

WINDOWS TO OUR PAST



COLLINVILLE, MARTIN, AND SCHAMBERVILLE COMMUNITIES

LCDA&H
316

LCDA&H, INC.
Meridian, MS

**Windows To Our Past
Collinsville, Martin, And
Schamberville Communities**

Publication Number 316

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DEDICATED TO

RUBY MERLE VANCE HARRISON

Ruby Merle Vance Harrison was born in Starkville, Mississippi to Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Vance on September 3, 1927. The family moved to Collinsville in 1938. Ruby loved history and genealogy. She volunteered at the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History for more than ten years where she helped further Lauderdale County historical research in many ways. These projects included the Indexing of the Confederate Deaths and Burials Series published by the Archives. She was always willing and able to help visitors to the Archives search through the records stored there in pursuit of their families' origins. She began work on *Windows of Our Past* in 1999.

Ruby was an active member of the Samuel Dale Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution where she served as Librarian and a member of the Nominating Committee. She served as Chairperson of the Membership and Lineage Research Committees, DAR Good Citizen, DAR Scholarship, Transportation and Safety, and Chapter Bylaws. She was also a representative on the Meridian/Lauderdale County Public Library's Genealogy Committee. The chapter honored Ruby with a special Member-for-Member-pin and award on September 6, 2000 in recognition of her years of service in helping prospective DAR members complete their research. She helped recruit eleven new Daughters from 1996 to 2000.

She was also a faithful volunteer at the Meridian/Lauderdale County Public Library. She helped plan public genealogy seminars and taught private genealogy classes at the library. She put together a book of general information and forms for beginning genealogists. Ruby also helped Bill Hughes found the Genealogy Computer Class at Meridian Community College in 1992 - the only such group in the State. This class has helped many people from all over the state with their genealogy computer programs and helped them preserve their family histories. She was also a board member of the George Tucker Patriot Descendants Association.

She was an active member of Highland Methodist Church for 45 years. On January 12, 2001 Jesus took Ruby into his arms and Ruby entered into peace of life eternal. She still lives in our hearts by the goodness she has performed. We cherish her precious memory.

She is survived by her husband, Charles Lewis Harrison, three sons, Charlie, Roger, and Bobby, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

"But tell of days in goodness spent" ...Lord Byron



IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to all the many people who submitted stories, family history, shared scrap books, and gave business and church information.

Thank you to Linda Cook and Jerry Ethridge, members of the Collinsville Community Development Club who sponsored this book. Thank you for working so hard contacting people, searching for old pictures, making new pictures, etc. Thank you to the following people, Hazel Carpenter, Becky Chaney, Jack Cook, Kristi Ethridge, Janice Harrison, Jimmie Huff, Sarah Rawlings, Alice Ware, and Martha Williams for helping proof and type all of our information. And thank you to the Lauderdale County Archives for their guidance and the printing of this book.

A very special thanks and appreciation goes to Rubye Vance Harrison. She saw the need for this area to have a book in the archives. In genealogy "you write to be remembered". She was our continuing inspiration throughout the completion of this book.



Linda



Jerry



Leslie



Janice



Hazel



Kristi



Jack



Jimmie



Becky



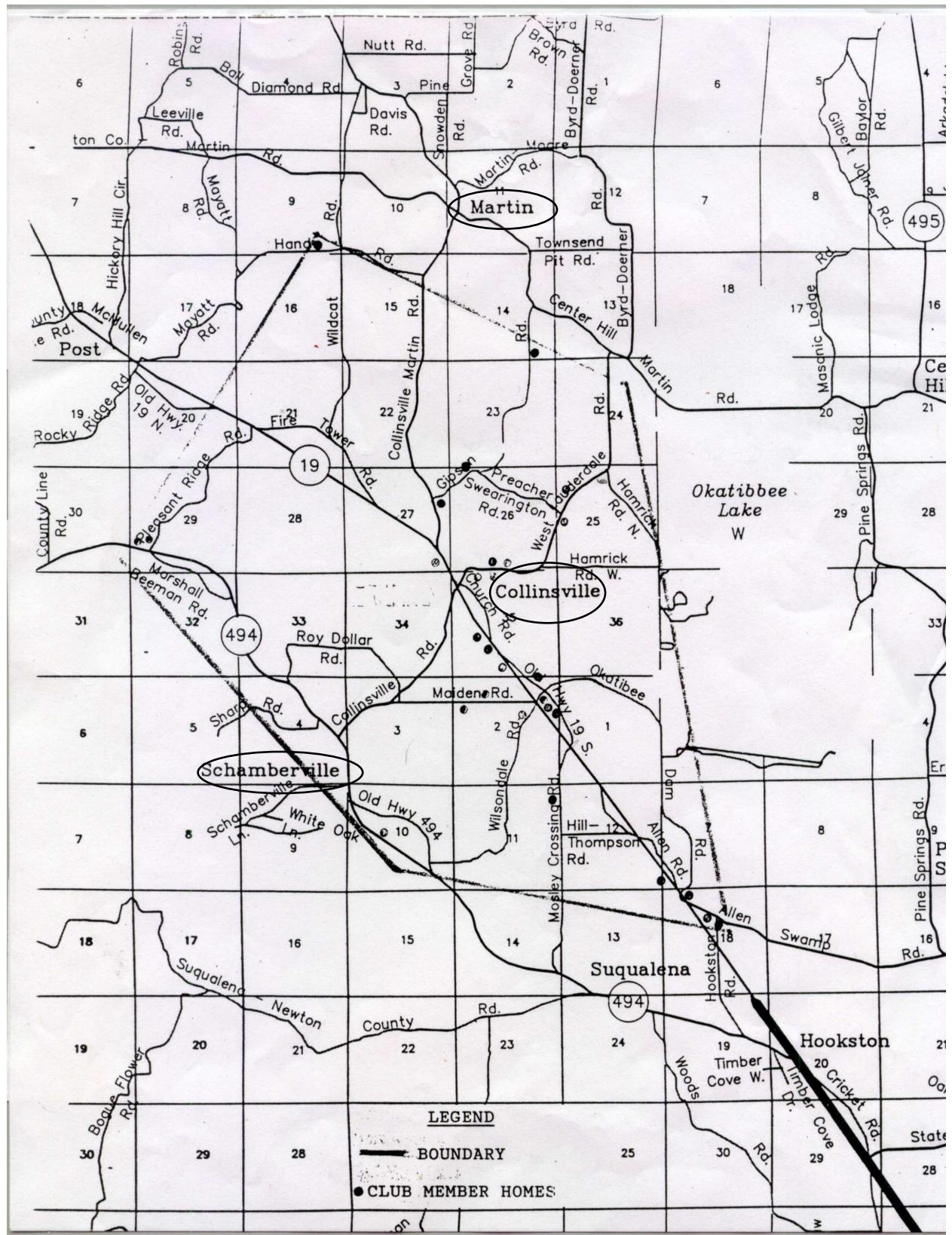
Sarah



Alice



Martha



INTRODUCTION

COLLINSVILLE

Collinsville was named for Nathaniel Monroe Collins, pioneer of the county who established a large plantation home, cotton gin and store here in 1867, about 14 miles NW of Meridian.

Collins' son, M. M. Collins, the father of U. S. Congressman Ross Collins, established a post office here on May 23, 1884. He also donated 15 acres of land for a white school and several acres for a Negro school.

The post office was discontinued October 15, 1906, and moved to Battlefield in the edge of Newton County; later moved to Schamberville and back to Collinsville on June 1, 1926.

MARTIN

We do not know where the Martin community got it's name. Search of all the old census records, failed to show a Martin family or any connection to the name. We were able to find a picture of an old basketball jersey with a green bird on the front, with the words MARTIN BIRD. Maybe the name came from the purple martin bird.

We don't where the name originated, but we do remember all the good basketball teams, coaches and players who played at Martin School.

Can you help us solve the mystery?

SCHAMBERVILLE

Schamberville was named for Captain C. W. Shamber of Tampa, Fla. He was a resident of Meridian for many years and a part owner of Meyer & Schamber Jewelry. Schamberville was a stop on the G M & O Railroad, which was built through there from Meridian to Union.

A post office existed there from Sept. 18, 1913 to June 1, 1926, after being relocated from Battlefield and then back to Collinsville where it had originated.

**Collinsville Community Development Club:
Making Our Part of the World Better.**



Snow in the Winter





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THE EARLY SETTLERS OF COLLINSVILLE, MISSISSIPPI AND COMMUNITIES

By Ruby Vance Harrison

The Choctaw Indian was the first settler of this country. They were free to roam and had settled in villages in Lauderdale County area, long before the white man came in this area. Legend has it that Battlefield was the site of a heated battle during the Choctaw Civil War. It is located about 25 miles north of Meridian on the Kemper County and Lauderdale County line. They were not warriors but a peaceful people. Pushmataha was born in 1764 and lived in various locations in this area. He had the reputation of being a fiery warrior and orator. He became Chief of the Six Town District of the Choctaw Nation. He participated in the 1820 Treaty of Doak's Stand. He had made several visits to Washington, D.C. as a spokesman for the Choctaw Indians. In 1824 Pushmataha died while visiting the nation capital with a delegation representing the Indian concerns. He was buried in Washington, D.C. with full military honors on Christmas Day, far from his beloved homeland.

The signing of the Dancing Rabbit Treaty made the Choctaw Nation cease to exist. The treaty did state that the Indians who chose to remain would receive a parcel of land. They could not read or write so their land was taken from them. The land purchased from the Choctaws in 1830 was sold to the settlers as land patents (Documents of transfer of land ownership from the Federal Government to individuals) for \$1.25 an acre opened up the central part of Mississippi. First the land had to be surveyed. Land Offices were established at Augusta and Columbus, Miss., Township 5,6, & 7 applied at Augusta and Township 8 was in the Columbus office. In December 1833 Lauderdale became a County and Officials were appointed. A flood of settlers from Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky and Georgia came into the area alone or with family and friends, mostly in the eastern and southern part of the County on ox-drawn carts over the trails the Indians had used. There were no roads at this time. Two of the earliest villages, Alamucha and Chunkyville grew on what had been the Indian village. Old Marion was the first county seat and the busiest community prior to 1840. The land described as rugged, red clay hill ridges and woodland. They lived in tents until they could cut the logs for a one-room cabin, mostly with dirt floors. Next came clearing the land to plant their crops. Then they focused their attention on the basic needs such as worship and schooling and justice.

A TRAIL AND THE TRAVELER THAT STARTED IN THE MIDWEST AND ENDED HAPPILY IN COLLINSVILLE

By Vistan Allen

Philip Earl "Bud" Nicholson was born on a ranch twenty-two miles from Coldwater, Kansas. His parents were William Earl Nicholson and Emma Louise Lenertz Nicholson. The ranch belonged to his grandfather, Philip Lenertz who was of German descent. Later down the trail, Philip "Bud" Nicholson became known as "Nick" and this is what he is called in Collinsville but when he visits Kansas, he becomes Bud again. Nick had two sisters, Mildred and Mary and a brother, Roy. Roy was hurt while playing on a merry-go-round at school and died a few days later as this was in 1928, before penicillin. Nick's mother died in 1924 after a miscarriage.

The father and four children stayed on the ranch for a year or so after the wife and mother died then moved to Three Sands, Oklahoma where they stayed with Nick's uncle for a few weeks. They bought an oil field shack and this became home. The two older sisters decided to stay with Grandparents and finish school back in Kansas. While working in a brick factory, Nick's dad met a younger lady, Helen Hardwick, and married her in 1928. This marriage produced four children, Don, Jacqueline, Raymond and Patricia.

We are now to the beginning of "The Great Depression". Money was scarce and jobs opportunities even more scarce. The family of seven was existing on cornbread and beans. Nick's dad had always dreamed of living in Mountain Home, Arkansas so they loaded all their worldly goods in an old truck and headed that way. They bought forty acres of rocks with scrub trees on it. Nick and his dad cleared an acre and planted a garden between the stumps and rocks that were too big to move. They could now live on peas and cornbread.

In 1932, Nick quit school to help his dad make enough money to feed the little ones. They cut stove wood with a crosscut saw and sold a rack four feet high by eight feet long for a dollar. Helen's brother wrote to say that jobs were available in Kilgore, Texas. They again loaded up the family and moved to Texas. They lived in a box tent, a frame built three feet high and a tent over it. Nick's dad found work with a bridge building contractor and a week later was able to get Nick a job with the same contractor. The salary was twenty-eight cents an hour and they worked ten hours a day under a very tough and demanding supervisor.

Times were getting better and then in 1935, Nick's dad died after a brief illness with pneumonia. Nick accompanied the body on a train back to Kansas to be buried by his mother and brother. The stepmother and her four children followed by car. A few hours after the funeral, Nick was hospitalized with pneumonia. Two weeks later after coming out of a coma, Nick was told that Helen and the children had gone back to Texas.

Nick had always planned to return to school and this was an opportune time as his maternal grandfather had willed him five thousand dollars that was with an administrator. By this time, Nick's two older sisters were married and lived in other areas of Kansas. Nick boarded with a schoolteacher who had boarded with his family when he was a young child. The room and meals cost seventeen dollars a month. He completed the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades at Coldwater, Kansas.

After graduation, Nick was working as a "cowboy" on a ranch. On Sunday, December 7, 1941, he and some friends were out "on the town" when they heard the news of the Japanese bombing Pearl Harbor. The following day the four friends and Nick joined the Army Air Corp. They were processed and sworn into the military at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Nick's first assignment was to Shepard Air Force Base, Texas where he completed Aircraft and Engine School. He was then assigned to a school in Santa Monica, California later going to Oklahoma and to Tennessee. In 1943, Nick was stationed at Key Field in Meridian. Edna Earle Allen, a single mother with two tow headed boys, Bobby and Billy, ages four and five, was working at Key Field as an Aircraft Welder. Edna Earle had gone to school nights, after working days at Burnley Shirt Factory, to learn welding in order to better provide for her two sons and her younger sister that lived with them. Edna Earle's mother was in a TB Sanitarium in Meridian. Nick and Edna Earle met on base. After a six month courtship, they had planned to marry the following August. Nick received orders to

"ship out" in May so they were married May 22, 1944. Not knowing if he would see his new family again, Nick was sent to Akin, South Carolina and they boarded a Troop Train to California where they got on board a ship bound for India. The troops were then put on another train that they traveled on several days before arriving at a military location near Calcutta, India where poverty was rampant.

After the Japanese surrendered and the war was over, Nick returned to Mississippi and his new family. They went to Kansas to check employment opportunities, which were not plentiful probably because of Edna Earle's prayers to be allowed to live in Mississippi. Nick joined the 153rd Mississippi Air National Guard in 1946 and became a full time technician with them in August of 1947. The Guard Unit was activated several times during his career. In 1951, during the Korean Conflict, the unit was deployed to Albany, Georgia. While stationed there, Nick was in an aircraft gasoline explosion and was hospitalized for four months. The unit was later sent to Fort Knox in Kentucky, the family traveled with him to each station. The Guard Unit was released from active duty in December of 1952 and returned to Key Field.

Edna Earle's mother had been cured of tuberculosis and returned to her home in Noxapater. Nick, Edna Earle, Bobby and Billy traveled through Collinsville often when going to visit her mom and always admired the "Gibson Place". When they saw it advertised for sale they started negotiations which led to them buying the property in April 1953 and moved to Collinsville in August of that year. It was back to beans and cornbread again.

Nick credits Edna Earle with them immediately becoming active in the community. She was a long time Christian and he a babe in Christ. The family was in church the first Sunday after moving to Collinsville. "The new kids on the block" status was enjoyed by Bobby and Billy. They were fourteen and fifteen years of age at this time. The Collinsville Community Development Club was organized in 1962 after several previous attempts. Nick and Edna were charter members and had leadership positions. The club organized the Collinsville Water Association and a few years later were able to get the volunteer fire department established. Nick and Edna were active in all phases of community life. She was instrumental in establishing a Parent-Teacher Association in Collinsville School and worked in the Homemakers Club and Lula Moore Garden Club. Edna died in 1993 from breast cancer.

In August of 1956, Thomas Chisolm was Superintendent of the Collinsville School and was commuting to Hattiesburg two nights a week to take some post-graduate courses. He and his wife, Merle, had two small children and she was not comfortable when he was gone. The solution was for Thomas' sister, Vistan, to live with them for the school year. On the first day of school during opening assembly is where the next chapter began.

During that first day of school in 1956, Billy Allen decided that he would marry Vistan Chisolm at some time in the future. Billy was seventeen and a senior; Vistan was fifteen and a junior. Two years later they married in the Collinsville First Baptist Church. After living in Texas and New Mexico for a year, they returned to Collinsville where their two children, Philip and Gina were born and grew up. Billy and Vistan have been active in First Baptist Church, West Lauderdale PTA, Athletic Boosters, Band Boosters, Community Club and all community activities for the past forty years.

This is how the trail and the traveler that started in Kansas have stopped in Collinsville to live happily ever after.

EDNA FRANCES ANDERSON FAMILY

By Frances Anderson Anderson

I was born in Collinsville in 1932, the fifth child of seven children to Haney and Onie Pace Anderson. The brothers were Buddy, Charles and Billie; sisters were Thara, Faye and Ada Lea. Ada only lived three days.

My daddy, Haney, operated a blacksmith shop and a gristmill. He ground corn for cornmeal for people all over the county. He also sharpened plows, etc.

We grew our own food and had a cow for milk and butter. Mother was a good cook and always had plenty of food.

I went to the Collinsville School for twelve years. I remember Miss Amy Ethridge, Mrs. Amanda Powell, Ester Harper and Mrs. Mabel Walker. We went to Church every Sunday. The Rev. Clem Griffin came from Clarke County once a month. My mother would have him for Sunday dinner a lot. The children played outside until the adults had eaten but there was always plenty of food.

Mr. Clyde Walker had a country store across from my dad's shop. It was a treat for me to get a penny piece of candy or a nickel drink.

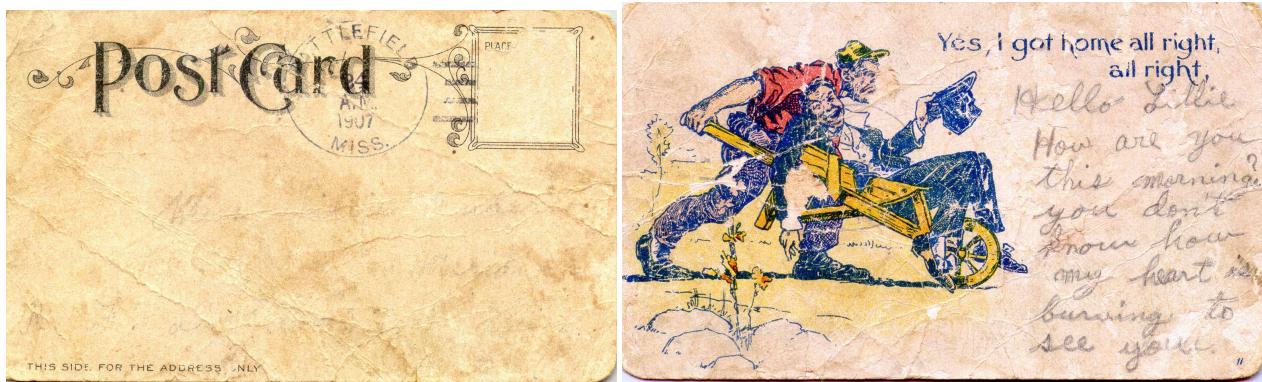
I married in 1952 to Ralph Anderson from Minnesota, no relation, and I didn't get to change my name. We have four children, three boys and one girl - Terk, Tim, Terry and Danita, and ten "great" grandchildren.

Collinsville has always been my home and always will be. We live one mile from my old homeplace. I'm thankful for a good childhood.



Haney Anderson

Anderson and Carpenter Story



Card - Papa Carpenter had written to Mama Carpenter before they married: It was mailed at Battlefield Post Office in 1907 before there was a Post Office in Collinsville.



John and Lillie Carpenter.
In the background are Margie Carpenter
and her daughters Ellen & Glenda.

LILLIE LEE ANDERSON AND JOHN RICE CARPENTER STORY

By Hazel Fulton Carpenter

Lillie Lee Anderson was born December 2, 1888, and raised in Clarkdale, MS, Lauderdale County. Her parents were Margaret Idell Taylor and Alonzo Andrew (Bud) Anderson. They had ten children, and Lillie was number eight. When she was 12 years old her mother died. Her daddy then married Mary Lee Watson and they had five children. Three of Lillie's older sisters, Sarah Lula, Mary Eugenia (Mollie), and Edna Jane met and married men from Collinsville. Lula married Joseph W. Moore, Mollie married William Dozier Skelton, and Edna married Joel Thomas Harwell. Lillie and her younger sister Elizabeth (Lizzie) would visit their sisters in Collinsville, and that is how they met and married the Carpenter brothers, John Rice and T. Irvin. Lizzie married Irvin, and Lillie married John on November 3, 1907.

John Rice Carpenter was born on June 11, 1885, in Collinsville, MS, Lauderdale County. His parents were Sarah Elizabeth Hamrick and Charlie Clinton Carpenter. They had three children, Ada, Irvin, and John. When John was five years old his daddy died and left his mother with three small children, ages four, five, and seven. She went back home (to "the old place" as everyone called it) to live with her parents Mary Elizabeth Harwell and John B. Hamrick so they could help her with the children. Her brother, Thomas Clayton Hamrick, also helped her and played an important part in the lives of the children.

When John married, he brought his bride, Lillie, to live in his grandma's and grandpa's home where he had lived with his mother, brother, and sister since he was five years old. Lillie and John had three children: one daughter, Ela Faye, and two sons, John Thaddeus (Thad), and Lee Arnold. They were all born at "the old place". The house was located in the woods behind the home of Ron and Genia Smith (granddaughter of John and Lillie) on Okatibbee Dam Road. A pear tree still stands there, and you can also find the old well. When Ela Faye was fourteen, Thad twelve, and Arnold five years old, John and Lillie built a house on what is now known as Old Highway 19 South. The McNeal home (today the Deitz house), occupied by Julia McNeal and Vester Miles, was the only house on that road when they built. John and Lillie also brought his mother, Sarah Elizabeth, to live with them when they moved into their new house. She died on October 9, 1930, and is buried in Hamrick Cemetery. John died on July 7, 1963, and is buried in Hamrick Cemetery beside his Uncle Tom (Thomas Clayton Hamrick). Lillie died on May 9, 1970, and is also buried in Hamrick Cemetery. The John and Lillie Carpenter home still stands and is owned by Edna Earl Fulton Johnson and Mark Moore Johnson (deceased). Edna Earl is the sister of Hazel Fulton Carpenter. The house is 73 years old.

THE LIFE OF ANNIE LAURA

By Ann Raspberry Beeman

What goes around, comes around. That's an old saying that has proven true in my life. My father William Edward Rasberry, was born on March 14, 1874, in the Martin Community of Lauderdale County. He was one of four boys and one girl born to Jim and Nancy Powell Rasberry. He left home about the age of 18 and went to Clark County to work in the textile mills.

Here he met and married my mother , Annie Laura Martin. They had 5 girls and 3 boys before I was born with the birth occurring approximately every 2 years. By this time my father was farming for a living and it wasn't easy because the children old enough to help in the fields were all girls. By the time I was born, the oldest daughter had already married and the next three girls went to work in the mill at Stonewall. My mother died in childbirth with my brother when I was only 2 years old. That's when my sister Ruby, who was 12 at the time became mother to my three brothers and me- ages 2,6,8, and 10. An aunt took the brother born at the time of my mother's death to be raised.

During these hard times, my father made sure that all the children went to church every Sunday. He even helped to organize the Rolling Creek Baptist Church in Clarke County, becoming one of the first deacons to be ordained. His five oldest girls were the first to be baptized and his oldest daughter was the first to be married in this church. Rolling Creek is still alive and thriving today with many descendants of my father as members. The latest account of direct descendants from Will Rasberry includes 12 children, 44 grandchildren 115 greatgrandchildren and 156 great-great grandchildren. These numbers change yearly, but this is as close as I could get to the number of offspring.

We moved to the town of Stonewall when I was 6 years old where I attended school. When I was 10 years of age, my sister Ruby married Carl Smith and for a little while they remained in Clarke County. Then they moved to the old Smith home place in Collinsville on Highway 19 across from Brown's store. I moved in with Ruby and Carl and went to school at Collinsville for a time during the 4th Grade. I went back to Stonewall and lived with my daddy and stepmother for awhile to help during the birth of their children. It wasn't long before I moved back in with Ruby and Carl. Because I moved around so much as a child, living with first one sister and then another, my education was constantly being interrupted. I finally quit going to school altogether in the 6th Grade.

At the age of 18, I went to work in the mill and stayed there until I married when I was 20. His sister Amy Walker introduced me to my future husband, Adair Beeman. I had met Amy when I was living in Collinsville with Ruby and Carl, but I had never seen Adair. One day at the Kress 5 & 10-cent store in Meridian, she introduced us to each other, and as they say in the movies, that was that! In September of 1942, we were married and that very night I moved into the Beeman homestead with my new husband and my father-in-law. We raised four children in this house where Beemans have lived for six or seven generations. All four children attended school at Collinsville until West Lauderdale School opened in August of 1962 Children are: Judy Gail; married Darrel Harwell, Ronnie Lynn married Kay James, Melanie Ann married Danny Luke and Melita Joy married Tommy Tomlinson.

My husband died in 1987 and I have lived here alone since that time. My life has come full circle- from roots in the Martin community to Stonewall and back to Collinsville, with some side excursions through the years. Collinsville is my home and there's no place I would rather be.

BEEMAN-HARWELL

By Judy Beeman Harwell

I am Judy Beeman Harwell; the seventh generation Beeman to live on the same land my ancestors homesteaded. When the Beemans came over from Scotland, some settled in Carolina and some came on down to the Miss. area in 1833. The same 130 acres first deeded to a Beeman was still owned by my family until just recently when my brother and sister sold their part, but the remaining acreage still remains in our hands. My grandfather Thomas Morgan Beeman was born 1868. After his first wife died at the age of 36 and left him with five children. He married my grandmother Adelia Ann Gressett in 1910. She gave birth to six children. She died in 1922 during the birth of twins who also died. My daddy Adair was only 2 1/2 years old when his mother died, so the older children raised him and his baby brother, who was only 1 1/2 years old.

As all the children grew up and got jobs away from home , my daddy was the only one who wanted to stay and continue to farm the land, so my grandfather deeded the land to him. My daddy married Annie Laura Rasberry in 1942 and bought her to the same house that my grandfather had live in and raised his family. He continued to live with us until his death in 1967 at the age of 99.

I was born in 1943, my brother Ronnie 1946, my sister Melanie in 1949 and Melita in 1955, while my brother and sisters and I were young we did the usual things that young children do that live on a farm. We chopped and picked the cotton a little bit, gathered the eggs, and fed the chickens, the pigs, and the cows. The fun thing to do was to play in the loft in the barn after all the cotton had been picked and brought into the barn. It was just so much fun to jump on the cotton, ride on top of the hay after Daddy had cut it and piled it onto the wagons to bring to the barn; riding on top of the corn after it had been pulled and was being brought to the barn in the wagon was also fun.

My sister Melita came along a little bit later so she was not around when we were doing most of the farm things. My Daddy had gone to public work by the time my sister was born. So growing up was not a rich time due to us being a farmer but it was a happy time, we were a very happy family.

We had a built in playmate and baby sitter all rolled up in one, in my grandfather who we called Papa. He was 75 years old when I was born, but he never missed a day playing what ever I wanted to play or what ever song we wanted him to sing. We lived and grew up in the same house Papa had built. In 1958 we torn it down to build the house where my mother still lives today. I went all twelve years of school to Collinsville High School where my daddy had attended. Ronnie, and Melanie started there but Collinsville school was consolidated with the other schools to become West Lauderdale in 1962. I enjoyed my school years and was involved in all aspects of school life; from sports to clubs to some honors. My greatest thrill was being named "Miss Collinsville High School" my senior year. After graduation I attended Clark College at Newton for two years and worked for a year until my marriage in 1964 to James Darrel Harwell. He was in the Air Force and two weeks after our wedding, I began my life as an Air Force wife for the next twenty-four years. We went immediately to Waisbaden, Germany for two and half years, and while we were there our daughter Lisa was born in 1966. From Germany we moved to Nashville, Tenn. Lived there for one and half years before Darrel had to go to Kim-Po, Korea. Lisa & I moved back to stay with my parents while Darrel was in Korea for a year. While Darrel was stationed in Korea, he happen to be Air Traffic controller on duty the day the prisoner of war was released that had been held by the North Korean, after the Korean had captured the nuclear submarine the **Pueblo**. Darrel gave the pilots the clearance to take off after the freed prisoners were on board. Rev. Rodney Duke former pastor of Collinsville Methodist Church, happened to be one of the prisoners.

From Korea we moved to Del Rio, Texas for three and half years. Our second daughter, Monica was born there in 1970. In 1973 Darrel got orders to Ubon, Thailand for a year. This was during the height of the Vietnam War. Darrel was involved in bombing raids out of Thailand base into Vietnam. My girls and I lived in a trailer behind Darrel's parents, Bill and Abbie Harwell for that year.

Then we moved to Valdosta, Ga. For six years then to Upper Heyford, England for four years, and then to Homestead, Fla. for three years, until Darrel's retirement in Feb. 1987, at which time we moved back to the same land where I was born and raised. So it was twenty-four years and a trip around the world to get back where I had started. And it was so good to be back on Beeman land.

The twenty-four years that Darrel spent in the Air Force was an exciting time for the whole family because of all the places we lived and visited. It was also a rewarding time for him and his work as an air traffic controller. He was promoted at a fast pace and was the only one of two airmen in the Air Force at that time that ever got promoted to Tech Sgt. In less than six years service,. He won many awards and recognitions, such as being named controller of the year. He won two commendation service metals, several Sarier, was the name of the awards the controller received when he talked a pilot down to safety, when the pilot is flying due to bad weather or mechanical problems. When he was stationed in England he was promoted to Chief Controller in charge of drawing up all the flight patterns for the planes to fly during their training flights.

Since our move back home, both of our daughters have married and each have two daughters of their own. Lisa married Patrick Arendall who is also in the Air Force. Their daughters are named Tiffaney and Candace they live on Elgin Air Force Base, in Florida. Monica married David Akin and their daughters are Brooklee and Amberlee and they live in the Martin community.

So our lives have come full circle back to where we started.



Judy Beeman - 13
Ronnie Beeman - 10
Melanie Beeman - 7
Melita Beeman - 1

IRMA ETHRIDGE BLANKS CHILDHOOD & MARRIAGE

By Rosalyn Blanks McPhail
(Notes taken during conversation with Mother in 1983)

Mamaw Blanks (Irma) was born in Collinsville on November 15, 1891 and started to school at Collinsville. They moved to Hookston (near the Charlie Smith place - Tommy & Judy Harrison have a new house on the Smith lot now) and stayed one or one and one-half years. ("That's where Daisy found Tom Johnson")

They moved back to Collinsville and put up a store. Mamaw was probably eight years old at that time. Later the house and store burned. Grandpa Mac was working Kemper County roads part of the time and was only home on week-ends.

About two years after this Grandpa Mac, Jim Phillips (who lived across the road from the Richard May Field) and a Mr. Ratcliff (who lived where Jesse Bounds lived - he built the original house) got together and organized a school. Grandpa Mac made the arrangements with the County Superintendent; Ratcliff gave the land and all three "carpentered" and built the one room school house. It was located where Pine Forest Baptist Church now stands. Grandmother Ethridge (Mittie) was the first teacher and taught there until Mother (Irma) was old enough to go to high school.

The Ethridges moved to Daleville to allow their children to attend the only high school in Lauderdale County. The City of Meridian only offered grades 9, 10, and 11.

The old house was rented out and they bought a house in Daleville. Mother said, "Daddy bought the prettiest house there was in Daleville for us. It was two story - five bedrooms and every one of them had a fireplace, the living room also had one. It was right in town - we could see the school, church and parsonage from it."

The first year only the family lived in it but later they had boarders - mostly cousins who needed to be near a high school.

Mother and her brother, Selby, were in the same grade although Selby was three years older.

Grandmother Ethridge did not teach school when the children were small but later she taught and had to stay away from home except for week-ends. School operated only four months each year and sometimes Grandmother would teach school at one place in the fall and teach in another four months in winter. No one ran a school during spring and summer as it was "crop time".

Grandmother taught 42 terms in all. All were in Lauderdale County except a term in Newton County in the area where her father's people lived.

Mother (Irma) had taught with her mother (Mittie) for three years before she married in July 1912. Mother said schools in the county started having seven month terms in 1910.

Back to Grandpa Mac - Lauderdale County roads were worked by convicts. Kemper County roads were worked by a person who bid for the job. Grandpa Mac would get the bid, hire eight or ten colored men to work (one would be the cook) and they lived up there in tents except for week-ends.

One term Grandpa Mac ran for supervisor of his district in Lauderdale County and was elected. The present Court House was built during his term in office and his name appears carved in stone on a rectangular plaque on the left wall after entering the front door.

He owned a store two different times. One was at Hookston and they lived across the road in the Mary Chandler house. Grandpa Mac had a store and a Wagon Yard where people stopped overnight on their way to and from Meridian. They lived across the road (494) in the Mary Chandler house. The Wagon Yard was at the base of the Charlie Smith place (children were Pet Winstead, Gladys Moulds, Rita Winstead and Lois Skinner) on the cut-off road from 494 to Highway 19 where the Steel Company is located. The wagon yard was used by people to stop overnight on their way to and from Meridian. At times kin folks would stop at the wagon yard and the men and horses slept there but the women and children would go up to the house and spend the night and all would eat supper and breakfast. (men included).

Grandpa Mac had lots of relatives in Kemper County and every time they came through the women and children went to the house to eat and sleep. Finally Grandmother said, "This is enough! I'm not running a hotel and my children can't give up their beds." So they moved back to Collinsville.

FACTS ABOUT MAM- MAW IRMA ETHRIDGE BLANKS

Mother was born on November 15, 1891, at Collinsville at the site of the Green's house a quarter of a mile from Geneva Bush's house. She lived there when she started to school at Collinsville. Grandmother Ethridge was not teaching when the children were small.

Selby was the oldest, then Mother three years later, then Homer five years later. Grandmother Ethridge was nineteen when her older sister died in childbirth so she waited six years to marry. Every time a child was due she would panic but she told us every child she gave birth to arrived before her husband could get back home with the doctor!

Grandmother had taught school in Newton County before she married and her deceased father's kinfolks had kept her and had done her laundry and would not let her pay one cent.

They had a house with a store nearby but one windy March 4th while Grandmother Ethridge was entertaining her cousin on "Mittie's" birthday the house caught fire from sparks on the roof. Mother (Irma) said they had everything on the table and was about to sit down to eat when someone announced that the kitchen was on fire. Of course there was no water and the wind was high and they lost the whole house including the birthday dinner plus the store. They had to go stay with relatives that night and while they were gone someone broke into the crib and took many items including lots of shoes removed from the store before it burned down.

IRMA ETHRIDGE'S MUSIC LESSONS

Mother finished piano in high school and that fall started taking private lessons from Miss Mary Holman. The cost was \$35.00 a month the first year and she went 12 months a year for three years. (She did have 3 weeks -off in the summer but Mother said that was for Miss Mary's convenience and not hers!)

Miss Holman was a graduate of the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati and had gone to Denver, Colorado for further study. Her house and studio was just off 8th Street where Harrison Electric Supply Company is. Her house faced 28th Avenue to the left on 8th Street going from Collinsville into Meridian. Mother NEVER passes that corner without saying, "That's where Miss Mary had her studio and I went there for three whole years."

Music lessons were supposed to be thirty minutes each twice a week with 3 hours practice a day at home. Since mother was teaching school she requested and received permission to have a double lesson on Saturday. Sometimes she would lack 45 minutes or one hour practice time when she went to bed so they set the alarm for 4:30 a.m. and she'd get up and finish her 3 hour session before daylight.

Grandpa Mac always got up and built her a fire in the living room and she practiced in her gown and robe barefooted. She said that was the reason she got real sick once - she wouldn't wear her shoes in the early morning!

When time came for Mother's recital Miss Mary phoned Marks Rothenburg and told them to send five dresses in Mother's size and ranging in price from \$15.00 to \$25.00. Miss Mary and Mrs. Lynch, who later made Mother's wedding gown, tried them all on Mother and they selected a white one for \$22.50. I know Mother wished the \$25.00 one had looked best on her! The other two girls in the recital wore blue and pink dresses which were selected at a different time.

Mother spent two years memorizing the seven pieces she played in the recital as it all had to be from memory - no music sheets whatsoever. She played for "32 solid minutes.

Miss Mary requested that Mother play for the State Music Teacher's Convention held in the City Hall. Later, after Mother married, she was invited to practice for two or three months and play at that year's Music Teachers' Convention (with Miss Mary) in the Opera House. Mother said it really took work to get ready for these two programs!

NOTES ON HOW MOTHER MET DADDY

When Mother lived at Poplar Springs someone sent her word that Midway Baptist Church was looking for a pianist for their summer revival. (Mother was 17 and had finished high school.) She took the job and stayed with Aunt Mamie and Uncle Tom Blanks and had breakfast there every morning. She ate dinner and supper in different homes with the preachers.

Mother thinks that on the first Sunday night after she played, Jim and Marvin Blanks came to the organ where she was playing and talked to her. At first Mother thought Marvin was married and Jim was single but she soon found out it was the other way around!

Irma Ethridge had on her prettiest clothes for this occasion. She wore the beautiful white dress she graduated from Daleville in, had white shoes and a gorgeous wide brimmed white hat that cost \$7.50. This was several days wages in 1908.

There must have been some flirting going on as Marvin and Jim came back to the revival several more nights and three years later Marvin and Irma would marry.

Mother said she did not date Daddy until he finished gathering his crop in the fall of 1908 and came to stay with his brother (Uncle Tom) and work for him from Monday through Friday. On Friday afternoon he would buy groceries (flour, sugar, coffee, lard, etc.) and take them home to Grandpa Richard, Aunt Lula and Auntie and stay there until Sunday afternoon.

GETTING PERMISSION TO MARRY - FAMILY GIFTS

Mother and Daddy called Grandmother Ethridge into the living room one night to tell her they wanted to get married. When Daddy asked Grandmother to let Irma marry she said she wasn't ready for Irma to marry but if she was going to do it she'd rather her marry him than anyone she knew.

Then Daddy, being all keyed up, went into another room, where Grandpa Mac was in bed, to get his permission to marry Mother. He said they had given Mother so many opportunities he thought she should have done better. "I don't think she's getting her equal," he said.

"Marvin was very hurt when he came out but Daddy learned to like Marvin and was always good to him", Mother said.

The following morning Irma said to her father "How'd you expect me to ever do any better when we move so much? When we were at Poplar Springs I went with Jim Herrington (he and his brother had a jewelry store) and Ross Skinner (he had a grocery store) but you made us move. Marvin is the nicest man I've met since we moved here."

Grandmother gave Mother a brand new buggy (Mother cried because it didn't have rubber tires!!!) She gave her a bedroom set - bed, dresser, wash stand, center table, mattress and springs, then helped her get a feather bed. They bought ticking in Meridian and bought feathers from Uncle John Jolly's wife, then they filled the ticking with soft feathers.

Grandmother also bought her two rocking chairs, a set of dishes, glasses, knives, forks and spoons. She asked Marvin if he needed a cow and he said "no".

After Mother started teaching she bought matting for living room floor, a living room suite, shades and lace curtains for the windows. When she was packing up to move, Grandmother was gathering up everything out of the living room for Mother to take to Shamberville and Grandpa Mac said, "She's NOT going to take all that, is she?" Grandmother said, "She is, she paid for it and she's going to have it." He said, "Well, she's NOT going to have that piano!" Grandmother replied, "She surely is. I bought it and I bought it for her. YOU can't play it, I can't play it, the BOYS can't play it and SHE CAN so she's going to have it."

PEOPLE PRESENT AT MOTHER AND DADDY'S WEDDING

By: Rosalyn Blanks McPhail
July 25, 1912

Grandmother and Grandpa Mac
Tom and Mamie Blanks
Selby and Homer Ethridge
(Herman 17, Nettie Lee 10 & Meree 8)
Blanks
Nell Jolly - Bridesmaid
John & Betty Blanks (Helen 12, Charlie
9, John 7 & infant Mosby)
Walter Harrison (Married a Suqualena
School teacher later - Lizzie Rue Hassey
from Lauderdale - just had one child)

Nell Jolly's sister's little girls served as flower
girls (from Delta Area)
Preacher (assistant pastor at Central Methodist
where John's family went)
Tom Johnson - Amy 10 & Ina 9
Nettie Deerner (later Berry)
Ila Blanks (Auntie)
and Young people of Nellieburg came

About 60 people attended in all. Reta Kennedy played the piano and her first cousin sang. They came a day or so ahead and helped decorate and make plans.

Several lanterns were lighted and hung on the front porch for light. A girl served punch on the porch as guests entered and after the wedding, 5 cakes and several freezers of ice cream were served. Colored people were turning freezers in the back yard during the wedding. No pictures were available.

The wedding gown was made by Mrs. Lynch, dressmaker in the same building as Miss Holman's Studio. She charged \$20.00 (a week's wages) but it would have been \$14.00 except for the fact that she sewed on tiny pearl - like beads into a design on the skirt.

NOTES ON MOTHER'S TEACHING

Mother's first school was at Midway the fall after she graduated from high school at Daleville. She and Grandmother Ethridge were the two teachers so the Ethridge family moved from Daleville to Asylum Heights in order for them to drive to Midway five days a week.

The next year they moved to Midway, renting and living in the Mrs. Tommie Smith house. They had wanted to buy the bigger, prettier house next door called the McCurdy house but it was not for sale, however the owner and Grandpa Mac made a deal the following year. This was the house all of us visited as children and it still seems like Grandmother Ethridge and Grandpa Mac's house.

This house had the traditional octagon-shaped living room which jutted out, and a wrap-around porch on west of front and north sides. There was beautiful "gingerbread" decoration on the banisters and the rail suspended from above. The hall (large as a room) and living room had beautiful lighting fixtures which operated on kerosene. The living room fixture had about two dozen glass prisms hanging from it and I thought it was the prettiest thing I ever saw.

Mother taught five years at Midway before transferring to Suqualena. The first three years she was single and the next two she was married. After marriage she lived at Shamberville she stayed at Midway five days and went home on Friday afternoon.

A NEAR TRAGEDY

Leon Jones said he used to ride a bicycle up to Grandpa Richard's old house to work for him and my daddy (Marvin). He said I was small and crawling around. I got hold of a Daisy Fly Killer and sucked the poison that the flies were supposed to suck and had already turned white when I was found. Mother called Daddy and Leon from the field and they shook and pounded me and finally got me to "throw up" and later I got well.

He also told about Mother practicing on his bicycle every day while they worked. Once when Mother was sure she had mastered the bike she got on it during their lunch break and told them to watch her ride. She was in front of the "old place" and made a big circle in the yard around that high oak tree. She was so proud and was enjoying the show herself until she hit a small sand pile and wrecked. Leon said she skinned her leg from the ankle probably to her waist.

Leon told about being hired by my daddy to pick boll weevils off the cotton and he was paid some kind of price - probably five cents for fifty (guessing). Anyway he said boll weevils were just coming into this country and they were so destructive people tried to destroy them one at a time.

MOTHER AS POSTMASTER

Mother became postmaster in 1922 when Carl Clark died. This office was at Shamberville on the railroad. (I was four years old.)

In 1926 the office was moved to Collinsville (in Mr. McMullan's store). (I was eight years old.)

In May 1931 we moved to Collinsville when Mother got sick and couldn't be moved. (I was thirteen and in the 9th grade.)

She remained postmaster until she became 70 years old in November 1961. Pappaw (9 years older) died August 3, 1963. So she was retired nearly two years when he died at age 80 1/2. She was 71 1/2 when he died.

I started teaching in a little yellow school house across the road from Mother and Daddy in the fall of 1961. In the fall of 1962 all moved to the new West Lauderdale School. Bill graduated in the first class at West Lauderdale and I had a hysterectomy in June and Pappaw died August 3rd of that year.

Mother was nearly 66 when Grandmother Ethridge died (age 96 1/2) at her house September 4, 1957. She had been with Mother seven years (in bed most of those years). She came when Mother was 59 in 1950. Mark was an infant, Bill 4 1/2, Bettye born, John was 5 1/2, Dan was 1 1/2, Eb was 35, and Roz was 32. When she died Bettye was 3 1/2, Mark 7 1/2, Bill nearly 12, Roz 39 1/2.

Grandpa Mac died February 22, 1931. Mother lost her last baby May 16, 1931. Richard Chandler was born November 15, 1931.

Uncle George died July 18, 1964. We returned from Florida and cleaned up and went to a funeral home so-o-o tired!



Marvin and Irma Blanks

EVERYTHING HAPPENED TO MAM-MAW ON THE 25TH

By: Rosalyn Blanks McPhail

On May 25, 1909, at age 17, she (Irma Blanks) graduated from high school.

On May 25, 1912, at age 20, she graduated in piano and she was one of three girls who gave a recital at the Court House.

Two months later on July 25, 1912 she was married in a home ceremony. She was 20 but would be 21 November 15th.

Mother married in July 1912; 13 years later Auntie (Ila Blanks) married in March 1925. She was 30 years old probably. Mother married at 20 and Auntie was 3 years younger.

George Richard was born 7 years later in 1932. Our Home Ec. Class made him baby clothes because Auntie furnished all the cloth. Students couldn't afford to buy cloth for something we didn't need.

William Lane was born 1925 and was 61 in 1986.

Geo. Richard was born . 1932 and was 54 in 1986.

I was 7 when Auntie married.

I was 14 (soph) when Richard was born. Richard married in 1956 when he was 24, at Central Methodist Church, Meridian.



1st Row: ?, Dan Clay, John Clay, Mrs. Mittie Ethridge, Bill McPhail, Mark McPhail, Edwin's son.

2nd Row: Lamar Clay, Evelyn Blanks Clay, Irma Blanks, Marvin Blanks, Edwin's wife & baby.

3 rd Row: Marvin Blanks, Jr., Juanita Blanks, Marvin, baby, Rosalyn Blanks McPhail, Betty McPhail, A. M. McPhail, & Edwin Blanks.

MEET OUR GRANDFATHER - RICHARD LANE BLANKS

By Evelyn Blanks Clay

I was three years old when he died. People would argue that a three-year-old could not remember too many details over such a long period, but I vividly remember Grandpa Richard. My little world consisted of Mother, Daddy, Auntie (Aunt Ila -- Grandpa's youngest), who lived with us until her marriage, and my special friend, Grandpa. When things got rough in the kitchen--when something happened to get spilled or broken--I could run to my sanctuary, Grandpa's lap. With his arms around me nobody dared suggest punishment! He usually sat beside a window to the left of the huge stone fireplace. He never used a rocking chair; instead he preferred a cane-bottomed straightleg chair. A chair that bumped was more fun than a chair that rocked. I would sit on his lap and twirl a flat disk-like object (must have been a washer or a button) nailed loosely to the window facing. I've no idea what it was or why it was there. But Grandpa entertained me with it.

Grandpa was a thin wiry man. His sparse white hair was as fine as soft wisps of carded cotton. They tell me that he was slightly below average in height but to me he was eight feet tall. He was tall enough to rescue me from that slanting limb of the apple tree where I had climbed to see a bird's nest. He was tall enough to place me on the horse's back when he came to the barn from plowing. Later in life I learned from others more about his personality and his character but during my first three years I learned that he was my best friend. Grandpa was a kind and gentle man.

Grandpa Richard lived, married, reared his family of eight children and died in a five room house situated a quarter of a mile off the main road near Schamberville. A fascinating childhood memory second in importance only to Grandpa himself is of this charming rustic house and its surroundings. A porch complete with rocking chairs and a cedar brass-bound water bucket on a shelf stretched across the entire front. A "dog-trot" hallway extended front-to-back down the center. The two front rooms were enormous. One was large enough for Auntie's bedroom furniture plus a three-piece set and a piano. The other had two beds, with enough space around the gigantic fireplace for sitting room for everyone. Behind these rooms were a kitchen, dining room, and Mother's and Daddy's bedroom. In front of the house and beside the barn grew three of the biggest oak trees I have ever seen. A hand-split rail fence zig-zagged around the out-buildings which were also made of logs. I loved all this as a child; but later, after hearing the workmanship described, I appreciated it even more. Several of Grandpa's admirable traits were significant in that house. Each log was meticulously notched at the ends so that they all dovetailed together with precision, hand-planed to perfection. The foundation blocks were lightwood (light'ard) heart-pine posts with a broad base and hewn to taper at their tops. The rock fireplaces and chimneys in each of the front rooms were perfectly constructed to secure the best drafts. Grandpa was the accomplished artisan who appreciated fine handiwork.

Grandpa and Grandma reared their eight children in this house. Grandma Eliza died when the youngest child was seven. There were three children yet at home and Grandpa finished the job himself. Grandpa had a deep and abiding love for his family.

Uncle John, the oldest, went to Meridian and worked as a salesman in the Winner Klein Department Store. He married into a prominent family and reared four children, two of whom died just as they reached adulthood.

Uncle Tom became a respected businessman. He operated a sawmill and a neighborhood grocery store. His three children were Nettie Lee, serious-minded and sweet-natured; Herman with never a serious thought and such fun to be around; and Meree, her dad's and everyone else's special pet.

Uncle Charlie and Uncle Andrew left home as young men to seek their fortune in the Mississippi Delta Country. Crossing the river into Arkansas, they established a general merchandise store in Dermott, Arkansas. Actually, Dermott is barely across the Mississippi--Arkansas State Line, but when they and their families came every summer for a week's visit, I thought Dermott must be a foreign country. Lee and Louise, Uncle Charlie's children, were older than I, but Uncle Andrew's four daughters, Evelyn, Elizabeth, Marion and Frances were great playmates.

Aunt Lela was a sweet, gentle lady. How she, a mere wisp of a woman weighing ninety pounds at most, maintained complete control over her seven sons without ever raising her voice is a mystery. Uncle Marshall must have added reinforcement. Daddy always wondered why Aunt Lela buttered all the breakfast biscuits every morning. She could hardly see over the mound of biscuits buttered for seven boys, a husband, and whoever else happened to be there at the time. When Dad asked her why everyone couldn't butter his own biscuits she added, "Do you think I'm going to let all this mob of boys slop around over my butter?"

When the boys secured jobs and wanted to put back a few dollars for safekeeping, they always asked Aunt Lela to keep their savings. So did several of her nephews. She assigned each a certain book in her personal Bible and stashed their savings there. She once remarked that if she became banker for anyone else, she'd be compelled to get another Bible because she was running out of books. Her sons married and settled down nearby, and after she became a widow, no woman ever had more loving attention than did Aunt Lela. When she became too feeble for heavy housework, an old family friend was paid a salary to make her home there and help with the housework. The ironic point was that gradually Cousin Nettie, the hired woman, became more incapacitated than Aunt Lela. Things ended up with Aunt Lela and her sons and daughters-in-law waiting on Cousin Nettie while she continued to receive her weekly pay check. They couldn't bring themselves to tell her that she was no longer earning it.

Marvin, my father, was the youngest son and the one who remained at the home place with Grandpa and the two younger daughters. My dad, kind-hearted, totally honest, hard working, and greatly respected, loved his family. His children were his pride, but of his grandchildren he was doubly proud. When asked why grandchildren were such a joy he replied, "You can enjoy them more when you know that somebody else is furnishing the groceries!"

My dad's philosophy seemed to be patterned from Jesus' admonition, "When thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee."

Aunt Lula was a jewel. Her home was my favorite visiting place as a child. There were wisteria vines on the porch, lilac bushes in the yard, and two big chinaberry trees with limbs reaching out invitingly to be climbed--not to mention the cupcakes. Aunt Lula always had cupcakes. She was an excellent cook, a talented seamstress and a devoted homemaker. When Uncle Jim became an invalid as a result of crippling rheumatoid arthritis, she attended him day and night. In her last years she became totally deaf, but never complaining nor wanting sympathy, she carried her little slate and pencil around to write her messages. In spite of her handicap she could communicate remarkably well. She was justly proud of her daughter, Laneve and her son, William Lane.

Aunt Ila (Auntie) was my second mother. When she married Uncle George after having lived with us all my life, I felt lost. She could tell better bedtime stories, sing better songs, and bake better cakes than anybody. Later I realized that all her life she received much attention. Grandpa Richard spoiled her, her brothers spoiled her, her husband spoiled her, and their only son Richard spoiled her. I'm glad--if anyone ever deserved to be spoiled, it was Auntie.

My father told me many interesting tidbits about Grandpa. It seems that when the children were small he and Grandma made a daring purchase. Grandpa traded several goose feather mattresses (feather beds) plus some saved-up egg money for one of those new-fangled bedsprings. The family examined this coiled-wire contraption, children giggled and parents smiled, wondering if the sleeper might bounce off. Grandpa and Grandma had the first chance to sleep on it, with children taking turns until all had experienced that marvelous bed. No casualties were reported.

Grandpa had a sly way, when he was ready for his noontime meal of turning the clock hands forward ten or fifteen minutes to rush up the womenfolk in the kitchen. When Mother and Auntie heard that old pendulum clock strike twelve a little before the beans were done, they always knew what had happened. After lunch, he would quietly turn the hands back to the correct time. Now the odd part of this story was that no matter how impatient he had been to get to the dinner table his table blessing was the longest in history! Biscuits cooling off had no effect upon the length of his prayers. Leon, one of Aunt Lela's sons, remarked that Grandpa's prayers always closed with the phrase "world without end." Leon suggested that "prayer without end" would have been more appropriate. Grandpa was a devout man.

Grandpa was a minister--a Methodist "local preacher" who could be called upon in an emergency anywhere within horseback-riding range. When my mother as a bride came to live in Grandpa's house, she learned that Grandpa would often receive a letter along about midweek asking him to fill the pulpit for Brother So-and-So fifteen or twenty miles away. He always did this readily and uncomplainingly even though he never, not even once, received a cent for his efforts. Mother and Auntie always kept his good white shirt laundered and his bole serge suit brushed and pressed in readiness for these calls. When both ladies lamented the fact that he received no money for his services, Grandpa stated firmly, "Daughter, we don't do these things for money. The people appreciate what I do and the Lord appreciates it. Let's hear no more about it." Grandpa was a devoted and dependable servant of God.

Another favorite story concerning his ministry was the wedding ceremony he performed across a picket fence. This young lawyer and his bride-to-be traveled in a buggy to Grandpa's home, only to find that he was visiting his daughter, Lela, some three miles away. When the couple drove on to Lela's, Grandpa couldn't possibly misput them further, even though he had neglected to bring his eyeglasses. He did, however, have his Minister's Bible complete with marriage ceremony.

"We'll manage," he promised the nervous young couple. "Just stand here by the fence and I'll call Lela to help me." He performed the marriage rites with Aunt Lela reading the ceremony, the bride and groom taking the vows, and Grandpa eloquently pronouncing them man and wife as the wedding party leaned against Aunt Lela's white picket fence.

Another facet of his early life in which Grandpa took pride was his service in the Confederate States Army. He fought in the Battle of Shiloh, which to my childish mind was located at the other end of the world. Years later when my husband, our two youngsters and I were in the Shiloh Battlegrounds Park, I found it was hard to keep my mind on the incidents the guide was relating. I was thinking about Grandpa Richard and wondering which part of the battlefield his feet had walked. Grandpa was a noble patriotic man.

Grandpa Richard has been gone from this earth for sixty-five years now, but in his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren, I can discern traces of his physical features and--best of all--his traits of character. For this I am grateful. It is a priceless heritage. May these salt-of-the-earth qualities be evident through generations yet to come.

Evelyn Blanks Clay **Interviewed by: Rubye Harrison**

Evelyn Clay: Mr. Ross Collins had the pull in Congress to move the post office from Schamberville to Collinsville. Schamberville was just a railroad crossing. I guess that was the reason it was there because the train could bring the mail out. Mother (Mrs. Blanks) was the Postmaster and Daddy was the Assistant. Mother taught school there, too.

Ruby Harrison: Mrs. Mittie Ethridge taught school at Schamberville and at the school by the Methodist Church in Collinsville. This school was an L shape with the stage in the corner and a curtain which divided the room to make two rooms.

Evelyn Clay: My mother and grandmother taught school and I started to school when I was four years old or maybe three. Rosa was a baby and Mother thought it would be easier for the lady that kept Rosa if I were out of the way. I wasn't in school but I was there. I took my crayons and coloring book to school. Mother would read a story to the children and I would listen and watch as Mother read. I learned to read at four years old. For Christmas, I asked for a reader.

William Henry Blanks

Who came from Virginia to George (Wilkes & Green Co)

Son, William Blanks, II

came from Georgia to Lauderdale County Mississippi

William Henry Blanks II

B: 12 Oct. 1800, in Green Co. Ga.

D: 9 Sept. 1859, Lauderdale Co. MS

M: 8 Nov. 1819, Green Co. Ga.

To Narciss Young

B: 12 Nov. 1800 NC

D: 21 Jan. 1857 Lauderdale Co. MS

Children:

1. *James Lafayette Blanks b: 3 Jan. 1825
2. Thomas Young Blanks b: 18 dec. 1836
3. Jefferson Franklin Banks b: 3 Jan. 1833
4. *Richard Lane Blanks b: 31 Aug. 1839
5. Infant dau. (twin) b: 31 Aug. 1839 died in infancy
6. Martha Ellen Blanks b: abt. 1841
7. Nancy Ann Blanks b: abt. 1843
8. William Henry Blanks b: abt. 1846

***James Lafayette Blanks, Sr.**

b: 3 Jan. 1825, Green Co. GA

d: 30 May 1866 L'dale Co. MS

m: 8 Oct. 1853 L'dale Co. MS

to: Celia Ann Powell

b: 18 Apr. 1833 Choctaw Co. AL

d: 22 Sept. 1885 L'dale Co. MS

Children: all born in L'dale Co. MS

1. John Powell
2. *William David
3. James Lafayette (Jim) Jr.
4. Jefferson Franklin
5. Robert Allen
6. Laura Matilda
7. Mary Ann Eliza "Mollie"

William David Blanks

B: 1 Sept. 1857

D: 5 Feb. 1940

M: 21 Nov. 1877

To: Mary Cornelius "Mollie" Blackman

Children: all born in Suqualena, L'dale Co. MS

1. Mary Evalina "Eve"
 2. Sarah Lavada "Vada"
 3. *James Lafayette "Jim", Jr.
 4. Samuel "Sam"
- Four others, 2 boys and 2 girls, died in infancy
And were not named.

James Lafayette "Jim" Blanks, Jr.

B: 27 Jan. 1886

D: 20 Dec. 1949

M: 16 May 1909

To: Lula Mae Blanks

24 Dec. 1887

d: 24 Aug. 1965

Children:

1. James Gordon
2. Marguerite Laneve
3. *William Lane

William Lane Blanks

B: 22 Dec. 1924

M: 12 June 1948

To: Ann Arleen Carpenter

B: 13 Mar. 1931

Children:

1. Barbara Lane
2. Lou Jane
3. Janis Ann

Richard Lane Blanks

B: 31 Aug. 1839 Greene Co. GA.

D: 14 Nov. 1918 Suqualena, L'dale Co. MS

M: 11 Jan. 1867 L'dale Co. MS

To Mary Eliza Jolly

Dau. of William Eades and Harriet Carpenter Jolly

B: 28 Jan. 1849 Suqualena, L'dale Co. MS

D: 24 Jan. 1902 Suqualena, L'dale Co. MS

Children:

1. John Wesley b: 21 Oct. 1867
2. William Thomas (Tom) b: 31 July 1870
3. Charles Leonabus (Charlie) b: 31 Oct. 1873
4. Andrew Cornelius b: 3 Oct. 1876
5. Lela Virginia b: 14 Dec. 1879
6. Nancy b: Nov. 1880 d' in infancy
7. Marvin Edds Blanks b: 8 Feb. 1883
8. Lula Mae 24 Dec. 1887
9. Ila Beatrice b: 13 Apr. 1895

Marvin Edds Blanks

B: 8 Feb. 1883, Suqualena, MS

D: 3 Aug. 1963 Collinsville, MS

M: 25 July 1912

To: Irma Belle Ethridge

dau. of Joseph M. and

Mittie Wells Ethridge

B: 15 Nov. 1891, Collinsville, MS

D:

Children:

1. Marguerite Elizabeth b: 24 July 1914, d: 26 Dec. 1914
2. *Mary Evelyn b: 1 June 1915 Shamberville, MS
3. Rosalyn Kathryn b: 14 Feb. 1918
4. Marvin Edds b: 12 June 1920
5. Edwin McLane b: 9 Oct. 1921
6. I infant son b: 16 May 1931 d: 17 May 1931

Mary Evelyn Blanks

B: 1 June 1915

M: 25 Nov. 1937

To: Lamar Calvin Clay

B: 4 Nov. 1913

D: 24 Nov. 1968

Children:

1. Stuart Lamar
2. John Calvin
3. Dan Lamar

Rosalyn Kathryn Blanks

B: 14 Feb. 1918

M: 23 Aug. 1940

To: Aubrey Middleton "Mac" McPhail

B: 21 Dec. 1916

Children:

- William Middleton "Bill"
Mark David
Bettye Rosalyn

GENEVA MOORE BUSH

By Ruby Vance Harrison

Geneva Moore Bush is the daughter of Little Berry and Lula V. Parker Moore, the granddaughter of Walter Berry and Caroline M. (Carrie) Barber and great-granddaughter of Little Berry and Nancy Books.

My great-grandmother was Ann Boykin Barber. She was engaged to marry the Vice President of the Conference, but she broke her engagement and married James Henry Barber. Their daughter, Caroline Barber, married Walter Berry Moore, my grandparents. I had two brothers, Walter Berry and Abe Parker, one baby sister died the day she was born. Grandpa Parker was killed when I was a little girl, and I was scared to death of Grandpa Moore. I didn't know my grandmothers. Mr. Dink Collins was my mama's great uncle and he married Rebecca Ethridge. When Mama's mother died Aunt Becky wanted to take Mama but Grandpa Parker kept her. That's where Collinsville got its name from Dink Collins, the father of Ross Collins. He had a store and that was the beginning of Collinsville.

As a child I went to Pine Forest Baptist Church where I joined the church. I've been going to church at Collinsville for years.

I was seven when I started to school. I had to walk to Collinsville to school and I liked to wade in the mud in my good shoes. When it rained and the branch would overflow, close to where Mitt and Rod Hitt live today, Mr. Will Walker built a little walkway and a bridge across it between the trees so we could cross the creek and go to school. Mag Walker, and Aunt Mittie Ethridge, would stop by and I would go to school with them. There were three houses between my house and school, the Walkers, Aunt Ella Gibson and Thomas Harwell, and two haunted houses. I was scared to death to pass those haunted houses. Later Uncle Joe had two horses and a covered wagon we rode to school and then Mr. Walker Rice had a school bus and carried us to school. There was a tennis court in front of the school and we played tennis. The school house had a porch on the back and we gathered out there with the boys to talk. Miss Lizzie Gill would go and tell Aunt Mitt (Mrs. W. M. Ethridge) "go to the North porch". Aunt Mitt would come stomping out - you could hear her coming from the first room and we would be gone when she got there. She said she didn't want to come but Miss Gill told her to do so.

I graduated from high school in 1928. There were six girls and six boys. Inez Walker Miles, Clare Bell Moore Walker and Ela Faye Carpenter Daniels were the girls I started to school with, but they got married, the other girls were from the other schools that had consolidated with Collinsville. We went to two different schools at Collinsville, the first one was next to the Methodist Church. It was an "L shaped" house and later the schools were consolidated and a new school was built about 1920-22 where the old brick school is today.

When I was in high school I went to Birmingham, Alabama, and worked in Uncle Thomas Moore's Jewelry Store during the summer and stayed with my brother, William Henry. Then I worked at Nilon Coffee Company. Mr. and Mrs. Nilon were two of the best friends I ever had. I bought a car to go to work. I got my first car from Mr. Mitts and it cost me \$90.00.

After I graduated from school I got a job with the WPA working at the Meridian Public Library. I drove the first Bookmobile taking books to the rural schools and homes and I got to read all the new books. Then I went to work at the bus station and that is where I met my husband, James Bush.

Mr. father was born in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He was a carpenter and farmer. When he died, Mother and I had a hard time but that was during the depression. We worked and didn't ask for anything. That is when I went to work for the WPA.

Mother was born in Lauderdale County and she loved flowers, etc. I always said I was born in a flowerbed. She had fifty dahlias that had the biggest blooms. Mother got her first Daylilies from Mr. Ben Arthur Davis in Meridian. I was working at the bus station so I sent her out to Mr. Davis' in a taxi. She went wild over his daylilies. She gave him five dollars to send her some daylily bulbs. So he picked out some he thought she would like and sent her fourteen and wrote a note "because we love you so." He named a patented daylily for her "Miss Lula". Sallie Davis (Ben Arthur Davis' wife) helped Mother and me start the Garden Club and it was named for her, Mrs. Lula's Garden Club. The Lula Moore Garden Club did a lot for the community in the way of beautifying it. This is the prettiest part of the county.

We had dirt roads that were dusty in the summer and muddy in the winter on those red clay hills. We first had horse and wagon, then buggy, then the "A" Model and "T" Model cars. When it rained the cars would get stuck coming up the hill in front of our house and Papa would take the horses and pull the cars up the hill.

THE CARPENTER

By Ellen Carpenter Walker

Our ancestors came from England in the 1660's. One of these ancestors was Benjamin, born in North Caroline and married Nancy Rice. They had ten children, one of which was John Rice Carpenters, grandfather.

Rice Benjamin Carpenter was born August 15, 1828 in Green Co. Ala. He later moved to Lauderdale Co. Where he married Mary Rogers in 1847. He and Mary had five children. He was killed in Murfressboro, Tenn. in the Civil War. Mary died July 18, 1890 and is buried in the Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery in Nellieburg.

John Rice's father Charles Clinton Carpenter was born April 27, 1858 in Lauderdale Co. He married Sarah Elizabeth Hamrick Jan. 16, 1883. They had three children. Ada born in 1883, she married Joe Moore. John Rice was born 1885 and Thomas Irvin in 1886. They married sisters. John Rice married Lillie Anderson, and Thomas Irvin married Lizzie Anderson. Charles died July 26, 1890 and is buried in Hamrick cemetery in Collinsville.

John Rice and Lillie had three children, Ela Faye born in 1909 married Nathan Daniels. They had five children and seven grandchildren. She died April 14 1993 John Thaddus was born Sept. 21, 1913 and married Marjorie Breazeale in 1939. Lee Arnold born June 13, 1922 and married Hazel Fulton. They had two daughters and three grandchildren.

The house John and Lillie lived in is one of the older houses still standing in Collinsville. It originally had a hall down the middle, but has since been remodeled.

You could tell when farming season came around by listening to John Rice yell at his mule. He could be heard for miles. John Rice was a farmer, but as the government began issuing smaller cotton allotments it became necessary for him to begin work with the Lauderdale County Road Department. Here he worked until he retired.

John Rice died July 7, 1963 and is buried in Hamrick Cemetery.

After living in Neshoba County and Meridian, John Thaddeus and his family moved back to Collinsville in 1953. He and Marjorie had three daughters and a son.

Ellen born May 4, 1940 married Clyde Walker, Jr. They have three children, Randy, Ricky and Renee and they have five grandchildren. Clyde was the Lauderdale County Welfare Director until his retirement in 1991.

Glenda born November 14, 1942 married Lavern Reid. They have four children. Lisa, Lori, Rhonda and Mike. They also have four grandchildren.

Dianne born March 3, 1949, married John Agnew. They have four children David, John, Gayla and Leah and one grandchild.

John Thaddeus also had a son born Sept. 11, 1946 named Terry Dewayne, and he married Brenda Nugent. They had three sons, Rusty, Scott, and Steve. Two of which had MD. Rusty and Steve died at an early age. Scott is married and lives in Florida. Terry died of cancer April 16, 1994.

Mrs. Carpenter remains in her home in Collinsville.

CASTLE FAMILY

By Billy Gene Castle

In the late 1920's, Stacy and Telia Castle bought 60 acres of land on the old Highway 19 about 2 miles south of Collinsville. They were living in Meridian at the time, but wanted to move to the country to raise their children. Mr. Castle was an engineer with the railroad for 47 years and continued this career. He also became a successful farmer as well.

Mr. Castle later bought 20 acres of land for less than \$3,000. A year ago this property sold for well over \$200,000. This is an example of how property in the Collinsville area has escalated.

They had two children, Lewis and Loyce, when they moved from Meridian. Lewis died from pneumonia in 1933. Billy, Jimmy, W. S., Lynette and Tommy were all born after they moved to Collinsville. All six of their children graduated from Collinsville High School.

Loyce and her husband, Frank Ragsdale, Billy and his wife Margie, Jimmy and his wife Maxine are all retired and living in Collinsville. Lynette and her husband, Don Cunningham, are retired and live in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and Tommy is retired and lives in High Point, NC.

THOMAS OGGIE CLARK FAMILY

By Mary Harris Clark

Thomas Oggie Clark was Postmaster at Schamberville in 1918. He also served on the Board of Supervisors for District Three in Lauderdale County.

He was a prosperous land owner. He built the house at Schamberville that Rupert Sharp now lives in. He raised his family in this house.

Thomas Oggie Clark
B. Dec. 23, 1881 Lauderdale County
D. Aug. 31, 1949 Schamberville

md.Kate Hamrick
B. June 6, 1864 Collinsville
D. Jan. 14, 1933 (buried Hamrick Cemetery)

Children:

1. Marvin Clark
B. June 22, 1893
D. March 5, 1948

md. Mary Etta Hamilton
B. Aug. 26, 1896
D. Feb. 8, 1984

Sons: Hamilton, Thomas Carl & William Wallace
Daughters: Doris, Molly & Margaret

2. William Clark

md. Annie Ora McDonald
Son: William Franklin (deceased)
Daughter: Kathryn (deceased)

3. Elton Clark
B. Oct. 30, 1896
D. April 1, 1969

md. Ila Houston
B. Jan. 20, 1899
D. September 23, 1984

Son: Aaron David Clark md. Mary Harris Clark
B. May 13, 1925

4. Carl Clark
B. Aug 1, 1898
D. Sept. 20, 1923

md. Velma Gibson

Daughter: Carleen Clark

5. Earline Clark
B. Sept. 23, 1900
D. Oct. 10, 1977

md. Fred Gibson
B. Sept. 2, 1891
D. May 31, 1958

NATHANIEL M. (DINK) COLLINS

By Jerry Ethridge

When Dink was 21 he had finished his education and he joined the Confederate Army.

When the war was over, Dink and Solomon Ethridge's only surviving son were in the same regiment and walked home together.

Soon after he returned from the war he married Solomon Ethridge's daughter Rebecca. Solomon was a brother to Isaac Ethridge, Ike Ethridge's great grandfather.

Dink established a store, gin, grist mill and sawmill. The community grew around his store and was named Collinsville. The Collinsville post office was opened in 1884 in Dink's store. He gave 11 acres for Collinsville school.

Dink and Rebecca had three children. One of them was Ross Collins.

ROSS COLLINS

By Jerry Ethridge

Ross A. Collins, a career politician, was born in 1880 to Dink and Rebecca Ethridge Collins, in Collinsville, Ms. The community was started around the store built by his father, an early settler, Nathaniel Monroe "Dink Collins". He donated land for the settlement's first school in the nineteenth century.

Ross attended public school in Meridian before earning his law degree at the University of Mississippi at Oxford. He was admitted to the bar in 1901 and commenced practice of law in Meridian, Ms. He was elected Attorney General of Mississippi in 1912 - 1920. He made an unsuccessful run for the Governor's seat in 1919, but his political career continued when he was elected to the 67th Congress and served 7 years, and was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1934. He was again elected to Congress in 1936 and served until 1943, when he voluntarily retired.

While in Congress, a period of 22 years, he served as Chairman and member of the War Department Appropriations Sub-committee (this included the Air Force.) He wrote, spoke and fought for mechanized weapons. He is credited with bringing into being the *Flying Fortress*.

In Congress he authored the bill to purchase the Vollbehr Collection of 15th Century books including the Gutenberg Bible, which passed both houses of Congress without a dissenting vote. Congressman Collins was able to get money for a vocational school in Meridian which was given his name, Ross Collins Vocational Center. He was able to secure funds to build Junior Colleges, a fish hatchery, two U. S. Agricultural Experiment Stations in Lauderdale County, one horticultural and the other a sugar plant. He secured an additional National Guard Regiment to the State of Mississippi, and a National Guard Air Squadron in Meridian, including a modern Air Base (Key Field). Wanting to do something more for Meridian, Collins presented the city with an expensive copy of the *Gutenberg Bible*. It is currently displayed in the Meridian Public Library.

After ending his active involvement in politics, Collins resumed his Meridian law practice.

According to Rupert Sharp, Mr. Collins continued to vote in Collinsville, for he, (Mr. Sharp) would pick him up and bring him out to vote in the elections.

Mr. Ross Collins died in 1968.

COLLINSVILLE: PARALYZED BY FEAR

By Beth Smith

In the early 1950's, a prisoner escaped from Whitfield Sanitorium near Jackson Miss. This prisoner, whose surname was Musselwhite, had been convicted of violent crimes. He was also a survival expert. His escape route led him across the state on Hwy. 80 to an area of forested land, just northwest of Meridian.

This area of dense forests and rocky hills was a perfect place to hide out, which is what Musselwhite did.

As word spread in the Collinsville area of this violent prisoner, fear gripped the area as nothing ever had before. Rumors of sightings abounded and doors were locked and barricaded that had not been locked in years. Children were kept inside and adults went out together to tend to crops and animals, usually carrying weapons.

This fear remained for several months. Luther Musselwhite has never been captured to this day, and this story has been told to children and grandchildren of residents who lived through this time of fear!

THE COOKS

By Jack Cook

Several years ago, Linda started an attempt to trace our family history and found it to be an almost insurmountable task. Cooks are almost as prolific as Smiths or Joneses. We were able to determine that my great grandfather, James M. Cook and his brother Daniel were orphaned at an early age and apprenticed as tanners in Edgecomb County, NC. Later in life they both owned and operated tanyards where hides are tanned into leather in vats of water, red oak bark and other ingredients.

After serving their apprenticeship, both came to Georgia to fight in the Creek Indian War under Andrew Jackson. It was here that James and Daniel met their future wives and were married in Lagrange, GA. Both homesteaded a quarter section of the former Indian land in the Alabama Territory. Daniel remained there and raised a large family in what became Talladega County. James sold his land after his first 3 children were born and claimed a quarter section of former Chickasaw Indian land in what became Calhoun County, Miss. around 1840.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, James M. Cook enlisted in the Miss. State Militia (an organization similar to our Army Reserve or National Guard) at the age of 50, and leaving his wife, Aunt Betty at home with 6 children, "joined" the Confederacy. He was discharged for being overage after a period of time. His oldest son, Robert M. Cook was a 18 year old sergeant in Co. F, 29th Miss. Infantry and paid the supreme sacrifice for his country. He was killed in the battle of Ezra Church, GA. (in the southwest suburb of Atlanta) on July 28, 1864 and his body dumped into an unmarked grave alongside a railroad track somewhere in the vicinity of what is now Atlanta Hartsfield Airport never to be heard from again.

My grandfather, Edward J. (Jut) Cook was born in Aug., 1863 in the midst of the Civil War, and grew up as a teenager during Reconstruction. This was a time when carpetbaggers and the U.S. Army ruled the South for a period of about 12 years before local rule was reestablished. When the military governor, Adelbert Ames of Massachusetts was replaced, the Miss. State Treasury contained the grand total of 37 cents. My grandfather lived with us from the time of my birth until his death in Jan. 1959 and the stories he could tell. About the first automobile, the first airplane, the first telephone, the first radio. The first electric light he ever saw was in a hotel room in Ft. Worth Texas and being unable to blow it out, just let it shine all night. He was able to adjust to all these new inventions but never accepted television. He always maintained that the images on the screen were "some kind of China dolls" that were moved around in some mysterious way.

When I was in the 3rd grade we moved from Calhoun County, which had 12 highschools, across the county line into Grenada County, which was one of the first to have a consolidated school district. What a shock that was, moving from a small community school where most of the students and teachers were cousins, into a giant school of hundreds of students. My dad farmed 160 acres in the middle of where Grenada Lake is now, with 3 sons and 6 mules. Dad had bought a big black mule named Rock, from a logger and Rock was assigned to me. Rock was a gentle giant but had never been rode. You could throw a sack across his back and he would launch it like a rocket. One day in June, Rock and I were laying by corn in a newground about a half mile from home. It was hot, the corn was high, the humidity was high and no breeze. At the end of the day we plowed out to the end of the row, and as I unhitched Rock from the plow, he stood with his head down and his ears drooping. I says to myself, "I bet I can ride old Rock home, he's mighty tired." Putting my left foot in the traces, I threw my right leg over his back and before my rear end touched his back, I found myself sitting in the plowed ground about 12 feet away and Rock standing there looking at me with his big brown eyes as though to say " What kind of fool trick was that."

When the Korean War broke out, I enlisted in the U. S. Navy and they made an electronic technician of me. Dad bought his first tractor, the spring I left to go into the Navy. After 4 years in the Navy, I went to Miss. State University, majoring in electrical engineering on the GI Bill. I met Linda, my wife, while passing through southeast Missouri one time. We were married and left for Cape Canaveral, Fla. (where I had a job waiting for me) the day after the wedding. What a homesick girl she was for a while. We lived in Florida for 4 years and it was here that our 2 sons, Tony and Ronnie were born. I told them they were 2 of a few genuine Florida crackers, most Floridians are transplanted from New Jersey or New York. During the 4 years I worked in the missile test program and early space projects, I worked the launch when Alan Shepard was the first American to be shot into space. I also worked on the first Mercury launches where the first astronauts achieved orbit and were recovered at sea.

I grew tired of sandspurs and no seasonal changes and transferred to the Federal Aviation Administration. I was assigned to the Air Traffic Control Center in Memphis and worked there 5 years. It was a great job, an exciting job but I sensed something missing in my life. I knew one thing, that the big city was no place to rear 2 small boys, so when radar facility jobs came open in Jackson, Meridian and Huntsville, I bid on all 3, not really caring which I got. I was accepted for the position at Meridian, Miss. Some might say it was mere coincidence, but I'll always believe the Lord played a part in placing me in Collinsville. I left Linda and the boys at home and drove down to Meridian late Sunday evening, Feb. 8, 1968. The farther this way I came the more disheartened I became. The pine trees seemed to get taller, the roads narrower and it was beginning to get dark. I passed through Collinsville about time for church to begin. Lights were on in all the homes, the church parking lot was beginning to fill with families going to church and I thought to myself "This is the sort of community I would like to live in."

When I went to work the next day, some of the men I was to be working with told me that it was Collinsville I had passed through the previous night. In fact, one of them, Jesse Ponds, lived in Collinsville, and Bro. James Snowden of the Baptist Church had a house for rent if I was interested. We came out that afternoon, met Bro. Snowden and made arrangements to rent the house until we could get settled. Some folks told me that Collinsville was a clannish community and that I would always be an outsider here. But there's an old saying "To have a friend, you first must be a friend". I found this to be the case. We were welcomed into the community with open arms, joined the church and saw both our sons grow up in the church and accept Christ. We developed some of the dearest friends that a person could desire and have never regretted making the move.

We saw our sons grow to manhood and cherish all the great memories of seeing them grow up. Tony was a member of coach Jerry Boatner's first state championship baseball team in 1978. In fact, he squeezed in the winning run with a suicide bunt against New Hope in the final game at East Miss. Junior College at Scooba. Our granddaughter Jessica was born July 8, 1991.

It has not been all happiness however. Our youngest son, Ronnie, passed away with cancer Jan. 1, 1993. There is an old Chinese proverb that says "God has no greater curse for man, than he outlive his children." Such a devastation in our life this was, and without the love and concern of our church and friends, I don't see how we could have lived through it.

We came here expecting this to be a temporary home, but have come to love Collinsville and her people and hope it will continue to be the same place we remember so dearly. It's OUR HOME.

REVEREND ANDREW BLUITT CULPEPPER

From *Culpepper Footprints on the Sands of Time*

Andrew Bluitt Culpepper felt the call of the ministry when just a boy, and became a licensed Baptist Minister in 1902, at the very young age of twenty. He was of a grave and serious nature concerned with the weightier matters of life at an age when most young men are sowing their "wild oats".

He was born in Alabama on February 27, 1882, the son of Joel B. and Mary A. (Mollie) McFarlan Culpepper. The Culpepper family moved to Mississippi shortly before the turn of the century, ultimately settling in the Zion Community in Kemper County.

Another new family settled in the Zion Community about 1900 by the surname of Kittrell, and it was from this family that Reverend Culpepper chose his bride-to-be.

On November 11, 1903, Andrew Bluitt Culpepper and Ollie Mae Kittrell were united in the Holy Bonds of Matrimony with Reverend Frank Gunn officiating. They made their first home in Kemper County in the community of Zion and lived here about four years. During this time they became the proud parents of two sons; Curtis, who was born July 31, 1904, and William Obbie, born June 29, 1901. The second born had the honor of being named after his great Uncle William S. Culpepper, a renowned Baptist minister of that day. Shortly after the birth of William Obbie, the family moved out of the Zion Community to Lauderdale County.

In 1911, they bought a home in what is now called the Martin Community and became residents. On March 8, 1914, Andrew Bluitt Culpepper was ordained by the order of County Line Baptist Church in Neshoba County. He pastored numerous churches in Neshoba County, some in Kemper, Lauderdale, Newton, and two or more in South Mississippi, Soso and Green Creek. He served as many as eight churches at one time, two each Sunday. He would hold morning worship at one church and then drive to the second church for evening worship. Corinth and Union in Kemper County were among the last churches he pastored.

In 1926, the Culpeppers built a home in Philadelphia, Mississippi. However, they only lived there about two years before deciding to sell and move back to Lauderdale County where they spent the remaining years of their lives.

After laboring forty years on the gospel field, Andrew Bluitt Culpepper departed this life on February 24, 1954, at the age of seventy-one years, eleven months, and twenty-four days.



Rev. A. B. Culpepper

Rev. A. B. Culpepper, 71, Martin community, Lauderdale County passed away Wednesday, Feb. 24. He had been a Baptist minister for 40 years. It was claimed that he had been pastor of more rural churches than any preacher in Mississippi.

Burial was in Pine Grove Cemetery. The Rev. Edward McKethen, pastor of the Pine Grove Church, officiated, assisted by Rev. Ed Grayson and Rev. Truly Reynolds.

He was a member of the Pine Grove Church. Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Ollie Kittrell Culpepper, two sons, Curtis and Obbie Culpepper, 8 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

The body will remain at Stephens Funeral Home until 1 p.m. Sunday when it will be carried to the Pine Grove Church for services at 2 p.m. The Rev. James M. Snowden, pastor, is to officiate, assisted by the Revs. Earl Moore and Ollie M. Rasberry.

Burial will be in the Pine Grove cemetery, pallbearers to be H. E. Hand, Sr., Jim O. Pruet, Carl Rucker, Homer May, Jackson Lee, Burnis Tindle, Malcolm Hodges, Ted Harrington and W. R. Pearson, honorary, all friends of the family.

Culpepper-Collinsville

Mrs. Ollie Mae Kittrell-Culpepper, 80, widow of the Rev. A. B. Culpepper, well known Baptist minister, whose death occurred in 1954, died Friday at 10:15 p.m. at the home of her son, Curtis Culpepper of Collinsville (Martin community). She had been in failing health for some time and confined to her bed since suffering a broken arm three months ago. Born at Sucarnochee, deceased had lived in the Martin area for the past 60 years and was a member of the Pine Grove Baptist Church. She is also survived by another son, Obbie Culpepper, Martin; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; two sisters, and a brother, Lewis Kittrell, Collinsville.

Andrew Bluit Culpepper b. 27 Feb. 1882 d. 24 feb. 1954 bur. Pine Grove Baptist Church Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Ollie Mae Kitrell Nove. 11, 1903 b. 7 May 1879 d. 19 june 1959 bur. Pine Grove Baptist Church Lauderdale County, MS
Issue: A. Curtis Culpepper b. 31 July 1904 Kemper County, MS	Wed.	Mattie Elizabeth Lee Feb. 1, 1925 b. 18 sept. 1905 Lauderdale County, MS
Issue: 1. Bonnie Lee Culpper b. 10 Jan. 1928 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Harold Mallory Stringfellow b. 3 Nov 1926 Son of Aubrey Mallory and Rhoda Stringfellow
Issue: a. Kendall Mallory Stringfellow b. 12 August 1954 Covington, LA		b. Deborah Gail Stringfellow b. 8 February 1957 Mobile, AL
c. Stephen Carrol Stringfellow b. 26 September 1966 Mobile, AL		
Issue: 2. Maxwell Curtis Culpepper b. 9 March 1929 Lauderdale County	Wed.	Evelyn Jackson b. 28 March 1932 Newton County, MS Daughter of L. W. Jackson
Issue: a. Elizabeth Ann Culpepper b. 11 Jan. 1954 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Larry Wayne Barnett Sept. 1, 1972 b. 15 Jan. 1950
Issue: 1) Angela Lea Barnett b. 25 Nov. 1975 Lauderdale County, MS		
b. Arthur Wayne Culpepper b. 4 April 1955 Kemper County, MS	Wed.	Deborah Faye Ross, Oct. 26, 1974 b. 9 March 1956
B. William Obbie Culpepper b. 29 June 1907 Kemper County, MS	Wed.	Mattie Lorene Herrington b. 8 jan. 1909 Lauderdale County, MS
Issue: 1. Willie Mae Culpepper b. 26 Aug. 1927 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Cove Hodges, Jr. b. 23 Aug. 1924 Lauderdale County, MS Son of Covie Lee and Mattie Ethridge Hodges
Issue: a. Rita Nell Hodges b. 11 Dec. 1944	Wed.	Stanley Dollar
b. Shelia Hodges Pinyan d. 12 Dec. 1953		

2. Raymond Obbie Culpper b. 20 Aug. 1929 Lauderdale County, Ms	Wed.	Laverne Crawford 28 March 1931 b. 28 March 1931 Daughter of Ernest G. & Irene Scott Crawford
Issue: a. Janet Marie Culpepper b. 17 Nov. 1951		b. Mitizi Denise Culpepper b. 10 Dec. 1953
3. Perry Landis Culpepper b. 2 June 1931 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Billie Joe Powers Daughter of Joseph P. & Billie Jean Farris Powers
Issue: a. Sherry Lee Culpepper b. 27 Feb. 1952		b. Mickey Landis Culpepper b. 27 Oct. 1955 d. 30 March 1990
4. Carl Roy Culpepper b. 31 March 1935 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Mackie Brown b. 30 March 1936 Daughter of Calvin Loma Brown & Sarah Ferrel White
Issue: a. Kim Loma Culpepper b. 5 Sept. 1956	Wed.	Cathy Boles
b. Carla Joy Culpepper b. 24 July 1956	Wed.	Carl "Sandy" Sanderford
c. Raymond Bryan Culpepper B. December 1959	Wed.	Cindy Chancellor
5. Arnold Bluitt Culpepper b. 16 Sept. 1940 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Carolyn Hitt b. 29 July 1939 Daughter of Ray & Sally Smith Hitt
Issue: a. Arnold Chadwick Culpepper b. 8 Aug. ?	Wed.	Ella Shelton
b. Paula Caroll Culpepper b. 26 July ?	Wed.	Terry Roberts
c. Genia Rae Culpepper b. 18 March ?	Wed.	Edward White
6. Infant son of W. O. & Lorene Culpepper born and died 28 Feb. 1943		
7. James Michael Culpepper b. 12 Jan. 1950 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Dianne Chisolm b. 13 March 1952 Daughter of Albert & Edwina Snowden Chisolm
Issue: a. Terri Michele Culpepper b. 2 Feb. 1971		b. Jena Leigh Culpepper b. 10 Oct. 1975

JOEL B. CULPEPPER

From *Culpepper Footprints in the Sands of Time*

Joel B. Culpepper, son of Joseph M. and Nancy Yarbrough Culpepper, was born January 1848 in Mississippi. The family lived in Clarke County, Mississippi, in 1850, and show up in the 1860 Federal Census of Jasper County, Mississippi. It is said that his father, Joseph M. Culpepper, died in the pulpit while preaching in the early 1860's in Jasper County. After the death of his father, the family moved back to Choctaw County, Alabama.

Although just a lad of seventeen, Joel B. Culpepper was active in the Civil War. He stated that he fought with Company C, 40th Alabama Infantry. However, Civil War documents show other Alabama Regiments. He was captured by Federal Forces and was held as a prisoner of war at Fort Massachusetts on Ship Island until the close of the war. After his release, he returned to Choctaw County, Alabama.

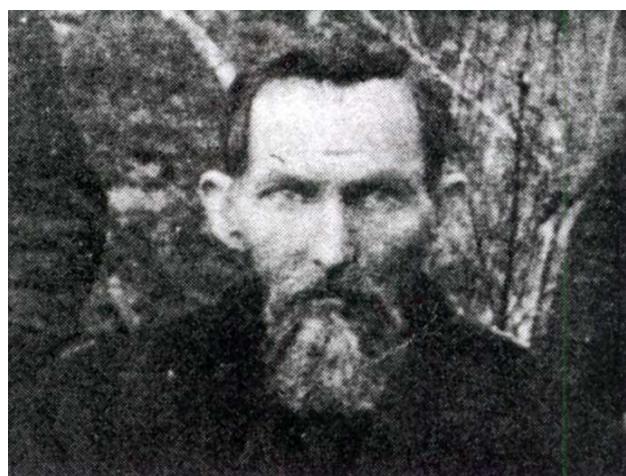
He married Mary A. (Mollie) McFarlan about 1870. They were the parents of six children, some of whom were born in Sumter County, Alabama, in the vicinity of Alamucha. The eldest child was a daughter, Mary Eudora, followed by three sons: William Samuel, Joseph Floyd, and Andrew Bluitt. It is said that one son left home at an early age and a daughter died young.

When Miss Minnie Dorrough, a retired school teacher of Sumter County Public Schools, was asked if she remembered the Culpepper family, she replied:

“Yes Maam, I remember Mr. Joel Culpepper. He lived about two miles up the road from us. He worked in the Saw Mill Business with Mr. Bill Woodall. He left this community and moved out beyond Meridian to Collinsville. Also, I remember two of his sons, Sam and Floyd. Sam came back and visited one Christmas. He had quite a romance going with a girl in the community, Ella Yarbrough.”

Joel and Mollie Culpepper moved to the Zion Community in 1885-1890. They lived at the Robert's place and later the Vance place. Their children married and settled nearby. After Mollie's death in November 1908, Joel lived around with the children until April 7, 1910, when it was decided that he would enter Beauvoir under his rights as a Confederate Veteran. Death came to Joel on January 11, 1911, less than ten months after his entrance to Beauvoir. In earlier years, the family had become members of Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and it is here that Joel and Mollie were both laid to rest.

After approximately one hundred years, descendants of Joel and Mollie are still quite numerous in the same community today.



MARY EUDORA CULPEPPER

From: "Culpepper Footprints on the Sands of Time"

Mary Eudora "Dora" Culpepper, was born March 31, 1871, in Sumter County, Alabama. She was the firstborn of Joel B. and Mary A. (Mollie) McFarlan Culpepper, and the only daughter to reach adulthood; another daughter died very young.

She had an unfortunate teen-age marriage that was of short duration. In early womanhood, approximately 1890, she was united in marriage with William B. Saterfiel. They became the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters. One daughter died at an early age and is interred at Blue Springs in Newton County, Mississippi.

In 1925, her husband, William B. Saterfiel, died and again she was alone. Her youngest child, Dewey, had married three years prior in 1921. For a time, she lived with her son, Adie, and wife Mollie Hodges Saterfiel. Her grandson, Thomas Walton Saterfiel, says of her, "Grandmother knew how to delight the heart of a small boy. We went fishing together".

It was said of her, "She was a gentle and caring woman, an immaculate housekeeper, and a good cook. One of those rare women who know how to take a house and make a home of it."

In late life she again married, this time to Mr. George Watson of Union, Mississippi.

In 1945, she visited my grandfather, Joseph Floyd Culpepper. "Aunt Dora" was my grandfather's only sister, and grandfather being a very special person, the visit was looked forward to with great anticipation. My memory of her is that of an old lady with a very soft voice, hair as white as banks of freshly fallen snow softly waved about her face, and warm compassionate eyes, as blue as the sky.

Her last years were spent at Union with husband, George. She departed this life on January 6, 1950. She was laid to rest at Pine Grove Cemetery, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.



Friday, January 6, 1950

Mrs. G. W. Watson (Mary Eudora Culpepper)

Mrs. G. W. Watson of Collingsville died Friday at St. Joseph Hospital, following a heart attack. Funeral will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. from the Union Funeral Home. The Rev. Edward McKeithen officiating. Interment will be in Union. Survivors include three sons: A. J. and D. O., Collingsville, and W. C. Saterfiel, Causeyville: Two daughters, Mesdames Joe Byrd and George Hodges, Collingsville; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Genealogy

Mary Eudora Culpepper
b. 31 March 1871
d. 6 Jan. 1950
bur. Pine Grove
Lauderdale County Miss.

Wed: 1.
2. W. B. Saterfiel
 b. 28 Feb. 1862
 d. 18 Jan. 1925
 bur. Zion Baptist Cemetery
3. George Watson

A. Evie Mae Saterfiel
b. 28 April 1891
d. 2 June 1957
bur. Pine Grove

Wed: George Thomas Hodges

Issue: 1. Earline Hodges
2. John Talmadge Hodges
3. Sadie Mae Hodges
4. Willie Faye Hodges
5. Moody Hodges
6. George Thomas Hodges
7. Wynell Hodges

Wed: William Lee Brown

Wed: Lewis A. Davis
Wed. Ted R. Herrington
Wed. Virginia Hughes
(died in auto crash 1941)
Wed. Walter Kenneth T.

B. Indeola Saterfiel
b. 4 Nov. 1893
d. 18 June 1956
bur. Pine Grove

Wed. Joseph Franklin Byrd

Issue: 1. Loree Byrd
b. 24 May 1922
d. 27 Dec. 1943
bur. Mt. Carmel
Bailey, Miss.

Wed. J. Cameron White

1) Tanya Lynn White
b. 22 Dec. 1966

2. Edna Indeola Byrd
b. 12 Feb. 1924
Kemper County, Miss.

Wed. Maxwell Hodges
17 April 1942

Issue: a. Maxwell Hodges Jr. Wed. Frankie Amanda Skinner
b. 29 June 1944 25 Mar. 1967
b. Lana Juanice Hodges Wed. Franklin Franklin Clay
b. 24 Dec. 1947 27 Aug. 1966

3. Edwina Byrd
b. 19 Feb. 1925

Wed. J. Cameron White
19 Feb. 1944

Issue: a. Cameron Carroll White
b. 27 Feb. 1945

Wed. Beverly Stapleton
4 Nov. 1967

Issue: Cameron Carroll White II b. 18 Sept. 1968		
4. Ramona Byrd b. 20 June 1929 Kemper County, MS	Wed.	Robert L. Carter 1 Sept. 1948 Lauderdale County, MS
Issue: Mona Jean Carter b. 9 Sept. 1949 New Orleans, LA	Wed.	John W. Erickson 10 June 1966 Escambia, FL
5. Bonnie Jean Byrd b. 16 Sept. 1931 Kemper County, MS	Wed.	Samuel Eugen Fulton 7 Feb. 1959 Winston County, MS
Issue: a. Ruby Jean Fulton b. 12 Jan. 1960 Winston County, MS		b. Peggy Kaye Fulton b. 28 Dec. 1961 Winston County, MS
c. Sammie Jo Fulton b. 10 Dec. 1963 Winston County, MS		
6. Joseph Franklin Byrd, Jr. b. 11 Feb. 1935 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Joycelynn Rae Hurt 8 April 1955 Clarke County, MS
Issue: a. Stephen Christopher Byrd b. 16 Feb. 1959 Lauderdale County, MS		
b. Stephanie Lynn Byrd b. 22 Sept. 1962 Lauderdale County, MS		
C. Adie Joseph Saterfiel, Sr. b. 10 Aug. 1895 d. 2 Aug. 1954 buried Pine Grove	Wed.	Mary (Mollie) Hodges B. 24 Dec. 1896
Issue: 1. Winona Saterfiel b. 3 September 1916	Wed.	X. L. Clearman 16 September 1939
Issue: a. Gerald Wayne Clearman b. 8 January 1943 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Patricia Lawson 13 April 1965 Las Vegas, NV
b. Steven Wayne Clearman b. 3 January 1966 San Bernardino, CA		
c. Linda Kay Clearman b. 21 May 1953 San Bernadinao, CA		

2. Thomas Walton Saterfiel b. 4 Dec. 1920	Wed.	Maybell Horne June 20, 1942 b. 10 Feb. 1918 Winston County, MS Daughter of Emmett Joshua Horne and Claudia Myers Susan McKinly June 1, 1975 Jackson, Ms
Issue: Thomas Horne Saterfiel b. 14 Dec. 1950 Hattisburg, MS	Wed.	
3. G. T. Saterfiel Lauderdale County, MS Issue: Mary Sue Saterfiel	Wed.	Lucy Hudson
4. James Webb Saterfiel buried Pine Grove		
5. Virginia Claire Saterfiel b. 26 Aug. 1922 Lauderdale County, MS Issue: a. Michael Joseph Flynn b. 14 Feb. 1948 Berkshire, MA	Wed.	Daniel J. Flynn, Jr. Feb. 7, 1947 b. 12 aug. 1922 Berkshire, MA
		Karen Sue Basile feb. 3, 1968
		San Bernadina, CA
		Issue: Micheal Joseph Flynn b. 2 Feb. 1969 San Bernadino, CA
		b. Daniel James Flynn III
		c. John Mark Flynn San Bernadino, CA
6. Donald Joe Saterfiel b. 1 Oct. 1929 Lauderdale County, MS Issue: a. Dennis Ray Saterfiel c. Toni Saterfiel San Bernadino, CA	Wed.	Margarett Allen Feb. 11, 1950 San Bernadino, CA
		b. Ricky Saterfiel San Bernadino, CA
		d. James Saterfiel San Bernadino, Ca
7. Dorothy J. Saterfiel b. 3 June 1927 Collinsville, MS Issue: a. Wendell Duan Kot Ft. Barrington, MA c. Deborah Jean Kot Ft. Barrington, MA	Wed.	1. Leon Miller d. 20 April 1944 in WWII 2. Jospeh S. Kot b. 16 Dec. 1918 Lauderdale County, MS
		b. Desby James "Jimmy" Kot Ft. Barrington, MA
8. Harold Hodges Saterfiel b. 19 March 1931 Lauderdale County, MS Issue: Donald Lane Satterfiel b. 9 June 1957 Colquitt, GA	Wed.	Annette Lynch b. 16 Sept. 1936 Colquitt, GA

9. Peggy Saterfiel b. 31 May 1933 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	William Edward Scruggs 1 Sept. 1951 Lauderdale County, MS
Issue: a. William Joseph "Joey" Scruggs Bell, TX c. Edward Scott Scruggs San Bernadino, CA		b. Mary Denis Scruggs San Bernadino, CA
10. Adie Josph Saterfiel, Jr. b. 28 June 1937 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Shirley Field 20 Sept. 1958 San Bernadino, CA
Issue: a. Dina Lynne Saterfiel b. 21 May 1958 San Bernadino, CA c. Robert Kenneth Saterfiel b. 26 May 1963		b. Josph Steven Saterfiel b. 16 Aug. 1960 San Bernadino, CA
11. Carl Dean Saterfiel B. 25 November 1938 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Sonja Taylor San Berndino, CA
Issue: a. Donna Carol Saterfiel b. 19 Januray 1960 San Bernadino, CA		b. Carla Ann Saterfiel b. 30 June 1966 Meridian, MS
12. Madell Saterfiel Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	George Bennett
Issue: a. Greg Bennett b. Scott Daren Bennett		c. Renae Bennett
13. Kenneth Saterfiel b. 8 May ?	Wed.	Rose
Issue: Gina Saterfiel b. 22 July 1669		
D. Willie Carlos Saterfiel b. 7 April 1898 d. 26 Dec. 1956 buried Pine Grove	Wed.	Carrie Hodges
Issue: 1. Pruitt Saterfiel 2. Claudine Saterfiel	Wed.	1. Irvin Watson 2. Warren Scarborough
3. Jessie Mae Saterfiel 4. Imogene Saterfiel	Wed.	
E. Dewey Oliver Saterfiel b. 2 May 1901 buried Pine Grove	Wed.	Alberta Coats Oct. 12, 1921 b. 18 Oct. 1904
Issue: 1. Annie Laurie Saterfiel b. 28 July 1922 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Louis C. Rein April 9, 1947 b. 17 Nov. 1908 Crawford, OH Son of Carl L. & Nettie Shiffer Rein
Issue: a. Diane Rein b. 11 June 1949 Richland, OH	b. Donald Rein b. 5 Feb. 1951 Richland, OH	c. Darlene Rein b. 9 Aug. 1952 Richland, OH
2. Willie Dee Saterfiel b. 28 Oct. 1923 Lauderdale County, MS	Wed.	Margaret Williams Feb. 28, 1941 b. 1 Jan 1923 Calhoun County, AL

Issue:

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. Gary Saterfiel
b. 19 Oct. 1943
Lauderdale County, MS
c. Charles Saterfiel
b. 6 Dec. 1948
Calhoun County, AL | b. Sharon Ann Saterfiel
b. 11 Dec. 1944
Calhoun County, AL |
| 3. Richard Perry Saterfiel
b. 16 Oct. 1932
Lauderdale County, MS | |
| 4. Charles Randal Saterfiel
b. 5 Nov. 1945
Lauderdale County, MS | |

CLUIS CARPENTER DANIELS AND MARY EUGENIA BROUN

By Mary Jean Daniels

Cluis and I were engaged the first week-end in October and were married the 2nd day of November, 1948 in the old Highland Baptist Church of Meridian. We moved to Collinsville sometime after the first of December. Cluis' family always shot fireworks at Christmas time. My daddy didn't allow fireworks at Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, but always on the 1st of January and 4th of July. Our first Christmas someone lit a red chaser and it got under my father-in-law, Nathan's feet and followed him everywhere he went and when he stopped running so did it. We laughed until we cried. Our first child, Katrina, was born just nine days before our second Christmas.

In Cluis' work we lived in Sikeston, Missouri; Biloxi, Gulfport, and Long Beach, Mississippi; and Baton Rouge and Bogalusa, Louisiana; and others. We have traveled all over the country following Collinsville basketball teams and many of the West Lauderdale football, basketball, and baseball teams and have enjoyed every minute of it.

Cluis and I were one of the first couples to help organize the Collinsville Community Development Club. Cluis served as President in 1970. He was Man of the Year for Lauderdale County Community Development Club in 1971. I have served as an officer of Collinsville Band Booster Club and President of the P.T.A. I served as 4-H leader for many years and also as an advisor until after Kristel was a member. That is a long time and many trips to Starkville. The two boys were members also. Paul was fairly active. Lee was a member when the club sort of disbanded, but not as active as the other children.

Cluis was also the one in charge of getting the first community fire department. He served as its first fire chief. He and Tate Roberts drove to an Army base in Georgia to buy our first fire truck. On the way over there, Cluis was pulled over for speeding and they took him and Tate to the police station to pay the fine. All Cluis had was one hundred-dollar-bill and the fine was about \$20.00. They had to wait for sometime before the officials could scrape up enough change. Tate and Cluis were hoping that the few people on duty couldn't make change. The first fire call they made when Lee was old enough to go was at night and it was raining. About two miles up Highway 19N, the lights went out on the truck and Lee had to sit on the front fender with a flashlight.

From the time we married in 1948 until we left Collinsville Church of God, I was always involved in the "Women's Missionary Society." I have been its President, VicePresident, Secretary and Program Chairman. I served on the State Board for many years as its Secretary and later as its Stewardship Chairman for six years. Cluis has served as President of the Board of Trustees at the Church of God in Collinsville and for many years as its Secretary and then as its President until we left the Collinsville Church of God in 1995-96. Cluis and I both were always choir members. We did many solos and duets during this time. He was also in a quartet with Pete Breazeale, Earlene Williamson, and Eileen Daniels. We were youth leaders as long as I can remember. I taught a Sunday School class from 1949 until about 1993 or 1994. I started with the Beginners in the basement of the old parsonage and taught the Youth for years and then the Adult class.

When it came time to build the new church, Cluis was in charge of the building because at that time he was President of the Board of Trustees. We held our meeting in the basement of the old church. The members and everyone heard the call of God upon their hearts, minds and pocketbooks. After the pledges were in, there was enough money to build the new sanctuary. Praise God!

The men worked every Saturday for a year. Paul George was the job foreman and was there every Saturday along with our Pastor Coomer, Cluis Daniels, Johnny Agnew, Larry Frazier, Harold Frazier, Norwood Williamson, and Harold Brown. What a glorious day it was when we had our dedication service. Reverend Survine of Parkview was our speaker. Many Church of God pastors from our state were there and most of our pastors in our community.

Looking back at the Collinsville Church of God, it was started by five Anderson sisters from Clarkdale who were first members in the Jones Chapel Church of God. They were Molly Skelton, Lillie Carpenter, Edna Harwell, Lizzie Carpenter Long and Lula Moore. The church was later carried on by their children and grandchildren. Cluis' mother and father were a great aid in bringing in children who didn't or couldn't get to Sunday School and church. Cluis and I carried on their mission for many years. Nathan and Ela Fay were faithful in their zeal to see the church grow. If an angel ever walked this earth, it was my mother-in-law, Ela Fay Daniels.

When Ela Fay and Nathan got their marriage license in Lauderdale County when they were only 16 and 18 years old, they wanted Brother Roy Griffin to marry them, so they went to his home which was in Clarke County. When he looked at the license, he said he couldn't marry them because he was in Clarke County and the license said Lauderdale County. So all got in cars, came across the county line, and they were married in Lauderdale County. Brother Griffin's younger son was the witness.

When we started going to Parkview Church of God, I was teaching the 2nd grade class. Second graders do not read or write very well (it was a challenge.) Most of those first students there are almost grown now. The funniest thing that happened in that class was when I caught a little boy at the end of the table, looking up my coattail. "Thank God" for a long leg girdle because that was all he could see anyway.

I now serve as the Secretary and Program Chairman for the Martha Hill Society of Northpark Church of God. We have many fond memories of all the pastors and a few not so fond but that is what life is all about.

Our children are scattered all over the country. Katrina is the only one here in Collinsville. Her husband ran the Collinsville Woodworking Plant for years, until Cluis sold it out to a company in Louisville. Jerry Craven then bought Everett's share in Daniels Roofing when Everett retired. Karie and Courtney both attended West Lauderdale High School and both served as cheerleaders at West Lauderdale and MSU in Starkville. Upon graduation both went to work for Anderson Consulting Firm in Atlanta. Karie is back in Collinsville and is engaged to marry Brad Woodall of Meridian. Courtney is working for Tony Pompelia at an advertising company called "Leading Edges."

Paul is a pastor of the Church of God in St. John, Michigan and their two children are Ericka and Paul, Junior. Ericka has just returned from Kosovo where she served in the National Guard. Paul, Jr. is married to Janelle Lucas and they live in Noblesville, Indiana. They both have great jobs that they enjoy very much.

Lee is retired as a Major in the U. S. Army. He, his wife, Penny, and their son, Elliott Nathan, live in Huntsville, Alabama. Lee has two sons from a former marriage to Babs James of Laurel. Their names are James Carpenter Daniels and William Ellison Daniels.

Kristel, the baby of the family, is married to Rev. Brad Kendall who was born in McAllen, Texas. His parents were missionaries to Alaska and pastors in Kansas, California, and now Oregon. Brad and Kristel have three sons, Bradley Paul, Junior (Lee), Daniel Bryan, and Collin Andrew. They have served as pastors in Shreveport, Louisiana; Anderson, Indiana; Nappanee, Indiana and now in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Cluis and I were leaving to take a trip to the coast for a few days in the motor home and as we were leaving, he asked me if I would drive so that he could check and see if the car was pulling straight behind the motor home. I thought he was going to the back of the motor home and watch from there. Well he wasn't and I went all the way to Meridian talking to him. I decided he had gone to sleep in the back. But when I asked him where he wanted to eat and didn't get an answer, I pulled into old Brookshire's and got up and then I knew I had left him at home. It wasn't funny then. I drove all the way to Gulfport. We have had many a laugh over that.

Another time, Eileen Daniels, her kids, my kids and I had gone to Jackson Coliseum for basketball playoffs. If you have ever been, you know the seats spring up when anyone gets up from their seat. Well we all jumped up when West Lauderdale had made a score and we sat back down, but Eileen forgot to pull her seat back down and sat squarely down on the floor. There were people all around us, who had a little laugh. I must say she was a good sport about it.

I remember one day Lavern and Thaddeus were riding a motorbike over on the highway behind their home and they got into a fight. The outcome was that they went off down a deep ditch and suffered some scratches and bruises. Another time Lavern was coming down to Arnold and Hazel's house. We were all on their back porch and Lavern was on the motorbike again and instead of watching where he was going, he had his head turned looking at us and waving with a big grin on his face and he ran right smack into a big tree stump. He was thrown over the bike and the stump and landed on the other side. It is a wonder it didn't kill him.

Neighbors are quick to help when they see a need. I remember Cluis was not able to get in our hay. Lee and I were out there--I was trying to drive the tractor and Lee was pitching bales of hay on the wagon. I don't know where Ikie Ethridge came from but he stopped and was helping when Norwood Williamson came by from work and he stopped and started loading up the trailer. I can't remember if others came and helped, but it was a saving act of kindness for us.

FAMILY OF EVERETT AND EILEEN DANIELS

By Eileen Daniels

Our family began April 5, 1947, the year Everett Larue Daniels and Eileen Luther Daniels married. Everett, son of Nathan Everett Daniels and Ela Faye Carpenter Daniels of Collinsville, MS and Eileen Luther Daniels, daughter of James William (Will) Luther and Birdie Lucille Townsend Luther of Suqualena.

They met the year of 1945 at a Sunday School party. They dated a couple of times (Eileen's first date). There were school basketball games and they would see each other, just to speak and smile, nothing serious.

Everett graduated from Collinsville High School in April 1945 and went into the navy. Three days before graduation he had to leave, and his parents were presented his diploma. Everett and Eileen did not see each other for several months and they dated other people. In July of 1946, Everett was discharged, the war was over. He came to Eileen's home the day after he got home and they started dating and never dated anyone else. In November of 1946, they became engaged and married at Macedonia Baptist Church in Suqualena. Eileen graduated from Suqualena High School in April, 1946 and went to work at Merchant and Farmers Bank in Meridian, MS. Everett, his dad, and brother, Cluis, opened Nathan E. Daniels Roofing Co.

Everett and Eileen lived in Collinsville, MS after they married. They lived with his parents for six months until they built their house next door to his parents and across from his grandparents, John R. Carpenter and Lillie Anderson Carpenter. His uncles, Thad Carpenter and Arnold Carpenter, lived across the road and his great uncle and aunt, John and Elizabeth Long also Haney and Onie Anderson lived up the road. "This was Kin Folks Road".

Everett and Eileen worshipped at the Collinsville Church of God. This was where all the Daniels, Carpenters, and kin folks worshipped. They taught Sunday School classes, taught youth groups, served on different boards and Eileen worked in the Women's Missionary Society.

Everett and Eileen wanted to have children and were unable too. She miscarried three times. After seven years of marriage, they then had a baby girl. She was born May 27, 1954. They named her Awana Rue Daniels. The "Rue" was after her daddy's name, LaRue. This was a joyful occasion for them. After four tries to the hospital in seven years, they were finally taking a baby home.

Two years later, they had a baby boy, born March 26, 1956. They named him Rolland Everett Daniels. He was named Rolland after a good friend, Rolland McCartney and Everett for his dad and granddaddy Daniels. Then two years later they had another son. He was born July 9, 1958. He was named William Nathan (Danny), so that's what everyone called him. God blessed us with three wonderful children. Awana was a "tomboy". She liked cowboy boots, bats and balls, and riding horses. We sent her to Charm School (but she still loved playing with her brothers, Rolland, our sports son and Danny, our musical son).

Awana was a good student in school. She played clarinet in the band for four years and graduated with honors from high school. She enrolled at Meridian Junior College and took Data Processing where she only went two years for this course. She was hired by Holiday Inn South and worked several years. Later she went to work at Home Federal Savings and Loan. A young man was introduced to her. His name was Jerry Simmons from Causeyville, MS. Norwood Williamson, her best friend, introduced them and Awana fell in love almost at first sight. They married February 22, 1975 at Collinsville Church of God. Her uncle, Rev. James E. Stephens, performed the ceremony. A few years later Awana went to work at People's Bank in Collinsville and worked there for sixteen years. She and Jerry were married five years and had a son, born October 10, 1980. They named him Jerry Brandon Simmons, Jerry after his daddy. What a joy he has been to his granddaddy and grandmother. Awana's best friend, Ann Barnett, was his baby-sitter but she was more like his second mother. She kept him until he started kindergarten.

Awana now owns her own business, Broadmoor Cleaners and Laundrette in Meridian, MS. She was elected as Election Commissioner for district 3 and has served 4 years. She is beginning another 4 years, she did not have an opponent this time. Jerry is driving for Consolidated Freight and commutes to Jackson, MS. Brandon is 20 years old and began working for Daniels Roofing Company.

Rolland Everett was a precious baby. He was kinda "plump". He was so lazy, he would not hold his bottle. He would wake up and cry rather than pick up his bottle. The doctor had his parents to wean him at ten months old. After a couple of days, he started drinking from a cup and slept at night. Rolland loved tractors, trucks, rocky horses, and fire trucks, also lawn mowers. This was when he was small. After he got old enough, he started playing baseball. He played Pee-Wee, Little League, Babe Ruth, and was chosen for All-Stars. They went to State and won. Then on to Fort Myers, Florida and got beat in the Championship Game. He loved all sports. Rolland's senior year he was selected to receive the Richard May award. He was chosen for being an all around person, and taking part in all activities at school. Rolland was and is a "people person". He played trombone in the band for 6 months, but it interfered with sports, so he quit. He was in NJROTC for a year, but stopped that too. Rolland loved football, but was never heavy enough. He played quarterback two years, but he got hit a lot. He graduated in 1974 and enrolled at Meridian Junior College. After 6 months he went to work for Delta Airlines and worked a couple of years. A friend of his, Jay Shumate, talked him into going to Anderson College, Anderson, Indiana (our church college). He said that was the best decision he ever made. He played baseball there for a year. Then his brother enrolled at Anderson College and they formed a singing group called "Sunburst". They toured a summer for Anderson College. It was a good group. He graduated from Anderson College and came home to Mississippi and went to work for his dad and Uncle Cluis at Nathan Daniels Roofing Co. He was there for 3 years and his parents felt that God had been talking to Rolland about going into the ministry, but he did not talk to them about it.

In August 1981, God finally got his attention. On a Sunday morning, his mom went to pray with him at church and he grabbed her and said, "Mom, I have got to say 'yes' to God today" and he was afraid to tell his dad. She said, "Rolland, your dad would say "Go if God is speaking to you". Well, he told his dad and his dad said go and he went to Seminary in September. A month later, he met the girl of his dreams and they fell in love. They dated a year and were married December 17, 1983. He was pastoring at North Anderson Church of God, Anderson, Indiana as youth pastor. He graduated from Seminary in 1982. Ellen graduated from Anderson College in 1984. On July 18, 1985, a son, Rolland Tyler Daniels was born. He was named for his father, Rolland. Tyler was born with a birth defect, spina bifida. He had to have spinal surgery a week later to put a shunt in his head. Thanks to God, he is a walking miracle today. He runs, plays ball, and is a smart Christian young man, fifteen years old. He plays baseball, golf and is in the youth group.

Rolland took a church in Muskogee, Oklahoma as senior pastor after he resigned from North Anderson Church. He was in Muskogee for two years and went back to Anderson, Indiana. He didn't pastor for a year and worked for Equitable Insurance Company. A church from Lansing, Michigan, Pennway Church of God, called him to be senior pastor. While they were there, they had another son born January 29, 1989. They named him Seth Jordan Daniels. Seth is our athlete. He plays baseball, basketball, and football. He has been chosen for the All-Star team for all these sports. He is a fine Christian young man. He was there four years and Anderson Indiana Church of God business office called him to head a program called "Vision to Grow". He told them he would for three years and he did, then he wanted to go back to pastoring. A church in Dayton, Ohio, Salem Church of God, asked he and Ellen to come and be senior pastor there. The church is in a little town called Clayton, Ohio (a suburb of Dayton). They have been there for four years. Last year in March 1999, Rolland called his brother, William Nathan Daniels, to be his Worship and Arts pastor. He accepted and they are enjoying their time together. Salem church has an attendance of 1500 people.

William Nathan "Danny" Daniels, what can I say? He was a sweet, smiling baby, good-natured, but would not take "no" for an answer and is still that way today. He came into this world "humming". He has musical talent unbelievable. The family went to see Sound of Music when he was about five or six years old. He came back from the movie and played each song by ear. He started taking music lessons in third grade from Mrs. Lucille Butchee. She would not play a piece of music for him because he would play it by ear and not learn the notes. He also took music from Miss Bennie Baines for a couple of years. He was able to take from Mrs. Virginia Matzner ("the music teacher"). She was a wonderful teacher and Danny studied music from her until he started to college.

Danny was in high school band at age thirteen. He was student conductor and won All Superior his first year. The judge could not believe he was only thirteen years old. His first instrument in the band was trumpet, but he decided his lips were not right for that and started playing the French horn. Mr. Willie Rigdon was band director and encouraged Danny a lot. The band made several number ones for about three years, but never quite made it in sight reading. Danny made superior every year he was in the band. When he was in ninth grade, he served as Drum Major in absence of the Senior Drum Major. It was in Tupelo, MS at a parade. In the eleventh grade, he became Drum Major and made all number ones then.

After graduation from high school with honors, he enrolled at Anderson College, Anderson, Indiana, and our church college. They had a good music department. His first year at college, he played a part in "Once Upon a Mattress". His next year, he, Rolland and Kim Kincaid formed a singing group, "Sunburst", and traveled for the college along with Dan Marle, guitarist, Rick King, bass guitar, Barry Caylor, drums and Danny on keyboards. It was a very good group. The group split at the end of the summer and Danny formed another group with Stephen Curtis Chapman and his brother, Herb. The two brothers chose not to return to Anderson College. Stephen Curtis went on to become a very popular artist. The next year Danny traveled with Bill Gaither and dropped college for a couple of years. Danny co-wrote a song with Bill and Gloria Gaither. The song was "I've Just Seen Jesus". Sandi Patti and Lamelle Harris recorded this song. It was nominated for a Dove Award. Danny produces and arranges albums for several artists. After traveling with Gaither, he enrolled in college again and got his degree in Music Industry.

After graduation, he joined the Bill Gaither Trio as music conductor and played keyboards. He traveled two or three years with Bill and in the meantime he met a young lady named Jodie Linerman from Florida. She was a student at AU (it is now). They married June 24, 1985. A year later they had a baby girl, Brianna Nicole, born February 19, 1986. Danny decided not to travel anymore after he had a family. He and Jodie moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma, but the job promised to him did not work out. He went to visit Jodie's parents at Christmas and heard that a Minister of Music was needed at Vero Beach, Florida. He went for an interview for the job and got it, so he moved to Vero Beach and became worship leader at First Church of God in Vero Beach. While there, their second little girl was born, Kristen Mackenzie Daniels, born May 12, 1988. He pastored two years there and Rev. David Cox from Indianapolis, Indiana talked to Danny about taking worship and arts for Church at the Crossing in Indianapolis. He and Jodie moved there. That year a son, William Nathan Daniels II, was born May 13, 1990. They pastored about three years at The Crossing and had wonderful musicals.

In 1992, a Baptist minister named John Hull from Atlanta, Georgia called him about going to Toronto, Canada with him to pastor at People's Church of Canada. Danny and Jodie went to Canada and checked it out. They liked what they saw and moved. They pastored five years in Toronto. One day out of the blue, Rolland called and asked if he would consider coming and working with him at Salem Church of God in Clayton, Ohio. Danny and Jodie went to Ohio for an interview and got the job as Worship and Arts Pastor. This was one of Danny's dreams that they would work together someday.

After much prayer by Rolland and Ellen, Danny and Jodie, they made the move to Salem. Rolland is Senior Pastor, Danny is Worship and Arts Pastor with seven other associates. Two brothers working together and enjoying it. They are a good team. They were here in Mississippi for the State Camp Meeting July 17 through 23, 2000. Mom and Dad are quite thankful for their sons and the talent God has given them. Danny's Nathan is going to be his musician, we think, also Brianna sings solos now and Kristen has a good voice, too.

Danny has a wonderful choir and orchestra at Salem Church in Clayton, Ohio and puts on great productions at Easter, mid-summer and Christmas.

Everett and Eileen are very thankful to God for their three wonderful children and six grandchildren.

They have celebrated 53 years together. God has really blessed them. They now worship at North Park Church in Meridian, MS.



1st Row: Nathan Daniels, Kristin, Briana, Seth, Tyler Daniels, Awanada Daniels Simmons.

2nd Row: Danny, Jodie, Ellen, Rolland, Jerry Simmons.

3rd Row: Billie East, Pebble Daniels Davis, Hazel Carpenter, Eileen Luther Daniels, Everett Daniels, (Bunny) J. V. Sheperd, Rev. Earl Wheatley, Brandon Simmons.

FRANK DAVIS FAMILY

By Helen Davis Ethridge

Our family moved to the Martin Community in 1935. There were eight of us, including six children, Herman, Helen, Frankie, Fred, Doc, and Jimmy. We all worked on the farm, milking cows, raising hogs for our meat, and raising chickens for our meat and eggs.

Dad and Mother kept us close at home. They never cared how many boys and girls were at our house as long as we were at home. There were times when there would be fifteen to twenty kids there at meal time, but Mom and Dad had a good time with them. Mother cooked as many as 150 biscuits for breakfast lots of mornings. We cooked vegetables by the gallon and cooked chocolate puddings in a large dishpan.

After our family was grown, Mother and Dad moved to Collinsville, on Highway 19 North where they enjoyed having company as long as they lived.

Mother died on August 2, 1984 and Dad died on March 12, 1990.

A TRIBUTE TO AVA AND FRANK DAVIS By granddaughter Sandi Davis Wolf (1990)

I NEVER HAD TO KNOCK

I remember it well, turning off the highway,
Onto the dirt road that was Mamaw's driveway.
When passing the big Mimosa tree,
Where all us kids skinned many a knee.
On up to the old house with all it's charm,
Sitting in the middle of a little old farm.
I guess she could see us coming down the block,
Because I can't remember once ever having to knock.
For I would always jump out of the car to see
Mamaw's open arms just waiting for me.
Then she would give us all a hug and a kiss.
That's one of the things that I really miss.
You could always see Mamaw's joy and pride,
Whenever her family was at her side.
As far as her grandkids - they could do no wrong,
Jumping on beds all the day long.
Or screaming through the house, she didn't care.
All that mattered was that they were there.
Then I would run inside to see,
Papaw was usually in his easy-chair,
Sleeping like a little teddy bear.
But when he was awake his mind was as clear as a bell.
And, oh, the stories he could tell.
Seems like he was always on Mamaw's case,
But he always knew no one could take her place.
He had an impressive watch collection,
From which the men in the family could make a selection,
And last, but not least, was dear sweet Herman.
They used to call him "Preacher" when he'd belt out a sermon.
He's always been "special" and close to our heart.
And in keeping his family together, he still plays a part.
For there now has been placed a big steel lock.
Upon the door I never had to knock.
For Mamaw and Papaw have left this earth now,
And though we miss them greatly, we'll manage somehow.
For they taught us how important family can be.
I only hope some of them rubbed off on me.

THE DAVIS AND TUCKER FAMILIES OF MARTIN

By Joyce Davis Tucker

Located in the northwest corner of Lauderdale County, you will find some of the warmest friendliest people in the county. Martin is a small, quiet, peaceful place where it is rumored that you have to be a "kissing cousin" to live there. This rumor has now been dispelled by the influx of new families that have moved into Martin to raise their families.

In the hearts and minds of those of us who were fortunate enough to have grown up in Martin, it represents a place of sweet memories, dreams dreamed and realized, and large families whose life centered around the three churches in the community, Antioch, Leeville, and Pine Grove. It was also a place where people took their sports seriously. It was said by "some outsider", I'm sure that at Martin, we majored in Basketball and minored in the three R's. I will admit that basketball was "King" and we produced many good athletes over the years.

When the twentieth century dawned, the schools were Dahlgreen and Leeville. Shortly thereafter, probably in 1903, Martin came into being. It is not known where the name Martin originated. There was a Martin family who owned land here and some even suspect that the name came from the Purple Martin that was the school emblem on the basketball uniforms around the 1920's.

Along about the forties, our favorite swimming place was definitely not our Martin Swim Association's lovely pool. It was usually a wide place in one of the local creeks. If you lived in the NE part of Martin, you probably learned to swim in House Creek or Okatibbee Creek "wash hole". If you lived in the NW corner of Martin, you probably walked to Clay wash hole which was known to have the coldest water in these parts; and if you lived in down town Martin or down toward Collinsville, you probably went to Gin Creek wash hole which in early days was called the "Poe Wash Hole". They were all equipped with their very own swinging vine and some time a crude make shift diving board, and some time just a tall bank. All of them doubled as our church Baptismal Pools on Sundays.

We were blessed to have three stores in Martin. The earliest one I remember was Mr. Will Clay's store. He was located right across the road from the school so naturally a trip to the store at recess was special. Mr. Oswald Moore built a store a little further north and then Sarah Ruth Ethridge Pool (at that time) built a store. She would open her store after the bus trip on nights the ball teams were on the road. Many of us had our first fried baloney sandwich after a ball trip. She also had a Saturday night at the movies (under the stars). If it rained we were under a tent. A lot of us could scrape up a dime to watch a movie and sit on a bench by our best beau or girl. Sometimes we might even hold hands. We saw good clean family movies that didn't have to be rated and some times they were even continued to assure that we would come back the next week.

Large families were the norm. Many families had seven or more children and some even had eleven or twelve. Most people farmed for a living and raised large families in their spare time. Sunday afternoon visits were common, and family reunions were large. Although money was not plentiful, there were some large lovely old homes built in Martin around the turn of the century. Some that come to mind were the Old Phillip May home, the Robert Moore house, the Old A. J. Lee home, the William Moore home, the Will Herrington house, the Old Cap Ethridge home, the Stephen Tucker house, the Al Davis house, and many others. Some of these were built by particular families and some of them came to be owned by them in later years.

Al Davis married Ethel May, daughter of Phillip and Susan Pool May, in 1901. They moved in with their parents as most young people did in those days. He built them a small house on what is now the Davis road. Their first four children, who were Amye, Leo, Rubye and Bennie were born in that small "shot gun" house. In the mean time, Al saw that they had to have a lot of room to raise what would later become 11 children, so he borrowed the house plans of Mr. Robert Moore and began to work on the "Big" house which was located slightly south of the small house on the same road. His place joined the Robert Moore Place. They moved in when Rubye was three. Little Bennie had died at age one, and they had a stillborn boy. Then they had Lois, Ford, Martin, Phil, Ralph, and Mattie Sue. The big house had a wrap around porch on three sides of it and several bedrooms. It had the carved decorative post, complete with gingerbread trim and clapboard gables. The steep

roof provided a large usable attic in which many "interesting" things were stored along with rows and rows of canned fruits, vegetables and jams and jellies which were stored to carry that big family of eleven through the winter. They ground their own meal and killed their own pigs and sometimes calves. As Rubye tells it, they didn't have a lot of money but they never went hungry. There was always an extra plate at the very long homemade table with benches down each side. There was always room for visiting relatives and those who weren't kin to stay over. Especially if they could play basketball and Martin needed them on the team. Or if you were newly weds and you just needed a roof over your head. Lots of good times and family get togethers and neighborhood music makings and ice cream suppers were had in the Davis house.

The favorite summertime activity was hand turned ice cream. This was not your conventional hand cranked freezer. Ethel and the girls would mix up rich cream and pour into gallon molasses cans, seal them tightly and sit them down into a larger bucket, pack them with ice and salt and then invite one of the many guys in the family to apply some elbow grease to turn the pails back and forth. When the neighbors saw a big gathering out in the yard at Al Davis' house, they felt free to come on by and eat ice cream without an invitation. Lots of good times and family "music makings" took place in the Davis Family home.

Most of the Davis children played some musical instrument, some played several. Al was an old time fiddle player so it was only natural for him to have a family band. He also created his own farm lands. They raised corn, cotton, cattle and pigs, vegetables and sweet potatoes. Some funny stories passed down through the years. For example, the one about how clean Al wanted his corn patch. He would lay the corn by, then in a week or two, they would go back and pull the cockleburrs from the corn by hand. The "farm workers" knew that he wouldn't walk over the whole patch, so they just pulled the weeds on the end of the rows. Well, that day, A1 decided to check the whole patch. Needless to say, the Davises had to put in over time that day. Then the day Phil and Ralph put the rocks in their cotton bags to make them weigh more, "He noticed." I believe some corporal punishment was administered that day. Rubye also told of "getting up their lessons" by the firelight, then having to pick cotton seeds out of the cotton until they had a shoe full of seed before they went to bed. The seed were saved to plant the next year, and the cotton was used in the home for cushions, pillows and quilts.

Although they worked hard, they played hard. They swam in their own pond, made molasses taffy and peanut candy. During these neighborhood candy making and during the ice cream suppers, a group would gather to make music.

In this group, you sometimes found Stephen B. Tucker. He grew up with Al and they fiddled together. At one time, when they were young, Al was boarding at the Tucker house helping on the farm when the census was taken. So their friendship went back a long ways. Stephen was the son of Stephen and Caroline Ross Tucker and he married Onie Pruitt. They raised a family of eight children, just up the road from Al and Ethel. They lived in the Old Tucker family home, which was quite large and was at one time the traditional "dog trot" type house. Stephen farmed, raised children and seriously played the violin. He was invited to make a record back in the thirties. There was a program involving old fiddle players and the songs they played. They came out and picked up Stephen and took him to Meridian and interviewed him and recorded several of his songs. His family can proudly report that this record and the interview can now be found in the National Archives in Washington, D. C. The Tuckers raised their children on what was then known as Tucker Road because all of the land owners on that road were Stephen, his brothers and his uncles.

Stephen and Onie's children were Grady Pruitt Tucker who married Edna Earl Woods, Sallie Tucker Snowden, Janie Tucker Carpender, Victoria Hand, Nina Calvert, Louise Clark, Claudene Tucker and G. T. Tucker. Some of the families who were brought in to the Tucker family by marriage were the Hands, Lees, Calverts, Pruitts, Snowdens, Smiths, Clarks and others. So when Steve Tucker, the grandson of Stephen and Onie, married Joyce Davis, the granddaughter of Al and Ethel, immediately, that made all of the McMullans, Ethridges, Hodges, Herringtons, Killens, Crenshaws, Mays, Pools, Ishees, Stranges and many others who had married in the Davis family, "kissing cousins" of the Tucker Clan.

Now you know the story of why everybody in Martin is kin to everybody else in Martin. So you have to be very careful whom you are speaking ill of when you are in Martin. You just might be talking to a relative.

Now in the twenty-first century, two houses that held all those sweet memories and sweet strains of music and laughter of many children, no longer stand. The old Tucker house was torn down by Steve in the seventies and some of the wood salvaged for family members. The land is owned by Steve and his sisters. The old Davis house was torn down in 1993 by a young family who used the material to build a family home over in the Duffee community. Hopefully new dreams will be dreamed and new memories will be made in the new "old" house.

No longer do the kids swim in the "wash holes" or get baptized there either. We now have a real pool and two of the churches have indoor baptistries. We still have three churches in the community. We have only one store, in the old Martin School building. We have a new volunteer fire department across the road from the old school with a shining fire engine and some dedicated firemen and emergency responders. Some of these people are descendants of the above families. They are helping to make Martin a better place to live.

But then...it always was...A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE.



1st Row: Jimmie Davis, Don Brown, Joe Byrd, Hubert Frazier, Jim Wallace.

2nd Row: Jack Mayatt, Mack Herrington, Billy Ethridge, Carl Ray Culpepper, Tom Mayatt, and Coach Ikie Ethridge.

Martin High School 1953

This 1953 team came in 2nd in the state, better than any other team in the history of Martin School. They won 40 games during the season with Billy Wayne Ethridge scoring 1100 points in his senior year. Billy Wayne, Tom Mayatt and Carl Roy (Rusty) Culpepper were selected on the State Team and were offered four years College Scholarship.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DOERNER

By Beth Tucker Smith

George W. Doerner was a District Road Supervisor in Neshoba County, Ms. before moving to the Collinsville area ca. 1885 - 95, where he purchased a large tract of land adjacent to the Collins and Hamrick families.

He immediately built his home (now the home of Malcolm and Lucille Moore) and established a general store, and several timber industries such as a sawmill, Planer mill, stave mill, and a turpentine manufacturing business.

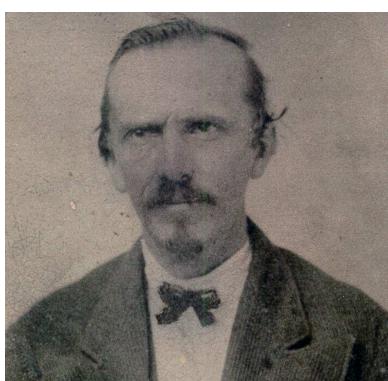
He was reported to be one of the wealthiest and most respected men in that part of the county. Mrs. Doerner had white servants in the home and was a very refined lady.

George Washington Doerner was the son of Georg Heinrich Doerner and Sarah A. Lamkin and was born Aug. 1, 1846. He married Mary Frances "Fannie" Eubanks, daughter of Archillus and Mahali & Ellis Eubanks.

George and Fannie had 4 children; Lorenzo Thoman Doerner, Mary Abigail Doerner (Galloway), Emma Elizabeth Doerner (Collins), and Grover Cleveland Doerner.

George's father, Georg Heinrich Doerner immigrated to America from Sausenheim, Bavaria in 1836, took the Oath of Loyalty in Kings County, New York, Aug. 2, 1836. He was the son of Georg and Elizabeth Thoman Doerner, both born in France.

George Washington Doerner served in the Military with the rank of Captain in the Confederate army. He was captured with his unit in a skirmish with the Federal troops about 5 miles north of Marion, Ms. in Feb. 1864 and was transported to Rock Island Army Prison where he remained under terrible conditions until the end of the war in 1865.



George Washington Doerner



Mary Frances (Fannie) Eubanks Doerner



William Thoman Doerner, Son of Lornezo Thoman Doerner,
Grandson of George W. Doerner. Hauling barrel staves to Pine Springs.

SARAH AGNEW DONALDSON STORY

Blaze Razes Landmark In Martin Area
From: *The Meridian Star*

A Meridian mother, Mrs. Sarah Donaldson, 35th St., saved her one-year-old son, Steve Allen; her mother, Mrs. Mattie Agnew; and her brother, Melvin Agnew; of the Martin area, from fiery death Sunday night when the J.A.J. McDonald home near Martin community re-ignited from a previous fire and burned to a total loss with all contents except a small alarm clock.

Mrs. Donaldson made the daring rescue of her child, with sparks and flaming debris falling on the bed where her son was sleeping, after previously spreading the alarm to the two other persons asleep in the residence.

Mrs. Donaldson and her four children were spending the week-end with her mother while her husband, Edward J. Donaldson, of 35th St., had departed for Mobile to see the Alabama-Vanderbilt football game. During the afternoon she sent the three older children, Jimbo, Harry and Mike, back to the city with Mrs. Dewey Williams, 29th Ave., to prepare for school Monday, she and the youngest planning to spend the night in the country and return home early Monday.

According to the family, the first blaze, caused from a cook stove was noticed at or about 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The family, aided by friends, managed to move all the furniture out of the home, but the blaze was brought under control and apparently extinguished. The furniture was moved back into the residence.

The family had retired for the night when the second fire, one that had made almost full headway before it was discovered, waked Mrs. Donaldson.

Mrs. Donaldson is the sister of the wife of City Patrolman John O. Mayatt.

The J.A.J. McDonald home was a landmark of Lauderdale County and was attractive, having belonged to the late J.A.J. McDonald, one time "Master Farmer" of the county. McDonald also was a leader in the nation's first Soil Conservation Project in the United States. His farm was set up as a model for other farmers to follow when the program was instigated under direction of the late President Roosevelt.

Mrs. Agnew is also the mother of Mrs. Dewey Williams, 29th Ave., Mrs Lura Mayatt, 26th st., and Charles Agnew, Oakland Heights; and M. L. Agnew, 26th Ave., Meridian.

Mrs. Sarah Donaldson, Lauderdale County Matron who heroically saved the lives of three persons when the J.A.J. McDonald residence flamed to total loss Sunday night near Martin community. This was the second fire on Sunday.

Left is Steve Allen, who was saved at risk of her life. Her other children were in Meridian.



Steve Allen



Sarah Agnew Donaldson

ESPEYS MOVE TO COLLINSVILLE

By Benton Espey

Edwin and Martha Sansing were married on December 24, 1933. Edwin grew up in Kemper County, Mississippi, the oldest of five children-three girls and two boys. His parents were Oscar Whitfield Espey and Iva Elizabeth Mayes. Martha grew up in Neshoba County in a family of three boys and three girls, Martha being the fifth child. Martha also had nine half-brothers and-sisters, children from her father's first marriage. Martha's parents were Parks Washington Sansing and Mattie Butler Gardner. They were long time members at County Line Baptist Church.

Martha and Edwin lived for a time at the Barney Partridge place in Neshoba County where several of their six children were born. They also lived in Meridian for a time where Edwin worked for Mr. Sutter, driving a milk truck. From there Martha and Edwin moved to Suqualena about 1943 and rented a small four room house on a farm from Miss Lennie Denton. It was there that H. C. and Benton were born. In this house they used a wood stove to cook on, heated the house with a fireplace, had an outdoor toilet, and drew water from the well. Good neighbors were the McGee family and the Fox family.

In 1946 Martha, Edwin, and the six children moved to their home in Collinsville, a newly built house on 160 acres of land. This house was built from lumber cut from their land, and a good neighbor, Robert Williams, helped with the building. Good neighbors were the Williams family, the Phillips family, the Giles family, the Lockwood family, and the Smith family.

The Espey children are George of Harlem, GA; Iva of Pine Springs, MS; Sarah of Hattiesburg, MS; Elizabeth of Saint Cloud, MN; H. C. of Collinsville, MS; and Charles Benton of Collinsville, MS. Martha and Edwin had 19 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Martha and Edwin were active members of Macedonia Baptist Church in Suqualena and they were Past Worthy Matron and Past Worthy Patron of the Suqualena chapter of the Eastern Star. They were active members of the PTA at Collinsville High School where all of their children, except Benton, graduated from high school. Benton was in the first class to graduate from West Lauderdale.

Until his death in February 1959 Edwin had worked for many years at the Flintkote Company in Meridian. Martha was a homemaker worked hard on the family farm. She died November 26, 1995, one month short of 91 years of age.

Edwin and Martha were both hard workers and loved their family very much. They taught their children to work hard also. They had cows to milk, chickens and pigs to feed, gardens to hoe, fields to plant and harvest and so there was not a lot of time to be idle.

They taught their children to love and believe in God. They were a strong Christian family and had many friends whom they loved.



1st Row: George, Martha, and Edwin
2nd Row: Benton & H. C.
3rd Row: Sarah, Iva, and Elizabeth

Miss. Onie and Janie Pruitt,
This is to inform
you that Mr. W. T. McDonald,
myself will call on you the
fourth Sunday in Oct at
11 o'clock A.M.

Respectfully,
Eugene Stephens

If you have any off hand
I had better say them in
not be silent, and put on your
looks,

All over.

The 28th 1892

Letter written to Onie & Janie Pruitt from Eugene Stephens in 1892 when he was 22 years old.

ETHRIDGES - MARTIN ANCESTRY

By Jerry Vance Ethridge

In 1745 William Nathaniel Ethridge came to America. Some time in the 18th or early 19th century, the spelling of the family name was changed. This occurred during the Revolutionary War, when those loyal to England retained the older spelling (ETHEREDGE) and those who joined the Revolution against the Mother Country changed it to the shorter spelling of Ethridge.

From the 16th to latter 20th century, the Ethridge family has demonstrated a variety of characteristics----Many children have blessed it's marriages. The Ethridge men have been farmers, loggers, homesteaders, plantation owners, merchants, public officials, grocers, poets, barbers, surgeons, professors, soldiers, explorers, preachers and teachers.

In this century many of the men have had outstanding careers of public service. One was an editor and publisher, and was in diplomatic service of the United States. There have been many lawyers, judges, a member of Congress, state legislators and municipal and county officials. The men have served the country in the Armed Forces willingly and ably in times of war and peace. There were many Ethridges fighting for the Confederacy and equally important, the women were faithful wives and good devoted mothers.

Ikie's father was James David "Jim" Ethridge, son of Isaac Ethridge. His father's siblings: William "Cap", Isaac "Ike", Nettie Pruitt, Sarah Miles, Mattie Hodges, Johnnie Gibson, Abbie Hand and John Franklin "Brother."

Jim married Frankie Stephens, daughter of Rev. Eugene Stephens. Story goes that Rev. Stephens was moving to Meridian in 1919. He had received a call from Highland Baptist Church, also his children would have better education opportunities. Frankie did not want to leave Martin or Jim, so they eloped. Their children were:

I. James Eugene "Smokey" married Helen Davis of Martin. James was a farmer, logger, carpenter and quail hunter. They had two children:

1. Son - Jim Ethridge who married Becky Harmon of Collinsville and they have 2 children, one son and one daughter; son, Dane Ethridge, who married Amy Armstrong. (They have two sons, Smokey Dillon and Colby); and a daughter, Dawn, who married Wade Woods and they have two children, Amber and Tyler.

2. Daughter - Patricia who married Howard Covington of Ponta. They have one son, Mitch, and three daughters, Stacy and twins, Amanda and Angela.

II. Sarah Ethridge married first Dalton Pool of Martin. Dalton was killed at an early age in an accident at work in the railroad yard. They had one son, Gene. He married Linda Miles. They had 2 children, Sherry & Micky. Then Gene married Cherry and they had one daughter, Jeanine. He is now married to Joy Denny, who is a former Miss Arkansas.

Sarah later married Bob Shipley and he was killed in a vehicle accident, after his death she married "Doc" Sims.

III. William Franklin "Red" Ethridge married Loansesse Herrington of Martin. He worked at the Flintkote Manufacturing Company as Superintendent of Maintenance for many years before retiring. They have four children:

1. Son - Ray married Jean Anderson and they have one son Keith and one daughter, Michelle. Then Ray married Carol Perry and they had one daughter, Jill.

2. Daughter - Kay married Tommy Castle. They have three children, Leeann, Jamie, and Julie.

3. Daughter - Angie married Kenny Espey. They have one son Josh, and a daughter, Abbie.

4. Daughter - Pam married Tim Sharp and they have two sons, Jason and Daniel, and one daughter, LaGina.

IV. Eva Ethridge married James Frank Spears of Martin. They had three sons:

1. Ronnie (deceased)

2. Eddie married Ellen and they have a son, Drew and a daughter Ashley.

3. Mike married Dyann Moffett and they have four children, Lisa, Pam, Wade and Wesley.

V. Ikie Ethridge married Jerry Vance of Collinsville. Ikie was in education and public service. They have four children:

1. Daughter - Lynn Ethridge who married Ricky Roberson of Toomsuba and they have three daughters, Kacie, Robbi and Cory.

2. Son - Ikie Keith Ethridge married Tracy Scarbrough of Martin. They have three children, Kylie, Jessica and Landon.

3. Daughter - Rhonda Ethridge married Bill Brand of Hickory. They have two children, one son, Will and one daughter, Jera.

4. Daughter - Kristi Ethridge who is employed as a school attendance officer for Lauderdale County.

VI. Jackie Ethridge married Ruth Johnson of Center Hill. They are both retired from education and coaching. They live in New Orleans, La., thirty years plus.

Ikie's father died when Ikie was seven years old, leaving his mother with six children, two mules (one mule not paid for), and a farm.

Rev. Eugene Stephens was Ikie's grandfather and became like a second father to the children. He was a beloved country preacher who served many churches in this area including Pine Grove Baptist Church. He traveled mostly by mule and buggy, before cars and passable roads. It is told that after preaching on Sunday nights, in Kemper County, on the way home in the buggy, he would go to sleep. His trusted mule, knowing the way, would bring him home. In 1934, the churches he served and friends presented him with a bright new 1934 Ford coupe. He had many calls from larger churches, but felt that he was called to minister to the rural people.

Rev. Stephens moved from East Martin in 1919 to Meridian, 2309 43rd St. and served Highland Baptist Church about five years as pastor. The membership out grew the church, which was a small plank building located on 35th Ave. south of 20th St.

"Daddy Gene" as we grandchildren lovingly and respectfully called him, returned to rural churches until his death in 1945 at 75 years. He was born in 1870, the year Pine Grove Baptist Church was organized in Martin. He grew up in Shucktown near Center Hill.

His father (Ikie's great grandfather) was Eliah S. Stephens who also pastored at Pine Grove Baptist Church several times during the years of 1886 and the last call was 1896.

Ikie's mother, trying to hold her family together, worked the farm and also worked at the lunchroom at Martin High School. Later she worked at East Miss. State Hospital for 22 years. Ikie's first job was when he was in the 9th grade and 14 years of age, driving a wooden body school bus. He was valedictorian of his class at Martin High School.

He attended East Miss. Jr. College and University of Southern Miss. He was a member of the varsity basketball and baseball teams while attending college. He began teaching and coaching at Martin and they had many wonderful basketball teams. Later he served as a principal at Collinsville. He served in the army and was sent to Korea. Upon returning, he received his Master of Education an Education Specialist Degree in School Administration.

He worked for 30 years in public education as a coach, teacher, and principal. He also served at E.M.J.C. as Academic Dean, Registrar, and baseball coach (won state championship). E.M.J.C. selected him as Alumnus of the Year in 1986. He served as Superintendent of Education for Lauderdale County, and was there during the difficult time of integration. As many prayers were offered up, God answered and everything went smoothly.

Ikie was elected to serve as a Supervisor of District 3, for 12 years. He was president of the county board and later was elected 1st and 3rd vice presidents and then president of the Miss. State Association of Supervisors.

In 1950, Ikie married Jerry Vance and they have four children. Ikies's best and most enjoyable role is "Papaw" to eight grandchildren. We are a close family and enjoy being together for birthdays, Easter, and Christmas. Our children, along with spouses and our grandchildren, always spend Christmas Eve night with us and this makes for a full house. Kristi, our youngest was six when our first grandchild was born, so Santa Claus has always come to our house. We appreciate them letting us share in this exciting time of their lives.

We had our 50th Wedding anniversary this past summer. We celebrated with a trip to the Bahamas, accompanied by our children and grandchildren (17 in all). We had a wonderful time with a lot of laughter and fun. We have memories that we will cherish always.

Ikie is now retired, but does not like to say he is retired. He had rather say he is a land developer. His projects include the old Center Hill school property, building a Amoco Service Station and Food Store, beauty shop, mini storage and trailer park. Also he is developing his part of the old home place on Byrd-Doerner Road, with ponds and house plots and some land on Highway 19 North. His latest venture is on Wildcat Road in which lots are surrounding a lake that is just beginning to fill up with all this good rain.

God has blessed us with Christian parents and grandparents. All of our immediate family, children, spouses and six of our oldest grandchildren have made professions of faith and are active in our churches. God is good and we are thankful!



1st Row: James Eugene and Sarah Ruth
2nd Row: Ikie, William, Jackie, & Eva.



Mr. Converse Foster seated with his grandchildren; Orlen, Monroe, and Wava.
Son John and Daughter Nancy standing.



Foster Family 1939

Front Row Seated: Aunt Emma Johnson,
Aunt Minnie Thomas, Aunt Annie Doerner,
Child Unknown.

Standing: Addie Harbour, J. R. (Jim) Foster,
Charles Foster (Willie's son), Willie Foster,
Unknown Man, Aunt Mattie Agnew,
Aunt Nancy Cook McAllister.

THE FOSTER FAMILY OF MARTIN

By Delores Herrington Brown Glenn

The Fosters were one of the oldest families in Martin Community. Mr. Converse Foster and his wife Elizabeth Poole Foster, owned land in Martin, before the Civil War. He served in the Confederate Army and was at a Camp Whitfield in Columbus, MS. in 1862. He wrote a letter to his young wife and first child, Joel, in June of that year. The letter was kept and now belongs to one of his great-grandchildren. Being his first time away from home, he was homesick for his family. In the years from 1862 until 1883, they had nine children: Joel Foster, Annie (Foster) Doerner, Emma (Foster) Johnson, John Foster, Minnie Lee (Foster) Thomas, James Robert (Jim) Foster, William G. Foster, Mattie (Foster) Agnew, and Nancy (Foster) McAllister.

The Fosters owned land on both sides of the present Julius Tucker Road. Jim Foster lived on the hill across the hollow, about 1/2 mile from his daddy. Many mornings after getting out of bed, he went out on his front porch and gave out a big yell, to let his folks on the opposite hill know he was up and about for the day. He lived his entire life, (except for 2 or 3 years, when he had to live with a daughter) in the same house. He was a farmer and blacksmith. He always had lots of fruit trees and fig trees. There was also hickory nuts, black walnuts, and pecan trees. His rule was that you could eat all you wanted, but you couldn't crack more than you were planning to pick out and eat. The nuts were also used to make molasses and nut cakes, which were very good. He was known as a very conservative man.

Jim loved playing the fiddle. To help keep rhythm he would have one of his daughters take two straws and keep time by drumming or striking the fiddle strings, while he fiddled

His grandson learned to build a fire in the fireplace by learning a rhyme that he taught him:

Back stick, front stick, then a stick of pine
Middle stick, little stick, then a stick behind.

Every fall, he cooked syrup at his syrup mill. His grandchildren enjoyed an occasional dipper of cane juice, or were allowed to chew a stalk of "Blue Ribbon Cane". A big cable hung between two large oak trees, making a swing that went very high. Also, rolling the rim off wagon wheels made for fun activity. Mr. Jim drove his buggy to Pine Grove Baptist Church on Sundays. He had owned a model "T" Ford, but used his buggy most of the time.

He was the father of four children. He and his first wife, Minnie Richie Foster had three children: Wava May (Foster) Herrington, James Monroe Foster and Orlen Cisroe Foster. His second wife, Lula Adams Foster had one child: Mallie Marlene (Foster) Hayes.



Jim Foster

A TRIBUTE TO ETHEL FRAZIER

Copied From a Book of Poems



THE MASTER'S PLAN

You can bloom wherever planted
If God has placed you there,
Though you may not realize it
There's no failure in His care.

He glorifies bare deserts with bloom
Or crevices on the steep mountainside.
It may be down in the valley dark
Where many shadows abide.

So pine not for other places
There is so much we do not know,
But grow and bloom where you are
God knows where each of us can grow.

Our little daily grind of life
May sometimes seem so frail
But He is the master gardener
His plan had never failed.

Ethel M. Frazier

LOOKING AHEAD

Though age may take its toll
Dim my sight, silver my hair,
Slow down my once so busy steps
I am young inside, for God is there.

I still can love, share, and give,
The blessings of God bestows on me I still can look
ahead, not back
And always new hotizions see.

And when this shell in which I dwell
Is mouldering back to earthy sod
The INNER ME will be set free
To go adventuring with God.

Here we see thru' a glass darkly
There, face to face with our Lord.

Ethel M. Frazier June 18, 1988

"Mother Ethel" was such a wonderful person; had so much compassion for people, so much insight and perception, and a beautiful walk with the Lord which was so evident in her life. She was a lover of nature and had a keen sense of humor. She and I had a wonderful mother/daughter relationship. We had that "special gift of understanding" between two people and we "thought alike". Our love for each other began to develop immediately when she married my Dad in the Spring of 1952. (My own mother had passed away one year prior when I was 17 and a freshman in College.) She filled so many voids in my life and was a great influence on my Christian life.

After my dad's death, she sold the home and occupied a mobile home located on my lawn and close to my house for a period of 13 years before her death.

She was a tremendous influence to everyone who knew her and a statement made by a friend at her funeral sums up her life, "Well, if she didn't make it to Heaven, there's no need for the rest of us to even try".

I loved her dearly,
Earlene Williamson (step-daughter)

HIDDEN TREASURES

It was there all the time,
But I had failed to see,
Like not being able
To see the wood for the tree.

I had looked too far and
Alas! too high,
Never seeing the treasures
I was passing by.

I was seeking for truth
While it was in plain view,
Had it been a sword
Could have pierced me through.

Joy and peace come not
With Honor or praise,
Or searching and grasping
All our days.

It comes as gently as the
Dew drops fall,
And faith and patience
Help find it all.

Ethel M. Frazier, October 5, 1969

THE FREEMAN-SCARBROUGH HOME

By Kathy Scarbrough

One of the oldest homes in the Collinsville community was built at the turn of the century by Mr. W. V. "Virge" and Mrs. Etta Freeman. Now owned by Archie and Kathy Scarbrough, the home has remained in the Freeman-Livingston family since that time. Family members who grew up in the house, including Mrs. Cleonia Powell, date the house to 1903 or 1905; however, early deeds to the land date to 1910.

The land was deeded to Mr. Freeman by Cotton States Lumber Company, which utilized a railroad line that ran through the property. The Freemans built a traditional Creole cottage on the property along with a barn, a storm shelter, and other outbuildings. In true Creole style, the house has a central chimney with double fireplaces that once warmed both the main room and the kitchen. There are also matching or opposing windows and doors, and high ceilings for adequate cross ventilation. The house was deliberately sited to catch evening breezes, and family members have always said that Miss Etta could tell the exact time by the way the sunlight fell across the porch floor.

Located on Old Highway 19, the house was a stopping point for travelers commuting between Meridian and Philadelphia. The well, located on the front porch, served as a favorite watering spot for travelers and their horses.

Mr. Virge and Miss Etta and their daughter, Genoa Jean Freeman, retained ownership until 1974, when the house was purchased by the Scarbroughs. The house remains a "family" house, however, since Kathryn Johnson Scarbrough is a great niece of Mr. Freeman. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Jewel Freeman Livingston, Mrs. Freeman's sister. Many people who know Collinsville will remember Miss Jewel best when they think of her along with her sister. Almost always spoken of together rather than individually, Miss Polly and Miss Jewel spent their later years together as seamstresses for the community.

Though the house has undergone many changes, including most recently the installation of central heat and air, the original footprint remains intact with a few additions. The swing on the front porch still catches a breeze even on the hottest, most tranquil days; the old wooden floors still creak, no longer with the barefoot steps of the six original children, but with the Nike-clad steps of Wills Scarbrough, and sometimes when you least expect it, you catch the faint smell of a corncob pipe, the one that was as much a part of Virge Freeman's face as the mouth that held it.

The original owners: Mr. W. V. and Mrs. Etta Freeman and their children, Genoa Jean Freeman, Cleonia Freeman Powell, Lurel L. Freeman, Luna Freeman Gibson, Pearlie Freeman Walker, and Lenora Freeman Tull Smith.

Present owners: Archie and Kathryn Johnson Scarbrough and their son William Banks "Wills" Scarbrough.



Fulton and Carpenter Story



Hazel with her mother and daddy, Bob and Vera Fulton
and her niece Judy Johnson.



Paula 4 years old
Genia 3 years old
1953



Arnold & Hazel
1947
-60-

HAZEL MARIE FULTON AND LEE ARNOLD CARPENTER STORY

By Hazel Fulton Carpenter

My parents were Vera Eula McArthur and Robert Lee (Bob) Fulton. They were both born and raised in Preston, MS, Kemper County. They had four children: two sons, Clark (died when he was an infant) and Willie James, and two daughters, Edna Earl and me (Hazel Marie). I was born June 10, 1927, in Meridian, MS, Lauderdale County. My brother and sister were thirteen and fifteen years old when I was born. I never lacked for attention, but it wasn't many years until they left home, and I was raised like an only child. When I was six months old we moved into a house my parents had built in Suqualena, MS, where I lived until I married.

My mother was a full-time housewife and mother. She made all my clothes, was a wonderful cook, and always encouraged me to have my friends come to our home. She loved to crochet and work in her flowers, and we always had a pretty yard. Here is a poem I wrote about my mother when I was in school:

Mother

Mother is the sweetest person I know,
Whenever I'm in trouble it's to her I go.
She shares my every burden and laughs when she feels bad.
She cooks my favorite food and cheers me when I'm sad.
She washes and irons and listens to my woe,
She whistles and sings and teaches me to sew.
She's a jolly, good person and full of fun,
Is always very busy and always on the run.
Ready and willing to help me wherever I go,
She's my best friend and I love her so.
She gives me faith in myself and love by the score,
And teaches me the Bible more and more.
She knows me like a book and my every thought,
And tells me to remember what I've been taught.
I've put her through every test there is,
And she comes through them like a whiz.
When I want something that cost lots of money,
She just looks at me and says, "You're funny."
Oh! so welcome she makes my friends feel,
Talks and laughs and cooks the best meals.
I love my mother in such a special way,
It would take a giant book for me to say.
But this I will always remember, no matter where I roam,
She's someone very special who made our house a home.

My daddy worked for the Southern Railroad, always had a garden, cows, chickens, and a family living on our land that farmed for us. We were a close family. I never knew my grandparents. They died before I was born or shortly thereafter. My parents, grandparents, and two brothers are all buried in Pleasant Springs Cemetery, Preston, MS. I grew up in Macedonia Baptist Church in Suqualena and accepted the Lord at an early age.

I had lots of playmates who were our neighbors: the Jessie McCann children (they had a big family and it was so much fun to play with them), Maxine Luke who lived on the hill, later the Prestridge kids, and also Jack Jones who was a neighbor. Jack and I used to get in our swing and play Fred and Al Key, flying in an airplane. Jack, Maxine, and I used to climb in a Chinaberry tree at Maxine's house and see who could pick the most Chinaberries. All of us kids built so many playhouses in our back yard. I had a dog named Pudgy and one named Spot, lots of cats, and a pet chicken that would follow me around like a dog.

Christmas was so much fun at our house because Mother really loved Christmas. She always went all out - cooking, decorating, and buying gifts. The sky was the limit, and I always got what I wanted no matter what. It was a known fact that I would always get a pretty ball, colorful top, and a beautiful doll. Maybe that's the reason I've always loved Christmas and dolls.

My favorite Christmas was when I got my bicycle. It was blue, had a luggage carrier on the back, a horn, and a light. Before daylight I took my bike outside, turned on the light, and rode it around and around our house. When I'd pass Mother and Daddy's bedroom, I'd blow the horn. I'll never forget that Christmas.

I graduated from Suqualena High School as salutatorian of my class. After graduation, I went to work at Marks Rothenberg Department Store at the hat bar. I always loved hats and when I went to lunch each day I would wear a different hat. They told me it was good advertisement for the company.

I then went to work at Merchants and Farmers Bank (known today as Amsouth Bank) in the bookkeeping department. I loved my work. We were all young employees, and we had such a sweet, loving boss (Christine Brashier) who was old enough to be our mother and was beginning to gray. I used to tell her we were responsible for every gray hair in her head.

In 1947 I saw the love of my life, Lee Arnold Carpenter. He rode a motorcycle and would stop to have a cup of coffee at the White House Cafe in Meridian, which was next door to M & F Bank where I worked. It was love at first sight, but it wasn't until after Helen Eileen Luther, my best friend, and Everett Larue Daniels, Arnold's nephew, were married that I actually met Arnold. After we had only two dates, I told my mother and sister, "Someday I'm going to marry Arnold." They thought I was crazy and said you don't even know him. But I knew from the first moment I saw him that he was the one for me. We dated for several months and at Christmas he gave me an engagement ring. We were married June 10, 1948, at Macedonia Baptist Church, and our reception was held at my parents' home. We honeymooned for a week in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, and Biloxi, MS.

Lee Arnold Carpenter was born July 13, 1922, in Collinsville, MS, Lauderdale County. His parents were Lillie Lee Anderson and John Rice Carpenter. He called his parents Mama and Papa. Arnold had one brother John Thaddeus (Thad) and one sister, Ela Faye.

His mama was a full-time homemaker and mother. She always had chickens, guineas, and lots of cats. She could fix a pair of shoes that had been torn (using her shoe last) as good as they could at the repair shop. She also loved working in her flowers, and she whistled all the time. We could hear her from our house. She was always so mischievous, playing tricks on her grandchildren, but she was a great influence on Paula and Genia's lives. She prayed with them daily at her special outdoor prayer place. His papa farmed, had cows, worked for the county, and always had a garden. Arnold grew up in Collinsville First Church of God. His mother helped to start that church. He never knew his maternal grandparents or his paternal grandpa, but his paternal grandma Sarah Elizabeth Hamrick Carpenter lived with them, and they called her Ma. Arnold can remember two things about Ma. He remembers going with her every afternoon to get the cows, and also one day he was playing with matches and singed her hair. She died when he was eight years old.

While he was in school, to earn some spending money, he and Paul Rice would do janitorial work. They would sweep the floors every day, and they always managed to get some girls to help them. In the winter they had to get up early and build the fires in the schoolhouse. They earned about nine dollars per month.

Arnold had a Gibson guitar and played in a band which was formed by Caruthers Carlton. The other band members were G. W. (Puddin) Adkins, Charles Moore, Everette and Cluis Daniels. They played on WCOC radio. The name of their band was "Dixie Dandy's," and that was also their theme song.

Arnold graduated from Collinsville High School. After graduation he joined the navy and served over three years. He was in World War II. The name of his ship was the ***U.S.S. Cossatot*** A077 (a Navy tanker). For one year of his navy career he never set foot on land.

In November before Arnold and I married the next June, he bought a house from his brother Thad. It was not wired for electricity, had no indoor plumbing, and no inside doors. Arnold's sister and brother-in-law, Ela Faye and Nathan Daniels, had the house wired for us as a wedding present. Mr. Will Jolly did the wiring. Arnold was making \$1.25 an hour working for Nathan E. Daniels Roofing Company. If it rained he did not get a paycheck. As we could afford a door, Arnold hung it. When we could afford a can of paint, I painted. Arnold sanded and finished the living and dining room floors and laid tile in the kitchen and bedroom. We bought a bedroom suite, stove, refrigerator, a double sink with metal cabinets, and a dinette set, and moved into our home. We pinched pennies like they were going out of style. One day I looked out and saw Papa Carpenter coming across the field with a wicker rocking chair. (He had it turned upside down holding it over his head.) I can just see him now. He said, "Lillie and I were just talking, and we knew you and Arnold didn't have a chair, so I brought you this one." We still have the chair. It is one of my most prized possessions. I immediately started working on the yard setting out shrubbery, grass and flowers.

One day while Arnold and I were cutting and piling brush in the backyard, we decided to burn the brush pile. It was a long way from the house or so we thought, but when we set fire to it, the flames went higher than the house. People started turning off the main highway and coming pass our house. They thought our house was on fire. The fire was so intense that you could not stand between it and our house. I had plastic clothes pens on my clothesline near the house, and they just melted and fell off.

As soon as we could we bought on credit a Sears Roebuck freezer and a garden plow (which Arnold still uses). Arnold would plant a garden and I would can and freeze the vegetables. We have had a garden almost all our married life. Arnold loves his garden and always has a good one. He raises the best tomatoes and loves to share them.

In September 1948, tragedy struck. Someone passed by my parent's home in Suqualena and saw that their house was on fire. My mother was in the house and burned to death. Our neighbor across the road had talked to her that morning, and everything was fine. They didn't even notice that the house was on fire, until they saw people stopping. The fire truck from Meridian came out and my boss at M&F Bank, Christine Brashier's husband, J. W., was a firefighter on the truck. He assured me everything was O.K. and that Mother was probably visiting someone. But that wasn't to be. Daddy was at work. He lost everything but the clothes on his back. He'd say over and over again that he wished he'd lost all of his earthly possessions and that Mother could have been saved. We never knew what happened, and it almost killed us, especially Daddy. He almost had a nervous breakdown.

Then the Lord blessed us with two healthy, sweet daughters, Paula Faye (named for Arnold's sister, Ela Faye) and Leagenia Ilene (Genia), named after Lee Arnold, Mama Carpenter (Lillie Lee), my Daddy (Robert Lee -Lea), and my best friend Eileen (Ilene). Before Genia was born my daddy came to live with us. Since I never knew my grandparents and Arnold only knew one of his grandparents for a short time, we were so thankful that Paula and Genia would be able to enjoy theirs. They were so blessed to have one grandparent living with them and the other two grandparents living next door. We always said we had built-in babysitters. I would call my daddy Granddaddy when I was talking to Paula, but she couldn't say Granddaddy, and it came out "Nanny." After Genia was born, she'd hear Paula calling my daddy "Nanny". So the name stuck. They called him "Nanny" all of his life, and so did all the kids on our road. They called Arnold's parents Mama and Papa Carpenter.

Eileen and Everette didn't have children so they took up a lot of time with Paula and loved her very much. She couldn't pronounce Eileen or Everette, so she called them Heen and Habie.

Every afternoon about three o'clock Paula and Genia would start watching for Papa Carpenter to come home from work. When they saw him come into sight (he was walking) they would run to meet him and grab his lunch box to see what he had left. I've often wondered if he went hungry just so he would have something left for them to eat.

The highlight of our day was when Arnold came home from work. We stopped everything we were doing and went to meet him. Our dog "Scrooge" would even run to meet him. Arnold would kiss us, then pick up Scrooge, throw him into the air, and catch him. Until he did this Scrooge would worry Arnold to death jumping up and down.

Our summers were so much fun. One day out of every week Hollis Perkins and I would fix a picnic lunch, and we'd take Paula, Genia, Tommy, and Mary either to Clarko State Park near Quitman, MS, or Highland Park in Meridian. Hollis and I would always have butterbeans or peas to shell so we'd just take them with us. The kids played and swam while Hollis and I shelled. We would also take time out from shelling to swim and play with them.

I would also take Paula, Genia, and Dianne Carpenter (Agnew), their cousin to Poe Wash Hole to swim. Alex Jolly, Terry Carpenter (Dianne's brother), and Doug Scitz would usually be there swimming. There was a large cable attached to a tree limb from which they would swing and drop into the water. It was so much fun for them, but when the boys were there, Terry and Alex would be so mean to the girls. They would be in line waiting to climb up the tree to swing off the cable. Terry and Alex would snatch the girls back and get in front. Doug never would do this. He was so sweet to them. Sometimes he would even let them go ahead of him.

On weekends Arnold and I would take Paula and Genia on picnics and swimming. We even had lots of picnics in our backyard and also played lots of ball with them.

Paula, Genia, and I used to model a lot when I belonged to the Home Demonstration Club. I made all our dresses that we modeled. We won first place in the local contest lots of times, district several times, and one time we even went to state.

Paula and Genia had a cat named "Prissy." She was so sweet and would let them dress her in all kinds of clothes. They would then lay her on her back and stroll her all through the house and all over the yard.

We also had a German shepherd named "Pal" who was very good-natured and loved Paula and Genia so much. He stayed in the yard with them and wherever they went, he went also. He really looked after them. We had him for sixteen years.

Once a year when my friend from school days, Ruth Cross Jolly, who lived in Atlanta came home for a visit, I would always invite her over for a meal. On this particular visit, I fixed the meal inside. We were going to eat outside so I took all the food, put it on the picnic table, and went back inside to get the tea. When I returned I heard that good, sweet dog "Pal" that I was just telling you about, chomping on something. - Guess what? When I looked on the table one of the steaks was gone. Yes, Pal was eating one, but just think, he could have eaten them all! Ruth and I laughed and laughed so much we cried. We just divided the steaks that were left and helped ourselves to more green salad as Ruth said, "I always did love green salad."

Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Birthdays were always so special at our house.

While living with us my Daddy retired from the railroad and started buying registered white-faced cattle as a hobby. When a new calf was born he would name it after his grandchildren. (He had five granddaughters.) After such a tragedy in his life this was very good therapy for him. After many years he decided to build himself a house near a pond on property he owned on Highway 19 North. We called it his cabin. He continued to live with us, but would stay in his cabin some of the time. He built an outdoor barbecue pit which we often used. We had lots of good times at his cabin.

On January 18, 1962, after being single for fourteen years, my daddy married Lois Moore Brown. (They were married for fourteen years.) Then tragedy struck again. On July 18, 1976, my daddy burned to death - 28 years after my mother had burned. This was so heartbreaking and ironic; we couldn't believe it. I am so afraid of fire.

Paula and Genia both played softball, were in 4-H, and played clarinets in the band. Paula was a majorette, and Genia was a cheerleader. Genia won many honors at West Lauderdale School including being salutatorian of her graduating class. As long as they were at home, their wish was our command. We never thought about ourselves. We were constantly doing something with them or for them-having spend the night parties, going swimming, going to ball games, going on picnics, having their whole class once a year to spend the day, and going to the mountains or beach for vacation. I also made all their clothes. I went back to work at M & F Bank when Paula and Genia were fourteen and fifteen years old, after Paula got her driver's license. We thought when they left home we would be so lost that we wouldn't know what to do with ourselves, but it hasn't been like that at all. It seems like every phase in our lives just keeps getting better and better.

In 1972 we bought our first motor home. We've traveled all over this good ole U.S.A. and Canada, traveling sometimes with friends and sometimes by ourselves. We've belonged to a camping club for 23 years, and once a month we travel with them if we're home. We have camped in 49 states, every state except Hawaii; and wherever we go, we see all the sights near us. We always say we see every pig trail. On Friday, April 13, 1984, we retired. (And by the way 13 is our lucky number - Arnold was born on the 13th, we married on the 13th, and we retired on Friday the 13th.) It has been a wonderful 16 years of retirement for us. The Lord has really blessed us with good health. When we're at home we work very hard, but when we decide to go somewhere we forget all that work and go.

Our oldest daughter, Paula, married James Eddie Spears while she was in High School. They divorced and she is now remarried. Paula is a fulltime mom and wife, and is married to John Kennington (Kenn) Cannada. He works at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant and is planning to retire in five years. They built a house in the country at Edwards, MS, (halfway between Jackson and Vicksburg). They love horses and ride every chance they get. They pull their horse trailer with their motor home and travel all over the country. They have ridden in 11 different states. They are active members of Edwards Presbyterian Church. (Kenn grew up in that church.) They have two children, a daughter - Teri LeAnn, and a son-John Micah. Teri graduated from college and is married to Gabe Mullins. They have a one-year old son, Tyler Lee. Arnold and I are now great grandparents! Micah attends Hillcrest Christian Academy and is in the 11th grade. When he was younger he played baseball, football, and rode in horse shows.

Our daughter, Genia, was married to Mitchell Ernest Keith. They had two sons, Kenneth "Cyle" and William "Fulton" (named after his maternal great granddaddy). Then death struck again. Our little angel "Fulton" was only twelve weeks old when the Lord called him home. He was such a beautiful baby with gorgeous eyes. They donated his eyes so that someone else might see. He is buried in Hamrick Cemetery at the foot of Papa Carpenter's grave (his paternal great granddaddy). Cyle graduated from West Lauderdale High School and is in his second year of college. His major is biology. When he was young he played baseball and soccer. Genia teaches in the Meridian Public School System where she has taught for 28 years. She is now married to Ronnie (Ron) Alton Smith. He is retired from Delco Remy. They built a home on Okatibbee Dam Road on land that has been in the Carpenter family for many years. They attend Collinsville First Church of God, as do Arnold and I.

Paula and Genia have never spent Christmas away from home. They along with their husbands and children always spend Christmas Eve night with us. We have always seen our grandchildren get Santa Claus and now we are seeing our great grandson get Santa Claus. This is a happy experience!

Even though we have remodeled our house, it is the same one we started with, and we have never moved.

Arnold and I are so close, and it has been a wonderful 52 years of marriage! Where has the time gone?

GARY GIBSON'S MEMORIES

By Gary Gibson

Grandfather Gibson (Samuel Thomas) died in 1933. Grandmother Gibson (Mary Ella) died in 1943. I do not remember my grandfather as I was very young when he died. I was only eleven years old when my grandmother died. I was the only Gibson grandson. The memories of my grandmother Ella and the old Gibson place will never be forgotten.

During the summer months I would spend several days with Grandma Ella and Uncle Norman. I helped with normal every day chores. I would help plant and work the crops. Uncle Norman had laying hens. In the evening I would gather, clean, and place the eggs in a crate. After two or three days we would have a full crate of eggs to sell. Sometimes something would disturb the chickens at night. We would watch Uncle Norman quietly get out of bed and get that long pistol that hung on his gun rack that was made of two forked sticks. He would be clad only in his underwear and shoes. Uncle Norman would ease out of the back door. The disturbance would usually be caused by a possum or a house cat.

Uncle Norman always had a good sense of humor. He always kept the grandchildren entertained. One of his favorite tricks was to get us to blow in the face of the large white and black bulldog named Jigs. Jigs would lick you square in the mouth.

Uncle Norman owned a 1926 Studebaker Coup automobile. It was a fine car in its day. It was dark blue with a rumble seat. The car was all leather on the inside with a vinyl top. It had wood spoke wheels. Sometimes Uncle Norman would take me for a ride in his car. We usually went to the store at Collinsville.

Grandma Ella always had all kinds of vegetables in her garden. She had lots of onions and a long row of garlic. The garlic was used to season food. Grandmaw Ella was a fine cook.

There were many types of fruit trees and flowers around the Gibson farm house. One special memory I have of the old Gibson place is the yellow jonquils that bloomed in the yard each spring. Grandma Ella had lots of jonquils all over her yard. When the old house was torn down, the jonquils were relocated by the machine that leveled the Kinard lot. Now every spring the yellow jonquils come up in Joe William's yard.

To the South East of the old barn was a large sweetgum tree. The bark was pulled off in spots around the trunk where Grandmaw got us sweetgum to chew. Grandma Ella had a blackgum toothbrush with which she brushed her teeth. She still had all of her teeth when she died at seventy one.

Under the large sweetgum tree was a gathering place for the men of the community to pitch washers on Sunday evening. Uncle Norman had a long bench for spectators to sit and watch. He had a mean jersey bull that pawed the ground and snorted while the games were going on. Uncle Norman was the only one that could control the bull. Other people could not go through the pasture with the bull in it unless Uncle Norman was along. When the washer game was over and everyone left, the old bull would run up and toss the spectator bench over his head.

One of my favorite memories was meeting the rolling store on special days. Grandmaw Ella would get dressed up to shop off the rolling store just like she would if she was going to town. She always let any of the grandchildren who happened to be visiting her go out with her to the rolling store. Grandmaw would buy five cents worth of candy for the grandchildren. She often exchanged eggs for goods she needed from the rolling store.

Another memory was going down to the Malaria Branch (Twitley Branch) with Grandmaw Ella to catch red bellies. The Malaria Branch got its name from the local people in the community. It was part of the Okatibbee Creek watershed that was built by the Soil Conservation Service in the late 1930's. This was a swampy mosquito infested area so the Soil Constructed the Malaria Branch which was stream rechanneled from the Rod and Mitt Hitt property on the north side of the West Lauderdale Road through the Gibson property to the Twitley Branch Road. The edges of the branch were sloped and sodded with grass. The branch was lined on each side with small logs secured with stakes. Approximately every ten feet logs were placed across to prevent erosion. The Soil Conservation Service also built terraces, planted trees and kudzu to help the farmers stop soil erosion.

One of the reasons I liked to fish at Malaria Branch was because it was a clean place to fish with no underbrush for snakes to hide under. Grandmaw and the grandchildren also picked black berries near the branch.

My grandparents, Samuel Thomas and Mary Ella were active in the community, school, and church. Early records show that Samuel Thomas and Mary Ella were members of the original Methodist church which was called Shiloh, built by John B. Hamrick near the Sonny Vance home, about two miles south of the present church.

I have many more memories of my grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles and cousins but it would take many volumes to tell them all.

IN MEMORY OF CLYDIE GIBSON (1913-1981)

By Gary L. Gibson II, M.D.

“MAMAW CLYDIE”

We all have grandparents. We usually have four of them. Some are still alive and some have passed on. But we all have that one grandparent that shines above the others. They may do this by being the most fun to be around or by being the wisest. While I love all of my grandparents with all my heart, my Grandmother Gibson was that one special grandparent.

I was probably closer to her than my other grandparents because she lived just down the hill from me. It was a short walk to Grandma Gibson's as compared to over the river and through the woods to my other grandparent's home. Her full name was Clydie Jones Gibson, but I affectionately called her "Mamaw Clydie". My Grandfather Gibson died just a few months before I was born, so I never knew him. Mamaw Clydie lived with my aunt next door to me. This was the house my father grew up in with his three sisters. There is a lot of Gibson history in this house and the property that surrounds it. Whenever Mamaw Clydie was off from work, I could be found at her house sitting in the swing on the front porch listening to her tell stories of way back in her younger days. This may be a major reason why one of my favorite activities today is to sit in the swing on our front porch. She was born April 13, 1913. She always said that she was born on Friday the 13th., 1913. That was her own personal joke, but she did not live her life by this assumption. By the way, I figured out that April 13, 1913 was on a Sunday, but I never told her. I did not want to spoil her joke.

Mamaw Clydie was the kind of person whose looks had to be perfect. She always kept her hair neatly made and wore some of the nicest clothes anyone could ask for. She was a sales clerk at Austin's in Broadmoor. After she retired and up until she died, people at Austin's still asked my mother how Clydie was every time she went in.

Clydie had a sense of humor second to none. Whenever she did something wild, which was often, she always replied, "The devil made me do it." She was also a very strong person who loved her home and the South. Her pet peeve was whenever she saw anything on television which criticized the South, she would then start fussing about how great the South was. I still believe that if Mamaw would have been around when Sherman marched through Meridian, he would have turned around and run as fast as he could with his tail between his legs. She was a very patriotic woman. She did not love only the South, she loved all of the USA. Every holiday, she would call me and ask me to help her hang "Old Glory" up on her front porch. She loved her home and her country, but most of all she loved her family. She had three daughters and a son. By them she had five grandchildren of which I am the only one to carry the Gibson name. She also had two great-grandchildren.

About ten years ago, we began to notice that she was beginning to lose her memory. About six or seven years ago, she began to let her looks slide. It was then that we discovered that she had Alzheimer's Disease. Five years ago, we were forced to put her into a nursing home. The last time she recognized me was around three years ago. On June 22, 1991, we lost her. It was hard at first, but it wasn't as hard as when we had to make her leave the home she loved, to stay in a nursing home where someone could take good care of her. To me she had been dead for three years. In my heart, she died that day when she no longer knew who I was.

In conclusion I would like to say that my Grandmother influenced my life in many ways. I find myself doing things sometimes that you could bet Clydie would do in a heartbeat. She was also a major factor in me falling in love with the University of Mississippi. She loved Ole Miss and would tell you about it. Clydie had a positive impact on everyone she came in contact with. Everyone who knew her would agree with me that the world lost a truly influential person the day Clydie Jones Gibson passed away.



Clydie and "Gip"

JOE ALTON GIBSON FAMILY

By Jane Gibson Townsend

My name is Jane Gibson Townsend. I am the oldest daughter of Joe Alton Gibson and Mildred DeWeese Gibson. My father was the youngest son of Samuel Thomas Gibson and Mary Ella Hamrick Gibson. My grandfather and grandmother Gibson had 5 boys and 2 girls. They were one of the first families in Collinsville, Ms. My grandmother was one of nine Hamrick daughters who populated Collinsville very fast. Everyone in Collinsville was related at that time.

I was born in the house next to the Collinsville First Church of God and my Daddy had a store across the street from our house. When I was nineteen years old I married Everett Lee Townsend. He had just come out of the army after WWII ended. I saw him walking from the garage owned by William Miles in Collinsville to the grocery store owned by Lamar Clay. He was very handsome and I asked who he was. We were married 2 years later. Everett is the youngest son of Grover Townsend and Flavie Brown Townsend. We have 2 children, Belinda and Everett Lee Townsend, Jr. Belinda is married to John Compton Walker. She is Psychometrist for the Lauderdale Co. School System. She and John live in Meridian.

Lee is a very talented musician. He has made 2 albums, the first for Mercury Records and one on his own label, Reality Records Limited. Belinda and Lee co-own the company and Belinda is his manager. He lives in Collinsville and Orange Beach, Al.

I have one sister 14 years younger than myself, Patricia Jo Gibson or "Pat" as we call her. She married Jim Martindale while in college at Scooba, Ms. and they had two sons, James Martindale (Jay) and Jon Gibson Martindale. They moved to Bay Minette, Al. and later divorced. Pat then married Dale Bounds and they have one son Lauren Dale Bounds. Lauren is a junior at Faulker Jr. College, where Pat and Dale both work. Jay married Jennifer Robinson and they have a daughter, Madeline Ann Martindale. They are expecting another daughter soon. Jon has a home on the Tensaw River, where he spends his spare time fishing and hunting.

My memories of my summer vacations at my Grandmother Gibson's are wonderful happy times. I don't remember my Grandfather, but my grandmother was so much fun. She would take me fishing on a little creek that ran below the house and we would fish and smoke cross-vine that she pulled down out of the trees.

She put feather mattresses on the bed in the winter time. When you got in bed, the feathers kept you so warm and cozy. There was a fireplace in the bedroom and the family pet, Jiggs, a white English bulldog slept on the hearth. He was such a good dog, we put our feet on his back to warm them and he never moved.

Grandmother had a wind-up victrola in the living room. My cousin Peggy and I would play it for hours. We thought it was so much fun because you had to keep it wound up or it would run down and sounded so funny. My uncle Norman Gibson lived with Grandmother and he played with us all the time. He was always smiling and helped us pick off peanuts in the loft of the old barn across the road from the house. You could sit on the loft and look down on the cars that passed.

My mother was Mildred DeWeese from Kemper Co. She was very beautiful and talented. My Dad fell in love with her the first time he saw her at the Collinsville Methodist Church. She taught school in Collinsville when she was sixteen years old. She played the organ and piano and had a beautiful voice. She later got her degree from Livingston, Al. and taught school for 32 years. She wrote a book titled "Til the Sun Goes Down", and lived to be 91 years old. She passed away Aug. 13, 2000, 41 years to the day after my Dad died. He was 55 years old when he died.

Mother and Dad had a beautiful wedding on the lawn of my Mother's oldest sister, Abby Mulholland. Mother said when I was about 3 years old, I cried because I didn't get to see the wedding. After my daddy died, an old friend whose wife had died several years before, started writing to her and calling from Garland, Texas. He was Aubrey Skelton. He and his wife had lived in the same house with us, when I was a baby. They had a son, Gene Skelton. Mother and Elizabeth Skelton were close friends. Mother married Aubrey Skelton in Collinsville Methodist church July 23, 1966. They were married until Aubrey's death. While in Texas, she taught at Hanley School in Garland.

A year later, Mother went to the annual picnic at Suqualena and saw her principal from the Suqualena School, Mr. J. M. Johnson. His wife had died about a year earlier. They began seeing each other and were married soon after. They had been married 6 years when Mother passed away in August. He is 92 and doing fine.



Joe Alton and Mildred

SAMUEL THOMAS GIBSON FAMILY

By Gary L. Gibson

Samuel Thomas Gibson was born in the year 1858. He married Bettie Wells January 21, 1880. After they had been married only eight years, Bettie died on October 30, 1888. Apparently she died from typhoid fever. Thomas and Bettie did not have any children.

Later Samuel married Bettie's first cousin Mary Ella Hamrick. Mary Ella was the daughter of John Hamrick. Thomas and Mary Ella had seven children: Ruby, Herman, Norman, Heber, Clyne, Joe Alton, and Melba. Ruby married Lynton Covington and they had the following children: Orville, Willard, Almeda, Arnita, Berniece, Hazel Mae, Clarie, Mary Jean, Clydene, and Dorothy. Herman died a young man and Norman never married. Heber married Clydie Jones and they had the following children: Peggy, Gary, Treajetta and Yvette. Clyne married Eula Davis, they were divorced and he married Vada Gibson. Joe Alton married Mildred Deweese. Their children were Jane and Patricia. Melba married Voyt Strange.

The Samuel Thomas Gibson place was located one half mile from Collinsville on what is now called the West Lauderdale Road. Samuel Thomas owned eighty acres on the south side of the road from Bill Pennington's to the crest of the hill across from Rod Hitts. He also owned twenty acres on the north side of the road from Denise Godwin's to the Hitt property. The farm house was located where the Kinard house stands now. There was a vegetable garden and fruit trees on both sides of the farm house. Behind the house there was a smoke house for smoking meat, a tool shed, and a chicken house. Across the road was a large barn and hog pen. The barn had a loft which was a favorite place for the grandchildren to play. The hay loft had a porch where the grandchildren liked to sit and watch cars go by while eating raw peanuts. Sometimes we watched grandmaw milk cows. The big barn had a hall through the middle with stables and cribs on both sides. On the east side of the barn was a wagon and harness shed.



Samuel Thomas Gibson



Norman, Heber, Clyne
Herman & Ruby Gibson

JACK'S STORIES

By Jack Wilson Griffin

Spring

Spring was a renewal. Trees were budding. The flowers were blooming. Green grass was popping up in the pastures. Calves were being born. Wild animals reproduced in the spring. Birds were gathering material to build nests. Spring plowing, getting ready for planting, and finally the planting. The farm came to life. Boys were trying to go barefoot before the parents thought it was warm enough. "Git them shoes on boy. That ground ain't warm enough to go barefooted yet. You'll catch your death of cold." But you didn't tell them about the swimming you did in December and January. Spring was always a busy time. Plowing and planting the garden and any crops that might be planted. Corn was always planted. This crop was used for farm animal feed and shelled and ground into cornmeal for family use. Cotton was the crop sold to provide cash needed to purchase clothes and food that could not be grown on the farm. Sugarcane was grown for syrup and for sweetening. The cakes and cookies that could be made with cane syrup used to sweeten them! And always, the garden planted for the vegetables. Some wild plants were gathered and eaten. Pokeweed could be found around the edges of fields and barnyards in early spring. The tender leaves of pokeweed would be gathered and washed. They would be parboiled then boiled again. After boiling they would be placed in a skillet with chopped onion and cooked until most all of the liquid was gone. At this point, several eggs would be scrambled into the skillet. When the eggs were set the dish was served as a vegetable along with hot cornbread. The pokeweed produced a berry in the fall that was gathered and would be crushed. The juice from the berry would be used as dye. I have never seen it used but my dad grew up near the Indian Reservation and he said the Indian families used it to dye any items they wanted to color. The berry juice is a purple color. Spring was also a time for fishing the creeks in the area. Catfish was the fish being fished for but any other type fish caught would be eaten. Fishing trips were always used like a carrot before a horse. The common saying was that if you get through with your work we will go fishing this evening and, of course, every boy liked to fish more than he did to work.

Saturday morning one spring day, my dad told me to plow a certain area for a garden and corn patch--breaking it up as it was called. When you would break a field up, you took a turning plow and plowed the old plants and grasses under. Dad told me if I got through with my plowing we would go fishing at noon when he got off work. Well, I am hard at work behind the plow when I saw something scamper out of the grass across the field. It was a small rabbit just born that spring. Well, I stop the horse and the chase is on. I finally catch the rabbit and take it home. I made a temporary cage out of a cardboard box by punching air holes in it. I caged my rabbit and finished my plowing. That afternoon we went fishing at my grandfather's pond. We parked the car on the backside of the pond and walked about 200 yards down to the pond along a log road. While walking to the pond I heard a noise in the sage beside the road. Another baby rabbit, I thought. Being spring, of course, I was barefooted. I began to explore the sage field by taking one foot and moving the sage in one direction and using the other foot to push it in the opposite direction. After doing this several times, checking for the rabbit all the time, I raked one direction with one foot and the other direction with the other, looking down. I looked between my feet and what do I see? Not a rabbit, but the gray body of a snake. All I could do was jump as high and as far as I could, screaming "It's a snake!" My heart was in my mouth and I was shaking all over. Well, my dad told me to be quiet, found a stick, and then the snake, killing it with the stick. It was about six feet long. Needless to say I didn't try to find any more spring rabbits in a sage patch.

We would set out hooks on the local creeks during springtime. The younger boys would be given the job of collecting fish bait. Bait was "puppy dogs" (salamanders), crawfish, earthworms, and small live bream. Chicken intestine and chicken and beef livers were also used. The only line available at that time was cotton line. The lines were made up at home before going to the creek. The cotton line was cut to length and the hook and sinker (lead weight) were tied to one end and a loop was tied in the opposite end. The fish bait, hooks and camping equipment were gathered together and off to the creek, we would go. Camping in those days was out in the open. No tent. So our camping equipment was an old quilt to sleep on. Cooking equipment was a one gallon can for making coffee, a skillet for cooking over the campfire, and a butcher knife for cutting food.

Once on the creek a campsite was picked out and the camping equipment would be left at that spot. Then go on to the creek to set out the hooks before it got dark. Once on the creek bank you would take your knife and select long slender bushes for fishing poles. You would cut the pole and trim off the limbs, leaving a small fork on the small end. You would take the loop end of the fishing line and form a loop over the forked end of the pole. Bait was placed on the hook. The bait was lowered into the water. When you had it deep enough you would stick the other end of the pole into the creek bank deep enough so a fish on the hook could not pull the pole out and swim away with it. Once all of the hooks were set out, you would return to the campsite and set up camp. After a couple of hours you would go check the hooks to remove any fish you had caught and rebait the hooks. Then go back to the campsite for some strong creek bank coffee. Coffee was made by filling the can with water and pouring some coffee (never measured, pour some, that looks like enough) into the can and boiling it until the coffee grounds would sink to the bottom of the can. This went on all night. Sleep, what little there was, was between times the hooks were run.

One night four families of relatives were camped out on the creek. It was night, around midnight, and the men had left to check the fishing lines. In the camp were the ladies and children when an old owl not too far from the campsite decided to talk to the rest of the world and he did. Needless to say that when he broke the still, silent night with his hoot the ladies decided it was some monster about to attack. Some of them had cast iron skillets, some had butcher knives, and some with any stick they could find for weapons. They were standing guard when the men returned to camp. All of them got a good laugh out of the protection that the camp had.

One fishing trip started early one Saturday morning when my dad dropped my uncle, his friend, and me at a campsite. We were to set out the hooks and Dad would pick us up at noon when he got off work. We would return that night and spend the night camping out. My uncle left me at the campsite and he and his friend left to set out the hooks. I was to stay at the campsite and fish in the creek. I was also expected to bait any of the 4 or 5 hooks in the area where I was fishing. A couple of hours later they returned with a huge turtle. They had set out the hooks and were returning to the camp when they saw one of the poles bending and slapping the water. When they landed the turtle they tied a piece of barbed wire they found around the shell and another across. They cut a small pole to place through the wire to carry it. When they reached the camp they tied it to a tree with the wire and I was told to watch it while they returned to check the hooks again. They had cut the throat of the turtle but as every country boy has been told a turtle or a snake does not die until the sun goes down. I had cut a stick about 1 to 1 1/2 inches in diameter and about 4 feet long to mind the turtle. The turtle was on his back but ever so often he would flip over and try to crawl away. I would pound on his head a while and then turn him on his back again. This went on the rest of the morning. When dad returned to pick us up the turtle had a pancake for a head and was still trying to crawl off. In the community where we lived was a country store run by two men that were brother-in-laws and were avid fishermen and hunters. Any time someone caught a large fish or killed some unusual game they would take it in by their store to weigh it. This also served the purpose of having witnesses to any fishing or hunting story at a later time. Well, we took the turtle by and weighed it. The weight was 48 pounds, a large turtle for this area.

Another fishing tale involves this same uncle early one spring. He told me one day, "It's about fishing time. We need to get our fishing lines ready." He had some hooks that were from another year. They were rusty and the points and barbs were dull. I was cutting and tying line on the hooks and my uncle was using a file to sharpen the points of the hooks. I heard him utter a mild obscenity and looked to see what had happened. He had stuck a hook through his hand between his thumb and forefinger. He worked with it for about an hour before deciding he would have to go to a doctor. When the doctor saw it he took a pair of snips and cut the eye off the hook and pulled it out. My uncle said, "Damn, why didn't I think of that and I could have saved a doctor bill." Of course, you need to understand he was the same uncle that cut his hand with an axe and came to get my dad to sew it up with a needle and thread from my aunt's sewing box. They first poured turpentine into the wound. Then the needle was sterilized by placing it in an open flame of the stove and the sewing began. Of course, no thought was given to the hands, thread, parts of the needle held in the hand and other items used in the surgery. I guess it was clean enough for it healed without any loss of limb.

On one fishing trip, when I was about twelve years old, we camped on a creek bank in the edge of a pasture. The hooks were set out and camp was made on the creek bank under a huge water oak tree. Something I need to explain at this point is that of shoe buying. I got two pairs of shoes each year. One leather pair in the fall for school wear and a canvass pair of tennis shoes in the spring for spring and summer. My parents had bought me a new pair of tennis shoes that very day and I was wearing them that night on the fishing trip. Way into the night I wanted to check the hooks and I was told it was not time to check them. I kept bothering the adults in the group until they agreed that I could check those close to the camp. There were about four or five across the creek from the camp. A huge water oak tree had been growing close to the creek and over the years high water had undermined the root system of the tree and it had fallen across the creek. This tree was used as a footbridge across the creek. In those days before battery powered lights we used carbide lights to see with at night. Carbide would give off a flammable gas when water was dropped on it. The light was constructed with the top part as a water reservoir and the bottom held the carbide. On the side, a small tube carried the gas to a jet in the center of a reflector. The water reservoir had a valve to control the water flow onto the carbide. This would be used to control the flame of the light. Needless to say wind played havoc with the light. Well, to go on with my tale. I took the carbide light and crossed the creek to check the hooks within sight of the camp. I checked the hooks and was on my way back across the log to camp when a gust of wind blew out the flame of the light. Standing in the middle of the creek on a log in the dark is not a good feeling. I paused for a minute and decided the only way to get across was to feel my way along the log with my feet. Along the log I went and was doing fine until I decided I was almost to the bank of the creek. At this point I decided that a great leap and I would be on dry land. Wrong! I landed in water up to my neck. A cousin, a girl of about eighteen, saw the light go out and a couple of minutes later heard the great splash. She screamed a scream that could have been heard a mile down the road. By the time everyone got to the creek bank I was crawling out, light still in my hand, wet from head to toe. They had me pull off my new tennis shoes and place them close to the fire to dry. I was told to stand close to the fire to dry. After a while I was dry but my shoes were still soaked. Later at bedtime I rolled up in my quilt and went to sleep. The next morning I got up and looked for my shoes to get dressed and they could not be found anywhere. To this day, I don't know what happened to those shoes. We think they were accidentally kicked into the fire but you would think there would be a small piece of evidence to the fact. None.

Hog Killing Weather

Hog killing was a family project. Hog killing weather was the first cold days of fall. Pork spoils easily in warm weather, so farmers would wait until the weather turned cold because they didn't have refrigeration to keep the meat cool after they started to process the meat. After the hog was slaughtered it would be placed in a fifty-five gallon drum buried in the ground at an angle and filled with boiling water. This would loosen the hair. Then the hog would be pulled out of the drum and a knife was used to scrape the hair off. The next step was to hang the hog by its hind legs and remove its internal body parts. The heart, liver and small intestines (chitterlings) would be processed. Most of these were eaten first. The head would be removed and cooked to be made into souse (hog head cheese). Most of the fat would be cooked to remove the lard to be used for cooking at a later time. The cooked fat (crackling) would be canned in one quart jars to be used for eating or for making crackling cornbread. The lard was stored in lard buckets that were approximately five gallons in size. Meat for sausages would be ground in a hand turned meat grinder attached to the side of a table. It would then be seasoned and cooked in patties and canned in quart jars to be eaten later. The hams, shoulders, and bacon would be salted down in a wooden barrel. They would start by placing a layer of salt in the bottom of the barrel, then a layer of meat, being sure the meat was well coated with salt. This was repeated until all the meat was salted down. After a period of time the hams and bacon would be removed and hung from the top of the smokehouse. A small fire would be started in a large pan or small tub, whose bottom had been covered with sand. This fire was small and green hickory was placed on it to smolder and smoke. This method was used to preserve the meat since they had no refrigerator or freezer.

As I said, hog killing was a family affair. Each member had their job to do. My dad and uncles would kill and dress the hogs. (To dress was a term used for the scraping of the hair, removing the internal parts and cutting the carcass into the desired pieces.) Papa (my grandfather) would take care of the souse, seasoning the sausage, salting and smoking the meat. The ladies would take care of the cooking and canning of the meats that required this method of preservation. Hog killing was at the least an all day job. In large families it may have been more than one day. The meat that was processed would have to last all year until the next hog killing time.

Syrup Making

A lot of the farmers would raise sugar cane. During the fall of the year before it was cold enough to frost, it would be gathered and carried to the syrup mill. Usually after the other crops were gathered. First it was stripped (the leaves removed from the stalk,) then topped (the top cut off,) and then cut and loaded on a wagon to be carried to the mill. The stubble (root system) would be left in the ground for they would sprout the next spring and produce more sugar cane. Also some of the stalks would be banked (buried in the ground) and dug up the next spring and planted for the next crop. At the mill the stalks would be run through the mill and the juice squeezed out. The juice would be caught in a barrel. The mill would be set up on a small hill with a slight grade. The mill would be on the top and the cooker would be slightly down hill. A pipe would be run between the barrel and the cooker with a spigot on the top to stop the flow of juice. The cooker was a large flat pan constructed of sheet metal about 3 to 4 feet wide by 6 feet long. The juice would be put in on one end and the finished syrup taken out on the other end. The pan would be placed on a pit constructed like a large barbecue pit. They used rocks taken from the hills locally. The fuel was "lidard" knots (pine knots full of pine pitch) and it took someone with some skill to regulate the heat under the pan. Too much fire and the syrup would burn and too little heat and it would take forever to cook the syrup to the desired thickness. After cooking, the syrup would be stored in 1/2 and 1 gallon buckets (man's first lunch pails). Enough was kept for use until the next fall and the extra was sold for cash. Syrup making was always a time looked forward to by the youngsters. Nothing tastes as sweet as fresh squeezed sugar cane juice. We would always be allowed a dipper full and told to stay away from the juice barrel but like all boys we tried to sneak several more drinks of juice. The only problem with that is that too much juice would tend to keep us awful close to the outhouse. Which was usually the case every fall. But the next fall that would be forgotten and it was the same old story all over again.

Johnny House

My grandfather, known to all his children and grandchildren as Papa, owned two hundred acres of farm land. On, as the old saying goes, the back forty there was an old three room house. At the time it was used for storing cotton at picking time. As the cotton was picked and weighed it would be stored in the old house until enough was picked to make a bale. Then it would be loaded on a horse drawn wagon and taken to the cotton gin about two miles from home. There it would be ginned, baled and sold. The old house was known as the Johnny House because it had been owned previously by an old black man whose name was John Lewis. The main room was made of logs with two lean-to rooms. The lean-to rooms were made of rough sawn 1 by 12 inch pine lumber-one on the back and the other on the side of the main room. All three rooms had floors made of the same 1 by 12 lumber. The roof was split pine shingles. No one lived in the old house at the time, so it became a playhouse for the grandchildren as they got older. One day when I was about six or seven, Papa and I were walking on the backside of his farm. We crossed the field, about ten acres in size, on the Johnny Place and entered the house looking around. I went into the back room and noticed in one corner there were burn marks on the wall and floor. I said, "Papa, what happened here? Did the house like to burn down?"

He said, "Naw, back when those Lewis boys was young, one Saturday morning they got up and one of them got the shotgun to go squirrel hunting and another one wanted to use the gun. They were fighting over the gun and it went off and killed one of them. The family believed in ghosts so they poured coal oil (kerosene) on the blood spots and set it afire. By burning the blood from the house, they thought it would keep his ghost from haunting the house."

Cutting Pulpwood

As a boy one way we had of making spending money was cutting pulpwood. A friend of mine, Jerry, and I decided we would cut a cord of hardwood pulpwood. Hardwood was any wood other than pine that was being accepted by paper companies. Oak, hickory and several other woods were not accepted until later years. We were going to cut sweet gum and peel it. Peeling the bark off would pay three dollars a cord more. We gathered an axe and crosscut saw and headed for the woods. It was the middle of the summer and the temperature was in the nineties. Well, we sawed and chopped until we had what we thought was a cord of wood. We then went to see a black man that had a pulpwood truck to haul our pulpwood to the wood yard. He came to haul it and we helped load the truck. What you need to understand about sweet gum pulpwood that has been peeled is that it is slicker than any grease ever made. Well, it was loaded and we started out of the woods with the pulpwood bound down with chain and binder. Then the first bump and the truck moved in a side motion. Then we loaded it again and again. I think we must have loaded that wood four or five times before we got to the road with it. We had worked about three days cutting and hauling for about four dollars apiece. Needless to say that ended our pulpwood business.

About twenty-five years later I bought ten acres from my mother to build our home on. At that time my younger brother, Lamar, had a couple of cows in the pasture. I bought several rolls of barbed wire in order to build a fence between our properties. Lamar and I were building the fence down a hill and across a creek bottom along the property line when I spotted the corner of a metal object sticking out from under the leaves. I dug it out from under the leaves and guess what it was? Yes, that's right. It was a crosscut saw. I said to myself, what in the world is a crosscut saw doing down here? Then I remembered a cord of sweet gum pulpwood from long ago.

When I was a teenager, I helped my uncle, Vaud, in his pulpwood business. He would order rail cars from the railroad and they would put them on a side track near his home. He would cut and haul the pulpwood to the siding. When the cars were loaded the railroad would transport them to the paper mill. He would receive payment in the mail. He had a crew of seven, which was my uncle, a cousin, myself, and four black men he had hired. My cousin, Jimmy, would be operating a chain saw with one of the black men, Willy, cutting limbs for him. Another crew of cutters was the other three black men using a bow saw or buck saw and ax for limbing. That left my uncle and me to load and haul the wood to the rail siding and unload onto the rail cars. We were cutting close to home and some times we would find yellow jacket nests in the woods. Yellow jackets are a type of wasp that build their nest in the ground and are very aggressive when disturbed. After work, Jimmy and I would stay behind to kill yellow jackets. We would break several limbs with heavy foliage and lay them beside the entrance of the yellow jacket nest. We would pick up a limb, raise it above our heads, and then stomp with our feet. This would alarm the yellow jackets and they would come out of their nest angry. We would swat them with limbs and kill them. That worked most of the time, but sometimes the leaves on the limbs would be gone before the yellow jackets would be. This meant only one or two things, out run the yellow jackets or get stung. Needless to say some of both happened. If you made it to a heavy growth of bushes you could dive under them and be motionless to escape. Wasps and yellow jackets always chase anything in motion. Lying there, still and quiet, you would hear the yellow jackets hitting the leaves on the bushes. It sounds a lot like bullets flying through the leaves and feels a lot like you think bullets would feel if the yellow jackets get to you and start stinging you.

Willy and the Ghosts

Back in the 1950's, some sharecropping was still practiced. After Papa was killed in an automobile accident, my uncle purchased his land from the family. It was about 200 acres. He had a black man, Willy, and his wife, Mary, living on the property and sharecropping the land. The agreement was that my uncle furnished the land, seed, fertilizer, and equipment and Willy would provide the labor needed to grow the crops. When the crops were gathered they would be divided as agreed. After Willy had lived on the farm a short time, my cousin and I discovered he believed

in ghosts. Needless to say, we would find some way to bring the subject of ghosts up at every opportunity. His sightings of ghosts were always at the same place, which was at a graveyard in the middle of a stretch of a mile and a half of lonely dirt road with only two houses. None close to the graveyard. Another fact that plays a big part in the story is that Willy had a history of finding the local bootlegger every weekend and these sightings were always on the weekend. I remember several of those sightings. One was a headless ghost riding through the graveyard on a white horse. Another was a ghost walking through the graveyard holding his head away from his body in his hand. Another time was ghosts walking all over the place. We didn't believe any of this but we never missed an opportunity to hear Willy tell of his narrow escapes along this ghostly stretch of dirt road.

Shelling Corn and the Rooster

My mother and dad both worked jobs away from home. One morning before going to work my dad told me to shell a tub full of corn that day and when he got home from work he would take it to the grist mill to have it ground into corn meal. Even with both parents working they tried to grow all the food they could on the farm, so every summer we had a large garden and a corn patch for vegetables and corn meal. My dad also used the corn meal to make bread for dog food. Well, on into the morning I went to the corncrib and shucked a wash tub full of corn. I carried it to the shade of a large hickory tree at the edge of the yard, found a five gallon bucket for a seat, and proceeded to shell the corn. As I said we grew all of our food that we could on the farm. Thus we had a yard full of chickens. Each spring Dad would buy 50-100 baby chicks. They would feed them feed purchased at Dad's place of work until they were big enough to scratch for themselves and eat shelled corn grown on the farm. When they got to be frying size (big enough to kill and fry), the roosters would be eaten. That is, all but two. These were kept to produce fertile eggs.

Well, that year we had eaten all but two of the roosters and some time after that one of the two disappeared. More than likely the meal of a varmint that called the woods in the area home. Well, that left only one rooster and on that morning he was making a nuisance of himself by easing up to the tub of corn and stealing a grain of corn on each trip. Well, at that age a Rhode Island Red rooster looks like he is all legs and neck. So as quick as he was it looked like a long neck springing from two legs into the tub. I kept trying to scare him away but nothing could keep him from his mission. About this time I spotted a small hickory branch lying on the ground. It was about three-eighths inch in diameter and about eighteen inches long. I picked it up and laid it across my lap and on Red's next trip I grabbed it and swung the stick at the same time his head started for the tub. I could not have hit that chicken more in the center of the head if someone had been holding him still. Of course, he hit the ground in a dying quiver and after a few seconds all was still. I continued to shell corn scared to death. I have killed the last rooster and I would probably get a good beating when found out. I thought about cooking it for supper. Then I said, "Jack, you can't do that because they will know where the chicken came from." Then it hit me. Take it down to the woods and throw it in a brush pile. Then if someone found it they would think something caught and ate it. That is what I'll do as soon as I get this corn shelled. Well, along about the last few ears of corn, out of the corner of my eye I saw a movement. Turning my head, I saw a miracle. Ol' Red has come back to life. You just can't describe the feeling of relief at this sight. Well, Ol' Red got to his feet and started to walk the 50-60 feet to the edge of the yard. The only problem was he was still a little dizzy and wasn't navigating too well. He would run a few feet in one direction and stop. After a few seconds pause he would run in another for a few feet. It looked as if he was intoxicated. After a couple of minutes he got his head on straight and away into the woods he went. As I said there is no way to describe the feeling of relief at this sight.

Making Butter

The first step in making butter is milking the cow. First, you have to get the cow to stand still. This was usually done by putting some feed in a trough or pan. While the cow stood to eat the feed the milker would milk the cow. There are as many ways to milk a cow as there are in doing any other chore. But the basics are to take hold of the cow's tit with your hand and clamp the top off with the thumb and forefinger. Then with the remaining three fingers you squeeze the milk out into a bucket. You keep repeating this until the milking is done. When you have enough practice, of course, you will be milking with two hands. Of course, with modern methods, machines do this work. After milking the cow, the milk is strained through a cloth to remove any trash that may have fallen into the bucket. The milk would be placed into an icebox to cool. If the family didn't have an icebox then it would be sealed in a container and placed in a well by tying a small rope to the container and lowering it into the well or into a spring of water. After it cooled the cream would rise to the top. Most of the cream would be skimmed off and poured into a separate container. The remaining milk after it had been skimmed was for drinking. If the family only had one cow, the cream would be saved for several days until they had accumulated enough to fill a churn. When they had a churn full it would be poured into the churn and covered with a cloth and the churn lid. It would then be left out to allow the milk to sour. In winter months the churn would be placed by the fireplace, heater, or stove. The heat would speed up the souring process. When the milk had soured, the cloth would be removed and the dasher would be placed into the churn. The dasher was a round stick about three feet long and about one inch in diameter. On one end there would be two pieces of wood one-fourth inch thick, two inches wide and four inches long nailed in a cross. As the person churning would move the dasher up and down this would agitate the clabbered milk and the butter would form. After the churning was completed the butter would be removed from the top of the milk. The buttermilk was chilled and drunk or used in baking. The butter was then chilled. After chilling it would have salt added and pressed into a mold to press out all the water possible. The molds were different shapes but all would hold about one pound of butter. In days past the butter and extra eggs would be bartered or sold for money. From hence came the term "butter and egg money." Churning was usually assigned to the younger members of the family. While churning the butter would splash up around the dasher on the lid top and this was always a temptation. Many a young person has been scolded for taking a finger and sampling the product. "Git that nasty finger out of that chum." I don't know why because churning was the last chore they wanted and there should have been some reward.

Papa

My grandfather, Sidney Asbury Scarbrough, was a deeply religious man. You could get within hearing distance of him and you could hear him talking. Everyone accused him of talking to himself, but if you would come a little closer you could hear him talking to God. It was as if they were carrying on a conversation and you could only hear Papa's side of the conversation. There were three things that he believed in very strongly. They were number one, God, number two the Masons and number three was the Democratic Party and in that order. He farmed all of his life except for the last few years. These years he worked and lived at East Mississippi State Hospital. When he reached 65, he retired and moved back to this farm. He hadn't driven a car in years. His last car had been an A-Model Ford. Near time for him to retire he went to the Ford dealership and bought a new car. This was in 1950. I will always remember the post card he sent my dad. It stated that he had bought a new Hord (he had misspelled Ford) and he wanted dad to come to town and drive it to his house in the country. He would come to the country home on weekends and practice his driving in the front yard of his house.

Before moving he remodeled the old farmhouse and married for the second time. This marriage was for companionship in his old age. He had asked another lady to marry him but she turned him down so he asked the second one and she accepted. The first lady was well liked by my mother and all of her siblings, but the one he married was not and I think she sensed this. I know there was a lot of resentment between them. Papa thought the world of his grandkids. He would do about anything for them, but they had to behave or he would spank them just as quick.

I remember one time when I was about four or five years old, my mother, dad and I were living in the house with him. He was sitting in his swing he had on the front porch, relaxing and swinging back and forth. I would run up and grab the swing which would make it swing crooked. He told me several times to stop but I continued to aggravate him. I would grab the swing and make it swing crooked and then run and hide. After a few times of this, Papa went to the peach orchard beside the house and cut a keen peach sprout from a peach tree. The next time I grabbed the swing and ran he was right behind me with that switch. Every time he would get close enough he hit me with that switch. The switch was small, long, and limber. It wouldn't cut or bruise the skin but each time it hit you it would feel like a bee sting. Around and around the house we went with me screaming and Papa swinging that switch. My mother heard me screaming and came outside. I don't know what she said to him, but I heard him tell her that if she didn't want some too she had better get back in the house.

Years later after he retired he had a milk cow in his pasture for milk and butter and chickens from which he got eggs and meat. One day my cousin, Jimmy, two of our friends, and I decided to have some fried chicken. The plan was for Jimmy and me to get the ingredients to cook the chickens. We were to meet in the woods in a creek bottom near the house. Well the first cooking went fine. Than about a couple of weeks later we decided to have another chicken cooking. We decided that each of us would do his part to get the necessary ingredients for some more fried chicken. Only this time the chickens didn't want to cooperate. We chased chickens all over the yard. Finally catching two young roosters and slipping off to the woods for our chicken cooking. We thought we had made a clean getaway. Only did I find years later that it was not as clean as we had thought. As I said, years later I was talking to my mother about different childhood events and the chicken cooking came up. It seems that on the occasion of the second chicken cooking my mother was in the house with Papa and heard all the noise the chickens were making. She said she started out the door to scold us when Papa stopped her. My mother said that he said, "That's my chickens and my grandboys. Leave them alone."

My last memory of Papa was one Sunday afternoon when I was about 15. I was lying in bed reading when I heard a loud crash. I jumped up and ran outside with only a pair of pants on to see what caused the noise. It was a car wreck. I ran up and across the road and when I got there I saw it was Papa's car. By the time I got there other people had also arrived. There were several people getting my step-grandmother out of the car. She looked to be badly injured because she had a cut on her neck and there was a lot of blood. Papa was unconscious but was not cut anywhere. A nephew and I were removing him from the car when I saw his Masonic ring was hanging only on the bone. It had hung something and had torn all the skin and meat from his finger in the area of his ring. This was the only external cut on him. We drove like crazy for the hospital. I remember looking at the speedometer and seeing it on 100 miles per hour several times. That was driving like crazy since we were on gravel roads most of the way. At the place where the gravel road intersected Highway 19, Papa groaned aloud and that was the last sound he made. I know that was the time he died. It is a memory that will always be with me. It is almost like looking at a snapshot every time I think about it. I see me sitting there with my arm around Papa holding him up and his dying in my arms. I guess I have mixed emotions about this happening in my life. I sure didn't want to see someone I loved very much and knew he loved me die, but if it had to happen I was glad I was with him at the end.

Houses

As a boy, I was always building some type of house from whatever was handy to use for building materials-- tree tops, old pieces of roofing were really prized, and any old boards or scraps of building materials. I guess the first type I remember building was a teepee from sweet gum tree tops. My cousin and I would climb small sweet gum trees, several inches in diameter and swing the tops over and break the tops out when we reached the ground. We would lean these around a larger tree to construct our teepee. The adventures you could have then pretending out in the woods in your teepee! Of course, the most vivid memory of teepee building was of the times when you would misjudge tree size and would choose a tree that was too large to bend all the way to the ground. In a case like this you would be on the way down and about half way the top would break. Bang, you hit the ground. Then after that you would spend the next ten to fifteen minutes trying to get your breath back.

Another type of house I made was to use old pieces of roofing from a site where a house had been torn down. I would make a framework by bending a small tree over and tying the top to another tree. From the sides to the ground I would make sides of small trees and others across these until I have a framework that resembled a tent. I wouldn't have nails to assemble my tent so I would find an old rag and tear it into strings. I used the strings to assemble the framework. I would punch holes in the old roofing to tie it to the framework starting at the bottom and working to the top overlapping each piece so the rain would run off. I would then dig a trench around the tent to divert rainwater away from the inside.

My last work was a two-story house made from scrap wood complete with electricity. I gathered scrap boards, roofing scraps and old scrap baling wire to use in the construction of my house. Some of it came from old house sites where old houses had been torn down as far away as two miles. I didn't have any type of vehicle to haul the materials so I had to carry it all by hand to my building site in the woods close to the house. I built a two-story house about seven by five feet. The bottom floor had a ceiling height of about seven feet while the top floor was only four. The top was used for sleeping. It had a bed built on one side. I used pine straw for a mattress, rags to cover the straw and an old quilt for cover for myself. I had electricity for lights and a radio. My dad had an electric cord in the yard to run the washing machine. I found some electric fence insulators and nailed them on each end of a board of about three feet long. I then nailed the boards to trees through the woods to my house. I twisted the scrap baling wire together to make a good connection and used it to run between trees. I had some insulated wire to run from the last tree to the house lights. I spent several nights sleeping in my house. I could listen to the radio as late as I wanted to and disturb no one.

Home Remedies - Boils

My family had moved to town and I hated living there. So when school was out I talked them into letting me spend the summer with my uncle. Staying with him meant I would have to help him with his farm, plowing, hoeing and any other farm duties that came along. So you know I didn't like living in town to choose this hard work over living in the city. My uncle had one field of about ten acres about a half-mile from his house. There was a creek that ran between the house and the field. Every time we plowed it we would go for a swim on the way home to wash the dust and dirt off. Since he didn't have an inside bathroom at that time it was a lot easier doing that than having to come home and draw enough water from the well to take a bath. Well, there was running water in the creek so we felt like it was safe to bathe in it. It probably would have been under normal conditions, but I had a cut on my foot. During the summer one of my legs broke out in boils. I could count as many as twenty on my leg. They would doctor that leg and the boils would heal on that leg only to break out on the other a few days later. The method used to doctor the boils was to give me a teaspoon of sulfur and a teaspoon of Epsom salts twice a day. Boy, was that a trip! The Epsom salts kept me regular and the sulfur added an odor that a buzzard couldn't stand to be near. After several weeks of this merrygo-round my parents came for a weekend visit. They had me return home with them on Sunday. On Monday, Mother took me to the doctor. He saw all those boils and told Mother to take me to the hospital. He told me that I had a blood infection. Even though the stream was running, I had the cut on my foot and the creek bottom was covered with leaves and he felt that this was where I picked up the infection. Well, in those days I had a deathly fear of doctors and hospitals. If I went of my own free will you knew I was really sick. Well, we got to the hospital and Mother was admitting me when all of a sudden I decided I just couldn't go to that hospital room. Out the door and down the street I went. I had a boil behind my right knee that allowed very little movement of that knee and was very painful walking. At that time I knew very little about the city but later that evening I wandered onto a street that I was familiar with and found my way home. As soon as I walked in the door my mother said, "I called your daddy and he said that if you weren't in the hospital by the time he got home it would be too wet too plow." I knew what that meant so back in the taxi and back to the hospital. I spent five days in the hospital getting a shot every three hours for the first three days and every four hours then until I went home. Penicillin had not been on the market long at that time and they didn't give massive doses the way they do now so it was a shot every few hours. They gave the shots in series and the last day my last shot was due at ten p.m. Well, my dad was there at six to take me home.

He asked the nurse if she could give me both doses then so he could take me on home. She had to check with the doctor and while he was checking me out, the nurse returned with the okay and a syringe that looked like I don't know what. It was huge! Well, after five days of being a pincushion, I thought I had had enough shots and didn't want any more. Well, I got it with the help of six nurses and my mother. Since that time I have found that a needle hurts less going into a relaxed muscle than it does into a tense muscle.

Nail in the Foot

I was playing on an old pile of lumber that was full of nails when one stuck in my foot. I went home and the first treatment was to pour turpentine over the wound as they said to prevent infection. Then for several days after that they would take an old metal bucket and place several woolen rags in it and set them afire. I had to hold my foot over the bucket in the smoke. I was told that this would prevent me from getting lockjaw. If this was true or not I don't know.

Stick Between the Toes

I was running around my grandpa's pond when a stick that was sticking out of the mud stuck between my big toe and the one next to it. I felt the sharp pain and sat down to inspect the damage. When I pulled my toes apart, I could see what looked like an inch beneath the skin. I saw what I thought were muscles and ligaments. I hobbled home and the treatment for this was to pour the wound full of turpentine and wrap my toes together. The wound healed in a few days, but the area on the edge behind my toes stayed red. One day I was looking at it and pressed down on the red area and the wound opened up. All kinds of pus and corruption as the old folks called it came out of my foot and in it was a piece of the stick. After this my foot healed fine.

Old Sayings

That fellow is so tight that he uses coffee grounds so long that when he is through with them you can use them for grits.

Kill a snake or turtle, but he won't die 'till the sun does down.

Hoop snake could catch its tail in its mouth and roll down the road or path like a hoop. Kill a joint snake and it would break into pieces, but it would join together and crawl away that night.

Joke: A farmer killed a joint snake and said, "I'll keep you from joining together tonight." He placed a section of the snake in his pocket and went to bed. The next morning when he went to the barn to do his chores, he saw the snake crawling in the barnyard with a piece of corncob in place of the section the farmer had in his pocket.

Hoeing the Yard Age 4 to 5

First a little background for this story. In years past before the days of the power lawn mower people would hoe all of the grass out of the yard close to the house. This was to keep the grass from becoming too tall and providing a hiding place for snakes. It also was easier to keep clean. To keep the yard clean people would use a bush broom. It was made from several small dogwood bushes cut and tied together with strips of cloth torn from a rag. This was used to sweep the yard to remove leaves and any trash accumulated over time. Well, this story starts with the moving of a house we were living in--a shotgun house--called that because it was built in a straight line--one room on to the next. This one was three rooms long with a door at each end. The reason for the name of shotgun house was they claimed you could shoot a shotgun in one door and out the other without hitting a thing in the house.

Well, my mom and dad owned forty acres of land next to my grandpa (Papa) but didn't have any road frontage. They worked out a deal to swap that forty for forty acres that he had on the gravel road that passed through the area (which is now Highway 494). My parents had a shotgun house on the so called back forty and when the land swap was made this required moving the house to the new property. In those days this required disassembling the house, moving the lumber and rebuilding.

Well, all of this had been done and the process of hoeing to remove the grass from the yard had begun. Mom and I were in the middle of this process. I was hoeing away one afternoon when I came to a tree stump that was cut close to the ground and it seemed to have a hundred little sprouts coming up from the stump. I made a swing with the hoe and out crawled a King snake. A King snake is non-poisonous and eats rodents as well as other snakes, but I had a fear of all snakes at that time and I had my hoe drawn back for a full swing when around the house stepped my dad. "Don't kill that snake," he yelled. "That's a King snake." Then he stepped over and picked up the snake which wrapped itself around his arm and crawled into the sleeve of his short sleeve shirt. Dad walked to the edge of the woods and unbuttoned a couple of buttons on his shirt close to his belt. The snake crawled out and slithered down into the woods. All this time I was about ready to leave the area and I don't mean just for a short distance.

Smoking

In my younger days the knowledge of the dangers of smoking weren't what it is today. Parents still forbade the use of tobacco. Of course, teenagers still slipped around to smoke tobacco when they could get it, but we had substitutes if tobacco could not be found. To name a few, rabbit tobacco (a weed that grew wild), corn silks, coffee, leaves, and cross vine (dead, dried wild grapevine.) Cross vine was the worst. After smoking it for a while your tongue would feel like all of the skin had been scraped off. Jimmy and I found a tree about twenty feet tall that was covered with wild grapevines. You could not climb it so we would climb the tree next to it and jump over on the top of the vines. It was like a net. You could not fall through. To get down we made a small opening that we could slide through. Meanwhile on top we would smoke one piece of cross after another. Our tongues would be raw for days. If I had known what is known today, I would probably have smoked anyway. Nobody was going to call me chicken. What did it get me? A bad heart and bad lungs.

Dog for Racing

My dad owned a service station at the edge of Meridian in the late 50's. He had one employee and the only name I ever knew him by was Mr. Russell. A group of black boys had a flat on their car and rolled the wheel about a quarter of a mile to the station to get it fixed. Well, while they were waiting for Mr. Russell to finish, a lady that lived behind the station came around the corner walking a Great Dane on a leash. For more detail, we lived across the street from the station and this older lady and Mother were friends. The Great Dane was an old dog and had lost all of his teeth, but these guys didn't know this. She was out to take him for his afternoon walk and to visit with Mother. Well, when these guys saw the dog, they started to back away. Mr. Russell thought he would have a little fun, so he said, "There is no need of running. That dog was bred for racing and if he wanted to catch you, he could do it just like that." As he snapped his fingers, one of the guys told him, "Mister, you turn me loose and then turn that dog loose, you had better put your money on me."

Coffee is Too Strong

While working at Atlas Roofing, we had a coffeemaker in the electric shop. Whoever got to the shop first in the morning would make the coffee. We had a foreman who liked his coffee weak. He used a plastic cup to drink from and after pouring his cup of coffee he would look into his cup and if he could not see the bottom he would say, "It's too strong." Every Thanksgiving, Shirley's family gathers at our house for Thanksgiving dinner. Her brother, John, likes New Orleans style coffee which has a lot of chicory in it. After Thanksgiving we had about a half-pound left over. I took it to work with me and made sure that I was there early. I mixed it into about two pounds of Folgers coffee. I left the shop and stayed out of view until I saw the foreman and his crew go into the shop. Then I walked up as if I was just arriving for work. The foreman told his crew to get the coffee ready and he would get the water to make the coffee and he added, "Don't use but two scoops of coffee." This was for a twelve-cup pot of coffee. The usual amount was one scoop for every two cups. Well, he returned with the water and poured it into the pot and waited for it to make, talking and carrying on all the time it was making. Finally it finished and he poured a cup, looked into the cup and said, "It's too strong. Y'all put too much coffee in the pot." Everyone else poured themselves a cup and the foreman poured the rest out. He returned with another pot of water. He took the basket out of the coffee maker and put only one scoop of coffee for twelve cups of water, waited for it to make, poured a cup, looked in the cup, poured it out and walked out. I didn't tell him the trick I had pulled for several weeks and he wouldn't believe me and still said that his men put too much coffee in the basket on purpose.

What is Life?

You live most of your life without much thought about what your actions will bring about. You do what you think is right but all of that is determined in your early years of life. Your home life, all the examples that you are exposed to during this time, actions of your family, actions of other people, what you are told (right or wrong and this may be what the other person perceives as right), and the list goes on and on. If all of this is negative or causes conflict within your life what do you do? You know no other way. This is how you learned about life. There is no school that you can attend to find out the right way to live your life so you can do the right thing in each situation to make everyone happy and to have everything turn out to be in the best interest of all concerned. You can only try your best with what you have and hope for the best. Some of the time not all turns out well as I have learned. Circumstances affect each of us in different ways. Why does the same set of conditions affect each person in a different way? Is it learned or is it in our genetic makeup or what? Does anyone know? The questions go on and on with no one answer to any of them. Not for me anyway.

I remember certain situations from my first seven or eight years of life--some good, some bad. For some reason certain situations seem to be retained in my memory. I remember at about age two (1940-41) I was burned. I remember running into the kitchen to see a three quart jar of corn on the cob that my mother had just taken out of the cooker. This was before the days of the home freezer and foodstuffs were canned in the pressure cooker for winter food supply on the farm. The jar burst and burned me from the top of my head to my waist. I remember the house we lived in and where each piece of furniture was located. The only two pieces of furniture that weren't homemade were the two beds. By homemade I mean that boards were nailed together to serve a purpose. None was crafted. The house was three rooms, built end to end and lined in a row. They called it a shot gun house because they said you could open all the doors and shoot a shot gun all through the house without hitting anything. I don't remember the incident or the trip to the charity hospital (Matty Hersee), but I remember running into the kitchen to look at the corn when Mother called me. I remember yelling, "Oh boy, Oh boy, we are going to save this until Uncle S.A. gets home." Uncle S. A. was my mother's brother that was at a CCC Camp. He was my favorite uncle. When he came home for a visit he would always bring a small toy of some kind to a younger cousin and myself, so we always looked forward to his visits. Later he was drafted into the army and was killed during Word War II. I remember that the doctors wanted to put a drip in my arm to feed me because of the bad facial burns.

Being young and not liking needles, I cried and screamed. Finally the doctor told my mother if she could get me to eat anything at all I wouldn't need the drip. There was an ice cream store about two hundred yards from the hospital. My mother would go to the ice cream store at mealtime and buy me a nickel box of ice cream that was about a half of a pint. As soon as I was able I would get out of bed and I would stand in the window of the ward and watch my mother walk to the store and back. I don't remember the yelling and screaming, but was told later that that was my reaction. Money was important in those days. But what I remember being told is that I was fed not a box of ice cream, but a nickel box of ice cream. I remember walks and talks with Papa (my grandfather.) When he ate an orange (which was only rarely because they were considered a luxury) he didn't throw the peel away, but put it in his coat pocket where it dried. Later when he wanted a snack, he would have a piece of orange peel and if I was along he shared with me. He owned about two hundred acres of land that he farmed. At times he would walk over the land checking fences, livestock, crops or whatever needed to be checked. You could hear him coming a long way off, talking to himself or so everyone said. But it you got close enough it wasn't himself he was talking to. It was God he was talking to. He seemed to be at peace with God, himself and life in general. I thought a lot of Papa because there was never any unpleasantness between us unless I misbehaved. Later kin would call me Little Sid because I had a habit of talking to myself even as a youngster.

I have been under treatment for depression for over twenty years. Doctors tell me it is a chemical imbalance. Why and the causes I don't know. One doctor told me it could be hereditary. I only know that it has had me living in hell for a lot of years. I do know that over a period of the last few years the Lord has blessed me with two good men of God and two Christian doctors. We visited the church while Bro. Sellers was pastor and he came to our house to visit us. I told him about what was going on with me. He looked me in the face and said, "I can't help you, but I know someone that can." He told me about Dr. Osborn and went as far as to make my first appointment with him. Dr. Osborn has not only become a source of help but also a good friend. Then along came Bro. Hal. He is a man among men. I have come to know him as a caring, loving, tender, compassionate, emotional man--both of God and his fellow man. I love him like a brother and he is my brother. Then several months ago Dr. Osborn told me he thought a change in medication would benefit me. I started to look for a psychiatrist to monitor my medication and found a fine Christian lady that had just come to Wellspring from another agency to start a practice at Wellspring. She changed my medication a few months ago and I haven't felt this good in years. I had almost forgotten what feeling good felt like. Thank God for allowing me to come in contact with all these people that have helped me so much. Thank God for a good wife and children that have loved me through all of this.

I felt so good for several months, then the mood swings started again. With the Sinequan, it was greater and less bouts with depression. With the new medication the mood swings began in several months, only this time it was nervousness at greater and less levels. Dr. Kelly has scheduled another medication that seems to have stopped the mood swings , but only time will tell.

Addendum: As these stories indicate, Jack lived close to the land — Schamberville hills and woods — August 1, 1938 to July 15, 2000. As a butterfly leaves the cocoon to begin a new existence, Jack has left this life and is now free. His memories live on in these stories.

Wife----- Shirley Griffin

I'm Free

Author Unknown

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm Following the path God laid for me,
I took his hand when I heard him call
I turned my back and left it all.

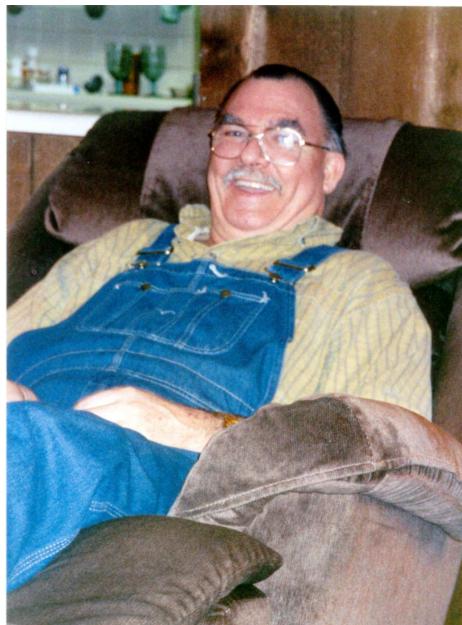
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that place at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.
As yes, these things, I too will miss.

Be not burdened with time of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all to brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me
God wanted me now. He set me free.

A copy of this poem was sent to us by Joan Carl, Santa Cruz, CA



Jack Griffin

THE HAMRICK FAMILY

By Winifred Hamrick Farrar

According to the best sources of information on the Hamrick family, the first Hamrick is Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr.'s traceable line was Patrick Hamrick who was born in Ireland in 1684. He married Margaret Ingles and settled in Prince William County, Virginia. He died in 1764.

Patrick was the father of Joseph Hamrick who was born about 1732. Joseph married Margaret Elizabeth Ferguson and owned a plantation in Virginia which he sold before buying another one in Wilkes County, North Carolina. He died in Greene County, Georgia in 1792.

Joseph was the father of Thomas Jefferson Hamrick who was born in Prince William County, Virginia in 1757. Thomas Jefferson Hamrick married Sarah Scurlock in 1779 and died in 1798. He was the father of John C. Hamrick who was born in 1786 and who married Katherine Myers (or Katie Hampton) in 1809. There is a question about her last name, but Hampton was probably her maiden name. They had eight children, one of whom was another Thomas Jefferson Hamrick, Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr.'s great-grandfather. John C. Hamrick died in 1856 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

John C. Hamrick was an army captain who fought under General Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812. They fought Indians in Alabama, and from there he went to Florida, New Orleans, and Tennessee. On their way to Tennessee, they cut the road now known as the Jackson Trail. After the war had ended, he returned to Milledgeville, Georgia, where he lived until 1820 when he moved to Alabama. Here he bought a large tract of land and a large number of slaves. Sixteen years later, in 1836, he moved to Mississippi and bought another plantation in Lauderdale County.

John C. Hamrick's son, Thomas Jefferson Hamrick, a fifth-generation member, was ten years old in 1820 and lived with his father in Alabama until after he married Sinia Brown. They came to Lauderdale County and settled on the east side of Okatibbee at what is known as the Bozeman Place. Here his wife died, leaving six children: Elmira, John B., Margaret, Tom, Joe, and James Madison, grandfather of Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr.

In the winter of 1846 Thomas Jefferson Hamrick married Sabrina (Sibby) Phillips, who was born in Marengo County, Alabama in 1817. They left the Bozeman Place which was next to John C. Hamrick's land, on Pine Springs Road, and moved to Collinsville where he bought 640 acres which became known as the Hamrick Place. He built a house called "Wayside Inn", moved children and slaves, and became a successful farmer until the beginning of the Civil War. He and Sibby had five children: Molly, Virgil, Alice, Nellie and Burwell.

When the war broke out, his sons from his first marriage went into service, and two, Tom and Joe, were killed. Joe died at Malvern Hill, Virginia, in 1862, and Tom died in a hospital in Orange County, Virginia in 1864. James Madison Hamrick, Sinia's youngest son, served briefly. During this time Thomas Jefferson Hamrick had a light stroke and was in ill health until he died from colitis on October 30, 1881. His wife died on September 22, 1887, and both of them are buried in the Hamrick Cemetery which is located on the plantation.

James Madison Hamrick was born in Lauderdale County on March 24, 1845. On October 26, 1868, he married Clementine Williamson, daughter of Allen Monroe Williamson and Mary K. Poole Williamson. Clementine was born on October 4, 1853. They were the parents of eight children: Minnie (7/21/1872-8/5/1937) who married John Beeman; Joseph Thomas (7/27/1873-3/1/1907) who married Sarah Frances Hand; John A. (10/20/1875-7/16/1900); Benjamin F. (12/14/1877-9/7/1900); Clementine T. (5/24/1880-6/27/1900); J. Ollie (3/9/1883-8/28/1900); William Lee (3/13/1886-12/21/1965) who married Mittie Mae Strange; and Maude (8/25/1888-11/8/1968) who married Ereginal Gilmore Strange. Four of these children died during the typhoid fever epidemic in 1900. James Madison Hamrick died on October 23, 1929, and his wife, Clementine, died on April 1, 1933. They are buried in the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

Joseph Thomas Hamrick, born on July 27, 1873, was married in 1896 to Sarah Frances Hand, who was born on June 18, 1876. She was the daughter of Hilliard Winfield Hand and Rebecca Jane Vance Hand. They were the parents of three sons: Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. (12/29/1896-10/3/1979) who married Javah Maudine Hodgins; James Lionel Hamrick (10/31/1899-6/25/1946) who married Eva Williamson; and Benjamin Conrad Hamrick (3/21/1902-9/25/1987) who married Kathleen Bounds. After the death of his wife on September 24, 1903, Joseph Thomas Hamrick studied medicine at the University of Tennessee Medical College in Memphis for two years and then returned to Meridian to finish his medical training. He practiced medicine for a brief time before his death from pneumonia on March 1, 1907. He was called by his sister, Minnie Beeman, to visit one of her sick children on a rainy night and developed pneumonia as a consequence. Joseph Thomas Hamrick and Sarah (Sally) Hamrick are buried in the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. was born on December 29, 1896 in Lauderdale County north of Collinsville on his parents' property adjoining Winfield Hand's property. He spent his early childhood at this location. At the age of 12, he was orphaned, along with his two brothers, in 1907 when his father died; his mother, Sarah Hand Hamrick, had died in 1903. After her death, Howard and his younger brothers went to live with their grandparents, James Madison and Clementine Hamrick, while their father, Joseph Thomas Hamrick, went to Memphis to study medicine. While living with them, he attended Rocky Ridge School which was a mile away from their residence. Later he lived in Cooper, Texas, with his uncle, Rev. William Lee Hamrick, a Methodist Protestant minister, and his wife, Mittie, and attended high school there. He served in the United States army for a few months during the latter part of World War I and was stationed at Camp Pike, Arkansas. After the army duty, he spent several months in Frostproof, Florida working in orange groves and attending barber school.

When he returned to Lauderdale County, he enrolled at the old Meridian College and after a time completed enough courses to earn a teacher's certificate and taught for a while in the Collinsville area, some of the time with his future wife, Javah. On December 27, 1921, Howard married Javah Maudine Hodgins who was born on October 3, 1900, to Reuben E. Hodgins (3/31/1861-12/2/1942) and Ella Lou Truett Hodgins (9/18/1871-1/26/1908). Within a few months, they bought a house and farm from William Lee Hamrick and Mittie Strange Hamrick located next door to James and "Teenie" Strange, Mittie's parents. Howard and Javah had two children: Winifred and Howard Elson, Jr.

On March 5, 1923, the day Winifred, their daughter, was born, Howard was teaching at Leeville about three miles north of their residence. After the school day, he walked home to find Javah alerting him that she would soon need the assistance of Dr. George T. Pruitt of Kemper County. Winifred was born about ten o'clock that night. Six years later, on May 22, 1929, her brother, Howard Elson, Jr. was born at the same location.

In the fall of 1939, the Howard Hamrick family moved from their farm to Collinsville where they built a house next door to the Duluth Snowden family. At this time, Winifred was 17 and in the eleventh grade at Collinsville High School. They had been in the house several weeks when it snowed in January, 1940, and schools had to be closed for a number of days. During the January snow Howard and Javah's son, Howard Elson, Jr., was hospitalized at Anderson's in Meridian, and Winifred stayed with her Uncle Ray Hodgins at Collinsville where she learned her lines for a school play which was presented in the spring.

The Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. family were members at Pleasant Ridge Methodist Protestant Church until after their move to Collinsville. When the Methodist Protestants entered the Methodist union in 1939, they had been attending Sunday School at the Collinsville Methodist Church which had been Methodist Episcopal South until the union was formed. They were active in building a new church structure at Pleasant Ridge to replace the original white frame church there. Howard was a delegate to the uniting conference held in Meridian in 1939. He represented the Pleasant Ridge church.

In the mid-forties, the Howard Hamricks moved their membership to the Collinsville Methodist Church. By this time Winifred was in college at the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) where she was graduated in 1945.

Howard taught the Men's Bible Class in the Collinsville church for many years, and Javah taught a children's class at the same time. Before marrying Robert Harold Farrar in 1946, Winifred taught a young adult Sunday School class for a while.

Howard led the singing for the worship service, and Javah played the piano. After an organ was purchased for the church, Javah became organist until the winter of her death in 1986. At this time, Ila Clark began playing the piano while Javah played the organ.

During the winter of 1948, Howard Elson, Jr. attended Ole Miss and lived in the campus apartment with Winifred and Robert H. Farrar while Robert was finishing his degree after three years of Army duty. After this year at Ole Miss, Howard Elson, Jr. attended East Mississippi Junior College at Scooba and the University of Southern Mississippi at Hattiesburg. In 1951 he was graduated from USM with a degree in business (marketing aspect). He came home to work in the Collinsville general store which Howard and Javah had bought from James Martin Snowden in the late forties.

Howard and Javah bought this store when Howard's arthritis and his brother's death caused him to leave the Hamrick Mercantile Company. After farming and teaching for several years, Howard, Sr. had begun working as a salesman for his brother, Lionel Hamrick, who had established the Hamrick Mercantile Company in Meridian. From the early thirties, Howard worked in this capacity within Meridian and in area towns until shortly after the Collinsville store was purchased.

Howard Elson, Sr. spent several months in the Veterans' Hospital in Jackson where he was treated for arthritis. During this time, Javah was responsible for the Collinsville store, and for several years she did most of the work there until they sold it to Eulus and Millicent Walker in 1962. Javah's physician, Dr. Med Scott Brown, had advised her to quit work as she was developing a serious heart condition and high blood pressure.

For several years they enjoyed a period of retirement and community activities. After a series of illnesses requiring hospital stays from time to time, Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. died on October 3, 1979, and Javah Hodgins Hamrick died on January 24, 1986. They are buried in the Collinsville Methodist Church Cemetery.

Brief histories of Howard and Javah's children and grandchildren follow:

Frances Winifred Hamrick was born on March 5, 1923. On April 24, 1946, she married Robert Harold Farrar, born on December 3, 1923 to Coy Madison Farrar and Madie Nash Farrar of Amory in Monroe County, Mississippi. A graduate of the University of Mississippi, she received a Master's Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. Winifred was an English teacher in Mississippi schools for thirty years, twenty-four of them in the Meridian Public School System. She was transferred from Kate Griffin Junior High School to become English teacher and departmental chairperson at the Meridian High School-Junior College until secondary and college students were divided for separate schools. Then she remained at the Meridian High School as chairperson of the English department and a teacher of creative writing and English until her retirement. Winifred is a widely-published poet and has served as Poet Laureate of Mississippi since 1978.

Howard Elson Hamrick, Jr. was born on May 22, 1929. On August 8, 1954, he was married to Cecile Vincent Pettit, born on November 21, 1928 to Fred F. Pettit and Lucille Vincent Pettit of Cedartown, Georgia. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, he was active in retail merchandising in New Orleans and Meridian. Howard Elson Hamrick, Jr. died on June 7, 1979, and Cecile Pettit Hamrick died on August 29, 1998. They are buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Meridian.

Howard Elson Hamrick, Jr. and Cecile Pettit Hamrick were the parents of two children: James Harold Hamrick was born on April 1, 1957, in Meridian. On August 11, 1979, he was married to Jane Holifield, daughter of Robert and Flora Cole Holifield of Hattiesburg; they were later divorced. On January 7, 1995, he was married to Rhonda Cockrell, daughter of Wallace and Lavada Cockrell of Gulfport. James Harold Hamrick graduated from Mississippi State University, and is employed as a civil engineer with the Department of the Navy at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Biloxi. Rhonda Cockrell Hamrick is employed as newspaper librarian for *The Sun Herald* in Gulfport.

James Harold Hamrick and Jane Holifield Hamrick were the parents of two sons: Kevin Nathaniel Hamrick, born September 5, 1984, and Brian Christopher Hamrick, born December 29, 1986.

Katherine Elizabeth Hamrick was born on May 22, 1963, in New Orleans. On May 5, 1995, she was married to Phil Hagan, son of Jack and Joanna Hagan of Pell City, Alabama. She received a nursing degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and is employed as clinical care co-ordinator for the Department of Cardiology Services at UAWB Hospital in Birmingham. Phil Hagan is employed as a representative for Novatis Pharmaceuticals in the Birmingham area.

ADDENDA

Addendum I:

Howard Elson Hamrick's ancestry through Sarah Frances Hand, his mother, is as follows: John Hand (c. 1793-c. 1859) and Martha ; Hilyard J. Hand (c. 1816-1870) and Susannah Childress; Hilliard Winfield Hand (1852-1946) and Rebecca Jane Vance (1854-1933), a daughter of George Vance and Mary Jane Page. They had nine children: Mamie Viola Hand May; Sarah (Sally) Frances Hand Hamrick; William Robert Hand (doctor); Ida L. Hand Walker; Benjamin Franklin Hand (doctor); Preston James Hand (Jean Hand Henry's father); Etta Hand Williamson; George Lofton Hand, who married Velma Clay; and Oren Austin Hand, who married Dorothy Victoria Tucker.

Addendum II:

The Hamrick generations by fathers only are listed below:

1. Patrick Hamrick (1684-1764).
2. Joseph Hamrick (1732-1792).
3. Thomas Jefferson Hamrick (1757-1798)
4. John C. Hamrick (1786-1856).
5. Thomas Jefferson Hamrick (1810-1881).
6. James Madison Hamrick (1845-1929).
7. Joseph Thomas Hamrick (1873-1907).
8. Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. (1896-1979).
9. Howard Elson Hamrick, Jr. (1929-1979).
10. James Harold Hamrick (1957-).

Addendum III:

A number of Hamrick relatives are descended through fifth-generation Thomas Jefferson Hamrick and his children: Elmira (or Almira), John B., Margaret, and James Madison. Thomas Jefferson II and Joseph C. were killed during the Civil War and left no children.

Elmira, his oldest child, and Joseph L. Houston, her husband, had nineteen or twenty children, several of whom, named below, remained in the Collinsville area and were well known to Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. (For a full listing of known descendants from Elmira, John B., Margaret, and James Madison, see the work on the Hamricks which was done by Rosalyn Blanks McPhail, a descendant through Margaret. This work lists children and grandchildren who were, and are, residents of Collinsville on previous pages.)

Margaret (Aunt "Mag" Snowden) was Elmira's oldest daughter and the mother of Everett Williamson by her first husband and of Duluth Snowden by her second husband. She is the grandmother of Rev. James Martin Snowden and others. Joseph Luther Houston, Jr., her son, who married Minnie Wellborn, was the father of Ila Clark, Allie McDonald, Jesse and Alton Houston. Ida Houston Walker (Mrs. William Lee) was the mother of Eulus Walker, Madge Walker Provine, and others. Lillie Bell Houston Walker (Mrs. Walter) was the mother of Clyde Walker, Blannie McMullan, Inez Miles, and others. Sabrina (Sibby) Gibson (Mrs. John Wesley) was the mother of Cam, Walter, Fred, Sam and Velma. She was the grandmother of Cameron, Walterine, Frances, Edzel, Lloyd Freeman, and others. Mary Ardella (Aunt "Della") Ethridge (Mrs. Tully) was the mother of Ethel McDonald, Inell Nelson, and several sons. Of course, all of these named individuals are cousins to Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr.

Through John B. Hamrick, Thomas Jefferson's son, more Hamrick cousins descend. The McPhail account names eleven, one of whom was a son. This son, Tom, was married to Carrie Clark, sister of Augie Clark, but they did not have children. John B.'s oldest daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, married a Carpenter and had three children: Ada, John, and Irvin Carpenter. When her husband died, she and her children went to live with her parents. Ada Carpenter is the mother of Ardele, Robbye Rea, Irvadeen, Sadye, Christine, Myra, and Charles Moore. Ardele married an Ethridge and is the mother to Juanice Ethridge Hodgins and others. Katherine (Kate), Mrs. Augie Clark, was the mother of Marvin, Elton, William, and Earline (Mrs. Fred) Gibson. Marvin Clark was the father of Mary Olive Secrest and five others. Elton was the father of Aaron Clark, and William was the father of Dr. William F. Clark. Earline Gibson was the mother of Fredrick and Edsel Gibson. Another daughter of John B. Hamrick was Ella, Mrs. Thomas Gibson. She had five children, two of whom were Joe Alton and Heber. Annie (Mrs. Bob) Moore and Mattie (Mrs. Rhodes) Gibson were also daughters of John B. Annie Hamrick Moore was the mother of Melville who married Vera Moore and Malcolm who married Mary Lucille Jolly. Mattie Hamrick Gibson was the mother of Edward and Taze Gibson.

Margaret, sister of John B. and daughter of Thomas Jefferson Hamrick, married Jacob Wells and had three children. When her husband was killed in the Civil War, she and these young daughters went to live with Thomas Jefferson Hamrick. As she never married again, Mary Ellis, Mittie, and Bettie were reared in his household. Mary Ellis and Bettie died in their twenties, but Mittie lived to be 96 ½ . She taught school and married Joseph McCullough Ethridge. They had three children: Selby, Irma, and Homer. Irma married Marvin Blanks and they were parents to Evelyn (Mrs. Lamar) Clay, Rosalyn (Mrs. Aubrey) McPhail, Marvin Blanks, Jr. and Edwin Blanks. Irma became a teacher for several years and later was postmistress for Collinsville. Her children were college graduates and each chose teaching as a profession. Because she was reared in the Thomas Jefferson Hamrick family, Mittie Ethridge became a valuable source of family information.

Thomas Jefferson Hamrick's youngest child who was born to Sinia Brown, his first wife, was James Madison Hamrick, the grandfather of Howard Elson Hamrick. He was mentioned in the body of this paper. This paper does not include information about the children of Thomas Jefferson Hamrick and Sibby, his second wife.

Addendum IV:

No attempt is made in this paper to provide details about the Hand family or the Williamson family, but they are closely related to Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. through his mother, Sarah Frances Hand Hamrick, and his grandmother, Clementine Williamson Hamrick.

A thorough research on these families has been done by Jeanne Hand Henry, a certified genealogist, and was published by Southern Genealogical Service, Route 2, Box 855, New Market, Alabama, in 1977. This research includes data on the Hands from John Hand, 1793-1862, the progenitor, through Preston Hand, the father of Jeanne Hand Henry. Henry's research is entitled ***My Cross and Hand Families*** and is on file with the Library of Congress under catalog card number 77-80405. Her book includes data on nine families related to her. They are as follows: Beeman, Hamrick, Johnson, Page, Poole, Vance, Wells, Williamson and Woodward. Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. is linked to four of these families through Sarah Hand, his mother, and Joseph Thomas Hamrick, his father.

He is related to the Vance and Page families through Sarah and to the Williamson, Poole, and Wells families through Joseph Thomas, the son of Clementine Williamson Hamrick.

Some Hamrick family history has been provided recently by Wanda Griffis Haynes, a granddaughter of Maude Hamrick Strange. Under "Ancestor Chart" for Maude Hamrick (1887) six grandfathers are named and can be accessed from site: - Hamrick Family Genealogy - . Beginning with Patrick Hamrick (1684-1764) there are 34,000 listings (100 pages) in the webGED:Print Facility and, therefore, a massive holding of names.

The Hamrick Family at the old Hamrick House.



John B. Hamrick md. Mary Elizabeth Harwell 3-12-1858.

1st Sarah Elizabeth (Bettie) Hamrick Carpenter, John B. & Mary Eliz. Hamrick, Annie Belle, Thelma, Lamar Weatherford. 3 children of Nettie & Geo. Weatherford. She was deceased at time of the photo. Geo. later married Maggie Hamrick (child in wheelchair died when the wheelchair rolled off of the porch.)

2nd John Rice, Thomas Irvin Carpenter, Mattie, Jonnie, Fronie, Annie, & Maggie Hamrick.

**Mattie md. Rhodes Gibson
Jonnie md. James S. Tucker
Annie md. Robert F. Moore**

**Bettie md. Charles Clinton Carpenter
Fronie md. Calvin C. Pruitt
Maggie md. George Weatherford**

JAVAH MAUDINE HODGINS HAMRICK - HERITAGE

By: Winifred Hamrick Farrar

Jawah Hodgins was born in Lauderdale County, Mississippi, between Martin and Leeville on October 3, 1900, and died on January 24, 1986. She married Howard Elson Hamrick on December 27, 1921, and had two children:

Winifred, who was born on March 5, 1923, and married Robert H. Farrar of Monroe County, Mississippi, on April 24, 1946; and Howard Elson Hamrick, Jr., who was born on May 22, 1929, and Married Cecile Pettit of Cedartown, Georgia, on August 8, 1954. He died on June 7, 1979.

Jawah was widowed when Howard Elson Hamrick, Sr. died on October 3, 1979.

Jawah's father was Reuben Edward Hodgins, who was born in Kemper County, Mississippi, on March 31, 1861, and died on December 2, 1942. He was buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. He was married to Ella Lou Truitt, who was born in Kemper County, on September 13, 1871. She died on January 26, 1908, and is buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. Reuben E. Hodgins and Ella Lou had nine children:

Cornelius S. Hodgins (1888 - 1957)
Ray Hodgins (twin of Rodge) (1890 - 1951)
Rodge Hodgins (twin of Ray) (1890 - 1950)
Lula Hodgins Phillips (1893 - 1966)
Robert Gail Hodgins (1895 - 1971)
Ira Hodgins (1897 - 1908)
Jawah Hodgins Hamrick (1900 - 1986)
Mattie Hodgins (1903 - 1908)
Reuben Edward Hodgins, III (1906 - 1987)

Jawah's father was married again to Caroline Duncan, who was born on March 7, 1883, and died on July 13, 1953, and was buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. They had five children:

Mayola Hodgins Vaughn (1913 - 1984)
Madie Hodgins Hudson (1916 -)
Irene Hodgins Hodges (1918 -)
Arnold Hodgins (1919 -)
George Hodgins (1923 -)

Jawah's paternal grandfather was Alfred York Hodgins, who was born in Maringo County, Alabama, in 1826; he married Martha Leonard (dates unknown). They were parents of Reuben E. Hodgins, II, and a daughter, Sally who lived to adulthood and never married. According to family legend, Martha was from Scott County, Mississippi. She was a concert singer who sang with her father in the area of Central and East Mississippi. From time to time, they made brief tours. Jawah believed that Martha's ancestry was English-German.

Jawah's great-grandfather was Reuben Hodgins, I, who was born in Rockingham, N. C. , on January 15, 1796, and died in Kemper County on April 9, 1879. He was buried in Zion Cemetery. He was married to Margaret York, who was born in North Carolina on February 12, 1798. She died in Kemper County on January 24, 1880, and was buried in Zion Cemetery. They were the parents of six daughters and one son: Cynthia, Belinda, Sarah, Alfred York, Mary Jane, Elizabeth, and Charlotte.

Jawah's maternal grandmother was Judith Stephenson, who married ? Truitt (Bob Truitt, Jovah thought). This was Ella Lou's mother, and she had a brother named Bob who moved to Arkansas. Her sister was Mattie, who married ? Davis. This sister, Mattie, was mother to Frank Davis, Alma Davis Herrington (Mrs. Will), Birdie Davis Herrington (Mrs. Miles), Ida Davis Crenshaw (Mrs. Albert), and Lily Davis McMullen (Mrs. June). These were Jovah's first cousins. After Judith was widowed, she married ? Sanderson, and was mother to Mittie Sanderson who married Tom Mayatt. Mittie and Tom Mayatt were parents of Curtis Mayatt, John Mayatt, Leon Mayatt, Arnell Mayatt, Effie Mayatt Dowdy, and Macie Mayatt Duett. These were Jovah's half first cousins.

Ella Lou died when Jovah was eight years old and thus her memory of her mother was limited, but she instilled honesty and kindness in her children. For some impressions of her mother, Jovah was dependent on people who remembered Ella Lou well. For instance, Alma Herrington, Jovah's cousin, told her that she looked very much like Ella Lou. Jovah had a close relationship with Alma (this is Burkett Herrington's mother) and was living with Alma's family when she married Howard Elson Hamrick, who must have been teaching at Leeville at this time. Jovah might have been teaching there also. She had attended school there earlier.

To prepare for teaching, Jovah attended the old Meridian College. I've heard her mention the Beeson College, but I have no dates. Her cousin, Effie Mayatt, daughter of her Aunt Mitt Mayatt, was also a student with her. They boarded in a private home and were able to take a streetcar to the college. Prior to Beeson College days, she attended Clarke College in Newton, Mississippi. Jovah received a "lifetime" license from the Mississippi State Department of Education and taught for a number of years in area schools, one of which was Blackman. She later taught at Collinsville, along with Howard Hamrick and Cousin Mittie Ethridge who was Irma Blanks' mother.

During her days at Leeville as a student, she was in school with the children of Steve Tucker who was a close friend of Jovah's father. Two of these children with whom she was a lifetime friend were Victoria (Vic) Tucker Hand and Sallie Tucker Snowden. These women were married to Howard Elson Hamrick's relatives: Austin Hand, his mother's brother, and Duluth Snowden, whose mother was a Hamrick.

Jovah was of sound mind the day she died in a tragic accident on family property which she and Howard had purchased from Willie and Mittie Hamrick in 1922. She was quite active at 85 and possibly could have shared more dates about events, but such information as I have comes from my memory of conversations. She didn't record anything. I'm just trying to reconstruct what I was told.

Jovah, Mrs. Irma Blanks and Bertice Vance (Mrs. Roger Rolland Vance, mother of Rubye) were close friends. They shared many interests and enjoyed at least one trip together to Mexico. They worked together in the Collinsville United Methodist Church, where Jovah taught children in Sunday School for years. She was serving as church organist there when she died. Of course, you know that she and my father are buried in the Collinsville United Methodist Church cemetery next to the Roland Vances' who were their treasured friends.



July 2000

Three soul mates: Jovah Hamrick, Bertice Vance, and Irma Blanks.

THOMAS JEFFERSON HAMRICK b. 1810 - 1881

By Rosalyn Banks McPhail

We begin our story with "Grandpa" Hamrick, the one who started the cemetery between Collinsville and Lake Okatibbee. He came here with a new wife and his father, mother, brothers and sisters, in time for his first child to be born in Lauderdale County on February 14, 1836.

"Grandpa" Hamrick was the oldest child of nine listed in his parents family Bible. His name was Thomas Jefferson and he was born on February 10, 1810, in Georgia. His tombstone reads February 14th, but since his first child, Elmira, was born on February 14th, they probably celebrated together and descendants who bought the stone thought 14th was correct.

"Grandpa" Hamrick was enumerated next door to his father, John C. Hamrick, in 1850, and this was probably on the "Bozeman Place" on Pine Springs Road. After John C. died on September 1, 1856, at age of 71 ½, Grandpa Hamrick (T.J.) bought a place across the road from Mitt and Rod Hitt's house near the Hamrick Cemetery. This was a large house used for travelers and called "Wayside Inn". They moved there in 1857 and he owned 640 acres at that location. He had inherited about fifteen slaves from his father and may have had a few of his own since he was about 47 years old and had been in Lauderdale County for 20 years. He died on October 30, at age of 71 ½, having lived at this last place for 24 years.

Grandpa Hamrick (Thomas Jefferson) who was born in Georgia, moved with his family to Alabama when he was about 10 years old. He first married Cinia/Sinia Brown in Monroe County, Alabama, on November 23, 1834. The name is spelled **Hambrick** on the Monroe County records. He was 25 years old and Sinia (age unknown) when he married the first time. They had 6 children: Elmira b. February 14, 1836; John B. b. March 12, 1837; Margaret b. August 28, 1839; Thomas b. ca. 1842; Joseph b. ca. 1843; and James (Jim) b. March 24, 1845.

"Sinie" must have died when James was born or when he was small as Grandpa Hamrick (T.J.) married his second wife during the "winter of 1846". This could have been in January or February of 1846 Jim could have been as young as 10 months when he married again. This time he married Sabrina "Sibby" Phillips, b. 1817 in Maringo County, Alabama. She must have been 29 or 30 years old at that time. To this union was born 6 children: Mary b. ca. 1848, who must have died before the 1860 census; Mary C., called Molly, b. ca. 1850; Virgil b. ca. 1852; Alice b. ca. 1855; Nellie and Burwell. The last two were born after the census, but my mother never heard of them and thinks they must have died young. The 3 children who grew up here all married and moved away and have no descendants with whom we are familiar. We'll just study the six children by the first wife, but we must give the second wife full credit for bringing up the first set. The children could have been no older than one, three, four, six, eight, and ten when "Sibby" took on the task of being their mother and then giving birth to six of her own.

Of the first six children of Grandpa Hamrick, Elmira was the oldest and the first to marry. She also lived to be the oldest (86) and to bear the most children (17). One day when Elmira was only 15 years old, a nice looking man rode up on the most beautiful horse anyone could imagine. It probably was a Tennessee Walking horse and it had a gorgeous (yes gorgeous!) saddle and bridle on it. The bridle was covered with silver decorations the size of quarters. It must have looked like the ones we see in the Rose Bowl Parade on New Years Day! He said he was looking for descendants of John C. Hamrick and that his name was Joseph L. Houston, and he had ridden all the way from Texas. I do not know if he stayed with Grandpa Hamrick or not but he probably stayed there at first. My Grandmother, Mittie Ethridge, who lived with Grandpa Hamrick (J. T.) from the time she was 1 ½ yrs. old till he died when she was 20, told us this. Anyway, this man with the gorgeous horse, married Elmira before her 16th birthday! It was a surprise to everyone but them, and I was told that someone helped her "visit away from home" so that the marriage could take place.

Although the brothers and sisters of Elmira were born at two year intervals, it was almost seven years before the next two got brave enough to marry: Margaret, 18 ½ married on February 18, 1858, and John (between Elmira and Margaret) married in less than a month on March 11, 1858. He was 21 years old and married Mary Elizabeth Harwell. Margaret married Jacob Wells, who lived nearby.

Thomas and Joseph, the next children in line, lost their lives in the Civil War, unmarried. James (Jim), the youngest of the first set, married on October 26, 1886, at age of 23. His wife was Clementine Williamson and called "Aunt Tiny". All the "Hamricks" by Grandpa's first wife come through this son.

Now we'll list the children of Grandpa's four children who could marry and have a family:

I. ELMIRA - the 1900 census indicated that she had given birth to 17 live children. We can only name 16.

1. Columbus b. 1852 (or early 1853) was on 1870 census as 17 years old (died in teens?)
2. Margaret (Maggie) b. 1854, married a Williamson and then a Snowden. Grandmother of Lamar, Margaret, James Martin, Norman, Bernice, Charlotte, and others.
3. John Oliver b. 1856 married Ida Jones
4. Sinia/Sinie b. December 20, 1858 married a Hudson
5. Sabrina/Sibby b. December 20, 1858 married John Wesley Gibson. Mother of Cam, Walter, Sam, Fred, Tommy, and Velma - Grandmother of Cameron, Walterine, Francis, Edzel G., Lloyd Freeman, and others.
6. Willis b. ca. 1861
7. Josephine b. ca. 1863 d. 1864
8. Mollie b. ca. 1864 d. 1864
9. Thomas Jefferson b. 1865 married Susie Collins. He was known as "Dr. Tom" of Meridian. He had 2 boys and 1 girl: Wilburn Collins Houston I, Mark, and Carmen.
10. Mary Ardella b. 1867 married Tully Ethridge, brother to my grandfather, "Mack" Ethridge who married Mittie Wells. Mittie was the daughter of Margaret who was a sister to Elmira. "Aunt Della" was the mother of Ethel, Sims, Luke, Bee & Bert (twins) and Inell.
11. Joseph Luther, Jr. b. September 2, 1869 married Minnie Wellborn on December 24, 1889 and they were parents of Cecil (f), Jesse, Allie, Ila, Joe B., Alton, and Oleta. They are grandparents of Dan, Fay, Aaron, Max, Joyce, Gayle, etc., and great grandparents of Chantel and Tori in our church.
12. Ida b. 1872 married William Lee Walker and some of their children are Marks, Eulus, Ray, Madge, Ellis, and W. L. Jr.
13. Lillie Bell b. 1873 married Walter Walker - brother to Will Walker above. Their children are Blannie, X. L., Stanton, Legette, Clyde, Inez, and G. W.
14. Annie b. 1875 died 1886 (about 11 years old)
- * 15. Paul b. 1877 unmarried (twin to Calude)
- * 16. Claude b. 1877 unmarried (twin to Paul)

II. John, who could hand down the Hamrick name was the father of at least eleven children but only one son. This son, Tom, named for Grandpa Hamrick, never had a child to live.

1. Elizabeth married Charlie Carpenter and had 3 children, Ada, John (is father of Thad, Arnold, & Ela Faye Carpenter), and Irvin (father to Durwood & Idell Carpenter). Her husband died young and she and the children went back to live with her parents. Ada is mother of Ardele, Robbye Rea, Irvadean, Sadye, Christine, Myra and Charles Moore.

2. Saphronia, "Aunt Fronie" married a Prewitt - no children, but she reared Winnie Mae (her sister's child).

3. Katherine "Kate" married Augie Clark. They were the parents of Marvin, Elton, William and Earline.

4. Nettie married a Weatherford.

5. Ava married Hillard Gibson (1/2 brother to my Grandfather Ethridge).

6. Ella married Thomas Gibson (1/2 brother to my Grandfather Ethridge and the widower of my Grandmother's sister, Bettie, who died at age 26). Aunt Ella was the mother of Ruby, Kline, Joe Alton, Heber, Norman and Melba.

7. Tom (only son) married Carrie Clark sister of "Augie" who married Tom's sister Katherine # 3 above. They had no children.

8. Maggie married a Weatherford. She married sister Nettie's widower and became the step-mother of Nettie's infant.

9. Annie married Bob Moore, had 2 boys, Melville who married Vera Moore and Malcolm who married Mary Lucille Jolly. They are grandparents of Barry and Carolyn and Great grandparents of Monica, Ashley and Scott.

10. Johnnie married Jim Tucker and had Winnie Mae. When her mother died, Aunt Fronie took her.

11. Mattie married Rhodes Gibson. Their children are Edward and Taze.

III. Margaret married Jacob Wells and had Mary Ellis, Mittie (my grandmother), and Bettie. Jacob (26) was killed in the Civil War (Skirmish at Iuka, Ms.), and left Margaret at 23 with 3 little girls - ages 5 weeks, 19 months, and 3 years + 2 months. She went back to live with her father and step-mother and never married again. She died at age 52 1/2 while living with her only surviving child (my grandmother).

1. Mary Ellis (called Ellis) married at age 18 1/2 on February 3, 1878, to James W. Moore age 33 1/2 . Twenty-two months later on Dec. 3, 1879 a daughter was born to them and named for her mother, "Mary Ellis", who died the next day. This child was called "Daisy". Margaret (the mother-in-law), and Mittie, age 19, (sister-in-law) , lived with James W. Moore to take care of the new baby. Margaret's other child, Bettie married 7 weeks later so all four left Grandpa Hamrick's place. He would only live 22 more months.

2. Mittie taught school - sometimes 2 terms a year because most schools only lasted four months. Also, parents were real anxious to locate a teacher who would live nearby and teach their children. Mittie vowed not to marry young and not to marry unless her husband promised to be good to her mother. She was married at 25 on June 3, 1886 (6 1/2 years after her younger sister, Bettie, was married), to Joseph McCullough Ethridge, 24 1/2 years old. Mittie lived to be 96 1/2 years old. She often said she wished she could have given some of her years to her two sisters who died at ages 20 and 26.

Grandpa Mack bought and sold houses, had a store at several different times, built roads by contract at one time, taught school a few terms but didn't like it, and was supervisor at the time the courthouse was built. His name is on the cornerstone of the present building. He died at age 69 after being confined to a wheel chair for five years following a stroke. Their children were Selby, Irma, and Homer. The first son died at about age 43 1/2 , Homer at about age 60, but Irma is going strong at 94 1/2 years! Irma's children are Evelyn Clay, Rosalyn McPhail, Marvin Blanks, Jr., and Edwin who died in 1972. Grandchildren are Dr. John Clay, Meridian; Dan Clay, South Carolina; Bill McPhail, Germany; Mark McPhail, Meridian; and Bettye McPhail Stroud, Meridian. "Greats" include David, Haley, and Morgan McPhail (in our church).

3. Margaret Elizabeth (Bettie) at age 17 1/2 , married Samuel Thomas Gibson, age 22, on Jan. 21, 1880. They cut trees and cleared new ground together while Bettie's mother kept house for them and did the washing outdoors. This was after James W. Moore married again and had someone to tend to Daisy. Bettie and Thomas didn't have any children (to live) , and Bettie died, after apparently recovering from typhoid fever, at age 26 years and 2 months.

Uncle Thomas later married Bettie's first cousin, Ella Hamrick, daughter of John. Their children were Ruby, Kline, Joe Alton, Heber, Norman, and Melba. Grandchildren Jane Townsend, Patricia Bounds, Yvette Wilkerson, Treajetta Gibson, Gary Gibson, Peggy Covington and others. Remember Margaret was left with 3 children under 3 1/2 years old. The oldest only lived to be 20, the youngest only lived to be 26, but the middle one lived to be 96 1/2 .

The first one died and left infant "Daisy": She married Tom Johnson of Suqualena. Daisy had 2 daughters, Amy and Ina, then a son and both mother (Daisy) and son died. Amy, who descends from Grandpa Hamrick through 2nd daughter, Margaret, grew up and married X. L. Walker who descends from Grandpa Hamrick through older daughter Elmira. They have four children and one great grandchild.

IV. James Madison (Jim), the youngest of the set of children by Grandpa Hamrick's first wife, is the only one to pass down the name "Hamrick". At this date, (June 1986), there are 7 grandsons to produce offspring. Only two of these are in Lauderdale County, some are not even in Mississippi.

1. Minnie married John Wesley Beeman and Dulcie Snowden is one of their children.
2. Thomas married Sallie Hand and were parents of Howard, Lionel, and Ben Hamrick (no girls). Howard had one daughter, Winifred, and one son, Elson. Elson has a daughter, Katherine and a son, Jim. **Jim** can carry on the name. Later; he had a son on Jan. 1985, and named him Kevin. Lionel has 2 sons - Lionel, Jr. and Joseph. Lionel Jr. has a girl and 2 boys, **Lionel III**, and **Clinton**, of Meridian, Ms .to carry on the name "Hamrick." Joseph, age 50, is a physician in New Orleans and has a girl and 2 boys, **Tommy** and **Mark**. Ben, 3rd son of Grandpa Hamrick's youngest son, had one child, a son, James Conrad. This James Conrad has one child, a son named **Mark** Conrad, about 22 years old who lives in New Orleans.

3. John died in August of 1900 of typhoid.
4. Ben died in Sept. of 1900 of typhoid.
5. Clementine died in June of 1900 of typhoid.
6. William Lee "Willie" married Mittie Strange, (sister to "Gill" below). They had 1 child, a son, who also had 1 child, a son. I think the line stopped there.
7. Maude married "Gill" Strange and they were parents of Odell, Voight, Conrad, Doyle, Maudine, and Anita. Voight, who descends from Grandpa Hamrick through **James Madison** (Jim), married Melba Gibson, who descends through John.

The 6 names in bold above are young men in their twenties who can hand down the Hamrick name. All descend from Thomas, son of Jim who was youngest son of Grandpa Hamrick by his first wife. He may have descendants through Virgil and Burwell (second set) but this does not concern us. Mother (Irma Blanks) doesn't think this Burwell lived to be grown.

Captain John C. Hamrick b. March 24, 1786 - d. Sept. 1, 1856 Father of Thomas Jefferson Hamrick

Captain John C. Hamrick was born on March 24, 1786, in Georgia. He was married to Katherine "Katie" Myers (b. March 18, 1790 or 92), on April 23, 1809, in Washington County, Georgia, and lived in Milledgeville, Ga. To this union was born four sons and four daughters:

1. Thomas Jefferson married Sinia Brown in Monroe County, Alabama, on Nov. 23, 1834, and lived in Lauderdale County, Ms. from 1836 (just before 1st child was born), until he died on October 30, 1881 (71 ½ years old).

2. Martha born Dec. 11, 1811, married William (Bill) Brown and lived out from Wanita. She married on Dec. 25, 1828 (age 17) in Alabama. (Richard S. Lackey, who edited the **Mississippi Genealogical Exchange** in Forest, Ms. descended through Martha. Richard died suddenly on January 16, 1983, at age 42 in Washington, D. C. Mac and I heard him speak in October, 1982, at Meridian Public Library. Rose Houston went to one of his workshops in Texas and discovered that he descends through Martha. He was a professional genealogist, and has written the books, **How to Search** and **Citing Your Sources**.)

3. John b. Nov. 5, 1813 - d. April 26, 1822 (8 ½ years old)

4. James b. March 19, 1817 lived in Isney, Alabama. His descents are in Mobile and Meridian.

5. Elmira b. April 13, 1819, married Lawson Gunn whose descendants settled near Meridian. In the late John C. Hamrick Bible, it is stated that Catherine E. Gunn was born the 2nd of January, 1847. Beneath that entry reads, "The deceased mother of the above departed this life the 5th of January, 1947". If so, Elmira Hamrick Gunn died at age 27 years and 8 ½ months. Unless she married late, this would not have been her only child.

6. Emmaline b. Nov. 9, 1822, married Willie Hamrick (son of James Hamrick of Clarke County and her first cousin). They settled near Enterprise. John C.'s widow, Katherine Myers, must have lived with Emmaline during some of her more than 20 years of widowhood as S. A. Kidd in Clarke County tried to assist Emmaline in obtaining bounty land (160 acres) due her mother.

7. Katherine b. June 28, 1825, married a Hamrick (I think one of James' sons also). Grandmother Ethridge wrote that she died after about 2 years of marriage. This may be so, (probably is) but I wonder if she confused her with Elmira who died.

8. John Myers b. July 30, 1827 (Yes, here is another son named John. First one died 5 years before this one was born.) His descendants settled near Waynesboro in Wayne County, Ms. and the western part of Alabama.

9. Berril (in Bible), Burwell, Burell, Burrell, etc., b. August 28, 1833 after a 5 year skip. Named for John C.'s baby brother who was an infant when his father died and then he lost 2 stepfathers before being taken by his oldest brother Joseph in Georgia. Every Hamrick had a Burwell. His descendants are around Hickory (Newton County), Miss. Two were merchants in Houston, Texas. Burwell Hamrick was married to Amanda Dear on Nov. 20, 1851. He was 18 years old. She was the daughter of Rachel (Hamrick) Dear who was the daughter of James Hamrick of Clarke County, Ms. (John C.'s youngest son married brother James' granddaughter .)

John C. Hamrick was a military man. When the Creek and Seminole war broke out in Alabama, he raised a company of volunteers and joined General Andrew Jackson. They defeated the Indians at Horseshoe Bend and Emucfaw. They drove the few remaining ones into Florida, then marched over land to New Orleans, where they fought the Battle of New Orleans in January, 1815. They defeated the British, killing General Packenhan and two thousand men. Then they marched to Tennessee cutting the road as they went. The road became known as the "Jackson Trail." Captain Hamrick then went back to Milledgeville, Georgia, to join his family. He was at that time the father of Thomas (ours) age 5, Martha age 3, and 1st John, age 1. They lived in Milledgeville until 1820 when he took his family and slaves and migrated to Alabama. (My grandmother, Mittie Wells Ethridge, wrote this in a notebook and she said "He inherited a large number of slaves". All this history was told to her by her Grandpa Hamrick about his father who was Mittie's great-grandfather.) His slaves were probably bought by his hard earned money as his father died before he was five, his first step-father before he was nine and his second step-father by the time he was twelve. To continue, they settled in river bottom land which proved to be unhealthy and then moved to Mississippi. According to the figures, they lived in Alabama 16 years and came to Lauderdale County, Ms. in 1836, where he lived until he died on September 1, 1856 (20 years in Mississippi). We need to know exactly where he lived and where he was buried. Grandmother Ethridge also wrote that John C. Hamrick's wife, Katherine Myers, was the aunt of General Wade Hampton of Civil War fame. Was he her sister's son?

1. Thomas Hamrick b. ? d. 1790 father of:
2. John C. Hamrick b. 1786 d. 1856

John C. Hamrick was one of five brothers born to Sarah Scurlock who married Thomas Hamrick. Thomas died after July, 1790, in Green County, Georgia, when John was only five years old. The five brothers were Joseph, John C., James, William, and Burrell. Sarah married Jacob Parker and in November, 1791, he applied for letters of administration on the estate of Thom. Hamrick, Dec. of Green County. Parker and Sarah apparently had no children and he died by June, 1795, at which time Sarah Rian and husband William Rian, applied for administration of Jacob Parker's estate. William Rian was dead (we think) by January 1798, (John C. is 12), and Sarah has three Rian children. Her three Rian children, Hampton, Rysden, and Elizabeth and her five Hamrick children were all bound out to various individuals. John C. was bound out to Edward Bozer in January 1798, (age 12). The oldest son, Joseph, paid \$300.00 to get James in 1798, and Joseph paid \$500.00 to get Burwell on April 22, 1805.

James and John came to Mississippi. We believe Joseph was oldest and Burwell the youngest but no one is certain about the order of the middle three.

James married Polly Bankston in Georgia in 1806. He lived in Clarke County, Ms. and two of his children and one grandchild married three of John C.'s children, so they must have visited one another often.

Joseph must have stayed in Georgia as researchers found a Joseph Hamrick in two counties at different dates.

It is believed that William was killed in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. In a *Scurlock Family Record* there is a notation that William was a United States soldier and in an affidavit sworn to in W. D. Cameron's office (Circuit Clerk), Jacob P. Welch, who said he had known the Hamricks since 1825, states that John C. Hamrick lost a brother on Jan. 8, 1815 in the Battle of New Orleans.

Burwell probably stayed in Georgia, since Joseph looked after him. It is remarkable how the brothers stayed in touch during their tragic childhood. John C. and James named a son for their baby brother, Burwell. It seems that all the children of James and John named a child Burwell, also.

We have dozens of Hamrick cousins in Clarke County today. I have just recently met Elizabeth "Liz" and husband Charles Hamrick who descend from both John C. and James through James' son Willie, who married John C.'s daughter Emmaline.

My roommate at U. S. M. my senior year was Violet Hamrick who descended from John C. Her brother Howard is married to Betty Hamrick who teaches 5th grade at West Lauderdale School. Howard works at Weems Mental Health Center in Meridian, Miss.

Names of Grandpa Hamrick's First Six Children

Grandpa Hamrick and his first wife, Sinia Brown Hamrick, named their first child Elmira for Grandpa's sister who married Lawson Gunn and in the family Bible it reads, "Catherine E. Gunn was born the second of January, 1847." An entry below states, "The deceased mother of the above departed this life the fifth of January, 1847". That would have been Elmira.

Grandpa Hamrick named his second child John for his father and probably for his brother three years younger than himself who died at age 8 ½ . (five years after this John died, John C. and Katherine Hamrick had another son whom they also named John.

The third child was named Margaret: Maybe Grandma Sinia had a loved one by that name. They named the fourth Thomas (Tom) for Grandpa, Thomas Jefferson Hamrick.

The fifth child was named Joseph for John C.'s oldest brother. The five brothers were orphaned at an early age and Joseph was instrumental in getting the boys together after they were "bound out" to different families to work.

They named their sixth child James for another one of John C.'s brothers and one of Thomas Jefferson's brothers. James "Jim" must have been born in 1845 as he was five years old on the 1850 Census. Grandma Sinia must have died in childbirth or soon after as Grandpa Hamrick married again in the "winter of 1846." James was 1; Joseph 3; Thomas 4; Margaret 6; John 8; and Elmira 10, when he remarried. The second wife, Sabrina (Sibby), must have been good to take on the motherhood of six children, all under 11 years of age.

Grandpa was 25 when he married the first time, he was 36 the second time and his wife was 29.

RUBY'S EARLY MEMORIES

By Rubye Merle Vance Harrison

My Mother, Bertice Ann Jones Vance, (the daughter of Robert Henry Jones (Bob) and Martha P. Tucker (Maggie) said I was born September 3, 1927 in Starkville, Ms. That year my father, Rolland Rogers Vance (son of James W. Vance and Eudora Ann Gibson) graduated from A & M College with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in June. While Daddy was attending college, in the summer time he would go to Laurel and build rental houses for his Mother. She gave him the rent from these houses for his schooling.

After I was born, he went to Barron Fork, Kentucky as an engineer at a coal mine where his brother James William Vance was working as bookkeeper for the commissary and mine. Uncle Bill had married Blanche Campbell who was born and raised in Pine Knot, Kentucky. When I was two and a half months old, Mother (a brave soul) boarded a train in Laurel, Miss. and went to Barron Fork with three babies; my brothers, Rolland Jr., born in Starkville, Miss. November 4, 1924 and age three, and Joe Richard, born April 24, 1926 and age one and a half, and me. We rode the train probably to Whitley City, Ky., about ten miles from Barron Fork. It was a small coal mine community. I don't imagine there were more than a dozen houses, a two room school house, a commissary store and the coal mine. There were some families that lived on the mountainside. A Mr. and Mrs. Wade taught in the school where there was one row of children for each grade of school. If you finished the six grades, you walked out to the road and caught the school bus into Whitley City. Rolland started to school at the age of five, Joe at the age of six, and I started when I was seven years old because I was too little to learn, so mother said. That didn't stop me from wanting to go to school. Mother would let me go to the store and I would stop at the school and she would have to come and get me.

The house we lived in had a porch across the front, about four steps, a bedroom and a small room the children slept in, a living room, a kitchen and a small back porch. We had electricity, a pump in the kitchen and an outhouse. We took a bath in a wash tub on Saturday night and bathed in a wash pan during the week.

I don't remember when Jerry was born, (May 19, 1930) when I was three years old. Mother named her Lovey Geraldine, after her Aunt Jennie Tucker (Lovey Jane) and Dr. Gerald (that was his first name). The stork left Uncle Bill and Aunt Blanche a baby boy on September 10, 1931 and they named him James William III, "Jimmy". I do remember when Wanda Mae was born on January 3, 1933. We were sent down to a neighbor's house and when we came home, Surprise! Surprise! The stork had brought us a new baby! I don't know who mother named Wanda after?

Daddy and Mother started a Sunday School in the schoolhouse. I remember singing "Jesus Loves Me" and the adults sitting in the little school desk singing "The Little Brown Church in the Vale". One time a traveling preacher came and preached from the back of a wagon with a Bible in one hip pocket and a whiskey bottle in the other pocket, Daddy said. They ran him off.

Daddy gave Jr. and Joe a pony named Prince. When the train came to the mine it had to cross the road by our house and run around the back of the pasture. When the train blew the whistle as it crossed the road, it would scare the pony and he would run away. I was scared of the pony. Daddy would put me on the pony and every time he moved I would scream, "he is running away". I never learned to ride a horse.

We had two snows that stand out in my mind. We had a big snow, and Daddy dug a path to the barn. We would go out and play in this path and I could not see over the snow. Then one time Grandpa and Grandma Vance came to visit when Jerry was a baby. I remember an old man with a walking stick standing out in the yard saying, "I can't believe it's snowing in June". The reason I said it was when Jerry was born, Mother said Jerry had the colic and Grandma had a remedy for it. That was the only time I remember that Grandma and Grandpa came to see us. The other snow, I must have been six years old, we had gone to the schoolhouse for a program and we were walking home. There was a full moon and it was so beautiful and quiet. As we walked, our feet crunched in the snow. When it snows today, I always remember that snow.

Jr. had the measles and he would tease us. As we ran by his bed, he would touch us and say "now you will have the measles". He must have tagged all of us because we all had the measles. I remember getting up one morning and I was feeling awful. Mother checked me and I was breaking out with the measles. Back then when you had the measles, chicken pox, or whooping cough, the Health Dept. placed your house under quarantine for a period of two weeks by tacking a sign on the front door. We stayed under quarantine for at least six weeks or more (poor Mother). They kept you in a dark room to protect your eyes. One day Mother took us to the schoolhouse for our small pox vaccination and she pulled us home in a little red wagon as we cried. Mother was giving us our spring tonic of castor oil mixed with soda and orange juice (she would juice an orange and then give us the orange to eat.) I did not like it so I gave mine to Jerry, and bless her heart she was drinking it when mother saw what I had done. She got so angry that she made up another one and made me take it. I was gagging on it but she was not to be outdone as she made me drink while she held my nose and kept a rag over my mouth. I could not eat or drink orange juice for many years after that. The last time I took a dose of castor oil was when Charlie was born. The doctors were big on giving you castor oil to bring on your labor pains. When I was expecting Roger, I told the doctor I would not take it.

The boys from the mountainside would come to play ball with Jr. and Joe (they had a ball, bat and gloves). As soon as they left, Mother would have us in the house checking our heads for lice and our hands for the seven year itch. We were checked during the school year too.

When Wanda was just beginning to crawl, Daddy cut a tree down in the pasture. A rabbit had a nest close by, and when the tree fell it killed the mother rabbit. Daddy brought the little bunny in the house and we put it in a box behind the cook stove. It would get out and hop around and Wanda tried to hop like the bunny, so we nicknamed her Bunny. At Easter, we colored our boiled eggs but we did not have a basket to put them in so we took a pan and filled it up with dirt and put grass or moss on top. We put eggs on the front door step and the Easter Bunny would hide our eggs in the yard. When we got up Easter morning, we would go out and hunt them and after church the children would come over and Daddy would hide the eggs again. Christmas was always a great time for us. One year Jerry and I went out to the garage to see what Daddy was building. We were not supposed to be there and he told us "Santa Claus was so busy I am helping him by building a table and chairs for Jimmy (our cousin)." Come Christmas, Surprise! Surprise! It was under our Christmas tree with a tea set on the table and dolls in the chairs.

Mother took me to Whitley City to have my eyes checked and the doctor put glasses on me. Going home I could see birds flying and sitting on the light pole line along the road. It was wonderful to see at a distance.

Mother planted flower seed and several days later I saw these weeds growing in her flower bed, so I took the hoe and chopped them up. I was so pleased with myself until mother came out in the yard and saw what I had done.

Joe talked me into climbing the tree in the back yard with him and we climbed to the very top. He climbed down and left me. As I began to climb down, I could not touch a limb below and I became frightened. I began to cry for Mother to come get me down and she finally coached me down, but it was not easy. I did not climb a tree again for a long, long time.

Joe loved to eat pure sugar and he would put sugar on everything he ate which made his mouth would break out. Mother said Joe used to run away down to the commissary and play around the train. She would have to go and get him, but the first time she would look off, he would go again. He was such a mischievous boy.

The coal mine closed down and we moved to Cincinnati, Ohio in the summer of 1935 with Claude Malone and Amanda (Claude's sister). We bought a great big house on Stanton Ave. It was a three-story house with a basement. A Jew built it in the middle 1800's as a wedding present for his daughter. By the time we moved there, the Jews had moved and it was a gentile neighborhood. The public school was around the block and the Nazarene Church we attended was up on the corner across the street. The A & P Grocery store, where Mother would buy our groceries for \$10.00 a week, and the movie house were up a couple of blocks. That is where we went on Saturday morning to see all of Shirley Temple's movies and some cowboy shows. I was so proud when I became 12 years old so I could buy an adult ticket. Under 12 it was just a nickel, and adult was a dime.

Down on the other end of the block was a small store and around the block by the school was a candy store. I remember when the Tootsie Roll first came out, one cent apiece and if you got the light chocolate one, you would get one free. We had to ride the bus to the museum and that fall when we started to school, Rolland was in the sixth, Joe was in the fourth and I was in the second grade. Someone would ask me what grade I was in and I would rare back and say, "I'm in the second grade." I felt so big and grown. I had to wear Joe's outgrown knee boots (laced to the knee) to school that winter and the girls would tease and make fun of me because I was wearing boy's boots. The next year my only pair of shoes had a hole in the sole and Daddy took them to the shoe shop to be half-soled. I had to wear my rubber boots (the kind you wore over your shoes) without any shoes on. Some kid told the teacher I did not have any shoes on and she sent me to the Principle's office where she gave me a pair out of the clothing closet. I went home that day with the prettiest pair of slippers! But did I catch it when I got home. The slippers went back to school the next day and I wore my new half-soled shoes. This was during the depression and many people were out of work and having a hard time but Daddy always had a job and we had food and clothes (not many) and a roof over our heads. One Easter, Mother made us girls a navy blue taffeta dress with a big red apple on the skirt and a white short jacket, white gloves, purse and shoes. Were we all dressed up and prissy going to church. The boys wore knee pants and Joe hated them and couldn't wait until he was twelve and could wear long pants. We would put our Easter basket and eggs out on the porch for the Bunny to hide our eggs. After church we always had an Easter egg hunt with the other children.

The house was a beautiful even though it was old (at least fifty years or older. It had been a grand house at one time. It had a porch across the front and a glass entrance and a beautiful light hanging there. Uncle Bill and Aunt Blanche were visiting the Malony's years later and Eugene Malony was cleaning the light fixture and Aunt Blanche said she would like to have it some day. Eugene said, "here, take it, I'm tired of cleaning it." Lewis and I were visiting Uncle Bill and Aunt Blanche one time and she asked me if recognized the light fixture. I said, "yes, it hung in the glass entrance in the porch in Cincinnati." After she died, Uncle Bill gave it to me and it hangs in my living room.

As you went through the entrance into the house you entered a big hall. On the left was a big room that would have been the library. Just past that was a curved staircase and a bath room. On the right was a big room that had been the music room. There were double doors to each room that could be opened to make one great big hall for dancing and parties etc. Just past the library was a door into the dining room and to the left was a kitchen. It was a long narrow room and to the right was a breakfast room and back of the kitchen was another room. We lived in this area as an apartment. In the back part of the house were rooms for the servants and so forth. Up the curved stairs were several bedrooms. The room Uncle Bill, Aunt Blanche and Jimmy lived in had a big bathroom with mirrors. Oh, it was something to see! Imagine having mirrors all around when you are taking bath! And in the back half of the house was a smaller room for the servants, etc. We lived one summer in the basement; Mother said it was cooler. One time on the third floor in the winter time we had a tin box fastened to the window sill where we kept the milk and butter etc. as a refrigerator. Then we moved down to first floor in the kitchen and dining room area. Rolland and Joe slept in the back room off the kitchen which was just big enough for a double bed. Mother and Daddy slept in the breakfast room and it had a side door and a porch. Wanda, Jerry and I slept in one bed together in the living area (big dining room). It had a big fireplace. They heated with coal through the radiator on the floor. The first telephone we had was put in the hall just outside our apartment. I remember the first time I used the telephone. Some man called Daddy and said he had a daughter my age and she wanted to talk to me, so Daddy let me say hello.

The curved staircase was a big temptation to slide down and we were constantly getting into trouble. Mrs. Amanda had laid down the law as to what she would do if she caught us sliding down the banister. One day Mother and Aunt Blanche were on the second floor and they decided to try sliding down the banister, and as they got to the bottom, Amanda was walking in the door. We were always getting caught sliding down the banister.

The driveway came up on the left side of the house and there was a side door that came out of the back of the house, a trapdoor on the ground that opened up so that the coal people could dump coal in the basement and into the coal bin. There were several large rooms and a wash room, where you could hang your clothes to dry in the winter time. Back of the house there was a walkway with a grape arbor on each side. We enjoyed eating the grapes in the summer if the boys left the green ones alone. On the side of the arbor was a three or four car garage with an apartment upstairs for the chauffeur. Daddy had a garden by the garage. On the front side and right side of the house there were grass and flowers and a buckeye tree. We used to say it was lucky to carry a buckeye in your pocket and I have a buckeye from that tree now. As a child the house and yard looked bigger than when we went back to visit years later.

I remember one time we were playing and Daddy was working in the front yard when a car drove up and a lady asked Daddy if this was where Rolland Vance lived. He turned around and it was his first cousin, Jewell Glass from Washington DC. It was a good time and the only time I saw Jewell. Uncle Sam used to talk to her. She was the first person from our family to join the DAR and I was probably the second and Jerry was the third.

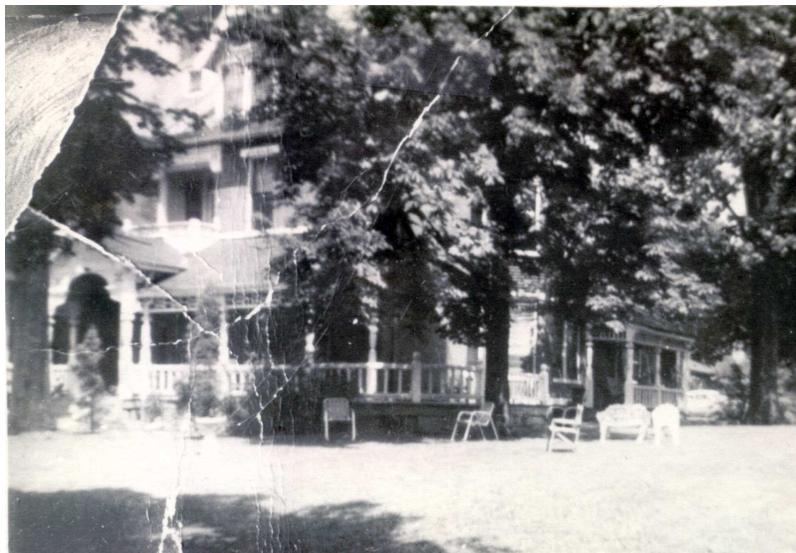
At Halloween we would get dressed up and go "treat or trick". If the people did not give us some candy or a treat, we would trick them by using a spool with a notched cut on each end, putting a pencil through the middle and wrapping a string around the spool. Then we put it on a windowpane and it made an awful noise and we ran and hid.

As I look back on our childhood, we had a good time with Mother and Daddy. They did many things with us like the Sunday Daddy had a special surprise for us and this was the Sunday Joe and I decided that we would play sick and stay home from church. Daddy said, "OK if you are sick, stay in bed and Mother will stay home with you". We thought that by afternoon we would feel better and get up and go out to play, but not so! We had to stay in bed all day and every time we would slip out of bed, Mother would send us right back to bed. Then after church and lunch Daddy took Jerry and Rolland to the airport for a ride in a friend's plane. Another time I didn't want to go to school. After the rest of them had gone to school, Mother said, "what you need is a good dose of castor oil" (she believed castor oil would cure anything). I could not stand castor oil, but I learned to go to school sick because if I didn't, I would get a dose.

We had snow in Cincinnati too. We would go out and play in the snow making angels by tiptoeing out in fresh snow and lying down and raising our arms up and down and then tiptoeing out backward. After a heavy snow, the bridal wreath would hang to the ground and we would make a door and crawl up under it and have a tunnel to play in. That was our igloo. After a while we would get so cold, we would go in and stand on the radiator in the floor and thaw out as the water dripped off of us. That was a No! No! You were not supposed to do that. We also bob sledded down the hill.



Front Row: Wanda, Jerry, Ruby
Second Row: Joe and Jr.



Vance home in Cincinnati, OH.



I REMEMBER RUBY VANCE HARRISON

By Buelan L. Morland

The first time I saw Ruby was right after her family moved to Collinsville and she came to my fourth grade class. I thought she was real cute.

Before long we were passing love notes at school every day. I remember going to a party at her home, I think it was her birthday. Our romance lasted a year and a half, but our friendship never ceased.

A few of the friends we shared in our early years were Earnest Slayton, Tom Clark, Rupert George, Doris Walker, Doris Fortson, J. W. Mixon, Pauline Smith, Martha Scarbrough, Bonnie Kate Tolbert, Bernice Snowden and Myrtle Williamson.

After we both had families, our children played baseball at Highland Park together. Her son Bobby and my son Jerry were good friends. Ruby and I kept in touch through all the years, and I will always cherish my memories of her.

CLAYTON HARWELL Long-lived area man celebrates birthday

By Sharon White; Meridian Star staff writer

Clayton L. Harwell has seen Meridian when it was little more than dirt roads and railroad tracks. He has seen the length for women's hemlines rise and fall and rise again. And again.

He has lived through five wars, 21 presidents, two stock market crashes and has seen 12 states added to the Union.

After all, a lot can happen in 107 years.

Today, the quick-witted Harwell will celebrate his 108th birthday, with his children, 10 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren and, of course, the newest addition to the clan, a six-week-old puppy.

"Sunday will be a big day around here," he said.

Children from nearby and as far away as Texas and Kentucky will gather at the Conner Harwell home, the patriarch's third-oldest son with whom he lives. "Having my family home always makes me smile."

For the man who may be the oldest in the Meridian area, at least a couple of things have remained unchanged throughout his life--his love for his family and his dogs.

"I've always loved a dog---had a half dozen or near about" when he was a young man growing up in the Collinsville community, Harwell recalls.

The third of eight boys and a girl, Harwell said he and his brothers were "all goodlooking boys." But Harwell was the only one of the boys who owned or kept dogs.

"I loved my mules, too. I remember raising a couple of little mules. They are about like dogs---all they need was lovin,'" he said.

Because he fell and broke his hip at age 99, he now relies on a walker to help him get around. But Conner Harwell said he is "still very active and independent." His day usually begins with shaving and dressing himself. He pours his coffee and plays with the pup or looks at the paper as other retired people do, Conner said.

But, "You better have the TV set on at news time," Conner Harwell added, because he enjoys Peter Jennings. Another TV favorite is professional wrestling. "It looks to me like they are going to hurt one another, but I don't reckon they do."

Collinsville also has changed over his lifespan, the elder Harwell said. With less machinery to work with on a farm than is available today, everybody had to lend a hand to make what was needed.

"I would plow in the fields and cut wood, but sometimes help Momma around the house." He said he remembers holding a goose's head while his mother picked feathers from the goose to make feather beds. It took more than 15 geese to make one bed, he said.

In their younger years, Harwell's generation never bought milk from a grocery. "We got our milk from cows. We always had three or four milk cows."

Eggs were 15 or 20 cents a dozen and live chickens were 50 cents each. "We would buy a hog for \$6 or \$7 and fatten 'em up to kill and eat." Mules were the mode of transportation, and they ran "about \$60 to \$100 each," he said.

When not working in the fields to help the family as a youngster, Harwell attended school in a one-room, L-shaped schoolhouse. "We didn't have books at first, so we wrote on slate-boards."

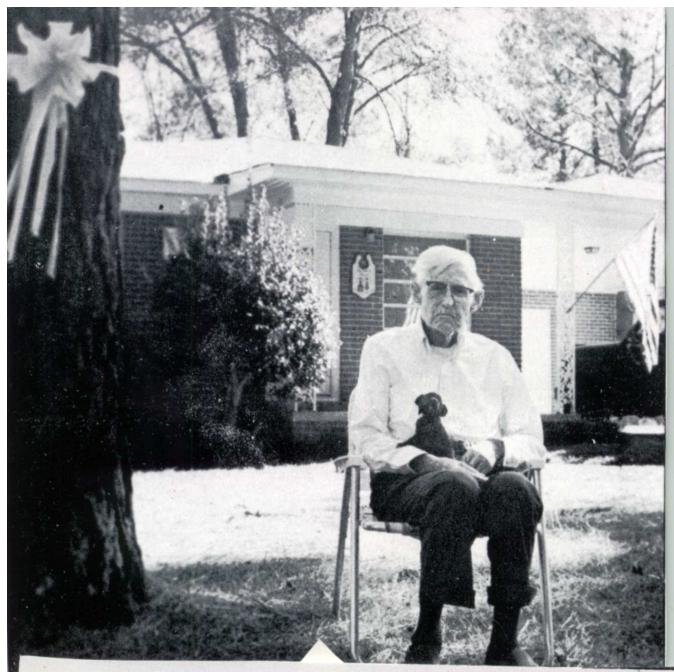
"We never got in too much trouble, 'cause back then there wasn't much trouble to get into," he said with a big grin.

"I was 32 years old before I ever married," he said. Back then, a mother-to-be was not taken to a hospital, he said. "All my children were born at home and delivered by midwives," he declared.

"I used to ride a mule down to Meridian to get a paperHad to be nearly 15 miles to get there. They hadn't cut Highway 19 then, you know."

"It was a hard life in the early 1900s," Harwell added. "I had worked most all my life farming." But the years brought more changes for Collinsville, the nation and the Harwells. As his children grew older, he supplemented farming with carpentry. He retired in the late 1950s.

"It's just the will of God I've lived this long. Other than that, I don't know why I've been on this earth so long." he said.



County's oldest resident, Clayton Harwell, 108, dies

By SHARON WHITE

The Meridian Star

Clayton L. Harwell, whose lifetime spanned five wars and 21 presidents, died at a local hospital Wednesday.

He was 108.

He may have seen a 22nd president to hold office had he reached his birthday this November, his second oldest child, Conner Harwell said Wednesday following his father's passing.

The elder Harwell lived with his son and his family on Bounds Road for a number of years before recently moving into Meridian Convalescent Center.

"I had my father longer than most, and I'm very thankful to God for that," said Conner Harwell. Harwell was the father of nine children.

Born Nov. 1, 1883, Harwell was reared in Collinsville. Before his death and well after reaching 100 years old, Harwell could remember using a slate as a student at Collinsville school.

A carpenter and farmer by trade, Harwell built about 35 houses and a government barn in Hickory during his lifetime. He even constructed the first Collinsville Church of God.

DICK HARWELL STORIES

By Dick Harwell

Richard Harwell's roots go very deep in this part of Lauderdale County and I'm quite sure numerous other residents of Collinsville do the same, but since I do not know their family tree as well as my own, it's difficult to write about them. Richard's grandparents were Hollie Len Harwell 1849 - 1922, and Melissa Julia Ann Pike Harwell, daughter of Perry Pike. The original Harwell family is said to have traveled in the early 1800's by covered wagon from Tennessee to the state of Mississippi. It is also my understanding that this family first lived in the Toomsuba area, then ventured on to the north western portion of the county, which is now Collinsville. Hollie Len had three sisters and one brother, Mary, Sofa, Annie, and his brother, William who left this area to settle in and around the Laurel/Hattiesburg area.

Hollie Len Harwell married Julia Pike on March 30, 1877. She was the daughter of Perry Pike, and they had ten children, nine sons and one daughter. One of these sons was Lester P. (Les) Harwell 1889 - 1969 whose wife was Carrie Bell Price, 1890 - 1971. The four of these have now left our midst, but their work and memories will remain and stay with many throughout the ages. Les and Carrie Harwell are the parents of Richard Harwell who has provided the stories and information in this story.

The Harwell family was already pioneers of this community before it was founded in 1867 and received its name after the first appointed postmaster Nathaniel Collins.

The Schamberville post office closed in 1913 and was moved to Collinsville. Schamberville received its name from a man by the name of Schamber who owned a jewelry firm.

Wilsondale, which is now located in the Collinsville district, was once its own thriving community with a general store, saw mill, and race track. There was a black school located in this area across from the black cemetery and there was a black professor by the name of Thomas Wilson and that is how Wilsondale received its name. The "Doodlebug" train also had a depot in Wilsondale and stopped there on its allotted route.

Old Highway 19 North began as a wagon road and came out behind the grocery store located on the now Highway 19 north, in front of the Collinsville Consolidated School and came out at the other end very close to the Methodist Cemetery, to the left of the cemetery.

Many houses in this area were built and lived in during the 1800's or early 1900's and one of these was the Hollie Len Harwell home. He lived in an old log house referred to as a pen log house. Back then it wasn't referred to as the West Lauderdale Road and possibly and probably it had no name since it began as nothing more than a wagon road.

West Lauderdale Road, where the original road was, turned left at the first road and went on down toward Branch Swamp. Hollie Len lived here for quite awhile in the log home. The house he built was known as a breeze-way house, which was very common in the Southland during the early part of the twentieth century. These breeze-way homes were built for coolness, and were known to capture the wind and offer a good breeze. It was nothing for the family to sleep out under this breeze-way portion on hot summer nights, but back during the late 1800's and early 1900's, dogs with rabies were very common and were referred to as 'mad-dogs.' When persons spent the night in this breezeway, this is one problem which had to be taken into consideration, and during the summertime snakes could be a common problem.

There were many reasons why the old breeze-way house left our society. Although it offered coolness in summer, during the cold winter a person always had to go out in the cold to cross to the rooms on the other side of the breeze-way and this was uncomfortable for so many.

There were campgrounds in and around the area for people who would travel to Meridian and were caught on the road after dark. The most talked about one was down Highway 19 where the green-pitch in boxes are. There is a portion of Old Highway 19 still remaining and there is a bridge support still on this old road. The campground was to the right side of this bridge as you would travel in a northerly direction. In the fall of the year after all crops had been gathered, put away or sold, there was perhaps a little money to be spent for other necessary goods, so the entire family

would board the buckboard wagon and spend one day a year in the city. On the way home to Collinsville these people would stay the night at the campground, to rest and water their horses, cook a little food and simply have a get-together. These overnight stays at the campground brought many neighbors together and each would sit by an open fire and talk, while the children played. Come the first sign of day, the horses and mules were hitched up to the wagons and off to each and every home.

I'm proud to make record of the Baptist Church in Collinsville. There wasn't a Baptist Church at all. In 1926 or 1927, the people of Collinsville set out to build this church and acquired a spot of land located in the heart of Collinsville from a local resident. Lester (Les) Harwell and another builder built this block building, but first the blocks were handmade. Two of Les' sons, Richard and Woodrow took an old wagon, pulled by a mare horse named 'Gray' and a mule named "Jenny". Richard and Woodrow drove this wagon all the way to their home place, on their land to a sand hill, filled their wagon and drove back to the construction site; these blocks were then handmade by Les Harwell. The Church was well-built and still remains today, throughout the years it has stood and this represents hard labor and know how.

In the past one hundred forty years, our nation has gone through several wars and the first to be mentioned would be the American Civil War and of course there were young Collinsville men who fought with the Confederate States of America; they simply fought for what they believed in. It is not for me to decide right or wrong; what was then does not fit in today's society. However, be it right or wrong, young men lost their lives.

At the Hamrick Cemetery there is a monument intended to honor families who have been here for so long, good pioneer families and to make mention of their service would be fitting: Thomas Jefferson Hamrick II 1842 - 1861, Joseph C. Hamrick 1843 - 1862, Jacob Wells 1836 - 1862.

Then there was World War I and relatives and Collinsville residents weren't spared. I am speaking of Arthur Harwell who served during this war and I'm sure he served with bravery and in honorable manner.

World War II came along and this call up was more numerous than any other. One in particular was Woodrow Harwell who went into the U.S. Army and was paid \$21.00 a month. This was about 1939. He was sent to Fort Benning Georgia and placed with the 3rd Armored Division. Back during that time, it was said that people didn't like soldiers and some of the cafe' signs said 'No soldiers allowed.' Woodrow was sent to England in the 2nd wave that went across the English Channel and that probably would have been in 1944.

Woodrow was sent up front with a captain and stayed with him through five major battles. He got hit in the nose with shrapnel and that was the only injury he received during those five tough battles. He returned home from the war with five silver star medals. Woodrow told of how the ground literally shook when the battles were taking place. Richard's brother fought in the Pacific as well as B. L. Harwell.

Travel back in the early part of the 20th century was by train, horse and buggy, or horse and buckboard. There was a very slow train out of Meridian and this train was referred to by many as the 'mud and misery' local. I learned this train would leave Meridian going in a westerly, then northerly direction. Some of the passengers referred to it as the 'Doodlebug' train and Richard Harwell also stated this was what this train was called. This train never moved more than ten to fifteen minutes before it would stop, take on or let off passengers. It stopped everywhere; Nellieburg, Suqualena, Schamberville, Wilsondale, Mosly Crossing, and on further north. That was the misery, the mud part was that at each stop and crossing, there were no large station houses, some stops having nothing more than a large tree to stand under. People who boarded the train during the winter, mud and raining months, would be covered with mud, their shoes anyway and after so many boarded, the coach floors were literally packed with thick coats of various colors of mud. I would get a big laugh when told about the 'mud and misery'.

After I moved to Collinsville, in the 1950's, trains still ran to the southwest of my house which was located on the Wildcat Road. At that time, houses were not air conditioned as they are today, so in the late spring, summer and early fall, windows to your house were pushed up, open wide. At night between 10 and 11 p.m., and in all the stillness, I was able to hear every sound made,

and I could hear the moanful train whistle blowing; could even hear the train as it's heavy, metal wheels traveled the steel tracks, the earth or rather the ground would shake and it could be felt. After hearing this it would stir up memories and the stories I had been told about this train, or rather one like it, but I would often wonder if this was the same old 'mud and misery' and I would again get a good laugh from these memories.

The Wildcat Road actually began at the curve in the road north of my home. Where I live was once Old highway 19 north, but it was this curve and the forks of the road which began as the Wildcat Road. In the beginning, the Wildcat Road was simply a wagon road and in 1924 this road was cut out and as long as I can remember it has been referred to as the Wildcat Road. It got it's name due to the numerous bobcats in the area, whose habitat was in these wooded hills, plus natural free running springs. My friend always told me there were once black panthers in these hills, however, I never saw one, but from time to time, I have seen and heard bobcats squeal.

Late at night during the good ole days, with all the windows up, the night sounds were so beautiful. Today we miss all this; all one can hear now are vehicles pounding the pavements on various road. We had an old barn out to the south of my house and every night this barn owl took to his ritual. Hoot-hoot-squeech-squeech! As day would turn to night you could listen closely and hear the whippoorwills.

What I did enjoy so much was the early spring, about two or three a.m. in the morning. Mockingbirds would be at their happiest. They sang for hours, mocking the bobwhite, whippoorwill, sparrow, and every bird you could think of. As I lay in bed and listened, I thought to myself, "I guess that's a mockingbird or is it a sparrow, bobwhite or another bird." Soon, I would grin and decide, only that mockingbird knew for sure he was a Mockingbird.

Thinking of roads being cut out in this area, but back in the 1800's there was a stagecoach route close by. It was from Jackson, MS. to Union, MS., on the old Jackson road. At Gholson on Highway 21 was the other hotel for the stagecoach line. It was torn down in the late 1940's but the old store building is still standing. The old Stagecoach Hotel still remains in Union and I understand it is to be preserved for future generations. This makes me very happy, because I feel entirely too much of our past of our pioneer families has been destroyed. How do we know where we are going if we don't know where we've been. The reason we lost so many family values in the past fifty-years is because we forgot our heritage, our pioneer forefathers, and now each and every family is making effort to return to this. If you don't have family, you don't have anything. It is also my understanding that there is yet another stagecoach hotel which is located east of Lauderdale, Ms. This was a stopping off place, a resting place for weary travelers.

This particular story was told by Richard Harwell; at the Collins estate and earlier in the century when Richard was a very young man, he watched as some timber was being cut. This was done by a local man who had an eight wheel log wagon and a four wheel log wagon. With the eight wheel it would take six mules to pull and four very large mules to pull the four wheel wagon. The trees were so large, never been touched since their beginning, so, only one log for one wagon. When pulling the wagon out with this log, the cutter would have to stop and allow the mules to catch their breath. At times these mules would balk and the timber man would simply have a talk with them and away they would go. There was one large mule left in the woods which was responsible for loading the one log on these wagons. When the log would hit the wagon or fall into the wagon, the mule would make a turn around, back-up to the next log, pick it up and it was repeat performance. These wagons of logs would be brought out of the woods and would be taken to a waiting truck, then to Warren's mill in Suqualena.

I'm told a story of how the Houston family came into Lauderdale County or the first known Houston in Collinsville. At the time, and during the 1800's a Mr. Houston and his son arrived here on horseback ; they had traveled from the state of Georgia. At that particular time, Mary Harwell Hamrick lived on what is now the Hamrick Cemetery road. The road was nothing more than a wagon road, a steep, steep hill which was difficult to climb, or for a horse or mule to pull up. You can still see signs of the old home place, I'm told, should a person venture that way. When a road was built there by county workers, you could see where the road was dug out in front of Mary's old home place, very high up from the road, atop a hill.

Across from Mary's house was a spring with cool water. The spring is still there, sitting on the side of the road at the foot of the hill. It is said that Mr. Will Walker had hogs that would go down to this spring and wallow around in this cool water.

The elder Houston was on his way out to Texas to fight in one of the Mexican wars. Actually there were many wars which began with Santa Anna and ended around 1912 with Pancho Villa. Most people think the Mexican wars ended at the Alamo in San Antonio, not so. Mr. Houston left his son with Mary Hamrick. When he returned from Texas, his son had decided to remain in Mississippi and settle down. He must have liked Collinsville. He remained here, married, and had a large family.

There was once a turpentine mill located in Collinsville. Back probably earlier in our century or the early 1900's, turpentine was a must for each and every household. If an individual stepped on a rusty nail, you would immediately soak the area in turpentine; it drew the infection, if any, out. If you received a laceration of any type, it was soaked in turpentine. This mill was located off Church Road, down under the hill, close to Richard Harwell's house. This mill was owned and operated by a Mr. Doerner, who also owned a store on the right side of Highway 19 as you enter Church Road; across from the new Super Stop.

Another interesting story told by Richard Harwell tells how Mr. Will Walker built the largest barn that had ever been built in this community. The barn was located to the right side of the road which is today the West Lauderdale Road. The builder, after finishing this mega-barn, and after laying the last ridge, and while still atop this barn, went out on the edge of it and stood on top of his head.

During the 1930's and during the depression era, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt tried to put the nation back on its feet economically by providing many government work programs. One of these was the CCC camps (Civilian Conservation Corp.). These young men were paid a small salary each month and the most of this money was given to struggling families. There was a CCC camp located at Shucktown which was on 495. Very few people knew of this; I know I never did. The CCC worked for the forestry commission six hours a day. Richard served in this camp and first time around he went to Raleigh, Ms., Burns and Lucedale. From Lucedale he went to Wells, Nevada to help put out fires. Larue Harwell also served with the CCC out in Tennessee.

It was the CCC who planted the very aggressive kudzu vine in and around our nation, after receiving it from Japan. It was also during the 1930's that the nation experienced the 'Dust Bowl' problem which engulfed so many mid-western states, Oklahoma, Kansas and so many more. It became a drought stricken area, then the winds came and blew the top soil away. Farming became impossible and entire families loaded up and left. The kudzu was used to stop erosion and the wind could no longer take away top soil. The vine is quite aggressive and grows with little or no precipitation.

The Collinsville school was first built in 1922, and the frame type building soon was moved further back to be used as a gym and a brick building was built where the first frame building was located. Then the Collinsville school became consolidated as it took in the Blackman and Radcliff schools. There was still another old school here in Collinsville and was located on Church Road and sat far back off the road. The open space you see out to the right as you enter the West Lauderdale road is where the building actually was, the playground actually extended to the Church Road.

There was one well known teacher at Collinsville who traveled five days a week in a buggy pulled by an old gray horse. She had to stable her horse during the day at McMullan's barn across the road.

Richard Harwell and four other childhood buddies played together as young children. One of these young men's name was Red. One night the father of one of these boys was at a Collinsville local grocery store and this particular bunch of children was on the outside of the store playing. They simply decided among themselves to go snipe hunting. This is simply a game where you scare someone; all of them knew what snipe hunting was, so did Richard, but Red did not, never heard of it. All of them told Red that over close to the Hamrick graveyard they knew exactly where a covey of snipes were and you could only catch these at night.

They also told Red, after they reached their area, he was going to have to hold a sack open so Richard and one of the other boys could drive the covey of snipes into this sack. It was real dark that night, couldn't hardly see your hand before your face. There was only an old wagon road by the graveyard and there was a ditch like space cut out beside it. All of them told Red that the covey of snipes was in that ditch.

So Richard proceeds to take Red to this place and shows him how to hold this sack open and told him to dare not move. He repeated, "Be sure you don't move." The other two young men were sitting on the ground a little distance from where the actual snipe hunting was taking place.

When every detail was covered, Richard went around Red; Red could not see him in the dark. Then Richard backed up a short distance and squatted down on the ground. Red stood there, total darkness of the night, holding the sack open, waiting for some five minutes. No snipes ever came toward the sack and there was still complete silence, Red heard not a sound. Until---Red, himself began to yell.

Richard crawled slowly on the ground, quietly as possible and grabbed Red by the legs. Red let out such a frightened yell it could be heard by anyone who was at the Collinsville grocery, most especially the young man's father. This store was located across from the First Baptist Church. When the boy's father reached home he asked the other boy what was all the yelling about up and around Hamrick Cemetery. The boys answered with a grin on their faces, "We took Red out snipe hunting."

Another amusing story Richard related: Walker owned an enormous amount of land in and around the Hamrick Cemetery. He ran a 125 acre mule farm and this particular tract of land was up close to the Hamrick Cemetery and had been bought from John and Mary Hamrick. There were two tenant houses going toward the north. Richard's sister had recently married and they lived in one of these houses and another relative lived in the other one. This man was related to Richard and his sister. This man's son, one night was walking all alone in the dark, on his way to visit his neighbor relative, when he saw a light in the Hamrick Cemetery. This light shown right on the grave of Richard's grandmother who had been buried earlier that day in the Hamrick cemetery; Melissa Julia Ann Pike Harwell. This actually occurred the night of her burial. This young relative looked over toward the cemetery and saw this unusual, eerie light shining right on Julia's grave. He called out to his relatives, who he was to visit; they came out of the house and he pointed out to them this mysterious light.

News travels fast in a small community back then there were no telephones, nevertheless, word traveled far and wide as to see this unusual light shining on this particular gravesite. People began to show up in this area about dark, estimated to be around fifty persons. Sure enough they saw this miraculous phenomenon, and it went on night after night for many weeks.

Finally the shining light was discovered to not be some sort of a miracle but the Hamrick's old house, where there was a sick child. For about three weeks the inhabitants of this household had sat up with this child at night. The house had wooden shutters for their windows and had a coal oil lamp sitting in this particular window and the light had somehow reflected across this one and particular grave. You had to be in a certain spot to view this light as it crossed over Julia Harwell's grave.

Back in the late 1800's and early 1900's if you lived within two miles of your local school you had to walk that two miles, rain, shine, sleet, or snow. The impending conditions often times prevented children from attending school. Early in the century the Schamberville school was consolidated into the Suqualena school system and many people in the area produced transportation to deliver children to their school.

One lady drove an old covered wagon to bring children to school. Many converted vehicles into buses and students were brought from Newton and Kemper Counties to attend classes at the Collinsville school.

While Collinsville maintained a good school, they also provided homes for teachers. Across from the Collinsville Shopping Center was a home for teachers, and where the community club is now, was another. Toward the now washateria were two more homes for teachers who taught at Collinsville and needed a place to stay. This tells me the community did everything possible to educate their young and the practice still continues to this day.

The first grist mill and cotton gin in this area was a steam operated mill owned by a McMullan and was located where the now sign has been erected "Welcome to Collinsville".

Another interesting story connected with this steam operated gin and it's workers was a pit that was dug into the ground where the men would build a fire and place a piece of sheet metal over it and would do their cooking, make coffee and so on. There weren't any cafe's in the area. Since this gin was steam operated, I assume they used wood to build up the fire to produce the steam, and if not, possibly coal was used.

Another gin in our area, built by Lester Harwell, is the Thames gin which is located further up Highway 19, going toward Philadelphia, at Post. This building was also well built because it still remains with us today.

The first auto repair shop that was in Collinsville was located at the end of the Collinsville/Schamberville road and it was to repair T-Models. Then as the community became more and more motorized the A-Model hit the automobile market and mechanics came along and specialized in the repair of this auto.



"MR. LESS" - A MERRY MAN - A "JACK OF ALL TRADES"
HE COOKED CANE INTO MALLASES FOR EVERYONE -
HE BUILT COFFINS - HE WAS DADDY'S GOOD FRIEND -
HUNTED FOX TOGETHER - WENT TO BALL GAMES
TOGEHER - CALLED EVERY BODY "TAKE"

Sketch by Bernice
Snowden Lea



Front Row L to R: W. L. (Buddy), Edna Earl, Loanesse.
Middle Row: Mittie, Grandma Mittie Davis, Claude, Ted.
Back Row: Earline, Lillie, Lorene, Burkett

Mr. Will and Ms. Alma had a fun loving family, basketball and fox hunting being their favorite past time. Mr. Will bought and sold cattle and always had milk cows for milk and butter. Ms. Alma sold butter and eggs and saved enough to buy herself a nice cashmere coat. On one of her foxhunts, a spark flew out from the fire and burned a hole in the coat. She did not like for anyone to mention what happened to her nice coat. She was a sweet, jolly, loving lady.

Mr. Will used his cattle truck to haul the kids to sporting events, the county fair, etc. They had fun riding in the back of the truck.

In 1934, Mr. Will and Ted and others, were attending a ballgame at Decatur. Ted's wife, Wava, and their children, were down the road at his mother's house. They were returning home from the ballgame, one of Mr. Will Clay's children came running down the road to tell them their house was burning down. With the help of good neighbors, they were able to build another house across from the burned house before his wife died in February, 1937. In 1939, Ted married Willie Faye Hodges and had two more children.

The first week of October every year, the family gathered for Mr. Will's birthday. Beginning in 1943 they started having a cookout, B-B-Q-ing a pig over a pit in the ground. In later years, it came to be called "A Family Reunion". They now cook two pigs and make a huge wash pot of Mulligan Stew. About 200-300 family members and friends attend. In earlier years, after eating the meal, they took the dogs out for a foxhunt. They knew the bark of each dog and how close they were to the fox. Ms. Alma had an especially keen ear for each dog's bark.

Bennie Claude married Norma Snowden, Ted married Wava Foster the first time and then Willie Faye Hodges, Lorene married Obie Culpepper, Lillie married Tom Hodges, Mittie married Hendon Grace, Burkett married Mattie Louise Ethridge the first time and then Betty Jo Lee, Earline married Malcolm Hodges, Edna Earl married William Martin (Tillie) Hatcher, Loanesse married William (Red) Ethridge, W. L., Jr. (Buddy) married Nellie Gertrude Lee.

WILL HERRINGTON FAMILY

By Deloris Herrington Brown Glenn

The Herringtons came to Lauderdale County in early 1900. William Lafayette and his wife, Alma Lee Davis Herrington, settled in a house on Martin/Newton Road, near the Newton County line. Several of their ten children were born here. Their children were: Bennie Claude, Thomas Ray (Ted), Lorene, Lillie, Mittie, Burkett, Earline, Edna Earl, Loanesse and (Buddy) William Lafayette, Jr. The older of the children started school at the Leeville School.

While living here they lost their house and possessions in a fire. They had all the children out, but Ted re-entered the house and his daddy suffered minor burns getting him out. After the house burned, they moved to Collinsville and lived in a house across the road from the present Collinsville Post Office for a few years, before moving to the Martin Community. They lived near the old Martin School where they finished raising their family. They moved into Meridian for a few years, but returned to Martin. They bought the home built by Wilbur and Lorene Palmer, who had been schoolteachers at Martin School. The house is located near Pine Grove Church. Only one of the ten children ever lived outside of Lauderdale County. Most of their 43 grandchildren were born and grew up in Lauderdale County.

THE FAMOUS HODGES BROTHERS' TEAMS

By Malcolm Hodges

Malcolm Hodges just loves basketball.

And he and his brothers (six of them) were pretty country-fair when it came to the game.

At age 84, Malcolm's mind is pretty clear, especially when it comes to basketball. The Hodges name is familiar when it comes to sports, but none more familiar when it comes to basketball an the hamlet where they grew up, Martin.

Max, Cove Jr., Malcolm, Billy Ray, (Little) Joe, James and Frank all played at Martin and around the hardwoods at just about everywhere else. They even had a team called "The Famous Hodges Brothers" that played at about every benefit game you could imagine. Their heyday was in the late 40's to the 1950's.

"We played one time when they were having part of the state (high school) tournament over at Decatur. They had plenty of time between games. We would play against E.C.J.C.. And, we would play a good many benefit games over here at Meridian. Really and truly, when we first came home, it would have been a miracle if we could have trained and traveled a little," said Malcolm.

"Home" was from World War II where most of the Hodges brothers were stationed. Malcolm later got a job at the Flintkote factory, got married and raised five children. He retired in 1980.

But he said it was basketball that people lived for at the time. People were real hungry for sports at that time. It would have really gone over, us being brothers and all."

But three of the brothers wanted to continue their education after the war and they enrolled in Delta State University.

"I always wanted to see the team play," said Malcolm. "They played just about every year in the N.I.T. (National Invitation Tournament). There were three of my brothers on the team: Billy Ray, Frank and James. "But of all the Hodges brothers, it was Frank who stood out the most in Malcolm's mind. He (Frank) started out at Scooba (East Mississippi CC) but wound up at Delta State. He played pivot (center position) and he was only about six feet. But he could play basketball. He had a hook shot you wouldn't believe."

Frank later became a coaching legend in east Mississippi after his career at Delta State. His Hickory teams were led by Denver Brackeen, Herman Robinson and Joe Gibbon. Frank later coached Hickory to a state championship over Martin. And after his stint at Hickory, he coached several state champions at Philadelphia (1958 and 1959).

Frank was the impetus for the Hodges brothers style: Run and Gun. Those were the days of defensive-minded, low scoring basketball. But Frank changed all that.

"Frank believed in putting the ball up. He set out to score. When he was coaching, he believed in the full-court press."

Malcolm's son, Randy, was one of the better players that came along in the mid-60's. Randy was a player on the West Lauderdale teams that were merged when Martin closed. West Lauderdale won state championships in 1964, 1965, and was runner-up in 1966 and won again in 1967.

Randy played ball at Mississippi State and later coached at Tupelo. He is currently principal at Choctaw Central.

"I'm so proud of my family," he said. "Wiley works construction here in Meridian. Ricky is a contractor that lives in New Orleans. Tammy lives in Collinsville and Glenda lives in Texas.

Since Malcolm retired, he has spent most of his free time fishing with his wife, Earlene. Though her hands and feet have been wracked with arthritis, Earlene still catches her share of white perch.

"I've been living with these Hodges boys for 64 years," Earlene said. "I don't think anybody's been to more ball games than I have. I think I'm just about the best fan they had."



1st Row: Max, Cove, Billy Ray, Joe. 2nd Row: Arlette Luther, Malcolm, James, Frank, Mary Ann.

COVE LEE AND MATTIE HODGES FAMILY

By Debbie Hedges Meador

1.	Arlette's Family md. Algie Townsend Bobbie Ruth Boswell Jimmy & Jane Townsend	Meridian, MS Meridian, MS Meridian, MS	Died 1997 Died 1990 Died 1991
2.	Luther's Family md. Betty "Bright Eyes" Gladys Juaneze Mickey Hodges	Hattiesburg, MS (born 2/14/1935)	Died 1990 Died 1948
3.	Malcom's Famliy md. Earline Glenda & Glene Forgan Wylie & Donna Hodges Ricky & Nancy Randy & Delaine Tammy & Mark Naylor	Collinsville, MS Houston, TX Collinsville, MS Kenner, LA Collinsville, MS Collinsville, MS	
4.	James' Family md. Nita Stuart & Ben Hodges Steve Hodges Stacy & Stephanie Hodges Sylvia Hodges	Gulfport, MS Beaumont, TX Enterprise, MS Ocean Springs, MS Gulfport, MS	Died 1996
5.	Frank Hodges Family md. Roxie Janice Bond Nancy	Pensacola, FL Pensacola, FL	
6.	Max's Family Max Hodges Lana & Ike Clay	Jackson, MS Centerhill, MS Madison, MS	
7.	Cove's Family md. Willie Mae Rita & Stanley Dollar Shelia & Tom Pinyan	Brandon, MS Brandon, MS Douglasville, GA	
8.	Billy Ray's Family Debbie & Willie Meadors Stephanie & Glen Pruitt Gil & Lou Ann Hodges	Laurel, MS Madison, MS Jacksonville, FL	Died 1993
9.	Joe's Family md. Pat Cathy Hodges Mill Don Hodges Mel Hodges	NC Collinsville, MS Collinsville, MS	
10.	Mary Ann's Family md. Bobby Fulton Tona & Jack Wert Jheri Brandt Johnny Fulton	Apoka, FL Walled Lake, MI Gulf Breeze, FL	Died 1980 Died 1980

HOUSTON FAMILY

By Jill Houston Williams
Daughter of Dan Houston

The story of how the Houston family came to Collinsville has been told in several ways. The story that I have always heard is that Sam Houston came to this area from Texas with a son. Sam had left his family in Texas and lived with an Indian tribe for several years and was married to one of the women in an Indian ceremony. This was not a legal marriage, so the son was illegitimate. According to the story, Sam's Indian wife had died, and he was returning to his family in Texas. Obviously he could not take the son with him. It is told that he came to Collinsville and left his son with the Hamrick family to be raised by them. This son married in Collinsville and had some children. One of the children was Joseph Luther Houston.

This son grew up in Collinsville and married Elmira Hamrick. His family tree is recorded in the Hamrick family genealogy. Their son, Joseph Luther Houston, Jr. is the child whose family tree I am a part of. His family tree is listed below.

Joseph Luther Houston, Jr. married Minnie Wellborn of the Center Hill community. They had seven children born to this marriage.

The first daughter to Joe and Minnie was Cecil Houston (1891 - 1974). She married Tomas Linton Covington (1884 - 1934) of the Prospect community. They had eight sons: Woodrow Tomas (1912 - 1998), D. Lewis, Ford Houston (1916 -1995), Joseph Harold, Cecil Wendell (1919 - 1980), Wayne Alton, Welborn Howard, and Jesse David (1928 - 1973).

The first son to be born was Jesse David Houston (1895 - 1976), He married Irene Eshee (1910 - 1984) of Collinsville and had one son, Dan Welborn Houston.

The next child was Allie Houston (1897 - 1993). She married Thomas J. McDonald (1897 -1976) of Collinsville. They had two daughters, Minnie Dee McDonald Rice (1921- 1946) and Faye McDonald Weathers Davis.

Another daughter was born in 1899, Ila Houston (1899 - 1984). Ila married Elton Thomas Clark (1896 - 1969) and had one son, Aaron David (1925 - 2000).

Joseph Benjamin "Joe B." (1900 - 1971) was the next child. He married Erline Eshee(1909 - 2001) of Collinsville and had five children: Bobbie Jean Houston Greenway, Billy Joe, Jack Raybom, Carol Houston Cauley, and Beth Houston Browning.

The third son was Alton Lamar (1904 - 1972). He married Winnie Mae Tucker (1905 - 1996) of Collinsville. Their children are Max Lamar, Joyce Houston Smith, and Gayle Houston Boatner.

The youngest child of Joe and Minnie Houston was Oleta Houston (1912 - 1960). She married Ira Oma Herrington (1907 - 1965) of Collinsville and had four children: Jeannine Herrington Francisco (1930 -1983), Ira Oma "Sonny" Herrington, Jr.(1935-2000), Syble Herrington Hebert, and Dale Herrington Begnaud.



Front: Joe B., Ila.
2nd Row: Jesse, Joe,
Allie, Minnie
Corner Oleta
and Alton.
3rd Row: Cecil



**Picture was
made in 1901.**

HISTORY OF VENTON E. JOYNER FAMILY IN COLLINSVILLE

By Imogene Joyner

V. E. Joyner, with his wife Verbia Mae and two daughters, Bonnie Lorene, Vera Juanita and a son Venton Neville, moved to Collinsville, into a house across the road from Legette Walker in 1925.

In 1925, a house was built on property that is now on Old Highway 19, across from the Vance property on Highway 19 (now Old Highway 19) and Wilsondale Road in 1925 and built a store/house and operated it on the southeast corner of Highway 19 and Wilsondale Road.

In September 1926, a daughter, Bobbye Marie was born.

In 1929-30 Lester Dobbins rented the store from Dad.

In December 1929 Venton Neville died.

They moved into a house on Wilsondale Road that was located behind the house that Clyde Walker now lives in, that he had previously rented to J. L. Gipson, who operated a chicken farm on it.

In June 1930, a son, Doyle E. Joyner was born.

Another house was built on the property north of Wilsondale Road and west of Highway 19, in the area that now is Kinard Marine, for an uncle in 1930. Dobbins released the store and Joyner had to take it back over and moved back into the store in early 1930.

In August 1932, a daughter, Helen Joyce was born.

On January 12th, 1933, the store was sold and land around the store to W. C. Walker and his wife Mrs. W. C. Walker for \$750.00. They moved into the house on the property north of Wilsondale Road and west of Highway 19 in the area that is now Kinard Marine in 1933.

In January 1936, a son, Kenneth D. Joyner was born.

On March 26th, 1937, the remainder of the property was sold to W. C. and Mabel Grace Walker and the family moved to Meridian.

In 1968, Kenneth D. Joyner bought part of the Castle property on Mosley Crossing Road and operated a construction business.

In 1977, property was bought from James M. Snowden at 9301 Highway 19 North and the construction business, J&J Contractors Inc., operated at this location.

H. B (DOC) LEE FAMILY

By Faye Roberts Houston

H. B. (Doc) Lee and Leona Herrington were married December 26, 1900. They lived and raised their family in the Leeville community in west Lauderdale County. Fifteen children were born to them, 5 boys and 10 girls. Two boys and 2 girls died as infants.

The 5th born was Mamie Lee (12-28-05 to 12-28-85). She married C. L. (Les) Beeman and they had 2 children, a boy who died at birth and a girl, Elwina.

The 6th born was Bonnie Bell (8-12-07 to 2-7-2000). She married Leon Morland and they had 4 boys; Bobby Glen, Beuland, Billy and Denny.

Lozie was the 7th born (1-27-11 to 11-22-86). She married Irvin Roberts and 4 children were born to them; Ernest Tate, Delphy Lynn, Shirley Joyce and Elnor Faye.

Viva was the 8th born (1-19-13 to 1-31-91). She married Ford Davis and they had Dickie, Suellen, Terry Lee, and Benny Vance.

The 9th born was Lucy (Pete) (4-13-14 to 7-14-87). She married Edward Morland and they had 4 girls; Sylvia Ann, Robbie, Kara and Brexie.

Adria was the 10th born (7-19-15 to 3-26-92). She married Earl May and they had Peggy Jane, Linda and Richard Earl.

Willie B. was the 11th born (9-28-17 to 7-22-96). She married Martin Davis and they had 5 children; Nelda, Wanda, Hilda, Martin, Jr. and Larry.

Edra was the 12th born (5-19-19 to 2-28-97). She married Percy Luke and they had 6 children; Percy Glynn, Kay Carol, Mike, Sherry Gaynell, Danny Martin, and Jackie.

The 13th born was Maxwell D. (10-31-20). He married Sara Frances Calvert and they had 3 girls; Sandra, Sharon and Kathy.

Herbert was the 14th born (2-13-23 to 3-26-67). He married Nola Mae Tolbert and they had one daughter, Darlene.

Elby Carlton (Bo) Lee was the 15th born (6-20-24 to 10-17-53). He married Sara Frances Hand and they had 4 children; Diane, Wayne, Blake and Marilyn.

LEEVILLE COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND CHURCH

By Victoria Lee Vincent Love

Sometime between 1854 and 1857 my great-grandfather, Andrew Jackson Lee, Sr. moved his family from Georgia to Kemper County, Mississippi, somewhere in the vicinity of Old Union Church (now known as Union Baptist Church). The family consisted of his wife, Elzie Elizabeth Brown Lee, and children: William Edmund, Susanna Amy, Andrew Jackson (Babe), Jr. Amanda Winfield, and Elzie, Elizabeth (Betty). A 20-month son, James Alford died and was buried in Georgia in 1851. Two more daughters, Martha Caroline and Julia Joyner Lee, were born after they came to Mississippi.

William Edmund was wounded and died June 23, 1863 in the Siege of Vicksburg and was buried in the National Cemetery there.

I am naming whom each one of the children married for there are some people that will identify with some of their descendants. Susanna Amy, married John Harbour of the Shucktown community; Andrew Jackson, (Babe), Jr. (my grandfather) married Mary Jane (Mollie) Pope of Kemper Co; Amanda Winfield married W. C. Joyner of Kemper Co.; Elzie Elizabeth (Betty) married W. W. Clay (Dr. John C. Clay's great grandparents); Martha Caroline married F. M. Tucker; and Julia Joyner married S. P. Hale of Kemper Co.

My grandfather, Andrew Jackson (Babe) Jr. Lee married Mary Jane (Mollie) Pope on Sept. 18, 1870. They continued living in Kemper County. Their children were William Edmund (Bud), Roxey, Thomas Jackson (Oscar) Mattie Elizabeth (Matt) and Henry Banes (Dock) Lee. Little Roxey died at the age of 2 ½ years and was buried in Old Union Cemetery. Grandmother Mollie died in 1884 and was also buried in the Old Union Cemetery.

Grandfather Babe left Kemper Co., came to Lauderdale Co. with his four children. He bought several hundred acres of land, built a home and married Mary Jane Tucker in 1885. This was the beginning of Leeville. Their children were Sallie Jane, Tolie, Minnie and Irena Louisa (Lucy) Lee.

After building the home he soon built a small store adjacent to the house. This building was also Leeville Post Office.

Sometime later a one-room building was built about half mile from the home. This was the Leeville School and New Hope Church. Among the families whose children attended the early school were the Powells, Tuckers, Downeys, Alawines, and Lees. On October 7, 1902 Grandfather deeded the one-acre of land that the building was on to the Trustees of Leeville School. The Three trustees were J. P. Powell, S. B. Tucker, and B. F. Tucker. I have the old deed among my keepsakes.

Grandfather Babe gave my father, Thomas Jackson (Oscar) Lee forty acres of land. Daddy built a three room house on it and had it ready to move into when he married my Mother, Virginia Ella (Jemmie) Tucker on August 19, 1896. He soon added three more rooms. Their children were: Roma Ernestine, Mollie, Thomas Jackson, Jr. Barney Babe, William Henry, Mattie Elizabeth, Ellis Kathleen and Victoria Lee. Roma, Barney and William all died before they were four years old. Daddy kept buying land from Grandfather and others until he acquired about four hundred acres.

Mollie married Carlton Moore and they eventually moved away. Jackson married Ethel McElroy, and he bought land from Daddy and built a home. Mattie married Curtis Cuplepper and they settled in the Pine Grove Church Community. Kathleen married Aubrey Smith of the Long Creek Community and they built a home there. Aubrey was killed in a Troop Train wreck at Sandersville, Miss. during World War II; they were carrying a load of troops from Key field to camp Shelby.

Before Daddy died he gave me the forty acres of land that grandfather gave him. Daddy died August 9, 1935. Cecil Vincent and I (Victoria) married October 26, 1935. We lived with my mother. Mother sold quite a bit of the land after Daddy died. Most of it she sold to Jackson. She sold some to Pete Crenshaw, which is the land, that H. L. & Joan May now own. The site of the little school and church building was directly in front of their home. Mother kept 80 acres and the home. Cecil and I later bought that from her (it joined the 40 acres that Daddy gave me). She continued to live there til she died October 7, 1947.

Grandfather gave his other children land to settle on. William Edmund (Bud) married Nellie Mae Shumate and settled on the land Grandfather gave him, and lived there til he died May 9, 1941. They only had one child, William Ernest (Jack) Lee. He married Gertrude White and settled on part of Uncle Bud's land and raised a large family but they all married and moved away.

Henry Banes (Dock) married Leona Herrington (Will Herrington's sister), and settled on the land Grandfather gave him, and raised a large family. Their children were: Mamie, married Lee Beeman; Bonnie married Leon Morland, Lozy married Irvin Roberts; Viva, married Ford Davis; Lucy married Ed Morland; Adra married Earl May; Willie Bea married Martin Davis; Edra married Percy Luke; Max married Sarah Calvert; Herbert married Nola Mae Tolbert; and Carlton (Bo) Lee married Frances Hand. None of these children settled in the original Leeville Community that Grandfather started.

Sallie Jane married W.L. (Cap) Ethridge and they settled on her land. Their children were: Amy, Minnie Esta, Lois, Roma Inez, Mattie Louise, J. A., Geraldine, Kenneth, Eunice and Murray. They all married and moved out of the community. Tolie married Willis Ezelle and moved away. Daddy bought her land. They had two children, Leola and Cloyd Lee Ezelle,

In the early 1900's Grandfather bought a home in Union, Miss. and moved up there with his wife Jane and daughters Minnie and Lucy. While living there Lucy met and married Tom Gordon. They had one daughter, Mary Jo. Minnie later came back and was one of the teachers at Leeville School. She did not marry until late in life. She married S. J. Carter.

Sometime after grandfather, moved to Union, Uncle Dock bought the old home place and lived there until he died August 4, 1964. Some of his descendants still own the land and have built beautiful homes.

Leeville and Martin School consolidated in the early 1920's, and Leeville school ceased to be. However it continued to be Leeville (New Hope) Church for a number of years, but the younger generation started attending and joining other churches, and eventually the older generation all died and so did the little church.

The only people left in the Leeville Community with the Lee name are Jackson's widow Ethel, their two sons Jimmie and Arthur and Jimmie's son Michael. My daughter Lenelle and her husband Harold Akin and their two children David Akin and Kim Akin Duncan, have gone back and bought land and built homes on Leeville Road, which is some of the land that my Daddy owned.

When Grandfather moved here and started Leeville Community there were only wagon trails for roads, now there are paved public roads dotted with beautiful homes.

Cecil and I sold our old home and with our two children Lee and Lenelle, moved to Meridian in 1957, but Leeville is still **HOME**. I have many fond memories that I will always cherish.

LITCHFIELDS AND DESCENDANTS WHO LIVE ON LITCHFIELD PROPERTY

By Lula Mayatt, Mitt Hitt, and Mae Powell

Matthew C. Litchfield was born April 17, 1861 and died May 5, 1920. He is buried in Damascus Freewill Cemetery in Kemper County. He married Lou Bounds Litchfield, born Sept. 9, 1877 and died May 9, 1900 at 23 years of age. She is also buried-at Damascus Freewill Cemetery. They had two sons, Arthur and Orin.

Arthur married Ruth May and they had four children. Orin married Minnie Stephens and they had three children. When Lou died, Emma Neal, her best friend, promised Lou that she would take care and help raise her 2 boys. She was the same age as Lou, born Aug. 26, 1877 and died Dec. 10, 1970 at the age of 93 years. She is buried at Mt. Pleasant Methodist in Kemper County. Emma was married then to Matthew C. Litchfield and they had five children. He died while their children were still quite young.

1. Elva Litchfield, who was born Feb. 13, 1903, and was the oldest child, tried to help her mother with the other children. They let teachers live with them to get extra money and Elva taught school some. Later Elva worked at East Miss. State Hospital. She died Nov. 21, 2000 and is also buried at Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church. She was 97 years old and had taken care of her mother until her death. She never married and she lived at the home place till Nov. 1989 when she moved to Benchmark Nursing Home for the last 11 years of her life.

2. Joe Litchfield was born Aug. 20, 1904 and died Nov. 11, 1988. He was 84 years old. He married Vester Mayatt and they had five children. They are buried in Antioch Southern Methodist Church Cemetery in Martin which is part of the Litchfield place. Antioch Methodist Church is on this land also.

3. M. C. Litchfield was born June 15, 1906 and died July 23, 1986. He was 80 years old. He was buried at Pine Grove Baptist Cemetery in Martin. He married Sybil Phillips and they had nine children, two of their children are also buried at Pine Grove. They lived all their married life in the Martin Community.

4. Ellis Mae was born Dec. 22, 1908. She married Bill Wallace and they had three boys. They lived on the Litchfield place all their lives. Ellis Mae still lives there. She is 92 years old and lives alone. Ellis Mae has a grandson, Les Wallace, buried at Antioch Southern Methodist Cemetery.

5. Lula was born April 11, 1910. She married John Mayatt and they had six children. They lived together for over 60 years. John died Sept. 18, 1997. He is buried at Antioch Southern Methodist Cemetery along with one of his sons, Bud. Bud also has a son, Jonathan and daughter Lynette Mayatt Odom buried there. Lula and John lived on the Litchfield land for many years, then they moved their family up to Martin. Bud built a house on their old home place and raised his family there.

At this time many of the grandchildren live on the place: Vivian Litchfield Snowden and her family, Mae Powell and her family, Ralph Wallace and his family, Gary Mayatt and his family, and Lynette Mayatt Odom lived on some of the place until her death. Her family still lives there.

Matthew C. Litchfield was a business man. He had a store and a grist mill until his death. He provided quite well for his family. He also left them with a lot of land. They have all been blessed by the life he lived.

THE M. L. "DICK" AND PHYLLIS LIVINGSTON HOME

By Kathy Scarbrough

The M. L. "Dick" and Phyllis Livingston home on Church Road is another of the oldest residences in Collinsville. This house has had many functions during its history. In 1933, Mr. W. C. Arnold, the earliest known owner, leased part of the land to the Louisiana Oil Corporation. The property leased was to be used for a drive-in service station, however, in less than a year the property was re-leased to Mr. K. P. Watkins, who built a store there.

In 1936, the property was again sold to Mr. J. F. Fortson, who in turn sold it to the Collinsville Methodist Church in 1944. Perhaps one of the most interesting facts about the property is that one of its buyers, prior to the Methodist Church, bought it for \$1.00 plus all current and past due taxes.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston bought the property from the church in 1955 and made a home for their four children; June Livingston Gressett, James M. "Jimmie" Livingston, David Mack Livingston and Susan Livingston Kavan. The information on this house was compiled by Susan's son, Brad, who is a graduate student in history and anthropology at the University of Southern Mississippi.



A MEMORY OF MY GRANDFATHER

By Melissa Guy, Daughter of Lynn & Wayne Guy

As I plopped onto the faded blue and white couch, my eyes landed on an old photograph book. Flipping through the pages, I discovered black and white prints of a teenage couple; hugging and laughing. With a startled tap on the back, I turned to find my grandfather smiling from ear to ear.

"Can't imagine me as a teenager, huh"? My grandfather standing in the kitchen doorway: brought a smile to my face.

Because of the chemotherapy treatment that he takes monthly, his hair had begun to slightly disappear. Yet it only accented the beauty of his face. The ocean-blue cheerful eyes could always erase the frown from my face. His ivory soft skin was slightly crisscrossed with wrinkles of time, caused mainly by the smile he wears everyday.

He slowly walked to his favorite mauve "Lazyboy" chair, and flipped off the Sunday afternoon football game. I skipped across the room, placed a gentle kiss on his soft cheek and plopped on the floor next to his chair to begin the interview. I could smell the scent of his Polo cologne and it reminded me of all the times I would sit in his lap and read the "funny papers".

The whole interview was like a roller coaster of emotions. I began by asking questions of his family's closeness as he was growing up. This brought a frown to his once so beaming face. He would look me in the eye as if he could see straight through me, bite his lip, and muffle out a short answer. Yet, at the mention of the memories of his dating life as a teenager, his eyes reflected happiness as they danced around the room. Of course I knew he was recalling the time that he first met my grandmother at the high-school ballgame.

As we shared a bowl of roasted pecans, both of our favorite snacks; the butterflies began to leave my stomach one-by-one. The interview then became an interesting event, instead of me being a nervous wreck. We laughed as if we were high school buddies, and that day I felt something toward Harold Lollar that I had never felt before. I had always had respect and love for him as my grandfather, yet that day a sense of friendship sparked between us.

As I peeped a glance into his forgotten yesterdays, I discovered many surprising facts about my grandfather. Surprisingly, I discovered that my pappaw was a cheerleader for his high school in Columbus, Mississippi. Pridefully he told me of his being a chef on the ship during World War II, and shockingly I discovered that he owned all IGA Stores in Meridian. My chest began to swell with pride as I listened to the amazing, brave adventures he took as a small child. I began to realize that he was undoubtably the greatest impact on my life. I wanted to be just like him. He set a goal to own all IGA Stores as a teenager, and he held on to his dreams.

All my life I thought no one knew Harold Lollar as good as I did. Although, I realized that Sunday afternoon that all these fourteen years: I'm the one who knew nothing. I began to look at him with a strong sense of pride, respect, love, and best of all, friendship. As I walked out the door and into the warm evening, the sun was beginning to retire for the day. Yet, I walked home with a smile spread across my face, for I had made a new best friend, my grandfather.

**SUCCESSFUL PASTOR: HAROLD LOLLAR, SR.
PINE FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH, COLLINSVILLE, MS**

March 12, 1983 Interview of Bubba Lollar

The most successful pastor I know is my dad, Harold W. Lollar, Sr. Having lived in his household for nineteen years, I had a first hand view of what made this man as successful as he is today in his personal life and pastoral life. For as long as I could remember, my dad was a business man in the grocery store business. He at one time had three stores of his own, which put him in a position of surrounding himself with people of all types. After selling out of the grocery business, he sold hotel and restaurant supplies for about seven or eight years before the Lord called him into fulltime ministry.

From 1949 to 1969, my dad did Gideon and Layperson preaching wherever the Lord lead him. In 1969, God sent my dad to a little country community church named Pine Forest Baptist Church. At first he remained bivocational to support his family, until the church grew so that he quit his job to serve God and Pine Forest full time.

The attendance in 1969 was twenty-five, but through enlistment growth of Sunday School, the church began to grow. An emphasis was put on a youth lead revival and this started a good youth program.

Curtis Dyer started a graded choir program which interested the people in the music and worship program by singing.

In 1973, the first building program started with the addition of a 30X50 foot building with a kitchen to be used as a fellowship hall, with sliding panels that divided the space into educational rooms. Next, the sanctuary was doubled and then later a new Sunday School wing was added with a nursery and pastor's office. After this a new fellowship hall was built with kitchen and permanent walls were put in the old fellowship hall.

In 1982, Pine Forest under the leadership of Harold Lollar, Pastor, built an activities building with 10,000 sq. ft.: 3,500 sq. ft. for educational purposes, five new Sunday School rooms and children's church. The remainder of the space is a gym with official size basketball court which is also used for volleyball and a skating rink.

The church is located in Collinsville, Mississippi, a rural area that has had a good number of people moving in, building houses, making permanent residence. Through visitation, the church contacted these people. Over one hundred twenty new members in the last few years and others have come in by statement and moving letters from other churches. The present enrollment at Pine Forest Baptist Church is 344. (1983)

Harold Lollar, Sr. has received a diploma in Pastoral Ministries through Seminary Extension, and two diplomas in Clinical Pastoral Education from East Mississippi State Hospital.

Pine Forest has sent men to other states on mission work trips. Harold also has lead Pine Forest into giving 8% of church budget to the Cooperative Program, 20% to missions, including Home, Foreign, Children's Village and Baptist Association, and 2% to a traveling evangelist.

In 1982 the average attendance in Sunday School was 152 people. Harold Lollar, Sr. has been at Pine Forest Baptist Church now for thirteen years. The church continues to grow, people are saved and baptized as the Holy Spirit continues to work through this pastor and church. For the past eight or nine years Harold has not been bivocational due to the growth of the church and love of the people. All needs are met through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bro. Harold's first priorities are in the pulpit, feeling that here more people can be touched by the Word of God. Having always preached expository sermons, he wouldn't change any of his ways in the pulpit if he had them to do over again. Counseling and family life are his second priority. Having worked as Chaplain at East Mississippi State Hospital for four years, counseling proved to be very important and educational.

Visitation, mostly on Bro. Harold's part has been with prospects, hospital ministry and senior citizens. As a community leader, he leads singing for the Sixty-Plus Club monthly meeting in Collinsville. Also he is a regular speaker at the Meridian Naval Air Station and special events and breakfasts. Bro. Lollar, as a community leader, counsels on occasion with youth at West Lauderdale High School.

As a denominational leader, Bro. Lollar was been elected as moderator for the Lauderdale Baptist Association for the 1983/1984 term.



Rev. Harold Lollar Sr.

A TRIBUTE TO MY FATHER

By Harold "Bubba" Lollar Jr.

God is so good. I don't suppose everyone can say he had an Abraham in his life, but I can--my dad! God blessed me with a godly dad. From early on, I learned from my dad that Jesus was real and an important part of my father's life. As a lay speaker, Gideon, gospel singer, deacon, Sunday School teacher, and eventually when he heard God's call to preach in the last 22 years of his life, Daddy was an inspiration to me and the many others who had the opportunity to know him.

Not only was Harold Lollar Sr. my dad, he was my pastor and friend. When I surrendered to God's call in 1982, my dad was there to pray with me, encourage me, help me, and lead me. When at New Orleans Seminary, I thought I had a message to preach, I'd call my father and he would let me preach from his pulpit. When I was called to pastor my first church and ran into a deacon I did not know what to do with, I called Dad. His wisdom and experience gave me the proper way to handle the situation. When I discovered I had a little ability to sing, it was a duet with my father---"If That Isn't Love." When I was ready to quit the ministry while a pastor in the Delta, my dad encouraged me to be patient and "wait upon the Lord."

Yes, I have been blessed! A heavenly Father who loves me eternally, and an earthly father who loved his son beyond measure. It makes you wonder sometimes why God would have to call a man like this to come home at age 66. But, I know because the Bible tells me so, and my daddy told me so, that God is in control. In his time, we will understand.

My dad, Harold W. Lollar Sr., died Nov. 4, 1992 at 4:55 p.m. at Rush Hospital in Meridian. He was pastor of Pine Forest Church in Collinsville for the last 22 years of his life. A great man of God. A great Daddy. Oh, how I love you so, Dad.

From: The Baptist Record, dated Thursday June 17, 1993

MABRY HISTORY

By Raeburn & Ronald Mabry

1. Francis Maybury and Elizabeth Gilliam

Married in Henrico County, Virginia in 1684-85 - Francis Maybury was born about 1650-1660, probably in England. It is not known exactly when he arrived in Virginia or the name of the ship on which he came. We do know that he was in the Colony by October 1, 1679 when John Pleasants and Jno. Haddellsey were granted 548 acres on the north side of the James River as a result of their having paid for the transportation of eleven persons into the Colony. One of the eleven was, "Fra. Mawbury"

Elizabeth Gilliam was born in Virginia about 1650-55, the daughter of Capt. John Gilliam and Margery Henshaw. She was first married to a Mr. West by whom she had two sons: Francis and John West. Her second marriage was to William Bevin by whom she had three more children: William, Matthew, and Elizabeth Bevin. William Bevin wrote his will on 11 May 1684. A few months later, Elizabeth, a widow with five children, married Francis Maybury.

Elizabeth and Francis Maybury had seven more children:

- Francis Maybury, Jr.; married Eleanor Wyche
- Anne Maybury; married 1st David Peebles; 2nd Abraham Burton
- Mary Maybury; married Gorge Fox
- George Maybury married Martha Bradley
- Charles Maybury; married Rebecca ?
- Judith Maybury; unmarried in 1713
- Hinchia Maybury; married 1st Frances Parham; married 2nd Anne Jackson; married 3rd Anne Courtney (nee Clack).

The Mayburys lived for several years on Swift Creek in Henrico County, just a few miles south of modern Richmond, Va. Later they lived briefly in Charles City County, before moving to Surry County in 1704. Francis Maybury wrote his will on 22 March 1711-1712 in Surry County. We know that he died less than three months later because his will was offered for probate in Surry County Court on 18 June 1712. Elizabeth Maybury's will, written on 6 June 1713, was offered for probate on 15 February 1715-1716 by her son, Charles Maybury.

Francis Maybury was the earliest Maybury/Mayberry immigrant to America and all his children lived to maturity. For these reasons the great majority of Mayburys, Mayberrys, Mabrys, Maberrys, Mabreys, etc. in the United States today descend from this southside Virginia family.

2. Hinchia Maybury b. ca 1697 Henrico or Charles City County, Virginia; md. 1st ca.

1719-1720 Frances Parham; md. 2nd 22 June 1747 Anne Jackson (widow of Ambrose Jackson); md. 3rd before 1 Jan. 1752 Anne Clack Courtney; d. ca 1761 Brunswick County, Virginia.

3. Ephraim Mabry b. Brunswick County, Va.; md. Mary Poole; d. 1789 Fairfield Co. South Carolina.

4. Joel Mabry (Ephraim, Hinchia, Francis); served from South Carolina; probably received bounty land in Georgia where he moved in 1789. He settled about 1800 in Franklin County, Ga. and probably died there sometime after 1830. His wife was Polly Wafer of South Carolina.

5. Walter Mabry (Joel, Ephraim, Hinchia, Francis) 15th Reg't (Johnson's) Mississippi Militia.

6. Daniel Mabry (Walter, Joel, Ephraim, Hinchia, Francis), b. ca 1808 Ga.; md. Sarah Anderson; served on Capt. P.P. Terry's Com. from Ms. (C.S.A.); d. 1865. Daniel married Sarah Anderson, and is believed to have died on his return trip from the Civil War, catching pneumonia from a rainstorm and dying near Toomsuba, Ms. (Told by Aunt Mattie Reece, daughter of Norvelle). He was identified by his name having been stitched in the collar of his coat. Daniel and Eli inherited their father's property, Norvelle got 40 acres from Daniel, and passed it to the Peavey family of Meehan. It was passed to his youngest daughter Velma, and son-in-law, Walter Peavey.

7. Norvell Mabry md. Julia Ann Ivey. Norvelle was a very intelligent, successful and respected man, who owned a general store, cannery and farm. His father was Daniel Mabry, who served in the Civil War, under Captain Terry who mustered his fighting group from the Enterprise, Ms. area.

8. Marshall Mabry md. Mary Vashti Davidson. Marshall was a farmer, owning land near Meehan, Ms. Fifteen of his children lived to be adults, with one son stillborn. Children were:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Aubon (Aubon Leslie) | 10. Grace (Willie Grace) |
| 2. Buddy (Hulon Audet) | 11. Etta (Mary Etta) |
| 3. Major (George Major) | 12. Wilma (Wilma Ruth) |
| 4. Pete (Edward Earl) | 13. Stillborn son, L.V. (Louis Vernon) |
| 5. Dude (Earnest Odell) | 14. Gilmer (Donald Gilmer) |
| 6. Bill (Otho Kyron) | 15. Teeny (Ruby Mae) |
| 7. R.C. (Reuben Coleman) | |
| 8. Vivian (Vivian Irene) | |
| 9. Buddy-Boy (Marshall Olen) | |

Marshall was the son of Norvelle (spelled several ways) Mabry, who married Julia Ann Ivey.

9. Reuben Coleman Mabry - Born August 16, 1924 in Meehan, Ms. to Marshall Mabry and Mary Vashti Davidson Mabry, the seventh son of sixteen children.

He was called R. C. by all except his wife, who called him Reuben. R.C. left home at age 15 with his older brother Otho Kyron (Bill) to work in Aliceville, Al. In a German prison camp. Upon arriving they entered a small cafe, penniless, to eat. Bill offered to swap a pocket knife for two cups of coffee and instructed his brother to load the coffee with sugar because of the uncertainty of their next meal. A local postman graciously fed and housed the young men until they could receive their first paycheck.

At age 16, R.C. began work at a shipyard in Mobile, Alabama, before being inducted into the Army at age 18. During World War II, R.C. was awarded the EAMETO (European, African, Middle Eastern Theatre of Operations) Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Purple Heart Medal, for battles and campaigns in Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. Mabry served 2 years, 3 months and 18 days, completing his service in the 735th Tank Battalion.

After his military discharge, he returned to school for some time, and later traveled the U.S. working odd jobs from cooking, digging cesspools to picking hops. A restaurant owner told him when the blood came out of the meat to "flip it, you're letting the flavor out," and to flip the pancakes just when the last of the bubbles popped. After returning to Mississippi, R.C. subsequently took work in construction, in New Orleans with his brother Aubon on a new lock in Algiers, and Paducah, Kentucky and Tennessee, probably Oak Ridge.

In 1952, R.C. met Shirley Ann Williams, daughter of K.C. Williams and Polly Alexander Williams near Suqualena, Ms. The Williams family lived in the Bogue Faliah community, between Chunky and Suqualena, Ms., on property inherited through the Williams descendency. The Williams family believed in hard work and strong family values. K.C. was one of three children born to William Eli Williams and Alma Lela King Williams. His siblings were Stacy Everett Williams and Mae Belle Williams, neither of whom married. William Eli Williams was a farmer, blacksmith, and carpenter, who made coffins for the community. He was born to William Norman Williams who came to Lauderdale County area, moving south from Kemper County and from Georgia before that.

He stopped when his wife told him that she had traveled all she intended too! He was carrying a few simple tools; a handsaw, a crowbar and a foot adz that the family still has today. He was married to Lucinda Mosley Williams. Polly was born to Starling Elsberry "Lump" Alexander and Cornelia Cansada "Sadie" Mabry. Lump Alexander was born to Ira Byrd Alexander and Polly Johnson. Sadie was born to Jasper "Dape" Mabry and Haney Elizabeth Dollar. Jasper was the son of Daniel Mabry who was married to Sarah Anderson.

They married 23 April 1954, and R.C. began working at Flintkote Company in Meridian, Ms. They built a home between Savoy and Enterprise, Ms. in 1957 and 1958. They did not believe in borrowing money, in general, but took out a small loan to buy some additional land, after the house was completed on the original 5 acres. They accepted Christ and joined Rock Hill Baptist Church near Meehan. They were baptized about 2 September 1956, in Tallahatta Creek, off of Highway 80, near the Cains Restaurant in Meehan by Bro. Cecil Laird.

When four children, Shirley Gail, Reuben Coleman, Ronald Winn, and Raeburn Keith Mabry were born, they sold their home and property between Meehan and Savoy, and moved to Collinsville, Ms. in 1962. A new school was to be built in Collinsville, and the Mabrys felt that the bus rides to school (two hours each way) were too long and stressful on the young children. This was proven when the children failed to show one evening and Mabrys found the bus broken down near Stucky bridge, near the Chunky River, and the children swimming unsupervised in the cold river.

The house and land in Collinsville formerly belonged to Mr. Floyd Scitz. The Scitz property was located at the current junction of Hamrick Road West and Hamrick Road North, near the Collinsville Beach of the Okatibbee Reservoir. In 1967 the Mabrys built a brick home, adjacent to the original wooden frame home, which was sold to and moved by Percy Ross.

R.C. Mabry died in April 1972 shortly before his daughter Shirley Gail graduated from high school at West Lauderdale. Shirley Mabry and the children continued with the encouragement and support of the family, community, and the church. Shirley had previously worked during the construction of their home to help pay for it, but after her husbands death, the secretarial wage was not enough to offset the children's needs at home. She went back to work when Raeburn was a senior in high school, at Delco Remy in Meridian, and retired from there in 1996. She still resides in the home on Hamrick Road West.

Shirley Gail attended Meridian Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi, majoring in medical technology. Shirley married Mark T. Chandlee in 1976 and had two sons, Mark Thomas Chandlee, Jr. and Anthony Reuben Chandlee , and they reside in Collinsville.

Reuben Jr. attended Meridian Junior College, Mississippi State University, and Tulane University, obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering. Reuben married in 1983 to Fay Vail of River Ridge, La. and had three children, Benjamin Lee, Emily Fay, and Katherine Elaine. They divorced, but still reside in River Ridge.

Ronald attended Meridian Junior College and holds an Associate of Arts Degree in drafting and design technology. He married Rita Marlene McNamee in 1980 and had three children; Jessica Brooke, Shannon Leah, and Ronald Winn III. After a divorce in 1986, Ronald met and married Lahoma Lynn Truhett Warren, in 1990, gaining a step-son, Dudley Earl Warren III. Ronald and Lahoma then had a daughter, Andrea Rachel. The Ronald Mabry family resides in Collinsville.

Raeburn attended Meridian Junior College and Mississippi State University and holds a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering. In 1982 he married Hope Maria Moyer, and they have four sons; Matthew Rae, Keith Tyler, Joel Philip, and Ryan Charles and currently live in Collinsville.

MARSHALL O. MABRY SR. FAMILY

By Georgialene Maxwell Mabry

Marshall (Buddy Boy) Mabry was born to Mary and Marshall Mabry on July 15, 1927. He was one of 16 children, six girls and 10 boys. Mr. Mabry Sr. was a farmer and raised most of their food. During the time of raising their family, along came World War II. They had seven sons over seas fighting at the same time. Mrs. Mabry died at the age of 54 and Mr. Mabry died at the age of 72.

Marshall (Buddy Boy) started working for the Illinois Central at the age of 16. This was during the war. When he became 18, he was drafted into the Army. He did his training and was sent to Korea, between World War II and the Korean War. He spent his three years overseas and came home, honorably discharged. He then went back to work for the railroad.

In April of 1956, he met me (Georgialene Maxwell). Our families had known one another most of our lives. We dated for 3 months before he asked me to marry him. We were married Aug. 18, 1956 and lived at Meehan, our home town. We have 3 wonderful children. When they were old enough to begin school, we moved to Collinsville to send the children to West Lauderdale School. This was in 1963.

In 1968, Buddy Boy had his first heart attack. He had to retire from the railroad after 24 years of service. The children's ages were 8, 10, and 11 years at that time. Needless to say times were rough because I was not working, but by the grace of God, he saw us through our rough times. God supplied our every need and our children finished high school. Mary Lee, our oldest, married; and Olen and Nenea went on to college. Olen got his B.S. in chemical engineering and Nenea got her R.N. degree in nursing. Mary Lee since has gone to College and got a degree in management. All three children are married and have three children each.

Mary Lee's children are ages 24, 20, and 18. Alex (24) has finished college with a R. N. degree in nursing and a degree in music. He is Minister of Music at ArrowWood Baptist Church. Casey (20) has finished high school and is working. Her plans are to go to college for her R. N. degree. Jamie (18) is graduating from Newton Co. High School.

Olen's children are; Brook, (16) who is a junior in high school; Jed, (12) and Kelsey (10). They now live in Big Island, Va.

Nenea's children are; Asa, (13), Lowell (10) and Kimberly (9). They are living in Athens, Ala.

In the year of May 10, 1992, Buddy Boy had another heart attack, which was one of many. The Lord called him home. We had 36 wonderful years of marriage. I will say in conclusion that God is good to my family. They have all been saved by the grace of God.

1st Row: Nena Mabry
2nd Row: Mary Lee & Olen
3rd Row: Marshall (Buddy Boy)
and Georgialene.



EARL AND ADRIA MAY FAMILY

By Linda Kay May Crenshaw

On September 21, 1935, Earl Davis May and Dorothy Adria Lee were married at the home of Rev. Swearingen in the Collinsville Community. Both Earl and Adria were raised in the Leeville, Martin and Collinsville community. After their marriage they lived in the Martin community before moving to Meridian for a few years.

Earl (born 2-4-10, died 7-17-70) was the son of Harvey May and Annis Davis May. Adria (born 7-19-15, died 3-26-92) was the daughter of H. B. Lee and Leona Herrington Lee.

In June of 1951, Earl and Adria moved back to the Collinsville community with their three children, Peggy, Linda and Richard. The whole family was very active in the community and were active members of the Collinsville Baptist Church. Earl and Adria remained in the Collinsville community until their deaths.

Peggy Jane May (born 12-26-37, died 9-16-74) was the oldest child. She graduated from Collinsville High School in 1956; East Mississippi Junior College in 1958; Mississippi Southern University in 1960 with a degree in Library Science. She then returned to EMJC as librarian. She was there until 1968. During this time she earned her Master degree from Ole Miss. In 1968 Peggy took a job with the Mississippi Library Commission. In 1973 she took a leave of absence to further her education. In August of 1974 she received her doctorate degree from Florida State University. On September 16, 1974 (about a month after she received her doctorate degree) she was kidnapped as she arrived for work at the Woolfolk State Office Building parking lot in Jackson. She was later found murdered at the Ross Barnett Reservoir near Canton. Peggy was a Christian person who was a light in everyone's life. She has been greatly missed by family, friends and community. There have been several memorials and scholarships in Peggy's memory. The library on the EMCC campus bears Peggy's name. She touched many people's lives during her short life (36 years).

Linda Kay May Crenshaw (born 3-21-43) was the second child of Earl and Adria. Linda graduated from Collinsville high School in 1961, and from East Mississippi Junior College in 1963. Linda married Larry Lee Crenshaw (son of James and Iva Lee Crenshaw) on May 28, 1965. Larry and Linda moved to Grenada, Mississippi in 1965 and lived there until 1969. They then returned to Collinsville, where they still live today in Larry's childhood home (which was purchased by Linda's mother and daddy in 1965). Linda and Larry have two daughters. The oldest daughter, Dawn Marie (born 7-10-66) is married to Thomas Kimball Dobbins, Jr. They are expecting their first child in May. Dawn and Tommy live in the Pine Springs community. Linda and Larry's youngest daughter, Rachelle Lee (born 12-27-70) is married to Robert (Bobby) Black and they live in Dickson, Tennessee. Rachelle has a step-son, Brandon. Linda and Larry are members of Pleasant Ridge United Methodist Church.

Richard Earl May (born 10-28-48, died 5-17-69) was the youngest child and only son of Earl and Adria. Richard graduated from West Lauderdale High School in 1966. He was very active in sports during his short life (20 years). He played football, basketball and baseball, but baseball was his favorite. He was a tall, lanky (6'4") pitcher, who gave it his all. He started out as a young boy playing baseball in all the summer leagues. After graduation from high school, he received a scholarship to East Mississippi Junior College. He only attended EMJC for a short while. He worked for Western Auto a short time before he made the decision to enlist in the Army. Richard chose to enlist rather than be drafted.

Our country was engaged in the Vietnam conflict and young men were being drafted. He chose to fight for his country. During basic training and before he was shipped to Vietnam, Richard married Becky Little (daughter of James and Ann Little). In February 1969 he was shipped to Vietnam. He was a sergeant with the 101st Airborne when shipped to Vietnam. Richard was fighting at the base of Hamburger Hill in Vietnam on May 17, 1969 when his unit was attacked. He was hit with shrapnel while trying to save one of his buddies. He died a few hours later while being airlifted to a hospital on ship. Richard gave his all for his country. The West Lauderdale Athletic Boosters Club presents ***The Richard May Award*** to an outstanding senior boy each year. The road by the West Lauderdale baseball field and the softball complex are named in Richard's memory. Richard's family greatly appreciates the memorials in honor of a person who fought and died for all of us and our country. Richard also received a Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart medal for his bravery while fighting in Vietnam. His wife and parents were presented these medals after his death.

Earl and Adria May's family have been a part of the Collinsville community for many, many years and we are very proud to tell others that Collinsville, MS is our home town.

RICHARD MAY AWARD

The Richard May Award is awarded annually to a deserving senior boy at West Lauderdale High. Winners are chosen for excelling in leadership, citizenship, academic and athletic accomplishments. The award is in honor of Sgt. Richard E. May, a West Lauderdale graduate, who was killed in action in Vietnam, May 17, 1969 during the battle of Hamburger Hill. Sgt. May was the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Badge and the Purple Heart. Sgt. May gave the supreme sacrifice in defense of his country as men have throughout our history.

John 15 :13 " Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."

Winners of the Richard May Award

1972 James Bounds	1982 Ed Poole	1992 Cary Luke
1973 Billy Clearman	1983 Adam Hodges	1993 Eric Herrington
1974 Rolland Daniels	1984 Dane Ethridge	1994 Jeremy Nicholas
1975 Gil Hodges	1985 Jody Hurst	1995 Josh Perkins
1976 Glen Brown	1986 Michael Lee	1996 Scott Stuart
1977 Ike Ethridge	1987 Troy Harrison	1997 Thurman Lewis
1978 William Hodges	1988 Scott Vance	1998 Daniel Stewart
1979 Billy Doerner	1989 Chris Moorehead	1999 Ryan Truesdale
1980 Scott Carpenter	1990 Larry Thomkins	2000 Matt Vaughn
1981 Danny Mosley	1991 Randy Moore	

DEDICATION OF RICHARD MAY COMPLEX

By Cynthia Hardy, The Meridian Star

Area politicians, friends, and relatives gathered Tuesday evening as part of ceremonies dedicating a recreation facility at West Lauderdale to an alumnus who died in the Vietnam War.

A 1966 graduate of West Lauderdale High School, Richard Earl May, died May 17, 1969, on Hamburger Hill in South Vietnam in service of his country.

Billed as the newest recreation facility in Lauderdale County, the complex dedicated in his name features a baseball diamond, tennis courts, a children's playground, football field/soccer area, restrooms, a sheltered picnic area, and a concession stand.

As keynote speaker for the occasion, U.S. Rep. G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery said, "I'm impressed with the facility. I consider this a highlight of the Fourth of July holiday. This is what it's all about."

"It's rather ironic that yesterday, July 4th, we celebrated this nation's 207th year as a nation and that nation has survived," said Montgomery. "It's hard to realize that our nation is one of the oldest surviving ones on earth and the reason is because of young people like Richard May. Richard came when he was called ...he made the supreme sacrifice," he said.

"I know the sadness of losing Richard is still there to the family," Montgomery said, adding "I feel better about the dedication seeing what they have done here. This will be here to honor him for many, many years."

As May's former Little League coach, Kenneth "Skinny" Livingston, described the honoree as "not only an outstanding citizen, but an outstanding ball player. I believe he gave his all for his country."

Board of Supervisors President Stanley Shannon and District 3 Supervisor Ikie Ethridge were on hand for the ceremony.

Ethridge said that 50 percent of the funding for the complex, which required five or six months to build, was a grant from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the other half "was obtained from work by Beat 3 forces or revenue sharing."

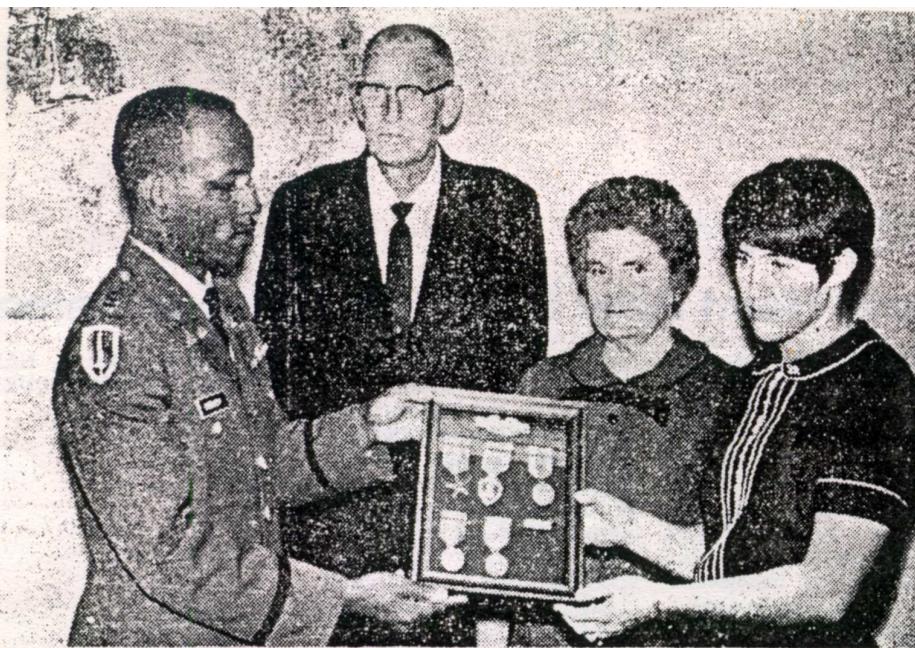
A resolution from the board in the form of a plaque was presented and will be housed permanently in the concession stand. A portion of it read:

"Whereas, Richard Earl May upheld the American tradition of military service for the benefit and protection of our country, obtaining the rank of sergeant in the U.S. Army.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Lauderdale County, Mississippi, that in memory of the contributions, self-sacrifice and athletic interests of Richard Earl May, we do hereby designate the recreational facility located adjacent to the West Lauderdale School as the Richard Earl May Complex."

The son of Earl and Adria May, Richard Earl May was born October 28, 1948, and was active in sports. In 1964, May helped to lead his school's basketball team to the state championship.





POSTHUMOUS AWARDS — The Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge, posthumously awarded to Sgt. Richard E. May, were presented to his wife Mrs. Rebecca L. May in recent ceremonies. Left to right is Capt.

Joseph L. Creary, survivors assistant officer for the Army, the sergeant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl May, and his wife. The sergeant was killed in combat in Vietnam on May 17, 1969.



ETHRIDGE SHOWS PLAQUE TO MAY'S FAMILY — District 3 Supervisor Ike Ethridge, standing, Tuesday shows members of Richard May's family the plaque that will have a permanent home in the concession stand at the new athletic complex. (Staff Photo by Rodge Hodgins)



PEGGY MAY UNTIMELY DEATH OF A BELOVED COLLINSVILLE EDUCATOR

By Jerry Ethridge, From Actual Police Reports

The events on Monday morning would shake the entire state capital family. They involved a 36-year-old professional woman with an office in the Woolfolk Building.

She was Peggy Jane May, assistant director of the Mississippi Library Commission, who shared living quarters with a roommate on Wild-Flower Road in west Jackson. The roommate was a substitute teacher in Hinds County School System.

They had spent a pleasant weekend. Miss May was happy because her alma mater, Mississippi Southern University, had won the opening football game of the season on Saturday night. And she was quite pleased with a new automobile purchased a few days before.

She was a few minutes late leaving for work that morning, according to the roommate, and it was 8:10 a.m. when she walked out the front door. The roommate noticed it was several minutes before she heard Miss May's car engine start in the driveway, but she didn't look out.

When Miss May didn't show up for work on time, her co-workers became concerned and telephoned the roommate, Miss Marie Corvalis, to ask about her. They were told she had left home for work.

Another hour slid past, and then two more, without Miss May reaching her office. Still her associates were not unduly concerned. Miss May was a tall, strong woman known for her self-reliance.

Whenever a shipment of books came into the library commission she didn't wait for a porter to unpack it. She would grab a heavy carton, take it to her office, and do the job herself. And she was husky enough to do it with ease.

She also had a fair share of physical courage.

Quite often she worked late at night in her office planning library developments, but she showed no fear even though the Woolfolk Building was near a high crime area.

"She was not one to be easily frightened" said the Library Commission director.

Subsequent revelations suggested that this characteristic probably contributed to her fate. While bravery is commendable under most circumstances, it is not advisable for a lone woman confronted by an armed marauder.

About the time her colleagues were telephoning to ask about her, Peggy Jane May was facing such a person. In all probability it was the same man who had frightened another librarian, Susan Malone, a short while before.

Arriving at work early, Mrs. Malone pulled into a lot near the Woolfolk Building where parking spaces were reserved for state employees. Before getting out of her car she noticed a hulking man with an Afro hairdo, lurking in some shrubbery.

Mrs. Malone ran her car windows up and locked the doors. She sat watching the skulker. When he saw her observing him the man hurried away. Only then did Mrs. Malone get out of her car and hurry to her office.

Mrs. Malone's parking space was almost adjacent to that of Miss May. And it could only have been minutes after she went inside that Miss May reached the parking lot.

It has been established that even as co-workers were telephoning to inquire about her, Miss May, under duress, was driving north out of Jackson. She was headed for Ross Barnett Reservoir.

At mid-afternoon one of these radio newscasts was heard by Miss May's roommate. She telephoned the Library Commission office and told the director she was afraid Peggy had been found. Several of her co-workers headed for University Hospital.

A morgue attendant pulled the sheet from over the slain victim's face. The state employees looked at her, exchanged glances of silent anguish, then nodded their heads. It was Peggy Jane May.

Throughout Monday night officers of the area searched for the missing automobile, but they didn't find it.

On Tuesday morning, Sheriff Noble poured every rolling unit he could muster into the automobile search. Then he called in Highway Patrol helicopters. He gave the pilots instructions not to overlook the reservoir or canals running into it.

"The car could have been driven into the water", he explained.

All day long choppers churned air over the reservoir area. Meanwhile, the tedious process of interviewing for leads, searching for clues, and grasping at hypothetical straws continued, but nightfall results equaled zero.

"We just don't have much to go on," admitted a weary Sheriff Noble. "We need a break, like finding the car."

And that break was developing. It came in Shreveport, Louisiana, when an alert off-duty policeman, Ken Hudson, stopped for gasoline and talked to an intelligent filling station attendant named Jack Shearer.

A young man had driven a new Monte Carlo to the station, said Shearer, and tried to pay for tire repairs with a credit card. Because the card was made out to a woman, the attendant refused to honor it.

At 11 a.m. that morning, Shreveport Police received a call from a woman who lived near SPAR stadium, the Shreveport baseball park.. She said she had been accosted by a heavyset, male with an Afro hairdo, dragged into a wooded area near the stadium and raped.

This happened only minutes before, she said, and she hadn't seen the man come out of the woods again after she escaped from him. Three officers, Lieutenants A.G. Saucier, and K.G. Anderdson, and Patrolman W. H. Mixon, fanned out to search the woods.

It wasn't long before Lt. Saucier jumped a young male who looked as big as a bull. He was also as fleet as a deer. He outran Saucier. Then Saucier spotted him a second time, but again he eluded capture.

Then Patrolman Mixon came upon the suspect from a different angle. Mixon ordered the man to halt, but he ran. Mixon pulled his revolver, fired one warning shot in the air, and gave chase.

The suspect was fast, but not fast enough. Mixon just plain ran him down and tumbled him. It was a flying tackle that would have done credit to Dick Butkus or any other big time football player. Then Mixon slapped on handcuffs.

Transported to police headquarters, the hulking youth identified himself as Larry Brown, Jr. He said he was a 17-year-old student at Central High School in Jackson, Mississippi and that he formerly lived in Shreveport.

Brown admitted he had driven a brown Monte Carlo to Shreveport, and had tried to pay for tire repairs with a credit card. The car was recovered and a pistol was found inside it. Interrogation of Brown about the rape complaint continued.

While he was still being questioned, Sheriff Noble arrived. The surprise in store for him was that the prime murder suspect he sought, was in custody for another, subsequent crime.

Law enforcement wheels turned quickly then. Brown was booked into the Shreveport jail on a first degree murder warrant from Mississippi. He was also charged under Louisiana statutes with aggravated criminal assault.

Louisiana authorities agreed to hold the rape charge in abeyance until the murder charge was disposed of in Mississippi. Brown's extradition to Mississippi was swiftly granted and Sheriff Noble returned him to the Madison County Jail near Canton.

Although technically a juvenile at age 17, the suspect was arraigned as an adult. The seriousness of the charges against him had superseded his privileged status as a minor.

The hearing was held at the city hall in Madison, a small town near Canton where the county jail is located. Peace Justice Chester Shanks presided over the proceeding. A plea of not guilty was entered for the suspect.

Then prosecutor Herring called Billy Baldwin, a Hinds County sheriff's deputy to the stand. Baldwin said he was the person who typed a statement given by Brown about Miss May's slaying. He said the suspect waived the right to have a lawyer present and signed the statement voluntarily.

"What was the substance of that statement?", asked Prosecutor Herring.

"If I had to boil it down to twenty-five words or less," said Baldwin, "he basically admitted to the murder of Peggy Jane May."

"Brown admitted encountering Miss May on a parking lot near the Woolfolk Building as she went to work." Baldwin said.

He quoted the suspect as saying he told Miss May to get back in her car. When she refused, said Baldwin, Brown told of pulling a pistol and forcing her back behind the steering wheel.

Then made her drive out of town and along the Natchez Trace Parkway to the reservoir. When they stopped in the Old Trace Park, Brown was quoted, Miss May turned and slapped him. This so infuriated him that he shot her.

At his trial Brown was subsequently found guilty and was sentenced to three consecutive life sentences with no chance for parole.



The book **Christy** is being presented to Mrs. Adria May, mother of Peggy Jane May, and Mrs. Shirley Bailey, Librarian for West Lauderdale High School in memory of Peggy Jane May. The book is being presented by Mrs. Ethel Lee, President, and Clarice Calvert Duncan, member of the West Lauderdale Homemakers Club.

WILLIAM EUGENE (WILL) MAY

By Jerry and Virginia May

Will May was born February 6, 1873. He was the son of Phillip Curtis May and Susan Pool May. He married Mamie Hand. Mamie was born October 5, 1874. Will and Mamie were residents of the Martin community for at least as far back as the early 1900's. Will was a farmer who earned his living off the land just as his father Phillip before him. He was a strong pillar of the community and a Christian man who worshipped at Pine Grove Baptist Church in the Martin community. He was one of the founders of the church and attended church there until his death in the mid 1950's. Will May lived a good and long life making a living and raising his family off the land he owned. He passed away on September 10, 1956 after a brief problem with heart disease. He lived to be eighty-three years of age and saw many changes in the Martin community and the nation. His wife Mamie passed away within a year after his death, on April 27, 1957. Will and Mamie had five children, Viva May Moore, Lorene May Palmer, Lola May, Leonard May, and Homer Webb May.

Viva May married the Rev. Earl Moore and they lived in the Martin community until they both passed away. Lorene May married Wilbur Palmer, an educator, and they spent the majority of their teaching careers in Arkansas before retiring in Jackson, MS. Lola May died as an infant at the age of one year. Leonard B. May died in 1937 at the age of thirty-nine.

Homer Webb May was raised in the Martin community. He was born March 28, 1912. He married Louise Walker. He went to school at the old Martin school. After school he worked on the farm until he joined the army during World War II. He served in the 342nd Engineers Co. and saw action at the Battle of the Bulge and D-Day. He left the army after the war and came home to work at several different jobs but his love of farming always pulled him back to the farm. Homer passed away on December 17, 1963 after a lengthy battle with lung cancer at the VA hospital in Jackson, MS. He left behind his wife, Louise, and three sons, Gene, Mickey, and Jerry, who were raised in the Martin community.

Gene, the oldest of the three, finished school at West Lauderdale. After school he went into the service and fought in the Vietnam war. He has two children from his marriage to Cheryl Emmons, a son, Jonathon and a daughter, Joanna. Mickey, the middle son. Also finished at West Lauderdale School. He married Linda Warren and they have two daughters, Melissa and Michelle. They were also raised in the Martin community.

The youngest son, Jerry, also finished school at West Lauderdale. He knows how blessed he is to have been raised in such a fine community as Martin just like his dad and grandparents before him. Life was so simple and good being raised in the fifties and sixties in this community because the people always made you feel welcome in each other's homes. Jerry has three children, the oldest son, Brian, from his marriage to Shirley Barnett, and two children from his marriage to Virginia Ann Ware; a son, David Scott May, and a daughter, Rachel Ann May. All three have been or are being raised in the Martin community. Jerry Brian May, the oldest, is married to Susan George May. They are the parents of two children, twins Joseph Wayne May, a son and Bonnie Ethel May, a daughter. They are two more in a long line of May children being raised in the Martin community.

The May family has been in this community for a long time and it looks like they will be here for a long time in the future. Thank God for that blessing.

**In honor of a dear cousin and friend and in support of her enormous work on the written history of Collinsville,
I submit the following histories.**

THE MAYATT'S COMING TO COLLINSVILLE

By Jacqueline Fairchild Clearman, daughter of Robert Edward & Eva Evelyn Mayatt Fairchild

To feel proud of the first comers to America is taken by many as a matter of course, yet to be numbered among those who down through the years not only survived, but went forward with the country and to be among the few families who can trace their ancestors as far back as the family of Mayatt, it is indeed an honor.

When one looks back to the trek of not only John Holland Mayatt, but all those who came first, they can appreciate the circumstances of not having powder for their guns in their many conflicts. Oft times their weapons were nothing more than their ability to lose the enemy by fleet of foot. They lived, they fought, and they loved. In all the melee of their existence, they brought forth to the world, life. Such were the men and women who braved a new land to carve from the wilderness a new kind of nation, a new breed of people and yes, a place called Collinsville.

From this, in the flesh stepped into the realm John Holland Mayatt, of his life before America, we know: In France, Circa, the mid-1830's, John Holland's father John Andrew Mayatt fearing trouble in the revolution-torn country, along with his pregnant wife and two sons journeyed to Holland.

John Andrew's wife gave birth to twins, Julia and John Holland Mayatt, thus the name Holland was given to her son.

In 1849, twelve year old John Holland and his family began their journey to then a youthful America. They came to the coast of Virginia via Canada and lived here where John grew to manhood. His twin sister Julia, met and married William Vance Montague in Virginia.

The trek to Mississippi begins with the entire family including a Mrs. Robinson, sister of William Vance Montague and her family. It is believed that families of Davis, Tucker, Kings and probably others accompanied the Mayatts on their journey southward.

On the trek down, John Holland met and married Miriah Elizabeth Brown in South Carolina. They journeyed on into Kentucky where Julia's son, William Vance Montague, Jr. married and remained in Kentucky for a number of years before coming to the Collinsville area.

The family settled some three (3) miles north of Collinsville on land they homesteaded. The eldest son, Joe Mayatt, lost his life in the Civil War and is buried at Vicksburg. The second son, name unknown, but believed to be Curtis, journeyed on to Texas, settling in or around the present day Houston area. Correspondence from Constance, "Connie" Mayatt, Houston, Texas tells us her great grandfather along with sister and two brothers came from France and Holland and that he left the family in or around Meridian, MS. Connie thinks her brother Curtis was named for his great grandfather.

John Holland and Miriah homesteaded much acreage. They later made a number of purchases of land including some one hundred acres of sixteen section land (DB 19, Lauderdale County) north of Collinsville purchased in 1889 from one N. M. Collins. Collins was one of a succession of owners of this land which was originally purchased from Lauderdale County School Commissioners in 1854. {The Board of Supervisors in August 1854 by Deed executed by Joseph Lowery, President of Board of School Commissioners of the County of Lauderdale after having been duly authorized to so convey the property by Act of the Legislature of the State of Mississippi approved on 25th February A.D. 1854 Deed Book G. pages 386 and 390} The land was sold at a public sale at Lauderdale County Courthouse in Marion (County seat).

John Holland Mayatt originally settled on that portion of the land that is the present day home of his great great grandson Robert Floyd "Rob" Clearman. The first home was directly back of present day house, signs of the old place still exist, i.e., crepe myrtle etc. John later built just west on what most people knew as the Duett Place (just west of horse shoe curve).

John's son Peter Andrew, my grandfather, built his first home at original home site which stands today as middle of Rob and Suzanne Clearman's house. We know Peter Andrew lived here in 1895-98 as my Aunt Euna Crenshaw and my mother Eva Fairchild were born in this house. The addition to the house by my parents in later years was built by Mr. Jim Tucker. In the 1970's my husband Jerry and I added on to the house, this addition done by Mr. Freeman Moffett. Mr. Frank Davis often told me that he personally cut and planed lumber from Virgin Pine for parts of the home. He said the lumber was 18-22 inches in width.

Peter Andrew later built a new home at the present day home site of Calvin Mills.

John Holland and Miriah Mayatt were the parents of the following children whom most remained and settled in the Collinsville area.

1. Susan "Sudie," born 1856, married Jim Davis Tucker born 1855 (later moved to George County and had one son Garland and grandsons Julian and Earl)
2. Julia Nan, born 1859, married J. P. Shows (Forrest County) buried in New Agusta, MS (name pronounced as in Congressman Ronnie Shows)
3. Aldonia "Donnie", born 1860, married Thomas Harrell "Tom Tingle" (lived at Arundel, south of Meridian)
4. John Alexander, born 1861, married Laura White (1866) (lived in Meridian)
5. Sarah Holland "Sallie", born 1864, married Junius Quinque McMullan (lived Hwy 19 N Collinsville, across from Mt. Nebo Cemetery)
6. Jasper Newton "Doc" married Oliva Harrison*
7. Peter Andrew "Bogg," (1866), married Nancy Jane Harrison * (1873) (Oliva & Nancy were sisters)
8. Lucy married Lee Jackson (They lived across from present day Prospect M. P. Church and owned a store on Hwy 19 N)
9. Thomas Alonza "Tom", born 1873, married Mittie Sanderson (lived next to John Holland last home site (Duett Place))
10. Rufus "Ruff", born 1877, married a Ms. Jeffcoats and made his home in Forrest County. He being the youngest was sent to stay with sister Nan Shows when her husband died)

John Holland Mayatt's wife died in 1900. She was buried on hill in wooded area across from her daughter Sallie McMullan's home. John made a wrought iron fence in his Blacksmith Shop and placed around her grave. A few years later he was laid to rest beside her. Some years later Highway 19 was constructed between the McMullan house and graves. This grave site can be viewed in Mount Nebo Cemetery from the highway by looking for the small fenced grave site.

Lauderdale and Newton County Land records show that John Holland deeded each of his ten children 40 acres of land as well as 40 acres to a black man, who was affectionately known as "Uncle Grant Lewis" (see related story).

Many of John Holland's great grandchildren still reside in Collinsville area. Among them are: Marvin S. "Sebern" Richardson, Dr. Buddy Lewis George, Jimmy Mayatt, Gayle Baggett, Tom, Jack and Gary Mayatt, and sisters Mitt and Johnnie Delores, Fleeta Mayatt Mills, Jackie Fairchild Clearman, Tommy and Billy Clearman, Jim Briegar, Glenda Jackson McKennion, Evelyn Culpepper, L. J. Jackson, Betty Speed Arundel, Roseland Jeffares, Billy & Barney Litchfield and their sisters Maye Powell and Vivian Snowden.

John Holland Mayatt lived through all the hardships of the frontier to leave imbedded deeply in the annals of legend and written history a story of a "clan", nothing outstanding, yet enough that the branches of his trees planted many years ago, today spread their leaves across this broad land we call America.

Julia Mayatt Montague and her husband followed one of their sons to Hattiesburg area many years later. The Mayatt families that settled in Hattiesburg area followed the Montagues down there.

Julia & William Vance Montague, Sr. moved back to Virginia and are buried in Montague, Virginia.

Related Story - Grant Lewis

Many times my mother, Eva Mayatt Fairchild, told me the story her father, Peter Andrew, told her of Grant Lewis.

Grant, affectionately known as "Uncle" was only ten years old when his parents died "on his mother's death bed", she asked Miriah Mayatt to please take care of her little boy. She was assured that he would be raised and given the same as Miriah's children.

Peter Andrew and Grant were near the same age, close friends, played and worked together. Peter said their home had a long hall through it and the two rooms at the end were his and Grants. Grant was deeded 40 acres, the same as the Mayatt children. The land to Grant was deeded in such a way it could only be sold or given to Grants descendants (land records verify this).

Mother told me of a time that she and her father were walking in the hills and it became dark and they were turned around (lost). They called for help and Grant sent two sons to find them. They went to Grants and were fed supper. The boys with lanterns walked them home.

I remember times when Mama would say "we need to check on Uncle Grant". One such time we carried him a bushel of home grown apples. He was on the porch, his hair white and we visited for an hour or more. Grant told someone in the house to get "the little girl" something to eat and I remember eating a hot sausage biscuit.

I remember Mother and her sisters talking about uncle Grant being so hurt when Peter Andrew died saying that Uncle Grant had said that he lost the best friend he ever had.

One of "Uncle Grants" grandchildren of whom most of you know is Mrs. Sadie Lewis Gaddis who lives near Grant's home place.

THE FAIRCHILD FAMILY

Robert Jackson Fairchild was the last of the five brothers who came into Mississippi settling on property now know as Nellieburg. He had a sawmill on site of present-day Tanglewood subdivision.

The brothers came to Mississippi because their Uncle John Fairchild had gone into service of the Province as a land surveyor. He was instructed to survey some 20,000 acres of land for the Chickasaw Indians, as the Chickasaw Nation was centered around Philadelphia, MS and on his return back home he told his nephews of such a beautiful land, part of this land being Collinsville, became the home place of my grandparents.

Robert Lee Fairchild married Sarah Agnes Gibson in Hesters Chapel Church. They lived south of Nellieburg until 1907. They had one son Robert Edward and one daughter Clara.

Robert Lee Fairchild, my grandfather moved to Collinsville or back to Collinsville when my father, Robert Edward was twelve (12) years old. This would have been about 1907 as my father was born in 1895.

My father, Robert Edward married Eva Evelyn Mayatt when he returned from France (WWI) in 1917, and made their home all their life at the original home site of her grandfather John Holland Mayatt. My daddy farmed and also drove a school bus to Collinsville School for thirty (30) years. Both are buried at Pleasant Ridge in Collinsville.

The family of Fairchild, like the Mayatts are spread across Mississippi and this broad land we call America.

JOHN R. MAYATT

By Mittie Evelyn Mayatt Hitt

John was born September 21, 1909 in Lauderdale County, Miss. He died September 17, 1997, in Anderson Hospital in Meridian, Mr. John is buried in the Antioch Methodist Cemetery in the Martin Community in Lauderdale County. John was the son of Thomas Alonzo and Mittie Viola Sanderson Mayatt. Thomas was born December 1-4, 1873 in Miss. and Mittie was born September 10, 1879 in South Carolina. Thomas and Mittie are buried in the Prospect Cemetery on Highway 19 North in Newton County.

John married Lula Litchfield January 27, 1931. Lula was born April 11, 1910 in Lauderdale County, Miss. She was the daughter of M. C. and Emma Evelyn Neal Litchfield. They lived in the Martin Community all their married life. They had six children:

1. Johnnie Deloris married first Lum Wright and they had four children; Lum Wright Jr.; Keith; Tim; and Gary Frank Wright. Johnnie is now married to Rolf Howle and they live in Neshoba County, Ms.
2. Thomas Max Mayatt married Mona Louise Herrington and they have three children; Mat, Miriam, and Andy. They live in Quitman, Ms.
3. Franklin Delano "Jack" married Elsie Janell Brown They have three children; Terisa, Jack Jack; and Cliff. Jack and Nell live in the Martin Community.
4. Mittie Evelyn married Roderick Hitt. They have two children; Connie Wynn and Craig. They live in Collinsville.
5. John R. "Bud" married Jeffrey Lynn Vincent, and they had three children; infant son, Jonathan Lee, Lynette and Mel. Bud died July 28, 1990 and is buried in the Antioch Cemetery. Bud and Jeff lived in the Martin Community, where Jeff still lives. Lynette died April 27, 1999 and is buried at Antioch.
6. Gary Frederick married Nettie Fretwell and they have two children; Scot, and Shane. They live in the Martin Community.

Daddy John (as he was known in the Martin Community and in Lauderdale County) loved to be involved in all the activities around him. He was a member of the Community Club when they had one in Martin. He helped cook for many ball teams anytime he was asked, and sometimes when he wasn't asked. He would just show up with his pot. He never missed a basketball game when his children played. He attended many baseball games to see his grandchildren and great grandchildren play. He was known to all the family as "Daddy John" until Craig's youngest child was born, Shelby always called him "John John".

John's occupations were, owning a sawmill for many years, and then working in road construction for a number of years. His real love was working in the soil with his mules, old Pat and Bill. He held the rope out of the pickup window and the mules would follow along beside the truck while he drove up and down the roads looking for a garden to plow. He raised many vegetables and enjoyed giving them to shut-ins. He would often get upset if people would not come and get the vegetables.

John also had a syrup mill for many years where they made sugar cane syrup. Lula would cook hot biscuits and the people would come by for hot biscuits and hot syrup. He also was a great sportsman. He liked to hunt and fish. He and his sons went hunting many times with his favorite dog, "Loud". He fished in his later years with his friends.

John and Lula had lots of company especially on Sundays, they would invite people home with them from church. He would go out and kill a chicken or get some hog meat out of the smoke house and they would cook after church. No one seemed to be in a hurry.

John loved his church and the people who went to church with him. A group of dedicated people formed and constructed the present Antioch Southern Methodist Church in the Martin Community. They gave their money, their time, and their praise to the Lord. The Antioch Church is where his funeral was held and all the people could not get in the Church, but we all knew they were there, because he had touched so many lives in so many ways.

ORIGINAL HOME OF DR. & MRS. SINGLETON (SANG) MACDONALD

By Sarah Ollie White MacDonald and Sue Branning (Nieces of Mrs. MacDonald)

Dr. MacDonald was born one of twin boys on May 12, 1881 with the brother dying ten days later. His father and all his brothers served the Confederacy during the Civil War. His father died at age forty-three leaving his mother with seven children to rear. Because he was stripped of his inheritance by the ravages of war and reconstruction, he obtained the education the schools of his county afforded at the time and later studied medicine two years at the University of Nashville, Tn. He finished his studies at the Mississippi Medical College of Meridian, Ms. receiving his M.D. degree in 1909.

Dr. MacDonald married his second cousin, Jessie Alpha McDonald, of Hattiesburg, Ms. in Jackson, Ms. on December 28, 1905. Ms. MacDonald taught school for 60 years at Center Hill, Martin, Collinsville, Oakland Heights, Meehan, and Dixie Highway Schools. Mrs. MacDonald's father was a contractor and builder, so after marriage Dr. and Mrs. MacDonald purchased the property where the house was only two or three rooms with a kitchen away from the house and built most of the house, as it now stands, in 1906--with Mrs. MacDonald's father doing much of the building, the dorm's he hand carved with a pocket knife.

They had one daughter, Dr. Jessie Alpha MacDonald (Little Jessie), born March 2, 1910, who graduated from Meridian High School in 1926. She received her medical degree from Tulane University in 1934.

Dr. Jessie and her father practiced medicine in the Collinsville area of Lauderdale County, delivering many children whose records are recorded by Mrs. MacDonald. The ledgers show the many ways people paid for the \$20.00 deliveries (including the now occupant of the house--Sarah Ollie White McDonald).

The lake behind the house was built by mules and slips to remove the dirt by many Collinsville people, such as Les Harwell and many more.

Dr. MacDonald had a successful lumber business and also served the Board of Supervisors as Supervisor of Beat Three until his death. His widow, Mrs. Jessie MacDonald, fulfilled his unexpired term in office as Supervisor. Dr. MacDonald was on the Board of Supervisors at the time of the building of the present Court House, which is reflected on the plaque beside the front door.

In 1934 a carport, bathroom, back porch and Dr. Jessie's bedroom were added to the house. In November 1938, Dr. MacDonald died from injuries received from falling off a horse. Dr. Jessie took her own life three weeks to the day (according to Webb Funeral Home records) later.

In 1967, after Mrs. Jessie MacDonald's death, her nephew, John, completely remodeled the house making it the oldest house in Lauderdale County to be all-electric. The only changes that were made to the outside were a garage behind the original carport and a gazebo in front of the house.

John and his wife, Sarah Ollie White McDonald have occupied and enjoyed, along with their 2 daughters and 4 granddaughters, the MacDonald Home to the present day.

This house is located at the end of West Lauderdale Road.



The MacDonald House showing the cotton field right up to the edge of the house.



Dr. & Mrs. MacDonald & Little Jessie & Friend.
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COLLINSVILLE AND MARTIN

By Rev. Edward McKeithen

It is difficult at times to be able to express what is in my heart. That is probably not a good confession for a preacher to make. Truthfully, that is exactly how I feel now.

For several years prior to accepting the call of Collinsville Baptist Church, I had pastored churches "on the weekends" and attended school during the week. We lived in Newton (Clarke College) and then the family moved back home while I attended New Orleans Seminary. I came home on the weekends to pastor churches and be a family man. These years were my "wilderness time" as God prepared me for his service.

Therefore, our move to Collinsville was our first on-the-church-field ministry. What an experience that was! Many adjustments had to be made for all of us -some good and some not so good. The Collinsville congregation and neighbors opened their arms and hearts to us. These fine people included the Martin neighbors as well. I felt your support, love, and commitment to making this new experience a success. We learned together how powerful God is if we are in His will. And - I knew I was in His will.

For a while during this time I preached at Pine Grove at 9:00 AM and Collinsville at 11:00 AM on Sundays. Although exhausting it was a wonderful blessing. Christian friends multiplied and later when Pine Grove Baptist Church called me as their pastor, it was like coming home again. It was very uplifting to see this church grow in its service to the Lord.

Thanks to both churches I learned the ins and outs of building programs and renovations. I soon learned that a part of "preaching" included hammer and nails, saws, paints, plumbing, fund raising and celebrations when the tasks were completed. You were my learning experience in church maintenance and growth. What a blessing that was.

Most of all, lasting friendships were formed. Still, in these later years of our lives, we feel your love and concern for us. Your prayers are felt daily and your emotional support during our sad times and happy times are a great comfort. God blesses us daily and blesses you daily for your steadfastness to HIM and to us.

May God guide each community to continue to be compassionate, loving servants of God. I close by saying with Paul: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you." Philippians 1:3

COLLINSVILLE MEMORIES

By Margarett McKeithen

Not knowing where to begin, I'll start with a pre-teen event. Dr. Norman Cox, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Meridian, Mississippi, was visiting my home church promoting the needs of the Baptist Orphan Home in Jackson. Since I was the nosiest child there, he asked my parents if I could accompany him as he visited other churches for the same purpose. I had almost two weeks to learn all he wanted me to say.

Can you imagine getting a new dress and it not even Easter, and riding on the front seat of a car? The first stop was the Pine Grove Baptist Church in Martin. I had been there for funerals since the Williamson's were part of my family. The thing I remember most about it is Mr. Oswald Moore saying to me, "Don't grin so much when you talk about the needs of children." I saw Mrs. Moore punch him. I hoped it was hard!

Mrs. Ressie Snowden said, "You were so sweet". Can you imagine anyone saying I was sweet?

As we came down Highway 19, Dr. Cox stated, "No need to stop here. They don't have much here."

The next time Collinsville and Martin came to my attention was Hodges playing ball and Ethridges coaching. Years later I remember cutting timber on some property of Ross Collins and coming to Collinsville to check on a cannery there. I think maybe the governor had a part in it. I had never seen so many tomatoes, and have not since.

Then along came Coach K. Currie. The only thing I saw or looked for was faults. Collinsville was not my team. SURPRISE! God allowed me to reap some of the commitment and character development I observed there.

In the early fifties, we turned our lives around and were blessed with moving into this area. What a new experience that was for me. I had never lived in a glass house before. No doubt about it, it was a new "whatever you want to call it". I did not know what to do and neither did the people. Soooooo, we went into whatever is below kindergarten.

My first shock came the first time I let my Chow dog loose. She was on the bank by the house. A car driver, to avoid hitting a dog in the highway, hit my dog. He did not even stop.

For several days, maybe weeks, I heard people talk about the mayor. I knew, or I thought I knew, Collinsville did not qualify for a mayor. One day at Hamrick's store someone said, "Here comes the mayor. He will tell us everything that's going on." I "uped" my shoulders, smiled to meet the mayor, slowly turning-----! I began to become aware of what was going on!!!!

Visiting with Aunt Lula Moore - her, or their pretty yard. Learned that dishwater was good for yard flowers.

After that I related to Mr. Bounds the dishwater news. He informed me that my yard looked like it could use some dishwater soil. He took me to get some soil below where the cannery was located. I carried a pail. We found a boiler that was used in the cannery. Filled it up and carried it with me. It was stainless steel. About three years ago, I cleaned it up and gave it to a charitable organization. They are using it in their kitchen.

Who could ever forget a mother and her girls walking from the north with Bibles and Sunday School books in their hands. Then along came "Sunny" (Sonny Vincent).

I still believe everyone should have the experiences of working in VBS one week with Hugh Clay and Richard May. Also, seeing the pride on his father's face as Richard stood on the platform and quoted the 23rd Psalm - before he could speak some of the words plainly.

And hearing Mary Perkins standing on the banister, quote the Pledge of Allegiance when she was in the first grade, wearing her red, white, and blue dress and saluting the American flag.

I'm not sure if it was the first wedding in the block Baptist church, but I have been told that it was the first one the church decorated for. Eloise gathered from the woods, stems with berries on them and sprayed them white and placed them in each window. I borrowed flowers that were used in the afternoon for a wedding in Meridian. I was told to get the flowers from the pastor's study since there would be another wedding that night. They would remove theirs. As the afternoon family went home to change clothes, the florist delivered the ones to be used that night. I also went to Meridian - while the first wedding family went home - and picked up the flowers from the study. The afternoon family was so thankful that the night family cleared their mess. The night family was so thankful the afternoon set everything up for them. Not until the pictures were seen was all this known. Imagine having \$35.00 worth of bought flowers for your wedding. Now they are "floral arrangements". How proud Johnnie Earl and Shirley were?

I am still confused about the Gressett families. Could never figure who belonged to whom.

There was never a dull moment with Lamar Griffin around. He did more witnessing than selling gas.

You didn't know what to expect when you saw Diane Hardin and Nelda Scitzs coming on their bikes.

Oh the difference in Timothy and Debbie and Chris and Peter. They were all Poole's weren't they? Chris or Peter advised me not to make him put up the Play Doh. He was the Ethridges' grandson.

Thanks to Mama and Papa Snowden, I began to relax. They were very wise and encouraging Christian friends. Anytime I needed advice I would cross the highway. They only explained customs of different families and would say, "You can work it out".

With that advice and encouragement, I began to learn how to tend to business. We had no business, only arrangements. It wasn't long until I was tending to everybody's business. I began to feel like maybe I could do it!

I saw three buildings. One said Methodist Church, one said Church of God, and the other said Baptist Church. They were only buildings. The people were one people cooperating, caring,

One of the first things that made me aware of the fellowship I was missing was a young boy having to be carried out of our area to a hospital. We all gave money and prayed in one accord. When he came home, his family went into the churches to thank the people. His mother, Rosalyn McPhail, stood and thanked the people. Then added that she prayed we would never have to learn the way they did that "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

I learned I had to depend on the prayers of my neighbors. The Freeman's daughter who lived many states away died. We were called to give them the message. I called Lola Smith and Evelyn Clay and asked them to pray. Then, I crossed the highway and asked Mama Snowden to go with us. We could feel the power of God helping the Freemans and giving us our needs.

Along the same line, Margaret Snowden's husband called and asked that we relay a message to her parents saying they had lost their baby. How were we going to do this since I had used them so much and they had helped so often? Again, I called new friends- Mrs. Blanks and Mrs. Vance. What a blessing I had been missing! They prayed us through that. We prayed, stayed a while, and the Snowdens insisted they were alright. As we walked out the door, a car that was at Hamrick's store began to come in that direction. Yes, Mrs. Blanks and Mrs. Vance.

The school faculty's dedication and abilities.

MANY FUNNY MEMORIES

We bought two pecan trees. Mr. Johnny Bounds brought the boys to the house to set them out. The first one was in the ground. The hole was dug for the second one. He lined the boys up. They paraded by the hole and spit into it, saying that it would make that tree produce more. It is true that tree produced more. It was the one left standing!

Gloria J. Walker and Herma Jean Bolton were almost one. Had to think to know who they belonged to. Always wanted to see the "black hair" on one mother's head messed up.

Remember the long hours and many miles the men prayed, rode, and asked for help to keep Alcoholic beverages from being sold in this area. God blessed their effort. He is still on His throne.

The heartaches and joys of Ruth's family and her extended family where she worked. Many prayers were prayed at this time.

The many wrecks and illnesses of the Rev. Laird families and how thankful they were for kindness and deeds.

I never got to go on a bus trip with the McMullens to the "Grand Ole Opry." I really looked forward to Edward's hair cuts. He always brought home news. No opinions -Mr. Alton Houston did not like gossip.

I was never very much involved with the Rowells. Knew the boys in school. It was sad when we passed and saw the Walker store was gone. Enjoyed good chats there.

To Mama and Papa Sharp - We say thank you for the mental and spiritual support you gave us and your wisdom you shared with us. Most of all - your encouragement to us.

New friends began to move in. The Nicholsons with Bobby and Billy. I had the advantage of Edna Earl. I knew more about her than she did me. I was not about to give up much of my territory. We did fine together.

The Barbers moved in with two girls - along came a boy.

The Beemans came over. They soon became one family with the Harwells. I remember the only anointing I saw in Collinsville was in the Cross family.

I've always wondered how one Cross family made out among so many Scitzs and one Lee Moore family.

WISHES I wish I could have

Ola Johnson's "It's none of my business" attitude.

To make molasses tea cakes like Lena Mae and Inez who lived north of the Munns.
The energy of Hollis Perkins and Adria May.

The wisdom of Inez.

Make a coconut cake like Pauline.

Make guinea dumplings like Mittie Caldwell.

The faith of Ivon Scitz.

Make candy like Lorine and Louise.

Ability to lead youth as Otis and Christine Smith.

Grow strawberries like the Harveys.

Grow tomatoes like Annie.

Butterbeans like the Mixons.

Sew like Frances Vance and Lee Ila Hardin.

Find out as much as Gracie Espey.

Sing like the Roberts.

Humor of Lola and Vardeman Clay.

Love and patience of Edria Luke.

Make goals with the ball on the tip of my fingers like Barbara Harmon.

Along with spiritual blessings, many other things made my stay in Collinsville very enjoyable.
One afternoon I heard my neighbors crying. I ran over there. Aunt Polly told me Sarah died.

I said, "I'll be right back. I'm going to call Hazel!" Mrs. Livingston said, "No, it's on television.
I'll never buy another box of Tide" Proctor and Gamble sponsored "The Edge of Night"!

Oh, and Miss Pearl's opinions of how young girls dressed! Wish I could relate them. And
Mrs. Alexander's shaming her.

The first time I went to Clay and McPhail's and saw Don eating a hamburger. The man's
hands cooking looked like they had not been washed in a week. Don had no reactions. I thought
the Health Dept. should be called. Soon I was eating them and suffered no ills! Live and learn.

The ability of T.S. getting a budget in the Baptist Church. The spiritual guidance, wisdom,
and patience he portrayed. I can't forget his promise to give all the money needed to meet the budget
if it was not given.

No excuse for a car not running good in this area! Miles Garage; Alawine Garage; Joyners
Garage. That's not all - these families have helped fix and encourage lives to do good.

Across the way we had Williams, McDonalds, Smiths, Jordans, Moores, Browns, Philips,
Greens, Clarks, Walkers, Lockwoods, Rutledges, Mayattes, Jollys, Freemans, Pooleys, Rowells, the
Crenshaws with two boys and a girl, the Paul Sharps with two boys and a girl, and many more we
shared laughter and tears with.

Thanks to all for adding Miracle Gro to my grain of mustard seed. Please continue. It still
needs spiritual food.

MARTIN MEMORIES

By Margarett McKeithen

For several years I was not so involved with the Martin community. It was after we moved
there that I became a big part of it.

Soon after we moved in the home, I decided some changes had to be made in one room.
Four other "I can do it myself" folks and I decided to tackle it. I went to a house builder I had known
for a long time and begged some tile. He gave me glue and advised me about using it.

The room was so small all could not work on the floor. Edward and two more did that. The
others and I filled the fixtures with water and added bleach and ammonia. Soon we heard someone
singing and laughing loudly. Edward and the other one brought her out. After fresh air and coffee
she was okay. THEN I remembered the advice about using the glue.

This crew and I made a pledge. If anything happened in our family, the others would go to their home, wash the dishes in the sink, and make the beds. I still hold them to it.

It wasn't long before I had to settle down. When anyone around was not living up to par Mama Matt Hodges would say "after 12 PM and 4th verse Christians". Finally, I figured out she was really saying when the preacher carries the services after 12 Noon and sings the 4th verse, someone would go down so he would have a prayer and dismiss.

One day in VBS, papers galore were falling from windows upstairs. When we were dismissed Edward said, "need to talk to the bossiest woman here". The next day, I went to the office and saw her coming down the stairs with two boys, an ear in each hand. I stood amazed, but listened. One said, "I won't be back. I'm going to tell my parents". Mama Hand said for him to go ahead. Your dad will probably tell you about the time we were cleaning the church before the revival and I had him and other boys crawling on their hands and knees between pews picking up acorns and part of pages from the song books. I knew they had a part in it. That was the last of that.

Sometimes you had to think to get the meaning of the Rev. Earl Moore's expressions. He would say "we never finish our prayers, we just say gimme, gimmie, gimmie." At last, I figured out what he was saying. We should be saying, "Lord put your arms around my shoulders and your hand over my mouth". Meaning, we talk more than we act.

Oh! the spiritual blessing of hearing Mr. Will Pruitt's testimony after his profession of faith in Jesus Christ. "Why wait-lost opportunities-lost fellowship with Jesus Christ lost influence with non-Christians-a wasted life", he said. Not a dry eye in the house.

There is no way I can mention all the memories and blessings. Think on these things, however.

- Barbara Byrd hitching the mules to the wagon and carrying the children for a ride.
- The compassion of Aunt Ruby Davis' family in caring for foster children.
- The Herrington checker games on the porch of the small store.
- Scott Stewart's singing voice.
- The Calvert's large garden.
- The first air conditioning in Martin in Loma Brown's furry friends (Minks) house.
- The Rev. Culpepper ministering as pastor
- The Culpeppers talents in music.
- Raymond Culpeppers military service rendered to USA.
- The Satterfields moving away and coming back-the changes in their lives and looks.
- The Hodges, Byrds, and Browns in their areas never failing to lend a hand and utter words of encouragement.
- Hilliard Hand sitting on his porch at night listening to the preacher, naming songs and scripture passages.
- The compassion and faithfulness of Jackie Ethridge with Ralph Wallace's severe burns. His healing and accomplishments.
- Eva Spears and Louise May being the first to have food where it was needed.
- The Pearsons always responding to a need in a quiet way.
- The praying and Christian lives of the Townsend family. One family moved a short distance, Oh, to be able to string buttons as she could.

Unless you were invited to visit Maggie's family garden, you have no idea of growing vegetables in Martin.

The Raspberries and Slaytons were part of Edwards's family. They were not new to me, but nice to be around.

The Anse Snowden family - Believe it or not, Mr. Snowden drove his cattle truck to New Orleans to pick up some material for the new church building. He assured us there were two things he would never do again. Drive in New Orleans and follow Brown. Then, Norman became "Postmaster"!

The Hitt family married into our community. What a welcome!

To the many basketball players - it is interesting to remember your talent - especially how Zola could win games with her hips.

To the Peewee players - More interesting things sometimes happened off the field than on the field. Oh, to work in the information booth or over the boiling pot of oil! You learned everything that was going on.

I remember the Tucker family near the end of the baseball road. The three girls singing and piano playing. Then along came the joy of the family - Margie.

The day we moved there, Mr. Garfield Philips expired. We often hear from them expressing appreciation.

The generosity of the Powells and the Litchfields in donating real estate was and is a blessing to all. There will never be more land. This is a day for the community to express their appreciation. Land can never be replaced. Thanks from all!

Steve Tucker drove a tractor pulling a flat bed of straw on a hay ride. On returning for the hot dogs and hamburgers, the pastor said, "I don't think you missed a hole in the road". In his quiet voice Steve said, " I tried not to."

It would not be Martin without "Clay's wash hole". Maybe swimming pool sounds more up-to-date. To us it was the baptistry. The first service I attended there, Ikie Ethridge, Virgil Snowden, and Ellis Hand drove the cows out. I don't know whose dogs drove them away.

What I wouldn't give for some fresh dressed chicken breast. Only one of the Crenshaw sisters ate white fowl meat. The day we moved, the driver came to our door with a large box. She said that if I had room for them, she had some fresh dressed chicken breast for me. I took the box assuring her I had room. I would have made an extra trip to have them. I placed them in my car; looked up and there she and her two sisters were with three more boxes of frozen chicken breast. Can't say we ate high on the hog, but can say we ate choicy for a while.

Harper and his music talent was inspiring. I always looked back when he attended services. It was a joy to hear him singing in harmony.

Stranger than fiction came across my life at times. One day someone came to the door and asked me to go to the cemetery with her. I did. We measured Monuments!

Mr. John Mayatt always tried to be at the cemetery to offer assistance in any way it was needed.

Monday morning, the first day of VBS as we were in line to march in, a tractor drove up pulling a trailor with several children in it. Ben had made it ready and Louise Agnew was bringing the children in their area to VBS. Where there is a will, there is a way.

It would take two or more books to write my genealogy. My family consists of many communities.

There is nothing on TV as amusing as being around Imogene Barret and me preparing the church for a wedding. At first, we suggested to the husbands that we could do it. Finally, we demanded that they leave. I often think of how many black outs we would have gotten taking it down with them around.

I remember little boys with starched white shirts on, getting in my car with some red dirt on them. They had been sliding down the bank in front of their house. Red and white shirts and blue pants. One Sunday morning I picked them up with red eyes, blue pants, and I can't remember the shirts. We lived to see all the family in church. Ain't God good?

It took Edward some time to figure out a mystery here. Each night as the congregation stood for the time of decisions, he would hear a vehicle leave. There was one family whose husband always stayed and helped him close windows and doors. One night outside the family hesitated on leaving. A truck drove by and solved his mystery. The driver had gone home to get a gallon of fresh milk. Earlene milked one cow and had the milk in her whatever it was. The son was sent home each night to get the milk for him to bring home along with other of Earlene's goodies.

MCPHAIL'S SCOTTISH HERITAGE

By A. M. McPhail

Mr. Chris Carmichael had an article in The Meridian Star calling for persons of Scottish Ancestry to meet with him. As a result of this meeting the East Mississippi Scottish Society was formed in 1989 the help of Winne Russell Hill, a former teacher at the Meridian Junior College.

Arrangements were made for a class to be taught at the Junior College by A. M. McPhail on Scottish History. Mr. McPhail volunteered to teach without pay. The College furnished the room and maps. We met once a week for six weeks. No credit was given by the College.

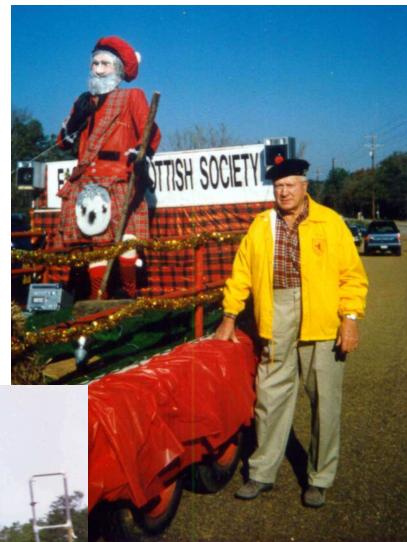
Chris Carmichael was our president and we met monthly at an eating place and had programs relating to genealogy and Scottish history.

The Scottish Society began to enter floats in the Christmas Parade in Meridian. One year we built a Lochness Monster on a trailer that was very successful. We also entered this same float in the Collinsville Day parade and won first place.

Chris Carmichael moved to Jackson and Ward Calhoun was elected as president. A. M. McPhail was elected vice-president and program chairman.

Jean Orcutt learned to play the bag pipes, thus giving us a real attention getter. Jean now plays with a Jackson band as well as for the East Mississippi Scottish Society.

The Scottish Highland Games were held in Lynville, North Carolina, last year with over 40,000 people in attendance. There were four days of marching, bag pipes playing, Scottish dancing and singing, plus all the games. Only tents are allowed and each clan has their own tent. This event has been enjoyed many times by my family and we are very proud of our Scottish heritage.



**McPhail Family.
Betty, Josh, Morgan, David and Mac, ?.**

MOORE COUSINS (MARTIN)

By Cousins

The Moore family's roots run very deep in the Martin Community. The names "Moore" and "Martin" are practically synonymous. The legacy of the Moores began with W.G.H. Moore and his family. The Plainview Dairy Farm and General Store was established by W.G.H. and Annie Moore and their sons Sam, Earl, and Oswald.

Sam attended Mississippi College and taught school for several years. He later worked for the Southern Railroad in Meridian where he and his wife, Ruby, raised their six children - Mary, Harold, Herman, Sarah, S.M., and Bobby. Even though they lived in Meridian, Sam maintained his farm in Martin until his death.

Earl attended Mississippi College, also, and became a Baptist minister. He served several churches in Lauderdale and Clarke Counties. His pastorates were all rural churches, most either "half" or "quarter" time churches, which were common in small communities in those days. Earl and Viva and their children - Evelyn, Ethan, Alice and Dot - also operated their family's farm in Martin. Today, Earl would be known as a bivocational minister and farmer.

He told this story about his ministry:

On a particular Sunday, he was preaching at a church near Tucker, Mississippi. An Indian man happened to be in the service that day. When Earl started home after church, he asked the Indian man if he would like a ride. The man got in the buggy (horse and buggy was the mode of transportation of the time), and as they were riding along, the Indian asked, "How much money did you get?" Earl said, "Pretty poor pay." The Indian said, "Pretty poor preaching!" What a come-down.

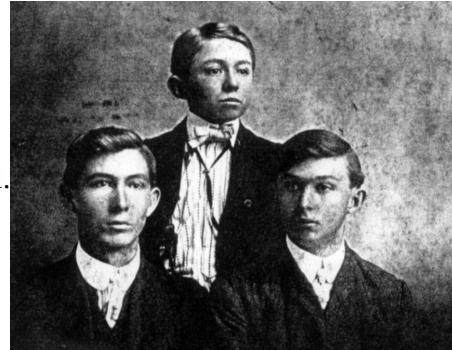
Oswald served in World War I, and was in France when the Armistice was signed-at the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day, of the eleventh month in 1918. Oswald celebrated this day as ,his "special holiday" all his life. When he returned home, he and Sarah and their family - Edwin, Bob, Nannie Lou and Sara Nell - operated the farm in Martin.

Earl and Oswald always thought that Martin was the choicest piece of real estate on earth. They would both certainly be happy to know that, with the exception of a few small lots, all of the original land owned by W.G.H., Sam, Earl and Oswald remains in the family. The Moore Tree Farms are located on the Moore-Martin Road.

Because of the "love affair" with the Martin Community, the Moore family was very community oriented. Life in the community consisted of family and farm, and church and school. Love of God and country was taught and practiced in each of these venues.

The boys, Edwin, Bob and Ethan, all served in World War II. During these years, now being described as "The Greatest Generation", Martin was involved in the war effort in every phase of life. Oswald and Sarah owned and operated a store in "downtown" Martin. The Rationing Board was established because there as a shortage of everything from canned goods and sugar, to shoes and gasoline. It was a challenge to keep the store stocked with necessary items. For the most part, people had to "make do" with what was available.

From Left - Sam and Earl.
Center - Oswald.



In Martin, Sunday was set aside for worship. All the Moores were members of Pine Grove Baptist Church. Going to church wasn't negotiable in the Moore family. If it was Sunday, everybody went to church. Our church has always been a very special place for all of us.

As in every small community, the church and the school are the most important centers of community life. And so it was in Martin. About 1940, the Martin School was destroyed by fire. It was a white frame building and was not adequately insured. Therefore, there was no money available to rebuild the school. However, the Martin Community wanted to keep their school, and this proved to be the catalyst that brought everyone together in a true spirit. Those who could, donated timber and other materials, and others donated their time and labor in an effort to rebuild the school. The result was a beautiful new red brick school building. While the new school was being built, classes met in the principal's home and in the Antioch Methodist Church and the Pine Grove Baptist Church.

The Moore Farms and the Billy Moore Hills were Martin's "theme park". Sam's cabin was Martin's "haunted house!" It continues to intrigue children, even today. The cousins and their friends spent their play time in the Billy Moore Hills, sliding down the pine straw-covered hills, and swimming and fishing in House Creek and Muddy Pond. The girl cousins also had fun playing school and church, and dolls and paper dolls in their homemade play houses. There was no such thing as being bored, or not having anything to do. Whatever our activity, we always began with, "Let's play like" The makebelieve of children playing is an exciting adventure. The Martin Community spirit is ingrained in the hearts and minds of every Moore cousin. There are so many memories, and we'll cherish those forever. The Moore legacy began, and will end, with all of us having been raised in Christian homes in an atmosphere of love, and having been given a good and honorable name. What a rich heritage! We must thank our parents and grandparents for this wonderful legacy.

The Moore Cousins

Evelyn And Furman Kenny
Newport News, VA

Bob and Frankie Moore
Meridian, MS

Dot and Glover Bridges
Pensacola, FL

Ethan and Ann Moore
Hattiesburg, MS

Nan and Tom Hudson
Livingston, LA

Nell And Rhen Pierce
Meridian, MS

Deceased: Alice and Delma Caldwell
 Edwin and Mildred Moore

MORE "MOORES"

By Sarah Moore Morris

To introduce myself, I am Sarah Moore Morris, daughter of Sam Moore, also grandmother to Kristi Murry, whose husband is the associate Pastor and Minister of Youth at First Baptist Church of Collinsville.

I really enjoyed the article about the Moores' of Martin Community. I have sent copies to my four brothers. I am so flattered that you would include our family in your "History of Collinsville". My sister Mary, now deceased, and I worked long and hard on the Moore genealogy before she died.

In April 1880, William George Henry married Mary L. Williams of Pickens County, Alabama. They had two sons: William James Garfield, born 9/15/1882 and Samuel McDonald Moore born 9/18/1885. Mary died 5/26/1887 during a TB. epidemic.

In 1889, William George Henry married Annie Alice Stephens. She was the sister of Rev. Eugene Stephens of the Shucktown and Martin Communities. This union produced two sons, Earl and Oswald Moore.

Garfield married Mary Savannah Raney in Meridian. This marriage produced no children and Garfield died 5/17/1922.

Sam, my father, attended the University of Miss. (Ole Miss) the year 1911 - 1912. His Teacher's License was issued in Jackson, dated 7/17/1913. He taught school at Battlefield, which was located north of Collinsville.

In 1890, William George Henry bought approximately 440 acres of land from a railroad enterprise that later became Gulf, Mobile & Ohio R. R. This property was located in the Northwest corner of Lauderdale County.

I would appreciate having our family listed with the other Moore cousins. We were always close as cousins.

Mary Christine Moore Alexander (deceased)
Helena, Ark. - 2 daughters

Harold Eugene Moore
Savannah, Ga. - 2 daughters

Herman Ozell Moore
Slidell, La. - 1 son

Sarah Katherine Moore Morris
Pineville, La. - 2 daughters & 1 son

Samuel McDonald Moore
Abilene, Tx. - 1 daughter & 1 son

Robert Marvin Moore
Morgan City, Miss. - 1 daughter & 2 sons

HISTORY OF THE JOSEPH (JODE) BROOK MOORE FAMILY

By Charles Moore

My great grandfather was Little Berry Moore, born Dec. 13, 1813 in Georgia. He was married to Sarah Brooks also of Taliaferro, Ga.

He ordered a water mill from England and they came west to Ms. on a wagon train. He had a daughter that died on the trip and was buried by the side of the road somewhere between Ga. and here.

They settled near Duffee in the Northeast corner of Newton County. He was a miller, gun maker, active Mason & was Justice of the Peace from 1858 - 1860. The area around his mill became a small town known as Moore's Mill and included a Post Office. They are buried in a cemetery near the mill. His grave has a five foot white marble marker with a Masonic Emblem. His tombstone reads:

**L. B. Moore, Born Dec. 13, 1813 - Died Nov. 27, 1879. By his many
deeds of Masonic Charity He erected in the hearts of his fellow
men an enduring monument as distant lands beyond the sea When
friends go thence draw nigh; So heaven, when friends have thither
gone, Draw nearer from the sky and as those lands the dearer
grow, When friends are long gone away So Heaven itself through
loved ones dead Grows nearer by day by day.**

My Granddad was Thomas Jefferson Moore born Jan. 8, 1847. He was married to Molly Margaret Brown. They were married in Suqualena and are buried in Hamrick Cemetery, Collinsville, Ms. They moved from Moore's Mill when my father was six years old. The following are his children: Minnie Lee Moore, Jim Moore, Jack Moore, Jode Moore, Bob Moore, Byrd Moore, Leon Moore, Pink Moore, and Pearl Moore. They were all raised at Martin on the old John Vincent place, (the old home place). My grandfather was Justice of the Peace in Martin for several years. My father Jode Moore married Ada Carpenter, a part of the old Hamrick family. They had six girls and one boy, as follows: Adele Moore married Mory Ethridge; Robye Rhea married Preston Scitz; Irvadean married J. D. Jones; Sadye Pearl married Horace Brooks; Christine married Clois Brooks Myra married Earl Swan; Charles married Christine (Teenie) Byrd;

We had a wonderful life as a large family. My father, Jode Moore was always a lumber man. We were all raised in Okatibbee swamp where I live now. This place has been in my family over one hundred years. My father had a large steam sawmill here many years ago. They hauled lumber to the railroad on a wagon.

My father was always a happy man. He grew old but his mind never did. We built little steam mills, dammed up the branch and built water mills. He built all kinds of toys for me.

I remember the first time that I went to Meridian. We went in the wagon. It was Christmas and he bought me a cap pistol and my sister a small doll.

We had large crowds here on Easter, mostly kin folks. We would hide dishpans full of eggs.

When I was young, all the boys rode horses. We had a camp house on the creek where the reservoir is now. We would spend the week ends there at times, me and the boys in the community. I would bring three or four boys to eat on Sunday. My mother and father never complained. She said she had rather they were here, so she would know where they were.

Here are a few of the crazy things I remember:

We all had guns when I was a kid. One night when all my friends were at the camp house, the older people decided to scare us. Some one slipped around and told us. They had a small hollow log with a cowhide bottom in it with a string in the end. You put rosin on the string and when you pulled on the string, it sounded like a lion roaring. After dark, we formed a large circle in the woods with our guns. When they came in the woods, we could hear them coming. We heard one of the neighbor women say "Pull the string". We began shooting and they began running. They ran into trees and bushes.

One Sunday when we came in from church, we decided to go swimming. Some of you remember the Poe Washhole. My sister Sadye had her Sunday dress on. We had a cable over the creek where we could swing out. She decided to swing out there and she slipped off the cable and fell in the creek with her clothes on.

We didn't have much money, we had a large family, but we had a wonderful set of parents and we were a close knit family.

The following was written by Burton Kinard about my father:

REMINISCING

By C. B. Kinard

Early in my life I was lucky enough to know
A family for whom my love just continued to grow
A father and a mother, six daughters, and a son,
Together or separately, they were a barrel of fun.

Some people that we meet soon pass from our mind,
No way that this could happen with this kind.
Hundreds of memories have stuck through the years,
Each one, when recalled, entertains and endears.

I remember once being in a little country store
When someone announced, "Here comes Jode Moore".
There was suddenly a smile on the faces of the men
As if they sensed that the fun was about to begin.

Such a jolly man, Sire of such a jolly breed,
We have all too few such men to meet our need.
As you let this thought run through your mind,
It finally occurs, **HELL, HE WAS ONE OF A KIND.**



Abe and Jode Moore.



Headstone of Jode Moore

ONE OF THE OLDEST HOUSES STILL STANDING IN COLLINSVILLE

Taped Interview with Malcolm and Lucille Moore By Rubye Vance Harrison August, 1999

One of the oldest houses still standing in Collinsville, Mississippi is Malcolm and Lucille Moore's home. Malcolm's grandfather, John B. Hamrick had a Land Grant for vacant land the railroad company did not use and sold on July 19, 1884 for \$400. The grant was for 160 acres in Section 35, Township 8 and Range 14E in Lauderdale County.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Hamrick had one son and ten daughters. The older girls did the cooking and the housework and the others worked in the field. Malcolm said his mother told that she, her father, and some of her sisters were in the field working when Mr. George Doerner came by to buy some land. Mr. Hamrick sold to Mr. George W. Doerner in 1895. Mr. Doerner first cut the timber from the land and built his sawmill. The dogtrot house had the best lumber in it with square nails. The lumber was cut at the planing mill. One side was planed one-inch thick and it was six inches wide, tongue and groove. The sawmill was on the north side of the house on Church Road where Pauline and Luther Brown lived. He had a turpentine mill and a pond back of that; he probably had a grist mill, too. Then, Mr. Doerner built a merchandise store and his tenant houses where the Super Stop store is today. Across the road where Mike Spears lives, he build a great big barn with a hay loft and a fence around the pasture.

Lucille: We lived over on the Okatibbee Creek where the reservoir is now with my Granddaddy Jack. Mother and Daddy lived with them some of the time. Daddy worked at the sawmill and was gone part of the time. My brother, William, and I stayed with Mama and Papa as we called them. When I was five years old, the house burned and we all moved to Dallas County, Alabama. Papa Jack was a farmer and Daddy worked at a sawmill. We lived there about five years and moved back when Frances was a baby and I was ten years old. Papa Jack bought the Doerner house and 43 acres from Mr. J. M. McBeth on December 23, 1924. We moved in on one side of the house and the Doerners lived on the other side for a while before they moved.

There were cattle drives from Philadelphia to Meridian down the dirt road. The cowboys would drive big herds through. They would stop here for the night and let the cattle rest and feed. Men must have slept in the barn. I don't remember them spending the night at our house. But my granddaddy would let anybody spend the night--it wasn't dangerous as it is now. As children, we would go over down behind the barn to a gully and look for Indian arrowheads. We were told the Indians used to camp there.

The gypsies would travel by going to the Rose Hill Cemetery. They wanted to tell Mr. Molpus' fortune but he had to pass a dollar bill across his palm. Then they stole his money. One night it was raining when the gypsies came by. Grandpa Jack said they could sleep in Mr. Doerner's old store. They would not sleep in the house but camped around it.

Mr. Jack deeded the house and several acres of land to his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Jolly, Lucille's mother, on June 13, 1938.

Malcolm: Mr. Jolly went to work with the Delco Light Plant installing them in homes. Each family had their own light plant. When the R.E.A. came through here stringing the light poles, Mr. Jolly and Mr. Vance wired the houses for electricity in 1939 or 40. That is when they put away the oil lamps.

I went to Martin school until I was in the fourth grade and then I went to Collinsville school for the rest of the time. The first school in Collinsville was next door to the Methodist church and it was an L-shaped building. Then they consolidated the Collinsville, Blackman, and Ratcliff schools and built the new wood frame school where the old brick school stands today. Mrs. Mittie Ethridge was Principal. There was a block building back of the school that housed the library, study hall, lunchroom, some classrooms and an agriculture building. The CCC boys built the brick school building that stands today about 1936 or 1937.

Lucille: We went to school seven months back then. The year I was to graduate, they ran out of money to pay the teachers and the school closed early and we did not get to graduate. When we went back in the fall, they first said we would have to graduate in the spring, but they changed their minds and said we could graduate in December. I waited though and graduated with Rosalyn Blanks and Pauline Livingston in 1933. Malcolm graduated in 1930.

Mr. Norris Rhodes was Principal. If he caught you talking or chewing gum, he made you sweep the floors. They didn't have a janitor back then. They were always catching Rosalyn and me talking and we had to sweep floors. They never did catch Evelyn Blanks talking. Mr. Rhodes caught me and Rosalyn talking and he moved me in the middle of the room next to my boy friend and everybody just hollered when he did that because he did not realize what he was doing. He made me sit there but I didn't talk to my boyfriend.

Malcolm: My brother Melvin, Mother and Father and I would visit Grandpa Hamrick in a wagon and as we passed by where Sonny Vance lives, my mother would always say "That is where the Old Shiloh Methodist Church used to be." Her father had built a one room log cabin church. It was about where Mr. Vance built his barn. As time went by they discontinued church service. Later Mrs. Minnie Houston started a Sunday School in the School building. Then the church was built where it stands today.

Collinsville was named after Mr. Ross Collins' father, Nathaniel Monroe Collins "Dink." The government moved the Post Office from Schamberville to Collinsville in 1926. Schamberville was on the railroad track. Mrs. Irma Blanks was postmaster so they moved to Collinsville, too. Dawes McMullan had a store in Collinsville. Dawes not only ran this store but he was one of the first mail carriers. His store was on the Old Collins place on the road from Collinsville to Schamberville. The Collins built a log house in the woods and Mrs. Collins would go out in the hills and haul sand rocks to build a fireplace and it was beautiful. They had a pond about where Lake Collins is now.

Lucille: We used to play with Jane and Melvin (Ross' children) when they came in the summertime.

Malcolm: One of the old houses still standing is the Harwell House. Holly Harwell and my grandmother were brother and sister. Another is the old Tullis Ethridge place. Someone has bought it and fixed it up. The old McNeil house was a dog-trot house. Mr. Robert Deitz bought it and closed in the dog_trot hall. The McNeil house is across from Cluis Daniels'. The Frank Vance house is an old one, too. Mildred and Joe Alton Gibson lived in it before the Frank Vance family.

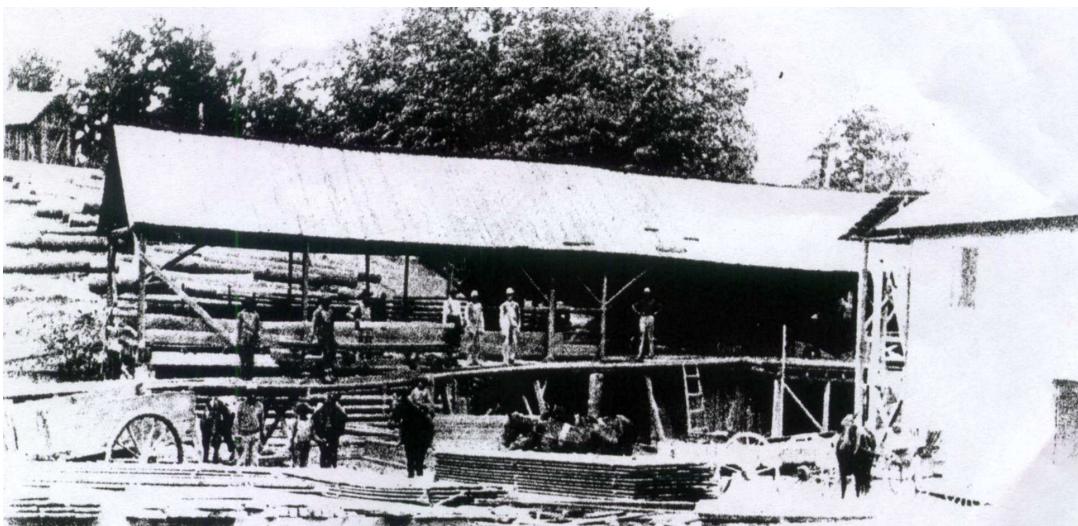
Will Walker was one of the leading men of Collinsville. He was a man of authority and gave the land to the Methodist Church to build on. He was Madge Walker's daddy. Sybil McMullan's grandfather was a brother to Will Walker. They married sisters so there were a bunch of double first cousins. Mr. Tully Ethridge was a man of authority, too. He was Inell's daddy. But all of them have played out.

Lucille: My brother, William Jolly, was the oldest child and I was next, then Ed, and Frances was the baby. William had just come out of the service. He was in the Navy CeeBees. I don't know how many years he served. He hit a bridge over close to Highland Park. Dr. Cleveland didn't think he was hurt and sent him home. He started to hurt in the stomach and they found out his stomach was all torn to pieces. I think they could have saved him today. Gwen was just a baby. Ed was in the Navy on a submarine. His submarine was pinned down in Tokyo harbor for several days. He also served in the, Mississippi Legislature as a Representative for 16 years. Ed was good to visit the older people. He would visit Mrs. Vance and go get Millicent Walker and take her to church when she was hardly able to go.

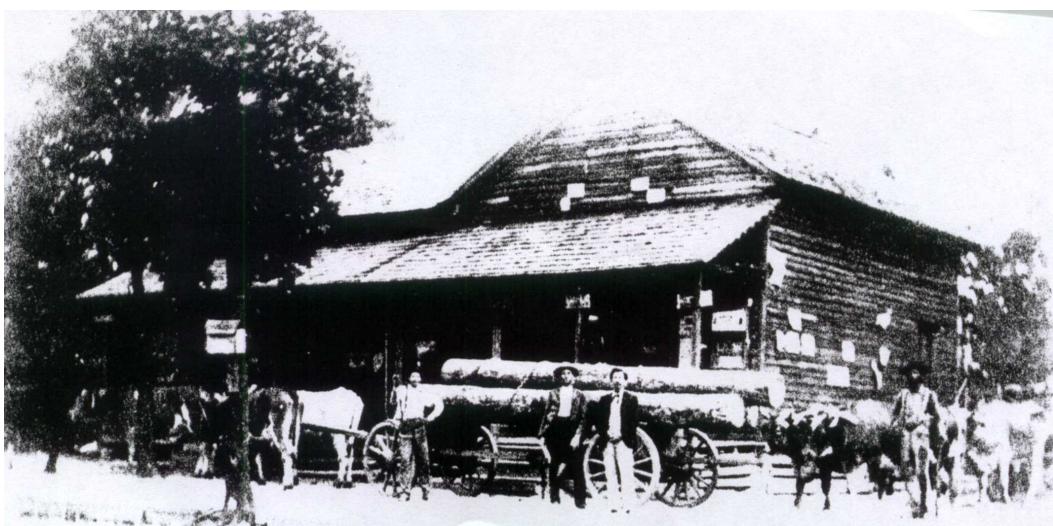
Malcolm: George Weatherford married Nettie Hamrick and they had three children and then she died. All of them came back to Grandpa's to stay with him. Uncle George came back and married Aunt Mag and she raised the three older children and three of her own.

Mr. Winstead up at House, Mississippi had a "Rolling Store" and he had anything on it. Frying pans and buckets, etc. would bang and rattle as he drove. You could hear him coming. He would stop and roll the sides up and you could buy your groceries. You could trade with your eggs for groceries or sell them and make a little money. My mother used to do all her trading that way. We just lived a mile from a store, but she always enjoyed standing around that truck and buying her groceries. He would have a bag of sugar if you wanted a pound he would scoop it out in a sack and weigh it on the scales that hung from the back of the truck. You didn't have to buy a five pound bag of sugar. Everybody got a twenty-five pound bag of Red Bird flour. That's because you ate biscuits and molasses for breakfast every morning. If you ran out of flour you ate cornbread for breakfast. You usually arranged to have flour.

Lucille: Mama would bleach fertilizer sacks and make a dress. Then they had printed sacks and we made blouses and dresses if you could get enough of the same sack. Sometime you see 4-8-4 printed on the back of shirts and pants. Mama made sheets out of fertilizer sacks and she was glad to get them because this was during the Depression and it was hard times.



Doerner Planner and Sawmill. Owned by G. W. Doerner in Collinsville, MS on Church Road. Near the present house of Mrs. Pauline Brown, recently deceased.



Doerner General Merchandise. Owned by G. W. Doerner. On the site of Donald Belvin's present home on Highway 19.

"PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE"

Informal Essay

1991 College Assignment

By Lynette Mayatt Odom

The decision to be a teacher was one of joining the family business. My family has included principals to cafeteria workers, with many teachers in between. At earlier times, I've had other aspirations, a veterinarian or a biologist. The factors that influenced me to teach were not unique.

I was born in Mobile, Alabama. When I was three months old, my parents and I moved to Martin, Mississippi, where I lived until the day I got married. My childhood was one I considered perfect. I can only hope my own children have as great a childhood as mine was. Growing up in the country and coming from a family with "bunches and bunches" of cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents was wonderful. Most all of my mother and father's families lived in the same area. So as a youngster most of my playmates were cousins. Since most of my cousins were boys, my favorite memories are playing cowboys and Indians in the pasture and hide-and-go seek in the barn. We spent the summers swimming in creeks, climbing in trees, and riding three wheelers in the woods.

My mom and dad were the best parents. They shared the perfect marriage. I don't remember any fights and only one disagreement. Their love and marriage were greater than any I have ever seen before. My mother is a sixth grade teacher at West Lauderdale, and my father owned and operated a gas station/hardware store in Collinsville. We always did activities as a family. My parents have been a strong motivational force in my life.

During my senior year my father was diagnosed with colon cancer. The next four years were filled with operations, treatments, and therapy. Through all of his struggles, he never once questioned God; his faith never wavered. He passed away July 28, 1990.

While I was attending Meridian Community College my freshman year, I met Bobby Odom. Bobby was a junior at MSU Meridian. He was working towards a degree in Business Management. At that time I was still undecided as to which way I was headed. All I knew was that I was finally in college and intended on enjoying it. As our relationship progressed, we became engaged. I knew I had to make some decisions. Though there was no "big one" to be made, I knew what I wanted to be.

Bobby and I were married on November 10, 1989. I feel as though I'm a very lucky individual to have had such special parents, and to be married to a wonderful man. Bobby stands behind my decision to go into education. In fact, he's stood behind all of my decisions. We've been married for over two years now, and it's been super. We have the most beautiful baby girl, Katie Lynn. Katie's nearly six months old now and changing every day.

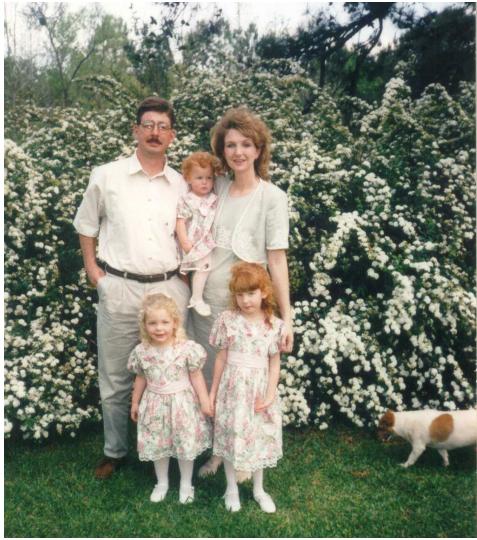
I've never had to go through any hard times or great struggles to be where I am now. The hardest thing I've had to face was the fact that my father was dying. But, I believe I was somewhat prepared for that. I loved my father and knew that he loved me, there was nothing missing in our relationship. I try to be like him, because he was so strong.

With all that's going on in the world today, outside our happy homes, I just wonder if there will even be a future to worry about. These are scary times. How does my future influence me? I guess, (considering all that's possible in the near future), we should make the most of what we have today. We are so lucky to have the things we have in the United States. The recent crisis in the Persian Gulf has been a reality check for me. I think I often take things for granted. We all are now threatened with the uncertainty of what our future will be like.

What influences us to do what we do? Our past, present, and future aspirations influence us. From my past, I have had the guidance and motivation of family. My mother pushed me through school to do my best. My father pushed me to be my best. My present is established as a wife, mother, and student. Along with a husband and daughter, that I love very much, I am working towards a goal I've always wanted. The future? Who knows what the future will bring?

Addendum: by Jeffrey Mayatt, Lynette's mother.

How little did we know of what the future would hold! Lynette, who was so full of life, was diagnosed with cancer in 1997 and died in 1999 at the age of 29.



1st row: Abbie, Katie

2nd Row: Bobby, Maddie, Lynette

LYNETTE'S TESTIMONY

Lynette Odom's Testimony Prior to Her Death in 1999

I want to start my tale with the day I found out I was going to have my third child. I am ashamed to admit that finding out about my third pregnancy was not one of my greatest days. At the time, Katie was three and Abbie was only about five or six months old. When Abbie was born she started screaming and did not stop until she learned to talk and she hasn't closed her mouth since then. The last thing we needed at that point was another baby. We had just finished building our house and I was teaching. Bobby and I both wanted another child, but not this soon. We planned to wait a few years. How on earth had this happened? Well, three years later we are so thankful God knew what lay before us, because now they tell me I am unable to conceive any other children. God makes provision for us even when we don't know there is or will be a need.

My testament to you tonight is not that God has healed my body and made me whole again. The truth is I have a spot on my lung that they are uncertain about. I have a doctor who is wanting to remove the lung as a precaution. The type of cancer I have is a highly recurrent type and could show up at any time. Today, I'm cancer free, but what lies ahead only God knows. Fortunately for me I know God. Our prayer is that His will be done, whatever that may be.

Life is full of crisis situations. You may have cancer to deal with, death of a family member, marriage problems, financial problems, or heartache attached to problems a child may be going through. Being in God's will doesn't mean we will always be spared the obstacles in life. Being a Christian doesn't grant immunity to sorrow. The truth is life goes on and life is difficult to take at times. The Lord did promise that His grace was sufficient to handle all of these obstacles. He will walk with us and make provision for us along the way. I want to make certain that I give thanks to the Father for all that He has done.

I would like to share my favorite of all verses: Philippians 4:6, 7, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers. If you do this you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand."

I would like to share with you some of the provisions that the Lord made for me. My list is way too short, for I failed to list them as they occurred.

1. Within just a few days of the discovery of my malignancy, my friends had planned a benefit that raised \$16,000 in one weekend. Now understand this was done **prior** to my trip to M. D. Anderson., This money was placed in a savings account months prior to discovering the severity of my situation. The money was there long before we ever had an inclination that I would have to move to Houston for three months (which turned out to be closer to four). Divine intervention or fate? Thank you Lord.

2. The birth of our third child, Maddie, as I spoke of before. Accident? Thank you, Lord, for accidents.

3. The fact that my best friend had just recently gone back to school and got a degree in nursing. Because of her degree she has been able to go places, and be present during procedures where others would not have been allowed.

4. I was given Kim Sutherland's phone number by a friend of a friend. She just happened to have the same kind and type of cancer that I had. She suggested the doctor that I used. The day I arrived in Houston for my first appointment she just "happened" to be there for her three month check-up.

5. I had transferred to West Lauderdale and began teaching kindergarten. My assistant was Tracy Ethridge who I have grown to love over the past few years. I don't know what I would have done without her.

6. The day we went to the farm with the kindergartners was the Monday after my surgical biopsy on Friday. I was urged by everyone not to go. But, of course, I insisted that I had to go. That just happened to be the year that there were so many kindergartners they wouldn't all fit on two buses, so we had already scheduled to take the school van to accommodate the overload of kindergartners. God provided for me to go in a nice, smooth riding, air-conditioned van, rather than a bus, before we ever knew that I would be in the shape I was in that day. Fate, or Divine intervention?

7. It just so happened that Tracy's father pastored the church where Cheryl Brown attends. Cheryl just happens to work in Dr. Clay's office. After the surgical biopsy I made an appointment with Dr. Clay as a new patient. It was to be a week or so in the future. When Tracy's mama heard, she called Cheryl and within a little bit, the school office called over the intercom and told me to be at Dr. Clay's that day. Whenever I have an appointment with Dr. Clay, Cheryl sees to it that I'm in and out as quickly as possible.

8. Financial problems that most incur when fighting cancer have never been a worry. Before I knew what type or the severity of my cancer, my friends had planned a benefit. The church planned a fried chicken dinner on a Sunday after church. It was a cold day and snow was falling all around. Who would have ever thought that it would have been as successful as it was. Over \$5,000 was provided on the snowiest day of 1997 (or the last ten years for that matter).

9. You always hear about the problem people have with insurance companies during the battle with cancer. It was the representative that I spoke with at the insurance companies who have been instrumental in seeing that I was granted coverage at M. D. Anderson, even though it was not a network provider. My insurance representative at times even took all my files to her house on weekends to make sure that they were all being processed correctly. The work she did to insure that I was receiving the correct benefits was done on her time and without pay. She calls from time to time just to check and see how I am doing.

10. My home health nurse, Kathy Apperson, is one of the best nurses I've had in Mississippi or Texas. She has become a dear friend to me and my family. She goes well beyond the call of duty, time and time again.

11. I work in a school system that has supported all of my choices, and my doctors' choices wholeheartedly. They have said time and again, "We just want you to be better. Your job will be here, don't worry." Mr. Vick even told me he was trying to figure out a way to tell me I couldn't come back to work if I returned from Houston trying to tell him I was going to work.

12. The week after I was released from the hospital in Houston, My aunts and children were coming to visit. I had to rent a car for a couple of weeks until my own was brought out. Mama went to the car rental place and was just going to get a small economy car because of the expense. It just so "happened" that they were all out of economy cars and Mother would have to get a van. . . but at the economy car rate. Wow! It was a good thing, because we had two aunts, a cousin, my three daughters, my mother, and myself to cart all over Houston, Destiny, or godly intervention?

13. I was scheduled to have radiation with two of my treatments. I've never had to have the radiation.

14. When looking for a match for the bone marrow transplant, they check siblings first because they have the greatest chance of matching. There are six different factors that they examine when looking for a match. If the donor matches four of these six factors they will consider them as a donor. There is less than a 30 percent chance that a sibling will match. We talked to families that had as many as eight siblings, of which none was a match. My one and only brother was not only a match, but a perfect match. Coincidence, or had God provided for this situation?

15. Last year in November, the Supper Club started making plans for their first production. We were fortunate enough to get to perform for the youth at their Valentine Banquet. I was supposed to be leaving for Houston for the transplant just at any time. We started planning and I started praying, "Lord, if its at all possible, I sure would like to be able to be at this production." The Valentine Banquet was on Saturday, February 14; I left for Houston on Monday, February 16. Fate, or godly intervention?

Routine life actually got to the point where we lived in expectancy of God's intervention. We knew things would just workout, time and time again. God was with us each and every day in every situation. I want to share a couple of funnies-You know the Bible says that you can't outgive God. I was fortunate enough to come across a deal on pre-paid phone cards and bought two of these cards. When I returned to the apartment, I thought about a lady from Alabama who was there with her daughter who had cancer. Anyway, I gave her one of the cards. In less than 24 hours I had four phone cards that were sent in the mail by friends.

There is a loop that surrounds Houston, and the drivers on this loop go about 80, and that is in the slow lane. There are four or five lanes, and each one is packed with cars. When I was finally allowed to drive, we grimaced when we thought of traveling on this loop. I am not kidding you when I tell you that just as Moses had the Red Sea parted for him, the Lord parted the traffic on the 610 loop every time I had to get on this bypass. It really got sorta absurd-we knew, we just knew, that God would take care of us in this traffic.

Why? Why did God do these things for Lynette Odom? Because He loves me just like He loves you. All He wants from you is your love and obedience. God hears our prayers, He knows our hearts, and He feels our pain. So, when you face your obstacles, and you will, don't feel forsaken, but thankful to know God is your provider. To know that you can go to Him and He will hear you. "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.."

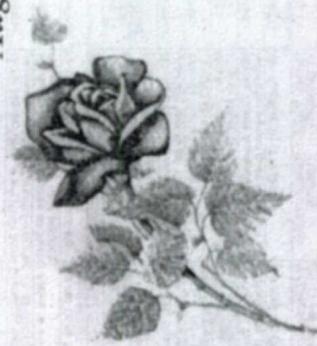
Again, thank you for your prayers, love gifts, and the privilege to be here tonight. We all have so much to be thankful for in our lives. God is good, and His people in Collinsville, Mississippi are good.

--Lynette died on April 27, 1999, exactly two years to the day from when she discovered the "knot."



LYNETTE MAYATT ODOM

Aug. 2, 1969 - April 27, 1999



*Just like a beautiful long-stemmed rose,
Her precious memory grows and grows,
Touching the hearts of all of those she loved.
And like the fragrance of that same rose,
Her love, so sweet, still flows and flows,
Filling our lives with a warmth that shows she's there.
So like a forever-blooming rose,
The beauty she shared eternally glows,
For deep in our hearts, each of us knows she lives!*

- Author Unknown -

For the past two years a battle has been raging in the Collinsville and Marin communities. My daughter, Lynette Mayatt Odom, was diagnosed with cancer in May of 1997. She passed away April 27, 1999.

Some of you have heard Lynette's testimony and know of her strong faith. Others may never have heard of her. There were no wide-spread public appeals for financial help, nor the usual publicity surrounding such a tragedy. Lynette was only 27 years old when diagnosed, married and the mother of three precious little girls. She was the "perfect mom," a kindergarten teacher, Sunday School teacher, and a loving wife and daughter. She loved life and enjoyed living.

Even though we are still shocked and greatly saddened by the loss of our beloved Lynette, we have been blessed beyond measure. First and foremost, we thank God for seeing us through this, giving her courage, comfort and assurance throughout the two years. He provided so many people and ways to make things easier for her. She never doubted that He always would.

Our extended families, the Mayatts, Odoms and Vincents have been the strongest of support groups. Without their help, we couldn't

have made it so easily. Our friends in the Martin and full-time during her last two months. Charles Williams, principal of West Lauderdale, refused to process my resignation, and with the support of Mr. Mosley and Mr. Little, granted me a leave-of absence for the remainder of this school year. Now I have had time to reconsider my decision to take early retirement.

As Lynette made the many trips to Houston and was gone for over three months for the transplant, much help was needed with the three girls. Besides grandmothers, they have been well cared for, and loved by a host of family and friends, especially their Aunt Reba, Sandra Lantz, and Tot Stop Day Care. It is unbelievable how well the girls have survived this.

Lynette had us air-convinced that she believed she would survive, but according to her journals, she has fully accepted that she might not. Instead of giving up, she was planning for the future, adding a new room to her home with much special help from Robbie Miles, planting perennial flowers with help from her Aunt Mitt, planning a shower and wedding which were compiled by her cousin, Kim Rainier. She was thinking of us and making life more bearable for us. What a daughter!

Though Lynette is gone, the blessings haven't stopped.

Her funeral was a wonderful tribute to her life. We

appreciate all who attended, sent flowers, cards, food,

and other love gifts. The many pot plants that were sent to have been used to decorate for a talent show at school and-for the wedding that she was planning. I know this pleased her greatly!

The West Lauderdale Junior High students donated 50 Gideon bibles in her memory. Many of the students have written letters that are so useful in helping the girls cope with the loss of their mother. Many students expressed how their lives have been touched by Lynette's example. May her memory live on!

The Relay for Life will have several teams participating in Lynette's memory. Money is being raised to help fight cancer, Lynette's killer. Others will continue to benefit from your "love gifts" in her memory. These are just some of the ways God has used and is still using people to see that all things do work together for good." Bless each girl who has survived this.

On behalf of Lynette's husband Bobby and his family, and her brother Mel, I can only say "thank you" again for helping to make Lynette's last two years happy ones. She never stopped counting her blessings. How can we do less? Continue to remember us in your prayers.

Jeffrey Mayatt

OKATIBBEE LAKE

By Ginger Summerlin

On September 23, 1937, the Secretary of War submitted to Congress a report on a preliminary examination of the flood problem along the Chickasawhay River and tributaries in Mississippi. Although several previous studies had been made of portions of the main river this was apparently the first consideration given to any improvement on the tributaries.

Okatibbee Lake lies on the Okatibbee Creek in Lauderdale County, about 32 miles above its confluence with the Chunky River. The project is located seven miles northwest of Meridian and is an important feature in the development of the Pascagoula River Basin. The \$8.5 million project was authorized by Congress in 1962.

Construction began on the Okatibbee project in June 1965 when a contract was awarded for the earth dam. Filling of the reservoir commenced on November 26, 1968 and the pool reached full winter conservation level, elevation 339, on February 2, 1969. The project was essentially complete at the time of its dedication on May 30, 1969.

Okatibbee Lake is a multi-purpose project with principal purposes of flood control, water supply, water quality control, management of natural resources, and recreation. The project controls the runoff from 154 square miles of the 427 square mile drainage of Okatibbee Creek. It serves as a major recreation area with excellent fishing, boating, hunting, picnicking, and nature study opportunities. The Pat Harrison Waterway District provides management of a large park on the east side of the lake and the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks operates approximately 7,000 acres on the north end of the lake for wildlife conservation.

Over the past 30 years Okatibbee Lake has seen many positive improvements and provided some of the best public recreation areas in Mississippi. Activities today include fishing, hunting, boating, camping, picnicking, skiing, swimming, and bird watching. Numerous school and civic groups come to the lake annually for informative and fun field trips and nature studies. The lake is also host to numerous events including fishing tournaments, biathlons, triathlons, and National Public Lands events.



OKATIBBEE LAKE INFLUENCES ON COLLINSVILLE

By Bill Pennington, First Manager of Okatibbee

I came to Collinsville with my wife Beverly and daughters Lucy (5) and Amy (3) on the 20th of June 1968.

The first stop we made was at the site of Okatibbee Dam which had just been completed by the Construction Division of the Mobile District of the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Bob McElreath was the Resident Engineer in charge of construction which had begun in 1965. At the dam site we saw the 6500 foot earth fill dam, the concrete intake structure and what looked to be a large field with some patches of trees still standing. This field would soon become the bed of Okatibbee Lake. There was still some work to be completed before water could be impounded. Several boat ramps and boat channels had to be completed. There was still some clearing to be done and roads to the parks were still under construction.

The second stop we made was at Clay and McPhail's store (now McPhail's) in Collinsville to inquire about housing. One of the owners, the late Mr. Lamar Clay, took time off to ride around the area and introduce us to many local residents and help us to find a house to rent on the West Lauderdale School Road.

In 1968 Collinsville was a small community with undefined borders mostly stretched up and down the two lane state Highway 19 and maybe reaching about a mile or so on either side of the highway. Most people considered Brown's Store (operated by Arnold and Eugene Brown) as the southern part of the community and Lucky Chisolm's Shell station as the northern part of Collinsville. There were also stores run by Mr. Clyde Walker, Mr. Eulus Walker and Elton Joyner's garage and service station. There was a tire shop run by the Crenshaws, Mr. Alton Houston's Barber Shop and a small store and sandwich shop in what later became the Chuck Wagon Restaurant. The Post Office was in the north end of Clay and McPhail's Store. The Collinsville Branch of People's Bank of Union was one year old. It too, was in the end of Clay and McPhail's. The old Collinsville School was being used for a local industry. There were three churches; The Collinsville Baptist (now First Baptist), The Church of God (now First Church of God) and the Collinsville Methodist (now Collinsville United Methodist). West Lauderdale School had only been in existence for a few years. Other than that it was just a small community with what I would estimate as about one fifth of the population that is here today. The people in this small community really took us in and made us feel right at home from the start.

Work at the reservoir on the roads, ramps and clearing continued through out the summer and fall of 1968 and was finally completed in November. The flood gates were closed on November 28th and the lake began to slowly fill. A funny side note on the date of the gate closing was that Mr. Clayton Poole had asked that his agriculture class be allowed to attend the "ceremony". Well, they came and along with a reporter from the Meridian Star and my family. I failed to invite the local politicians and dignitaries. Some of them were offended.. I didn't realize that this was such a big deal. In June of 1969 the project was dedicated and all the politicians were invited. The late Senator John C. Stennis was the featured speaker.

By early February 1969, with winter rains, the lake had filled to its winter pool level of 339 feet above mean sea level. By late April the lake was at its summer level of 343 msl.

That first spring and summer brought hoards of people to the lake even though there were few facilities for recreation. People came in all sorts of boats some very nice and some not so sea worthy. Some how we made it through that first summer without anyone getting seriously hurt or worse. By fall of 1969 fish started to bite and people began catching lots of bass, bream and crappie. Some of the residents of Collinsville that had never fished before bought boats and started fishing. For the next few years fishing was outstanding as it usually is in new lakes. Bass clubs were formed in Collinsville, Meridian, Union and other towns in the area. The head quarters for the Collinsville Bass Club was unofficially at McPhail's store where fisherman came by to weigh their catches and do a little bragging. Maybe even a little stretching of the truth.

In 1970 the East Mississippi Sportsman's Association was formed and they put on a fishing tournament at the lake that drew fishermen, young and old, from all over the state. This tournament is still being held today although the rules have changed to just include bass fishermen.

Also about 1970 the Pat Harrison Waterway District built a campground on the east side of the lake at what is now known as Okatibbee Water Park. The same year a private group leased an area in the Water Park and constructed a Marina and Motel. This facility was operated by that group for several years until a fire destroyed their main marina building and they went out of business. Pat Harrison W. W. D. Operated the facility on a very limited basis for about twelve years. It was then leased to a private individual from Tuscaloosa and named Captain Bob's Marina. He moved it to its present location on the west side of the lake. Capt. Bob operated it for several more years and sold it to Mr. Joe Killebrew who named it Coves Nest Marina. Mr. Killebrew has made a successful business out of the Marina and provides a valuable service to the boaters that use the lake.

During the early seventies there were few other facilities on the lake, but people came to the lake in droves. Many people preferred to camp, picnic and swim in the undeveloped areas. At this time the Pat Harrison Waterway District was responsible for development and operation of most of the recreational areas around the lake including Collinsville, Twiltley Branch, Gin Creek and Pine Springs Parks. Their money apparently dried up by the late seventies and they relinquished their control of these parks and requested the Corps of Engineers to take them back. With a low budget and only four employees it took several years for the Corps to begin to upgrade and get into full gear operating the parks. During the early eighties the Corps began developing facilities at all of these parks. Though most of the planned development is completed today there is an on going program to keep the facilities up.

There was a period during late seventies and early eighties when the parks were taken over by some rather undesirables. It took a law enforcement contract with Lauderdale County to get enough enforcement to control this matter. That, along with some control gates and other measures have improved the parks back to where they now have a family atmosphere.

During the early nineties the Corps was able to obtain monies to grant to the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks to develop and operate the Okatibbee Wildlife Management Area. Also about 7000 acres of land in the Pearl River basin near Philadelphia were purchased and added to the responsibility of the Okatibbee WMA. These are ongoing projects. Part of this program enabled the agencies to obtain and rear some fifteen juvenile bald eagles that were released into the wild. There are now two nesting pairs of eagles using the lake. At one time the bald eagle was on the endangered species list, but it is now off the list and making a substantial come back. Each winter the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks, the Corps of Engineers and numerous volunteers conduct a bald eagle survey. Some years as many as ten individual eagles have been sighted. There are also surveys for song birds, water fowl and even alligators.

Over the years there have been many special events held at the lake. Several organizations have conducted various types of fishing tournaments from the East Mississippi Sportsman's Association, mentioned above, to the Lauderdale County Catfisherman's Association, crappie thons and many other bass tournaments, some with over a hundred boats participating. The St. Jude Run sponsored by Riley Hospital was held for about ten years. There were lots of local participants and several thousand dollars were donated to the worthy St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Fleeta Mills was the spirit behind the St. Jude run. The Mississippi State Championship Triathalon is held each year in June. Participants from as far away as Texas have participated in this event. There have been Boy Scout Jamborees with as many as three hundred scouts camping at the lake. For several years the Collinsville Lions Club along with the American Power Boat Association sponsored some world class boat races at the lake. One year they had the national championships here. There have been walkathons, pop concerts, rock concerts, hot air balloon races, wedding ceremonies at the picnic pavilions, on boats and even in a hot air balloon, Baptisms and tent revivals. For several years the Coves Nest Marina sponsored Christmas on the Lake, where lighted boats paraded in the dam area and were observed by hundreds of people. There is an on going program sponsored by the Lauderdale Keep America Beautiful Commission and the Corps where each fall there is a litter cleanup of all the shoreline and the roads approaching the lake. A very special event that continues is the Easter Sunrise Service that is sponsored by churches in the community.

The population living in the lake area has increased many fold. I think our fine West Lauderdale School system has had much to do with the increase, but surely Okatibbee Lake has had an influence too. When you look at that strip up and down Highway 19 that I described in the beginning as not much more than a wide spot in a two lane road, you'll now see a modern four lane highway and so many changes. As you enter Collinsville from Meridian there is a Superstop on the right.

We a now have two doctors clinics , modern convenience stores. a large boat and sports center, Kinard Marine, Coves Nest Marina, Webster Electric, the Hospice Center, a garden shop, Turbeville's Auto Parts, Quality Auto Sales, Mikes Spears Garage, Deen's Garage, David's Signs, The Country Craftsman, Mike's Tires and Used cars, Lucky Chisolm's Service Station and Tire in a modern building, McPhail's Food Center and Mr. Discount Drugs owned by our pharmacist, Donnie Scrivner, Collinsville Hardware, The Stitching Post, a laundry mat, the Cottage Beauty Shop, Doug Scitzs' Barber Shop, J and J Construction, Collinsville Mini Storage and an insurance company to name a few. There are now two full service banks in Collinsville. Union Planters which evolved from People's Bank and Commercial Bank. Both are housed in modern Buildings on Highway 19. There is also a shopping center to the east of 19 containing new Piggly Wiggly, a Dollar Store, a quick lube, a day care center and a Mexican Restaurant, Chevron/Subway. Adjacent to the shopping center is the New Collinsville Post Office and a recently formed church. Several small subdivisions have been established in the area and one especially large one, the Lake Ross Collins Subdivision which has a large lake and several hundred houses.

This has been a wonderful place to raise our family and now our grandchildren. There has been much progress and lots of growth, but as one that is becoming an old timer here, I hope Collinsville can still keep its rural flavor.

EMMA & BUD PHILLIPS FAMILY

By Clydene Phillips Chisolm

Evelyn, Bernice, Clydene, Doris, Genell, and Merline were the six girls, there were no boys in our family. We girls did everything. These were the depression years and our clothes were made from feed sacks, and some from fertilizer sacks. On Sundays we put them on and were dressed as well as the next person. We always went to church at Pine Forest. We walked everywhere we went. Sometimes Mr. Jim Foster came by and let us ride in his buggy. Those were the days.



**Evelyn, Bernice, Clydene,
Doris, Jenell and Merlene.**

DESCENDANTS OF THE POWELL, SWEARINGEN, MOORE & MCKEE FAMILIES

By Daughters of Morgan and Willie Lou Powell, Amanda Stewart and Mary Lou Hutchinson

Descendants of Morgan and Willie Lou Powell are still living in this area. Amanda Lee Powell married N. Scott Stewart. They had four daughters. Pamela Kaye married Billy Carter. She is buried at Pine Grove Cemetery. Martha (Marcy) is married to James Oliver Joyner. They have two children, Brad and Brooke. Lisa Ellen is married to Allen Dewayne Todd. Their two children are Joshua and Tiffany. Josh is engaged to Leah Bouie and Tiffany is married to Bryan Griffith. Karen Lee is married to Danny Lee Todd. They have two children, Keri and Danny.

Mary Lou Powell married Willie Lee Hutchinson. They had four children - Deborah Lynn, Willie (Bill) Morgan, Ralph Murray, and Krisit Lou. Infant daughter, Deborah is buried at Pine Grove Cemetery. Bill is married to Jeanine Alexander. He has two children, Beverly and Brian. Kristi is married to Paul Justin Alexander.



Willie Lou, Morgan, and Amanda Lee Powell.



Mary Lula Moore McKee, Mary Lou, and Amanda Lee.



Amanda, W. R. & Amanda Lee

Morgan told many stories about school in the early days, including coaxing a horse into the one room school and disrupting class. One of the students picked him up and ran with him to save him from his mother. Not being old enough to attend school, Morgan had plenty of time to play with the horse. What he could not think of on his own, the older boys were willing to give him ideas. Even when he was not guilty, he paid the price. He always said he got a "paddling" when he was only standing there watching the fight.

Amanda Swearingen started teaching school in one room schools in various locations in Lauderdale County finishing her 48 years at Collinsville. In one of her first years of teaching, she taught Will Powell to whom she was later married for 57 years.

In early school days, bus contracts were awarded by bid for the school year. These buses were individually owned and operated. W. R. Powell drove a school bus for many years. He kept the bus busy on Saturdays with trips to Meridian, parking at "Country Corner," near Rainer's Drug Store. The trip rate was 25¢ one way or 50¢ there and back.

On one of these occasions, "Miss Amanda" did not get back to the bus by designated departure time so W. R. left without her. He returned for her as soon as all passengers were back home. The unlucky grandchildren were spending the night with them and it was volcanic. The poor man moved to every bed in the house trying to escape his wife's wrath. Never again did he leave Amanda in town.

In earlier years, Amanda hitched her horse to the buggy, plopped in her son, Morgan, drove to school. Morgan remembered that on these trips his mother and Mrs. Irma Blanks, long time Collinsville postmistress, would meet. It seems that their conversation was non-stop from the time they were within hearing until they were out of range.



George William McKee with his 1923 auto.



Willie Lou McKee's Class From Martin School 1932 or 1933.

Willie Lou taught at Martin during the Depression when there was no money to pay teachers. Teachers taught for several months without pay so the children could finish the school year.



Amanda Powell with a class at Collinsville School.

In looking at old pictures, we were reminded of the fun and simplicity of play in yesteryears. One picture was of a dog fastened by a chain to the little red wagon in which a toddler sat being guided by an older playmate. Fun games remembered were swinging on vines and playing "Shelia of the Jungle," walking hand over hand across the barn hall with hay underneath you if you fell, making furniture from straw for playing house, fishing for "jacks" by putting pine straws down the holes for the worms to catch, see-saws and jumping boards, and walking on a barrel as it rolled faster and faster down a hill or making ice cream. Willie Lou and Morgan Powell, and Horace Webb reportedly would make two gallons for three people with none left.



Rex May and Amanda Lee Powell

Robert Moore had a general store which we are told was the only one around for many years. It was built in the early 1900's. Willie Lou said her dad was working in the store when he was given the news of her birth. She would be 90 now.

The store, which was destroyed by a tornado a few years ago, served a purpose for many years past its days as general store. Willie Powell had a grist mill there. Then Scott Stewart, husband of Amanda Lee Powell, had a barber shop in the old store. We still have a ledger book of prices, and names of pioneer families that traded at the store.



MADGE WALKER PROVINE

As told to Rubye Harrison

Most of our family history is in our old family Bible and I don't know what happen to the old pictures. I moved to the Texas Panhandle and W. L. Jr. had the Bible rebound in leather and put in a glass case. Vickie is married to Lewis Bailey and they live in Meridian on Poplar Springs Drive. Her youngest daughter, Paige, got married not long ago. Mark's daughter, my niece, and I went to the wedding and the reception was in their back yard. My nieces, Iwalna Walker, lives in Jackson, Hazel in Quitman, Helen in Meridian in Silverleaf Manor.

I first started to school at the school next door to the Methodist church. I was suppose to be in one of Cousin Mittie Ethridge's School programs. Walter Moore and Luna Freeman had the leading roles. They had some special props and every once in awhile they were going to drop me down in a barrel. Just before the program I fell and hurt my head and I missed going and didn't get to show off. I remember I was in a one room school and Cousin Erma was my teacher then. I can just see Thad Carpenter bring some little old gift and I was sitting on a bench in the back and he came by and handed me the gift as he was going out to recess. Cousin Erma saw him and she just smiled.

I don't remember when the new school was built but Dulica Beeman, she married Wilbur Snowden, was one of the teachers and Allie Houston was my first grade teacher. During recess we would go and rake leaves across the road and make play houses by making an outline of a house.

Time has changed. The clothes the children wear now we wouldn't get out of our room let alone the house. I am old fashioned. Their dresses are too short and slit up to the hips. I think we enjoyed our entertainment better than the children these days. They have too much and they don't enjoy what they have. We played crack the whip, I was always the tail end of it. Drop the handkerchief, jump rope and set on the floor and wear my fingers out playing jacks. We would go home with one of our friends, stayed up and parch peanuts and have fun playing Blind Man Bluff and that sort of thing. That was our entertainment back then. We didn't have a music box but you had a good time and didn't miss it. We enjoyed it more.

We didn't start dating when we were in the seventh or eight grade. I was a grown young lady, we all were before we were allowed to date.

My mother would ask Frederick and Earline Gibson's youngest boy how old some lady was and he would say, "He did not know, she was a grown young lady when I first saw her. Ha! Ha!" He was just a little boy.

Bob Provine came to Collinsville to teach chemistry and math. The first night he was here we were having a revival at the Methodist Church and he came. After church we all stood around and I met him and talked. His was the first chemistry and biology class at the school. We married in November, 1936 and went to the Texas Panhandle as a Chemistry Engineer to work for the oil company. We lived in Texas about twenty-four years then we went to Arkansas. It was there our child, Patricia Ann was born in September of 1945. Then we moved back to Houston, Texas for several years and retired and moved back to Collinsville.

My father, W. L. Walker, Sr.,donated the land for the Collinsville Methodist Church, Parsonage and Cemetery. He was one of the trustees of the existing one-room school. He was very instrumental in the initial organization of the consolidation of all the schools in the area at that time. He spent much time and effort in assisting in the success of the consolidation.

My Daddy was hard of hearing and I would say, "Papa I need a dollar" and he would say, "Huh". I would say "I need two dollars" and he would say "I heard you the first time." And just laugh. He was a mess.

RAGSDALE FAMILY

By Loyce Castle Ragsdale

In 1932 Lillie Ragsdale and her two children, Frank and Bessie, moved to Collinsville from Meridian. Mr. Ragsdale, who worked for the railroad, had died shortly before this time. Mrs. Ragsdale died in 1980.

Frank married Loyce Castle, he is now retired from Mississippi Power Company. They recently built a new home on the old original Castle homeplace on Mosley Road in Collinsville.

Bessie married William Horton. They are both retired and live in Hueytown, Alabama.

IRVIN ROBERTS FAMILY

By Faye Roberts Houston

Irvin Roberts (8-13-03 to 1-17-84) and Lozie Lee (1-27-11 to 11-22-86) were married February 23, 1928.

They lived and raised their family about 3 miles northwest from Collinsville near the Leeville community. He was a farmer and logger and she was a housewife and seamstress. She made most of the family clothing and sewed for many families throughout Lauderdale County. They raised 4 children.

The first born was a son, Ernest Tate (6-5-30 to 5-15-97). He married Nonie Covington and they had 5 children; Sonya June, Ronald Alley, Ginger Nell, Betsy Jo and Jeremy Kane.

Delphy Lynn (11-27-33) was the second born. She married Terry V. Cross and they had three daughters; Niki Lynn, Belinda Joyce and Cynthia Ann.

The third born was Shirley Joyce (9-13-35 to 2-13-00). She married Johnnie Earl Smith and they had 6 children; Manya Faye, Johnnie E., Jr., Frankie Lee, Delphy Christine (Cristy), Michael Tate, and Melinda Ann.

The fourth born was Elnor Faye (4-8-40). She married Dan Welborn Houston and they had 2 daughters; Menica Jill and Dana Faye.



Shirely Roberts Smith, Delphy Roberts Cross
Faye Roberts Houston, Tate Roberts (seated).



Irwin Roberts and Lozie Lee Roberts seated.
Delphy Roberts Cross, Shirley Roberts Smith,
Tate Roberts, and Faye Roberts Houston.

"MR RHODES"
(Lonza Narce Rhodes)

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

I guess we all can think of special people and recall remarkable stories about them, but Mr. Rhodes (or Professor Rhodes, as my dad referred to him) was anything but ordinary. I believe he lived every day of his 93 years as productively and conservatively as anyone possibly could. He was a master teacher who guided and inspired generations of students - many of them dead or in nursing homes today. When one is a genuinely dedicated teacher, there is probably no better profession - or "calling". He possessed these qualities. Those who were fortunate enough to have him as a math teacher say that it was his instruction that led them into becoming doctors, engineers, teachers, etc. At class reunions he was recognized and honored. Many would visit him in his later days when he couldn't get about well because of arthritis and angina. His memory was amazing; he could remember names of students from years ago.

Mr. Rhodes and his brother Clinton were around 5 and 2 years of age when their mother died of appendicitis. Their father, a hard-working farmer, with no formal education, lived in Newton County with his wife and two boys. After her death, he married Viola Smith who was very young. She became a wonderful mother to the two boys. Later, three other boys were born into the family - Clifton, Hebert and Herman. Mr. Rhodes (Narce) and Clinton were inspired to get their college educations and all five boys went on to graduate from college. Clifton taught Agriculture; Hebert was principal of Milton, Florida Elementary School (after his death it was named "Rhodes Elementary" in his honor) and Herman worked with Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Rhodes attended Mississippi Southern and received a master's degree in education. He always taught in country schools. He married Effie Castle and they had three daughters and one son: Jarie Rhodes Bassett Anderson, Marie Rhodes Tramel, Juanice Rhodes Talbot Freeman and L.N. Rhodes, Jr. Clinton went on to Peabody, received his Ph.D. and retired as Dean of Tampa University in Florida. He married Lessie Johnson, sister of Etna Bee (wife of Arthur Winstead.)

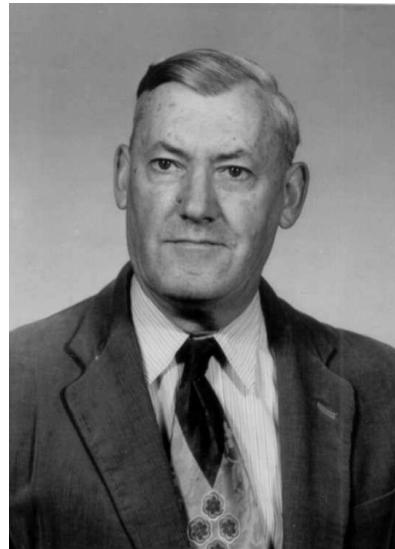
Mr. L.N. (Lonza Narce) bought land in Collinsville and maintained a farm all the years of his teaching in places like Meehan, Agricola and Beulah Hubbard. He was teaching in Collinsville when L. N., Jr. and I were 1st and 2nd grade students. He retired in 1960 and built a home in Collinsville. Mr. Walter Mixon was a good friend and farmed on halves for Mr. Rhodes. (That same year, L.N. and I were married.)

I think he contributed much to Collinsville during his years there.



Effie Castles Rhodes

SCHOOL DAYS 1951-52
BEULAH HUBBARD HIGH



L. Narce Rhodes

SCHOOL DAYS 1954-55
BEULAH HUBBARD



HERBERT RICHIE

By Mary Nell Richie Ethridge

Herbert Richie was born in 1926, in Collinsville. He had 2 younger sisters, Colleen and Mary Nell and 2 younger brothers, Donald and Dennis. His parents were Leroy and Clara Fairchild Richie, his grandparents were Robert Lee and Agnes Fairchild. His father was a truck driver and they moved to Lucedale, Ms.

Mary Nell says, "Herbert spent a lot of time with his grandfather. Since I was only 10 when he left for service, I have only a few memories. I recall when we were in the field, supposedly stacking corn stalks to burn, my father came to check on us and Colleen told him that I was not helping. He pulled my cotton panties (probably made from flour sacks) down and spanked me. After father left the field, Herbert took a corn stalk and whipped Colleen."

"One Christmas Eve night, I woke up in the middle of the night and went to check on Santa Claus. I found Herbert under the Christmas tree eating Santa's cookies and drinking his milk. My Mother intervened and put out some more cookies and milk. I remember another Christmas when Herbert gave me a doll and a wagon, both of which I still have."

The family later moved to Hattiesburg, Ms. Herbert had a girl friend from Laurel, Ms., who later shared some of her pictures of Herbert with our Mother.

When Herbert turned 18, he registered with the draft board. Not long after that he was called and was sent first to Camp Shelby, then to another camp for a couple of weeks, and then he was sent overseas.

The family, along with grandfather, moved back to Collinsville. In 1945 the family received word that he was Missing in Action. They never told his Grandfather Fairchilds, who died a little later. Several years later when the war was over, his family received a letter from a German family saying that they had found his body and given him a Christian burial. The Army was notified and his body was brought back home to Collinsville and he was buried in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

Dessau, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany
June 6, 1947

My Dear Madam Richie,

Receiving this letter you will be filled with strange expectations and you will find that it will give you some explanation of what happened to your son Herbert. Only now we have received your address and we do not hesitate any longer to give you the news even though it will be very painful.

Last year in September in forest surrounding our town while looking for some mushrooms for our daily food, we found a dead American soldier, who had given his life in the battles which have taken place here. My husband has found certain personalities and found out that it was Private Herbert Richie, M-34914257, Hattiesburg. After we had notified the police department on the locality, then my husband decided to take some of the wood that we had gotten out of the forest for our own use, to make a coffin for your son. Ver Dear Madam Richie, we did everything we could to give your son a last well deserved place of rest. After we had buried him in our small cemetery, we swore as it would be possible to us to find out where his family were so we could tell them that here in our small village cemetery, we have buried your son as a friend of ours, and as a Christian man. Even though this news will move you very heavily and that perhaps this news has taken from you your last hope, then you can perhaps be assured that we have taken care of his grave.

Only a few days ago we learned from an American Officer, who has come over here to see us, that your son will soon be brought back to America and so we give him our quite thought along on his last voyage.

Very Dear Madam Richie, we would be very pleased if you could acknowledge this letter of ours so that we could find out that this letter has reached its destination. In acknowledgement of letter, it will really be a joy to us if we could see through the lines that you think well of us in Germany.

**Respectfully,
Fredrick Henze**

"BLUE STAR-- TO GOLD"

World War II has ended for Mrs. Clara Richie of Collinsville.

The United States War Department has advised this Lauderdale County Matron that her son, Pfc. Herbert Max Richie, who has been reported missing in action since April 16, 1945, is dead.

The young Private First Class, answered the call of the Great Commander just a few days before his nineteenth (19) birthday.

For three years, Mrs. Richie's hopes, her prayers, were that some how, some where, her boy was alive. Reported missing, without a trace, Mrs. Richie has waited anxiously and fearfully.

Then, the blow - a message with its dreaded contents from the Federal Government.

The Collinsville Matron, in her bereavement has a combined consolation. Pfc Richie gave her nineteen years of happiness, pride and companionship. This young man proved one of Collinsville's finest. His daily life at home, at school, in the community, was of the highest type. When he went into the Army, his record ranked with the best. Death in the Devastating War may have removed the fine soldier, but the Grim Reaper in it's exacting power cannot take away from Mrs. Richie, her relatives, her friends, her family, and the Collinsville Community, the memory of Pfc. Herbert M. Richie. His existence imprints on the people of the community will never fade. A small headstone at the grave of Pfc. Richie in the U.S. Military Cemetery in Nearville-en-Condop, Belgium. But a grander more enduring and more expressive monument invisible to the eye, but never the less visionual by all who knew the young trooper will stand forever in the Collinsville Community, never forgotten of

"PFC. HERBERT MAX RICHIE"

NOTE: Pfc Herbert Max Richie was the great grandson of Robert Jackson and the great, great, great grandson of Robert, one of the five brothers who first came to Mississippi.

BRENDA BARBER ROGERS STORY

By Jerry Ethridge

In 1951 the Barbers (Al, Bonnie, and Brenda) moved to Collinsville. We met many wonderful people through the Collinsville Baptist Church and Al's love for music, and later on through the Collinsville School. We had two other children, Teresa Gail and Michael Clayton.

Brenda married Kenny Rogers and they have two children, Wade and Sacia. Teresa married Vic Wedgeworth and they have two children, Bryan and Keith. Mike married Charlene Fultz and they also have two children, Clay and Nathan. The Barbers live on the old Herrington Place in Collinsville. We were a very happy family along with Brenda's in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Rogers of Bailey.

Brenda was employed as a rural mail carrier from the Bailey Post Office and was on her route as usual, waving and smiling at her customers. She came upon some men who were burglarizing a Kemper County home. They abducted and shot her. Authorities said they believe the motive for the killing was to obtain gas. The men had run out of gas after burglarizing the house. All three of the men are in custody. State and local authorities said they are confident of a conviction due to overwhelming evidence.

The flag hung at half-mast at the Bailey Volunteer Fire Department and black ribbons adorned mailboxes in this rural community. In time the flag will be hoisted to the top of the pole again, the ribbons will fade, but Brenda Rogers will never be forgotten. There were over 3000 people at her funeral.

One of her childhood friends remembers there was only a driveway between their homes, and they would meet halfway between the houses. And she says that is the way she remembers her, waiting for me in the middle. I have such fond memories and that I will see her again one day, waiting for me "in the middle" of heaven.

Another childhood friend remembers riding bikes, playing dolls, playing dress up, spending the night with each other. We shared everything from clothes, dolls, and summer fun that can be found in such rural areas. Both sets of parent were wonderful and godly who made sure we were always in church. She will never know how many lives she greatly touched and what a witness she and her parents were to Collinsville. Knowing she is at rest with our Lord is about the only comfort we can find in this situation. She will always be remembered for her kindness, Christian love and her willingness to serve.

The postmaster said, "Brenda was like family. The whole office was real close. She was a real personable type person. She was the type of person that just made your day. She had a lot of friends. You don't have 540 customers out there and not have a lot of friends. Her customers on the mail route just loved her. She was a pillar in the community and she's definitely going to be missed."

Her co-workers and friends said she was such a good person and good friend. She was fun to work with, too. We thought she was so special because she sang on TV with "Danny and the Dudes." She loved Paul Harvey — listened to him on the radio.

She had two beautiful children. She raised them right, and they are wonderful human beings. She also had three precious grandchildren. Wade has one daughter Amanda Kay (Manda), and Sacia has two children, Drake and Jala Ree. She loved her family. They were the center of her life.

Brenda, we will remember and love you always.



HOW I REMEMBER COLLINSVILLE

By Mary Evelyn Dollar Rutherford

I was born Nov. 29, 1933 in the original house that the founder of Collinsville built. Dink Collins gave the land for Collinsville School. He was the father of Ross Collins who was a congressman for 20 years.

My parents were William Baker Dollar and Carrie James (Gressett) Dollar. This was my mother's second marriage, having 4 girls and 2 boys by the Gressett marriage. This was my father's first marriage, and I was the only child he had. Three of the Gressett children lived with us. When I was eight, my mother came to school and asked me if I wanted to go to Meridian with her. I asked if Daddy knew and she said "no", so I didn't go. When I got home, Daddy said he thought Mother had left us, as all of her clothes were gone. She later wanted to come back, but Daddy said "no". They never divorced, but Daddy continued to give her part of his check.

My father rented the Collins house and later bought it with 20 acres of land from Mrs. McBeath, sister of Ross Collins. The house had a large wooden post across the front porch. I lived on this property for the first twenty years of my life. My daddy and Aubry Skelton tore down the original house and built another house, with the best lumber. This house still stands on Collinsville Road. The Susan Drive runs on the side of the property and is a part of Ross Collins Lake subdivision, also the shopping center was built on part of the 200 acres owned by Ross Collins.

Mr. Collins was an attorney in Meridian, and had a lake stocked with fish. He enjoyed feeding the fish with bread, He was a friend of my father.

I remember when Collinsville didn't have telephones. One of the first was in Duluth Snowden's home, on the wall with a crank. One could use it in case of emergency or death. When Collinsville got electricity, Mr. Lamar Clay opened a store that had ice cream and fresh meat. Before then, we only had fresh meat when we killed a hog, or when the ice man came by selling blocks of ice. When we could buy ice, we could make ice tea and ice cream.

I lived in this house, on this land for twenty years until I graduated from high school.

In the summer of 1953, I went to work at Marks Rothenberg. We didn't have a car, but I was able to get transportation to work and back. In 1954 I moved to Meridian with my Daddy, when he sold our house. There I met my husband to be, and I married Hubert Rutherford from Nellieburg on Oct 16, 1954. We lived in the Tibbets Apartments which now is Merrehope, for a year. I recently took my daughter to Merrehope and showed her the part we lived in. We moved to another house on 31st Ave. and later moved to the Charles Mosby home on Hwy 19 North. Mr. Mosby owned Mosby Milk Co. and was my husband's employer. I was still working with Marks Rothenberg (for 10 years). On Aug. 1st, 1956 we had a daughter and on Oct. 7th, 1960 we had a son. We still lived in the Mosby home until 1963 when we built a home on (King Road, Middlebrook Road) now Okatibbee Dam Road after the reservoir was built.

In 1967, my husband felt the Lord was calling him to preach. He received his license to preach in 1967 from the United Methodist Church. Our first church was in Zero, Long Creek Community, where my husband had Pleasant Hill United Church and Spring Hill Methodist Church. We lived in the parsonage for 2 years. My children went to Clarkdale school for 2 years. Before then, they went to West Lauderdale School, with the exception of our daughter's first year at Oakland Heights School. We then moved to Jones County (2yrs.), George County (3 yrs.), Leake County (1 yr.), Harrison County (5 yrs.) , and then back to Jones County (1 yr.), and Neshoba County (1 yr.). We also lived at the Methodist Children's Home (2 yrs.) and he had 4 churches in Jeff Davis County.

We moved back to our home on Okatibbee Dam Road in Collinsville when my husband retired. He didn't preach for a year. Then in 1995, he was called to his home church, Bethel, on Old 8th St. Road, and is still pastor there.

ACCC HONORS DR. SHARP

**From: Methodist Protestant Faith
11-19-1964**

**The American Council of Christian Churches, meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, October 30, passed
the following resolution in memory of Dr. F. L. Sharp:**

"On Sunday, August 9, 1964, at the age of 76, one of the most ardent supporters of the ACCC, Dr. F. L. Sharp, was discharged from the ranks of the 20th Century Army of Christian soldiers by the article of death. His discharge was granted by the captain, the Lord Jesus Christ, in recognition of his many fruitful and victorious years of service to both church and country.

Dr. F. L. Sharp as a young man in his twenties began his half-century career as a pastor in his beloved denomination, the Methodist Protestant Church. The esteem with which he was held in the hearts of his people was evidenced by his 38 years of consecutive service as pastor of his home church, Schamberville Methodist Protestant Church, Schamberville, Ms.

For several months prior to his death he could have said with meaning the words of Paul found in 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 'For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not for me only but unto all them also that love his appearing.'

Dr. F. L. Sharp served his church with distinction as the General Conference President, as Editor of *The Methodist Protestant Faith* and as an Executive Committee member of both ACCC and ICCC.

Perhaps his greatest contribution was his saving the Methodist Protestant Church in 1939 from the Methodist Union Movement.

Other outstanding achievements were: (1) bringing into the ACCC the only old line denomination in the movement at that time; and (2) his subsequent help in organizing the ICCC in Amsterdam, Holland in 1948.

Of all Dr. F. L. Sharp's accomplishments he seemed to cherish his role in the ACCC and ICCC very much, because it was through this means lasting and enduring friendships were made.

The ACCC, through its secretary, expresses its love, sympathy and deep appreciation for Dr. Sharp's service, to his family."

SMITHVILLE

By Nadine Smith Jordan

The suburbs of Collinsville is where we grew up, about 3 miles south near Brown's Store. My daddy had a brother (Ray) and his family on one side of us. And a sister (Irene Giles) on the other side. Our road is now named the Okatibbee Dam Road. It had no name and was a dirt road in my childhood.

Do you know how it feels to be the third daughter born to a couple that you believe want a son. Through no fault of theirs, I believed my mother, Earline, and daddy, Earl, would have liked to have a son by the time girl number three came along. My oldest sister (Vivian) was so sweet and so smart and I was told that often by my teachers. My next sister (Carol) was beautiful and I was told that often by everyone!!!! She was shy and never acted like I am the beautiful one and you are the ugly duckling. For that reason we are very close still today.

Anyway I decided I had to make a name and a reputation for myself. I found that I could make people laugh and that was so much fun. So I became the jokester to those who would laugh at my dumb jokes. My father and mother both were given a wonderful sense of humor and I believe they handed that down to all of us children. We grew up very poor, but those days not anyone had a whole lot, so for the most part, we did not know how poor we were. We might not have had a lot of material things, but we had so much fun. I remember that my daddy made everything fun. He worked for a roofing company and it was really hard work. He also farmed. He called it his garden, but it was FIELDS. He had enough to feed all of our large family and even sell the extras.

When I was 3 years old, finally a son (Larry) was born. The older children had to work in the fields (garden). I always felt like the younger ones got cheated because they never got to learn about working in the hot fields.

Then two more girls (Linda and Cathy) came along to join our family. Then came another son (Curtis). When Curtis was a baby, Vivian was having severe headaches and was very frail. She was carried to the University Hospital in Jackson on the last day of October in 1955 and died on December 1st. She had surgery for a brain tumor and died shortly after the surgery ended. I remember we were at my aunt Irene's house when mother and daddy got home that night. I was 12 years old at the time and did not realize what it had done to my parents to lose their oldest child. Until just a few years ago I never heard my mother mention Vivian without crying. Having children of my own and even grandchildren now, I realize what a loss this must have been for my parents.

After Vivian passed away, another girl (Patsy) was born to our family. So mother and daddy had 8 children all totaled. What are the odds that twins could marry and have 8 children and never have a set of twins? My parents beat those odds. Daddy had a twin brother and mother had a twin sister. Mother's twin died at birth because the midwife cut the cord after one was born and did not know there was another baby. How sad to me! That would not happen today.

As children, we worked hard during the day, but when dark came, we played hard. We had all kinds of made up games to play. My cousin from the city (James Lynch) would come out in the summer and stay with us. He thought it was fun to live on a farm and have a lot of sisters and brothers, because he was an only child. We really enjoyed his visits. He was the only person in the world who envied us poor folks. We played hide and seek, kick the can, stealing chickens. I remember my Aunt Irene would invite us all down to her house on Saturday nights to play games. She would make candy and boil a foot tub full of peanuts. She played with us just like she was a child too.

My grandpa Smith (Louis Calvin Smith) had a stroke before I was born, so I never knew him for the real comical, intelligent man that he was. He served as Justice of the Peace for about 8 years. He built and operated a grocery store in our community for a number of years. My cousin Louis Ray Smith told me this story about when grandpa was JP; one man brought charges against another man for beating him up. And grandpa let the man go free. After they left Louis Ray said my daddy said to grandpa "why did you let him go, you know he was guilty". Grandpa said, "Well, he said he wasn't".

Louis Ray was the oldest one of my grandpa's grandchildren. He was with grandpa when he had the stroke. They had gone to Pensacola to see my Aunt Sis. They got on a bus and went back to Mobile before grandpa went to a doctor. Louis Ray also told me that my grandpa was the best cotton farmer around, before the stroke. He said one time grandpa had bought a tract of timber in Toomsuba and it was so wet that his mules could not pull the logs out of the woods. So grandpa rented a team of 5 yokes of oxen to pull the logs. He said the oxen's bellies were dragging, the ground pulling those logs out.

When my children were growing up, I began to realize something of what my mother went through. I feel guilty that I even asked her if I could have spend the night company. With a house already full of children, mother would let me invite my three best friends (Bobbie Williams, Judy Beeman and Glenda Jackson) all at the same time.

The picture I have included in this story was given to me by Mrs. Jovah Hamrick. She taught school at Blackman and stayed with my grandparents. One day she had to punish Roy, my daddy's oldest brother, and she was afraid grandma would be mad and ask her to move out. But I am told that all grandma said was, "he must have needed it". In this picture are my daddy, his twin brother Carl, his sister Irene, his brothers Roy and Ray. Mrs. Hamrick brought me this picture when I worked at the bank in Collinsville. In just 2 short weeks she burned to death. She said the picture would mean more to my family she felt like because all of my daddy's siblings are in it, except Aunt Sis. She had already graduated. The 8th grade was as far as the school went. Roy joined the Navy when he was 17 years old and no one here ever saw him again. He wrote to my grandmother and told her he had been discharged and was leaving California. He planned to be home soon. But he never made it.

All I remember about my grandmother is that she sat by the window and looked for him until the day she died. She once told my mother that she had looked in every face she had met, thinking she would see him again one day.

My great grandparents were Christopher Columbus Smith, his wife was Elizabeth S. Davis. Some of my cousins (Lois Alawine, Pauline Harrison & Dell Giles) and my mother, still live on a part of the land that was owned by my great grandparents. Part of this property has been in the Smith Family for more than a hundred years.

I feel very blessed that I graduated at Collinsville High School just one year before they consolidated the schools. I was able to go all 12 years to the same school.

What a joy it has been to live all of my life except for 2 years in Collinsville.

Blackman School 1915-1920



1st Row: unknown, G.I. Allen, Earl Smith, Carl Smith

2nd Row: Javah Hodgins Hamrick, ?, Homer Lockwood, ?, Ray Smith, Floyd Lockwood
Roy Smith?.

Others: Bertha Lockwood, Ruby, Ola Mae, James, Rupert Beason , Leon, ?.

Not sure which is which.

3rd Row: ?, Irene Smith, ?,

Earliest Memories

By Bernice Snowden Lea

After Thanksgiving, we began thinking and planning for Christmas. It seems I remember the weather growing colder and we started looking for snow.

At school we began making decorations - for the windows and above the blackboard - paper chains from colored poster paper and crepe paper - gluing paper stars on pictures and paper trees - someone would bring a cedar Christmas tree. We would put all our decorations on it. At some point we would draw names. Christmas programs were planned for the last day of school, at which time we all gathered in the auditorium for the program and songs after which (what we'd all waited for) the presents were given out to the names that had been drawn. It was so exciting.

As Christmas drew nearer, Daddy would order things only bought at this special time of year. There were oranges, apples, tangerines, coconuts, butter nuts, pecans, hard candies, chocolates with cream centers, raisins, dried fruits, and candied fruits - it all looked and smelled so good. I loved hanging around the store and seeing the people buying things and talking about Christmas.

When Mama said it was okay, Norman, Elson, Charlotte and I would go to the woods above the pond and look for a Christmas tree. We would look for a cedar which would be growing under the pines. The wind would sound so soothing and beautiful in the pines. We would lie down on the pine straw beneath the trees and just be quiet and listen for awhile. Then after cutting our tree, we'd drag it home. Our little dog "Fuzzy" always went with us. It was such a good time - walking through the good smelling woods.

At home we put the tree up and put icicles and balls on it - put our wrapped gifts for each other under it and sit down to admire it all and talk about it all and look forward to Christmas eve.

On Christmas eve, Jim, Mama, Norman, Charlotte and I all went to the Methodist Church for singing and listening to the Christmas story and giving gifts to each other.

Then, going home and finding Santa had been by while we were at church - and there it was, the things we'd wanted - under the tree and Santa had even eaten the cookies and milk we'd left him. And that was Christmas in the 30's.

Running away - across the hollow from home to Ivadean and J.D.'s. Mama said she made me a little red coat so she could see me from the kitchen window.

Holding Mama's hand to go to and from the barn to milk a cow named "Pet" who hooked my ear - a cat named "Pumpkin" - one time riding in a wheelbarrow on the clothes to a spring in the pasture (must have been soon after moving to Collinsville) to wash clothes. (James Martin must have pushed the wheelbarrow.) We took lunch and spent the day, I think.

I remember lots of men working for Daddy - J. D. Jones, Larmar Harwell and Ben McDonald (a humpbacked black man whose back had been broken as a baby when he fell off a porch). He was short because of that but very strong through his shoulders and arms and like a member of our family - we all loved him. I remember other white men and black families about the place who worked for Daddy.

My main job was to bring in stove wood for the box in the kitchen and "kindling" around the wood pile to start fires. In cold weather, the kitchen was used a lot. We got a big new stove that had a tank to hold heated water (for bathing) and a warming closet for food kept during the day. Mama kept boarders and they would gather in the kitchen and dining room at meal times. Leatha (Ben's wife) cooked and helped out. I loved her. She taught me to iron. In summer she built a fire around the wash pot in the yard and heated the irons on the coals. Then she ironed under the trees - barefooted and squiggled her toes the whole time.

Sometime during these memories Norman became a part of our lives and then my memories included him. "Little Brother," I was taught to call him. I remember we played in our sand pile. Lamar and Jim M. were fun and played with us. We had snuff bottles tied together to make a train. Margaret, we teased mostly. It seemed to me daddy was awfully hard on Lamar & J. M. I was sorry for them if they got in trouble with daddy.

We had a well in the yard where we drew our water and we were warned always to stay away from it. "Don't ever try to look down inside because you'll see Raw Head and Bloody Bones."

We had a "slop bucket" in the kitchen where scraps from the table, cooking and extra milk were kept for the hogs. It was usually too heavy for me to carry out but sometimes I did in a bucket I could handle. In winter, on a very cold day, Daddy would have someone kill a hog - we kept several. It was an exciting and a hard day - took several people to carry out the operation. There were the different parts of meat to be prepared in different ways and lard to be cooked. That night Mama would always make "liver hash" and hot biscuits and I loved it. It took several days to get it all taken care of - the salting down and smoking took a long time and much know-how.

We had chickens and a chicken house. I would shell corn at the barn in a corn sheller or sometimes rub the ears together and feed the chickens each evening. We would gather the eggs from the nests in the "hen house". Sometimes we would find egg nests around the barn and the hay loft. At one point Mama said we could have the eggs we found around the barn to sell at the store and keep the money. Well, we about tore up the barn looking for eggs to sell. Not only Norman and me, but all our neighbor friends looked for egg nests around their homes too. Once Hazel Blanche, my cousin, was all dressed and waiting to go to town with her mother but I had wanted her to stay and play with me that day so I told her I'd found a big nest of eggs under the corn crib and if she would help me get them she could have half. She couldn't resist so we crawled under the crib (very low on the ground) and got the eggs. The result was she ruined her clean dress, got chicken mites all over her and in bad trouble with her mother who was ready to leave for town when she got back home. I made sure I didn't go near Pearly (her mother) for quite some time after that.

Another time I went to gather eggs in the hen house and couldn't quite see up into the nest. I reached my hand in to feel for eggs and a setting hen was on the nest. She pecked my hand and arm so fast it felt like a little pick and scared me badly. Needless to say, I retreated as fast as I could.

On Sundays we usually had fried chicken. Mama would catch a chicken, wring its neck, scald it in a bucket of hot water, pick the feathers off and then cut it up to cook. I was fascinated by the way she wrung its neck and the way the poor chicken flopped around as it died. (Thus the term "running around like a chicken with its head cut off.") Sometimes Leatha caught and wrung the chicken's neck for Mama. One Sunday she was in the process of catching a chicken and had a lot of trouble chasing one down. I was watching and asked her, after she'd caught one, if I could wring its neck. Reluctantly, she agreed and handed it to me. I took its neck in my hand and gave one weak wring. It felt so awful I dropped the chicken and it ran away. Leatha was plenty mad at me and I can tell you I've never had any desire to wring a chicken's neck again.

Along with chicken, our Sunday dinner usually consisted of creamed potatoes, gravy, English peas or butterbeans and/or whatever vegetables were in season, cornbread and rolls, tomatoes, pickles, banana pudding, cake, tea and milk. I loved it all. My favorite piece of chicken was the liver and I'd try to find it when the chicken was passed to me. I liked to get the "pulley bone" and pull with someone hoping my wish would come true with the short end.

We had an ice box at the house but Mama kept a gallon jug of buttermilk in the ice box at the store and Norman and I used to go get it every night. Mama would bake cornbread and we would break the hot cornbread into a glass of cold buttermilk for our supper in summer. It was so good! One night the buttermilk was forgotten and Mama sent Norman and me to unlock the store and get it. It was early night and a beautiful moon was up and lighting the way. As we came under some big trees, a man stepped out from behind the tree and said "Good evening" in a deep, slow voice. It almost scared us to death because we didn't know his voice and he was in the shadows. I can't recall if we went on to the store or back home; I think back home and Jim Martin came in about that time. We accused him of being the one who spoke to us but he denied it and we thought it was Dick Harwell but we never knew for sure who the "stranger" was.

We had a sliding hill near home. We would pile pine straw on a runway down the hill and then sit on a barrel stave holding the edge and try to stay upright. We also liked to build pine top houses on rainy days. We'd lean limbs and sticks around a tree "wig-wam" fashion and fill with pine straw thatch as tight as we could, then sit around inside and get dripped on through holes in the straw. Straw would fall on us and we'd go out and patch the holes with more straw.

We played "Gully-bug" between two banks where Daddy had dug a trench to build a dam to his pond. One was "it" in the bottom of the ditch and the others stood on top of the banks and tried to run through the "gully" without being caught.

I can barely remember this, but one Sunday p.m. Norman and I went over to the pond (we were not allowed to go) and some children were playing in the pond "swimming". We were very young. I remember Norman and I went in the water and Jim Martin (I think) found us and took us home. Mama switched us and told us again how dangerous that was. I don't remember us ever doing it again.

Before Ben married, he lived in a little one-room house at the end of the wood pile between our house and the barn. On Sunday afternoons, late, after he got back from church we used to go down to his house and beg him to tell us some ghost stories. He'd say "it's getting late - soon be dark and y'all be 'fraid to go home by yourselves." We'd promise, "no, we won't". So, he'd tell some tales and we'd never be finished and finally he'd say "I 'speck y'all better go on. I think I feel one of my fits coming on." We'd say what kinda fit?" and he'd say "you don't wanna see it" and he'd roll his eyes and we'd say okay we'd go but he'd hafta go with us home. He'd say, "I thought so" and walk to the house with us.

In late summer when the crops were "laid-by" church revivals would start for whites and blacks. Ben didn't have a car some of the times and some of those times Jim Martin took him and stayed for the services. They were only at night and I was just dying to go with them, but they wouldn't let me. One night I hid in the back of the car and when I thought we were too far to turn back, I announced myself and Jim Martin just wheeled around and took me back home. Later I did get to go. Ben and his church members reserved a back row for a few white friends. We sat quietly and I've always remembered those times. It was so stuffy and hot. They had every window and door shut and people had on coats - wool coats! Most of the older ladies wore white dresses.

I remember Will Donald and his family of 7 girls and one son (he was later killed in WW II; and Will's wife was dead). He would pass the house on Sunday in his wagon going to church. It would be hot summer, yet they'd all have on winter coats. I never could understand it. After Ben married - and that was such a surprise to me. I just never thought of Ben having a wife, but I liked Leatha. She was plumpish and jolly and laughed a lot. She and Ben moved down a road just a little ways behind our house. Daddy moved his little one-room and added a kitchen and another bedroom. Norman and I used to go down and visit a lot. Leatha was a good cook and her cornbread would smell so good just out of the oven and she would give us some.

Ben did a little of everything. One thing was to open the store every a.m. He filled the drink box and swept out the store and out front under the outside cover of the store. Daddy's orders were always to "sprinkle" down the concrete floor with a Coca Cola bottle of water so the dust wouldn't cover everything as he swept and "don't flit the broom". But inevitably, he didn't sprinkle enough and dust would fog the whole store and cover everything and Daddy would come in mad as hops. Every day it would happen.

Ben also ran the grist mill every Saturday for Daddy. We would go by and catch hot meal and eat some. When he finished Saturday night, he would be covered with meal and white as a ghost - only his eyes showing through the meal.

Ben was so good. He would help Mama milk when he could. He ate on a table on the back porch before he and Leatha married. He had an old Model A Ford car (I think) and after I learned to drive a little, he let me drive it one night down to Mr. McDonald's to deliver something from the store. I was so excited, but on the way I had trouble and wondered if I wouldn't wreck or run into some other car. The steering wheel had a lot of slack in it - several rounds and if you handled it just right (and held your mouth right) it wouldn't get out of control, but I let it get out of the right place and, Good Lord, I was turning, turning, turning and the car was just going its own way - out of control. Needless to say, it caught before catastrophe struck and I weakly got back home and never asked to drive Ben's car again.



Back Row: Norman Snowden, Sarah (Smith) Snowden, Sallie Snowden, Duluth Snowden, Margaret Snowden Tough, Richard Lea, Bernice (Snowden) Lea, Sue Snowden, Chrystine (Freeman) Snowden, Lamar Snowden, Gerry Snowden, Edna (Hirrill) Snowden, James M. Snowden, Charlotte (Snowden) Rhodes, L. N. Rhodes, Jr.
Front Row: Mark Snowden, Nancy Snowden, Chris Tough, Sarah Margaret Lea, William Lea

Back of our barn there was a level spot big enough to play baseball. Boys and girls would gather and play "Country Jake". I loved it. Once, just by that level spot, the boys climbed a tall tree on the hillside and tied a rope to a high limb and we stuffed a fertilizer sack with cotton and tied it to the bottom end of the rope for a "sack swing".

We found a tin barrel and stood on it to jump on the swing. It went a long way out over the hollow. We all enjoyed it for some time till a fuss caused some of those who had an interest in it to cut the rope and end the harmonious fun. During the time (summer) I was jumping onto the swing, I scraped my ankle on the rusty edge of the barrel and got a sore that lasted several months - though Mama soaked it each night in Epson salts water. It would look better but wouldn't heal. Finally, we went to the doctor and he said it had "proud flesh" in it and had to scrape it away. It hurt awfully bad and I still have the scar.

I loved the radio. The first one I ever saw was in a cigar box that Mr. Provine (a science teacher who boarded with us and was about Lamar's age) and Lamar built. I listened with their ear phones and heard "Amos & Andy". I also heard cousin Syble McMullan's family radio. It was a "floor model" and they invited folks to come listen. We finally got a floor model and I stayed glued to it. Norman and I listened every Saturday A.M. to "Let's Pretend" and the "Lux Radio Theater" and many others, but a favorite of all the young folks on Saturday night was the "Hit Parade". We would listen at the store, and guess which would be No. 1 of the top 10 songs of the week.

Daddy never liked for us to spend the night away from home and Norman and I wanted to spend a week with our Grandma and Grandpa Tucker. It happened that Daddy had timber being cut for his sawmill near Grandma's (but we didn't know how near) and he agreed we could spend a few days. We did all the things we liked - played in the buggy, drew water from the well with a "windlass" - different from our well which operated with a pulley - played in the barn, visited Sadie Carolyn (our cousin down the road), played on the red roadside banks and built things in the sand. Then, about two days had passed and we had done about everything there was to do. We realized we had no store to run to for cold drinks and candy - no close children to play with - and we realized we were homesick. (Grandma may have lived 7 miles from our home, but we thought it was MILES!) We began to look for Daddy, but he didn't come. Days got longer and longer and we decided Daddy had forgotten us. Just when we were plotting to walk home, he drove up one afternoon. Well - we were some happy! We never went back together.

Later, after I started to school, my cousin Dot and I would ride the school bus which went by Grandma's house. That was fun. We slept on a big puffy feather bed. When we got on it, it would be all full of air and high, but when our weight hit it, we'd sink down into it. Grandma also made blackberry wine and she'd let us have a little. We thought that was really daring because Mama never made wine of any kind or encouraged it being made or served. When we spent the night at Grandma's I was always afraid it would rain and make the roads slick and be dangerous going up and down 2 or 3 steep hills and cause the bus to slip in a ditch or turn over. I didn't know till much later why I was so nervous and afraid of muddy dirt roads (we lived on a gravel road) but Mama told me it was probably because as a baby of several months, Lamar (my oldest brother) was driving her and Margaret, Jim Martin and me to Grandma Tucker's. The roads were muddy and slick and Lamar slipped the car into the ditch and my head hit the windshield (the days before seat belts). Mama said I was very frightened and nervous over it and cried whenever we got on muddy roads afterwards and to this day I don't like unpaved muddy roads.

After we had a radio, the Joe Louis prize fights used to come on at night and several of Daddy's friends would come to listen. Daddy would get the station located and all would be in readiness for the fight. It would begin and they would be glued to the radio, but invariably the sound would come and go and a woman opera singer would come in stronger than the fight and Daddy would be so outdone. "Derned old woman! Wouldn't you know she'd pick tonight to sing." The interference usually continued off and on throughout the fight making all the listeners in a cussin' mood.

Another favorite program of Daddy and most folks was the running story once a week or maybe nightly (?) of "Lum and Abner". We all listened and one time there was a ghost on the program and though it was a joke even in the story, Norman and I were scared by it. The voice said in a slow mournful tone - "Go-back-to Bellville!" Norman and I would say it to each other as the lights were turned out in a room. One night Norman was put out with me about something I guess - anyway - I think it happened something like this: He unscrewed the light bulb or raised the string that pulled the light on (just a bare bulb) - or something so I couldn't turn the light on the usual way. So, just as I went in to go to bed (the room dark) and turn the light on, I heard this mournful sound, "Gooo back to Bellville!" and the door shut leaving me in the dark and fumbling for the light that wouldn't turn on. Then I heard Norman falling out laughing. I was so mad and scared I got on in bed and though it was a hot summer night, I covered my head and sweated because I was too scared to uncover myself. I kept hearing that ghostly sound "Go back to Bellville."

In the fall, after we began school, it would be time to pick cotton and each afternoon when school was out, we and our friends picked cotton for Daddy and we rushed home to pick cotton. Daddy paid us for what we picked and that was our "fair" money. Every fall, Mama would have to make a cotton sack for Norman and me. She'd sew strips on washed-out fertilizer sacks and we'd work hard as we could all afternoon. My best weight never exceeded 8 lbs. I don't think, and the best time came when it was quitting time and after we'd weighed and emptied our cotton into the cotton house we'd jump and play on the soft cotton. Sometimes on Sunday afternoons, we'd play on it when no one was working. Mama didn't like us to play without supervision cause she told us the sad account of a child going to sleep in the cotton and having more dumped over it and suffocating.

Ginning time was very exciting! Daddy would have everything ready in the fall and trucks would haul the cotton to the gin. Some would bring it in wagons. I loved to get in the trucks or wagons as the cotton was being fed into the suction and get the "feeder" to let me put my hand under the edge of the suction pipe and feel it pull my hair up in it. Daddy didn't allow us at the gin on our own - had to be with some adult, but I would slip over when I could and J. D. Jones, Larmar Harwell and Ben (the main workers) would take me around but caution me to get back across the road before Daddy came around.

The gin ran day and night during the busy season, but never on Sunday. So, on Sunday afternoons we would play "jump the cotton" on the ginned bales at the side of the gin. Most bales would be lying flat but some would be upright and when we jumped on them they would wobble and shake and seem more dangerous. We played chase from one bale to the other.

One night in the winter, when the gin was closed up, we saw a light in the gin and Daddy made Jim Martin go to investigate. I don't know how J.M. felt about that, but he went and returned to report a "hobo" there to spend the night. The hobo had been smoking and made the light. Daddy was afraid he might burn the gin down. It was a cold night and Daddy found another place for him to sleep in the cotton seed house in our back yard so the man dug down in the cotton seed and spent a warm night.

Daddy was always bringing in men who stopped by the store walking through the country (if they seemed honest) and inviting them to supper, or dinner. I always loved it when he brought someone in. (Mama never had any warning.) We would sit around the table or the fire and listen to his stories of why he was walking, where he'd been and where he was going.

One Christmas, Norman, Elson and I got bicycles. Norman and I had to share the one we got. They were Schwinn bikes and ours turned out to be black. Elson's was red. We peeped early that Christmas Eve and saw Cousin Howard and Daddy unloading them from the Commodity House. They got them mixed up. We should have gotten the red one and Elson the black but we never questioned because we didn't want them to know we saw them mix them. (Santa gave them the way he wanted.) We were too big for Santa but that wasn't discussed. How we loved those bikes! Ours was a boy's and though I'd have preferred a girl's I was happy to just have a bicycle. We'd wanted one for so long. Before we had one, Syble (our cousin) would ride her beautiful blue one up and let us try to ride. I learned to ride on hers but not before jumping off to stop it before falling many times and it hurt terribly as I landed on the bar. Charlotte was too little to reach the peddles and she would put one leg through the bar and ride sideways. I don't know how she was able to balance the bicycle and do it but she could. Everyone marveled at her.

Lennerd Earl (a little black boy whose dad worked for Daddy) used to play with us. He couldn't ride a bike but was dying to learn how. He told us he could ride and he'd show us if we'd just give him a chance. Finally, someone said okay. He got on and told us just to give him a shove. We did and he got started down a slight hill toward the garage. We said "peddle, Lennerd Earl, peddle!" and he did! He was peddling hard and leaning to the side. We thought sure he'd fall, but he kept going and we realized he was heading into the garage. Then we started yelling (amidst our laughter) "Peddle backwards, Lennerd Earl, peddle backwards!" but he kept peddling forward faster than ever till he went right into the garage and hit the back end. It was the funniest sight imaginable and, fortunately, he wasn't hurt. I think he could really ride after that. He wasn't afraid and very determined. He was a funny little old boy and could do the "freeze". He would make himself stiff and then shake all over. Lennard Earl was a natural comedian and should have gone on the stage as an entertainer. His dad used to get drunk on week-ends and was very mean to his wife.

One Sunday morning as Mama was getting breakfast, she looked out the window and saw her (can't remember her name) hiding behind the trees and shrubs down the hollow. Mama went out and asked her why she was there and she said her husband came home drunk Saturday night and ran her out of the house and she'd spent the night beside our house. (It was summertime). She said he'd be okay when he got over it and she could go back home. I felt so sorry for her and thought it was terrible. Her husband was very quiet when not drunk and it was hard to believe he'd act like that. Daddy talked to him I think and shamed him about it. Later he moved to Georgia with a saw mill crew and we heard he turned into a preacher.

We had other black families who lived with us and worked for Daddy. Norman and I played with the different children. They helped Norman build little "go carts" from old boards and nails and pieces of rope and we'd ride them downhill and guide them with a rope. Mandy and Jessie Mae were two names I remember who were with us at different times. Mandy had a brother that used to come visit on Sunday afternoons. His name was Alex and he played the guitar. He used to play a number called "Rocks and Gravel". Ben's wife, Leatha, used to have relatives visit her too. A brother and a niece, Annie Pearl, that I played with. (She later became a school teacher.) One of Will Donald's girls used to come help us sweep yards. There was no grass and the yards were swept with "brush brooms" from the woods - Dogwood limbs made the best brooms, I recall. The chickens roamed all over the yards and under the house too. They would take "dust baths" under the house (scratch around and flounce their feathers in a dust bed they'd made). We had to sweep the chicken droppings from the yards and under the house (what a job!) but as I recall, kinda fun cause we got to play in the dust ourselves and hunt "doodle bugs".

One of Will's girls, Ora B., would come in the house with us and play the piano for us. She couldn't really play, but she would plunk the keys and sing for us as though she could. She would make up songs for us.

The churches never used to be locked and the Baptist church was near Daddy's store. Cousin Lizzie Gibson and her two girls, Walterine (older than us), Frances (my age), and Lynn, (a son) lived in one of Daddy's houses down behind the store and by the church. (Cousin Lizzie's husband was dead; he was fifty years old when he died.) She worked in the lunchroom at school - anyway, I was at their house a lot, playing and eating often too. Cousin Lizzie could make the best chocolate pudding! Walterine could play the piano a little (really only one song, I think). We and several children would go in the back door of the church and have a church service. She would play the piano and we'd sing her song "Wonderful Words of Life"; then we'd just sing from the book. Different ones of us would preach and we'd have prayer, all very seriously. I enjoyed those times. It is sad that since those times Cousin Lizzie (the last to go) and all her family are dead; Lynn from a mysterious illness at 18, not married; Walterine at 48, never married. Frances married Lynn Culpepper from Causeyville and they adopted a baby boy. They named him Kerry Lynn. Frances died from kidney failure at age 49. Cousin Lizzie died at 90+ but it is sad because there are no descendants from that family.

Charlotte used to sing a little song as she went to their house "Going to Lizzie's going to Lizzie's!" Once Lynn came to the kitchen to buy their regular quart of buttermilk from Mama. (She sold a little milk and butter to a few neighbors. She charged 5 cents a quart.) Lynn came running in and said "Cousin Sally, I've come for the milk and here's the ----ulp! I swallowed the nickel!"

Cousin Howard and Java Hamrick bought land and built a house next to ours. They had Winifred, an older girl than me, and Elson, a son, just younger than me. Elson had "osteomyelitis" (a bone disease) in his leg and arm and had to rest a lot when he was 7 or 8 years old. He couldn't get out and play with boys. The girls would visit him and play paper dolls and other girl games so that he leaned toward girls' games and liked to play "ladies" (dress up in our mother's clothes) with us girls. He got over the illness (operations and it was arrested) and he could get about okay. He played with Norman and other boys as well as we girls, but one afternoon, Cousin Java was gone and we all dressed up in our "lady clothes" and he in Cousin Java's. Cousin Java was a tall, regal lady and always had beautiful, expensive, broad-brimmed hats. Elson was all dyked out in her dress, high heels, hat and purse and was coming outside to meet us to play. Instead of going down the steps, he just gave a leap and sailed off the back porch, which was pretty high. Well, it happened that Mr. Marvin Blanks who lived down the road at the post office happened to be out in his yard at the time of the "leap" and saw him. As soon as he could make it, he ran down to see if Cousin Java had fallen off the porch and perhaps hurt herself. We thought that was pretty funny and even Mr. Marvin laughed about it for some time when he thought of the account.

In the middle or late 30's, the government gave needy people surplus foods - or commodities, and it seemed almost everyone around us was needy. Daddy built a building beside the store in which the commodities were distributed. Daddy didn't distribute them. An appointed person or persons did that. Daddy just furnished the building. I don't remember all the foods given out, but I do remember cheese, butter and peanut butter. We didn't get any but I tasted the cheese and peanut butter at friends' homes who did get it. There were two small rooms on either side of the big room of the building and in one the county had a library which was supplied by the city library, I guess. Miss Geneva Moore ran it and all we children checked out and read books in the summer. We all loved Geneva. She was so patient and sweet. She was a special friend of Charlotte's. Maybe Geneva helped keep the store and had just certain library hours because it seems I remember her working at the store too. About this time the highway was being straightened and paved and there were lots of workers who stopped for cold drinks and lunch at Daddy's store. Charlotte was a great talker and made friends with many of them. One, I especially recall, was Mr. Stanmyer.

The new paved road was wonderful! No more dust from the gravel road and the road machine pushing the gravel from one side to the other. And we had a "big passenger bus" running from Meridian to Philadelphia and it made a regular stop at our store. We got to know the bus driver and thought he looked so great in his uniform. One of my girl friends fell (secretly) in love with him and managed to be on hand every time the bus stopped.

About this time it seemed a lot of progress was going on. Electricity came and we no longer had oil lamps in our houses. I was so glad because I was always afraid of the kerosene lamps. We had to wash the glass globes often and keep the wicks trimmed just right or they'd smoke and they had to be filled with oil. Mama had warned me not to blow the flame too hard when I blew them out or the flame might go down into the oil in the bowl of the lamp and there'd be an explosion. I always tried to be very careful but one night the flame did go down into the oil. I was so horrified I rushed to the back porch and threw the whole thing into the yard - broke the globe and spilled the oil which burned up. I don't know if it really would have exploded, but I was being safe! Awhile before electricity, we got some very good oil lamps called "Aladdin lamps". They gave off a beautiful bright white light that was a very big improvement over the regular old oil lamps. They had a delicate white "mantle" over the flame that had to be replaced often. Of course, the electric lights were better still and we were so thankful for them.

The electric refrigerators came along soon too, I guess, to replace the "ice boxes" we had and they were a blessing and so much more efficient. Our food could be preserved longer and safer, but the old ice boxes were still used for some time before everyone could afford an electric refrigerator. Mr. Jones from a neighboring community, Suqualena, was the "ice man". He came every week in his truck with 100 lb. blocks of ice and sawed it into the size folks needed. Daddy's big old wooden ice box that held perishable foods and drinks held about 50 lbs., I think.

Later, Daddy bought a larger drink box from the Coca Cola Co. that held about 50 lbs too and each morning it had to be filled with drinks for the day. The ice was broken up and drinks placed in it. My favorite drinks were "Nehi, chocolate, strawberry, R.C's, Grapette, oranges, Dr. Peppers, and others, I'm sure. When Mr. Jones used to bring the ice to the store, we children would stand around and catch the ice shavings as he sawed it in blocks and mash it in a ball and eat it. It was so good! I missed him when we no longer used the blocks of ice.

With the coming of electricity, we also got an electric pump and had water that ran into the house for our use. We had no hot water, only cold, but it was just wonderful! We didn't have to draw our water from the well and carry in buckets. We still heated our bath water on the stove and it was some time before we got a bathroom. Finally we did though. We got a bathtub, toilet and wash basin - unbelievable! I can't remember just when all these modern conveniences came about - whether just before or after WW II. Anyway, I remember that Daddy continued to use the outdoor toilet for a long time after the one inside was installed and nobody ever mentioned tearing it down for a long time.

Lots of different people lived with us at different times as I grew up. Mama had men and women teachers who boarded with us. They were all so nice, I remember, "ladies and gentlemen". The men shared a room with Lamar and Jim Martin and the women with Margaret, when they were still at home. Some of the ones who came married men and women in our community and remained to become citizens and help build it. Aunt Claudine lived with us a while and rode a bus to Meridian and worked at a shirt factory but she and Daddy didn't get along so well, I don't think, and she moved to Meridian. Lots of the young girls worked at the shirt factories and hosiery mills in Meridian after they graduated from high school and couldn't go on to college. Jobs were very scarce and the girls rode a bus each day from Collinsville to Meridian. It was run by Mr. Claude Skelton. One of the girls fell in love with him and there was much talk when he left his wife and children and lived with her. His wife was Catholic and never gave him a divorce. (He and the girl moved up north and remained together until she died after a few years. They had a child, I believe, and I heard the first wife took him and the child back to live with her.

We had no movie theater in Collinsville and when I was about 13, James Crenshaw began running his school bus to Meridian on Friday nights and charging a quarter or 50 cents for a ride to the shows. He had a bus load each Friday night and you can bet I was on it every time I could make it. I had a boy-friend - sort of - by now and would sit by him on the bus and sometimes at the movie. There was a cafe, "The Triangle", that we would go to after the show to get sandwiches, malts, etc. and we felt so smart! There were lots of folks always there and one night we'd gone and were enjoying lingering over our drinks and I guess time got by too fast and we must have stayed too long. Anyway, the door of the cafe burst open and "Sleepy Stephens" (a rider on the bus) entered and in a LOUD voice announced "Everybody in here riding to Collinsville on James Crenshaws bus better come on. It's getting ready to leave!" When nobody immediately got up to leave, Sleepy called out several of our names "So and so, did Y'all hear me? You better come on." We just about died! It was so funny, we were dying laughing at him and then we all had to sheepishly get up and file out with everyone in the cafe looking at us. We didn't want to admit we were country people and had to follow "Sleepy's" advice and leave but we knew we had to get up and go because that was our only way home. Whenever I get with my cousin who was there with me and others that night we would get hysterical reliving that night.

One Friday I was really looking forward to going to the show - had looked forward to it all week and what do you think? Early that morning - it was a beautiful sunny morning - Daddy announced to Norman and me to get ready he was taking us up to the Fairchild Place to thin corn that day. We'd take our lunch with us and he'd come get us that afternoon. My heart sank and I just about died. Of all days (Friday and show night) but I thought we'd get through in plenty of time for me to bathe and get ready for the show. When we got up to the corn patch and Daddy explained how the corn was to be thinned my heart sank again because there was so much.

I had a feeling we'd never get it finished in a day. Daddy left and Norman and I set to work - and I mean we worked. The sun got higher and hotter and we worked hard. Noon came and we took our lunch under the trees at the edge of the field and ate and rested, listening to the crows and doves calling - a very lonely place - no houses nearby. I still had hopes of finishing, but as the afternoon wore on and we still had lots to finish and the sun began sinking lower in the sky and I grew more and more tired, I finally admitted to myself that I'd never make it this Friday night. I was very depressed and tired and not feeling very loving toward Daddy as we finished the field and Daddy came to pick us up. He was very proud of us and told us we'd done a good job and when we looked at all we'd done that day, I thought it was a good job too and I was too tired to worry long about missing the show as I hit the bed that night - thinking maybe next week-

Before we had electricity and electric pumps to pump our water, everybody had wells in their yards and drew their water in buckets tied to ropes on a pulley. Every so often the wells had to be cleaned out (I don't know why) and when this was necessary, Francis Lewis was called on. He also dug the wells. To clean them, he was let down in the well by a rope and he dug and filled buckets with mud and water till he said it was clean, and clear water came out. On the occasion when he was cleaning out Mr. Peavey's well (our school principal), several folks were standing around as always when a well was dug or cleaned, watching. Several children were among the watchers and Peggy (Mr. Peavy's daughter) about 6 or 7 years old was there and kept getting too close to the edge (the curbing had been removed, I guess). She was cautioned over and over to stay back but kept going back and eventually fell in right on top of an unsuspecting Francis. I don't know how deep the well was, but 15 or 20 feet I would think. Fortunately, neither Peggy nor Francis was seriously hurt - only scared to death, as was everyone else there and it really was a miracle that one or both were not killed. That incident was long talked about and we children looked on Peggy as special as someone who had had a brush with death and survived. I don't know if Francis retired from his vocation or not, but though he was a black man, most folks agreed he was almost white when he emerged from that well.

Later there was another well digger and cleaner who came to clean our well. He was Ezra Crenshaw. He was a little retarded, but married and had one child. He was a likable, gentle man who walked with a shuffle. Ezra always put on raggedy old clothes to do his work and the afternoon he finished working, he walked past Daddy's dog yard and stopped and slapped his legs at the dogs. They began barking and running at him through the fence making a terrible noise. We had a little Feist dog that wasn't in the dog yard and never barked or tried to bite anyone but when the commotion began, he rushed at Ezra and tried to eat him up. Ezra was so surprised and so were we and we had quite a time quieting him down and quieting the dogs inside the fence. It was all so funny - even Ezra thought it was. He said (he stuttered) "I - I didn't mean to - to scare um." I've heard dogs have likes and dislikes toward people and "Fuzzy" our little dog certainly seemed to. He was a gentle dog and only tried to bite Ezra and Lurel Freeman -and we never understood why he tried to bite Lurel. We knew him and they were friends, but one Saturday Lurel came walking down the road - all starched and cleaned up - and before he even got in front of the house, Fuzzy politely ran and met him, jumped up and bit at his leg - didn't get through to his leg, but snagged the pants seam at the knee and ripped his pants open all the way to the bottom. Nobody knew what to think. After ripping his pants, Fuzzy came on back to the house and Lurel went "flopping" on down the road - so funny looking we couldn't help laughing. We told Lurel how sorry we were and he said that was all right, he'd get his pants mended.

There was another man, Bud McCraw, who appeared in our community at different seasons - usually he was there in winter and sometimes he worked for Daddy all year; I think maybe at the sawmill. But there were other seasons when he went "over in the Delta" to work on the cotton plantations - mainly to pick cotton in the fall, I think. Anyway, several times when he'd return, he'd come in walking. One time we saw a figure way off in the distance walking toward our house. We were playing in the yard and Fuzzy just left us and ran way up the road to meet the figure. We didn't know who it was but when he got nearer, we saw that it was Bud McCraw and Fuzzy was running and jumping beside him - wagging his tail and overjoyed to see him.

He and Bud had always been friends, but Fuzzy always showed his affection more than Bud. Bud usually just tolerated Fuzzy with one pat on the head and no conversation at all but that seemed to be plenty for Fuzzy. Always when Bud was living in the community and coming down the road and Fuzzy perked up his ears and ran toward him, we'd say "well, there comes Bud McCraw even though we couldn't be sure at a distance.

Another character who came through our town every so often was "Zeke Parton". He was very strange. He had a high voice - almost like a woman - and his skin was pale, white-dirt colored. When I was about 7 or 8, I was very afraid of him, but Mama said there was no harm in him. He had no home and slept in vacant sheds and houses, I think. He would come by the house and speak to Mama, "Miss Sally". Sometimes he'd bring Magnolia trees and Red Buds from the swamp for Mama. He always had a sack with interesting rocks and Indian arrows, etc. in it which he would show us. As I got older, I knew he was just a kind, lonely (maybe not) and pathetic man without a family or home. Mama always fixed him a plate of food at the house or gave him snacks at the store and was kind to him. All the children liked to see him coming so we could see what he had in his sack. He lived to be quite old, I heard, and endured lots from unkind people. He was hit by a car and crippled for a long time and then walked with a limp and when quite old was attacked and almost killed by someone (he knew but would never tell, he said it would embarrass the person) trying to rob him of his money (and he had none). I guess he's surely dead now or else he'd be near 100 years old.

DON'T LOOK DOWN IN THE WELL

By Bernice Snowden Lea

When I was "little", one of the first cautions I remember was "Stay away from the well - never climb up and try to look down inside because Raw Hide and Bloody Bones live down there and they might try to pull you down inside the well".

I very much believed this and though I would liked to have seen what Raw Hide and Bloody Bones looked like, I would never try to climb up on the curbing and look. I did, however, have bad dreams of looking and would wake sweating and relieved that it was only a dream.

Later, when I was older and knew it was only told me to keep me safe, I did look down into the well. It was dark and deep and I still fancied I could see them still living in the dark.

MYSTERIOUS HAPPENINGS IN THE GRAVEYARD

By Bernice Snowden Lea

Once there was a death in the community - an old person in one of the families there. The burial took place in the family cemetery up on a hill overlooking some distance around and in a location away from any nearby homes.

Several nights after the burial, a strange light began to be seen by different folks at different times at night and eerie sounds could also be heard. However, when different ones ventured up the hill to investigate the lights and sounds, there was nothing to be seen or heard.

This went on for a week or two. Finally, a few went around behind the cemetery and waited to try to see what was causing the lights and eerie (really hair-raising) noise, which by now had the entire community watching the light and hearing the noise (if one were close enough).

What those brave souls, who slipped behind the hill and up to the back of the cemetery, found out was three (I think three) boys of the family' whose member had recently been buried - using a headlight to make the light and tin cans with a string run through and pulled to make the wailing sounds.

Of course that ended the mystery of the lights and sounds. Most folks thought this was a very sacrilegious thing to do - my mother included and she told us so. She thought they should be punished for dishonoring the dead.

I was much relieved to find it was people doing these things and not ghosts - but even so, when I looked in the direction of the graveyard, I still expected I might see a light or hear an eerie sound on dark nights.

Front Row: L. N. Rhodes, Jr., Charlotte Snowden (Rhodes)
Second Row: Juanice Rhodes, Bessie Ragsdale, Hernie Gene Weatherford, Bernice (Snowden) Lea, Peggy Gibson (Covington), Elson Hamrick
Back: Marie Rhodes (Tramel)



I REMEMBER

By Bernice Snowden Lea

- Mr. Rice, who ran the service station.
- Mr. Pet, Daddy's arch rival (fox hunted together, each had own following to hunt with).
- J. D. & Larmar - gin and sawmill operators for Daddy.
- Ben, our wonderful employee who was like a member of our family - hump-backed from a fall off of the porch as baby - very strong - did everything for Mama and Daddy. Married Leatha, no children; they lived in house in back.
- A dog named "Remus".
- Daddy's fox hounds, "Mark", etc.
- Ezra Crenshaw, well cleaner - also Francis Lewis, well Cleaner (Peggy Peavey fell in on top of him while he was working in well).
- Geneva, town librarian.
- Commodity house where folks were issued cheese and other foods from government.
- Election days.
- Daddy's stray friends who ate supper with us and spent night in barn, seed house, etc.
- Fuzzy, our wonderful little dog.
- Tent movies that came occasionally.
- Going over to Ben's revival meeting in summer.
- Getting drenched with pan of dish water over the shrubbery at post office by Cousin Irma after just getting a Saturday clean-up, washed hair, bath, clean dress.
- Riding bikes to fire tower and climbing to talk to Lurel Freeman, the keeper.
- Taking the papers for Norman and visiting old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold, Uncle Tully, Aunt Della, Aunt Lily and Uncle Walter.
- Going to Aunt Etta Clark's. Always peanuts on stove and sugar cane behind door.
- Going wading after big summer rain in ditches and water being red - colored our under clothes (dress held up -couldn't help getting in water).
- Going to summer revivals at Methodist and Baptist churches (also to Ben's church one night - almost got spit on).
- One Christmas at school in old building - "Amateur" programs in old school.
- Playing "Ladies" with girls and Elson (getting scared at Nina Pearl's house).
- Building play houses under trees in woods back of barn.
- Playing paper dolls with Syble and Bessie (furniture from wall paper sample books).
- Swimming in branch in Brother Herrington's pasture (dodging dangerous bull).
- Picking violets and huckleberries in spring while watching for black runners and moccasins.
- Helping the fire fighters with woods fires.
- Slipping out to the gin when it was in progress at night - getting foot caught in hole in board behind a wagon of cotton and no one could hear to help me.
- Daring each other to run through Mrs. Fountain's house after she had moved.
- Having church in the Baptist church with Walterine, Frances, Elson, Peggy, Henny Jean. "Wonderful Words of Life" was all Walterine could play.
- Going to get the cows after a summer rain.
- Smoking at Grandma Snowden's - smoking cross vines and rabbit tobacco.
- Playing hide and seek in drying (wigwams) lumber - getting on top.
- Riding pine trees to ground (getting in much trouble).
- Climbing muscadine vines into trees (one pulled loose and fell to the ground by myself; thought I was dead - breath knocked out).
- Playing on cotton in cotton house; playing on sawdust pile (dangerous and forbidden) at side of gin.
- Playing in gin and barber shop on Sunday afternoons (slipping in).
- Playing in barn loft - having plays - finding eggs and new kittens - having "corn cob" war with boys (on ground) and girls in loft.

- Baseball in pasture back of barn.
- Sack swing on big tree back of barn.
- Having the teachers live at home - breakfast in kitchen on cold mornings around stove.
- Watching Ben grind meal (his face and hair would be white).
- Going to Ben's house on Sunday afternoons and listening to his ghost tales and getting scared to go to the house alone and he'd have to walk us home.
- Going "trot line" fishing with Ben one Saturday night.
- Going to Aunt Mandy's with Mildred. Spending the night with Aunt Viney - the most beautiful moon light night I ever remember. Being scared in the night by an owl. Eating delicious dinners with Norma cooking. Norman and I visiting with Iva and Mildred one weekend. Iva had new "Hudson" car which we went in - came big rainstorm and Kemper County roads became impassable with new Hudson - had to borrow Uncle John's old T Model to come home in. Norman and I hadn't ridden in one and thought it was so funny but were afraid to laugh out loud for fear of hurting Iva's feelings, so we were miserable punching each other trying to make each other keep quiet and bursting to laugh out. The horn said "uh ugh guh" which was even funnier.
- Going fox hunting with Daddy.
- Playing "Chalk Trail" at night with L.N., Marie, Juanice, Elson, Charlotte, Syble, Billy Ray and others.
- Building pine top houses.
- Working on road and bridge between house and store with Elson, Peggy, Norman, Lynn and Frances.
- Listening to Mandy's brother, Alex, play his guitar on Sunday afternoons.
- Riding in "Truck wagons" on hills below the barn built by the boys and "Pete and Leon".
- The great "bike ride" by Leonard Earl - straight into the back of the garage (more nerve than any little fellow I ever saw).
- Sliding down hills covered with pine straw on barrel staves.
- Climbing tree in back yard to see "Blue Mountain" - getting "fat" Bessie up and couldn't get her down.
- Neil H. conning Daddy.
- Getting buttermilk from store.
- Hobo in the gin.
- The Commodity House and all its uses.
- Guest in the seed house.
- Elson and playing ladies - Mr. Marvin seeing him.
- Ben and the grist mill.
- Fox hunting.
- Fire at the gin.
- Spending week at Grandma Tucker's.
- Playing chalk line.
- Uncle Grady's visits.
- Imagination run away
- Grandma on steps.
- Climbing fire tower with Lural.
- Daddy waking to go hunting.
- "Flower Pot"
- "Dish water" Saturday.
- Learning to smoke.
- Making the swimming pool.
- Sliding on barrel staves.
- Playing on the cotton.
- Playing on the sawdust pile.
- Smoking in the gin.
- Smoking in the barber shop.
- Driving on Sunday p.m.

- Breaking in the boys' club house.
- Corn cob fights.
- Cops and robbers.
- Riding the carriage at saw mill.
- Winters in Daddy's store (around stove - sitting on horse feed).
- Favorite candies: "Penny" Baby Ruths and "nickel" Milky Ways.
- L.N., Jarie and Marie coming to the store with money for candy and very carefully choosing it.
- A big fire one day - Mr. Molpus' house - someone getting piano out alone.
- Uncle Tully's tobacco barn burning one Sunday afternoon.
- The fire at night at the gin while ginning. - I was awakened by the light it made.
- The day the gypsies stopped at the store while Mama and I were there - and Grandpa Snowden and several old men sitting around came in and held their canes over their shoulders and milled around among them. I was so scared - Mama sent me to house for help.
- Scared after Aunt Tiny Hamrick died and hearing a siren sounding down the road in late afternoon.

SATURDAY BATH

By Bernice Snowden Lea

It was Saturday afternoon in the summer. I think I was about six or seven. Mama called me to come in to get my hair washed and a bath.

This all took place on the back porch. Grandma Snowden lived with us and sat on the porch as Mama washed my hair. She scrubbed very hard and I cried and fussed. Grandma said "Oh, Sally, you're hurting that child". She couldn't stand to see me cry. This made Mama scrub harder. Finally she was through and then she had to dry it and comb it into curls. I fussed some more and Grandma again reminded Mama she was hurting me -Mama pulled harder. Then I had a bath and felt so clean and fresh. Mama put a little yellow cotton sun dress on me and asked me to go to the post office for the afternoon mail.

As I was going past a big bush in front of the post office porch which hid the entrance to the kitchen which joined the post office, it happened that just at the time of my passing unseen by Mrs. Irma Blanks (the post mistress), she was pouring out her dish water from the kitchen. My first knowledge of what she was doing was the feel of warm, greasy, oozy water covering me from head to toe! I was so surprised and stunned, I didn't say a word (Mrs. Blanks never knew). I just turned around and ran dripping home. After all I'd gone through earlier, it had to be done again. What luck!!!

A SUNDAY AFTERNOON DRIVE

By Bernice Snowden Lea

On Sunday afternoons in the summer, after dinner, most of the family found some place to take a nap. It was always hot - so, a fan and a chair or bed usually served these purposes. Later, most of the family moved onto the porch and into the swing and chairs under the trees - but until they all finished their rest, there was no one outside to see what I had in mind. (That was to start up the car and drive it a few feet and back it back to its original position).

All went well, at first. The car started just fine and I started to release the clutch. But then - the clutch was very short and the car began jumping - moving too far and going right along beside the house - through the flower bed and heading toward the well - I couldn't stop it! It kept jumping! Finally, I got enough control of myself and stopped it just before hitting the well.

By now I had been discovered! I was so scared and embarrassed I could have died. I seem to remember that I was reprimanded all right - but I was also laughed at and teased for some time about my Sunday afternoon drive. I believe I was about twelve years old when this happened.

SCARY THINGS

By Bernice Snowden Lea

When I was little, there were lots of things that scared me, as well as my little brother.

There was an old lady - maybe a relative (I didn't know till much later that I was kin to most of the folks in our little community). She was called "Aunt Tiny" (Hamrick). She was sick and bedridden for a long time and one day she became worse. Friends and kin went to help and sat up with her till she died. It was the first death I remember. My brother and I saw a hearse go up to the house, I think. Anyway, I remember a siren sounding about this time and ever after, when I heard a siren, I thought of Aunt Tiny Hamrick.

One afternoon I was in the house alone. It was late - about dusk - I was in the kitchen when I heard an ambulance or hearse come by and blow its siren right in front of our house. My hair felt like it stood on end and the thought of "Aunt Tiny" Hamrick came in my mind - I could just see her coming through the house - dead - to where I was. Ever after that when my brother and I wanted to scare each other, we had only to mention "Aunt Tiny Hamrick". (We would do this at night or dusk.) Though I knew it was all in my mind, it still seemed real.

THE BLUE BOWL

By Bernice Snowden Lea

I have a blue bowl with ruffled edges. It's made of glass. It was Mama's. She had it all my life. I always thought it was so pretty. She told me the story of how she came to have it.

She said when she was a little girl about eight or ten years old, a visitor came -either a relative or friend - about her age. While there, her mother let Mama and her sister and the visitor gather the eggs. She gave each girl some of the eggs to take to a little store, where they walked to and traded their eggs. Mama's eggs came to fifteen cents and she bought the little blue bowl with it.

Somehow she was able to keep it all her life and because she knew I loved it, she left it to me.

Whenever I look at it, I think of her and I imagine the three little girls gathering the eggs and walking to the country store to spend their egg money. I can almost see them skipping along barefooted (I'm thinking it was summer) to the store and then returning with their treasures. Now I treasure the little blue bowl and I hope someone else will keep it when I'm gone.

THINGS I REMEMBER ABOUT SUMMER

By Bernice Snowden Lea

Aside from the heat and mosquitoes (which didn't seem as worrisome as today):

Getting to go barefooted the first time and feeling the cool sand and dirt between my toes. After a summer shower, we'd make ice cream on the back porch and the flies would be just sticking to the screens. And other times, we'd have watermelon and when it was served, it wasn't just a small amount or cut in chunks as it often is today. We'd each get a quarter of the melon and cut as many melons as needed so everyone got a good piece. And lemonade - homemade from scratch with lots of sugar and lemon slices floating on top.

Then, there was Mrs. Ragsdale taking us swimming in Brother Herrington's pasture. (Daddy later bought the land and left it to me when he died. I wonder if I could ever find the little stream again) - and trying to dodge Brother Herrington's notoriously mean bull to and from swimming. We walked close to the fence all the way going and coming. In case he should appear, we could climb to the other side.

There were huckleberries to find and pick in the spring and Blacksnares (Black Runners and Coach Whips) to watch for - and violets to pick, always searching for the special "deep purple" ones. Once in spring one early Sunday morning, Colleen Rich and I planned to go look for violets before Sunday School. We did and were just about to jump across a branch to get some when we discovered a snake in the way. We were running too fast to stop and had to jump over snake and branch. I landed on the other side and never stopped running till I reached the top of the hill and under a fence. I thought I could hear the snake in the leaves after me as I ran. When I finally stopped, out of breath, I discovered I'd lost one of my new, patent leather (sandals) Easter (and recital) shoes. I was afraid to go back for it, but Mama made me. I can't remember for sure, but I don't think I ever found it.

There were muscadines to be found in the fall. We found where the trees were and would gather the ones on the ground and climb the vines and shake down more - eating until our mouths were "itchy".

Mama had a Wisteria vine that covered and shaded the front porch and when it bloomed, we got Coca Cola bottles and caught bumblebees. The white-headed ones wouldn't sting, but the "Black Heads" would. It was a "daring" game.

We had about 4 steps up to the front porch and they were concrete. We had a game we played jumping "flat-footed" on them - jumping on all of them at first and eliminating a step each round and finally jumping all the way from porch to ground skipping all the steps. We got lots of bruised and skinned shins doing this.

There were the "Summer Revivals". The Methodists said "Revivals" (I think) and Baptists "Protractive Meetings". Anyway, these were special times as the preachers visited and ate dinner or supper with members. There were morning and night services and Daddy would close the store each morning and early at night. Everyone (except the "infidels") went to church and I remember a certain "Brother Swearingen" who preached such "hell fire" that even the most devout Christian felt guilty and I had bad dreams for some time (when I dared go near him). After one of his sermons I always tried my best to mend my ways. It would be hot! Windows would be open and flies and wasps and whatever, would fly in to be fanned and swatted with funeral parlor or politician's fans.

And during election years, there were picnics the schools would sponsor (to raise money for worthy causes), and those running for offices would come speak - 4th of July was the biggest day of all, I guess. Oh, it was exciting!

Very few stores sold beer and no "decent" ones would, but Mr. "Wintry" Wright did. He wasn't thought to be a bad man and everyone accepted his selling it, but only the daring ventured by to buy it, 'specially during the day - but I think he even opened up on Sunday afternoons. Oh, it was scandalous and on one 4th of July, I remember hearing of some of the boys about Jim Martin's age (Malcolm Hand among them) being seen stopping by Winky Wright's in "broad daylight!" (If anyone stopped by, it had to be for beer.)

One time in summer, we went over around Center Hill (a long ways) to a church and Snowden reunion. It was a great day. Grandpa and Grandma Snowden went and enjoyed it so much. Saw old friends and relatives. I don't ever remember another one.

At school they used to have "amateur nights". They were fun. Outstanding in my memory is Mr. Jode Moore who rattled some bones between his fingers while his daughter, Robye Rhea played (by ear) the "Alabama Jubilee" on the piano. And Miss Edwards played the piano while Leland McCann sang. Miss Edwards taught music and lived with the Clarks. She was very "peppy" and well liked and had had a tragic love affair. Her intended husband had died young somehow, but she had a silver fox fur coat he had had made and given her. When I looked at it, I imagined what he must have looked like and I felt sad. Her father had been a missionary preacher, I think, and they had lived in a foreign country when she was young. Anyway, she spoke Spanish and had a class one summer for some interested young folks. I always thought she and Leland might fall in love (though she was older) and marry, as did others, but that never happened. I remember Jim Martin and Claudine attended the Spanish class and learned to speak quite a few words and converse. At least that's what they said it was and it certainly sounded foreign to me.

Then there was the "unforgettable" incident of the "Saturday afternoon dish-water drenching."

"TROT-LINEIN"

By Bernice Snowden Lea

We'd been worrying Ben for a good while to take us "Trotline" fishing. We weren't sure what it meant, but we knew lots of folks did it at night and it sounded exciting and lots of fun.

We nagged and worried poor Ben till he finally agreed to take us one Friday night. Norman, Elson, Billy Ray, Syble, Jimmy and Ben and I got in Ben's Model A Ford, along with our fishing lines, hooks and bait, plus all kinds of food and drink supplies - enough for a week instead of a few hours one night.

It was just first dark as we pulled out and there was no moon that night so it was soon black dark. We headed out for Gin Creek full of laughter and talk about the fish we were gonna catch and fry. Since it was only about 5 miles to Gin Creek, we soon arrived.

First, Ben picked out a good spot for a fire and our headquarters. After we all helped gather wood for the fire and got it going, Ben said it was time to set out our hooks. We went with Ben with our flashlights and his lantern stopping all along to put a line in the water and tie it to a tree root or rocks. After setting all our hooks, we went back to our fire which looked cheery against the woods and black night.

We settled down around the fire and began snacking on our food while Ben found a comfortable spot to lean on an old fallen dead tree. Now, Ben was a short, little man because he had fallen off his mother's porch as a baby and broken his back, which was left humped but we never really noticed anything different about him. Anyway, he was sorta standing in a leaning position against the fallen dead tree talking to us about what kind of fish we might catch - maybe some Mud Cats or Perch or no telling what, he said.

The night wore on and we checked our lines for fish several times with only one little Mud Cat caught the whole time, but Ben said just wait a little longer. So we ate some more and listened to the frogs, owls and other night sounds and all of us were beginning to get drowsy and Ben was nodding against the tree. By now it was probably nine o'clock but it seemed we'd been there for hours.

All of a sudden, I knew what we'd all enjoy. A ghost story from Ben - he could tell some good ones. Well, when I suggested this everybody waked up and yes, that was just the thing. Well, we had to beg pretty hard cause Ben said we'd all get too scared to fish. But fishing wasn't proving very exciting so far anyway and the ghost story sounded just the thing to stir up some excitement. So, Ben settled back on a limb and began. The more he told, the more he rolled his eyes and the bigger they got till the whites stood out in the black night and the firelight like white marbles. Before long, Ben was lost in his tale and as he raised his arms to show how big something was, he knocked a limb off the old dead tree and suddenly there was a big "crashing" and Ben and the tree were falling back. It happened to be the most exciting point of Ben's tale and as Ben quit talking, his eyes got bigger and whiter than ever as he fell. Boy, my hair stood up and chills went down my back. We thought the ghost had us all. Even Ben thought his ghost had got him. When we all recovered from the scare, we laughed a little but not very loud and it wasn't very long before we decided it was time to get home to our beds and to heck with that "trot line" fishing. Ben was glad, I know, though he never said so and that was one thing we never asked him to do again.

Now that so many years have passed and all the children scattered and gone from each other with children and grandchildren of their own and Ben long in his grave - I think back to that night and chuckle all over again as I relive the night Ben took us "trot-line fishing."

UNCLE TULLY ETHRIDGE'S WOODEN HAMMOCK SWING

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

It hung between two large oak trees by metal cables. Actually, it was more like a wooden door - big enough for Uncle Tully to stretch out on completely. He had a pillow and quilt on it so he could relax for his naps as the cool breezes caused it to gently sway.

I loved to visit there. Aunt Della's house was so intriguing. Her kitchen and dining room smelled like apples and nuts. Her daughter Inell stayed there while her husband, Mr. Nelson, was away in the army. Her piano was in the living room and I loved to listen to her play and sing "The World is Waiting for the Sunrise". I would take home some apples and nuts that Aunt Della gave me.

CHRISTMAS IN COLLINSVILLE---(IN THE "40'S)

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

Getting the tree was always a big occasion. As children living in the country, we would go out on a cold December day with boots, gloves and ax to chop down a cedar tree. We would walk until we spied a pretty-shaped tree only to discover that it had grown up next to a fence post and only one side would be pretty. We would trudge along through sticks, briars and broom sadge. After much searching, almost to the point of giving up, we would find that perfect tree. After a long walk home dragging our tree, a tree stand had to be constructed. That would be my brother's job. Norman was always good with tools, hammers, saws and such. This whole job was left to us. Mama would bring out all the collection of stored-away Christmas tree decorations. Everything was used over and over--even the icicles. We would put our favorite ornaments on the tree, then place the icicles one by one. Sometimes Mama would make snow for us to swish on the tree. (This was made with Ivory soap flakes.) That tree looked beautiful. We never bought expensive gifts for each other--those were depression days. Daddy had a country store and would order all kinds of extra items to have to sell at Christmas time. I remember a little metal monkey bank--he would tip his hat when you put a coin in. The store wasn't far from the school. Many students would come to buy gifts for each other.

"Evening in Paris" perfume was a favorite--very cheap. Daddy always ordered lots of good fresh oranges and apples and nuts like Brazil nuts and almonds. (These were very unusual out in the country.) Daddy had a cotton gin and did business with Eagle Cotton Oil Company. At Christmas-time they always sent him a big box of Golden Bartlet pears, each wrapped in tissue. I guess Daddy kept them outside where it was cold because it seemed when we opened the box on Christmas Eve they were cold. I remember how juicy and good they tasted. We always went to the Methodist Church on Christmas Eve and sang carols. The members would draw names several weeks before Christmas. We would bring our wrapped gifts that night and put them under the large tree that had been put in the center of the church (it seemed enormous to my six-year-old eyes). Santa would come bounding into the church back door just in time to jingle his bells and give a "ho ho ho" to all the children. After his big entrance, he would pass out all the gifts. While we were away from our homes he would already have come by and left our toys. I was so excited to see my dolls and toys under our tree at home. One year he brought Norman a bicycle. It was a shiny black "Western Flyer". Elson Hamrick, our friend next door, got a red one. They were beautiful! I remember seeing Daddy and Cousin Howard Hamrick riding those bicycles the next morning and thinking how funny they looked--old men (probably 50 years old).

Christmas dinner was wonderful! Ambrosia, fresh coconut cake, pecan pie, etc. My older brother Lamar and his wife, Christine; also my older sister Margaret, would come home Christmas day. Jim, Bernice, Norman and I were the children still living at home. Lamar and Christine lived in Meridian and Margaret was a student at the University of Alabama. It was a special time when all our family could be together.

DULUTH SNOWDEN FAMILY

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

Duluth and Sallie Snowden moved to Collinsville in 1926. There were six children: Lamar (Houston, TX), Margaret (deceased), Jim (Collinsville, MS), Bernice (Hernando, MS), Norman (Wichita, Kansas and Collinsville, MS) and Charlotte (Meridian, MS).

Duluth's mother was Margaret (Maggie) Houston Williamson Snowden, married first to Allen Williamson (he died) and then to James Redmond Snowden of the Center Hill and Shucktown area. Maggie was the daughter of Joseph Houston and Mira Hamrick. They had a large family of sixteen children including two sets of twins. Aunt Della married Tully Ethridge. Aunt Ida married Willis Walker. Aunt Lillie married Walter Walker. Aunt Sibbie married a Hudson.

Joe Houston, Willis Houston, Claude and Paul were also Houston twins.

My daddy, Duluth, had one brother, Grady Snowden. He went to Atlanta, GA and was a lawyer. He attended Millsaps College and became a close friend of Ross Barnett. Grady married Anita Starling. Grady and Duluth had a half-brother, Uncle Everett Williamson. Uncle Everett married Etta Hand.

Daddy was a row crop, timber and cattle farmer. He operated a cotton gin, sawmill and a general store in Collinsville.

Addendum by a former Lauderdale County Educator: Mr. Duluth Snowden served on the Lauderdale County Board of Education for a number of years, representing District 3 of Lauderdale County. He served with great foresight and with a progressive outlook for the welfare of the youth of our county.



Edna & Jim Snowden.

They left Collinsville after a few years when Jim decided to go into the ministry. They moved to Clinton, MS where Jim enrolled at Mississippi College. Edna worked for a beautician during this time and other times. Her profession was very useful in helping them through times when finances were tight.

Edna has always been loved by those who got to know her.

"EDNA" (Edna Hirrill Snowden)

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

Jim served out his last days in the Air Force in Oklahoma City at Will Rogers Field. It was then that he met Edna Hirrill. They were married and he brought her home to live in Collinsville. He decided to take over Daddy's country store. Bringing Edna into our family really added a dimension to our lives. She immediately made a "hit" with us. Her cooking was wonderful - I remember that she would sometimes fry chicken for breakfast and make biscuits and milk gravy. Mama had never done this. I believed Mama was the best cook in the world, but Edna just added something "special". I used to go to their house (which was next door) after school to see if she had any left-over biscuits and gravy.

Edna was a beautician. She had a shop of her own in Oklahoma City. She decided to fix up a building that was adjacent to the store (had been a commodity store during the war) to set up shop. That was very exciting to me. I could visit with the people of the community when they came for permanent waves, hair sets, etc.

SUNDAY MEMORIES

By Charlotte Snowden Rhodes

I remember the fresh scent of the sweetpeas in Mama's garden - with dew still on -as I made my morning trip to the outdoor toilet (located discreetly behind the privet hedges). This same privet hedge provided Mama with keen little switches often used to sting my legs when I disobeyed her. Sunday mornings meant getting ready to go to Sunday School and church - but also making plans for dinner. It always included fried chicken. Mama would catch a young chicken and wring its neck (I never liked to see this), but it was a necessary chore. It was then dipped in scalding water and one of us children had the job of picking the feathers off of it. Mama would set fire to a piece of paper and singe the pin-feathers off. She made sure we were properly dressed for church. My favorite dress was made of dotted swiss with a big collar trimmed with lace and it had a sash tied into a big bow in back. Mama was an excellent seamstress. She made sure that my hair was washed and my dress was pressed on Saturday because no work was done on Sunday except the necessary chores. After church we all sat in the dining room and enjoyed a wonderful dinner that Mama had prepared. The smell of the fried chicken after church made my mouth water. When I think of the effort that went into those dinners in those days, I marvel. She cooked on a wood range and the kitchen got very hot in the summertime. I don't recall that she ever complained on those hot summer days. (There was no such thing as an air conditioner.) The windows were all raised and we hoped for a breeze. The food was special on Sundays. The best dishes were used and we were dressed in our best clothes. The dinner usually included (besides the fried chicken) creamed potatoes, sliced tomatoes, fresh butterbeans, fried okra and iced tea. The ice came from a block of ice stored in our ice box. We were lucky that there was an ice house located across the road from my dad's country store. Our gardens provided wonderful vegetables. Mama was a great cook and I never heard her say, "What in the world will I fix for dinner."

"Eating out" was a real treat. We went to town on Saturdays. Most people in the country went to Meridian on Saturday. A treat for me was to go with Mama to the "Davis Grill". My favorite meal was fried fish with tartar sauce. Daddy enjoyed going to Weidmann's for a plate of fried oysters. On our way home we would stop at the Penny Store (a big grocery store where we could buy a variety of special vegetables and fruits). Mama bought things that were not in season or hard to find items. Usually Daddy would get a beer while in town--this did not please Mama. No alcoholic drinks were allowed in our house. We all knew that Daddy had kept a bottle of whiskey in his trunk in his back room, but it was never mentioned.



Sallie Tucker Snowden



Duluth Snowden

AS I CAME TO KNOW AND REMEMBER COLLINSVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

By James M. Snowden

In 1926 our family, Duluth, Sallie, Lamar, Margaret, and James Martin Snowden, moved to Collinsville to live in our newly built home. Our farm consisted of eighty acres. Shortly after that my dad bought forty more acres adjoining our land.

As I remember, there were about twenty other families within a mile each way from Collinsville consolidated school, elementary through twelfth grades. The principal was Mr. Pascal White. That year a vocational school was added and Mr. R. H. Hutto was the teacher.

There were two established churches at that time; Collinsville Church of God and Collinsville Methodist Church. Later that year a Baptist church was constituted and met once a month in the Methodist Church building. The Daws McMullan General Merchandise Store with gasoline pumps was the only store in Collinsville. There was a garage adjacent to the McMullan store and a steam powered cotton gin operated by a Mr. Grover McMullan, which my daddy bought and operated until 1927 when he built a new cotton gin and he opened a new general merchandise store. He also started a gristmill. Highway 19 was dirt and some gravel then and snarled around through the communities of Collinsville, Suqualeena and down through Nellieburg.

Cotton was king. Almost a dollar a pound for a 500-pound bale of cotton: \$500. Everyone farmed except a few families who were teachers or mail carriers or, like Mr. Will Jolly, the only electrician in Collinsville. He worked in Meridian.

Incidentally, I believe that the post office was moved to Collinsville from Schamberville. Mrs. Irma Blank's family moved to Collinsville that year, 1928 or 1929.

School activities, such as plays, fiddlers contests and picnics, and of course basketball, really brought the community together as Martin, Center Hill, Suqualeena, Ponta, Meehan, Vimville, Dixie Highway, House, Shady Grove, Damascus, Long Creek and other teams challenged each other. As I remember, Collinsville was one of the largest in school attendance; the largest enrollment. The school year then was only eight months, usually from August to April. Many boys and girls had to miss some school during cottonpicking season: September through October.

Every family had a milk cow or two from which came milk and butter. Every farm family had hogs to butcher for winter meat and lard. Every family had chickens and eggs; also, a well from which we got water. Some might have had a good spring like we did when we first moved to Collinsville in February, 1926.

There were three family doctors in our area. They were Dr. Pruitt, Dr. McDonald, and Dr. Wilson at Shucktown about six miles away. I had the good fortune to have Dr. Wilson minister to me when I was kicked in the head by a mule. I was eight years old then. From the concussion, I was unconscious for over twenty-four hours. I only spent one night in Hearstons Hospital. However, I missed one month from school. God sure took care of me through that as well as all my other days and years.

There were no telephones except the Hughes Telephone Company, which was across Okatibbee Creek. We had no telephones in Collinsville then. I remember there was only one radio in Collinsville. That was a battery radio owned by Mr. Daws McMullan. His store was a popular place on Saturday night when the Grand Ole Opry was on.

Saturday was a special day anyway. That was the day when some privately owned school buses went to Meridian, usually pretty well loaded with people with butter and eggs to sell in Meridian. We also, in our store, took eggs in exchange for snuff, matches, black draught, soda and salt, sugar and coffee, thread, and some material for dresses and shirts. Also, families brought shelled corn to be ground into chops and meal in the gristmill.

In wintertime roads were muddy and sometimes impassable when the creeks were out of the banks, so I remember to get to the store many came on mule back or horseback.

A few years later our home was the home of two or three teachers who boarded and roomed with us. I was about sixteen years old when my daddy let me drive a couple of teachers to a teachers' meeting in Meridian. It had rained nearly a week before and was raining that afternoon; however, we made it to the meeting. I was able to go to a movie while they went to their meeting. I was to pick them up about nine o'clock that evening so I went to the courthouse to pick them up. The rain was coming down in torrents - so much that we could not drive home. The teachers spent the night in a hotel and I spent the night with my aunt. Early the next morning, I picked them up to go home. We drove to the edge of town on Old Eighth Street Road. Okatibbee Creek was covering a half mile each way - so we spent another day and night waiting for the creek to go down. The third day, we finally were able to go down by the airport and around through Meehan Hills and got home. Whew!

By the way, we had no way to let anyone at home know our predicament until we got home - I can only reckon what everybody thought about two single teacher women off with a sixteen year old school boy for 2 days and nights! Anyway, when the creek was out, the other side of Okatibbee was like another world.

The price of a gallon of gasoline was about seventeen cents and a gallon of kerosene was fifteen cents. Five pounds of sugar was twenty-five cents; a pound of coffee was fifty cents. A Coca-Cola was five cents, a good pair of men's work shoes (Peter's Weatherbird or Wolverine) was about \$2.50; a loaf of bread was ten cents.

There were about four places during the summer where everyone went to swim. Very popular places were the Poe wash hole in Okatibbee Creek, the Clay wash hole just off the Wildcat Road, and Gin Creek. Oh yes, there was the Collins Pond which belonged to Ross Collins the Congressman from Mississippi. He and his family usually spent a little while each summer down from Washington, D.C. They had two children, a son named Melville, and a daughter named Jane.

It was 1928 when Collinsville Baptist built their first church building. It was a building built with concrete blocks which were handmade by Preacher Herrington and Mr. Les Harwell. I was eight years old and was intrigued with that building being built on an acre of land that my daddy gave to the church. It was close to our store.

The Great Depression hit in the fall of 1929. The economy was in pretty good shape prior to the stock market break.

One would just have to have lived then to understand how difficult it was for people to survive. It was a worldwide depression, which we refer to as the Great Depression. Many people who had invested in the stock market lost all they had; some committed suicide. I was only about nine years old, but I remember hearing my dad and mother lie awake at night talking about the very difficult situation. By that time my dad was buying up land to be cleared for farming. He lost all the land that he was trying to pay for; everything except our home place, which was not mortgaged. The price of cotton dropped very much; people who were in debt for seed and farm supplies could not pay. I remember that almost every family had sugar cane to make molasses. A gallon of molasses was worth fifty cents. The average family probably raised enough cane to make 100 gallons of molasses, so it became a medium of exchange. The merchants would trade goods from the store in exchange for a gallon of molasses. Then the wholesale company would also take syrup from the local merchant. That was a Godsend - actually about all that most had to trade at the store. A nickel was valuable and a dollar was almost unthinkable in 1930-1931. It continued until 1932 when Franklin Roosevelt was President. Relief came - WPA, PWA, CCC and commodities were issued from the government. What a relief! I was graduated from Collinsville High School in 1938.

Highway 19 was straightened to where it was before the four lane came. By 1940, gravel roads were more common - then came blacktop. REA electricity - people had pumps in wells for inside plumbing (can you imagine hot running water and refrigerators, radios, TVs - my! what next?)

By now many more houses were built. Many more families came to be a part of Collinsville. It is still growing.

AN EXPERIENCE AT PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

By Jim and Edna Snowden

We have had many wonderful experiences as pastor and family at several churches, during over forty-five years.

One experience stands out in our memory. Our prayer meetings were important times in our Christian growth and fellowship. Because the attendance at prayer meeting was usually less than at other services, we decided to meet in an assembly room upstairs instead of the auditorium. On this particular evening, we had some refreshments prior to the prayer service. Everyone was seated and settling down to be reverent when Aunt Abbie Hand gave out a shrill cry. Every eye was turned toward the back row. It seemed that Edna, my dear wife, still had a piece of ice in her mouth not yet melted. What did she do? She slipped that little piece of ice down the neck of Mama Hand's dress. Everyone laughed out loud. It was funny. I had to say and do something since I was the pastor. What could I say or do? I simply said "Lets just laugh and then pray and start over." "However" I said, "one more incident like that and we will have to ask my wife and Mama Hand to excuse themselves from the room". They acted very nice after that and remained in the room.

God's Word says, "A merry or joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones." Proverbs 17:22

THE RUBBER GIRDLE

By Edna and Jim Snowden

A very interesting story, among many, come out of our college years at Mississippi College. We had opportunities to visit churches to preach when the pastor was away. This was called "Filling the pulpit" or "supply preaching".

While in some classes much instructions were given to us on how to meet people under these conditions, one such word of advice to Edna, as a preacher's wife, concerned how to dress, and what to wear. Of course Edna wanted to look her best and give a good impression. Remember that this was way back about 1951. Then the best dressed women on Sunday wore hats and gloves, silk stockings and high heel shoes, etc. Edna at that time wore a size 18 dress.

A very unusual and interesting event happened in July of 1951. Jim was invited to preach at a little country church about 100 miles from Clinton, Miss. On this particular hot summer day we dressed to go early that Sunday morning. Edna had bought a new Playtex rubber girdle, possibly a very new style made with small holes designed to let air in and enhance one's figure. Of course Edna wanted to try it that day. Everything went fine until after the morning service.

We were invited to eat dinner and spend the afternoon with those wonderful people who lived on a farm there in that community. By that time the temperature was pretty high, up about 90 degrees. While the lady of the home finished getting the meal ready, Edna needed to go to the bathroom. Being out in the rural area, the toilet was an outhouse with a tin roof. Edna says when she got into the outhouse, she believed the temperature was over 100 degrees. Edna saw that she was going to encounter a problem because when she tried to get the necessary garments down to get ready to empty her bladder, which had become quite distended or expanded by now, that rubber girdle, since it had no cloth lining, had stuck to her skin with perspiration. It would not budge! What to do, she thought, and then nature took its course. Well she endured the situation, during the meal and for a while afterwards. But later that afternoon, along about 3 o'clock it was announced, "Let's eat some watermelons." Edna's first thought was "OH, MY" but then she recalled those words of social etiquette, "be nice and set a good Christian example." By this time she felt the urge to go back to the outhouse. Still the situation was no better but more intensified. All that was left to do was to pray and ask for perseverance and time.

Well, the evening church service time came and all the folks came back to church. By this time, it seemed that time was an essence to be considered. Jim preached, but felt led of the Lord to cut the sermon short, which he did. We told the people the good-byes and left to start back to Clinton.

We had only driven a short distance when Edna said very firmly to me, "Stop this car and get ready to help me!" I pulled the car off that lonely country road in a secluded spot and the disrobing act began. Edna took all of her clothes off down to the rubber Playtex girdle. Then even the worse began. That rubber girdle had vulcanized and stuck so close to her skin that to remove it brought both skin and hair it seemed. Edna said "Get your knife and start cutting!" Thank God there was no traffic and certainly no highway patrolman to pass. Edna got relief, physically and mentally.

Edna told the story of their planning a trip, and her doctor told her it would be okay if she would stop and exercise or stretch ever so often. She had this picture taken to prove she did as the doctor advised.



SALLIE CECELIA TUCKER SNOWDEN JOURNAL

I was born June 4, 1896 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. My mother was Onie Pruitt Tucker, father was S.B. Tucker. They had eight children, two boys - Grady and G. T.; six girls - Janie, Victoria, Nina, Claudine and Louise [note: she did not list the first girl to be born was Sallie].

We were not rich folks, but honest, hard-working, a good living, and went to school at one and two-teacher schools at Leeville. My mother was a teacher and saw that we attended school every day.

We went to church at Pine Grove Baptist Church once a month, and Sunday School on every Sunday P.M. Sure was hot in summer walking to S. S. in evening - had to go across a swamp and creek. Many times we would hide our everyday shoes behind a log and put on Sunday shoes to go to church and S. S. We also went to church over at Leeville School House. The Joiner Rights held services there and they practiced foot washing that was a very sacred communion in that day.

We were a happy family; my mother did lots of sewing, making pretty dressing for her friends. She did believe in pretty things to wear. She also made hats, took a wire frame foundation, covered it with shirred chiffon and a few pretty flowers and ribbon, very pretty.

She also made wedding dresses. I remember she made Miss Annie Powell a blue dress. We all went to the wedding. She was a neighbor girl who married Rev. Edward Gibson, Methodist. They were nice good people.

We got our mail once a week when I was seven years old at the Post Office. Uncle Babe Lee had the office. [note: this was Leeville Post Office] It was great to go over there, Grady and I, and see the mail arrive on horse with the mail sack from Collinsville, where it was brought from Meridian.

I have a faint recollection of going into the old log kitchen on back of the house with my Grandmother Tucker - seeing her spin thread, also the old Loom they made cloth on during the Civil War. She was 89 years old when she died. I also helped her hang her tobacco leaves in top of the barn to dry. She smoked a pipe and had a pocket on her shirt to keep matchbox in. One time Grady and I slipped her matchbox and took out the matches and filled it with broken broom straws. She would try to strike them all and say "What is wrong with my matches, they won't strike." We must have been mean kids playing jokes.

Mother was a good cook and did enjoy friends and relatives. Those times people would come on Saturday nights. We children always looked forward to Coz. Tom Dunkley and Coz. Annie with their crowd - even though some of us had to sleep on pallets. We would roam the woods, gather hickory nuts and berries. Had a big playhouse over in the woods. Also, there were chestnuts and chinky pins to gather.

We had some black children to play with. We loved them too and Elvira, a black woman who would come help my mother with the laundry and housework. She was so good. She could bake good sweet potatoes in the wood stove. We children loved those candy-like potatoes.

We four oldest children came down sick with whooping cough and scarlet fever, all sick at one time. I shall never forget how sick we were. Dr. John Wood was our doctor who lived in the Martin community. He came every day. We only had one hospital in Meridian, our market town and county seat. It was twenty miles from us. That was horse and buggy days.

There were lots of interesting and exciting times in our growing up. We had cows to milk and we helped with chopping and hoeing cotton. Also picked cotton, all of us had a part.

We also had hog-killing times; grinding the sausage and cooking out the fat into lard in the cold weather. We did not have refrigerators to keep ice; the meat would have to lie in salt for three weeks. Then our daddy would wash it in hot borax water and hang it up in the smokehouse to smoke with hickory smoke, which gave the meat a good flavor. After it was all dried and smoked he would pack in salt in a tight box, ready to use as cured meat.

We children went to Leeville School, a one-teacher school. My mother taught there - had a big wood stove heater in middle of building. The big boys would bring in the wood and get it red-hot. We all kept warm. A few years later we had a second teacher, which made the work easy for two teachers. We children all played town ball for past time. Sometimes Rocky Ridge School would come and play against us. Also, we had spelling matches. I was a good speller. Rev. Will Hamrick gave me a book titled "Lives of Our Presidents" for standing up to the last and spelled George Beeman down at last. Rev. Hamrick was a good teacher. We had several concerts while he was there.

That was how I met my husband (Duluth Snowden), He came to one of our concerts. I was fifteen. I went to Union High School later and when I was eighteen we married.

Although I did teach one year in Kemper County - a one-teacher school that had classes for beginner to eighth grade - an enrollment of 28. One family had eight children there. We had lots of fun. I will never forget when Leslie Beeman knocked the stovepipe loose and smoke and fire went everywhere - bless his heart - he was a mess right now.

I am 82 years old and most all those kids who went to school to me have passed on to rest. Some were killed in auto tragedies. We had no cars then and I walked to Rocky Hill and back every day. My sister Vick went with me. I would love to have gone to college but poor girls as I had no finance. So I got married April 4, 1914. Duluth was a hard-working man. He tried everything, farm and had a country store, some cattle and did logging and hauling lumber from local sawmills to railroad at station at Schamberville. He would do any kind of work. I worked hard to help all I could. Lamar was our first child and Margaret came along and we moved to Greenland in Newton County. We had a nice place and somehow Duluth was not happy there and we sold our place and moved back to Lauderdale County. We bought the Cal Downey place from Dr. Bob Hand of Philadelphia. It was a good rich sandy land soil. We made some big crops of cotton, corn, syrup, peanuts, and also had a milk business selling cream. We had a cream separator, which we used, sold the cream and fed the skim milk to the hogs. I don't know how I did it but I milked six or seven cows twice a day, but I was young and healthy - also ambitious. Lamar would take the shepherd dog and drive the cows every evening.

We lived there six years and the schools were better after they were all changed up. The small schools consolidated and a high school was built here at Collinsville. Our children had to ride a bus, drawn by mules until they began using buses. But at first we only had county roads and my - how muddy they could get when it rained. So it was pretty rough for several years.

We bought land here close to school and I began keeping teacher boarders. They only had one Teacher's home and Mr. Hamp Huttoe lived in it, the vocational teacher. They were a nice couple. They had a little boy named Ralph. The principal of the school was Robert Weems from Jackson. He came to board with us. We had a general store, a good business. Also, Duluth bought a new modern cotton gin. Lots of cotton was hauled to our gin during fall and kept us busy. I had three school age. James Martin was my 4th child. [Note: I think she meant 3rd.] He was eight years old when I had a girl baby (Bernice Ruth). Just before she was born (three weeks), James Martin was kicked on head by a mule at the barn on Saturday P.M. He was unconscious for twenty hours. It was very exciting and terrible. We thought he would die. It was awful hard on me expecting a baby. But he recovered and was okay after he opened his eyes after twenty hours. Bernice Ruth was born Jan. 15, 1928. She was a pretty baby and I took her to church the first they had - her first Sunday at church when she was two months old. Duluth and I gave the Baptist people one acre to build the church on. It grew and expanded to where the house was too small. So, he took the block building back and deeded the church people one acre in front of our home where they built a large brick church and it is still there. And the wonderful thing is that James Martin is Pastor there. He made a Baptist Minister. Of course he changed from Methodist to Baptist when he came home from World War II.

Our family was all reared in the Methodist church but as they got grown and married, some were Presbyterians. Lamar married Chrystine Freeman from Meridian so he went to her church. Margaret took a position with Civil Service and went to Livermore, California where she married Robert Tough. They both joined the Presbyterian Church. James M. came back from the War in 1945 and married Edna Hirrill from Oklahoma City. They both joined the Baptist Church here at Collinsville. Bernice remained Methodist and married Richard Lea of Minter City, Miss. Both remained Methodist. Norman married Sarah Frances Smith from Suqualena, Miss. He was Methodist and still is up to now while she is Baptist. Charlotte married L.N. Rhodes, Jr. He was Baptist so she went to the Baptist Church. I feel like Jesus loves all denominations. They are good roads leading to heaven. We have to live Christian lives to get through the Pearly Gates and I am thankful that all my six children go to church.

The depression hit us in 1931. Almost got us financially. Duluth had bought up a lot of timberland on credit payments so he had to sell it cheap to pay the debts but we managed to pull through. He sold Mr. L.N. Rhodes, Sr. a big tract of land north of Collinsville at a loss. Rhodes retired from teaching in 1960 and moved to Collinsville, built a brick house where he still lives. Mrs. Rhodes passed away Sept. 1977.

We could hardly keep Margaret and Lamar in College. They both got some work and helped pay expenses. I kept schoolteachers to help out. Lamar only went two year's to Raymond Junior College and dropped out and went to work for Swift Oil Co. He had two children. Has lived in Houston, Texas for eighteen years.

Margaret married Robert Tough. Margaret lived in California ten years, moved to St. Paul, Minnesota for six years and had a sudden illness while here visiting at Christmas 1968 and died - very shocking and sad. [Note: Dec. 1967 followed by her death Jan. 1968] Margaret had one son, Chris, who was fifteen when she died and he lives in Durango, Colorado. His father remarried and lives in San Francisco. James M. is pastor of Collinsville Baptist Church, has been for sixteen years, lives in Pastor's home. Bernice R. lives in Delta, been there twenty-five years, has three children. Her husband, Richard Lea, is Postmaster at Minter City. Charlotte married L.N. Rhodes, Jr., a dentist. They live in Meridian and have three children.

So Duluth and I were married fifty years when he became ill and Margaret's death seemed to be something he just could not take and his health began to fail. He lived just thirteen months after she died. He was eighty years and four months old when he died.

(Sept. 1978) So I am now eighty-two years old living here in our home he left for me. It is more house than I need but he always said if he passed before I did he wanted me to stay here and have a place for our children to feel welcome to visit me.

(Sept. 23, 1978) James Martin and a party of members of his church here at Collinsville left Saturday by plane to go to Alta, California as a mission project to help build a Baptist church. Six men went from Meridian. Some were plumbers, some electricians and do any kind of building work. They will be gone a week. We hope and pray that God will take care of them and bless the work. We don't have any farming here in Mississippi in our area. People have turned their attention to cattle and timber which is very good.

Every member of my family lived to be grown and marry and have families. Grady, the oldest brother was eighty-two [note: he was eighty] when he passed and had three grown daughters and three grandchildren. Janie Carpender was seventy-seven, had three children and eight grandchildren; was a widow twenty years. Victoria Hand, now a widow of three years, had five children. She is now 78 years and living alone.

I am so glad that he gave the land for the Baptist Church out here and Chris sold them the land for the pastor's home. That is where James Martin has been pastor for sixteen years and lives in the home. I thank God every day for these landmarks to show for the 53 years I have lived here. Duluth did want to see things improved around here but God called him away ten years ago. I feel he can look down from heaven and see the blessings we enjoy here where he made his many tracks.

(July 1979) James Martin and Edna, along with a group from his church are in Alta, California working for ten days to complete the job building a church (a mission project). I had a card from Edna; she said they would have services in the church July 1st. They have almost finished the job.

(August, 1979) The group has returned home from California; reported a most complete job. All attended the first services dedication to the church. James M. preached the first service.

I have filled my deep freeze with vegetables, fruits, and applesauce. I have canned fig preserves, pear preserves, apple jelly. I am proud of all this that I have put up. The things we have to buy are high in price at the store, so it's to our advantage to save all we can. Four rolls of toilet tissue is now \$1.14 - coffee double what it used to be. I look through our old store books when Duluth and I married. It is unbelievable that coffee was ten cents per pound, flour 25 lb. for 75 cents, sugar five cents a lb. The kids this present day can't believe.

The Baptist Missionary people of Collinsville and several rural and Meridian churches are sending workers to Alaska to help complete a church there. Edna and James M. will go.

(June 8, 1980) I had my eighty-fourth birthday June 4th. A happy one too. I don't want to think I am old but I can't hold out to do all the things I want to do. So I just count my blessings every day and hope to live a long time yet and pray to be able to take care of myself.

(June, 1983) They planned a surprise party for my 87th. We had all five of my children here. Had a beautiful cake. We had a host of friends to drop by with cards and gifts. It was very nice.

MY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES OF COLLINSVILLE, MISS.

By Fannie Faye Gibson Thompson

I was the second daughter of Ross P. Gibson and "Mrs. Erie" who were well known in that community. My oldest sister Lorene and my younger brother Ray are now deceased. We did have a half brother, Tommie Jolly, as Mamma's first husband was Tom Jolly. He was the brother of Will Jolly who lived across the road from us at one time. We all loved Tommie and looked forward to his family of four children coming for dinner on Sundays. There was also Aunt Versa, Mamma's sister who lived with us. She and Mamma would prepare the most delicious meal on Sundays consisting of three or four vegetables, chicken and dumplings, a salad and always two or three desserts.

Mamma always had a good garden, milked cows who furnished us with plenty milk and butter and chickens with lots of eggs. We cooked on a wood stove and I remember those green beans cooked in an iron pot, removing the stove eye and setting it directly on the fire. She never failed to have a fruit or potato cobbler pie and you just couldn't beat Aunt Versa's corn bread cooked in an iron skillet. I just couldn't resist the temptation of pinching the crust off one end when passing.

You would see Mamma and Aunt Versa always wearing a bonnet and an apron. Aunt Versa was a good seamstress and made all of our clothes, dressing my sister and me alike. Since there was only a year and three weeks difference in our age, Mamma didn't send Lorene to school until I could go and I would often hear her say we were like twins except we didn't have the same birthday.

We moved from Meridian to Collinsville in 1930 when my parents bought the Hamrick place, built a house on Highway 19, and later sold the property to R. R. Vance, his nephew. We were only 10 and 11 years of age, but have memories which I shall never forget. We had cows, chickens, pigs and a dog named "Peevy". At sundown, if the cows were not at home, nor could we hear their bells, Mamma would get out to try to call them. It was my sister and my responsibility to go after them far into the woods to what they called "bottom" land. Often it became dark but we didn't mind as we walked the trails and could hear the cow bells and we had each other. Mamma was waiting for us so she could milk. I can hear that milk hitting the bottom of her bucket now. She would then let a gallon down in the well with a rope and bring up a cool gallon for us to have for supper that night.

As you remember, the Depression was on and lots of people lost money and it was hard as money was scarce. Thank the Lord, we had plenty to eat by raising our own vegetables, but it was hard. I remember helping clean off new ground which is one of the hardest tasks I have ever done, but you will do anything to help when you see your parents slaving. Mamma and Aunt Versa worked in the field also and taught us how to chop cotton, hoe the grass out of corn and that back breaking job of picking cotton. How well I remember my sister out in the cotton patch with her straw hat on and stockings on her arms when she heard her boy friend, Arlie Skelton was passing. Arlie had been in service and he was walking past our field. Lorene had so much pride about her and she didn't want him to see her, so she laid down in the row so he would not see her. That reminds me of another episode with her boyfriend. One Saturday night Daddy refused to let "Wene", (as I called my sister) go out on a date. She went to bed broken hearted. As we were living in our second home, the two story one built close to the old highway, and Wene and I were sleeping in the front bedroom close to the gravel road, we heard Arlie pass with his guitar, playing and singing: "I'm Thinking Tonight of My Blue Eyes".

On Sunday nights we always walked to what we then called "League" at the Methodist church, often having parts to give. I will never forget our church family at the Collinsville Methodist church. I will always remember Mrs. Allie (Mrs. Tom) McDonald who was one of my Sunday School teachers and who made a lasting impression on my life. Mrs. Ila Clark was our pianist and she was so good. As we were close friends of Minnie Dee, Mrs. Allie's daughter, Lorene and I often went home with her for dinner and spent the afternoon with her playing on their self playing piano by pumping it. In the afternoon we would often meet our boyfriends , Paul Rice and Arlie. Minnie Dee married Paul, had one daughter, but was killed by lightning shortly thereafter.

After selling the two-story house and property to Vardaman Clay, we built another across the road which we called the Nicholson place. My memories at that location was Mamma and Aunt Versa sitting around the fire place piecing quilts and with the churn by the fire. The milk had to clabber so that it could be churned. If only we could have some of that good buttermilk now and have some of that buttermilk cornbread. Daddy built a huge barn to keep our livestock in. How I remember Mamma not taking time to eat breakfast, and grabbing a biscuit plus her milking pails to go and milk the cows. We enjoyed playing in the loft of the barn and also had to help shuck and shell the corn to take to the mill to have it ground. We did not think of buying self-rising meal. I remember the bowl Aunt Versa always used with two cups of buttermilk, and half teaspoon soda and salt. If you put too much soda, you would have yellow bread which wasn't good.

In 1951 Daddy and Aunt Versa decided to buy the store across the road from the Jolly's and build another house. That undertaking took lots of work but was enjoyable. They finally sold the store to the Lockharts. I was transferred to Alabama by Western Union and in 1943, I met George Thompson who worked at the funeral home and we married. Our first child Edith (named for my sister) was born in 1949. I shall never forget taking her to visit our neighbors, Mrs. Arnold and Bess. We were all sitting on her front porch and I shall never forget the words she spoke to me; "Fannie, you love your child, but please raise her where everyone will love her." I can just see Edie with that head full of blond curls and I can truthfully admit after 51 years, she has been a person who gives of themselves to others and is loved by so many who have come in contact with her and her family.

I forgot to mention earlier that we enjoyed our school days attending Collinsville High School and established some good memories with our schoolmates. I can never forget the lunch bell ringing for dinner and our "gang" going to the edge of the woods, find a good log and all spread our lunch. I can readily see some grease spots coming through the newspaper where someone's biscuit and sausage leaked through. What a good time we had laughing and talking and hated to hear the school bell ringing to let us know that dinner time was over. We often went home with Omera Smith who lived several miles up the road close to Nebo. When it rained, it was difficult for the school bus to travel in those deep red-mud ruts and had to have chains put on. I shall never forget sitting in their kitchen on a long wooden bench eating cornbread dumplings in turnip green 'potlicker'. Not only was it good but very nutritious! The next morning, her mother would catch a fryer off the yard, dress and fry it for breakfast. What could be better than chicken, and gravy and hot biscuits.

I remember our 4-H club meetings, at the school house, which we thoroughly enjoyed. I will never forget Mrs. Stacey who came from town to be with us. She was such an inspiration. We also enjoyed the basket ball games for the girls after school. Some of our teachers were Mr. Provine, who later married Lillian Johnson, a Home Economics teacher, Mrs. Clyde Walker, Mrs. Millicent Walker and a Mr. Gilbert. Mr. L. N. Rhodes, who lived near the school, was our Principal. Mrs. Irma Blanks ran the Post Office across the road. We also went to school with Nub, her son, and Herman Rhodes.

Daddy came from a large family of eight or nine sisters and one brother, Rhodes Gibson, who lived up above Collinsville on the Schamberville road. Rhodes married Mattie Hamrick, Sister of Annie Moore (Bob). They had two boys, Edward and Taze. We had some good times together. When they lived on Aunt Agnes' (Bob Fairchild) place, Ray and I decided we would go spend the day with them. We both rode on the same donkey. As we passed through Collinsville, everyone was peeping out of their door at us, and I imagine they were feeling sorry for the donkey.

I could say lots more, but time and space has expired and I am sure you are tired of reading. The Lord has blessed me and I hope I can fulfill His plan for my life.



Children of Erie & Ross Gibson.
Fannie Faye, Ray, Lorene.
Fannie Faye died November 2000 a month
after writing this story.
All three are now deceased.

JULIUS STEVEN TUCKER

By Beth Tucker Smith



Julius Steven Tucker, son of James Simeon Tucker and Frances Ella (Fannie) Doerner, was born January 1, 1926. He was the second child, first son in the family of six children.

Most of his life he lived in the Pine Forest Community on the road that today is the Julius Steven Tucker Memorial Drive. This drive was renamed in November, 1990 in honor of Julius by the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors.

In 1944, Julius and several friends traveled to Meridian to enlist in the armed forces. His friends relate that they all planned to join the army, but they could not dissuade Julius from joining the Marine Corps which had been his life long dream.

After training at Parris Island, South Carolina; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and Camp Pendleton, California, he was shipped out to the Pacific War zone in December, 1944.

Julius was a loving son and brother, who stayed in close contact with his family while in service. Julius was killed on the Island of Okinawa on May 21, 1945. His father died from heart failure five days later on May 26, 1945. The death of the eldest son and then the father left this family devastated.

Julius' siblings are Jimmie D. Tucker Franklin of Brandon, Mississippi; Jonnie Ann Tucker Bailey, now deceased; Frances Tucker Drew of Covington, Louisiana; Donnie K. Tucker and Mara Elizabeth (Beth) Tucker Smith of Collinsville.

DEDICATION OF JULIUS TUCKER ROAD

By Beth Tucker Smith

Through the efforts of Mr. Ikie Ethridge and the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors, the Julius S. Tucker Memorial Drive was dedicated on November 11, 1990.

Julius was a young man, only 19 years old, when he was killed on the Island of Okinawa on May 21, 1945 during the last months of World War II. Julius had lived most of his life on this road, located in the Martin-West Lauderdale Community. The road connects the Center Hill-Martin Road and the Byrd-Doerner Road.

At the dedication ceremony, approximately 125 family members, dignitaries, veterans, and friends were in attendance. An Honor Guard from the Meridian Naval Air Station stood in attendance and performed a 21 gun salute. The Reverend Harold Lollar, pastor of Pine Forest Baptist Church, Julius' home church, was Master of Ceremonies. After speeches by Mr. Ethridge and Reverend Wayne Hunt, Mrs. Jimmie Tucker Franklin spoke about Julius for the family. Mr. Ethridge dedicated the road the sign was unveiled by two Marines: Mr. Billy Pigott who served in World War II, and Mr. Sebern Richardson who served in Korea. After the salute by the Honor Guard, Mr. Jeff Espay, a student at West Lauderdale High School played Taps.

The family appreciates the honor afforded our brother, Julius Steven Tucker, USMC, who willingly entered the Marine Corps and ultimately gave his life for his country and our freedom.

The Bible states in John 15:13 - "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends".

GRANDPA STEPHEN BENJAMIN TUCKER

By Janice Calvert Harrison

My Grandfather Stephen Benjamin Tucker was born Dec. 12, 1858 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. The son of Stephens and Loueza Caroline Ross. He was the grandson of Simeon and Nancy Dunn Tucker, and the great-grandson of George and Rebecca Leverett Tucker of Fayette Co., Alabama. George Tucker fought in the American Revolution War in Wilkins Co. Ga. Simeon Tucker, grandfather of Stephens Benjamin, died Feb. 7, 1856 near Philadelphia in Neshoba County, Mississippi. His descendant's attempts to find the exact location of his grave have failed. He is buried on his last home place, now owned by the Deweesee Lumber Company. His grave does not have a marker.

Grandpa S. B. "Steve" Tucker married Victoria McLemore who was a member of the McLemore family that founded Meridian, Miss. She died of Typhoid fever while expecting the birth of their first child. Grandpa then married Aggie Leona Pruitt. They had two sons and six daughters. Their daughter Ruby Claudine Tucker told me "Daddy was a hard working, honest man. He had a wonderful sense of humor and told us tales around the fireplace on long winter nights. He would start telling a story and get us to the crucial point and then say that he had forgotten what happened. Of course he was joking.

In her later years, Caroline Tucker, grandpa's mother, lived on the old home place with him, grandma, and their children. Aunt Sallie Tucker Snowden tells in her memoirs about seeing my Great-grandmother spin thread and of seeing the old loom that she wove cloth on during the civil war.

Grandpa Tucker owned a large farm and he loved his garden. He may have loved music even more. He was a fiddler. Grandpa played the fiddle for dances and get-togethers. Due to the way dancing was regarded by the church, that may account for his name not appearing on the church roll where family members attended. If you were caught dancing, you were excluded and not accepted back until you repented and made an acceptable apology to the church and its members.

Grandpa sat down one day in his chair for his daily rest and nap. He never awoke. He died July 28, 1945. He would have been eighty-eight years old his next birthday. Who could have asked for a better way to go. Grandpa and Grandma Tucker are buried on the Pine Grove Baptist Church cemetery at Martin near Collinsville.

GREAT BIG YAM POTATOES Anglo-American Fiddle Music Mississippi *The music of the late Stephen Benjamin Tucker*

By Janice Calvert Harrison

In 1939 a joint project of the WPA and the Library of Congress met with Stephen B. Tucker and some other local men to record their fiddle tunes. Thirty-three of Tucker's tunes in all were recorded by Herbert Halpert and Abbott Ferriss. The fiddle Stephen brought to the recording session at the Meridian Junior College was the one he bought when he was 15 years old from a fellow named Thompson. This was right after the Civil War. Many of his tunes were learned from hearing older fiddlers play.



Tucker lived near Charles Long and Frank Kittrell, fiddlers who preferred having straws second them. Straw beats are when a second person uses one or two pieces of broom straw to tap on strings the fiddler is not fingering to produce a rhythm. He played with the straws accompanying him, but never found it appealing, saying that if a tune uses the last string on the fiddle, then straw beating annoyed him.

Stephen B. Tucker was living in a log house on the same land his father had lived on. His father left him 80 acres of land and he had enlarged it to 200 acres and raised six girls and 2 boys on the farm.

Although his father never played the fiddle, one of his two brothers was a well respected fiddler. He said he was nine or ten years old when he learned. He was so little he had to put the fiddle on his shoulder.

Like many other fiddlers of his time, Tucker played for "frolics", picnics, and dances, and with local bands. He also played in many fiddle contests and often won the prize. "Reason I did is I was the oldest and ugliest man". He told the music project workers that he hadn't played much in ten years and he had forgotten many of the older tunes. Twenty-four of his tunes were used on the record album "Great Big Yam Potatoes".

Hazel (Lominick) Miner of Vicksburg recalled her grandfather as a tall, dominant person, very dignified. He walked softly and was a kind man and very respected by his family and others and very much a Southern gentleman. She remembers that when he died, the large grandfather clock in the living room never ran again. It must have been one of his duties to wind that clock each evening. Nina Tucker Calvert, one of his daughters said "All my family were musical people. Everyone played some sort of musical instrument, violin, fiddle, or piano, and my father also played the mandolin. A favorite pastime was sitting on the porch at night and playing the fiddle as a form of relaxing."

Mrs. Miner said "My family never dreamed that his music would have reached such appreciation and be used as background for a Eudora Welty documentary" (requested by the BBC).

GRANDMA'S HOUSE Stephen Benjamin & Aggie Leona Pruitt Tucker

By Jimmye Tucker Huff

It stood against the forces of nature for over a hundred years before it finally fell and gave up the ghost (with the help of a bulldozer), its weathered wood never having known a paintbrush. It started out as a log house and the first portion was built with wooden pegs instead of nails. It faced south with two large rooms on the front, both of which opened onto the front porch. There was a fireplace in the front room on the west side. There were three large rooms in the back, one right behind the other. The northernmost room on the back had a fireplace and had served as the kitchen when the house was first built. A porch ran down the east side of the house to a pantry adjacent to the kitchen and a twin porch and pantry graced the west side. The porches were called "galleries". The room nearest the kitchen served as the dining room.

There was a vegetable garden on the west side of the house where I remember seeing purple eggplants for the first time and a grape vine grew along the garden fence. I can still remember the taste of the sweet purple grapes.

Grandma's orange nasturtiums bloomed every spring in front of the house and in early June, pink roses bloomed profusely where the vines had climbed all the way up the gable to the roof of the house along the east wall to catch the morning sun. There was an abundance of orange daylillies and a purple flower that bloomed by the chimney. There were chinaberry trees that bloomed every spring, a very large mimosa tree and a sloe tree out next to the garden. There were fig and peach trees in the back. Various vines grew around the porch and helped to keep it shady and cool. We spent a lot of time on the porch in the swing enjoying the breeze created by swinging back and forth. There were large canna lilies by both back porches and in late summer, the huge crepe myrtle bushes at back on both sides of the house lit up their corner of the world with a pink fire. I remember how they glowed through the north pantry windows.

The furnishings inside were sparse. They had moved away from the house a few years before when Grandpa suffered an illness and their children thought they were too old to live alone, but they longed to go back home and did so as soon as Grandpa recovered. Most of their furniture had been given away, but some of it had been stored in an old cotton house and they retrieved it. Grandma ordered wallpaper and covered the walls, doing the best she could with what little she had, and there was always an atmosphere of warmth and love there. I remember the dresser they called a "bureau" where Grandpa kept his pipe and tobacco and the picture of their beautiful blue-eyed, strawberry blonde daughter, Nina Irene (Calvert). A picture of a younger daughter, Ruby Claudine, also blue-eyed with strawberry blonde hair, hung on the wall. Elsewhere in the house, there was a picture of an equally attractive daughter, the youngest in the family, Louise (Clark) and her young daughter, Kay. Louise and Kay both had brown hair and brown eyes like Grandma. The blonde hair and blue eyes came from Grandpa.

Nine children were born to them in that house, one of whom died in infancy, but eight survived, two sons and six daughters. They had twenty-nine grandchildren living when they died and there were already a number of great-grandchildren.

The house gave shelter and comfort to other families during the time my grandparents lived away and after they passed away. Grandpa and Grandma last lived there in 1945 and there have been many changes since then, but even now when I pass by in early summer, I catch glimpses of orange daylillies and pink roses, I spy the garlic that always grew outside the garden fence on the south side, and I get a warm feeling remembering the love that existed in that old house. That love was passed on to us, and we, hopefully, pass it on to others.

OLD MAN WITH A FLY SWATTER **(Stephen Benjamin Tucker)**

By Jimmye Tucker Huff

If I could paint, that's exactly how I would portray him. I can still see him in my mind's eye as he appeared on that late August day nearly sixty years ago. He sat in a straight chair on the porch of the old home place holding his homemade leather fly swatter aloft, poised for action. He spent most of his time during his last days sitting in that chair, waging his private battle against the constant swarm of flies. He had clear blue eyes, white hair, a white mustache, and he usually wore a straw hat of some kind. The reason this day was different was because when he looked up at me from his important business of killing flies, I saw tears streaming from the blue eyes down his cheeks. He had just said good-bye (for the last time) to his daughter and granddaughter who had been visiting from Little Rock, Arkansas. The tears didn't appear until after the car had disappeared, leaving a cloud of dust behind it.

He hated the weaknesses which had come upon him in his mid-eighties. He was a proud, distinguished man, who would have been embarrassed for me to see him cry, so although deeply touched, I pretended not to see and walked away, leaving him there alone to think his private thoughts and to continue his battle with the flies.

Grandpa loved thick, sour buttermilk with sugar in it. At one time, he and Grandma bought buttermilk from some neighbors up the road and he would walk to their house to pick up the buttermilk. One day as he was returning home with the buttermilk and nearly to the top of the doorsteps, his legs gave way under him causing him to stumble and drop the jar of buttermilk which broke and splattered everywhere. Grandpa was so frustrated he "cussed" a blue streak and my sister later laughed and said "Grandma, if Grandpa had died, he would have died a-cussing!"

It was not too long afterwards on another hot summer day that Grandpa ate his lunch, drank his usual glass of thick, sour buttermilk (with sugar in it), then sat down in his rocker and simply went to sleep for the last time. The thing he had dreaded had come silently, softly and gently as a butterfly, a tribute to one who had lived in a like manner, his only violence being toward flies and the infirmities of old age.

Grandpa was an accomplished fiddler and proof of this can be found in the Library of Congress where there is a recording of his music made by a WPA worker. The WPA worker came and drove him to the Junior College in Meridian to make the recording. (We didn't have electricity then.) Grandpa was eighty years old at that time but retained remarkable agility in his fingers. (He was still a strong man at eighty and a neighbor reports seeing him swim the length of a pond at that age.) He answered questions in the recording and told what he knew about the various tunes he played. I was amazed when I first heard about the tape because I didn't know it existed. I was only a young child at the time it was made. Grandpa had been dead more than forty years when we finally managed to get a copy of the tape. What a thrill it was to hear once more the voice that had so long been silent and the music we thought lived only in memory. It was a fantastic gift to his grandchildren. He lived his days in a harsh environment and endured many trials and tribulations but his God-given gift of music lightened his load and brought joy to him and all who had the privilege of hearing him play.

There's a private radio station in Columbia, South Carolina that broadcasts his fiddle-playing even today, fifty-five years after his death. (Thanks to a great grandson who gave a copy of the tape to a friend who operates a radio station from his home.) I imagine that Grandpa would have a good laugh about this and I can just hear him saying "Well, I declare!"

ROGER ROLLAND VANCE FAMILY

By Jerry Vance Ethridge

We moved to Collinsville, Ms. in 1938 from Cincinnati, Ohio. For a little background, before we moved to Collinsville, Mother and Daddy lived in Laurel, Ms., went to Laurel High School and married in 1923. Daddy played football at Laurel High School and some thirty years later (1955) there was an article in *The Meridian Star*, by sports writer C. H. Phillips who said "Speaking of small men, Laurel H. S. had some real good small men. Rolland R. Vance(operates a small farm near Collinsville) was about the best small flat-footed fullback I ever saw." They moved to Starkville, Ms. where daddy had a football scholarship with MSU (then A&M College). Mother taught school in the beginning and daddy was in ROTC and played football. By the time he received his degree in Mechanical Engineering, they had three children; Rolland Jr., Joe, and Rubye. His first job was in Barren Fork, Ky. installing electricity in the coal mines. Jerry and Wanda were born in Kentucky. After completing this job, we moved to Cincinnati, Oh.

Daddy went to Laurel to a funeral. There he was with his uncle Ross Gibson. Before returning to Ohio, Uncle Ross had sold him a 102 acre farm, house with no electricity, a well and outdoor toilet. Daddy had had enough of the north, and wanted to raise his family in the south, so he sold our three story home in Cincinnati, loaded us in two pick up trucks and headed south. I was 5 when we left Kentucky and 8 when we left Ohio. There are a few things I remember, one I recall of the trip. We stopped along the side of the highway to eat sandwiches. There were no road side parks and a few restaurants back then in 1938. Wanda and I saw a field of yellow flowers, and asked daddy if we could pick some. He said yes, and later told us to lick our fingers. YUCK! This was my first encounter with bitter weeds.

We settled in our new home and mother and daddy became active in church and community activities. Our farm had goats, pigs, horses, chickens, cows, cats and dogs. We raised our vegetables, chickens, pork and beef. Before Sunday School on Sundays, daddy cut hair for neighbors and usually on Sunday afternoon we made home made ice cream.

School days, I was delighted that a school bus stopped in front of our house (I had to walk to school in Ohio). My first teacher was Miss Amy Ethridge, very strict and completely flustered with my fast yankee brogue.

In fourth grade my teacher told mother I was the most conceited student she had ever had, I signed all my papers "Lovely Geraldine Vance". Mother explained my name was Lovey Geraldine. After this I started to use Jerry, short for Geraldine. In eighth grade I remember winning a spelling bee. Billy Gene Castle and I were the last 2 contestants. The word was Cincinnati. Billy spelled it right but failed to say capital letter. I had no problem with the word as I had moved from Cincinnati to Collinsville. In the sixth grade I got my only paddling by Millicent Walker. She would bend back your hand and use her ruler. She paddled the whole class because we stood up and looked out the window at the buses of another school who had come to play basketball. They then played on dirt courts, during school hours. Years later we had a gym, with pot belly stoves for heat. In early sixties after we moved to the new West Lauderdale School, the community gave our gym to the black church to use the lumber to rebuild their church that had burned. Mr. T. S. Pigford was my high school basketball coach. Mrs. Pigford was my piano teacher. One of my favorite teachers in High School was Mrs. Mabel Walker, even though she made us memorize a lot.



Collinsville Teachers - 1st Row: Amanda Powell, Mabel Walker, Millicent Walker, unknown and Amy Ethridge

Some of my best school memories were school plays, friends, and classmates, especially six girls, Jane, Peggy, Jeanine, Faye, Pearl, and myself. We played together, attended church together, dated together (it took a school bus, Ikie's, to carry all 6 and our dates). We laughed together, and even cried together when one of the six died (Jeanine). One of my worst memories of Collinsville High School is the girl's outhouse which we shared with spiders and snakes.



The Six Friends - Jane Gibson, Fay McDonald, Pearl Higginbotham, Jerry Vance, Jeanine Herrington, and Peggy Gibson.

Daddy and Mr. Will Jolly wired most of Collinsville and we no longer had to study by lamps. We now had indoor bathrooms, divided in 3 separate portions to accomodate a family with 6 children. Later daddy laid out the plans for the Collinsville water system. In 1947 we had our first telephone (4 party line). We even had movies in a big tent by Mile's Garage. These were mostly cowboy and Indian movies.

Our neighbors in the first house on our road - going toward Meridian -were Lola and Vardaman Clay and their seven children. Their oldest daughter, Willie Cline, was a bridesmaid in our wedding. Next door was Haney Anderson's black smith shop. We would take corn from the corn crib to Mr. Haney's and he would grind it into corn meal. Across the road was Clyde Walker's store. We would slip eggs from the hen houses and take to Mr. Clyde's store. I was always glad to see Mr. Clyde in the store because he would give us more candy for our eggs.

Across from the store lived Heber and Clydie Gibson and family. Mr. Heber could cook the best corn bread ever! His daughter Peggy and I became the best of friends. We played basketball for Collinsville High School and were always together, at her house or mine, even after they moved to Schamberville.

Tommy and Euna Crenshaw and family moved into the Gibson house and Evelyn and I played basketball on the same team. Mr. Pigford was our coach. I remember winning the tournament in Decatur defeating Vimville girls for the 1st time in years. The next weekend we went to Bassfield to play in the District Tournament. The ball team stopped in a little cafe in Laurel. While in the cafe, Evelyn slipped a small dish for a souvenir into my purse. Somehow by the time we had reached Bassfield, Mr. Pigford knew about the dish. He called us aside and told us we would return the dish and apologize to the owner of the café on the way home from Bassfield. We did stop in Laurel, did go in the cafe, but Evelyn did not apologize or return the dish. I never told because I was more afraid of Evelyn Crenshaw than Mr. Pigford.

Down the road was John and Lizzie Long's home. Mr. Johnny could tell the scariest ghost stories. One night he told us about a headless man who when you walked by his house at night would come out and walk so far with you and then disappear. When we kids started home it was very cold but there was a big bright moon. About ½ the way I saw a headless person, I thought, coming our way. I froze and so did the headless person. Then it called my name. It was my mother with her bathrobe pulled over her head against the cold coming to tell us it was time to come home. We had no telephone then.

When I was a little older, I needed some money to go to the fair. Mr. John Carpenter said I could pick some cotton from his patch. That was my first and last cotton to pick. I had very sore hands, a hurting back, and very little money.

Across the road was Nathan and Ela Faye Daniel's home. We enjoyed riding bikes in the day and making music at night. Mr. Nathan would lead us in the songs and Pebble would play the piano, Cluis and Everett would play guitars and mandolins.

The next house was Arnold Carpenter's home. Their motto must have been "have wheels, will travel". They traveled more in their motor home than anyone I know. Enjoying life!

The next house was Clayton Harwell's house. We enjoyed playing with all his children. Mr. Harwell lived to be over a hundred years old. The last house was the Caruthers Carlton home. It is among one of the oldest homes in Collinsville today. He also enjoyed the music making.

On this mile stretch of road (Old Hwy 19 South) some of these families still live. The Carpenters, Daniels, and Vances have been neighbors for over sixty years.

During the war, daddy worked in Oak Ridge, TN., only allowed to come home every few months, unknowingly was working on the atomic bomb. My two older brothers, Jr. and Joe, were in the Coast Guard and Navy respectively. Mother took care of the home front and children. After the war, daddy was in construction. He built West Lauderdale School, started in March and completed in September except the gym.

Mother was a member of Collinsville Methodist Church for 54 years, a Sunday School teacher, and Charter member of United Methodist Women. She was also officer of 60 Plus Women's Club, Home Demonstration Club and a 4-H Club Leader, member of PTA and Lula Moore Garden Club.

Mother and Dad had 6 children:

1. Roger Rolland Jr. He joined the Coast Guard and while in port in New York met a Yankee girl, Marie Schizer. After the war they married. Jr. worked as a C.P.A. for a textile company. They raised 7 children in Brooklyn, New York. Jr. died in 1974 during open heart surgery. His wife Marie and 7 children, 17 grandchildren live in the New York and New Jersey area. Some still come to Mississippi for our family reunion.

1. Son - Kenneth Vance - died at birth

2. Daughter - Rosemary married George McDonald and had 4 children. After her divorce, she went to college and received her nursing degree. Her first son Georgie died in a car accident in 1989. Her daughter Julie is a nurse. Julie married Robert Grayson. Rosemary also has twin girls, Rosemarie and Christine. Christine married Mark Kochaniec. Rosemarie married Griffin Jones and they have a daughter Madison Paige Jones. They all live in the New Jersey area.

3. Son - Albert married Connie Poidomani and he is employed with a cola distributing co. They have three children, John in college, Lauren and Kristin in high school. They live in New Jersey.

4. Daughter - Jane - married Vinnie Limandri. They have one daughter named Gina. Jane later married Vineet Meheta., a doctor from India. They have two sons; Raj and Tim. They now live in Melbourne Beach, Florida. Vineet has his own practice and Jane works in his office.

5. Son -Rolland III - married Joanne Abate. Rolland works for UPS and they have one son Roger, who is in college. They live in Copeague, New York.

6. Daughter - Marian - is a nurse and married John O'Hara who is employed with the FBI. They have two children, Erin who plays high school softball, Sean who plays high school football and baseball. They live in Virginia.

7. Daughter -Frances - married Tom Baker and is a nurse. They have three children, T.J., Melissa, and Michelle. They live in New Jersey.

8. Daughter - Delores - married Mark O'Neil and is in real estate. They have three children. Caitlin, Alma Jane, and James. They live in New Jersey.

II. Son - Joe Richard joined the Navy. After the war he and Raymond Poole went to Memphis, Tennessee to a Diesel School. They went to a Baptist church with their landlady and there Joe met Mary Pinkley. Mary and her friends had been saving for a vacation to Biloxi, Mississippi and upon their return, Joe met them at the train station and delivered all the girls and their luggage (one lived on the third floor) to their homes. Joe then proposed to Mary. He was pretty sure because he had the ring in his pocket. They were married in Egypt Baptist Church. Mother and I rode the Greyhound bus to Memphis for the wedding. They live in Perry, Georgia and Joe retired from Warner Robin Air Force Base. They have 2 sons.

1. Son - Ricky married Linda Sutton and they have one daughter, Rachel who is in Perry High School. Ricky is employed by the US Government. They are members of Perry First Baptist Church and live in Perry, Georgia.

2. Son - Ronald married Gail Jackson. They have two sons, Bruce and Phillip. Both boys are very active in sports. Ronald is employed by the US Government. They are active in Rehoboth Baptist Church. Ronald and Gail both teach Sunday School. They live in Perry, Georgia.

III. Daughter - Rubye Merle got a job with the telephone company and finished high school in Meridian. Most of the boys in her class at Collinsville had gone to war. I enjoyed going to her apartment because she had peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. At home we had just what we raised and not much store bought food. After the war, Rubye married C. L. (Lewis) Harrison from Little Rock, MS. Lewis worked with Sears Roebuck for 34 years and Rubye worked for Dr. Stoddard for 25 years. They live in Meridian, MS. They have three sons.

1. Son - Charles Lewis Jr. (Charlie) married Cathy Shepherd. They have two sons. First son is Charles Lewis III (Chuck). Second son is Samuel Montgomery (Tye). Charlie later married June Knight. He is executive Director of Mississippi Hospital and Equipment Facilities Authority and VP for Capital Programs of the Mississippi Hospital Association. He is also a pilot. One year at our family reunion at Clarkco, he flew over Clarkco, dipped his wings and signaled for someone to pick him up when he landed in Quitman. No one saw him. It took him 15 minutes to fly from Jackson and 45 minutes to walk to Clarkco. His son Tye is also a pilot. They live in Jackson, MS.

2. Son - Roger Dale married Carol Coward and he works as Director Risk Manager of Mississippi Baptist Hospital. They have three children. Alisa graduated from Mississippi College and Roger and Samantha Rubye are in Jr. high school. They live in Brandon, MS.

3. Son - Robert David (Bobby) married Diane Ballett. They have one son, David. Bobby later married Debbie Walters and he has twin step-children, Jody and Jamie. Bobby works for Colonial Bakery and they live in Meridian, MS.

IV. Daughter - Lovey Geraldine (Jerry) who's only claim to fame was to be selected as best girl athlete senior year, and elected Miss Collinsville High School in 1948. Received a Business Diploma from Southern Business College. She married Ikie Ethridge when he finished school at the University of Southern Mississippi. He received his degree on Friday and they were married on Sunday, after 4 years of courtship. His first job was teaching and coaching at Martin High School. He went into service and went to Korea and returned to teach and coach at Collinsville High School. The schools were being consolidated and Ikie was West Lauderdale's first principal and Jerry was the first secretary. Then they moved to Scooba, MS. where Ikie was the Academic Dean and Registrar, and baseball coach (won state championship) at EMJC. They then moved back to Collinsville when Ikie was elected County Superintendent of Education. Later he was principal at Kate Griffin Jr. High, then entered politics and was elected County Supervisor and is now retired. He doesn't like to say he's "retired", but a "land developer". Jerry worked as secretary at Collinsville High School, West Lauderdale High School, and EMJC, and computer operator with Pioneer Inc. for 24 years. She is now very happily retired. They built a home on the old Vance property. Jerry and Ikie have 4 children.

1. Daughter - Mona Lynn married Ricky Roberson. They graduated from USM where Lynn played basketball and softball and received her BS and MS degree. Ricky played baseball and received a BS degree. Lynn taught at Northwest Jr. High for 15 years and now teaches at Clarkdale, and Ricky also teaches and coaches at Clarkdale, where he has won many State Championships. They have three daughters. Kacie Lynn attends MSU branch, has played two years of college softball and has offense records at University of West Alabama and Meridian Community College, including school records for the most home runs at Meridian Community College. She was also selected MVP and nominated for JUCO All American. Daughter Robbi Ann attends college at Meridian Community College. She has been selected best defense and nominated for the National Louisville Slugger Defense Award. She has played two years of college softball. They just returned from Florida where they played in the National JUCO Tournament. Robbi is now playing softball for the University of Southern Mississippi. Daughter Cory Ashton is in elementary school at Clarkdale.

2. Son - Ikie Keith (Ike) married Tracy Scarbrough. Ike played football, basketball, and baseball at West Lauderdale High School and received the Richard May award. Ike received a B. S. degree from MSU and coached and taught and was a high school principal. Later he got a BS degree in Fire Science from Memphis State and now is employed at the Navy Base as a fire inspector. Tracy is in charge of the elementary computer lab at West Lauderdale. They have three children. Daughter Kylie Kay is a student at MCC. She sang with the MCC Chorus and was in the college production of South Pacific and Pinocchio. Jessica Kim is a student at West Lauderdale and plays softball. Recently West Lauderdale won the State Championship. Jessica pitched and won the last 3 games. She was selected as one of the State Players of the Week for Class 3A softball players. Son Landon Keith is in elementary school and plays baseball and football. They built a home on the old Vance property.

3. Daughter - Rhonda received her BA degree from MSU and pitched for MSU softball team. She married Bill Brand from Hickory, MS. She worked at WTOK-TV and was head of the athletic program in Meridian until she married and now works part time in the family furniture store. They have two children. William Troy Brand IV (Will) is 5 and plays soccer and t-ball. Daughter Jera Ruth Brand named for two grandmothers is 3.

4. Daughter - Kristi Ruth (our surprise). We had three teenagers when Kristi was born. She received her BS degree in Psychology from USM and her Master's degree from MSU in Community Counseling. She is currently employed as a School Attendance Officer for the Department of Education at the Lauderdale County Juvenile Center.

All of our children and spouses are Christians and active in their churches. We have 8 grandchildren, the 6 oldest have made professions of faith and all play ball.

V. Daughter - Wanda Mae went to ECJC and there she met Randy Richmond from Freeny, MS. They both graduated from USM and Randy went into the Army and was sent overseas. Close to the end of his tour, Wanda applied and got a teaching job at Martin Elementary School. However, the school year started before she got home and Mother came out of retirement and taught the first couple of weeks until Wanda came home. The rest of their years teaching and being a principal were in Pensacola, Florida. Both are now retired and live in Pensacola, Florida. They have two sons.

1. Son - Rodney Kyle married Audrey Clark. Rod is employed by Rubber and Specialties. Audrey received her Master's Degree and is employed with Anteon Corporation. They live in Pensacola, Florida.

2. Son - Russell Van just received a Master's degree from LSU and is a geologist with PPM and lives in Pensacola, Florida.

VI. Son - Edward Eugene Clifton (Sonny) is the only Collinsville born child. Before Sonny was born, mother told us if the baby was a girl, the 3 sisters could name her. If the baby was a boy, daddy and the 2 brothers could name the baby. Vances have a stubborn streak, when the baby was a boy, none of the males would give up their name for him, so his name really is Edward Eugene Clifton Vance and a neighbor called him "Sonny" and it stuck. Sonny received his Engineer degree from MSU. He met Merle Brown on a blind date and they were married. His first job was in St. Louis, MO. with the McDonald Air Craft Company. They were very homesick and after a couple of months the home sick couple were back in Collinsville to stay. Sonny then went to work as an engineer with Mississippi State Highway Department. He recently retired. They live on the old Vance property and have three children.

1. Daughter - Julie Annette received her BS degree in Computer Science from USM. She married Major (Bill) Pierce who is employed at MCC as the Telecommunications Specialist. Julie is System Analyst at Atlas Roofing Co. They built a home on the old Vance property. They have 2 sons, William Lamar (Will), and Wes Major who attend elementary school.

2. Son - Mark Edward received his degree in electronics from Ritz. He is employed by A & B Communications. He is married to Julie Carol Denton of Suqualena. They have a home on the old Vance property. They have 2 daughters. Kristen Brook and Courtney Paige.

3. Daughter - Luci Joy is employed at the Silver Star as accountant Clerk. She also lives on the Vance property.

The last and most important thing about the Rolland Vance family is that mother and daddy were Christians, as their works and actions proved. Every fall Daddy gave the church a special fed calf for the church Bar-B-Que. Daddy quietly made sure all our pastors had new Sunday suits. All of their children and spouses are Christians, some Baptist, some Methodists, and even some Catholics. Even though different denominations, we will all be in heaven together some day.

Daddy died in 1972 and mother died 1992.



Bertice and Rolland Vance.

THE VINCENT FAMILY

By Jeff Vincent Mayatt

Which Vincent family? "The one with all those girls", is the most common description for us. Today, we "girls" are: Sarah Lee Mixon, Walterine (Rena) Scarbrough, Sue Mosley, Elaine Gunn, Jeffrey Mayatt, and Pat Kotouc. Our ages ranged from 11 to 24 when we finally got our one and only brother, Claude Melbourne Vincent, Jr. (Sonny). That was in 1955 and Mama (Maureen) was almost 43 and a grandmother of two. That was the most exciting news of Collinsville back then.

Except for Sarah Lee, each of us is six feet tall and we sisters are said to bear quite a resemblance. People quite often mistake us for one of the others. That, plus the outstanding reputation that the older three achieved on the basketball courts has led people to refer to us as those Vincent "girls." Through the years, many older people who couldn't call us by name, or who didn't even know us at all, have recognized us as one of those "Vincent girls".

All six of us sisters graduated from the old Collinsville school that's behind McPhail's Food Center. Sarah Lee got married and dropped out for awhile, then returned and graduated with Rena in 1951. Pat was a member of the last graduating class in 1962. The older three were in high school together and played on the same basketball team until Sue got upset with Coach Keyes Currie and quit. She moved to Martin, lived with Aunt Annie Lee Nutt, and played ball for Coach Ikie Ethridge. Then she played against her older two sisters. (They still argue over who did what.) Rena was named to the "All-state" team in 1950 and 1951. Sue did later return home and was on Coach Keyes Currie's State Championship team in 1952.

Sue had graduated before we younger three got in high school. Although we tried to carry on the family tradition, neither of us was so successful. Each one of us played guard, under the goal, and one had to graduate before the other could make first team, but we three monopolized that position for about six years.

Mama, Daddy, and all six of us girls were born at home in Martin. In the earlier years, Daddy farmed. Sarah Lee and Rena worked harder than most boys, doing everything from splitting stove wood to plowing a mule. The older three girls started school at Martin.

Later, around the mid-forties, Daddy went to work in the oil fields of Louisiana and Texas and moved the family to Collinsville. During that time we lived in rented houses on the Gipson and Swearingen roads until Daddy bought the little four room house on Hwy. 19 that became our home. It was there that we had many of our firsts, i.e., telephone, refrigerator, wringer type washing machine, television, car, and running water. For many years, the running water was only in the kitchen. It wasn't until the early sixties, after Sue and Elaine were working and able to pay for the materials, that Daddy added a bedroom and our first bathroom. He was a fine carpenter and had years earlier started doing that for a living. Through the years, he worked for Louie Lee, Freeman Moffett, and Phil and Connie Mack Smith. Mama stayed home, raised her seven and part of her grandchildren. She and Daddy always had a garden that kept her busy and was the envy of many of our neighbors. Farming had been in their blood and it showed.

Even though life was hard, we have fond memories of those times. Mama always saw to it that we attended church, even when we had to walk. She made sure we had clean clothes, many of which she made from feed sacks. We had some of the prettiest dresses, and we had patch-work jackets long before they were fashionable. We grew up on hand-me-downs and lots of love. We never went hungry and often fed others at our table.

We were regular members of Collinsville Baptist Church when it was a little cement block building where Smith's Auction is held now and when it first moved across the highway.

All of us girls were gone from home by 1965. Sonny graduated from West Lauderdale in 1973. After we were all grown and gone, Daddy and Mama sold their place on Hwy. 19, bought a mobile home, and settled across the creek from the land that they had lived and worked in earlier years. Daddy spent his last and best years hunting and fishing on the land that he had played on as a child. He even attended church with Mama. Mama is 88 and still lives there near Frazier Grove with Sonny and Rena close by. The other five of us live on or near Collinsville-Martin Road. We find that quite fitting, as we truly are products of both communities.

At this writing, Melbourne and Maureen had seven children, 15 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great-grandchildren, five generations, most of which live near Collinsville. We're so thankful for our big family!

THE JOHN RUSHING VINCENT FAMILY OF MARTIN

by Doris Jean Vincent Raley & Ellen Vincent McGuire

John Rushing Vincent was the son of Isaac and Comelia Vincent. That family consisted of John, Walter, Claude, Will, Lee and Elma. John married Clydie Velma Moore (always called by her nick name "Pink"). They were married Dec. 22, 1907. Pink Vincent was the daughter of Thomas and Mollie Moore. That family consisted of Bob, Jim, Jack, Jade Pearl Gibson and Emily (Bird) Snowden.

John and Pink had the following children: Maurice, Nelson, Cecil, Claude and Eileen. **Maurice** married Hester Pruitt. Their children are Doris Jean Vincent Raley, and Clydie Willene Vincent. **Nelson** married Bennie Mae Belk and their children are Donna Kay Johnson and Ben Vincent. **Cecil** married Victoria Lee and their children are Lee and Lanell Vincent Akin. Wayne, their oldest son died as a child. **Claude** (T. C.) married Colleen Alsup and their children are, Teri Vincent Purvis Tony Vincent, and Tommy Roy Vincent. **Eileen** married Jasper Ellis, (who is deceased) and second, she married William "Mac" McGuire. There are several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

John and Pink lived on what is known as Hand Road. The Martin Baseball Field was in John's pasture.

REFLECTION

By Doris Jean Vincent Raley

I am the oldest grandchild and "Mamaw" Vincent referred to me as "the Grandchild" til the day she died. The only way to describe growing up in the John Vincent family is it was a "Hoot". There was so much love, good food, laughter all the time, music and beautiful flowers. Each member of the Vincent family was blessed with a tremendous sense of humor, along with beautiful blue eyes. Mamaw played the guitar, Aunt Eileen played the piano, and Uncle Cecil played the spoons and the pie plate. They all sang, even Uncle Nelson, "who was a deaf mute" and could dance better than anyone I know.

Mamaw and Papaw Vincent were two of the finest people on earth. After Papaw's brother, Walter died, they took in Arno and later Lorhee Vincent to finish school at Martin. Mamaw was a talented cook, story teller, seamstress, gardener, and musician, and also she was very humorous. Her sister, Pearl Gibson lived right down the road and they were our extended family. If I had my choice of where and what family I could be born into, I would choose Martin and the John Vincent family all over again.

Aunt Eileen is 10 years older than I am and she is and has always been my idol. It is so ironic that as we get older, we are so much alike it is scary. Being raised at Martin as a Vincent was a blessing.

THE EARLY YEARS IN COLLINSVILLE OF WALTER CLYDE WALKER, SR. AND MABEL GRACE NICHOLSON WALKER

By Ellen Carpenter Walker

Walter Clyde Walker, Sr. was the son of Walter Raymond Walker and Lillie Houston Walker. He was one of ten children. He was born and raised in Newton County in the Rocky Ridge Community. Later his family moved to Collinsville where his father ran a grocery store for years.

Mable Grace Walker was born and raised in Neshoba County in the Dixon Community. She was the daughter of Robert Nicholson and Ada White Nicholson.

In 1927 Mable Grace Nicholson moved to Collinsville and began teaching school in the Lauderdale County School System. Walter Clyde was also now attending Collinsville High School. In her early years at Collinsville Mabel lived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Jolly.

On December 20, 1930 Walter Clyde Walker, Sr. and Mabel Grace Nicholson were married. In 1933 and 1937 Walter Clyde and Mabel purchased property from Mr. V. E. Joyner and his wife Verbia Joyner. This property was located on Old Highway 19 at the Wilsondale Road intersection. This property included a home with a store located in the front part of the house.

On March 12, 1939 an only child, Walter Clyde Walker, Jr. was born.

In 1939 and 1940 the new Highway 19 was constructed. In 1940 Mr. Walker built a new store on the new highway which he continued to operate until his death on May 10, 1991. Mrs. Walker continued teaching with the Lauderdale County School System until her retirement in 1967. Mrs. Walker died in her home in Collinsville on March 1, 1994.

Walter Clyde Walker, Jr. married Ellen Carpenter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Thad Carpenter, on Nov. 7th, 1958. They have three children and five grandchildren. Clyde Jr. was the Lauderdale County Welfare Director until his retirement in 1991.

THE WILLIAMSONS OF THE MARTIN AREA

By Arlene Williamson Baker

The first record of the Martin area Williamsons, was in 1850 when William Brinkley Williamson arrived in Kemper County on horse-back with his thirteen year old wife, Marcella Adeline Posey. They were both from the town of Grady, Alabama, located in Montgomery County.

Needless to say, as a result of four wives and twenty-four children, there were many grand, great-grand, and great-great grandchildren living in the Martin area and attending the Martin School. These included the families of Jane and Marion Powell, John Powell, Cebelle Hand, Jim Fortson, Henry and Mattie Calvert, Fannie and George Duncan, Linney and Reubin Hodgins, Ellie and Ollie Rasberry, Julie and Joe Rasberry, Annie and John Slayton, Zelia and Ike Ethridge, Leila and Alex Miles, and Jeff Williamson.

When Jeff married Esther Pool, the daughter of John Pool and Susan Biggs, this immediately made the Williamsons kin to the Trussells, Snowdens, Fosters, Mays, Myers, Biggs, Gipsons, Clays, Hatchers, Morlands, Stephensons, Barnes, Lees, and the Boatners, all who lived in the Martin community and attended school at Martin.

Jeff, Frank, Annie, Zelia and Marcella were the only children of William Brinkley to remain in Kemper County. The others moved to different areas of Lauderdale, Neshoba, Winston, and Holmes Counties and to Louisiana.

Jeff and Esther worked in the logging camps for several years with Jeff's sister, Zelia and her husband, Ike Ethridge. They then made their way back to Kemper County to farm. After the crops were laid by, Jeff would entertain his family by playing the harmonica. In 1928 he began to drive his 1927 model T to Zion school in Kemper County for a period of three years. Even though Jeff only had eight years of formal schooling at Tucker Springs he was a very wise and knowledgeable person and insisted that his children get an education. His oldest son, Othell, known as "Toots", received his first two years of schooling at Zion. His teacher, Mrs. Carlson, lived in the teacher's home that is still located on Zion-Kemper Road, a mile past Calvert's store on the left. Jeff only lived a quarter mile across the Lauderdale County line in Kemper County. When the Zion school closed, the Lauderdale County School Board hired him to transport the Kemper students living on the Williamson Road, and a number of Lauderdale County students to Martin. The closest school in Kemper was DeKalb, approximately thirty miles away. At that time the roads were impassable, therefore Kemper paid Lauderdale a subsidy to allow Jeff to "cross" over the line and educate "their" children. He had to keep a daily record of each child riding his 1928 Chevy.

To get from Jeff's house he would either have to shovel out every few feet, or pull the bus with his mules as far as Jeff Hands'. In later years he would pull the bus with his Ford tractor to the top of the hill and leave it there for the afternoon's trip back to the house. His children always knew their mom would have a big pot of tomato soup, a cold biscuit, a churn full of cold buttermilk, baked sweet potatoes or parched peanuts waiting for them. It was always so cold and there were never any heaters in the buses in those early years.

At that time the Lauderdale County roads weren't much better than Kemper's. Once Jeff would get as far as Frank Davis' home, which is now on the Nutt road, he would drive across the field and come out beside the women's outdoor privy at Pine Grove Church. He would drive the bus on the side of the terraces and tell all the kids to get on the upper side of the bus so that it wouldn't tip over. Our hearts would be in our mouths. We just knew that every second was going to be our last!

Jeff went to Meridian in 1934 and bought a brand new Chevrolet truck for \$600.00. The only "extra" it had on it was the windshield! Every day he and his two oldest sons, "Toots" and Charles, would go to Joe Rasberry's, Jeff's brother-in-law, who lived on preacher Eugene Stephens' place. It was there that the four of them worked to build the body for this truck. They turned it into a top-notch school bus, complete with bench seats on each side and down the middle. Lauderdale County provided the buses once Jeff began to drive for Collinsville school. Prior to that, all the buses he drove were his own. The money for the gasoline, tires, oil, and other supplies needed to operate the buses came out of his own pocket.

Jeff drove his different buses to Martin from 1931 until the closing of the school in 1957. All seven of his children, "Toots", Charles, Bob, "Punk", twins Carlene and Arlene, and Iwana, rode his bus their very first day until their last day of school. The six oldest children graduated at Martin. Iwana, who was in the last eighth grade class at Martin in 1957, chose to go to Collinsville rather than Center Hill. Jeff continued to drive to the Collinsville school after the consolidation until around 1961. He was a very dedicated employee who loved his job very much, driving the school buses for a total of thirty-three years.

All of Jeff's children, with the exception of Charles, played on Martin's basketball team. Charles chose to be the team manager and was his class' salutatorian. After graduation he became an Infantryman in World War II. Bob was the only boy to graduate in his class, so, of course he was never lonesome for female company. During "Punk's" tenure at Martin, he was the official bell ringer. Classes could not start until he gave the signal!

After betting their education, the children, again with the exception of Charles, headed to Battle Creek, Michigan, better known as "cereal country", to make it rich. Jeff and Esther even went. It was nothing like Kemper, so Jeff, Esther, and Iwana came back just in time for Iwana to start school and for Jeff to drive the school bus. After a number of years the other five decided that Mississippi looked pretty good and came back, too.

At one time all of Jeff's children, except "Punk", lived on the William Brinkley Williamson homestead. "Punk" lived in Collinsville, as it's unofficial "mayor", until his death in 1993. Jeff died in 1968, Esther and Carlene both in 1996.

The four sons all had motorcycles and traveled to various parts of the U.S. as "The Over The Hill Gang". Bob, the Retired Wolf, still has his bike stored in his garage so that he won't forget the good ole days!

Bob, now 70, lives on what was the original site that was homesteaded by William Brinkley Williamson one hundred fifty years ago. His spare time is spent playing on his bulldozer. "Toots", Charles and Arlene live one-half mile down the road on Jeff's old homeplace. As a teenager "Toots" could be spotted at any given time on the Williamson-Hand Road riding his beautiful horse "White Top". Now, he's seen riding side-saddled on his four wheeler, with his walker attached to the back. Charles, 75, can usually be found on his back porch admiring his prize herd of Boer goats. Arlene and Carlene's spare time as teen-agers was trying to out-wit baby sister, Iwana, as to their whereabouts. Arlene, 65, a genealogy buff in her spare time, can be found "digging" in various cemeteries across the south. As a very young child Iwana had a pet pig, "Salome", who had the run of the place. She now has a beautiful collection of ceramic pigs. At 57, Iwana, the youngest born granddaughter of William Brinkley Williamson, now lives in Quitman where she works at H. C. Watkins Memorial Hospital.

We're proud to tell anyone we're from Martin, even if it's really Kemper!

ZEKE

By Gary Gibson as told to Janice Harrison

You could see him most anywhere, usually carrying his sack up Hwy. 19 North. No one who knew him was afraid to pick him up. I found him in one of his favorite places to hitch a ride, across 8th St. from the old Matty Hersee Hospital. I had my son "little Gip" (about 3 or 4 years old) standing on the front seat of my truck and we had just come from a trip to the Co-op (this was before car seats). When Zeke got in Little Gip slid over as close to me as he could get, very unsure of who this creature was and not wanting to find out. I asked Zeke if he was going to Collinsville and he said "No, I'm going to Mrs. Chatham's." I knew I had made a boo-boo, but I decided I could go that way, so here we went!

His first story was about moon rocks, and "Little Gip" was about to push me out the door of my truck, ever getting closer! He was talking to him in baby talk, telling him about the trip to the moon to get rocks, brought back rocks and indicated he wanted me to know the story too. "They brought back moon rocks and they were going all over the country with them and I have one in my bag, but it came out of Suqualena Creek." He reached in his bag and got a rock and tried to give it to the boy, but he was still too shook up to take it, so I took it for him and still have it.

When we got about to where the soccer field is now, out of the blue he started telling about a fight he had seen, "The dangeest fight I ever saw was between a Banty Rooster and a River Duck". I don't remember any more of the story, but wish I had asked him where the fight took place and what else happened. Of course, he was watching Little Gip's reaction. We pulled up at Mrs. Chatham's and he got out and went behind the store where he obviously had been staying. We have had many laughs around the campfire telling tales about Zeke and his stories. My Uncle Norman told me about letting Zeke stay in a little sawmill shack (across the road from the Kinard home). He didn't see Zeke for 2 or 3 days, so he went to check on him. He found him asleep on a pile of old clothes he had found for a bed, no heat , no stove, no nothing. He asked him what he had eaten and he said he had some canned goods, Pork and Beans and etc., cold and right out of the cans. There were many empty cans scattered around.

Zeke did his own thing, he didn't complain, and he was very content. Perhaps getting out of the rat race made for his life style and I think sometimes we are missing a lot in life that was appreciated by him. He might have been called a hermit or many other names, but when it comes right down to it, he was very smart, well read, could talk on most any subject: government, the Bible, Politics, and etc. He obviously read a lot of papers and he certainly was a legend in his time.

ZEKE - COLLINSVILLE'S HOBO

By Beth Smith

All communities have their errant characters who for whatever reason become the objects of tales - told and passed down from generation to generation.

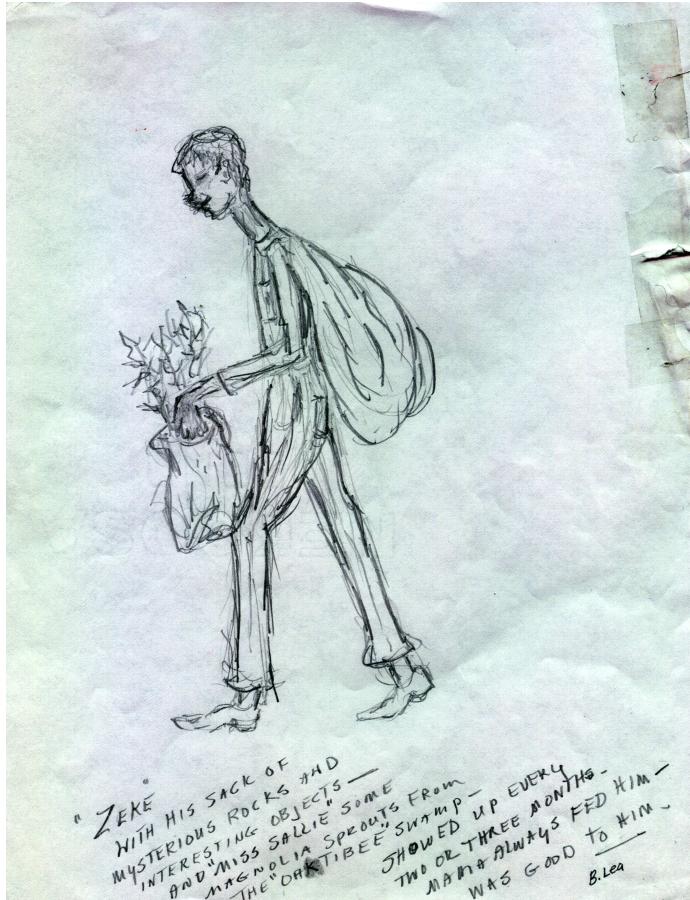
Collinsville's character of note for sixty or more years was Zeke Partin, an eccentric gentleman, who carried the total of his possessions in a sack and roamed the area living in abandoned houses, sheds, or barns. Zeke was a very personable person and knew everyone. He was a lover of nature, a naturalist, and a wanderer. He collected rocks, arrowheads, plants and odd items he might find in trash dumps or in the woods. He shared his finds with people he met, and always shared his adventures with the children with whom he came into contact. He was a wonderful storyteller and loved to talk.

Zeke lived by his wits. He worked for families to earn a meal or a place to sleep. Occasionally he might even work for someone for several weeks when help was needed, but it seemed the "wonderlust" kept him moving.

Many people today have tales to relate about Zeke. Many have items he gave them when they were children and he came by to visit and left them a momento.

My favorite tale told by Zeke to my brother and me was about the golden log he claimed was in the Okatibbee Creek - deep, deep in the swamp. He would always promise us that when we were older he would show us the golden log and we could help him retrieve it from the swamp. (This was years before the Okatibbee Reservoir was built and as far as I was concerned the Okatibbee Swamp was my image of the Amazon Jungle). In my mind, going to collect that golden log would have been an adventure of giant proportions.

Zeke lived life on his terms and lived to an advanced age. He passed away in the 1980s, over 80 years old.



Sketch by
Bernice Snowden Lea

ZEKE

By Helen Davis Ethridge

Zeke Partin came from a "well to do" family. They lived on 59th Ave in Meridian, not far from where the Lauderdale County Health Dept. is now. They gave him a house to live in, but he did not choose to live their style of living, so he moved on. He hunted rocks, dug trees and set them out for people everywhere. Every time he met you, he wanted to give you a rock or something he had found. I never knew of him doing harm to anyone.

He lived at Mr. Ed Kittrell's (in Kemper County) for years. After that he stayed from house to house, (black and white) for years. He once lived in a little tenant house on Mrs. Frankie Stephens Ethridge McKees place. In later years, he moved to Suqualena and from there I lost contact with him.

ZEKE

By Jerry Ethridge

Zeke Partin was a very unusual person. He was kind hearted and very generous with whatever he had in his sack.

My first recollection of Zeke was when I was about 10 years old. We had a metal mailbox, which at times was hard to open. Zeke came by and helped me open the mail box, quoted scripture about "helping one another" and gave me a rock.

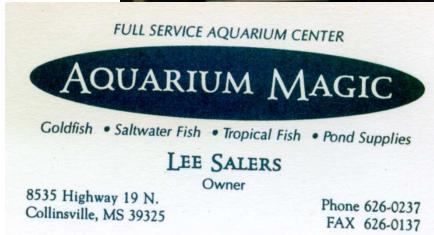
Many years later when Ikie and I built our home, Zeke planted many of our trees and even a wild rose bush in our yard. Zeke had a habit of coming by around dinner time. One day when he came, I was still cooking, so I fixed him a peanut butter sandwich. I then took him home, at that time he lived in Suqualena. I forgot I had my pressure cooker on the stove and when I returned home, my pressure cooker had blown up and I had food on my kitchen ceiling.

Zeke gave me a formation that resembles 2 clay pots joined together. I still have this as a flower planter in my living room.



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Ali's Stuff Hwy 19 North



Chevron/Subway Hwy 19 North

BIG D AND OTASCO - OWNED BY MR. AND MRS. NORMAN DALLAS

By Lisa Hartz Joyner

I started working at "Big D" Restaurant in January 1985, and I continued to work there until November 1992. I met my husband of 14 years there. Larry and I met on October 6, 1986 at 10 a.m. (that was the opening time for lunch). He came in to eat while his car was being repaired at Jeff Little's Garage next door. We talked for awhile and he asked me out. We dated for four months and got married. The rest is history. So "Big D" will always be a special place to us. So thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Dallas.



Otasco and Big D were next door to each other and was located where the current Chevron/Subway is on Hwy 19 North.

CHISOLM TIRE AND SERVICE

By Sue Chisolm

In September 1966 Mr. Earl Powell was in business at the Shell Station located on Highway 19 in North Collinsville. We learned through a friend that Mr. Powell was interested in selling his business here in Collinsville.

We contacted Mr. Earl and came to see him about his service station. We talked for several days and reached an agreement to buy his business. At that time we were residents on Highway 491 in Neshoba County. A few months later we had our house moved to Collinsville and have lived here since that time.

Lucky and Sue Chisolm operated the Shell Station from 1966 to 1969 leasing the building and property from Lix Fruge Sr. In the latter part of 1969 we had an opportunity to purchase a parcel of land from Mr. Clyde Walker Sr. and build our own building.

On January 1, 1970 we opened our brand new building and became an independantly owned Phillips 66 dealer and tire shop. A two bay car wash was added in 1974.

After graduation from West Lauderdale High School in 1984, Toby Chisolm joined the business and is still working here today.

We operated business in this location until August of 1994. The Mississippi Department of Transportation was going to four-lane through Collinsville and purchased a part of our property. So once more we had to relocate and rebuild. A new building and new car wash has been in operation from 1994 to date.

Now we can look back and say that we are the oldest active business in Collinsville having been under the same ownership and management since 1966:

Collinsville is our home and we enjoy living here. Lucky and Sue have only one child, Toby, who along with his wife, Fileesha, have increased our family with three grandchildren: Nathan, Seth and Hannah. Hopefully the Chisolms will be in business in Collinsville for a long time.



HOW COLLINSVILLE HARDWARE BEGAN OWNERS FRED PHILLIPS AND TED GEORGE

By Linda Cook

Having been in the hardware industry for many years I had always wanted a hardware, store myself.

Since Dallas General Merchandise no longer existed I thought Collinsville would be a good location.

Realizing that I was approaching retirement age and would not want to work full time I began to look for a partner. Soon the very capable Ted George and I came to an agreement and began looking for a location. After several weeks of effort, we decided to locate in the south end of the old Collinsville School.

We began a renovation project about April 15, 1999 and officially opened for business on August 9, 1999. During the meantime we bought Walker Bros. Hardware in Hickory, Miss. from Dan Walker who was wanting to sell out. Getting his inventory, fixtures and equipment gave us a start in the hardware business and we have been adding other lines since then.



COLLINSVILLE WOODWORKING COMPANY 1967

By Linda Cook

Collinsville Woodworking Company was organized by a group of Collinsville business men and women in January 1967. It was built as both an investment and civic project to gain an industry for the community.

The woodworking company employed fourteen people, but anticipated eventually that employment would exceed fifty.

Shaped and molded wood parts were produced at the company and was equipping a new department for the production of millwork and cabinets. They are no longer in business.

Officers of the company were: Everett Daniels, President; Cluis Daniels, Secretary; T. S. Pigford, Vice President; Cameron Gibson, Treasurer.



Glenda Rowell and Nancy

COTTAGE BEAUTY SHOP

By Glenda Rowell

What is beauty and where do you find it?

Rev. Jim Snowden and Edna Snowden opened the Beauty Shop on February 17, 1971. The shop was a three room house. Brother Jim and Edna started working to make it a shop. They fixed the front room with two stations and a shampoo bowl. We had three hair dryers. They fixed a bathroom and supply room in the middle room. They had a snack room in what was left. When the shop opened the operators were Edna and Glenda Rowell. We had been open a few weeks when Sandy Moffett came to work with us. Brother Jim fixed another work station. Sandy had worked before she came to us, she was a good operator. She had a good following and brought many people into the shop.

Edna had a shop in Collinsville for many years, being a preachers wife and living in Martin and Collinsville for many years, she knew a lot of people. Hazel Harwell had the only other shop in the area at the time. We did everything at the shop cooked, ironed, shelled peas and butter beans, anything to stay by the phone or wait until someone walked in. Edna would give me anyone that was new or did not ask for someone. When the phone would ring she would say come on honey this little black headed girl will do you. I wish I knew how many times she said that. There was always laughter and fun in the shop, but best of all you knew the Lord was there and in control.

Sandy worked with us about a year and left to open her own shop. Cindy Woolridge came to work with us, she had just finished school. Cindy was a beautiful, Christian girl. She was not married. Cindy was a giggler, she was happy all the time. She was an excellent operator. It did not take her long to have a great following. Edna helped both of us. Cindy worked about two years, then left to open her shop in Suqualeana.

The shop was going great. It was just the two of us again. Edna is the most loving and giving person I have ever known. What ever you needed she provided. She always knew when to love you or leave you alone.

In 1975, she asked me if I wanted to buy the shop. I said no at first, but she would not leave me alone. We prayed and cried. I was so afraid, she would hug me and tell me that God loved me and would take care of me and the shop. "Glenda work hard, be honest with your customers, love them and be their friend listen to them and talk to them and know when to be quiet. Glenda you will have to work harder than anyone else. You can share the Lord everyday and not open your mouth. Do not worry about the shop, it will take care of itself, and the Lord will take care of you."

Jimmie and I bought the shop and it was one of the best things I have ever done. Edna and I worked for several more months and Cindy closed her shop and came back to the Cottage. She had married Lee Littrell. The shop just kept growing. Cindy had not been back but a few months when she found out she was pregnant. About a year later Temp Walker came to work with us. We had to have more rooms. We fixed the middle room. We moved the supply room and put another shampoo bowl in and made two work stations. Edna and Temp worked in the new room. Cindy and I stayed up front. We bought three more dryers. Temp was a wonderful addition, we had a great time and the shop kept growing. In 1981, Pam Hodges came to work with us. We needed more room. My Uncle James Haywood started building the shampoo room. He only worked on Monday's so it took a while. We had four shampoo bowls back there. We took the other two bowls out of the front and middle rooms. We fixed five work stations in the middle room and put all the dryers in the front room.

In 1983, Denise came to work with us. She worked in town two days and worked at the Cottage on Saturday. Everyone worked great together. Cindy had two little girls. Pam had a little girl and a boy. Denise had a girl and boy.

Cindy left to be with her girls. Pam married George Little and built a shop at her house. Temp retired and moved to Jackson. At this time, Denise had to come to the Cottage everyday. Denise has become a very good operator. She has a wonderful following of hair cuts and shampoo sets. She has as many men and boys as she does ladies and girls. A lot of times I will hear someone ask Denise how do you work with your mother all the time. I would like to think it is because we are best friends, she over looks my faults and I over look hers. I will laugh and tell them it is because I am so sweet.

There had been so many things that have happened at the shop over thirty years. Even though Edna is not there everyday her presence is still there. There are so many wonderful stories if I could remember them all and had time to tell them. I wish I had a list of all the people who have walked through our doors and made an impression on our life.

Stories

Years ago when we first started Jim and Edna were working at the shop. I was not there, this lady walked in and wanted a shampoo and set. Edna said, "She looked at her and thought, I can do her." The lady was wearing a turban. She took the turban off and long blonde hair began to fall out, then Edna said to herself, "Oh my goodness what am I going to do." She asked the lady to sit down then went into the back room and said Jim please get on your knees and pray. This lady was Bobby Pinson, she came back and was a very good customer. She still comes when she can.

Edna did a lady who paid her with S and H green stamps.

Mrs. Amy Walker had beautiful white hair. Cindy fixed her hair on Friday. She left and came back in with a big blob of purple in her hair. A bird did not miss.

When Friday rolls around you look for Mrs. Edna Earl Hatcher come rain, snow, ice, or sunshine. On Friday, she called and said, "Glenda is the power still on," I said, "Yes, come on." We had rain and sleet. When she got there, we shampooed and was rolling up when the lights went out, but that did not stop us. We had a wonderful gas heater. Mrs. Edna Earl rolled around on that floor for an hour getting her hair dry.

I refused to let Tommie Clearman come to the shop if Edna was there. It is hard to please a lady when she is rolling with laughter, it is hard to get the hair combed.

Mrs. Polly Sansing never went home with ear rings if Edna was there. She would take them and put on her ears.

Mrs. Lydia Tucker came in with a blouse on. She went out with an old shirt on. Edna had the blouse.

Speaking of Mrs. Abbie, I always liked to see Mrs. Abbie because every time she came to the shop she would tell me how pretty my legs were.

When Mrs. Erma Blanks would come in the shop, she would tell Edna, "I know we are all going to be in heaven together, its not going to be just Methodist or just Baptist." " If it is all Methodist when we get there, I will hold the door open for you, but if it is all Baptist, you hold the door open for me."

We have had some sad things to happen. Mrs. Birdie Phillip died at the shop. She was laughing and talking, then she was gone.

We had a wreck in the parking lot that tore up three cars in all.

We hope that when you leave the Cottage you look and feel **beautiful**. We hope that we have caught the beauty in your soul and you have felt the beauty in ours. Thank you Lord. Thank you Collinsville. Thank you customers and friends.

Prices 1971-2000

Shampoo and Set	2.50	3.00	5.00	6.00	8.00	10.00
Hair Cut	2.50	3.00	5.00	6.00	8.00	10.00
Perm	8.00	10.00	18.00	24.00	30.00	34.00

P.S. I think we may have some kind of record. In the thirty years we have been open, we have gotten back only ten checks, we were paid for all but three.

All things work for good to them that trust the Lord.



COUNTRY CRAFTSMAN FURNITURE AND GIFTS

By Paul and Margaret Alawine

I (Paul Alawine) grew up in Collinsville, MS. and after marrying Margaret Williams and starting a family we bought a home in Collinsville on Highway 19.

After working at Kroehler Manufacturing Company for twenty-two years, it closed in 1981.

I had always liked to work with wood and decided to start my own business. I began by working in a small backyard shop with a dirt floor. As I could, I began building a larger shop. As the business grew, we added to it.

In 1986 Margaret joined the business, our first employee, Linda Rushing, was added to the company about this time. The following year we added two more employees, our son Kevin and Larry Rowell. Marvin Crocker came to work in 1991.

The business fell victim to the Highway Project in 1994. We had very little property left after the highway came through but we bought property from neighbors and were able to stay open in the same location. We had our building moved back off the right of way and reopened.

Our children, Kevin, Pam and foster daughter Jennifer have all worked in the business. Kevin and Jennifer both worked while going to college. Pam worked as a right hand to Margaret on the clerical work, while being primary designer and painter of accessories, such as plaques.

We have seen many good employees come and go, for one reason or another. We are just like one big family.

God has been good to us. Each year we have been here the business has grown.



Dave's Taxidermy



David's Signs



Dean's Garage



Doug's Barber Shop



Farm Bureau Insurance

JOE ALTON GIBSON GROCERY STORE

By Jerry Ethridge

During the Depression in 1930, Joe Gibson had a small grocery store located on Church Road across from the old vance house, where he lived. Many people failed to pay him and he had to close the doors.

Joe then went to work for Sears. He was able to pay small amounts on his bills at A.J. Lyons and other companies who extended credit to him. Some Collinsville stores tell of paying A.J. Lyon with gallons of syrup. This was how they paid their creditors. Times were hard during the Depression.



JOYNER'S GARAGE

Owner Edward Elton Joyner

Elton was born in Neshoba County, Ms., son of Harvey L. and Gracie L. Joyner. Part of his growing up years were spent in Oak Grove, La.

After serving in the army, he moved to Collinsville in 1950. Mr. Earl Powell moved Elton and his family to Collinsville from La. in a cattle truck.

When Elton arrived in Collinsville, he operated his first automobile garage behind Mr. Ross Gipson's store. Later he built the permanent location of Joyner's Garage at the corner of Hwy 19 and Schamberville Rd. (which is now Collinsville Rd.). He was in business for 34 yeas. During this time he was also active in community issues. He was assistant fire chief for approximately 20 years.

Elton served as Justice Court Judge from 1976 to 1984. He also worked for the county for 3 1/2 years as road foreman. He presently owns Joyner's Gun Shop.

Elton and his wife Carolyn live in Collinsville. Their children are Wende, James, LaNeece, Cindy and Carol.



Stories by Elton

My grandfather was Ben Joyner. He carried the mail on his horse. He would water his horse at the well, which now would be the center of the pavement at the south entrance of the shop, Collinsville Road.

Earnest Johnson had been told not to fish in Ross Collins' pond. Earnest was fishing in the pond, when he saw Ross Collins and his secretary approaching the pond. His lure was hung on a log, and when he gave it a snatch, the lure came loose, flew back to him hooking both legs together and he couldn't run. Ross sent the lady back to the house to get a knife and cut Ernest loose. That broke him from fishing in Ross Collins' pond.

In the 1942 Ford Fire Truck, the heads were burst and would get hot, so Elton put a 1954 Ford motor and transmission in it. Cameron Gibson gave the transmission to the Fire Dept.

I built my house behind the shop in 1960, financed it thru F. H.A. Payments were \$54.00 per month.

Our water was so bad, that while talking to the head of F. H.A. it was suggested that we get a committee together and apply for a loan. It took about two years to get the public interested. Joe Byrd got the Community Development Club involved and soon we had a water system. I was vice-president when we reworked the system. We met with Sonny Montgomery and got another loan with F.H.A. for \$90,500. The engineer said F.H.A. wouldn't pay for the fire hydrants and I told him we were going to put them in anyway. I measured off where to put them and got them put in. No problem! This brought the insurance down.

In 1950 I was in my shop behind the Ross Gipson store, when I heard a real loud boom uptown Collinsville. I was asking what made that real loud boom uptown. Vardaman Clay said, "I think Duluth Snowden or Orma Phillips broke a \$5 bill. Mr. Phillips would cut your hair for ten cents."

Ross Gipson had cows down behind the store. He said one of his milk cows didn't come up one evening. He found her the next day in a well. He couldn't figure out how he was going to get her out. He knew if he didn't get her out soon, she would die. He said her utter was about to burst, so he got someone to let him down in the well and he started to milk her and floated her out.

Ross Gipson had built his new store and put in gas pumps and free air. Ross was new at the service station business. Two ladies pulled in for a fill up. One lady asked Ross if he had a rest room, and Ross being hard of hearing thought she said swish broom, and he said no, but I have this little thing I put on my air hose, that blows it out clean.

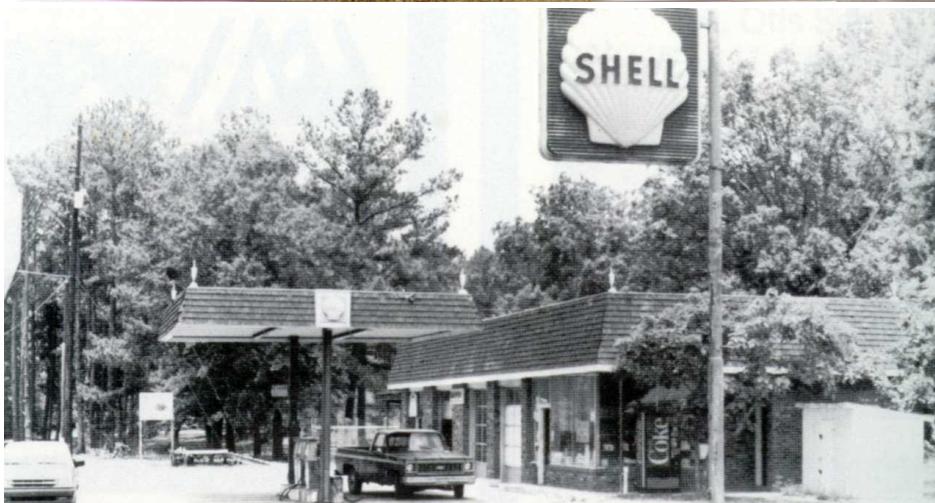
Back in the late 50's, Evelyn Crenshaw said two men came to the house to talk with Mrs. Crenshaw, her mother, about a wreck that happened in front of her house. He thought she might have seen the wreck. Evelyn said, "I'm sorry she is not at home." The men asked, "Where is she?". Evelyn said, "Well, I took her down to Twitley Creek to pick some black berries, about 2 weeks ago, and it has been so hot I haven't been back to get her."



Kinard Marine. Owned and Operated by Michael Kinard, Charles Wayne Kinard, Faye Downdey Kinard, Lori Kinard Cook, and Danny Cook.



**Lil Bit of Country
Flowers & Gifts**



Mayatt Shell Station

MARTIN AREA STORES 1914 TO PRESENT

By Helen Davis Ethridge

Mr. Will McKee ran a store on Mr. Robert Moore's place (presently Wayne and Lisa Todd's home). Then Mr. Moore ran it for years on the Kemper and Martin Road (north of Pine Grove Baptist church).

Mr. Ranson Snowden operated a store in one room of his home in 1914. Then he built a new home and a separate store next door on the Kemper-Martin Road (south of Pine Grove Baptist Church) 1923-1935.

Mr. Jim McDonald ran a store on Center Hill-Martin Road (located about one-fourth mile south of Antioch Southern Methodist Church). He closed the store around 1935, and opened one in Collinsville on old Highway 19 (now Church Road).

Mr. Will Clay owned a store on the Wildcat Road for several years. He then bought a store from Mr. Fred Gibson at the four-way-stop in Martin. He also had a cotton gin and corn mill. He ran the store as long as he was able. Then his son-in-law, Mr. Curtis Wilkerson ran it for a while. John Mayatt bought it in 1949-51. J. C. and Ruby Moore Boseman took over 1951-61. Burkett Herrington ran it 1961-63 then James and Helen Davis Ethridge operated it 1963-1985. They moved from the four-way-stop location to the Old Martin School. There they had a washateria and a game room. They sold it to Brenda Herrington Crenshaw in 1986 and she still operates it. Along with a washateria and a dance studio, a very special room for domino players and the most enjoyable room is where they serve Brenda's good country cooked meals



Mr. Lawson Hatcher had a store at his home in the Center Hill-Martin Road in the early 40's.

Near the old Antioch Church Mr. Oswald Moore ran a store. He sold it to Luther Brown. They sold to Inez and Clyde Kelly in the late 30's through late 40's.

Sarah Poole had a store at her home in the 50's. She closed her store and sold her stock to J. C. Bozeman in 1951.

McDonald Snack Bar opened in 1962, just before West Lauderdale School opened. We have had a lot of young people coming through our doors. Every year we say "This is the best bunch of kids" and the next year they seem ever better. We have a lot of faith in this coming generation, " Sarah and John McDonald .



Old Clay Store in Martin.

MCDONALD'S GROCERY STORE

By Fay McDonald (H.W.) Davis

In the 1930's, my Grandpa, J.A.J. McDonald had a grocery Store on Church Road. He built the house that is now the Grace Espey home, which was close to the store. At that time the road was Highway 19 and was unpaved (graveled). When it was black topped and straightened, he was bypassed and had to move his store to the new Highway 19. This is now the location of Quality Car Lot. Along with his new grocery store, there was a grist mill. People would come to the store and mill, especially on Saturday to have their corn ground into meal. Some people came in wagons pulled by mules or horses, or ox. Ox were very strong and moved very slow, much slower than mules or horses.

In 1944, Tom and Allie McDonald, son and daughter-in-law. of J.A.J. McDonald, operated the store. Minnie Dee, Tom's daughter, was crossing from her house to the store and was struck by lightning and killed. The next day, Mr. J.A.J. McDonald died. Tom only operated the store a short time, and Mrs. Allie McDonald went to work for the post office. They had one other daughter, Fay.



Minnie Dee's daughter Ann.



Mrs. Raymond Paul Rice was Miss Minnie Dee McDonald, of Collinsville, before her marriage in Augusta, Ga., to Sergeant Rice formerly of Collinsville, who now stationed at Valdosta, Ga. Augusta.

MCPHAIL GROCERY

By A.M. McPhail

I came to Collinsville in 1946, after spending 3 years, 3 months and 21 days in the U.S. Navy. Having spent the majority of my time in the Navy at sea, and saving my money, I wanted to go into business.

Lamar C. Clay, my brother-in-law, had run a business in a small frame building on the site where the old bank building is now located. He had started a meat market, sold gas, canned goods and feed. It was decided that we would build a new building of cement blocks, which would house a sandwich shop, meat market, gas pumps, launderette and barber shop. We opened this business in 1948.

This building was burned in 1955 - a complete loss. We moved back to the old frame building and did business until we could build a new brick building on the same site as the burned building.

We opened in the new building in 1958. It included a post office, meat market, light hardware and feed but no gas pumps. Later the Bank of Union placed a bank on the north end of the post office. After several years the bank wanted more space and acquired the post office space. The post office moved into a trailer across the highway from Quality Motors.

In 1969 Lamar Clay passed away and I bought his interest in the business from Mrs. Clay. I retired in 1980 and leased the building to Donnie Scrivner and Mr. Discount Drugs



MR. DISCOUNT DRUGS

By Donnie Scrivner

Mr. Discount Drugs of Collinsville began January 1, 1982. We purchased McPhail Food Center from A. M. McPhail on that date. The grocery remained open while remodeling was done for the pharmacy. It was opened in February. During this transaction, I was able to meet many people and learn about the grocery business. Hazel Johnson had worked at McPhail's for several years and continued to be an asset for years to come. Her knowledge of the business and kindness to customers helped our business to grow. The community was instantly supportive of the pharmacy.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have many good people to work with. Robert Higginbotham, Andy Mosley and Nancy Snow have been instrumental in our growth. They have worked well together and with our customers. Just as the people of our business is our business's best asset, the people of our community is our community's best asset.

My wife Amy and our daughters, Bess and Jennie, and I are grateful to our community.



Hours: M - F: 1:30 - 5:30
Sat.: 10:00 - 3:00



Shop: 601-626-8844
Home: 601-986-5213

Mostly Marcy's

Prom and Pageant Gowns • Tuxedo Rentals
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Collinsville, MS 39325
(across from Conoco)

Mostly Marcy's Owned by Marcy Joyner



Natural Resource Management Company Owned By Scott Smith



Piggly Wiggly Grocery Store



Mike's Tire Shop



SARAH POOL STORE

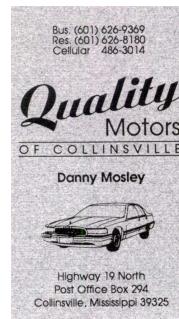
By Jerry Ethridge

A small grocery store with gas pumps opened in 1946 in the Martin Community. It was a gathering place for all the local kids. Sarah fixed bologna sandwiches and hamburgers for ten cents each and drinks for five cents each. The store didn't close until all the kids went home, sometimes as late as ten o'clock.

There was a basketball goal across the road and there were many games played there. Sarah often played with them.

There was a man who brought the movies (usually about cowboys and Indians) to Martin. He would bring planks to make benches and put the screen against the south side of Sarah's store. He had a crush on Sarah and kept wanting to do odd jobs for her. One time when the movie man was there, Sarah had her first date with a guy named Bob Shipley from Moundville, Alabama. The kids wanted to meet him, so they hid the padlock to the store, so Sarah couldn't lock up and they got a chance to see him. They had a juke box in the store and while Bob was putting gas in his car, the movie man played the song, "Whatever your Heart Desires," for Sarah. However the movie man saw the writing on the wall and never came back.

The kids lost their picture shows, but Sarah gained a husband. In 1955, J. C. Bozeman bought Sarah's stock and put it in his store.



Quality Motors



Save-A-Lot Auction

-245-



Smitty's Landscaping & Maintenance Co.

SHELL STATION (1950 - 1994)

By Jeff Vincent Mayatt

For many years the only major service station between Philadelphia and Meridian was the Shell Station located at the intersection of Highway 19 and the CollinsvilleMartin Road. The Fruge Oil family had the station built around 1950 and it became one of the most familiar landmarks of the community.

In the beginning it was a full-service station with a grease rack and a car wash. Through the years it included a tire shop, hardware store, and a small-engine repair shop.

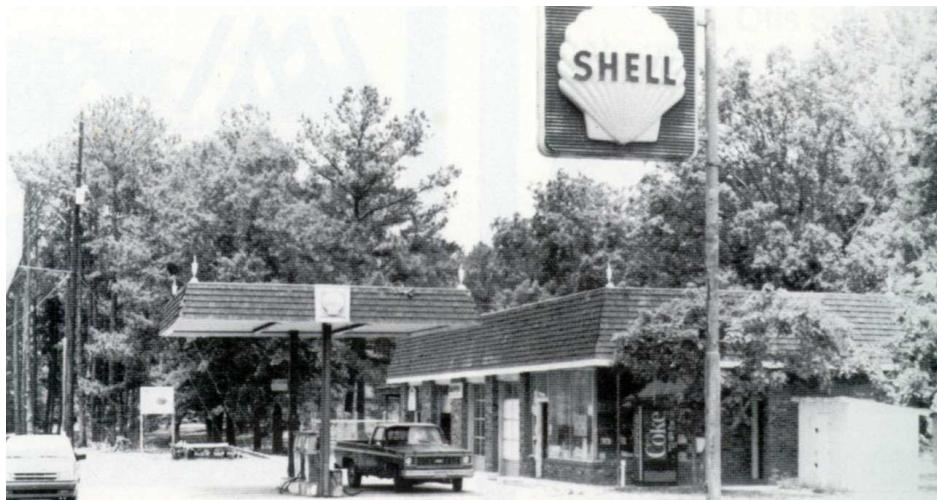
J. C. and Bill Ethridge were the first proprietors. (They later went on to bigger and better business ventures as the Ethridge Brothers - car dealers.) James Pippin (Eva Jo Graham's father), James Crenshaw with Tullos Johnson, Earl Powell, and Lucky Chisolm operated it at different times during the first twenty years.

In 1970, Bud Mayatt moved home and found his niche in life. He operated the station for the following twenty years. This was longer than any of its other proprietors. During this time the station underwent many changes and several hired "hands".

When Mr. Robert Smith decided to close Smith's Hardware, Bud saw an opportunity to combine that business with the station. Due to Mr. Smith's generosity, Bud was able to secure his remaining inventory and Mayatt's Hardware became a part of the station. The grease rack and car wash were cemented over to make room for plumbing and electrical supplies. Later, he added a small engine repair shop and started selling lawn mowers and chain saws. It was also during this time that the Fruges gave the only major renovation to the station; giving it a new appearance, air conditioning, and put a cover over the pumps.

Mr. Bud, the "fix-it" man, was forced to "retire" at the age of 50 when disabled by cancer. Phil Haywood and then Don Wiggins each operated the station for a short periods of time before it was taken by the highway in 1994.

Many of you may recall some of the local people who worked at the station: Donnie Tucker, Robert Merrill, Curt Walker, Jim Thead, Wendell Tucker, Nancy Hand, August Miller, Mitt Hitt, Judy Roberts, Pam Little, Scott Alawine, Wayne Cook and Scott Haywood.





The Screening Room



Snow Barn



Southern Sales Trailers

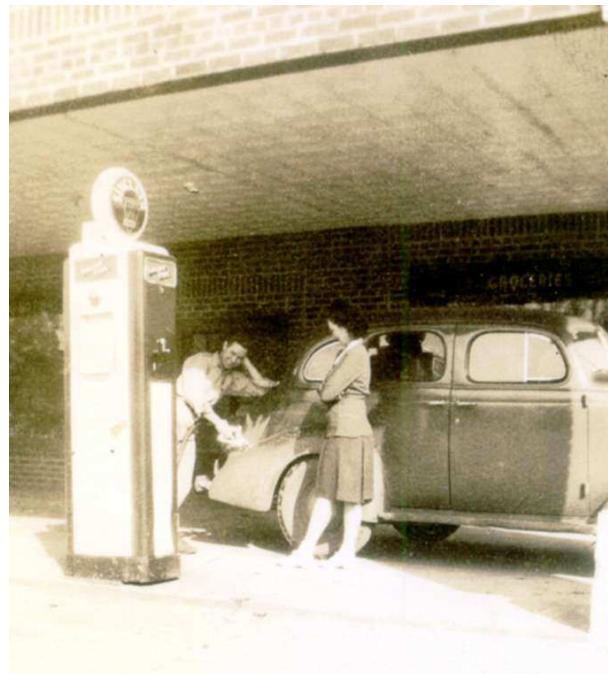




The right part of the above building was a part of the old Snowden Store.



Uncle Paul H, Ray Walker, John Adams, Bobbie Jean Houston in door.



Jim and Edna



Duluth Snowden Store

SPEARS AUTO REPAIR AND WRECKER SERVICE

By Dyann Spears

Mike first started business at Bud Mayatt's Shell Service Station in May 1976.

We built the new building on Highway 19 North two miles south of Collinsville in November 1978; moved in Thanksgiving day with only three stalls. In 1980 we added on to the back of the building and moved into that section, again on Thanksgiving day. Then in 1983 we added on to the north end of the building with one more door.

In 1995 the State Highway Department bought us out, building and land. We bought the building back from them and moved it to uptown Collinsville. John Tucker moved the building all in one piece and placed it on a slab poured and ready on land behind the Old Chuck Wagon Restaurant. The Lauderdale County Sheriff's Department escorted the movers up Highway 19 to the new location in only 20 minutes from the time they got on the highway until they pulled off. The garage now has working space for ten cars, a parts room and an office.

Mike has run a 24-hour wrecker service since 1977. The business has been very successful.

Mike is married to the former Dyann Moffett, and she is his right hand in the business. They have four children; Lisa Evans, Pam Eldridge, Wade and wife, Leann Shultz, and Wesley Spears. They also have four grandchildren; Roni and Mikeal Evans, Jessica Eldridge and Alayna Spears.

Mike is the son of the late James Frank Spears and Eva Ethridge Spears.



A NOTE OF THANKS

By J. W. Rash, Owner of Scratch Termite and Pest Control

Dear fellow residents of Collinsville,

Let me share a couple of funnies about my childhood and growing up with my grandmother, Annie Bell Stephens. We lived in a shotgun house where the new Union Planters Bank now stands, also there was Mr. Alawine's Sinclair Gas and Garage. One day I let the lift rack up and it would not come down because there was no weight on it. Boy, was I scared! I finally jiggled it enough to where it came down, thank God.

Early one morning, Grandma sent me up to McPhail's Grocery for some flour. Well, not thinking, I wheeled up on my bicycle, jumped off and yanked on the door. Guess what. Sirens and alarms were set off: I wanted to run like a hillbilly rabbit, but about that time, Mr. McPhail pulled up to open the store. He had a, BIG pistol and he didn't look any too happy. I don't remember if I got Grandma's flour or not.

Collinsville has basically been my home for 50 years and I have a lot of memories of growing up here. I think I had the only lawn mower service around for many years. Many of these early customers now look down on us, but I thank them again and I thank you now for your trust and patronage in J.W. Rash's Scratch Termite & Pest Control.

J. W . Rash

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THE STITCHING POST

By Barry and Lynelle Smith

As far back as I can remember I always wanted to own my own business and be a good wife and mother. As a stay at home Mom, I was looking for something I could do from home. My husband Barry was a fireman at the time for the Air National Guard.

One day in February 1996 we went to a Quarter Horse Trade Show and I saw some people using an embroidery machine with a computer. It was very fascinating, as I had always enjoyed sewing and being crafty. Barry was not really that impressed, as it was just sewing to him. For weeks I kept thinking about this machine and how that might very well be the business for me. I could do it from home and raise my children. Wouldn't life be grand! So I set out to convince my husband that this business would work and after lots of persuasion he finally decided we would give it a try.

In April 1996, after lots of prayer, we purchased our first machine. By February of 1997 we had purchased a second machine and by November 1997 we had purchased a 4-Head machine. Business was really doing good. We had started out in our utility room at home, then enclosed the garage and moved out there. In June 1998 I gave birth to our second daughter and the business was really taking off at the same time. Thus causing a slight problem in getting the work out. So in September 1998, Barry gave his notice at the Fire Dept. and became full time with The Stitching Post. At that time we also added vinyl cutting machines and a mug press to our business so that we might be able to better serve our customers. That too was a success and that meant we no longer had enough room in the garage to run our "little" business.

In September 1999 we moved our business to Collinsville. We chose this location because we wanted to remain close to home and we really enjoy the small town atmosphere. After almost 5 years, we are proud to say The Stitching Post ships business all over the United States as well as Africa, Cuba and other countries. Thanks for being a part of our business and helping make it a success. Come by and see us soon.



The Stitching Post

Custom Hi-Tech Design
Embroidery & Monogramming

Barry & Lynelle Smith
10957 Byrd Doerner Rd.
Collinsville, MS 39325

601-737-8495
FAX 737-4162



Super Dollar is located in the shopping center a few doors down from Piggly Wiggly.



Superstop on Hwy 19 North.



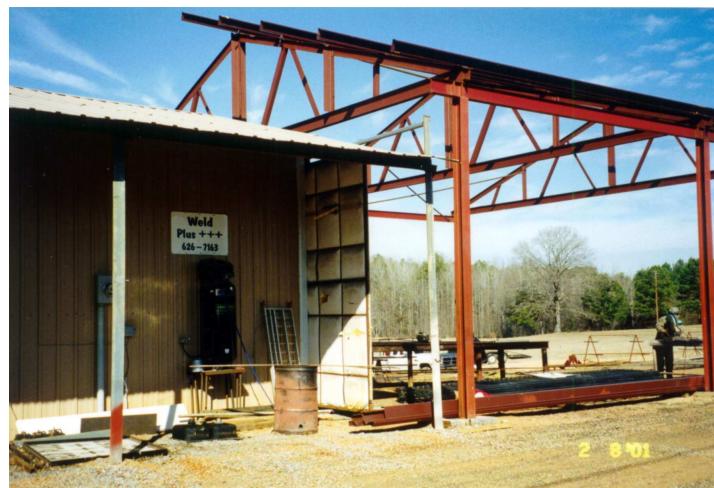
TimberCon, Inc. and **Collinsville Mini Storage** located on Hamrick Road.



Clyde Walker Store remained in its original location from 1933-1937, and moved to its new location in 1940 where it remained until 1991.



Webster Electric Co. Hwy 19 North.



Weld Plus +--

Cemeteries

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Sharp Memorial Cemetery	295

Subject: Your Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on her tombstone
From the beginning ...to the end.
He noted that first came her date of birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years. (1900-1970)

For that dash represents all the time
That she spent alive on earth...
And now only those who loved her
Know what that little line is worth.
For it matters not, how much we own;
The cars ...the house ...the cash,
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard...
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.
If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before,
If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile...
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy's being read
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent your dash?

ANTIOCH SOUTHERN METHODIST CHURCH CEMETERY
Martin, MS

North on Hwy 19 to Collinsville turn right at 4 way stop onto West Lauderdale Road, at the end of WL Road turn left. The cemetery will be on your left in a few miles.

Ted Herrington	Dec. 23, 1906	Jan. 17, 1994	
Mama Fay Herrington	Dec. 23, 1917	Mar. 4, 1986	
Bennie Claude Herrington	Mar. 3, 1905	Jan. 8, 1994	
Norman S. Herrington	Sept. 16, 1907	Oct. 10, 1991	
Tommi Will Crenshaw	Jan. 20, 1940	Nov. 18, 1992	
W. T. "Tom" Hodges	Feb. 10, 1902	June 16, 1986	
Lillie H. Hodges	March 12, 1911	Mar. 22, 1996?	
Robert Charles Herb	Mar. 5, 1937	Feb. 8, 1989	
Maurine C. Espey	Sept. 2, 1925	Nov. 22, 1995	
Doris Chandler Espey	May 6, 1927	Nov. 20, 1991	
Joe Parker Reid	May 19, 1948	July 8, 1988	
Ralph Lester Wallace, Jr.	Apr. 21, 1968	Dec. 2, 1998	"Les"
Charles M. Caldwell	Sept. 1 1939	Feb. 14, 2000	H/o Zola
Zola Hatcher Caldwell	Dec. 17, 1938	No date	
W. M. Hatcher	Sept. 19, 1918	Jan. 16, 1999	"Tillie"
Edna Earl Hatcher	Mar. 22, 1920	No date	
Lynette Mayatt Odom	Aug. 2, 1969	Apr. 27, 1999	
John R. Mayatt, Jr.	Dec. 25, 1939	July 28, 1990	"Bud"
Jeffery Lynn Mayatt	Aug. 6, 1942	No date	
Jonathan Lee Mayatt	Oct. 10, 1972	Oct. 10, 1972	Infant s/o Bud & Jeff Mayatt
Joseph D. Litchfield	Aug. 20, 1904	Nov. 11, 1988	
Vester Mayatt Litchfield	Sept. 13, 1904	Oct. 30, 1994	
Joseph D. Litchfield	Mar. 20, 1929	Apr. 20, 1929	Infant s/o Joseph Litchfield
John R. Mayatt	Sept. 21, 1909	Sept. 17, 1997	
Lula Mayatt	Apr. 11, 1909	No date	

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF COLLINSVILLE CEMETERY

North on Hwy 19 to Collinsville turn right at 4 way stop and go about 2 miles to Hamrick Road. Turn right and on hillside.

Phil B. Smith	Sept. 1 1904	Apr. 12, 1973	h/o Lola Nelson Smith
Lola Nelson Smith	No Dates		
Billy Kim Smith	1957	1981	s/o Billy H. & Joyce Smith
Robert Lavelle Smith	Feb. 23, 1950	July 26, 1978	s/o Lavelle & Betty Smith
Richard Allen Rosemond	Dec. 15, 1971	Oct. 19, 1988	s/o Lomex & Ruth Rosemond
Otis Leroy Smith	Feb. 28, 1907	June 29, 1991	h/o of Christine Smith
Christine Wright Smith	No Dates		
Shirley Roberts Smith	Sept. 13, 1935	Feb. 13, 2000	
Adair Beeman	May 4, 1919	Aug. 2, 1987	h/o Annie Laura Beeman
Annie Laura Beeman	March 13, 1922	No date	
Ronald A. Cook	March 30, 1962	Jan. 1, 1993	s/o Jack & Linda Cook
William Lott	Sept. 20, 1915	Nov. 20, 1983	f/o of Linda Cook
Marshall O. Mabry	July 15, 1927	May 10, 1992	h/o Georgialene
Georgialene Mabry	May 23, 1936	No Date	

J. W. Mixon	Nov. 15, 1925	May 13, 1991	h/o Sarah Mixon
Sarah Lee Mixon	Feb. 17, 1931	No Date	
Clifford Barrett	June 25, 1919	Feb. 26, 1989	SN US Navy WWII
Mary E. Barrett	May 23, 1922	July 31, 1996	w/o Clifford Barrett, p/o Jerry, Wayne, Mary Ann, Ellen Faye, Bustin Ruy & Rachel
W. Clyde Walker	Oct. 6, 1906	May 10, 1991	s/o Walter & Lillie Bell Walker
Mabel Grace Walker	July 20, 1902	March 1, 1994	w/o W. Clyde Walker
Ernest Tate Roberts	June 5, 1930	May 15, 1997	s/o Irvin & Lozie Roberts
Jeremy Kane Roberts	Oct. 5, 1969	Nov. 29, 1998	s/o Tate & Nonie Roberts
Phillip Earl Nicholson	Oct. 5, 1917	No Date	
Edna Earle Nicholson	May 11, 1916	Sept. 26, 1993	w/o Phillip Earl Nicholson
Dallas Ware Mathew	Apr. 29, 1923	June 28, 2000	
Mavis Helen Mathew	Sept. 13, 1928	No date	

COLLINSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH CEMETERY

Leaving Meridian, MS on Highway 19 North, go twelve miles to Collinsville, MS. Turn right at the 4 way stop, take the next right see the church and cemetery on the left.

“Adron” James A. Brown	May 25, 1928	Mar. 13, 1961	
“Othel” Dalton O. Brown	Dec. 31, 1934	Mar. 13, 1961	
Kathy Jo Doggett	Sept. 2, 1978	Dec. 17, 1979	
Marvin Edds Blanks	Feb. 8, 1883	Aug. 3, 1963	s/o Richard L. & Mary E. Jolly Blanks
Irma E. Blanks	Nov. 15, 1891	Sept. 17, 1986	d/o James M. & Mittie Wells Ethridge; w/o Marvin E. Blanks
Michael James Harrison	Aug. 20, 1954	July 31, 1958	s/o Mr. & Mrs. J.E. Harrison
Jannet Lynn Harrison	Dec. 16, 1952	Dec. 16, 1952	d/o Mr. & Mrs. J.E. Harrison
Sammie J. Gibson	Aug. 17, 1886	Dec. 30, 1953	s/o John W. & Sibby Houston Gibson
Ada L. Gibson	Aug. 1, 1891	May 4, 1984	d/o John L. & Amanda Hand Gibson; w/o Sammie L. Gibson
Cam M. Gibson	Nov. 3, 1881	July 9, 1952	h/o Pearl Moore Gibson; s/o John W. & Sibby Gibson
Pearl Moore Gibson	Mar. 14, 1890	Dec. 13, 1975	d/o Thomas J. & Mary M. Brown Moore
James Irvin Luke	Dec. 21, 1922	May 17, 2000	
Mary Cresswell Luke	Dec. 2, 1927	No Date	
Rosie Marie Miles	June 16, 1957	May 23, 1957	
Morris Guinn Turman	Mar. 11, 1929	June 17, 1957	
Gladys Juarez Hodges	Feb. 26, 1935	Apr. 18, 1948	“Bright Eyes” d/o Imelda & Luther Hodges

Imelda Gibson Hodges	Nov. 7, 1912	Sept. 18, 1982	d/o Cameron & Lula R. Moore Gibson
Joe Alton Gibson	Feb. 26, 1904	Aug. 13, 1959	s/o Samuel T. & Mary E. Hamrick Gibson; h/o Mildred Deweese
Mildred Deweese Gibson Robert F. "Bob" Moore	Mar. 10, 1906 Dec. 1, 1878	Aug. 13, 2000 Sept. 10, 1953	s/o T.J. & Margaret Brown Moore
Annie Hamrick Moore	Nov. 20, 1878	Mar. 19, 1964	d/o John G. & Elizabeth Fountain Brown; w/o Robert F. Moore
Duluth Snowden	Oct. 9, 1888	Feb. 1, 1969	s/o James R. & Margaret Snowden
Sallie Tucker Snowden	June 4, 1896	Mar. 29, 1984	d/o Steven B. & Onie Pruitt; w/o Dulith Snowden
Margaret Snowden Tough	May 25, 1917	Jan. 10, 1968	d/o Dulith & Sallie Snowden; w/o Bob Tough
James R. Snowden Margaret F. Snowden	Oct. 10, 1854 Aug. 7, 1854	June 18, 1940 Sept. 9, 1942	h/o Margaret F. Snowden d/o Joseph L. & Elmira Houston; w/o James R. Snowden
Paul Houston	July 21, 1877	Dec. 11, 1959	MS Pvt. US Army WWI
Claude Houston	July 25, 1877	Jan. 25, 1945	s/o Jospeh L. & Elmira Houston
Leo Brown B. L. Harwell Hollie Mack Harwell	Apr. 23. 1953 Oct. 5, 1921 Oct. 19, 1887	May 2, 1953 Feb. 10, 1963 Feb. 24, 1951	s/o Harwell L. & Mary M.J. Pike Harwell
Myrtle B. Harwell Samuel J. Gibson, Jr.	May 27, 1893 Nov. 20, 1918	Feb. 24, 1970 Nov. 6, 1977	w/o Hollie M. Harwell "Dock" s/o San & Ada Gibson; h/o Buelah Brantly
Edward Sidney Jolly	Sept. 7, 1919	Feb. 6, 1991	s/o Wm. E. & Laura L. Jack Jolly
Audrey Earnestine Jolly William E. Jolly	Jan. 14, 1927 Dec. 3, 1888	Mar. 15, 1991 Apr. 2, 1966	w/o Ed. S. Jolly s/o Wm. J. & Emma J. Blanks Jolly
William Elbert Jolly Lucile Jack Jolly	June 5, 1916 Sept. 27, 1889	Apr. 2, 1946 Apr. 8, 1961	w/o W. E. Jolly; d/o J.E. & Mary E. Jack
Willine M. Brown Eugene Brown Earline Clark Gibson Fred Gibson	Nov. 27, 1927 July 9, 1920 Sept. 23, 1900 Sept. 2, 1891	Oct. 31, 1996 Oct. 3, 1992 Oct. 10, 1977 May 31, 1958	w/o Eugene Brown
Mary Harris Clark Aaron David Clark Elton Thomas Clark	Apr. 21, 1929 May 13, 1925 Oct. 30, 1896	No Date Sept. 21, 2000 Apr. 1, 1969	w/o Fred Gibson s/o John W. & Sibby Houston Gibson
			h/o Mary Harris Clark

Ila Houston Clark	Jan. 20, 1899	Sept. 23, 1984	d/o Joseph L. & Minnie Welborne Houston
Leroy Victor Secrest	July 9, 1924	No Date	M. Nov. 15, 1915; h/o Mary Molly Clark
Mary Olive "Molly" Clark Secrest	Sept. 22, 1922	Feb. 3, 1988	d/o Marvin E. & Mary Etta Clark
Marvin Edwin Clark	June 22, 1893	Mar. 5, 1948	w/o Marvin E. Clark
Mary Etta Clark	Aug. 26, 1896	Feb. 8, 1984	s/o Marvin E. Mary E. Clark
Thomas Carl Clark	Feb. 14, 1928	Aug. 4, 1984	s/o Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Clay
Stuart Lamar Clay	Dec. 7, 1939	Dec. 7, 1939	s/o Willie F. & Eillie Hines Clay; h/o Evelyn Clay
Lamar Calvin Clay	Nov. 4, 1918	Nov. 25, 1968	
Daisy E. Wilkerson	Nov. 11, 1906	Dec. 12, 1999	
Curtis E. Wilkerson	Aug. 8, 1908	Apr. 5, 1958	Infant s/o E. E. & Della Tanner
Joseph LaFayette Tanner	Oct. 13, 1970	Oct. 14, 1970	
Boman L. Tanner	Jan. 9, 1910	Apr. 10, 2000	d/o of B.L. & Margaret S. Tanner
Margaret S. Tanner	Dec. 6, 1922	No Date	s/o B.L. & Magaret S. Tanner
Lillian Faye Tanner	Nov. 17, 1944	Nov. 17, 1944	
William Ray Tanner	Nov. 17, 1944	Nov. 26, 1944	
Kay C. McDonald Harris	Feb. 18, 1895	July 29, 1987	d/o Tom J. & Allie Houston McDonald
Edward Cory Harris	Aug. 27, 1888	Dec. 13, 1973	h/o Fay M. Weathers
Fay M. Weathers	Jan. 17, 1931	No Date	d/o Joseph L. & Minnie Welborne Houston; w/o Thomas J. McDonald
Horace Weathers	Nov. 3, 1930	July 18, 1992	s/o James J. & Mittie McDonald
Allie H. McDonald	Nov. 27, 1897	Nov. 1, 1993	d/o Thomas J. & Allie McDonald
Thomas J. McDonald	Mar. 12, 1897	Feb. 15, 1976	Sgt. US Marine Corps;
Minnie Lee McDonald Rice	Nov. 9, 1921	June 20, 1946	s/o Joe M. & Fay M. Hodges
Donald Joseph Hodges	July 21, 1953	Feb. 13, 1995	w/o James A. McDonald
Mattie Terry McDonald	Sept. 29, 1873	July 11, 1966	Indiana Sgt. 1C1-152 Aero Sq. WWI
James A. McDonald	Nov. 6, 1863	June 22, 1946	
Herbert B. Tischendorf	Jan. 21, 1894	June 3, 1949	
George B. Williams	Feb. 25, 1885	Apr. 20, 1957	w/o George B. Williams
Lucille O. Williams	Feb. 24, 1900	Sept. 25, 1992	
Harmon C. Espey	May 29, 1914	Oct. 27, 1963	
Walter E. Ethridge	Feb. 25, 1912	Dec. 22, 1963	
Mory B. Ethridge	June 15, 1902	Feb. 5, 1970	
David Leon Ethridge	Aug. 3, 1898	May 20, 1973	
Vera Ethridge	Jan. 22, 1905	Jan. 15, 1999	
Howard Elson Hamrick	Dec. 29, 1896	Oct. 3, 1979	s/o James M. & Clementine Hodges Hamrick

Java Hodgins Hamrick	Oct. 3, 1900	Jan. 24, 1986	w/o Howard Elson Hamrick; d/o Ruebin E. & Ella Hodgins
R. Rolland Vance	Nov. 4, 1898	Dec. 16, 1972	s/o James W. & Eudora Vance; h/o Bertice J. Vance
Bertice J. Vance	Mar. 20, 1901	Sept. 7, 1992	d/o Robert H. & martha Jones
Clydie Jones Gibson Heber Lamar Gibson	Apr. 13, 1913 June 15, 1895	June 22, 1991 Nov. 14, 1971	w/o Heber Gibson s/o Samuel T. & Mary Etta Gibson
Aubrey Earl McKee Mamie L. McKee Joe M. Walker	1896 Aug. 26, 1900 Mar. 9, 1940	1976 Nov. 6, 1960 Dec. 18, 1974	US Army WWI Sgt. US Army Vietnam; s/o Eulis & Millicent Walker
Millicent P. Walker Eulis Walker	Oct. 20, 1904 Mar. 2, 1903	Mar. 2, 1993 Feb. 25, 1983	w/o Eulis Walker s/o Will L & Ida Houston Walker
Perry M. Walker	Jan. 2, 1900	Feb. 26, 1969	s/o Will L & Ida H. Walker
William Lee Walker	Oct. 15, 1868	July 3, 1946	s/o Richard T. & Elizabeth Walker
Ida Houston Walker	Sept. 17, 1872	Apr. 20, 1957	d/o Joseph L. & Elmira Houston
Joseph Luther Houston	Sept. 20, 1869	Dec. 10, 1957	s/o Joseph L. & Elmira Hamrick Houston
Minnie Welborne Houston	Feb. 20, 1873	Jan. 11, 1952	w/o Joseph Luther Houston
Ira Oma Herrington, Sr. Oleta Houston Herrington Jeannine Herrington Francisco	Aug. 12, 1907 Mar. 14, 1912 May 19, 1930	Sept. 12, 1965 Nov. 19, 1960 Dec. 24, 1983	w/o Ira Oma Herrington, Sr. d/o Oma & Oleta Herrington
John B. McAdams Alton Lamar Houston	Dec. 28, 1894 Aug. 16, 1904	July 3, 1965 Apr. 21, 1972	s/o Joseph L. & Minnie Welborn Houston
Winnie Mae Houston	Oct. 30, 1905	Oct. 20, 1996	d/o James S. & Jonnie Hamrick; w/o Alton L. Houston
Jessie David Houston	Jan. 12, 1895	May 25, 1976	s/o Joseph L. & Minnie Houston
Ellis E. Walker	Feb. 17, 1909	Mar. 10, 1976	s/o Will L. & Ida M. Walker
Amy B. Walker	Aug. 6, 1913	May 30, 1996	d/o Thomas M. & Adelia Beeman
Marks Walker	Nov. 19, 1896	Dec. 23, 1975	s/o Wm. L. & Ida Mae Walker; h/o Pearlie Freeman Walker
Pearlie F. Walker	Aug. 15, 1903	Jan. 30, 1986	d/o Wm. Verge & Etta Clearman Freeman
Lutha B. Brown	Sept. 7, 1912	Apr. 10, 1973	h/o Pauline Brown
Pauline Brown Don A. Hellsinger	Jan. 22, 1915 Sept. 18, 1917	July 23, 2000 June 22, 1996	h/o Helen Walker Hellsinger

Helen Hellsinger	July 5, 1921	No Date	
James Wilbur Snowden	Aug. 11, 1912	No Date	h/o Dulcie Beeman Snowden
Dulcie Beeman Snowden	Aug. 20, 1897	Aug. 13, 1983	d/o John W. & Minnie Alma Hamrick Beeman
Joe B. Houston	Oct. 24, 1900	Sept. 19, 1971	s/o Joseph L. & Minnie Houston
Erline Eshee Houston	June 9, 1909	Feb. 19, 2001	w/o Joe B. Houston
Sam B. Whit	Aug. 5, 1921	Aug. 14, 1957	AL CPL 1C1 Photo Map Sq. AAF
Mordant Nelson Vincent	Oct. 17, 1911	May 24, 1998	
Bennie Mae Vincent	June 12, 1917	No Date	
W. O. "Pete" Adams	Nov. 28, 1930	Sept. 27, 1975	
Arlene Tanner Adams	Oct. 30, 1934	No Date	d/o B. L. & Margaret Tanner
Dewey Franklin Brown	Sept. 27, 1898	Apr. 29, 1960	
Lozo F. Brown	Nov. 12, 1890	June 14, 1974	
Clyde V. Brown	Mar. 17, 1884	Apr. 27, 1961	
Albert Monroe Brown	Nov. 12, 1912	May 4, 1973	
Stennis P. Brown	July 26, 1915	Aug. 11, 1999	
Ronald S. Brown	Aug. 23, 1949	Sept. 20, 1986	
Jewel M. Brown	Feb. 20, 1924	No Date	
Robert F. Provine	Apr. 10, 1911	Apr. 13, 1984	"Bob" h/o Madge Walker
Madge Walker Provine	Dec. 1, 1911	No Date	d/o Will L. & Ida Houston Walker
Gloria M. Beeman	Apr. 12, 1900	Sept. 17, 1978	
Armos M. Beeman	Mar. 15, 1903	May 4, 1995	
Velma Freeman	Apr. 15, 1898	June 27, 1978	
Travis Rowell	Sept. 24, 1918	Feb. 7, 1986	
Theresa Rowell	Nov. 25, 1912	No Date	
Lou Ann Hefton Moore	Feb. 13, 1932	Dec. 4, 1994	

HAMRICK CEMETERY

Leaving Meridian on Highway 19 North 12 miles to Collinsville, MS. At Four way stop turn right and go about one mile, turn right on Hamrick road go to top of the hill, Cemetery is on the right.

Starting in the Cemetery on the front row on the East Side of the Cemetery left moving right.

Victor L. Miles	Feb. 6, 1906	May 2, 1974	h/o Annie H. Miles
Annie H. Miles	Feb. 25, 1913	No Date	
Irby V. Harwell	No Dates	Nov. 24, 1967	MS Pvt US Army
Claudine C. Harwell	Oct. 30, 1918	No Date	
Lester P. Harwell	June 8, 1889	Aug. 25, 1969	h/o Claudine C. Harwell
Elcie Idell Cooper	Feb. 15, 1956	May 7, 1987	h/o Julie Marie Cooper
Julie Marie Cooper	Mar. 28, 1941	No Date	
Robert Clinton Cross	Aug. 10, 1903	Jan. 11, 1969	
Walter Berry Cross	May 29, 1902	Jan. 13, 1971	
Minnie L. Cross	Mar. 8, 1871	Sept. 25, 1957	

John P. Cross	Oct. 15, 1904	Feb. 29, 1943	
Calvin Bruce Brown	Jan. 25, 1883	Mar. 3, 1969	
James Dalton Brown	June 8, 1908	Feb. 11, 1953	h/o Lois Brown
Adam Poe	1860	1944	
Anna Poe	1857	1935	
W. Fulton Keith	Oct. 6, 1987	Dec. 29, 1987	ggs/o Lillie & John Carpenter; s/o Genia Carpenter & Mitchel Keith
Ada Lea Anderson	Mar. 14, 1938	Mar. 17, 1938	d/o Hannon & Onie Anderson
Billie Joe Anderson	Aug. 1, 1936	Jan. 24, 1955	s/o Hannon & Onie Anderson
Onie Pace Anderson	July 11, 1896	Nov. 19, 1970	
Hannon Alonza Anderson	June 22, 1890	June 16, 1961	h/o Onie Anderson
Alonzo Carroll Anderson	June 17, 1923	Feb. 15, 1963	
Charlie W. Anderson	1870	1943	Cousin Blind
Charlie W. Anderson	May 28, 1927	No Date	
Edna Strange Anderson	June 10, 1931	No Date	
Jean Louise Hendrick	1937	1937	Infant d/o S.O. & J.M. Hendrick
Infant Son Morgan	Oct. 1, 1935		s/o Lawrence & Mamie Morgan
George Harwell	June 19, 1919	Sept. 12, 1991	
Lora Mae Harwell	Feb. 19, 1924	Sept. 23, 1975	w/o William D. Miles PFC US Army - Korea;
William David Miles	Apr. 15, 1901	June 11, 1986	
Ora Skelton Miles	Feb. 13, 1905	July 18, 1980	
Herman Huggins	April 1, 1933	No Date	
Angie Skelton Huggins	April 11, 1935	Aug. 24, 2000	
Cecil F. Ethridge	June 16, 1933	May 10, 1992	
Tommy K. Ethridge	June 12, 1939	Aug. 1, 1990	
Myrtle L. Ethridge	Mar. 29, 1907	June 6, 1956	
Maxwell H. Ethridge	Aug. 7, 1896	Feb. 20, 1940	
Mack E. Ethridge	July 7, 1917	Mar. 10, 1932	
Selby L. Ethridge	Oct. 27, 1888	Oct. 29, 1982	
Mattie J. Ethridge	Feb. 17, 1893	No Date	Born in Belgium
Helen G. Ethridge	Oct. 9, 1989	April 18, 2000	
Kenneth R. Ethridge	June 9, 1921	June 15, 1954	
Carrie Clark Hamrick	Sept. 22, 1880	Dec. 30, 1954	
Thomas Clayton Hamrick	Feb. 12, 1874	July 7, 1963	
John R. Carpenter	June 11, 1885		s/o Sarah E. Hamrick & Charlie Carpenter; h/o Lillie A. Carpenter d/o Alonzo & Margaret Taylor Anderson
Lillie A. Carpenter	Dec. 2, 1888	May 9, 1970	
Sibbie Houston Gibson	Dec. 20, 1858	Apr. 18, 1942	w/o Walter L. Gibson d/o Walter L. & Lizzie Gill Gibson
John Wesley Gibson	Mar. 23, 1854	June 12, 1924	
Walter L. Gibson	Sept. 9, 1883	Feb. 21, 1933	
Lizzie Gill Gibson	No Date	June 2, 1978	s/o Walter L. & Lizzie Gill Gibson
Walterene Gibson	May 8, 1923	Oct. 27, 1971	
Lynn Gill Gibson	June 20, 1927	May 23, 1945	
Frances Culpepper	Feb. 21, 1930	Sept. 23, 1979	w/o Lynn Culpper; d/o Walter L. & Lizzie Gill Gibson

Berry Moore	Apr. 2, 1875	Sept. 28, 1933	s/o Walter B. & Carrie Barker Moore
Lula Moore	Dec. 3, 1878	Apr. 29, 1971	w/o L.B. Moore; d/o Wm. H. & Martha Davis Parker
Infant Daughter Moore	Oct. 12, 1903	Oct. 12, 1903	d/o Mr & Mrs. L.B. Moore
Lee Arnold Carpenter	July 13, 1922	No Date	
Hazel Marie Carpenter	June 10, 1927	No Date	
Carl D. Clark	Aug. 1, 1898	Sept. 20, 1923	w/o Thomas Oggie Clark; d/o J.B. & Mary E. Harwell Hamrick
Kate Hamrick Clark	June 6, 1864	Jan. 14, 1933	
Charlie J. Clark	Aug. 12, 1927		
Patsy E. Thomas	Dec. 9, 1927		
Thomas Oggie Clark	Dec. 23, 1861	Aug. 31, 1949	w/o Reuben L. Hodgins
Thara A. Hodgins	Nov. 19, 1920	July 2, 1992	
Reuben L. Hodgins	Aug. 29, 1906	Sept. 21, 1987	
Dozia Olen	Feb. 15, 1915		
Kary William Skelton	Dec. 30, 1939	Mar. 13, 1961	MS C 53 US Navy
Rosie Skelton	Dec. 25, 1909	Aug. 10, 1994	
Harvey Edwin Skelton	Dec. 24, 1908	Oct. 16, 1981	Pvt. US Army
Shirley Whitaker Skelton	Sept. 5, 1913	Oct. 9, 2000?	
Raymond D. Scitzs	Nov. 24, 1919	April 19, 2000	
William Dozier Skelton	Mar. 3, 1878	Sept. 6, 1950	
Mary Eugenia Skelton	Oct. 7, 1876	Aug. 8, 1963	
Ira A. Hodgins	Sept. 30, 1924	May 6, 1952	
Fairy Hodgins	Mar. 9, 1902	Dec. 28, 1983	w/o Ray Hodgins
Ray Hodgins	Aug. 3, 1890	Jan. 31, 1951	
Howard Jack Hodgins	Jan. 27, 1938	Aug. 7, 1938	
Adra Hodgins Carpenter	May 3, 1919	June 24, 1936	
Mary Jane Walker	Aug. 13, 1935	No Date	
Wallace Walker	Feb. 9, 1932	July 20, 1998	h/o Mary Jane Walker
Infant son Walker	Jan. 2, 1928	Jan. 2, 1928?	s/o Mr. & Mrs. Lagette Walker
Lagette Walker	Jan. 26, 1905	Apr. 3, 1988	
Clara B. Walker	Feb. 18, 1909	July 1, 1993	d/o Joseph W. & Sarah L. Moore; w/o Lagette Walker
Thelma Scitzs Rider	Jan. 31, 1915		
Lois Brown Fulton	Jan. 1, 1907	Dec. 5, 1977	w/o James D. Brown; w/o Robert Fulton
Harold Moore Brown	Feb. 5, 1953	Oct. 23, 1995	MSgt. US Air Force
Ruby Hall Brown	Dec. 7, 1934	No Date	w/o Harold Brown
Robye Moore Scitzs	Feb. 25, 1908	June 26, 1996	w/o Preston W. Scitzs
Preston W. Scitzs	Oct. 28, 1904	Jan. 21, 1994	
John T. Ethridge	Apr. 5, 1868	May 3, 1965	
Minnie V. Ethridge	Apr. 26, 1876	Mar. 6, 1945	
Tommie Ethridge	Jan. 27, 1896	Dec. 9, 1899	s/o J.T. & M.V. Ethridge
Sarah Elizabeth Carpenter	Nov. 1, 1859	Oct. 9, 1930	d/o John B. & Mary E. Hamrick; w/o Charlie Clayton Carpenter
T.I. Carpenter	Dec. 3, 1886	June 26, 1925	s/o Charles C. & Sarah E. Hamrick Carpenter
Ela Faye Daniels	Apr. 11, 1909	Apr. 24, 1993	d/o John R. & Lillie A. Carpenter
Nathan E. Daniels	Dec. 4, 1906	Feb. 2, 1965	h/o Ela Faye Carpenter Daniels
Carol L. Skelton	Feb. 1, 1935	Oct. 23, 1940	d/o Mr. & Mrs. A.A. Skelton

Kaleb Mark Duett	Dec. 21, 1992	Dece. 22, 1992	Inf. s/o Mark & Sharon Duett
Annie G. Scitzs	Jan. 26, 1915	May 15, 1992	
H. Floyd Scitzs	June 5, 1899	July 11, 1974	
Herman G. Ethridge	Nov. 29, 1917	Nov. 29, 1917	s/o S.M. & K.G. Ethridge
Fronie Hamrick Pruitt	June 11, 1861	June 1, 1937	Aunt-d/o John B. & Mary E. Hamrick w/o J.S. Tucker; D/o John B. & Mary E. Hamrick
Jonnie Tucker	June 11, 1861	June 1, 1937	
James S. Tucker	Dec. 27, 1878	May 26, 1945	
Toman Doerner	Feb. 3, 1868	Oct. 22, 1924	w/o Joel New
Mamie Welborne New	Dec. 21, 1870	Aug. 30, 1900	d/o Will J. & Eula M. Cross
Willie Mae Cross	Sept. 12, 1928	Jan. 14, 1929	d/o Joseph B. & Ada C. Moore
Myra Moore Swann	Nov. 2, 1921	July 24, 1985	
Ada Carpenter Moore	Oct. 24, 1883	Feb. 15, 1976	
Jospeh Brooks Moore	Aug. 22, 1876	Nov. 5, 1956	h/o Ada C. Moore
John D. Jones	Nov. 3, 1905	Jan. 9, 1988	h/o Irvadean Jones
Irvadean Jones	Feb. 10, 1910	No Date	
Wallace Small	Oct. 8, 1916	Apr. 14, 1990	h/o Christine Brooks
Christine Brooks	Aug. 12, 1917	No Date	
Clois Brooks	July 27, 1909	Nov. 29, 1949	
Tommie Joe (Jol) Brooks	Aug. 13, 1936		s/o Mr. & Mrs. J. G. Brooks
Nettie Pool Gilliam	Jan. 10, 1894	Feb. 28, 1972	
Ocie E. "Bill" Moore	Mar. 29, 1914	Feb. 7, 1971	
W. W. "Billy" Moore	July 15, 1872	Jan. 17, 1928	
Annie V. Moore	Feb. 8, 1879	Apr. 27, 1911	h/o J. H. Vincent
Corellia A. Vincent	Sept. 18, 1856	Dec. 20, 1902	
Alma Vincent	July 18, 1893	Jan. 5, 1899	
Irene Vincent	Dec. 16, 1898	Aug. 16, 1900	h/o Sarah E. Hamrick Carpenter
Charles Clinton Carpenter	Apr. 27, 1858	July 26, 1890	
George W. Weatherford	Aug. 7, 1869	Sept. 8, 1930	w/o G.W. Weatherford;
Nettie Weatherford	Nov. 5, 1867	Sept. 3, 1903	d/o John B. & Mary E. Harwell Hamrick
John B. Hamrick	Mar. 12, 1837	Oct. 16, 1917	s/o Thomas J. & Sinia Brown Hamrick
Mary E. Hamrick	Oct. 13, 1841	June 16, 1926	d/o Clayont & Susan Harwell; w/o John B. Hamrick
Infant Son Gibson	June 26, 1926		s/o Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Gibson
Mattie Hamrick Gibson	Nov. 22, 1883	Mar. 17, 1966	d/o John B. & Mary E. Harwell Hamrick; w/o John Rhodes Gibson
John Edwards Gibson	1920	Jan. 21, 1992	Funeral Home marker s/o John R. & Mattie Hamrick Gibson
John Rhodes Gibson	Oct. 8, 1884	May 14, 1974	s/o Edward B. & Mary Eliz. Ulrick Gibson
Burt Ethridge	Sept. 6, 1903	Nov. 13, 1903	
Ree Ehrtidge	May 20, 1901	Jan. 25, 1902	Sgt. US Army WWII
Ernest Everett Scitzs	Sept. 3, 1911	July 9, 1981	w/o Ernest Everett Scitzs
Claudine Cross Scitzs	June 21, 1913	Oct. 8, 1998	
Mory Bascum (MB)	Aug. 10, 1930	Dec. 29, 1999	
Ethridge Jr.			

Row 9 Back

Arnold Hodgins	Apr. 12, 1919	No Date	
Juanice E. Hodgins	July 15, 1923		
Adele M. Ethridge Houston	Aug. 29, 1903	Feb. 29, 1994	
Clyde Ethridge	Oct. 14, 1888	Feb. 4, 1892	
Myrtis Ethridge	Sept. 27, 1896	Nov. 15, 1898	
W. Leon Moore	July 29, 1883	Nov. 10, 1901	S/o Thomas J. & Mollie M. Moore
Mollie M. Moore	Jan. 21, 1848	Jan. 19, 1933	w/o Thomas J. Moore
Thomas J. Moore	Jan. 8, 1847	Feb. 14, 1897	s/o Little Berry & Nancy E. Brooks Moore
Nathaniel Allen Newman	Dec. 28, 1969	June 11, 2000	s/o J.L. & minnie Houston
Gambette Houston	Feb. 13, 1893	Oct. 21, 1893	s/o Little Berry & Nanacy E. Brooks Moore
Walter Moore	1848	1917	w/o Walter Moore
Carrie Moore	1850	1890	w/o Joseph W. Moore; d/o Alonza & Margaret Taylor Anderson
Lula A. Moore	Jan. 26, 1881	Dec. 26, 1929	s/o Walter Berry & Caroline M. Barber
Joseph W. Moore	Jan. 6, 1883	Aug. 26, 1941	MS R.M. 3 USNR WWII; s/o Joseph Wilbur & Sarah Lula Moore Anderson
Otha J. Moore	Sept. 22, 1910	July 22, 1967	Moore
Vera Q. Moore	Mar. 29, 1917	No Date	w/o Otha J. Moore; w/o Melville Moore
Melville Moore	Nov. 5, 1909	Apr. 8, 1989	s/o Robert Fountain & Annie Hamrick Moore
William "Bill" Lee Moore	July 22, 1944	Jan. 25, 1955	s/o W. Lee & Lorene Middlebrooks Moore
W. Lee Moore	Oct. 27, 1910	Oct. 23, 1975	s/o Wm. Walter & Lucy L. Pruitt Moore
Lorene M. Moore	Oct. 8, 1912	Mar. 11, 1983	w/o Lee Moore
George Delton Eshee	Feb. 17, 1920	May 25, 1991	S 1 US Navy WWII
Lurene Ethridge Eshee	Aug. 16, 1921	No Date	w/o George Dalton Eshee
Janet Lynn Eshee	Jan. 2, 1963	Jan. 4, 1963	d/o Mr & Mrs. G. D. Eshee
James Moore Brooks	Feb. 27, 1942	Mar. 31, 1968	s/o Christine M. & Clois Brooks
Dianne Wall Brooks	June 9, 1949		w/o James M. Brooks
Infant Son Falgout	June 9, 1949	June 9, 1949	s/o J. J. & Diane Falgout
Jim Edward Munn	Dec. 17, 1965	Dec. 17, 1965	s/o J.M. & Mary Munn
10 Row Front			
Norman Gibson	Dec. 22, 1893	Jan. 3, 1968	s/o Samuel Thomas & Mary Ella Hamrick Gibson

Mary Ella Gibson	1872	1943	w/o Samuel Thomas Gibson; d/o John B. & Mary Elizabeth Harwell Hamrick
Samuel Thomas Gibson	1858	1933	s/o Samuel & Marhta Phillips Gibson
Herman Gibson	Apr. 5, 1892	July 14, 1915	
Betty Wells Gibson	Aug. 30, 1862	Oct. 30, 1888	1st w/o Samuel Thomas Gibson
Ellis Wells Moore	July 25, 1859	Dec. 4, 1879	w/o Jospeh McMullough Ethridge;
Millie Wells Ehtridge	Mar. 4, 1861	Sept. 14, 1957	d/o Jacob & Margaret Hamrick
Margaret A. Wells	Aug. 23, 1839	Apr. 3, 1892	w/o Jacob Wells; d/o Thomas Jefferson & Sibna Brown Hamrick
Kelsey Ethridge	Oct. 11, 1899	July 23, 1900	s/o J.M. & M.W. Ethridge
J. M. Ethridge	Nov. 17, 1861	Feb. 22, 1931	
Little Annie Houston	1875	1886	d/o J.L. & Elmira Houston
Joseph L. Houston	1836	1911	w/o Jospeh L. Houston;
Elmira Houston	1836	1922	d/o Thomas J. & Sinia Brown Hamrick
Ramon T. Walker	Sept. 18, 1896	Jan. 30, 1898	
Infant Son Walker	Nov. 25, 1933	Nov. 25, 1933	s/o Mr. & Mrs. Ray Walker
Winnie Walker	Oct. 25, 1899	Sept. 27, 1900	
Mollie Houston	1864	1864	d/o J.L. & Elmira Houston
Josephine Houston	1863	1864	d/o J.L. & Elmira Houston
Thos. Hamrick	Feb. 14, 1810	Oct. 30, 1881	s/o John C. Y Sibna Brown Hamrick
Sibna Hamrick	1817	Sept. 22, 1867	w/o Thomas J. Hamrick
Infant Son Skinner	Jan. 18, 1952	Jan. 18, 1952	s/o Mr & Mrs. E. L. Skinner
Hilda Sharp Thrash	Dec. 21, 1936	Apr. 13, 1994	d/o Edna E. Harwell & Hillard E. Sharp
Howard Cecil Thrash	May 28, 1921	No Date	
Edna Eloise Sharp	Aug. 25, 1911	Nov. 17, 1970	w/o Hillard Ellis Sharp
Hillard Ellis Sharp	Aug. 3, 1903	Oct. 1, 1986	
Thomas Oliver Madden	Aug. 1, 1975	No Date	
11 Row Back			
Junnie Larima Harwell	Feb. 21, 1909	July 17, 1973	"Shorty" MS Pfc US Army WWII
Joel Thomas Harwell	Nov. 7, 1879	May 2, 1969	s/o Holly & Mary M. Pike Harwell
Edna Jane Harwell	Oct. 14, 1882	Aug. 8, 1948	d/o Alonza & Margaret Taylor Anderson
Junia Harwell	Oct. 14, 1882	Aug. 8, 1948	w/o Joel Thomas Harwell

C. A. Carlton	July 28, 1911	No Date	
Celeste B. Carlton	Aug. 4, 1912	Mar. 24, 1977	w/o C. A. Carlton
Julia Harwell	1892	1904	
Hollis Harwell	No Dates		
Ricey Dewie Harwell	Apr. 16, 1899	Dec. 26, 1911	s/o H.L. & J. Harwell
Joseph Charles Moore	June 27, 1924	No Date	s/o Joseph brooks & Ada Lula Carpenter Moore
Christine Byrd Moore	Feb. 4, 1925	No Date	w/o Joseph Charles Moore
Donna Moore Rushing	May 10, 1945	Nov. 30, 1992	d/o Charles & Christine Byrd Moore; w/o Larry Rushing h/o Geneva M. Bush
James S. Bush	Oct. 6, 1911	May 7, 1981	
Geneva M. Bush	No Date	Oct. 30, 2000	s/o Little Berry & Lula V. Parker Moore
Walter B. Moore	Oct. 16, 1897	May 12, 1987	w/o Walter B. Moore
Florence S. Moore	Nov. 11, 1886	July 1, 1986	
Row 11			
Larue Harwell	June 26, 1916	Feb. 20, 1936	
William Gary Bradford	Nov. 13, 1947	Feb. 2, 1948	
Pearl W. Harwell	Feb. 22, 1898	Jan. 9, 1956	
Clayton L. Harwell	Nov. 18, 1883	Sept. 30, 1992	
Dorothy Harwell Valentine	Nov. 22, 1924	June 13, 1986	
Lagae Hicks Harwell	Nov. 7, 1918	June 10, 2000	
Marty Joyner Harwell	Oct. 29, 1907	Nov. 13, 1987	
Joel Arthur Harwell	Oct. 8, 1933	Aug. 19, 1999	
Row 12 Front Back			
Stevens W. Carpenter	Aug. 30, 1974	Mar. 27, 1995	s/o Terry & Brenda Carpenter
Terry D. Carpenter	Sept. 11, 1946	Apr. 16, 1994	LTC US Army, Vietnam; s/o John Thad & Margi B. Carpenter
John R. Carpenter	July 31, 1970	Sept. 23, 1989	“Rusty” S/o Terry & Brenda Carpenter
Roy Phillips, Sr.	Dec. 15, 1908	Aug. 12, 1998	
Verdie R. Phillips	Sept. 10, 1910	Oct. 9, 1997	w/o Roy Phillips, Sr.
John Henry Long	Oct. 19, 1894	June 15, 1975	h/o Elizabeth Anderson Long
Elizabeth Anderson Long	Nov. 12, 1893	July 28, 1977	d/o Andrew Alonza & Margaret Taylor Anderson
Bessie Elnora Harwell	Oct. 14, 1881	June 29, 1883	d/o H. L. & J. A. Harwell
William W. Bradford	Nov. 24, 1917	Aug. 27, 1993	US Air Force WWII
Row 13 Back			
John T. Carpenter	Sept. 21, 1913	July 27, 1993	
Margie Dee	May 20, 1915		
Rosalyn K. McPhail	Feb. 14, 1917	June 21, 1988	
Aubrey M. McPhail	Dec. 16, 1916	No Date	w/o Aubrey McPhail;
Walter V. Scitzs	Feb. 25, 1901	Feb. 3, 1980	d/o Marvin E. & Irma B. Ethridge Blanks
Betty K. Scitzs	Oct. 24, 1902	Nov. 15, 1979	
Ivon Skinner	Feb. 1, 1927	Apr. 27, 1961	
Isaac D. Keen	Mar. 16, 1920	Mar. 2, 1992	
Mildred Keen	Aug. 27, 1925	No Date	

14 Row

Preston C. Knight	Sept. 13, 1898	May 23, 1936
James E. Munn	July 24, 1904	June 24, 1982
Mildred L. Munn	Sept. 18, 1910	Mar. 9, 1979
Frederick T. Shelton	May 8, 1935	Dec. 20, 1996
Thomas E. Shelton	Jan. 4, 1958	Jan. 18, 1987

Row 15

Joseph B. Hitt	Nov. 15, 1915	Mar. 7, 1975
Alice Kondash	May 8, 1921	Nov. 7, 1972
Glenda Ashley	Feb. 29, 1944	Feb. 9, 1972
Mayzelle Menders Pittman	July 30, 1921	No Date
John Lee Pittman	Sept. 28, 1926	Sept. 13, 1982
Vanders S. Dees	Aug. 26, 1916	June 23, 1994
Evelyn Marie Hamersly	May 3, 1927	Mar. 29, 1987
George Lee Hamersly	June 8, 1924	No Date
John D. Hitt	Nov. 23, 1883	Dec. 13, 1952
Lillie W. Hitt	Nov. 5, 1890	Nov. 13, 1984
Elma Ray Hitt	Dec. 18, 1913	Nov. 27, 1973
T. Major Hitt	Dec. 27, 1923	Oct. 30, 1990
Margaret Sallie Smith Hitt	June 9, 1915	Apr. 3, 2001
Chris Carman Hall	Sept. 15, 1971	Aug. 17, 2000

PINE FOREST CEMETERY

**Leaving Meridian on Highway 19 north, at Collinsville turn right on West Lauderdale Road.
Road stops Martin Centerhill Road with Pine Forest Church on the left.**

R. Otto Poole	Feb. 4, 1892	Dec. 26, 1977	h/o Geneva Poole
Geneva Poole	May 19, 1897	Sept. 4, 1967	w/o Otto Poole
Mary Poole Reynolds	Aug. 29, 1897	Oct. 21, 1989	
Aubrey Swearinger	Oct. 18, 1921	Nov. 6, 1976	
Angel Churylo	No Marker		Infant d/o Joe & Nelda Churylo
Ollie Lee Scitzs	Apr. 24, 1908	Jan. 14, 1986	h/o Ethel Scitzs
Ethel Scitzs (George)	July 1, 1908	Aug. 16, 1970	w/o Ollie Scitzs
John Chisolm	Oct. 13, 1921	May 28, 1968	h/o Clydene Chilsom
Thomas C. Phillips	Sept. 8, 1888	Mar. 1, 1972	h/o Emma E. Phillips
Emma E. Phillips	Oct. 1, 1900	Jan. 4, 1991	w/o Thomas C. Phillips
Glenwood Graham	Sept. 25, 1918	Apr. 21, 1984	h/o Hazel Middlebrook Graham
Hazel Middlebrook Graham	Nov. 19, 1914	Nov. 12, 1981	w/o Glenwood Graham
Oma A. Phillips	Nov. 15, 1902	Apr. 27, 1972	WWII
Duluth Doerner	Sept. 6, 1926	Sept. 27, 1997	WWII
Chester Reuben Nelson	Jan. 25, 1923	Oct. 14, 1979	w/o Clois Calvert
Christine Calvert	Sept. 24, 1929	Apr. 6, 1990	"Bill" h/o Christine Calvert
Clois Calvert	Mar. 25, 1923	Sept. 4, 1998	
Elsie Janice Roberts	June 24, 1939	June 9, 1988	
Roy Alvin Townsend	Oct. 13, 1909	Dec. 4, 1984	h/o Lorene Townsend
Earnest Townsend	Aug. 21, 1915	Sept. 24, 1990	w/o Earnest Townsend
Lorene Townsend	Dec. 23, 1921	Aug. 28, 1975	h/o Ada L. Townsend
Harvey L. Townsend	Oct. 15, 1886	Nov. 26, 1967	w/o Harvey Townsend
Ada L. Townsend	Aug. 27, 1892	Feb. 11, 1985	w/o Elliott C. Townsend
Imogene G. Townsend	Oct. 23, 1910	Mar. 4, 1981	h/o Imogene G. Townsend
Elliott C. Townsend	Jan. 16, 1911	Apr. 29, 1968	

Kermit Snowden Pace	Sept. 21, 1933	Oct. 15, 1988	h/o Dorothy Nell
Wesley C. Johnson	Aug. 15, 1929	July 2, 1988	h/o Frances McDonald Johnson
Frances McDonald Johnson	Dec. 12, 1922	Feb. 1, 1988	w/o Wesley C. Johnson
Aubrey Leon Green	Mar. 10, 1923	Mar. 2, 1993	h/o Ruth Keen Green
Ruth Keen Green	Apr. 24, 1923	Nov. 3, 1999	w/o Aubrey Leon Green
Gary Mike Luke	Aug. 26, 1945	Aug. 28, 1995	s/o Percy Luke
Edra Luke	May 19, 1919	Feb. 28, 1997	w/o Percy D. Luke
Percy D. Luke	Apr. 15, 1919	Sept. 7, 1980	h/o Edra Luke
William D. Bradley	May 13, 1922	Mar. 26, 1996	WWII
Benjamine F. Agnew	Dec. 17, 1917	July 26, 1978	WWII
Jesse Dudley, Jr.	Sept. 9, 1912	Mar. 1, 1998	s/o Jesse & Annie Phillips Bounds
Jesse Dudley, Sr.	Aug. 22, 1876	Mar. 26, 1971	h/o Annie Phillips Bounds
Annie Phillips Bounds	July 2, 1881	July 11, 1972	w/o Jesse Dudley, Sr.
Thelma V. Bounds White	Nov. 16, 1903	Aug. 17, 1996	d/o Jessie & Annie Bounds
Ivan Eugene Poole	Jan. 31, 1897	Oct. 26, 1972	h/o Dora Bounds Poole
Dora Bounds Poole	Jan. 22, 1902	Mar. 2, 1996	w/o Ivan Eugene Poole
Clarence O. Poole	Aug. 6, 1909	Feb. 25, 1978	h/o Katherine Townsend
Lillie RichePoole Allen	Jan. 3, 1906	Sept. 10, 1985	w/o V. Leo Poole
Vernon Leo Poole	Oct. 13, 1902	Sept. 28, 1971	h/o Lillie Riche Poole
Arthur Dewane Poole	Apr. 11, 1925	Sept. 2, 1994	
Arnold Lamar Brown	Apr. 20, 1912	Apr. 23, 1993	h/o Sarah Alice
Donald Wilton Doerner	Sept. 10, 1958	Apr. 7, 1970	
Wilton Ottice Doerner	Dec. 13, 1930	Aug. 19, 1998	
Emma Lou Vinson Brown	Nov. 22, 1935	Jan. 2, 1973	w/o Leonard Brown
Freeman E. Moffett	Dec. 9, 1916	Oct. 17, 1997	
Johnnie Pernell Hurt	July 24, 1914	Nov. 11, 1982	h/o Bonnie Jean Pace Hurtt
Bonnie Jean Pace Hurt	Apr. 27, 1920	Apr. 6, 1986	w/o Johnnie Pernell Hurtt
Calvin Pernell Brown	Jan. 22, 1979	Jan. 22, 1979	s/o Bobby & Sue Brown
Dorris Key Branning	Jan. 27, 1928	June 16, 1979	Navy
Bruce Alan Branning	June 10, 1957	June 16, 1979	s/o Dorris & Sarah
Claudia E. Barrier	Feb. 28, 1904	Nov. 18, 1993	w/o Clarence D. Barrier
Clarence D. Barrier	Aug. 16, 1903	Nov. 6, 1970	h/o Claudia E. Barrier
Shirley Poole Shurley	July 2, 1940	Feb. 12, 1976	
Dallas Poole	July 18, 1903	Jan. 12, 1978	w/o James Reginald Poole
James Reginald Poole	Feb. 5, 1894	Nov. 13, 1977	h/o Dallas Poole
Robert Delayne Hudson	June 11, 1980	Jan. 11, 1981	
Edwin Carnell Doerner	Mar. 4, 1932	Oct. 23, 1987	
Willie L. Roberts	June 6, 1924	May 13, 1991	"Duck" h/o Juanita Wright Roberts
Juanita Wright Roberts	Mar. 10, 1923	Oct. 1, 1999	w/o Willie L. Roberts
Prentis Marvin Townsend	Aug. 26, 1921	May 23, 1986	WWII; h/o Myrtis Newton
Harold W. Lollar, Sr.	Sept. 22, 1926	Nov. 4, 1992	WWII; h/o Judy Young
William Finley Allen	Dec. 24, 1910	Aug. 12, 1995	h/o Pearl Gamble Allen & Lillie Poole Allen
Pearl Gamble Allen	Aug. 5, 1909	Sept. 13, 1981	
Gwen Harrison	July 31, 1941	Dec. 19, 1985	w/o Albert Harrison
Lester Pearce Jacobs	Dec. 1, 1903	Dec. 7, 1978	h/o Esta Faye Jacobs
Esta Faye Jacobs	Feb. 28, 1908	Feb. 4, 1981	w/o Lester Pearce Jacobs

Laura Lee Seale	June 24, 1981	June 24, 1981	Infant d/o Jimmie & Lisa Seale
April Suzanne Burch	Apr. 7, 1983	Apr. 7, 1983	Infant d/o William & Sabrina
Robert G. Lockhart	Nov. 15, 1920	Mar. 1, 1982	WWII; h/o Edna
James Ottis Adcock	Dec. 17, 1913	June 3, 1986	h/o Adelle Adcock
Norman L. Fant	July 28, 1927	Dec. 31, 1998	h/o Willa Fant
Laura T. Stone	Feb. 21, 1919	June 14, 2000	w/o Aaronn Stone
Brenda Barber Rogers &	Aug. 18, 1951	Oct. 3, 2000	w/o Kenny Rogers; d/o Al & Bonnie Barber
Doris P. Boykin	February 1, 1927	August 30, 1999	

PINE GROVE CEMETERY

North of Meridian, on Highway 19, North, just North of Collinsville, turn right on Collinsville-Martin Road at the fork turn left, Pine Grove Road.

Renea Alawine	June 25, 1902	Dec. 25, 1902	
J. A. Alawine	1902	1902	
Joe Wheler Alawine	Sept. 29, 1899	Oct. 29, 1901	
Infant Son Alawine	Oct. 15, 1919	Oct. 15, 1919	s/o Mr. & Mrs. Sam Alawine
Bernard Pruitt Saterfiel	Nov. 25, 1944	June 24, 1978	
Pruitt Saterfiel	Dec. 8, 1920	Feb. 9, 1970	Pruitt Oliver
Ruby Louise Saterfield	July 3, 1920	June 11, 1991	
Jackie L. Alawine	July 12, 1955	June 26, 1977	s/o Bob Alawine & Cecile
Cecile Tolbert	Nov. 16, 1916	Feb. 18, 1997	
Robert L. Alawine	June 25, 1912	Dec. 8, 1988	"Bob"
Medora A. Skinner	Aug. 22, 1862	Mar. 18, 1934	
Roland G. Skinner	Sept. 28, 1855	July 8, 1924	
Auston G. Skinner	Sept. 11, 1891	Nov. 3, 1900	
Vicky Lynn Saterfiel	Oct. 9, 1922	No Date	d/o W. C. Carrie Saterfiel
Louise Scarbrough	Mar. 31, 1924	Oct. 18, 1928	
Birdie Lou Scarbrough	May 3, 1901	June 1, 1978	
Harvey Scarbrough	Nov. 8, 1897	Jan. 11, 1981	
John Thomas Slayton	May 30, 1884	Apr. 8, 1949	
Annie Lou Slayton	June 22, 1886	July 8, 1948	
Arlette Slayton	May 30, 1909	June 27, 1944	
Alma Slayton Brown	Aug. 30, 1911	May 29, 1962	
Joseph F. Byrd, Sr.	Jan. 18, 1892	Aug. 17, 1981	"Joe"
Indola Satterfield Byrd	Nov. 4, 1893	June 18, 1956	w/o Joseph F. Byrd
Willie C. Satterfield	Apr. 7, 1898	Dec. 16, 1955	
Carrie M. Saterfiel	Apr. 29, 1903	Mar. 17, 1978	
Mildred Claudene Warren	Aug. 8, 1924	Dec. 31, 1960	
Charles R. Saterfield	Nov. 5, 1845	July 5, 1988	
Mary Anne Hodges	Mar. 31, 1879	Oct. 31, 1929	
Ozetta Hodges	Mar. 10, 1912	Sept. 7, 1925	
Ernest B. Hodges	Apr. 4, 1906	Sept. 11, 1920	
John Wesley Hodges	Nov. 5, 1854	Mar. 16, 1912	
Della Ethridge Hodges	Sept. 2, 1866	May 18, 1900	w/o J. W. Hodges
Mary Etta Hodges	1857	1892	
Amos Mack Hodges	Oct. 9, 1918	Mar. 19, 1992	

Willie D. Hodges	Dec. 4, 1900	Feb. 11, 1910	s/o A.M. & Mattie Hodges
Nettie V. Hodges	June 9, 1912	May 5, 1914	d/o A.M. & Mattie Hodges
Mary Lee Hodges	Jan. 15, 1908	May 1, 1980	
Amos M. Hodges	Nov. 15, 1875	Mar. 5, 1946	
Mattie Ethridge Hodges	Feb. 11, 1880	Sept. 15, 1966	w/o Amos M. Hodges
Carmen H. Carpenter	Mar. 2, 1905	July 17, 1993	
Edna B. Hodges	Feb. 13, 1924	No Date	
William Edward Scruggs	July 25, 1930	Aug. 16, 1982	PFC US Army Korea
Peggy J. Saterfiel	May 31, 1933	No Date	
James Webb Saterfiel	July 5, 1924	Sept. 7, 1924	s/o A.J. & Mollie Saterfiel
Adie J. Saterfiel	Aug. 10, 1895	Aug. 2, 1954	
Mary Mollie Saterfiel	Dec. 24, 1896	Mar. 1, 1990	
Dewey Oliver Saterfield	May 2, 1901	Oct. 26, 1968	
Alberta Coats Saterfield	Oct. 18, 1904	June 28, 1974	
Willie D. Saterfield	Oct. 28, 1923	Feb. 29, 1980	
Margaret Williams Saterfield	Jan. 1, 1923	Nov. 30, 1996	
Harold Hodges Saterfield	Mar. 19, 1931	Mar. 9, 1996	
I. C. Hurt	Jan. 28, 1903	Mar. 20, 1983	
Irene Hurt	July 14, 1911	Dec. 9, 1975	
Jared A. Reed	Jan. 28, 1932	Aug. 9, 1988	B U 3 US Navy Korea
Elizabeth P. Reed	Aug. 13, 1948	No Date	
Nicholas Allen Reed	Nov. 19, 1953	Sept. 7, 1976	SP 4 US Army
J. N. "Pruitt" Warren	Dec. 23, 1914	Jan. 5, 1994	
F. W. Warren	July 6, 1912	May 10, 1981	"Boots"
Mamie Boydston	May 4, 1927	No Date	
Brian Keith Keller	Jan. 5, 1982	May 7, 1996	
Miss Rubye E. Davis	Apr. 25, 1909	July 26, 1993	d/o J. A. & Ethel Davis
Sadie M. Davis	June 5, 1915	Mar. 9, 1993	
Lois Davis	Dec. 3, 1911	Mar. 4, 1987	
Beulah Ione Pruitt	Apr. 16, 1906	July 11, 1981	
David Olaf Pruitt	Dec. 7, 1906	Oct. 21, 1983	
James Moody Hodges	Sept. 25, 1920	July 21, 1990	Pvt. US Army WWII
James M. Hodges, Jr.	July 21, 1969	May 31, 1975	"Chip"
Elza Leona Pool	May 18, 1903	Nov. 8, 1985	
John Quinn Pool	Feb. 23, 1898	Sept. 30, 1962	
Herbert Defay Pool	Sept. 30, 1928	July 21, 1964	
Infant Daughter Pool	May 28, 1975	May 28, 1975	d/o Tony & Cathy Pool
Robert Charles Shipley	Mar. 11, 1924	Oct. 4, 1972	AL TEC 3 471 ORD MVACo; h/o Sarah Pool
Sarah Pool Shipley	Feb. 5, 1923	No Date	
Dalton Legett Pool	June 7, 1922	Feb. 3, 1945	h/o Sarah Pool
Mary Erline Brown	Dec. 24, 1909	Mar. 14, 1976	
William Lee Brown	Apr. 22, 1908	Mar. 10, 1992	
Evie Mae Saterfiel Hodges	Apr. 28, 1891	June 2, 1957	w/o George Thomas Hodges
George Thomas Hodges	June 15, 1888	Oct. 21, 1967	
George Junior Hodges	Mar. 2, 1924	Feb. 20, 1943	s/o G. T. & Evie Hodges
Eudora C. Saterfiel	Mar. 31, 1871	Jan. 6, 1950	Age 54
William D. Skinner		Dec. 1885	Age 65
Maggie S. Skinner		Sept. 10, 1904	s/o G. . D & Lois Pool
Wood Marker - Could Be Infant Son Pool	May 25, 1933	May 25, 1933	

Valerie Janice Pool	May 9, 1931	Aug. 12, 1937	d/o G. . D & Lois Pool
Willie D. Saterfiel	Oct. 26, 1923	Feb. 29, 1980	
Annie L. Nutt	Mar. 19, 1923	No Date	
Evedean Nutt	Dec. 18, 1918	May 30, 1997	h/o Annie Lee
T. Kyle Pace	Nov. 30, 1959	No Date	
Janey L. Pace	Apr. 16, 1955	No Date	
John Curtis Pace	July 1, 1981	Feb. 6, 1999	
Laura A. Selby	Dec. 18, 1909	Dec. 28, 1996	
Donna C. P'Pool	Jan. 19, 1960	No Date	
Gaylon O. P'Pool	Mar. 13, 1955	Aug. 31, 1955	
Annie Pauline Griffin	Mar. 21, 1921	No Date	
Sylvia Jean Kinard	Sept. 15, 1941	No Date	
Debra McMullan McKee	Oct. 9, 1960	June 18, 1997	
Maggie Spence	Feb. 22, 1898	Dec. 21, 2000	
Allen William Spence, Sr.	May 8, 1901	Jan. 23, 1981	
John W. Warren	Feb. 23, 1931	Oct. 11, 1978	
Sybil I. Litchfield	Jan. 12, 1919	June 28, 1999	
Marshall C. Litchfield	June 15, 1906	July 23, 1986	
Kenneth Wayne Litchfield	Sept. 28, 1955	Jan. 15, 1974	
Kathy Elaine Litchfield	Sept. 28, 1955	July 21, 1958	
Infant Son Williamson	July 17, 1951	July 17, 1951	s/o S.O. & Ouida Williamson
Daryle E. Gali	July 24, 1934	No Date	
Carlene W. Gali	Aug. 3, 1935	Mar. 10, 1996	
Arlene Williamson Long Baker	Aug. 3, 1935	No Date	
Infant Daughter Williamson	Mar. 12, 1939	Mar. 12, 1939	Jeff & Esther
Williamson			
Esther Pool Willimason	Aug. 3, 1903	Jan. 9, 1996	
J. Jeff Williamson	Jan. 22, 1900	Aug. 8, 1968	h/o Esther
Rosie Lee Mayo	Aug. 19, 1870	Nov. 10, 1898	w/o F. E. Mayo
Rausie L. Mayo	Dec. 15, 1897	July 7, 1899	
Isaac M. Pool	1838	1904	s/o John &
Adeline Rasberry Pool			
Adeline Rasberry Pool	1815	1883	
John Pool	1810	1880	
Sarah Hammond Pool	1836	1911	w/o William
Green Pool			
William Green Pool	1836	1884	s/o John &
Adeline Rasberry Pool			
James R. Pool	1844	1864	s/o John
&Adeline Rasberry Pool			
James Otis Phillips	1912	1929	
William Isaac Pool	Dec. 3, 1899	Aug. 20, 1900	
Susan E. Briggs Pool	Mar. 26, 1868	June 15, 1939	
John G. Pool	Nov. 10, 1864	Dec. 21, 1942	s/o Wm. Green & Sarah Hammond Pool Age 86
Clementine H. Gipson Powell		Feb. 10, 1946	
Joe E. Gipson	July 22, 1917	Nov. 25, 1945	
Roshier W. Gipson	Dec. 26, 1854	Apr. 14, 1923	h/o Mary Ellen
Mary Ellen Gipson	July 18, 1860	Feb. 10, 1917	
Lillian Gipson Morland	Mar. 21, 1881	Feb. 28, 1910	w/o J. W. Morland
Erasmus Giddeon Gipson, Jr.	1854	1881	
Josephine A. Williamson	Apr. 28, 1858	Mar. 28, 1913	Pvt. Co. 15, MS State Troops, CSA
Willim B. Williamson	1824	1913	

J.V. Gipson	Aug. 17, 1893	Dec. 8, 1970	
Gertrude Gipson		Apr. 29, 1896	Dec. 26, 1987
R.W. Gipson, Jr.		June 3, 1889	May 9, 1931
Minnie L. Gipson		Mar. 28, 1889	Nov. 21, 1950
Roshier Wesley Gipson, III	June 25, 1926		Oct. 28, 1987
M. Maletis Harris Gipson		Oct. 27, 1927	Aug. 21, 1987
Mertie Park Gipson		June 20, 1900	Oct. 5, 1936
Judge J. Ray Gipson		Aug. 28, 1895	Nov. 28, 1969
Margaret O. Gipson		July 15, 1908	Sept. 14, 1975
Dan Henry Barnes		Oct. 6, 1884	Sept. 20, 1959
Velma Gipson Barnes		June 26, 1891	July 17, 1942
Unmarked Grave			
J.P. Barnes		July 27, 1918	Jan. 28, 1987
Zula Mae Barnes		1926	1998
Sherrye Ethridge Morris		Sept. 18, 1947	Nov. 8, 1979
Bettye Jo Lee Herrington		Dec. 12, 1932	Jan. 29, 2001
W.B. "Burkett" Herrington	Jan. 6, 1915		May 14, 1996
Margie E. Hartz		Feb. 11, 1928	No Date
Herbert H. Hartz		Dec. 8, 1928	Dec. 6, 1985
Caleb H. Johnson		July 31, 1888	July 31, 1888
Paul D. Espey, Sr.		Feb. 18, 1935	June 10, 1982
Joseph A. Griffin		1910	1935
Clyde Townsend		Dec. 27, 1910	June 23, 1989
Coline Betty Townsend		Aug. 3, 1911	Jan. 16, 1981
Gerald Wayne Pool		July 18, 1937	Mar. 31, 1938
Louis Ray Pool		Aug. 18, 1939	Sept. 26, 1940
Lois W. Pool		Sept. 9, 1910	Apr. 17, 1984
G. D. Pool		Apr. 18, 1905	Apr. 29, 1975
Bille Jean Pool McIlwain		Mar. 20, 1932	June 30, 1976
Leroy W. McIlwain		Dec. 23, 1924	No Date
Infant Son Williamson		Apr. 25, 1962	Apr. 25, 1962
O1a Pool Phillips		Feb. 13, 1896	Feb. 17, 1920
James Bryant Ezell, Sr.		July 3, 1889	July 30, 1955
Pearl Dee Ezell		Sept. 3, 1901	Dec. 9, 1989
Leola Crane Ezell		Nov. 27, 1944	No Date
Charles D. Ezell		Jan. 9, 1941	Oct. 1, 1999
Ernest C. Rasberry, Jr.		May 7, 1937	May 8, 1937
Ernestine Rasberry		Oct. 15, 1924	Jan. 9, 1925
Cornelia Randolph Gipson	Aug. 25, 1870		Oct. 26, 1879
George Franklin Gipson		Feb. 4, 1883	July 9, 1885
R. L. Richie		Nov. 16, 1861	Apr. 8, 1887
Charles Hallum Hall		Jan. 21, 1901	July 23, 1988
Bobby Glyn Morland		Feb. 12, 1933	June 15, 1934
Rosier Leon Morland		Apr. 13, 1905	Oct. 26, 1956
Bonnie Morland Hall		Aug. 23, 1907	Feb. 7, 2000
Mary Francis Hutchings		Oct. 3, 1926	Apr. 29, 1998
Marilyn V. Jenny Jones		Sept. 15, 1952	Jan. 14, 1979
E. C. "Bo" Lee		June 20, 1924	Oct. 17, 1953
H.B. "Dock" Lee		Dec. 7, 1881	Aug. 24, 1964
Liona Herrington Lee		Jan. 25, 1881	Sept. 11, 1952
Herbert A. Lee		Feb. 13, 1923	Mar. 26, 1967
George Dewey Johnson		Aug. 22, 1920	Aug. 24, 1991
Dewey Johnson		July 3, 1958	May 22, 1986

Sybil Johnson	Dec. 2, 1928	Sept. 12, 1992	
Felidas Elija Mayo	Feb. 24, 1867	Jan. 19, 1899	
Rosie Lee Woods Mayo	June 29, 1870	Nov. 10, 1898	
Otis L. Miles	Oct. 7, 1898	Feb. 12, 1972	
Elm. Pool	June 30, 1901	Aug. 2, 1982	
Reginald Myles	Aug. 7, 1925	Jan. 17, 1986	
Willie Myles	No Date		
Janice Lynn Roberts	Mar. 28, 1971	July 10, 1973	
Irvin Roberts	Aug. 13, 1903	Jan. 17, 1984	
Lozie Lee Roberts	Jan. 27, 1911	Nov. 22, 1986	
James Roberts	Mar. 25, 1859	Feb. 23, 1935	
Elizabeth Roberts	Nov. 29, 1859	Dec. 30, 1959	
Stella McKinion	Dec. 23, 1935	Jan. 15, 1990	
William L. McKinion	Jan. 31, 1935	No Date	
Terresa Kay Townsend	Nov. 13, 1965	No Date	
Jackie B. Luke	Sept. 20, 1949	Nov. 16, 1949	
Willie Stokes Phillips	Apr. 7, 1892	Feb. 14, 1974	w/o James Garfield Phillips
James Garfield Phillips	May 6, 1890	Apr. 4, 1964	
M. J. Ethridge	Feb. 11, 1866	Mar. 21, 1947	
D. F. Ethridge	Mar. 20, 1864	Dec. 14, 1926	
Nancy Foster Coats	May 12, 1793	July 29, 1886	
Mary Francis Elizabeth Thomas	Feb. 3, 1894	Sept. 1, 1895	
John J. Ethridge	July 18, 1895	Apr. 24, 1958	s/o Dickie & Berlyn Davis
Guy Marshall Davis	Mar. 25, 1957	Mar. 24, 1957	d/o Dickie & Berlyn Davis
Julia Ann Davis	Mar. 25, 1958	June 25, 1960	w/o Ford Vance Davis
Viva Lee Davis	Jan. 19, 1913	Jan. 31, 1991	
Ford Vance Davis	June 6, 1914	Jan. 21, 1983	
Lula Adams Foster	1876	1927	w/o J. R. Foster
James Robert Foster	Feb. 28, 1874	Jan. 23, 1949	
Minnie L. Richie Foster	Oct. 13, 1886	May 28, 1912	w/o J. R. Foster
Mittie L. Fortson Foster	Nov. 8, 1870	Jan. 24, 1897	d/o J. C. & A. E. Fortson; w/o James R. Foster
Sarah A. E. Fortson	July 16, 1839	Dec. 9, 1895	w/o J. G. Fortson' d/o Elisha & Mary Ross Radford
J. C. Fortson	Feb. 12, 1834	Apr. 6, 1907	s/o Samuel H. &
Mary Alford Fortson			
Francis Jane Hand	Aug. 2, 1860	Oct. 6, 1925	"Fannie" d/o J. G. & Sarah A.E. Fortson
Hardy Fortson	Apr. 11, 1872	Apr. 20, 1872	s/o J. G. & Sarah A.E. Fortson
W. H. "Bill" Parker	Jan. 26, 1858	Nov. 6, 1920	
Isaac A. Ezell (Broken Marker)	May 29, 1861	Oct. 11, 1876	s/o Abell & R. A. Ezell
R. A. Ezell	Apr. 17, 1848	May 15, 1912	(Broken Marker)
B. Ernestine Ezell	Oct. 15, 1924	Jan. 9, 1925	d/o E. C. & Exa (Broken Marker)
Melvin H. Ezell	Aug. 23, 1863	Jan. 12, 1943	
William H. Ezell	Oct. 14, 1849	May 24, 1928	
Maurice L. Vincent	Nov. 21, 1908	Aug. 17, 1960	
Isaac Cecil Vincent	May 13, 1913	Sept. 21, 1980	

Victoria Lee Vincent	Nov. 14, 1913	No Date	w/o Cecil Vincent
Donald Wayne Vincent	Jan. 18, 1939	Dec. 15, 1945	s/o Cecil & Victoria Vincent
Ethel Lee	Aug. 12, 1902	No Date	w/o Jackson Lee
Jackson Lee	June 11, 1901	Sept. 7, 1982	
Mary Virginia Lee	May 4, 1940	Oct. 26, 1940	d/o Jackson & Ethel Lee
Virginia E. Lee	Feb. 11, 1877	Oct. 7, 1949	
Thomas J. Lee	July 30, 1876	Aug. 9, 1935	
A. J. Lee	July 24, 1847	Mar. 9, 1935	
Janie Lee	June 21, 1849	Aug. 11, 1927	w/o A. J. Lee
M. L. Tucker	Oct. 21, 1837	July 11, 1907	w/o C. R. Tucker
C. R. Tucker	Aug. 10, 1837	May 7, 1892	
Stephen Tucker	Dec. 10, 1808	June 12, 1886	
Louzea C. Tucker	Feb. 25, 1817	Apr. 17, 1905	w/o Steven Tucker
Sarah P. Tucker	Aug. 20, 1847	Feb. 25, 1896?	
Steven B. Tucker	Dec. 12, 1858	July 28, 1945	
Onie Pruitt Tucker	Jan. 7, 1872	Aug. 2, 1957	w/o Steven B. Tucker
Grady Pruitt Tucker	Sept. 5, 1896	June 16, 1975	
Edna E. Wood Tucker	Mar. 15, 1896	Mar. 22, 1941	
George T. Tucker	Aug. 18, 1896	Feb. 16, 1988	Married Lydia S. Aug. 27, 1933 w/o George T. Tucker
Lydia S. Tucker	Nov. 2, 1913	No Date	
Stephen Jefferson Carter	June 29, 1880	Feb. 17, 1948	"Bill"
Minnie Lee Carter	Feb. 27, 1889	Jan. 18, 1981	"Terri" d/o Billy W. Ethridge
William E. Ethridge	Aug. 7, 1904	Dec. 7, 1984	w/o Austin Hand; d/o Steven B. & Onie Pruitt
Vera I. Byrd	Aug. 3, 1914	Aug. 14, 1985	Tucker
Teresa Ethridge Al-Hajiri	May 31, 1959	Jan. 3, 1990	s/o Hillard J. & Rebecca J. Vance Hand
Victoria T. Hand	July 18, 1900	Oct. 28, 1989	s/o Hillard J. & Sara Childers Hand
Austin Hand	July 20, 1896	May 23, 1975	w/o H. Winfield Hand; d/o George & Mary J. Pace Vance
H. Winfield Hand	Oct. 5, 1852	July 9, 1946	s/o Austin & Victoria Hand
Rebecca J. Hand	Sept. 26, 1855	Nov. 7, 1933	s/o Austin & Victoria Hand
Malcolm Hand	July 28, 1919	July 24, 1939	
Bob L. Hand, Sr.	Oct. 4, 1938	Oct. 14, 1976	
Jackson D. Wood	No Dates		Children Hugh Ellis, Onnie Belle, Abbie, Josephine, Geneva, Frankie, Leon, Ima May
Liza Jane Hurtt	Apr. 6, 1868	Mar. 2, 1946	s/o D. F. & M. J. Ethridge
Jennie Wood Hurtt	1878	1927	
B. F. Ethridge	Nov. 10, 1884	July 31, 1885	
D. L. Ethridge	Dec. 5, 1888	July 17, 1889	
I. G. Ethridge	May 27, 1893	Sept. 11, 1894	
Elwina Beeman Robst	Feb. 11, 1934	June 9, 1992	

C. L . Beeman	Mar. 22, 1905	Sept. 17, 1954	"LEE" s/o Alonza & Mamie Beeman
Mamie Lee Beeman Infant Son Beeman	Dec. 18, 1905 Dec. 15, 1929	Dec. 28, 1985 Dec. 15, 1929	w/o C. Lee Beeman s/o C. L. & Mamie L. Beeman
Infant Daughter Lee	No Date		d/o H. B. & Leona Lee
Infant Daughter Lee	1903	1903	d/o H. B. & Leona Lee
Infant Son Lee	1904	1904	s/o H. B. & Leona Lee
Infant Son Lee	1904	1904	s/o H. B. & Leona Lee
Willie Lee Davis	Sept. 28, 1917	July 22, 1996	"Billie"
Hester P. Vincent	Dec. 22, 1908	Feb. 3, 1997	
Everett L. Raley	July 19, 1933	Mar. 22, 1995	AIC US Air Force Korea
Doris Raley	Mar. 5, 1932	No Date	w/o Everett L. Raley
Sallie Lou Joiner	June 15, 1954	Feb. 6, 1989	
Mattie P. Joiner	Jan. 6, 1914	Apr. 20, 1997	
William N. Joiner	Dec. 2, 1901	Sept. 1, 1976	Pvt. US Army WWII
Hortense Myers Pruitt	Dec. 6, 1906	Oct. 24, 1975	
James O. Pruitt	Oct. 31, 1904	Mar. 30, 1990	
Nettie E. Pruitt	June 14, 1885	Sept. 8, 1968	
William L. Pruitt	Nov. 3, 1883	Jan. 7, 1972	
Herbert O. Pruitt	Apr. 4, 1916	May 19, 1941	MS Corp & Bomb SQ AIR Corps
Martha Ann May	Jan. 6, 1873	Apr. 11, 1953	w/o Alonza E. May
Alonza E. May	July 20, 1870	Dec. 28, 1947	
Infant Daughter	July 12, 1892	June 17, 1895	
Jackson	Marker Illegible		
H. E. Hand, Jr.	Aug. 2, 1928	Apr. 4, 2001	
H. E. Hand, Sr.	Mar. 20, 1896	Aug. 23, 1976	w/o H. E. Hand, Sr.
Ava Hand	June 6, 1902	Nov. 22, 1989	
Grady Hand Ezell	Feb. 18, 1894	June 19, 1969	
John Samuel Ezelle	Mar. 10, 1888	Jan. 5, 1953	"Bettie" ?
Birtie B. Ezelle	Jan. 5, 1914	Sept. 8, 1915	
Margaret Wallace	Sept. 27, 1915	May 20, 1984	
Jenett Harper	Oct. 22, 1927	No Date	
J. W. Harper "Hoss"	Dec. 28, 1934	Sept. 26, 1992	d/o Ellen & Joseph Motes
Stephanie Kate Motes	Dec. 18, 1963	July 9, 1970	
Ellen Sue Motes	Mar. 13, 1940	May 14, 2000	
Jane Agnew Bates	1850	1925	
Lottie Mae Agnew	Nov. 26, 1914	Dec. 25, 1914	d/o John L. & Martha C. Fox Agnew
Cornelia Keeton Agnew	Aug. 17, 1852	1912	m/o John L. Agnew
John L. Agnew	May 4, 1880	Dec. 5, 1932	s/o G. W. & Cornelia A. Keeton Agnew
Mattie F. Agnew	Oct. 7, 1880	Feb. 10, 1960	w/o John L. Agnew
Milvon Agnew	Oct. 14, 1919	Aug. 7, 1974	s/o John L. & Mattie Foster Agnew
Willie M. Robinson	Sept. 6, 1918	Apr. 17, 1986	w/o Bilbo Robinson
Bilbo Robinson	Jan. 1, 1910	Oct. 23, 1974	
Broken Stone			
Fredna Joyner	Sept. 4, 1942	Sept. 19, 1999	
Kathleen Lee Smith	Apr. 29, 1909	Aug. 5, 1994	
James Carlton Moore	Nov. 25, 1894	June 13, 1953	
Mollie Lee Moore	Aug. 11, 1898	Jan. 3, 1986	

Carlton L. Moore	Mar. 14, 1920	Mar. 27, 1920	
William Henry Lee	Mar. 26, 1904	Mar. 13, 1908	
Barney Lee	Jan. 23, 1903	Jan. 2, 1907	"Babe"
Roma Ernestine Lee	May 9, 1897	Sept. 5, 1900	
J. S. Tucker	Feb. 27, 1839	Dec. 12, 1909	
Ann M. Tucker	Mar. 10, 1839	June 11, 1900	
Susan V. Tucker	Dec. 2, 1875	Feb. 6, 1876	
Steven W. Tucker	Dec. 6, 1880	July 17, 1965	
W. L. Baker	June 3, 1809?	Jan. 10, 1892	
Serena Baker	Sept. 23, 1815	Sept. 30, 1881	w/o W. L. Baker
Perkins Arthur	1798	1875	
Peter Benjamin Pruitt	May 10, 1810	Nov. 29, 1880	
James Elijah Fortson	Dec. 8, 1873	Dec. 17, 1951	s/o Jospeh Gail & Sarah Ann Eliz. Radford Forston
Mary Florence Fortson	June 20, 1878	July 20, 1936	w/o James Elijah Fortson; d/o Francis Marion & Mary Jane Williamson
Tressie Forston	Aug. 24, 1904	Dec. 21, 1904	d/o Joseph E. & Mary Florence Powell Fortson
Maudie Dee Fortson	Oct. 21, 1901	Oct. 12, 1902	d/o Joseph E. & Mary Florence Powell Fortson
Mattie E. Powell	Nov. 2, 1881	May 31, 1914	s/o Joseph G. & Grace Chisolm Fortson
Joseph Gail Fortson	Mar. 11, 1936	Apr. 18, 1937	"Jodie" s/o James Euell & Mary Florence Powell Fortson
Jospeh G. Fortson	June 13, 1900	Aug. 13, 1958	w/o Joseph G. Fortson h/o Grace Chisolm Fortson Sharman
Grace Fortson Sharman	June 27, 1909	Feb. 19, 1999	
W. W. "Duke" Sharman	Dec. 22, 1907	Aug. 17, 1974	
Elon A. Hand	Oct. 12, 1922	Nov. 4, 1967	
Cebelle P. Hand	May 29, 1890	Dec. 5, 1976	
Fredna Jeanine Bounds	Mar. 3, 1933	Nov. 7, 1954	
Marion Elton Hand	Aug. 4, 1916	Feb. 22, 1989	
Ruth Tolbert	July 31, 1924	No Date	
Calvin Loma Brown	Oct. 1, 1910	Aug. 24, 1974	
Sallie P. Jones	June 25, 1902	June 20, 1970	
Patricia T. Davis	Oct. 22, 1942	No Date	
Hulon C. Davis	July 11, 1942	Nov. 16, 1975	
Ruth Esther Litchfield	Dec. 3, 1893	Feb. 20, 1982	
Arthur Dawson Litchfield	June 30, 1893	Sept. 24, 1946	
G. L. Grace, Sr.	July 7, 1870	Nov. 1, 1946	
Nora May Grace	May 24, 1881	Aug. 13, 1941	w/o G. L. Grace
Mary Susan Grace	Dec. 23, 1914	Jan. 14, 1915	d/o G. L. & Nora Grace
Lula Grace	Sept. 21, 1904	Oct. 20, 1906	d/o G. L. & Nora Grace
Susan May Pool	Mar. 8, 1847	July 7, 1943	
Phillip C. May	May 31, 1829	June 22, 1899	
Mittie May Caldwell	June 20, 1878	Feb. 22, 1964	
Pleas Annel Caldwell	Apr. 18, 1874	Apr. 17, 1960	

James R. Powell	Nov. 15, 1853	Jan. 1, 1933	s/o Reece Powell
Sarah Christian Powell	June 12, 1859	Oct. 31, 1931	w/o James R. Powell; d/o Joseph G. & Sarah A. E. Radford Fortson
Edna Louise Hoffman	Apr. 24, 1925	Dec. 11, 1962	
Willie Joe Powell	Oct. 1, 1917	Oct. 17, 1918	s/o W. R. & Amanda Powell
Susan Vesta P. Matthews	July 24, 1901	No Date	
Robert Kirland Powell	June 23, 1897	Feb. 23, 1919	
Walter & Evie Clay	Mar. 23, 1900	Oct. 18, 1901	"Our Babies"
Roy Fred Williamson	Sept. 12, 1887	Mar. 24, 1981	
Lelia Irene Powell Williamson	Sept. 15, 1894	Apr. 11, 1973	w/o Roy Fred
Annie Mae Williamson	May 13, 1916	Mar. 13, 1919	d/o Roy & Renie Williamson
Rev. S. E. Gipson	July 28, 1886	Oct. 23, 1950	
Annie Lou Powell Gipson	Aug. 28, 1886	Oct. 15, 1979	w/o Rev. S. E. Gipson
Riley Franklin Swearingen	July 25, 1925	Dec. 21, 1986	
Kathy Tucker	July 26, 1957	July 26, 1957	d/o Steve & Joyce Tucker
Two Home Made Markers			
Jerry Leo Davis	Oct. 18, 1904	Nov. 9, 1957	
Mabel W. Davis	Nov. 13, 1906	May 17, 1991	
Doyle Odis Beach	Aug. 11, 1911	July 25, 1975	
Mary Loraine Beach	June 30, 1914	Mar. 22, 1995	
Douglas Edward Savell	Oct. 19, 1969	Apr. 4, 1995	
Bobbie J. Matthews	Mar. 25, 1927	No Date	
E. A. Matthews	May 1, 1919	Oct. 28, 1994	h/o Bobbie J. Matthews
Cecil O. Mathis	June 13, 1915	July 31, 1955	
Mattie L. Fortson Calvert	Apr. 27, 1903	July 21, 1986	d/o Joseph E. & Mary Florence Powell Fortson; w/o Henry Dewey Calvert
Henry Dewey Calvert	Sept. 29, 1898	Sept. 29, 1977	
Johnny Wayne Calvert	Mar. 18, 1935	Mar. 18, 1935	
Jessie Ray Calvert	Apr. 27, 1940	Apr. 27, 1940	
Lucille Long Calvert	Mar. 4, 1929	No Date	w/o Winston Calvert
Henry Winston Calvert	Feb. 12, 1920	Feb. 2, 1991	s/o John Greenlees & Junia Ida Townsend Calvert
Lindsey Rasberry	Dec. 2, 1958	Dec. 2, 1958	Mother & Father
Nicole Tammy Rasberry	Dec. 2, 1958	Dec. 2, 1958	Mother & Father
Eddie Rasberry	June 20, 1955	Dec. 9, 1995	
Leon Rasberry	Sept. 18, 1904	Apr. 10, 1983	
Ola Slayton Rasberry	Dec. 3, 1907	No Date	
Robert L. Rasberry	Sept. 11, 1911	Mar. 22, 1994	
Joe L. Rasberry	Oct. 25, 1875	Feb. 21, 1939	
Julie W. Rasberry	Feb. 22, 1876	Jan. 24, 1969	
Amye Lee Ethridge George	Feb. 17, 1904	Oct. 1, 1972	
Mitchell Todd Ethridge	Apr. 22, 1963	Apr. 22, 1963	
James E. "Smokey" Ethridge	June 3, 1921	Dec. 5, 1991	h/o Helen Davis Ethridge
Helen Davis Ethridge	Feb. 23, 1921	No Date	
Patricia Ethridge Covington	Nov. 24, 1945	No Date	
Howard S. Covington	Jan. 2, 1944	July 7, 1994	h/o Patricia E. Covington

Ronnie D. Spears	Mar. 6, 1943	Mar. 8, 1981	s/o James Frank & Eva Ethridge Spears
Eva Ethridge Spears	Mar. 22, 1926	No Date	d/o James David & Frankie Ethridge
James Frank Spears	Oct. 16, 1922	Oct. 18, 1988	h/o Eva Ethridge Spears
Kimberly Kay Ethridge	Aug. 16, 1977	Sept. 18, 1977	d/o Angie Ethridge Espey
J. W. Hand	Nov. 4, 1887	Apr. 8, 1968	
James Howard McKee	Nov. 22, 1889	Oct. 17, 1955	h/o Frankie S. Ethridge McKee
Frankie S. McKee	Sept. 25, 1903	Dec. 12, 1982	d/o Eugene & Hattie Joyner Stephens
Sallie Jean Etrhidge	June 24, 1886	Aug. 24, 1963	
William L. Ethridge	Sept. 12, 1880	July 31, 1948	
Clyde Henry Kelly, Sr.	Dec. 23, 1901	Mar. 25, 1994	
Janie Inez Kelly	Sept. 29, 1912	Aug. 10, 1999	
James David Ethridge	July 14, 1899	Mar. 30, 1936	h/o Frankie Stephens Ethridge
Johnnie Eva Gipson	Mar. 6, 1894	June 2, 1925	
Samuel Ethridge	Feb. 13, 1903	Apr. 4, 1904	S. J. & A. M. Ethridge
Mattie Ethridge Hodges	Mar. 18, 1890	Nov. 11, 1967	w/o Covie Lee Hodges
Covie Lee Hodges	Sept. 30, 1884	Jan. 29, 1934	s/o John Wesley & Mary Etta Hodges
James LaFayett Herrington	June 13, 1932	May 22, 1946	
Michael Warren Pastel	Feb. 28, 1970	Mar. 1, 1970	
Infant Daughter Hodges	1933	1933	d/o Luther & Imedla Hodges
Infant Daughter Hodges	1931	1931	d/o Luther & Imedla Hodges
Alton Hodges	Nov. 12, 1912	July 1, 1914	
Abbie Evelyn Hodges	Oct. 7, 1914	Nov. 15, 1914	parents, C. L. & mattie Hodges
Twins Infant Hodges	Jan. 4, 1925	Jan. 17, 1925	s/o C. L .& Mattie Hodges
Infant Son Hodges	Mar. 20, 1929	Mar. 20, 1929	
Isaac H. Ethridge	Jan. 10, 1883	May 2, 1928	
Zelia Ethridge Brown	Apr. 19, 1891	Aug. 9, 1960	
Austin Lavelle Brown	July 3, 1889	Oct. 26, 1970	
J. C. Ethridge	Apr. 19, 1921	Oct. 29, 1985	
Abbie Lee Hand	Aug. 19, 1896	May 14, 1989	w/o Jeff Hand
Thomas Jefferson Hand	Nov. 3, 1884	Mar. 16, 1962	
Chad Miller	Mar. 17, 1991	Mar. 17, 1991	
Cody Miller	Sept. 20, 1992	Nov. 23, 1992	
Herman Sharp	July 1, 1914	Feb. 8, 1997	
Lena B. Huggins Hatcher	Apr. 15, 1893	Oct. 26, 1961	
John W. Huggins	Feb. 2, 1890	May 28, 1948	
Gladys H. Litchfield	June 2, 1902	Oct. 31, 1921	
W. A. Huggins	Feb. 7, 1868	Dec. 28, 1915	
Lucinda C. Huggins	Oct. 8, 1872	Nov. 1, 1959	
Martha A. Ethridge	July 25, 1892	May 24, 1894	
Isaac Ethridge	June 22, 1812	Nov. 11, 1892	h/o Martha
Anne S. Miles	Oct. 4, 1887	Dec. 22, 1915	w/o A. G. Miles
Mattie M. Ethridge	Nov. 15, 1857	Aug. 28, 1935	
John J. Ethridge	Apr. 25, 1852	June 21, 1908	
J. Frank Ethridge	Dec. 21, 1901	Jan. 21, 1923	

Mosene Hodges	Sept. 1906	No Date
Baby Girl Killan	June 30, 1973	June 30, 1973
Nancy Carol Wilkinson	May 18, 1945	Nov. 7, 1945
Sarah E. Miles	May 11, 1860	Jan. 2, 1921
J. F. Miles	1850	Sept. 5, 1905
Mamie Miles	June 24, 1900	Dec. 28, 1903
Odell Miles	Mar. 11, 1902	Sept. 12, 1909
James Miles	Oct. 31, 1894	Dec. 7, 1910
Grady W. Miles	May 1, 1892	Oct. 9, 1918
Sabe A. Ezelle	Aug. 11, 1890	May 21, 1934
A. C. Miles	June 13, 1878	Jan. 5, 1936
Archie E. Ezelle	Oct. 21, 1911	Nov. 18, 1966
Johnie E. Ezelle	Dec. 3, 1915	Feb. 21, 1999
Mattie Haguewood Huggins	Jan. 21, 1904	Jan. 20, 1992
Aubrey G. Huggins	Apr. 7, 1904	Apr. 24, 1972
T. Pruitt Moore	1901	1932
Hettie Moore	Jan. 15, 1877	July 21, 1948
James B. Moore	Nov. 18, 1869	Nov. 1, 1951
Ennis A. Moore	Sept. 12, 1899	Apr. 10, 1927
Lena G. Doerner	Dec. 31, 1901	June 8, 1984
Vester Gipson Boatner	Mar. 23, 1896	July 1914
Cebelle Snowden	June 15, 1885	Feb. 11, 1911
J. L. Gipson	Oct. 12, 1851	July 8, 1909
Amanda Gipson	Dec. 9, 1861	May 4, 1926
John L. Ethridge	Jan. 10, 1900	July 29, 1900
Nettie E. Ethridge	May 11, 1897	July 30, 1900
Infant Son Ethridge	Feb. 22, 1934	Feb. 22, 1934
W. C. Ethridge	Mar. 1, 1874	July 1, 1961
Maggie Jane Ethridge	May 9, 1878	Mar. 17, 1939
Mark Dee Terry Ethridge	May 21, 1912	Dec. 10, 1947
Bonnie Ree Terry Ethridge	Sept. 26, 1913	June 29, 1991
Minnie E. Savell	Dec. 26, 1912	No Date
Andrew L. Savell	May 16, 1902	Feb. 21, 1961
Edgar L. "Edd" May	Dec. 12, 1901	Nov. 1, 1972
Lera C. May	Sept. 11, 1903	Mar. 23, 1987
Peggy Jane May	Dec. 26, 1937	Sept. 16, 1974
Richard Earl May	Oct. 28, 1948	May 17, 1969
Earl Davis May	Feb. 4, 1910	July 17, 1970
Adria L. May	July 19, 1915	March 26, 1992
David Wayne Ethridge	Sept. 25, 1986	Apr. 30, 1996
Davie Moore Brown	July 3, 1894	June 30, 1969
Clifford O. Brown	July 8, 1887	Dec. 31, 1961
Viva E. Moore	Aug. 26, 1896?	May 14, 1981
R. Earl Moore	Dec. 21, 1888	Feb. 3, 1966
Oswald S. Moore	June 1, 1894	July 11, 1986
Sara J. Moore	Mar. 1, 1893	May 6, 1965
Nina Pearl Moore	Aug. 31, 1931	Sept. 2, 1931
Annie Alice Moore	Mar. 14, 1863	Sept. 3, 1946
Wm. G. H. Moore	July 31, 1852	Apr. 11, 1930
Mary Lula Moore McKee	Feb. 29, 1888	Mar. 7, 1946
R. J. Moore	Jan. 4, 1860	Jan. 19, 1946
Martha Leila Moore	Aug. 9, 1862	Jan. 25, 1941
William Thomas Moore	June 22, 1884	June 17, 1903
Wynelle Snowden	Oct. 13, 1925	Feb. 17, 1928

Raymond Snowden	July 16, 1927	May 23, 1929	
Infant Son Snowden	Feb. 14, 1931	Feb. 14, 1931	s/o R. Emily Snowden
Emily Theresa Snowden	Dec. 29, 1892	Apr. 15, 1976	
J. Ransom Snowden	Oct. 11, 1880	Oct. 19, 1949	
Summer Capre Snowden	Jan. 25, 1988	June 26, 1988	
Lola May	July 11, 1904	Aug. 13, 1905	
Leonard B. May	1898	1937	
Mamie May	Oct. 5, 1874	Apr. 27, 1957	
Will May	Feb. 1873	Sept. 10, 1956	
Izola C. Parker	Sept. 12, 1909	Oct. 8, 1945	
William E. Parker	Aug. 6, 1881	Dec. 23, 1952	
Mode Parker	June 17, 1920	Dec. 25, 1964	
Ronald M. Parker, Sr. ?	Jan. 24, 1948	Apr. 7, 1972	
Frances Jeanette Parker	Aug. 29, 1944	May 5, 1976	
Emily Lucile Hatcher Vincent	Jan. 4, 1919	July 5, 1952	
Maurice Vincent	Dec. 16, 1912	No Date	
Melbourn Vincent	Nov. 28, 1910	Mar. 27, 1994	h/o Maurice Vincent
Vincent P. Kotouc	Oct. 30, 1966	Oct. 2, 1983	
Lorhee Hand	Aug. 18, 1921	No Date	
Elmo Hand	Nov. 11, 1917	Aug. 6, 1991	
Infant Daughter	Dec. 23, 1954	Dec. 23, 1954	d/o Elmo & Lorhee Hand
Sarah E. Vincent	Dec. 21, 1888	Nov. 23, 1948	
Walter E. Vincent	Jan. 5, 1885	July 13, 1923	
Louise Walker May	Mar. 16, 1923	Feb. 22, 2001	
Homer W. May	Mar. 28, 1912	Dec. 17, 1963	h/o Louise May
George B. Vance	Oct. 29, 1920	No Dates	
Frank S. Vance	Jan. 15, 1895	May 19, 1950	
Hattie S. Vance	Dec. 29, 1893	Nov. 3, 1966	w/o Frank Vance
Nancy F. McAllister	Jan. 17, 1883	Aug. 9, 1979	
Annie E. Doerner	Dec. 22, 1865	Dec. 22, 1950	
J. T. Foster	Feb. 18, 1870	Aug. 12, 1929	
T. C. Foster	July 10, 1838	Apr. 1, 1920	
Elizabeth Foster	Jan. 8, 1841	Dec. 2, 1914	
J. J. Foster	Jan. 16, 1866	1908	
Hazel Ruth Hales	Nov. 7, 1922	Aug. 8, 1947	
Ina Mae Hales	July 4, 1897	Dec. 6, 1985	
Otis M. Hales	Apr. 23, 1899	Nov. 28, 1947	
Linda Faye Adams	Dec. 16, 1954	Dec. 19, 1954	
Otis N. Hales, Sr.	Mar. 27, 1927	Dec. 18, 1956	
Cecil H. Tolbert	Apr. 27, 1906	Oct. 15, 1977	
Walter V. Tolbert	July 14, 1891	Dec. 20, 1969	
John L. Litchfield	Feb. 7, 1890	June 13, 1969	
John R. Herbert	Sept. 15, 1910	Oct. 12, 1971	
Batrice Herbert	Feb. 15, 1918	Dec. 16, 1966	
Thelma Ezell	Aug. 2, 1901	July 28, 1903	d/o T. H. & J. C. Ezell
Infant Daughter Hatcher	June 25, 1971	June 25, 1971	d/o Mr. & Mrs. Danny M. Hatcher
Nickey Lannis Culpepper	Oct. 27, 1955	May 30, 1980	
Lorene Culpepper	Jan. 8, 1909	No Date	
W. Obbie Culpepper	June 29, 1907	Nov. 14, 1989	
Infant Son	Feb. 28, 1943	Feb. 28, 1943	s/o W. O. Lorene Culppper
J. D. Herrington	Mar. 1, 1935	Dec. 24, 1954	

Wava Herrington	Nov. 13, 1909	Feb. 13, 1937
Evelyn Culpepper	Mar. 29, 1932	No Date
Max C. Culpepper	Mar. 9, 1929	No Date
Mattie Lee Culpepper	1905	1997
Curtis Culpepper	1904	1987
Ollie Culpepper	1879	1959
Rev. A. B. Culpepper	1882	1954
Willie F. Clay	Mar. 27, 1875	Jan. 12, 1947
Willie Hines Clay	Nov. 4, 1882	Dec. 19, 1966
George Lofton Clay	Feb. 2, 1916	Aug. 29, 1962
Chester L. Clay	Feb. 19, 1902	Oct. 8, 1987
Velma C. Hand	Dec. 14, 1898	Dec. 25, 1985
George L. Hand	July 16, 1892	Jan. 26, 1966
Lola E. Clay	Aug. 4, 1912	June 18, 1997
Luna Walker Clay	Jan. 15, 1904	No Date
Ella Mae Motes	Mar. 27, 1928	May 10, 1989
Freeman Motes	Oct. 17, 1913	Aug. 3, 1973
William R. Pearson	May 15, 1916	Sept. 17, 1979
Josephine M. Pearson	July 9, 1925	No Date
James V. Clay	Feb. 28, 1911	Sept. 14, 1984
Victoria L. Myers	Dec. 3, 1868	June 6, 1953
John P. Myers	Sept. 27, 1878	June 8, 1944
Norma Myers	Feb. 17, 1903	Aug. 10, 1907
Edna Myers	Nov. 28, 1899	Oct. 19, 1900
Minni V. Myers Dallas	Aug. 16, 1901	Feb. 12, 1996
Alma Davis Herrington	Apr. 13, 1887	Sept. 13, 1958
William L. Herrington	Oct. 6, 1882	Dec. 17, 1966
Julia Ann Pool Myers	Jan. 26, 1849	June 18, 1921
Alexander R. Myers	Mar. 10, 1842	June 10, 1915
Deborah Lynn Hutchinson	June 13, 1858	No Date
Willie Lee Hutchinson	June 26, 1938	Mar. 19, 1988
Willie Lou Powell	Feb. 20, 1911	Feb. 11, 1996
Morgan M. Powell	Oct. 20, 1909	June 13, 1958
Amanda S. Powell	Nov. 29, 1884	Jan. 28, 1966
William R. Powell	Dec. 8, 1886	Feb. 7, 1988
Alma F. Powell	Dec. 30, 1902	May 9, 1986
Pamela Kay Stewart	Mar. 16, 1955	May 29, 1978
Nevil Scott Stewart	Apr. 19, 1929	May 14, 1991
Amanda Lee Powell Stewart	Noc. 13, 1935	No Date

w/o Evelyn

h/o Lola Clay

w/o Will Herrington

Pleasant Ridge Methodist Cemetery

Leaving Meridian, MS on Highway 19 North go about three miles north of Collinsville turn left on Pleasnat Ridge Rd. Go one-fourth of a miles and Cemetery is on the left.

James M. Calvert	July 3, 1858	Feb. 9, 1944	h/o Susan F. Calvert
Susan F. Calvert	May 20, 1873	Nov. 16, 1957	
Mamie F. Calvert	Aug. 11, 1907	Feb. 25, 1992	
Mayola Hodgins Vaughn	Oct. 17, 1913	Oct. 20, 1984	
Caroline D. Hodgins	Mar. 7, 1883	July 13, 1953	
Rev. Jesse Thomas Williamson	Aug. 17, 1864	Nov. 26, 1945	
Kizzie Ann Williamson	Feb. 12, 1866	May 29, 1951	
Alexander "Alex" Nelson	Sept. 4, 1882	Aug. 30, 1963	
Annie R. Williamson	Feb. 28, 1890	Feb. 4, 1987	
Jean McWilliams Wheeler	Dec. 10, 1925	May 1, 1975	
Prynce E. Wheeler	June 11, 1919	Feb. 18, 1980	
Annie E. Robinson	Apr. 6, 1857	1921	
Robert L. Montague	Apr. 6, 1861	May 1917	
Jessie A. Loper	June 11, 1848	Oct. 18, 1921	
George W. Duncan	Mar. 15, 1858	Dec. 28, 1915	
Fannie Duncan	Feb. 4, 1863	Jan. 4, 1916	
Inez Walker Miles	Oct. 11, 1910	Jan. 8, 1995	d/o Walter & Lillie Houston Walker
Jimmie L. Miles	Feb. 27, 1907	Oct. 6, 1935	h/o Inez walker Miles
Rita Jean Ethridge	Nov. 26, 1932	Dec. 23, 1965	d/o Jimmy & Inez Walker Miles
Talmadge C. Ethridge	July 23, 1932	June 9, 1968	h/o Rita Jean Miles Ethridge
Leatha Coats Robnison	Apr. 28, 1870	Apr. 22, 1961	w/o J. A. Robinson, Jr.
Ludie M. Bounds	Apr. 4, 1888	Dec. 27, 1963	
Rufus Lamar Bounds	1909	1975	
Mary Lucile Anthony	May 8, 1915	Nov. 27, 1950	
Susan A. Pinson	Apr. 17, 1883	July 18, 1951	
Robert L. Pinson	Jan. 1, 1880	Nov. 19, 1953	

Robert Morris Simmons	Oct. 17, 1896	June 1, 1979	
Katie Etna Jones	Mar. 9, 1887	Dec. 7, 1971	
James R. Brown	Sept. 5, 1915	Jan. 5, 1993	
Doris Brown	July 8, 1926	No Date	
Raymond Lester Brown	May 8, 1920	Nov 23, 1944	PFC US Army WWII
James L. Roberts	Feb. 25, 1928	Apr. 8, 1994	"Runt"
Ershel M. Roberts	July 27, 1928	Sept. 7, 1994	"Little Bit" w/o James L. Roberts
Ershel Mae Merrill	Oct. 13, 1949	Aug. 11, 1993	
John Willis Price	Oct. 7, 1907	July 1, 1972	
Minnie Ester Price	Apr. 25, 1907	Dec. 1, 1979	
Annie Elvie Scarborough	Oct. 18, 1878	Oct. 21, 1969	
John Calvin Scarborough	Jan. 1, 1879	Apr. 13, 1959	
Emma L. S. Kilpatrick	1910	1930	
Claire Bell Kilpatrick	1930	1930	
Lozzie S. Jones	Feb. 21, 1914	Feb. 23, 1932	
John Calvin Scarborough	No Dates		
Joseph Stanton Pinson	May 12, 1924	June 25, 1943	MS Pct 310 Barrage Ballon BN CAC
Fronie Agnes Pinson	Feb. 14, 1892	June 16, 1939	w/o James E. Pinson
James Edgar Pinson	Sept. 22, 1872	June 21, 1955	
Infant Daughter Mayatt	Feb. 26, 1894	Mar. 16, 1894	d/o R. A. & M. J. Mayatt
Nancy Jane Mayatt	Mar. 24, 1873	Sept. 4, 1957	w/o R. A. Mayatt
P. A. "Bob" Mayatt	Oct. 1, 1866	Dec. 9, 1939	
Jospeh A. Robinson	May 14, 1867	Feb. 15, 1941	
Leucretia J. Robinsoon	Oct. 20, 1863	Feb. 11, 1920	
Walter Raymond Walker	May 7, 1871	Sept. 13, 1957	s/o Richard T. Elizabeth Radfort Walker
George W. Walker	Feb. 22, 1911	June 1, 1930	s/o W. R. & Lillie Walker
Lillie Bell Walker	Sept. 15, 1874	Dec. 2, 1957	w/o Walter R. Wlaker; d/o J. L. & Elmira Houston
Alford Jarvis Lockwood	Mar. 15, 1872	Aug. 9, 1948	h/o Bulah D. Lockwood
Bulah D. Lockwood	Dec. 10, 1882	No Date	
Hobson Dewey Beeman	June 12, 1898	Jan. 24, 1967	s/o John W. & Minnie Hamrick Beeman
Lois Reed Beeman	Mar. 12, 1964	No Date	w/o Hobson Dewey Beeman
Ethel Jumper	May 30, 1905	Apr. 18, 1907	
Ada Jumper	Mar. 2, 1911	Oct. 20, 1912	
William Lawrence Boatner	No Dates		
Louisa Cochran Boatner	No Dates		
Brooks Berry Moore	Jan. 18, 1916	Jan. 25, 1976	
Berry M. Brooks	June 27, 1889	Apr. 23, 1924	
Ila Calvert Brooks	Mar. 22, 1894	June 22, 1983	
Infant Son Calvert	No Dates		
Richard T. Walker	1831	1879	s/o J. M. & S. F. Calvert h/o Elizabeth Radford Walker
Elizabeth Walker	1837	1915	
Laurel Mae Walker	Aug. 24, 1897	Oct. 19, 1898	d/o J. E. & Ida Walker
Edward Mathews Brooks	Nov. 26, 1898	Feb. 10, 1901	
Sallie Elizabeth Stevens Brooks	Dec. 25, 1873	Apr. 15, 1911	w/o Harvey K. Brooks

Chester Keeton Brooks	June 1903	Dec. 1903	
Hattie Boatner Williamson		1889	w/o N. M. Williamson
Charles Alfred Hand	Mar. 12, 1855	May 17, 1907	
Little Gladys Ingram	Nov. 6, 1901	Sept/ 2, 1906	d/o C.W. & M. Y. Ingram
Harriet Rebecca Stephens	Mar. 16, 1862	June 17, 1947	
Ora Stephens Posey	Apr. 28, 1878	Dec. 1, 1959	
Audie Stephens Rash	Mar. 17, 1914	June 17, 1973	w/o Harvey J. Rash
Harvey J. Rash	Apr. 17, 1913	Dec. 19, 1973	
Billy D. Rash	June 4, 1938	May 12, 1999	s/o Harvey & Ora Stephens Rash
J. W. "Scratch" Rash	Mar. 23, 1950	No Date	
Ethel Busby Dollar Frazier	June 18, 1898	Oct. 19, 1992	
Ray W. Dollar	Oct. 15, 1889	Oct. 12, 1950	
Raymond W. Dollar	Oct. 24, 1920	Nov. 22, 1959	Ohio PFC 4130 Base Unit AAT WWII
William Baker Dollar	Oct. 2, 1887	Sept. 13, 1958	MS Pvt. HQ CO 52 Inf WWI
Frank Dollar	Aug. 8, 1892	Mar. 18, 1960	MS Pvt 80 Co Trans Copr WWI
Tina Cole Dollar	Dec. 5, 1889	Mar. 1980	w/o Roy Dollar
Roy Dollar	Sept. 29, 1885	June 1, 1975	
Madie Duett Pierce	Sept. 7, 1917	June 18, 1998	d/o Fred W. & Bama Robinson Duett
Fred W. Duett, Sr.	June 28, 1891	Nov. 10, 1971	
Bama Robinson Duett	Dec. 31, 1892	Sept. 10, 1967	w/o Fred W. Duett, Sr.
Tommie Mae Duett	May 28, 1906	Oct. 18, 1965	w/o John L. Duett
John L. Duett	Aug. 25, 1896	May 8, 1976	
Victor Kevin Zmitrovich	Oct. 15, 1952	May 4, 1998	
Joyce W. Wilson	Feb. 9, 1926	No Date	
James Wilson	July 14, 1917	Feb. 29, 1984	h/o Joyce W. Wilson
John Everette Williamson	Sept. 23, 1879	Jan. 3, 1961	h/o Etta Hand
Etta Hand Williamson	Oct. 28, 1886	May 8, 1972	Williamson; s/o John F. & Madaline F. Houston Williamson
Gerald Williamson	Feb. 10, 1926	Feb. 10, 1926	d/o Hillard W. & Rebecca A. Vance Hand
J. Malcolm Williamson	June 7, 1909	Dec. 13, 1912	s/o Mr & Mrs. J. E. Williamson
Peter Zmitrovich	Nov. 6, 1918	Mar. 3, 1979	s/o J. E. & E. Williamson
Winnie Beeman Flinn	Feb. 5, 1914	Apr. 14, 1980	PFC US Army
John W. Beeman	Mar. 15, 1864	Aug. 5, 1933	w/o Millard Finn
Minnie A. Beeman	July 21, 1872	Aug. 5, 1937	s/o James I. & Tallitha Easton Beeman
Donald Eugene Beeman	June 4, 1927	Aug. 18, 1928	w/o John W. Beeman;
Infant Daughter Holiday	Sept. 29, 1947	Sept. 29, 1947	d/o James M. & Clementine Williamson Hamrick
Infant Daughter Beeman	Aug. 6, 1938	Aug. 6, 1938	d/o K. C. & Winnie Holiday
			d/o Lee W. & Mary S. Beeman

Mary M. Collins	1857	Oct. 17, 1899	Age 42; w/o A. G. Collins
Annie Caroline Stephens	Feb. 3, 1839	Oct. 10, 1891	
E. J. Collins	Oct. 3, 1868	Aug. 19, 1891	w/o A. G. Collins
S. A. Collins	Feb. 3, 1856	June 28, 1885	w/o A. G. Collins
William Walter Pinson	June 26, 1909	Aug. 9, 1936	
Vestra Crenshaw Hawkins	Sept. 4, 1895	Jan. 5, 1981	"Uncle Dee"
T. J. Crenshaw	June 25, 1866	May 10, 1947	
Estelle C. Drake	1900	1929	
Vention J. Crenshaw	Feb. 23, 1904	Feb. 28, 1936	
James D. Jones	July 29, 1900	Aug. 19, 1947	
Henry M. Drake	Jan. 16, 1898	July 15, 1976	
Johnnie Sherrel Williams	Aug. 16, 1945	Nov. 6, 1996	
Andrew Lee Williams	Jan. 30, 1937	Dec. 25, 1988	
William ?	Can't Read the Funeral Home Tag		
Myrtle Smith	Feb. 16, 1905	Aug. 29, 1963	
John Henry Smith	July 3, 1879	Feb. 10, 1954	w/o John Henry Smith
Alma Wright Smith	Jan. 10, 1877	Oct. 27, 1965	
Johnnie Lee Smith	Aug. 6, 1922	Apr. 5, 1925	
Edith S. McKay	Oct. 20, 1909	Feb. 5, 1934	
J. P . Smith			Co. I, MS Inf. CSA
Everette Gibson	Sept. 8, 1918	Oct. 27, 1918	
Tommie Elsie Stephen	Feb. 11, 1918	Nov. 2, 1926	d/o W. L. & Annie Stephen
Charles S. Bearden	Nov. 13, 1938	July 25, 1936	s/o B. H. & Mabel May Bearden
Harold Bearden	Nov. 25, 1940	Dec. 12, 1940	s/o B. H. & Mabel May Bearden
William L. Stephens	Mar. 2, 1872	Oct. 30, 1943	
Annie Bell Stephens	July 23, 1891	Dec. 16, 1981	
Two small graves- children	No Names	No Dates	
B. F. Hamrick	Dec. 14, 1877	Sept. 7, 1900	s/o James M. & Clementine Hamrick
J. O. Hamrick	Mar. 9, 1883	Aug. 28, 1900	s/o James M. & Clementine Hamrick
Clementine T. Hamrick	May 24, 1880	June 27, 1900	d/o James M. & Clementine Hamrick
James M. Hamrick	Mar. 24, 1845	Oct. 23, 1929	s/o Thomas & Sinia Hamrick
Clementine Hamrick	Oct. 4, 1853	Apr. 1, 1933	w/o James M. Hamrick; d/o Allen M. & Mary K. Williamson
Joseph T. Hamrick	July 27, 1873	Mar. 1, 1907	s/o James M. & Clementine Hamrick
Sallie Hamrick	June 18, 1876	Sept. 24, 1908	w/o J. T. Hamrick; d/o M. Luther & Rebecca V. Hand
Infant Daughter Hamirck	Mar. 17, 1931	Mar. 17, 1931	d/o B. C. & S. K. Hamrick
Sue Mayatt Powell	June 16, 1941	No Date	w/o Raymond Earl Powell
Raymond Earl Powell	Feb. 5, 1938	Feb. 24, 1958	w/o Earl Powell
Cleonia F. Powell	Jan. 15, 1906	Apr. 7, 1998	
Earl Powell	July 5, 1904	Dec. 22, 1993	
Mary Lynn Darley	Aug. 4, 1933	Oct. 4, 1989	

Herman J. Darley	Jan. 15, 1932	No Date	
William Verge Freeman	Oct. 30, 1874	July 2, 1966	w/o William V. Freeman
Etta Clearman Freeman	Sept. 28, 1878	Aug. 24, 1962	d/o William V. & Etta Freeman
Genova J. Freeman Stephens	May 18, 1913	Oct. 12, 1998	d/o J. Emmett & Ida Hand Walker; w/o Jack Harper
Ester Walker Harper	Mar. 7, 1899	July 14, 1992	s/o Jack & Walker Harper w/o J. Emmett Walker; d/o Hillard W. & Rebecca J. Hand
Denny Walker Harper	Sept. 24, 1931	May 31, 1987	s/o Richard T. & Elizabeth Radford
Ida Hand Walker	Dec. 8, 1877	Mar. 6, 1957	d/o Udell & Hattie Merle Brand
J. Emmett Walker	Oct. 20, 1875	Feb. 19, 1968	h/o Hattie Brand
Joan Brand	Jan. 20, 1943	Feb. 23, 1946	w/o Dwight Williams
Udell Brand	Feb. 28, 1920	Mar. 17, 1957	w/o James Walter Williams
Hattie Brand	Dec. 14, 1919	No Date	d/o Ernest & Roxie A. Beeman Strange
Patsy Ann Brand	Oct. 12, 1949	Jan. 22, 1965	h/o Roxie A. Beeman Strange
Lurel L. Freeman	Dec. 2, 1896	June 9, 1968	d/o Thomas M. & Adelia Gressett Beeman
Mary C. Williams	Feb. 2, 1905	June 3, 1965	d/o Ernest T. & Roxie Strange
Dwight Williams	Nov. 1, 1907	Feb. 25, 1975	
Amanda Jane Williams	Dec. 12, 1882	Sept. 36, 1966	
James Walter Williams	Apr. 14, 1882	Jan. 29, 1955	
Evelyn L. Strange	Feb. 27, 1915	Jan. 11, 1987	
Ernest T. Strange	Nov. 12, 1887	Dec. 28, 1959	
Roxie A. Strange	Nov. 5, 1892	Jan. 1, 1974	
Francis Strange	Dec. 20, 1916	Feb. 14, 1918	
Maggie Lee Davidson	1877	1930	
J. A. Hamrick	Oct. 20, 1875	July 16, 1900	
Helen Marie Roebuck	1916	1916	d/o Henry & Selah Roebuck
Bessie Lee Kinard	Apr. 18, 1902	July 1, 1936	
Jessie James Davis	Nov. 12, 1922	Aug. 19, 1923	s/o F. B. & Ava Davis
Doris Jean Davis	Oct. 21, 1933	Aug. 9, 1934	d/o F. B. & Ava Davis
Frank B. Davis	Dec. 23, 1895	Mar. 10, 1990	US Army WWI
Ava S. Davis	Dec. 22, 1898	Aug. 2, 1984	w/o Frank B. Davis
Herman D. Davis	Nov. 14, 1919	Aug. 11, 1993	s/o Frank Davis
James Robert Gressett	July 28, 1930	Jan. 3, 1984	Msgt US Air Force Korea
Jame B. Todd	Oct. 8, 1911	Sept. 17, 1965	
James Willis Todd	Nov. 6, 1935	Sept. 2, 1962	
Maggie Elizabeth Todd	Mar. 2, 1879	Oct. 1, 1958	
J. Thomas Todd	Aug. 24, 1884	Oct. 22, 1938	

Rachel Todd	No Dates		
Leomer Coffey Todd	May 7, 1908	Nov. 31, 1936	
Ananias Todd	Aug. 20, 1876	Nov. 1, 1927	
Royce E. Dewett Todd	June 23, 1908	Feb. 1, 1985	
Ollie Beeman Todd	Jan. 10, 1910	July 12, 1996	
James William Todd	June 20, 1839	Feb. 22, 1890	
Joe C. Todd	Feb. 13, 1886	Sept. 12, 1906	s/o J. W. & H. S. Todd
Harriett S. Todd	1854	June 20, 1916	w/o James W. Todd
Mattie Ann Davis	Oct. 19, 1858	Feb. 10, 1935?	
James T. Davis	1849	Feb. 10, 1902	
Jude Sanderson Davis	No Dates	Small Marker	
W. A. Davis	Aug. 16, 1857	Nov. 21, 1883	s/o O. F. (W. A.?) & Amanda Davis
Amanda J. Davis	Nov. 28, 1823	MAR. 12, 1904	w/o William Allen Davis
William A. Davis	Sept. 14, 1823	June 12, 1905	h/o Amanda Davis
Little Inez Davidson	June 28, 1900	Nov. 11, 1900	Inf. d/o G. W. & M. L. Davidson
Little Lebar Davidson	Feb. 9, 1906	Mar. 13, 1906	Inf. s/o G. W. & M. L. Davidson
Ruby Forbes Davidson	Nov. 2, 1902	Apr. 22, 1998	
George Washington Davidson	1873	1907	
Talmond Lee Strange	Mar. 26, 1885	Dec. 28, 1905	s/o J. A. & J. C. Strange
J. A. Strange	Mar. 4, 1852	Dec. 7, 1921	
J. C. Strange	July 7, 1864	Oct. 28, 1933	
William Lee Hamrick	Mar. 13, 1886	Dec. 21, 1965	
Mittie May Hamrick	Dec. 21, 1880	May 6, 1964	s/o James M. & Clementine Hamrick; Methodist Minister w/o William Lee Hamrick; d/o J. A. J. C. Strange
Ereginal Gilmore Strange	Sept. 13, 1876	Jan. 10, 1970	
Maude Hamrick Strange	Aug. 25, 1888	Nov. 8, 1968	w/o Ereginal Gilmore Strange
Gee R. Strange	Feb. 11, 1894	Feb. 11, 1981	
Stella Mae Strange	Oct. 27, 1911	Jan. 27, 1980	w/o Gee R. Strange
Grady Brand	Sept. 2, 1892	Sept. 3, 1951	
Rushie Brand	May 27, 1894	Sept. 4, 1975	
Eva L. Pippin	Jan. 27, 1919	Jan. 8, 1989	
Jimmy Pippin	Feb. 20, 1948	Oct. 28, 1987	Little Ace
James Elton Jones, Sr.	Jan. 25, 1916	Nov. 5, 1976	
Ethel Lee Jones	Sept. 18, 1908	Oct. 18, 1975	
Jesse Marvin Jones	Apr. 10, 1924	Oct. 18, 1971	
Nancy Ann Jones	July 20, 1885	Nov. 6, 1969	
Henry F. Jones	Apr. 21, 1880	Dec. 17, 1953	
Rebecca S. Mixon	Sept. 30, 1892	July 9, 1946	
Azzie Mixon Rutledge	Oct. 5, 1913	Nov. 21, 1994	
James K. Scarborough	Aug. 22, 1919	Feb. 23, 1992	
J. Alonza Scarborough	Mar. 6, 1870	Oct. 2, 1942	

Selah S. Scarborough	Apr. 4, 1890	June 25, 1959	w/o J. Alonza Scarborough
Lonnie E. Smith	Jan. 20, 1897	Dec. 12, 1979	
Ida Lee Smith	Oct. 16, 1895	Feb. 25, 1964	
Julie Downey	1888	1943	
John M. Downey	1883	1960	
Eleanor Strange	Nov. 24, 1883	Nov. 22, 1937	
Jessie L. Strange	1849	1919	w/o Jessie L. Strange
Palestine Strange	1859	1937	w/o Henry F. Jones
Mary Agnes Jones	Nov. 27, 1878	July 28, 1901	
Annie J. Scarborough	June 12, 1880	Oct. 4, 1912	
Joseph M. Scarborough	Dec. 12, 1872	Jan. 13, 1956	
Roxie F. Scarborough	May 15, 1886	Sept. 6, 1955	
Arnold Scarborough	1879	1879?	
James Albert Scarborough		1883?	
Eliza Scarborough		1919?	
Alice Scarborough		1865?	
Ruby Scarborough	Dec. 19, 1910	Oct. 16, 1912	
Sidney Asberry Scarborough	Mar. 23, 1884	Aug. 8, 1954	w/o Sidney A. Scarborough
Sarah Louannis Scarborough	Feb. 8, 1883	Jan. 19, 1929	
Natlie A. Mott	Feb. 25, 1900	July 26, 1956	
M. L. Mott	Nov. 16, 1859	July 12, 1912	
N. A. Mott	July 9, 1859	Jan. 8, 1914	
James Phillips	1853	1942	
Mollie A. Phillips	1866	1938	w/o Robert A. Phillips
Katherine Everett Phillips	Oct. 18, 1900	Aug. 18, 1988	
Robert Auburn Phillips	Oct. 14, 1897	Dec. 1, 1973	
William Allen Todd	Jan. 26, 1883	Aug. 6, 1939	w/o William Allen Todd
Allie Lee Todd	Aug. 29, 1887	Oct. 19, 1959	w/o Joe Ennis Todd
Maud Harmon Todd	Sept. 24, 1907	Sept. 12, 1982	
Joe Ennis Todd	June 3, 1907	Aug. 23, 1959	
Birdie Boatner Walden	Aug. 19, 1906	Aug. 7, 1995	
Harvey L. Walden, Jr.	Nov. 26, 1937	No Date	
Dennis Lamar Walker	Mar. 17, 1958?	July 7, 1964	s/o Mr & Mrs. H. L. Walker
Robbie Guin Pope	Sept. 26, 1918	Nov. 4, 1992	Mother & Grandmother
Thomas P. Taylor	Dec. 3, 1892	July 30, 1955	
Ima Herrington Murphy	Apr. 3, 1912	May 29, 1989	
Evelyn Marie Averill	Aug. 4, 1916	Nov. 24, 1982	Foot marker w/o Joseph Averill; m/o Daniel Edward, Elizabeth Crooke, Jeanett Mount, Alice Fraley
Joseph Echols Averill	Mar. 31, 1919	Oct. 30, 1988?	
Miles Herrington, Sr.	Sept. 6, 1886	July 5, 1962	w/o Miles Herrington
Birdie Herrington	Apr. 14, 1889	July 27, 1937	s/o John & Martha Richie
John R. Richie	Sept. 14, 1862?	May 9, 1925	d/o Allen & Amanda Davis
Selah M. Richie	Feb. 19, 1864	Dec. 5, 1920	d/o J. R. & Selah Richie;
Jewell Gross	Dec. 4, 1893	Feb. 8, 1914	w/o Robert L. Cross
Miss. Etoil Richie	Dec. 21, 1887	Sept. 28, 1901	d/o J. R. & S. M. Richie

Voyd J. Richie	June 16, 1906	Dec. 15, 1966	
Jack Peal	Sept. 5, 1894	Aug. 15, 1960	
Jessie G. Torrens	Mar. 22, 1920	Oct. 12, 1922	s/o J. C. & Janie Torrens
Jessie C. Torrence	July 7, 1898	Jan. 26, 1938	
Janie R. Torrence Peal	Dec. 19, 1897	May 9, 1987	
Annie Busby Richie	Dec. 21, 1877	July 20, 1956	
Joseph W. Richie	Mar. 9, 1872	Oct. 6, 1932	
Sarilla J. Crenshaw	Dec. 14, 1860	Sept. 15, 1936	w/o Bluford C. Crenshaw
Bluford C. Crenshaw	Aug. 5, 1857	Feb. 28, 1936	
Lillie Crenshaw	Mar. 4, 1888	Aug. 9, 1971	
Minnie V. Crenshaw	Jan. 27, 1891	Sept. 14, 1976	
Janie Crenshaw	May 28, 1893	Dec. 31, 1987	
Elvin Pool, Sr.	Nov. 11, 1914	Feb. 28, 1987	
Viola Pryor Pool	Oct. 12, 1910	Mar. 5, 1991	
J. E. Todd	July 15, 1947	Oct. 24, 1989	
Charles E. Todd	May 21, 1949	Feb. 1, 1969	
Thomas Kenny Hollyfield	Aug. 25, 1920	Nov. 6, 1976	Lt. Col. US Air Force WWII
Junaita Pool Hollyfield	Sept. 26, 1921	No Date	
Eugene C. Pool	Jan. 6, 1892	Mar. 1970	
Bertha Phillips	July 22, 1896	June 11, 1964	w/o Eugene Pool
Herman Pool	1925	1929	
Infant Son Pool	1929	1929	
Lola Bell Pool	1925	1929	
Luther Pool	1918	1920	
Mary Imogene Pool	Apr. 13, 1916	July 28, 1933	
John L. Ethridge, Jr.	Jan. 2, 1943	Aug. 13, 1980	
J. Ethridge, Sr.	Sept. 17, 1915	Nov. 20, 1984	“Blackie”
John William Wells	July 2, 1900	Sept. 6, 1981	w/o John William Wells
Irene J. Wells	Jan. 6, 1901	Oct. 19, 1977	
Merrial Wells Emberson	Nov. 22, 1920	May 11, 1999	
Abie Estelle Moore	Mar. 4, 1901	Oct. 10, 1906	s/o J. T. & M. E. Moore
Ellis Moore	Sept. 20, 1825	Nov. 9, 1942	w/o Jack Moore
Jack Moore	Feb. 8, 1872	Nov. 22, 1948	
Claude Moore	Jan. 28, 1927	Mar. 12, 1927	s/o T. E. & B. E. Moore
Bessie S. Moore	Apr. 27, 1898	Apr. 27, 1974	w/o Thomas E. Moore
Thomas E. Moore	Feb. 17, 1895	Dec. 18, 1974	
Ulma Frank Crenshaw	Feb. 17, 1915	Aug. 22, 1925	
Ida Crenshaw	Jan. 4, 1893	May 4, 1966	w/o Albert Crenshaw
Albert Crenshaw	Oct. 2, 1886	July 10, 1957	
CPL Sidney A. Scarborough, Jr.	Dec. 29, 1918	Dec. 20, 1944	
A. V. Scarborough	July 18, 1920	July 6, 1944	Fireman FC
Joseph A. Scarborough	Sept. 27, 1918	Mar. 16, 1974	MS CPL Army Air Force WWII
Carl Aubrey Shows	Jan. 11, 1906	Jan. 19, 1958	
Alice Scarborough Shows	Feb. 6, 1916	December 18, 2000	w/o Carl Aubrey Shows
Clem Edward Scarborough	Apr. 14, 1921	Jan. 1978	
Eveline Riley Scarborough	Nov. 12, 1926	Jan. 15, 1987	
Herbert Hosie Brasher	Jan. 10, 1910	Dec. 10, 1964	MS TSgt 462 Bomb GP AAF WWII
Mrs. L. J. Dollar	1831	Aug. 24, 1912	
Reuben W. Dollar	July 6, 1851	Sept. 6, 1899	
Mary Susan Dollar	Mar. 27, 1853	Nov. 16, 1915	

Fleeta Alexander	June 13, 1891	Feb. 27, 1977
Pearl Mabry	June 9, 1885	Nov. 5, 1910
Timothy E. Hutchinson	1975	2001
Ardell McMullen Clark	June 29, 1914	May 29, 1981
Mary Jane House	July 5, 1900	Nov. 1, 1940
Luke Deason	Oct. 4, 1904	Aug. 29, 1960?
Unmarked block		
Doshie Deason	Feb. 12, 1863	July 5, 1947
Willie M. Gibson	1907	1934
Benjamin F. Gibson	May 7, 1925	Sept. 2, 1938
Sarah F. Nichols	Sept. 9, 1910	Nov. 8, 1988
Willie Nichols	Jan. 13, 1903	Mar. 23, 1988
Ruthie M. Harris	Aug. 14, 1858	Nov. 7, 1919
J. V. Duncan	Jan. 31, 1926	Feb. 7, 1980
William Charles Duncan	Nov. 16, 1880	Mar. 24, 1950
Lela R. Duncan	Dec. 27, 1891	Sept. 15, 1972
Janis Otis Jones	Feb. 18, 1899	Jan. 31, 1949
Birdie Jones Cardwell	Oct. 26, 1903	Sept. 24, 1995
Margie Fay Jones	Apr. 10, 1934	June 10, 1934
Walter D. Duncan, Sr.	Oct. 5, 1911	Sept. 8, 1977
Unmarked Grave		Rev.
James Monroe Foster	Aug. 24, 1910	Feb. 20, 1984
Nina Drew Foster	June 30, 1908	Feb. 7, 1999
Edna W. Drew	Mar. 7, 1881	Jan. 28, 1968
P. C. "Pat" Drew	Dec. 25, 1878	May 30, 1960
Lona Belle Gibson Calvert	Mar. 15, 1914	Mar. 30, 1994
Aubrey C. Calvert	Sept. 2, 1910	June 24, 1990
Robert Burcham	Jan. 7, 1961	Aug. 21, 1988
Ethel Mae Smith Dearman	Sept. 19, 1913	May 3, 1957
Elmer Lee Dearman	June 2, 1910	June 13, 1976
Carrie Harwell	Apr. 13, 1890	Jan. 8, 1971
William Lee Hodgins	1919	1954
Nora Etta Hodgins	1886	1962
Edna Earle Harwell	Feb. 4, 1923	Dec. 24, 1943
Rodge Hodgins	Aug. 2, 1890	July 1, 1950
Freddie Hodgins	Mar. 9, 1902	Apr. 14, 1973
Syble Blanch Hodgins	Sept. 13, 1918	May 13, 1919
Rueben E. Hodgins	Mar. 31, 1861	Dec. 2, 1942
Ella L. Hodgins	Sept. 13, 1871	Jan. 26, 1908
Mattie Hodgins	Apr. 15, 1903	Mar. 6, 1908
Ira Hodgins	Oct. 14, 1897	Mar. 14, 1908
William P. Phillips	Nov. 16, 1886	Dec. 5, 1965
Lula H. Phillips	Apr. 6, 1893	Oct. 1, 1966
Ruben J. Phillips	June 27, 1914	May 7, 1972
William Thomas Phillips	Nov. 7, 1915	May 12, 1979
Kate Phillips	Jan. 31, 1915	Apr. 22, 1988
Herman Phillips	Mar. 1, 1923	Oct. 10, 1984
Ruby Phillips	July 22, 1933	June 19, 1983
M. D. (Wayne) Mayatt	Oct. 16, 1929	Nov. 23, 1971
Wynette Dean Mayatt	Sept. 28, 1931	No Date
Ernest Mayatt	Jan. 27, 1900	Jan. 9, 1977
		"Bud"; h/o Nancy Keeton Mayatt

Nancy Keeton Mayatt	Feb. 12, 1907	No Date	
James Maurice Mayatt	Dec. 19, 1901	Aug. 11, 1974	
Mattie B. Lashley	Oct. 21, 1906	Nov. 18, 1996	w/o Walter Lee Lashley
Walter Lee Lashley	Jan. 17, 1903	Feb. 26, 1963	
John W. Moore	Nov. 28, 1894	Mar. 20, 1971	
Elsie H. Moore	July 4, 1898	Dec. 21, 1981	
James Watkins	Aug. 27, 1971	July 13, 1972	
John D. Frazier	Sept. 21, 1908		
Martha E. Frazier	Feb. 22, 1916	July 31, 2000	
Annie B. Ethridge Sanders	1893	1958	
Oscar Miller Ethridge	Apr. 19, 1889	Nov. 22, 1973	
J. S. Richie	Nov. 8, 1869	Oct. 28, 1915	
Minnie Richie	Sept. 13, 1870	Sept. 17, 1960	
Ronald D. Frazier	Jan. 19, 1953	June 11, 1973	
Susan Rene McCary	May 13, 1972	May 15, 1972	Inf. d/o J. E. & Dale McCary
Susie E. Johnson	May 2, 1871	July 12, 1938	w/o Albert Johnson
Ollie Busby	June 1, 1889	Apr. 18, 1933	w/o D. J. Busby
D. J. Busby	Apr. 15, 1873	Feb. 14, 1944	
Otha Lee Ethridge, Jr.	July 23, 1937	July 23, 1937	Inf s/o O. L. & Ester Ethridge
Otha Lee Ethridge	Aug. 28, 1909	Oct. 25, 1971	
Ester Mayatt Ethridge	Sept. 13, 1905	Aug. 13, 1943	w/o Otha Lee Ethridge
Jerry Lee Clearman	Sept. 15, 1936	Sept. 30, 1993	
Jacqueline Fairchild Clearman	Apr. 7, 1937	No Date	d/o R. E. & Eve Mayatt Fairchild
Jerry Mitchell Clearman	Oct. 23, 1956	June 13, 1972	s/o Jerry I. & Jackie Clearman
Robert Edward Fairchild	Spet. 29, 1895	Oct. 26, 1974	s/o Robert E. & Agnes Gibson Fairchild
Eve Mayatt Fairchild	Oct. 16, 1898	Dec. 20, 1978	w/o Robert E. Fairchild
Robert L. Fairchild	July 11, 1869	Nov. 27, 1946	s/o Robert Jackson & Mary F. Fairchild
Agnes Fairchild	Mar. 23, 1870	Nov. 13, 1941	w/o R. L. Fairchild; d/o Edward B. &
PFC Herbert Mac Richie	Apr. 22, 1926	Apr. 16, 1945	s/o Leroy & Clara Richie
Clara Fairchild Richie	Oct. 3, 1903	Oct. 10, 1976	w/o Leroy Richie; d/o R. L. & Agnes Gibson Fairchild
John Davis Ethridge	Oct. 19, 1921	May 9, 1928	
Minnie Richie Strange	Nov. 20, 1891	Aug. 3, 1915	w/o Earl Franklin Strange
Earl Franklin Strange	Feb. 12, 1890	Mar. 22, 1968	
Baby Strange	No Dates		Inf. Baby of Minnie & Earl Strange
Donald Duane Richie	Dec. 16, 1936	Feb. 8, 1995	s/o Leroy & Clara Richie
Wilson Joseph Richie	Feb. 22, 1896	Oct. 9, 1899	
Alma Pool	June 27, 1900	Jan. 7, 1921	w/o J. R. Pool
James Durwood Pool	Oct. 1, 1920	Apr. 6, 1921	s/o J. P. & Alma Pool
Ida Cross	July 12, 1894	Dec. 11, 1924	2nd w/o Robert Cross
Donnie Jean Cross	Feb. 22, 1930	Mar. 30, 1931	
Donnie Lee Cross	May 1, 1932	Feb. 19, 1933	
T. O. (Turman Odell) Crenshaw	Aug. 12, 1919	May 19, 1997	Cpl. US Army WWII Purple Heart

Jewell Crenshaw	Dec. 30, 1923	Mar. 13, 1994	w/o T. O. Crenshaw
J. C. (Pete) John Pete Crenshaw	Aug. 31, 1889	Apr. 25, 1971	Pvt. US Army WWII
Minnie L. Crenshaw	1900	1954	
Edmond Eugene Crenshaw	Feb. 11, 1883	July 3, 1959	
Mary Ola Crenshaw	June 9, 1897	Sept. 22, 1972	w/o Edmond E. Crenshaw
Mr. J. C. Guy	Jan. 7, 1927	June 13, 1988	
Jerry Guy	Mar. 31, 1888	Feb. 9, 1969	MS Pvt. US Army WWII
Martha Deason Guy	June 13, 1898	Jan. 15, 1971	"Babe"
J. B. Guy	Feb. 17, 1922	Feb. 9, 1980	US Army WWII
Sally Biggs Robinson	Feb. 11, 1875	Dec. 1, 1956	
Lessie Clearman Ethridge	Aug. 29, 1894	Sept. 2, 1958	
W. Elma Richie Ethridge	Nov. 23, 1897	Nov. 14, 1982	
Mildred Nerea Ethridge	July 15, 1917	Dec. 19, 1923	
Elizabeth Richie	Sept. 2, 1906	Sept. 18, 1912	
William Chester Richie	Jan. 10, 1911	Jan. 12, 1912	
Infant Chapman	May 20, 1951	May 20, 1951	d/o Charlene Richie Bailey Chapman w/o W. H. Richie
Sallie A. Richie	Jan. 20, 1870	Oct. 20, 1903	
W. H. Richie	Feb. 4, 1865	June 11, 1920	
Alma Richie	Mar. 28, 1871	Sept. 30, 1947	w/o W. H. Richie
Sadie Loreno Richie	Sept. 29, 1915	July 12, 1920	d/o W. H. & A. Richie
Mary E. Biggs	May 30, 1842	Aug. 14, 1884	w/o G. T. Biggs
George Tully Biggs	Jan. 17, 1830	June 17, 1918	Co. H 2 Reg MS Cav. CSA
Tully Biggs	1866	Sept. 8, 1920	
Jim Biggs	Feb. 23, 1880	July 31, 1967	"Uncle"
E. V. Lige Boatner	Nov. 13, 1866	Mar. 16, 1936	
D. C. Boatner	July 3, 1872	Mar. 25, 1953	"Callie"
James Sidney Boatner, Sr.	Jan. 15, 1898	Nov. 8, 1982	
James S. Boatner, Jr.	Aug. 1, 1939	Sept. 3, 1982	
"Billy" Willy C. Boatner	Aug. 16, 1955	Aug. 18, 1955	
Carrie B. Pierce	July 25, 1893	May 14, 1965	w/o Milas P. Pierce
Milas P. Pierce	July 25, 1888	Oct. 19, 1961	
Charley E. Faulker	Dec. 27, 1924	Mar. 22, 1990	
Mary E. Pool	Mar. 22, 1933	No Date	
Emma Edith Boatner	Apr. 4, 1920	Apr. 5, 1983	
Levi J. Robinson	Apr. 27, 1893	June 27, 1959	MS Medical Dept. WWI
Lela R. Robinson	Aug. 24, 1895	Nov. 23, 1963	w/o Levi J. Robinson
Mona Robinson Gray	Aug. 4, 1940	Mar. 24, 1970	
Howard R. Moore	Sept. 23, 1924	No Date	w/o Howard R. Moore
Louise D. Moore	Oct. 7, 1924	Mar. 3, 1990	
Rebecca Gray Dollison	Jan. 31, 1955	Nov. 20, 1993	s/o Mr & Mrs. G. Gray
William Henry Gray	Aug. 20, 1963	Sept. 3, 1963	
H. Glenn Gray	June 26, 1928	May 29, 1974	
H. Delores Gray	Dec. 9, 1931	No Date	
Jeff H. Nicholas	Jan. 13, 1951	Nov. 2, 1969	
Cecil Woods Nicholas	Feb. 23, 1923	No Date	w/o Cecil Woods Nicholas
Lois Watson Nicholas	May 8, 1925	No Date	
W. Alvin Chisolm	May 30, 1913	Apr. 16, 1992	
Esther Fancher Chisolm	Aug. 12, 1917	No Date	w/o W. Alvin Chisolm
Ellen T. Fancher	June 22, 1886	Dec. 3, 1979	

Alvin Gary Chisolm	June 9, 1938	July 10, 1971	
Talmond Lee Todd	Apr. 6, 1920	Mar. 4, 1971	MS PFC US Army WWII
Elvie Crenshaw Todd	Jan. 19, 1916	Mar. 3, 2000	w/o Talmond Lee Todd
Vernon E. Todd	Apr. 1, 1943		h/o Debby Jean Todd
Debby Jean Todd	July 7, 1956	Oct. 12, 1984	
E. Debbs Todd	Jan. 17, 1918	Dec. 15, 1967	
Inez Todd	Oct. 6, 1920	No Date	h/o Inez Todd
J. G. Todd	June 30, 1908	Jan. 12, 1963	
Marjorie Todd	Dec. 20, 1912	Feb. 7, 1993	w/o J. G. Todd
Woodard A. Huggins	Sept. 5, 1915	Oct. 26, 1970	
Lorraine B. Huggins	Mar. 16, 1915	Apr. 30, 1975	w/o Woodard A. Huggins
Betty M. Edwards	Nov. 9, 1935	Sept. 9, 1981	
Euna Mayatt Crenshaw	Apr. 22, 1896	Jan. 7, 1969	w/o Tommy L. Crenshaw
Tommy L. Crenshaw	June 8, 1897	Jan. 7, 1974	
Vera Todd Brand	May 22, 1910	July 31, 1986	
Nolan J. Brand	Oct. 15, 1912	Dec. 19, 1979	
Mary B. Pinkham	Aug. 16, 1923	Aug. 6, 1998	
Addison E. Hudson, Jr.	July 4, 1919	July 9, 1974	h/o Madie Hodgins Hudson
Mildred S. Griffin	Nov. 2, 1913	No Date	
Lamar Griffin	May 6, 1915	Feb. 11, 1962	
Virginia Carol Griffin	Apr. 14, 1937	Apr. 14, 1937	
Marvin Anthony	Dec. 4, 1901	Dec. 1, 1969	
Across the Road (Addtion) New Cemetery			
West End of Cemetery next to road.			
Theron K. Livingston	Jan. 23, 1926	July 11, 1993	h/o Patsy D. Livingston
Patsy D. Livingston	Dec. 10, 1930	No Date	
J. Elwin Livingston	Oct. 31, 1923	No Date	
Melvin L. Livingston	June 11, 1917	Apr. 29, 1989	WWII
Phyllis M. Livingston	Aug. 20, 1924	June 14, 2000	
Tullus Johnson, Sr.	Apr. 19, 1929	Aug. 15, 1992	h/o June G. Johnson
June G. Johnson	June 10, 1934	No Date	
James T. Jones	Jan. 27, 1922	Feb. 28, 2000?	
Ann M. Jones	Mar. 31, 1924	Apr. 6, 1996	w/o James T. Jones
Ernest W. Stephens	Apr. 24, 1914	Aug. 31, 1989	h/o Sadie P. Stephen
Sadie P. Stephens	Aug. 26, 1915	No Date	
Harold Keith Crenshaw	Aug. 13, 1958	Apr. 2, 1996	s/o T. Harold & Winnie D. Crenshaw
Ola Mae Livingston	May 14, 1926	No Date	
T. Harold Crenshaw	Nov. 26, 1929	June 23, 1995	s/o Tommy L. & Euna Mayatt Crenshaw
Winnie D. Crenshaw	Mar. 18, 1929	July 29, 1991	w/o T. Harold Crenshaw
Ray Alan Crenshaw	Dec. 20, 1950	July 18, 1992	s/o T. Harold & Winnie Crenshaw
Earline S. Laird	June 26, 1927	Nov. 30, 1992	w/o Ott Laird
Ott Laird	June 23, 1927	?Jan. 15, 2001	
Victor Oree Gressett	Mar. 30, 1916	July 22, 1989	WWII
Ray Clinton Dollar	Jan. 27, 1920	Dec. 4, 1984	US Army Korea
J. C. Rash	Nov. 29, 1916	Jan. 16, 1973	MS Cpl US Army WWII, Korea
Glennie P. Rash	Sept. 6, 1908	Dec. 19, 1982	
Inez Barnett	Sept. 26, 1898	1990	
Douglas Edward Troxell	Nov. 2, 1950	Nov. 23, 1985	“Sweatman”

Tommy Alfred Troxell	Aug. 1, 1945	Dec. 27, 1996	Stephen Funeral Home Marker
Johnnie A. Robinson	Mar. 4, 1895	Oct. 29, 1981	
Ellie M. Robinson	June 30, 1899	June 28, 1985?	
Ivey Barnett	Sept. 26, 1898	July 6, 1900	
Joseph E. Robinson	Apr. 27, 1927	June 30, 1985	
Dewey H. Andrews	Dec. 9, 1930	June 7, 1998	
Baby Infant	Can't read	funeral home marker	
Ethel Dollar Killen	Feb. 13, 1910	Feb. 15, 1995	
Mack A. Killen	Jan. 15, 1936	Aug. 26, 1995	
Frank James	Mar. 25, 1907	July 29, 1976	Tech 5 US Army WWII
Birdie Lou James	July 22, 1913	Nov. 20, 1987	
Joanne Booth	Aug. 11, 1942	Mar. 29, 1986	
Elbert M. Scarborough	May 3, 1923	May 22, 1986	Tec. 5 US Army

SHARP MEMORIAL METHODIST CEMETERY

Leaving Meridian, MS on Hwy 19 North, to Suqualena intersection and turn left on Highway 494. Stay on Hwy 494 to Schamberville (about 5 miles) and church and cemetery are on the right.

Row 1

Norbert Eric Scarborough	Jan. 12, 1925	Sept. 24, 1976
Thomas J. Vaughn	Apr. 2, 1890	Feb. 15, 1977
Onie L. Vaughn	Dec. 23, 1897	Mar. 15, 1974
Freddie Ray Maiden	Oct. 4, 1939	June 14, 1953
Travis Donald Maiden	May 23, 1936	May 24, 1966
Ambrose Flynt Maiden	Feb. 2, 1908	Feb. 9, 1985
Madge Jefferies Maiden	Apr. 22, 1919	No Date
Roy F. Sharp	Oct. 18, 1916	Mar. 11, 1985
Mary A. Sharp	Jan. 12, 1919	Oct. 31, 1980

Row 2

Rev. Frank Lee Sharp, D.D.	July 17, 1888	Aug. 9, 1964
Minnie Blalock Sharp	Mar. 20, 1891	Feb. 27, 1970
Cox Burnside, Sr.	Jan. 27, 1915	July 13, 1980
David Daniel Buxton	Oct. 8, 1908	Apr. 3, 1978
Gladys Sharp Buxton	May 31, 1910	Dec. 24, 1949

Row 3

Paul Banks Sharp	Oct. 18, 1913	July 28, 1966
Daniel W. Buxton	Nov. 8, 1868	Dec. 23, 1941
Nancy A. Buxton	Jan. 11, 1879	Mar. 2, 1965
Jasper Wilson Carter	Apr. 19, 1881	Jan. 26, 1967
Missouri Buxton Carter	Nov. 28, 1904	No Date
Ruthie B. Buxton	July 28, 1903	July 30, 1967
Mary B. Caraway	July 3, 1906	Aug. 6, 1986
James Grady Fleming	Aug. 28, 1897	Mar. 4, 1976
Annie Buxton Fleming	Oct. 8, 1900	Nov. 8, 1984
Robert E. Boykin	May 17, 1908	Sept. 22, 1986
Dora B. Boykin	Mar. 31, 1910	No Date

Row 4

Melissa Pam Little	Feb. 1979	Feb. 20, 1979	Infant d/o Jeff & Debbie Little
India Ann Morgan	Apr. 6, 1877	Dec. 3, 1949	
Emma F. Morgan	Nov. 27, 1895	Feb. 22, 1973	
Willard L. Morgan, Sr.	July 30, 1896	Oct. 28, 1980	
Frances Diane Sharp	Oct. 11, 1947	Mar. 24, 1984	
Shelby Lynn Sharp	Feb. 3, 1947	Sept. 9, 1987	

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ANTIOCH SOUTHERN METHODIST CHURCH (Formerly: Antioch Methodist Protestant Church)

By Victoria Lee Vincent Love

Sometime prior to the year of 1859 the Antioch Methodist Protestant Church of the Martin Community was founded. Some of the oldest people of this community and over Lauderdale County remembered their forefathers relating how the church was started in a small log cabin. They later moved to the old Martin school building where they worshiped until they built a church of their own.

To name a few of the early families: Mr. & Mrs. Bill Williamson, Mr. & Mrs. Rozier Gipson, Mrs. Fannie Duncan and Mrs. Jane Powell.

Serving, as pastors of the early church were Rev.'s Slayton, Gatewood and Tadlock. The pastor's were backed by faithful members, through their prayers, faith and trust in God.

No doubt, there were lean years financially, but with firm determination, a church was erected in 1902. Rev. Cul Gipson preached the first sermon.

Since then a number of fine men pastured this humble little church. Namely: Rev.'s Jesse Williamson, Ed Gipson, Jim Pilgrim, Frank Sharp, F. M. Herrington and Griffin.

In 1919 the Methodist Protestant group and the Methodist Episcopal group united and The Methodist Church was formed. Other pastor's were Rev.'s T. A. King, R. L. Langford, C. Y. Higginbotham, Howard Freeman, B. K. Hardin, FB. Fairchild, Paul J. Davis, C. Raymond Sollie, H. T. Payne, Murray Robertson, Delmar Dennis and Carl McArn.

On March 14, 1963 the majority of the members met in the Martin Community Center and voted to withdraw from the Methodist Church and united with The Southern Methodist Church. We were the second church in Mississippi to become Southern Methodist and Pine Spring was the first. Rev. Delmar Dennis was pastoring the Pine Spring Church and he agreed to be our pastor also.

We had worship Service each Sunday morning in the Community Center with 38 Charter members. Namely alphabetically: Charles and Zola Caldwell, V. J. & Tommie Crenshaw, Pearl Gibson, Danny Hatcher, Edna Earl Hatcher, Lesia Hatcher, Boleyn Herrington, Claude & Norma Herrington, Howard Mack & Rue Herrington, Imelda Hodges, Lillie Hodges, Linda Jenkins, Billie Ray Litchfield, Joe & Vester Litchfield, Gary Mayatt, John & Lula Mayatt, Brenda McKeithen, Alta Mae Molpus, Lena Phillips, Ada Gibson Raspberry, Tommy & Barbara Scarbough, Lavert Smith, John & Pink Vincent, Cecil & Victoria Vincent, Tommy Vincent and Tony Vincent.

Our worship Service was at 10:00 a.m. to enable Bro. Dennis to be at Pine Spring at 11:00. Our Sunday School classes followed the Worship Service.

In the spring of 1964 two of the charter members, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Litchfield donated one acre of land to the congregation. A one-room block building was constructed on the property that summer.

On Sunday, August 23, 1964, we had our first service in the new building. This was the beginning of our first revival. Eight new member were received into the church.

In the summer of 1965 four Sunday school rooms and two rest rooms were added.

In 1966 Rev. Dennis tendered his resignation. From then until 1972 our Pastor's were H. Jerry Hutchins, Supply Pastor Monroe Frazier and James E. Lowery.

In 1972 Rev. Wallace Morgan came to us from the Southern Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tenn. He saw our potential of becoming a full-time church. So once again we took another big step on faith. We bought two acres of land from Miss Elva Litchfield and built a parsonage. We began a full-time ministry in 1973 with Bro. Morgan serving as our Pastor. We later bought more land from Miss Elva for a cemetery.

By late 1974 we realized the need for more space and added a new and larger Sanctuary, and made a Fellowship Hall and additional Sunday School rooms out of the old Sanctuary.

The Lord still continued to bless us and on April 5, 1981 excavation was started for the I. C. Vincent Education Building, which consists of five large Sunday School rooms, Pastor's Study, Fellowship Hall, kitchen and two restrooms. During the Homecoming Service in August 1983 the building was dedicated in memory of I. C. Vincent.

Our Pastor's following Bro. Morgan have been Rev.'s Rick Piggott, Robert C. Herb, George C. Howell and our present pastor Rev. Wallace Terry, Jr.

This history of our church would not be compete if I did not mention the fact that all of the members, and some non-members, put in many, many hours of hard labor in this large building we occupy, and is debt free. We had to hire very little labor, because everyone pitched in and got the job done.

When we build the first one room building in 1964, there were some who said, "That little group of people can't build a church- they'll never pay for it..." My answer to that is found in Matthew 6:30 "O ye of little faith" You can look around and see what trust and faith in God, and hard work can accomplish.

So we thank our forefathers who stepped out on trust and faith in our God and started the first Antioch Church in the Martin Community in the 1800's.



COLLINSVILLE CHURCHES HELP NEEDY

By Monique Harrison, The Meridian Star

"Collins" means glued together and "ville" means community.

So, that makes Collinsville a community that is glued together.

And three churches in the area are doing their part to see that the community exemplifies its name.

For the past 12 years, Collinsville's First Baptist Church. The Church of God and First United Methodist Church have held joint services on each fifth Sunday.

The community-wide services foster a sense of unity and community spirit, the Rev. Ennis Hyman, pastor of Collinsville's Church of God said.

"It shows that we aren't competing with each other," he said. "We are willing to put doctrinal differences aside and come together to work for Christ."

Doctrinal issues are skirted during the community-wide services, the pastor said.

Although the community services might seem unique to outsiders, they seem to be a natural part of community life for Collinsville church goers, the Rev. David Sellers, pastor of First Baptist Church said.

"These people that come together aren't strangers," he said. "They are used to doing things together. Many of them work together and are involved in the same clubs. Things like the volunteer fire department, the Community Club and the Garden Club keep them close and in touch. This seems to be another part of that."

Church participation is encouraged at the meetings. The service site rotates each quarter, and a pastor besides the host pastor delivers the sermon.

"We don't want all of the participation coming from one church," said Sellers. "Everyone has a chance to get involved."

Area-wide baccalaureate services, Thanksgiving praise services and Easter sunrise services are also held. First Baptist's youth presented the program they performed on choir tour during a recent service.

Love offerings collected during the services are pigeonholed into a special benevolence fund. Three board members representing each of the three churches present the money to needy individuals after a screening process.

The collection usually averages about \$250 and the fund usually has about \$800 stockpiled for emergencies, Hyman said.

"The money is used to meet many needs," Sellers said.

"Sometimes people just have trouble paying the bills," he said. "There are medical costs and other problems that require extra help."

Only Collinsville residents are eligible to receive the assistance, however.

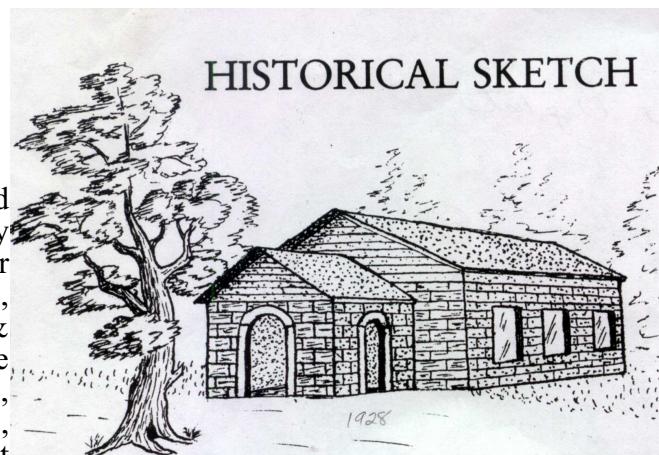
"We don't assist transits," said Sellers. "They have to be established, known people---we don't want to get ripped off."

Knowledge of the fund seems to ease the mind of local residents, Sellers said. "They know if they need real help, we are here," he said. "That makes people feel better."

COLLINSVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

By Nadine Jordan, Church Secretary

- 1926** Collinsville Baptist Church was granted admission into the Lauderdale County Baptist Association with 21 charter members: Mr. & Mrs. Joe Molpus, Howard Molpus, Lillie Molpus, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Miles, Inez Miles, Lela Mae Miles Merritt, C. W. Rice, Vester Miles, Will Miles, Lois Miles, Lucile Miles, Carrie Harwell, Eleze Walker (who at this printing is the only one still a member of this church), R. H. Hutto, Ruth Capes, Will Arnold, Mrs. Neal Arnold, Will Oldner, Robert Oldner. These members met once a month in the Collinsville Methodist Church Building, with Rev. G. E. Holsomback as pastor. Offering for the year totaled \$149.00. The pastor's salary was \$8.00.
- 1927** Plans were completed for their own house of worship. An acre of land was donated by Mr. Duluth Snowden. The one room building was constructed of concrete blocks, hand made on site by Les Harwell. The approximate cost was \$1,600.
- 1928** Membership grew to twenty five and a new pastor was called to preach with an annual salary of \$20.00. Church property was valued at \$1,800 and indebtedness totaled \$150.00.
- 1930** Giving for the year totaled \$209.23, including a salary of \$21.73 for the pastor.
- 1949** Rev. W. E. McKeithen was pastor. Four Sunday School rooms were added to provide space for the growing membership now numbering 72.
- 1952** An acre of land was purchased from Mr. Snowden for construction of a pastorum.
- 1955** To accomodate the growing membership, Mr. Snowden exchanged the old property for property adjacent to the pastorum. Dedication services were held for new facilities constructed there, including a sanctuary, Sunday School rooms and a kitchen.
- 1957** Rev. C. B. Blackwell was pastor and a baptistry was installed and the first baptism took place on April 21st.
- 1963** In June 1963 Rev. J. M. Snowden began his ministry. A library was organized by Eloise Pigford, and an organ and new piano were donated.
- 1965** The church became debt free, and began improvements to the property which included: walkways, office space, a pastor's study, a new wing to the educational building and a new seventy foot section to the back of the church which housed seven rooms and a fellowship hall.
- 1970** Central heating and air-conditioning was installed for all the buildings.
- 1972** An acre of land was purchased from Mr. E. R. Hitt for a church cemetery. The following year, as preparations began for an asphalt drive, Mr. Phil Smith, an active deacon, died in a tractor accident and was the first member to be buried there.
- 1973** The pastoriurn was sold and moved away. The following year, an acre of land adjoining the church property was purchased from Mr. Chris Tough for the construction of a new pastorum.
- 1975** A new four bedroom pastorum was constructed at an approximate cost of \$40,000. The parking lot was paved and a fully furnished modern kitchen was installed in the fellowship area. Church membership grew to 311.
- 1978** The 50th Anniversary of the church was observed with Rev. W. E. McKeithen returning to preach in the morning service. A newly purchased organ was dedicated.
- 1980** A new baptistry was installed and a church van was purchased.
- 1981** Two new ministries were begun, A Bus Ministry and Children's Church.
- 1982** Dr. Gordon Sansing was pastor. A new sound system was purchased, as well as new robes for the choir.



- 1983** Recognizing the need for future expansion, 15.94 acres of land adjoining the existing property was purchased at an approximate cost of \$12,000, giving the church a total of 18 acres.
- 1984** Dr. David Sellers was pastor and with the addition of Charles Hinson to the staff, the music ministry was expanded and organized by the graded choir program including Preschool, Music Makers (grades 1-3), Young Musicians (grades 4-6), and Youth Choirs. He was also instrumental in establishing a variety of groups, ensembles and soloist for special music during worship services.
- 1985** Church support allowed Marie Hinson to participate in a mission trip to Haiti.
- 1986** A new 2,600 square foot educational building was completed, adding Sunday School rooms, a preschool department and a library. A "Together We Build" campaign was begun with a goal of raising \$175,000 to help finance a new sanctuary for a growing congregation.
- 1987** Dedication services were held for a newly constructed 450 seat sanctuary. The facility included a music library and office for the music minister, choir room and an unfinished balcony with a cost of \$352,498.00 All Church buildings were renovated, and the former sanctuary was converted into a fellowship hall.
- 1988** The church was a member of the "1988 Century Club", one of 100 churches recognized as leading contributors in the \$75,000-\$150,000 category by the Mississippi Baptist Convention.
- 1989** The church incorporated as a non-profit organization. Missions work included participating in a World Missions Conference by hosting a foreign missionary, and sending a team from our church to Japan with other Mississippi Baptist.
- 1992** Sunday School Classes overflowed into the pastorum, choir room, library, fellowship hall, sanctuary and unfinished balcony. A "Together We Build" campaign was begun with a goal of \$350,000 to help to finance the construction of a multi-purpose facility housing educational and fellowship space for a resident membership of 391 people. A new sign was purchased for placement outside the sanctuary.
- 1993** The church acquired a new van, and construction of the Multi-Purpose Building and parking lot were completed. The multi-level facility houses fourteen classrooms, storage areas, and kitchen and gym for recreation and fellowship. Snowden Day was observed to honor the Jim Snowden Family and to dedicate a Bell Tower, constructed to house the bell, donated to the church in 1955 by Mr. Duluth Snowden. Special music included a song "Our Tribute", written and sung by Marie Hinson.
- 1994** A second van was purchased and a van shed was constructed. Due to planned expansion of the highway, the MS. Highway Dept. purchased temporary easement and .29 acres of land for \$7,620.
- 1995** The balcony was completed, adding much needed seating in the sanctuary. An unused parcel of land on the Southeast corner of the church property was sold for \$30,000. A Sunday School revival was held with a team from the State Convention.
- 1996** A Forward Program was conducted to encourage tithing with commitments made totaling \$6,638.90 per week, \$369.55 more than needed for the budget. An emphasis was also made for the retirement of debt. Improvements were made to the main hallway and the youth minister's office was expanded. A new American and Christian flag for the sanctuary were presented to the church in a special service.
- 1997** The first full-time staff person in addition to the pastor, was hired, Andy Murry, as Associate Pastor and Minister of Youth, to meet the needs of a growing membership now totaling 488. The church observed Friend Day and recorded an all time high attendance in Sunday School of 397. The highest ever offering received in a service was recorded at over \$17,000. An Appreciation Service was held to honor August Miller for Sunday School work, Grace Espy for serving as Discipleship Training Secretary, T. S. Pigford for serving as Church Treasurer and Church Clerk, and Eloise Pigford for serving as Organist and Librarian. The library was named in her honor.

- 1998** New hymnals were purchased, and banners were presented to enhance worship. The morning worship hour was expanded to an unprecedented two services to better use facilities and meet the needs of an ever growing membership. Lake Ross Collins Day was held to reach out into a new subdivision in the community. A new parking lot was added.
- 1999** An alarm system was installed because of a break in that resulted in the loss of a computer, a stereo, 2 TV's, cash, 2 rolls of stamps, etc. Charles Hinson retired after serving for 15 years as our Minister of Music. On July 18th on Sunday Evening, a note burning ceremony was held. The church was once again debt free!
- 2000** Allen Sims was hired as our first Full-time Minister of Music. The choir increased in numbers and now has 2 choirs, one for the 8:30 service and one for the 11:00 service. New choir robes were ordered and the church will soon begin a new building project. The project will be educational space, plus office renovation. The total membership is now 790.

Pastors

1926 -1928	Rev. G. E. Holsomback	1949 - 1955	Rev. Edward McKeithen
1929 - 1932	Rev. R. E. Moore	1956 - 1957	Rev. C. B. Blackwell
1933 -1934	Rev. T. B. McPheeters	1958 - 1959	Rev. Herman Dean
1935	Rev. Gordon Ezell	1960 - 1962	Rev. Edward McKeithen
1936 - 1938	Rev. L. Gordon Sansing	1963 - 1980	Rev. J. M. Snowden
1939 - 1943	Rev. Houston Fitzgerald	1981 - 1982	Dr. Gordon Sansing
1943	Rev. L. T. Dyess	1983	Dr. Eddie Ruddick
1944 - 1945	Rev. A. B. Culpepper	1984 - 1993	Dr. David Sellers
1946 - 1947	Rev. O. V. Swearingen	1994	Dr. Bob Simmons
1948	Rev. Earl Hill	1995 - Present	Rev. Hal Bates



COLLINSVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MISSION TRIPS TO HELP BUILD CHURCHES

By T. S. Pigford

1978 - 2000 (28 different projects)

- 1978** Sierra First Baptist, Alta, Ca. 12 men from Lauderdale County (including 4 from FBC Collinsville) Rev. J. M. Snowden, Calvin Mills, Kenneth Livingston & T. S. Pigford, paid their own expenses to make this trip.
- 1979** Sierra First Baptist Church, Alta, Ca. (2nd trip) 18 people (including 9 from FBC Collinsville) Rev. Jim and Edna Snowden, T. S. and Eloise Pigford, Joe and Carlene Buntyn, Calvin Mills, Kenneth Livingston & Adair Beeman. We almost completed the building and a dedication service was held. A couple from Fairbanks, Alaska attended the dedication service and asked our group to come to Fairbanks and help work on a church in that area.
- 1980** Moose Creek Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska 20 people (5 from FBC Collinsville) Rev. Jim & Edna Snowden, T. S. and Eloise Pigford, & Kenneth Livingston.
- 1981** Yellowstone Baptist College, Billings, Montana 12 people - T. S. & Eloise Pigford from FBC, Rev. Jim & Edna Snowden from Bay Springs Baptist Church at Porterville, Ms., 2 from FBC Marion and 6 from PSD in Meridian. Eloise helped set up a library for the college and the men helped rework a dormitory and other construction.
- 1985** Maple City Baptist Church, Goshen, Ind. 15 people from FBC, Collinsville: Dr. David & Maureen Sellers, T. S. & Eloise Pigford, Rod & Mitt Hitt, Charles & Marie Hinson, Joe & Sandy Green, Calvin & Fleeta Mills, Joe & Carlene Buntyn and Kenneth Livingston.
- 1986** Edgewood Baptist Church, Trenton, Ohio 26 people (20 from FBC, Collinsville) 4 from FBC Lauderdale and 2 from State Blvd.
- 1987** New Heights Baptist Church, Tuttle, Oklahoma 12 people from FBC Collinsville: Billy & Vistan Allen, Jimmy & Glenda Rowell, T. S. and Eloise Pigford, Joe & Sandy Green, Dallas & Mavis Mathews, Dr. David Sellers & Ray Odom, Jr.
- 1988** Memorial Baptist Church, New Castle, Indiana
- 1989** Crofton Baptist Church, Crofton, Kentucky & Northeast Baptist Mission, Meridian, Ms.
- 1990** First Southern Baptist Church, Cherryville, Kansas
- 1991** Leval Park Baptist Church, Leval Park, Michigan; Meehan Baptist Church, Meehan, Ms.; Davis Road Baptist Church, Byram, Ms.
- 1992** Eastside Baptist Church, Collinsville, Oklahoma
- 1993** Vietnamese Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; Pine Hill Baptist Church, Enterprise, Ms.
- 1994** Riverside Baptist Church, Osage Beach, Missouri; Vietnamese Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, (2 trips)
- 1995** Calvary Baptist Church, Grafton, West Virginia; Northeast Baptist Church, Meridian, Ms. (2 trips); Calhoun County Baptist Assn. Office, Calhoun City, Ms.
- 1996** Calvary Baptist Church, Madison, Indiana
- 1997** Hispanic Baptist Church, Forest, Ms.; Cross Creek Baptist Church, Seneca, South Carolina
- 1998** New Hope Baptist Church, Cody, Wyoming; New Harmony Baptist Church, Salem, Missouri
- 1999** Hillside Baptist Church, Neosho, Missouri
- 2000** Northside Baptist Church, Newark, Ohio

Through the years there were different numbers of people on each trip, with 13 in 1978 and up to 85 in some years representing a number of different churches.

HISTORY OF THE COLLINSVILLE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD 1919 - 2000

By Ethel Frazier and Jan Hyman

In the year 1919, The Collinsville Church of God was begun. Sister Molly Skelton secured the Pauley sisters for a revival in the Collinsville Community. Delsie and Sidney O. Pauley came to the community and held the first services in the schoolhouse. Prior to this time Sister Skelton had started a Sunday School in her home. Lillie Carpenter was an earlier worker with Sister Skelton. At the close of the revival with the Pauley sisters, a baptism service was held with five converts being baptized. Bro. Clem Griffin came for the service and baptized the new converts: Ethel Dollar (became Frazier), Ray Dollar, Edna Harwell, Elizabeth Carpenter, Irvin Carpenter. This provided for a start of the new congregation.



Rev. Clem Griffin was called as the first pastor. He drove the horse and buggy once a month from Jones Chapel south of Meridian to Collinsville for services. Bro. Griffin served as pastor until Rev. H. G. Johnson was called as the first full-time pastor in the late 1930's. After serving as pastor of the congregation for about a year, Bro. Johnson left the congregation to attend Anderson College.

Following Bro. Johnson was Rev. Claude Adcock. He served the church for about three years. During Bro. Adcock's time, the first parsonage was built on Old Highway 19, south of where the church is presently located. Bro. Adcock and John Carpenter cut the timber for the parsonage.

Rev. Russell Gallaher served the church between 2 and 3 years. While he was pastor, the present parsonage was built. Then in the spring of 1949, Bro. Gallaher felt the Lord calling him elsewhere and he resigned.

In September 1949, Rev. Millard D. Sailers was called to pastor the congregation. Bro. Sailers served the church until August 1951. In late 1951 Rev. A. C. Weldon was called to pastor until June 1953. Rev. Van Norman followed Bro. Weldon, he led the congregation from summer of 1953 until late 1954.

Rev. James Stewart was the next pastor. Bro. Stewart was the first pastor to stay 4 years or longer. From early 1955 until late 1958 or early 1959 Bro. Stewart was the shepherd of the flock. Rev. Sailers was then called again to pastor the congregation. Bro. Sailers arrived in early summer of 1959 and remained until 1963. During this time, new pews were made by the pastor for the church, along with a new pulpit.

Rev. I. D. Hunter was called to lead the church next. During his pastorate the old church building was remodeled. With much hard work, time and money the congregation is worshipping in a centrally heated and air-conditioned building. Bro. Hunter served the church until February 1968.

Rev. T. O. Matthews served as supply pastor until the church called Rev. Doug Ainsworth. Bro. Ainsworth came to serve the church in June 1968, then in August the church secured the services of his new bride Rita. During his pastorate much work was done for the church and the property. The basement was remodeled that winter and it added much to the facilities.

In October 1970 following Bro. Ainsworth, the church called Rev. L. Ennis Hyman, his wife Jan, and two sons Micah and Toby. Bro. Hyman led the church, building a new fellowship hall and five Sunday School rooms. A school bus was purchased and the church's first "Bus Ministry" began. In September 1972 Rev. George Ratcliff conducted a revival and twenty people were converted. The Sunday School and Morning Worship was averaging in the 80's the largest the congregation had ever experienced.

Bro. Hyman left in 1974 to pastor in Tennessee and Rev. Bedford Robinson and his wife and children were called as pastors. It was during this time that the present parsonage on Okatibbee Dam Road was purchased and the old parsonage next to the church building was used for Sunday School rooms and Nursery.

In 1977 Rev. Harold Coomer with his wife Vessee and children were called. During Bro. Coomer's tenure with the congregation, many people were led to the Lord and a new church building erected with the men of the church doing most of the labor. The old parsonage was sold and moved for the new facility which served as sanctuary with a fellowship hall as large as the sanctuary in the basement with new restrooms and Nursery. The old sanctuary was remolded and converted into Sunday School rooms.

Thanks to the many donations from the congregation all of this was possible without borrowing any money. The Bus Ministry was still very productive so a new Church Van was purchased. During this time the congregation saw it's largest morning worship attendance, averaging approximately 135. The Church had hired a part-time secretary and had started a Sunday Morning Children's church.

Pastor Coomer left to take a church in Alabama and the church called Rev. Bob Highlands, his wife Pattie and their children as pastors. Pastor Highlands served the church until 1984.

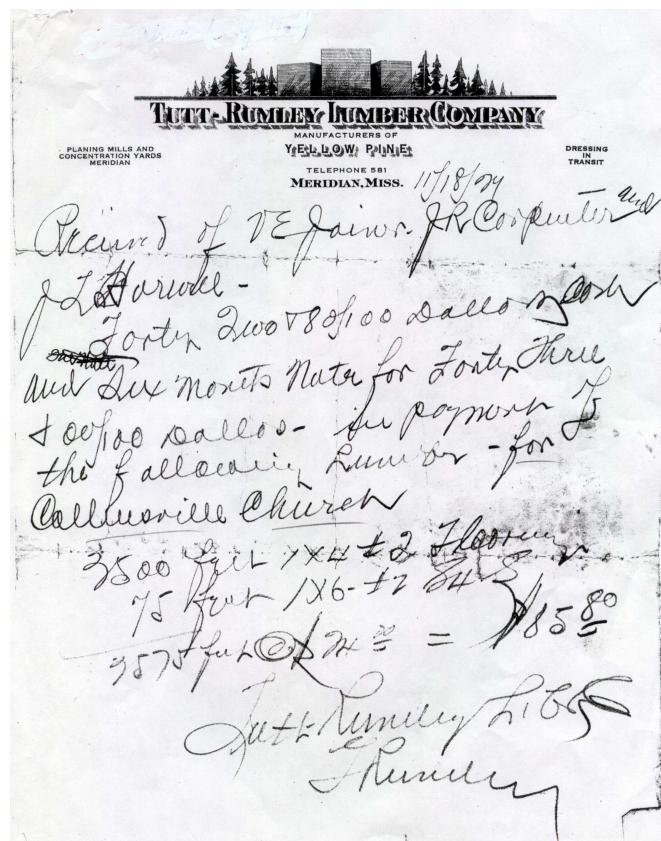
In January of 1985 Rev. L. Ennis Hyman and his family were called as pastors once again. The church already having a strong Children's Church program called Rev. Scott Adcock and his wife Vicki and daughters to serve as Minister of Youth and Music.

In 1993 the church changed it's name to Collinsville First Church of God and erected a new sign showing their affiliation with Anderson, Indiana. In 1994 the church celebrated her 75th Anniversary with Bro. Harold Coomer as guest speaker.

Those that have served as Music &/or Youth Directors during Bro. Hyman's tenure are: Vonda Fraley Bowen, Nelda Germany Speelman, Micah Hyman, Lynn Watson, and Jill Williams is the present Music and Choir Director.

The only debt the church owed was on the parsonage and Easter Sunday, 2000 the mortgage was burned and the church was debt free.

It's ministries of outreach are Laverne's Pantry, Living Link Missionary support for the David and Barbara Miller family in Bolivia, Hope Hill Children's Home in Kentucky, Hill Top House for Boys and Girls and Victory Outreach in Meridian, Ms.

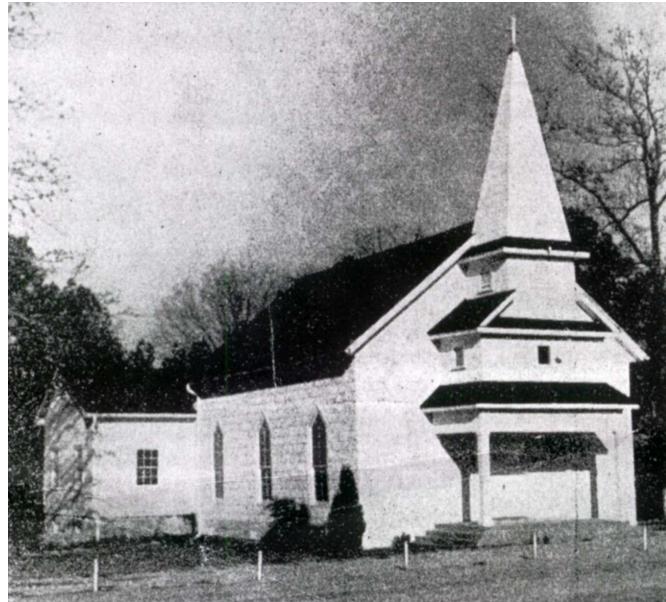


HISTORY OF THE COLLINSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Part I By Gail Boatner

The original Methodist Church in the Collinsville was called Shiloh, and was located two miles from the present church, near the R. R. Vance home place. This church, dating back to the late 1800's, held its services monthly in a log building. Shiloh was discontinued in the early 1900's, and no Methodist services were held for several years.

During the summer of 1910, Mrs. J. L. Houston organized a Sunday School in the school building, which was then adjacent to our present church site. Later in the summer Mrs. Houston asked her former pastor, Rev. C. C. Griffin, to hold a revival and organize a church. A number of people became charter members of the new Collinsville Methodist Church. Services continued to be held in the school building. The Collinsville church was on the Chunky charge, along with Meehan, Lost Gap, and Suqualena. The first pastor was Rev. J. F. McClelland. An early record book of the membership of the Shiloh Methodist Church in its last years (1904-1907), and the Collinsville Methodist Church during its first years (1910-1914) shows that many of our present members are descendants of these early members.



Shiloh 1904-1907

John B. Hamrick	Fronie Pruitt	Jonnie Hamrick
Carl Porter	Laura Hamby	G. M. Bryan
S. Thomas Gibson	Kate Clark	Mattie Hamrick
Carrie Porter	J. B. Moore	Nettie Weatherford
Mary E. Hamrick	Mittie Ethridge	Johnny Carpenter
Charlie Smith	Mrs. J. B. Moore	Mrs. L. C. Bryan
Bettie Carpenter	Maggie Hamrick	Anna Bell Weatherford
Charles Hamby	Mrs. Mary Houston	
Lester Barnes	Annie Hamrick	
Zadie Hamby	Mrs. M. E. Gibson	

Collinsville Methodist Church 1911

Joseph L Houston	Ruby May Gibson	Mrs. J. A. J. McDonald
Mrs. Minnie Houston	Cecil May Houston	W. J. McDonald
Allie Houston	J. A. J. McDonald	Kay C. McDonald

Collinsville Methodist Church 1912

Tom McDonald	Mrs. J. W. Gibson	Mrs. S. T. Gibson
Ila Lucille Houston	W. L. Walker	Mrs. W. L. Walker
Velma Gibson	Robert Moore	
J. W. Gibson	Earline Clark	

Collinsville Methodist Church 1914

Jesse Houston	Joe Moore	Tom Hamrick
Clayton Harwell	Marvin Clark	Frank Bradley
Lamar Weatherford	A. T. Ethridge	Mack Massey
Robert McDonald	Tommy Gibson	Lizzie Carpenter
Elton Clark	Mrs. A. T. Ethridge	Irvin Carpenter
Thelma Weatherford	Syms Ethridge	
Carl Clark	Ethel Ethridge McDonald	

After J. F. McLellan's term, the next pastor was Rev. C. C. Griffin. He had helped Mrs. Minnie Houston organize the church. Rev. Griffin served two years and was instrumental in leading the church members to build a church building. Land was given by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Walker. John Hamrick furnished trees for lumber, and all of the able -bodied men and boys helped to cut the trees, haul them to the sawmill and construct the building.

Mr. Jim Tucker, an experienced carpenter, drew up the plans and supervised the construction. The first building was a large, one-room, white, frame structure. The floor was sloped, and the windows were arch shaped at the top with frosted glass panes. This building was soundly constructed in 1911 and was used until a new sanctuary was finished in January of 1966.

During the first 30 years, from 1910 to 1940, the church continued as a part of the Chunky charge holding services once a month. Sunday School remained active during this time. The following pastors served during this 30 year period:

J. F. McLellan	1910	J. W. Ramsey	1927
C. C. Griffin	1911-12	D. P. Yeager	1928-29
J. E. Williams	1913	J. H. Grice	1930
A. S. Byrd	1914	G. A. Broadus	1931-1934
W. J. Walters	1915-16	R. L. Walton	1935
G. L. McNeese	1917	E. D. Simpson	1936
C. Y. Higgenbotham	1918-1920	G. G. Yeager	1937-38
S. E. Flurry	1921-1923	G. A. Broadus	1939
Hudson J. Oakley	1924	Norman Purvis	1940
W. W. Murray	1925-26		

During these 30 years several forward steps were made:

1. The Women's Missionary Society (now called United Methodist Women) was organized in the mid 1920's by Mrs. Minnie Houston. For many years one of the ladies circles was called the Minnie Houston Circle.
2. An Epworth League (now called United Methodist Youth Fellowship) was organized in the early 1930's.
3. The first church-wide study courses were taught in 1932, 1933, and 1934 by Rev. G. A. Broadus. Members who participated received conference credit.
4. In 1935 the first Official Board was organized with the following members: Mrs. M. E. Blanks, Mrs. E. W. Walker, M. E. Clark, and R. L. Moore.

In 1941 Collinsville became head of a new circuit composed of Collinsville, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant Grove, and Antioch. During the following years these pastors served:

T. A. King	1941	H. B. Welch	1959-1961
R. L. Langford	1942-1944	Everett Watts	1962
C. Y. Higgenbotham	1945-1948	J. D. Ramey	1963-1965
E. D. Simpson	1949-50	L. H. Reynolds	1966-1968
Cecil Ryals	1951	J. F. Waddell	1969-70
R. H. Conerly	1952-53	Burton Blair	1971-72
Oland S. Bearden	1954-1958	Floyd O. Lewis	1973-74

The Collinsville Church grew from a member of a four-church circuit to a full time station during this 34 year period. Four additional building programs were carried out during this period. The first addition was a group of six Sunday School rooms added to the rear of the church building with a basement underneath. The basement contained a kitchen and a fellowship hall. Several years later the parsonage, an older home purchased in 1952, was sold and a new modern brick parsonage was built. Next the present education wing and chapel was added with a full basement. This wing was made of brick, with the idea that a new sanctuary would be added when this part was debt free. For twelve years an annual barbecue was held as a fund raising project. This money was added to the building fund. The new sanctuary was built in 1965 and 1966 under supervision of the late R. R. Vance. In 1973 all notes had been paid and the debt-free sanctuary was formally dedicated by the Bishop.

The pastors from 1974 to 2000 are as follows:

Luther M. Hart	1974-75	John T. Tucker	1988-89
Vern C. Anderson	1976	Rodney Duke	1990-1996
Frank Wheat	1977-1979	Curtis Lott	1997
Herman L. Heath	1980-1982	Toby Lofton	1998-2000
G. Randy Owen	1983-1987		

Many changes have taken place in the last quarter century. The parsonage was remodeled and had a new kitchen, family room, and bath added while Randy Owen was the pastor. During the time Rodney Duke served as pastor, the sanctuary was completely renovated. The only thing remaining from the old sanctuary was the outside walls. It is a beautiful place to worship today. The membership completely paid for the renovation in less than three years.

In 1999 under Toby Lofton's leadership, a building committee was formed. Plans were made to add four new restrooms, renovate the nursery, add a toddler nursery, and remodel the fellowship area. This work was completed in November of 2000. Further plans are being made to add a parking area and a new building that will include a kitchen, gym, and fellowship area. The Collinsville United Methodist Church is a growing fellowship of believers in a growing community.

Part II
By Bro. Toby Lofton

I arrived in June of 1998, to a church that was starving for God. They knew it and God knew it. The entire church at that time had been praying for renewal. Though, many people were affiliated with the church, their attendance had dwindled to around 35.

Once again, because they were hungry and sought God, God brought the renewal. Many families that had been inactive returned, new families came in, empty spirits were filled. Today, because of the church's intense desire to see God, we have a worship attendance of 80, with a worship community of 169. We have ministered to over 285 people in this year (2000). New additions and remodeling has been accomplished, as well as a 3 phase building program. Once again the focus is on "God & People".



GRACE CHURCH OF COLINSVILLE, MS

By Rev. John Jacob

In the Heart of Collinsville, with Collinsville at Heart

Freedom Church began with 20 people in the fall of 1998. The first few services were held in the Collinsville shopping center, meeting where the Dollar Store is now located. Rev. John Jacob began to fill the pulpit in December of 1998 and in January 1999 he accepted the vote of the congregation to be their pastor. The Collinsville Early Childhood Development Center became the next home of the church and the church was changed to Grace Church of Collinsville.

In September 1999 the congregation took a step of faith to lease/purchase the Garden & Gift Center. It's been wonderful to finally have a permanent home where the furniture can stay in place and the sound equipment doesn't have to be moved to storage between services.

The church family has grown to membership of 75 and the attendance is approximately 100 on Sunday. The staff consists of John Jacob as the Senior Pastor, J. J. Jacob serves as Associate Pastor and Youth Minister and Dalette Newell is the Minister of Music.

Sunday February 11, 2001 the youth moved into their new building, "The Store House." The new addition will help to meet the needs of a growing youth group. Members of the church donated their time and materials to finish the building.

The church welcomes everyone, without regard to race or social standing. It's an interdenominational fellowship, charismatic in worship and full Gospel doctrine.

Meet Our Staff . . .

Pastor John Jacob received the Lord Jesus as his personal Savior and Messiah in May of 1965, two years later he surrendered to full time ministry. He traveled as an evangelist for 15 years and in October of 1982 he accepted his first pastorate, and served in that capacity for 16 years.

In January of 1999 the Jacob's accepted the unanimous vote of the congregation to pastor Grace Church of Collinsville.

Their son, J. J. will be working with us in the role of Youth and Associate Pastor. J. J. graduated from Southwestern Assemblies of God University, receiving his B. S. Degree in Church Ministries with Specialization in Youth. He shares his dad's vision and burden for Collinsville and Lauderdale County.

Dalette Newell serves as Minister of Music. Dalette was raised in a ministry home and received the call to ministry early in her life. Her sensitivity to the Lord brings us into His Glory through worship. We are delighted with her commitment to fulfill that call at Grace Church.



HISTORY OF PINE FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH Collinsville, Mississippi

By Rev. Ernest Nelson

Pine Forest Baptist Church was established on its present site in 1903. Its name is derived from the virgin pines that were cut to build the first buildings. These buildings included the Ratcliff School and a two-story lodge occupied by the "Woodman of the World". The first church service was held in the one room school. Later the school and the church moved into the bottom floor of the lodge. The church land was donated by Dr. Singleton and Mrs. Jessie McDonald. Later the cemetery property was purchased from the Winston Calvert family. Included in the present cemetery property is a generous addition of one acre provided in the summer of 2000 by the Bounds family.

In the summer of 1925 all church records were destroyed in a house fire. Because of this tragedy, county records were used to establish that the church was constituted in 1906 in the Okatibbeha Association with B. F. Threatt as the pastor. In the late 1930's Bluitt Culpepper had the lodge removed and the church remodeled. In 1953 Pine Forest Baptist Church became a member of the Lauderdale Baptist Association.

Reverend Gary Smith became pastor in 1961. He was instrumental in the progress of this congregation. Under his leadership, Pine Forest Baptist Church experienced the construction of the first Sunday School rooms and the establishment of a full time worship service. Reverend Smith was also responsible for the establishment of a nursery, Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Training Union.

Reverend Harold Lollar became pastor in 1970. Through his love and dedication to the Lord, along with the people of this community, Pine Forest Baptist Church has continued to grow in many areas. Rev. Lollar's dedication and leadership brought this church to exciting growth in the area of membership and ministry. Rev. Lollar was also instrumental in the expansion of the church's facilities. Spiritual growth markers for Pine Forest Baptist Church included the following:

1971- addition of the baptistry; 1975 addition of Sunday School rooms, addition of a new kitchen and construction of a recreation hall; 1981-82 - the Family Life Center was built by church members; 1984 the Sanctuary was remodeled and stain-glass windows were added with inscriptions to the memory of church families; 1987 - the parking lot was paved.

Ministries and activities that have effected the congregation of Pine Forest Baptist Church have been many. These include the following:

the establishment of a Christian daycare by Linda Cook in 1981 in which the present director since 1983 is Kay Townsend, the addition of a puppet ministry and the traditional Christmas float for the Meridian Christmas Parade that was begun by Brenda Rogers, Bible Drills that include County Association and State participation, Youth Associational activity, Youth "See You at the Pole" rally and breakfast led by the present Associate Pastor to Youth, Curtis Pace.

During the ministry of Pine Forest Baptist Church the following pastors have served this congregation:

(Dates are approximate) B. F. Threatt 1906, G. E. Holsomback 1928, Herman Sollie 1928, Truly Reynolds 1928-31, Horace Sollie 1931, Earl Green 1932-33, Otis Swearingen 30's, Bluitt Culpepper late 30's, Bleacher Nicholson 1944-54 (total of 17 years), T. L. Pfiefer 1954, Gary Smith 1961-62, Bob Hutchinson 1964, Dan Shaffer 1966, Horace Choates, 1967-69, Sam Foy, Carless Evans, Bernard McPheeters, James Sollie, Richard Akens, Harold Lollar 1970-92, Bobby Hood 1993-94, Tyler Pigott 1995-2000.

In the interim of not having a pastor, youth minister Curtis Pace and music minister Jay Parker were given the title of Associate Pastor through Music.

In August of 2000, Reverend Ernest Nelson was called to be the present pastor of Pine Forest Baptist Church. Rev. Nelson is a native of Atlanta Georgia. He served in the United States Air Force where he surrendered to the ministry. Rev. Nelson came to Meridian in 1992 as an Air Force Technical Advisor to the 186th Air Nation Guard. While stationed in Meridian, Rev. Nelson served as Minister of Youth for Collinsville First Baptist Church from 1992 to 1995. In 1995, Rev. Nelson was honorably retired from the U. S. Air Force and moved to New Orleans to attend the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary where he served First Baptist Church of Avondale, Louisiana as Pastor. In May of 2000, he graduated with a Bachelor of General Studies in Christian Education and the Master of Divinity in Christian Education degrees. Rev. Nelson is married to the former Julie Moen of Brockville, Ontario, Canada. They have one child, Matthew Nelson. On August 2, 2000, Rev. Nelson preached his first sermon as pastor of Pine Forest Baptist Church.



PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
From Church Minutes

By Jerry Vance Ethridge

On September 9, 1870, Pine Grove Baptist Church was organized with twelve (12) members. Rev. N. L. Clark, Rev. A. Gressett, and Rev. J. L. Blanks formed the presbytery. Members were male: Joshua McLemore, C. H. Yarbrough, O. G. Brown, W. J. McNair, B. H. Williams, John Mosley, E. Mosley, and John Wood. Females were: Mary E. McLemore, Sarah J. Yarbrough, Rebecca Ann Ezelle, and Julia Ezelle.

The location was in open country (Litchfield School) twenty miles northwest of Meridian, MS. Rev. A. Gressett was first pastor.

Taken from church minutes:

Sat. Sept. 1870: Church met in conference, reference from preceding conference was called for: 1st report from committee to attend the ordination of Bro. Yarbrough (at Zion Church when Bro. Ethridge ordained) laying on hands by the following presbytery: Elds. A. Gressett and J. M. P. McAlister, who resolved the report of the committee to be received, and Bro. C. H. Yarbrough be recognized as a Deacon of Pine Grove Baptist Church. Committee to draw up Rules of Decorum reported them ready after which they were taken one at a time and adopted by the Church. New Business: Bro .-----reported for dancing.

March 1871: Conference met, minutes read and adopted. Committee to wait on Bro .----- reported him present, and he stated that he did dance, but was sorry for it and hoped the Lord had forgiven him and asked the church to forgive him, which they did unanimously. Adjourned.

Nov. 1872: Reference was called when Bro .-----had been cited to this meeting, but he was obstinate, would not attend, or give any satisfaction whatever. The Church withdrew her fellowship from Bro .-----.

July 1874: After service by Eld. J. M. McAlister Church met in conference. Bro.----- made acknowledgement for having used improper language. Also Bro ----- made acknowledgement for having been intoxicated and asked forgiveness. The Church freely forgave the brothers.

After preaching by Eld. W. L. Phillips, Church met in conference. Bro Isaac Ethridge was elected as Deacon in the absence of Bro. Yarbrough. On motion Church adopted foot washing.

Feb. 1886: After preaching, Church met in conference. The committee to see Bro. Stephens, report him present, he stated he would accept the call and serve the Church as supply for the present year. On motion paid Bro. Fancher \$21.00 for services rendered as Supply for Year 1889.

After singing and prayer by Bro. Earl Moore, Church met in conference. Called for the peace and fellowship of the church when a preferred (?) against Sister-----for joining a so-called "Holyness Craze". Church withdrew her fellowship. Church unanimously elected B. G. Gay as supply for ensuing year. Church sends \$4.50 for Asso. purposes, \$9.00 for missions, \$8.50 for Baptist Orphans, Total \$22.00.

The first house of worship was jointly owned by another congregation, Leeville or New Hope. In 1908 a new building was constructed. The old building was torn down, the materials sold and the proceeds divided equally between. New Hope and Pine Grove congregations.

April 1909: Presbytery met to assist in the ordination of Bro. Eugene Stephens to the ministry. Bro. W. E. May was appointed to present Bro. Stephens for Ordination.

Aug. 1910: Bro. Earl Moore presented himself and a letter from Clinton Baptist Church, stating that he was a licensed minister of the Gospel. Letter and bearer was received.

July 1911: Took up collection for a destitute sister which amounted to \$7.15 which was paid at once.

In 1911, Pine Grove established its first Sunday School.

Aug. 1913: Bro. A.M. and Sister Mattie Hodges ware granted Letters at their own request. Additions: Experience and Baptism; Sister Viva Ethridge, Myrtle George, Maudie Threatt, Minnie Stephens, Clara Ezell, Ressie Snowden, Callie Ezell, Brother; Frank Stephens, Leonard May, Dewey Satterfield, Lee Crenshaw, Robert Hodgins, Orien Litchfield, Arthur Litchfield, James Huggins, Lamar Stephens, W. E. Lee, Jr., James David (Jim) Ethridge and James Hand.

July 1914: Sunday preaching by Bro. H. H. Webb continued from day to day. The following were added: By experience; Bros. B. C. Crenshaw, and Frank Stephenson and Sisters; Lillie Crenshaw, Minnie Crenshaw, Janie Crenshaw, Lottie Crenshaw, Bettie Smith, Martis Smith, Annie Threatt, Beadie Threatt, Lula Williamson, Flossie Mitchell. By Letter; Bro. D. H. Barnes, and Sister J. Crenshaw.

July 1914: The congregation met at the water and witnessed the immersion of the above candidates and extended the hand of Church fellowship to them.

July 1916: The meeting was continued, conducted by the Pastor and Rev. P. O. Estes. The following were added: By Baptism; Males: Clinton Culpepper, Irvin Miles, Wirtly Montigue, Females: Trilby Stephens, Frankie Stephens, Esta Walker, Velmer Clay, Era Mayatt, Janie Tucker, Berdie Skinner, By letter: Bro. W. R. Hand, Sisters; Lula Foster, Esta Hand, Amanda Powell. By restoration; J. R. Foster. The church met at the water and witnessed the immersion of the above.

Jan. 1921: The Pastor Bro. R. E. Moore, tendered his resignation as Pastor to enter the State Convention as Missionary. His resignation was accepted.

In 1930, Sunday School was added. The depression came and the work grew slowly because of the financial condition of its members. We were fourth-time church with services being conducted every fourth Sunday.

In the early 1930's electricity became available and with adequate lighting a Training Union was established in the church.

In 1952 a new building was erected and we became a half-time church with services being held on second and fourth Sundays each month.

In 1956 we began a full-time ministry and our members have grown in stewardship of material blessings by giving through the Cooperative Program, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions and the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

There have been about 900 baptisms in the history of the church. Twenty nine (29) was the largest number in one year.

PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH 1981 TO PRESENT

By Angie Ethridge Espey

Rev. Curtis Dyer was called to Pine Grove Baptist Church in January of 1981. The church has had the privilege of growing together spiritually in number under he and his wife, Faye's leadership in the past 20 years.

The Lord has brought people into the fellowship at Pine Grove from the surrounding areas such as Neshoba and Newton Counties, Meridian, as well as in the Martin and Collinsville Communities.

Due to the growth, we were in need of more Sunday School classes. The church voted to take in our upstairs fellowship hall to renovate for Sunday School rooms. The existing sanctuary was completely renovated in 1991.

The church voted to begin a new building project in Oct. of 1995. The Lord lead us to build a Family Life Center, which would house our fellowship hall, pastors study, secretary's office, a gym and 10 Sunday School rooms. Not only did God lead us to build, but to build without borrowing. So over the next 5 years, the people gave as the Lord prospered them and they also supplied most of the labor to finish the inside. On May 7, 2000, the new building was completed and dedicated to the Lord, and is now in use. Because God so abundantly supplied the finances and labor, the building is named "OUR FATHER'S HOUSE", for it truly is His.

Being able to give to Missions is the heartbeat of the church, giving to both local and foreign missions. We have had the privilege of being able to sow God's Word into the lives of the people in Guatemala and Central America. In 1985 we began making mission trips, ministering to the people's needs, both spiritually and physically. We have been able to build 20 new churches in villages where there were no churches, as well as support the pastors of these churches and two full time missionaries. We give God all the glory because truly it is his work. Mission Teams continue to go as God leads. The love of Jesus is being shared and we bless God for allowing us to be a part.

Pine Grove has been and will continue to be a source of strength to the Martin Community.

Pine Grove Baptist Church Former Pastors

1870	A. Gressett	1912	R. W. Bryant
1872	A. Winstead	1913-21	R. E. Moore
1873	A. Gressett	1921	J. L. Williams
1873	J. E. Brunson	1922	O. A. Hand
1873	A. Gressett	1923-26	Blanning S. Vaughn
1874-76	W. L. Phillips	1927	O. A. Hand
1879	S. L. Robbins	1928	A. N. Thomas
1879-82	J. F. Gunn	1929	R. W. Sumrall
1882	-----	1930-34	R. E. Moore
1884-85	R. Duncan	1935	Gordon Ezelle
1886-87	E. S. Stephen	1936-42	A. B. Culpepper
1888-89	E. F. Fancher	1943-47	E. F. Grayson
1890-91	L. B. Fancher	1948	-----
1891-94	Elijah S. Stephen	1949-55	Edward McKeithen
1895	L. B. Fancher	1956-58	J. M. Snowden
1895-96	Elijah S. Stephen	1959	-----
1896-03	L. B. Fancher	1960-63	Bobby Ivey
1903-05	W. H. Rainer	1964-66	Edward McKeithen
1906-07	L. B. Fancher	1967-68	Archie Fleming
1907	F. M. Gunn	1969	-----
1907-09	Ben S. Guy	1970-80	James Stephens
1910-11	Eugene Stephens	1981-Present	Curtis Dyer
1911	G. W. Breland		



PLEASANT RIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

Part I
By Jacqueline Clearman

Rev. S. A. Bankston held services in the community before he organized the Pleasant Ridge Methodist Church in 1865. The first church was a log building and was one of the four remaining churches in Lauderdale County just after the Civil War. According to records these churches were left by the Union Army to stable their horses. The log church was improved by adding clapboard siding and flooring.

Rev. J. A. Scarbrough was a charter member of the Protestant church of Mississippi. He was also the founder and teacher of the Pleasant Valley School, located just east of the church. (The "Honorable" James Scarbrough was a grandson and a guest speaker at "Founders Day")

Some of the early church families were the Williamson's, Hamrick's, Davidson's, Herrington's, Strange's, Davis's, Beeman's, Scarbrough's and Crenshaw's.

About twenty-five years later, an open sided Prayer Tabernacle was built where the revival meetings were held. The mid-week services and Sunday services were still held in the original log cabin.

The first Methodist Conference to be held in Lauderdale County was held at Pleasant Ridge Church in 1873. 1872-1878 were hard times; the district superintendent received for his annual salary, thirty-five pair of hand knit socks and \$2.50 for the entire year.

Among the earlier pastors was Rev. C. M. "Calvin" Atwood. He held a "Protractive" meeting in 1875. He was appointed by the 1875 Conference to the "Okatibbee Circuit" which consisted of Pleasant Ridge and Antioch in Lauderdale County and Mount Pleasant in Kemper County.

During 1875-1876 Brother Atwood employed Rev. L. L. Davis as a Missionary and he paid him out of his own pocket, \$50.00 for the year. 1879-1882, Rev. A. J. Franklin was the pastor; he was blind and Brother Atwood would assist Brother Franklin.

In 1891 Dr. W. N. Davis was pastor. He left the ministry to become a well-known and respected Medical doctor, but remained an active Lay Leader in the church. Brother Davis is buried in the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

In 1896 Rev. W. P. Long was pastor. Mr. Howard Hamrick said he remembered his grandfather speaking of Brother Long and Brother Day.

The Cotton States Lumber Company owned this land. Later they sold all their land east of Tallahata Creek to a Mr. Craig and in this deed, Craig showed an exception for the land for Pleasant Ridge Church and cemetery and a Pleasant Valley School. Later the heirs of Mr. Craig from Paris, Illinois sold all their land to the Columbus Lumber Company and they failed to show the exception in this deed for the church properties.

The second church was built and it stood approximately 40 to 50 feet west of the present church. According to Mr. James Scarbrough, Miss Ulma Frank Crenshaw's grave was directly in front of the second church. The second church faced the present day church with the rear of the building facing Highway 19.

This was a Methodist Protestant Church after uniting with the Methodist Conference in 1939; the church needed a clear deed to the property. Mr. Howard Hamrick contacted the officials of the Columbus Lumber Company in Columbus, Miss. and offered to purchase the land, the Lumber Company deeded the land to the church in 1942.

The third building was built in the early 1940's. It was completed and dedicated in July 1942 by the Rev. Neal, who was the District Superintendent.

Some other pastors were Rev. J. O. Napier, Rev. S. E. "Ed" Gibson, Rev. Frank Sharp, who remained with the Methodist Protestant Church (Sharp Chapel at Schamberville), Rev. Enoch Alexander King, Rev. Jessie Thomas Williamson (he is buried just inside the front gate near the church), Rev. F. M. (Marion) Herrington and Rev. Willie Lee Hamrick. A book written by Brother Willie Hamrick was a big help in the research of the history of the church. He died and was buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in 1955.

Some of the earliest memories of coming to church would be the Revival meeting. The men would bring an oil lamp and when the children got sleepy, the Mamas would put them on a pallet on the back pew or on the floor. Later the black people came and sat on the back pew to hear Brother Wadell Roberts preach. When someone died, everybody came to the funeral.

During the first 30 years, from 1910 to 1940, the church continued as a part of the Chunky charge holding services once a month. Sunday School remained active during this time. The Following pastors served during this 30 year period:

J. F. McLellan	1910	J. W. Ramsey	1927
C. C. Griffin	1911-12	D. P. Yeager	1928-29
J. E. Williams	1913	J. H. Grice	1930
A. S. Byrd	1914	G. A. Broadus	1931-34
W. J. Walters	1915-1916	R. L. Walton	1935
G. L. McNeese	1917	E. D. Simpson	1936
C. Y. Higgenbotham	1918-20	G. G. Yeager	1937-38
S. E. Flurry	1921-23	G. A. Broadus	1939
Hudson J. Oakley	1924	Norman Purvis	1940
W. W. Murray	1925-26		

In 1941 Collinsville became head of a new circuit composed of Collinsville, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant Grove, and Antioch. During the following years these pastors served:

T. A. King	1941	Burton Blair	1971-72
R. L. Langford	1942-44	Floyd O. Lewis	1973-74
C. Y. Higgenbotham	1945-48	Luther M. Hart	1974-75
E. D. Simpson	1949-50	Vern C. Anderson	1976
Cecil Ryals	1951	Frank Wheat	1977-79
R. H. Conerly	1952-53	Herman L. Heath	1980-82
Oland S. Bearden	1954-58	G. Randy Owen	1983-87
H. B. Welch	1959-61	John T. Tucker	1988-89
Everett Watts	1962	Rodney Duke	1990-96
J. D. Ramsey	1963-65	Curtis Lott	1997
L. H. Reynolds	1966-68	Toby Lofton	1 9 9 8 -
J. F. Waddell	1969-70		

Part II

By Bro. Toby Lofton

In 1998, I came to Pleasant Ridge. My first Sunday we had eight people attending. I am told the Sunday before there was two. Today, we have an average attendance of 35 with a worship community of 69 (those who worship frequently with us). Credit for this must obviously go to God, however, I want to set the record straight. It was the **people** God worked through, not the pastor. The people went out and began to tell others, inviting others, and witnessing to others, and God grew them. It is simple as that! They did what God told them to do and he blessed them. There have been several remodeling projects in the church as well, in this time, but let's keep the focus where it should be--On GOD and OTHERS.



SHARP MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH



Dr. & Mrs. F. L. Sharp - Former pastor of Sharp Memorial Methodist Church for 38 years.



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HISTORY OF COLLINSVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CLUB

By Linda Cook

After 2 previous attempts, the Collinsville Community Development Club was organized Feb. 6, 1962. Clayton Poole served as chairman. He had worked for several weeks, drumming up interest in a club. Bobby Sims, Lauderdale County

Agent, and Emmitt Murray, of EMEPA, County Chairman of Sponsors, were present to answer questions and help organize the club. Also in attendance were Leon Bailey, president of the Center Hill club, John Mayatt, President, and Mrs. Jackson Lee, Secretary of the Martin Club. There were 30 Collinsville families represented. The following were elected officers of the new club: President, Charles Moore; Vice President, Lynn Culpepper; Secretary, Mrs. Earlene Williamson.

Our meeting night was set as the 3rd Monday of each month. Many projects were started the first year - sponsoring ball teams, lighting the baseball field, sponsoring 4H Club and making plans to purchases the old Collinsville school property.

On Feb. 4, 1963, the school property was purchased for \$3003.00. Mr. R. R. Vance loaned the club the money, which was repaid in full Feb. 1967. Some of the projects for 1963 were sponsoring the Forestry Queen Contest (Miss Pat Gibson,a club family member was chosen the Queen), donating the old Collinsville gym to Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, (their building having been burned. From the very first, our club tried to fully utilize the school property. The Agriculture Building was rented to Bro. Sailors and then later to Bro. Bill Harwell for a shop. The ball teams used one room of the old school for a concession stand, and the Lauderdale Singing Convention used the building two Saturday nights a month.

New officers elected in 1964 were: President, Everett Daniels; Vice President, P. E. Nicholson; Secretary, Mrs Elois Pigford. Mrs Eileen Daniels was chosen Lauderdale County woman of the year and T. S. Pigford, man of the year for 1965. The club was instrumental in organizing the Collinsville-Briggs Wood-working Co. and part of the school property was leased to them in August, 1964. We also adopted a long range project of organizing the Collinsville Water Assoc. Other projects were a womanless wedding, mens beauty pageant, and sponsoring a musical show to raise funds to pay on the property. Other projects were a fair booth contest, calf scramble parade, yearly picnic, entertaining sponsors and other clubs, rat control, fire ant control, soil samples and rabies vaccinations.

New officers in 1966: President, P. E. Nicholson; Vice President, R. R. Vance; Secretary, Mrs. Beth Smith. Two more long range projects were started that year, a Civil Defense, and a Volunteer Fire Dept. The first fire engine was purchased April, 1966 for the grand total of \$1218.00. In that year our club won the Civil Defense Award and Safety Award at the awards program. One of our accomplishments was placing 36 fire extinguishers in homes and businesses. During this time, 22 of our community men attended a ten week civil defense and fire fighting class given by the Meridian Fire Dept. and Civil Defense Council.



In 1967, after much deliberation, our club voted to build a new community center, which was completed in July. Also by this time, the Collinsville Water Assoc. was a reality. During this period, the old school building was leased to Collinsville Woodworking for \$25 a month. We financed our new building by borrowing \$4700.00 from First Savings and Loan, to be repaid in 15 years. Our club won 1st place in fair booth and county awards that year. We also signed a lease agreement with Mr. Ross Collins for the baseball field and donated \$500 to the Collinsville Baseball Assoc. for a new concession stand.

Mr. R. R. Vance should be mentioned for his many services to the club. He loaned us the money to build our community center served as chairman of the building committee and did much of the labor himself. He also donated untold hours of his time and labor toward the completion and operation of the Collinsville Water Assoc.

Mr. Cluis Daniels should be honored for his work and leadership in organizing the Collinsville Volunteer Dept. Instrumental in securing our first two fire trucks and leading in the completion of our Fire House, Cluis also served as our first fire chief and Civil Defense leader.

Mr. Joe Byrd is to be commended for serving as chairman of the committee to establish the Collinsville Water Assoc. Joe was elected president and spent many hours meeting with contractors, users and advisors in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

Officers for 1968 were: President, T. S. Pigford; Vice President, Clyde Walker; Secretary, Mrs. Jesse Ponds. Our first educational scholarship was given to Tony Poole in 1969 and Miss Kathy Johnson in 1970. Our club landscaped the new Collinsville Clinic and our club building that year. Also, 133 crepe myrtles were set out in honor of Mr. Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer. We filled ditty bags for service men in Vietnam and the Veterans Hospital in Biloxi. Cancer, heart fund, March of Dimes and Diabetes drives were held each year. A voter registration drive was conducted this year. Our club building has served as Collinsville Voting Precinct since 1966.

Elected as officers in 1970: President, Cluis Daniels; Vice President, P. E. Nicholson; Secretary, Mrs. Joyce Byrd. We received our 2nd fire engine in 1970 and built the new fire station. Our club building was repainted. U.S. flags were sold to club members to be flown at appropriate times. The Boy Scouts were chartered in June, 1970 and sponsored by the club. Through the efforts of the young women of our club, Collinsville won 1st place in the Calf Scramble parade in 1970 and 1971.

1971 officers were: President, P. E. Nicholson; Vice President, Clyde Walker; Secretary, Mrs. Vistan Allen. Through the efforts of Mrs. Beverly Pennington, 62 community children were enrolled in swimming classes at Okatibbee Lake. Other projects for the year were discourage dumping of trash on roadsides, securing a dumping ground, yard of the month, Christmas decoration contest, a new club sign and paving the club parking, fire station and water assoc.

All the accomplishments honoring the 20th year of community club work in Lauderdale County have brought much satisfaction, but also heartache and sorrow. Five charter members have been lost to death - Mr. Nathan Daniels, Mr. S. E. Perkin, Mr. Paul Sharp, Mr. Lamar Clay and Mr. P.M. Gardner.



Womanless Wedding - Cameron Gibson, Charles Moore, & Lynn Culpepper.



Eloise Pigford, Amy Walker, Kathleen Townsend, Madge Provine, Edna & P. E. Nicholson, & Glenda Rowell.

The next 20 years in the history of Collinsville Community Development Club have been a little different than the first 20. To earn points and money for our projects, about 1970 we began entering floats in the Calf Scramble Parade (later known as the Jimmie Rogers Parade). For one of our floats we constructed a large worm from chicken wire, covered with green cloth. For the legs, fifteen of the ladies from the club walked under the worm. Bill Pennington, Joe Byrd and Dan Houston had the pleasure of painting the ladies' legs with green paint. The worm walked the entire parade route and won 1st place with the theme "Together we are one". This so upset the other contestants, that the rules were changed, requiring all floats to be on a vehicle of some sort in future parades.

Another float was, with the theme "Betterment of the Community", a giant ant hill built over a jeep. When the parade began, we all ran ahead to get a good view, leaving Jack Cook to walk alongside the float and direct the driver, Tate Roberts, who was under the ant hill and could not see. When the parade passed, the jeep had broken down and Jack and Tate came by pushing the float with their tongues hanging out. Had pushed it almost the entire route but won another 1st place.

In 1991, we began an annual Christmas parade in Collinsville. All our community businesses, churches, and fire departments participated, along with the Lions Club, Lula Moore Garden Club, Collinsville Riding club, West Lauderdale Band, Flag Corps, Cheerleaders, Boy Scouts, Karate Club, dance classes, and of course, Santa Claus riding the fire engine. The Mississippi Highway Patrol, Lauderdale County Sheriffs Dept, and local constable stopped traffic on Highway 19 for the parade's duration. The parade route was from McPhail's Grocery, down Highway 19 to what is now Super Stop, turned left onto Church Road, to West Lauderdale Road, then back across Highway 19 to the Community Club. We had 6 more great parades until the highway was widened to five lanes and the increase of traffic to and from the Silver Star Casino, forced us to stop the parade. The Grand Marshalls of our parades were:



1991	None
1992	Bill and Dana Day
1993	Ken Storm
1994	Ken Rainey
1995	Jay Powell
1996	Skip Ewing
1997	Jay Powell

Jay Powell

In order to raise money for our Community Club and the local ball teams, we began sponsoring a annual Chicken Fry. Collinsville had always been noted for their chicken cooking prowess with Percy Luke and Skinny Livingston heading up the cooking team for the baseball teams. In 1984, the Community Club took over sponsorship of this annual event and moved it to the 1st Saturday of May. Little could anyone envision what this would grow into. In 1988, we named this event the Collinsville Lively Arts Festival and it has grown ever since. We began serving 500 to 800 chicken plates, craft booths were added, beauty pageants, Fun Run, bands, dance groups, karate demonstrations, Lions Club, garden clubs, churches all began to take part, selling food and crafts. We had musical entertainment and political speaking. One of the most popular items were our annual tee-shirts. They have become collectors items. Our local businesses all donate \$50 to help with the Festival and are listed on the shirts. The Festival has been a great thing in our community to bring our community together.

1996 was an exceptional year for the Festival because of the Collinsville School Reunion held in conjunction with the Festival. We gathered all the school yearbooks that we could locate and displayed them in several rooms of the old school with pictures from the past. Chairpersons for the different senior classes were appointed to locate as many of their classmates as possible. Over 500 letters were mailed, inviting them to the reunion. The program began with Abe Moore of the class of 1916-17 telling of some of his memories. He was able to remember the names of all his classmates. This was followed by members of each of the following classes. This was one of the most rewarding projects the club has ever undertaken.

One of the club projects that we can be justly proud of, is our anti-litter campaign. We began with a Highway Pickup Program on 2 miles of Highway 19. At times it seemed as though we were shoveling sand against the tide, but gradually we began to see progress in our efforts. In 1999, we started a campaign to have the garbage dumpsters relocated from the center of Collinsville right on Highway 19. This was a tremendous eyesore with garbage spilling out all over the area and animals scattering it. District 3 supervisor, Craig Hitt, was instrumental in achieving this, with the club and other concerned citizens helping to locate alternate sites for the pitch-ins. Craig is also to be commended for his part in the jail inmate pick-up program which has seen a great improvement in our community roadsides. With all this, the Community Club was able to erect a lighted welcome sign at the site of the old garbage dump and to landscape the site. Now when travelers pass through, they can see that we care for our community.

Collinsville is a very special place to her citizens - located in the fastest growing area of Lauderdale County - and there is much to be accomplished through the efforts of our Club. Our vision is to meet the challenges before us, to make Collinsville a even better community.

"Collins" means glued together, and "ville" means community. That makes Collinsville a tight knit community that cares.



Collinsville Day Parade

COLLINSVILLE HOMEMAKER VOLUNTEERS CLUB

By Judy Harwell and Christine Smith

In the early 1920's, a club was started in Collinsville by the Home Demonstration agent which was at that time called a "Tomato Club". It was begun for the purpose of teaching women how to prepare vegetables for canning. At that time there were several areas that women could choose from to learn more about, such as dairy work, poultry, beekeeping, and horticulture, just to name a few. Over the years, at one time it was called a "Home Demonstration Club". This was when a woman would put on a demonstration in her home for her neighbors in some area of interest to her and her friends. The agent was always there to offer help but she didn't do the demonstration.

There have been many agents over the years. They are now called Home Economists.

The Collinsville Club has always been a very active club since the very beginning. Over the years, Collinsville has had some of its members elected to serve on the County Council in all positions. At the present time Judy Harwell, of the Collinsville Club, is Council president. There have also been members to represent Lauderdale County on many state committees and at one time Mitt Hitt and Linda Cook represented Collinsville at a national convention.

The latest name change has put the emphasis on volunteering since the area is no longer the rural farming community it once was. The state leadership had the idea that if each member in the state would volunteer to help their neighbor, everyone would benefit. Many of the activities that the club does shows how the name "Volunteers" is a good one. The club works to help the Care Lodge, Peavey House, Salvation Army, St. Jude's Hospital, the Mississippi Burn Center, Veterans, local nursing homes, and many others.



FAMILY GROUP WINNERS—Mrs. A. L. Carpenter and daughters, Genia and Paula, who won for them first prize in the family division of the recent Lauderdale County Cotton Dress Revue held here Tuesday.

Dress revue - Hazel L. Carpenter, and her daughters Genia and Paula.



Members of the Collinsville Home Demonstration club special project committee are shown in Room 3 in Matty Hersse hospital, the room they decided to sponsor. Shown from left

are Mrs. Arnold Carpenter, Mrs. Nathan Daniels, Mrs. Lester Gray, hospital business manager, and Mrs. P. E. Nicholson, club president. (Staff photo by Jack Budd)

The Homemakers sponsored and maintained a hospital room - Mrs. Arnold Carpenter, Mrs. Nathan Daniels, Mrs. Lester Gray, Hospital Business Manager, and Mrs. P. E. Nicholson.



TREES OF HONOR — The Collinsville Homemakers Club recently planted a Magnolia tree in honor of Mrs. R. R. Vance, center, who has been a member of the club for over 30 years. On hand for the planting were Mrs. Ray Gipson, left, and Mrs. Otis Smith, project chairman. A tree was also planted in memory of Mrs. Gipson's mother-in-law, the late Mrs. Erie Gipson, a member of the club for over 50 years. Both trees were planted at the Collinsville Health Center.

Planting a Magnolia Tree in honor of long time members - Mrs. R. R. Vance - 30 years and Mrs. Erie Gibson - 50 years.

COLLINSVILLE LIONS CLUB

By Lion Benton Espy & Lion Ikie Ethridge

Collinsville Lions Club was organized in 1971. The first president was Norman Dallas and first secretary was Norman E. Snowden. The charter members were:

Burton Blair	James Little
Harold Brown	James Luke
Joe Buntyn	Robert J. McNeely
H. R. Chandler	A. M. McPhail
J. V. Clay	M. O. Mabry
Waide (Jack) Cook	John Mayatt
Larry Crenshaw	John Mayatt, Jr.
Lynn Culpepper	M. D. Mayatt
Raymond Culpepper	George Metrolis
Norman Dallas	Charles Moore
Cluis Daniels	T. S. Pigford
Shelby Durr	Jesse Ponds
Ikie Ethridge	Rubert Sharp
Charles Espy	Alton Smith
Cameron Gibson	James R. Smith
Jack Gunn	Robert Smith
M. B. Hendon	J. M. Snowden
H. M. Herrington	Norman Snowden
Rod Hitt	James F. Spears
Dan Houston	Clyde Walker, Jr.
Ed Jolly	Edward Watkins
Elton Joyner	

Board of Directors

Lion C. B. Espy	2 years
Lion Albert Glenn Federick	2 years
Lion Ikie Ethridge	4 years
Lion James H. Watson	4 years

COLLINSVILLE LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 200/2001

President	Lion Albert Glenn(Fred) Federick
1st Vice President	Lion R. C. Massey
2nd Vice President	Lion Billy L. Nabors
3rd Vice President	Lion Carlton E. (Gene) Vance
Secretary & Treasurer	Lion C. B. Espy
Lion Tamer	Lion Rod Hitt
Tail Twister	Lion Clyde Walker, Jr.

Lions Slogan:

"We Serve."

Lion Motto:

**"Liberty, Intelligence, Our
Nation's Safety"**

Lion Top Priority:

"Sight Conservation"

The Mississippi Lions State Sight van was donated by Bryan Meat Packers, West Point, MS. The van is used by local clubs in communities throughout the state to test for sight problems, glaucoma, diabetes, etc. The Collinsville Club has used the van primarily to test lower elementary students at West Lauderdale to detect possible sight deficiencies that could impede their educational progress. If the students' parents cannot afford eye exams and glasses the Collinsville Club with the assistance of local optometrists and optical sales businesses, make it possible for the students to get glasses. Over the past years our club has checked thousands of West Lauderdale students. Lion Charles B. Espy of the Collinsville Club served on the State Lions Sight Van committee from 1985 to 1989. He served as chairman in 1988 and 1989.

We also collect old glasses and hearing aids throughout the state to be refurbished and used in the state and worldwide where there are needs.

State Lions Leadership Conferences are held annually for both high school boys and girls. These participants are sponsored by their local Lions Clubs. These conferences were organized to help develop our youth as future local, state, national and world leaders.



The Mississippi Lions All State Band is comprised mostly of high school students. The members earn the privilege to participate through highly competitive tryouts. The Mississippi Lions Band won its first international championship trophy in 1951. The 20th championship trophy was won by our band again last summer. The first of the new millennium, but not the last, Lee Rigdon, a member of West Lauderdale band participated in the 2000 band activities and will be a member again in 2001. It requires strong musical talent to qualify and make the band. The convention was in Hawaii last year and will be in Indianapolis this summer. Our young state ambassadors and their adult staff members have positively impressed national and international conventions annually. The Collinsville Club has helped sponsor a number of West Lauderdale band members to this All State Band in recent years.

The American Powerboat Association Races came to our area in 1990. The Meridian Chamber of Commerce sponsored the event in 1990. The Meridian Rotary Club was the second year sponsor. Because of financial loses the second year, the Rotary Club Board of Directors voted not to sponsor the races again. Billy Jack Ethridge, a member of the Meridian Rotary Club and local co-ordinator working with the New Orleans Chapter of the APBA Club continued working to keep the races alive. Our Collinsville Club was actively involved from the beginning of the races. We worked with this project as a sponsor for a number of years. A small club with only 19 members, increasing budgets and lack of area attendance for financial support resulted in the races being discontinued. The races were exciting, especially the large boats with their powerful motors and speed. Racers from California to Florida and Canada to Gulf of Mexico participated. The races brought many people for their first time to Lauderdale County. Collinsville and Okatibbee Reservoir, the Corp of Engineers, government officials, Pat Harrison Waterway District, the Coves Nest Marina, Volunteer Fire Departments Search and Rescue, many businesses, industries and others contributed to make the races enjoyable and worth the effort.





MARTIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CLUB From Club Minutes

By Jerry Ethridge

The first club in Martin was the Martin Community Development Club, organized in 1960. First Officers were: John Mayatt, President; Ethel Lee, Vice President; and Edna Earl Hatcher, Secretary. Activities were: Donkey Ball Game, Ball Tournaments, Fox Hunter Bar-B-Que, July Picnic, Community Fair, First Aid Courses, Project to Destroy Ants, Fair Booth, and Road Sign on Border of Community.

Committee to plan Float for Calf Scramble were: Nancy Mayatt, Mrs. Jackson Lee, Arthur Lee, John Mayatt, and Lavert Smith. The Float was designed to carry out the theme of the occasion by showing the Grand Champion of 1959, with her baby calf of 1961. Riding on the float were the Martin boys who had been Calf Scramble winners.

Committee for Community Fair were: Frances Byrd, Ressie Snowden, Lula Mayatt, Claude Herrington, Esther Williamson, Edna Earl Hatcher and Vic Hand. They planned bingo with prizes, cake walks, snowball machine, and all food to be sold. They also secured the judges for the fair.

The Club gave a supper for Center Hill State Champion Girls Basketball Team. Also invited boys B. B. Team and the Club Team.

They agreed to sponsor the following sports: Adult basketball teams, and men and women's softball teams.

They had a church activities committee composed of Mattie Culpepper, Pine Grove Baptist, and Lula Mayatt, Antioch Methodist Church. Statement: "Through the church and club, people are brought closer together". Both churches report increases in attendance.

One of the main projects was to light the baseball field. The land was donated by Ruby Davis. The people of the community donated their time and labor. The light poles were purchased from the Louisville Creosote Co. The holes were dug and poles set by REA., free of charge. Pole climbers donated their labor also. The cost was approx. \$2000. Twenty residents have already signed pledges to give \$5 per month until loan is retired. Included in project was concession stand that was 16X20 ft. slab with block walls.

Then their dream was realized with the lighting of the Martin Baseball Field. Joyce Byrd cut the ribbon and John Mayatt, club president, threw out the first ball. Phil Davis was at bat & Lester Williamson was pitching, when J. D. Howerton, County Agent, officially turned on the lights.

This was their first chicken fry, with many to follow, also their first and last frog fry. They had finished cooking their first pot of chicken and decided to wait a little before cooking some more----when along comes a little girl, (Sandy Caldwell) who put a frog in the pot! The cooks removed the fried frog and continued to cook chicken.

In the annual award night, Martin won \$250 for second place Club. About this time the Club bought the old Martin School for a club house.

"Martin Community Club Center"

Our club center is used not only by the club for all meetings and programs, but is the center of social activities, such as birthday parties, Sunday School parties, showers, family gatherings, and recreation purposes. Now the Lauderdale County Youth Group, sponsored by the Farm Bureau, meets here once a month.

We are grateful that we have a club center that can serve the community and others in this way for years to come. We hope it will be used for the up-building of the community and for all who use it.



LULA MOORE GARDEN CLUB

By Mrs. Otis (Christine) Smith, Charter Member

The Lula Moore Garden Club was organized in October 1956 with club color yellow and green; flower Day Lily; club motto, "He who makes a garden walks hand in hand with God."

President
Vice President
Sec. & Treas.
Reporter

First Officers
Mrs. James Bush
Mrs. E. T. Espey
Mrs. J. R. Bounds
Mrs. T. S. Pigford

Charter Membership

Mrs. James (Geneva) Bush	Mrs. Roy Phillips
Mrs. J. R. Bounds	Mrs. T. S. Pigford
Mrs. E. T. Espey	Mrs. Otis Smith
Mrs. Lula Moore	Mrs. Duluth Snowden
Mrs. Lee Moore	

The Lula Moore Garden Club was named after Mrs. Lula Moore. We met in the home of Mrs. Moore and her daughter, Mrs. Geneva Bush. Mrs. Ben Arthur Davis came from Meridian to organize the club and to install officers the first Thursday in October 1956. We still install officers the first Thursday in October each year. Mrs. Davis bought us day lilies from her garden and gave them to all the club members as gifts.

We all have beautiful day lilies in all colors in our garden today. We have bulb sales every fall and plant sales in the spring to help raise money for our club. We gave money to St. Jude's Hospital, and money to help restore the animals carousel in Highland Park; also money to the Opera House. We fix baskets for the sick and shut in every Thanksgiving. Our desire is to have a beautiful community with more color in our landscape.

Past Presidents

1956-57	Mrs. James Bush	1974-76	Mrs. James Crenshaw
1957-58	Mrs. Otis Smith	1976-77	Mrs. James Bush
1958-59	Mrs. Lamar Clay	1977-79	Mrs. Lamar Clay
1959-60	Mrs. G. I. Allen	1979-81	Mrs. Otis Smith
1960-61	Mrs. Roger Barrier	1981-82	Mrs. Alvah Fouts
1961-62	Mrs. Roy Phillips	1982-83	Mrs. Lamar Clay
1962-63	Mrs. Ellis Walker	1983-85	Mrs. G. I. Allen
1963-64	Mrs. Matt Gardner	1985-87	Mrs. T. S. Pigford
1964-65	Mrs. James Crenshaw	1987-89	Mrs. Jessie Ponds
1965-66	Mrs. Everett Daniels	1989-91	Mrs. Paul Sharp
1966-67	Mrs. Paul Sharp	1991-93	Mrs. Gene Piersal
1967-68	Mrs. James Bush	1993-95	Ms. Dot Pace
1968-69	Mrs. P. C. Knight	1995-96	Mrs. T. S. Pigford
1969-70	Mrs. Otis Smith	1996-2000	Mrs. Jessie Ponds
1970-71	Mrs. Max Houston	2000-01	Mrs. Darrel Harwell
1971-72			
1972-74	Mrs. Ellis Walker		

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DR. KENT DARSEY

By Sarah Neville Darsey

Dr. Kent A. Darsey came to Collinsville, Miss. in 1982. Dr. Darsey had completed his Family Practice Residency in Jackson, Miss. He chose Collinsville for several reasons. Dr. Darsey had gone to medical school on a small town loan that had been provided by the State College Board. He also had developed a relationship with Meridian Regional Hospital over several summers of employment. Meridian Regional Hospital had set up a small clinic in Collinsville with some success. However, since most patients were still having to go into Meridian to get their medicine, many patients were still going into Meridian to the doctor. All of that changed in the summer of 1982 when McPhails Grocery store became a pharmacy thanks to Donnie Scrivner.

The first Collinsville Family Practice Clinic was in the back of Mr. Buntny's laundry mat. We even had a dentist out in that office for a short time. The first year was provided courtesy of Meridian Regional Hospital. After that the clinic was on its own and actually did better and better as the years went by.

The people of Collinsville were very loyal and when Dr. Darsey was offered the position of taking over Dr. Flynt's clinic he agreed to the idea only if he could remain in Collinsville. It took some tall talking to the College Board to convince them that Dr. Darsey meant business about staying in Collinsville. The Board was convinced that after his loan obligation was over that he would rush back into Meridian. He told the College Board that he had no intention of ever leaving Collinsville and guess what ...that was more than fourteen years ago! It looks like the good doctor is in Collinsville to stay. As most of you know, he grew up in a small town and his heart is really out here.

Dr. Darsey stayed in the back of the laundry mat until about 1990. The old health department building on Church Street was available so he moved into his own building with a great deal of help and support from all of his local patients. In 1991 Meridian Medical Associates asked Dr. Darsey to join their group and the little clinic in Collinsville got a real big time face lift.

Dr. Darsey and family are very grateful for this long relationship with Collinsville and we hope this brief history has given all of those in Collinsville an idea of what it has been like for us to be a part of your growing community.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER AND TECHNICIAN

By Vickie Flake

In 1990, Lauderdale County chartered an organization called the EMR Association. This consisted of personnel from the Lauderdale County Volunteer Fire Departments. Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department was one of the departments that had personnel join the EMR Association. An EMR is an Emergency Medical Responder, who responds to a 911 call, whether it be medical, an accident or a fire. The EMR responds and gets to the scene before anyone else, helping the victims, sizing up the scene and informing the ambulance personnel of what is happening. The EMR's are trained in CPR, First Aide & etc., they have to have 24 hrs. of continuing education a year.

Some EMR's have gone on to advance their education and become EMT's. An EMT is an Emergency Medical Technician who has gone thru EMT School, passed National Registry and has a State License to practice as an EMT. There are three levels of EMT's; Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic. EMT's have to have 48 hrs. continuing education every two years and a 24 hr. refresher course to keep their status and license.

Over the years, EMR's and EMT's have come and gone in the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department. As of present, we have five EMR's and seven EMT's (three of which are Paramedics). We are blessed in the Collinsville Fire Department to have so many dedicated people to give up their time to help others in need. I am an EMT - Basic in the Collinsville Fire Department and I don't know what I would do without the help from my fellow responders. They are always there for me. To know more about what we do as EMR's and EMT's, come take a walk in our shoes. . .

"Come Walk in our Shoes"

Author Unknown

I would like to introduce myself. I'm a State Certified Volunteer Fire Fighter / Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician Basic. I am a first responder. My name is not important, however my mission and that of my fellow responders is.

We are on call 24 hrs.a day, 365 days a year. We do this as a service to our community. Although some people think we do this for praise, glamour, and glory, the praise and thanks are far and few between. The glamour is a lot of time spent in training, lost sleep from calls, tons of paper work, wear and tear on us both physically and mentally. The glory is the heartbreak of watching someone's home burn down or lose a victim in spite of all you do. We knew this from the start; still we volunteer our time and services. This is our way of helping our friends, neighbors and visitors to our community.

Remember we did not cause this problem, be it a fire, wreck (MVA), overdose, shooting, stabbing, stroke, seizure, heart attack, drowning or whatever the reason we are responding. We are here to help.

Come walk in our shoes. Shall we say we are responding to a motor vehicle accident! (MVA)

Dear Mother, Father, Wife, Husband, Sister, Brother, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Sweethearts, Cousins or Friends.

My beeper just went off, it's 2:30a.m. I've been awakened from a good sound sleep. The dispatcher is giving the nature of this call. I dress in record time, I am now in my car in route to the scene of an MVA. I am saying a prayer for my safety, that of my fellow responders and the victims. I'm planning my moves from what little information the dispatcher was able to supply because the caller was too upset to make much sense.

I'm the first responder on the scene. I'm doing what I've been trained to do. I'm sizing up the scene to see if it's safe. I'm checking for possible hazards and doing triage (checking each victim for injuries). I give a short report over the radio to all responding personnel. These are the other volunteers such as firefighters, EMR/EMT's, the ambulance personnel as well as law enforcement. All this takes a matter of seconds.

The sight that greeted me was a tangled mess of what should be either cars or trucks. There is a small child lying on the ground, ejected from one of the vehicles. There is a woman half in the truck, two young men that have been slung all over the car. Someone is pinned under this tangled mess. No one appeared to be wearing seat belts. The child was not in a proper child restraint seat. At this sight I ask God to please let them all be alive and not hurt too bad. This prayer is said as I start patient assessment triage. Help has arrived.

Should we find that God has called one of his children home, we will try to preserve the integrity, dignity, and privacy of this victim. We will cover the body with a sheet or drape the car and leave them as they are until the coroner arrives. We ask God to receive this person into his loving arms. We turn our attention to the living.

If by chance you arrive on the scene, which happens a lot in rural areas, someone may ask you to go to a designated area away from the immediate scene. Please do as you are asked. Someone will talk to you as soon as possible. We are busy doing all we can for your loved one and we can't stop and talk to you. We do not want you to see the bloody, twisted, mangled, broken body of your loved one or worse yet to see the eyes wide open staring, yet sightless, or the slack jaw of death. This is not the way we want you to remember them.

Let us carry the horrors of this. We have already seen it, worked around it and in it. Please let your next sight of them be after they are cleaned and fixed up. Remember their smile, their good humor and laughter. Remember the good and happy times. This is not one of them.

Keeping you away from the nightmare is the kindest thing we can do. This is our gift of love and compassion to you. Please accept it.

If by chance you should see a smile on our face, hear a laugh or light hearted conversation, please do not judge us too harshly. This is our way of coping with this and all we have seen here. What you do not see are the times we become so sick everything we have eaten in days comes up, or the times we walk off alone to cry or of the hurt we feel.

Yes, we appear professional through it all as we have been trained to do. We are crying on the inside because of the feeling of helplessness we have. When we get back to our stations we fill out our report, we talk it over, we ask ourselves what we could have done different to change the outcome. We know we did all we could, sometimes we cry. Always we pray, then go home to our families and try to resume our normal lives.

Then the beeper goes off again. We ask God to lead, guide and direct us and to give us the strength and courage to do it all over again. Make no mistake, God does lead, guide and direct us and gives us our strength and courage.

The next time you meet us with our lights flashing as we are responding to another emergency as you pull over to let us pass, please take the time to say a prayer for us and the victims of this call. We need all the prayers we can get.

Please remember to buckle up and make sure all children are in proper restraint seats and please teach the children not to play with fire, guns or knives. We do not want you or them to be our next emergency.

Thank you on behalf of all First Responders, EMR's and EMT's.



Collinsville Family Practice located on Church Road.



Hometown Hospice located on Highway 19 North.



Okatibbee Family Medical Clinic located in the Shopping Center next to Piggly Wiggly.



Sta-home Health Agency located on Highway 19 North.

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**Judy Beeman on post in front of
the Beeman home place.
Photo Taken November 1944.**

**Thomas Morgan Beeman home
built in the late 1800's.**



Doerner (Jolly) home residence - ca. 1885-95. Built by Geo. W. Doerner.



Moore (Doerner, Jolly) Home Today. Residence.



Tully Ethridge Home 1906. Residence.



Jim Foster Home early 1900



Freeman-Scarborough home early 1900. Residence.



Samuel Thomas Gibson home early 1900. Built by Samuel T. Gibson.



Heber Gibson home today. Residence.

Heber Gibson Home - Residence construction started by Samuel Gibson early 1900 - completed by Geo. Weatherford.



Original Hamrick home early 1800's.



**Hollie Len Harwell Home 1885. Built by Hollie Harwell. Residence.
Melissa Julia Harwell, Hollie Len Harwell, Irby Harwell.**



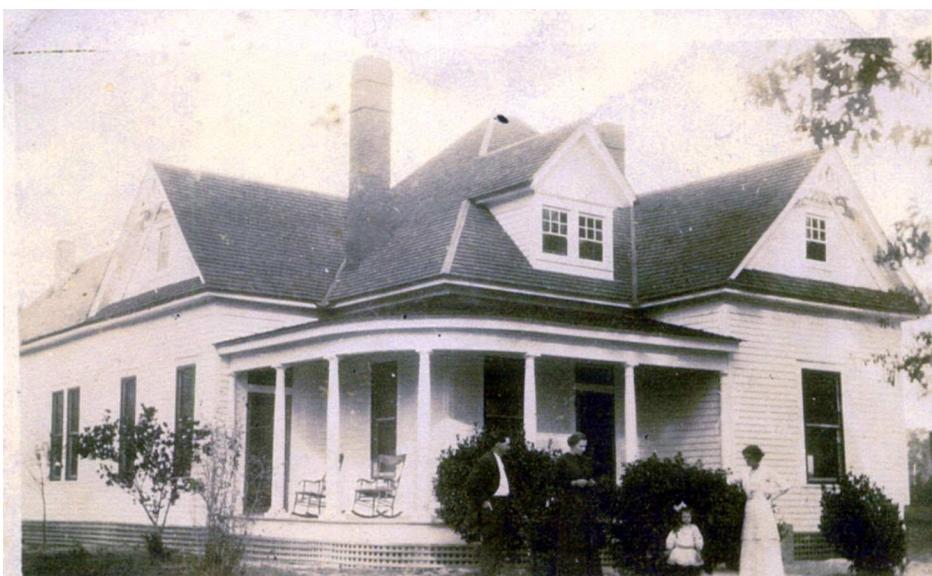
Litchfield Home early 1900's.



**Livingston Home - 1933.
Residence.**



**The MacDonald House
showing the cotton
field right up to the
edge of the house.**



**In 1934 after the house
was added on to showing
Dr. & Mrs. MacDonald
with Little Jessie
and a friend.**



**The MacDonald House
as it is today. Residence.**



The J. A. J. McDonald home was a landmark of Lauderdale County and was attractive, having belonged to the late J. A. J. McDonald, one time "Master Farmer" of the county. McDonald was also a leader in the nation's first Soil Conservation Project in the United States. His farm was set up as a model for other farmers to follow when the program was started under direction of the late President Roosevelt.

JULIA MCNEAL AND VESTER MILES

By Hazel Fulton Carpenter as told to her by the Miles' son Caruther Carlton

"Miss Julia" (as she was called by those who knew her) McNeal and Vester Miles married and went to Texas, then moved to Center Hill, MS, Lauderdale County and lived in the Richardson house. From there they moved to Collinsville, MS and lived in the McNeal home (Miss Julia's parents). The house was believed to be built by Archie (Arch) Freeman around 1888. Near the house was a store which was run by J. P. McNeal (her daddy). There was also a cross tie yard. The cross ties were hand hued with an ax and then hauled in a wagon to Mosley Crossing Railroad.



McNeal House



**McNeal House owned by Bobby & Pam Dietz
Still adding on to the house. Residence.**

JOE W. MOORE AND SARAH LULA ANDERSON'S HOME

By Jerry Ethridge

Joe Moore, father of Otho Moore, cut trees, sawed and planed the lumber for the house. Only the best of lumber was used. It is said there is not a single knot in the lumber in the whole house. The house was believed to be built in 1927.



1927 Built by Joe Moore. Residence.



The R. J .Moore Home. Built by R. J. Moore. Early 1900's.



Sharp (Clark) Home. Early 1900's. Built by Thomas Clark. Residence.



Steve & Onie Tucker home late 1800's.



Frank Vance home early 1900's. Residence.

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COLLINSVILLE POST OFFICE

by Linda Cook

Collinsville Post Office was opened on May 23, 1884 with Nathaniel M. Collins as the first Postmaster. Subsequent postmasters were J. L. Houston, appointed Jan. 23, 1890, Thomas J. Houston - Feb. 20, 1890, Nathaniel Collins - Jan. 21, 1892, William J. Gibson - Feb 9, 1900, Thomas J. Hamrick - Nov. 16, 1905. Collinsville was discontinued on Oct. 15, 1906; the mail was sent to Battlefield Post Office. This decision was rescinded Sept. 1913 and the name of the office was changed to Schamberville. The subsequent postmasters were William J.

McDonald - Sept. 18, 1913, Ethel McDonald - Dec. 18, 1917, Thomas O. Clark - Aug. 31, 1918, Carl D. Clark - Feb. 11, 1920, Allie McDonald, acting - Dec. 5, 1922, Irma E. Blanks - March 27, 1923, Allie McDonald - April 27, 1926. The name was changed to Collinsville on June 1, 1926.

The post office was located in Mrs. Irma E. Blanks' home In 1958, McPhail's built a new store and room was made for the post office on the north end of the building. Mrs. Irma Blanks retired in 1961, after serving as postmaster for 38 years. Mrs. Allie McDonald became acting postmaster and Nonie Roberts became clerk. Norman Snowden became postmaster on Oct. 2, 1963; Nonie Roberts and Allie McDonald were clerks. In 1979, the post office moved to a trailer across Hwy. 19 from Quality Motors because the bank needed to expand. In 1980, the post office moved into its new building at 9270 Hwy. 19 N. where it is now located; Nonie Roberts was the clerk. In 1989, Linda Ketchans was hired as clerk. Norman Snowden retired in April, 1990; Nonie Roberts retired on Aug. 31, 1990. Benny J. Duett was appointed OIC April 26, 1990 and Postmaster May 19, 1990. The Collinsville office will move into its new building sometime in August, 2000; the new office is located at 9061 Collinsville Road in front of the Ross Collins Estates.

The Collinsville Post Office now delivers mail to 1949 households with 4 routes. It rents 367 post office boxes and this will increase to 600 in the new office. Collinsville has one clerk- Linda Ketchans , 3 regular rural carriers-Gwen Gressett, Judy White and Linda Vinson, 3 RCAs - Lori Davis, Mandy Barfoot and Ginger Reinhold, and 1 TRC, Jorja Allen.



The new Post Office
opened in 2000.

COLLINSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Linda Cook

Fire Chief	Clyde Walker
Board President	T. S. Pigford
Location	Hwy 19 North
No. of Households served	3000
No. of firefighters	39
No. of calls in 1999	130
Vehicles	3- pumper, tanker, and van
Last equipment purchased	Rescue Van
Emergency Medical Responders	5
Emergency Medical Technician	7
(3 of which are paramedics)	



Fire Department

April 1966

In 1966 the first fire truck was purchased for \$1,218.00. The Community purchased it's first fire truck by getting 100 families in the area to pay \$10.00 each. They bought this used truck, a pumper, that holds 500 gallons of water, in Birmingham.

In 1966 at the awards program, the Collinsville Club won both the Safety award and the Civil Defense award, presented by those respective Councils. One of our accomplishments in this field was the placing of 35 fire extinguishers in homes and businesses in our community. Also during this time 22 of the men from our Community Club had attended a Civil Defense and Fire Fighting instruction course of ten weeks duration given by the Meridian Fire Department and the Civil Defense Council.

1970

A second fire truck was secured and a new fire house was built. This truck, a 2,000 gallon tanker from government surplus, was secured through the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors. Members of the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department are well trained. Since they never know who may be the first at a fire with the truck, every man must know how to operate the equipment. Besides regular meetings, they have attended training courses at Meridian and Bailey. Families living in the area pay a small fee to help support the fire department. Each receives a list of numbers to call in case of fire. The volunteers will go to any fire in their area if property such as a building or automobile is in danger. They are not prepared to fight purely woods fires. The Collinsville Volunteers have on several occasions saved home and automobile owners from heavy losses. Serious losses occur occasionally as in most communities. Then the people of the community show that they really care.

1971

January 1971, a family was burned out, losing everything. Immediately, 12 to 14 women brought six sewing machines to the Community Center. In a day, they made 22 new garments, cut out 4 more and repaired or altered a total of 75 items of clothing.

1983

Collinsville is in the process of establishing a fire district - which will lower insurance rates for home and business in the community. Approximately 175 homes and 25 commercial buildings will be included in the district. The area's fire insurance rating will be upgraded from class # 10 to class # 9.

The fire department has 24 active fire fighters. It has three trucks, a 1,200 gallon pumper, a 2,460 gallon tanker and a rescue vehicle. Fire hydrants have been placed 600 feet apart throughout the district.

To spread the news of a fire, the community was given several numbers of volunteer firemen to call - they in turn would call others. Later, fifteen firemen were then put on a telephone system - which by dialing one number, they could reach fifteen households at a time. This was in October of 1974. In the summer of 1983, firemen were given pagers as a way of contact. Later, the 911 system was installed.

In addition to making educational visits to school and other locations where children can be found, the Collinsville VFD spends a great deal of time protecting about 3,000 households and businesses in the Collinsville Community. They can also be found responding to medical calls and accidents every day.

Other jobs of the nearly 40 volunteers of the department include maintaining firefighting equipment and the department station and vehicles, as well as organizing fundraising efforts and being ready 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help in whatever way possible. Fire Chief Clyde Walker said these efforts would not be possible without the volunteers and the support of both the citizens of Collinsville and the Lauderdale County Fire Service office.

Collinsville recently secured a new tanker from Lauderdale County. To fit the new truck in the old fire station, the building is being expanded and a new roof being put on the building.



Pictured firefighters with the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department are (front row-left to right) Riley Scarborough; Larry Green; Chuck Metrolis; George Metrolis; David Scarborough; Clyde Walker (fire chief); Ennis Hyman; and Jeff Little; (back row-left to right) Rod Hitt; Pete Bailey; David Sessums; Joe Byrd Jr.; Chad Culpepper; Craig Hitt; Dave Bailey; Vickie Flake; Ed Williams; Sharon Scarborough; Ricky Walker; Pam Grice; T.S. Pigford; Dan Houston; and Jack Cook. Not pictured firefighters are William David Sessums; Charles Hutcheson; Debbie Little; Richie Little; Danny Luke; Jeff Price; Jimmy Rowell; Ray Null; Troy Max Vance; Lessia Smith; Mike Spears; Laverne Green; Tony Grice; William Gunn and Steven Seitzs.

MARTIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

By William Ethridge

The Volunteer Fire Department was organized in September 1987. The land for the building was donated to the Department by Raymond and Lavern Culpepper, for as long as there is a Martin Fire Department at this location.

The people of the community formed a Charter Member Club. Each members donated \$100.00 to help on buying the building and having it erected. The Fire Department sponsored a fund raiser in October 1987 with the proceeds going to building expenses. Each March since that time (last Saturday in March) is the Departments annual fund raiser. There was a new pickup truck and a four wheeler raffled off with these funds going to equipment and building costs.

The dues each year are \$25.00 for each Martin Fire Department resident (or any donation more or less).

The building is 40' x 60' with 3 bays (doors), ladies' and mens' rest rooms, kitchen, office and a 12' x 60' awning on the back of the building. The building is being enlarged with another 20' x 40' bay for the four vehicles the fire department uses:

- 1 1,000 gallon brush gire truck with 3' pump
- 1 5,000 gallon tanker truck with pump and 4 hoses
- 1 1,000 gallon pumper
- 1 rescue ambulance

There has been over \$12,500.00 raised by this community since the department was organized in September 1982 (13 years). Without the help of this community and their cooperation, this could not have happened. Thanks to all the dedicated people, thanks to the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors for their cooperation and help, the fire department received a #10 fire rating in July 1988; a #9 rating in September 1989; and a #8 rating in August 1991.

A special "THANKS" to the firemen and EMR personnel. (Rain, Shine, Day or Night) without the hard work , cooperation, and dedication this would have been impossible. This has been a great help in keeping our Home Owners Insurance at the rate we now pay.



COLLINVILLE WATER SYSTEM
"Collinsville Water System is Complete"
1965

By Linda Cook

Sponsored by the Collinsville Community Development Club, the Collinsville Water Association has completed a water system for the Community and is ready to serve all 99 of its members.

The Community improvement project was started in 1965. Officers of the Collinsville Water Association are Joe Byrd, Jr., President; P. E. Nicholson, Vice President; Mrs. Lola E. Smith, Secretary and Treasurer; and R. R. Vance, board member.

The officers have been kept busy the past few months signing up members, making application for the loan to finance construction and attending to other details necessary for the completion of the system.

John W. Watts of Meridian is the engineer. The well for the water system is 700 feet deep and supplies ample water through eight miles of pipe line to the homes of the members. There are two tanks of 4,000 gallons capacity each.

Funds for the construction were obtained through the Farmers Home Administration of which W. R. McCarver is Lauderdale County Supervisor. The loan was obtained from the Meridian Merchants and Farmers Bank.

Update October 2000

The Collinsville Water Association now serves 3300 households with 940 meters today, and is still growing.



COMMERCIAL BANK OF COLLINSVILLE

By Linda Cook

Commercial Bank was chartered on December 8, 1914 in DeKalb, MS, and in 1999 celebrated its 85th Anniversary.

Commercial Bank opened a branch in Collinsville in 1995.

Commercial Bank is proud to offer full service banking at all its locations.

Kyle Covington	Vice President
Michelle Wilkerson	Mortgage Loan Specialist
Vickie Godwin	Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Crawford	Customer Service Representative, Head Teller
Honey Godwin	Teller
Toby Denton	Teller



UNION PLANTERS BANK OF COLLINSVILLE

By Linda Cook

The first bank in Collinsville opened as Peoples Bank of Union on August 14, 1967 with Claud Livingston of Union as Vice President and Manager. He operated the branch alone until July 1, 1968 when Faye Houston was hired as a part-time teller. In 1974 Faye Houston assumed the duties of Manager when Claud Livingston was transferred to Peoples Bank of Decatur.

The bank was located on the north end of McPhail's Food Center. The name of the bank was changed to Peoples Bank of Mississippi N. A. when it branched to Meridian and several other small towns in Mississippi.

In August 1986, Peoples Bank of MS, N.A. merged with Depositors Federal and the name of the bank was changed to Eastover Bank for Savings with 40 location in 25 towns throughout Mississippi.

In August 1992 Eastover Bank was purchased by Sunburst Bank and operated under that name until 1994 when Sunburst was bought by Union Planters Bank of Memphis, TN.

The location of the Collinsville branch moved down the street to a new building south of Collinsville First Baptist Church in July 1996.

Faye Houston retired in 1999 and Mac Hodges assumed the duties of manager of the branch which has more than 20 million in assets.



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Schools

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SCHOOLS

By Rubye Harrison and Linda Cook

The first school in this area was a school established at Coosa Indian Village by Presbyterian Missionaries in 1824. This was six years before the Indian Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek. The white settlers came into this area and built log cabins, churches and then they wanted schools for the children. These school were known as patron schools. One settler might furnish a log cabin or a log church others would finish wood tables, chairs etc. and all of them would pay the teacher. The school operated for one or more months and the location would change from time to time within a community.

On February 2, 1846 the Mississippi Legislature passed an act to establish a system of common school. Each county had to apply and each school set up was approved by the legislature. Lauderdale County applied and was approved. The county began to start a school fund etc.

Law of the State of Mississippi, Chapter 1, Section I: Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi that a free public school or schools shall be maintained in each school district of the State for a period of four months or more in the year, and suitable school facilities shall be afforded to each and every youth between the ages of 5 and 21 residing in such school district as therein provided.

With the location of schools each year, it is difficult to trace an individual school. For example, in Beat 3 it could be Obadiah School one year, Martin School the next year and Fortson School the next years. School records hold a history of this: giving teachers' names, grades taught mostly 1st and 2nd grade, also the trustees. The County tax the people for teacher salary but the patrons still had to furnish the school house, wood, water and equipment.

The first listing of schools located under the Lauderdale County Board in January 1877 as follows: Beat 3: white: Pine Grove (later Shucktown), Arkadelphia, Shiloh (Later Collinsville), Macedonia. Black: Snowden School House, Rushing Farm. Textbooks adopted by the county on Sept. 27, 1879 were: American Speller, McGuffry's Reader, Robinson's Arithmetic, Robinson's Algebra, Robinson's Geometry, Seoietons Geography, Harveys Grammar, Vanobles History, Well's Philosphy, Spencerian Copy Book, and Hills Composition & Rhetoric.

1878

Beat 3: White: Rocky Ridge, Oak Grove, Martins Box, Mount Carmel, Harrington School House
Black: Daleville, Pleasant Ridge.

1879

Chestnut Ridge, Sookalena, Arkadelphia, Gun Log, Pine Grove, Shiloh: Four months grade 2,
Teacher: Mrs. M. A. Moore Trustees: T. T. Harrison, John Hamrick, and Joe Houston

1880

Mt. Carmel, Harrington, Tuckers, Rocky Ridge, Oak Grove.

1881

Pine Grove, Gun Log, Sookalena, Martin Box, and Shiloh.

1882

Rocky Ridge, Tucker, Harrington, Union, Collins, and Persimmeon.

1883

Joiner, Gum Log, Sookalena, Shiloh, Martin Box.

1884

Union, Harrington, Pine Grove, Cool Spring, Rocky Ridge.

1885

Sookalena, Collinsville, Tucker, Joiners, Oak Grove. A complete school census both white and black, name of parent or guardian, child, age, sex. Was taken in 1885.

1886

Cool Spring, Rocky Ridge, Pine Grove, Blackman, Herrington, Arkadelphia, Busby Ridge, Johnson, Oak Grove, Cedar Grove.

1887

Spring Hill, Arkadelphia, Drip Water, Cedar Grove, Brushy Ridge, Pine Grove, Sookalena, McLaughlin, Rocky Ridge, Hicks Field, Mays, Ingrams Spring, Collinsville (Shiloh) Oak Grove, Good Hope.

1888

Spring Hill, Arkadelphia, Drip Water, Cedar Grove, Pine Grove, Oak Grove, Good Hope, Sookalena, McLaughlin, Rocky Ridge, Hicks Field, Hays, Ingram Spring, Andrew Chapel, Shiloh.

1889

Spring Hill, Arkadelphia, Drip Water, Cedar Grove, Pine Grove, Ingram Springs, Andrews Chapel, Vinson (formerly Oak Grove) Good Hope, Sookalena, Rocky Ridge, Hick Field, Mays, Houston (near Joe Houston) Shiloh. Total of 101 schools in Lauderdale Co. MS.

1890

J. M. McBeath was County Superintendent of Public Education.

1896

The Lauderdale County School Board ordered the County schools to open the 1st Monday of November for the Winter Term, and the 1st Monday in June for the summer term of 1896-97.

1897

The Board of School Directors commenced efforts to consolidate the school districts. This was a difficult task, in that the patrons often could not agree on the location of the consolidated school.

1902

Pace, located Sec. 12, T7, R14E, Collinsville, (Shiloh) NW of NE Sec. 35, T8, R14E east from present -day Collinsville, near Twitley Branch Creek). Leeville NW Sec. 8 T 8, R 14E, (NE corner of County, west of Martin), Martin, Sec. 11, T8, R14E, Ratcliff SW if Sec. 13, T 8, R 14E, Rocky Ridge, in center of Sec. 20, T 8, R 14E (midway between Collinsville and Newton Co. Line on Highway 19 North. Suqualena, SE of SW Sec. 13, T7, R 14E.

Visitation of School Houses, White and Black year 1887-88

Sookalena, White Beat 3, Visited 2-22-1888 Teacher: T. B. Tomlin. 37 pupils present. House shabby and very uncomfortable. Two little windows with wooden shutters. Unsuitable for winter school. Five springs of water. One large blackboard.

Shiloh: White, Beat 3, No date of visit; no teacher named. House 25 X36 feet, framed, boxed, unsealed, five glass windows, stove, floor closed, covered with 2 foot boards, one panel door, Comfortable for winter, desks, except against the wall.

The Board ordered the public school to open the first Monday in November for winter term and the first Monday in June for the Summer Term. By 1900 there were 119 schools in Lauderdale Co. 73 white school and 43 black schools. Better school facilities were desired and all levels of education were upgraded and consolidation of school began as patron fought to keep their community schools.

1915-16 and 1916-17 Term of school.

Blackman, Collinsville, teachers: Miss Dulcie Beeman & Miss Allie Houston, Leeville, Martin, Rocky Ridge, Ratcliff, Schamberville and Suqualena. 83 white school and 59 black schools.

1917-18 School Term.

Collinsville, Teachers, Mrs. M. W. Ethridge and Elima Vincent.

1918-19 School Term.

Collinsville, Teachers were Mrs., M. W. Ethridge and Mrs. Irma Blanks 36 male and 43 females.

1918-19 School Term.

Collinsville, teachers were Mrs. M. W. Ethridge and Miss Myrtle Strange 38 males and 40 female students.

May 16, 1919

Meeting of School Board. By Petition the Board annexed the L. B. Moore and R. L. Miles to the Collinsville School District.

May 1920

Meeting of the School Board, they created the Collinsville School District out of Collinsville and Rocky Ridge schools and later Blackman and Ratcliff Schools were consolidated with Collinsville, with about four schools in the North Western part of the County. Martin, Center Hill, Collinsville, and Suqualena.

1919-1920 Winter Term

Opened September 9. Trustees - W.V. Freeman, W. L. Walker, J. R. Carpenter Teachers : Mrs. M. W. Ethridge, Miss Myrtle Strange. 38 male and 40 female students

1921 Collinsville

Trustees - W. L. Walker, E. G. Strange, A.T. Ethridge Teachers - Mrs. M.W. Ethridge, Miss Lizzie Gill, and Mrs. Clara Davis This consolidated school is being taught in the old school house and nearby church (Methodist Church), but progress is being made on a new school house.

1922

A new and modern well-equipped wood frame school has been erected (where the old Collinsville school is today). Blackman and Ratcliff school have consolidated with Collinsville. Mrs. Mattie Ethridge is in charge of the new school for this year. Later there was a block building built in back of this school that housed a study hall, lunchroom, some classrooms, and an agriculture building.

1970

Then another consolidation in the 1970's with four County Schools in the County. Clarkdale, Northeast, Southeast, and West Lauderdale. In 1877 the county had eleven schools, in 1900 had 119 schools, today the schools have been reduced from 119 to four County Schools thanks to paved roads and modern transportation.

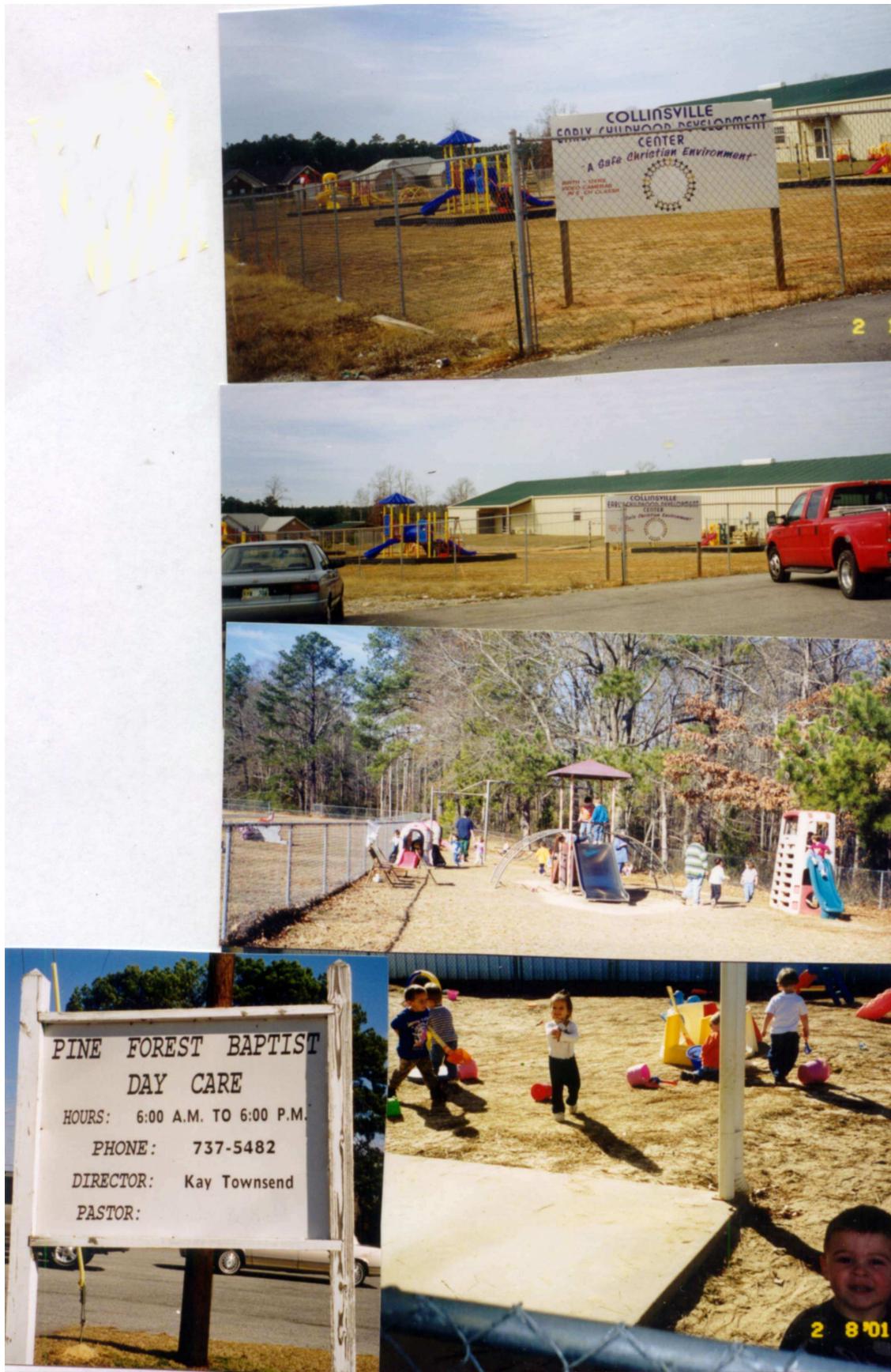
Did you know that before 1871 the Board of Police was in charge of all schools?

The State Legislature passed an act July 4, 1870 establishing the Free Public School System throughout the State in compliance with the Constitution. The first meeting of the Lauderdale County School Board was held January 28, 1871.

First school listed under the Lauderdale County Board of Directors was contained in the January 1877 Board minutes.

January 1877 Beat 3:

White: Pine Grove (later Shucktown), Arkadelphia, Shiloh (later Collinsville), and Macedonia
Black: Snowden School House, Rushing Farm .





West Lauderdale 1980



West Lauderdale High School 2001



West Lauderdale Elementary School. Located in Shucktown on Hwy 495.

**HISTORY OF WEST LAUDERDALE ATTENDANCE CENTER
1962-2001**

By Linda Cook

Opened:	August 31, 1962
Head Principles:	Ikie Ethridge (1962-64) John A. Johnson, Jr. (1965-69) Robert Gary (1970-86) Billy Harold Smith (1987-1995) Gary Mayatt (1996-98) Charles William (1999-2000) Michael Ethridge (2001)
Elementary:	W. M. Palmer (1962-72) Marvin S. Richardson (1973-94) Beth Jackson (1995-96) Larry Vick (1997-2001)
High School/Jr. High Middle:	C. B. Kinard (1962-72) Don Massey (1973-76) Perry Miller (1977-86) Gary Mayatt (1979-95) Randy Hodges (1987-88) Elaine Richardson (1989-95) Charles William (1996-98) Michael Ethridge (1996-2000) Dr. Carol Weems (1999-2001) T. Kevin Cheatham (2001)
Location:	Northwest Corner of Lauderdale County 13 miles Northwest of Meridian, MS.
Grades:	K-12 was located on the same campus until August 2000 at which time the new Elementary School was opened at Shucktown on Highway 495.

**Principal - Michael Ethridge
West Lauderdale Attendance Center
Collinsville, MS 39325**

Number of classrooms:	70
Enrollment Grades 5-12:	1173
Faculty and Staff:	108 Certified and Support

West Lauderdale Attendance Center was opened in the fall of 1962 with an enrollment of around 900. Grades k-12 was located on the same campus until the 2000-2001 School year. There have been many new additions in the past 20 years including the new Elementary School in Shucktown. West Lauderdale School District is again experiencing a tremendous growth due to several new subdivisions.

We attribute our academic success to our veteran teachers K-12. They have the experience to teach different styles and the expertise in the subject matter. They also serve as role models for the beginning teachers as well as students. The teachers are willing to go the extra mile to motivate the students to reach their potential. An added factor to this is the total parental support of all school programs.

We have involved parents that work in the Athletic Booster Club, Band Booster Club, and the Parent-Teacher Organization. Their involvement helps our school to be a better place for students to learn.

We anticipate around 123 Seniors this May.

**Principal Larry Vick
West Lauderdale Elementary School
Highway 495 - Shucktown**

The new elementary school opened August 2000. It will house K-4th grades. The 72,246 square foot school is located on Highway 495 North about six miles from the present school.

A computer room, library, multi-purpose building and a cafeteria are included in the 40 classroom facility. The campus will encompass about 20 acres and include a playground and parking area, as well as a designated area for bus parking and loading.

The school has an enrollment of 715 as of October 2000

WEST LAUDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

The West Lauderdale soccer team is the defending state 3-A Champion. They finished last season under Coach Alex George with an impressive 22-3 record. They have seven seniors and five juniors back to provide leadership for this season.

The West Lauderdale baseball team will be defending their state title this season as well. They beat Caledonia to win that championship last spring. The Knight baseball program holds the all-time Mississippi state record with 9 state championships according to the MSHAA. The state titles were won in 1978, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1998, and 2000. A number of players have gone professional including Jamie Brown, Dennis Hopson, Jody Hurst, Jeremy Jackson, Paul Phillips, and Jay Powell.

The Lady Knight softball team won the state championship this year (2000) in slow pitch. This is the fifth time they have been crowned state champs. The other titles came in 1993, 1994, 1996, and 1997.

The Knight football team had a fine season this year (2000) despite losing 17 seniors from last year's squad. They finished 6-5 during the regular season including a pair of 1 point losses. They played November 11 in the Grenada Lakes Bowl in Grenada.

The Knights have begun a powerlifting team in the last couple of years. Already they have one south state champion who also won a silver medal at the state meet.

Boys Basketball:

Boys Overall State Champs 1963-64
Boys Overall State Champs 1964-65
Boys Overall State Champs 1966-67
2nd Place South State 1992-93
2nd Place South State 1993-94

Girls Basketball:

3rd Place State 1962-63 Record 32-3
3rd Place State 1963-64 Record 33-3
4th Place State 1970-71 Record 26-10
3rd Place State 1975-76 Record 33-4
3rd Place State 1976-77 Record 33-3
3rd Place State 1990-91 Record 32-6

WEST LAUDERDALE MUSIC

The West Lauderdale High School Chorus is made up of 60 auditioned members, grades 9-12 and is under direction of Twyla Hurst. It is in it's fifth year of existence. The chorus has competed in the District 5 and State Choral Festivals, for the last 2 years and has been rated superior at the district and state levels each year. The chorus performs at local banquets, churches, schools and community events. Christmas and Spring concerts are presented annually. The chorus strives to educate it's members in vocal technique, music reading skills, musical interpretations and performance. The Elementary School choir is directed by Tammy Miles and is in it's 2nd year.

The 2000-2001 West Lauderdale "Mighty Knights" Marching Band has 42 members this year and is under the field direction of Drum Major Matt Taylor, Guard Captain Heather Neese, Drum Captain Adam Pickett, Captain Lee Rigdon, and Director Mr. Wesley J. Lollis. This year's show consists of Malaga, The speak up Mambo, and A Whiter Shade of Pale.

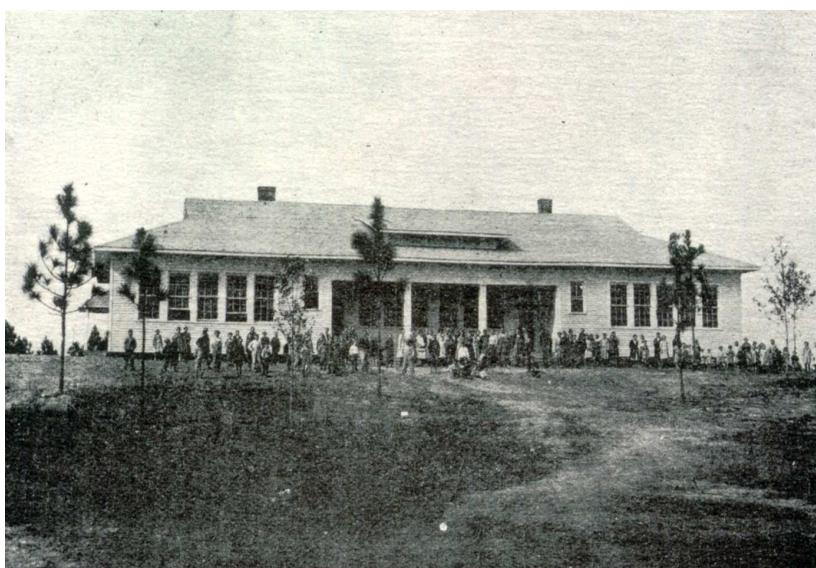
This year the Band plans to attend the West Jones Marching Festival, MSHAA contest in Meridian, MS, JCJC/Decatur game in Ellisville, MS and perform at Universal Studios in Florida.

Just like any other band organization it is not uncommon at all for the students to attend after school rehearsals at least three times a week, perform every Friday night and some weekends and still keep up with their studies. These students work very hard for little or no recognition from their peers just because they enjoy the performance aspect or the camaraderie of being in a team oriented organization. Being a member of a band takes self-discipline, hard work, patience, and an ability to work well with others regardless of race or social class. So the next time someone says that the youth of today are lazy and useless please be kind enough to point them to a band practice field one afternoon.



Ratcliff School approximately 1914

1st Row: Minnie Ratcliffe, Lura Agnew, Clarence Poole, Ruby Ratcliffe, Lillie Richie, Eva Agnew, Lela Mae Miles, Princess Hatcher, Dell Miles, Void Richie, Addie Doerner.
2nd Row: Claude Brown, William Miles, Leo Poole, Oma Phillips, Mrs. Jessie MacDonald(holding Jessie), Roy Richie, Lucille Miles, Cecil Brown, Henry Richie, Ethel Jones, Inez Miles.
3rd Row: Mary Hatcher, Lorenzo Doerner, Thelma Phillips (holding Sang), Abe Moore, Mary Poole, Willie Doerner, Alma Richie, Fannie Doerner, Birdie Richie
4th Row: Laura Richie, Elwyn Poole, Ida Richie, Glenn Brown, Evie Richie, Auburn Phillips, Elma Richie, Albert Phillips, Janie Richie, Iven Poole



**Rocky Ridge, Blackman,
and Ratcliff Schools
consolidated
with Collinsville.**



Collinsville School 1921
Photograph on page 376

1.	unknown	30.	unknown	59.	unknown
2.	unknown	31.	John Mayatt	60.	unknown
3.	unknown	32.	Lenora Freeman	61.	Mr. Riddell
4.	unknown	33.	Iva Dean Moore	62.	unknown
5.	Durwood Carpenter	34.	Inez Miles	63.	unknown
6.	unknown	35.	unknown	64.	B. Ethridge
7.	unknown	36.	unknown	65.	Lionel Hamrick
8.	unknown	37.	unknown	66.	Eulas Walker
9.	Ulna Crenshaw	38.	? Herrington	67.	unknown
10.	Eunice Skelton	39.	?Mrs. Clara Davis	68.	Luke Ethridge
11.	? Herrington	40.	Mrs. Clara Davis	69.	Joe Alton Gibson
12.	unknown	41.	unknown	70.	Ela Faye Carpenter
13.	Eloise Harwell	42.	unknown	71.	Robye Ree Moore
14.	Mag. Walker	43.	unknown	72.	Nancy Mayatt
15.	Christine Duett	44.	unknown	73.	Addie Doerner
16.	Sadye Moore	45.	unknown	74.	Winnie Mae Tucker
17.	Hazel Middlebrook	46.	Harvey Skelton	75.	Cleoa Freeman
18.	Geneva Freeman	47.	unknown	76.	Lela Mae Miles
19.	Melba Gibson	48.	Homar Herrington	77.	Inenall Ethridge
20.	unknown	49.	Odell Strange	78.	Fannie Doerner
21.	unknown	50.	Otha Moore	79.	Milba Ethridge
22.	unknown	51.	V. Strange	80.	unknown
23.	unknown	52.	unknown	81.	unknown
24.	unknown	53.	Lola Crenshaw	82.	unknown
25.	Harvey Skelton	54.	Lorine Herrington		
26.	Dale Miles	55.	Eliza Gill		
27.	Ray Walker	56.	Clara Belle Moore		
28.	J. T. Walker	57.	Geneva Moore		
29.	Odell Strange	58.	unknown		



Collinsville Seniors 1934

Left to Right

1st Row: Lucille Jolly, Viver Lee, Claudine Tucker, Vedie Williams, Pauline Livingston, Nina George Red, Rosalyn Blanks

2nd Row: Mable Walker (teacher), Durwood Carpenter, Jessie Brooks, Lamar Snowden, Lucy Lee, Lucile Moplus, Tommy Cleveland (teacher).

3rd Row: Frances Johnson, Rex McMullan, Velene Harrison, Billie Brooks, Lorene Porter, Alton Alawine.



Collinsville School 1955.



Leeville School

James Simeon Tucker - Top Row, Third From right
Stephen Tucker, brother of James Simeon - First from right, Top Row.

Leeville and Dahlgren Schools consolidated with Martin School.



Dahlgren School.
Teachers:
A. J. Brown
and
Carrie Speed.

Martin School early 1900's.



Photograph on page 381 is of Martin High School 1934.

Row 1 L to R: 1. Burkett Herrington, 2. G. L. Clay, 3. unknown, 4. Marion D. Ethridge, 5. Lavert Smith, 6. unknown, 7. unknown, 8. unknown, 9. unknown, 10. J. F. Robinson, 11. Ikie Ethridge, 12. Bobbie Lee, 13. Bonnie Culpepper, 14. Dorothy Harwell, 15. unknown, 16. unknown, 17. unknown, 18. unknown, 19. unknown, 20. R. C. Herrington, 21. unknown, 22. H. E. Hand, 23. Rudolph Gipson, 24. Bobbye Smith, 25. unknown, 26. unknown, 27. Elmo Hand, 28. Martin Davis

Row 2 L to R: 1. Mazell Moore, 2. Merlene Brown, 3. Nelwyn Smith, 4. Billy Ray Hodges, 5. Willie James Phillips, 6. Charles Williamson, 7. R. W. Gipson, 8. Jimmy Lee, 9. George Hodgins, 10. Ivan Hand, 11. Edwina Byrd, 12. Frances Hand, 13. unknown, 14. Mattie Sue Davis, 15. Vera Smith, 16. Eva Ethridge, 17. Juanita Calvert, 18. Alice Moore, 19. Geraldine Ethridge, 20. Seralda Ezelle, 21. Vera Smith, 22. Norman Snowden, 23. unknown, 24. unknown, 25. unknown

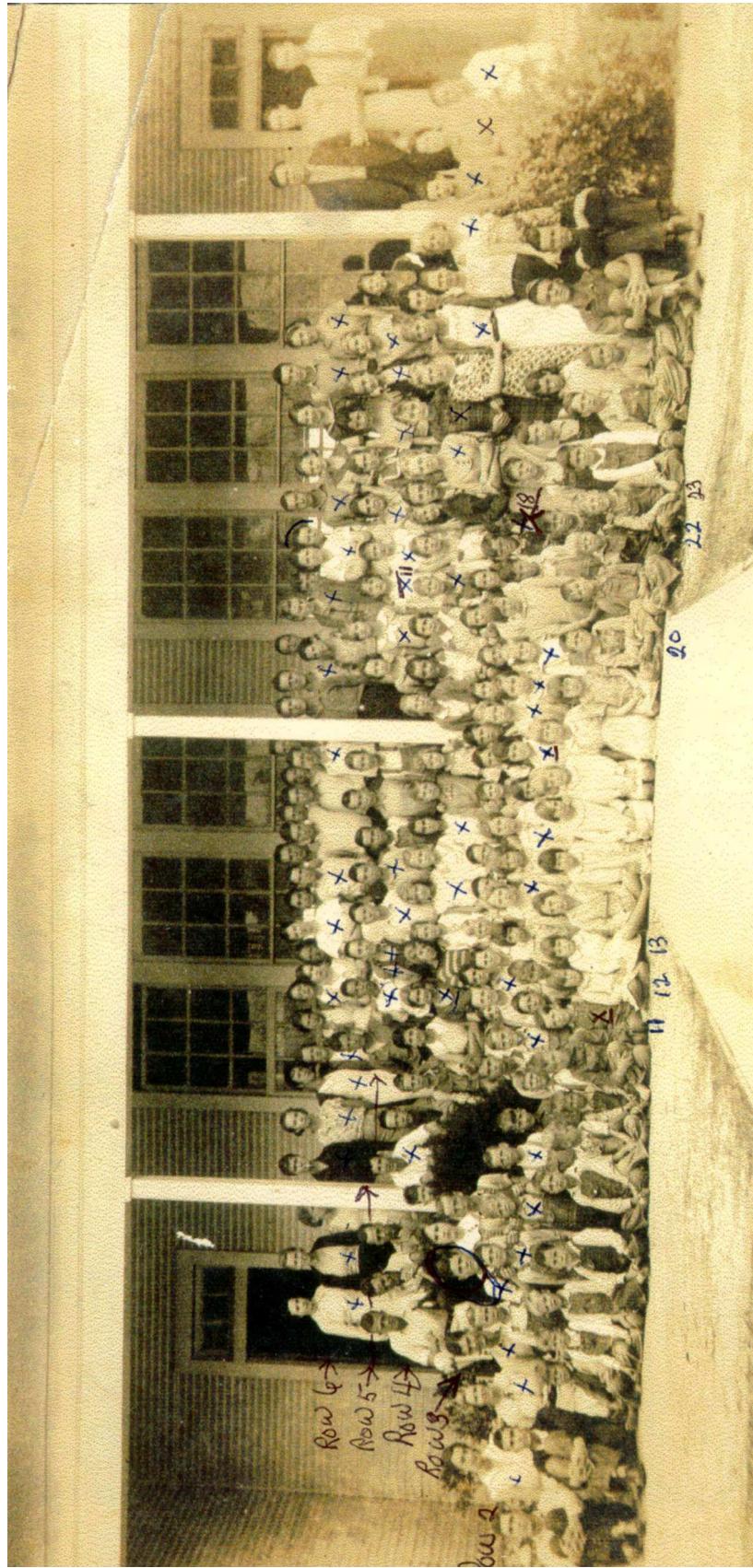
Row 3 L To R: 1. Mortimer Phillips, 2. James Eugene Ethridge, 3. Madie Merle Hodgins, 4. Arnell Lee, 5. Winston Calvert, 6. Julius Tucker, 7. unknown, 8. Kenneth Ethridge, 9. unknown, 10. unknown, 11. Cameron Gibson, 12. Jack Moore, 13. Othell "Toots" Williamson, 14. unknown, 15. unknown, 16. unknown, 17. unknown, 18. William Ethridge, 19. unknown, 20. unknown, 21. unknown, 22. unknown

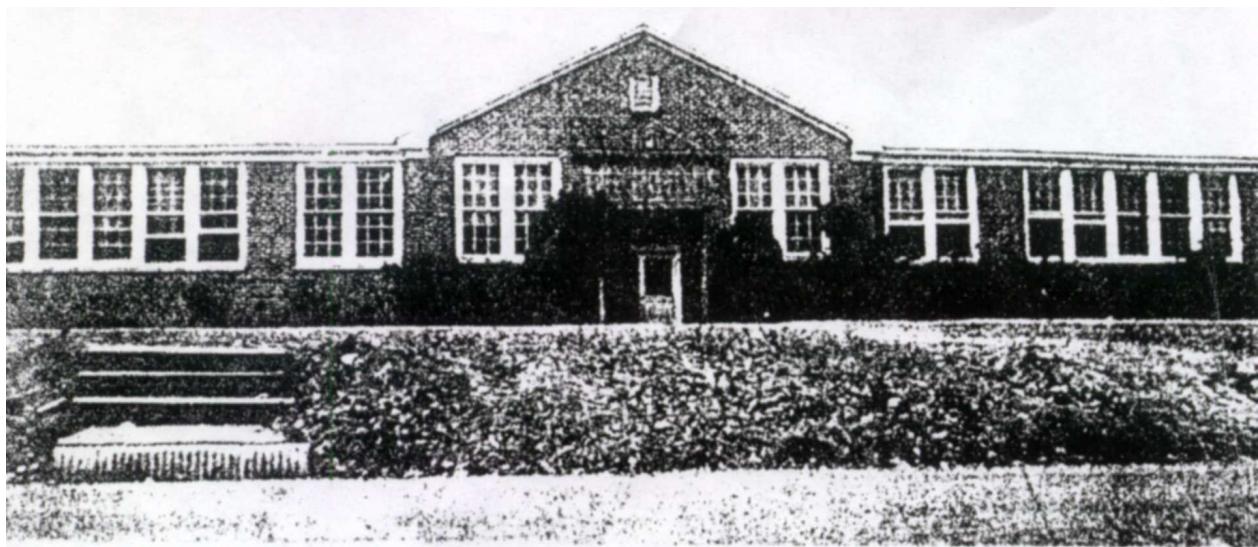
Row 4 L to R: 1. G. T. Saterfiel, 2. Edward Gibson, 3. Claudie Vincent, 4. (infront of post) unknown, 5. Hubert Ethridge, 6. Edwin Hand, 7. unknown, 8. Maudie Calvert, 9. unknown, 10. unknown, 11. Betty Martin?, 12. Clydene Phillips, 13. unknown, 14. Julia Snowden, 15. unknown, 16. unknown, 17. unknown, 18. unknown, 19. unknown, 20. Ralph Davis, 21. unknown, 22. Frankie Davis, 23. unknown, 24. Ila Mae Hand, 25. Claire Saterfiel, 26. unknown, 27. Edna Earl Herrington, 28. unknown, 29. Eva Gene Ezell, Teachers: 1. (behind Ezell) Mrs. Walker, 2. Mrs Addie Martin 3. Miss Hazel Magee, 4. Miss Daisy Clay, 5. Miss Amye Lee Ethridge.

Row 5 L to R (short row): 1. Alton Stephenson, 2. Alvis Gibson, 3. Othell Hand, 4. Frank L. Hodges, 5. Edwin Moore, 6. unknown, 7. Virgil Snowden, 8. Phil Davis, 9. Sarah Hand, 10. Evelyn Phillips, 11. Sarah Ruth Ethridge, 12. Ruby Hatcher, 13. Annie Lee Hand, 14. Muriel Robinson, 15. Annie Saterfiel, 16. Roxie Lee Grace, 17. Bernice Phillips, 18. Ruth Stephenson

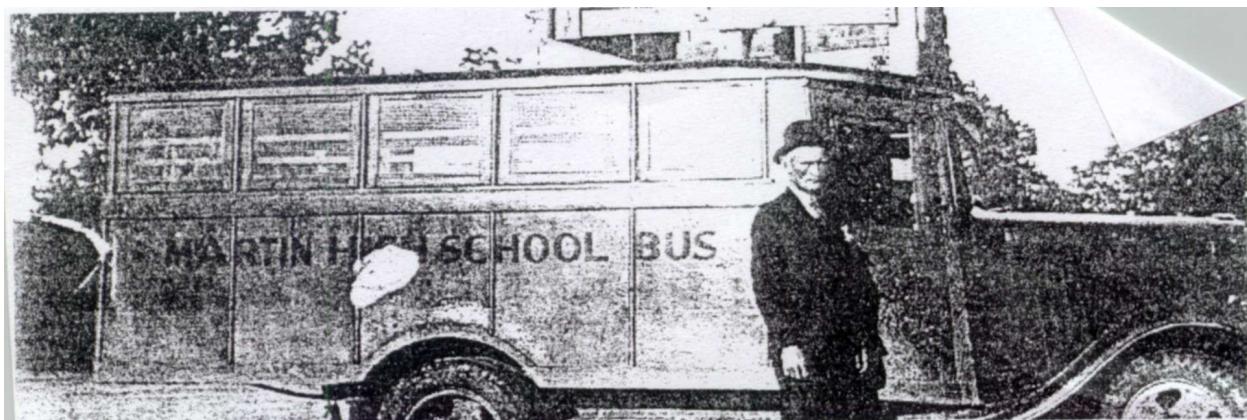
Row 6 L to R: 1. Margaret Clay, 2. Adelle Brown, 3. (behind post) Roxie Earnest Lee, 4. Sarah Snowden, 5. Evelyn Moore, 6. Lorhee Vincent, 7. Madge Moore, 8. unknown, 9. Betty Martin, 10. Ilene Vincent, 11. George Rasberry, 12. Walton Saterfiel, 13. Z. A. Martin (post), 14. unknown, 15. Arno Vincent, 16. unknown, 17. Margarett Ezell, 18. Willie Faye Houston, 19. Lucille Vincent, 20. Lester Hatcher, 21. Winona Saterfiel, 22. Anona Gibson, 23. Malcom Hodges, 24. Earline Herrington, Teachers: Wilbur and Lorene Palmer, Mr. Barfiled.

Back Row L to R: 1. Gynelle Hand, 2. unknown, 3. Tressie Rasberry, 4. James Ethridge, 5. unknown, 6. Janell Rasberry?, 7. unknown, 8. unknown, 9. unknown





The last Martin School Building - 1940-58.



Adie Josph Saterfiel and his school bus.



Jeff Williamson and his bus.

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CIVIL WAR IN LAUDERDALE COUNTY

By Jack Cook

Lauderdale County was spared any major fighting during the Civil War, the only action accompanied by Gen William T. Sherman's expedition and destruction of Meridian and surrounding railroads in February, 1864. His plan was to move from Vicksburg across the state to Meridian and unite there with a force from Tennessee under the command of Gen William S. Smith. This united force was then to move from Meridian southeast and threaten Mobile, Ala.

The Confederate forces in Mississippi at the time consisted of 2 infantry divisions (one at Canton and the other around Brandon) and 2 cavalry divisions (one along the Big Black River and N.B. Forrest's division in north Mississippi around Oxford). This Army of Mississippi was under the command of Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk, who made his headquarters in Meridian at 10th St. & 30th Ave. Governor Charles Clark had relocated the state capitol to Macon, Miss. Gen. Polk had under his command 21,963 soldiers to combat the 23,519 invaders from Vicksburg and the 6,604 cavalry force from Memphis. At the same time an amphibious force was to proceed up the Yazoo River to Greenwood and Grenada on steamboats, accompanied by 5 ironclad gunboats.

The first few days of February, 1864, were clear and cold. Sherman's forces received their marching orders in Vicksburg Feb. 2, to march with 5 days rations with one blanket and one rubber sheet. Gen. Polk had heard of the Union Army's movement and issued orders to unite his infantry division at Brandon. Gen Stephen D. Lee's cavalry division was to destroy the railroad from Big Black River eastward. Orders were issued to move 2 infantry brigades from Mobile to Meridian.

Sherman's column pushed on into Jackson on the 5th, skirmishing with Confederate cavalry the entire distance. This was the third time Jackson had been occupied in the last 8 months and little remained of the once beautiful city. Citizens had been calling their city Chimneyville from the great number of chimneys from which the buildings had been burned.

Sherman was in Brandon on the 7th, the weather still clear but cold with a stiff north wind. The Confederate army had retreated to Meridian with the exception of the cavalry who continued to harass the Union advance as best they could. Pushing on eastward against light resistance, Sherman passed through Morton on the 9th, burning the town and plundering homes as he went. Taking the Hillsboro Road northeast, he destroyed the town of Hillborough on the 10th and took the Old Jackson Road toward Union. Sherman spent the night of the 11th in Decatur and very nearly ended his career here. Sleeping late on the morning of the 12th, he and his staff awakened to the sound of gunfire. Confederate cavalry had detected a break in the Union column and had dashed into Decatur, shooting mules and burning wagons. They managed to destroy a dozen or so supply wagons before being driven off, not knowing that Gen. Sherman was in their grasp.

From Decatur, Sherman's army took the Little Rock-Decatur Road and pushed on eastward via Goodhope Road and Hopewell Road to the ChunkyDufee Road where Providence Church Road intersects. The Confederates had burned the Tallahatta Creek bridge and blocked the Providence Church road by cutting virgin pine trees across the road. Sherman here decided to leave his wagon train here and proceed on to Meridian.

On Feb. 13, Sherman proceeded east on Providence Church Road through the Bogue Faliah hills and came out at Suqualena at the road junction where the Masonic Lodge now stands. Taking what is now Highway 494 he continued on to where Highways 494 and 19 now intersect (Highway 19 did not exist then). Then on down Cricket Road to where Midway Mart now stands and then down Old 8th Street Road into Meridian on the morning of the 14th in a cold rain. Gen. Polk's Confederate army withdrew before then to Demopolis, Ala.

The destruction of Meridian and its railroad complex was thorough and methodical. Beginning with the Confederate Army Hospital which covered the entire block between 14th & 15th St. and 25th & 26th Ave. the entire city was burned during the following week along with the railroads and surrounding towns from Lauderdale to Quitman to Chunky. The entire Confederate cavalry force had been ordered north to reinforce Gen. Forrest where he was successful in destroying the Memphis column at West Point with the exception of Lieutenant Addison Harvey and his three dozen scouts hiding out in the Bogue Faliah Hills in the vicinity of Providence Church. Ambushing stragglers moving to and from the wagon train encampment at Tallahatta Creek. During the week of Feb. 14-20, Harvey's Scouts killed and captured approximately 180 Yankee soldiers along this stretch.

During this week, 3 regiments from the wagon train guard, (32nd, 68th and 78th Ohio) were sent north from the wagon train encampment to the Battlefield community on the 19th, to the plantation of a Dr. Davis who had a sawmill and gristmill on Tallahatta Creek where the farm of Mrs. Phil Smith is now. Dr. Davis, a Confederate provost marshall for the area, was arrested and his house, mills and outbuildings were burned and all his belongings confiscated.

On Feb. 20, Sherman, having heard nothing from Gen. Smith and his army from Memphis, decided to abandon his plan to move toward Mobile and to return to Vicksburg. Sherman boasted that "we have worked with a will, with axes, crowbars, sledges and fire and have no hesitation in pronouncing that MERIDIAN, MISS. NO LONGER EXISTS. We have subsisted on the populace and are bringing about 400 prisoners, 5000 Negroes and 3000 horses and mules confiscated from the citizenry.

On Feb. 21, Sherman's army departed Meridian, moving north through Marion to Ponta, then on the Chapel and Mt. Carmel Roads, pass Arkadelphia Church to what is now Highway 495 to the Kittrell Swamp Road in Kemper County, across Okatibbee Creek to the Rio community, then west to the Old Jackson Road to Union and on to Canton. He arrived back in Vicksburg on March 4, one month after departing, having supplied his 26,000 man army entirely from plundering the countryside. Sherman afterwards stated that he learned from this expedition that an army could be supplied from the citizens of the country and this formulated his plan to march through Georgia, plundering and destroying as he went.

Thus ended Lauderdale County's experience with total war.

ROSALYN MCPHAIL PUT UP A MONUMENT IN HAMRICK CEMETERY IN MEMORY OF

Thomas Jefferson Hamrick II

B: ca. 1842

Enlisted: May 14, 1861

Age: 19

Wounded: May 6, 1864

Plank Road: May 26, 1864, Orange Co. VA Hosp.

Age 20

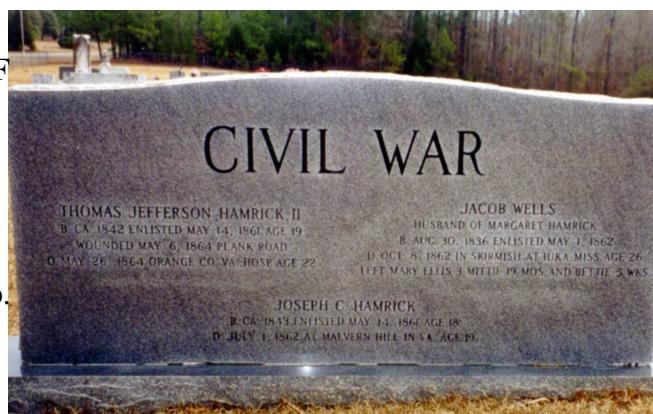
Joseph C. Hamrick

B: ca. 1843

Enlisted: May 14, 1961

Age: 18

D: July 1, 1862 at Malvern Hill in VA Age 19



Jacob Well, Husband of Margaret Hamrick

B: Aug. 30, 1836

Enlisted: May 1, 1862

D: Oct. 8, 1862 in Skirmish at Iuka, MS Age 26

Left Mary Ellis age 3, Millie 19 months, & Bettie 5 weeks

**MEN WHO COULD HAVE BEEN IN THE CIVIL WAR FROM TOWNSHIP 8,
LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

1860 Census

Name	Age	Residence
Thomas Hamrick	50	Beat 3 Rushing Store
Jacob Wells	24	
W. E. Jolly	40	
John Hamrick	24	Beat 3, Daleville
J. G. Fortson	35	
H. Foster	30	
Solomon Ethridge	51	
Stephen Tucker	51	Beat 3, Sookalena
Ivey Beeman	34	
W. C. Trussell	46	
Richard Barnes	50	Beat 3, Daleville
George W.	21	
John C. Barnes	18	

1870 Census

Name	Age	Residence
Thomas C. Foster	32	Beat 3 Post Office, None Listed
Henry H.	48	
Reason Powell	65	
John Powell	23	
Jacob Boatner	64	
A. Williamson	45	
James Hamrick	22	
John Mayatt	29	
John Pool	59	
Isaac Pool	32	
Stephen Tucker	61	
James Tucker	31	
Garland	32	
Jospeh Fortson	36	
Robert Snowden	47	

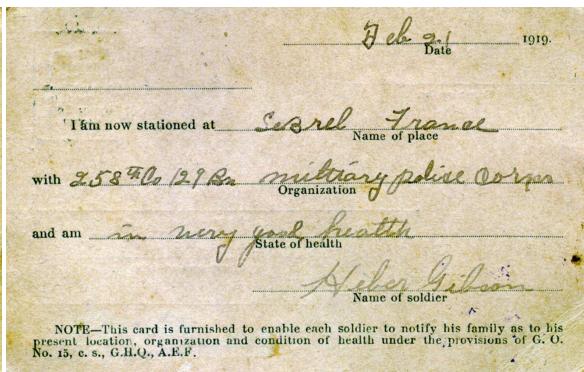
World War I



Oswald Moore

Son of W. G. H. and Annie Moore. Oswald served in WWI, and was in France when the Armistice was signed at the 11th Hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. Osawld celebrated this day as his "special holiday" all his life.

Heber Gibson -Right.
Son of Samuel Thomas Gibson and Mary Ella Hamrick.



World War II

Collinsville Brothers In Service



Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Blanks, of Collinsville, have two sons in uniform—one in the Army Air Corps and one in the U. S. Navy. Reading from left to right, they are:

Sgt. MARVIN E. BLANKS, JR., formerly mathematics teacher at Pachuta High school, enlisted in the Air Corps shortly after the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor. He graduated in 1941 from Mississippi Southern college, at Hattiesburg, where he was a leader in campus activities, serving his senior year as business manager for the college annual.

After two and a half years as a classification specialist at Keesler Field, the sergeant was sent to Bangor, Maine, where he remained for six weeks. At present, he is stationed at an outpost in Labrador, where snow covers the ground seven to eight months of the year. His wife, the former Miss Juanita Simmons, resides with her parents in Magnolia.

ACTS AS TYPIST WITH AIR FORCE

Cpl. Billie Ray Brown, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Brown, is serving as typist with the 108th Supply Squadron at Turner Air Force Base, Albany, Ga.

Cpl. Brown is a graduate of Center Hill High school and was an active basket ball player and 4-H club worker prior to his leaving with the National Guard in March. He is a member of the Pine Forest Baptist Church.

EDWIN M. BLANKS, youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Blanks, enlisted in the navy in October, 1942, and now has the rating of motor Machinist's mate third class. He graduated from East Mississippi; Junior college, at Scooba, in 1941 and trained eight months in machinist work in Bridgeport, Conn. before he joined the navy.

After attending boot camp and Machinist's school at Great Lakes, Ill., he was sent to San Francisco where he was on duty several months, awaiting completion of his ship, a submarine tender. Overseas the past 12 months, the Bluejacket's most recent letter says he is somewhere in Australia and likes that country's friendly people very much.

"It's all very pleasant," he admits, "but as soon as this war is over, I'm hitting the trail for Mississippi."



Cpl. B. R. Brown

Lee Arnold Carpenter and Edwin (Nub) Blanks

Arnold and Nub enlisted in the U.S. Navy on October 25, 1942 in Jackson, MS during World War II. They went to boot camp together and also Mechanical School in Great Lakes, IL. After they graduated they were separated.

Arnold went to the east coast aboard AO 77 USS Cossatot at Baltimore, MD on April 20, 1943. He served in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Pacific Ocean, Philippine Sea and East China Sea. He was on the same ship the whole time he was in service.

Nub was sent to the west coast where he was assigned to a ship that took supplies to a submarine (this was called a submarine tender). He served at a base in New Guinea which was a very poor country. The people were good and kind, but uncivilized. Their average life span was 35 years. He was also at an Australian port for a long time and he liked it there very much.

One Son In Army And One In Navy



Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carpenter, of Collinsville, have two sons in service—one in the army and one in the navy.

Pvt. JOHN THADDEUS CARPENTER, 29 years old, was an insurance salesman here in Meridian when he answered the call to the colors this past March. He is now a military police and is stationed at Fort Barrancas, Fla. His wife, Mrs. Margie Breazeale Carpenter, and their two small daughters reside in Collinsville with the soldier's parents.

LEE ARNOLD CARPENTER, 22, was an employee of White's Lumber and Supply of Meridian, when he enlisted in the navy in March, 1942. He completed boot training at Great Lakes, Ill., and sailed for combat duty on October 2, 1942. He now has the rating of petty officer and serves with the Atlantic fleet.

In addition to these two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have one daughter. She is Mrs. N. E. Daniels, who resides in Collinsville.



Pvt. Robert Odell Chisolm has arrived overseas and is now in combat training somewhere in England, according to letters received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Chisolm of Collinsville, Route 2.

In the army almost two years. Pvt. Chisolm works hard and keeps his spirits high with the firm conviction that he will return home, when peace comes, safe and sound.

His Ship Helped Win War

Billy R. Hodges of Route 2, Collinsville, and other men aboard the auxiliary ship USS Zanah, played



BILLY R. HODGES

an important part in winning the war in the Pacific. For long periods of time, they worked 18-hour days to put battle-damaged ships back into the fight. At Okinawa alone, the Zanah's crew patched up more than 60 ships at the height of that rough-and-tumble campaign.

Before the Zanah moved into Okinawa waters, she spent several months in the Southwest Pacific. Originally a Liberty ship, she was commissioned as a repair vessel by the navy on September 2, 1944.

* * *

Cpl. Arnold Ethridge, of Collinsville, who has been in the South Pacific the past 12 months, writes his homefolks he is well and longing for the day of victory. He is eager to return to his wife, Mrs. Doris Brieger Ethridge, and their two small children, Adrian and Sylvia.

Cpl. Ethridge, a former resident of Meridian, entered the army in September, 1942, and was assigned to Chemical Warfare Service. He was trained at El Paso and Camp Swift, Texas, and at Shreveport, La., before going overseas.

The corporal plans to enter the ministry when peace comes, so Mrs. Ethridge, following his suggestions, is collecting a religious library for him. He returns the favor by using his spare time in fashioning sea shell necklaces and bracelets for his wife and little daughter.



OFFICER WEARING AF PILOT WINGS

Lt. Thaddeus R. Daniels, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Daniels of Collinsville, is proudly wearing the wings of an Air Force pilot which he received recently at Vance Air Force Base, Okla.

The officer is presently undergoing co-pilot training in the B-47 at his new station, McConnell Air Force Base, Kans.

Lt. Daniel's wife, Pat, and their small daughter, Sheila Ann, are making their home with Mrs. Daniels' parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Keen of Braxton Ave. but expect to join the lieutenant later.

Veteran In Hospital

Foster General Hospital, Jackson —Corporal Harvey T. Ethridge, husband of Mrs. Bernice Ethridge of Longview, Miss., and son of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Ethridge of Collinsville, Miss., who served in the battle of the bulge, Siegfried line, and the battle of the Rhine with the 106th Field Artillery Division, is now a patient at the Army's Foster General Hospital, Jackson, Miss.

Cpl. Ethridge wears the European Theater of Operations ribbon with three battle stars, Presidential Unit citation and the Good Conduct medal. He entered the Army in 1943 and obtained his basic training in the field artillery at Ft. Jackson, S. C. He went overseas in November of 1944.

Prior to entering the military service, Cpl. Ethridge was a machine operator with the Meridian Hosiery Mills. He graduated from the Center Hill High School in 1941.



James Bryant Ezell, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Ezell, Sr., of Collinsville, has finished his basic training at the U. S. Naval Training station, San Diego, Calif., and was transferred to the Naval hospital in that city for special training in the Hospital Corps.

Young Ezell, who was promoted to the rating of seaman, second class, enlisted in the navy last January. He likes this branch of service so well that he has signed up for six years. "I've been through 28 states," he wrote recently, "and before this war is over, I expect to travel lots more."

Seaman Ezell graduated from the Collinsville High school with honors in 1942, after making an outstanding scholastic record.

Mrs. Mattie Hodges, Of Collinsville, Has Five Sons In Uniform



Mrs. Mattie Hodges, of Collinsville, widow of the late C. L. Hodges, has eight stalwart sons—five of them serving in the armed forces. The quintet is shown here, reading from left to right:

Pvt. Luther L. Hodges, 34 years of age, who entered the army on November 16, 1942. Assigned to a railroad battalion, he was trained at Camp Shelby until sent overseas. He was on duty for a while in North Africa, took part in Italian campaign and

weekly letters to his mother, Pvt. Hodges says his work is running smoothly, his health is excellent and he's looking forward to an early victory for the United Nations.

Cpl. James R. Hodges 26 became a member of the Army Air Corps on February 9, 1942. He is stationed at Merced Field, Cal., where he was sent after taking basic training at Keesler Field. Prior to his induction, Cpl. Hodges was a student at Delta State college, at Cleveland.

Cpl. Frank L. Hodges, 24, also chose the Army Air Corps as his branch of service and was inducted last December 29. After training at Miami Beach, Fla., and Chanute Field, Ill., the corporal was sent to Lake Charles, La., where he serves as a link instructor. He, too, was a student at Delta State college when he went into uniform. He

is married to the former Miss Roxie Grace, of Collinsville, who now resides in Meridian, where she is employed with Townsend's Beauty Shop.

Sgt. Maxwell Hodges, 22, has been in the army since August 27, 1943, the past eight months having been spent in the South Pacific fighting the Japs. He writes cheerful letters to his wife, the former Miss Edna Byrd, and says he is counting the days until he can see for the first time his baby son, Maxwell, Jr.

Billie Ray Hodges, 18, is the only sailor in the family. He enlisted in the navy last April 21 and was sent to Camp Peary, Va., for boot training. After a short leave at home, he went to Newport, R. I., for advanced instruction and now is on combat duty at sea.

The three civilian brothers are also doing their share to liquidate

the Axis. Malcolm, who is married and father of three small children, is employed at Flintkote, runs his own farm and also helps his mother with her crops. Cove Hodges, Jr., also married and a resident of this city, is with the Southern railway; while Joe, the 15-year-old, is his mother's right-hand man in the home and on the farm.

These eight brothers have only two sisters, Mrs. Algie Townsend, of Meridian, and Mary Ann Hodges, still at home with the mother. Mrs. Hodges says she keeps too busy to sit and brood in loneliness for the eight children now gone from the home. With letters coming and going constantly, time passes swiftly and peace is just a matter of waiting.



John Lamar Long, son of John and Lizzie Long. He lived on Old Hwy 19 South Road and attended Collinsville High School.

Charles Moore spent three years in the Navy. He was stationed in San Diego, San Francisco, and the rest in the Pacific. He was a metalsmith and deep sea diver. He helped raise ships at Pearl Harbor. WWII 1943-1946.



Fought Japs On Peleliu

Pfc. Maxwell D. Lee, of Collinsville, has been on active duty almost six months in the South



PFC. MAXWELL D. LEE
Pacific. A member of the Eighth Amphibian Tractor Battalion, U. S. Marine Corps, he took part in the Battle of Peleliu and came through unharmed.

Inducted into the Marine Corps December 22, 1943, Pfc. Lee left two weeks later for San Diego, Calif., where he attended boot camp. He also received training at Oceanside, Calif., proving so efficient with the rifle that he won the Sharpshooter's medal. He came home on 10-day furlough last May, then returned to his California base for a two-month stay before going overseas. He sailed from the States on July 31 and landed at his Pacific post August 21.

Pfc. Lee, who is 24 years old, was employed at J. C. Penney Co., in Meridian, before he went into uniform. He is married to the former Sara Frances Calvert and they are parents of one baby girl, Sandra.

The Marine has two brothers in service—Herbert, with the Army Air Corps in Italy, and Carlton Lee, a member of the Transportation Corps and stationed in New Orleans. The three service men are sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Lee, well-known residents of Collinsville.

Pvt. Ethan E. Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Moore of Collinsville, Route 1, has been assigned to Sioux Falls Army Air Field, SD for training as a radio operator-mechanic. Upon completion of the 20 week course, he will take his place as a member of a bomber crew of the AAF.

Pvt. Moore's alma mater is Martin High School, where he starred on the basketball team and from which he graduated in April 1942. He worked for the Post Engineers at Key Field until July 12, 1943, when he was inducted at Camp Shelby.

Submariner Visits Home

After 15 months' duty in the South Pacific, Edward S. Jolly, of Collinsville, is home on leave. Serving as electrician's mate



EDWARD S. JOLLY
aboard the U. S. S. submarine Muskallunge, he has seen much action and has seen several Jap ships go to the bottom as result of his sub's fighting ability.

Electrician's Mate Jolly, his wife and their eight-month-old son have spent part of his leave visiting the wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Wallen, in Morehead, Ky., and are now in Collinsville as guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jolly. Incidentally, the submariner and his son—who just met for the first time—wholeheartedly approve of each other.

Mr. and Mrs. Jolly have another son also serving in the U. S. Navy. He is William E. Jolly,

Stationed In Britain

Cpl. Homer W. May, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. May of Collinsville, is now with American armed forces somewhere in England. His letters



CPL HOMER W. MAY
are cheerful and uncomplaining, his constant declaration being: "I am fine and am looking forward to helping finish this job and returning home soon."

Cpl. May enlisted in the U. S. Army Engineers in April, 1942, and after only three months training at Camp Claiborne, La., was sent to England. With the exception of seven months' service in North Africa, he has served at British bases ever since he went overseas.



A. M. (Mac) McPhail

When Pearl Harbor started WWII I had been married about 1 1/2 years and was teaching Biology and Chemistry and coaching Football and Basketball at Pachuta High School.

Perry Davis, the school principal contacted county draft board and was told at the beginning of the school year that none of his men teachers would be drafted during that school year. At that time I had made up my mind to get into the Navy. My brother, Hartwell, just out of college and teaching and coaching in Greenwood, MS at the time of Pearl Harbor went to the Officer's Training School. My qualities were about the same as my brothers so I wanted to get into the Navy.

I played my last football just before Thanksgiving in 1942. I got a notice in the mail next Monday to report to the Army at Camp Shelby the next Monday.

I came to Meridian the next day trying to volunteer to go to Officer Training School. They said no deal but if I volunteered they would give me a Rate 2nd Class, so I joined with orders to go to Jackson in 10 days for a physical and be prepared to go to Jackson to Great Lakes Training Center. Rosalyn Blanks, my wife, was hired to teach in my place.

I reported to Jackson, MS for my physical which I knew that I would pass. Expecting to go to Great Lakes Training Center from there.

After my physical the doctor in charge looked at my credentials and asked if I would be interested in going to the Officer Training School. I told him yes. He instructed me on what to do next. This doctor gave me orders to report to Columbia University for training December 7 exactly 1 year after Pearl Harbor.

I was in the Navy for 3 years, 3 months and 21 days serving in the Atlantic and Pacific. My other ship was PC 1549. I eventually ended up as an Executive Officer & Navigator.

After the war was over I wound up with two sets of orders. One was to come home and the others was to take command of the PC 1549. This took place while we were attached to the island of Palely. I came home to Collinsville February 1946.



J. W. MIXON'S MILITARY SERVICE

By Jack Cook

J. W. Mixon was born at Electric Mill, MS on November 15, 1925. He attended school at Collinsville and worked on his father's farm as a young boy. As soon as he was old enough to volunteer, J. W. enlisted in the U.S. Navy at Jackson, MS just prior to his 18th birthday.

J. W. was sent to the U.S. Navy Recruit Training Base at Bainbridge, MD for recruit training. After completion of recruit training he was transferred to U.S. Navy Base, Norfolk, VA where he was assigned as a crewmember of the battleship USS New Jersey BB 62. The New Jersey had just been completed at Philadelphia Navy Yard as one of the Iowa class battleships, the last and largest battleship built by the United States. The New Jersey carried 9-16 inch guns, 3 scout planes, and a crew of 2200 men.

J. W. underwent sea trials on the New Jersey before he was sent to the Pacific area of operations. As a crewmember, J. W. saw action in Kwajalein, Truk, Marianas Islands, Leyte Gulf, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and attacks on the Japanese homeland in 1944 and 1945. During his service time, J. W. earned the following commendations: WWII Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal with 2 stars, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal with 9 stars, and American Theater Medal.

After his honorable discharge, March 21, 1946 he received letters of commendation from Secretary of Navy, James Forrestal, and President Harry S. Truman.

J. W. Mixon was a common man, who answered the call of his country during her need, as common men have done throughout our history. Men who did not consider themselves as heroes but were heroes in every sense of the word, who left home and loved ones and gave their time to preserve our nation and our freedom.

Parents Of Sixteen Children Send Six Of Them To Fight For Freedom



With an even half-dozen sons fighting in the armed forces, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Mabry of Meehan, Route 1, are contributing their full share to defense of the homeland. The six young patriots are shown above, reading from left to right:

Lt. Aubon L. Mabry, aged 20 years, was inducted into the Army of the United States in 1941. An alumnus of Mississippi State college, he received military training the four years he spent there. The only one of the six who is married, his wife is the former Miss Beth Austin, of Tennessee.

Pvt. Hulon A. Mabry entered the army on November 5, 1941, and received his training at Fort Bragg, N. C. This 25-year-old fighter is now stationed at Camp Shelby serving with a tank destroyer battalion.

Pvt. Edward E. Mabry, a member of the Army Engineer Corps. is on duty in Australia. Inducted into service in 1942, he was trained at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and at San Francisco, Cal., before sailing for overseas duty. He is 23 Years old.

Ernest O. Mabry, the 22-year old son, decided he had rather wear blue than khaki, so he joined the U. S. Navy a year ago and now has the rating of seaman, first class. Recently home on leave, Seaman Mabry reported he had made two crossings of the Atlantic and returned each time, safe and sound. He is now in training at a Naval Armed Guard center.

Last December 20, Pvt. Otho K. Mabry was inducted into the army and, after a short stay at

Camp Shelby, was sent to Camp Tyson, Tenn., where he still remains. This 21-year-old fighter is enrolled at Technical school there, studying electrical engineering.

In the army since last July 27, Pvt. Reuben C. Mabry says he still doesn't know which unit he will serve. However, the 19-year-old enlistee says he feels his superiors at Fort Knox, Ky., know more about such things than he does, so he isn't worrying.

These six service men are all farmers and formerly assisted their father in raising bumper crops on the old home farm.

Bumper crops were a necessity, too, because up until the death of a son, 18 members sat at the family table--parents, 11 boys and five girls.

Now the family has dwindled to eight. Two sons, Major and Olen Mabry, are backing their fighting brothers by working in the shipyards at Mobile and one daughter, Vivian, is married to James Owens and resides in Vicksburg.

Remaining at home are four teen-age daughters, Willie Grace, Marry Etta, Wilma and Ruby Mae Mabry, and two small sons, L. V., nine years old and Gilmer Mabry, aged seven.



Malcolm Moore, Son of Bob and Ann Moore served in the Army about 4 years. He first was sent to North Pacific and Alaska where it was very cold. he served as an MP in Alaska for 2 years. Malcolm was promoted to Corporal and when the war was over he was sent to Long Island, NY for R & R before being discharged in November 1949. He had one brother Melville.



Drives Hospital Truck

Pvt. George G. Partin, of Rio, recently landed in England and is now on duty as a truck driver



PVT. GEORGE G. PARTIN

ARRIVES IN ENGLAND
at a U. S. Army hospital. "I am fine," he writes his parents, "and have no complaint to make about anything."

Pvt. Partin, who is 23 years of age, entered the service on October 14, 1942. He served seven months with the infantry, then was designated for limited service because of a crippled knee and, last June, was transferred to the Medical Corps.

The only son of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Partin of Rio, the soldier has three sisters—Mrs. Annie Rucker, of Meridian; Mrs. Madelia Talbert, Pascagoula; and nine-year-old Bobbie Partin, who attends Shady Grove school.

Pvt. Partin was educated at Martin High school and, prior to entering the army, helped his father run their farm and dairy.

Pvt. Archie McMullan, of Collinsville, has arrived in England to take part in the conquest of Europe, according to a letter received by Mrs. McMullan.

On a card written to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. McMullan of 4825 8th St., Meridian, the soldier said "England is the prettiest country I have ever seen. But these short nights seem strange to me and I am having trouble getting used to this damp, foggy weather."

Formerly a farmer, the 36-year-old soldier is father of five children. Bernard McMullan, 19 years old, was rejected for military service so he is raising crops as his share in the war effort. He is assisted by his----- and his brother, 14 year old Archie B. and a sister-----aged 17 years. Margaret, 5, and Nelda Faye, 11 months, encourage the workers from the side lines.

Ethan E. Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Moore of Route 1, Collinsville, was given his silver gunner's wings and promoted to the grade of corporal when he graduated from Flexible Gunnery School at Yuma Army Air Field, AZ. Prior to his training in gunnery, Cpl. Moore had completed courses at Radio Operators and Mechanics School, Sioux Falls, SD.

His Battalion Commended

Somewhere In The Pacific—Pfc. Willie J. Phillips, USMCR, a Mississippian, is a member of First Military Police Battalion which was recently commended by their commanding officer for "excellent performance of, and attention to duty, during the Okinawa Shima operation."

"The officers and men of this battalion," says the commander's letter, "have received eight separate commendations for excellent performance of duty. This record could not have been obtained without the individual and untiring effort of every man in the battalion. Your initiative, enthusiasm and adaptability were in keeping with the standard of efficiency and highest traditions of the naval service."

Pfc. Phillips, who is 18 years of age, entered the army when 17 and has been on duty overseas for almost 10 months. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Phillips, residents of Collinsville, Miss.



Three McMullan Brothers Have Served In Armed Forces



Reading from left to right are Pfc. William S. Storekeeper J. O. McMullan and Pfc. Riddell McMullan, the three sons of Mrs. Lillie B.

Has Trouble With Mud

Pvt. Reginald Myles, only child of Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Myles of Collinsville, is now on



PVT. REGINALD MYLES duty in Italy. "There's no need to worry about me," he wrote his parents recently. "My biggest trouble is walking in this sticky mud. And I haven't slept in a bed in five months."

Pvt. Myles, aged 19 years, entered the army last November 12 and received his training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and Fort Meade, Md. He landed in England this past May after an exciting voyage, his ship having been torpedoed by a Nazi submarine. Damage was so slight that the vessel reached an English port with all aboard safe and sound.

McMullan, of Collinsville. Their father, J. O. McMullan, is deceased.

Pfc. McMullan, called "Bill" by his friends, was inducted into the Army on August 6, 1942, and received his training at Camp Croft, S. C., and Camp Butner, N. C. In January of 1943, without ever having been granted a furlough, he was sent to the Pacific war zone, where he has since remained on active duty.

Storekeeper McMullan is now stationed in the Admiralty is-

lands, where he was transferred immediately after completing boot camp at San Diego, Calif. He, too, was never home on leave after he entered the U. S. Navy.

Riddell McMullan is back in civilian life, having only recently received his honorable discharge from the Army. Inducted on November 8, 1944, he was stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla., and as result of recurring illness, spent most of that time in the base hospital. He is married to the former Miss Bonnie Faye Alawine.

PFC. Joseph M. Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Roberts of Route 2, Collinsville, "keeps 'em talking" at the U. S. Marine Corps Air Station, Mojave, Cal. He is an expert aviation radio repairman, attached to a fighter squadron training at that field. Pfc. Roberts enlisted with the U. S. Marines in June, 1943, and received recruit training at San Diego.



LANDS IN SOUTH PACIFIC

Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Phillips, of Collinsville, have been notified that their son, Pfc. Willie James Phillips, has landed safely at his navy base, in the South Pacific.

Pfc. Phillips, 18 years of age,

enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps on December 6, 1943. After boot camp at San Diego, Cal., he received advanced instruction at El Centro and Oceanside, Cal., before sailing for combat duty. An alumnus of Martin High school, the Marine worked for Brookshire's Ice Cream Co. and Clark Manufacturing Co., both of Meridian, before he entered the service.

In addition to the fighter, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have four other children. They are Miss Nelwyn Phillips, who is employed in Jackson, and Glen, Ruby Alice and Billy Wayne Phillips, still at home with their parents.

7 CASUALTIES

Latest tabulations on the Lauderdale county World War II casualties reveal seven additions and one removal from the list for a total of 192 casualties.

The removal was Sgt. Murray O. Jolly, of Meridian, who was previously listed as missing in action, but who was later found to be in a Romanian prison camp, from which he was recently freed.

Additions include: Killed in action, Pvt. Robert E. Lummus, Sgt. Rufus Emmons, Pfc. Bryan C. Martin, Pvt. Chester Smith, all of Meridian, and Pfc. Ross Wright of Bailey; wounded, Pvt. Arthur D. Poole, Collinsville; missing, F. M. 1/C D. M. Stephenson, Suqualeana.

Final totals of the 192 casualties are: 79 dead, 32 missing, 68 wounded, and 13 prisoners of war or internees.

The name of F. M. 1/C Stephenson was listed in the Star many months ago, but due to an omission was not included in this revised list.



Mr. and Mrs. Leo Poole, Collinsville residents, have been notified that their son, Pvt. Arthur Dewane Poole, is under treatment in an English hospital after being seriously wounded in the Battle of France. A member of the U. S. Army Engineers, he has been overseas for the past three months.

The parents have also received a letter from the soldier, who said his injuries consisted of three broken ribs and a crushed chest. "I surely felt bad the day they brought me here," he wrote, "but now I feel I won't be here very much longer. We are all improving fast and nurses are wonderful."

Inducted into the army last October 2, Pvt. Poole received his training at Fort Belvoir, Va., before going on foreign duty. He is now 19 years of age.

In addition to the wounded engineer, Mr. and Mrs. Poole have three other children—Raymond D., apprentice seaman with the U. S. Navy at Camp Peary, Va., Clayton, 13, and Geraldine, the only daughter, who is 10 years of age.

Aubert C. Poole, Seaman, USN, son of Mr and Mrs. Ivan E. Poole of Rt. 1 Collinsville, attached to the landing ship tank USS 1148 is taking a vacation from the rigors of combat service at the Rest and Recuperation Center, Camp Wood, Japan.

In Battle Of Iwo Jima

Raymond D. Poole, 18-year-old sailor of Collinsville, serves aboard a ship that took part in the Battle of Iwo Jima. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Poole recently received a letter from him, in which he said:

"Our captain now says we can tell of a few places we've been. The most important was Iwo Jima and we weren't there on a picnic, either. I thought I would be scared half to death, but you would be surprised at the way our entire crew carried on. After the first few hours in battle, we just forgot about the shells falling all around us. After I finished my duties, I crawled up in a gun turret and went to sleep."

"We haven't been so busy the last few days and Gee!—it seems good to get a little rest. I thought I'd never feel rested again, but I do and I'm fine."

Seaman Second Class Poole enlisted in the navy last June 27 and attended boot camp at Camp Peary, Va. After a short leave to visit homefolks, he was sent to the South Pacific for combat duty.

His brother, Pvt. Dewane Poole, who has been in the European theater since last July, was recently wounded in battle and is now under treatment at 52nd General hospital in England. Another brother, Clayton, and their only sister, Geraldine, reside at home with the parents and their maternal grandmother, Mrs. Alma Riche.



RAINS IN ENGLAND

Mrs. Elvin M. Pool, who resides in Mountain View Village, this city, has received news that her husband, Pvt. Elvin M. Pool,



PVT. ELVIN M. POOL

has landed overseas and is now taking combat training in England. He is in excellent spirits and the best of health, the soldier writes, but misses his family terribly, especially his baby son, Elvin, Jr.

Pvt. Pool was stationed at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and Fort George Meade, Md., before being sent to England. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Pool, well-known residents of Collinsville.



Achieves High Army Averages



Making an average of 98 on all 12 subjects, Corporal Willie Dee Saterfield, of Collinsville, Route 1, is making a good record at a medical service school in Fort Sam Houston, Tex. Saterfield

Saterfield enlisted July 22, 1940. He was stationed at Fort McClellan and will return to that post when the course is concluded. His commanding officer is First Lieut. T. K. Parker, M.A.C., who highly commended Saterfield's work.

Herbert Richie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Richie of Collinsville, MS was drafted into the Army. In April 1945 he was reported Missing In Action without a trace. In September 1945 a German Family found his body, and notified the police, then made a wooden coffin and buried him in a small cemetery. They buried him as a friend of theirs, and as a Christian man. Some time later they learned from an American officer that he would soon be sent back to America.

His survivors were his parents, 2 sisters, Colleen and Mary Nell, and 2 younger brothers, Donald and Dennis.

Wounded Soldier Returns To States

"Arrived safely. Hope to see you soon," says the telegram Cpl. Raymond Scitz sent recently from a hospital in New Jersey to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Scitz, of Collinsville.

The corporal had just arrived in the States after 17 months' duty in England, France, Belgium and Germany, where he served with the Fourth U. S. Army Engineers.

Landing in France on D-Day, Cpl. Scitz was on combat duty until last March 3, when he was wounded in action. Operating a Bulldozer, he was badly injured in the explosion of a land mine, hit by his machine. He has been hospitalized ever since and has been awarded the Purple heart.

The soldier has one brother in service, Sgt. Ernest Scitz, who is stationed at Great Bend, Kans., and a brother-in-law, Sgt. Ralph Rider, on duty in India the past 16 months.



Soldier Wounded Twice

With The U. S. Service Forces In ETO. — Pfc. Everett L. Townsend, son of Mrs. Flavie L. Townsend of Collinsville, Miss., was awarded the Oak Leaf clus-



ter to his Purple Heart at a general hospital in France, where he is recovering from wounds received in Germany. The cluster was given in lieu of a second Purple Heart.

"We were one of the first outfit to get into Germany," said the Mississippian. "As we advanced, the Germans threw everything they had at us. A machine gun bullet got me but before the medics took me to the rear, I saw our men driving right through."

Pfc. Townsend landed on Normandy beach on D-Day and helped to drive the Nazis out of Normandy. He was wounded near St. Lo and was returned to England for treatment, later receiving the Purple Heart. Completely recovered, he rejoined his outfit in time for the drive across Northern France and, as he fought just inside the German border, was wounded again.

The soldier is 20 years of age and, prior to entering the army, helped his mother operate their farm near Collinsville, Miss.



Cpl. Sidney A. Scarborough, Jr., one of Collinsville's best liked young citizens, has given his life in defense of his homeland. He died in Belgium on December 20 from wounds received earlier that day, according to official messages received by his young widow, Mrs. Marion Menking Scarborough, of La Grange, Texas.

Cpl. Scarborough, formerly assistant leader in the CCC camp at Richton, was inducted into the army on March 23, 1941. After training at Camp Blanding, Fla., and at Camps Bowie, Hood and Swift, in Texas, he sailed for combat duty about nine months ago.

He was stationed a short time in England, then crossed to France last June 19 and joined in the historic battle of St. Lo. A member of a tank destroyer battalion attached to General Hodges' First Army, the Corporal campaigned through France, Luxembourg and Belgium and had also taken part in the conquest of Aachen, in Germany. He died nine days before his twenty-sixth birthday.

In addition to his young widow, Cpl. Scarborough is survived by a year-old daughter, Carol Dianne; his father, Sidney A. Scarborough, Sr., Collinsville, Route 1; four sisters, Mrs. Lamar Griffin, Mrs. Vaudrey Gressett and Miss Earline Scarborough, of Collinsville, and Miss Maurine Scarborough, Meridian; and one brother, Edward Scarborough, of Collinsville. The brother has volunteered twice for military duty, but both times was rejected because of a slight physical disability.



HOME AFTER FOUR YEARS

Staff Sgt. Samuel Arlie Skelton leaves Tuesday for the Pacific war zone after an enjoyable visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Skelton, Collinsville, Route 1. On Father's Day, a family reunion was held and his two sisters and five brothers, together with their families, joined in the celebration.

The sisters are Mrs. Ora Miles, Collinsville, and Mrs. Eunice Gray, of Mobile, Ala., and the brothers are Aubrey, of Meridian; Claud and Olen Skelton, Detroit, Mich.; Harvey and Barney Skelton, Mobile, Ala. Since the soldier had been gone from home for four years, this was an especially joyful occasion and one never to be forgotten.

Sgt. Skelton enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Corps in 1939 and was trained at Maxwell Field, Ala., only six months before being assigned to overseas duty. For the past four years, he has served in the Central Pacific, for some time being stationed at Honolulu.

The sergeant and all his loved ones regret that his wife, a pretty Honolulu girl he married over two years ago, and their baby daughter Mary Ann, were unable to accompany him to the States and meet all their new relatives. But they do expect to visit here just as soon as the war is over.

Likes Life In England

"I like living in England," says Pfc. Prentiss M. Townsend in a letter to his mother, Mrs. Flavia Lee



PFC. PRENTISS M. TOWNSEND

Townsend of Collinsville, Route 1. "And the people are so good to us; they do everything possible to make us feel at home and to show us how glad they are to have us here."

A member of the Chemical Warfare Division, the 22-year-old soldier was trained at Camp Russell, Texas. He was attending Center Hill High school up until his induction into service and in vacations, was employed by Armour's creamery, of this city.

In addition to the soldier overseas, Mrs. Townsend has three other sons and two daughters. They are Elliott and Everett Lee Townsend, both employed as truck drivers for Shell Oil Co., of this city; Cecil Townsend, civil service worker for the Post Engineers at Key Field; Mrs. Arnold L. Brown of Meridian, Route 2, and Mrs. Clarence Poole of Collinsville, Route 1. Their father, Grover Townsend, died 11 years ago and his widow has never remarried.

Incidentally, Everett Lee, who is single and just below Prentiss in age, leaves here Friday for Camp Shelby, where he will be inducted into the Army of the United States. Since her other four children are married and have homes of their own, this will leave Mrs. Townsend alone at the farm. But she says she doesn't mind at all and, since she and hard work are not strangers by any means, she will continue to run the farm until her boys come home.

Find Missing Soldier

Pvt. Everett L. Townsend, son of Mrs. Flavie B. Townsend of Collinsville, Route 1, who was



PVT. EVERETT L. TOWNSEND reported missing in the Battle of France on September 1, has been found. He is a patient in an army hospital in the ETO, being treated for wounds he received in that battle. He has been awarded the Purple Heart.

Pvt. Townsend, only 20 years old, was inducted into the army last January 28 at Fort McClellan, Ala. He is an infantryman and was trained for this work at the Alabama post and at Fort Meade, Md. He landed in England in June and immediately crossed to the French battle front. In a recent letter, the soldier said he had come through Paris, took part in the Belgian campaign and was then in Luxembourg.

Pvt. Townsend is the youngest of his widowed mother's six children. One brother, Pfc. Prentiss Marvin Townsend, a member of Chemical Warfare Service, landed in France with the first invasion forces, but his present whereabouts are unknown.

Dies On Okinawa

Pfc. Julius S. Tucker, USMCR, was killed in action May 21 during the battle for Okinawa.

The 19-year-old serviceman, a



PFC. JULIUS S. TUCKER member of the 1st Marine Division, preceded by five days the death of his father, Jim S. Tucker, who died May 26 of a heart attack.

After finishing boot training at Parris Island, S. C., Pfc. Tucker attended Cooks and Bakers school at Camp LeJeune, N. C. and received further training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., before sailing for the Pacific war zone in December.

Private First Class Tucker is survived by his mother, Mrs. Fannie E. Tucker, Collinsville; brother, Donald Tucker, Collinsville and five sisters, Mrs. Jimmie D. Franklin, Meridian; Mrs. A. L. Houston, Misses Johnnie Ann, Frances and Beth Tucker, all of Collinsville.

BURIAL IN CITY FOR WAR DEAD

Remains of Pvt. Julius S. Tucker, who was killed in action during the battle for Okinawa May 21, 1945.



PVT. JULIUS S. TUCKER

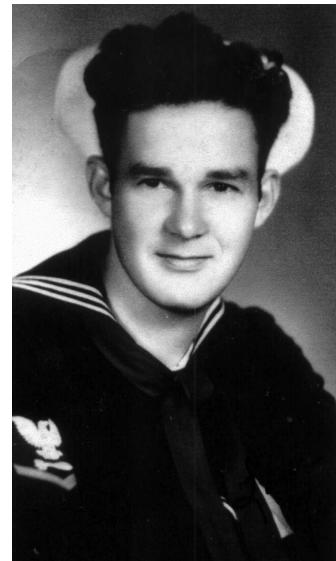
will reach Meridian Saturday at 2:40 p. m. and be taken to Webb's.

Pvt. Tucker was a member of the First Marine division and was 19 years of age when he lost his life. After finishing boot training at Parris Island, S. C., he attended Cooks and Bakers school at Camp LeJeune, N. C., and received further training at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He sailed for the Pacific war zone in December, 1944. Survivors are his mother, Mrs. Fannie E. Long, brother, Donald Tucker, both of Collinsville; five sisters, Mesdames Johnnie Ann Bailey, Jimmie D. Franklin, Meridian, and A. L. Houston, Collinsville; Misses Frances and Beth Tucker, Collinsville.

Funeral services will be held from Webb's, the time to be announced. The Rev. N. B. Nicholson will officiate. Interment will follow in the Memorial Park cemetery. The Marines will conduct a military funeral at the graveside.



Rolland Vance, Jr.



Joe Vance

The R.R. Vance's of Collinsville had two sons in service. One in the Coast Guard and the other in the Navy. Roger Rolland Vance, Jr. was born in Starkville, MS in November 1924. In 1938 the family moved to Collinsville, and Jr. attended Collinsville High School.

He was drafted into the Coast Guard leaving at home three sisters, Rubye, Jerry, and Wanda and a brother Sonny.

We remember him talking about doing beach patrol with a dog, probably when he was at the training station in St. Augustine, FL. Also he mentioned duty on a lighthouse out in the Ocean Bay. Later his ship patrolled Japanese waters. He received an Honorable Discharge in April 1946.

Jr. met Marie Schizer when stationed in New York. After the war they were married. Jr. died in 1974 in New York during open heart surgery. Each year the Holy Name Society of the Catholic Church where Jr. attended gives a Roger Vance Award which typifies the spirit of Roger Vance. All around interest in sports, academic achievements, and parochial life.

Joe Vance was born in Starkville, MS in April 1926. Daddy was attending Mississippi State University (then A&M College). When daddy graduated the family moved to Kentucky, then Ohio, and finally back to Mississippi in 1938. Joe attended Collinsville high school, and joined the Navy before he was 17 (mother had to sign his papers). Joe was sent to the Naval Training Station in San Diego, CA; Destroyer Base, San Diego, CA; Alameda Naval Air Station, Fallon, NV; Monterey Naval Air Station, Monterey, CA; and Naval Air Station, Kwajalein Island, a part of the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific. In addition to this son, Mr. & Mrs. R.R. Vance had another son Jr., also in the service and at home was three sisters, Rubye, Jerry, and Wanda and a younger brother Sonny.

Joe received his Honorable Discharge in November 1946 and returned home and went to Diesel and Automotive School on the G.I. Bill in Memphis, TN. There he met his wife to be, Mary Edith Pinkley. They have lived in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Georgia since.

1945

Men In Service

Joe R. Vance, of Collinsville, torpedoman's mate third class, USNR, is now stationed on Kwajalein island in the Pacific and has been there for a long time. He recently sent an article entitled "A Cry From Kwajalein" to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Vance, saying the author—a Los Angeles sailor—had won the undying gratitude of all the navy men on lonely Pacific isles by telling their story. Here follows excerpts from the article:

"We men here on Kwajalein have done our part in this war. Some of the old timers here

have all but lost their eyesight as result of dust in the noontime sun. Tired eyes are these, bloodshot and gazing, the eyes of men near madness with the guts to hold on a little longer to keep mind and spirit together.

"Kwajalein is a dirty island, low, flat, dusty, unbearably hot during the day and reasonably cool at night. When our forces took it from the yellow men early in February, 1944, it lay in utter devastation, a stinking graveyard of enemy dead. We've watched the island rebuild from those days and now we actually live in barracks instead of trenches and tents.

"The war is over and we're still here. Correspondents have marvelled that the men on Kwajalein keep mind and heart together, one of them saying that only our unselfish attitude and ability to joke and laugh keep us from becoming stark, raving maniacs. His words are true. We are a jolly lot although I, myself, sometimes wonder whether we aren't all mad and unaware of it.

"The rotation plan means nothing to us. Some of us are well into our twentieth month on this island and though we lift our eyes to God for relief, none is in sight. Day in, day out, it's the same old routine. All we ask is a chance. Send us anywhere—even to Japan for a year in the Army of Occupation. We are the forgotten men on an island of forgotten men. We plead with tired eyes for a redeemer to take up our problem with the man who can sign his name to a paper and get us the hell out of here!"

Infantryman Decorated

Pfc. Charles B. Williamson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Williamson of Collinsville, has been awarded



been awarded the Combat Infantryman's badge for actual participation in battle against the enemy. He is now fighting in France, having reached the front shortly after Christmas, 1944.

Pfc. Williamson's ship, a troop transport, was sunk last December in the English Channel by enemy action, and hundreds of American fighters lost their lives. One of these was Pfc. Robert Jenkins, of Meridian, a close friend of the Collinsville

soldier. Inducted at the same time, they had trained together at the same camps in the States and sailed on the same ship for England. Pfc. Williamson writes his parents that he had grown deeply attached to "Little Bud" Jenkins and is deeply grieved over his untimely death.



Having completed four months' basic training at Fort McClellan, Ala., Pvt. Charles B. Williamson was given a short leave to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Williamson, of Collinsville, Route 2. The soldier was en route to Camp Rucker, Ala., where he is assigned to the 66th Infantry Division.

Pvt. Williamson, an honor graduate of Martin High this past spring, was inducted into the army in April at the age of 18 years. He has three sisters, Arline and Carline, nine-year-old twins, and Iwana, one year old; and three brothers, Othell 21, Bobby, 14, and Norwood, aged 11 years.

AREA SERVICEMAN GETS PROMOTION

Sgt. William N. Williamson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Williamson of Collinsville, who was recently



SGT. WILLIAMSON

promoted is now stationed at Camp Kashiwa in Japan, 30 miles north of Tokyo.

Sgt. Williamson graduated from Martin High school in 1952, then entered East Mississippi Junior college where he finished in 1954. He was inducted into the Army in July of the same year and took his basic training with the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Jackson, S.C. His next station was at Camp Gordon, Ga., where he attended 14 weeks of schooling in switchboard repairing and wiring before being sent to Japan.

With Army Engineers

Pfc. Victor H. Williamson is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Williamson, at their home



Pfc. Victor H. Williamson is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Williamson, at their home in Collinsville--the first furlough he has been granted in the past two and one half years. At end of his three-week visit, he will be stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo. Pfc. Williamson volunteered for the U. S. Army in February prior to the tragedy of Pearl Harbor and was assigned to the Engineer Corps and stationed in Panama Canal Zone. Young Williamson is particularly proud of his branch of service, one comment being, "The engineers pioneer the trail for the army."

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson have one other son also serving in the army. He is Pvt. J. Carlton Williamson, presently stationed at Camp Kilmer, New Brunswick, N.J.

Killed In France

The War department announces the death of Pfc. Ross Wright, aged 25 years



PFC. ROSS WRIGHT

and one of Bailey's finest young men. A member of the Ninth Infantry Division, he was killed on August 26, while fighting the Nazis in France.

Pfc. Wright, an alumnus of Center Hill High school, enlisted in the army in February, 1942. He was trained at various camps in the States before sailing for overseas duty last September 21.

The dead fighter is survived by one small son, Johnny Ervin Wright; two sisters, Mrs. Christine Smith, of Collinsville, and Mrs. Ihogene Hunt, Meridian; five brothers, G. W. and Buddy Wright, both of Bailey; Woodrow, Meridian; Adam, of Little Rock, and Pvt. Calvin Wright, with the U. S. Army in France.

Pfc. Wright's wife preceded him in death as did his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Ervin B. Wright, of Bailey.

KOREAN WAR



Norwood Williamson and Ikie Ethridge



Ikie with Howard Jackson, Neshoba County

Mrs. Iky Ethridge and daughter, Lynn, have returned to their home from Camp Gordon, Ga., where Sgt. Ethridge was stationed until he left for Japan. He left the States for Japan on Christmas Eve. On the same ship with Sgt. Ethridge, Gray Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Heber Gibson, was also sent to Japan.



Gary Gibson and Jack Houston - Korea



Jack Houston and Ikie Ethridge - Korea



Ikie with Korean Orphans



Camp Casey, Korea

SAILOR RETURNS TO KOREAN THEATER

After spending his leave with relatives and friends in Mississippi and Florida, Vernon Clayton Poole, EM3, U. S. Navy, is returning to the Korean theater for a tour of duty.

Young Poole, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Poole, are now residing in Macclenny, Fla., enlisted in the Navy September, 1950, training at Great Lakes, Ill., before being assigned to the USS Chimon ADS 31.

Eighteen months in the Korean area followed, the seaman returning to the States in September, 1952. Following a visit with home folks, Poole attended electricians' school in San Diego, Calif., before being granted leave prior to his new assignment.



Horace C. Weathers is the son of Willie and May Belle Weathers of Collinsville. He helped his father on the farm before being drafted in the Army. While serving in Korea, he was wounded and sent back home. Mr. and Mrs. Weathers' have three other sons, James, Roy and Harold and four daughters Rae, Carol, Elaine and Barbara Weathers. Horace died on July 28, 1992.



VIETNAM WAR



Lt. Col. Terry Dewayne Carpenter.

Terry was the son of Thad and Margie Carpenter of Collinsville, MS. He was born September 11, 1946 and graduated from West Lauderdale High School in 1964.

He entered the Army as a private in 1966. Attended officers candidate school was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in 1968. He attended the Army Rotary Wing Helicopter School and after 9 months of rigorous training became a pilot in 1969. He also completed the army engineer officer advanced course and the Command and General Staff College. He retired as a regular Army Lieutenant Colonel in 1989 at the age of 43.

His military decorations include two Bronze Stars, two Meritorious Service Medals, The Air Medal, two Army commendation medals and the coveted Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Terry died in 1994 of lung cancer.

MARINE PRIVATE SERVES IN JAPAN

Pvt. Jack W. Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Griffin, Rt. 1, Collinsville, is serving with Hq. and Hqs. Co., Ninth Marines, Third Marine Division, at Camp Fuji Japan. He has been at the camp since June 8 and is in communications, preparing to become a radio operator.

Pvt. Griffin joined the Marine Corps in October, 1956, and took his boot training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S. C. He enlisted for a period of two years.

He attended Collinsville High school.



PVT. JACK W. GRIFFIN



Donald Joseph Hodges is the son of Fay McDonald and Joe Hodges of Collinsville, MS. In 1971 he enlisted in the Marine Corps and was sent to Camp Pendleton, California. He reenlisted several times. Prior to that he had just graduated from West Lauderdale High School. He had a sister Cathy Hodges Miles and a younger brother Melton Ray.

Donald Died on February 13, 1995.



Richard Earl May was the only son of Earl and Adria May. He graduated from WLHS in 1966. He played Basketball, baseball and football. He enlisted in the Army as our country was engaged in the Vietnam Conflict. He was a Sergeant in 101 Air Born and was fighting on Hamburge Hill when he was killed. He gave his life for his country. His family has been awarded posthumously the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Star, and the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon.

Thursday, May 22, 1969

COLLINSVILLE — A. A. Keith Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moore of Collinsville, was home on leave recently after having completed his boot training at the Naval Training Center at Orlando, Florida. At Orlando, Moore was a member of the Drill Team. He has been assigned to electronics school at Millington Naval Air Station at Memphis.

Keith Moore, US Navy in Vietnam. Spent four years in active duty. He was deployed overseas three different times. He had 2000 hours flying time on a P3 Orion Submarine Patrol Plane.

OPERATION DESERT STORM

By Mark Craven

Captain Mark Craven of Collinsville, Mississippi was deployed as part of Operation Desert Shield/Storm on 17 October 1990. Craven, an air intelligence officer with the 186th Tactical Reconnaissance Group at Key Field, Meridian, Mississippi actually deployed with the 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, an Alabama Air Guard Unit as a volunteer.

Captain Craven served as the Acting Chief, Operations Intelligence Branch, 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, United States Central Command Air Forces at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 20 October 1990 to 25 February 1991. He was involved in providing current intelligence to the RF-4 jets performing EAGER LIGHT reconnaissance missions. These missions were successful in providing vital imagery an enemy force movement, disposition and build up.

Rather than return to the States when the 117th TRW redeployed home, Captain Craven volunteered to remain and was assigned as Assistant Chief of CENTAF'S Unit Support Division.

Some of the more memorable moments recalled by Captain Craven was crossing the Atlantic in a C-5 Transport plane during severe weather; changing out his gas mask filter while at an air base hangar in Daharan, Saudi Arabia and realizing the war could start at any moment; a dramatic speech from his Colonel just hours before the air campaign commenced; living through numerous SCUD attacks and putting on the chemical suit and gas mask "for real"; and of course the wonderful support from friends, family, and wife to be, Emily, back home in the form of prayers, letters, and care packages. Captain Craven was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service in the Gulf War. He married Emily on October 19, 1991 and remained an Air Guardsman with the 186th until his retirement in October 1999.





World War I

World War II

Korea

Vietnam

Desert Storm

**Monument of Soldiers of Five Wars
National Museum of Naval Aviation
Pensacola, Florida.**

I know there were many others from our area but these were the ones I could locate. While working on this Military Section, I realized the debt we owe our veterans and the legacy they leave behind. It is more than just a love for our country and a fierce patriotism. It is a lesson for all of us. Freedom does not come easily and not without responsibility. It is always worth the sacrifice.

Thanks to the veterans, I will never take my freedom for granted again.

Jerry Ethridge.

Addendum

THE HISTORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI MAY- ATT FAMILY

**By
Alan and Carolyn Briege**

**Additional Information Added
May 3, 2007**

Subject: THE HISTORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI MAYATT FAMILY

From: "Alan and Carolyn Brieger" <briegersa@bellsouth.net>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2007 14:07:06 -0400

To: "Leslie Joyner" <archives@lauderdalecounty.org>

CC: "James Brieger" <jim_dot@bellsouth.net>

Several months ago after reading one of your publications, Item #316 "**Windows to our Past**" I sent you an email disputing an entry from Jacqueline Fairchild Clearman on John Holland Mayatt. You responded that you were not the author and would welcome any additional information.

After three years of research not to mention the monitory amount, my brother and I decided the true documentation should be in your archives.

Please see attached and list me as being an offical contact for the Mayatt Family.

I apologize for any incontinences to you but my family deserves to have the correct history recorded.

Alan Brieger

THE MISSISSIPPI MAYATT FAMILY.doc

Content-Type: application/msword

Content-Encoding: base64

FROM CANADA TO MISSISSIPPI

*Our family story begins in the early 1700's when a young man, whom our family believes, to have been **Thomas Miatt** migrated from France to Stafford Shire, England. Upon arriving there he soon married and began to raise a family.*

From this point on the actual correct spelling of the surname begins to become somewhat muddled and rather confusing. Historical Census records from Townships, Counties, and State records when compared with the surname spelling as appears on land deeds, Church records, burial plots, and etc quite often show that the spelling of the surname never quite seemed to be the same, even in the same period. This can possibly be explained by the fact that very few people in this era could either read or write and the spelling of the surname was totally dependant upon the record taker. Strange as it may seem, record takers were hired based upon their penmanship! Also keep in mind, pronunciation could also alter somewhat dependant upon the ancestral dialect being spoken by an individual in a particular time and place. With all of these differences in mind it leads us into many multiple choices. However, it is very important to recognize that even though the spelling of the surname may have changed many times during the years, the actual pronunciation seemed to always remain the same as Mi-At.

*With all of this in mind, let's peruse the actual records from the Pine Grove Primitive Baptist Church of Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They show, that in the mid to late 1870's, the spelling of the surname suddenly changed from Miatt to Mayatt. This change is attributed today to **John Holland Miatt**, the third child and second son of **Peter Andres Miatt** and **Sarah Aldonia Holland**.*

*However, even at this late date, the youngest son, **Peter Andres Miatt Jr.**, the fourth child and third son of **Peter Andres Mayatt** and **Sarah Aldonia Holland** still clung to the old spelling of Miatt.*

Confusing?

Correct!

*In order to keep everything in proper perspective I must mention a recent discovery. In 2006 I submitted DNA to the National Geographic Society. Their findings were that my mother's ancestors were from Northern France and my father's ancestors were from Northern Saxony. With these findings in mind we must go back to the fore mentioned **Thomas Miatt**.*

*According to old records Thomas had migrated from his homeland of France to England and had somehow gained the favor of King George III. Under the king's rule in the 1760's his first two sons **John** and **William** had been granted royal positions in the new Colonies.*

*According to historical papers from North Carolina, **John Miott** was appointed as Town Squire of a small area in Johnston County, North Carolina. John's brother, **William Myatt** had also received an appointment as Tax Gather in the same area.*

Today this area is known as Holly Springs and is located in the Southwest corner of Wake County, North Carolina.

*The recent discovery of the old family cemetery that provides the final resting places of **John Miott** and his wife **Elizabeth Allen** has documented these events as factual. Additional documents list the old cemetery as to also be the final resting place of his brother William, and family.*

*John and William had a younger brother named **Joseph**. In or about 1773, Joseph would also arrive in the new colonies. The younger brother unlike John and William had previously*

married in England and was the father of a young son named Peter. All records indicate that Joseph had followed the beliefs of his father and his older brothers and was also a loyal supporter to the Crown of England.

By 1774 all three brothers were reunited in North Carolina. According to ship records two of the brother's seemed to be in fear of their family's safety due to revolts and demonstrations, against the Crown of England that seemed to be occurring all too frequently throughout the new colonies. These two brothers, William and Joseph began seeking safer surroundings for their families.

Both selected Canadian territories known at this time as New France!

Strangely, they were not alone in their selection! History records many of the new settlers to the colonies had also chosen to move their families to the same area. Canada had not yet formed the Provinces we know today. Old Canadian documents identify the area of New France as what we know today as the Provinces of Ontario, and Quebec.

For some unknown reason the eldest brother, John had decided to remain in North Carolina. It is not fully documented just why he made this decision. However, history does record that the militants to the Crown were actually limited to a minority of the population. In fact, the majority of the colonist remained steadfast to King.

On the other hand, William's decision to move his family displayed sound reasoning. The cry throughout the land was "Taxation without Representation". William, being a Tax Collector or Gatherer, had ample reason to fear for his family's safety! It seems Joseph simply followed along with his brother.

According to census records of 1790, William had moved his family back to North Carolina, but by this time, North Carolina County lines had been redrawn, the community he had earlier abandoned was no longer in Johnston County. It was now in Wake County.

Future State and County census records indicate William raised a sizable family and all would remain in and around Wake County for the remainder of their lifetime.

According to limited Canadian records, Joseph and his family chose to remain in Canada. Joseph's son, Peter would marry Mary Wilkerson there and a son, Peter Andres Miatt would be born in 1793. Canadian records, although somewhat vague, indicate he may have had at least three siblings.

Never the less, it appears Peter Andres remained in Canada, unmarried, to care for his father and mother until their deaths, which occurred in or about 1826.

In the early months of 1827, Peter Andres finally left Canada and according to family stories, literally walked out and into the United States. He would continue his venture South until he reached North Carolina in the same area where his father and grandparents had once arrived. There he would go to the home of his cousin, Alexander Myatt.

Church records from the Primitive Baptist Church of Utley Creek Meeting House verifies Alexander Myatt with family members, John Exum Holland with family members and John White and wife Pennina Myatt (daughter of Alexander) along with a large group of migrants left Wake County, North Carolina in, April 1827, bound for the new lands to the West. Now to the west meant they were crossing the mountains into Tennessee. However, this group had more adventurous plans. They were actually bound for the newly opened Indian lands in Alabama.

*There is no doubt that Peter Andres, was among this venturous group! Based upon Alabama Census records from 1830 a young male, unidentified, and a young female, also unidentified, are living in the household of **Alexander Myatt**. By Coincidence they just happen to be the exact age of **Peter Andres Miatt** and new wife **Sarah Aldonia Holland**.*

The afore mentioned group of migrants that had left Wake County, North Carolina bound for Nashville, Tennessee, without a doubt, had ultimate plans to link up with the Natchez Trace in Nashville, Tennessee and then continue their trek on to Columbus, Mississippi, where they had planned to take the Tombigbee River South into Alabama.

Even though their plans appeared to be somewhat steadfast, still some members of the group, even some of Alexander's own children, chose to settle in Dickson County, Tennessee and live out their lives there, yet even as the years progressed some of them would migrate on to Arkansas and into Louisiana.

Still the majority of the original migrant group would continue their journey on South and finally settle in the newly opened fertile grounds of old Indian Territory along the banks of the Tombigbee River, in areas later known as Greene, Pickens and Sumter Counties of Alabama.

Upon reaching Alabama, at first life was good for these new settlers. The rich, fertile soil along the Tombigbee River brought forth bountiful crops and the transporting of them to market to Columbus, Mississippi was ideal.

However, annual spring floods along the river were creating severe problems for the new settlers. Then in about 1829, the flood of all floods occurred. The Tombigbee swelled to heights greater than had ever been known. Mass devastation of crops and home sites were just too much for the new settlers to overcome!

It was at this eventful time the families decided they could no longer endear the hardships the annual floods brought and unanimously decided to move to higher grounds into Mississippi. Their decision to move to Mississippi seems to have not been just not an over night idea! The families could have just easily moved to higher grounds in Alabama! It seems they must have discussed the issue at lengths before finally making their final decision. It was probably finally decided based upon fertile and inexpensive Choctaw Indian territories being offered in Mississippi that were above flood stages.

Whatever the reason, the decision was made!

The Mayatt family tree as we know today sprouted the first roots in Mississippi.

1.0 **Peter Andres Mayatt** was born in New France Canada in 1793 as the son of **William Peter Mayatt** and **Mary Wickerson**. In 1829 he married **Sarah Aldonia Holland** in Sumter County, Alabama. Sarah was born in Wake County, North Carolina in 1805 as the daughter of **John Exum** and **Elizabeth Holland**. Peter died ca 1865 and Sarah died ca 1875. It is believed that both were interred in the family cemetery on the old home site at Post Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of four children.

1.1 **Julia Lucinda Mayatt** was born in 1831 in Rio Kemper County, Mississippi. On 16 November 1859 she married **William Vas Montegue**. William was born 26 January 1823 in Indian Neck, Virginia as the son of **Phillip Montegue and Frances Lee**. Lucinda died in 1873 and William died in 1869. Both are interred at Indian Neck, Virginia. They were the parents of one child:

1.1.1 **William Vas Montegue Jr.** was born 6 April 1860 in Indian Neck, Virginia. On 10

September 1881 he married **Susan M. Spurgeon** in Flemingsburg, Kentucky. William died in 1918 in Newton County, Mississippi and is interred at Mt. Nebo Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. William and Susan were the parents of eight children:

- 1.1.1.1. **Florence Montegue** was born in 1882 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. There are no additional records.
- 1.1.1.2 **Marie Annie Montegue** was born July 1883 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. There are no additional records.
- 1.1.1.3 **Phillip Henry Montegue** was born February 1885 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. No additional records.
- 1.1.1.4 **Charles Calvert Montegue** was born April 1890 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. No Additional records.
- 1.1.1.5 **James Simon Montegue** was born April 1892 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. No additional records.
- 1.1.1.6 **Susan Evelyn Montegue** was born January 1894 at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. No Additional records.
- 1.1.1.7 **Virginia Montegue** was born 18 November 1897 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. In 1914 she married Cam McElroy Nicholson. No additional records.
- 1.1.1.8 **Martha Montegue** was born September 1900 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. No Additional records.

- 1.2 **Joseph Henri Mayatt** was born in 1834 at Rio Kemper County, Mississippi. In 1854 he married **Mary Frances Ussery** born in 1837 in Newton County, Mississippi as the daughter of **William and Susannah Ussery**. Joseph died on 22 May 1863, during the Civil War at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi. His internment is believed to be in the old family cemetery at Post, Mississippi. In 1869 Mary Frances married James McAffrey. They returned to his homeland and both died in Ireland on a date unknown. Joseph and Mary were the parents of three children:

- 1.2.1 **Sarah Jane Mayatt** was born 8 September 1855 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1873 she married **Oliver Erwin Graham**, born in 1853 as the son of **John Washington Graham and Sarah Jane Law**. Sarah died 8 June 1906 and Oliver died 12 April 1915 in Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one known child:
 - 1.2.1.1 **Mary Catherine Graham** was born 12 September 1875 in Newton County Mississippi. On 10 July 1897 she married **John Ezra Barrett** in Perry County, Mississippi. She died 18 October 1917 at Hattiesburg Forrest County, Mississippi. Internment is unknown.

- 1.2.2 **Susan Frances Mayatt** was born in 1857 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 17 April 1874 she married **John Hessian**. John died in 1905 in Jasper County, Mississippi. Susan died in 1935 in Meridian, Lauderdale County Mississippi. Internment is unknown. They were the parents of four children:

- 1.2.2.1 **Peter Hessian** was born in 1876 in Jasper County, Mississippi. He died in 1937 in Thomastown, Leake County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

- 1.2.2.2 **Thomas Hessian** was born in 1877 in Jasper County, Mississippi.

There are no additional records.

1.2.2.3 Catherine Hessian was born in 1878 in Jasper County, Mississippi.

There are no additional records.

1.2.2.4 Mary Hessian was born in 1880 in Jasper County, Mississippi.

There are no additional records.

1.2.3 Peter Jefferson Mayatt was born 19 July 1860 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1882 in Perry County, Mississippi he married **Nancy Susan Steelman** born 1861 at Locust Bayou, Calhoun County, Arkansas as the daughter of **Allen and Elizabeth Steelman**. Nancy died in 1932 and Peter died on 13 August 1935 in Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children:

1.2.3.1 Thomas Mayatt was born in 1893 in Perry County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

1.2.3.2 Rosie Mayatt was born in 1894 in Perry County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

1.3 John Holland Mayatt was born 8 October 1837 in Rio Kemper County, Mississippi. In 1857 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi, he married **Mariah Frances Elizabeth Brown** born 22 August 1836 in Charleston, South Carolina as the daughter of **Richard and Julia Elizabeth Brown**. John died 28 May 1900 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi and Mariah died 28 August 1899 in Lauderdale County. Both are interred in Mt. Nebo Cemetery, Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of ten children:

1.3.1 Susan A. (Sudie) Mayatt was born in 1858 at Post Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 11 December 1884 she married **James Davis Tucker** born 1861 in Mississippi as the son of **Garland R. and Margaret L. Tucker**. James died in 1915 in Forrest County, Mississippi. Susan died in 1925 at New Augusta, Perry County, Mississippi. Internment is unknown. They were the parents of one known child:

1.3.1.1 John Garland Tucker was born 23 August 1885 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1914 he married **Susan Jane Unknown** in Perry County, Mississippi. He died in 1950 at New Augusta Perry County, Mississippi.

Internment is unknown. They were the parents of four children:

1.3.1.1.1 James Clifton Tucker was born in 1916 in Perry County.

1.3.1.1.2 Earl J. was born in 1918 in Perry County.

1.3.1.1.3 Lucy J. was born in 1920 in Perry County.

1.3.1.1.4 Julian C. was born in 1922 in Perry County.

1.3.2 Julia Annette (Nan) Mayatt was born in October of 1859 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 29 April 1894 she married **Jasper Shows** born in 1847 as the son of **Daniel M. Shows and Sarah Ann Terrell**. Jasper died in 1926 and Julia died in 1928 in New Augusta, Perry County, Mississippi.

Internment is unknown. They were the parents of three children:

1.3.2.1 John Knox Shows was born in April of 1885 at Little Rock Newton County, Mississippi. He died 15 November 1959 at Lucedale George County, Mississippi. Internment unknown.

1.3.2.2 William T. Shows was born in November of 1886 at Little Rock, Newton County, Mississippi. On 6 June 1919 in Smith County,

Mississippi he married **Effie Rogers** the adopted daughter of **William and Paula Catlett**. On 6 June 1919 he died in Gaston Sumter County, Alabama. Internment is unknown.

1.3.2.3 Mattie Shows was born 5 January 1889 at Little Rock Newton County, Mississippi. On 13 February 1909 she married **Henry Jason Craft** born in 1887 in Forrest County, Mississippi as the son of **Benjamin and Matilda Craft**. She died 20 September 1977 in Forrest County, Mississippi. Internment unknown.

1.3.3 Aldonia (Donnie) Mayatt was born 6 October 1860 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 22 February 1889 she married **Thomas H. Tingle** born 1859 in Georgia as the son of **Thomas W. and Sarah E. Tingle**. She died 1 October 1941 in Lauderdale County and is interred at Sageville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of six children:

1.3.3.1 Amanda Tingle was born 10 October 1890 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She died 15 January 1955 and is interred at Magnolia Cemetery Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She never married.

1.3.3.2 John Thomas Tingle was born 22 July 1892 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1926 he married **Bessie Graham** born in 1893 as the daughter of **Napoleon B. and Cynthia Graham** of Marion, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. John died 19 February 1963 and is interred at Sageville Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.3.3 Jay P. (J.P.) Tingle was born on 8 July 1895 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1924 he married Jessie L. Rawson born 1906 as the daughter of Jesse W. and Irene Rawson. He died 8 September 1979 as is interred at Sageville Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.3.4 Charles Homer Tingle was born 7 November 1897 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1918 he married **Violet Catherine Duncan** born in 1904 as the daughter of **A. C. and Rose Duncan**. He died 21 January 1964 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Internment unknown.

1.3.3.5 Jefferson Walton Tingle was born 7 August 1900 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 15 October 1977 and is interred at Sageville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He did not marry.

1.3.3.6 Ernest Milton Tingle was born 19 July 1903 at Tunnel Hill Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1923 he married **Myrtle Posey** born 1903 as the daughter of **David C. and Alice Posey**. Ernest died in August of 1987 and is interred at Sageville Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.4 John Alexander Mayatt was born 19 February 1861 at Post Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 6 August 1882 he married **Laura Josephine Davis** born 1863 as the daughter of **Thomas and Sarah Elizabeth Davis**. John died 9 October 1936 and is interred at Rose Hill Cemetery Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of eight children:

- 1.3.4.1 Iva Estelle Mayatt** was born 14 May 1883 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1903 she married **Marvin M. White** born in 1882 as the son of **Jasper M. and Rachael White**. She died 24 April 1977 in Marshall Harris County, Texas and was interred in Algoma Cemetery. No additional records.
- 1.3.4.2 Pearl Louella Mayatt** was born 27 October 1884 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1916 she married **William J. Henry** born 1884 as the son of **James C. and Neady Henry**. She died 22 December 1979 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred at Rose Hill Cemetery. No additional records.
- 1.3.4.3 Walter Lee Mayatt** was born 16 April 1888 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 26 January 1964 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred at Rose Hill cemetery. He did not marry.
- 1.3.4.4 Erie Mae Mayatt** was born 25 June 1893 in Lauderdale County. In November of 1916 she married **Ernest George**. She died 6 February 1978 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred in Magnolia Cemetery. No additional records.
- 1.3.4.5 Minnie Louise Mayatt** was born 6 September 1896 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She died 3 February 1973 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred at Rose Hill Cemetery. She did not marry.
- 1.3.4.6 Annie Laurie Mayatt** was born 4 March 1898 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 20 January 1917 she married **Robert Marion Jeffares** born 9 March 1884 in Georgia as the son of **Robert D. and Mary J. Jeffares**. She died 3 February 1973 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. No Additional records.
- 1.3.4.7 John Alexander Mayatt Jr.** was born 25 September 1903 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 14 January 1934 he married **Mollie Elmira Ellison** born 1901 as the daughter of **John W. and Mary E. Ellison**. He died 13 August 1961 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred at Magnolia Cemetery. No additional records.
- 1.3.4.8 Helen Wydell Mayatt** was born 6 December 1907 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 1 September 1923 she married **Fred Rodney Hart**. The marriage ended in divorce and in 1935 she married **Graeme Fletcher**. She died 8 March 1995 at Bonita, Lauderdale County, Mississippi and is interred at Magnolia Cemetery.
- 1.3.5 Sarah Henrietta Mayatt** was born 30 May 1863 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 12 December 1889 she married **John Quincy (Quince) McMullen** born 7 December 1854 in Newton County, Mississippi as the son of **Junius and Aludie McMullen**. Sarah died 4 July 1910 and John died 11 July 1938. Both are interred in Mt. Nebo Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of five children:
- 1.3.5.1 Martha Aludie McMullen** was born 23 April 1891 in Newton County Mississippi. On 24 December 1911 she married **Lewie Oscar Speed**.

She died 11 December 1976 and is interred at Mt. Nebo Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi.

1.3.5.2 John Quincy Byrd McMullen was born 2 May 1893 in Newton County, Mississippi. He died in 1929 and was interred at Mt. Nebo Cemetery in Newton County, Mississippi. He did not marry.

1.3.5.3 Mason Barney McMullen was born 9 May 1896 in Newton County Mississippi. On 30 April 1916 in Kemper County, Mississippi he married **Marguerite Ida Hamilton**. There are no additional records.

1.3.5.4 James Blanton McMullen was born 16 October 1898 in Newton County, Mississippi. He died 24 December 1967 and is interred at Mt. Nebo Cemetery, Newton County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

1.3.5.5 Boyd (Bogie) McMullen was born 19 July 1901 in Newton County, Mississippi. He married **Hope Stanton** date and location unknown. He died 20 January 1980 in Marshall, Harrison County, Texas. Internment is unknown.

1.3.6 Jasper Newton Mayatt (Doc) was born 11 July 1864 at Post, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 22 December 1888 he married **Olivia Harrison** born 19 December 1873 as the daughter of **Francis Marion Harrison and Amanda Munn**. He died 4 January 1936 and Olivia died 4 April 1946 at Suqualena Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Both are interred at Suqualena Cemetery.

They were the parents of eight children:

1.3.6.1 Bertha Renee Mayatt was born 30 June 1890 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. On 3 September 1908 she married **James Clarence Clearman** in Newton County born 12 November 1884 as the son of **James D. Clearman and Roxanne Carter**. Bertha died 7 June 1968 and Clarence died 9 October 1970 at Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. Both are interred at Liberty Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of ten children:

1.3.6.1.1 Mildred Renee Clearman was born 10 September 1910 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. She died 9 March 1979 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 18 February 1929 she married **James Earl Munn** in Newton County born 24 July 1904 in Newton County, Mississippi as the son of **Daniel Robert Munn and Margaret Keen**. He died 24 June 1982 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Both are interred in Hamrick Cemetery at Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children:

1.3.6.1.1.1 James Bobby Munn was born 13 January 1930 in Newton County, Mississippi. He married **Bobbie Jo Jacobs** on 5 November 1950 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. According to Public Records of 2006 they currently live in Batesburg, Lexington County, South Carolina.

1.3.6.1.1.2 Jimmy Max Munn was born 15 July 1934 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married **Mary Lou Scitzs** in 1953 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 6 March 2006 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. According to Public Records of 2006, Mary Lou was living in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.1.1.3 Sammy Neil Munn was born 25 January 1936 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 7 August 1965 he married **Bertie Culpepper** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 1 March 1983 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi and was interred at Mount Nebo Cemetery, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

1.3.6.1.2 Mavis Beatrice Clearman was born 19 September 1912 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. On 19 October 1939 in Newton County, Mississippi she married **Malcolm Foy Dean** born 26 February 1913 in Newton County, Mississippi. She died 16 October 1984 in Collinsville Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 22 December 1983 in Newton County, Mississippi. Both are interred in Liberty Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. There were no children.

1.3.6.1.3 Malcolm Van Clearman was born 18 July 1914 at Duffee Newton, County, Mississippi. He died 28 July 1915 and was interred at Liberty Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. He did not marry.

1.3.6.1.4 Lillian Etoile Clearman was born 16 May 1916 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. On 1 September 1942 she married **Richard White** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Richard was born 6 October 1907 in Newton County, Mississippi. Richard died 30 May 1981 and was interred at Liberty Cemetery, Newton County, Mississippi. There are no current records on Lillian. There were no children.

1.3.6.1.5 Edgar James Clearman was born 30 July 1918 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. On 11 November 1941 he married **Opal Huddleston** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi born 25 July 1922 as the daughter of **Robert and Alice Huddleston**. As of 2006 Public Records they were both living in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children:

1.3.6.1.5.1 James Malcolm Clearman was born 18 July 1942 in

Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married **Erin Louganei** in Germany on 19 February 1968. No additional information is available on Erin but James currently resides in Meridian, Lauderdale, County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

Bionca Clearman was born on 3 October 1968 in Newton County Mississippi.

Jamie Clearman born 23 February 1970 in Winnsboro Franklin Parish, Louisiana.

1.3.6.1.5.2 Rita Gayle Clearman was born 24 July 1953 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.. She married **C. J. Wolverton** on 19 August 1980 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They are the parents of two children.

Tanya Lee Wolverton was born 23 June 1982.

Rex Wade Wolverton was born 21 May 1983.

1.3.6.1.6 Elaine Etoile Clearman was born 10 July 1923 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. She married **Walter Victor Castles** on 28 March 1940 in Porterville, Kemper County, Mississippi. Walter Victor was born 3 November 1915 in Chunky, Lauderdale County, Mississippi as the son of **William W. and Nancy E. Castles**. He died 13 October 1972 and was interred in Chunky Cemetery, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

Public Records dated in 2006, shows Elaine living in Little Rock Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children:

1.3.6.1.6.1 Sandra Loretta Castles was born 12 May 1943. On 18 December 1960 she married **Allen Francis Harrison**.

1.3.6.1.6.2 Betty Carol Castles was born 26 November 1946. On 23 December 1966 she married **James Rodney Bounds**.

1.3.6.1.7 Howard Clearman was born 25 November 1922 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. In October of 1945 he married **Martha Scarborough** in Mobile County, Alabama. She died in 1968 in Collinsville Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.

1.3.6.1.7.1 Gwendolyn Bertha Clearman was born 6 October 1946 in Mobile County, Alabama. On 11 May 1968 she married **Jimmy Musgrove**.

1.3.6.1.7A Howard Clearman married **Myrtis Smith** on 3 September 1960 in Mobile Mobile County, Alabama. He died December 1986 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.1.7A.1 Howard Jr. Clearman was born 24 July 1961.

1.3.6.1.7A.2 Tony Clearman was born 29 May 1962 .

1.3.6.1.8 Charles Max Clearman was born 30 September 1924 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. He married **Norma Woodard** on 2 November 1946 in Newton County, Mississippi. He died 21 May 1990 In Little Rock, Newton County, Mississippi. She died 27 February 2006 in Little Rock, Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of five children:

1.3.6.8.1.1 Linda Sue Clearman was born 4 October 1947 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She married **Richard McDonald** on 31 July 1948.

1.3.6.8.1.2 Cynthia Jean Clearman was born 26 January 1950 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She married **Roger Earl Dean** on 1 July 1968 in Mobile, Alabama.

1.3.6.8.1.3 Charles Stanley Clearman was born 26 January 1953 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 17 May 1953 in Newton County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.8.1.4 Max Eugene Clearman was born 1 August 1956 in Mobile, Alabama. He married **Paula Susanne Stokes** on 22 March 1977 in Neshoba County.

1.3.6.8.1.5 Michael Dana Clearman was born 13 August 1970 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.1.9 Bonnie Jean Clearman was born 23 June 1931 in Duffee, Newton County, Mississippi. In 1951 she was married to **Billy Ray Hodes** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Billy Ray died 7 March 1993 in Ellisville, Jones County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three Children.

1.3.6.1.9.1 Deborah Ann Hodes was born 3 May 1952 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She married **Willis Meadows** on 16 August 1970.

1.3.6.1.9.2 Stephanie Hodes was born 6 October 1954 in Neshoba County, Mississippi. She married **Glenn Pruitt** on 1 January 1973.

1.3.6.1.9.3 Billy Gil Hodes was born 1 January 1956 in Neshoba County, Mississippi. On 14 August 1993 he married **Lou Anne Clower**.

1.3.6.1.9A Bonnie Jean Hodes married **J.C. Richardson** on 11 February 1977 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died on 3 May 2004, in Little Rock, Newton County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.1.10 Billy Jerrel Clearman was born 15 August 1933 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 24 April 1953 he married **Tommy Lynn Mayatt** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. 2006 Public Records show Billy and Tommie living in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They are the parents of three children.

1.3.6.1.10.1 Billy Farrell Clearman was born 9 February 1955 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 3 July 1976 he married **Audrey Lee Irby**

1.3.6.1.10.2 **Donnie Clearman** was born 5 August 1956 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1978 he married **Vicki Lewis**.

1.3.6.1.10.3 **Sonja Clearman** was born 5 March 1959 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 16 March 1979 she married **Ricky Johnson**. On 15 June 1984 she married **Mike Ellis**.

1.3.6.2 Carrie Lee Mayatt was born 26 November 1893 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. In 1918 she married **John Dearman Brown** in Meehan Jct, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. John was born at Tunnel Hill, Lauderdale County, Mississippi on 21 January 1881 as the son of **Floyd Brown and Mary Dearman**. John died 22 February 1945 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama. Carrie died 18 May 1952 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Both are interred at Magnolia Cemetery in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.2.1 Mary Frances Brown was born 7 May 1919 at Tunnel Hill, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1942 in Mississippi, she married **Frazier Mitchell Hancock** born 9 March 1923 in Georgia. The marriage ended in divorce. Mary died 23 May 2003 at Fairborn, Greene County, Ohio. She is interred in Magnolia Cemetery Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.2.2 John Mayatt Brown was born 11 July 1923 at Tunnel Hill, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1948 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi he married **Ethel Louise Craft** born 19 May 1930. She died 24 June 1994 in Fairborn, Greene County, Ohio. John died 7 February 2002 in Fairborn, Greene County, Ohio. Both are interred at Magnolia Cemetery Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.2.2.1 Theresa Kay Brown was born on 28 September 1950 in Ohio. She married **Jerry Andrew Qualls** in 1968. His death date is unknown.

1.3.6.2.2.1A Theresa Kay Qualls married **Warren Ray Fields** born 3 December 1952. According to Public Records they are living in Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio.

1.3.6.2.2.2 Lawrence Craig Brown was born 11 January 1953 in Ohio. He married **Susan Ann Hammock**. According to Public Records they are living in Castalia, Erie County, Ohio.

1.3.6.3. Rubie Inez Mayatt was born 29 December 1895 in Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. On 14 December 1921 she Married **Blaine Benton Keene** in Newton County, Mississippi. Blaine was born 9 July 1898 in Chunky, Newton County, Mississippi as the son of **Thomas Keene and Sarah Thompson**. Blaine died in 6 March 1960 and Rubie died 9 April 1962

in Jones County, Mississippi. They are both interred in Laurel Cemetery, Jones County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.6.3.1 Thomas Blaine Keene was born 12 April 1923 in Chunky, Newton County Mississippi. On 31 January 1953 he married **Stella Morgan** in Jones County, Mississippi. Stella was born 30 August 1926 in Laurel Jones County, Mississippi as the daughter of **Julius and Mable Morgan**. She died 21 October 1991. Thomas died 1 January 2004. Both are interred in Laurel Cemetery, Jones County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.3.2 Jasper Benton Keene was born 8 August 1925 in Chunky, Newton County, Mississippi. On 12 February 1950 he married **Margaret Boyles** in Jones County. Margaret was born 28 August 1929 in Jones County, Mississippi as the daughter of **Hiley and Lillie Boyles**. Margaret is currently living in Jones County, Mississippi. Jasper died 15 October 1987 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi and was interred in Laurel Cemetery.

They were the parents of one child.

1.3.6.3.2.1 Jack Blaine Keene was born 13 November 1956 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi. On 17 July 1977 he married **Elizabeth Hughes**. They currently live in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi

1.6.3.3 Bettie Ann Keene was born 19 March 1929 in Chunky, Newton County, Mississippi. On 14 October 1945, in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi she married **Charles Davis** born 11 December 1919 in Magnolia, Pike County, Mississippi as the son of **Charles and Hattie Davis**. He died on 19 January 2005 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of two children.

1.6.3.3.1 Mary Ann Davis was born 3 August 1946 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi. On 12 May 1966 she married **James Teneyck** born 1 April 1944 in Michigan as the son of **John and Grace Teneyck**. Mary Ann and James are the parents of two children and live in Jones, County, Mississippi..

1.6.3.3.1.1 Brian Teneyck was born 22 March 1968.

1.6.3.3.1.2 James Chris Teneyck was born 27 March 1973.

1.6.3.3.2 Inez Charlene Davis was born 10 March 1951 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi. On 19 April 1969 she married **Robert Earl Smith** in Jones County, Mississippi. They are the parents of one child.

1.6.3.3.2.1 Charles Robert Smith was born 19 March 1971.

1.6.3.3A Bettie Ann Davis married **K. K. Townsend** on 2 October 1985 in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi. There are no additional records.

1.3.6.4 Etoile Mayatt was born 10 August 1898 in Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. On 23 July 1916 she married **Simon Audolph Brieger** in Newton County, Mississippi. Simon was born 24 July 1893 in Dushore, Sullivan County, Pennsylvania as the son of **Simon Francis Brieger and Wilhelmina Pflaum**. Simon died 29 November 1973 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Etoile died 15 April 1982 in Chunky, Newton County, Mississippi. Both are interred in Suqualena Methodist Cemetery Suqualena, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of six children.

1.3.6.4.1 Edwin Mayatt Brieger was born 30 May 1917 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 1 August 1941 in Shreveport Caddo Parish, Louisiana he married **Claudia Staley** born 26 November 1923 in Longview, Texas as the daughter of **Frank and Florence Staley**. He died 18 January 1960 and she died 9 August 1984 in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana. Both are interred in Keithville Caddo Parish, Louisiana. They had no children.

1.3.6.4.2 Margaret Doris Brieger was born 17 April 1920 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 30 April 1938 in Corning, Cord County, Arkansas she married **Lawrence Arnold Ethridge** born 29 March 1920 as the son of **Richard Ethridge and Melvie Johnson** in Rio, Kemper County, Mississippi. The marriage ended in divorce. He died 2 January 1998 in Quitman, Clarke County, Mississippi. She died 12 September 2002 in St. Charles, Dakota County, Illinois. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.6.4.2.1 Edwin Adrian Ethridge was born 5 February 1939 in Collinsville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 14 August 1959 in Houston, Texas He married **June Adeline Reynolds** The marriage ended in divorce. She died in Spring, Texas on 15 July 2003. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.4.2.1.1 Lisa Jayne Ethridge was born 18 September 1961 in Oklahoma and is living in Spring, Texas.

1.3.6.4.2.1.2 Erin Ann (Tammy) Ethridge
was born 14 August 1968 in
Houston, Texas and is living in Conroe,
Texas.

1.3.6.4.2.1A Edwin Adrian married **Diane Evelyn Puckett Jaynes** on 20 June 1991 in Conroe, Montgomery County, Texas. They have no children.

1.3.6.4.2.2 Sylvia Blanche Ethridge was born 11 May 1942 in Schamberville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 15 June 1963 in Houston, Harris County, Texas. She married **Carroll Pierce** born 10 January 1939 in Amarillo, Randall County, Texas as the son of **Jeff Pierce and Mildred King**. They are the parents of two children.

1.3.6.4.2.2.1 Phillip Lee Pierce was born 13 July 1968 in

Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. On 24 August 1991 he married **Jeri Babb**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of two children.

Devin Pierce was born 30 September 1993.

Austin Pierce was born 10 March 1997.

1.3.6.4.2.2.2 Laura Suzanne Pierce was born 23 July 1979 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. On 21 May 2005 in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia she married **Evan Schwartz**. They have no children.

1.3.6.4.2.3 Janet Olivia Ethridge was born 7 October 1946 in Schamberville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 26 February 1966 in Deshler, Thayer County, Nebraska she married **James Hornbostel** born 5 July 1941 in Deshler, Thayer County, Nebraska as the son of **Herbert Hornbostel and Emma Behring**. They are the parents of two children.

1.3.6.4.2.3.1 Jennifer Sue Hornbostel was born 5 November 1966 in Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska.

1.3.6.4.2.3.2 Joel Herbert Hornbostel was born 14 June 1975 in St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois.

1.3.6.4.3 Anne Lucile Brieger was born 13 July 1925 in Bude, Franklin County, Mississippi. On 8 May 1945 she married **James Calvin Caldwell** born 27 January 1925 as the son of **James Benjamin Caldwell and Mary Lee Joyner** in Moscow, Kemper County, Mississippi. He died 10 February 2004. Lucile currently lives in Thaxton, Lafayette County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.6.4.3.1 Jerry Lynn Caldwell was born 27 March 1946 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 16 February 1967 in Livingston Alabama he married **Judy McCrary** born the daughter of **Nolan and Margaret McCrary**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.4.3.1.1 Sean Caldwell was born 2 December 1968. He currently lives in Miami, Dade County, Florida.

1.3.6.4.3.1.2 Brad Ross Caldwell was born 18 December 1976. He currently lives in Meridian, Lauderdale, County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.4.3.1A Jerry Lynn Caldwell married **Carolyn Stagg** in August of 1978 in Rockport, Maine. She was the daughter of **John and June Stagg**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of one child.

1.3.6.4.3.1A.1 John David Caldwell was born 13 May 1979.

1.3.6.4.3.1B Jerry Lynn Caldwell married **Vanessa Mocklin** on 16 December 1983 in River Ridge, Louisiana. She was the daughter

of **Ivan and Jacquelyn Mocklin**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of one child.

1.3.6.4.3.1B.1 Phillip Caldwell was born 18 November 1986 in Metairie Louisiana.

1.3.6.4.3.1C Jerry Lynn Caldwell married **Linda Mayfield Buratt** on 11 November 1996 in Atlanta, Texas. She was the daughter of **Lane and Josephine Mayfield**. They currently live in Pearland, Texas. They have no children.

1.3.6.4.3.2 Mary Gaynelle Caldwell was born 3 November 1947 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 4 August 1947 she married **Donald Wayne Tingle** born 5 April 1943 as the son of **Jay P. Tingle and Jesse Rawson**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of one child.

1.3.6.4.3.2.1 Jeffery Wayne Tingle was born 4 February 1968 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married **Kathy Patrice Luke** on 24 March 1992. They currently reside in Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.4.3.2 Mary Gaynelle Tingle married **James Harless Hudson** on 1 January 1991. James was born 15 October 1944 as the son of **Harless Earl Hudson and Cora Rue Champion**. They currently reside in Thaxton, Lafayette County, Mississippi. They have no Children.

1.3.6.4.3.3 Frances Dianne Caldwell was born 6 September 1950 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 30 January 1970 she married **James Harrell Myers** in Butler, Butler County, Alabama. James was born 20 February 1945 as the son of **James Charles Myers and Christine McKenzie**. They currently live in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi and are the parents of two children.

1.3.6.4.3.3.1 Michael Hugh Myers was born 30 September 1974 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.. He is currently living in Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

1.3.6.4.3.3.2 Christopher Alan was born 11 February 1981 in Meridian, Lauderdale, Mississippi. He is currently living in Sunflower County, Mississippi.

1.6 3.4.4 James Francis Brieger was born 9 April 1930 at Post, Newton County, Mississippi. He married **Dolly Broadhead** in 1953 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. The marriage ended in Divorce. They had no children.

1.6.3.4.4.A James Francis Brieger on 20 August 1955, in Jackson Hinds County, Mississippi married **Dorothy Nell Brock** born 9 December 1932 as the daughter of **James Brock and Elizabeth Koch** in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. They currently live in Richland,

Rankin County, Mississippi. They have no children.

1.6.3.4.5 **Thomas Gerald Brieger** was born 5 March 1935 in Post, Newton County, Mississippi. He died 15 March 1939 in Schamberville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He is interred in Suqualena Cemetery, Suqualena Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.6.3.4.6 **Simon Alan Brieger** was born 7 January 1939 in Schamberville, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 12 April 1958 he married **Wanda Gail Davis**. She was born 30 March 1940 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi as the daughter of **Martin Davis and Willa Lee**. The marriage ended in divorce. They were the parents of two children.

1.6.3.4.6.1 **Tanya Gail Brieger** was born 21 October 1959 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. She currently lives in Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi.

1.6.3.4.6.2 **Randal Alan Brieger** was born 21 July 1961 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. He died 3 March 1993 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi.

1.6.3.4.6A **Simon Alan Brieger** on 1 July 1976 in Jackson Hinds County, Mississippi married **Carolyn Jean Woods** born 14 August 1947 as the daughter of **Wesley Woods and Imogene Parker**. They currently live in Charlotte Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. They are the parents of one child.

1.6.3.4.6A.1 **Christopher Michael Brieger** was born 21 April 1978 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi. He currently lives in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

1.3.6.5 **Lura Mayatt** was born 26 December 1900 in Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. In 1939 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi she married **Bonnie Bloomer Riley** born 16 September 1891 in Caddo Parish, Louisiana as the son of **William and Nebraska Riley**. He died January 1943 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi and was interred in Suqualena Cemetery in Suqualena, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.5A **Lura Riley** married **Clarence Olmstead** in 1945 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He was born 1 February 1895 in Covington County, Alabama as the son of **Claude and Tabitha Olmstead**. Lura died 24 February 1972 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Clarence died 13 January 1984 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were both interred in Magnolia Cemetery Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.6 **Lottie Mayatt** was born 12 March 1905 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. On 23 April 1937 she married **Jackson C. Gates** in Newton County, Mississippi. Jackson born 15 June 1913 in Newton County, Mississippi as the son of **Alex Gates and Frances Jones**. The

marriage ended in divorce. Lottie died 11 March 1972 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She is interred in Memorial Cemetery in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Jackson died October 1975 in McCormick County, South Carolina. They had no children.

1.3.6.7 **Naomi Mayatt** was born 10 October 1908 at Old Battlefield, Newton County, Mississippi. On 15 January 1931 she married **George W. Cochran** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. George was born 16 January 1899 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi as the son of **Amaziah Cochran and Nancy O'Neal**. George died in 1962 in George County, Mississippi. Naomi died in 1960 in George County. Both are interred in the Cochran Family Cemetery in George County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.7.1 George Everett Cochran was born March 1932 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. George died September 1955 at George County, Mississippi. He is interred in the Cochran Family Cemetery. He did not marry.

1.3.6.7.2 Newton Amaziah Cochran was born 14 July 1936 in George County, Mississippi. In 1986 he married **Linda Yvonne Plummer** in Wiggins, Stone County, Mississippi. Newton died 16 September 2004 in Wiggins, Stone County, Mississippi. He is interred in Cochran Family Cemetery in George County, Mississippi. Linda currently lives in Wiggins, Stone County, Mississippi. They had no children.

1.3.6.8 **Jasper Durwood Mayatt** was born 5 March 1912 at Old Battlefield Newton County, Mississippi. He married **Katherine Snowden** 24 December 1935 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Katherine was born 3 February 1915 in Clarkdale, Lauderdale County, Mississippi as the daughter of **David Jared Snowden and Abby Goforth**. Jasper died 6 October 1988 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Katherine died 22 July 2005 in Meridian. Both are interred in Memorial Cemetery, Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.6.8.1 James Durwood Mayatt was born 25 November 1939 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 2 September 1961 he married **Jeanie Harper** born 21 May 1940 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi as the daughter of **Dewy Lee Harper and Florence Pickett**. James and Jeanie are currently living in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They are the parents of two children.

1.3.6.8.1.1 Barbara Kathleen Mayatt was born 17 December 1962 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 8 June 1985 in Lauderdale County She married **Wayne Ethridge**, Mississippi.

They currently live in the Martin Community, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They are the parents of two children.

Nathan Ethridge was born 31 March 1992.

Anna Katherine Ethridge was born 31 July 1998.

1.3.6.8.1.2 James David Mayatt was born 9 December 1966 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1997 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi He married **Jennifer Malden**. They currently live in the Martin Community, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

They have two children.

James Bailey Mayatt born 25 February 1996.

Morgan Jean Mayatt born 3 October 1998.

1.3.6.8.2 Katherine Gail Mayatt was born 3 October 1945 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 25 June 1965 she married **Michael Kenneth Bagget** in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They currently live in Lauderdale County, Mississippi and are the parents of two children.

1.3.6.8.2.1 Debra Lynn Bagget was born 11 January 1966 in Meridian Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She married **David Ray Tomerlin** on 1 June 1984 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They have two children and currently reside in Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

Brian Tomerlin born in 1986.

Amanda Tomerlin born in 1988.

1.3.6.8.2.2 Michael Kenneth Bagget was born 17 April 1972 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married **Stacy Goodman** and they currently reside in Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.7 **Peter Andres Mayatt (Bogg)** was born 1 October 1866 at Post Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 28 November 1892 in Lauderdale County, he married **Nancy Jane Harrison** born 1876 as the daughter of **Francis Marion Harrison** and **Amanda Munn**. He died 9 December 1939 and she died 4 September 1957. Both are interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale, County, Mississippi. They were the parents of seven children.

1.3.7.1 Lee Una Mayatt was born 22 April 1896 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 19 February 1924 in Lauderdale County she married **Tommy Crenshaw**, born in 1896 as the son of **Bluford and Shirlla Crenshaw**. She died 17 January 1969 and he died 6 January 1974. Both are interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.7.1.1 Juanita Crenshaw was born 18 November 1926 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 12 October 1946 she married **Edsel Gibson** born 10 September 1922 as the son of **Fredrick and Earline Gibson**. Edsel died February 1986. He is interred in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.

Tommy Edsel Gibson born 25 August 1947 and died 19 April 1979.

1.3.7.1.2 Evelyn Crenshaw was born 20 August 1928 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 6 January 1951 she married **David K. Hudson** born 5 May 1924 as the son of **Addison Hudson** and **Marie Fulcher**. They were the parents of one child.

Kay Hudson

1.3.7.1.3 Tommy Harold Crenshaw was born on 26 November 1929 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married **Winnie D. Hatcher** born in Winston County as the daughter of **Lester** and **Myrtle Hatcher**. They were the parents of three children.
Ray Crenshaw, Donna Crenshaw and Keith Crenshaw.

1.3.7.2 Eva Evelyn Mayatt was born 16 October 1898 in Lauderdale County. On 5 October 1918 she married **Robert E. Fairchild** born 27 September 1895 as the son of **Robert and Sarah Fairchild**. He died October 1974 and she died December 1978. Both are interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.7.2.1 Samuel Wilber Fairchild was born 22 October 1920 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 23 December 1949 he married **Winifred Johnson** born 22 April 1928 as the daughter of **Richard** and **Balma Johnson**. He died 5 January 1993. They were the parents of five children.
Debra Kaye Fairchild was born 1952, **Wilber Scott Fairchild** born 1955, **Robert Flynt Fairchild** born 1957, **Samuel Keith Fairchild** born 1960 and **Mark Wayne Fairchild** born 1965.

1.3.7.2.2 Marion Montez Fairchild was born 10 September 1931 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1950 she married **Glynn Wilson Temple** born 2 July 1925 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 21 September 2001 in Jonesboro Clayton County, Georgia. Interment is unknown. They were the parents of two children.
Pamela Dianne Temple was born 1949 and **Glynn Michael Temple** was born 1950.

1.3.7.2.3 Jacqueline Fairchild was born 7 April 1937 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 2 June 1956 she married **Jerry Lee Clearman** born 15 September 1936. He died 30 September 1993 in Marion Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Interment unknown. They were the parents of five children.
Jerry Mitchell Clearman was born 1956 and died in 1972.
Gregory Lee Clearman was born 1960, **Jeffery Lee Clearman** was born 1961, **Christopher Dwight Clearman** was born 1964 and **Robert Floyd Clearman** was born 1971.

1.3.7.3 Joseph Ernest Mayatt (Bud) was born 27 January 1900 in Lauderdale, County, Mississippi. He died 9 January 1977 and is interred in Pleasant Grove Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He did not marry.

1.3.7.4 James Maurice Mayatt was born 19 December 1901 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 23 December 1928 he married **Nancy Keeton** born 12 February 1905 as the daughter of **Robert C. and Della A. Keeton**. He died 11 August 1974. She died 1 May 2001. Both are interred in Pleasant Grove Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

1.3.7.4.1 Maurice Duane Mayatt was born 16 October 1929 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 16 March 1947 he married **Wynette Dean**. He died 23 November 1971 and was interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

Richard Duane Mayatt was born 1953 and **Timothy Allen Mayatt** was born 1956.

1.3.7.4.2 Fleeta Carol Mayatt was born 29 October 1937 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 14 August 1955 she married **Calvin Eugene Mills** born 23 May 1937 in Arkansas. They were the parents of three children.

Rhonda Gail Mills, Leslia Sue Mills and Gina Mills.

1.3.7.4.3 Donna Sue Mayatt was born 16 June 1941 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. On 10 January 1958 she married **Raymond Earl Powell** born 5 February 1936. He died 24 February 1958. They had no children.

1.3.7.5 Ester Mayatt was born 13 September 1904 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1925 she married **Otho L. Ethridge Sr.** born 28 August 1909 in Brownwood, Texas. She died 13 August 1943 and he died 25 October 1971. Both are interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

1.3.7.5.1 Otho Ethridge Jr. was born 23 July 1937 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 27 July 1937 and is interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

1.3.7.5.2 Antoinette Ethridge was born in 1939 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. She married Lowell Roach and were the parents of four children.

Carl Lowell Roach, Nan Roach, Mike Roach and Jacqueline Roach.

1.3.7.6 Vester Mayatt was born 13 September 1904 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 24 December 1927 she married **Joe D. Litchfield** born

20 August 1904 in Kemper County, Mississippi. He died 11 November 1988 and she died 30 October 1994. Both are interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of five children.

- 1.3.7.6.1 **Joe D. Litchfield Jr** was born 20 March 1929 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He died 20 April 1929 and is interred at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi.
- 1.3.7.6.2 **Billy Ray Litchfield** was born 1 February 1931 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 11 June 1956 he married **Gloria Booker** born 12 February 1938. He died 2 October 2003 in Wilmer Mobile County, Alabama. They were the parents of four children.
Billy Ray Litchfield Jr., Patti Gay Litchfield, Gloria Jan Litchfield and Joseph Lee Litchfield.
- 1.3.7.6.3 **Barney Gene Litchfield** was born 6 March 1933 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 12 February 1965 he married **Mary Jordan** in Saraland, Alabama. There were no children.
- 1.3.7.6.4 **Vivian Leigh Litchfield** was born 13 November 1940 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 15 August 1958 she married **Gerald Keith Snowden**. They were the parents of three children.
Brian K. Snowden was born 1963, **Joseph Scott Snowden** was born 1964 and **Kimberly Leigh Snowden** was born 1967.
- 1.3.7.6.5 **Mayetta Litchfield** was born 30 June 1943 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On June 17 1960 she married **James Willard Powell Jr** born 8 January 1941. They were the parents of three children.
Karen Jean Powell was born in 1962, **Jimmie Renee Powell** born 1964 and **James Willard Powell Jr.** born 1972.
- 1.3.7.7 **Maude Mayatt** was born 13 December 1908 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 15 October 1945 she married **Edwin M. Denton** born 15 June 1901. He died 21 July 1973 and she died 31 March 1994. They are both interred in Suqualena Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.
- 1.3.7.7.1 **William Nelson Denton** was born 29 July 1948. On 29 September 1969 he married **Dee Henderson** born 27 October 1951. They were the parents of one child.
Julie Carol Denton was born in 1970.
- 1.3.7.7.1A **William Nelson Denton** on 3 July 1975 married **Faye Rawson**. They were the parents of one child.
William Ryan Denton was born in 1981.
- 1.3.8 **Lucy Jane Mayatt** was born 14 May 1870 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 4 January 1893 she married **Leroy J. Jackson** born in

Kemper County, Mississippi in 1860 as the son of **Andrew Jackson** and **Amanda Atwood**. She died 29 September 1915 and he died 3 July 1941. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of eight children.

1.3.8.1 Jewel Beatrice Jackson was born 22 September 1893 in Newton County, Mississippi. In 1923 she married **Lewis Clark George** born 5 May 1892 in Kemper County, Mississippi as the son of **James George** and **Ida Ann Davis**. She died 6 March 1947 and He died 30 July 1973. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of four known children.

Bonnie George was born in 1925, **Hazel George** was born in 1927 **Louis W. George** was born in 1929 and **Freeda George** was born 1932.

1.3.8.2 Frances Amanda Jackson was born 2 October 1896. On 31 May 1920 she married **James M. Thames** born 17 February 1894 as the son of **William R. Thames** and **Millie Brooks**. She died 28 November 1955 and he died 28 December 1976. Interment is unknown. They were the parents of four known children.

James Thames was born 1922, **Reginald Thames** 1924, **Frances Thames** 1925 and **Billy Thames** in 1928.

1.3.8.3 John Holland Jackson was born 20 June 1897 in Newton County Mississippi. On 2 June 1918 he married **Lucy Savannah Brooks** born 16 October 1899 as the daughter of **William H. Brooks** and **Mary R. Beeman**. She died 1 August 1984 and he died 1 May 1965. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery, Newton County. They were the parents of two known children.

Brookzie Jackson born in 1919 and **Johnny Herman Jackson** born in 1922.

1.3.8.4 Bertha Jackson was born 26 February 1900 in Newton County Mississippi. In 1924 she married **Marvin Richardson** born 9 October 1896 as the son of **A M** and **Cora Richardson**. She died 22 March 1952 and he died 17 July 1987. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. Children are unknown.

1.3.8.5 Leroy Watson Jackson was born 17 October 1901 in Newton County, Mississippi. In 1928 he married **Leola Herrington** born 6 September 1910 as the daughter of **Miles and Birdie Herrington**, She died 9 May 1932 and he died 11 June 1957. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County. They were the parents of one child.

Evelyn Jackson was born in 1932.

1.3.8.6 Henry Burton Jackson was born 16 February 1905 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 24 February 1928 he married **Lillian Rivers**. He died November of 1983 in Jackson Hinds County, Mississippi. No additional records.

1.3.8.7 William Lamar Jackson was born 3 May 1907 in Newton County

Mississippi. In 1931 he married **Sophia Stephans**. He died 13 October 1974. No additional records.

1.3.8.8 Kermit Jackson was born 30 January 1913 in Newton County, Mississippi. In 1933 he married **Jean Gibson Foreman**. He died 12 January 1983 and is interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County. No additional records.

1.3.9.0 Thomas Alonzo Mayatt was born 8 December 1873 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. On 22 January 1896 he married **Mittie Viola Sanderson** born 10 September 1878 as the daughter of **Ezekiel Sanderson** and **Judith Stephenson**. He died 7 July 1921 and she died 18 February 1924. They are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of seven children.

1.3.9.1 Curtis J. Mayatt was born 11 October 1896 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. On 19 August 1917 he married **Maudie Strange** born 1898 as the daughter of **Austin** and **Surie Strange**. He died 26 August 1948 she died 13 April 1993. Both are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery in Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of six children.
Margaret Mayatt was born 1918, **Mildred Mayatt** was born 1920, **Mittie Sue Mayatt** was born 1922, **Carleen Mayatt** was born 1925, **Fred Mayatt** was born 1930 and **Tommye Mayatt** was born 1934.

1.3.9.2 Effie D. Mayatt was born 7 September 1898 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. About 1922 she married **John Dowdy**. She died 27 November 1963. She is interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. The marriage ended in divorce. They had no children.

1.3.9.3 James Otis Mayatt was born 31 January 1901 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. In ca 1926 he married **Lura Agnew** born 17 June 1907 as the daughter of **John L.** and **Mattie Agnew**. He died 15 March 1967 and she died April 1966. Both are interred in Magnolia Cemetery Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. There were no Children.

1.3.9.4 Leon Mayatt was born 3 October 1903 in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In ca 1935 he married **Lucille M. Pearson** born 5 September 1906 as the daughter of **John P.** and **Sallie Pearson**. He died 19 September 1972. She died 24 August 1993. They are interred at Old Prospect Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi.
They were the parents of five children.

Mona Colette Mayatt was born 1937, **Margie Kay Mayatt** born 1939, **John Wade Mayatt** born 1941, **Douglas Monte Mayatt** born 1943 and **Edmond S. Mayatt** born 1946.

1.3.9.5 Tommye Mae Mayatt was born 28 May 1906 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. In 1924 she married **John Lester Duett** born 25 August 1896 as the son of **John W.** and **Cora Duett**. She died 18 October 1965 and he died 8 May 1976. Both are interred in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.
H. Kenneth Mayatt was born 7 July 1925 and died 19 September 1994.

1.3.9.6 John Rufus Mayatt was born 21 September 1909 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. On 21 January 1931 he married **Lula Litchfield** born 11 April 1911 as the daughter of **M C Litchfield** and **Emma E. Neal**. He died 17 September 1997 and she died 25 August 2006. Both are interred at Antioch Cemetery Lauderdale County, Mississippi. They were the parents of six children.

Johnnie Deloris Mayatt was born in 1931, **Thomas M. Mayatt** was born 1933, **Franklin Delano (Jack) Mayatt** was born 1936, **Mittie E. Mayatt** was born 1937, **John Jr. Mayatt** was born 1939 and **Gary F. Mayatt** was born 1944.

1.3.9.7 Otho Arnell Mayatt was born 18 August 1915 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. On 21 December 1935 he married **Lasca Arlette Thames** born 19 September 1918 as the daughter of **Ginolain K. and Lana E. Thames**. He died 11 June 1963 and she died 2 January 1990. Both are interred at Mount Nebo Cemetery Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three children.

LaHoma Janet Mayatt was born in 1939 and died 28 July 1940, **Lynnelle Dion Mayatt** born 1941 and **Billy Thames Mayatt** born 1947.

1.3.10 Rufus Mayatt was born 14 October of 1878 in Lauderdale County Mississippi. On 16 June 1911 he married **Mary Jeffcoat** born in April of 1895 as the daughter of **Henry and Alama Jeffcoat**. He died 12 December 1942. She died in 1929. Both are interred at Morriston Cemetery Petal, Forrest County, Mississippi. They were the parents of three known children.
Cleo Mayatt was born 14 July 1913, **Odell Mayatt** born 1916 and **Elree Mayatt** born 1919.

1.4 Peter Andres Mayatt Jr. was born 6 June 1841 in Rio Kemper County, Mississippi. On 13 September 1864 in Campbell County Tennessee he married **Mary E. Wilson** born the daughter of **Daniel and Elsa Wilson**. He died in 1905 in Carrollton Carroll County, Mississippi. She died in 1868 in Campbell County, Tennessee. They were the parents of two children.

1.4.1 John William Mayatt was born in December of 1866 in Campbell County, Tennessee. On 6 October 1888 he married **Laura Sims** in Newton County, Mississippi. He died in 1933 in Leflore County, Oklahoma. They were the parents of five children.

Ralph Mayatt was born in 1900, **Hazel Mayatt** born 1903, **Gibson Jane Mayatt** born 1906, **John Mayatt** born 1912 and **Paul R. Mayatt** born 1914.

1.4.2 George W. Mayatt was born in 1867 in Campbell County, Tennessee. On 21 January 1892 he married **Mary C. Sims** in Newton County, Mississippi. They were the parents of two children.

George Benjamin Mayatt was born 27 June 1895 and **Gracie Mayatt** was born in 1912.

1.4A Peter Andres Mayatt Jr. On 14 April 1871 he married **Mary A. Grant** born as the daughter of **Rufus and Lucey Grant** of Campbell County, Tennessee. She died in 1872. They were the parents of one child.

1.4A.1 Alice Menettie Mayatt was born in 1872 in Campbell County, Tennessee. On 8 October 1891 she married **William F. Tingle** in Carroll County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.

Effie Tingle was born 30 January 1892.

1.4B Peter Andres Mayatt Jr. On 4 May 1878 he married **Martha Tingle** born as the daughter of **William** and **Frances Tingle**. She died in 1935 in Bexar County, Texas.

They were the parents of six children.

1.4B.1 Mary Ellen Mayatt was born in 1879 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 23 June 1895 she married **George Alvin Booth** in Carroll County, Mississippi. They were the parents of six children.

William Alvin Booth was born in May of 1896, **John Booth** was born in Oct of 1897, **Dolly Booth** was born in 1900, **Annie Booth** was born in 1903 **Daisy Booth** was born in 1904 and **Robert Booth** was born in 1906.

1.4B.2 Martha Aldonia Mayatt was born in February 1880 in Newton County, Mississippi. On 10 February 1901 she married **Fredrick L. Booth** in Carroll County, Mississippi. She died in 1967 in Bexar County, Texas. They were the parents of two children.

Alama Booth was born in 1904 and **Lily Mae Booth** was born in 1906.

1.4B.3 William Peter Mayatt was born 13 January 1886 in Carroll County, Mississippi. He died in June of 1972 in Denver County, Colorado. No record of Marriage,

1.4B.4 Malinda J. Mayatt was born 28 August 1887 in Carroll County, Mississippi. On 18 January 1902 she married **William Grammer** in Sunflower County, Mississippi. She died 4 February 1905 in Carroll County, Mississippi. They were the parents of one child.

Addie Grammer was born in 1903.

1.4B.5 James L. Mayatt was born 3 May 1891 in Carroll County, Mississippi. He died in February of 1982 in Tennessee. No record of marriage.

1.4B.6 Joseph T. Mayatt was born 7 October 1892 in Carroll County, Mississippi. In 1926 he married **Nancy J. Morris** in Bexar County, Texas. He died in 1978 in Taylor County, Texas. They were the parents of one child.

Joseph T. Mayatt Jr. was born in 1928 in Bexar County, Texas.

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