



# EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family  
history No. 83, December 2013**



## **DNA Update**



by James Edgar ([james@jamesedgar.ca](mailto:james@jamesedgar.ca))

Away back in 2007, when SteveUK and I first looked for a company to do Y-DNA testing, we found Relative Genetics in Salt Lake City, Utah. They were a daughter firm of Sorenson Genomics, the testing lab. Relative Genetics had everything we needed, including a Web presence that gave our little group of Edgars a secure place to display and compare our results. Then, Ancestry.com partnered with the lab and took over the Web site, adding features that make it like a social networking place to meet, greet, add stories, photos, trees, and where the important DNA results are displayed.

Lately, however, Ancestry.com have concentrated on their new AncestryDNA test—an autosomal test that can be helpful in finding close cousins. What the new test doesn't do is provide Haplotypes, nor does it give an MRCA calculation (Most Recent Common Ancestor). Knowing the Haplotypes and MRCA values is what makes our project what it is. These features are what let us find other Edgars worldwide who are related to each other, and piecing together family trees lets us see how we are all related.

When we wanted to order a Y-DNA test for an Edgar in New Brunswick, Canada, we found that Ancestry.com have decided not to ship any of their kits outside the U.S.A. What this means for us is that our worldwide DNA project with them has come to a grinding halt, except for people in the U.S.A.—we can still order a kit for any potential tests there.

What were we to do? Well, I started by searching for a Canadian firm that would conduct Y-DNA tests, one that would ship to all destinations worldwide, and that had a lab in Canada. And, I found one right away—you can go to their site and have a look around yourself at [www.Genebase.com](http://www.Genebase.com). The firm also has an office in the U.S.A.

This seemed just what we needed, so I ordered a test for Carter Edgar of Three Brooks, New Brunswick. I don't really need to test my Y-DNA again, having already done it twice, but I ordered a test for myself to get onto the Genebase database. My kit arrived while I was writing this, so I quickly scrubbed my cheeks and mailed the swabs back already! We'll keep you posted with the results.

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Sending our messages out to all of you has become more and more complicated, since Gmail and Yahoo won't allow multiple addresses on any mail, and my service providers have become increasingly stingy about a large number of email addresses on one message. To overcome those issues, I've subscribed to MailChimp and have all of our numerous addresses on a template. This is the first time I've used it, so please don't be annoyed when you see that your address is in a database not of your choosing—it was me who put it there.

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In the last couple of weeks, I've found some new connections to recent discoveries. **Debra Edgar Bocobo's** cousins **Bonnie Edgar Flansburg** and **Susan Edgar-Bell** were "found" on Facebook; **Karen Lashin** found me on the Web and we've exchanged a few emails—she's a cousin of **Robert Edgar** of Portland, Oregon; **Peter Edgar** of Issiquah, Washington; **Diane Craig** of California; and **Kathleen Edgar-Holden** of Sumner, Washington.

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Thanks to **Mark Edgar** of California, we've come across **Jacob Edgar** recently; he is a self-professed Ethnomusicologist. Thanks **Mark!**

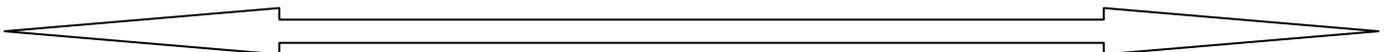
**Jacob Edgar** has an impressive biography at [www.musicvoyager.com/show-info/cast-and-crew/](http://www.musicvoyager.com/show-info/cast-and-crew/), plus he has his own music label "Cumbancha" [www.cumbancha.com/about](http://www.cumbancha.com/about)

I've been in touch with **Jacob** by email, and he suggested I write to his aunt **Beth** about family matters – she's the keeper of the history, as so often happens. I've sent her an email and have a reply. Perhaps we have the beginnings of another DNA test?

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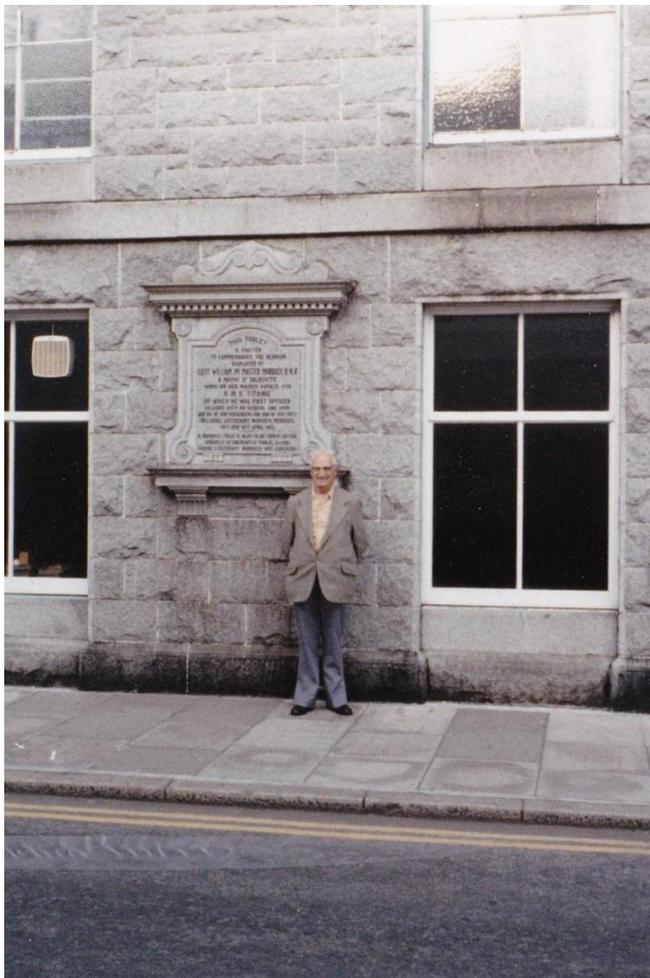
## Christmas gifts

Having trouble finding that special gift for your loved one? How about a solid pewter Edgar Crest? At \$18, plus shipping, they're a great way to say "I love your family!" (Pewter buttons also available.) Email me [james@jamesedgar.ca](mailto:james@jamesedgar.ca)



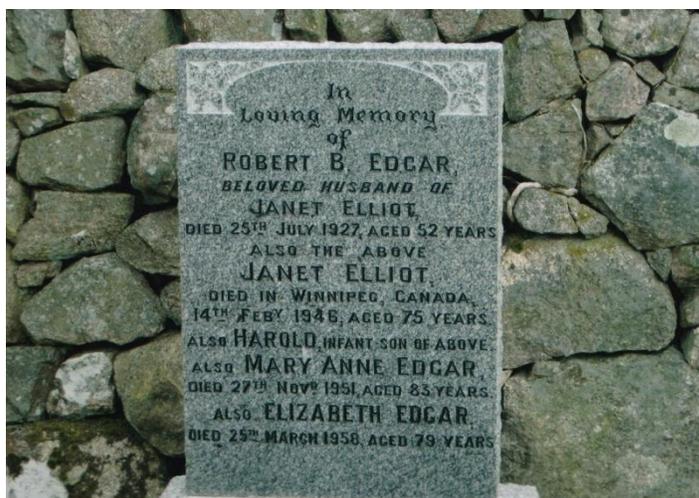
## **Picture Time from Claire (Edgar) Sutton** (*sutton@mymts.net*)

The first is of my Dad, Sidney Creighton Edgar, standing in front of the memorial in Dalbeattie, Scotland. My Dad grew up in this small town (almost all the buildings are made of granite), and he won the Murdoch Memorial Prize (see [http://www.titanic-titanic.com/titanic\\_memorial-william\\_murdoch.shtml](http://www.titanic-titanic.com/titanic_memorial-william_murdoch.shtml) for more info).



The picture is taken in the 1970s. I visited the same spot in 2011 and had my picture taken there as well.

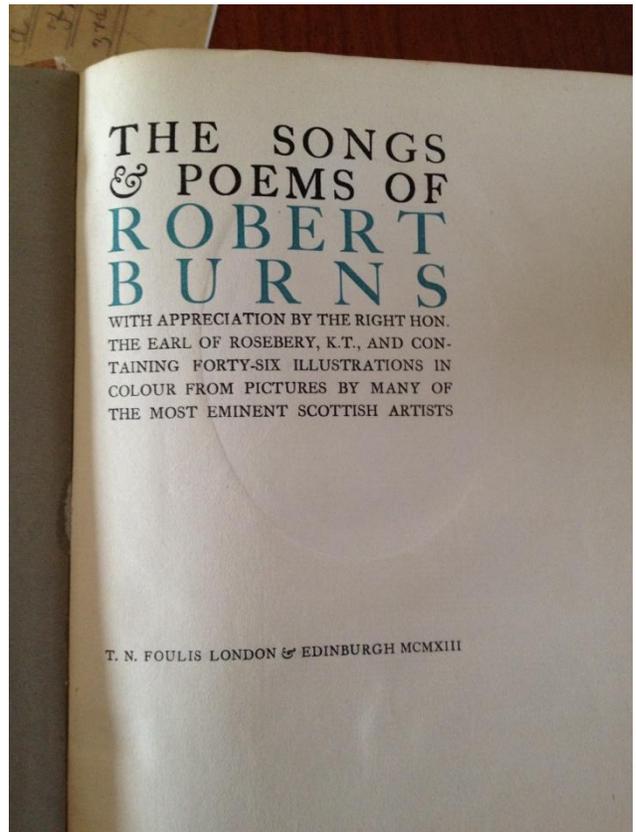
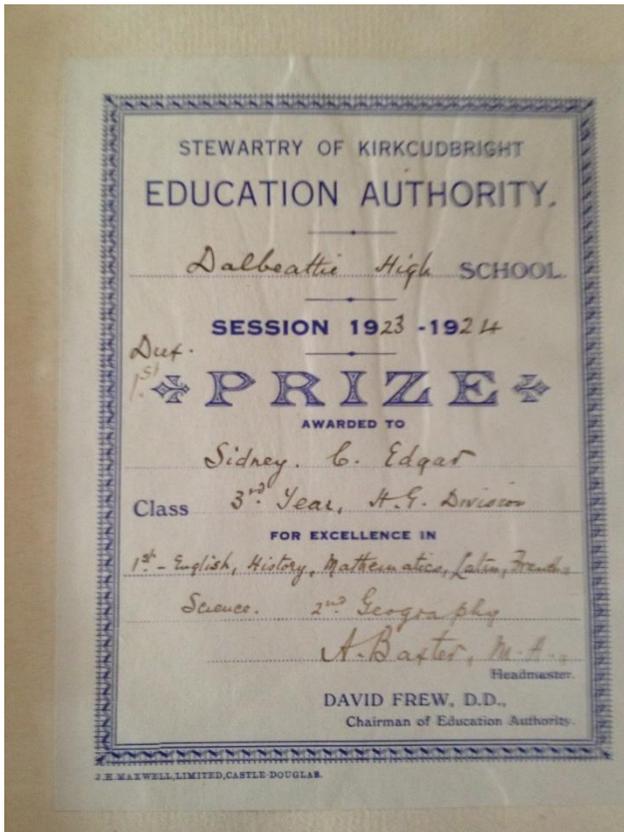
[Ed: Claire is related to Brad Edgar, who has been DNA tested—he's an I2b1, related to many, many on our list.]



The other two pictures are of my grandfather's grave marker, which some of the family had cleaned up. My daughters, Alanna and Stephanie, are standing beside the marker (Canadian flag in front!)

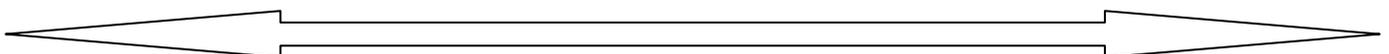


My sister has what we THINK is the “prize” my Dad got for the Murdoch award. It’s a huge volume of Robbie Burns poetry, which he would bring out from time to time and read out loud! The pics are of the title page of the book and the award plate.



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**Debra Edgar Bocobo** shares these photos of her father, **Walter David Edgar**, and two of his brothers (unknown, as yet, which ones). **Walter** is at lower left.



**Howard Metheney Edgar**, 91, Hutchinson, KS, passed away Tuesday, 2013 November 19.

Howard was born March 9, 1922 on the family farm near Sterling, KS, the son of Metheney and Isabel Dougherty Edgar. He had eight siblings: Margaret, Ralph, Donald, Jean, Alice, Alvin, and Mary; all deceased. The youngest, Carol survives. In 1922 they had no running water, electricity, or telephone.

Yes, life was hard. Ralph died in a farming accident at 19. Alvin drowned at a family picnic, only 13 years old.

Howard attended a one room country school in the early years and went into town for high school. He graduated from Sterling High School in 1939, and started Sterling College that fall. There he was nicknamed Red on account of his red hair.

In 1942 he put his classes on hold and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He spent World War II in the South Pacific, assigned to squadron VMF(AW)114. In 1944 Howard was at Battle of Peleliu. The casualty rate there was the highest for U.S. military personnel of any battle in the Pacific War.

After the war Howard returned to Sterling and resumed his studies. It was a good thing he did. He graduated in 1948. More importantly, he met Cora Elizabeth "Betty" Kensett and fell in love. On August 27, 1949 they were married in Parsons, KS. Betty survives.

In 1950 they moved to Hutchinson, KS. Howard worked as a medical technologist for Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Lettner, Hinshaw, and Shaw Laboratory, and Hutchinson Hospital.

Howard and Betty raised four children, living at 26 Wheatland Drive since 1955. David moved to Wichita, KS and married Janna Decker (deceased). They had four children: Jessica (married to Mark Hopkins), Justina, Jennifer, and Joshua. Elizabeth Ann married Bob Fincham and live in Topeka, KS. They had four children: Ethan, Lindsey, Elizabeth, and Jessie (deceased). Steven married Marisa Gomez-Mozo are in Queens, NY. They had two boys: Ian and Dante. James married Libby Beddingfield. They live in Manahattan, KS, and are the parents of Sterling.

Howard was raised in a Christian home. His was a life-long faith walk with God. He lived his Christianity in a humble way, showing his faith by his actions. Eager to assist those in need and sympathetic to their struggle. Patient, tolerant, understanding, and accepting - that's how you'd describe Howard. He was active in The First Presbyterian Church of Hutchinson where he was an elder. His record of attendance was unsurpassed.

Howard delighted in sharing his life with family, friends, and neighbors, laughing together during the good times, giving his help when needed, and encouraging big dreams. He enjoyed woodworking (including toys) and refinishing furniture, which he frequently gave away. He was remarkably independent and ingeniously resourceful, always finding ways to fix the broken. Ever looking for an excuse to spend time out of doors, he loved fishing, gardening, grilling, and making ice cream out back.

Howard was a big supporter of Blue Dragon Basketball, of Hutchinson Community College. He often attended with sisters Jean and Alice.

His life was filled with adventures and love. He will be greatly missed.

[Ed: Howard was one of the very early DNA tests in 2009.]