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From the Heart of Hockley County
Recollections

by
Hockley Co., TX Historical Society

1986
Hockley County Historical Commission
Levelland, TX

Hockley County has been good to the Arnwine Family. We feel honored to be a part of its history. by Jo Arnwine McLean

Tommy and Beverly (Arnold) Arnwine

Tommy Arnwine was born in Phillips-Dupre Hospital in Levelland, Texas, December 20, 1946. He attended public schools in Levelland until his graduation in 1965. He attended South Plains Junior College, majoring in Music Education and received his Associate of Arts Degree in 1967.



Shannon, Joel, Shane, Tommy, Beverly and Kenny Arnwine

Beverly (Arnold) Arnwine was born February 13, 1947, in the Phillips-Dupre Hospital in Levelland. Beverly attended school in Whiteface, Texas, until 1958 when her family (Clarence, Agness and Don Arnold) moved from the Gulf "Dugan Lease" south of Whiteface to Sundown, Texas, where she graduated Salutatorian at Sundown High School in 1965. The first day at South Plains College, Beverly and Tommy met; July 9, 1966, they were married.

After graduation from S.P.C., the Arnwines moved to Lubbock to continue their education at Texas Tech College. Tommy started playing in bands around the Lubbock area and in January 1968, the Arnwines left on tour with "Billy Dee and the Debonaires" and traveled to Reno, Nevada, Portland and Salem, Oregon and Honolulu, Hawaii. While in Salem, Beverly discovered she was expecting their first child, and Uncle Sam decided he needed Tommy's services. Tommy promptly out-narfed the Army and joined the MARINES!

Tommy graduated from Boot Camp in August and three days into Infantry Training, he received a call from the Red Cross telling him he was the proud father of twin boys born August 22,

1968, Barry Shannon, the oldest by five minutes and Cary Shane (who was named over the telephone). The baby boys were 3 weeks old before Tommy got to come home to see them, and two weeks later he was back on his way to Camp Pendleton where he was assigned to the 5th Marine Division Band. At 7 weeks and 7 pounds, Shannon and Shane and Mom flew out to Oceanside, California to be with Tommy. Eight months later, Tommy received orders for Vietnam.

Tommy was first stationed with the 1st Marine Amphibious Force, when they were reassigned to Okinawa. Tommy got to stay in Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division in Da Nang, where he spent the remainder of his tour of duty.

After release from active duty in 1970, the Arnwines moved back to Lubbock, where Tommy completed his Bachelors Degree in Business Administration in 1972.

From there, the Arnwines moved to Amarillo with Hughes Service Company where Tommy was Manager of the Amarillo branch. While in Amarillo, the Arnwines were blessed with two more baby boys. However, this time they came one at a time. Kenneth Brandon was born at Southwest Osteopathic Hospital on July 1, 1973. Although he was not born on the 4th of July, he has proven to be a real "firecracker." Joel Robert was born in the same hospital on May 9, 1975.

While in Amarillo, Tommy stayed active in the Marine Corp Reserve and went back to full active duty with the Reserve in 1974. Shortly after the birth of Joel, the youngest son, the Arnwines received orders for San Diego, California where they stayed until Tommy's discharge in 1977.

The Arnwines moved back to Sundown, Texas, where Tommy worked for Beverly's brother, Don Arnold, at S.&W. Construction Co. In 1981, Tommy went to work for Depco Inc., a subsidiary of Dekalb Ag-Research.

Beverly worked for the Plant Place for one season, and then went to work at the Hockley County Agriculture and Stabilization Conservation Service in Levelland in April, 1983.

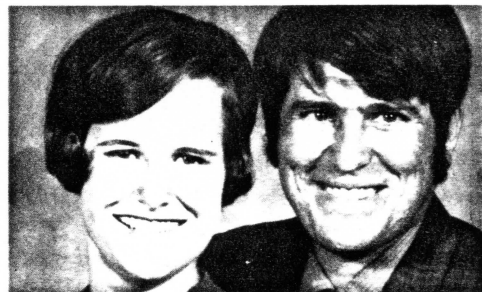
The Arnwine boys are attending school in Sundown where Shane and Shannon will graduate in 1986, Kenny in 1991, and Joel in 1993. The boys are active in band and sports.

The whole family is active in the Sundown Methodist Church, the Sundown Community Choir and have their own Country and Western band called "Sundown Music Co." by Beverly Arnwine

#272

Jerry Dean and Linda Ellen (Sheek) Arthur

Linda, the only daughter of James and Ruth (Sanders) Sheek, was born February 18, 1951. Linda attended school in Pettit until it consolidated with Levelland. She graduated from Levelland High and is a graduate of South Plains College.



Linda and Jerry Arthur

Linda married Jerry Dean Arthur while both were attending SPC. Jerry is a graduate of SPC. Jerry is the son of Wayne and Verda Arthur of Abernathy. Jerry is proud of the fact that his grandmother was half Creek Indian and lived on the reservation in Oklahoma until her death.

Jerry was in the Army and served in Vietnam. He was not discharged until after he recovered from a wound in 1972. However, Jerry was home and attending school before then. Linda and Jerry were married in 1970.

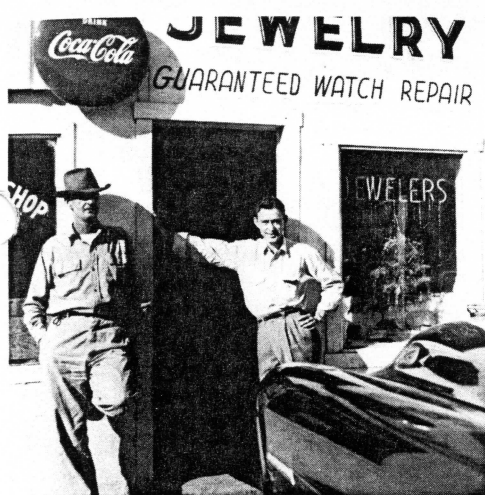
Linda and Jerry were movers; they lived in Levelland and several other places before they settled in Morton. They have three children; Mickie (1971), Kevin (1974), and Justin (1979). Linda and Jerry are interested in keeping Morton's ambulance service the best that it can be. Both have taken courses that will enable them to perform better on the ambulance or any other emergency. Jerry cannot devote full time to the ambulance, because he works for the telephone company during the day. Jerry is also a volunteer fireman. by Ruth Sheek

Hugh Don (Bo) and Billy June (Norman) Atchison

Bo was born in Hockley County. He attended school in Clauene and graduated in Levelland. He served in World War II and also the Korean Conflict.

In 1947 we were married. I am the former Billie June Norman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Norman. My family moved to Levelland from Post, Texas, when I was twelve years of age. I attended school in Graham near Post, New Lynn, and Rag Town in Garza County. I am a graduate of Levelland High School.

I was given my first job in 1946 by Mr. Dave Collins at the Levelland State Bank. At that time it was located in the



James McLeroy and H. D. "Bo" Atchison

building that the Goodwill Store now occupies on Austin Street. I worked with Norma Boggs, Jo Arnwine McLean and others. We had a little excitement about noon one day as the bank was robbed. Lying face down on the floor and then being locked in the vault by a man with a sawed-off shotgun was kind of nerve-racking.



Bo and June Atchison

"Bo" was in watchmaking school in Amarillo, Texas when we married. We came back to Levelland after he finished school. He worked for Mr. C. O. Pickens repairing watches in the old Buckhorn Cafe on the corner of Houston and Avenue G. In 1948, he opened a small repair shop in Sundown. Shortly thereafter, we also maintained a shop in Whiteface, alternating between the two places while living in Levelland.

Our daughter, Lana, was born in 1948. Lana lives in Beaumont, Texas and is employed as Vice President of First Texas Savings & Loan. She has one son, "Chance Noonkester," who is now age 17.

After serving in the Korean Conflict for one year Bo worked for Couch's Jewelry and also farmed his Dad's place.

In 1952, our son Gary Don was born. Gary married the former Meleta Mounce, also a Levelland native. They live in Levelland with their son Chad,

now age 14. They are both employed with Atchison Jewelry. Gary also farms his Grandmother's land.

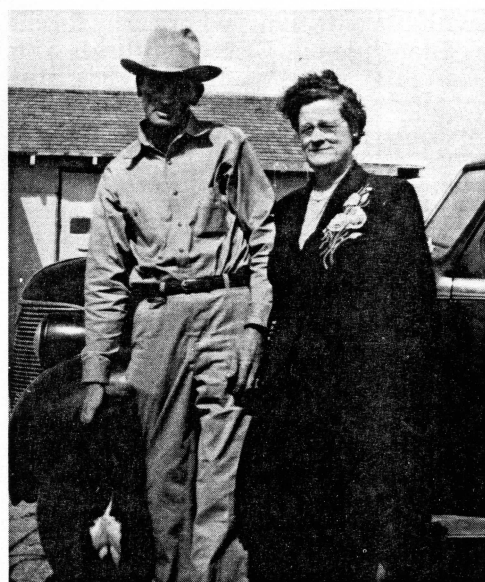
In 1957, we purchased inventory and furnishings of Henry McMinn's Jewelry at 821 Houston Street. We maintained this location until 1960. We then moved to the west side of the courthouse to what was then O. L. Beach Jewelry. In 1963 we relocated our business in its present location, 617 Avenue G.

There was no building on the corner where Winn's store is now. There was only dirt and no sidewalks. A few years later the building was built that housed Wacker's Variety Store and is now Winn's. Our present location was also the first location of Levelland State Bank when it was organized.

Levelland has been a good place to live and raise a family. by Mrs. H.D. (June) Atchison

Oliver H. and Reba (Palmer) Atchison

In September, 1922, Oliver and I left Loveland, Oklahoma moving to Levelland. We were coming to new country that we had not seen. Oliver's Uncle G. H. Goodrich had selected the land for us. It was ranch land with only trails. The amount of purchase was \$30.00 per acre. We drove two wagons through with four mules and one horse and all our household goods.



Oliver and Reba Atchison

R.V. Atchison and his family traveled with us bringing their wagon and household goods. I left my mother Mrs. Palmer, standing on the porch crying, and saying that we were only going to starve in West Texas. The trip was nine days coming to Levelland. Later my brother, Dwight Palmer, brought our Model-T car to us along with one rooster and three hens sent by my mother.



Hugh Don, Reba, Oliver Atchison

We had prepared quite well by canning a lot of food to bring with us.

A Mr. Oden, Mr. Reasoner, R. V. Atchison and Oliver built our small one room box house in one day and we moved into it the next. Mr. Oden loaned us a cow for use until we could buy one. We did our banking in Littlefield until a bank was established in Levelland. A pair of mules were used as security for borrowed money. The first year we made two pieces of a bale of cotton. We first ginned at Ropesville. Our mail was delivered by a Mr. Swafford of Lubbock.

We had one son, Hugh Don (Bo as he is better known today.) Our Dr. Cook of Levelland was out of town at the time and we had a Dr. Hanna from Ropesville come to the home. I will remember Oliver climbing on the windmill anxiously waiting for the doctor to come down the trail. Living in the Clauene Community, we joined the Baptist Church in 1924. The church was organized in 1923. In the early days, our earth tank at the farm was used for baptisms. Many activities and Christmas parties in the school were attended by all in the community. There has been a lot of good times and some hard ones too. We've had a good wholesome life here and I have never regretted moving to Levelland. Its's been good to us. as told by Mrs. O. H. Atchison to June Atchison

R.E. (Bob) and Elsie (Roach) Avery

Bob and Elsie (Roach) Avery came to Hockley County in 1929, from Oklahoma. They had four children then. They were Edwin Rex, age thirteen, Robert E., age eleven, Opal Marie, age nine, and Billy James, age three months.

I, (Robert), had lived in Blair Oklahoma most of my life. I was really excited about moving to the plains of Texas. I remember getting out of school and going to a farm sale with Daddy. He bought some farm equipment and six horses. They put them in a Ford truck to