

Chapter TWO

OVERVIEW OF HARTLEY

Family History



Ira and Mintia Hartley were descendants of early and life-long residents of Douglas County. David Ira Hartley was born August 22, 1889, and died October 2, 1929, and Tessie Armintia “Mintia” Gunnels was born January 22, 1890, and died May 14, 1981. Ira and Mintia were married at Goodhope on November 13, 1910. Their marriage ceremony was conducted by Mintia’s Granduncle, Ezra Johnson, a local and very well respected minister.

Ira’s Hartley Family

Ira’s father was William “Bill” Hartley (b. 1840 - d. 1921). William was the first born of Andrew J. Hartley, who migrated from Tennessee to present-day Webster County, MO, in 1839. When the Civil War started, William enlisted in the Union Army and served throughout the war.

William’s first wife was Syntha G. Reynolds (b. 1844, in Tennessee). William and Syntha (also called Myreh) were married in October 1865, and they had the following two children who did not live to adulthood:

- James A. Hartley (b. 1866 - d. 1869)
- Margaret D. Hartley (b. 1868 - d. 1880)

Syntha was a child of J.A.G. Reynolds from Tennessee. Her brother, M.C. Reynolds was the first postmaster in Ava, MO once the village was established in 1871. Syntha died in 1869 at the age of 25. She and her children are all buried in the Denney Cemetery, in Douglas County, MO .

In 1872, William married Sarah Lakey (b. 1849 - d. 1921). Between 1873 and 1893, William and Sarah had 15 children (see page 10 for a complete listing). Four of the 15 died as infants; another four of the children died young—Rubin in his teens; and Simon, Ada and Vina Lue in their early 20s. John



Above, William “Bill” Hartley
in his Union Army uniform—
ca 1863.

M. Hartley was married and had young children when he disappeared in his 20s, and we have no further record of him.

William and Sarah's homestead was north of Arno (point "A" on the page 8 map) adjacent to those of William's father, Andrew, and two brothers, Anderson and Marion. When William and Sarah died, they were buried in the Ritter Cemetery (point "K" on page 8 map). Ira's grandparents were Andrew J. Hartley (b. 1812-1884), and Ann Newsome of Tennessee (?-1851). Andrew and his new bride reportedly fled from Tennessee in 1839 into southern Missouri because Ann's brothers did not want them to marry. Andrew was buried on the farm he homesteaded near Goodhope, and Ann's burial site is not known.

Mintia (Gunnels) Hartley's Family

Mintia's parents were William Nicholas "Nick" Gunnels (b. 1863 - d. 1941) and Sarah Jane Johnston (b. 1866 - d. 1944). Their farm was between Arno and Goodhope, (point "B" on page 8 map), and when they died, they were buried in the Goodhope Cemetery.

As shown on her family tree in the last chapter, Mintia had two sisters and three brothers: Myrtie Mae, who married Frank Sanders (b. 1883 - d. 1962); John, who died in the 1918 flu epidemic, married Enola Lulu Poyner (b. 1892 - d. 1918); Avery, who married Ethel Sanders (b. 1894 - d. 1982), Charley, who married Edith Kester (b. 1899 - d. 1976), and Laura "Annie" who married Enoch Davis (b. 1896 - d. 1973).

Mintia's grandparents were Henry Curtis Gunnels (b. 1830 - d. 1905), a Union soldier in the Civil War (buried at Gateway, AR) and Elizabeth Jane Huckleby (b. 1833 - d. 1867) (buried in Macon County in northern Missouri).

All of Mintia's siblings stayed in Douglas County; they died and were buried either in the Goodhope Cemetery or in the Mt. Tabor Cemetery south of Arno.

Hartley-Gunnels Descendants in the County

There are almost no descendants of Great Grandpa William Hartley living in Douglas County, MO, today. The many Hartleys still there descend from one of his brothers.

Regarding the Gunnels side, Mintia's baby sister, Annie (Gunnels) Davis, raised her family in Douglas County, and several of the children stayed to raise large families there. Thus, many descendants of Great Grandpa Nick Gunnels are still there but with the surname of Davis.



Arno School built in the early 1870s. Grandpa Ira and his siblings attended school here.



Grandpa Ira Hartley's sister, Viola "Aunt Ola" Hartley Adams standing next to their father's corn crib on the old William Hartley place where they grew up.



William and Sarah (Lakey) Hartley family—ca 1894

Back: Simon, Rubin, Marion, Billy and Albert. Front: Ada, Sarah (holding Ed), Ira, John (behind Ira), William (holding Viola) and Effie.



Family of Wm. "Nick" & Sarah (Johnston) Gunnels—ca 1900

L-R: Avery, Nick (holding Charley), John, Sarah, Myrtie, and Mintia.
Note: Mintia's sister, Annie (Gunnels) Davis, was not born until 1903



Grandpa Ira HARTLEY Family Photos

At left, Grandpa Ira's mother, Sarah, with his sisters, Ada (on left) and Vina Lu "Effie" on right. Both of the sisters died when in their early 20s.



Above, Grandpa Ira's brother, John M., with his wife, Ethel (Upson), and their children, Glen and Mabel. The picture was taken around 1912. Not long after picture would have been taken, John was away working in Kansas, disappeared, and was never seen again.



Above, Marion Hartley married but had no children. When he died in 1958, his will included Grandpa Ira's children, leaving each some cash and Oklahoma oil rights which they each sold individually.

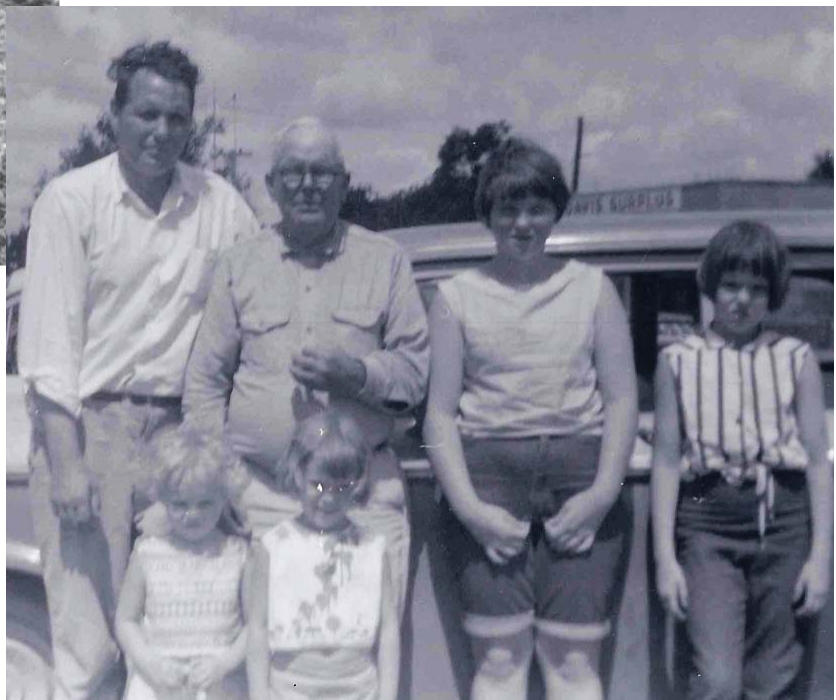
At right, Grandpa Ira's baby sister, Viola "Ola" (Hartley) and her husband, Bill Adams. They lived, raised their family (four boys, Lowell, Lloyd, Raymond, and William) and are buried in Phoenix, AR.

"Aunt Ola" was a favorite among Ira & Mintia's children.



At left, 1950s—Grandpa Ira's siblings, Albert, Viola "Ola," and Marion.

At right, ca 1965—Grandpa Ira's baby brother, Joel Edward "Ed" Hartley with his son, Ralph Hartley (on left) and Ralph's children—Marsha and Nell (in front); Pam and Denise on right. Photo taken on the Ava (MO) Square.



At right, 1919—Grandpa Ira's older brother, Albert, his wife, Ethel (Wade), and their daughters, Thelma (on left) and Christine (on right). Albert owned and operated a grocery store on the north side of the Ava, MO, square in the 1920s. Albert and Ethel had two sons born after this picture was taken—Wallace and Wade.

Daughter Thelma (Hartley), and husband Lenzil Seybert, lived in Wichita where she died and was buried in 1994.



Below, Grandpa Ira's baby sister, Ola, at her Arizona home.

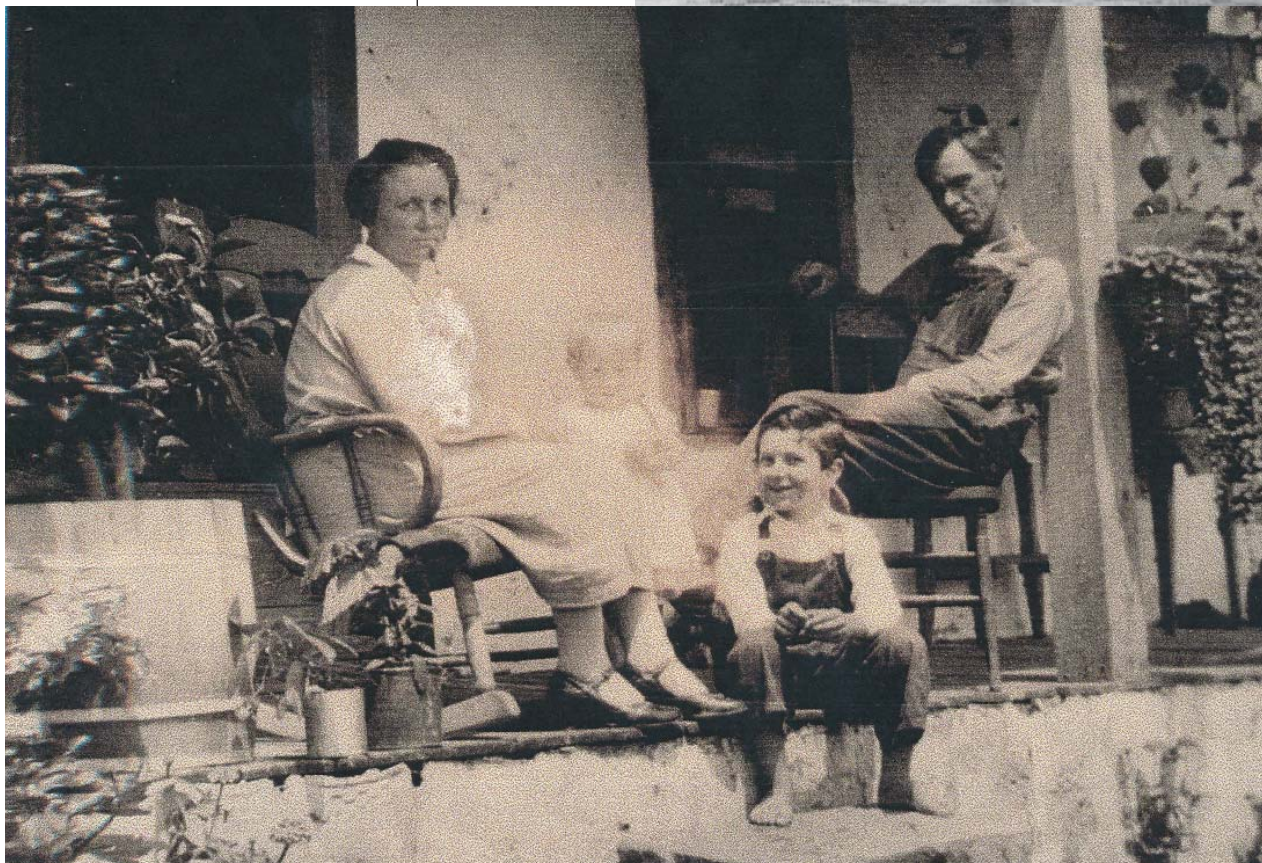
L-R: Ola, her husband, Bill Adams, and their sons, Lloyd, Raymond and Bill Adams, Jr.



**Grandma
Mintia
GUNNELS Family
Photos**

At right, ca 1916-17—Grandma Mintia's
parents and youngest siblings.
Seated: Nick & Sarah (Johnston) Gunnels.
Standing, Charlie and Annie.

Below, 1927—Grandma Mintia's sister,
Myrtie Mae, husband, Frank Sanders, and
their two youngest children, Wilma, and
Voytle. Myrtie died in 1933 at the age of
46. Photo taken at their home downstream
from the Gunnels home on Eslick Hollow.





Above—1919, Myrtie & Frank's children:
L-R: Elsie, Stella, Oscar & Virgil
with baby Voytle in chair.



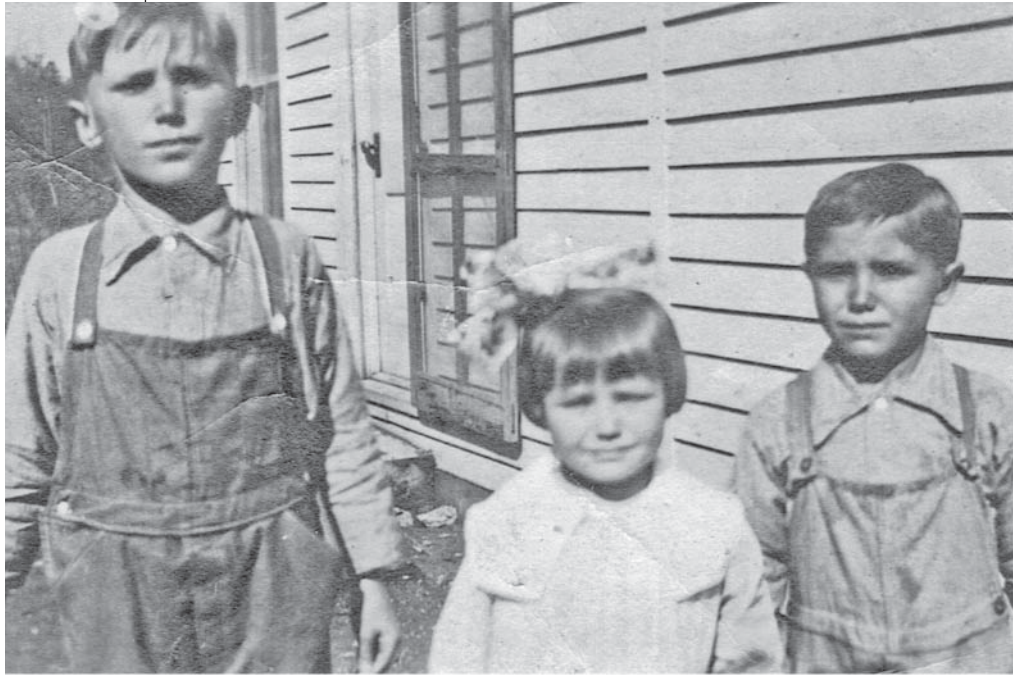
Above, Grandma Mintia's brother,
Avery Gunnels (on left) and friend,
Lawrence Barton.



Above, circa 1950. Grandma Mintia's
brother, Charley Gunnels.

At left, circa 1920, Grandma Mintia's
brother, Charley Gunnels, with his wife,
Edith (Kester) Gunnels and their son,
Vernon.

At right, early 1920s—orphan children of John & Enola Gunnels— Leslie (b. 1911), Lorayne (b. 1915) and Lester (b. 1913). After the death of their parents in 1918, they lived with their Gunnels grandparents, Nick and Sarah Gunnels



Above, 1969—Lorayne (Gunnels) and her husband Cal Haynes.

At left, 1914—Grandma Mintia's brother, John Gunnels, his wife, Enola (Poyner) Gunnels holding Lester, with Leslie in front. Enola had a child in 1915 (Lorayne), and died in childbirth in 1918. Brother John died a few months later of influenza.

At right, 1922—Grandma Mintia's sister, Annie (Gunnels), with husband, Enoch Davis and their first born, Eula (Davis) Campbell .



Above, ca 1935-36—Enoch & Annie (Gunnels) Davis with Clifton & Eula in the middle, and Dean & Maxine in front. Yet unborn were Glenda (1937) & Billy (1939).

At right in 1988—Annie (Gunnels) Davis, youngest sister of Grandma Mintia (Gunnels) Hartley. “Aunt Annie” passed away in 2002 at the age of 99.

