

The Cox/Layne Family Genealogy

From 1657 to Last Update: August 6, 2009

Portions of this genealogy material were taken from two previous genealogists, Betty M. Majors, of Tullahoma, Tennessee (who did the initial Cox lineage), and Thelma Van Arsdale, of Clarksville, Arkansas (who did the initial Layne/Blackwell lineage). Additional research, corrections, changes, additions, and all photographs were made, compiled, and verified by Jennifer Jordan-Henley of Knoxville, Tennessee, youngest grandchild of Samuel and Della Layne Cox. In addition, some biographical sketches have been incorporated from the 1997 Cox Family Reunion Cookbook, compiled by Jackie Shields, wife of John Shields, a grandson of Sam and Della Cox.

This collected material was first compiled in August of 2003. It now covers **351** years and 12 generations. Any inaccuracies or additional information should be reported to Jennifer (address at the end). Please help keep this document accurate and updated.

*Information from Betty M. Majors
(Additions, Changes, and Commentary by Jennifer Shown in Brackets)*

It is possible (not proven by any means) that Nathan Cox (b. 1804 or 1805, see below) is descended from one of the five sons of Harmon Cox (1717-1817). [Jennifer's note: I am working on proving this lineage but the records are sketchy and contradictory in some cases. The problem resides with Generation No. 5. If this Nathan Cox is, as noted, the son of Nathan Cox (b.1762 in North Carolina) then we can trace our family back to 1657. If he is not, then our line begins with Generation 5, and we will have to delete Generations 1-4. There are indications that the Grundy County Nathan Cox from whom we are certainly descended is not the child of Nathan Cox, Sr. of North Carolina, but definitive proof has yet to be discovered. There are also indications that he was.] This lineage is as follows:

Generation No. 1

William Cox

b. 1657 in Gloucestershire, England, d. 1742 in Delaware.
Married to Amy, b. 1657. Immigrated to America.

Generation No. 2

William Cox

b. 1692 [in New Castle,] Delaware, d. 20 Jan 1767 in North Carolina
[Married to Catherine Kinkey]

Generation No. 3

Harmon Cox

b [18 Feb. 1723 at Hockessin,] New Castle, Delaware, d 1817 [Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle, Delaware]
Married to Jane Johns, Married 10 Oct 1745 at [Fairfax Mm, Loudoun,] Virginia

They had eight children: [Ms. Majors did not list the women. Olivia Lainhart, a Wyoming genealogist and my cousin from another family line, found them, and I have noted them here.]

- [Hannah Cox, b abt. 1750 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC].
- Thomas Cox, b abt. 1754 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC. Married Amy Cox, Daughter of Benj. Cox.
- [Rebecca Cox, b abt. 1755 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC].
- Harmon Cox, Jr., b. abt 2 Oct 1757 of Holly Springs, Wake NC. Married Catherine Cox, Daughter of Samuel Cox, M 1779.
- William Cox, b. abt 1760 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC. Married Hannah Cox, Daughter of Issac Cox.
- **Nathan Cox, b 30 Oct. 1762 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC, d. 1840 Married Catherine Moffitt, b. 4 April 1765, daughter of William Moffitt, on 16 April 1789 in Cane Creek, Orange County, North Carolina.**
- [Jane Cox, b. abt 1765 of Holly Springs, Wake NC].
- Jacob Cox, b. abt. 1767 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC.
- Married Hannah Moffitt, daughter of William Moffitt, M: 1791 in NC.

Generation No. 4

Nathan Cox, b. 30 Oct. 1762 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC, d. 1840 Married Catherine Moffitt, b. 4 April 1765, daughter of William Moffitt, on 16 April 1789 in Cane Creek, Orange County, North Carolina. They had 9 children:

- Jane Cox, b. 23 Aug. 1790
- Mahlon Cox, b. 2 March 1792, d. 10 Oct. 1825
- Jonathan Cox, b. 27 Jan. 1795
- William Cox, b. 22 Nov. 1797
- Mary Cox, b. 15 April 1800
- Ruth Cox, b. 9 Dec. 1803
- Catherine Cox, b. 25 Jan. 1806
- **Nathan Cox, b. 2 Feb. 1809**
- Margaret Cox, b. 25 March 1812

Generation No. 5

Nathaniel (Nathan) Cox [is an enigma. Currently, information shows that he was born about 1804 or 1805 in Alabama or Georgia, although records show that a Nathan Cox was also born in North Carolina in 1809. No actual birth record has been found in Georgia, but records do show a birth record in North Carolina]. In the 1850 census records of Grundy County he is reported to be from Georgia, but in later years his children declared that he was born in Alabama. In any case, by 1830, he and his young wife are living in Franklin County, TN. He had married Rebecca A. Wheeler [also reported as “Nancy” Wheeler and “Sally” Wheeler], daughter of Joseph Wheeler of Franklin County, Tennessee. [She was born in 1814 in Tennessee.] Rebecca was 10 years younger than Nathan. By 1840, Nathan and Rebecca are listed as living in Coffee

County, and by 1850 they are in Grundy County. Interestingly enough, they never moved—the counties just changed around them. In 1834 Nathan [spelling his last name as “Cocks”] was one of the signers of the petition to remove the Pelham area from Franklin County and have it attached to Coffee County. There it remained for 10 years until Grundy County was formed in 1844.

[Jennifer’s Note: As of this writing, I have information which indicates that Nathan Cox is the son of Nathan Cox, b 1762 of Holly Springs, Wake, NC (listed above). This information also indicates that Nathan Cox (b. 1804 or 1805 or 1809 is buried in NC. There is also a notation from Joy Gallagher (whose husband is a descendent of James Lafayette Cox, one of Nathan’s sons), from Ansearchen News, Volume 37, Number 3, Fall 1990, p. 134, which shows a marriage in Jefferson County, Tennessee between Nathan Cox and “Sally” Wheeler for 17 July 1823. The officiant was H. Caller/Coller, J. P. No burial record for Nathan in Tennessee has been found. Other records show that Nathan was a Baptist and a Democrat. We do know, however, that Nathan owned 1 horse, 2 cows, and 18 swine. A notation from Sharon Goodman, whose husband is a descendent of Francis Marion Cox, another of Nathan’s sons, points out that the 1850 Agricultural Census of Grundy County appointed Nathan as an Overseer of the road from Pelham to Caldwell’s Old Bridge, to help others “to work and keep said road in repair.” Ms. Goodman also notes that “The History of the Elk River Valley” reports that “many people in the Valley Home community are related to the Coxes, which were a large family group there about mid-1800. Nathan Cox appears to have been among the first of that family to settle here.”]

Nathan Cox and his wife Rebecca lived in the 7th District of Grundy County from the time the county was formed. They had 12 children (from the 1850 and 1860 census of Grundy County, TN):

- Jonah Cox, b 1831
- Elizabeth Cox , b. 1833
- Francis Marion Cox, b. 4 Oct. 1834, d. 22, Oct.1925. He had 14 children and is buried at Red Hill Cemetery in Pelham, TN. His death certificate verifies that the name of his parents was Nathan Cox and Rebecca Wheeler. He married Barbara Ellen Layne on 2 April 1857. She was born 20 March 1839 and died 6 May 1923. Barbara was a midwife.
- Thomas S. Cox, b. Feb 1837, d. 1913 in Rutherford County. He had 7 children. [Married Nancy Wooten. Thomas S. Cox fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War.]
- A son who died young, b. ca. 1839
- Mary A. Cox, b. 1842
- James [Lafayette] Cox, b. 1845, d. 1936, buried at Red Hill Cemetery in Pelham, TN. He had 6 children. Married Martha Layne [Boggs].
- Nancy J. Cox, b. 1847
- **William H. Cox, b. 1850**
- John P. Cox, b. 1851, Married Malinda Wooten
- Minerva C. Cox, b 1853, [Probably the Catherine Cox who married William Layne]
- Delila L Cox, b. 1856

Generation No. 6

William H. Cox listed above may be the Herman Cox buried at the Pelham City Cemetery with the tombstone without dates. He married after 1870, possibly to Mattie Jones on July 16, 1879 in Warren County, TN. [The family also has a verbal record made by David Shields, Sr. to Velma Cox Jordan that he was married to a Cynthia Sanders, but no official record of this marriage has been discovered.] No marriage to a William Cox of his age was found in Grundy County, and William and his family cannot be located in the 1880 census of Grundy or surrounding counties. By the 1900 census, however, (there is not an 1890 federal census), William Cox, aged 50, listed as a carpenter, b. Feb. 1850, a widower, born in TN, father b. in Alabama, mother b. in TN. He had living with him:

- Willie Ester Cox (daughter), age 15, b. Dec. 1884
- **Samuel Cox, age 13, b. May 1887**
- Eliza Jane, age 11, b. May 1889
- Anna Lee, age 9, b. July 1890

The family of Samuel Cox report that there were also two older daughters—Ella and Maude.

Willie Ester Cox married Arthur Thomas on 15 Nov. 1901. This marriage was performed by W. D. Bennett, J. P., in Grundy County.

Eliza Jane “Lizzie” Cox was married to Issac Layne on May 15, 1906. This marriage was performed by W. D. Bennett, J. P., Grundy County.

Anna Lee Cox was married to Henry Layne on Oct. 22, 1906. This marriage was also performed by W. D. Bennett, J. P., Grundy County.

[No information has been found on Ella.]

Maude Cox married Thomas Lawson on 3 Nov. 1899. This marriage was performed by Benjamin F. Parks, J. P., Grundy County. According to the family, she married a second time to a Mr. Powers.

Generation No. 7



Sam and Della Cox
Wedding, 3 June 1906

Samuel Jones Cox (Pop), was b. 12 June 1888 (according to family records. The 1900 census gives his birth date as May 1887). He died 17 Dec. 1963 in Coffee County, TN and is buried at Rose Hill Memorial Garden alongside his wife in that county. He married on 3 June 1906 to Della Layne, who was b 17 July 1890 in Grundy County and died 29 Oct. 1960. This marriage was performed by W. D. Bennett, J. P. in Grundy County. (On their marriage license, Samuel's middle initial is given as "A," not "J." It has also been reported that Sam was named after a popular evangelist of the period, Sam Jones.).



Sam Cox, circa late 1940s, early 50s.



Lizzie Cox Layne (Sam's sister)

The Layne/Blackwell Connection

[The Laynes, like the Coxes, were a large family group living in Grundy County, near Pelham Valley. Many of the Laynes lived in “Layne’s Cove.” According to Velma Cox Jordan, when Sam and Della married, they decided to leave Grundy County and head west. They didn’t get very far because their wagon wheel broke.]

Della Layne Cox (Mom), who was married to Samuel Jones Cox, was descended from Mary Jane (Jamia) Blackwell, b. 3 June 1868, d 25 May, 1901, who was married to William Thomas (Billy) Layne on 13 Sept. 1885. Billy was b 7 Feb. 1862 and d 24 May 1939. They apparently lived their entire lives in Grundy County, TN. He was a minister and blacksmith, and Mary Jane was a hard-working mother and homemaker as well as helping with the field chores and livestock. Mary Jane and Billy Layne had eight children: Esther Layne, Lester Layne, Della Layne, Annie Layne, Taylor Layne, Rushie Layne, Samantha Layne, and James Andrew Layne.



**William Thomas Layne (Billy)
(Della Layne Cox’s Father)**

Mary Jane’s mother was Malinda Summers Blackwell, who died in 1881 and was married to William S. Blackwell, b. 7 March 1838, d. 11 June 1891.

Della Layne Cox, known as “Mom,” was “kind,” “sweet,” “quiet,” and “unassuming,” according to Velma Cox Jordan. She is reported to have never raised her voice and adored her children and grandchildren. She was a homemaker, a good cook, and very loyal to her family and friends. She is buried in Rose Hill Memorial Garden in Manchester, Coffee County, Tennessee.



Isaac Layne (Della's grandfather and Billy Layne's father) and daughter, Lizzie Layne. Their house (in Grundy County) is decorated for Independence Day.



Samantha Thomas Layne (Isaac's wife and Della's grandmother) and daughter, Elizabeth (Lizzie)

Blackwell Cousins: James, Leon, Lucille, and Robert



Rushie Layne Carroll (Della's sister), Bernice Cox, and Della Layne Cox



Standing: William Thomas Layne, born 1862, with his Bible. The woman on the porch may be his wife, Mary Jane Blackwell Layne or one of his daughters.

[Jennifer's Note: In June of 2005, Bernice Cox, then 94, one of William's grandsons, talked about William Layne (Della's father) to me. He said, first of all, that William Thomas Cox went by William. He also said that his grandfather had an excellent singing voice and played the organ quite well. He was a religious man. Bernice also noted that William had two wives. Bernice didn't know the name of the woman William was married to when he was a boy, as he called her

“Nanny,” but this was probably Nettie Eleanor Parker, William Layne’s second wife. She was born in 1881 in Big Springs, Tennessee and died in 1938, according to Linda Janelle Layne, granddaughter of William Layne and daughter of Joseph Elbert “Ebb” Layne, Della’s half-brother and son of William and Nettie. Bill Layne and his second wife, Ruthie Phillips, lost a child and divorced shortly thereafter. She returned to Hillsboro, according to the Layne family. Unfortunately, Bernice did not know either of his great-grandfathers, or where they are buried.]



**The children of Taylor Layne
(Della’s brother)
From top left: Dillard and Margie
From bottom left, Villis, Pete, Hulon**

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Sam Cox and Della Layne Cox had 8 children, listed below.

Arlie Mae Cox (Arlie)
Samantha Eugenia Cox (Jean)
Bernice William Cox (Bernice)
Nellie Ruth Cox (Nell)

Roy George Cox (Roy)
Velma Neal Cox (Velma)
Sam Almon Cox (Al)
Charles Glendon Cox (Glen)



**Della Layne Cox and her Daughters:
Arlie, Jean, Nell, and Velma**



**Della Layne Cox and her Sons:
Al, Bernice, Roy, and Glen**



Sam and Della Cox



**Sam and Della Cox at their house.
Velma is sitting on the swing.**



**Sam and Della, 50th Wedding Anniversary
June 3, 1956**



Sam Cox

Basic information about Sam and Della's children and some information about their grandchildren is from Thelma Van Arsdale with additions from Jennifer Jordan-Henley. Information about the grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren was compiled by Jennifer Jordan-Henley, as were all photographs collected.

**Generation No. 8
The Eight Children of Sam and Della Cox
Grandchildren of William H. Cox
Great-grandchildren of Nathan and Rebecca Cox**



From Left to Right:
Roy Cox, Glen Cox, Velma Cox Jordan, Nell Cox Bennett, Sam Cox (Pop), Della Cox (Mom), Jean Cox Wilson, Bernice Cox, Arlie Cox Shields. Missing that Day: Al Cox

Arlie Mae Cox, b. 12 April 1907 in Monteagle, TN, d. 4 June 2002 in Nashville, TN. Married David William Shields, Jr., b. 12 Jan. 1899 on 8 May 1930. He was a Veteran of World War I and was also a school teacher, attorney, legislator, and county judge during his professional career. He was the son of David William Shields and Emma Gay Shields. He died on 18 June 1980 and was buried in Rose Hill Memorial Garden at Manchester, TN. Arlie was a tax practitioner and a member of the Order of Eastern Star, and she is buried beside her husband. Their church affiliation was Methodist. The following children were born to David and Arlie:

- David W. Shields, III (Sonny)
- John Alfred Shields (John)
- James Edward Shields (James)
- Sam Jarrett Shields (Sam)

From the Cox Family Cookbook: “I remember my Father as hard working and conscientious about providing for his family. He was easily pleased with meals. I remember my Mother was in favor of all the children finishing high school, but Pop thought they were needed on the farm. I remember helping in the preparation of food but my sister, Jean, was my Mother’s helper in the kitchen. Most of the dishes were plain. My job was on the outside, mostly. I went to a one-room school, first at Ragsdale and then at Forest Mill and Coffee County High School. Jean, Nell and I drove a buggy to high school—Daisy was the mare’s name—the last year we rode the train because our Daisy died. I walked to elementary school. My Mother was kind, humble and sweet. I remember prior to entering high school, my hair was long with curls. At my first year at Central High, I wanted my hair short. My Mother had it cut; my Father disagreed and didn’t get over it easily. We had a wood stove to cook on and no refrigeration at first; later we had an ice box. When I was about 12 or 14 years at Ragsdale, along with my then sisters and brothers, my Father always butchered hogs for the family’s meat. It was in December and very cold, which was a good time, because there was no refrigeration, even though the hams, etc., were sugar cured. My Father decided we, the kids, should prepare the intestines to make chitlins. It was bitter cold on the hillside where we lived; we hated it, and I’m not sure we finished the job, as I don’t ever remember eating chitlins.” –Arlie Cox Shields



Samantha Eugenia Cox (Jean), b. 19 April 1909, d. 20 April 1966 is buried at the Forest Mill Methodist Church Cemetery in Manchester, Tennessee. Married George C. Wilson on 3 Nov. 1929 and lived in Manchester. Jean and Arlie were very close and spent much time involved with church activities. Jean was a school teacher and a “good disciplinarian.” All of the children and cousins loved her and enjoyed visiting and eating George’s homemade ice cream. The following children were born to Jean and George:

- Helen Joyce Wilson (Helen)
- Dorothy Wilson
- Charles Norman Wilson (Charles)



Bernice William Cox, b. 17 May 1911 in Pelham Valley (Grundy County) TN. Married Maggie Mae Taylor (b. 27 July 1913) on 11 November 1933 in Franklin, KY and settled in Manchester, Tennessee. Bernice built the first house he and Maggie lived in. It was close to Sam and Della and was a log house built in a “T” shape. Before retirement, Bernice was a farmer, a carpenter, a chicken farmer, and he even worked on building motels, while Maggie was a wonderful homemaker and cook, and made a quilt for each of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Maggie died peacefully in her sleep on 30 January 2008. Bernice followed on 6 July 2008. The couple are at Forest Mill Cemetery in Manchester, TN.

John and Jackie Shields took this oral history from them in 2004: According to Bernice, “the first time I saw Maggie, she was sitting on a fence across the road from our house. She lived just across the road. I guess she was about four years old. We both went to Ragsdale School—about 20 students, one teacher. Maggie was about a year behind me, I think. We would spend time together sitting on a swing or going to square dances on Saturday nights—usually held at John Wilson’s place. The county school would have box suppers as fundraisers at the school. I would bid on Maggie’s box lunch. She usually made fried chicken and fried pies and cookies. I would get someone else to bid on it for me, so we wouldn’t run the price up! Then we would sit together and eat what I won.

We married in 1933 in Franklin, Kentucky. Bill Rust drove us there in his 1930 Chevrolet convertible. We lived a short time with my parents (Sam and Della) and several of us built a log cabin on Dr. Ed Womack’s land. The logs were cut and trimmed by hand. We had four children while we lived in this house, all born at home with Dr. Womack there. He was a good man. We had no running water, electricity or phone, of course. We hauled water on a sled from my parent’s house or got it from the spring. People used to stop at the spring all the time, just to get a drink. Maggie said they guarded water like they did money!”



They had five children:

- Herman Wayne Cox (Wayne)
- Harold Richard Cox (Harold)
- Shirley Jane Cox (Shirley)
- Phyllis Ann Cox (Ann)
- Linda Kay Cox (Linda)

Left: Bernice and Maggie at the Little Duck

River.



Left: Bernice in 2006 at 95.



Bernice & Maggie's Cabin

Nellie Ruth Cox, b. 3 March 1913, Coffee County, TN. Married to William Fate Bennett on August 9, 1937. They lived in the states of Michigan, Ohio, and finally returned to Manchester, Tennessee after Fate was severely injured in an industrial accident. Fate had been Plant Supervisor of Willy's Motors in Toledo, Ohio, and Plant Supervisor of Chrysler Motors in Detroit, MI. After the accident, Nell cared for him for many years. He died on 7 Sept. 1960. Nell worked as a bank cashier and was secretary-bookkeeper of the Production Credit Association, Manchester, TN, before retirement. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star. Their church affiliation was Methodist. Nell died 13 July 1990. They had one son:

- Billy Sam Bennett (Billy Sam)



Fate and Nell Bennett, Sam Cox



Nell and Billy Sam Bennett

Roy George Cox, b. 22 Mar. 1915 in Manchester, TN (Coffee County). Married to Marion Hinderliter in Detroit, MI on 26 April 1941 at the Methodist Church. She was the daughter of Harry Ervin and Martha Curry Hinderliter and was born 14 Sept. 1917 in Altoona, PA and died 7 Mar. 1998 in Manchester, Tennessee. She was cremated and a service was held in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Until Roy retired, he was a local truck driver in Detroit. He is a 32nd degree Mason. Roy and Marion had two children:

- Roy George Cox, Jr. (Roy, Jr.)
- Sharron Louise Cox (Sharron)



Roy in 2007 at 92.

From the Cox Family Cookbook: My mother made plain meals every day but made pies and cakes for Christmas; mince pie, pumpkin and coconut cake. We had, as everyone else did, a wood stove; when I got older I used to get out of bed and build a fire in the stove. Then I would help get breakfast. We made a lot of biscuits and gravy, sausage and eggs. We had no refrigeration but kept our milk and butter on a rope in our well. My mother was congenial and was always busy around the house, 8 kids, you can understand! I never saw her upset; if she did get upset she never complained and was always there. I remember my Dad as strict; he would always advise you about the facts of life. He would go to a secluded place and get down on his knees and pray out loud. I came upon him different times, and I would just stop until he was finished. In my day as a child I would help with chores, milk and feed the cows and chickens,

carry in wood, split wood and churn. I had numerous jobs to do; there was no end; start it all over the next day. And it never hurt any of us; I guess that's discipline. After the chores were done I went to school. I went to Forest Mill School; taught from first grade to the eighth grade all in one room. There must have been 35-40 kids; I don't know how the teacher did it. But she did. They wouldn't do it today and that's sad. I think all of us kids resemble our parents in actions, dedication, caring, and respect. And we have some faults but "don't everybody." –Roy Cox, Sr.

Velma Neal Cox, b. 21 Nov. 1918, Manchester, TN. Married on 25 Dec. 1940 to Edwin Jeffries Jordan, Jr., b 11 Nov. 1917, d. 9 May 1972 (div.). Velma and Ed lived in Nashville, Tennessee, before settling outside Murfreesboro, Tennessee on Moreland Lane. Velma was Registrar for the Rutherford County Election Commission. After the divorce in 1965, she moved to Nashville and worked for the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. In retirement, she returned to Murfreesboro. Velma died on October 17, 2003 and is buried in the Jordan plot at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens on Thompson Lane, Nashville, Tennessee. (Ed is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.) Velma was a sweet and shy woman, a perfectionist, who was a homemaker for many years before returning to work. Ed was Display/Assistant Manager at Goldstein's Department Store in Murfreesboro (located on the square in the 1950s-60s) and did some artwork on the side. The couple had two children:

- Edwin Jeffries Jordan, III (Jeff)
- Jennifer Jean Jordan (Jenny)



Jeff, Jenny, Ed, and Velma Jordan, circa 1958



Ed and Velma Cox Jordan



Velma Cox Jordan

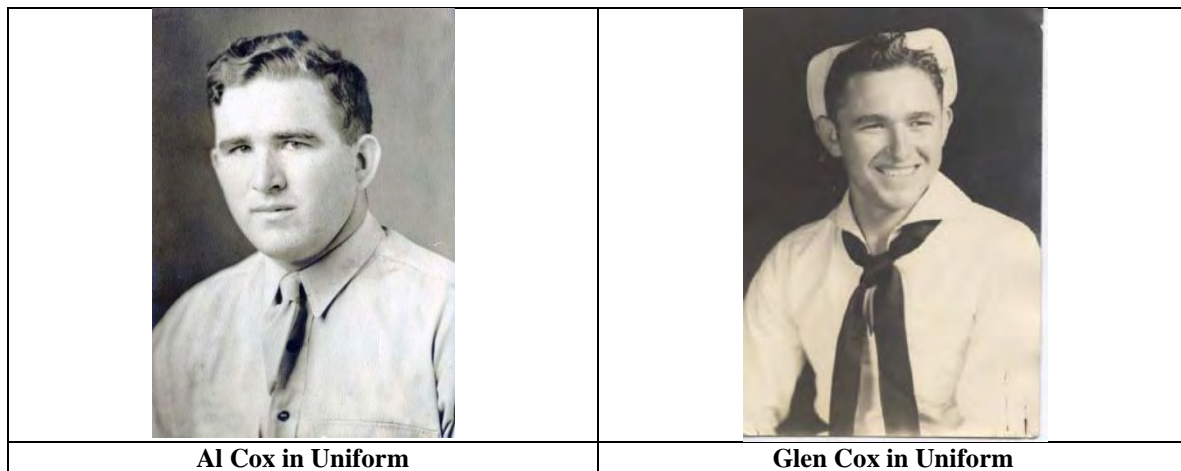
From the Cox Family Cookbook: “Inasmuch as I was sixth in a family of eight children born to Della and Sam Cox, I have been told by my older siblings that I was favored/spoiled by our parents. Maybe Mom and Pop did “mellow,” but I felt they were very strict disciplinarians, especially Pop. A case in point but not a favorite memory was when I had a date with a cute fellow to go to a weiner/marshmallow roast with a group of friends, and Pop wouldn’t let me go. This was doubly embarrassing and hurtful since he didn’t let me know until my friend came. Later, I was allowed to go to the movies Saturday nights in Tullahoma with another young man. If we sat in his truck five minutes upon our return, Mom would call me to come inside. Pop was a hard worker and did his work well. He always said, ‘if something was worth doing it was worth doing well.’ All of us worked hard but we had fun, also, especially on rainy days. Pop had beautiful gardens and a big orchard with a variety of fruits and vegetables. We loved to eat tomatoes, berries, etc., right out of the garden. Mom was a kind and sweet lady. She never raised her voice to her family. Now that I think back on lots of things, she should have. She lived her life by the ‘golden rule’ and expected the same of her family. Mom cooked on a big wood range with no temperature gauge. Her favorite cake was the Lady Baltimore which was probably named for the wife of Lord Baltimore, the founder of the Maryland colony. At Christmastime she prepared coconut cake, raisin and mincemeat pies. We could not keep perishable foods because there was no refrigeration. We kept a covered pail of milk hanging in the water well. The only way we could have Jello was in very cold weather when we would set it outside to jell. It was a special treat. We had lots of aunts, uncles and cousins with whom we exchanged visits. We went to Sunday School and church every week and revivals other times. The church members would take turns inviting the preacher for dinner and overnight if necessary. Almost everyone traveled in buggies, wagons or walked. Later, when a few people had cars and trucks, we would get together for trips to various places. Our one-room elementary school at Forest Mill was a half mile from our home. Of course we walked through all kinds of weather to get there. In the wintertime we would take off our shoes and crowd around the pot-bellied stove to keep warm and dry our shoes.” –Velma Cox Jordan

Sam Almon (Al) Cox, b. 28 June 1921 in Manchester, TN. Al was a carpenter by trade and served in the Pacific with the Army Signal Corps (specializing in communication) during World War II. On 20 April 1967, he passed away and is buried in Rose Hill Memorial Garden at Manchester, TN. [Jennifer’s note: Al was a kind man. I remember him well as a child because he lived with Mom and Pop for a while in the 1950s, when I was a little girl. He made a sturdy rope swing for me, and I still have a red plastic Christmas ornament he gave me of Santa Claus. I remember the gentle expression on his face when he watched me swing! In a 2007 conversation with Glen Cox, Al’s younger brother, Glen said that Al saw action at Okinawa, Iwo Jima, and

the Philippines, among other invasions. When Glen first arrived in Hawaii, Al was serving as a driver for a colonel in Hawaii and politely stopped to pick up a young hitchhiker he saw on the road. The hitchhiker turned out to be Glen. Al was surprised as he thought Glen was serving in Europe.]

Charles Glendon (Glen) Cox, b. 12 July 1924 in Manchester, TN. Married to Julia BeCamillo on 24 April 1959 at Fort Lauderdale, FL. Judy was born in 29 February 1920 in Italy. She is the daughter of Joseph BeCamillo and Mary Diprinzio BeCamillo. Glen and Judy lived in Sun City, AZ until Glen's death on 12 November 2007. He died in his sleep, of a stroke, and he is buried at the Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Phoenix, Arizona. Glen remembers working on the farm as a boy, being very close to Al, his brother, who was two years older. They were, according to Glen, "big buddies." Al moved to Detroit, and Glen followed some time later, moving in next door to Judy. He decided she was a "good catch," and married her after a year of courtship. The couple moved to Arizona in April 1976.

Al Cox enlisted in the service during World War II, and Glen went later. He was set to go to Normandy, but his paperwork was changed, and he went to the South Pacific instead. Glen took part in six invasions, including Okinawa, Iwo Jima, and the Philippines, but preferred not to discuss the war. He served as a crew member aboard LST Landing Craft 606. Referred to as a "tank," the landing craft carried troops and materials onto the islands as a part of the Navy's amphibious forces. In a 2007 conversation, Glen said he even saw Al several times during the beach landings. [For clarification, an LST was a class of shallow-draft amphibious ships developed just before World War II. An LST could drive its front end directly onto a beach and then unload its cargo of vehicles through the large clamshell doors that formed the ship's bow when closed. It could also debark troop-carrying assault amphibians (amtracs) at sea. For an excellent account of what Al and Glen went through in the Pacific, read E. B. Sledge's *With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa*, published by the Oxford University Press, 1981.]





From the Cox Family Cookbook: “Sam Cox liked shaking the old stove—to wake us. Della liked having her hair combed. She made good cornbread dressing! I would describe Della as short and Sam as strong. She had a wood stove and ice box refrigeration.”
–Glen Cox

Al and Glen



The Spouses of the Cox Children. From left to right, Charles Wilson, Ed Jordan, Jr., Fate Bennett, David Shields, Sr., Marion Hinderliter Cox, Maggie Taylor Cox.

Generation No. 9
The Seventeen Grandchildren of Sam and Della Cox
Great Grandchildren of William H. Cox
Great-Great Grandchildren of Nathan and Rebecca Cox



From Left to Right: Standing: Sharron Cox, Shirley Cox, Helen Wilson, Dorothy Wilson, Ann Cox, Linda Cox. Kneeling: James Shields, Billy Sam Bennett, Jennifer Jean Jordan, David Shields III, Roy Cox, Jr., Sam Shields, Jeff Jordan. Missing: John Shields, Charles Wilson, Wayne Cox, Harold Cox. Taken on Sam & Della's 50th Wedding Anniversary: 3 June 1956.

- David W. Shields, III
- John Alfred Shields
- James Edward Shields
- Sam Jarrett Shields
- Helen Joyce Wilson
- Dorothy Ann Wilson
- Charles Norman Wilson
- Herman Wayne Cox
- Harold Richard Cox
- Shirley Jane Cox
- Phyllis Ann Cox
- Linda Kay Cox
- Billy Sam Bennett
- Roy George Cox, Jr.
- Sharron Louise Cox
- Edwin Jeffries Jordan, Jr.
- Jennifer Jean Jordan



**Cox Reunion 2002
The Grandchildren**

**Standing, from left to right:
John Shields, Sharron Cox,
Dorothy Wilson Spivey
Kneeling: James Shields, Billy
Sam Bennett, Jennifer Jordan-
Henley, Roy Cox, Jr., Jeff
Jordan.**



**The Grandchildren's
Spouses**

**From Left to Right: Jane
Bennett, Helen Wilson,
Daune Jordan, Jackie
Shields, Terry Jordan-
Henley, Rocky Spivey,
Jennie Cox**

David W. Shields, III (Sonny), b. 11 April 1931 at Manchester, TN, d. 18 August 1966 and is buried in the Rose Hill Memorial Garden. Sonny was an attorney, married to Cora Helen Rogers. They are the parents of two children:

- David W. Blankenship
- Lori Diane Shields



John Alfred Shields (John), b. 7 August 1932. John was formerly married (1956) to Argie Haggard, and they are the parents of three children. The couple divorced in 1971 in Hernando, Mississippi. John remarried Jacqueline (Jackie) Jones Gaffney, b. 10 July 1945, a retired nurse, and they live in Brentwood, Tennessee. The couple married 22 Aug. 1975 and currently live in Brentwood, TN.

John's Biographical Sketch: I was born to Arlie Cox Shields and David Shields, Jr. and was delivered at home (on the kitchen table!) with Minnie Lovell in attendance until Dr. Vaughn arrived by buggy. He spent the night. My early years were spent with family—we worked on the farm and did our studies.

We had no electricity or running water; no phone. We were one of the first families to get electricity and the first family in the area to get a phone. Local people would come to our house to use the phone. I have spent 40 years in medicine, first practicing in Manchester, TN as a general practitioner, doing surgery and deliveries, too. I delivered about 2,000 babies in those years.

I also served in the Air Force for 3 ½ years, stationed in California. I continued my military duties by joining the Air National Guard, where I served until I retired as state air surgeon in 1992. I completed a 4-year surgical residency in Nashville and practiced surgery from 1977 until my retirement in 1996. Jackie was a head nurse at Baptist Hospital when we met, and she left her position there to work with me during those same years. We both thoroughly enjoyed caring for our patients and had a good time working together. My three children are all grown and we now have grandchildren to keep us young!

I well remember my grandparents; we called them “Mom” and “Poppa” (or “Pop”) Cox. She was jolly and a good cook; if we would spend the night, she would promise us “chocolate sop” to put over our biscuits! Poppa Cox was not able to read or write but could quote scripture without error; he knew the Bible so well. His prayers were so long that they went past lunch time! John's children are:

- Charlotte Jonine Shields (Jonine)
- John Alfred Shields, Jr.
- Melissa K. Shields



John Shields in 2007

From the Cox Family Cookbook: “Mama Cox was warm and friendly, but didn’t say much. I don’t ever remember her ever saying anything to me without a laugh! She always had their food on the table covered with a white cloth; one of my favorite treats was her chocolate biscuits; a thin, chocolate gravy on biscuits! We could always get milk from the well with the windlass; the most upset I ever remember Papa Cox was the time the bucket of milk fell in the well! Papa Cox was always quoting scripture and was a fine Christian man. He was serious and hard working. I well remember, as a small boy, riding the bus from Manchester to Nashville to visit Daddy [David Shields, Sr.] when he was in the State Legislature. There were no seats so we sat in the back of the bus, thinking every whistle stop was Nashville. We asked a passenger to tell us when we arrived in Nashville! Daddy met us at the bus and took us to the Maxwell House. We went to the legislature the next day and saw them in session. Daddy made a speech and we were introduced to all of his friends. After that, David [Jr.] and I both wanted to be politicians! My parents were both very supportive, loving people who instilled a real sense of responsibility in all of us. I’ve told Monie [Arlie Shields] several times, I’m glad she didn’t put boxing gloves and a ball bat in my crib!”

James Edward Shields (James), b.14 May 1938, d. 16 Dec. 2002. Married to Ada Kaye Chambers. James owned a market in Pell City, Alabama named Shields Corner Store and Shields Old Time BBQ. James and Ada Kaye are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Manchester, Tennessee. They were the parents of two children:

- James E. Shields, Jr.
- Jaimie K. Shields

Sam Jarrett Shields (Sam), b. 13 Sept. 1939 in Coffee County, TN (Manchester). Married Leah Crawford, 1977 (div.). Sam and Leah had one child, Ashley Layne. His second wife is Marietta Cacuyog (Mayet). They married in Delano, California on 29 April 1989, where they still reside. They have two children, Lauren and Ben. According to Sam, “Mayet and I live in central California in mostly farming country (grapes and citrus). I would like my own and Mayet’s values to be passed to my grandchildren as our parents did for us. I am a physician and practiced surgery for 32 years and then retired. I now work in ER medicine two shifts a week. I enjoy working around the house and fishing. I also enjoy flying. My favorite story was when Monie [Arlie Mae Shields, Sam’s mother] visited and we went to Las Vegas. We experienced an earthquake in one of the high rises. She was very calm and told us she thought she was in a vibrator bed. She enjoyed telling that story to everyone.”

- Ashley Layne Shields
- Lauren Shields
- Ben Shields

From the Cox Family Cookbook: “I remember Mama Cox as short, happy and fat; Pop was thin and always friendly—and lost without her. About twice a year we (I, James, and Billy Sam, when he was in Tennessee) would dress our dog, Gypsy, in old clothes and present him to Grandma (Mama) Cox; she would laugh until she had tears. In the summer, Papa Cox would pay us a nickel a crate to pick strawberries (and all we could eat). It was the high point of the summer. My parents (Arlie and David) were loving (not demonstrative) and always supportive.

Christmas always included ham and eggs at Sunday brunch—always! I do think we all have the Cox eyes as far as physical traits go. Once while riding in the country with Daddy (then Road Commissioner), Monie, myself and Billy Sam—were so insistent on going to the mountains he stopped and put us out and drove out of sight. As we were near tears, he drove back and picked us up. Needless to say, we had nothing to say. Daddy would tell stories by the hour about people he knew (always good) and things he had read. Sometimes he would get tears in his eyes if it was dear to him; Monie never refuted them. A favorite family recipe was always chicken and dumplings, of course! –Sam Shields



Helen Joyce Wilson (Helen) b. 27 Aug 1930. Married Luke Cunningham 31 Dec 1951. They have two children:

- Teri Rene Cunningham
- Darren Dale Cunningham

From the Cox Family Cookbook: “I remember Sam as religious and Della as jolly; her saying was ‘Oh, shaw.’ My mother, Jean Wilson, was very loving and caring. Holidays we had homemade rolls and turkey and dressing. Another favorite recipe was cherry crisp.” –Helen Wilson Cunningham

Dorothy Ann Wilson, b 12 July 1938 in Manchester, TN. Married Orris Dee Spivey (Rocky) (b. 24 Jan. 1936) on October 7, 1961 at Forest Mill Methodist Church in Manchester. Rocky and Charles (Dorothy’s brother) were in the Navy together, and Dorothy met Rocky when he came home with Charles. Dorothy and Rocky currently live in Shelbyville in Bedford County. Dorothy loves the outdoors—gardening, flowers, birds, and fishing, while Rocky loves old western movies and has possibly collected them all, according to Dorothy. They had three children:

- David Keith Spivey
- Claudia Jean Spivey
- Travis Scott Spivey



From the Cox Family Cookbook: “No one has ever made better scrambled eggs and biscuits than Mom Cox. Don’t know her secret, but they ended when she got an electric stove. Pop Cox

always let his grandchildren help pick strawberries--5¢ a quart, don't step on the berries. Sunday after church always meant company for dinner or going to someone else's house. Favorite foods of our family included homemade rolls and holidays were special just to be together. My parents were sharing, caring and being there for neighbors, friends, and family. My Mother [Jean] always made Sunday morning breakfast special. I remember her making chocolate syrup to put on biscuits. A clear sugar syrup for pancakes and my favorites which she passed down to me, toast and dip." –Dorothy Wilson Spivey

Charles Norman Wilson (Charles), b. 25 December 1934 in Manchester, TN. Married 29 July 1961 to Helen Ritchie (b. 27 November 1942) at the home of Edward and Willie Ann Ritchie in Manchester, TN. Charles died at home in Arrington, TN on 24 August 2001 and is buried at Forest Mill Church Cemetery on Highway 55 in Manchester, Tennessee. Helen says, "Charles and I were married for 40 years. The important thing for us was raising our children to be good Christian men. They both have a love of home and family. Charles and I were best friends as well as husband and wife. We definitely were soulmates."



They had two children:

- Charles Anthony Wilson
- Stephen Brett Wilson

Herman Wayne Cox (Wayne), b. 20 May 1934, Coffee County, TN. Wayne married Donna Jean Anderton (b. 20 July 1936 on 8 May 1960. The couple settled in Tullahoma, Tennessee.



Wayne Cox

They have two children:

- Elizabeth Ann Cox
- Jeanna Kay Cox

Wayne's Biographical Sketch: I was first of five children and as a boy worked on the family farm at Forest Mill. After graduating from high school, I attended The University of Tennessee for one year. Then I joined the U.S. Air Force and spent the next 8 years in Service. I was Stationed in San Antonio, Clark Air Force Base, Andrews Air Force base and Arnold Air Force Station, where I met Donna. After the service I returned to school at Middle Tennessee State University and graduated in 1966 with a B. S. Degree in Accounting. I spent the next 25 years as an Accountant for Middle Tennessee Ready Mix Concrete in Tullahoma. I've been a member of First Baptist Church since 1960, serving on several different committees, I am a Deacon and have been the secretary of the Preschool (Nursery) for 41 years. I was a member of the Tullahoma Lions Club for 18 years and served in every Office in the Club including President. I was also District 12-O Zone Chairman for one year. I now work for Donna's Accounting Service (DAC Services) as an Accountant, For Horton Supply, Inc. and Industrial Warehouse Services, LLC in Winchester, Tennessee.

Harold Richard Cox (Harold), b. 15 June 1935 in Coffee County, TN. Married to Myrna Ann Edgin (b. 8 January 1936) on 6 May 1955 in Rossville, GA. The couple lived in Manchester, TN until Harold's death 8 July 1984. He is buried in Manchester at Forest Mill Cemetery.

Biographical Sketch from his family: Harold was the second of five children and worked on the family farm at Forest Mill as a boy. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Air Force and served in Hawaii, Thailand, Germany, England, France, Newfoundland, and Vietnam. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. After serving for twenty years, Harold retired to Coffee County. He was an employee of the U. S. Postal Service and a gardener, woodworker, and artist. His personal traits were of honesty, integrity, intelligence, a sense of humor, dependability, and perfectionism. He enjoyed his mother's corn relish and was a member of the Main Street Church of Christ.

Harold and Myrna had two children:

- Richard Keith Cox
- David Brian Cox

Shirley Jane Cox (Shirley), b. 31 July 1936. Married Robert Anderson Dalton, Jr. on 29 Dec. 1954. Robert Dalton passed away on 12 September 2004. They have one daughter:

- Cheryl Nanette Dalton

Phyllis Ann Cox (Ann), b. 1 December 1941. Married to Leslie Keith Redmon. They have four children:

- Myra Jane Redmon
- Thomas Kirk Redmon
- Amy May Redmon
- John Gordan Redmon



Linda Kay Cox (Linda), b. 30 June 1946. Married David Frank Barker on 27 June 1971, divorced between 1994-96. Linda remarried Gene Hixson of Dunlap, Tennessee. Linda and David had two children:

- Julia Kaye Barker
- Kyle David Barker



**Billy Sam, Jane,
Kelle, and Matt
Bennett**

Billy Sam Bennett, b. 30 Nov. 1938 in Detroit (Wayne County), MI.. On 20 Jan 1962, he married Ethel Jane Stegal at Forest Mill United Methodist Church in Manchester (Coffee County) TN. Jane was born 14 November 1941 in Murfreesboro (Rutherford County) TN. Her parents were Ethel Lytle Morris Thomas and William Mitchell Stegall. Billy Sam was a supervisor for the Benco Company in Murfreesboro, TN. Their church affiliation is Methodist. He is a Master Mason, and is a member of the U. S. Army Reserves (retired). They currently live in Rockvale (Rutherford County) TN. They are the parents of two children:

- Kelle Rae Bennett
- Matthew F. Bennett

From the Cox Family Cookbook: “Sam Jones Cox was named after the famous evangelist Sam Jones. He usually wore 2 pairs of pants and 2 shirts at the same time. He had a stiff 1st finger on (as I remember) his left hand. He almost always wore a neckerchief around his neck. He also wore long-sleeved shirts exclusively. I never saw him in a short-sleeved shirt. He had very thin hair above and forward of his ear (a family trait I believe passed on to John and James Shields, Jeff Jordan, Wayne Cox, and myself). He was a very religious man and very emotional

in his later years. He was very proud of his accomplishments and his children. He very much enjoyed his oldest son Bernice to visit and help him by giving him a hair cut and helping him to rob his bees of honey. When he walked, he stepped very high, like folks do when walking in heavy dew. Some folks said this was caused by living on the mountain his early years. I remember James, Sam, and myself kidding around, saying we hoped the preacher didn't ask Pop (that's what most called him) to give the closing prayer at church because he could pray forever. His most used prayer, as I remember it, was his prayer of thanks at meal time:

Our dear, kind and most gracious heavenly Father, we thank you for these blessings that we are about to receive. Save and sanctify them to the nourishment of our body and soul and save us all in Heaven. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Della Layne Cox was short of stature, approximately 4' 10" but long on loving care. She always had a very soft spot in her heart for the grandchildren. A most trusted and caring companion of Sam Cox for over 50 years. She became very overweight in later years, probably due to undiagnosed diabetes, but always maintained a very cheerful appearance. If you were lucky enough to spend the night in her house, and you ate all your breakfast, you were treated to her homemade biscuits and chocolate syrup—a treat I'll never forget as well as her quick hugs and wet kisses. She was truly the power behind the throne. Pop made all the decisions until Mom spoke, and then he decided what must be done, but only after she said okay. She wore glasses since the first I can remember. She was dressed up when without an apron. She had a dog named Brownie. She loved her chickens. She also had very long hair that I only saw down on rare occasions. As I remember, it was close to waist length, but she always wore it above the neck. She made the best cakes I ever ate. Always tops. Nell Ruth Bennett was born March 3, 1913, the 4th child of a family of 8 kids. She had lots of great memories of her early years. She married Fate Bennett, who became physically and mentally disabled due to an industrial accident. She had one child (myself) and miscarried at least once—maybe twice before Dad was injured. She and my Dad were married and moved to Detroit to seek their fame and fortune. After he was injured, he was in a coma for over a year. This happened in Toledo, Ohio while he was employed with the Willis-Overton Co. (makers of the Jeep vehicle). This was a life long injury, but my Mom stuck by him to the end. He lived approximately 10-11 years longer. Some of his other brothers and sisters tried to talk her into putting him in a home, but she said she had promised “until death do us part,” and she continued to wait on him hand and foot until he finally died of a brain tumor. My Mom was a good-looking woman. As loyal as there is and would have fought till death for me, my Dad, her parents, or brothers and sisters. She grew up poor, as did all the Cox kids, but they were all happy and well cared for. They were truly people of the earth. Well grounded in morals, ethics and religious values. I can remember when James, Sam and myself were about 10 or 11 years old. We were trying to clean all of last year's corn out of the corn crib to get it ready for the new crop. We were all at my house one day, arguing about who could shuck corn the fastest. My Mom heard this and challenged us to a race--her generation against ours and 3 against 1. The long and short of it was, she out-shucked us at least 2 to 1 and she hadn't shucked corn since she was a kid! My Mom and her siblings grew up as children of tenant farmers. They were well acquainted with hard work, strong family ties, and a sense of self. Those most like Pop—John Shields, Jeff Jordan, Wayne Cox. Those most like Mom—Jonine, Kelle, and Ann Cox. Arlie, Nell and Jeans=Cox's Army!” –Billy Sam Bennett

Roy George Cox, Jr (Roy, Jr.), b. 1 Nov. 1941 at Critian Hospital in Detroit and married Jennie Luise Krug (b. 7 January 1947 at M. Carmel Hospital in Detroit MI) on 24 July 1965.

Before retirement, he was a fire fighter in Dearborn, MI and served three years in the U. S. Navy. Jennie is the daughter of Henry Krug and Auguste Krebs Krug. She was employed as a beautician. The couple retired to Manchester, Tennessee where they built next to Sam and Della's last home on Old McMinnville Highway. They have three children:

- Roy George Cox, III
- Randall Henry Cox
- Tracy L. Cox

From the Cox Family Cookbook: "I remember Mom's pies and the big breakfasts she would make. We were used to a bowl of cereal. Also, Pop's stories and his whittling on the front porch. When Pop was in Windsor, Canada while visiting us, he started a conversation with a man and told him he was never this far north before; the man said to him "you're south of Detroit." He looked very surprised! My Ma (Marion) had to have a driver's license but never drove a car. When I was young, Dad would work late and when he got home, we would be in bed. He would come in to say goodnight and tickle our bare feet with his whiskers! My favorite dinner was pork chops in tomato soup with mashed potatoes. Ma would make a bunny cake for birthdays—a round double layer with marshmallow bunnies around the outside. I remember my parents as loving, caring and being equal with everyone." —Roy Cox, Jr.

Sharron Louise Cox Gregory (Sharron), b. 30 April 1943 at Grace Hospital in Detroit, MI. Married to Lawrence Wayne Gregory on 15 Jan. 1966 at United Brethern Church in Detroit. He was b. 16 April 1941 in Purdy, Virginia and is a truck driver for a cement company. Sharron says that she has been married for 38 years and can hardly

believe it. “Wayne has always had a truck and trailer and has been on the road for millions of miles and seen so much; he still is doing what he loves best, and I’m doing what I love best: shop, shop, shop.” They have four children:

- Matthew Todd Gregory
- Lawrence Wayne Gregory, Jr.
- David Michael Gregory
- Audra Christina Gregory



Roy Cox, Jr., Sharron Cox Gregory, Roy Cox, Sr.

Edwin Jeffries Jordan, Jr. (Jeff), b. 1 Nov. 1944 in Nashville, TN. Married Daune Rae Gowland. Before retirement, Jeff was a high school teacher, eventually becoming an assistant principal. He now hosts a local sports radio talk show in Murfreesboro, TN and was elected to the Rutherford County Commission in 2005. Daune works for Procon Products in Murfreesboro. They have two children:

- Lillian Reneé Jordan (Reneé)
- Ginā Daune Jordan (Ginā)



Jeff Jordan



Jeff and Daune, Reunion, 2007

Jennifer Jean Jordan (Jenny), b. 20 Jan. 1951 at Rutherford County Hospital, Murfreesboro, TN. On 11 July 1985, married Terry Alan Henley, (b. 22 July 1960 in Lebanon, TN) in Murfreesboro, TN. Upon their marriage, the couple took each other's names, becoming Terry Jordan-Henley and Jennifer Jordan-Henley.

Jenny's Biographical Sketch: I grew up outside of Murfreesboro, TN, near a tiny community called Salem on Moreland Lane. We had a little house that we rented on a large working farm owned by Earl McKnight. I spent a lot of time outdoors in what I now realize were idyllic circumstances, although we didn't have any close neighbors with children for me to play with. I liked going to Manchester to visit all my Cox relatives, and remember spending time with my mother's sisters, in particular. I attended Campus School and Central High in Murfreesboro, and in 1969, left home to roam the country, which I did for several years, primarily living in New Orleans and Nashville. During this period, I also attended Draughton's Business College, married twice, and took care of two stepchildren for a while. I returned to college in 1980 where I met my current husband, Terry. We moved to Knoxville, TN in 1991, after graduating with Masters' degrees from Middle Tennessee State University.

Today, Terry is Director of Transition for the Department of Finance and Administration, Division of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. He is an avid gardener and collects comics. He loves music and is a great cook. For eight years, I was Director of the Writing Center at Roane State Community College in Oak Ridge, TN. In that position, I was one of the first in the country to develop online student writing consultations and to publish some of the first studies in the field. In 2001, I left the Center to teach full-time as an English professor. I specialize in American Literature. I also enjoy watercolor and photography and have several collections, including vintage tablecloths and dolls. I am a member of the Smoky Mountain Quilting Guild. Terry and I spend time hiking, biking, and dancing together; we love to travel, especially on the back roads of America.



**Terry and Jennifer Jordan-Henley
Wedding, 11 July 1985.**



Terry and Jennifer, Summer 2008

Generation No. 10
The Thirty-Nine Great-Grandchildren of Sam and Della Cox
Great-Great Grandchildren of William H. Cox
Great-Great-Great Grandchildren of Nathan and Rebecca Cox

- David W. Blankenship
- Lori Diane Shields
- Charlotte Jonine Shields
- John Alfred Shields, Jr.
- Melissa K. Shields
- James E. Shields
- Jaimie K. Shields
- Ashley Layne Shields
- Lauren Shields
- Ben Shields
- Terri Rene Cunningham
- Darren Dale Cunningham
- David Keith Spivey
- Claudia Jean Spivey
- Travis Spivey
- Charles Anthony Wilson
- Stephen Brett Wilson
- Elizabeth Ann Cox
- Jeanna Kaye Cox
- Richard Keith Cox
- David Brian Cox
- Cheryl Nanette Dalton
- Myra Jane Redmon
- Thomas Kirk Redmon
- John Gordon Redmon
- Amy May Redmon
- Julia Kaye Barker
- Kyle David Barker
- Kelle Rae Bennett
- Matthew F. Bennett
- Roy George Cox, III
- Randall Henry Cox
- Tracy L. Cox
- Matthew Todd Gregory
- Lawrence Wayne Gregory, Jr
- David Michael Gregory
- Audra Christina Gregory
- Lillian Reneé Jordan
- Ginā Daune Jordan



Cox Reunion 2002
The Great-
Grandchildren

Standing, from left to right: Randall H. Cox, Audra Gregory, Reneé Jordan Bolden, Ginā Jordan Elkins, Claudia Spivey, Travis Spivey, Matthew Todd Gregory. Kneeling: Roy G. Cox, III, Jonine Shields Franks, Kelle Bennett, John Shields, Jr.



**The Great
Grandchildren's
Spouses, 2002**

**From left to right:
Quentin Bolden, Darla
Cox, Gloria Cox, Randall
Franks, Tricia Shields**

David W. Blankenship, b. 15 March 1959. After his father's death, his mother remarried Gene Blankenship, who formally adopted David. David married Lisa Houston on 27 Dec. 1981. The couple lives in Harrisonburg, Virginia and have two children:

- Rebecca Leigh Blankenship
- Alexander Blankenship

Lori Diane Shields, who died at 21 days of age.

Charlotte Jonine Shields (Jonine), b. 26 May 1956 in Memphis, TN. Married to Randall Wayne Franks (b. 5 Oct. 1950) on 15 Sept. 1979. The couple live in Madison (Madison County) AL. Their children include:

- Nori Grace Franks
- Robert Shane Franks (Randall's son from a previous marriage)
- Randy Zane Franks (Randall's son from a previous marriage)

John Alfred Shields, Jr., b. 23 May 1958. Married Patricia (Tricia) Leigh (b. 12 September 1957) on 29 Aug. 1986. John and Tricia divorced in May 2006 in Williamson County, Tennessee. John is a nurse anesthetist. He was Chief of Anesthesia at St. Thomas Hospital and is now Assistant Chief at Vanderbilt Hospital. He has published several scientific articles about anesthesia and heart surgery. Their two children are:

- Emily Bryson Shields
- John Alfred Shields, III

Melissa K. Shields (Missy), b. 7 Oct. 1960. Missy currently lives in Madison, Alabama. She has one child:

- Samuel Keith Shields

James Edward Shields, Jr., b. 14 Dec. 1959. Married to Nancy Crawford on 26 Feb. 1982 (div.). He remarried Cindy Graham Tipton. His children are:

- Jennifer Ellen Shields
- Heather Shields
- Rheanna Shields
- James Shields, III
- David Shields

Jaimie K. Shields, b. 30 Dec. 1963. Married to Walter Doyle Crawford, Jr. in 1981 (divorced in October 2000). They had four children (listed below). Jaimie remarried Jerry Wayne Barrows on 8 November 2002.

- Ambrae Kaye Crawford
- Walter Doyle Crawford, III
- Megan Crawford
- Trisha Crawford

Ashley Layne Shields, b. 28 April 1978. Ashley is currently 26 and will be graduating California State University with a degree in Business. She plans to pursue a career in banking.

Lauren Shields, b.30 Nov. 1989. Lauren is very outgoing. Among her talents is poetry writing.

Ben Shields, b. 30 June 1993. Ben has an interest in becoming an architect some day.

Teri Rene Cunningham, b. 23 June 1960.

Darren Dale Cunningham

David Keith Spivey, b. 11December 1964, d. 12 December 1964 and is buried at Forest Mill Cemetery.

Claudia Jean Spivey, b.2 April 1967 in Shelbyville, TN. Claudia married William Scott House (b. 5 August 1966) (div). They had one child (see below). Claudia currently lives in Shelbyville, TN where she teaches high school English. She has previously taught college English in Nashville and Murfreesboro, TN. She loves to read, swim, and travel, and likes to go on new adventures with her son:

- Ryan Wilson House

Travis Scott Spivey, b. 21 October 1969. Graduated Middle Tennessee State University. Involved in Boy Scouts and enjoys traveling.

Charles Anthony Wilson, b. 4 Aug. 1962, baptized 15 June 1975. Married 31 May 1997 to Sherry Manning Norvell. Anthony works for American Airlines, and Sherry is a stay-at-home Mom. The couple lives in Peachtree City, Georgia and have two children:

- Palmer Clayton Wilson
- Brandon Payne Wilson

Stephen Brett Wilson, b. 29 Nov. 1966, baptized 31 August 1980. Married 22 March 1997 to Karen Annica Emerson. Stephen is in sales for Saia Trucking and Karen is an accountant. They live in Smyrna, TN.

Elizabeth Ann Cox (Beth), b. 29 April 1962 at Tullahoma, TN. Beth graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 1985 with a B. S. Degree in Theatre Administration, with a minor in Management/Marketing and Business Administration. From May 1985 to October 1990 she was Box Office Manager at Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery, Alabama. From October 1990 to July 1992 she was Ticket Center Director at the Victoria Theatre Association, Dayton Ohio. From 1992 to the present she is Senior Technical Product Specialist for Tickets.Com, Syracuse, New York. She travels the country with sales teams performing product demonstrations to potential clients. She has installed ticketing systems at many locations in the U. S., England, Europe and Australia.

Jeanna Kaye Cox, b. 8 May 1969 at Manchester, TN. Married Richard Altstatt; they have one child Rachel Elizabeth Altstatt (b. 5 August 1990). The couple divorced in 1993. Jeanna married Wendell Scott Stewart (Scotty) in 1995 and they have one child Lora Nicole Stewart (b. 1 April 1998). They live in Harvest Alabama. Scotty is an Engineer with NASA at Redstone Arsenal. Jeanna attended Motlow State Community College. She now works part time at Chick-Fil-A and is a full time Mom. She also is very active in her church, The Brook, as a video operator and other duties. Jeanna's two children are:

- Rachel Elizabeth Alstatt
- Lora Nicole Stewart

Richard Keith Cox, b. 12 Feb. 1956 in Madison, TN. Married Kathie Jane Cross (b. 16 November) in June of 1979 in Manchester, TN. The couple live in Arizona. They have two children:

- Stephanie Leann Cox
- April Jennifer Cox Crouch

David Brian Cox, b. 26 Dec. 1962 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Married Cindy Renee Condra (b. 20 July 1962) on 12 May 1990 in Tullahoma, TN. The couple live in Normandy (Bedford County) TN. They have two children:

- Christen Taylor Cox
- Matthew William Cox

Cheryl Dalton True, b. 2 Dec. 1961 in Nashville, TN. Married Charles Walter True (Charles) on 29 December 1997 in Berry Hill, Tennessee by Rev. Everett Hooper.

Myra Jane Redmon, b. 6 Sept 1960 in Nashville, TN.

Thomas Kirk Redmon, b. 9 Aug. 1963, Nashville, TN.

John Gordon Redmon, b. 7 July 1964 in Nashville, TN.

Amy May Redmon, b. 23 Aug. 1972 at Carmel, IN.

Julia Kaye Barker, b. 10 August 1978, Chattanooga, TN.

Kyle David Barker, b. 22 July 1980, Chattanooga, TN.

Kelle Rae Bennett, b. 13 Aug. 1963 in Manchester (Coffee County) TN. Kelle married Ronnie Joseph Bradshaw (b. 26 January 1967) on 24 March 1990 at the Concord United Methodist Church in Rockvale, TN. The couple divorced in 2000. They have two children:

- Devin James Bradshaw
- Abby Layne Bradshaw

Matthew Fate Bennett (Matt), b. 13 Oct. 1965 in Fayetteville (Lincoln County) TN. Married Jacqueline Desiree Goldiger (b. 4 May 1964) on 16 October 1993 in San Diego, California. Matt died on 13 May 1994 and is buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Tullahoma, TN.

Roy George Cox, III, b. 8 July 1967 at Mt. Carmel Hospital in Detroit, MI. Married Gloria Joy Ober on 15 February 1991 at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Flat Rock, MI. Gloria was born 5 February 1970 in Trenton, MI to Wayne and Helen Ober. She is a graduate of Flat Rock High School and attended Henry Ford College and Eastern Michigan University. Roy III graduated from Edsel Ford High School in 1985 and received undergraduate degrees from the Detroit College of Business and a Graduate degree from Central Michigan University. He is currently employed by Plastech Engineered Products of Dearborn, MI as a manager of software development. He is also a part-time professor of software engineering at Davenport University in Dearborn. His

hobbies include coaching his kids' hockey teams and playing softball and hockey. The couple currently resides in Brownstown, MI. They have four children:

- Roy Cox, IV (Jake)
- Adam Gregory Cox
- Mitchell Lee Cox
- Ava Gabrielle Cox

Randall Henry Cox, b. 31 March, 1969 in Dearborn, MI. Married Charlene. They have two children:

- Samantha Cox
- Lorrin Cox

Tracy L. Cox, b. 1 May 1970 in Dearborn, MI.

Matthew Todd Gregory, b. 28 Dec. 1966 at Harper Hospital in Detroit, MI. Matt currently works at CVS, a warehouse, where he drives a forklift and unloads trailers. He collects baseball cards and has sets from 1975 to the present. He loves going to rock concerts and baseball games to see the Tigers, as well as football and hockey. He also likes old-time radio shows and owns many of them on CDs. Matt has one child:

- Jacob Timothy Melvin (b. 26 February 2003).

Lawrence Wayne Gregory, Jr. (Larry), b. 30 Sept. 1969 in Dearborn, MI. Married Michelle Louise Gregory (b. 19 March 1970) on 16 October 1992 in Westland, MI. Currently reside in Taylor, MI (Wayne County). Larry is employed at U.P.S. as a truck driver and plays golf. He also enjoys astronomy and collecting baseball cards and comic books. Michelle is a mortician and likes cooking, gardening, scrapbooking and golfing.

David Michael Gregory, b. 12 May, 1974 in Lincoln Park, MI

Audra Christina Gregory, b. 16 July 1977, Lincoln Park, MI.

Lillian Renée Jordan (Renée), b. 19 Nov. 1964 in Murfreesboro, TN. Renée married Quentin Bolden (b. October 26, 1965 in Murfreesboro, TN) on 20 Dec. 1992. They currently live in Rockvale, TN, and they have two children:

- Alicia Daune May. (Alicia is the daughter of Renée's first husband, Jerry Van May, b. 1 July 1958. Renée and Jerry divorced on 30 March 1992.)
- Edwin Jacob Bolden (Jake) b. 3 Feb. 1998.

Ginā Daune Jordan (Ginā), b. 12 Feb. 1966 in Murfreesboro, TN. Ginā (pronounced Juh-nay) married Scott Elkins, (b. in Memphis on 3 Nov. 1964), on 27 Dec. 1994. Scott is the adopted son of Ruth Ann Elkins and James Ewell (J. E.) Elkins. The

couple divorced in 2007, but both still live in Daphne, Alabama. Both have degrees from Middle Tennessee State University. They have one child:

- Ashley Jordan Elkins (Ashley).

Generation No. 11
The Thirty-Six Great-Great Grandchildren of Sam and Della Cox
Great-Great-Great Grandchildren of William H. Cox
Great-Great-Great-Great Grandchildren of Nathan and Rebecca Cox

- Rebecca Leigh Blankenship
- Alexander Blankenship
- Nori Franks Bryant
- Emily Bryson Shields
- John Alfred Shields, III
- Samuel Keith Shields
- Jennifer Ellen Shields
- Heather Michelle Shields
- Rhianna Doris Shields
- James Edward Shields, III
- David William. Shields
- Ambrae Kaye Crawford
- Walter Doyle Crawford, III
- Megan Brooke Crawford
- Trisha Danielle Crawford
- Ryan Wilson House
- Palmer Clayton Wilson
- Brandon Payne Wilson
- Rachel Elizabeth Alstatt
- Lora Nicole Stewart
- Stephanie Leann Cox
- April Jennifer Cox Crouch
- Christen Taylor Cox
- Matthew William Cox
- Devin James Bradshaw
- Abby Layne Bradshaw
- Roy Cox, IV
- Adam Gregory Cox
- Mitchell Lee Cox
- Ava Gabrielle Cox
- Samantha Cox
- Lorrin Cox
- Jacob Timothy Melvin
- Alicia Daune May
- Edwin Jacob Bolden
- Ashley Jordan Elkins



Cox Reunion, 2002
A Few of the Great-Great
Grandchildren (and one
Great-Great-Great)

Left to right, Nori Bryant,
holding Sean Carter Bryant;
Alicia May, with arms around
Ashley Jordan Elkins and Jake
Bolden; center rear, John
Shields, III and Emily Shields;
girl with doll is Abby
Bradshaw with her brother
Devon Bradshaw; back to
front are the Cox boys, Roy
IV, Adam, and Mitchell.

Rebecca Leigh Blankenship, b. 27 September 1994.

Alexander Blankenship, b

Nori Franks Bryant, b. 9 Dec. 1982 in Huntsville, AL. Married Timothy Dean Bryant (b. 17 July 1979) on 30 July 2003 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The couple currently lives in Madison (Madison county) Alabama. In 2004, Nori writes that she and Tim are “currently still in school. Tim is seeking a degree in Computer Engineering, and once I graduate with a degree in sociology, I plan to go on to graduate school for a Master’s in Social Work.” At present they both work in furniture stores, where Tim is a warehouse manager and Nori is an assistant store manager. They have one child:

- Sean Carter Bryant

Emily Bryson Shields, b. 5 Feb. 1990. At age 14, Emily is on her school’s volleyball team and is in honors classes. According to her father, she is a typical, diligent compulsive Cox female. She attends Brentwood High School and was baptized at Judson Baptist Church, Brentwood, Tennessee.

John Alfred Shields, III, b. 2 Oct. 1987. At 17, John III has two jobs. He also plays competitive baseball and is very outgoing and gregarious. He attended Brentwood High School and was baptized at Judson Baptist Church, Brentwood, Tennessee. John III will begin college in 2006 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Samuel Keith Shields, b. 15 June 1999.

Jennifer Ellen Shields, b. 5 Oct. 1982.

Heather Shields, b. 28 March 1978

Rhianna Doris Shields, b. 20 March 1984

James Shields, III, b. 19 Nov. 1986.

David W. Shields, b. 15 January 1992.

Ambrae Kaye Crawford, b. 17 Oct. 1981. Ambrae has one daughter,

- Makinzie Kaye Crawford.

W. Doyle Crawford, III, b. 8 Feb. 1985

Megan Brook Crawford, b. 25 Nov. 1987. As of this update, Megan is engaged to marry Andrew Allen Oden (b. 2 March 1988) on 8 August 2009 in Destin, Florida. The couple lives in Pell City, Alabama.

Trisha Danielle Crawford b. 15 Nov. 1983

Ryan Wilson House, b. 1 Sept. 2000. Ryan is a bright, inquisitive boy. He loves animals and nature. He is currently consumed with everything connected with dinosaurs or the oceans. He loves to explore and learn new things and is a constant source of joy to his mother, Claudia.

Palmer Clayton Wilson, (b. May 5, 1999).

Brandon Payne Wilson, (b. 6 December 2002).

Rachel Elizabeth Alstatt (Rachel), b. 5 August 1990. Rachel attends Sparkman High School, Madison , AL, where she is an honor's student. She is a great artist and has won several contests. She also likes to write and has had several works published in the school magazine.

Lora Nicole Stewart (Lora) b. 1 April 1998. Lora attends Endeavor Elementary School, Harvest, AL, where she is an honor's student. She also enjoys art and music.

Stephanie Leann Cox, (b. 2 March 1981).

April Jennifer Cox Crouch, (b. 28 March 1983). Married 26 December 2003 to Jehu (Jay) Crouch. The couple have two children:

- Madison Rhiannon Crouch
- Jehu Charles Randall Crouch

Christen Taylor Cox, (b. 27 March 1994 in Tullahoma, TN).

Matthew William Cox, (b. 26 February 1999 in Tullahoma, TN).

Devin James Bradshaw, b. 7 March 1993 in Murfreesboro (Rutherford County) TN

Abby Layne Bradshaw, b. 10 July 1997 in Murfreesboro (Rutherford County) TN.

Roy Cox, IV (Jake), b. 30 April 1991 and baptized at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Flat Rock, MI on 2 June 1991. His godparents are Bruce and Janet Ober. Jake is currently 13 years old and will be an 8th grader at Shumate Middle School in Gibraltar, MI this fall. Jake is an outstanding student and runs on the track and field team at school. Some of his hobbies include biking, computers, movies, and in-line skating.

Adam Gregory Cox, b. 1 June 1995 and baptized at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Flat Rock, MI on 25 June 1995. His godparents are Robert and Susie Ober. Adam is

currently 9 years old and will be in 4th grade at Hunter Elementary School in Brownstown, MI. Adam is an outstanding student and plays hockey for the city of Trenton. Some of his hobbies include biking, in-line skating, reading and any type of electronic “gadget.”

Mitchell Lee Cox, b. 27 August 1998 and baptized at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church on 4 October 1998. His godparents are Robert and Jody Croskey and Caroline Ober. Mitch is currently 5 years old and will be in Kindergarten at Hunter Elementary School in Brownstown in the fall. Mitch is a mini-mite on his Trenton Hockey team. His hobbies include building things with wood, baseball, hockey, in-line skating and bike riding. He also loves trucks, motorcycles, and hunting. He would like to be a “worker-man” when he grows up!

Ava Gabrielle Cox, b. 1 October 2003. Ava was baptized on 9 November 2003 at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Flat Rock. Her godparents are Robert Frakes and Tracy Cox. She is currently 8 months old and a very happy baby!

Samantha Cox

Lorin Cox

Jacob Timothy Melvin

Alicia Daune May, b. 10 Aug. 1988 in Nashville, TN. Alicia graduated from Eagleville High School in 2006 and is currently attending Middle Tennessee State University.

Edwin Jacob Bolden (Jake), b. 3 Feb. 1998. Jake is already an excellent ballplayer, can swing a golf club, and is a good artist. He lives in Rockvale, Tennessee and attends Rockvale Middle School.

Ashley Jordan Elkins (Ashley), b. 10 Oct. 1997. Ashley attends Spanish Fort Middle School near Daphne, AL. She likes softball, swimming, reading, and cheese and wants to be a dentist/artist when she grows up.



Jake Bolden, Ashley Elkins, and Alicia May
with their Granddad Jeff (aka “Ran Ran”), 2005

Generation No. 12
The Great-Great-Great Grandchildren of Sam and Della Cox
Great (4) Grandchildren of William H. Cox
Great (5) Grandchildren of Nathan and Rebecca Cox

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makinzie Kaye Crawford • Madison Rhiannon Crouch • Jehu Charles Randall Crouch • Sean Carter Bryant 		
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Makinzie Kaye Crawford, b. 19 November 2002.

Madison Rhiannon Crouch, b. 16 February 2002. Madison has a “feisty personality and loves to talk,” according to her mother, April Crouch.

Jehu Charles Randall Crouch (J. C.), b. 18 May 2004.

Sean Carter Bryant (Carter), b. 17 May 2005. Carter and his parents, Tim and Nori Bryant, live in Madison, Alabama.

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For corrections and additions, please contact:

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