

By Ricky Smith

Robert Haywood and Sarah Gertrude (Hall) Jones Family

Robert Haywood Jones, son of Dr. William D. Jones and Harriet Dandridge Burwell, was born April 23, 1846, near La Grange, Tennessee. At the age of fourteen his family moved to a plantation near Rome, Floyd County, Georgia.

Robert's father, William Daniel Jones, was the son of Capt. Daniel Jones and Mary Ann Howze. Daniel Jones was at Valley Forge with the Continental Army. William Daniel was a first cousin to Nathaniel Macon. Robert's mother, Harriet Dandridge Burwell, was the granddaughter of Col Lewis Burwell and Ann Spotswood. Ann Spotswood was the granddaughter of Alexander Spotswood, who was a Royal Governor of Virginia during the early 1700s. Ann's parents were John Spotswood and Mary Dandridge, who was a first cousin to Martha Washington. Col Lewis Burwell was at Yorktown when the British surrendered to General Washington.

In March 1864, he enlisted in Co G, 1st Georgia Cavalry of the Confederate Army, Robert enlisted in time to be present for the Atlanta and Carolina Campaigns. He was with the Army in North Carolina when General Joseph Johnston surrendered to General William T. Sherman. Robert's brother, William D. Jones, and brother-in-law, Samuel M. May, also served in Co. G, 1st Georgia Cavalry.

A family story is that Robert Haywood, during a battle, was struck in the head by a Yankee, who was wielding a saber. Robert's brother, William Daniel, was nearby and killed the Yankee. William and Robert brought the Yankee soldier's horse (a big iron grey) home from the war and kept it for many years.

After the war, Robert and William returned to live with their parents at the Jones Bend Farm and Mill. The 1870 Census lists both Robert and William in the household of William D. and Harriet Jones. William had married Ellen "Eddie" McCullough in 1869, and she is also listed. There are two white men listed, who were "working on farm." Also listed is a black couple: Lovelace ("working on farm") and Christiana Jones ("keeping house"), and their three year old son, Lovelace. Lucy A. Burwell's (also black and age forty-seven) occupation is listed as "cook." Since she was age forty-seven, born in Virginia, and her surname was Burwell, Lucy probably had been with Harriet for many years.

On November 24, 1870, Robert married Sarah Gertrude Hall at her parent's home in Floyd County, Georgia. They were married by Reverend Charles J. Oliver.

Sarah Gertrude, daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Barber Hall and Nancy Ann Boulware, was born November 7, 1850, in Fairfield County, South Carolina. She was the first child born to Nathaniel and Nancy.

The Hall Family moved to Floyd County, Georgia in 1853. In 1858, they moved to Webster County, Georgia, where they lived until 1868, when they moved back to Floyd County.

In 1886, Robert Haywood and Sarah Gertrude moved to Grayson County, Texas.

Both Robert Haywood and Sarah Gertrude came from slave owning families. Lorene McCarty Merritt, a granddaughter of Sarah Gertrude, said that Sarah once told her about one night when “the stars fell.” Sarah Gertrude said that this scared the slaves and they all ran to the house. Her father had to go out and explain to them that it (probably a meteor shower) was nothing to fear.

Robert Haywood Jones died July 15, 1914, in Hunt County, Texas.

After Robert died, Sarah Gertrude lived with her only daughter, Annie Gertrude Jones McCarty, and her family. Virgie McWhirter Lewis (a great-granddaughter) remembers Sarah Gertrude drinking a hot toddy every evening before going to bed. She said that if Annie Gertrude was a little late in making the toddy, Sarah would “raise Cain.” Virgie said that Sarah Gertrude always wore a black dress and a little white cap.

Apparently Sarah’s mother-in-law, Harriet D. Jones, also enjoyed a hot toddy before bed. Debbie Cloud has receipts from Harriet’s estate that list many whiskey purchases.

Family members said that Sarah Gertrude “was a prolific quilt maker” and loved to churn butter. She always performed that chore for Annie Gertrude.

Lorene Merritt remembers Sarah reading bible stories to them when they were young. Lorene said that the only time she ever saw her father cry was when Sarah passed away. She said that her father “adored” his mother-in-law.

Sarah Gertrude died in Dennison, Texas, on November 29, 1941.

Children of Robert Haywood and Sarah Gertrude Hall Jones:

1. Isaac “Ike” Newton Jones was born in 1871, in Floyd County, Georgia and died in May 1949, in Amarillo, Texas. Ike was in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake of 1906. The 1920 Census (for Collin County, Texas) lists him as living with his sister, Annie Gertrude Jones McCarty. Ike lived with his brother, Jim Hall Jones, from the 1930s until 1947, when he

moved to a rest home in Amarillo. Ike never married. He is buried in Llano Cemetery, Amarillo, Texas.

2. Benjamin Nathaniel Jones was born October 19, 1872, in Floyd County, Georgia and died December 17, 1935, in Santa Ana, California. He married Marie (last name unknown) in about 1921. Marie was born in Germany in 1877 and immigrated to the United States in 1884. Her date of death is unknown. Ben was living in Kern County, California in 1910. The 1910 census shows him as working in the oil fields. The 1930 Census shows Benjamin and Marie's residence in Long Beach, California, and Ben employment is shown as "oil company." The census also lists Benjamin's age at first marriage as forty-eight and Marie's as forty-four. They had no children. Benjamin is buried in Westminster Cemetery, Orange County, California.
3. Robert Haywood Jones, Jr. was born February 1, 1874, in Floyd County, Georgia and died June 16, 1937, in Grayson County, Texas. He married Grace Lula Spencer on February 7, 1906. Grace was born in November 1890 and died in 1980. Robert & Grace were living in Kern County, California in 1910. The census for 1910 lists him as a "well puller" in the "oil fields." They were the parents of Trudy Bell, Robert Haywood, Jr., Mary Magdalene, and Arlimae. Robert and Grace are buried in Cannon Cemetery, Van Alstyne, Texas.
4. William Daniel Jones was born December 23, 1876, in Floyd County, Georgia and died February 19, 1938, in Amarillo, Texas. He married Eunice Brunetta Feagan on May 20, 1908, in Texas. Eunice was born May 13, 1885, in Grayson County, Texas and died February 26, 1965, in Los Angeles, California. They were the parents of Minnie M., Eula F., Lonie, Oleta, and Roberta. William is buried in Llano Cemetery, Amarillo, Texas. Eunice's place of burial is unknown.
5. John Armistead Jones was born January 16, 1879, in Floyd County, Georgia and died September 9, 1958, in Bakersfield, California. He married Martha Bell Putteet. Martha was born January 12, 1882, in Kentucky and died August 14, 1969, in Bakersfield, California. John and Martha moved to California around 1910. The 1920 census shows him as employed by Standard Oil. They were the parents of Floyd Edward, John Estel, Oris Cleveland, Jewell Clara,

Robert Calvin, and Elmer Lee. John and Martha are buried in Union Cemetery, Bakersfield, California.

6. Jim Hall Jones was born July 11, 1880, in Floyd County, Georgia. The 1900 Census lists him as "James H." He was named for his uncle, James Richmond Hall. Jim's death certificate and headstone show him to have been born July 11, 1881, but in a letter to her mother (dated May 15, 1881), Sarah Gertrude mentions that "Little Jim can about walk alone. Can push a chair all over the house and nearly get down the steps by himself." Since he was already walking in May 1881, his supposed birth date is off by a year.

Jim Hall married Maude Delphinia Alexander on August 7, 1901, in Grayson County, Texas. Maude, daughter of Belton Oneal (1854-1922) and Sarah Tennessee Looper Alexander (1857-1913), was born May 6, 1885, in Grayson County, Texas.

Maude's family had moved to Collin County, Texas (from Pickens County, South Carolina), prior to the Civil War. Her grandparents, James (1806-1891) and Catherine Lewis Alexander (1810-1894) and family are listed on the 1860 Census for Collin County, Texas. Their daughter, Mary, was buried in Alexander Cemetery in December 1860.

Maude had several Alexander and Looper uncles who served in the Confederate Army (and one who was in the Union Army) during the Civil War.

Jim Hall and Maude Delphinia were the parents of Nathaniel Barber, Minnie Lou, Tennie Gertrude, Ben Weldon, Annie Mae, Etta, Jim Hall, Jr. (Jake), Easter Lilly, Sid O'Neal, Bonnie Faye, Mace Hollis, Maudie Bell, and Thelma Nadine.

Jim Hall Jones died October 9, 1947, in Pampa, Texas. Maude Delphinia Alexander Jones died December 26, 1960, in Amarillo, Texas. They are buried in Alanreed Cemetery, Alanreed, Texas.

7. Annie Gertrude Jones, the only daughter of Robert and Sarah Gertrude, was born February 2, 1883, in Floyd County, Georgia and died August 31, 1964, in Celina, Texas. Annie married her first husband, Homer Pruitt, on June 23, 1901. They were the parents of Paul Pinkney, Alison Petit, and Hattie Ann Pruitt. A family story is that Homer Pruitt rode

his horse to town one day and was never heard from again.
[Since this writing, Homer was found to have lived and died
in Oklahoma.]

Annie married Oliver Newton McCarty on April 11, 1908, in
Collin County, Texas. Oliver was born January 26, 1880, in
Montague County, Texas and died December 7, 1962, in
Celina, Texas. They were the parents of Verda, Ocie, Ola,
Lloyd Ross, Oliver Newton, Jr., Clarence Hall, and Lorene
McCarty.

Oliver Newton's first wife was Laura Belle Trotter, and they
were the parents of Dona L. and Della Mae McCarty.

Annie Gertrude and Oliver Newton McCarty are buried in
Cottage Hill Cemetery, Celina, Texas