

My dad, William Cornelius 'Nealy' Cox, Jr moved to Amarillo and attended the San Jacinto Barber College, then bought a two-chair shop in Goodnight, Texas, where he met my mother, Maude Newberry. I was born there August 30, 1927, and my brother, Billy Jess Cox, in 1929. Daddy ran a barber shop in one end of a small building, and a Sinclair Service Station in the other. He was the bus agent on the Amarillo to Clarendon highway until March, 1937 when we moved to Canyon, 'so Bill and I could go to College'. I had never thought I could do that! I think I was the first grandchild of Will Cox and Georgia Cotten Cox to do that.

Bill and I attended West Texas State Teachers College Demonstration School, then WTSTC where I received a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education and Art in 1947. I moved to Portales, New Mexico and taught art in six grades and English in the sixth grade. The following May I married Hardy Elbern Wallace. He had a personality which invited nicknames, so he had many. Wally was in the Navy, stationed on a moth-balled cruiser on the Sacramento River at Port Chicago. We lived in Naval housing in Concord before moving to Hunter's Point Naval Yard in San Francisco. That was an exciting time to be there. The United Nations delegates were organizing downtown, and the city was celebrating 300 years since the discovery of San Francisco Bay by the Spanish. After Wally's discharge we moved to Tulia, Texas where his father was Swisher County Judge. The Ford dealer asked Wally to be bookkeeper and assistant to the Parts Manager. After a few months the Manager was fired and Wally became Manager, I was asked to be the bookkeeper. In 1956 we had an opportunity to become the dealer in Happy, Texas and moved there. In 1986 we moved the business to Dimmitt. Wally died of multiple myeloma in 1990 and I became the Dealer. I closed the dealership in 1992 and worked for a farmer's cooperative before moving to Canyon, Texas, where daughter Jana Goss lives.

We have three daughters, Mary of Houston, Jana of Canyon and Amy of Craig, Colorado. We adopted a son, Vann Eric, in 1969. I have nine granddaughters and twin grandsons; and am expecting my second great-grandchild in Sept, 2006.

I no longer drive, but try to serve our Father in First United Methodist Church of Canyon. He had blessed me beyond understanding ---Bettye Cox Wallace