





## Western Kentucky University

UA37 Faculty/Staff Personal Papers

Series 10 Mary Ruth & Keith Cloe

### Contact information:

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**Biographical History:** Born January 28, 1909, in St. Louis, Missouri, daughter of Pastor Robert Lemons, a Baptist minister, and his wife, Anabel Griffen, their only child. She lived all over the Midwest and South as child, following the various pastorates of her father. She was educated at Hardin College, Mexico, Missouri, William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri and Blue Mountain College in Mississippi, graduating with a BA in art and English in 1929. She later attended Washington University in St. Louis and received her masters in art education from George Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee in 1938. She continued her graduate education at George Washington University in Washington DC in 1966.

Mary Ruth Lemons Cloe was a professional artist, portrait illustrator and educator. She taught at the collegeiate, secondary and primary levels throughout her life. She met and married Keith D. Cloe while a professor of art education at Western Kentucky University. Keith D. Cloe went on to serve his country as a pilot, aviator and educator for over twenty years in the US Air Force. Upon his retirement, Keith served as a professional in the Boy Scouts of America and later taught at J.E. Stuart High School in northern Virginia. Mary Ruth taught at Falls Church High School for twelve years. Her paintings and sketches have been displayed in galleries and art shows throughout the United States. She was a published author of children's art educational materials and was active throughout her adult life in the National League of American Pen Women. [excerpted from obituary written by Elaine Harrington]

**Description:** Documents relating to the estate of Mary Ruth Cloe donated by her executor Elaine Harrington. File includes clippings, genealogical data of the Lemons family, correspondence between Ms. Harrington and friends of the Cloes. Most interesting are the hand made and colored Christmas cards created by Mary Ruth Cloe.

**Dates:** 1909-1994

**Extent:** 6 folders

### Subject Analytics:

Christmas cards

Genealogy

Paintings

Poetry

Woodcuts

**Digital Commons:**

Art and Design

Social and Behavioral Sciences

**Accession Information:** UA2003-4 Elaine Harrington

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Allied Materials:** [UA1C11/44 Mary & Keith Cloe Photo Collection](#)

**Preferred Citation:** UA37/10 Mary & Keith Cloe Personal Papers, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

**Processing Information:** Records processed and collection inventory created 2010, revised 2019.

# Finding Aid Report

07/30/2019

UA37.10	Records	Date
Level	Series	Linked toUA37
Title	UA37 Faculty Personal Papers	
Collection	Series 10 Mary Ruth & Keith Cloe Personal Papers	
Scope & Content	WKU Archives	
	Documents relating to the estate of Mary Ruth Cloe donated by her executor Elaine Harrington. File includes clippings, genealogical data of the Lemons family, correspondence between Ms. Harrington and friends of the Cloes. Most interesting are the hand made and colored Christmas cards created by Mary Ruth Cloe.	

## Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title
Box 1	1		1909-1994	Biographical File - Mary Ruth Cloe
Description	1992 Desk Calendar & Appointment Book			Subjects Birth certificates
	1994 Desk Calendar & Appointment Book			Death certificates
	Asheville Normal & Teachers College. Summer School Bulletin, 1936			Marriage certificates
	Autobiographical sketch			Wills
	Clipping "Two Artists Will Do Sketches at Sidewalk Art Show Saturday," np, nd			Contracts
	Clipping "Artist to Sketch Portraits at Christmas Bazaar Dec. 3," Loudoun Eastern, 12/1/1978			Employment
	Delta Kappa Gamma Society			Identification photographs
	Letter from Mary Cloe to Norman Shank, Sept. 7, 1990.			
	Transcript from George Peabody College for Teachers			
Box 1	2		1916-1990	Biographical File - Keith Cloe & Roberta Cloe Shank
				Subjects Birth certificates
				Death certificates
Box 1	3			Genealogical File - Lemons/Griffin Families
Description	Biographical sketches of Robert Lemons			Subjects Poetry
	Griffin, Annabelle			
	Griffin family genealogical notes			
Box 1	4			Art & Poetry
Description	Handmade and colored Christmas cards and poetry created by Mary Ruth Cloe			Subjects Poetry
	Passion flower card - D2079 - <a href="http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/38">http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/38</a>			Christmas cards
	Winchester, Massachusetts card - D2080 - <a href="http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/37">http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/37</a>			

Box 1	5	Harrington, Elaine	1994	Correspondence
Description	Correspondence between Elaine Harrington and friends of Mary Ruth Cloe regarding her death.			Subjects    Correspondence
Box 1	6	Blue Mountain College	1929	Mountaineer
Description	Yearbook from Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Mississippi. Mary Cloe graduated from Blue Mountain College in 1929, see Mary Lemons in graduating class. She created wood cuts for the yearbook:  Book II, Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, Freshmen and Specials Book V, man hunting and man with shovel			