

# *Descendants of Vincent Crabb*

## *Generation No. 1*

### **1. Vincent<sup>1</sup> Crabb<sup>1</sup>.** He married **Sarah Jamison<sup>1</sup>.**

Children of Vincent Crabb and Sarah Jamison are:

- + 2            i. Jarrett<sup>2</sup> Crabb, born 11 Apr 1802 in Ohio; died 21 May 1873.
- 3            ii. Fannie Minor Crabb.

## *Generation No. 2*

**2. Jarrett<sup>2</sup> Crabb** (Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>2</sup> was born 11 Apr 1802 in Ohio<sup>2</sup>, and died 21 May 1873. He married **Rebecca Leazenby<sup>2</sup>**, daughter of William Leazenby and Catherine ?. She was born Oct 1801 in Virginia<sup>2</sup>, and died 04 Mar 1844.

More About Jarrett Crabb:

Fact 1: 1834, Ohio<sup>2</sup>

Fact 2: 1835, Ohio<sup>2</sup>

Fact 3: 1836, Ohio<sup>2</sup>

Fact 4: 1837, Ohio<sup>2</sup>

Fact 5: 1838, Indiana<sup>2</sup>

Children of Jarrett Crabb and Rebecca Leazenby are:

- 4            i. Isabella<sup>3</sup> Crabb<sup>2</sup>, born 1834<sup>2</sup>.
- + 5            ii. John Vincent Crabb, born 01 Apr 1836; died 16 Sep 1898.
- 6            iii. Jesse Crabb<sup>2</sup>, born 1837<sup>2</sup>.
- 7            iv. Elisha Guy Crabb<sup>2</sup>, born 1838<sup>2</sup>.
- + 8            v. Wesley S. Latimore Crabb, born 20 Aug 1845 in Indiana, Warsaw; died 16 Feb 1923.

## *Generation No. 3*

**5. John Vincent<sup>3</sup> Crabb** (Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>2</sup> was born 01 Apr 1836<sup>3</sup>, and died 16 Sep 1898<sup>4</sup>. He married **(1) Mary Newcomb**, daughter of Alfred Newcomb and Unknown Pinkerton. She died Bet. 1878 - 1881. He married **(2) Eliza Ruch**. She was born 1857<sup>5</sup>, and died 1942.

Children of John Crabb and Mary Newcomb are:

- 9            i. John<sup>4</sup> Crabb.
- 10           ii. Albert Crabb.
- 11           iii. Mattie Crabb.
- 12           iv. Minnie Crabb.
- 13           v. Lula Crabb.
- 14           vi. Eva Crabb.
- + 15           vii. Jennie Crabb, born 31 Aug 1871 in Kosciusko County, Indiana; died 26 Oct 1950 in Cando, Towner County, North Dakota.
- 16           viii. Ella Crabb<sup>6</sup>, born 15 Jul 1865<sup>6</sup>; died 04 Mar 1889<sup>6</sup>.

Child of John Crabb and Eliza Ruch is:

- 17           i. Ollie Vera<sup>4</sup> Crabb, born 27 Apr 1890; died 12 Jan 1992 in Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana. She married (1) Clarence Raymond Miller. She married (2) Charles Schell 1965.

**8. Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup> Crabb** (Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>7</sup> was born 20 Aug 1845 in Indiana, Warsaw<sup>7</sup>, and died 16 Feb 1923<sup>7</sup>. He married **Hettie Harrison<sup>7</sup>** 05 Feb 1874<sup>7</sup>. She was born 26 Jun 1854 in Delta, Ohio<sup>7</sup>, and died 12 Dec 1923 in Plymouth, Indiana Culver<sup>7</sup>.

Children of Wesley Crabb and Hettie Harrison are:

- 18 i. Arthur Davis<sup>4</sup> Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 17 Mar 1875<sup>7</sup>.
- 19 ii. Blanchie Gertrude Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 03 Mar 1876<sup>7</sup>.
- 20 iii. Alvah Albert Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 17 Oct 1880<sup>7</sup>.
- + 21 iv. George Nelson Crabb, born 29 Oct 1881 in Wabash, Indiana; died 02 Dec 1969 in Indiana.
- 22 v. Lemuel Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 11 Nov 1882<sup>7</sup>.
- 23 vi. Jessie William Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 24 Jul 1884<sup>7</sup>.
- 24 vii. James Cleve Crabb<sup>7</sup>, born 18 Nov 1885<sup>7</sup>.

*Generation No. 4*

**15. Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb** (John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>8</sup> was born 31 Aug 1871 in Kosciusko County, Indiana, and died 26 Oct 1950 in Cando, Towner County, North Dakota. She married **Chester Otis Knepper<sup>8</sup>** in Kosciusko County, Indiana, son of Cyrus Knepper and Mary Koontz. He was born 28 Dec 1872 in Atwood, Kosciusko County, Indiana, and died Feb 1934 in Devils Lake, North Dakota.

More About Chester Otis Knepper:

Burial: Buried in Rock Lake, North Dakota

Occupation: Farmer

Raised: Raised by the Goshert Family

Children of Jennie Crabb and Chester Knepper are:

- + 25 i. Wilma Mae<sup>5</sup> Knepper, born 15 May 1898 in Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana; died 15 Jul 1995 in Missoula, Montana.
- + 26 ii. Wilbur Chester Knepper, born 31 Oct 1907 in Towner County, North Dakota; died 24 Jul 1986 in Milford, Indiana.

**21. George Nelson<sup>4</sup> Crabb** (Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>9</sup> was born 29 Oct 1881 in Wabash, Indiana<sup>9</sup>, and died 02 Dec 1969 in Indiana<sup>9</sup>. He married **Effie J. Edwards<sup>9</sup>** 29 Oct 1901 in Culver, Indiana<sup>9</sup>. She was born 25 Oct 1883<sup>9</sup>, and died 13 Jun 1955 in Indiana<sup>9</sup>.

Notes for George Nelson Crabb:

[Crabb.ftw]

George had 44 grandchildren, 112 greatgrandchildren and eight great,great, grandchildren

Notes for Effie J. Edwards:

[Crabb.ftw]

Effie had 40 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren at the time of her death, she was born on the southeast side of Lake Maxinkuckee, and had spent her entire life in this town.

Children of George Crabb and Effie Edwards are:

- 27 i. Dorothy Faye<sup>5</sup> Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 11 Jun 1903<sup>9</sup>.
- + 28 ii. Stephen Wesley Crabb, born 17 Apr 1905 in Culver, Indiana; died 19 Oct 1988 in Vancouver, Wa..
- 29 iii. Nelson Lot Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 1907<sup>9</sup>.
- 30 iv. Cecil Chester Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 13 Sep 1909<sup>9</sup>.
- 31 v. James Francis Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 18 Feb 1912<sup>9</sup>.
- 32 vi. Nancy Ruth Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 12 Jan 1918<sup>9</sup>.
- 33 vii. Herbert Crabb<sup>9</sup>, born 10 Nov 1920<sup>9</sup>.

*Generation No. 5*

**25. Wilma Mae<sup>5</sup> Knepper** (Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>) was born 15 May 1898 in Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana, and died 15 Jul 1995 in Missoula, Montana. She married **Paul Jerome**

**Ishler** 24 Oct 1924 in Delvil's Lake, North Dakota. He was born 19 Jun 1900 in Maza, North Dakota, and died 05 Dec 1977 in Missoula, Montana.

More About Paul Jerome Ishler:

Biographic: Schooled in North Dakota

Fact 2: Farmed at Rock Lake, North Dakota until 1940

Fact 3: Farmed at Edinburgh, North Dakota until 1951

Fact 6: Pallbearers were Grandsons - Danny, Melvin, William, Clayton, Shawn, & Wayne

Occupation: 1951, Custodian at University of Montana in Missoula

Children of Wilma Knepper and Paul Ishler are:

- 34 i. Paul K.<sup>6</sup> Ishler.
- 35 ii. Raymond O. Ishler.

More About Raymond O. Ishler:

Residence: 18 Apr 1999, 2400 Sleepy Court; P.O. Box 811, Frenchtown, Montana

**26. Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup> Knepper** (Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>) was born 31 Oct 1907 in Towner County, North Dakota, and died 24 Jul 1986 in Milford, Indiana. He married **Elvina Mae Drake<sup>10</sup>** 29 Oct 1930 in Devil's Lake, North Dakota, daughter of Basil Drake and Emma Hanson. She was born 06 Dec 1912 in Cando, Towner County, North Dakota.

More About Wilbur Chester Knepper:

Burial: Milford Cemetery, Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana

Occupation: Farmer, Electrician

Notes for Elvina Mae Drake:

## DEDICATION

To Elvina M. Drake Knepper

on her 95th birthday.

She teaches us how to

live with integrity

and to value the life that God gives us,

no matter what.

d

Let us now sing the praises of our ancestors in their generations.

Some of them have left behind a name, so that others declare their praise.

These were godly people, whose righteous deeds

have not been forgotten; their wealth will remain with their descendants,

and their inheritance with their children's children.

Their descendants stand by the covenants;

their children also, for their sake.

Their offspring will continue forever,

and their glory will never be blotted out.

Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives on

generation after generation. The assembly declares their wisdom,

and the congregation proclaims their praise.

Sirach 44:1, 8, 10-5

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## THE "DUTCH ED" BLIZZARD

by Elvina May (Drake) Knepper

I grew up on the prairies of North Dakota near the Canadian border and I recall the cold winters of the early twenties.

We lived on a large farm on which my grandparents homesteaded before the turn of the century. The nearest town was about fifteen miles away and we didn't get to town very often in those days.

We kids went to school in a little one room school one and one half miles up a dirt road. We walked most of the time but on some bitter cold days Dad would take us with the team of horses hitched to a stone boat, which was like a large wooden sled.

One evening as we were coming home from school we stopped to talk to an elderly man who lived about four miles from our place. A recent blizzard was the main topic of conversation between my Dad and "Dutch Ed," as the old gentleman was called by all who knew him. He was a bachelor and as far as anyone knew he had no real home or family. At the time he was staying with a farm family taking care of the horses through the winter. He was a slight built man probably in his late sixties, but was very active and as they talked that day he boastfully remarked that "a blizzard will never get old Dutch Ed."

Two weeks later we experienced one of the worst storms I can ever remember. The wind came up in early evening and rapidly gained force along with a heavy snowfall. For three days the storm kept up its howling, blowing and drifting. I remember the folks who had to go out to the barn would follow a rope which was tied from the house to the barn. This kept them from losing their way as it was impossible to see where you were going.

After three days the wind finally calmed on Saturday morning and we kids were allowed to go outside. I will never forget that winter wonderland. As we stepped out a huge drift of snow about six or seven feet high encircled the house, obstructing any view to the outside world. Of course we found it most exciting to chop steps in this hard snow to make "stairways" up to the top. We felt like real giants as we reached the top and walked around over the tops of the trees and in some places, we could step right over the telephone lines. The temperature had dropped to 52 degrees below zero after the storm. The snow was frozen so hard that even a horse could walk over it and we carved out small rooms in the sides of the snowbanks for a playhouse.

But the news soon came that “old Dutch Ed” was missing. The neighbors around the area formed a group and started the search at once. Several men went together in a bobsled, but Dad thought he could do better if he went on horseback. In North Dakota, one could see across the prairie several miles to the women and children stayed at home and watched as the search went on. We saw Dad on his white horse following a fence line for a long distance before leaving it and cutting across the fields to another area. By now he was quite a distance from the other searchers. Then we saw him rein up his horse and with his fingers to his mouth, he gave a shrill whistle which could be heard for miles on that crisp cold morning. We knew then that old Dutch Ed was found, but contrary to his prediction, the North Dakota blizzard had gotten him.

In a short while, neighbors from all around gathered near where he laid with his feet crossed and his hands folded over his chest as if he just lay down to rest awhile. The searchers who had followed his tracks said he wandered nearly ten miles before giving up, only a few rods from a friend’s house. If memory serves me correctly this was the year 1924 and old timers in North Dakota can always recall the winter of the “Dutch Ed blizzard,” when old Dutch Ed wandered out in the stormy night to care for the horses and lost his way never to return.

– Written in July, 1982

## ANSWERS TO A GRANDCHILD’S QUESTIONS

by Elvina May (Drake) Knepper

Date of Birth: December 6, 1912

Place of Birth: Towner County, North Dakota

Dear Brenda.

I am finally sending this book. I hope you won’t be too disappointed with it. There are a lot of empty spaces, but I did the best I could. You will discover that, according to today’s standards, my life will seem quite empty to you but I have had a good life, with many ups and downs that most people experience. But life is what we make it and I am happy. I love my family. I now have nine grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren and several (four) step grandchildren.

(Note enclosed in book sent to Brenda Knepper in 1995)

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Transcribed and reprinted by Brenda Knepper in 2007

### Introduction

In 1995, at my request, Elvina Knepper (Grandma) took the time to answer questions about her life that were presented in *A Grandparent’s Book* [Los Angeles: HPBooks, 1987], which included spaces for grandparents to answer questions asked by a grandchild.

I found it interesting to read Grandma's history and to better understand her life and times, which are an important part of our family's history. Her original answers are handwritten in the book, which I have in my possession. Following is a transcript of the questions and her answers, with very minor edits to punctuation and spelling. I have also included supplemental information or recollections in bracketed notes, from conversations with Grandma and family members, and added a few of my illustrations and family photos.

– Brenda Knepper, 2007

## BEGINNINGS

Where were you born?

Near a tiny town of Maza in Towner County, North Dakota.

What was the month, day and year?

Dec. 6, 1912.

How much did you weight at birth? Were you a healthy new-born baby?

I believe my mother said I weighed 8 lbs. I am sure I was a normal healthy baby.

What were your parents' names? How old were they?

My mother was Emma Hanson Drake. She was 20 years old. My father's name was Basil Firman Drake – age 38.

It was his second marriage. [B. Firman and Emma Drake, below]

Note:

My father's first wife Leona (Lony) died in childbirth – their first child. It (she) also died.

Where were you when I [Brenda Knepper in October 1954] was born?

I was living on S. Maple Street in Milford, Indiana.

How did you find out I had arrived?

Announcement by mail.

Who were the first people you told?

A neighbor.

Did you suggest a name, or names, for me?

No.

When and where was the first time you saw me?

When your parents brought you home for a visit. Your father was in the Air Force stationed at Belleville, Ill.

What was your full name?

Elvina May Drake.

Does your name have a special meaning?

The name is Scandinavian and means "little elfen maid." So I am told.

Note:

I was named after my Aunt Minnie Elvina Hanson.

#### WHEN YOU WERE VERY YOUNG

Where is the first home you remember? What did it look like?

The first home I remember well was a large brick farm house in Iowa state near Wayland.

Who were your neighbors?

The only neighbor I remember was Sponbergs.

Who was your first "best friend"?

The first "best friend" I can think of was Mabel Sandover in North Dakota.

Who were your other friends?

James Oscar Norton (a cousin). Also Theresia Hartle, Fanny Hartle, Theresia Fuchsgruber.

Do you still have any favorite things that you had as a child?

No, but the last thing I had was a little iron dog bank – given to me when I was two years old by my favorite uncle – Rudolph (Duffy) Hanson. I gave it away not long ago to my granddaughter Pamela Perry Kline who happens to love dogs and animals. I wanted her to have it.

Did you have brothers/sisters when you were very young? When were they born?

A sister, Ruth, born on Jan 17, 1912 (same year I was born in Dec.), a brother, Emery, born Sept 28, 1914. [Ruth Drake in wheelchair, with Aunt Cora "Cody" Drake, below]

What do you remember about your room?

I don't remember a room.

What were your favorite toys?

The only toy I remember was a beautiful bisque sleeping doll.

What were your favorite games?

Ante-i-over, Prisoners Base, King on the Mountain, Hide and Seek, mostly outdoor games.

What is the first present you remember giving? To Whom?

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Note:

We were very poor so there wasn't very much gift giving. When I was about 10 or 11 my dad helped my sister, brother and I to save enough money to send by mail order for a mantle clock for our mother.

What is the first present you remember receiving?

I don't remember any thing except the lovely sleeping doll when I was about 5 years old.

What was your favorite book?

My second grade reader and I still have it in the family.

Did you have favorite stories?

Henny Penny, The Little Pine Tree, The Three Bells, and The Lark and The Daisy. All of which are in my second grade reader.

Did you have a secret hiding place?

No – not that I remember.

Note:

My daughter now has the reader. She will pass it to her children. I still like to read those stories to my grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Did your family have any pets?

Yes.

What kind?

We always had a dog.

What were their names?

I remember old “Spot” who came to our home as lost. He was a Collie and a wonderful watch dog.

Did you have favorite relatives?

When I was little my Aunt Cora (dad’s sister) was special as was my Uncle Duffy (mother’s brother). Then when I was in high school my Aunt Ruth (mother’s sister and Duffy’s twin) was really special.

Did you have a nickname?

My Grandma called me “Vina.”

How did you get it?

I guess she just found it easier to say.

Did you like or dislike it?

It was O.K.

Note:

Poor old Spot disappeared from our home and was found weeks later hanging on a fence by his collar – dead. What a sad ending. Others were – Prince, Bonny, Mitzi, Buddy, Skippie, Buster, Sport and Toddy.

Who took care of you if your parents were away?

We were never left with anyone when we were small.

Did you have a grown-up friend who was not a relative?

I don’t think so. Unless it was my Sunday school teacher. Cora Gillespy in Iowa when I was only 4 or 5.

What was the first movie you saw?

I never saw a movie but once when I was small. It was a comedy about a cat. I think it was Sylvester(?).

What were your favorite radio programs?

We never had a radio until I was grown.

What were your favorite TV programs?

No T.V. – never heard of T.V. at that time.

What indoor games did you play?

I can’t think of any unless it was “Hide the Thimble” or other guessing games.

What outdoor games did you play?

Hide and Seek, Anti-i-over, “Pump, Pump Pull away,” Prisoner’s Base.

Who did you play with?



My brother – mostly – and sister until she became paralyzed.

Note:

My sister fell from a swing when she was ten years old and became paralyzed for the rest of her life and we lived far out in the country so my brother and I ran foot races and tossed horse shoes when we weren't doing our chores.

Is there one special early memory you have of your mother?

No special incident comes to mind but I cherish the memory of a mother who was always there for us. She was the one who taught us right from wrong and kept us in Sunday school through our childhood. Mother went without so much in order to put food on the table and clothes on our backs. [Back, l to r: mother Emma Drake, Elvina. Sister Ruth in front, at right]

Is there one special memory you have of your father?

I remember when he brought a little pony (Shetland) home for us kids. We called her Gladys.

#### GROWING UP: GRAMMAR SCHOOL YEARS

What grammar school did you go to? Where was it?

I went to several –

Union, Iowa (eight grades in one room)

Olds, Iowa (a consolidated school)

Coolin School (one room, eight grades), Towner County, N. Dak.

When did you attend?

1917-1923 in Iowa

1923-1925 Towner County, N. Dak.

Who were your favorite teachers? What was special about them?

I always liked all my teachers. Ruth Naline was special. She boarded with us when she taught in the one-room Coolin School near Maza, N.D.

What were your favorite grammar school subjects?

Reading, Math and Spelling. Also Penmanship.

Were you in any school plays or concerts?

Yes, I was usually in any play our little country school had.

What did you do after school?

We always had chores to do – like gathering eggs, helping milk cows. I milked as many as nine cows when I was nine and ten years old (by hand – no machine).

Who were your best friends in grammar school?

Mabel Sandover, Theresia Hartle, Dorothy Hanson, Harold Hanson (cousins).

How late did you stay up during school nights?

We had no rule on that sometimes early sometimes late.

What chores did you have at home?

Wash dishes, fold clothes, carry in wood, fill water buckets (we had no plumbing or running water). Sometimes we curried the horses. I always helped milk the cows.

Note:

We always gathered the eggs from the nests in the barn and “hen-house.”

What do you remember about your summer vacations?

Just making our own fun and games on the farm.

What do you remember about the school buildings?

My first six grades were in a little one room school (all eight grades in one room) with one teacher for all.

Did you get an allowance?

No. There was no money for that. In those days children didn’t expect an allowance.

## GROWING UP: HIGH SCHOOL YEARS

What high school did you go to? Where was it?

I attended two high schools – Cando, N. Dak. and Egeland, N. Dak.

Who were your favorite high school teachers? What was special about them?

Clara Swanson was a favorite, probably because she taught a subject I liked (English or Grammar).

Who were the teachers you didn’t like? What do you remember about them?

I don’t remember disliking any teacher. I remember being afraid of one man who taught History (a subject I disliked).

What were your favorite high school subjects?

English, Grammar, Math, Sociology, Latin, Algebra, and Geometry.

What subjects did you dislike?

I did not like History or Geography.

Who were your closest friends?

Esther Brown, Polly Grande, Chrissie Elphanstone, Florence Coe, Florence Thomas.

What were your favorite sports?

I liked baseball and basketball but only as a spectator. I never had the chance to play the games.

Were you on any school teams?

No. We lived seven miles from school and drove a team of horses. We had no car so we didn’t get to take part in very many things.

Note:

The farm life kept us (my brother and I) busy along with our studies.

Did you belong to any clubs? What were they?

I belonged to the Glee Club (Chorus) also dramatic club.

Were you involved in any activities – i.e., newspaper, scholastic clubs, etc.?

Only as editor of the grade class notes on our school paper.

Did you win any academic, social or athletic awards or prizes?

The only award I remember was a blue ribbon (first prize) at the county “play day.” I chinned on the pole 46 times without stopping.

Who did you date?

I was not allowed to date or go to parties or dances but I could date only one – the neighbor boy – I later married.

Was there someone you wanted to date but never did?

– Of course.

What did you want to be or do when you were finished with high school?  
I dreamed of becoming an English teacher, but instead I got married and lived on the farm.

Note:  
I graduated from Egeland High School in 1930 (June) and got married Oct. 29, 1930.

What friends had the most influence on you?  
I saw very little of my friends outside of school.

Did you fight with anyone? Who was it and what did you fight over?  
No.

Did you have any part-time jobs during the school year?  
No.

Did you ever work during summer vacations? What did you do?  
Most of my summers were spent doing farm chores, and a lot of herding cattle.

What were your favorite books?  
Marian Gray.  
Barrier Burned Away.  
The Wall of Partition.  
The Winning of Barbara Worth.

What were your favorite movies?  
I never saw but one or 2 movies during my high school days. I don't recall what they were – oh yes one was "Ben Hur."

Note:  
I got in trouble when I went to see that show because I didn't ask permission. I just sneaked away with my friends. I really got scolded when I arrived home around 11:30 PM. In those days 11:30 was very late.

What magazines did you read?  
I can only recall the "Saturday Evening Post."

What television or radio programs did you follow?  
We didn't have a radio and I never knew about T.V. during the 1920s.

What were the popular songs?  
"Bye Bye Blackbird"  
"That Old Gang of Mine"  
"Let Me Call You Sweetheart"  
"Melancholy Babe"  
"Elmer's Tune"  
"Clap Hands, Here Comes Charlie"  
"Red, Red Robin"  
"Among My Souvenirs"

What s did you do?  
I never went to a dance but in school we danced the Minuet and Irish Lilt and did a little of the "Charleston."

What were your favorite clothes?  
Mostly tailored clothes. I especially liked to wear my "bobby skirt" and shirt blouse. Also wore a tie with it.

What were the major clothing fads?  
There wasn't much money for clothes at that time so dressing for most was quite conservative. Jeans were

unheard of. Girls always wore dresses or skirts. Once in a while we wore “knickers” when riding horseback or a bicycle but I never had a bicycle. Mother made most of my clothes.

What were the most popular slang terms and phrases?

“Cat’s pajamas”

“Pussy cat’s meow”

“Hot diggity dog”

“What’s cookin’ – good lookin’?”

Did you drive a car?

The first car I drove was a Ford Model T 1927 model.

Who taught you to drive?

I just tried and learned it by myself.

What kind of car did you drive?

Model T.

How did you get along with your mother?

My mother and I were very close. She was my dearest “Friend.”

How did you get along with your father?

My father worked away from home during most of my growing up so I didn’t have much memories of him.

Note:

When I was 16 (1928) my dad left my mother to take care of we three children. I only saw him once after that (1942). He re-married about 1950 and died in 1976 at the age of 101 in the “Good Samaritan Home” near Fargo, N.Dak. at a small town – Arthur, N. Dak.

[Note – Years ago, I asked Grandma if Grandpa Drake drank or gambled, and what made him leave a number of times before finally leaving permanently? She said that no, he was just a “wanderlust.” Grandma and Grandpa Drake divorced. Grandpa Drake’s second marriage was to an Indian woman who was quite a bit younger than he. – BK]

Who were the adults you considered friends?

Helen Cleary Cudmore was a special neighbor and friend, the Landruth family who lived across the field from us. Also William Gill family and Albert Clark family near Cando, N.Dak. Also the Elphinstones.

What were your neighbors like?

– Friendly farm folks!

Who did you have “crushes” on?

Harold (Bud) Menser, Alvin Himely, Lawrence Landrith. Never dated any of them – but “sneaked” off to the “Ben Hur” show with Alvin.

Did you fall in love with anyone?

Only one – he was out of high school when we met. He became your grandfather.

Did you go to college? Where was it?

No.

## FRIENDS

What friends have you stayed in touch with since childhood?

We moved a lot when I was little so I don’t remember.

What friends have you stayed in touch with since your teen years?

Esther Brown Woodbury, Chrissie Elphanstone Gores, Eilien Clark Eggl.

What friends have surprised you by getting in touch?

Florence Coe Setty. She now lives in Simi Valley, Calif. I only saw her once after graduation (1930) from Egeland High School.

What friends have you meant to keep in touch with, but haven't?

Polly and Ethel Grande. Both are now deceased.

What friendships have you renewed?

I never had much chance to renew old friendships since I moved East to Ind. And most of my friends and classmates either moved West to Calif., Idaho or Colorado or remained in N. Dak. Since we moved East in 1935 I have only been back to our old home town once (1988).

Who are your closest friends now? How did you meet them?

Myrtle Richardson, Elsie Free, Merrill and Wilma Rink – I met them through our church. Also Marian and Carmen Acton who have been our neighbors several years.

What recent acquaintance have become friends?

Donna Fisher, Betty Taylor, Joan Teeple, Freedonna Custer, Myrtle Richardson.

Have you ever gone to a reunion? Which? What was it like? How did you react?

No, never – I was too far East. I only know of a couple family reunions but I didn't get to go.

Have you ever had a serious quarrel with a friend? What happened?

Nothing serious – just a "spat" with a neighbor over a small problem with our children (we lived across the street).

What do you most value in a friendship?

Some I can depend on and confide in. A caring, sharing person. Someone I can laugh or cry with.

Who is the best friend you've ever had?

Esther Brown (Woodbury) was my pal all through senior high – N. Dak. Then Mary Duncan here in Indiana. She is gone. I now have a very good friend – Wilma Rink.

[Wilbur Knepper, below right, with Carl and Mary Duncan in the electric shop in Milford where he worked]

## AT YOUR OWN HOME

When did you leave your parents' home? Why and where did you move?

When I got married Oct. 1930, we started our married life on a farm near my parents' home.

How much rent did you pay?

We did not pay rent. We worked the farm for wages from the owner. (see below)

What did your home look like? How large was it? How was it furnished?

It was a meager little place – two rooms down and two room up. Very plainly furnished and just the bare necessities. No plumbing – no furnace – no electricity. We used oil lamps or gas lights.

How long did you live there? Why did you next move? Where?

We lived there two years and then the farm was sold and we moved 25 miles from there to another farm.

Note:

The old gentleman who owned the farm let us live in the buildings and paid us \$25.00 per month to work the farm. We could have 2 or 3 cows, some chickens and pigs and a garden so we had milk, eggs, meat and garden vegetables.

How many other houses or apartments have you lived in?

We left N. Dak. in 1935 – Came to Milford, Indiana, where I still live.

What were your addresses? When were you there?

We rented 3 different houses in Milford and then bought an old run down place in the country – remodeled it and made it into a comfortable home. Sold it in 1948 and bought a lot in Milford – built a new more modern home. Lived there 12 years – sold it and bought this older home where I now live alone. 112 N. West St.

Did you have any furnishings that belonged to your parents?

Not any more.

Which homes or apartments have you enjoyed the most? Why?

I have lived in this house since 1961 – 34 years so I guess I have enjoyed it the most. I have many good memories in this home. But I really enjoyed the home we built (1948) because our children were all at home yet and we were a complete family of 5.

What have been your favorite pieces of furniture?

My china cabinet that Wilbur bought for me. And the Grandfather clock that he and I made.

Who have been your favorite neighbors?

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hartter (Flossie)

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Haab (now deceased) (Mary)

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Acton (Carmen)

Marvin and Leatrice Rapp

Who have been the most irritating neighbors?

I don't remember having any irritating neighbors.

## MARRIAGE

How did you meet my grandfather?

I met Wilbur at a little country school program.

How old were you? How old was he?

I was 14 – he was 19.

How long did you know each other before you discussed marriage?

Three years.

How did you become engaged?

We went for a drive one Sunday afternoon and he asked me to marry him.

How did your parents react when you told them?

Both our parents were good neighbors and good friends so they were not opposed to our marriage.

What do you remember most about your courtship?

We just sort of palled around and grew into the relationship. We were close neighbors.

What ring or token did you receive as an engagement present?

A white sapphire solitaire ring (which I lost).

When and where were you married?

Oct. 29, 1930 at Devils Lake, N. Dak. (at the minister's home)

What did you wear?

Nothing special – Just a nice Georgette and lace dress.

Who was at your wedding?

Only the minister's wife and a friend who was visiting her at the time. They signed as witnesses.

What do you remember best about the ceremony?

See note below.

Note:

We did not have a wedding. We just drove to Devils Lake, N. Dak. Hunted up a minister and were married in the parsonage. Then went to a restaurant for dinner (supper) and to a movie.

Where did you spend the first night of your marriage?

In our hotel room in Devils Lake, N. Dakota.

Did you receive wedding presents? What were they?

Yes – mostly dishes, silverware, linens, etc. Also a cow and a heifer and cream separator (things we really needed).

Do you have photographs of your wedding? Where are they?

No – only our studio wedding picture. The children have them.

Did you go on a honeymoon? Where? How long?

No.

Note:

You must remember that it was during the great depression and there was not much money. Most people didn't have elaborate or fancy weddings in those days.

What were the first things you bought together for your home?

Just bare necessities like pots and pans. Most of our things were given to us by our parents – like bed, chairs, table, etc. (hand-me-downs) – nothing was new.

What was the first argument you had after the wedding?

Those things have long since been forgotten.

What friends have you seen most as a couple?

Merril and Wilma Rink have been our good friends for many years. Also Carl and Mary Duncan and Harry and Ethel Good (now deceased).

What pastimes, games, sports or leisure interests do you share?

We liked ball games (baseball and basketball), family type T.V. movies and enjoyed playing chess and dominoes. (see below)

Have you and your husband enjoyed good health? If not, what were the problems?

We enjoyed excellent health until in 1985 my husband was diagnosed with multiple myeloma (bone cancer). He passed away July 24, 1986. As far as I know I have very good health (1995).

Note:

We bought our first T.V. in 1957 and after that we saw very few movies in the theaters.

What is your favorite story about my grandfather?

A funny story comes to mind – it happened before we were married. Your grandfather got in his Model T Ford coupe, backed out to the street (Egeland, N. Dak.), drove several blocks up town and wondered why everyone along the street was laughing so hard. He found out when he parked that a pet chicken was riding on top of the car. They told him she had a hard time staying on; whenever he went around a corner she would slide to the other side.

Did you marry more than once?

No – Wilbur and I had 56 years together.

## TRAVEL

How old were you when you took your first trip? Where did you go? How did you travel?

I never took a trip when I was young except for moving from state to state. North Dakota to Iowa; back to N. Dak., back to Iowa, back to N. Dak. and finally after marriage and two children ended up here in Milford, Ind. where we got another daughter, Sandra 1944.

Where did you take your first plane ride? Were you scared?

Never rode a plane and I don't plan to.

Note:

In later years after our children were all married – we took a trip by Greyhound to Montana (1972) to visit Wilbur's sister and family. Also went to San Antonio, Texas where our son (your father) was stationed in the Air Force (1978). My mother and I went by Greyhound to Florida in 1970. Recently, my granddaughter Debra and I motored to South Carolina to my son's (your dad) home (1995).

Do you remember the first hotel you stayed in? Which one? When?

The first hotel I stayed in was in Devils Lake, N. Dak. on our wedding night.

What is the strangest mode of transportation you've used while on a trip?

When we moved from Iowa to N. Dak. when I was a child we had to cross the Mississippi river on a "barge." We drove our old Model T on to it and sat in the car. Our dog "Prince" was scared to death.

What is the best trip the two of you have taken together?

1978? Our Greyhound trip to San Antonio Texas to visit our son (your father) in the Service. While there we walked the famous "River Walk", rode the sky ride to the Sunken Gardens, visited the "Alamo." Also – I got to visit my old high school chum whom I had not seen for 46 years. She died shortly after that.

Do you have any purchases or mementos from your travels?

Nothing of value. I usually bring home a souvenir spoon for my spoon collection or a ceramic shoe for my shoe collection. I have about 60 shoes – some from Germany, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Holland and many states. Some spoons near 100 years old. I have one from the Chicago Worlds Fair 1893.

Have you ever traveled with friends? When? With whom? Where did you go?

We went with Merrill and Wilma Rink to the straits in Northern Michigan. Went through the Locks at Sioux St. Marie. (1983?)

What foreign countries have you traveled to?

Never.

Have you ever taken a cruise? What ship? How long was the trip?

I have no desire to go on a cruise. I don't care for water. I fell in the horse watering tank when I was 5 years old and nearly drowned. I have been afraid of water ever since. I never learned to swim. [Grandma told me that her cousin Oscar also fell in the trough, but he got out and pulled her out, saving her life. She lost touch with him for many years, but was able to speak with him right before he died in the 1990s. Our cousin, Bill Terrill was able to track him down through the Internet. –BK]



What is the single greatest memory you have of a trip you've taken?

I guess it would have to be when my brother and I went back to N. Dak. and went to our old school from which I graduated in 1930. It had been 58 years since I left there and I was surprised to find it just like I remembered it. Our Senior pictures were still hung in the hallway. – What Nostalgia!! and the rooms were just like I remembered them.

## WORK, JOBS, MONEY

What was your first full-time job? How much did you earn? What were your responsibilities?

My first job was in the ordinance plant during WW II. I worked in the bomb bay and large shell bay most of the time. Also weighed increments for mortar shells or powder for shells.

Describe your first boss.

My first boss was Walter Witchie. Very congenial – 30 years old. Easy to work for.

Note:

I have always been a mother and homemaker except for a year I worked in the ordinance plant at Kingsbury, Ind. 1942 during World War II, about a year in a furniture factory and in a cannery about a year.

What was the most difficult job you've done?

Working in the furniture factory lifting large T.V. cabinets. And also in the hay fields on the farm or shocking wheat in the harvest time. When I was 13 and my brother Emery was 11, he and I cut and shocked all the wheat and oats on our farm. We each drove 4 horses on the grain binders which tied the grain in bundles. Then we shocked them all by hand. The Amish people still do it that way.

What is the most extravagant thing you've ever done?

I guess it was when we paid \$250.00 for a little Boston Terrier puppy. (Ha!) Some people wouldn't think much about it but to us it was extravagant. We really couldn't afford it but we really loved that little "Buddy."

Have you ever been caught in a severe financial crisis?

No we have always kept within our means. Pay as you go was our motto. We have been down to "pocket change" but never in debt beyond our means.

What do you think is the soundest investment one can make?

I am not an authority on money matters but I would have to suggest that real estate is a good investment.

## FAMILY LORE

What were your grandparents' names?

Theodore and Rena Hanson

Albert and Martha Drake [below]

Where did they come from? What did they do?

Grandpa Hanson (Tailor – see note below) from Sweden and Grandma Hanson from Norway. Then Grandpa and Grandma Drake from Ohio.

What memories do you have of them?

I don't remember Grandma Drake but Grandpa lived his last three years in my parents home (in Iowa). He loved to sing and quote the Bible. and whittle! Grandpa and Grandma Hanson homesteaded in N. Dak. about 1865.

They were successful farmers – hard workers.

[Hanson farmhouse, below]

Who were your great aunts and uncles? Where did they live?  
I never knew them.

Note:

Grandpa Hanson was a men's tailor by trade when he came from Sweden. Mother had one of his heavy pressing irons but I don't know what became of it. [Speaking to Grandma while I was transcribing this record in 2005, she told me that Grandma and Grandpa Hanson's large farmhouse was one of the most beautiful and prominent homes in Towner County, with seven bedrooms and a beautiful winding staircase with oak railings. Grandpa Hanson was the county treasurer and North Dakota state congressman. During the flu epidemic of 1918, Grandma Hanson took in and nursed many sick people in that house – it was full of flu victims, some even lying on the dining room table. Grandma Hanson never got the flu, through all of that. Grandma Knepper said that she was living in Iowa at the time and that her whole family came down with that terrible flu, except her father. She remembers lying in bed, delirious. There were pictures of birds on the walls -- she thought they were flying and asked her mother to make them stop. When her family moved back to North Dakota, they moved into the large farmhouse and her grandparents moved into town.]

[Hanson family, below. Back row l to r: "Tillie" Matilda, Emma, Elmer, Ben, Minnie, Millie. Front row, l to r: Ruth, Theodore, Rena, Rudolph "Duffy"]

What were your parents' names?

Basil F. Drake  
Emma Hanson

Where did they live?

They are deceased. They lived most of their early lives in N. Dak.

What did they do?

Diversified farm. Grain and cattle, sheep and hogs. My dad worked away from home much of the time. [Basil Drake, below]

What are your memories of the home you grew up in?

It was very plain. Nothing exciting but we were happy. When my sister Ruth became paralyzed at age 10 we were confined to our home most of the time. Mother was strong and did more than her share of caring for us three children.

What are your thoughts about your mother?

My mother was a good Samaritan to all who needed her. She lived her life for her family – doing without so much herself. She was God-fearing and honest.

What are your thoughts about your father?

As I said before I didn't know him very much.

What are the most important things you have learned from your mother?

She taught me patience, and honesty. And the love of God. She was a strong person, never giving up. One of her favorite sayings (she had many) was "If at first you don't succeed – try, try again." She loved a challenge. Another saying she had – "There never was a person so bad but what you could find some good in him or so good but what you could find a little bad."

Do you have aunts and uncles?

None living any more – remember, dear – I am 82 years of age as I am writing this.

Do you have brothers and sisters? How did/do you get along with them?

One sister (deceased) and one brother two years younger than I. We always got along very well but we live 1200 miles apart now. My sister, brother and I were very close.

What work have they done?

My sister could do many things even though she was confined to a wheel chair. My brother was a telephone repairman and electrician. [Emery Drake, below]

Where are they now?

My sister died in 1961. My brother lives in Orlando, Florida – he is now retired.

How far back can you trace your mother's family?

Only to my great grandparents.

How far back can you trace your father's family?

Also to my great grandparents.

Do you look more like your mother or your father?

I think I look like my mother but I have my dad's blue eyes. Mother's eyes were hazel.

Which relatives possess artistic talents? What?

My invalid sister was very good in carving and oil painting on canvas.

Are there any medical problems that seem to run in the family?

Cancer seems to be a problem in my mother's family.

Do you have any family legends?

My Grandmother Drake was born at sea as the family came from Ireland.

Are there any family "black sheep"? Who are they? What did they do?

Never heard of any.

Are there any curios or mementos that have been handed down over the years?

Only small things like old dishes, old steel knitting needles in a wooden tube – a table runner, etc. [Grandma Knepper gave the table runner to me – BK] – belonged to my Grandma Hanson around 1900 or earlier. And the

little iron dog bank from my  
Uncle Duffy.

Are there any family photographs or records? Where are they now?  
I have a few photos and Mother's Bible has the family records.

Who was the most beautiful woman in the family?  
My Aunt Ruth (Hanson) Nelson was very pretty.

Who was the most handsome man in the family?  
My Uncle Rudolph Hanson (Ruth's twin) was quite handsome.  
[Rudolph "Duffy" Hanson, at right]

## RELIGION

Do you believe in God?  
I certainly do believe in God. He is the creator of all the Universe and he loved us so much that he sent his own son to die on the cross that we might have eternal life and forgiveness of sins.

Do you regularly attend a house of worship? Which one?  
Yes. I have attended the Christian Church of Milford for nearly 60 years.

Who is the first member of the clergy you recall? What was he like?  
He was a Lutheran minister. Mr. Helseth. I was young, so don't remember much.

What is your favorite prayer?  
My favorite prayer is the one our Lord taught us to say – "The Lord's Prayer." And also – the Serenity Prayer.

What is your favorite religious music?  
I like the older hymns – "In the Garden" "How Great Thou Art" "What a Friend"  
"Take Time to be Holy" "Beyond the Sunset" "Because He Lives" "Take My Hand, Precious Lord."

Are you active in social activities (choral, fund raising, etc.) in your house of worship?  
I give my tithe faithfully and help out in other areas when needed. I taught Sunday school for several years when our children were small. And worked in Ladies groups.

Is religion a major factor in your life?  
Christianity. One can be religious in many ways but not necessarily be a Christian. I try to live my life as a Christian – sometimes I falter but I know I can seek forgiveness through His son Jesus.

How often do you read the Bible? What is your favorite passage?  
I read the Bible every day. I have read the Bible through 3 times and each time it becomes more clear. But there is much I don't understand. My favorite passage is  
John 3:16. Also John 14:1-4.

Do you interpret the Bible strictly or loosely?  
"Where the Bible speaks – we speak. Where it is silent we are silent." Not adding or detracting from the "Word of God."

What was your most important religious experience?  
When I was buried with Him in the waters of baptism, "rising to walk in the newness of Life" knowing my sins were forgiven.

What religious rituals or historic figures are most important to you?  
The communion service is very meaningful – our church takes the loaf and cup each week in obedience to His invitation – "This do in remembrance of me."

How much religious training did you receive from your parents?  
My mother taught us at an early age about Jesus and his love for each of us.

How much religious training did you give your children?  
I tried to guide them as they grew up to know Jesus Christ and put their trust in Him.

Have there been times when you questioned your religion? When and how?  
There are times when I question my faith but I can pray about it and feel much stronger.

How do you feel about prayers in schools?  
I feel that our nation went down morally in many ways after mandatory prayers were taken out of school. Pupils and teachers can still pray in school – privately however. I don't think prayers should be banned in schools. Many schools in this area (and other areas I am sure) have prayers (voluntary). After all – Congressional sessions begin with prayer so why take it from schools?

#### SOME FAVORITE THINGS

What are your favorite foods?  
Vegetables and fruit.

Drinks?  
Iced tea and lemonade.

Animals?  
Horses, dogs and giraffes.

Colors?  
Blue, green, red.

Places in the world?  
Right here in my home town where I have lived the last 61 years. 1935-1996.

Flowers?  
Roses, delphiniums, daisies and tulips.

Gifts to receive?  
I like things for my home mostly.

Times of day?  
Evening – time to unwind and relax. Or mornings – rise and shine and greet the new day.

Sculpture?  
“Praying Hands”

Age?  
30

Season?  
Spring

Singers/Groups?  
I like the Statlers, Reba McEntire, Garth Brooks, Jim Reeves, Randy Travis, Eddy Arnold, Guy Lombardo, Lawrence Welk.

Operas? Symphonies? Ballets? Dances? TV actors/actresses? TV shows? Film actors/actresses? Films?  
Musicians?  
These things were never a part of my life.

Radio programs?

“Linda’s First Love” “Fibber McGee and Molly” “Lula Belle and Scotty”  
(all before your time).

Comedians?

Three Stooges, Red Skelton, Milton Berle, Lucille Ball, Phil Silvers, Lum and Abner.

Comic Strips?

“Giggs and Maggie” “Lil Abner” “Blondie” “Orphan Annie” “Barney Googles and Spark Plug” “Joe Palooka”

Painters/Illustrators?

Andrew Wyeth.

Spectator Sports?

Racing of all kinds: stock cars – racing cars, horse racing – harness racing and running (jockey). Basketball.  
Baseball.

## HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

What is your favorite holiday?

Thanksgiving.

How do you observe it?

A family carry-in dinner.

What do you consider the most important family holidays?

Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Which family members have been responsible for hosting various holidays?

Most usually it is the grandparents.

Note:

Our family never did very much for birthdays or anniversaries outside of a small gift or lovely card. When we were small we never had a party but we nearly always found a dollar under our plate at breakfast. Sometimes it wasn’t that much but a dollar (silver) was a lot of money we thought.

What have been your best birthday parties?

We never had birthday parties.

What are the best gifts you’ve ever received?

I would hesitate to say any one was the best gift but I really like my chord organ, china closet and dining table and chairs (all from Wilbur). Not to mention many lovely gifts from my family – especially the large carved wooden giraffe which was carved in Bangladesh.

What have been your most memorable wedding anniversaries?

Only our golden wedding 1980. When just about all our family – children and grandchildren along with many friends were present. About 150 signed the guest book.

Did your family gather together frequently? Or just for the holidays?

Mostly at holidays.

## PASTIMES, HOBBIES, COLLECTIONS

What do you enjoy most doing?

Making things with my hands. Crocheting, doing things around the house.

Have you ever been on stage? What happened?  
Only in high school dramas. I was the leading female in two stage plays.

Have you ever had your name in the newspaper? What paper?  
Only in the local paper – local news.

Have you ever been on television? When and why?  
No.

What type of books do you read most often?  
I read the Bible daily but I also like suspense novels and romance.

Do you play cards? What are your favorite card games?  
My parents never allowed cards in the home so I never was interested in cards. But we played checkers, chess and dominoes.

Have you played musical instruments? Which ones?  
Organ and harmonica only by ear. I never took lessons.

How did you learn? How long did you practice?  
I taught myself. I herded cattle as a teenager and rode a horse hours at a time so had plenty time to learn the harmonica. My husband gave me a chord organ for Christmas and I learned to play by ear.

What music did you play?  
I just play hymns and songs I know. Just for fun. I make a lot of boo-boos!

Have you collected things? Records?  
Jimmy Reeves records.

Other collectibles?  
I collect porcelain and ceramic shoes. I have over 60 shoes – also collect spoons.

Where are your collections now?  
The shoes are in the china cupboard. The spoons are on the wall in the spoon holder.

Have you had other hobbies?  
I love to crochet and do hand crafts.

What organizations, clubs, or associations do you or have you belonged to?  
I am not a “clubber” but I belong to a “Merry Widows” group.

What do they do?  
We meet once each month for a dinner in one of the members homes. Just for fun and fellowship. We each take our turn hosting it.

Have you been active in any charities as a volunteer?  
Helped serve meals for families at funeral dinners for years.

What did you do?  
For several years I helped to serve cake and ice cream at the Nursing Home for their birthday parties.

What are your other interests?  
I am a “home person.” Most of my interest centers around my home and my family.

## MY PARENT/YOUR CHILD

When and where was my father born? How big was he?  
Your father, Beverly, was born in my mother’s home Feb. 7, 1932 near Cando,

N. Dak. 8 lbs.

Who delivered the baby?

Dr. Harris – the same doctor who delivered me. (A terrible blizzard was raging that day.)

Who was present?

Only the doctor, my mother, your grandfather and my paralyzed sister.

Who were the first people you told?

Probably your great grandparents.

How did you choose the name?

We knew other boys by that name and liked the boys and the name. It was a boy's name in N. D., but in Indiana it is a girl's name.

What was my parent like when he was a small child?

He was a smart and witty little boy. But quite sober and serious. He used his imagination a lot. He liked to act out stories. When he was three, he had three imaginary children that he always took with him. When we moved from North Dakota to Indiana he "brought them along."

What were the first words my parent ever spoke?

His first words were "me" "mama" and "bity" (pronounced bytee) when he would get a little hurt.

At what age did my parent take his first step?

I believe he was eleven months. He started walking with a rope in his hand – thinking he was holding on to a support.

Were you a firm or easy-going parent? How did he react?

I tried to teach right from wrong, but I guess I wasn't real firm sometimes. But he never gave much problems.

What was his favorite entertainment as a teenager?

He liked to read or have his friend Johnny Gardner over, or ride his bicycle and pony. He also played the harmonica.

What did my father want to be when he grew up?

I think he must have wanted to be a soldier because he woke us up in the night marching around and around in his room. He joined the Air Force a year after high school and stayed in twenty years. He still works as a civilian – Auditing Chief at Shaw Air Base in South Carolina now. [Beverly Knepper, at right]

What did you think he would grow up to become?

I thought he would use his mind more than his hands because he always had his head in books and learning.

How was he as a student?

He was a very good student. One of his classmates told me not long ago that he was the smartest one in his class. :)!!

Did he ever get into trouble?

Nothing serious that I can remember (maybe I just didn't find out about it).

What chores did you make him do?

We lived in town most of his years at home so outside of lawn mowing and garden weeding there wasn't much to do.

How much was his allowance?

He didn't have an allowance. We just gave him money when needed.

Did he have a nickname? How did he get it?

Everyone calls him Bev. Short for Beverly.



Did he have a pet?

He usually had a dog. [Grandma related a story about Daddy and one of their dogs to me. When Bev was a small boy, the family dog, Mitzi, in her old age, crawled under the house and died. When his dad, Wilbur, pulled the dog out from under the house, Bev took a close look at the dog and said in a very matter-of-fact way, "Well! . . . That's the end of her!" – BK]

[Another story that Daddy (Bev) related to me: When Bev was a teenager, Grandpa Knepper (Wilbur) decided to pack up and return to North Dakota to try farming again. Wilbur gave notice at his job in Milford, Indiana and they packed up all of their belongings and put everything in a trailer/cart that Grandpa made for the move. The whole family – Wilbur, Elvina, Bev and his two sisters, Jaye and little Sandy, had to fit in the car – there was no room for their dog. So the dog was put in a crate that was then tied on top of the trailer hitch between the car and the cart full of their belongings. When they reached North Dakota, there had been some storms raging and the river had flooded the dirt road that they were traveling on as they came into Towner County. There were deep ruts in the road, but they kept going until finally -- they hit a big rut and the car and trailer kind of crunched or jack-knifed at the hitch, crushing the crate that the dog was in. When Daddy told this story, he said, "It almost killed our little dog!"

Wilbur had to walk up the road to get help to get them out. Grandma said that they knew before they even got back to their family in North Dakota that they weren't going to stay – they had forgotten how rough the Dakotas were. They only stayed a few weeks before returning to Indiana. Daddy said that he had a good time while he was there – hanging out with his cousins Ray and Paul, sons of Wilbur's sister, Wilma, and her husband Paul Ishler. Wilbur worked at putting electricity in a barn with Ray during that time, but decided to return to their better life in Indiana. Wilma and Ray eventually moved to Missoula, Montana and remained there for the rest of their lives.

I remember visiting the Ishlers and their extended family during the summer of 1964 when our family made a trip through the Dakotas, Wyoming and Montana that included seeing the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone, and Glacier National Park. Ray, his wife and ten children were living in tents while they were building a large house in the woods. I got to stay in one of their tents one night with my cousin Shelly, who was about my age (10). We caught crawdads in what she called a "crik" (creek) and we traipsed all over the woods, searching for wild cows that she said we had to catch in order to get some milk. We never caught one. I later heard that Shelly had shot her first moose as a teenager. She was a real mountain girl. – BK]

How did you meet your future daughter-in-law (my mother)?

You mother came home with Bev over a weekend leave from the Air Force (before they were married).

What did you think?

We liked her very much.

Tell me about my parents' wedding.

It was a simple little church wedding with friends and family. And a reception after the ceremony in the church.

Note:

Wilbur and I and Sandra (9 years old) drove to Nashville, Ill. where your grandparents lived. We stayed the night at their house and the wedding was the next day. Joye Mae didn't go because she and Loren were expecting their first baby (Debbie) any day.

## HISTORY AND POLITICS

To which political party do you belong? Why?

I am a registered Republican but I don't vote for the party. I try to vote for the candidate of choice regardless of party.

Note:

History and politics are not my thing.

What is your most vivid historical memory?

I remember when World War I (1914) started and my cousin was called to serve. He was living with us at the time and seemed like a big brother. Then I recall vividly when the announcement came on (radio) that Pearl

Harbor was attacked (1941).

What inventions or technological advances have most changed your life? How?

Many changes have come about during my lifetime – electricity, radio, television, air travel, computers, etc. – space flights, moon walks to name a few.

Note:

My grandfather – Albert Drake, served in the Civil War (1865) and boasted that he met President Abraham Lincoln.

## BETWEEN US

What are you most proud of doing?

Doing things for my family and always being there for them.

What are you most proud of being?

I would have to say I am proud to be a Christian mother, wife and homemaker. At least I tried.

Have you ever been to a psychiatrist or psychologist?

No.

What was your most exciting experience?

My life has been quite mediocre as far as excitement is concerned. But playing the leading female role in a stage play in my senior high year was quite exciting and an honor. I really did enjoy that.

What was your happiest experience?

Aside from my marriage I guess it would be at the births of my three children.  
[Wilbur, Beverly, Joye Mae, Elvina, and baby Sandra, below]

What was your saddest experience?

When I was riding with my neighbor and his wife – coming home from a Sunday school class party, we got stuck in a snow storm and my neighbor was trying to tie a rope under the car to get us pulled out when he suffered a heart attack and when his wife got out to see why he wasn't getting it done – he was lying dead!

Note:

That was the saddest night I ever had, except for the night my husband died and when my mother died. They both died at home.

This book also included a family tree that I have not included because the family has it in a more complete form. On it, Elvina wrote this note about her grandmother, Rena Paulsen (Hanson): "The Paulsen name was originally Snitkerplatson but changed to Paulsen when the family came to America from Norway." [Grandma told me that the name meant "carpenter's place." I was able to find Norwegian census and birth records that record Rena and her family's original Norwegian names. Snedkerpladsen was the name of their farm – Norwegians were called by the place they were from. -- BK]

## IMMORTAL GIANT

I watched in awe as they felled that tree.  
It stirred the very heart of me.  
That tree for years has stood on guard,  
A giant sentry o'er our yard.

It stretched its mighty limbs aloft,  
And challenged all that nature wrought.  
And when the wind and storms had passed,  
Still proudly held its post steadfast.

It's time for spring and for rebirth.  
Our feathered friends are filled with mirth.  
But their joy will fade on one sad day,  
When they find we have stolen their tree away.

I heard the grizzly whir of the saw,  
I watched it sever each heavy bough.  
And then a might crash I heard,  
As with a final thud it fell to earth.

I'll not soon forget that staunch old tree,  
With all its wisdom and sovereignty.  
For even though I think I should,  
There's a rugged stump where our giant stood.

-- Elvina M. Knepper  
Milford, Indiana 1963

#### IMMORTAL GIANT: SOME THOUGHTS ON THE POEM

In September 2004, I did an analysis of the preceding poem, "Immortal Giant" for a course I was taking. The professor told us to select a work that had meaning for us. I include it here because readers might find it interesting to place the poem in its 1960s social and political context. (Please excuse any inaccuracies in the essay – I most likely finished it up the night before class.)

– Brenda Knepper

"I watched in awe as they felled that tree. It stirred the very heart of me." This begins a five-stanza poem written in the spring of 1963 by Elvina Knepper, my paternal grandmother. She wrote the verse in response to witnessing a favorite old tree being cut down due to disease. I will explore some of the key messages that I believe Elvina was attempting to transmit through her poetry, the medium that she used and discuss her use of language and coding in its historical and social context – that of a middle-aged wife and mother living in a rural town in Indiana in the early 1960s.

The large tree had stood in the front yard of a small house on Fourth Street in Milford, Indiana for many years. Elvina and her husband, Wilbur, lived in the house during the 1960s and for many decades after that. Elvina still lives there in 2004 at the age of 93. Milford is a town of about 1,500 in northern Indiana that serves the local farm community. Wilbur, now deceased, worked in an electric shop in town for most of his life, and made repairs at many neighbors' homes in Kosciusko County. In the 1960s, Elvina was a mother and homemaker in her early fifties who had already raised three grown children and was now taking care of two young granddaughters.

I inherited a copy of this poem, which had been typed by Elvina on an old manual typewriter that filled in some of the letters with ink. A modest woman, my grandmother often typed up her letters to friends or family, fearful that her handwriting might be illegible -- which it wasn't. In contrast to her flowing handwriting, the uniform block letters punched out on onion-skin paper gave her writing a serious, no-nonsense tone, although she was a warm and considerate woman. When I received a typed letter from her, my eyes would quickly scan the pages of her letter for a personal note in her own writing, or at the least her signature, "Love, Grandma K." at the end, which gave me assurance that she was still her kind self and that this was not a piece of business correspondence. Elvina had worked for a short time during World War II in a munitions factory, one of many WWII "Rosy the Riveter" women who went to work while their country was at war. She might have picked up some office skills there,

including learning to use the typewriter. [Note: from her school report cards, I found out that Elvina took typing in high school]

Elvina titles her poem, “Immortal Giant,” and describes the tree as a “giant sentry [that had] stretched its mighty limbs...and challenged all that nature wrought.” The “staunch old tree” that had stood at its post through many years of hard winters, storms and whatever else nature sent its way, was perhaps a metaphor for the hardy people of the Midwestern and Great Plains, and the communities that stood in the center of flat stretches of farmland. In the poem, Elvina is communicating about the loss of a beloved friend. From her words, we know she had great respect and a kind regard for the old tree as she did with all of nature throughout her life. She and my grandfather often spoke of the weather – how crops were faring, what season it was in the harvest calendar. She would remark of the yearly return of the same birds to the large tree and other trees in her yard, or laugh at a squirrel trying to carry an ear of corn up the trunk of a tree. Agriculture and the natural world were an important part of my grandparents’ lives and livelihood in rural Indiana and before that in North Dakota, where both were born. Relationships were longstanding, rooted in conservative religious and family values. The success of the crops grown in the countryside surrounding Milford directly impacted the lives of the community, both economically and socially.

Now, after decades of weathering every kind of challenge sent its way, the tree has finally been brought down by disease and a chain saw. In her poem, Elvina doesn’t say what kind of tree it was or which disease struck the tree. In fact, she doesn’t even say that the tree was diseased, but passed along that information to me, when we talked of the event in recent years. Was it one of countless trees that succumbed to the ravages of Dutch Elm disease, that swept through the country in the late 1950s and early 60s? Bruce Carley, in his article on saving American elm trees, tells how the elm trees that lined Main Street USA in the first half of the 20th century were ravaged by the disease:

Many of us remember how painful it was for our communities to witness the tragedy that recurred throughout the eastern states during the 1950’s, 60’s, and 70’s. Many remember watching helplessly as countless main streets, parks, historic sites, and neighborhoods that had been so handsomely graced with fine elms were transformed within a few years into barren, urban-looking landscapes devoid of trees, the result of a frighteningly efficient epidemic that had appeared suddenly. (Carley, 2004)

The spring of ’63 was just a few short months after the harrowing weeks of what is now called the Cuban Missile Crisis; the averting of a frightening threat to our national security. The threat and demise of the tree certainly could have symbolized some of the fears that our nation was feeling due to the escalation of the Cold War during the early 60s. In addition, Elvina couldn’t know that the felling of her beloved tree might also have been an eery foreshadowing of the assassination of John F. Kennedy in November that year:

An then a mighty crash I heard,  
As with a final thud it fell to earth. (Knepper, 1963)

Elements in the story also conjure up images of the central figure in Elvina’s lifelong Christian faith. Christ, the immortal giant, on the cross “stretched...mighty limbs aloft” with “wisdom and sovereignty”. Her phrase, “There’s a rugged stump where our giant stood” brings to mind a classic protestant hymn, “The Old Rugged Cross,” which is certainly etched in her mind after years of faithful attendance at the Milford Christian Church. Elvina lived her life amid strongly patriarchal family traditions and Midwestern Protestant ideals. A visit to Milford usually includes attending church on Sunday and reading passages from the family Bible with Elvina in the evening. Her tree is staunch, a giant – words that she might use to describe her husband, her heroes, her presidents and her Savior.

Despite being written in the 1963 by a woman born in the early part of the 20th century, new interpretations and comparisons can drawn between the demise of the “giant sentry” and the “felling” of the twin towers in New York on September 11, 2001.

Elvina’s story of taking down a symbol of sovereignty expresses fears and feelings of awe that are as relevant today as they were to the events of the early 1960s. The emotions and states of mind that the poem evoke are very similar to ones I experienced as I watched, along with the nation and the rest of the world, the World Trade Center towers fall into tremendous piles of grey ashes:

I watched in awe as they felled that tree  
It stirred the very heart of me . . .

Present day Ground Zero in New York City could be aptly described as “a rugged stump where our giant stood.”  
Reminders of our immortal giants are everywhere: in the eternal flame at Kennedy’s gravesite, the flat barren  
space in Lower Manhattan, the crosses mounted on the walls of churches worldwide, the large stump of a well-  
loved tree and in the words of my grandmother’s poetry.

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Work Cited

Carley, Bruce. "Saving the American Elm." Elmpost.org. 2004. Acton, MA. 19 Sept. 2004.  
<<http://www.elmpost.org>>.

AN ORDINARY HERO

He was an Ordinary Hero  
With quiet, simple ways  
His unsung deeds of kindness  
Showed his love for us each day.

Never did he make big news  
In the paper or on TV –  
No legends told of how he was  
Or what he meant to be.

Just an Ordinary Hero,  
He worked his magic spells  
Now God will use him as His eyes  
To see that we are well.

For us he fought the demons  
Tried to make our sorrows hide, but  
His eyes revealed a gentleness –  
Which was, in fact, his truer side.

He was an Ordinary Hero.  
Working hard day by day,  
Making sure our hopes and dreams  
Wouldn’t tatter or be frayed.

Wasn’t out to change the world, but  
He did, at least a tad.  
The way he cared so quietly  
Showed the kind of love he had.

He’ll always be a special man;  
He meant the world to me –  
Though I never dared admit it  
Until only recently.

Now it’s time for us to know  
There’s no greater friend we had

Than an Ordinary Hero –  
The one we called Our Dad.

-- Joye Mae Knepper Stilwell  
January 1988

#### IMAGINE THAT

Imagine being a setting sun  
being closed into the black  
envelope of night  
With clouds spearing through you  
like knives  
And fading into different colors  
As millions of people relax while  
looking at you  
Or reading a book by your light  
Imagine falling to the earth  
like a shooting star  
And waiting until morning to  
rise.

-- Lisa Knepper  
Woodbridge, VA 1992 (as a 7th grader)

#### FIRST LOVE

You walk  
by my desk  
with a certainty  
that I don't possess.

I see you  
see me and  
smile  
your hand curls  
into a fist  
and makes contact  
with my arm  
It doesn't hurt.

Now I know  
that you  
like me.  
You slide into your seat.  
Butterfly wings  
flutter softly,  
touching my hipbones  
and I am happy.

-- Brenda Knepper  
Long Beach, CA 2005-06

PHOTOS OF ORIGINAL EGELAND SCHOOL  
Bisbee, North Dakota

The school that Elvina and Wilbur attended in North Dakota is still used as of this writing in 2007. The “old school” is pictured below. A newer addition was added to the school -- it is now called Bisbee-Egeland School.

EMMA DRAKE

and the Hastings Insane Asylum

Elvina’s mother, Emma Paulsen Drake, worked at the Hastings State Hospital while she and Elvina’s sister Ruth lived in Hastings, Minnesota. She managed the laundry facilities.

The Hastings State Hospital was established in 1888. The hospital included large brick buildings housing up to 900 patients. It was known as the Hastings Insane Asylum. On the complex’s 460 acre farm patients produced garden and dairy products for the hospital. In 1979 it became the Minnesota Veterans Home.

ALBERT VANGORDER DRAKE

Union Soldier in the Civil War

Elvina’s paternal grandfather, Albert Drake, served as a Private in the 89th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Company C and the 8th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps, Company D. He entered the war in August 1862 when the Regiment formed and was in all probability engaged in two major battles on the Western Front of the Civil War. The 89th Regiment fought at Chickamauga in September 1863 and at the Third Battle of Chattanooga in November 1863. Because he left active service and entered the reserves in December 1863, he may have been wounded in the Battle at Chattanooga. He filed for an “Invalid” pension in 1888 (see scan of pension record, below).The 89th Regiment continued to fight until the end of the war – the remaining men were mustered out in June 1865. Elvina said that he lived with her family in Iowa when he was old and he said that he had met Abraham Lincoln during the war.

Source Information: American Civil War Soldiers online database, Provo, UT.:

Name: Albert Drake Enlistment Date: 9 Aug 1862

Side Served: Union State Served: Ohio

Service Record: Enlisted as a Private on 9 August 1862 at the age of 21.

Enlisted in Company C, 89th Infantry Regiment Ohio on 26 Aug 1862.

Transferred into Regiment U.S. Veteran Reserve Corps on 15 Dec 1863.

Transferred out of Company C, 89th Infantry Regiment Ohio on 15 Dec 1863.

RENA PAULSEN

AKA Ronnaug Paulsdatter Snedkerpladsen

(Elvina's maternal grandmother)

Norwegian Birth and Baptism Record

Source Information: Oppland county, Sør-Fron, Parish register (official) nr. 1  
(1849-1863), Birth and baptism records 1860, page 122.

THEODORE HANSON



## North Dakota State Representative

Elvina's maternal grandfather, Theodore Hanson, served as Towner County treasurer and as a state representative. He was born in Sweden and married Rena Paulsen in Black River Falls, Wisconsin before they moved to North Dakota to homestead on the Northern Great Plains.

Elvina said that he was a quiet man, but when he had something to say it was important and meaningful.

His death certificate shows that he was hit by a car a couple months after his wife passed away in 1937.

## NEWS CLIPPINGS

## COLORIZED PHOTOS

Beverly Knepper and his Aunt Wilma Knepper  
in Towner County, North Dakota, early 1930s

(original sepia tone photo repaired and colorized by Brenda Knepper)

Beverly Knepper and Joye Mae Knepper  
in Towner County, North Dakota, 1935

(original sepia tone photo repaired and colorized by Brenda Knepper)

## CLIPPINGS

by Deb Perry Terrill

The next section contains reprints of the "Clippings" column by horticultural author Deb Terrill, Elvina's granddaughter. These were published in the Ornamentals & Edibles magazine between March 2005 through February 2007.

Children of Wilbur Knepper and Elvina Drake are:

- + 36 i. Beverly Wilbur<sup>6</sup> Knepper, born 07 Feb 1932 in Cando, Towner County, North Dakota.
- + 37 ii. Joye Mae Knepper, born 04 Jun 1935 in Cando, North Dakota.
- + 38 iii. Sandra Knepper, born 23 Aug 1944.

**28. Stephen Wesley<sup>5</sup> Crabb** (George Nelson<sup>4</sup>, Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>11</sup> was born 17 Apr 1905 in Culver, Indiana<sup>11</sup>, and died 19 Oct 1988 in Vancouver, Wa.<sup>11</sup>. He married **Frances Elizabeth Barlow<sup>11</sup>** 15 Feb 1934 in Devils Lake, Neb.<sup>11</sup>. She was born 07 Dec 1911 in Argos, Marshall Co. Indiana<sup>11</sup>, and died 12 Nov 1941 in Argos, Indiana<sup>11</sup>.

Children of Stephen Crabb and Frances Barlow are:

- 39 i. Zelma Jane<sup>6</sup> Crabb<sup>11</sup>, born 18 Jan 1935 in Argos, IN<sup>11</sup>.
- + 40 ii. Carl Steven Crabb, born 18 Apr 1936 in Rochester, Indiana (Fulton County).
- + 41 iii. Richard Francis Crabb, born 06 May 1937 in Argos, IN.
- 42 iv. Roberta Golden Crabb<sup>11</sup>, born 05 May 1938 in Argos, IN<sup>11</sup>.
- 43 v. Kenneth Leland Crabb<sup>11</sup>, born 25 Dec 1939 in Argos, IN<sup>11</sup>.

#### *Generation No. 6*

**36. Beverly Wilbur<sup>6</sup> Knepper** (Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>12</sup> was born 07 Feb 1932 in Cando, Towner County, North Dakota. He married **(1) Darlene Seyler<sup>12</sup>** 09 Sep 1953. He married **(2) Sarah Crawley Brydon<sup>12</sup>** 15 Mar 1969 in Warner Robinson AFB, Georgia.

More About Beverly Wilbur Knepper:

Military: Apr 1951, U.S. Air Force until December 1972

Children of Beverly Knepper and Darlene Seyler are:

- 44 i. Brenda<sup>7</sup> Knepper<sup>12</sup>, born 03 Oct 1954.
- + 45 ii. Steven Knepper, born 06 Nov 1955.
- + 46 iii. Brian Knepper, born 05 Sep 1957.
- + 47 iv. Scott Knepper, born 13 Jul 1962.

Children of Beverly Knepper and Sarah Brydon are:

- 48 i. David Guyton<sup>7</sup> Knepper<sup>12</sup>, Adopted child.
- 49 ii. Donald Brydon Knepper<sup>12</sup>, Adopted child.

**37. Joye Mae<sup>6</sup> Knepper** (Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>13</sup> was born 04 Jun 1935 in Cando, North Dakota<sup>13</sup>. She married **(1) Loren Lee Perry<sup>13,14,15,16</sup>** 26 Jul 1952 in North Manchester, Indiana, son of Albert Perry and Vesta Coffin. He was born 18 Feb 1933 in Silver Lake, Indiana<sup>17</sup>, and died 19 Apr 1990 in Sharpsburg, North Carolina<sup>17</sup>. She married **(2) John Frederick Stilwell** 13 Feb 1966 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.

More About Joye Mae Knepper:

Occupation: Typesetter and co-owner AdCharacter in Chesapeake, Va.<sup>17</sup>

Notes for Loren Lee Perry:

More About Loren Lee Perry:

Date born 2: 19 Feb 1933488

CEMETARY: Silver Creek Cemetary, 1300 S. Kosciusko County, Indiana.488

Died 2: 19 Apr 1990488

Military: Airman U.S. Air Force.488

Occupation: Self employed businessman.489

More About Loren Lee Perry:

CEMETARY: Silver Creek Cemetary, 1300 S. Kosciusko County, Indiana<sup>18</sup>  
Military: Airman U.S. Air Force<sup>18</sup>  
Occupation: Self employed businessman<sup>19</sup>  
SOC. SEC. #: 308-30-9044

More About John Frederick Stilwell:

Occupation: Typesetter an co-owner AdCharacter in Chesapeake, Va.

Children of Joye Knepper and Loren Perry are:

- + 50 i. Debra Lee<sup>7</sup> Perry, born 08 Oct 1953 in Warsaw, Kosciusko County, Indiana.
- + 51 ii. Pamela Sue Perry, born 22 Oct 1954 in Warsaw, Kosciusko County, Indiana.

**38. Sandra<sup>6</sup> Knepper** (Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>20</sup> was born 23 Aug 1944. She married **(1) Charles David McKibben<sup>20</sup>** 14 Sep 1963. She married **(2) Ron Ganger<sup>20</sup>** 15 Nov 1975.

Children of Sandra Knepper and Charles McKibben are:

- + 52 i. Michelle Rae<sup>7</sup> Mckibben, born 27 Sep 1964.
- + 53 ii. Todd David Mckibben, born 30 Aug 1969.

Child of Sandra Knepper and Ron Ganger is:

- 54 i. Tiffany Ann<sup>7</sup> Ganger<sup>20</sup>, born 26 Mar 1977.

**40. Carl Steven<sup>6</sup> Crabb** (Stephen Wesley<sup>5</sup>, George Nelson<sup>4</sup>, Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>21</sup> was born 18 Apr 1936 in Rochester, Indiana (Fulton County)<sup>21</sup>. He married **(1) Janice Ann Halford<sup>21</sup>** 1958 in Pasadena, California<sup>21</sup>. She died Aug 1976 in Covina, California<sup>21</sup>. He married **(2) Sheila Renee Johnson<sup>21</sup>** 13 May 1976 in Longview, Wa.<sup>21</sup>. She was born 01 Oct 1947 in Montibello, California (Beverly Hospital)<sup>21</sup>.

Notes for Carl Steven Crabb:

[Crabb.ftw]

Carl Crabb went to Bible College in Eugene, Oregon, graduating in 1960 from Open Bible in Pasadena, California.

Child of Carl Crabb and Janice Halford is:

- 55 i. Pamela Jean<sup>7</sup> Crabb<sup>21</sup>, born 09 Jul 1960<sup>21</sup>.

Children of Carl Crabb and Sheila Johnson are:

- + 56 i. Daniel Steven<sup>7</sup> Crabb, born 18 Apr 1977 in Longview, Wa..
- 57 ii. Matthew Harold Crabb<sup>21</sup>, born 02 Jul 1980<sup>21</sup>.

**41. Richard Francis<sup>6</sup> Crabb** (Stephen Wesley<sup>5</sup>, George Nelson<sup>4</sup>, Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>21</sup> was born 06 May 1937 in Argos, IN<sup>21</sup>. He married **(1) Phyllis<sup>21</sup>** 1959<sup>21</sup>. She died 1995 in Wa.<sup>21</sup>. He married **(2) Shirley May Draper<sup>21</sup>** 1981 in Reno, NV.<sup>21</sup>. She was born 08 May 1934 in Des Moines, Iowa<sup>21</sup>.

Children of Richard Crabb and Phyllis are:

- 58 i. Mark<sup>7</sup> Crabb<sup>21</sup>.
- 59 ii. Janelle Crabb<sup>21</sup>.
- 60 iii. Steven Crabb<sup>21</sup>.
- 61 iv. Mike Crabb<sup>21</sup>.
- 62 v. James Crabb<sup>21</sup>.

*Generation No. 7*

**45. Steven<sup>7</sup> Knepper** (Beverly Wilbur<sup>6</sup>, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>22</sup> was born 06 Nov 1955. He married **(1) Terry ?**. He married **(2) Shella ?**.

Children of Steven Knepper and Terry ? are:

- 63 i. Jason<sup>8</sup> Knepper.
- 64 ii. Lisa Knepper.
- 65 iii. Shawn Knepper.

Children of Steven Knepper and Shella ? are:

- 66 i. Joshua<sup>8</sup> Knepper.
- 67 ii. Farra Knepper.
- 68 iii. Kelly Knepper.
- 69 iv. Jerry Knepper.

**46. Brian<sup>7</sup> Knepper** (Beverly Wilbur<sup>6</sup>, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>22</sup> was born 05 Sep 1957. He married **Laura ?**.

Children of Brian Knepper and Laura ? are:

- 70 i. Benjamin<sup>8</sup> Knepper.
- 71 ii. Brent Knepper.

**47. Scott<sup>7</sup> Knepper** (Beverly Wilbur<sup>6</sup>, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>22</sup> was born 13 Jul 1962.

Children of Scott Knepper are:

- 72 i. Bryan<sup>8</sup> Knepper.
- 73 ii. Stephanie Knepper.
- 74 iii. Kristen Knepper.

**50. Debra Lee<sup>7</sup> Perry** (Joye Mae<sup>6</sup> Knepper, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>23,24,25</sup> was born 08 Oct 1953 in Warsaw, Kosciusko County, Indiana<sup>26,27</sup>. She married **(1) Dennis Fitzgerald<sup>28</sup>** 22 Apr 1973 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. She married **(2) William Desmond Terrill<sup>29,30,31,32</sup>** 30 May 1976 in Fort Wayne, Indiana<sup>33,34,35</sup>, son of Ralph Terrill and Esther Sahlin. He was born 04 Aug 1947 in Rahway, Union County, New Jersey<sup>36,37,38</sup>.

Notes for Debra Lee Perry:

[109822.ftw]

Living individual, details withheld

More About Debra Lee Perry:

Occupation: Garden Writer and Horticulturist<sup>39</sup>

Notes for William Desmond Terrill:

Born Rahway, NJ. Lived in Fayette, MO while father finished college at Central Methodist College. Moved to Middlesex N.J. in 1953 and lived there until 1957. Moved to Riverview, Mo and then to Collinsville, IL until 1963. 1963 - moved to Elma, NY. 1965 moved to Lake Charles, LA. Attended McNeese State College for freshman year. 1966 moved to Mentor, Ohio and attended Kent State University for Sophmore year. 1967 entered US Army and served 4 years until 1971. 2 years duty in Vietnam. 1971 lived in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and Venice, California. 1972 - 1974 lved in Lakewood, Ohio. Moved to Chicago, Illinois in 1974 and then to Ft. Wayne Indiana in late 1974. Lived in Ft. Wayne, Indiana until 1989. 1989 moved to Kankakee, Illinois.

[109822.ftw]

Living individual, details withheld

More About William Desmond Terrill:

Education: Graduated - LaGrange Senior High School - Lake Charles, La.<sup>39</sup>  
Military: Bet. 1967 - 1971, U.S. Army Security Agency -Vietnam (68-70)<sup>39</sup>  
Occupation: Industrial Fluid Power Sales<sup>39</sup>

Children of Debra Perry and William Terrill are:

- 75 i. Jarrett Desmond<sup>8</sup> Terrill<sup>40,41,42</sup>, born 14 Dec 1977 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana<sup>43</sup>.

Notes for Jarrett Desmond Terrill:  
[109822.ftw]

Living individual, details withheld

- 76 ii. Clayton William Terrill<sup>44,45,46</sup>, born 27 Mar 1985 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana<sup>47</sup>.

Notes for Clayton William Terrill:  
[109822.ftw]

Living individual, details withheld

**51. Pamela Sue<sup>7</sup> Perry** (Joye Mae<sup>6</sup> Knepper, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>47</sup> was born 22 Oct 1954 in Warsaw, Kosciusko County, Indiana<sup>47</sup>. She married **Milton H. Kline<sup>47</sup>** 25 Aug 1973 in Calvary Temple, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, son of Robert Kline and Pauline Harris. He was born 01 Jul 1951<sup>47</sup>.

More About Milton H. Kline:

Occupation: Sales for Fisher Brothers Paper distributors<sup>47</sup>

Children of Pamela Perry and Milton Kline are:

- 77 i. Bennett<sup>8</sup> Kline<sup>47</sup>, born 29 Aug 1990 in Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana<sup>47</sup>.  
78 ii. Elise Kline<sup>47</sup>, born 22 Aug 1992 in Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana<sup>47</sup>.  
79 iii. Emma Kline<sup>47</sup>, born 27 Jul 1995 in 7624 Aboite Center Road, Ft. Wayne, Allen County, Indiana<sup>47</sup>.

**52. Michelle Rae<sup>7</sup> Mckibben** (Sandra<sup>6</sup> Knepper, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>48</sup> was born 27 Sep 1964. She married **Tony Charles**.

Child of Michelle Mckibben and Tony Charles is:

- 80 i. Shane Allen<sup>8</sup> Charles.

**53. Todd David<sup>7</sup> Mckibben** (Sandra<sup>6</sup> Knepper, Wilbur Chester<sup>5</sup>, Jennie<sup>4</sup> Crabb, John Vincent<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>48</sup> was born 30 Aug 1969. He married **Charlotte Butler<sup>48</sup>**.

Children of Todd Mckibben and Charlotte Butler are:

- 81 i. Infant<sup>8</sup> Mckibben.

More About Infant Mckibben:  
Death Info: Still born

- 82 ii. Dustin Mckibben.

**56. Daniel Steven<sup>7</sup> Crabb** (Carl Steven<sup>6</sup>, Stephen Wesley<sup>5</sup>, George Nelson<sup>4</sup>, Wesley S. Latimore<sup>3</sup>, Jarrett<sup>2</sup>, Vincent<sup>1</sup>)<sup>49</sup> was born 18 Apr 1977 in Longview, Wa.<sup>49</sup>. He married **Mandy Jo Mitchell<sup>49</sup>** 31 Dec 1995 in Castle Rock, Wa<sup>49</sup>. She was born 24 Nov 1977 in Longview, Wa.<sup>49</sup>.

More About Daniel Steven Crabb:

Fact 1: 1977, Birth Cowlitz General<sup>49</sup>

Child of Daniel Crabb and Mandy Mitchell is:

- 83 i. Candice LouAnn<sup>8</sup> Crabb<sup>49</sup>, born 05 Aug 1996 in Longview, Wa.<sup>49</sup>.

Notes for Candice LouAnn Crabb:  
[Crabb.ftw]

Grandma's special girl, she was born with lots of red hair and blue eyes. She has blessed many people. Both sets of Grandparents are in love with her. She is really advanced with her talking and everything. She is a beauty. Her Uncle Matt loves her much, so does her Aunt Brandy, and Aunt Pam.

### Endnotes

1. Karen Conley, *Karen Conley*, (E-mail 07/29/2006), "Electronic."
2. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
3. William D. Terrill, Milford Cemetery Tombstone, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
4. William D. Terrill, Milford Cemetery Tombstone.
5. Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana.
6. William D. Terrill, Milford Cemetery Tombstone.
7. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
8. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
9. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
10. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
11. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
12. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
13. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
14. William D. Terrill, *Debra Lee Perry*.
15. craig.FBK, Date of Import: Jul 4, 1999.
16. Ancestry.com, One World Tree (sm), Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., n.d., Online publication - Ancestry.com. OneWorldTree [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc.
17. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
18. craig.FBK, Date of Import: Jul 4, 1999.
19. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
20. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
21. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.
22. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
23. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
24. 109822.ftw.
25. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
26. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
27. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
28. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
29. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
30. 109822.ftw.
31. Office of Registrar of Vital Statistics, City of Rahway, NJ, *birth certificate for William D. Terrill*, (Date of issue August 06, 1947).
32. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
33. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
34. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
35. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill."
36. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
37. Office of Registrar of Vital Statistics, City of Rahway, NJ, *birth certificate for William D. Terrill*, (Date of issue August 06, 1947).
38. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
39. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
40. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
41. 109822.ftw.
42. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
43. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
44. William D. Terrill, "William D. Terrill," Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
45. 109822.ftw.
46. William D. Terrill, *Personal Family Knowledge*.
47. Terrill1.FTW, Date of Import: Aug 29, 1998.
48. *Family Bible - Elvina Knepper*.
49. Crabb.ftw, Date of Import: Oct 3, 1998.