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McMannis Family History

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The Family History of

Jeremy W. McMannis

23 April 2016

Jeremy McMannis authored this family history as part of the course requirements for HIST 550/700 Your Family in History offered online in Spring 2016 and was submitted to the Pittsburgh State University Digital Commons. Please contact the author directly with any questions or comments:
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List of Direct Line Family Members

Generation One

- A1. Jeremy Warren McMannis (1977-)
- A2. none

Generation Two

- A1a. Roger Allen McMannis (1953-)
- A1b. Larri Jo Dunlavey McMannis Bales (Kerrie J. Belcher) (1955-)

Generation Three

- Ala1. Lawrence Robert McMannis (1931-1977)
- Ala2. E. Faye Cox McMannis (1932-2014)

- Alb1. Lawrence E Dunlavey (1915-1956) (adoptive parents)
- Alb2. Ruth McClure (1917-1985) (adoptive parents)

Generation Four

- Ala1a. Lawrence L. McMannis (1892-1956)
- Ala1b. Louise A. Rienets (1887-1956)

- Ala2a. Alva Jake Cox (1897-1950)
- Ala2b. Lydia Jones Swafford (1897-1976)

- Alb1a. Clarence L. Dunlavey (1886-deceased)
- Alb1b. Ella E. SCHNIEDER (1887-1981)

- Alb2a. Harry T. McClure (1887-1971)
- Alb2b. Sue Vaughn Cooper (1891-deceased)

Generation Five

- Ala1a1. James S. McMannis (1855-1932)
- Ala1a2. Ellen M Carr McMannis (1870-1939)

- Ala1b1. Squire Jacob Cox (1869-1918)
- Ala1b2. Ollie C. Howerton (1873-1940)

- Ala2a1. Marcellus Lindon Swafford (1859-1931)
- Ala2a2. Anna Lamb Carey (1864-1948)

- Ala2b1. unknown
- Ala2b2. unknown

- Alb1a1. Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902)
- Alb1a2. Martha Washington Cleaver (1864-1939)

GENERATION ONE

Jeremy Warren McMannis (1977-), was born in Hutchinson, Kansas a month later than planned. He was born on the same day his great-great-great grandfather **Ballard Cox** (1829-1915) was born. His great-great-great grandfather fought with Co. D 11th Indiana, it would later be proven that Jeremy and his great -great-great grandfather was cosmically linked. Jeremy's parents are **Roger Allen McMannis** (1954-), and **Larri Jo McMannis** (1955-). Jeremy joins an older brother **Christopher Lawrence McMannis** (1976-) on the family farm.

This farm land has been in the family since the Homestead Act and it has grown since then to include almost 400 acres. However, tragedy would strike two days after Jeremy was born, his grandfather **Lawrence Robert McMannis** (1931-1977) would be tragically killed on the family farm. As Jeremy's mom was resting after having a Cesarean, his dad Roger and Roger's best friend Alpha Warren Bales (1954-), would come to the hospital to tell Jeremy's mom the bad news. When Larri saw her husband and best friend she knew it was bad news.

Grandpa Mac and Jeremy's dad was working on an irrigation pond to try and finish it before the end of the year when they would lose government funding, Jeremy's grandfather's tractor slipped and rolled over crushing him to death. Jeremy's dad Roger could only watch in horror as his dad right in front of him. When they managed to get the tractor turned back over it was too late for Jeremy's grandpa, he died instantly from crush trauma. Things would slowly start to change in Jeremy's life as this tragedy changed the family dynamics. Jeremy's

dad now had to take care of his mother Jeremy's grandmother E. Faye McMannis (1932-2014), run the family hog farm and crop fields plus raise two young children and take care of a young wife. Alcoholism runs in Jeremy's family and his dad began to drink.

With all that had transpired by 1979 Jeremy's parents divorced. Jeremy's new parents were Alpha Warren Bales (1954-) and Larri Jo Bales (1955-), his biological dad married Diana McMannis in 1979. The children were split between the two households, it was decided that Jeremy and Sabrina Bales (1978-) being the younger of the two kids would remain with their mothers. While Jeremy's older brother Chris and Samantha Bales (1976-) would go with their fathers as they were older.

Jeremy moved with his new family about 3 miles down the road to the Bales family homestead that had been in the family for over 100 years. Alpha was a farmer just like his best friend Roger, there was good times and bad times on the family farm. Jeremy had chores to do on the farm, like help with the chickens, among other tasks that a young boy was able to do.

Jeremy spent a lot of his time outdoors exploring and getting into trouble, one afternoon Jeremy's mom heard a commotion out in the stable and she came out of the house to find Jeremy covered in blood, crying and barely able to talk. When all was said and done it was found out that Jeremy thought the pregnant mare needed her rump washed, but the horse did not like that and kicked young Jeremy square in the mouth. Jeremy ended up with stitches to close the split lip and

he ended up losing a few teeth and still has a gap in his teeth, as a reminder to Jeremy never to wash a horse's rump.

Jeremy started developing behavioral issues and his parents could not explain what was causing them. Jeremy had the tendency to act out to get attention like setting his carpet on fire in his room, stealing candy, peeing out the upstairs window.

In the most serious attention getting stunt Jeremy pulled, he pulled his step dad's loaded gun and pointed it at his sister. Thankfully for Jeremy and his family the gun did not go off or it could have had tragic consequences. Jeremy got in big trouble for this stunt, his parents consulted psychologists to try and help explain Jeremy's violent tendencies. Jeremy was a very special boy with a lot of issues that no one was able to explain what was going on. When he was in school, he tried to stab a teacher with a pair of scissors, he constantly tried to run away from home.

There were times of calm in between the stormy life that Jeremy had. His family was members of the Local Episcopal Church where his stepfather was a deacon and his mom sang on the choir. Jeremy was an altar boy, so he had moments when he was on his best behavior not acting out.

Farming during the early 80s was not an easy task for Jeremy's step dad who was in the field from sunup-sundown or tending the animals on the farm. Jeremy and his sister Samantha would ride the school bus to town to attend school. As a rare treat when the family went to shop at Dillions in Pratt, Jeremy's mom would rent a VCR

player from Dillions and a couple of movies to break up the monotony of just what they could pull in off the antenna.

While Jeremy had his good days and bad, life on the farm was not all that bad for Jeremy. Jeremy rode horses went out on the combine with his step dad and granddad Ronald Bales (1920-1986). Jeremy on occasion would ride in the wheat truck playing in the wheat on the way to the grain elevator. Jeremy also helped raise a foal, gathered eggs and occasionally fell asleep on the combine.

However, as is the nature with farming some years are better than others, Jeremy's dad had to take a loan out on the house to help pay for farm equipment and supplies and was unable to pay it back. The banker refused to work with Jeremy's parents to pay off the debt and they sought to auction the property off. This was devastating to Jeremy's step dad as this home had been in the family for over a 100 years.

Prior to losing the farm Jeremy's grandmother Ruth McClure passed away, Jeremy's mom and dad left the him and his sister with grandpa and grandma while they went to California to finalize her mother's affairs. Shortly after losing Grandma Ruth, in 1986 while Grandma and Grandpa Bales traveled for vacation, Jeremy's family was woken up in the middle of the night with a call from Oklahoma, Jeremy's grandpa had gotten up to use the bathroom and collapsed of a massive heart attack. Jeremy's step dad went with the funeral director to Oklahoma to help bring his mother and father back from Oklahoma. It was a devastating loss for the family, the only memory of his grandfather

Jeremy has was sitting on the arm of his grandad's multicolored chair, eating cold barbeque cow tongue.

Others have related stories of me walking out to the middle of the field just to hang out with my grandpa. Jeremy lost one grandpa before he even met him and the other while he was still young and could not remember much about him.

During all this Jeremy's health issues and anger issues were starting to cause issues with the family and his sister. His parents tried putting him in various short term hospitals in Wichita and Great Bend in hopes of figuring out what was going on with their son. When Larri and Alpha could no longer handle Jeremy and over concern of the safety of his sister and family they had him committed to Larned State Hospital Beers Unit.

In about 1987 Jeremy was committed by his parents to Larned State Hospital in hopes of learning what was causing his issues. Jeremy's time at the state hospital was a turbulent one, they said Jeremy had knowledge of sexual things that were beyond his years. They tried accusing his Grandpa Bales of molesting him, but the family vehemently denied it. Jeremy's family did come to family therapy as often as possible, including his dad Roger and step mom Diana. There was tension between the two couples that one could never figure out and it was primarily on Jeremy's step dads side.

Jeremy was very manipulative at times at the state hospital to get attention, he would act out, trying to harm himself, or others. Jeremy spent quite a bit of time in seclusion and restraints due to his outbursts. He did have some happy memories from the state

hospital, like the time he dressed as firefighter for Halloween, or the Christmas parties in town. Jeremy was tried on various medications to help control his moods, some worked some did not.

When his parents could visit they would come as often as possible, showing their love and support for their son and never giving up hope. While at the state hospital Jeremy was sexually assaulted by another patient and on home visit to his grandma's house Jeremy's older brother sexually assaulted him as well. Jeremy would have been 11 years old at this time.

Jeremy did have one guardian angel that came to work on the ward that looked out for him, his name was Jesse Lemus, he tried to help Jeremy as much as possible. The staff noticed that Jeremy talked about seeing his deceased grandpa and other ghosts that supposedly roamed the halls of the state hospital. In talks with his therapist Jeremy had constant violent images and desire to die in the Civil War.

Jeremy would spend three and half years at the state hospital and on the times his behavior was good, he was able to go visit with his folks off site or actually go home for a weekend. It was really hard on Jeremy when he had to say goodbye to his mom and family. As he watched them drive away. Jeremy did participate in summer camps including archery, arts and crafts and various activities the state hospital offered to keep the kids busy.

Jeremy did have one summer that was really rough prior to being released in 1990, the softball they were playing with went over the fence and Jeremy without thinking hopped over got the ball and hopped back, but one of the other patients said Jeremy was escaping. So they

called out the campus police who chased Jeremy down in a cop car, finally when Jeremy made it back into the play yard, the cops were still chasing him and fearing for his life Jeremy threw a baseball bat at the cop barely missing him. The cops than pulled out their mace and sprayed it in Jeremy's face. They then tackled him and handcuffed him and dragged him upstairs stripped him naked and put him in the shower to wash the pepper spray out, after drying Jeremy off they handcuffed him to his bed for an undetermined amount of time; Jeremy was around 12 years old when this happened. Finally, in 1990 he was granted release from the state hospital and Jeremy went home to try and live a normal life.

In the summer of 1990 when Jeremy was 13 years old, he had another traumatic event after spending the day swimming Jeremy had a therapy appointment, a kid he met at the pool followed him to his therapy appointment and then to his house. Come to find out this kid was just released from the state hospital and lived across the street from Jeremy's grandma's house. With Jeremy's mom's permission they pitched a tent in the backyard of Jeremy's house. They then went to play in the park in the dark, but Jeremy kept feeling someone watching them, Jeremy kept looking up but no one was there and then all of a sudden a figure appeared out of nowhere; Jeremy and his friend approached the subject and Jeremy asked him his name; the figure who was cloaked all in black with black hollows where the eyes should be said he was Jack the Ripper in a menacing voice.

Jeremy and his friend took off, Jeremy glanced back and the figure vanished. About 20 minutes later in the tent, something took

hold of this kid Jeremy had met and at knifepoint Jeremy was sexually assaulted and was told he would die if he screamed or breathed a word of it, the kid than forced Jeremy to do things to him at knife point.

Shortly after this incident, Jeremy's family to the small town of Mullinville so Jeremy's stepdad could work and the mental health services were much better. Jeremy seemed to do much better in this new town, a member of the football team, even though he was still mending a broken arm due to a bicycle accident prior to the move. In Junior high he ran track, he seemed to be doing okay, but was still struggling with school. So his parents decided along with the school's counselors to put Jeremy in a special education class. That class would meet in the neighboring town of Coldwater, KS.

His teacher there was Rudy Erbert, a tough but gentle teacher that treated his students well, and punished them if they did not follow his classroom rules. Jeremy seemed to thrive in this environment and made great progress, but one of his classmates would eventually sexually assault Jeremy in his home with his parents not 40 feet away. This kid used his size to intimidate Jeremy into silence or face death if he said anything.

Shortly after this Jeremy started getting in trouble, breaking into houses, busting windows out at the school. His parents supported him through his legal troubles and his step dad got him assigned to do community service at the local junior high in hopes of teaching Jeremy a trade.

Jeremy did fairly well in the first year home from the state hospital, he eventually was able to attend regular junior high school.

However, Jeremy would end back up at the state hospital, because he had quit taking his medication. He wanted to go to a sporting event with a friend but his mom refused which send Jeremy into a rage. He ran into his room grabbed a baseball bat and a bag of clothes and said he was running away. He grabbed a steak knife and threatened his mom said she better try not to stop him. He proceeded to bust out the windows in the family home and scratch the car. Jeremy's mom called the police for help; when the police arrived Jeremy was hiding in the basement. Jeremy had one voice telling him to kill the cop, the other urging him to surrender; the police officer was like son I do not want to have to shoot you but I will, think about your mom upstairs. Jeremy than surrendered and was arrested and taken to central holding in Kiowa County Jail. Jeremy later that night was transferred to Meyers East at Larned State Hospital pending his hearing in Kiowa County District Court.

At his hearing Jeremy's attorney heard him say he volunteers to go back to the state hospital, unbeknownst to Jeremy at the time the court sentenced Jeremy to a 90-day psychiatric hold. Jeremy's parents once again never gave up on Jeremy working hard to get him to come home. While at the state hospital Jeremy underwent various tests, some were experimental and was on about every known drug cocktail one can imagine. He was diagnosed with about everything under the mental health umbrella it seemed like. Jeremy had his good days and bad at the state hospital. He at times was very manipulative towards staff and other patients trying to cause problems. He physically assaulted the staff when angry, took on the state hospital police on multiple

occasions. Right after he was admitted Jeremy was levitated and thrown three feet across the room, when asked what threw him Jeremy replied the devil because I refused to try and kill myself. Jeremy did attempt suicide by hanging and slashing his wrists with paint flecks or drinking the toilet water in the seclusion room.

Jeremy had to deal with the fact that the kid who had sexually assaulted him a couple years ago on Beers unit was now on the adolescent unit and the staff tried putting Jeremy in his room but Jeremy was having none of it. Jeremy's parents were constant visitors to try and help their son get better, they helped start a therapy dog program on the unit and became more involved with organizations that helped parents of those suffering from mental illness.

Jeremy was charged with first degree assault and battery and attempted sexual assault when one of the female nurses was injured in trying to restrain Jeremy, he was tried and convicted for the assault charge but the sexual assault charge was dropped. Toward the end of his year and half stay Jeremy started to behave much better and his parents had managed to set up a new program called Wrap Around, where you had the police, mental health professionals, the family, the pastor (if you were religious) basically look after the child to insure they did not need hospitalization again.

Prior to letting Jeremy come home the doctors told his parents they had done all they could for Jeremy and there was no hope for him, that he would be back in 6 months. Jeremy finally came home and tried once again to put his life back on track so he could lead a productive life.

The readjustment for Jeremy was not an easy one, as he was older than most of the kids in class, was involved in the special education classes. While at Greensburg High School Jeremy participated on the football team until a back injury which ended his playing career. Off the football field Jeremy excelled in debate and forensics. He did still have a lot of rough moments and got into at least one fight that his football coach had to stop. Jeremy did get suspended but it was a lighter sentence since Jeremy was obviously bullied. Through the help of his wrap around team Jeremy slowly started getting better and more focused. Granted as with any illness there are times of remission and times when it flairs back up. Jeremy finally graduated in May of 1997 after his parents and team refused to let him quit even though he was 18 and living on his own for the last year of high school. Jeremy was active in the Assembly of God church and worked at the local pizza hut. Jeremy did have trouble managing his money and constantly wrote hot checks for lottery tickets.

In 1998 Jeremy would move to Tulsa Oklahoma and join Victory Christian Center and Seminary. Which led Jeremy into a religious cult that was an offshoot of Victory Christian Center. This church put him through Theophostic counseling which led to its own set of issues. While with this cult Jeremy went through 28 exorcisms as the cult leaders didn't believe Jeremy had a mental illness but was demon possessed. He was sent to a Christian halfway house in Panama City Beach Florida, where it led to more issues, Jeremy would be in the cult for another 4 years before finally escaping their clutches. Jeremy would go from the cult to Job Corp which sent him home after 6

months on a medical. Jeremy than bounced around aimlessly until he decided on a course of action.

While in Florida after he broke off from the cult he ended up picking a girl up in a local bar and afterwards the leader of the cult found out and said Jeremy would be struck dead if he slept with someone outside of marriage. Jeremy than packed up his things after trying out Bryan Career College and Kansas City Kansas Community College and headed west against his families' wishes.

Jeremy soon found himself at the brothels, to prove the prophecy wrong and he met with Caressa Kisses, who helped pull him out of the darkness. After leaving the brothels Jeremy went to Los Angeles to try and break into acting. He got a few small parts and an agent but the agent told him to go back to school.

Jeremy came to Kansas and finished up his degree at Kansas City Kansas Community College. He then tried to go Washburn University but was attacked at knife point on campus by the boyfriend of an employee of his janitorial business. Jeremy's business failed because he liked going to strip clubs and seeing escorts instead of taking care of his business.

Jeremy went to Emporia State University, where he did okay, even though it was a rough start, he eventually dropped out in 2010 because he was working at a nursing home and had lost his social security disability for making too much money.

His mom invited him to come back home until he got on his feet again. Jeremy worked odd jobs through Labor Pros just enough to keep his step father happy. After several injuries sidelined Jeremy with

the help of Vocational Rehabilitation Jeremy started at Washburn but still struggled with escorts and got mixed up with a really bad one and he stopped attending Washburn to deal with the mess he got in.

Jeremy finally got the okay from vocational rehabilitation to attend Emporia State to finish his Bachelors of Science in American History with a minor in theater. Jeremy is now working on his Masters in American History at Pittsburg State University. In his free time Jeremy is a member of the 7th and 30th Missouri Volunteers Consolidated and with the Western Bluecoats Field Hospital teaching history.

Jeremy has overcome a lot in his life and with the help of his mom, Caressa and several others Jeremy is continually striving to keep his mental health in check and becoming a better person. Jeremy has proven that he is capable of accomplishing anything he works hard at and has proven the doctors, and all the others that have doubted his ability to be successful in life.

GENERATION TWO

Ala. Roger Allen McMannis (1953-)

Alb. Larri Jo Dunlavey McMannis Bales (Kerrie J. Belcher) (1955-)

Kerri Jo Belcher was born on Jan 19, 1955 in Sedgwick County KS to **Jerri Belcher** (?), the biological father is not known.¹ She was adopted by **Ruth McClure** (1917-1985), straight out of the hospital. Kerri's biological mother's family was influential and told their daughter Jerri she would be disowned if she kept the baby. This was in an era when it was taboo to have a baby out of wedlock. No verifiable information can be found on Jerri Belcher on familysearch.org that Kerri can find. Ruth McClure married **Lawrence E. Dunlavey** (1915-1956)² July 1, 1956.

Kerri's adoptive dad was a war hero who fought and was wounded in Normandy, France. Lawrence worked for Allis-Chalmers after the war and spent the last two years of his life in Wichita. When Kerri was 17 months old, her dad Lawrence passed away due to lung cancer. At some point Kerri was renamed Larri J. Dunlavey, whether it was before or after her dad's death is not known.

After Larri's dad's passing her mother slowly became an alcoholic and a vagabond never settling in one place for very long. Larri's

¹ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

² "United States Census, 1920," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MWBS-P5S>; accessed 11 April 2016), Lawrence E Dunlavey in household of Clarence L Dunlavey, Jackson, Jackson, Minnesota, United States; citing sheet 19A, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 1,820,841.

mother would drag her to bars and would leave her in the car while she went and drank. Larri did say when she was older her mom would take her into the bar to drink. Larri would drink a Shirley Temple while her mom hit the hard stuff. In the spring of 1959 when Larri was 4 years old her mother was arrested for operating an illegal saloon and selling liquor without a license.³ Larri believes she was kept in the back of the saloon area while her mom ran the saloon. Her mother was sentenced to 30 days in jail on each charge and \$56 in fines and court costs.⁴

She was paroled on November 25, 1959 and soon jumped parole with her young daughter in tow, heading to Blythe, California near Palo Verde. On April 12, 1960 Oscar H. Peltzer revoked Larri's mothers parole since she failed to report and had unpaid costs.⁵ Larri states that they lived near the Colorado river with some of the river rats that had shacks out there, and her mother would go into Paloverde to drink. Most of the money that Larri's mom had come from her husband's military pension, and whatever odd jobs that could be found. The Paloverde area was all desert and Larri remembers at times it being so hot they had to take their bedsheets and dip them into the Colorado River just to keep cool while sleeping. She said there was kind gentleman who lived in the shacks along the river who would look after her while her mother went drinking or come and tow her mother out

³ In the Police Court and or The City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS "Complaint and Judgement against Ruth Dunlavey," Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1959.

⁴ In the Police Court and or The City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS "Complaint and Judgement against Ruth Dunlavey," Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1959.

⁵ Oscar Peltzer, "Letter Revoking Parole for Ruth Dunlavey" Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1960.

after she got stuck in the sand. This gentleman taught my mom how to drive a boat and remembers him fondly.

When Larri became of age to go to school her mother packed them up and moved closer to Laguna Beach, California and opened up a daycare. Her mother continued her drinking and was never happy with Larri's progress in school. Her mother would measure her against other kids, especially if they got an A and Larri did not. Larri remembers being roused out of deep sleep to cite "the damn Constitution of the United States"⁶ Other nights her mother would wake her up and put in the Jeep and drive out to the cliffs and back the Jeep up to the edge of the cliffs, Larri always felt her mother would go over the cliff one of these days.

When Larri was in the third grade she remembers riding her bike and putting her foot down and her knee giving out, she remembers passing out from the pain as she saw a car coming toward her and waking up in her bed later with no idea what exactly happened. As Larri grew up, she did not have very good discipline and was rebellious at times. One of her mother's friends a Peg and Frank Daley was a regular guest in Ruth's household. Frank Daley was a photographer for movie stars and would use Larri as practice model.

According to Larri, Laguna Beach was a safe area especially for young girls, unless the Hell's Angels came through and then everyone hid in their houses because they feared the Hells Angels. In her tender junior high years when she was around 12 years old she would

⁶ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

sneak her mother's liquor and go drink with the other kids. She started to drink to escape the hell in her home life. She hated her name while she was in school because she had a boy's name; she remembers one time the boys' cross country coach called the house and wanted her to be on the team, thinking she was a boy. When Larri entered the ninth grade trouble would stir for her and her mother. One of the kids she was watching went missing and was later found asleep outside the fence, no one is sure how he got there; at the same time Larri had snuck out of the house late at night, using a doll to make it look she was in bed. She was found wandering the streets with a bottle of wine, a police officer noticed her and stopped and picked her up. The officer confiscated Larri's bottle of wine and held her at the police station. She said her mother argued with the officer that Larri was sound asleep and was mad because her daughter humiliated her and made a liar out of her. Before her mother could face any legal trouble she shipped her daughter back to Kansas to live with friends of the family.

Once in Kansas Larri went to live with Ronnie and Nancy Diamond in Pratt County, she would live with them for most of the time she was in high school. Larri attended Skyline High School in March after transferring from Laguna Beach. She remembers her first day as miserable because there was a spring snowstorm and she had worn a purple miniskirt. Being a California girl in the 70s, they were a bit more progressive than a small country community school and Larri stood out as the new girl. Most of the other girls in her school still wore dresses to their knees and slacks for girls was unheard of in 1970.

Larri was active in the drama club at school and did a few plays. Larri would end up meeting her future husband Roger McMannis (1952) even though she was a freshman and he was a senior. She remembers attending a basketball game "This really cool hot guy came and sat with me, a freshman who was shy, Larri was speechless but they figured it out."⁷ She still gets flushed 43 years later when thinking about her first husband. They dated throughout Larri's high school years, during this time period her mother Ruth made it back to Kansas and moved Larri into a trailer in Sawyer. Roger lived with his parents Lawrence Robert McMannis (1931-1977)⁸ and E. Faye Cox McMannis (1932-2014)⁹ on the family farm in Iuka, KS.

During Larri's senior year she and Roger got married when she turned 18 in 1973. Everyone thought Larri was pregnant and would not finish high school, but she proved them wrong and had the best year of her entire educational experience.¹⁰ Shortly after the marriage, Roger and Larri moved into the family homestead about 4 miles from Roger's parents place. Larri even though she was a senior in high school starting learning what it meant to be a farmwife! Larri admits she was not much of a cook, all she could do was boil hotdogs.¹¹ Larri learned to cook from her mother-in-law Faye McMannis, during the harvest

⁷ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

⁸ "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/V922-PMH>: accessed 11 April 2016), Lawrence McMannis, Dec 1977; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

⁹ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/QVGY-DBGP>: accessed 11 April 2016), E. Faye McMannis, 2014; Burial, Iuka, Pratt, Kansas, United States of America, Iuka Township Cemetery; citing record ID 131993630, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹⁰ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

¹¹ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

season. Roger and Larri started their family 3 years after their marriage when Christopher McMannis (1976) was welcomed into the family. Eighteen months later the happy couple would welcome a second son into the family. Jeremy McMannis was born December 28, 1977 and with his birth life would dramatically change for this typical farm family.

Shortly after witnessing the birth of a second son, Roger had to help his dad on the family farm, while his wife recuperated from her Caesarean. Roger and his dad was trying to finish the irrigation pond prior to losing government funding and Roger's dad's open cab tractor slipped and rolled over him crushing him to death, while Roger watched his dad die unable to do anything about it. Lawrence Robert McMannis never got to meet his grandson as he passed away two days after Jeremy was born. Roger, and two of his friends, Jim Glen and Alpha Bales (1954) came to tell Larri that Roger's dad was tragically killed in a farming accident working on an irrigation pond. Larri knew something was wrong when she saw them from her window walking across the parking lot. She says she remembers one of them was carrying a big brown teddy bear.¹²

This tragic incident begun the downslide in the marriage of Roger and Larri, because Roger was the only son and it fell to him to take care of the farm and his mother. Larri felt neglected because he was never home like he was prior to this situation. Larri said her husband

¹² Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

Roger was different after this incident, trying to save the family farm, taking care of his grieving mother and taking care of his young wife and two young sons.¹³ Roger and Larri got divorced in 1979 because they grew apart, Larri's mom liked Roger better than her own daughter and her mother blamed Larri for the marriage being over. Larri and Roger finalized their divorce in January and their close friends Alpha and Diana had gotten divorced around the same time and eventually Roger remarried Diana Austin (1956). The parents jointly decided the older children would go with the paternal side and the younger kids would go with the maternal side.

Larri moved to Pratt, with Jeremy. Her good friend Alpha and his dad **Ronald Bales** (1920-1986) helped Larri find a small apartment. **Ralph Bales** (1910-1989) county commissioner and brother of Ronald helped Larri find her first job as an adult. Larri and Alpha got married in June 1979 in the back yard of Ronald Bales (1920-1986) and Dorothy Bales (1920-2014), they soon moved out to the Bales family homestead farm in Iuka and Larri once again took on the role of farmwife and mother to two children Samantha Bales (1976) and Jeremy McMannis (1977).

Larri entered into a routine of helping with the harvest, doing farm chores, while taking care of two kids, raising horses. During this time period she got her insurance license so she could work at the Bales Family insurance agency along with her husband Alpha. In 1985 Larri received notification her mother was dying so she and Alpha

¹³ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

packed up and took off for Riverside, California, leaving the kids with Grandma and Grandpa Bales. They returned home with her mother's poodle and Jeep. Larri would eventually bury her mother's ashes under a cherry tree.

In 1986 Larri and Alpha lost the family farm when the banks started foreclosing on small family farms. About the same time, they lost the farm Alpha and Larri received a call saying his dad had died of a massive heart attack while on vacation. After losing the farm and Ronald's passing Larri and Alpha took the kids and moved in with Alpha's mom Dorothy. Larri and Alpha lived in Pratt for a couple years eventually moving to Mullinville where Larri started a daycare and Alpha went to work for the school system. They lived there for about 6 years Larri and Alpha moved to Topeka so he could go to school. During that time Larri decided to get her degree as well.

Larri and Alpha grew apart and eventually got divorced. Larri is enjoying her new life as a single woman with her new cat Mandy. She has a circle of women friends who are very supportive. Larri enjoys spending time with her friends and cherishes the time with her grown son Jeremy, daughter Samantha and her two granddaughters. She is looking forward to this new chapter in her life.

Roger Allen McMannis (1952-) was born in 1952 in Pratt, Pratt County, Kansas. He was the first child and only son born to **Lawrence Robert McMannis** (1931-1977) and **E. Faye Cox McMannis** (1932-2014). Other children included Helen McMannis and Linda McMannis both still living.

As a young boy living on the family farm in rural Iuka, KS, Roger helped his dad with farm chores, more than likely terrorized his younger sisters. His family ran a hog and crop farm so there was plenty of chores to do. Life was typical for a farm family in the late 1950s to the early 1970s, you basically worked from sun up to sun down almost 7 days a week.

Roger would attend Skyline High school in the late 1960s and played basketball, he was senior when he met his future wife Larri Jo Dunlavey McMannis Bales (Kerrie J. Belcher) (1955-) who was the new girl at school. They would date while Larri was in school and when Larri turned 18 Roger married his high school sweetheart. Roger would continue working the family farm, helping his dad on his land and his own.

The family owned about 400 acres which has grown from the original plot gotten during the Homestead Act. Roger and Larri would move into the family homestead and begin their life together. Three years after they were married Roger and Larri welcomed a son into the family **Christopher L. McMannis** (1976-), and about 18 months later Roger and Larri would welcome a second son into the family, **Jeremy Warren McMannis** (1977-). A couple days after seeing his second son born, Roger was helping his dad finish up an irrigation pond before the first of the year or they would lose the government grant they had received to build the pond. Tragedy would soon strike when Roger's dad's open cab tractor would slip and roll over crushing him to death. Roger would watch as his dad died a horrific death. Roger would come with his two best friends to deliver the news to his wife that his dad

had been killed in a farming accident. Life would change for this family after this tragic incident; Roger at such a young age was now in charge of the family farm, helping his mother **E. Faye Cox McMannis** (1932-2014) cope, raise two young boys, plus take care of a young wife. Roger and Larri's marriage would slowly dissolved until they divorced in 1979. Roger had begun drinking as a way to cope, as alcoholism runs in the family. He eventually would remarry to Diana Austin, who basically gave him the ultimatum it was either her or his drinking. Roger gave up drinking and has been sober for thirty-five years. Roger would continue to run the family farm until the kids were older, he than faced a tough decision as to finding a suitable job for the family. He eventually packed up and moved to Wyoming to work and moved his family west with him. Roger continues to live and work in Pinedale Wyoming, running his own construction company.

GENERATION THREE

Ala1. Lawrence Robert McMannis (1931-1977)

Ala2. E. Faye Cox McMannis (1932-2014)

Alb1. Lawrence E Dunlavey (1915-1956) (adoptive parents)

Alb2. Ruth McClure (1917-1985) (adoptive parents)

Lawrence Robert McMannis (1931-1977)¹⁴, was born in Iuka, Pratt County, Kansas to **Lawrence L. McMannis** (1892-1956) and **Louise A. Rienets** (1887-1956). Lawrence was raised on the family homestead and learned the trade of a farmer as his dad did before him. Not much is known about Jeremy's grandpa as he died when Jeremy was two days old in a tragic farming accident, and it has been painful for Jeremy's dad to open up about his dad. Lawrence's wife is also deceased and Jeremy cannot ask her information on her husband. Iuka is a city in Pratt County, as of 2010 Census population was 163. Iuka was settled in 1877 and was named in commemoration of the Battle of Iuka in Iuka, Mississippi. It was once the county seat and the first Post Office established December 1877.¹⁵

The family has owned land in Iuka since the Homestead Act was passed in 1862. Jeremy is not sure exactly when the land was acquired under the Homestead Act but his family has been farming the ground since the late 1800s. Linda and Chuck Holcomb still farm the land

¹⁴ United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/V922-PMH>: (accessed 19 April 2016)

¹⁵ Wikipedia. "Iuka, KS." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iuka,_Kansas (accessed 18 April, 2016)

today and the land is held in a trust established by Lawrence to insure future generations would have a place to call home.

E. Faye Cox McMannis (1932-2014) was born to **Alva Jake Cox** (1897-1950) and **Lydia Jones Swafford** (1897-1976) on the family homestead north of Byers, KS. Faye was the youngest of seven children born to Alva and Lydia. She married her high school sweetheart Lawrence McMannis in 1951 living in the farming community of Iuka until her husband died in a tragic farming accident. She maintained the family farm after her husband's passing along with her son Roger. Faye would take a job after her husband pass at the Pratt Tag office where she worked for five years and then she would take a job at Pratt Regional Medical Center until she retired, where she continued on as a volunteer.¹⁶ Faye was a member of Iuka Methodist Church and had a beautiful singing voice and sang in the choir. Faye would pass away at the age of 82 due to acute Leukemia. She was one of the first geologist in the family and had compiled quite a bit of data which her daughter Linda inherited upon her death.

Lawrence E Dunlavey (1915-1956) was born to **Clarence L. Dunlavey** (1886-deceased) and **Ella E. SCHNIEDER** (1887-1981) in Jackson, Minnesota. Not much is known about Lawrence's childhood or where he went to school. Most of the information Jeremy has on Lawrence Dunlavey is gleamed from his official Military Record.

¹⁶ Larrison Mortuary. *E. Faye McMannis Obituary*. <http://www.larrisonmortuary.com/obituaries/E-Faye-McMannis/#!/Obituary> (accessed 18 April 2016)

Lawrence was an electrician and sales man as a civilian but as a soldier he was a weapons platoon commander. He was stationed with Co. C 115th infantry, where he served with honor and distinction.¹⁷ Prior to shipping out to participate in Normandy, Lawrence injured his ankle on the obstacle course in England in January 1942 and was treated at Ft. Sam Houston in Texas; he would reinjure it April 1944.¹⁸ He landed on the beaches of Normandy, where he survived the hellish assault of the Nazi troops entrenched on high, he fought his way inland, only to have his eardrums ruptured on 17 June 1944 combat. He was medevac'd from Normandy and was in the hospital from June 17, 1944 until January 19, 1945, after his release from the hospital he was assigned as Mortar Section Commander with Co D 115th.¹⁹ He was awarded the Purple Heart for his injuries in Normandy along with several other awards for bravery.²⁰ He left the Army December 8th 1945 and returned to civilian life, as a sales man for Allison Chalmers until his death in 1956. Lawrence would marry Ruth McClure in the fall of 1956 and adopt Kerri as his own daughter. Lawrence tried to file for disability for his injury he suffered in 1944 on the beaches of Normandy but was denied on the grounds the board felt his injury was not combat related.²¹

¹⁷ Lawrence Dunlavey "Personal Military Records detailing service," 1940-1945. In author's possession.

¹⁸ National Personnel Records. "Lawrence E Dunlavey Military Records," 1940-1945.

¹⁹ Lawrence Dunlavey "Personal Military Records detailing service," 1940-1945. In author's possession.

²⁰ National Personnel Records. "Lawrence E Dunlavey Military Records," 1940-1945.

²¹ Lawrence Dunlavey "Personal Military Records detailing service," 1940-1945. In author's possession.

Ruth McClure (1917-1985) was born to **Harry T. McClure** (1887-1971) and **Sue Vaughn Cooper** (1891-deceased) in 1917, nothing is known about Ruth McClure's childhood or where she grew up. Ruth's story picks up where her daughter Larri shares about her childhood memories. After her husband passed passing Ruth slowly became an alcoholic and a vagabond never settling in one place for very long. Ruth would drag her daughter to bars and would leave her in the car while she went and drank. Ruth would take her daughter into the bars to drink when her daughter goes old enough. She would order her daughter Larri a Shirley Temple while her mom hit the hard stuff. In the spring of 1959 when Larri was 4 years old her mother was arrested for operating an illegal saloon and selling liquor without a license.²² Ruth kept her daughter in the back of the saloon area while she served her customers at the saloon. Her mother was sentenced to 30 days in jail on each charge and \$56 in fines and court costs.²³

She was paroled on November 25,1959 and soon jumped parole with her young daughter in tow, heading to Blythe, California near Palo Verde. On April 12, 1960 Oscar H. Peltzer revoked Larri's mothers parole since she failed to report and had unpaid costs.²⁴ Larri states that they lived near the Colorado river with some of the river rats that had shacks out there, and her mother would go into Palo Verde to

²² In the Police Court and or The City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS "Complaint and Judgement against Ruth Dunlavey," Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1959.

²³ In the Police Court and or The City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS "Complaint and Judgement against Ruth Dunlavey," Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1959.

²⁴ Oscar Peltzer, "Letter Revoking Parole for Ruth Dunlavey" Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS, 1960.

drink. Most of the money that Ruth had come from her husband's military pension, and whatever odd jobs that could be found.²⁵

GENERATION FOUR

- Ala1a. Lawrence L. McMannis (1892-1956)**
- Ala1b. Louise A. Rienets (1887-1956)**
- Ala2a. Alva Jake Cox (1897-1950)**
- Ala2b. Lydia Jones Swafford (1897-1976)**
- Alb1a. Clarence L. Dunlavey (1886-deceased)**
- Alb1b. Ella E. SCHNIEDER (1887-1981)**
- Alb2a. Harry T. McClure (1887-1971)**
- Alb2b. Sue Vaughn Cooper (1891-deceased)**

Lawrence L. McMannis (1892-1956) was born to **James S. McMannis** (1855-1932) and **Ellen M. Carr** (1870-1939) and was raised in Pratt County, KS. When Lawrence was 17 years old in 1910, the census shows he lived with his family in Lincoln Township, Pratt County, KS.

²⁵ Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016

Lawrence was the second oldest of 6 children. He had two sisters and three brothers living on the family homestead.²⁶ Lincoln Township in Pratt County was created in 1909 from Iuka and Naron Townships, Lincoln Township ceased to exist circa 1970.²⁷ Lawrence's dad was a farmer and as the second oldest of four boys, he helped his father out in the fields and other chores around the family farm. It is not known if Lawrence went to school but he did have a social life outside of the family farm. At some point he met **Louise A. Rienets** (1887-1956) and they married in 1913.²⁸ Interestingly enough the 1920 census shows him married but does not list Lawrence's wife until the 1930s census.

Louise A. Rienets (1887-1956) was born in 1887, her parents and birthplace are unknown at this time. First record of her was in the 1930s census when she was 41 years old. She told the census taker her father was born in Ohio and her mother also was from Ohio.²⁹ She married **Lawrence L. McMannis** (1892-1956) in 1913 and bore him three children. Louise and Lawrence had a daughter and two sons according to the US Census taken in 1930.³⁰ She had no job other than a mother and farm wife, as her husband farmed the family land. They lived in Lincoln Township, Pratt County, KS.

²⁶ United States Census, 1910," database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M2Z7-6GN>: accessed 19 April 2016)

²⁷ Kansas Historical Society, "*Kansas Civil Townships and Independent Cities.*" https://www.kshs.org/geog/geog_townships/search/county:PR (accessed April 19, 2016).

²⁸ United States Census, 1920," database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MFXW-JML>: (accessed 19 April 2016).

²⁹ United States Census, 1930", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/X77M-87W>: accessed 19 April 2016).

³⁰ United States Census, 1930", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/X77M-87W>: accessed 19 April 2016).

Clarence L. Dunlavey (1886-deceased) was born in Iowa in 1886 not much is known about his side of the family or where they lived. First mention of him in any records found thus far was the 1920 census from Jackson Minnesota. He was married to **Ella E. SCHNIEDER** (1887-1981) and had three sons and one daughter with his wife.³¹ They also had a boarder living with them at the time of the census and ³² Clarence's profession at this time was as a proprietor. The next written record found on Clarence was in the 1940 census, where they had him working as a Laborer for the City of Jackson, Minnesota. It is not known when he passed away or where he is buried.

Ella E. SCHNIEDER (1887-1981) was born in Minnesota in 1887 nothing was found on her parents or where she lived as a child. First official records that found mention her was in the 1920s census records where they list her as the wife of **Clarence L. Dunlavey** (1886-deceased). Her father was born in Illinois and her mother was born in California. She passed away in 1981 in Minnesota.

Harry T. McClure (1887-1971) was born in 1887 in Spencer, Owen Indiana to **Sherlock Prentice McClure** (1860-1902) and **Martha Washington Cleaver** (1864-1939). He was the oldest of eight children, not much is known about his early childhood. The 1900 census has him born in 1888

³¹ United States Census, 1920," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/MWBS-PP1>: accessed 19 April 2016).

³² United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/KSL9-4LV>: accessed 19 April 2016).

not 1887 and it states he was the oldest of five kids.³³ He did attend school, so he was college educated. At some point prior to the 1920 census he met and married **Sue Vaughn Cooper** (1891-deceased). He had three kids by the time of the 1920 census and worked as a bricklayer to support his family.³⁴

Sue Vaughn Cooper (1891-deceased), not much is known about Sue Vaughn Cooper other than she is listed in the 1920s census records along with her daughter and children of husband Harry McClure. She was born in Kentucky, to parents who were also born in Kentucky. Nothing has been found on her childhood or how she ended up in Indiana. She was a stay at home mom raising the kids and being a dutiful housewife as was common in this time period for women to remain at home to raise the kids and support the husband. It is not known when she passed away.

³³ "United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M9MK-G2C>: accessed 19 April 2016).

³⁴ "United States Census, 1920," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MJZZ-S2H>: accessed 19 April 2016),

GENERATION FIVE

- A1a1a1. James S. McMannis (1855-1932)
- A1a1a2. Ellen M Carr McMannis (1870-1939)
- A1a1b1. Squire Jacob Cox (1869-1918)
- A1a1b2. Ollie C. Howerton (1873-1940)
- A1a2a1. Marcellus Lindon Swafford (1859-1931)
- A1a2a2. Anna Lamb Carey (1864-1948)
- A1a2b1. unknown
- A1a2b2. unknown
- A1b1a1. Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902)
- A1b1a2. Martha Washington Cleaver (1864-1939)

James S. McMannis (1855-1932) was born in Indiana in 1855 to Irish immigrant parents. His dad's name is Bartholomew; his mother's name is unknown. James was not old enough at the time of the Civil War, by the time the war was over James was 10 years old. At some

point he made his way to Kansas where he purchased land and became a farmer. In the late 1880s he met and married Ellen M Carr (1870-1939).³⁵ He was 32 years old and she was 17, they moved into the family homestead in Iuka, KS. According to the 1900 census he had five kids and one servant who was hired as farm labor.³⁶ James lived and worked the farm his whole life eventually passing it on to his sons after his passing in 1932.

Ellen M Carr (1870-1939) was born in Davis County, Iowa, her parents are unknown. According to the information provided to the US Census, when she was married to **James S. McMannis** (1855-1932), her father was born in Ireland and immigrated to the United States and ended up in Iowa. Her mother is from Iowa. Not much is known about her early childhood or how she ended up in Kansas. There is some discrepancy in the records for **Ellen M. Carr** (1870-1939) depending on the records some have her name as **Martha E. Carr. Ellen M Carr** (1870-1939) married **James S. McMannis** (1855-1932) and bore him several children. As was common in that day the wife stayed at home while the husband toiled in the fields and when the sons were old enough they helped out on the farm. Ellen would pass away seven years after her husband and just a couple years after her son Melvin would pass away at the young age of 32. Life was not easy on the farm in the late

³⁵ Kansas Gen Web, "Pratt County Marriage Records" <http://www.ksgenweb.com/pratt/marriage1887.html> (accessed April 19, 2016).

³⁶ United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MMYF-PLN>; accessed 19 April 2016).

1800s to early 1900s much of it was still done by hand, with everyone pitching in.

Squire Jacob Cox (1869-1918) was born in 1869 in Indiana to **Ballard Cox** (1829-1915) and **Emzy Estelle Price** (1835-1907). He was born 4 years after his dad **Ballard Cox** (1829-1915) returned home from the Civil War. His family was a farm family, originally from Indiana and then moving to Marionville, Lawrence Missouri. Not much is known about his childhood other than his family owned a farm and his dad was disabled from the war and had trouble getting around. At some point Squire made his way to Byers, Pratt County, KS to forge his own path with his wife. Squire met and married **Olie C. Howerton** (1873-1940) around 1890. He was a farmer as his dad before him was, it seems like farming was in the blood, it was good hard honest work in the 1800s onward. He passed away 1918 in Byers, KS it is unknown where he his final resting place is.

Olie C. Howerton (1873-1940) was born in Knox, Missouri in 1873 to **John Howertown** (1848-deceased) and **Mary P. Ballard** (1856-deceased).

Olie was born into a farming family in Missouri, she was the second of five children. It is not known what her childhood was like, or if she went to school but she was a farmer's daughter who married a farmer. Olie, probably had her chores and helped her mother keep house and look after her young siblings.

Being on a farm gave them plenty of room to play outside when chores were done. When she was 17 years old she met and married **Squire Jacob Cox** (1869-1918), they set up house and she bore Squire four boys. She would outlive her husband and it is not known if she took another husband after Squire passed away in 1918. Olie would live another 22 years before joining her husband in joyous reunion.

Marcellus Lindon Swafford (1859-1931) was born in 1859 to **Christian Lindon Swafford** (1823-1913) and **Sarah Frantz** (1839-1868) in Jonesboro, Grant, Indiana, United States. Marcellus shows up in the 1860 US Census at the age of 1. His dad is listed as a merchant on the US Census and as was the time period his mother kept the house. Marcellus was the youngest of five kids born to his parents and was young when the Civil War broke out.³⁷ At the age of nine years old he lost Marcellus lost his mother who passed away at the age of 29. It is possible his mother died due to complications of childbirth or due to a sickness at that time period.

The 1870 Census lists Marcellus as 11 years old and his dad is now a farmer, so he probably helped his dad on the farm; while his older brother looked after the younger kids.³⁸ By the 1880 census Marcellus dad had remarried again and had more children. Marcellus was 21 years old at this time and was probably helping his dad on the farm. No other census data can be found until 1910 detailing Marcellus life.

³⁷ United States Census, 1860", database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M4FV-DCZ>: accessed 19 April 2016), Marcellus Swafford in entry for Christian G Swafford, 1860.

³⁸ United States Census, 1870," database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1: MXXG-XVQ>: accessed 19 April 2016).

At some point he met and married **Anna Lamb Carey** (1864-1948) and moved his family to Lincoln Township, Pratt County, KS. His wife Anna bore him thirteen children. He was a farmer in the Lincoln Township area. He would pass away in 1931.

Anna Lamb Carey (1864-1948) was born in Indiana in 1864 at the tail end of the Civil War. Her parents were **John Christian Carey, Jr** (1816-1895) and **Lydia Jones** (1822-1911), Anna was the eighth child of thirteen her parents would have. Not much is known about her family or her childhood growing up. I cannot imagine what it would be like living in a big house with twelve other brothers and sisters. Their probably was not much time to attend school, but nothing shows one or the other. At some point Anna Lamb Carey (1864-1948) met Marcellus Lindon Swafford (1859-1931) and married him and bore him 13 children and helped keep the family farm in Kansas.

She would outlive her husband by 17 years, Anna had many heartbreaks in her life including losing her first born at the age of 2. Medicine in the 1880s was still in its infancy and many diseases were still unknown. She passed away in Haviland, KS in 1948 at the age of eighty-four and was buried in Pleasant Plains Cemetery in Byers, KS.

Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902) was born in 1860 to Levi McClure (1834-1920) and **Susan Eubanks** (1837-1924) in Buncombe, Knott, Kentucky, United States. Sherlock was the youngest of six kids being born at the start of the Civil War. Prior to the Civil War Sherlock's

dad was a farmer in Kentucky, but when war broke out his dad would join up fighting for the Confederacy and after the war was over he stayed in and took the oath of loyalty and joined the Union Army.

In February of 1882 Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902) would meet and marry **Martha Washington Cleaver** (1864-1939). At some point Sherlock would move his family out of Kentucky to Indiana. According to the 1900 census Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902) worked as a farmer to provide for his family until his death in 1902 at the age 42,

Martha Washington Cleaver (1864-1939) was born in 1864 in West Brownsville, Washington, Pennsylvania, United States to **John Cleaver** (1826-1865) and **Rebecca Jane Garreston** (1834-1922). Martha was the second child born to the John and Rebecca Cleaver.

According to the 1860 census Martha's father John Cleaver (1826-1865) was a machinist.³⁹ Not much is known about her childhood or where she went to school. It appears Martha moved to Illinois and lost her father when she was one years old. It appears her mother never remarried, eventually moving the family to Indiana for a fresh start. Somehow Martha ended up in Kentucky and meet her future husband Sherlock Prentice McClure (1860-1902) and would eventually marry and bear him eight children. It appears Martha never remarried after the passing of her husband, she lived alone, along with her kids until she passed away in 1939.

³⁹ "United States Census, 1860", database with images, *FamilySearch*(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MXRC-4H4>; accessed 19 April 2016), John E Cleaver, 1860.

Annotated Bibliography

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.
<https://familysearch.org/> (accessed April 11, 2016)

A good free genealogy site maintained by The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints. A lot of useful tools to find your ancestors and create family trees, and other cool tools to help you research your family history.

Dunlavey, Lawrence, "Personal Military Records detailing service," 1940-1945. In author's possession.

My family has kept the original files detailing Lawrence Dunlavey's military career. It includes original orders he received that list other men he fought with. It also holds several letters thanking him for his service and his denial letter for disability.

Find A Grave <http://www.findagrave.com> (accessed April 11, 2016)
A great resource to find your ancestors grave site and see pictures of where they are buried. A great tool to help you in your search for your long lost ancestors.

Grenham, John. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2012.

Records in Ireland are very fragmented and at times hard to understand; In John Grenham's book *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide*. He helps you understand how to look for your family history in Ireland, and how to access online databases that are starting to add more or the records online. He breaks it down by

county as he explains the difficulties in sorting through family history records in Ireland.

Larri Bales, interview by Jeremy McMannis, April 10, 2016, interview transcript

This was an oral history interview done with Larri Bales pertaining to her life from 1956-present. It was taken from interview transcript notes taken during the interview.

Larrison Mortuary. *E. Faye McMannis Obituary*.
<http://www.larrisonmortuary.com/obituaries/E-Faye-Mcmannis/#!/Obituary>
(accessed 18 April 2016)

Depending on when your relative passed away, sometimes Mortuaries have copies of obituaries and memorial pages dedicated to your loved one.

Library of Congress, *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82015050/1847-06-19/ed-1/seq-1/> (accessed April 11, 2016).

This site is good to find newspapers that your relatives may have read and gives the researcher an idea of the time period they lived in.

Kansas Historical Society, "*Kansas Civil Townships and Independent Cities*."
https://www.kshs.org/geog/geog_townships/search/county:PR (accessed April 19, 2016)

The Kansas Historical Society has a wealth of information for those researching their ancestors. They have a huge collection of Kansas Newspapers, a huge online database to search for relatives and one including information on townships no longer around.

National Archives.
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html> (accessed April 11, 2016)

The National archives is a great place for military and other records pertaining to your family history. They offer two ways of getting the information, paper file or digitized cd with the information on it. You do have to pay for the cost of the file, but the fees are not bad.

National Park Service. <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-soldiers.html> (accessed April 11, 2016)

This is a great site to use to help you locate your loved one that fought in the American Civil War. You can locate by branch of service and what side they fought on.

"United States Social Security Death Index," database,
FamilySearch <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/V922-PMH>:
(accessed 12 April 2016)

A good source through the Mormon genealogy site accessing the
United States Social Security Death Index. A useful site if you know
the date your ancestor died.

Wikipedia. "Iuka, KS." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iuka,_Kansas
(accessed 18 April, 2016)

Some historians scoff at using Wikipedia because it is easily
altered. It does list some amazing resources that you can fact check
your information.