

Lewis Huston Gill
Compiled by Audrey J. Lambert
Stories told by Lewis Huston Gill



Lewis tell his story: "I was born at home in a two room cabin located at Wolf Creek, Tennessee. My parents are Preston Stewart & Addie (Anderson) Gill. The doctor and my aunts arrive at the house for the delivery. Audra Camilla (Anderson) Denny, Ollie Lamby (Anderson) Julian & Eldra (Anderson) Shanks were there. When my mother, Addie started her delivery everyone waited in anticipation. I was told that my mother, Addie (Anderson) Gill passed out during the delivery. The doctor thought that the baby was dead. I showed no apparent signs of life. The aunts took charge and cleared out my throat and I started to move. 'He is gonna be alright now', they said to the doctor. They all decided that I needed a name right away, so they named me after my grandfather, Lewis Monroe Anderson and my grandfather Huston Stewart Gill. The name stuck! Mom must of agreed because that is my name."

"My parents brought me to Detroit when I was a year old. Two sisters and my brother was born there; Reba, Gloria & Jerry Gill. I grew up during the depression, but was always able to find some kind of work, while I went to school."



"When World War II came, I volunteered for the Army Air Force. After training as a Bombardier and Navigator I was given an Officer's Commission. I flew in a Flying Fortress (B-17) with the 8th Air Force from England out over Northern Europe. The Boeing B-17 is an American legend. In WWII, it carried the air war to Germany, bombing heavily defended targets while dodging flak and enemy fighters. Able to withstand severe damage, the "Fort" commanded great respect. I nicknamed the plane "Patches" because of all the bullet holes in it. This plane is now featured on a U.S. postal stamp on the Classic American Aircraft series.

Six months before the invasion of France by the Allied Army, my plane was shot down over Germany. I was wounded, captured, and held prisoner for sixteen months. I remember right before the plane was shot down. I took the place of the bombardier because he had been shot, I believe he was already dead. I was navigating at the time and was ordered to take his place. I removed him from the compartment. The plane was full of noise from the engines and from the guns being fired. The last thing I remember was reaching for my parachute and putting it on. I went down the chute towards the pilots chambers and there was

an explosion. I was told years later after the war that the wings of the plane were completely blown off.

I remember suddenly feeling at peace. The horrible noise of the plane was gone. I felt like I was floating on air. I woke up as from a dream and saw that I was being hurdled toward the ground and was no longer in the plane. I immediately pulled my parachute chord, just in time as I hit the ground hard. I was taken prisoner by the Germans. I was reported missing in action to my family, feared dead. This is a picture of my mother on May 20, 1944 receiving my Distinguish Flying Cross Medal.”



“ I married Mary Chilottee Gallagher. I call her “Lottie”. We have two children, Susan & John and several grandchildren.”



King Alfred

“One of my pastimes is genealogy. I like to trace my ancestors. I have traced my family back to King Alfred the Great who fought the Vikings & William the Conqueror, King of England (1066-1087) and Duke of Normandy (1035-1087) who led the Norman invasion of England (1066) and defeated Harold at the battle of Hastings.” I used to love and sit with my mother and discuss our family heritage.”

“My ancestor, Hugh Wallace, built a log cabin in 1820 on Tucker Ridge near Silver Point, TN. The cabin is actually a square hewn log house with a raised wooden floor. About fifty feet wide with a full porch and is divided into three rooms and a loft. There is a chimney at each end of the house, constructed of hand-made bricks. I thought of buying the place at one time and living there.”



“I was a carpenter so in 1952 I designed and built the house where I now live. It is located in Livonia, MI. In 1967 I doubled the size of my home by an addition.”

Louis also tells us about Detroit, and who so many of our Tennessee families moved there to live.

“Detroit affected many Tennessee families including the Anderson’s. It’s lure was work. As the U.S. industrialized, fewer people were needed on the farms and more in the cities. The auto factories of Detroit with their high wages attracted many thousands from all over, including Tennessee. They usually had a friend or relative there to help them get started. Some stayed for just a few months or years. Others never left. My parents stayed. Many of the early factories were ‘sweat shops.’ In the 1930’s the Unions made conditions better.

Louis Huston Gill⁷, (Preston Stewart Gill⁶, Addie Anderson, Lewis Monroe Anderson⁵, Matilda Isabelle Wallace, McDonald Wallace⁴, Julia Ann Henley, Hugh Wallace³, Nancy Jared, Joseph Jackson Jared², Agnes “Aggie”- “Martha” Beard, John Jared ¹, Hannah Whitacre)

...Addie Anderson – b. 27 November 1902 , Boma TN -
 d. 23 February 1976
 md 28 July 1920, Preston Stewart Gill –
 b. 14 May 1901 – d. 6 May 1967 – *Heart Attack*
 s/o Huston Stewart & Frances Rosentrant (Smith) Gill
 Buried – Smellage Cemetery, TN
 ...Louis Huston Gill – b. 20 May 1922,
 Wolf Creek, TN – *Born at home in a two room cabin.*
 md 2 August 1947, Mary Chilottee “Lottie” Gallagher
 b. 8 December 1923, Detroit, MI
 ...Susan Gill – b. 14 January 1952
 md Norman James Baker
 ...Jason Edward Baker – b. 19 March 1972
 ...Rachel Baker – b. 3 October 1980
 ...John Gill – b. 10 April 1954 –
 md 26 June 1976, Julie Marie Boone – div.
 md Pam Montgomery



Mary Chilottee Gallagher,
 on her wedding day
 wearing her horsehair hat.



Daughter, Susan (Gill)
 Baker



Lewis Huston & Mary Chilottee “Lottie” (Gallagher) Gill



Frances Rosentrant Smith

Louis Huston Gill Autobiography



My parents brought me to Detroit, MI when I was a year old, where my two sisters and brother was born. I grew up during the depression, but I was always able to find some kind of work, while I went to school.

When World War II came, I volunteered for the Army Air Force. After training as a Bombardier and Navigator, I was given an officers commission. I flew in a Flying Fortress, (B-17) with the 8th Air Force from England out over Northern Europe. Six months before the invasion of France by the Allied Army, my plane was shot down over Germany. I was wounded, captured and held

prisoner for sixteen months.

I was a carpenter in 1952, when I designed and built the house where I now live, located in Livonia, MI. In 1967, I doubled the size of my home by an addition and found out that I was getting a bit older. During this period the area changed from rural to urban.

I owned and drove my own trucks from 1959 to 1979 and hauled cars and trucks all over the USA. This took me to many places that I would have never gone to otherwise.

Close friends and relatives call me L.H. and AL.

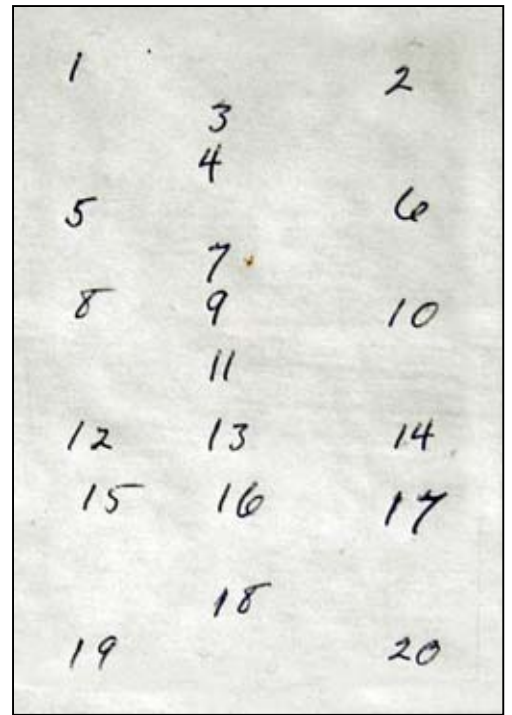


1st picture: Louis Huston Gill, left side of the picture, in the front with his arm raised, waving goodbye to Detroit, MI. Louis and his future WW II fighters are on a train leaving Detroit to take the men to basic training camps.

2nd picture: Louis Houston Gill in a nightclub with his mother, Addie (Anderson) Gill.

3rd picture: Louis getting ready to fly the bi-plane pictured in the distance.

Key to L.H. Gill Medals

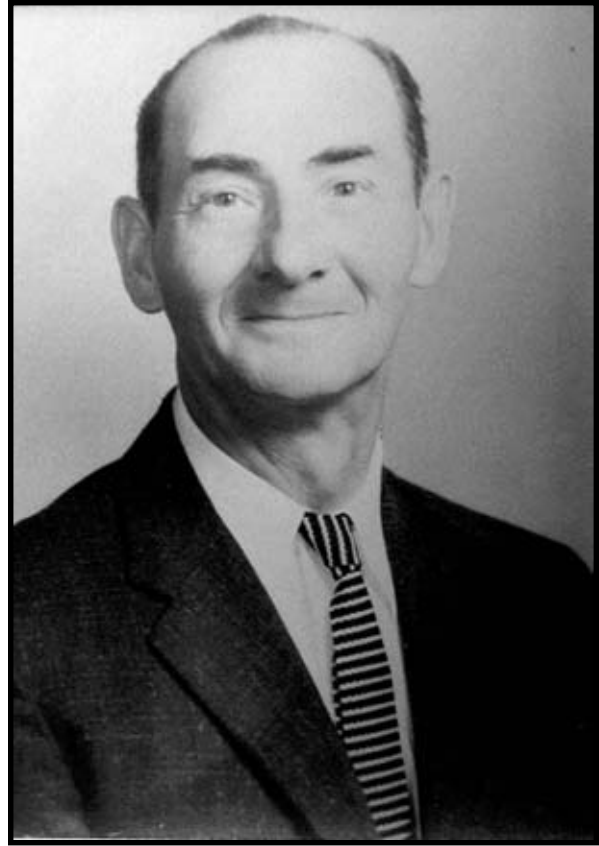


1. Good Luck charm, my brother, Jerry Gill gave me & I carried During WWII.
2. Caterpillar Club, issued by Irwin Parachute Co., worn but unofficial.
3. 8th A.A.F. 381st Bomb Group lapel pin.
4. MIA – POW lapel pin.
Bombardier Wings. – # not shown on above key.
Bombardier Wings. - # not shown on above key.
5. Dog Tags. Lapel pin.
6. German POW dog tags. *Broken in two in death.*
7. 8th Air Force shoulder patch, shown with two army pins.
8. Lapel insignia.
9. Rank insignia.
10. Lapel insignia.
11. Presidential Unit Citation.
12. Purple Heart Medal.
13. Distinguish Flying Cross Medal.
14. Air Medal.
15. European Theater of Operation Medal
16. American Theater of Operation Medal
17. Victory Medal.
18. Aviation Cadet Cap Insignia.
19. Civilian Lapel Insignia. *Shown below.*
20. Photo of Louis Huston Gill in uniform.
Civilian Lapel insignia. *Shown below.*





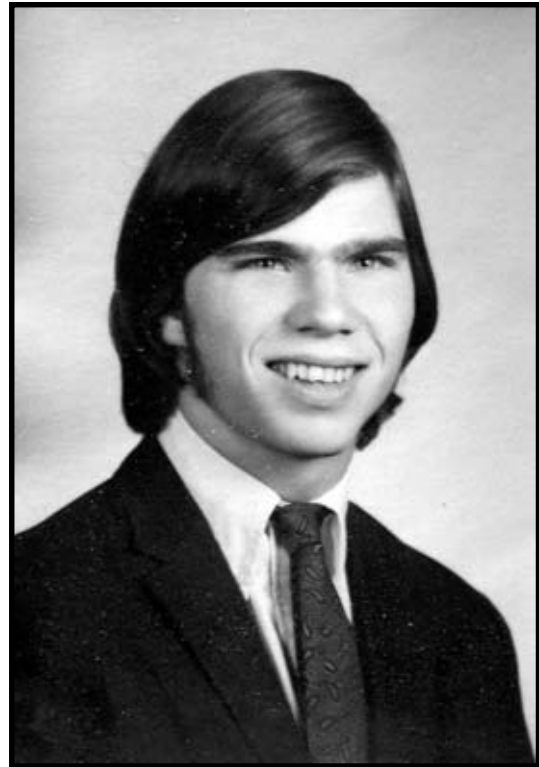
Huston Stewart Gill
married Frances Rosentrant Smith



Preston Stewart Gill
s/o Huston Stewart & Frances Rosentrant
(Smith) Gill



Lewis Huston Gill
s/o Preston Stewart & Addie
(Anderson) Gill



John Gill
s/o Lewis Huston & Mary
(Gallagher) Gill

The Air Force Song - "Army Air Corps." Full Lyrics
by Robert Crawford, courtesy USAF Heritage of America Band

Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun;
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em boys, Give 'er the gun! (Give 'er the gun now!)
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,
Off with one helluva roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame. Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

Additional verses:

Minds of men fashioned a crate of thunder,
Sent it high into the blue;
Hands of men blasted the world asunder;
How they lived God only knew! (God only knew then!)
Souls of men dreaming of skies to conquer
Gave us wings, ever to soar!
With scouts before And bombers galore. Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

Bridge: "A Toast to the Host"

Here's a toast to the host
Of those who love the vastness of the sky,
To a friend we send a message of his brother men who fly.
We drink to those who gave their all of old,
Then down we roar to score the rainbow's pot of gold.
A toast to the host of men we boast, the U.S. Air Force!

Zoom!

Off we go into the wild sky yonder,
Keep the wings level and true;
If you'd live to be a grey-haired wonder
Keep the nose out of the blue! (Out of the blue, boy!)
Flying men, guarding the nation's border,
We'll be there, followed by more!
In echelon we carry on. Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

Notes: Crawford didn't write "Hey!"; he actually wrote "SHOUT!" without specifying the word to be shouted. Wherever they appear, the words "U.S. Air Force" have been changed from the original "Army Air Corps." Words in parentheses are spoken, not sung.

My descent from Nicholas Sentry b. 1757e, is

in Sentry, Va.
#

- # 1 Louis Hill b. 1922, Tn. + Mary C. Gallagher 1923
- # 3 Addie Anderson 1902, Tn + Preston Hill 1901, Tn
- # 7 Matilda Wallace 1872 Tn + Louis Anderson 1867, Tn.
- # 15 Julian H Hendley 1838 Tn. + M^{rs} Donald Wallace 1826
- # 31 Eliz. Sentry b. 1817 Tn. + Ader Hendley 1812 Tn.

as shown in "The Sentry Family in America"

134(86) #62 Rob't Sentry 1758 Franklin^D + Nancy Harris 1790 Va
1803, Baxter, Tn, (White Co) now Putnam Co.
d. 1835+

70(25) #124 Bartlett 1761e Albemarle, Va + ? (Eliz)
1782 Dandridge, Franklin State (or N.C.) now Tenn
1803, 18 mi. / Sparta, Tn. (now Baxter area)
(70 yrs old) d. 1830e nr. Belfont, Ala. with some children.

40(6) #248 Rob't. b. 1730e - 1811, + m. 1754 Judith Joyner, dau / Philip + Eliz
(31 yrs.) m. 1804 Rachel West in Tn.
1776 - 1782 came to 4-mi. east / Dandridge, N.C. (d. 1811)

33(2) #496 Nicholas II. 1697 New Kent Co, Va + 1st m. = ?
d. 1777, (80 yrs) + 2nd m. = Jane

31(1) #992 Nicholas I 1655e - 1720+ Henover Co. + ?
(65 yrs)
1677 sent from Eng with brother Sam'l as
Redcoats to quell Bacon's Rebellion.
Granted land

① Claimed by N.C. - Now Dandridge, Jefferson Co, Tenn.
east of Knoxville. (over)