

COVER SHEET FOR SET OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN  
JOHN THOMAS COX OF SHIVE AND SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, AND  
ARLEE GOWEN OF LUBBOCK, TEXAS  
DATED 1960'S – 1980'S

This John Thomas Cox was the youngest son of Francis Marion and Iola Pearl Sims Cox and was born on the property patented by his paternal grandfather, Pleasant C. Cox, in the mid-1850's, on Lucy Creek near the rural community of Rumley in southeastern Lampasas County, Texas. He was named for his uncle, Pleasant and Martha Jane Bybee Cox's son John Thomas Cox. He spent the first 14 or 15 years of his life living with his family on this property before the family moved to Moline in the northern part of the county in 1922. Pleasant Cox's Lucy Creek property was the site of numerous events and places related to the Cox family, both before and after Pleasant patented the property. It is the site of Long Meadows/Cox/Terreros Presidio Cemetery, which was designated a Historic Texas Cemetery in 2007 and awarded an Official Texas Historical Marker in 2011. John T. Cox was thoroughly acquainted with the Lucy Creek property and the family history and traditions associated with it.

John T. Cox was devoted to the Cox family and its history and was a lover of history in general. He was a man of real substance with varied life experiences, having been a teacher and school administrator, an insurance salesman and executive, and the founder of Alert Services, a very successful business currently owned and operated by a family member. In his later years, he used his knowledge of history and geography as a tour guide, as evidenced by some of the correspondence referred to above. As his siblings passed away, he went to great lengths to keep in touch with his nieces and nephews and the entire extended family. A man with an encyclopedic memory, he could – and would – relate the Cox family history at every opportunity. From childhood until their deaths, I heard and read a prodigious amount of family history related by John T. Cox and his older brothers, William Ernest and Joe Berton (my father), related with enthusiasm and factual consistency.

Copies of the subject correspondence had been given to my father, Joe B. Cox, Sr., by John T., and my father in turn gave them to me. I found them only recently while organizing family history files.

Joe B. Cox, Jr.  
Nephew of John Thomas Cox  
12 December 2011