

Linda Allred Cooper

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Hi Alan:

Your goal was to determine who Old Man Allred was. Per the family story handed down to you, your grandfather Walter Anding (1893-1962) was the son of your great grandmother Eliza and Old Man Allred. Per the story, Eliza worked as a maid in Old Man Allred's home. The story of Walter's real father was well known in the family and in the community. Eliza married Steve Anding who raised Walter as his own son and gave him the Anding name.

First, I need to discuss Eliza and what her real last name was. This is compounded by some confusion in records about what your grandfather's real middle name was. He is listed in various records as Walter Anding, Walter M. Anding and Walter McDaniel Anding. The middle name McDaniel is documented by the Military Roster of men who reported for service at Camp Shelby during World War I¹ which you can see below, however as you can see, someone wrote the name in after the document was typed. This leaves the question – who wrote the name in and is it the correct name?

¹ The National Archives at Washington, D.C.; Washington, D.C.; Series Title: Lists of Men Ordered to Report to Local Board for Military Duty in the District of Columbia; NAI Number: 1159403; Record Group Title: Records of the Selective Service System; U.S., Lists of Men Ordered to Report to Local Board for Military Duty, 1917–1918

ORIGINAL

When completed to be mailed by
Military Authorities to the Provost
Marshal General, Washington, D. C.

LOCAL BOARD
Lincoln Co. Miss.

Date, Sept. 1st, 1918

Brookhaven, Miss.

The selected men herein described, having been inducted into military service on Sept. 1st, 1918.
have this date been entrained for Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.
(Date.)

This statement consists of 2 sheets.

(Camp or Station.)

3-5443

| 1 Order No. | 2 Serial No. | 3 NAME. | 4 Call No. | 5 Primary Industry. | 6 Classification. | | | | | 7 Failed to report to Military Authorities. |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|----|-----|----|---|--|
| | | | | | I | II | III | IV | V | |
| I75/2 | --- | Preacher Jackson <i>Giles</i> | I222 | Laborer | A | | | | | |
| 258 | 25 | Burk Cooper | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| 273 | I639 | Lamar Smith | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| 500 | I602 | Alvie Wooley | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| 850 | 56I | Issie Baggett | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| 965 | 88I | Otha Allen | " | Auto Driver | A | | | | | |
| I03I | I607 | John Perry Byrd | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I067 | 9I4 | Claude Price | " | Mill Labr | A | | | | | |
| II72 | 902 | Pete Hall | " | Laborer | A | | | | | |
| I067 | 914 | Claude Price | " | Mill Labr | A | | | | | |
| I20I | I6I2 | Alex Benson | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I260 | I426 | Gus Cook | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I277 | I632 | William Pierce | " | Farm Laborer | A | | | | | |
| I3I0 | 680 | Fessie Smith | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I3I3 | II86 | John Evans | " | R.R. Laborer | A | | | | | |
| I383 | 922 | Willie Thomas | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I396 | 897 | Tillman Furnace | " | Oil Mill Lbr. | A | | | | | |
| I450 | I635 | Walter Scott | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I452 | I603 | Walter <i>McDaniel</i> Anding | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I5I0 | I569 | Richard Hunter | " | Farm Laborer | A | | | | | |
| #I536 | I434 | Van Perkins | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I562 | IOI | George Smith | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I590 | I623 | Gilmore Henderson | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I6I0 | 908 | Archie Kelly | " | Mill Labr | A | | | | | |
| I6I3 | I646 | David Wilson | " | Farmer | A | | | | | |
| I643 | 894 | Will Davis | " | Mill Laborer | A | | | | | 0264 |

Most likely Walter's middle name, McDaniel, was given in honor of his mother's maiden name – or so it appears. Walter's mother's Death Certificate was found on Ancestry²:

28-12679 12870

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
Bureau of Vital Statistics CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County Lincoln State Miss. Registration District No. 496 File No. 14
Village Wesson Vol. 1 Primary Registration Dist. No. 862 Reg. No. 14
City Wesson No. 25 St. Miss. Ward _____
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution give its NAME instead of street number.)

2 FULL NAME Eliza Anding
(Print full name with pen or typewriter.)
(a) Residence (Usual place of abode) Wesson Miss 25
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 12 mo. 0 da. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth? 7 yrs. 0 mo. 0 da.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED or DIVORCED (write the word) Married
6 If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of Steve (or) WIFE of _____
7 DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year) June 12, 1870
8 AGE 46 YEARS about MONTHS _____ DAYS _____ IF LESS than 1 day, _____ hrs. or _____ min.

9 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work H. H. Station
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) _____
(c) Name of Employer _____

10 BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Lincoln, Miss.

PARENTS

11 NAME OF FATHER Alford M. Daniel
12 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town) (State and Country) Wesson, Miss.
13 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Pollie Robinson
14 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (city or town) (State and Country) Wesson, Miss.

15 Informant Mrs. J. H. Wesson (Address) Wesson, Miss. Date of Burial 6/12/28
16 Place of Burial, Cremation or Removal Wesson, Miss.
17 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
REGISTERED **FRANK H. HARTMAN**

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

18 DATE OF DEATH (month, day and year) 6/12/28
19 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended the deceased from _____, 1927, to _____, 1928, that I last saw her alive on _____, 1928, and that death occurred on the date stated above, at _____ m. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:
Organic Heart Disease
CONTRIBUTORY (duration) _____ yrs. _____ mo. _____ da. (Supplementary) _____

As you can see, Eliza's parents were listed as Alford McDaniel and Pollie Robinson. However, Alford and Pollie McDaniel are listed on the 1880 and 1870 Federal Census as Alfred and Mary McDonald. Below is the 1880 census³ showing Eliza as their daughter:

1880 United States Federal Census for Eliza Mc Donald

Mississippi > Lincoln > Beat 5 > 035

| Street | House No | Dwelling | Family No | Name | Race | Sex | Age | Birth Mo | Relationship | Single | Married | Widow/D | Married C | Occupation | Months U | Sick | Blind | Deaf and | Idiotic | Insane | Disabled | Attended | Cannot re | Cannot w | Birthplace | Birthplace of | Birthplace of |
|--------|----------|----------|-----------|------------------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|----------|------|-------|----------|---------|--------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Father | Mother | |
| | 126 | | | Alford M. Daniel | W | M | 38 | 6 | Head | | | | | Farmer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Miss | Miss |
| | | | | Mary | W | F | 38 | 6 | Wife | | | | | House Keeping | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |
| | | | | Samuel | W | M | 5 | 6 | Son | | | | | Farm laborer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |
| | | | | Andrew D | W | M | 14 | 6 | Son | | | | | Farm laborer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |
| | | | | Michael | W | M | 10 | 6 | Son | | | | | Farm laborer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |
| | | | | Eliza | W | F | 10 | 6 | Daughter | | | | | Farm laborer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |
| | | | | John | W | M | 10 | 6 | Son | | | | | Farm laborer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Tenn | Miss |

² Mississippi State Board of Health, Death Certificate # 12679 for Eliza Anding, death date June 12, 1928, Lincoln County, Mississippi

³ Federal Census Year: 1880; Census Place: Beat 5, Lincoln, Mississippi; Roll: 655; Page: 126C; Enumeration District: 035

Pollie, as Eliza's mother was listed on her death certificate, is a common nickname for Mary. The handwriting on the death certificate was horrible, so Alford could have easily been Alfred.

Note: there are LOTS of mistakes in census records. Perhaps the agent misunderstood what was being said. Perhaps the agent was bad at spelling. Perhaps the family was not home and a neighbor gave the information and got it wrong. Perhaps the agent just guessed at names and ages, unable to understand a family member who was mumbling or too shy to speak loudly or too busy to stop work and answer correctly. But as you can see, Eliza and her family were clearly listed as McDonald.

The same is true on the 1870 Federal Census⁴ where Alfred, Mary and their family were listed as McDonald. Note: Eliza is not listed as she had not been born yet. Also Note: This appears to be an extended family living under one roof. Look at the ages – for example, Mary, who was 28 years old could not have given birth to Sarah who was 21 or Francis who was 28. Keeping in mind this census was taken just 5 years after the end of the Civil War when slaves were released from bondage, my guess is this is an extended family living together as they tried to reshape their lives and move forward in the post-war years.

| 1870 United States Federal Census for Alfred McDonald | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|----------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|
| Mississippi > Copiah > Townships 9 and 10 West of Rr | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dwelli No. | Family No. | Name | Age | Sex | Race | Occupation | Real Estate | Personal Estate | Birthplace | Father Fo | Mother P | Birth Month | Marria Month | Attendd Cannot R | Cannot W | Condition | Male Over | Denied Voting | |
| 97 | 90 | McDonald Alfred | 38 | M | B | Farmer | | 600 | Tenn | | | | | / | / | | | / | |
| | | — Mary | 28 | F | B | Keeping House | | | Miss | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Sarah | 21 | F | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Alfred | 10 | M | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Daniel | 9 | M | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Harriet | 7 | F | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Andrew | 5 | M | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Mike | 4 | M | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Francis | 28 | F | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Emeline | 12 | F | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Mary | 6 | F | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |
| | | — Dr. Chas | 3 | M | B | | | | " | | | | | / | / | | | | |

Thus you can see that although Eliza's maiden name was listed as McDaniel on her death certificate, per the census records her true maiden name was McDonald. Why? Which name is correct? McDonald or McDaniel? I was unable to find Alfred and Mary/Pollie on the 1900 Federal Census. I was also unable to find any of Eliza's siblings. Did they all die prior to 1900 or did they move away? When Eliza died in 1928, did the informant simply make a mistake; did he say something like "I think her father was Alfred McDaniel" instead of McDonald? He certainly would not be the first informant on a death certificate to give the wrong information. This remains a mystery.

⁴ Federal Census Year: 1870; Census Place: Townships 9 and 10 west of RR, Copiah, Mississippi; Roll: M593_727; Page: 298B; Family History Library Film: 552226

Walter was born 1893 before Birth Certificates were required by law. The first record he appears on is the 1900 Federal Census⁵ where he is listed as Walter Anding.

1900 United States Federal Census for Walter Anding
Mississippi > Copiah > Furguson > District 0039

| Name | Relation to Head | Race | Sex | Birth Month | Birth Year | Age | Marital S | Years Mar | Children | Children | Birthplace | Father's Birthplace | Mother's Birthplace | Immi Year | Years in U | Naturaliz | Occupation | Months N Attended | Can Read | Can Write | Can Spea |
|---------------|------------------|------|-----|-------------|------------|-----|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Anding Walter | Head | B | M | Jan | 1893 | 7 | m | 7 | 3 | 2 | Miss | Miss | Miss | | | | Farmer | 2 | NO | NO | NO |
| Wife | Wife | B | F | Jan | 1870 | 25 | m | | | | Miss | Miss | Miss | | | | Farmer | 2 | NO | NO | NO |
| Frisman Clara | Daughter | B | F | Dec | 1891 | 8 | | | | | Mississippi | Mississippi | Mississippi | | | | at school | 2 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Anding Walter | Son | B | M | Jan | 1893 | 7 | | | | | Mississippi | Mississippi | Mississippi | | | | at school | 2 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Effie | Daughter | B | F | Feb | 1894 | 5 | | | | | Mississippi | Mississippi | Mississippi | | | | | 0 | | | |

He is also listed as Walter Anding on the 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 Federal Census. (The 1950 Federal Census will be available to the public in 2022.) On the Georgia Death Index⁶ and Social Security Claims Index⁷ he is listed as Walter M. Anding. On the World War II Draft Card⁸, he is listed as Walter Anding. However, on the Veterans Administration Master List⁹, he is clearly listed as Walter McDaniel Anding:

5-2462

ANDING WALTER MCDANIEL }
Pvt 3d Co 4th Bn 164 D B
Wesson Miss
Sn 4 300 242
Born 1/11/93 Died 5-22-62
Caseyville Miss
Enl 8/31/18 Dis 12/14/18

X C 1 615 418
K
A 1 771 928
T 4 010 739
R
Ct

M. & R. Div. Form No. 2
27

105

⁵ Federal Census Year: 1900; Census Place: Furguson, Copiah, Mississippi; Page: 8; Enumeration District: 0039; FHL microfilm: 1240806

⁶ Georgia Health Department, Office of Vital Records; Georgia, USA; *Indexes of Vital Records for Georgia: Deaths, 1919-1998*; Certificate Number: 14671

⁷ Ancestry.com. *U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.

⁸ Ancestry.com. *U.S., WWI Civilian Draft Registrations, 1917-1918* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000.

⁹ Veterans Affairs master index, prior war file | 76193916 | RG 15, Anderson, Goldman - Anmuth, Archie Arnold, dup roll 5A, pt. 2 of 3, 1917-1940

I bring up the question about Walter’s middle name because I think I have found his biological father Old Man Allred. However, knowing Walter’s middle name was McDaniel while it appears Eliza’s maiden name was McDonald gives me some doubts as to the accuracy of what I am about to reveal.

As you know from the text messages we have swapped, a man named J. N. Allred signed as informant on Eliza’s death certificate. The informant was the person, usually a relative or close friend/neighbor, who gave the information to the Coroner or Clerk of Court for the death certificate. Therefore, the information was only as good as the informant’s knowledge and state-of-mind. If the informant was under stress due to mourning or shock over the death, he/she could easily give wrong answers.

The possibility that Eliza’s maiden name was listed wrong entered my mind when I was unable to find any family named McDaniel on the 1880 or 1900 Federal Census for Copiah or Lincoln Counties. However, as you saw above, I did find the McDonald family which appears to be a fit for Eliza and her parents and siblings. So the question becomes – what was Eliza’s real maiden name? McDaniel or McDonald?

At this time, I tend to think McDonald was the correct name and, per the 1880 Federal Census¹⁰, there was an Allred family living in the same county and district as the McDonald family. They were not close neighbors; the Allred family was Family # 73 and McDonald family listed as Family # 120 so there were 47 families or homes between them. Keep in mind, unlike today where neighborhood houses are built very close to each other, in 1880 most of Lincoln County was rural farm land although there were some small towns. Both men, Alfred McDonald and John S. Allred were listed as farmers so I tend to believe they lived on their farms in a rural area.

1880 United States Federal Census for John S. Allred

Mississippi > Lincoln > Beat 5 > 035

| Name | Race | Sex | Age | Birth Month | Relationship | Single | Married | Widow/D | Married C | Occupation | Months U | Sick | Blind | Deaf and | Idiotic | Insane | Disabled | Attended | Cannot r | Cannot w | Birthplace | Birthplace of Father | Birthplace of Mother |
|-----------------|---------|-----|-----|-------------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|----------|------|-------|----------|---------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Allred, John S. | W | M | 29 | Jan | Head | | | | | Farmer | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Miss | Miss |
| " | Alla | W | 50 | Jan | Wife | | | | | House Keeping | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Miss | Miss |
| " | Burgess | W | 20 | Jan | Daughter | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Miss | Miss |
| Allred, Archie | W | M | 2 | Jan | Son | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mississippi | Miss | Miss |

This John S. Allred (full name John Sylvester Allred) was 29 years in 1880 so he was 31 years older than Eliza – certainly old enough to be known by her family as Old Man Allred. Even more exciting, John Sylvester Allred had a brother named James Nathaniel Allred who appears in most documents as J. N. Allred. Refer back to Eliza’s death certificate in which the informant was Mr. J. N. Allred. James Nathaniel was born in 1856 so he was 27 years older than Eliza – again old enough to have been known by her family as Old Man Allred.

But which brother was the real Old Man Allred? Unfortunately, there is no 1890 Federal Census (it was destroyed in a fire) so we can only refer to the 1880 and 1900 Federal Census for clues. John Sylvester Allred remained in the same section of Lincoln County, Mississippi per the 1880 and 1900 census. He does not appear to have moved although it will take a search of land records to fully confirm that.

¹⁰ Federal Census Year: 1880; Census Place: Beat 5, Lincoln, Mississippi; Roll: 655; Page: 123A; Enumeration District: 035

James Nathaniel (J. N.) Allred lived in Copiah County, Mississippi per the 1880 Federal Census but by 1900 he had moved to the same section of Lincoln County where his brother John Sylvester lived although they were not close neighbors. By 1900, Eliza and her family were living in Furguson (sic), Copiah County, Mississippi.

So the clues I have been able to find at this time are John Sylvester Allred was living within a comfortable traveling distance (by horse or walking) from Eliza's family per the 1880 census. John Sylvester's brother, James Nathaniel (J. N.) Allred signed Eliza's death certificate in 1928. Although James Nathaniel lived in Copiah County per the 1880 census, sometime prior to 1900 he had moved to Lincoln County where the McDonald family had lived. When he moved is a mystery.

Both men were quite a bit older than Eliza. Both were married with growing families when Eliza became pregnant. Both could have easily hired a maid to help with household chores while their wives were busy with their small children. James Nathaniel Allred had a son born 1892. John Sylvester Allred had a son born 1893. Therefore, both men had several young children and pregnant wives who, possibly, did not want them around (a tired pregnant woman who did not want sex?) so both men could have sought "comfort" from a younger woman working as a maid in their house.

The question remains – which brother was Old Man Allred? John Sylvester Allred or James Nathaniel Allred? Or could it be someone else entirely? However, there were no other Allred men living in the area per the 1880 and 1900 census records. These two men remain the likely candidates at this time.

Unfortunately, MyHeritage DNA results report is severely lacking in information. Yes, there were several members of MyHeritage who matched your DNA via Allred. However, their family tree information only told me your common ancestor is many (6-8) generations back in time – not a close enough match to tell me which brother was Old Man Allred.

With your permission I uploaded your DNA results to GEDMatch and the results were made available this morning. One of our Allred cousins, Mike Kidd, helped me interpret the findings. Unfortunately, GEDMatch only gives the actual DNA marker matches – it does not give family tree information. Once again, I was unable to find an answer as to which brother was Old Man Allred.

So, we have some answers and some good clues – the ultimate answer is I THINK Old Man Allred was one of these brothers. Either John Sylvester Allred or James Nathaniel Allred. However, at this time, I can not prove or say with certainty which brother was Old Man Allred and the father of Walter Anding.

BUT, there is still a good chance of finding that answer. Ancestry's DNA test, results and reports are far superior to MyHeritage. They are definitely the best on the market at this time. Their computer can easily tell me I have found the right Allred family and, perhaps even which brother was Walter's father. If you decide to proceed, I recommend taking the Ancestry DNA test. Right now the price is \$99 plus tax and shipping (\$108 total). But they put the test kits on sale several times each year and the next sale will probably be in a couple of weeks, around July 4th. The price usually drops to \$59 (plus tax and shipping). If you decide to take the Ancestry DNA test, be sure to order the kit on or about July 4th while it is on sale – the sale usually only lasts a few days.

I hope I have given you some good information and food for thought. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Linda