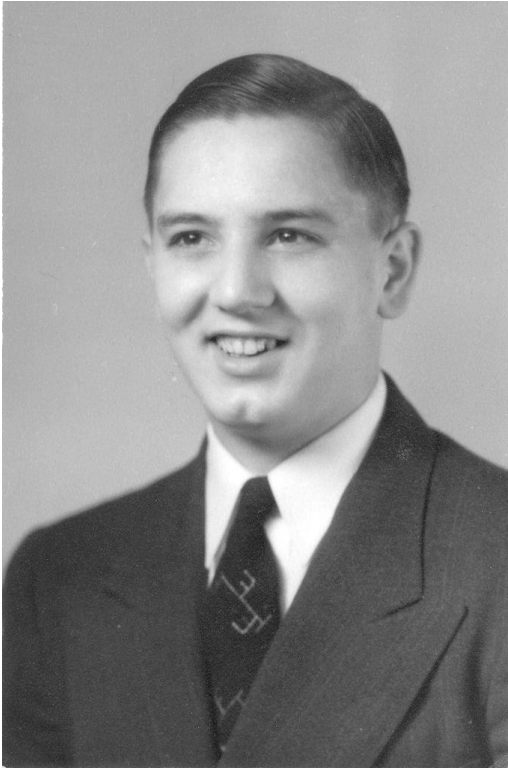


# **Evidence and Notes on My Direct Wilson Ancestors**

Michael L. Wilson

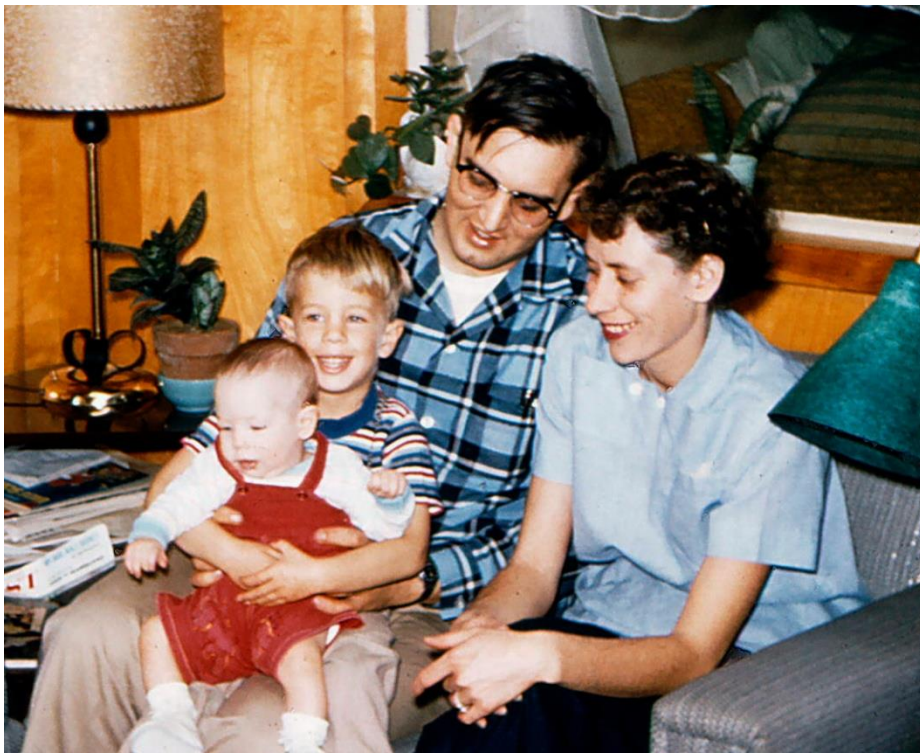
## 2. Father – Donald Everett Wilson



High School Senior, 1944–1945



Don and Audrey, 1987



Cathy, Mike, Don, and Audrey, November 1956

**Summary:**

Born: 18 Oct 1927 in Trinidad, Colorado

Married Audrey Faye Gathright on 26 Dec 1951 (ages 24 & 21) in Elk City, Oklahoma

Died: 19 Jul 2009 (age 81) in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Buried: Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Known residences: Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming, New Mexico



724 Washington St. in the winter of 1978/79



Walker Electronic Supply Company at 3347 Columbia Dr. in July 2006



Birth certificate for Donald Everett Wilson, born 18 Oct 1927 at 614 Cottonwood St. [home], Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado. Father L. E. Wilson, 23 years old, born in Colorado; accountant. Mother Elizabeth Triniastich [Trinaistich], 30 years old [should be 23], born in Colorado; housewife. Residence Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado. This provides a link between Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) and Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson). In addition, I grew up with these grandparents.

Nº 4003

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

**STATE OF COLORADO**  
Bureau of Vital Statistics  
**CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH**

PLACE OF BIRTH  
County of Las Animas  
Town of \_\_\_\_\_  
City of Trinidad Registration District No. 143 File No. 12555  
No. 614 Cottonwood St. Registered No. 262

FULL NAME OF CHILD Donald Everett Wilson

Sex of Child	Twin, Triplet or Other? <u>1</u>	and	Number in Order of Birth <u>1</u>	Legitimate <u>yes</u>	Date of Birth <u>Oct. 18,</u> 19 <u>27</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)
--------------	----------------------------------	-----	-----------------------------------	-----------------------	--

FULL NAME <b>FATHER</b> <u>L. E. Wilson</u>	FULL MAIDEN NAME <b>MOTHER</b> <u>Elizabeth Triniastich</u>
RESIDENCE <u>City</u>	RESIDENCE <u>City</u>
COLOR <u>White</u> AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY <u>23</u> (Years)	COLOR <u>White</u> AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY <u>30</u> (Years)
BIRTHPLACE <u>Colo.</u>	BIRTHPLACE <u>Colo.</u>
OCCUPATION <u>accountant</u>	OCCUPATION <u>Housewife</u>

No. of Child of this Mother One No. of Children of this Mother Now Living One

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE\***

I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, and that it occurred on Oct. 18, 19 27, at 2 A. M.  
\*When there was no attending physician or midwife, then the father, mother, householder, etc., should make this return.

(Signature) B. M. Cawley  
(Physician or Midwife)

Given name added from a supplemental report \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Registrar.

Address Trinidad, Colo.  
Filed Oct. 31, 19 27 R. V. Sandoval  
\_\_\_\_\_, Registrar.

**STATE OF COLORADO, ss.**  
R. L. Cleere  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, State Registrar of Vital Statistics of the State of Colorado, do hereby certify that the above is a true, full and correct copy of the original birth certificate of DONALD EVERETT WILSON  
in my custody and now on file in my office.

WITNESS my hand and official seal at Denver, in said State, this 23rd day of July A. D. 19 40.

R. L. Cleere, M.D.  
State Registrar of Vital Statistics.  
W. C. Tackel  
Deputy State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Marriage license and certificate for Donald Everett Wilson, age 24, of Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado, and Audrey Faye Gathright, age 21, of Elk City, Beckham County, Oklahoma. Married 26 Dec 1951 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Elk City, Beckham County, Oklahoma. [These are on a single page, but I had to scan it in two pieces.] Note that one of the witnesses was Audrey's brother David; I don't know who Helen, the other witness, was. Presumably a friend of Audrey.

**MARRIAGE LICENSE**

**STATE OF OKLAHOMA**      **BECKHAM COUNTY**  
IN COUNTY COURT

**To any person authorized to perform or solemnize the Marriage Ceremony,**  
**Greeting:**

*You are hereby authorized, upon delivery of this marriage license within ten days from date of its issue to you, to join in marriage*

Mr. Donald Everett Wilson, of Golden  
County of Jefferson, State of Colorado, age 24  
years, and Miss Audrey Faye Gathright, of Elk City  
County of Beckham, State of Oklahoma, age 21  
years; and by the command of the statute you shall make due return of this license to my office within five days succeeding the performance of the marriage herein authorized.

*Issued under my hand and official seal, and recorded in my Marriage Record before delivery, at SAYRE, Oklahoma, this 22nd day of December, 19 51.*

(SEAL) Mildred Post Court Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

Requirements of House Bill 7, Twentieth Oklahoma Legislature, fully met before issue, and fact endorsed. Person officiating will note. (Reverse)

# CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, County of BECKHAM, SS.

I, Mrs. Cecil E. Finu, Pastor,  
(NAME) (OFFICIAL DESIGNATION)  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church, of Elk City  
(COURT OR CONGREGATION)

in Beckham County, State of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that I joined in marriage  
the persons named in and authorized by this License to be married, on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
day of Dec, A. D. 1951, at Elk City  
in BECKHAM County, State of Oklahoma, in the presence of

David L. Gathright of Dill City, Oklahoma, and  
Helen J. Crow of Elk City, Oklahoma.

My credentials of authority are  
recorded in Ministers' Credentials.

Mrs. Cecil E. Finu  
(PERSON PERFORMING CEREMONY)

Book \_\_\_\_\_ at page \_\_\_\_\_  
of BECKHAM County, Oklahoma. Pastor  
(OFFICIAL DESIGNATION)


License returned, and Certificate of Marriage recorded subjoining the record of License issued and re-  
corded in Marriage Record Book 27 at page 22, on this the 28th day of  
December, 19 51.

Mildred Post Court Clerk  
By Norothy Loyd Deputy

After recording this Certificate of Marriage subjoining the record of the License, it shall be returned, upon request therefor to the persons to whom the same was issued. (House Bill 294, Twentieth Oklahoma Legislature).

Death Certificate for Donald Everett Wilson, died 19 Jul 2009 at Presbyterian Hospital in [Albuquerque,] Bernalillo County, New Mexico, of staphlacoccus [staphylococcus] sepsis. Widower, wife's name not listed. Served in U.S. armed forces. Born 18 Oct 1927 in Colorado, father Leonard Everett Wilson, mother Elizabeth Marie Trinaistich. Buried at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Residence Bernalillo County, New Mexico. This provides another link between Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) and Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson).

This document is not authentic unless reproduced on safety paper displaying the Raised Seal of New Mexico. The back of this document contains an artificial watermark. Hold at angle to view.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO			
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH			
New Mexico Vital Records and Health Statistics State of New Mexico United States of America			
DECEDENT'S LEGAL NAME <<<Donald Everett Wilson>>		IF FEMALE, MAIDEN NAME <<<>>	
DATE OF DEATH July 19, 2009	TIME OF DEATH 01:49 AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEX Male	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER 524-24-9762
MARITAL STATUS Widowed	SURVIVING SPOUSE - If wife, maiden name <<<>>		
DATE OF BIRTH October 18, 1927	BIRTH PLACE Colorado	SERVED IN U.S. ARMED FORCES Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
DECEDENT'S RACE White	TRIBE <<<>>	HISPANIC Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE COUNTY Bernalillo		DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE STATE New Mexico	
MOTHER'S FULL MAIDEN NAME <<<Elizabeth Marie Trinaistich>>		FATHER'S FULL NAME <<<Leonard Everett Wilson>>	
METHOD OF DISPOSITION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Burial <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Removal from State <input type="checkbox"/> Cremation <input type="checkbox"/> Entombment <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): <<<>>		DISPOSITION LOCATION Gate of Heaven Cemetery	
FUNERAL SERVICE FACILITY French Mortuary, Inc. (University)		COUNTY OF DEATH Bernalillo	
PLACE OF DEATH Presbyterian Hospital	TYPE OF PLACE Hospital-Inpatient	NAME OF PERSON CERTIFYING CAUSE OF DEATH <<<Mark D. Erasmus MD>>	
MANNER OF DEATH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Accident <input type="checkbox"/> Homicide <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined <input type="checkbox"/> Pending Investigation			
CAUSE OF DEATH PART I. Events such as diseases, injuries, or complications that directly caused the death.			
a. Staphlacoccus Sepsis			
b. <<<>>			
c. <<<>>			
d. <<<>>			
PART II. Other significant conditions contributing to death. <<<>>			
File Number:	2009-008221		
File Date:	July 30, 2009		
Order Number:	20090706261		
WARNING: IT IS ILLEGAL TO ALTER, COPY OR COUNTERFEIT THIS CERTIFICATE. ADVERTENCIA: ES ILEGAL ATERAR, COPIAR O FALSIFICAR ESTE CERTIFICADO.		 CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORD This is a true and exact reproduction of all or part of the document officially registered and filed with the New Mexico Vital Records and Health Statistics, Public Health Division, Department of Health. State Registrar DATE ISSUED Jul-31-2009	



Donald Wilson was born in Trinidad, CO, in 1927. He was the oldest child of three. His family moved to Clovis, NM, in late 1933 or early 1934. They moved to Lamar, CO, in 1936 and then to La Junta, CO, after school was out in the spring of 1937. He finished his schooling through high school in La Junta, graduating in 1945. World War II ended with the surrender of Japan in September 1945. However, many young men were still being drafted, and Don was drafted into the U.S. Army after he turned 18 the following month. He went into the Army Air Corps weather service and ended up being stationed at an air base in Goose Bay, Labrador, as a radiosonde (weather balloon) operator. He did not serve long, though, because most draftees were required to be released from service as the U.S. moved away from war footing. Don was discharged in January 1947 with the rank of corporal, but with leave due he was home before Christmas 1946 (though he served in the National Guard until 1952). He went to La Junta Junior College, and then was able to transfer to the Colorado School of Mines (in Golden, CO) starting in the fall of 1947. After some problems in his Junior year, he took a year off from school and worked briefly for the Oklahoma Geophysical Company and then for Century Geophysical Company. It was while he was working in Oklahoma that he met his future wife, Audrey Gathright, who was working as a nurse in Elk City at the time. He went back to Mines for his Senior year after taking some make-up courses in Summer 1951. He and Audrey were married in December 1951, the day after Christmas. After he graduated from Mines with a degree in Geophysical Engineering in September 1952, he went to work for Sohio Petroleum Company in Houston, TX. Don and Audrey only lived there for six months, but their son Michael was born in Houston in 1953. In the spring of 1953, they moved to Wyoming, where Don worked on a seismic crew, exploring for oil. They moved often, living in a number of small Wyoming towns. Their daughter Catherine was born in Worland, WY, in 1956. Things settled down a little bit after Don was promoted to Staff Geophysicist in September 1956, and stationed in Casper, WY. He resigned from Sohio in December 1958 and moved to Albuquerque, NM, to work for his father (Leonard) at Walker Radio Company, a small wholesaler of electronic parts. He quit Sohio mainly because the oil business was coming to one of its periodic busts, and he thought he would probably be laid off soon anyway. Sohio eliminated its exploration department six months later. (Sohio was later merged into British Petroleum, now just called BP.) He and Audrey lived the rest of their lives in Albuquerque. She died in June 1998 at age 68 and he died in July 2009 at age 81.

The two most notable aspects of Don's life are probably his long time at Walker Radio Company (later renamed Walker Electronic Supply Company) and his love of working with young people (mainly boys). He worked at Walker for over 50 years, and was still working up till the time of his death. He was the main driving force at Walker for many years. From the beginning, Walker was a wholesaler, with its main business being sales to radio stations and, later, television stations and other types of commercial communications companies, and also to the small businesses that repaired radios and televisions (though other businesses and individuals were always welcome to make purchases). In the '70s, Don started shifting the business into the MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) market and expanding, necessitating a larger space. In 1984, Walker moved to a new building, which Don had designed specifically to meet their needs.

In his later years, much of the day-to-day running of Walker was taken over by his daughter Cathy and her husband, Tom Bynon, but Don was still very important to the business. He was able to take it a little easier because of them, and spend a lot of his time on projects he enjoyed, such as designing custom intercom systems for customers.

As for working with boys, that started while he was in college, when he worked for his room and board for three years at the Colorado Industrial School for Boys as a handicraft counselor and night watchman (he is listed there in the 1950 census). In Albuquerque, he combined his love of chess with his love of working with kids, and helped form the Albuquerque Schools Chess League, which he ran for nearly 30 years. When his son Mike was old enough to go into Cub Scouts and then into Boy Scouts, Don became heavily involved with them, including becoming first a Cubmaster of Pack 189 and later a Scoutmaster of

Troop 189 (both sponsored by Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church and its school, where Mike and Cathy went for grades 1–8). Don continued working with the Boy Scouts for many years, even after Mike had gone on to college. He also was active in other ways with the Church, including doing much work on its public address system over the years.

Don was always quite active. For a long time, he was heavily involved in the Albuquerque Chess Club, including running tournaments and playing regularly (his USCF rating was 1900 at its highest, and he was the Albuquerque city champion in 1963; I think that was a big upset). He loved hiking and camping and did them a lot, mainly with the Boy Scout troop. For many years, he used to bicycle to work. He also enjoyed working with dogs, and got very involved in dog obedience training and competitions, and the Sandia Dog Obedience Club. His dogs were all dachshunds, which are not known for being easy to train. However, Don was quite successful at it, and one of his dogs, Coco, was a top-scoring obedience competitor.

Don always had trouble with his back and knees (going back to injuries in college), and in his later years they got bad enough that he could no longer get out and hike or bicycle. It got even worse in his last few years, when he developed neuropathy, and a loss of feeling and control in his legs made it difficult for him to walk. He became known in his neighborhood for riding around on an electric scooter – often with his dog, Shado, along on a leash. He developed adult-onset diabetes late in life. Diabetes can cause neuropathy, but Don was convinced that his severe back and neuropathy problems were caused by an incident in which he was hit by a car while he was riding his bike. He had back surgery and neck surgery to try to lessen his problems, with some limited success. His last back surgery led to his death after the incision in his lower back became infected.

This is a curious story that I had forgotten about (I corrected a few typos):

### **Coincidence, Imagination, or Reality**

Don Wilson, 3-25-07

Many in SDOC [Sandia Dog Obedience Club] know me, more probably know Shado, the Black & Tan standard Dachshund that almost makes canine obedience an oxymoron. He may never get his CDX or UD [these are dog obedience achievement levels] but I think he may deserve a Canine Life Saving Merit Badge. Most of you who know me probably are not aware that I am a Type II diabetic. As with most diabetics my biggest problem has been keeping my blood sugar levels under control. Up until last week this had been accomplished with medications and diet. This changed last weekend, the weekend of the agility trials.

I worked most of Saturday riding herd on the timing clock. I was relieved late Saturday afternoon and went home only to find that the infamous 24 hour flu had hit me like a sledge hammer. By Monday morning I was feeling almost human and went to work. As the day wore on I started feeling bad so went home early – the flu had struck again with a vengeance!

In-between runs [not sure what this refers to] along about seven pm Monday evening Shado and I played out our daily Greenie ritual – he will pester and bark and pester me until I finally give up and go get his greenie [a type of dog goodie]. After giving him his greenie I sat back down and continued watching the DVD movie I had on. About 20–30 minutes later Shado started barking at me and would not let up. He kept acting like he wanted me to follow him. His actions didn't make sense so I finally got up and started toward him to find out what was bugging him. As I did I suddenly felt woozy and somewhat disoriented. I headed for the kitchen to take a blood sugar reading. Shado shut up as I started toward the kitchen,

jumped into a chair and watched me. I took my blood sugar reading and it was low, a dangerously low 33.

So started my low sugar saga. It resulted in my being admitted into the hospital for several days as my body was not responding to the normal treatments for low sugar. The doctors at Pres [Presbyterian Hospital] were at a loss to explain why this had happened to me but all agreed that it was fortuitous that Shado had barked me into getting up as it was quite possible I might have passed out in the chair and had even more, if not deadly, problems. So I ask you fellow dog lovers, Were Shado's actions Coincidence, Imagination, or Reality?

1930 census

Listed as Donald E. Wilson, age 2, born in Colorado, both parents born in Colorado. Living with his parents in Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado.

1940 census

Listed as Donald Wilson, age 12, born in Colorado. Lived in Clovis, New Mexico, in 1935. Had completed six years of school. Living with his parents in La Junta, Otero County, Colorado.

1950 census

Image 7 on Ancestry.com (District 30-105, Other Places, Jefferson Co., CO)

Listed as Donald E. Wilson. Boarder at the State Industrial School for Boys, a correctional institute. Age 22, born in Colorado, both parents born in U.S. Occupation is listed as watching boys. Never married. World War II veteran [he was considered a WWII veteran even though he didn't actually join the army until after the war was over]. Third year of college (not yet completed; census date is shown as April 18). Worked 50 weeks last year. Income for last year, \$250.

1960 census

Albuquerque, NM

1970 census

Albuquerque, NM

1980 census

Albuquerque, NM

1990 census

Albuquerque, NM

2000 census

Albuquerque, NM

### 3. Grandfather – Leonard Everett Wilson



Len and Betty, maybe 1926



Betty and Len, 1976



Don, Len, Betty, Jimmy, and Dorothy, probably 1939

**Summary:**

Born: 4 May 1904 in Denver, Colorado

Married Elizabeth Marie Trinaistich on 20 Oct 1926 (both age 22) in Trinidad, Colorado

Died: 17 Sep 1981 (age 77) in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Buried: Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Known residences: Colorado, New Mexico



221 Washington St. in December 1957 (Jimmy and Johnny at right)



Walker Radio Company at 102 Granite Ave., probably 1954 (Len is in the middle)



Birth certificate for Leonard Everett Wilson, born 4 May 1904 in Denver, Denver County, Colorado. Father H. E. Wilson, mail carrier. Mother's name not listed. Residence Denver, Colorado. This provides a link between Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson) and Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson).

1904 Birth Book  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER  
Department of Health  
**CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH** Registered No. ....

**Nº 11861**

1. PLACE OF BIRTH  
City and County of Denver, Colorado No. 616 West 11th St.  
(If birth occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

2. Full name of child LEONARD EVERETT WILSON {if child is not yet named, make supplemental report, as directed}

3. Sex Male If plural } 4. Twin, triplet, or other..... 6. Premature..... 7. Legitimate } 8. Date of birth May 4, 19 04  
births } Full term..... mates }

9. Full name FATHER H.E. Wilson 18. Full maiden name MOTHER Not stated

10. Residence (usual place of abode) Denver, Colo. 19. Residence (usual place of abode) Denver, Colo.  
(If non-resident, give place and State) (If non-resident, give place and State)

11. Color or race White 12. Age at last birthday.....(years) 20. Color or race White 21. Age at last birthday.....(years)

13. Birthplace (city or place) (State or country) 22. Birthplace (city or place) (State or country)

OCCUPATION 14. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. Mail Carrier OCCUPATION 23. Trade, profession or particular kind of work done, as housekeeper, typist, nurse, clerk, etc.....  
15. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, sawmill, bank, etc..... 24. Industry or business in which work was done, as own home, lawyer's office, silk mill, etc.....  
16. Date (month and year) last engaged in this work..... 19..... 25. Date (month and year) last engaged in this work..... 19..... 26. Total time (years) spent in this work.....

17. Total Time (years) spent in this work.....

27. Number of children of this mother (At time of this birth and including this child) (a) Born alive and now living..... (b) Born alive but now dead..... (c) Stillborn.....

28. If stillborn, (months ) 29. Cause of stillbirth..... } During labor.....  
period of gestation (of weeks) } Before labor.....

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE**

I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, who was Born alive at ..... m. on the date above stated.  
(Born alive or stillborn)

{When there was no attending physician or midwife, then }  
{the father, householder, etc., should make this return.} (Signed) R.O. Butterfield, M.D.

Give name added from a supplemental report....., 19..... or....., Midwife

Address APPROX, 19 04 Filed....., 19 04 Manager of Health and Charity. Not stated

By..... Registrar. By..... Registrar.

STATE OF COLORADO }  
City and County of Denver } ss.

I, Elveta C. Myers, Registrar of Vital Statistics of the City and County of Denver in the State of Colorado, do hereby certify that the above is a true, full and correct copy of the birth certificate of

LEONARD EVERETT WILSON

in my custody and now on file and of record in my office.

Witness my hand and official seal at Denver, in said State this 6th day of January

A. D. 19 42.

ELVETA C. MYERS, Registrar.

*Elveta C. Myers*

Marriage record for Leonard Wilson and Elizabeth Trinaistich, married 20 Oct 1926 in Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado.

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

**STATE OF COLORADO**  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW WATERMARK

State of Colorado  
Division of Vital Statistics

No. 6208

**MARRIAGE RECORD REPORT**

County LAS ANIMAS

Husband's Name WILSON, LEONARD Age - Race w

Wife's Name TRINAISTICH, ELIZABETH Age - Race w

Place of Marriage TRINIDAD COLO Date 10/20/26

Name of Official who Performed Ceremony I L SEBASTIANI

Title C PRIEST Address TRINIDAD COLO

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

100M-6 28-45-BRADFORD-ROBINSON, DENVER

FEB 13 2013

DATE ISSUED

THIS IS A TRUE CERTIFICATION OF NAME AND FACTS AS RECORDED IN THIS OFFICE. Do not accept unless prepared on security paper with engraved border displaying the Colorado state seal and signature of the Registrar. PENALTY BY LAW, Section 25-2-118, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1982, if a person alters, uses, attempts to use or furnishes to another for deceptive use any vital statistics record. NOT VALID IF PHOTOCOPIED.

*Ronald S. Hyman*  
RONALD S. HYMAN  
STATE REGISTRAR

0 0 5 9 4 3 8 8 3

REV 01/07

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE



I also have a copy of a newspaper article about the wedding and another about their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Unfortunately, there is no name or date for the newspaper on the first clipping. The second article provides another link between Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) and Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson).

TRINAISTICH-WILSON  
NUPTIALS.

A pretty fall wedding will be solemnized this evening, at five o'clock at the Catholic Church when Miss Elizabeth Trinaistich will become the bride of Mr. Leonard Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. John McKelvey will act as matron of honor and groomsmen.

Miss Trinaistich will wear a smart frock of jungle green flat crepe with accessories to match, and will carry a shower bouquet of Ophelia roses.

At 6:30 a five course wedding supper will be served at the home of Mr. Wilson's mother, Mrs. E. W. Cookingham on Topeka Ave. Covers will be laid for sixty. A lovely color scheme of blue and white will be effectively carried out, and an elaborately frosted brides cake will grace the center of the table.

Miss Trinaistich is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Trinaistich of Trinidad. She is a graduate of Trinidad High School and since her graduation has been employed as bookkeeper at the Trinidad Creamery.

Mr. Wilson is the son of Mrs. E. W. Cookingham of Topeka Ave. He too received his education here and graduated from T. H. S. He holds a position of bookkeeper at the Trinidad Creamery.

The happy couple will leave immediately for a ten days honeymoon trip thru the northern part of the state. They will take up their residence in Trinidad.

C-8 ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL Sunday, October 31, 1976

**Anniversary  
Date Noted  
By Wilsons**



**Mr. and Mrs. Leonard E. Wilson**

In celebration of their golden wedding anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard E. Wilson, 221 Washington NE, were honored at a mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church, followed by a reception in the Hilton Inn's Cabaret Lounge.

The couple was married at Trinidad, Colo., on Oct. 20, 1926. They have been residents of Albuquerque since 1947.

Hosts for the observance were their sons, Donald and his wife Audrey of Albuquerque, James and his wife Susie of Phoenix, Ariz., and

their daughter Dorothy of Albuquerque. There are two grandchildren. Attending the reception

were approximately 115 guests from California, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico

Death Certificate for Leonard Everett Wilson, died 17 Sep 1981 at 221 Washington [St.] NE (home) in Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, of multiple myeloma. Owner-manager of wholesale parts business. Wife Elizabeth M. Trinistich [Trinaistich]. Born 4 May 1904 in Colorado, father Everett Wilson, mother Rose Lino. Buried at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. This provides another link between Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson) and Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson). In addition, Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) is listed as the informant, but is not identified as a son.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

130-8 - 005111

Bernalillo  
County of Death

Albuquerque  
City, Town, Location

United States of America—State of New Mexico—Vital Records  
**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH—Medically Certified by Physician other than Medical Investigator**  
 (NOTE: If death due to accident, suicide, homicide, trauma, or unknown causes, refer case to Medical Investigator)

1. DECEASED—NAME First Middle Last <b>Leonard Everett Wilson</b>		2. SEX <b>Male</b>	3. DATE OF DEATH (mo, day, yr) <b>September 17, 1981</b>
4. DATE OF BIRTH (mo, day, yr) <b>May 4, 1904</b>	5a. AGE—last birthday <b>77</b> yrs.	5b. UNDER 1 YEAR Mos. Days Hours Mins.	5c. UNDER 1 DAY Hours Mins.
6. RACE—Specify White, Black Native American, etc. <b>White</b>	7. IF NATIVE AMERICAN, Specify Tribal Affiliation (e.g. Zia, Jicarilla, Navajo, etc.)		
8. STATE OR COUNTRY OF BIRTH <b>Colorado</b>	9. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY <b>USA</b>	10. MARRIED, NEVER MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED—Specify <b>Married</b>	11. SURVIVING SPOUSE (If wife, give maiden name) <b>Elizabeth M. Trinistich</b>
12. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER <b>522-05-5624</b>	13. USUAL OCCUPATION (Kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) <b>Owner - Manager</b>	14. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY <b>Wholesale Parts</b>	
15a. RESIDENCE—State <b>New Mexico</b>	15b. County <b>Bernalillo</b>	15c. CITY, TOWN OR LOCATION <b>Albuquerque</b>	15d. STREET AND NUMBER <b>221 Washington NE</b>
16. FATHER—NAME First Middle Last <b>Everett Wilson</b>		17. MOTHER—MAIDEN NAME First Middle Last <b>Rose Lino</b>	
18a. INFORMANT—NAME (Type or print) <b>Donald E. Wilson</b>		18b. MAILING ADDRESS Street/RFD No. City/Town State Zip <b>724 Washington NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110</b>	
19a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL, OTHER—Specify <b>Burial</b>		19b. CEMETERY / CREMATORY—Name City/Town State <b>Gate of Heaven Albuquerque, NM</b>	
20a. FUNERAL SERVICE LICENSEE or Authorized Rep.—Signature <i>[Signature]</i>		20b. FACILITY—NAME City/Town State <b>Fitzgerald and Son P.O. Box 796, Albuquerque, NM 87103</b>	
21a. CERTIFIER SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>		21b. DATE SIGNED (mo, day, yr) <b>9/18/81</b>	21c. HOUR OF DEATH <b>1446 hrs M.</b>
22a. CERTIFIER NAME AND ADDRESS—Type or print <b>Dr. Armin M. Rembe M.D. 500 Walter NE Suite 409 Albuquerque, N.M. 87102-2588</b>		22b. NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IF OTHER THAN CERTIFIER—Type or print <b>Christine H. Wees</b>	
23. PART I—IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Enter only one cause per line for a, b, and c) <b>MULTIPLE MYELOMA</b>		23. PART II—OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS—Contributing to death but not related to cause listed in PART I.	
24a. WAS RECENT SURGICAL PROCEDURE PERFORMED? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		24b. IF YES, SPECIFY TYPE OF PROCEDURE	
25a. ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, HOMICIDE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		25b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED	
26a. INJURY AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		26b. PLACE OF INJURY—Specify home, farm, street, etc.	
27a. DATE OF PROCEDURE		27b. AUTOPSY <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
27c. HOURS OF INJURY		27d. IF YES, were findings considered in determining cause of death? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
27e. DATE OF INJURY (mo, day, yr)		27f. IF YES, estimated length of pregnancy	
27g. LOCATION Street/RFD No. City/Town State		27h. HOUR OF INJURY	
27i. DATE OF INJURY (mo, day, yr)		27j. PLACE OF INJURY—Specify home, farm, street, etc.	

**815918**

VITAL RECORDS

2533714

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORD  
 This is a true and exact reproduction of all or part of the document officially registered and filed with the New Mexico Vital Records and Health Statistics, Public Health Division, Department of Health.

Donna Dasey  
State Registrar

DATE ISSUED **June 25, 2007**

WARNING: IT IS ILLEGAL TO ALTER, COPY OR COUNTERFEIT THIS CERTIFICATE.  
 ADVERTENCIA: ES ILLEGAL ATERAR, COPIAR O FALSIFICAR ESTE CERTIFICADO.

Leonard Wilson was born in Denver, CO, in 1904. He was an only child. His parents were divorced and his father left when he was only two. His mother had a series of husbands and he practically supported himself from an early age. He and Elizabeth Trinaistich were both working for the Trinidad Creamery Company in Trinidad, CO, when they married in 1926. They lived in several towns in Colorado and New Mexico before settling for good in Albuquerque, NM, in 1947. He died in Albuquerque in 1981 at the age of 77.

Len had to get a job at the end of his third year of high school in 1922 to help support his mother. (He had a number of part-time jobs before that.) I think his stepfather, Edward Cookingham, might have died at that time. (I tried to find out when he died, but the State of Colorado was unable to find a death record for him.) Len got a job at the Trinidad Creamery and went through a number of jobs there, starting at the bottom and rising to manager of sales and credits for New Mexico, Arizona, and southern California. Betty was also a bookkeeper there. Two of their children, Donald and Dorothy, were born during this period in Trinidad, in 1927 and 1930. Jack Jacobsen, owner of the Creamery, became interested in radio as a way to get his pricing for cream out to the farmers much faster. Len was already an active amateur radio operator ("ham"), so Jacobsen approached him about building a radio station. This inquiry led to building radio station KGIW in 1928. Its first commercial broadcast was in February 1929. The station did not pan out to Jacobsen's satisfaction and he wanted to shut it down. Len was a believer in this new technology and had saved up enough money that he offered to buy the station from Jacobsen, which he did at the end of October 1929. Len and Betty remained good friends with the Jacobsen family for as long as they lived.

In 1932, Len moved KGIW to Alamosa, CO (several mines in the Trinidad area closed, causing a big hit to the local economy). He continued to own KGIW until 1939, but it was being run by employees while Len went on to other projects. He started radio station KIDW in Lamar, CO, in 1932, sold it after only a couple of months, but then returned and managed it under lease from 1935 to 1938. He owned and managed KICA in Clovis, NM, from 1933 through 1935, when he sold it because it was too far from his other stations in Alamosa and Lamar. He owned and operated KOKO in La Junta, CO, from 1937 to 1946. (The KOKO letters had previously been used by the Navy. A few years after Len got them, the Navy wanted the call letters back but Len would not give them up. The Navy got them back after he sold the station.) Len traveled a lot managing all these stations. His family moved to Clovis at the end of 1933 or beginning of 1934, to Lamar in 1936 and then to La Junta in 1937. Their third child, James, was born in 1939 in La Junta. Also, Betty's sister Mary died in 1937 shortly after her son John was born. Betty and Len took in the baby and raised him with their own children. Mary's young daughter Elsie (six years old at the time of her mother's death) lived with them for a while as well.

Len was in the Naval Reserve from 1930 to 1934 as a radioman first class. After war started in Europe, Len wanted badly to help with the war effort. Starting in 1940, well before the U.S. entered the war after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he was trying to join the British trans-Atlantic ferry service or the Royal Canadian Air Force as a radio operator or pilot. (Len had taken up flying in the late 1930s and had a private license.) They wouldn't accept non-British citizens as radio operators on the trans-Atlantic ferry service. In early 1941, he tried to fly up to Regina or Winnipeg to see about joining the RCAF Signal Corps, but couldn't get permission to fly across into Canada.

Len was on his ham radio with a friend who was on a ship at Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese bombing. Len broadcast the news about the bombing before anyone else knew, and then got a visit from the government, wondering how he knew about it!

After Pearl Harbor, his efforts to join the war effort switched to U.S. possibilities. He got a position as an assistant intercept officer with the FCC in Los Angeles in March 1942, thinking that Betty would be able to run KOKO for him while he was away. However, this didn't work out and he had to go back to La

Junta after only a month or two. He got a position as an aircraft communicator at the La Junta airport after that, while also continuing to manage KOKO. He wanted to join the U.S. Army Air Corps, but they rejected his application because of his eyesight and physical condition. At some point he did start flying for the Civil Air Patrol; I'm not sure when he started with them, but he was promoted to captain in the CAP in February 1946.

Len sold KOKO in the fall of 1946. After selling the station he stayed on, managing it for the new owners while he started looking for something else to do. During this search he had occasion to talk to Larry Walker, who owned the L. B. Walker Radio Co. in Pueblo, CO. He had been a customer of Walker's for a number of years, buying electronic parts for his various radio stations. Walker suggested opening a branch somewhere. (At this time Walker had no other branches. He eventually opened several other stores in Colorado.) They decided to open a branch in Albuquerque, NM, which resulted in the opening of the L. B. Walker Radio Co. in Albuquerque on 6 May 1947. There were originally seven people involved in the store: Len and Betty Wilson, Larry and Mildred Walker, Bill Thomas and his wife, and Margaret Johnson. Bill had worked at the station in Alamosa and Margaret had worked at KOKO. After a few years, Walker sold his interest to Len because he wanted to open a store in Denver, which he did in 1952 or '53. The name of the business was shortened to Walker Radio Company. Margaret and Bill worked at Walker Radio for many years, but they eventually sold their shares to Len as well, leaving Walker Radio Company owned entirely by the family. (There was a rider on the stock giving Len the first right to purchase the stock, which he did.) Years later, after Len's death, the name of the business was further changed to Walker Electronic Supply Company. Even though Larry Walker was involved in the business for only a few years, it continued to carry his name because of concern that customers would be confused if the name were changed. Len ran Walker Radio until the time of his death. His son Don joined him in the business in 1958 and carried on after his death. Betty was also active in the business, acting as the bookkeeper and president of the company for many years.

Through all of this, Len remained active in amateur radio. His final call letters were W5NVT. His original two-letter call was lost during WWII, when all hams were shut down and the government bought all their equipment. In his younger years, he was also quite an outdoorsman and loved to fish. In addition, he was active in the Knights of Columbus fraternal organization for many years.

Transcriptions of several letters from and to Len can be seen at <https://archive.org/details/FamilyLetters> and <https://archive.org/details/LEWinfo>.

#### 1910 census

Image 12 on Ancestry.com (District 0282, Precinct 19, Weld County, Colorado)

Listed as Lenard E. Sickler, age 5, born in Colorado, father born in Iowa [this isn't right], mother born in Colorado. Living with his mother and stepfather, Rose and Elijah J. Sickler.

#### 1920 census

Image 6 on Ancestry.com (District 136, Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado)

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 16, born in Colorado, both parents born in Colorado [this isn't right]. Attended school this year. Living with his mother and stepfather, Rose and Edward Cookingham. They were living at the City Jail and his stepfather was the jailer.

#### 1930 census

Image 6 on Ancestry.com (District 54, Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado)

Listed as Leonard E. Wilson. Address, 410 South Oak St. Renting home, \$25 per month. They had a radio set. Age 25, age 22 at marriage. Born in Colorado, both parents born in Colorado [this is not

correct]. Occupation, radio-station operator. Not a U.S. military veteran. Household consisted of Leonard E., Elizabeth, and Donald E. Wilson; Ernest Trinaistich [Elizabeth's brother]; and a servant, Mildred Lenich. This provides another link between Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) and Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson).

1940 census

Image 23 on Ancestry.com (Districts 45-9, La Junta, Otero County, Colorado)

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 35. Address, 502 Cimarron Ave. Renting home, \$35 per month.

Completed three years of high school. Lived in Clovis, New Mexico, in 1935. Born in Colorado, both parents born in Colorado [this is not correct.] Occupation, radio-station manager. Worked 52 weeks in 1939. Income in 1939, \$950. Received \$50 or more from sources other than money wages or salary. Not a U.S. military veteran. Household consisted of Leonard, Elizabeth, Donald, Dorothy, and Jimmie Wilson; Johnny and Elsie Malovich [children of Elizabeth's deceased sister, Mary]; and a housekeeper, Katie Porter. This provides another link between Generation 2 (Donald Everett Wilson) and Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson).

1950 census

Images 15 and 16 on Ancestry.com (District 1-19e, Albuquerque, Bernalillo Co., New Mexico)

Listed as Leonard E. Wilson, age 46. Address, 221 N. Washington. Born in Colorado. Occupation, manager of wholesale radio sales Co. Worked 65 hours last week. Household consisted of Leonard E., Elizabeth M., and James L. Wilson, and John M. Malovich (nephew).

1960 census

Albuquerque, NM

1970 census

Albuquerque, NM

#### 4. Great-Grandfather – Horace Everett Wilson

**Summary:**

Born: 1 Aug 1882 in Marshall, Missouri

Married Rose Lino on 17 Apr 1903 (both age 20) in Golden, Colorado

Divorced: 4 Jan 1907 (ages 24 & 23) in Denver, Colorado

Married Jennie Marie Nyman on 23 Sep 1909 (ages 27 & 23) in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

Died: 11 May 1943 (age 60) in Riverside, California

Buried: Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside, California

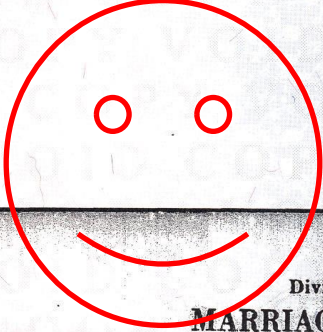
Known residences: Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, Washington, California



Marriage record for Horace E. Wilson and Rose Lino, married 17 Apr 1903 in Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado. Horace age over 21 [actually, 20 years 8 months] and Rose age over 20 [actually, 20 years 1 month].

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

**STATE OF COLORADO**  
HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW WATERMARK



State of Colorado  
Division of Vital Statistics  
**MARRIAGE RECORD REPORT** No. 2485

County Jefferson

Husband's Name Wilson, Horace E. Age Over 21 Race Unknown

Wife's Name Lino, Rose Age Over 20 Race Unknown

Place of Marriage Golden, Colorado Date Apr. 17, 1903

Name of Official who Performed Ceremony Friend, William Nat.

Title Minister Address Golden, Colorado

Reported by Meradith L. Benoit

Address Box 32A, Rt. 2, Mt. Morrison

100M-4-1-25-BRADFORD-ROBINSON-DENVER

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD WHICH IS IN MY CUSTODY.

DATE ISSUED OCT 17 2002 *Ronald S Hyman*  
RONALD S. HYMAN  
STATE REGISTRAR

SL  
1789197

Do not accept unless prepared on security paper with engraved border displaying the Colorado state seal and signature of the Registrar. PENALTY BY LAW, Section 25-2-118, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1982, if any person alters, uses, attempts to use or furnishes to another for deceptive use any vital statistics record. NOT VALID IF PHOTOCOPIED.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Divorce record for Horace E. Wilson and Rose Wilson, divorced 4 Jan 1907 in Denver County, Colorado. Note that Leonard is listed as a minor child. Marriage date and place are also shown: 17 Apr 1903 in Golden, Colorado. This provides another link between Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson) and Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson).

**CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD**

**STATE OF COLORADO**  
HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW WATERMARK

State of Colorado  
Division of Vital Statistics  
**DIVORCE RECORD REPORT**

County DENVER

Plaintiff's Name WILSON, ROSE  
 Defendant's Name WILSON, HORACE E.  
 Place of Marriage GOLDEN, COLO Date 4-17-1903  
 Minor Children:  
 (If Necessary Use Reverse Side)

Name	Age
<u>Leonard</u>	<u>NS</u>

Date of Decree 1-4-1907  
 Court Dist. Div. 1 Docket No. 41868  
 Wife's Maiden Name if resumed under decree \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reported by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

88M-6-40-HIRSCHFELD PRESS, DENVER

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD WHICH IS IN MY CUSTODY.

DATE ISSUED OCT 17 2002 *Ronald S Hyman*  
 RONALD S. HYMAN  
 STATE REGISTRAR

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ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE



Marriage license and certificate for Everett Wilson and Jennie Nyman, married 23 Sep 1909 in Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho. They are both listed as residents of Denver, Denver County, Colorado.

41424

## MARRIAGE LICENSE

STATE OF IDAHO, }  
County of Kootenai, } ss.

KNOW ALL MEN by this certificate that any regularly ordained Minister of the Gospel, authorized by the rights and usages of the Church or denomination of Christians, Hebrews or religious body of which he may be a member, or any Judge or Justice of the Peace, or competent officer to whom this may come, he not knowing of any lawful impediment thereto, is hereby authorized and empowered to solemnize the rites of matrimony between Everett Wilson of Denver of the County of Denver and State of Colorado and Jennie Nyman of Denver of the County of Denver and State of Colorado.

and to certify the same to said parties, or either of them, under his hand and seal, in his ministerial or official capacity, and thereupon he is required to return this certificate in form following, as hereto annexed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County, at  
COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, this 23 day of September A. D. 1909  
J.H. Quarles  
County Recorder.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

---

## MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

I, James E. Russell a Justice of the Peace residing at Coeur d'Alene in the County of Kootenai, in the State of Idaho, do certify that, in accordance with the authority on me conferred by the above license, I did on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September in the year A. D. 1909 at Coeur d'Alene in the County of Kootenai, in the State of Idaho, solemnize the rites of matrimony between Everett Wilson of Denver in the County of Denver of the State of Colorado and Jennie Nyman of Denver of the County of Denver of the State of Colorado in the presence of Seta Peterson and Peter Peterson

WITNESS my hand and seal at the County aforesaid, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September A. D. 1909

In the presence of  
Seta Peterson  
Peter Peterson

James E. Russell, [SEAL]  
Justice of the Peace

Filed for Record at the request of James E. Russell on the 24 day of Sept. 1909 at 9<sup>20</sup> o'clock A.M.

J.H. Quarles  
County Recorder.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

\$8.00  
Jul 1.

STATE OF IDAHO }  
COUNTY OF KOOTENAI } ss.  
APR 12 2007  
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL NOW ON FILE FOR RECORD IN THIS OFFICE IN Kootenai BK 5 PG 544  
DANIEL J. ENGLISH  
County Recorder

Death Certificate for Harry E. Wilson, died 11 May 1943 in Riverside, Riverside County, California, en route to Community Hospital, of pulmonary hemorrhage due to pulmonary tuberculosis. Occupation, electrician at Food Machinery, which is the name of a company. Wife Jennie Marie Wilson. Born 1 Aug 1882 in Missouri. Buried at Olivewood Cemetery. Residence 3199 Chestnut St., Riverside, Riverside County, California. Lived 20 years in this community, 25 years in California. Informant was Clarence R. Wilson [his son].

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. FULL NAME Harry E. Wilson 3541 DISTRICT No. 3201 REGISTRAR'S No. 237

2. PLACE OF DEATH: (A) COUNTY Riverside  
(B) CITY OR TOWN Riverside  
(C) NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION enroute to Community Hospital  
(D) LENGTH OF STAY: (SPECIFY WHETHER YEARS, MONTHS OR DAYS)  
IN HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_  
IN THIS COMMUNITY 20 yrs IN CALIFORNIA 25 yrs  
(E) IF FOREIGN BORN, HOW LONG IN THE U. S. A. \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS

3. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:  
(A) STATE California  
(B) COUNTY Riverside  
(C) CITY OR TOWN Riverside  
(D) STREET No. 3199 Chestnut St.

20. DATE OF DEATH, MONTH May DAY 11 YEAR 1943 HOUR 10 MINUTE 40 P.M.

3. (A) IF FEMALE, MARRIED OR DIVORCED NO 3. (F) SOCIAL SECURITY No. 553-05-2606

4. SEX Male 5. COLOR OR RACE White 6. (A) SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED MARRIED

6. (B) NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE Jennie Marie Wilson 6. (C) AGE OF HUSBAND OR WIFE IF ALIVE Unk. YEARS

7. BIRTHDATE OF DECEASED: August 1, 1882

9. AGE 60 Yrs. 9 Mos. 10 Days

9. BIRTHPLACE Missouri

10. USUAL OCCUPATION Electrician

11. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS Food Machinery

12. NAME Unknown

13. BIRTHPLACE Unknown

14. MAIDEN NAME Unknown

15. BIRTHPLACE Unknown

16. (A) INFORMANT Clarence R. Wilson  
(B) ADDRESS Riverside, California

17. (A) Burial (B) DATE 5/14/43  
(C) PLACE Olivewood Cemetery

18. (A) EMBALMER'S SIGNATURE John A. Hayford LICENSE No. 2765  
(B) FUNERAL DIRECTOR E. H. Preston Funeral Home  
ADDRESS Riverside, California  
BY C. W. Preston

19. (A) 5-14-43 (B) W. F. Boyd REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE

21. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED THE DECEASED FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ THAT I LAST SAW HIM ALIVE \_\_\_\_\_ AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE.

22. CORONER'S CERTIFICATE I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HELD A POSTMORTEM INVESTIGATION ON THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND FURNISHED SUCH ACTION THAT DECEASED CAME TO THE DEATH ON THE DATE AND HOUR STATED ABOVE.

IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH  
Pulmonary Hemorrhage  
Pulmonary Tuberculosis

OTHER CONDITIONS (INCLUDE PREGNANT WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DEATH)  
Arteriosclerosis of the Arteries

MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATIONS \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF OPERATION \_\_\_\_\_ UNDERLINE THE CAUSE TO WHICH DEATH SHOULD BE CHARGED CRITICALLY  
As above 5-11-43 Frank H. H. H.

23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES, ALL IN THE FOLLOWING:  
(A) ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, OR HOMICIDE \_\_\_\_\_ (B) DATE OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_  
(C) WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR \_\_\_\_\_ CITY OR TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(D) DID INJURY OCCUR IN OR ABOUT HOME, ON FARM, IN INDUSTRIAL PLACE, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE? \_\_\_\_\_ WHILE AT WORK? \_\_\_\_\_  
(E) MEANS OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_

24. CORONER'S OR PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE Frank H. H. H. ADDRESS Riverside, Calif. DATE 5-11-43

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

This is to certify that this document is a true copy of the official record filed with the Office of Vital Records.

Teresito Trinidad 07 MAY 23 AM 8:59  
TERESITA TRINIDAD DATE ISSUED  
STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS

I 00165394

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying seal and signature of Registrar.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Horace Everett Wilson was presumably named for his uncle of the same name; he seems to have gone mostly by Everett in his younger years and Harry when he was older. He was born in Marshall, MO, in 1882, but grew up in Denver, CO, where his family moved when he was still very young. He married Rose Lino in 1903 and they had one child (Leonard) in 1904, before divorcing in 1907. I know little of the following years, but he apparently moved to the Northwest, where he married Jennie Nyman in Coeur D'Alene, ID, in 1909. They had known each other in Denver and are both listed as residents of Denver on their marriage license, but I don't know the details of how they got together and married. Harry and Jennie later moved to California, but their first two children (Leonie and Nyman) were born in Washington in 1916 and 1918. They were in Los Angeles for the 1920 census, and the twins (Clarence and Harry Jr.) were born in Santa Monica in 1922. Harry and Jennie eventually moved to Riverside, CA, and spent the rest of their lives there, though Harry was away from home a lot in his job as an electrician for the power company. He died in 1943 at the age of 60.

There is a World War I draft registration card for him on Ancestry.com (listed as Everett Wilson). It gives a physical description: medium height, slender build, blue eyes, brown hair. It is dated 12 Sep 1918, only a couple of months before the end of the war, so I don't know if he actually served or for how long if so. [Note that he and Jennie had one child and another on the way at that time.] His entry in the 1930 census says that he was not a veteran of the U.S. military mobilized for any war or expedition, but that does not necessarily rule out service after WW I. Jennie is listed as his wife, and they were living at 1528 21 South (should this be 21<sup>st</sup> Street South?), Seattle, King County, WA, and his occupation is listed as drayage, which I suppose means he was a truck driver (unless they were still using horse carts).

7  
REGISTRATION CARD

1 **Everett** **Wilson**  
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS:  
**1528-21 S. Seattle King Wash**  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

3 Age in Years **36** 4 Date of Birth **August 12<sup>th</sup> 1882**  
Month Day Year

RACE

5  White 6  Negro 7  Oriental 8  Citizen 9  Indian

U. S. CITIZEN ALIEN

10  Native Born 11  Naturalized 12  Citizen by Father's Naturalization  
B. Lee Registrar's Majority 13  Declarant 14  Non-declarant

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?

16 PRESENT OCCUPATION **Drayage** 17 EMPLOYER'S NAME **Self**

18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS:  
**1205-6 Ave. S. Seattle King Wash**  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

19 NEAREST RELATIVE Name **Jennie M. Wilson - wife**  
 Address **1528-21 S. Seattle King Wash**  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE

P. M. G. O. **Everett Wilson**  
Form No. 1 (1918) (Signature of Registrant) (OVER)

46-1-1918 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT			BUILD			COLOR OF EYES	COLOR OF HAIR
Tall	Medium	Short	Slender	Medium	Stout		
21	22 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23	24 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	26	Blue	Brown

22 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he obviously physically disqualified? (Specify.)  
**None**

23 I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

**Benjamin Pinous**  
(Signature of Registrar)

Date of Registration **Sept. 12 - 1918**

Local Board for  
 DIVISION No. 10, Seattle,  
 Transportation Bldg.,  
 Seattle, Wash.  
 (STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box.)

63-612 (OVER)

There is also a World War II draft registration card for him on Ancestry.com (listed as Harry Everett Wilson). It gives his birth as 1 Aug 1882 in Marshall, Mo. Once again, Jennie was listed, though it doesn't specifically say she was his wife. They were living at 3199 Chestnut St., Riverside, CA, and he was working for the California Electric Power Company in Riverside.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)		
SERIAL NUMBER U. 2181	1. NAME (Print) Harry Everett Wilson <small>(First) (Middle) (Last)</small>	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 3199 Chestnut St. Riverside, Calif. <small>(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)</small>		
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]		
3. MAILING ADDRESS Same <small>(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)</small>		
4. TELEPHONE 2168 <small>(Exchange) (Number)</small>	5. AGE IN YEARS 59 DATE OF BIRTH Aug. 1, 1882 <small>(Month) (Day) (Year)</small>	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Marshall <small>(Town or county) (State or country)</small>
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Jennie M. Wilson, 3199 Chestnut St. Riverside Calif.		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS California Electric Power Company, Riverside Calif.		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS <small>(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)</small>		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
D. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42)	(over)	16-21630-2 Harry E. Wilson <small>(Registrant's signature)</small>

A newspaper clipping from the Riverside Press sent by Leonie Rinker (Horace's older sister) to Leonard Wilson (Horace's son) after Horace's death:

WILSON—In Riverside, Calif., May 11, 1943, Harry E. Wilson, aged 60 years. Late resident of 3199 Chestnut street, Riverside, Calif. Beloved husband of Mrs. Jennie M. Wilson of Riverside, Calif. Loved father of Clarence R. Wilson of Riverside, Mrs. Leonie Trickey of Maywood, Calif., Harry E. Wilson, Jr., of the U.S. Army and Nyman A. Wilson of San Diego, U.S. Navy, and Leonard Everett Wilson of Denver, Colorado. Also survived by three grandchildren, Patricia Marie Trickey, Lawrence Robert Wilson and Clarence Ralph Wilson. Funeral services will be conducted in the E. H. Preston Funeral Home chapel Friday, May 14th at 2:30 o'clock. Interment in Olive-wood cem.

This provides another link between Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson) and Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson).

A letter from Leonie Trickey (Horace's daughter) to Leonard and Betty Wilson after Horace's death said that "He just coughed and fell off his work bench dead. Mother said he had been feeling better than he has for a long time, and Tuesday morning when he went to work he was feeling good, and by 4:30 he was gone. They say he even sat with the fellows and ate his lunch, but Leonard, he really looked terrible: just skin over his bones." In agreement with his death certificate, Margaret Henry (Horace's granddaughter) told me that he was working at Food Machinery. She said that her father Clarence was also working there at the time.

I first learned about Horace and earlier Wilsons by a letter from Catherine McGrew and her mother, Leonie Rinker. Leonie was Horace's older sister, and therefore a daughter of Leonard Wilson and a granddaughter of William Adair Wilson. The letter says that Horace Everett Wilson was born in Marshall, Missouri, on 1 Aug 1882 and Leonard Wilson was born in Marshall, Missouri, on 13 Jan 1846. Horace married Rose Lino about 1903, Leonard married Mary Wood Sandidge, and William Adair Wilson married Mary Elizabeth Reeves. This provides a link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson), a link between Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson) and Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson), and another link between Generation 3 (Leonard Everett Wilson) and Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson). (Note that I doubt it's true we are related to James Wilson, signer of the Declaration of Independence; other comments on the letter are [here](#).)

November 16, 1966

Dear Michael,

Mother received your letter today and was delighted to hear from you. However, as you may or may not know, she is ninety-three years old and cannot see to write. She does not have a complete genealogy of the Wilson family, but has asked me to send you the following information hoping that it will help with your school assignment.

The Wilsons lived near Glasgow, Scotland and migrated to the new land before the American Revolution, fighting with the colonists in that war. James Wilson, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was a brother of a many times great grandfather of yours. A biography published in 1956, "James Wilson, Founding Father, 1742 - 1798" by Charles Page Smith gives much of the credit for writing the Declaration of Independence to James Wilson, rather than to Thomas Jefferson.

From this generation until that of your great, great, great grandfather, mother does not recall the names.

Your great, great, great grandfather, William Adair Wilson lived in Augusta County, Virginia, and moved to Kentucky and later to Marshall, Missouri. His wife was Mary Elizabeth Reeves, the daughter of Benjamin Harrison Reeves, who was appointed by the President of the United States to survey the Santa Fe trail from Independence, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico, when it was built. William Adair & Mary Elizabeth Wilson were the parents of nine children, seven of whom were Catherine, Benjamin, Leonard, Annette, Adair, Byrd, Horace Everett. During the Civil War, William Adair Wilson was an officer in the Union Army. His friends and neighbors who sympathized and fought with the Confederacy made so many threats against his life (even coming to his home with ropes to hang him) and also threatened the lives of his wife and children, that to protect his family he moved them into Ohio for the duration of the Civil War.

William Adair Wilson's son, Leonard was your great, great grandfather. He was born in Marshall, Missouri, January 13, 1846, and fought with the Union Army at the end of the Civil War. He married Mary Wood Sandidge who was born in Marshall, Missouri, September 12, 1850. Two of their sons died in infancy, but they were the parents of Leonie Wilson and Horace Everett Wilson. The family moved to Colorado in 1884 and to Denver in 1885. (It is interesting to know that the first Sandidge came to this country from Ireland, also before the Revolutionary War. She was the daughter of an Irish nobleman and she eloped with a commoner.)

Your great grandfather, Horace Everett Wilson, was born in Marshall, Missouri, August 1, 1882. He married Rose Lino of Denver, Colorado, about 1903. They were the parents of one son, Leonard, who is your grandfather.

We are sorry we do not have more detailed information for you. However, mother says that many of your ancestors are written up in the book, "History of Missouri", which is probably available in the Public Library.

Mother and I would both like to meet you sometime and hope that if you ever come to Denver you will come to see us.

With love from mother and myself,

*Catherine M. Lewis*

1900 census

Listed as Horace E. Wilson. Age 17, born in August 1882. Born in Missouri, both parents born in Missouri. Attended school (9 months). Living with his parents in Denver, Arapahoe County, Colorado.

1910 census

Image 14 on Ancestry.com (District 0133, Elk Township, Spokane County, Washington)

Listed as Evertt Wilson. Renting a home with three other men. Age 28, born in Missouri, both parents born in Missouri. Single. Occupation, laborer in a saw mill.

This is a good candidate for him, but I can't be certain since he's not with a family so there are no other names to check for consistency. He was married to Jennie by this time, but maybe they were living apart for some reason. Note that Elk Twp. and Spokane are only about 30 miles from Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, where they were married in 1909.

1920 census

Image 7 on Ancestry.com (District 190, Los Angeles Assembly District 63, Los Angeles County, California)

Listed as Everett Wilson. Renting home. Age 37, born in Missouri, both parents born in United States. Occupation, electrician. Household consisted of Everett, Jennie M., Leonie E., and Nyman A. Wilson.

1930 census

Image 25 on Ancestry.com (District 56, Riverside, Riverside County, California)

Listed as Harry E. Wilson. Address, 3882 Tallonay [?] St. Renting home, \$85 per month. They had a radio set. Age 47, age 24 at first marriage [this isn't right]. Born in Missouri, both parents born in United States. Occupation, electrician for the power company. Not a U.S. military veteran. Household consisted of Harry E., Jennie M., Leonie, Nyman, Harry E. [Jr.], and Clarence Wilson.

1940 census

Image 10 on Ancestry.com (Districts 33-50, Riverside, Riverside County, California)

Listed as Harry E. Wilson, age 56, born in Missouri. Address, 4044 Lennard [?] Place. Renting home, \$25 per month. Completed four years of college [?]. Lived in Arlington, Riverside County, California, in 1935. Occupation, electrician for electric-power company. Worked 52 weeks in 1939. Income in 1939, \$1508 [?]. Household consisted of Harry E., Jennie M., Nyman A., Harry E. Jr., and Clarence R. Wilson.

## 5. Great-Great-Grandfather – Leonard Wilson

### Summary:

Born: 13 Jan 1846 in Marshall, Missouri

Married Mary Wood (Mollie) Sandidge on 6 Oct 1868 (ages 22 & 18) in Johnson County, Missouri

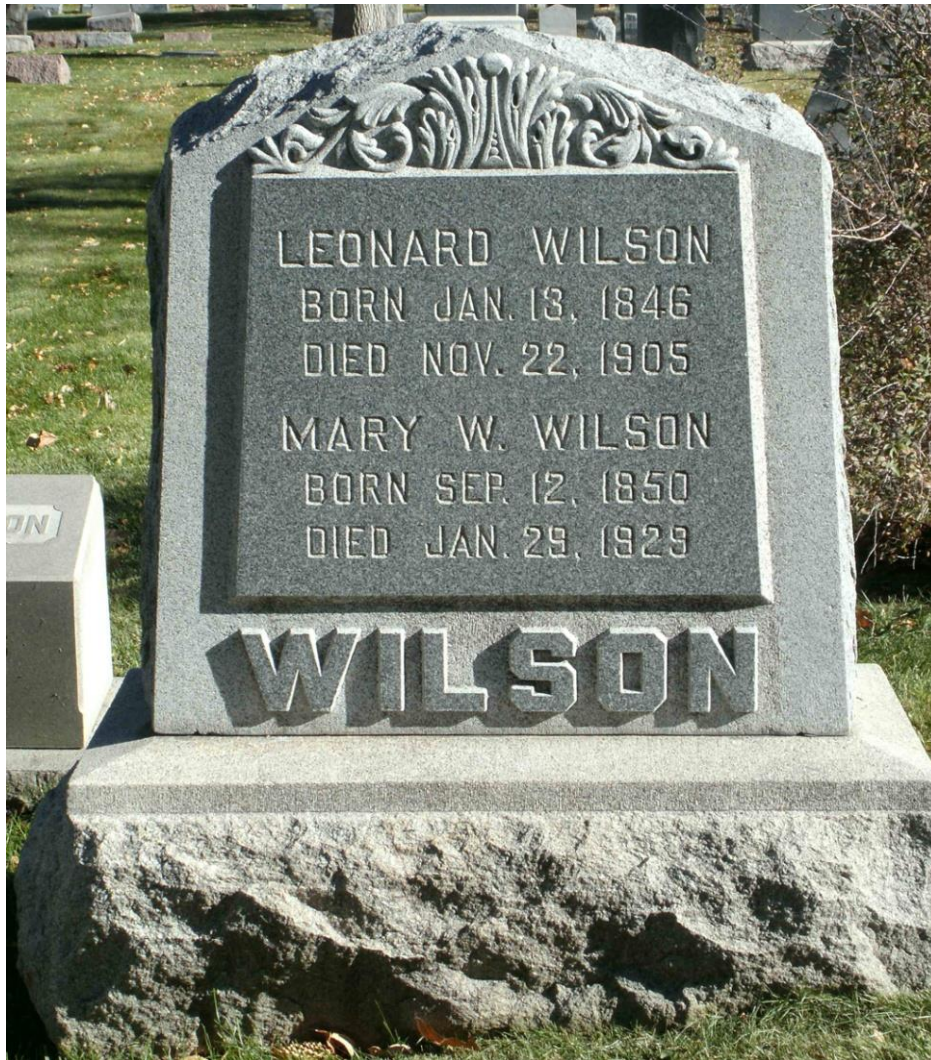
Died: 22 Nov 1905 (age 59) in Denver, Colorado

Buried: Fairmount Cemetery, Denver, Colorado

Known residences: Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado







Death Certificate for Leonard Wilson, died 22 Nov 1905 at 1641 Franklin [this was his home] in Denver, Denver County, Colorado. Can't read cause of death. Occupation, book keeper. Married, but wife's name not listed. Born 13 Jan 1846 in Missouri. Father William A. Wilson, born in Virginia. Mother Mary E. Reeves, born in Kentucky. Buried at Fairmont [Fairmount] Cemetery. Residence Denver, Colorado, lived 9 years at place of death. Informant was Adair Wilson [his brother]. This provides another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson).

**CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD**  
**STATE OF COLORADO**  
 HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW WATERMARK

**DEATH CERTIFICATE** File No. 7851

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, DENVER, COLO., WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER THE BURIAL OR OTHER DISPOSITION OF THE BODY.

Place of Death: Denver Full Name of Deceased: Leonard Wilson  
 County of Denver Special Information for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents: None  
 City or Town of Denver Former or Usual Residence: None  
 Street and Number 1641 Franklin How Long at Place of Death? 9 years  
 State of Colorado.  
 If in Hospital or Institution, give its name:

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS	MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
Single Married <u>Married</u> Widowed or Divorced Date of Birth <u>January 13 1846</u> Age <u>59</u> Years <u>10</u> Months <u>9</u> Days Occupation (if none so state) <u>Book Keeper</u> Birthplace <u>Mo.</u> State or Country Name of Father <u>William A. Wilson</u> Birthplace of Father <u>Virginia</u> State or Country Maiden Name of Mother <u>Mary E. Reeves</u> Birthplace of Mother <u>Ky.</u> State or Country The above stated personal particulars are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. (Informant) <u>Adair Wilson</u> (Address) <u>Lawrence St. Denver</u> Place of Burial <u>Fairmont</u> Date of Burial <u>Nov 20 1905</u> Undertaker <u>C. M. Miller</u> Address <u>1714 Curtis</u>	Date of Death <u>Nov 22 1905</u> Sex <u>Male</u> Race or Color <u>White</u> I Herby Certify that death occurred, on the date etc. of above, at <u>1641 Franklin</u> . To the best of my knowledge and belief the cause of death was as follows: Chief Cause <u>Subcardioid</u> Where Contracted <u>None</u> Duration Contributory (if any) <u>Subcardioid</u> Where Contracted <u>None</u> Duration (Signed) <u>Edith Wilson</u> (Address) <u>684 - 17th St.</u> N. E. of District (Date) <u>11-28-1905</u> Permission is hereby granted to <u>bury</u> the body of the person above described. (Signed) <u>DL'ER</u> HEALTH OFFICER. (Address) <u>Denver</u> (Date) <u>1905</u>

OVER

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD WHICH IS IN MY CUSTODY.

DATE ISSUED SEP 24 2002 Ronald S. Hyman  
RONALD S. HYMAN  
STATE REGISTRAR

Do not accept unless prepared on security paper with engraved border displaying the Colorado state seal and signature of the Registrar. PENALTY BY LAW, Section 25-2-118, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1982, if any person alters, uses, attempts to use or furnishes to another for deceptive use any vital statistics record. NOT VALID IF PHOTOCOPIED.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Following is a portion of a page from the Johnson County, Missouri, marriage book, from Ancestry.com, showing the marriage between Leonard Wilson and Miss Mary Saundidge [Sandidge] on 6 Oct 1868.

Leonard Wilson & Miss Mary Saundidge. This is to certify that I solemnized the rite of matrimony between Leonard Wilson and Miss Mary Saundidge on the 6th day of Oct 1868. Joshua Parker, M.D. Recorder. The foregoing files for record was 24th 1868. C. Russell

It is a little mystery to me that Leonard and Mary were married in Johnson County rather than Saline County; could they have eloped or something? One of Mary's brothers, Micajah, fought on the Confederate side in the Civil War, whereas the Wilsons were on the Union side; could that have something to do with it? (Micajah was the only one of Mary's brothers of the right age to fight in the war, by the way; her father, John Wood Sandidge, had already passed away before the war.)

*History of Saline County, Missouri*, Missouri Historical Co., St. Louis, 1881, p. 754:

LEONARD WILSON, postmaster, P. O., Marshall. Mr. Wilson is a native of this state, also of this county, and was born in Marshall on the 13th of January, 1846. At the age of fifteen he commenced clerking in the store of Q. O. Striker, in Marshall, and from 1862 to 1864 he was deputy postmaster of Marshall. In 1865 he was deputy circuit clerk. In 1870 he was engaged in the grocery business in Marshall, which he continued to 1873, when he was appointed by President Grant, postmaster of Marshall, re-appointed in 1877 by President Hayes, and in 1881 by President Garfield. In 1864 he served in Capt. Bingham's company E. M. M. [enrolled Missouri militia – Union], and was taken prisoner at Glasgow, which ended his military service. On the 6th of October, 1868, he was married to Miss Mary Sandidge, daughter of John Sandidge, of Saline county, and has had three children, only one, Leonie, living.

In 1870, Leonard ran to succeed his brother Ben as circuit clerk, but he was defeated in the election (*History of Saline County*, p. 365).

From Find A Grave (listing for Leonard W. [sic] Wilson):

From a 1905 Nance County, Nebraska, newspaper clipping file, transcribed by Linda Berney:

Brother of Prominent Denver Jurist Dead -

The following notice of the death of Leonard Wilson is taken from the Denver Post. Deceased was well known to many of our readers, having been in business here with his brother H. E. Wilson a number of years:

Leonard Wilson of 1641 Franklin street, brother of Adair Wilson, formerly of the court of appeals, died yesterday afternoon of a complication of kidney and heart troubles.

He came to Denver from Marshall, Mo., in 1884, and for the past seven years had been a clerk in the Western Union Telegraph office. He is survived by his widow,; a daughter, Mrs. J. E. Rinker of Cripple Creek, a son, A. G. [sic – should be H. E.] Wilson, employed at the Denver Union depot and two brothers besides Judge Wilson.

It is likely that Leonard was named for his uncle, Abiel Leonard. It is even possible that his full name was Abiel Leonard Wilson, but I have never seen that anywhere. Both of the children of Leonard and Mary Wilson were born in Marshall, Missouri; Leonie in 1873 and Horace in 1882. According to the McGrew letter, they moved to Colorado in 1884, Denver in 1885. From the short obituary above, he lived for a time in Nance County, NE; perhaps that was between Missouri and Colorado. Brother Horace apparently stayed there longer; he was married in Nance County in 1886. Alternatively, perhaps Leonard did business in Nance County when he was in the grocery business in the 1870s, but never lived there.

The web site of the Missouri Secretary of State has old military service cards online at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/>. The one for Leonard Wilson partially agrees with the information in the short biography above (it mentions Capt. Bingham and E. M. M.), but it seems to indicate that he did not serve because of disability (see the card, to the right). I don't know what that's about.

#### 1850 census

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 4, born in Missouri. Living with his parents in Saline County, Missouri.

#### 1860 census

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 14, born in Missouri. Living with his parents in Marshall, Saline County, Missouri.

#### 1870 census

Image 3 on Ancestry.com (Marshall Township, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 24, born in Missouri. Occupation, clerk of court. Value of real estate listed as \$4000 [? – hard to read], value of personal estate listed as \$300. Household consisted of Leonard, Mary W., and William Wilson [son who died in infancy].

#### 1880 census

Image 18 on Ancestry.com (District 67, Marshall, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as Leonard Wilson, age 34. Born in Missouri, father born in Virginia, mother born in Kentucky. Occupation, postmaster. Household consisted of Leonard, Mary, and Lennie [Leonie] Wilson; and Minnie Sandidge, listed as a niece [I believe her to be the daughter of Mary's brother, Micajah C. Sandidge].

1113	
71	Reg't. E. M. M.
Capt. Bingham	
WILSON, LEONARD	
Rank	Private Co. H
Enrolled April 30, 1864	
Where Marshall, Mo.	
Ordered into active service	
Where	
By whom	
Relieved from duty	
By whom	
Number of days in actual service	
Remarks "Exempt by physical disability."	

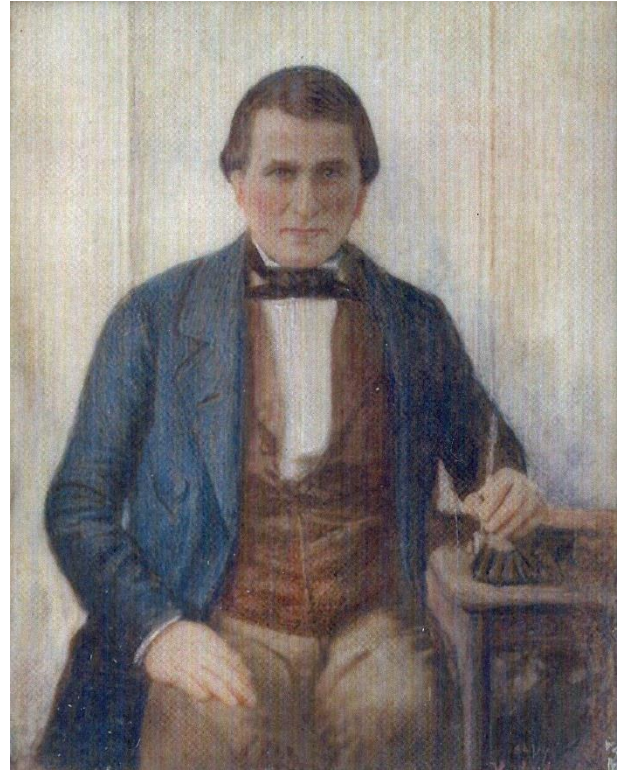
1900 census

Image 9 on Ancestry.com (District 64, Denver, Arapahoe County, Colorado)

Listed as Leonard Wilson. Address 1641 Franklin St. Renting home. Age 54, born in January 1846, 30 years in present marriage. Born in Missouri, father born in Virginia, mother born in Kentucky.

Occupation, bill clerk. Household consisted of Leonard, Mary W., and Horace E. Wilson; Leonie Leighton [Leonard's widowed daughter]; Benjamin Wilson [Leonard's brother]; Harry B. Wilson [Benjamin's son]; and two boarders, Margaret H. Beatty and Verne L. Capron. This provides another link between Generation 4 (Horace Everett Wilson) and Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson).

## 6. Third-Great-Grandfather – William Adair Wilson



I obtained these two pictures from Judith Miller, wife of Adair Miller, who was a grandson of Benjamin Harrison Wilson, oldest son of William Adair Wilson. She said that they were in  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inch frames. The one on the right has Col William Adair Wilson written on the back. The one on the left is not certain, but looks like it might be him when he was younger.

**Summary:**

Born: 17 Dec 1807 in Augusta County, Virginia

Married Mary Elizabeth Reeves on 4 Jun 1835 (ages 27 & 18) in Fayette, Missouri

Died: 28 Aug 1865 (age 57) in Marshall, Missouri

Buried: Ridge Park Cemetery, Marshall, Missouri

Known residences: Virginia, Missouri







Some excellent information on the families of William Adair Wilson and his father, William Wilson, came from a family record written by Adair Wilson (son of William Adair) in May 1902. Here is the page for William Adair Wilson, showing his birth in Augusta County, Virginia, on 17 Dec 1807 and death in Marshall, Missouri, on 28 Aug 1865. He married Mary Elizabeth Reeves in Fayette, Missouri, on 4 Jun 1835. Children were Benjamin Harrison, Martha Catharine [Kate], Adair, Annette, Leonard, Horace Everett, and Byrd Lincoln. It shows that Leonard Wilson was born in 1846 and married Mary W. Sandidge in 1868. This provides another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson).

**B.**

**MY PARENTS.**

My father's full name is: William Adair Wilson  
 Place of his birth: Augusta co. Va Date of his birth: Dec 17-1807  
 Residence: Marshall. Mo Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Positions held, traits of character, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of his death: Marshall. Mo Date of his death: Aug. 28 1865  
Information of his forefathers given on page D.  
 Place of their marriage: Fayette. Mo Date of their marriage: June 4 1835  
 Full maiden name of his wife: Mary Elizabeth Reeves  
 Place of her birth: Todd co. Ky Date of her birth: Nov 25-1817  
 Her attainments, traits of character, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of her death: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of her death: \_\_\_\_\_  
Information of her forefathers given on page F.

Christian Names of Their Children:	Full Names to Whom Married:
1 <sup>st</sup> Child: <u>Benjamin Harrison</u> Born: <u>May 10. 1836</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Olive A Powell</u> Date of marriage: <u>May 1868</u>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child: <u>Martha Catharine</u> Born: <u>1839</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Dr John A Grove</u> Date of marriage: <u>1866</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child: <u>Adair Wilson</u> Born: <u>Nov 16-1841</u> Died: <u>Jan. 7-1912</u>	Married to: <u>Margaret E Edwards</u> Date of marriage: <u>June 9-1868</u>
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: <u>Annette</u> Born: <u>Nov 25 1843</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>John R Vance</u> Date of marriage: _____
5 <sup>th</sup> Child: <u>Leonard</u> Born: <u>1846</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Mary W Sandidge</u> Date of marriage: <u>1868</u>
6 <sup>th</sup> Child: <u>Horace Everett</u> Born: _____ Died: _____	Married to: <u>May Mulford</u> Date of marriage: _____
7 <sup>th</sup> Child: <u>Byrd Lincoln</u> Born: _____	_____

Following is a portion of a page from the Howard County, Missouri, marriage book, from Ancestry.com, showing the marriage between William A. Wilson and Mary Reeves of Howard County, Missouri, on 4 Jun 1835.

*State of Missouri Nowit.*  
I Certify that on Thursday the  
4<sup>th</sup> day of June 1835 by virtue  
of the power vested in me by law  
as a minister of the Gospel, I joined  
together in Holy Matrimony William  
A. Wilson and Mary Reeves both  
of the County of Howard and State  
of aforesaid. Given under my hand  
June 5<sup>th</sup> 1835.  
H. L. Boon  
Recorded on this 5<sup>th</sup> June 1835.  
Wray Rogers MR

*M. A. Wilson  
to  
M. Reeves*

I also have a copy of a marriage announcement from the Columbia, Missouri, *Intelligencer* newspaper dated 13 Jun 1835 (obtained from the State Historical Society of Missouri, Missouri Digital Newspaper Project; <http://shs.umsystem.edu/newspaper/mdnp/index.shtml>):

**MARRIED,**  
At Fayette, on the 4th inst. by the  
Rev: H. L. Boon. Mr. WILLIAM A.  
WILSON, to Miss MARY REEVES, daugh-  
ter of Col. Benjamin H. Reeves.

On Family Tree DNA, I have a close Y DNA match with another male descendant of William Adair Wilson. This provides another link between Generation 1 (Michael Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson)—and all the generations in-between.

*History of Saline County, Missouri*, Missouri Historical Co., St. Louis, 1881, pp. 415–416:

JUDGE W. A. WILSON.

The subject of this sketch—the youngest of four brothers, John, Robert, David, and Wm., sons of Wm. Wilson—was born, December 17, 1807, in Augusta county, Virginia. He, with his brothers, came to this state, locating in Howard county, in 1825. He afterwards located in this county. His brother David died many years ago, and Gen. John Wilson removed to California, filled quite a number of high official positions, and died in San Francisco, some two years since. Robert located in St. Joseph, Missouri, represented his county and district for many years in the state legislature and senate, and other offices, and served out the unexpired term of one of our U. S. senators.

In June, 1835, Judge Wilson married Miss Mary E. Reeves, daughter of the late ex-Governor Reeves, of Missouri. His wife survives him and resides on the old homestead, in Marshall, Missouri. The result of this marriage was five sons and two daughters, all living, except Martha C., who married Dr. Grove, of this county, and died in 1865, in Fayette, Indiana, the present home of her husband; Annette married the Hon. John R. Vance, and now resides in Marshall, as does also Leonard Wilson, our present efficient postmaster. Col. Ben. H., Hon. W. A. and Bird L. Wilson now reside in Colorado; and Horace E. Wilson resides at St. Joseph, Missouri.

Judges Wilson and Leonard, having located in Howard county about the same time, and having married sisters, there sprang up between them a very strong social, personal and political attachment, which lasted during their lives. Both were staunch whigs, and both consistent, firm and uncompromising Union men, and cordially supported the national government during the late conflict.

In 1835, he was appointed lieutenant-colonel of militia, by Gov. Dunklin. In August, 1836, he moved to Saline, and in 1838 was elected county judge, serving with Judges Brown and Field. On February, 6, 1850, appointed county and circuit clerk, and ex-officio recorder, vice John A. Trigg, resigned, and in March following was elected to said offices for unexpired term, extending to 1854, when he was re-elected and filled said offices for the term of six years.

In 1862, Judge Wilson was appointed by Gov. Gamble, circuit and county clerk of the county, and in the same year, provost marshal, with rank of major. When the 71st regiment, E. M. M. [enrolled Missouri militia – Union], was organized, he was made lieutenant-colonel of same. It is not saying too much to say, that no one in this county was better or more favorably known at Union or Federal headquarters of this state, or at Washington City, than Judge W. A. Wilson. He filled the clerkships of the county up to the time of his death, August 18, 1865 [should be August 28]. Judge Wilson was a lawyer by profession, and, except while in office, practiced that profession. He was, for a time, law-partner of Col. T. W. B. Crews and Hon. W. H. Letcher. He, like his brothers, Robert and John, was a man of more than ordinary ability, and possessed, in a remarkable degree, that foresight and confidence, so well calculated to lead and inspire any party with which he might become connected. In the discharge of all his official duties, he was honest and efficient, and never betrayed the trusts confided to him. For more than twenty years prior to his death, perhaps, no man was more generally or prominently known to the people here. As a public spirited citizen, he was ever ready to contribute to every laudable enterprise. A man of excellent judgment—having once made up his mind, was determined and invincible. Duty and right outweighed all other considerations with him. He was a Union man in the broadest sense of that term. It is not saying too much, when we say, he formed the nucleus around which the Union element of this county rallied, more, perhaps, than any one else. Of a pure, positive and unsullied character, his opinions were ever sought and respected by his friends. He was faithful in all the relations of life; as a husband, parent, friend, the same integrity of character and goodness of heart were manifested, and gained for him that love and confidence he possessed to such an eminent degree. He was unswervingly true to his principles and to the instincts of his generous and manly nature. In his friendship he was faithful; in his susceptibilities, tender and emotional; in disposition and temperament, genial in a very high degree. In all the relations of life, he bore himself as a “man among men.” His memory to us is precious, and his virtues remain a legacy to his surviving co-laborers in the cause to which he gave the strength and power

of his manhood. Upon that brow, now cold in death, honors thick had clustered; and as he went forth from our ranks, many eyes were dim with tears, and many hearts were full of sighs. In the cemetery, at Mount Olive, “may his ashes requiescat in pace.”

This provides a link between Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson) and Generation 7 (William Wilson), and another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson). Note that William Adair Wilson has a gravestone in Ridge Park Cemetery, Marshall, MO. Perhaps the cemetery changed names or his remains were moved to Ridge Park Cemetery?

The above biography of William Adair Wilson says that he came with his family from Augusta County, Virginia, to Howard County, Missouri, in 1825; he then moved to Saline County in August 1836. When he moved to Saline County, he initially moved to Old Jefferson, which no longer exists; it was on the Missouri River in the northeastern part of the county near present-day Cambridge. Later, he moved to Marshall; from letters in the Abiel Leonard Papers of the State Historical Society of Missouri Manuscript Collection, it looks like they moved from Old Jefferson to Marshall in late 1844.

According to *History of Saline County*, William lost the positions of county and circuit clerk in the election of 1859. Then, according to the above, he was re-appointed to them in 1862. Presumably, the election winners had run off and joined the Confederates.

From a biography of his son Adair in *Portrait and Biographical Record of Denver and Vicinity, Colorado*, Chapman Publishing Co., Chicago, 1898, pp. 321–325 (obtained from <http://www.memoriallibrary.com/CO/1898DenverPB/pages/pbrd0319.htm>):

The youngest of his large family was William A., a native of Augusta County, Va., and in early life a merchant, but later a student of law with his brother, Gen. John Wilson, who had preceded the family to Missouri and had served in the war of 1812. William was admitted to the bar in Saline County and opened an office in Marshall, where he was a pioneer and prominent attorney. For years he was clerk of all the courts there. When the Civil war broke out he was somewhat advanced in years, but enlisted in the state militia and was made lieutenant-colonel of a regiment, serving until the close of the war, but the exposure of camp life caused his death soon afterwards. He was then about fifty-seven years of age. Fraternally he was a Mason.

There is an interesting letter in the Abiel Leonard Papers from John Wilson (William’s older brother) to Abiel Leonard, dated 13 Nov [?] 1852, in which John says (some punctuation added):

I have been thinking much of of [sic] my brother Wm & his family, & am exceeding desirous to get them here [i.e., California] – To remain at Saline, even with his clerkships, he can only live, & not gather any thing. His family is large & growing & he ought in some way if he can provide better means for their support & education. if he was here with only a couple of thousand Dollars to begin with he wd. on that day be richer than he can by any possibility be at the end of 20 yrs. The question is how is that to be effected? I have written to my brother on the subject & I take the liberty to write to you and have made to my brother this suggestion & hope I shall not offend you by laying it before you. I suppose, for I do not know the fact, that he could not do more than make a decent outfit to get here over the plains, & nothing left to begin on here after he came, & without money is rather a bad fix here, but even that will be better for him & his family than to stay where he is. If my brother & you will endorse for him for about 3000 [\$ is probably cut off] for two years or 18 months interest at 10 per cent, letting the lender take out the first

year's percentage at the paying of the money & the other years interest & the debt to be paid at the end of the two years or 18 months as it shall be agreed, & let him lay that money out in either cattle & sheep & bring it over the plains, he can pay the debt when due & int. & have a fund in cattle worth 20000 \$ (indeed far more) to go on—I will stand his security to you & my brother that he pays the debt when it is due. the arrangement if made cannot fail to place him in easy circumstances. I shall be able by the time he gets here to give him a farm & I can say to you & my brother both that whatever you may say I shall be good security unless all signs fail.

[John's proposal is very similar to what Rufus McDonald and James Wilson (nephew-in-law and nephew to John and William) actually did in 1864—they took a lot of mules from Missouri to California and made a big profit on them (see the notes for Rufus Lee McDonald). William must not have liked the idea, though (or the deal fell through).]

According to the McGrew letter, during the Civil War, friends and neighbors who sympathized and fought with the Confederacy made so many threats against his life (even coming to his home with ropes to hang him) and also threatened the lives of his wife and children, that to protect his family he moved them to Ohio for the duration of the Civil War. In *History of Saline County, Missouri*, it says that 90% of the citizens of Saline County were from Virginia, Kentucky, or Tennessee, and most were Confederate sympathizers (I have seen elsewhere that this part of Missouri has sometimes been called "little Dixie"). William A. Wilson was an important leader of the Union sympathizers. Marshall was occupied by the Union during most of the Civil War; Lt. Col. William A. Wilson was in command of the post part of the time (in 1862 and 1863). There are details of his service dates on his military service card (from <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/>) at right. He didn't serve all that long; perhaps he was relieved from military duty when he was re-appointed to the circuit and county clerkships?

From letters in the Abiel Leonard Papers, it was Oxford, OH, where the family went, probably sometime in 1864. They may have chosen Oxford because it is fairly near to where William's sister, Nancy Wilson Loop, lived (in Somers Township, near Camden, OH). There are more details on all of this in the chapter on William Adair Wilson and Family During the Civil War in my [Wilson book](#). In December 1864, William was the only one of the family in Marshall. Adair was in Nevada, Ben was in the Army, and the rest of the family was in Oxford. Leonard returned to Marshall at the beginning of January 1865, and Ben returned a few months later after he was mustered out of the service. It appears that the rest of the family only returned at the time of William's death (perhaps in time to see him before he died). In a letter dated 15 Aug 1865, Leonard wrote "I would have sent it [a deed] sooner but Father has been so unwell that I was was [sic] unable to attend to it. he is not improving any. we have sent for Mother She will be here in a few days."

629

71 Reg't E. M. M., Co. F + S

Wilson W. A.

Rank Lt. Col Age \_\_\_\_\_

Comd'g Coe Meill

---

Enrolled Aug 27 1862

Where Marshall

---

Ordered into active service Sep 1 1862

Where Marshall

Relieved from duty Feb 9 1863

162

---

Ordered into active service \_\_\_\_\_ 186 \_\_\_\_\_

Where \_\_\_\_\_

Relieved from duty \_\_\_\_\_ 186 \_\_\_\_\_

---

No. days actual service 162

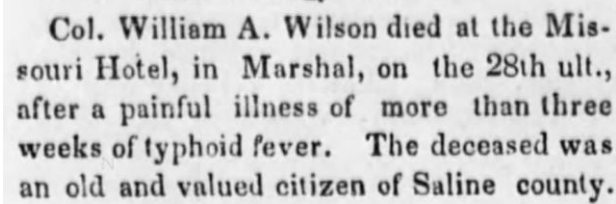
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Remarks:

FROM ROLLS IN OFFICE OF AUDITOR  
WAR DEPT., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Form 244—11-22-09—20M.

There is a little more about his passing in a death notice in the *Howard Union* (Glasgow, MO), 7 Sep 1865, p. 2 (obtained from Newspapers.com):



Col. William A. Wilson died at the Missouri Hotel, in Marshal, on the 28th ult., after a painful illness of more than three weeks of typhoid fever. The deceased was an old and valued citizen of Saline county.

William's will, from his probate case file (difficult to read in places, and poorly punctuated, so some may not be quite right):

In the name of God Amen, I William A. Wilson of the County of Saline in the State of Missouri, do make and declare this my last will and testament hereby revoking all others or former wills by me made

First I will that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid of whatever kind

Second I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary E. Wilson all the remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to hold and use during her natural life for her support and the support and education of the younger children All money arising from the sale of land or otherwise which may not be necessary for the current expenses of the family, according to the judgment of my executrix hereinafter named, I will, may be loaned or invested for the benefit of the estate as my executrix may think best.

Third I give and bequeath to my son Benjamin H. Wilson, one thousand dollars, it being money loaned to and expend for me, at different times, and I will that no account be made of it at the final distribution of my estate

Fourth I give and bequeath to my daughter Kate Grove five dollars.

Fifth I have given to my son Adair Wilson, one thousand dollars which I wish to have charged to him and taken from his distributive share of the estate at the final distribution

Sixth I give and bequeath to my daughter Annett Wilson five dollars

Seventh I give and bequeath to my sons Leonard Wilson, Horace E. Wilson & Bird Wilson, each the sum of five dollars, as they arrive at the age of twenty one years respectively prior to distribution

Eighth I hereby appoint my beloved wife, Mary E. Wilson sole executrix of this my last will and testament with full power to execute the same, and to make such distribution to the heirs of my estate as she in her judgment may think best at any time.

Ninth At the final distribution of the residue of my estate among the heirs thereof, after paying the legacies heretofore named I will that all the surviving heirs as children share and share alike, and if any said heirs should die leaving issue they are to receive the distributive share of said deceased heir In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my seal this 24th day of August A.D. 1865  
W. A. Wilson

The estate inventory is listed as \$10,892.12 personal and \$10,135 real.

This provides another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson).

#### 1820 census

Presumably William Adair was living with his parents in Augusta County, Virginia. He would have been the male aged 10–15 in the household.

#### 1830 census

William Adair might have been living with brother John Wilson in Howard Co., MO. There were two 20–29-year-old males in the household; one of them could have been William Adair.

#### 1840 census

Images 6 and 7 on Ancestry.com (Marion Township, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as William A. Wilson. Household consisted of three males (ages 30–39, 20–29, under 5) and two females (ages 20–29 and under 5). Presumably the male aged 30–39 was William A., the female aged 20–29 was Mary E., and the two under-5-year-olds were Benjamin and Kate. Don't know who the 20–29-year-old male was. Also, two slaves are listed, a male aged 10–23 and a female aged 10–23. Everything else is blank (for example, nothing indicated in the employment section).

#### 1850 census

Image 143 on Ancestry.com (District 90, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as William A. Wilson, age 39 [should be 42], born in Virginia. Occupation, clerk ct. [court clerk]. Value of real estate listed as \$1200. Household consisted of William A., Mary E., Benjamin H. B., Catherine, Adair, Annett, Leonard, and Mary L. [child who died young] Wilson; Sophronia Doak; and William B. Simmons.

Image 32 on Ancestry.com slave schedules (District 90, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as William A. Willson. Four slaves: male age 56; females ages 30, 14, 8.

This provides another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson).

#### 1860 census

Image 13 on Ancestry.com (Marshall, Saline County, Missouri)

Listed as Wm. A. Wilson, age 51 [should be 52], born in Virginia. Occupation, lawyer. Value of real estate listed as \$5000, value of personal estate listed as \$3000. Household consisted of William A., Mary, Benjamin, Adair, Annette, Leonard, and Horace Wilson.

Image 2 on Ancestry.com slave schedules (Marshall, Saline County, Missouri)

Two slave houses, seven slaves: males ages 44, 5, 2; females ages 24, 14, 6, 1.

This provides another link between Generation 5 (Leonard Wilson) and Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson).

## 7. Fourth-Great-Grandfather – William Wilson

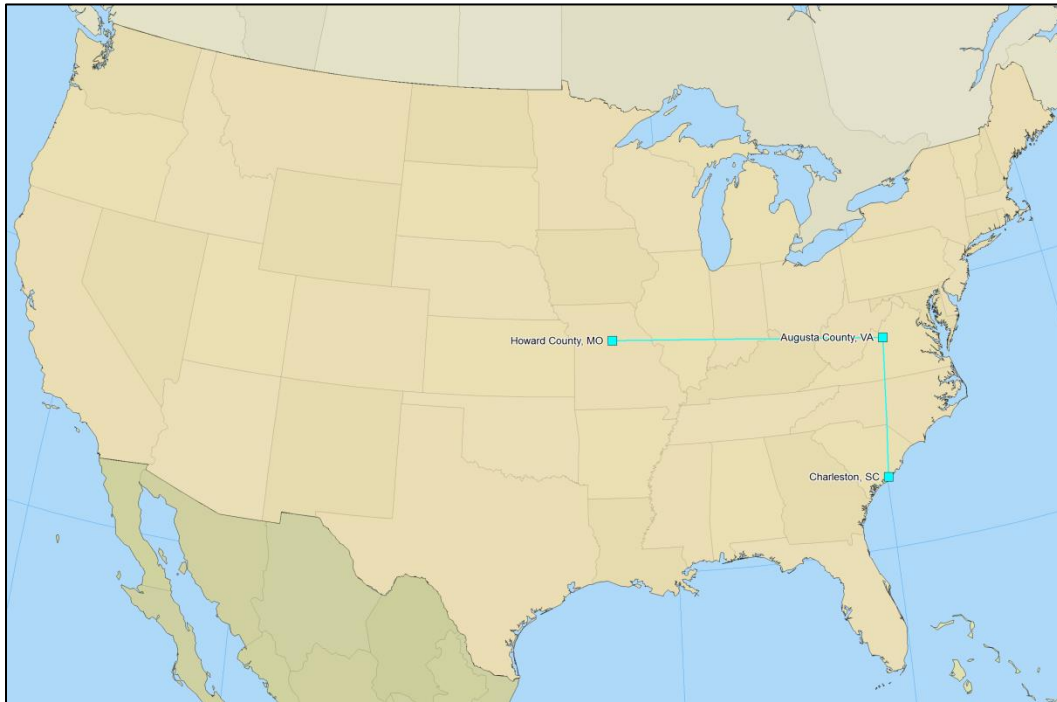
### Summary:

Born: about 1756 in Augusta County, Virginia (year and place are both uncertain)

Married Catharine Yancey before 1790 in Charleston, South Carolina (place is uncertain)

Died: 14 Oct 1827 in Howard County, Missouri (date is uncertain)

Known residences: Virginia Colony, Virginia State, Missouri





Here is the page of Adair Wilson's family record for his grandfather, William Wilson, showing his birth in Ireland or Augusta County, Virginia (no date), and death in Howard County, Missouri, in 182-. He married Catharine Yancey in Charleston, South Carolina. It says that his occupation was farmer, and he moved from Augusta County, Virginia, to Howard County, Missouri, in 1824. Children were John, David, Polly, Robert, Nancy, and William Adair. This provides another link between Generation 6 (William Adair Wilson) and Generation 7 (William Wilson).

**D.**

**MY FATHER'S PARENTS.**

My Father's father's full name is: William Wilson  
 Place of his birth: Ireland or Augusta Co. Va Date of his birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Augusta Co. Va to 1824 - then  
 Residence: Howard Co. Mo Occupation: Farmer

His father's full name was: \_\_\_\_\_

His mother's full maiden name was: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of his death: Howard Co. Mo Date of his death: 182-

Place of their marriage: Charleston S.C Date of their marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Full maiden name of his wife: Catharine Yancey

Place of her birth: South Carolina Date of her birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Her father's full name was: \_\_\_\_\_

Her mother's full maiden name was: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of her death: Randolph Co Mo Date of her death: 183-

Christian Names of Their Children:	Full Names to Whom Married:
1st Child: <u>John</u> Born: <u>Jan 28-1790</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Thru Times</u> Date of marriage: <u>1877</u>
2nd Child: <u>David</u> Born: <u>July 12-1792</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Margaret Kinnear</u> Date of marriage: <u>1844</u>
3rd Child: <u>Polly</u> Born: <u>Aug 2-1796</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Samuel Grove</u> Date of marriage: _____
4th Child: <u>Robert</u> Born: <u>Nov 6-1800</u> Died: <u>May 10-1870</u>	Married to: _____ Date of marriage: _____
5th Child: <u>Nancy</u> Born: <u>May 27-1803</u> Died: _____	Married to: <u>Loop</u> Date of marriage: _____
6th Child: <u>William Adair</u> Born: <u>Dec 17-1807</u> Died: <u>Aug 28-1865</u>	Married to: <u>Mary C Reers</u> Date of marriage: <u>June 4-1835</u>

I don't have very much information on William. I think he was probably born in Augusta County, Virginia. It is clear from his father's will that William was under 21 at the time the will was written (9 Sep 1768). That means he was born after September 1747. In information from Katherine Bushman that James Hotchkiss passed on to me, in one place William is referred to as an infant, meaning under 14, at the time of his father's death. That would mean born after September 1754. An entry for John Wilson in "California Pioneer and Immigrant Files, 1790-1950" on Ancestry.com shows his father as William Wilson (1750-1823):

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY		June 1955
PIONEER RECORD		
<b>WILSON, John (Gen.)</b>	<b>General John Wilson</b>	
Full name of pioneer	.....	
Place of birth	Shenandoah Valley, Virginia	
Date of birth	1790 (?)	
If married, to whom	----- McCoun (1st wife)	
Date of marriage	Uncertain. About 1812, or before.	
Place of marriage	Supposedly Virginia. Maybe Staunton Augusta Co.	
Parents of Pioneer	William Wilson (1750-1823) (English)	
	Father	-----Yancey
(over)	Mother (maiden name in full)	.....

*Copies of John Wilson letters filed in pioneer letter file under Wilson.*

I don't think that 1823 could be right for his death because of the accounts of him moving to Missouri in 1824 or 1825; 1750 is possible for his birth, but doesn't have much credibility since the death year is probably wrong. An issue of the Fayette, Missouri, *Intelligencer* newspaper dated 9 Nov 1827 contained the following death notice (obtained from the State Historical Society of Missouri, Missouri Digital Newspaper Project; <http://shs.umsystem.edu/newspaper/mdnp/index.shtml>):

In this county, on the 14th ult,  
after a short illness, Mr. WILLIAM  
WILSON, aged about 71 years.

I have no way of knowing if this is the right William Wilson, but it fits with what I know. It would make his birth in about 1756. Note that the card above gives the maiden name of William's wife as Yancey, as does another entry for John Wilson in "California Pioneer and Immigrant Files, 1790-1950" on Ancestry.com:

April, 1928

**Wilson, John** CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

Name in full John Wilson

Place of birth Staunton, Virginia

Date of birth 1790

Parent { Father William Wilson Man of Revolution  
 Mother (maiden name in full) Yancey

Married or unmarried \_\_\_\_\_

If married, to whom Anne Robertson Pulliam

Date of marriage Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 1825 Place Saline Co Missouri

*clipping containing post. in pioneer file*

There is a mention in the Hotchkiss manuscript that William might have been a lawyer in Augusta County. That is based on the following, which is from a summary of a deed in Augusta County Deed Book 40, p. 362:

27 January 1816 - Whereas I, Edward Askins OF THE COUNTY OF PERRY IN THE INDIANA TERRITORY (Note: became a State this same year) - have sold to John Buchanan of Augusta County, State of Virginia, a tract of land containing by survey 127 acres, he is to have it - which land is situated in Augusta County, Virginia on the Waters of Christians Creek and was devised to me by Will of John Askins, dec'd. I authorize William Wilson Senior of said County to be my attorney in fact to convey said land...

(*They Went Thataway* by Charles Hughes Hamlin, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1985, vol. 1, p. 7.) This one mention is not much to go by to say that William was a lawyer, but it might be significant that William was typically listed as William Willson Sr. in the Augusta County tax rolls. It is perhaps worth noting that there were six William Wilsons in the Augusta County land tax books during this time period. With occasional exceptions, the others were listed as Rev. William Wilson, Maj. William Willson, William Willson Esq., Capt. William Willson (noted once to be a son of the major), and William Wilson who was a resident of Rockbridge County. (In addition to these designations, the different Williams can be distinguished by their amount of land and its location.) Starting in 1818, our William was listed as William Willson Sr. On the other hand, perhaps the William Wilson mentioned in the deed is the one referred to as William Willson Esq. in the tax rolls.

In his family record, Adair Wilson said that Catharine Yancey was born in South Carolina and she and William were married in Charleston, South Carolina. A couple of biographies of Robert Wilson (son of William and Catharine) have some additional clues about her. First, on p. 561 of *Reminiscences of the Bench and Bar of Missouri* by W.V.N. Bay (F. H. Thomas and Company, St. Louis, 1878; obtained from Google Books), it says "His father was a very respectable farmer of English descent, and his mother was a Yancey, and belonged to the noted family of that name in the Old Dominion." Old Dominion refers to

Virginia, which seems to be in contradiction to Adair's entry (though perhaps the family lived in Virginia before moving to South Carolina). Second, in an obituary of Robert in the New York Times on 18 May 1870, it says "His mother was a relative of the late Hon. WILLIAM L. YANCEY, of Alabama." Unfortunately, "relative of" is too vague to clear things up very much. However, Ben H. Wilson (grandson of William and Catharine, Adair's older brother) was a little more specific in a letter written around 1895 (obtained from Deborah and William Vaughan). He said, "Grandmother Wilson was a Miss Yancey and an Aunt of Wm. L. Yancey of South Carolina – and she was a native of that State. During the early wars Grandfather was in the Army and was ordered from Virginia to South Carolina and while there he married." This letter helps a lot by providing a reason why William happened to be married in South Carolina. The ages aren't right for Catharine Yancey to be William L. Yancey's aunt, but possibly a great aunt? The big problem with Ben's story, though, is the long gap between the end of the war and the birth of William's oldest child John in 1790. It is possible that there were some older children who died young or are not known for some reason. Other possibilities are that he met Catharine during the war, but went back and married her several years later or that the trip or expedition to South Carolina wasn't part of the Revolutionary War, but several years afterward. I hope to follow up on these clues and find out more about her.

Biographies of two of William's grandsons (Adair Wilson and Robert H. Wilson), plus the second John Wilson card above, say that he served in the Revolutionary War. The letter by Ben H. Wilson just mentioned above says that William was sent to South Carolina while in the army, and says further that "He was, so history says, about the only man of his company that succeeded in getting back to Virginia, a majority of them having been killed or died from the hardship of the campaign." Unfortunately, there is very little documentation available to confirm that William fought in the Revolution. The best that has been found so far is in a book called *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* by John H. Gwathmey (Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1979; available on Ancestry.com). There is an entry on p. 835 for a "Willson, William (son of Robert)" from Augusta County who served in Capt. Long's Company. Possibly there was another William Wilson/Willson in that time and place who also had a father named Robert, but there seems to be a good chance that this is our William. This also brings up that many of the old records from Augusta County for William and his sons have Wilson spelled with a double-l. It's not very consistent, with sometimes single-l Wilson and double-l Willson in the same document. It seems to have settled down to Wilson sometime in the 1820s or 1830s, though I know of census records as late as 1870 with the Willson spelling.

There was actually more than one Captain Long from Augusta County in the Revolutionary War, but the one that seems most likely referred to here is Francis Long. The discussion of the Revolution in *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871* by Joseph A. Waddell (Second Edition, C. Russell Caldwell, Staunton, VA, 1902 obtained from <http://www.archive.org/details/annalsofaugustac00wadd>) has two main mentions of South Carolina: Several soldiers from Augusta County are noted to have been taken prisoner at Charleston on 12 May 1780, and units from Augusta County were involved in the battle of Cowpens in South Carolina on 17 Jan 1781. There is no indication that Capt. Long's company was involved in those actions, but then all the information is very fragmentary. It is also possible that William was in Capt. Long's company part of the time and in another company part of the time.

A very different story about William's service in the Revolutionary War is in a biography of Adair Wilson in *Pioneers of the San Juan Country* by Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, N.S.D.A.R., Durango, Colorado (Durango Printing Co., Durango, CO, 1952, Vol. III, pp. 167–168):

During the American Revolution, his paternal grandfather, William Wilson served under John Paul Jones, the brave old Scotsman, who was the first man to hoist an American flag on an American ship. With a navy consisting of three frail vessels, one with a half rotten hull, he boldly attacked and captured two British men of war. After this humiliating defeat the loud boast of the English, claiming England was “Mistress of the sea” was temporarily reduced to a mere whisper.

I’ve no idea what that is based on, but it seems unlikely that a landlubber from the Shenandoah Valley would have been in the navy.

The Adair Wilson family record says William moved from Virginia to Missouri in 1824, whereas the biography of William Adair Wilson above says 1825. Daughter Nancy was married in Augusta County in September 1824, and her marriage bond was signed by William and son William A., showing that they were in Virginia at that time, so I think 1825 is probably more likely. (It’s also worth pointing out that the biography of W.A. Wilson mentions William and four sons: John, David, Robert, and William A., in agreement with Adair Wilson’s family record.) The financial problems discussed below may explain why all of the Wilsons decided to move west to Missouri, to get a fresh start.

There is a lot of good information in a deed in Augusta County Deed Book 41, pp. 294–295. Following is my transcription of it. I have added some punctuation to try to make it more readable, but it’s hard for me to make sense of the language in parts of it.

This Indenture, made the 23rd day of June in this year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen Between William Willson and Catha[r]line his wife of the County of Augusta and State of Virginia of the one part and William Thompson of the County and State aforesaid of the other part, Witnesseth that the said William Willson and Catharine his wife for and in consideration of the sum of three thousand dollars lawful money of the State aforesaid, to them in hand paid by the said William Thompson, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, traded [?] granted Bargained and sold and by these presents do grant bargain and sell unto the said Wm. Thompson his heirs and assigns a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Augusta, on the head waters of the South river, containing by estimation two hundred acres be the same more or less, being a part of the same tract of land conveyed by Samuel Willson to Robert Willson by deed bearing date the 2nd day of June 1755 and devised by the said Robert Willson to his sons Robert and David Willson by his last will and testament bearing date the 9th day of Sept. 1768, a moiety whereof fell to the sd. David by the death of the said Robert without issue, he the said David being his heir at Law, whereby the said David became possessed of the legal title to the whole tract claimed as aforesaid, and which was afterwards devised by the said David Willson to the above named William Willson by his last will and testament bearing date the 25th day of January 1804, which said deeds and wills are duly admitted to records in the County Court office of Augusta, and which said two hundred acres of land is bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a white oak corner to David H... [?] and running thence with his line South twenty one and a third degrees West two hundred and Eleven poles to a Locust in Robert Tate’s line, thence with his line and a line of John Tate’s heirs South twenty one and two third degrees East one hundred and fifty two poles to a chesnut and hickory in the line of Tate’s heirs, thence a new line North twenty one and a third degrees East Two hundred and Eleven poles to a small hickory and sassafras, near a walnut pointer in Doak’s line, thence with the said Doak’s and David Strain’s line North Twenty one and two third degrees west one hundred and fifty two poles to the Beginning. Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto Belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold ... said tract or parcel of Land with its appurtenances unto the said William Thompson, his heirs and assigns to the only proper use and behoof of him, the said William Thompson, his heirs and assigns forever. And the said William Willson and

wife for themselves, their heirs Execrs. and Adms. do covenant with the said Wm. Thompson, his heirs and assigns that they, the said Wm. Willson and wife, their heirs Execrs. & Adms. the said two hundred acres of land with its appurtenances unto the said William Thompson, his heirs and assigns against the claim or claims of them, the said William Willson and wife and their heirs, and of all and any person or persons whatsoever, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In testimony whereof the said Wm. Willson and wife have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Wm. Willson  
Catharine Wilson

Augusta County, to wit [?]

We Robert Doak and Joseph Brown Justices of the peace in the County aforesaid and State of Virginia do hereby certify that Catharine Willson the wife of William Willson parties to the foregoing deed for the conveyance of real Estate to William Thompson, bearing date the 23 day of June 1817, personally appeared before us in our County aforesaid and being examined by us privily and apart from her husband, and having the deed aforesaid fully explained to her, she the said Catharine Willson acknowledged the same to be her act and deed & declared that she had willingly signed sealed and delivered the same and that she wished not to retract it. Given under our hands and seals the 23rd day of June 1817.

Robert Doak  
Jos. Brown

Augusta County Court Clerks offices June the 27th 1817. This deed of Bargain and sale from William Willson and Catharine his wife to William Thompson was presented in the Clerks office aforesaid, and being acknowledged before me, Vincent Tapp, deputy Clerk of the said Court, by said William Willson according to law is admitted to Record.

Test.  
Vincent Tapp DCAC

At a Court held for Augusta County, July the 28th 1817, the acknowledgement of this deed of Bargain and sale being duly certified and reported to the Court is ordered to be entered in the minutes.

Test.  
Erasmus Stribling CC

According to information from Katherine Bushman that James Hotchkiss passed on to me, the deed of 2 Jun 1755 referred to above was from Robert's brother Samuel to Robert. It is in Deed Book 7, pp. 165–166 (3 Jun 1755). Samuel bought it from George and Robert Breckenridge on 8 Feb 1745 (see below). David Wilson's will, in which he left the land to William, is in Will Book 12, pp. 116–117 (25 Jan 1804, proved 22 Jan 1816).

A summary of important points in this deed:

- William Wilson's wife's name was Catharine (I'm going to ignore the double-l in several of the Wilson names).

- William inherited this land from David Wilson. It doesn't say it here, but David Wilson's will (below) says that William was David's brother, and therefore Robert's son.
- David Wilson inherited part of the land from his father, Robert Wilson, and part of it from his brother, Robert Wilson, who had inherited it from their father
- What is missing at this point is clear evidence that this William Wilson was the same as the William Wilson who moved to Howard County, Missouri, in 1825 and who had sons John, David, Robert, and William Adair. The fact that both had wives named Catharine is some evidence, especially since Catharine wasn't that common a name. Therefore, this deed provides a weak link between Generation 7 (William Wilson) and Generation 8 (Robert Wilson).
- The land was on the headwaters of the South River.

Here is my transcription of David's will (Will Book 12, pp. 116–117). I have added some punctuation to improve readability. (Note that the date of this will is the same as indicated in the deed above.)

I David Wilson, of the county of Augusta & State of Virginia, being sick in Body but in perfect mind & memory, do make & constitute this my Last will & Testament in manner following, Viz, after all my Just Debts & funeral Expenses are paid I give & bequeathe unto my Brother William Wilson all my Estate that I possess, real and personal, or any that I have any legal or equitable claim to. Secondly I order my Brother William to give unto my Sister Letty Wilson a sufficient maintainance as long as She remains unmarried, & also to give her fifty pounds in cash or property which Ever may best suit the parties. I do Lastly appoint my Brother William Wilson my sole Executor of this my Last Will & Testament, hereby Revoking all other Wills or Testaments heretofore by me made & ratifying & confirming this to be my Last given under my hand & this Twenty Fifth day of Jany. Eighteen Hundred & four.

Signed sealed & acknowledged before us

Wm. Steele  
Sam Doak  
David Doak

The angles in the description of the tract of land make no sense to me. I thought that "South twenty one and a third degrees West" would mean  $21 \frac{1}{3}$  degrees west of south, but if all the angles are interpreted that way, the tract is a diamond shape that will not fit within the George & Robert Breckenridge land in the 1954 map of the Beverley Patent by J.R. Hildebrand (from the book *The Tinkling Spring: Headwater of Freedom* by Howard McKnight Wilson, Second Edition, McClure Press, Verona, VA, 1974; the Beverley Patent, or Beverley Manor, was a large tract of land in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley obtained by William Beverley in 1736). My second thought was to interpret it as  $21 \frac{1}{3}$  degrees south of west, but doing that consistently still results in an odd diamond shape, and if a pole is supposed to be the same as a rod (16.5 feet), then the area would only be about 137 acres. It appears to me that the tract is supposed to be a rectangle (or nearly a rectangle) with sides of 211 rods and 152 rods (which gives an area close to 200 acres), tilted at an angle of  $21 \frac{1}{3}$  degrees toward the east. Such a shape and orientation could fit nicely within the George & Robert Breckenridge land in Hildebrand's map. My initial thought was that the tract being called out is at the western end of the George & Robert Breckenridge land because the description of the boundary ends with a mention of "David Strain's line" and there is a tract labelled D STRAIN at the northwest corner of the George & Robert Breckenridge land on the map. However, this is difficult to reconcile with the description of the whole 461 acres in the deed for Samuel

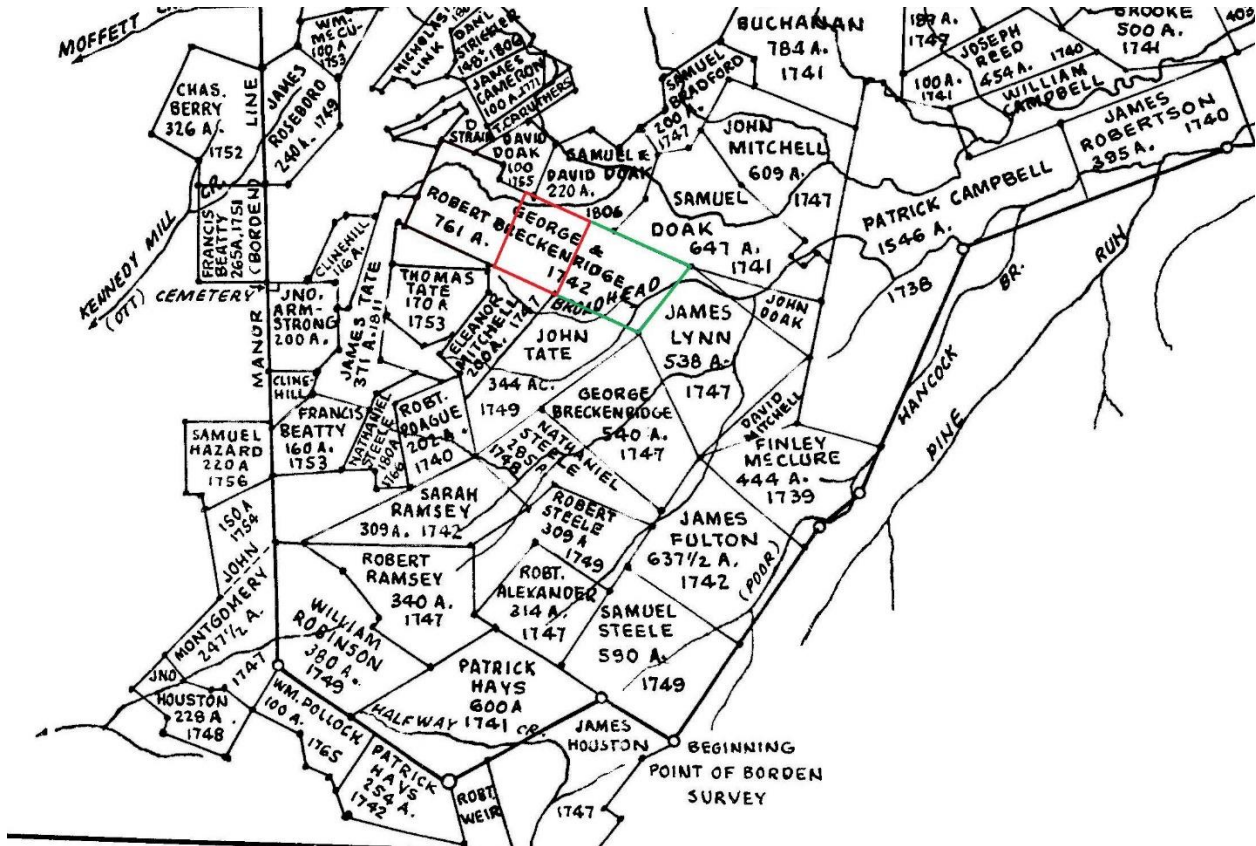
Wilson's purchase of the land from George & Robert Breckenridge. Here is a portion of the deed from George and Robert Breckenridge to Samuel Wilson dated 8 Feb 1745 (Augusta County Deed Book 1, pp. 12–14):

This Indenture made the Eight day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and forty five Between George & Robert Brackenridge of the County of Augusta of the One part & Samuel Willson of the same County and Colony of Virginia of the Other part. Witnesseth that for and in Consideration of the sum of fifty pounds Current Money of Virginia to the said George & Robert Brackenridge ... paid Samuel Willson at or before the sealing and Delivery of these forever the Receipt whereof he doth hereby Acknowledge and thereof [?] doth release Acquit and discharge the said Samuel Willson his Executors and Administrators by these presents, he the said George & Robert Brackenridge Have [?] granted bargain'd sold ... Released and Conferred and by these presents Doth grant bargain sell ... Release and Confirm unto the said Samuel Willson (in his Actual possession now being by virtue of a bargain and sale to him thereof made by the said Robert Brackenridge for one whole year, by Indenture bearing date the day next before the day of the date [?] of these presents and by force of the Statute for Transferring ... and his heirs four hundred and Sixty One Acres of Land on Augusta [?] and Mannor [?] of Beverley part of a tract of Land containing seven hundred and Sixty One Acres granted by Deed of Lease and ... to George and Robert Brackenridge by William Beverley Esq. of Essex County bearing date the Twenty fifth and Twenty sixth days of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty two Declaring that the said George should have three hundred Acres of the north west end of the tract and the remainder thereof to Robert Brackenridge ... by the said Deeds remaining of Record in Orange, which remainder [?] ... of [four] hundred and Sixty One Acres as bounded as followeth ... beginning at a red Oak [?] Corner to said land thence North Sixty five Deg's West three hundred and twenty Nine poles to a white Oak & two hickorys [?] Corner to the afores'd George's land and with his line South twenty Five [?] degrees east two hundred and Sixteen [?] poles to a Locust [?] in a line of said tract thence with the lines of the same South Sixty five degrees East three hundred & thirty poles to two small Chestnuts [?] and a hickory North forty three degrees East two hundred and Eight poles to ... White Oaks by the South River North Sixty One degrees West seventy [?] poles to [?] the beginning and all houses Buildings, orchards, Ways Waters, Watercourses [?], profits commodities, hereditaments [?] and appurtenances Whatsoever to the said premises hereby granted, or any part thereof, belonging or in any wise appertaining [?] and the Reversion and Reversions [?] remainder and remainders [?] ... Issues and profits thereof and also, all the Estate, Right, Title ... use, trust, property, claim, and Demand, whatsoever of ... George & Robert Brackenridge of in and to the s'd premises and all Deed Evidences and Writings touching [?] or in any wise concerning the ... To have and to hold the said tract of land and all and ... Other the premises hereby granted and Released, and every part & parcel thereof, with their and every of their appurtenances ... said Samuel Willson his heirs and assigns forever to the only ... use and behoof of him the said Samuel Willson and of his heirs and assigns forever and the said George and Robert Brackenridge for himself his heirs Executors, and administrators ...

Note that this deed says that Robert Breckenridge had the northwest end of the original 761-acre tract but Samuel's purchase was of George Breckenridge's portion of the land. Perhaps David Strain had moved or purchased additional land by 1817. The angles in this description are just as confusing as the ones above for the 200-acre tract. Based on the Hildebrand map, it seems likely that this is a not-quite-rectangular tract tilted at an angle of 25 degrees toward the east. I think the 200-acre tract is probably a rectangle at the western end of this tract, and since the surveying was probably more accurate in 1817 than in 1745, the tilt angle is probably more like  $21 \frac{1}{3}$  degrees rather than 25 degrees. The following figure seems to fit the two descriptions, the portion outlined in red being the 200-acre tract and the portion outlined in green being the other 261 acres. (The figure shows a small portion of the southwestern corner of the Hildebrand map. Position of the red rectangle is only meant to be illustrative, not exact.) I have confirmed with a spreadsheet that it is possible to interpret the angles in such a way as to get a reasonable

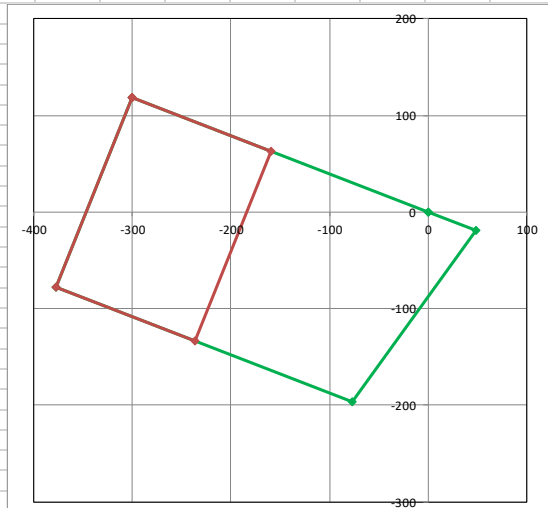


match to the shape and orientation of the tract in the Hildebrand map. Then, with some minor tweaking of the numbers it is possible to reconcile the two tract descriptions and get the desired areas. See below.



Land deeded by George & Robert Breckenridge to Samuel Wilson in 1745

x	y	dist.	angle
0	0		
-300.5	118.4	323	68.5
-377.9	-77.9	211	21.5
-77.3	-196.3	323	68.5
48.9	-19.3	217.5	35.5
0	0	52.6	68.5
area1 =	68153 sq. poles		
area1 =	425.96 acres		
area2 =	5550.2 sq. poles		
area2 =	34.69 acres		
total area =	460.64 acres		
assuming 1 pole = 16.5 ft.,			
211	3481.5 feet		
211	0.66 miles		
323	5329.5 feet		
323	1.01 miles		



Land deeded by Wm. & Catharine Wilson to Wm. Thompson in 1817

x	y	dist.	angle
-300.5	118.4	211	21.5
-377.9	-77.9	152	21.5
-236.4	-133.6	211	21.5
-159.1	62.7	152	21.5
-300.5	118.4	152	21.5
area =	32072 sq. poles		
area =	200.45 acres		
These are the variables -->	211	21.5	
	152	14	
	323		

This is an attempt at fitting the descriptions in both deeds. Distances and angles were modified somewhat to try to make things consistent between the deeds, with the Hildebrand map, and to make a total area of 461 acres.

The proportions seem a little different than Hildebrand. I wonder if his proportions are off a bit.

Unfortunately, William ran into financial difficulties. There is reference to this in a biography of son Robert Wilson in *Reminiscences of the Bench and Bar of Missouri* by W.V.N. Bay (F. H. Thomas and Company, St. Louis, 1878; obtained from Google Books). On p. 561, it says “Robert received a fair English education, and it was the intention of his father to give him a collegiate course, but, becoming financially embarrassed, he was forced to take his son from school.” The biography also says that Robert moved to Missouri in the spring of 1820, which was about the time these financial difficulties were coming to a head. The financial problems are documented in two Augusta County chancery-court cases involving William, Haupe v. Wilson and others ([http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case\\_detail.asp?CFN=015-1821-064](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case_detail.asp?CFN=015-1821-064)) and Little & Telford v. Wilson and others plus Brown v. Little & Telford and others ([http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case\\_detail.asp?CFN=015-1832-026](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case_detail.asp?CFN=015-1832-026)). These financial difficulties are probably why William sold part of his land in 1817, but the problems continued to get worse after that.

The information available in the court papers and various deeds of trust seems to show the debts arising from William’s brother David and William’s sons John and David rather than from William himself. The complaint by Henry Haupe, filed on 9 Sep 1820, stated that William’s brother David, with William as security, had borrowed \$676.70 from Haupe on 25 Dec 1813. At the time of David’s death, he had not paid the money back, and Haupe wanted the remaining 260 acres sold, if necessary, to pay him back (with interest). Sons John and David borrowed a considerable amount of money from several people, and some of the loans were secured by William’s land and personal property, all the way down to feather beds and kitchen furniture. Haupe’s complaint stated that there were already three liens on William’s land: a deed of trust to Samuel Clarke dated 29 Jul 1819 to secure a debt to James Moffett (the deed of trust shows that this was a debt of William’s sons John & David along with William’s brother David), a deed of trust to Michael Garber Jr. dated 10 Aug 1819 to secure a payment due from sons John & David to Jeremiah & James Kyle of Richmond, and a deed of trust to William Clarke dated 1 Oct 1819 to secure a payment due from John & David to Adam & Samuel Grove (note that Samuel Grove was William’s son-in-law, having married William’s daughter Mary on 16 Nov 1818). What’s worse is, this wasn’t even a complete list of liens on William’s land, as a deed of trust to Preston Trotter dated 9 Oct 1819 to secure a debt by John & David to Little & Telford also listed William’s 261 acres as security. The 261 acres were apparently sold at auction to Henry J. Tapp and John Garber for \$1,600 (Augusta County Deed Book 45, pp. 385–387, dated 20 Nov 1820), who later sold it to John K. Moore (Augusta County Deed Book 47, pp. 72–73, dated 14 Nov 1822). There are more details on all of this in the chapter on Augusta County Details in my [Wilson book](#). A big factor in the travails of John, David, and William is that property values crashed. This is probably reflected in the fact that William sold 200 acres of his land in 1817 for \$3,000, but then the remaining 261 acres sold for only \$1,600 in 1820. This crash in property values was likely because of the Panic of 1819, which was “arguably this country’s first modern business cycle” and “the first truly national depression America experienced” (p. 1 of Haulman).

There is a lot of information about the Panic, in particular as it affected Virginia, in *Virginia and the Panic of 1819: The First Great Depression and the Commonwealth* by Clyde A. Haulman (Pickering & Chatto, London, 2008). On pp. 25–26 Haulman states:

Contemporary observers indicate that the Panic of 1819 was a traumatic experience for the new republic. For example, John C. Calhoun, discussing the situation with John Quincy Adams in 1820, said, “There has been within these two years an immense revolution of fortunes in every part of the Union: enormous numbers of persons utterly ruined; multitudes in deep distress; and a general mass disaffection to the government.”

...

The young nation’s “traumatic awakening to the capitalist reality of boom-and-bust” reported by these various sources was a complex combination of financial market volatility, swings in international market

demand, and federal government financial activity. The actions of the Second Bank of the United States along with those of a number of state-chartered banks have received much scholarly attention.

Of most relevance here is this from p. 63:

Table 4.3 shows the value of real property as assessed in the City of Richmond for the years 1817–25. Here the impact of the Panic of 1819 on property values is clearly evident as assessments fell 49.1 per cent between 1818 and 1819 and decreased again by 50.1 per cent between 1819 and 1820 for a total decline of 74.6 per cent in value of assessed property in the years between the peak in 1818 and the trough in 1820. By 1821 assessments had risen slightly, up 1.4 per cent, and in the following year the value of property continued to rise, up an additional 51.2 per cent. Thus, by 1822 assessed property values in Richmond had recovered somewhat from the trough reached in 1820, but assessments, despite their upward movement, still remained 61.1 per cent below their pre-Panic peak of almost \$16 million in 1818. From this point until 1825, assessed real property values changed very little.

Note, however, that the timing of the real-estate crash could have been somewhat later over in the Shenandoah Valley. On p. 60, Haulman shows that the decline in commodity prices occurred somewhat later in western Virginia than in Richmond. John and David Wilson made their ill-fated land purchases in October 1818 and March 1819, possibly before land prices started to drop in Augusta County.

The information from the court papers strengthens the evidence that this William Wilson was the same as the William Wilson listed in Adair Wilson's family record, as now we know that not only did they both have wives named Catharine, but they also both had sons named John and David. (Note that sons Robert and William A. were still young at the time, but John and David were both already married and apparently in business together.) The case can be strengthened even more by another deed of trust dated 27 Mar 1820 (Augusta County Deed Book 44, pp. 421–423), which was from "John Wilson and Patsy his Wife and David Wilson and Margaret his Wife" to William Clarke. The combination of all these names—William, Catharine, John, Patsy, David, and Margaret—is too much to be a coincidence, and I think makes the link between Generation 7 (William Wilson) and Generation 8 (Robert Wilson) nearly certain.

There were three William Wilsons in the 1820 census for Augusta Co., VA (the land tax records for Augusta County show six William Wilsons during this time period). Two of the census listings were in the area of Waynesboro (Maj. William Wilson and Rev. William Wilson); the third was in the area of Greenville, with a listing of William Wilson (S. River). The deeds dated 1 Oct 1819 and 20 Nov 1820 that were referred to previously both stated that William was living on the 260/261-acre tract of land. Deeds and tax records described the 260/261 acres as being on the head waters of the South River, which fits nicely with the census listing near Greenville. That listing is as follows:

1820 census

Image 1 on Ancestry.com (Saunton [Staunton], Augusta Co., VA)

Listed as William Wilson (S. River). In the margin of this section, it says Greenville Augusta.

Household consisted of four males (ages 45+, 26–44, 10–15, under 10) and 6 females (two aged 45+, one 16–25, two aged 10–15, and one under 10). Presumably the male aged 45+ was William and the male aged 10–15 was William Adair. John and David were already married by this time; the male aged 26–44 might have been Robert, but if so his age was marked wrong. I don't know who the under-10 male was. Presumably one of the females aged 45+ was Catharine and the female aged 16–25 was Nancy. Polly

was already married by this time. I don't know who the other four females would have been (ages 45+, 10-15, 10-15, under 10). Also, one slave was listed, a male aged 14-25.

## 8. Fifth-Great-Grandfather – Robert Wilson

### Summary:

Born: date and place unknown

Married Mary, last name unknown, date and place unknown

Died: between 9 Sep 1768 and 16 Nov 1768 in Augusta County, Virginia

Known residences: Virginia Colony

My information on Robert Wilson and his family is collected in *Descendants of Robert Wilson of Augusta County, Virginia: From Mid-Eighteenth Century to Early Twenty-First Century*. It is available at [https://archive.org/details/WilsonBook\\_201809](https://archive.org/details/WilsonBook_201809).

I have even less information on Robert Wilson than I do on William. The earliest information I have about Robert is that he bought land in Augusta County, Virginia, on 3 Jun 1755. He bought the land from his brother, Samuel, who had bought it in 1745. (I'm not completely sure that Samuel Wilson was Robert's brother, but Katherine Bushman thought he was.) Augusta County was only organized in 1745, and the deed for Samuel's purchase is near the beginning of the first County deed book. (Documents before that time are in Orange County records.) Augusta County was huge at the time, stretching in theory from the Blue Ridge all the way to the Mississippi River. However, Robert's land was in the core part of the county, a little south and west of Staunton, which is the county seat.

This was not a safe place at the time. According to *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871* by Joseph A. Waddell (Second Edition, C. Russell Caldwell, Staunton, VA, 1902; obtained from <http://www.archive.org/details/annalsofAugustac00wadd>), the Shenandoah Valley was not inhabited at the time European settlers started arriving there in the 1720s. Quoting an earlier author, he says "This delightful region of country was then only used as a hunting ground, and as a highway for belligerent parties of different nations, in their military expeditions against each other. In consequence of the almost continuous hostilities between the northern and southern Indians, these expeditions were very frequent, and tended somewhat to retard the settlement of the Valley, and render a residence in it, for some time, insecure and unpleasant."

A major pathway for immigration to the Shenandoah Valley and beyond was called the Great Valley Road. From *Map Guide to American Migration Routes, 1735-1815* by William Dollarhide (Heritage Quest, Bountiful, UT, 1997):

Before 1744, the "Great Warrior Path" was an Indian trading path from New York to the Carolinas. This trail marked the western frontier of the colonies, and no white man ventured across that line without fear of attacks from hostile Indians. In 1744, when a treaty with the Indians gave whites total control of the area east of the Great Warrior Path in Virginia, the way was clear for the path to evolve into the most heavily traveled road in colonial America. By the end of the 1740s, the **Great Valley Road** was the scene of large migrations into the wilderness of western Virginia, beginning at the Shenandoah Valley.

During the period 1745-1775, thousands of immigrants used this road. Many of them were Scotch-Irish families who had sailed from Ireland to Philadelphia or Alexandria....

The general route of the Great Valley Road today is called **U.S. Highway 11** (or I-81) and is very easy to locate on a modern map....

Beginning in the 1730s, the government of the Colony of Virginia was encouraging settlement in the area that would become Augusta County to form a buffer between the Native Americans (and the French) and the more settled parts of Virginia east of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The danger increased quite a bit after the French and Indian War started, and especially after the defeat of British General Edward Braddock at what is now Pittsburgh, PA, on 9 Jul 1755—just a month after Robert bought his land. Most of the action in the French and Indian War was farther north, but there were a number of raids and even massacres in Augusta County. *Annals of Augusta County* has a long discussion of events in the “Indian Wars” from 1753 to 1764. Included are some incidents involving Wilsons, but they are not known to be related to Robert.

Many of the early settlers of Augusta County were from Scots-Irish families who had initially settled in Pennsylvania (as noted above), so speculation is that Robert and Samuel might have been born in Pennsylvania or in Northern Ireland. (The Scots-Irish, or Scotch-Irish, were people who had settled in Northern Ireland from Scotland and northern England, primarily of Presbyterian faith; see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scotch-Irish\\_Americans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scotch-Irish_Americans).) There is some backing for this theory in the biography of Adair Wilson in *Portrait and Biographical Record of Denver and Vicinity, Colorado*, which says “His paternal great-grandfather emigrated from Ireland to the United States and after a short sojourn in Pennsylvania went to the Shenandoah Valley, of Virginia, where he was engaged as a planter until his death.” Note, however, that this biography also says that Adair’s paternal great-grandfather was a brother of James Wilson, the signer of the Declaration of Independence—but James Wilson was from Scotland. This suggests another possibility, that Robert could have been born in Scotland, but it also undercuts the credibility of the Adair Wilson biography unless Robert moved from Scotland to Northern Ireland to Pennsylvania to Virginia.

Stories that our Wilson family was related to James Wilson, signer of the Declaration of Independence and one of the authors of the Constitution, are fairly widespread. It was just mentioned above that an Adair Wilson biography said his paternal great-grandfather (Robert Wilson) was a brother of James Wilson. Leonie Rinker, in a letter to me (above, under Horace Everett Wilson), said that James Wilson “was a brother of a many times great grandfather of yours.” Mollie Turner Reid, in the Reid manuscript (“A few items of history – of interest to the family & maybe not to them”, 1931, obtained from the Foster/Reid Family Tree web site on Ancestry.com), said that James Wilson was a half-brother of a grand or great-grandfather of D.W. Reid (this would be William or Robert Wilson). *Portrait and Biographical Record of Lafayette and Saline Counties, Missouri* (Chapman Bros., Chicago, 1893, pp. 326–327, obtained from Google Books), in the biography of Robert H. Wilson, says that his grandfather (this would be William Wilson) was a half-brother of James Wilson. Benjamin Harrison Wilson, in a letter written around 1895, also said that his grandfather, who would be William, was a half-brother of James Wilson. The Foster/Reid Family Tree has Robert Wilson as a half-brother of James Wilson. This version is the most plausible, but I still don’t know of any evidence for it. I have Page Smith’s biography of James Wilson, and it says nothing about James having a brother named Robert or having any half-brothers. This doesn’t necessarily mean he didn’t, but I don’t know of any evidence that he did. Another possibility is that James was some sort of cousin to Robert, rather than a brother or half-brother.

Ronald Wilson’s family tree on Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/173621658/person/222254590511/facts>) shows Robert as born in 1721 in County Antrim, Northern Ireland, and also has some information about his parents. Ron told me that the birth place was based on information that his son James was born there, and that 1721 was just an estimate. I don’t know if any of this is right, though. Ron’s tree has a lot of information about James Wilson and his family and descendants (also about the other sons, Thomas and Samuel). However, an entry on Find A Grave for James Wilson (1743–95) has a lot of the same information about this James Wilson, but it lists his parents as Matthew Wilson and Charity Smith. Ron’s tree also says that Robert’s wife was Mary Ramsey, born

1718 in Ireland. This is an interesting correspondence to my Y DNA results, which show many Ramsey and Ramsay matches. I just don't know if it's right, though.

Here is my attempt to transcribe Robert's will (which is in Augusta County Will Book 4, pp. 161–163). I have added punctuation to improve readability; the original has almost no punctuation marks.

In the name of God Amen, I, Robert Wilson, of the County of Augusta in the Colony of Virginia, Farmer, being sick and weak of body but of Perfect mind & memory thanks to Almighty God, & Calling to mind the Mortallity of my body, do make this my last Will in manner & form following that is to Say Principally. I recommend my soul to god & my Body I Committ to the dust to be buried in a Christian like & decent Manner, & as touching such worldly estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me I give, devise, & bequeath as follows. Imprimis: I give & bequeath to my son David two hundred & Sixty acres of the land I live on, with the houses and other Improvements, & order him to give a Sufficient Maintenance to my Wife out of it during her life and to take care of my son William and daughter Littice till they see reason to remove from this or till their Marriage, and also to pay to my Daughter Ann Twenty Pounds at her Marriage. Item: I give & bequeath to my son Robert the Remainder of my Land, Viz. two hundred acres & Order him to Pay my son William Forty pounds when he Arrives to the age of Twenty-one Years. Lastly, I order all my House hold Goods & Stock of Horses, Cows, hogs, and sheep to be equally divided Betwixt my Wife and my sons Robert, David, Ann, & Lettice & my Sons Thomas, Samuel, and James having already had their Shares from me I order them five Shillings each [without punctuation, this is ambiguous, but I'm pretty sure the first group is sharing the livestock, etc., and Thomas, Samuel, and James are getting five shillings each (having already had their shares)] & I appoint my Wife Mary my Executrix & I do hereby revoak & disanul all other former Wills made by me heretofore, ratifying and Confirming this to be my last Will. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal this 9th September 1768.

Robert Wilson, his mark

Sealed & delivered in the presence of Robert Mitchell, John Tate Senr., John Tate Junr.

At a Court contd. & held for Augusta County Novr. the 16th 1768, This Last Will and Testament of Robert Wilson dec'ed was proved by the Oaths of John Tate and John Tate Junr., two of the witnesses thereto, and Ordered to be Recorded and on the motion of Mary Wilson the Executrix — name in the said Will, who made Oath According to Law, Certificate is Granted her for Obtaining a probat thereof in due form, she having with Securities entered into & Acknowledged their bond According to Law.

There is additional text about the administration of the will, but it's not particularly interesting. Thanks to William J. Wilson for help deciphering the will.

A summary of important points:

- The will is dated 9 Sep 1768 and the court hearing was on 16 Nov 1768, so Robert died sometime between those dates. I have no information regarding how old he was or when he was born (or where).
- Robert's wife's name was Mary, but I do not know her family name.

- Children named in the will are Thomas, Samuel, James, David, Robert, Ann, Littice/Lettice, and William. This provides another link between Generation 7 (William Wilson) and Generation 8 (Robert Wilson).
- Robert Wilson left 260 acres of land (including the houses and other improvements) to his son David.
- He left 200 acres of land to his son Robert.
- The date of this will is the same as indicated in the deed from William and Catharine Wilson to William Thompson, so we know it is the same land. It's not clear whether the 200 acres to William Thompson are the same as the 200 acres to Robert Wilson, but that seems likely.
- Son Robert was to pay 40 pounds to son William when he reached age 21, so we know that William was under 21 in September 1768.