

## Items in genealogy files of Ann Arnold Hennings

Letter from Elizabeth Thompson Arnold to Ann Arnold Hennings re: life of her husband William Calvin Arnold; transcription, correction and addition to letter by Elizabeth and Ann.

Robert Stoy 20 Nov 2020.

May, 2011

①

Charles L. Nichol  
Mem. Park,  
Hickman Co.,  
TN

William Calvin Arnold  
Born Sept 26, 1939 McLean  
Died July 29, 2008 Centerville TN

↑ Buried - Centerville, TN

about 18 months<sup>old</sup> blood poisoning  
thought to be from injection,  
one arm significantly shorter as result  
Attended Franklin Sherman  
Elementary School

Graduated from McLean Hi  
School in first graduating  
class.

Raised goats. "Bucky" would  
play ball with boys in  
front yard. One day <sup>got</sup> sailed  
over the hood of a car as  
he chased ball. Family did  
not like the taste of goat  
milk → tried letting baby  
calf nurse from mother goat.  
That was not good idea since

Beel K14DAG

Am. Radio Inc  
Beel - K14DAE

granted 11/20/2003

coaf would completely lift  
goat into air when he punched  
her.

Married Elizabeth (Beth)  
Ann Thompson 1960 Great  
Falls, VA.

Moved to Lynchburg, VA  
to attend Lynchburg College  
for 1 year

1961 Moved to Blacksburg,  
VA to attend VPI. Graduated  
1964 with BS in Industrial  
Engineering. Two children  
born while attending VPI —  
Christina Lee 1962  
William Eric 1963

First job with Alcoa Alum.  
in West VA.

1966 Martin - Marietta Orlando Fla. Parents - Edmund + Marietta lived in Howey On The Hills, Fla. Many weekends spent fishing on Little Lake Harris + golfing.

Moved back to Virginia to work as engineer with Chathamly Construction. Bought 5 acre lot on Hogback Mtn outside Leesburg, VA. Built house + moved in <sup>fall</sup> before complete. Children slept in basement for some weeks until airtight + warmer. Bill's dad spent many hours <sup>helping</sup> bracing walls and working alone since both Bill + Beth worked. One evening ~~after~~ returning after work we found Granddaddy with stitches in his head. He had sawed a piece of plywood and ended

falling one story to the ground. He drove himself to the local hospital and was patched up. He made us promise not to tell Marietta. When she arrived to join us someone at church asked her what she thought of his stitches. Up to that point she just thought he'd bumped his head. She was not happy knowing how far he'd fallen and how serious it could have been.

Bill left Chantilly Construction and opened his own earth moving business. Business went well ~~until~~ for a while but when it slowed down & equipment sold we bought a motor home, packed up and took the kids on a trip to

the west coast.

#5A

Home on Mountain was <sup>in Loudoun County</sup> sold and the Arnold clan moved to Hickman County in Tenn. We bought a small farm with a mile of spring fed creek. The water was wonderful, clear and cold. Raised cows and pigs and learned how little we knew. Granddaddy again came for extended visits many times alone. On one such visit he bought a milk cow. Her name was Hazel. He would spend long periods holding a rope so Hazel could feed on the lush grass outside the fence. <sup>During</sup> Another visit we were found to have head lice. Never

Our first overseas adventure was to Lagos, Nigeria. Bill went ahead of the family. Summer heat of the equator was a surprise. Traffic in Lagos was a nightmare. ~~The two older children attended the~~ Bill worked on a construction ~~right~~ site. We didn't have a car for a while so buying groceries locally was difficult. I could not buy fresh beef hanging from a tree so we ate lots and lots of Spam and tuna

Having had head lice we were again slow learning and had to treat everyone twice. The gerbil was found to be the second culprit.

In 1981 Bill accepted a job overseas in Southern Africa. The country was Lesotho. We went to our local library to find out where we were going and could not find Lesotho listed anywhere. As it turned ~~out~~ the country was Basutoland. The name changed when it became an independent country ~~no longer~~ ~~and~~ a protectorate of the United Kingdom. We lived in Lesotho for 11 years. We loved the experience traveling to game parks, lots of ~~country~~ countries and seeing parts

Basutoland



of the world only before seeing in history books or National Geographic.

Returning home in 1992 we lived in Tucson, AZ for one year. Our next trip ~~for work~~ was to Manila, Philippines. ~~We loved the Philippines people.~~ Not having a vehicle we used the company van on the weekends. The Monday morning joke <sup>at office</sup> was to find out where we get lost. Maps were never accurate so driving was always an adventure.

When we next came home we lived in Northern VA. Being close to family was a blessing.

Bill worked for a company that agreed to allow him to work at home from Tenn. ~~the~~ This was 1999. He drew house plans and we sold our townhouse in Sterling. Arriving in In we lived in daughter Cara's basement. Bill worked during the day and we built the house evenings and weekends.

We moved in the house unfinished (just like the last house we built). God has been good to us as a family. Bill got sick in 2006 and was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. He tried every experimentable treatment but God took him home, July 29, 2008.

**WILLIAM CALVIN (Bill) ARNOLD**

Born – 26 September 1939, McLean, Fairfax Co., Virginia

Son of William Edmund Arnold Jr. and Marietta Fruit Arnold

Died – 29 July 2008, Centerville, Hickman Co., Tennessee

Buried – Charles L. Nickell Memorial Park, Centerville, Hickman Co. TN

Married – 27 August 1960, Great Falls, Fairfax Co., Virginia

**ELIZABETH ANN (Beth) THOMPSON**

Born – 24 March 1941, District of Columbia

Daughter of Harold E. Thompson and Ruby Miller (Maiden name)

Children:

Christina Lee Arnold (28 Feb 1962)

William Eric Arnold (13 Sept 1963)

Cara Arnold (16 Apr 1969)

Andrew Scott Arnold (17 Nov 1973)

PICTURES

ACCORDING TO THE OBIT WRITTEN ON THE FUNERAL HOME WEB PAGE, IT SAYS BILL WAS A US ARMY VETERAN. WHEN AND WHERE DID HE SERVE?



**“Life of William Calvin Arnold” by his wife, Beth – 2011**

Bill was born in McLean, Virginia, and when he was 18 months old, it was discovered that he had blood poisoning thought to be from injections. One arm was significantly shorter as a result but it never was a problem throughout his life. Living in McLean he attended Franklin Sherman Elementary School and then was in the first graduating class of McLean High School in 1955.

One of Bill’s interests was raising goats. “Bucky” would play ball with the boys in the front yard. One day the goat sailed over the head of a car as he chased the ball. The family did not like the taste of goat milk and even tried letting a baby calf nurse from the mother goat. That wasn’t such a good idea as the calf would completely lift the goat into the air when nursing.

In 1960 Bill and I married and moved to Lynchburg, Virginia, for him to attend college. After one year we moved to Blacksburg for Bill to continue his education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) where he graduated in 1964 with a BS in Industrial Engineering. The first of our children, Christina Lee and William Eric were born there. (CORRECT?)

After graduation, Bill’s first job was with ~~Alcoa~~ <sup>Kaiser</sup> Aluminum in West Virginia and by 1966 we were in Orlando, Florida, where he was employed with Martin-Marietta. By then, Bill’s parents were living in Howey-in-the-Hills, about an hour’s drive west of Orlando, where we spent many weekends fishing on Little Lake Harris and golfing.

WILLIAM CALVIN (BILL) ARNOLD  
Born - 20 September 1932, Martinsburg, Fairfax Co., Virginia  
Son of William Edward Arnold Jr. and Barbara Fritts Arnold  
Died - 29 July 2008, Charlottesville, Albemarle Co., Virginia  
Buried - (James L. Nicksel Memorial Park, Charlottesville, Albemarle Co., VA)  
Married - 27 August 1960, Great Falls, Fairfax Co., Virginia

ELIZABETH ANN (EM) THOMPSON  
Born - 14 March 1914, District of Columbia  
Died - 1994, Fairfax County, Virginia  
Married - 1934, Fairfax County, Virginia

Children  
William Lee Arnold (28 Feb 1963)  
William Lee Arnold (13 Sept 1965)  
Ann Arnold (10 Apr 1969)  
Andrew Lee Arnold (17 Nov 1973)

Bill was born in Martinsburg, Virginia, and when he was 18 months old, he was placed in the care of his grandparents in Charlottesville, Virginia. He was raised in Charlottesville and attended the University of Virginia.

Bill was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Bill was born in Martinsburg, Virginia, and when he was 18 months old, he was placed in the care of his grandparents in Charlottesville, Virginia. He was raised in Charlottesville and attended the University of Virginia. He was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

One of Bill's favorite pastimes was reading books. "Lucky" would play ball with the boys in the back yard. One day the goat sailed over the head of a car as he chased the ball. The family did not like the taste of goat milk and so they fed him a baby carrot from the neighbor's garden. That wasn't such a good idea as the goat would completely hit the ground and the air when running.

In 1960 Bill and I married and moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, for him to attend college. After one year we moved to Blacksburg for Bill to continue his education in Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) where he graduated in 1964 with a BS in Industrial Engineering.

After graduation, Bill's first job was with the Army in West Virginia and by 1966 he was in Orlando, Florida, where he was employed with Martin Marietta. By then Bill's parents were living in Martinsburg and Bill's brother, James, was working in Martinsburg. Bill's first job was with the Army in West Virginia and by 1966 he was in Orlando, Florida, where he was employed with Martin Marietta. By then Bill's parents were living in Martinsburg and Bill's brother, James, was working in Martinsburg.

From Florida we moved back to Virginia for Bill to work as an engineer with Chantilly Construction. We bought five acres on Hogback Mountain outside Leesburg and built a home. Before it was completed we moved in and lived in the basement. Bill's dad spent many hours helping by bracing the walls and working alone since we both worked. One evening we returned and found Granddaddy with stitches in his head. He had sawed a piece of plywood and ended up falling one story to the ground. He drove himself to the local hospital and was patched up. He made us promise not to tell Marietta. When she arrived to join us, someone at church asked her what she thought of his stitches. Up to that point she just thought he'd bumped his head. She was not happy knowing how far he'd fallen and how serious it could have been.

Bill left Chantilly Construction and opened his own earth-moving business. [WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE COMPANY?] This went well for a while but when business slowed we sold the equipment, bought a motor home, packed up and took the kids on a trip to the west coast.

Our first overseas adventure was to Lagos, Nigeria. Bill went ahead of the family to work on a construction site. Summer heat of the equator was a surprise. Traffic in Lagos was a nightmare. We didn't have a car for a while so buying groceries locally was difficult. I could not buy fresh beef hanging from a tree so we ate lots and lots of Spam and tuna fish. *Christina & Ric attended the American Embassy School.*

Returning to the states, our home on the mountain in Loudoun County, VA, was sold and we moved to Hickman County in Tennessee where we bought a small farm with a mile of spring-fed creek. The water was wonderful, clear and cold. Here we raised cows and pigs and learned how little we knew about farming. Granddad Arnold again came for extended visits, many times alone. On one such visit he bought a milk cow. Her name was Hazel. He would spend long periods holding a rope so Hazel could feed on the lush grass outside the fence. During another visit we were found to have head lice. [SOUNDS LIKE EDMUND BROUGHT IT when you said "The gerbil was found to be the second culprit" TRUE?] Never having had head lice we were again slow learning and had to treat everyone twice. Our gerbil was found to be the culprit.

In 1981 Bill accepted another job overseas, this time in Southern Africa in a country by the name of Lesotho. We went to our local library to find out where we were going and could not find Lesotho listed anywhere. As it turned out, the country was originally named Basutoland but the name changed when it became an independent country and no longer a protectorate of the United Kingdom. *Christina was married in 1979 so remained in USA with her family. Ric graduated from high school & attended Nashville arts & sciences college.* We lived in Lesotho for eleven years and loved the experience by traveling to game parks and surrounding countries to see parts of the world only heard about when reading *The National Geographic*.

Returning home in 1992 we lived in Tucson, Arizona, for one year. Our next trip was to Manila, Philippines. [WHAT WAS THE JOB BILL DID THERE?] Not having a vehicle we used the company van on weekends to sightsee. The Monday morning joke at the office was to find out where we got lost. Maps were never accurate so driving was always an adventure. AT WHAT POINT WERE THE CHILDREN GETTING MARRIED OR MOVING OUT ON THEIR OWN AND NOT GOING WITH YOU?

*when we packed up for Lesotho. When he completed his course a year later he joined us in Southern Africa. He met his wife in Lesotho. She was the daughter of missionaries. They were married several years later in Dallas, TX where they remain today.*

*yes*

*Arnold Construction*

*No Edmund did not bring it - Richard & family brought it when they came for a visit. They left before we discovered we had it.*

*See back of page*

Bill, being very familiar with USAID regulations, was following how the company spent their money. He kept records of what was bought and exactly how each dollar spent. The locals called him "Daddy Bill" because he was the oldest member of office staff.

Bill continued working for the same company. This time he monitored reports sent in from around the world. ~~to be sure~~ After living in Sterling for several years the company

1998

From the Philippines we returned to Northern Virginia where being close to family was a blessing. Bill worked for a company that agreed to allow him to work at home from Tennessee. This was ~~1999~~ so we drew up house plans, sold our townhouse in Sterling, VA, and arrived in Tennessee where we moved into our daughter Cara's basement until our new home was built. Bill worked [**WAS THIS AS A TRUCK DRIVER FOR THE COUNTY?**] during the day and we spent evening and weekends on the house. As with the last house we built, we moved in before it was finished.

God has been good to us as a family. In 2006 Bill got sick and was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. He tried every experimental treatment available but God took him home on July 29, 2008.

Now in 2011 I am selling our home on Arnold Road and <sup>will move into town of</sup> moving to Centerville, TN



House complete, health declining, Bill retired from the corporate world. He felt the need to do something productive so hired on with the county. He would collect ~~pick up~~ trustees from local jail and pick up trash along the county roads. He continued doing this until his health declined to the point of no return.

From the Philippines we returned to Northern Virginia where being close to family was a  
pleasure. Bill worked for a company that tried to allow him to work in Irvine from Tennessee.  
This was 1997 and we were the house planer sold our house in Sterling VA and moved to  
Irvine. We moved into our daughter's house and our house was built.  
Bill worked at the house for 10 years. During the day and we  
spent evening and weekends on the house. As with the last house we built we moved in before  
it was finished.

God has been good to us as a family. In 2006 Bill got sick and was diagnosed with multiple  
myeloma. He tried to get experimental treatment available but that cost him time on July 20,  
2008.

May 10 2011 I am selling our home on Amble Road and taking it to  
Crestville

Bill worked for a company that tried to allow him to work in Irvine from Tennessee.  
This was 1997 and we were the house planer sold our house in Sterling VA and moved to  
Irvine. We moved into our daughter's house and our house was built.  
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it was finished.



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*Great hearing from you!*

May 12, 2001

Dear Beth,

The information you sent about Bill has developed into a great story and I hope you don't mind the little editing I did however I would like a little more information and any changes you see that are needed.

1. Would you say that Bill's carpentry talent was inherited from his father and grandfather Arnold? *Definitely. He was mechanical and could fix almost anything he took apart.*
2. Draft of Edmund and Marietta - I've developed the bio from a copy of an autobiography Dave started in 2004 but it didn't provide me information about his parents later years. The few mentions in your paper about Edmund are great, especially the trip to the hospital. Do you recall anything that will expand on the attached, especially Marietta? As I recall, didn't she tutor handicapped children in their homes?
3. As you can see, I am including pictures. Do you have any of the two of you that I can borrow to scan and return?
4. Naming of Arnold Road. Only family member to be so lucky. Were you the only family living on it at the time? *No, but living in Africa at the time so must have given the county the idea for the name.*
5. See parts of the story where I have added questions in red.
6. With the various moves out of the country, did you home school your children? - *see back page*
7. What jobs did you have along the way? - *see back page*

I was surprised to see you have your home listed for sale. It is a lovely place. Where are you moving to?

Love,

*Ann*

*I'm working to hard trying to mow/weed/ garden & want to slow down. Will stay in area close to our girls.*

PS. If you have access to e-mail please write to me at the address above.

*over*

(Oldest two children were not educated in Southern Africa)

6. *When we moved* to Lesotho Scott was 7 and Cara 11.

They attended the English Medium School for a couple years. After that we formed a coop with other Christians and hired a teacher. The first one came from the States. She was young and didn't manage living overseas very well.

The next teacher was the wife of a missionary. The children went to her house so she could care

for her young ~~kids~~ family. When families in the coop were transferred we checked into boarding schools in South Africa. We heard of a Baptist school located about 6 hours from Maseru <sup>ASERU (Capital of Lesotho)</sup>.

When we went to visit we liked what we saw.

The elementary school was an environmental school so they learned in the classroom and then applied it outside. Cara loved horses and could

board her horse at the high school. The school was located on a farm so there were trails for riding or places to hunt snakes. The school was one of a few <sup>at that time</sup> that allowed blacks and Indians as well as white children as students.

What an interesting mix! Cara & Scott have remained in touch with some of these friends. Both children returned to the States & graduated from high school.

7. ~~From~~ When we moved to Lesotho I ~~taught~~ <sup>tutored</sup> English to several local children. One child was grandson of the King. I was offered a job at the Agricultural College, working for professors from ~~the~~ western Universities. When that ~~project~~ <sup>project</sup> ended I worked for the Director of USAID. I did not have a job at any of the other places we lived.