

Copies

SAMUEL MARTIN BURNS - - - MARY ELIZABETH PFOST (13P1) 13B3
Children

Name: James Grover	Married: Ethel June Hedges	14B1
Born: Jan. 21, 1886	Born: June 16, 1888	
Place: (Hunter) Meridian, Idaho	Place: Meridian, Idaho	
Married: August 31, 1910	Died: Nov. 8, 1964	
Place: Meridian, Idaho	Place: Boise, Idaho	
Died: Dec. 3, 1943	Buried: Morris Hill, Boise, Idaho	
Place: Boise, Idaho	Parents: (F) Clement Hedges	
Buried: Morris Hill, Boise, Idaho	{ (M) Eliza Barnes	
Name: Clara Elsie	Married: Frank Ernest Haasch(14H1)	14B2
Born: Sept. 24, 1887	Born: Jan. 3, 1889	
Place: Dry Creek, Ada Co. Idaho	Place: Menominee, Mich	
Married: August 21, 1912	Died: Oct. 20, 1975	
Place: Meridian, Idaho	Place: Coeur d' Alene, Idaho	
Died: Nov. 19, 1972	Buried: Meridian, Idaho	
Place: Boise, Idaho	Parents: (F) Otto Wilhelm Haasch	
Buried: Meridian, Idaho	{ (M) Caroline Krueger	
Name: Almia Etta	Married: Earl Edward Burke(14Bk1)	14B3
Born: Nov. 23, 1891	Born: Nov. 6, 1892	
Place: Meridian, Idaho	Place: Salubria, Cambridge, Idaho	
Married: Nov. 21, 1913	Died: Feb. 15, 1973	
Place: Meridian, Ida.	Place: Portland, Oregon	
Died: Feb. 27, 1955	Buried: Portland, Oregon	
Place: Meridian, Ida.	Parents: (F) Richard Joseph Burke	
Buried: Meridian, Ida.	{ (M) Anna Wade 8-17-1873	
Name: Apal Alpha	Married: Abraham Garfield Friedline	14B4
Born: April 3, 1893	Born: Jan. 22, 1882	
Place: Meridian, Idaho	Place: Dayton, Nevada	
Married: Jan. 8, 1913	Died: May 4, 1962	
Place: Meridian, Idaho	Place: Boise, Idaho	
Died: Oct. 20, 1972	Buried: Morris Hill, Boise, Idaho	
Place: St. Louis, Mo.		
Buried: Meridian, Idaho		
Name: Waldo Overly Oscar	Married: La Veda Elliott	14Bv5
Born: Dec. 30, 1899	Born: Sept. 27, 1906	
Place: Nampa, Idaho	Place: Missouri	
Married: April 29, 1926	Note: Divorced.	
Place: Boise, Idaho	Lived in Spokane	
Died: Nov. 21, 1974	Name Now La Veda Powers	
Place: Phoenix, Arizona		
Buried: Meridian, Idaho		
Married: (2nd)	Married: Joan Adain Bigelon	
	Born: Nov. 14,	

MARTIN (MART) BURNS

Samuel Martin Burns was born on March 2, 1852 in McDonald County, Missouri. He was eleven years old when his father came home from the Civil War. His father, Emmons, came back an invalid from the war. The farm was heavily mortgaged to help the southern cause, had lost all its stock, and had about gone back to its natural state of wilderness from not being cultivated. It was almost impossible to put the farm back on a paying basis. Mart and his brothers helped all they could, but because of inexperience, no animals or colored help the progress was very slow.

In 1876 Mart felt if he could go west he might be able to earn enough money to help the problem. Jim Stewart and his folks had left for the west the year before and had written him from LaVeta, Colorado, that they were heading for Idaho and Oregon. With the spring work out of the way, Mart headed for LaVeta on the train, and met the Stewarts. He looked over the gold fields without success, so they joined an emigrant train in June and arrived in Boise City on August 18, 1877. The next day they started for Oregon but a day or so later they turned back to Boise City.

Mart got a job on a farm with a Mr Ellis. Ellis was running a freight line from Kelton, Utah, the end of the railroad to Idaho City. Since Mart was able to handle horses, he was soon allowed to drive a freight wagon. (A round trip took about three weeks). After the first two pay days, Mart drew no salary. After four years Mart contracted to buy a fourteen-mule team and freight wagon for two thousand dollars from Ellis. After about two more years he sold the outfit and returned to Missouri.

In the fall Mart returned home to Missouri, paid the mortgage off on the farm. With his brothers he added on to the house to make it more comfortable.

The next spring Mart decided to go again to Idaho and his took his brother, Frank, with him. This time he trying prospecting in the Hailey area and worked for others in the mines. He also played a fiddle for the dances on Saturday nights. That fall he went back to the Stewarts to live over the winter. The next spring the Stewarts decided to build a new house and Mart helped with it. He met his future wife Mollie Pfost while working on the house. She lived a few houses away. He freighted the rest of the summer. In the fall Frank was not feeling well and the two boys returned to Missouri for the winter.

The next Spring, Mart, Frank and their sister Laura with her husband John Fox left for Idaho. Mart went back to the Mines at Ketchum Idaho. Early in the fall he wrote a letter to Mollie Phost proposing marriage, she accepted and they were married at the Pfost home on Feb. 11, 1885. They returned to Ketchum for their honeymoon. A couple of months later they received a letter from the Pfosts saying Mollie's mother was ill. They moved to Boise.

Mart took up a desert claim on Ten Mile creek about five miles west of the Pfost home. When Mrs Pfost died in Dec. 1885, Mart and his wife moved to the Pfost home to take care of the family after Mollie's first child was born in Jan 1886.

Mart took a very active role in church doings. He sang and conducted the Choir.

In 1890 Mart and his wife filed on 480 acres of land just west of Boise because the Ridenbaugh canal was been extended west.

In 1895 Mart returned again to Missouri for about a month. His Father had died and he brought his step-mother back to Idaho with him for an extended visit in Idaho.

Martin Burns: Cont.

About 1897 Mart decided that the children need better schooling and all of them could use an easier life. He therefor purchased a general merchandise store in Hunter (Meridian). He traded one of his south 40 acres for the store and building. In August before school they moved to town and moved his family into living quarters to the side and over the store building.

A year later he built a large home on the corner on five lots to the south east corner of First and Idaho streets.

Isaac Pfost, Mollie's father, had located some mining claims at Josephus Lakes. He gave several good ones to Mart. Mart incorporated the Burns Mining and Milling Company with several of the Meridian businessmen and each summer he would take his family by wagon and some of his partners and spend the summer at the Mine doing assessment work. They traveled from Boise along the foothills to Camas Prairie to Haily, then north to Stanley and west to Cape Horn and north over Vanity summit down Rapid River and up Float Creek to the Lakes. They built three cabins near the mine and lived there during the summer months.

About 1898 Mart interested his brother Frank to go in partnership in a store in Nampa. The building was across from the Depot. The business was not increasing and Mart moved his family in 1899 to Nampa to help out. In the process Mart interested John Fox to enter the Partnership and the store changed its name from Burns Bros. to Burns Brothers and Fox. Early in 1900 Martin moved back to Meridian. The store did well and moved to a new brick two story building across from the Dewey Place Hotel. The business was sold in 1907.

Mart continued to run his store in Meridian successfully. He lead the Choir in the Methodist Church and was noted as an excellent tenor. It is interesting that his daughter Almia was the first girl married in the Church. All of his daughters and Grover had formal weddings, something reserved for the more or less well-to-do.

In 1918 there was a family reunion camping trip at Bear Valley, northwest of Council, Idaho. On his way home they stayed a few days with his daughter at their farm in Cambridge. One night he died of heart failure while asleep.

(taken from Generations, by Apal Friedline, and others)

Mary Elizabeth Pfost was born in Bates County, Missouri, on Nov. 14, 1867. Her parents were Isaac Pfost and Margarett Koontz Pfost. When she was eleven years her folks in May 1878 joined a wagon train headed west to Oregon from Independence, Missouri. In addition to Mollie there were other children; John, Emmett, Effa and Otis.

One incident that was recorded about Mollie on the trip west happened one day in Nebraska. Mollie and some other girls decided to walk the rails of the railroad which parallel the wagon road most of the time. The wagon road and wagon took a sharp turn around a knoll. Since this was usual and the road always came back to the railroad, the girls followed the easier path of the tracks. After an hour or so a handcar came down the tracks with some men on it. It stopped near the girls. The men talked together and then rode away. The girls walked on. The midsummer sun was hot and the girls began to get very thirsty. Later a house was sighted beside the track in the distance. As they drew near a woman came out and smiled at them. She spoke no English, just smiled. When they asked for water, she just smiled. Finally they made themselves understand. They received a drink and rested for a time in the shade before plodding on.

About dusk the wagon train made camp near the tracks and the families discovered that the girls were missing. Just as a party was about to set out to look for the girls, they appeared in the distance down the tracks. Instead of a short-cut the rails had taken a longer path than the wagon trail.

The wagon train pulled up to make camp on the south side of the Boise river one saturday afternoon in August. In a few days Mollie's father found a little house to live in on Washington Street between Seventh and Eighth.

After buying a sheet iron stove and some pine lumber to make a table, bed, and benches to sit on and paying out a months rent the family only had a dollar and fifty cents left. Isaac immediate found a job working on the streets for a dollar and a half a day.

A year later Isaac moved to a gulch about two miles west of Boise on a place that had lots of Cottonwood trees. He cleared the land and sold the wood for a handsome price of \$ 10.00 a cord. During the summer months they raised vegetables for sale to the miners. After a couple of years the family finances improved enough that they moved back to boise to a house on 14th Street.

When Mollie was sixteen, a young man named Mart Burns begin to call at the Pfost home. As he was 15 years older, she did not consider him a suitor.

The next year Isaac homesteaded a 160 acre farm on Five Mile Creek near the second Bluff and built a small house with two rooms on the first floor and two bedroom upstairs. Since there was no school in the area for the next year Mollie held school for her brothers and sister Effa. In another year the Five Mile School was built with Frank Burns serving as the first teacher.

In the early fall of 1884 Mollie received a letter from Ketchum, Idaho. Mart Burns who was working in the mines there wrote a friendly letter. She replied and shortly received another letter from Mart asking for her hand.

After prayer and serious consideration, she replied in the affirmative. Mart arrived in Boise in January.

On Feb. 11, 1885 the wedding was held in the front room of her home and they spent the first night of their honeymoon in Boise at the luxurious Overland Hotel. The following day they took the stage coach to Kuna to catch a train to Hailey, Idaho. They finished their journey to Ketchum by sleigh and started their married life.

In the late spring Mollie received a letter saying her Mother was in ill health and they moved back to Boise and took up a desert claim on Ten Mile Creek. They lived in a tent until a house could be built.

On Dec. 27, 1885 Mollie's mother died and on Jan 21st her first child was born and was named James Grover.

Later in the year Mart and Mollie moved to Dry Creek on the north side of the valley and the next year Elsie was born. This birth was unusual because of a misunderstanding between Mollie and her husband, the baby was born with no other person present. It must have been a difficult time for Mollie.

In the fall of 1887 it was felt best for Isaac and his children to move in with them and Mollie had a family of eight children to care for. The next summer Isaac left for the mountains to work on some mining property he had located.

That fall Mart and Isaac rented 300 acres south and west of Boise and below the bluff for \$ 1000.00 cash rent. The next year Isaac again went back to mining and Mollie took care of her brothers and sisters as well as her own family.

After a very successful crop of grain, Mollie and Mart filed on 480 acres of land several miles west on the flat (bench) and moved on the land on Dec. 1990. Her brothers were getting old enough to be on their own but Mollie had Effa Mae stay with her to help with the work for the next couple of years. Effa Mae married Boyd Burns (no relation to Mart) in Dec. 1893, and Daisy came to take her place in the Burns household.

The long, long years of hard work began to pay off. They had sold two quarter sections and lived in a home as good as any on the bench with a barn, a Bee shed and house for processing the honey, and 40 acres in orchard. They also had built a house across the creek for their hired man, Dan Brindle, and his family.

In 1895 Mart traded the south 40 acres for a general merchandise store and building with living quarters in Meridian and in august moved his family a mile and half (as the crow flies) into town. A year later the family moved into a two story house with screen porches front and back a block away on the North-east corner of Idaho and East First Streets.

Because of the high freight rates on the branch line to Meridian, it would be advantageous to open a store in Nampa. It was done with Mart's brother, Frank, as partner and manager. Later the store was in financial trouble and Mollie's family moved to Nampa. On Dec. 30, 1899 her last child, Waldo, was born.

The following year the business profit of the store improved and the family moved back to Meridian.

In the following years the family grew up into adulthood. Grover married Ethel Burns in 1910 and left to establish a photographic practice in Denver. Elsie was sent to school at Moscow, Milton-Freewater and Albion Normal school. She taught school in Cambridge and found her husband there and was married in 1912. Alpal was courted by Dr. Abe Friedline of Boise and won her hand in Jan. 1913. He built her a new house on 22nd Street.

Almia studied music in Denver and also taught school in Cambridge and met her future husband and married in late 1913.

It seemed that only the more well-to-do families held formal weddings and dinners. All the children were so privileged. Almia was married in the Church, the first person to do so in the life of the church. It was not a common practice and the third church wedding was held some 30 years later.

After moving back from Nampa Mart still kept a manager in the store and in the summertime went mining at Josephus Lakes. Several years along about the last of June they would outfit a couple of wagons and travel east along the foot-hills to Tollgate and Dixie. From there the road led east into Camas prarie to Bellevue and north to Hailey and Ketchum. They continued north past the Sawtooth lakes over Galena summit to Stanley. Then they followed Valley creek west to Cape Horn and turned North over Vanity summit and down Rapid River to Float Creek and Josephus Lakes and the mine.

For Mollie it was a vacation from the normal life and for the kids, it was a lark.

About the first of August 1918 the Burns' Friedlines, Haasches and Burkes went on a mountain outing on Bear Creek, northwest of Council. They established a camp of tents and enjoyed fishing and the mountain air. On the way home Mollie and Mart stopped at the Burkes at Cambridge to spend a few days. On the 13th Mart passed away that morning peacefully while still in bed.

Mollie lived in her home in Meridian. She rented out the garage and built some small shops on the east side of her home property for renting. Waldo grew up and joined the army and landed in France. After he came home, Mollie decided in the late twenties decided that the house should be torn down and a service station built on the center of town corner. Waldo was installed as manager and operator.

Mollie often visited her children to the delight of the grandchildren, because she paid a lot of attention to them. It can be said that she enjoyed her life. She had several chances to remarry, but chose not to do so. She said it seemed like all the men she knew "Popped the question".

Mollie traded all the mining stock she owned and bought a house on the Southwest corner of Pine and Meridian streets where she lived until she passed away at the age of sixty six.

Mollie had what most would call a hard life. She raised her own family under pioneer conditions as well as all her younger brothers and sisters. Most of the time it was a struggle just to make ends meet and fortune was just around the corner.

Her Children and grandchildren were very appreciative of her kindness and love she always gave them.

Mollie was truly a storybook kind of woman!