

## **Elmer and Betty Jane (Thompson) Akin**

Elmer attained most of his schooling in Morton Schools. In July, 1944, he volunteered for induction into the service of his country with preference of the Navy, but they put him in the Army. He served in Europe in the 2nd Armored (Hell on Wheels) Division of the 9th Army. He was with the first American troops to enter Berlin, Germany, the 4th of July, 1945, as Honor Guard for Potsdam Conference at the end of World War II in Europe.

He returned to the states in June of 1946 where he worked with his father and brother carpentering and building. 1950 came along and Korea. He was recalled to duty in late October. By Christmas he was already in action in Korea with the 31st Inf. Reg. of the 7th Inf. Division. He was returned to the states later in 1951 and was discharged to rejoin his father in construction.

Elmer Akin met Betty Jane Thompson in January, 1954. She caught him at a weak moment and married him July 25, 1954. They have remained in Morton ever since. He remained on construction for a few years before working for Amos and Melba Taylor at Morton Auto Parts. In 1959 he went to Forrest Lumber Co. in lumber and hardware where he remained until December, 1976. Then he went to work for Elick Cox helping to establish the True Value Hardware section of Cox Auto & True Value.

Betty remained a housewife until their family was raised. In 1973, she went to work for the Cochran County Sheriff Dept., where she worked until 1981 when she moved up to the Tax Office. She was later appointed to Tax Assessor filling out the term of Bill Huckabee. In 1984 she was elected to the first full term beginning January 1985.

They have 2 children, Eddie and Sandra. Eddie remains in Morton and is married to Brenda Mullinax. He is manager of Higginbotham Lumber Co. Sandra lives in Levelland and is married to Keith Elmore.

*Submitted by Elmer and Betty Akin*

*Source: Cochran County Legacy Published 1986 by the Cochran County Historical Commission.*