Richard Valentin Braeutigam

Richard Braeutigam ---------- December 3, 1859 to March 27, 1927
Married: December 15, 1881
Bertha Weyrich ---------- July 29, 1860 to November 18, 1940

Children:

Marie Sophie ---------- June 13, 1883 to May 4, 1907

Sophie ---------- August 11, 1884 to July 16, 1885

Emilie Elsie ------ September 9, 1885 to June 24, 1948

Martha Mathilda ----------June 1, 1887 to

Christine Lena ---------- May 25, 1889 to

Ernest William --------- August 6, 1890 to

Margaret (Gretchen) --September 7, 1893 to

August Richard --------- April 19, 1895 to

Herman Arno ---------- June 14, 1901 to

Bertha Alma --------- November 11, 1903 to

Richard Valentin Braeutigam

Richard Valentin Braeutigam
Born: December 3, 1859
Died: March 27, 1927
Married: December 15, 1881
To: Bertha Weyrich
Born: July 29, 1860
Died: November 18, 1940

A. Marie Sophie Braeutigam (Mariechen)
Born: June 13, 1883
Died: May 4, 1907
Married: May 25, 1905
To: Percy Beal
Born: 1882
Died: November 27, 1955

B. Sophie Braeutigam
Born: August 11, 1884
Died: July 16, 1885

C. Emilie Elise Braeutigam
Born: September 9, 1885
Died: June 24, 1948
Married: April 28, 1909
To: John Kott
Born: October 3, 1884
Died: February 12, 1915

1. Lorene Elizabeth
Born: March 13, 1911
Died:
Married: August 11, 1934
To: William T. Salisbury
Born: January 22, 1911
Died:

a. William T. Salisbury, Jr.
Born: October 8, 1936
Died:
Married: November 21, 1959
To: Gayle Juanita Brymildsen
Born: November 25, 1940
Died:
(1.) David Harriss
Born: January 3, 1963
(2.) Lorene Jane
Born: June 18, 1965

b. Joanne Salisbury
Born: July 12, 1944
Died:
Married: July 1, 1967
To: Jack Line Mohler
Born: October 2, 1941

Divorced

2. Norma Margaret
Born: March 22, 1912
Died:
Married: August 17, 1930
To: Alton B. Collins (Johnnie)
Born:
Died:

a. Robert Alton (Bob)
Born: February 12, 1937
Died:
Married: March 10, 1962
To: Johnette Jarret
Born: November 22, 1938
Divorced

Robert Alton's second marriage was August 30, 1969 to Doris Ann Richards.

b. Elissa Lou (Lisa)
Born: November 20, 1943
Died:

c. Brian Charles
Born: May 23, 1945
Died:
Married: May 31, 1969
To: Paula Marie Black
Born:

3. John August Kott
Born: March 3, 1914
Died:
Married: December 14, 1941
To: Barbara Evans
Born: February 2, 1918
Died:

a. Jon Nicholl
Born: March 25, 1943
Died:
Married:
To: Donna Jo Wheeler
Born: March 6, 1945

b. Sallye
Born: September 26, 1947
Died:

Emilie Elise Braeutigam Kott's second marriage: October 16, 1943 to Percy Beal. He was born in 1882 and died November 27, 1955.

D. Martha Mathilda Braeutigam
Born: June 1, 1887
Died:
Married: November 20, 1909
To: Arthur Otto Kott
Born: September 20, 1882
Died: September 29, 1946

1. Orlondo Taft Kott
Born: November 16, 1910
Died:
Married: February 24, 1940
To: Charlsey Carrol Grey
Born: October 29, 1909
Divorced in 1953.

a. Frederick (Fritz) Warren Kott
Born: April 19, 1945
Died:
Married: December 7, 1968
To: Kit (Kitty) Mixon
Born: December 16, 1949
(a descendant of Kit Carson)

b. Jeanie Carrol Kott
Born: May 2, 1947
Died:
Married: March 22, 1967
To: Borge E. Freeberg, Jr.
Born: April 8, 1943
Died:

Orlando T. Kott remarried in 1955 to Francis E. Boyd. They were divorced in 1969. They had no children.

2. Ernest Kott
Born: April 7, 1912
Died: September 23, 1923

3. Arthur Richard Kott
Born: June 29, 1916
Died:
Married: September 29, 1939
To: Carolyn Jane Brewer
Born: May 19, 1919
Died:

a. Gloria Juanita Kott
Born: June 8, 1944
Died:
Married: November 1, 1962
To: Arnold Wayne Moore
Born: January 30, 1943
Died:

(1) Sheila Diane Moore
Born: July 28, 1968
Died:

b. Daniel Roy Kott
Born: July 11, 1949
Died:

E. Christine Lina Braeutigam
Born: May 25, 1889
Died:
Married: September 22, 1908
To: Louis Elgin Brodie
Born: January 25, 1877
Died: March 6, 1941

1. Mary Neal Brodie
Born: August 25, 1909
Died:
Married: August 26, 1934
To: Kurt Alfred Hansen
Born: August 8, 1909
Died:

a. Carol Annette Hansen
Born: January 21, 1938
Died:
Married: July 19, 1959
To: Wilburn Meier
Born: November 10, 1935
Died:

(1) Teresa Lynn
Born: May 6, 1961
Died:

(2) Todd Neil
Born: August 2, 1962
Died:

(3) Charlotte Anise
Born: October 22, 1963
Died:

b. Emily Christine Hansen (Chrissy)
Born: April 8, 1945
Died:
Married: November 26, 1966
To: Richard Stuewe
Born: April 11, 1945
Died:

(1) Timothy Craig Stuewe
Born: September 15, 1968

2. Eleanor Bertha Brodie
Born: March 2, 1916
Married: February 18, 1939
To: Edgar E. Durst
Born: October 30, 1906

3. Christine Louise Brodie
Born: December 4, 1920
Married: April 9, 1951
To: Willard Lee King
Born: November 22, 1918

a. Susan Eleanor King
Born: December 23, 1951

b. Sally Ann King
Born: June 14, 1952

E. Ernest William Braeutigam
Born: August 6, 1890
Died:
Married: June 28, 1913
To: Annie Laurie Fellbaum
Born: April 14, 1894
Died:

1. Elizabeth Christine
Born: December 24, 1915
Died:
Married: August 11, 1940
To: R. Carl Price
Born: September 12, 1911
Died:

a. R. Carl Price III
Born: February 19, 1948
Died:

b. Laura Lynn Price
Born: July 4, 1943
Died:
Married: June 28, 1969
To: Joe Neal McClendon
Born: October 22, 1939
Died:

c. Richard William Price
Born: November 28, 1951
Died:

2. Mary Edith
Born: September 8, 1924
Died:
Married: July 27, 1946
To: Francis Allen Goplen
Born: January 19, 1924
Died:

a. Ruth Marie Goplen
Born: June 3, 1951
Died:

b. Mary Ellen Goplen
Born: August 9, 1961
Died:

c. Elizabeth Anne Goplen
Born: June 4, 1964
Died:

3. Joanne Ernestine
Born: March 23, 1927
Died:
Married: July 4, 1930
To: Dr. Harry K. Davis
Born: March 10, 1926
Died:

a. Stephen Keith
Born: April 17, 1955

b. Kathyrn Dianne (adopted)
Born: March 6, 1957

c. Susan Elizabeth (adopted)
Born: June 7, 1957

G. Margarethe (Gretchen) Cornelia Braeutigam
Born: September 7, 1893
Died:
Married: November 24, 1915
To: Ernest Grasso
Born: December 30, 1887
Died: April 20, 1955

1 .Marie Christine Grasso
Born: October 13, 1917
Died:

2. Carl August Grasso
Born: March 19, 1920
Died:
Married: January 9, 1955
To: Wanda Lee Dysart
Born: June 18, 1925
Died:

a. Donald Bruce Grasso
Born: November 13, 1956
Died:

b. Ralph Ernest Grasso
Born: January 25, 1959
Died:

3. Helen Margaret Grasso
Born: October 23, 1921
Died:
Married: April 25, 1943
To: Dr. Arthur Ralph Watson
Born: September 4, 1917
Died:

a. Barbara Margaret Watson
Born: March 11, 1949
Died:
Married: June 23, 1967
To: Alan Mihran Arabian
Born: March 28, 1945
Died:

b. David Ralph Watson
Born: February 27, 1948
Died:

c. Paul Frederick Watson
Born: January 29, 1952
Died:

H H. August Richard Braeutigam
Born: April 19, 1895
Died:
Married: July 28, 1917
To: Jewel Trice
Born: November 28, 1894
Died:
1. Jean Winifred Braeutigam
Born: September 24, 1922
Died:
Married: May 27, 1949
To: Robert E. Farley
Born: September 17, 1920
Died:
a. Steven Craig Farley
Born: November 29, 1951
Died:
b. Kenneth Allen Farley
Died:
Born: November 22, 1953
2. Donald James Braeutigam
Born: January 17, 1934
Died:
Not Married

I. Herman A. Braeutigam
Born: June 14, 1901
Died:
Married: June 23, 1928
To: Mary Bryant Nash
Born: September 23, 1900
Died:
1. Richard Kensing Braeutigam
Born: September 9, 1931
Died:
Married: April 7, 1954
To: Anne Hall
Born: January 3, 1932
Died:
a. Deborah Anne
Born: November 26, 1954
Died:

b. Kenneth Mark
Born: March 15, 1956
Died:

c. Stephen Nash
Born: October 27, 1958
Died:

d. John Richard
Born: November 27, 1960
Died:

e. Margaret Hall
Born: December 3, 1962
Died:

2. Mary Lois Braeutigam
   Born: May 19, 1934
   Died:
   Married: October 16, 1955
      To: William D. Hartgroves
         Born: July 4, 1932
         Died:
   Divorced

   a. Susan Dianne Hartgroves
      Born: November 26, 1955
      Died:

   Second Marriage: February 23, 1964
      To: R. Harvey Loe, Jr.
         Born: April 4, 1933
         Died:

3. Margaret Christine Braeutigam
   Born: October 9, 1936
   Died:
   Married: September 14, 1957
      To: Richard D. Hughes
         Born:
         Died:
   Divorced

   a. David D. Hughes
      Born: July 14, 1958
      Died:

   b. Thomes Braeutigam Hughes
      Born: May 2, 1960
      Died:

   Second Marriage:
      To: Robert Gage Evans
         Born:
         Died:

J. Bertha Alma Braeutigam
Born: November 11, 1903
Died:
Married: September 24, 1925
To: H. Harriss Gibson
Born: July 15, 1899
Died: June 22, 1963

1. Charlotte Mae Gibson
Born: December 22, 1926
Died: November 27, 1927
2. Anna Jeannine Gibson
Born: June 29, 1929
Died:
Married: June 24, 1951
To: Raymond D. St. Peter
Born: February 14, 1925
Died:
a. Kristi Elise St. Peter
Born May 26, 1953
b. Rayann St. Peter
Born: October 22, 1956
c. Shelly Marie St. Peter
Born: May 12, 1959

3. Margaret Elise Gibson
Born: December 27, 1933
Died:
Married: June 11, 1955
To: Ralph H. Womack
Born: August 30, 1934
Died:
a. Clay Harris Womack
Born: May 21, 1960
b. David Ralph Womack
Born: May 13, 1963
c. Melissa Leigh Womack
Born: January 17, 1966

Second marriage
Hebert L. Swearingen
Born: January 24, 1897
Died:
Married: December 6, 1964

His children:

1. Hebert Van Swearingen
Born: June 4, 1931
2. Garland Foscue Swearingen
Born: February 28, 1934

RICHARD VALTINE BRAEUTIGAN (1859-1927) and wife:
BERTHA CHARLOTTE AMALIE WEYRICH BRAEUTIGAM (1860-1940)

Richard Valtine Braeutigam was born December 3, 1859, the third son of Johann Wolfgang and Christine Kensing Braeutigam, who lived at Drei Kricken, now Luckenbach, Texas. In 1870, at the age of 11, he moved with his parents to Fort Martin Scott, an abandoned fort which was located on a 640 acre tract of land his father had purchased near Fredericksburg. He attended the Grape Creek school until this move to town, and thereafter he attended school in Fredericksburg. This was before the days of the Public School System, and the childrens' education was possible by means of tuition paid by the family direct to the teacher.

During his "teen" years, Richard participated in the transformation of the old fort into the family home, and the establishing of his father's store, saloon, race track and dance hall, all of which became known as "Braeutigam's Garten." There he was a first-hand spectator and/or participant in the many festivities which took place there.

On December 15, 1881, he and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich, born July 29, 1860, were married at Fredericksburg, Texas. Bertha was the daughter of Johann Carl Weyrich (1819-1908) and Anna Margarethe Heuser (1822-1904), who were also colonists.

For three years, Richard and Bertha farmed near the Pedernales River, at the southern boundary of the land owned by his father. After the tragic death of his father on September 3, 1884, the young couple and their two small daughters, "Mariechen", and four week old Sophie, moved to his mother's home at the old fort, and for a few years they assisted in maintaining the family business. It was there in 1885, that death claimed their infant Sophie.

They returned to their original home on the Pedernales. Here they reared nine children, plus an orphaned nephew, Hugo Weyrich. This was a happy home, with much gaiety and music. "Uncle Richard and Aunt Bertha" also opened their home and hearts to several nephews and nieces, who came to live with them for many months, following the loss of their own homes or parents. The children attended Meusebach Creek School, which required their crossing the river each day, and a two mile walk.

The beautiful Pedernales was a source of much pleasure for the children and their friends and cousins who spent many happy hours swimming and wading there.

As young people, even before their marriage, Richard and Bertha, who both loved music, belonged to a group of singers called the "Gesang Verein," and attended the popular "Saengerfests" held throughout the German communities of Texas. This family's love of music was only natural, as Bertha too, came from a talented family. Her brother August, during a two year sojourn in Germany, was a member of a band composed of about 40 ZITHERS! Another brother, Carl (born 1855), for many years played a horn in the San Antonio Band. They also were active members of the Casino Club, which afforded them a happy social life, with dancing, masquerades, and little theater type entertainment. They belonged to the Hermann Sons Lodge and Auxilliary, and to the Farmer's Union.

(Richard and Bertha Braeutigam)

Sundays were always festive days for this family, as they formed a "family caravan", with Richard and Bertha and the younger children in the surry, followed by a buggy with older children, and the boys trailing on their favorite horses. Their destination was the large two story roch home of "Oma" and "Opa" Weyrich, on Main Street in Fredericksburg. Indeed, this family did not need one of the popular "Sunday Houses" of the day. They all attended the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and all except their two youngest children were confirmed in this church.

Following the death of "Oma" Weyrich in 1904, Bertha's father, left his large home and came to live with them for the four remaining years of his life.

On May 4, 1907, sadness entered the life of this family, when their eldest daughter, Marie (Mrs. Percy L. Beal) died at her home in Dallas, of Typhoid fever.

In 1909, Richard purchased a section of land in Leon County. He felt that this would enable him to fulfill a long-standing desire to engage in cattle raising as well as farming. He sold their home place on the Pedernales River to his brother, Otto Braeutigam; and Richard and Bertha and their four youngest children, Margaret, August, Herman, and Bertha, left their beloved land of many windmills and large rock houses, in the Hill Country, and moved to Jewett.

The 250 mile move was accomplished with two large wagons, and a hack, and required 16 days. They made one stop at Hohnson City, where they visited their daughter, Mathilda (Mrs. Arthur Kott), and also stopped at Austin a day or two in order to have one of the children fitted with eyeglasses.

The only pavement they encountered on this move to Leon County, was Congress Avenue at Austin, Texas! At Austin, they were joined by a young man, Ernest Grasso, from near Fredericksburg, who also was moving to Jewett. This young man was to become their son-in-law when he and their daughter, Margaret, were married several years later. They reached Jewett, December 14, 1909.

Jewett, on the I. G. & N. Railroad, was a thriving small town, with many pretty, gingerbread-trimmed, Victorian type houses. The "elite" in this town consisted of typical "Old Southern" type people, whose families had come from Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. There were also many Negroes there. This was a world completely new to Richard and Bertha Braeutigam!

There was no Lutheran Church there, so the Braeutigam family joined the Jewett Presbyterian Church. At times they attended the Baptist Church in the nearby Ephesus Community.

The country people of the area were extremely primitive; they lived in unpainted "dog-run" type houses, which offered poor protection against winter weather; they had no windmills and drew their water with a bucket and rope from their wells; and on Sundays these good people arrived at church in their battered mule-drawn farm wagons! What an astonishing sight for the eyes of Richard and Bertha!

(Richard and Bertha Braeutigam)

It was in Leon County that the Braeutigams were introduced to such foods as fresh black-eyed peas and turnip greens!

Needless to say, the Braeutigam family likewise was an immense curiosity to the local citizens, what with their speaking German, plus "school book" English with an accent! The old German custom of a "Weinacht's Baum" (Christmas tree) in the home was unheard of here, and at Christmas time, the local people came to gaze in wonder at the Braeutigam's Christmas tree!

Richard set up his windmill, and built a comfortable two story home, with a large front "gallery", the top of which was a big balcony with "gingerbread" bannister. He had tenants and share-croppers to assist with the farming and cattle raising. He fenced his pasture land, much to the consternation of his neighbors, as they still practiced the "open range" type of hog raising.

The children attended the "Griffin School" near their home, and the Braeutigam home naturally became the lodging and boarding place of their school teachers.

Richard and Bertha were not completely alone in their new surroundings. His sister, Christine (Mrs. W. W. Corby) and her family had also moved to Leon County, and were building for themselves a large English style country home in the near-by community of Ephesus. Their daughter, Christine (Mrs. Louis E. Brodie) and her school teacher husband, lived in the community for several years while he taught school there. Then, in 1915, their widowed daughter, Elsie (Mrs. John Kott), and her three little children, Lorene, Norma, and John, came to make their home with them. The eldest son, Ernest, and his family also lived in Jewett for many years.

In 1924, Richard's health failed due to a heart condition, and he became unable to continue his farming activities. He died March 27,1927.

His widow, Bertha, continued living at Jewett with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Grasso, until her passing on November 18, 1940.

Seven daughters and three sons were born to Richard and Bertha Braeutigam; they were:

Marie Sophie Braeutigam (Mrs. Percy L. Beal) born 1883, died 1907.
Sophie Braeutigam born 1884, died 1885.
Elise (or Elsie) Emilie Braeutigam (Mrs. John Kott) b.1885, d. 1948.
Second marriage to Percy L. Beal, former bro.-in-law.
Martha Mathilda Braeutigam (Mrs. Arthur O. Kott) b. 1887
Christine Lina Braeutigam (Mrs. Louis E. Brodie) b. 1889
Ernest William Braeutigam (married Annie Laurie Felbaum) b. 1890
Margaret Cornelia Braeutigam (Mrs. Ernest Grasso) b. 1893
August Richard Braeutigam (married Jewel Trice) b. 1893
Herman Arno Braeutigam (married Mary Nash) b. 1901
Bertha Alma Braeutigam (Mrs. Hampton Harris Gibson) b. 1903
Second marriage to Herbert Swearingen.

The graves of Richard Valtine Braeutigam and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich Braeutigam are located in the Sardis Cemetery, near Jewett, Texas.

Marie Sophie Braeutigam (Mrs. Percy L. Beal)

Marie Sophie Braeutigam was born June 13, 1883, at Fredericksburg, Texas. She was the eldest child of Richard Valtin Braeutigam and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich Braeutigam.

"Mariechen" was the beloved big sister of nine younger children, namely: Sophie (d. infancy), Elise, Mathilde, Christine, Ernest, Margaret, August, Herman, and Bertha.

Her parents lived on a farm near Fredericksburg, on the Pedernales River. In her young childhood Marie stayed in town with her maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Johan Carl Weyrich in order to attend school and came home on the week ends.

She was confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, at the age of 14, by the Rev. Steinman.

As a grown young girl she clerked for a while in the millinery store for her Aunt Emilie (Mrs. William Weyrich).

A visit to Menardville, to the Schuchardt family, was a happy event in her life.

Marie was a member of the church choir and she took part in plays at the Casino Club.

At a social affair at the Methodist Church at Fredericksburg she met Percy L. Beal. After about two years courtship, they were Married on May 25, 1905 and immediately moved to Dallas, where he was employed by the Equitable Life Insurance Company as a bookkeeper. Percy Beal had come to Fredericksburg from Salina, Kansas with his parents soon after the turn of the century. His father was the miller at Stuckens Mill and Percy worked there for a while too. He also was employed by Felix Reinbach in the confectionary store while he was a young man. A year after their marriage in happy anticipation she gave birth to a little son but learned in sorrow that he was stillborn.

She came home later in 1906, to attend her parents' Silver Wedding anniversary, a most happy occasion. Then, six months later, she contracted typhoid fever and passed away May 4, 1907. She was mourned by family and friends. She was buried in the City Cemetary of Fredericksburg next to Grandmother Christine Braeutigam.

Emilie Elise Braeutigam Kott Beal

On September 19, 1885, a third child, Emilie Elise, was born to Richard and Bertha Weyrich Braeutigam. "Elsie" as she was called, attended the Meusebach Creek School, a two mile walk across the Pedernales from her parents' home. Like most other children of the Braeutigam families, Elsie not only helped her mother with household chores and the care of younger children but worked in the fields as well, chopping and picking cotton. She had a nice alto voice and she and her younger sister Mathilde often sang duets on public occasions. As a young lady, she worked as a milliner in her Uncle William Weyrich's "Putzstore" in Fredericksburg. On April 26, 1909 she married John Kott, son of Edward and Amalie Priess Kott. The couple made their home in Fredericksburg where John and his brothers operated an automobile sales and repair business. After her husband's death on February 12, 1915, Elsie and her three small children moved to Jewett in Leon County, Texas and made their home with her parents on their farm south of Jewett. Her children, Lorene, Norma and John, attended the Jewett High School from which all three graduated. After graduation the two girls attended North Texas Agricultural College at Arlington. After their graduation from this junior college, Elsie moved her little family to Austin where Lorene and John entered the University of Texas. Having limited means, Elsie supported her family by taking other students as boarders and with help from a brother managed to provide her children with a university education.

On October 16, 1943 she married Percy Beal who had been married to her older sister Marie. (Marie passed away in 1907.)

On June 24, 1947 Elsie died as the result of an automobile accident near Norristown, Pennsylvania, where she and Percy lived. She was buried at the Valley Forge Cemetary. Percy Beal died several years later on November 27, 1953.

Elsie's children are all married. Lorene Elizabeth married William Salisbury of Westfield, New Jersey; Norma Married Alton B. (Johnnie) Collins of Ft. Worth; and John married Barbara Evans of Oklahoma.

Lorene Elizabeth Kott

Lorene Elizabeth Kott, the first child of Elsie and John Kott, was born in Fredericksburg, Texas March 13, 1911.

After the death of her father February 12, 1915 with her mother brother and sister, she moved to Jewett, Texas to live with her grandparents, Richard and Bertha Braeutigam on a farm.

Her memories of farm life are getting up at dawn, feeding the chickens, home for lunch, a nap and then back to the fields. Lorene's favorite chore was helping Grandma with her half acre vegetable garden and looking forward to a picnic and sharing the watermelon which was cooling in the creek.

When Lorene was 6 years old, her mother bought a house in Jewett. This brought the family closer to the schools and at this time Aunt Bertha and Uncle Herman came to live with them to be nearer to school. They lived there until they graduated from high school. During the summer months everyone went back to the farm to visit Grandma and Grandpa and work.

During the time they lived in their own house, Lorene's mother took in boarders. This meant washing, ironing, and cooking for as many as twelve men. When Lorene's mother felt ill, she would take over all the cooking (at age 12) for the twelve men - consequently became very adept at home making. To this day she is considered a wonderful homemaker and excellent cook.

When Lorene started school, teachers recognized the fact that she could sing and therefore was always chosen to take the lead in school plays. In fact, everyone predicted she would one day be an actress. This was unusual since Lorene was actually painfully shy in class and socially.

When she entered North Texas Agricultural College, she joined the Glee Club, Social Clubs and the Home Economics Club. After graduating she went for one year to the Sinclair Business College in Houston. After that, two years at the University of Texas, where she was active in the Home Economics Club and the Young Peoples Organization in the Presbyterian Church. It was at the University that Lorene met William Salisbury and became Mrs. Salisbury on August 11, 1934.

Bill came from Westfield, N.J., and after he met Lorene he left college a half year earlier to find a job so they could be married. And Lorene, still shy and retiring, traveled by bus from Austin, Texas to Westfield to join a family of six children. The Salisbury family lived in a 12 room house that had many luxuries Lorene never had during her childhoos. The house was always filled with people and the tennis courts enticed many young athletes.

Lorene and Bill lived with his family until their own house was built in Fanwood. After working in a service station for one year, Bill changed jobs and went with Standard Oil. He left Standard Oil after 17 years to work in a bank and presently is with the Westfield Post Office.

Lorene Elizabeth Kott

On October 8, 1936 their first child, Billy, was born. Almost as soon as he could walk, Billy would follow his father as he mowed the lawn. The interest was the lawn mower. At a later age, building model airplanes was his prime interest and them as a young man - flying them. Now Billy is Flight Engineer for Pan Am and lives in California with his wife Gayle and their two lovely children, David (7 years) and Lori (5 years).

Joanne was born on July 12, 1944. She was active in Glee Club and musical shows in high School. After graduating from high school she went to Berkeley Business School for one year. Her first secretarial job was with Good Housekeeping in New York. After one year, she decided she would rather work for a dentist as chairside assistant. Her experience came from working with four different dentists over a period of time. In 1967 she was married to Jack Mohler which ended in divorce in 1969. In December, 1969, she was married to Fred Panckeri and is now stepmother to his three teenage children and manages a very busy household.

Now that Lorene and Bill are alone they find time to travel and since Billy is with Pan Am, they have the wonderful advantage of receiving passes which cuts the expense quite a bit. To date, they have enjoyed a trip to Greece, Holland, Hawaii and California. But all good trips have to end and when the time comes for returning home, Lorene keeps busy with her gardening, decorating and sewing.

As Lorene looks back over the years she realizes that each Aunt and Uncle was important in forming her character, but above all she knows that Grandma (known as Oma) was her ideal. Being at Oma's side while she worked, watching Oma take care of the sick (black and white came to her) feeling her strength, compassion and warmth, gave her the strength she often needs as an adult.

William T. Salisbury, Jr.

A sketch of the life of William T. Salisbury, Jr. follows. Written on or about May 23, 1970, while living at 1105 Hunterston Place, Cupertino, California.

Bill was born October 8, 1936 in Plainfield, New Jersey. His parents are Lorene, the former Lorene Elizabeth Kott, daughter of Elsie Braeutigam, and William Salisbury.

He grew up on Westfield Road, Fanwood, New Jersey, a sparsely populated neighborhood during his early years, and has many fond memories of the woods all around him where he spent many hours roaming about. Besides this, always having been interested in mechanical things, followed his father around the garden while he operated the garden tractor, and walking beside him while he mowed the lawn with the power lawn mover, seemed to take up much of his time. Then too, there was the old Johnson outboard motor in the tool shed which fascinated him very much. Perhaps that helps to explain why he now is a collector of antique outboard motors, having over twenty in his collection.

Bill remembers his school days well including kindergarten. Thinking back on them he associates many sounds, smells, (including a few in chemistry class) and various moods that he will always be able to recall in an instant. He was very busy during his high school days. School was a necessary evil and he used it as a tool to further his knowledge so that he could expand the interests that he had. About the only activity he can remember participating in was that of the audio-visual aids club in high school. Bill operated and learned about movie projectors, tape recorders and other instruments associated with that field.

Bill's outside interests during his school days included building and flying model airplanes, boating and outboard motors along with some auto mechanics during his later high school years.

Summer vacations were often spent at grandfather Salisbury's house in Fair Haven, Vermont and nearby at Lake Bomoseen, fishing and boating. Many enjoyable days were also spent in boating on Tom's River in New Jersey.

One summer Bill and his dad drove up to Maine and visited with his uncle and aunt at their house on Moosehead Lake. They are Herman and Mary Braeutigam. He shall never forget that most enjoyable visit.

Bill graduated from Scotch Plains High School in 1954. That fall he started college in West Texas State College in Canyon, Texas. He completed one year there after which he returned to New Jersey and worked in various jobs for about one year. It was during this time that Bill met a girl named Gayle Brynildsen. It was love at first sight! She was a home town girl, born November 25, 1940.

In June of 1956 he joined the Air Force and worked as an aircraft engine mechanic until he got out in December 1957. It was during that time that Bill decided he wanted to fly airplanes for his vocation.

Bill returned to his old job in the boat shop in Westfield, New Jersey, and stayed there, saving money for his flying education for about one year. In the fall of 1958 he said goodbye to Gayle and for Ft. Worth, Texas. Leaving at that time was difficult as Gayle and he had become engaged to be married a few months prior when she graduated from high school. But Bill's mind was made up about flying and he was going to school to learn how to do it.

William T. Salisbury, Jr.

American Flyer's in Ft. Worth taught Bill to fly and he acquired his commercial license and instrument rating there. He returned to New Jersey and Gayle in the spring of 1959 only to find that getting a job flying was very difficult without much practical experience.

Bill returned to his old job in the boat shop in Westfield, New Jersey and worked in other boat shops meanwhile looking for a flying job and flying whenever he could, spending his pocket money often.

He got his first break in July that year when he talked his way into a flying job. This was just what he needed to gain experience. He spent seven days a week at that grass (sometimes mud) field in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. It was a colorful place with a very warm frienly atmosphere. His flying included charter, ferrying airplanes, aerial photography, "penny a pound" rides on weekends, and any other way he could dream up to get off the ground. Gayle frequently visited him there on weekends and they enjoyed socializing with many of the people who kept their planes at the airport.

Now that he had an income from flying and Gayle had one as a dental assistant, they decided upon a marriage date. Bill and Gayle were married November 21, 1959, and resided in their first apartment in North Plainfield, New Jersey.

In May of 1960 he had an opportunity to get a better flying job, so he left Decker Airways in Basking Ridge and started with Air Taxi Company in Red Bank, New Jersey. Gayle got a job with a dentist there and they set up house keeping at 104 Bridge Avenue. It was while he was with this company that Bill got his multi-engine rating.

In January of 1961, he heard that Capitol Airways in Wilmington, Delaware, was hiring pilots. He was hired and flew freight in C-46 aircraft for several months. These were the same type airplanes that many of our U. S. Army pilots flew over the "hump" in Burma during the second world war. The flying was mostly in the South and Rocky Mountain states. It was interesting and just educational enough for him to decide that he didn't want to stay with it for long.

In April, 1961, Bill was hired by Mohawk Airlines as a copilot. He was very lucky to get an airline job at that time as there were very few airline jobs available due to the new Boeing 707's being delivered and causing retirement of other aircraft at a ratio of 2:1.

At first, with Mohawk, Gayle and he lived in Oriskany, New York near Utica. Soon after he was hired, the airline expanded and they got the chance to transfer to the Newark, New Jersey crew base and they then moved to Garwood, N. J., only a few miles away from their old home town. While living in Garwood, their son, David Harriss Salisbury, was born January 3, 1963. (David's middle name is after Harriss H. Gibson, husband of Bert Brautigam, sister of Elsie Brautigam.)

In June 1963 they moved into their first house. It was located at 46 Doris Parkway in Westfield, N. J. and had a white picket fence around it. Gayle had always wanted a house with a picket fence. However, after painting that fence they decided neither of them wanted one again!

William T. Salisbury, Jr.

In may, 1964, Bill flew his first trip as Captain with Mohawk Airlines.

By this time they were beginning to have enough free time to enjoy life a bit more and to enjoy some of their hobbies. Among them were boating and the beginning of a collection of antique outboard motors, their first motorcycle, a stereo and collection of classical music.

On June 18, 1965, their daughter, Lorene Jane Salisbury, was born. This was two motorcycles later!

Then in June of 1966 Gayle and Bill made the decision to give up flying for Mohawk Airlines and go with Pan American World Airways. It meant starting all over, giving up all that precious seniority and probably most of all, that coveted "left seat". It also meant starting at the bottom of the pay scale again and moving to san Francisco.

Bill resigned from Mohawk and left for San Francisco the end of June. Gayle stayed behind to sell the house and get the moving preparations under way.

Toward the end of July of 1966, he purchased a house in Cupertino, California where they are still living and was then rejoined by Gayle and the children on the last day of August, 1966.

They are presently enjoying life with Pan Am and California. As Bill looks back over these experiences, he thinks that he has been very busy, but this is really just the beginning.

Joanne Salisbury

July 12, 1944, Joanne was born to William and Lorene Salisbury.

School for her was quite uneventful. Joanne was only a mediocre student. Her report cards always read "daydreams too much".

Summers were her oyster. Her family had a cabin cruiser in Southern New Jersey. She had some of the happiest times of her life at the shore.

Joanne always has loved to travel. In 1954 she and her mother drove to Texas. It was the first time she could remember meeting all her mother's relatives. A few years later Aunt Norma, Uncle Johnnie, cousin Lissa and Brian came up to New Jersey. They visited the Salisburys a while and then took Joanne on a trip through Maine to visit Uncle Herman and Aunt Mary Braeutigam and then on through Quebec and Montreal, Canada.

In the summer of 1961, Joanne flew for the first time (by herself) to Texas. There she spent the entire summer with her cousin Lissa Collins and family. They traveled through the state visiting other relatives. Joanne was enormously impressed with the immensity of the state. She will never forget the beautiful blue skies by day and the millions of stars one could see by night.

After high school, she went to Berkeley School for Secretarial Training. The following June, she graduated and in July, she accepted a job at Good Housekeeping Magazine in New York City. Joanne had always loved the city. In the year she worked with the magazine, she learned how to get around by subway and bus and was wined and dined at some of the finest restaurants in the city. Although this life was most stimulating, the time and money spent in commuting made it not worth while. She left the job. She had a chance to get a job near her home with a new dentist. He needed an inexperienced girl as his assistant. She took the job and loved it. Soon she was making enough money to get a small apartment in Westfield, near her parents home. It was good to be on her own.

In July of 1967 she married Jack L. Mohler, Jr. The unhappy marriage was terminated in September of 1968.

Joanne moved to New York City to live with a good friend. She lived and worked there for a short while. The city didn't have what she was looking for. After about three months, she moved back to Fanwood, New Jersey.

One night she did a favor for a friend and went out on a blind date. His name was Fred Panckeri. He had been separated from his wife and had three children who were living with him: Russel 17, Darlene 15 and Randall 13. Fred was only 35! A year and a half later, on December 14, 1969, Joanne and Fred were married in Springfield, New Jersey.

At 25 years of age, Joanne has a very full life. She's very proud of her stepchildren and couldn't be happier with her family.

Norma Margaret Kott

Norma Margaret Kott, the middle child of Elsie and John Kott, was born at Fredericksburg, Texas, March 22, 1912 during an ice and snow storm. When she was almost three years old her father died, and her mother with her three small children moved to the farm home of her parents, Richard and Bertha Brautigam, at Jewett, Texas. This was quite a large household as Bertha and Herman, the youngest of the Brautigam children, were still living at home and some of the married children lived nearby.

During the three years before Norma was ready for school she chose to stay with her grandparents as much as possible. She learned many things from her grandparents, while on the farm, that have been most valuable to her in later life. She was her grandfathers best domino partner and later at an early age learned to play 42 with him. This knowledge of numbers later gave her an interest in mathematics and she became an excellent student in math. Norma had excellent vision and rode in the saddle with her grandfather whenever cattle were missing because she could always spot them long before anyone else.

German was spoken almost entirely in the home so consequently when Norma started to school she was able to speak very little English. This was not a hinderance but rather an asset because she learned to speak the English language correctly while many of the local children in the community spoke very poor English and were constantly being corrected by the teacher. All the children of Elsie Kott were very small for their ages but were all able to excel in other things. Norma was an excellent student all through school, actually making A's almost entirely. Then came college, made possible by her generous Aunt Mary and Uncle Herman Brautigam. She attended North Texas Agricultural College at Arlington, Texas, which is now known as the University of Texas at Arlington. This first year was a most memorable year, living in a small boarding house for college girls, being accepted into the best social club on campus, learning to dance, making new friends and for the first time having to really study to try to maintain excellent grades. In January of 1930 she had a "blind date" with a young man who had for quite some time been trying to meet her. This was her downfall as she never dated anyone else after this time and was the envy of all her friends. August 17, 1930 she was married to Alton B. Collins (better known as Johnnie) and returned to Arlington, Texas to live. In the fall she returned to college and at this time changed her course to Business. During this year she graded papers for the typing and shorthand department and managed to get in plenty of studying and made A in every course. This year has been most valuable to her in later years.

Johnnie Collins was employed for a bakery in Ft. Worth, Texas as bookkeeper and office manager. In 1932 in order to be nearer his work a move to Ft. Worth was made. In 1934, at the suggestion of a very dear friend he went to work for the Railway Postal Transportation Department as a non-certified substitute. At this time he took Civil Service tests for permanent employment with the Post Office Department but in the meanwhile he was offered a position with an insurance company as head bookkeeper. In 1939 he again made a change by moving to Austin, Texas and going to work for Renfro Drug as credit manager

and office manager for eight stores in that city. In November 1941 Johnnie Collins was appointed to the Railway Postal Department as a regular employee and the decision was to leave Austin and return to Ft. Worth. He will soon be ready for retirement if he so desires or can continue working until 1975.

After almost seven years of marriage the first child, Robert Alton was born to Norma and Johnnie Collins on February 12, 1937. He was a great joy to his parents, especially while living in Austin, Texas. At the age of 2½ he could talk plainly and knew no strangers so his parents were rewarded by making many lasting friends through his friendliness. He was a real "ham" and modeled clothes for department stores a number of times. The University of Texas speech department even wanted to use him in their speech department and make recordings for their use but his parents chose not to do this. Robert adjusted well when his parents returned to Ft. Worth to live. He finished his education in Ft. Worth and then entered Texas A & M at College Station, Texas. While he was at A & M he was a member of the outstanding A & M band. This is a full time job without studies but he managed to graduate in January of 1960 with a degree in personnel management. Having been in military training all during college he was made a 2nd lieutenant in the army upon graduation and was soon sent to Korea for 13 months. In 1962 he was married to Johnette Jarratt which ended in divorce in 1968. During this time he was stationed in Nuremburg, Germany for three years and advanced to Captain. In 1967 he decided not to make the Army his life time career and returned to A & M to work on his masters degree but after two semesters he decided to return to work and is now employed at the Republic National Bank of Dallas and has made quite a place for himself there. Soon after going to work at the bank he met and married Doris Richards on August 30, 1969. She is now employed at the Bank of Dallas. Robert plans to return to night school and complete his masters degree as soon as possible.

On November 20, 1943, Elissa Lou Collins was born. She attended school in Ft. Worth and was a very good student throughout the years. Her main interests were dancing: tap, ballet, modern jazz, acrobatic, etc. Upon graduation from high school she entered Texas Tech at Lubbock, Texas but was not happy there and chose to try going into the business world. She moved to Los Angeles, California in 1962 and worked in a modeling agency and later was employed by United Artists Television. In 1965 she moved to Honolulu, Hawaii and was employed by Lewers and Cooke as a legal secretary but after two years she developed "island fever" and returned to the mainland and is presently employed in Los Angles withDorothy Otis Day Agency.

Brian Charles Collins was born May 23, 1945. Brian has always been a very quiet boy. During high school he became very interested in sports and went out for football and amateur boxing. Brian, Robert and Johnnie all like to play golf. In the summers he was employed at Six Flags of Texas which was most helpful to him as all the young people of Ft. Worth thought this was the thing they had to be involved in and was excellent training for all of them. After graduation from high school he entered Texas A & M and like his older brother was also in

the band. He graduated from A & M in 1968 with a degree in Agronomy. At the time of graduation he had difficulty in obtaining employment in this field so was employed at LTV in the logistics department, later transferring to Norman Harwell Associates in the same field. In October 1969 Brian chose to try another field and at present is Assistant Manager in an Ice Cream Parlor, "O'Leary's". He hopes to be manager of the next one opened in this chain. On May 31, 1969 Brian was married to Paula Marie Black but this marriage soon terminated.

Norma and Johnnie Collins, during the years while their children were growing up, devoted much time to their church, First Presbyterian of Ft. Worth. They were also involved in school activities to the extent that hobbies were secondary unless having a beautiful yard and a well kept home is considered a hobby. Most all the clothes for the children were made by Norma, including dance costumes by the dozens.

By the time Robert was in college and Elissa and Brian were in Junior High School it became harder and harder to make ends meet so on July 1, 1957 Norma took her first job. She was employed by Frank B. Gooch, M. D. who is an outstanding surgeon in Ft. Worth. This was a one girl office and never having worked before was quite an undertaking at the age of 45. She was most fortunate to find a kind and understanding man that wanted some one inexperienced so that he could train her the way he wanted things done. In the 14 years in the medical field she has taken many courses to better herself and feels fortunate to still be working for the same doctor. In this job she is a "Girl Friday", typing, transcribing medical dictation, sterilizing, assisting, receptionist, insurance clerk, bookkeeping, etc., there just being no end to her duties.

Grandmother Brautigam was by far Norma's favorite and she learned many things from her and still has such fond memories of the three years on the farm. Bertha and Herman Brautigam are more like big sister and brother to her. Cherished childhood memories most certainly include all the aunts and uncles who gave affection and attention which added emotional stability to childhood.

# John August Kott

John August Kott, the youngest of the Elsie and John Kott children, was born at Fredericksburg, Texas, March 19, 1914. Before he was one year old his father died of tuberculosis, and his mother moved with her children to the home of her parents, Richard and Bertha Brautigam at Jewett, Texas. Here on the farm he resided until he was four years old. Then his mother moved into the town of Jewett to run a boarding house and educate her children.

It was during these formative pre-school days when he was torn between living in town with mother and sisters and living on the farm with Grandma and Grandpa that some of his characteristics and preferences were created. So much feminine influence was bound to make him a sissy for which he paid dearly in later years. Life on the farm gave him a lifelong love of flowers, birds, and nature in general.

On the day he was six years old he insisted on starting to school, even though it was March. Fortunately for the teacher this enthusiam lasted only a week. He turned out to be a good student in grade school and graduated from the seventh grade with highest honors.

He was small for his age and quite skinny so he was never able to compete in school sports although he had great desire for all sporting activities. This probably caused him to endeavor to excel scholastically, and he was salutatorian of his high school graduating class. Then he began to grow up. After four years of poor grades and glorious college life largely made available through the generosity of his Uncle Herman he graduated from the University of Texas in 1935 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

The summer of 1935 found John hunting for a job, and this was in the pit of the "depression". He went to work for a large wholesale grocery company in its branch at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Progress was slow for two years, and then he was made credit manager of the Altus, Oklahoma branch. From there he progressed to Grand Island, Nebraska, Liberal, Kansas, and Hutchinson, Kansas. He was at Hutchinson when "Uncle Sam" beckoned him in November of 1942 for service in World War II.

It was while John was working in Liberal that he met the girl of his dreams, Barbara, and they were married December 14, 1941----seven days after Pearl Harbor, and before the bombs fell he didn't even know there was a Pearl Harbor.

Barbara's mother was an invalid caused by tuberculosis from the early "twenties" until her death in 1938; so Barbara had to live with various members of her family and called her Grandfather's ranch in Oklahoma her home. For about three years prior to her marriage she had spent her time modeling for the John Powers agency in New York and later for an agency in Miami, Florida. The period of courtship was only from May to December, and while John was madly in love from the start Barbara was not sure she was ready for matrimony nor that John was the right man. Barbara finally did say "yes", and John has seldom regretted that she did.

John August Kott

After a short tour of duty in the Army Air Corp, John and family--Jon, their son had arrived-- moved to her grandfather Hitch's ranch, and John became a cowboy, a handy man, and a ranch bookkeeper. Soon afterwards he also began farming and running some cattle for himself. These were some of John's most trying days but also some of his most rewarding. The work was no problem since he learned well what work was on Grandpa Brautigam's farm. For the first time in his life he developed physically into a strong man--something which does not happen to one while attending college or working at a desk. On the other hand, satisfying the whims of two "in-law" grandparents is not always easy even though they are fine people.

In 1949 John moved his family--Sallye was then over a year old--to Amarillo, Texas. Here he soon became involved in real estate selling and in agricultural finance while continuing a farming operation south of Guymon, Oklohoma. First he worked for Farmers Home Administration, a government agency. Then he spent several years with the Production Credit Association making agricultural operating loans, and finally he became vice-president of Upshaw Investment Corporation in charge of its farm real estate loans.

The twenty years spent in Amarillo found John involved in many activities. He was always active in church work as he had been in Oklahoma, but here he became an elder in the Presbyterian Church and served as chairman of many committees. His most interesting committee experience was the one which brought three Cuban refugee families to Amarillo. They arrived with only the clothes they wore; so it was necessary to provide Housing, food, clothing, jobs, and even language lessons. At various times he worked with Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, Kiwanis Club and its committees, and other charitable organizations. However, in his latter years in Amarillo he became most interested in developing a strong Republican Party in Texas. Working on the local level he was active in the campaigns of Senator John Tower, Congressman Bob Price, and President Richard Nixon. In the 1968 campaign he was Randall County chairman for State Representative Tom Christian who won his race by a substantial majority.

Sporting activities were always of great interest to John, and he was an avid baseball and football fan. He has actively followed the hobbies of hunting and fishing. In addition to these he has taken up a new hobby every few years. Among these were piano lessons after he was forty, water skiing after forty five, and piloting small airplanes after fifty. At present his chief hobby is golf.

Finally through the friendships he developed through the work with Cubans he was invited to become part owner of the franchise of Pizza Huts in the state of Hawaii, and was selected by his group to move to Hawaii and establish these outlets. The move was made in March of 1969, and he and Barbara are adapting well to the land of sunshine and hula; although they miss Sallye who is a senior at Texas Tech and is planning to be married in July, and Jon who is at Texas Tech working for his Ph. D. in experimental neuro-physiology.

John August Kott

His greatest impressions and lessons were received from the Brautigam side of the family since he was seperated from the Kott family at such an early age. His memories of Grandpa Richard Brautigam are of a kindly man in relation to his family although perhaps somewhat autocratic. His most vivid childhood recollection of Grandpa was when at the age of sixty or more he came in battered and beaten by one of his farm tenants after challenging him to a bout of fisticuffs in order to convince him of a point. He was a man of firm convictions. It was from his aunts and uncles on the Brautigam side as well as his mother that he received a strong moral background, and a love and respect for his fellow man.

Martha Mathilda Braeutigam (Mrs. Arthur O. Kott)

Martha Mathilda Braeutigam, was born June 1, 1887, at Fredericksburg, Texas, the fourth of ten children born to Richard Valtine Braeutigam and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich. Her childhood was spent on her parents' farm near Fredericksburg, on the Pedernales River. She attended the Meusebach Creek School, where her teachers were Mr. Emil Sauer, Mr. Albert Koenig, and Mr. L. E. Brodie.

She was a member of Evangelical Lutheran Church (now Bethany Lutheran) of Fredericksburg, and was confirmed at an early age by the Rev. Mr. Roehm.

She earned her teaching certificate by attending Summer Normal Schools at Fredericksburg and Boerne, Texas. Thereafter she taught in rural schools of Gillespie County, in the communities of Honey Creek, Willow City, Harper, and Rocky Hill.

On November 20, 1909, Martha Mathilda Braeutigam and Arthur O. Kott were married at her parents' home, by the Rev. Mr. Ide. Arthur was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kott of Fredericksburg.

During the first four years of their marriage, Mathilda and Arthur lived at Johnson City, Texas where he was engaged as a tinner, fabricating such items as rain water cysterns, water troughs, and tin bath tubs.

Their first two sons were born at Johnson City: Orlando Taft Kott, born November 17, 1910 and Ernest Sharmon Kott born April 8, 1912.

About 1913, this young family moved to Oakwood, Texas, where Arthur continued his tin business. Also, as automobiles became more commonn, he developed a love for these fascinating vehicles and their maintenance.

Before marriage, Arthur had spent some months in California, and he had long dreamed of returning there to live. After about one year at Oakwood, his California dream beckoned even more strongly, so this young family left their native Texas and moved to Watts, then thriving new suburb of Los Angeles. There he established his own automobile business, in which he was soon joined by his brother George Kott, and by Mathilda's brother, August R. Braeutigam.

Their third son, Arthur Braeutigam Kott, was born at Watts, California June 29, 1916. (Please note that this name was later changed to Arthur Richard Kott, as the young man had a strong preference for his grandfather's given name of "Richard".)

Their second son, Ernest Sharmon, was a frail child, and in 1923 at the tender age of eleven, he was claimed by death.

Through the years, they maintained their home and business in Watts; in addition, they had a seaside cottage on Balboa Island, which was their weekend and vacation retreat.

Early in the 1940's, with the advent of World War II, and a decline in the auto business, they sold their home and business, and Mathilda and Arthur moved to their cottage on Balboa Island. A few years later, they moved to Los Angeles, and it was there that Arthur died in 1947.

At this writing, 1970, Martha Mathilda Braeutigam Kott, is at Hollenbeck Retirement Home, Los Angeles, where she has resided for the past several years. She enjoys visits from her sons, her four grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

Mathilda's eldest son, Orlando, owns an electroplating business at Newport, California. His daughter, Jean Carol (Mrs. Borge), and his daughter-in-law, Kitty (Mrs. Fritz Kott), are both employed in his business. His son, Fritz, works for a construction company.

Martha Mathilda Braeutigam

Mathilda's younger son, Arthur R. and wife Carolyn Brewer Kott reside at Sylmar, California, where "Art" is head of the Water Department. Their daughter Gloria (Mrs. Arnold Moore) and her husband and little daughter, Sheila, live near Van Nuys. Their son, Dan, is single, and a college student.

# Biography Of Christine Braeutigam Brodie

Christine Braeutigam Brodie, the fifth child of Richard and Bertha Weyrich Braeutigam was born May 25, 1889 in Fredericksburg, Texas a third generation of a full blooded German pioneer family of Gillespie County.

Her early childhood was rather uneventful. A few outstanding events were the 50th anniversary of the founding of Fredericksburg in 1896 and the golden wedding anniversary of her grandparents, Carl and Margarethe Weyrich in 1897.

Well does she remember the big parade, all horse drawn floats and other decorated vehicles, and the night time torch light procession down Main Street, all highlighted by the music of Beck's Brass Band of San Antonio. The many hacks, wagons and buggies were parked on the Market Square in sight of the original Vereins Kirche.

The highlight of the golden anniversary was the grand display of fireworks put on by her grandfather and Father Tarrilion, an early day Roman Catholic priest, a good friend of her grandfather.

Travel and communication systems were not very well established at that time, so people stayed at home and furnished their own entertainment.

Her family bought a Thomas Goggin & Brothers organ in 1896, around which the entire family would gather for regular sing-songs. Through this a real love of music was developed right in her childhood home. Incidentally, the organ is a treasured heirloom in her sister Bertha's home.

The first rural telephone in the community was installed in her family's home soon after the turn of the century. This was a real convenience for the family as well as friends and neighbors who came to use it on many emergency occasions.

Christine started to school at the age of eight at Muesebach Creek, a then newly built building more centrally located than the former Muesebach Creek School. Here she had three wonderful teachers, Emil Sauer, who later became an American Consul General, Albert Koenig and Louis Brodie.

It was here that she first saw Mr. Brodie, her future husband, who had come to visit the school before putting in his application for the teacher position for the next year. She wasn't particularly impressed but the young lady friend who was with Mr. Brodie remarked later that she felt she had a real rival in her.

The school days with Mr. Brodie were wonderful. He encouraged his pupils, her sister and brother, a cousin and herself to put forth their best efforts in preparation for a teachers' examination which would qualify them to become teachers in Gillespie County. Before his tenure as teacher at that particular school had ended, he had fallen madly in love with "Tenie". She was really a teacher's pet.

Biography of Christine Braeutigam Brodie

The students who took the teachers' examination came out with flying colors and were employed as teachers in Gillespie County the following fall.

To supplement her rural school education, the equivalent of the ninth or tenth grade in grade school, she attended what was then known as Summer Normals for several summers, and also attended Teachers' Institutes which was a requirement to keep one's certificate in force.

Later (after their marriage) she and Mr. Brodie spent a summer in San Marcos where she took a course in psychology among other subjects. Mr. Brodie had secured his first grade permanent certificate from Denton Normal School and later spent a summer or two at the University of Texas.

Her first assignment as teacher was at the Bear Creek School where she taught two years. In this one teacher rural school she taught grades one through seven with as many as 27 pupils at one time. This was the day before free text books and no prescribed course of study. Teachers were very much on their own in their 9 to 4 o'clock work day - no time for idleness.

The trustees of the school wished to employ her for a third term, but by that time Mr. Brodie had persuaded her to marry him and to become his assistant at the Morris Ranch School, a then two teacher school.

They were married at her parents' home September 22, 1908. She was 19 and Mr. Brodie was 31. He remained the constant lover until his death.

She taught one year at the Morris Ranch School. During that year their first baby, Mary Neal, was born and she felt that it was much more important to be a good wife and mother than to teach school.

After several years there they sold their possessions and moved to Leon County in 1911, where they had acquired property and thought that this was a land of great opportunities. However, it wasn't quite that glamorous and they moved back to Gillespie County in 1914.

They did have some very happy times in Leon County for her parents and also Uncle Will and Aunt Tenie Corby and their families lived there. So they were not entirely among strangers in their new surroundings. Here too, Mr. Brodie taught school for two years. Their efforts at farming were nil, and the teaching profession did provide a livelihood, even though teachers' salaries at that time were quite inadequate.

Before coming back to Gillespie County (home to them) Mr. Brodie had contracted for the Stonewall School. Shortly before opening date the school board found they had to employ an assistant and hoped that she could fill the position.

Biography of Christine Braeutigam Brodie

By that time her certificate had expired, so she had to buckle down and prepare for another teachers' examination. She secured a six year State Certificate which entitled her to teach. A personal note from the State Board of Examiners of which she was quite proud stated "The State Board of Examiners enjoys grading beautiful papers!"

She accepted the position and taught the primary grades there for one year.

Their second daughter, Eleanor, was born there March 2, 1916 and their third daughter, Louise, was born December 4, 1920. This ended her teaching career and she spent her time taking care of her family.

It was at Stonewall where they became acquainted with the Johnson family. Lyndon, the futute president of the United States, attended school there, and Mary Neal took elocution lessons from his mother.

The Interscholastic League was quite the thing at that time and many of their entrants received high honors.

After eight wonderful years at Stonewall, they moved back to Morris Ranch where a teacher's salary was much more adequate. Here, too, they were active in all community activities. They helped to organize a Parent Teacher Association of which she was chosen chairman, and working with the County Agent and the citizens of the community, their community exhibit for the Gillespie County Fair, which was then a new innovation, won first honors.

In the summer of 1926 they moved to Fredericksburg where Mr. Brodie had accepted the position as Principal of the Primary Department of the Public School. He filled this position until his death in 1941.

Here as at the Morris Ranch they were active in civic organizations. She served as president of the Fredericksburg Parent-Teacher Association for one year during the depression and as secretary for two years and took part in all P.T.A. functions.

Christine is proud of their three daughters. Through thrift and frugality they helped them to secure a fair education so they could be self sustaining.

Mary Neal, a Texas Lutheran Junior College graduate, married Kurt Hansen. They have two daughters, Carol Annette and Emily Christine (Chrissy). Being interested in education Carol is now teaching at Stonewall where her grandparents spent so much of their time. She has a degree in music from Texas Lutheran College.

Chrissy, also a Texas Lutheran College Music Major, lives at Loring Air Force Base in Maine with her husband, Lt. Richard Stuewe and baby Timothy. She gives private music lessons and directs the choir on the Base.

Biography of Christine Braeutigam Brodie

Eleanor, their second daughter, married Edgar E. Durst. They have no children. She does secretarial work and is quite a career woman.

Louise, too, is a Texas Lutheran Junior College graduate and a junior accountant of St. Mary's University in San Antonio where she was listed in Who's Who in American Schools and Colleges. She married Willard L. King, a Certified Public Accountant. They have two teenage daughters of college age.

After Mr. Brodie's death Christine served as assistant and regular librarian at the Gillespie County Public Library and later on, after the formal opening of the Gillespie County Museum by the Historical Society she became one of the regular custodians of the museum and served in that capacity from 1957 to 1968. She is still a part time helper there.

She is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Gillespie County Historical Society, the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Naval Museum Incorporation.

She is an active member of Bethany Lutheran Church. Here she was a long time member of the Sunday School Staff and the Mixed Choir.

She finds real joy in serving her Master.

Mary Neal Brodie Hansen

Mary Neal Brodie was born August 25, 1909 to Christine and Louis Brodie at the Richard Brautigam farm on the Pedernales River. They lived at Morris Ranch until she was 2 at which time the family moved to Leon County. Here they resided for three years after which they moved to Stonewall. At Stonewall Mary Neal attended the first 8 years of her schooling where her father taught school. In 1922 the Brodies moved back to Morris Ranch where they lived for 5 years. During the school terms 1924-25 and 1925-26 Mary Neal attended Fredericksburg High School from where she graduated as salutatorian. In 1927 she started teaching at Bear Creek where she taught for 3 years. Then she attended Texas Lutheran College for one year (1930-31) and returned to Fredericksburg where she taught at Palo Alto for 2 years. In 1933 she attended the University of Texas for one semester. On August 26, 1934, Mary Neal became the bride of Kurt Hansen in Bethany Lutheran Church. They lived in the Knopp Community for 3 years, after which they moved to the Palo Alto Community where they have resided since that time.

The Hansens farmed and ranched, and as the result of a conserted effort in the field of soil conservation, Kurt was named the Outstanding Soil Conservationist of District 220 in 1958. He also has been active in Chamber of Commerce and other civic and community activities.

Through the years both the Hansens have been very active in church activities at Bethany Lutheran Church. Mary Neal taught Sunday School for 21 years and was also very active in Women of the Church, serving in several official capacities. Kurt served on the church council for 2 terms and through the years has been very active in both the mixed and men's choirs.

They consider their greatest blessings their two daughters, Carol Annette born January 21, 1938 and Emily Christine (Chrissy), born April 9, 1945; their sons-in-law, Wilburn Meier and Richard Stuewe; and their grandchildren Teresa Lynne Meier, Todd Neil Meier, Charlotte Annyce Meier, and Timothy Craig Stuewe.

Emily Christine Hansen Stuewe

Emily Christine (Chrissy) Hansen Stuewe, was born April 9, 1945 to Kurt and Mary Neal Brodie Hansen in the Fredericksburg Hospital and Clinic.

All of her elementary and high school education was completed in the Fredericksburg Public Schools. She enjoyed school very much, and by the age of 11, she had gotten her first chance to start in band work. Since her sister, Carol, had learned to play the saxophone, , she knew that the saxophone would also be her choice. By the time she was in the eighth grade she was permitted to join the senior high band and the stage band. Some of her best memories of high school days were practicing for and going to football games and going to band contests. Chrissy also participated in solo and ensemble contests. During all four years in high school, she was a member of the district and regional band, and in three years she made the area band. In her senior year she made first chair in the Texas All State Concert Band on baritone saxophone.

Other activities in which she participated during high school days were Future Homemakers, Junior Historians, Student Council, German Club and the National Honor Society.

In May of 1963 Chrissy graduated from high school and entered Texas Lutheran College, Seguin, Texas to major in music education. Some of her activities there included band, chapel choir, dorm council, and music club. During her senior year she was named Who's Who in Music.

During the beginning of her freshman year at TLC, Chrissy met her future husband, Richard "Dickie" Stuewe, and on November 25, 1966 they were married in Bethany Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg. The day after they graduated from college, May 29, 1967, Dickie entered the U. S. Air Force, and on August 21, 1967, he was commissioned a second Lieutenant. Since September of that year, they have been stationed at Loring AFB, Limestone, Maine.

Since their arrival at Loring, Richard has held three positions. Presently, he is squadron commander of the Headquarters Squadron 42nd Bomb Wing. This is the second largest squadron on base, and he is the youngest squadron commander. He has been given several awards for his outstanding work. He is now a first Lieutenant, and in August, 1970, he will be promoted to the rank of Captain.

From January to June of 1968, Chrissy taught first grade in Limestone, Maine. During that same time, she began teaching piano lessons, and now has ten students.

During the first two years of their stay in Maine, they have been active in church work at Faith Lutheran Church. Dickie was a member of the church council and taught Sunday School while Chrissy was the choir director of the Adult Choir, and together they were sponsors of the Luther League. Since September 1969, Chrissy has been director of the Adult Protestant Choir at Loring AFB. On Christmas Eve they presented an hour long Cantata. Richard is active in the Protestant Men of the Church. Christine and Richard were blessed with a son, Timothy Craig, on September 15, 1968. They are now civilians again residing in San Antonio, Texas.

Ernest W. Brautigam

Ernest W. Brautigam was born August 6, 1890 at or near Fredericksburg, Texas, the sixth child but the oldest son of Richard W. and Bertha Weyrich Braeutigam.

His earliest recollections are of his closely knit family and the special efforts put forth by their parents to instill into them - honesty, integrity, loyalty, and a desire for the finer things in life. He can never forget when all of the children stood around the organ and sang while mother played. Though they lived about five miles from town they attended Sunday School every Sunday, weather permitting. On many evenings their mother would read to them and tell them the wonderful stories that every child still appreciates.

He attended Meusebach Creek School, a one room one teacher school, which stressed teaching the three R's. For further improvement, he and several of his sisters attended Summer Normal Schools in Fredericksburg, which was their preparation to become country school teachers.

Ernest states that from 1909 - 1910 he taught or rather kept school in Doss. He boarded with the Henry Kensing's and ate his noon meal with Ida Durst. Henry Kensing was a son of Karl Kensing, a brother to Grandmother Christine Kensing Braeutigam. Ida Kensing Durst, a daughter of Henry, charged him $2.50 a month for the five weekly noon meals. He regarded all of them as good folks, and to have heard the Kensings they thoroughly enjoyed having him and missed him so very much after he left. Ernest claims that nice people can be found anywhere, if you look for them. Babies cry the same in all countries.

In 1913, Ernest contracted to teach a school near Comfort, Texas. It was there that he again met Annie Laurie Fellbaum whom he had met previously at Summer Normal. On June 28, 1913 Ernest and Annie were joined in holy matrimony in St. Bonniface Chapel, in Comfort, Texas. In view of the meager salaries country school teachers earned in those times, it became necessary that he found a different career for a livelihood to support a wife and perhaps children. Consequently they moved to east Texas where he tried farming, later rural mail carrier, but finally joined the Ford dealership in Jewett, namely Evans Motor Company, as salesman. They made their home in Jewett for the next twenty years.

While they lived at Comfort, their oldest daughter was born on December 24, 1915. They named her after the three living great grandmothers; namely Elizabeth, Christine, Fredericka - quite a handle to hang on to a baby girl. Mary Edith was born in Jewett on September 8, 1924 and Joanne was born at Jewett on March 23, 1927.

Ernest was always active in civic affairs and perhaps feels guilty of playing a little politics at times. He was a member of the school board for 15 years and also member of the city council for about five years. While living in Fredericksburg he belonged to the Lutheran church, but joined the Presbyterian church in Jewett since

there was no Lutheran church. He joined the Jewett Masonic Lodge #427 A F & A M in 1922 and was Master of the lodge from 1925-26. His wife and children were members of the Methodist church and after moving to San Antonio he also joined their church.

Due to the Ford changing from Model T to Model A, it was impossible to get cars to sell, so he organized Jewett Lumber & Hardware Company Incorporated and operated this business until 1940. These were difficult times due to the depression of the thirties. They moved to Austin in 1940. At the outbreak of World War II he was transferred to San Antonio where he served as censor in the office of censorship during the war. Since that time they have moved to and lived in Waco, League City, Friendswood and Waco again. Since the close of World War II he has been engaged in various sales enterprises and finally retired in 1965. Ernest and Annie have had their permanent home in Waco and expect to stay there for the rest of the way. Although they have owned this home since 1950, they lived in Galveston County, League City and Friendswood while Ernest was ill and had surgery as well as recovering from same.

Life has been good to Ernest and Annie. They have reared three fine girls and they in turn are rearing three fine grandchildren each. So Ernest feels as if they have not lived in vain. They have not created an independent riches (financial), but he feels like they are rich indeed in other ways. They have traveled quite a bit, having visited forty of the continental states of our United States; also visited Canada and Mexico. While making a recent tour of six foreign countries in Europe they were quite able to keep up with the crowd. This summer they intend to visit the other eight states in the U.S.A. God willing. In their travels they find that human nature is the same here as elsewhere.

They will celebrate their fifty-seventh wedding anniversary on June 28, 1970. With his age he seems to thrive on being humorous by stating that living with such an old woman really makes you feel like an old man. At another instance he states that it is remarkable and surprising the amount of authority a woman can acquire in that length of time. If only more of us possessed such a sense of humor, we might live longer. May God bless both Annie and Ernest for such a long and happy married life.

Elizabeth Christina Braeutigam

Elizabeth Christina Fredericka Braeutigam, first child of Annie and Ernest Braeutigam, was born December 24, 1915.

Growing up in a small town, Jewett, located in east Texas provided many experiences - most of them good. Memories of the feel of white sand on her bare feet - the taste of watermelon that had been "cooled" under the bed - the feel of the "waterfall" which substituted for a swimming pool are never to be forgotten. Her first love was Billy, an old white horse which belonged to her Grandpa Braeutigam. She spent many happy hours riding Billy.

School was fun for her and she remembers well when coming home from school, the smell of the fresh baked bread that her mother had just taken from the oven. She still regards it as the most heavenly smell there is!

She was quite a tomboy at heart and her only claim to fame was her ability to play anyone a pretty good game of tennis. Her love for sports led her to major in Health and Physical Education in college. She attended Sam Houston State Teachers College for two years and graduated from the University of Texas in 1936.

Her first teaching position was Tivy High School in Kerrville. She was very happy there, loving the scenery and the people very much. Lucky for her, they hired a new coach in 1937, and though it took her three years to convince him, she became Mrs. Carl Price on August 11, 1940.

Carl had played football for Baylor University from 1932 to 1935. His playing weight was 195 so this might give one an idea about his determination or stubbornness!

In 1940 Carl joined the Navy as a Lieutenant Junior Grade. They migrated to California where they lived for two years. On July 4, 1943, their first and only daughter Laura Lynn was born. On December 8, 1943 Carl was assigned to a ship, the USS Unimac, on which he served eighteen months.

In November of 1945 the three Prices returned to Waco. Carl joined the coaching staff at Waco High School and in 1947 became the head football coach there. In 1948 the team won the state championship in football, which was indeed a wonderful experience. In 1960, Carl became Athletic Director of the Waco Public Schools, a position he currently holds.

On February 19, 1948 their first son, Carl III was born. This was indeed a happy event! On November 28, 1951, they were blessed with a second son, Richard William.

Currently, their most satisfactory daughter, is now Mrs. Joe McClendon. After attaining a degree in English and Spanish from the University of Texas, Lynn, along with two friends, spent a summer in Europe. She is now a teacher in the Dallas school system. Joe Neal McClendon, born on October 22, 1939 was united in marriage with Laura Lynn on June 28, 1969. Joe who holds a degree in engineering from Southern Methodist University and a law degree from the University of Texas, is employed by Lone Star Gas of Dallas.

Elizabeth Christina Braeutigam

Carl III, a senior student at Sam Houston State University, had the good fortune to draw draft number 25. The money he had saved for a new car is now going to be spent On a trip to Europe thiss summer. He is an English and History major, and plans on a teaching career after his military allegation has been met.

Dick is a senior in high school. His special aptitudes are in the area of music. He plays piano and french horn, and has won several awards in original compositions for the piano. He hopes to continue music education at the University of Texas this fall.

At present, Elizabeth is in her nineteenth year of teaching. Waco High School is integrated which makes work more interesting and challenging. She belongs to the local and state teachers organizations, along with National Education Association, and the Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma an honorary organization of women teachers.

Carl has been a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Kewanis Club of Waco, serving as President for one year. He has also served on the Official Board of Director of Austin Avenue United Methodist Church.

Their entire family is active in church work. The two boys were baptized and our daughter married in Austin Avenue United Methodist Church.

Elizabeth is proud of the Braeutigam family. Having strong family ties, they have been getting together for family reunions for many years. She remembers with pride, her grandmother Bertha Wyrich Braeutigam as a wise and lovely lady, and definitely left mark on her children. The respect and love the aunts and uncles show for one another is obvious, and she has received much love and consideration from each of them, making her appreciate her heritage very much.

Mary Edith Brautigam

Mary Edith, second oldest child of Ernest Wm. Brautigam and Annie Laurie Fellbaum, was born on September 8, 1924 at Jewett, Texas.

Being the second oldest daughter, and nine years younger than her older sister, she received quite a bit of affection and care from her sister Elizabeth and her parents. Her childhood otherwise was quite normal with lots of pleasure from dolls, dogs and cats. They even had a pet cemetary under a plum tree. She recalls, after returning from a visit to Comfort, Texas to their grandparents, the Fellbaums, that they had been showered with 21 kittens from three mother cats. Mary Edith and Joanne invited all the neighborhood children to watch "Mom" dispose of them.

Mary Edith attended school in Jewett, until the eleventh grade and finished the eleventh and twelfth grade at Austin High School in Austin, Texas. She entered Santa Rosa School of Nursing in June of 1943 in San Antonio, graduating in June of 1946. Mary Edith always thoroughly enjoyed school.

While she lived in San Antonio she met Francis A. Goplen in October of 1942, and was married to him on July 27, 1946. They made their home in Minneapolis, Minn. where Francis attended the University of Minnesota, receiving his B. S. in Mechanical Engineering. At present they live in Zumbrata, Minnesota. Francis commutes to Rochester, where he is employed by I. B. M. in the Development Laboratory.

Mary Edith and Francis are both active in the Lutheran Church; Francis is president of the Congregation and Mary Edith is vice-president of the W. O. C. organization.

Francis is on the Hospital Board and is active in several other organizations. Edith has been active in Girl Scouts for many years and still enjoys nursing part time in their local hospital.

This couple was blessed with three girls; namely, Ruth Marie born June 3, 1951, Mary Ellen born August 9, 1961, and Ann Elizabeth born June 4, 1964.

Mary Edith, highly regards her ancestors as very exceptional people, having very pleasant memories of her grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Joanne Ernestine Braeutigam

Joanne Ernestine Braeutigam, the youngest of three daughters of Ernest William and Annie Laurie Fellbaum Braeutigam, was born at Jewett, Texas on March 23, 1927.

Her first 12 years were spent in a small east central Texas town of Jewett among sand hills and grasshoppers. Some favorite recollections were: Sunday afternoon visits at Aunt Margaret and Uncle Ernest Grasso's home---adventure with cousins visiting nearby graveyard, furtively watching a baptismal service in a very muddy pond, eating bullnettle seeds, building elaborate "frog houses" with gardens landscaped with "angel hair" and "kiss me and I'll tell you" wild flowers.

Her education was begun in Jewett but her happiest school years were in Junior High in Austin, Texas. Interests include music (violin and bassoon in Orchestra, piano and choral groups) and journalism. High school years were spent at Brackenridge High School, San Antonio, where she graduated as 1944 class valedictorian.

Joanne entered Santa Rosa College of Nursing, Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, as a wartime cadet nurse June 1944. Upon graduation she worked as head nurse psychiatric unit, University of Texass Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas until February 1949 when she enrolled at the University of Texas in Austin. She received her B. S. Degree in Nursing Education June of 1952. Presently she is enrolled at the Texas Womens University, Houston Campus, doing graduate work in nursing education.

She met and was married to Harry K. Davis, M. D. on July 4, 1950 who was a native of Oklahoma. He completed his pre-Med at Carson-Newmann College, Tennessee and received his M. D. from the University of Texas Medical Branch in 1949. Upon his release from the Air Force as a flight surgeon, rank of Captain after service in Japan and Korea, they settled in League City, Texas, where Dr. Davis opened an office for practice of medicine. Some of her most meaningful as well as exciting experiences in life have been as the wife and nurse of a small town practitioner.

In 1955, their son, Stephen Keith, arrived and by summer of 1957 he had acquired two little sisters, Kathryn Deane and Susan Elizabeth. We are blessed as these three bright and beautiful children have brought us great happiness.

In 1960 Dr. Davis entered a three-year residency training in psychiatry and since April 1963 he has been in the private practice of psychiatry in Galveston where he also serves as assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Texas Medical Branch. He is a Diplomate and Fellow of the American Board of Family Practice.

Family fun is centered around waterports - sailing, skiing, boating, swimming. Their teenagers are trampalene artists. Dr. Davis's hobbies are photography, art and love of travel which Joanne shares enthusiastically. She also enjoys reading, music, and the study of languages.

Memories of Childhood visits with aunts and uncles are very pleasant. Joanne recalls her family as a very "proud" family and one where emotions both happy and sad, surfaced in a flow of tears at the close of each reunion.

Grandfather Braeutigam died within days of Joanne's birth, being sad that she never knew him. Her memory of Grandmother Bertha Braeutigam is of a kind though strong matriach. Her daughters share her love of the bright yellow quilt Grandmother made. She states, "It may have to be cut in half someday!"

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam was born September 7, 1893 at Fredericksburg, Texas the seventh child of Richard Valtin Braeutigam (1859-1927) and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich (1860-1940).

Margaret, called "Gretchen" by her family and friends, spent her childhood on her parents' farm, near Fredericksburg, on the Pedernales River. She had six sisters and three brothers, namely, Marie, Sophie (d. in infancy), Elsie, Mathilda, Christine, Ernest, August, Herman, and Bertha. Her parents also reared an orphaned nephew, Hugo Weyrich.

The Meusebach Creek School was a two mile walk from her home. There Margaret learned her three "Rs" under the tutorship of Professors Albert Koenig, Louis E. Brodie, and Reinhold Eckhardt. She especially liked Friday afternoons, when the last class period was devoted to singing. The annual Spring school picnic was always a great event. The children performed for their parents; the teacher played his violin and the students sang. At one picnic, the children performed drills to the marching music of a local band. A number of her cousins, children of Otto and Emil Braeutigam, also attended this school, and over a period of years, at least twenty-six young Braeutigams shared their early school days in this little ivory-painted, green-shuttered school house!

The beautiful Pedernales, bubbling clean and clear over its rocky course, was the summer playground for this big happy family. The swimming hole rang with splashing and laughter. A junior-sized tin bathtub served as a small boat! Friends and cousins came for extended visits and joined them in this delightful fun.

On Sundays, the family hack, with its extra improvised "jump seat" to accommodate more passengers, and the buggy, were pressed into service to take them to town. There they gathered at the home of her maternal grandparents, Johann Carl Weyrich (1819-1908) and Anna Margarethe Heuser Weyrich (1822-1904). "Oma" and "Opa" Weyrich lived in a large, two-story rock house on Main Street. They had a mysterious attic there (used for storage), which was reached by an extra, small stairway, and "Gretchen" always lived in awe of what might be behind that door! There was a grape arbor in "Opa's" back yard, and she loved to play there and pick the summer-time grapes. An overnight visit provided the extra bonus of getting to sleep in the trundle bed!

The whole family attended the Evangelic Lutheran Church (now Bethany Lutheran), and it was there that Margaret, at the age of 14, was confirmed by the Rev. Mr. Gottfried Ide.

She also loved to visit her paternal grandmother, Christine Kensing Braeutigam (1831-1924), whose house originally had been old Ft. Martin Scott. During the lifetime of her paternal grandfather, Johann Wolfgang Braeutigam (1829-1884), it had been known as "Braeutigam's Garten".

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso

Little "Gretchen" and her brother, August, accompanied their parents on a trip to San Antonio--a two day journey by horse drawn hack. They spent the night at Boerne, Texas with her Uncle Adolf and Aunt Bertha Weyrich. In San Antonio, they visited in the home of her Uncle Carl and Aunt Sophie Weyrich. But the greatest excitement came during their shopping excursion at the famous JOSKE BROTHERS STORE---it was there, in the ladies' lounge, that the wide-eyed, seven year old "Gretchen" first encountered the novel innovation called an "indoor water closet"!!

The Fourth of July was always a happy occasion---she loved the big parades and the bands that brought gaiety to Main Street, Fredericksburg, followed by gatherings at the park where the young people and the children danced.

September brought the Gillespie County Fair, with its festive spirit and the excitement of horse races.

Margaret recalls the old Confederate Reunions, held at the Reunion Grounds south of town. These were large celebrations, with over-night camping, and lasting for two or three days. It was there, in 1909, that her brother, Ernest, and his friend Tom Schmidt, had an interesting business venture---they had purchased a cotton candy machine and set up for business at the Reunion, selling huge cones of that airy morsel to any who had a nickel to spend!

Her sixteenth year was perhaps the most eventful of her young life. Her father had bought a section of land in Leon County, and she accompanied her parents and the two youngest children, Herman and Bertha, on the move from Fredericksburg to Jewett, Texas. This move was accomplished with two large wagons and a hack, and required 16 days of traveling and overnight camping.

When they reached Austin, their caravan was joined by a young man from near Fredericksburg. He too, had a wagon, loaded with his possessions, and trailing behind were a mare with a young colt. The young man was ERNEST GRASSO. Little did she dream that he was her future husband! Among the items he had in his wagon, was a little spool cabinet which had come from his father's store at Seven Mile Creek. The little cabinet is still in Margaret's possession, as of this year, 1970. They reached Jewett on December 14, 1909.

Jewett was a pretty little village, with many tall cottonwood trees, among which nestled numerous "gingerbread"-trimmed Victorian type homes. The people were typical of the Old South in their customs and manner of speech. The sand was loose and deep, and filled ones shoes with every step. All of this was in great contrast to the surroundings of her early life, which had been typically German in atmosphere, with large rock houses andmany windmills. There were three churches in Jewett---Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist. Since there was no Lutheran church there, Margaret and her parents joined the Presbyterian Church.

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso

They lived in a one-story, 5-room, frame house with stack chimneys, until her father built their new country home. She attended the Griffin School nearby, where Mrs. Arch Hopkins was her teacher---the only lady teacher she had ever had.

She became acquainted with the young people of Jewett and the neighboring communities, attended their parties and church activities; however, the young men fell far short in her estimation, when she compared them with the young bachelor, Ernest Grasso, who was a regular caller at her home.

In 1915, Margaret accompanied her sister Elsie and children to Fredericksburg. From there, she went by train to San Antonio to call upon her fiancee's people. Ernest too, had come to San Antonio and hemether at the train and took her to the home of his mother, Mrs. Sidonie Grasso. His sisters, Alwine and Gertrude, and brother Ralph were single and living at home. His brothers, Adolf, Ottmar, and Volker also had their own homes in San Antonio. Sister Frieda (Mrs. Felix Pfeister), and Else (Mrs. Alfred Schmidt) had their homes at Fredericksburg and Hye, Texas. Margaret was graciously and lovingly welcomed by all of the Grassos, and the wedding date was set.

On November 24, 1915, after a five year courtship, Margaret Cornelia Braeutigam and Ernest Grasso were married at her parents' home at Jewett. The Rev. Mr. J. C. Cummings of the Ephesus Baptist Church performed the marriage ceremony. At this point it is interesting to note that this was the marriage of a "seventh child" to a "seventh child", as Ernest was born December 30, 1887, the seventh child of Friedrich (FRITZ) Rudolph Anton Joseph Grasso (1829-1908) and Sidonie Marquardt (1852-1921).

The young couple's first home, one mile north of Jewett, was a small, white bungalo with a honeysuckle arbor at the back door. Even today, 1970, Margaret smiles at the recollection of her new husband unpacking his bachelor belongings, among which were 27 pairs of black socks---all much in need of darning!

Ernest was employed by the U. S. Civil Service, as a rural mail carrier, on Route 3, Jewett. During the next nine years, in the little white bungalo, their three children were born; Marie Christine, October 13, 1917; Carl August, March 19, 1920; and Helen Margaret, October 23, 1921. During this time they also acquired their first new automobile--a Model-T Ford touring car, with snap-on side curtains, and a tool box on the running board. This car was purchased from the Evans Motor Company for the fantastic sum of $480.00!

They experienced the uneasy years of World War I, and the hardships incident to it. Sugar was scarce; flour was not available, and they learned to eat cornbread, even for breakfast!

In 1924, the Grassos left their bungalo for a larger home in town. The children were in school, and Margaret took an active part in PTA, serving terms as secretary and President of the organization. She was also Secretary of the Presbyterian Womens Missionary Society, and later she became an Elder in the Church. She joined the women of Leon County in their Home Demonstration Club Activities.

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso

In 1927, Margaret's widowed mother, "Oma Braeutigam", came to make her home with them, and until 1940, when she went to her final rest, and for many years thereafter, the Grasso home was "headquarters" for many many family gatherings.

In 1929, the Texas Power and Light Company built a power station at Jewett, and this was the beginning of "life-with-electricity" in their home. This was not without some problems---their faithful Negro washerwoman was mortally afraid of the electric washing machine and refused to go near it!

The year 1930 brought the new wonder of the 20th century, RADIO, into their lives. The excitement of hearing voices from afar and the joy of listening to fine music and entertainment right in their home was almost unbelievable!

The Great Depression of the 1930's was felt in many ways by the Grasso family--but no family was spared, and this in itself made it bearable. They kept their own cows and chickens in order to help provide food, and Ernest farmed a few acres, in addition to his mail route work. The great dust bowl of Oklahoma and Kansas sifted down through central Texas, turning the sky amber and hiding the sun. Sand sifted into every corner and crevice and settled on all the vegetation, and before it could be cleared away, another "duster" would blow in. The freight trains that came through town were full of displaced men and boys looking for jobs, or just simply "running-from" despair and poverty. Margaret handed out food to many of these "hobos" who knocked on her door and asked for a meal. It was a time for compassion and a helping hand for those less fortunate than she.

Social life during those years was at low ebb. Financial outlay for entertainment, travel, etc. was out of the question. But, those were the years of the Revival Meetings! Each of the three churches in town held summer revivals, with visiting evangelists and song leaders. The three congregations attended each others meetings. There was joy in the music, and there were numerous good singers among the townspeople. This provided a means of diversion on the hot summer nights. The church pews were filled with singing souls, each fanning diligently with a palm leaf or paper fan!. The Grassos dutifully attended these church functions.

Ernest enjoyed hobbies of hunting and fishing. He and their son, Carl, had a great comradeship in their hunting expeditions. Ernest and his friends would return from their fishing trips with the catch, and the families would gather at the roadside park, to have an outdoor fish fry, the menfolk officiating at the frying pan, and the ladies providing all the trimmings for the meal.

The children grew up and graduated from the local high school.

Then, another cloud appeared on the horizon of their lives--- World War II. Again there were days of apprehension and privation. Rationed foods, clothing, gasoline and tires became a way of life. Their eldest daughter, Marie, worked at the County Agricultural Offices at Centerville, Texas; Carl was in the Armed Services; and Helen entered nurses training at Galveston.

Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso

The Grassos, being a German family in a non-German community, always knew that their neighbors regarded them as being "different". However, two wars and a great depression produced strong bonds of friendship in this town, and Jewett will always be home to this family.

Margaret and Ernest were not destined to share the autumn years of their lives. In 1949, Ernest was stricken with a circulatory ailment, arteriosclerosis obliterans, and after a lengthy illness, and two amputations, he died on April 20, 1955.

Since 1956, Margaret has made her home in Temple, Texas, with her daughter, Marie, who is a career woman, a medical secretary at the great Scott & White Hospital of Temple. Margaret is active in the First Lutheran Church, belongs to several clubs, and loves to travel.

Her five grandchildren are a source of great pleasure. Son Carl and his wife, the former Wanda Lee Dysart, live at Victoria, Texas, where he is Trainmaster over a large area of the Southern Pacific Railroad. They have two boys, Donald Bruce, and Ralph Ernest. Helen, (Mrs. Arthur Ralph Watson) lives at Orange, Texas, where her husband, Dr. Watson, is Head of the Department of Radiology and Isotope Medicine, at Orange Memorial Hospital. They have three children: Barbara Margaret (Mrs. Alan Mihran Arabian); David Ralph, who is a senior at Lamar University at Beaumont, Texas; and Paul Frederick, who is in highschool.

Margaret has witnessed during her lifetime the miracles of the automobile, radio, talking pictures, modern airplanes, television, and most recently, man's first walk on the moon. She has loved every one of these great strides of civilization, and today, at the age of 76+, she eagerly anticipates any additional wonders that the 20th century might yet have to offer!

Marie Christine Grasso

Marie Christine Grasso was born October 13, 1917, at Jewett, Texas. She is the oldest child of Margarethe C. Braeutigam and Ernest Grasso.

Marie and her brother and sister, Carl and Helen, were reared at Jewett and attended Jewett Public School.

Hers was a simple childhood. Perhaps the most outstanding events were the coming of electricity to their town and home, and the advent of radio. Too, there were the wonderful National Geographic Magazines, sent to the family at each year's end by her uncle Adolf Grasso of San Antonio. Marie always was an avid reader.

The major events and circumstances of her childhood would coincide with those documented in her mother's life story, from the time of their move from the white bungalo to town. Thus, the reader is referred to that story for the description of her life in Jewett.

Having loved all of her school days, and being aware that a vast, beautiful world of knowledge lay between the covers of great books, and in the minds of good teachers, she was far from happy upon her highschool graduation-----, because, being a child of the great depression, she knew that could not be her world.

Her first job was as a clerk in the county offices of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, at Centerville, Texas. This was during the years of our President Franklin D. Roosevelt. After about six years at this job she went to Temple, Texas where she was employed as a secretary by a private physician.

She worked long hours, most days until 7:00 P.M. This precluded attending the local Junior College, as night classes began at 6:00 or 6:30 P. M. Besides, body and soul were weary after a ten hour day, and she too had her share of the family headaches, called "migraine".

Temple, being near Ft. Hood, of course was filled with many young Army men. Marie and her apartment mate made the acquaintance of a number of very fine young men, but somehow, for Marie, there simply was no enchantment in the thoughts of marriage. Now, years later, she still is quite content and extremely independent living a single life.

In 1951, she accepted a position as Medical Secretary at the great Scott and White Memorial Hospital of Temple, and has remained there until the present time. She likes her work, the medical terminology, and she especially enjoys her association with the fine scientific minds of the doctors with whom she works each day.

In 1955, always having wanted to try her skill at painting, she enrolled in an art course being offered by Austin Killian, then of the Art Department of Baylor University. She and her sister, Helen, had great fun in this art course. Since then, Marie has studied art under four other instructors, namely, Kelly Fearing of the University of Texas, William Stephens of Mary Hardin Baylor, Wm. Gregory Studios,

Belton, and Don Magid, of Waco. She has been active in the local Artisans' Guild, and the Cultural Activities Center of Temple. She has exhibited paintings locally, at Salado, Texas, and at the Liberty National Bank annual art shows, where she won several ribbons and cash prizes on her work.

Marie owns her home in Temple, having shared it with her mother since 1956. She enjoys gardening, and occasionally she treats herself to a vacation in Mexico.

She looks forward to retirement about thirteen years hence, when she plans to devote more time to her painting and possibly will venture into some other fields of art.

Carl August Grasso

Carl August Grasso was born March 19, 1920, at Jewett, Texas. He is the son of Margarethe Cornelia Braeutigam Grasso (1893- ) and Ernest Grasso (1887-1955).

Carl and his sisters, Marie and Helen, grew up in the small town of Jewett, Texas. Being the son of a rural mail carrier and growing up during the years of the great depression made for a simple childhood without any frills. His mother saw to his regular Sunday School and church attendance at the Jewett Presbyterian Church. He and his nature-loving father had a great comradeship in their hunting and fishing trips.

Carl graduated from Jewett High School and attended Tyler Commercial College, Tyler, Texas. His training in telegraphy started him on his railroad career, and at this writing he is Trainmaster over a large section of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Texas.

Carl served his Country during World War II in the Ground Forces of the U. S. Army Air Force.

During the early 1950's while living at Edinburg, Texas, and under the sponsorship of his uncle, Ralph Grasso, he became a member of the Masonic Lodge at McAllen, Texas.

In 1955, he married Wanda Lee Dysart, daughter of Marion Dysart and Dimples Oates Dysart of Lubbock, Texas.

At this writing, 1970, Carl and Wanda and their two sons live at Victoria, Texas. They are active members of the Episcopal Church.

Their children: 1. Donald Bruce Grasso, born 1956 at Edinburg, Texas.

2. Ralph Ernest Grasso, born 1959, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Helen Margaret Grasso

Helen Margaret Grasso was born on October 23, 1921 at Jewett, Texas. Helen grew up in her parents home during the austere years of the great depression. She graduated from Jewett High School. She is a Graduate Nurse having received her nurses training at the University of Texas School of Nursing, John Sealy Hospital, Galveston, Texas, graduating in 1943. While in training she met and married Dr. Arthur Ralph Watson, who at that time was a student at the University of Texas School of Medicine at Galveston, Texas. He is the son of Arthur Groom Watson and Willia Catherine Willerson: Watson of Salado, Texas.

While her husband fulfilled his military obligations as Captain of the Medical Corps U. S. Army, stationed at Gorgas Hospital, Panama Canal Zone, Helen spent one year employed as Night Supervisor of Nurses at the Kings Daughters Hospital, Temple, Texas. Then she and their infant daughter, Barbara, joined Dr. Watson in the Canal Zone, and here they resided for another year. Upon returning to the States, they lived briefly at Winnfield, Louisiana, then they spent several years in the small town of Granger, Texas where Dr. Watson engaged in private medical practice. During their years at Granger, Texas their two sons, David and Paul were born.

In 1953, this family moved to Temple, Texas where Dr. Watson resumed his medical studies, working toward the specialty of Radiology and Isotope Medicine.

In 1958, Helen and her family established their home at Orange, Texas where Dr. Watson is head of the Radiology Department at the Orange Memorial Hospital.

Helen is a talented young woman, capable homemaker, with hobbies of piano, organ, ceramics, gardening etc. She is active in the Medical Auxilliary and several study clubs. She participates in her husband's hobbies of boats and sailing, and oil painting.

A lover of all small creatures, she keeps many interesting pets, including swans, peafowl, geese, cats and the Watson domain is a haven for many small wild creatures that come to feed at their pond and play about their woods.

The Dr. Watson's are blessed with three children. The oldest child is Barbara Margaret born on March 11, 1945 at Temple, Texas. She is married to Alan Mihran Arabian who is a son of Kerrikan Arabian and Alice Mihran of Walnut Creek, California. Alan is a graduate of the University of Texas, an electrical engineer. Barbara is also a graduate of the University of Texas. They live in Ft. Worth, Texas at the present time, where he is employed by General Dynamics.

David Ralph Watson was born on February 27, 1948 at Temple, Texas and is a student at Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas.

Paul Frederick Watson was born January 29, 1952, and is attending high School at Orange, Texas.

August Richard Braeutigam

August Richard Braeutigam was born April 19, 1895, the son of Richard and Bertha Braeutigam, at his parents' home near Fredericksburg, Texas, the third youngest of a family of ten children of which one, a little girl named Sophie died in infancy. At the time of his birth there were five surviving sisters and one brother, born in the following order: Marie, Elsie, Mathilde, Christine, Ernest and Margaret. In 1901 another son was added to the family, named Herman, and in 1903 another sister, Bertha. Needless to say these last two were adored by their parents and their older sisters and brothers. August had been the baby of the family for six years and the advent of two newcomers after so long a time seemed quite providential. When informed by sister Marie of the arrival of the new baby (Herman), August was incredulous to the extent that he accused her of a "bald-faced" untruth. Having sat on his mother's lap just the evening before he just couldn't accept the shocking possibility of another taking his place as his mother's baby.

August did not start to school until he was eight years old. Probably the main reason for so late a start was that Meusebach Creek School was more than two miles distant and that was rather a long walk for such a little boy. But going to school was great fun. Walking to and from school with his sisters and older brother and with his cousins, the children of Uncle Otto and Uncle Emil Braeutigam provided much adventure and mutual enjoyment. And what a thrill it was, as often happened, the foot bridge over the Pedernales River had been washed away or had become submerged after a rainstorm, when Papa ferried the children across on horseback.

For one year August attended school at Morris Ranch, living there with his sister Christine and her husband Louis Brodie, who was the principal of that school. His ability as a teacher was outstanding and his fine character as a man contributed much to those who had the privilege of attending his classes.

After attending a small school located on his father's ranch in Leon County, to where his parents had moved in 1909, he attended business college in San Antonio, and upon graduation secured employment in that city.

By this time Jewel Trice who was attending school in San Antonio established residence with her parents James Arthur Trice and Sarah Nutt Trice. And it was here that August and Jewel became acquainted and after a courtship of several years duration were married July 28, 1917. Jewel was born November 28, 1894 at Berclair, Texas. She lost a little sister and there were no other children, so she grew up as an only child. Jewel attended school in Refugio, Texas, as there was no school in Berclair. During the school term she lived at Aunt Emma's house. Dr. John Adkins, and Aunt Emma who was Jewel's father's sister, had a large family and she recalls the fun she had in the company of so many cousins.

In 1922 August and Jewel moved to California, arriving there in January. That same year, on September 24 their baby girl, Jean Winifred, was born in Compton, California. After being active in the automobile business for some ten years, August became associated with a garment manufacturing concern, located in Compton, and

in this association for thirty years, until his retirement in 1963.

January 17, 1934 a son, Donald James, was born. Jean and Don both attended school in Compton. Upon graduation from high school Jean attended Compton Junior College for two years, and after working several years was married to Robert E. (Bob) Farley, on May 27, 1949. Bob was born September 17, 1920. His parents are Robert L. and Connie Vaughn Farley. Jean and Bob lived in Redlands, California for a number of years and here their two sons, Steven Craig and Kenneth Allen were born. Steven on November 29, 1951 and Kenneth on November 22, 1953. In 1962 they moved to Gresham, O Oregon, where Bob was associated with Commercial Credit Company. Subsequently he became associated with Interpace, Inc. and after several years with them in Portland, Oregon, was transferred to Seattle, Washington. In July 1969 they established residence in Edmonds, Washington, a suburb of Seattle.

After graduating from high school Donald attended University of Southern California and was graduated in 1956 with a degree in Industrial Engineering. He graduated as an Ensign in the Naval Reserve and upon graduation had duty in Washington, D.C. while waiting to be assigned to flight training at Pensacola, Florida. After Pensacola his home station was Long Beach, California, while assigned to duty on a destroyer, which took him to New Zealand, the Phillipines and other South Pacific Ports. Upon return from this cruise he was assigned to duty as a fire control instructor at the Naval Station on Coronado Island (San Diego). He was promoted to Lieut. J.G. upon assumption of this assignment and later, upon retirement, to Lieutenant. Since separation from the Navy his employment has been in the aero-space industry. He resides in New port, California, on Balboa Island. He is not married.

At this time (1969) Jean and Bob's son Steven is a freshman at Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, and Kenneth a junior in high school in Edmonds, Washington.

Dr. Herman A. Braeutigam

Dr. Herman A. Braeutigam was born on June 14, 1901, on a small farm near Fredericksburg, Texas; the youngest son of Richard and Bertha Weyrich Braeutigam.

His formal education began in a small one-teacher school at Meusebach Creek. Herman remembers the Emil, Otto and Richard Braeutigam cousins assembling each school day morning for the one and one half mile walk across the Pedernales to school. By present standards it was not much of a school, but the pupils did learn. Strict disciplines, enforced by a seldom used ribbon tied paddle hung on the wall and cooperation between teacher and parents helps account for the success that was achieved under the circumstances.

In 1901 the Richard Braeutigams moved to Leon County where Herman graduated from the Jewett High School in 1918. He then attended the Grubbs Vocational College, now the University of Texas at Arlington, from 1918 to 1920. After teaching in the Handely High School for a year, he entered the University of Texas Law School, from which he received the LL.B. degree in 1924. After a brief time with a Waco law firm, he became Secretary of the Methodist Student Federation, of which he had been the first president. In 1925 he entered the Yale Divinity School from which he received the B.D. degree in 1928. After a year as pastor of a church in Lander, Wyoming, Herman returned for further study at Yale University where he received his Ph. D. in 1933.

On June 23, 1928, he married Mary Bryant Nash, who was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, grew up in Minneapolis, and graduated from Wellesley College in 1925. After that she entered the Yale School of Nursing, receiving a Bachelor of Nursing degree in 1928. The couple have three children, a son and two daughters.

Richard Kensing Braeutigam, born in 1931, received his education at Vermont Academy, Hobert College, and the University of Wisconsin. He is now teaching at the Whitewater State University in Wisconsin. Mary Lois (Mrs. R. Harvey Loe, Jr.) born in 1934 holds the A.B. degree from George Washington University and an M. A. from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She teaches English in a high school in Santa Barbara. Mary Christine, (Mrs. Robert Evans) born in 1936, graduated from Wellesley College in 1958 and has since received an M.A. from the University of California at Berkeley. She is a school psychologist in Oakland.

After teaching a year at Vassar College, Herman joined the faculty of Colgate University in 1934, as an Instructor in Philosophy and religion. Promoted to the rank of Professor in 1947, he became chairman of his department in 1954. He was named the first incumbent of the Harry Emerson Fosdick chair in Philosophy and Religion in 1960. In 1968 he retired from Colgate University and accepted an invitation to teach philosophy at Lincoln University, a Negro College near Oxford, Pennsylvania, thus fulfilling a long-felt desire "to make a personal contribution to Negro education."

Dr. Braeutigam is a Fellow of the National Society for Religion in Higher Education, a member of the American Philosiphical Association, an Honorary Member of Phi Beta Kappa, and the American Association of University Professors. An author of books and articles in his field, he was awarded a Marooon Citation by Colgate's alumni in 1967, and in 1969 was given an Alumni award for Distinguished Professional Achievement at the University of Texas at Arlington.

This write-up concerns HERMAN ARNO BRAEUTIGAM, b. June 14, 1904. He is the youngest son of Richard Valtin Braeutigam (1859-1927) and Bertha Charlotte Amalie Weyrich Braeutigam (1860-1940).

It is a very good story of his academic achievements which appeared in a publication by the YALE Dept. of Athletics (Football program) October 1969.

Colgate's Dr. Brautigam...

A VERSATILE SCHOLAR

By T. Stuart Infantine
Director, Colgate News Service

Once a young attorney has begun a law practice, he doesn't usually study for the ministry. But Herman Arno Brautigam, Harry Emerson Fosdick Professor of Philosophy and Religion Emeritus at Colgate University, is an unusual man.

Learned scholar, patient teacher, gifted administrator, his distinguished career at Colgate spans the administrations of three Presidents, and few men in the University's 150 years have been called upon to provide leadership in so many different capacities or responded as effectively.

Dr. Brautigam came to Colgate by way of Fredericksburg, Texas, where he was born on June 14, 1901, and Yale University where he earned the B.D. degree in 1928 and the Ph. D. degree in 1933.

His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, and following graduation from Jewett High School in 1918, young Herman enrolled at Grubbs Vocational College, now the University of Texas at Arlington. While studying there he was a co-founder and the second editor of "The Shorthorn" the school's student publication.

He emerged after two years with a diploma with Honors in the liberal arts, and spent the next year, at the age of 19, teaching mathematics and biology at Handley High School.

In the fall of 1921 he entered Law School at the University of Texas, was on the editorial board of Volume I of the Texas Law Review and was awarded the LL.B. degree in 1924. He was hired by a prominent law firm in Waco but stayed less than a year.

Possessed of a creative and inquisitive spirit, the young lawyer chafed under the regimen of his daily assignments which often consisted of searching out land titles dating back to grants from the Spanish Crown.

While a law student, Brautigam had become involved in religious activities and felt some vocation in that area. He was President of the University YMCA 1923-24. Disenchanted by his duties as a fledgling lawyer, he returned to Austin as Assistant Secretary of the University YMCA for the spring semester, 1925.

(A Versatile Scholar continued)

The fall of 1925 found him in New Haven as a student in the Yale Divinity School. He was graduated as a member of the School's Class of 1928, and subsequently held a pastorate in Wyoming before returning to Yale as a candidate for the Ph. D.

At. Yale he developed a great respect for such men as Dean Emeritus Luther Allen Weigle, Professor F.S.C. Northrup, and Professor W.M. Sheldon. He also remembers Dean Charles Reynolds Brown - "I suppose in those days most Divinity School students attempted to imitate his style in the pulpit," Dr. Brautigam notes.

The man who wielded greatest influence over Brautigam during his six years at Yale was Professor Robert Lowry Calhoun who, as his teacher and Ph.D. chairman, insisted upon scholarly accuracy and intellectual integrity. Brautigam and Professor Calhoun have been life-long friends.

"I also admired Rowland Bainton, Professor of Church History," says Brautigam. "He gave me a love of history. It was usual for attendance at his lecture on Abelard and Heloise to be so great that it had to be moved from his classroom to the Chapel."

Under the eye of Professor Calhoun, Brautigam successfully defended his dissertation, "The Metaphysical Conditions of Progress as Conceived by L.T. Hobhouse," and was awarded the Ph.D. degree in 1933.

The 1933-34 academic year was divided between study at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, and Cambridge University, England, and in the fall of 1934 Dr. Brautigam began his 35-year tenure at Colgate as an instructor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion.

In an era when promotion was a painfully slow process, it took Dr. Brautigam only 13 years to reach the professorial level. In 1960 he became the first, and until his retirement on June 30, 1969, the only incumbent of the Harry Emerson Fosdick Chair.

He served under three presidents - George Barton Cutten (AB Yale University 1897; Ph. D. 1902; and BD 1903), 1922 - 1942, who "gave the University guts," Everett Needham Case, 1942 - 1962, who "gave it excellence," and Vincent M. Barnett Jr., 1963 - 1969, whose administration bridged the "most significant period of building and fund raising in Colgate's history."

During those years he accepted a number of important committee assignments including chairmanship of the Faculty Committee which programmed the Charles A. Dana Arts Center, designed by Paul Rudolph, Chairman of the Department of Architecture at Yale, 1958 - 1965.

In the 1950's he was Chairman of the Humanities Committee under a Rockefeller Foundation Grant; a member of the Faculty Self-Study Committee financed by a Ford Foundation Grant; was the first Director of University Studies; and subsequently for five years, Director of the Division of the Humanities.

Throughout his career at Colgate he was actively concerned with problems of the teaching profession, and served as President of Colgate's

chapter of the American Association of University Professors from 1940-42. He helped to draft the rules for tenure and promotion which were subsequently adopted by Colgate's Board of Trustees.

During the spring semester of the 1964-1965 academic year he was Acting Provost and Dean of the Faculty. With the inauguration of Colgate's 11th president, Thomas A. Bartlett, last month, Dr. Brautigam concluded his term as Chairman of the University's Sesquicentennial Planning Committee charged with supervising and co-ordinating Colgate's 150th anniversary observances.

As might be expected, the term "retirement" as applied to Herman Brautigam's career is euphemistic. With the beginning of the 1969-70 academic year he accepted a position at Lincoln University as Professor of Philosophy and Chairman of the Department.

Lincoln, founded in 1854, is the oldest university in America to provide a liberal education for Negroes. His position there fulfills Dr. Brautigam's "long-time desire to make a personal contribution to Negro education."

At Lincoln he will be primarily concerned with recruiting new faculty members and helping to prepare undergraduates for study in philosophy at the graduate level.

Lincoln is getting an unusual man. A Maroon Citation presented by the Colgate Alumni Corporation for distinguished service to the University describes him as "resident philosopher and architect...coordinator par excellence."

The versatility of his leadership bears testimony to the accuracy of the citation and underscores his reputation for defining goals and then achieving them.

A scholar of considerable accomplishment in his field, Dr. Brautigam is the author of numerous articles in professional journals, reviews, and abstracts, and co-author of several textbooks. His major contribution was as co-author of Experience, Reason and Faith published by Harper in 1940.

In 1966, the 83rd edition of "Salmagundi" Colgate's student yearbook was dedicated to Dr. Brautigam - "a beloved teacher of philosophy and religion and one who was intimately involved in the conception of the Dana Center. As long as the Dana Arts Center stands as a home for creativity and the arts in this Valley, it will stand in recognition of the work of this man."

Personal History of Richard K. Brautigam

There is every reason to believe that I came into the world under favorable conditions. It might have been otherwise for September 9, 1931 came during the great depression. Another mouth to feed would have been an economic burdenfor many families during this time of high unemployment. But I was a wanted baby. My parents had been married more than four years and I came after my mother had lost a baby who would have been my older brother. This was one of the reasons why my arrival at full term and in robust form was probably received with more than usual joy.

I have been told that one of the first things my father said to me was that he hoped I would become a philosopher. A Socrates type rather than an Aristotilian. He hoped that I would learn to discriminate between the eternal and the transient, between promises and performances, and between the ideal and the possible. But most of all I think my father wanted me to learn to ask the "right" questions recognizing that it would not always be possible to know the "right" answers.

It is said by some of the experts that the first three years are the single most important part of a child's life. This is because so much learning takes place during these early years. Undoubtedly I prospered in physical and emotional health at least until an event during my third year which was destined to change my world markedly. The arrival of my sister, Mary Lois, on May 19, 1934 was a cause for great joy to her proud parents. But for me it was a traumatic event. It was now necessary to share center stage with someone who would displa me from my place as an only child.

MY SCHOOL DAYS One of the most important things that happened to me during my early school days was learning to read. Fortunately during fifth grade it was discovered that I could learn to read even though I had not been responding to the school's efforts along these lines for a number of years. A visit to specialists in New York City probably saved me from becoming one of the youngest school dropouts in the history of the Hamilton Elementary School. After neurological and psychological tests revealed that I was an "educable retardate," a heavy dose of remedial reading was immediately prescribed. Thereafter for about a year I was tutored by a kindly woman, Mrs. Vera Himes, who patiently drilled me daily for an hour until I finally learned to read. This marked a change in my whole outlook. People started to look differently at me and I started to look differently at myself. Learning to read helped improve my I.Q. about 30 points which may have helped me get into college some years later.

In the middle of the seventh grade I was sent away to boarding school to prepare for high school and probably to separate me from my sister with whom I was still competing for "centerstage." After completing the eighth grade at Eaglebrook School I returned to Hamilton High School for my freshman, sophomore and junior years. During this period of middle adolescence I was active in student government, drama, forensics, skiing, track, band, and football. I had a full social life too, although I was known as a shy lad around the girls. At Hamilton I enjoyed Latin II with Mrs. Auer, biology with Mr. Petrie, geometry with Miss Faucette and English with Mrs Marvin Wackman. (Mrs. Wackman's

husband, then a professor in political science at Colgate, later became president of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania where father now is a member of the faculty.)

After a good year at another boarding school, Vermont Academy, at Saxtons River, Vermont, I entered Oberlin College in the fall of 1949 with the vague notion of becoming a doctor and a nagging doubt in my ability to do so. I graduated from Hobart College in 1954 after an interesting, if not traumatic, undergraduate career. My most unforgettable event during my college days and probably the most important event of my young life to date occurred during the spring of 1954. Sociologically speaking I experienced a status change from bachelor to husband. The person responsible for all this was a beautiful, gentle, loving, religious, intellectual French major from William Smith College the daughter of an episcopal priest.

Perhaps it is sociologically significant that the daughter of an episcopal priest married the son of a congregational minister, albiet retired. In any event it was a fortuitous union.

After failing to gain acceptance to any of the ten medical schools to which I had applied, I decided during my final semester at Hobart College to become a social worker. I learned about social work quite by accident. It was good to hear that a profession existed for helping the poor, the disturbed and the deviant to get along in society. This sounded like what I was looking for. I think I was looking for meaning or fulfillment in life through service to others. In order to learn how to help people I sought admission to a professional school of social work and ended up at the University of Wisconsin at Madison in the fall of 1954. Shortly after we moved from a third floor cold water flat to a small four room cottage on the edge of town our first child, Debbi, was born. She was a charming, responsive child, a delight to her parents and to her grandparents.

WORK While working toward the degree of Master of Science in Social Work I became interested in the field of crime and delinquency and especially the problems of helping the offender. My master's research project was The Extent to Which Problem Drinking Affects Probation: A Study of 239 Offenders Placed on Probation in and about Madison, Wisconsin, in 1953. After receiving the masters degree in June 1956, I accepted a position as probation and parole agent with the State's Division of Corrections in Madison. Soon I began to recognize that a substantial gap existed between the stated aims of helping offenders on probation or parole and the ability of the professionals to render effective service. Regrettably much of what I had learned in social work school about "helping" clients did not seem of much use in changing offenders. These "clients" usually did not voluntarily seek "help" with their "personal" problems and could be easily classified as "unmotivated." The correctional agency was basically coercive in that the "service" could be imposed upon the individual whether he wanted it or not and failure to "cooperate with the agent" could result and frequently did, in punitive action such as return to prison. It was therefore not surprising that most of our "clients" looked with suspicion at the "help" which was proffered frequently

regarding the efforts of probation and parole agents to "help" as unwanted and unwarrented interference in their lives. But I was undaunted in my plan to become an effective social worker. After a year's apprenticeship in the Madison office I was eager to set out on my own. Soon I was offered responsibility for providing correctional services to Grant and Crawford counties in southeastern Wisconsin. In the summer of 1957 we moved to lovely Lancaster amid the rolling hills and lush fields of prosperous agricultural community. By this time our family had grown to four with the birth of Ken. This little bundle of dynamite was quite a contrast to his docile sister, Debbi. From the beginning Ken's personality evidenced great determination and persistence. While Debbi was usually placid and easygoing, Ken was never satisfied. Neither the breast, the bath or a clean diaper would quiet him for long. It was clear that he had a mind of his own, with strong ideas of the way things ought to be. If revolunionary types are born and not made, then I think it was clear from the start we were blessed with a budding revolutionary in our first son, Ken.

For nearly four years we enjoyed the small town life and I struggled to balance the rights and needs of offenders against the interests of public safety. It was not always clear how or where the line between these values should be drawn. So that I might learn more about the operation of the Wisconsin correctional system I decided to work in a correctional institution. I was fortunate to secure a position at the nearly new reception and treatment center at Wales, the Wisconsin School for Boys, hailed as one of the nation's truly progressive innovations in the treatment of the juvenile offender. Within a year I was glad to accept responsibility for developing a unit for social work graduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee who were taking their field training at the institution. In April of 1966, after receiving a promotion to District Administrator, I transferred to the Milwaukee Probation and Parole office where I managed a field services district with 17 agents.

A year and a half later I found myself becoming increasingly frustrated at the limits of my adminstrative position. I chaffed at my ineffectiveness in neutralizing the organizational constraints which interferred with helping the offender "make it" in the community. It seemed as if much of what we were doing in my probation and parole district was making it more rather than less difficult for offenders to get along in the community and to become "rehabilitated." It was about this time that I began to consider going into teaching.

In September 1967 our family, now increased to seven, was transplanted to Whitewater where I began a new job as an instructor in social welfare in the Sociology Department of the Wisconsin State University. For two years I busied myself teaching new social welfare courses and developing the undergraduate social welfare program. Responding to the eternal pressures of upward mobile institutions of higher learning on non-tenured faculty to show "progress toward the terminal degree" I decided again to undertake another program of self improvement. Therefore, in the fall of 1969 I became a full time student in the Ph. D. program in Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. I expect to complete course work this semester

Personal History of Richard K. Brautigam

and to take the preliminary examinations this summer. With luck I should complete the dissertation in time to get the coveted sheepskin in June 1971 before "life begins" as they say. That is to say, before I enter the fourth decade of my earthly existence on September 9, 1971.

Presently I am interested in the problems of measuring effectiveness of correctional services especially for non-dangerous offenders can be effectively handled in the community in lieu of institutionalization. It may now be time to question public policy which requires or permits the costly and needless storage of many offenders who might be more effectively "rehabilitated" in community based correctional programs with no real threat to the public safety. Specifically, I would like to see an experimental project test the effects of diverting selected non-dangerous juveniles (or adults for that matter) from institutional to community programs of resocialization using behavior modification methods to enhance their social functioning.

Debbi Anne Brautigam's Personal History

I was born in Madison, Wisconsin on November 28th, 1954, the first of five children. When I was about three I acquired the usual childhood diseases, nothing serious. My brother, John, was born when I was five, one day before my birthday. What a present!! One vivid memory I have is living on a farm in Lancaster when I threw my brother Ken's shoe into the pig pen and watched the squealing pigs jump on it.

I remember going to Maine when I was 4 or 5. I had a good friend, Monica, that I used to play with. Our house in Lancaster seemed really big to me, with a spacious lawn, and lots of trees and flowers. I went to kindergarten and part of first grade there.

We moved to Pewaukee in mid-school year 1961. I went to school at Meadowbrook where I became horse crazy. My best friend was Vicky. We started building a house in the Kettle Moraine where we moved in 1962. It was a lovely house set in rolling hills with oak and hickory trees. Later on we added a swimming pool. The tri-level house was set on three acres of land. Its main features were rustic: a redwood outside and two story plate glass windows and a balconey. We spent 5 happy years there, going to Maine to visit grandparents during the summers we didn't stay home with company, our horse Joker and our pool.

We moved to Whitewater, Wisconsin after the exciting summer of '67, where we now live. At Whitewater High School I was lucky enough to be a cheerleader the year after the basketball team went undefeated and now we are started on the long road to state competition. I went out for many extracurricular activities during school, and I was one of the stars in the All School Play - Thurber Carnival.

Kenneth Mark Brautigam's Personal History

I was born in Madison, Wisconsin, March 15, 1956 and lived there for one and one half years. We then moved to Lancaster where we lived for four years with my older sister, Debbi, and younger brother, Steve. There is where I met an old lady across the street, Miss Utt, whom Deb and I frequently visited. I was 6 and Miss Utt treated me very kindly. I don't think I'll ever forget her.

When I was nearly 5, and Mother was pregnant with John, my youngest brother, I used to walk to nursery school, past the hospital. One day I looked up as I passed it and saw a smiling lady waving to me. Quite surprised, I waved back. Two weeks later I found out it was Mother, and we still joke about it as "the waving Lady!"

I grew up from first to fifth grade in Waukesha, Wisconsin where we moved in 1962. It was a large house which we built on the outskirts of town, in the country. In the latter part of third grade I came down with rheumatic fever and was in Waukesha Memorial Hospital for three and one half weeks. Missing several months of school I was tutored during the summer of that year, 1965. Restricted to relaxing hobbies I spent much of my summer inside. Then in my fourth grade year, I spent only half a day at a time in school riding home each day with the morning kindergarten class. By fifth grade I was participating in regular sports again, but I must take a penacillen pill each morning for the rest of my life.

Our house in Waukesha was big and rested in the middle of a large portion of rolling and wooded land. We built a swimming pool two years before we moved away, which our family (and the neighbors) enjoyed immensely. As the part of the town became more populated, I made more friends.

In 1966 the summer before we moved from Waukesha to Whitewater, Wisconsin our family traveled by car to Moosehead Lake, Maine, where my father's parents own a large cottage. We enjoyed it very much swimming, boating, fishing and an occasional trip across the lake to explore some beautiful cove or mountain. My sister and I have gone up together frequently to visit our grandparents and spend a summer vacation at this wonderful lakeland.

We moved to Whitewater, Wisconsin in the summer of 1967, where I quickly made new friends. We lived on the far west side across the street from my closest friend, Reid Jolin. There we lived for two years before we moved again. I went to 6th and 7th grade from this house.

I think my greatest asset is my sports know-how. I learn quickly at games such as basketball and football. I played on the 7th grade basketball team at Franklin Junior High, but enjoyed track more. I was a puny 5'2", 98 pounds, but starting to develop rapidly. In the summer of 1969 I spent most of my time bicycle riding with Reid and working out with weights, playing basketball, and swimming at the college gym.

Eighth grade arrived and I was interested in athletics more than ever. In track and field in eighth grade I broke 7 of the 9 established records in the school and got a perfect A in football and basketball and scored a total of 100 points out of a possible 100 in gymnastics. I also took second in the city Punt, Pass and Kick contest, ranking to Bob Davis who lost at State by only 1½ feet. Bob, one of my best friends, is a tremendous athelete

In the fall I won the city 440 yard dash and took second in the broad jump, but could not participate at the state track meet because of a wounded leg at the time.

My grades at school are fair, mostly B's and a couple of A's. Our 8th grade basketball team was a real success. I started 6 of the 10 games, as a forward. I am 5'8½" tall, 120 lbs. now, and hope to grow more. I guess I'm interested mostly in sports, but I like the new alberbra in school.

Presently, I'm going with a pretty neat girl. I started to like her when she became a cheerleader for our bucket games, and I saw her more and more.

Right now I can only say that I can't wait to be with my friends in high school. I'll be a freshman next year and I'M sure I'll really have fun.

## Steven Nash Brautigam's Personal History

I was born in Lancaster, Wisconsin on October 2, 1957. When I made my appearance, the family was living on a farm. Though I remember very little of my early life there, I do recall having been told about the bull we kept in our front yard. The bull was kept there because this was the most convenient place, and besides, he was a pretty friendly bull. When I reached the ancient age of 3 months, we moved to a beautiful house in the urban part of Lancaster. We lived there 3½ years and here my brother, John, was born. I went to nursery school there, while my sister, Debbi, completed kindergarten and part of first grade. I vaguely remember walking to the nursery school mornings. In 1961, our family, which had six members by this time, moved to a surburban area near Pewaukee, Wisconsin. This was a rented house, so we apparently didn't intend to stay at this house very long. I began kindergarten while we lived in what we called "Dr. Kelley's House." For some reason the thing I remember most about that house was that my older brother, Ken, was being teased by some neighbor boys. Ken, upon getting very mad, grabbed the nearest thing (which turned out to be a croquet ball) and threw with all the force of an angry Ken Brautigam. He hit the boy square on the forehead, and that boy never bothered him again.

When I was almost 6 years old we began having a house built in the country. While the house was being built, we rented a room in a motel in Waukesha. The motel was located across the street from the county airport, and I remember sitting on the steps of the motel watching the airplanes land and take-off. After nearly a month of motel life, the house was finished and we moved in. I remember that on clear nights you could see the airport searchlight with its white and blue light changes. While living there, we bought a horse and named it "Joker" because it had a mustache and 3 white legs and one brown leg. He was very gentle and my sister, Debbi, (who at this stage was a horse nut) took him out frequently along with my parents, both of whom are accomplished riders. Sometimes I got to walk him around the pasture--well, it was a thrill then.

We lived at this house for 5 years during which I completed the grades through fourth. During the summer before I began first grade I tripped over a wire at the local swimming beach landing on a sharp rock. A cut on my ankle required six stitches to close. Later in the fall I came down with an infection in the same leg causing me to miss school from late January until the last day of school in June. But thanks to my very patient teacher, who tutored me privately 3 days a week at home, I didn't miss much except my friends.

In 1967 my father decided to take a job teaching at the Wisconsin State University at Whitewater. So once again, we moved. I did not make friends as rapidly as my older siblings did. I guess I'm not too sociable. But the friendships I do make are solid and lasting. I finished the fifth and sixth grades in Whitewater and now I'm in the middle of the 7th grade.

I guess I'M what you might call scholastically inclined, getting mostly A's, but I'm trying to build an athletic reputation, too. I may have set my goal rather high in hoping to equal or better all of my brother's accomplishments. Ken is quite an athlete, and always has been, but I can try. So far, I've placed second in the Pass, Punt, and Kick competition in the city, as Ken did. But I received the President's Physical Fitness Award and he didn't. I still may have a chance.

Scholastically, I made the top of the "Honor Roll" for my class but that wasn't really hard as all of the intelligent people are in other classes.

I tried out for the basketball team this year, but got cut and had to be satisfied with being statistic keeper for the team. I hope to make the team next year. We have a great senior high team and we were undefeated this year in our conference. I am on the student council, of which Ken is secretary.

John Richard Brautigam's Personal History

I was born in Lancaster which is in the southwestern part of Wisconsin. We moved to Waukesha in January 1961. I went to nursery school and then to Zion Elementary School where my father was a member of the school board for several years. My first grade teacher was Mrs. Blish and I liked her a lot. We moved to Whitewater in the summer of 1967 where I went to the second, third and fourth grades. Not long ago one of the largest buildings at the university, Old Main, was badly damaged by fire. Arson was suspected, but the people who did it have not been found yet.

My favorite sport is fishing. One of my funniest experiences is: One day I went fishing at Sherwood Lake and caught a muskie. It was too small to keep, but it was a fish!

One day I'll never forget was Thanksgiving 1968. It was snowing but not very hard. We were headed for the holiday Inn in Madison. We had a nice Thanksgiving dinner with my grandparents from Stevens Point. On the way home it started to get dark and the snow fell harder and harder. But by the time we got home there was still some light outside so we went out to play. We had lots of fun.

Our High school basketball team, the Whippets, are number one in the southern lakes conference and I think they are number four in the state. We had a very close game with Lake Geneva on Tuesday but beat them by two points.

HOPES FOR THE FUTURE: I think AIR POLLUTION is TERRIBLE. I am going to do something about it someday, if somebody hasn't already. Water pollution the same. I hope MAN WILL LEARN TO LIVE WITH HIMSELF IF NOT HIS BROTHER.

Margaret Christine Brautigam

Margaret Christine Brautigam, youngest daughter of Herman Brautigam and Mary Bryant Nash Brautigam, was born in Hamilton, New York, October 9, 1936. She graduated from Wellesley College, in 1958, where she majored in History. Her first marriage was to Richard D. Hughes (October 14, 1957) and two sons were born to them: David Donovan Hughes (July 14, 1958) and Thomas Brautigam Hughes (May 2,1960). In May of 1964, Christine and Richard were divorced, at which time Christine undertook graduate studies at the University of California, where she earned a Master of Arts, in counseling psychology. She married Robert Gage Evans, on September 23, 1967. Robert is a teacher, consultant and author. He has two children, Kenneth and Rebecca.

Christine has been working part-time as a school psychologist for the last three years, but since the family's recent move to the country she has been enjoying a more leisurely style of life. The Evans family has just moved to Sebastopol, California, where Robert has recently been appointed curriculum consultant for the Sonoma County Department of Instruction.

Bertha Braeutigam Swerrigan

Bertha Alma Braeutigam, youngest of ten children of Richard and Bertha Weyrich Braeutigam was born in Gillespie County, Texas in 1903, four miles south of the then city limits of Fredericksburg, Texas. Bertha Alma was named after her mother and two cousins, Alma Braeutigam and Alma Wahrmund. Her home overlooked the Pedernales River, and there she took many a swim during the first six years of her life. Once when she was five during much rain she saw the river rise to within a few feet of their front yard gate.

Her earliest memories of this home include her grandfather Weyrich who made his home with them. Her brother Herman, two years older than she, were his joy, and his love for them will always be cherished. The high light of the day was when he would lead them to the desk and give each of them a stick of candy, a great treat sixty years ago!

Her oldest sister, Mariechen Beal, died in Dallas when she was four years old and she remembers well when her body was brought to their house. Other memories such as the two story house, the windmill which pumped water from the river, John and Arthur Kott coming courting her sisters, Else and Mathilda, whom they later married.

In December of 1909, when she was six years old, her family moved by wagon and hack to Jewett, Leon County, Texas. This was a trip of about 285 miles and it took them two weeks for the move. She could write a book on those two weeks, but the most vivid memory is that of making camp near the railroad track, and with awe and fear seeing the trains go by. There were no trains in Fredericksburg at that time. Those of her family making this move were mother, father, sister Margaret, who was 16, Herman and herself. The three children walked many a mile of that trip to help pass the time, and mostly along by the side of Ernest Grasso's wagon. He was a young man also moving to Leon County. Margaret later married Ernest Grasso. Bad weather was their greatest hazard. Once they spent several days in a vacant house along the road, snowed in. Food was always good. Plenty of ham, sausage, fried potatoes, and always plenty of butter which Mama had salted down in stone crocks before the move.

Years passed quickly. Memories of evenings at home include her mother reading to them from her German Bible, also Aesop's Fables in German. She taught them to read from a German primer, also a Spanish-English primer. We were poor in money, but we were rich in family love, friends and a faith in God. This was instilled in us from early childhood. Her parents organized a Sunday School in the little country school house near our home, because we could not go to town every Sunday. The surrounding farmers' children attended never having had the opportunity of such an experience before; we were always encouraged to study and learn all we could.

Her first six years of schooling took place in the little one room country school house near their home on their place. The remainder of her public schooling was in the town of Jewett. There she lived for a while with Margaret and Ernest Grasso, then with her widowed sister Elsie Kott. Her mother had started her in music when she was eleven, giving her lessons on the family organ, which she now posseses. While in school in town, piano lessons continued, at a great sacrifice to her hard working father and mother, but they took great pride in her talent and accomplishments.

(Bertha Braeutigam Swerrigan continued)

She finished high school from the tenth grade in 1920. That fall she went to Easterly to teach piano. At this time Herman had finished two years of college and was teaching his first year of school at Handley, Texas. When they were at home at Christmas time it was decided that Bertha should go to college. So with his help and help from my parents, she entered Grubbs Vocational College, Arlington, Texas in January of 1921. There she worked as an assistant in the music department until she finished there in 1923. During her time there she was pianist at the Presbyterian Church during the fall and winter, and spring terms. To help pay for her way while attending two summer sessions, she worked in the dining hall, waiting on tables. As she looks back on those days she can truthfully say that during those college years she had the best time of her life!

In the fall of 1923 she started teaching school in Kirven, Texas where she taught four years. There she met Harriss Gibson, a rancher and rural mail carrier, whom she married in 1925. Their first child, Charlotte Mae, was born in 1926, and passed away in 1927. After this sorrow she went back to teaching. The next little girl, Anna Jeannine, was born in 1929. When she was seven months old they moved from Kirven to Cushing, Texas. For several years after their move she was handicapped with a serious illness. During this time her mother and her widowed sister, Elsie Kott cared for her.

Bertha began to teach piano and organ when her last child entered school and continued for twenty one years. During these years she was active in P. T. A. having filled every office at some time in local, county and district. She was a district officer in various positions for 20 years. She has also been very active in the Methodist church, being pianist and organist over 30 years relieved by her students until they left for college. She taught Sunday School classes for 25 years, counselled in the young peoples department many years. She also was active in the Women's Society of Christian Service holding local office and six years of district office.

Her husband became ill in 1960, and she stopped teaching. He passed away in 1963, and she began to wonder what to do with her time. So she started to business School the next year. Before she finished she met Hebert Swearingen, and soon married him. They lived in Jasper, Texas the next year and a half until Herbert retired as Vice President of the First National Bank of Jasper when they moved to her former home in Cushing where life goes on in a busy and happy way. Herbert has two sons, a daughter-in-law, a grandson and granddaughter.

Jeanine, daughter of Bertha, and Harris Gibson (deceased), is married to Raymond St. Peter a medical Technologist. He is director of Beaumont Blood Center and owner of Blood and Plasma Research Laboratory in Beaumont. They have three daughters: Kristi, Rayann, Shelly and a granddaughter Jean Elise Kavanaugh.

Bertha's daughter, Margaret Elise is married to Dr. Ralph Womack who is in the Department of Education at McNeese College in Lake Charles, Louisiana. They have two sons, Clay Harriss, Cavid, and a daughter Melissa Leigh. Her girls are both school teachers.

(Bertha Braeutigam Swerrigan continued)

Happiness far outweighs the trials. Her faith in God, her love for people, and willingness to accept the things human hands can't change, her love for her family and the memories of a wonderful childhood have made her life a happy one. Life is not over yet, for retirement and leisure permit them to do things they never had time for before. They do not find time for regrets - only to go forward. To serve the Lord and their fellowman as long as there is life is her desire.