



Cliff Gittens <cliff.gittens@gmail.com>

The Gittens Family

2 messages

Cliff Gittens <cliff.gittens@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 19, 2007 at 4:57 PM

To: sandra.gittens@ns.sympatico.ca

Cc: James Gittens <jaggittens@gmail.com>

Sandra,

I was very happy to receive an e-mail today from James which was in response to my letter to you. James provided me with your e-mail address and suggested I contact you.

I am doing a Gittens family history and since my retirement last March I have put some renewed energy into the project now that I have a bit of time. Over the years I had lost all contact with the family of Ivan and Jean Gittens. I knew there were three children, Ted, Barbara and Barrie. I did know that Ted died in 1972, I think in an airplane accident. I did find some info on the internet about "Gittens House" which said that Ted was a professor, I am not sure in what field. Last I remember was visiting Ted at the Kingston Military College, I can't remember how many years ago that may have been. Barbara, I think was a Doctor, and relocated to Ontario. I don't know what kind of Doctor or where in Ontario she relocated to. I also have conflicting information as to marriage and children. Barrie, I don't know anything about except that he may have married a lady by the name of Roxanne, and they may have had one son.

I was in Halifax last summer and found an obituary for Ivan Gittens which said he died in 1980 at age 64 in Etobicock, Ont. Not sure about Jean.

I did locate your address in my research, the Internet is an amazing thing. I was wondering if you could help me with my research by filling in some of the blanks or pointing me in the right direction, assuming you had remained in contact with the family.

Thank you

Cliff Gittens

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Sandra Gittens <sandra.gittens@ns.sympatico.ca>

Mon, Nov 19, 2007 at 6:29 PM

To: Cliff Gittens <cliff.gittens@gmail.com>

Dear Cliff, I guess our letters must have passed one another in cyberspace. To add some information to what you supplied in the letter. Ted actually went to College Militaire Royale de St. Jean for one year, and then transferred to Acadia University where he completed a BSc degree with a major in Biology in 1966, and a MSc in Wildlife Management/Ornithology in 1968. He took a position at the now defunct Nova Scotia Teachers College in 1968, and remained there until his death in 1972. Barbara graduated from Dalhousie sometime in the late 60s with a science degree. She moved to Toronto following graduation and worked in a science lab. Eventually she married a chap whom she had met at Dalhousie. He was a heart surgeon. I understand they were divorced within the last fifteen years. There are two children, Scott and Jessica, from that marriage, both of whom must be in their late 20s or early 30s by now. After Jean Gittens died in late February, 1996, I ceased to know about the family. Barrie married Roseanne Deveau in 1971, and when I last saw them in 1995, they were living in a small community on the "French Shore" near Yarmouth, N. S. The only phone number I have is 1-902-645-2609. He and Roseanne have two sons whose names escape me at the moment. Surely Barrie would give you Barbara's whereabouts and her telephone number.

I often remember Ted talking about you, and Aunt Audrey and Uncle "Brudz.". I met both your parents when your mother was still alive, and later, after she and Ted had died, your father came with Ivan and Jean on a couple of occasions to visit me.

I surely will be interested in what I can do to help you. Genealogy is a fascinating hobby. My father's sister was a registered genealogist and along with a distant cousin helped compile a history of the McCabes. As well, I was able to do some work on my mother's family, and helped a local genealogist with some blanks in her study of Mum's family. You will meet many fascinating people, and learn so much along the way. Good luck.

Sandra