

**CRAWFORD COUNTY**  
**TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS**

**WEST UNION**  
**CEMETERY**

*William C. Cuthbertson*

*Crawford County Genealogy Society*

WEST UNION CEMETERY--located at NW corner of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27, Township 30 South, Range 24 East, 2 mi. S, 3 mi. E. &  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Beulah Ks., Crawford County.  
Copied 4-6-1961 by William & Jessie Cuthbertson, Girard Ks.

The cemetery, approx. square, is laid off in rows running N & S, each row wide enough for one grave (E & W). We began at NW corner--to S, then S to N on next row E, etc.

NW Cor., farthest row W, N to S:

William R. son of C. W. & M. E. Brown died Nov 10, 1870 aged 1 year 3 mo. & 25 days.  
(see note on p. 10)

William C. Reddick Oct. 12, 1921 Apr. 5, 1922

Mother Margaret E. 1865-1931 Father George H. 1864-1913 Horn

Montee Mary E. 1851-1916 Clovise F. 1847-1927

Prideaux Charlie G. 1883-1935 Amanda F. 1883-1959

Normah D. Hyatt Aug. 23, 1929 Mar. 15, 1931 (small brass headstone)

Velma Louise Hyatt 1923-1939 "

Hyatt (both sides) (& on W;) -----(blank half) Dad George A. 1888-1959

4 square stones similar to corner markers of a lot, but in a row, 3 have "D" and 1 has "W". At the "W" a metal Ellsworth Mortuary marker of ---ma Ellen Dunlap d 195- a spaces

D.M. (small footstone used as hdst.)

Reddick Joseph W. 1857-1928 In my Father's house are many mansions

Margret Reddick 1863-1943

Reddick Charles H. 1887-1938

small stone, no name

Frank H. Walker 1878-1954 (concrete hdst.)

1866 Mother 1944 Rachel E. Jackson

George W. Jackson 1859-1932

S to N, next row E of above:

Green Arthur D. 1891-1951 Maggie A. 1894- (blank)

Baby

Anton Potochan May 10, 1876 Nov. 29, 1947

We loved him. Daniel G. Hearn died Dec. 19, 1877 aged 30 vs. 10 ms. 12 ds.  
Free from all cares and pain  
Asleep my body lies  
Until the final trumpet calls  
The dead to Christ.

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Z

Lizza dau. of E. & E. Sperry died Dec. 17, 187- (maybe '75) aged 4 Yrs. 1 mo. & 17 dv.  
(badly eroded stone)

Mark E. son of E. & E. Sperry died Oct. 29, 187- (maybe '73) aged 16 Yrs. 10 Mos. & 10 Dvs  
Weep not father and mother for me  
For I am waiting in glory for thee.

Henry son of E. & E. Sperry died Nov. 6, 187- (73,5,or8?) aged 10 Yrs. 10?mos. & - days.

Susan E. wife of Augustus H. Titus died Sept. 28, 1873 aged 25 yrs. 11 mos. & 13 dvs.  
Farewell(at top, & clasped hands)

Johnie H. son of -- & E. M. Titus .... Mar. 30, 1881 J.H.T. footstone.  
(hand with finger pointing up; badly eroded stone)

spaces

Addie Bell dau of J. B. & M. E. Venable died July 20, 1873 aged 1 Yr. 3 Mo. & 14 dv.  
She was lovely she was fair and for awhile was given.  
Anngel came and claimed his own and bore her home to heaven.  
(design of hand with branch, pointing)

rock, may mark a grave

Mother

(W) Flora B. dau. of J. A. & J. G. Meloy born Nov. 10, 1861 died Feb. 22, 1884  
A loved one has gone from our circle.

One earth we shall meet her no more  
She has gone to her home in heaven  
And all her afflictions are o'er.

(S) Nancy Gifford died July 25, 1891 aged 81 yrs.

Maud Ann Meloy dau. of J. A. & J. G. Meloy born Apr. 1 (1869?) died May 2(5?) 1877?  
She was lovely she was fair And for awhile was given.  
An angel came and claimed his own, And bore her home to heaven.  
(tiny oval stone, eroded.)

Willie son of J. A. & J. G. Meloy born July (4?) and died the (7?) 1874.  
God blesses in an early death (Tiny square shaft, probably 16" high, eroded.)  
And takes the infant to himself.

spaces

Three headstones eroded away, but footstones have these initials: OLV, EAV & WH V

D. J. Vermillion born August 16, 1838 died December 19, 1878

N to S, next row E of above:

spaces

Smith Pearl A. wife of H. D. Smith born May 8, 1860 died July 16, 1901

Meloy (large stone) (on same lot as above Smith, 2 following Meloy, & Meloy as above)

Mother Jemima G. 1839-1916 (headstone)

Father James A. 1841-1898 "

Vernie J. Bradley 1899-1935

Bradley Mother Rhoda 1877-1957 Father Joshua 1872-1955

Rhoda Caroline Bradley died July 25, 1957 aged 80 yrs. (Ellsworth mort. marker)

Father Raymond M. Bradley 1898-1955

✓ Father David W. Mercer 1871-1950

Mercer Mother Caroline 1811-1920 Father Thomas 1839-1928

spaces

stone, no name

Curtis Caroline M. Dec. 21, 1894 Dec. 23, 1928

Francis D. Kern 1888-1930

S. to N., next row E of above:

Montee Father Lewis M. 1872-1945 Mother Allie L. 1876-1947

Gray Mother Iva R. 1876-1940 Father James C. 1865-1953

George W. Gilkey born Dec. 30, 1836 died April 18, 18(76?)

Rest brother, rest in quiet sleep

While friends in sorrow o'er thee weep. (stone broken)

A curbed lot contains stones following(7 stones):

Ros... son of (A. & M. P.?) Gilkey died Oct 22? 1875? aged 1 yr? 1 mo? & 2/ds?

Sleep on (sweet child?)

And take thy (rest?)

badly eroded.

God called thee (home?)

He thought it best.

(clasped hands) Noah Titus died Aug. 7, 1859 aged 52 yrs. 9 mo. & 12 ds.

Our Father and Mother are gone

(very clear)

They lay beneath the sod

Dear Parents though we miss you much

..... (covered with cement when reset)

Melissa wife of Noah Titus died Aug. 9, 1875 aged 70 yrs. 5 mos. & 22 dys.

Same verse as above, last line covered with cement.

Marion F. son of W. & N. Browning died Nov. 20, 1866 aged 18 y'rs. 5 mo & 10 D's

How short dear Francisco thy race on earth

(very clear)

Cut down in all your bloom

Thy course but yesterday begun

Now finished in the tomb.

(E?) W. Shelley, Girard (dealer?)

Noah E. Titus born Feb. 8, 1837 died Nov. 26, 1898

While the earth remaineth Seedtime and harvest shall not cease.

Every year the father calleth

Some loved one to endless rest.

And the heart tho' filled with anguish

Can but cry he knoweth best.

(W)Ripened golden sheaves gathered home. Titus.

(S)S. P. Titus died Aug. 23, 1899 aged 67 y 29 d

(N)Ruth Titus Aug. 26, 1834 June 6, 1916

(S) Tommy son of S. P. & Ruth Titus died Oct. 10, 1876 aged 21 Yrs. 28 Dys.

On the other side of Jordan  
In the sweet fields of Eden  
Where the tree of life is blooming  
There is rest for you.

(N) Emmer son of S. P. & Ruth Titus died Mar. 11, 1874 aged 16 yrs. (7?) Mo's 13 D'ys.

In heaven above where all is  
There'll be no more parting there.

(clasped hands) David Mercer died Sep. 6, 1878 aged 68 yrs. 22 d. May he rest in peace.

spaces

Darling (broken, just top showing)

spaces

John B. son of R. & H. Williams died Aug. 12, 1873 aged 11 mo. & 17 dy.

spaces

Father Joseph Franklin Huffman 1873-1929

The following 2 stones on a curbed lot:

Sarah wife of Hugh T. Davis died April 21, 1874 aged 39 Yr. 11 mo. & 27 dy.

Rest Mother, rest in quiet sleep  
While friends in sorrow o'er thee weep.

Leona dau. of A. C. & Emma Davis Born July 2, 1892 Died Oct. 7, 1893

N to S, next row E. of above:

Sevilla dau. of G. B. & H. Chandler died June 28, 1874 aged 2 yrs. & 6 mos.

Henrietta wife of Geo. B. Chandler died May 1st 1878 aged 37 yrs. & 6 mos.

rocks mark head & foot of a grave, no names.

spaces

Cassius M. son of W. & M. A. Newman died Dec. 7, 1876 aged 1(8or3?) yrs 9 mos. & 16 dys.

"Keep not father and (mother for me?)  
For I am (waiting in glory for thee?)

small eroded stone, probably an infant.

iron rod, no graves apparently near.

George M. son of J. N. & M. L. Friend died Feb. 20, 1894 aged 2 Y 6 M 3 D Friend

Friend Mother Mary L. 1863-1920 Father John N. 1845-1912

spaces

small stone, perhaps an infant?

(Rheuben?) Sparks died aged 65 yrs.

Oh f..... (2 lines, eroded beyond reading) (note verse on next stone)

"We loved her. Margret wife of R. Sparks died Aug. 5, 1902 aged 77 yrs.

Oh she was good if ever a good woman lived.

Polly A. Curtis died Aug. 23, 1903 aged 59 Y.

Hiram S. son of C. & A. Sparks Born Mar. 30, 1863 died Mar. 25, 1887  
Thou art gone little Hiram  
Sweet child of our love  
From earth's fairv Strand  
To bright mansions above.

S to N, next row E. of above: (first 3 stones on one curbed lot:)

Catherine wife of H. Sparks Nov. 16, 1846 Nov. 14, 1905  
Sleep on dear mother, And take thy rest  
God called thee home, He thought it best

Earl born Aug. 29, 1898 died Sept. 17, 1898 Infant Pearl died June 4, 1899  
Children of J. W. & F. Sparks

Fronie J. dau. of H. & C. Sparks born & died Feb. 21, 1884  
Oh, weep not for the loved one  
So rudely from thee driven  
'Twas but a flower too good for earth  
Transplanted into heaven.

Freda Sparks 1877-1954 (Brenner mortuary marker)

John W. Sparks 1879-1954 " (G)

John W. Sparks Jr. 1914-1954 "

spaces

rock, may mark a burial

spaces

Infant dau. of C. C. & D. H. Montee May 12, 1885 Gone but not forgotten

spaces

Thomas A. Hoffman died at Macon Ga. Aug. 4, 1862 aged 36 Yrs. 5 Mo's & 26 D'ys.  
Margaret J. wife of Thomas A. Hoffman died Mar. 4, 1877 aged 42 Yrs. 3 Mo's. &  
6 D'ys. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. (stone about 6' tall)

spaces

Harv A. wife of J. A. Frame died June 23, 1863 aged 34 years. Mett me in the  
better land. (Footstone: H.A.F.)

Juliann B. dau. of E. & E. J. Bloomer died Apr. 19, 1861 aged 5 mo's. Blooming  
in heaven. (J.B.B. footstone)

Anna H. wife of J. A. Frame died May 26, 18(80?) aged 18 years. Ween not she is  
at rest. (broken) (A.H.E. footstone)

Valentine Bloomer died May 21, 1878 aged 60 years. Gone but not forgotten

N to S, E of above:

Alfred W. son of G. W. & L. L. Morgan died Aug. 30, 1863 aged 4 mos. & 29 ds.  
Sleep on sweet babe And take thy rest. God called thee home He thought it best.

Darling William M. son of J. & A. M. Morgan died Aug. 23, 1876 aged 1 Yr. 6 mo.  
& 24 Drr. God blesses in an early death  
And takes the infant to himself.

The following 5 stones on a burbed lot:

(Hand & book) In memory of our Mother Emly J. wife of H. L. Rathbun died July 19 (or 10?), 1881 (or 87?) aged 35? yrs. 9 mos. & 18 Ds.

Eliza wife of Eli P. Bonnell born Mar. 1, 1808 died Apr. 16, 1881.

We loved her Elenora Belle wife of Geo. C. Babcock born Nov. 3, 1863 died Sent. 6 1883 Tho' lost to sight.....(rest eroded)

Mary W. wife of David W. Bonnell born Dec. 10, 1838 died Aug. 19, 1878 (broken)

David W. Bonnell born July 7, 1833 Died Sen. 10, 1884  
God gave He took He will restore  
He doeth all things well

Art Illie Wright (carved by hand on front of tiny stone, and on back:) died July 24, 1887

- (W) Wm. H. Hamblin born Mar. 24, 1813 died Mar. 15, 1879
- (N) Infant dau. of J. B. & A. L. Brown died Aug. 25, 1879
- (S) Infant dau. of W. P. & L. A. Packard died Jan. 12, 1883
- (E) Gertie M. dau. of J. B. & A. L. Brown born Oct. 11, 1874 died 31 1883

spaces

Babv Mary J. Vandry 1928 (on same lot as following Sparks)

Katie May dau. of Wm. & F. Sparks born June 14, 1882 died Dec. 2, 1888  
Farewell then sweet Katie a long farewell  
Your sorrows and sufferings are o'er  
May each of us live that will join you at last  
On the beautiful heavenly shore

Freddie H. son of Wm. & Fronia Sparks died July 29, 1891 aged 1 Yr. 6 Ms. 18 Ds.  
Buried on earth to bloom in heaven.

William 1859-1935 Fronia wife of Wm. Sparks 1860-1912 Sparks  
(also a small footstone: Fronia wife of Wm. Sparks)

Vandry Mother Maude 1893-1946 Father Henry 1885-1954

S to N, next row E. of above:

George (M?) (lamb carved near top so an infant stone)

spaces

Rachel Alice wife of Edwin P. Riling born July 2, 1858 died June 6, 1885  
Lost to earth but gained to heaven  
Dear one the beauty of thy life  
A rare gem by Heaven given  
(To sweet.....glorify life's strife??) (stone broken)

Willie son of E. P. & R. A. Riling born Dec. 14, 1881 He sleeps in Jesus

spaces

We loved her Nancy wife of Oliver Duesler died Aug. 14, 1878 aged 30 yrs. 8 mos. 22 dvs.  
What to us is life without thee  
Darkness and despair alone  
When with sighs we seek to find thee  
This tomb proclaims that thou art gone (stone about 7 ft. tall)

Mary wife of Henry H. Turnbaugh died June 16, 1877 aged 27 yrs 8 ms 12 ds.  
(design of clasped hands)



(clasped hands) Martha A. wife of Daniel Hunsaker born Nov. 27, 1819 died July 2, 1890  
 Farewell dear children one and all  
 From you a mother Christ doth call  
 Weep not for me twill be in vain  
 To call me to your side again.

Gone home. Daniel Hunsaker died Nov. 15, 1879 aged 68 yrs. 10 ms. & 10 ds.  
 (probably same verse as above, although most of it was eroded away)

N to S, next row E of above:

Charles S. son of D. N. & J. Friend died Sept. 25, 1880 aged (eroded away)

(Katie?) dau. of D. N. & ....J.? Friend died Feb. 19, 1880 aged (??)...

spaces

(N) Mary A. wife of Geo. G. White born July 8, 1836 died Aug. 29, 1879  
 (W) George V. son of G.G. & M. A. White born July 6, 1871 died Aug. 20, 1872.  
 Suffer li tle children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom  
 of heaven.

a few pieces of rock, perhaps a rock once marked a burial here.

J. G. White Co. E. 39th Ill. Inf. (govt. stone)

spaces

McIlrath In memory of Hugh McIlrath died July 31, 1904 aged 82 yrs. Mary A. McIlrath  
 died Aug. 24, 1885 aged 50 yrs.

S to N, next row L. of above:

stones outline a grave, no marker.

spaces

Walter E. son of S. N. & L. A. Monk born Jan 26, (1882?) died Jan (23?) (fest worn off.)  
 (spaces)

In memory of our father E.M.C.Friend born in Hocking Co. Ohio Apr. 7, 1804 died at  
 Cherokee Ks. June 20, 1882 aged 78 y 2 m 13 d

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death  
 neither sorrow nor crying neither shall there be any more pain for the former  
 things are passed away". Rev. XXI Chap. 4 Ve..

(name of H. F. Sullivan Oswego Kan. on base; apparently the dealer)

Regina H. Baker 1845-1918 (Book with words "Holy Bible" on top)

Mother Elizabeth Baker 1812-1882

(W) Charles Oscar Baker died May 3, 1906 aged 70 Yrs. 7 Ms. 25 Ds. Baker

(N) A brother from us is gone A voice we loved is stilled A place is vacant in  
 our home Which never can be filled.

2 places N of above stones where old stones may have been, or rocks.

N to S, next row E of above:

fragments of rocks in 2 places, may or may not mark burials.

R.R.B.

spaces

Albert L. son of C. & S., E. Biggs born Sept. 22, 1886 died Oct. 14, 1888  
 Blooming in heaven (design of hand with branch, pointing up)

Chas. Biggs born May 9, 1859 Died June 14, 1930

Benjamin Or... Biggs died June 17, 1954 aged 47 yrs. (Ellsworth mortuary marker)  
 rocks, may or may not have marked graves (very rocky cemetery)

S to N, next row E of above:

Anna E. dau. of P. H. & M. A. Titus died Feb 9, 1892 aged 2 M 9 D  
 Sleep on dear Estell and take thy rest. God called thee home .....(last line  
 covered with cement, apparently: He thought it best.)

spaces

Ada E. dau. of G. W. & L. N. Crocker died Mar 14, 1891 aged 11 Ms. 19 Ds.  
 Not lost but gone before.

Our father George Townsley born Mar. 30, 1815 died Mar. 8, 1891 (design of clasped  
 hands).

William Jackson died 1900 (concrete headstone)

Blanche inf. dau. of Mr. & Mrs. L. M. Montee Jan. 5, 1898, June 21

(Gray)  
 Gone Home Martha Ruth Gray 1906-1919 ^ (small oval photograph on china-like material,  
 very clear, affixed to stone)

(Gray)  
 Gone Home Leina Isabel Gray 1908-1922 ^ (small photograph made like one on previous stone)

Lillian Frances Gray 1879-1946

Robert L. Gray Oct. 14, 1868 Mar. 1, 1943.

N to S, next row E of above:

Sarah Walters died Oct. 30, 1897 aged 52 Y 7 M & 10 D

spaces

Hyatt Ruth Anna 1867-1936 William S. 1865-1950

David F. Hyatt born Sept. 28, 1902 died July 4, 1904 At rest. (upright stone made  
 of concrete)

small engraved rock made by hand, can only make out: M.....RS (Darling?)  
 (probably stone for an infant)

small white stone, nothing inscribed on it.

(T) Children of G. M. & A. H. Merett He carries the lambs in his bosom. Merett  
 (N) Ernest died Dec. 1, 1896 aged 1 Y 24 D  
 (S) Jessie Born & Died June 9, 1894

small stone, nothing inscribed on it, apparently marks a grave.

Nancy wife of John Willey born June 21, 1815 died Oct. 16, 1892.

Rest Mother, rest in quiet sleep  
 While friends in sorrow o'er thee weep.

Joseph C. Kasiah died Oct. 8, 1960 aged 75 yrs. 8 mos. 9 days. (this a metal marker by  
 Smith Funeral Home)

Billy Toney Aug. 2, 1943 July 14, 1944

Roy Willey (cement)

S to N, next row E of above:

Hembys twins 1942 (cement) (metal mortuary marker by it, rusted, name gone)

piece of stone or marble, lettered with paint, not legible. (metal mort. marker also)

4 mortuary markers, illegible, most have a piece of stone or marble by them, no inscriptions.

spaces

Lillian G. Jackson 1875-1907 (conc. hdst.)

Frankie M. Crotchett Mar. 3, 1907 June 12, 1907

rock

Hull Freeman Co. D. 9 Ia. Cav. (govt. stone)

Floyd E. Shuman Dec. 29, 1899 July 22, 1901

piece of marble apparently marks a grave.

C. E. Montee 1868-1945

2 metal mortuary markers on same lot with above C.E. Montee

Grandfather (hdst.) (probably Green)

Onal M. Hartshorn Jan. 20, 1912 Aug. 19, 1913. Gone but not forgotten

W. H. Feb. 15, 1852 Mar. 21, 1914 Green

Father James Green 1880-1923

Our daughter Frances M. Jones 1953

Lenne Father Antoine 1870-1942 Mother Julie 1872-1957 (also a metal marker of Smith Funeral Home: Mrs. Julia Lenne Feb. 20, 1957, aged 85-1-9)

Ismary Lenne 1913-1930 (concrete)

The following 4 Lenne stones on a curbed lot:

Lenne Catherine 1894-1926 John 1890-

Fernand Lenne Sent. 23, 1915 Feb. 10, 1926 (lamb carved on top of stone)

Marshall son of A. & J. Lenne 1902-1913 At rest Lenne

John son of J. & C. Lenne 1911-1912 At rest

farther on appears to be a burial, not sure.

N to S, next row E of above, & last row across E end of cem.:

W-M Gray (concrete upright stone)

Elizabeth J. McFall Jan. 18, 1855 Sent. 19, 1914 At rest. (design of gate and dove)  
(verse on following page)

(verse on previous stone:)

A precious one from us has gone  
A voice we loved is stilled  
A place is vacant in our home  
Which never can be filled.  
McFall

Vern D. 1887-1914 (Jackson)

Roy G. 1890-1920 "

Walter W. 1895 1920 "

Jackson

Arley V. Jackson 1907-1929

spaces

piece of concrete

Mary E. McFall June 27, 1914 May 5, 1917

Ellen McFall 1873-1918

Mabel F. McFall 1901-1925 At rest.

small white stone, no inscription.

Note: While copying at the Cherokee Cem. 8-29-1971, Mr. Claude Jackson, former mayor of Pittsburg, told us that his grandfather Wm. Montee (bur. at Cherokee-- the Montee family came from the Pyrenees Mtns. in Europe, name shortened to its present form) had lived near West Union Cem., and once told him that the first burial at West Union was that of a baby of a Brown family traveling through in a covered wagon. A small stone was said to have marked the grave near the driveway in the NW corner. He was not sure this stone was still there.

When we copied this cem. 4-1961 we found the stone--the first stone listed-- William R., son of C. W. & M. E. Brown, died May 10 1870 aged 1-3-25. Checking back 2-21-1971 we found the stone broken, and the part with the dates gone.

Note 2 older burials, which were probably moved in from other burial locations:  
Noah Titus d 8-7-1859 aged 52-9-12  
Marion F. Browning d 11-20-1866 aged 18-5-10

Oldest birth date found:

E. M. C. Friend b 4-7-1804 d 6-20-1882