

Robert William John SMITH & Ellen Veronica SMITH, nee GILL

Biography as published in 1995

Robert William John Smith b. 11/3/1911, Jeparit, Vic.

Parents : Eliza Jane Smith (nee Semple) & John Duncan Ernest Smith

Grandparents : Margaret Margaret Ann Semple (nee McLean) & William SempleEMPLE

G-Grandparents : Mary McLean (nee Stacey) & John McLean

G-G-Grandparents : Christine McLean (nee McPhee & Donald McLean

Married: **Ellen Veronica Gill**, b. 7/4/1914 at Geelong, Vic.

Deaths: of Ellen in 1990 and of Robert on 13/4/1993 at the age of 82 years. History: Jack was in the air-force during the war, but after many farewells and trips to Sydney he was recalled back to work (he was a panel-beater for City Panels). He left City Panels to set up his own family business at 221 Nepean Highway, Edithvale, Vic, a Neptune Service Station and banel beating works, and also the R.A.C.V. depot. It was known as R.V..J. Smith's Body Works. His wife "Gille" (as she was called to distinguish her from his sister Nellie) managed the books. They lived above the garage for many years before buying a home in Fifth Ave. Aspendale. Jack loved a party and with six children there was always a reason for celebrations. He was involved in the local Rotary Club. Nearing 70 he left his son Raymond with the business at Edithvale and Swanwalk, Chelsea. His son Kevin started his own garage at Hastings. His other son Dennis travelled to America and lived there for many years, coming back to work in Rosebud.

His eldest son Raymond had a son Darren who also became a panel-beater and the family tradition continued. Raymond won the apprentice of his year and his son also won it when it was his turn. Darren later left his father's business to become a pilot. In 1990 Raymond still owned the business both at Swanwalk and Edithvale but rented out the Edithvale business and worked from the Chelsea business.

Children:

1. Raymond John Smith b. 5/3/1938 at Kew, Vic Married: Patricia Mary Doolan (b. 1/8/1940) at Deepdene, Vic. Occupation: Raymond and Patricia currently run a successful business as motor body repairers and automotive parts/equipment distributors. They have been in business in Chelsea since 1978. Children – Darren & Natalie.
2. Jeanette Anne Smith b. 11/11/1939, Hawthorn, Vic. Married: Brian Matthew Kerrigan b. 11/3/1938, son of Matthew and Doreen Kerrigan. Children – Sharyn & Susan
3. Beverley Margaret Smith b. 16/12/1940, Hawthorn, Vic Married: John Richard Ewers b. 6/11/1939, son of Leonard Theodore and Aida Beryl Ewers. Children – Craig, Kent & Andrea.
4. Wendy Joan Smith b. 4/7/1942, Hawthorn, Vic. Married: Geoffrey Hinde b. 6/7/1940, Carlton, Vic. Children – Katrina, Tonya & Anthony.
5. Kevin Robert Smith b. 2/5/1945 at Hawthorn, Vic. Married: Jaquelyn Anne May b. 6/12/1944, daughter of John William and Lorna May (nee Mayne) at Mellodure Church, High St. Residences: Mt Eliza, Hastings, Frankston. History: Kevin is a veteran of the Vietnam War, serving 1966-67. Children – Troy, Brett & Caroline.
6. Dennis William Smith b. 21/5/1954 at Hawthorn, Vic.

• SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 316 & 317.
 • COLONIALISTS : Christina and Donald McLean and their ten children migrated from Argyllshire to South Australia in 1837. This was in the earliest years of the colony. The McLeans initially settled near Adelaide where they grew the first wheat crop in SA. Then in about 1840 they pioneered the Strathalbyn area. There are now well over 20,000 descendants spread across Australia and elsewhere.
 • CHANGES : Please contact us with additions, corrections or suggestions about any part of this family tree.
 • CONTACT : Visit our website www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.