

An on-line family newsletter

THE DEDMON

Dedmon, Dedman, Dedmond,
Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond

Connection
Vol. 95



RED, YELLOW, BLACK AND WHITE

“They are precious in his sight”

You remember the children’s song we used to sing in Vacation Bible School, “Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World”? Somewhere between childhood and adulthood, we seem to forget this very important fact. We hear a lot about “Racial Issues” in our society today, but what I determine from study of the Bible, there is only one race....called human. Of course, those who reject the scriptures probably reject this conclusion. This was the message the Apostle Paul proclaimed to the city of Athens in *Acts 17:26* “*And hath*

made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.” I realize there has always been problems between folk who are different and for the most part the major difference in the history of America has been based on the color of one’s skin. The “Red Man”, the “White Man”, the “Brown Man” and the “Black Man” has had their problems. We fought the Indians and the Mexicans for a share of this “free land”. We brought the slaves to America, bought, sold, and mistreated them. If you read our history, it is no wonder that the “White Man” could not be trusted. Most of the problems can be traced to greed and prejudice, which lead to the emotion of hatred.

Prejudice is not “one sided”, nor was it invented in this country. Bible students are aware of the prejudice that existed with the Jew, Samaritan and Gentile. Even if you do not believe the bible, just study the history of the time. Even the Apostle Paul rebuked the Apostle Peter for his hypocrisy. (Galatians 2:11-14). Even Barnabas, who was known for his encouragement of others, was caught up in the action. I doubt one could find a period of history that did not have it’s prejudice. I grew up in a “segregated” environment during the 1940 and 50’s. My parent’s grandparent’s and their families fought in the Civil War. My generation basically ignored the situation until the 1960’s, when we came face to face with our feelings and prejudices. I entered an “integrated” work force at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama and encountered experiences of making friends with those whom I have never associated. For the first time in my life, the color of our skin did not matter or make a difference.

I noticed very early in my life that the same feelings were not expressed toward our soldier boys who married Asian girls (although I am sure there were those who had something to say about it). It may just be, I was never around those situations. Prejudice is not a trait we are born with as we can see by watching the actions of small children. It comes from listening and watching the behavior of those around us whom we consider to be our peers. We are a long way from a prejudice free society and I don’t expect we will see one in my lifetime. Racial prejudice is a terrible thing and creates injustice, discrimination, mistreatment, and even murder. We saw that a couple of years ago when a member of the Dedmon family killed a man for what appeared to be no reason other than the color of his skin. I did not choose to publish those stories as it brought shame to our name.

I have read recently some explanation of skin color that makes some sense to the entire situation. If we are all one blood, is it not possible we are all one color. The answer is yes, we are all brown, although different shades, which is determined by genetics. After all, we descend from one set of parents, Adam and Eve, and more specific the sons of Noah. Have you ever wondered what shade of brown their skin was? I fully realize some of you may not appreciate this article and I understand if you don’t because as I said we do not live in a prejudice free society. There was a time in my life that I would not have written the article and I admit it is a struggle to put it aside.



I have corresponded with a number of African-Americans since the development of this website and research project. Many of them believe the surname Dedmon came from the days of slavery. It was not uncommon for slaves to take the surname of their "masters". Of course we know there were some marriages and relationships that also would be the source of the surname. That is extremely difficult to research as those situations were rarely reported. I found one record of Henry Dedmon, born about 1860, listed in the 1880 census as Race: Mulatto, and there is a brother named Joseph also listed as Mulatto. I found Henry's parents to be John Dedman and Hagen Smooten. I could not find father of Joseph.

DESCENDANTS OF HAGEN SMOOTEN

Generation No. 1

1. Hagen Smooten was born in SC, and died in TX. She had one child with John Dedman:
Henry Dedmon, (March 03, 1860 -April 05, 1932)

Generation No. 2

Henry Dedmon was born March 03, 1860 in TX, and died April 05, 1932. He married Carrie Smart on December 24, 1881 in Grimes County, TX. She was born 1868 in TX, and died April 10, 1949 in Arkansas Valley, OK.

Children of Henry Dedmon and Carrie Smart are:

1. Clara Dedmon (born 1882)
2. Robert Dedmon(March 25, 1884 - Nov. 07, 1969)
3. Luther Dedmon (Jan. 30, 1886-Jan. 15, 1953)
4. Alice Dedmon (Jan. 14, 1888-1980)
5. Benjamin Dedmon (Jan. 24, 1888 -July 1966)

Generation No. 3

1. Clara Dedmon was born 1882. She married Unknown Tolliver. Their children are:

1. Hattye Tolliver, born March 21, 1910.
2. Junius Tolliver, died July 26, 1980.

2. Luther Dedmon was born January 30, 1886 in Grimes County, TX, and died January 15, 1953 in Tullahasee, OK. He married Bertha Leroy. She was born February 18, 1891 in TX, and died February 18, 1938 in OK. Burial: Mount Bethel Cemetery; Porter, Wagoner County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 119612293.)

Children of Luther Dedmon and Bertha Leroy are:

1. Mamie Ada Dedmon, (September 28, 1911- March 07, 1999) She married Unknown Young.
2. Alma Dedmon (May 01, 1914-Sep15, 1995).
3. Henry Clarence "Uncle Pete" Dedmon, born January 10, 1916; died September 11, 1989.
4. Corine Maxine Dedmon, born December 21, 1919; died August 25, 1942 in OK.
5. Mildred Lenora Dedmon, born July 04, 1920; died November 1996.
6. Mayetta Alice Dedmon, born November 08, 1927; died 1944.
7. Luther Dedmon, Jr., born October 08, 1928; died November 07, 1991.
8. Juanita Evon Dedmon, born January 03, 1925; died May 05, 2004.

3. Benjamin Dedmon was born January 24, 1888 in TX, and died July 1966 in Midway, Woodford County, KY. He married Mattie Gay Hitchy January 10, 1920 in Muskogee, Muskogee County, OK. She was born January 29, 1899 in Northport, Tuscaloosa County, AL, and died April 15, 1985 in Vallejo, Solano County, CA. Burial: 1895, Sunrise Memorial Cemetery; Vallejo, Solano County, CA (Find A Grave Memorial# 131578312.)

Children of Benjamin and Mattie are:

1. Benjamin J. Dedmon, Jr. (May 26, 1923-May 19, 2005)
2. Washington Dedmon, (June 05, 1933 - November 14, 1988) Burial: Fort Gibson National Cemetery; Fort Gibson, Muskogee County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 569640.)
3. Cardell Dedmon, (July 15, 1935-Dec 27, 2001)

Generation No. 4

1. Alma Dedmon was born May 01, 1914 in Wagoner County, OK, and died September 15, 1995 in Tulsa, Tulsa County, OK. Burial: 1995, Lincoln Cemetery; Porter, Wagoner County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 12602946.) She married General Hamp Buggs. He was born August 27, 1910 in Houlika, MS, and died January 1987 in Tulsa, Tulsa County, OK. Burial: 1987, Lincoln Cemetery; Porter, Wagoner County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 147940645.) Children of Alma Hamp are:

1. Rudolph Lorenzo Dedmon (Jan 30, 1935-Sep 17, 1984)
2. Levi Terry Buggs, born 1939.
3. Wheeler "Tuffy" Buggs (May 24, 1942-Aug10, 1990) Burial: Find A Grave Memorial# 149805872

Continued on p. 3

Continued from p. 2

2. Benjamin J. Dedmon, Jr. was born May 26, 1923 in Wagoner Co., Ok, and died May 19, 2005 in Vallejo, Solano County, CA. He married Berta Mae Carter. She was born August 06, 1926, and died December 14, 2005 in Vallejo, Solano County, CA. Burial: Sunrise Memorial Cemetery; Vallejo, Solano County, CA (Find A Grave Memorial# 12723391)

Children of Benjamin and Berta are:

1. Bennice Dedmon.
2. Sharon Dedmon.
3. Cardell Dedmon.

Generation No. 5

1. Rudolph Lorenzo Dedmon was born January 30, 1935, and died September 17, 1984. Burial: Booker T. Washington Cemetery; Muskogee, Muskogee County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 148101177.) He married Dorothy Ann Stanford. She was born September 04, 1934 in Muskogee, OK, and died May 11, 1990 in Muskogee, OK. Burial: Booker T. Washington Cemetery; Muskogee, Muskogee County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 148101158.) Children of Rudolph and Dorothy are:

1. Donald6 Dedmon.
2. Keith Leroy Dedmon (March 09,1960- August 26, 2012)
3. Rudolph Lorenzo Dedmon, Jr.
4. Tenita DeVonne Dedmon (Dec 19, 1965-Feb 27, 2009)
5. Veronica Dedmon.
6. Linda Dedmon.
7. Kathy Dedmon.

Generation No. 6

1. Keith Leroy Dedmon was born March 09, 1960 in Muskogee, OK, and died August 26, 2012 in Muskogee, OK. Burial: Booker T. Washington Cemetery; Muskogee, Muskogee County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 96113597) He married Cathy "Liz" Evans. Children of Keith and Cathy are:

1. Lewis J. Dedmon.
2. Michelle Lynn Dedmon.

SEE OBITUARY
VOL-81

2. Tenita DeVonne Dedmon was born December 19, 1965 in Muskogee, OK, and died February 27, 2009 in Corsicana, Navarro County, TX. Burial: Booker T. Washington Cemetery; Muskogee, Muskogee County, OK (Find A Grave Memorial# 34488468) She married Charles Betts. Children of Tenita Dedmon and Charles Betts are:

1. Darance Betts.
2. Kennady Betts.
3. Kameron Betts.
4. Kiersten Betts.

SEE OBITUARY
ON PAGE 8

SPENCER DEADMAN

Another family I found is Spencer Deadman, born a slave in Kentucky in 1813. I have no idea who his parents were and if he was given the surname Deadman because that was the name of his "master" or his father (or both). If anyone has information on this, please share.

Spencer died July 22, 1912 in Jessamine County, KY at the impressive age of 99. He was buried in the Macedonia Cemetery; Keene, Jessamine County, KY (Find A Grave Memorial# 102886204) He was married twice

His first wife was Caroline Cooper, and they had at least two children: Charles Dedmond and Alice Belle Dedmond. Charles married Bettie Smith and they were the parents of Willis and Thomas Dedmond. He was widowed, prior to 1885. He married Matilda Hampton on September 7, 1882 in Clark County, Kentucky. she passed away in 1910. He married Eliza Boone on December 29, 1910 in Winchester, KY. He held a variety of jobs, throughout his life, including working as a railroad section hand, as a family servant for T.C. Robinson and as a rockspreader on the county road crews. Charles passed away from the effects of mitral insufficiency. He is buried in the Daniel Grove Cemetery; Winchester, Clark County, KY. (Find A Grave Memorial# 134368113)

Alice Belle married James Todd on May 16, 1878 in Clark County, KY. They were the parents of (1)Mary Ann, (2)Eliza Belle, (3)Carrie and (4)Bertha Todd. Also, she was a stepmother to Ella Todd. James passed away, after 1892 and Alice supported her daughters by working, in private homes, as a cook.

She married Robert Ray Cooper, the son of Major and Rachel Landrum Cooper, on October 7, 1916 in Winchester, KY. Alice passed away from the effects of cerebral paralysis. She is buried in the Daniel Grove Cemetery; Winchester, Clark County, KY (Find A Grave Memorial# 137241335)

Spencer's second wife was, Mattie Williams. She is buried beside her husband in Macedonia Cemetery. (Find A Grave Memorial# 102886406)

--Continued from page 4

HIGH SCHOOL

Three-year letterwinner as quarterback, running back, wide receiver and defensive back for head coaches Obie Boykin and William Jarvis at Warhill High School ... Selected to the Chesapeake Bowl All-Star Game as a wide receiver in 2013 ... Also invited to a number of all-star camps including: Nike Football Training Camp; Top Gun; Blue Chips Challenge; U.S. Army National Combine ... Ranked as the 49th best player in the state of Virginia by Athlon Sports Magazine ... Ranked as the 94th best player in the state by the Roanoke Times ... Two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Finished his career as the Bay Rivers District all-time scoring leader from the line of scrimmage ... Among his highlights was a single game school-record five-touchdown performance ... Also posted a 339-yard rushing effort, which ranks as the second-best single-game performance in Bay Rivers District history ... Second-team all-region selection and first-team All-Colonial Rivers Conference 25 choice as an all-purpose player in 2013 ... Second-team All-Colonial Rivers Conference 25 selection as a running back and punt returner as a senior ... 2013 All-Bay Rivers District Specialist ... First-team All-757 Senior Team honoree as a defensive back and punt returner in 2013 ... Posted an outstanding junior season in which he was honored as the Peninsula Male High School Athlete of the Year and the Peninsula Most Outstanding High School Football Player ... Also chosen as the 2012 Daily Press Male High School Athlete of the Year and the Daily Press Offensive Player of the Year ... Garnered the 2012 Virginia Gazette Player of the Year distinction and was named the 2012 Bay Rivers District Offensive Player of the Year ... Earned honorable mention all-state honors by the Virginia High School Coaches Association and was a second-team all-state selection by VirginiaPreps.com following his junior season ... All-757 Junior Team first-team wide receiver and second-team offense honoree in 2012 ... First-team all-region and all-district choice as a utility back as a junior ... Also garnered second-team all-district distinction as a defensive back ... Honored as the Bay Rivers District Player of the Week five of the 10 weeks in 2012 ... Nominated for the 757 Freedom Ford Player of the Week three of the 10 weeks ... Honorable mention All-757 Team selection as a sophomore ... Second-team all-district choice as both a wide receiver and a defensive back in 2011 ... Named to the 2011

All-Freshman/Sophomore Team ... First-team Group AA All-State Underclassmen Team honoree as an athlete in 2011 ... Selected as the Bay Rivers District Player of the Week twice as a sophomore ... Four year letter winner in basketball and track and field ... Averaged 30 points per game as a senior ... Set a single-game school record with 48 points, the second-best effort in district history ... Placed fifth in the 200m (22.49) and sixth in the 100m (11.38) at the 2013 Group AA State Outdoor Track and Field Championship ... Placed ninth in the long jump at the state meet as a sophomore ... Member of the Academic Honor Roll and Guys Read Book Club ... Assisted in establishing "Rights to Passage" program at WHS ... Served as a school mentor and tutor ... Volunteered at Toano Middle School summer football camps and participated in Full Court Press Charity Event ... Volunteered with food drives

PERSONAL

Son of Dennis and Gina Dedmon ... Cousin BW Webb was an All-American at W&M and was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in 2013 ... Enjoys drawing, helping/mentoring others and spending time with family.

Dedmon Making His Mark on Tribe Football

A major part of the William and Mary football success this season has been the balance on offense. Sophomore receiver and kick returner, DeVonte Dedmon is certainly upholding his end of the bargain. While the Tribe can grind it out with the run game they can mix in a solid short passing game. Then along comes Dedmon to make the big plays.

Last season, Dedmon became the first freshman to start at wide receiver since 1991. This year, he is ranked in the top 20 in the nation in all-purpose yardage.

Dedmon played his high school football at Warhill in Williamsburg. He counts it as a big advantage to have family and friends close by to catch all the action.





MAHALA DEDMON

MAHALA DEDMON

The Parker County Heritage Society (PCHS) chose this frame home to honor its first resident, Mahala Dedmon. It is one of two homes remaining in the 1100 block of North Main Street in the Carter's Addition, one of the earliest expansions of the original Township of Weatherford. The block still contains its North/South alleyway, typical of most city blocks at the time. The early County plat map shows 8 platted sites facing North Main with narrow fronts and very deep lots extending back to the alleyway. Many people raised their own food and wanted these deep lots for vegetable gardens and tree orchards. It is from the bits and pieces collected about Mahala Dedmon, that make this home fascinating. Ms. Dedmon, whose chosen maiden name was Anderson, was born a slave in Mississippi about 1847. Nothing is known as to how she arrived in Parker County, but on 19 November 1863, lawyer and Judge A. J. Hood, along with wife Lizzie sold Mahala, "about 16 years old," and her child Rose Ann, "about 10 months old," to C. B. Rider for the considerable sum of \$3,500. Then Juneteenth happened.

Ms. Dedmon, first married to Webb Cass, left for Fort Griffin near Albany, in Shakelford County with Rose Ann Cass (b. 25 Dec 1861, d. 14 Jul 1933), Eliza Cass (b. about 1865), and her newborn child, Jennie Cass (b. 3 Aug 1869, d. 29 Jan 1952). The Fort at its height had about 1,000 permanent residents, and about twice that many transients. The Fort was located along the Clear Fork of the Brazos and on the Butterfield Overland Mail route, a major supply route for buffalo hunters, and the center for cattle herds that came through on the Western Trail after 1875 in route to the Kansas railheads. Ms. Dedmon consistently listed her occupation throughout her life as "laundress", no doubt a service much in demand by soldiers and frontiersmen alike at the Fort.

History books of Shakelford County, among other sources, show that her daughter, Rose Ann Cass, married Lawson Daniel Gratts at Fort Griffin in 1877. He had been a 1st Sergeant, Company 114th of the US Infantry during the Civil War. In 1867, he re-enlisted in the 10th US Calvary, where he became one of the "Buffalo Soldiers" and later served as a teamster at Fort Griffin. Rose Ann would have been about 14 years old at the time of her marriage. To this union were born 14 children. Both she and her husband are buried in Willow Springs Cemetery located at the corner of I-20 and Mikus Road here in Parker County. Sgt. Gratts' gravesite was recently honored with a Texas Historical Marker.

But back to Ms. Dedmon... In 1877, Ms. Dedmon worked for a Mr. Palur in "The Flats" at Fort Griffin as did her new son-in-law, Lawson Gratts. She was still in Shakelford County in 1880 as she appears on the US census there, but returned to Weatherford sometime in the early 1880's after the Fort closed in 1881. On August 5, 1884, William Dedmon bought this property in the newly established Carter's Addition from Henry P. du Bellet for the grand sum of \$35. Mr. du Bellet was a Frenchman acting as agent of the Société Foncière et Agricole des États Unis, a financing arm for Franco Texan Land Company purchases.

Tax records in 1887 show an increase in valuation to \$180 indicating the home was completed the year before. On 2 January 1887, Mahala, calling herself "Anderson",

married Mr. Dedmon in Parker County. She would have been about 40 years of age. There were no children born from this union.

In 1893 and 1894, Mr. Dedmon paid the taxes as a non-resident of Parker County. Afterward, Ms. Dedmon paid the taxes in her own name so it can be reasonably assumed Mr. Dedmon died in late 1894 or 1895. The home was consistently valued at \$200 from 1888 onward, and Ms. Dedmon paid between \$166 and \$172 tax each year she paid the taxes. Doing the math, that is a tax rate of 83% to 86% of the home value! Similar town properties were taxed in like manner during the years before the federal income tax and State sales tax.

The 1900 US census shows Ms. Dedmon lived at this home with her granddaughter, Rosetta Griffin, age 14, and grandson Alford Griffin, age 13. She was still doing laundry at age 53 probably utilizing the deep lot behind this home for clotheslines. Around the corner from Ms. Dedmon at 5th and Hanover, Donald Bortz was born on 22 August 1905. His daughter, Judy Bortz Martin, currently of Williamsburg, MO, recalls her dad's stories about "Aunt Mahaley" who dipped snuff from small cans. He related that she would bury the empty snuff cans upside down to line her flower beds in the front lawn. Aunt Mahaley apparently served as the neighborhood doctor as once she made a poultice to remove a corn on Mr. Bortz' sister's toe. It worked.

He recalled her showing him her last bill of sale. He also recalled hearing that Aunt Mahaley would occasionally close up her house to take care of the family "up on the hill". This was probably J. R. Coutts who suffered off and on from Bright's Disease for several years before his death in 1904. He had bought the mansion built by Mr. du Bellet (the same man who sold William Dedmon the property) that once stood at the top of the hill in the 1600 block of North Main.

On the 1920 US census when the question was asked, the census taker noted Ms. Dedmon responded that she had been widowed twice. On the 1930 US census, she said she was still a laundress now 82 years of age. She apparently had lived alone for most of the previous 25

...continued on page 7

...continued from page 6

years, and had been in the home for almost 45 years. Ms. Dedmon lived here until her death on 20 June 1933 at about age 86, thus ending her incredible life's journey. Probate records indicate Fred Rider Cotten, grandson of C. B. Rider, served as attorney for her estate at the request of "the only living daughter," Rose Ann "Rosa" Gratts, who died less than a month later. The home sold for \$200 to pay for funeral, legal, and court costs.

Mr. Cotten, an historian who would have recognized the uniqueness of the document and his grandfather's relationship to it, obtained the 1863 bill of sale for Ms. Dedmon and her daughter. A picture of it is printed without attribution in *The Double Log Cabin* by G. A. Holland, published in 1937. Malaha Dedmon is buried in City Greenwood Cemetery along a row with her Cass kinfolk. There was no obituary.



RENETTA DEDMOND

Mrs. Renetta Williams Dedmond entered into eternal rest January 27, 2015 at Baptist Hospital. Renetta was born on August 24, 1962 in Elton, LA., the only child of the late Rosemary Williams Hollinhead and Allan James Williams.

Renetta and her parents moved to Pensacola, FL on July 10, 1968. She attended elementary schools in Escambia County and graduated from Escambia High School in 1980. She graduated from PJC Nursing School as a registered nurse and received her Bachelor Degree from UWF. Renetta continued her education by receiving a Master's Degree in Nursing from USA and in Criminal Justice from Loyola University in Atlanta.

She leaves to cherish her memories: loving and devoted husband, Nathaniel Dedmond of Pensacola; father, Allen Jo Williams of Elton, LA; stepdaughter, Nancy Dedmond; uncles McAuther Lemoine, Curtis (Barbara) Lemoine, Michael (Lisa) Williams of Kinder, LA; aunts, Grace Watts of Pensacola, FL, Lucille Neil, Dianna F. Woods, Miranda (Patrick) Guillory all of Elton, LA, Joann Lemoine, Evon (Leo) Francis, Bezora Barnes, Rutha Hymon and Avella Ackless all of Elton, LA, William (Gloria) Brent, III of Pensacola, FL and a host of great aunts, cousins, friends and ACTS Center Church family. And all of her rescue animals whom she loved so much.



FLOSSIE DEDMOND

Flossie McLain Dedmond, a poet, writer and for more than three decades an English professor and revered administrator at Coppin State College, in Baltimore, MD, died Friday of cancer at her West Baltimore home at the age of 93. The college's president, Calvin W. Burnett said,

"She was without a doubt one of the most dedicated and staunch supporters Coppin has ever known. The college, and the country, for that matter, will not soon see an educator and educational leader whose skills and dedication compare with those of Dr. Dedmond, I, and the entire Coppin family, are deeply saddened." She loved Coppin and spent more than 30 years as a teacher and administrator there. In recognition of her long service, Mrs. Dedmond was named dean emeritus when she retired in 1978.

The community was summoned to celebrate her life at 11 a.m., Sept. 19 at the New Shiloh Baptist Church, 2100 N. Monroe St., where she was a member. The Rev. Harold A. Carter, pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church, described Mrs. Dedmond as *"A genuine Sojourner Truth in matters related to the advancement of Afro-Americans and all people in general. She drew strength from a deep spirituality and faith in God. She was a doer and made things happen."*

Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond

Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond ("Floss" to her close friends) was born in Nashville, TN, the seventh child of Mr. and Mrs. John W. McClain. As a precocious child, she learned to read and write music at an early age. She would later compose the school song for Allen University in Columbia, S.C. In the home, filial piety, dedication to responsibility and respect for each other, as well as for persons outside the family circle were daily lessons that were taught to her and her siblings, by both parents. Dr. Dedmond received a BA degree in English from Fisk University; MA degree in Speech Arts from Columbia University, and pursued post-graduate studies in English and in Speech at Ohio State University and at the Catholic University of America, respectively. She held the degree of Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Allen University. At Coppin State University, she was a classroom teacher, a collaborator of Project Mission, acting chairman of the English Department, Director of the Evening University and of the Summer School, and finally, Dean of the Division of Arts and Sciences. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frederick H. Dedmond in 1981 (of Morgan State University), and survived by a sister, Alice M. Newkirk.

A bill (H.R. 4449) to designate the building located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building" was passed and enacted after being signed by the President on October 19, 2000. The Sponsor of the bill was Elijah Cummings, Democrat, Representative for Maryland's 7th Congressional District.



TENITA DEVONNE BETTS

Mrs. **Tenita Devonne Betts**, after 43 years, surrendered her soul to Jesus on Friday morning, February 27, 2009 from her home in Corsicana, Texas. Born from the union of Rudolph L. and Dorothy Ann [Stanford] Dedmon, Sr., in Muskogee on December 19, 1965, Tenita Devonne attended Muskogee Public Schools, where she graduated with the Class of 1984. She furthered her education at Central State University in Edmond, where she earned her Bachelors Degree in Funeral Service Education. Tenita was a loving wife, devoted mother, sister, aunt and faithful friend to all who knew her. She leaves to lament her passing: her treasured husband, Charles Betts, her precious children, Darance and DaMar, Kennady, Kameron and Kiersten, all of the home in Corsicana; her brothers, Donald Stanford, Keith Dedmon and Rudolph Dedmon, Jr, all of Muskogee; her sisters, Veronica Miles, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Linda Johnson, Edmond, Oklahoma, Kathy Walker, Oklahoma City, and Lisa Dedmon, Muskogee; along with a caravan of other relatives and friends. Friends near Corsicana, Texas may visit Tenita at the Wake on Thursday at the St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 1201 East 10th Street in Corsicana from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The Remembrance Celebration will be on Saturday, March 7, 2009 at 2:00 P.M. in the Timothy Baptist Church, 5530 West Okmulgee Avenue in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Pastor Kelly Payne is the gracious host Pastor and Pastor Yolanda Patrice Campbell, Co-Pastor of New Balm Ministries, Eulogist. The Christian committal will follow in the Booker T. Washington Cemetery in Muskogee. You may visit Mrs. Betts, as she slumbers in sweet repose at the Keith D. Biglow Funeral Directors, Inc., of Muskogee on Friday from 12 Noon to 7 PM.

Find A Grave Memorial# 34488468



PEARLYE CLEO DEDMON

Pearlye Cleo Dedmon was born Feb. 3, 1915 in Boynton, OK, to Claude and Elizabeth Drew Griffin. She married Mr. Kemper Thomas and to this union one son, Kenneth was born. The union was later dissolved. Pearllye met and married Mr. Al Dedmon. She moved to Detroit, MI, where she worked as an LPN for the City of Detroit until her retirement. Professing a belief in the Lord at a young age she united with Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and later joined with St. Luke Baptist Church. She also went to work as a secretary for District 11. In her spare time she enjoyed watching various game shows and her favorite soap opera, The Days of Our Lives. Having a great compassion for her fellow man, she was a great contributor to numerous charities as well as her church. Pearllye was a very independent woman even in her later years. She drove herself, did her own yard work, and fixed her own meals until her health began to fail. She moved to Muskogee in 2007 to join her son, where she slept away in his home on February 21, 2010. She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Yvette, brother, John and husband Al. The family she leaves behind to mourn are her son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Ella Thomas, grandchildren, Carol Thomas, of Detroit, MI and Kenneth Thomas, Jr. of Oklahoma. Great-grandchildren, Shayne Thomas-Shaw and Shanice Small, both of Detroit, MI and Tyraneaks of Oklahoma and four great-great grandchildren and a host of friends in Detroit. The homegoing service for Sister Dedmon will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Ragsdale Chapel of Respect with Rev. Earl D. Baker, pastor of St. Thomas Primitive Baptist Church, officiating. She will be laid to rest in Booker T. Washington Cemetery. Visitation hours are today from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Services are under the direction of Ragsdale Funeral Center.

Published in the Muskogee Phoenix from 3/5/2010 - 3/6/2010

Find A Grave Memorial# 49231221

She married Algernon L. Dedmon, Sr, August 30, 1946 in Sebastian County, AR. I have been unable to locate his grave, but his son, Algernon L. Dedmon, Jr, is buried in Booker T. Washington Cemetery. (Find A Grave Memorial# 147289521). Algernon Dedmon IV, grandson of Algernon, Jr. was born on November 23, 1951, in Los Angeles, CA. He had two sons and died December 18, 1993, in San Francisco, CA, at the age of 42, and was buried in Colma, CA. (Find A Grave Memorial# 87590739)

ORELIA DEDMOND



Mother Orelia Dedmond was born on September 12, 1915 to the late Alfred and Rev. Adel Windsor Dedmond and was married to the late Henry Williams. She transitioned on Saturday, July 25, 2015. She leaves in memories: devoted cousins, Lillian Berry, Anna B. Brown and Evelina McQueen; cousins and caregivers: Judge June Darensburg and Debra Edwards; one niece, Diana Mells; one Godchild, Kanisha Brown and many others. New Birth Cathedral of Glory, Pilgrim, all neighboring churches, and the Short Street Family, are invited to attend services at New Birth Cathedral of Glory, 301 Clay St., Kenner., LA on Saturday, August 1, 2015 at 10am, with visitation beginning at 9am, Pastor Richmond Edwards, Officiant. Interment: Belle Grove Cemetery, Kenner, LA Richardson Funeral Home of Jefferson, River Ridge, LA in charge of arrangements