

The Harlan Record

NO. 47

www.harlanfamily.org

Fall 2015

HUMBLE HARLAN SERVES GREEN BAY WELL

Bob Harlan walked the pavement of Green Bay, Wis., like a tireless politician in 2000.

Harlan stood outside factories at 5 a.m., shaking hands and trying to sway voters to approve a referendum to renovate historic Lambeau Field for the Green Bay Packers. He went door to door in the community, table to table in restaurants, trying to get people to listen to his pitch.

Not everyone approved of seeing him. Some doors were shut in his face.

When the votes were tallied Sept. 12, the half-cent sales tax—an event that would fund a \$295 million project—passed by a 53 to 47 percentage.

The decision would give the NCL's smallest market team financial lifeblood while competing against franchises from places like Chicago, Dallas and New York.

Harlan, a humble man who answered his own phone at work, used the sales job to the public to earn passage of the referendum.

"The fans are the ones who own the team, we don't," Harlan said.

Harlan, who was born in Des Moines, is the 219th member of the Des Moines Sunday Register's Iowa Sports Hall of Fame.

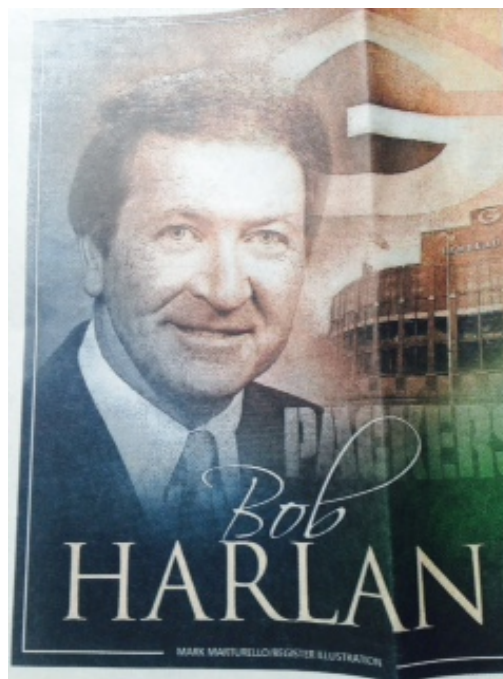
He can wear his success on his hands. Harlan, who is now chairman emeritus for the Packers, owns two Super Bowl rings and a 1967 St. Louis Cardinals World Series championship ring from his previous job.

Harlan served for 19 years as the president of the Packers, a position akin to a chief owner of the team, which is held by shareholders.

His accomplishments with Green Bay include hiring two general managers and two coaches who won Super Bowls, overseeing the trade to acquire Brett Favre, the free-agent signing of Reggie White

and the drafting of Aaron Rodgers and the elimination of Packer home games played in Milwaukee.

"He felt a responsibility with the Packers because it was a worldwide brand," said his son, Kevin Harlan, who is a broadcaster for CBS Sports, Westwood One and the NBA on TNT. "They've got this untouchable history."



Bob Harlan attended Dowling High School in Des Moines when it was an all-boys' school.

He dreamed of becoming a sportswriter for The Des Moines Register, working summers at the newspaper, but he ended up having a career with pro teams instead.

Harlan attended Marquette. He served as the school's sports information director for six years before going to the Cardinals.

It was then that he saw big accomplishments for a fabled franchise. The Cardinals build the old Busch

Stadium, hosted the 1966 All-Star Game and appeared in back-to-back World Series.

“I feel like I worked for as fine a baseball tradition and as fine a football tradition as there is,” Harlan said.

He went to the Packers in 1971, becoming the team’s first non-Green Bay native to serve as president 19 years later.

Green Bay had struggled in the 1970s and 1980s. Harlan returned the team to Super Bowl status.

One of his biggest decisions was hiring Ron Wolf as the team’s general manager. Wolf, who was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame earlier this month, was given the power to run the team.

Wolf was eager to acquire Atlanta’s third-string quarterback. He told Harlan about the kid.

“We’re going to trade for Brett Favre, are you OK with that?” Wolf said.

Favre, an 11-time Pro Bowl player, would lead the Packers to the Super Bowl XXXI title.

“It might have turned out to be the best trade in the history of the NFL,” Harlan said.

Mike Holmgren was hired as coach.

General manager Ted Thompson and Coach Mike McCarthy would later team up to bring the Packers the Super Bowl XLV crown.

Harlan was the driving force behind an indoor practice facility that became a recruiting factor for players in frigid Green Bay.

“Green Bay, Wis., is not an easy sell to people from big cities and warm weather states,” Kevin Harlan said.



The stadium rebuild kept the team afloat financially. With year-round usage that includes a team Hall of Fame, tours and attractions, it brought home \$19 million annually after completion, a figure that has grown ever since then.

Harlan said the stadium project would cost more than a billion dollars now. It’s ensured the club’s financial health. “He always seemed to know what the organization needed,” Kevin Harlan said.

(Reprinted with permission from an article published in the The Des Moines Register on 8/29/15, John Naughton author.)



Family Heirloom Cookbook Makes a Great Christmas Present for Family Members

And it **IS** a lovely family heirloom! Did you know the cookbook also includes a CD (PC’s only) with all the recipes on it?

All of the 600+ recipes are tried and true, delicious offerings from YOUR extended family, and also included are interesting Harlan history and illustrations. Price is just \$15 + \$5 shipping (sorry, no credit cards). Send your order and check, made out to “Harlan Family in America” to: Dorothy Sperry, 3230 Kingman Rd., Ames, IA 50014. Or call 515-292-8456 to speak to Dorothy.

GOOD NEWS!

Application has been made to the IRS requesting 501c-3 status, i.e. tax exempt status, for The Harlan Family in America organization. This change in designation will enable contributions made to the organization to be *tax deductible*, which currently they are not. **Stay tuned** and we’ll let you know when the change is approved and becomes official.

HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

President - Pat Fluetsch
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664 Valley View Ln., Wayne, PA 19087
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by Debra Aldridge (OK)

Ida Patterson Chamberlain Harlan
by Thomas Crosby (NM)

TREASURER'S REPORT

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (4/30/15)	\$7483.89
INCOME	
Donations	\$525.00
Cookbook Sales	\$205.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$730.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
Newsletter printing/ mailing	\$1,366.83
Board Meeting	\$328.20
Storage Containers	\$190.43
Cookbook Expenses	\$19.78
Internet Fee	\$6.00
Petty Cash	\$50.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$1,961.24
Checking Account Balance (8/31/15)	\$6252.65
Certificate of Deposit (8/31/15)	\$10,124.35
NET WORTH (8/31/15)	\$16,377.00

THE HARLAN RECORD

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The Harlan Family in America

P.O. Box 284

Lionville, PA 19353

It is a permanent organization established to document the historical contributions made by Harlans in America. Submissions of articles are welcome. They are subject to editing and may be held for future use. Send email to: Dorothy Harlan Sperry – dorothysperry@mchsi.com

To change your address for *The Harlan Record*, or to request an electronic copy via email, send the new information to The Harlan Family in America P.O. Box 284, Lionville, PA 19353 or email: k.harlan@comcast.net. Current and previous issues of

The Harlan Record are also available online at

www.harlanfamily.org

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

Donations received since April 30, 2015

Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

AR	Virginia Harlan Linda Henderson Patsy Young
FL	Bruce Harlan
KY	Frank Corum
MO	Jim & Dorothy Harlan
OR	Bonnie Harlan Grandstaff

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pat Fluetsch

"I sustain myself with the love of family."

— Maya Angelou

The whole Harlan Family is on my mind as I write this message from Guadalajara, Mexico. I am living here for three months with my daughter and her family as they transition to their new home and teaching jobs.

Everywhere in the world families gather to connect with those alive today and celebrate the lives of their ancestors. A Mexican woman, who teaches with my daughter, told me that every summer her father's extended family meets for a weekend at their large hacienda compound outside of Guadalajara. Over 400 relatives gather to visit, eat and just generally have fun! That is exactly what we do at our National Family Reunions every 5 years!

No matter where you find yourself in the world you see that families sustain each other.

JOIN THE HARLAN FAMILY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you searching for a long lost cousin? Perhaps you just want to learn about the history of the Harlan Family. Well, did you know you can contact the Harlan Family in America via social media?

In addition to our website, www.harlanfamily.org, we also have a Facebook account and Twitter account.

To become part of our closed Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/270599586289425/> or enter The Harlan Family in Search Facebook window.



To follow us on Twitter, go to <https://twitter.com/theharlanfamily> or type @theharlanfamily into Twitter search.

JUNIOR HARLAN REFLECTS

My first association with the Harlan Family in America came about when I attended the 300th anniversary reunion in Wilmington, DE in 1987, and subsequently went on the first Harlan tour to England. It was on that trip that I learned another national family reunion was being planned to be held in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa in 1997. Since I lived in IL and was very close to the chosen location, I offered to help. When we began the planning for that reunion, we quickly found that the board had not ever met after the 300th anniversary reunion and was very loosely organized and not really involved. Back then, the only way to communicate was by letter or phone. The reunion at Mt. Pleasant, IA in 1997 was the beginning of many changes in the association. The internet was in place by then and we established our website, and everyone on the board had an e-mail address. With the help of my dear friend, Ruth Harlan Lamb, also a board member, we made many changes, trying to make the association work more smoothly and keeping all of the board involved. The very first board meeting was held the first winter after the Mt. Pleasant reunion at my home in Scottsdale, AZ, as I had moved there upon retirement.

E-mail, creating a website, being on Facebook, getting material for the newsletter, adding people to the mailing list, answering genealogy questions, creating board meeting agendas and holding yearly board meetings, documenting how we did the 'behind the scenes' work on a daily basis plus planning the national reunions, creating a data base with newly added genealogy data--all came about during my time on the board and while serving as vice president. As I look at it, many changes came about, but not without the help and suggestions of all the board members.

The one thing that is so very important and precious to me is all the wonderful Harlans that I have met on my journey with the association. The friendships that I have made will be with me forever and I am so grateful for being a part of this great family.

Junior Harlan served on the board of the Harlan Family in America from 1997 to 2015, was Vice President of the Organization from April 1999 to April 2013, and is now a Board Member Emeritus.

Who WAS Robert James Harlan?



COL. ROBERT HARLAN,
Member of the Ohio Legislature.

In the 2005 fall issue of The Harlan Record is an article titled, “Who was Robert James Harlan?” The article suggests that he was the half-brother of U.S. Supreme Court Justice, John Marshall Harlan (1833-1911) and that these two men were born of the same father, James Harlan (1800-1863). This first part of a two-part article will explore the life of Robert J. Harlan.

Robert James Harlan (1816-1897) was the name given to a slave born of a mulatto slave mother and a white father. Robert’s birth date is December 12, 1816 as provided by James Harlan (1800-1863) and Robert on his emancipation document. However, there has been no further verification of his birth found, which is not unusual as he was born a slave.

Robert was octoroon (7/8ths Black). He has been described as a tall (six feet), light-skinned man with straight black hair and blue grey eyes. He was most likely raised in the household of James (The Elder 1755-1816; James Harlan’s father and John Marshall Harlan’s grandfather) and Sarah Harlan and later in the household of James Harlan (1800-1863). Robert was educated in the Harlan household as he could not attend the all-white schools. At the time there were no schools for slaves.

James’ (the younger) tax records reveal that he bought and sold slaves during his life-time and that he treated his slaves humanely. Robert, however, was given advantages other Harlan slaves were not. Why was Robert given preferential treatment? Not only was he educated by James, but he was given the

opportunity to earn money, travel, and before he was formally emancipated, he had taken the Harlan name and been designated as a “free man of color.” During the early 1840’s in Kentucky, as Robert was still legally a slave, it was illegal for him to live as a “free” person away from his master’s home, earn money, and keep his earnings. James, an attorney, had to have been aware that he could be arrested for permitting Robert’s situation.

Robert’s life appears to stay linked with James. James, accompanied by his family and likely Robert, moved to Harrodsburg, Kentucky in 1834 to enable himself to engage in local and state politics. James was named Secretary of the State of Kentucky, and in 1840 moved to Frankfort. Meanwhile, Robert had displayed an aptitude for business, and at age 18, began working as a barber in Harrodsburg. In 1840, the same year that James moved to Frankfort, Robert moved to Lexington where he remained until 1848. During his time in Lexington, he worked as a barber and a grocer, and married a free woman of color, Margaret Sproule. They had three or five daughters between 1842 and 1848.

In 1848, Robert purchased his freedom from James Harlan for \$500. He was accompanied by James to the Franklin County Courthouse in Frankfort, Kentucky for the formal emancipation event.

Shortly after purchasing his freedom, Robert left the Midwest for California. Sources differ as to why he left his family behind. Was it the lure of gold or the possibility of a business opportunity? Regardless, Robert returned from California in 1849-1850 to move to Cincinnati, Ohio, a short distance from James and James’ living children. During the time Robert was out west, his wife and at least one of their children died, possibly of cholera. It is reported that Robert returned from The Golden State with a considerable amount of money. Slavery was illegal in Ohio, thus there were more opportunities for Blacks there than in many other states.

Upon settling in Cincinnati, he became a successful businessman and engaged in political and civic affairs. He invested in real estate, opened a photograph and daguerreotype gallery and became involved in the horse race business. He was a trustee for the Cincinnati public schools and the Colored Orphan Asylum, and was also instrumental in opening one of the first schools for Black children.

In 1852, he married again. His second wife, Josephine Floyd, was white and the daughter of John B. Floyd (1806-1863), former governor of Virginia from 1849-1852. Robert and Josephine had a son, Robert James Harlan, Jr., born in 1853. Josephine died six months later.

Robert may have been able to “pass” for white, due to his light skin, hair and eyes, and having married a white woman. However, he chose to live openly as Black. It is perhaps because of that choice that he was able to improve the lives of, and increase rights for other Blacks despite color prohibitions of the time.

His financial situation during this time in his life permitted Robert to join the northern black elite and move to England in 1858. This was a time of great social, economic and political unrest in the U.S. The Supreme Court’s *Dred Scott* decision occurred in 1857. In response to this decision, the Ohio legislature repealed acts favorable to Blacks the following year, and circumstances became increasingly uneasy for Blacks.

Robert returned to Cincinnati after the Civil War in 1869 with decreased finances. He became even more active in politics. In 1870, he gained significant attention for his inspired speech in support of the ratification of the 15th Amendment, which guaranteed the right to vote “regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” In 1872, he was elected to the Republican National Convention (the Republican Party of 1870 was more like the Democratic Party of today in values and platform). His activism resulted in his appointment to the U.S. Treasury Department in 1873 by U.S. President Chester A. Arthur.

Robert married a third time to an African-American widow, Mary Clark, in 1875. She died in 1885.

In 1875, Robert raised a battalion of 400 Black men and was commissioned a colonel by U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1878. Robert’s unit was the beginnings of the 9th Ohio Infantry Regiment in WWI.

Robert continued in Ohio fighting to repeal the discriminatory Black laws. Ohio voters elected him as a state representative in 1886. After his representative service, he was appointed to serve in the U.S. Treasury as a special agent from 1890-1892. Robert James Harlan was wealthy and accomplished when he passed away at the age of 81 on September

24, 1897. He had overcome great odds to achieve success after his humble beginnings of being born a slave.

This is the story of who Robert James Harlan was, as defined by his travels, economic endeavors, significant achievements, impact on history and on the lives of other African-Americans. But was this Black man also a son of James Harlan (1800-1863) and a half-brother of John Marshall Harlan, who became a U.S. Supreme Court Justice? Watch for the Spring 2016 issue of The Harlan Record for more of the story and further exploration of “Who Was Robert James Harlan”?

(Written by Board Member Becky Hines, Sarasota, FL)

JACOB WRIGHT HARLAN’S CALIFORNIA 1846-1888

A limited number of copies of *Eyewitness to the Settlement of the West: Jacob Wright Harlan’s California 1846-1888* are still available to purchase.

The Harlan Family in America helped to reprint the book and update the history of the Harlan family in 2007, and sales of the book benefit the organization. Less than 100 copies of the book remain.

Jacob Wright Harlan took part in many of the historic events that led to the settlement of the West, including the gold rush and the fight for California independence. He was also a member of the Donner party. His eyewitness accounts of the settlement of the West are an important part of our nation’s history.

Copies may be ordered for \$23 from Squire Cheyney Books, P.O. Box 439, Downingtown, PA 19335.

If you have Genealogy questions or comments, please contact the **Director of Genealogy, Cynthia Rhoades**, at cr.rhoades@comcast.net. Please put “Harlan” in the subject line when sending emails. Visit the Family Website www.harlanfamily.org

WE'VE GOT A PRO BALL PLAYER!

Beginning in the eastern part of the country and persevering at multiple stops, sometimes for up to a year during a long arduous transcontinental journey, he finally reached his ultimate goal.

That sounds like the prelude to a story about our early Harlan ancestors as they wove their way across America with stops in Redstone, Laurens County, Berkley Springs, Clinton County and Fayette County among many others.

This story though, is about a modern day Harlan descendent, whose eight-year trip through the minor leagues of baseball landed him in places like Batavia, NY, Lakewood, NJ, Reading, PA and Allentown, PA before heading west to Las Vegas and Reno. The journey culminated in 2013 when Harlan cousin James "Tuffy" Gosewisch reached the Major Leagues with the Arizona Diamondbacks.

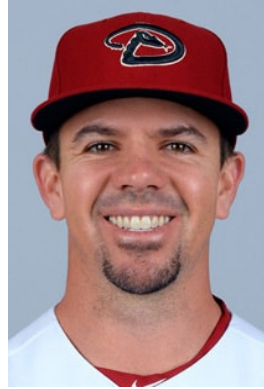
An 11th round draft pick by the Philadelphia Phillies in 2005, Tuffy spent parts of seasons at A, AA, and AAA minor league levels, before his call-up in 2013. Last year, 2014, Tuffy won the backup catcher job with the D'backs and this year earned the starting job out of spring training. His was a long journey from short-season Single A in Batavia, NY to being the starting catcher in the Major Leagues.

Tuffy's lineage begins with Harlan brother George #3 and four generations later lands in western Pennsylvania. Seven generations after that, Tuffy was born in Illinois. Then as Harlans are wont to do, his family moved west. After attending Horizon High School in Phoenix and being named All-State as a catcher, Tuffy attended and played four years at Arizona State, before his perseverance brought him from ball clubs in the east to the west by way of a long circuitous journey.

Through 38 games this season Tuffy was hitting .211 with 13 RBIs and had thrown out 37 percent of opposing runners when misfortune struck. Hustling to avoid a tag on an errant throw to first base, Tuffy stretched to reach the base, jamming his knee and rolling to the ground. The resulting knee injury turned out to be a torn anterior cruciate ligament. Tuffy needed season-ending surgery but is rehabbing now and expects to be ready for next season.

Tuffy's Harlan family connection comes through his mother Nancy Harlan Gosewisch married to James Gosewisch. The Gosewisch's provided the shirts and reunion items for the Harlan Store at the

San Antonio reunion in 2012. Tuffy's maternal grandparents are Sue and the late Jim Harlan. Jim and Sue provided the Harlan shirts and clothes for the Harlan Family Store for many years.



(Story submitted by Board Member Fred Harlan, New Castle, PA)

REUNION 2017

By Board Member Mary Harlan Murphy

The 2017 Harlan Reunion, on July 13-16, is less than 2 years away, so start making plans to make it part of your summer vacation. Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, has so much history to explore.

The Historic area of Philadelphia is located about a mile east of our hotel and can easily be reached on foot or by using the Phlash Loop bus.

The place to begin is the Independence Visitor Center at 6th and Market Streets. The center is located in Independence National Park. There you will be able to pick up free timed-tickets to tour Independence Hall, enjoy the exhibits, watch the short free history themed films, visit the gift shop and café and plan your own historic tour.

www.phlvisitorcenter.com

Independence Hall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is located in Independence National Park. The entrance is at 5th and Chestnut Streets. Originally built between 1732 and 1756 as the Pennsylvania State House, it housed all three branches of Pennsylvania's colonial government. The Pennsylvania legislature loaned their Assembly Room for the meeting of the 2nd Continental Congress and later, the Constitutional Convention. The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were both signed here in the Assembly Room. Timed tickets are needed to tour Independence Hall (see above),

The Liberty Bell Center is located in front of Independence Hall on 6th Street between Market and Chestnut Streets. The bell was cast in Philadelphia in 1753 and hung in the tower of the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall). In the 1840's the bell cracked and the attempted repair was unsuccessful. The bell is inscribed with a verse from the Old

Testament Leviticus 25.10 “Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the inhabitants thereof”. This verse was chosen by Isaac Norris, the Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1751, possibly to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of William Penn’s Charter of Privileges to the people of Pennsylvania. The bell became a herald of liberty in the 19th Century when abolitionists used the inscription as a rallying cry to end slavery. Admission is free.

A short walk to 2nd and Walnut Streets brings you to the reconstructed City Tavern, a good place to have a meal and experience the ambience of an 18th Century tavern. City Tavern first opened in 1773. A year later, members of the 1st Continental Congress used it as a meeting place and, in 1787, the closing banquet for the Constitutional Convention was held there. Many of the Founding Fathers including George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson enjoyed a meal at City Tavern.

www.citytavern.com

Christ Church, at 2nd and Market Streets, founded in 1695, was the first parish of the Church of England (Anglican) in Pennsylvania. Benjamin Franklin and Betsy Ross were parishioners and both George Washington and John Adams worshiped here while president. www.christchurchphila.org

Christ Church Burial Ground located on Arch Street between 4th and 5th Streets is one of America’s most important Colonial and Revolutionary-era graveyards. Benjamin Franklin and four other signers of the Declaration of Independence are buried here.

The National Constitution Center at 525 Arch Street opened on July 4, 2003. It was established by Congress to “disseminate information about the United States Constitution on a non-partisan basis in order to increase the awareness and understanding of the Constitution among the American people”. The center features hundreds of interactive exhibits, serves as a national town hall and civic education headquarters. Do not miss Signers” Hall with life-size statues of each of the signers of the Constitution. Tickets can be purchased on site.

www.constitutioncenter.org

In the next issue of the Harlan Record, I will touch on many of the other places to visit in Philadelphia.

A GRATEFUL HARLAN TELLS HER STORY

My name is Cathy Arnold. I live in Saskatchewan, Canada and this is the story of how I found my connection to the Harlans. (I have discovered during my attempt to write this, that I am no New York Times bestselling author.)

I grew up my entire life knowing that my grandfather was James Edward Harlan, a US Serviceman posted to Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada in the 40’s. He and my grandmother Nan (who was a born and bred Labradorean) were to leave Goose Bay to go to California. Nan was boarding the plane to go with him, but changed her mind at the last minute, went back down the stairs to the tarmac, and never saw my grandfather again. James was getting out of the military, so he had to leave her, with the promise that she would reconsider joining him soon in California. There was correspondence exchanged between him and my grandmother for a short period of time. My father was born shortly after James Edward Harlan left Goose Bay. I believe due to the distances involved and communication barriers, Nan moved on with her life, as did James.



James is on the far right, second row from the top.

Approximately 16 years ago my dad asked me to look for James Edward Harlan, his real dad. I did for several months, however, the technology wasn’t in place for me to succeed. The information I had was fairly limited. It consisted of:

“here’s his military number 38268464..also his mother might have been Lucile nunn, this may been her 2nd husband.. his name was Ray Nunn. His real father may have spent time in Goose Creek Texas. His

mother's address in the 40's was R box 118, Vacaville, Calif..also have an address for JE Harlan as mp section , apo 677, c/o pm..New York N.J. ..he may have been married before to someone named Elsie...just a possibility."

(This information came from my Aunt Phoebe; thankfully she documented the vital information in regards to names, ID numbers, etc.)

I was getting nowhere on Ancestry.com with any of the information I had, so I Googled James Edward Harlan and discovered the Harlan Family website. I clicked on Cynthia Rhoades name and sent an email, holding my breath while waiting for a response.

Approximately a month later, I heard back from Cynthia and gave her what information I had. She responded on December 6th with Elsie Harlan's maiden name, which in turn changed my life! I entered that information on Ancestry.com and got a lot of hits. The most important discovery I made was although my grandfather had passed away, he and his wife, Elsie, had had a son, JEH Jr. (also deceased) and a daughter, Samantha.

I spent my entire weekend investigating leads and cross referencing, and that Monday morning emailed Samantha Harlan. I heard back immediately, and struck up an email and telephone relationship with her. The military ID number that I had for my grandfather, matched the number she had for her father! This past April 18th, my life changed forever as I made a long term dream of mine come true. I met my Aunt Samantha, I saw photos of my grandfather, heard stories about him and saw where he used to live. Thus history was bridged, because of the information Cynthia provided. I am truly grateful. Thank you.

Cathy Arnold, North Battleford, Saskatchewan

OUR SPECIAL 90-PLUS CLUB

By Ruth Harlan Lamb

The Ninety-Plus Club was established several years ago by Larry Harlan of Minnesota and is now coordinated by Ruth Harlan Lamb.

Members of this exclusive club have their names and short bios on the Harlan Web site.

To recommend membership, send names, addresses, dates of birth and short bios to Ruth at harlamb@aol.com. Updated information helps us maintain our records and is greatly appreciated.

THREE NEW NINETY PLUS MEMBERS

Florence Stevens and a twin sister were born November 24, 1911, to Roy and Frances (Harlan) Stevens. Florence's twin died at age 2, and the family moved to Shelton, WA, where Florence still resides in a care center. She worked as a secretary at a log scaling office and later as a bookkeeper and a senior accounting control clerk for a lumber company in Shelton, retiring in 1973. She was an artist and musician and cared for many stray dogs and cats who appeared at her door. Florence descends from Newell Harlan, #2293 in Alpheus Harlan's genealogy book.

Dorothy Harlan Bollinger was born September 18, 1918, in Harlansburg, PA. The town was established by Jonathan Harlan just before being burnt down during the "whisky insurrection" of 1794. Dorothy was the youngest of five children born to Ben and Edith Harlan. Dorothy married William Francis Bollinger, and they had four children: Kathryn Grace, Ruth Ellen, Janet Marie and William Harlan. Dorothy has six grandchildren and three great-granddaughters. She recently moved to Florida to live near two of her daughters.

Ruth Harlan Gove was born March 30, 1925, in Kansas, the daughter of Ralph and Dora Harlan. She later moved to Benicia, California, where she graduated from Benicia High School in 1943. She worked at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. She married in 1945 and had two children. Ruth now resides in Westminster, California, and has 5 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. Ruth has a wealth of Harlan information and has attended several Harlan reunions. She remains very active in her Catholic Church, and continues to lead a Bereavement Support Group.

In Memory Of...

Henry Crawford Harlan (1918-2015)

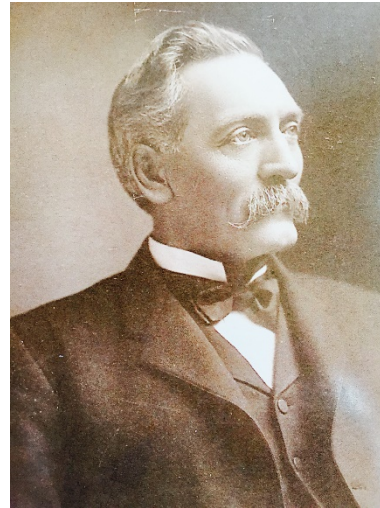


The passing of a Ninety-Plus Club Member, Henry Crawford Harlan, 97, of Trumann, AR, has been sadly noted. Crawford, a true American patriot, a veteran of WW II where he was held prisoner by the Japanese for over three

years, a model citizen and man of faith, died June 16, 2015. He is survived by Mary Lou, his wife of 69 years; two daughters, Judith Harlan Chaffin, Germantown, TN (featured in the fall 2010 *Harlan Record*) and Marilyn Harlan White of Columbia, MO; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. (see the Spring 2012 *Harlan Record* for a feature story on Mr. Harlan.) His lineage: George (3), Aaron, Aaron, Valentine, Don Sebastian, Mortimer, Leonidas.

Nathan Valentine Harlan: Public Servant and Community Leader

By Steve Harrison



“Modern heroes include brave men who fight for civilization on the outposts of the civilized. Isolated from friends, society and home in the bleak country of the North, they are the heroes of peace.” These tantalizing words were

published in a biography of Nathan V. Harlan (#2481) published in *Advance Bio-Bulletin of People of People Prominent in the Progressive Events of the Age*. At the time, N.V., as he was known, was the United State District Attorney for the Third Division of Alaska. He was appointed to that position by President McKinley in 1901. He was reappointed twice by President Theodore Roosevelt, serving until 1908.

N.V.’s service in remote Alaska began just two years after the Klondike Gold Rush ended in 1899. In 1891, appellate jurisdiction of Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals was extended to include Alaska. The District Court was originally located in the territorial capital at Sitka. In 1900, provision was made for removal of the territorial capital from Sitka to Juneau. At the same time the district was divided into three divisions with courts meeting at Juneau, Nome, and Eagle (later moved to Fairbanks, which is primarily where N.V. and his family lived.)

Nathan V. Harlan was United States Attorney in Alaska in the early part of this century when one of the most famous and notorious cases in Alaskan history came to trial. Referred to formally as the E.C. Hasey case, it became popularly known as the Keystone Canyon Riot. Rival factions had competed for access to the right-of-way to what became the lucrative Copper River Railway. The competition evolved into a battle when a shoot-out ensued at Keystone Canyon, resulting in one man's death.

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Nathan was the youngest child of Valentine Harlan (#735) and his 3rd wife Elizabeth Polly. N.V. was born October 22, 1846 in Darke County, Ohio. In 1851, the family moved to Lee County, Iowa, where N.V. attended public school. He was later sent to Mount Pleasant Academy in adjacent Henry County to prepare for college. After attending Oskaloosa College, a liberal arts college in Oskaloosa, Iowa, he began to study law. He was admitted to the bar and started practicing with a firm in Keosauqua, Iowa. In about 1872, N.V. moved to York, in southeastern Nebraska, where he opened a law office known as France & Harlan. He was associated with that firm until 1895 when he formed a new partnership with A. B. Taylor. He left the firm when he was appointed United State District Attorney to Alaska in 1901. His pay for his new government position was initially \$3,000 per year.

He married Elvina "Vina" Carmean on July 30, 1871 at Hillsboro, Henry Co, Iowa. They had 2 children, Gertrude Harlan (#6217) and Edmund V. Harlan (#6218). Gertrude married William George Boyer, the owner of the Boyer Drug Company in York, Nebraska. The Boyers eventually moved to California where they settled in Long Beach. Edmund became a clerk in N.V.'s Alaska office but died in 1906 in Alaska of pneumonia at the age of only 25.

N.V. entered politics early and was elected mayor of York for three terms. In 1884, he was elected to the State Legislature. In Lincoln, he became Speaker of the House in 1887. In 1890 he received the Republican nomination for Congressman from Nebraska but lost the election. In an 1890 article, he was described as "a clean, upright man of good, substantial ability" who was "widely and favorably known over the district." He was a candidate for Congress again in 1896. In 1900 he was elected to the State Senate. At the same time, he held three other offices: county attorney of York County, mayor of York and president of the school board. The *Advance Bio-Bulletin* stated: "Probably this record of many things done wisely and well in public office has never been equaled in American annals."

When N.V., Vina, and Edmund left for Eagle City, Alaska in early July 1901, the citizens of York gave them a surprise farewell party including the gift of "a handsome silver tea and water service as a token of their esteem." In addition, "Bond's concert band enlivened the event with excellent music."

"Tiring of the hard work and because of the death of his only son," N.V. resigned his position in Alaska in 1908, and retired to private life in York. But unfortunately, he was already in poor health. In the fall of 1908, he went to Los Angeles, California, for his health. He and his wife returned to York in the spring of 1909. The couple spent the following winter in California but the day after they returned to York, he had "a severe stroke of paralysis which deadened his left side and rendered him speechless." He did make a partial recovery however.

N.V. died at his home on June 19, 1911, with his family at his side. He and his family are buried in Greenwood Cemetery in York. An obituary in *The Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, Nebraska) concluded: "The patient, kindly, thoughtful man is not numerous and when he leaves us we have suffered a genuine loss."

One additional public service N.V. made was to all of us Harlan descendants. In 1910, N.V. was the president of the National Association of the Harlan Family. That association was the precursor to the present-day Harlan Family in America. The original association was formed in Philadelphia (site of the 2016 Harlan reunion) in 1887. (Watch the Harlan Record for a future article about the 1910 Harlan family reunion.)



Leaving Valdez, Alaska for Fairbanks 3/13/1905

Special thanks to Joseph "Joe" Boyer, a great-grandson of N.V. and Vina for information about his family. Joe is proud of his Harlan family heritage, is a member of the Harlan Family in America and currently resides in Huntington Beach, California

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