

4406 Holland
Dallas, Texas 75219
May 14, 1970

Dear Bud:

I am sure you have "given up on me" as far as getting any information about Dudley Daugherty is concerned. But, I have never stopped trying to find out something for you and it appears that I now have gotten on the right track...

His name is Dudley Tarleton Daugherty and his ranch is actually in Normana, Texas, a little place not shown on maps but just outside Beeville. His father was James P. Daugherty and he made his money in oil and gas wells. Dudley's mother is still living and lives in Beeville "just off Tyler Street." Dudley's parents were very powerful people and highly respected. However, local people have contempt for Dudley and think he is stupid. I believe part of this is because he "throws money away" something his father never did.

I have found two sources for information about him. They have very different opinions about him. He is about 50 years old and has been married for years to a woman whose first name is Pat. It is agreed that she is a dynamo but he is rather unimpressive. However, the source I would trust most for an opinion says he is not stupid by any means. Dudley has a son, Jimmy, approximately 16 or 17 years old.

Dudley continues to pretend to practice law in Beeville. (He is not listed in any Martindale-Hubbell that we have going back three or four years.) He did practice in the old Daugherty Building until it burned down. He began drinking to excess several years ago and has been placed in a "mental" institution at one time for alcoholism. (This bit of news was from my Beeville source but I don't know whether he knows the difference between a mental hospital and a "dry-out" tank.) I did ask if his excessive drinking started after 1963 and was told "yes." My Beeville source also thinks that Dudley and Pat have recently "split up."

The Daugherty family have started many foundations and established many scholarships. There were four children as far as I can find out... The oldest boy was killed during World War II and the father died about that time. This boy left a Dallas widow but I can't learn who she is now.

There was a girl named Rachel and my best information is that she is also dead. There is a girl called Topsy who lives in Corpus Christi. She was married and her husband was killed in a hunting accident while riding on the fender of a Jeep which went over a bump and the gun went off and killed him. Topsy was riding in the back seat of the Jeep at the time.

Neither of my sources know for sure what his politics are but both seem to think Republican. He ran against Lyndon for the Senate in 1954 (we are not too sure about the year.)

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Neither of my sources know for sure what his politics are but both seem to think Republican. He ran against Lyndon for the Senate in 1954 (we are not too sure about the year.)

One of my sources is almost certain that Dudley is Republican and the other one "can't be sure." But, they gave a big party for him at the Baker Hotel during the particular campaign and Republicans and Democrats and Dixiecrats all went because they wanted to beat Lyndon... so there isn't too much significance about just who attended the party. They do believe that it was in 1954. They are all in agreement that Pat made more of an impression than Dudley did.

Dudley and his wife have done very unusual things... such as flying a Los Angeles artist (portrait painter type) who was very famous, to Beeville to paint their plane.

From my Beeville source, I get it that local people "laughed their heads off" about Daugherty running against Lyndon. But, it seems he has been running for some office or another for years--never winning. My Dallas source says he is unimpressive but no dumb bunny.

The Daughertys are in the habit of entertaining famous people at the ranch at Normana. They are very strong Catholics and my Beeville source remembers that it was the Catholic religion that first interested Dudley in Madame Nhu. My friend and I did have one little disagreement which you may find interesting. He was quite sure that when Madame Nhu visited Dudley it was because Dudley was trying to get the Catholic community to give money to support Madame Nhu's husband's regime. I said, "Well, he had already been killed when she visited there." He said, "Oh, no, he was killed shortly after that." When I insisted, he was still vehement and said, "Well, maybe she visited him twice, because I distinctly remember that he was killed after she had been there." My friend was in S.M.U. at the time and wasn't interested in Madame Nhu's travels other than that she was in his home town. When I got out the World Almanac and gave him the dates of Nhu's death and Kennedy's death, he said, "You may be right about that but I still think I am right that she was there for a few days shortly before he was killed--she was shooting skeet."

My friend will be going back to Beeville next week for a final trip before moving to New York. Please let me know quickly if there is anything else that he might conveniently find out for you before he makes this trip. Before he actually leaves for New York, he has promised to put me in contact with several Dallasites who are from Beeville and he says that everyone from Bee County knows all about the Daughertys.

Bud, I hope this will help to answer some of your questions. Let me know if there is anything else I might do. I just wish I had known a year ago that my friend was from Beeville. He says he goes out to Dudley's ranch almost every time he goes to Beeville--hunting, fishing, and swimming... I might have managed a trip with him.

Sincerely,



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