

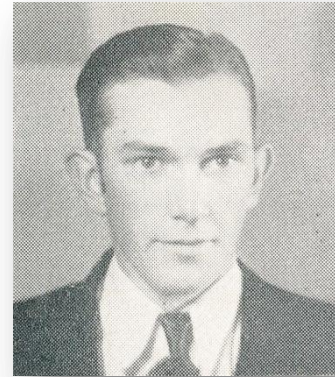
Cecil Emerson Waggoner Biographical Sketch

Cecil Emerson Waggoner was born near Lyons, Rice County, Kansas on August 9, 1917. He was the youngest of the 13 children of John Franklin and Rosa Delaphine Waggoner¹. He always said that before he was born there were 6 boys and 6 girls and there were 6 brown eyed and 6 blue eyed, and he was born a brown eyed boy.

He grew up in what he called the “sand hills”, northwest of Hutchinson, Kansas. He attended school at Inman, Kansas. In 1930, on April 26th, when Cecil was 13, his mother passed away. He and his older sister, Alice, went to live with their oldest sister, Edna, and her husband, Ed Randles in Scott County, Kansas, southwest of Scott City². It was here they went through the blizzard of 1931. Their school bus became stranded in the snow and they made it to a nearby farm house where they spent 2 days waiting out the blizzard³.

Not long after, Ed and Edna moved to Vernal, Utah and Cecil went with them. He told of them moving to Utah in either a Model T or Model A Ford truck with furniture, kids and everything. They had to overhaul the motor when they got to the mountains and again when they got over the mountains. In Utah, the truck broke down and Ed was gone 2 days to fetch parts.

One story he told happened when he lived with Ed and Edna Randles in Utah. There was a train wreck near where they lived and a part of the spilled freight consisted of watermelons and ice, which they allowed locals to take for free. He said they had plenty of both homemade ice cream and watermelons for days.



Cecil's Senior Picture, 1937

Cecil attended High School in Utah, but went back to Kansas before he graduated. He saved his money in Kansas and moved back to Utah to finish. He graduated from Unitah High School⁴ in Vernal, Utah in 1937 at the age of 19.

Cecil moved back to Hutchinson within the next year or so and went to work as a farm hand at Rotherwood Dairy⁵ north of Hutchinson. It was there he met Lucille Campbell whose uncle, Lester Collins, was the supervisor of the farm hands and her Aunt was the cook for the workers. Cecil and Lucille were married⁶ September 6, 1941 in her aunt and uncle's house there on the farm. They settled in Wichita⁷ where Cecil had been working at Beechcraft since earlier in the year. Failing the draft due to flat feet he worked at Beechcraft in war production all through World War II, sometimes working 12 hr. days, 7 days a week.

Their first child, David, was born in 1943, followed by Clark in 1945. Norma, the last of their 3 children, was born in 1951. In 1953 the family started attending Valley Center Christian Church

where Cecil gave his life to Christ. Within a few years he became an adult teacher and an elder in the church and remained so until he retired and moved to Oklahoma.

After the war they bought a house north of Wichita. In 1952-1953, he built a new home next door at 808 W. 51st Street, where they lived until his retirement. They had over an acre of ground, most of which he kept in garden. He loved gardening.

Cecil was promoted to Crew Chief at Beechcraft in 1950. He was promoted to Leadman in 1969



Beechcraft Model 17 Stagger-wing was in full production in 1940 when Cecil began working at Beechcraft⁴



Production on this Beechcraft King Air B100 was retired in 1979, the same year Cecil retired.

and 3rd Shift Plant Manager in 1978. Cecil retired in 1979 after 39 years.

Upon retirement, they sold their house in Wichita and moved to Sapulpa OK to be near family. They lived there the rest of their lives. Cecil passed away from heart disease, January 27, 1995 at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa. First Christian Church Sapulpa, Oklahoma, February 1, 1995⁸. He is buried along with his wife in Sapulpa OK at the Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

¹ For a discussion on the names of Della *Smith* Waggoner [click here](#).

² This is a picture where the Randles home was located when Cecil lived with them. It is the northwest corner of a rural intersection 5 miles west and 5 miles south of Scott City, Kansas.

⁴ The Beechcraft Model 17 Stagger-wing is now preserved in The Beechcraft Heritage Museum in Tullahoma, TN. There are 9 different models of beautifully restored Stagger-wings manufactured from 1932 to 1946 on display as well as nearly 20 other early model Beechcraft airplanes manufactured from 1924 to 1989. See their website for more details:

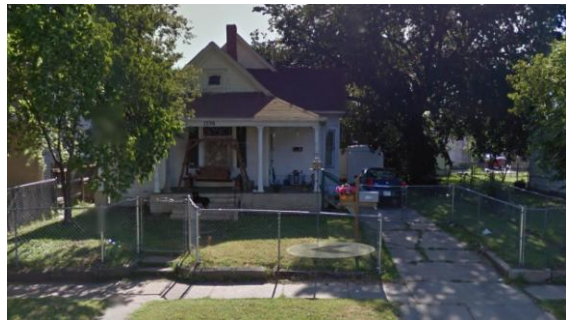
<http://www.beechcraftheritagemuseum.org>



⁶They were married by Dr. J. J. PreVol, pastor of First Baptist Church. [Click here](#) for more on their wedding.

⁷ After the wedding they lived at 1226 S. Market, Wichita, KS.

Top picture: 1226 S. Market
Below left: Their 2nd house at 521 S. Oak
Below right: 226 Clarence where they lived
when David and Clark were born.
These pictures were taken from Google
Street in 2014.



⁸The following comments on Cecil were read at his funeral:

Cecil was an avid fisherman and loved to fish whenever he could. Even this last summer he was able to go with David and his family on a fishing trip to Canada. He also loved to garden. When the family was young he helped finance their summer vacations selling tomatoes and corn. As he retired he used his green thumb in his flower beds as well. He had a wealth of knowledge and could identify many types of plants and flowers. This knowledge extended well beyond plants. In fact when one of his grandsons was once asked who he respected most he said his grandpa because everyone went to him when they needed an answer to a question.

In his younger years he loved dairy cattle. During the war and for several years following he owned and milked several cows with enough milk for a growing family and some to sell also. He was very handy with his hands. In the early fifties he built the family home. After his retirement he spent much time in his shop. Besides making and selling trunks, he took on many projects for his kids and grandkids. They will cherish the many pieces he has built, rebuilt or refinished.

He loved to travel. He and his wife have made many trips and he always took every opportunity he could to travel. He was never more excited than when preparing for a trip. He will be greatly missed and his memories will be cherished by all.

The family has requested all memorial gifts go to Alzheimer's research or the First Christian Church Building Fund"

The following letter was read at the end of his funeral:

Dear Family and Friends,

Most of you are aware that our mother, Lucille, has latter stages of Alzheimer's. In her current condition it would not be feasible to include her in this memorial service. She has not recognized any of us for some time now and would have no understanding or comprehension of what we are doing today yet we wanted to honor her and their marriage on this special day.

Therefore we have asked the nursing home to have her hair freshly done and we have picked out a special dress for her to wear. Some of us will be with her in the front lobby of the Ranch Terrace Nursing Home following the Graveside Service to receive any who would like to briefly stop and see her. She will not remember you but she quickly responds to hugs, laughs and "I love you". She looks good and has all of her old expressions and mannerisms. We understand not all are able to do this but if you can it would be a blessing to us all. It would also be a good time for one more picture if you brought your cameras.

Ranch Terrace is at 1310 E. Cleveland, 2 blocks east of Clark & Sandy's house. The family will then gather at Clark & Sandy's, and we invite you all to stop in for more visiting and reminiscing of Dad.

Thank you for being here and sharing in our loss,
David, Clark & Norma Waggoner & families.