

## The Saga of Geneva Cox And the "Fast Horse"

Before 1930, Wilburn Cox and his sister, Geneva were living with our parents, William Cornelius Cox and Minnie Steward Cox in West Texas. During this time, they lived 24 miles from Big Spring, and also at Knott, Ackerly and Stanton during those years. I do not know exactly where they were living when this story came about, but I do know that they rode horseback for miles over the prairie, and left their horses in a man's horse lot and caught the bus for the rest of the trip to school.

They always rode the same horses. Wilburn would ride a pretty fast, young horse, and Geneva was riding a mare name "Old Mag". Now, there wasn't anything wrong with Old Mag, but Geneva got so tired of plodding along riding her, and here was Wilburn riding this fast little horse, and he always beat her home. One day, Geneva pestered Wilburn to change horses, and he finally agreed to.

They changed horses, and Geneva was on this little fast horse. The wind was blowing and he got scared at a tumbleweed and threw her off. Wilburn could see that she wasn't hurt, and he just loped home on Old Mag. He got home, unsaddled the horse, put the horse in the lot, and went in the house. This was really cold weather, and our Mama had a good fire going in the kitchen stove and hot chocolate for him to drink. He told Mama that Geneva had gotten thrown off her horse, but she wasn't hurt and would be along directly.

Sure enough, they looked out the kitchen window to the north. The cold wind was blowing and here came Geneva walking along holding her horse's reins and leading him home. She couldn't get back on the horse, and she knew to bring him home. That was the last time she wanted to ride the fast horse.

Missy Cox Jones  
August, 2012