



The Alford American Family Association

Serving the Alford community over 25 Years
We Are Family!!

Imogene Nellie Kinard Kennedy

AAFA #0379

Charter Member

September 22, 1928 – May 19, 2000

Caddo County, Oklahoma

Submitted by: Gene Phillips

May 2000

Conroe Loses Former Columnist and Retired Genealogy Librarian The genealogy community has lost a valiant ally, when Imogene Kinard Kennedy passed away on May 19, 2000. She began her personal genealogy in 1959, and when she retired in April 1992, she had served Montgomery County Library for nineteen years.

Imogene Kinard Kennedy was born September 22, 1928 in Anadarko, Oklahoma, to Ira Neal Kinard and Thella Mae Smallwood. She attended Cameron College in Lawton, Oklahoma, where she met her husband Leon Kennedy. In 1960 they moved to the Houston area, where Jean worked at Clayton Genealogical Library, starting in 1968.

Jean was hired at the Montgomery County Library in 1973. In 1976 she was appointed head of the Genealogy Department, which was to be formed from materials pulled from the existing library collection. This had been a dream of hers for many years. She was able at the same time to bring about the establishment of the Montgomery County Genealogical & Historical Society. This organization has since become the official friends group for the Montgomery County Genealogy Department. Since its inception the society has donated in excess of \$150,000, in money and materials, as well as countless hours of volunteer service.

In 1988, Jean was the first recipient of the Montgomery County Genealogical Society's "HALL OF FAME AWARD" in recognition of her many accomplishments, one of these being the publishing of three books. Her book titled Genealogical Records In Texas is considered the definitive book on researching Texas county records and is still in publication today. She coordinated the Houston Genealogical Institutes in 1978 throughout 1980, taught beginners to advanced genealogy classes, was a sought-after genealogical speaker, and authored the genealogy column "Shaking The Family Tree" for the Conroe Courier in the 1970's.

Imogene is survived by four daughters, two brothers, eight grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and numerous other friends and relatives.

It was her desire that any memorials be given to the Genealogy Department through the Montgomery County Genealogical & Historical Society. Anyone wanting to donate can send their check to MCGHS P. O. Box 867 Conroe, TX 77305-0867.

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Imogene Kinard "Gene" Kennedy
AAFA #0379 **Charter Member**
 September 22, 1928 – May 19, 2000

Founder of Montgomery County Genealogy Society

When you walk into the Genealogy Dept. of the Montgomery Co. Library, you will see a "pixi-looking" lady with a sparkle in her eye and a smile on her face, and hear her say, "Will you sign the register, please?" This is Imogene Nellie (Kinard) Kennedy, known to all as "Gene".

Born in Anadarko, Oklahoma, Gene was raised in Matagorda Co., Texas and is a graduate of Cameron College in Lawton, Oklahoma. She and her husband, Leon, live in Chateau Woods in south Montgomery Co. They have four daughters and three grandchildren.

Gene began working on her genealogy in 1959 and so far, has traced three ancestors back to the Revolutionary War and one back to 1611 in Jamestown. After having been on the staff at Clayton Library in Houston for five years, she joined the staff at Montgomery Co. Library and established a much needed Genealogy Dept. as soon as funds became available. In the four years she has been here the library has acquired, under her direction, 600 microfilm reels, over 800 books, and three microfilm readers to add to the one already in the library. The Genealogy Dept. started upstairs but was soon moved downstairs to a larger room; then that room was enlarged. Plans are now in effect to enlarge even more.

In 1976 Gene founded the Montgomery County Genealogical Society and has watched it grow with pride. It has brought people together with a common interest and has allowed us all to make new friends. She also established the volunteer crew, called Genealogy Aides, to help the library patrons in the Genealogy Dept. and to relieve Gene so she can have more time to work at acquiring more books and material for the department.

From Montgomery County Genealogical Society, *Anniversary Issue*, 1977, p 3.

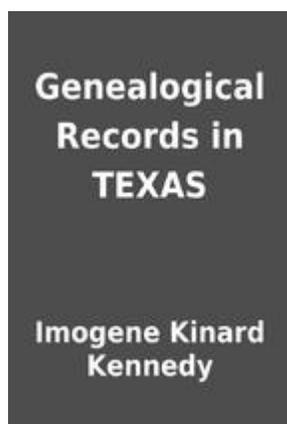
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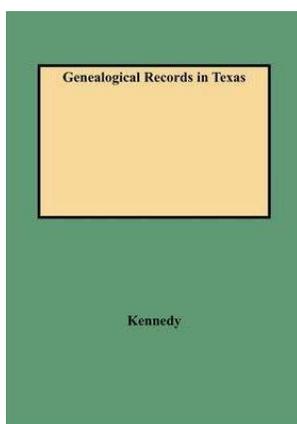
Birth 22 Sep 1928
Bay City, Matagorda County, Texas, USA
Death 19 May 2000 (aged 71)
Harris County, Texas, USA
Burial Conroe Memorial Park
Conroe, Montgomery County, Texas, USA
Memorial ID 50212487
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Book Description

Amazon.com Product Description ([ISBN 0806311851](#), Paperback)

Texas covers a lot of ground, but this guide cuts it right down to size and makes record searching fast and convenient. In text and maps it provides detailed information on the legal and historical background of the state, the origin of each county in the state, the location of the records for each portion of the county before it was organized into its present boundaries, and the specific records available in the various county courthouses, the Texas State Library, the Texas State Archives, and the Texas General Land Office. In addition, it provides information on the original colonies and districts of Texas, a list of Spanish terms used in land grants and deeds, a list of Texas libraries with resources for genealogical research, and a bibliography.

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