

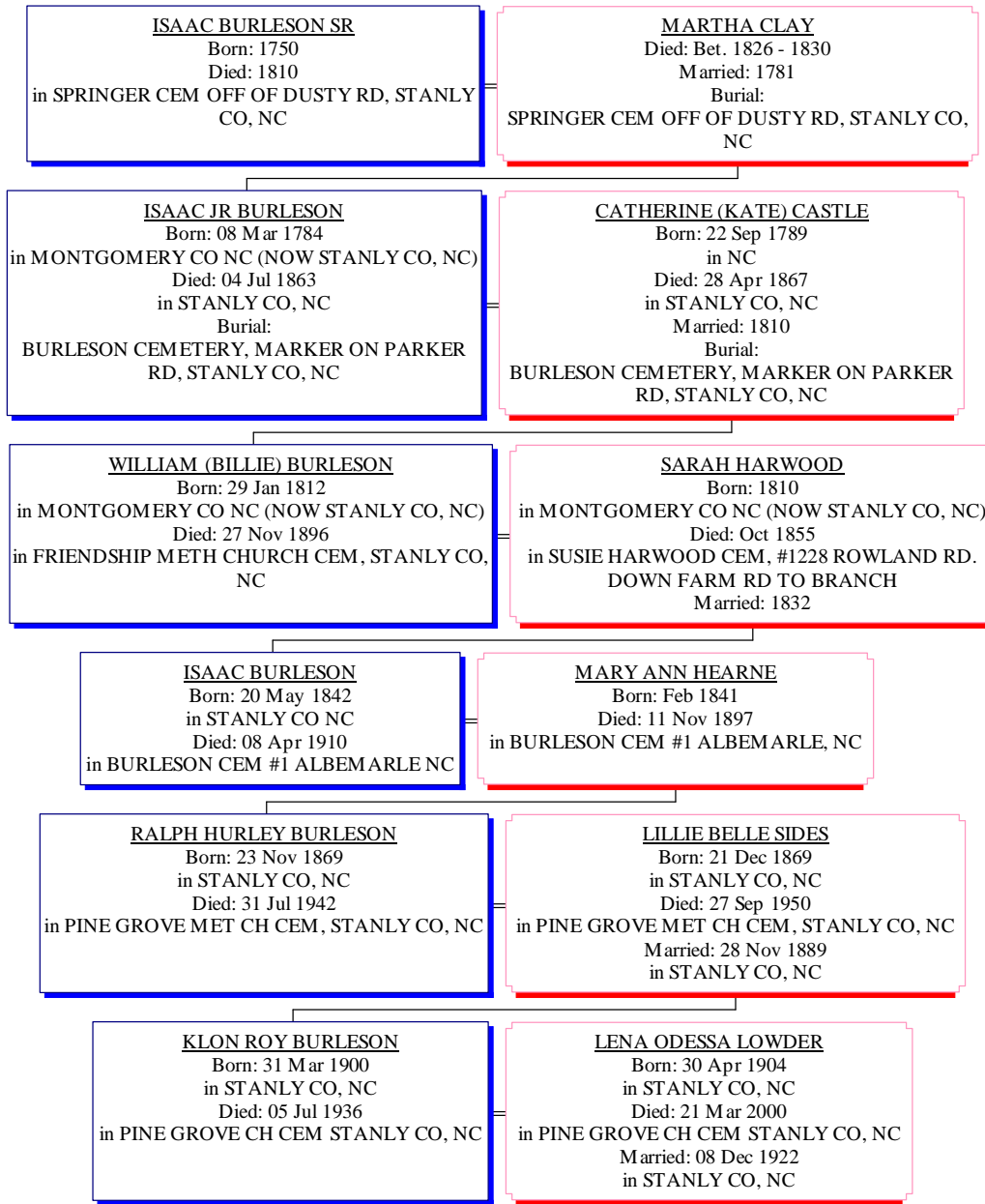
WALL OF HONOR

Johnny Paul Burleson

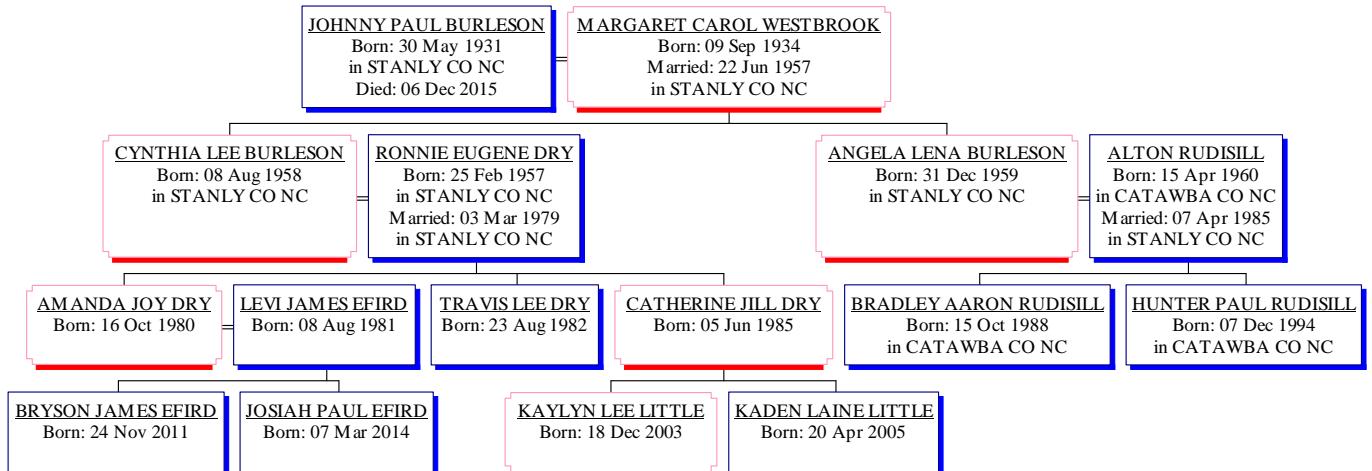


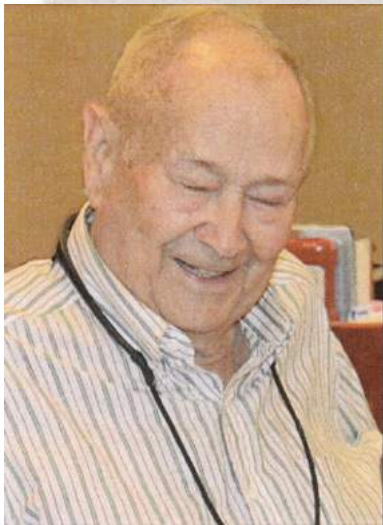
Johnny Paul Burleson is our 5th Honoree for
the Wall of Honor October 16th 2016

Direct Descendants of ISAAC BURLESON SR



Descendants of JOHNNY PAUL BURLESON





Johnny Burleson



Johnny Paul Burleson, 84, of Albemarle passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday evening of December 6th 2015, surrounded by his loving family.

Johnny was born to the late Klon Roy and Lena Lowder Burleson on May 30, 1931. He is preceded in death by siblings Ruby Burleson Greene and Jay Brice Burleson.

Johnny is survived by his wife of 58 years, Carol Westbrook Burleson and two daughters that he adored, Cindy Burleson Dry and husband Ron Dry of Albemarle and Angie Burleson Rudisill and husband Alton Rudisill of Catawba, NC. His grandchildren are Mandy Dry Efird (Levi), Travis Dry (Michelle), Jill Dry (Jeremy), Bradley Rudisill, and Hunter Rudisill. He has 4 great grandchildren, Kavlvn and Kaden Little

Bryson and Josiah Efird. His brother Ted E Burleson and two sisters, Hilda B Snuggs and Klon Del B Nunn survive him.

After a four year tour in the US Air Force, Johnny graduated from Pfeiffer College and UNC Charlotte's graduate studies program with degrees in Education, Earth Science, and Drivers Education. In his years in teaching, Johnny touched the lives of many students beginning as principal at Brower School in Randolph County before returning to Endy School, where he had graduated with the Class of 1950, he became a teacher and coach. He completed his teaching career at West Stanly High School as driver's education teacher. As an instructor, he covered academic requirements along with many life lesson he continually instilled in his students.

At Pine Grove Methodist Church, Johnny lent support and labor, always inspiring others and recognizing their talents. At DAV Post #12, Johnny served on the ritual team, taking pride in transporting our "War Heroes" for appointments to the veteran's hospital.

Johnny's happiest moments were spent as a farmer in his spare time, many times donating his time to help neighbors.

quality time with his family that he was very proud of.

For some sixteen years, Johnny enjoyed excursions across our county and abroad with family members enjoying the natural beauty. His classroom experience made him always the teacher on board.

Johnny was a gifted entrepreneur in real estate matters. He purchased, restored, and provided quality homes for many Stanly County families.

Johnny's family extends their appreciation to Hospice of Stanly and the Uwharrie and to Dr. David Catoni for their care and support during the recent weeks. Truly Earthly Angels.

The family will receive family and friends at Hartsell Funeral Home on Wednesday, December 9 from 6-8 p.m. The service will be held at Pine Grove UMC at 11 a.m. on Thursday, December 10.

Memorials can be made to Pine Grove UMC Music Ministries and/or Hospice of Stanly and the Uwharrie.

Johnny will be buried with full military honors as he served our nation with courage and pride during the Korean War.

Hartsell Funeral Home of Albemarle is serving the Burleson family.

Online condolences may be made at www.hart



The photo on the right was taken last spring of the Burleson Cemetery #2 on Parker Road. The BFRG had a workday on January 17, 2004. Below is a photo taken after the work was complete. Members present doing the work were, John H. and Nancy Burleson, **Johnny Paul**, Kenneth, Don, Dale Burleson, Mack Hopkins and Travis Dry. Hilda Burleson Snuggs and Klondel Burleson Nunn provided a great lunch for all the workers.

Workday at Burleson Cemetery #2 January 17th 2004



Workday at Burleson Cemetery #2

Top left John H. Burleson, top right, Mac Hopkins, Bottom right Kenneth Burleson, Bottom left Kenneth and Johnny Paul Burleson



Working Together! - Burleson II Cemetery

Members of the Burleson Family Research Group along with friends from Stanly County met on Saturday January 17, 2004 to complete a task they had been planning for a number of weeks...the clean up of the Burleson II Cemetery. The Burleson II Cemetery is located on Parker Road in Stanly County. Trees had to be trimmed, holes had to be dug, posts had to be set and the trimmings and brush had to be cleaned up or burned.

There to help was Don, Kenneth, Johnny Paul, John Hoyle, Dale and Nancy Burleson, and Mac Hopkins. Mac brought his tractor with an auger attachment and Johnny Paul drove the tractor while Mac lined up the auger. This was a fantastic time saver. All the holes were dug in just over an hour. John used his chainsaw to cut down branches and small trees and Don, Kenneth, and Dale picked up the branches and brush and piled it on the bonfire. Nancy kept her eye on the fire so it wouldn't spread. After this was done, all the men worked on setting the posts and pouring some cement around them to keep them from tilting. (John came back the next week and added the chain after the posts were set).

As they completed the work J.D Burleson and Travis Drye came by to check it out. Back at Lena's Farmhouse preparing a fantastic lunch for the workers were Klondel Nunn and Hilda Snuggs. They served us up some delicious baked spaghetti, chili, salad and various deserts. It was so good to see everyone working together toward the preservation of this cemetery. Next in line on the BFRG list for clean up and repair is the Susie Harwood Cemetery on Rowland Road near Big Bear Creek. That'll be another story! Nancy L. Burleson

Burleson Cemetery#1



Saturday April 2, 2005 Workday at the Burleson Cemetery # 1, Burleson Road Stanly County NC
L/R Andrew, George, Ronnie Burleson, Deron Smith, Daniel, John H. Ted, Johnny Paul Burleson, the lady next
to Johnny is Hilda Burleson Snuggs. Not in the picture is Nancy Burleson who took all the pictures.

The Burleson Family Research Group is at work again. Thank you to everyone pictured above for the hard work, it has made a big difference. We are all very proud of the work done to restore these old family cemeteries. Burleson Cemetery #1 is the most recently completed. Altogether the BFRG has restored, cleaned, and protected four cemeteries from being abandoned and destroyed. Also a marker was erected for Isaac Burleson Jr. because the cemetery he was buried in has been destroyed. There is an interesting article about Burleson Cemetery # 1 in **Recollections** Volume V. Number 3, pages 137 and 138.

It doesn't seem possible, but it was 10 years ago this past Memorial Day that the Dedication Ceremony for Isaac Burleson Sr. was held. For those who might not remember, it was from that gathering that the idea for a Burleson Family Reunion was formed. The first family reunion was on Morrow Mountain in June 1996. In August 1996 the Burleson Family Research Group was formed and has been busy and having fun ever since. This is the eighth year of publication of the **Recollections** newsletter and all the history that has been recorded in the first seven years is now available on a CD. Anyone who would like to obtain a copy please send \$5.00 - plus \$1.00 postage if you need it mailed - to John and Nancy Burleson, 20834 NC Hwy 73, Albemarle, NC 28001.



Burleson Cemetery #1 before



Burleson Cemetery #1 After



Improvements to Burleson Cemetery #1

This is our latest addition to Burleson Cemetery # 1. **Johnny Paul Burleson** had this bolder moved from his farm to the cemetery and Mac Hopkins placed the frame to hold the marker. Hilda Burleson Snuggs is in the process of getting the deed changed to insure the cemetery is protected in the future. This cemetery is located on Burleson Road. Go by and see what a great job was done to protect this cemetery.





Johnny's Parents
Klon Roy and Lena Burleson

1. KLON ROY¹⁰ BURLESON (*RALPH HURLEY*⁹, *ISAAC*⁸, *WILLIAM (BILLIE)*⁷, *ISAAC JR*⁶, *ISAAC BURLESON*⁵ SR, *JOHN*⁴ BURLESON, *JONATHAN*³, *JOHN*², *EDWARD*¹) was born 31 Mar 1900 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 05 Jul 1936 in PINE GROVE CH CEM STANLY CO, NC. He married LENA ODESSA LOWDER 08 Dec 1922 in STANLY CO, NC, daughter of JONAH HATLEY and SARAH LOWDER. She was born 30 Apr 1904 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 21 Mar 2000 in PINE GROVE CH CEM STANLY CO, NC.

Children of KLON BURLESON and LENA LOWDER are:

2. i. RUBY LOIS¹¹ BURLESON, b. 23 Feb 1924, STANLY CO, NC; d. 07 Dec 2004, Stanly Gardens of Memory, Albemarle, NC.
3. ii. JAY BRICE BURLESON, b. 16 Feb 1926, STANLY CO NC; d. 12 Feb 2004, PINE GROVE METH CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
4. iii. TED EUGENE BURLESON, b. 05 May 1929, STANLY CO NC.
5. iv. JOHNNY PAUL BURLESON, b. 30 May 1931, STANLY CO NC; d. 06 Dec 2015.
6. v. HILDA ROSE BURLESON, b. 29 Dec 1933, STANLY CO NC.
7. vi. KLON DEL BURLESON, b. 11 Nov 1936, STANLY CO NC.



Klon Roy and Lena Lowder
Burleson's Family
L/R Johnny, J. Brice and Ted
Klon Del, Lena, Hilda and Ruby



Funeral Services For K. R. Burleson To Be Held Today

**Well-Known Stanly Farmer
Passed Sunday, Following
Recurrence of Old Trouble.**

Funeral rites for Klone R. Burleson, 36, whose home is five miles west of Albemarle, will be held today, Tuesday, at Pine Grove M. E. church at 11 a. m. with Rev. R. L. Bass in charge of the final rites. Interment will be made in the cemetery at the church.

Mr. Burleson died Sunday night after being stricken Friday. Some eight years ago he had an attack of Hoskin's disease, but had apparently recovered entirely. A recurrence of the trouble came Friday in a more serious form, and it was soon apparent that the attack would prove fatal.

The deceased was a farmer, and a member of Pine Grove church.

He is survived by his wife who was formerly Miss Lena Lowder, and the following children: Ruby, J. Bryce, Ted, Johnnie and Hilda Rose.

The following brothers and sisters also survive: K. E. Burleson, Charlotte; D. D. Burleson, Albemarle; H. L. Burleson, Lexington; N. V. Burleson, Albemarle; Mrs. C. J. Burleson, Albemarle; Mrs. Z. J. Burleson, Albemarle; and Mrs. J. L. Thompson, Fayetteville.

When we first started the BFRG, Johnny's mother Lena Lowder Burleson shared this writing and this family has always supported the extended Burleson Family.

Reflections

by: Mrs. Lena Lowder Burleson
Age: 94

On December 8, 1922, at the age of 18, I married into the Burleson family and became a "Burleson For Life." Blending into the Burleson way-of-life was not difficult because in our community, the majority of the people made their living off the land. Gathering, preparing, and preserving food went on year-round. Neighbors gathered to help neighbors with harvesting crops, clearing new land, cutting wood, making fencepost and pastures, killing hogs, making quilts, fruitcakes, applebutter, hominy and the list goes on.

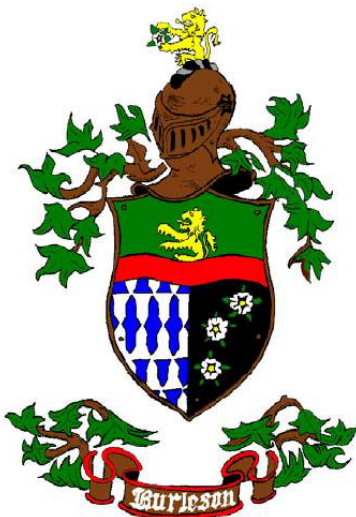
One Burleson activity that was new to me was foxhunting. Some of the men in the family enjoyed the sport and maintained packs of foxhounds. There were many tales that were told and repeated through the years about the antics of the fox or dogs on those cold evenings by lantern light. My husband even ordered red fox cubs to help stock the woods nearby. We see their healthy offsprings even today.

Burleson, like others in our community, furnished timber and helped

build community building, school gyms, and churches. Most of the families could be found in a church on Sunday mornings. They were real neighbors in times of sickness and especially with a death in a family. Serving in the military was a tradition. Burlesons voluntarily joined the ranks especially in WW1 and WWII.

Today the Burlesons from our area have multiplied and some have taken the family name far from Stanly County. Most have left the land to make livings in various professions. Some have impressive degrees and titles behind their names and some with honors too numerous to list. And yet, many family traditions has prevailed. Burlesons have always been fond of family gatherings with much good food and visiting. By attending such gatherings, descendants maintain a link to the past and to each other. That is still going on here in Stanly County. As a result, many Burlesons in our area have knowledge of their greater family and have an appreciation of their roots.

As one of the senior Burlesons, I would encourage each of you to continue the traditions begun by your families. Continue to meet and share information. Tell the stories. Learn from each other and instill the pride of family in your children. And, remember, our blessings are



Johnny's grandparents Ralph Hurley and Lillie Belle Sides Burleson

RALPH HURLEY⁹ BURLESON (*ISAAC*⁸, *WILLIAM (BILLIE)*⁷, *ISAAC JR*⁶, *ISAAC BURLESON*⁵ SR, *?JOHN*⁴ BURLESON, *JONATHAN*³, *JOHN*², *EDWARD*¹) was born 23 Nov 1869 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 31 Jul 1942 in PINE GROVE MET CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC. He married LILLIE BELLE SIDES 28 Nov 1889 in STANLY CO, NC, daughter of CHARLES SIDES and SOPHIA LYLERY. She was born 21 Dec 1869 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 27 Sep 1950 in PINE GROVE MET CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.

Children of RALPH BURLESON and LILLIE SIDES are:

2. i. EFFIE MAE¹⁰ BURLESON, b. 05 May 1891, STANLY CO, NC; d. 22 Mar 1957, PINE GROVE CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
3. ii. KOPE ELIAS BURLESON, b. 14 Jun 1893, STANLY CO, NC; d. 22 Mar 1963, EVERGREEN CEMETERY, CHARLOTTE, NC.
4. iii. REUBEN WAYNE BURLESON, b. 06 Feb 1894, STANLY CO NC; d. 22 Sep 1896, BURLESON CEM #1.
5. iv. CONNIE TEBE BURLESON, b. 12 Mar 1895, STANLY CO, NC; d. 05 Mar 1920, STANLY CO NC BURLESON CEM #1.
6. v. FLORENCE ESTER BURLESON, b. 22 Apr 1897, ALBEMARLE, NC; d. 28 Jul 1976, PINE GROVE CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
7. vi. DEWEY DUKE SR. BURLESON, b. 19 Aug 1898, STANLY CO, NC; d. 20 Aug 1974, PINE GROVE CH CEM STANLY CO, NC.
8. vii. KLON ROY BURLESON, b. 31 Mar 1900, STANLY CO, NC; d. 05 Jul 1936, PINE GROVE CH CEM STANLY CO, NC.
9. viii. HENDRICK LANE BURLESON, b. 22 Nov 1902, STANLY CO NC; d. 22 Nov 1957, FOREST HILL CEMETERY, LEXINGTON, NC.
10. ix. NEWTON VANCE BURLESON, b. 07 Feb 1906, STANLY CO NC; d. 19 Jan 1968, PINE GROVE CH CEM STANLY CO NC.
11. x. MARY BULA BURLESON, b. 04 Mar 1908; d. 04 Aug 1985, LAFAYETTE MEMORIAL PARK, RAMSEY ST., FAYETTEVILLE, NC.

Birthday or Reunion at Ralph Hurley Burleson Home Place



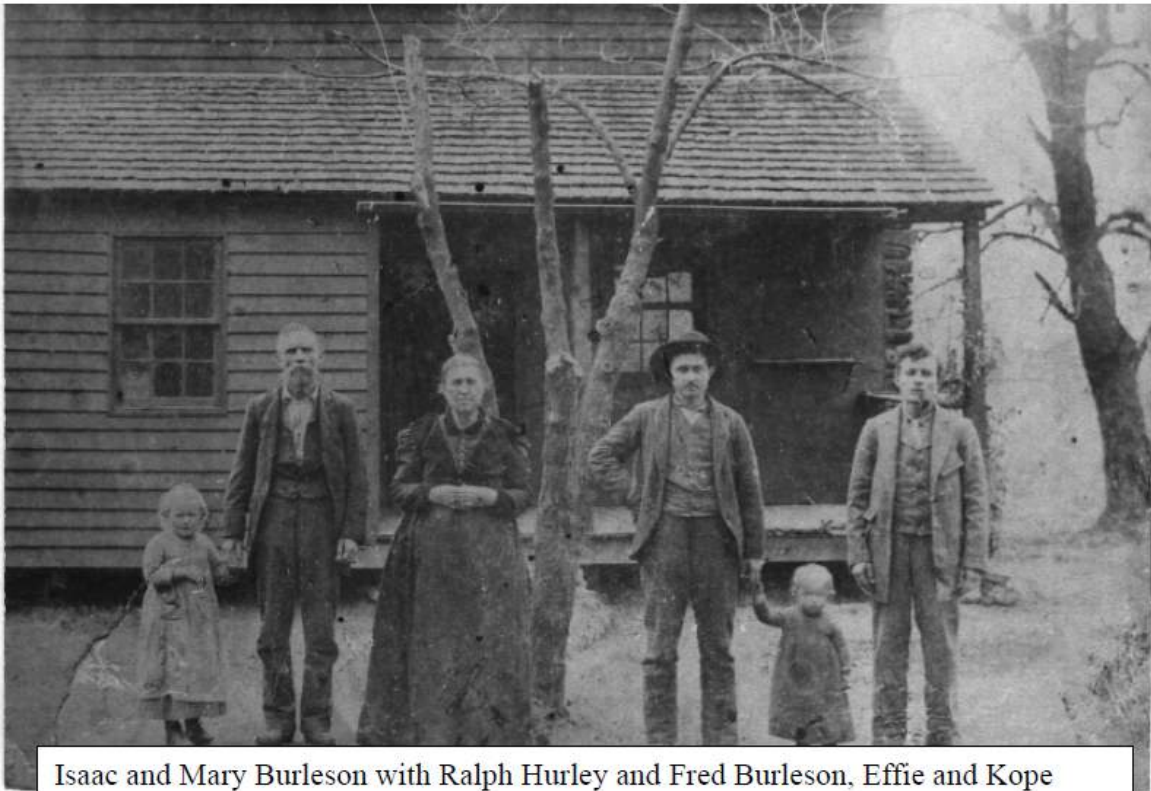
Front Row L/R ????, Sides from Concord, Grandma's brother, Tice Witlock, Alex Nash, ???, Marshal Hatley (Aunt Lou's Husband) Hurley, Fred, Eben, Marvin, Second Row Kope and Pearl, Florence holding Margaret Lee, Durgan Hearne, Effie, Addie Whitlock, Carlie, Betty Nash, Lou, Lillie, Lizzie, Brady, Tebe holding Thurman, Duke, Lane, ? Klon Roy, Mary, Newton.

Ralph Hurley Burleson Family

L/R Seated Brady, holding Thurman, Tebe, Lillie, Ralph Hurley, Charles, Kope, Pearl Hahn, holding Gertie, Ruth Burleson
L/R Standing Carlie, Effie, Duke, Klon Roy, Ralph Lane, Newton Vance, Mary, Florence Burleson holding Margaret Lee's hand. Spring 1919



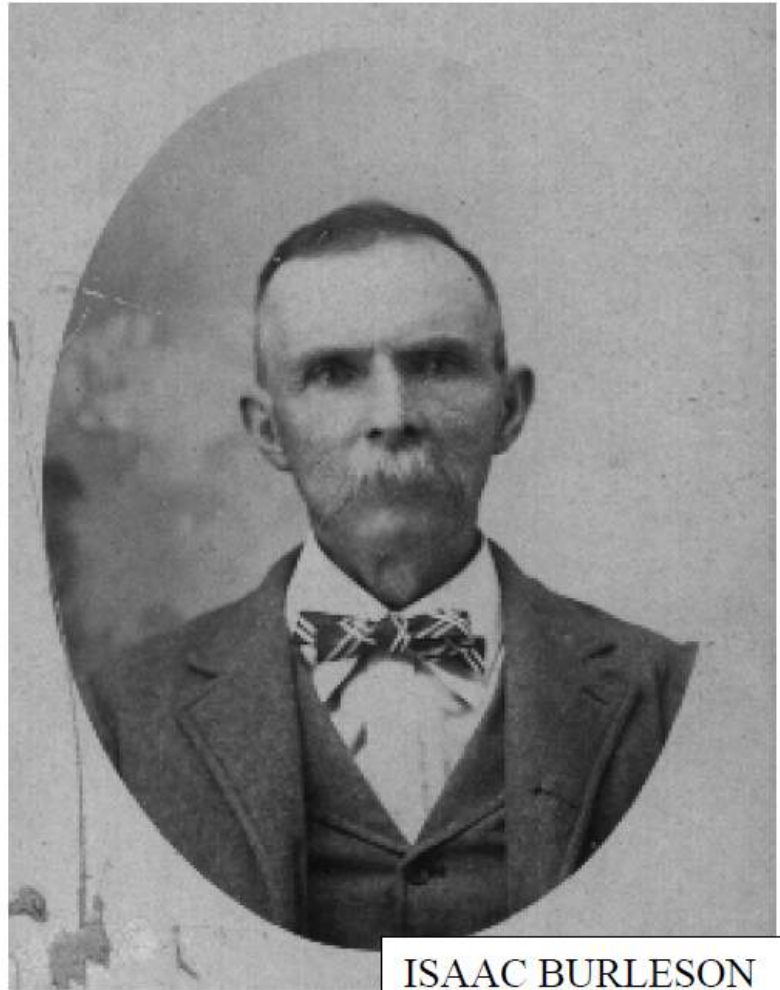
The Descendants of Isaac and Mary Ann Hearne Burleson



Isaac and Mary Burleson with Ralph Hurley and Fred Burleson, Effie and Kope

Johnny's great grandfather Isaac and Mary Ann Hearne Burleson

ISAAC⁸ BURLESON (*WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC BURLESON⁵ SR, ?JOHN⁴ BURLESON, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 20 May 1842 in STANLY CO NC, and died 08 Apr 1910 in BURLESON CEM #1 ALBEMARLE NC. He married MARY ANN HEARNE, daughter of JOSHUA HEARNE and ELIZABETH STONE. She was born Feb 1841, and died 11 Nov 1897 in BURLESON CEM #1 ALBEMARLE, NC.



Notes for ISAAC BURLESON:

Isaac Burleyson Company C 42nd North Carolina Hoke's Brigade 1862 - 1910

Isaac was the third son of William "Billie" and Sarah Harwood Burleyson of Little Bear Creek in Stanly County. He enlisted into the Confederate Army

on February 1, 1862. His service started as a prison guard at Salisbury and ended at Bennett's Place in May 1865. This included service with the Army of Northern Virginia.

The 42nd saw action in the Eastern part of North Carolina in 1862 and 1863. In 1864 the 42nd, Hoke's Brigade, was sent to defend Richmond. General Grant suffered greatly in his attack at Cold Harbor against Hoke's Brigade.

The 42nd was positioned in the center and all other regiments were aligned to the left and right of the 42nd at Bentonville. This was the very last battle to stop Sherman's much larger army.

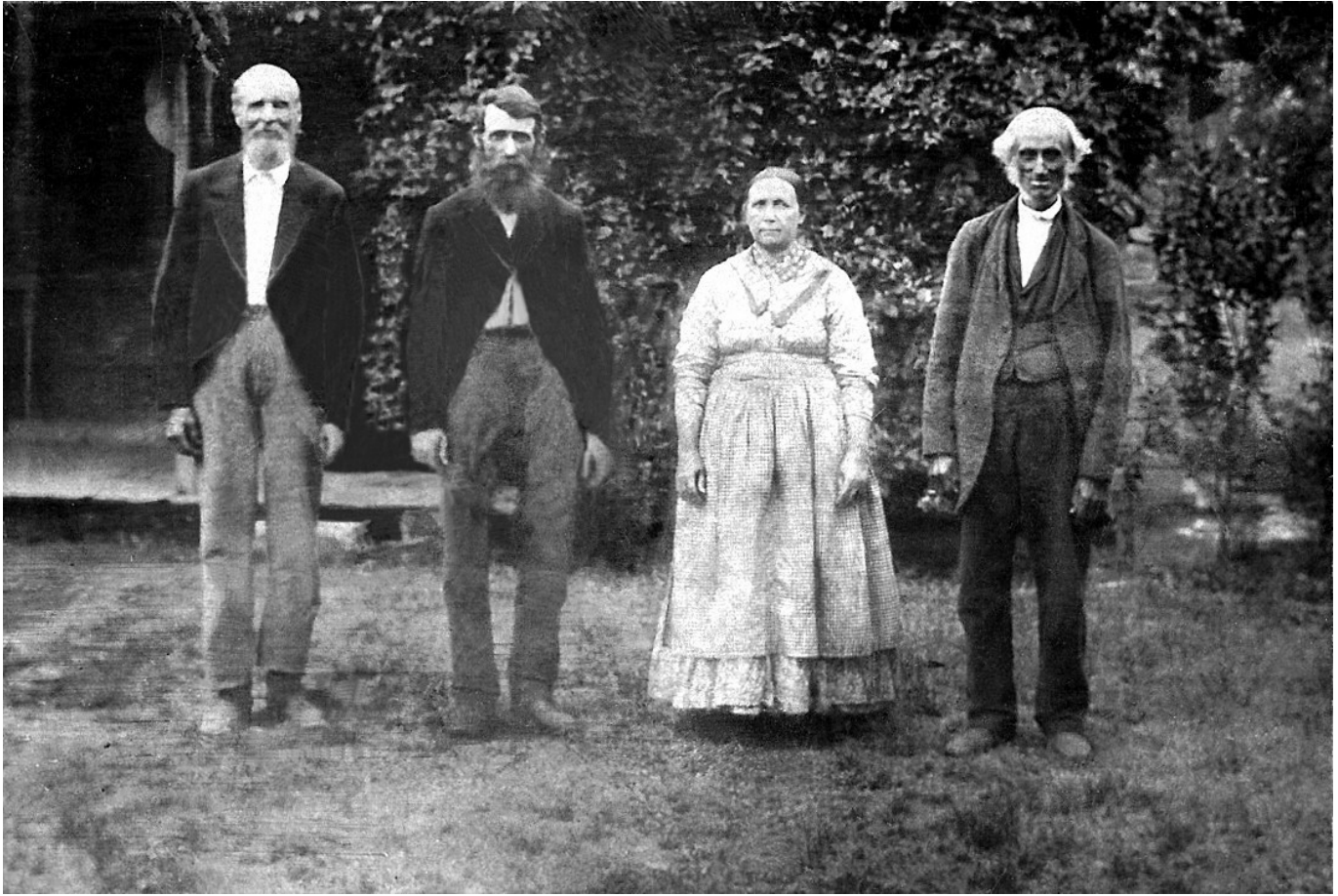
Isaac gave his service in full measure from February 1862 until the final Confederate surrender and the disbanding of the 42nd on May 2, 1865 at Center Church in Randolph County.

Isaac returned to Stanly County after the war to marry Mary Hearne and there they raised their family and helped to rebuild their community. Today they lay in rest in the family graveyard on Burleson Road.

Children of ISAAC BURLESON and MARY HEARNE are:

2. i. RALPH HURLEY⁹ BURLESON, b. 23 Nov 1869, STANLY CO, NC; d. 31 Jul 1942, PINE GROVE MET CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
3. ii. FRED BURLESON, b. Apr 1875, STANLY CO, NC; d. 20 Apr 1949, FAIRVIEW, CHARLOTTE, NC.

Johnny's g-g grandfather Billie Burleson



William (Grandpa Billie), Howell and Judith Burris Burleson, Allan Burris

WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷ BURLESON (*ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC BURLESON⁵ SR, ?JOHN⁴ BURLESON, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 29 Jan 1812 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC), and died 27 Nov 1896 in FRIENDSHIP METH CHURCH CEM, STANLY CO, NC. He married (1) RHODA SPRINGER, daughter of REUBEN SPRINGER and FRANCES WIGGENS. She was born 1836, and died in BEAR CREEK BAP CH STANLY CO NC. He met (2) CHRISTINA ALMOND, daughter of NATHAN ALMON and MARY "POLLY". She was born 1840 in NC, and died 09 Aug 1885 in STANLY CO, NC. He married (3) SARAH HARWOOD 1832, daughter of HOWELL HARWOOD and CELIA ALMOND. She was born 1810 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC), and died Oct 1855 in SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH.

Children of WILLIAM BURLESON and SARAH HARWOOD are:

8. ix. SUSANNAH⁸ BURLESON, b. 24 Jul 1833, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 05 Jun 1901, SALEM METHODIST CHURCH, STANLY NC.
9. x. ABSALOM BURLESON, b. 07 Feb 1835, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 19 Aug 1898, BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC.
10. xi. ELIZABETH (BETTY) BURLESON, b. 13 May 1837, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 24 Aug 1904, FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM OLD ALBEMARLE CEM.
11. xii. EBIN BURLESON, b. 11 Jan 1839, STANLY CO, NC; d. 27 Jan 1927.

- 12. xiii. ISAAC BURLESON, b. 20 May 1842, STANLY CO NC; d. 08 Apr 1910, BURLESON CEM #1 ALBEMARLE NC.
- 13. xiv. HOWELL BURLESON, b. 09 Jan 1845, STANLY CO, NC; d. 12 Nov 1904, CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
- 14. xv. WILLIAM HOLMES BURLESON, b. 22 Apr 1849, STANLY CO, NC; d. 08 Sep 1873, BURLESON CEM#2 ON PARKER RD, ALBEMARLE, NC.

Children of WILLIAM BURLESON and RHODA SPRINGER are:

- 1. i. REUBIN⁸ BURLESON, b. 25 Dec 1865; d. 21 Nov 1887.
- 2. ii. NAOMI (DARL) BURLESON, b. 09 Mar 1867, STANLY CO, NC; d. 27 Jul 1939.
- 3. iii. HANNAH BURLESON, b. 02 Mar 1870; d. 19 Apr 1906, SALEM METHODIST CH MILLINGPORT STANLY CO NC.
- 4. iv. JAPATHY BURLESON, b. 04 Jun 1871, STANLY CO, NC; d. 22 Oct 1953, CANTON BAPT CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
- 5. v. DIXIE BURLESON, b. 23 Jun 1873, STANLY CO NC; d. 26 Sep 1940, BEAR CREEK BAP CH STANLY CO NC.
- 6. vi. HAM BURLESON, b. 27 Feb 1876; d. 22 Dec 1915, Chestnut Hill Cem.
- 7. vii. SHEM BURLESON, b. 27 Feb 1876, STANLY CO NC; d. 09 Apr 1954, BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPT CH.

Child of WILLIAM BURLESON and CHRISTINA ALMOND is:

- 7. viii. CATHERINE CLIFFORD⁸ ALMOND, b. 15 May 1866, NC; d. 22 Oct 1939, MORGAN, ROWAN CO, NC.

Johnny's g-g-g grandfather Isaac Burleson Jr

Descendants of ISAAC JR BURLESON



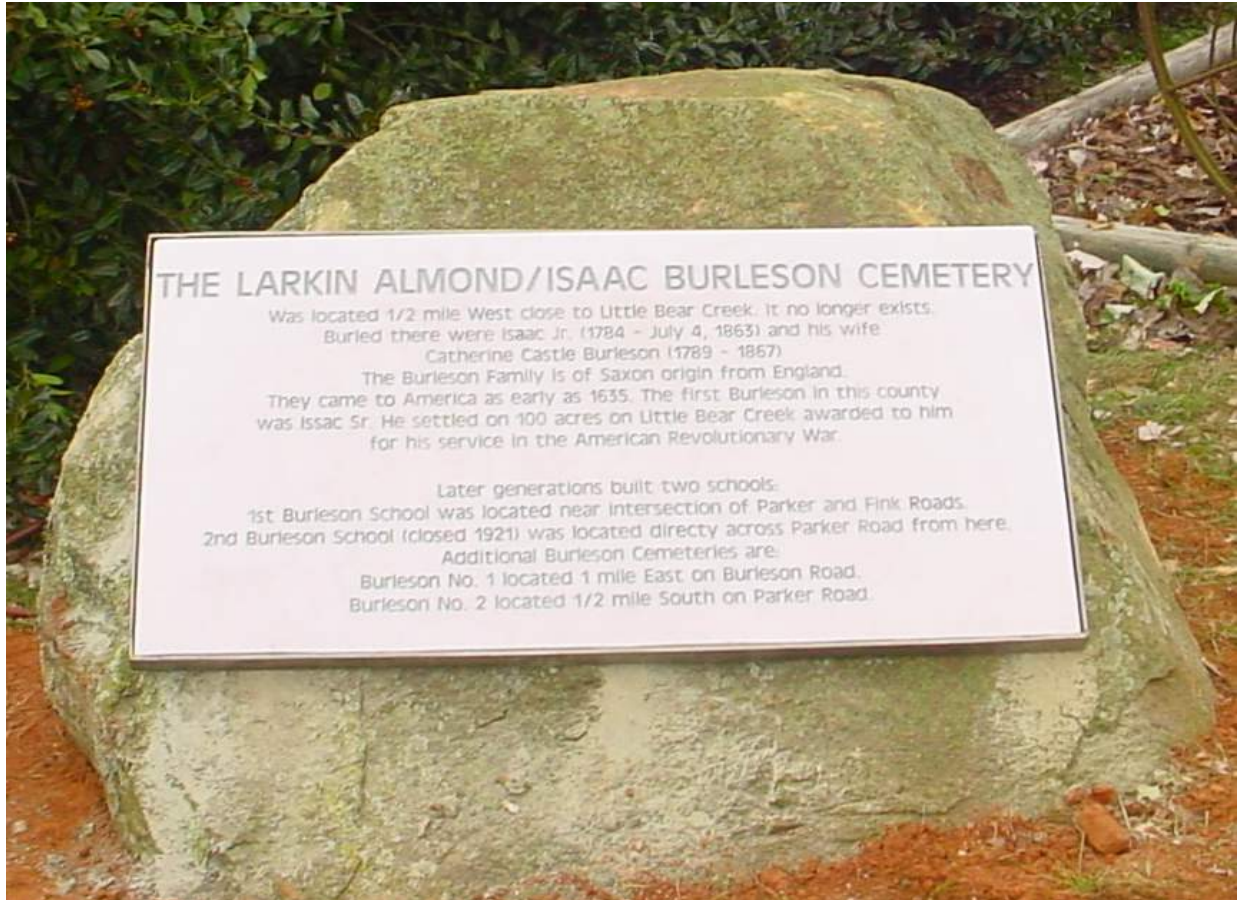
ISAAC JR⁶ BURLESON (*ISAAC BURLESON⁵ SR, ?JOHN⁴ BURLESON, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 08 Mar 1784 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC), and died 04 Jul 1863 in STANLY CO, NC. He married CATHERINE (KATE) CASTLE 1810, daughter of THOMAS CASTLE and ELIZABETH COLTER. She was born 22 Sep 1789 in NC, and died 28 Apr 1867 in STANLY CO, NC.

More About CATHERINE (KATE) CASTLE:

Burial: BURLESON CEMETERY, MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC

Children of ISAAC BURLESON and CATHERINE CASTLE are:

- i. UNK⁷ BURLESON, b. Bef. 1810.
2. ii. WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON, b. 29 Jan 1812, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 27 Nov 1896, FRIENDSHIP METH CHURCH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
3. iii. JONATHAN BURLESON, b. 1814, NC.
- iv. JOHN BURLESON, b. 1816.
4. v. DOVIE BURLESON, b. 1818.
5. vi. CHRISTINA (TENY) BURLESON, b. 20 Jan 1820, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 19 Oct 1901, JOHN ALMOND CEM STANLY CO NC.
6. vii. JOSEPH BURLESON, b. 17 Oct 1822, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 24 Feb 1902.
7. viii. LEE BURLESON, b. 1826, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 15 Oct 1864, Weldon NC.
8. ix. ELIZABETH BETSY BURLESON, b. 1828; d. 29 Nov 1908, CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.
9. x. NATHAN BURLESON, b. 1835, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 16 Jun 1863, RICHMOND VA.



One of the many projects of the BFRG that Johnny Paul Burleson was very instrumental in.

Moving the Stone

I love it when a plan comes together

November 15, 2003

The Burleson Family Research Group has been hard at work moving the Stone for the Isaac Burleson Jr.'s Marker. For those of you who have been following this project, I would like to develop a time line to document all the stages in the process. When I first began doing research, John Hoyle Burleson and I went to see Lillie Burleson. She was such a joy to talk with and she showed us several pictures. She had a picture of Grandpa Billie, (the first one I ever saw), along with pictures of the first and second Burleson School. Lillie Burleson (daughter of David Rutherford Burleson) told several stories passed down to her from her father. One was of the Larkin Almond Cemetery, where Isaac and his wife, Catherine, are buried. It was abandoned and later destroyed. She wanted us to try to place a marker to show the location of this cemetery. John and I both thought that would be a great project but did not know how to do it.

Several years passed and one day I was talking with Eddie Burleson, son of Lillie. He mentioned the need for a marker and what a loss it was when that cemetery was destroyed. His mother had told him several times where the actual location was. Again we thought it was a good idea but we had no idea how to proceed.

Last year in one of our monthly meetings Hilda Burleson Snuggs said that she thought creating a marker for that cemetery would be something the BFRG should pursue. Hilda didn't let the idea die, and the next time she mentioned it at our meeting, several others agreed we should try to do it. Sue Burleson Forrest lives on Parker Road where the cemetery was located. She said that we could put the marker on her lot. This is also where the first

and second Burleson Schools were located, so we included all of this history on the marker.

We discussed the idea for a few months and came up with some possibilities. Hilda checked with several places that produced signs, but the cost of these was too high. We talked about building a brick base (somewhat like a tomb stone) for a marker, but we didn't want it to look like a cemetery stone. A short time later I had to go to Asheboro for jury duty and I drove by Coggins Marble and Granite Company. I stopped to see about getting a stone with the engraving like we wanted. I found out that we could get a 4-inch-thick marble stone for about \$300.00 plus the cost of carving. Bobbie Nell Burleson Efir's son, Kevin and Gordon Burleson, son of Kenneth Burleson were going to do the brick work for us. Right after this I was at Holy Hill Cemetery where my grandparents and father are buried. I saw a boulder with a plaque on it. I thought something similar might be a good idea for the Isaac Marker. We discussed this at our next meeting and Johnny Paul Burleson said he thought they had some stones large enough for this on their farm. The next month Todd Coggins did the engraving on an 48" X 24" piece of man made plastic glass. It looks like marble but it will last longer than granite or marble. The final cost was \$400.00. This included the "marble" plaque, the layout for the wording on the plaque, and engraving 125 words. This was a fantastic price – they basically gave us the engraving free. The plaque was ready to pick up in time for the reunion. After the reunion, Johnny Paul took me to the backside of the Burleson Farm and showed me a boulder he thought might be suitable for the marker. We made plans at our next meeting to move the boulder on November 15, 2003

George and Johnny Paul Burleson putting air in tires



My wife, Summur, and I arrived at the Burleson Farm about 9:00 A.M. on Saturday morning. It was cool and overcast with occasional sprinkling. Johnny Paul and George Burleson were bringing the boulder in from the field. They said that when George put the bulldozer scoop under the rock and tried to raise it, the bulldozer, (they called it a track), came up off the ground several feet but the rock didn't move an inch. They had to get the huge stone positioned just right in the scoop before they could raise it up. Johnny estimated that it weighed more than 8,000 pounds. As Johnny and George worked on putting enough air in the tires of the trailer and

getting it ready to move, Johnny accidentally called me Odis. This was my father's name, and Johnny said I reminded him of my father at a younger age. That was a good feeling, coming from a man



Mike Forrest and grandson Jordon

transported the stone and track to the residence of Mike and Sue Burleson Forrest on Parker Road. After several moves he had the stone in position. Then he had to dig out about two feet of ground so the stone would rest at the right angle to place the marker. This is when Georges' ability was really appreciated. He was able to move and place the stone so it looks like it has always been there. Mike Forrest's grandson, Jordon, was curious about what we were doing and Mike told him we were planting a rock and with a little fertilizer maybe it would grow. How true that is for this rock is

John H. Burleson and Hilda Burleson Snuggs



who knew my father when they were growing up. I was very impressed with the ability of George Burleson, who owns the farm and the equipment used to move the stone. He maximized the use of the track to move a boulder that was really too large for the equipment. I guess you could say I am always amazed at the ability of the individuals in this Burleson Family. He



George Burleson

going to grow the history of the Burleson Family for years to come.

After we got the stone in the right position, then two more Burlesons, Calvin Burleson and Mac



John, Mac, Calvin and Mike



Hopkins took over. Mac married a Burleson, that is just as good. They had built a stainless steel frame with stainless steel achors to attach the marker to the stone. I thought it was great when Mac told us that he didn't know much about computers, but this was what he liked to do. He brought all the tools needed to drill the holes in this Rhyolit Stone. He had to chisel some rough edges off to make the face smooth enough for the frame. Calvin and Mac worked hard to make sure the marker will stay on the stone for many years to come.



Sue Forrest, Carol Burleson, Hilda Snuggs

We had a good number of people there. Sue Forrest, Carol Burleson and Hilda Snuggs were making sure it was done correctly. It looked great -- much better than we ever hoped! And this was due to the efforts of many talented individuals. We will announce the date for the dedication after our next meeting.



John H., JD, Calvin Burleson, and Mac Hopkins