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### The Family History of Christopher L. Clough

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**The Family History of  
Christopher L. Clough**

**25 April 2022**

Christopher Clough authored this family history as part of the course requirements for HIST 700 Your Family in History offered online in Spring 2022 and was submitted to the Pittsburg State University **Digital Commons**. Please contact the author directly with any questions or comments: [clclough@gus.pittstate.edu](mailto:clclough@gus.pittstate.edu)

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Alb2b1. Elizabeth McIntosh (1864-1949)  
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## GENERATION ONE

**Christopher Lee Clough (1987- )** entered the world on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1987<sup>1</sup>. His mother, **Mariellen Dobbins (1957- )** was back at work on Monday morning with Christopher in tow. Much of Chris' early life was spent at his mother's workplace, a small construction and architectural firm, where Mariellen still works as a bookkeeper and office manager. Shortly after he was born, Christopher's parents divorced, and Mariellen would be the most reliable wage earner in the household throughout his childhood. Although, Christopher's father **Brian Richard Clough (1957- )** had been an attentive and loving father to Chris' older sisters, he did not play a major role in Chris' upbringing. Christopher's family continued to change rapidly. He gained a younger brother in 1989, **David Adam Thomas (1989- )**, and his mother remarried in 1991.

Although there seemed to be an unusual amount of disorder in young Christopher's life, the Center for Disease Control showed in 1995 that after climbing rapidly in the 1970s, Americans continued to divorce at a much higher rate than previous generations.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, nearly 40 percent of Millennials, the cohort born between 1981 and 1996, reported that they were not raised by both their parents.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Christopher Clough, birth certificate, 26 Nov. 1987, file no. 121-1336841, Michigan Department of Community Health, copy in possession of author.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Advance Report of Final Divorce Statistics, 1989 and 1990*, by Sally C. Clarke. Vol. 43 (9), Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 1995. [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/mvsvr/supp/mv43\\_09s.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/mvsvr/supp/mv43_09s.pdf) (accessed February 23, 2022).

<sup>3</sup> Russell Heimlich, "Missing Mom or Dad," Pew Research Center, last modified March 22, 2010, <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2010/03/22/missing-mom-or-dad/>.

Christopher found much needed stability in his community, schools, and friends. Dearborn, Michigan, where Chris grew up, is a suburb of Detroit and is most famous in connection with Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company. In the 1990s, Dearborn's population grew almost 10 percent to nearly 100,000 people.<sup>4</sup> The city's success mirrored the fortunes of the nation as Americans enjoyed an economic boom in the 1990s. Although home to the largest proportion of Arab Americans in the country, Dearborn remained heavily segregated during Christopher's childhood. He lived on the west side of the city and the Arab population resided mostly on the east side at the time. However, Arab American students did attend the same schools as Christopher as students were bussed around the district to relieve overcrowding.<sup>5</sup> While in school, Chris did not pay much attention to the different languages and cultural practices of other students. But looking back, he realizes how lucky he was to have been exposed to so much diversity throughout his childhood.

Chris' friends and siblings provided the most positive influences on his life. His older sisters, **Rachel Lynn Clough (1978- )** and **Melissa Ann Clough (1982- )**, took him for walks around the neighborhood and introduced him to their favorite music. They were caring and loving sisters. Chris' best friend, **Meghann Rebekah Mealbach (1988-2021)**, provided unconditional friendship and lots of laughs. Chris' favorite childhood memories are of riding bikes around Meghann's neighborhood during warm, summer days while joking together and making

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<sup>4</sup> Wikipedia contributors, "Dearborn, Michigan," Wikipedia, accessed February 22, 2022, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dearborn,\\_Michigan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dearborn,_Michigan).

<sup>5</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

up new games. Christopher's childhood took place mostly before cell phones, the internet, and social media. Looking back, Chris feels like children had more freedom to be kids then. He believes that freedom was important to his childhood and differentiates his age group from the younger generations that followed.

The Millennial generation was further defined by two traumatic events. In April 1999, shots rang out in the halls of Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Christopher was in fifth grade at the time, old enough to understand what was happening and young enough to experience the change in school culture that followed. Then on September 11, 2001, Chris watched the attacks on New York and Washington play out on the television after a half day at school. He was in ninth grade and had felt especially tied to New York since that is where his favorite baseball team was from. These events certainly helped shape Christopher's sense of safety over the course of his life.

As high school graduation approached, Christopher could not picture a future for himself. As a child, he had dreamed of serving in the Navy like his paternal grandfather, **James Albert Clough (1927-2011)**. Chris had a large collection of GI Joe action figures reflecting his interest. But Chris changed his mind, in part, because he could not swim. Thankfully, one of Christopher's teachers noticed the boy was adrift and suggested he attend a career fair for sport management professionals since she knew how much Chris loved baseball. Chris attended the fair in Toledo, Ohio, where he learned about working in professional sports and about Bowling Green State University (BGSU). When he learned BGSU would provide him a full academic scholarship due

to his high GPA and ACT score, Chris' mind was made up. He never applied to any other school and never even visited Bowling Green before orientation.

However, as his mom drove him past the cornfields on either side of I-75 as they approached Bowling Green, Ohio, Christopher wondered if perhaps he should have visited the school first. Bowling Green is located in Northwest Ohio among the fertile farmland of the former Great Black Swamp.<sup>6</sup> It is the county seat for Wood County and has approximately 30,000 permanent residents. The city itself is dominated by the main campus of Bowling Green State University, which has an enrollment of about 18,000. Although Bowling Green has a significantly higher proportion of African Americans than Dearborn, Christopher was originally most struck by the lack of diversity in the town. Compared to Chris' hometown, there were practically no Arab Americans in Bowling Green. Attending the school from 2005-2009, Christopher encountered racist attitudes among students at BGSU towards Muslims in relation to the 9/11 attacks and the ongoing wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Christopher instantly felt defensive of all the fine people he had grown up with without ever noticing that they were any different from himself. His experiences in Bowling Green helped Chris identify one of his core values: appreciating diversity.

Christopher's first major job after college further developed his understanding of diversity. At the Detroit Police Athletic League (PAL), he learned how to run great programs and about Detroit itself

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<sup>6</sup> Wikipedia contributors, "Bowling Green, Ohio," Wikipedia, accessed February 22, 2022, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bowling\\_Green,\\_Ohio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bowling_Green,_Ohio).



from his wonderful colleagues. They showed him the beauty of Detroit and Chris experienced and contributed to the revitalization of the city following the Great Recession. Chris created athletic and mentoring programs for children in some of the most challenging neighborhoods of Detroit. Through interactions with these children and their families, Chris developed greater compassion as well as an intimate understanding of systematic racism and chronic poverty.

This knowledge was reinforced when Christopher left Detroit PAL after six years to take a position at Ann Arbor Public Schools, in one of the wealthiest communities in Michigan. Although the kids looked and acted the same, the resources available within the district as compared to the Detroit schools that Christopher had worked with highlighted the massive inequality between the communities. Chris struggled to feel like his work had any purpose in that affluent community. Thankfully, his personal life was improving greatly during this time, which helped Chris feel grounded.

Christopher had already made a little family of himself and two rescued pit bulls, Pumpkin and Tybert. He bought a home for them in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, in 2013, in the same neighborhood that his parents had grown up in. However, in the span of just two years between 2013 and 2014, Chris met his future husband, **Douglas McIntosh (1962- )**, and informally adopted two children, Alison and Charles.

Ten years after leaving BGSU, Christopher decided it was time to start a career change. During the previous decade he had found who he was, bought two homes, married, adopted two children, and built a ca-

reer, all through disconcerting economic, political, and social conditions. Chris was drawn towards studying history, something that had been an interest during his childhood that he had not pursued.

Today, Christopher is working on a master's degree in history and gaining experience in the field after a long and successful career in parks and recreation. His children are both hardworking adults pursuing their own goals and he enjoys visiting with them. A cat has joined the household, but Chris and Doug have not ruled out more children. Besides getting his master's degree, Chris looks forward to moving "up north" in Michigan after his husband retires so they can spend more time together.

## GENERATION TWO

**Ala. Mariellen Dobbins (1957- )**

**Alb. Brian Richard Clough (1957- )**

Mariellen Dobbins was born in Detroit, Michigan, on November 5, 1957, to **Sally Jo Titus (1934-1997)** and **Donald Howard Dobbins (1933-1999)**.<sup>7</sup> The couple already had a son, **Donald Dallas Dobbins (1954-2012)** and would later add another daughter to the family, **Nancy Lynn Dobbins (1963- )**.<sup>8</sup>

They lived in Inkster, Michigan at the time of Mariellen's birth.<sup>9</sup> It was her father's hometown, and they rented a home close to his parents' farm. The Dobbins family had been pulled to Inkster the way that a great many people in Metro Detroit were, by Henry Ford. The town, located just west of Dearborn along Michigan Avenue, provided a short commute for those who could not live in Dearborn itself, such as African Americans. Donald's father, **Dallas Howard Dobbins (1900-1958)**, migrated to Dearborn from Arkansas during the 1920s, most likely seeking work in the auto industry. Donald shared his father's mechanical aptitude but ended up laid off from the Ford Motor Company in the late 1950s.

After a stint in the Army, Donald's next career choice dramatically shaped Mariellen's childhood. He applied to and was accepted as a member of the inaugural police force for Dearborn Heights township in 1961.<sup>10</sup> Mariellen was just 4 years old when her dad became a cop.

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<sup>7</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>8</sup> Mariellen Thomas, interviewed by author, February 18, 2022.

<sup>9</sup> Mariellen Thomas, email to author, February 21, 2022.

<sup>10</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

She and her siblings were sometimes picked up from school in a police car.<sup>11</sup> And during the civil unrest in Detroit in 1967, Mariellen recalls her dad sending the family up north for their safety since he had to be on call.<sup>12</sup>

As a member of the police, the Dobbins' had to live in Dearborn Heights and they lived in several homes in the city during Mariellen's childhood. The creation of the city itself reflected the turbulent times in which Mariellen grew up. Inkster had become a mostly African American community due to housing discrimination in surrounding cities. In response, two predominantly white sections of Dearborn Township, to the north and south of Inkster, sought to incorporate with sections of Nankin Township so that they would not be absorbed when Inkster incorporated.<sup>13</sup> However, the court ruled the new city had to be continuous. As such, they annexed a strip of Inkster to form a city in the shape of the letter "C". Inkster lost its appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court and the new city of Dearborn Heights officially incorporated in 1963.

Despite the social turbulence, military conflicts, and Cold War that dominated the 1960s and 1970s, Mariellen's childhood was mostly happy and peaceful. Although she can remember watching the Kennedy funeral and being concerned her brother might get drafted to serve in Vietnam, she states that "children of my generation were kids and did-

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<sup>11</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>12</sup> Mariellen Thomas, email to author, February 23, 2022.

<sup>13</sup> "Township Voters OK New City 'Dearborn Heights' Now Up to Courts," *Dearborn Press*, June 23, 1960: 1, digitized newspapers; Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

n't worry about what was happening in the world around us. If it didn't affect us directly, it didn't concern us."<sup>14</sup> Instead she remembers the cornfield that was near her first home and Christmas holidays with her dad's side of the family. Her mom's pies were very popular.

When Mariellen was 11 years old her family moved to a home on Jackson street in Dearborn Heights and she met the Clough family. They lived two houses down and had lots of kids to play with. Mariellen became best friends with **Kathleen Clough (1959- )** and sweethearts with **Brian Richard Clough (1957- )**. The two were married in June 1978 at Martha-Mary Chapel inside Greenfield Village.<sup>15</sup>

Mariellen lists the births of her four children as the most important events of her life to date.<sup>16</sup> **Rachel Lynn Clough (1978- )** was born on December 2, 1978. **Melissa Ann Clough (1982- )** followed on April 1, 1982, and the boys came later. During this time Mariellen, started her career. She got her first job at a local appliance store as part of a co-op in high school and worked for them for 8 years, until they went out of business. She has spent the 40 years since working as a bookkeeper at Area Construction, a small, family-owned architectural, construction, and property management firm located in Southfield, Michigan. She cites the company's owner, Tony Rea, as a mentor and major influence on her life. Christopher can remember Tony and other members of his mom's work from afternoons and summers spent around her office.

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<sup>14</sup> Mariellen Thomas, email to author, February 23, 2022.

<sup>15</sup> Mariellen Thomas, interview by author, April 16, 2022.

<sup>16</sup> Mariellen Thomas, email message to author, March 20, 2022.

Mariellen was not the first woman in her family to pursue a career. Although her mother did not work, Mariellen's aunts and her grandmother provided role models of women who worked. Acceptance of working women increased dramatically over Mariellen's lifetime. In Figure 9.2 "Approval of Married Women Working for Pay, by Year, Age, and Type of Place," Fisher and Hout show that public opinion regarding the appropriateness of married women working outside the home grew rapidly from the 1930s to the 1980s, especially among young and urban populations.<sup>17</sup> By the time Mariellen was pursuing her career, only a small faction of mostly older and rural people still disapproved of married women working.

In the late 1980s, Mariellen and Brian separated and then divorced. Mariellen met **John Thomas (1947- )** at her work and they married in 1991. Mariellen cites family as being the most important thing to her. She has four grandchildren: **Lilith Salens, Xavier Salens, Nathan Michael Thomas, and Abigail Lee Thomas**. Mariellen loves to dote on her grandchildren whenever they stay with her. She also enjoys visiting Greenfield Village, traveling to Florida to visit her oldest daughter, and going on cruises. Mariellen is well-known as an avid reader of fiction novels and a lover of tea. Christopher inherited his special connection with animals from his mom. However, Mariellen might love her dogs too much. They all end up the same shape: fat.

In the coming years, Mariellen looks forward to living a healthy life, traveling, and spending more time with her grandchildren.

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<sup>17</sup> Claude S. Fischer and Michael Hout, *Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 219.

Like his son, **Brian Richard Clough (1957- )** was born on a holiday. In this case, it was Halloween. On October 31, 1957, **James Albert Clough (1927-2011)** and **Martha Hester Lilley (1931-1989)** welcomed their second son to the world.<sup>18</sup> The Cloughs and Lilleys both had histories of large families, to which James and Martha would add five children of their own.

Brian lived at 4696 Jackson in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, surrounded by blocks of identical post-war suburban homes, for his entire childhood.<sup>19</sup> His earliest memories were of his mother talking to him as a baby and of his older brother jumping on the bed.<sup>20</sup> Brian had a happy childhood although, at times, he struggled in school with an undiagnosed learning disability. His hobbies included playing the guitar and painting, something that would become a lifelong love. On weekends, the family would frequently travel across the border to visit Martha's family in Ontario, Canada.

Brian's first job was at Fontana Cigarette and Tobacco Company in Detroit. He later worked at Borden Ice Cream Company also on Detroit's west side. While working in Detroit as a young man, Brian gained new perspective on the difficult circumstances some people lived in as compared to his own life. He said this increased his compassion and appreciation for what he had.

Brian was 30 years old when he and Mariellen separated. After that he moved around the metro Detroit area, living in several places

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<sup>18</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>19</sup> Brian Clough, Facebook message to author, February 13, 2022.

<sup>20</sup> Brian Clough, Facebook message to author, February 21, 2022.

for a couple years at a time. He also worked many different jobs but was a delivery driver for a cabinet company for 10 years.

Brian's life changed when he met a cute guy at Woodward Bar one night around his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. Richard King, a lanky Missourian, was working as a bartender and living at the Millwood Apartments behind the bar. The two hit it off and have been together ever since.

The couple moved to Ozark, Missouri, in 2004 to help Richard's parents keep up their business: a Christmas tree farm. The outdoor work suited Brian, reminding him of summer vacations spent helping on the Lilley family farms in Canada. But they do miss their friends as well as the excitement of living in Detroit.

On September 17, 2015, Brian and Richard were wed at the Green County judicial building in Springfield, MO. In 2022, they will celebrate 25 years together. They enjoy going out to eat at favorite spots and working in the garden together. Brian still paints. He has also learned to crochet. His children have many beloved paintings, hats, and scarves that were handmade by their dad.



### GENERATION THREE

**Ala1. Sally Jo Titus (1934-1997)**

**Ala2. Donald Howard Dobbins (1933-1999)**

**Alb1. Martha Hester Lilley (1931-1989)**

**Alb2. James Albert Clough (1927-2011)**

Christopher's maternal grandmother, **Sally Jo Titus (1934-1997)**, was born in Dearborn, Michigan on May 20, 1934, to **Clinton Melvin "Tim" Titus (1915-1979)** and **Pearl Adeline Meyers (1915-unk)**.<sup>21</sup> The couple had two more children, **Patricia** in 1936 and **Timothy** in 1937.<sup>22</sup> Unfortunately, the marriage did not last. One unverified family story is that Pearl was an alcoholic. They split up and both remarried. Tim married a woman named Evelyn by 1940 and they raised their family together in Dearborn Township, Michigan (now Dearborn Heights).<sup>23</sup>

Sally Jo attended the same elementary school as Christopher, Whitmore Bolles.<sup>24</sup> Aside from her parent's divorce, the most memorable event of her childhood must have been World War II. Sally Jo's father, "Tim" served in the Army during the conflict.<sup>25</sup> From 1943 to 1945, Sally Jo and her siblings must have been glued to the radio to hear the latest news about the war. Thankfully, her father came back safe and lived for many more years, providing the stability she needed in her family life.

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<sup>21</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>22</sup> Thomas, interview.

<sup>23</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHMS-G5X> : 10 January 2021), Sally Jo Titus in household of Clinton Titus, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 82-46, sheet 49A, line 3, family 916, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1827.

<sup>24</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>25</sup> "Clinton Titus (1915)," Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, Fold3, last modified October 1, 2013, <https://www.fold3.com/record/528510541/clinton-titus-1915-veterans-affairs-birls-death-file>.

Sally Jo graduated from Fordson High School in 1952.<sup>26</sup> After high school she worked as a waitress for a time. She met Donald Howard Dobbins of nearby Inkster, Michigan, and married him on February 7, 1953.<sup>27</sup> Unfortunately, the story of how they met has been lost to time.

Sally Jo was a short, pretty woman.<sup>28</sup> She was known for her love of animals and even raised poodles for a time during Mariellen's childhood. Sally Jo took care of the family while Don worked. After retirement, the pair moved to North Higgins Lake, Michigan, where they lived in a ski chalet-style cabin that Don and Don Jr. had built in the 1970s.

Sally Jo's grandchildren remembered her great ability to cook, the fact that she never learned to drive, and that she loved the color red. She loved country music and dragged her grandchildren to many concerts at county fairs. She was also an accomplished doll maker. It was a hobby she started to help the American Legion provide dolls for needy children.<sup>29</sup>

One of Sally Jo's favorite pastimes was ordering jewelry and other items from the shopping channel. She was born during the Great Depression and experienced the privation of the World War II years during her childhood. Perhaps this motivated her desire for material things.

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<sup>26</sup> Fordson High School, *Fleur De Lis* (Dearborn, MI: 1952), archives; Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>27</sup> Wayne County, Michigan, marriage license no. 842606 (1953), Donald Howard Dobbins and Sally Jo Titus, privately held by author, Warren, Michigan. 2022.

<sup>28</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>29</sup> Mariellen Thomas, interview, April 16, 2022.

Sally Jo died July 13, 1997, after battling cancer.<sup>30</sup> At the funeral home, the funeral director asked the family what they remembered about Sally Jo to which Christopher replied, "She yelled a lot at Grandpa," which made everyone laugh.

**Donald Howard Dobbins (1933-1999)** was born on May 18, 1933, to **Dallas Howard Dobbins (1900-1958)** and **Marion Rebecca Tucker (1907-1979)**. Don was the middle child of five and he was the only boy. His sisters **Nadine Elsie (1927-2021)**, **Dorothy May (1931-1993)**, **Barbara Ann (1935-2015)**, and **Betty Jean (1937-2008)** doted over him.<sup>31</sup> Christopher bears a resemblance to his maternal grandfather, Donald, who was tall, slim, and light-haired.

Mariellen Thomas reported that, shortly after marrying Sally Jo Titus, Don joined the Army and was stationed in Germany.<sup>32</sup> Don was accepted as one of the first police officers of the City of Dearborn Heights, Michigan, possibly based on his military experience and skill at sharpshooting.<sup>33</sup> His focus during his police career was working with youth and he was fondly remembered by older members of the department when Christopher met with them in 2014.<sup>34</sup>

After retirement, Don and Sally Jo moved north to North Higgins Lake, Michigan. Don was able to build on land there due to his veteran status. The land became associated with veterans in 1922 when local

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<sup>30</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JPRR-5NG> : 9 January 2021), Sally J Dobbins, 13 Jul 1997; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

<sup>31</sup> Personal knowledge of author as gathered from phone conversations with Nadine Dobbins before her death in 2021.

<sup>32</sup> Thomas, interview.

<sup>33</sup> Thomas, interview.

<sup>34</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

supporters purchased the land from the state to create a summer camp for wounded World War I veterans. Starting in the 1930s, the American Legion subleased plots to individual posts who made them available to their members. The community remains exclusive to veterans today.<sup>35</sup>

Don's grandchildren remember his Donald Duck impression and his tendency to tease. As an older man, he always dressed in blue jeans, a white V-neck undershirt, and a flannel shirt. He loved playing solitaire with a deck of cards and would play for a long time on the porch or in the house. His hands were long and thin. In his older years, they were marred by arthritis, which seems to plague the family.<sup>36</sup>

Don suffered a stroke while visiting his sisters in Washington in 1998 and died in hospice in Michigan on March 4, 1999.<sup>37</sup> He was buried with his police badge and his daughters warmly accepted the locks of their hair that he had always kept with him in his wallet.<sup>38</sup>

**Martha Hester Lilley (1931-1989)**, Christopher's paternal grandmother, was born at home on December 21, 1931, in Dutton, Ontario, Canada.<sup>39</sup> Martha was one of eleven children born to **Henry "Harry" Elmer**

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<sup>35</sup> "History," Campcurnalia.org, accessed March 18, 2022, <https://www.campcurnalia.org/history/>.

<sup>36</sup> Personal knowledge of the author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>37</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JRP4-NQS> : 9 January 2021), Donald H Dobbins, 04 Mar 1999; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing) and personal knowledge of author.

<sup>38</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>39</sup> "Michigan Death Index, 1971-1996," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VZ1M-N4B> : 4 December 2014), Martha H Clough, 1989; from "Michigan, Deaths, 1971-1996," database, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 1998); citing Center Line, Macomb, Michigan, death certificate number 35443, Michigan Department of Vital and Health Records, Lansing and personal knowledge of author.

**Lilley (1895-1974)** and **Catherine "Cassie" Marie Wrightman (1899-1986)**, which Cassie described as her "bouquet of lilies".<sup>40</sup>

The Lilleys lived on a 100-acre farm with no electricity, no running water, and no automobile beyond a tractor until well into the 1950s.<sup>41</sup> With so many children, there was always someone to play with. The kids received their education in the one-room Campbellton Schoolhouse, and they enjoyed amusements like ice skating in the winter.

When Martha was 13 years old a handsome American sailor came to visit the farm with her cousin, Bud.<sup>42</sup> The sailor, **James Albert Clough (1927-2011)** had been writing to Martha's older sister, June. But as she hid behind a door and watched him dance the jitterbug, Martha told her sister, Sadie, that she was going to marry that man. And she did, in 1952 near the family farm in Dutton, Ontario.<sup>43</sup>

Although Martha had been a shy child, she grew into an outgoing woman who loved to dance and flirt.<sup>44</sup> She looked like a movie star with her light blue eyes and thick, dark hair. Her children remember her tenacious personality and direct manner, something that she passed down to her children and grandchildren. Her hobbies included reading, watching soap operas, and catching up with friends, not that she had a lot of spare time as a mother of five. She did not enjoy cooking, but

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<sup>40</sup> Catherine Marie Wrightman Lilley, *A Bouquet of Lilies*, privately held by Brian Clough, Ozark, Missouri.

<sup>41</sup> Lilley, Ruleen, "The Life and Times of Mac Lilley," Standardbred Canada, accessed March 19, 2022, <https://standardbredcanada.ca/news/1-30-21/life-and-times-mac-lilley.html>.

<sup>42</sup> Kathy Hogan, Facebook message to author, March 16, 2022.

<sup>43</sup> Kathy Hogan, interview by author, April 16, 2022.

<sup>44</sup> Kathy Hogan, Facebook message, March 16, 2022.

she made the best pork chops in an iron skillet and could put together a wonderful holiday meal.<sup>45</sup>

Martha was a proud Canadian who converted to Catholicism for her husband, but never became an American.<sup>46</sup> She and Jim would frequently take the kids to visit her family on the farm back home. When Martha died in 1989, after battling with brain cancer, her daughter, Kathy, included a maple leaf to be buried with her.

**James (Jim) Albert Clough (1927-2011)** was born July 21, 1927, to **James Clough (1900-1979)** and **Laura Mary St. Charles (1899-unk)**.<sup>47</sup> He was their second child and oldest boy. Shortly after James' birth, his hometown of Fordson Township, Michigan, consolidated with the City of Dearborn.<sup>48</sup> He attended Henry Ford School and then Fordson High School where he earned a letter in football.<sup>49</sup> After high school, Jim joined the United States Navy and served overseas in China and Japan.<sup>50</sup> He told stories of being in China during the Communist Revolution there.

Jim had a difficult upbringing, and he was known in high school for being tough and a troublemaker.<sup>51</sup> According to a family story,

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<sup>45</sup> Michele Dornbrock, Facebook message to author, March 18, 2022.

<sup>46</sup> James Clough, Facebook message to author, March 16, 2022.

<sup>47</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JG19-YM2> : 12 January 2021), James Albert Clough, 31 Mar 2011; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing) and "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NQ9N-X3T> : 18 February 2021), James Clough and Laura St. Charles, 23 Aug 1922; citing Marriage, Highland Park, Wayne, Michigan, , Citing Secretary of State, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 4210099.

<sup>48</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHMM-H8C> : 10 January 2021), James Clough, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 82-15, sheet 10B, line 42, family 203, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1825.

<sup>49</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

<sup>50</sup> Personal knowledge of the author. Unable to verify through official documents for this project.

<sup>51</sup> Kathy Hogan, interview.

which the author could not verify, Jim suffered a traumatic closed brain injury shortly after returning from the Navy. This occurred while Jim was working and got into a traffic accident in which he was thrown from the truck. Jim told his children that he had been unconscious for six days after the accident and suffered some amnesia. In fact, he still did not fully remember his fiancé, Martha Lilley, when they got married a few months later. The relationship worked out, perhaps because of Jim's dramatic change in personality. He became known as an easy-going, mellow guy. His family remembers him only as warm and loving. Jim never complained about pain or headaches during his life, but he would often be seen rubbing the back of his head.

Jim married Martha Hester Lilley of Dutton, Ontario, Canada and the two eventually made their home together in Dearborn Heights, Michigan. They had five children: **James (1954- )**, **Brian (1957- )**, **Kathleen (1959- )**, **Michele (1963- )**, and **Matthew (1968- )**.<sup>52</sup> Jim and Martha must have been caring parents because their children show great love and devotion to them to this day, long after both have passed away.

Jim made his career calibrating scales in the many auto plants around metro Detroit.<sup>53</sup> He had a passion for cars. His favorite was the Ford Galaxie 500, but he also bought his wife a 1968 Ford Mustang with a big V8 engine. Besides cars, he enjoyed taking his kids to the Detroit River to watch the boats. Boat watching on the river is something that Christopher enjoys as well. Jim also had an interest in

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<sup>52</sup> Kathy Hogan, Facebook message to author, March 29, 2022.

<sup>53</sup> Personal knowledge of author, Christopher Clough.

television documentaries, like those of Jacques Cousteau, and in horse racing.<sup>54</sup>

Martha preceded him in death by many years, but Jim remained devoted to his children and grandchildren. He was even blessed to see two great grandchildren before he passed on March 31, 2011.<sup>55</sup>

Christopher enjoyed weekly calls and occasional visits with his paternal grandfather in the years immediately before his death. During those talks Jim described fishing and playing with friends in wooded areas where Chris could only remember modern neighborhoods. Christopher learned that Jim played the clarinet in school and that he still knew many words in Japanese from his time in the Navy. The two became quite close and it was very painful for Chris when his grandfather died.

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<sup>54</sup> Brian Clough, Facebook message to author, March 29, 2022.

<sup>55</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," James Albert Clough.



## Generation Four

### Generation Four

- Ala1a. Pearl Adeline Meyers (1915-unk)
- Ala1b. Clinton "Tim" Melvin Titus (1915-1979)
- Ala2a. Marion Rebecca Tucker (1907-1975)
- Ala2b. Dallas Howard Dobbins (1900-1958)
- Alb1a. Catherine "Cassie" Marie Wrightman (1899-1986)
- Alb1b. Henry "Harry" Elmer Lilley (1895-1974)
- Alb2a. Laura Mary St. Charles (1898-unk)
- Alb2b. James Clough (1900-1979)

**Pearl Adeline Meyers (1915-unk)** was born on June 8, 1915, in Dearborn, Michigan. Her father worked as a chemist for the Fordson Tractor plant and later as the superintendent of Henry Ford's Water Filtration Plant.<sup>56</sup> Based on the homes in Dearborn that the Meyers owned in 1920 and rented in 1930, it appears as though Pearl and her siblings enjoyed the material comforts of the growing middle class. Her father worked "white collar" jobs and her mother worked as a salesperson at a debt store.<sup>57</sup> On July 7, 1933, she married **Clinton Melvin "Tim" Titus** of Indiana.<sup>58</sup> It is not known how they met or why their marriage fell apart by 1940. However, Mariellen Thomas recalls hearing a family story that Pearl was an alcoholic.<sup>59</sup> Additionally, the

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<sup>56</sup> "United States Census, 1920", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZ7L-7SY> : 2 February 2021), Pearl Myers in entry for William B Myers, 1920 and "United States Census, 1930," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X7ML-588> : accessed 24 February 2022), Pearl Myers in household of William Myers, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 903, sheet 4B, line 86, family 99, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1031; FHL microfilm 2,340,766 and Ford R. Bryan, "Dearborn's Chemical Park- Part II: Henry Ford's Water-works," *The Dearborn Historian* 23, no. 2 (Spring 1983): 44-50.

<sup>57</sup> "United States Census, 1930," William Myers, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan.

<sup>58</sup> "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:DBW8-NPPZ> : 7 April 2021), Pearl Meyers in entry for Clinton Titus, 1933.

<sup>59</sup> Personal knowledge of author from previous conversations with Mariellen Thomas.

Great Depression years could have been very difficult on the young couple, especially after three babies had been born. After the divorce, Sally Jo Titus and her younger siblings stayed with their father, Tim.<sup>60</sup> Pearl married Garland Van Gogh of Detroit, Michigan, on July 13, 1940, in Indiana.<sup>61</sup> Pearl gave birth to a daughter, Mary, in 1942 who died after just one month.<sup>62</sup> Pearl and Garland divorced at some point after that.<sup>63</sup> After that, no records of Pearl have been found. Mariellen Thomas recalled Pearl's last known whereabouts as around Atlanta, Michigan. Since Pearl did not stay in touch with her children, the personal details of her life have not been passed down through the generations.

**Clinton "Tim" Melvin Titus (1915-1979)** was born on October 13, 1915, in Trilla, Illinois. He was one of 10 children born to **William "Jesse" Titus (1875-1929)** and **Sarah Ellen Smithers (1879-1967)**. The family resided on a farm just west of Trilla until moving to Dearborn, Michigan, around 1925, most likely to find work related to Ford Motor Company.<sup>64</sup> Instead, Jesse became a laborer with the City of Dearborn

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<sup>60</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHMS-G5D> : 10 January 2021), Clinton Titus, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 82-46, sheet 49A, line 1, family 916, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1827.

<sup>61</sup> "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K3LD-JDK> : 31 December 2021), Garland Van Gogh and Pearl Titus, 13 Jan 1940; citing , Marriage Registration, Indiana Commission on Public Records, Indianapolis; FHL microfilm 005329151.

<sup>62</sup> "Michigan Death Certificates, 1921-1952," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KFQ4-VGL> : 13 March 2018), Pearl Meyer in entry for Mary Van Gogh, 31 Aug 1942; citing Wyandotte, Wayne, Michigan, United States, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Lansing; FHL microfilm 1,972,944.

<sup>63</sup> "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:2Q77-R36> : 13 October 2021), Garland G Van Gogh and Violet Burnia, 1945.

<sup>64</sup> *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/68619286/william-jesse-titus> : accessed 03 April 2022), memorial page for William Jesse Titus (20 Oct 1877–31 Oct 1929), Find a Grave Memorial ID [68619286](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/68619286), citing Zion Chapel Cemetery, Neoga, Cumberland County, Illinois, USA ; Maintained by Kevin Titus (contributor [48141092](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/68619286/william-jesse-titus)) .

and met a tragic death in 1929.<sup>65</sup> Tim was only 14 years old at the time, but he had many older siblings to help support the family.

Tim married **Pearl Adeline Meyer (1915-unk)**, a girl he likely knew from school. After Pearl and Tim divorced, he retained custody of their three children: **Sally Jo Titus (1934-1997)**, **Patricia (1935-2004)**, and **Timothy Titus (1937-1980)**. Tim married **Evelyn Claire Edwards (1921-2002)** on January 20, 1940, and later remarried again.<sup>66</sup>

Tim was enlisted in the United States Army on August 8, 1943. He served in World War II and was released from service on September 14, 1945.<sup>67</sup> More information on Tim's military service is needed. However, a photo of him from the time shows a smiling, goofy-looking guy with dimples in his round cheeks.<sup>68</sup> He wears a GI uniform with his helmet cocked to the side and sends a happy grin back to his family.

It is unclear what Tim's occupation was after his service, however the release of the 1950 United States census may add more information. We know that, as a child his granddaughter, Mariellen Dobbins, would paint his fingernails and put bows in his hair whenever he would come to visit and fall asleep in a chair.<sup>69</sup> Tim lived in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, until his death on December 31, 1979.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>65</sup> "Workman Killed in Sewer Cave-In," *The Dearborn Press*, November 7, 1929, 1, digitized newspapers, Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>66</sup> Mariellen Thomas, interview with author, April 16, 2022.

<sup>67</sup> "Clinton Titus (1915)," Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File.

<sup>68</sup> Clinton "Tim" Melvin Titus photograph, ca. 1943, digital image ca. 2015, privately held by the author, Warren, Michigan, 2022. Original in the possession of Mariellen Thomas, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>69</sup> Mariellen Thomas, email to author, February 23, 2022.

<sup>70</sup> "Michigan Death Index, 1971-1996," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VZ1V-3W8> : 4 December 2014), Clinton M Titus, 31 Dec 1979; from "Michigan, Deaths, 1971-1996," database, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 1998); citing Allen Park City, Wayne, Michigan, death certificate number 71007, Michigan Department of Vital and Health Records, Lansing.

**Marion Rebecca Tucker (1907-1975)** was born in Nankin Township, Michigan, on July 5, 1907, to **Leroy Edgger Tucker (1885-1961)**<sup>71</sup> and **Elsie May Knope (1888-1968)**, both of Dearborn.<sup>72</sup> At the time of her birth, Marion's father was listed as a milk dealer.<sup>73</sup> Marion spent her early years on a farm, but her father had moved them "downriver" to Trenton, Michigan, by 1920 where he found work in a tractor factory.

Perhaps most surprising about Marion's early life was that she was an only child. This was quite unusual for the time. In Figure 4.3 "Observed and Projected Fertility of Women Who Reached Childbearing Age in the Twentieth Century, by Year of Birth Plus Thirty," Fischer and Hout show how birth rates varied from 1900 to 2000, while maintaining an overall downward trend. In 1900, the average number of births per woman was about four. But the most fertile of the cohort averaged closer to seven births.<sup>74</sup> On his father's side, Chris' four great-great grandmothers, born between 1860 and 1875, gave birth to 10, 8, 10, and 6 children, respectively. They averaged 8.5 births per woman. But Marion's mother, **Elsie May Knope (1888-1968)** seems to have only given birth once. Based on the recollection of one of Marion's children, **Nadine Dobbins (1927-2021)**, Elsie may have suffered from some severe mental or emotional condition, which may have impacted her

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<sup>71</sup> Leroy spelled his middle name with two g's. "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K6X5-52H> : 24 December 2021), Leroy Edger Tucker, 1917-1918.

<sup>72</sup> "Michigan, County Births, 1867-1917," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGKR-8VST> : 19 July 2021), Tucker, 5 Jul 1907; citing Birth, various county courts, Michigan.

<sup>73</sup> "Michigan, County Births, 1867-1917," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGKR-8VST> : 19 July 2021), Tucker, 5 Jul 1907; citing Birth, various county courts, Michigan.

<sup>74</sup> Claude S. Fischer and Michael Hout, *Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 66.

ability to have children. By the time Marion was an adult, her mother was an invalid requiring constant care.<sup>75</sup>

On November 26, 1926, Marion married a tall Southern man who was seven years her senior, **Dallas Howard Dobbins (1900-1958)**.<sup>76</sup> By 1930, the young family was renting a home at 5903 Calhoun Street in Dearborn, near Fordson High School. At the time of the census, their first child, Nadine, was two years old and Dallas was working as a crane operator at an auto factory.<sup>77</sup> They apparently weathered the Great Depression well enough because by 1940, the family had bought a farm in nearby Inkster Township and Dallas was still working as a crane operator.<sup>78</sup> The farm and its residences would remain in the family at least through Mariellen Dobbins' childhood. Today it is the site of an apartment complex.

Unfortunately, little information about Marion's personality and experiences has been passed down. Her last remaining child, Nadine, passed away in 2021. Marion herself died on November 3, 1975, at the age of 68.<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Nadine Dobbins, personal communication with the author, 2020.

<sup>76</sup> Unable to verify this marriage date with documentation. It is only listed in the handwritten notes of Nadine Dobbins. However, Nadine kept good records and would have been particular about her parents' marriage date.

<sup>77</sup> "United States Census, 1930," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X7ML-4ZQ> : accessed 7 April 2022), Marion Dobbins in household of Dallas Dobbins, Dearborn, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 888, sheet 3B, line 81, family 168, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1030; FHL microfilm 2,340,765.

<sup>78</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHMS-QK6> : 10 January 2021), Marion R Dobbins in household of Dallas H Dobbins, Inkster, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 82-42, sheet 7B, line 50, family 121, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1827.

<sup>79</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JPYJ-JZX> : 9 January 2021), Marion Dobbins, Nov 1975; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

**Dallas Howard Dobbins (1900-1958)** represents Christopher's only line of ancestors from the American south. Dallas was born in Arkansas on September 1, 1900.<sup>80</sup> His father, **Alvis Houston Dobbins (1857-1914)**, was a dentist. Dallas' family included his parents and five siblings. They owned a home in Greenwood, Arkansas, although they listed their home as Center, Arkansas, during the 1910 census.<sup>81</sup>

Dallas' father died in 1914, which must have been deeply disrupting to the family.<sup>82</sup> It seems like the family may have lost their home after that as they began to move to different places. In September 1918, just 11 days after he turned 18, Dallas registered for the draft. He listed his permanent residence as with his mother in Augusta, Kansas, a long way from the draft office in Bentonville, Arkansas.<sup>83</sup> Dallas was not called to serve and he has not been located again in the public record until the 1930 census in Dearborn, Michigan. Further research of his mother or siblings may clear up questions about what happened to the family and how Dallas ended up in Michigan.

It is most likely that he migrated to metro Detroit looking for work in the auto industry and he is lucky he found it before the Great Depression hit. Dallas listed his occupation as a crane operator for

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<sup>80</sup> "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K3PR-BT5> : 25 December 2021), Dallas Howard Dobbins, 1917-1918.

<sup>81</sup> "United States Census, 1910," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MKK9-PYN> : accessed 8 April 2022), Dallis Dobins in household of Alvis H Dobins, Center, Sebastian, Arkansas, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 134, sheet 9A, family 181, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 65; FHL microfilm 1,374,078.

<sup>82</sup> *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/30507571/a-h-dobbins> : accessed 9 April 2022), memorial page for A. H. Dobbins (19 Jan 1857–5 Jun 1914), Find a Grave Memorial ID [30507571](#), citing Cross Cemetery, Greenwood, Sebastian County, Arkansas, USA ; Maintained by Rock Talker (contributor [47016709](#)) .

<sup>83</sup> "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918", Dallas Howard Dobbins.

an automotive plant in both the 1930 and 1940 census. But that does not mean that he was not part of the massive layoff of auto workers during the 1930s. At the very least, he likely experienced reduced wages and reduced hours. However, he was able to purchase a small farm in Inkster Township, Michigan, for his family during that time.

Dallas and Marion had five children between 1927 and 1937, four girls and one boy. Unfortunately, little has been recorded about Dallas' personality and life experiences. However, he was remembered as a caring father by his oldest daughter, Nadine, during the last year of her long life. She recalled that he made sure she knew how to drive.<sup>84</sup>

According to his page on FamilySearch, Dallas died on August 31, 1958, although a source of this information was not provided. The date was most likely entered by his daughter, Nadine. There is more research to be done on the Dobbins-McKelvey side of the family.

**Catherine "Cassie" Marie Wrightman (1889-1986)** was born in Ekfrid Township, a small farming community in Middlesex County, Ontario, Canada.<sup>85</sup> Cassie's baby picture shows a chubby cheeked child with piercing eyes and soft, light hair.<sup>86</sup> Census documents from 1901 and 1911 list the family's heritage as German and their religion as Baptist.<sup>87</sup> She

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<sup>84</sup> Nadine Dobbins, personal communication, 2020.

<sup>85</sup> "Canada, Ontario Births, 1869-1912," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FM69-PV2> : 2 March 2021), Catherine M. Wrightman, 15 Sep 1899; citing Birth, Ekfrid, Middlesex, Ontario, Canada, citing Archives of Ontario, Toronto; FHL microfilm 2,021,632.

<sup>86</sup> Catherine "Cassie" Marie Wrightman, *FamilySearch*, last modified March 15, 2022, [https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187819?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20%22Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20\(L89J-HGD\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187819?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20%22Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20(L89J-HGD)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD).

<sup>87</sup> "Canada Census, 1901," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHLV-N2V> : 23 February 2021), Cathrine M Wrightman in household of Allan Wrightman, Middlesex (west/ouest), Ontario, Canada; citing p. 7, Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa and "Recensement du Canada de 1911," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV9G->

was the fourth living child to **Allen Wrightman (1864-1922)** and **Susan Barbara Thayer (1865-1942)**.

Little is known about Cassie's life on the farm during her childhood, but much is known about her adult life as a daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother. Cassie wrote about her life and a few of her poems were saved in a pamphlet called "A Bouquet of Lilies," published by her family after her death. Of her husband, **Henry "Harry" Elmer Lilley (1895-1974)**, she wrote:

I look at my husband, the joy of my life  
Love floods my heart, for I am his wife  
Tho' his steps may falter, his eyes get dim  
To me he is romance, like fine filtered wine.<sup>88</sup>

Photos from the book show a healthy young couple working together on the farm. They produced 11 children, four sons and seven daughters. Those children produced so many children and grandchildren of their own that the Lilleys have their own Facebook group called Lilley Family Memories and History. It has 104 members.

Christopher's father and his siblings still have fond memories of their Grandma Lilley, who they describe as "hilarious"<sup>89</sup>. They recall her cast-iron stove and hand pump sink. Cassie and Harry raised their children through the Great Depression. They were never materially wealthy but held great love for each other. Eventually one of Cassie

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T82C : 29 March 2022), Cathrine Wrightman in entry for Allan Wrightman, 1911; citing Census, Middlesex, Ontario, Canada, Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario; FHL microfilm.

<sup>88</sup> Catherine Marie Wrightman Lilley, "My Wealth," *A Bouquet of Lilies*, last modified March 16, 2022, [https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187610?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20%22Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20\(L89J-HGD\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187610?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20%22Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20(L89J-HGD)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD).

<sup>89</sup> Kathy Hogan, interview, April 16, 2022.



and Harry's sons, Mac, bought out the farm and found great success not as a farmer, but as a breeder of racehorses. Cassie, however, had already found her treasure:

Children, grandchildren and greats  
How thankful I am so blessed  
For God must see some good in our line  
And I see my sweetheart's traits  
That good clean look  
That comes from an honest face.<sup>90</sup>

Cassie died February 4, 1986, but she has certainly not been forgotten.<sup>91</sup>

**Henry "Harry" Elmer Lilley (1895-1974)** was the third son of **George Henry Lilley (1861-1931)** and **Martha Lavina Hooper (1871-1916)**.<sup>92</sup> According to family stories and census documents, Harry was a farmer all his life.<sup>93</sup> There are dozens of pictures of Harry in his overalls or out on the farm with a horse.

Based on the poetry of his wife, it seems that Harry enjoyed a life filled with love and joy. He married **Catherine "Cassie" Marie**

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<sup>90</sup> Catherine Marie Wrightman Lilley, "Memories that Never Die," *A Bouquet of Lilies*, last modified March 15, 2022, [https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187628?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20\(L89J-HGD\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/143187628?p=43959810&returnLabel=Catherine%20Cassie%22%20Marie%20Wrightman%20(L89J-HGD)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FL89J-HGD).

<sup>91</sup> "Dedication," *A Bouquet of Lilies*, last modified March 15, 2022, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/memories/L89J-HGD>.

<sup>92</sup> "Canada Census, 1901," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KH2K-6C9> : 23 February 2021), Henry E Lilley in household of Henry G Lilley, Elgin (west/ouest), Ontario, Canada; citing p. 1, Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa.

<sup>93</sup> Ruleen Lilley, "The Life and Times of Mac Lilley," *Standardbred Canada*, January 30, 2021, <https://standardbredcanada.ca/news/1-30-21/life-and-times-mac-lilley.html> and "Recensement du Canada de 1911," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV9T-S5K8> : 17 March 2022), Henry Lilley in entry for Henry Lilley, 1911; citing Census, Elgin, Ontario, Canada, Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario; FHL microfilm .

**Wrightman (1889-1986)** on April 30, 1919, at St. Thomas, Ontario.<sup>94</sup> They seemed to stay sweethearts throughout their marriage, despite the stresses of raising eleven children during the Great Depression and World War II.

One family story about Harry stands out from the rest. The Lilleys lived in a rural area and did not get indoor plumbing until the 1950s. Today, we take for granted that indoor toilets are an improvement over outhouses. But at a gathering at the old farmhouse in the 1960s, with everyone eating outside in the nice weather, Harry is remembered to have said, "I'll never get over it. What kind of people eat outside and s\*\*\* in the house?"<sup>95</sup> In Harry's mind, only poor people ate outside, and indoor toilets were a modern convenience he could do without. In Figure 6.6 "Households with Key Domestic Goods, by Year," Fisher and Hout chart the household adoption of important consumer products over the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The graph shows that when Harry was born in 1895, only about 1 one 10 Americans owned an indoor toilet. But by his death in the 1970s, nearly everyone did. Although Fisher and Hout studied the American experience, Harry and his family in Ontario would have faced a similar situation to rural Americans.<sup>96</sup>

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<sup>94</sup> "Canada, Ontario Marriages, 1869-1927," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:27DM-P4B> : 8 March 2021), Henry Lilley in entry for Henry Elmer Lilley and Catherine Marie Wrightman, 30 Apr 1919; citing registration , St Thomas, Elgin, Ontario, Canada, Archives of Ontario, Toronto; FHL microfilm 2,210,702.

<sup>95</sup> Kathy Hogan, interview, April 16, 2022.

<sup>96</sup> Claude S. Fischer and Michael Hout, *Century of Difference; How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 156.

Harry died on April 7, 1974, thankfully before the introduction of the personal computer. He is buried at Cowal McBrides Cemetery in Elgin County, Ontario, near where he was born.<sup>97</sup>

Although her birth certificate has not been located, **Laura Mary St. Charles (1898-unk)** was most likely born in Alpena, Michigan in September 1898.<sup>98</sup> Her parents were French Canadians who immigrated to Northern Michigan in the 1870s. A photo from Laura's childhood shows an extremely homely girl dressed completely in white for her confirmation ceremony.<sup>99</sup> The family's Catholic tradition was passed down to Laura's children and even Christopher and his siblings were exposed to the faith as children.

Laura's father, **Albert St. Charles (1860-1907)** was a laborer who followed the lumber industry. The family moved north to Presque Isle County, Michigan, sometime between 1902 and 1907, likely following the lumber industry.<sup>100</sup> Shortly after, Laura's father died leaving the family without their primary provider. Thankfully, Laura had several older siblings, including five brothers, who could help her mother. The family was in the right place at the right time to recover from tragedy. Some of them migrated to Highland Park, Michigan, where Henry

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<sup>97</sup> *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/231187087/catherine-lilley> : accessed 29 March 2022), memorial page for Catherine Wrightman Lilley (1899–1986), Find a Grave Memorial ID 231187087, citing Cowal McBrides Cemetery, Shedden, Elgin County, Ontario, Canada ; Maintained by Clint Lilley (contributor 50961009).

<sup>98</sup> "United States Census, 1900", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M91X-6L5> : 11 March 2022), Laura St Charles in entry for Albert St Charles, 1900.

<sup>99</sup> "Laura St. Charles confirmation," about 1910, likely Alpena, Michigan, photograph in the private collection of Kathy Hogan, Atlanta, Michigan.

<sup>100</sup> "Albert St. Charles Timeline," *FamilySearch*, last accessed April 17, 2022, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/timeline/G431-BNF>.

Ford was building Model T's and jobs were available for both men and women in related industries.

On August 23, 1922, Laura married **James Clough (1900-1979)**. They had seven children, six of whom lived to adulthood. Laura was described by her grandchildren simply as "fine."<sup>101</sup> She turned a blind eye to her husband's terrible acts and, in the process, became forever tied to his legacy. Her date of death and burial place could not be located. Perhaps the loss of her identity is the most penance she can pay from the grave.

**James Clough (1900-1979)** was an alcoholic and a pedophile.<sup>102</sup> Out of respect for those he victimized he will receive no additional attention in this narrative.

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<sup>101</sup> Kathy Hogan, Facebook message to author, March 27, 2022.

<sup>102</sup> Anonymous, interview by author, 2022.

## Generation Five

Ala1a1. Bernice "Mary" Fitzgerald (1892-unk)  
Ala1a2. William B Meyers (1892-unk)

Ala1b1. Sarah Ellen Smithers (1879-1964)  
Ala1b2. William Jesse Titus (1875-1929)

Ala2a1. Elsie May Knope (1888-1968)  
Ala2a2. LeRoy Edgar Tucker (1885-1961)

Ala2b1. Kizzie Relta McKelvey (1870-1923)  
Ala2b2. Alvis Houston Dobbins (1857-1914)

Alb1a1. Sarah Thayer (1882-unk)  
Alb1a2. Allen Wrightman (1863-1922)

Alb1b1. Martha Lavina Hooper (1871-1916)  
Alb1b2. George Henry Lilley (1861-1931)

Alb2a1. Eusebia LeBlanc (unk-1921)  
Alb2a2. Albert St. Charles (1861-1907)

Alb2b1. Elizabeth McIntosh (1864-1949)  
Alb2b2. James Clough (1872-1965)

Generation Five is particularly interesting because they were the primary actors in the migration to the metro Detroit area. Of the 16 members of the generation, only two were born in Michigan. Half of them were born outside of the United States. Yet, 12 of them died in Michigan. One set of them came for the lumber industry and migrated to Detroit later. The rest heeded the call of the growing auto industry. This generation witnessed and participated in a period of unprecedented modernization, immigration, and urbanization in the United States. Some of them were the children of Civil War veterans, who went on to experience one or even two world wars themselves. Many of them also lived through the Great Depression, some as older workers who would have had less job security during layoffs and business closures. Select members of this generation will be highlighted.

**Bernice "Mary" Fitzgerald (1892-unk)** and **William B. Meyers (1892-unk)** were both born in Wisconsin. Careful research is needed to uncover the Meyers' family line due to the presence of a William C. Meyers in the same area, born in 1894, to parents also named Henry and Mary. More information is also needed for the Fitzgerald line. Only Bernice's parents' names, John and Helen, are known at this time.<sup>103</sup> William and Bernice married on February 9, 1915, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It seems they already had a two-year-old daughter, **Ruby Meyers (1912-unk)**, and their second daughter, Pearl, was born in June of that year. William pursued a career first as a chemist for Fordson Tractor

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<sup>103</sup> "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N3P8-Z4B> : 18 February 2021), William B. Meyer and Bernice Fitzgerald, 9 Feb 1915; citing Marriage, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw, Michigan, , Citing Secretary of State, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 4209294.

and later served as the superintendent of Henry Ford's Water Filtration Plant which supplied drinking water to Dearborn and several surrounding communities starting in 1914.<sup>104</sup> Apparently William was a gifted scientist who correctly identified the source of a diphtheria outbreak in the community as being caused by bacteria in milk. A family story told that William later owned a tavern on Telegraph Road in Taylor, Michigan, named the Wagon Wheel. This story was confirmed by the 1940 census, which listed William and Bernice as operators of a tavern.<sup>105</sup> Dates of death are needed for both William and Bernice, along with their place of burial.

**Sarah Ellen Smithers (1879-1964)** and **William Jesse Titus (1875-1929)** both came from farm families. Sarah Ellen was born in the tiny farm community of Jewett, Illinois. She brought the population up to 138 when she was born.<sup>106</sup> Her father, **Jacob Smithers (1830-1900)** was a farmer from Ohio.<sup>107</sup> Her mother, **Sarah C. Kelly (1841-1900)** was an Irish immigrant.<sup>108</sup> In 1902, Sarah married a divorced farmer from her same small community, Jesse Titus.<sup>109</sup> On Christmas Day 1903, they were

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<sup>104</sup> Bryan, "Dearborn's Chemical Park- Part II: Henry Ford's Waterworks," 44-45.

<sup>105</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KHM9-9QB> : 10 January 2021), William Meyer, Taylor Twp, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 82-221B, sheet 13B, line 42, family 315, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1836.

<sup>106</sup> Wikipedia contributors, "Jewett, Illinois," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Jewett,\\_Illinois&oldid=1077280569](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Jewett,_Illinois&oldid=1077280569) (accessed April 11, 2022).

<sup>107</sup> "United States Census, 1870", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M67L-TL1> : 28 May 2021), Jacob Smothers, 1870.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

<sup>109</sup> Titus Family. Family Bible Records, 1875-1979, *The Holy Bible*, "Family Register"; privately held by Mariellen Thomas, Dearborn, Michigan, 2022.

blessed with their first child.<sup>110</sup> They would go on to have 11 children.

For reasons unknown, the family left their farm tradition and moved to Dearborn, Michigan, between 1925 and 1927. Perhaps they had run into bad luck on the farm. If so, the luck followed them to the city. According to articles in the *Dearborn Press* and *Dearborn Independent*, William Jesse Titus died on October 31, 1929, while working for the city to build a new sewer line. There was a cave-in, and he was buried alive under 15 feet of sand.<sup>111</sup> Tragedy struck again in 1935 when their 16-year-old son, Roscoe, was struck and killed by a passenger train while on his way to the movies with a friend.<sup>112</sup> Despite these tragic circumstances, Sarah Ellen stayed in Dearborn for the rest of her life. She died on January 10, 1967. Her obituary stressed the blessings of her life: six living children, 28 grandchildren, and 60 great grandchildren, including Christopher's mother.<sup>113</sup>

**Kizzie Relta McKelvey (1870-1923)**, alternatively spelled Kizzia and Kizza, was born in Sebastian County, Arkansas, in January 1870 to **George N. McKelvey (1850-1882)** and **Margaret I. Parker (1851-unk)**.<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>110</sup> Titus Family. Family Bible Records, 1875-1979, *The Holy Bible*, "Children"; privately held by Mariellen Thomas, Dearborn, Michigan, 2022.

<sup>111</sup> "Workman Killed in Sewer Cave-In," *The Dearborn Press* and "Small Sewer Cave-In Kills William Titus," *The Dearborn Independent*, November 1, 1929, 1, digitized newspapers, Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>112</sup> "Two Boys Killed Instantly When Struck By Train," *The Dearborn Independent*, April 25, 1935, 1 and "Double Funeral Will Be Held for Train Victims," *The Dearborn Independent*, April 26, 1935, 1, digitized newspapers, Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>113</sup> "Sarah E. Titus," *The Dearborn Press*, January 19, 1967, 8-B, digitized newspapers, Dearborn Historical Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

<sup>114</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MNWP-KN5> : 13 January 2022), Kizza R. McKelly in household of George McKelly, Bates Township, Sebastian, Arkansas, United States; citing enumeration district , sheet , NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FHL microfilm .



Kizzie's ancestors appear to have been farmers and planters of varying degrees of wealth who moved west along with the opening of farm land from more coastal areas like South Carolina and Georgia.<sup>115</sup> When she was 18, she married 31-year-old dentist, **Alvis Houston Dobbins (1857-1914)**.<sup>116</sup> Houston, as he preferred to be called, and his family had moved from North Carolina about 1860.<sup>117</sup> **Alvis Buren Dobbins (1821-unk)** was a farmer and blacksmith.<sup>118</sup> His wife **Nancy (1827-unk)** had been a cook but was later struck with paralysis.<sup>119</sup> It appears Houston stayed on with his parents long after his siblings had started their own families, perhaps to help care for his mother.

Kizzie and Houston went on to have six children between the years 1889 and 1909. They raised their family mostly in Greenwood, Arkansas, until Houston died in 1914.<sup>120</sup> At that time, the family started to drift away from Arkansas, with most of the children going west to Cal-

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<sup>115</sup> South Carolina Department of Archives and History, S108093: South Carolina Will Transcripts (Micro-copy No 9) MCKELVEY, JOHN OF LAURENS DISTRICT, WILL TYPESCRIPT (MSS WILL: ESTATE RECORD BOOK F, PAGE 93; ESTATE PACKET: BDL 51, PKG 1) (2 FRAMES) and "United States Census, 1850," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MCD7-33S> : 23 December 2020), John McKelvey, Benton, Tennessee, United States; citing family , NARA microfilm publication (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>116</sup> "Arkansas, County Marriages, 1837-1957," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N9WF-6Z7> : 9 March 2021), Kizzia R McKilvey in entry for Alvis H Dobbins, 4 Dec 1888; citing Marriage, Sebastian, Arkansas, United States, county offices, Arkansas; FHL microfilm 1,034,074.

<sup>117</sup> "United States Census, 1860," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8W3-ZML> : 18 February 2021), Houston Dobbins in entry for Alvis Dobbins, 1860 and "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MN7B-NQB> : 13 January 2022), Alvis H. Dobbins in household of A. Dobbins, Eureka Springs, Carroll, Arkansas, United States; citing enumeration district , sheet , NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FHL microfilm .

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.

<sup>119</sup> Ibid.

<sup>120</sup> "Kizzie Relta McKelvey Timeline," *FamilySearch*, last accessed April 22, 2022, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/timeline/LVGQ-9RB>.

ifornia and Dallas Howard going north to Michigan. Kizzie died in Henryetta, Oklahoma, in 1923, where she had likely gone to live with her brother George's family.<sup>121</sup>

**Eusebia LeBlanc (unk-1921)**, alternatively spelled in dozens of different ways in official documents, was born in Quebec somewhere between 1856 and 1863.<sup>122</sup> In 1883, she married a fellow French Canadian, **Albert St. Charles (1861-1907)**, in Alpena, Michigan, a growing town which they both had immigrated to in the 1870s.<sup>123</sup> Albert, was a lumberman who followed the industry across northern Michigan, however, most of their children were born in Alpena.<sup>124</sup> Unfortunately, Albert died shortly after moving his family further north to Onaway, Michigan.<sup>125</sup> Between 1910 and 1915, Eusebia moved south to Highland Park, Michigan, with some of her children where they could hope to get jobs making Henry Ford's Model T or in other auto industry jobs.<sup>126</sup>

**James Clough (1872-1965)** was born to **Richard Clough (1838-1879)** and **Ellen Heely (1842-1883)** on April 10, 1872, in Wigan, Lancashire, England.<sup>127</sup> But James' father died in 1879 and his mother died in

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<sup>121</sup> Ibid.

<sup>122</sup> "Eusebia LeBlanc," *FamilySearch*, last accessed April 22, 2022, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/G431-VGS>. Ten sources, including her marriage certificate, several census, and marriage certificates for her children, list conflicting dates of her birth.

<sup>123</sup> "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N3N4-Y26> : 18 February 2021), Albert St. Charles and Euseba Lablarc, 2 Jul 1883; citing Marriage, Alpena, Alpena, Michigan, , Citing Secretary of State, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 4207679.

<sup>124</sup> "United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M91X-6LV> : 11 March 2022), Albert St Charles, 1900.

<sup>125</sup> "Michigan Deaths and Burials, 1800-1995", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FHLT-PHP> : 23 February 2021), Ignace Albert St. Charles, 1907.

<sup>126</sup> "Michigan Deaths and Burials, 1800-1995", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FH5D-GV8> : 23 February 2021), Leo St. Charles, 1915.

<sup>127</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NJWS-RMY> : 19 September 2020), James Clough, 1872.

1883.<sup>128</sup> Although he was only eleven years old, as the oldest boy, James began to take on responsibility for helping support his siblings. Although his father and grandfather had been mechanically inclined, James ended up in the coal mines.<sup>129</sup> Pictures from late in his life show an unusually small man surrounded by much larger sons and grandsons. One wonders if his early exposure to the difficult life of a coal miner impacted his growth.

On August 6, 1894, James married **Elizabeth Veronica McIntosh (1864-1949)** at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Wigan, Lancashire, England.<sup>130</sup> Little is known about Elizabeth other than that she was from Leigh, Lancashire, and her father was named George Wibberly.<sup>131</sup> The 1911 census showed that James was trying to support a family of eight children, along with his wife and father-in-law, while working underground as a coal laborer. The children had been born in four different towns, indicating that the family had to move frequently. In fact, one more would be born in an entirely new location.

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<sup>128</sup> Death dates are listed in Family Search for both James Clough and Ellen Heely Clough, but no sources are listed. Additional verification is needed.

<sup>129</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1871", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KD65-LWT> : 12 July 2021), Richard Clough, 1871 and "England and Wales Census, 1901," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X9PM-BXR> : 21 May 2019), James Clough, Lowton, Lancashire, England, United Kingdom; from "1901 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing Lowton subdistrict, PRO RG 13, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

<sup>130</sup> Millie Clough, messages to author, March 12, 2022. Millie is married to Steve Clough, another direct descendant of James and Elizabeth Clough. Unless otherwise cited, information on them comes from her research. She referenced a newspaper article on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and documents from the registrar's office in Wigan, England, which she and Steve have visited with a local cousin, John Taylor, who has completed considerable research on the family's genealogy. Unfortunately, the author was unable to review the primary documents for this project.

<sup>131</sup> "England and Wales Census, 1911," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XWYH-2XH> : 17 August 2019), James Clough, Wigan All Saints, Lancashire, England, United Kingdom; from "1911 England and Wales census," database and images, *findmypast* (<http://www.findmypast.com> : n.d.); citing PRO RG 14, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

James and his family immigrated to the United States between 1912 and 1914.<sup>132</sup> They settled in Highland Park, Michigan, where Henry Ford had just opened his new plant.<sup>133</sup> A family story is that he was hired to work at the Ford Motor Company Highland Park Plant the day after he arrived in America. This may have been close to the truth as Ford had tremendous turnover in the early years of his operation due to the tediousness of assembly line work and the company's strict rules. Ford was also known to hire English immigrants as supervisors. Although James could not read or write, he did secure a job with Ford and working in a factory on 8 hour shifts for \$5 a day must have felt like a dream to the former coal miner. James worked for Ford for 19 years and was able to purchase a home in Highland Park.

James and Elizabeth enjoyed a grand 50th wedding anniversary in 1944. Their children followed the Ford Company, settling in and around Dearborn, Michigan. Elizabeth passed in 1949 and James never remarried.<sup>134</sup> Family stories suggest he was a hard-headed Englishman. He lived to see a grandson and great-grandson also named James in his honor and subsequent generations continued the tradition.

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<sup>132</sup> "United States Census, 1920", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZ7G-X82> : 2 February 2021), James Clough, 1920 and "United States Census, 1930," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X73S-F58> : accessed 22 April 2022), James Clough, Highland Park, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 978, sheet 22A, line 6, family 360, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1073; FHL microfilm 2,340,808.

<sup>133</sup> Wikipedia contributors, "Highland Park Ford Plant," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Highland\\_Park\\_Ford\\_Plant&oldid=1064357924](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Highland_Park_Ford_Plant&oldid=1064357924) (accessed April 23, 2022).

<sup>134</sup> *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/224648362/elizabeth-veronica-clough> : accessed 22 April 2022), memorial page for Elizabeth Veronica *Mackintosh* Clough (5 Sep 1875–4 Sep 1949), Find a Grave Memorial ID 224648362, citing Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Oakland County, Michigan, USA ; Maintained by Millie Clough (contributor 47787037).

James died on January 1, 1965, and is buried in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Southfield, Michigan along with his wife and several of their children.<sup>135</sup>

Although there are six more members of the fifth generation, time restraints on this project limit the author to exploring the ten selected above. At the very least, all the major parties have been outlined and those who migrated to metro Detroit have been defined. The Knopes and the Tuckers were already in southeastern Michigan by the fifth generation and the Thayers, Wrightmans, Hoopers, and Lilleys largely stayed in Ontario, Canada.

Before wrapping up this narrative there is one more significant person who must be profiled. Without her passion for genealogy and the vast family knowledge she accumulated over her long life, this project would have contained many unknowable mysteries. **Nadine Elsie Dobbins (1927-2021)** was born on December 12, 1927, in Fordson Township, Michigan, which would later become part of Dearborn.<sup>136</sup> She was the oldest of four daughters and one son born to Dallas Howard Dobbins and Marion Rebecca Tucker. She is Christopher's great aunt.

Nadine pursued a career in medicine. She joked about getting kicked out of the University of Michigan's nursing program in the 1940s for being too fat.<sup>137</sup> It prepared her to face a lifetime of bias

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<sup>135</sup> *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/224633470/james-clough> : accessed 23 February 2022), memorial page for James Clough (10 Apr 1872–1 Jan 1965), Find a Grave Memorial ID 224633470, citing Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Oakland County, Michigan, USA ; Maintained by Mil-lie Clough (contributor 47787037).

<sup>136</sup> Nadine Dobbins death announcement, February 21, 2021, privately held by author, Warren, Michigan, 2022.

<sup>137</sup> Nadine Dobbins, personal communication with author, 2020. Despite her passion for genealogy, few official records are available on Nadine's life since she passed so recently. Information presented is based on the

as she became one of the earliest female anesthesiologists in the United States from the 1950s through the 1980s. She worked in Michigan and later continued her career in Washington with her sisters. During her career she faced harassment and was expected to take lower pay for equal work, which she made up for by traveling to cover a larger area.

Nadine never married and had no children of her own. However, she tended to take in stray children, and she became especially fond of her nephew, Donald, Christopher's uncle. Donald came to live with Nadine for several years in the late 1960s when he was a troubled teenager. Nadine was also close with her sisters' children and grandchildren. She cared about her family and spent many hours researching their history and compiling important documents.

Like Christopher, Nadine loved nature and told great stories of camping with her girlfriends or stopping while driving to admire Washington's gorgeous natural settings. She found great peace in nature, and she wrote that when she died, on February 12, 2021, just short of 100 years old, she wanted to come back as a turquoise butterfly.<sup>138</sup>

This concludes the narrative for the family history of Christopher Clough. The author can see many opportunities to add historical context and personal depth to the individual profiles presented. However, it is hoped that this work will provide the reader with a good starting point for further research.

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author's recollection of a series of phone calls with Nadine. Additional research is needed to verify these facts, such as tracking down where she completed her education and the hospitals she worked at.

<sup>138</sup> Nadine Dobbins, death announcement.