

# Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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## FIRST GENERATION

By Nancy Kennedy

1. **Josiah Cooksey** was born in 1764 in Maryland. He appeared on the census in 1850 in Dekalb Co, Tenn. He died about 1853 in Dekalb Co, Tenn.

He was married to Charity Unknown. **Charity Unknown** was born in 1775. She died after 1850. Josiah Cooksey and Charity Unknown had the following children:

- +2            i. **Jesse Cooksey** (born about 1787).
- +3            ii. **Daniel Cooksey** (born in 1792).

## SECOND GENERATION

2. **Jesse Cooksey** was born about 1787 in SC. He appeared on the census in 1850 in Marion Co, Ala. He appeared on the census in 1860 in Nacogdoches, Texas. He died after 1860 in Maybe Texas. The 1850 census of Marion County Alabama, shows

Jesse Cooksey, age 64, farmer born in S Carolina  
and wife, Margaret age 57 born in S Carolina. Children are:

Ellender 30,

Margaret 23,

Josiah 26, Idotic

Synthia 22,

Ambrose 13.

All born in Alabama except Ellen born in Ala

Martha Jane age 1 born in Ala (possibly a grandchild)

two doors down is Daniel Cooksey age 58 born in SC.

In 1860 Ambrose has married and living in Nacogdoches, Texas

Ambrose Cooksey age 26

Martha 23

Samuel 4

Margaret 3

Jesse 73 father

Ellen 35 sister

He was married to Margaret Unknown about 1820. **Margaret Unknown** was born in 1797 in SC. She died before 1860. Jesse Cooksey and Margaret Unknown had the following children:

- +4            i. **Ambrose Cooksey** (born in 1834).

3. **Daniel Cooksey** was born in 1792. He died after 1860 in Maybe Marion Co, Ala. 1860 Marion County, Ala  
HH 147 - Daniel Cooksey age 69 SC and wife Sarah age 66

HH 145 - Cornelius Cooksey, 34 NC, wife Mary 28, Ambrose M 10, Jesse V 5, Carolina A 8/12

HH 146 - John 23, TN, wife Seletha 22

HH 148 Josial 36, NC- Elender 26, James B 12, Terrell 10, Sarah 9, Daniel M 6, Nancy E 4, Samuel 1

1850: Marion County, Ala

Daniel 58

Sarah 51



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Franks had the following children:

- +12            i. **Samuel M Cooksey** (born in May 1855).
- +13            ii. **Margaret E Cooksey** (born about 1857).

5. **Josiah S 'Joe' Cooksey** was born in 1824. He appeared on the census in 1850 in Dekalb Co, Tenn. He appeared on the census in 1860 in Marion County, Ala. He died about 1865 in Marion Co, Ala. In 1860 in Marion County Alabama is:

Hh 145 Cornelius Cooksey age 34

Hh 146 John Cooksey age 23

HH 147 Daniel Cooksey Sr age 79

HH 148 Josiah Cooksey age 36

I think Daniel is the father of all these boys

In 1850 in DeKalb Co, Tenn is listed Josiah age 26, Elender age 19, James R age 1.

In 1860 in Marion Co, Ala is Josiah 36, Elender 26, James R 12, Terrell A 10, Sarah 9, Daniel M 6, Mary E 4, Samuel 1.

1870, McNairy County, Tenn: Elanor Cooksey 38, James R 20, Sarah 17, Daniel M 15,

Nancy E 11, Samuel 9, John 7, ELizabeth 4.

It is not thought that Josiah came to McNairy County, but his family did, although it is quite unknown why. In Marion County Alabama, there were handfuls of Cookseys, Gann,s Wigginton and Franks. They intermarried and moved around together, many to McNairy County and many to Itawamba County, Miss.

He was married to Ellender 'Ellie' Wagoner about 1849 in Maybe Dekalb County, Tenn. **Ellender 'Ellie' Wagoner** was born about 1832. She appeared on the census in 1870 in McNairy Co, Tenn, Dist 13 Hh 2. She appeared on the census in 1880 in McNairy County, Tenn, Dist 13 HH 324. She died on May 16, 1912 in Mc Nairy Co, Tenn. Ellender/Eleanor is in District 13, McNairy County by 1870. She is a widow, age 38. Children: James R 20, Sarah 17, Daniel M 15, Nancy 11, Samuel 9, John 7, and Elizabeth 4.

in 1900 Eleanor is listed as Nellie and living with her grandson Virgie Miller in District 10 HH 161. Next door is John Cooksey. Nellie states she has borne 8 children and four are living.

She is listed as Eleanor and Ellender in the census. In 1900 she is listed as Nellie and she states she has borne 8 children and 4 are living. She says she is 60 years old and born Dec 1839.

Death Records of McNairy County: Millie Cooksey died May 16, 1912, age 101 yrs old

Born Alabama, Farmer, died with consumption Josiah S 'Joe' Cooksey and Ellender 'Ellie' Wagoner had the following children:

- +14            i. **James R Cooksey** (born in 1850).
- 15            ii. **Terrell A Cooksey** was born about 1851.
- 16            iii. **Sarah Cooksey** was born in 1853. She died.
- 17            iv. **Daniel M Cooksey** was born in 1855. He died.
- +18            v. **Nancy E Cooksey** (born in 1859).
- +19            vi. **Samuel Enoch Cooksey** (born on April 15, 1861).
- +20            vii. **John Lemon Mattison Cooksey** (born on May 4, 1863).
- 21            viii. **Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Cooksey** was born in 1864. She died.

6. **Cornelius Cooksey** was born in 1826 in NC. 1860 Marion County, Ala census HH 145 next door to John Cooksey HH 146, Daniel Cooksey HH 147 and Josiah Cooksey 148 and Walker McGowen HH 53:

Cornelius Cooksey 34 NC, May or Mary 28, Ambrose M 10, Jesse V 5, Caroline A 1/12

He was married to Mary Unknown about 1850 in Marion Co. Ala. **Mary Unknown** was born in 1832.

10. **Enoch C Cooksey** was born in 1835 in Tennessee. He died on February 22, 1863 in Corinth, Alcorn Co, Miss. I wonder if Enoch and his family had a sickness, maybe a fever of some kind. He and his wife Sarah, and their 3 yr old son James W Cooksey all died in 1863.

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He was married to Sarah 'Sallie' Franks (daughter of Lemuel Franks and Hulda Jane Gann) about 1857 in Marion Co . Ala. **Sarah 'Sallie' Franks** was born in 1838 in Marion Co . Ala. She died in 1863 in Alcorn Co, Corinth, Miss. Not sure about the death date, Enoch C Cooksey and Sarah 'Sallie' Franks had the following children:

- 22            i. **Sarah Jane Cooksey** was born in 1858. She died in 1867 in Mississippi River. The story goes that Enoch and Sarah died when their family was young, and her brother William Franks came back from the Civil War, one could not make a living in the south, so he carried his family and Sarah's children to Illinois to live near some relatives. Sarah Jane got sick on the trip and since they were on riverboat, no burial could take place and they threw her overboard.
- +23            ii. **Cynthia Catherine Cooksey** (born on April 13, 1859).

11. **John Cooksey** was born in 1837 in TN. wife name Seletha, age 22 in 1860 census, close to Daniel Cooksey In 1880 they are in Alcorn County, Miss:  
John Cooksey 1835, Salenta 1837, John 1868, Jesse 1879

He was married to Sletha Unknown in 1860. **Sletha Unknown** was born in 1838.

### FOURTH GENERATION

12. **Samuel M Cooksey** was born in May 1855 in Alabama. He appeared on the census in 1880 in In Dist 13 - Hh 351 In McNairy County, Tenn. He appeared on the census in 1900 in District 10, McNairy County, Tenn Hh 122. He died between 1900 and 1910. 1880, Sam and Mary are in Dist 13, as Coxie, next door to Thomas Wiggington. Sam is 25, Mary 28, Martha J 5, James A 3, and his mother Martha age 55 is living with them.

In 1900 Sam has two nephew's living with them. Henry born July 1886 and Claud born Sept 892. (See Samuel E Cooksey) Henry was the father of Ama Dee Cooney.

The Mishnary Baptist Church of Christ worshipping at Pleasant Site met Saturday before the first Saboath in October 1891. Brother S. M. C ooksey cald for a letter of dismissiion witch was granted.

The Pleasant Site church has several references to Samuel Cooksey. Sometimes Samuel E, Samuel M and once Samuel W. Since two Samuel Cookseys was living in McNairy County at that time, not sure if all the references really meant to be Samuel E.

He was married to Mary McGowen (daughter of Walker McGowan and Jane Markham) on September 3, 1873 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. Bondsman was Mary McGowen. J C Connell was Justice of t h e Peace. **Mary McGowen** was born in December 1850 in Alabama. She died after 1910. In 1900 Mary stated she had born four children and two we r e living. Mary is living with her son Jim Cooksey in 1910 somewhere near Ramer.

Buried in Mt Vernon Cemetery is Caroline Cooksey, 1843-1918. She is not in the 1910 census. She is not listed in the death records transcribed by Harold Cox, so there is a great possibility Caroline is Mary Caroline McGowan. I have not located a death certificate.

There is no absolute proof that Mary is the daughter of Walker and Jane McGowan, but it is the closest I could ever find. Her sister Margaret married a Franks and they came to McNairy County for a short while about 1870 and then moved on the Itawamba County, MS. So it is probable that Mary came with them and met Samuel who was born in the same neighborhood as she was. As a matter of fact in 1850, in McNairy County, the Cooksy's lived next door, of course next door could be a mile. He name on the 1850 census was Mary C.

The 1850 census states Mary C McGowan age, but all these familes of the Cookseys, Franks and McGowan's ages differ so much, it could be off a few years. She does show up on the 1850 census as being born. Samuel M Cooksey and Mary McGowen had the following children:

- 24            i. **Martha J Cooksey** was born in 1875 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died before

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- 1900 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. Martha must have died before 1900. In 1900 Mary states she has borne 4 children and two are living. We know John and James A are living.
- +25 ii. **James Ambrose 'Jim' Cooksey** (born on March 5, 1877).
  - 26 iii. **John Cooksey** was born in June 1884 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died.

13. **Margaret E Cooksey** was born about 1857 in Alabama. She died. She appeared on the census.

She was married to Thomas Wiggington (son of John Wiggington and Joicy Herndon) on February 12, 1873 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Thomas Wiggington** was born on January 28, 1844 in Alabama. He died on September 17, 1900 in Itawamba Co, Miss. There are several Thomas's around, hope I got the right one at the right place. He was in McNairy County in 1880.

If this Thomas did marry Margaret Cooksey, I have not found her in 1800, or their son S M who was born 1877. There was probably more children.

Margaret E Cooksey and Thomas Wiggington had the following children:

- 27 i. **S M Wiggington** was born in 1877 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States.

14. **James R Cooksey** was born in 1850. He died.

He was married to Mary A E Page on November 7, 1867 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Mary A E Page** was born unknown in Unknown. She died Unknown. I don't know who this Mary Page is and in all my notes on the Cooksey line, I haven't found them after they married, but then I don't recall searching for them.

Do not know if there is a connection to this family:

McNairy 1880 census, District 6, there is one Jane Page age 67, born in SC, a Mary Cooksey age 48 born in Ala and a Jane Gilton age 16, born in Ala. Haven't discovered who this Mary Cooksey is, age 48. They must be connected to the Cooksey's that came from Alabama. I put this note here, in case I find other information.

18. **Nancy E Cooksey** was born in 1859 in Marion Co, Ala. She died. J J Horn performed the ceremony and Jake Wagoner was bondsman.

The Baptist Church of Christ at Pleasant Sight met on Saturday before the first Sabath in Nov 1881. It was reported that Sister Nancy Miller had been swearing. A move and second was made to take up the report and appoint a committee to see the sister, to wit, A. O. Eliff, S. W. Cooksey and F. M. Wyatt to report at our next meeting. Dismiss in order.

Eld J. J. Horn A. O. Eliff, CC (I think the S W Cooksey - maybe S M or S E)

She was married to Jerry Miller on September 9, 1875 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Jerry Miller** was born in June 1857. He died in 1921. Nancy E Cooksey and Jerry Miller had the following children:

- +28 i. **Virgie Miller** (born in April 1878).
- +29 ii. **Nancy Ellen Miller** (born on September 9, 1897).

19. **Samuel Enoch Cooksey** was born on April 15, 1861. He appeared on the census in 1900 in District 9 McNairy County, Tenn, Hh 133. He died on June 28, 1940 in Near Michie, McNairy Co, TN. He was buried in Carter Cemetery, Michie, McNairy County, Tenn. One thing about it, the Cooksey's didn't know when their children were born. In this family I find a lot of differences. This Samuel Cooksey's death records show his birth as 1861. He was alive in 1860, listed at age 1, which would make 1859 or maybe 1860. In 1870, he is listed as nine years old, which would be 1861. Some people that were uneducated didn't know for sure when they were born.

The Death of McNairy County 1914 - 1925 for Ninus Cooksey shows the father as Sam Eric Cooksey and mother Ann P H urst. (Eric not name, but Enoch)

Samuel Cooksey's death certificate:

Samuel Enoch Cooksey, Hardin County, Tenn, Rt 1, Michie, Tenn  
died June 28, 1940

Born Apr 15, 1861, age 79 y 2 m 13 d

Wife Ann, age 57

Father: Joe S Cooksey

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Mother: Nellie Ellander  
buried Carer Cemetery (Michie, Tenn.)  
Dr B W Williams  
Informant: D M Cooksey, Memphis, Tenn.

When Samuel married Jane Pitts, John T. Pitts was the bondsman and J J Horn, Mg.  
When he married Sarah Reaves, Thomas Wiggington was bondsman and John B. Cox, JP  
When he married Ann P. Low, W. D. Jopling was bondsman and Asa Wyatt the minister

The Baptist Church of Christ at Pleasant Site met on Saturday before the first Sabbath in Nov 1881. It was reported Bro Sam Cooksey had been betting on horse racing at the fair which he said was so but he did not know it was against the rules of the church or he would not have done so and is sorry that he broke the rules of the church and asked for givenness, which was granted. It was reported that Sister Nancy Miller had been swearing. A move and second was made to take up the report and appoint a committee to see the sister, to wit, A. O. Eliff, S. W. Cooksey and F. M. Wyatt to report at our next meeting. Dismist in order.  
Eld J. J. Horn A. O. Eliff, CC Do not know if this was S. W. Cooksey or S. E. Cooksey but S W Cooksey was on the committee to visit Nancy Miller. (I don't know if Samuel E Cooksey and Samuel M Cooksey were both members of Pleasant Site church. Do not know of a Samuel W Cooksey. I think I misread it and it should be Samuel M.)

Jan Term 1882

The Baptist Church of Christ at Pleasant Sight met on Saturday before the first Sabbath in Jan 1881. A move and second was made to perfer a chrg against Bro Naith Gan for dri nking two much whiskey Saturday before Christmas and appointed a committee to see him and ask him to fill hi seat at our next meeting. Committee Bro John Gilton, Bro Sam Cooksy and A. O. Eliff to report at our next meeti ng. Dismist in order.  
Eld J. J. Horn, Mod A. O. Eliff, CC

Pleasant Site Baptist Church: Saturday before the first (S a bath) Febu ary 1883.

It being reported that Bro Sam Cooksey had bin drinking t wo much into x icated licers, a motion was mad (made) to ta k e up the report and ap poi nted a commity to see the Bro . Th e commity consistis of Bro John G ilton, F. M. Wyatt and As a Wyatt. To report at our next conference. N ot su r e this i s Samuel E. Cooksey.

April Term 1883

The Baptist Church of Christ at Plesant Sight met on Satud ay for the f i rst Saberth in April 1882. After sermon by th e paster the chruch set i n c onference.

Taken up the refference Bro Kooksey being present denide t h e report. T h e church not yet being satisfied, after a fe eli ng take by Bro Henders o n and prayer by the Mod, a moti on wa s made to lay it over untell next c o nference. Dismis t i n or der.

The Baptist Church of Christ at Plesant Sight met on Satur d ay befor t h e first Saberth in May 1883. Taken up the ref er ence conserning Bro S a muel Cooksey. Bro Cooksey givin g th e church better satisfaction tha t t he report was no s ow (no t so.) A motion was made to drop it whic h was a ppr oved b y the church.

Meetin continued 9 days. Recd by leter Brother H. C. Brast e r and his w i fe, Sister Fraces Brasher and Sister Elisebe t h Brasher and Sister Ani a B rasher and Sister Susania Fow l e r by letters. Recd by baptisam Brothe r J . D. Jones and B ro D . A. Wyatt and W. S. Patman (Putman) and Sister A . P . L owe . Baptism was attended to Sunday morning at 10 Sunda y morni ng at a nd broke at the watter.

(Note: Sister A. P. Lowe is listed in front of the book un der members a s S ister A. P. Hurst, changed to Cooksey, di smi st by leter Sept 1891. U n sure which is correct.)

October Term 1891

April 1884

By move and secon a charge was prefered aginest Bro Sam Kooksey for drinkness, beakin the Saberth and leaving his wife without any just caus known to ous (us) . The church taking much sham and with drow hur fellowship from him.

October Term 1893

We the Baptist Church of Christ met Saturday before seco n d Sunday, Oc t ober 1893. Sister Seaner Cooksey and Rean y Gil ton and Jane Crabtree e x spelled from the fellowshi p of thi s church, charged for hercasy. 6. C h arge prefe red against B rother W. S. Patman for drinking to mutch an d w a s expelle d from the fellowship of this church. Ch arge prefe red again s t

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Sister D. S. Cooksey, excluded October 1893 (Not sure w h o this woul d b e ) Samuel E would be married to Ann at t h i s time.

From Lynn:

They lived in the Michie area for some time and Sam worked at Shiloh Natl. Park for a long time he and his son Leo Tom who is my grandmoth er M yrtle Theo Cooksey Ricketts ' twin . His son Jimmy is the one I to ld you a bout who liv e I thin k on the Shiloh Rd. there in McNairy. Most of my info comes from around the corner because my mo t her was ne v er around the Cooksey family much. When Clov i s married Theo (my gr and parents) they moved to Boonevill e w here he worked for the railroa d. Fu nny thing is when h e go t tranfered to Corinth that's where my d ad met m y mot her an d they married in Corinth in 1946 and my dad was a G u ys McN a iry boy. Right after my parent married they move d with m y mo ther paren ts to Tupelo. Across the street fro m Elvis. M y grandparent m ade it bac k to Booneville, but d addy and mot her move to Memphis and i n 1954 I wa s born an d then they mo ved to Texas about 3 months later. M other wa s s ixteen whe n they married so she was evrn more remove d f rom the Cooks e y and even more so when we moved to TX . Sammy died whe n mo ther was 10 - t o cut this short I hav e looked at every litt le t hing finding these peo ple and i nput on them. The othe r Sam - I have n ot seen much on. ( Lyn n James)

Next is a divorce between Samuel and Sarah Cooksey, 1891. Sam petitioned the court for a divorce from Sarah, and accused her of adultery. As a matter of fact, he charcterized her as a very adulterous woman, which may or may not be true, since Samuel was quite a character himself. In the Pleasant Site church minutes, April 1884, a charge was made against Bro Sam Koosey for drinking, breaking the Sabbath and leaving his wife without just cause, (which he denied.) Apparently Sarah was gone since she did not represent herself at the divorce. The date in this court case said Sarah left in the fall of 1883. Time aludes all of us, and it was 1891 before Sam applied for divorce, so the date could vary. Also, this family was not good with dates, as I have found many differences. Even Sam's birthday varies from census to census and other records. So, I guess I am saying to those that read my comments, Sarah might not have been the person she was portrayed in this divorce proceeding.

Another puzzle in the divorce, If Sarah left in 1883, it says she left her three or four month old baby with her mother. This child has never been found - no one knows who it was or it's name. She did have a child, Henry in April 1885, which makes the date more acceptable that she left in 1885, instead of 1883. This Henry Cooksey, gives on his death certificate parents as Sam Cooksey and Sarah Reaves. He was raised by a relative, also by the name of Samuel Cooksey. It has been handed down through the family Henry stated his parents didn't want him and gave him away.

Another fact is this love triange is Della Pierce. Della never married Samuel Cooksey but they had two sons. The eldest being William Leroy born May 5, 1889 according to his tombstone. But, typical of the Cooksey family that birthday is uncertain as his WWI draft application shows 1888 and his death certificate says 1890. Either way, the fact remains

Samuel also had a problem. The second son Carly was born Feb 18, 1891, after Della had left Samuel and went back home. Maybe she left because he had never divorced his wife Sarah and had found another love, Ann Hurst, whom he married as soon as his divorce was final. When Della went back to Alabama, she told the boys their father had died b y drowning and they never knew any difference.

### SAMUEL E COOKSIE VS SARAH COOKSIE

McNairy County Chancery Court # 855

Divorce - Filed July 4, 1891

Transcribed by Nancy Wardlow Kennedy

Complainant state he and defendant Sarah Cooksie were marr i ed in McN a i ry County, Tenn about the 23th day of Nov 188 2 and lived in said cou nt y as man and wife for about 1 ye ar af ter they were so married when d ef endant Sarah Cooksi e commi tted adultery with one Wick Hockaday nea r th e spri ng from w hich complainant and defendant were using water n e ar th e i r home in the fall of 1883. Also complainant s tate Sara h C ooksie c ommitted adultery with one Noah Cate s in open le wdness and a bandoned h er baby when it was onl y about 3 o r 4 months old and left M cNairy Cou nty and wen t to the Stat e of Mississippi where she lived w ith said No ah C ates. Th e said defendant was delivered of a child, b o rn unto her ab o ut 18 to 24 months after defendant and co mplainant se parat ed and he ha s not had any relationship s with defendant. Pet iti oner also states tha t he and defe ndant are both resident s of this co unty and have been fo r m ore than two years.

Deposition of Thomas Wigginton, On Oct 10, 1891, age 40 ye a rs old: Th o mas lived about a quarter of a mile from Samu e l and Sarah Cooksie i n 1 882. He carried Sarah Cooksie t o t he railroad when she was leavi ng th e county about Chri stma s time about a year after Samuel and Sar ah Coo ksie h ad sep arated. A man by the name of Noah Cates was with h e r the y were going to Tupelo, Miss. To get married. Sh e came b ac k to McNairy C ounty about the first Monday in M arch. Tho mas Wigginto n helped carry h er home. She was g one 4 or 5 m onths. She gave birth t o a child after s he go t back but Wi gginton did not know how long aft er she retur ned. H e did n ot know the father of the child. General t a lk of the commu nit y was the

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child belong to Noah Cates , the man she l eft w ith. She is s aid to be with child ag ain. Thomas could no t sig n his name.

Samuel E Cooksie, deposition on Sept 21, 1891. He is 26 y e ars old. S a muel stated he lived with his wife about a ye ar . Clark Keenan had s ee n the relationship between Wic k Hock aday and Sarah Cooksie. Samuel C oo ksie was at Purd y on tha t day. Samuel and Sarah were living on Wi ck H ock aday's pla ce at the time. Samuel stated when he got hom e fr om Purd y and was told the new he told his wife he wa s not going t o l ive that way and she didn't say a word . He left as soo n as he could g ather up his c lothes an d he never had relati onships again with her. H e went to Ri enz a, Miss just afte r Christmas. They had never had an y t rouble before t his . Ask if he had ever been guilty o f adultery sinc e he hear d of hi s wife's affair, he said n o. At the time of the dep o sition he is livi ng on the hea d of Owl Creek. She had a c hild a few we eks old when sh e l eft - it does not state if s he carried the child w it h her or what happ ened to it. Sh e had another child abou t 2 year s after they separated. I t i s about five years o ld. Samuel E Cooks ie could not writ e his name.

Deposition of Nellie E Cooksie, age 59 years old, Sept 21 , 1891: she i s t he mother of Samuel E Cooksie. They wer e a ll living together on Wi c k Hockaday's place when Samue l lef t his wife. Nellie states she saw S a rah recently an d she i s in a pregnant state. It is common knowledg e i n t he commu nity. Apparently Sarah left her baby whe n her mother becau s e N ellie states it was screaming afte r it's mother. Nelli e states the c h ild Sarah had after s he returned from Miss l ooked like Noah Cates, as b o th ar e light headed and coss-ey ed. Nellie states Sarah told he r the c h ild was a Cates.

Sarah Keenan, age 28, give deposition on Sept 21, 1891. S h e is the w i dow of Clark Keenan who saw the affair betwee n S arah Cooksie and Wi ck H ockaday.

Decree for divorce was entered October 20, 1891.

He was married to Jane Pitts on July 18, 1876. Samuel Enoch Cooksey and Jane Pitts had the following children:

- +30            i. **Daniel M Cooksey** (born on April 2, 1877).
- +31            ii. **Matthew 'Mack' Cooksey** (born on March 7, 1878).

He was married to Sarah Reaves (daughter of Unknown Reaves and Martha Franks) on November 23, 1882. **Sarah Reaves** was born in 1865 in Marion Co . Ala. She died.

Sarah was one of the hardest people I ever tried to find. I looked for her off and on several times. The last time was Labor Day Weekend, 2015 and poured over clues, census and everything I could find, when about 10pm on Sunday, it all clicked. She was right here in Stantonville, McNairy County in 1870.

I had looked at Martha S Reaves several times because she had a daughter Sarah, age 2, in 1870. She was here with two of her brothers, Samuel and John Franks. I knew the Franks were also from Marion County, Alabama, so I did an extensive research on the Franks family. I search the McGowan family.

At the time of the divorce from Samuel E Cooksey, ca 1891, a witness stated, she and her mother had been living with her brother or half brother (which was Samuel M Cooksey) and he asked her to leave as they were expecting another child.

Meanwhile, Sarah had married a Samuel E Cooksey and the another Samuel M Cooksey (her half brother) in the county, close by. They were about 2nd cousins. I grew up knowing the son of Samuel M Cooksey, Jim Cooksey and his children. Jim was an old man when I was a little girl. I had traced both Samuel's to determine their relationship. Samuel M's parents were Ambrose and Martha. The last time I found them was in 1860 in Texas, with two children, Samuel and Margaret; and then in 1880, Samuel is married and is mother is living with him in McNairy County.

After Sarah married Samuel E Cooksey, she wasn't a happy little housewife and it was told she had affairs which produced at least two sons. In the 1900 census, these two sons were living with Samuel M Cooksey and listed as nephews, giving me another reason to determine just who Sarah was.

I estimate, I had looked at the census records for Martha Reaves 50 times before I hit pay-dirt. About 10 pm on Sunday night I was looking again when I suddenly realized sometimes census takers did not always list children's names if different from the head of household. Then I saw it, Samuel and Margaret and mother Martha. I almost fell out of my chair.

So now we know that Samuel M Cooksey, Margaret that married Thomas Wigginton and Sarah that married Samuel E Cooksey are siblings.

Sarah abandoned both known children, Henry Newton and Claud and her brother Samuel raised them. Claud apparently distraught over being illegimate that he always told that John and Leanna Cooksey were his parents. John was a brother to

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Samuel E Cooksey and Samuel E Cooksey was his mother, Sarah's, husband before they separated.

Sarah had never remarried and therefore her children were known as Cooksey.

Claude gave John Cooksey as his Dad on his World War I draft and it was also given on his death certificate. Henry N Cooksey's, daughter, whom I lived by in my teenage years, told me about the two half brothers, Henry and Claud. Her father died when she was young, but she gave me Claud's wife name, where they were buried and their children's names.

John (whom he claimed sonship, had a daughter named Laura Kennedy. I talked with a daughter-in-law in 2015, and she stated Claud was not Laura's brother. Laura would not have anything to do with several of the Cooksey's because she didn't approve of their life style. I don't know what he told his family, but on Ancestry, he is listed as the son of John and Leanna, although he was never on the census in their household. Claud in never listed in the household of John M Cooksey in any census. In 1890 Leanna states she has had twelve children and ten are alive. All ten children are listed in the household and Claud is not one of them.

Sarah left Samuel E Cooksey with a Noah Cates. Seems like it all gets so intertwined, I guess that is why it is so interesting. Now Noah Cates was at one time married to her brother-in-law, Thomas Wigginton's sister. Thomas was the one that carried Sarah and Noah to Corinth and then in a few months went back and picked a pregnant Sarah up. It is thought they went to Itawamba County, Mississippi where Sarah had kinfolks. Something grew restless in the relationship because Sarah came back to McNairy County and Noah married her cousin Laura Franks.

I do hope Sarah got her life straightened out, maybe she was a little on the wild side, or maybe her men took advantage of her or maybe she was cast as an 'easy' woman to obtain a divorce. We will never know.

After it is determined who Sarah was, the next problem is:

1. who was the father of Henry. It is questioned if Henry belongs to Samuel Cooksey or Noah Cates. A daughter of Henry told me Noah Cates was his father and Claud was his brother, with Sarah as their mother and different fathers.
2. Who was the father of Claud, see details above.
3. Who was the child mentioned born ca 1883-85 mentioned in the divorce.
4. What happened to Sarah

The next is notes I made about the divorce between Samuel and Sarah:

Divorce between Samuel and Sarah Cooksey, 1891. Sam petitioned the court for a divorce from Sarah, and accused her of adultery.

As a matter of fact, he characterized her as a very adulterous woman, which may or may not be true, since Samuel was quite a character himself. In the Pleasant Site church minutes, April 1884, a charge was made against Bro Sam Koosey for drinking, breaking the Sabbath and leaving his wife without just cause, (which he denied.)

Apparently Sarah was gone since she did not represent herself at the divorce. The date in this court case said Sarah left in the fall of 1883. Time aludes all of us, and it was 1891 before Sam applied for divorce, so the date could vary. Also, this family was not good with dates, as I have found many differences. Even Sam's birthday varies from census to census and other records. So, I guess I am saying to those that read my comments, Sarah might not have been the person she was portrayed in this divorce proceeding.

Another puzzle in the divorce, If Sarah left in 1883, it says she left her three or four month old baby with her mother. This child has never been found - no one knows who it was or it's name. She did have a child, Henry in April 1885, which makes the date more acceptable that she left in 1885, instead of 1883.

This Henry Cooksey, gives on his death certificate parents as Sam Cooksey and Sarah Reaves. He was raised by a relative, also by the name of Samuel Cooksey, who was his uncle, his mother's brother. It has been handed down through the family Henry stated his parents didn't want him and gave him away.

There are a lot of ifs, ands and buts in this case. We think we know Noah Cates was the father of one child, possibly Henry. If Samuel was the father of one of the children, he apparently didn't take care of it. According to the divorce, she had at least three children and only two accounted for (Henry and Claud):

1. Baby 3-4 months old when she left with Noah Cates (Samuel's testimony)
2. A child about five at the time of the divorce in 1891 (Samuel's testimony)
3. Nellie Cooksey testieid Sept 21, 1891, that Sarah is expecting again.

Another fact is this love triange is Della Pierce. Della never married Samuel Cooksey but they had two sons. The eldest being

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

William Leroy born May 5, 1889 according to his tombstone. But, typical of the Cooksey family that birthday is uncertain as his WWI draft application shows 1888 and his death certificate says 1890. Either way, the fact remains

Samuel also had a problem. The second son Carly was born Feb 18, 1891, after Della had left Samuel and went back home. Maybe she left because he had never divorced his wife Sarah and had found another love, Ann Hurst, whom he married as soon as his divorce was final. When Della went back to Alabama, she told the boys their father had died by drowning and they never knew any difference.

I have not been able to locate Sarah after the divorce. I have looked under Cooksey and Reaves in McNairy County, Mississippi and Marion County Ala.

He was married to Idella 'Della' Pierce 00 in Never Married. **Idella 'Della' Pierce** was born on May 16, 1866 in Winston Co, Ala. She died on April 13, 1956 in Gardendale, Jefferson Co, Ala. She was buried in Ashbank Cemetery. Della and Sam never married. It has never been discovered how or why she came to McNairy County. It is thought during the time Sam was having trouble with his wife Sarah he went to Alabama for awhile. That is where he was born and probably still had relatives there. It could be he met her and brought her back to McNairy County, but could not marry her because he was already married. His wife, Sarah, at that time, was not living with Samuel at that time, or so it is thought. It is also thought Sam brought Della back to take care of his house and children - but it turned into a little more than that.

The truth will never be known for sure, why she came or why she left. She had one child, William Leroy and was expecting another when she left and went back to her people's home in Alabama. It is told in the family her boys never knew their parents never married and she told them Sam died by drowning.

She married Jasper Johnson about 1897 and had other children.

1900 census, Walker Co, Ala: Jasper Johnson 1870, Idella 1867, Willie 1890, Carly 1893, Gracie 1898, Girtie 1900. Willie and Carly are the Cooksey boys, they are shown on this census as Johnson children. It also stated they had been married 13 years, it is not real plain and should be 3 years, although many genealogists on Ancestry say 13, which Jasper would have been 17 years old when they married.

1910 Census, Walker Co, Ala

Jasper Johnson 45, married 16 years.

Della has born 6 children and 5 are living

Carl, stepson 17

Gracie 12

Ernest 8

Lela 5 Samuel Enoch Cooksey and Idella 'Della' Pierce had the following children:

- 32 i. **William Leroy 'Lee' Cooksey** was born on May 5, 1889 in Madison Co, Tenn. He died on March 28, 1940 in Jefferson Co, OK. William Lee Cooksey's death record:  
Born: May 5, 1890, Jackson, Tenn  
Died: Mar 28, 1940  
Father: Sam Cooksey  
Mother: Della Pierce born Selma, Ala  
Wife: Elizabeth Stewart  
Burial: Dorak Cemetery, Jefferson Co, Ala  
  
His WWI draft says he was born in 1888.
- 33 ii. **Carly Russell Cooksey** was born on February 18, 1891 in Alabama. He died on January 26, 1894 in Jasper, Walker Co, Ala. He was buried in Lynn Cemetery. Carly got his social security number in Michigan.

He was married to Ann P Hurst (daughter of Elihu De Grasse 'Elic' Hurst and Mary Susan Erwin) on October 28, 1891 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Ann P Hurst** was born on November 30, 1869 in Tennessee, USA. She died on June 17, 1957. She was buried in Carter Cemetery, Michie, McNairy County, Tenn. The Gooch Funeral Home Records, transcribed by Albert Brown, show Ann's parents as Alx Hurst and Mary Capps.

In 1900 Ann says she has born four children and four are living, although only three are listed in the household. In 1910 she says she has born eleven children and ten are living, seven are listed in the household. Samuel Enoch Cooksey and Ann P Hurst had the following children:

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- +34            i. **Daisy Parilee Cooksey** (born on April 9, 1892).
- +35            ii. **Lela Cooksey** (born on July 27, 1894).
- +36            iii. **John L McKinley 'Mack' Cooksey** (born on August 11, 1898).
- +37            iv. **Henry Clyde Cooksey** (born on June 10, 1900).
- +38            v. **Josie Ann Cooksey** (born on February 6, 1904).
- 39            vi. **Ninis Cooksey** was born on November 11, 1902. She died on February 21, 1914 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She was buried in Carter Cemetery, Michie, McNairy County, Tenn. Death Records of McNairy County 1914-1925, transcribed by R Harold Cox:  
                 Ninis Cooksey, student  
                 Father: Sam Erric Cooksey born Tenn  
                 Mother: Ann P Hurst born Tennessee  
                 Age 11 years 3 months 10 days born in McNairy County  
                 Died Feb 21, 1914, Dist 9, Michie, Tenn  
                 Cause of Death: Accute Meningitis and Pneumonia  
                 Information by D M Cooksey
- 40            vii. **Enna Ella Cooksey** was born in 1906. She died on December 13, 1992 in Alcorn Co, Corinth, Miss.
- +41            viii. **Leo Tom Cooksey** (born on March 12, 1909).
- +42            ix. **Myrtle Theo Cooksey** (born on March 12, 1909).

20. **John Lemon Mattison Cooksey** was born on May 4, 1863 in Alabama. He died on December 19, 1947 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He appeared on the census 1900 Census in McNairy Co, Tenn Dist 10 HH 162. He was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Got his name and birth/death dates from McNairy County Death Records - Gooch Funeral Home.

Cooksey is one of the hardest names to find documentation because the name is spelled a dozen ways.

1900 McNairy County Census: John Cooksy

John - May 1862, married 19 yrs, Ala, Ala, Ala

Leoner - June 1862, married 19 yrs, born 12 children, 10 living, Tn, Ala, Ala

1. William July 1881
2. Idella Sept 1884
3. Deburton (son), Sept 1885
4. Larena Oct 1891
5. Robert July 1889
6. Lizzie Dec 1892
7. Corbet Nov 1894
8. Ophelia July 1898
9. Mary May 1899
10. Everett May 1897

1910 Hardin County, Tenn census - John Cooksi

John 46, Idella Pounds, daughter 25, Laura L 22, Lizzie 17, Orbet 16, Everet 13, Ophelia 11, John 10, Virgil 6 and three grandchildren Gerfx, Theodore, and Paralee Pounds.

John May 1900

He was married to Leanne 'Lean' Nichols (daughter of Jacob Nichols and Patience Hallmark) on December 26, 1880 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Leanne 'Lean' Nichols** was born in 1863 in Alabama. She died in 1905 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. On James C Cooksey's death record from Gooch Funeral Home transcribed by Albert Brown it states his father was John Cooksey and mother Leanna Pinkston. I think this is

because Leana's father died and her mother remarried a Pinkston. So I think Leanna Nichols and Leanna Pinkston are the same person.

John Lemon Mattison Cooksey and Leanne 'Lean' Nichols had the following children:

- +43            i. **William Oscar Cooksey** (born on June 13, 1881).
- +44            ii. **Isabella Idella Cooksey** (born on September 13, 1883).
- +45            iii. **David Burton Cooksey** (born on December 22, 1885).

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- +46      iv. **Laura Lee Cooksey** (born on September 22, 1889).
- +47      v. **Robert Young 'Rob' Cooksey** (born on July 1, 1889).
- +48      vi. **Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Cooksey** (born on October 12, 1892).
- +49      vii. **Corbett A Cooksey** (born on October 24, 1894).
- +50      viii. **Everett Christopher Cooksey** (born on May 27, 1897).
- +51      ix. **Ophelia Cooksey** (born on July 21, 1898).
- 52      x. **John Thomas Cooksey** was born on May 28, 1900 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on July 9, 1988 in Franklin Co, Missouri. John Thomas married Viola Allen on Oct 3, 1920 in Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn. She was born Apr 11, 1903 in Holly Springs, Marshall County, Miss and died Mar 5, 1990 in Taylor, Wayne Co, Michigan.
- 53      xi. **Virgil Cooksey** was born on March 7, 1904 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on December 23, 1992. He was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Virgil married Althea Kelley, who died before he did. They didn't have any children.

He was married to Mollie Arnold on July 26, 1910 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Mollie Arnold** was born on April 8, 1864 in Unknown. She died on May 12, 1942 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Mollie had previously married a Whizenant. I got her maiden name, birth and death dates from Tenn Death Certificates

23. **Cynthia Catherine Cooksey** was born on April 13, 1859 in Marion Co . Ala. She died on November 2, 1932 in Rosebud Falls, Texas.

She was married to Floyd Washington Wiggington (son of John Wiggington and Joicy Herndon) on January 3, 1875 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Floyd Washington Wiggington** was born on April 13, 1857. He died on March 30, 1935 in Rosebud Falls, Texas.

## FIFTH GENERATION

25. **James Ambrose 'Jim' Cooksey** was born on March 5, 1877 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He appeared on the census in 1900 in In Dist 13 Hh 221 In McNairy County, TN. He appeared on the census in 1910 in In Dist 4 - Hh 147 In McNairy Co, TN. He appeared on the census in 1920 in Dist 4 - Hh 177 On The Ramer Gravel Hill Road, McNairy County, TN. He died on December 24, 1957 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. He was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. Nola Cooksey Fuller gave me Jim's middle name, although the death record show Ambers

In 1880 when Jim Cooksey and Allie Moore were small children they lived about 3 houses apart. So they probably grew up together.

On the Gooch Funeral Home Records, transcribed by Albert Brown, it states that James A Cooksey is the son of Sam Cooksey and Caroline Moore ??? The birth and death dates also differ: Born Mar 4, 1874 and died Dec 25, 1957

WWI Draft says: James Ambros Cooksey, born Mar 4, 1876  
 Address: Route 2, Ramer, TEnn  
 wife: Mrs Allie Cooksey  
 blue eyes, black hair, short, med built. Dated Sept 12, 1918,

He was married to Allie Moore (daughter of Nelvina Elizabeth 'Vinnie' Moore) on May 7, 1898 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. J A Gann was bondsman for this marriage. **Allie Moore** was born on March 4, 1879 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on May 26, 1956 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. She was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. In the 1880 census her name is listed as Martha. Need to get correct name from Nola. She told me something like Alvi na. So maybe her name was Martha Alvina.

The 1920 census shows Almetie. The Gooch Funeral Home Records show her as Allie Cooksey and her parents as Sam Moore and Louvenia, but Sam Moore was not her father, as Louvenia had her children out of wedlock. See notes on her mother. James Ambrose 'Jim' Cooksey and Allie Moore had the following children:

- +54      i. **Amy Cooksey** (born on April 10, 1899).
- +55      ii. **Vela D Cooksey** (born in 1902).

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- +56       iii. **Josie V Cooksey** (born on June 12, 1905).
- +57       iv. **James Anderson Cooksey** (born on June 8, 1908).
- +58       v. **Nola V Cooksey** (born on July 14, 1917).

28. **Virgie Miller** was born in April 1878. He died. In 1900 Virgie's grandmother Nellie Cooksey was living with him in District 10 HH 161.

He was married to Bell Dickey on January 9, 1898 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Bell Dickey** was born in December 1879. She died. Virgie Miller and Bell Dickey had the following children:

- 59       i. **Henry Miller** was born in October 1898 in Mc Nairy Co, Tenn.
- 60       ii. **Niner Miller** was born in December 1899 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States.

29. **Nancy Ellen Miller** was born on September 9, 1897. She died on December 4, 1990 in Collin Co, Texas.

She was married to A B C 'Alva' James (son of Robert 'Bob' Lee James and Laura Ida Hooker) on October 11, 1916. **A B C 'Alva' James** was born on December 6, 1891 in Guys, McNairy Co, TN. He died in 1964 in Anna, Collin, Texas. Alva married Cordie Miller on Oct 11, 1916. They had four children, Alva B Jr, Robert Lee Buster, Alma and Jerry. Wonder what his full name was.

30. **Daniel M Cooksey** was born on April 2, 1877 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died in February 1972 in Shelby Co, TN.

He was married to Annie Brasher on May 9, 1897 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Annie Brasher** was born Unknown. She died Unknown. Daniel M Cooksey and Annie Brasher had the following children:

- 61       i. **Marvin Cooksey** was born on April 18, 1903 in Tennessee, USA. He died on April 15, 1923 in Chambers, Near Michie, McNairy Co, Tenn. He was buried in Chambers Cemetery Near Michie, McNairy Co, Tenn.
- 62       ii. **Dalton Cooksey** was born on September 15, 1808. He died. From Birth Records in McNairy Co, Tenn
- 63       iii. **Goburn Cooksey** was born on April 15, 1911 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States.
- 64       iv. **Floyd Cooksey** was born in 1913.
- 65       v. **Loraine Cooksey** was born in 1920.

31. **Matthew 'Mack' Cooksey** was born on March 7, 1878. He died on August 2, 1969 in Sikeston, MO.

He was married to Daisy Garner on September 9, 1899 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Daisy Garner** was born on May 15, 1884. She died on June 26, 1973 in Sikeston, MO. Matthew 'Mack' Cooksey and Daisy Garner had the following children:

- +66       i. **Samuel Lacy Franklin Cooksey** (born on December 11, 1901).
- 67       ii. **Adner Cooksey** was born in 1901.
- 68       iii. **Gladys Cooksey** was born in 1908.

34. **Daisy Parilee Cooksey** was born on April 9, 1892. She died on May 12, 1981. She was buried in Michie Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. She was Primitive Baptist.

She was married to William Henry Emmons (son of Robert Hance 'Clint' Emmons and Mary Rebecca 'Becky' Browning) on June 4, 1908. **William Henry Emmons** was born on April 2, 1889. He died on November 27, 1979. He was buried in Michie Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. Got a lot of my Emmons information from Gus Emmons Daisy Parilee Cooksey and William Henry Emmons had the following children:

- 69       i. **Major Dewell Emmons** was born on March 3, 1910 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died unknown. Married Effie Pearl Cleary Nov 25, 1928
- 70       ii. **Marshall Emmons** was born on February 12, 1912 in Mc Nairy Co, Tenn. Married Alcia Knight
- 71       iii. **William Aber Emmons** was born on November 6, 1914. He died on November 18, 1972. Married Cathaleen Cain
- 72       iv. **Troy Emmons** was born on July 11, 1917. Married Pauline Blackshire

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

73 v. **Zelma Ann Emmons** was born on March 25, 1922. married Marion Charles McCoy, May 2, 1952  
+74 vi. **Ella Marie Emmons** (born on August 15, 1924).

35. **Lela Cooksey** was born on July 27, 1894 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on October 3, 1980 in Corinth. Alcorn Co, Miss. He was buried in Shiloh Methodist Church Cemetery.

He was married to James W Price on October 21, 1919 in Hardin Co, Tenn. **James W Price** was born in 1886. She died on February 14, 1969. Lela Cooksey and James W Price had the following children:

75 i. **E C Cooksey** was born on August 7, 1927 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He died on April 16, 1981 in Residence, Walnut, Miss. He was buried in Shiloh Methodist Church Cemetery.

36. **John L McKinley 'Mack' Cooksey** was born on August 11, 1898 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died in 1980 in Lake County.

He was married to Rose Ernestine Richardson on April 1, 1940. **Rose Ernestine Richardson** was born on November 20, 1904. She died in August 1990 in Lake County.

37. **Henry Clyde Cooksey** was born on June 10, 1900 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He died on September 23, 1965 in Corinth. Alcorn Co, Miss. He was buried in Fraley's Chapel Cemetery, Kendrick Rd, Corinth, Miss. Delayed birth certificate says he was born in Gravel Hill, Tenn. Father, Samuel Enoch Cooksey and mother, Anne P Hurst.

WWI Draft Application: Medium height, slender build, blue eyes, black hair and lived at Michie.

He was married to Mary Childers Feb 13, 1920. **Mary Childers** was born on February 23, 1898 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on October 3, 1984 in Corinth. Alcorn Co, Miss. She was buried in Fraley's Chapel Cemetery, Kendrick Rd, Corinth, Miss.

38. **Josie Ann Cooksey** was born on February 6, 1904. She died on May 14, 1974 in Osceola, Ark. She was buried.

She was married to Jimmie Ricketts on March 17, 1926. She was divorced from Jimmie Ricketts in 1930 in Hardin Co, Tenn. **Jimmie Ricketts** was born unknown. He died unknown.

41. **Leo Tom Cooksey** was born on March 12, 1909 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. The McNairy County birth records show twins born March 12, 1909 named Eugene and Florence. Dr Howell was the attending physician. However they may have been born just over in Hardin county at Hurley town. Lynn James says the names are Leo Tom and Myrtle Theo. He died on December 8, 2002. On the birth records of McNairy County the twins were named Eugene and Florence. Error in transcription says mother Amy.

I see his name also as Lee Tom.

Josie Fay Cooksey, Born May 8, 1932 died Sept 23, 1943 at Stantonville.

He was married to Mary Ellen Wyatt on August 17, 1930. **Mary Ellen Wyatt** was born on August 7, 1914. She died on August 26, 2007 in Hardin Co, Tenn. She was buried in Carter Cemetery, Michie, McNairy County, Tenn.

42. **Myrtle Theo Cooksey** was born on March 12, 1909 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on May 12, 1981 in Prentiss Co, Miss. The McNairy County birth records show twins born March 12, 1909 named Eugene and Florence. Dr Howell was the attending physician. However they may have been born just over in Hardin county at Hurley town. Lynn James says their names are Leo Tom and Myrtle Theo.

She was married to Willie Clovis Ricketts on November 29, 1929. **Willie Clovis Ricketts** was born on January 12, 1906. He died on April 29, 1986 in Prentiss Co, Miss.

43. **William Oscar Cooksey** was born on June 13, 1881 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on September 18, 1957 in Madison Co, Tenn. He was buried in Maple Springs Cemetery, Madison Co, Tenn. Oscar and Mattie may have gotten a divorce. Judy Flatt told me he married (2) Nina Pearl Turner Brown Sept 23, 1926.

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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He was married to Mattie Smith on April 6, 1902 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Mattie Smith** was born on November 19, 1879 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on November 4, 1957. She was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Apparently William Oscar and Mattie were divorced.

44. **Isabella Idella Cooksey** was born on September 13, 1883 in McNairy Or Hardin Co, TN. She died on December 9, 1960 in Memphis, Shelby Co, TN. She was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Shelby Co, Tenn. In 1910 Idella is living with her father and she has three children: Gerf, Theodore, Paralee.

After John's death, she married Loranza Douglas Lucas on Dec 11, 1910. (Aug 12, 1872 - Apr 22, 1938, buried Helbert Cemetery, Adamsville, TN.

She was married to John L Pounds on August 6, 1902 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **John L Pounds** died in 1907. He was born Unknown.

45. **David Burton Cooksey** was born on December 22, 1885. He appeared on the census in 1900 in Hardin County, with parents. He was buried in 1920 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. He died on April 1, 1932 in Henderson, Chester Co, Tenn. He was buried in Henderson City Cemetery, Henderson, Chester Co, Tenn. He was a Blacksmith. 1900 census records says born Sept 1885.

WWI Draft applications: Lived at Adamsville. Birthday Dec 22, 1885. Medium height, medium build, brown eyes, dark hair.

He was married to Myrtle Crum on December 22, 1907 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Myrtle Crum** was born about 1886. She died after 1940. David Burton Cooksey and Myrtle Crum had the following children:

- 76            i. **Nellie Virginia Cooksey** was born on January 2, 1912 near Adamsville, Tenn. She died on May 23, 2002. She was buried in Henderson City Cemetery, Henderson, Chester Co, Tenn. Nell married Ceal Pitts July 10, 1927 in Chester Co, Tenn.
- 77            ii. **Joe David Cooksey** was born on January 25, 1915 in Hardin County, Tenn. He died on September 1, 1992 in Orange County, Fl.
- 78            iii. **Ruby Lee Cooksey** was born on May 16, 1918 in Hardin County, Tenn. She died on June 1, 2000 in Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn. She was buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn. Ruby married first a Van Dyke, after his death she married an Overton. Neil Brown Van Dyke born July 1, 1909 and died Mar 3, 1967, buried Hollywood Cemetery, Jackson, Madison County, Tenn. (2) Joseph Robert Overson on Oct 1, 1980.  
  
In 1940, her mother Myrtle, is living with them.
- 79            iv. **Willie Mae Cooksey** was born on May 9, 1925 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. She died on February 12, 2002 in Knox County, Tenn. She was buried in Edgewood Cemeter, Knox County, Tenn. She married Charles Linginfelter.

46. **Laura Lee Cooksey** was born on September 22, 1889 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on September 16, 1974 in Residence, McNairy Co, Tenn. She was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Mrs Laura Lee Kennedy, 85, widow of Joseph Kennedy, died Monday at McNairy County General Hospital. She leaves three sons, Mayford Kennedy, Grady Kennedy and Bob Kennedy, all of Selmer; a daughter, Mrs Nellie Barber of Stantonville and three brothers, Everett Cooksey of Marked Tree, Ark, John Cooksey of Pacific Mo and Verge Cooksey of Eureka, Mo.

Some of Laura's family thinks they are related to Virginia Ann Cooksey Eary, the mother of Wyatt Earp. They could be - but it would be distant.

She was married to Joseph Oscar Kennedy (son of John McClain Kennedy and Mary Eliza Pate) on July 16, 1911 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Joseph Oscar Kennedy** was born on March 9, 1890 in Marion County, Alabama. He died on February 18, 1963. He was buried in MT Vinson Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Oscar and Walter were sons of John McClain Kennedy. The y w e r e b o r n i n M a r i o n s C o u n t y, A l a b a m a. W a l t e r w e n t t o T a x a s a n d O s c a r w e n t t o M c N a i r y C o u n t y, T e n n. a l l o f W a l t e r ' s c h i l d r e n s t a y e d i n T e x a s, e x c e p t H e n r y w h o w e n t t o T e n n e s s e e.

Walter and Oscar loved to tell of their wedding day. B o t h w e r e m a r r i e d o n J u l y 19, 1991, b e t w e e n n o o n a n d o n e o' c l o c k, i n

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

front of the preacher's home while both couples sat in a buggy. Oscar married Laura Lee Cooksey near Good Hope Church in McNairy County, Tenn and Walter married Willie Craddock near Marshall Springs Baptist Church, Titus County, Texas - 600 miles apart. Neither knew the other was getting married.

In the 1940's it was decided to have an annual Kennedy reunion in Tennessee to keep kinship alive between the two families. (These reunions were still being held as late as about 2006, not sure if they still have them May 2011.) Story by Patsy Shannon Daniels, from Reflections. Laura Lee Cooksey and Joseph Oscar Kennedy had the following children:

- 80 i. **John Leborn Kennedy** was born in 1914.
- +81 ii. **William Eldon Kennedy** (born on October 26, 1916).
- +82 iii. **Nellie V Kennedy** (born on December 10, 1918).
- 83 iv. **Annie Dee Kennedy** was born in 1920.
- +84 v. **Mayfred Lee Kennedy** (born on May 21, 1921).
- +85 vi. **Joseph Grady Kennedy** (born on September 11, 1922).
- +86 vii. **Bobby Ray 'Bob' Kennedy** (born on December 17, 1924).

47. **Robert Young 'Rob' Cooksey** was born on July 1, 1889. He died in March 1969. He was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn. WWI Draft Application - lived in Adamsville, had two kids, bad eyes and cataract of head. Tall, slender, blue eyes, dark hair.

Married (2) Mae Volner (Sept 20, 1895 - Oct 1974 buried at West Shiloh Cemetery)

He was married to Roddy Esterlee Pounds on December 21, 1906. **Roddy Esterlee Pounds** was born on July 31, 1884. She died on August 3, 1941. She was buried in Mt Zion. Her parents were Francis Pounds and Mattie Law. Robert Young 'Rob' Cooksey and Roddy Esterlee Pounds had the following children:

- +87 i. **Jewell Mae Cooksey** (born on July 8, 1913).
- 88 ii. **Joel M Cooksey** was born in 1914.
- +89 iii. **Hubert Cooksey** (born on October 8, 1914).
- 90 iv. **Mattie Cooksey** was born in 1921.

48. **Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Cooksey** was born on October 12, 1892 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on January 19, 1972 in Bethlehem Community, Hardin Co, Tenn.

She was married to Hubert W 'Herby' Matlock on April 11, 1915 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. **Hubert W 'Herby' Matlock** was born on June 5, 1895 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. He died on May 27, 1935 in Bethlehem Community, Hardin Co, Tenn. He was buried in Bethlehem Cemetery, Hardin County, Tenn. Son of George D Matlock and Rosie Louanne Hughes. Children:

1. Lymon Matlock
2. Peggy Matlock, may have married a Wilkes
3. Lilly Matlock born 1919 - died before 1930
4. Faye Matlock born Jan 26, 1920, died July 24, 2009, buried at Mt Gilead Cemetery. She married Roscoe Cody Garrison, son of John T Garrison and Mandy Rebecca Cody. He was born July Aug 13, 1916 and died May 18, 1955. Buried at Mt Gilead Cemetery. Married July 11, 1935
5. Merle Matlock born ca 1922
6. Verlee Matlock born ca 1925.

49. **Corbett A Cooksey** was born on October 24, 1894 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He appeared on the census in 1900 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He appeared on the census in 1910 in Hardin Co, Tenn with father. He appeared on the census in 1920 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He appeared on the census in 1930 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He appeared on the census in 1940 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. He died on February 17, 1969 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He was buried in Old Union Church Cemetery, Hardin Co, Tenn. WWI draft application, June 5, 1917, Hardin County, Tenn.

Born Oct 23, 1894

Farmer, has wife, does not mention children

Has crippled feet. Tall, stout build, gray eyes, dark hair

1900 - Corbett is in the household with his parents.

1910 - Hardin County, with his father and unmarried siblings

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- 1920 - Hardin County, married, age 25, Elsie wife, age 21  
1930 - Hardin County, married, age 35, Elsie 31, Orthel (daughter) 9, Norvel (son) 6  
1940 - Hardin County, married, age 45, Elsie 41, Orthel 19, Norvell 16, Imogene 8

He was married to Elsie Lee Hughes on February 16, 1916. **Elsie Lee Hughes** was born on August 6, 1898 in Hardin Co, Tenn. She died on March 10, 1974 in Hardin Co, Tenn. She was buried in Old Union Church Cemetery, Hardin Co, Tenn. Corbett A Cooksey and Elsie Lee Hughes had the following children:

- 91            i. **Orthel Lee Cooksey** was born on November 28, 1920 in Hardin Co, Tenn. She died on September 6, 1991 in Walker Co, Texas. She was buried in Brook Cemeteyr, Walker Co, Texas. Married a Laws
- 92            ii. **James Norvel Cooksey** was born on April 1, 1924 in Hardin Co, Tenn. He died on September 13, 2007 in Houston, Texas. He was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Houston, Texas. Has his obit on Find a Grave. Survived by his wife Gertrude, a sister Imaline Thomas and his children: Ann Piercy, husband Ray; Joyce Taylor, husband Robert; Dennis Cooksey and wife Robin. Preceded in death by his parents Corbett A and Elsie L Cooksey and sister Orthel Laws. He owned and operated Cooksey's West End Radiator for 51 years.
- 93            iii. **Elsie Imaline Cooksey** was born in 1932. Imaline is still living in 2015. She married J T 'Porky' Thomas. He was born Aug 13, 1926 and died Mar 18, 1984. Buried Pine Hill Memorial Gardens, Adamsville, Tn.  
I talked to her Sept 2015 and she remembered a few things about ther Cooksey relatives.

50. **Everett Christopher Cooksey** was born on May 27, 1897 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on October 30, 1980 in Mississippi County, Arkansas. A lot of these Cooksey men, like older women, as many of them married a woman a few years older.

Everette applied for his SS card in Arkansas, his address 72339 Gilmore, Crittenden. Ark.in 1965.

WWI Draft application shows: Everett Christver Cooksey, Westridge, Mississippi County, Ark. Born Stantonville, Tenn. May 27, 1896.

1930 census find Everett and his family in Hardin County, Tenn with a house full of children: Elmer 14, Reba 12, Mary 10, Louise 8, Geneva 7, Evelene 5, and baby just born. Fannie was 38

He was married to Frances Louisa 'Fanny' Flatt on September 20, 1914 in Hardin County, Tenn. **Frances Louisa 'Fanny' Flatt** was born on October 7, 1892 in Hardin Co, near Adamsville. She died on July 17, 1896 in Mississippi County, Ark. She was buried in Bassett Cemeter, Mississippi county, Ark. Fanny was the daughter of Leander Solomon Flatt and wife Mary Alice.

51. **Ophelia Cooksey** was born on July 21, 1898 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on September 12, 1939. She was buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn.

She was married to Carl B Younger (son of Josiah 'Joe' Younger and Betty Devault) on July 5, 1916 in Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn. **Carl B Younger** was born on November 10, 1893 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on June 5, 1990 in Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn. He was buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Jackson, Madison Co, Tenn.

## SIXTH GENERATION

54. **Amy Cooksey** was born on April 10, 1899 in Near Gravel Hill, Tenn. She died on October 6, 1956 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. She was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN.

She was married to John William 'Will' Summers on June 28, 1919 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. **John William 'Will' Summers** died on July 30, 1960. He was born on November 25, 1888. He was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co,

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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TN.

55. **Vela D Cooksey** was born in 1902 in Near Gravel Hill, Tenn. She died in 1969 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. She was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. Vela's cemetery marker says Vela C which means Cooksey.

She was married to David Lee Hewitt (son of Thomas Rainey Hewitt and Cyrena Arminta "Rena" Huggins) in 1930. **David Lee Hewitt** was born on May 3, 1892 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. He died on January 11, 1968 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. Thomas Rainey and Cyrena had a son named David. David, like many of the

other Hewitts, became bald at an early age. He was up in years before he got married. When he was younger he played guitar and enjoyed parties especially when he had a little drink of corn whiskey. This little story he told on himself,

Usually at these parties, the beds and other furniture were moved out of the big room or living room to make room for a dance or playing snap or other games. At this party the aunts with young children had spread a quilt of the floor in an adjoining room to bed down their little ones.

David, having a little too much to drink, decided he would find a place to lie down and went into the room prepared for the children and laid down with them. It was a cool night a quilt was used to cover the children. The room was rather dark because the only light was an oil lamp in the party room. Later one of the mothers went in to check on her baby. Seeing David's bald head, reached down and rubbed his head and said, "you little darling, your butt's as cold as ice," and carefully placed the quilt over his head.

Yarn and the Cloth

He married Vela Cooksey

56. **Josie V Cooksey** was born on June 12, 1905 in Near Gravel Hill, Tenn. She died on August 19, 1996 in Was In Nursing Home Several Years Before Death. She was buried in Falcon Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN.

She was married to Benton Key Hamm (son of Robert Benton Hamm and Nancy Jane 'Jennie' Lawson) on December 5, 1927 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Benton Key Hamm** was born on December 21, 1906 in Near Mt Vernon Community, McNairy County, Tenn. He died on July 15, 1985 in Eastview, McNairy Co, TN. He was buried in Falcon Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. Key was named after Dr Key who delivered him. Josie V Cooksey and Benton Key Hamm had the following children:

+94            i. **Tedford Joseph Hamm** (born on February 16, 1930).

57. **James Anderson Cooksey** was born on June 8, 1908 in Near Gravel Hill, Tenn. He died on December 12, 1988 in Lived At Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN.

He was married to Ruby Hazel Olive (daughter of James A 'Jugg' Olive and Maggie Elizabeth Burns) Unknown. **Ruby Hazel Olive** was born on November 17, 1913. She died on May 12, 1995. She was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. James Anderson Cooksey and Ruby Hazel Olive had the following children:

+95            i. **Bonetha C 'Polly' Cooksey** (born on November 5, 1931).

58. **Nola V Cooksey** was born on July 14, 1917 in Near Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. She died on April 2, 2014 in Gravel Hill, McNairy Co, TN. She was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN. Nola does not have a middle name, just an initial. Nola and Buel had a son Bernard Lee born Jan 17, 1944 and died Jan 18, 1944. Buried at Gravel Hill.

She was married to Buel Fuller Unknown. **Buel Fuller** was born Unknown.

66. **Samuel Lacy Franklin Cooksey** was born on December 11, 1901 in Stantonville, McNairy Co, TN. He died in October 1980 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He appeared on the census. He was buried in Stantonville Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn.

He was married to Jesse Hollinsworth on January 31, 1920 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Jesse Hollinsworth** was born on December 20, 1902 in Hardin Co, Tenn. She died on July 19, 1991. She was buried in Stantonville Cemetery, McNairy County, Tenn. Samuel Lacy Franklin Cooksey and Jesse Hollinsworth had the following children:

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- +96 i. **Cletis E Cooksey** (born on July 3, 1927).
- +97 ii. **Oscar Thedus Cooksey** (born on July 26, 1923).

74. **Ella Marie Emmons** was born on August 15, 1924. Married William Lewis Smith

She was married to William Lewis Smith (son of Everett D Harrison Smith and Lerora Clark) on December 12, 1943 in Corinth. Alcorn Co, Miss. **William Lewis Smith** was born on April 26, 1922 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. Ella Marie Emmons and William Lewis Smith had the following children:

- +98 i. **Janice Ann Smith** (born on January 20, 1950).

81. **William Eldon Kennedy** was born on October 26, 1916. He died on October 11, 1973 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He was buried in Adamsville Cemetery, Adamsville, McNairy Co, TN.

He was married to Clyde Wilson Pickens on September 26, 1936. **Clyde Wilson Pickens** was born on September 20, 1920. William Eldon Kennedy and Clyde Wilson Pickens had the following children:

- +99 i. **Margaret Jeanell Kennedy** (born on January 29, 1938).
- +100 ii. **Lura Geneva Kennedy** (born on July 26, 1939).
- +101 iii. **Ruby Jenet Kennedy** (born on May 1, 1941).
- +102 iv. **Mary Gennive Kennedy** (born on May 6, 1943).
- +103 v. **Bobby Geraldine Kennedy** (born on June 23, 1943).
- +104 vi. **Billy Joe Kennedy** (born on December 29, 1944).

82. **Nellie V Kennedy** was born on December 10, 1918 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. She died on November 8, 2007. She was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn.

She was married to Feak L Barber on December 31, 1939 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Feak L Barber** was born on June 12, 1909. He died on August 8, 1989. He was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn. Nellie V Kennedy and Feak L Barber had the following children:

- 105 i. **James Ray Barber** was born on February 22, 1942.
- 106 ii. **Glendon Lee Barber** was born on December 25, 1945.

84. **Mayfred Lee Kennedy** was born on May 21, 1921 in McNairy Co, Tenn. He died on September 14, 1998. He was buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery, McNairy Co, TN.

He was married to Martha Loraine Nichols (daughter of Charles Edwin Nichols and Lou Era Wilds) on January 19, 1947. **Martha Loraine Nichols** was born on June 19, 1924 in Near New Hope, McNairy Co, TN.

85. **Joseph Grady Kennedy** was born on September 11, 1922 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. He died on October 8, 1997. He was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn.

He was married to Helen Maverine Moore (daughter of Oliver Huse Moore and Myrtle Icie Coleman) in 1941. **Helen Maverine Moore** was born on July 12, 1926. She died on March 28, 2016. She was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn. Joseph Grady Kennedy and Helen Maverine Moore had the following children:

- 107 i. **Oliver Kendle Kennedy** was born on August 17, 1943.
- 108 ii. **Loretta Gale Kennedy** was born on July 19, 1948.
- 109 iii. **Brenda Kay Kennedy** was born on November 5, 1954.
- 110 iv. **Sherry Lynn Kennedy** was born on June 7, 1964.

86. **Bobby Ray 'Bob' Kennedy** was born on December 17, 1924. He died on June 15, 2009 in Residence, McNairy Co, Tenn. He was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, McNairy Co, Tenn.

He was married to Etta Fay Hendrix Unknown. **Etta Fay Hendrix** was born on February 2, 1924. Bobby Ray 'Bob' Kennedy and Etta Fay Hendrix had the following children:

- 111 i. **Nelda Sue Kennedy** was born on February 24, 1949.

## Descendants of Josiah Cooksey

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- 112           ii. **David Bryon Kennedy** was born on July 1, 1955.
- 113           iii. **Mark Anthony Kennedy** was born on June 5, 1958.
- 114           iv. **Ralph Neal Kennedy** was born on December 4, 1961.

87. **Jewell Mae Cooksey** was born on July 8, 1913. She died on June 1, 1952 in Lived At Michie, Mcnairy County, TN At Time Of Death. She was buried in MT Zion Cemetery, Mcnairy Co, Tenn.

She was married to Cubie Cunningham Unknown. **Cubie Cunningham** was born Unknown. He died Unknown. Jewell Mae Cooksey and Cubie Cunningham had the following children:

- 115           i. **Virgil Lee Cunningham** was born on August 13, 1944. He died on April 16, 1953 in Lived At Michie, Mcnairy County, TN At Time Of Death. He was buried in West Shiloh Cemetery, Mcnairy Co, Tenn.

89. **Hubert Cooksey** was born on October 8, 1914. He died on December 6, 1979 in Missouri. He was buried in Garden of Memories, Sikeston, Mo.

He was married to Verlon Wyatt on March 22, 1935 in McNairy Co, Tennessee, United States. **Verlon Wyatt** was born on November 30, 1912. She died on July 2, 1991 in Sikeston, MO. She was buried in Garden of Memories, Sikeston, Mo. Partents were John E Wyatt and Annie P JOnes

Prepared by:  
Nancy Wardlow Kennedy  
1358 Hwy 142  
Selmer, TN 38375