

Descendants of Samuel Marshal Schwartz

Generation 1

1. **Samuel Marshal Schwartz**-1 was born on 14 Apr 1877 in Jackson Co, Elkhaville, Illinois. He died on 25 Aug 1957 in Jackson Co, IL.

Notes for Samuel Marshal

Schwartz: General Notes:

This story is related by Ruth Schwartz Driskell, niece of Samuel Schwartz. "My father had a twin brother named Sam. He was a huge man, a railroader, I believe, who lived and died in West Frankfort, IL. He married a lovely girl named Dollie Crews, much against the advice of all because she was from a family with a history of much insanity. They had 3 children, Gladys, Cecil and Katheryn. (there was actually another boy who was either born dead or died on the day he was born.) Gladys was a beautiful girl who won a beauty contest at the local fair and for that reason, someway, went to Chicago. She met and married a wealthy Jewish man, but returned home broken hearted and no one ever knew why. They say she would sit and stare for hours, then suddenly scream, fly to the kitchen, grab a knife and threaten to kill herself. She finally did just that. Cecil was a real kook. He never married and always lived at home. He was very possessive of the little sister, Katheryn, they said because of what happened to Gladys. He never would let Katheryn out of his sight. He would not allow her to have dates, or friends, and their mother was crazy enough to let him do this. Katheryn was another beautiful girl, very dark and distinguished looking, but absolutely cowed by that Cecil. She lived such an abnormal, protected life that she became disturbed and was admitted to the State Hospital at Anna, Illinois (note: Records were requested as she is dead but due to confidentiality laws, could not be obtained without court order). The parents and Cecil having died, Katheryn stayed on at the hospital and was cured. She had no place to go then, so they trained her as a secretary and she stayed at the hospital working there. Not too long ago, I heard she is still there."

On a trip to Anna in Aug. 1992, Virginia Foertmeyer visited the hospital in person to see if she could learn any more about Gladys Schwartz..they refused her any information citing confidentiality.

From the journal of Eva Lucy Schwartz, Sam's sister, we learned that Sam worked for the IO Railroad (IORR). I'm not sure at this time what the IO was..maybe Illinois and Ohio? He and Dollie moved to Centralia on 25 May 1898.

In a letter dated 10-14-1993 from George Allen Castleton, he stated that Sam was a "drinking" man. But he said he didn't blame him knowing the pain in his life with two daughters who were "insane". We knew that Sam's brother Josiah had an alcohol problem but I didn't know before the letter that Sam did also.

Makes me wonder about Great grandpa John.!

5-9-94 Received from the Railroad Retirement Board a file on Samuel Schwartz. It confirmed many facts we already knew..dob, parents, death, wife, etc. Most of the rest of it deals with his pension, time on the job, etc. He started with the RR on 28 May 1898 as a brakeman with the Illinois Central. He switched jobs a couple of times until 1907 when he became a yard switchman until his retirement in 1944. His death certificate included showed he died of coronary occlusion and pneumonia. The certificate does have an incorrect date of birth. It says 4-4-1877 but it was in fact 4-14-1877. His SSN was 708-09-4811.

Headstone for Sam and Dollie is found at the Elkhaville Kimmel Cemetery in Jackson co. IL. They are buried next to their daughter, Gladys Schwartz who committed suicide on 9 Jan 1939.

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Dollie Christiana Crews daughter of General Harrison Crews and Mary Beattie was born on 11 Oct 1881 in Murphysboro, Jackson Co., Illinois^[1]. She died on 29 Mar 1970 in West Frankfort, Illinois.

Notes for Dollie Christiana

Crews: General Notes:

According to old family stories, Samuel Schwartz married Dollie Crews against the advice of just about everyone. There was a history of "insanity" in the Crews family, according to folks then. See note under Samuel Schwartz regarding the tragic outcome of this marriage.

According to the Jackson Co. Cemetery Records, there is a stone for Dollie C. Schwartz in the Elkhville-Kimmel Cemetery..dob is there but no date of death. Was the stone placed before her burial and then perhaps she was not buried there or was the date of death just omitted????

4-30-93: from Obituary of Dollie Schwartz: Oct. 11, 1881 - March 29, 1970 Kimmel Cemetery, Elkhville

Born in Jackson Co. to General and Mary Beattie Cruse. Her husband, Sam M. Schwartz died in 1957. She died in Frankfort Heights Nursing Home where she had been a resident for two months. Member of the first Christian Church in West Frankfort. Survivors a daughter, Kathryn Schwartz, and a nephew, Ardell Bennett. A brother, 2 sisters, a son, Cecil and a daughter, Gladys preceded her in death. Services at 1 PM Tuesday from Reedy Funeral Home, West Frankfort, From the railroad retirement board files, we learn her middle name and her date of death. Funeral director was Reedy Funeral Home 604 E. Main St. West Frankfort, IL 62896 From the railroad file we learn their date of marriage, place of marriage and it also verifies the previous information I received as to her parents...General and Mary Beattie Crews. She was never married previously to Sam. She was born NEAR Murphysboro.

Family Data Collection - Births

about Dollie Christiana Crews

Name: Dollie Christiana Crews

Father: General Crews

Mother: Mary Beattie

Birth Date: 11 Oct 1881

City: Murphysboro

County: Jackson

State: IL

Country: USA

Samuel Marshal Schwartz and Dollie Christiana Crews were married on 28 Sep 1897 in Elkhville, Jackson Co., Illinois^[2]. They had the following children:

- i. **Cecil Earl Schwartz** was born on 28 Jun 1899. He died on 27 Aug 1964.

Notes for Cecil Earl

Schwartz: General Notes:

Story related by Ruth Schwartz Driskell, 1st cousin to Cecil:

"Cecil was a real kook. He never married and always lived at home. He was very possessive of the little sister, Kathryn, they said because of what happened to Gladys. He never would let Kathryn out of his sight. He would not allow her to have dates, or friends, and their mother was crazy enough to let him do this. Kathryn was another beautiful girl, very dark and distinguished looking, but absolutely cowed by that Cecil. She lived such an abnormal ,

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protected life that she became disturbed and was admitted to the state hospital at Anna, Illinois. The parents and Cecil having died, Kathryn stayed on at the hospital and was cured. She had no place to go then, so they trained her as a secretary and she stayed on at the hospital working there."

Cousin George Casleton remembers Cecil and says he was eccentric but not "crazy". He was never institutionalized.

Buried in the Elkhville Kimmel Cemetery next to his sister, Katherine.

- ii. **Gladys Schwartz** was born on 14 Mar 1902. She died on 09 Jan 1939.

Notes for Gladys

Schwartz: General Notes:

STORY TOLD BY RUTH SCHWARTZ DRISKELL:

"Gladys was a beautiful girl who won a beauty contest at the local fair and for that reason, somehow, went to Chicago. She met and married a wealthy Jewish man, but returned home brokenhearted and no one every knew why. They say she would sit and stare for hours, then suddenly scream, fly to the kitchen, grab a knife and threaten to kill herself. She finally did just that!

DATES SOURCE: JACKSON CO. CEMETERY RECORDS, VOL III

Talked to cousin George Casleton of Sullivan, IL who remembers this family.

He said Gladys used to play the organ at the silent movies in town. She had mental problems and spent time in the state hospital at Anna, also.

Headstone is found in the Elkhville Kimmel Cemetery....

On the 1930 Census, Gladys is listed as an inmate at Anna, Union Co. IL. This is the state hospital.

- iii. **Edward Samuel Schwartz** was born on 06 Nov 1904 in Marion, Illinois. He died on 06 Nov 1904 in Marion, Illinois.

Notes for Edward Samuel

Schwartz: General Notes:

!Source: journal of Eva Lucy Schwartz Casleton..sister of Samuel and aunt of this child.

- iv. **Kathryn Schwartz** was born on 07 Jan 1914. She died on 25 Nov 1997 in West Frankfort, IL.

Notes for Kathryn

Schwartz: General Notes:

According to her 1st cousin, Ruth Schwartz Driskell, Kathryn was dominated by her older brother, Cecil. Her older sister Gladys went to Chicago, married and returned home broken hearted. She seemed to go insane, and finally killed herself. Because of this, Cecil was overly protective of Kathryn and her mom let him keep her virtually isolated from normal social contacts. She became disturbed and was sent to the State Hospital at Anna, Ill in Union Co. After her mother and Cecil died, she stayed at the hospital and was cured. She stayed on to work at the hospital since she had no where to go after being cured. I wrote to the Anna State hospital in July of 1992 to see if I could get her

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records to see just what her trouble was..because of confidentiality laws, I could not get them. In August of 1992, Ginny Foertmeyer, Kathryn's 1st cousin once removed, visited the hospital but they would give no information on whether she was a patient there. Ginny came away with the feeling she is indeed there but the employees cannot say so due to confidentiality. They did say if she was there, she could receive her mail. So, on Sept. 1, 1992, I wrote a letter to Kathryn...waiting for reply (never got one)

Jackson Co. Cemetery Record Vol III p. 31 shows a head stone is there for Kathryn in Elkhville-Kimmel cemetery but as of publication date, there was no date for death.

Talked to cousin George Casleton of Sullivan, IL. He remembers this family and says he would check the area funeral homes to see if there is any record of Kathryn's death. (8-93)

In a letter from George Allen Castleton, he stated that he knew Kathryn during the 30's. He said his information was word-of-mouth handed down from his mother...that Kathryn's mental condition worsened as she aged. She had a crush on a married lawyer in town and believed that he loved her too. She harrassed him quite a bit and was finally put in the state intitution at Anna. He said he believed, but wasn't sure, that her sister Gladys, who committed suicide, did so at the institution and not at home as I had believed.

Katherine is buried next to her brother, Cecil, at the Elkhville Kimmel Cemetery in Jackson Co. IL>

Sources

- 1 Family Data Collection, Ancestry.com.
- 2 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index 1793-1900.