

Another **Burks** Cousin – Arley Odell Burks

By Burks Oakley II
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I recently wrote about another branch of the **Burks** family:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/SamuelPerryBurks-A-Burks-Cousin.pdf>

In that narrative, I mentioned that there is a private Facebook group entitled “Burks and Endicott Cousins”:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/830593517117814>

The administrator of this Facebook group is Wanda Burks Tackett, and her branch of the **Burks** family lived in Oklahoma for many generations. Wanda herself is originally from Checotah, Oklahoma, which is about 115 miles straight east of Oklahoma City on I-40.

Wanda recently posted a photo of her father’s first cousin, Arley Odell Burks (1902-1990):



Arley lived his entire life in eastern and central Oklahoma:



In the 1930 US Census, Arley was living in Norman, Oklahoma, with his wife Ethel and their 8-year-old son Herman Royal Burks:

20				"Zammi Knight"		F W 12 S	yo yo	Oklahoma	Texas	Alabama	86		yo	none	
21	27	26	34	Bunkie, Riley	Neph R 15	M W 29 M 19	no yo	Oklahoma	Missouri	Indiana	87		yo	Laborer	
22				Ethel wife"		F W 52 M 22	no yo	Texas	Texas	Texas	87		yo	none	
23				Herman Son		M W 8 S	no	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	86		yo	none	
24	25	27	25	Burke Murtha	Neph R 15	M W 55 M 22	no yo	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	86		yo	Carpenter	
25				Hattie wife		F W 54 M 21	no yo	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	86		yo	none	
26				Ather Son		M W 24 S	no yo	Oklahoma	Missouri	Missouri	86		yo	Laborer	
27				Leater Son		M W 18 S	no yo	Oklahoma	Missouri	Missouri	86		yo	Laborer	
28				Lemmie Son		M W 31	no yo	Oklahoma	Missouri	Missouri	86		yo	Laborer	
29				Jasmita daughter		F W 9 S	yo	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	86		yo	none	
30				Sarah L daughter		F W 6 S	yo	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	86		yo	none	

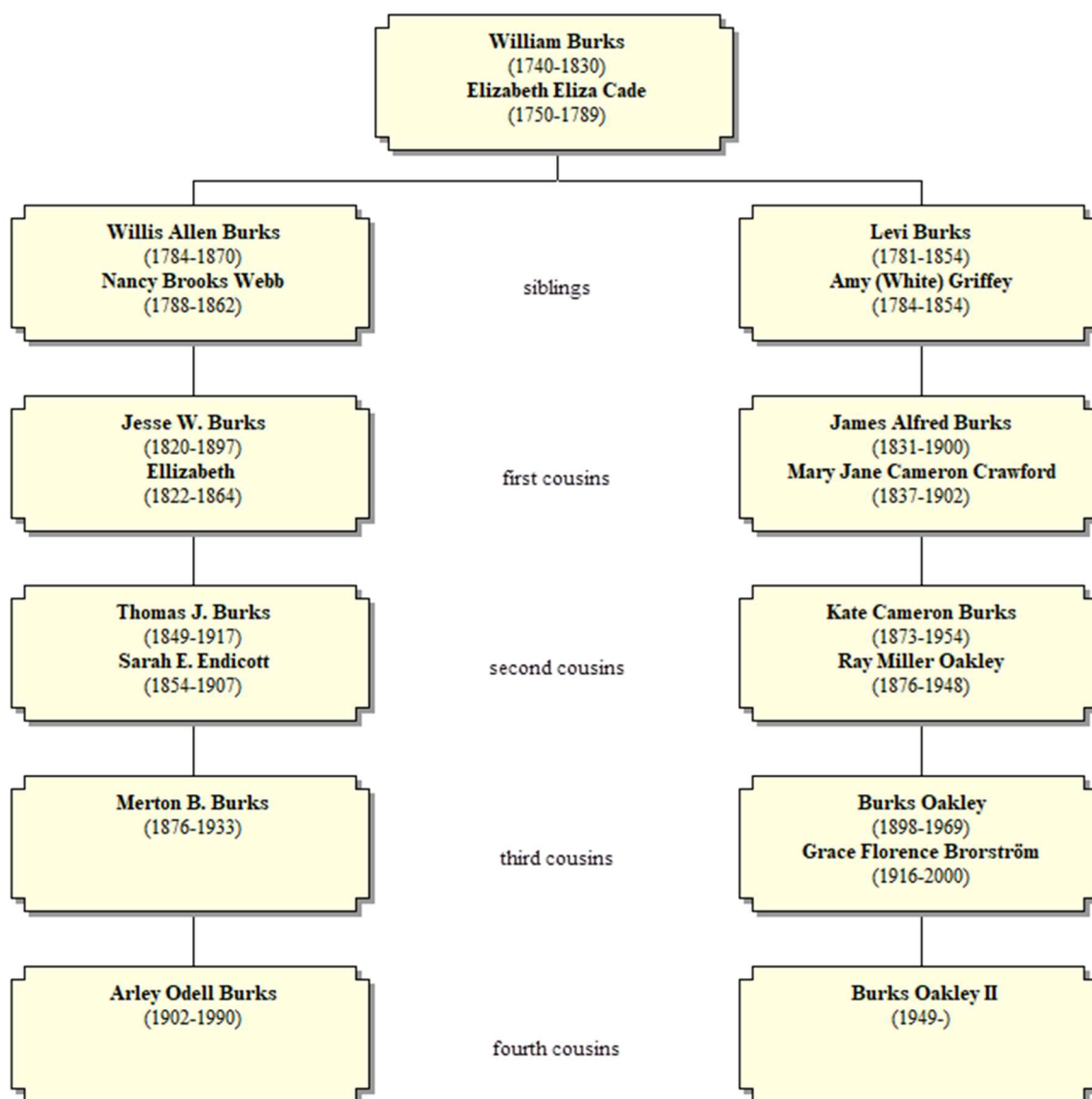
Interestingly, Arley and his family were living next door to his parents and five of his siblings.

A photo of Arley's World War II Draft card is on the Ancestry.com website:

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921)					813
SERIAL NUMBER		1. NAME (Print)		ORDER NUMBER	
T. 652		Arley Odell Burks		T. 10,813	
		(First)	(Middle)	(Last)	
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)					
Route #4, Norman, Cleveland, Okla.					
(Number and street)		(Town, township, village, or city)		(County) (State)	
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]					
3. MAILING ADDRESS					
(Same)					
[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]					
4. TELEPHONE		5. AGE IN YEARS		6. PLACE OF BIRTH	
None		40		Zena (Delaware Co.	
		DATE OF BIRTH		(Town or county)	
		Jan. 29, 1902		Okla.	
(Exchange)	(Number)	(Mo.)	(Day)	(Yr.)	(State or country)
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS					
Ethel Burks, (wife) Route #4, Norman, Okla.					
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS					
Farming for self					
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS					
Route #4, Norman, Cleveland Okla.					
(Number and street or R. F. D. number)		(Town)		(County) (State)	
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.					
D. S. S. Form 1		☆ GPO 16-21630-2		Arley O Burks	
(Revised 1-1-42)		(over)		(Registrant's signature)	

At this time when Arley signed this card, he was 40 years old and living on Route #4 in Norman, Oklahoma. His occupation was listed as farming.

Here is a chart showing how Arley and I are related:



Arley and I are both descended from William Burks (1740-1830) and his wife Eliza Cade (1750-1789). I am descended from this couple through their son Levi Burks (1781-1854), while Arley is descended from this couple through their son Willis Allen Burks (1784-1870). Based on this chart, Arley and I were fourth-cousins.

As mentioned above, Arley had a son named Herman Royal Burks (1921-2009):



According to Wanda Burks Tackett's family tree on Ancestry.com, Herman had a son and a daughter. That means that Herman's son would be a **Burks** male from an unbroken string of **Burks** males going back to William Burks (1740-1830) and to his **Burks** male ancestors before him. How cool would it be to see his Y-DNA test and see how closely he matches other **Burks** males...

According to the FindAGrave.com website, Arley is buried in Denver Cemetery in Norman, Oklahoma:



<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18637742/arley-o.-burks>

One last item: This narrative was about Arley Burks. Not to be confused with Arleigh Burke (1901-1996), who was an admiral in the United States Navy who distinguished himself during World War II and the Korean War. Arleigh Burke served as Chief of Naval Operations during the Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations. And the *Arleigh Burke* class of guided-missile destroyers is a United States Navy class of destroyer centered around the Aegis Combat System.