The Family History Of Daniel C. Hodges 21 April 2018

Dan Hodges
Pittsburg State University, gecko0302@yahoo.com

Dan Hodges
dhodges@gus.pittstate.edu

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The Family History of

Daniel C. Hodges

21 April 2018

Daniel Clayton Hodges authored this family history as part of the course requirements for HIST 550/700 Your Family in History offered online in Spring 2018 and was submitted to the Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. Please contact the author directly with any questions or comments: dhodges@gus.pittstate.edu

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List of Direct Line Family Members

Generation One

A1. Daniel Clayton Hodges (1962-)
A2. Carrie Elizabeth Hodges (1977-)

Generation Two

A1a. Henry Hodges (1935-)
A1b. Nancy Hodges (1942-)

Generation Three

A1a1. Rufus Hodges (1909-1979)
A1a2. Glessner Hodges (1917-)

A1b1. Julian D Morgan (1912-1952)
A1b2. Erma Morgan (1912-2016)

Generation Four

A1a1a. John Franklin Hodges (1879-1944)
A1a1b. Maggie Hodges (1881-1964)


A1b1a. Dean Morgan (1882-1965)
A1b1b. Adessa Mae Steiner (1881-1937)

A1b2a. Herman Lanning (1889-1968)
A1b2b. Susie E Lanning (1890-1972)
Generation Five

A1a1a1. Wm J Hodges (1858– )
A1a1a2. Laura Ann Hodges (– )

A1a1b1. Jno H Tipton (1850-1935)
A1a1b2. Phunetta Tipton (1850-1931)

A1a2a1. Peter Jackson Lamons (18582-1936)
A1a2a2. Alice Lamons (1858-1950)

A1a2b1. Frank Logsdon (1872-1950)
A1a2b2. Clara Logsdon (1875-1961)

A1b1a1. Theodore Myron Morgan (1846-1926)
A1b1a2. Emma Morgan (1852-1940)

A1b1b1. Sam Steiner (1858-1926)
A1b1b2. Fanny Steiner (1862-1939)

A1b2a1. William Lanning (1857– )
A1b2a2. Mary Lanning (1863– )

A1b2b1. William Henry Beck (1855-1940)
A1b2b2. Ella Beck (1859-1931)
Daniel Clayton Hodges (1962- ) was born at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1962 to Henry Rufus Hodges (1935- ) and Nancy Morgan Hodges (1942- ). Daniel was a hyperactive child and did not sleep much causing his mother to lose sleep as she struggled to care for Daniel’s older brother and hold a fulltime job to help support the family. As a Daniel grew he became more active and caused much stress on his family. Discipline was ineffective as Daniel’s boundless energy led him to all manner of mischief. One of Daniel’s earliest memories is of following the family Irish Setter dog into the woods. Although just a toddler, Daniel clearly remembers his father and brother frantically shouting for him as he and his dog trotted farther away, obscured from view by the thick undergrowth of the woods.\(^1\)

Daniel’s family lived in the country. Daniel’s first home he remembers was located on the west edge of Lawrence, just outside the city limits. It was a small, run-down single-story house; the only thing his young family could afford. In the yard was a large pear tree. This tree produced lots of fruit. In the fall season, pears littered the ground attracting lots of bees. A barefooted Daniel stepped on one of these bee-laden pears and was stung several times. This is when Daniel’s mother discovered that Daniel was dangerously allergic to bee and wasp venom. For the next several years of his life Daniel frequently visited the doctor for shots delivered by, in Daniel’s estimation, the largest needle on earth. Aside from the pear tree, Daniel enjoyed playing with his family goat. The goat, named Billy, followed Daniel and his big brother around like a dog. The only other memories Daniel has living near the pear tree-house were trips to the A&W Root beer drive-in restaurant for root beer floats and corn dogs.

Daniel’s parents saved up enough money to move into a bigger house. The house was farther west of Lawrence. Route 4, box 72 was located in in the small unincorporated town of Clinton, Kansas. Before Daniel moved out of this home the address was changed several times by Douglas County. Daniel

\(^1\) Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
remembers his address as Route 5, Box 117. Clinton was a small rural community. The town had a single store and a church. There were not many people living in Clinton Township in 1970. Those who did live there were very spread out. Daniel recalls that maybe fifteen families lived in the unincorporated town of Clinton. Daniel’s first years living in Clinton were spent with his parents or at a babysitter’s house. Daniel’s favorite babysitter was Nettie Keizer. Nettie lived on a farm by Lone Star Lake, about ten miles south of Clinton. Nettie had a daughter, Ingrid, who was the same age as Daniel. Ingrid quickly became Daniel’s best friend, remaining so until Daniel entered the Seventh Grade. The best thing Daniel remembers about Nettie’s farm is the huge barn and the all the farm animals. Nettie raised all manner of fowl, the most interesting were the peacocks. Ingrid and Daniel would follow the peacocks and tease the male birds into making their distinctive cries. When Daniel was not at Ingrid’s house he spent his time outdoors with his dogs.

Daniel remembers becoming a latch-key kid around the age of eight or nine. There was not much to do in the house and few children to play with so Daniel became very interested in nature. Catching reptiles and amphibians was his favorite pastime. Daniel and his dogs would hike all over the countryside looking for snakes. Daniel would bring live snakes and lizards home. Grade school children, left to their own devices do not have the best judgment and neither did Daniel. Some of the snakes he would bring home were venomous. Daniel’s parents were not happy at all when they discovered that Daniel had several copperheads and timber rattlesnakes as pets. Live poisonous snakes in his room was one instance of a pattern of unacceptable behaviors that Daniel exhibited throughout his childhood. Corporal punishment was practiced both at home and in grade school. Daniel often found himself on the receiving end of a well-deserved belt or paddle.

Daniel attended grade school in a rural elementary school near his home. The Wakarusa Elementary School building is still there but it is no longer an elementary school. He went to junior high school and high school in Lawrence, Kansas. Daniel was not a very good student. His middle school was

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named South Junior High School. The school’s name has been changed to Billy Mills Middle School. It is named after the famous Haskell University and University of Kansas (KU) track star. Daniel attended Lawrence High School after he completed junior high. Although he was selected for, and participated in gifted-student programs, he squandered his young intellect on finding ways to be disruptive and get in trouble. He was still hyperactive and rarely slept more than four hours a night. He had more energy than all of his friends.

Throughout his school years Daniel found himself in trouble. He often got into fights and was sent to the principal’s office on a regular basis. He was even suspended from junior high school. However, he was expelled for something that he did not do. Daniel and his teammates just finished wrestling practice. One of the boys on Daniel’s wrestling team cussed at a teacher after she made the boys stand outside in the cold because she wanted to lock the building up. The teacher did not see who called her the curse word. She confronted Daniel’s wrestling team to determine who cussed at her. A group of boys that did not like Daniel told the teacher that Daniel had called her a bitch. Daniel was known as a trouble-maker so the school suspended him for a few days. Daniel was punished by his parents who believed that he had cursed at the teacher. After being punished for something he did not do, Daniel became more obstinate and developed a distrust of authority and others.

Despite his misbehavior Daniel managed to graduate high school with marginally average grades. His parents were hard workers but his family was still poor. Daniel began working in 9th grade and kept a steady job at various businesses throughout high school. He still found time for extracurricular activities and was active in marching band and wrestling. He also found ways to burn off his excess energy. In his senior year Daniel joined a sky diving club, the Greene County Sport Parachute Center, located near Wellsville, Kansas. Daniel made six parachute jumps during his senior year. Daniel remembers it took nearly all the spending money he made to join the club and pay for the jumps³.

³ Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
Daniel had several jobs during high school. His favorite job was as a gas pump attendant for a Sinclair Gas station in Lawrence. The gas station he worked at was located near a popular hangout for high school kids. He was pumping gas during the height of an energy crisis in 1979. Daniel recalls hundreds of cars waiting for hours to fill up on gas. Daniel remembers how angry the customers were at him, as if he was the one who raised the price of gas. Daniel also had another steady job at a Zarda Dairy convenience store in Lawrence. This store sold gas, groceries and was an ice cream shop. Daniel enjoyed the perks of free ice cream at Zarda Dairy. He also perfected the orange sherbet hot fudge milk shake.

Daniel graduated Lawrence High School in 1981, but not before he got himself in trouble one more time. In the spring of 1981 Daniel and two of his friends were arrested and put in jail for picking up a snake in Presidio County, Texas. Daniel and his friends went to Big Bend National Park in Texas to look for snakes during spring break. They found a trans pecos rat snake and tried to take picture of it. Since they were out of film, they kept the snake while they looked for somewhere to buy a roll of film for their camera. While searching for someplace to buy film, Daniel and his friends came across a boy scout encampment. The scout leaders were less than friendly and not very helpful. Shortly after leaving the boy scout camp, a sheriff’s deputy pulled over Daniel and his friends and held the trio at gun point while he searched their van. He found the one snake. Another deputy arrived and took Daniel and his friends to the Texas city of Marfa, where they were charged and convicted of trafficking a federally endangered species of wildlife. The trio had enough money to pay the fine and escape jail for only two of them. Daniel volunteered to stay in jail until his friends could come up with the several hundred dollars fine needed to release him. Daniel remembers doing his best to look intimidating for the seedy characters that he shared his jail cell with. Daniel spent most of his high school senior year spring break in the ancient Presidio County Jail in Marfa, Texas.

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5 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
In 1981 Daniel moved out of his parents’ house after graduating high school and got an apartment with some friends. Daniel enrolled in the University of Kansas. His parents managed to pay for tuition. Daniel supported himself for all other expenses. Daniel had several jobs his first year of college. His highest paying job was to build concrete foundations for houses. This job was strenuous manual labor. It also took up of his daylight hours, forcing Daniel to take most of his college courses at night. Daniel did his best to keep up with his courses but struggled to maintain his grades. He was failing two classes so he informed his instructors that he was dropping their courses. The next semester he followed the same pattern of working during the day and attending classes at night. Like the previous semester, he struggled to keep up so he dropped more courses. At the end of his first full year in college Daniel was dismayed to learn that he had attained a .08 grade point average. Daniel did not understand that he had to drop his courses with the registrar, so the courses he dropped were counted as F’s on his transcript. That summer Daniel enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

Daniel was sent to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California. He excelled in recruit training. While waiting for his first assignment after becoming a Marine, Daniel learned that he had been enlisted as a Marine Reservist and would soon return to Lawrence, Kansas. His assigned unit was the Scout Sniper Platoon, Headquarters Company, 24th Marine Regiment, based out of Brush Creek, Kansas City, Missouri. This surprised Daniel. After returning to Lawrence, his recruiter informed him that he wanted him to try and graduate college so he could recruit him for the Platoon Leaders Course, which was an officer placement program for the Marine Corps. Daniel was reticent and felt deceived thinking he had signed up for fulltime active duty service. But his experience at boot camp gave him some insight on how his future could be so he followed the recruiter’s plan 7.

Daniel was able to continue his working at his jobs building concrete basements and Zarda to support himself. He enrolled at the University of Kansas for a second year. He did much better in class

7 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
and managed to pull his grade point average up to passing. That summer Daniel attended Scout Sniper Course in Quantico, Virginia and Infantry Training School in Camp Pendleton, California. Daniel enjoyed scout sniper school the most since he was given more complex tasks to accomplish on his own. During infantry training school he was assigned leadership responsibilities. These responsibilities helped him mature over the summer. When he returned to Lawrence he attended the Fall and Spring semesters at The University of Kansas. He overloaded his class schedule both semesters to help make up for the credit deficit he accrued during his freshman year.

Daniel was accepted as an officer candidate for the United States Marine Corps. In the summer of 1984 he attended the first course required to attain a commission. The Platoon Leaders Course (PLC) was held in Quantico, Virginia. Daniel was familiar with the base since he had attended Scout Sniper Course there, but this trip to Quantico was much harder than sniper school. PLC was much more physical. Daniel recalls enjoying the challenge. Marine officer selection was highly competitive. The initial training was essentially a weeding out process to prevent physically and mentally weak candidates from receiving a commission with the Marines. Daniel recalls the attrition rate was around fifty percent for that course. As a young man Daniel was exceptionally fit and excelled under high physical pressure. His tolerance for pain and physical abilities, plus his experience as an enlisted Marine enabled Daniel to graduate at the top of the class that summer.

Daniel successfully completed another year of college at KU. The summer of 1985 he attended his second increment of PLC in Quantico. He recalls he second PLC course as being similar to but harder than his first iteration. He remembers the attrition rate was higher too, with more officer candidates failing the stringent physical requirements or simply giving up due to the stress. Daniel returned to Lawrence and enrolled in his final year at KU. Daniel remembers this as his toughest year at KU because he had to overload classes during both semesters to graduate. Money was also tight and Daniel struggled

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to pay his bills. Having nothing to eat for two or more days was a bi-weekly experience for Daniel and his roommates.9

On 28 January 1986 Daniel distinctly remembers how stressed out and tired he was. He was at the cafeteria in Wesco Hall on KU’s Lawrence campus. He had just spent the last of his money at the cafeteria. This was his last meal until his next payday. He had paid for the meal in coins scrounged from his car. Daniel’s car was on a side street where he ran out of gas two days before. He had been jogging back and forth to school and his jobs. He also remembers that he discovered that he had to take a summer course just to graduate because he was a few credits short for his academic major. Daniel remembers a moment of extreme self-pity, interrupted by a sudden silence in the cafeteria. He recalls everybody was looking up at the televisions mounted on the wall. He remembers watching the live video footage of the space shuttle Challenger disintegrating in fire and smoke as it fell back to earth. He and the other hundreds of people in the cafeteria stared in silence as the cameras tracked the pieces of the shuttle10. Daniel thought about the space shuttle crew members. He recalls feeling ashamed that he thought his life was tough. Daniel realized that things could always be worse.

Daniel graduated from KU with a degree of a Bachelor’s of Science in Education in the early summer of 1986. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. He again travelled to Quantico, Virginia and attended more Marine Corps schools. The first school he attended as an officer was The Basic Course. This seven-month course trained new Marine officers how to lead Marines and serve in a Marine infantry unit. Daniel recalls the days being long. The course was a mixture of academic classes and hands on training, most of which were outside and often overnight. In early 1987 Daniel completed The Basic Course and started Infantry Officer’s Course. This course was based out of the same camp as The Basic School so Daniel did not have to travel far to check-in to his new school.

9 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.  
Marine Infantry Officer Course (IOC) was infamous for being extremely hard and had a significant attrition rate. Officers who failed this course were sent to non-infantry duties and usually dismissed from the Marines after their service obligation was up. As with other Marine training Daniel had experienced, IOC was very physical. It was also mentally challenging, with training problems that were inherently dangerous due to the weapons and the conditions the training took place in. As before, Daniel excelled and was selected as the top graduate by his peers.

During IOC Daniel competed for the opportunity to go to Army Ranger School. He won the competition so he reported to Fort Benning, Georgia to attend Ranger School\(^\text{11}\). During the summer of 1987 Daniel completed the challenging course. Ranger school had several training sites that were not on Fort Benning. Daniel travelled to the desert in Utah, the swamps of the Florida Panhandle and the mountains near Dahlonega, Georgia.

Daniel recalls an interesting story from his Ranger training at the Dugway Proving Grounds in Utah. During their safety brief, Daniel was cautioned to avoid any colored powder they might find in the desert. Daniel was told that Dugway was once used as a chemical weapons training and testing range. The caution was that some of these harmful chemicals might still be active if found. At sunrise one morning Daniel and his squad-mates were curious why their instructor was yelling at them from a great distance away. Daniel recounts the story that the instructor wanted the Ranger students to relocate to a new position. Normally the instructor pulls a student aside to give directions. Shouting at the students from a distance was odd. As the sun continued to rise Daniel and his squad mates realized that they were in a huge patch of bright purple powder. The patch was about fifty feet across. Every member of Daniel’s squad was covered from head to toe in purple powder. They quickly realized that the instructor was afraid to get any of the potentially harmful substance on him. Daniel fondly recalls how one Soldier would check every day to see if he had developed mutant super powers from the purple powder.

It was in the remote mountains near Dahlonega, Georgia that Daniel discovered he was cured of his allergies to bee and wasp venom. Daniel was stung at least one hundred times by hornets after his Ranger patrol stumbled upon their nest in thick woods. The frequent shots Daniel received as a child had built up an immunity. Had this happened when he was a child he would have died.

Daniel graduated from Ranger School on 27 August 1987. He remembers the school was hard but not as difficult as his Marine Infantry Officer Course. He recalls the most challenging aspect of the course was the lack of food and sleep. Ranger school put their students through significant sleep and food deprivation to simulate the stress of combat. Many students suffered from temporary eating disorders after completing Ranger School. Daniel’s eating habits were dysfunctional and he recalls eating too much and having to vomit after every meal for several weeks. This was inconvenient for Daniel since he started Airborne School the day he graduated from Ranger School. For the next three weeks, while Daniel was taught how to become and Army parachutist as he struggled with his eating disorder. He and another new Ranger School graduate would gorge on food and immediately vomit almost every meal. Daniel graduated from Airborne School in late September of 1987.

After almost two years of training Daniel was assigned to his first infantry unit as a Marine Officer. He traveled to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and took command of 3rd Platoon, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines in the 2nd Marine Division. Daniel stayed with this unit for the next two years. Daniel was fortunate to travel many places with 3rd Platoon. He also attended more military schools. Daniel traveled with 3rd Platoon twice to the Marine Mountain Warfare Training Center. The Mountain Warfare Training Center was located in the Sierra Nevada mountains south of Lake Tahoe, California. One trip was for winter training and the other for summer training.

Daniel jokingly remembers that winter training in the mountains was as a mindless odyssey of pain and suffering. Daniel recounts a humorous story involving a bear and a fellow infantry office during

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his winter mountain training. Daniel’s battalion, about 1,200 men strong were hiking up a mountainside through several feet of snow. They were above 7,500 feet of elevation so it was hard to breath. Each man carried at least a hundred pounds of equipment. Everybody was on snowshoes too; without them the Marines would fall through the crust of the snow and not be able to move very well. It was a difficult journey. The men were stopped to rest, which was hard in of itself because a person could not set their equipment down without it sinking in the deep snow.

A friend of Daniel’s figured out how to use his snow skies to keep his pack from sinking in the snow. Daniel’s friend was quite pleased with himself until a bear emerged from the tree line of the hill overlooking the resting Marines. This bear ran straight for Daniel’s friend, galloping through the deep snow. The bear would sink below the surface of the deep snow and emerge, each time he leaped closer to the Marines. The bear made it to Daniel’s friend and snatched his heavy back pack. The ensuing chase was one of the funniest things Daniel recalls from his time in the Marine Corps. The bear struggled to drag the heavy back pack up the hill through the deep snow. Daniel’s friend gave chase but quickly lost his snow shoes. 1,200 men laughed uproariously as man chased bear through chest deep snow. All turned out well as the bear dropped the pack and clamored back up the hill and disappeared in the trees.

Daniel’s time with 3rd Platoon also involved a deployment with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) to the Mediterranean Sea. MEU’s were forward based operational forces designed to quickly respond to overseas military contingencies. Daniel’s company was embarked aboard the USS Spartanburg County, which was a U.S. Navy amphibious ship. This was the first of many ships Daniel would serve on. The Spartanburg County was a Newport Class Tank Landing Ship built in 1970\(^{14}\). Being at sea and travelling to foreign lands was quite the adventure for a poor kid from Kansas. Daniel enjoyed visiting many countries for training and sightseeing. On this trip Daniel visited Puerto Rico, Spain, Italy, France, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, the Italian Island of Sardinia, the French Island of

Corsica, and the Spanish island of Majorca. Daniel recalls his more memorable stops were trips to the pyramids in Cairo, the Wailing Wall in Old Jerusalem and the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul.

When Daniel’s unit arrived back in Camp LeJeune he applied for a position with 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division (2nd RECON). 2nd RECON was a highly selective unit. Daniel had to pass intensive physical fitness tests including challenging swimming tests. One swimming test Daniel did not enjoy was having his hands and feet tied up and thrown into the deep end of a swimming pool for an hour. Daniel could not float because he was because he had a very low body fat ratio. He recalls sinking like a rock. He spent the next hour bobbing off the bottom of the pool, catching his breath every time he surfaced.

Daniel was assigned for the next year to 2nd RECON as a platoon commander. He received specialized training in shooting and using helicopters for specialized transportation to and from pick up areas. One technique involved rappelling or sliding down thick ropes suspended from hovering helicopters. Another technique was to attach several people to a large rope hanging from underneath the helicopter. This allowed men to be picked up or dropped off in areas, like forests, where helicopters could not land. Daniel’s friends referred to this technique as trolling for powerlines. The helicopters would fly fast and low with four or five Marines attached to a 120-foot-long rope. The fear for those on the ropes was that the pilots would fly them into something while zooming along the tree tops.

At 2nd RECON he endured almost three more months of cold weather training. First, he traveled to Fort McCoy, Wisconsin for a month followed up by a nearly a two month long stay back in the mountains of the Mountain Warfare Training Center in the Serra Nevada Mountains. Daniel recalls staying outside in the mountains for about three weeks in sub-freezing conditions.

Daniel’s remembers the perks of being a reconnaissance Marine as getting more pay because he was on Jump status as a military parachutist. He got to parachute at night and into the snow. He also

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fondly recalls the different types of aircraft he parachuted from. He liked the helicopter jumps but his
favorite parachute jumps were from a small observation airplane. The OV-10 Bronco had a unique way
of deploying skydivers\(^\text{16}\). There was no place for passengers in the airplane. Parachutists were crammed
into a cargo space behind the pilots. The last jumper to load the aircraft had to ride with their legs
dangling from the back of the plane. The Bronco would fly just above the tree tops and then zoom up
straight into the air. Right before the plane stalled and nose over, the jumpers were supposed to scoot out
of the back. It was a complicated maneuver for both the pilot and jumpers. The Bronco was also
infamous for putting jumpers in the trees in Camp LeJeune. Daniel’s first jump from a Bronco landed
him in a stand of tall pine trees.

After a year at 2\(^\text{nd}\) RECON Daniel was assigned to the 3\(^\text{rd}\) Reconnaissance, 3\(^\text{rd}\) Marine Division,
based in Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Japan. On his way to Japan he was ordered to attend U.S. navy
SCUBA Divers School on Ford Island, Oahu, Hawaii. Daniel recalls the course being about two months
long with lots of math and some rather sadistic instructors who were very proficient torturing people
underwater. The instructors severely fractured the finger of one of Daniel’s SCUBA classmates. When
Daniel’s class graduated they presented a plaque with a fake finger glued to it to the SCUBA instructors.

Daniel was assigned to 3 RECON on Okinawa, Japan for two years. This was the same type of
organization as 2\(^\text{nd}\) RECON only it was based out of Japan. He spent much of his time off the island
serving aboard ship or in Thailand or the Philippines. His favorite place to work off island was the
Philippines because he received more pay and the job was more interesting. He received more pay in the
Philippines because he was in a jump and dive billet, meaning he was given extra pay for parachuting and
SCUBA diving duties. He also received imminent danger pay because there was an active insurgent
threat in the Philippines. The New People’s Army (NPA) was active in the area where Daniel was
stationed\(^\text{17}\).

\(^{16}\) Wikipedia. “North American Rockwell OV-10 Bronco.” Accessed March 17, 2018
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_Rockwell_OV-10_Bronco

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_People%27s_Army
The NPA killed an American colonel a few years before Daniel arrived in the Philippines. However, Daniel and his Marines only encountered hostile actions twice. They found a booby-trap on a trail and once some of his Marines were shot at. Most of his time in the Philippines was spent patrolling the jungles looking for intruders around Subic Bay Naval Station. Daniel and his men would spend a week or two living deep in the jungle looking for NPA or economic intruders. Both used the dense jungles as avenues to try and sneak onto the base and steal things. Daniel and his Marines would occasionally be sent farther away to guard aircraft that were forced down due to mechanical failures.

Daniel’s favorite memories of the jungle was of watching the fruit bats fly off to feed at sunset and return from feeding at dawn to roost in the jungle for the day. It was an impressive sight for a poor kid from Kansas to witness. Tens of thousands of giant bats, with five-foot wingspans would fill the sky. Daniel’s Marines referred to the bats as flying foxes. Daniel recalls that the bats did indeed look like foxes. They were covered in reddish fur and flew relatively slow so it was easy to watch them. Daniel’s Marines would come across the bats roosting, hanging upside down, by the thousands while patrolling the jungles. Daniel also recalls several run-ins with troops of monkeys while on patrol in the jungle. Large male monkeys were easily provoked. Staring directly into the eyes of the dominant male monkey caused it to lead an attack of all the male monkeys in the troop. They would scream and throw branches, and sometimes their feces at the Marines. Daniel recalls his Marines jokingly saying that nothing brightens your day like getting hit with monkey shit.

Daniel got to experience his first water parachute jump in the Philippines. A water-jump is purposely done over water. All of Daniel’s water-jumps in the Philippines were done from his favorite aircraft, the OV-10 Bronco. Daniel’s men also conducted lots of long range swimming training. He recalls one five-thousand-meter swim they conducted at night in Subic Bay. The swim took several hours since he and his Marines were towing all of their equipment while swimming. Even though they had swim fins on it was still hard work. Daniel recalls that throughout the swim sea creatures kept bumping

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into them. It was dark and whatever was hitting them felt pretty large. Their swimming objective was a small island in the middle of Subic Bay. This island had a single pier with a light extending over the water. When they reached their destination Daniel and his Marines were stunned to see the water was teaming with hammerhead sharks. They had swum through a large school of sharks. Schooling hammerhead sharks was a seasonal phenomenon that Daniel was unaware of.

Much of 3rd RECON deployed to Saudi Arabia to support Operation and Desert Storm in January of 1991. Daniel and his men were left behind to continue providing security in the jungles around Subic Bay. There were less men to do the job so Daniel found himself on longer patrols hiking through the jungles around the base. When they were not patrolling, Daniel’s unit was on a standby alert status and confined to their little camp in Cubi Point high above Subic Bay. During this time Daniel experienced his first earthquake in the Philippines. A nearby volcano was acting up and causing frequent, noticeable earthquakes. One day Daniel noticed what he thought, was a huge thunderhead cloud rising up into the sky. It was the beginning of monsoon season so it was not unusual for it to rain for days or weeks at a time. Large rain clouds could develop quickly. As he watched the cloud rise he realized that it was not a rain cloud, he was watching the volcano Mount Pinatubo explode\(^{19}\).

Daniel left the day the volcano erupted for a three-week training mission in Thailand. When Daniel returned to the Philippines he was shocked at the devastation. Several feet of volcanic ash covered everything. There were no green plants anywhere in sight. Everything was grey. All of the vegetation had been stripped by the falling ash. Houses were destroyed. Cars did not work. Daniel’s Marines who stayed behind said a monsoon rainstorm started the night the volcano erupted. It was dark with no sunshine for days. The rain mixed with the airborne ash and created lava rock hail stones. It literally rained rocks for several days. The Filipinos in the area were very superstitious. Daniel’s Marines told him that somebody started a rumor that Aswangs, which is a mythical Philippine demon, were killing and eating people. His Marines told Daniel that during the entire rock-storm the locals were panicked,

running around and trying to find protection from the demons. The United States was in the middle of negotiating a new basing agreement with the Philippines when Mount Pinatubo erupted. The volcano destroyed virtually all of the military infrastructure so no agreement was made. 3rd RECON left the Philippines. Daniel's last view of the Philippines was of a devastated Subic Bay.

In 1992 Daniel was reassigned to command H Company, Marine Combat Training Battalion, School Of Infantry, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton California. Daniel was in charge of groups of 500 new Marines, leading them through several weeks of infantry training. After leading H Company Daniel was reassigned to command the Advanced Infantry Training Company (AIT). This school provided infantry and leadership training for experienced enlisted Marines. Daniel spent most of his time outdoors while assigned to the School Of Infantry. He spent many nights sleeping on the ground in the low coastal foothills of Southern California. He recalls the worst time to sleep on the ground was during the late summer and early fall. It was this time that the tarantulas would emerge by the hundreds looking for a mate. It was not unusual to turn on a flash light and see the ground covered in large spiders.

In 1994 Daniel was selected to attend the U.S. Army Advanced Infantry Course. This course was intended for career infantry captains to prepare them for senior leadership roles in infantry battalions. Just before Daniel departed for his new assignment he experienced his second major earthquake. The Northridge earthquake woke Daniel early in the morning\textsuperscript{20}. Even though the epicenter was dozens of miles away Daniel clearly felt it in his San Clemente home. Unlike the earthquakes he had experienced in the Philippines, Daniel recalls this earthquake lasting a very long time and shaking his house violently. Daniel reported back to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he previously served while attending the Ranger and Airborne schools. He spent the next year studying leadership and infantry tactics with the Army. Upon graduation, Daniel was assigned to command Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division in Camp Pendleton California.

Daniel enjoyed his time commanding Charlie Company. He commanded almost 300 Marines and Sailors in his rifle company. His company was assigned to help the United States Border Patrol interdict drug traffickers along the California and Mexican border. For a few months Daniel and his Marines manned observation points along the border to watch for and report people illegally crossing the border from Mexico into the United States. Daniel recalls how shocked he was at the sheer number of people moving across the border almost daily. He and his Marines had no detention authority. They had to report each border incursion to the Border Patrol, who, in turn would attempt to apprehend the people crossing the border. Some border crossings were clearly illegal drug-related activities. Others were either human smuggling or people simply trying to enter the United States illegally. The Border patrol had very few officers to man a huge geographical area. Most reports Daniel’s Marines made of people crossing the border went unchallenged because the Border Patrol did not have enough men to respond to the number of incidents. Daniel recalls one crossing event involving hundreds of people who walked across the border. People apparently carrying drugs, burdened with huge containers strapped to their backs, were met by vehicles and driven off deeper into California. But most of the people trudged on foot into the mountainous desert on their way north into the United States.

After a little over a year Daniel was reassigned within his infantry battalion. He was the senior company commander and had to fill the vacancy in the battalion staff when the incumbent operations officer moved on. He recalls being upset when he was ordered to become the Operations Officer of the battalion. Company command was a much more satisfying job than operations officer. As the operations officer, Daniel coordinated the activities of the battalion. His first major task as operations officer was to provide security for an exercise in the Persian Gulf country of Qatar. Daniel spent many months working with Qatari military counterparts to provide security for a large military exercise in the small country. Daniel recalls how oppressively hot it was in Qatar, especially at night. Qatar is on a peninsula, although it is very arid and dry, there is high humidity at night. Daniel remembers it being well over one hundred degrees Fahrenheit at night, but so humid that he had to use the windshield wipers on his rental
car while driving around. Daniel’s battalion also spent several weeks training in the desert near Palm Springs, California at the large Marine Corps training base called Twenty-Nine Palms.

Daniel’s battalion deployed to Okinawa, Japan and became part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. He remembers his job as an operations officer was much less enjoyable as he had oversight and direction of over 1200 Marines and Sailors. He spent most of his time coordinating and did not participate in the same activities he had so enjoyed as a younger Marine. He was able to participate in one activity when his unit was tasked to conduct an exchange visit with the Chinese. Daniel was the senior Marine for an exchange with the Peoples Liberation Army Navy in Tsingtao, China. He thoroughly enjoyed his visit to China.

Daniel had little free time but he made good use of it when he was not working. Since he was familiar with Okinawa he knew some very good places to SCUBA dive. His favorite SCUBA dives were at night. There was a small cove that filled with large schools of feeding squids at night. The squid communicated using bioluminescence. Daniel and his SCUBA diving buddies would swim among the squid at night and marvel at the broad range of colors the squids produced. He found that if you were able to agitated the squids they would pulse bright red flashes all over their bodies. He described the brightly colored squids zooming around as resembling spaceships fighting, like in a science fiction movie space battle.

Daniel’s battalion returned to California in time for Christmas in 1997. Shortly after his return Daniel was ordered to Kuwait to be the Force Protection Officer for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force for Operation Desert Thunder. This operation was in response to Iraq’s continued threat to reinvade Kuwait. Daniel spent months driving around the Kuwaiti deserts preparing for a war that did not start. Much of his time was spent training the Emir of Kuwait’s security forces. When not working, Daniel found activities to pass the time. As with other places he visited, Daniel recalls pursuing his love of nature and the outdoors. He describes catching hedgehogs that came out at night to feed. He also remembers chasing huge iguanas that lived among the rocks. In the summer of 1998 Daniel was selected to attend the Command and Staff College (CSC) at the Marine Corps University in Quantico, Virginia.
Daniel graduated from CSC in 1999 and received orders to serve at United States Central Command (CENTCOM) based out of MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. Daniel spent most of his time at CENTCOM visiting countries in the Middle East and Southwest Asia coordinating support for military activities. Daniel traveled to Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait working in support of CENTCOM exercises and operations. He spent several months living in Egypt and Kazakhstan. He also worked in Kyrgyzstan. He recalls travelling often and rarely being at home. While at CENTCOM Daniel was exposed to heads of state and high ranking military leaders. Daniel recalls it was not unusual to be in the same room with presidents and commanders of various countries and their armed forces. When he was home he was always at work planning for the next trip. On 11 September, 2001 Daniel was at CENTCOM making preparations for Hurricane Gabrielle, which was heading straight for Tampa. That same day the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon occurred.

Work was very hectic for Daniel while CENTCOM developed plans to respond to the attacks. Daniel was ordered to Afghanistan but did not deploy due to a change of plans. He spent his last months at CENTCOM living in a garage because he had put all his belongings in storage in preparation for the deployment. That summer Daniel was given orders to teach at the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College (CGSC) in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Daniel moved to Kansas to work at CGSC for the Army. He liked the assignment for two main reasons, one he was a Marine so had more freedom to avoid the additional duties of his Army officer counterparts, and two, he was able to live in his hometown of Lawrence, Kansas. The only drawback he recalls was the long commute between Lawrence and Fort Leavenworth. Daniel was also able to complete a graduate degree in Military History. He earned his Masters of Military Arts and Science in

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2004. Shortly after earning his Masters degree he received orders to the 1st Marine Division based in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Daniel arrived in Iraq in the late spring of 2004. He linked up with his unit in Camp Fallujah in central Iraq. He was assigned as the assessment officer for the 1st Marine Division staff. Daniel spent most of his time embedded in small units throughout central Iraq. Iraq was a very dangerous place. Daniel recalls that almost every day someone tried to kill him or the Marines he was with. He recounts that most of the attempts were haphazard and ineffective but some were precise and very deadly. The casualty rate was fairly high for the area he was assigned to.

The Marines were situated in large bases and smaller camps. Anytime someone left a defended position they were highly likely to be attacked with improvised explosives or direct fire from guns and rocket propelled grenades. The enemy also shot mortars and rockets at the Marine positions on an almost daily basis. When Daniel was in Iraq there was a fairly consistent background noise of stray gunfire and random explosions. As night drew close it was not unusual for the defended positions to receive direct fire for a period of time. These halfhearted attacks would occur normally after evening prayers. The prayers were broadcasted from loudspeakers mounted on the Mosque minarets. Some evening prayers could be very chilling to listen to. Daniel tells how the Iraqi interpreters embedded with the Marines described what was actually being said over the loud speakers. During evening prayers Daniel listened to in Fallujah and Ramadi. Phrases like, “kill the infidels now” and “destroy the Marines as Allah wills it” were some of the messages being broadcasted from the mosques. The voices of the mullahs calling the prayers were not the lilting, pleasant sounding voices that Daniel was accustomed to from his service in other Muslim countries. He describes it as an evil sounding guttural growl. The interpreters told Daniel that they did that on purpose to torment the Marines.

Daniel was very sensitive about traveling from camp to camp because of the risk incurred by those detailed to transport him. Simply driving from one place to another was dangerous. He insisted on not allowing a special trip just for him. Instead, he volunteered to participate in whatever mission would get him closest to the unit he was observing. Daniel provided an extra rifle and set of eyes for small unit
leaders for several patrols, ambushes and raids. But Daniel recalls feeling guilty for imposing on young Marines who were leading their fellow Marines in combat. A sergeant did not need the added burden of a lieutenant colonel tagging along while he was trying to kill an enemy and prevent his Marines from being harmed in the process. Daniel recounts how on one such patrol the vehicle in front of the one Daniel was riding in struck a mine, wounding three Marines. Daniel and the Marines he was riding with quickly exited their vehicle because it was in the kill zone of the ambush the Marines had driven into. Daniel recalls some hesitation on the part of the young Marine leader. He was waiting for guidance from Daniel instead of leading his Marines. The Fortunately, no one else was hurt in the ambush. But from that point on Daniel tried his best to observe larger commands where they were more accustomed having senior officers around.

Daniel’s starkest memories of the Iraqi combat zone in 2004 were the effects of the fighting on civilians. He recalls how tragic it was losing a fellow Marine, but it was not unexpected. In Daniel’s mind that was the part of the job a Marine accepted when he took up arms. What he was not prepared for was seeing civilians hurt or killed, especially children. He recalls how difficult it was to contain emotions upon seeing the human misery and suffering of people caught up in a war. At the end of his tour of duty in Iraq Daniel returned to Fort Leavenworth feeling guilty because he was not actively participating in the war. Marine casualties were almost a daily occurrence, some of those killed and wounded Daniel personally knew.

The guilt Daniel felt was also mixed with the odd feeling of adjusting to a safe environment. While in Iraq, a piece of paper stuck on a barbed wire fence could be used as a trigger point for somebody to blow you up. A bag of trash alongside the road or a freshly repaired pothole on the highway could conceal enough explosives to destroy a tank. Empty city streets could mean that somebody was waiting to attack you with machineguns and rocket propelled grenades. A stray sound in the distance sounded just like a mortar being launched at you. Daniel recounts that in Iraq, everybody he travelled with outside a defended position maintained a constant intensity that is hard to describe. It was an extreme alertness that only succumbed to exhaustion. That hyper-alert feeling became a programmed response to leaving the
relative safety of a defended position. It was hard to just turn it off. The day he left Iraq for Kuwait, Daniel recalls several rockets exploding close enough to him that he felt the pressure wave of the explosives. Less than 48 hours later he was driving a rental car in Southern California. Daniel did not travel with a unit. He flew a commercial airplane from Kuwait International Airport back to California on his way to Kansas. He travelled home alone. Back at home where it was safe took a bit of time for Daniel to adjust to.

Daniel felt even more guilty for feeling odd when he returned home as his combat experiences were fairly limited and not nearly as intense as many others. Even though Daniel spent most of his time out among the Marines facing the enemy, he had been more of an observer than a dedicated participant. All his previous deployments he had been part of a unit with a vital role to play. This deployment he was an individual addition that, he recounts, added little to the capabilities of the units he observed. With little potential for jobs for him to deploy and support the combat operations, Daniel decided to retire from the Marines.

His last years on active duty were spent teaching at CGSC in Fort Leavenworth for the Army. Daniel did have one more opportunity to go overseas before he retired. He supported an exercise in the Republic Of Korea. During his work in South Korea he stayed in a hotel in Daegu. The hotel was huge and Daniel’s room was on a lower floor. Daniel was working at night so he slept during the day. Daniel recalls how earthquakes seem to know when he is around. He recounts that his Daegu hotel rocked enough to cause him to panic when the 2005 earthquake struck Miyagi, Japan23. Daniel frantically tried to put on some pants before running wildly in the hotel corridors searching for an exit. By the time he found an exit the earthquake had passed.

Daniel retired from the Marines in 2006. He took a job as a civilian assistant professor teaching at CGSC for the Army. Daniel’s last comment for this generation’s history is how earthquakes seem to follow him around. One day in September of 2016, Daniel was sitting at his dining room table in rural

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23 Wikipedia. "Miyagi Earthquake." Accessed February 9, 2018
Douglas County, Kansas. His house began to shake. He at first thought it was a low flying military helicopter as they sometimes flew over his house. However, he quickly realized that he was feeling the tremors of the earth beneath him. An earthquake struck Stillwater, Oklahoma and Daniel felt it all the way from Kansas\textsuperscript{24}.

Daniel’s father, Henry Rufus Hodges was born on 11 December 1935 in rural Howell County, Missouri to Glessner Hodges (1917- ) and Rufus Hodges (1909-1979).

Life started hard for Henry in 1935. He was born during a snowstorm in winter. Inside an old rock house, in the countryside just south of West Plains, Missouri his young mother struggled to keep him alive. He came into the world as a “blue-baby,” his tiny body starved from lack of oxygen. He was delivered at home by his mother. She gave birth to him without a doctor available to help. Desperate to save her son, she wrapped the newborn infant Henry in towels and put him in the wood-fired oven to warm him up, hoping he would start breathing on his own. Fortunately for Henry, his mother’s desperate actions saved him. Babies dying at birth was not that uncommon. The infant mortality rate for rural Missouri in 1935 was 3.6 stillbirths out of every 100 live births. Henry’s 18-year old mother was in a slightly higher statistical category where 3.8 out of every 100 births were stillbirths. That slightly higher category tragically played out the following year when Henry’s mother lost his baby brother to stillbirth.

When Henry was very young his family moved to some property south of the small township of Lanton, Missouri. The property bordered the Missouri-Arkansas state line. This property included an old two-story farm house on several acres of land about a mile off the nearest improved road. The farm house had a fire place and woodstove for heating. A hand dug well was the main supply of water for the house.

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There was a cistern underneath the house with a hand pump attached to deliver water to the kitchen. Henry’s mother kept a bucket of water next to the hand pump to prime it before use. The pipe serving the pump would lose pressure. Water was poured into the pump so it could draw more water from the cistern when the pump handle was moved up and down. Their toilet was an outhouse a short walk away from the home. They used old magazine pages for toilet paper27.

Fischer and Hout discuss trends of what the average American family owned in the twentieth century. In 1900 few Americans had indoor toilets, automobiles and telephones. By the year 2000 nearly every American home had all three. In Figure 6.6 “Households with Key Domestic Goods, by Year,” Fischer and Hout depict the percentage of U.S. households who had indoor toilets, telephones, automobiles, and owned their own home. Their sample covers a time period from 1900 to the year 2000. Their graph shows that roughly half of all U.S. households did not have an indoor toilet in 1935. By 1975 most American homes had indoor toilets28. Henry’s small rural Missouri family house fell into the ‘no indoor toilet’ toilet category 1935. When Henry returned to visit his childhood home in the late 1970s he still had to use the outhouse to go to the bathroom.

Henry’s family was very poor and never escaped poverty. The region where he lived was impacted by the Great Depression. West Plains, Missouri was the largest city near Henry’s home. The first bank to fail in West Plains was the Farmers Savings Bank in West Plains circa 1926, and the lack of the present-day Federal Deposit Insurance Company meant that some people initially lost whatever wealth was deposited29. The region did not begin to recover from the Great Depression until near the end of WWII.


28 Claude S. Fisher and Michael Hout, Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 156.

Henry’s father worked as a laborer on area farms. His dad also tried farming their land too but, the soil was poor and the farming did not provide much food. Life became more difficult for Henry’s family when his father was drafted for WWII in 1943. Henry had to help his mother as much as he could. He attended grade school in small the township of Lanton. He walked the two-mile one-way trip to and from school every day. With his father away, he was allowed to carry a rifle on his walk to school. The rifle allowed him to hunt for game as he cut through the woods on his way to and from school. He also used the gun to protect himself from the feral pigs that lived in the woods. Henry would shoot whatever his mom could cook. Henry recalls they often only had squirrels to eat for supper. He also remembers sometimes wasting ammunition to shoot tarantulas walking across the roads.  

Henry finished grade school in Lanton graduating the 8th Grade in a class of three students. He went on to high school at West Plains High School in the City of West Plains. He would walk to Lanton to catch the bus to school in West Plains. He was the only person in his family to go to high school, but he dropped out his junior year to find work to support the family. He found odd jobs cutting wood or doing labor for whoever would hire him. He also tried farming. Henry remembers using a horse drawn hay-rake trying to put up hay. The rake had a heavy trip-lever that took all his weight to disengage it and release the hay. He also took care of what little livestock his family owned. He took care of horses too. His father was very fond of horses and always had several on their farm.  

Henry was not making any money and decided to join the Army but his father would not let him. Early in the year 1954 he left his home and travelled to Lawrence, Kansas in search of better work. He thought he had a job lined up at the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant near DeSoto, Kansas. His father had a job at the ammunition plant and a small apartment in Lawrence so Henry rode with a friend in a 1948 Pontiac to Lawrence. When he arrived in Lawrence he discovered that ammunition plant was scaling back work. There were no jobs available. He found a job with the City Of Lawrence and worked

for a while doing odd jobs for the city. In 1955 he was on his was to get a can of gas from the gas station when he saw a man working by himself, stacking steel forms at a construction site. Henry asked if the man needed help. That day Henry was hired by Walker Brothers Construction to help build a grain elevator along the railroad tracks in North Lawrence. While he worked building the grain elevator, he attended a few classes at Lawrence High School at night in an attempt to graduate high school.\(^{33}\)

When the elevator was finished he found a good job at a local gas station. However, he had to leave his job because he found out the Draft Registration Board was searching for him. He had been called up for service in the military but the notice was sent to his family’s house in Missouri. Mail was not delivered to his farm house in the country. His mother had to travel to the Lanton to pick up the mail. His family home did not have a telephone. Henry did not have a telephone in Lawrence either. It had been months since the notice was sent out before he received the letter. He quit his job and travelled to Saint Louis to be inducted into the service. When he arrived at the processing center he was informed that his service was no longer needed. He travelled back to Lawrence to look for another job. The night he arrived back in town he passed a tire repair shop that was still open even though it was late at night. He stepped inside and asked the lone man working if he needed help and soon found himself working to repair tires. Henry recalls that it was winter, he was in street clothes with no coat, yet he worked outside for several hours that night.\(^{34}\)

In 1956 Henry was still working at the tire repair store. He joined a local softball league. He enjoyed playing softball, especially when the games were played at the Lawrence’s semi-professional baseball team’s Municipal Stadium. Municipal Stadium, home to the Lawrence Colts, held 2,500 spectators and was a very popular venue for baseball and softball games.\(^{35}\) Henry also continued to take classes at night at Lawrence High School to try and earn his high school diploma. He met his future wife there, Nancy Morgan (1942- ). Nancy was much younger than Henry. Henry was 21 years old and


\(^{34}\) Henry Hodges, interview by Dan Hodges, at Clinton, KS, February 11, 2018.

Nancy was 15. They formed a relationship despite the age difference. A year later on 23 December 1957 they were married. Nancy was two months pregnant. He and Nancy moved into an apartment on 1101 Kentucky Street in Lawrence, Kansas. Henry was again called up by the military draft board, but he received a deferment because his wife was pregnant. Henry’s first son Stephen Henry Hodges (1958 - ) was born on 17 July 1958. He worked hard to provide for his new family.

Henry found a higher paying job working at an appliance repair store. He had such an aptitude for fixing appliances that his boss sent him to a trade school in Kansas City to earn certifications in refrigeration. He returned from Kansas City with his new certifications and worked for the Maytag Appliances store for several years. His second son Daniel Clayton Hodges (1962 - ) was born 20 November 1962. With his family growing, Henry found a small home to rent in the country outside the western city limits of Lawrence, Kansas. Henry had a strong work ethic and was good at repairing appliances. Soon he was receiving offers from other appliance stores for jobs. He accepted a job at the Sears Appliance store in Lawrence, Kansas.

Henry did well at his new job. He was sent to several more trade schools and earned new certifications qualifying him to service most of the appliances Sears manufactured. Soon he was able to raise enough money to move to a bigger house. He purchased a used home in the small rural township of Clinton, Kansas. Although he was much better off economically than he was growing up, Henry still struggled to keep up with the bills. Money was always tight and he could only afford the essentials for his family. He and his wife Nancy both worked long hard hours.

When Henry was not at work he enjoyed hunting and fishing. He also spent a lot of his free time helping friends and family fix things. Henry was very good with his hands and mechanically inclined. He could make repairs on pretty much everything the basic homeowner possessed. He frequently received requests to help fix an acquaintances’ car or work out problems with their home appliances or

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plumbing or electricity. He did little for himself, he pretty much worked all the time, either for Sears or helping someone out. He retired from Sears in the year 1997.

For a time, Henry did little in his retired life, preferring to meet with friends at the coffee shop in town and chat about life. He spent most of his time at home in the country. He liked life in the country and rarely venture out, save for his meetings with old friends at the coffee shop. After a few years he began helping his oldest son build houses. His son Stephen owned his own home-building business and often called on Henry for help. Henry eventually went to work fulltime with his son to help manage subcontractors working on the houses his son built.

After several years he stopped helping his son and again settled into retirement. His new passion was watching his grand children play sports. His grandchild sport-spectating began with little league baseball and soccer and encompassed most of his evening and weekend free time. His favorite events to watch were his youngest granddaughter’s soccer matches. He and his wife would drive for hours to watch his granddaughter play as she competed in competitive soccer leagues.

When his grandchildren became adults Henry’s activities diminished. He had little need or desire to leave his property in Clinton. He rarely visited the coffee shop as his friends were either too infirm to visit or they had passed away. His occasional long trips were spent in West Plains, Missouri where he went to visit his mother and siblings. As his health began to decline, he stayed mainly at his home, but Henry kept a routine of taking his dog for a ride in his truck several times a day.

In his book, *Made in American A Social History of American Culture and Character*, Claude S. Fischer discusses themes of the changing culture and character of Americans. One theme he labels “Public spaces.” Fischer’s Public Spaces theme states that American culture started out as small groups, living private lives. As the population expanded people were drawn to cities and shared a very public life, then after a time moved back to their small groups and private lives. Henry grew up isolated in the middle of nowhere. He moved to a city, lived and worked there and participated in the public activities

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that Lawrence, Kansas had to offer. After a time, he went back to a private life in the country. Henry was never comfortable around lots of people. This story connects to Fischer’s theme of public spaces.

Daniel’s mother, Nancy Morgan Hodges (1942- ) entered the world on 2 January 1942, born to Julian D. Morgan (1912-1952) and Erma Morgan (1912-2016). She was born at 05:32 AM in Burnham City Hospital, Champaign, Illinois. Nancy’s family lived in on South Lynn Street, Champaign, Illinois. Champaign was 135 miles south of Chicago. The city had over 23,000 residents when Nancy was born. It was a college town that shared the University of Illinois at Urban Champaign campus with its sister city of Urbana, Illinois.

Nancy came into the world in troubled times. Less than a month before she was born the Japanese bombed Peral Harbor, Hawaii. Her father was away with the Army and destined for service in WWII. She did not get to meet her father for several years until after he returned from the war. Nancy remembers starting school a year early as a kindergartener. Her classmates were all older than her. She recalls that the school was just down the street from her house and they were able to walk to classes. Her grandparents, on her mother’s side of the family also lived close by. When her father returned from the war he moved Nancy’s family to Lawrence, Kansas.

She remembers arriving in Lawrence sometime in 1946 or 1947. Her father got a job at the University of Kansas teaching economics. He was an associate professor. She remembers her father saying that he was not willing to kiss enough butt to make full professor. They were having a house constructed just south of the university campus. While the house was being built, Nancy’s family lived


on Vermont Street. She went to Cordley Elementary school. Like her old home in Champaign, her new school was just a few blocks down the street and they were able to walk to classes.

She recalls that since she was young, the school required her to take several tests before they placed her. She remembers looking at lots of red and yellow blotches of color. She kept responding that everything looks like fire. Despite being the youngest she was always the tallest girl in her class in grade school. Nancy vividly remembers a boy in 5th Grade who tried to cheat off her paper during a class. The boy tried to snatch her paper to write down the answers. Nancy grabbed the paper back, the teacher intervened, thinking Nancy was cheating off the boy. The teacher punished Nancy and tried to make her admit to cheating. Nancy said she stood all day in the hallway but refused admit to something that she was not guilty of.

Nancy has fond memories of the milk delivery service. The milk man would arrive several times a week in a horse-drawn cart. She recalls how neat it was to come out and pet the deliveryman’s horse while he dropped off milk and other dairy products to her family. In 1950 her family moved into her new house. It was a large house with whole home attic fan that made it one of the few homes to have an early form of central air conditioning. It had four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Nancy remembers having to go around her new house and fill in nail holes as the finishing touches were being applied before they moved in. She remembers they also got a brand-new car. The house was on 1632 Indiana Street. It was built in a fairly affluent neighborhood. Her family was economically well off.

In 6th Grade Nancy’s father became very ill. Her and her siblings were sent away to live with different relatives. Nancy took a train to Northridge, California to live with her aunt on her father’s side of the family. Nancy was not happy living with her Aunt Helen R Efforts (1915- ) and Uncle Arman Efforts ( - ). They had a girl about the same age as Nancy. Nancy shared the girl’s bedroom room while she stayed with them. The school she went to in Northridge was behind the educational level of her Lawrence, Kansas school. She was given advanced assignments different from all her classmates. On 3
January 1953 she was informed her father died the day before. The day he died was her birthday. Her relatives did not want to tell her about her dad’s death on her birthday\textsuperscript{41}.

She returned to Lawrence, Kansas in June. She traveled via Trans World Airlines back to Kansas. It was her first airplane ride. She started junior high school the following year. Her junior high school was made up of three buildings. Students moved from building to building between classes. The buildings were named Old High, Manual and Central. She remembers that she could tell when the boys were let out from gym class. The ceiling would leak water into her social studies class while the boys took showers in their locker room on the floor above them.

In 1956 she started high school. Lawrence High School was just three blocks away from her house. The school was new, having been built in 1954. Sometime during her first year in school she was riding around in a car with her girlfriend. Her girlfriend’s boyfriend was driving. They stopped to help a young man whose car was broken down. The driver and the young man with the broken-down car were friends. Nancy was introduced to \textbf{Henry Hodges (1935--)}, her future husband\textsuperscript{42}.

Nancy and Henry dated and began a relationship. When Nancy became pregnant they decided to get married. Nancy recalls her mother was not very happy but there was not much she could do about it. On 23 December 1957 she married Henry. At 16 years old Nancy was four years younger than the average age of newlywed women in America in 1958. In the U.S. Census Bureau’s, Annual Social and Economic Supplement: 2003, Table MS-2, Estimated Median Age at First Marriage, by Sex: 1890 to Present, shows the age of men and women when they first marry in the United States\textsuperscript{43}. Since the 1890s the average age of women on their first marriage has been at least 20 years old. Nancy’s young age of 16 placed her well outside the range of what was socially acceptable for marriage at the time. She must have been isolated from her friends.

\textsuperscript{41} Nancy Hodges, interview by Dan Hodges, at Clinton, KS, March 23, 2018.
\textsuperscript{42} Nancy Hodges, interview by Dan Hodges, at Clinton, KS, March 23, 2018.
Nancy and Henry moved into an apartment at 1101 Kentucky Street after they were married. This was certainly a stressful time for Nancy. Her family was not happy with her and she had to adjust to the physical changes of her pregnancy. To compound matters she was banned from attending high school as her pregnancy started to show. She missed most of her second semester her junior year of high school. Roughly 13% of new mothers in the United States were between the ages of 15 to 19 in 1958.

Although not too uncommon, it was certainly frowned upon by society to give birth to your first child while still enrolled in high school. Although her father had died, Nancy’s family was still part of an effluent neighborhood and it is highly likely that her family was the subject of much gossip.

**Stephen Henry Hodges (1958 - )** was born on 17 July 1958. Nancy went back to high school the following year. She was not able to graduate with her peers, having to take make-up courses in the summer of 1959. She eventually attained the necessary credits and was awarded her diploma. In 1960 she attained a job working for Hallmark Cards in Lawrence, Kansas. She worked the night shift while her husband worked during the day. Henry moved them into an old house on the western edge of town. She recalls during the winter of 1960 that there was really bad snowstorm. The snow was so deep that they had to park their car a mile away from their house along side the main road. They spent all day shoveling a path along the gravel road. She remembers towing her young son Stephen in a plastic washtub along the high snow drifts.

Their house had a stove and a fuel oil heater. The snow was so deep that the fuel truck could not deliver fuel, so they spent several days without heat in their home. That year Henry had a gas line installed so that they would be able to heat their home if a big snowstorm hit again. On 20 November 1962 she gave birth to her second son **Daniel Clayton Hodges (1962 - )**. She struggled to care for her young children while working nights to help her husband pay the bills. When Henry found a better job,

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they were able to move into a bigger house. The house was in much better condition than their old house. But it was farther out in the country. It was located in Clinton Township about six miles southwest of Lawrence, Kansas.

Nancy was very stressed working nights for so many years. She asked her company to move her to days but they said there were no openings and had to keep working nights or she would lose her job. Nancy told them she would quit if they did not give her a day job. She was a hard worker so her supervisors moved her to a day shift. By this time, her youngest was in grade school. This allowed her to be able to watch her boys participate in school activities. Nancy and Henry both worked very hard to make ends meet. They had few adult friends, very little money and not much free time for relaxation or socialization. She spent most of her time working and caring for her children.

Nancy became active in the church. She joined the First Presbyterian Church and volunteered to teach Sunday school. She would eventually spend over 50 years teaching the same Sunday School class. Nancy was artistic and took up several hobbies. She enjoyed making elaborate decorative cakes. Nancy was also a very good cook. For several years she studied ethnic Chinese food. She became expert at cooking multiple-course Chinese meals. One hobby she was particularly skilled in was carving. She enjoyed carving native fish and birds. Her carvings were so well done that they sold quickly at the few craft expositions that she attended.

Nancy’s mother’s health began to fail in the year 2010. With poor eyesight and limited mobility, her mother was essentially homebound. The family made the decision to support their mother at home rather than place her in an assisted care facility. Nancy and her brother cared for their mother for the next four years. This was very stressful for Nancy as it took most of her free time caring for her mother. Her mother needed assistance day and night. As her mom’s health failed the family sought help from an in-home hospice provider. When her mother finally passed, it came with the sad irony as being on the same date of her father’s death. Nancy’s birthday of January 2nd is now forever associated with the death of her parents who both died on January 2nd.
Nancy was a prolific community service provider. She volunteered much of her free time to help out the elderly. She spent many hours at Rest Homes and delivering food for Meals on Wheels to help feed ageing residents of Lawrence. She stayed very active gardening and socializing with her friends too. She also started playing Pickle Ball and is known around the local pickleball circles as being very good and super competitive. At the time of this writing Nancy still lives in Clinton, Kansas where she cares for her aging husband.\footnote{Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.}
Daniel’s paternal grandfather, Rufus Hodges (1909-1979), was born in Koshkonong, Oregon County, Missouri, on 3 May in 1909, to Maggie Hodges (1881-1964) and John Franklin Hodges (1879-1944). Rufus was the second youngest of the couple’s children. Two years after he was born his parents had another boy, bringing the total number of siblings to six. He had three sisters and two brothers. His family lived in Thayer, Missouri, six miles south east of town he was born in. Thayer was considered a railroad town. It was laid out in 1882 to be a division point, which is a main regional rail hub. Nearly a quarter of the over 1,600 people who lived in Thayer at the time worked for the railroad.\footnote{Wikipedia. "Thayer, Missouri." Accessed April 1, 2018. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thayer,_Missouri}

As a boy, Rufus stayed in school until he completed the 7\textsuperscript{th} Grade. His family moved to Koshkonong. In his early teenage years, the area Rufus lived in was fairly prosperous. His family could find plenty of work in the local agriculture industry. Apple, peach and cantaloupe harvests were particularly bountiful as reported by a regional newspaper the Monett Times\footnote{The Monett times. (Monett, Mo.), 16 July 1909. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress.}. But the bountiful harvests of Rufus’
youth would not last. As he reached his late teens and early twenties the Great Depression severely impacted the economy in Southern Missouri.

In 1930 Rufus was 20 years old, he and his younger brother were still living with his parents in Koshkonong49. Despite the poor economy Rufus still found time for love. He met Glessner Lamons (1917- ). After some courtship Rufus convinced Glessner to marry him. She became Mrs. Glessner Hodges. They were married in Howell County Courthouse on 29 December 193250.

In 1940 Rufus had four children but only three were living. Sadly, his second child was stillborn. He had his family living on a farm in rural Oregon County, Missouri. Times were very hard making it difficult for Rufus to provide for his family. He had been out of work for over a year. Fortunately, he managed to get a job working for the Work Progress Administration (WPA), which provided just enough for his family to get by on51.


The WPA was a program designed to provide employment for the millions of Americans left jobless by the Great Depression. The WPA provided jobs for unskilled workers who helped build and maintain government and local infrastructure. The WPA worked on parks, roads, bridges, dams and buildings all over the United States. In Rufus’ area the major works completed were the construction of a National Guard armory in Doniphan, Missouri and the construction of the Oregon County Courthouse in Alton, Missouri. Rufus probably helped complete these projects.

In late 1943 Rufus was called up by the Draft to fight in World War II. He reported to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri for his induction into the Army. Before he was shipped overseas he had to return home to attend the funeral of his father. During the war Rufus served in Italy in 1944. Rufus did not talk much about his time in the Army, although he did mention to his family that he became very ill while he was stationed overseas. He was discharged from the Army in 1945.


After he returned home he moved his family to a small farmhouse just south of the township of Lanton, Missouri. His property bordered the Arkansas and Missouri state lines. At home he raised hogs and cattle and grew what he could on his land. He also raised horses. Rufus was very fond of horses and spent many hours working with them on his farm.

Job prospects were not very good after he returned home. The WPA no longer offered jobs. His farm and the odd jobs Rufus could find were not enough to support his family. Rufus looked for work elsewhere. In the early 1950’s he found a job out of state working at the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant near DeSoto, Kansas. He rented a small apartment in the nearby town of Lawrence, Kansas. Rufus spent most of his time working at the ammunition plant, returning home periodically to visit his family and use his paycheck to settle the family bills.

Rufus eventually returned home and retired on his farm. Since the Great Depression he had lived primarily in poverty. He spent his remaining years living with his wife. Several of his children lived nearby and would bring Rufus’ grandchildren to visit. As he grew older and more infirm one of Rufus’ favorite pastimes was to watch professional wrestling on the television. He loved to wrestle his grandchildren and place them in the infamous “toe hold” until they submitted to his “superior” wrestling skills.

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56 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
On 13 July 1979 Rufus passed away. His family held a memorial for him in a funeral home in West Plains, Missouri. He was buried in the Union Hill Cemetery in Brandsville, Missouri. His headstone reads, “Rufus Henry Hodges, PVT US ARMY WWII.”

Daniel’s paternal grandmother, Glessner Hodges (1917– ), was born on 4 August 1917 in Howell County, Missouri, in the southcentral part of the state, to Antone Jack Lamons (1887-1957) and Goldie Lamons (1893-1977). Glessner was the fourth of her parents’ five children. She had an older sister, two older brothers and a younger sister. She grew up on a farm in rural South Fork, Missouri. Her family were farmers. Glessner helped her family on the farm and attended school. She completed the 7th Grade.

She met her husband when she was still a teenager. At the age of eighteen, she married Rufus Hodges (1909-1979) at the Howell County Courthouse on 29 December 1932. She and her husband moved into a small house near Lanton, Missouri and began their family. The first year of her marriage she gave birth to a daughter. Her second and

third pregnancies were both tragic and traumatic. Her first son, Daniel’s father, was stillborn but she fought to save him. With help from her mother-in-law, she managed to revive her infant “Blue Baby.” Her second son was also stillborn and died at birth. Glessner bore her husband three more sons during their marriage.

Life in Howell County, Missouri was very hard for Glessner and her family. The depression had devastated the local economy. Her and her family lived in poverty. They moved into an old farm house and several acres of property along the Missouri state border with Arkansas south of Lanton.

On their farm she struggled to put food on the table for her children. They raised pigs and cows and grew what they could, but often she found herself preparing the squirrels her children shot for dinner. In the late 1930’s her husband could not find steady work for more than a year. It was very hard for them to get by. Fortunately, the WPA started several projects in Southern Missouri. Her husband was hired and times were not so rough while he worked for the WPA. He was paid about $30 a month which greatly helped the family. In 1943 her husband was drafted and sent to Italy to fight in World War II. Even though her husband was gone, the Army income more than made up for his absence. The Army paid her family almost four times as much as what her husband was making for the WPA.

Glessner’s husband returned from the war. The lean times also returned when the Army paychecks stopped coming. Her husband again

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struggled to find a steady job. After several years doing odd jobs and farming their own land, her husband found work in Kansas. Once again, Glessner was left to look after the children and take care of the farm on her own.

Glessner’s children grew up and moved out on their own. One of her boys and her daughter stayed in the local area and kept in close contact with her. Her other children moved to the Lawrence, Kansas. They would return several times a year to visit her. Her husband left his job in Kansas and returned home to retire. Glessner spent her days taking care of her aging husband.

In 1979 her husband died from complications of a prolonged illness. Glessner did not dwell on the loss of her husband. For the first time in her life, Glessner enjoyed the freedom of only being responsible for herself. She became an avid hunter. She even made it into the local record books for bagging a large turkey. She also enjoyed dancing to bluegrass music at the local street music festivals. Salem, Arkansas was her favorite music festival to attend\(^61\).

She moved to West Plains, Missouri, which is about twenty miles north of the property she raised her family on. She enjoyed a fairly rich social life. She eventually remarried. As she aged her memory began to fail her. She became so forgetful that it was necessary to place her in a care facility. At the time of this writing Glessner is over 101 years old and still going strong\(^62\).

\(^{61}\) Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges. \\
\(^{62}\) Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
Daniel’s maternal grandfather was Julian D Morgan (1911-1952). Julian was born to Dean Morgan (1882-1965) and Adessa Mae Morgan (1881-1937) on 13 May 1911 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Julian was the fourth child born in a family of six children. He had two brothers and three sisters.

Julian spent the first part of his youth moving with his family from state to state. He was told he that he lived in Wisconsin and Minnesota before moving to Waterloo Iowa. But he does not recall anything other than living in Iowa. When he was six years old when his father’s work took them to Columbus, Kansas. Julian spent most of his youth in Columbus. While living in Columbus he attended grade school, Central Junior High School, and Columbus High School. He had several hobbies he liked; most where outdoor activities like hiking or swimming. He preferred swimming in a lake rather than in a swimming pool. Julian liked sports too. He golfed, played football and enjoyed basketball the most. He was also a Boy Scout and attended a scout camp south of Joplin, Missouri several times\(^{63}\).

Julian’s family must have been financially secure. It appears the Great Depression did not disrupt his youth as it did so for many other families. He was very active in school sports and extracurricular activities. He held the position of College President for his Columbus High school senior class. He also was a cast member

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for his senior play. He played the role of “Tom Sterrett” in the student production of “Dulcy,” a three-act comedy. The Great Depression did not change his plans for college either. When Julian graduated high school, circa 1930 he moved to Urbana, Illinois to attended college at the University of Illinois Urbana. He completed his Bachelors of Science degree in 1934. He finished his Masters Degree in 1935. Continuing his studies, he was awarded a Doctorate of Philosophy in 1940.

Julian participated in many extracurricular activities while he attended college. He was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, a freshman academic honors society so he must have achieved good grades his first year. He was also a member of the Caisson Club. The Caisson Club was one of many military partnership clubs where students paired with active duty military officers. The Caisson Club was led by artillery officers.

Cica 1933 Julian met his future wife, Erma Lanning (1912-2016). She was also a student at the University of Illinois. They were married circa 1935. They moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana for a time, then returned to Urbana, Illinois. In 1940 Julian’s first child was born. They were living in a rental home. Julian was teaching to support his family while he attended school.

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64 Student body of Columbus High School. *CheCouKan 1929* (Columbus: Student Body, 1929), 42
At some point during his time in Illinois, Julian joined the Army as an intelligence officer. In 1941 he and his wife were surprised to learn of the future arrival of his second child. However, Julian was away training with the Army so he missed the birth of his second child, Nancy Hodges (1942 – ). He did make it home in time to father his third child before Julian left for the duration of the war.

During the war Major Julian D. Morgan was the intelligence officer for the 52nd Fighter Group\(^67\). His unit flew British Spitfire aircraft and later converted to American P-51 Mustangs. The 52nd Fighter Group provided bomber escorts, protecting the American medium-ranged bomber aircraft from enemy aerial interceptor airplanes. They also conducted ground attack missions\(^68\). Julian was responsible for building the intelligence estimates for each mission, which helped the pilots prepare to face their enemies in aerial combat. Julian served in North Africa and Italy during the war. One of his additional duties was to manage the mess hall for his squadron. He kept a log book of the different meals served to his unit while they were in the war. In Italy Julian supported the huge bombing operation against enemy targets at Ploesti, Romania. For his participation, he was given a limited edition after-action report of the battle with a letter attesting to his participation in the operation\(^69\).


\(^{68}\) Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.

\(^{69}\) Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
Julian returned home after the war. He returned as a Major in the United States Army Air Corps. He obtained a job at the University of Kansas as an Associate Professor of Economics. Circa 1946 he moved his family to Lawrence, Kansas. He acquired some land near the university on Indiana Street, and started building a new home for his family. He rented a house on Vermont Street and lived there until about 1950 when his new home was complete.

He moved his family into their new home on 1632 Indiana Street. He must have enjoyed the convenience of the short commute to work, as the university campus was only a block away from his home. At some point, Julian became ill. His illness progressed quickly. He and his wife sent their three children away to live with relatives. Julian died at the Veterans’ Administration Hospital in Leavenworth, Kansas on 2 January 1953. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia on 23 January 1953. 

Daniel’s maternal grandmother, Erma Morgan (1912-2016), was born on 18 July 1912 in Brown County, Illinois, to Herman Lanning (1889-1968) and Susie E Lanning (1890-1972). Her family lived in a rural area. Her father was a farmer, whose family owned land dating back to

1848\textsuperscript{71}. She would be the oldest of three children. Sometime between 1920 and 1930 her family moved east to Urbana, Illinois\textsuperscript{72}.

Erma recalls that the Great Depression affected many people in the area of Urbana, but her family were fortunate enough to be well off. They did not struggle like most people did. She related a story about loaning a young man five dollars, recalling how extraordinarily grateful he was to receive the loan. She recalls that for years, every time she would see the man he continued to thank her for the loan\textsuperscript{73}.

Erma enrolled in the University of Illinois, Urbana. Being from an affluent family, she had enough resources to participate in various clubs and activities. She was a member of the independent Alcestis sorority. After she completed her Bachelors degree she could not go to work because jobs were hard to find due to the Great Depression. She decided to stay in school and earn a graduate degree. She obtained a Masters Degree in zoology from the University of Illinois. During her studies at the University she met her future husband, \textbf{Julian D Morgan (1911-1952)}. They married in circa 1935. They travelled to Baton Rouge, Louisiana and lived there for a time\textsuperscript{74}.

\textsuperscript{73} Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
\textsuperscript{74} Nancy Hodges, interview by Dan Hodges, at Clinton, KS, March 23, 2018.
eventually moved back to Urbana, Illinois. In Urbana they lived in a rental house, paying thirty-three dollars a month for the rent. In 1939 she had her first daughter. She became pregnant with her second daughter, Daniel’s mother, Nancy Hodges (1942 – ) a few years later. Her husband Julian was away training with the Army when Nancy was born. Her husband spent most of his time away from the family, preparing to go overseas to help fight in WWII. She did spend enough time to become pregnant with her third child before Julian left for the remainder of the war.

While her husband was gone she relied on her family to help her care for her young children. Her parents lived close by. The school her oldest daughter attended was within walking distance from their home too. Her husband would send her letters about his experiences. She commented on how sometimes the censors would cut out lots of the writing in some of the letters. She took each letter her husband wrote and transcribe it using a typewriter, removing all the censored material to make it easier to read.

Erma also had to deal with the tragedy of losing her younger brother during the war. On 13 September 1943 her brother, Private


76 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
Maurice Lanning was killed when a mortar exploded next him during a training accident in Fort Bragg, North Carolina\textsuperscript{77}.

At the end of war her husband returned home. He found a job as an associate professor of economics at the University of Kansas. Soon the family moved to Lawrence, Kansas.

Erma and her husband moved their family into a rental house and began work building their new home near the university campus. She and the children helped as much as they could getting the new house ready to live in. By 1950 the new home was ready. Her husband’s job supported her family well. Their new house was in a higher-class neighborhood than where they stayed in their rental home. They even bought a new car to go along with their new home.

Sometime after moving into their new home Erma’s husband developed a serious illness. Erma’s elation at moving into a nice new house must have been replaced with worry as her husband was clearly not recovering from his illness. By 1952 his health had seriously deteriorated. So much so that Erma sent her children away to stay with relatives. She spent the next several months with her husband as his life drained away. In early January of 1953 her husband passed away at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Leavenworth, Kansas. That same month he was buried in the National Military Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Erma must have felt awful, aside from the loss of her brother and the absence from her husband during the war, she had always had a pretty good life. Her family’s economic status protected her from the devastation of the Great Depression. Now she was faced with raising three children as a middle-aged widow.

Erma found a job with the University. Her job and the government benefit she received monthly from her husband’s death enabled her to keep her new home and maintain the economic lifestyle that her husband had built for them. However, she must have struggled raising her children with no father. Her middle child started dating a much older man. At fifteen her daughter got pregnant. Her daughter was suspended from high school because the school policy forbade students from showing obvious signs of pregnancy at school.

Her daughter Nancy married her new son-in-law, Daniel’s father, Henry Hodges (1935- ) in 1957. Nancy moved out with her new husband. Erma’s daughter had to finish high school at night and in the summertime while raising a young child. Erma’s boy was still in high school and he was the star of the football team. Her son was even featured in the 7 November 1960 issue of Life Magazine for being on the winningest high school football team in the nation78. Erma’s daughter’s pregnancy and marriage to an older man must have made for some uncomfortable, awkward social engagements while she supported her boy at high school events.

Despite her daughter becoming pregnant and married at such a young age, Erma supported her child and they remained close. And as her children grew more independent Erma took up international travel as a hobby. She visited Europe a few times but her passion was for Central America. She taught herself Spanish. For many years during the summer months, she travelled to Mexico and stayed for several weeks with a family who befriended her on one of her previous excursions.

While at home in Lawrence she became an avid University Of Kansas basketball fan. She had season tickets for both men’s and woman’s games. Erma still worked for the University. She worked at the campus hospital. During the summers her grandson Daniel would visit her and have lunch with her in the hospital cafeteria. Erma’s home became the central family meeting place for holiday gatherings. It was also the site of the weekly Sunday family dinner. For several years her home was filled with children on weekends and holidays.

As Erma aged she stayed very active and fit. She regularly attended training sessions at her fitness club. She continued to visit the gym well into her late 90’s. In 2012 Erma celebrated her one hundredth birthday. Soon after, her failing eyesight and a long-term illness confined her to her home. When her health began to fail her children arranged for a hospice service to help care for Erma, allowing her to remain in her home. Erma passed away on 2 January 2016, surrounded by her children.\footnote{Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.}
Daniel’s paternal great-grandfather, John Franklin Hodges (1879-1944), was born on 18 March 1879 in Kentucky, to Wm J Hodges (1851-1926) and Laura Ann Hodges (1855-1930)\(^{80}\). Not much is known about John Franklin’s childhood. It is possible he moved to Arkansas with his parents sometime after his birth. The record catches up to John in Howell County, Missouri in 1898 when he marries his wife, Maggie Hodges (1881-1964)\(^{81}\).

In 1910 John was farm laborer working for himself. He lived in Thayer, Missouri. John and his wife lived in a rented house with five


children. They had three daughters and two sons. There was plenty of work in the County for John to find a job to support his family. A regional newspaper reported how good the harvests were in Thayer the year before.

Sometime after 1910 John moved his family to a rural farmhouse near Koshkonong, Missouri. He and his wife added a sixth child to their family. He was still employed as a farmer. In 1918 the Government contacted John and had him register for the military Draft for World War I. On 12 September 1918, The Draft Registration official described John as being of medium build, medium height, with light brown eyes and dark brown hair. At the age of 39 years old John was not likely to be called up.

In 1920 John was working for himself as a blacksmith in Koshkonong. He and his wife had four children living with them. He had purchased a home but it was still owned by the bank while

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he paid down the mortgage\textsuperscript{85}. As a blacksmith John probably had plenty of business since the area where he lived relied heavily on agriculture to sustain the local economy. 1920 also saw the historical peak for use of horses for farming since the advent of the tractor. Early tractors were expensive and not as efficient as draft animals\textsuperscript{86}. Part of the demand might have been to support the horses used in farming with shoeing and riggings.

In 1930 John was no longer a blacksmith. He was a merchant. John owned his own home and his own store in Koshkonong, Missouri. He had three of his children still living with him\textsuperscript{87}. The Great Depression impacted the economy and the Koshkonong area was hit pretty hard. By 1940 John lost his business and home. He moved to a rental house south of Koshkonong in Myatt Township, Missouri. At the age of 61 John, had been without income and could find no work for a long time. Fortunately, he was able to gain some employment working for the


WPA. But he made very little doing WPA labor and must have struggled to pay his two-hundred-dollar monthly rent\textsuperscript{88}.

John became ill in 1944. On 12 February 1944 John passed away. He was buried three days later in Koshkonong. His grave site is in the Koshkonong Cemetery\textsuperscript{89}.

Daniel’s paternal great-grandmother, \textbf{Maggie Tipton Hodges} (1881-1964), was born on 12 November 1881 in Howell County, Missouri to \textbf{Jno H Tipton} (1850-1935) and \textbf{Phunetta Tipton} (1850-1931)\textsuperscript{90}. Maggie was one of three children. Her family lived on a farm in Benton Township, in Howell County, Missouri. Benton Township was the second most populated township in Howell County when Maggie was born. There were nearly 1,300 residents in her township. Her community population was almost double that of the other townships in Howell County. Her family would have had

\textsuperscript{90} Find A Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com : accessed 9 April 2018), memorial page for Maggie M. Tipton Hodges (12 Nov 1881–13 Mar 1964), Find A Grave Memorial no. 15413750, citing Koshkonong Cemetery, Koshkonong, Oregon County, Missouri, USA ; Maintained by Jean ღ (contributor 46544960) .
easier access to businesses, stores and transportation than most residents of Howell County.

She met her husband John Franklin Hodges (1879-1944) in Howell County. She married John when she was still sixteen years old on 5 January 1898. She would eventually bear her husband six children; three girls and three boys. In 1910 She lived in Thayer, a small town built around a railroad hub in Oregon County, Missouri.

Sometime after 1910 she and her husband moved their family to a rural farm house near Koshkonong, Missouri. He husband was a farmer at the time. One of the major crops around Koshkonong were peaches. The town claimed to be the peach capitol of the world. In 1915 the town had a bumper crop of peaches. Over three thousand packers were brought in to help with the harvest. People were camped all over the area while they worked harvesting and packing the peaches.

In 1920 Maggie’s husband was a blacksmith and operated a business supporting the community in Koshkonong. Farming and agriculture were at peak productions and business was good for her husband. By 1930 they owned their home and her husband was

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a merchant who operated a store in Koshkonong. The Great Depression had reached southern Missouri and Koshkonong was impacted. By 1940 her husband had lost his business. They also lost their home and moved from town back to the country into a rental house.

In 1944 Maggie’s husband John died. She buried him in the Koshkonong Cemetery. She remarried a few years later to James O Shurron (1885-1958)⁹³. Her new husband died in 1958. Maggie then stayed near her family in the region where she had lived all her life. She passed away on 13 March 1964. She was buried next to her first husband John, in the Koshkonong, Missouri cemetery.

Antone Jack Lamons (1887-1957), was Daniel’s paternal grandmother’s father. Antone was born on 3 July 1887 in West Plains, Missouri to Peter Jackson Lamons (1852-1936) and Alice Rogers (1858-1950). Antone completed the eighth grade. He probably went to school in West Plains. Antone married his wife, Goldie Lamons (1893-1977) on 23 November 1909⁹⁴.

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In 1916 Antone and his family lived in Iola, Kansas. He and his wife had three children at the time. Antone was working for the United Iron Works Company. The United Iron Works Company was one of the largest plants of its kind west of the Mississippi river. The company plant was equipped for the manufacture of every conceivable sort of work turned out by a foundry. It was a leading business in Iola.

By 1917 Antone was living back in Howell County, Missouri. The Draft Officials contacted him and compelled him to register for the World War I draft. The registration official described Antone as being of medium build, medium height with gray eyes and black hair.

In 1920 Antone was renting a house for his wife and their five children in South Fork of Howell County, Missouri. He was a farmer. Was still farming and living in the same place in 1930. He was also said to be the overseer of the South Fork Road District and the area constable for two terms. Constables were law enforcement officers and were more prevalent in rural areas. Antone was either elected or appointed by a judge as Constable for South Fork Township.

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probably had little law enforcement training. He likely did not have a uniform; however, he would have had a lawman’s shield badge and an issue service pistol. His job as road overseer probably saw him as the local point of contact for residents to help ensure the county roads remained passable and arrange for repairs as needed.

As lawman, Antone surely would have spoken of the West Plains Dance Hall explosion of 13 April 1928. West Plains was several miles away from South Fork but the explosion was heard for miles around. 40 dancers were killed when a car blew up in a garage beneath the dance hall. Speculation was that the disgruntled garage owner committed suicide by blowing himself up. It was said that he was deeply in debt and had a particular dislike for dancing as he was a religious man. Talk in the newspapers speculated that he purposefully blew himself up while the dance hall was full of dancers.

Antone was considered handsome but a mean-spirited man. He is said to have treated his wife poorly. He left Goldie and got remarried. On 14 March 1938, Antone went to Arkansas to marry his new wife Norma Snyder (1890- ).

By 1940 he and Norma were living as boarders of a family in West Plains, Missouri. Antone was working as a laborer in constructing


buildings. His wife was working as a housekeeper\textsuperscript{100}. Two years later the draft registration officials visited Antone again and registered him for World War II.

In 1947 Antone had a stroke and lost his eyesight. He was unable to care for himself so he moved in with his son. His son cared for him until he passed away ten years later on 20 March 1957. He is buried alone in the Evergreen Cemetery in West Plains, Missouri\textsuperscript{101}.

Goldie Lamons (1891-1977), was Daniel’s paternal grandmother’s mother. Goldie was born in 20 July 1891 to Frank Logsdon (1872-1950) and Clara Logsdon (1875-1961) in Howell County, Missouri. In 1900 she was living with her family in a rented house in Howell County. She was the oldest of three sisters\textsuperscript{102}.

Goldie attended school and graduated from the Eighth grade. Goldie grew up near West Plains, Missouri. As the County Seat, West Plains was the most populated town in Howell County. As she


approached her teenage years she probably heard the talk about the
national debate at the time, arguing the benefits of banning alcohol.
It was debated, that cities that banned alcohol benefited from less
crime and less public expense. West Plains City Council had banned
alcohol. The positive effect of banning saloons on the West Plains
city budget is discussed in regional newspapers alongside cites from
as far away as Massachusetts\textsuperscript{103}. The laws were based on public voting
and it was a hotly debated topic. Since saloons were banned in the
city it is more than likely that drinking establishments relocated to
rural areas around the county. The city night-life probably moved
into the countryside or rural townships that permitted saloons.
Perhaps this is where Goldie met her husband.

On 23 November 1909 she Married Antone Jack Lamons (1887-1957) in
Howell, County Missouri\textsuperscript{104}. Goldie was sixteen years old. Her husband
was twenty-two. While not unheard of, Goldie’s young age put her well
below the median average age of women being married in 1909. Fischer
and Hout discuss the patterns of women being married in twentieth
century America. In Figure 4.5 “Observed and Estimated Age at First
Marriage and at First Union, by Year of Median Marriage,” the average
age of marriage for women was twenty-two years old for the year

\textsuperscript{103} Chariton courier. (Keytesville, Chariton County, Mo.), 13 March 1908. Chronicling
[Accessed March 30, 2018]

\textsuperscript{104} "Missouri, County Marriage, Naturalization, and Court Records, 1800-1991," database
March 2018), Anton Lamons and Goldie Logsdon, 23 Nov 1909; citing Marriage, Howell,
Missouri, United States, p. , Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.
Goldie was six years younger than the average age of women being married in 1909. Her mother was seventeen years old when she was married, but her husband was only three years older than her. Goldie’s parents must have felt some trepidation at their daughter marrying so young and to a much older man.

Goldie and her husband had at least one boy before moving to Iola, Kansas where her husband probably got a job in an iron works company. By 1916 her and her husband had two boys and one daughter. Goldie’s parents also moved to Iola, Kansas. Some of Goldie’s siblings were in Iola too. It must have been helpful to be so close to her family while she raised her young children.

Iola was in the midst of an economic boom due to the discovery of natural gas in the area. Companies were able to set up factories using equipment powered by the natural gas. The largest city where Goldie grew up had less than 3,000 residents. Iola had over 9,000 residents. It must have been quite a change for her to be in such a large city.

By 1920 Goldie moved back to Howell County, Missouri. She was living in South Fork Township with her husband. She had five children. Her oldest two children were boys and her youngest three children were daughters. Her husband moved them onto a farm and began farming for a living. Goldie’s parents stayed on in Iola, Kansas.

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105 Claude S. Fischer and Michael Hout, Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 69.
She must have missed her family. She may have missed the conveniences of city life too.

In 1930 Goldie was still living in the country with her husband and four of her children. Her oldest boy had moved out. Her husband was still farming, but also took a position as a South Fork constable. Goldie’s husband did not treat her well. He eventually left her for another woman.

Goldie remarried to Robert M. Wadley (1902-1972) in 1934. She moved to Butler, Missouri, which is west of Howell County, about fifty miles south of Kansas City. In 1940 she and her new husband lived alone in a rented farm house. Her husband was working as a painter for the WPA. Her husband was visited by the Government and required to register for the military World War II draft in 1942 but he was not called up for service.

Some time later Goldie and her husband Robert moved back to Iola, Kansas. In 1960 Goldie and Robert still lived in Iola, however, they moved to a larger home just a few blocks from where they were living in 1956. On 17 February 1972 Robert died. He was buried in one of two side by side plots in Evergreen Cemetery in Iola, Kansas. On 1

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November 1977 Goldie passed away. She was buried next to her husband Robert.

Dean Richmond Morgan (1882-1965) was Daniel’s maternal grandfather’s father. He was born to Theodore Myron Morgan (1846-1926) and Emma Morgan (1852-1940) on 10 January 1882 in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1895 Dean was one of four children living with his parents in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On 27 February 1906 Dean was in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. On that day he married his wife Adessa Mae Steiner (1881-1937). By 1910 Dean was supporting his wife and their three children by selling pianos in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. Dean may have sold high-end pianos manufactured by Edmund Gram Piano Company. Or he might have

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been in competition with other piano dealers, such as W.D. Jewelers, who offered discounts of $50 to $100 off pianos\textsuperscript{112}.

By 1911 Dean had moved his family to Waterloo, Iowa. He was still a salesman. He worked for the Armstrong Company as a machine salesman\textsuperscript{113}. The Armstrong Manufacturing Company built gasoline engines and well drilling equipment\textsuperscript{114}. Dean must have worked in the drilling equipment line of sales as he would later have a career in the drilling industry.

Dean took a job as district manager for the Sanderson Drill Company in Columbus, Kansas. His job brought him down to work the tristate ore fields. He also registered for the World War I draft in 1918\textsuperscript{115}. Dean and his wife welcomed their sixth child to their family in 1925. He was still living in Columbus, Kansas. He had a good job in the mining industry and supported his family well\textsuperscript{116}. He managed to shield his family from the effects of Great Depression. His children


were able to participate in many activities and trips. He also was able to afford college educations for his kids.

In 1937 Dean’s wife passed away\textsuperscript{117}. He stayed in Columbus and continued to work in the oil industry. In 1942, at the age of 60 he registered for the World War II draft. At his age, he did not have to leave the town of Columbus for the war. He did have children who joined the military in support the war effort. Sometime during the 1950’s Dean met and married a woman named MaryAnn. They met at a supply depot in Topeka, Kansas\textsuperscript{118}. Dean died on 14 September 1965. He is buried in Park Cemetery, Columbus, Kansas\textsuperscript{119}.

**Adessa Mae Steiner (1881-1937)** was Daniel’s maternal grandfather’s mother. She was born to **Sam Steiner (1858-1926)** and **Fanny Steiner (1862-1939)** on 24 July 1881 in Milton Township of Wayne County, Ohio\textsuperscript{120}. Her family lived on a farm in a rural community southwest of Akron, Ohio. Many of her neighbors, including her parents, where first-generation Americans from European immigrants.


\textsuperscript{118}Nancy Hodges, interview by Dan Hodges, at Clinton, KS, March 23, 2018.

\textsuperscript{119}Find A Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com : accessed 16 April 2018), memorial page for Dean Richmond Morgan (1882–14 Sep 1965), Find A Grave Memorial no. 21718864, citing Park Cemetery, Columbus, Cherokee County, Kansas, USA ; Maintained by JFJ (contributor 47211966).

\textsuperscript{120}“Ohio, County Births, 1841-2003,” database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VRMB-235 : 13 March 2018), Samuel J. Steiner in entry for Aldessa May Steiner, 24 Jul 1881; citing Birth, Milton, Wayne, Ohio, United States, county courthouses, Ohio; FHL microfilm 475,466.
Several of these families came from France and Switzerland. Adessa’s mother was born in Switzerland. In 1900 Adessa lived near Ashtabula, Ohio. The city of Ashtabula is located along the southern shore of Lake Erie. The city was an important node in regional transportation with its harbor and railway lines. Many of the goods and materials produced along the coast of the Great Lakes were shipped to Ashtabula and transferred to railroad cars to be sold elsewhere. The region around Ashtabula was also heavily populated with European immigrants. Finns were among the most numerous immigrants to this part of Ohio. Indeed, Addessa’s country neighbors were mainly of Finnish heritage. Her parents owned their farm house and property. She was the second oldest of her parents six children. Her family had a 41-year-old man living with them who they employed as a servant.

On 27 February in 1906 Adessa was in Cuyahoga, Ohio. On that day, at the age of 24, she wed Dean R Morgan (1882-1965). Four

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years later she, her husband and their three children lived in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Her husband was a piano salesman. Her husband later moved the family to Waterloo, Iowa where he supported them working as a machine salesman. He worked for a large manufacturing company that supplied equipment for the drilling and gas industry. Her husband was very successful in his career, gaining him an opportunity to move into a better paying job. Sometime prior to 1918 Adessa and her children moved to Columbus, Kansas to join her husband. He was working as a regional manager for a drilling company.

By 1920 Adessa had given birth to five children. In 1925 she gave birth to the couple’s last child. Her six children would all live with her under the same roof for a few years. Her husband was a good provider and she and her children were well taken care of. She must have been a very proud mother as her kids excelled in sports and did well in school.

Sadly, her family would lose Adessa at a fairly young age. On 9 May 1937, she passed away. She is buried in the Park Cemetery in Columbus, Kansas125.

Herman Lanning (1889-1968) was Daniel’s maternal grandmother’s father. He was born to William Lanning (1857- ) and Mary Lanning (1863- ) on 16 October 1888 in Ripley Township, Brown County,

Illinois. Herman lived on his parents’ family farm with his sister and two brothers. The land they lived on had been in the Laning family since 1848.

As a boy Daniel fondly remembers visiting the Laning farm for apple harvest time. The women would put all the kids to work peeling apples with antique apple peelers. The apple peelers had prongs attached to hand-turned crankshafts. A razor on a spring-loaded arm pressed against the apple. One placed the apple on the prongs. As the crankshaft was turned the apple would pass against the razor and peel the apple. Daniel helped peel bushels of apples for the few harvest times that his parents took him to the Lanning farm.

In 1910 Herman’s family were very active in the community. Herman and his brother Frank both joined the Modern Woodman of America (MWA) Camp. He and Frank posed for a picture. They were wearing their MWA uniforms and sporting large, single-bladed axes on their shoulders. Herman’s stern look, while wearing a French-style kepi, and a coat with a bib attached to the front and large letters “MWA” sewn to the bib, made for a striking appearance.

In 1911 Herman married a girl from a nearby Illinois town. He and Susie E Lanning (1890-1972) married on 20 August 1911 in Bader, Illinois.

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Illinois. Herman and his wife stayed near their homes for the first years of their marriage. They lived in Cooperstown, which was fairly close to where they both grew up. Herman worked as a farm hand. In 1917 Herman registered for the World War I military draft. He did not have to report for duty so he stayed home with his young child and wife.

By 1930 Herman moved his family to Urbana, Illinois. He and his wife had three children; two girls and one boy. His oldest was getting ready to attend college at the local University. He owned and operated a store named "Laning’s Food Market." Herman’s business did well and he was able to support his family comfortably while so many others around him were suffering from the Great Depression.

In 1940 his oldest daughter had completed college, got married and moved out with her husband. Herman’s grocery business was doing

132 Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.
well. He was able to employ a full-time servant who lived at the house. His wife’s brother was also staying at his house.  

In 1942, World War II impacted Herman’s family deeply. At the age of 53 he had to register, but like his previous draft, he was not called up. His son-in-law was leaving to go over seas and help fight the war. Most tragic of all was the loss of his son. Maurice Laning (1919-1943) was drafted into the Army in 1942. He was training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 13 September 1943. Something went horribly wrong during the training and he was killed by an exploding mortar round.  

At the end of World War II Herman moved to California. He and his wife returned to the Midwest to help their daughter Erma Morgan (1912-2016) when her husband became ill and died. They stayed in Lawrence, Kansas while their daughter got her life sorted out after losing her husband. Once their daughter recovered, Herman and his wife returned to their home in California.

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In the late 1960’s Herman returned to Lawrence, Kansas to spend the remaining years of his life. On 14 September 1968 Herman passed away in Lawrence. After his death he was taken back to his hometown and buried in the Ripley Cemetery of Brown County, Illinois.135

Fischer and Hout discuss the percentage of Americans living in the county compared to Americans living in city or suburbs. In 1900, over 50 percent of all Americans lived on farms or, sparsely populated rural communities. By the year 2000 only ten percent of Americans remained in the countryside. In Figure 7.3 “Distribution of Population Across Types of Places,” Fischer and Hout depict the percentage of Americans living in the countryside compared to those living in suburbs or cities. Their sample covers a time period from 1900 to the year 2000. Their graph shows a steady exodus of Americans abandoning the farm life for the city. These former farmers’ children settled in the cities too, continuing the trend that led to the depopulation of rural communities.136 Herman’s migration from the farm to the city fell right in line with this trend.

Susie E Lanning (1890-1972) was Daniel’s maternal grandmother’s mother. She was born on 17 March 1890 to William Henry Beck (1855-135


1940) and Ella Beck (1859–1931) in Bader, Illinois. She was the second youngest of six children in her family. She lived in a farm house rented by her father in Woodland Township of Fulton County, Illinois. Susie probably spent her days doing chores. She most likely attended a rural school and went to church with her family. Most of her socialization outside the family was possibly with other farm families at gatherings and events. Perhaps she met her future husband at one of these events.

On 20 August 1911, she married Herman Lanning (1889–1968). She and Herman moved to Cooperstown, Illinois. Her husband worked as a farm hand and they started their family. She had her first child, a daughter, their first year of marriage. They stayed in Cooperstown and her husband continued to farm for the several years. Her family grew during that time. She gave birth to a boy and another daughter.

By 1930 Susie and her husband moved to Urbana, Illinois. Her husband started work in Urbana as a commercial traveler, selling feed. Commercial travelers were salesmen that went from place to place selling products.


place carrying samples of the product that their company sold. Her husband was probably working as a livestock feed salesman.

In Urbana, Susie did not have to suffer the absence of her husband traveling for work for very long. Herman opened up his own grocery store and their standard of living improved greatly. Their family store, "Laning’s Food Market" supported her and her three children well. They were not lacking for anything during the Great Depression. When her oldest child graduated high school they easily afforded her tuition and living expenses for the local college.

By 1940 Susie and her family were comfortably established. Her husband’s grocery store business was making a good profit. They had a large home. Her older brother lived with her. She was even able to afford a live-in servant. She was also happy that her son-in-law found a teaching job at the university. Her oldest had married and moved out of state for time. Now her oldest daughter and her grandchildren lived just a few blocks away from their house in Urbana. But the happy times would not last.

In 1942, World War II began to affect her life. Her husband and son had to register for the draft. Her son was called away for service in the Army. Her son-in-law volunteered to go over seas to fight in the war. He oldest daughter was caring for three young children while her husband was overseas in the war. Most saddening was the news she received about her son. On 13 September 1943 he was

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National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 410; FHL microfilm 2,340,145.
killed in a training accident in North Carolina. This must have been crushing news to her. They retrieved his body and brought him to Urbana and buried him in East Lawn Cemetery\textsuperscript{140}.

After World War II ended, Susie and her husband closed their grocery store and moved to California. Herman had a brother in California and they moved close to where he lived near Los Angeles. In 1952 they returned to Lawrence for a time to help their daughter deal with her dying husband. Their son-in-law had a fatal illness. Susie and Herman helped their daughter recover from the loss.

Susie and Herman spent most of their remaining lives in Southern California. They returned in the late 1960s to Lawrence, Kansas. Her oldest daughter cared for Susie and her husband as they grew old. On 14 September 1968, her husband passed away. Susie travelled to Illinois and buried her husband near his home town in Brown County, Illinois. In 1972 Susie passed away in Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, Kansas\textsuperscript{141}. Her oldest daughter arranged for Susie to be buried next to her husband in Ripley Cemetery in Brown County, Illinois.


William J Hodges (1858- ) was Daniels’ paternal great-grandfather’s father. He was born in 1858 in Hart County Kentucky to Thos Hodges ( − ) and Lacola Hodges ( − ). William’s family were farmers. He was the youngest, and only boy of at least five children. He must have lived near his father’s relatives. As the family listed above his family on the 1860 U.S. Census are also named Hodges. The head of that family is two years younger than William’s father. It is
possible that William had several cousins to play with growing up as a child.

By 1880, William had met and married his wife Laura Ann Hixton ( - ). William and his wife and their one child were living in Jefferson Township, of Jackson County, Arkansas. William was working as a farmer and his wife was employed as a housekeeper.

William only appears in the record one more time. On 5 January 1898, his son John Franklin Hodges wrote William’s name down on a marriage license application in Missouri.

Daniel’s paternal great-grandfather’s mother was probably Laura Ann Hixton ( - ). Not much is known about Laura at the time of this writing. She may have been from Arkansas or perhaps Kentucky.

John H Tipton (1850-1935) married Phunetta “Nettie” Tipton (1850-1931) in 1881. It is possible that this was either his, or possibly his wife’s second marriage. He and his wife moved to Howell County,

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Missouri. John was a farmer. His had three children. The record supports that at least two of them were with John.

On 5 January 1898 John was at the Howell County, Missouri County Courthouse with his 16-year-old daughter Maggie. He signed a marriage application giving his consent for his daughter to marry John Franklin Hodges. On 5 January 1898 John was at the Howell County, Missouri County Courthouse with his 16-year-old daughter Maggie. He signed a marriage application giving his consent for his daughter to marry John Franklin Hodges.  

In 1900 John lived with his wife and one son in Benton Township of Howell County, Missouri. By 1910 John and his family moved to Spring Creek, of Howell County, Missouri. John was still a farmer. At least one of his wife’s three children had died according to the Census. John’s wife Nettie passed away in 1931. She was buried in Tipton, 1935; Burial, Cureall, Howell, Missouri, United States of America, Cureall Cemetery; citing record ID 15944192, Find a Grave, http://www.findagrave.com.


the Crueall Cemetery in Howell County, Missouri. John passed away on 4 February 1935. He was also buried in the Crueall Cemetery.

Phunetta "Nettie" Tipton (1850-1931) was born on 2 January 1850 in Burnsville, North Carolina. Not much is known of Nettie’s early life. Her ties to Daniel’s family begin circa 1880 when she marries John H Tipton (1850-1935) in Howell County Missouri. She was probably married before she came to Missouri. She was described as one of the pioneers of Howell County and a prominent resident of the Cureall Springs neighborhood. She died in 1931 and is buried in Cureall Cemetery.

Peter Jackson Lamons (1852-1936) was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 1 January 1852. In 1860 he was one of eight children living with his parents in Myatt Township in Howell County, Missouri. Peter’s family were farmers. Ten years later Peter was still working on his father’s farm in Howell County, Missouri. Peter

married his first wife Cinthia Josephine Simmons ( - ) on 1 January 1875. She died during childbirth later that same year. He married his second wife Alice Lamons (1858-1950) on 12 April 1877. Peter and Alice’s first child died as an infant. Peter and his wife eventually had nine more children153.

In 1910 Peter owned his own farm in South Fork Township, in Howell County, Missouri. He and his wife had five children and one granddaughter living with them154. Ten years later he was still on his South Fork farm. One son was living with he and his wife155. Peter passed away 29 December 1936 in West Plains, Missouri156.

Alice Lamons (1858-1950) was born in Hillsboro, Missouri on 30 November 1858 to Dura Rodgers (-) and Henretta Harrington157. She married Peter Lamons on 12 April 1877. Peter was a widower who lost

his first wife and child during child birth. Sadly, for both Peter and Alice their first child would die as an infant. However, Alice bore nine more healthy children for Peter. She lived her whole life as a farmer’s wife in Howell County, Missouri. She buried her husband in Evergreen Cemetery in West Plains, Missouri in 1936. She was buried next to her husband when she died in 1950 in West Plains, Missouri$^{158}$.

**Lewis Frank Logsdon (1872-1950)** was born in 1872 in West Virginia. His parents were Levi Logsdon (1843-1921) and Emily Logsdon (1842-1904). He lived with his parents into his teenage years then moved to Howell County, Missouri. On 16 March 1892 he married his wife Clara Logsdon (1875-1961). Frank was 20 years old and his bride was 17 when they married$^{159}$. On 22 October 1899 Frank lost one of his daughters. He buried six-year old Ruby Pearl Logsdon in Oak Lawn Cemetery in West Plains, Missouri$^{160}$. In 1900 Frank, his wife and

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their three remaining children lived in a farm house near West Plains, Missouri. Frank farmed for a living\textsuperscript{161}.

Frank moved his family to Iola, Kansas to work in one of the industries the town had. In 1920 Frank still lived in Iola with his wife and two of his daughters\textsuperscript{162}. Frank died 23 June 1950 in Iola, Kansas. He was buried in Highland Cemetery in Iola\textsuperscript{163}.

**Clara Logsdon (1875-1961)** was born in Bellaire, Belmont, Ohio on 18 January 1875 to R. J. Greathouse ( ) and Sarah E. Greathouse ( )\textsuperscript{164}. In 1880 she was one of three children living with her parents in Big Creek, Ellis County, Kansas\textsuperscript{165}. Clara found herself near West Plains, Missouri in the 1890’s. There she met and married her husband


\textsuperscript{164} "Ohio, County Births, 1841-2003," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X6K6-1PP : 9 March 2018), Clara B Greathouse, 18 Jan 1875; citing Birth, Bellaire, Belmont, Ohio, United States, county courthouses, Ohio; FHL microfilm 902,137.

Lewis Frank Logsdon (1872-1950). She and Frank began their family as farmers. She bore Frank four children.

Sadly, her second child died at the age of six years old. It is possible she may have succumbed to one of the many diseases that afflicted the times. Several newspapers throughout the state of Missouri in 1899 reported scarlet fever outbreaks. The Mexico Missouri Message reported that, "...scarlet fever was raging and is in epidemic form...there have been many deaths." Perhaps her daughter died of scarlet fever.

Her husband supported her and the children by farming near West Plains, Missouri for several years. In November of 1909 Clara and her husband consented to the marriage of her oldest daughter, Goldie Logsdon (1893-1977) in the Howell County, Missouri Courthouse.

Goldie was 16 years old at the time. Circa 1915 she and Frank and some of her children moved to Iola, Kansas. There was work for both of them there in the industries of the fast-growing city. In 1920 Clara was still living in Iola, Kansas. Frank was working at a

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company named United Iron. Clara’s youngest daughters still lived with her and Frank169.

Thirty years later Clara and her husband still lived in Iola, Kansas. Her oldest daughter was now back in Iola with her new husband. She remarried after her first husband left her for another woman. In 1950 Clara’s husband Frank died. She buried him in the Highland Cemetery in Iola. In 1961 she joined her husband in death. She was buried alongside him in the Highland Cemetery in Iola, Kansas170.

Theodore Myron Morgan (1846-1926) was born in Indiana on 26 March 1846 to T. W. Morgan (-) and Emeline S. Morgan (-). On 3 December 1879, in the city of Dodge, Wisconsin Myron married Emma Morgan (1852-1940)171. Myron worked as a lumber man in the forests near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin in 1880172.

In 1895 Myron lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota with his wife and four children. Myron probably moved to Columbus, Kansas to join his son Dean Morgan. His wife Emma was still living in Minnesota with his youngest daughter in 1910. Myron died on 4 February 1926. He was buried in Park Cemetery in Columbus, Kansas.

Emma Morgan (1852-1940) was born in Wisconsin circa 1852, to Philander James Cole (1815-1905) and Nancy H. Cole (1812-1891). She lived near Chester in Dodge County, Wisconsin. She was the youngest of seven children. Her family were farmers. In 1879 Emma married her husband Theodore Myron Morgan (1846-1926) in Dodge County, Wisconsin. Her and her husband moved near Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. She stayed home while he worked as a lumberman in the local wood industry.

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Circa 1883 she moved to Minnesota. By 1895 Emma and her husband had four children. They had lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota at least since 1889. By 1910 she was still in Minneapolis. However, she was living just with her daughter. The home she lived in was owned by either Emma or her husband but it was mortgaged out. Emma was employed as a dress-maker\(^\text{177}\). Emma’s husband was probably in Columbus, Kansas with her son Dean Morgan. It is possible her husband was working in Columbus to help pay off the mortgage. Her son was in a management position for a successful company. Perhaps her husband was working in her son’s business. What is known is that her husband passed away in Columbus, Kansas in 1926. Emma died circa 1940.

**Sam Steiner (1858-1926)** was born on 12 January 1858 in Wayne County, Ohio. He was born to **Peter P. Steiner (1813-1886)** and **Elizabeth Maria Hilty (1818-1888)**. His family were farmers. He worked on his father’s farm growing up. When Sam became an adult, he moved into a farm house next to his parents’ house.

Sam married Fannie Steiner on 18 March 1879 in Wayne County, Ohio\(^\text{178}\). In 1880 he lived with his wife and one son near Milton, Ohio.


He was a farmer. He lived next door to his father’s farm. At least three of his brothers and sisters still lived with his father. It is possible they worked the same land and shared the profits.

In 1900 he was a farmer with six children and a servant. He lived in Plymouth Township of Ashtabula County, Ohio. By 1910 Sam and his wife had four children. He was still living in the same farm. He had a hired farm hand from Sweden living with him.

Sam worked his farm for many more years. After he retired from farming he moved to Akron Ohio. On 13 February 1926 Sam died in Akron, Ohio.

Fanny Steiner (1862-1939) was born on 18 November 1862 in Switzerland. Her parents were John Kaufman (1819-1884) and Magdalena Kaufman (1829-1901). Fanny immigrated to the United States in

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1866. She eventually found her way to Ohio. In 1879 she married Sam Steiner (1858-1926). Fanny raised a family, rearing six children and supporting her husband while he worked their farm in Plymouth Township of Ashtabula County, Ohio. Her husband eventually retired from farming.

She and her husband moved to Akron, Ohio and purchased a house. He died in 1926. Fanny continued to live in the house she and her husband bought in Akron. She took in boarders to supplement her income or perhaps just to have company since her children were grown and living lives of their own. She died in Akron, Ohio on 21 February 1939.

William Henry Lanning (1857-1940) was born to Isaiah Laning (1831- ) and Ellen Priscilla Laning ( - ) on 12 October 1857 in Ripley, Brown County, Illinois. William grew up in on his father’s farm in Ripley Township. He eventually purchased the farm from his father.

William became a widow shortly after marrying Arabel Kendrick. She died soon after their marriage. William then married Mary Agnes Laning (1863-1954). They had four children; one daughter and three

Kaufman Steiner, 1939; Burial, Cuyahoga Falls, Summit, Ohio, United States of America, Oakwood Cemetery; citing record ID 9173231, Find a Grave, http://www.findagrave.com

sons. William farmed on his father’s land the rest of his life. He died on 12 January 1940.

**Mary Laning (1861-1954)** was born in Illinois in 1861. Her maiden name is Mary Agnes O’Neal. It is highly likely that Mary is related to **Willis O’Neal** who settled in Ripley County, Illinois in 1825. Willis had a daughter named **Mary Agnes Hankins**. While Willis was probably too old to father a child in 1861, it is possible that one of Willis O’Neal’s sons or grandsons was Mary’s father. The Names Mary Agnes may be in remembrance of Mary’s aunt or older cousin.

Mary wed **William Henry Lanning (1857-1940)** circa 1885 in Brown County, Illinois. They had four children together. In 1920 she and her husband were still farming. They had one daughter left in the house living with them. Her husband died in 1940. After her husband died, Mary lived in her own home. She had a middle-aged woman

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living with her employed as a hired girl\textsuperscript{188}. Mary died in 1954\textsuperscript{189}. She was buried next to her husband in Ripley Cemetery in Ripley, Illinois.

**William Henry Beck (1855-1940)** was born 21 April 1855, in Hanover, Maryland to **George Beck** and **Susannah Stone Beck**. Circa 1866 William’s family moved to Illinois. In 1870 William was one of five children living on his parents’ farm in Hickory Township, Schuyler County, Illinois\textsuperscript{190}.

By 1880, William was married to **Ella Beck (1857-1931)** and had three young children. His youngest girls were twins. He lived in the town of Browning, in Schuyler County, Illinois. William worked at a saw mill\textsuperscript{191}. By 1900 William had moved to Woodland Township in Fulton County, Illinois. He lived in a rented farmhouse with his wife and


five children. They would eventually have seven children. He farmed for a living\textsuperscript{192}.

By 1910 William was back in Browning, in Schuyler County, Illinois. He owned his house, which he shared with his youngest son and wife. He was doing odd jobs as a day-laborer for a living\textsuperscript{193}. Ten years later William was living in the same house with his wife and youngest son. William was the Manager for a grain elevator. By 1930 William was retired. He was still living in the same house with his wife and son. He was probably enjoying being grandpa as his son’s wife and young daughter were in the house too. His son was a fireman and probably helped support the family\textsuperscript{194}.

At some point William and his wife found a home in Bader, Illinois. There, on 1 July 1931 William’s wife passed away. He buried her in the Astoria Cemetery in Fulton County, Illinois. Nine years later, on 14 February 1940 William passed away. He was buried next to his wife in the Astoria Cemetery. William left a good


impression on those who recognized his passing. They described William as an honest upright citizen, a good father and a kind neighbor.195

Ella Beck (1857-1931) was born 1 August 1857 in Astoria, Illinois to Jacob Moose (1836-1917) and Harriett Moose (1840-1910). Ella probably grew up in the town of Astoria, Illinois. She was the oldest of twelve brothers and sisters. Her father may have not been a farmer. In 1880, at least two years after Ella moved away from her parents, her father was working in a factory.196

Ella married William Henry Beck (1855-1940) on 15 January 1878 in Astoria. Her and Henry moved to a house in Browning, Illinois which was south of Astoria. They immediately started a family. Their first child was a boy. She and her husband were probably surprised when their second and third children were born on the same day; her oldest daughters were twins. She eventually had seven healthy children. She and her husband moved to the country in Woodland Township, which was near Astoria and settled on a farm. She would be a farm wife for most of her life.

Her husband eventually gave up farming. In 1910 they moved back to Browning, Illinois. Her husband found a job managing a grain elevator. Late in life Ella was fortunate to have one of her sons, her daughter-in-law and grandchild living with her and her husband. She probably enjoyed being grandma.

Fischer and Hout discuss the changing patterns of American living arrangements. In 1900, nearly 50 percent of all Americans lived in homes with extended families. Children were in homes that had grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles living with them. These large extended families provided support for each other and passed on the family story from generation to generation. As time progressed, more and more couples struck out on their own, leaving their parents alone in their homes. In Figure 4.6 “Household Type, by Year and Age,” Fischer and Hout depict the percentage of Americans living in extended family homes. Their sample covers a time period from 1900 to the year 2000. Their graph shows that up to the middle of the 20th Century, over 40 percent of Americans, 65 years and older lived in an extended family home.197 This must have been a tremendous source of support and comfort for Americans as they grew old and infirm. Ella’s living arrangements places her among those Americans who had the support of their children and were fortunate to be a part of everyday life for some of their grandchildren.

Ella and her husband finally moved to Bader, Illinois, which is located roughly between Astoria and Browning. She lived within six

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197 Claude S. Fisher and Michael Hout, Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 73.

Daniel’s five-generation family history ends with a brief discussion of family lore. In all families there are unproven stories of famous, or infamous ancestors. Great events, feats of wonder or royal lineage are often attributed to long dead family members. Two such stories, one from his father’s side and one from his mother’s side, were commonly discussed among Daniel’s family.

For years Daniel was told that he was as much as 25 percent native American. He was shown “proof” of this ancestry in a 19th century picture of some American Indians that resembled his paternal grandfather. No documentation was provided that linked Daniel’s grandfather to this picture. This five-generation study of Daniel’s family shows that both his father and mother’s sides of the family are of European origin. Furthermore, Daniel had a DNA study completed, the results of which, show zero percent North American DNA in Daniel’s makeup.\footnote{Personal knowledge of the author, Daniel C. Hodges.}

On his mother’s side of the family is a story of infamy. A story involving swashbuckling adventure. Ella Beck’s mother’s maiden name was Harriett Kidd. Harriett’s maiden name brings to light the
potential origin of a family story from Daniel’s mother. As a boy, Daniel was told that he is related to pirates. The names Morgan and Kidd are infamously associated with pirates. The research for this five-generation study traces Daniel’s Kidd family lineage back to Ezekiel Kid who was born in York, Pennsylvania circa 1790. Daniel’s Morgan family lineage traces back to T. W. Morgan in Indiana, circa 1800. This, of course, does not prove any link to the pirates William Kidd or Henry Morgan. However, it does establish, at the very least, the possible reason for the family pirate stories.