

Chapter 4

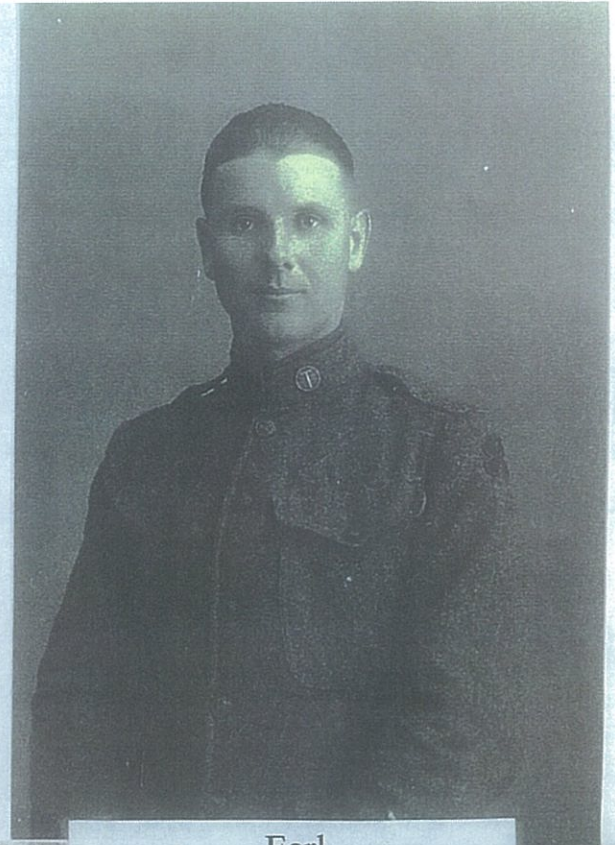
Earl



Minnie Rosella & Earl Andrew Wilson

MRS. W. M. WEIKERT,

NORTON, KAS.



Earl



Earl Wilson

Earl - 1924



Connie, Earl, Willie Fuller, Grace Bowman



Earl Connie
Dean, Keith, Amy, DeLila



Amy, Rex, DeLila, Janie
Keith, Connie, Dean

Gove Family Reunion
September 1971



Elva, Nell, Connie
September 2, 1972



Earl Andrew Wilson



Henry York & Connie - 1948

Keitha, Renita, Eugene, Asalea
Laura, Sonia, Keith





**Minnie, Delmer, Elizabeth, Roy,
Ralph, Earl, Harold, Elmer. - 1936 -**



**Elva, Nell, Connie
Family Reunion - 1979**



**Family Reunion - Dighton, Kansas - 1998
Remembering Earl & Connie Wilson
By their children**

Earl & Connie Wilson

By their children

Earl Andrew Wilson was the third child of Elmer and Eva Wilson, and was born on May 30, 1894, in Norton County, Kansas on the farm. He served in the Army between 1918 - 1919. Married Consuella Fullmer, on August 12, 1924 in Quinter, Kansas. They had six children, Delila, Dean, Keith, Amy, Rex, & Ella Jane. Earl past away from a heart attack on June 29, 1947. Cemetery: Gove, Kansas.

Consuella (Connie) Fullmer was born in Jerome, Gove County, Kansas, on the farm, on December 8, 1901 to William C. & Amy Larmar (Maxwell) Fullmer. Connie died on August 17, 1999 in Dighton at the age of 97. Cemetery: Gove, Kansas
She remarried on February 1, 1948 to Henry Forrest York. Henry was born on September 19, 1891 in Illinois. He died November 12, 1957, from a heart attack. Cemetery: Healy, Kansas.

We lived in the chicken house first, on the farm, as they dug the basement. Then we lived in the basement while the rest of the house was being built. Dean was born just before we moved into the basement. When the house was finished, the basement had a coal room, and another room - in the NE - was used for separating milk and a wall of shelves for storage. Another room for shoe repairs and us always polishing our shoes Saturday for church on Sunday

For Sunday we would put food in the cooker and go to church. After church we had families over for dinner and play games in the afternoon.

Some Saturday's Dad said to Mom, "Take the boys hunting," DeLila and I will clean the house and do the cooking. We didn't know it than, but that was when Dad wasn't feeling good. Dad and DeLila cleaned and baked pies, breads, and cakes. Dad used sour cream for cooking.

When haircuts were needed, Earl would cut hair on Saturday. He would wash everyone's hair, than cut the girls first and then the boys. When DeLila was only six, Dad started her cutting hair. She would stand on a wooden stool and cut the first part and then Dad would do the finishing touches to make it look right. DeLila cut hair clear up to a few years before her death.

Janie was only seven years old when Earl passed away. I don't remember too much about him. I remember where Delia and Giles Speer wedding - there was a storm and we tried to go home but it was too bad so we stayed at the hotel in Dighton.

I remember butchering beef and we got the bones from it. We would play with the bones. We loved to play croquet in the yard. We loved to beat mother and that wasn't easy. Played hide and seek with Keith and Dean in the cane field. They could see above the cane and I couldn't. I looked for them a long time and come to find out, they were in the house.

Keith and Rex - Fifty caliber machine gun shells - Keith thought it would be good to put it in the outside vise to make it go off by shooting at it with 22 rifle. We never did hit it and we got caught by York (stepdad). He said if you hit it the shell it would come back at you and hit you.

When a storm came in we would all set on the front porch until it got too wet. Mom and Dad would tell us what the clouds were doing and the different types of clouds. We played many games and cards all the time.

Amy in 1st grade; Dad taught school in Gove. We had to walk to school and it was hard to keep up with him with his long stride.

One summer Mom and Dad worked for the WPA and we made mattresses. The cotton was so white, light, soft and fluffy.

When we moved to the farm, Dad taught at the Jerome School and did the cooking for our dinner. The commodity we got for dinners. I remember we had soup. Max got the Aluminum Cup for his hot chocolate - he drank it when it was really hot. Max would hold the hot cup of chocolate for us. He didn't seem to mind it. The other cups were granite and they were easier to drink "cooler" hot chocolate. We had to take turns to set the table and clear the table, but we enjoyed it. The school bell rang loud and clear. You could hear it for miles. The gunnery range came and the Jerome School was closed. So the school was in our basement with parents as teachers. We were never late and always had our homework done.

We played baseball a lot and I know Loyd would pitch to me so I could hit it. A bullet from the airplane from the gunnery range just missed his arm. We heard the whining sound that it made and seen it hit the dirt. If my memory serves me right, we dug about six inches deep to get the shell that was still hot.

Dad would cut hair Sunday afternoon for several of our cousins, Max, Delbert, Floyd, Lawrence, Loyd and the neighbor kids. We had fun with the company and it was always a treat.

Mother gave us an old sewing machine. Keith put handles on it and out of old pair of overalls I made a stuffed cat. Mom still has it.

Dean and Keith got into a load of rotten eggs while we were moving from Gove to the farm, when Mom and Dad went back for another load. Those boys really smelled.

Uncle Ralph came to live with us after a heat stroke. He played with us and he was fun to have around.

I remember going to a Wilson Family Reunion before Daddy died in about 1947. They were a lot of people there. Uncles and aunts - Uncle Delmer and family, Uncle Elmer and family, Aunt Elizabeth, Uncle Roy and family, Uncle Harold and family. It was something we looked forward to for weeks.

School - there were neighbor children and cousins that when to school. We really missed Uncle Delmer's children when they went to Dalton Valley School. "Junior" was in my class.

Mom, Janie and I were taking Aunt Ina and family to Dighton to visit Carmellia at the hospital when she got bitten by a rattlesnake. The '36 Chevrolet couldn't make the hill by Uncle Delmer's farm. We were all disappointed, but we got to see her later in the hospital. She seemed to be having such fun even though her arm was pricked from her hand to her shoulder.

We had slumber parties with Uncle Delmer's children and Carmellia was close to my age. It was such fun getting together for different events.

Rex sliced part of his heel off playing on some equipment. We were playing hide and seek and we thought that would be a good advantage point. We had a horse that pulled a wagon to the mail box ½ miles away, took Janie for a ride, but the horse stepped back and caught Rex's foot. That was a scary thing and I have never been fond of horses since.

We did not know we were poor, but according to today's standards we were. We had a big garden and we canned a lot of things and including beef - it was so good out of the jar. We always had a cow to milk. Milk and butter were kept in a gallon jar in a barrel with a wooden box over it. It had fresh water running thru the barrel from the windmill that was our refrigeration system. It was outside. A big wooden tank set on cinder blocks and that made it possible to have water in the house. We had chickens and eggs.

Our entertainment was homemade, hopscotch, hide and seek baseball, and marbles. Keith got a bike and we thought we were ? We also played fox and geese in the snow - we played it when there wasn't any snow, and Annie, Annie Over, the Jerome School roof.

At the Jerome School the upper class would teach the lower class when their lessons were completed. All eight grades were in the same room, reading, writing, arithmetic, history, and spelling. The school had a cistern for water and they would fill it before school so we could clean the school house. My recollection is that Kermit Johnson used his pickup and water tank to fill it when we needed water. We got water from the pitcher pump and the drinking fountain was a 5-gallon jug that was filled inverted. We used cups to drink from it.

The outhouse was 50 yards in back of the school. The WPA program made the nice bathrooms. A hand bell on the teacher's desk was used for recess. A bell on top of the school was used for the start of school. I often wondered what happened to those items.

Maude Courtney had the post office and the Jerome store. It was a great adventure to go in there. It closed down when the gunnery range came in. It had a big pot belly stove that the old men would gather around and visit. There were barrels of beans, crackers, flour and peppermint candy for a penny. There was cheese on the counter to be sliced. Daddy would take us there when we needed anything.

Comments by Dean - when I was four years old I got up one morning and saw that Dad's horse was in the pasture with a saddle on it. Dad would saddle the horse on the east side of the house. He would ride on the horse to Dalton Valley where he taught. That morning it was really cold and the horse pitched him and it tore him up and was in bed for a long time. That is one of my first memories of Dad as a kid.

When we moved down into Harper County in 1935, a newborn infant died because of the dirt storms. Amy was an infant when we moved to Harper County. We had an old star car. It would hardly make it to town. Dad took it to Dighton and traded it in on a '33 Chevy. We were riding in the style then. We then moved to Harper County and stayed there one year. Dad taught school there and I was in first grade.

We moved back to the farm - there was no moisture and the field to the north was barren except for the thistles. The dirt storms filled them and made mounds. Dad worked hard to level the field again because he could not work it with the mounds. The next year we moved to Gove for Dad had a teaching job there. We would live in Gove in the winter - school years - then move back to the farm for the summer. They did that for the first two years. That was too much moving all the time, so the next five years we lived in Gove.

In 1943 we moved back to the farm. Dad bought a 1929 John Deere tractor. We put the horses in the pasture and started using the tractor. Got out in the old dirt mounds, tried to go through them with those steel wheels and before you know it, you've buried the tractor. You got post and chain and chained the part to steel wheels and with jerk, the tractor would jump out of the hole.

When I was in the second grade, Dad was taking us to school in the Chevy car. When we came into the school yard, Dad turned and the doors come open that I was leaning against. It sent me into the gravel.

Dad had to go into Shields to get feed for the milk cows as we couldn't raise any. He would get grain and hot feed cake. He told Dean to take the dogs and go get the milk cows, so they would be in the barn when Dad got back. A dirt storm was moving in. We went out to the pasture and it was in the spring and the ground squirrels were out. We got to playing with them trying to catch the ground squirrels. The dog and I didn't see the dirt storm come in. Dad always said if you got caught in a dirt storm head toward the fence and then follow the fence in. That is what I did. The cows were still in the pasture and when Dad got home, I got a spanking over that. He told me to get out and right back because of the dirt storm and I didn't mind that good.

During the Gunnery Range: Dean worked for his Uncle in the fields that was in the range. The airplanes didn't practice that much in our area. I was driving a tractor one day in the field after lunch and was half asleep on the John Deere, when the airplanes came over me to have some fun with me. They shot a burst of shells right over me. I thought the tractor was coming apart. I jerked the clutch and jumped off the tractor. Then I realized it was the airplanes as I saw them going off to the west. They had shot the 50 caliber guns and then two 20 millimeter bursts.

When we were sick, Dad would entertain us. He tried to make us learn the Lord's Prayer in German. We never did. We all learned to say the alphabet - ABC's - backwards as fast as we could say it forwards.

Dad and I (DeLila) was real close and he could read me like a book. When I came home from High School and I was upset - troubled - about something, I would saddle the horse and go for a ride. When I got back, Dad was always there and ask me "What wrong with you today". He always made me talk it out and I would be fine after that.

DeLila lived in town (Gove) for the first two and half years of High School. DeLila than went to Dighton High School. When I came home on weekends, it was like a mini reunion.

Mother's two brothers got the chicken pocks and the kids were quarantine for small pox. I missed a lot of school. I was a first grader and that was the year Dad got bucked off the horse. I rode behind Dad when I went to school, but because of the quarantine I couldn't go to school. Dad said I missed so much school that I had to take first grade over again. I only went eight days up to Christmas. Dad let me go one day before Christmas to say goodbye to the school mates and I cried the whole time.

We were isolated on the farm until we got a phone. Our phone was a crank to ring it. Ours was two short and one long. Everyone was on the party line and had their own longs and shorts. Five families on the party line for evening would just keep on ringing. There was one neighbor that would listen in on all the talk and she would put the ear piece into a dish pan and it would magnify the voice so she could listen and still do her work. I worked for her a few times and saw her do it. When there was an emergency, to alert the neighbors we would ring several short rings and everyone would listen to hear the message.

Comments by Keith

My earliest memories are of living at Waldron, Kansas. I was told that the old troll lived under the bridge between our house and the school house. (I really believed this) but it didn't keep me from running off. I went the opposite direction to Mary and Dad Swiggart's place. Later I learned that Mary would hang a tea towel on the clothes line to let Mother know that I was over there. When Mary would bake bread, she would make a small loaf for me.

We went to Dalton Valley one time (I don't know why) and a dirt storm came up. We headed for home and the car died up on the hill. Daddy took the chains out of the car and laid them somewhere on the car. The car finally started. We turned around and went back to the school. We spent the night there with several other families.

Daddy and Uncle Guy Fullmer were putting up prairie hay. I was playing in the hay loft and fell out onto a mound of hay. I ran about 1/4 of a mile, to ask them if the fall would kill me.

When Uncle Ralph worked for the Hineman farm. A Negro couple by the name of Bill and Ethel Brisco also worked for them, and would bring Uncle as far as our place. Later Dean decided he wanted a Negro brother and painted me black with either stove black or soot. I think to say Mother was unhappy is an understatement.

Just Mother and I went hunting one day. She shot a rabbit. As I ran to get the rabbit, Mother shot again - about 3 feet in front of me lay a rattlesnake. Mom's shot had killed it.

On Sunday Daddy would make biscuits and gravy for breakfast. Then we all went to church. We had to really be sick to miss church.

I remember the day Mother got a gas powered Sears washing machine (her first machine). It was exciting. When it broke down Mother would order the parts and I would help her fix it.

A red fox had a den across the draw and up on the flat east of the barn. If the fox was out early in the morning eating, Daddy would say there will be a storm today. The fox was always right. If the fox was out eating in the evenings we would have a storm at night. Daddy and the fox were always right.

C. Earl Andrew Wilson
Birth: May 30, 1894
Place: Norton Co., Kansas (farm)
Death: June 29, 1947
Cemetery: Gove, Kansas
Married: August 12, 1924; Quinter, Kansas

Consuella Fullmer (Connie)
December 8, 1901
Jerome, Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
August 17, 1999
Gove, Kansas

Children Born To This Union:

Delila Belle	September 3, 1927
Dean Earl	April 4, 1929
Keith Eugene	July 14, 1933
Amy Carolyn	March 21, 1935
Rex Leland	November 14, 1937
Ella Jane	January 19, 1940

Connie Remarried: Henry Forrest York
Birth: September 19, 1891
Place: Illinois
Death: November 12, 1957
Cemetery: Healy, Kansas
Married: February 1, 1948; Dighton, Kansas

1. DeLila Belle Wilson
Birth: September 3, 1927
Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
Death: June 7, 2002
Cemetery: Dighton, Kansas
Married: January 4, 1946; Dighton, Kansas
Children Born To This Union:

Giles Alvin Speer
April 27, 1927
Rolel, Kansas
June 16, 1989
Dighton, Kansas

Linda Elaine	July 7, 1947
Connie Sue	September 22, 1949
Ivan Giles	May 28, 1953
Drew Vee	September 28, 1962

2. Dean Earl Wilson
Birth: April 4, 1929
Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
Death: February 27, 2014
Cemetery: Gove, Kansas
Married: March 1, 1952; Wichita Falls, Texas
Children Born To This Union:

Ruby Gaye McNeil (Gaye)
January 7, 1935
Lawton, Oklahoma
June 8, 2013
Gove, Kansas

Earl Dean	April 13, 1953
Beverly Darlene	July 21, 1954
Carl Andrew	August 11, 1955
Mary Ann	November 8, 1957

3. Keith Eugene Wilson
 Birth: July 14, 1933
 Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
 Death: May 16, 2007
 Cemetery: Dighton, Kansas
 Married: February 20, 1953; Scott City, Kansas
 Children Born To This Union:

Renita Jean	June 17, 1954
Sonia Lynn	November 9, 1955
Keitha Marie	August 11, 1957
Eugene Keith	March 12, 1959
Asalea K.	September 29, 1960

Laura Pauline Stewart
 October 7, 1934
 Grigston, Kansas

4. Amy Carolyn Wilson
 Birth: March 21, 1935
 Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
 Death:
 Cemetery:
 Married: September 15, 1953; Dighton, Kansas
 Children Born To This Union:

Alan Dwain	April 16, 1955
Myra Lynn	October 22, 1956
Alana Jo	September 14, 1958
Bret Leon	July 12, 1960

William Leo Jewell (Bill)
 May 21, 1932
 Scott City, Kansas
 February 21, 2002
 Warsaw, Missouri

Amy Remarried: James E. Wills
 Birth: November 15, 1940
 Place Macon, Missouri
 Death:
 Cemetery:
 Married: August 20, 2006; Warsaw, Missouri

5. Rex Leland Wilson
 Birth: November 14, 1937
 Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)
 Death:
 Cemetery:
 Married: August 7, 1960; Hays, Kansas
 Children Born To This Union:

Kevin Lee	July 20, 1961
Lisa Diane	February 4, 1963

Margaret Macy
 December 24, 1941
 Beloit, Kansas

6. Ella Jane Wilson

Birth: January 19, 1940

Place: Gove Co., Kansas (farm)

Death: July 9, 2013

Cemetery: Dighton, Kansas

Married: February 3, 1968; Dighton, Kansas

Children Born To This Union:

Von Ray

February 23, 1966

James Alvin

March 23, 1970

Alvin C. Johnson

December 3, 1934

Lane Co., Kansas (farm)

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Fuller

announce the marriage of their daughter

Cousinella

to

Mr. Carl Andrew Wilson

on Tuesday, August twelfth

nineteen hundred and twenty-four

at nine o'clock a. m.,

at the home of Rev. D. A. Crist,

Quinter, Kansas

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The Red Top School, District No. 12, was a stone schoolhouse and was used as a meeting place for Sunday School and church groups in the early years. A quarterly meeting of the Methodist church, Collyer Circuit, was held there in July of 1887. It was also used as a preaching point for the Quinter Church of the Brethren. The pupils from the adjoining Hackberry School, District No. 14, attended school at Red Top Schoolhouse in 1895-96, 1896-97 until their schoolhouse was built on Sec. 14-T13-R27. Bert Todd was the teacher in 1896-97. The pupils attending were Frank Tuttle, Tom Fahey (23 years old), Will Fahey, Charles Blackwill, Frank Flaughner, Stella Flaughner, Nell Fahey, Josie Fahey, Mary Fahey, Pearl Blackwill, Ed Geer, Ida Blackwill, Kate Fahey, Margaret Fahey, Rose Fahey, Dora Nickerson, Maude Nickerson, George Nickerson.

After the district was disorganized, the stone building was torn down.

DISTRICT NO. 13—JEROME

Formed: February 14, 1887

District Location: Thirty-four sections in Township 15, Range 29, in vicinity of old Jerome.

First Officers: Dir.—J. A. Whitehair, Clerk—W. T. Jones, Treasurer—James H. Tyson.

Location of schoolhouses:

1. Probably a sod schoolhouse.
2. Believed to have been held in an old store building that later burned. (Around 1900-1904-05).

3. Frame, on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 14, T15-R29 in the Whitehair Addition (also east of the east end of Third Street in the Original Town Plot of Jerome, which was in the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 15-T15-R29).

4. The school was held in the basement of Earl Wilson's house while the Gunnery Range was in effect—NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 25-T15-R29. (School years 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46).

5. E side of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 26-T15-R29, same schoolhouse moved to this location.

Disorganized: May 29, 1963. Attached to Healy School District.

In the early years, and later, Sunday school was held in the schoolhouse, also Literary, and church when a preacher was available. Sometimes a homesteader would fill the pulpit. School was closed in the fall of 1918 until about March 1, 1919 on account of the flu epidemic. Orpha Hoab was the teacher that year. A lot of the people in the area had to haul water. The school had a cistern. There was a good spring south of the Smoky Hill River on the Edd Hinchsliff place and another on

the Fritz Bentley place. Most of the water for the people and the school was hauled from these two springs.

Iris Brown Hanna reported that county examinations for the 7th and 8th grades were held at Jerome until the State discontinued them. She also said that when the weather was bad, some of the pupils would sometimes stay with John and Maude Courtney, who kept a store there. The last day of school was usually observed by the people bringing all manner of foods and having a big basket dinner for all. Often contests were held or a ball game played. Someone usually brought horse shoes. It was always a big day for the school.



District No. 13, Jerome School, Geo. Maddy, teacher

Fred Baker, in a paper on Jerome Township, wrote: "This school was always known as Jerome School. The first teacher was Utie Whitehair, who taught a three month term for a salary of \$20 per month. This school has had the greatest number of pupils of any other school in the township, having had 60 scholars at one time...The schoolhouse is now used as a community center besides being used for school purposes (1918)."

As noted above, school was held in the basement of the Earl Wilson home during World War II when that area was in the Gunnery Range. Earl Wilson and Connie Wilson were the teachers during this time. After the war, the school was again held in the schoolhouse and then the schoolhouse was moved south of the river to a piece of land donated by Guy Fullmer on the east side of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 26-T15-R29. This was on Highway 23.

DISTRICT NO. 14—HACKBERRY

Formed: February 18, 1887

Location of District: Probably formed out of territory that was first included in District No. 5. It included 28 sections, 27 township 13 and one in T12, Range 26 and 27. It lay south, southwest and

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Earl Andrew, son of E. G. and Eva Wilson, was born in Norton county, near Prairie View, Kansas, May 30, 1894, and passed away at the hospital at Ransom, Kansas, on June 23, 1947, at the age of 52 years and 30 days.

He moved with his parents to Lyford, Texas, at the age of 14. A short time later the family moved to Waldron, Kansas, where he finished his grade school education. In 1915 he graduated from high school at Anthony, Kansas.

In the spring of 1918 he was called into the army where he served almost a year. Eight months of that time was spent overseas. When he received his discharge he joined his parents who in the meantime had moved to Jerome, Kansas.

August 12, 1924, he was united in marriage to Consuella Fullmer. To this union were born six children: Mrs. DeLila Speer of Dighton, Dean Earl, Keith Eugene, Amy Carolyn, Rex Leland and Ella Jane of the home.

In 1940, he, with his children, joined the Methodist church at Gove, Kansas, where his wife had been a member for years.

Mr. Wilson was one of our outstanding teachers, and taught 21 terms of school, all in Gove county, with the exception of one term at Waldron, Kansas.

His parents, two brothers, William and Ralph, and one sister Mrs. Grace Hughes preceded him in death.

Consuella York

DIGHTON - Consuella York, 97, died Aug. 17, 1999, at Lane County Hospital, Dighton.

She was born Dec. 8, 1901, at Jerome, the daughter of William C. and Amy Lamar Maxwell Fullmer. A lifetime resident of Lane and Gove Counties, she attended Dighton High School and Emporia Normal School. She taught for eight years in Gove County in country schools, and then in her basement, when the gunnery range took over the Jerome School building.

She belonged to United Methodist Church at Dighton, where she taught Sunday school for 23 years. She belonged to the Twentieth Century Club, Sewing Club, UMW, Shields EHU and Lane County Country Club.

On Aug. 12, 1924, she married Earl A. Wilson at Quinter. He died June 29, 1947. On Feb. 1, 1948, she married Henry H. York at Dighton. He died Nov. 12, 1957.

Survivors include: three sons, Dean and Keith Wilson, both Dighton, and Rex Wilson, Marion; three daughters, DeLila Speer and Janie Johnston, both Dighton, and Amy Jewell, Warsaw, Mo.; two stepsons, H. Forrest York and Dwight York, both Healy; a stepdaughter, Maxine Wilson, Healy; 32 grandchildren; 67 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Friday at United Methodist Church, Dighton, with the Rev. Tod Anthony presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Thursday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Burial will be in Gove Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the church in care of the funeral home.

Giles A. Speer

DIGHTON — Giles A. Speer, 62, died June 16, 1989, at Lane County Hospital, Dighton. Born April 27, 1927, in Pawnee County, he married DeLila Belle Wilson Jan. 4, 1946, at Dighton. A farmer-stockman and carpenter, he was a Lane County resident since 1934.

He was a member of the First Christian Church and a lifetime member and quartermaster of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, both of Dighton. He was also a U.S. Coast Guard veteran.

Survivors: wife, of the home; sons, Ivan Giles Speer, Dighton, Drew Ve Speer, Berkeley, Calif.; daughter, Connie Sue Cravens, Oklahoma City; brothers, Charles, Modoc, Gerald, Garden City, Jarold, Delmar, Keith and Roger, all of Dighton; sisters, Wanda King, Grainfield, LaVona Perkins, Blue Springs, Mo.; and four grandchildren.

Funeral will be 10:30 a.m. Monday at the First Christian Church, the Rev. Michael Omundson. Burial will be in Dighton Memorial Cemetery, with military graveside rites. Friends may call all day today at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Memorials may go to the church, the Lane County Hospital, or to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Scholarship Fund.

DeLila Wilson Speer

DIGHTON — DeLila Wilson Speer, 74, died June 7, 2002, at Scott County Hospital, Scott City.

She was born Sept. 3, 1927, in Gove County, the daughter of Earl Andrew and Consuella Fullmer Wilson. She graduated from Dighton High School in 1946. A resident of Dighton, she worked for a short time at Mumma Locker, Dighton, and sold Tiara Glass out of her home.

She was a member of First Christian Church, Dighton, Christian Women's Fellowship, a Church Deaconette, Sunday school teacher, was in the As You Like It Club, VFW Auxiliary, Tops Club, Al Anon, Lane County Arts Council, and was a Past Cub Scout Den Mother.

On Jan. 4, 1946, she married Giles A. Speer at Dighton. He died June 16, 1989.

Survivors include: two sons, Ivan Giles, Dighton and Drew Ve, Simpsonville, S.C.; a daughter, Connie Speer Cravens, New Castle, Okla.; three brothers, Dean Wilson and Keith Wilson, both of Dighton, and Rex Wilson, Marion; two sisters, Amy Jewell, Warsaw, Mo., and Janie Johnston, Dighton; two step-brothers, Forrest York and Dwight York, both of Healy; a stepsister, Maxine Wilson, Healy; six grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and a step-great-grandson.

Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at First Christian Church, Dighton, with the Rev. Kerry Grogan presiding. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Burial will be in the Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the church, Scott County Hospital, or the American Cancer Society, in care of the funeral home.

Keith Wilson

Published 5/19/2007

Keith Eugene Wilson

DIGHTON -- Keith Eugene Wilson, 73, died Wednesday, May 16, 2007, at his home in Dighton. He was born July 14, 1933, in Gove County, to Earl A. and Consuella Fullmer Wilson. He attended grade schools in Gove County and attended Dighton High School.

Mr. Wilson worked at Farmers Co-op Oil & Supply for 12 1/2 years before becoming a self-employed general contractor. He was a member of Bible Fellowship Church of Dighton. His special interest was his grandchildren's activities, and he also enjoyed hunting, fishing and woodworking.

On Feb. 20, 1953, he married Laura Stewart in Scott City. She survives. Other survivors include one son, Eugene Keith Wilson of Dighton; three daughters, Renita J. Braddock and Sonia L. Lang, both of Garden City, and Asalea K. Boone of Dighton; two brothers, Dean Wilson of Shields, and Rex Wilson of Marion; two sisters, Amy Jewell Wills of Warsaw, Mo., and Janie Johnston of Dighton; two stepbrothers, Dwight and Forrest York, both of Healy; a stepsister, Maxine Wilson of Healy; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepfather, Henry York; a daughter, Keitha Schwartz; a sister, Delila Speer; and a grandson, Ryon K. Sturgeon.

Funeral will be 2 p.m. Monday at the United Methodist Church, Dighton, with the Rev. Ed Groover officiating. Burial will be in Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Visitation hours are noon to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Condolences may be sent to garnandfh@sbcglobal.net. Memorials are suggested to Bible Fellowship Church or Dighton High School Woodshop, both in care of the funeral home.

IN MEMORIAM

EXPANDED ELOGES

"In Memoriam" listings are expanded obituaries, phrased exactly as the family requests, and may include enhanced information or photographs that might not fit within free death notices.



Vivian Ragsdale

Vivian Ragsdale

Vivian Kate Ragsdale, 4, of Shawnee, died suddenly of pneumonia April 24, 2010, at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

Memorial services will be at 5:30 p.m. April 28 at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, 6837 Nieman Road, Shawnee KS 66203, with a visitation starting at 4:30 p.m.

Memorials are suggested to Hope's Heart Orphan Foundation, PO Box 2903, Olathe KS 66063-0903 or hopeheart.org in support of orphan children in China.

Vivian was born Feb. 7, 2006, in the Hunan Province of China. She was adopted by Brent P. and Lisa D. Ragsdale who travelled to China and brought

her into their family on Aug. 6, 2007.

Vivian was preceded in death by her mother, Lisa, Jan. 6, 2008.

Surviving Vivian are her father and three loving brothers, Blaine, Logan, and Jeremy; and grandparents Rex and Margaret Wilson of Marion and Bob and Jeanette Ragsdale of Redmond, Wash.

Vivian attended Shawnee Presbyterian Pre-School and was cared for during the day by Celia Miller of Shawnee. Vivian was loved by many people in the community.

Though Vivian was often noticed because of her physical beauty, it was her personality that we will remember. Vivian was observant, empathetic, concerned, kind, clever, and helpful. She made Shawnee a brighter place and she will be dearly missed.

Condolences may be expressed at www.porterfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are provided by Porter Funeral Homes & Crematory, 8535 Monrovia, Lenexa KS, (913) 438-6444.

Janie Johnston

January 19, 1940 - July 09, 2013

Dighton, Kansas

Visitation: Noon to 8:00 PM Thursday, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Friday , at Boomhower Funeral Home in Dighton.

Funeral Service: 2:00 PM on Friday, July 12, 2013 at United Methodist Church in Dighton with Rev Berniece Ludlum officiating.

Interment: Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given to the United Methodist Church in care of Boomhower Funeral Home.

Janie Johnston, age 73, died Tuesday, July 9, 2013, at Lane County Long Term Care in Dighton. She was born January 19, 1940, in Gove County, the daughter of Earl Andrew & Consuella (Fullmer) Wilson. Janie married Alvin C. Johnston on February 3, 1968, at Dighton.

Janie attended grade school in Gove County and graduated from Dighton High School in 1958. She attended beautician school in Dodge City and worked as a beautician in Garden City before her marriage. She enjoyed gardening, her walks, crafts, sewing & was involved with 4-H activities. Janie was a member of the United Methodist Church of Dighton, United Methodist Women, FCE Extension, TOPS, and Past member of Lane County Farm Bureau Board.

Survivors include her husband, Alvin C. Johnston of the home; 2 sons, Von Johnston of Dighton, James Johnston of Dighton; 2 brothers, Dean Wilson of Dighton, Rex Wilson of Marion; sister, Amy Jewell of Warsaw, Missouri; 2 step-brothers, Forrest York of Healy, Dwight York of Oakley; step-sister, Maxine Wilson of Dighton; 3 grandchildren, and 1 great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 1 brother- Keith Wilson & 1 sister- DeLila Speer.

Ryon Keith Sturgeon

SYRACUSE—Ryon Keith Sturgeon, 29, died Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2003, in Dighton.

He was born May 24, 1974, in Dodge City to Michael and Renita (Wilson) Sturgeon. He graduated from Syracuse High School in 1993.

He attended a fiberoptics school in Montana and was a former member of the National Guard. He was the maintenance person at the Comfort Inn in Garden City.

Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Renita and Dan Braddock, Syracuse; his father and stepmother, Michael and Debbie Sturgeon, Hillsboro; a sister, Michelle Thomas, Hays; and grandparents, Keith and Laura Wilson, Dighton, Larry and Liz Sturgeon, Fowler, and Beulah Braddock, Syracuse.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at the United Methodist Church, Dighton; burial in Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton.

Memorials are suggested to the Ryon Sturgeon Memorial Fund.

Keitha Marie Schwartz

DIGHTON — Keitha Marie Schwartz, 46, died July 8, 2004, at Scott City.

She was born Aug. 11, 1957, at Scott City, the daughter of Keith E. and Laura P. Stewart Wilson. She graduated from Dighton High School in 1976. A resident of Dighton, she worked as a nurse's aide at Scott County Hospital, as an EMT for Lane County EMS Service, and as head of housekeeping and bookkeeper for her family's Comfort Inn, Garden City.

She belonged to Bible Fellowship Church, Dighton, Rags and Ruffles EHU and Lane County 4-H.

On July 22, 1978, she married Darrel Lynn Schwartz at Dighton. He died July 8, 2004.

Survivors include: two sons, Bryce and Devin, both of Dighton; a daughter, Darlyn, Dighton; her parents, Dighton; a brother, Eugene Wilson, Dighton; and three sisters, Renita Braddock, Sonya Lang, both of Garden City, and Asalea Boone, Dighton.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Monday at United Methodist Church, Dighton, with Pastor Ed Groover and the Rev. Carl Helm presiding. Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Burial will be in Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Schwartz Children Education Fund, in care of the funeral home.

Darrel Lynn Schwartz

DIGHTON — Darrel Lynn Schwartz, 46, died July 8, 2004, at Scott City.

He was born Aug. 6, 1957, at Garden City, the son of Nelson L. and Elvera M. Koester Schwartz. He graduated from Dighton High School in 1976 and he attended Garden City Community College, studying welding and auto mechanics. A resident of Dighton, he was a farmer/stockman in Lane County and was also an owner and operator of DKS Dozing, Schwartz Trucking Co., Triple S Welding of Dighton and Comfort Inn, Garden City.

He belonged to Bible Fellowship Church, Dighton.

On July 22, 1978, he married Keitha Marie Wilson at Dighton. She died July 8, 2004.

Survivors include: two sons, Bryce and Devin, both of Dighton; a daughter, Darlyn Schwartz, Dighton; his parents, Dighton; a brother, Elwin, Garden City; and two sisters, Marsha Evans, Austin, Colo., and Marletta Fox, Waxhaw, N.C.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Monday at United Methodist Church, Dighton, with Pastor Ed Groover and the Rev. Carl Helm presiding. Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton. Burial will be in Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Schwartz Children Education Fund, in care of the funeral home.

Dean Earl Wilson

April 04, 1929 - February 27, 2014

Dighton, Kansas

Visitation: Noon to 8:00 PM Monday, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Tuesday, at Boomhower Funeral Home in Dighton.

Funeral Service: 2:00 PM on Tuesday, March 04, 2014 at First Christian Church in Dighton with Rev Howard Bever officiating.

Interment: Gove Cemetery in Gove with graveside rites conducted by Kansas Army Reserves Natural Guard & American Legion Post #190.

Memorials may be given to the First Christian Church or United Methodist Church of Healy in care of Boomhower Funeral.

Dean Earl Wilson, age 84, died Thursday, February 27, 2014 at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. He was born April 4, 1929 in Gove County, the son of Earl & Consuella (Fullmer) Wilson. Dean married Gaye McNeil on March 1, 1952 at Walters, Oklahoma. She died on June 8, 2013.

Dean was a lifetime resident on his farm in Gove County. He attended grade school in Gove and graduated from Dighton High School. He served in the United States Air Force. After his discharge he returned to the farm and was a lifetime farmer-stockman. He enjoyed horses, his family events and going on trail rides. Dean was a member of the United Methodist Church of Gove, longtime member and Past President of Healy School Board, served on a state committee on education, and was a past member of Healy Co-op Board.

Survivors include 2 daughters, Beverly Roemer, Mary Ann Ming; 1 son, Carl Wilson; 1 brother, Rex Wilson; 1 sister, Amy Willis; 2 step-brothers, Forrest York, Dwight York; 1 step-sister, Maxine Wilson; 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, 1 son- Earl Dean Wilson, 1 brother- Keith Wilson & 2 sisters- Delila Speer & Janie Johnston.

Gaye Wilson

Gaye Wilson, 78 died Saturday, June 8, 2013 at the Lane County Hospital in Dighton. She was born January 7, 1935 at Lawton, OK to Sam & Goldie (Adams) McNeil.

Gaye grew up on a farm near Walters, OK and graduated from Walters High School.

Gaye married Dean E. Wilson on March 1, 1952 at Walters, OK. She moved to Kansas in 1954 and she and her husband were farmers in Southern Gove County since then.

Gaye was very active with the Republican Party and worked on election campaigns for Bob Dole, Jerry Moran & Robert Bennett. She also was a longtime 4-H Leader, served on the Gove County Hospital Board, Gove

County FSA Board, Healy Co-op Board & was appointed to the Kansas State Highway Commission. She enjoyed reading newspapers on her computer and playing the markets.

Gaye was preceded in death by her parents, one son Earl Dean Wilson, two brothers- Keith McNeil, and Vince McNeil and two sisters- Waunda Pennington & Mary Teague.

Gaye is survived by her husband Dean E. Wilson, two daughters Beverly Roemer, and Mary Ann Ming, one son Carl Wilson; 13 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service were Tuesday June 11 at the First Christian Church in Dighton. Burial was at the Dighton Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Lane County Historical Society in care of Boomhower Funeral Home, 145 North Wichita, P.O. Box 89, Dighton, KS 67839.

Condolences for the family may be e-mailed to: garnandfh@sbcglobal.net

Lisa D. Ragsdale, 44, Shawnee, KS, died Sunday, January 6, 2008 at the University of Kansas Hospital. Memorial Services will be 6:30 p.m. Friday, January 11, at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, 6837 Nieman Road, Shawnee, KS 66203 where friends may call from 4:30-6:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to Families Thru International Adoption, P.O. Box 10, Stilwell, KS 66085 in support of Children's Hope House in Romania, or to an education fund for Lisa's children in care of any Commerce Bank. Lisa was born February 4, 1963, in Pratt, KS and had lived in Shawnee since 1996. She was an active wife and mother in her family's activities and her children's schools at Benninghoven Elementary, Trailridge Middle and Shawnee Mission Northwest High School. She is survived by her husband of 16 years, Brent P. Ragsdale, four children, Blaine Logan, Jeremy and Vivian, all of the home, her parents, Rex and Margaret Wilson, Marion, KS, a brother and his wife, Kevin and Janet Wilson, Bentonville, AR, a foster brother and his wife, Kevin and Loraine McGahee, Shawnee, KS, maternal grandmother, Florence Macy, Marion, KS and many other family and friends who loved her.

Earl Wilson

Beloved rancher, teacher, and coach, Earl Dean Wilson, 56, Davis, OK, died Friday, Sept. 16, 2009, in Oklahoma City.

Earl was born April 13, 1953, in Lawton, OK., to Dean and Gaye Wilson, and grew up in the Lane-Gove county area. He married Pam Jennison in October of 1977, and they divorced in 1984. He and Paula Hazelton were then married in December of 1984. Earl was employed with the Sulphur Public School System, where he taught AP History, American History, Geography, and served as an assistant High School baseball coach. He earned teacher of the year honors there in 2007 for his diligence and positive influence among students and peers. Prior to teaching, he worked as General Manager of the Dollar General Distribution Center, in Ardmore, OK, where he was honored as the

company's top manager in 2001. In 1971, Earl received NJCAA All American Honors as a Defensive End at Garden City Community College. Earl was active in Boy Scouts of America, the First United Methodist Church of Davis, and the Oklahoma Coaches Association.

Earl is survived by his wife Paula, a daughter, Rebekah Wilson, of the home, three sons, Paul and wife Reagan, Nowata, OK., Neil, Tribune, and Erik, of the home; his parents, Shields; two sisters, Beverly and Randy Roemer, Healy, and Mary Ann and Robert Ming, Shields; brother, Carland Cindi, Westmoreland. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday September 26, 2009, at the Healy High School Auditorium.

A memorial scholarship has been created in Earl's honor and can be directed to Boomhower Funeral Home, Dighton, KS.