

Grover Cleveland Gardner 1884-1936, was the **father of Mary Lucille Gardner** who first married **Sax Simmons**. Their **daughter Betty Jo Simmons was born 1930** and married Jack Bailey.

Grover was the son of **James Oliver Gardner, 1821-1890**, and his second wife **Margaret E Holford, 1841- 1895**. James Oliver Gardner is buried in Old Philadelphia Cemetery in Izard County, Arkansas. Margaret is buried in Hickory Valley Cemetery in Independence County.

Mary Lucille Gardner born 8 Feb 1909 in Tupelo, Jackson County, Arkansas. Her Birth Certificate names **father Grover Cleveland Gardner** and has his birth place as Tupelo. Mother of Lucille is shown as **May Maud Hudson** born Tupelo. Informant for Lucille's birth certificate was **Tennie E Taylor** of Newport, daughter of Grover's **brother John Felix Gardner**. The first child of Grover and Maud was **Mae Pauline Gardner born 30 Oct 1905** in Fitzhugh, Woodruff County. Pauline's birth certificate has father Grover's **birth place as LaCrosse, Izard County, Arkansas**.

Census 1910 in Woodruff County has Grover C Cleveland age 25 born Arkansas, his father and mother born Arkansas, with wife Maud Mae 24, born Texas, daughters May P age 3 and Lucille age 11 months, both daughters born Arkansas.

Draft Registration Card dated September 12, 1918 in Woodruff County had Grover Cleveland Gardner of Jacks, Woodruff, Ark age 33, **born Sept 26 , 1884**, A merchant who owns business in Jacks Woodruff, Arkansas. **nearest relative Maud May Gardner**, same address.

Census 1920 in Jackson County has Grover Gardner age 35, born Arkansas, father born North Carolina, mother born Tennessee, with wife Maude age 34 and children Pauline 13, Lucille 11, Grover Jr 9, Woodrow 7, Neal 5, and James 9 months.

Death Certificate for **Mrs Maude Gardner has death on January 29, 1923** in Breckenridge Township of Jackson County, informant Grover Gardner of Tupelo, Arkansas. Burial White Church Cemetery, undertaker is Fitzhugh Snapp.

Marriage license issued Nov 22, 1924 for G.C. Gardner of Tupelo, Jackson County age 38 and Miss **Ella Glenn age 22** of Tupelo, Jackson County in White County.

Census 1930 in Tupelo Town, Jackson County, has Grover C Gardner age 44 born Arkansas, father born Tennessee, mother born Arkansas with wife Ella age 28 sons G C 19, Woodrow 17, Neil 15 and James 11. *plus 20 other boarders, roomers, servant? and a hired hand.*

A brief obituary for Grover C Gardner appeared in a Memphis Tennessee newspaper, apparently on December 6, 1936. "**Newport, Ark., Dec 5-Grover C Gardner, 52, livestock dealer and planter of Jackson County, died of a heart attack at his home at Tupelo, south of Newport, yesterday.**"

Ella Mae Gardner died in Searcy, White County on Jan 9, 1947 and her death certificate has her as divorced at time of death.

The third child, first son of Grover and Maud was **Grover Cleveland Gardner** who was born 11 Nov 1910 and married **Marie Viola Rader** May 25, 1935 in Oklahoma. **He died Oct 23, 1965** in Phoenix, Arizona.

From Gardner Family History by Ruth Williams: “**James O. Gardner (1821-1890)**, son of Joseph and Elizabeth (McLaren) Gardner, and his brother, **Neil M. Gardner**, moved to Jackson County, AR in the late 1850s. For a few years after the Civil War, J.O. Gardner operated a mercantile store at Centerville, but he moved to Izard County, settling at **LaCrosse in 1869**. He was first married, in Tennessee, to Matilda ----, who was born in Virginia and died in 1860 in Jackson County, AR.”

Also from a newspaper in Little Rock, dated 8 April 1890: “Charles Collins, Lee Redman and **J.O. Gardner**, all old citizens of Izard County, died last week.”

Findagrave 17143773 : **Margaret E Holford Gardner 17 Jan 1845 to 7 Aug 1895 (aged 54)** is buried Hickory Valley Cemetery, Independence County, Arkansas. Inscription “wife of Jas. O.”

Findagrave has links to husband **James O Gardner 1821-1890** and 5 children and notes “There is a child missing under the ones already listed. She had a son named Grover Cleveland Gardner, born in 1884 and died in 1936.”

James Oliver Gardner is found in 1850 Census in Henderson County Tennessee near his father **Joseph Gardner** and brother **Neil M Gardner**. In the 1860 Census he is in Jackson County, Arkansas with 5 children and no wife. Brother Neil and his wife are near him. In 1870 and 1880 census he with wife and children are in Izard County where **he died intestate April 2 1890**. Wife Mrs M.E. Gardner and son J. O. Gardner were appointed administrators of his estate.

Neil M. Gardner 1830-1905 and his wife Lavinia 1840-1909 are in Jackson County in census 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1900. Both are buried in Tuckerman as are both of their children and three grandchildren. His obituary said Neal was “one the oldest and wealthiest citizens of Jackson county..”

To Address two similar names and dates may cause some confusion:

1. **Grover Cleveland Gardner born June 26, 1884** in Sharp County, Arkansas married **Maggie E Mullins** 1887-1968 and **died 12 Jun 1954**. This Grover C is buried in Lancaster cemetery, Strawberry, Lawrence County, Arkansas. He is shown at age 15 on the 1900 Census in Scott Township, Sharp County with parents John A Gardner 1837-1911 and Addie Craig Gardner 1857-1909 and 6 siblings. Death Certificate also has same dates and parents. Grover, wife Mag, and son George are together in census 1910 in Sharp County, and then Reed Creek Township, Lawrence County in 1920, 1930 and 1940. His **Draft Registration Card dated 12 Sept 1918 in Lawrence County** has Grover Cleveland Gardner age 34, born **June 27, 1884**. Occupation is farming and nearest relative is **Mag Gardner**.

2. Still another **Grover Cleveland Gardner** was **born April 1 1855 in Summerville, Missouri**, married April 16, 1911 with **Myrtle A Galloway/Carr**, and **died July 10, 1931 in Walnut Ridge, Lawrence County, Arkansas**. In the 1900 Census of Marion Township, Lawrence County Arkansas, this Grover, age 15, born Missouri, is with mother Mollie Hartsell Gardner the widow of **Dr Elijah F Gardner**, 1831- about 1901. His **Draft Registration Card also is dated 12 Sept 1918 in Lawrence County**, has Grover Cleveland Gardner age 33, born **March 26, 1885**. Occupation is farming and nearest relative is **Myrtle Gardner**.

Grover Cleveland (March 18, 1837 – June 24, 1908) was an American politician who served as the 22nd and 24th president of the United States from 1885 to 1889 and from 1893 to 1897.