

Early Krum Families

Dr. Albert Henry "A.H." & Bertha Helen (Killian) Knox

Arrival in Krum Area around 1900

By Kathryn Dodd, Susan Dodd & Della Davis

Dr. William Glen Knox and his family moved to Texas from McMinn County, Tennessee, in the early 1890's settling first in Collin County; then in 1896, the father and two sons Jim and John, bought a farm southeast of Slidell. Three of his sons and two daughters joined the gold rush in 1897 going first to Cripple Creek, Colorado, and then in 1898, to the Klondike. One never came back and after a successful venture in Alaska, two sons and one daughter returned and one of the daughters A. Cora stayed, married and had a gold mine and son there. The farm, where their father had remained during their absence was sold. John bought a farm at Abilene, Texas and Jim and Dr. W.G. bought a ranch west of the Joe Barnett farm.

Dr. Albert Henry "A.H." Knox, son of W.G. Knox, graduated from the University of Louisville, Kentucky, School of Medicine and around 1892 to 1893 took over Dr. Daniel Killians's practice in Pilot Grove, Texas in Grayson County. Dr. Killian would become his father-in-law in 1895. He practiced medicine in Pilot Grove until 1909 when he moved to Krum, Texas. On his visits to his parents in Krum, he became interested in the potentials in Denton County and he 1909 he and his family moved to Krum where he established a bank and cotton gin.

Dr. Knox was a practicing physician in Pilot Grove, Texas for close to 15 years. He established a bank and gin in Krum in 1909. He served as President of Farmers and Merchants Bank from 1937-1947. He retired from banking in 1943. He was a banker for over 33 years and served as president of Farmers and Merchants from 1937-1947. Dr. Knox was also a farmer and worked with the Experiment Station on improving strains of seed; worked with farmers on soil conservation; experimented with early-maturing (to foil the boll weevil menace), longer-staple cotton that would produce well in the area; was a charter member of the Texas Cotton Ginners Association. For years, he and Mr. Bishop (a cotton ginner from Justin) made numerous trips to Austin to petition the Texas Highway Department to build a road down the Santa Fe to Fort Worth, sometimes going alone and again leading a delegation of interested businessmen. Their efforts were unrealized until the 1940's and neither man lived to make a trip over the new road.

Dr. A.H. Knox married Bertha Helen Killian February 1895 in Grayson County Texas. Bertha was born in June 1874 and was the daughter of Daniel W. Killian and Martha McClure. Dr. A.H. Knox died in 1947 and his wife Bertha in 1968. Both are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

Dr. A.H. and Bertha (Killian) Knox had the following children:

Edith May Knox was born in 1895 and died in 1987. She attended North Texas State Normal College (now UNT). In August 1917 she married Lieutenant Roy Earl Patterson of Stony. They met while Edith was a teacher at Stony. They had three children Patricia, Richard and Sally Ruth Patterson.

Albert Howell Knox was born in 1897 and died in 1979. He married Junie Belle Wilkins and they had two children J. Wendell Knox and Nancy Knox. Howell became president of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank in 1953 and served in that position until 1972. He had been working at the bank since the 1930's. He was connected with the bank for more than 60 years, taking 2 years out for the Navy in World War I. Albert Howell and Junie are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

Helen Jane Knox was born in 1898 and died in 1988. She attended C.I. A. (College of Industrial Arts later known as T.W.U) and after her graduation taught in the Orange, the Lockney, and the Ardmore, Oklahoma schools. In July 1924 Helen married Ralph Ashworth and they had one son Dale Knox Ashworth who died at age 8. Helen, Ralph and Dale are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

John Cecil Knox was born in 1900 and died in 1962. He attended the Peacock Military School at San Antonio and NTSU. He married Mary Maxine Frieze and had two daughters Cecilia Kay and Ena Ray Knox. Cecil worked at the Farmers and Merchants State Bank for several years and then owned and operated Knox-Hilliard Oil Co in Krum. Cecil was a Navy veteran of World War I, a member of the First Methodist Church and a Mason. John Cecil and Maxine Knox are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

Douglas Weir Knox born in 1902 and died in 1965. He attended Peacock Military Academy and Texas Christian University. He married Mary Colleen Stanley and they had one son Cecil Scott Knox. When he died in 1965, Douglas was an assistant to the vice president of Denver based Midwest Oil Corporation. He was nationally known in petroleum and tax circles. In 1940 he joined Argo Oil Corporation as an accountant and in 1951 became affiliated with Midwest Oil Corporation. In 1953, after four years as comptroller he was appointed financial vice president a post he held until he became an assistant to the Midwest president.

Ruth Marcella Knox was born in 1903 and died in 1989. Ruth was a graduate of C.I.A (Texas Woman's University) -historically the College of Industrial Arts and Texas State College for Women, commonly known as TWU, served as executive secretary of the Ex-Students association. She taught in the public schools of Orange and Port Arthur and Lordsburg, New Mexico. In 1930 she married John Hilliard who died 1935 leaving Ruth with a 4 year old child Anne. Ruth started to work at Farmers & Merchants State Bank in 1949. She was the Vice-President when she retired in 1974. Ruth experienced many exciting moments while working at the F & M Bank. She was present for robberies that occurred in 1954 and 1959. In 1954 the robber came into the bank 3 times during the day and the last time armed with an automatic pistol and locked Mrs. Ruth Hilliard and Wendell Knox in the vault. In 1959 Charles Roy McCrory walked into the bank asking about a savings account. An article in the Paris Texas News from March 20, 1959 says that McCrory later told his captors and newsmen that he handed a note to Mrs. Hilliard which read: "I want to borrow \$2,000 for two years. Give me all your \$5, \$10, and \$20 bills. My looks is my security." He went on to say "When she put her hand into the drawer," he laughed, "I thought she was going for a gun and she nearly scared the living daylights out of me, I made a noise" and she said, "I'm just getting the money for you."

Marjorie Wanda Knox was born in 1908 and died in 1982. Marjorie was a graduate of Texas Wesleyan College in Fort Worth where she was a member of the Susan M. Key Literary Society, member of the Press Club and was circulating manager of The Handout, the college newspaper. In March 1933 she married Herbert C. Barthold, son of Krum pioneers Herman C. Barthold and Caroline Lena Koenig. Marjorie and Herbert had four children Rodney, Susan, Jane and Kathleen who died at age 2. Herbert and Marjorie were very active members of the Krum Methodist Church. Marjorie was the music director, played the organ and piano there for over 50 years and was a member of the United Methodists Women's Society. Herbert was Superintendent of the Sunday school for many years and sang in the church choir. Marjorie and Herbert are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

Knox descendants still live in the Krum area to this day and a grandson Rodney Barthold lives in the family home.



A.H. & Bertha (Killian) Knox



Edith Knox



Howell Knox



Helen Knox



Cecil Knox



Ruth Knox



Douglas Knox



Marjorie Knox