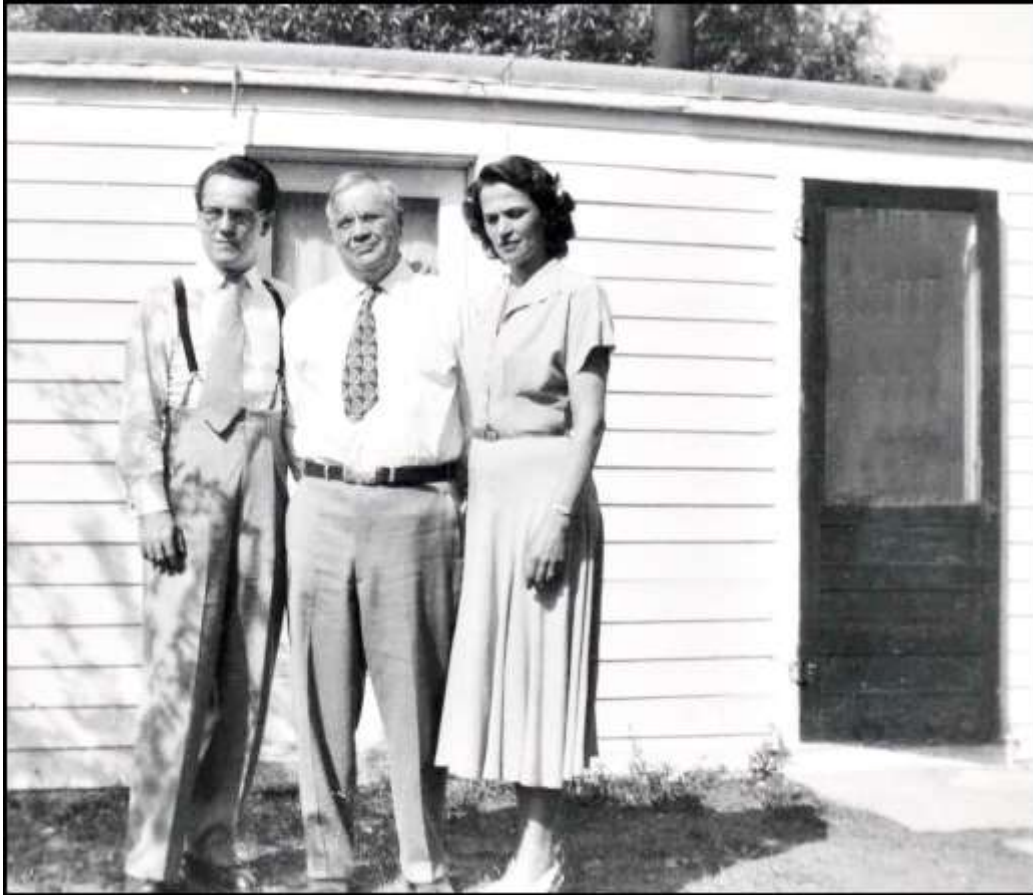


SAM NITE

Samuel Houston Nite
Project Consultant – Gray County



Sam Nite in the center, with his son,
James and his soon to be wife, Elberta M. Jenkins.
About 1950

Many thanks to John H. Bedell for providing Photograph

SAMUEL HOUSTON NITE, son of John Dickerson Nite (1858-1909) and Jeanette Ann “Nettie” Rigdon (1866-1938), was born on 11 Jun 1886 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas.

On 28 Feb 1909, when Sam Nite was only 22 years old, he shot his father, John Nite, twice in the head. This happened at the family home in Garfield, Kansas, (27 miles, northeast of Garden City.) The Coroner’s Jury all agreed that he acted under extreme provocation, to protect the family. The father had always been cruel to his wife and other members of the family, but things had become much worse lately.

Sam Nite had been attending the school of pharmacy at Kansas University and returned home for a Christmas visit. His mother begged him to stay and protect her

and his sister from his father. Sam did not return and stayed home, trying to do the right thing. The court saw it as Justifiable Homicide and Sam went to prison for only one year. The town knew Sam Nite has a peaceful and kind young man and liked by the area's people. He continued with a successful life.

He married **NINA CATHERINE COVERT**, daughter of William Erskine Covert (1864-1918) and Catherine "Kittie" Bottin (1869-1946), on 31 Dec 1913 in Garden City. Nina was born on 16 May 1892.

**Nite's Fountain
Service**

Milk Shakes With Ice Cream.. 10c
Jumbo Ice Cream Sodas 10c
Ice Cream, All Flavors..... 10c
Limeades 10c
Grape Fruit Juice 5c
Bulk Ice Cream Pint 20c Qt. ...40c
ALL FLAVORS

Toilet Goods—Home Medicine
Remedies.

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE
YOU EFFICIENTLY AND FAITH-
FULLY, DAY OR NIGHT!

Nite's Drug Store
MONTEZUMA, KANSAS

THE MONTEZUMA (KANSAS) PRESS
Thursday, 9 Aug 1934

They lived in Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, where Sam owned Nite's Drug Store with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Covert. In August of 1921, Sam sold his interest in the business and bought the Montezuma (Kansas) Pharmacy from Dr. D. C. Munford. The name was changed to Nite's Drug Store. In September of 1921, Sam moved his family to Montezuma, Kansas. In November of that same year, Sam Nite was appointed director of the Montezuma School Board. He retired in 1962 and moved to Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas.

Nina passed away on 10 Aug 1932, due to an automobile accident. Sam died on 22 Sep 1964 at his son's home (*James*) in Wichita, Kansas. Their burial was at the Valley View Cemetery in Garden City, Kansas.

Two sons and one daughter were born in their marriage:

WILLIAM COVERT "BILL" NITE was born on 8 Jun 1915 in Garden City, Finney County, Kansas. In April of 1930, he married Bernice B. Pearce, a twin daughter of

Floyd Dewey Pearce and Bessie Mae Prentice. Bernice was born on 18 Oct 1919 in Hot Springs, Garland County, Arkansas. William died on 20 Oct 1946 in Canyon, Randall County, Texas. He died in an airplane crash and buried at the Valley View Cemetery in Garden City, Kansas. William and Bernice had one daughter, Terri Neal Nite, born on 3 Sep 1943 and died on 15 Jul 2011 in Longmont, Boulder County, Colorado. Bernice married again to Woodrow "Woody" E. Anderson (1918-1992) on 27 Feb 1949. They owned the Anderson Pharmacy in Dodge City, Kansas, until 1984. Bernice died on 18 Jun 2016 in Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas. Bernice and Woodrow were both buried in Dalhart, Dallam County, Texas, at the Memorial Park Cemetery.

JAMES RIGDON NITE, who worked as a dance instructor, was born on 30 May 1920 in Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas. In 1952, he married Elberta Myrta Jenkins. She was born on 16 May 1917 in Penrose, Fremont County, Colorado. James passed away on 12 Jan 2000 in Tucson, Pima County, Arizona. Elberta died there in March of 1995. Burial for both was at the East Lawn Palms Cemetery in Tucson, Arizona.

KITTIE NEIL NITE was born on 1 Apr 1928 in Montezuma Kansas. She married Louis Franklin Yonley (1925-1998) on 6 Nov 1948 in Jackson County, Missouri. Kittie passed away on 22 Jul 1990 in Harris County, Texas.