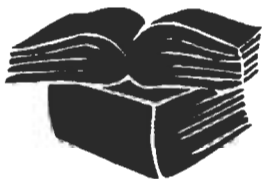




When James Martin "Jeams" McBrayer asked Mr. Akin in 1868 for his daughter's hand in marriage, Mr. Akin said: "Jeams, you are a good man, one of the very best, but my objection to you is that you are so ugly!"

(From *Hop - Skip - Jump* [a short family history] by Reverend T. Marvin McBrayer, son of James Martin and Nancy Akin McBrayer.) (Please see update section for this family.)

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ



We have many sources of information available to us today to help us build on our family history. We must be careful however not to accept everything we see. We must depend on accurate documentation. Some information is passed along by oral tradition. Even when good documentation is available, transcription errors or incorrect understanding may call that information into doubt.

The Mormon Church (LDS) has established the largest genealogical library in the world and it contains millions of records, a portion now available on the Internet. Several genealogy computer programs are supported by Internet web sites. You can find a lot of information but is it right? Look for documentation references. You can find a number of sites that clearly state that William McBrayer was born in Dumfries, Scotland and that his wife's maiden name was Brown. The problem is that we do not have any proof to date that either of these is true. Finding the validity of these statements might even be called our family's "Holy Grail" and the search continues to find accurate documentation.

The following is an example of a transcription error (at least an assumed one). The Mercer County KY 1850 Census is given in part on:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~kymercer/census/1850/369.html> .

That page lists the following:

McBrayer	Sanford	44	m	merchant	KY
	Mary	20	f		KY
	James	11	m		KY
	Martha	8	f		KY

From this you might assume that Sanford is a widower with three children. If you look in other records, such as Carl's book, you will find that Sanford had a wife

Mary. She was born about 1821. It appears that the transcribed age for her should have been 29 or 30 rather than 20, a small but crucial error. It might also be noted that the census has a Henry Campbell, age 24 living with the family. He is listed as a law student. This might be possible when you consider that Sanford was a merchant and a banker and may have had a young law student working for him at the time and he was providing lodging - OF COURSE this is just a *guess*. It might also be noted that on this web page the age of another person is listed as "344", so be careful to accept what you read.

Well-documented sources may be misleading. Martha Jane McBrayer, 4th daughter of first generation David and Elizabeth Campbell McBrayer is shown in family records to have married on 20 February 1764 in Christ Church in Philadelphia to James Robinson. There is a small book "*Pennsylvania Marriages Prior to 1790 - Names of Persons for whom Marriage Licenses Were Issued in the Province of Pennsylvania Previous to 1790*" (Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.). Found on page 157 is the following: 1764, Feb. 20 McBrier, Jane, and James Robinson. Understanding that several spellings of our name were used at that time, we can accept that they married on 20 February 1764, or can we? In the introduction to the book is found the following:

Among the laws agreed upon in England by the Proprietary for the government of the Province of Pennsylvania, was one providing for a registry of marriages, births and deaths. By virtue of this law licenses were issued by the authorities. Although the Assembly frequently declared it "the opinion of this House that the Proprietary or his Deputy Granting Lycenses to marry is not Incident to any authority Granted them by the Royal Charter, nor warranted thereby, nor by any power that we understand they have; but the Granting of such Lycenses is Contrary to Law, & of an Evil Tendency;" the practice did not fall into total desuetude until some years after the formation of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of 1790. Four volumes of these records are in existence, covering a period of not quite forty years. What has become of the earlier registers and those also kept during the Revolution, it has been impossible to ascertain.

The license was issued from the Provincial Secretary's office, and the date prefixed to each name is that of the issuing the same, not that of the marriage. Ministers and others performing the cere-

mony sent forward the penal bond properly signed, whereupon the license was issued. Accounts were kept with these persons, and from the records we glean the following names.

So now the question of the actual marriage is in question. In this case, the church records should be more accurate.

Searching through the 376 page book, no further references were found to McBrayer, Briers or variations thereof. This was not an easy task as there is no uniformity between the various records cited; some are alphabetical, but others are random. One would think that over the period of approximately 30 years, there would have been other kin married, but none were found. One explanation for this would be the following from the book:

Severe laws were passed in the early days of the Province against clandestine marriages, and an act of the Assembly of 1683 proposed a law for "young Men's Marrieing at such an age." The issuing of a license was not obligatory, but was intended for those cases where the banns were not published or the marrying in church dispensed with, and as a protection to ministers and others performing the ceremonies.

Or maybe being on the frontier they just ignored the rules from Philadelphia.

INTERESTING INFORMATION



The American Heritage Dictionary has the following definition: **cairn** (kârn) *n.* A mound of stones erected as a memorial or marker. [Middle English *carne*, from Scottish Gaelic *carn*, from Old Irish.] —**cairned** *adj.* On recent PBS showing of "Victory Garden" [Program 2427], the host visited Scotland and was touring various gardens. During the tour the guide showed a cairn and explained the origin. He said that when Scots gathered for a battle, they brought along a stone from their farm or village. They piled them up at the mustering place. At the end of the battle, the survivors picked up a stone when they left. The general then could count stones and determine how many of his soldiers were lost. Those stones were then piled to become a memorial.

PLACE NAMES IN SCOTLAND

You may be interested in the derivations of some place names in Scotland. The following definitions were given in the 15 August 1998 issue of *Scottish Snippets*.

"Ben" - a mountain or hill, such as Ben Nevis or Ben Lomond. From the Gaelic word "beinn".

"Inch" - an island or area of low-lying ground near a river, as in Inchkeith or Abbotsinch. From the Gaelic word "innis".

"Kirk" - a church as Kirkintilloch, Kirkcaldy or Kirkwall. It is derived from the old Norse word "kirkja" (and/or the German word kirchen).

"Blair" - a field or a plain as in Blairgowrie and Blair Atholl, derived from "blar".

"Eilean" - an island, Eilean Donan being the most well known.

"Glas" - green as in Glasgow, the dear green place.

"Dun" - a type of small iron age fort or a fortified dwelling, as in Dundee or Dunbar. It sometimes becomes "Dum" as in Dumfries and Dumbarton.

"Kyle" - a narrow stretch of water as in Kyle of Lochalsh and Kyleakin.

"Kin" - end or head as in Kingussie or Kinlochleven (head of Loch Leven).

"Aber" or **"Inver"** - the mouth of a river as in Aberdeen (mouth of the Dee) and Inverness.

"Kip" - a jutting or projecting point of a hill, the peak. Inverkip has both a hill and a river mouth!

NIGEL TRANTER (1909-2000)

In November 1999, the well-known Scottish novelist, Nigel Tranter, OBE, celebrated his 90th birthday at his home in Gullane, East Lothian. He was in fine form on that occasion - regaling people with his stories, as he loved to do. He was still working away on his latest novels, taking notes during his walks on the sands at Aberlady Bay on the shores of the river Forth, east of Edinburgh, in his ubiquitous notebook. Unfortunately, in January he became one of the casualties of the influenza outbreak which gripped Scotland and passed away suddenly on Sunday, 8 January. Magnus Linklater, the chairman of the Scottish Arts Council said that he popularized Scottish history more than anyone else in the last 100 years. Others commented that the only history many Scots knew had been learned from reading Tranter's stories, which were as historically accurate as he could make them. He disliked conventional "history" and brought the past to life by his storytelling.

Nigel Tranter published his first book in 1934 - "The Forticles and Early Mansions of Southern Scotland" illustrated with his own sketches. His wife May encouraged him to write a romantic novel "Trespass" set in the Highlands. It was at this stage that he moved to Aberlady - he only moved from there about a year ago. During World War II he served in the Royal Artillery during the war but still managed to write another five books during that time. After the war, he became a full-time writer, producing first children's books and romantic novels based in Scotland plus 14 Westerns (under the name-de-plume of Nye Tredgold). His first major book with a real historic background was "The Queen's Grace" about Mary Queen of Scots, published in 1953 followed by "MacGregor's Gathering" in 1957, the first in a trilogy on Rob Roy MacGregor. In 1969 Tranter produced the first of his famous trilogy on Robert the Bruce. Up until this time many of his books had been a mixture of romance, Wild Westerns and children's books. After the success of his Robert the Bruce novels, he concentrated far more on historical subjects. His "Story of Scotland" is a history of Scotland which, like all his other books, is written in a style which sweeps the reader along with the story and makes you want to turn the next page to find out what is going to happen next.

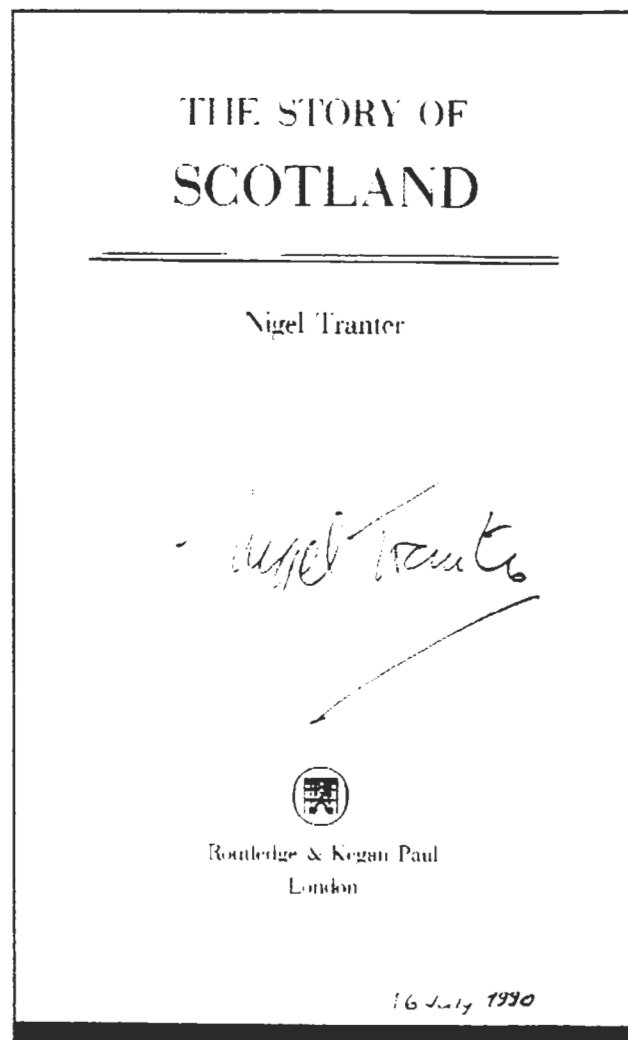
In all, Nigel Tranter published 130 books and in 1998 he was still writing, with books on the Vikings and one set in the time of King James IV. In 1999 he was still using his battered typewriter, using the handwritten notes he had jotted down.

On 16 July 1990, during the last Family Tour in Scotland, we had the opportunity to visit Mr. Tranter in Aberlady. He was a very gracious host at the old stonecutter's cottage he called home. He was dressed in coat and tie, and his housekeeper told us this was the way he worked. In the mornings he would stroll through the woods and along the beach jotting notes in a small notebook. After lunch and a nap, he would begin typing on the typewriter mentioned above. His notes often contained sketches; he was a talented artist and some of his sketches have been used in previous issues of *In Defiance*.

He was conversant with our family's history, however, no known mention was made of that in his books (perhaps we have sneaked in on some yet to be published books - he had many in the "bank" in 1990 and he continued to write.)

His books are available from several booksellers in the U.S.

(A portion of the above was adapted from an extensive article on the web site:
<http://scottishculture.about.com/culture/scottishculture/library/weekly/aa011400a.htm>)



"History of Scotland" front piece signed by Nigel Tranter on 16 July 1990



TO NEW MEMBERS

Heather Ann Barnes is 9th generation descended from William through the Brier branch. Her g-g-g-grandmother was Cynthia Brier (B 228/6). Heather has provided some update information which will be published in a future edition of *ID*. She is an Accounting Technician with the USDA Forest Service in Sitka, Alaska. (She is our second member now living in Alaska.)

Mattie Sue McBrayer Ragan (M 133-2/3, 8th gen, William, third child of George Worthy and Ethel Todd McBrayer) and her husband Max Ragan live in Buchanan, GA. Mattie Sue was a local committee member for the 5th National Reunion held this past year in Bremen, GA.

Linda Anne Holcomb Bay (M 190/4D1, 8th gen, William) and her husband Clyde live in Mesa, AZ. Linda has provided extensive updates for her branch of the family. Parts of these are given in the update section of this newsletter. You might find these particularly interesting.

Doris Katherine Turner Osten (M 82/8F1e1, 8th gen, William through son Samuel and grandson David) is our newest Life Member. She and her husband Reuben Alexander "Pete" Osten live in Nashville, TN. Doris has been a very active Family Association member having given outstanding support during the last two National Reunions.



FUTURE MEMBERS

Nicholas Andrew Cottle was born May 27, 1999, in Lexington, KY, to **Daniel Lee Cottle** and his wife **Linda Kay Ross Cottle**. Dan is a senior research analyst at the University of KY Medical Center. Nicholas joins 2-year-old sister Rebekah and 7-year-old brother Matthew Lee as a member of the family.

(Submitted by Family Association member **Alene Scott Cottle** [M 456/9H1, 8th, line of William], Daniel's mother.)

Genevieve Ann Collins was born December 29, 1999 in Massachusetts to **Ann Ryan Collins** and her husband **Sean Collins**. Their home is in Wellesly Hills, MA.

(Submitted by Family Association member **Beverly Carmichael Ryan** [M 3/1E7b3A6, 7th, David], Ann's mother.)



SICK CALL

Family Association member Susan McBrayer reports that her father **William Paul McBrayer** (M 457, 8th gen, William) is quite ill, having been diagnosed with cancer last summer. She says he would enjoy hearing from family members. Paul's e-mail address is pmac@blueridge.net and his snail mail address is: 131 Creekside Drive, Forest City, NC

28043-3250.



WEDDINGS

Sunny Pak and **Jeffrey Michael Asbury**, M.D. (M 139,9th, William) were united in marriage December 4, 1999 at United Centenary Methodist Church in Lawton, OK Reverend Seung Do Park officiated. A reception was held at Lawton Country Club. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bongsik Pak of Lawton OK. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Myung Soon Chung of South Korea. Parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. E. Michael Asbury of El Reno, OK. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Edmundson of Hollis, OK and the late Edwin Earl and Gladys Marie McBrayer Asbury.

Jacky Lee Hong, Portland, OR., was the matron of honor. The bride received her BSN from the University of Oklahoma. The groom received his BS from Oklahoma Baptist University, and his MS and M.D from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. Following a honeymoon in Negril, Jamaica, the couple returned to Oklahoma City where the bride is a Registered Nurse at University Hospital and the groom is an Internal Medicine Resident at University Hospital. (Submitted by Carl B. McBrayer, Family Historian and granduncle of Dr. Asbury)

The marriage of Miss **Alice Coles McBrayer** (M 338-5/1B, 8th gen, William), daughter of Mrs. Reuben Hill McBrayer Jr. of Norfolk and the late Dr. McBrayer, to **Thomas Vaden Warren Jr.**, son of the Honorable and Mrs. Thomas Vaden Warren of Crewe, took place September 11, 1999, at the Church of the Good Shepherd. The Rev. Ross McGowan Wright officiated.

The bride is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coles IV of Chatham and Mrs. Reuben Hill McBrayer and the late Mr. McBrayer of Danville. The groom is the grandson of Mrs. William Franklin Edwards and the late Mr. Edwards of Emporia, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Almon Vaden Warren of Fredericksburg.

The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Dr. Reuben Hill McBrayer III of Jacksonville, Fla., on behalf of their father. Mrs. Kamie Parker McBrayer was her sister-in-law's matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Anne Powell Warren of Atlanta, Ga., and

Elizabeth Scott Warren of Richmond, sisters of the groom, Lanier Clement Coles of Beijing, China, cousin of the bride, Eliza Middleton Fairfax Berkley of Norfolk, Anne Mercer Brockenbrough of Athens, Ga., Katherine Ann Morgan of Atlanta, Ga., and Patricia Jenkins Shotton of Virginia Beach.

Thomas Vaden Warren was his son's best man. Groomsmen were Wilson Allen Warren of Charlottesville, brother of the groom, Walter Coles VI of New York City, cousin of the bride, William Lee Chaney III of Kenbridge, Clay Miller Coleman of Alexandria, Wade Blanton Jones of Charlottesville, Jonathan Edward Pruden of Virginia Beach, and Gregory Dale White of Lexington, Ky.

William Richard Gwathmey and Michael Warren Roberts were crucifers. Readers were Amy Fleming Moomaw of Charlotte, N.C., and Katrina Leigh South of Paris, France. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. After the honeymoon, the couple will reside in Richmond.

(The bride's mother Sarah is a Family Association member. The wedding report is from the Gateway Virginia web site www.gatewayva.com/rtd/sunday/weddings/war12.shtml.)

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Whisman of Wetumpka, AL, announce the engagement of their daughter, **Lisa Marie**, to **J. Scott McBrayer**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andy McBrayer of Columbus, MS. The wedding is planned for Saturday, September 25, 1999 at six o'clock in the evening at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Homewood, AL.

Miss Whisman is the granddaughter of Mrs. Myrtle Whisman and the late Mr. James Whisman of New Castle, DE; and the late Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Benton of Goodwater, AL. She attended the University of Montevallo and is employed in Birmingham, AL at Ridout's-Brown Service.

Mr. McBrayer is the grandson of Mrs. Ellen McBrayer and the late Mr. Webster McBrayer of Columbus, MS, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Hisaw of Louisville, MS. He graduated from Samford University with a BS in Management and from Jefferson State Community College with a BA in Mortuary Science. He is employed in Homewood, AL at Ridout's Valley Chapel. Mr. McBrayer is a member of the Oxmoor Rotary Club, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Homewood Chamber of Commerce.

(The Birmingham News, 12 Sep 1999. The family connection of the McBrayers is at present unknown.)

TALK ABOUT INFLATION!

THE INDEPENDENT DISTILLING CO.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

These Special Prices are good only until
December 23rd.

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SPECIAL OFFER No. 1</p> <p>5 Quarts Old Fashion Sour Mash \$5.00 1 Quart Special Select FREE 1.75 8 Quarts ALL WHISKEY "NEW" \$6.75</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">ALL FOR \$4.75</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">WE PAY THE EXPRESS</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SPECIAL OFFER No. 2</p> <p>4 Quarts Standard XX \$3.15 4 Quarts Old Fashion Sour Mash 4.00 2 Quarts Kentucky Pride FREE 3.00 10 Quarts ALL WHISKEY "NEW" \$10.15</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">ALL FOR \$7.15</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">WE PAY THE EXPRESS</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SPECIAL OFFER No. 3</p> <p>4 Quarts Standard XX \$3.15 4 Quarts Superb XXX 3.50 4 Quarts Old Fashion Sour Mash 4.00 4 Quarts Old McBrayer FREE 8.00 16 Quarts ALL WHISKEY "NEW" \$18.65</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">ALL FOR \$12.65</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">WE PAY THE EXPRESS</p>

THE INDEPENDENT DISTILLING CO.

Above is shown a portion of an advertisement from the Independent Distilling Co. dated December 1905. Note the price of the last named whiskey! At the regular price shown on this page "Old McBrayer" was the most expensive brand. Independent Distilling was located in Kansas City, MO. Some of their own whiskey brands shown on other pages of the ad sold as low as \$ 1.85 per gallon, and the "best" port wine was 78¢ per quart.



ROBERT MCBRAYER NAMED DIRECTOR OF SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT OFFICE AT NASA'S MARSHALL CENTER

(News Release - Marshall Space Flight Center - Oct. 6, 1999)
 Robert O. McBrayer has been named director of the new Systems Management Office at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. The

office, created in a recent reorganization of the Center, will help coordinate technical, schedule and budgetary commitments.

As the group's director, McBrayer will lead independent cost assessments and cost forecasting, participate in strategic planning, control the export of technical and intellectual property to other countries, and work with other Marshall directorates to assess and improve program and project management processes and procedures. He will report to Center Director Arthur G. Stephenson.

McBrayer brings to his new position more than 25 years of project management experience.

He began his federal career in 1963 at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. In 1966, he transferred to Marshall as a Skylab crew interface coordinator.

While in that position, he received a NASA invention award for improving the quality of astronaut survival equipment and reducing spacecraft weight for launch.

Subsequent positions at Marshall include deputy manager in the Microgravity Science and Applications Projects Office; manager of the Tethered Satellite System Project; manager of the Lunar Ultraviolet Telescope Experiment Task Team; and mission manager of the First International Microgravity Laboratory Spacelab Mission.

He served as a member of a NASA-wide team that developed a new and innovative process for NASA program and project management. Most recently, he was deputy director of Marshall's Safety and Mission Assurance Office.

McBrayer grew up in Temple, Ga., where he graduated from Temple High School in 1958. He received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta in 1962. He has received many distinguished awards including the Director's Commendation Award and the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal. He is a member of the National Space Club and vice president of programs in the Marshall Management Association.

He and his wife, the former Rebecca Morris, also of Temple, have two married sons, Mark and Michael, and two grandchildren, Avery and Dalton.

Robert is the grandson of Robert Candler (M 347, 6th gen, William) and Mattie Lou McBrayer and the son of Paul Franklin McBrayer.

In early January 2000, his name also showed up in an ebay (Internet) auction for certificate of appreciation to a team member for the IML-1 (International Microgravity Laboratory) and a flag flown on the Space Shuttle during the IML-1 mission from January 22 to 30, 1992. Robert was the Mission Manager.



Most of the family has heard of McBrayer, Kentucky, but few probably know for whom it was named and the circumstances. The following article should make it clear.

"No history of Anderson County would be complete without a mention of that man whose individual efforts did much for the upbuilding of the county—Judge Win. H. McBrayer. He was the son of Andrew and Martha Blackwell McBrayer, sturdy, upright Scotch-Irish people, and they were among the first settlers of this county. Judge McBrayer was born at the old homestead, two and a half miles from Lawrenceburg, December 10, 1821. By every tie he was closely identified with his home county, having in 1849 married Miss Henrietta Daviess, granddaughter of Captain William Wallace. In a few years she passed away, leaving an only daughter, Henrietta, who became the wife of Col. D. L. Moore of Mercer County. Some years later Judge McBrayer married another daughter of Capt. Wallace, Miss Mary Wallace, of Madison County, although born in Anderson.

Until 1870 he was a prominent dry goods merchant of Lawrenceburg, but having in 1855 embarked in the shipping of mules to the south, he lost heavily and became deeply involved in debt. In order to recoup, he gave up the mercantile business and devoted his attention to a distillery he had started some years before on a picturesque little stream, named by his wife, "Cedar Brook." The brand of whiskey assumed the name and soon rose to a preeminent position among Bourbon brands. Judge McBrayer possessed the Irish wit and cheer, and the sturdy Scotch industry and honesty, and long after his death one frequently heard quoted some of his ready wit. God gave him a broad

mind, a clear brain and a generous heart. William H. McBrayer was Judge of Anderson County from 1851 to 1856, and served in the State Senate in 1857 - '61. He was a leading member of the Presbyterian church, being ruling elder for a number of years. It was largely due to his liberal munificence that a church of this denomination was built in this town. He gave 30,000 to a chair for the study of the Bible at Central University, and his silent charities were numberless. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity in Lawrenceburg for many years. Judge McBrayer worked for the building of the railroad through here with boundless zeal, as a strong prejudice existed against it, and many opposed its construction. He canvassed the county from end to end, speaking in every district, donating the right of way through much land and buying stock when confidence was at lowest ebb. He was a director up to the time of his death and the directors were honorary pallbearers at his funeral, and the Southern Road ran special draped trains from Louisville, Lexington and Harrodsburg on that occasion. **The station, McBrayer, in this county, was named for him.**

Judge McBrayer died December 6, 1888, leaving a large estate. The county mourned the loss of an honest, public-spirited, democratic and unostentatious citizen." (*Anderson News Supplement of 1906* from the book *History of Anderson County* by Major Lewis W. McKee and Mrs. Lydia K. Bond, 1937, Clearfield Publishing, Frankfort, KY)

William Harrison McBrayer was third generation descended from James.

While McBrayer, KY, was described as a rail stop, there have been other references to it which indicate it was more than a stop. Last fall, an old whiskey jug was put up for auction. The jug was for "Old Joe" whiskey and the distillery, stated as the oldest in Kentucky, was located in McBrayer. From several sources it has been determined that the name of the distillery was the Prentice Distillery. The owner was Joseph Prentice and the whiskey was then named "Old Joe." The distillery was eventually purchased by T. B. Ripy who earlier had been a co-owner of a distillery in Tyrone, KY, (close to Lawrenceburg) with W. H. McBrayer. Mr. Ripy bought Judge McBrayer out in about 1870 that is before the Judge had his own distillery which was north

of McBrayer. The Cedar Brook which skirted the Judge's distillery runs roughly east and west at the south edge of the current town of Lawrenceburg.

"An Electronic Guide to Kentucky Place Names" and the "U.S. Gazetteer" recognize McBrayer, Anderson County, KY, as a populated place. A portion of the USGS Digital Gazetteer topographic map is shown below:



The highway running diagonally on the right is the Bluegrass Parkway and the roughly north-south highway is U.S. 127 to Lawrenceburg and Frankfort. The river to the left side is the Salt River.

If one searches the Yahoo Internet Yellow Pages, you can get a listing for McBrayer, KY, but nothing seems to be there. The closest I could come was a fast food restaurant a short distance away, probably on U.S. 127.

Other McBrayer named objects recognized in the Kentucky Atlas are McBrayer Cemetery and Road in Rowan County, and McBrayer Drive in Harrodsburg, Mercer County.

CARING FOR YOUR FAMILY ARCHIVE

All of us have some kind of document or object of family interest that we want to keep safe. The following article is modified from advice given by the National Archives of Australia and was obtained from their web

site: (www.naa.gov.au/pulicat/advices/index.htm)

In recent times, interest in genealogy and family history research has grown rapidly. We now also have an increased understanding of the need to preserve records of the past. Many families have collected archival material relating to their own history. These collections may include books, such as Bibles; loose documents, such as birth, death or marriage certificates; school reports; photographs; and ephemeral material such as postcards, tickets and medals.

Taking proper care of these precious collections will enable future generations to use and enjoy the records of their heritage. Preserving them can be achieved in a variety of ways. These range from detailed treatments performed by a professional conservator to more basic preventive measures which anyone can employ to help extend the life of their collection. Critical factors to consider in ensuring the preservation of archival records are packaging, storage, handling and use.

Packaging

Prior to packaging, it is important to ensure that the item is free from dust and that it is unaffected by mold insects or active corrosion. Affected items should be isolated and advice on how to deal with them should be sought from a professional conservator. The best kinds of packaging material should provide protection both from inherent chemical degradation and from damage caused by external elements such as light, moisture, and airborne pollutants such as dust, soot and insect sprays. Where possible, all items should be individually packed. This helps avoid any further degradation problems occurring from contact or movement. Individual packaging ranges from simply wrapping each item in an appropriate acid free paper, tissue, or plastic bag to more elaborate enclosures such as seamless envelopes or prefabricated boxes. Investing in good packaging will help extend the lifespan of your collection.

A number of suppliers specialize in a range of archival packaging products suitable for housing documents, photographs and ephemera. These products are not always cheap, but should be seen as an investment. Alternatively, some products readily available from supermarkets offer a reasonable level of protection. Zip lock sandwich bags and oven bags are useful for small loose items. Plastic "display" or "view" books, also

available from supermarkets and stationers, offer good protection for documents of a larger (letter) size. These products are made from polypropylene, polyethylene and polyester (Mylar), and are relatively stable. However, plastic is not a suitable enclosure for use in humid climates, as condensation can form inside the plastic sleeves, leading to sticking and mold growth. In a humid environment it is much safer to use paper envelopes or sleeves, or to interleave or wrap items in paper before placing them in plastic enclosures. Paper, tissue, archival foams, and bubble pack are suitable materials to be used as shock absorbing packaging for three-dimensional objects. Newspaper and colored paper should not be used. Large items such as plans and posters tend to tear easily due to their size and because they tend to sag, therefore the use of protective packaging is important to ensure their preservation. Plastic sleeves, folders and postage cylinders are suitable for the storing of these items. Tissue paper can also be used to interleave and roll items to minimize abrasion, ink transfer and adhesive transfer from other plans.

Choosing the right paper products for wrapping and packaging is crucial. One supplier listed at the end of this article, stocks a good range of quality papers which include acid free paper products which are manufactured according to the specifications for permanent paper. Good quality art papers, such as water color paper, can also be useful.

Once individual items have been enclosed, they need to be placed in a container such as a box, again the suppliers generally stock a good range of such boxes. A cheaper alternative would be to obtain from the supermarket a clean polystyrene box with a fitted lid, the type without prefabricated holes, used for packing vegetables.

Storage

Once the records are appropriately packed, they need to be stored in the right location. The chosen area should be clean, dust free, fairly dark and maintained at a stable temperature and humidity level, ie not too dry or damp, not too hot or cold. Where possible the area chosen should also be fairly well ventilated to inhibit mold growth. Areas inside the house, such as under the bed or at the bottom of a chest of drawers can be suitable, however, avoid areas which are close to water pipes, heaters and food. Storing records near external

walls should also be avoided as these are high fluctuation areas for temperature and humidity. In areas which might be flood prone, try to place things above known flood levels. Care should also be taken to prevent insects or vermin attacking records. Don't use insecticides in direct contact with records and be careful with use of sprays. The best way to deal with pests is to try and keep them out of the area through good housekeeping and using baits and mini strips so that the whole area is protected.

Non-paper based materials such as family videos, coins, medals, gramophone records, and textile materials require similar storage conditions as described above. Excessive heat and humidity, insect attack and light, are again the main concerns for these types of media. Textiles, fur and leather are susceptible to mold growth in humid conditions and insect attack, and wood has a tendency to crack in dry conditions. Textiles fade in light, video tapes are ruined by high temperatures, and metal corrodes in humid/wet conditions. It is important to make an effort to inspect the storage area regularly so that any problems can be dealt with quickly. Try to look inside boxes or containers at least every six to 12 months.

Handling and use

Try to avoid excessive handling of historical material. One way to minimize direct handling of items is by storing them in plastic bags or view books. These products allow you to view each item without touching the surface of the items, and are especially useful for photographs and paper-based items. Make sure your hands are really clean, dry and free from moisturizers before you examine records, especially photographs. It is best to use white cotton gloves which can be purchased from suppliers or some supermarkets. If records are fragile, extra care should be taken. Handle things slowly and gently, make sure they are well supported on a table or stiff cardboard. If you have to do work with the records, make sure the work space is clean and not too cluttered. Don't place food or drinks nearby and use a pencil rather than pens or ink markers to take notes. Large items such as posters and plans should be handled with added care as they are often fragile and difficult to maneuver. Try to handle these items as little as possible. If you need to move a large flat item, make sure all the sides and edges are fully supported by placing a large piece of paper or cardboard underneath. It is best to have someone else

available to help you move large, unwieldy items to avoid damage. Be particularly careful with large items which have been tightly rolled, as any attempt to force the item flat will certainly cause damage. Three-dimensional objects should also be handled with care. Items that are small enough to pick up should have the bulk of the weight supported in your hands. The weakest areas on most objects are where there is a joint, therefore avoid picking up items by the handles, spouts or any other attachments. Moving large and/or heavy objects should be planned with caution.

Display

If you want to display any of your archival records, it is better to have them copied and to display the copies rather than originals. Even short bursts of exposure to light can cause severe fading and deterioration of some records. Watercolors are particularly susceptible to fading caused by light as there is very little pigment in the paint medium. Displaying such artworks should be approached with caution and a conservator should be consulted. If you must display originals, have them mounted and framed by a reliable, quality framer. Ask them to use archival quality materials, and discuss the methods they use to adhere your item to the mount. There are various techniques used to mount works for framing, however, when using an adhesive method, the smallest amount of adhesive possible should be applied to the smallest area possible on the item. Some commercial conservators also offer mounting as a service, and can suggest methods of framing which will least affect, and best protect, your item. Choose a place to hang the frame that does not receive direct sunlight or strong artificial light. If you suspect that they may be fading remove them from display immediately. Areas above or near fireplaces where there is heat and rising soot should not be considered as a potential hanging space for your item. If you don't plan to display originals, it is still a good idea to have records copied, especially if they are very old, fragile, unusual or historically significant. Copies can then be provided to another family member for care, and in the event of a disaster, such as flood or fire, your records will not be completely lost.

High value records

If an item in your family collection is of significant monetary value, or culturally important and in poor condition, it may be worthwhile consulting a professional conservator for advice about preservation

options. This can be expensive, but again should be seen as protecting an investment. There are a number of conservators who work in private practice around the country. If you approach a conservator don't be afraid to ask questions to establish their ability to do the job properly. Ask them about their qualifications, experience and view a portfolio of their work.

Common problems and questions

Sticky tape

Never use sticky tape to repair paper or photographs. The adhesive on sticky tape will cause tacky yellow stains to appear on your object. These stains and the remainder of the tape are difficult to remove. If the problem is extensive seek the advice of a conservator.

Don't use colored papers for packaging, not even plain brown papers. These papers generally contain an acidic component which can cause more harm to your records than good, and some colored papers may also cause staining.

What paper should I buy?

Don't always assume that the words 'acid-free' and 'archival' mean that a product is safe. Sometimes these words are used creatively. Look for materials which are also described as 'wood free', 'lignin free', 'alkaline buffered', or 'permanent'. If you are buying materials to use with photographs, ask if they have passed the 'Photographic Activity Test' (PAT test). Suppliers should be able to provide you with this information.

What photo albums should I use?

One of the major problems with photo albums is the type of plastic used to cover the photographs. ***Don't use PVC plastic sleeves, folders or albums***, as they give off damaging vapors. These types of plastics are often identifiable by a smell very similar to that of the interior of a new car. Photo albums with sticky pages are also unsuitable as the removal of photographs from the pages becomes increasingly difficult as the adhesive ages. Look for products made from polypropylene, polyethylene and polyester/Mylar, or products described as "copy safe" or "photo safe." Also, suitable are plain paper albums utilizing photo corners, or albums with plastic pockets.

Lamination for display and protective coating

The lamination technique usually results in a plastic product being adhered onto the surface of an object, ie,

heat lamination on posters. ***This technique should be avoided at all costs.*** Once the lamination is applied, it cannot be easily removed and will result in the slow deterioration of your item. If you wish to display an item, consult a quality framer or conservator, who can advise you on the best and safest display techniques for your item. Please remember, don't be afraid to ask questions. You are entitled to quality products and services.

The life of your records

Although the lifespan of your records is largely dependent on the conditions they are placed under, it is important to understand that no matter what type of records you have, paper or non-paper based, all materials will degrade over time. Certain materials are susceptible to deterioration in particular ways because of their chemical properties, and the rate of deterioration also differs.

The aim of this article is to provide you with a basic understanding of the factors which can affect your records and how you can take steps to help extend the life of your collection. However, all record formats are not the same. If you are concerned about an item, it would be worth your while to seek some guidance from a professional conservator, who can provide you with information and advice specifically for your item.

One supplier of archival storage materials and conservation supplies is:

Gaylord Bros.
P.O. Box 4901
Syracuse, NY 13221-7957

www.gaylord.com/archival
Help Line 1-800-428-3631
or archival@gaylord.com
Customer Service 1-800-634-6307
Fax 1-800-272-3412

Your local library or art museum may be able to recommend a source they use for conservation supplies or assistance..



Genealogists are time unravelers.

OBITUARIES

Obituaries can be a valuable resource for the genealogist. Missing bits of information can be gleaned from a well-written obituary, but sometime they lead to disappointment because one cannot make a link between the deceased and their immediate family and others of the surname. Sometimes though you get lucky by having a helper.

For some time now, your editor has been contributing to an Internet-based site "Obituary Daily Times." Contributors provide a formatted input of obituaries and death notices to the data base. The contributors receive back on a daily basis consolidated reports running to thousands of names, mostly from the U.S. and Canada. The reports are searchable and once an obituary of interest is found, the contributor can be contacted for the full newspaper sketch. There are some contributors that go beyond the call of duty and provide additional materials which greatly assist the researcher.

A case in point where the contributor made an obituary meaningful follows. First an obituary was requested and the following was received:

LILLIE ANN LIMBERT McBRAYER, 56, of Arkadelphia, died April 21, 1999 at Baptist Medical Center-Arkadelphia. She was born April 12, 1943 in Poinsett County, daughter of Lee E. and Lillie Mae Simpson Limbert. She was co-owner of Leisure Word at DeGray Lake and a member of Weiner Christian Church.

Survivors include her husband, Edward A. McBrayer, a daughter, Stephanie Self of Little Rock; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. LEO LIMBERT of Weiner; a brother, Harold Limbert of Jonesboro; and 2 sisters, Molly Lancaster of Redfield and Brenda Davis of Jonesboro.

Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Ruggles-Wilcox Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Kenneth Bray officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Clark County Library or the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, c/o Ruggles-Wilcox Funeral Home.

Family visitation is from 6-8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

(The Daily Siftings Herald 4-23-1999 page 2 c-6.)

With this information, it was not possible to clearly identify Mrs. McBrayer. Carl's book lists two Edward Arnold McBrayers - father and son - but the wife of Senior was not Lillie and nothing was given for the Junior.

The contributor then came back with the following newspaper article:

LOG CABIN STILL HOME FOR DeGRAY RESIDENT

The Susquicentennial
A Celebration of Arkansas
By Doris Lisemby
Special to the Standard

Some day when you feel in a nostalgic mood drive out to the DeGray community and visit Versie McBrayer, who is a very charming lady.

In the meantime, let me introduce you to **VERSIE FRANCIS McBRAYER**. She was born on April 19, 1904. She was one of eight children born to Green Andrew and Lucy Jane Bridges Francis, who lived in the DeGray community. Versie's paternal grandparents were Bill and Fannie Francis. She doesn't remember much about her maternal grandparents, but she thinks they lived in the Hollywood community. Versie is the only survivor of the eight Francis children.

When asked about her childhood home, she replied, "It was the greatest home in the world to me." Even though the home was a modest one-room log house with a dog-trot hall, it was her home and she loved it.

She remembers how neighbors helped each other in those days when a need arose. If a house burned and needed to be rebuilt, the neighbors had a house raising, and the house was soon ready for the family. The men cut the logs, hauled the lumber and erected the new house.

The woman of the prospective new home cooked enough food for the men, their wives, and their children. Sometimes she baked pies and cakes for two or three days ahead of time. A long table made out of rough lumber was built in the back yard where the food was served.

Log rollings were also a community affair. If a farmer needed to get several acres of land cleared for farm land, his neighbors came to help. The trees were cut down, sawed into logs and rolled into a huge pile, Small limbs and underbrush were piled on top of the log heap. Soon a fire was built and one could see the blaze and smoke for miles as the logs burned.

The women also prepared food for log rollings, so it was not all work but also a social gathering.

Versie grew up on a farm which had 130 acres of farm, pasture, and timber land. Her family raised corn, cotton, peanuts, potatoes, peas and sorghum for molasses. Mr. Francis not only made molasses for his family but for many of his neighbors.

When Versie was asked about school she replied, "I didn't get to attend school regularly because of the distance and at time the weather." The school she attended was a one-room building, with a stage at the front of the room.

Mrs. Francis, Versie's mother, became ill when her daughter was about 13-years old. All the other children had left home, so Versie dropped out of school before she finished eighth grade to care of her mother and do the house work.

An important event happened about that time that changed her life. During a revival meeting at the Piney Methodist Church, Versie made a profession of faith. She was baptized in the DeGray creek and became a member of the Piney Methodist Church.

Services are no longer held at the church, but Versie knows that life has been more meaningful since her experience there many years ago.

Another event that changed her life happened in 1919. It was then that she had her first date with her future husband, Ed McBrayer, who was reared in the DeGray community.

The McBrayers attended the DeGray Baptist Church, but Ed had gone to church at the Piney Methodist Church that day. He asked to walk Versie home after the service.

After a year-long courtship, Ed and Versie were married on April 30, 1921 at Piney Methodist Church by Fred Francis, Versie's brother, who was a justice of the peace.

After the marriage, Ed and his bride moved into his childhood home. His mother and a brother lived in part of the house. The home looks much the same today as it did in the early 1900's with the exception of the dog-trot hall, which has been closed.

The McBrayer's home is an interesting landmark. At one end is the original log cabin which had one room with a fireplace. The dog-trot hall has been closed and serves as a small bedroom. A kitchen was built at the other end of the hall. There is a living room, one other bedroom, a bathroom, and the log cabin which served as a storage room.

The McBrayers had two children. Their daughter

died at age five as the result of pneumonia. A son, Edward A. McBrayer, Jr. lives on the farm near his mother's home. The son and his wife operate Leisure World which is located on Highway 7 near DeGray Lake.

Ed McBrayer, Versie's husband, died on April -- 1965, at age 74. After his death Versie worked at Vasserette in Arkadelphia for ten years as an inspector.

At one time, Versie sewed, crocheted and made quilts. She doesn't do those things much anymore. She still has a small garden and cans vegetables and fruits but in limited amounts.

Except for being a diabetic and requiring two shots of insulin each day, Versie is in good health.

Versie McBrayer is a charming lady of 81 years. She has long hair which she wears in a little braided bun. She wears glasses, but they don't prevent one from seeing the twinkle in her eyes as she talks and smiles.

Her graciousness and hospitality make it easy to feel comfortable and at ease in Versie McBrayer's home and to know that you have discovered a new friend. (Southern Standard, 10-31-1985)

The Southern Standard (So. Std.) was published as a Weekly newspaper in Arkadelphia, AR. It usually carried more county news than the local daily paper, the Daily Siftings Herald, and other papers that eventually became part of the Siftings.

Even though Lillie Ann is not mentioned in the article, there is enough evidence from the article and Carl's history sketches to show that Lillie was the wife of Edward Arnold McBrayer, Jr. (M 100, 8th gen, William) who was the son of Edward Arnold and Versie Frances McBrayer. The article provided additional information about Versie as well as giving the correct spelling of her name, her birth date, her parent's names, her marriage date, her daughter's cause of death and Edward Sr.'s date of death. A real find!

Not content with this much, the contributor also sent the following:

T.M. McBrayer, a former citizen of this county, died at Murfreesboro.
(40 Years ago Column: So. Std. Feb 19, 1931 - T.M. not readily identified.)

Mrs. E. W. McBrayer: The DeGray community lost one of it's most beloved citizens in the death of Mrs. E. W.

McBrayer, on last Friday. She was 80 years old and had lived in the DeGray community since she was a young girl coming here with her parents from Georgia. In 1871 she was married to E.W. McBrayer who for many years took a prominent part in the political activities of the county. He died about 15 years ago. The remains were interred in the DeGray cemetery on Friday afternoon, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. Hughes, pastor of the DeGray Baptist church, of which denomination Mrs. McBrayer had been a faithful and consistent member for 58 years. The deceased is survived by three sons, Roscoe and Ed with whom she made her home, and Tom McBrayer of Lamesa, Texas, and one daughter Mrs. Charlie Owen of Arkadelphia, 10 grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Sallie Johnston of Arkadelphia. (So. Std. 12-24-1931)

(27 years ago Column) Roy McBrayer, son of E.W. McBrayer of DeGray, died at a hospital of Little Rock. (So. Std. 4-7-1927)

In the death of E.W. McBrayer at his home at DeGray last Thursday night, Clark County lost one of its oldest and most prominent citizens. Mr. McBrayer was 76 years old and had been a resident of this county since soon after the war, when he moved here from North Carolina after having served four years in the Confederate army. He married a Clark County young lady, who with six children survive him, four of the children, R.G., Ed and Miss Floy McBrayer and Mrs. Fay Owens living in the DeGray neighborhood, son Tom, living at Lamesa, Texas and Mrs. Lizzie Pannell, living at Roseboro. Mr. McBrayer was a member of the Arkansas legislature from this county in 1891. (So. Std. 5-10-1917)

R.B. McBrayer died at his home at De Gray on June the 1st of kidney trouble, aged 33 years. He was interred in DeGray Cemetery on June the 2nd. He was the son of E.W. McBrayer, and was raised in this county. (So. Std. 6-8-1905)

DeGray Items: Our community was made sad on last Tuesday morning when the sad news spread from home to home announcing the death of one of our young girls, Miss Lena McBrayer, Oh, how sad it makes us feel to lose one of our dear friends. But sadder still would be our loss if we knew she had no hope beyond this sinful world, and we say weep not as one that has no hope.

(So.Std. 11-12-1903)

"E.W." was Eli Wellington (M 103, 6th, William), his wife was Hattie K. Thornton. Of the clearly identified children are:

- "Ed" = Edward Arnold (M 99)
- "Tom" = Thomas Watson (M 387)
- "Floy" = Floy E. (M 103/4)
- "Mrs. Charlie Owens" = L. Faye (Fay)(M103/5)
- "R.G." = Ross G. (M 103/1)
- "Mrs. Lizzie Pannell" = Elizabeth A. (M 103/2)
- "R.B." = Robert Bruce (M 346)

Unidentified are Roscoe, Roy and Lena. E.W. and Hattie had children identified previously as "L.M.," "R.R." and "R.C." so these may have been Roscoe, Roy and Lena.

So from not knowing one person, we learned a lot from the obituary and the fortunate follow-up by the contributor.



REST IN PEACE

With sorrow, we announce the passing of several family members during the past few months. In addition to those below, there are others with our surname(s) that have not been clearly identified.

Perhaps more will be learned as happened with Lillie McBrayer.

Mrs. **Mary Bowling McBrayer**, 90, of McBrayer Road, Buchanan, died Nov. 23, 1999. Mrs. McBrayer was born on July 3, 1909 in Haralson County, the daughter of the late James Bowling and Charlotte L. Jordan Bowling. She was a retired seamstress of Sewell Manufacturing Co. and was a charter member of Buchanan Church of God. She was regular attendant of District Line United Methodist Church where her son, Dr. Terrell McBrayer, is pastor.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, **Martin Van McBrayer** (M 299-5, 7th gen, William), and two sons, David McBrayer and Joseph McBrayer. Survivors include daughters, Mrs. Jeanette Conrad of Buchanan, Mrs. Maxine Thomas of Jonesboro, Mrs. Charlotte Gilliam of Buchanan, Mrs. Imogene Evans of Mableton, Mrs. Martha Puckett of

Dallas, and Mrs. Margaret Sampson of Douglasville; Sons, Dr Terrell McBrayer of Bremen. Van McBrayer of Buchanan, Jerry McBrayer, Esq. of Buchanan and Dr. Daniel McBrayer of Marietta; one sister, Mrs. Patton Carroll of Summerville; and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Funeral services were Nov. 24 at the chapel of Hightower Funeral Home in Bremen with Dr. Terrell McBrayer and the Rev. Garvin Sellers officiating. Music was by Harold McWhorter, Imogene McBrayer Evans and Congregational singing. Pall- bearers were Ken Conrad, Joe Dale Conrad, Mike Conrad, Steve McBrayer, Richard Terrell McBrayer Jr., Wayne Thomas, Bill Mann, Phillip Keaton, Tim Keaton, Shane McBrayer, Wylder Parker, David McBrayer, Daniel McBrayer Jr., Deborah Puckett Morris and Kimberly Puckett. Great-grandsons served as honorary pallbearers. Interment followed in the Buchanan Church of God Cemetery.

(Obituary adapted from the Atlanta Journal, 1 Dec 1999)

A number of family members were able to meet Mrs. McBrayer during the devotional walk on the McBrayer Nature Trail which concluded the last National Reunion in Bremen, GA. Many of her survivors are Family Association members, including Director-at-Large Terrell McBrayer.

Celia S. Engel, 70, of Nokomis, FL, formerly of Charleston, W.Va., died Wednesday, Sept. 8, 1999, in Bon Secours Venice Hospital after a long illness. She was a medical transcriptionist in Venice, Fla., a Protestant, a graduate of Charleston High School and Marshall University and a member of Gamma Gamma Sorority. Surviving: son, William of North Port, Fla.; daughter, Anne Engel Holdorf of Corpus Christi, Texas; brother, the Rev. Doyle Smith of Dunbar, W.Va.; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Memorial service will be at Eskew Funeral Home, Venice. Information provided by Keller Funeral Home, Dunbar. (Obituary from the Charleston Daily Mail, 9 Sep 1999)

Celia Ann Smith (M 137-6/1H1, 8th, William) was born 22 Sep 1928, the daughter of Anne Kinney Hemmings and Doyle Watson Smith. She was descended from Hartwell E. McBrayer (M 137-6, 5th). She was a Life Member of the Family Association and

was very supportive of the family. If you go to Ellis Island and find the name "William McBrayer" on the Wall of Honor, remember Celia as she was responsible for the placement.

She had suffered from emphysema for a number of years.

Carl Theron McBrayer (M 44-5, 7th, William), born October 17, 1912, died peacefully December 20, 1999 in the home of his niece, Lenora Good, where he resided the last few weeks of his life. He is survived by two nieces, Lenora Good and Jody MacKenzie and one nephew, Donald Smith, as well as a grand niece, Sonja Smith and grand nephew, Aaron Smith (Lenora's children) and a great grand nephew, Lucas Smith (Sonja's child). He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 51-½ years, Helen "Patsy" McBrayer who died October 29, 1989, and his cherished cat, Scrub, by a few hours.

There were no services immediately following his passing as those closest to him were able to see him during the last days of his life to bring about closure. Sometime in the summer of 2000, his ashes will be scattered over the same part of Puget Sound as Patsy's were.

Carl was the only son of **Carl Henry "Skipper and Verona Lenore Metz McBrayer**. He grew up in the Portland, OR, area. Following a tour in the U.S. Navy, he returned to Portland and was a sales representative for the printing firm his father managed. He and his father then started their own printing business. Following his father's retirement, he and Patsy moved to Orcas Island, WA, and operated a general store for a time. He then left that business to fulfill a life-long dream to captain his own ocean-going vessel. He operated a sailing cruise service for a number of years in the San Juan Islands of Washington. Carl also was a talented artist; Lenora had a photograph of one of his oil paintings for the cover of his death announcement.

Lenora's loving care of Carl during his last weeks is reflected on the thoughts included in the death announcement:

*Death is not
extinguishing the Light*

it is putting out the Lamp
because the Dawn has come
(R. Tagore)

All day I think about it, then at night
I say it.

Where did I come from, and what am

I supposed to be doing?

I have no idea.

My soul is from elsewhere, I'm sure of
that.

And I intend to end up there.
(Rumi)

Why do I have to wait for
reincarnation? I'm already
reincarnated in all of you!

(Thich Nhat Hanh)

It was through the generosity of Carl Theron and his sister Vera McBrayer Good that their father's voluminous family records were given to our family historian Carl Bernard McBrayer upon which our current family history is based. Carl T. was a Family Association member.

(Based on information provided by Lenora Good and the family history books by Carl B. McBrayer.)

Brian Theodore McBrayer (M 38, 8th, William), 60, Kansas City, MO, died January 7, 2000. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, January 12, at Charter Funerals/Earp & Sons Chapel, 5000 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City, MO; burial in Brooking Cemetery, Raytown, MO. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the chapel. Brian is survived by his wife of 40 years, Sharon; children, Debbie, Steven and Robert; mother, Carlotta; brothers, Alan and David; and grandchildren, Katherine, Steven Jr., Matthew and Rebecca. Brian was Drum Major of the Kansas City Scottish Highland Games, and had served in the U.S. Marine Reserve. He retired last year as supervisor for Clark Printing Company (Banta) after more than 40

years. Brian was a loving family man, proud Scot, and dedicated family historian. (Arrangements: Charter Funerals, (816) 921-5555) (Obituary from the Kansas City (MO) Star, 10 Jan 2000)

Brian was born 24 Mar 1939 in Hiawatha, Kansas, the son of Harold Theodore and Carlotta Mercedes Stivison McBrayer. He passed away from cancer.



March On

Aggy D. Graham, January 9, 2000
In memory of Brian McBrayer

Brian's mace and bonnet
Brian's gauntlets and cross belt
Aggy there all alone now
Cold and lonely, Brian's gone

We all remember Brian
Marching tall and stepping smart
Leading us so proudly
Our Drum Major, Our band's heart

Let there be bands in heaven, Lord
Let Your bass drummer sound the beat
Let Your pipers all strike in
When Brian sharply calls "Oor, T'wo!"

Our hearts are heavy, just now, Lord
We miss him so, You see
It would be a mighty blessing
To know he's leading Your review

Yes, We know you need him up there
More than we need him down here
But it grieves us so to play and march
Now that Brian's gone

Our feet are leaden, slow, unsure
Tears make it hard to see
Grant us your peace and wisdom, Lord
And grace to march... March on.

FOR CORRESPONDENCE AND SUBMISSION
ADDRESS:
THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.
952 OLD GODDARD ROAD
LINCOLN PARK, MI 48146-4453