

WILLIAM B. ERDMAN

Project Consultant – Finney County

WILLIAM BROWN ERDMAN, son of William Brown Erdman, Sr. (1854-1897) and Katherine Klinger (1863-1939), was born on 16 Aug 1897, in Larned, Pawnee County, Kansas. His father died in 1897, the year he was born, leaving his mother to raise the children on her own.

William spent his early years in Pawnee County with his mother and siblings. He joined the United States Navy on 30 Jul 1918, at the age of 21 years, and discharged on 23 Jan 1919. By 1920, William had moved to Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, living with his brother and sister-in-law, Raleigh and Gussie Erdman.

William married **HELENABLE “HELEN” ABE HARGIS**, daughter of Abraham Hargis (1866-1957), and Mary Elizabeth Bollinger (1860-1948) on 20 Jul 1926 in Dodge City, Kansas. Helen was born on 11 Mar 1899 in Marshfield, Webster County, Missouri. In 1930, William and Helen were living in Ford County, Kansas, and by 1933, they had moved to Garden City, Kansas, where William worked at the Fairmont Dairy as manager. By 1939 they had moved to Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, where William died on 7 Mar 1975. Helen died on 20 Jan 1996 in Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas. Burial for both was at the Walnut Cemetery in Kingman, Kansas.

Three children were born in their marriage:



BILLIE JO ERDMAN

Friends University, Wichita, Kansas – 1950

BILLIE JO ERDMAN was born on 10 Jul 1927 in Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas. She married **CAPTAIN ADRIAN ELLSWORTH SORENSON, JR.** on 24 Jun 1955. He was born on 16 Sep 1924. Billie Jo and Adrian had two sons. In 1975, they were living in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Billie Jo was in the United States Navy and

she later taught high school classes. She died on 26 Jun 2019 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. Adrian passed away in December of 2000. Burial for both was at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia.



VIOLA ERDMAN

Friends University, Wichita, Kansas – 1950

VIOLA JEAN ERDMAN was born on 11 May 1929 in Fowler, Meade County, Kansas. She was married to **LEWIS “DALE” HOSKINS**, son of Dick Weaver Hoskins (1892-1968) and Lula Helen Nossaman (1900-1991). Dale was born on 17 Oct 1929 in Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas. He died on 15 Jun 2011 in Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas. Viola passed away on 25 Mar 2014 in Kingman, Kansas. Both were buried in Kingman at the Walnut Hill Cemetery. Viola and Dale had three daughters and one son.



ABE B. ERDMAN

Senior at Kingman, Kansas High School – 1951

ABE B. ERDMAN was born on 12 Jan 1933 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. He married **MILDRED "MILLIE" JOSEPHINE HENNING**, daughter of August Joseph Henning (1894-1962) and Elizabeth Mary Hilbert (1897-196), on 29 Nov 1958 in Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas. Millie was born on 13 Jul 1935 in Kansas. Abe and Millie had three sons and one daughter. Abe passed away on 27 Nov 2004 in Kingman, Kansas. Millie died there on 12 Mar 2007. Both were buried at the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Kingman.

Newspaper Obituary

WILLIAM BROWN ERDMAN

Hutchinson (Kansas) News, 08 Mar 1975

KINGMAN – William B. Erdman, 77, died Friday at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. He was born on 16 Aug 1897, in Larned, Kansas. He married Hellen Abe Hargis, on 20 July 1926, in Dodge City, Kansas.

Mr. Erdman was a retired locker plant operator and had lived in Kingman, Kansas, since 1939.

Survivors are the widow and children, Abe B. Erdman, Kingman, Kansas; Mrs. Viola (Erdman) Hoskins, Wichita, Kansas; and Mrs. Billie Jo (Erdman) Sorenson, Meridian, Mississippi.

The Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Livingston Chapel with Rev. Claude Fillingim. Burial will be in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Kingman, Kansas.

Cemetery Headstones

WILLIAM AND HELEN (HARGIS) ERDMAN



WALNUT HILL CEMETERY

Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas

Cemetery headstone photographs provided by Betty Rose Mason