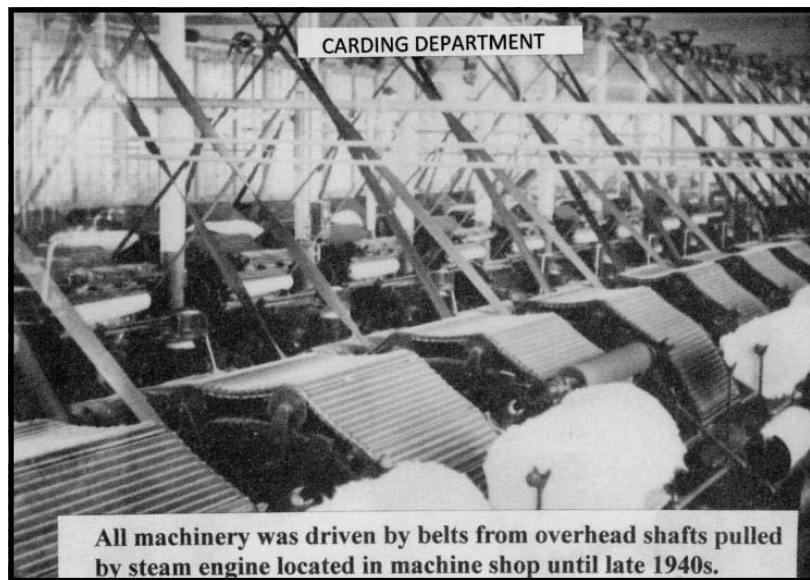


THE FAMILY OF EDDIE F. AND IDA SMITH BROWN AND DESCENDANTS

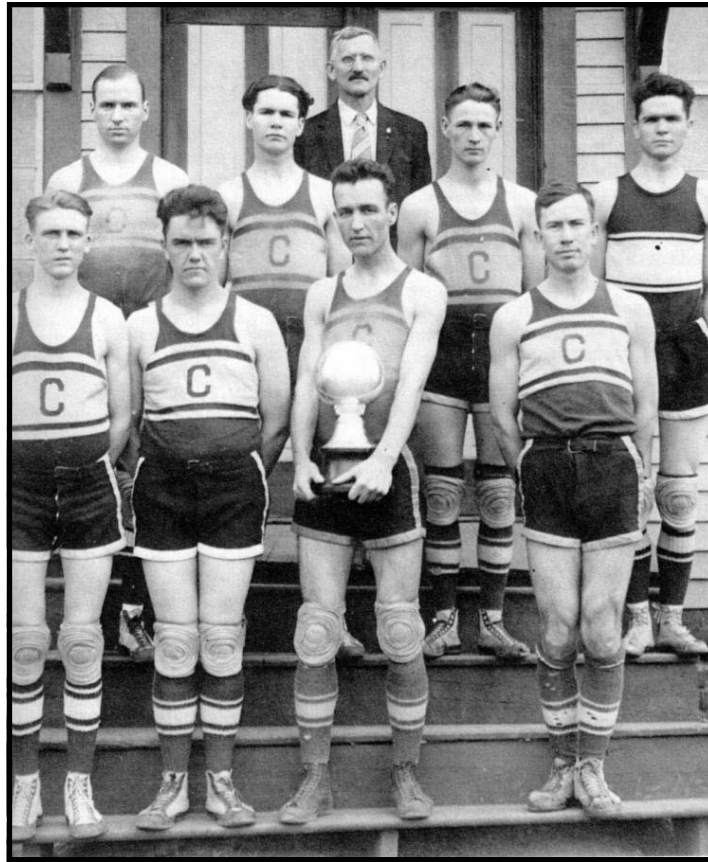
[By Clarence Crocker](#)

The 1880 Glendale Census listed Eddie as the 8 year old son of Joseph A. (Joe) and Margaret Elizabeth (Mollie) Crocker Brown. Joe was the Glendale Postmaster from 1901 until his death in 1919. (click [Glendale Postmasters](#)) Eddie's sister, Blanche, served as Postmaster for a number of years following her father's death. Born May 22, 1872, census records show that Eddie had 8 siblings, 2 unnamed dead, 6 living; William C., Albert, Minnie, Mallie, Nellie B. and Jessie Brown. Census records which I have seen indicate that all of his children worked in Glendale Mills at one time.



(Picture of carding room)

Eddie F. Brown, a Glendale native, married Ida E. Smith and they became the parents of several children. He went to work for the D. E. Converse Co., [Glendale Plant](#), as a card operator at a young age. He was later promoted to Section Hand before being transferred to the Converse Plant where he was made card room Overseer. He had been promoted and was serving as Assistant Plant Superintendent when he was forced to retire due to health problems. He was a member of the Converse Methodist Church and most active in the community. In the picture which follows, Eddie is seen with the Mill Company basketball team displaying the trophy they had just won. Eddie, with the mustache, is seen standing on the back row.



(Company Basketball Team)

Census dates and names were recorded as the Enumerator understood the informer which often led to errors. I have tried to copy the census as recorded so where errors occur, I apologize. Asterisks indicate more information on the individual follows.

The 1900 Glendale Census shows that Eddie and Ida had been married five years and were the parents of 2 children. Eddie was a Glendale mill card room Section hand at the time.

The household was listed as;

Edgar F. Brown 28, born May, 1872

Wife; Ida 25, born August, 1874

Children;

Hiram 4, born October, 1875

Florence 1, born November, 1898

The 1910 Spartanburg Township Census, Clifton/Converse area, shows Ed had been promoted to Card Room Overseer and that he and Ida were the parents of 6 children.

The household was listed as;

Ed Brown, 37, husband

Wife; Ida 35

Their children;

Hiram 14

Margaret 6

*Mallie Brown 33, sister

*Florence 11

Will 3

Ben 8

Helen 1

The 1920 Spartanburg Township Census, Clifton/Converse area, shows a seventh child had been born.

The household was listed as.

Eddie F. Brown, 47, husband, Card Room Overseer

Wife; Ida E. 45

Their children;

*Hiram 24, machinist

*Ben 18

*Margaret 16

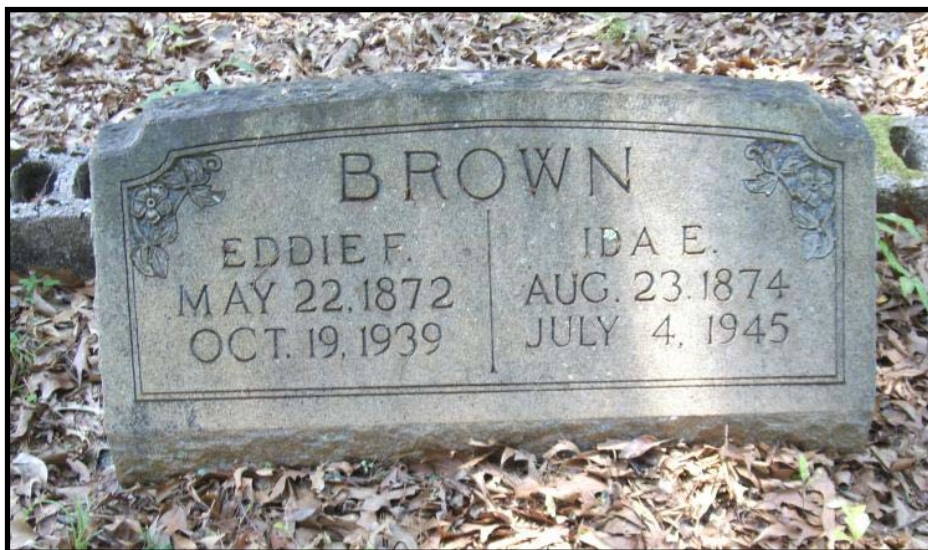
Billy (Will) 14

*Helen 11

Sarah 9

Eddie died at his home just outside of Converse on October 1939. (To read the obituary and see family pictures, click [Ed Brown Family](#))

Eddie F. and Ida E. Brown were both buried in the [Glendale Community Cemetery](#).



The Family of Hiram E. Brown, son of Eddie and Ida Smith Brown

The 1940 Henrietta, N. C. Census shows he is married to Jewell Brown and that he is working as a machinist in a cotton mill.

The household is listed as;

Hiram E. Brown 44

Wife; Jewell 39

Children;

Hiram E. Jr. 8

Barbara 4

The Family of Florence Brown Linder, daughter of Eddie and Ida Smith Brown

Florence Etta Brown married the native Spartan, John Gary Linder Sr. and they became the parents of five children; *Henry, *John Gary Jr., *Jeanette, *Mary and *Martha Linder.

The 1920 Census listed John Gary as a textile mill worker but he and his family lived on their farm on the east side of Converse mill, just across from the old Clifton railroad depot. He ran a poultry farm and we bought eggs from him for the [Glendale Mill Store](#) for a number of years. His word, service and products were most dependable. John Gary Linder was a peach of a guy. His family was considered one of the outstanding families of the community.

Excerpts from the obituary of Mrs. J. G. Linder published November 8, 1972; “Mrs. Florence Brown Linder, 74, wife of John Gary Linder Sr. of Route 1, died Tuesday at the General Hospital after a long illness. Native of [Glendale](#), she was the daughter of Eddie and Ida Smith Brown; a member of the St. Mark U.M. Church.

Also surviving; daughters, Mrs. Janet Woodfin, Mrs. Mary Holder and Mrs. Martha Chastain; sons, Henry F. and John Gary Linder Jr.; sisters, Mrs. Margaret Collins, Mrs. Helen Tomlinson and Mrs. Sarah Shirley; brothers, Ben A. and Bill Brown; seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral Services to be held at Floyds Greenlawn Chapel with interment following in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. Revs. David Ervin and William Vines will be officiating.”

Excerpts from the obituary of John Gary Linder Sr. published August 15, 1976; “John Gary Linder Sr., 81, widower of Florence Brown Linder of Route 1, died Saturday at the General Hospital. He was the son of the late H. C. and Mollie Quinn Linder; member of the St. Mark U.M. Church; Clifton Masonic Lodge No 215 and Shriner Hejaz Temple.

Funeral Services at Floyd’s Greenlawn Chapel by The Rev. David Ervin with interment following in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.

Survivors; three daughters, Mrs. Janet Woodfin, Mrs. Mary Holder, Mrs. Martha Chastain; two sons, Henry F. and John Gary Jr. Linder.”

The Family of Henry Forest Linder, son of John Gary Sr. and Florence Brown Linder

Henry Forest Linder first married Dorothy Tinsley and they became the parents of one child, Jane Linder, who married Jimmy Gossett.

Henry later married Aileene Roberts of Inman and they became the parents of three children,
Forest Martin Linder, one stillborn, Henry Christopher Linder, adopted and Timothy

David Linder, who married Brenda Foy.

Henry was by trade a shoe cobbler, operating a shop in Cowpens, S. C. for a number of years. At 93 years of age, he owns and operates a shoe shop in Landrum, S. C. as of this date, September 2012.

The Family of John Gary Linder Jr., son of John Gary Sr. and Florence Brown Linder

John Gary Jr. married Iris Carter and they became the parents of one child, Sandra Kaye Linder, who married Earnest Kester.

The Family of Jeanette Linder, daughter of John Gary Sr. and Florence Brown Linder

Jeanette first married Charles “Tom” Golightly and they became the parents of one child, Nancy Aleene Golightly, who married Bud Case.

Jeanette later married Carson Davis Woodfin and they had no children.

The Family of Mary Elizabeth Linder, daughter of John Gary Sr. and Florence Brown Linder

Mary Elizabeth first married Jimmie Davis Henson and they became the parents of one child, Judy Marie Henson.

Mary Elizabeth later married Shelly Holder and they had no children.

The Family of Martha Helen Linder, daughter of John Gary Sr. and Florence Brown Linder

Martha first married Oscar Fred Chastain and they became the parents of two children, William Leonard and Linda Joe Chastain.

Martha later married William Settle and they had no children.

This writer expresses his deep appreciation to Tim Linder for supplying the information on the Henry Linder family.

The Family of Benjamin Brown, son of Eddie and Ida Smith Brown

Benjamin Brown first married Louise Bishop, who died in January, 1951. They lived in Converse for many years. They became the parents of two sons, Ben Jr. and Ronald P. Brown. They were members of the Converse Baptist Church.

Excerpts from the obituary of Mrs. Ben (Louise) Brown published Monday January 15, 1951; “Mrs. Louise Bishop Brown, 46, wife of Ben A. Brown, died at a local hospital Saturday night. She was the daughter of the late J.L. and Susie Bishop. Besides her husband, she is survived by two sons, Ben A. and Ronald Brown: two brothers, O.E.

and H. E. Bishop: two sisters, Mrs. Frank Bagwell and Mrs. T. L. Quinn.

Funeral services to be held in the Converse Baptist Church. Revs. Jack Weaver and Carl O. Page, officiating. Interment will be in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”

Following the death of Louise Bishop Brown, Ben married Miss. Irene Phillips and they became the parents of one daughter, Dona Brown.

“Ben” as he was known and called, was bookkeeper at the Clifton Mill store for a number of years. He and this writer were good friends. He had a wonderful personality, greeting everyone with a big smile. We worked together for about a year when he was serving as temporary bookkeeper in the [Glendale Mill store](#). He returned to Converse where he retired as Supervisor of the Clifton Laundry and former co-owner of the Imperial Cleaners. They were members of the Converse Baptist Church.

Excerpts from the obituary of Ben A. Brown published March 27, 1980; “Ben A. Brown, 79, husband of Mrs. Irene Phillips Brown of Converse, died at the Mountain View Nursing Home after a long illness. Native of [Glendale](#), he was the son of Ed and Ida Smith Brown and was first married to the late Louise Bishop Brown.

Funeral services to be held at the Bobo Funeral Chapel conducted by Rev. Jack Mullinax, interment to follow in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.

Survivors were his two sons, Ben Jr. and Ronald P. Brown and one daughter, Dona Brown; sisters, Mrs. Helen Tomlinson, Mrs. Margaret Collins, both of Spartanburg, Mrs. Sara Wooten, Belton, S. C.; brother, Bill Brown, Baltimore; seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.”

Excerpts from the obituary of Mrs. Irene P. Brown published Wednesday December 4, 1985; “Irene Phillips Brown 59, widow of Ben A. Brown, died Tuesday. Native of Cherokee county, she was the daughter of the late Adolphus Wood and Minnie Harmon Phillips. She was a member of the Zion Hill Baptist Church and was retired from Hoechst Fibers

Survivors are; sons, Ben A. Jr. and Ronald P. Brown: daughter, Mrs. Donna Brown Strange; sisters, Mrs. Gertrude Lowery, Mrs. Edna Dillingham and Mrs. Janell Harris: brothers, Levis, Dever, Howard, Roscoe and Horace Phillips; seven grandchildren, five great grandchildren.”

No funeral or interment arrangements were announced.

The Family of Margaret Brown West Collins, daughter of Eddie and Ida Smith Brown

Margaret Brown first married George W. West and they became the parents of four children; Agnes, Rheba, Evelyn and Raymond West.

They made their home in the Cannons Camp Ground area where they operated the Egg-A-Day Poultry Farm, a large poultry and egg plant which was known for its modern equipment, breeding and methods of operation. The company had been established by Mr. West and Mr. L.L. Brown some 10 years before.

Excerpts from the obituary of George W. West published Saturday April 10, 1937; "Funeral services have been planned today for George W. West, widely known poultry man who died yesterday morning at a local hospital after an illness of four weeks. Rites will be conducted at the Converse Methodist Church by the Revs. T. B. Wilkes and Carl O. Page with interment following in the Zion Hill Baptist Church Cemetery.

Survivors were his wife, Mrs. Margaret Brown West: four children, Agnes, Reba, Evelyn and Raymond West: his father, W.A. West and step-mother, Mrs. W.A. West; a sister, Mrs. J. G. Kaigler: a brother, J.H. West."

Following the untimely death of her husband, George West, Margaret married Claude W. Collins who died in the Spartanburg General Hospital at the age of 74 in August of 1967. Services were held at Bobo's Funeral Chapel with interment following in the Cannon's Camp Ground Methodist Church Cemetery. Revs. W.L. McDonald and Jessie W. Tomlinson were the officiating Ministers.

Excerpts from the obituary of Margaret Brown West Collins published February 23, 1998; "

Margaret Brown West Collins, 93, died February 22, 1998 after several week of declining health. A native of [Glendale](#), she was the daughter of Eddie and Ida Elizabeth Smith Brown and widow of Claude W. Collins. She was first married to the late George W. West. She was former owner of the Egg A-Day Farm and was a member of the Cannons Camp Ground Methodist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Agnes Lark, Reba Crow, Evelyn Jobe: a son, Raymond West: a stepson, Howard Collins: a sister, Helen Tomlinson: twelve grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Services to be held in Floyd's Greenlawn Chapel with interment following in the Zion Hill Baptist Church Cemetery"

The Family of Helen Brown Tomlinson, daughter of Eddie and Ida Brown.

Helen married The Reverend Jessie Wise Tomlinson a native of Lynchburg Va. and they became the parents of one daughter, Jane Tomlinson. Jessie was the son of Robert Wise and Isabella Wilson Tomlinson. They were members of the Cannons Camp Ground U.M Church at the time of their death.

Jessie was ordained by the Methodist Conference in 1931, retiring in 1972 after 41 years

years of service. Reverend Tomlinson was Pastor of the [Glendale Methodist Church](#) 1932-1936 where he and his wife were dearly loved by the people. He was an active Minister in the community.

Excerpts from the obituary of Rev. Jessie Tomlinson published October 24, 1985; “Rev. Jessie Wise Tomlinson, 79, husband of Helen Brown Tomlinson, died Wednesday past. A 1930 graduate of Wofford College, he served churches in Clinton, [Glendale](#), Swansea, Greenwood, Union, [Pacolet Mills](#), Langley, Newberry, Ninety Six, Lancaster, Gaffney and Kershaw.

Survivors were his wife and one daughter, Mrs. Jane T. Franklin: two grandchildren. Services to be held at Cannons Campground U.M Church by Revs. Kenneth G. Bobo and Raymond T. Gibson; burial in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens”

Excerpts from the obituary of Mrs. Helen B. Tomlinson published Sunday September 26, 2004;

“Helen Brown Tomlinson died Saturday September 25, 2004 in Mt. Pleasant, S. C. She was born October 14, 1908 and was the daughter of Edward Forest and Ida Elizabeth Smith Brown. She was active in the U.M. Women and various groups in the community.

Survivors include one daughter, Jane T. Franklin, son in-law Richard J. Franklin as well as two grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Funeral service to be held at the Bobo Funeral Chapel with interment in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens”

Addenda. In my research of the Joseph Brown family and descendants since posting the story about him as [Postmaster](#), I have found certain information in the 1900 Glendale Census which confirms and corrects two earlier articles which I feel needs to be posted.

1; Joseph Brown was born in Nova Scotia and his father was born in Poland.

2; Malley (Mallie) J. Brown was listed as Malley J. Gray 23, in the 1900 census, having been married 3 years with one unnamed living child. She had changed her name back to Brown before the next census. I could find no reference to the child elsewhere. Beside Mallie’s grave in the Brown Square in the [Glendale Community Cemetery](#) is an unmarked grave. Could this be the child’s grave?

Federal Census and *Spartanburg Herald/Journal* obituaries, courtesy of the Spartanburg County Library and 1940 Official Census website.

Eddie Brown’s mother, Margaret Elizabeth (Mollie) Crocker Brown, was this writer’s great Aunt.

[Clarence E. Crocker](#), September 2012.