Appy Woolf was born in Hyde Park, Utah, in 1886, the 7th child of Isaac Woolf and Ellen Maria Hyde. The 4 children preceding him, died as infants or young children. His older sisters, Ella Frances and Elizabeth, would have been 16 and 14 years of age at the time of his birth. He also had a younger sister, Ruby born 5 years later. Appy’s mother, Ellen, was an invalid for many years; therefore, she couldn’t give her youngest children the loving care that they needed by way of physical service. In addition, Isaac and Ellen were eventually divorced and the judge separated the 2 youngest children; Appy was raised by his father, and Ruby by her mother and her Aunt Jane Molen in Logan.

Cousin William L. Woolf gives the following from his personal knowledge of Appy Woolf: “John Anthony Woolf and Mary Lucretia Hyde and their children were among those polygamous families that migrated from Utah to Southern Alberta in 1887 to avoid incarceration for the violation of polygamy laws. The physical separation of relatives and friends left many heartaches. It was not unusual for friends and relatives to cross the international boundary lines between Canada and the U.S. To visit each other. So it was that Appy Woolf, as a teenager, spent a summer with his relatives in southern Alberta. Appy was my junior by 4 years, and I remember him as a strongly-built young man, fun-loving, vigorous, knowledgeable about horses, dressed in blue-denim overalls customarily worn at the time, and not much disposed to go to church.

He continues, “Because Appy’s father, Isaac, was not publicly minded, Appy did not get the discipline and environment that many of the youth of his age in Mormon families were accustomed to, and that his sister received from her Aunt Jane Molen, an outstanding leader in community affairs.”

There was a close association between Appy and the Baxter family. Ella Frances Woolf Baxter was Appy’s eldest sister, and her daughter, Mae Baxter Unsworth (Appy’s niece), recalls, “I just worshipped Appy. He was so handsome and dark complected. He had a hard time to make it, but he really was a man and everybody loved him. My father old him, ‘Now this is your home Appy,” and Appy said, “I know it.”

Appy had a real knack with horses. One day Mae’s father told her, “There’s only one human in this world that could or would dare ride Minnie and that’s Appy.” And it was Appy. He had gone out the night before, and stayed all night training Minnie, and training, Minnie, and trained Minnie and trained Minnie, and petted Minnie and finally got on her. And everyone had said, “No one will ever get on that animal.”

Appy married Ethel M. Cutler in 1914. Ethel’s folks were well-to-do and Appy had worked for them for years in Idaho Falls before he married Ethel. Appy and Ethel had one son, Absalom (Appy) Woolf, born 30 Jan. 1915, just 2 days after his father’s tragic death.

Appy was just 28½ when he died in a snow slide in Logan Canyon, Cache Valley. He was buried in Elko, Idaho. There was a lot of commotion at the time of his death, because he’d always been on his own, so to speak. It was well-known that his father hadn’t given him much financial assistance, and his mother was an invalid all his growing upo years, he had had to make it or break it on his own.

Ethel M. Cutler was sealed to Appy in the Logan Temple 12 Oct. 1916. Following her later marriage to Ingram Brown, Appy’s and Ethel’s son’s name was changed to Lamont Brown;
therefore, the child was only known by “Appy” during his very youngest years. Later, one son, Clark, was born to Ethel and her second husband.

Appy and Ethel’s son, Lamont Brown married Roma Rietala in 1940 and lived in Clatskanie, Oregon, where 3 children were born to them. Neither this son, nor his wife and 3 children ever knew Appy Woolf. Lamont passed away in 1955 and his wife continues to reside in Clatskanie.

William L. Woolf, Cousin
Mae Baxter Unsworth, Niece
Roma Rietala Brown, Daughter-in-law