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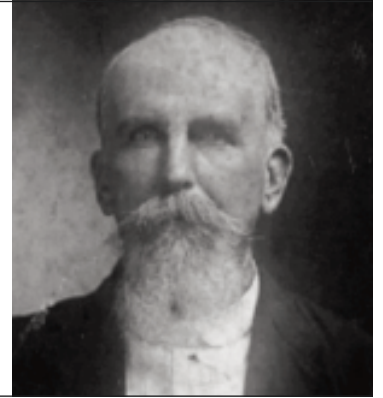
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THE FAMILY OF FRANCIS MARION SHAW AND RACHEL MOORE ALLEN



T H E G R A N D C H I L D R E N

JESSE CURTIS SHAW *Father of None, Grandfather of Many*

It is the greatest challenge in researching our family history when the subject of the research has a limited posterity. And in the case of Jesse Curtis Shaw, the posterity was nonexistent—well sort of.

Curtis was married twice and never fathered any children. His first wife died at an early age. His second wife brought a daughter from her previous marriage into their family. And that step-daughter only lived with them two years before she married at age fourteen. However, those two years helped establish an enduring kinship with her step-father and brought him 7 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and 13 great-great grandchildren. Curtis was indeed a father of none, yet a grandfather of many.



Jesse Curtis Shaw, was the 4th of 5 sons born to Lacy Lester Shaw and Tula Albritton Shaw. He was born June 25, 1907 in the home of his uncle Francis Arthur Shaw in Willacoochee, Georgia. His father was a turpentine still operator with his brothers Arthur and Chester, primarily overseeing the commissary in the turpentine camps.

Shortly after the birth of Curtis, Lacy and Tula sold out their interest in

the turpentine operation and took up farming adjacent to the farm of his father Francis Marion Shaw.

Curtis began his early schooling about 1913 in the small two-room Pine Grove school near his home, attending with his brothers and other Shaw-Allen cousins from the Lois community. In 1917 his parents and grandparents both sold their farm

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The Family of Francis Marion Shaw is a non-profit newsletter published semi-annually, or more frequently, for the benefit of the descendants of Francis Marion Shaw and his wife, Rachel Moore Allen Shaw.

Historical contributions are requested. Your family histories including character traits, religious affiliations, professional pursuits and vital information such as birth dates and places, marriage dates and places, and death dates and places, are all welcome. Photographs help make the newsletter come alive. If you have some special photos of your ancestors which you would like to share with all of the family, please make a copy print of it and send it on to the address below. If original photos are sent, they will be carefully handled and returned, but editor cannot be responsible for loss or damage. Send your manuscripts and photo submissions to:
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Jesse Curtis Shaw and Madelyn Smith Judge Shaw, above, shortly after their marriage at the home of the preacher in Valdosta who performed the ceremony .

Portrait of Madelyn Smith Judge, above right, wife of Jesse Curtis Shaw.



In 1930 Curtis was living with his parents in a tenant house at 1014 Johnson Street in Valdosta. He was employed as a commercial sales clerk at the Model Bakery at 102 North Ashley Street. Lacy was also working at the bakery as a route driver.

By 1937 the three-some had moved around the corner to 904 Oak Street, where Lacy had purchased a small home. Lacy had started up a grocery on West Savannah Street on the west side of the railroad tracks. Curtis had changed his occupation to meat cutter at the Jitney-Jungle market at 204 North Ashley Street.

While living in Valdosta, Curtis would often double-date with Jesse Pearl Banks and her friend Madelyn Smith and her father E. A. Smith. However nothing came of that early courtship—at least not at that time.

Sometime before 1940, Curtis made a decision to move to Orlando, Florida where he was employed as a meat cutter with the Margaret Ann Super Market chain. In 1942 he married a Georgia girl, Nona Ruth Fendley Eubanks, daughter of W. C. Fendley and Nona Williams Fendley. Their marriage was brief as she suddenly died on September 29, 1944. She was buried at the Evergreen Cemetery in Orlando, Florida.

property and moved into Ray City where they had both built homes; Marion and Rachel on Jones Street, and Lacy and Tula on North Street. Curtis continued his education in the small Beaverdam school through 1921 when he finished the 8th grade. That was all of the formal schooling he ever received.

Curtis's home life was based upon the Baptist teachings of his parents and grandparents, principles which he adhered to throughout his life. His closeness to his grandparents was reinforced when Francis Marion moved into the Lacy Shaw home, shortly after the death of Rachel in April, 1921. It was in this home where the Civil War veteran died in September, 1922..

Upon the move to Ray City, Lacy took over the operation of a hardware and mercantile store. However, like many businesses in Ray City, it became less profitable after the disastrous Jackson Lumber Mill fire in 1923. By 1926 he had closed the business and moved to Valdosta.

After Nona Ruth's death, Curtis moved back to Valdosta where he renewed his friendship with Jessie Pearl. This time however it was her friend Madelyn Smith who caught his attention. Now Madelyn Judge, she was a divorced mother with a 12-year-old daughter, Peggy. The couple hit it off



Young Peggy Judge, daughter of Madelyn and step-daughter of Curtis Shaw, far left, shortly before her marriage to Ed Quattlebaum.

The young family of Peggy and Ed Quattlebaum, left, in their home in Hephzibah, Georgia. From this family, Madelyn and Curtis left a huge legacy of their parental influence.

right away and on December 14, 1946 Curtis and Madelyn were married in Valdosta. Since Curtis had no children of his own, he readily embraced the instant family.

Madelyn was working for a doctor in Valdosta at the time, and Curtis continued his skills as a meat cutter. However it was only a short time later when the trio moved back down to Orlando.

Madelyn acquired a job with another doctor in the Orlando area, and Curtis secured a job as a fireman with the fire department on the Naval Air Base at Sanford, Florida. He would remain in that occupation at the air base the rest of his life.

In 1949 Madelyn's daughter Peggy married Edward L. Quattlebaum from Hephzibah, Georgia. Peggy was only fourteen and Ed twenty-one, however Madelyn gave her blessing on the occa-



Curtis Shaw is pictured above, centered in the back row, with his fellow meat cutters from the Margaret Ann food store in Orlando, Florida, below left.

Eventually Curtis gave up this occupation, taking up his life-long position as a fireman with the U.S. Naval base in Sanford, Florida.



Numerous photos of Curtis Shaw document his long time occupation of fireman at the Naval Base near Sanford, Florida. Over the years he and Madelyn would make frequent trips to Georgia, visiting friends and family in Valdosta and Hephzibah.

sion. In fact Madelyn and Curtis drove up to Folkston, Georgia just across the Florida border to participate in the wedding. The marriage lasted over 56 years until Ed's death in 2005.

With Curtis and Madelyn being empty-nesters, they made frequent visits up to see their friends and family in Valdosta and Peggy's growing family in Hephzibah. Madelyn went to work in sales at a fabric store for a time, and eventually secured her realtor license and pursued that occupation as long as she lived in Florida.

About 1964, Curtis was diagnosed with colon cancer. Though he had over 17 feet of his intestines removed, he never did have a colostomy. Throughout his treatment, Madelyn would give his injections, however as the pain became more severe, he would often ask if Peggy could give them as she had the right touch.

The cancer eventually won out and on Wednesday, October 20, 1965 Jesse Curtis Shaw passed away at his home in Orlando. He was buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Orlando, as was his wife, Nona Ruth.

Madelyn moved to Hephzibah, living with Peggy and Ed, spending her last years enjoying the lives of her grandchildren and great grandchildren, until her death on July 3, 1992. She was buried in



the Walter Vance Cemetery in Hephzibah, in a large family plot that someday will be the final resting place for the many grandchildren and great grandchildren that she and Jesse Curtis were so very proud to call their own.

—BLS