

Thomas Edgar Searing Lindsley and Vera Louise Collins are Steve's grandparents. They had Ethel Mae Lindsley who m. Robert Dana Adams and had a son, Steven Donald Adams.

LINDSLEY FAMILY: Linle, Linely, and Lindsly. The origin of the name is Linesley.

Name Meaning: Lindsley is an English surname. It is locational and originates from either of the places called Lindley or Linley in the counties of Shropshire, Wiltshire and Yorkshire. It means "The clearing where flax was grown". The modern surname particularly as Lindley or Lindsley may originate from any one of two places in Yorkshire called Lindley. Early recordings of these place names also appear originally as Line and Linley, the "d" of the modern place name not being recorded before the 14th century. Robert de Linlye appears in the Hundred Rolls of Bedfordshire in 1273, and Arthur Lindleye of Yorkshire, in the register of students at Oxford University in 1594. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of Thomas de Linleia in 1204.¹



Thomas Edgar Searing Lindsley was born in Dover, New Jersey to Thomas Edgar Lindsley and Charlotte Anne Searing. His father died six months before he was born. In 1908, his mother rem.. Then, she became Charlotte Ditmire. When TS Lindsley was 6, they had a 1 yr old child named Martin. We don't know at what age, but his step did not like having another child besides his around so Edgar ended up in Walla Walla, Washington with his Aunt Ethel Borden. Her boyfriend at graduation in High school was Borden and he followed. We don't know if they m., but she called herself Borden.² They ran a tavern. This is a photo of Edgar S. Lindsley in Walla Walla. He left Walla Walla and lived in Seattle to go to a college for a couple years. Then he went back RI to be reacquainted with his mother.

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Vera Louise Collins was born Jun 15, 1901 in Harmony, ME. Her parents were John Lee Collins and Fannie Emmie Mitchell. She had one younger sister named Cora.

This is Vera as a graduate. We found her 1919 yearbook online and below is a photo of her. Her nickname was chubby. (She was 4 ft 10 inches.) Her most often used phrase was "Darn it."



Vera Collins
"Go 'way, for I want to study."
Don't be scared! It's only Vera, who is quiet and unassuming, and yet shines in all her classes. Her one weakness is crocheting, and she dazzles our eye with the work of her needle.



When in RI, Edgar met **Vera Louise Collins**, who lived in Providence while teaching. They m. 22 Dec 1927. In 1929 they moved to Waterville, ME, driving up in a Model T Ford. They moved in with Collins family. Her father was upset again because she had short hair and wore knickers.

¹ <http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/lindsley#ixzz3POZZbzNT>

² according to the census records they married.

By the 1930 census, they were in a house of their own. Eva Ditmire lived with them. She helped at the store Vera ran next to the gas station he ran.

Vera Louise Collins and Thomas Edgar Searing Lindsley had three children: Louise Irene Lindsley b. 2 Nov. 1928; Thomas Edgar Lindsley b. Oct 17, 1930 and Ethel May b. 4 Sept. 1931.

Before the war started, he was well known for making various flavors of ice cream. During the war, the business fell. He got a job in a canning factory. It was hard work and did not last long. Then he got a job as an insurance agent and they moved to Bingham. He went to Jackman once a month for a week to collect money. He then started selling Bibles as a traveling salesman. Vera started working in Waterville in library. She loved that job as the reference librarian. She had a chance for a job in Mass., reference librarian there also, so they moved. Made a good salary. They ran a mobile home park in Mass.

They later moved Fernandina, Florida. (O'Neal) He started enjoying painting and she did needlework, as well as being a part of the Home Extension club. They attended the Methodist church.



In their mobile home in Florida.



50th anniversary photo

The 1910 Census has Edgar Lindsley as a single, white male of 6 years old. He lives with his mother, Charlotte Ann who is m. to Marten H Diptmar, Edgar's stepfather. Included in the house is Marten H Diptmar Jr at 11 months old. Marten was a silknitter³ by profession.⁴

In 1920 T Edgar S Lindsley lived in Ward 2, Walla Walla, Washington on South Fourth Street. He is a white male, age 16 born abt 1904 in New Jersey. He can read and write and speaks English. His parents were born in New Jersey. He lives with his aunt, Ethel M S Bowden, and her husband, Joseph W Bowden. Ethel was Edgar's mother's sister.⁵

On the 1930 census, their home in on Upper Main Street, Waterville, Kennebec, ME in ward 2, living on a farm. Edgar Lindsley is head of household, a 26 yr old, white male born abt 1904 in New Jersey. They had no radio set. Age at First Marriage: 24. Edgar is a workman in an oil plant as a wage or salary worker. Included in the household are: Vera Louise Lindsley 28, Louise Irene Lindsley, 16 months and Eva Dittmar, 15.⁶

³He made silk stockings.

⁴ Year: 1920; Census Place: Walla Walla Ward 2, Walla Walla, Washington; Roll: T625_1943; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 131; Image: 405

⁵ Year: 1920; Census Place: Walla Walla Ward 2, Walla Walla, Washington; Roll: T625_1943; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 131; Image: 405

⁶ Year: 1930; Census Place: Waterville, Kennebec, Maine; Roll: 834; Page: 2B; Enumeration District: 0043; Image: 575.0; FHL microfilm: 2340569

John Lee Collins, Vera's father, was also in the house hold, listed as head and owns his house. John has the radio set. He can read and write and speaks English. His parents were born in New Jersey. He and his parents were born in ME.

In 1940, Edgar Lindsley, age 36, head of household. They live on Auga Road in Winslow, Kennebec, ME and in the same house as 1935. He owns his hoME. His occupation is a manager. Highest Grade Completed: College, 1st year. Hours Worked Week Prior to Census: 110. Class of Worker: Working on own account. Weeks Worked in 1939: 29. Income 0. Income Other Sources: Yes. In the household are: His wife, Vera age 38; Louise, 11; Thomas Edgar (listed as Florence), 9; Ethel Lindsley, 8 and Grace Jones 65 (boarder) (Ethel said she was their nanny).⁷

Thomas Edgar⁸ Lindsley b. 17 Jun 1857 in Milton, Morris, New Jersey to Stephen Adams Lindsley and Sarah Lacey Estill. They lived in Jefferson Twp., Morris Co., NJ when Thomas was 3, but moved to Newark, Essex, New Jersey by 1880. His occupation was a machinist. He m. **Charlotte Ann Searing** 2 Nov 1901 and they had a son named Thomas Edgar Searing Lindsley. Thomas Edgar Lindsley died in a mill accident while working in South America, six months before their son was born.

On the 1860 census, Thomas lives with his parents.

On 1870 census Thomas Edgar Lindsley is 13, but not listed with parents. (bj)

The 1880 census has Thomas E. Lindsley age 23, single, white male living in Newark, Essex, New Jersey living as a boarder in the John Morgan household. Thomas is a machinist and can read/write.⁹

Note: Thomas Edgar Searing Lindsley's mother: Charlotte Ann Searing, female, born to Samuel J. Searing and Emma G. McMillan 11 Jun 1877 in Dover, Morris, New Jersey (may have been in New York according to 1910 Census). In 1880 she lived in Randolph, Morris, New Jersey. 1900 in Dover District 1, Morris, New Jersey, then in 1910 she lived in Warwick, Kent, RI. After the death of her husband, Thomas Edgar Lindsley, in abt. 1908, she m. Martin Herman Diptmar (born in Germany and 11 years older than she). They had five children: Martin H Jr, Charlotte I, Dorothy A, Eva L & Ethel Emma. They are buried in East Greenwich, Kent, RI. The tombstone says 1953 for her death. However, the 1930 census has Martin as a Widower.

Stephen Adams Lindsley, father of Thomas Edgar Lindsley, was born 17 Jul 1819 in Longwood, Morris, New Jersey to Joseph Lindsley and Sarah Adams. He m. **Sarah Lucey Estill** 13 Apr 1843 in Morris Co., NJ. Sarah Lucey¹⁰ Estill, was born 09 Nov 1821 to David E. Estill & Mary Gordon. She died 09 Dec 1866 in Morris, New Jersey and is buried in Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church Cemetery; West Milford, Passaic Co, N.J. Stephen was a farmer and carpenter. Stephen died 17 Jul 1897 in Millis NJ.

Sarah Lucey Estill and Stephen Adams Lindsley had the following children: Mary M, Phebe Elizabeth, Joseph Adams, Catherine Amelia, Ephraim Arthur, Thomas Edgar, David Estill, James Dickerson, William Francis.

After Sarah died, he m. twice more to a Mary E. Davis and a Nancy(?). He died 17 Jul 1897 in Millis N.J. and is buried near Milton.¹¹

The 1860 census¹² has Stephen A Lindsley, head of household, age 40, living in Jefferson Twp., Morris Co., N.J. Post Office: Dover. Stephen was born abt 1820 in New Jersey. He is a carpenter. His

⁷ Year: 1940; Census Place: Winslow, Kennebec, Maine; Roll: T627_1481; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 6-79

⁸ I have a birth record where the middle initial is A. FHL Film Number: 584576 and/or 1314458

⁹ Year: 1880; Census Place: Newark, Essex, New Jersey; Roll: 779; Family History Film: 1254779; Page: 5A; Enumeration District: 075; Image: 0010

¹⁰ or Lucey.

¹¹ Ancestry.com. New Jersey, Deaths and Burials Index, 1798-1971 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

¹² David Estill (father of Stephen's wife, Sarah) is on p 34 of this same census.

real estate is valued at \$2000.00 and personal property is \$200.00. His household members are: his wife, Sarah L age 38; Mary, 16; Elizabeth, 14; Joseph A., 12; Catharine, 9; Ephraim A, 5 and Thomas E , 3.¹³

The 1870 Census¹⁴ has Stephen Lindsley, a white male, age 51 living in Jefferson, Morris, New Jersey. He was born abt 1819 in New Jersey. Post Office is Port Oram. He is listed as a Master Farmer and his real estate is valued at \$2500.00 and personal property is \$200.00. Living with him are:his wife, Mary age 47; (and sons) William, 10; James, 6. Note: Listed at the same house nubber is Caroline Norman age 45 and 10 children last name Norman. Her real estate has a value of its own.¹⁵

The 1880 census has them in Jefferson, Morris, New Jersey. Stephen is 60 and m. to Mary E. Lindsley age 57. Their son, James lives with them at age 15. The record lists Stephen as a farmer.

Joseph Lindsley was born 31 Dec 1777 in Dover, Morris County, NJ, son of Samuel Lindsley.¹⁶ He m. one time to an UNK woman and had one son. He then m. **Sarah Adams** 7 Mar 1807 in Morristown, N.J.

Sarah Adams and Joseph Lindsley had the following children: Phoebe Ann (1808-1869), Ephriam (1811-1884), E, Thomas Adams (1812-1871), Silas Young (1816-1900), Stephen Adams (1819-1897), and Thomas Dickson¹⁷ (1823-1861). The birthplaces of his children and the account book in this collection suggest that he moved and worked around Morris, Warren, and Sussex counties during his life.

Joseph Lindsley died on Jul 22, 1849, near Branchville, Sussex County, New Jersey.¹⁸

In a collection in NJ,¹⁹ there is an account book kept by Joseph Lindsley (1777-1849). He was a blacksmith in Jefferson Township, Morris County, New Jersey.²⁰ The collection was purchased in 1957. The records of the account book date from 1812-1850 and tells of Joseph's business transactions. The first part of is indexed, including the name of the client, date, goods or service provided, and method of payment. It shows the work done by a blacksmith and include such tasks as production and setting of horseshoes, the making of iron tools (knives, axes, etc.), and mending of metal items. Other transactions include the sale of food products and labor. The book changes handwriting toward the end, indicating that whoever took over his business after he died recorded the jobs done.

Samuel Lindsley (1760-1827),was a Revolutionary soldier who was wounded at Elizabethtown, Sep 1777. The above information about Joseph says he is the son of Samuel, so this much we have.

There is a connection further back for the Lindsley family on Ancestry with all the 'proof' where to go for research, but none of the proof itself. *IF* it is correct the line is: Samuel, Amos, Ebenezer, Francis and John.

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<sup>13</sup> Year: 1860; Census Place: Jefferson, Morris, New Jersey; Roll: M653\_703; Page: 402; Image: 401; Family History Library Film: 803703

<sup>14</sup> On this same page of the census is listed David Estill, his first wife's father.

<sup>15</sup> Year: 1870; Census Place: Jefferson, Morris, New Jersey; Roll: M593\_877; Page: 174A; Image: 352; Family History Library Film: 552376

<sup>16</sup> Trees online have Samuel Lindsley as his father but I do not see the connection. I do see that Ebenezer's line is not it. So, maybe they are part of another line OR another Lindsley family altogether.

<sup>17</sup> The New Jersey Historical Society <http://www.jerseyhistory.org/findingaid.php?aid=0293> has James Dickerson

<sup>18</sup> The New Jersey Historical Society Manuscript Group 293, Joseph Lindsley (1777-1849), Blacksmith

<sup>19</sup> Manuscript Group 293, Joseph Lindsley (1777-1849), Blacksmith Account book, 1812-1850 "Farm to City" project funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Copyright © 2001, The New Jersey Historical Society.

<sup>20</sup> Abstract of Wills Vol. 13: 1814-1817. New Jersey Archives: First Series Vol. 42. Lindly, John M. The History of the Lindley-Lindsley-Lindsley Families in America: 1639-1930. Winfield, Iowa, 1930.

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