

NORBERT J. BECQUET

Project Consultant – Finney County

*Photographs and information from the book, “Our Becquet Family Heritage.”
Researched and compiled by Kathy Snyder-Knight*



THE BECQUET FAMILY

*First row, from left: Norbert Joseph Becquet & Emma Jane (Dufrin) Becquet
Second Row, from left: Albertine Carolyn Becquet,
Norbert Jordan “Budd” Becquet & William Forestier Becquet
1937 - Garden City, Kansas*

NORBERT JOSEPH BECQUET was the son of John Baptiste Becquet (1862-1940) and Aglae Forestier (1870-1916). His parents left Givenchy-en-Gohelle, département of Pas-de-Calais, France, and arrived in New York, New York, on 26 Jan 1889. Their destination was Illinois. Although family records show Norbert was born in Chicago, Illinois, on 29 May 1891, other records indicate he was born in Coal City, Grundy County, Illinois. The family settled in Morris, Grundy County, Illinois.

Between 1895 and 1898, they left Illinois, moving to Colorado Springs, Colorado. When he was in his teen years, Norbert would use his pair of Jenny mules to take people on tours through Cave of the Winds and other sights in the Colorado Springs area. He made friends with some of the Native Americans who came from different regions of Colorado to sell their jewelry and other Indian trinkets. The tribes at that

time were mostly the Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapaho. Norbert would buy their jewelry and give it to a family friend, Albertine Wales. She sold the jewelry from her gift shop, which was a tent located at the foot of the mountains where the Broadmoor Hotel now stands in Colorado Springs.

In 1907, Norbert moved with his parents to Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. There he met and married **EMMA JANE DUFRIN**, daughter of Edward Carry Dufrin (*Original French Canadian spelling was Dufresne*) (1864-1932) and Malinda Landry (1871-1939), on 19 Oct 1909. Emma was born on 20 Feb 1892 in Cloud County, Kansas.



HOTEL STONE
Garden City, Kansas
July 1910

Left to right: Unknown, Unknown, John Becquet, Sr., Adelle Clausen's daughter, Adelle Clausen, Unknown, Unknown, Pauline (Frechin) Becquet, John B. Becquet Jr., Emma (Dufrin) Becquet holding her first child (William Becquet), Harry Dufrin and Louis Dufrin, brothers of Emma Dufrin Becquet.

The photographer took this while Norbert's mother (Aglae) was managing the Hotel Stone dining room, and Norbert was working in the hotel kitchen, baking pies.

After arriving in Garden City, Norbert began working as a baker at his mother's (Aglae) "Bachelors Dining Club" on 9th Street and for the Hotel Stone, where his mother managed the culinary department. In 1927, Norbert owned and operated an

automobile tire store in Garden City at 104 E. Fulton, but he spent some of his working years as a racehorse trainer and stockman.

For a few years, Norbert Becquet owned resale shops in Taos & Las Vegas, New Mexico. His granddaughter, Kathye Snyder, remembered going to auctions with him in Garden City. He would load his truck and trailer with his purchases and head to New Mexico. He spent a lot of time visiting the Pueblos close by and developed friends with the Taos Native American tribe.



NORBERT AND EMMA (DUFRIN) BECQUET
60th Wedding Anniversary
October 1969

Norbert died on 11 Dec 1975 in Garden City, and Emma died on 27 Aug 1985 at the High Plains Retirement Village in Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas. Burial for both was at the Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Garden City, Kansas.

Three children were born into their marriage:

WILLIAM “BILL” FORESTIER BECQUET was born on 4 Jul 1910 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. He married Mae “Marie” Frizzell, daughter of James Albert Frizzell (1871-1956) and Susan Jane Smith (1873-1937), on 22 Jul 1931 in Garden City. Marie was born on 14 Feb 1912 in Chillicothe, Livingston County, Missouri. One daughter, Billie Mae, was born on 5 Jan 1933, passed away the next day, and was buried at the Valley View Cemetery. Marie died on 22 Aug 1962 in Garden City. William remarried Geneva “Ferne” Barger on 11 Jul 1970 in Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas. He died on 23 May 1981 in St. Anthony Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas, while traveling from Arizona to his home in Garden City. Burial for William and

Marie was at the Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas.

DR. NORBERT “BUDD” JOSEPH BECQUET was born on 30 Nov 1911 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. Budd was married three times, divorced, and did not have any children. He attended the Arkansas University School of Medicine in Little Rock, Arkansas, and several other medical colleges. Alternative medicine was his specialty. He passed away on 22 Jun 2006 in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

ALBERTINE CAROLYN BECQUET (*Supervisor of the National Youth Administration Writers*) was born on 14 July 1916 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. She married William Daniel Snyder, son of William Kester Snyder (1838-1927) and Della Amanda Martin (1844-1936), on 8 May 1937 in Sublette, Haskell County, Kansas. They divorced in 1957. They had two children, Kathye Louise Snyder and Ronald Kester Snyder. Albertine married Fred Elliott Willard, son of Fred Leslie Willard and Sarah Maude Elliott, on 10 Dec 1966. Fred was born on 23 Jul 1917 in Lyons, Rice County, Kansas, and died on 12 Jun 1975 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. On 15 Jan 1983, Albertine married Robert Williams. She died on 18 Mar 2001 in Garden City. Robert died three years later in Franklin, Franklin County, Nebraska. Albertine’s burial was next to her husband, Fred Willard, at the Valley View Cemetery in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas.

Cemetery Headstone

NORBERT JOSEPH BECQUET & EMMA JANE (DUFRIN) BECQUET



SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY
Garden City, Finney County, Kansas