Murray married Melissa Buffington, whom he met while they were both students at the University of Richmond, Virginia. Their son, Brian Gerard Murray, was born 26 July, 1985. In 1991 Melissa and Bill separated, agreeing on a divorce. Brian divides his time between his two parents.

David (Brian's uncle) and wife, Valerie, (second marriages for both) have two children: Christopher and Ashley, from Valerie's first marriage. They live in Roanoke, Virginia, as do Bill's parents. Melinda (called Mindy by family and friends) is married to John Bjorlie and they live in Scottsdale, Arizona with their two sons: Paul and Andrew.

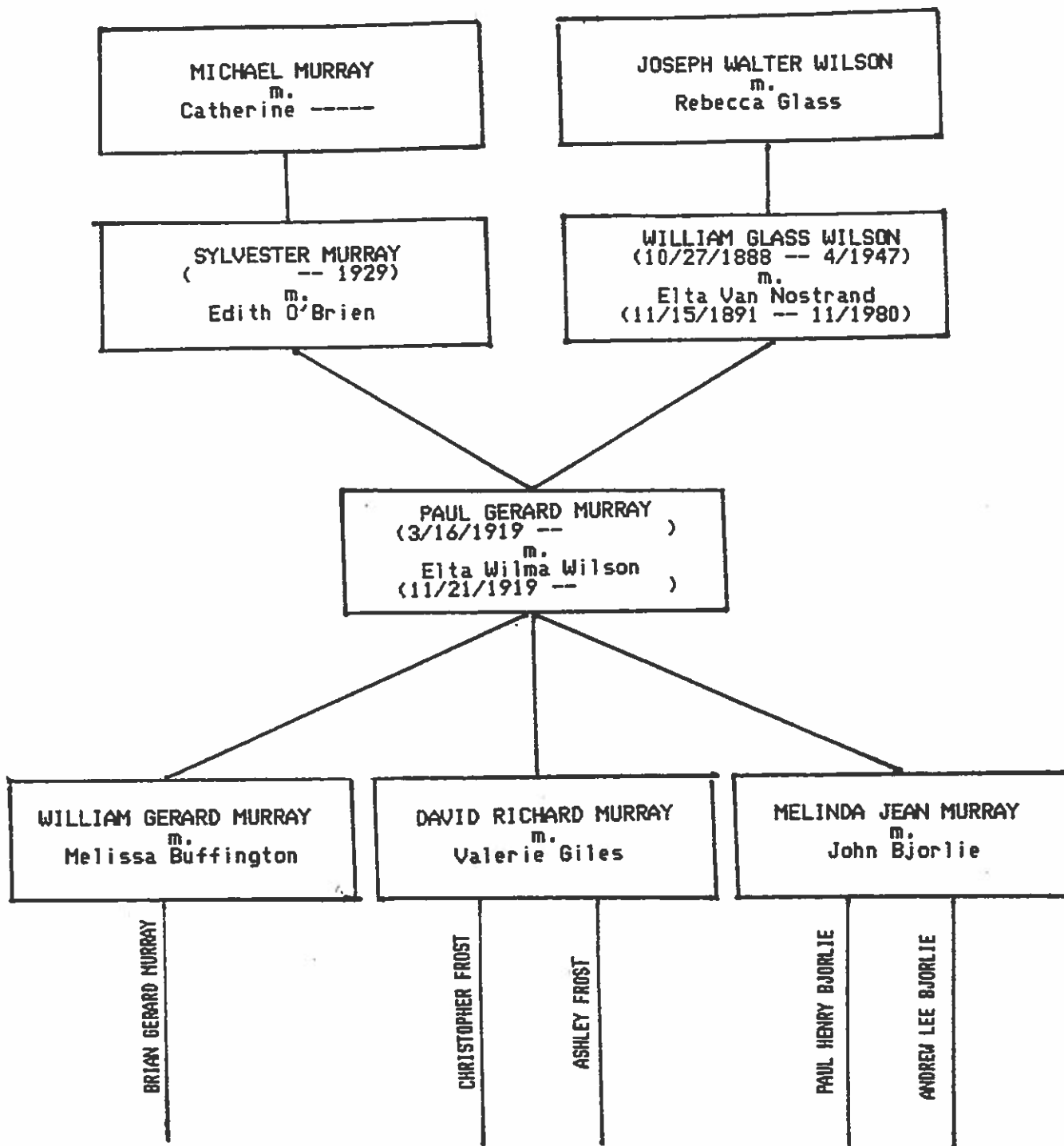
Shortly after Bill graduated from the University of Richmond he took a job with the Webb Institute, a College of Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture in Glen Cove, New York. Glen Cove is located within a short distance from where Bill's father and mother had lived for years and where Bill was born and raised. At this writing, in 1992, Bill is Executive Director of Student and Administrative Services at Webb.

Brian, at the age of seven, is more interested in Ninja turtles and little league baseball, but perhaps one day he will be more curious about his ancestors. Maybe the information in this chapter can serve as a starting point.

As of this writing, this is the extent of what we know of the Murray and Wilson families. However, Paul Murray's sister, Anne, is still living and Bill is making an effort to assemble more information.

----oOo----

THE MURRAY FAMILY
1992



BRIAN GERARD MURRAY

MURRAY

MICHAEL MURRAY, m. Catherine ? . Issue: Sylvester, m. Edith O'Brien.

SYLVESTER MURRAY - s. of Michael Murray and Catherine ? m. Edith O'Brian, d. 1929.. Issue: Lester m. Mary Rose McCarthy: Paul Gerard, m. Elta Wilma Wilson, 9 March, 1953: Edith, m. Leo DeLisle: Ruth m. John Curley 31 January, 1944: Anne, m. Colin Coney, 3 March 1967.

PAUL GERARD MURRAY - s. of Sylvester Murray and Edith O'Brian, b. 6 March, 1919, m. Elta Wilma Wilson, 9 March, 1953. Issue: William Gerard, b.29 October, 1954, m. Melissa Buffington 19 September, 1981: David Richard, b. 11 April, 1956, m. Valerie Gates: Melinda Jean, b. 1 April, 1958, m. John Bjorlie.

WILLIAM GERARD MURRAY - s. of Paul Gerard Murray and Elta Wilma Wilson, b. 29 October, 1954, m. Melissa Buffington, 19 September, 1981. Issue: Brian Gerard, b. 27 July, 1985.

BRIAN GERARD MURRAY - s. of William Gerard Murray and Melissa Buffington, b. 27 July, 1985.

WILSON

JOSEPH WALTER WILSON - m. Rebecca Glass. Issue: William Glass Wilson, b. 27 October, 1988.

WILLIAM GLASS WILSON - s. of Joseph Walter Wilson and Rebecca Glass, b. 27 October, 1888, m. Elta Van Nostrand, d. April 1947. Issue: Elta Wilma, b. 21 November, 1919, m. (1) Lawrence Graham, (no issue); (2) Paul Gerard Murray, 9 March 1953.

ELTA WILMA WILSON - d. of William Glass Wilson and Elta Van Nostrand, b. 21 November, 1919, m. (1) Lawrence Graham (no issue); (2) Paul Gerard Murray Issue: William Gerard, David Richard, and Melinda Jean. (see above)

APPENDIX

Since some descendants of the families included in this collection of family history might want to conduct a more serious and detailed genealogical search, the following resources are noted:

Buffington, Richard (1654-1747).....	"The Buffington Family in America"
Buffington, Thomas (1685-1798).....	"The Buffington Family in America"
Buffington, William (----1784).....	"The Buffington Family in America"
Buffington, Joel (1755-1821).....	"The Buffington Family in America"
Buffington, William (1773-1854).....	research by Peter Broadbent, Jr. and Marjorie Mayes, detailed in U.B. files
Buffington, William (1819-1897).....	research by Peter Broadbent, Jr. and Marjorie Mayes, detailed in U.B. files
Buffington, Alfred Franklin (1861-1916).....	research by Marjorie Mayes, letters from Elnora Dixon, handwritten note from Oren Buffington, details in U.B. files
Buffington, Oren Branch (1897-1941).....	handwritten note from Oren Buffington, details in U.B. files
Buffington, Ulysses P. (1918----).....	handwritten note from Oren Buffington, details in U.B. files

Berman, Jacob and family.....	interviews with Harry and Florence Berman and their sons, Steven and Richard
-------------------------------	--

Coon, Philip (1969-1783).....	"Descendants of Philip Coon (Koon) of West Virginia" compiled by Cline Koon, microfilmed by L.D.S. Genealogical Library, Los Angeles, California. Complete record found in U.B. files
Coon, Joseph (1720-1798).....	same as above
Coon, Conrad (1751-1817).....	same as above
Coon, Anthony (1786-1867).....	same as above
Coon, John H. (1813-1880).....	same as above
Koon, (Coon), Robert William (1841-1922).....	same as above
Koon, William Lorington (1867-1905).....	same as above
Koon, Emma Blanche (1888-1970).....	same as above

- Bryant, William H. (-----)..... "History of Nicholas County" by William Griffiee Brown, published 1954
- Bryant, Edward Melville (----1938)..... "History of Nicholas County" by William Griffiee Brown, published 1954, and knowledge of Gertrude Miller Bryant and Alva Evermont, Jr. from son Alva Evermont, Jr. and daughter, Helen Lee Buffington

- Miller, Thomas Jefferson (1803-1918)..... "Annals of Webster County" by Sampson Miller, published 1969
- Miller, Thomas Jefferson, Jr. (1839-1977)..... "Annals of Webster County" by Sampson Miller, published 1969
- Miller, George Allen (-----)..... "Annals of Webster County" by Sampson Miller, published 1969 and knowledge of Gertrude Miller Bryant and daughter of Gertrude, Helen Lee Buffington
- Miller, Gertrude (Bryant) (1894-1977)..... from daughter, Helen Lee Buffington