

Collection #
P 0828

**HARMON FAMILY SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
CA. 1906-1926**

Collection Information	1
Biographical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	4
Contents	5

Processed by

Barbara Quigley
8 April 2022

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 half-size OVA photograph box
COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1906–1926
PROVENANCE:	Gift from Wayne Harmon, M.D., of Lexington, Indiana, in July 1988
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1988.0598
NOTES:	<i>See also:</i> Indiana Historical Society Panoramic Photograph Collection (P 0062) or digital version in Panoramic Photograph Images: PAN_P0062_P_6X24_PAN0796 for a group portrait of students and staff at a school in Wirt, Indiana, including teacher Kirk Harmon [ca. 1925]

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Warren and Louisa Harmon headed a farm family in Lexington Township, Scott County, Indiana. Warren Wilson Harmon (1859–1937) married Louisa Bell Adams (1868–1955) in April 1889 in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana. They had seven sons and two daughters who attended school in Scott County: Cecil, Robert, Wayne, Edith, Kirk, Gladys, Quincy, Jesse, and Almon.

Cecil Conn Harmon was born 7 January 1890 in Clark County. He served in the Army from 4 December 1917 to 9 July 1919. By 1920 he was working on a farm in Antelope County, Nebraska. In 1921 he married Eva Elizabeth Hosman (1892–1987) of that state, and they had three children: Jean (Crew) (born 1923), Warren (1927–2003), and Margaret (Riepe) (1931–2003). Cecil operated a farm and raised his family in Nebraska. He died on 24 November 1977.

Robert Harmon was born 10 January 1892 in Clark County. He worked on his family's farm in Scott County but had respiratory problems. He died of pneumonia, influenza, and bronchitis on 15 November 1918, and was buried in Hanover Cemetery in Hanover, Jefferson County, Indiana.

Wayne Harmon was born 29 August 1894 in Blocher, Scott County. He attended Hanover College. He served with an Army ambulance company in France in 1919, and then taught at Jonathan Jennings School in Charlestown, Clark County. He became a general practice physician. He married Theresa Bishop (1901–1987) in 1928 in Modoc, Randolph County, Indiana, where they made their home. They had three children: Barbara (born 1928), Robert (1929–2021), and Donald (born 1931). Wayne died in Lexington, Indiana, on 23 August 1990, and was buried in Hanover Cemetery in Hanover.

Edith Corrine Harmon was born on 11 April 1896. She had been teaching at Hanover High School when she married Walter Able (1894–1971) on 27 May 1925. They raised their family on a farm in Jackson County. Their five children were: Peggy (Wagner) (1926–1988), Joella (Hiatt) (born ca. 1928), Winifred (Empson) (1929–2020), Walter Jr. (born 1932), and Mary Ermadene (Tilly) (born 1939). Edith died in Columbus, Indiana, on 10 June 1992 and was buried in Riverview Cemetery in Seymour, Indiana.

Kirk Adams Harmon was born 2 January 1898. He was in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Hanover College before serving in World War I. After the war he started teaching in Pullman, Washington, before returning to Indiana. He then taught at Westport High School, and then was principal at Letts High School for three years until 1925, both in Decatur County. He returned to Lexington to teach in the high school there. He had been in poor health since the war and entered Schneck Memorial Hospital in Seymour in 1926. He was there for eight months and then went to Mithofer Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died 9 July 1927, after years of suffering from shell shock and being gassed in France during WWI. He was buried in Hanover Cemetery in Hanover.

Gladys Mary Harmon was born 5 November 1900. She married Vernor A. Gray (1902–1976) and they raised their family on their Jefferson County farm. They had three sons: John Warren (1925–2020), Robert (1928–1996), and Vernor Richard (1932–1993). Gladys died 6 December 1996 in Scottsburg, Scott County, and is buried in Sharon Hill Cemetery in Hanover.

Quincy Harmon was born on 11 October 1902. He died 21 August 1914 of sarcoma of the liver. He died in Lexington Township and was buried in Hanover Cemetery.

Jesse Harmon was born on 30 September 1906. He graduated from Hanover College in 1928 and earned his Ph.D. in 1933 from the University of Illinois. He married Florence Jean Kraybill (1912–2001) in Pennsylvania in 1937. They had six children: Marcia (Aston), Cynthia (Ramer), Margaret (Baldrige), David (1944–2013), Mary, and Priscilla (Putnam). Jesse worked as a research chemist for the DuPont Company in Delaware for thirty-eight years, generating more than thirty patents for the company. Jesse died in Florida on 6 November 2003. He is the only one of the Harmon siblings not pictured in this collection.

Almon Samuel Harmon was born 18 January 1912 in Lexington, Indiana. He graduated from Hanover College in 1934 and earned a master's degree from Indiana University in 1936. He taught chemistry at Bloomington High School in 1937–1938 and worked as a farmer in Scott County in 1939–1940. He married Wilma McClintock (1907–1991) in Bloomington, Indiana, on 28 August 1940. He worked as a chemist for Weirton Steel Company in West Virginia from 1941 to 1977, while living in Brilliant, Ohio, where he and Wilma raised their two children, Thomas Warren and Rebecca Ann. Almon and Wilma retired to Phoenix, Arizona. Almon died on 4 December 2001 and was buried in Covenanter Cemetery in Bloomington, Indiana.

Sources:

Ancestrylibrary.com (Accessed 8 April 2022):

- Find a Grave
- Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899–2011
- Indiana, U.S., Marriages, 1810–2001
- Ohio, U.S., Death Records, 1908–1932, 1938–2018
- United States Federal Census, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950
- U.S., Army Transport Service Arriving and Departing Passenger Lists, 1910–1939
- U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850–2010
- U.S., Newspapers.com Marriage Index, 1800s–current
- U.S., Obituary Collection, 1930–current
- U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900–1999
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014
- U.S., Veterans Administration Master Index, 1917–1940
- U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918
- U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940–1947

“Kirk Harmon Dead,” in *The Chronicle* (Scottsburg, Ind.), 13 July 1927, p. 1

“Kirk Harmon Funeral at Blocher Tuesday,” in *The Tribune* (Seymour, Ind.), 13 July 1927, p. 1

“Local News: Lexington,” in *Scott County Journal* (Scottsburg, Ind.), 1 June 1911, p. 5

Obituary for Dr. Jesse Harmon (published 11 November 2003) <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/delawareonline/name/jesse-harmon-obituary?pid=145785859> Accessed 8 April 2022.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of eight portraits of school groups, each including at least one member of the Harmon family. In a few, some other people are identified also. Eight of the nine Harmon siblings are pictured at least once. In the ca. 1908–1909 photograph of the one-room schoolhouse known as Frogpond School near Blocher, in Scott County, five of the Harmon siblings are included. Two of the brothers, Wayne and Kirk, are shown as both students and teachers. Most of the photographs are from Lexington Township in Scott County, but there is also one from Clark County, one from Decatur County, and one of an ROTC group at Hanover College.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Lexington School – shows students of various ages and staff posed outside a brick building. **Cecil Harmon** is identified [ca. 1906]

Lexington School – shows students of various ages and staff posed outside a brick building. **Robert Harmon** is identified [ca. 1908]

Frogpond School (one-room schoolhouse) near Blocher, Scott County – shows one teacher with students in eight grades, including: Daisy Meadows, **Quincy Harmon**, Hubert Mace, Mable Mace, Elmer Hopper, (?) Bridgewater, Elsie McBride, teacher Marie Shea, **Gladys Harmon**, Ethel Buxton, Harry Hopper, **Wayne Harmon**, Mae Bridgewater, **Edith Harmon**, (?) Hopper, Earl Wallace, **Kirk Harmon**, Roscoe Meadows, and others unidentified [ca. 1908–1909]

Lexington School – shows teacher Jake Eppley [Jacob B. Epply] with students of various ages, including: Myrtle Huffman, Naomi Tichenor, Laverne Amos, Blanche Sipe, Jewel Oaks, Laura Mc?, Ethel Gray, Birdie Gwinn, Alta ?, Laura Close [Lora Close], Fred Pierpoint, Blanche Parks, Dennis Hardy, Percy Blair, Clifford Hall, Earl Toombs, **Wayne Harmon**, and [William?] Whitlatch, and others unidentified [ca. 1909–1910]

Hanover College ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps). **Kirk Harmon** is identified (1918)

Jonathan Jennings School in Charlestown, Clark County – shows four teachers, including **Wayne Harmon**, Miriam Morgan, and ? Blythe, and large group of unidentified students (1919)

Westport High School [Decatur County] – shows students and staff posed outside brick building. Teacher **Kirk Harmon** is identified [ca. 1920]

Lexington High School, freshman class – shows group of people outside brick building. Identified are **Kirk Harmon** and **Almon Harmon** (20 October 1926)

CONTAINER

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 1

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 2

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 3

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 3

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 4

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 5

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 5

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 5

