

Deaton Heritage



Reflections from the author . . .

I have been so blessed! A wonderful family and good friends are *special blessings* in my life. God has given me so much and when my gratitude overwhelms me I tell him so, in song or in prayer.



In 1995, after living in Harrisburg for some thirty years, much to the astonishment of family and friends, George and I moved to the middle of nowhere. To us the rural area of Gold Hill is beautiful. They say you always return to your roots. I guess this is true for me. The farm is not as large as the one I lived on as a child, but I'm not a sharecropper either. George and I saw this place and we knew instantly that it was *home*. Lots of work awaited us on every corner and the upstairs of the house was not even finished. We had good health and stable, enjoyable jobs. An asset for me was that I had family close by.

George had gone to a Wesleyan Methodist Church growing up in Forest City and he found one here less than ten miles from home. So we rededicated our lives to the Lord and St. Paul Wesleyan Church became another one of our blessings. George is a Sunday school teacher, trustee, and lay minister. I teach Sunday school and am involved in all aspects of the church, except the governing part. Right now I am working on a history of the church for our 100th celebration in 2005. A wonderful project I am working on is a quilt that was started in 1940. All of the blocks have not been found but we are going to use the 10 blocks we have for a wallhanging.

I knew the symptoms of cancer. I worked on the rescue squad for several years and I had known friends, family, and even my grandmother who had fought the great battle. In early 1997, noticing a couple of things that looked suspicious, I went back to Harrisburg to see Dr. Suggs. So, it was suggested by the good doctor that I go to University Hospital for some tests. I was awaiting the arrival of my daughter, Angie's, first child in April. My niece, Wendy, had asked me to direct her wedding scheduled in June. I did not have time for this inconvenience. The doctor said he saw no reason I could not wait until these events were over. So, except to George, I kept my thoughts to myself. Deep in my heart I knew what it was.

June came and I went in for the ultimate test that would change my life forever. I had always taken my health and whole body for granted. The doctor told George his suspicions, made a picture for me, and in twenty-three hours the biopsy came back positive for cancer. An immediate visit with the surgeon planned surgery for July 7.

Plans had already been made to go to my daughter and son-in-law's house at the beach. I enjoyed seeing my son, Daryll, and his family at their home near Topsail. Rested, I came back home to work what turned out to be my final week. Upon arrival at home from work on July 3, I learned my beloved Dad had just passed away. Dad had been in a nursing home for a couple of years. He was paralyzed from the waist down from many strokes, was 89 years old and suffering from a lot of memory loss. I had contemplated so many times how he was going to

deal with my not being able to visit him for several weeks. So he had gone on to be with a Lord he loved so much. He was buried on my birthday.

The scheduled surgery went well. Because cancer cells had spread to my lymph nodes, six weeks later I started chemotherapy. I, who had always been so busy, could only lie on the couch. Fatigue, nausea and diarrhea engulfed my body. I prayed that if I could not feel any better that the Lord would take me home. Then came the continuous drip of chemo and radiation. I got so weak that we had to stop and rest from the treatments. By the time the radiation treatments had ended and I had started back on chemo my blood count was so low we kept having to postpone treatments. Through it all, I would get a card, gift, or visit from loving family and friends. This kept me going! I received the following, author unknown, keep it on my refrigerator, and read it often.

What Cancer Cannot Do

Cancer is so limited....

It cannot cripple love,

It cannot shatter hope,

It cannot corrode faith,

It cannot destroy peace,

It cannot kill friendship.

It cannot suppress memories,

It cannot silence courage,

It cannot invade the soul,

It cannot steal eternal life,

It cannot conquer the Spirit.

I started a cookbook in 1992. After the bout with cancer I finished the cookbook, "Cuisine and Tranquility", in 2000. I won a couple of awards in high school for writing but nothing prepared me for compiling books. George has been an inspiration for it is his expertise with computers that has enabled me to print the cookbook and this booklet.

In 2001 I experienced another great loss. My beloved brother, Wayne, passed away. My family gets smaller and smaller and it is so hard to deal with.

I continue living and doing the things that I enjoy. Grandchildren are the greatest! I garden, can and freeze the vegetables. I do a lot of yard work and growing flowers. A special enjoyment is doing crafts and sewing. I collect ribbons from the county fair and have over 250 at this time. Until George and I bought this house and finished the upstairs, I never had a room dedicated just to hobbies. I love this room with a TV, computer and accessories, sewing machine, and piles of craft materials to keep me busy for years, if the Lord leaves me. If my time is short, I am grateful for all these years and the wonderful things in this world I've been able to share and participate in.

When I started this idea of tracing the family background it was only going to be a small project for mine and Wayne's children and grandchildren. The more I searched the more I wanted to learn about our ancestors. Then I felt it needed to include the present members of

the family. It expounded to wanting pictures of the people mentioned. I would never have believed that so many wonderful pictures existed!

Though much of the following is of a historical nature and you may find it boring at times, it is all a part of our ancestral heritage. To just give names and relationships such as one would see in a family tree seemed inadequate since the current descendants know little about these ancestors. I found it very exciting as I learned more and more. There is so much more to be learned and I hope that another family member will take this information and continue to do research.

I hope that you enjoy learning who you came from. Think about the hardships they endured so that we might be here today, free and comfortable in our lives. The part they played has made us what we are. May we all be better individuals for them!

Martha Deaton Sheppard
2004

Acknowledgements:

Without the help of so many people this would not have been possible.

Thanks to my husband, George, who listened to endless conversations and paid the bill for the calls, accompanied me to find information, solved my computer problems, and helped compile the information and printed the pictures that I am so proud of.

Thanks to all of the relatives who supplied the information they had.

Thanks to Carole Walker who gave me the basics to get started researching the Ausburn family. Carole's great-grandfather, Joseph Ausburn, and my great-grandfather, Ben Ausburn, were brothers.

Thanks to Evelyn Stowe McNeal who has researched extensively the Ausburn generation and has information that she has made available to me. Her grandmother, Bee Ausburn, was a sister to my great-grandfather, Ben Ausburn.

Thanks to Richard Chambers, the retired principal and teacher of Grady High School, for providing me with research on Grady Academy, Banks County, GA.

Thanks to Spencer Deyton, a very distant cousin, who spent endless hours guiding my efforts and helping to research the Deatons. Spencer is one of the Deatons that changed their name to Deyton. Spencer was a professor at Winthrop University for 35 years.

Thanks to Delores Deaton Nader, another distant cousin, who made her files of 35 years available to me.

Dedicated to:

**My grandsons
Jared, Joshua, Tyler and Caleb:**



**And to
My beloved brother's grandchildren,
Conner, Matthew, Grayson and Avery:**



This is your legacy. May you live your lives in such a way that your ancestors would be proud of you, just as I am.

For your descendants, this is a record of their ancestors.

Take pride in who you are and remember I love you.

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Deaton Ancestry

The earliest ancestors of Loutisha Carver and Etta Davis Meeler I could find was Thomas Carver. He was the grandfather of Loutisha Carver Deaton and the great-grandfather of Etta Davis Meeler.

The earliest ancestor of John Starlin Deaton that we have been able to find was his mother, Elizer Deaton. So I haven't been able to learn a lot, although it has taken me a long time. Spencer Deyton, (one of the Deaton families that changed their name), and Delores Deaton Nader, (also a distant cousin), have helped with this research extensively and are at a loss also. We will keep searching and somewhere down the line I hope more results will be uncovered. Both of these researchers say all of the Deaton/Deyton's in this area came from Captain William Deaton. I have included a page on him in hopes that at some point we can find out exactly how he was our ancestor. With the access of the internet so readily available I feel this will be accomplished in future generations. Anyway, they will have something to begin their research with here. I did hear my father, Harve Wesley Deaton, talk about some of the Deatons changing their name to Deyton because of an ancestor who fought on the side of the English side in the Revolutionary War. As I remember, he said this was his great-great-grandfather. I remember him mentioning a Levi Deaton. He only knew the tales that were handed down to him verbally. This gives me credibility of this theory but I have found no records to verify it.

I hope that you will enjoy reading about your relatives. I have gotten a great deal of enjoyment researching and talking to relatives I had only heard about. I am sure you will find errors in typing or in information I wrote down wrong while compiling it verbally. I certainly wanted to have all the information correct. If you find mistakes let me know. I will pass the corrections on to others. Also, if I make other copies they will be correct.

Captain William Deaton

William Deaton, (son of Thomas Deaton, Sr. and Mary Corrington), was born about 1736 in Henrico County, VA and died September 13, 1781 at the Battle of Cane Creek, in Chatham County, NC. He married Sarah Jackson (daughter of Matthew Jackson and Anne Dunavant), about 1765 in Amelia County, VA.

Capt. William Deaton was also known as Capt. William "The Tory" Deaton. One family report says that Capt William was a "giant devoted to the Church of England". Another report says he was a "pegleg cobbler". Another says he died gloriously in battle. And another report says he was a Tory captured at Cane Creek and executed by "Whitehorse Harry" Lee's Calvary. It would seem the "pegleg" report is a fabrication. Capt. Deaton was killed at the Battle of Cane Creek on September 13, 1781.

Captain William Deaton fought at Lindley's Mill, 26 miles from Hillsborough, NC. William also saw service at the Battle of Betli's Bridge on Drowning Creek, September 1, 1781. William Deaton was a land owner, holding property on Bear Creek, southwest of Chapel Hill, NC. The Deatons were old time English Colonists, having been in America since the 1640's. The inhabitants of North Carolina were more partial to the English King than any other colony. Capt. Deaton served under Col. Fanning, fighting in NC for the King and Crown.

There were so many stigmas attached to his fighting for the English side during the war that several members of the family changed their names to Deyton.

Children of William Deaton and Sarah Jackson Deaton are;
James Deaton was born about 1759.

Nathan Deaton was born in 1760 in Wake County, NC and died about 1834 in Yancy County, NC. He married Sarah Knight.

Daughter Deaton was born about 1766 and died at birth.

Matthew Deaton was born February 14, 1768 in Cumberland County, NC and died November 7, 1822 in Moore County, NC.

John D. Deaton, Sr. was born in 1769 in Wake County, NC and died in 1848 in Breathitt County, KY. He married Isabella Brantley in 1786.

Levi Deaton, Sr. was born in 1774 in Moore County, NC and died in 1842 in Moore County, NC. He married Mary Catherine Vassar.

Eldridge Deaton (Deyton) was born in 1775 in NC and died about 1840. He married Sophia D. Dobson in NC.

William Ebby Deaton, Sr. was born in 1776 and died October 5, 1844 in Hall County, GA. He married Abigail Dorsett and later married Lucinda C. Martin in SC.

Burrell Deaton was born in 1777 in Moore County, NC and died March 15, 1854. He married Patricia Melton in 1800 in Moore County, NC.

Molly Deaton was born in 1778 in Chatham County, NC.

Margaret Deaton was born about 1779 in Chatham County, NC and died in Yancy County, NC.

Elijah Deaton was born in December of 1781 in Chatham County, NC and died March 30, 1855 in Oconee County, SC. He married S. Elizabeth Dossett.

Thomas Granville Carver

Thomas Granville Carver was born about 1800 probably in Blount County, Tennessee. He was one of the first settlers in Cades Cove. His first wife is unknown. (My grandmother, Etta Davis Deaton Meeler always said her great-grandmother was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian so I am wondering if this was his unknown wife.) He had five children, Azor, Sela, Lawson, Ake, and Thomas Carver. All of these children were born in Tennessee with the exception of Azor, who was born in Cherokee County, NC. He was married the second time on May 25, 1840 to Dicy Duncan in Blount County, TN. She was born 1810 in Yancy County, NC. They lived near Murphy, NC. They had four children; Jane, Eveline, Warren, and Babery Carver. Thomas Carver died before 1860. In 1880 Dicy Carver was living with her son Doctor Warren Carver in Yancy County, NC. She later moved back to Graham County, NC where she died about 1885. They are buried in Lone Oak Cemetery, Graham County, NC with family members close by. Thomas Granville Carver was the great-grandfather of Etta Davis Deaton Meeler and the grandfather of Loutisha "Tishie" Carver Deaton.

Children and grandchildren of Thomas Carver and unknown wife are as follows.
Azor Carver is on the next page as he is our direct ancestral line.

Sela Carver was born in 1830 in TN. We know nothing else about her.

Lawson Carver was born in 1834 in TN. He married Elizabeth Hall who was born about 1838 in SC. His occupation was listed as a farmer in the 1880 census of Graham County, NC. They had five children, William Thomas, Susanah, Eliza Jane, James W., and Robert Carver.

William Thomas Carver was born about 1861 in NC. He married Julia Carver June 19, 1881 by John Morgan, Minister. Julia was born about 1863.

Susanah Carver was born about 1864 in NC.

Eliza Jane Carver was born about 1870 in NC.

James W. Carver was born about 1871 in NC.

Robert Carver was born about 1876 in NC.

Ake Carver was born about 1836 in TN. In the 1870 census of Cherokee County, NC Ake Carver was listed as a farmer. His wife, Elizabeth was born about 1836 in TN. They had four children; General, Mary, William and James Carver.

General Carver was born 1860 in TN.

Mary Carver was born about 1864 in NC.

William Carver was born about 1866 in NC.

James Carver was born about 1868 in NC.

Thomas Carver was born about 1838 in TN. In the 1870 census of Cherokee County, NC Thomas Carver was listed as a farmer. He was married to Mary Carver, born about 1840 in NC.

Children of Dicy Duncan and Thomas Carver were as follows.
Jane Carver was born about 1841 in TN.

Eveline Carver was born about 1842 in TN.

Warren Carver was born about 1847 in NC. He was married to Sarah S. Shelton February 19, 1869 in Cherokee County, NC by William Holloway, Justice of the Peace.

Babery Carver was born about 1849 in NC.

Azor Carver



Azor Carver was born October 19, 1830 in Cherokee County, NC. We do not know who his first wife was. Out of this marriage came two daughters; Dicy Emeline and Edie Eda Roxanna Carver. We don't know who took care of the girls while he served in the war. In the 1860 Census he was listed as living in Yancey County but he had the girls listed as living in Cherokee County. He served in Company H, Infantry Regiment, Thomas Legion, NC in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. He enlisted July 23, 1862 as a Private and was discharged as a Private. His legion fought until the end of the war so we do not know when he returned home. He married Loucinda Duncan, born about 1844, somewhere around 1865. They had two sons and a daughter. They were: Robert Lee Carver, Candis Loutisha Carver, and John Henry Carver. He was listed as a farmer in the census of 1860, 1870, and 1880. Loucinda Carver died March 21, 1900. Azor Carver died June 13, 1900. Most of the Carver family members are buried in Lone Oak Cemetery, Graham County, NC. They too are there with them. They were Etta Davis Deaton Meeler's grandparents and Loutisha "Tishie" Carver Deaton's parents.

Children of Azor Carver and Unknown wife are as follows.

Dicy Emeline Carver was born about 1853 in Cherokee County, NC. We know nothing else about her.

Edie Eda Roxanna Carver was born in March of 1856 in Cherokee County, NC. She married John F. Duncan, born in October of 1866 in TN, on January 14, 1885 in Graham County, NC by D. J. McDaniel, Minister. They had four children, Azor D., Joycie, Mary L., and Alice Melvina Duncan. Edie Eda Roxanna Duncan died September 14, 1919 in Graham County, NC. John F. Duncan died in 1903 in Graham County, NC. They are buried at Cedar Cliff Church, Graham County, NC.

Azor D. Duncan was born in December of 1885.

Joycie Duncan was born in January of 1893.

Mary L. Duncan was born in January of 1895.

Alice Melvina Duncan was born in November of 1896. She married Charles Garrison Patterson, born July 14, 1884. He died October 9, 1936.

Children of Azor Carver and Loucinda Duncan are as follows.

Robert Lee Carver was born in March of 1866 in Graham County, NC. He and Tempie Davis were married on May 24, 1885 in Graham County, NC by J. A. Wiggins, Minister. Tempie was born in June of 1861 in TN. They had six children, Theodore H., Nanie R., Corra L., James C., Ethel J. and Martha L.

Theodore H. Carver was born on May 14, 1886 in NC.

Nanie R. Carver was born on March 12, 1888 in NC.

Corra L. Carver was born on June 10, 1890 in NC.

James C. Carver was born on November 6, 1893 in NC.

Ethel J. Carver was born on February 5, 1895 in NC.

Martha L. Carver was born May 2, 1898.

Candis Loutisha Carver is on another page since she is our direct ancestral descendant.

John Henry Carver was born in 1871 in Graham County, NC. He married Martha Adams of Graham County, NC on December 6, 1891. John Starlin Deaton was a witness at the wedding.

Candis Loutisha "Tishie" Carver

Loutisha Carver was born in November of 1868. She was the daughter of Azor and Loucinda Duncan Carver. She had two half-sisters, Dicey Emeline and Edie Eda Roxanna Carver. Brothers were Robert Lee and John Henry Carver. (As a young boy Jurlon Deaton, Isaac Deaton's son, remembers going to visit Uncle Jack Carver in Robbinsville, NC. We do not know which of the boys went by the name of Jack.)

Although her daughter, Etta Davis Deaton Meeler, told her son, Robert Meeler, that she had one sister and two brothers, I can only find records of two daughters. There had to have been brothers because Etta Davis later would go to Georgia searching for these brothers. The daughters were; Etta Icie Davis, born in May 10, 1888, and Cena Davis, born in August of 1890. Although Etta Davis said her father's name was James Davis we could find no record of the father.

Cena Davis died at fifteen or sixteen years of age, either in 1905 or 1906. I cannot find out where she is buried. Etta Davis Deaton Meeler told her son, Robert Meeler, that she was raised by her grandparents. If we had access to the census records of 1890 we quite possibly would have a record of this. Those census records were destroyed by fire. In the census of 1900 in Graham County, NC, Etta and Cena were listed living with John and "Tishie" Deaton and were listed as daughters. "Tishie's" parents both died in 1900. The census was taken in June of 1900 by Dolph Deyton after the parents death. So we can only assume the two brothers had been living with them. It seems logical that they were then able to take care of themselves at this point.

Loutisha Carver married John Starlin Deaton August 8, 1891 near Robbinsville, NC. Witnesses were William Carpenter, R. L. Carver and Elizabeth Carver. T. J. Wakefield, Justice of the Peace, performed the ceremony.

Out of the marriage to John Starlin Deaton came five sons. They were; Rueben, born in 1892, David, born in 1894, Isaac Abraham, born in 1897, an infant son who died at birth, and Robert Lee, born in 1900.

We have no record of Loutisha Deaton's death. We know that her last child was born in 1900 so we assume she died either in childbirth or shortly thereafter in 1900 or the early months of 1901. She is buried in Lone Oak Cemetery in Graham County, NC. Her last name was listed as Deyton on her tomb rock. Beside her is buried the infant son. Around her are her parents and other family members.

Elizer Deaton

Elizer Deaton was born about 1840 in South Carolina. Little is known about her. We can find no information about a husband. We do know for sure she had three children. My father, Harve Deaton, and half-brother, Ike Deaton, were sure she had another child, whose name was Silas. There is a Silas Deyton buried in the Garrett Family Cemetery under a dogwood tree in Hanging Dog, NC. Ike Deaton took his son, Jurlon, to see John Starlin Deaton's grave and pointed out a rock where Silas Deyton, John Starlin Deaton's brother was buried. We do have records of three of her children. They were John Starlin Deaton, born in October of 1868 in Union County, GA, Martha Ann Deaton, born in 1870, and James Wesley Deaton, born in August of 1873.

Martha Ann Deaton was married to James Elijah Wheeler on February 16, 1893 in Towns County, GA. James Elijah Wheeler was born in 1865 in GA. They had seven daughters and they were all born in GA. They were Ellafair Wheeler, born in 1888; Neta Wheeler, born in 1896; Deltha Wheeler, born in 1898; Vella Wheeler, born in 1900; Dorothy Wheeler, born in 1903; Carrie Wheeler, born in 1905; and Lemma Wheeler, born in 1907.

Memories of Aunt Martha Ann Wheeler

My Father, Harve Deaton, loved this lady, Aunt Martha Ann. So much indeed he named his first child after her. So I was really excited when I learned this information about her.

Lucille Deaton Roberts remembers how much her Dad, Robert Lee Deaton, loved Aunt Martha Ann. As a child she can recall her family visiting the Wheeler home in Towns County, GA. At that time the children were all grown and two of the daughters had never married. They worked in Atlanta and would come home on the weekends.



*Elijah and Martha Ann Wheeler are sitting.
We don't know the daughter's name.*



Martha Ann Deaton Wheeler

James Wesley Deaton married Nancy Smith on July 31, 1895 in Towns County, GA. Nancy Smith was born in May of 1870 in GA. They had eight children. They were as follows: Vera Deaton born February of 1897; Grover Deaton, born in August of 1898; Carter Deaton, born April 1900 and died as an infant; Dewy Deaton, born in 1901; Lela Deaton, born in 1902; Clide Deaton, born in 1906; Grady Deaton, born in 1907; and Fred Deaton, born in 1908.

John Starlin Deaton is on another page as he is our direct ancestral line.

John Starlin Deaton



John Starlin Deaton was born in October of 1868 in Union County, GA. His first marriage was to R. L. Murphy in Towns County, GA on March 21, 1886. He was married the second time to Loutisha "Tishie" Carver in Graham County, NC on August 8, 1891. They were married by T. J. Wakefield, Justice of the Peace. Witnesses were William Carpenter, R. L. Carver and Elizabeth Carver. In the census he always listed his occupation as a farmer. Out of this marriage was born five sons: Rueben Deaton, born in April of 1892, David Deaton, born in November of 1894, Isaac Abraham Deaton born in July of 1897, and Robert Lee Deaton, born in December of 1900. An infant son died at birth. Loutisha had two children when she married John Starlin Deaton. They

were Etta Icie Davis and Cena Davis. I could find no information on their father. Etta was born in May of 1888 and Cena was born in August of 1890. Cena died when she was fifteen or sixteen years old, which would have been in 1905 or 1906. Research was to no avail to find where she was buried. Loutisha Deaton\Deyton is buried at Lone Oaks Cemetery in Robbinsville, NC. Although I have found no date of her death she must have died in 1900 or 1901. Beside her is buried their infant son.

John Starlin then married his stepdaughter, Etta Icie Davis. They were married on December 25, 1903 by W. M. Flemming, Justice of the Peace. Witnesses were C. M. Pittman, B. C. Deyton and John Deyton. From this marriage came four children, John Henry Deaton born in 1902, Jacob Leander Deaton born in March of 1904, an infant daughter that was stillborn, and Harve Wesley Deaton, born in November of 1907.

John Starlin Deaton was prone to drinking and fighting. In fact, Harve Deaton always said people knew him as fighting John Deaton. According to stories passed down, he was the strongest man in two counties. The story that was passed down to John Henry Deaton goes as follows. John Starlin Deaton was doing construction work on the new courthouse in Robbinsville, NC. He got into a fight with another worker and his case was one of the first tried in the new courthouse.

John Starlin Deaton and his son, Ike, were clearing logs off a new ground. John Starlin was shot from ambush. Ike walked thirteen miles to Tellico Plains, TN to get help. He did not get there until seven o'clock that night. John Starling Deaton died in February of 1908. He was buried in the Garrett Family Cemetery in Hanging Dog, NC.

Jurlon Deaton, son of Isaac Deaton, told me this story. When Jurlon was in the hospital several years ago, a nurse came into his room with tears in her eyes. She stated that her uncle, Grayson Garret, had killed John Starlin Deaton. She had carried that secret in her heart all these years and she wanted him to know the truth. Garrett was a good friend of John Starlin's. Garrett wanted a man killed in GA. One of Garrett's friends wanted John Starlin killed. So Garrett killed John Starlin and the friend of Garrett killed the man in GA for him.



John Starlin Deaton's Headstone

Etta Icie Davis Deaton Meeler

Etta Icie Davis was born May 10, 1888. Graham County, NC where she was born. She always said she was born on May 10, 1880. Yet she also said she Starlin Deaton. The census of 1930 in years old. That would have made her original information since Robert was fourteen years old when she



This record is according to statistics in born. She always said she was born on was 14 years old when she married John Banks County, GA had her listed as 44 born in 1886. So I am going with the Meeler remembers his mother saying she married the first time.

She was the daughter of Candis Meeler, was told by his mother, that her brothers. The grandparents were Azor and Lucinda Duncan Carver. The census of 1890 was destroyed by fire so this would have been the census showing that Etta, Cena, and the brothers were living with their grandparents. I have no record of brothers but I do know she had a sister, Cena. Cena was born in August of 1890. Cena died when she was 15 or 16 years old, either in 1905 or 1906. I find no record of their father, but Etta said his name was James Davis. The only record I can find came from the census of 1900 and that shows Cena and Etta Davis living in the home with John Starlin and Loutisha Deaton.

Loutisha "Tishie" Carver. Her son, Robert

Etta had no schooling so she could not read or write. When I visited her she always had to listen to the news at noon each day. Looking back this must have been her only way of keeping up with current events since she did not read the newspaper. She always said she was $\frac{1}{4}$ Cherokee.

Etta's mother, Loutisha Carver, married John Starlin Deaton on August 8, 1891 in Graham County. Loutisha Carver was listed as having been born in Graham County, NC and John Deaton was listed as being from Union County, GA. They were married by T.J. Wakefield, Justice of the Peace. Witnesses were William Carpenter, R.L. Carver, and Elizabeth Carver. Out of this marriage came Rueben, David, Isaac, and Robert. These children would have been Etta Davis's half-brothers. We have no date for Loutisha Carver Deaton/Deyton's death but it must have been in 1900 or the early months of 1901.

The transcription of the marriage records from the Graham County Registrar's Office reads that John S. Deaton, age 36, and Etta Carver, age 16, were married on December 25, 1903 by W.M. Flemming, Justice of the Peace. Witnesses were C.M. Pitman, B.C. Deyton and John Deyton. (I speculate that this date may have been recorded wrong on the courthouse records since everything was hand-written and often entered at a much later date. In reality she probably had to state she was sixteen years old to get married. Robert Meeler, her son, remembers her saying she got married when she was fourteen years old.) She bore three sons and an infant daughter who died at birth in this marriage. (Both Harve Deaton and Elsie Looney, her children, were told by their mother of the infant daughter that was stillborn.) The three sons were John Henry Deaton, born February 14, 1902, Jacob Leander Deaton, born on March 10, 1904, and Harve Wesley Deaton, born on November 14, 1907.

John Starlin Deaton was killed in February of 1908. (Harve Deaton, Etta's son was always told he was three months old when his father was killed.) This is the way I arrived at this date although there appears to be no record. Etta did not speak very much of the past so when she did the children took notice. Aunt Martha Ann Wheeler was very outspoken, so Harve Deaton asked her a lot of questions but today I remember little of the answers.

This was some information passed onto my father, Harve Deaton, by his beloved aunt, Martha Ann Wheeler, who was John Starlin Deaton's sister. The story goes that when John Starlin Deaton was buried with snow on the ground, Etta Deaton packed up everything they owned on a cart pulled by an ox. She took the brothers with her that would go. Isaac and Rueben decided to stay in the mountains and fend for themselves. David and Robert went with her. They traveled across terrible terrain, camping out at night and cooking over an open fire, until they reached Martha Ann and James Wheeler's farm in Towns County, GA. I don't know how long they stayed there. I am assuming she remained there until she married James W. Meeler. The census of 1910 had only David Deaton listed as being in the home of the Wheelers. (Johnnie Deaton Downer said her father, John Henry Deaton, told her Etta went to GA looking for her two brothers.)

Etta Davis Deaton married James W. Meeler on August 22, 1910. Rev. Robert Freeman Rice performed the ceremony. James Meeler was born in 1858 and was a widower. (Elsie remembers her mother, Etta Meeler, telling her that her dad was seventy years old when he died, so I feel these dates are correct for him.) James W. Meeler's parents were Matthew and Arletta Smith Meeler. Matthew was born in NC. Matthew's parents were William and Sarah Meeler. They were born in NC. (This is all I could find out about James Meeler's ancestors.) James and Etta Meeler lived in Banks County, GA and farmed on other people's land. Out of this marriage came five children. They were; Charlie born on August 21, 1912, Odell born on November 6, 1916, Annie Mae born in 1920 and died of pneumonia in 1922, Robert born on September 13, 1923, and Elsie born on February 23, 1927. James Meeler had cancer and died in 1928. He is buried at Lamar Christian Church Cemetery in Banks County, GA beside his first wife. There is no tombstone, just a rock with no dates or names. Once again Etta was widowed with young children to rear with only a farm to support them and the money Harve Deaton managed to send her from his salary while employed at the logging camp in the mountains of NC.

Harve came home from the logging camp for a visit that fall. When he arrived he was unaware that his stepfather had died. Times were indeed bad and according to Harve, there was little to eat. His mother begged him not to go back to the mountains but to stay with her and the children and farm the land. Harve stayed with them until he was married on February 21, 1935. Dad, Harve, tells the story of Robert's hair being very long and he told him he needed to cut his hair. Robert started crying and when questioned he was afraid if he got his haircut he would bleed to death. I often heard my dad, Harve, say that he loved those children as much as he did his own. He always referred to them as the last family. When he was in the nursing home nearing the end of his life, he could not remember the current times. He often questioned me about Charlie, Odell, Robert, Elsie and his mother.

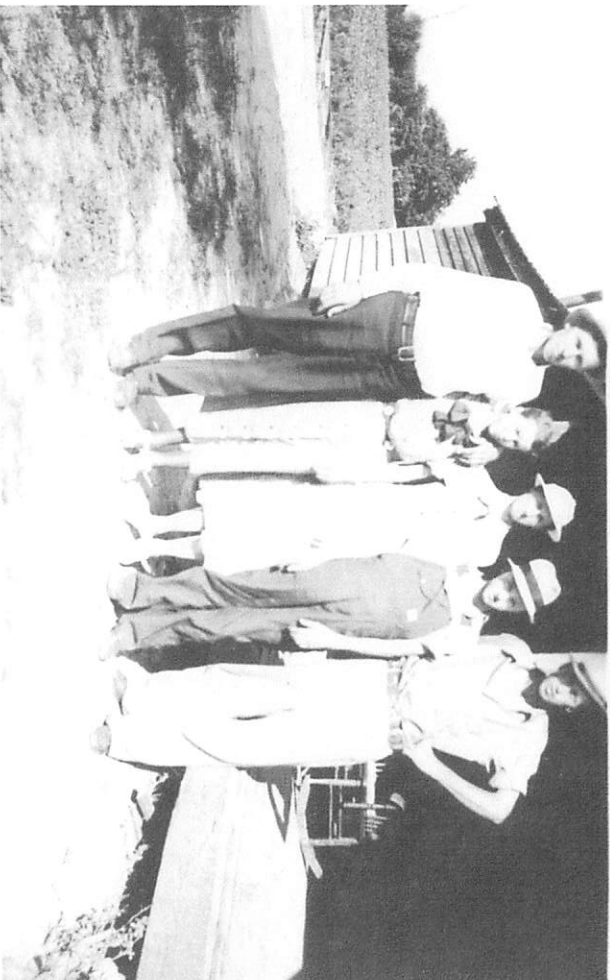
This was a spectacular lady! She probably weighed 85-lbs. soaking wet. Yet she had braved more hardships than most people ever encounter. In the end she had cancer found in the last stage. The last time I saw her she apologized for being in the bed. She said it was the first time her grandchildren had ever seen her in the bed sick. Etta Meeler passed away February 15, 1970 in Habersham County. She was buried at Damascus Church Cemetery in Banks County, GA beside her daughter, Annie Mae Meeler.



*Left to right on front row are
Robert and Charlie Meeler.
2nd row are Etta, Elsie & Odell Meeler.
3rd row are Harve and John Deaton.*



*Etta and Martha
Deaton*



Left to right: Harve and Bertie Mae Deaton, Odell, Robert and Charlie Meeler

David Deaton

David Deaton was born in November of 1894 in Graham County, NC. He was the second son of Loutisha Carver and John Starlin Deaton. After his father died he went with his half-sister, Etta Davis Deaton, to Martha and James Wheeler's home in Towns County, GA. In the 1910 census of Towns County, GA, he is listed as still living in the home with them.

We have no knowledge of the year he left there. Harve Deaton, his half-brother, said he developed tuberculosis and moved to New Mexico for his health. We know that he died there at the age of 32, so this should have been in 1926.




*David Deaton
is between the two horses.*



David Deaton and friend


Rueben Deaton

Rueben Deaton was the eldest son of Loutisha Carver and John Starlin Deaton. He was born in April of 1892 in Graham County, NC. He married Lillie McDonald on March 25, 1913 in Graham County, NC. They had one child, Johnnie S. Deaton.

 **Johnnie S. Deaton** was born February 7, 1915. Ike Deaton, Ruben's brother, went to Cherokee and got Johnnie when he was nine years old. (Jurlon Deaton, Ike Deaton's son, and I speculated that was shortly after Callie Deaton, his step-mother, had died.) He lived with Ike Deaton and his family until he married. Johnnie married Nellie Torbett in 1937. Nellie was born June 17, 1914. She was the daughter of Samuel and Callie Underwood Torbett. They had three children, Thelma Christine Deaton, Beulah Faye Deaton and Ruby Mae Deaton. Nellie Deaton died March 21, 1974 and Johnnie Deaton died in May of 1988. They are buried at Madisonville Memorial Gardens in Monroe County, TN.



Rueben, Lillie Deaton and her son. She is expecting Johnnie on this picture.

Thelma Christine Deaton was born April 2, 1938 in Monroe County, TN. She married  **Gus Morris** September 29, 1960 in Pensacola, FL. Gus Morris was born August 1, 1939 in Foley, AL. They have three children; Johnny Augustus Morris, Donna Elizabeth Morris and Samantha Ann Morris.

Johnny Augustus Morris was born August 17, 1961 in Monroe County, TN. He married Bernice Turner from AL.

Donna Elizabeth Morris was born May 21, 1963. She has one daughter, Molly Ann Morris born September 18, 1993.

Samantha Ann Morris was born October 29, 1964. She married Timothy Hatfield from Chattanooga, TN on June 7, 1984. They have two children. Nicholas Sherman Hatfield was born April 12, 1988. Heather Nicole Hatfield was born February 27, 1991.




Johnny and Bernice Morris



Gus holding Nick and Thelma Morris




Donna and Samantha

Beulah Faye Deaton was born September 9, 1940 in Monroe County, TN. She married  Tom Pearson February 14, 1961 in Chatsworth, GA. Tom was born February 7, 1939. They had two daughters, Sheena Marie Pearson and Renae Denise Pearson. Tom Pearson died March 30, 2002 and is buried at Tellico Plains, TN.

Sheena Marie Pearson was born September 18, 1962. She married Malcolm Witt in 1982. They have two children; Travis Witt born in 1983, and Jessie Witt born in 1988.

Renae Denise Pearson was born January 4, 1965. She married David Reed in Sweet Water, TN. They have three children. Dustin Matthew Reed was born March 4, 1984. Katy Reed was born in 1993. Jonathan Reed was born in 1991.

Ruby Mae Deaton was born June 19, 1943 in Robbinsville, NC. She married  Benny Hull, born in 1932 in Morristown, TN, about 1993. Ruby has two children by a previous marriage. They are Lisa Gail Prater and Russell Prater.

Lisa Gail Prater was born in 1963. She married Jerry Hunt. They have one daughter, Brandy Hunt born in 1981.

Russell Prater was born October 29, 1965. He has two children, Emily Prater born in 1993 and Dusty Prater born in July of 2001.

Rueben Deaton later married Callie Sweeney, a full-blooded Cherokee Indian. They had two children,



Woodroe Deaton and Nellie Deaton. When Callie Sweeney Deaton died either in childbirth or shortly thereafter, about 1924, Rueben took the children to Georgia. He left Nellie and Woodroe in the care of Margie and Bob Deaton, his brother and sister-in-law. They stayed there, with Rube visiting them, while remaining in Cherokee to work. When they were old enough Woodroe and Nellie went to live at the school on the Cherokee Indian Reservation. (Lucille Deaton Roberts remembers them visiting her family during vacations as long as their father lived. Woodroe continued visiting them in the summer until he was grown and joined the army.)



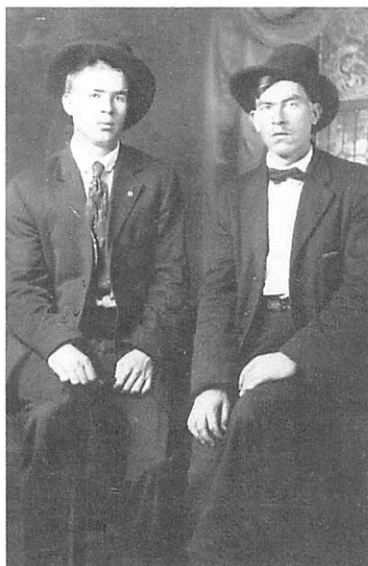
In either 1932 or 1933 a large black car drove into the yard of Robert Deaton and several Indians got out. They informed him that Rueben had been killed. They took Robert Deaton back to Cherokee, NC to bury his brother. (This information was given to me by Lucille Roberts, Robert Lee Deaton's daughter.)

After they received their high school education, Nellie went to Charlotte, NC and became a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital and Woodroe joined the Army. Woodroe visited us in Cramerton, NC many times while he was in service. My brother, Wayne, loved him and Woodroe bought him a large Red-Flyer wagon. I do remember Nellie visiting with my father, Harve Deaton, when he lived in Cabarrus County, NC after I was married. She was married and had two children.



Woodroe Deaton

Johnny Deaton's daughters had gone to Cherokee to try and find Woodroe but the Indian Counsel refused to tell them where he was. Uncle Ike's son, Jurlon, tried unsuccessfully to locate him also. Jurlon made a trip to Cherokee in 2003 once again to try to see if he could find any information about him at all. He met an Indian there who had known Woodroe well and he stated that Woodroe had died several months prior to his visit.



Ike and Rube Deaton

I do not know many facts other than the preceding paragraphs. Harve Deaton and Ike Deaton always said a member of the Sweeney family killed Rueben. Jurlon Deaton quotes his father, Ike Deaton, as telling the following story. Rube was bad to drink and he went to sleep wherever he was at the time. He always slept with his head hanging off the bed. This particular night he was sleeping in another woman's house and someone came in and hit him in the head with a crowbar.

Molly Running Wolfe's son went to prison for killing him. Speculation was that Molly Running Wolfe killed Ruben and her son took the blame for it.

These things I do remember. When I was a child we visited Molly Running Wolfe. She thought my father, Harve Deaton, had come to kill her. This was not the case. He only wanted the truth. She begged him to believe that she did not kill his brother, Rueben Deaton, nor did her son. She told him then that the Sweeney family did it. This visit ended cordially as you can see on the picture.



*Bertie Mae Deaton is holding Wayne Deaton.
Molly Running Wolfe has her arms around Martha Deaton.*

Isaac Abraham Deaton



Isaac Abraham Deaton, known as Ike, was born July 8, 1897. He was the third son of Loutisha Carver Deaton and John Starlin Deaton. After his father was killed he chose not to go with his half-sister, Etta Davis Deaton, to Georgia. So he lived with Dr. Leonard at first and later with several other families in Tellico Plains, TN growing up. When he was nineteen years old there were no jobs to be found. He said he was hungry and saw a sign that read, THE MARINES ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN. He went in, joined and stayed thirty-four months. He spoke Spanish fluently, even though he only finished the second grade. All of the Deaton men had very little formal education but had excellent minds.

He married Phebie Ellis on August 24, 1922. Phebie was born June 29, 1905. Her parents were John Ellis and Cordelia Kilby Ellis. Ike and Phebie had thirteen children but four of them died as infants. When Rueben Deaton's wife died, Ike went to Cherokee and got his brother's son, Johnnie, and brought him home to live with the family. Johnnie stayed with them until he married.



Ike spent most of his life working in logging camps. He owned a farm in Madisonville, TN. His wife, children, and hired hands worked the farm. He had a small house on the farm and usually there was a family living in it that helped with the work. (Lucille Deaton Roberts, Robert Lee Deaton's daughter, has fond memories of living in that house for about four years when she was very young. She enjoyed the time spent with Uncle Ike's children.)

He would be gone for long periods of time working at the logging camp. His specific duty was keeping the saws sharpened. The story goes that often the younger children would forget who he was during the absences. Murlon, one of the younger children, was outside playing when Ike returned home one day from the logging camp. He asked the child if he could speak to his mother. He immediately ran inside and told his mother some old man outside wanted to speak with her.

He was a hard-working man who loved his family. The Deaton's were notorious for making and drinking whiskey. Yet here was a man that only had whiskey touch his lips one time which was enough for him. Phebie died September 23, 1980 and Ike died April 9, 1988. They are buried at Big Creek Cemetery in Monroe County, TN.


Memories of Ike and Phebie Deaton

Marie McDonald, his granddaughter, said he was a very stately man, and reminded her of Abraham Lincoln. She remembers her grandmother as being a very kind person and the best fisherman in the world.

Christine Pressley remembers as the oldest grandchild, she played with her aunts and uncles. The house was always full of neighborhood children. She remembers that her grandmother always swept and mopped the kitchen every morning after breakfast.

Karen Palmer has fond memories of visiting on the farm with her grandparents in Lenoir City, TN. She would help her grandfather mend the fences and plant tobacco. She remembers helping her grandmother taking care of the chickens and storing canned items in the cellar. Since they lived in Army housing it was a huge treat to go to the farm to visit.

Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are as follows:

Edia Alice Deaton was born September 17, 1923. She married  Lawrence William Arp January 14, 1946. Lawrence was born December 15, 1922. His parents were Georgia Bailey and Horace Arp. They had five children; Christine, Clifford, Linda, Larry and Tammy Arp.

Sylvia Christine Arp was born December 14, 1947 in Monroe County, TN. Christine married George Ralph Pressley March 3, 1979 in Oak Ridge, TN. George was born February 10, 1941 in Loudon County, TN. His parents were James Ralph and Katherine Reagan Pressley.

Clifford Leon Arp was born November 13, 1949 in Monroe County, TN. He has one daughter, Amanda Arp.

Amanda Arp was born November 16, 1981 in Anderson County, TN. She married Jason Bookout about 2000.

Linda Joyce Arp was born October 5, 1951. She married Maynard Ludwig July 12, 1995 in Anderson County, TN. Maynard was born May 13, 1945 in Anderson, County, TN. His parents were Floyd and Evyonne Decoatman Ludwig.

Larry Earl Arp was born May 4, 1962 in Loudon County, TN. Larry married Darlene Stamey on July 28, 1984. Darlene was born November 2, 1958 in Thomasville, NC. Her parents were Fred and Mildred Arden Stamey. They have one daughter, Rachel Arp.

Rachel Nicole Arp was born March 7, 1991.

Tammy Carlene Arp was born April 16, 1966 in Loudon County, TN. Tammy was married to Joe Neeley. They had two children, Joshua and Heather Neeley.

Joshua Allen Neeley was born August 4, 1985 in Knox County, TN.

Heather Rachael Neeley was born August 17, 1991 in Anderson County, TN.

James Jurlon Deaton was born July 10, 1928 in Monroe County, TN. He married Irene Pilkington on July 5, 1951. Irene was born January 29, 1931 in Monroe County, TN. Her parents were Esta Millsaps and Robert Pilkington. They had five children; Janice Evoyne, Janet Diane, Jeanette Elaine, James William, and Jarrett Dwayne Deaton. Jurlon is a retired Baptist minister. His son, James William, is also a minister.



Irene and Jurlon Deaton



*Left to right are Jeanette, Janet, James, Janice and Jarrett Deaton.
In front are Jurlon and Irene.*

Janice Evoyne Deaton was born July 1, 1952. She married Troy L. Smith on August 28, 1971. They have three children; Christopher, Matthew, and Jason Smith.

Christopher Smith was born October 15, 1971.

Matthew Smith was born November 2, 1975.

Jason Smith was born July 8, 1985.

Janet Diane Deaton was born November 7, 1954. She is married to Norman Hood. They have two children, Travis Brian and Allison Marie Hood.

Travis Brian Hood was born November 11, 1979.

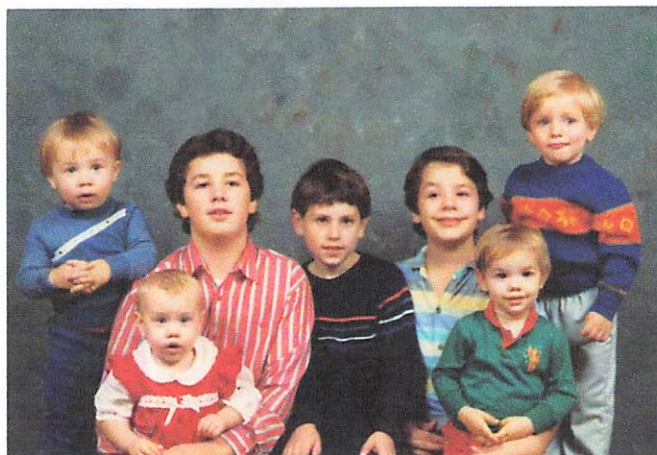
Allison Marie Hood was born August 28, 1986.

Jeanette Elaine Deaton was born September 12, 1956. She married Jerry Duggan. They have one son, Bradley Allen Duggan.

Bradley Allen Duggan was born March 23, 1985.

James William Deaton was born June 13, 1958. He married Deborah Irene Byington in 1966.

Jarrett DeWayne Deaton married Carla Parks. They had one son, Nicholas Jurlon DeWayne Deaton, born May 4, 1986. He married Tammy Greene and adopted her daughter, Brittany Marie Valdez Deaton. Brittany was born January 8, 1986. He and Tammy have a son, Brandon Thomas Deaton, born April 20, 1990.



Left to right on the front row are Allison Marie Hood and Jason Smith.

Back row are Nicholas Deaton, Christopher Smith, Travis Hood, Matthew Smith and Bradley Duggan.

Inis Viola Deaton was born March 29, 1931 in Monroe County, TN. She married Ora Lee Daugherty on October 1, 1949 in Chatsworth, GA. Ora Lee was born March 6, 1931. His parents were Ida Harris and Benjamin Daugherty. They had two children; Edna Marie and Edwin Lee Daugherty. Ora Lee Daugherty died March 15, 1980. He is buried in Sunrise Cemetery in McMinn County, TN.

Edna Marie Daugherty was born September 24, 1950 in McMinn County, TN. She married Fred Edward McDonald, born October 28, 1950 in McMinn County, TN, on December 4, 1971. His parents were Irma Rosar and Fred Edward McDonald, Sr. They have two children, Travis Shane McDonald and Brandon Lee McDonald.

Travis Shane McDonald was born May 27, 1975. He married Amy Finch, born October 13, 1977, on July 24, 1999. Her parents are Ralph and Carol Finch. Amy was born in Alabama.

Brandon Lee McDonald was born August 31, 1979.

Edwin Lee Daugherty was born December 2, 1959 in McMinn County. He married Kim Knight. We have no other information about her. They had two children. Bradley Justin Daugherty was born May 3, 1990. Arian Nicole Daugherty was born October 6, 1993.

Clarence Murlon Deaton was born September 9, 1933 in Monroe County, TN. He married Clara Franklin on November 12, 1955. Clara was born November 12, 1933 in Loudon County, TN. She was the daughter of John and Charity Mae Phillips Franklin. They had three children, Johnny, Donny and Ronny Deaton. Murlon died on December 20, 1993. He is buried at Big Creek Church Cemetery in Monroe County, TN.

Johnny Isaac Deaton was born February 2, 1957 in Loudon County, TN. He died December 24, 1998.

Donny Clarence Deaton was born January 23, 1965 in Loudon County, TN. He married Trudy White on February 15, 1986. They have two children, Robert Isaac and Daniel Ryan Deaton.


Robert Isaac Deaton was born October 25, 1988.

Daniel Ryan Deaton was born January 30, 1992.

Ronald Murlon Deaton was born January 19, 1961 in Loudon County, TN. He married Tammy Vincil. They have two daughters, Kimberly Suzanne and Kristen Marie Deaton.

Kimberly Suzanne Deaton was born in September 30, 1984.


Kristen Marie Deaton was born August 30, 1987.

 **Arthur Starlon Deaton** was born September 29, 1935 in Monroe County, TN. He married Dianne Scott on August 16, 1961 in Hammond, IN. Dianne was born on January 2, 1943 in Hammond, IN. Her parents were Wade and Lefan Scott. They had three children; Starlet Renee, Sandra Joyce, and Regina Christine Deaton. Starlon retired from Ford Motor Company.

Starlet Renee Deaton was born April 21, 1962 in Hammond, IN. She married William Lee and they had a daughter, Telate, born in 1985. William Lee died at age twenty-seven. Starlet married Bobby Summitt and they have a daughter, Gabrielle, born in 1994. Bobby Summitt was born in Lenoir City to Don and Jennie Summitt.

Sandra Joyce Deaton was born September 21, 1966 in Hammond, IN. She married Homer Lee Trout II. They have two children. Homer Lee Trout III was born in 1993 and Sidney Renee Trout was born in 1997.

Regina Christine Deaton was born January 10, 1968 in Hammond, IN. She died of cancer on December 29, 1981.

Inez Deaton was born January 5, 1939 in Monroe County, TN. She married  James Edward Newbolds on June 22, 1957 in Chatsworth, GA. James was the son of Mary Hamel and Howard Newbolds. He was born July 16, 1936 in Ozark, IL. They had two children; Randy and Karen Newbolds. Inez passed away February 26, 1999 and James passed away July 22, 2000. They are buried at Loudon County Memorial Garden in Loudon County, TN.

Karen Evyonne Newbolds was born September 2, 1961 in Hammond, IN. She married Jackie Lewis Palmer, Jr. on October 21, 1983 in Loudon County, TN. Jackie was born June 21, 1961 in Hollywood, FL. Jackie is the son of Rev. Jackie Lewis Palmer, Sr. and Beulah Pilkington Palmer. (Beulah Pilkington Palmer is the sister of Irene Pilkington Deaton, wife of Jurlon James Deaton.) Karen and Jackie have one son, Derek Wade Palmer.

Derek Wade Palmer was born January 6, 1990 in Knox County, TN.

Randall Wade Newbolds was born September 25, 1963 in Hammond, IN. He married Tammy E. Hughes on July 4, 1986 in Loudon County, TN. Tammy was born July 31, 1968 in Loudon County, TN. She was the daughter of Ronald Hughes and Susan Blankenship Hughes. (The father-in-law of his sister, Karen), Rev. Jackie Lewis Palmer, Sr., performed the wedding ceremony. Randy and Tammy have one daughter, Chelsea Noel Newbolds.

Chelsea Noel Newbolds was born January 6, 1989 in Knox County, TN.

Farley Clifton Deaton was born April 14, 1941 in Monroe County, TN. He married Mary Ann Hill on November 18, 1967 in Hammond, IN. Mary Ann was born March 14, 1944 in Carvon Hill, AL. Her parents were Mary Thelma Cheshire and Louis David Hill. They have no children.

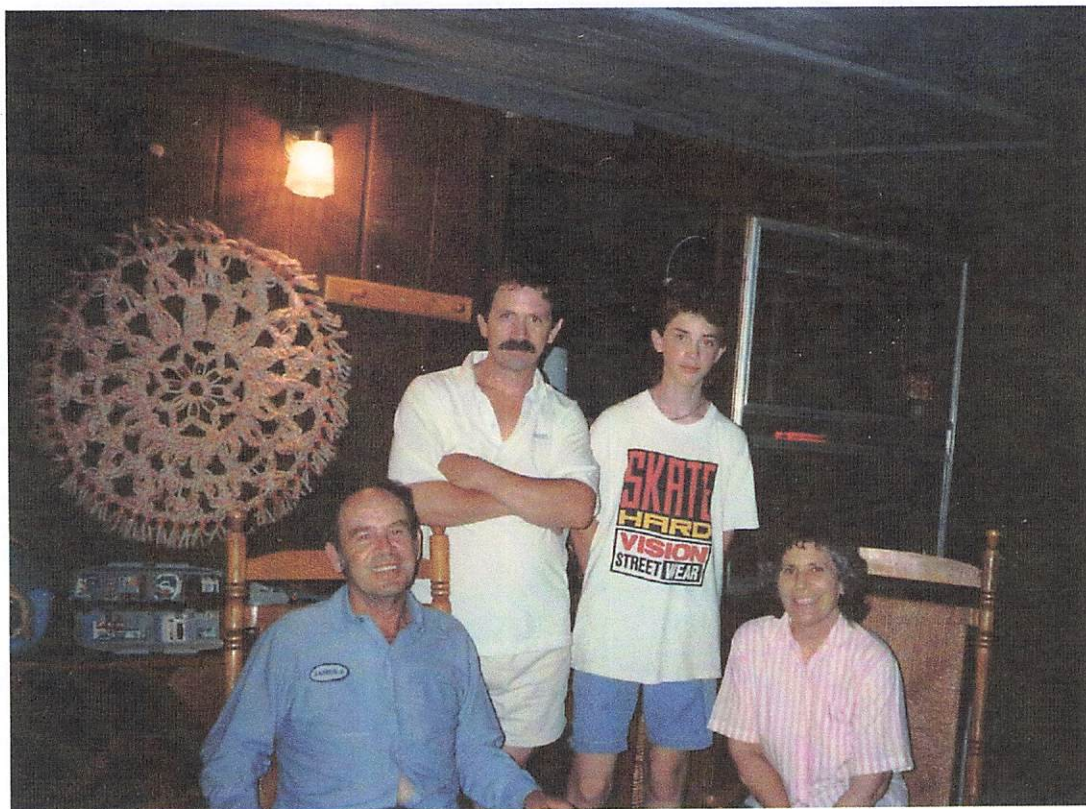
Robert Earl Deaton was born August 9, 1943 in Loudon County, TN. He married Carolyn Amburn on June 29, 1969 in Loudon County, TN. Carolyn was born on February 25, 1949 in Oak Ridge, TN. Her parents were Elta and Lucas Amburn. They have two children, Matthew and Lisa Deaton.

Lisa Michelle Deaton was born June 20, 1973 in Oak Ridge, TN. She married Matthew Stennett, from Oregon, on February 22, 2002. They have one daughter, Ashley Summer Stennett, born on May 1, 1998. Lisa and her family love to go fishing, undoubtedly inherited from grandmother, Phebie Deaton.

Robert Matthew Deaton was born May 25, 1977 in Fairfax, VA.

Lavonda Joyce Deaton was born April 25, 1946 in Madisonville, TN. She married Robert Edward Ervin on October 3, 1964. Robert was born June 11, 1943 in Lenoir City, TN. His parents were Eva Worley and Earl Ervin. They had one child, Krystal Paige Ervin.

Krystal Paige Ervin was born November 5, 1965.



Jurlon and Irene are seated. Standing are Earl Deaton and son, Matthew.



*Back row left to right are Farley, Starlon and Jurlon Deaton.
Front row are Murlon, Ike and Phebie Deaton.*



*Back row left to right are Inez, Edia and Inis Deaton.
Front row are Lavonda, Ike and Phebie Deaton*



*Front row left to right are Farley, Murlon and Edia Deaton.
In the second row are Phebie, Starlon, Ike and Inez Deaton.
Standing in the back are Inis and Jurlon Deaton.*

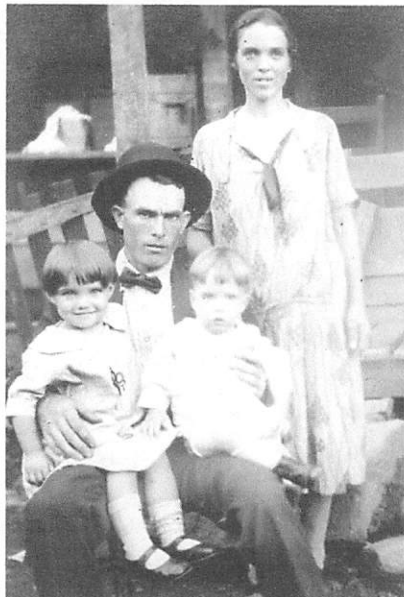
Robert Lee Deaton



Robert Lee Deaton was born on December 24, 1900. He was the fifth son born to John Starlin and Loutisha Carver Deaton. He married Marjorie Mae Taylor, born on October 19, 1900. They were married on November 9, 1922 in Toccoa, GA. Toccoa lies in Stephens County. Robert and Marjorie moved to Cherokee where he logged with Rueben Deaton, his older brother. While there they had a daughter, Lucille.



Two years later the family moved back to Toccoa, GA where a son, David Lee Deaton, was born. They then moved to TN and lived on Robert's brother, Ike's, farm. While there he farmed, but Lucille, his daughter, remembers the good times she had with her Uncle Ike's children. They moved back to GA four or five years later. He operated his own taxi service. He had a heart attack and died on July 8, 1941. He is buried at Fairfield Cemetery in Demorest, GA. Marjorie Deaton died May 16, 1948 and is buried beside her beloved husband.



Left to right are Lucille, Bob, Dave and Margie.



Margie, Lucille and Bob Deaton


Memories of Robert Lee Deaton

Lucille Deaton Roberts states that her father is remembered as a loving and devoted father. He was devoted to Aunt Martha Ann Wheeler and his brothers.

Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are as follows.



Lucille Deaton was born August 26, 1923. She married J.B. Poole in 1940. Out of this marriage came two children, Bob Gerald Poole and Glenda Lee Poole. Lucille and J.B.

were divorced in 1948. She moved to Michigan in 1953. She married  Ernest Roberts in September of 1963. They moved back to Mt. Airy, GA in 1973 when her husband retired. He died May 12, 1992. Lucille is an expert seamstress, having made her first outfit when she was only twelve years old.

Bob Gerald Poole was born on May 28, 1941 in Gainesville, GA. He married Judy Johnson in 1963. They had three children; Jeff, Jannie and Joel Poole. All of the children were born in Michigan where they reside.

Jeffrey Gerald Poole was born April 2, 1964 and died in 1985.

Jannie Lynn Poole was born November 1, 1966. She married Fred Ahrens in 1985. They have a son, Freddy Ahrens born in 1986. They have two daughters, Amber Ahrens, born August 12, 1988 and Abby Ahrens, born December 16, 1989.

Joel Patrick Poole was born September 15, 1968. He has a son, Tyler Poole, who was born December 12, 1992.


Glenda Lee Poole was born on June 3, 1944 in Habersham County. She married H.L. Dodd on January 12, 1962. They have three children, Laura Gail, Henry Lewis and John Garnett Dodd. All of the children were born in Habersham County, GA where they reside.

Laura Gail Dodd was born February 5, 1963.

Henry Lewis Dodd was born September 3, 1964.

John Garnett Dodd was born April 1, 1966.



 **David Lee Deaton** was born on April 21, 1925. He spent nine years in the army, from 1941-1950. He married Rounette (no date known) and had one daughter, Linda Deaton. She married Ronald Hamm and they had three children. Their children were Lysa Hamm, born October 17, 1966, Ronda Hamm (no birthdate known) and Robert Hamm (no birthdate known). Rounette and "Dave" were divorced. He married Betty Gibson October 5, 1963. They had two children, Tammy Grace Deaton, born February 2, 1966 and Robert Lee Deaton, born June 7, 1968 in Michigan. He and Betty were divorced and Betty married Jim Williams who adopted the two children. Robbie and Tammy have a half-brother, Jason, born in

Charlotte, NC in 1971.

David Lee Deaton married Louella Elliot. He developed cancer and died on December 25, 1978. He is buried at Toccoa Memorial Gardens in Stephens County, GA.



Harve Deaton, Lucille Roberts and Dave Deaton



*Left to right: Bottom are Wayne Deaton, Daryll Duncan and Lucille Roberts.
Next row are Linda Deaton Hamn, Lysa Hamn, Martha Sheppard and Karen Deaton.
Third row are Ronald Hamn, Dave Deaton, Tammy Deaton and Harve Deaton.
On the back is Earl Deaton.*

John Henry Deaton



John Henry Deaton was born February 14, 1902 in Graham County, NC. He was the oldest son of John Starlin Deaton and Etta Icie Davis Deaton. After John Starlin Deaton died their family stayed for a time with James and Martha Ann Wheeler. Etta Deaton married James Meeler. Times were hard for the Meeler family, so at an early age John Henry went to live with Ulysses and Rhilla Martin. There he earned his keep by working in the cotton gin. He did not have much formal education. He married Cora Jane Lawrence, (daughter of Hannah Watson and William E. "Chub" Lawrence) born in December 18, 1901, on October 7, 1919 in Banks County, GA. They had a daughter, Fannie Ruth Deaton, born in 1923 in Banks County, GA. The family moved to Swain County, NC, where John worked in a logging camp. A son, Stark Deaton, was born there in 1925. Cora Deaton then developed TB and the family moved back to Banks County, GA. They had two daughters born there, Hazel in 1929 and Johnnie in 1933. At this time John farmed and worked in construction, often in another state. At those times he would be gone for two or three months at a time. Early in 1942 John bought a farm in Demorest, GA. He really cared about people and they always had other people staying with them.



*In front are Stark and Johnnie
In back are Hazel, Cora, John and Ruth*

1942 was a bad year for the Deaton family. John's brother, Jacob, died and three weeks later Hazel drowned. Hazel was only thirteen years old. She was at a school picnic and the children were playing at the edge of the water at Soque River. A girl was swept under the water by a swift undercurrent, and a boy went in to help her. He was swept under. Hazel, being an excellent swimmer, went in to save them. All three died on May 19, 1942. (My father, Harve Deaton never got over this accident for Hazel was his favorite niece.) Everyone loved Hazel, as she was very outgoing.

In 1948 John Deaton began his career in law enforcement. He served as a policeman and sheriff's deputy until he retired. He died in September 27, 1980 in Habersham County, GA. He is buried in the Demorest Cemetery in Demorest, Habersham County, GA. His wife, Cora Deaton was buried beside him on February 25, 1993.

He had the following children to reach maturity:

Fannie Ruth Deaton was born March 23, 1922 in Banks County, Ga. She married Tom Smith on June 28, 1942. Tom was born November 18, 1923. They had no children. She died November 21, 1979 and is buried in the Demorest Cemetery. Tom Smith died May 6, 1998 and is buried beside her.



Stark Deaton was born December 27, 1925 in Swain County, NC. Stark was drafted during World War II into service and was to report to duty 2 days before he was to be out of school. So the officials changed the ceremony date so that he could graduate with his class.

He married Fredeva Broome in 1950 in Oconee County, SC. He and his wife had three boys. They are Stark Deaton, Jr., Dwayne Deaton, and Michael Deaton. He died of cancer in April of 1960 and is buried in the Demorest Cemetery.


Stark Deaton Jr. was born in 1951 in Habersham County, GA. He married Linda Smallwood. He has three children, Michelle, Dwayne, and John.



Dwayne Fred Deaton was born July 10, 1953 in Habersham County, GA. He married Linda Sue Metcalf. They had one child, Jana Lea Deaton. Jana was born June 16, 1973 in Jacksonville, FL. He then married Gail Robin Dawn. They had two children, Jacqueline Suzanne and Daniel Allen Deaton. Jacqueline Deaton was born October 31, 1978 in Sarasota, FL. She has one child, Tyler Alexander Kennedy, born March 8, 1998. Daniel Allen Deaton was born April 1, 1981 in Sarasota, FL. He married Carolyn Elizabeth Elliot on January 31, 1987 in Orlando, FL. She was born January 28, 1957. She brought two children into the marriage, Margaret Lynn Summers, born April 1, 1979, and Heather Nicole Summers, born June 1, 1981.


Michael Deaton was born on June 8, 1956 in Ypsilanti, MI. Michael has one daughter, Sharon Dawn Deaton, born October 29, 1979. She was married on August 7, 1999 to Larry Bryan Townsend, born June 9, 1979. Michael married Tammy Lynea Cook, born April 25, 1958 in Valdese, NC. They have two children, Michael Stark Deaton, born September 23, 1981 and Adam Lee Deaton, born May 22, 1984, in Athens, GA.

Johnnie Deaton was born in November 18, 1933. Johnnie passed away from cancer on September 2, 2003. She was the first descendant of John

Starlin Deaton to graduate from college. She married  Joe Downer in 1954 in Oconee, SC. They had two daughters. Deborah Diane Downer was born in July of 1958 and Hazel Joann Downer born in September of 1963 in Habersham County, GA.



Joe and Johnnie

Deborah Dianne Downer married  Jerry Cunningham in September of 1976 in Habersham County, GA. They have two daughters. Hannah Erin Cunningham was born July 21, 1983 and Leah April Cunningham was born April 29, 1986. Hannah Erin Cunningham married Dustan Wilbanks in November of 2001 in Habersham County, GA.

Hazel Joann Downer (Named Hazel because the first time her grandfather, John Deaton, saw her he thought she looked just like her Aunt Hazel did when she was born.) married Johnny Loudermilk in September of 1981 in Habersham County. They have a daughter, Melody Anna, born April 4, 1995, and a son, John Mark, born December 23, 1996 in Habersham County, GA.



Johnnie and daughters

Jacob Leander Deaton

Jacob Leander Deaton was the second son of John Starlin Deaton and Etta Icie Davis Deaton. He was born March 8, 1904 in Graham County, NC. After John Starlin Deaton was killed Etta Deaton and her family lived with James and Martha Ann Wheeler in Towns County, GA for a few years. Jacob "Jake" Deaton loved Aunt Martha Ann Wheeler just like his other brothers did. Etta Deaton married James W.



Meeler and there were hard times. Etta's children from the Deaton family were sent out to work for other families. Jacob stayed with Ulysses and Rhilla Martin where he worked in the cotton gin. John Deaton, Jacob's brother, also stayed with this family. He farmed most of his life in Banks and Franklin Counties. He also worked on the WPA and cut cross ties in the winter for the railroad. He married Bertha Cornelia Smith on August 24, 1924. Bertha Smith was born on September 26, 1907 in Hart County, GA. Her parents were Earl and Millie Mae Saylor Smith. They had six children: Carrie Mae, Earl Starlin, Eddie Daniel, Ophelia Henrietta, Thomas Emory, and Ernest Lee Deaton. When he was going to the hospital with pneumonia he told Carrie, "Sis, you are the oldest. Take care of the little ones". He was not to come home again for he died of kidney failure on April 24, 1942. He is buried in Fairfield Cemetery in Demorest, GA. Carrie took this challenge seriously. She went to Belmont, NC to stay with her Grandmother Smith. She lied about her age and got a job in the cotton mill. She sent her mother every penny that she did not need to live on.



*Front Row are Ophelia,
Tom E and Lee
Back row are Daniel, Carrie
and Earl.*



Jake, Carrie and Bertha Deaton



*Jake and Tom E.
are on front.
Back are Daniel,
Earl, Bertha, Lee,
Ophelia and Carrie*





*Left to right are Carrie, Earl,
Daniel, Ophelia, Tom E. and Lee.*


Memories of Jake Deaton.

Jake was six feet seven inches tall. He was a hard working man who taught his children to work hard. On Sundays he liked to play with the children. He made toys for the children, using tall round trees to saw wheels and using hot iron rods to burn holes in the wheels. With these wheels he made wagons, wheelbarrows and cars. The family was very happy. He liked to rabbit hunt and fish. He loved his family. On his birthday his wife always made him a huge chicken pie. All of his family would come by to see him that day. When any of his brothers visited the children would gather around to hear all the jokes, hunting tales, and laughter.


Children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren are as follows.




Carrie Mae Deaton was born on September 14, 1925 in Banks County, GA. She married Lewis Lee Gillen on April 11, 1944 in Gaston County, NC.  Lewis was born October 26, 1924 in Belmont, Gaston County, NC. His parents were William Arthur and Ruth May Blair Gillen. Lewis was on kidney dialysis for many years and passed away on December 24, 1995. He is buried in Gastonia Hollywood Cemetery, Gaston County, NC. Carrie retired from the cotton mill. Lewis retired from Duke Power. They had three daughters, Shirley Ruth, Carrie Louise and Audrey Joyce Gillen. Shirley Ruth Gillen died the day she was born on December 19, 1962. Carrie always wanted four children but it was not to be.

Carrie Louise Gillen was born August 9, 1946 in Mecklenburg County, NC. She married  Gary Wayne Owens, born January 10, 1948, on November 19, 1965. They had three daughters, Leslie Kay Owens, Laurie Ruth Owens, and Lacy Ann Owens. Later Louise married James Allen Anderson. He died September 20, 1991.

Leslie Kay Owens was born November 3, 1966. She married  Walter Cantrell. They have four children; Joshua Caleb Cantrell, born September 9, 1991, Jonathan David Cantrell, born September 29, 1993, Victoria Christine Cantrell, born January 16, 1996, and Timothy Joel Cantrell, born September 29, 1997.

Laura Ruth Owens was born August 12, 1969. She married Kenneth Hinson on March 8, 1991. They had a daughter, Erika Nikole Hinson, born June 14, 1997. She married Benjy Carpenter on March 28, 2003.

Lacey Ann Owens was born February 23, 1973. She married  Dirk Edward Kuenzler in March of 1993. He was born January 19, 1970. They have two children; Morgan Dirk Kuenzler, born January 27, 1996 and Seth Allen Kuenzler, born July 23, 1999.

 *Audrey Joyce Gillen* was born November 16, 1947 in Mecklenburg County, NC. She married  Thomas Earl Waller on November 21, 1965. Thomas, the son of Pauline Doris Conder and Earl George Waller, Jr., was born August 24, 1946. They had two children, Thomas Earl Waller, Jr. and Leslie Lee Waller. She married  Ogelbie Ellsworth Hunt, Jr. on March 19, 1977 in Anchorage, AL. Ogelbie, born December 28, 1941, is the son of Ethel Evelyn Smith and Ogelbie Elsworth Hunt. They have two children, Helena Joy Hunt and Lewis Edward Hunt.



Thomas Earl Waller, Jr. was born October 7, 1966 in Gaston County, NC. He married Dawn Marie Gainey, born May 13, 1970 in Gaston County, NC, in March 1993. Her parents were Sylvia Sue Shriner and Stanley Loran Gainey. They had one son, Robert Thomas Waller, born March 29, 1993 in Gaston County, NC. Tom married Felicity Lorien Brush-Sasano on November 21, 1998 in San Diego County, CA. Felicity was born May 16, 1968 in Los Angeles County, CA. Her parents are Clarissa Rue Brush and Edward Lee Meck-Douglas. They have two children. Bianca Marie Waller was born April 1, 1999 in San Diego County, CA and Mason James Waller was born July 25, 2001 in Los Angeles County, CA.



Leslie Lee Waller was born May 20, 1970 in Gaston County, NC. Lee Married Teri Biggerstaff, born in Gaston County, NC. They had one child, Dustin Adam Joseph Waller. Lee and Crystal Irving had the following child, Deanna Shae Irving. Lee married Rhonda Lindsey in Gaston County, NC. Lee and Rhonda had one child, Victoria Blake Waller, born in Gaston County, NC. Lee married Kathy Cope in Gatlinburg, TN. Kathy was born in Cleveland County, NC. Kathy and Lee had one child. Ariel Nicole Waller was born April 2, 1999 in Cleveland County, NC. Lee married Cathy Kinney, daughter of Deborah Monroe and William McCarty on April 12, 2003 in SC. Cathy was born January 20, 1971 in Cuyahoga County, OH.

Helena Joy Hunt was born June 10, 1977 in Anchorage, Alaska. She married James Tally Langford on October 7, 1995 in Gaston County, NC. They had no children. Joy married Christopher Chad Bostic, son of Barbara Dianne Thompson and James Earl Bostic, on December 20, 1997 in York, SC. They have three children. Kalin Brooke Bostic was born November 6, 1999. Allison Nicole Bostic was born June 5, 2001 and Christina Joy Bostic was born July 17, 2002. All three children were born in Greenville, Pitt County, NC. Joy is a first grade school teacher.



Lewis Edward Hunt was born February 11, 1981 in Houston, TX. Lewis was named after his grandfather, Lewis Gillen.

Earl Starlin Deaton was born July 5, 1928 in Stephens County, GA. He married Dauphine Ledford, born March 30, 1932 in Hayesville, NC to Pauline and Fred Ledford. Dauphine and Earl were married on April 8, 1950 in York, SC. Earl is remembered as being a hard working man who loved his family. He worked as an electrician. They had four children, Earl Starlin Deaton, Jr., Randy Jake Deaton, Linda Darlene Deaton, and Keith Eric Deaton. Earl died November 10, 1994 and is buried beside his wife, who died July 7, 2000 at Gaston Memorial Park, Gaston County, NC.




Earl & Martha Deaton




Harve Deaton, Dauphine Deaton and Robert Meeler



 **Randy Jake Deaton** was born March 26, 1951 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Sharon Elaine Ellington, daughter of Jack and Maxine Ellington, on November 18, 1972. They have two children, Patricia Nicole Deaton born July 7, 1976 and Nicholas O'Brian Deaton, born November 10, 1990. Both children were born in Gaston County, NC.




Linda Darlene Deaton was born October 26, 1954 in Mecklenburg County, NC. She married John Wesley Gibson on November 18, 1972. (She and Randy had a double

wedding.)  **John Wesley Gibson** was born June 9, 1954. They have one son, John Wesley Gibson, Jr.

John Wesley Gibson, Jr. was born March 30, 1976 in Landstul, Germany. He married Elizabeth Ann Massey, daughter of Charlotte and Don Massey. Elizabeth was born February 7, 1978 in Gaston County, NC. She and John Wesley, Jr. were married June 19, 1999.



 **Keith Eric Deaton** was born December 3, 1955 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Gaye Nell Hinson in 1974 in York, SC. They had one son, Jacob Leander Deaton, named after his great-grandfather, on February 15, 1979 in Gaston County, NC. Keith Eric Deaton then married Sarah Linda Barnes on December 8, 1986 in Gaston County, NC. They had two children each born in Gaston County, NC. They are Christine Lee Deaton, born July 4, 1987 and Sarah Ann Deaton, born January 4, 1991.

Earl Starlin Deaton, Jr. was born about 1960 and died as an infant. He is buried in Gaston Memorial Park in Gastonia, NC.



Eddie Daniel Deaton was born July 1, 1931 in Stephens County, GA. He married Jo Nell Sewell, April 1, 1953. She was born February 23, 1931 in Franklin County, GA to Hiram J. and Mamie Alewine Sewell. Jo Nell Deaton is buried at Cannon Cemetery, Franklin County, GA. They had three children, Pamela Danette Deaton, Edwina Jo Deaton, and Eddie Daniel "Danny" Deaton, Jr. He later married Delores Dunaway on June 28, 1969 in Clark County, GA. Delores was born June 23, 1939 in Clark County, GA. He parents are Homer Dunaway and Mavis Leona Brown Dunaway. Delores bought twin daughters into the marriage, Sheryll Janice Tucker and Hope Janine Tucker.



Dan and Delores Deaton


Pamela Danette Deaton was born December 19, 1954 in Franklin County, GA. She married Tommy Pilgram, now deceased. They had three children, Joey, Jeffrey and Alecia Pilgram. Alicia Danielle Fulchum has two children, Hailey Page-Englin and Zachery Alexander Fulchum.

Edwina Jo Deaton was born September 4, 1956 in Franklin County, GA. She has two children, Jacob and Christie Clark. Christie Lynn Clark was born in December of 1984. Jacob Yule Clark was born February 10, 1982.

Eddie Daniel Deaton, Jr. was born May 13, 1958 in Franklin County, GA. He married Teresa and they had two children, Christopher and Jonathan Deaton. He married Christine Huto. They had one son, Brent. He is married to Wendy Beard.

Hope Janine Tucker was born September 7, 1960 in Clark County, GA. She married John Lynn and they have three children. Niki Lynn was born September 11, 1985. Nicholas Lynn was born November 15, 1986. Joseph Lynn was born March 10, 1989.

Sheryll Janice Tucker was also born September 7, 1960. She married Michael Christopher. They have three children. Michael Christopher was born February 2, 1983. Mitchell Christopher was born January 19, 1985. Michelle Christopher was born May 28, 1987.


Ophelia Henrietta Deaton was born April 28, 1934 in Franklin County, GA. She married  John Robert Manus on June 14, 1956. John was born May 1, 1930 in Wadesboro, NC. They had three children, John Robert Manus, Jr., Richard Lee Manus, and Roger Paul Manus. Her husband, John Robert Manus, died June 1, 1981.

John Robert Manus, Jr. was September 9, 1957 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Alesia Bonita Campbell July 10, 1977. They had one son, Jonathan Ryan Manus, born December 29, 1983.

Richard Lee Manus was born March 22, 1961 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Paula Renee Harrison December 1, 1984. They have two children. Amber Lanae Manus was born May 26, 1985 and Richard Blake Manus was born February 23, 1994.


Roger Paul Manus was born February 14, 1972 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Dawn Michele Dilworth November 12, 1994.


Thomas Emory Deaton was born December 9, 1936 in Franklin County, GA. He married Peggy Brooks. Their children are Peggy Denise Deaton, Robert Emory Deaton, Roy Adam Deaton, and Tammy Earlene Deaton.

 **Ernest Lee Deaton** was born January 1, 1940 in Banks County, GA. He married Linda Melton, daughter of Walter M. and Ethel Burleson Melton. Linda was born January 23, 1940 in Belmont, NC. Linda and Lee were married October 25, 1958. Lee retired from the US Navy. They have two sons, Terry Lee Deaton and Troy Lynn Deaton.



Lee and Linda Deaton

 *Terry Lee Deaton* was born December 17, 1959 in Mecklenburg County, NC. He married Renae Barnes who was born in 1962 to Joe and Kay Barnes. They were married December 23, 1978 in Charleston County, SC.

 *Troy Lynn Deaton* was born November 25, 1962 in Charleston County, SC. He married Michele Jeffries on December 31, 1982 in Dorchester County, SC. They had one daughter, Jaime Lynn Deaton, born July 24, 1983 in Charleston County, SC. Troy married Elizabeth Bolton in 1987 in Dayton, Ohio. They have two sons, Daniel Lee Deaton, born May 16, 1988 in Dayton, Ohio and Sean Andrew Deaton born September 23, 1990 in Kusel, Germany.



Terry Renae
Troy and Michelle Deaton

Harve Wesley Deaton



Harve Wesley Deaton was born November 14, 1907 in Graham County, NC. He was the youngest son of Etta Icie Davis Deaton and John Starlin Deaton. He was just three months old when his father was killed. Harve only was able to go to school until he finished the third grade. He loved learning new things, so he taught himself to read, write and do math. You would never have guessed how little formal education he had! Times were hard for his mother and stepfather so he went to live with Hannah and W.E. Lawrence when he was nine years old. This family took care of the elderly, much like a nursing home today. So it was Harve's job to help Hannah take care of the "old folks". He loved Hannah so he enjoyed staying with them although he had to earn his keep. When he was sixteen he took off to the mountains to the logging camp where his brothers worked. When he first arrived he had to help the "cookee", preparing the meals and cleaning up the mess hall. I suppose this was why he always enjoyed cooking and trying new recipes (most of which he made up). Later he graduated to logging with the horses. How he loved to tell the tales of those days. He could tell you the name of every tree in the forest. He sent all of the money that he could home to his mother. His stepfather had cancer and was not able to work. Farming didn't go very far with a family of six to feed.

When Harve returned home in the fall of 1928, he thought it was just for a visit. It was only then that he learned his stepfather had passed away. His mother asked him to stay with them and help make a crop. He remained with them, loving the younger brothers and sisters, as if they were his own, until he married.



*In front, left to right:
Robert and Charlie
Mealor. Middle row:
Etta, Elsie, Odell
Mealor. Back row:
Harve and John Deaton.*



Harve married Bertie Mae Ausburn on February 21, 1935 in Banks County, GA by Rev. Freeman Rice. (He always said he picked her out for his wife when she was five years old.)

Bertie Mae's mother, Mittie Jackson, had been sick for a number of years. They learned later it was cancer but in those days, medically, there was nothing to do for it. Mittie had two children, a half-brother, Boyd, and half-sister, Lucille, to Bertie Mae. Bertie Mae loved those children with a passion. It came time for them to start school and Mittie wasn't able to really care for them. Also they lived way down in a hollow. Harve and Bertie Mae would go get the children on Sunday afternoon and keep them at their house until Friday afternoon. They sent them to school and took care of them. It was all Claude Jackson could do to farm and take care of his wife, Mittie. Bertie Mae got

pregnant. Mittie called Harve to her side. She asked him to take her children for she knew her time was almost up. He promised to take care of them as long as they would stay with them. Martha Ann Deaton was born on July 5, 1941, and Mittie Jackson died on July 6, 1941.



Boyd Jackson



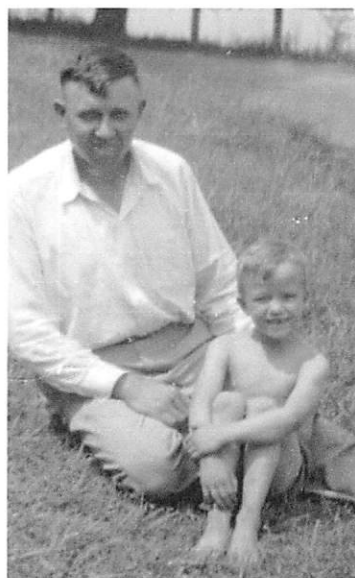
Left to right, top row: Lucille Jackson, Bertie Mae and Harve, Harve is holding Martha, Bobbie Jean Lewallen is standing.

Tragedy seemed to loom. Robert Lee (Harve's brother) and Margie Deaton went to the funeral. When he arrived home he turned to his wife and said, "You never know when it is time to go". The next day he died of a heart attack while operating his cab.

The Second World War started six months later. Harve was thirty-five years old and did not have to go to war. He did, however, go to work for R. J. Letourneau building military equipment. It took a couple of hours to get to work and return home and they worked long hours doing their best to defend the country's freedom.



Harve, Martha and Bertie Mae



Harve and Wayne Deaton

Other people worked the farm to keep it going for it was a sharecropper's farm. There was always some one staying with them that worked for room and board and a small amount of money. It seemed every day there was some one who came to the door asking for food. They were always fed leftovers and given water while sitting on the backdoor step.

Bertie Mae got pregnant again. They buried their baby boy, Kenneth Wesley Deaton on March 13, 1943. He arrived early and wasn't strong enough to make it. He was laid to rest in Damascus Church Cemetery in Banks County, GA.

The war ended with much jubilation! Bertie Mae was pregnant again. Harry Wayne Deaton arrived on July 29, 1946 much to the delight of everyone.

I must tell this story. Daddy, Harve Deaton, always killed snakes by picking them up by their tail and snapping their heads off. This sunny day, the yard filled with "company" and family, a snake decided to make his appearance. It was summer. I did not like to go barefoot because I always got a rusty nail stuck in my foot or got them cut on glass. So in the summer I wore my brogans with no shoestrings and the tongue flopping. Daddy picked up that snake up and snap went his head right between the tongue of my shoe and my ankle. I nearly died.

Farming wasn't very productive so Harve went to Garnett and Vassie Smith's house in Cramerton, NC to stay with them and work in the cotton mill. Lucille got married and moved out. The millwork did not agree with Harve so he went to work for the Cramer Farm, which he loved. A house came with the job. So Bertie Mae started planning to move to NC. Lucille had her first child, Roger, and Boyd got married. The time was right for the family to make the big move. It was March 10, 1950.


Wayne, age 3, had never lived in a painted house with a bathroom, running water and electricity. So he walked around saying, "my pretty house".

Four years passed and the family got the "red measles". The children got well but Bertie Mae's measles turned into spinal meningitis. She lay in the hospital in a coma for 42 days. When she did wake up she was never really well, mentally or physically. She died on June 16, 1957. Life went on for Harve and the children, but Harve never got over that until the day he died. He had several strokes and was in a nursing home. He passed away July 3, 1997 and was buried beside his beloved wife at Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery in Belmont, NC.

I wrote this message in the program for his memorial service.

What more can be said for a man who was honest in all of his dealings, and was a good husband and father. His great love for his family and his Maker endured as long as he lived. Let this be an example for us as we continue on the journey of life.

Martha Ann Deaton was born July 5, 1941 in Banks County, GA. She married Steven Benjamin Duncan, born in March of 1942 in Cleveland County, NC, in December of 1962 in Gaston County, NC. They had a son, Daryll Wesley Duncan. She married James Phillip Eury, born October 5, 1935 in Montgomery County, NC, on December 28, 1968 in Cabarrus County, NC. James had two daughters by a previous marriage, Cynthia, born March 17, 1954 and Shelia, born February 14, 1956. His parents were Annie Rachel Livingston and Hugh Kenny Eury. They had a daughter, Angela Renee Eury. James Eury died November 16, 1975 at Wake Forest Medical Center in Winston Salem, NC.

She married  George Nural Sheppard, born December 21, 1931 in Rutherford County, on March 18, 1977 in York, SC. George brought three children into the marriage; Beverly, born December 29, 1953, Barbara, born March 8, 1955, and George, Jr. born September 3, 1956. His parents were Glessia Elmo McGaha and Nural Hatherine Sheppard.

Pictured at right: Martha and George





Daryll Wesley Duncan was born December 11, 1963 in Concord, NC. He married Rosalind Tracey Tucker, born February 21, 1962 in Cuero, TX, on May 9, 1986 in Gaston County, NC. Her parents are Brenda Feters and Ralph Tucker. They have two sons; Jared Wesley Duncan, born June 29, 1987, in Gaston County, NC and Joshua Caleb Duncan born April 13, 1990, in Gaston County, NC. He married Andrea Rae Wood October 24, 2003 in Gatlinburg, TN. Andrea was born June 15, 1965 in Denton, Davidson County, NC. Her parents are Robert and Nancy Wood.

Pictured above: Daryll and Andrea



Martha and Jared



*Tracy is holding Joshua,
Jared is on top*



Angela Renee Eury was born August 13, 1970 in Concord, NC. She married Billy Ray Johnson, born December 16, 1967 in Duvall County, Florida, on August 10, 1991 in Charlotte, NC. His parents are Bob and January Johnson. Ray is a Baptist minister. They have two sons, Caleb Joseph Johnson born on March 17, 1997 in Mecklenburg County, NC and Tyler James Johnson born on January 4, 2002 in Mecklenburg County, NC.

*Pictured at left:
Ray is holding Tyler,
Angie and Caleb are standing*



Harve and Angie

Kenneth Wesley Deaton was born and died on March 13, 1943 in Banks County, GA. He is buried at Damascus Church Cemetery, Banks County, GA.





Harry Wayne Deaton was born July 29, 1946 in Banks County, GA. He married Karen Ruth Byrd, born August 29, 1946 in Swain County, NC, on March 25, 1967 in Swain County, NC. Karen's parents were Carrie and Eugene Byrd. Wayne went to Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO where he earned a BA in Theology after he had two daughters, Susan Lynn Deaton and Cynthia Dawn Deaton. Wendy Renae



Deaton was born while he and Karen were in college. Andrew Wayne Deaton was born after they returned home and he was pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church. Wayne died August 29, 2001 while waiting for a heart transplant at Duke Medical Center, Durham, NC. He is buried at Cabarrus Memorial Gardens in Cabarrus County, NC. Wayne is remembered as a devoted brother, loving husband, proud dad, adoring grandfather, special uncle, faithful friend and dedicated pastor.



Susan Lynn Deaton was born in Mecklenburg County, NC on June 3, 1968. Susan is a high school teacher and a volleyball coach.

Cynthia Dawn Deaton was born in Mecklenburg County, NC on December 29, 1972. She married Brian James Phillips, born February 6, 1973 in Cabarrus County, NC, on October 25, 1998 in Cabarrus County. They have two sons; Connor Joshua Phillips, born September 30, 1999 and Matthew Wayne Phillips, born December 7, 2001. Both were born in Mecklenburg County, NC.



*At right:
Cynthia is holding Matthew,
Brian is holding Connor.*



Wendy Renae Deaton was born April 1, 1977 in Springfield, MO. She married Jeremy John Perry, born October 19, 1976, on May 25, 1997 in Cabarrus County, NC. They have two children, both born in Cleveland County, NC. Greyson John Perry was born on February 23, 1999. Avery Madison Perry was born September 12, 2000.

Jeremy and Wendy's children are on the dedication page.

Andrew Wayne Deaton was born February 7, 1987 in Mecklenburg County, NC. Andrew will graduate in December of 2004 and plans to be a youth minister.



Andrew is in front and behind him left to right are Susan, Cynthia and Wendy.




*Left to right,
Front row: Wendy, Cynthia, Karen,
Back row: Wayne and Susan*

Charles Allen Meeler

Charles Allen Meeler was born August 21, 1912 in Banks County, GA. He was the oldest child of Etta Davis Meeler and James W. Meeler. He farmed for a living. He married Lonie Lillie Kelley, born on June 16, 1908, on April 21 1946. They were married by B.S. Peyton in Homer, Georgia. Lonie's parents were Mary Blackburn and Thomas Kelley. They had two children, James Thomas Meeler and Elsie Louise Meeler, who were so precious to them. Charlie died March 13, 1972 and Lonie died April 7, 1974. They are buried at Lamar Church Cemetery, Banks County, GA.



Charlie and Lonie Meeler

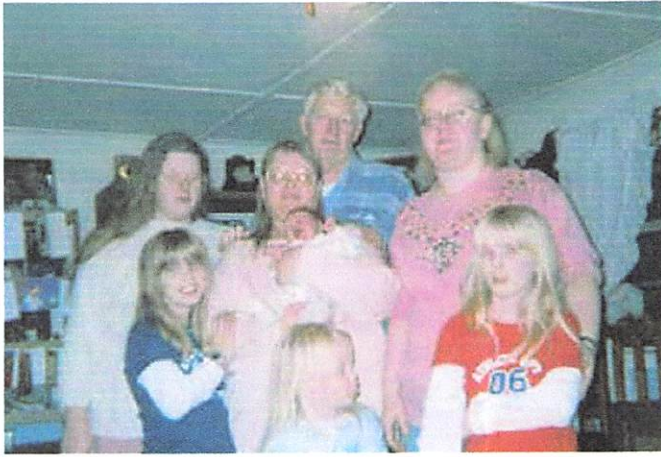
 **James Thomas Meeler** was born October 16, 1947 in Habersham County, GA. He married Betty Joyce Dickson, born on March 19, 1971 in Stephens County on July 25, 1952. Her parents were Willie Amos and Eula Adderholt Dickson. They have two daughters; Rebecca Ann Meeler and Amanda Renee Meeler. James works in textiles.

Rebecca Ann Meeler was born January 21, 1976 in Hall County, GA. She married Johnny Ray Chambers born October 7, 1973, in Atlanta, GA. They were married October 10, 1991 in Walhalla, SC. They had two daughters; Tabytha Mykole chambers, born September 19, 1994, and Natasha Amber Chambers born September 18, 1995. Both were born in Habersham County, GA. Rebecca Ann married Authur Chambers, born December 23, 1948 in Texas, on May 1, 1998, in Stephens County, GA. They have one daughter, Brittany Ann Chambers, born August 5, 1998 in Habersham County, GA.

Amanda Renee Meeler was born April 9, 1980 in Hall County, GA. She married Christopher Free, born in Stephens County, GA, on August 20, 1994 in Walhalla, SC. She later married Edward Ayers, born February 8, 1966 in Ambulosia, AL, on May 17, 1996 in Habersham County, GA. They have a daughter, Stormee Angel Ayers born on December 17, 2002 in Habersham County, GA. (James Meeler, her grandfather, named her Stormee and her father added the Angel.)



James and Jo Meeler



*front row: Brittany and Tabytha
second row: Natasha, Jo holding Stormee and Becki
back row: Mande and James.*

Elsie Louise Meeler was born October 16, 1947 in Habersham County, GA. She married Junior Burdette, born April 19, 1947, in November of 1968. They had two children, Tracey and Keith Burdette.

Tracey Burdette was born May 8, 1970. She married Ricky Martin, born September 26, 1961, in 1989. They have two sons, Ricky, born August 23, 1989 in Franklin County, GA, and Shaun, born August 29, 1990 in Stephens County, GA.

Keith Burdette was born December 11, 1971. He has two children, McKensie, born January 11, 1991, and Derrick, born August 13, 1993.

Odell Meeler Gerrell

Odell Meeler was born November 6, 1916 in Banks County, GA. She was the second child of Etta Davis Meeler and James W. Meeler. She married E. C. Gerrell December 26, 1946. E. C. was born December 16, 1920. Etta Davis Meeler made her home with them as long as she lived. They had no children but they are remembered as being a very special "aunt" and "uncle". E.C. Gerrell retired from the hardware store. Odell Gerrell retired from a sewing factory. Odell died as a result of diabetes on January 29, 2000. E.C. was in a nursing home due to strokes and passed away July 8, 2000. They are buried at Yonah Memorial Gardens in Habersham County, GA.



Odell and E. C. Gerrell



Odell and E. C. Gerrell



*Left to right:
On sofa are E.C. & Odell Gerrell, Verner & Elsie Looney
Sitting are Kelly, Beth, Amy and Adam Looney*

Robert Lee Meeler



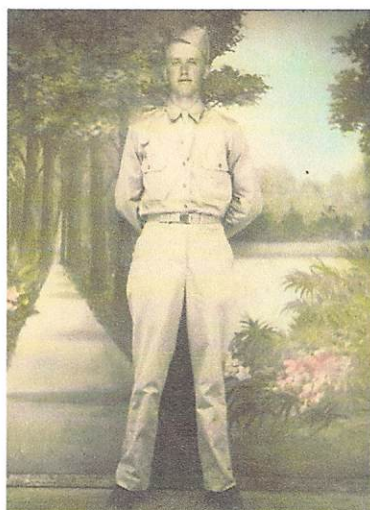
Robert Lee Meeler was born September 13, 1923 in Banks County, GA. He was the third child of Etta Davis Meeler and James Meeler. His father passed away when he was five years old so his early years were spent working on the farm. He was drafted into the army in 1943 and remained there until 1975. He married Ina Wiley in 1947. They had two children, Carol and David. He married Teresa Sternes in 1971.

Carol Meeler was born December 23, 1949. She married David Duffy and they had a daughter, Angela born in 1967.

David Meeler was born August 15, 1960. He remains unmarried.



*Ina, Robert, and
Carol Meeler with
David Meeler in front*




*Robert
Meeler*



Theresa and Robert Meeler

Elsie Lucille Meeler Looney


Elsie Lucille Meeler was born February 23, 1927 in Banks County, GA. She was the last child born to James W. Meeler and Etta Davis Meeler. Elsie married  Verner Daniel Looney, born March 30, 1922, on November 1, 1946 in Habersham County, Georgia. Elsie retired from Grady School, in Homer, GA as cafeteria supervisor, and Verner retired from construction work. They have two sons, Verner Lee Looney and Edwin Dillard Looney.



Elsie and Verner Looney



Left to right are Edwin, Verner, Elsie & Lee Looney.

 **Verner Lee Looney** was born August 2, 1947 in Habersham County, GA. He and Anita Dianne Smith, born December 4, 1952, were married on September 5, 1970 in Franklin County. They have two daughters born in Stephens County, GA, Angela Beth and Kelly Dianne Looney.

Angela Beth Looney was born September 27, 1973. She is married to Robert Stephen Turner, born on June 6, 1973 in Anderson, SC. They were married on March 3, 1999 in Franklin County, GA.

Kelly Dianne Looney was born August 9, 1977. She married Harold Leonard Fowler, Jr., born November 27, 1973 in Fulton County, GA. The ceremony took place on February 1, 1997 in Franklin County, GA. They have a son, Harold Leonard Fowler, III, born June 24, 1999 and a daughter, Diana Caroline Fowler, born February 20, 2003. Each was born in Habersham County, GA.



Kelly, Anita, Beth & Lee Looney

Edwin Dillard Looney was born August 18, 1949 in Franklin County, GA. He married Gloria Lynn Casey on November 25, 1970 in Franklin County, GA. Gloria was born August 23, 1950 in Franklin County, GA. They have two children, Amy Lynn Looney and Adam Clayton Looney.

Amy Lynn Looney was born October 9, 1972 in Stephens County. She married Brian Earl Jones on July 12, 1997 in Franklin County, GA. Brian was born November 2, 1972 in Columbia, SC.

Adam Clayton Looney was born on October 14, 1976. He married Vanessa Faye Cleveland on September 13, 1997 in Stephens County, GA. Vanessa was born June 20, 1977 in Stephens County, GA. They have two children, each born in Clark County, GA. They are Brayden Cole Looney, born December 28, 2000, and Weston Chase Looney, born August 6, 2002.



*Adam, Edwin and
Gloria Looney*



*Amy
Looney*

Military Service



The flag represents those names contained in this book that served in the US military. We are grateful for those that have served our great country.

Robert Lee Meeler served in the US Army, 1943-1975.
Eddie Daniel Deaton served in the US Navy, 1951-1955.
George N. Sheppard served in the US Marines, 1951-1954.
Stark Deaton served in the US Navy, 1944-1946.
David Lee Deaton served in the US Army, 1941-1950.
Woodroe Deaton served in the US Army.
Verner Looney served in the US Army, 1943-1945.
Ernest Lee Deaton served in the US Navy, 1957-1976.
Troy Lynn Deaton served in the US Air Force 1984-2004.
Terry Lee Deaton served in the US Army, 1978-1988.
Thomas Earl Waller, Jr. served in the US Marines.
Thomas Earl Waller served in the US Marines.
Leslie Lee Waller served in the US Marines 1989-1991.
Lewis Edward Hunt served in the US Navy.
Joyce Gillian Hunt served in the US Army 1974-1977.
Ogelbie Elsworth Hunt, Jr. served in US Army 1959-1979.
Joe Downer served in the US Navy, 1951-1955.
James Meeler served in the US Army, 1966-1968.
John Robert Manus served in the US Army.
Lewis Lee Gillian served in the US Navy 1943-1947.
Ernest Roberts served in the US Army.
Randy Jake Deaton served in the US Marines, 1970-1973.
John Wesley Gibson served in the US Army, 1972-1979.
Keith Eric Deaton served in the US Navy, 1976-1977.
Isaac Abraham Deaton served in the US Marines in World War I.
Jim Newbold served in the US Army in the Vietnam War.
Lawrence Aarp served in the US Army in World War II.
Arthur Starlon Deaton served in the US Army, 1959-1961.
Lee Looney served in the US Army 1970-1972.
Walter Cantrell served in the US Army.
Dirk Edward Kuenzler served in the US Army.
Gary Wayne Owens served in the US Marines.
Gus Morris served in the US Army 1957-1968.
Tom Pearson served in the US Navy.
Johnnie S. Deaton served in the US Army in World War II.
Benny Hull served in the US Army.
Daniel Allen Deaton served in the US Army.
Dwayne Fred Deaton served in the US Navy.
Jerry Cunningham served in the US Navy, 1976-1978.
Azor Carver served in the Civil War on the Confederate side from July 23, 1862 until ?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SINCE THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN

Jacob Leander Deaton (1), Carrie Mae Deaton (2), Carrie Louise Gillen (3), Laura Ruth Owens (4), Tiffany Grace Carpenter (5)

Tiffany Grace Carpenter was born on February 17, 2005.

Harve Wesley Deaton and Bertie Mae Ausburn (1), Harry Wayne Deaton (2), Wendy Renae Deaton (3), Bryson Nathaniel and Addyson Renae Perry (4)

Bryson Nathaniel and Addyson Renae Perry were born February 3, 2005 at Northeast Medical Center, Concord, Cabarrus County, NC.

Elsie Lucille Meeler (1), Edwin Dillard Looney (2), Amy Lynn Looney (3), Brycen Jones (4)

Brycen Jones was born February 10, 2005.

Grant Ausburn (1), Mary Monteen Ausburn (2)

Mary Monteen Ausburn Brady Poole died February 10, 2005 in Toccoa, Stephens County, GA. She was buried in Damascus Church Cemetery, Banks County, GA.