

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

Shelton, Walter Herman
1889 TX – 1935 TX

If NON-RESIDENT, be careful to give the complete residence of the deceased, stating both city, county and state. The residence of the deceased, stating both city, county and state is the usual place of abode.

TEXAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
1 PLACE OF DEATH STATE OF TEXAS	
COUNTY OF Coryell	
CITY OR PRECINCT NO. 3	Registrars No. 50420
No. Street	
If in an Institution, give name of Institution instead of Street and No.	
Length of residence in city where death occurred yrs. mos. days How long in U. S. if foreign born? yrs. mos. days	
2 FULL NAME OF DECEASED Walter Herman Shelton	
RESIDENCE OF THE DECEASED No. RFD City Gatesville Texas	
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS	
3 SEX Male	4 COLOR OR RACE White
5 Single	6 Married
7 Widowed	8 Divorced
(Write the word) Married	
9a. If married, widowed or divorced HUSBAND of Mrs. Martes Shelton	
(or) WIFE of	
6. DATE OF BIRTH 5-28-1887	
(month, day, and year)	
7. AGE 48	5 Months 19 Days
IF LESS than 1 day, hrs. min.	
8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. None	
9. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc.	
10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year)	11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation
12. BIRTHPLACE Texas	
(City or Town)	
13. NAME Buck Shelton	
(State or Country)	
14. BIRTHPLACE Texas	
(City or Town)	
(State or Country)	
15. MAIDEN NAME Miss Julia McClure	
16. BIRTHPLACE Mo.	
(City or Town)	
(State or Country)	
17. INFORMANT W. R. Shelton	
(Address) Leon Junction, Texas	
18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL Place Seaton Date 11-18-35	
19. UNDERTAKER Norton Scott	
(Address) Gatesville, Texas	
20. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR E. F. Miller	
FILE DATE 12-7-1935	
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
21. DATE OF DEATH 11-17-35	
(month, day, and year)	
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from 1935 to 11-17-35	
I last saw him alive on 11-15-35; death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at 4:20 P. M.	
The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows: Mitral insufficiency	
Other contributory causes of importance: War injuries & Sev	
Name of operation Corney date of	
What test confirmed diagnosis? Was there an autopsy? no	
23. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: 23. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following:	
Accident, suicide, or homicide?	
Date of injury	
Where did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county, and State)	
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.	
Manner of injury	
Nature of injury	
24. Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? No	
If so, specify	
(Signed) M. W. Lawrence M. D.	
(Address) Gatesville Tex	

TX death record of Walter Herman Shelton, citing war injuries as a contributing cause -
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2272/images/40394_b062098-01461?pId=21579581

SHELTON WALTER HERMAN		X C 318 578
Pvt Co E 125 Inf		K
Leon Junction Tex		A 2 314 246
Sa 251 592	Died	T 524 706
Born 5/28/87		R 83 960
Enl 12/10/17	Dts 11/8/19	Cl. 1 118 738
		I

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 2203-Rev. Sept., 1909

INDEX CARD

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQV1-WY2M>

9

Shelton, Walter H. 251,592 * White * Colored
(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number)

Residence: West Station - Bexar - TEXAS
(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

* Enlisted * R. A. * N. G. * E. R. C. * Inducted at San Antonio Tex on Dec 7, 1917

Place of birth: Belton Tex Age or date of birth: 30 6/12 yrs

Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers:
Co E 125 Inf to discharge

Grades, with date of appointment:
Pvt

Engagements:

Wounded in action (degree and date) Severely About Nov 11, 1918

Served overseas from Jan 24/18 to Dec 30/18, from to

* Honorably discharged on Jan 24/19 S.C.D. Nov 8, 1919
(If separated for other cause or reason)

In view of occupation he was, on date of discharge, reported 25 per cent disabled.

Remarks:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV18-JDML>

WAR DEPARTMENT
G. O. M. G. Form No. 600
Approved Aug. 12, 1913
Revised May 24, 1917

APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE
(PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN IN DUPLICATE)

Enlistment Dates 12-1-17 12-19-17
Discharge Dates 11-8-19

ORIGINAL

Name	Rank	Company	U. S. Regiment, State Organization, or Vessel	Date of Death
SHELTON, Walter H.	Pvt.	Co. E	125th Inf.	11/17/1935

Name of Cemetery	Location in or near	If World War Veteran		
Seaton Cemetery	Leon Junction Tex	Division	State	Emblem
		3rd	TEXAS	Christian

To be shipped to Mrs Martice E. Shelton at Gatesville Texas
(Name of consignee) (Give R. R. station, county, and State)

Whose post-office address is Leon Junction, Texas

DO NOT WRITE HERE

DEC 26 1935

To A. G. COLUMBUS, MISS. FEB 12 1936

Ordered 1330960

B/L

Shipped 2/20/36

This application is for the UNMARKED grave of a veteran. It is understood the stone will be furnished and delivered at the railroad station or steamboat landing above indicated, at Government expense, freight prepaid. I hereby agree to properly accept the headstone at destination, remove it and properly place same at decedent's grave at my expense. NO FEE SHOULD BE PAID IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION.

Mrs Martice E. Shelton Applicant.

Address Leon Junction, Tex Date 12/14/1935

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2375/images/40110_285451-00564?pld=2200945

SECTION TWO.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Mar. 26—The following casualties are reported by the Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Forces:

Died in airplane accident, 1.
Died of accident and other causes, 13.
Died of disease, 11.
Wounded severely, 18.
Missing in action, 4.
Total, 47.

The names of the following Texans appeared on this list:
Private Walter H. Shelton, West Station, Texas; wounded severely.

"Corsicana (TX) Daily Sun" Wednesday 26 Mar 1919 p 3

Wife:

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To any Regularly Licensed or Ordained Minister of the Gospel, Jewish Rabbi, or to any Legally Authorized Officer—(Greetings)

McLennan County

You, or either of you, are hereby authorized and empowered to solemnize the

Rites of Matrimony

Between Walter H. Shelton and Miss Martice Boone
and due return made hereof in sixty days from date.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and the impress of my official seal at my office in the City of Waco, on this the 4th day of July, 1921.

By E. J. Morgan Deputy Clerk County Court, McLennan County, Texas

I hereby certify that the within Matrimony was solemnized by me, joining the within named parties in the

Holy Union of Matrimony

On this the 6th day of July, 1921.

Signed Rev. W. D. Enster

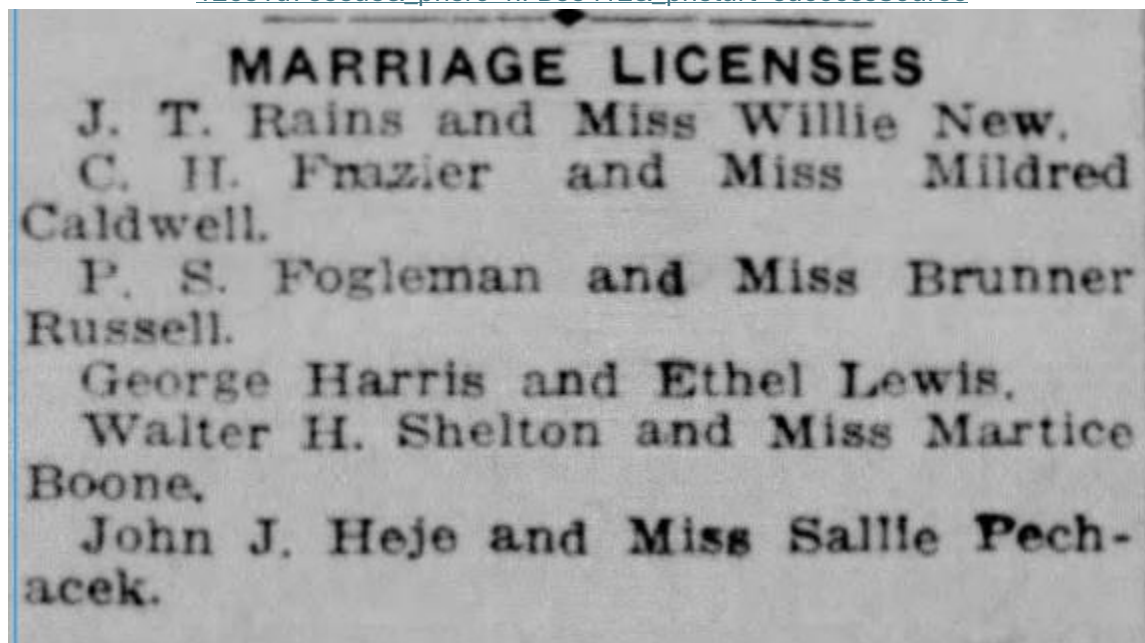
X

SEAL The within License returned into my office, this 8 day of July, 1921.

By Sallie Lambert Deputy Clerk County Court, McLennan County, Texas

MARRIAGE RECORDS VOLUME 610 PAGE 395B

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/42036439:9168?tid=23632803&pid=1410367195&queryId=d8d8451757ed653c31ae12631d7858a3&_phsrc=hFB55412&_phstart=successSource



“Waco (TX) News-Tribune” Wednesday 6 Jul 1921 p 10

Mrs. Martice (Bill) Gilbreath

Homemaker

Mrs. Martice (Bill) Gilbreath of Gatesville died December 1 in a local hospital. She was 92.

Graveside services were held Saturday at Restland Cemetery with Rev. Rex Tilly officiating. Scott's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

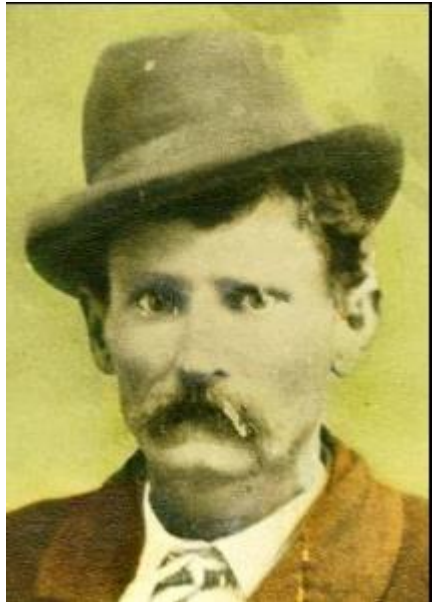
Mrs. Gilbreath was born July 6, 1902 in Llano County. She was reared and attended school in Brady and San Saba. Mrs. Gilbreath moved to Leon Junction around 1923. She married Mr. Herman

Shelton and he preceded her in death in 1935. On July 21, 1941, she married Mr. Tom Dewey Gilbreath, and they made their home in Leon Junction and Gatesville. He preceded her in death on Feb. 6, 1989. Mrs. Gilbreath was a homemaker and a member of Cold Springs Baptist Church.

Survivors include three sisters, Ona Ballard of Gatesville, Margie Stevens of Artesia, New Mexico, and Katie Bates of Gatesville.

Obituary – "Gatesville (TX) Messenger & Star-Forum" Thursday 8 Dec 1994 p 6

Father:



Buchannan (Buck) Shelton – Find A Grave 43901943

Mother:



Jualy (actually Julia) Amanda McClure Shelton – Find A Grave 43842824

Siblings:



Brother Early Irue Shelton (1882-1958) – Find A Grave 44256406



Brother Thomas Franklin Shelton (1885-1949) – Find A Grave 52578729



SHELTON, WILLIAM E.

William E. Shelton, 58, of Rt. 4, Waco, died in a local hospital at 10:55 a. m. Tuesday.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a. m. Wednesday at Compton's Chapel. Rev. W. D. Magness officiating. Burial in Oakwood.

Survivors: his widow; three daughters, Mrs. Bonnie Kyle, Waco; Mrs. Mattie Niswanger, Waco; Mrs. Carrie Bell Fogle, Waco; one son, Buck Shelton, Waco; fourteen grandchildren; three brothers, Tom Shelton, Brady; Early Shelton, Waco; Elmer Shelton of California.

SHELTON DEATH

Active pallbearers: Bob Sharp, Lem Forrester, Harvey Shelton, Preston Harrelson, Whit Kyle, Alva Butler.

Compton Funeral Home, 1024 Austin Avenue. Tel. 38.

Brother William Edward Shelton (1889-1947), with obituary from "Waco (TX) News Tribune" Wednesday 5 Mar 1947 – Find A Grave 43841132



Brother Benton George Shelton (1891-1918) killed in WWI, member of 57th Balloon Company – Find A Grave 44164264

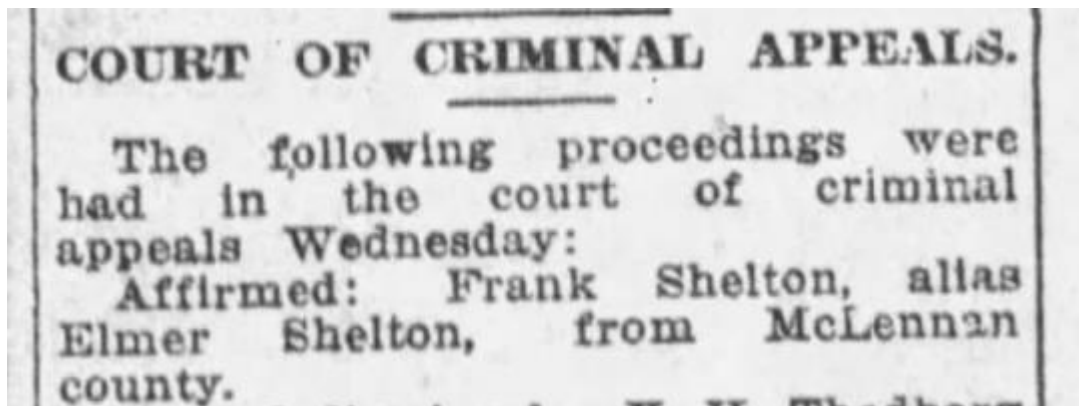


Brother Elmer Theodore Shelton (1893-1951) – Find A Grave 49617336

Frank Shelton

in the Texas, U.S., Convict and Conduct Registers, 1875-1954

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/215896:2143?tid=23632803&pid=2063882888&queryId=8e0770968b7882a1203037e694a89ea6&_phsrc=hFB55409&_phstart=successSource



"Austin (TX) American" Thursday 12 Apr 1917 p 3

SHELTON CASE AFFIRMED.

McLennan County Man Convicted of Robbery With Firearms.

(Associated Press Report.)

AUSTIN, Texas, April 11.—The court of criminal appeals Wednesday affirmed the case of Frank Shelton, alias Elmer Shelton, from McLennan county, Shelton having been convicted of robbery with firearms and sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary. The court could not review the case in the absence of a statement of facts and bills of exception. The appeal of V. H. Thodberg et al, from Comanche, was dismissed. This was an appeal from a forfeited bail bond under scire facias proceedings. This appeal was dismissed because no brief was filed in the case in the court below. These were the only two cases disposed of Wednesday by this court, due in a measure to the absence of Associate Judge Prendergast, who is at Waco.

"Houston (TX) Post" Thursday 12 Apr 1917 p 5

BIG DELIVERY FROM STATE PRISON FARM

Wholesale escapes of prisoners from the various state prison farms, which have been occurring with regularity for the past few months, reached a climax Aug. 5, when, according to notices received Friday by Sheriff Mann, thirty-five felons, including two men from Tarrant county, made their escape from the Imperial state farm, near Houston.

Tarrant county men who escaped were Harry Shelton, convicted of burglary, and R. E. Davis, convicted of burglary. Others included in the delivery were: W. R. Hooker, Hunt county, theft; H. L. Keener, Grayson county, theft; W. J. Hardee, Hardin county, forgery; Frank Wright, Bowie county, burglary; W. W. Beard, Bowie county, murder; T. M. Craighead, Grayson county, passing forged instruments; Joe Gucciaroli, Angelina county, murder; John Howard, Dallas county, rob-

bery; Clifford Foster, Runnels county, forgery; M. E. Collins, Haskell county, horse theft; Harry McAtee, Bexar county, sodomy; Otto Ihlenfeld, Travis county, forgery; Herman J. Oetzall, Cameron county, burglary; Kelso Holloway, Lamar county, violation of local option law; V. D. Nelson, Hunt county, forgery; Harry Thomas, Bexar county, aiding prisoner to escape; Willie Smith, Navarro county, assault to rape; John Willis, Dallas county, burglary and theft; Mike Morgan, Bexar and Kendall counties, burglary; Ben Morse, Lamar county, violation of local option law; Jesse Laskey, Terrell county, burglary; George Davis, Gray county, burglary; John Goss, Dallas county, burglary; Bill Sowell, Denton county, burglary and horse theft; Creed Watkins, San Augustine county, burglary and rape; Aubrey Scalley, Bexar and Kendall counties, three cases burglary; Bob Rogers, Milam county, forgery and passing; J. G. Thomas, Dallas county, burglary; Theo Landrum, Hardin county, forgery; Frank Shelton, McLennan county, rob-

bery with firearms; C. P. Lewis, Wilbarger county, robbery with firearms;

Everett Leidy, Palo Pinto county, robbery with firearms.



Brother Wert Renfro Shelton (1896-1942) – who married Margie Boone, the sister of Walter's wife Martice – Find A Grave 51477514



The Wert Shelton family – Wert in center with hat, to the right his wife Margie Boone Shelton – Find A Grave 51477514

Name: Walter Herman Shelton

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: Camp Travis Det. 2, Casuals - private

Serial number: 251,592

Entered service from: West Station TX (entered the service from San Antonio, Bexar TX)

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Walter H. Shelton

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": mother Julie Shelton, West Station TX

Returned from war on: "Rijndam" Dec 1918

Sailed on return ship as: Walter Shelton

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank:

World War I draft registration (1917): as Walter Hurman Shelton [but he was illiterate, signing with an X – "his mark" – so the spelling would have been done by the registrar - b. 28 May 1887 Belton TX; res: Holland, Bell TX. Single. Farmer for C.E. McCray, Holland TX. Dependent mother. Tall & slender. Signed card with an X.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 10 Dec 1917

Discharged: 8 Nov 1919

Address: Leon Junction TX

Rank/unit: private, Co. E, 125th InfantryBirth & death:

Born: 28 May 1889 (?) Belton, Bell TX (WWI draft: 28 May 1887 - TX military records: ca. 1887 – Veterans Administration Military Index 28 May 1887)

Died: 17 Nov 1935 Leon Junction, Coryell TX

Find A Grave record: 51477535 – presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Leon Junction, Coryell TX

Cemetery: Seaton

Tombstone: veteran tombstone: Texas Pvt 125 Inf 32 Div

Father: Buchanan ("Buck") Gilbert Shelton, 10 Nov 1857 Belton, Bell TX [claimed 12 Mar 1857 on one Ancestry.com family tree] – 11 May 1912 Waco, McLennan TX. Son of Jonathan Jahue Shelton & Amanda Land. Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, McLennan TX.

Find A Grave: 43901943

Mother: Jualy (real name: Julia) Amanda McClure Shelton, 11 Oct 1869 (note on Find A Grave that birthdate actually 1860) – 12 Feb 1928 (note on Find A Grave that date is actually 13 Feb) Leon Junction, Coryell TX. Daughter of Benjamin Franklin McClure & Nancy E. Shelton. Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, McLennan TX.

Find A Grave: 43842824

Parents' marriage: 12 [or 13] Mar 1877 Belton, Bell TX

Spouse: Martice Ellen ("Bill"/"Aunt Bill") Boone Shelton Gilbreath, 6 Jul 1902 Llano Co. TX – 1 Dec 1994 Gatesville, Coryell TX. Daughter of Daniel Robert Boone & Amanda Martha Smith.

After Walter's death, Martice married Tom Dewey Gilbreath (1897-1989, F: 51811638) in 1944.

Buried in Restland Cemetery, Gatesville, Coryell TX.

Spouse Find A Grave: 51811649

Marriage: 5 Jul 1921 McLennan Co. TX

Children:

Siblings: In the 1900 census, his mother said she had given birth to 11 children, 7 of whom were living. In the 1910 census, she said she had given birth to 13 children, 7 of whom were living.

- Margie Ann Shelton, 25 Nov 1880 Belton, Bell TX – 6 Dec 1880 Belton, Bell TX. Buried in Shelton Family Cemetery, Belton, Bell TX. F: 69674234
- Early Irue Shelton, 1 Mar 1882 Belton, Bell TX – 7 May 1958 Waco, McLennan TX. He never married. Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, McLennan TX. F: 44256406
- Thomas Franklin Shelton, 18 Jan 1885 Cleburne, Johnson TX – 18 Mar 1949 Brady, McCulloch TX. Married 29 Oct 1924 to Mary Beatrice Ballard (1903-2004, F: 63771827), who

was also the wife of Luther J. West (1904-1979). Buried in Resthaven Cemetery, Brady, McCulloch TX. F: 52578729

- William Edward ("Willie") Shelton, 20 Mar 1889 Bell Co. TX – 4 Mar 1947 McLennan Co. TX. Married 2 Nov 1911 in Waco, McLennan TX to Bessie Cidonia Helm (1896-1967, F: 43841342). Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, McLennan TX. F: 43841132
- Benton George Shelton, 16 Jun 1891 Belton, Bell TX – 5 Oct 1918. Died in WWI. Member of 57th Balloon Co. Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, McLennan TX. F: 44164264
- Elmer Theodore (Frank Shelton/Frank William Marker) Shelton, 2 Feb 1893 Belton, Bell TX – 6 Nov 1951 Vallejo, Solano CA. Also known as Frank William Marker. Was serving a 10-year sentence in the Huntsville TX state penitentiary on WWI national registration day (5 Jun 1917). He was convicted 27 Apr 1917 in McLennan Co. of robbery with a firearm. He had pled not guilty. He was married; occupation: painter. His sentence was to expire 27 Apr 1927. On 5 Aug 1918 he & 34 other felons escaped from the Imperial State Prison Farm. A note on his prison record indicates he was reincarcerated 8 Nov 1944 to 9 Sep 1952. His obituary on his Find A Grave record lists his name as Frank W. Marker. Buried in Carquinez Cemetery, Vallejo, Solano CA. F: 49617336
- Wert Renfro Shelton, 28 Feb 1896 TX – 9 May 1942. Married Margie Katherine Boone (1906-2005, F: 94570528), the sister of Martice Boone, who married Wert's brother, Walter Shelton. Buried in Seaton Cemetery, Leon Junction, Coryell TX. F: 51477514
- Florence Etter Shelton. Mentioned as a daughter on the Find A Grave records of Buck Shelton (F: 43901943) & Jualy McClure Shelton (F: 43842824).
- Emma Margaret Shelton. Mentioned as a daughter on the Find A Grave records of Buck Shelton (F: 43901943) & Jualy McClure Shelton (F: 43842824).
-

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

"Bonham (TX) Daily Favorite" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 2 – among the Texans on board Tuscania: Walter H. Shelton, West

Severely wounded ca. 11 Nov 1918, 25% disabled

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1900 Justice Precinct 1, McLennan Co. TX

Ben Shelton, 37 TX, Nov 1862, parents b. MS, married 22 years, day laborer

Julia, 37 MO, Oct 1862, father b. MO, mother b. TN, gave birth to 11 children, 7 are living

Early, 18 TX, Mar 1882

Thos. T., 15 TX, Jan 1885

Walter, 13 TX, May 1887

Willie E., 11 TX, Mar 1889

Benton, 9 TX, Jun 1891

Elwin, 6 TX, Feb 1894 [listed as son – probably Elmer]

Rernfrae, 4 TX, Feb 1896 [Wert Renfro]

1910 Justice Precinct 3, Hill Co. TX

Buck Shelton, 52 TX, father b. VA, mother b. MS, in 1st marriage, married 32 years, farmer, general farm

Julie, 50 MS, father b. MO, mother b. OH, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 13 children, 7 are living

Early, 27 TX, farmer, general farm

Tom, 25 TX, farmer, general farm

Herman, 23 TX, farmer, general farm

Edward, 21 TX, farmer, general farm

Benton, 19 TX

Elva, 16 TX [listed as daughter]

Wirt, 14 TX

1920 Axtell, McLennan TX

Tom F. Shelton, 35 TX, single, father b. TX, mother b. MO, farmer, general

Herman W., 34 TX, single, father b. TX, mother b. MO farm, home [brother]

Julia, 59 MO, widow [mother]

1930 Precinct 5, Coryell TX – Leon Junction-Oglesby Rd.

Walter H. Shelton, 44 TX, parents b. MO, age 34 at 1st marriage, WWI veteran [no occupation]

Martice Shelton, 27 TX, parents b. TX, age 19 at 1st marriage [wife]

& boarder Katy Smith, 69 TX, father b. MO, mother b. GA, widow