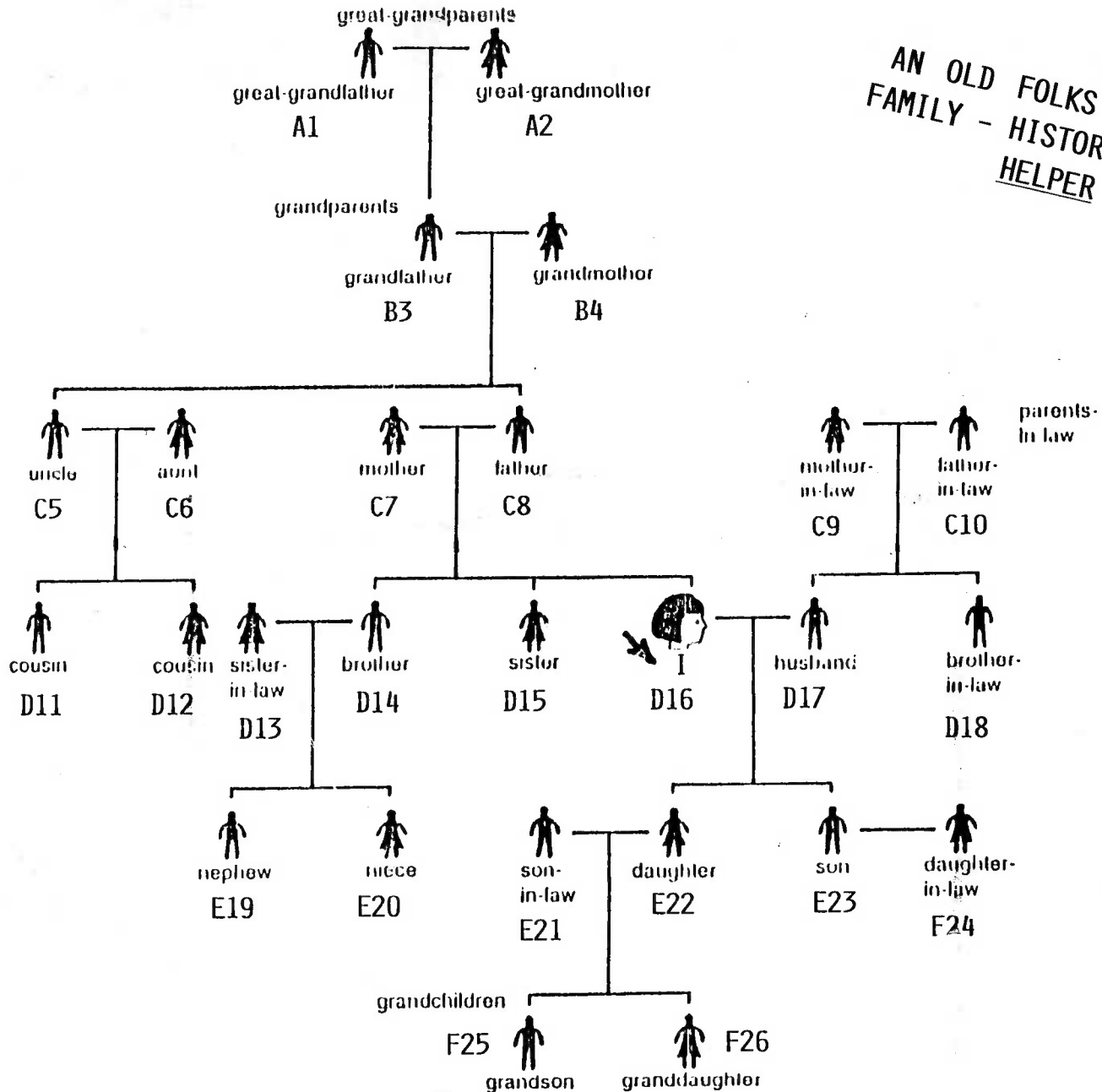


AN OLD FOLKS' FAMILY - HISTORY HELPER



Not infrequently, the elderly tell their pastor they intend to "get down" for their descendents the family story as they remember it. Today, when my older sister said it to me, & described her plan to have her husband video-cassette her as she relates each contemporary & ancestors to the artifacts (which are thick all over the house), I said "You'll never get it done! No paper! No artifacts! People only! Sit down & say whatever of possible interest to the future your remembrances of persons jump out at you!" So here now I am trying to help old folks & pastors at the same time.

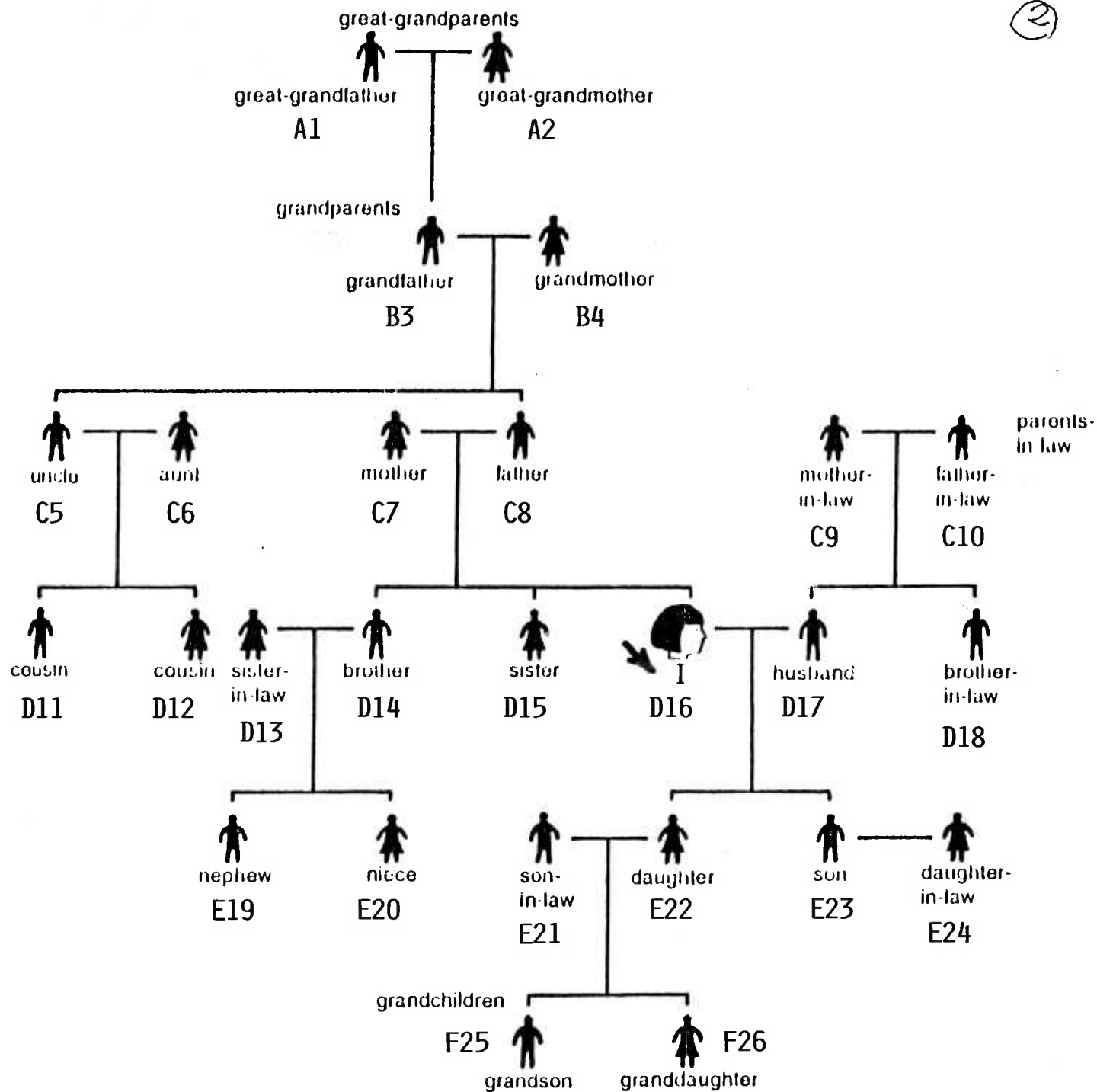
INSTRUCTIONS Dear _____:

1 This chart is the simplest structure I could think of for getting the job done. Do each of the six ranks (left to right) one after the other (A-F). Think of the files (top to bottom) only enough to visualize, for each person, other persons who come into view as you are speaking (video- or audio-cassette) about that person.

2 YOU are doing the talking, so I've named this family tree MY and at D16 named you I. Everybody else is "my....." We Christians are to center in the Holy Trinity, but doing your personal family tree is a forgivable exception to the rule. In fact, doing it can & should itself be an act of grateful worship.

3 If you write names on the tree, do so in light pencil. Better, xerox (preferably enlarged) & on the xerox copy write all names--using small letters where you have more than one name (e.g., D11c would be the third one you think of).

4 Later, a transcription could arrange the persons to tell a continuous story.



MY family tree