

The Family of Vance T. and Elizabeth McGraw

Census Enumerators listed names and dates as they understood the registrant who oft times had little or no education which led to numerous errors in names, dates and ages. I have tried to copy the census as recorded, where errors occur, I apologize. Death certificates are not available in Spartanburg for years before 1917 and Obituaries have not been put on microfilm for the years 1924 through 1929.

The 1900 Spartanburg Township Census showed that Vance McGraw was one of the 13 children of James R. and Elizabeth McGraw. The eleven listed were; Vance, Levi, Lizzie, Bryson, Walker, Sallie, Ethel, Beatrice, Ralph, Pierce and Mary Sue.

The Family of Vance T. McGraw, son of J. R. and Elizabeth McGraw;
Vance T. McGraw married Elizabeth Jackson from North Carolina.

The 1920 Spartanburg/Pacolet Census showed that Vance and Elizabeth had been married 12 years and were the parents of 6 children.

The household was listed as;

Vance McGraw 30, husband/farmer			Wife; Elizabeth 26
Children; Grady 9	Archie 7		Mattie 5
Minnie L. 3	Ray 2		Daughter 4 months

The 1940 Spartanburg/Pacolet Census listed the household as;

Vance T. McGraw 60, husband/farmer		Wife; Elizabeth 56
Children; Ray 28, widower/post office		Pauline 18
Alton 16	Keith 13	

Obituary records show that;

Vance T. McGraw died at the age of 78 in March, 1957.

Elizabeth Jackson McGraw died at the age of 84 in February, 1968.

Comments; Vance and his family were typical hardworking, fine, sociable people.

They lived on their farm in the Bethesda/Pools Bend area. Some were members of the Bethesda Baptist Church while others were members of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#). Vance McGraw was the main contractor in the construction of the first [Glendale Baptist Parsonage](#). A number of the McGraw families are buried in the Bethesda Baptist Church Cemetery.

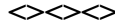


Grady McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;
Grady McGraw married Grace Burnette.

Obituary records show that;

**Grady McGraw died at the age of 84 in January, 1985.
Grace Burnette McGraw died at the age of 98 in March, 2005.**

Comments; Grady McGraw, an engineer, came to work at [Glendale Mills](#) about 1949 and was in charge of the installation of the village sewer lines and disposal tank. He was a great worker, cooperative and efficient.



**Velma McGraw Allen, daughter of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.
Velma McGraw married Joseph Burton Allen.**

**Obituary records show that;
Joseph Burton Allen died at the age of 82 in January, 1993.
Velma McGraw Allen died at the age of 77 in January, 1988.**

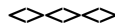
Comments; J.B. and Velma and their family lived in the Bethesda where they were members of the Bethesda Baptist Church. They were a quiet, sociable family. It was the honor of this writer to assist in the funeral of Mrs. Velma McGraw Allen.



**The Family of Vanny McGraw, son of Vance T and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;
Vanny McGraw married Stella Agnes Mathis, daughter of Milledge and Nettie Davis Mathis.**

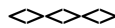
**Obituary records show that;
Vanny McGraw died at the age of 87 in October, 1998.
Stella Agnes Mathis McGraw died at the age of 75 in October, 1993.**

Comments; Vanny was a carpenter most of his life. He and his wife were living in their home on the [Glendale Clifton road](#) at the time of their death. Vanny and Agnes were faithful members of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#). Vanny was a member of the building committee in overseeing the construction of the new Sanctuary in 1958-60.



**Archie McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;
Archie McGraw married Annie Lee Copeland.**

Archie McGraw drowned in 1945.



**Ralph McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;
Ralph McGraw married Ruth Elizabeth Proctor, daughter of Lee and Cordeliah Johnson Proctor.**

Obituary records show that;

Ralph McGraw died at the age of 58 in September, 1971.

Ruth Elizabeth Proctor McGraw died at the age of 80 in January, 1997.

Comments; Ralph and Ruth McGraw lived in their home on the Glendale/Whitestone road which Ralph built, along with the help of some of his brothers. Ralph worked in the [Glendale Mills](#). Ruth McGraw first worked as a postal clerk at the [Glendale Post office](#) while I was Postmaster. She was appointed [Acting Postmaster](#) on July 15, 1948. She was later appointed Officer in Charge for a total of some 26 years of service. They were good people and dear friends of this writer and his family.



Arley McGraw, son of Vance T and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;

Arley McGraw married Lois Poole, daughter of Marion and Pearl Poole.

Obituary records show that;

Arley McGraw died at the age of 85 in December, 1999.

Lois Poole McGraw died at the age of 75 in December, 1995.

Comments; Arley McGraw worked in the machine shop at [Glendale Mills](#) for a number of years. This writer knew Arley well. He was a hard conscientious worker. They lived in their home on Patterson Road just outside of Cowpens at the time of their deaths. They were members of the Thompson Chapel Baptist Church



Mattie McGraw, daughter of Vance T. and Elizabeth McGraw.

Mattie McGraw never married.

Obituary records show that;

Mattie McGraw died at the age of 94 in June, 2000.

Comments; Mattie McGraw was a wonderful Christian lady. She worked in the mill, quite independent and lived in her home on the village which she bought from the mill. She was a genuine Christian and a faithful member of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#).



Wayne McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;

Wayne McGraw married Ella Moore, daughter of Raymond D. and Ellen Moore.

Obituary records show that;

Wayne McGraw died at the age of 90 in July, 2005

Ella Moore McGraw died at the age of 85 in December, 2004



Minnie L. McGraw Stortzra, daughter of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.

Minnie L. McGraw married Earnest Stortzra.

**Obituary records show that Minnie L McGraw Stortzra died at the age of 88 in June, 1995.
No record of Earnest Stortzra status was found.**



Ray McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.

Ray McGraw first married Etta Coffey.

Etta Coffey died at the age of 25 in April, 1938.

Ray McGraw married Willie Lee Thomas following the death of Etta.

Obituary records show that;

Ray McGraw died at the age of 91 in January, 2000.

Willie Lee Thomas McGraw died at the age of 85 in March, 2003.

Comments; Ray was a Postal carrier for many years, He and Willie Lee lived in their own home in the Ben Avon area of Spartanburg County. They were faithful members of the [Glendale Methodist Church](#) and a wonderful couple.



Ina McGraw Poole, daughter of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.

Ina McGraw married Sterling Arthur Poole.

Obituary records show that;

Ina McGraw Poole died at the age of 87 in March, 2005

Sterling Arthur Pool lives in the Pool Bend area of Spartanburg County.

Comments; Arthur and Ina Poole lived in the Poole Bend area for as long as I can remember. I believe they were members of the Thompson Chapel Baptist Church located just outside of Cowpens, S. C. They were fine hard working people.



Pauline McGraw Campbell, daughter of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw;

Pauline McGraw married Harold Campbell.

Obituary records show that Harold Arthur Campbell died at the age of 63 in June, 1977.

Pauline McGraw Campbell lives today in Spartanburg, S. C.



Alton J. McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.

Alton J. McGraw married Helen Sutton

Obituary records show that;

Alton J. McGraw died at the age of 88 in August, 2013

No record regarding the status of Helen H. McGraw was found.



Keith McGraw, son of Vance T. and Elizabeth Jackson McGraw.

Keith McGraw married Mackey Willard Littlejohn

They live in Columbia, S.C.



Federal Census and *Spartanburg Herald Journal* Obituaries courtesy of The Spartanburg County Library.

Written September 1, 2014.

[Clarence E. Crocker](#)