[Beth’s granddad]

If you’re not in a hurry, I’ll tell you a little about Beth’s *granddad; you’ll see why he’s remembered so fondly in her family. We’re pretty proud of him, too. We’ve always admired his venturesomeness. He went to Persia - that’s present-day Iran - sometime in the early 1900s. I’m not sure exactly when. He’d gotten a job as an *oil driller there. Life wasn’t easy in the desert, but he didn’t go hungry, either. I’ve seen photos of him as a young man, standing with some nomads. Apparently, folks weren’t used to seeing Westerners then. Anyway, they’d sell him Persian carpets really cheaply. He’d send those back to the States where they’d be divvied up among his relatives. They’ve still got some of those rugs around which they’ll be happy to show you if you’d ask. And her dad’s still got Persian *postage stamps, too. They’re not worth much though.

Wayne B. Dickerson

*compound noun