

Joseph Kingsbury^{[1], [4], [5]} was born in 1600 in Boxford, Suffolk, England. He was christened on 9 Feb 1641 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts. In 1638 he was not admitted to the Dedham Church because he was "too much addicted to the world," but on the 9th of the 2nd month 1641 the church was persuaded of his repentance and faith and he was received.

He died in May 1676 at the age of 76 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts.^[4] Joseph was buried in Old Burying Ground about Jun 1676 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts.^[5] Some have suggested that, in keeping with his long feud with the church and town fathers, Joseph was buried in the Norfolk Cemetery. However, he did give the land for the Dedham Cemetery and most likely he and his wife were buried there. At this time in American history, it was very seldom that one would have a grave stone of any kind as they were very expensive. Thus he would have had a wooden marker if any and this has been lost to the elements and time. Robert Hansen suggests that Joseph was most likely buried in the oldest part of the cemetery a good distance to the left of the main gate. The records do not show that Joseph Kingsbury sailed to America with the Winthrop Fleet in 1630, but must have come over within a year or two of the original fleet. The original fleet set-sail March 27, 1630 from Southampton, England and arrived in Salem, Massachusetts about July of 1630. Gov. Winthrop was not satisfied with Salem and the fleet moved down the coast eventually settling in Shawmut (now Boston). About 1635 they sent an exploring party up the Charles River and they established a settlement at Watertown. John and Joseph Kingsbury were part of this party. The community flourished and they quickly organized in what was referred to as a "Contentment" recording all important events. The Kingsbury brothers were apparently of strong pioneer stock and considered Watertown too crowded. A small band of like minded individuals again used the Charles River which turned South just beyond Watertown and settled in what is now Dedham. They petitioned the General Court on September 5, 1636 for a large tract of land to form their community. The petition was granted on September 10, 1636 and the name Dedham was assigned by the Court. (NOTE: Current county boundaries have Dedham and Needham in Norfolk County, but prior to 1800 Norfolk County did not exist and all of this area was included in Suffolk County) Apparently, on August 18, 1636 before the group left Watertown, they met at the home of John Dwight and drew up a Covenant for their political organization. John Kingsbury signed the Covenant that day, but Joseph did not sign until 1637, after he arrived in Dedham. The Dedham Town Records for Nov. 1, 1637 indicate that Joseph Kingsbury deeded part of his land to the town for the purpose of building a town meeting hall. In 1638 the records show that Joseph Kingsbury deeded one acre of his land abutting on High Street to the town of Dedham for a church site. A second structure for Old First Parish Church was erected on the same site at the corner of Court and High Streets in 1763. In 1819 ownership of the church passed to the Unitarians. The records go on to note that Joseph was in turn given another acre of land to replace what he had given for the church. However, this land was rocky swamp land and the land he gave to the town was prime land. Joseph held this against the town fathers for some time and apparently was the basis for a long feud between Joseph and the Church fathers. In several official writings of the church Joseph Kingsbury is noted as having a bad temperament and was not allowed into the church fellowship. For his part, Joseph apparently did not want to be part of this church body anyway. Later Joseph was again called upon for land and he granted another acre of his land to the town for a burying place. Among the records of Dedham it is noted the the first child born in the community was Ruth Morse born July 3, 1637 and Mary Kingsbury, born on September 1, 1637 was the second. The Church of Dedham was "gathered" on September 8, 1638, but Joseph was not one of the originators. In fact, he was apparently rejected at the time because he was considered too worldly and "the Lord left him into such a distempered passionate flying out on one of the Company that we thought him unfit for the church." This could refer back to the problems over the tract of land for the church. Millicent Kingsbury was accepted into the church on April 24, 1639 and Joseph was finally admitted on June 2, 1641. In the writings of Arthur F. Kingsbury in 1912, it is interesting to note that the majority of the descendants of Joseph Kingsbury for a period of over 275 years lived their lives within a 15 mile radius of Dedham. Joseph apparently was a skilled metal worker and mechanic, in addition to his farming endeavors. A young man who trained under him, Robert Crossman, later married his daughter Sarah. Millicent and Joseph Kingsbury were married in 1628 in Boxford, Suffolk, England.^[6]

161. **Millicent**^[7] was born in 1611 in Fordington, Dorset, England. She died after Jun 1676 at the age of 65 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts. According to records Millicent was admitted to the Dedham Church between Nov. 1638 and 24 Apr. 1639. She was noted as a strong and faithful member.

^[1] Notes: Winthrop Journal (I-369).

^[2] Arthur Murray Kingsbury, Kingsbury Genealogy, the Descendants of Joseph Kingsbury of Dedham.. Much of the basic material for the Joseph Line comes from the work of AM Kingsbury.

^[3] Public Records. Per the Dedham Town Records on 1648, the property of Joseph Kingsbury was valued about 18£ which would place him as among the upper middle class of his community. .

^[4] Will-Probate Records. Will dated May 5, 1675 and probated on June 1, 1675. .

^[5] Notes: Robert Hansen is considered to be the best historian of Dedham at this time (2008).

^[6] Internet Computer Online Services. John F. Kingsbury <jfkingsbury@att.net> 12/2001. .

^[7] Arthur Murray Kingsbury, Kingsbury Genealogy, the Descendants of Joseph Kingsbury of Dedham.. Arthur Kingsbury suggests that the maiden name was Ames, but research by the Ames family does not seem to bear this out.

RE: Kenneth Kingsbury, Garland, TX; 2011: Email Correspondence 2011: "The Descendants of Adkinson Willis "Ike" Kingsbury" 2011.

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