

Marguerite & Earl

"One beautiful spring day in 1929, a man named Henry Earl Suggs walked through the door of Jeffie Morgan's rooming-house inquiring about a room to rent. Earl was from Paden, Okla, who had come to Baird on a job for his uncle, Arlie Suggs, who owned a construction company in Big Spring, Texas. All of the people I interviewed said Marguerite was a very pretty girl and apparently Earl thought so, too, because he began dating her. She almost "worshipped" this man who was nine years older than she and was the only man that Marguerite had dated. They were married on Dec. 19, 1929, just four months after Marguerite's 17th birthday and were the second couple to be married in the new courthouse in Baird, Texas.

After a honeymoon trip to Paden to show off his new bride to his family, Earl and Marguerite went to live in Baird in Tom's house on the family property. Tom was Marguerite's uncle. Arlie sent Earl to Brownwood, Texas, on a short job, then in April, 1930, they moved to San Angelo, Texas, for several months. When the job was finished, they went back to Baird, picked up Jeffie and her two children and moved all their belongings back to Caddo County, Okla, at Jeffie's insistence, where they lived for three years.

A daughter, Lena Mae, was born in the small house on May 7, 1931, and a second daughter, Jeffie Earlene, was born on May 11, 1933, in the same house.

Remember, very few women, particularly those who lived in the country, went to a hospital to have a baby."

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From recollections and interviews by Marguerite and Earl's two daughters.

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