



The author was adopted at age three months and subsequently raised by a high spirited couple from East Texas via the Oklahoma Indian Territory. Amazingly, in 2001 the author learned he is the love child of a famous Old West lawman of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and a genteel Southern lady of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In this book, Jerry Cline shares the excitement of discovering his surprising biological origins. He also weaves an interesting composite of the histories of his birth families, related events and personalities from America's past, and the unusual circumstances of his adopted parents. This inspiring story is a classic tale of nature and nurture. Jerry Cline is a mathematician. He earned B.A. and M.S. degrees from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. His research specialty is Celestial Mechanics.

After joining McDonnell Douglas Corporation (now The Boeing Company) in 1967, Dr. Cline worked on many space and defense-related programs including the Viking Mission to Mars, the Galileo Mission to Jupiter, and the development of Tomahawk and Harpoon missiles. He developed mathematical models related to the design for the Space Shuttle. Cline retired in 1996 as head of the Operations Analysis Department.

In addition, Dr. Cline held an appointment in the adjunct mathematics faculty at Washington University in St. Louis from 1967 to 2004. Over those thirty-seven years, he taught evening classes in various advanced courses and authored numerous technical papers.

In retirement, Jerry lives in St. Louis with Phyllis, his wife of 23 years. He has two successful sons, two talented daughters-in-law, and three beloved granddaughters. He is blessed with many friends across the country. His

recreational passions are bridge, golf and listening to music. The couple spend part of each winter in Charleston, South Carolina, among Phyllis' friends and relatives.

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