

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF  
DAVID PATTERSON KEY, JR.  
AND RELATED FAMILIES**

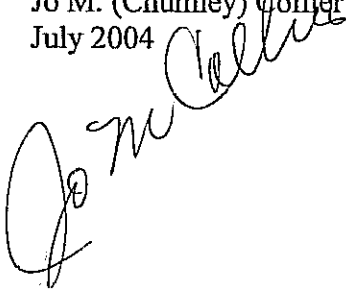
Prepared July 2004

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Key family from the West side of Coke County played an important role in the history and development of civic, business and religious life in Coke County. Since no information was included in the Coke County Family History Book published in 1984, I asked David Key to write the text and provide family pictures in order that the early arrival and continuity of this family might be recorded.

It is with much love and admiration for the continuation of those same contributions by David Patterson Key, Jr., his wife Alene, and his children Joe David Key and Dee Anna (Key) Harmon, as well as for being an example of exemplary family life, that this notebook has been prepared and presented to the Coke County Library.

Jo M. (Chumley) Collier  
July 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jo M. Collier", written over the typed name and date.

## Ancestors of David Patterson Key, Jr.

**David Patterson Key**  
b: February 19, 1808 in Fluvanna County, VA  
m: May 30, 1854 in LA  
d: January 24, 1897 in Menard County, TX

**Alfred Key**  
b: April 10, 1865 in Coleman County, TX  
m: December 31, 1885 in Menard County, TX  
d: February 20, 1956 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX

**Parmelia Harvey**  
b: March 22, 1834 in Louisiana  
d: March 14, 1919 in Menard County, TX

**David Patterson Key**  
b: February 22, 1894 in Edith, Coke County, TX  
m: December 27, 1911  
d: June 23, 1975 in Coke County, TX

**John Henry Youngblood**  
b: October 15, 1844  
m: December 12, 1861  
d: January 30, 1870

**Cornelia Melrose Youngblood**  
b: July 02, 1868 in Wise County, TX  
d: February 21, 1954 in Edith, Coke County, TX

**Rachel Annie Grace Sprouls**  
b: November 02, 1847 in Dade County, Mo  
d: October 22, 1915 in Tatum, New Mexico

**David Patterson Key, Jr.**  
b: October 21, 1921 in Edith, Coke County, TX

**Benjamin Newton Shropshire**  
b: July 03, 1830 in Alabama  
m: June 10, 1858  
d: July 27, 1921 in San Angelo, Tom Green County, TX

**Benjamin Washington Shropshire**  
b: May 23, 1862 in Blanco County, TX  
m: October 01, 1890  
d: February 18, 1959 in Austin, Travis County, TX

**Matilda Annie Cox**  
b: December 01, 1840 in Arkansas  
d: March 28, 1912 in Austin, Travis County, TX

**Jessie Mable Shropshire**  
b: July 16, 1891 in Williamson County, TX  
d: October 14, 1981 in Coke County, TX

**Thomas Dixon**  
b: February 1844 in North Carolina

**Annie Keziah Dixon**  
b: July 25, 1871 in Bouz, Alabama  
d: December 06, 1955 in Roscoe, TX

**Frances Louisa Simpson**  
b: December 1846 in Anderson County, South Carolina

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## AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF DAVID PATTERSON KEY, JR. AND RELATED FAMILIES

David P. Key, Jr. born October 21, 1921 and Alene Gaines born April 29, 1927, were married September 6, 1947. David was born near the Edith community which is about nine miles West of Robert Lee, Texas, in Coke County. There's not much at Edith anymore except a Historical Marker on Highway 158 and the Paint Creek Cemetery where many "Old Timers" and some "New Comers" are buried. Alene was born at Hylton, Texas, which is about 35 miles East of Robert Lee. Her maternal grandparents, Sam and Anna King, were early settlers in the Edith Community. Her paternal grandparents were John and Ann Gaines from Cumby, Texas, near Dallas. Alene's mother was Beulah Ellen King born October 25, 1893 at Edith, TX and died May 4, 1945. Her dad was Jess Gaines, born December 6, 1887 and died February 6, 1955. Both are buried in Paint Creek Cemetery.

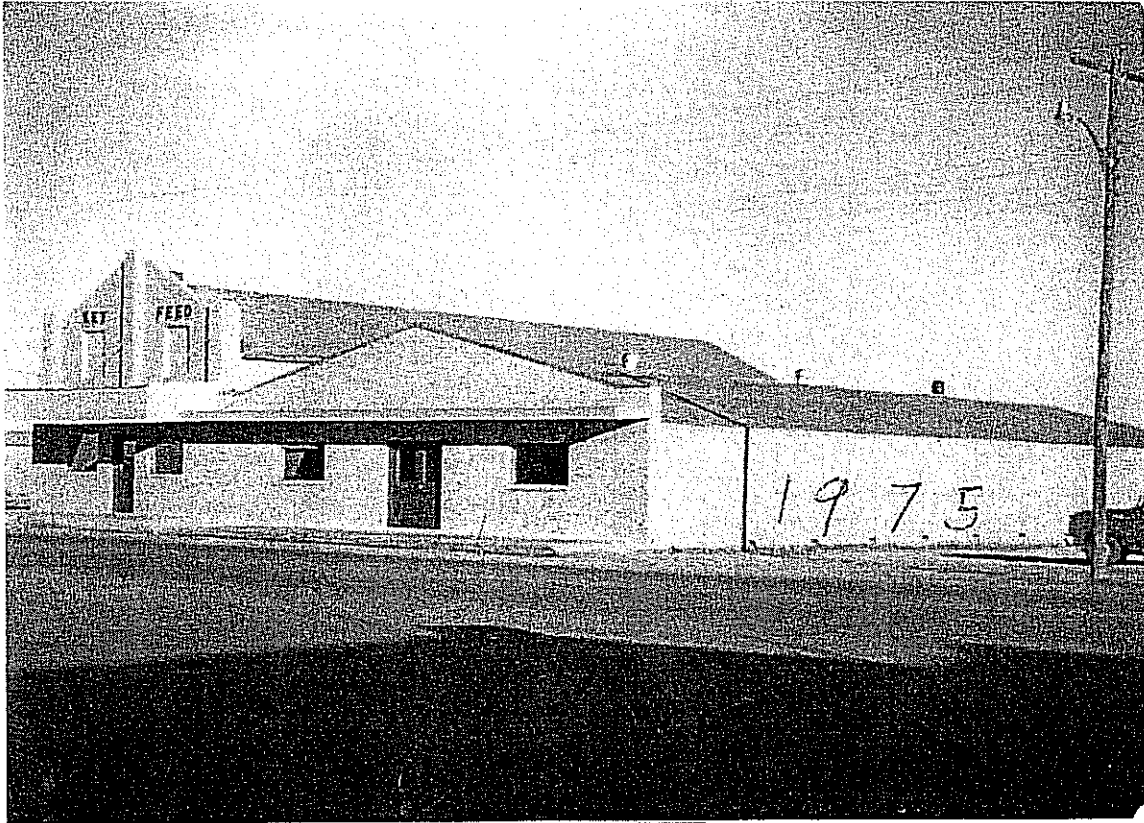
David graduated from Robert Lee High School in 1938. In 1942 he was drafted into the U. S. Army Air Force in which he served for 42 months during World War II. After his discharge from the Army he returned to Robert Lee. Before many months he bought a feed store calling it "Key Feed Store".



In 1952 we were blessed with our first child, a son, naming him Joe David. He was born May 29, 1952, and eleven and 1/2 years later our second child, a daughter, was born, naming her Dee Anna. She was born on September 21, 1963. We have always enjoyed activities that our children were involved in and we attended most all of them. Joe David

was in Boy Scouts and received an Eagle Scout Award, as well as the God and Country Award. He was also involved in Little League baseball. He was active in 4H projects, high school football and basketball, as well as church activities. Joe David graduated from Robert Lee High School in May 1970 and Dee Anna started to school in August of the same year. Dee Anna was also active in sports and 4H projects. They both attended Texas Tech University at Lubbock, Texas, where they each received a degree.

In 1974 when Joe David returned from college, we formed a partnership in the feed store and also in our ranching interest.



The partnership in the feed store ended in 1986 when I retired and sold Joe David my interest in it. In the year 2000, he sold the store to Ezell-Key Grain Company at Snyder. They have a feed manufacturing plant in Snyder. They also had two other retail stores in other locations. The Keys from Snyder are not related to us but we had been getting some feed from them for about 40 years. They hired Joe David to manage this store for them. They continue to operate this store as Key Feed Store. The store was in our family ownership for 54 years before selling it.

On June 25, 1976 Joe David married Teri McMillan in The First Baptist Church at Christoval, Texas. Her parents, C. L. (Buzz) and Virginia McMillan are now living near Big Spring, Texas. Teri and Joe David have two children, Jason David, born November 16, 1977 and Jessica Leann born December 3, 1979. We have really enjoyed our children and grandchildren.



Joe David, Teri, Jason David and Jessica Leann Key  
September 6, 1997

When Dee Anna graduated from college she stayed in Lubbock and worked for a television station. In 1989 she returned to Robert Lee and in 1990 she started to work for the Robert Lee State Bank where she is still employed. She and Joe Harmon were married August 25, 1990 at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Dee Anna is very talented in handwork, quilting, scrapbooking and other crafts. Joe's parents are William Joe and Julia Ann Harmon of South Lake near Fort Worth. Joe's paternal grandparents were Finis and LaRue Harmon. His Dad and grandparents were raised in the Edith Community. Finis died in 1994 and is buried in Paint Creek Cemetery. LaRue Harmon died in 2004 and is buried beside her husband.



Joe and Dee Anna (Key) Harmon  
September 6, 1997

I also appreciate the Robert Lee High School. We have lots of memories of the past there. I started to school there and graduated as our two children did and also our two grandchildren. Our granddaughter graduated in 1998 from the same school that I had graduated from 60 years earlier.

I am proud to have been able to live in Robert Lee and enjoy my family, my ancestors, my friends and neighbors. All of our family are members of the Robert Lee Baptist Church and we have enjoyed being a part of that congregation.



Some of the good memories of the past are when I retired from the feed store. My grandson, Jason, was nine years old and we got in a lot of deer hunting and some trapping. I also got interested in genealogy, but my nephew, Danny Smith, who lives in Georgia got most of it for me. I really appreciate all that he has helped me with.

At the present time, I own a portion of the land that Grandpa Key had in the Edith community. It has been in the Key family possession for about 115 years.



David and Alene Key at their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 6, 1997

Parents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were David Patterson Key and Jessie Mable (Shropshire) Key:

#### KEY-SHROPSHIRE

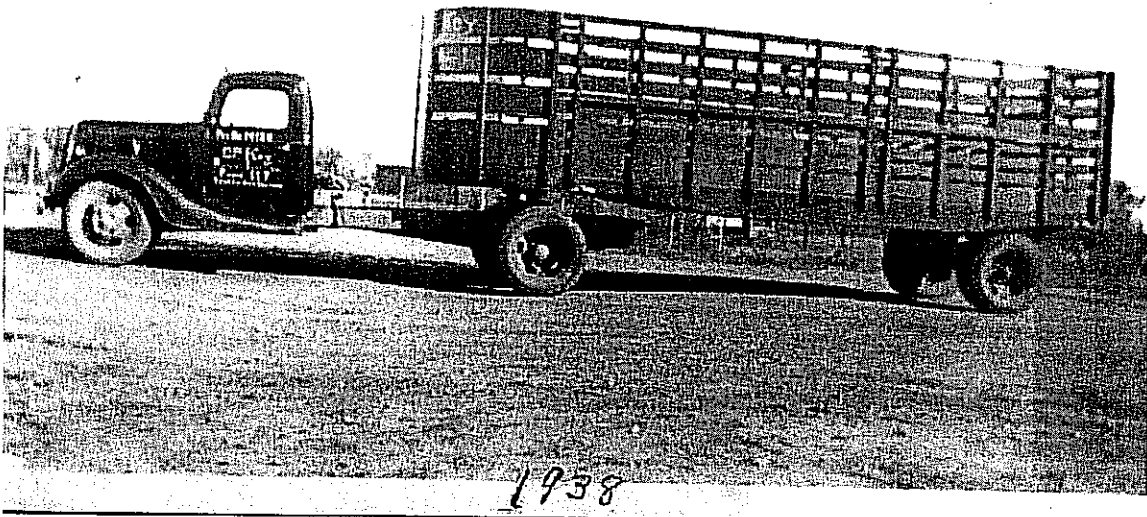
David Patterson Key (D. P.) was born February 22, 1894 and died June 23, 1975. Jessie Mable Shropshire was born July 16, 1891 and died October 14, 1981. They are both buried in Paint Creek Cemetery at Edith, Coke County, Texas. D. P. and Jessie were married December 27, 1911. They farmed and ranched in the Edith Community until 1924 when they moved to Robert Lee. Their three children, Wilma Jean (born August 15, 1915 - died January 25, 1992), Vernie Doris (born February 21, 1917 - died January 3, 1984) and David (born October 21, 1921) were all born before they moved to Robert Lee. Wilma married G. B. Shelburne, Jr. in 1934 and their children were G. B. III, Gene Paul, Ruth Ann, Curtis Kline and James Leonard. Vernie married Clifton Calder in 1933 and their children were Clifton Wayne, David Charles and Jerry Don. They divorced in 1944 and she married Fred Smith in 1946. Vernie and Fred had two children, Daniel Edwin (Danny) and Fred Van. David, the youngest of D. P. and Jessie's children, married Alene Gaines in 1947 and their children are Joe David and Dee Anna.

Soon after moving to Robert Lee D. P. bought a Model-T Ford truck and started hauling for the public.



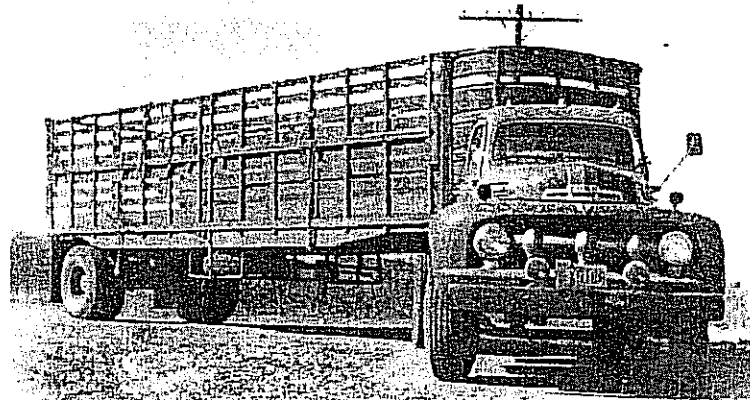
He stayed in the trucking business until 1960 when he sold out and retired. When he started hauling for the public they would haul most anything that needed to be moved, including household furniture, hay and other livestock feed, cottonseed, gravel, lumber, cement, goods to the retail grocery stores, among other things. There was no railroad to Robert Lee so much merchandise was shipped by train to Bronte and the local truckers brought it to Robert Lee.

The truckers started hauling lots of livestock in the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's. The major livestock market serving this part of the country was at Fort Worth, Texas. The local truckers did lots of hauling to Fort Worth which was about 250 miles from Robert Lee. In the mid-1950's livestock auction rings began to operate so the people gradually quit shipping so much stock to Fort Worth but the truckers continued to do a lot of hauling.

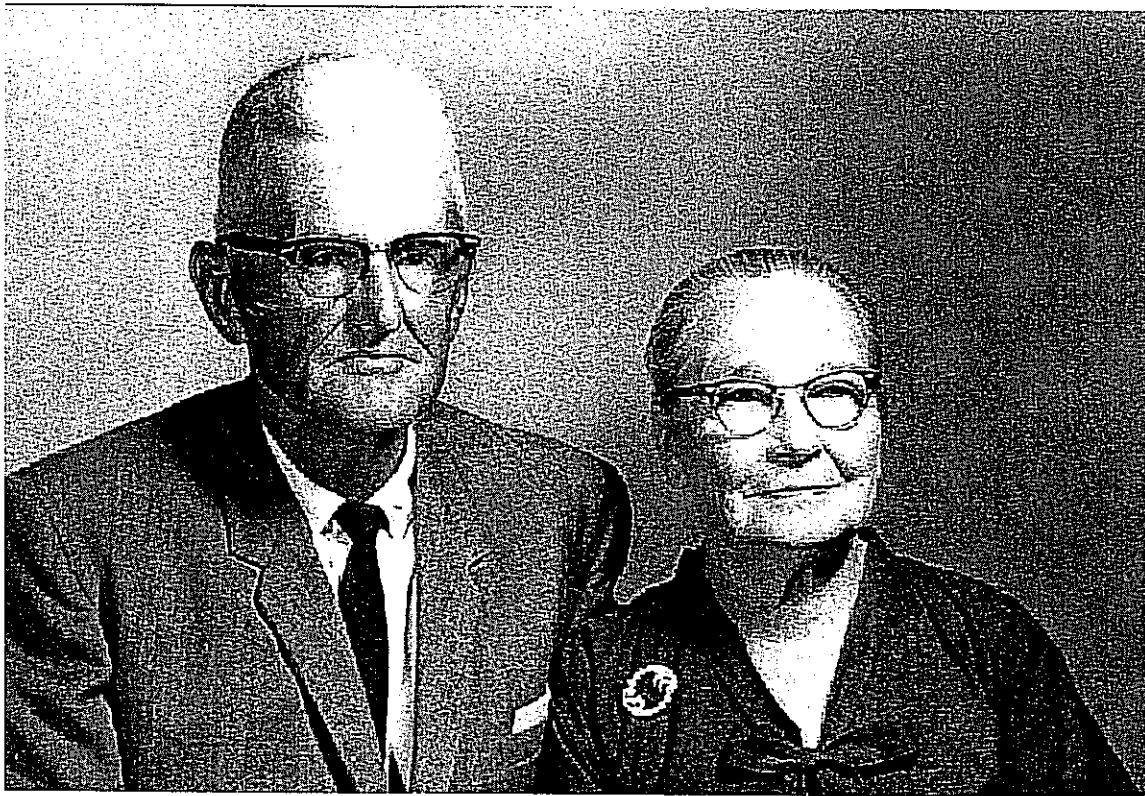


D. P. always enjoyed working with livestock. In the 1950's he and his son, David, formed a partnership in livestock and ranching. D. P. continued the trucking business and David continued in the feed business. This ranching was only a sideline to their other business. In 1960 D. P. sold his trucking business and retired but he continued to ranch until 1970 when he turned that over to his grandson, Joe David Key.

D. P. and Jessie enjoyed living in Robert Lee where they both had many friends. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1961 and their 60th in 1971. They both enjoyed their family through the years, especially their grandchildren.



D. P. Key's 1951 Ford Truck



D. P. Key and Jessie (Shropshire) Key

Jessie spent much time in her yard working with flowers which she loved to share with her friends and neighbors. She was really dedicated to her church activities at the Northside Church of Christ. She also enjoyed the activities of her grandchildren. She lived to see two of her great grandchildren born at Robert Lee.

Paternal Grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were Alfred Key and Cornelia (Youngblood) Key:

#### KEY-YOUNGBLOOD

Alfred (Alf) Key was born April 10, 1865 in Coleman County, Texas and died February 20, 1956 at Robert Lee, Texas. He married Cornelia Melrose Youngblood on December 31, 1885 in Menard County, Texas. Cornelia Melrose Youngblood was born July 2, 1868 in Wise County, Texas and died February 24, 1937 at Edith, Coke County, Texas. Both are buried in Paint Creek Cemetery, Coke County, Texas. Alf Key and Joe Webb each donated 1-1/2 acres where their pastures joined for the Paint Creek Cemetery about 1890. In 1988 the Cemetery Association purchased another 4.7 acres that joined the cemetery and also gave them an entrance off Highway 158. Cornelia's parents were John Henry Youngblood and Rachel (Sprouls) Youngblood. Alf and Cornelia had four children: Vida Parmelia, Joseph Calvin, David Patterson (D.P.) and Grace Sprouls Key.

Alf Key was a farmer and rancher, a blacksmith, a carpenter, and most anything that needed to be done. He was a kind and considerate person, as well as a faithful Lodge member (I think it was Woodmen of the World). Of course, by all good men is a good woman at his side helping him. Cornelia was always willing to be there when neighbors had sickness and other needs. They homesteaded part of their property.

I remember Cornelia Key, my grandmother, as being real special. They lived at Edith after they came here from Menard (I think in 1888) until their deaths. Grandma knew how to keep a kid busy and teaching us a lot on the side. She took time to play dominoes, and how to make two or three different kinds of whistles and other things we really enjoyed.



Alfred Key



Cornelia (Youngblood) Key

This article appeared in the September 23, 1955 issue of The Robert Lee Observer:

#### ALF KEY - HOMESTEADER

By Frank C. Dickey

When the Civil War was drawing the curtain across the splendor of Dixie, there were out-posts in the deep west where the "guarded life" and "gentle culture" was unknown. Such a place was "Hordes Creek", in what is now Coleman County.

There, in a half-fort and half-cabin, on April 10th, 1865, was born one Alf Key, destined to live to typify a group of westerners to whom posterity owes their greatest debt: The homesteaders.

Alf Key's beginning and his ninety years living within 100 miles of Hordes Creek, as he relates it, was uneventful, smooth and easy. --- -- Well, of course there was a considerable stir, when his mother had to snatch him up and run to his uncle's place with a band of warring Apaches at her heels. But, the uncle was pretty rugged. He carried the family in his arms across the swollen river, which was tougher than the Indians cared to tackle. The red-skins did get so sneaky that it was too much of a strain on his mother, keeping the kids under close herd; so, his father, D. P. Key, pulled back to Camp Colorado. Little Alf started to school there in a log schoolhouse: "I could read pretty good when I started. We had the old blue-backed speller and I could read and spell good. I always liked to read and I kept reading as long as I could see to," he recently recounted to me.

His parents moved the family to a place near where Menard is now;-- "I grew up right there" he said, "Oh, yes, there were other Indian raids." One, he recalls where he captured an indian pony "It stunk so bad you couldn't get near it for six months. But, the Rangers were in there then and they took care of the Apaches." He was too young to join the Rangers but he rode with them a lot.

As for the wild and wooly stuff,--well, he did see a pack of lobos bring down a grown bull. Oh, yes, he went on the trail like the other young fellows in the country. He punched cows and furnished his own mount for "Bill Wheeler" at \$15.00 a month. "You bet your life we rode all day and fixed fence and whatever else needed to be done." He saw some of the "bad men": "I didn't pay much attention to them." (You can't get a hair-raiser out of Alf Key. Rough stuff didn't register with him).

His story starts back in 1885 when he married Cornelia Youngblood and began making a living. He farmed and worked for wages around Menardville (now Menard) for a few years, then moved to, and homesteaded his place which lies 6 miles west of Robert Lee. (It's Alf Key Survey No. 1).

The hospitality of Alf and "Nealley" Key at old Paint Creek is legend. They reared four fine children there on the old home-place.

(From 1897 to date is my part of the story and I'll tell it like I know it).

Alf Key had a lot of neighbors in the Paint Creek community. His house was not more than 150 yards from the schoolhouse. The kids watered their horses and donkies at his windmill. (Mrs. Key, who deserves equally to be remembered - was the emergency surgeon, doctor and nurse for all school-kid casualties.)

Patrons hauled wood in turn to heat the schoolhouse during cold weather. Now and then some one would forget and the pile would run low; but, always Alf Key would show up with the load of wood just in time; and, he would never grumble.

He could do more different things and do them well than any person I ever saw. He was a carpenter, blacksmith, farmer and stockman. He did a lot of farming with a half-shovel, walking planter and riding a cultivator in 1906. He was busy all the time. He reared his family and took good care of them on a half-section of land.

He wasn't a fellow to visit around much; aside from a few deer-hunts, he stayed pretty close to home.

He was my neighbor when he was young and strong. I guess that I visited with him about as much as anybody. I never heard him speak an unkind word. I never heard him tell a smooty yarn, and, he is one of the best yarn-spinners. He could be funnier than a basket of monkies and stay well within the realm of decency.

He was always on hand when somebody was in distress. He is my neighbor now. A kindly smile still twinkles in his eyes. He doesn't get around much, he is afraid of falling. It is an honor to sit with him; and, it is a treat to listen to his tale.

The homesteaders made this country worth living in, the hospitality, culture and fine social quality, so prominent on the frontier, is all theirs. God's Men of Iron they were: and, such a man is Alf Key.

May I say of him, as I have known him through the years, that he is a good neighbor and a credit to our country.

Paternal Great Grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were David Patterson Key and Parmelia (Harvey) Key:

#### KEY-HARVEY

David Patterson Key was born February 19, 1808 in Fluvanna County, Virginia and died January 24, 1897 in Menard County, Texas. He married Parmelia Harvey May 30, 1854 in Louisiana. Parmelia was born March 22, 1834 and died March 14, 1919. They are both buried in the Hext Cemetery in Menard County. David's parents were Martin Bibb Key and Judith Patterson Key. David and Parmelia had six children: Harriet, David Walter, John Martin (Mart), Alfred, Thomas Harvey and Tandy.

David's brother, John, came to Texas in 1835 and David P. in 1838. David served some time as Deputy Sheriff in Red River County, Texas prior to 1840. He was Sheriff at DeKalb, Texas in Bowie County in 1841-1849. David P. joined the Masonic Lodge in 1842. His brother John was also a member. The DeKalb, Texas, Mason Lodge No. 9, established 1839. David was a Captain in the 4th Brigade, Texas Militia, a portion of the time while he was in this location. He went to Louisiana prior to 1850 and returned to Menard County, Texas sometime in the mid-1860's. From what I could find I think he was mostly a farmer and rancher and livestock trader. David passed the name of David and David Patterson down to many of the descendants for several generations.

Paternal Great Grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were John Henry Youngblood and Rachel Annie Grace (Sprouls) Youngblood:

John Henry Youngblood was born October 15, 1844 in Missouri and died January 30, 1870 at Grapevine, Tarrant County, Texas. He is buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery in Tarrant County, Texas. He married Rachel Annie Grace Sprouls December 12, 1861 at Paradise Prairie, Wise County, Texas. John Henry's parents were James Jonothan Youngblood and Leah Jane Elam Youngblood. Rachel was born November 2, 1847 in Dade County, Missouri and died October 22 1915 at Tatum, New Mexico. She is buried in IOOF Cemetery at Plainview, Texas. Rachel's parents were James Sprouls and Mary Ann Ruth. John Henry and Rachel had five children: Jonathan James, Mary Leah, Alsy Thisba, Cornelia Melrose and Henry Ollie Vida.

Rachel married her second husband, P. H. Youngblood who was a distant cousin to her first husband on January 22, 1873. P. H.'s wife had died a few months back and they had six children - one was planning to get married soon and the other five were about the same age as Rachel's children. They moved about some but settled in Menard County for six years. They then moved to Tom Green County which was soon divided and where they settled was name Coke County. Many homesteaders had moved in and they managed to get Coke County set up with their local government. P. H. Youngblood was elected Commissioner of Precinct 3 in 1889 which he served for two years but chose not to run for re-election. He also farmed and ranched.

The second daughter of P. H. Youngblood, Belle Hallmark, had a heart disease from which she died in 1891; in about six weeks her husband, Billie Hallmark, also died. They had lost one son, Frankie, earlier and their deaths left five orphans. A son of P. H. Youngblood who was only 19 years old was accidentally shot and died January 2, 1892. P. H. had been in bad health since June 1891 and he died on March 30, 1892. Festus Hallmark, one of Belle and Billie's orphans died on April 5, 1892. I understand typhoid fever caused many deaths back in those times. All of the above are buried in Paint Creek Cemetery.

Rachel married her third husband, Geo. F. Fair, on October 17, 1893. He was a Methodist preacher, a circuit rider who served several churches. Most of Rachel's family weren't very happy about this. Mr. Fair had lost his wife and had five orphan children, one of them being an invalid.



Rachel Sprouls



Rachel Sprouls



Maternal grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were Benjamin Washington Shropshire and Annie Keziah (Dixon) Shropshire:

#### SHROPSHIRE-DIXON

Benjamin Washington Shropshire was born to Benjamin Newton Shropshire and Matilda Annie Cox on May 23, 1862 in Blanco County, Texas and died February 18, 1959 at Austin, Travis County, Texas. He married Annie Keziah Dixon October 1, 1890 at Austin, Texas. Annie Dixon was born July 25, 1871 at Boaz, Alabama, died December 6, 1955 at Roscoe, Texas. Both are buried in Paint Creek Cemetery in Coke County. Annie's parents were Thomas Dixon and Frances Louisa Simpson.

B. W. and Annie had eight children: Jessie Mable, Cecil, Kenneth, Lois, Carol, Charles Benjamin, Thomas Ford and Marguerite. Marguerite, the last child, was born and died in 1916 and is buried in Paint Creek Cemetery.

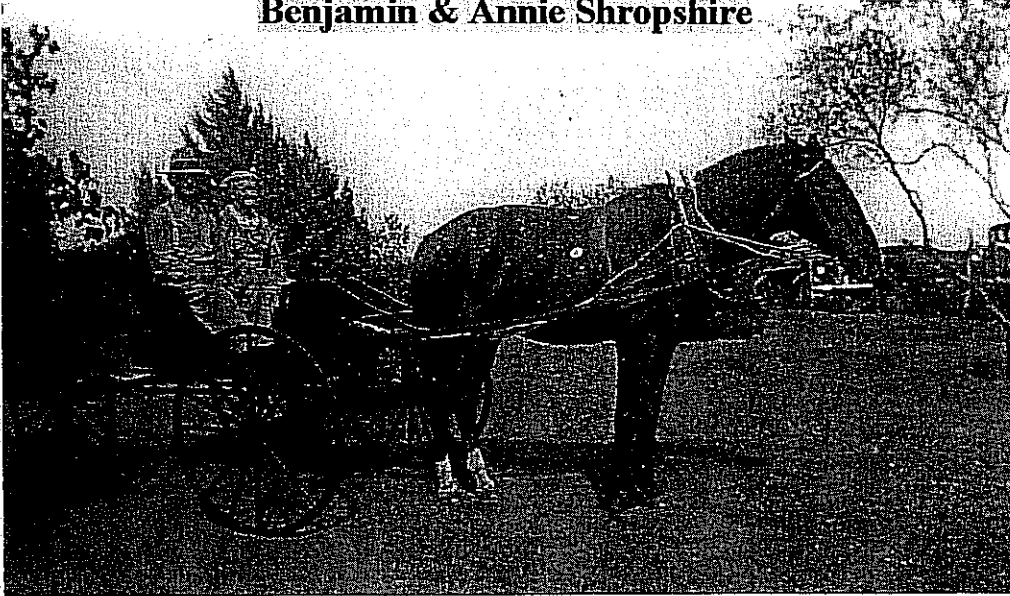
They moved to Coke County in 1904 settling on a ranch in the Edith Community. He lost an eye working cattle at some time while living there. They later moved to a farm near Robert Lee. They always had a large garden, an orchard and raised chickens. They also raised cotton and feed for their farm animals.

I remember Grandmother Shropshire as being a wonderful cook as well as a loving and caring person. They were hard workers as well as dedicated church workers.



B. W. and Annie Shropshire

## **Benjamin & Annie Shropshire**



Maternal Great Grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were Benjamin Newton Shropshire and Matilda Annie (Cox) Shropshire:

### SHROPSHIRE-COX

Benjamin Newton Shropshire was born July 3, 1830 in Alabama and died July 27, 1921 at San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas and is buried in Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo. He married Matilda Annie Cox on June 10, 1858. Matilda was born December 1, 1840 in Arkansas and died March 28, 1912 at Austin, Travis County, Texas.

They had 11 children: Henry Osborn, Andrew Jackson, Benjamin Washington, Mary Elizabeth, Asa Emmet, Josiah Charles, Martha Mathela, Carrie Annis, Naaman Edgar, George Walter and Minnie Lee.

Benjamin Newton ranched and farmed in Blanco County where all of his children were born. He served in the Confederate Army in the Civil War. He also rode with the Texas Rangers for some time. They had many problems with Indians for a long period of time. He homesteaded his home place and they had open range in parts of the State at that time. They lost a number of their stock at times from cattle rustlers.



Picture taken on the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Benjamin Newton Shropshire and Matilda Annie (Cox) Shropshire with extended family in 1908, San Angelo, TX

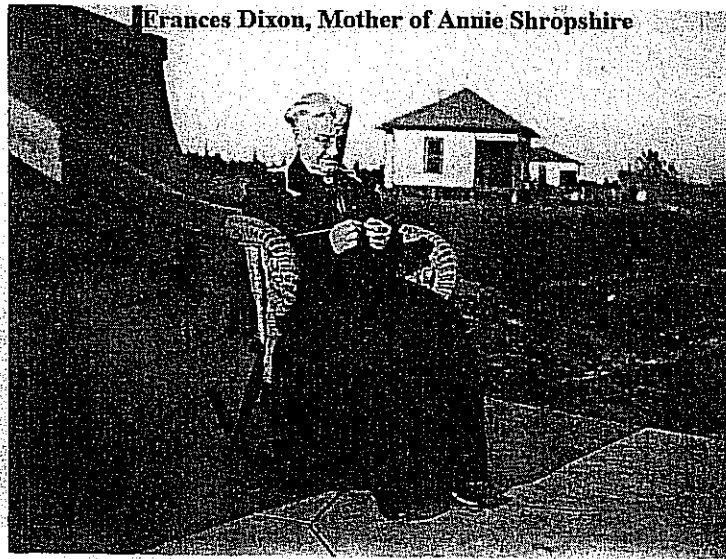
Maternal Great Grandparents of David Patterson Key, Jr. were Thomas Dixon and Frances Louisa (Simpson) Dixon:

#### DIXON-SIMPSON

Thomas Dixon was born February 1844 in North Carolina and died after June 10, 1900. He married Frances Louisa Simpson who was born December 1846 in Anderson County, South Carolina. They had five children: Josephine, Robert Van, Annie Keziah, Minnie and Paul.

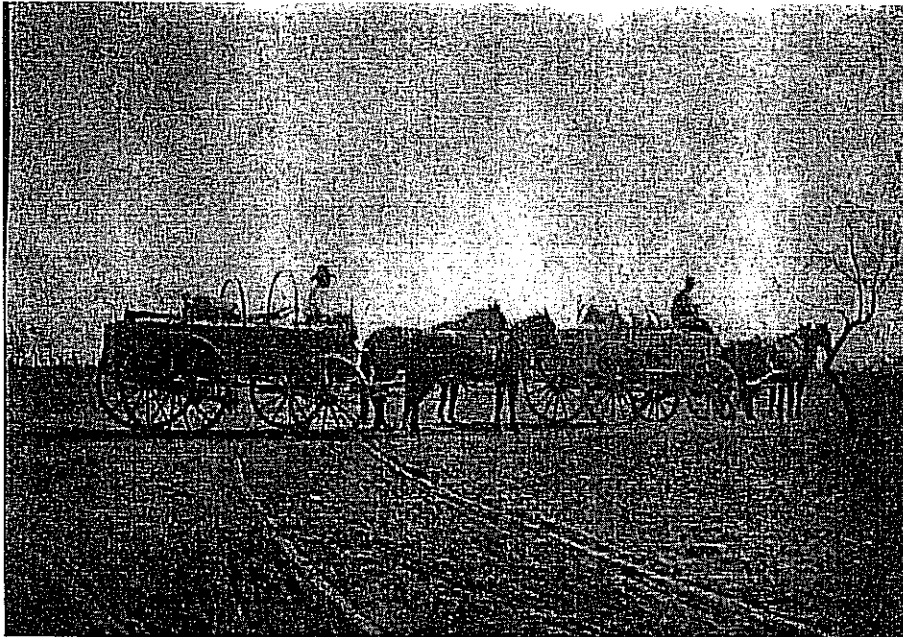
I can remember my great grandmother Dixon from back in the late 1920's or early 1930's. She was living with her daughter and husband, who were my grandparents - Benjamin W. and Annie Shropshire. I thought Grandmother Dixon was a real sweet old lady. I still have several keepsakes that she gave me. She pieced a quilt top and gave to me and then I put it up; in about 1970 we had it quilted and later gave to our daughter who loves quilts. She sews and quilts a lot. She has the quilt in her quilt collection and is real proud of it.

Grandmother Dixon moved back to Austin to some of her relatives while I was in the Army so she would have had to be in her mid 90's at that time.



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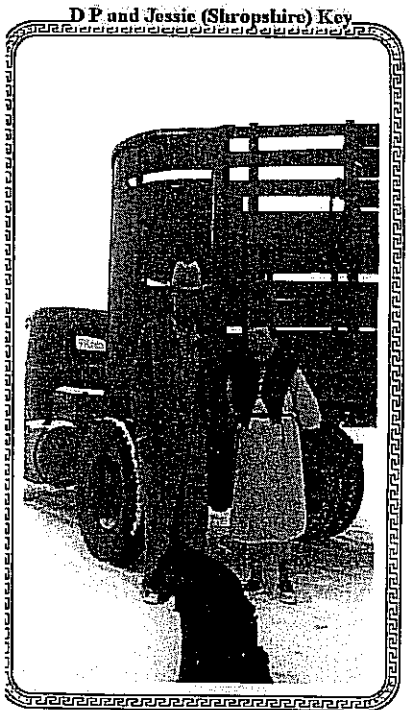
ADDITIONAL FAMILY PICTURES OF THE KEY-SHROPSHIRE DESCENDANTS



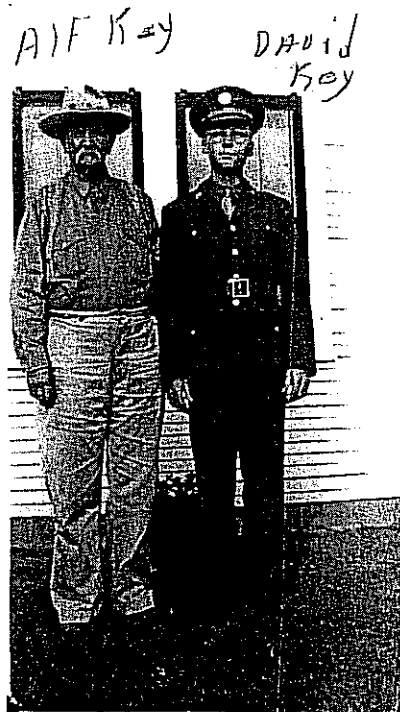
Left to right - D. P. Key and Alf Key in Key Freight Wagons



Alf Key and mule



D.P. & Jessie (Shropshire) Key



Alfred Key and David Key



Alfred Key and son, D.P.



Alfred Key and great grandson,  
Joe David Key



Annie Shropshire, Jessie Key, Frances  
Dixon and baby Wilma Jean Key

A Special Tribute to our Grandchildren

Jason David Key + Jessica Leann Key

I could probably write a book about you but I will just hit some of the high spots and will more than likely fail to get in some of the things I really wanted to say to you. You will never know how much we always enjoyed having you around, especially when we lived at Edith and most every Sunday you would go home with us after church and spend the afternoon.

What I remember most about those times was after lunch we usually played Baseball or Basket ball or some other games. Sometimes we would drive out in the pasture to feed the Cows at both Edith and Green Mountain, usually one of you would be sitting in my lap helping me drive. Sometimes we would have a dogie calf or some lambs to bottle but we could nearly always find something that you wanted to do.

After you got a little older you began to participate in little league Baseball and 4-H activities so we tried to go to most of those, we sure enjoyed that too.

When you started to school it wasn't hard to find something to get involved in and you continued your 4-H until not too long before you got out of High School. We moved back to Robert Lee

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in 1986, the place we bought was 20 Acres just out of the city limits. The city had passed an ordinance that anyone couldn't keep hogs inside the city so we looked out again and had a good place for you keep your 4-14 hogs and were really pleased with that. Because we could get to see you more and I also enjoyed watching the hogs grow.

I had sold the feed store to your Dad so I had more time to take care of our cows, and to go deer hunting. Jason and I surely enjoyed the hunting and we spent most of our spare time at that. Jessica also did some hunting but never did get as interested in it as Jason and I, she went more with Joe David than she did with me and she did kill some pretty nice ones. We even enjoyed the processing the meat. Joe David would bring both of you down to help cut it up and grind some up in chili meat and sausage and package it up to put in the freezer. Deer season really was special for me and I think it was for you too. Those larger blinds that two of us could get in were just what we needed until you could handle a gun in a safe manner. I guess the most exciting time was when Jason got the one that Joe David



had the head mounted, it was about as pretty a head mount as I have ever seen. It was on opening day of deer season probably 1988 or 1989. Jason and I did some trapping one year and caught quite a few coons and a few fox and ringtails, at that time there was a pretty good fur market.

One summer I enjoyed helping Jessica paint the pens up at Green Mountain.

As you got a little older sports was your main activity that took a lot of your time. Your Grandmother and I also enjoyed them a lot too.

To sum it all up we were always interested in what ever you were doing and still are. We always felt it an honor to have grandchildren like you. We feel that we have really been blessed with a very special, caring, and loving family. You will always mean so much to us.

Jason, we hated so bad that we couldn't go to Bryan to your and Jennifer's wedding, we just didn't think we were able to make the trip because of our age and health problems. We are so happy to have Jennifer and Harrison a part of our family.

To all of you: Jessica, Jason, Jennifer and Harrison: We love you so much and are real proud of you.

Grandmother + Granddaddy

Alene + David Key

(Addition)

I knew that I would probably leave something out that I really wanted to say, so I am making an addition.

Jessica could get her hogs to respond to her whether she was loading them in a trailer, exercising them, or handling them in a Show Ring than most of the others in 4H and FFA, at a Stock Show. It made me real proud of her.

I also wanted to remind her of how happy she was when we got a new trailer to replace that old green trailer to haul her hogs to the stock Shows. Of course I will admit that it was a great improvement and I may have been as proud of it as she was because we needed it too. I think Jason was glad we had it when he moved back to Texas from Kentucky.

I hope you have lots more good memories but the main one is to always remember how much we loved you and still do.

Our love

Granddaddy Key + Grandmother Key

David Key + Alene Key

To Harrison Hayes - Our Great Grandson

Harrison, We are so proud that you are a part of our family. We always look forward to your visits and enjoy you so much.

We like to go with you to see the chickens and get the eggs. Also to stop at the garden and see what is growing in it. I am glad that you and I both like rocks. Buddy likes you a lot too and is always glad to see you.

We think you are such a nice boy and so polite and we are real proud of you. We LOVE you a lot

Granddaddy Key  
+ Grandmother Key



## *Descendants of David Patterson Key*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup> KEY was born February 19, 1808 in Fluvanna County, VA, and died January 24, 1897 in Menard County, TX. He married PARMELIA HARVEY May 30, 1854 in LA. She was born March 22, 1834 in Louisiana, and died March 14, 1919 in Menard County, TX.

Children of DAVID PATTERSON KEY and PARMELIA HARVEY are:

- i. HARRIET KEY
- ii. DAVID WALTER KEY
- iii. JOHN MARTIN KEY
- iv. ALFRED<sup>2</sup> KEY, b. April 10, 1865, Coleman County, TX; d. February 20, 1956, Robert Lee, Coke County, TX.
- v. THOMAS HARVEY KEY
- vi. TANDY KEY

### *Generation No. 2*

2. ALFRED<sup>2</sup> KEY (*DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 10, 1865 in Coleman County, TX, and died February 20, 1956 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX. He married CORNELIA MELROSE YOUNGBLOOD December 31, 1885 in Menard County, TX, daughter of JOHN YOUNGBLOOD and RACHEL SPROULS. She was born July 02, 1868 in Wise County, TX, and died February 21, 1937 in Edith, Coke County, TX.

Children of ALFRED KEY and CORNELIA YOUNGBLOOD are:

- i. VIDA PARMELIA KEY
- ii. JOSEPH CALVIN KEY
- iii. DAVID PATTERSON (D.P.)<sup>3</sup> KEY, b. February 22, 1894, Edith, Coke County, TX; d. June 23, 1975, Coke County, TX.
- iv. GRACE SPROULS KEY

### *Generation No. 3*

3. DAVID PATTERSON (D.P.)<sup>3</sup> KEY (*ALFRED<sup>2</sup>, DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup>*) was born February 22, 1894 in Edith, Coke County, TX, and died June 23, 1975 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX. D.P. married JESSIE SHROPSHIRE December 27, 1911 at Edith, Coke County, TX, daughter of BENJAMIN SHROPSHIRE and ANNIE DIXON. She was born July 16, 1891 in Williamson County, TX, and died October 14, 1981 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX.

Children of D.P. KEY and JESSIE SHROPSHIRE are:

- i. WILMA JEAN KEY, b. August 15, 1915
- ii. VERNIE DORIS KEY, b. February 21, 1917
- iii. DAVID PATTERSON KEY, JR.<sup>4</sup> b. October 21, 1921

#### *Generation No. 4*

4. DAVID PATTERSON KEY, JR.<sup>4</sup> (*D.P.<sup>3</sup>, ALFRED<sup>2</sup>, DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup>*) was born October 21, 1921 in Edith, Coke County, TX. He married ALENE GAINES September 6, 1947, in San Angelo, Tom Green County, TX, daughter of JESS GAINES and BEULAH KING. She was born April 29, 1927, in Hylton, Nolan County, TX.

Children of DAVID KEY and ALENE GAINES are:

- i. JOE DAVID<sup>5</sup> KEY<sup>5</sup>, b. May 29, 1952 in San Angelo, Tom Green County, TX
- ii. DEE ANNA KEY, b. September 21, 1963 in San Angelo, Tom Green County, TX; m. JOE HARMON August 25, 1990 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX, son of WILLIAM JOE HARMON and JULIA ANN HAZELIP.

#### *Generation No. 5*

5. JOE DAVID<sup>5</sup> KEY (*DAVID PATTERSON, JR.<sup>4</sup>, D.P.<sup>3</sup>, ALFRED<sup>2</sup>, DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup>*) was born May 29, 1952 in San Angelo, Tom Green, TX. He married TERESA KAYE (TERI) McMILLAN June 25, 1976 in Christoval, Tom Green, TX, the daughter of C.L. (BUZZ) McMILLAN and VIRGINIA THORP. She was born April 23, 1955, in Artesia, NM.

Children of JOE DAVID KEY and TERI McMILLAN are:

- i. JASON DAVID<sup>6</sup> KEY, b. November 16, 1977 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX.
- ii. JESSICA LEANN KEY, b. December 3, 1979 in San Angelo, Tom Green, TX.

#### *Generation No. 6*

6. JASON DAVID<sup>6</sup> KEY, (*JOE DAVID<sup>5</sup>, DAVID PATTERSON, JR.<sup>4</sup>, D.P.<sup>3</sup>, ALFRED<sup>2</sup>, DAVID PATTERSON<sup>1</sup>*) was born November 16, 1977 in Robert Lee, Coke County, TX. He married JENNIFER PARKS on May 1, 2004 in College Station, TX.

Child of JASON KEY and JENNIFER PARKS:

- i. HARRISON BAYLOR HAYES, b. June 25, 1998

Descendants of Benjamin Newton Shropshire  
Generation No. 1

1 Benjamin Newton<sup>1</sup> Shropshire was born 3 July 1830 in Autauga Co., Alabama and died 27 July 1921 in San Angelo, Tom Green Co., Tx. He married Matilda Annis Cox 10 June 1858. She was born 1 Dec 1840 in Arkansas and died 28 Mar. 1912 in Austin, Travis Co., Tx.

Children of Benjamin Newton Shropshire + Matilda Cox

1. Henry Ausborn Shropshire
2. Andrew Jackson Shropshire
- 2 3. Benjamin Washington<sup>2</sup> Shropshire
4. Mary Elizabeth Shropshire
5. Asa Emmet Shropshire
6. Josiah Charles Shropshire
7. Martha Mathela Shropshire
8. Carrie Annis Shropshire
9. Naaman Edgar Shropshire
10. George Walter Shropshire
11. Minnie See Shropshire

Generation No. 2

2 Benjamin Washington<sup>2</sup> Shropshire (Benjamin Newton<sup>1</sup>) was born 23 May 1862 in Blanco Co., Tx and died 18 Feb 1959 in Austin, Travis Co., Tx. He married Annie Keziah Dixon 1 Oct 1890. She was <sup>born</sup> 25 July 1871 in Boaz, Alabama daughter of Thomas Dixon + Frances Simpson. She died 6 Dec 1955 in Roscoe, Tx.

Children of Benjamin W Shropshire + Annie Dixon are

3

1. Jessie Mable<sup>3</sup> Shropshire
2. Cecil Annis Shropshire
3. Kenneth Francis Shropshire
4. Lois Josephine Shropshire
5. Leslie Carol Shropshire
6. Charles Benjamin Shropshire
7. Thomas Ford Shropshire
8. Marguerite Shropshire

Generation No. 3

3 Jessie Mable<sup>3</sup> Shropshire (Benjamin Washington<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Newton<sup>1</sup>) was born 16 July 1891 in Williamson County, Tx and died 14 Oct 1981 in Robert Lee, Coke Co., Tx. She married David Patterson (D.P.) Key son of Alf Key and Cornelia Youngblood 27 Dec 1911 at Edith, Tx. He was born 22 Feb 1894 at Edith, Coke Co., Tx. and died 23 June 1975 at Robert Lee, Coke Co., Tx.

children of Jessie Shropshire and D. P. Key are

1. Wilma Jean Key b. 15 Aug 1915
2. Vernie Doris Key b. 21 Feb 1917
3. David Patterson Key, Jr. 21 Oct 1921

4.

Generation No. 4

David Patterson<sup>4</sup> Key, Jr. (Jessie Shropshire<sup>3</sup> Benjamin Washington<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Newton<sup>1</sup>) was born 21 Oct 1921 at Edith, Tx Coke Co. He married Alene V. Gaines 6 Sept 1947 at San Angelo, Tom Green Co., Tx. She is daughter of Jess and Beulah Ellen King Gaines born at Nylton, Nolan Co., Tx. on 29 Apr 1927



Children of David Key + Aylene Gaines are:

- 5
1. Joe David Key b. 29 May 1952 at San Angelo, Tx
  2. Dee Anna Key b. 21 Sept 1963 at San Angelo, Tx  
(Dee Anna married Wm. Joe Harmon, Jr 25 Aug 1990 at Robert Lee, Tx)

Generation No. 5

5 Joe David<sup>5</sup> Key (David<sup>4</sup> Key, Jessie Mable<sup>3</sup> Shropshire Benjamin W<sup>2</sup> Benjamin N<sup>1</sup>) born 29 May 1952 at San Angelo, Tom Green Co., Tx. He married Teresa (Teri) McMillan 25 June 1976 at Christoval, Tx daughter of C.L. (Buzz) and Virginia Thorp. Teri was born 23 Apr 1955 at Artesia, Eddy Co., New Mexico.

Children of Joe David Key and Teri McMillan

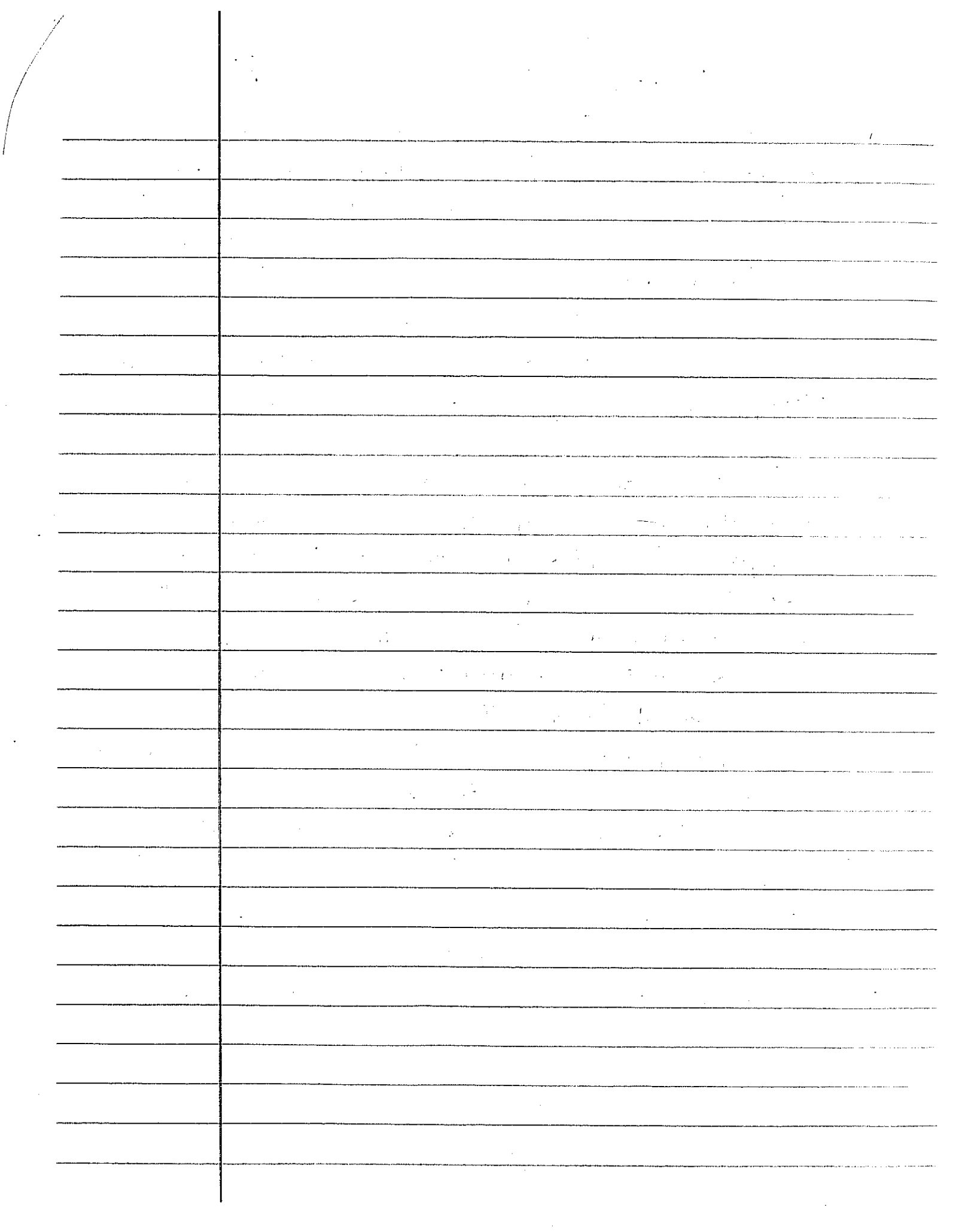
- 6
1. Jason David Key b. 16 Nov 1977
  2. Jessica Leann Key b. 3 Dec. 1979

Generation No. 6

6 Jason David<sup>6</sup> Key (Joe David<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Jessie Shropshire<sup>3</sup> Benjamin W<sup>2</sup> Shropshire Benjamin N<sup>1</sup> Shropshire) married Jennifer Parks Hayes 1st May 2004 at Bryan, Texas daughter of Larry Warren Parks and Maureen Sharon Rice Jennifer was born 25 Dec 1978 at Kerrville, Tx.

Children of Jason and Jennifer are:

1. Harrison Baylor Hayes b. 25 June 1998



# Descendants of David Patterson Key

## Generation No. 1

- 1 1. David Patterson Key was born 19 Feb 1868 in Furanna Co Va. and died 24 Jan 1897 in Menard Co., Tx. He married Parmelia Harvey 30 May 185 in Louisiana. She was born 22 March 1834 in Louisiana and died 14 March 1919 in Menard Co, Tx.

Children of David Patterson Key and Parmelia Harvey:

1. Harriet Key
2. David Walter Key
3. John Martin Key
- 2 4. Alfred (A2f) Key
5. Thomas Harvey Key
6. Tandy Key

## Generation No. 2

- 2 Alfred (A2f)<sup>2</sup> Key, (David Patterson') was born 10 April 1865 in Coleman Co., Tx. He died in Robert Lee, Coke Co, Tx 20 Feb 1956. He married Cornelia Melrose Youngblood 31 Dec. 1885 in Menard Co, Tx, daughter of John Henry Youngblood and Rachel Sprouls. She was born 2 July 1868 in Wise Co, Tx, and died in Edith, Coke Co, Tx 22 Feb 1937.

Children of Alf Key and Cornelia Youngblood:

1. Viola Parmelia Key
2. Joseph Calvin (Noda) Key
- 3 David Patterson (D.P.) Key
- 3 4. Grace Sprouls Key