

## Outlaws tied up Mollie & later threatened to kill Lorenzo



THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE RANCH HOME AND STORE AND PASTURE OF LORENZO CROSBY AND HIS WIFE MARY ANN (MOLLIE) WILTSBANK CROSBY THEY WERE LIVING HERE DURING THE YEAR 1900, AND THEIR SON GEORGE ELLIS CROSBY WAS BORN HERE 14th JUNE 1900, THIS RANCH WAS ON THE BLACK RIVER IN APACHE COUNTY ARIZONA AND THE SITE IS NOW KNOWN AS CROSBY CROSSING. A FEW MILES FROM BIG AND CRESENT LAKES.

Lorenzo & Mollie homesteaded a ranch on Black River above Eagar at what is now known as Crosby Crossing. It was here that they started in the cattle business with the brands REN & MLY. They also had a small store where they sold their own butter and cheese and a few staples. George who was born at Crosby Crossing was a baby at this time. While Ren was gone to Holbrook for supplies, the Smith gang who had robbed the bank in Holbrook, stopped at Crosby Crossing, tied up Mollie who was nursing baby George, stole horses & supplies & fled.



When Lorenzo returned and found his family in this condition, he with Maxwells and Lee's from Nutrioso formed a posse to track the Smith gang who was eventually captured in a gun battle and imprisoned at Yuma. They vowed to kill Lorenzo. Three years later, as Lorenzo was returning from his mission, the Smith gang, released from prison, shot him in the sleeping car of the train at Kansas City, Missouri, and gave out the story that he had committed suicide.

Jim Crosby, Lorenzo's grandson, said that he had grown up hearing the suicide rumor, but that it was dispelled in the Arizona Temple by Ren's mission companion, who told Jim that the gang had shot Ren twice in the back of the head with a six shooter. (Documented on pg 161 of The George Henry Crosby book by Della Crosby Smith )

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Cameo photo )Comment by Jim Crosby's son, Jimmy Crosby: *"My dad knew what he was talking about"*

Florence Greer Crosby's signed statement about this: " I received a personal witness from Heber Jarvis of St. John's, Arizona, who helped prepare the body of Lorenzo Crosby for burial. "It would have been impossible for Lorenzo Crosby to have taken his own life, because of the nature of the wounds".