

# THE Volume 74 DEDMON

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Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond



LEROY DEDMON

## MARRYING AND GIVING IN MARRIAGE

Someone said, (and of course would not admit it) that the reason it is called heaven is because Jesus said in **Matthew 22:30** - "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven." Part of the description of the way things were in the days of Noah are also described in **Matthew 24:38-39** - "For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be". The latter part of this verse indicates that the practice of marrying and giving in marriage will continue till the Lord comes again. I, for one, think this is a good thing and agree with the statement God made in the beginning when he said it is not good for man to be alone. As the story goes, God made woman from the a rib man to be an "help-meet", (one suitable or counter part). That is the Biblical account, but there is a "preacher story" that goes like this: *God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and while he slept, he took a rib from the side of a man and made woman and brought her unto man. He said, "What do you think, Adam?" Adam replied, "Well I was hoping for a better shaped and beautiful blond." To which God replied, "That would have cost you an arm and an leg."* My assessment of preacher stories is this: "They may not always be true, but they could be"!!!! Jane and I are approaching our 53rd anniversary (April 5), and her companionship has been good. She has truly been a good "help-meet"...

In this issue of the Connection, I am publishing as many recent marriages as I can find as the Dedmon Family is doing their part to continue the great tradition of marriage. I have tried to find pictures and information for the past several months and will go back at least two years. I realize, that I will probably receive more notices as soon as this newsletter is published. However, never fear, there will be other issues and I will publish all I find. As of this moment, I have knowledge of the following: (1) My grandson, Jonathan Dedmon married Michele Grogan. Jonathan's parents are Diane and Gary Dedmon (my son). (2) Jessica Lockavitch and Adam Miller, the son of John and Susan Dedmon Miller (3) Chad Hankins and Jennifer Dedmon, the daughter of Guy Dedmon and Jeannene Bowman Dedmon, (4) Joey Dawson and Jill Dedmon, the daughter of Wayne Dedmon and Robin Renee Baker, (5) Ryan Dedmon, the son of Kenny and Darlene Dedmon. (6) Kenneth Dedmon and Renee Crump. *(I have been unable to find more information on this couple. If any of you know who they are and can get me more information, please do so.)*

While I will be limited to use the materials sent me, if you have more send them on. In fact if you receive the preview of this and can send more information, I will work it in somehow. Which brings me to this plea, "I need your help to provide articles and information for the DEDMON CONNECTION. I certainly can fill it with my own family information, but I prefer to include some of your's also. I need articles for the "Down Memory Lane" and the "Brick Wall" columns. Also, send me obits and other announcements such as births, weddings, anniversaries and birthdays. While I no longer publish all the birthdays, I will include those of general interest such as special "milestones" (First birthdays, retirement, older ages, etc....). Make this a true family newsletter. -Leroy

*Down  
Memory Lane*



*Send me your old stories or articles relating to the Dedmon Family. Come on folks!!! Dig into that old shoe box in the closet and bring out the goodies!!!!*

**THE BLUFF!!!!**

Nestled in the southwest corner of Catoosa County is Houston Valley. It is pronounced House'ton and that is how we know if you are from around here. If you call it by that Texas city name, then we know you are a stranger. I am not sure where the "Valley" (as us natives call it), got it's name. My grandmother told me it was because Sam Houston camped here on his way to Texas. Don't ask!! I know how his name is pronounced!!!

For many years the valley was separated from the rest of Catoosa County by "The Bluff". The school bus from Ringgold would not cross it, thereby requiring the students from the valley to attend school at the nearby Westside community in Whitfield County. Also, for that reason we have electricity from Dalton and telephones from Tunnel Hill. I have vivid memories of the bluff from childhood. One that stands out in my mind is when my cousin, Tommy Gilbert got his first car and when we would go to town, aunt Edna would make all of us get out of the car and walk across the bluff and then Tommy would drive across and we would get back into the car.

If perchance one met another car there was no way to pass, so one would have to back down. The decision as to who backed up was based on who was closest to the bottom. Of course that didn't happen very often as there were not many people living in the valley and even fewer cars. If the oncoming car was not coming to visit one of the families, he was most likely lost anyway.

I don't remember exactly when they moved the road to the bottom of the bluff, but I do remember the first time I dove it. My parents moved back to the valley in the mid '60s and we were coming to visit and was anticipating the bluff, but it never came. At first I thought I had made a wrong turn and ended up somewhere else. You never knew you were in the bluff area. It was sad in a way as the old landmark was gone forever. I made some pictures the other day in the area and it is almost impossible to tell where the road used to be. If you look real close, you can see the old guard rail that was added at some point in time which provided a sense of security.



My daughter wrote a letter for the scrapbook my sister, Ruth, put together in honor of mother on her 90th birthday. Here is a portion of the letter... *"I sometimes think about her and the life she is living and the life she has already lived. My childhood is filled with so many memories of her that I could not possibly write them all down in one page. I don't know what year they moved to the valley, but my first recollection of grandmother's house was that one room where they had moved everything they had in that one tiny space and I can remember thinking to myself, "are they going to live here?" Why would anyone want to live way out here in the middle of nowhere? Knowing that just to get here you had to cross over that dreaded spot on the road... THE BLUFF!!!! I just knew that if I didn't hold my breath and scoot all the way over to the other side of the car that we would surely fall off."*

My mother told me that the "older folks" called the bluff, THE NARROWS (pronounced naw'rose). That precedes my time. I was thinking the other day of how things change and although my children remember the bluff, my grandchildren don't. That gives us something to talk about when we embellish *"the good ole days"*. It is difficult to really describe THE BLUFF in words that give it the proper respect it deserves. Today when you drive through that half mile stretch of road you are impressed with the beauty of nature. When I hear folk talk about going to Gatlinburg to see the leaves, I just nod my head and think, "I will just stay home and sit on my porch".



Although we moved from the valley when I was around two or three years old, I spent most of my summers with my Gilbert cousins and/or grandmother until I was fourteen or fifteen years old. To me it was an adventure back in time to be without electricity and "running water". I remember the evenings of gathering around the battery radio and listening to the Grand Ole Opry above the static. My aunt Edna wrote a poem several years ago expressing the sentiment of the inhabitants of Houston Valley. While I don't remember all the words, I do remember the message and the final line, "the Valley is forgotten until tax season rolls around". I received my annual tax bill the other day and as I drove over holes in the road leaving the Valley, the poem came to mind.

## THE BRICK WALL



*I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.*

### SENECA DEDMON

Almost from day one of our research project of the Dedmon family Seneca Dedmon has been a mystery to me and other Dedmon researchers. I have written nu-



SENECA DEDMON AND MARY POOL

merous articles about him and corresponded with many of his family. He shows up in the Georgia census very early in the history of our family research. In fact, I believe he is the first of the Dedmon family to appear in the state of Georgia. I have

had a suspicion for some time he may have been related to Rachael Rebecca Deadman, who married Clemith Cavender and lived in the same county as Seneca. Several months ago I received the following interesting email from one of his descendents that offers a new twist as to who Seneca's father may have been.

**From:** Leslie Alarcon [mailto:leslie710@comcast.net]

**Subject:** Seneca Dedmon

Hi Leroy, My name is Leslie Alarcon and I contacted you a few years ago about my GGG grandfather, Seneca Dedmon. Hope you and your family are doing well. Someone on Ancestry.com listed Seneca's parents as Mary Freeland and Poose Dedmon. Poose is the name of one of the children of Edmond Dedmon and Elizabeth Corbin. I checked Family Search and Rootsweb and Poose was born around 1776. No children are listed and no info seems to be available for him. I remember you saying you thought there was a connection between Seneca and Poose's sister, Rachel Rebecca Dedmon who was also in Hall Co., Georgia. It sure makes sense because they were in the same county and Poose seems to be an elusive Dedmon. I did find Seneca's name next to Mary Freeland's name on a census of Habersham Co. Georgia. Just wondered if anyone else has any news about Seneca. Best wishes, Leslie

***I sent the following reply back:***

*Leslie, It is good hearing from you and bringing my attention to this information. As you know Seneca's parents have eluded the researchers for a long time. This would be a gigantic breakthrough if it is right. Do you know where the listing is that showed Poose as his father. My records show Poose as a daughter of Edmond, which of course could be wrong as we have no other info. As you say, it makes sense.*

**Leslie then sent this reply:**

Leroy, I had assumed that Poose was a female when looking at Edmond Dedmon's children. But then I found this info about Poose on Tindrell Wesley Family Tree on Ancestry.com. I am hoping to hear back from them - hoping they have some sort of proof. I was just wondering if anyone else had seen this connection. I'll let you know if I find anything. I am still trying to find out why Isaac Dennett Manley left his estate to Seneca and his sister Evoline along with two Hall children. Regards, Leslie

***I then sent the following reply:***

*Leslie, My gut feeling says it is probably right. A couple of things are a little puzzling but not insurmountable. The main thing is all records I have ever seen spell his name DEDMON AND Edmon, his father and other siblings spelled it DEADMAN. However, there are other such instances... Mark DEDMON is the first recorded spelling as such. Mark was the nephew of Edmond and therefore the first cousin of Poose.. As we have no information on Poose, it is even conceivable that he and his family changed the spelling. I have an idea about Mark's changing his name, but just a hunch. Mark's father, Thomas and family were Tories, the best I can tell, but Mark was a Revolutionary war vet... so it could have been that there was some "bad blood" there between families. As I said, just a hunch. As you said, I have always thought there was some connection with Seneca and Rachel (Rebecca) Deadman, who would have been Seneca's aunt if it is true Poose is his father. Another thing, but yet easily solved is that heretofore, Poose has been listed as a daughter of Edmond, but not sure of the source of this. As we both probably know Poose would have been a nickname anyway and is neutral in gender, probably coming from as a babe (papoose) but again that is only my opinion on the matter. I am planning to list all this under the Brick Wall column in the upcoming issue of the DEDMON CONNECTION. If you have further info., please let me know.*

***OK all researchers... get busy and help us out here.***

## Jonathan Dedmon and Michele Grogan “Tie the Knot”



It was my honor to “tie the knot” for Jonathan and Michele on August 28, 2010 at the Main Street Church of Christ in Springfield, TN. Although the couple are members at the Hillcrest Church of Christ, also in Springfield, they chose the Main Street building for their wedding. Main Street is the “church of his youth” and not only where I preached for almost fourteen years, his other grandfather, Don Toothman, served as an elder and preached in the absence of the local preacher for many years. Jonathan’s father and mother, Gary and Diane Toothman Dedmon, grew up at the Main Street church. They also were married at Main Street by myself and her father.

Michele is the daughter of Michael and Gwen Grogan. She is the paternal granddaughter of Barbara Yoder and Don and Patsy Yoder. Her maternal grandparents are Edna Grogan and the late Charlie Ray Grogan. I remember he father and his brother as young boys attending the Main Street church.

Jonathan is the maternal grandson of Faye Toothman and the late Don Toothman. His paternal grandparents are Leroy and Jane Glasscock Dedmon. It’s hard for me to believe my youngest grandson is now married. I guess it is just another sign of growing old.

*I have heard the phrase “tie the knot” all my life and knew it was an expression in reference to marriage. Like other things I have heard “from my youth up”, I never gave much thought as to the origin, or why we called it that. A few years ago, a Filipino family came to the church building where I was preaching and asked if they could use the building for a wedding and would I perform the ceremony. Realizing the language barrier I was facing, with great reluctance I agreed. They promised a director who could speak English, which they did. On the night of the rehearsal, we were going through the motions of the anticipated ceremony for the next day. Near the end of the ceremony the director approached me and asked, “Where is the rope?” I in an apparent puzzled look, replied, “The rope?” She said, “Yes, we are supposed to have the couple kneel and the Best Man and Maid of Honor is to wrap a rope around them and you will then “tie the knot”. It makes me want to add that to all ceremonies...*

## Ryan Andrew Dedmon marries Kari Lynne Grimsley



Kari Lynne Grimsley became the bride of Ryan Andrew Dedmon in a ceremony on Saturday, May 29, at Saultopaul Chapel in Chickamauga, Ga. The Rev. David Massey performed the ceremony. The bride is the daughter of John Grimsley and Margaret Grimsley and the granddaughter of Ruby Grimsley. She received a bachelor’s degree in exceptional education, magna cum laude, from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She is a member of Soddy United Methodist Church, and is a teacher with Hamilton County Schools. Parents of the bridegroom are Kenny and Darlene Dedmon of Ringgold, Ga. The bridegroom is the grandson of the late Allen Young, Delores and Martin Vickers of Chickamauga and Marvin Dedmon. He is a graduate of Ringgold High School and employed as a landscape designer. The bride was given in marriage by her daughter, Kerrigan Raper. Jennefer Sims and Kerrigan Raper were the bride’s attendants. Mr. Dedmon served his son as best man. Stephen Howard, Wesley Sparks and Matthew Dedmon were groomsmen. A reception was held at Way of the Cross Baptist Church. After a wedding trip to Gatlinburg, Tenn., the couple resides in Chattanooga.

*(Ryan is the grandson of my first cousin, Marvin Dedmon)*

## Adam Ramsey Miller and Jessica Lockavitch Miller united in marriage...



Adam Ramsey Miller and Jessica Lockavitch became “one flesh” in a beautiful ceremony on June 4, 2011 at the Forrest Hill United Methodist Church in Concord, NC. Jessica is the daughter of Joe and Angela Lockavitch. She is a 2010 graduate Meredith College with a degree in art with a Studio Arts major and an Arts Management minor. Adam is the son of John and Susan Miller. Following graduation from Concord High School in 2003, he served four years in the Marines achieving the rank of Sergeant. After being honorably discharged, Adam moved to the Mississippi Delta, where he attended Delta State University for two years before transferring to UNCC in Charlotte, NC. Adam and Jessica both work for her father at Failure Free Reading. Adam has a small screen printing company that he started earlier this year. They are currently renovating a 1930 era house in downtown historic Concord.

## Jennifer Dedmon weds Chad Hankins in beautiful Colorado...

Jennifer Jeannene Dedmon, daughter of Arthur Guy Dedmon of Tennessee and Jeannene Dedmon of Texas was wed to Chad Michael Hankins son of Janella Sandoval of Colorado, on the 17th day of September 2011. The 3 o’clock outdoor ceremony was held at the lovely property of Paul and Dee in Peyton, Colorado. A reception followed the inspiring ceremony conducted by Rev. Bobby Wilson, grandfather of the groom. Jennifer’s grandparent are the late Dr. Roy Lane and Pearl Dedmon formally of Camden, Tn. and Chad’s grandparents are the Rev. Bobby Wilson and Alvina Wilson from Colorado. Many family and friends attended this special celebration. The newlyweds will reside in San Antonio, Texas where she works at Jake’s Place and Chad works at Dick’s Last Resort both on the San Antonio River Walk.



## Jillian Dedmon and Joey Dawson wed in private beach ceremony...



With the background of the beach and ocean Jillian Dedmon and Joey Dawson became husband and wife in a beautiful private wedding on November 14th at Orange Beach, AL. The couple will reside in Chattanooga, TN, where she is a professional trainer and he is a professional tennis player.

*(It has only been in recent years that I have become acquainted with Jillian’s side of the family. It is almost unbelievable that both families grew up in Chattanooga and we never knew each other. I met her uncle Tim first, then her sister, Sarah, who introduced me to their other sister Carmen and father Wayne. We connect at my great-great grandfather, William Dedmon.)*

## DEATH NOTICES

### WILLIAM "REX" MARSHALL



William "Rex" Marshall, age 80, of 1426 Old Caroleen Road, Forest City, NC, died Friday, January 29, 2010 at Rutherford Hospital. William was born on January 25, 1930 in Rutherford County to the late George Edwin Marshall and Lucy Horton Marshall. He was a long-time member of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and enjoyed gardening, woodworking and raising Purple Martins. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, William Preston Marshall; three brothers, Albert Marshall, D.P. Marshall and Tom Marshall and by one sister, Selma Holland. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Margaret Marshall; one daughter, Ann Marshall of Forest City; one son, Roger Marshall and his wife, Linda, of Casar, NC; two sisters Bonnie Tessnear and Evelyn Lowery both of Alexander Mills; one daughter-in-law, Lynn Marshall of South Boston, VA; five grandchildren, Kelly Marshall and his wife, Micah, of Ellenboro, Chris Marshall of Forest City, Brittney Marshall, Brandon Marshall and Amy Marshall all of South Boston, VA and three great grandchildren, Hannah Marshall, Maggie Marshall and Will Marshall.

*William's wife, Margaret is Margaret Elizabeth Hamerick, the granddaughter of Margaret Elizabeth (Betty) Deadman, the daughter of William Henry and Sarah Canton Deadman.*

### SAMUEL A. HUSKEY

*Retired from Musgrove Mills*

COWPENS – Samuel Albert Huskey, 82, of 214 S. Green River Rd., died Monday, Sept. 3, 2001, at his home. A native of Cherokee County, he was the husband of Levone Dedmon Huskey of the home and son of the late Walter and Rosa Cudd Huskey. He was a member of High Point Baptist Church and was retired from Musgrove Mills.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Raymond Huskey of the White Plains Community of Gaffney; a daughter, Margaret Hall of Gaffney; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at High Point Baptist Church Cemetery conducted by the Rev. Allen Galloway. The family will receive friends 30 minutes prior to the service at the cemetery and other times will be at the home.

Arrangements by White Columns-Gaffney.

### WILLIAM GORDON BLACK

*RINGGOLD, GA*

William Gordon Black, 93, departed this life Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010, at Pleasant Valley Assisted Living Home in Dalton.



He was born in Ringgold to the late Claude and Ollie Black, and was preceded in death by his wife, Maudie Bell Black; brothers, Lewis and Millard Black; and nephews, Hutson and Roger Black.

Mr. Black was a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church and a veteran of World War II, fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. He was also a charter member and former commander of American Legion Post #40 and helped start the Ringgold VFW Post in 1969. He was a life-long member of the Masons.

Gordon was very active in his community by serving on the Catoosa County Sheriff's Auxiliary and the Catoosa County Historical Society. Mr. Black started the flag and cross displays for the Veterans of Catoosa County that line the streets of the city of Ringgold.

Survivors include his sons, Gordon Larry (Cindy) Black, of Ringgold, and Kenneth Wayne Black, of Cedar Bluff, Ala.; granddaughter, Ashley Black, of Smyrna, Ga.; nephews, Eugene Black, of Tunnel Hill, Charles Black, of Dalton; two great-nephews; and one great-niece.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010, in the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow Ebenezer Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends after 4 p.m. today, and prior to the service on Tuesday.

Arrangements are by Ringgold Chapel of Wilson Funeral Homes, Ringgold, Ga.

*Gordon Black will certainly be missed by all who knew him. He was as dedicated as anyone I have known to family research. His book that was published a few years ago on the Black family, which included, the Templetons, Dickson and Dedmons was very valuable to our research. His ggrandmother was Vina Emiline Dedmon, the daughter of William D. Dedmon (my ggrandfather). When his wife passed away a few years ago I was honored to be one of the preachers at her funeral. I cherish the time I was able to spend with him.*

## Marvin "Bud" Edwin Scott

Marvin "Bud" Edwin Scott of Ringgold died Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011. He was 76. He was a lifelong resident of the north Georgia area, he attended Simpson United Methodist Church. He was a former employee of Sweetwater Carpet where he worked for 8 years and Queen/Shaw Industries for 20 years. He is preceded in death by his parents, Marvin Napoleon and Agnes Corey Scott.

Survivors include his loving wife, Wilma Dickson Scott of Ringgold; four children, Daniel Edwin Scott (Gail) of West End, N.C., Gary Michael Scott (Tina) of Austell, Gregory Wayne Scott (Christie) of Ringgold, and David Eugen Scott (Kristin) of Soddy Daisy, Tenn; step-daughter, Paula Annette Wells of Red Bank, Tenn.; three sisters, Jackie Nelson of Chattanooga, Tenn., Sammie Hampton of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Pat Moore of Kingston, Tenn.; brother, Wayne Scott (Yvonne) of Chickamauga; 14 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services: Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Burial: Anderson Memorial Gardens. Visitation: Friday, Nov. 11 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 12:00 noon until funeral time at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Simpson United Methodist Church, 601 McFarland Ave., Rossville, Ga., or to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, South East Affiliate, P.O. Box 409410, Living Legacy Partnership, Atlanta, Ga. 30384-9410. An online guestbook is available at: [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements by: Wilson Funeral Home, Wallis-Stewart Chapel, Ringgold.

*Bud was married to my cousin, Wilma Dickson. Her father, Alex, was my mother's first cousin. Growing up, we referred to him as Uncle Alex as the family was close to ours. Of course years and deaths have separated us. The Dicksons are also related to the Dedmon side of the family.*

## Eleanor Waner Dedmon

Eleanor Waner Dedmon passed away at her home in Dallas on April 28, 2001. She was born in McCloud, Okla, on March 16, 1919. She grew up in Ada, Okla, here she was valedictorian at Horace Mann High School. She attended East Central State College (Now East Central University) in Ada, actively participating in speech and debate.

She received her bachelors of science in speech and Spanish from East Central in the spring of 1939 and immediately began flying as one of the first hostesses hired by Braniff Airways. At Braniff she flew the route from Chicago to Brownsville and was chosen by the airline for a goodwill promotional tour to major cities served by Braniff. Her airline career ended after two years, when she married C.B. "Burt" Dedmon at Oak Lawn Methodist Church in Dallas on June 28, 1941. She then turned her talents and energy to becoming a mother and homemaker.

Eleanor was active in the PTA for many years at Sudie L. Williams Elementary, Thomas J. Rusk Jr. High and Thomas Jefferson High School. She receive the Texas PTA Life Membership Award in 1961. Her many interests included her bridge group and gardening and she was a former member of the Mary Gilliam Garden Club of Dallas.

Eleanor and Burt founded Oak Valley Ranch near Athens in 1973 and enjoyed their time breeding and showing cutting horses in the National Cutting Horse Association, American Quarter Horse Association and the American Paint Horse Association. She maintained her membership in the NCHA, AQHA, and APHA and continues to be listed as one of the top breeders of cutting horses in the U.S. A faithful member of Lovers Land United Methodist Church since 1954, she was part of the Mary Group and the pastor's Bible study.

In her later years, she concentrated on helping others and, with her husband, refurbished the library at Obadiah Knight Elementary School. She and C.B. Dedmon established two 4-year scholarships, awarded in Spanish and English, at East Central University. She served on the board of trustees at ECU Foundation and was named a distinguished alumna in 1995. After his death in 1995, she dedicated the C.B. Dedmon Memorial Library at Trinity River Mission in Dallas.

She is survived by her daughter, Dally D. Lowry and husband Pete; son, Charles B. Dedmon and wife Lynne, both of Dallas; grandsons, Tracy Peter Clinton of Los Angeles, Christopher Matthew Clinton of Dallas; and Charles B. Dedmon Jr., of San Francisco; brother, Ralph G. Waner Jr., and wife Joanne of Kansas City, Mo., and their children and grandchildren.

The family expressed its sincere thanks to Rhonda Berryhill and VNA Hospice of Dallas for their loving care. A memorial service will be held at Lovers Land United Methodist Church at 11 a.m. Wednesday. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Eleanor W. Dedmon Library at Lovers Land UMS, 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75220.

## RITA IRENE GORDY GILBERT

Rita Irene Gordy Gilbert, 64, died on Thurs., October 29, 2009, at her home with her family beside her. Rita



was born to the late Roy T. and Jo Gordy. She was a lifelong resident of the Ringgold area and a member of Ringgold First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Robert "Bob" Gilbert, of Ringgold; two sons and daughters-in-law, Scott and Christina Gilbert, of Ringgold, and Todd and Susan Gilbert, of Ringgold; four grandchildren, Cade and Callie Gilbert and Marcus and Mackenzie Knight; brother, Roy S. Gordy, of Ringgold, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2009 in the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Dan Whitaker and Dr. Kerry Bunn officiating. Interment will follow at Anderson Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends on Friday, October 30, 2009 from 5-9 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. until funeral time at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Rita's name to ALS Association Georgia Chapter 1955 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 16, Atlanta, GA. 30329.

Arrangements are by Wilson Funeral Home Wallis-Stewart Chapel, Ringgold.

*Rita was married to my first cousin, Robert Gilbert, who is the son of the late Mahlon and Edna Dickson Gilbert. His mother was my mom's sister. Growing up, I spent most of my summers at the Gilbert's house, which is actually where I am now living. Robert was the youngest of the three Gilbert boys, J.E. (Jay), Tommy and Robert. They had two sisters Frances and Evelyn. Jay passed away a few years ago. Frances and Evelyn both live here on the "old home place". The Gilbert cousins are related to the Dedmons as they are descendents of Hannah Dedmon and David McArthur Dickson.*

*Gordon Williams (next column) was the father-in-law of Tom Black. I am not sure if he is the one related or not, but the Black and Dedmon family have many relationship ties. Our family lines cross with the Templetons, Dicksons, Capeharts, Broomes and of course Dedmon.*

## GORDON LEVI WILLIAMS

Gordon Levi Williams, 83, of the Woodstation Community in Ringgold, Georgia, a loving husband, father and grandfather, died peacefully on September 17, 2011 with his wife and family by his side.



Gordon was a member of Woodstation United Methodist Church. He was the owner of Williams Waterproofing and Construction for 43 years, having a business in Dearborn, Mi., for 20 years and then in Ringgold till his retirement in 1997. He also owned Williams Antiques located in Ringgold.

He was preceded in death by his first wife of 49 years, Dorcus "Dot" Holcombe Williams; daughter, Carolyn Williams; parents, Russell and Louise Trundle Williams; sister, Sarah Cox and brother, Trundle Williams.

He is survived by his loving wife who he affectionately called "Punkin", Linda Cobb Williams; four children, Tony Williams of South Haven, Ms., Anne Free (Paul) Deacatur, Ga., Rebecca Brindle of Fort Oglethorpe, and **Mandi Black (Tom)** Eatoton, Ga.; stepchildren, Rhonda Farnum (Steve) Seattle, WA., Ryan Freeman (Cindy) of Richmond, VA., and Sheena Mullinax (Damon) of Leland, N.C.; three sisters, Trudi Carrol of Rock Spring, Ga., Leola Colbert of Ringgold, and Jeanette Wilbanks (Lon) of Ringgold; two brothers, Ron Williams (Violet) of Rock Spring, and Gene Williams (Ruth) of Alabama; five grandchildren, Jessie Williams (Robyn) of Connecticut, Payten Holcombe (Melissa) of Ringgold, Bonnie Bartles (Chris) of Athens, Ga., Ian Brindle of Fort Oglethorpe, and Ingrid Brindle of Fort Oglethorpe; two great-grandchildren, Alex Williams and Egan Grant; three step grandchildren, Henry, Thomas and Sarah Freeman of Richmond, VA.; two special nephews, Randy Williams and Roger Williams both of Rock Spring, Ga., several other nieces and nephews.

Memorial services to Honor Gordon will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 24, at Woodstation United Methodist Church with Reverend Tamlyn Collins officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association 922 East Morris Street Dalton, Ga., 30721 or to Woodstation United Methodist Church, 13198 Alabama Highway, Ringgold, Ga. 30736.

Arrangements are by Wilson Funeral Home, Wallis-Stewart Chapel, Ringgold, Ga.