"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations."

—Macaulay
PREFACE

The age in which we live is changing so fast it seems there can be no fixed creed in home, business, or even religion. The complexity of our civilization is increasing faster than ever before but in our rush we must not forget that we have inherited much from the lives of those who, by their strength and vigor, founded a great empire in a vast wilderness. From a study of their experiences, their deeds and thoughts, their difficulties and mistakes, their customs and labors, their sorrows and joys, and their patriotism, we should find much to encourage and help us to fulfill our mission in the world and to make the most of the great heritage which they have left us.

This Cameron History is written in tribute to those who have gone before us. We hope they would approve what we have said and the image we have given them.

The printing of this history satisfies a desire of the living to record facts and events while those who participated in these happenings are yet with us.

It is hoped that future generations will treasure this glimpse into the past, revealing a way of life they can never know.

As one follows the Camerons, generation after generation, it becomes evident that they were a proud lot—never haughty, but always proud—even in adverse circumstances. Today this pride manifests itself in their homes, businesses, and farms. And from the beginning they seem to have been a closely knit clan with concern for, and loyalty to, each other.

No doubt a great deal more can be learned about the family—particularly in Pennsylvania. Perhaps the Port of Entry can be learned, which in turn may shed light on ancestors in Scotland.

Our thanks to all who have assisted us! Your eagerness to cooperate has been our inspiration.

THE COMMITTEE
Hattie Womack
Lue Parr
Cecile Womack
Alice Temple
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March 18th, 1965
Mrs. Ray Temple,
Towanda, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Temple:

I have your letter of 15th inst. This County was formed in 1801. There are no birth and death records anywhere in Virginia (of which this was then a part) prior to 1853. The death record of Samuel, son of Wm. Sr., and brother of Wm. Jr., is here—says he died in Moundsville, Va. (now West Virginia), September, 1853, of Cholera, that he was born in Pennsylvania, was aged at time of death 59, son of Wm. Cameron, and his occupation is given as Land Agent.

The marriage record of Wm. Cameron and Elizabeth Myers, May 19, 1835 by D. Tustin is here.

Our historical Society has been publishing the inscriptions from old tombstones in the County, and I find among those in the old Presbyterian burying ground in Charles Town, the following:

- Catherine B. Cameron, died April 25, 1834, aged 30 years and 7 months—consort of Wm. Cameron Jr.
- William Cameron Sr., died Nov. 22, 1822, aged 56 years.

The first deed to Wm. Cameron is dated March 20, 1807, and speaks of him as being of "Lancaster County, Pennsylvania". There is another deed to him in 1808 and another in 1809, and they both speak of him as being of Pennsylvania. Jan. 25, 1822, he sells real estate, and no wife joins in to convey her dower interest. The appraisement of Wm. Cameron Sr.'s estate 12/14/1822 is here and there are several accounts. Samuel was his administrator. He did not have a will. The sale account lists among those buying as James Cameron, Samuel Cameron and "Widow" Cameron—no first name. The appraisement of Samuel Cameron 1/31/1854 is also here, as well as several accounts—one of these lists, Margaret, Widow, and Mary E. and John G. Cameron.

11/19/1829 Samuel Cameron and Margaret, his wife, of Jefferson County, and John M. Whitehall and Elizabeth, his wife, of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, convey to Wm. Cameron, their 2/3 interest in real estate in Jeff. Co., (the said Wm. Cameron being possessed of a 1/3) which descended to them on the death of their father, Wm. Cameron, deceased.

On the same date John M. Whitehall and Elizabeth, his wife, of Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania and Wm. Cameron and Catherine, his wife, of Jefferson County convey to Samuel Cameron their 2/3 interest in real estate in Jeff. Co., (the said Wm. Cameron being possessed of a 1/3) which descended to them on the death of their father, Wm. Cameron, deceased. These relationships are set up in these deeds. There still is no mention of a widow, or her dower, which so many of the old deeds so jealously guarded.

In 1837 there was another exchange between Samuel Cameron and Margaret, his wife to Wm. Cameron, and from Wm. Cameron and Elizabeth, his wife, to Samuel Cameron of a small piece of ground.

This is all I have been able to locate which would help to establish dates or relationships for you. If you have any more questions, or would like to have more detail from any of these instruments, don't hesitate to ask, and I will try to give you a satisfactory answer.

Very truly yours,
Part I — Early History

FIRST THREE GENERATIONS

The writing of this Cameron History was begun in 1964—the 200th birthday anniversary of our earliest known Cameron ancestor. WILLIAM CAMERON, Sr., was born in Aberdeen, Scotland in 1764. He came to America in 1781 when he was 17 years of age. In 1788 he married JANE LINTON who was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where they resided for a time. In 1807 William Cameron, Sr. purchased land in Jefferson County, Virginia (now West Virginia). The deed is dated March 20 and speaks of him as being of "Lancaster County, Pennsylvania." He made additional land purchases in Jefferson County, Virginia in 1808 and 1809 and both records speak of him as being of Pennsylvania. In 1810 the family emigrated to Jefferson County, Virginia. William Cameron, Sr. died there November 15, 1822, age 58 years. He was buried in the old Presbyterian burying ground in Charles Town. A sale list of his personal property sold March 5, 6, and 7, 1823 totals $5,238.93. It is most interesting and indicates he was a rather prosperous farmer. Listing buyer, item and price, some of the more interesting items are:

- James Cameron — One spinning wheel …………….. 3.00
- George Knut — Hemp seed barrel ' reddle ………… 1.00
- Saml Matheys — One mowing & cradling scythe … 1.35
- George Eickelbarger — One ox yoke ………………. .25
- Joseph Roberts — One musket bayonet …………….. 3.00
- John M. Whitehill — One duck oven ……………… 1.50
- Daniel Haines — 2 Maps ………………………………. .18
- Thoms Crafford — One bag dried apples …………. 2.06
- Saml Cameron — Negro Lucy & her 2 youngest children 501.00
- " Boy Wm. ………………………………………… 315.00
- " Boy Joe ………………………………………… 200.00
- " Travis ………………………………………… 307.00
- " Eliza ………………………………………… 150.00
- " Rachel ………………………………………… 200.00
- " Tom ………………………………………… 111.00
- Mrs. Cameron — Bookcase & cupboard ……….. 12.50
- " One lot of books ……………………………… 6.00
- " One lot of tallow …………………………….. 2.51
We do not know the relationship of the James Cameron who purchased several items at this sale. Research in Lancaster County is difficult as there are no birth records before 1893 and no marriage records before 1885 - only church records.

Jane Linton Cameron died December 4, 1836. If she was buried with her husband, it was not so recorded in 1927 when the Historical Society of Charles Town made a listing of all legible markers. However, many graves were unmarked, or had broken or illegible markers. The name, Linton, is common in early Pennsylvania history, but so far it is not known who Jane's father was. The fact that she purchased the family books and bookcase at the sale is our only clue as to what type of woman she was. The children of William Cameron, Sr. and Jane Linton Cameron were:


WILLIAM CAMERON, Jr.2 — story of his life follows.

WILLIAM CAMERON, Jr.2 — is our next generation ancestor. He was born Oct. 13, 1805 in Pennsylvania, and since his parents were known to reside in Lancaster County in 1807, it is probable that William, Jr. was born there and moved with his parents to Jefferson County, Virginia in 1810. Little is known of his first wife, Catherine Brenneman Cameron. Bible records show her birth as 8-28-1803, marriage to William Cameron 5-17-1827, and death 4-25-1834. Her tombstone confirms the death date — she is buried in the old Presbyterian burying grounds at Charles Town. Children of William Cameron, Jr. and Catherine Brenneman Cameron were:

ANN ELIZABETH CAMERON (COALTER) — born 12-8-1829. Married Thomas S. Coalter 12-23-1852. Mary Ellen Coalter (McAllister) born 2-4-1854, William Huston Coalter born 11-7-1855. Aunt Ann Coalter, a widow, and daughter Mary Ellen went west when the Kingstons did and made their home with them some of the time. She and Mary Ellen were both college educated musicians. She died in 1902.

JANE AUGUSTA CAMERON — born 2-17-1832 and died 8-10-1835.
This Record is from the Family Bible of William Cameron, Jr.

FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARRIAGES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Cameron and Catherine, married Oct. 7, 1819.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Myers and William Cameron, married July 4, 1835.</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Cameron and Elizabeth Myers, married Dec. 23, 1962.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Cameron and Mary E. Cameron, married March 1st, 1865.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John and Mary E. Cameron, married March 15, 1858.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John and Mary E. Cameron, married April 20, 1865.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John and Mary E. Cameron, married January 28, 1869.</td>
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</table>

Married October 7, 1819.

Married July 4, 1835.


Married March 1st, 1865.

Married March 15, 1858.

Married April 20, 1865.

Married January 28, 1869.
FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

Rosebelle Cameron—Heid
Born Sept. 4th, 1790
Died April 6th, 1863
Samuel Cameron—Heid
Born August 1798
Died Sept. 9th, 1853
William Cameron—Heid
Born Oct. 13th, 1805

Catharine Cameron—Wife
Wife of Mr. Cameron—Heid
Born Sept. 1st, 1803
Elizabeth McCarren—Heid
Wife of Mr. Cameron—Heid
Born November 24th, 1812

John Cameron—Heid
Born Feb. 4th, 1854
John Cameron—Heid
Born Nov. 7th, 1855

BIRTHS.

Abbevess—Born Oct. 27th, 1800
Samuel B. McAllister—Born March 14th, 1859
John J. McAllister—Born Feb. 12th, 1802
William K. Swales—Born May 16th, 1862
John C. Swales—Born Nov. 27th, 1864
Mary J. Swales—Born Dec. 20th, 1865
Maggie E. Swales—Born March 12th, 1867
Ann H. McAllister—Born 1866
David C. McAllister—Born 1866
Andrew T. McAllister—Born 1866

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<tr>
<th>FAMILY RECORD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIRTHS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Margaret Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Edward Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Virginia Cameron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Henry Cameron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Henry Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Bache Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEATHS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Cameron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FAMILY RECORD.

DEATHS.

Elizabeth D. Cameron, died Jan 8th, 1864, aged 51 years and 11 months.

William Cameron, died Dec 11th, 1859, aged 64 years and 3 months.

Elizabeth Cameron, died Feb 28, 1879, aged 66 years and 4 months.

Ann B. Cameron (Cameron) died 1902.

Mary E. Cameron (Cameron) and

John Cameron (Cameron) died Oct 20, 1891.

Ann E. Cameron (Cameron) died Feb 2, 1888 (1893).

Geo. W. Cameron died in

McKinney, Sept 29, 1884.

John E. Cameron died in

Denton, near Denton, July 9, 1912.

Charles H. Cameron died in

McKinney, Apr 24, 1840.

Franklin B. Cameron died in McKinney, Aug 26, 1928.

DEATHS.

Grandchildren

John W. Cameron, died July 14th, 1863.

John B. Cameron, died Mar 20, 1863.
The second wife of William Cameron, Jr., ELIZABETH ANN MYERS, is our ancestor. She was born in Virginia 11-24-1812 of Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry. They were married May 19th, 1835 by Rev. S. Tustin of the Presbyterian Church of Charles Town. The marriage is recorded in Jefferson County, W. Va. as follows:

Date of Marriage
May 19th, 1835

Wm. Cameron and Elizabeth Myers

Minister
S. Tustin

This marriage date is the same as that recorded in the Cameron Family Bible Record. Nothing more is known of this family in Jefferson County, where the older children of this marriage were born, including our third generation ancestor, John Edwin Cameron. (There were neither birth nor death records kept in Virginia prior to 1853.) Sometime between 1845 and 1855 the family moved from Jefferson County, Va. to Augusta County, Va. as Augusta County records show that the youngest child, Frank Beacher, was born there 1-11-55. The family is not listed in the 1850 Augusta County Census, so presumably they moved there after that date. The earliest deed recorded in Augusta County in the name of William Cameron and Elizabeth Ann Cameron was 1855 (Deed Book 75, page 527) when they bought land "near St. John’s Lutheran Church out close to Bethel Presbyterian Church," Staunton, Virginia. Another reference mentions "204 acres situated on the waters of Mill Creek." Their slaves are listed as "Charles, age 50; Ann, 30; Caroline, 16; Milly, 14; Mason, 12; and Dennis, 10."

Grandpa Cameron (J. E.) was about 11 years old then and his recollections of their life on a farm near Staunton have
come down to us. Hattie Cameron Womack remembers hearing him tell of being sent as a young boy on horseback the six miles to Staunton with a sack of corn to be ground into meal for family use. Their slaves were so well treated that later, when freed, they didn’t want to leave the family. He also often recalled how his mother gathered her children around her and read to them from the Bible and told them Bible stories. There is no doubt that family ties were close among the brothers and sisters of this family as they tended to move to the same localities and “kept in touch” when grown and married. Also, the family must have appreciated the finer things and cultural advantages, as the two oldest daughters, Ann Elizabeth (Coalter) and Mary Catherine (Kingston) were both accomplished musicians. According to Lee Kingston, his grandmother, Mary Catherine, had a piano which her father gave her when she finished a school of music, and she moved it from Virginia to Versailles, Mo. to Ill., and then to Nebraska. Now it is somewhere in California. In 1907 Hattie Womack visited her Aunt Kate at Central City, Nebraska and saw this piano and heard Kate play it.

In 1857 the family of William Cameron, Jr. moved to Versailles, Missouri, (Morgan County). Here their farm had a wooded area and some tobacco land. It seemed to be on a much-travelled road which led to their constant harassment
by Federal soldiers. The oldest son, George, enlisted in the Confederate Army when he was 17. Minnie Cameron Heller remembered hearing her father, J. E., tell about soldiers coming to their home and ransacking the house and barn hunting for guns and letting the vinegar and sorghum out of the barrels while the old darkey woman watched them. Tolbert Heller recalls his Grandpa Cameron telling of the soldiers hunting for guns in the hayloft and saying “if they had moved one more ton of hay they would have had our guns.” Young J. E. was accused of being a Bush Whacker and Reconnoiterer. On one occasion soldiers looking for J. E. surrounded the buildings and threatened to burn them. Lee Kingston tells this story which his grandmother, Mary Catherine Cameron Kingston, told him. She carried the silverware concealed in her bustle during the Civil War days to keep the Union soldiers from taking it. On one occasion soldiers pried open her piano searching for the silverware. Her granddaughter, Lannie Merrill, recently passed away and among her possessions was a box of hammered coin silver spoons engraved “M.C.C.” and a note in Mary Catherine’s handwriting, giving the spoons to Lannie. These spoons were probably some of the silverware which she hid in her bustle.

For a time William Cameron, Jr. operated The Locust Grove Hotel at Versailles. Hattie Womack has one of his original personal cards advertising his services. It is reproduced below:

![Locust Grove Hotel Ad](image-url)
Correspondence has uncovered no knowledge of this hotel, but there is a location west out of Versailles, on the road to Stover, which is known as the Locust Grove and where small trees still grow on the land. It seems quite possible that this may have been the location of the Cameron Hotel or Inn which might also have been their home.

The Morgan County, Missouri Census of 1860, (July 2), page 555, lists the Cameron family of Hawcreek Township, P. O. Minerva. Value of real estate was $1600 and value of personal property $550. The family is listed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Farmer</th>
<th>b. Pa.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Cameron</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td>Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane L.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John E.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles H.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank B.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amid the worries of the times, the mother of the family, (Elizabeth Ann Myers Cameron) died January 6, 1864 and was buried near Versailles - probably in an unmarked grave. A local historian at Versailles says, "the early settlers buried on their private land - before the churches were organized. Graves continue to be found in the timber with field stones for markers. Some cemeteries have been lost." Prior to her death Elizabeth Cameron had written a letter to her son, George, who was serving in the Confederate Army. The letter was buried in a tin box at the head of her grave for George to get upon his return. However, the family moved, and George never returned to Versailles. In 1868 J. E., our ancestor and brother of George, took the letter up when he visited Versailles. It was petrified and could not be unfolded or read. Hattie Womack still has this petrified letter.

The children of William Cameron, Jr. and Elizabeth Myers Cameron were:

MARY CATHERINE CAMERON (KINGSTON) (Aunt Kate) — born in Jefferson County, Va. 4-27-1836. Married Dr. John W. McClellan 3-3-1858. He died in 1863 leaving one child, Betty (Elizabeth Bell). Mary Catherine Cameron McClellan then married Charles W. Kingston 3-1-1865. She died 7-20-1919 and is buried in Central City, Neb.


ELLEN VIRGINIA CAMERON — born 5-31-1847 and died 9-18-1850.

SAMUEL MYERS CAMERON — born 4-15-1850 and died 4-20-1851.


After the mother’s death, and the close of the war, the family of William Cameron, Jr. scattered. Ann Elizabeth (Aunt Ann Coalter) had married in 1852. Mary Catherine (Aunt Kate) had married Dr. McClellan in 1858. George was serving in the Confederate Army. Jane (Jennie) married John Swartsley in 1860, and they came to Woodford Co., Ill. where Mr. Swartsley engaged in farming and teaching near Metamora. Dr. McClellan had died in 1863 leaving Mary Catherine with a small daughter, Elizabeth Bell, 4 years old. On March 1, 1865 Mary Catherine married C. W. Kingston who was born in Woodford County.
and lived there until 1868. John Edwin had gone to Woodford County, Ill. in 1864 also, so it would seem that after the mother died John E. and his widowed sister, Kate, with her small daughter, followed the Swartsleys to Woodford Co. where Kate met Mr. Kingston, and J. E. got work as a farm hand, later renting 40 acres which he put in wheat.

After his wife's death, William Cameron Jr. took the two young boys, Charles age 13 and Beecher age 10, to Texas where his eldest son, George had married and settled after the Confederate Army was disbanded. In Texas William Cameron Jr. met and married his third wife, Mrs. Regina Yerkes, Oct. 3, 1866. No children were born of this marriage. William Cameron, Jr. died Feb. 10, 1871. He is buried in Fitzhugh Cemetery at Forest Groves, 7 miles southeast of McKinney, Texas. Minnie Heller visited his grave in 1923. A few days before his death he wrote the following letter to his son, J. E., in Illinois.

Collin County,
McKinney, Texas
January 29, 1871

Mr. John E. Cameron
My dear Son:

Your welcome letter Dec. 28th came to hand on last Saturday, also one from Mary C. K. and one from my dear old wiffe. She is well and hearty and pressing me strongly to come home, when she would nurse me up, and try to get me restored to my usual health. Also saying as you do, that I am to old to work so hard for my living, this I frankly admit, but My Son I cannot be idol, this you well know is my disposition, and John I must have a living, and to spung myself on any one as long as God gives me health and strength I cannot, nor will not do. Further I feel very badly when placed in such a depending situation. I therefore place confidence and trust in my Maker as all us worms of the dust should do, to aid and direct me for a living in my old and declining years.

I am truly thankful to know that you are all well, doing well, and living in peace and harmony. Glad to hear that my Daughter Allie is going to write to me, which will be a welcome reception, and cheerfully responded to. Happy also to know that my Dear Baby FB is going to school and applying himself for his future welcome, for John an education is worth more than all other worldly possessions, and My Son ere I close this subject I can but congratulate you for your proficiency in scribe and composition.
And now My Son as to my health, since you received my letter it is to the reverse. Previously it was much improved, and I recruited from travel and camp life in health strength and weight from 135 lbs. to 142, but now or during the snow rainy weather and very cold freezing spells, I was down at the camp and suffered intensely, therefore made for Mr. Fitzhughs 10 miles distant. Charly and Johnny F. with, made the effort last Fryday two weeks, failed on account of high waters East Fork, renewed our efforts next day Saturday. When I got in water ice and snow half way up Flys side which emerged me in water above my knees, had to retreat, and go back 5 miles with boots full of water before I could get to a house to warm or dry myself. The Boys would not venture and all OK, from there up the creek 10 or 12 miles to Ellum Creek East Fork ford. When we crossed and again getting my feet wet and road home 4 miles the result giving me the worst cold I ever had in my life with a stubborn ticklish annoying cough, and in addition ague and fever, which has housed me up ever since, but thank God I am now nearly restored to my once usual health, and feel anxious to be doing something to raise means to aid me in getting back to the wife. Yesterday I went to Engleman to get in with him at his cotton gin, but failed having hands enough. When an opening occurs he will gladly take me. They were very kind to me. Both are from Augusta Co. Va.

And now My Son as to being well satisfyed with the country it is just to the reverse, so farr as I have seen of the State no charm or inducement for me, though from the small portion I have seen, I am incompetent to judge of so large a State therefore can make no decision only upon what I have seen. George K. has left and gone South on a $50 outfit. George is not altogether satisfied. Charles H. is content and willing to go to school any minute George is ready to enter him. Neither is George Wm. reconciled, and if he could better his condition elsewhere would do so. His horses look wretched bad & Fly the policville you would not know them.

Now My Son I return you my sincere thanks for your kind offer to me, but said nothing about my Dear Wife. Nothing but Death will separate for life, and as to coming to Ill in the Spring I never had such an idea, but wrote you and to Mary C. that in large enterprise I could aid you much in every respect, and do make and save for you what would defray a reasonable portion of your outlays, and I am willing to do so, but must know upon what I am spending my time and labour. And My Son as you say moving about is both uncertain and very expensive. If Mother is willing, I am John. I could keep your account books for you, attend to your stock, tools, and farming implements, repairs, jobing works, errands, and transact business for you whilst you could be with your hands and attend closely to your farming and all other interests. Please write soon and let me hear from you on the subject. I want to leave for Ft. Worth in March if I can raise the wind to take me home. Write soon. My love to all. Your ever affectionate Father

Wm. Cameron

All well here and hearty!
In 1867 JOHN EDWIN CAMERON disposed of his property in Woodford County, went to Texas, arriving in Jefferson, Texas January 1, 1868. He then went overland to Collin County, 150 miles, horseback, where he remained eight months, after which he returned to Illinois. It is believed that this is the trip he made from Texas to Illinois on horseback, stopping in Versailles at his mother's grave. In 1868 both the Swartsleys and the Kingstons moved from Woodford County to Cropsey Township in McLean County. When J. E. returned to Illinois from Texas he evidently was visiting his sisters, Aunt Kate Kingston and Aunt Jennie Swartsley, and this placed him in the neighborhood of Abraham R. Jones, a big landowner and cattleman who had his “Headquarters” and home five miles north of Saybrook. At this time Mr. Jones was trying to rid himself of some of his responsibilities and he hired John Edwin Cameron as his foreman with full responsibility for the hired men and the managing of the land. An old McLean County History says of A. R. Jones “ . . . it was a frequent occurrence for him to have from fifty to sixty laborers working in the field under his immediate supervision.” Another McLean County History says of him “ . . . he had accumulated some 1,700 acres in Towanda Township, and afterward owned 4,000 acres in Cropsey Township. . . . Mr. Jones has probably broken more prairie than any other man in Illinois, having broken as high as 30,000 acres, and has cultivated and improved more land than any other man in McLean County.” Small wonder he felt the need of a foreman.

Mr. Jones had an attractive young daughter, ALICE JANE, 17 years of age. She was born May 8, 1851 in a log house where she lived her first five years. They soon became friends and began dating. Mr. Jones tried to discourage their marriage, but the young couple's persistence and determination eventually won Mr. Jones' consent and in 1870 plans were underway for a big wedding at “Headquarters.” There was a trip to town to buy wedding clothes, material for a wedding dress, and a seamstress to make it. The material was a light grey silk and was made a two-piece, or basque and skirt, as it was called in those days. Hattie Womack remembers seeing the basque of this dress when she was a girl. It was very pretty and well-made.
Mr. Jones had purchased carpeting for the home at “Headquarters” but for some reason it had never been put down. To help get ready for the coming wedding the neighbors came in and sewed the carpeting and laid it.

The date for the wedding was July 4, 1870. "Old Colonel" who was the cook for all the hands, staid up all the night before baking cakes and cooking the wedding dinner. J. E. was up early that morning and rode horseback inviting the neighbors to the wedding and the dinner which followed at 12 noon. People came some distance, driving horses. The Rev. Fields performed the ceremony. The newlyweds went to housekeeping on one of the farms owned by Mr. Jones.
Mr. Jones had a 600 acre farm southeast of Towanda, near Smith's Grove, which he referred to as his "home place." Here in 1856 he had built a two-story red brick home which was a mansion in its day, surpassing anything near. This "red brick" or "homeplace" is frequently mentioned in the history and years to follow.

THE RED BRICK or HOMEPLACE so often referred to in this History. The porch faced east. The other view, front of house, faced north, through a grove of trees to the road. Garden, grape arbor and fruit orchard were to the west of the house.
William Ream Cameron was born to J. E. and Alice Cameron on Feb. 18, 1872 and died May 26, 1872. Burial was in Smith's Grove Cemetery.

Minnie Lee Cameron was born to them on Feb. 9, 1874 in the big red brick homestead or "North Farm." In 1875, with their small daughter, Minnie, J. E. and Alice moved to McKinney, Texas and rented a house known as The Blakeman Place, next door to the Presbyterian Church.

Hattie May Cameron was born at Blakeman Place on April 19, 1876. Since Alice was a Presbyterian and the church was next door, she would attend services and leave the window open so if the baby cried she would hear it. On one occasion she returned home to find the baby, Hattie, nearly suffocated as she had become entangled in the mosquito netting. This near-tragedy prompted Alice to remind her daughters again and again "Never leave a baby alone in the house."

After a few months J. E. moved the family to a small acreage in the extreme north end of town known as the Murray Place and engaged in freighting and teaming business.

Abraham R. Jones (Alice's father) died of tuberculosis April 4, 1878 at his home in the village of Towanda. Alice was unable to attend her father's funeral as she gave birth to a baby girl on April 16, 1878. However, the baby lived only a few hours. J. E. attended Mr. Jones' funeral at Towanda, Ill. and while in Ill. arranged to move his family back and live on the old homeplace with A. R. Jones' widow, Nancy, and her young son, Lawrence. The Jones estate was settled up and Alice inherited a farm of 240 acres joining the homeplace. J. E. began erecting a new house, barn, etc. on this farm which was located one mile north of where Merna now stands.

Maud Lena Cameron was born May 2, 1879 in the red brick homestead before the new home was finished. In the fall of 1879 J. E. and Alice moved their family into their new home which seemingly was their permanent location. However, in about two years they decided to move back to McKinney, Texas. They sold the 240 acre farm for $30 per acre, had a farm sale of stock, furniture and machinery, and moved to McKinney in the spring of 1881. J. E. rented a house and bought one-half interest in a grocery business with his brother, George.

Alice's brother, Lawrence Jones, also sold his land at this time and he and his mother, Nancy, moved to Texas too. He
bought and operated an ice cream shop. However, he contracted typhoid fever and died in Sept. 1881 and is buried in McKinney, Texas Pecan Grove Cemetery.

*Lottie Bell Cameron* was born June 20, 1881 at the Lovejoy Place in McKinney. J. E. built a nice new two-story nine-room home in the NE part of town. Hattie Womack remembers when the Cameron brothers gathered here and Uncle Beech would play the violin, Charlie would play the guitar, and J. E. would join them in singing. The Cameron Brothers were kind-hearted, but too generous with credit to their customers, and soon found out they were losing money. When George was elected City Clerk they decided to sell the store.

*Luella Cameron* was born in the new home May 30, 1883. J. E. had gone into the cattle business, contracting cattle; hiring several men to accompany him as herdsman, they rode horseback through the country buying here and there, putting them in pasture until he had the number he had contracted for—then with the help of cowhands he would drive the herd to the designated market. This job kept J. E. away from his family and it also took a lot of capital. Fluctuating cattle prices made it a risky venture and J. E. decided to give up the cattle business. He and Alice planned to move to Nebraska which was just being settled and where J. E.’s sisters and families (the Swartsleys, Kingstons, and Coalters) had already located near Columbus and Central City. With this move in mind, they sold the new home and moved temporarily into the next block.
Harry Guy Cameron was born here Friday, Feb. 5, 1886. His sister, Minnie, entered Guy in the class of babies at the Collin County Fair, McKinney, Texas and he won $10 first prize for being the prettiest baby.

In the meantime J. E. and Alice decided to return to Ill. instead of moving to Nebraska. In 1888 the Cameron family made this move and they have since resided in Illinois. They moved into the red brick homestead to care for Grandma (Nancy) Jones who was now crippled as a result of a stroke. Minnie was now 14, Hattie 12, Maude 9, Lottie 7, Lue 5, and Guy 2. No wonder the red brick house holds such fond memories for this family. As the girls grew older and started mingling with other young folks in the area, dancing parties were held in the homes. During the winter months they would cover the carpeting with a canvas to protect it. For summer parties the young men built a platform in sections so that it could be moved from home to home. This platform was large enough to accommodate four sets of square dancers. Music was provided by “fiddlers” with their violins. These were the Good Old Days when people entertained in their homes by invitation.

Smith Grove School played a prominent role in the education and social life of the Cameron family.
Minnie was married in 1894. (see Heller branch of the history, page 33.)

Hattie was married in 1895. (see Womack branch of the history, page 37.)

Thus the family grew smaller and Alice fell heir to the old home place as Uncle Cyrus Jones made a division of his property to his heirs. This enabled Alice to buy the share of her brother, William N. Jones, in the home place. Here Alice took care of her invalid mother for the rest of her days.

Maud was married in 1902. (see Strayer branch of the history, page 47.)

Lottie was married in 1903. (see Reed branch of the history, page 55.)

Grandmother Jones passed away Feb. 19, 1907 at the age of 83 and is buried in Smith Grove Cemetery beside her husband, A. R. Jones.

John Edwin Cameron was struck by lightning and killed July 9, 1912. He and two farm hands had been working a quarter of a mile west of the red brick house in a recently cleared field that had to be hand-hoed around the stumps. It was a threatening afternoon and they had waited a while, finally deciding to go to the field. J. E. rode "Old Dolly" and carried a hoe, and the two men each drove a team and cultivator. They had worked but a short time when the sky blackened. J. E. said, "Well, we haven't done much but what we did we did well!" and with that he took his hoe, got on
his horse and started to the barn—the two men on their plows ahead of him. The bolt of lightning killed J. E. and the family horse, Dolly, instantly. The men on cultivators were stunned and fell off; the teams ran off down the lane to the barnyard gate before they were caught. The men were sick from the shock and lay in the barn on the hay until after the rain stopped when they went to the house and inquired of Alice and Lue if J. E. had come to the house. When they learned he had not, they rode back to the field and there saw the tragic scene. The funeral was held at the home on July 11 with a large attendance. The house and yard were full. Burial was in Smith Grove Cemetery.

Last picture of J. E. Cameron, in foreground, holding horses, Babe and Dolly. He, Reece and Guy were plowing in May, 1912

Alice had a farm sale in the late fall. The homeplace was rented to Hattie and Charles Womack who moved in February of 1913. Alice and her daughter, Lue, moved into Bloomington on E. Jefferson St., later moving to 1010 E. Washington St., a new home. When his mother left the farm, Guy moved to Chicago (see Guy Cameron branch of the history, page 69.) Alice and Lue continued to live in Bloomington until Lue's marriage on Nov. 4, 1915 to Geo. H. Parr (see Parr branch of the history, page 65). Alice decided she didn't want to live alone and broke up her home and seemed to enjoy staying and visiting for a time with her daughters in their respective homes.

Alice Jane Jones Cameron died May 3, 1922 in Argenta, Ill. at the home of Geo. and Lue Parr after an illness of four years. The funeral was held in the Parr residence. She is buried in the family lot in Smith Grove Cemetery.
MY MOTHER was 19 years of age at the time of her marriage. She was a nice-looking attractive young woman five feet, seven inches tall and weighed 114 pounds, with medium complexion, beautiful brown hair and gray eyes. She had a kind and loving disposition—patient and understanding—she always tried to look on the bright side of a disappointment or sorrow. A Presbyterian, mother liked to attend church and saw that her children attended Sunday School. She was devoted to her family and home. She was unassuming in making decisions and would always say “Ask Johnny—whatever he says.” She was proud of her family as one by one they grew to adulthood and established homes of their own. Her hobby was flowers. She was always setting out some new kind of rose bush, shrub or plant. She delighted in saving the seed from a great big peach and planting it to bear bushels of delicious fruit in due time. When she finally broke up her home, she furnished a bedroom at the red brick with us and liked to stay there during the summers, visiting her other daughters the rest of the time. At the age of 67, while visiting at Alva and Lottie Reeds she suffered a stroke which completely paralyzed her right side and affected her speech somewhat. She made a partial recovery, however, but then gradually failed and after four years succumbed at the home of George and Lue Parr.

by Hattie Womack
MY FATHER was about five feet, eight inches tall and weighed 135 pounds—nice looking, with dark brown hair, blue eyes, medium complexion, and a short well-trimmed mustache. He was well-mannered and always well-groomed, wearing a white shirt and bow tie most of the time. Order and neatness were a part of his individuality. An affectionate disposition—he loved his family very much but believed in discipline and we children knew when he spoke to us once, that was enough and no talking back. Some of his happiest moments were when the family gathered around the piano and all joined in singing hymns and old familiar songs. He loved company and that old fashioned southern hospitality was one of the keynotes of his life—the “stay for dinner” type—he was always ready to lend a helping hand or feed a stranger. He loved to dance, was an interesting conversationalist and always had a good story or joke to cause a laugh. His hobby was beautiful horses and he took pride in keeping them well groomed. He enjoyed riding horseback. He also took great pride in having a nice big family garden with all kinds of vegetables and a fruit orchard, and last but not least, the smoke house well stocked with home cured meat.

by Hattie Womack
PART II
FOURTH GENERATION FAMILIES

The first three generations discussed in Part I were:
William Cameron, Sr.¹
William Cameron, Jr.²
John Edwin Cameron³

The six children of J. E. and Alice Cameron represent the fourth generation of Camerons and Part II of this history is written in six sections, bringing each of the six families to date—some through the seventh generation.

NOTE—in the following pages the number after a name refers to the generation, and those names in parentheses indicate lineage. The grandchildren of J. E. and Alice Cameron (5th generation) have been numbered consecutively within each family for clarity.

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MINNIE LEE CAMERON was married to CHARLES TOLBERT (Jim) HELLER of Towanda on March 21, 1894 by the Rev. Giddings. Their home wedding, with the near relatives attending, was in the same "red brick" home where Minnie was born Feb. 9, 1874. A wedding dinner was served after the ceremony. It was that time of year when the farming season was on and Jim and Minnie went direct to their new home on the William White farm near Fletcher, Ill. Thus their busy life began. In 1896 they moved to the George P. Davis farm southeast of Weldon, Ill. This was a larger acreage and here they lived until they retired from active farming and purchased a home in DeLand. By thrift and hard work they invested in farm land of their own. Minnie loved flowers and spent much time in her beautiful yard where she had many varieties of flowers and shrubs. Minnie and Jim enjoyed company and guests were always welcome. Aunt Minnie had numerous hobbies—her quilts and handwork, her flowers, and her vase collection were probably most important to her. We are indebted to her for saving the family mementos that have made this history more complete and more meaningful, and we are indebted to Cora and Tolbert for searching through papers and directing these "Cameron" items to the History...
Committee. It was Aunt Minnie who, as first Historian of the Cameron Reunion, wrote up the first history. Minnie and Jim celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 1944 with Open House at their home. Charles Tolbert Heller passed away very suddenly in the yard of their home on Aug. 20, 1952. Minnie Cameron Heller passed away June 10, 1963 at Mennonite Hospital, Bloomington. They are buried in the DeLand Cemetery. They were parents of two children:

1. HARRY TOLBERT HELLER\(^5\) (Minnie\(^4\)) was born Nov. 21, 1894 at the William White farm near Fletcher, Illinois. He was married to JENNIE REMMERS on Jan. 10, 1917. In 1922 Jennie was taken suddenly ill and, after an appendectomy, died on May 27. Funeral services were held at the Methodist Church in DeLand where she had been pianist for a number of years. Harry Tolbert Heller married CORA SCOTT of Wapella on Sunday, Dec. 27, 1925 at the home of her parents,
Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Scott. To them a son was born, Harry Edwin Heller, May 10, 1932 in Macon County Hospital where he passed away nine days later. Funeral services were held at the Charles T. Heller home in DeLand and burial was in DeLand Cemetery. Tolbert and Cora celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on December 27, 1950. Mr. and Mrs. George Parr entertained in their lovely home at Argenta with a turkey dinner in their honor. A large number of relatives attended. Cora and Tolbert still live on their well-kept farm southeast of Weldon although they retired from active farming a few years ago. They have taken several nice trips, which, with looking after their farming interests, keeps them quite busy.

2. RUBY LEE HELLER (Minnie) was born Aug. 25, 1896. She passed away early Christmas morning, Dec. 25, 1896 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Cameron, where the Heller family had gone Dec. 24 to spend Merry Christmas. The family had eaten together and had a nice visit Christmas eve before retiring. Christmas morning Ruby seemed to be sleeping so Minnie left her in bed and had breakfast with the family. After breakfast Minnie went to get Ruby for her feeding. She returned with her precious baby in her arms and tears in her eyes and said to the family still lingering after breakfast, "My baby is dead." Funeral services were conducted at the Cameron home on Dec. 26.
Charles and Hattie (Cameron) Womack at Time of Their Marriage
HATTIE MAY CAMERON was born April 19, 1876 in McKinney, Texas. She married CHARLES FREDERICK WOMACK on Dec. 10, 1895. The large home wedding was in the red brick home built in 1856 by her grandfather, A. R. Jones. Rev. John Ryon was the minister. On their wedding trip they spent some time sight-seeing in St. Louis and Dallas and also visited the Cameron relatives in McKinney, Texas, after which they started farming on the Judge Reeves' place which joined the A. R. Jones' farm on the south. The family lived here for 16 years. After the death of her father, J. E. Cameron, Hattie and Charles moved into the red brick and they farmed the homeplace for 34 years. Here they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Dec. 10, 1945 with open house at the red brick home where they were married. The following year, May 9, 1946, Charles Womack died as a result of a tragic accident. While delivering and storing baled hay at a barn in Normal, Ill. he fell through an open trap door, from the hayloft to a concrete floor below, resulting in a concussion. He died enroute to the hospital in the arms of his son-in-law, Leslie Sutter, who witnessed the accident. He is buried in East Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Bloomington. The following winter Hattie moved to 501 East Grove St., Bloomington, where she still resides. Her helpfulness and alert recollections of happenings down through the years added much to this family history. The Womacks were parents of three children:
1. FORREST MILTON WOMACK (Hattie) was born March 10, 1897. He attended Smith Grove School and graduated from Towanda High School. Later he attended Business College in Bloomington. Forrest farmed for several years. On Aug. 17, 1926 he was married to HELEN CECILE WILSON at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wilson, near Ellsworth. Cecile had attended Illinois State Normal University and taught in the public schools of McLean County prior to her marriage. They resided in Normal and Peoria while Forrest worked for Yates Automobile Co. They returned to Bloomington and Forrest became an agent for the Prudential Life Insurance Co.—a position he held for 18 years—eight of which were spent in the Decatur Office as Assistant Superintendent. In 1951 Forrest and Cecile bought the Lincoln Hardware Co. in Lincoln, Ill. which they still operate. They celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary Aug. 17, 1951 in Lincoln. They are parents of one son:
LOREN MILTON WOMACK (Forrest, Hattie) was born Nov. 21, 1928 in Bloomington, where he attended Washington Elementary School. He graduated from Decatur High School in 1947. Loren attended Millikin University and the University of Southeastern Louisiana at LaFayette from which he graduated. Prior to his last year in college he was called into active duty with the Navy and was assigned for two years to the Security Division of the Ceremonial Guards, Washington, D. C. At the 1953 inaugural ceremonies for Dwight D. Eisenhower, Loren bore the State of Mississippi flag in the "parade of colors and flags." He returned to college and received his BS degree in Civil Engineering. Loren was employed by the U. S. Corps of Army Engineers of the Waterway Experimental Station, Vicksburg, Miss. In 1956 he was sent to the Middle East on a six months' assignment as Project Engineer. Another assignment involved special research at Rogers Dry Lake for which he was given the "Department of the Army Incentive Award" for outstanding performance. He now works as a Consultant Engineer throughout the U. S. Loren is a Registered Professional Engineer of Louisiana, a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Mississippi Society of Professional Engineers. On June 1, 1957 Loren was married to BETTY DORA RAYBORN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rayborn of Pricedale, Miss. The ceremony was performed at the home of Betty's sister in Jackson, Miss. and the reception was held in their beautiful garden. Betty received her BS degree from Louisiana State University and was employed as a case-worker by the Warren County Welfare Dept. of Mississippi. Loren and Betty built a home at 307 Hillside Drive where they reside with their three children:

MARY LOREN (Loren, Forrest, Hattie) born Nov. 6, 1958.
2. EVA ELIZABETH WOMACK⁵ (Hattie⁴) was born Sept. 19, 1898. She attended Smith Grove elementary school, Towanda High School, and Illinois State Normal University, after which she returned to teach for three years at the Smith Grove School. On Aug. 22, 1918 Eva was married to LESLIE REUBEN SUTTER by the Rev. W. B. Hindman at the Presbyterian parsonage in Normal. Their wedding trip was to Niagara Falls. Eva and Leslie had attended high school together, graduating in the same class. He was studying at Lane Technical Institute in Chicago when he enlisted in the Army during World War I. After his discharge they farmed, first near Towanda, and later on the Phillip Sutter farm near Cullom, Ill. Here Eva was active in Home Bureau, 4-H and church work and Leslie served on the school board. In 1934 they moved back to McLean County to the Bachenheimer farm which adjoined the Cameron farm. Here they celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in 1943 with open house. Later they purchased some of the Smith Grove timber which Eva had admired since early girlhood and which was part of the original Jones landholdings. Here they built two new homes—the first was oc-
cupied by the Plaisteds and later by the Temples. The second, Eva and Leslie moved to in March, 1952. They have two daughters:

ALICE ELIZABETH SUTTER⁶ (Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) was born Nov. 7, 1919 in Normal. She grew up in the Cullom, Ill. vicinity, transferring to Bloomington High School from which she graduated. She received her BS degree from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1940. Alice was employed at the University of Illinois, and during the war years as a Civil Service employee in Washington, D. C., Salt Lake City, Utah, and San Francisco, Calif. She married CAPT. RAYMOND E. TEMPLE, son of the Edwin Temples of Tampico, Ill., on Dec. 30, 1945 in the Methodist Church in Towanda. Ray was a graduate of IWU in the class of 1940 also. He has an MA degree from the University of Illinois. Ray had played a season of professional baseball on a Yankee farm prior to his entering the Army in March of 1941. He served in the Mediterranean Theater, the African campaign, and the Italian campaign. Their first home was at Clifton, Ill. where Ray coached for five years. He has since been employed in the Normal Unit District No. 5 schools, at present being Principal of Hudson School. The family has resided in the home in Smith Grove timber which Alice's parents gave to them. As secretary for the History Committee Alice has spent considerable time and effort in collecting and organizing the materials for this Cameron History. The Temples have three children:

STEVEN RAY⁷ (Alice⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born April 11, 1947, plans to enter University of Illinois this fall.

CAROL KAY⁷ (Alice⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Feb. 17, 1949.

CARLA SUE⁷ (Alice⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Feb. 17, 1951.
JEANNE ELEANOR SUTTER⁶ (Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) was born Dec. 9, 1924 near Cullom, Ill. She attended school at Cullom and Smith Grove and was graduated from Towanda High School and spent two years in the Cadet Nurse Corps at Brokaw Hospital in Normal, Ill. Jeanne was married to SGT. MELVIN F. PLAISTED, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Plaisted of Eugene, Ore., on July 21, 1945 at Eglin Field, Fla. in the Base Chapel. Melvin spent four years in the Air Force and was an instructor in aircraft instruments at Chanute Field, Ill. during most of that time. He was discharged from the Air Force at Watertown, S. Dak. The family first farmed with Jeanne's parents in Illinois, then moved to Springfield, Ore. for a year, and then homesteaded in the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project at Moses Lake, Wash. Their first farm unit was 100 acres. Another unit of 80 acres was given to them by Jeanne's parents. They are parents of:

JUDITH LYNN⁷ (Jeanne⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born June 7, 1947. Will enter Big Bend Jr. College at Moses Lake this fall.

ALICE JOAN born Oct. 28, 1949 and died shortly thereafter.

JOHN LESLIE⁷ (Jeanne⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Oct. 21, 1950.

JAMES LEON⁷ (Jeanne⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Feb. 23, 1952.

ARTHUR LEWIS born Nov. 7, 1954 and died shortly thereafter.

JEFFERY CAMERON⁷ (Jeanne⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Aug. 26, 1956.

JOSEPH LLOYD⁷ (Jeanne⁶, Eva⁵, Hattie⁴) born Oct. 6, 1958.

ALLAN LAMONT stillborn March 24, 1964.
3. ALICE LOUISE WOMACK⁵ (Hattie⁴) was born Oct. 20, 1905. She attended Smith Grove School where her sister, Eva, was one of her teachers. She graduated from University High School and attended Illinois Wesleyan University. Louise was married to GEORGE FRANKLIN PARKER on Jan. 18, 1924 at Covington, Ind. He was a graduate of Bloomington High School and attended the University of Illinois. The new home was made on the Parker farm near Saybrook where they lived for three years. In 1929 they moved to the family home at 711 E. Grove St., Bloomington. Their last residence in Bloomington was at 1104 E. Monroe. During World War II the Parkers moved to Silver Springs, Md. and Franklin worked for the War Production Board in Washington, D. C. Louise's niece, Alice Sutter, made her home with them in Silver Springs. In 1948 the Parker family moved to California where Franklin had always wanted to live. Their address is 14081 Brenan Way, Santa Ana, Calif. where many of the relatives have visited them. Three children were born to them:
FRANCES JOANN PARKER was born July 5, 1926 and died at birth.

MURIEL JANE PARKER⁶ (Louise⁵, Hattie⁴) was born April 28, 1928. She graduated from Bloomington High School and attended the University of Illinois. On Aug. 12, 1949 she was married to JOHN JOSEPH MILLER at Bloomington Centennial Christian Church. Two daughters were born to them:

PAULA DIANE⁷ (Muriel⁶, Louise⁵, Hattie⁴) born Feb. 7, 1951.

PEGGY ELIZABETH⁷ (Muriel⁶, Louise⁵, Hattie⁴) born Nov. 10, 1952.

Muriel was divorced Oct. 21, 1958. She worked for the State Farm Insurance Co. in their Santa Ana office for a time. On Oct. 22, 1960 Muriel was married to JAMES WILLIAM THORNBURG, son of the Dwight H. Thornburgs. The wedding was in the Presbyterian Church at Tustin, Calif. Jim was born in Basel, Switzerland where his father, a petroleum geologist for Shell Oil Co., was taking graduate work at the University of Basel. Jim served in the Air Force from 1943-46. He graduated from the University of Southern California in 1950. The Thornburg home is at 5303 Falkirk Ave., Riverside, Calif. Jim has his own insurance agency in Riverside. In 1962 Jim adopted Paula and Peggy. Muriel and Jim have two daughters:

SUSANNA⁷ (Muriel⁶, Louise⁵, Hattie⁴) born June 21, 1963.


FRANKLIN LUTHER (Bud) PARKER⁶ (Louise⁵, Hattie⁴) was born Feb. 19, 1930 and attended Bloomington elementary schools and graduated from Bloomington High School. He attended the University of Illinois, San Bernardino Jr. College, and the University of California College of Agriculture at Davis, from which he graduated. Bud had several ag-related jobs after graduating but finally ended up doing the same type of work as his father, representing the Lilliston Implement Co. of Albany, Ga. Bud has been both successful and happy in this work. He enjoys all sports. Bud also enjoys music and gets a lot of pleasure out of playing the piano.
George B. and Maud (Cameron) Strayer at the Time of Their Marriage
MAUD LENA CAMERON\textsuperscript{4} and GEORGE B. STRAYER of LeRoy were married on Jan. 15, 1902 by the Rev. Shipp. The ceremony was performed in the old brick home place where Maud was born May 2, 1879. They farmed in the LeRoy vicinity until 1919 when they moved to LeRoy and George purchased a hardware business which he operated until 1932. During the years 1934 and 1935 George was mayor of LeRoy. More recently he has been an insurance agent. Maud and George celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with the immediate family. Because of Maud's health, no celebration was held on their 60th anniversary. The Strayers are parents of three daughters:

1. **HELEN LEOTA STRAYER\textsuperscript{5}** (Maud\textsuperscript{4}) was born June 30, 1907 in DeWitt County, near Wapella. She graduated from LeRoy High School and attended Illinois State Normal University in Normal, Ill. Helen was married to MARION
FRANCIS CARLOCK in Jacksonville, Ill. by Rev. Pontei, Nov. 18, 1933. Helen and Marion (Mac) lived in Bloomington, Ill. until 1936, when they moved to Alton, Ill. Marion was a graduate of the University of Illinois with BSME degree. He entered World War II as a Reserve Officer Second Lieutenant, having attained that rank at the University. During the war years they lived several places with no overseas duty. In 1947 the tour of duty ended with rank of Major and they returned to St. Louis, Mo. to live. In 1955 the family moved to Sikeston, Mo. where Marion owned and operated the Midland Engineering Company. It was in Sikeston that Helen and Mac were surprised on their 25th anniversary with a party given by their family and friends. In 1961 Helen and Mac moved to Western Springs, Ill. where they reside at 305 51st St. They are parents of a daughter and a son:

SUE FRANCIS CARLOCK6 (Helen5, Maud4) was born Jan. 9, 1938 at Alton, Ill. She graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1959 with a BS degree in Nursing. Sue married WELDON F. MAISCH on August 27, 1960. Weldon graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1957 with a BS degree, received his Masters degree in Biology from the
University of Illinois in 1958 and is, at present, a candidate for a PhD in Microbiology at the University of Illinois. They have two sons:

**DAVID WELDON MAISCH** (Sue, Helen, Maud) was born May 30, 1963.

**MAISCH** (Sue, Helen, Maud) was born June 13, 1965.

**JON MARION CARLOCK** (Helen, Maud) was born April 3, 1949. He is presently attending Lyons Township High School.

2. **ALICE MILDRED STRAYER** (Maud) was born Nov. 8, 1912 near LeRoy. She was graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1934 with an AB degree. Alice and WILLIAM J. BACH were married on June 9, 1936 in the home of her parents in LeRoy by Dr. Hubert Hodgens. William was a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University with an AB degree,
and from the University of Illinois Law School. He is a practicing attorney in Bloomington. Alice has been active in the Community Players, President of Brokaw Service League and President of the Bloomington Art Association. She and William have enjoyed several trips abroad. The Bachs are members of Wesley Methodist Church. The William J. Bachs live at 606 S. Moore St., Bloomington, Ill. They are the parents of two sons and a daughter:

WILLIAM STRAYER BACH⁶ (Alice⁵, Maud⁴) was born April 24, 1937. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1959 with an AB degree, and from the University of Michigan Law School in 1962 with a JD degree and was admitted to the Ohio and Illinois State Bars. At present he is serving three years in the Judge Advocate General Corps with the rank of Captain. He was married to JULIE DARE BOYD in Maumee, Ohio on August 19, 1961. Julie graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University with a BS degree in 1959 and received her Masters degree in biology from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio in 1961.

DAVID ALISON BACH⁶ (Alice⁵, Maud⁴) was born July 23, 1938. David graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with a BFA degree, and is presently employed by an architectural firm in Chicago. He married SUE ANN MIERICKE at Hinsdale, Ill. on Dec. 16, 1961. Sue Ann attended the University of Mississippi and Illinois Wesleyan University.

VIRGINIA ANNE BACH⁶ (Alice⁵, Maud⁴) was born Aug. 12, 1945. She attended Ripon College, Ripon, Wis. in 1964 and is presently enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan University.
3. VIRGINIA CAMERON STRAYER\(^5\) (Maud\(^4\)) was born January 10, 1915 near LeRoy, Ill. She graduated from Empire Township High School in 1933. Virginia entered Illinois Wesleyan University in 1934 and completed two years at the University. From June, 1938-1942 she was employed with the East Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery. In 1942, her brother-in-law, Mac Carlock, was instrumental in interesting Virginia in a job with the War Department at the Medical Depot in St. Louis, Mo. In January, 1944 Virginia was transferred to San Francisco, Calif. Her first impression of the beauty of the Bay Area has never dimmed. She loved San Francisco and there met FRANK S. GERNER who convinced her she should make it her home. Virginia and Frank were married in the Old First Presbyterian Church on VanNess Ave. in San Francisco on May 24, 1944. Frank was in the U. S. Army from January, 1943 until his discharge October, 1945. Frank is the son of the late John Adam and Gretchen Sauer Gerner. He was born December 15, 1907 in Mojave, Calif. The family moved back to Berkeley when he was about four years old. Frank is an architect. He obtained his education in the Berkeley, Calif. schools, graduating from Berkeley High School in December, 1925. Since 1940 he has been a registered architect, being trained in the classic French tradition of the Ecole De Beaux Arts in the office of Arthur Brown, Jr. of San Francisco, who was an ancien of the Atelier Victor La Laux of the Ecole De Beaux Arts Paris. The Gerners reside at 1429 Grant St., Berkeley 3, Calif. where they have always lived and where many of the relatives have visited them. They are parents of two children:
ALICE JOYCE GERNER⁶ (Virginia⁵, Maud⁴) was born May 7, 1945. She is presently beginning her third year at the University of California, Berkeley.

JAMES EDMUND GERNER⁶ (Virginia⁵, Maud⁴) was born January 23, 1948 and is now a senior at Berkeley High School.
Alva and Lottie (Cameron) Reed
LOTTIE BELL CAMERON was born June 20, 1881 at Lovejoy Place, McKinney, Texas. At the age of seven years, she moved with her family to Illinois and into the red brick homestead which remained her home until her marriage. She attended school and social functions in Smith Grove and surrounding neighborhoods. She married ALVA AMOS REED September 2, 1903 having a large home wedding at the home of her parents, southeast of Towanda. Rev. Holton was the minister. After a month’s wedding trip to Nebraska, they started housekeeping on his Father and Grandfather’s farm two and one-half miles southwest of DeLand. Alva Amos Reed was born one and one-fourth miles north and one and one-half miles west of DeLand August 10, 1879. In 1908 they moved to a farm one-fourth mile south of DeLand which Alva and his father, Ellis E., had purchased. In February, 1946 they moved to the former Ellis E. Reed home in DeLand. Alva was engaged in farming until 1947. He also raised and sold shetland ponies and was a breeder of shorthorn cattle. He was one of the organizers of the Piatt County Farm Bureau, DeLand Farmers Co-operative Grain Co., and Macon-Piatt County Service Co. He has also been a representative for several insurance companies dating back to 1924. The Alva Reed home has always been noted for hospitality and frequent entertaining where many dinners, dances and parties were held. Their home was often referred to by friends of the Reed children as the “Reed Hotel.” Lottie and Alva have always been active in church and community affairs and clubs. In 1953 Lottie and Alva Reed observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a noon dinner served at the Christian Church in DeLand to 24 members of the immediate family. Later they held open house at their home. Lottie was the fourth daughter of John E. and Alice J. Cameron to celebrate a Golden Wedding Anniversary—Minnie, Hattie and Maud having previously celebrated. In 1963 Lottie and Alva observed their 60th Wedding Anniversary with an Open House. Their children and grandchildren assisted them in celebrating both anniversaries.
Lottie Cameron Reed still retains her share of the John E. and Alice J. Cameron homeplace. H. G. Cameron's share was sold to his sisters—Minnie, Hattie, Maud, Lottie and Lue. In the 1930s Lowell Reed purchased the shares of Maud Strayer, Hattie Womack and Minnie Heller. Alva Reed purchased the Lue Cameron Parr share, so the old homestead with the red brick house is still standing and in the Cameron family, being owned by Lowell Cameron Reed and his parents, Lottie and Alva Reed.

Lottie and Alva Reed were the parents of five children:

1. LOWELL CAMERON REED\(^{b}\) (Lottie\(^{1}\)) was born on his Grandfather Reed's farm two and one-half miles west of DeLand on Apr. 3, 1906. He graduated from DeLand High School in 1924 and from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1928. His entire life's work has been with Wear Ever Aluminum, Inc., a subsidiary of Alcoa and has been located in Chicago and
Springfield, Ill.; Milwaukee, Wis.; St. Louis, Mo.; Indianapolis, Ind.; and the Pittsburgh, Pa. area; now being National Sales Manager of the Food Service Equipment Division. Lowell and Helen (Reel) Reed married HELEN LORENE REEL May 23, 1937 in the Methodist Church at Montezuma, Ind. They had a large church wedding with a reception following in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Reel. Helen was born in Reelsville, Ind. April 12, 1911. She graduated from Montezuma High School in 1929 and from Indiana State University of Terre Haute, Ind. in 1933, and has since taught school much of the time. Helen has also been very active in club work. Lowell served in the U. S. Army two and one-half years at various locations including Hawaii and Okinawa during World War II. Lowell served two years as Commander of John Holiday Post No. 186 of Indianapolis in the American Legion and two years as State President of the Indiana Society of the Sons of The American Revolution during the 1950s. The Lowell Reed home was first made at 3544 Carrolton Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. and later at 3334 College Ave. In November, 1953 they moved to a home they purchased at 5826 Winthrop and it was here that they hosted the Cameron Reunion in 1956. In June, 1961 the family moved to a home they had purchased at 126 Marian Ave., Glenshaw, Pa. where they still reside.

In 1962 Lowell and Helen's Indianapolis friends helped them observe their Silver Wedding Anniversary by having a dinner with party following. Lowell and Helen are parents of two sons:
JOHN CAMERON REED⁶ (Lowell⁵, Lottie⁴) was born September 5, 1943 in Coleman Hospital, Indianapolis, Ind. and spent his entire childhood in the Indianapolis area, graduating from Broad Ripple High School in 1961. He attended Illinois Wesleyan University two years and then transferred and is attending State Agricultural and Technical University of Alfred, N. Y.

DOUGLAS FRANKLIN REED⁶ (Lowell⁵, Lottie⁴) was born June 11, 1948 in Coleman Hospital, Indianapolis, Ind. He will be a senior in high school this fall—1965.

2. INFANT SON born September 8, 1908 was dead at birth.

3. OLIVE BERNICE REED⁶ (Lottie⁴) was born at the home of her parents one-fourth mile south of DeLand on Dec. 24, 1909. She graduated from DeLand High School in 1927 and attended Brown's Business College in Decatur one year. She held office positions in Monticello, Bloomington and Chicago, Illinois before
her marriage. Bernice was visiting friends in Atlanta, Illinois one night and they attended a dance on Friday, October 13, 1933 when she met her future husband. After a courtship of six years, she married DONALD DEAN HAMMITT, Chicago, Illinois (formerly of Atlanta, Ill.) on June 17, 1939 at the Christian Church in DeLand. They had a large church wedding with reception following in the church parlor. Donald was born near Waynesville, Ill. June 10, 1906 the son of Benjamin Franklin and Betty Ferne Hammitt. Donald graduated from Atlanta High School in 1924. He attended Lincoln College, Lincoln, Ill. for two years and Northwestern University the following year. Bernice and Donald moved to Chicago and resided in an apartment at 6039 North Kenmore Ave. for 4½ years and then moved to an apartment at 6967 North Bell Ave. where they still reside. They have both been active in Club, Lodge and Church work. Donald is a member of the Masonic Lodge. He has been employed in the offices of Cities Service Oil Company for over 28 years. On June 14, 1964 Bernice and Donald observed their Silver Wedding Anniversary by having an Open House from 2-5 in the home of her parents, Lottie and Alva Reed, DeLand, Ill.

4. ADA LEAH REED⁵ (Lottie⁴) was born September 26, 1912 at the home of her parents ¼ mile south of DeLand. She graduated from the DeLand High School in 1930 and attended Illinois Wesleyan University for two years, after which she attended Moser Business College in Chicago for a year. She was then employed in an office in Bloomington for a year.

In the fall of 1934 Lottie and Alva Reed and their four children took a trip through the southwest including Texas. This was Lottie’s first trip back to her native home town since she left at the age of 7. Leah met and dated Bill West during the time they visited their relatives in McKinney, Texas and this romance ended in their marriage the next June. Ada Leah Reed married WILLIAM RANDOLPH WEST of McKinney, Texas on June 1, 1935 at the DeLand Christian Church. A large wedding was held followed by a reception in her parents home. William West (Bill) was born in McKinney, Texas April 18, 1912, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. West. He graduated from McKinney High School in 1930 and attended Austin College
in Sherman, Texas for two years. He then went into the laundry and dry cleaning business with his father which was and still is known as the McKinney Steam Laundry. Bill was made a

partner in the business and assumed the responsibility of managing the laundry in 1933 and still continues in that capacity. Bill served two years as Mayor of McKinney, Texas from 1955-57. Since their marriage Leah and Bill have always lived in McKinney, Texas - first in an apartment at 613 North Church St. for two months, then to a home at 707 West Hunt St. for 18 months, then to a home at 108 South Waddill St. for 4 years. In 1941 they built a home at 708 North Waddill St. where they have since resided. Leah and Bill have been very active in clubs and other organizations of the community. The William West family have all been active members of the same Presbyterian Church in which Leah’s mother, Lottie Cameron Reed, was christened and attended as a child. In 1960 Lottie and Alva Reed and Bernice and Donald Hammitt went to Dallas, Texas where a family dinner for 15 guests was held at Sammy’s Town House in Dallas honoring Leah and Bill West on their Silver Wedding Anniversary. Leah and Bill are parents of two sons:

WILLIAM REED WEST⁶ (Leah⁵, Lottie⁴) was born Feb. 15 (on his Grandmother West’s birthday), 1939 in McKinney,
Texas where he spent his childhood, graduating from McKinney High School in 1957. He graduated from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas in 1961. He became a Certified Public Accountant in 1963. Reed West married FRANCHA DAVENPORT in Perkins Chapel on the Southern Methodist University campus, Dallas, Texas June 24, 1961. They had a large wedding with a reception following at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ripley Davenport, Dallas, Texas. After a honeymoon trip by plane to Mexico City and Acapulco they resided in Houston, Texas for one month in connection with Reed's position as an accountant with Price Waterhouse Co. They returned to Dallas where Reed worked as an auditor in the Treasury Department of Texas Power and Light Company until he was elected Assistant Treasurer for Redman Industries in June, 1964. Francha was born April 6, 1940 in Dallas, Texas and was graduated from Highland Park High School in Dallas in 1958. She attended Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. and later enrolled in Southern Methodist University, Dallas, where she graduated in the same class with Reed in 1961. Since her graduation Francha has been employed as Registrar of Dallas College, Dallas, Texas. In 1964 Reed and Francha bought a home at 4553 Belfort, Dallas, Texas where they now reside. Reed enlisted in the Texas Air National Guard in 1961; a six month's program with six years active reserve training.

TIM PARKER WEST (Leah5, Lottie4) was born May 30 (on his Aunt Lue Parr’s birthday), 1941 in McKinney, Texas where he graduated from high school in 1959. He graduated from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas in 1963. He has been employed by Texas Power and Light Company since his graduation and living in Dallas and Irving, Texas. Tim enlisted in the Texas Air National Guard in 1963; a six month’s program with six years active reserve training. On June 26, 1965 Tim will marry Carolyn Ruth Snow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Snow of Irving, Texas. They will have a large wedding in the Kirkwood Methodist Church at Irving, with a reception following.
5. JAMES EDWIN REED\(^5\) (Lottie\(^4\)) was born at the farm home of his parents one-fourth mile south of DeLand January 25, 1916. His entire life has been spent at DeLand and he's still living on this same farm. Edwin has always been interested in farming and raising livestock. At age three he broke his first pony "Pee Wee" to ride and drive. Edwin graduated from the DeLand High School in 1934. He still plays his clarinet in the German Band that he played in during High School days and they entertain at various dinner meetings and programs in central Illinois. Edwin married LOLA PEARL HUISINGA
February 24, 1946. They had a large home wedding at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Huisinga, Sr. A reception followed the ceremony. Following their honeymoon trip, Lola and Edwin went to housekeeping on the farm—the only home Edwin has ever known. Lola was born at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Huisinga, Sr., DeLand, November 7, 1917. She graduated from the DeLand High School in 1934. Edwin was a member of this graduating class also. Lola attended Illinois State Normal University and later taught school for ten years in the DeLand area. She resided with her parents until her marriage. Edwin is one of the successful farmers of the community and Lola and Edwin are both very active in many organizations and activities of the community. Lola and Edwin are parents of four children:

MARY ANN REED⁶ (Edwin⁵, Lottie⁴) was born at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, Ill. on February 24, 1949 (on her parents third wedding anniversary).

JOAN ELLEN REED⁶ (Edwin⁵, Lottie⁴) was born at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, Ill. on April 3, 1952 (on her Uncle Lowell Reed’s birthday).

CAROL LYNN REED⁶ (Edwin⁵, Lottie⁴) was born at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, Ill. on January 25, 1954 (on her father’s birthday).

JAMES ALVA REED⁶ (Edwin⁵, Lottie⁴) was born at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, Ill. on May 23, 1959 (on his Uncle Lowell and Aunt Helen Reed’s wedding anniversary).
George H. and Luella (Cameron) Parr on Their 25th Wedding Anniversary
LUELLA CAMERON was born in McKinney, Texas, May 30, 1883. Like her father, Lue was a great lover of horses. She won first prize at Bloomington, LeRoy, Saybrook, El Paso, Rock Creek and Gibson City Fairs for her riding. In 1897, when only 14 years of age, she was awarded second prize for riding and driving at the Chicago Horse Show. This was in competition with ladies as there was no class for girls her age.

As a young girl Lue would ride horseback the four miles to Towanda to attend the Presbyterian Church. She united with this church at the age of 14. When she and her mother moved to Bloomington some years later, both united with the Second Presbyterian Church there. Three years later she transferred her membership to Argenta Presbyterian Church where she served as a Deaconess for 27 years.

On November 4, 1915 Luella Cameron was married to GEORGE H. PARR in the Second Presbyterian Church in Bloomington by the Rev. J. N. Elliott. They left immediately
for California on their wedding trip, attending the Pan American Exposition at San Francisco, and the Exposition at San Diego, and visiting Catalina Island. After returning to Bloomington for a short stay, they moved to Argenta, Ill. where Mr. Parr was engaged in farming. George H. Parr was born April 23, 1879 one and one-half miles south of Cooksville, Ill., son of Nathan and Ellen Reynolds Parr who came to McLean County in 1871. In 1891 the family moved to Macon County, near Argenta, where the parents resided until their deaths. Nathan Parr began as a farm hand, and by hard work and good management, accumulated some valuable farms. George inherited some of these, and by economy and good management, George has added several more farms, in which he takes great pride—driving out to them most every day. George is also vitally interested in and proud of the Argenta Bank for he has been a stockholder and director since it was organized. He served as vice-president when the bank was first organized, and as president for the past 40 years. George's hobby is reading. He has recently presented Argenta's new library with over a hundred books and a gift of $2,000 for new volumes.

No one will ever know how many persons Lue and George have reached by their thoughtfulness and generosity toward family and friends, as well as needy and worthy causes. It was Aunt Lue's generosity that made the printing of this Cameron History possible.
Their many nice trips and their lovely home are George and Lue's precious memories. The Parr home has been the scene of many happy family gatherings and Aunt Lue and Uncle George will long be remembered for their hospitality and gracious entertaining.

In 1940 Lue and George celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary with an open house. They are anticipating celebrating their Golden Anniversary this November.
HARRY GUY CAMERON was born February 5, 1886 in McKinney, Texas. When he was a few months old Minnie entered him in the Collin County Fair and he won $10 prize for being the best looking baby. When Guy was two years old the family returned to Illinois to live in the red brick homestead. Guy loved horses and as he grew up he learned to ride, drive and break horses. As a young man he went west to work on a cattle ranch in Montana. He enjoyed telling of the colorful life of the cowhand—breaking horses, rounding up, corralling and branding the cattle, and using the lasso. After a few months Guy returned to Illinois and helped his father with the farming and clearing the timber from land that lay west and north of the red brick. In the winter of 1911-12 they got a sawmill to move into the timber to saw the logs into lumber. The trees were mostly walnut and oak. Choice oak lumber sold for $30 per 1000 board feet. The steam engine burned scrap lumber, and water for the boiler came
from Money Creek. In the spring of 1912 this field was planted in corn and it was after hand-hoeing around some of the stumps left in this field that J. E. Cameron was struck by lightning. After the death of his father, Guy moved to Chicago where he was in the paving and construction business. There in Nov., 1917 he married Othelia Hogstrom. They were divorced. In Sept., 1920 Guy married Cecile Schmidt of Joliet. They were parents of a daughter, Harriet. They were divorced. Guy lived a number of years in Michigan but returned to Bloomington about 1940 and worked for the Terre Haute Advertising Company until his last illness. Guy Cameron died Dec. 15, 1960 at St. Joseph Hospital in Bloomington, Ill. His sister, Lue, was at his bedside at the time of his death. He is buried in the family lot in Smith Grove Cemetery. Uncle Guy was a good conversationalist and always had a joke or a colorful story to tell.

1. HARRIET CECILE CAMERON\(^5\) (Guy\(^4\)) was born May 16, 1921. She and her daddy spent several years in Michigan in the 1920s. The rest of her life has been spent in the Chicago area. She graduated from Mallinackrodt High School in 1940. She was married to GEORGE HOGAN on Nov. 23, 1949. They were parents of a son. They have separated.

![Harriet (Cameron) Hogan](image)

JAMES CAMERON HOGAN\(^6\) (Harriet\(^5\), Guy\(^4\)) was born Nov. 17, 1950. He graduated from St. Jerome’s Grammar School and is presently attending Loyola Academy for boys.