

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Spafford brothers in cowboy costumes

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13759>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.70

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: [19--]

Physical Description: 3.25" x 5.5" (b/w)

Material Details: postcard

History /

Biographical:

Harry Spafford (b. 22 Oct 1888, d. 10 May 1978) was born in Holmfield, Manitoba. He married Isabella Hawking of Ninga in 1914 and the couple moved to Brandon in 1915 where they continued to reside until 1973. Harry worked as a locomotive fireman and then as an engineer with the Canadian Northern Railway (CN). While with CN, he was an active member of the Brotherhood of Local Engineers and Firemen No. 788 of Brandon. He served as an alderman in Brandon from 1928 to 1945. In 1932, Harry ran in the Manitoba by-election for Brandon as an Independent Labour candidate and lost to the Conservative member George Dinsdale. In 1952, Harry ran as a Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) member in the provincial election and lost to Conservative party representative Reg Lissaman. Harry Spafford passed away in Burnaby, BC, and is interred in the Ocean View Cemetery. (Source: see obituary in McG 4.1 File 66)

Alva/Alvery/"Alvie" Reddell/Riddell/Ridall Spafford (b. 15 Mar 1891, d. 23 Aug 1985) was born in Enterprise, Manitoba, in the R.M. of Turtle Mountain. In 1911, he married Francis Ethel Harrison (d. 1979) in Killarney and had three children. Alvie farmed in Bannerman from 1902 to 1936, after which he moved to Boissevain to work as a Rawleigh salesman. In 1942, the family moved to Brandon where Alvie worked as a conductor with the CNR until his retirement. Alva Spafford passed away at the age of 94 at the Brandon General Hospital. His funeral was held in Killarney, Manitoba. (Source: Obituary, Brandon Sun, 23 Aug 1985)

Scope and Content:

Postcard is a studio portrait of the Spafford brothers dressed as cowboys in chaps, bandanas, and hats. Harry is standing on the left and is reaching for a bottle resting on a stool. Alvie is standing on the right and is pointing a pistol at his brother. Behind the brothers is the back of train car that reads "leaving Winnipeg."

Notes: Writing on the front of the postcard reads: Early railroad day in wpg, Harry on left, Alvie on right.

Name Access: Harry Spafford  
Alvie Spafford  
Alva Spafford

Subject Access: portraits  
cowboys  
costumes

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

## Images

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## Spafford family 1912

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13760>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.71

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1912

Physical Description: 3.5" x 5.5" (b/w)

Material Details: postcard

Physical Condition: Postcard is stained and ripped in the right hand corner. A label is taped to the front of the postcard. The postcard has been issued.

## History /

### Biographical:

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### Scope and Content:

Postcard is a group photograph of some of the members of the Spafford family standing on the front steps of a residence. The four women and four men are dressed in heavy coats and jackets.

### Notes:

Writing on the front of the postcard reads: Harry Spafford on left, Alvie Spafford in centre, Alf Spafford on extreme right, about 1910; The back of the postcard is addressed to Mrs. Alva (Francis) Spafford of Bannerman, Manitoba. Alvie Spafford has written a brief note to his wife, Francis. The postmark reads November 23, 1912, Winnipeg, Manitoba. The names Aunt Ida, -- --, Uncle Harry, Alf, and Alva are written in pen at the top of the postcard.

### Name Access:

Harry Spafford  
Alvie Spafford  
Alva Spafford  
Alfred Spafford

### Subject Access:

portraits  
cowboys  
costumes

### Storage Location:

RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

## Images

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At wrong Apakpa on left  
Alvie        ✓ in center  
Alf         ✓ on extreme right  
about 1910