

Chapter 4: Second Family

Henry & Alva



Henry's second wife Alva May Thomas was born Aug 24, 1881, the second child of six, born to Robert R. G. and Susan Virginia (Woodyard) Thomas in Mechanicsburg, Bland County, Virginia. Alva had four brothers and one little sister. Alva died July 24, 1969, in Duhring, Mercer County, West Virginia, and was also buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Bluewell, West Virginia

Alva was living with a lady who paid her a quarter per day to stay with her. The lady took Alva with her to a meeting one night in Bland where Alva met Henry. A year after Henry's first wife Elizabeth died, he and Alva married March 8, 1900, in Bland County, Virginia.

They moved to Duhring, WV, by wagon where Alva's father had sold real estate some time before in Princeton (1887 real estate office, see Appendix C: Photographs - Miscellaneous). During the long trip north the family camped along the Wilderness Road Trail. Many tales were told about the adventure across the mountains into West Virginia.

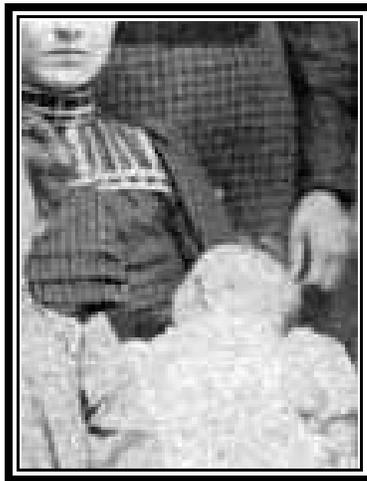
A little later Henry's mother Sarah moved in with them. Alva once made the statement that Sarah was a wicked old woman, but she helped out a lot with the kids. Sarah is supposed to be buried at the King Cemetery near Duhring, but a headstone is yet to be found.

Henry settled his family in Owens Hollow where they had seven kids. Wise farmed, delivered coal by wagon, and was custodian at Montcalm Grade School. Each of his kids were assigned certain rooms to clean to help out the family.

Children of Henry & Alva

In the this section, because more individuals are still living, the birth dates of Henry's children and spouses, as well as the grandchildren, have been omitted for privacy and security reasons.

Susan Arizona 'Zona'



An excerpt from family photo with Baby Zona shown sleeping on her mother's lap.

Susan Arizona Arrington

DOB: Dec. 31, 1900

DOD: Jul. 30, 1902 (1½ years old)

Buried: King Cemetery, Mercer Co., WV

Lizzie Mae



Lizzie Mae Arrington

DOB: Jun. 19, 1903

DOD: Jan. 19, 1999; Beckley, WV

Buried: Woodlawn Cem, Bluewell, WV

Spouse: Everette H. Tankersley

DOB: 1897, Duhring, WV

DOD: 1957, Bluewell, WV

Buried: Roselawn Cem., Princeton, WV



1st Marriage: Jun. 19, 1923, Princeton, WV

Children:

Lillard & Jack

2nd Marriage: (unknown)



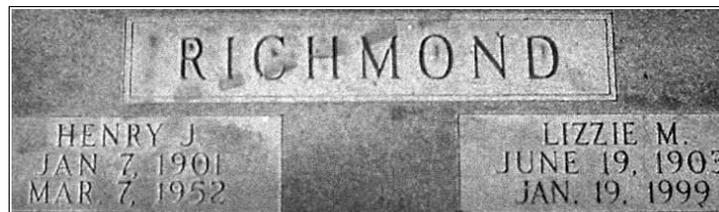
Spouse: Henry Richmond

DOB: Jan. 7, 1901, Dunns, WV

DOD: Mar. 7, 1952, McComas (mines), WV

Buried: Roselawn Cem., Princeton, WV

No children



Lila Clifford

Lila Clifford Arrington

DOB: Jun. 29, 1905, Duhring, WV
DOD: Apr. 10, 1997, Duhring, WV
Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV

Spouse: Luther Shrader

DOB: Aug. 23, 1897, Duhring, WV
DOD: Jun. 17, 1959, Duhring, WV
Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV



Marriage: Dec. 26, 1923, Montcalm, WV

Children:

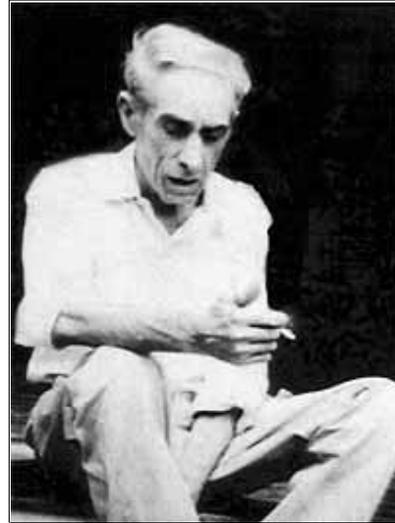
Elizabeth
'Ed'
Erlene
Elaine
Thomas

Mary Bane



Mary Bane Arrington

DOB: Oct. 24, 1908, Duhring, WV
DOD: Jun. 25, 1980, Beckley, WV
Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV



Spouse: Hector Bryan 'Bill' Bailey

DOB: Oct. 7, 1897, Duhring, WV
DOD: Mar. 11, 1958, Josephine, WV
Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV

1st Marriage: May 31, 1926

Children:

Leonard Virginia
Gene Earl
Betty

2nd Marriage: (unknown)



Spouse: William Harvey 'Country' Hurst

DOB: (unknown)
DOD: (unknown)
Buried: (unknown)

No children

Joseph 'Joe' Jeffery



Joseph Jeffery Arrington

DOB: Jun. 17, 1911, Duhring, WV
DOD: May 5, 1966, Montcalm, WV
Buried: Roselawn Cem, Princeton, WV

Spouse: Edna Ernestine Shrader

DOB: Mar. 10, 1919, Duhring, WV
DOD: May 15, 1997, Winston-Salem, NC
Buried: Roselawn Cem, Princeton, WV



Marriage: Jan. 11, 1937, Pearisburg, VA

Children:

Wilma Wanda
Ken t Leslie

Notes About 'Joe':

Kent Arrington remembers a few stories told by his father:

In 1917, Wise and son Joe would leave at daylight with a team of horses and a wagon to bring back a load of bricks from Mataoka, that had arrived by train for the grade school's construction. Each load took a full day to deliver. Time could be saved if the Bluestone River was frozen over and they could drive the load across.

Joe, his mother, and a team of horses were terrified when they saw and heard the first noisy automobile in the area on a trip up Goodwill Hollow.

Gracie Irene



Gracie Irene Arrington
Born in Duhring, WV

Spouse: Connie Meade
DOB: Sept. , 1913
DOD: Dec. , 1999, Dayton, OH
Buried: Willowview Cem., Dayton, OH

Marriage: (unknown)

Children:
Wilburn
Connie Ray
June

Henry Wise 'HW', Jr



Henry Wise Arrington, Jr

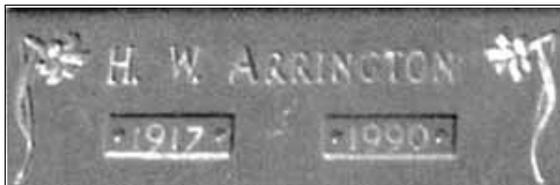
DOB: Mar. 17, 1917, Duhring, WV

DOD: May 13, 1990, Bluefield, WV

Buried: Roselawn Cem., Princeton, WV

Spouse: Daphna Pigg

From McComas, WV



Marriage: Mar. 25, 1937, Pearisburg, VA

Children:

Wayne

Notes About 'H'

The following is an excerpt from *The Arrington-Pigg Family History*, submitted to the Mercer County Historical Society, by Wayne E. Arrington, Sr. (4).

Originally named 'HW', initials which didn't stand for anything, 'H' always had trouble in his adult life with government and business insisting on giving them his "proper name". So 'H' officially changed his name to that of his father, with the same initials, and became a Junior.

He went to work at Crane Creek for Pochontas Fuel Company and was transferred to the new Deerfield mine as a equipment operator. He hauled the very first load of coal from the mine to be dumped into a railcar. The company was later bought by Consolidated Coal Company (now CONSOL), which "H" later retired from after forty years of service. Many of his mining and railroad memorabilia has been donated to the Craft Memorial Library's Mining and Railroad Museum.

'H' and Daphna lived in Covell coal camp in Wyoming Co. 'H' volunteered as an umpire and referee for the county schools during the 1940s and 50s, for which he received a Letter of Appreciation from Mullens High School in 1994, after his death. 'H' was a talented "jack-of-all-trades" helping out family and friends with many a home project. He was a big race fan and traveled many miles to see a NASCAR race. 'H' was also an avid wild game hunter, bagging a 600 pound black bear and a wild boar as trophies to prove it.

Daphna was one of two daughters born to W. F. and Maggie (Booth) Pigg. She attended Montcalm High School and helped her mother work in their general store at Rock. Daphna took many a case of bottles to the Rock Bottling Company as a little girl, and remembers pop costing a nickel. She also remembers catching a train every weekend at 4:00 AM to visit relatives in nearby towns. Like most young couples of the time, Daphna and 'H' were never left alone until they were married and were constantly chaperoned by Daphna's older sister Creola.

After she and 'H' moved to Princeton in 1958, Daphna worked as a school lunch cook for the Mercer County School System for a number of years before retiring. At age 73, Daphna received a Letter of Appreciation for her many hours of volunteer work for the Princeton Community Hospital near her home. Now at age 81, she still loves to travel, having visited 49 of the 50 United States (Hawaii is just too far she says).

'H' and Daphna spent fifty-three years together and raised their son through the end of the Great Depression. They worked hard all their lives and tried to contribute as much as they could to their family, community and local churches.

Emily Ellen



Emily Ellen Arrington

DOB: Oct. 11, 1919, During, WV

DOD: Dec. 10, 1985, Beckley, WV

Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV

Spouse: Albert Fares

DOB: Dec. 28, 1916, Nuerva, WV

DOD: Mar. 10, 1953, Amigo (mines), WV

Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV



Marriage: Mar. 1, 1941

Children:

Junior

Vince

Susan

Frances Lilburn



Frances Lilburn Arrington

Born in Duhring, WV



Spouse: Louie Fuda

DOB: Feb. 17, 1919, McComas, WV

DOD: Dec. 3, 1977, Princeton, WV

Buried: Woodlawn Cem., Bluewell, WV

Marriage: Jun. 15, 1940

Children:

Larry

Annetta

Thomas Lynn

Virginia Sue

Richard