

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
 The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.
 Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
 finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Rowe, Russell Heavilin (Sr.)
1890 IN – 1976 AL

ROWE RUSSELL HEAVILIN		c 21/92320
Corp 18th Co 20th Engrs		K
Lepanto Ark		A 2 663 473
Ssn 250 717	Died	T 398 046
Born 11-20-90		R
Enl 9-18-17	Dis 6-12-19	Ct 1 356 110
		I
U. S. VETERANS BUREAU Mail and Records Form 7202 - Rev. Sept., 1935		INDEX CARD 2-17905

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:W74B-57MM>

Fifteen Men From Arkansas Were on Torpedoed Ship

According to information which has been sent out by the war department, 15 Arkansas men were aboard the Tuscania when she was torpedoed by a German submarine. The list of survivors has not yet been announced. Lieut. John H. Sutton, reported aboard the ship when she was sunk, was born at Holly Grove, and is a graduate of the Second Officers' Training School at Leon Springs, Texas. He is a brother-in-law of O. G. Stegman, 1004 East Ninth street, and his wife is now living with her brother's family. Following is the list of Arkansans:

First Lieut. John H. Sutton, Jr., Little Rock, 100th Aero Squad.

Private William E. Bennett, Rogers.

Sgt. Thomas M. Clanon, Tyronza, 13th Aero Squad.

Private William E. Moore, Hope, 20th Engineers.

Private Lee F. Jackson, Celito, 20th Engineers.

Private Lee O. Shull, DeQueen, 20th Engineers.

Corporal Russell H. Rowe, Lepanto, 20th Engineers.

Private James R. Politto, Huntington, 20th Engineers.

Private John Richardson, Junction City, 20th Engineers.

Sgt. Max W. Friend, Fort Smith, 20th Engineers.

Private Grover C. Edington, Milner, 20th Engineers.

Corp. Nathan B. Short, Stephens, 20th Engineers.

Private Horace Cox, Rebell, 20th Engineers.

Private James L. Carter, El Dorado, 20th Engineers.

Private Edward L. Anderson, Bigelow, 20th Engineers.

The list does not include the names of Lieut. Shelby M. Saunders of De Queen and Private Velvin R. Herndon of Lewisville, who previously were reported to have been on the Tuscania. Lieut. Saunders reported his rescue in a cablegram received here Thursday by his sister, Mrs. F. W. Hamilton, 521 Palm street.—Gazette.

ARKANSAS BOY IS SAVED

**Russell B. Rowe of Lepanto Was on
Board the Tuscania.**

Special to the Gazette.

Marked Tree, Feb. 12.—The sinking of the Tuscania brought the war close to the people of this section, as Russell B. Rowe of Lepanto, this county, was on board, as a member of Company F, Twentieth Forestry Engineers. A message from the War Department to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rowe, said that he was among those saved. They have another son, Cecil, in the navy, and their third son, Homer, has been put in Class 1 of the draft. Mr. Rowe is a sawmill man of Lepanto, and came here a few years ago from Webb, Miss.

"Daily Arkansas Gazette" (Little Rock AR) Wednesday 13 Feb 1918 p 2

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance of the authority and directions contained in the decretal order of the Chancery Court of Poinsett County, made and entered on the 8th day of May, 1923, in a certain cause (No. 1832) then pending therein between Bank of Lepanto, complainant, and W. J. Rowe and Sons, A Co-partnership composed of W. J. Rowe, H. A. Rowe, Cecil E. Rowe, R. H. Rowe and Olive Rowe, Iora Rowe, and Ida Rowe, and N. D. Sappenfield trustee, and Baker Mathews Lumber Co., a Corporation, defendant, the undersigned, as Commissioner of said Court, will offer for sale at public vendue to the highest bidder, at the South door or entrance of the County Courthouse, in which said Court is held, in the County of Poinsett within the hours prescribed by law for judicial sales, on Friday the 8th day of June, 1923, the following described property, to-wit:

Wife:

All of the timber now standing and growing or having been recently cut down on the following described lands, to-wit: Lot 1 of Section 7 and Lot 1 of Section 8 of Township 11, Range 8 East of the 5th Principal Meridian lying East of Big Twin Ditch, and on what is known as the Rube Conatser Homestead. Also all timber now standing and growing or having recently been cut on block 11 and 12 of Section 7 Township 11 North Range 8 East of the 5th Principal Meridian and being on what is known as the John Conatser Homestead. Also all of the timber now standing and growing or having recently been cut on lots 5 and 6 of Section 7 Township 11 North Range 8 East of the 5th Principal Meridian, and on what is known as the Jim Conatser Homestead. Also all of the timber now standing and growing or having been recently cut on Lot 1 of Section 18 Township 11 North Range 8 East of the 5th Principal Meridian. Also all of the timber now standing and growing or having been recently cut on that part of lot 2 that lies East of the National Ditch in Section 18 Township 11 North Range 8 East of the 5th Principal Meridian, being a part of what was originally known as the A. J. McClung Homestead. All of the foregoing described property being in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

Also one shingle mill and all equip-

Also one shingle mill and all equipment belonging thereto located on Property recently purchased from A. J. McClung by Dr. Roy Rice in Mississippi County, Arkansas. Also one saw mill and all equipment thereto belonging, and handle mill now located on the Southeast corner of T. W. Robinson estate in Lepanto. Also one saw mill and all equipment belonging thereto, consisting of boiler and engine, saws, belting, shafting, edgers and trimmers, etc., and now in operation and now located on what is known as the Steigers tract of land and more particularly described as follows: On land lying East of Drainage Ditch on Lots 7, 8 and 9 of Section 7 and Lot 2 of Section 8, all in Township 11 North, Range 8 East in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

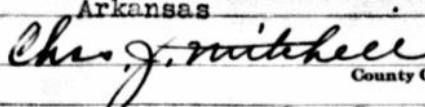
All timber now standing and growing or having been recently cut on what is known as the Steger tract of land described as follows: Lying East of Drainage Ditch on Lots 7, 8 and 9 of Section 7, and Lot 2 of Sec-

tion 8 all in Township 11 North Range 8 East, in Mississippi County, Arkansas. Also one bay saddle mare seven years old named Queen, one bay mare eight years old named Gene, one bay mare nine years old named Flora, small black horse mule eight years old named Sam, small black mare mule nine years old named Mike, one gray horse mule nine years old named Joe, one blue horse mule nine years old named Jim, one bay horse mule 13 years old named George, one black horse mule 12 years old named John. Two eight wheel Studebaker log wagons. All of the above named personal property being now in the possession of the parties of the first part and used by them in their operation at Lepanto and in vicinity in Polk and Mississippi Counties in the State of Arkansas.

TERMS OF SALE: On a credit of three months, the purchaser being required to execute a bond as required by law and the order and decree of said Court in said cause, with approved security, bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from date of sale until paid, and a lien being retained on the premises sold to secure the payment of the purchase money.

Given under my hand this 15 day of May, 1923.

T. T. MARDIS,
(20-22) Commissioner in Chancery.

MARRIAGE LICENSE			
(Coupon to be Detached by County Clerk and Forwarded to State Registrar Vital Statistics, State Capitol)			
STATE OF ARKANSAS			
County of	Poinsett	of	Lepanto
Mr.	R. H. Rowe	State of	Arkansas
County of	Poinsett	Nationality	American
Age	31	and	
Miss	Ida Brown	of	Lepanto
County of	Poinsett	State of	Arkansas
Age	19	Nationality	Arkansas
1st, day of October		1922	
		 County Clerk	
		Deputy County Clerk	

AR marriage certificate -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61775/images/61775_01_00377-01233?pld=173512

Children:

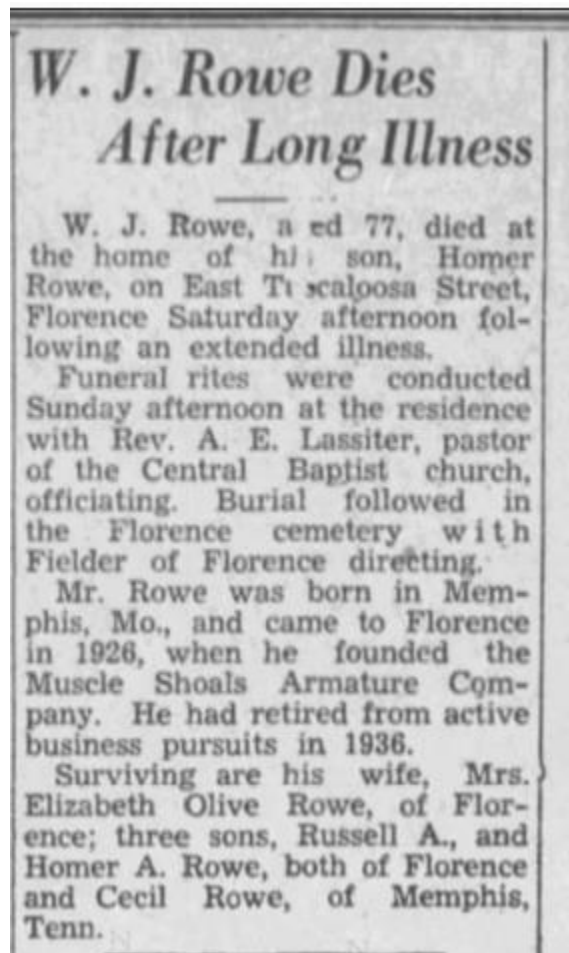


Son Russell Heavilin Rowe Jr. - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/481434/person/27608247/media/a1ff7200-d689-485e-9c2a-1c52abbc80cc>

Father:



William Jackson Rowe - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/481434/person/-834338429/media/6c17ebac-530f-43af-bd5b-d075356393e0>



Obituary of father William Jackson Rowe – “Florence (AL) Herald” Friday 29 Jul 1938 p 4

Mother:

Mrs. Olive Rowe, 83 Dies On Saturday

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Mrs. Olive Rowe, aged 83, who passed away Saturday morning at her home on Royal avenue. Ralph Snell, minister of the Church of Christ, officiated from Chisholm's funeral home followed by interment in the local cemetery.

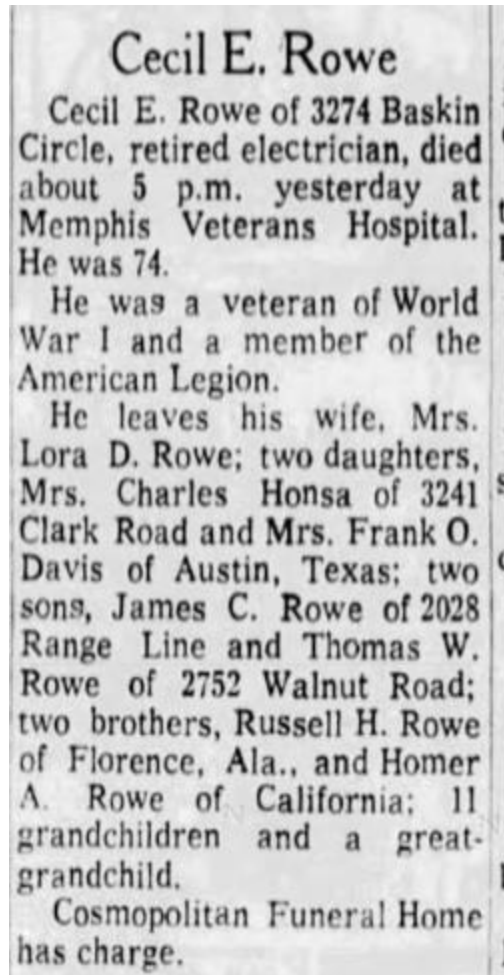
Survivors include three sons, Russell A. Rowe and Homer A. Rowe of Florence, and Cecil E. Rowe of Memphis; a foster son, Cecil L. Turner of Jonesboro, Ark.; five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and other relatives.

Obituary of mother Olive (Elizabeth Olive) Heavilin Rowe – “Florence (AL) Herald” Thursday 8 Dec 1949 p 10

Siblings:

DUNCAN-ROWE.
Fayetteville, Aug. 27.—Miss Lora Duncan of Fayetteville, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duncan of 216 West Spring street, and Cecil E. Rowe of Lepanto, Ark., were married last night. Mr. Rowe is a vocational student in the engineering department of the university, and will be in school again this winter. Mr. and Mrs. Rowe are at home to their friends in an apartment on Watson avenue.

Marriage of brother Cecil Ebert Rowe (1896-1970) to Lora Duncan – “Arkansas Democrat” Sunday 28 Aug 1921 p 2



Obituary of brother Cecil Ebert Rowe – “Memphis (TN) Commercial Appeal” Wednesday 25 Feb 1970 p 30

Foster brother:

Form VS-4 (4-65M-1-61-16013-C-M-R)
1956 REVISION OF STANDARD CERTIFICATE
Married Reserved for Binding

Registration District No. 144 ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH 62 000245
Bureau of Vital Statistics
Primary Registration District No. 2079 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH
a. COUNTY Craighead FEB 13 1962
b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Jonesboro
c. Length of Stay in 1b 10 days
d. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION St. Bernard's Hospital
e. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐

2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived, if institution; Residence before admission)
a. STATE Arkansas b. COUNTY Craighead
c. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Jonesboro
d. STREET ADDRESS 601 Elm
e. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐ f. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES ☐ NO ☒

3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print)
First Cecil Middle L. Last Turner
4. DATE OF DEATH Month 1 Day 26 Year 62
5. SEX Male 6. COLOR OR RACE White 7. MARRIED ☒ Never Married ☐
8. DATE OF BIRTH 6-14-07 9. AGE (In years and birthday) 54 10. Under 1 Year None 11. Under 24 Hours None
12a. Usual Occupation (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Electrician 12b. Kind of Business or Industry Turner Elec. Co. 13. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Webb, Miss. 14. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? U. S. A.
15. FATHER'S NAME Barney H. Turner 16. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Maxine
17. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U. S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) (If yes, give war or dates of service) No 18. Informant Helen C. Turner, Wife Jonesboro, Ark.
19. CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).)
PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY:
IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Coronary Occlusion 420.1
Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause (a), stating the underlying cause last:
DUE TO (b) _____
DUE TO (c) _____
PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS Contributing to Death but Not Related to the Terminal Disease Condition Given in Part I (a) _____
INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH 10 days
20. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? Yes ☐ NO ☒

21. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION
21a. ACCIDENT ☐ SUICIDE ☐ HOMICIDE ☐
21b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of Item 18.) _____
21c. TIME OF INJURY Hour _____ Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
21d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE ☐ NOT WHILE ☐
AT WORK ☐ AT WORK ☐
21e. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.) _____
21f. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____
22. I attended the deceased from _____ to _____ and last saw him alive on _____
Death occurred at _____ on the date stated above; and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.
22a. SIGNATURE M. O. Riley (Doctor or title) 22b. ADDRESS Jonesboro Ark 22c. DATE SIGNED 1/29/62
23a. Burial, Cremation, Removal (Specify) Burial 23b. DATE 1-29-62 23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Jonesboro Memorial Park 23d. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Jonesboro, Arkansas
24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Lanfords ADDRESS Jonesboro, Ark. 25. DATE USED BY LOCAL REG. 2-10-62 26. SIGNATURE Cuelyn James

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING BLACK INK - THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

AR death record of foster brother Cecil Lafayette Turner (1807 – 1962) -
<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/800197:61777>

Name: Russell Heavilin Rowe (Sr.)

Name variations: Russell Albert Heavilin Rowe

Military:

On Tuscania: 20th Eng. 18th/Co. F - corporal

Serial number: 250,717

Entered service from: Lepanto, Poinsett AR

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Russell H. Rowe

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father W.J. Rowe, Lepanto AR

Returned from war on: "Santa Paula" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Russell H. Rowe

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father William J. Rowe, Lapanto AR (cpl, 18th Co., 20th Engrs, Forestry)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Russell Heardin [as indexed, but Heavilin if read carefully] Rowe - b. 20 Nov 1890 Marion IN; res: Lepanto, Poinsett AR. Single. Mechanic for self at Lepanto AR. Short & stout.

World War II draft registration (1942):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 18 Sep 1917

Discharged: 12 Jun 1919

Address: Lepanto AR

Rank/unit: corporal, Co. 18, 20th Engineers

Birth & death:

Born: 20 Nov 1890 Marion, Grant IN

Died: 27 Apr 1976 Florence, Lauderdale AL

Find A Grave record: 71695093 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Florence, Lauderdale AL

Cemetery: Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens

Tombstone:

Father: William Jackson Rowe, 27 Feb 1861 Scotland Co. MO – 23 Jul 1938 Florence, Lauderdale AL. Son of George Washington Rowe (Row) & Julia Ann Haines. Buried in Florence Cemetery, Florence, Lauderdale AL.

Find A Grave: 80372038

Mother: Olive Elizabeth / Elizabeth Olive (“Ollie”) Heavilin Rowe, 17 Apr 1865 Franklin, Grant IN – 3 Dec 1949 Florence, Lauderdale AR. Daughter of Abriam/Abiram Johnson (“By”) Heavilin. Buried in Florence Cemetery, Florence, Lauderdale AL.

Find A Grave: 80371797

Parents’ marriage:

Spouse: Ida May Brown Rowe, 19 Jan 1903 Cut and Shoot, Montgomery TX – 2 Aug 1979 Florence, Lauderdale AL. Daughter of Charles Monroe (Charlie) Brown (1875-after 1899) & Leona Frances Musgrove Rowe Strickland (1881-1937). Buried in Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens, Florence, Lauderdale AR.

Spouse Find A Grave: 71695116

Marriage: marriage license in Poinsett Co. AR on 1 Oct 1922

Children:

- Russell Heavilin Rowe, Jr., 22 Nov 1923 Lepanto, Poinsett AR – 23 Jul 2018 Sun City Center, Hillsborough FL. Married in 1950 to Hester Ann Hare (1918 WV – 2015 AZ, F: 199906056). Their marriage license was published in the “Nashville (TN) Banner” Friday 2 Jun 1950 p 12. Buried in Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens, Florence, Lauderdale AL. F: 199249422

- Adrian Strickland ("Strich") Rowe, 17 Jul 1925 Memphis, Shelby TN – 15 Dec 1995 Florence, Lauderdale AR. SSN 424-26-0601. Married to Vera Beatrice Jett (1929-2021, F: 71694846). Buried in Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens, Florence, Lauderdale AL. F: 71694829

Siblings: Russell was the oldest of the surviving children.

- Child, died before 1900 census
- Homer Adrian Rowe, 25 Jun 1892 Marion, Grant IN – 2 Mar 1975 Burbank, Los Angeles CA. Married on 5 Dec 1934 in Florence, Lauderdale AL to Era Pauline Gibson (1915 AL – 1998 MD, F: 30911059), the daughter of Charles D. Gibson & Margaret Buress. She married again, in Jan 1957 in Lee Co. AL. – Homer is buried in Valhalla Memorial Park, North Hollywood, Los Angeles CA. F: 174781831
- Cecil Ebert Rowe, 10 Oct 1895 Grant Co. IN (Oct 1896 in 1900 census) – 24 Feb 1970 Memphis, Shelby TN. – By wife Grace N. Lambert (24 Apr 1897 IN – 1 Sep 1978 IN, F: 50449309), the daughter of John Lambert & Emma Burnet, Cecil had a son Neville Lambert Rowe, b. 18 Jul 1914 in Pulaski Co. IN. Married Lora L. Duncan (1899-1977, F: 116379773) May 1921 in Washington Co. AR. Lora was the daughter of Thomas E. Duncan & Maude A. Mattox. - Buried in Memphis National Cemetery, Memphis, Shelby TN. F: 3169001
- William Jackson Rowe, Jr., Aug 1898 TN (1900 census). Not mentioned in the 1910 census, in which his mother Elizabeth Olive reports she has given birth to 3 children & 3 are living. Named are Russell, Homer & Cecil.

Foster brother: his mother's obituary mentions a foster son

- Cecil Lafayette Turner, 14 May 1907 MS – 26 Jan 1962. SSN 409-26-9543. According to his death record, he is the son of Barney H. & Maxie Turner Barney appears to be also found as Westley B. Turner in the 1910 Beat 5, Tallahatchie MS census (where the Rowe family also resides) with Westley B. Turner (36 MS) & wife Maxie (26 MS) & 5 sons, including Cecil Turner (age 3). Cecil's father appears to be William Elisha Turner (1876-1953, buried in Tallahatchie Co. MS, F: 23885702). - Do not confuse this Cecil Turner with a different Cecil L. Turner (as Ancestry.com family trees do). – Husband of Helen Christine Young (22 Jun 1908 Florence, Lauderdale AL – 16 Nov 2003 Jonesboro, Craighead AR (F: 188020653) – Resident of Jonesboro AR in Dec 1949. - Cecil is buried in Jonesboro Memorial Park Cemetery, Jonesboro, Craighead AR. F: 12381565

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

"St. Louis (MO) Globe-Democrat" Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 1 – among the AR survivors of Tuscania: Russell H. Rowe of Lepanto AR

"Daily Arkansas Gazette" (Little Rock AR) 13 Feb 1918 p 2 - dateline: Marked Tree AR - Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Rowe, parents of Russell B. Rowe of Lepanto AR, got a War Department telegram that he was

safe on Tuscania. Their other son Cecil is in the Navy & son Elmer [sic/Cecil Ebert Rowe] has Class I draft status. Russell was a sawmill man. Came here a few years ago from Webb MS.

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number: 409-12-6507

Censuses:

1900 Memphis, Shelby TN – 203 Bass Ave.

William J. Rowe, 39 MO, Feb 1861, parents b. TN, married 10 years, jeweler

Olive, 35 OH, Apr 1865, parents b. OH, gave birth to 5 children, 4 are living

Russell H., 9 IN, Nov 1890

Homer A., 7 TN, Jan 1893

Cecil E., 3 TN, Oct 1896

William J. Jr., 1 Tn, Aug 1898

& brother Albert H. Rowe, 35 MO, Apr 1865, parents b. TN, single, jeweler

& mother Julia Rowe, 80 TN, May 1820, parents b. TN, gave birth to 8 children, 8 are living

& servant Willie Brown, 22 AR, Dec 1877, married, Black, father b. AR, mother b. TN, cook

1910 Beat 5, Tallahatchie Co. MS

William J. Rowe, 49 MO, parents b. TN, in 1st marriage, married 20 years, farmer, general farm

Elizabeth O., 45 IN, father b. OH, mother b. IN, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

Russell H. [misread as Ramel], 19 IN, farm laborer, home farm

Homer A., 17 IN, farm laborer, home farm

Cecil E. [misread as Gusel], 14 IN

1920 cannot locate

1930 Florence, Lauderdale AR

Russel H. Rowe, 39 IN, father b. MO, mother b. IN, age 31 at 1st marriage, electrician, auto company, WWI veteran

Ida B., 27 TX, parents b. TX, age 19 at 1st marriage

Russel H., 6 AR

Adrian S., 4 TN

& sister-in-law Margaret Brown, 25 TX, parents b. TX, single, saleslady, variety store

1940 Florence, Lauderdale AL – Cloverdale Rd. – in 1935 in Florence AL

Russell H. Rowe, 49 IN, electrician, electric motor manufacturing company

Ida, 37 TX

Russell H. Jr., 16 AR

[son] A. Strickland, 14 TN

1950 Florence, Lauderdale AL – 233 Stoney Point Rd.

Russell H. Rowe Sr., 59 IN, electrician, US T.V.A. [Tennessee Valley Authority]

Ida B., 47 TX

Adrian S., 24 TN, single, packing metal for shipment, aluminum manufacturer