



ROBERT FREDERICK CLEMENT

Historian — Contractor — Community development through political service

Bob Clement was born on July 20, 1917 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. His father settled there in 1907, when it was the capital of the five civilized tribes and Indian Territory. This background, along with his having typed, while in college, a Scottish history which his grandmother had written, helped to instill in Bob an interest in history. He graduated from Oklahoma A & M, now known as Oklahoma State University.

Bob served five years in the United States Air Force during World War II. He was a cadet at Lowry Air Base in 1941 when the war was declared, and, with no holiday leave, Bob was invited to the home of Marjorie Lawrence for Christmas. The following March, he and Marjorie (known to her friends as Bunny) were married in Cape Cod. Following the end of hostilities, they settled in Jefferson County, where Lawrence Taylor and Elizabeth were reared.

Bob was active in the incorporation of Lakewood. He was elected to the original interim Council and to two successive Councils when he also served as Mayor pro tem, until in 1972 he was elected to the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners.

When four members of the Jefferson County Historical Society approached the County Commissioners with news that a unique log mansion was available for a possible County Heritage Center, Bob's interest in things historic was truly aroused, and he spearheaded efforts to acquire Hiwan Homestead in Evergreen, which was accomplished in 1974. Now museum exhibits, old crafts and a very active school program are carried on continuously there.

Bob and Bunny, as members of Jefferson County Historical Society, continue to support all things relative to the history of Jefferson County. He was chosen for the Jefferson County Hall of Fame in 1979.