

Brother and Sister buried Friday
Cornelius Nicholas Cox and Catherine Cox Pettit
From The Comanche Chief, Comanche, Texas
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One of the largest crowds ever to attend a funeral service at Gustine, Texas assembled at the Methodist Church late Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, when double funeral services were held for Mrs. Catherine Pettit and her brother, Cornelius Nicholas Cox. Included among the number were over a hundred direct descendants of Mr. Cox and Mrs. Pettit, in addition to a large number of other relatives. Banks of floral offerings testified to the high esteem in which these two pioneers were held by their relatives and friends. The services were conducted by the Rev. O. A. Morton of Gustine and the Rev. M. Boiles of Carlton.

Cornelius Nicholas Cox died Wednesday, January 2, 1929. Catherine Cox Pettit died Thursday January 3, 1929. Their funeral services were held Friday afternoon, January 4, 1929.

Following the ceremony the two bodies were taken to different cemeteries for burial, Mr. Cox to the Union Cemetery near Gustine and Mrs. Pettit to Fleming.

Mrs. Pettit

Catherine Cox was born September 2, 1848 in Dallas County, Texas three years after Texas became a state of the union and when Dallas County belonged to the typical frontier section. She was the daughter of Andrew J. Cox and Arena Ratliff Cox. Andrew J. Cox was the oldest son of Cornelius (Nealy) Cox and Katherine Jackson Cox. He came to Texas with his parents in a wagon train from Newton County, Missouri, in 1845, there were very few settlers in Dallas at that time, and they took up land in the Peters Colony.

Catherine's mother died when she was six years of age and in 1858, when Comanche County had been organized only two years, moved to this county to make her home until her death 70 years later. She moved here with her Uncle and Aunt, the Rev. Jesse J. Johnson and his wife, Adeline Ratliff Johnson. He was a pioneer Methodist minister. At the age of 13 she was converted and united with the Methodist Church of which she had been a member 63 years at the time of her death.

On May 15,1867 she was married to John P. Pettit and that fall moved to the Pettit homestead where they lived until Mr. Pettit's death in 1908.

The couple had eleven children, all born in Comanche County, Texas: Mary A., John Henry, Jessie C, William Andrew, James A., Adeline "Lina", Veda, Catherine, Aaron David, Harry Oliver and Pinkney.

Mrs. Pettit was laid to rest at Whitney Cemetery, near Fleming community, southwest of Gustine.

Mr. Cox

Cornelius Nicholas Cox was born January 16, 1850 in Smith County. His mother died in 1855, when he was a small child, and in the early 1860's, he came to Comanche County, Texas with his uncle and aunt, Jesse J. Johnson and Adeline Ratliff Johnson. On April 19, 1875, Cornelius Nicholas "Nick" married Mary Jane (Mollie) Johnson, they were the parents of nine children: Robert Whatley Cox, Renier Cox, Joe C. Cox, William Cornelius "Will" Cox, Mary Ellen Cox, Berlen Daniel "Bert" Cox, Arthur Hill "Jeff" Cox, John Henry Lofton Cox, and Andrew Jefferson "Jeff" Cox. Two of the children are deceased: John Henry Lofton Cox and Mary Ellen Cox Weidner.

Mr. Cox was converted when he was a young man, being a member of the Methodist Church, and took an active part in church affairs during the remainder of his life.

Mr. Cox was laid to rest at Union Cemetery, just west of Gustine.

NOTE: Catherine Cox and Cornelius Nicholas Cox and a brother named William Marion Cox and a sister named Amanda Cox were the children of Andrew J. Cox and Arenna Ratliff Cox. Arenna Ratliff Cox died in 1855 during a move to Comanche County, Texas. This left their father, Andrew J. Cox with four small children to raise. They came on to Comanche County in the early 1860's with their uncle and aunt, Jesse J. Johnson and Adeline Ratliff Johnson. Jesse J. Johnson was an early day Methodist minister in the Comanche area. William Marion Cox married Susan Adeline Savage in Comanche County. Amanda Cox married G. B. Stone, Jr. in Comanche County, Texas.

Pettit is a community just southwest of Gustine, which is about 13 miles east of Comanche. At first, it was a thriving community named Fleming, which at one time had businesses, a school, a doctor and a post office. Later, John P. Pettit, husband of Catherine Cox, donated land for a school and the name of the community was changed to Pettit.

This information was taken from The Comanche Chief, dated January 11, 1929, and from The Comanche County History, a history of Comanche County families in 1912.
Missy Cox Jones