

## **Lucas Family History Part 2 – “She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue”**

The next child of Susan Lucas and Ben Richardson is Kathaleen who was born on August 30, 1893, in Chatham. She married George Millben (1893-1960). According to a funeral pamphlet, Kathaleen passed away on April 16, 1997 and the pamphlet also contains the wording: “A mother holds her children’s hands for a while ... their hearts forever.”

The pamphlet also includes:

“She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.  
She watches over the affairs of her household  
And does not eat the bread of idleness.  
Her children arise and call her blessed;  
Her husband also, and he praises her:  
‘Many women do noble things,  
But you surpass them.’  
Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;  
But a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
Give her the reward she has earned,  
And let her works bring her praise at the city gate. -Proverbs 31:26-31”

An obituary is also included which says “Kathaleen was born August 30, 1893 and departed this life April 16, 1997. She was born in Chatham Township, Ontario, Canada to Benjamin and Susan Richardson. She is the last to pass of twelve children. Kathaleen was preceded in death by her husband, George A. Millben. Surviving are her daughter, Mildred N. (James) Jones of Lake Elsinore, California, her son, G. Archie (Martha) Millben of Jackson, Michigan, six grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.”

The Museum’s family history collection shares further details about Kathaleen’s children and records that her daughter Mildred M. Millben married Dr. James Edward Jones. Their marriage record states that Mildred and Sgt. James E. Jones were married on February 25, 1943 in Comanche, Oklahoma. Kathaleen’s next child, Dr. George Archie Millben married Martha Marie Chavis and their marriage record states that they were married on March 23, 1943 in

Miami, Ohio. Their marriage record also states that Martha was the daughter of Ora B. Chavis and Margaret Elizabeth Wade, and that Martha worked as a typist and George was a factory employee. A Michigan, Detroit Manifest for George Archie Millben adds that his occupation was a Soldier at the time he immigrated on March 24, 1924.

Kathaleen's brother Archie is next. He was born on March 8, 1895 in Chatham and he married twice. The first was to Myrtle Irene Highgate (1906-1964) and the second was to Luverne Latham. On Archie's marriage record to Myrtle Irene Highgate, it states that they married on February 23, 1924 in Chatham and that Myrtle was the daughter of James Highgate and Emma Snooks.

On November 25, 1974, the *Jackson Citizen Patriot* printed Archie's obituary which provides more details. It says "Richardson, Archie – Of 1105 Backus St., passed away at Mercy Hospital, Saturday evening, November 23, 1974 aged 79 years. Surviving are his wife Luverne; one daughter Mrs. Gloria Weatherspoon of Jackson; four sisters Mrs. Kathaleen Milbin, Mrs. Lavina Hanson, Mrs. William (Margaret) Hazard, Mrs. Lillian Moss; two brothers John and Wellington Richardson; several nieces and nephews. He was a World War I veteran of the Canadian Army a member of the N.A.A.C.P. Mr. Richardson is at Patience – Montgomery Chapel, 406 First St. where funeral services will be conducted Tuesday 7:30 p.m. Additional services will be held at the Grass Funeral Home, Dresden, Ontario, Wednesday 1 p.m. Interment Dresden Cemetery."

Archie's brother John and the next child of Susan Lucas and Benjamin Richardson was born on September 7, 1896, in Dresden. He later married Doris Iona Smith, the daughter of Horace Smith and Elizabeth Burnett, on December 22, 1920, in Chatham. John's obituary shares further details and says he resided on "Windsor Ave. Retired from the Kodak Co., Detroit & a

member of the B.M.E. Church. Beloved husband of Ona (nee Smith). Dear brother of Mrs. Katherine Millben, Jackson, Mich; Mrs. Lavina Hanson, Chatham; Wellington Richardson, Chatham Twp; Mrs. Margaret Hazard, Windsor; Mrs. Lillian Moss, Pontiac, Mich. Friends may call at the James H. Sutton Funeral Home, 1567 Ouellette Ave. from 2 p.m. Saturday till 9p.m.”

A funeral pamphlet refers to him as John (Jack) Richardson and says he “was born on September 7, 1896 in Chatham Township and departed this life on August 11, 1982 at Grace Hospital suddenly. He was married to Iona Doris (Smith) on December 22, 1918.

Along with his beloved wife he leaves to mourn his passing, four sisters; Kathleen Milben of Jackson, Mich., Lavina Hanson of Chatham, Ontario., Margaret Hazard of Windsor, Ont., Lillian Moss of Pontiac, Mich., and one brother, Wellington of Dresden, Ont. He was predeceased by his father Benjamin Senior, his mother Susan, three sisters Arnettie Highgate, Nellie Belle Smith and Mary at a very young age. Also, four brothers James, Richard, Archie and Benjamin the II. A host of nieces, relatives and friends also mourn his passing. He was a member of good standing for over forty-five years in the B.M.E. Church, Windsor, Ont. He served as one of the founders of the present Usher Board. For many years he served as a Steward and was also a Trustee of the General Conference.”

John’s sister Lavina Melvina Richardson was born on June 6, 1897 in Chatham and she married Earl Augustes (sometimes spelt Augustin) Hanson who was born on January 23, 1894 in Chatham. Earl was the son of Dwight Leon Hanson and Minnie Willamine Cook who was born November 27, 1869, the daughter of Daniel Cook and Mary Daga, and died November 26, 1934, in Dresden. The 1901 Bothwell Census for Dwight and Minnie Hanson records some of Earl’s siblings including Johnnie, Willie, James, and Joseph.

Earl and Lavina were married on July 15, 1914 in Chatham. Thanks to help from the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society & Black Mecca Museum we can share both Lavina and her husband Earl's obituaries. According to Lavina's obituary, she at "age 86 of the Canadianna Nursing Home formerly of 6 Daniels Place, Chatham passed away Sunday, April 22, 1984 at the Public General Hospital, Chatham. Her husband Earl Hanson predeceased in 1968. Surviving are one daughter; Minnie Seevers of Chatham, one son Harold (Bus) Hanson of Windsor, four grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, three sisters; Kathleen Millben of Jackson, Michigan, Lillian Moss of Pontiac, Michigan and Margaret Hazzard of Windsor, one brother Wellington (Wink) Richardson of Chatham Township. She is predeceased by two sons, two sisters and five brothers. Funeral service will be conducted at the Thomas L. DeBurger Funeral Home, 620 Cross St., Dresden on Wednesday, April 25 at 1:30 p.m. with Rev. G.N. Burns officiating. Interment in Dresden Cemetery."

Earl's obituary, which was printed in *The Chatham Daily News* on December 26, 1968, says "DRESDEN – Funeral Services were held Monday for Earl Hanson, 74 who died Friday at his residence on 6 Daniel Place Chatham. Rev. G.H. Richardson conducted the services at the Grass Funeral Home in Dresden. Flower bearers were Stanley Dudley, Leroy Poole, William Richardson, William Hazzard, Garnet Lucas, Benjamin Smith, Clarence Smith and George Highgate. Pallbearers were Archie Ladd, Grant Smith, Leon Carter, Donald Hanson, Richard Moss and Lionel Hanson. Burial was at Dresden Cemetery." Earl's death record adds that he was born in 1894.

Earl and Lavina's children include Minnie Eva Hanson and Harold (Bus) Hanson. Minnie Eva married Wilfred Harold Seevers (1916-1971). We could not find any details for Harold, but thanks to the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society & Black Mecca Museum we have a copy

of Harold's wife Lottie Terrell Hanson's obituary. It says "HANSON; Mrs. Lottie (Terrel) Hanson, beloved wife of Harold Hanson of 1018 Windsor Ave., Windsor, died in the Hotel Dieu Hospital on Friday, December 30, 1983 at age 70 years. She is dear aunt to Kingsley Terrel, Ben Talbot and Gary Jefferson all of Chatham and is predeceased by all her brothers and sisters. Resting at the T. Brady Hinnegan Funeral Home, 156 William St. S., Chatham where friends may call from 2-5 on Sunday and 2-5 and 7-9 on Monday. Funeral service will be conducted in the Kent Chapel of the Funeral Home on Tuesday at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Fr. S.E. McGuire of St. Joseph's Church officiating. Interment will be in St. Anthony's Cemetery."

**What we publish is not a complete history of any family and is based on the documents that are available. We welcome photos and information to fill in the gaps. See you next week for part 3.**