

OUR PAST

"Los Angeles Times" Jan. 11, 1892, pg. 5: UNITED IN DEATH. A Remarkable Freak of Nature Seen in a Graveyard. [Correspondence from:] Rosier, Missouri. Jan. 2, 1892. -- One of the most remarkable freaks of nature was brought to light a few days ago by the changing of an old cemetery which was caused by the sale of a farm. Near an orchard in a small portion of the farm [which] had been set aside for the family burial place, and in there several bodies had been placed. The plot was so small that it became necessary to bury them close together, the trees of the orchard overshadowed the grave. At the foot of an immense apple tree were the remains of William Smithson and his wife, who had been buried there about thirty years ago, when the tree was small. These two bodies were close together, the old couple having died within forty-eight hours of each other and were buried in the same grave.

When the farm was sold the children of the original owner thereof made arrangement to have the bodies removed to the cemetery at this town, and they began by taking up the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Smithson. When the diggers reached the coffin they were surprised to find that they could not raise them from the grave and an investigation revealed the fact that the tree had sent its roots into the grave and these roots had followed the forms of the dead couple in such a manner that the bodies had been completely replaced by wood, which had taken the exact form of the bodies. The strangest part of it was the fact that the root had divided before it got to the head of the corpses and had followed closely the outline with the exception that a branch had crossed and joined the two in the region of the heart. No vestige of bone was to be found and the root was covered again and left undisturbed.

Action: The 1860 Census of Missouri may show a William Smithson and a wife. Need to find two Smithson deaths about 1862 that occurred on almost the exact day and place Where is Rosier, Missouri ? There is a Rosier in Georgia but no Rosier is listed in Missouri in the Place finder. Could it be a township name?

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ESTATE OF JAMES SMITHSON

Polk County Missouri Probate File Box #67:

James Smithson, Deceased. Packet contains: Bond of Administrator:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That I, *Joicy Smithson* as Principal, and *J R Calloway Nelm Owens* as Securities, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Missouri, in the just and full sum of *Thirty* Hundred Dollars, good and lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, we bind ourselves, our heirs, &c. jointly, firmly and severally by these presents, signed with our hands and sealed with our seals, this *7th* day of *August 1843*

The Condition of the above Bond is such, that if the said *Joicy Smithson* Administrator of the Estate of *Jas Smithson* deceased, shall faithfully administer said estate, account for, pay and deliver all money and property of said estate and perform all other things touching said administration required by law or the order of any court having jurisdiction, then the above Bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force.

Joicy her X mark Smithson {seal}

J. R. Callaway {seal}

Nelm Owens {seal}

Approved August 7, 1843

? William Southoc

Recorded in my office, this 7th August 1843

J. W. Davis, Clerk

By A Williams D. Clerk

James Smithson, husband of Joicy, died intestate (without a will) sometime before this bond was signed-- circumstances unknown. Letters of Administration were granted to **Joicy Smithson** and she was appointed administrator of James Smithson, dec'd., estate. Elijah, Ruth, Elizabeth, John S. and James M. Smithson, all of Polk Co., were named as heirs. Property in the SE 1/4 of the N E 1/4 of Sec. #13 of Township #32, Range #22 West was declared.

The process of settling his estate is mentioned in the "*Springfield Advertiser*" of Greene Co., Missouri, Nov. 7, 1846:

"Smithson, James, dec[ceased]. Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the above estate that the undersigned administrator on said estate will make application at the Feb. term of the county of Polk for a final settlement of his [her] administration on said estate which and where all persons who see proper can attend. Joyce Smithson, Admx.

James Smithson was age 40-50 (b. 1790-1800) in the 1840 census of Polk County, Missouri. and is probably the same James Smithson who served in the War of 1812 from Tennessee. Juanita McPherson Knippers sent the following two items.

Tennessee Militia:

Nashville May 18th 1815: I certify that James Smithson a Private in my Division of Tennessee Militia, has performed a tour of duty of six months, in the service of the United States- that his good conduct, subordination and valor, under the most trying hardships, entitle him to the gratitude of his country; and he is ho[no]rably discharged.

Wm. Carroll, Major-General 2nd Div. of TN Militia.

Know All men by these presents that I James Smithson of Warren County and state of Tennessee for divers good causes and considerations me hereunto moving, have made and ordained, authorised, nominated and appointed, and do by these presents, make, ordain, authorise, nominate, and appoint John Price [of] Nashville, Davidson county and state of Tennessee my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name, and for my own proper use to ask, demand, sue for, recover and receive of Joseph Coleman Esqr District Paymaster for the state of Tennessee all such sum or sums of money, debts and demands whatsoever, which are now due and owing unto me the said James Smithson by and from the United States for my services as a Private in Capt. Jno. Cunninghams Infantry company from the thirteenth day of November 1814 to the thirteenth day of May 1815 as per my certificate of service herewith. And to have, to use and take all lawful ways and means in my name, or otherwise for the recovery thereof by attachment, arrest, distress or otherwise and to compound and agree for the same, and acquaintances or other sufficient discharges for the same for me and in my name to make, seal and deliver, and make all other lawful acts and things whatsoever concerning the premises, as fully and in every respect as I myself might or could do were I personally present at the doing thereof. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Nineteenth day of August 1815.

Witness present:

his

Alexander Hill

James X Smithson (Seal)

John Smith

mark

#

State of Tennessee

Warren County.

This day personally appeared before me Alexander Hills one of the acting Justices of Peace of Davidson county, James Smithson and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing power of attorney for the purposes therein mentioned and acknowledge and subscribed in presence of me.

Given under my hand this Nineteenth day of August 1815.

Alexander Hill, Justice of Peace

Two important land purchases:

1. INDEX OF PURCHASERS, 1839-1841 in MISSOURI--US LAND SALES (977.8/R 28i Vol. #3)

Smithson, James #65 (Springfield Dist.)

2. INDEX OF PURCHASERS, 1842-1846 in MISSOURI--US LAND SALES (977.8/R 28i Vol. #3)

Smithson, Joyce #326 (Springfield Dist.)

Joyce Smithson died January 26th 1880 and is buried in the Pleasant Hope Cemetery as Joyce Smith. Her maiden name is probably HALEY according to Diana Dobbins <icdrose1@aol.com>. Many thanks to Marie Clayton of Bolivar, Missouri for sending some additional data on this family and we both hope to establish the father of James Smithson eventually.



SKETCH OF ROBERT E. LEE SMITHSON

The following news items from the *Liberty Herald* of Liberty, Tennessee were sent by John V. Smithson of London, UK

Liberty Herald, Liberty, Tennessee, Oct. 31, 1888. OTHER NEWS -- Robert L. Smithson, a gentleman boy and once a student at Liberty Normal, has been employed to teach near Livingston.

--- June 26, 1889. LIBERTY -- Miss Jennie Smith will teach school near Mt. Zion this fall.

--- same issue: Robt. Smithson of Smallman is in town this week attending to some business (?).

--- July 17, 1889. LIBERTY -- Bob Smithson was in town again yesterday evening.

--- Aug. 4, 1889. LIBERTY -- R. L. Smithson of Smallman has entered school at Pure Fountain College.

--- Aug. 28, 1889. CLEAR FORK -- Prof. R. L. Smithson has entered school at Pure Fountain College.

--- same issue: LIBERTY -- Bob Smithson, who is going to school at Smithville visited his parents on Clear Fork Sunday.

--- Sept. 18, 1889. LIBERTY. Bob Smithson came down from Smithville Saturday.

--- July 16, 1890. MARRIAGES: Smithson-Smith. Last Thursday, Robert L. Smithson was married to Miss Jennie Smith at her father's residence. She is the daughter of W. P. Smith.

--- Nov. 22, 1893. LIBERTY. Prof. R. L. Smithson, Principal of Woodbury College, was here a short while Saturday.

--- Jan. 23, 1895. LIBERTY. Prof. R. L. Smithson came down from Cookeville yesterday to be with his wife, who is very low at this time. There is no hope for her recovery.

--- Feb. 27, 1895. LIBERTY. Ode Woodside is able to be out again. Mrs. R. L. Smithson is still very low.

--- Mar. 13, 1895. LIBERTY. Mrs. R. L. SMITHSON. Last Saturday morning at 3 o'clock, Mrs. R. L. Smithson quietly fell asleep surrounded by the immediate members of her family and friends. For weeks and months she has suffered from that most terrible of all diseases--till her life just wasted away. She bore her afflictions with remarkable fortitude but never murmuring. She leaves a husband and a little boy four years old, besides other relatives, and a host of friends. *The Herald* would sympathize with the living in this extreme hour of grief.

--- Mar. 20, 1895. LIBERTY. On March 9th, 1895, Mrs. Jennie Smith Smithson, the loving daughter of a widowed mother, the young wife of a devoted husband and the mother of a darling baby boy, after a long and painful illness, died. She was married to Rob't. L. Smithson in 1890.

--- Mar. 27, 1895. PUTNAM COUNTY--*The Press*. On account of his wife's death, Prof. R. L. Smithson has resigned the principalship of the Cookeville High School. The Executive Board promoted Miss Lizzie Owen to this position.

--- Apr. 24, 1895. LIBERTY. Prof. R. L. Smithson and little son, Willie Morgan, came to town and spent Sunday with the family of Mrs. W. P. Smith.

--- May 29, 1895. PUTNAM COUNTY--*The Press*. Prof. R. L. Smithson, formerly principal of the Cookeville High School, spent the latter part of last week in town. Since the death of his wife he has been spending the time on his farm near Liberty.

--- June 26, 1895. THE INSTITUTE. Seventy-nine teachers and scores of visitors are in Liberty this week attending the Institute. Institute work has been carried on up to this time, but tomorrow and next day examinations for certificates will be the order of the day. Below-the program the first two days:

The DeKalb County Institute met for their annual session at this place. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. T. J. Stricklin. Prof. W. J. Gothard, Superintendent of Public Instruction, took the chair. Will A. Vick delivered an address giving the Institute a cordial welcome to Liberty. English Grammar was presented by Prof. T. A. Killman, next was reading taken up by Prof. J. F. Turner and Geography was presented by Prof. Mooneyham.

(continued....)

After dinner, philosophy was taken up by R. L. Smithson, Civil Government was presented by Prof. James Drake. Prof. E. W. Brown made some timely remarks urging the teachers to punctuality in the Institute. Rev. T. J. Baker conducted devotionals the second day and Rev. Oscar closed the last day. Different methods of reading were presented by Profs. Lankford, Gross and others. Prof. Bowlin of Watertown was introduced and presented Mental Arithmetic in a forcible way. Geography was again taken up by Miss Laura Wright. Rhetoric was discussed by Prof. John Preston. Prof. Summers of Auburn is attending the Institute. Prof. Chas. Rose and Miss Lola Robinson delivered recitations which were well received. Some visitors were Prof. R. A. Taylor of Murfreesboro, C. T. Cates and Robert Brandon of Woodbury, and T. R. Hudson and D. R. Hudson of Sparta.

--- June 10, 1896. SUMMER NORMAL. A Summer Normal to be held at Smithville, DeKalb county, Tennessee, for the purpose of examining teachers for certificates to teach the public schools of DeKalb county. This normal will begin June 29, 1896 and close July 3, 1896.

First Day Program. Devotional exercises; Welcome address by Judge B. M. Webb; response by Prof. Z. D. Jones; Reading by E. L. Mooneyham; Spelling by Miss Laura Wright; Geography by Prof. E. W. Brown; Geometry by Prof. T. A. Killman; Philosophy by Prof. Jas. Drake; Algebra by W. S. New; Physiology by E. L. Mooneyham; Arithmetic by R. L. Smithson. W. J. Gothard, County Supt.

--- LIBERTY. Prof. R. L. Smithson has returned from a business trip to Kentucky.

--- At an election of K. of P. officers last Thursday night the following were chosen: Will A. Vick, C. C.; Dr. T. J. Jackson, V. C.; C. L. Bright, Prel.; G. W. Bradley, M. A.; C. Y. Givan, M. W.; W. H. Smithson, I. G.; J. M. Bradley, O. G. Installation first meeting night of July.

--- Jan. 5, 1898. LIBERTY. Prof. R. L. Smithson of Kentucky came in to spend the Holidays with home folks.

IN MEMORIAM

BRUCE SMITHSON DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS. Bruce Smithson, well known citizen of this vicinity, died Saturday, September 5, at his home near Gorby, after an illness of several months. He was 70 years of age. Deceased was born in Carroll County, Arkansas, and came to IZARD County early in life with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Smithson. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Cooper in 1895, who departed this life in 1925. Mr. Smithson was a member of the Methodist Church. Surviving, are four sons, John Smithson of Calico Rock, Hubert and Kirby Smithson of Gorby, and Thurman Smithson of Creswell; two Daughters, Miss Mahala Smithson of Gorby and Mrs. Ruth Mason of Creswell; one brother, Will Smithson of Ft. Smith, Ark., and one sister Mrs. Ruth Stone of California; also 18 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted at Gorby Sunday afternoon by Rev. J. C. Wilcox of this place. Interment was in Palestine Cemetery. *Calico Rock Progress*, Calico Rock, Arkansas, Friday, September 11, 1942: [Sent by John V. Smithson of London, UK.]

DORA MAY [SMITHSON] BRACY -- In Loma Linda, California, Sept. 17, 1964, Dora May [Smithson] Bracy, aged 79 years. Beloved mother of Albert W. Bracy, 3187 Joel St., Robidoux, California; Carl V. Bracy, San Pueblo, California; Walter Greenwood, Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. Eugenia [unreadable name and location + sisters ??? & brothers DeWitt & Earl Smithson ??? Mrs. Olle ??] Mrs. Jennie Conner, of Texas. Funeral services and interment through Vetter Mortuary, Ft. Lupton, Colorado. Robidoux Mortuary in charge of local arrangements. *The Press*, Riverside, California, Saturday, Sept. 19, 1964, B-5:6.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF A DARLING BABY. Smithson, L. C. Jr. On September 16, 1940, the death angel visited the home of Mr. Lambert Smithson and claimed his darling little baby, L. C. Jr. He was born Dec. 21, 1939, and departed this life Sept. 16, 1940, age eight months and twenty-five days old. He was budded on earth to bloom in heaven. We can't understand why he was taken away so young, but God does all things for the best. Everything was done that loving hands could do but to no avail. God took him from a world of trouble to a happy home of rest. I will say to the father and children, if you live a life that God wants you to you will meet your little baby and brother again some day. He leaves to mourn his death a father, two sisters, one brother, two grandmothers, one grandfather besides uncles, aunts, cousins and other relatives and friends. Funeral services were conducted by E. T. Brazzell and his little body was laid to rest under a beautiful mound of flowers in the Hale Cemetery by the side of his dear mother who was taken from him on Jan. 26, 1940. Sleep on, little L. C., and take your rest. God called you home when he thought it best, and father's heart is sad. We know you loved him dearly, both you, Virginia, James and Annette. (cont.)

IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY OF A DARLING BABY. Smithson, L. C. Jr. (cont.) Oh he was a precious darling, but the Lord loved him best. He called him away to heaven to a home of perfect rest. A tiny one is absent and no one can take his place. He has gone to be with his mother where she smiles upon his face. Oh why should we grieve, for our loss is heaven's gain. The Lord saith, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Written by his aunt, Mrs. Walter Cook. *The Smithville Review*, Smithville, DeKalb County, Tennessee, October 3, 1940.

LEONARD J. SMITHSON, 88, living at Keystone Cedars, Cedar Rapids, died peacefully in his sleep at 2:15 a.m. Friday July 7, 2006, from cancer. Services will be Monday at Murdock Funeral Home, Perry. Burial with military rites will be Monday will be at Violet Hill Cemetery. The Rev. Clare DeBoef will officiate. Friends and family may call from 6 to 7 p.m. today at the funeral home. There will be a Masonic rites service following the visitation. Leonard was born to W. Blaine and Lena Hall Smithson on May 28, 1918 in Linden. He graduated from Linden Consolidated High School. He married Mary Helen Schuhardt on June 10, 1939. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary Helen; a daughter, Judith Smithson-Hilkin (Jim) of Burlington; a son Leland Smithson (Peggy) of Cedar Rapids; two sisters, Marie Peters of Perry and Juanita JaBaay (Wayne) of Beverly Hills, Florida; and a brother Clifford Smithson of Perry. He is also survived by four grandchildren, John R. Barnes of Des Moines, Jill Myers of Elkhorn, Wisconsin, Kimberly Peterson (Rod) of Columbia, Missouri and Carrie Gray (Matt) of Cedar Rapids; and four great grandchildren. *The Gazette* of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sunday, July 9, 2006, 4-B:1: Sent by Dick Terp of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Patrick J. Murphy of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Craig Dennis (Vietnam War); three brothers and two sisters. Leonard and Mary Helen lived in Mesa, Arizona the last 25 years. They returned to Iowa in 2005 and lived in Keystone Cedars Assisted Living in Cedar Rapids. Leonard kept an optimistic attitude and his great sense of humor even though he had many health obstacles over the years. The family would like to thank the staffs at Keystone Cedars and Amenity Hospital for their supportive, concerned and loving care in the recent months. *The Gazette* Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sunday, July 9th, 2006, 4B:1. [Sent by Patrick J. Murphy of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.]

Michael Lee Smithson, age 63, died Monday, December 25, 2006 at his home in Southern Pines, North Carolina. Born in Kansas City, Missouri to the late Lee Kerby Smithson and Marie Schmidt Smithson, he was a 1961 graduate of East Southern Pines High School. He received his BA from Belmont Abbey College in 1966. He served in the US Air Force during Vietnam and flew over 350 combat missions in AC-47s and B-52s. From 1974 to his retirement in 2004, he worked in the family business, Smithson, Inc. of Southern Pines, a manufacturing operation in Southern Pines. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills since 1975, and served five terms on the Southern Pines Town Council, holding offices of treasurer and mayor pro-tem. He served on the Southern Pines Planning Board and was a volunteer firefighter with the Southern Pines Fire Department from 1977-1997. He spent his retirement years maintaining his horse farm, working on his model train collection and fighting the never ending battle with falling pinecones. He is survived by his wife, Wendy; his sons: Christopher Allen Smithson and his wife, Mary, and Mark Stephen Smithson and his wife, Ashley, all of Southern Pines; his daughter, Dale Marie Smithson of Southern Pines; his brothers: Kenneth Smithson of Southlake, Texas and Buck Smithson of Southern Pines; his sister, Sandy Donovan of Memphis, Tennessee and three grandchildren: Samuel, Mia, and Matthew. *"The Pilot"* of Southern Pines, North Carolina, Dec. ??, 2006. Sent by his aunt Lorna Hilgardner of Independence, Missouri.

ORMAN DALLAS BAILEY, 88 -- Dallas Bailey, 88, Winchester, Indiana died Monday, Nov 20, 2006 at Randolph Nursing Home. He was born October 4, 1918 in Winchester to the late Daniel W. and Ida Mae (Laisure) Bailey. A corporal in the US Marine Corp, he was a veteran of World War II. A graduate of Winchester High School, he attended Earlham College. He worked for 30 years in sales in the glass industry and 16 years in sales in the forging industry, retiring from Teledyne in Portland, Indiana. He was past master of Winchester Masonic Lodge #56, from which he received his 50 year Award of Gold.(2-3-2005) He was past exalted ruler and life member of Elks Lodge #1534, past commander and life member of American Legion Post # 39, life member of the Scottish Rite in Ft. Wayne. A birthright Quaker, he held various offices in the Friends Church. He was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and Mizpah Shrine. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Achsa (Kinney) Bailey, one brother Paul Bailey, and a sister, Delight Jones. Also by an infant sister, Lucille. Survivors include his wife of 26 years, Mary (Haviland) Bailey, Winchester, a daughter, Mary Jo Bailey, Sauk Village, Illinois, four grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. The funeral will be held at 7 pm Wednesday, November 22 at Thayer Funeral Home in Winchester with Pastor Ron Ferguson officiating. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Visitation is 3 to 6 pm Wednesday. An Elks Lodge of Sorrow will be held at 6 pm Wednesday and a Masonic Lodge of Sorrow at 6:30 pm. Memorial contributions may be given to the Friends Church of Winchester with envelopes at the funeral home. *The Winchester, Indiana News Gazette*, Wednesday, November 22, 2006. (revised version printed pg. 2) Sent by his daughter, MaryJo Bailey of Sauk City, Illinois, descendant of Malinda Smithson (1836-1931), dau. of Ira Ellis Smithson, and son of Drummond Smithson.

PERMILIA SMITHSON, --Cross Roads-The death angel visited our community one day last week and claimed for its victim Mrs. Permelia Smithson. She was seventy some odd years of age and professed faith in Jesus Christ a great many years ago. She leaves a husband and six children, several brothers and sisters. Her remains were laid to rest in the Keith Cemetery. No funeral service was held on account of the absence of the preacher. He will hold services for her later on. *The Smithville Review*, Smithville, DeKalb County, Tennessee, April 3, 1924 [John V. Smithson, London]

IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD W. SMITHSON, Jr. Richard W. Smithson, Jr., 58, died Aug. 21, 2005, at an Anchorage hospital of a heart attack. A memorial was held Aug. 27, 2005, at Glacierview Baptist Church. Mr. Smithson was born March 28, 1947. He moved to Anchor Point in 1974 and to Homer in 1979. He was a recognized figure around town, especially at the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon on the Homer Spit. In the last few years he worked with the Independent Living Center. In July 2005 he traveled to Washington, D.C., as chairman of the State Independent Living Council, which he enjoyed greatly. He was able to visit family in Salem on his way back to Alaska. Mr. Smithson is survived by his son and family, Richard Smithson III, Jamie Smithson and Richard Smithson IV, all of Salem, Oregon; his daughter, Tamara Smithson Alba, of Yokohama, Japan; two brothers and a sister. A fund for a bench in his memory at the Fishing Lagoon has been set up at the Independent Living Center, P.O. Box 274, Homer, AK 99603. *HomerNews.com*, Thursday, September 15, 2005 [sent by Debbie Haakenson of Alaska]

WILLIAM SMITHSON - In Loving memory of William Smithson. He was born May 18, 1850, and died October 2, 1927, aged 77 years, 4 months and 14 days. He was married to Permelia Mosier Feb. 2, 1871, and to them was born 9 children-four of whom are dead and five living. He had been a member of the Baptist Church at Mt. Hermon for several years and felt that he had fought a good fight, that he kept the faith and henceforth there was laid up a crown of righteousness. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. R. L. Whitlock and L. W. Beckwith and then his remains were laid to rest in the Keith Cemetery. Written by a friend, Dow Braswell. **The Smithville Review**, Smithville, DeKalb County, Tennessee, October 20, 1927 [sent by John V. SMITHSON of London]



JONESBORO, ARKANSAS MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY:

SMITHSON burials:

Ella Sue	b. Dec. 30, 1896	d. Dec. 7, 1992	Mother
Jay A.	b. July 8, 1893	d. Mary 20, 1970	Father
May A.	b. May 7, 1897	d. July 21, 1976	on same marker with Robert
Robert E.	b. Aug. 4, 1897	d. Jan 12, 1975	married May 25, 1925

SMITHSONS in NATIONAL CEMETERIES

Many of us have relatives buried in National Cemeteries. How does one find where they are buried? You look on the WEB for the: National Cemetery Assn. of the Bureau of Veterans Affairs (VA). Nationwide Gravesite Locator website: <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>:

An example of a listing for a SMITHSON....

Smithson, Franklin H., Tech 4 US Army: Veteran Service Dates: 08/26/1943 - 02/01/1946

Date of Birth: 03/08/1923

Date of Death: 01/18/1956

Date of Interment: 07/07/2001

Buried at: Section 1GA, Site #203

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

2900 Sheridan Road, St. Louis, MO 63125

(324) 260-8691 (314) 260-8692



My Luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying.

--Rodney Dangerfield

OUR PRESENT

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IS A LIFELONG JOURNEY

BY ELAINE M. SMITHSON HOPKINS*

I grew up running free across our farm outside Fort Wayne, Indiana. Many years younger than my siblings, nature entertained me. You might say I was born into a healthy lifestyle. A large garden offered warm tomatoes and crunchy green beans when I needed a between-meals snack. And when my tree house cupboard was bare, it seemed like a short romp through the tall grass and over the fence to where raspberries and grapes were ripe for picking. Sometimes I would climb back up to the top of the world, where my imagination resumed whatever fantasy a little girl could conjure up with blue sky overhead and apple leaves all around.

Sometimes I would trade tranquility for the thrill of my trapeze: a swinging bar hung in a tall old oak. I played there for hours, letting go of the ropes swinging back to hold on only by my knees, pigtails trailing just above the ground. And every spring, the bar was raised to match my winter growth, requiring a jump from tip-toes to pull up for another ride.

That was long ago. And yet, I still prefer to be outdoors instead of in, to walk from a distant parking space instead of circling to find a closer one, and to use fresh fruits and vegetables rather than frozen or from a can. I doubt my parents ever knew they gave me the gift of wellness, but early habits stay with children all their lives and grown-ups help instill good ones.

Our move to east Ohio was our twelfth. In every new location, I looked for a track or exercise class to clear my head and make room for daydreams. Like a lot of Christians, I use long jogs or laps in a pool to appreciate life and give thanks to God. But in move number eight, recreational fitness took a professional turn for me. Because we were a one-car family, I began taking our two toddlers on a city bus to the YMCA, so I could work out. Before I knew it, I was hired to bring women's programming into the new facility. For the next 10 years, the boys attended pre-school, learned to swim and enjoyed summer camp while I was paid to teach healthy living. While carrying son number three, I remember leading 13 aerobics classes per week, some of which were held at the Wesley Foundation where John was director. It has always been a family affair.

The extra income helped us buy a second car and when John was appointed Council Director, requiring a move, I was able to commute to work. By then I had worked with hundreds of men and women in fitness classes and camps. So when our conference camping staff suggested a "Faith and Fitness" event, it was a natural. I loved those times where the health of body and spirit were both celebrated -- out of doors!

Then, somewhere in my mid-thirties I took stock of my life and realized there were things I needed to do soon or they might never be accomplished. I set a goal of earning a master's degree and running a marathon before turning 40. Gratefully, God blessed both and at 38, with John and the boys cheering me on, I completed the Louisville Marathon in the first winter snow. The following spring, I earned an MA degree from Ball State University.

Now in my fifties, some daydreams still find me gazing at a big blue sky from a treetop while others, often from my treadmill, whisk me to a country road, watching fields and forests go by, in training for *Louisville*. Working out remains a wonderful escape from the busyness of life. I am certain I was given the gift of a healthy lifestyle as a child, and as with all gifts from God, I can both enjoy and honor it by continuing to make wellness a way of life.

**Elaine Hopkins leads a six-person management and training group, Hopkins Associates, which specializes in work force wide quality change management for business, health care and industry. She is married to Bishop John Hopkins.*

Found in: "East Ohio Joining Hands", April 2005 issue, pg. 6: Sent by John V. Smithson.



NEW TWIGS ON THE FAMILY TREE

Ken and Debbie Cabbage of Mesa, Arizona welcomed their first grandchild, **Matthew Steven O'Day** on July 6, 2006. He weighed in at 8lbs 10oz arriving at 1:38 am in the morning. He is the first child for Kari Cabbage and Steven O'Day. Debbie is a descendant of Matthew Smitson (abt 1770/1780 – 1850/1855) of Fleming Co., Kentucky who md. Nancy Ann Williams and had a son:

William J. Smitson (1832-1866) md. Elizabeth Anderson

Ella Smitson (b. Dec. 1871 of Jackson Co., MO md. Wm. Chaney

William J. Chaney (1890-1975) md. Ellen Rosewall

Alva Irene Chaney (1913-1935) md. Emil Marchetti

Barbara Ann Marchetti (1934-1983) md Delbert Schoonover

Debra Ann Schoonover and Ken Cabbage of Mesa, Arizona

Lillian Cassandra Brown, daughter of Brian and Caribeth Brown is the newest twig on Dennis Fielder Smithson's family tree. Lillie was born on 17 Aug 2006. Her 2nd great grandfather, Dennis Fielder Smithson (1848-1921) married Daisy Adelle Gardner of Kentucky. Their daughter Carolyn Fielder Smithson (1914-2004) married John Lewis Durham Jr. and they had a son John Lewis Durham III who married Cassandra James. Their daughter Carolyn Elizabeth "Caribeth" Durham married Brian Brown. Editor thanks Al Baca (first cousin twice removed-in-law) of Huber Heights, Ohio for sending the information.

Lukas Robert Smithson was born January 4, 2007, in Franklin Square Hospital in Baltimore Co., Maryland to Charles Daniel "Chad" and Elizabeth Smithson of Bel Air, Maryland. Lukas is the first grandchild of Carol and William Preston Smithson of Darlington, Maryland. Chad and his brother Christopher T. Smithson are direct descendants of Thomas Smithson (b. 1680-d. 1732) who md. Ann Scott . If you want to see the line back to Thomas you can go to Uncle Chris's Ahnentaphel at:

OUR FUTURE

DNA PROJECT REPORT

by Christopher T. Smithson

We are currently waiting for an update from Christopher Smithson.

SMITHSON FAMILY REUNIONS

Does anyone have Smithson related family reunions that recently met or any that are scheduled for the upcoming year that you'd like to share? Include the date(s), location, contact person name(s), address, email address, and phone number, and the family names that are included.

SMITHSON FAMILY PHOTOS

Mark Smithson is still requesting any and all Smithson family photos to share with everyone. Please submit electronic copies of the pictures, or feel free to contact him to send the copies and he will digitally scan them and return the originals. Please include as much information with the photo as possible such as names, locations, dates, etc.

Email him at smithson.m@gmail.com or msmithso@tampabay.rr.com

SMITHSON QUERIES

Submit Queries on your SMITHSON connections. Be sure to include names, dates and places for each event relative to one family. Type or print clearly. Please use day, month (spelled out) and year system, i.e., 30 Oct. 1820. Submit as many queries as you would like. Be sure to include your name and address on each query submitted. A 3 x 5 card is handy for editor.

Mackie Harper, P. O. Box 434, Bloomfield, MO 63825

Lorna S. Hilgardner, 15305 E. 44th Terrace S., Independence, MO 64055 <lhilgard@kcnet.com>

Judy Lee Watts, 5135 Nolensville Road, Apt. W-7, Nashville, TN 37211 <JudyLeeTN@aol.com>

Helen & Bill White, 4897 N. Farm Road #141, Springfield, MO 65803-7509 <bill-helen@sbcglobal.net> Documenting the descendants of Malachi/Malaki Smithson, who was born abt. 1806 in Pasquotank Co., NC, and died in Stoddard Co., Missouri abt. 1865. For Descendants of Malachi Smithson and Sophia Scott, See: <http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=carolbowman90&id=I8427>

Christopher T. Smithson, 4219 Paddrick Road, Darlington, Maryland 21034-1034 <ctsmithson@peoplepc.com> I am looking for descendants of Clarence Smithson (1891-1918) of Scott County, Missouri. I know he had a son, William R. Smithson (b. 1912) and a daughter, Laura Smithson (b. 1914). Clarence's wife was named Grace and she remarried to a Robert Murphy after Clarence died in 1918. William and Laura do not appear in the 1930 Census as SMITHSONs. Thanks for any help you can provide.

Lisa Newport <lnewporttx@gmail.com> Query at Ancestry Message Boards Oct. 26, 2005; Subject: Help with William Smithson
Hi Everyone! I seem to have hit a road block which I cannot figure out. I'm looking for some information on a Rhonda Roads or Rhodes or Rhody Lucinda Rhoads etc... See where my problem is, I think I may have found one William Smithson or two William Smithsons with very, very close information. Both of my William Smithsons were born in Kentucky, married to someone named Rhonda Rhodes (or a variation of this name) and are born in Nov 1854. My ggg grandmother is Mary Ann Smithson, who was born 14 Mar 1890, so I'm trying to find her parents. The William B. Smithson (B = Baldrige or Ballard) doesn't list Mary as being his daughter however my William Henry Smithson does ... but doesn't list his mother and father. Can anyone help me out? Does anyone know if Mary Ann Smithson's father may have been this William B. Smithson's daughter? Does anyone have any leads for my William Henry Smithson? Thank You!

Maxine Baldwin Westerfield Wilton, P. O. Box 177, Roy, WA 98580 <willma@sprynet.com> I am a descendant of the William (Billy) Smithson and Millie (Mildred Murrell) line who settled in Clinton Co. Ohio (part of which was originally Highland Co.) in the early 1800's. They had ten known children including a daughter Mahala, who was born about 1814. Some of the other children were: Mary Ann who md. Isaac Thornburg; Elizabeth who md. Elmore C. Jones; John M. who md. Mary Moon; Jemima who md. Thomas Hubbard; Juriah who md. William Trenary; Charles Wesley who md, Elizabeth Jane Anchor; Nancy who died after 1900; Emily who md Thomas Trenary and Eveline who md. James Thurman. Mahala Smithson married William Rooks about 1837 in Randolph Co., Indiana I am looking for the death of Mahala Rooks in Marion twp., Grundy Co., Missouri between 1855 and 1860. Her daughter, Millie Rooks (my grandmother) said that Mahala died when she was 9 years old. Millie was born in Oct. of 1846 and would have been about age 9 in 1855. My grandmother, may have erred a bit, since she also said that she was born in St. Joseph, Missouri, which she was not, but born in Marion twp. in Grundy Co., Missouri. She is listed in the 1850 and 1860 Censuses of Grundy Co., Missouri. Two of William Rook's son's, Smithson (Smith) Rooks and Allen (Alden) Rooks were shown in the 1860 Grundy Co., Missouri family, also a Martha Rooks, age 30, born in Indiana. Martha could be William's wife or his sister. Two other children were married and living elsewhere: Louisa Rooks was married to William Boring and living in Ohio and a son, William Harrison Rooks, died in Darke Co., Ohio in 1917 and was a member of the GAR. Another son Isaac Rooks may have joined the military as well, but it is unknown what happened to him after his mother, Mahala died. The Civil War has begun by 1861 and Millie's father, William Rooks, is said to have left Grundy Co. Missouri in Spring of 1862 (taking Millie with him) without telling any of the Rooks family members. He went to Susanville, Lassen Co., California via St. Joseph, Missouri. He was in Benton Co., Oregon by 1870 where he is living alone near Toledo, Oregon, age 47 (age prob. an error). He died in Susanville, California on Sept 14th 1875 and is buried in the city cemetery there.

SMITHSON QUERIES

Addie Rickey, 235 15th St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 <smithsonfamily@gmail.com>

Descendants of Richard Thomas Smithson (23 Dec 1836 - 18 May 1910) and Martha Leonard (1838 - 1918), both born in Ohio, are eligible to join the Descendants of Pocahontas organization. I can provide some data on connections if interested. You can contact: the Pocahontas Foundation, P. O. Box 431, Berryville, Virginia 22611 for forms. Richard and Martha Smithson both died in Helena, Oklahoma. Their seven known children were: Julia Evalina; William Francis; Anna L.; John Wesley; Mary Jane, Henry Almon, and Blanche May Smithson. Only three children are known to have married and had children. I am especially interested in contacting children of Anna L. Smithson who married Jesse Garver in 1891 in Macon County, Illinois and had Ralph W. and David W. Garver. A Bible was found in an antique store in Iowa that had Garver family information. Please get in touch if you are a descendant.

SMITHSON FAMILY EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER

Addie Smithson Dyal Rickey, editor ; 235 15th St. NE, Salem , OR 97301-4228, telephone 503-363-4389

Mark Smithson; 1833 Stancel Drive, Clearwater, FL 33764, telephone 727-523-1292 (Smithson.m@gmail.com OR msmithso@tampabay.rr.com)

The SMITHSON FAMILY EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER is designed to be of help to those who are tracing their connections to SMITHSON families in America. We are especially interested in publishing information on lines which have not previously been published but very willing to up-date and correct earlier published data. As any writer/researcher knows, when something gets into print, there are always NEW items which come to light, typos that need correcting and just plain errors of fact that need the enlightenment of further research.

We would like to include Bible records, marriage licenses, old photographs (with or without exact identification), county court records (deeds, probate settlements, wills), tombstone recordings, biographical sketches, oral history interviews, newspaper obituaries (word-for-word), military and pension data, church items, school graduations, etc. Documentation (when it was done and where copies can be found) is very important but not an absolute necessity.

Ye editor will try to give credit to those who furnish items and articles for publication so please put your name and address on each of the items submitted so that ye editor does not become totally confused. A small sticky address label is very handy for this purpose. Also, please indicate if the item needs to be returned, otherwise they will be filed in the recesses of file folders which may not be indexed by any 'logical' method.

Search the FAMILY ARCHIVES for those long-forgotten items that tell us about your grandfather's and grandmother's families. We hope that you will join with others in furnishing data. Send photocopies to the address below.

This publication is not copyrighted, nor is it ever intended to be copyrighted, so pass the word to any of your kin who may be connected, and send us addresses of those who should be interested. Who is the SOMEONE who has been collecting data on your family??? Let us know who they are, especially if they are not included in the editor's mailing address list. For previous issues of the NEWSLETTER, please go to our website:

<http://www.smithsonfamily.org>

The more we share our information...the more that the information can help solve some of our "loose connections". Since ye editor has an itchy foot and a traveling lap-top, it is hoped that most material will catch up within 6 months. Ye editor hopes that most of you will be patient during that time.