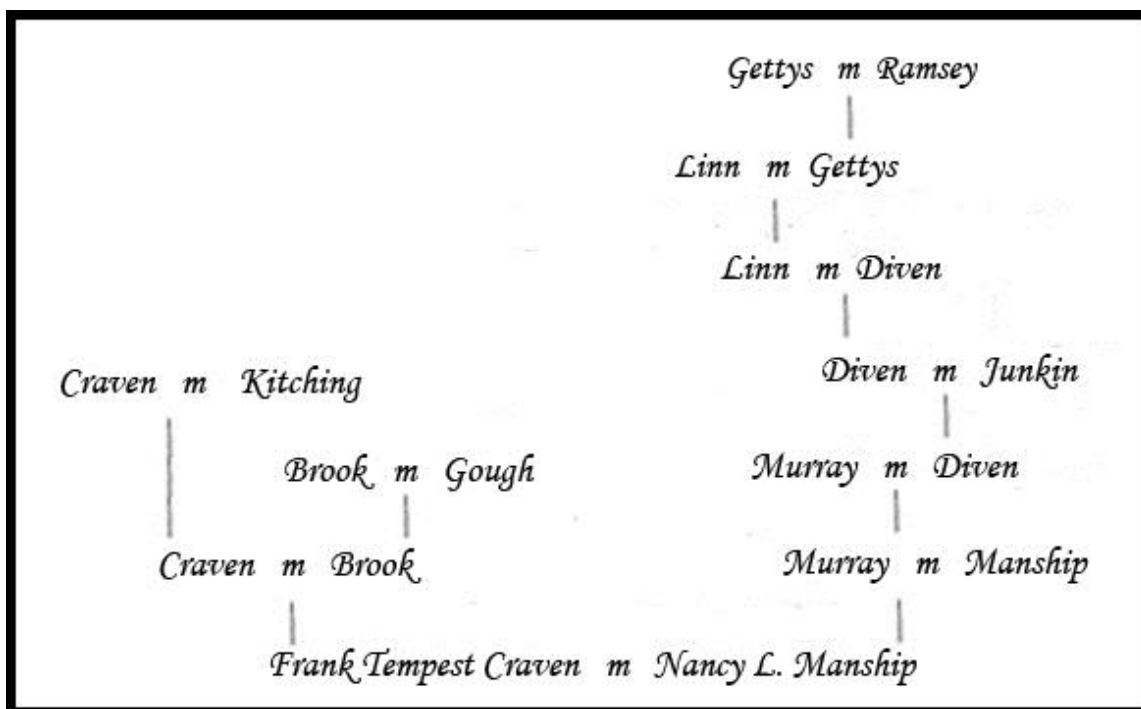


*The Ancestry of Frank T. Craven
and Nancy Manship Craven
From Craven, Brook, Kitching, Gough,
Manship, Kirkham, Durden, Murray, Diven, Linn,
Junkin, Gettys, and Ramsey Surname Lines*

Frank Tempest Craven and
Nancy Manship Craven after 1948

This is only one chapter of the author's family history. Please see also <http://www.melissacravenfowler.com> (choose Melissa's Ancestry tab) where you can link into chapters about other lines in this family, access descendant outlines and genealogy reports, as well as the Forward, which explains the premises and format of all of these "chapters". --- Melissa Craven Fowler

We met Nancy, a divorcee, in the Manship chapter and Frank, a young WWII veteran, in the Craven chapter, at <http://www.melissacravenfowler.com>. Here are how the lines discussed in other chapters converged to Nancy and Frank:



Frank and Nancy were introduced by a neighbor of hers who had gone to high school with Frank, and the couple was married in February 1948 at the house on Royal Street where Nancy had been living with her mother, Mary Murray Bower. Her daughter Nancy Linn was their “maid of honor” and both of their mothers were witnesses.



Nancy Linn Banks (Craven), Nancy Manship (Banks) Craven, and Frank Tempest Craven, February 1948.

The newlyweds took a three-day honeymoon in New York City and then moved into the house at Royal Street, while Frank continued to commute to his job at John A. Roebling Sons in Trenton, NJ, where he worked as a salesman of wire products. The following month, Mary Murray Bower died and the couple remained in the house, while shopping for a new place to live closer to Frank’s workplace, and selling the Royal St. house. In October, they (and Jane Brook Craven, Frank’s mother) moved to their newly completed house at 4 (later changed to 6 by the USPS) North Circle, Lower Makefield Township, Bucks Co., PA.

Frank adopted Nancy's daughter, Nancy Linn, and the couple welcomed two more children to the family: Frank Alfred "Fred" and Mary Melissa. Jane Brook Craven lived with the family, walking or pushing a baby carriage miles a day, making English oatmeal every morning and reading to her grandchildren, until her death in 1955.

It wasn't long before they built an addition on the back of the North Circle house for another bedroom and den.



Left: Frank Tempest Craven, Jane Brook Craven, Frank Alfred Craven, Nancy Manship Craven and Nancy Linn Craven, kneeling, 1949. (Photo courtesy of Ann Brooke Miller)
Right: Mary Melissa Craven, Nancy Linn Craven, and Frank Alfred Craven, 1952.

While working in Trenton, Frank became involved with a business which several other Roebing employees (Charles Stone, George Engel, Fred Piepenbrinck, Joseph Smith, and Louis Sigafoos) had started in 1950, the Stonite Coil Co. ¹ Not named on the Certificate of Incorporation, so therefore not one of the founders, Frank nevertheless invested in the company in 1951, was nominated to the Board of Directors in 1952, and was elected Chairman of the Board in 1956. Frank probably never intended it this way, but at his death, the Board of Stonite bought his investment from Nancy for a sum which assured that Fred's and Melissa's educational costs would be covered.

Frank also became a member of the Masons in Trenton in the early 1950's and attended meetings faithfully. Their moral tenets fit his belief system very well, as he continued in adulthood with the same high moral sensibilities described of him when he entered military service.

Frank loved to swim: the family spent two weeks at Wildwood, NJ beaches about 1958, and after trying the private Trenton (NJ) Country Club and the public Post Road Pool in

¹ <http://www.stonitecoil.com/about.html>

Morrisville, PA, he and a number of other local men started the Brookside Swim Club ² in 1958, on which Board he or Nancy served for many years. He and Fred began collecting coins in the late 1950's and they attended Indian Guides ³, a YMCA-based father-and-son organization, together.

Nancy was the 1st President of the Makefield Women's Club. She and Frank played Scrabble and contract bridge and had a large circle of friends. In later years, Nancy worked for the Mercer Hospital Auxiliary and the Bucks County Chapter of Planned Parenthood. She was a championship duplicate bridge player, competing regionally and nationally well into her 70's – and winning! At her death, she was just short some national points to earn her "life master" designation.

The family was active in the First Presbyterian Church of Morrisville.



Houses at 6 North Circle, circa 1950, left; 1323 Moon Drive, 1957, right.

In 1957, the family built a new home at 1323 Moon Drive, 0.3 miles from the 6 North Circle house.

Frank and Nancy traveled to Europe twice, in 1956 for 6 weeks (children stashed with neighbors)....

² <http://www.brooksideswimandtennis.com/bssat/html/default.aspx>

³ <http://yindianguides.org/>



Americans tour two ridings

An American couple, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Craven, of Yardley, Pennsylvania, set off in a coach with a party of relatives and friends today to tour beauty spots in the West and East Ridings.

Mr. Craven, who is touring Europe with his wife, was born in America. He came to live in the Great Horton area of Bradford for a time as a child in 1921. His parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Craven, emigrated from Bradford originally.

The couple return to America on Thursday. This is Mrs. Craven's first trip to England.

Pictured before they set off today are (left to right, front) Mr. D. Crowther and Mr. T. A. Crowther; left to right, back: Mr. M. G. Clarke, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. H. Craven, Mr. John Craven, Miss L. Tempest, Miss M. Troupen, Mrs. Frank Craven, Mrs. J. Craven, Mr. Frank Craven, Mr. Harry Craven and Mrs. T. Crowther.

Photo left: Left to right standing: Frank T. Craven, Minnie Tempest, Lily Tempest, Anne Illingworth Brooke, Charles Brooke, John (Jack) Craven; Louisa Jagger Craven (seated). Yorkshire, 1956.
 News-clipping right, photo includes Frank's first cousin Harry Craven, second cousin Edith Crowther (though the Gough line), and friends. Yorkshire, 1956.

... and in 1961: When Roebing's closed down their magnet wire division, Frank made the move to work for Alcoa and was between jobs for three months. This allowed for a second trip to Europe in 1961, with Melissa and Fred (Nancy Linn had married in April of that year). Among other things, both trips allowed for renewal of ties with family in England.



Photo taken in Blackpool, Lancashire, England. Left to right, top row: Frank Tempest Craven, Nancy Manship Craven, Anne Illingworth Brooke, Louisa Jagger Craven, Charles Brooke, John (Jack) Craven; Bottom row: Minnie Tempest, Frank Alfred Craven. 1961

Shortly after the second trip to Europe, Frank was diagnosed, and became ill, with lung cancer. He was nursed for many months by Ann Miller, daughter of his first cousin Charlie. Ann, who was immigrating to the U.S., lived with our family during that terrible winter. Frank died in March 1962.



Frank A. Craven,
Mary Melissa Craven,
Frank T. Craven, and
Ann Brooke
(left to right).

December 1961.

After Frank's death, Nancy continued living on Moon Dr., sewing, knitting, gardening, working for charities, taking the occasional part-time job, and playing Championship Bridge. In 1979, she married a third time, to William Pyle Eckfeldt, the widower of one of her childhood school friends. The couple lived in Villanova, PA. However, in 1987, Nancy moved to the Rosemont Presbyterian Village where she lived the remainder of her years until her death in 1991.

1979, William Pyle Eckfeldt and Nancy Manship Eckfeldt, married in Bryn Mawr, PA.



Frank and Nancy were buried alongside Alfred and Jane Brook Craven in Rock Ledge, PA, north of the city of Philadelphia.



Alfred and Jane Brook Craven, along with Frank T. Craven and Nancy Manship (Banks/Craven) Eckfeldt were buried at Lawnview Cemetery, Rock Ledge, Montgomery Co, PA. (Photo by author, 2009)

The cremains of daughter Nancy Linn (Banks) Craven Henry were interred there in 2016 also.

The children of Frank Tempest and Nancy Manship Craven:

- Nancy Linn Craven married Richard A. Henry;
- Frank Alfred ("Fred") Craven married Jane Ellen Dorrance; and
- Mary Melissa Craven married Thomas L. Fowler.



Left: Jane Dorrance Craven and Frank A. (Fred) Craven.
Center: (Mary) Melissa Craven Fowler and Tom Fowler.
Right: Nancy Linn Craven Henry and Dick Henry.

December 1992

(Mary) Melissa Craven Fowler,
Frank A. (Fred) Craven,
Nancy Linn Craven Henry (seated)

May 2010

