

WALL OF HONOR



Don Huston Burleson is our 8th Honoree for the Wall of Honor October 20th, 2019

Direct Descendants of ISAAC SR BURLESON

ISAAC SR BURLESON
Born: 1750
Died: 1810
in STANLY CO, NC FAG#115253350

MARTHA CLAY
Died: Bet. 1826 - 1830

ISAAC JR BURLESON
Born: 08 Mar 1784
in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC)
Died: 04 Jul 1863
in STANLY CO, NC

CATHERINE (KATE) CASTLE
Born: 22 Sep 1789
in NC
Died: 28 Apr 1867
in STANLY CO, NC 102830189

WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON
Born: 29 Jan 1812
in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC)
Died: 27 Nov 1896
in STANLY CO, NC 10714315

SARAH (SARY) HARWOOD
Born: 1810
in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC)
Died: Oct 1855
in STANLY CO NC 115899516

ABSALOM BURLESON
Born: 07 Feb 1835
in MONTGOMERY CO, NC
Died: 19 Aug 1898
in Stanly Co, NC 13422835

SARAH ANN SIDES
Born: 29 Dec 1841
in MONTGOMERY CO, NC
Died: 11 Jul 1925
in Stanly Co, NC 166775239

RALPH BURLESON
Born: 07 Feb 1881
in STANLY CO NC
Died: 04 Jan 1955
in STANLY CO NC 52488716

LETHA MAY TREECE
Born: 27 Aug 1895
in STANLY CO NC
Died: 09 Jan 1974
in STANLY CO NC 52488717

DON HUSTON BURLESON
Born: 05 Jul 1931
in STANLY CO NC

OLEAMER HATLEY
Born: 14 Mar 1931
in STANLY CO NC

CATHY DONELLE BURLESON
Born: 01 Dec 1955
in STANLY CO, NC

KIM HUSTON BURLESON
Born: 31 Oct 1958
in STANLY CO NC

ANGELA IRENE (ANGIE) RATYNSKI
Born: 04 Jul 1969

MATTHEW HUSTON BURLESON
Born: 13 Sep 1995

LUANNE RENEE BURLESON
Born: 18 Nov 1964
in STANLY CO NC

WILLIAM SCOTT WILLIAMS

DAYLI GUI WILLIAMS
Born: Dec 2001
in HUBEI PROVINCE, CHINA

Don is a Grandson of Absolom. Don's Dad was seventeen when Absolom died. Don shares some stories with us from his fathers past-he said he didn't know if they were true but here they are.

Grandpa Absolom was stationed at Fort Fisher where they built a wall to keep yanks out. While there he was vaccinated for small pox. Days after being vaccinated, when the scab got ripe the Dr. would take a needle and remove the puss and stuff from around the scab and use it to vaccinate others. They could vaccinate 10 men on one scab! His grandpa got foolin' around and knocked his scab off. The Dr. gave him a fit and told him that scab was worth \$100. Grandpa told the Dr. it was over on the door if he wanted it!

The second story is about Red Hill Gold Mine. Absolom and two other men were partners. They would pack a lunch, sweet taters and other stuff and they would dig and dig, sometimes for days at a time, whenever they could spare time away from the farm, but they didn't find a thing. This day, they decided to move over to where some flint rock was. The tunnels were usually only big enough for one person at a time so they would take turns digging. After awhile, Absolom was ready to quit and go home and get the crops planted so he told the others to count him out! All of a sudden the man inside digging said, "What is this?" Absolom did not hesitate to say, "I'm in, I'm in, I'm in!"

One day as Jepatha was walkin' up the road by Ralph's farm, he had a handkerchief around his mouth. He was one who used bad language all the time, and it was a real cold day. Ralph (Don's Dad) asked, "Jep, you got a toothache?" Jep replied, "I've never had a toothache in my life and God yes, they're all goin' to hell!"

Don continued sharing information with us like Nora Almond had named him. He was the last of seven children and was Baby Boy Burleson. When he went on a cruise a few years ago, he had to get three proofs of who he was, including school records and two others to prove that he really was Baby Boy Burleson! His wife Oleama said she had to go to Cabarrus County to get her records because the Dr. that delivered her was drunk! She had to get proof of who she was, too.

Don also said his father had passed down a story from Absolom of how he took part in a mule team convoy that hauled rocks from Granite Quarry to Fort Fisher. These convoys were sometimes 4 to 6 miles long and traveled almost 200 miles. The rocks were put out into the water to keep ships from coming in too close.

Absolom's widow, Sarah Anne, lived with Don's Mom & Dad until she died in 1925. His dad was 35 yrs. old and his mom was 18 when they were married.

A teller of tales

“Did I ever tell you about the time ...?”

Anyone who has spent more than a few minutes with Don has probably heard this question. No matter the answer, a story is to follow, since, like many Burlesons, he seems always to have an appropriate anecdote at the ready.



At one of our monthly meeting back in 2000 Don was telling John Hoyle and Alvin Burleson many of these tales.



At the same meeting Aaron Lorch was explaining some of our Burleson Heritage to Kenneth Burleson and Blye Burleson Lowder, Don's siblings.

Don Burleson, Third Place Winner: Luanne Williams Submitted this in the Father's Day Contest offered by the Stanly News and Press in 2008.

Someone once said "a man's children and his garden both reflect the amount of weeding done during the growing season." Every year as spring turns to summer the thriving plants in my dad's garden remind me of the steadfast nurturing my siblings and I have enjoyed at the hands of this caring man.

Born in the Endy community in 1931, Dad grew up on a farm where hard work and determination were a way of life. A believer in God, in his country and his family, he passed these values on to my sister, my brother and me, teaching us by example that anything worth doing is worth doing right.

With my mom by his side, he planted spiritual seeds, taking us to church every Sunday and showing us what's important in life. As for the "weeding," he kept a close watch on the friends we chose, the hobbies we took up, the habits we formed, all the while steering us toward the straight and narrow. We weren't always happy about it - what teenager enjoys curfews and strict rules? - but we knew he did it out of love.

Beyond weeding out the negative, he encouraged our interests and helped us grow our talents. Money that he could have used for himself instead went to meet our needs. His fiscal wisdom - steer clear of the credit cards and take care of what you have - helped us learn the difference between a want and a need.

Even as his "garden" of children has grown well beyond the seedling stage, (I'm the youngest at 43) he is still nurturing. His handy man skills have bailed us out of many a fix, and his advice and encouragement have helped us manage families of our own.

Now 76, Dad is still gardening and we have the joy of watching him nurture and weed another generation as he teaches a grandson to drive a tractor, introduces a granddaughter to the pleasures of planting and anticipates the fruits of his labor -a joy as sweet and satisfying as the season's first ripe tomato. SNAP 6-15-08



Burlesons celebrate Golden Anniversary

Oleaner and Don Burleson of 24286 Canton Road, Albemarle, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with their family at Ryan's Restaurant on Dec. 23, 2000.

Their children are Cathy and Lowell Frick of Richfield, Kim and Angie Burleson of Albemarle and Luanne and Scott Williams of Monroe. They have one grandson and two stepgranddaughters.

They were married Dec. 23, 1950, at the bride's home by the late Elder C.M. Mills of Charlotte.



THE BURLESONS IN 1950
Mrs. Burleson is the former Oleaner Hatley, daughter of the late James Charles and Minnie Hatley of Albemarle. Mr. Burleson is the son of the late Ralph and Letha Burleson, also of Albemarle.

Workday at Burleson Cemetery #2 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 #2

Absalom Burleson's Descendants

At our First Reunion on Morrow Mountain June 2, 1996



Back Row L/R, Deron Smith, Daniel, Reid, Don, Monte, John H., and Carroll Burleson, Shonda and Alesha Smith

Middle Row, Brandi Smith, holding Erin, Angela Burleson holding Mathew Burleson, Mildred W. Burleson, widow of Guy Burleson, Oleamer and Betty Jean Burleson, Ellen Kuhn holding Derek Smith, and Zak Kuhn,

Front Row, Kim Burleson, Luanne, Mathew Burleson and Collin and Patrick Burleson in front

We want to thank Don Houston Burleson who had the insight to see a need for this picture. He along with Monte Burleson wanted to get all of Absalom's descendants together in an effort to show how proud they were to be descendants of Absalom.



Don's Parents

RALPH⁹ BURLESON
*(ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷,
 ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴,
 JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹)*
 was born 07 Feb 1881 in STANLY
 CO NC, and died 04 Jan 1955 in
 STANLY CO NC 52488716. He
 married LETHA MAY TREECE
 18 Jan 1914, daughter of ADAM
 TREECE and PERMELIA ALMOND.
 She was born 27 Aug 1895 in
 STANLY CO NC, and died 09 Jan
 1974 in STANLY CO NC
 52488717.

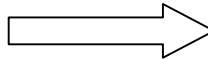
Burial: PINE GROVE UMC CEM,
 STANLY CO, NC



Ralph Burleson and Letha Treece on their wedding day in 1914:

He was a son of Absalom M. and Sarah Anne Sides Burleson.

Ralph and Letha, circa 1950, on their farm.



Children of RALPH BURLESON and LETHA TREECE are:

i. BLYE BERNICE¹⁰ BURLESON, b. 11 Sep 1914, STANLY CO NC; d. 15 Aug 2005, ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO, MD 52488860; m. CLETUS LEO LOWDER, 19 Sep 1936, STANLY CO NC; b. 07 Nov 1909, UNION CO NC; d. 29 May 1981, STANLY CO, NC 52488859.

ii. ROBY ALTON SR BURLESON, b. 29 Jul 1916, STANLY CO NC; d. 02 Dec 1964, CHARLOTTE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, MECKLENBURG CO, NC 90214215; m. CLARA MAE TUCKER, 23 Jun 1940, LOCUST, NC; b. 15 May 1921, STANLY CO NC; d. 27 Nov 2002, SIMSBURY, CT 90214167.

iii. REBAH MADGE BURLESON, b. 09 May 1920, STANLY CO, NC; d. 17 May 2010, STANLY REG MEDICAL CENTER, ALBEMARLE, NC 52569146; m. DANIEL ALPHUS (ALF) HUNEYCUTT, 14 Feb 1942; b. 30 Sep 1922, STANLY CO, NC; d. 28 Sep 1969, STANLY CO NC 101407944.

iv. MABLE MAXINE BURLESON, b. 18 Nov 1923, STANLY CO, NC; d. 11 Mar 2009, STANLY CO, NC 34752035; m. MELVIN MITCHELL CARTER, 25 Sep 1943, STANLY CO NC; b. 05 Nov 1923, STANLY CO NC; d. 2012, 151481599.

v. OLEN FLOYD BURLESON, b. 05 May 1926, STANLY CO, NC; d. 20 Nov 1984, ALBEMARLE, STANLY CO, NC 102829387; m. ELTIS DZILLA CLARK, 14 Jun 1947; b. 19 Aug 1924, STANLY CO, NC; d. 21 Oct 2008, 113414626.

vi. KENNETH BURLESON, b. 20 Apr 1929, STANLY CO, NC; d. 10 Oct 2017, STANLY CO, NC 184190081; m. HELEN BARBEE, 29 Aug 1953; b. 13 Nov 1935.

vii. DON HUSTON BURLESON, b. 05 Jul 1931, STANLY CO NC; m. OLEAMER HATLEY, 23 Dec 1950, STANLY CO NC; b. 14 Mar 1931, STANLY CO NC.



Ralph and Letha's family

Circa 1941. Ralph and Letha are in the center of the second row, with their granddaughters, Janice "Bob" Lowder Sparhawk and Marlene Lowder Dunn in front of them. The young boys on the left are sons, Kenneth and Don. To the right of Letha are daughters Maxine and Blye and Blye's husband, Cletus Lowder. On the back row, from left, are son Roby and his wife, Clara; son Olen; son-in-law Alphus Huneycutt and daughter Madge. This photo was taken in front of the family home on Parker Road before Roby, Olen, Alphus and Cletus left to serve in World War II.

Don & brothers, 1957

The Burleson brothers are pictured in 1957. From left are Roby, Olen, Kenneth and Don. The beards were grown especially to celebrate Albemarle's Centennial.



Don & four of his siblings, circa 1989:

Front and center is Blye Bernice Burleson Lowder, the eldest. It was her 75th birthday. From left behind her are Don Huston Burleson, Kenneth Reid Burleson, Rebah Madge Burleson Huneycutt and Mable Maxine Burleson Carter. Brothers Roby Alton (Pete) Burleson and Olen Floyd Burleson were already deceased.



Don's Grand-Parents

ABSALOM⁸ BURLESON (*WILLIAM (BILLIE)*⁷, *ISAAC JR*⁶, *ISAAC SR*⁵, ? *JOHN*⁴, *JONATHAN*³, *JOHN*², *EDWARD*¹) was born 07 Feb 1835 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC, and died 19 Aug 1898 in Stanly Co, NC 13422835. He married SARAH ANN SIDES, daughter of CHARLES SIDES and BETSY ALMOND. She was born 29 Dec 1841 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC, and died 11 Jul 1925 in Stanly Co, NC 166775239.



More About ABSALOM BURLESON and SARAH ANN SIDES:

Burial: BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC

Census: 1870, PAGE 43

Military service: Enlisted on 9 Aug. 1862 (CSA) Co B 10th Bn Art "Black River Tigers"

Children of ABSALOM BURLESON and SARAH SIDES are:

- i. MINNIE⁹ BURLESON, b. 20 Feb 1863, STANLY CO, NC; d. 23 Oct 1934, STANLY CO, NC 49020260; m. JAMES A. ALMOND, 16 Apr 1882; b. 07 Jan 1862, STANLY CO, NC; d. 20 Dec 1939, STANLY CO, NC 43770319.
- ii. JANE ALICE BURLESON, b. 05 Jun 1864, STANLY CO NC; d. 11 Nov 1936, STANLY NC 30852820; m. JOHN WESLEY BOWERS, 17 Sep 1882, STANLY CO NC; b. 07 Jun 1860, STANLY CO NC; d. 20 Feb 1925, STANLY NC 30852786.
- iii. LOUISA BURLESON, b. 04 Oct 1866, STANLY CO NC; m. LOCKE A. MOODY, 08 Nov 1885; b. 14 Jan 1862, STANLY CO NC; d. Apr 1938, 112564230.
- iv. SARAH ANN BURLESON, b. 22 Mar 1867, STANLY CO NC; d. 24 Feb 1932, STANLY CO NC 33235477; m. JAMES LUTHER SIDES, 18 Feb 1886; b. 30 Jul 1866, STANLY CO NC; d. 09 Dec 1907, STANLY CO NC 33235585.

More About JAMES SIDES and SARAH BURLESON:

Marriage: 18 Feb 1886

- v. JOHN FLORENCE BURLESON, b. 02 Dec 1868, STANLY CO NC; d. 20 Jun 1941, STANLY CO, NC FAG#52488699; m. ADA MARY EFIRD, 12 Apr 1903, STANLY CO NC; b. 18 Nov 1884, STANLY CO NC; d. 20 Apr 1963, STANLY CO NC FAG 52488700.

- vi. WILLIAM COLUMBUS BURLESON, b. 13 Jan 1871, STANLY CO NC; d. 20 Feb 1945, STANLY CO NC 115973281; m. VARA JANE WHITLEY, 20 Mar 1907; b. 20 Feb 1880, STANLY CO, NC; d. 10 Jun 1956, PINE GROVE METHODIST CHURCH STANLY CO NC.
- vii. NANNIE P. BURLESON, b. 1874, STANLY CO NC; d. 17 Mar 1908, STANLY CO, NC 52488900; m. JESSIE WILBER POPLIN; b. 14 Sep 1877, STANLY CO, NC; d. 02 Apr 1947, STANLY CO, NC 52488892.
- viii. KITTIE BOYD BURLESON, b. Aug 1878, STANLY CO NC; d. 14 Jul 1932, STANLY CO NC 93438820; m. PET FRANKLIN LOWDER, 04 Mar 1903, STANLY CO NC; b. 30 Jul 1883; d. 22 Sep 1929, STANLY CO NC 93438769.
- ix. ATTIE BURLESON, b. 15 Jun 1879, STANLY CO, NC; d. 13 Sep 1940, STANLY CO NC 52488634; m. TRAVIS J. AUSTIN; b. 24 Jan 1880; d. 27 Apr 1958, STANLY CO NC 52488648.
- x. CHARLEY J. BURLESON, b. 17 Apr 1878, STANLY CO NC; d. 05 May 1882, STANLY CO NC 102828822.
- xi. RALPH BURLESON, b. 07 Feb 1881, STANLY CO NC; d. 04 Jan 1955, STANLY CO NC 52488716; m. LETHA MAY TREECE, 18 Jan 1914; b. 27 Aug 1895, STANLY CO NC; d. 09 Jan 1974, STANLY CO NC 52488717.
- xii. AGNUS BURLESON, b. 13 Feb 1895; d. 24 Sep 1962, PINE GROVE CH CEM; m. LUTHER ELLSWORTH BOWERS, 19 Aug 1914.

Don's Great Grand-Father



Grandpa Billie (William Burleson), his son Howell and Judith Burris Burleson and Allen Burris

WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷ BURLESON (*ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 29 Jan 1812 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC), and died 27 Nov 1896 in STANLY CO, NC 10714315. He married (1) SARAH (SARY) 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 STANLY CO NC 115899516. He met (2) CHRISTINA ALMOND 1863, daughter of NATHAN ALMOND and MARY "POLLY". She was born 1840 in NC, and died 09 Aug 1885 in STANLY CO, NC 109867793. He married (3) RHODA SPRINGER 1865, daughter of REUBEN SPRINGER and FRANCES WIGGENS. She was born 1836, and died in STANLY CO NC 115907522.

More About WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON:

Burial: FRIENDSHIP UMC CEM, STANLY CO, NC

Fact 1: 1850, NC CENSUS PG 27

More About SARAH (SARY) HARWOOD:

Burial: SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH

More About CHRISTINA ALMOND:

Burial: HERLOCKER BURYING GROUND, PLYLER, STANLY CO, NC

More About RHODA SPRINGER:

Burial: BEAR CREEK PRIM BAP CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

Children of WILLIAM BURLESON and SARAH HARWOOD are:

- i. SUSANNAH (SUSAN)⁸ BURLESON, b. 24 Jul 1833, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 05 Jun 1901, MILLINGPORT, STANLY CO, NC 30205242; m. DANIEL BOWERS, 09 Dec 1852, STANLY CO NC; b. 24 Mar 1830, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 12 Dec 1904, MILLINGPORT, STANLY CO, NC 30204484.

More About SUSANNAH (SUSAN) BURLESON and DANIEL BOWERS:

Burial: SALEM UMC CEM, STANLY NC

- ii. ABSALOM BURLESON, b. 07 Feb 1835, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 19 Aug 1898, Stanly Co, NC 13422835; m. SARAH ANN SIDES; b. 29 Dec 1841, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 11 Jul 1925, Stanly Co, NC 166775239.
- iii. ELIZABETH (BETTY) BURLESON, b. 13 May 1837, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 24 Aug 1904, STANLY CO NC 114064009; m. WILLIAM M HATLEY; b. 28 Jan 1840, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 09 Dec 1917, 114063990.

More About ELIZABETH (BETTY) BURLESON and WILLIAM M HATLEY:

Burial: FRIENDSHIP UMC CEM OLD ALBEMARLE CEM, STANLY CO, NC

- iv. EBIN BURLESON, b. 11 Jan 1839, STANLY CO, NC; d. 27 Jan 1927, STANLY CO, NC 102829519; m. (1) MARY CATHERINE SIDES, 10 Jan 1867; b. 25 Jul 1846; d. 11 Feb 1891, FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM, PLYER, STANLY, NC; m. (2) DORA HOPKINS, 16 Apr 1893, ALBEMARLE, NC; b. 17 Jan 1874, STANLY CO, NC; d. 05 Apr 1951, STANLY CO NC 102829559.

More About EBIN BURLESON and DORA HOPKINS:
Burial: BURLESON FAMILY CEM #2 PARKER RD ALBERMALE, NC
Fact 1: 15 Mar 1862, Enlisted CO K 28TH REGT Lanes Bde.

- v. ISAAC BURLESON, b. 20 May 1842, STANLY CO NC; d. 08 Apr 1910, ALBEMARLE NC 13399074; m. MARY ANN HEARNE; b. Feb 1841; d. 11 Nov 1897, ALBEMARLE, NC.

More About ISAAC BURLESON and MARY ANN HEARNE:
Burial: BURLESON FAMILY CEM #1 PARKER RD ALBERMALE, NC
Fact 1: 01 Feb 1862, ENLISTED CO C 42nd Hoke's Bde

- vi. HOWELL BURLESON, b. 09 Jan 1845, STANLY CO, NC; d. 12 Nov 1904, STANLY CO, NC 13398698; m. JUDITH "JUDIE" BURRIS, 24 May 1870; b. 23 Nov 1840; d. 19 Jan 1918, STANLY CO, NC 58007555.

Civil War: CSA: 70th Reg Junior Reserves:. 04 Dec 1864, Enlisted 20th NC Regt CSA

More About HOWELL BURLESON:and JUDITH "JUDIE" BURRIS
Burial: CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

- vii. WILLIAM HOLMES BURLESON, b. 22 Apr 1849, STANLY CO, NC; d. 08 Sep 1873, ALBEMARLE, NC 102829333; m. MARGARET ANN HATLEY, 02 Aug 1870; b. 18 Jul 1855, STANLY CO, NC; d. 10 Aug 1905, STANLY CO, NC 107445160.

More About WILLIAM HOLMES BURLESON:
Burial: BURLESON CEM#2 ON PARKER RD, ALBEMARLE, NC

More About MARGARET ANN HATLEY:
Burial: CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

Child of WILLIAM BURLESON and CHRISTINA ALMOND is:

- viii. CATHERINE CLIFFORD⁸ ALMOND, b. 15 May 1864, NC; d. 22 Oct 1939, MORGAN FORD, ROWAN CO, NC; m. JOHN ELI VANHOY, 31 Aug 1884; b. 23 Apr 1868, STANLY CO, NC; d. 27 Nov 1932, STANLY CO, NC.

Parents listed on her death cert were Billie Burleson and Tinnie Almond.

More About CATHERINE CLIFFORD ALMOND and JOHN ELI VANHOY:
Burial: VANHOY FAMILY CEM, McSWAIN RD, STANLY CO, NC

Children of WILLIAM BURLESON and RHODA SPRINGER are:

- ix. REUBIN⁸ BURLESON, b. 25 Dec 1865; d. 21 Nov 1887.
- x. NAOMI (DARL) BURLESON, b. 02 Mar 1867, STANLY CO, NC; d. 26 Jun 1939, STANLY CO, NC 107730128; m. THOMAS WEBSTER ROGERS, 01 Oct 1891; b. 09 Jan 1867, UNION CO, NC; d. 29 Aug 1911, 53196096.

More About NAOMI (DARL) BURLESON and : THOMAS WEBSTER ROGERS
Burial: CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

- xi. HANNAH BURLESON, b. 02 Mar 1870; d. 19 Apr 1906, 77859774; m. JOHN HARRIS LOWDER, 18 May 1905; b. 13 Nov 1852, STANLY CO NC; d. 06 Jun 1926, STANLY CO NC 77859769.

More About HANNAH BURLESON and JOHN HARRIS LOWDER:
Burial: SALEM UMC CEM, MILLINGPORT, STANLY CO NC

- xii. JAPATHY BURLESON, b. 04 Jun 1871, STANLY CO, NC; d. 22 Oct 1953, STANLY CO, NC110644137.

More About JAPATHY BURLESON:
Burial: CANTON BAPT CH CEM, ALBEMARLE, STANLY CO, NC

- xiii. DIXIE BURLESON, b. 23 Jun 1873, STANLY CO NC; d. 26 Sep 1940, STANLY CO NC 81237422; m. MARYLAND CEPHAS (BUD) FURR, 28 Jan 1894, STANLEY CO NC; b. 08 Oct 1871; d. 22 Jul 1951, STANLY CO, NC 81256503.

More About DIXIE BURLESON and MARYLAND CEPHAS (BUD) FURR:
Burial: BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPT CH, ALBEMARLE, STANLY CO, NC

- xiv. HAM BURLESON, b. 27 Feb 1876, STANLY CO NC; d. 22 Dec 1915, SALISBURY, ROWAN CO, NC 110643605; m. ELLEN LENTZ, 20 Feb 1896, ROWAN CO, NC; b. 25 Nov 1875, ROWAN CO NC; d. 06 Jul 1974, HIGH POINT, GUILFORD CO, NC 48660795.

More About HAM BURLESON:
Burial: CHESTNUT HILL CEM, SALISBURY, ROWAN CO, NC

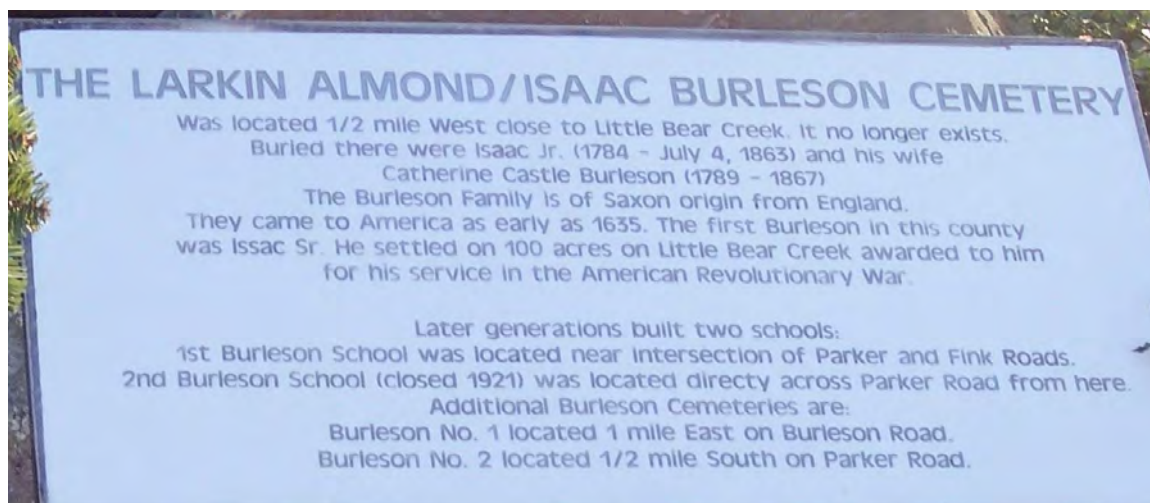
More About ELLEN LENTZ:
Burial: FLORAL GARDENS MEMORAL PARK, HIGH POINT NC

- xv. SHEM BURLESON, b. 27 Feb 1876, STANLY CO NC; d. 09 Apr 1954, 81214274; m. JANIE ALICE BURLESON, 14 Sep 1902; b. 03 Nov 1883, STANLY CO, NC; d. 20 Jan 1963, WINSTON SALEM, FORSYTH CO, NC 68468089.

More About SHEM BURLESON:
Burial: BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPT CH, ALBEMARLE, STANLY CO, NC

More About JANIE ALICE BURLESON:
Burial: OAKLAWN MEM GARDENS, WINSTON SALEM, FORSYTH CO, NC

Don's -G Great Grand-Parents





ISAAC JR⁶ BURLESON (*ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, 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/CASSEL and ELIZABETH COLTER. She was born 22 Sep 1789 in NC, and died 28 Apr 1867 in STANLY CO, NC 102830189.

More About ISAAC JR BURLESON and 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.
- ii. WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON, b. 29 Jan 1812, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 27 Nov 1896, STANLY CO, NC 10714315; m. (1) SARAH (SARY) HARWOOD, 1832; b. 1810, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. Oct 1855, STANLY CO NC 115899516; m. (2) CHRISTINA ALMOND, 1863; b. 1840, NC; d. 09 Aug 1885, STANLY CO, NC 109867793; m. (3) RHODA SPRINGER, 1865; b. 1836; d. STANLY CO NC 115907522.

More About WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON:

Burial: FRIENDSHIP UMC CEM, STANLY CO, NC

More About SARAH (SARY) HARWOOD:

Burial: SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH

More About CHRISTINA ALMOND:

Burial: HERLOCKER BURYING GROUND, PLYLER, STANLY CO, NC

More About RHODA SPRINGER:

Burial: BEAR CREEK PRIM BAP CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

iii. JONATHAN BURLESON, b. 1814, NC; m. (1) PERMELIA; b. 1814, NC; m. (2) JANE RICHARDS, 10 Dec 1865, HARDIN CO TN.

iv. JOHN BURLESON, b. 1816.

v. DOVIE BURLESON, b. 1818; d. 05 Jun 1883, 167070968; m. ABSALOM HARWOOD, 1832; b. 06 Jun 1812; d. 23 Dec 1885.

More About DOVIE BURLESON:

Burial: SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, STANLY CO, NC

vi. CHRISTINA (TENY) BURLESON, b. 20 Jan 1820, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 19 Oct 1901, STANLY CO NC 92037429; m. ACHILLIS CALVIN (KILLIS) ALMOND; b. 1823; d. Mar 1863, STANLY CO NC 78856352.

More About CHRISTINA (TENY) BURLESON and ACHILLIS CALVIN (KILLIS) ALMOND:

Burial: JOHN ALMOND CEMETERY, STANLY CO, NC

vii. JOSEPH BURLESON, b. 17 Oct 1822, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 24 Feb 1902, STANLY CO, NC 33232236; m. (1) LUCY B. ALMOND; b. 25 Sep 1823, NC; d. 29 Sep 1892, STANLY CO NC 33232425; m. (2) JANE WHITLEY, 26 Nov 1893; b. 1844; d. 02 Dec 1922.

More About JOSEPH BURLESON and LUCY B. ALMOND:

Burial: FRIENDSHIP METH CHURCH CEMETERY, STANLY CO, NC

viii. LEE BURLESON, b. 1826, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 15 Oct 1864, Weldon NC 44577713; m. ELIZABETH ALMOND, 1846, STANLY CO, NC; b. 1824, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 29 Nov 1903, STANLY CO, NC 178031348.

More About LEE BURLESON:

Burial: WELDON CONF CEM, WELDON, HALIFAX CO, NC

More About ELIZABETH ALMOND:

Burial: CANTON BAP CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

ix. ELIZABETH BETSY BURLESON, b. 1828; d. 29 Nov 1908, STANLY CO, NC; m. LARKIN SR ALMOND, 1846; b. 1828, NC; d. Jun 1880.

More About ELIZABETH BETSY BURLESON:

Burial: CANTON BAPTIST CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC

More About LARKIN SR ALMOND:

Burial: NORWOOD, STANLY CO, NC

More About LARKIN ALMOND and ELIZABETH BURLESON:

Marriage: 1846

x. NATHAN BURLESON, b. 1835, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 16 Jun 1863, RICHMOND VA; m. (1) MARTHA J. HATLEY; b. 04 Jul 1835; d. 04 Jun 1918; m. (2) MARY (POLLY) ALMOND.

Don's G-G Great Grand-Parents

ISAAC SR⁵ BURLESON (? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹) was born 1750, and died 1810 in STANLY CO, NC FAG#115253350. He married MARTHA CLAY 1781. She died Bet. 1826 - 1830.

More About ISAAC SR BURLESON and MARTHA CLAY :
Burial: SPRINGER CEM OFF OF DUSTY RD, STANLY CO, NC



Children of ISAAC BURLESON and MARTHA CLAY are:

- i. JONATHAN⁶ BURLESON, b. 1780, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. Oct 1857, UNION CO NC (WILL BOOK # 1 PP138-140); m. SARAH, Abt. 1804; b. Aug 1786; d. 21 Jul 1861, UNION CO NC.

More About JONATHAN BURLESON and SARAH:
Burial: OLD UNION METH CH CEM, UNION CO, NC

- ii. ISAAC JR BURLESON, b. 08 Mar 1784, MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); d. 04 Jul 1863, STANLY CO, NC; m. CATHERINE (KATE) CASTLE, 1810; b. 22 Sep 1789, NC; d. 28 Apr 1867, STANLY CO, NC 102830189.

More About ISAAC JR BURLESON and CATHERINE (KATE) CASTLE
Burial: BURLESON CEMETERY, MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC

- iii. UNK FEMALE BURLESON, b. Bef. 1790, MONTGOMERY CO, NC.
- iv. UNK FEMALE BURLESON, b. Bef. 1790, Montgomery Co NC.
- v. JANE BURLESON, b. 03 May 1792, MONTGOMERY CO (NOW STANLY) NC; d. 14 Jan 1879, BELLEFONTAINE, WEBSTER CO, MS FAG#33601905; m. WILLIAM SR CASTLE, 21 Jul 1809; b. 22 Apr 1788, MONTGOMERY CO (NOW STANLY) NC; d. 21 Jul 1870, BELLEFONTAINE, WEBSTER,MS FAG#33601904.
More About JANE BURLESON and WILLIAM SR CASTLE :
Burial: NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO,BELLEFONTAINE, MISS
- vi. DAVID BURLESON, b. 1798, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 14 Jul 1883, CALHOUN CO. MS FAG#11304197; m. (1) MARY ANN CASTLE, 1814; b. Abt. 1798, NC; m. (2) MARTHA JULIA THARP, 26 Mar 1839, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA; m. (3) ELIZABETH BRANNON, 1842; b. 1811; d. 1892, CALHOUN CO, MS BETHLEHEM CEMETERY.

Notes for DAVID BURLESON:
This family spelled Burleson with a i Burlison

More About DAVID BURLESON and ELIZABETH BRANNON :
Burial: BETHLEHEM CEMETERY, CALHOUN CO. MS

- vii. UNK FEMALE BURLESON, b. Bef. 1800, Montgomery Co NC.
- viii. UNK FEMALE BURLESON, b. Bef. 1800, Montgomery Co NC.
- ix. JOSEPH BURLESON, b. 1805, MONTGOMERY CO, NC; d. 1843, STANLY CO, NC; m. NANCY ROGERS, 1828; b. 1805, NC; d. Aug 1847, STANLY CO, NC.
- x. UNK FEMALE BURLESON, b. Bef. 1810, Montgomery Co NC.
- xi. SARAH BURLESON, b. 1800, MONTGOMERY CO, (NOW STANLY) NC; d. Dec 1872, NC 95842206; m. JOHN KILLIS (JACKSON) ALMOND; b. 1800; d. Dec 1857, STANLY CO, NC 95841315.

More About SARAH BURLESON and : JOHN KILLIS (JACKSON) ALMOND
Burial: KILLIS ALMOND CEM, STANLY CO, NC



Descendants of DON HUSTON BURLESON

Generation No. 1

1. DON HUSTON¹⁰ BURLESON (*RALPH⁹, ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 05 Jul 1931 in STANLY CO NC. He married OLEAMER HATLEY 23 Dec 1950 in STANLY CO NC, daughter of JAMES HATLEY and MINNIE LAMBERT. She was born 14 Mar 1931 in STANLY CO NC.

More About DON HUSTON BURLESON:

Fact 1: ARTICLE IN ALBEMARLE TALES ON PAGE 24-28

Children of DON BURLESON and OLEAMER HATLEY are:

- i. CATHY DONELLE¹¹ BURLESON, b. 01 Dec 1955 in Stanly Co, NC; m. LOWELL MURRAY FRICK, 15 Oct 1978, STANLY CO NC; b. 22 Apr 1958.
2. ii. KIM HUSTON BURLESON, b. 31 Oct 1958, STANLY CO NC.
3. iii. LUANNE RENEE BURLESON, b. 18 Nov 1964, STANLY CO NC.

Generation No. 2

2. KIM HUSTON¹¹ BURLESON (*DON HUSTON¹⁰, RALPH⁹, ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 31 Oct 1958 in STANLY CO NC. He married ANGELA IRENE (ANGIE) RATYNSKI 17 May 1991 in STANLY CO NC, daughter of EDWARD RATYASKI and LINDA RATYASKI. She was born 04 Jul 1969.

Child of KIM BURLESON and ANGELA RATYNSKI is:

- i. MATTHEW HUSTON¹² BURLESON, b. 13 Sep 1995.

3. LUANNE RENEE¹¹ BURLESON (*DON HUSTON¹⁰, RALPH⁹, ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 18 Nov 1964 in STANLY CO NC. She married WILLIAM SCOTT WILLIAMS 07 Jul 1989 in UNION COUNTY, NC.

More About WILLIAM WILLIAMS and LUANNE BURLESON:

Marriage: 07 Jul 1989, UNION COUNTY, NC

Child of LUANNE BURLESON and WILLIAM WILLIAMS is:

- i. DAYLI GUI¹² WILLIAMS, b. Dec 2001, HUBEI PROVINCE, CHINA.

Notes for DAYLI GUI WILLIAMS:

ADOPTED

(LUANNE BURLESON WILLIAMS has two stepdaughters, Erin Jameson and Katie Williams. Erin and her husband, Matthew Jameson, have twin sons, Dominic and Bennett, age 4. Katie has four children: Karson and Elliott Kennell, both 8; and Kensington and Monroe Kennell, both 6.)

Don Burleson Biographical Information

By Luanne Burleson Williams

Childhood on the farm



Born on July 5, 1931 to Ralph and Letha Treece Burleson in the Endy community, Don is the youngest of seven. His mom let his first cousin Nora name him, and she called him Don, not Donald. His middle name is Huston, which he passed down to his son and grandson.

Growing up on a farm, Don spent his young years running barefoot, picking cotton and doing whatever he was told to help the family survive. Like many others in rural Stanly County, the Burlesons lived in a small home that they heated with wood.

“I was about 10 years old before we had electricity and was grown before the house had plumbing of any kind,” Don said. “We never owned a telephone.”

His father was strict; his mother, thrifty and hardworking. They attended Pine Grove United Methodist Church.

“My parents were Christians, fair and good people.

They never worked a day at public work, but they put seven children through high school on the small farm that they bought from my father’s father,” Don said. “We didn’t have much, but we were happy.”

All seven children worked in the fields until dark, then ate supper and took care of their assigned chores. As the youngest, Don was tasked with helping his mother milk their two cows.

Their community was tight-knit. If someone was facing an extended illness, everyone pitched in to help, especially during harvest time. The Burlesons and their neighbors gathered at the needy family’s home and pulled corn, picked cotton or whatever was needed until the job was done.

“There was little time for playing. On Sundays, we could play with the neighbors if we didn’t get too loud. We lived on Lick Branch, but one thing was for certain: No fishing on Sunday. That was a no-no,” Don said.

He and his siblings loved a good prank.

“Very seldom did our parents get mad unless a prank hurt someone’s feelings or health. Most times, our parents laughed along with us,” he said.

One of his favorite childhood memories is eating lunch at school.

“My mother packed us all the same thing: a large homemade biscuit with a piece of country ham and a baked sweet potato. If we didn’t raise it, we didn’t eat it,” Don said.

He worked on the farm until graduating from high school, where he met his sweetheart, Oleamer Hatley. She was valedictorian of their graduating class of 17 members, the Endy Class of 1949. They married in December 1950 and moved into a small apartment in the attic of a home owned by Ezra Almond near Canton Church.

Don worked for Almond Brothers Poultry, but before long Uncle Sam would come calling.

Two years in the U.S. Army

In early October of 1952, Don was drafted into the U.S. Army and reported to Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C. A few days later, he and several busloads of soldiers were taken to Camp Rucker near Dothan, Ala., to become part of the A Battery of the 151st Field Artillery Battalion. Twenty-two of the men, including Don, were tapped for training as military police (MPs), while the rest were sent to Korea, where the division suffered heavy losses.

Don was an artilleryman but was also trained and worked as an MP. He first lived in the barracks, but after basic training was allowed to move off base and brought Oleamer to an apartment in Ozark, Ala., that they shared with a fellow soldier from Chapel Hill and his wife. The couples would become lifelong friends. The men worked 12-hour shifts standing guard at the gate, patrolling and performing all types of law-enforcement duties. They made \$58 a month.

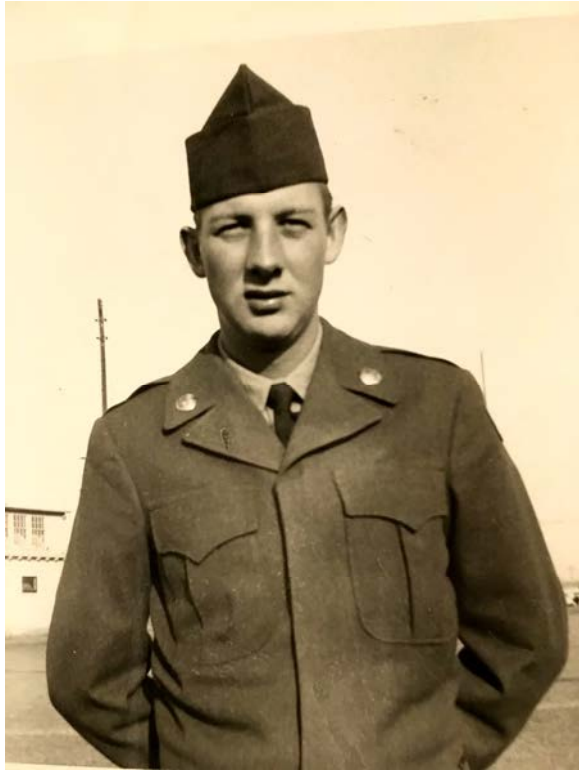
The women kept house and prepared meals on a shoestring budget, and the four played cards for entertainment, as they were unable to afford to go to movies or dine out.

In the spring of 1953, the men heard a rumor that they were among a group about to be deployed to Frankfurt, Germany. They did not want to go because they knew they would have to leave their wives behind and they had just a little over a year to serve, so they were hoping to stay stateside.

Before the deployment was announced, Don and his friend told the captain that they very much wanted to go to advanced MP training at Camp Gordon, Ga., and asked that they be allowed to do so immediately. The captain OK’d the assignment. So, given a few days leave, they took their wives home to North Carolina and then reported to



Camp Gordon, Ga., where they underwent further MP training. At summer's end, when they returned to Camp Rucker, they moved their wives back and took another apartment, later moving into a trailer in Daleville, Ala.



In the spring of 1954, Camp Rucker was to be closed, so everyone moved to Fort Benning, near Columbus, Ga. Both Don and his buddy had made sergeant by this time. They were honorably discharged in October of 1954, having served their requisite two years.

Once out of the military, Don said there were two things he would never again do if he could help it: sleep in a tent and stand in line for a meal. He has remained true to his word as the Burlesons were not ones to camp. When he took his family on vacation, he rented a beach house, often with Oleamer's sister and her husband, or stayed in a hotel. And no matter how great a restaurant's reputation, even now Don is not a fan of waiting in line for a table.

His time in the military, though short, left an impression on him. Sixty-five years later, he still recalls the names of many of his fellow soldiers and relates incidents — often humorous ones — in vivid detail.

Home, work and family

Once home from the Army, Don and Oleamer built a house (which they still live in today) and started a family. While some people would say they raised three children, he would say they “reared” three children, because legendary Endy teacher Mrs. Claude (Margaret) Grigg instilled proper word usage in her students: “Corn is raised; children are reared!”

Cathy Donelle was born in 1955; Kim Huston in 1958; and Luanne Renee in 1964.

Don became a Linotype operator and worked in printing for more than three decades, driving back and forth to Charlotte five days a week for many of those years. In addition, he bought a used Linotype machine, installed it in his basement and set type for area print shops on the side, often working until late at night, with Oleamer proofing copy.

When he wasn't at work or setting type at home, he spent time gardening and tinkering. He fixed whatever broke, took care of his vehicles and lawn and was always busy improving on his property, planting and pruning grape vines, cutting wood for a wood stove, installing solar panels, etc. All those years on the farm growing up had taught him much about how equipment works and what it takes to keep things running.



As he brought up his family with Christian principles and encouraged his children in their schooling, he also taught them not to borrow, to take care of what they had and to keep the owner's manual! Whenever presented with a malfunctioning toy or appliance, that remains his first question: Do you have the book on this? (His owner's manuals are filed for future reference and include the date he purchased the appliance, what he did over the years to service it, including the number of the part he had to order.)

Don took his family to church without fail, served on church committees and supported the community. He hunted doves, caught fish and worked hard to make growing up easier for his children than it had been for him. Although he doesn't play an instrument (he always says the radio is all that he knows how to play), Don has a wonderful bass voice and sang in the choir during his younger days. Oleamer plays piano by ear, and for many years, friends and neighbors would gather frequently at the Burleson home for some picking and grinning.

While Don battled severe back trouble on and off, undergoing five surgeries and long periods of recuperation, he refused to let it keep him down and always managed to go back to work.

As "cold type" and computers arrived, Don realized that his job as a Linotype operator would not last. He began to look for other work and found that his "fix-it" mentality and knowledge of machinery served him well as he went to work for Cargill in Albemarle performing maintenance on all their egg-processing equipment. He not only worked to keep the plant running, but would go out to their production farms and trouble-shoot the equipment that brought the eggs from the chicken houses to their packing rooms. His last role in the workforce involved machine maintenance in a textile plant. He retired in 1993.

Staying active

Don stayed busy after retirement, gardening and taking on a variety of projects, including repairing lawnmowers for friends and neighbors and making more than 100 canes out of curly wood, often harvested from the land he inherited between Parker and Burleson roads. He began giving so many of the canes away that he had to start keeping a list to remember whom he had given them too. Virtually every doctor who treated him over the years — from orthopedics to cardiologists, etc. — has a cane that he crafted.

In late 1989, Don had open heart surgery and later had some stints put in. He also has a pacemaker. Despite his health issues, Don and Oleamer kept an active social life and were members of a club called the Jokesters that included some of their schoolmates and a variety of couples from all walks of life. The group took trips on and off throughout the years and always hosted a New Year's Eve party. Don and Oleamer went on a cruise with the Jokesters and have fond memories of more than a few bus trips taken with the group.

Back at home, they made it their business to grow some of the finest tomatoes in the area in addition to okra, squash, cucumbers, peppers, peas, watermelons, etc. Each year Don says he is planting his last garden and doesn't anticipate being able to plant one next year, but with Oleamer's help he has somehow managed to do so. He put together a water-saving irrigation system to make his tomato-growing more efficient. And in recent years he has taken to planting sunflowers so he'll have seed for the birds he enjoys watching underneath their large willow oaks.

Another of his projects was to build a pecan sheller. He has always been able to look at machinery, see how it works and then build it, often improving on a certain aspect of its function. His shelling technique became well-known in the community for several years as people would bring their pecans to have them cracked. Whether dropping off pecans or buying tomatoes, they would often sit and talk to the Burlesons in their basement and be treated to one or more of Don's stories.

A teller of tales

“Did I ever tell you about the time ...?” Anyone who has spent more than a few minutes with Don has probably heard this question. No matter the answer, a story is to follow, since, like many Burlesons, he seems always to have an appropriate anecdote at the ready.

Many of his stories are about growing up — remembering his first taste of Coca-cola, the time he should have gotten a whipping for upsetting a yellow jacket nest but didn't, or the thrill of throwing tops. He describes the scene on molasses-making day when his brother Kenneth was running with a skimming paddle in his mouth and fell, nearly cutting off his uvula, and he recounts the drama of his sister Maxine's first attempt at baking biscuits. (She had made them perfectly round, but was devastated and ran crying from the table when her Daddy asked someone to roll him one of those biscuits.) As the youngest and only surviving child of Ralph and Letha Burleson, he has been a keeper of his siblings' stories for many years as well.

He has stories about his Army days: nearly passing out while guarding a soldier who was undergoing a spinal tap and getting shouted down by an officer while he was painstakingly trying to remove a tiny piece of eggshell from a huge pot of soon-to-be scrambled eggs. And he has stories about his days in printing, including one in which a co-worker received a counterfeit bill when he cashed his paycheck at the bank during lunch and before nightfall had his home searched top to bottom by the Secret Service. (Apparently a counterfeit bill in the hands of a printer was not to be taken lightly.)

Whatever the topic, Don spins a good yarn.

Staunchly independent

At 88, Don is still mentally sharp but deals with a variety of health issues, including congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He has difficulty walking and uses oxygen much of the time but still mows his lawn and rides his Gator down to the pond to drop a line. He enjoys a trip to the fish camp or steakhouse about once a week. For years, he and Oleamer took friends out to eat every week followed by an evening of card-playing. They don't travel far these days, but they love having visits and still get to church most Sundays. They remain fiercely independent — another Burleson trait — and still do more for their children than their children do for them.

Their family includes Lowell and Cathy Burleson Frick; Kim and Angie Ratynski Burleson and their son, Matthew Burleson; and Scott and Luanne Burleson Williams, and their daughters, Erin Jameson, Katie Williams and Dayli Williams. They have six great-grandchildren.

DON HUSTON¹⁰ BURLESON (*RALPH⁹, ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 05 Jul 1931 in STANLY CO NC. He married OLEAMER HATLEY 23 Dec 1950 in STANLY CO NC, daughter of JAMES HATLEY and MINNIE LAMBERT. She was born 14 Mar 1931 in STANLY CO NC.





Don Burleson Family 2015

This family photo was taken on Father's Day 2015. From front left are Oleamer and Don Burleson and Cathy Burleson Frick, their oldest daughter; second row, Angie and Kim Burleson, daughter-in-law and son; Luanne Burleson Williams, daughter; and Dayli Williams, granddaughter. In back are Matthew Burleson, grandson; Scott Williams and Lowell Frick, sons-in-law.

Don Burleson Family at Oleamer's 81st birthday, 2012

This was taken at Oleamer's surprise birthday party at Paul's Crossing Baptist Church, where Cathy and Lowell Frick are members. From left are Scott Williams, Angie Burleson, Luanne Williams, Matthew Burleson, Dayli Williams, Kim Burleson, Cathy Frick, Oleamer Burleson, Lowell Frick and Don Burleson.



Don Burleson family, circa 1972

From left, Oleamer Hatley Burleson, wife; Cathy Donelle Burleson Frick, daughter; Luanne Renee Burleson Williams, daughter; Kim Burleson, son; Don Burleson.



CATHY DONELLE¹¹ BURLESON, b. Dec 1955 in Stanly Co, NC; m. LOWELL
MURRAY FRICK, 15 Oct 1978, STANLY CO NC; b. Apr 1958.



KIM HUSTON¹¹ BURLESON (*DON HUSTON¹⁰, RALPH⁹, ABSALOM⁸, WILLIAM (BILLIE)⁷, ISAAC JR⁶, ISAAC SR⁵, ? JOHN⁴, JONATHAN³, JOHN², EDWARD¹*) was born 31 Oct 1958 in STANLY CO NC. He married ANGELA IRENE (ANGIE) RATYNSKI 17 May 1991 in STANLY CO NC, daughter of EDWARD RATYASKI and LINDA RATYASKI. She was born 04 Jul 1969.

Child of KIM BURLESON and ANGELA RATYNSKI is:

- i. MATTHEW HUSTON¹² BURLESON, b. 13 Sep 1995





Don with grandson, Matt, circa 1998

An avid gardener, Don shares his love of tractors with his grandson, Matthew Burleson, son of Kim and Angie Ratynski Burleson.

LUANNE RENEE¹¹ BURLESON (*DON HUSTON*¹⁰, *RALPH*⁹, *ABSALOM*⁸, *WILLIAM (BILLIE)*⁷, *ISAAC JR*⁶, *ISAAC SR*⁵, ? *JOHN*⁴, *JONATHAN*³, *JOHN*², *EDWARD*¹) was born 18 Nov 1964 in STANLY CO NC. She married WILLIAM SCOTT WILLIAMS 07 Jul 1989 in UNION COUNTY, NC.

More About WILLIAM WILLIAMS and LUANNE BURLESON:
Marriage: 07 Jul 1989, UNION COUNTY, NC

Child of LUANNE BURLESON and WILLIAM WILLIAMS is:

- i. DAYLI GUI¹² WILLIAMS, b. Dec 2001, HUBEI PROVINCE, CHINA.

Notes for DAYLI GUI WILLIAMS:
ADOPTED

(LUANNE BURLESON WILLIAMS has two stepdaughters, Erin Jameson and Katie Williams. Erin and her husband, Matthew Jameson, have twin sons, Dominic and Bennett, age 4. Katie has four children: Karson and Elliott Kennell, both 8; and Kensington and Monroe Kennell, both 6.)



Scott and Luanne Burleson Williams



Dayli Gui Williams



Erin and her husband, Matthew Jameson



Erin and her husband, Matthew Jameson, have twin sons, Dominic and Bennett, age 4



Katie has four children.
Her two daughters are Kensington and Monroe Kennell, both 6

Katie's two sons Karson and Elliott Kennell both 8

