

Descendants of Robert Lester Thornton

Generation 1

1. **ROBERT LESTER¹ THORNTON** was born on 11 May 1898 in Cherry Hill, Arkansas. He died on 05 Apr 1987 in Madison Co., AL. He married Ina Earl Lewis, daughter of Smith Elisha Lewis and Artie Lee Bounds, in 1925 in TX. She was born on 05 Apr 1902 in Gibtown, Jack, Texas, United States. She died on 09 Jul 1973 in Plainview, Hale, Texas, United States.

Robert Lester Thornton and Ina Earl Lewis had the following children:

- i. **CHARLOTTE MAY² THORNTON** was born on 11 Jul 1926 in Tell, Childress, Texas. She died in Aug 2006 in Lakeland, Polk Co., FL. She married **EDWARD J. NOLET**. He was born on 04 Apr 1921 in Lawrence, Massachusetts.
- ii. **HAROLD(HAL) EARL THORNTON** was born on 06 Jul 1938 in Plainview, Hale, Texas, United States. He married (1) **BEVERLY JEAN RUST**, daughter of Clyde Curtis Rust and Esther Pearl Buckingham, on 12 Aug 1988 in Huntsville, Alabama. She was born on 29 Aug 1941 in McCracken County, Kentucky. He married (2) **DORCAS ANN CAMPBELL**, daughter of John Raymond Stout and Juanita Farmer (Campbell), on 23 Dec 1961 in Minden, Louisiana. She was born on 02 Apr 1937 in Wautauga, Tennessee.

Notes for Harold(Hal) Earl Thornton:

Harold (Hal) was born and raised in Plainview, Texas. He attended Highland Grade School, Plainview Junior High School, and Plainview High School. He graduated from Plainview Hi in 1956 and enrolled in Baylor University in August of 1956. He graduated from Baylor with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1960. Following graduation he served six months active duty with the US Army taking basic training and advanced individual training at Ft Leonard Wood, MO. Following his army service, Hal was employed by the General Adjustment Bureau(GAB), an insurance claims adjusting firm.

The first place of employment was in Carlsbad, NM. He move there from Plainview, TX with all his worldly possessions in the backseat of his 1954 Ford. Life was truly an adventure. He lived and worked in Carlsbad with GAB for two and a half years, and in 1963 he was transferred to Santa Fe, NM. During his time at Carlsbad, he met and married Dorcas Ann Campbell. Their first son Shawn, was born in Carlsbad. They lived in Santa Fe for one and a half years and Hal applied to and was accepted by the University of NM school of law. During the first year of law school, Hal was also enrolled in the NM Army National Guard Officer's Candidate school. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant June of 1965. His second son Jason, was born in Oct of 1965.

At this time the Vietnam war was escalating and Hal applied for and was accepted into the Army as an Officer and reported to Ft Bliss Texas for active duty in March of 1966. He spent the next twenty and a half years on active duty achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He received numerous medals and decoration during his service time. These include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf cluster, The Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, The Meritorious Service Medal (five times), The Army Commendation Medal (four times), Vietnam Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and others.

Following his military service, Hal joined a group of fellow retired officers and developed a small company, Atlantic Systems Research and Engineering Corporation(ASR&E), with Hal being responsible for the Huntsville, AL operation. At this time Hal and Dorcas divorced in March 1987. During his time in Huntsville, Hal met Beverly Jean (Rust) Townsend. They were married on August 12, 1988. Hal continued to work in developing a business base in the Huntsville Defense Industry, and after three years, ASR&E was sold to Coleman Research Corporation. Hal transferred to CRC as Vice President for Operational Systems and retired after four years.

Begining retirement in 1995, Hal and Beverly continued the pursuit of their real

Generation 1 (con't)

estate interest, moving to Fayetteville, TN in 1991. They began the restoration of their home, a Queen Anne Victorian styled house, and Hal once again began adjusting storm damage insurance claims. When called to work catastrophe storm claims, he and Beverly would pack up their travel trailer and take off to the troubled area. This afforded them the chance for travel and a break from the restoration of the house. Hal would never leave Beverly (BJ to him) behind.