

## **Annie Darter Marries A. J. Floyd & Moves to Quanah, Texas**

Dr. Darter left considerable property, houses, and other possessions all to Annie his wife. He obviously had great faith and trust in Annie who served by his side for over 15 years of marriage. Up until now, they had lived the American dream of getting an education, working hard, raising a family, and having financial success. But now, Annie Darter, left with three young boys, must have found it overwhelming to struggle alone and no doubt felt that the boys greatly needed a father; she soon re-married a man named F. C. Floyd. The marriage took place in Ft. Worth, Texas about two months later on December 24, 1893. Mr. Floyd sold the property in Ft. Worth and bought a ranch in Quanah, Hardman County, Texas, where they moved and tried to breed horses and farm. She desperately wanted to get the boys away from the many "evil" things going on in the city of Fort Worth. But it turned out to be more difficult for her and her three boys than she ever imagined.

Bill, her third son explains the difficult times that occurred for the family in Quanah.

My father left my mother with three boys to raise, ages from seven years to twelve years. As stated before the neighborhood was a rough and sexy one. If I, at nine years of age, could describe this neighborhood as such it must have been just that. With this responsibility on her mind, naturally her mind turned to marriage and raising these three boys. Marriage came from the thought of moving to the country, taking up farming or ranching. Accordingly, as told by her brother-in-law, she set her cap for a man and let her heart over turn good judgment by too much haste. Mr. Henry Floyd was the lucky man. He must have mislead my mother into believing he could handle her estate, he could manage a ranch, and handle us boys. On this understanding, they were married.

Mr. Floyd sold the Fort Worth property at a loss of many thousands of dollars, so my uncle W. A. Darter a real estate man of Fort Worth, told me later. Mr. Floyd and my mother then bought a small ranch in Hardeman County, near Quanah, Texas. The little ranch was stocked with about fifteen mixed breeds of cows and a good looking bull. Also about fifteen good looking mares and a stallion with a pedigree. This stallion was of the breed that had large feet. The colts of this breed made good farm animals, they could be used in soft plowed ground.

The little ranch had a one room stone house on it. It was built to answer for two people only, and also serve as a storm cellar. My parents added another small room to it, which became theirs and we three boys lived in the rock built room, which also became the kitchen.

It became known later that Mr. Floyd could not do hard work, and of course did not belong on a ranch, small or large, hence the hard work fell to my older brother. It was not long until he sensed the position he was in. He sensed he was going to have to do all the heavy work. Therefore, he decided to run off from home and go back to his Uncle W. A. Darter for shelter. His uncle sent him back to his mother in Quanah. It was not but a week or two that Mr. Floyd demanded of him to do some more hard work and Frank left home again. His uncle did not send him back to his mother this time. Frank, from this time on was separated from the family.

This left me and my younger brother, Michael, seven years of age in the Floyd family. I took on some of the hard work such as plowing, harrowing and planting seeds for the crops. My step-father, Mr. Floyd, caught me riding the harrow and gave me a whipping with a dried up corn stock for making the hungry team pull more than they should. My mother saw this from the house. After that, she told me Mr. Floyd would not do this again. I felt sorry for my mother. She knew I did not have to be whipped to make me do what I should do. I could be talked into doing what I should do. This same year, little Michael gave lots of trouble, and to climax his troubles after he was corrected for something else he did for spite, he set fire to three large stacks of feed. This feed was to carry us over for the present year. As a result the family lived on corn-fried, home made butter and molasses.

During the four years we lived in Quanah the bull proved sterile and we had to buy another bull. Also during these four years I do not remember a single colt from the registered stallion. Due to his large feet, he bogged up in a small creek, mud hole, and died from exhaustion trying to pull his feet out of the mud. Also, during these four years my mother kept me in school in Quanah by finding a home for me where I could earn my stay, by working before and after school. I want to say here with tears in my eyes, that I learned to love my school. I tried always to lead my class in grades, but in my first, second, third and fourth grades, there was a little girl named Goldie Horton, with more time than I, kept me in second place. She also, came to the University of Texas and made her PhD in mathematics and then had her married life troubles.

By this time, my parents decided that they could not make a go of it on the ranch, and were on the look out for a place where Mr. Floyd could do light work, and my mother could raise chickens. I could write a book on how hard my mother worked in trying to raise chickens to help make ends meet and keep me in school. The large bull snakes, when they could get into crates that housed the mother hen and chickens, would swallow all the little chickens and then try to swallow the mother hen, thereby choking her to death. (Ref 12)

A huge difference occurred in Annie Darter and her three boys lives in the five years following the death of her husband Isaac in Fort Worth. The difference was like day and night and required lots of strength and courage. She apparently had more than enough to sustain herself and her sons.

### **Annie and Family Move to League City, Texas**

In 1898 the family moved from Quanah far south to League City, Galveston County, Texas to find a better farm from which to make a living. Son Bill tells the details of the story.

When my parents saw they could not make a living in Quanah, Mr. Floyd, my step-father located a small plot of land with a nice home on it in League City, Galveston County, Texas. All the small farmers around us raised strawberries for a living. Also my mother could raise chickens without having to fight bull snakes and coyotes. However, the land proved to be of no value to raise strawberries. This of course showed again Mr. Floyd's bad business knowledge. Since Mr. Floyd was not able to work, he may have thought my mother, with his help, could make the chicken business pay. We were five miles from the Galveston Bay on Clear Creek Bayou.

My younger brother and I fished, and set out our trot-lines for heavier fish. One morning when we went down to run our trot-lines, as we approached one of them we noticed the other end of the line would go up the bayou and then down the bayou with some speed. Then we started to run the line. We had a small wooden boat with a short wooden paddle. The way the line pulled we knew we had some large fish on the line. By the time we reached our fish, he did not have any more fight in him. He had been fighting something and tired himself out trying to keep out of his reach. No sooner than we had our thirty pound fish in our small boat than, to our surprise up came a small alligator about thirty feet from the boat. I had my rifle with me. He was looking squarely at me. I raised my rifle, aimed and pulled the trigger. I aimed to the spot between his eyes. The bullet slid off his hard skull and went whizzing into the air. He turned over in the water with all four feet sticking straight into the air. We had been told, that when an alligator turned over on his back with all four feet in the air, he was a dead alligator. Acting on this knowledge we took our little paddle, rowed over to where he was, pulled him into our small boat; and with victory sticking out all over us, we started rowing toward the nearest bank. However before reaching the bank, the little alligator, (he looked like a monster to us) opened his eyes, surveyed the situation, took one big flop and landed in the water. When I saw him looking around I got frightened, broke my little wooden paddle and became helpless in the middle of a dirty Clear Creek Bayou.

At this time in my life I could not swim, and this thought only kept me from jumping out of the frying pan into the fire. We tied our heavy fish to the middle of a limb about eight feet long. I placed one end of the limb on my right shoulder, my brother placed the other end on his right shoulder and we went home with the same feeling that the two Israelites felt when they came home with a very large cluster of grapes hanging from the middle of a pole carried between them to prove that the Promised Land flowed with milk and honey. (Ref 12)

Son Bill describes the difficulties that befell his dear mother concerning his younger brother, Mike:

Little Mike, my younger brother, was hard for my mother to handle. We would take our little wooden boat down Clear Creek Bayou to what we called Clear Lake. Clear Lake was about one-half the distance between League City and Galveston Bay. There were many beautiful larger boats tied or locked to their moorings. Without his mother's permission he would go down to the bay and take the first good looking boat that was not tied securely, or not locked, and with a pair of oars he would secure from another boat, he would take a ride down or up the bayou. The Law would recover the boat, but for the love the community had for my mother, the owner of the boat would not press charges against Mike. For some reason Mike ran off from home and went to the City of Galveston. In order for him to have money to live, he began to take any loose bicycle, sell it for anything he could get for it, and go looking for another bicycle. Stealing a bicycle in Galveston was like stealing a horse in the West, you either were lynched or sent to the penitentiary. It was but a short time, complaint and charges were made against him. My mother was notified and she had to take the pages of record out of the old family Bible to prove Mike was not over eighteen years of age, or he would have landed in the penitentiary. (Note that the page that Annie cut out of the old family bible was never replaced and is still missing today). (Ref 12)

The 1900 US Census provides some details on the family. The date is 18 June 1900, the location is Galveston, Texas:

Henry C. Floyd, 35 years old, born December 1864, married 6 years  
Annie M. Floyd, 37 years old, born November 1862, married 6 years  
William Darter (step son), 15 years old, born August 1884  
Michael Darter (step son), 13 years old, born June 1886

It is likely that Mr. Floyd was home when the census taker arrived as several of the dates appear to be in error (such as Annie's birth date and year, Williams birth date and year) which Annie would have known. The states where each was born and the states where the father and mother of Annie, William, and Michael were also mixed up on the census form. But nevertheless, this information shows the family was in the Galveston area in June of 1900. Son Frank had left the family and was living in Fort Worth with his uncle W. A. Darter at this time.

Then just as things were starting to go well for the family, on September 8, 1900 came the "monster (Galveston) hurricane that completely destroyed the town and killed over 6,000 people in what remains the greatest natural disaster in American history." (see Isaac's Storm, Ref 14) The family was 27 miles from the coast but only about 5 miles from Galveston Bay and lost everything they had in the ensuing wind and flooding. Son Bill says that only three houses in League City remained on their foundations from the flooding. He does not describe how they escaped with their lives, but they survived the greatest natural disaster ever to strike the United States in terms of numbers of people killed. Mr. Floyd (who could not work) died that same year perhaps from some disease that the death of so many people would have brought with it.

My mother, with Mr. Floyd's help, was making the chicken business pay, up to the Galveston Storm, 1900. My mother had five hundred little chickens, just hatched from two incubators. She had lots of laying hens. We had built a large chicken house. Now without notice The Galveston Storm hit. It flattened our new chicken house. The water that backed up from the Galveston Bay drowned all the chickens.

By this time my parents had no more money left from the sale of the Fort Worth property. With the little bit that came from the sale of our home, Mr. Floyd bought a small livery stable, consisting of a small one horse wagon, a single one horse buggy and what was called a carryall. It was a two horse drawn vehicle with a cover and a seat on each side, seating six persons each. Steps lead up from the ground to the floor. The boys would rent out the buggy usually on Sundays to take their girls out riding. The boys of the little town would get together and rent the carryall to take their girls and wives to the Galveston Bay, just five miles away. Until this day, I can hear the loud conversations, the laughter and the beautiful singing of all the twelve voices. Since I was the only producer of the Floyd family, I was the janitor of the little one room school house; I hauled water to the citizens for five cents per barrel. (Ref 12)

## **Annie Darter Marries A. J. Riess**

During all of this, sons Bill and Mike stayed with their mother and helped and supported her. Bill tells about his mother meeting and marrying a gentleman named A. J. Riess after Mr. Floyd died in 1900 in League City:

At twenty years of age with a six grade education I tried to make a living for my mother and younger brother. My dreams of schooling faded away. Then a miracle happened, a fairly well-to-do-farmer, A.J. Riess, a widower, started to woo my mother. I am sure he decided I was doing all I could do for my mother but that I was running short on the up keep. Not long after that he asked me if it was all right, if my mother was willing, for them to be married and so they got married. I knew nothing better and was very happy about it. He told mother and me afterward, that the first time he saw her cute way of getting off the train, and her nice way with the train crew, that if she was ever loose from her marriage vows he was going to marry her, so he did. (Ref 12)

He further stated that his mother met and married Mr. Riess at the Methodist Church of League City where he was an Elder. He called Mr. Riess a wonderful man.

Son Frank who had left the family and was living in Fort Worth at the time, wrote the following:

Mr. Riess loved my mother dearly and they were very happy together. Mother was a real Church worker and filled many positions; she especially liked to take care of the sick and brought them cheer and comfort and enriched her good works with the sweet songs she loved so well. She was called "A veritable angel of mercy," and was often heard to say, that she was never more happy, then when she was permitted in the Master's name to thus care for the needy and the neglected. She was indeed a devoted Christian. They were married in late 1900, shortly after Floyd died, in League City, Texas. (Ref 13)

## Anne Darter Riess Dies

Annie Darter enjoyed only a couple of years of happiness with Mr. Riess. Just like the love of her life, first husband Isaac, she was not destined to live a long life. She was diagnosed with cancer and traveled to Fort Worth for surgery and died on the operating table at age 45, on July 16, 1903. Her remains were transported back to League City where she was buried in League City cemetery at the request of Mr. Riess so he could visit the grave. For whatever reason, Mr. Riess would never allow placing a head stone for her. Many years later, in 1965, her son Bill located the grave and had a new head stone placed as shown below in the old League City cemetery.



Head Stone of Annie Darter Riess placed by her son Bill Darter in 1965, League City Cemetery (surrounded by her great grand children left to right: Paul J. Darter, Michael T. Darter, Michelle N. Darter, and Sonya C. Darter, 1971).

Mr. Riess divided the property between the three boys and treated them very kindly. The League City Newspaper paid her a beautiful tribute, and said that she had many friends who felt that the place left vacant by her death, would be hard to fill and "She hath done what she could."

Mrs. A. J. Riess (Darter) died at Forth Worth, Tex., on the morning of July 16, 1903. Her death occurred at the sanitarium, to which place she had gone for treatment two weeks previous.

Mrs. Riess had lived in League City for many years and had endeared herself to the hearts of all our people. She was a devoted Christian, and it will be hard to fill the place left vacant by her death. She had lately united with the Methodist church and was untiring in her efforts to promote its interests. In the Endeavor Society she had proven herself most valuable as a worker on the social and prayer meeting committee, and of the latter she was chairman at the time of her death.

In the Sunday school she was always ready to fill a vacancy when any teacher was absent, and there were but few Sabbath's when her services were not needed. She was a most faithful member of the W.C.T.U. of this place, and in this connection will be most sadly missed by the local organization here. She held the position of local superintendent of the Sunday school department and was most keenly interested in temperance teaching in our Sunday school, which subject she was using her best endeavors to promote.

But perhaps the field of usefulness in which the best efforts of her life were given outside of her own home was in her ministrations to the sick, the poor, the needy and those in distress. In this capacity she was a veritable angel of mercy, and she has been permitted in the Master's name to thus care for the needy and the neglected. In summing up the life of this dear sister, we feel that no more fitting tribute could be found than this:

'She hath done what she could'.

Her remains were interred in the League City cemetery on the 18<sup>th</sup> followed by a large concourse of friends.

The following resolutions were prepared by the C. E. (probably Christian Education) Society of League City, Texas:

***“Resolutions adopted by the C. E. Society of League City”***

*Since God in his wisdom has taken from us our beloved Sister Mrs. Anna M. Riess.*

*Be it resolved that in this death the C E Society has lost one of its most active and willing workers.*

*That in Mrs. Riess death not only as a society but as a community we have sustained a loss which is deeply felt and time only will reveal all the good her life was to others and as she lived so she died; thinking only of those who are left to furnish the work she loved so well.*

*In common with the community we deplore this loss of our Dear Sister and valued worker.*

*Resolved That the Society be directed to record this token of regard of our ??? and to send a copy to her bereaved Husband and family and that a copy be furnished to local press.*

## Reflections on Isaac and Annie Darter

The lives of Isaac and Annie Darter were relatively short by today's standards, but these years were very much filled with an amazing energy, courage, and sacrifice to get an education, to work hard in earning a living by serving their fellow men including the poor and needy in their medical practice, and to raise good children. These two lives touched many as noted by the memorials to them at their deaths.

For Isaac M. Darter, *“That in his death the community has lost a good citizen; the poor, a friend in time of need; the medical profession, a studious and honorable member; his family, a faithful and loving husband, a kind and affectionate father.”*

For Annie Gorden Darter, *“But perhaps the field of usefulness in which the best efforts of her life were given outside of her own home was in her ministrations to the sick, the poor, the needy and those in distress. In this capacity she was a veritable angel of mercy, and she has been permitted in the Master's name to thus care for the needy and the neglected.”*



## Short History of the Four Children of Isaac and Annie Darter

**Joseph Francis Darter** was born in Fort Worth, Texas, 13 September 1879. He traveled with his parents to St. Louis shortly after birth and sadly died there two years later, 16 July, 1881. He is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis (Lot 24 and grave #139) during the time his father was studying medicine in St. Louis. No photo exists of Joseph.

**Francis (or Frank) Michael Darter** (named after his grandfather), was born in St. Louis, Missouri, 27 November, 1881. Frank grew up in Ft. Worth until his father died in 1893. His mother then moved to Quanah, Texas but Frank returned to Fort Worth and lived with his Uncle W. A. Darter learning surveying until 1902 when he joined the U.S. Navy and was stationed in the South Pacific for 4 years. He returned to the U.S. on the day after the San Francisco earthquake in April 1906 (describing the devastation on many occasions) and then attended the University of Texas at Austin in Civil Engineering. He later moved to Long Beach, CA and married and had a son Eugene who became an airman in World War II and was lost over Germany and MIA until what happened to him was recently discovered. (Ref 20) He worked as a civil engineer building bridges, tunnels, and buildings for 30 years for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in Los Angeles, CA. He retired and moved to Salt Lake City, UT where he married Bertha J. C. Van Mondfrans and had a son Michael Isaac Darter. He died at the age of 87 at his home, in Salem, Utah, 16 September, 1968, where he is buried.

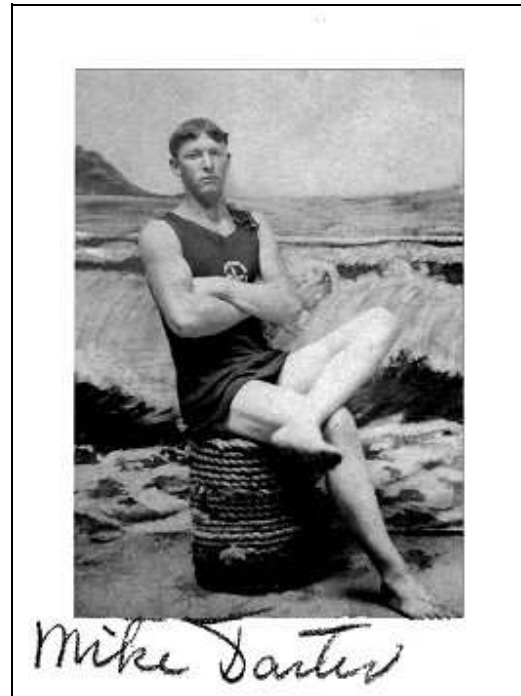


**William (or Bill) Alexander Darter** (named after his uncle of same name) was born in Ft. Worth, Tarrant Co., Texas, 27 October, 1883; just after the family returned from medical school in Louisville, KY. William grew up in Ft. Worth but after his father died in 1893 moved to Quanah, TX and then League City, TX with his mother. He passed through great difficulties as a child to help support the family and only received about a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade education. However, through great desire and courage, he obtained admittance to the University of Texas at Austin, graduating in Electrical Engineering in 1911. He had a very successful career in the power utility business and many other businesses that he bought and operated. Bill Darter was married for 60 years to Rena McLaughlin and had 4 daughters (Margaret, Maud Ann, Rowena, and Billy). He donated a year of his life to help rebuild a burned out black church in Austin. He retired from at least five different jobs and lived to be an amazing 99 years old. In his later life, he made many scale models of many historic Texas buildings,



some on the University of Texas campus. He died on 12 April 1982 and is buried in Austin, TX. We are incredibly grateful to him for his guiding hand in the writing and publication of The Darter, Tarter, Daughters Family book which provided much information for this story. (Ref 4) Bill Darter was an exceptionally kind and giving person.

**Isaac Michael Darter** (named after his father), was born 11 June, 1886, Ft. worth, Texas, and died, unmarried at the early age of 21, in Long Beach, California. Mike got into a fair amount of trouble during his youth and was quite an athlete. He moved to California after his mother died in 1903 and while working on a car one day had an accident; the car fell on him and he got hurt. He went home and to bed, had quite a fever and opened a window, caught pneumonia and died shortly after, 19 May 1907. Brother Frank went to Long Beach to settle Mike's affairs—he had an Insurance Policy in his girlfriend's name, Estella Oster. She paid for the Funeral expenses and the body was shipped back to Ft. Worth, and buried at Pioneer Rest Cemetery. Frank participated in his funeral service and stated that Michael was buried next to his father in the Darter family plot in Pioneer Rest Cemetery. Note that his burial was not registered in the official records but his grave is just next to that of his fathers, I. M. Darter, MD.



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# Descendants of John Darter

## *Generation No. 1*

1. JOHN DARTER was born 8 Apr 1777 in Wytheville, VA, and died 11 Apr 1844 in Scott County, VA. He married MARY PRIDEMORE 1803. She was born 1785 in Wyth Co., VA.

More About JOHN DARTER:

Residence: 01 Jun 1840, Scott, Virginia

Children of JOHN DARTER and MARY PRIDEMORE are:

- i. CATHERINE DARTER, b. 1805.
2. ii. FRANCIS MICHAEL DARTER, b. 23 Jun 1809, Wytheville, Wythe, Virginia; d. 07 Dec 1870, Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas.
- iii. ANN DARTER, b. 16 Jan 1812.
- iv. ISAAC DARTER, b. 1814.
- v. IRA C. DARTER, b. 1816.
- vi. MICHAEL DARTER, b. 02 Jan 1818; d. 09 Dec 1855.
- vii. RUHAMA DARTER, b. 1822.
- viii. ELIZABETH DARTER, b. 1825.
- ix. ALEXANDER MICHAEL DARTER, b. 1829.
- x. POLLY DARTER, b. 1831.
- xi. ALICE DARTER, b. 1833.

## *Generation No. 2*

2. FRANCIS MICHAEL DARTER (*JOHN 1*) was born 23 Jun 1809 in Wytheville, Wythe, Virginia, and died 07 Dec 1870 in Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas. He married MARY BOYD 09 May 1834 in Kentucky, daughter of JOHN BOYD and ELIZABETH PRATHER. She was born 06 Mar 1816 in Kentucky, and died 21 Feb 1888 in Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas.

More About FRANCIS MICHAEL DARTER:

Burial: Pioneer Rest, Cem, Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas

More About MARY BOYD:

Burial: Pioneer Rest Cem, Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas

Children of FRANCIS DARTER and MARY BOYD are:

- i. HENDERSON DARTER, b. 22 Feb 1835, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 22 Feb 1835, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama.
- ii. JOHN HENRY DARTER, b. 20 Mar 1838, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 21 Jun 1883.
- iii. MARTHA ELIZABETH DARTER, b. 12 Jan 1840, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 07 Apr 1920.
- iv. JAMES IRA DARTER, b. 12 Nov 1843, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 21 Aug 1864, Atlanta, GA Civil War.
- v. WILLIAM ALEXANDER DARTER, b. 03 Nov 1846, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 05 Oct 1929, Fort Worth, TX.
- vi. MARGARET JENKINS DARTER, b. 14 Jun 1848, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 22 Nov 1932.
3. vii. DR. ISAAC MICHAEL DARTER, b. 19 Jan 1851, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 11 Oct 1893, Fort Worth, TX.
- viii. MOURNING CHRISTOBEL DARTER, b. 19 Jun 1855, Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama; d. 09 Jan 1930.
- ix. LUCY EMMA DARTER, b. 09 Jan 1860, Stephenville, Erath, Texas; d. 11 Apr 1951.
- x. JEFFERSON FRANKLIN DARTER<sup>6</sup>, b. 23 Apr 1871, Azle, Tarrant, Texas; d. 29 Dec 1874, Fort Worth, TX.

### *Generation No. 3*

**3. DR. ISAAC MICHAEL DARTER** (*FRANCIS MICHAEL 2, JOHN 1*) was born 19 Jan 1851 in Lineville, , Randolph, Alabama, and died 11 Oct 1893 in Fort Worth, TX. He married ANNIE MARY GORDEN 08 Apr 1877 in Fort Worth, TX, daughter of JOSEPH GORDON and AMANDA BOYD. She was born 07 Sep 1858 in Chicago, IL, and died 16 Jul 1903 in Fort Worth, TX.

More About ANNIE MARY GORDEN:

Burial: League City, TX

Residence:                               1870, Pleasant Gap, MO  
  1880, Fort Worth, TX  
  1900, Galveston, TX

Children of ISAAC DARTER and ANNIE GORDEN are:

- i.    JOSEPH FRANCIS DARTER, b. 13 Sep 1879, Fort Worth, TX; d. 16 Jul 1881, St. Louis, MO.
4.   ii. FRANCIS MICHAEL DARTER, b. 27 Nov 1881, St. Louis, MO; d. 16 Sep 1968, Salem, UT.
5.   iii. WILLIAM ALEXANDER DARTER, b. 27 Oct 1883, Fort Worth, TX; d. 12 Apr 1982, Austin, TX.
- iv. ISAAC MICHAEL DARTER, b. 11 Jun 1886, Fort Worth, TX; d. 19 May 1907, Long Beach, CA.

### *Generation No. 4*

**4. FRANCIS MICHAEL DARTER** (*ISAAC MICHAEL 3, FRANCIS MICHAEL 2, JOHN 1*) was born 27 Nov 1881 in St. Louis, MO, and died 16 Sep 1968 in Salem, UT. He married (1) MARY ESTELLA OSTER 10 Feb 1909 in Long Beach, CA. She was born 09 Oct 1882, and died 01 May 1960 in Long Beach, CA. He married (2) BERTHA VAN MONDFRANS 26 Jul 1940 in Salt Lake City, UT. She was born 15 Oct 1909 in Utrecht, Holland, and died 06 Jan 2002 in Salt Lake City, UT.

Children of FRANCIS DARTER and MARY OSTER are:

- i.    HAZEL (THELMA) DARTER, b. 09 Nov 1910, Long Beach, CA; d. 05 Mar 1965, Long Beach, CA.
- ii.   EUGENE FRANCIS DARTER, b. 03 Jan 1913, Long Beach, CA; d. 16 Dec 1943, Texel, Netherlands (WW 2, still MIA).

Child of FRANCIS DARTER and BERTHA VAN MONDFRANS is:

- iii.   MICHAEL ISAAC DARTER, b. 08 Jun 1943, Salt Lake City, UT.

**4. WILLIAM ALEXANDER DARTER** (*ISAAC MICHAEL 3, FRANCIS MICHAEL 2, JOHN, 1*) was born 27 Oct 1883 in Fort Worth, TX, and died 12 Apr 1982 in Austin, TX. He married ROWENA MCLAUGHLIN 07 Jun 1911. She was born 09 Apr 1887, and died 25 Mar 1971 in Austin, TX.

Children of WILLIAM DARTER and ROWENA MCLAUGHLIN are:

- i.    MARGARET LEAH DARTER, b. 21 Jun 1912.
- ii.   MAUD ANN DARTER, b. 01 Jun 1913.
- iii.   ROWENA TOTTEN DARTER, b. 08 Aug 1916.
- iv.   BILLY MILDRED DARTER, b. 07 Jul 1919.

## Additional Darter Family Research

During the course of researching this story, new information was discovered that required numerous revisions to what was thought to be family history. This included discovering that Joseph Darter, son of Isaac and Annie, was born in Fort Worth, not St. Louis. Discovering that in 1870 Annie Gorden was living with her family in Pleasant Gap, MO, south of Kansas City, when we thought she was in Louisville. The marriage of Isaac Darter and Annie Gorden was in Fort Worth, not Kentucky and a year earlier. The time period when Dr. Darter was studying medicine in St. Louis and Louisville were revised, and so on. As family research continues much more will be discovered and additional corrections will undoubtedly be needed.

One overall goal would be to research and write the history of the John Darter branch of the Darter family that covers the time from John Darter (born 1777) through say 1999. This is a daunting task but certainly possible with enough family members helping. Here are some things to think about that need further research.

- ! Discovering who were John Darter's (1777-1844) father and mother. It has been assumed that Alexander Darter or Tarter was his father but there is no known proof of this. John Darter's name and death date is in the family Bible of Francis Darter (1809-1870) one of his sons, so we clearly know of this connection.
- ! Information on John Darter and his wife Mary Pridemore: information about their lives, where they lived and died, more accurate knowledge of their children including where they lived and died.
- ! More information on Francis Darter (1809-1870) and his wife Mary Boyd about their marriage, the 25 years or so they spent in Alabama, and more on what happened to their 10 children after they moved to Texas. Most of these children became prominent citizens of Fort Worth and are buried in Pioneer Rest Cemetery. For example, we have lots of information on W. A. Darter (1846-1929), one of their sons, but not so much on the rest of the children except Isaac M. Darter (1851-1893).
- ! Proof of the birth date and location of Isaac's wife Anna (or Annie) Gorden Darter (7 September 1858 in Chicago, IL). This date and location was written by her son Frank Darter in 1960 in his journal and is also penciled into his notes at the funeral of his younger brother in 1907. A genealogist was retained to locate information but could not find anything. The birthplace and date of her mother and father are not known except for the states (IL and TN as recorded in the 1870 US Census).
- ! Information on the more recent generations that descended through Francis Darter would be great.
- ! And very importantly, photos of any of these older Darter descendants. There certainly must be photos of the children of Francis Darter from his descendants in the Fort Worth area. Only one photo is available, that of W. A. Darter and his large family. It's a treasure! Imagine a photo of Annie Gorden Darter? That would be worth ten-thousand million dollars, at least. MID