

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #15

Jack St. Clair Kilby

(1923-)

Growing up in Great Bend, Kilby enjoyed experimenting with electronics. When an ice storm knocked out power and telephone lines, Kilby used wireless radios to communicate. In 1958, while working for Texas Instruments, he invented an integrated circuit, which became the microchip. By using microchips in electronics it is possible to produce smaller and less expensive radios, televisions, computers, watches, and other products. Kilby's invention helped start the Information Age.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #14

Martin Johnson

(1884-1937)

Osa Leighty Johnson

(1894-1953)

Explorers and photographers, Martin and Osa both grew up in southeastern Kansas. Martin's father owned a jewelry store in Independence that sold cameras. Osa's father worked for the railroad in Chanute. Martin began his explorations with Jack London. When he returned to Kansas he took his photographs from town to town, stopping in Chanute where he met Osa. Together they traveled to Africa and the South Pacific to photograph exotic animals, peoples, and landscapes, much of which is now gone.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #13

William Inge

(1913-1973)

Growing up in Independence, Inge's interest in the theater began early as he performed on stage in elementary school. Inge taught English and drama before he became a newspaper journalist. When encouraged to write his own dramas, Inge moved to New York and wrote several hit plays. Inge's play *Picnic* won him a Pulitzer Prize and was made into a movie in Kansas. In his plays and books Inge often used characters and settings from Kansas.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #18

Edward McCabe

(1850-1920)

In the "exoduster" period following the Civil War, McCabe settled in Nicodemus. He was elected Graham County clerk and in 1882 was elected state auditor.

Although McCabe had little formal education, he had precise penmanship and learned to be an accountant by working in a treasurer's office. McCabe later moved to Oklahoma Territory where he founded the African American community of Langston.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #17

Alfred M. Landon

(1887-1987)

His family moved to Independence just before Landon enrolled in the University of Kansas to study law. As a child Landon would discuss politics with his father. In 1932 Landon ran for governor of Kansas and won. He ran for president of the U.S. in 1936 against F.D. Roosevelt, but lost. Landon returned to Kansas and his oil business. His daughter is Nancy Landon Kassebaum Baker, former U.S. Senator from Kansas.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999

Famous Kansans Trading Card Series #16

Bill Kurtis

(1940-)

Tornadoes were nothing unusual for Kurtis, who grew up in Independence. He was studying law in Topeka and working as a television weatherman in 1966 when he interrupted a broadcast to warn Topekans of a tornado. The power of the media impressed Kurtis when he realized that he had saved lives that day. His career in television journalism has taken him around the world and into the classroom where his documentaries teach students about science.

Kansas State Historical Society 1999