



THE WELLS FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.
212 Spradlin Street, Auxier, KY 41602
Editor: Karen Howard
Telephone: 606-889-0600
Email: kphoward@bellsouth.net
VOLUME #77 – April, 2021–December 31, 2021

Dear Wells Family:

As we enter this new year, it is with much hope and prayers that we can see an end to the pandemic we have lived through for the last two years. As your Board felt it necessary to cancel our last two reunions because of the pandemic, we are making plans to gather again this year if we can safely do so.

As it seems the virus is usually not as rampant as we go into the summer months, and, as we are all getting anxious to visit with our extended Wells Family members as soon as possible, the Board has voted to hold the 2022 reunion this Memorial Day Weekend. The date for the reunion will be Sunday, May 29th, and it will be held as usual at Johnson Central High School, Paintsville, KY.

On Saturday, May 28th, at 1:00 p.m., a ceremony is scheduled to dedicate the memorial stone honoring Richard Wells III as it has been discovered that he served and died in the Revolutionary War. As the location for the placement of the stone had to be changed, the dedication will take place at the J.B. Wells Cemetery located on Depot Road in Paintsville, KY. John B. Wells III has worked closely with John David Preston of Johnson County Historical Society to arrange the dedication. The local chapter of the SAR (Sons of the American Revolution) will be conducting the service.

A photograph of the Memorial Stone can be found at the end of the newsletter along with a schedule of the reunion activities to be held on May 29th.

The Wells Family Board will be holding a zoom meeting on February 26th at which time we will decide if conditions have improved enough to safely gather again or if we will have to postpone again.

**RECOGNITIONS, ACADEMICS &
CONGRATULATIONS**

2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



RACHEL GAYHEART, of Drift, KY, was the recipient of the 2021 Wells Family Scholarship. A 2021 graduate of Floyd Central High School, Eastern, KY, she maintained a 3.732 GPA. Rachel is now a freshman at Morehead State University studying Elementary Education. The following note was received from Rachel:

“I would like to thank the Wells Family Association for awarding me the family scholarship. This award is greatly appreciated and helpful in my endeavor of pursuing my teaching degree. I think it’s a great thing that family supports each other and has the capability of creating a scholarship for members trying to further their education.”

Rachel is the daughter of Tammy Maggard Gayheart and the granddaughter of Lynda Price Maggard. They descend from Richard Wells through his daughter, Mary Polly Wells Butcher.

We wish Rachel all the best in her college studies!!!



JORDAN BRYCE TUCKER graduated from Alice Lloyd College, Pippa Passes, KY, on 04/24/2021 with a degree in Accounting & Business Management. Bryce is a 2017 graduate of Prestonsburg High School and was awarded an athletic scholarship for baseball at Alice Lloyd. Their team won their regional National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) championship and advanced to the 2021 NCCAA World Series in South Carolina.

Bryce was named to the President's List for the 2021 spring semester for maintaining a 4.0 GPA and was awarded the Hindman Lions Club Campus Community Award and the Alice Lloyd College Dr. Donald Martin Scholar Athletic Award for 2020-2021. He is employed by TransAmerica Life Insurance Company and was named Agent of the Month for December at the Pikeville office.

Bryce is the son of Todd and Leslie Roberts Tucker of Prestonsburg, KY, and is the grandson of Phillip and Sherry Wells Tucker. They descend from Richard Wells through his sons, George E. and William Green, and his daughter, Agnes Wells Auxier.

JOSH WELLS & THE BUCCANEERS
WIN SUPER BOWL LV



When we last reported on **JOSH WELLS**, he was playing for the Jacksonville Jaguars football team having signed on with the team as a free agent in 2014. Released by the Jaguars in 2019, Josh signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on 09/10/2019. The Buccaneers signed him for another one-year deal in 2020, and those of you who follow pro football closely will know what happened next--**the Tampa Bay Buccaneers won Super Bowl LV!!!**

Josh is an offensive lineman and was one of three primary O-Line reserves for Tampa Bay during their Super Bowl run. He appeared in all four playoff games in the 2020-2021 season as well as in the Buccaneers' win over Kansas City in Super Bowl LV. He signed another one-year deal to remain with Tampa Bay for the 2021-2022 season.

Josh and his wife, Morgan, have two children, daughter, Wraylyn, and son, Ryan. His parents are Jeff and Joy Englehart Wells of Mechanicsburg, VA.

Josh's uncle, Mike Parker, is on the Wells Family Association Board, and they descend from Richard Wells through his son, William Green Wells. We hope that Josh and his family will be able to join us at one of our future reunions.

"MUNROE" RETIRES!!"



On 08/10/2021, during a visit to Pikeville, KY, to attend a SOAR meeting at PMC, 5th District U.S. Representative Hal Rogers made the following statement as he honored Freddie Goble, aka "Munroe":

"Earlier today, I had the privilege of honoring one of Eastern Kentucky's legendary comedians, Freddie Goble, aka "Munroe", with a tribute in the Congressional Record.

Munroe has been the house comedian for the Kentucky Opry at the Mountain Arts Center for the last 30 years, and just retired this summer. Off stage, Freddie Goble has dedicated his career in making our region a better place to live through transportation planning for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the University of Kentucky and the Big Sandy Area Development District.

Please join me in wishing our Eastern Kentucky friend a happy retirement."

Freddie, who has served our Eastern Kentucky area in many different capacities, retiring from the Kentucky Department of Highways and serving as a council member for the City of Prestonsburg, was honored on 06/19/2021 with a farewell tribute at the opening performance of Billie Jean Osborne's Kentucky Opry at the Mountain Arts Center (MAC). Not only did "Munroe" perform in the first show performed by the Kentucky Opry in May of 1991, but he was instrumental in helping to secure funding for the construction and opening of the MAC. Freddie has had many titles in his work with the MAC, serving as assistant director, being a part of the Opry's creative team, written songs, helped with the Junior Pros, and even acted as tour manager in the early days of traveling.

Freddie "Munroe" likes to claim he was the Mayor of L.A. (Lower Auxier) where he grew up and lived with his family for many years. Freddie and his wife, Beverly "Fairy Belle", live in Prestonsburg, KY, and he descends from Richard Wells through Moses and Margaret Hillman Wells.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR MANY HAPPY AND HEALTHY YEARS OF RETIREMENT!!

JOHNSON CENTRAL GOLDEN EAGLES FOOTBALL TEAM MAKES IT TO 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Congratulations to the Johnson Central Golden Eagles football team on making it to the Class 4A state football championship again. Early in their season, the team had to overcome the adversity of losing their longtime beloved coach, Jim Matney, to complications brought on by COVID. Pictured above is #2 Zack McCoart as he carries a pass in their regional championship game win which

allowed them another trip to the state championship. Unfortunately, they lost to Boyle County. We wish them the best in the upcoming season.

Zack is a freshman at Johnson Central and is one of many Wells descendants who have excelled in various sports at Johnson Central. He is the son of Aric and Rebecca McCoart of Van Lear, KY and the grandson of Vicky Adkins Brown of Oil Springs, KY, and they descend from Richard Wells through George E. Wells, William Green Wells and Agnes Wells Auxier.

ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS



Congratulations go out to **LEAH CHEY HUNT and ERIC ROBERT WILZBACH** upon becoming engaged 04/13/2021!! Leah and Eric will be wed in Lexington, KY, on 05/07/2022 at the Round Barn. Her sister, Kaye Hunt, will be her maid of honor.

Leah Chey is the daughter of Onda L. and Dr. Drema Cornelison Hunt of Ashland, KY, and is an officer with the Lexington Police Department. Eric is the son of Kevin and Anne Ludwig Wilzbach of Cincinnati, OH, and he is also an officer with the Lexington Police Department.

Leah's mother, Drema, and her grandmother, Marlene Sturgill Jarvis, have both served on the Wells Family Association Board. Leah descends from Richard Wells on her mother's side through George E. Wells, William Green Wells and Agnes Wells Auxier and on her father's side through Moses Wells.



AMBER NICOLE WILCOX and BRIAN WEBSTER renewed their wedding vows on 05/15/2021 before their family and friends at the home of Amber's parents, Richard and Vernita Lynn Wells Wilcox, in Van Lear, KY. Having to postpone their 2020 plans due to the pandemic, Amber and Brian had a small ceremony with friends in July, 2020, in Virginia and rescheduled their original plans for May, 2021.

Amber and Brian have been living and working in the Washington, D.C. area but are scheduled to be relocating to Alabama in the coming year. We wish them many successful and happy years together!!

Amber is the granddaughter of Susie Goble Wells of Van Lear, KY, and the late Alex Samuel Wells. Their family descends from Richard and Susannah Wells through George E. Wells, William Green Wells, and Agnes Wells Auxier.

BIRTHS

Clay and Raley Slone Buttram of Smiths Grove, KY, welcomed their second child, **COOPER ALAN BUTTRAM**, born 11/26/2020, weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz. and was 20.5 in. long. Cooper was also welcomed by his older brother, Joseph Carter.



Cooper's maternal grandfather is Greg Slone of Smiths Grove, KY, and his maternal great-grandparents are Ronnie and Diana Slone Wells of Van Lear, KY. They descend from Richard Wells through George E. Wells, William Green Wells and Agnes Wells Auxier.



EVELYN GRACE JOHNSON JARVIS was born to **Shelby Johnson and Trenton Jarvis** on 03/16/2021 at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg, KY, weighing in at 5.13 lbs. and was 18 in. long.

Evelyn is the granddaughter of Sheldon and Darla Wells Jarvis of Van Lear, KY, and the great granddaughter of Marlene Sturgill Jarvis and the late Doug Jarvis.

Evelyn Grace descends from Richard Wells through his children, George E. Wells, William Green Wells, and Agnes Wells Auxier.

VIOLET JANE

HALE was born on 09/21/2021 to **Sky and Tracy Blevins** Hale of Lexington, KY. Violet measured 18.5 inches long and weighed 5 lbs. 1 oz.



Violet Jane is the granddaughter of our Wells Family Board President, Danny K. Blevins, of Van Lear, KY, and the late Trudy Butcher Blevins. They descend from Richard Wells through both the George E. Wells and Mary Wells Butcher lines.



JAX ANTHONY TODD TUCKER was born 07/31/21 to **Amber Jones and Arron Tucker** of Flemingsburg, KY. Jax was welcomed by his sister and brother, Bray & Landyn.

Jax is the grandson of Phillip and Sherry Wells Tucker of Prestonsburg, KY, and great grandson of the late Chester and Ernestine Wells of Auxier, KY. They descend from Richard Wells through his sons, George E. and William Green, and his daughter, Agnes Wells Auxier.

**CHASE
MATTHEW DUES**

arrived on
08/30/2021
weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz.
and was welcomed
by his parents, Matt
and Erin Wells
Dues, of Chicago,
IL, and older
brother, Greyson
Garrett, 3.



Chase Matthew is
the grandson of
David Ray Wells of Columbus, OH, and the late
Margaret Naugle Wells. His great-grandparents
are Ella Ruth Setser Wells Ratcliff, Columbus,
OH, and the late Haskell Wells. He descends from
Richard Wells through his sons, George E. Wells
and William Green Wells, and daughters, Agnes
Wells Auxier and Mary Polly Wells Butcher.



Ben and Nikki Hutchison Wells of Louisa, KY,
welcomed this little beauty to their family on
10/13/2021. **CALISTA LYNNE WELLS**
weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. and 19.5 in. long and is Ben
and Nikki’s third child. Her sisters, Adleigh Rose,
4, and Blaire Addison, 2, were very excited for her
arrival.

Calista is a grandchild of Susie Goble Wells of
Van Lear, KY and the late Alex Samuel Wells and
descends from Richard Wells through his sons,
George E. Wells, William Green Wells, and
daughter, Agnes Wells Auxier.

SICK /PRAYER LIST

Mary Walton, Tim Walton, Jim Preston, Richard
Wells, Darrell Wells, Benette Howard, Anna
Wilson, Roger Patton, James “Jim” Williams,
Anita Wells, Roger Delong, Phyllis Delong,
Lorraine Newberry, Genene Wells, Larry Joe
Wells, Hattie Wells Branham, Sherry Wells
Tucker, Frank & Judith Adams, Jean “Mousie”
Adams, Tharon Sturgill Kershner, and Paul Setser.

**SICKNESS AND
HOSPITALIZATIONS**

Marlene Sturgill Jarvis completed radiation
treatments on 04/21/2021 for lung cancer. Doctors
in Michigan had advised her she was not a
candidate to undergo treatment due to multiple
health problems. Her daughter, Dr. Drema Hunt,
consulted with doctors in Ashland, KY, and they
recommended she have a new type of radiation
treatment done. She completed the treatment, and
recent scans have shown no cancer. Such
wonderful news!!!

Both Marlene and Drema have served on the Wells
Family Association Board, and we hope that we
can get them to serve on the Board again. They
descend from Richard Wells through his children,
George E. Wells, William Green Wells, and Agnes
Wells Auxier.

Garold Wendell Wells, of Van Lear, KY, was
recently diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease. He
and his wife, **Carol**, have been seeing to the care
of Garold’s mother, **Genene Wells**, who turned 91
in December. Genene was recently hospitalized
for several days and was transferred to Mountain
Manor in Paintsville for further care.

Garold is the son of the late Nevard Wells, brother
of Mary Wells Walton. He descends from Richard
Wells on his father’s side through George E.,
William Green and Agnes Wells Hutchinson and
on his mother’s side through Moses Wells.

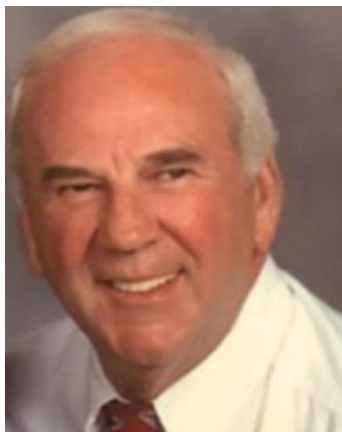
Tommie Collins Cochran, of The Villages in
Florida, is recovering from a broken shoulder after
falling when her dog got underfoot. Tommie

descends from Richard Wells through Roseanna Wells Spears.

Sandra Wells Fry underwent a stem cell transplant last spring for treatment of cancer. Follow up scans showed the treatment had worked; unfortunately, Sandy contracted COVID and was unable to fight it off due to her weakened immune system. She was on a ventilator for several weeks, and she sadly passed in January. (Her obituary will be included in our next newsletter.)

Sandy was the daughter of Ella Ruth Wells Ratcliff of Columbus, OH, and the late Haskell Wells. She descends from Richard Wells through his sons, George E. and William Green, and daughters, Agnes Wells Auxier and Mary Wells Butcher.

DEATHS



HAL BLAKE AMOS, age 84, of Pikeville, KY, 04/20/2021 at the Pikeville Medical Center. He was born 09/25/1936 in Pikeville to the late Robert M. Amos, Jr. and Justine Roop Amos.

Hal was an insurance agent working with Chrisman Insurance of Pikeville and Hall, Hunt & Clark of Prestonsburg. He was a member of the Pikeville United Methodist Church for 30 years and a veteran of the United States Army.

Hal is survived by his wife, Jane Wells Amos; one son, Shawn Amos of Pikeville, KY; and three daughters, Shannon Mortimer (Jeff) of Lexington, KY, Elizabeth Bennett (Jeff) of Lexington, KY, and Katie Stanley (Joe) of Pikeville, KY. He is also survived by five grandchildren, Luke Amos, Alex Mortimer (Hannah), Mason Mortimer, Sidney Blake Ratliff and Zoe Grey Bennett.

A Celebration of Life service was held 04/24/2021 in the chapel of J.W. Call Funeral home. Burial followed at Johnson Memorial Park, Pikeville, KY.

Hal's wife, Jane, descends from Richard Wells through William Green Wells.



CHARLOTTE A. SANDY WELLS passed away 05/11/2021 at the age of 92 in Yucatan, Mexico. She was born to Isaiah Clark Sandy and Hattie H. McClave Sandy on 03/12/1929 in Ironton, OH. She was preceded in death by

her parents, her brother, James F. Sandy, and her daughter, Sandra Rae Wells.

Charlotte worked as secretary in her husband Ray's insurance agency in Greenup, KY from 1960 to 1985. She also worked as secretary for the Greenup County Farm Bureau from about 1965 to October 1986. Later, when Ray began an independent insurance agency, she returned to work from 1990 to 2002. In addition to these and other demands on her time, she was active in her church including serving as a pianist for many years.

Charlotte had an interest in travel and in genealogy research into her mother's McClave family. She also enjoyed interior decorating, taking care of her flowers and caring for her many animals. She believed in the responsibility of visiting older relatives and friends and enjoyed spending time in the summer with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Ray Wells, with whom she celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary in December 2020; son, Michael (Reba) Wells; grandchildren, Aaron M. Wells and Lindsay E. Wells; great grandchildren, Vanessa K. Bellamy and Connor J. T. Bellamy; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Charlotte's husband, Ray, descends from Richard Wells through his son, Moses Wells.

STEVEN L. SANDIFUR, 67, of Taylor, MI, passed away 06/24/2021. He was born 03/17/54 to Lois Cosby Sandifur and the late Oval Sandifur.



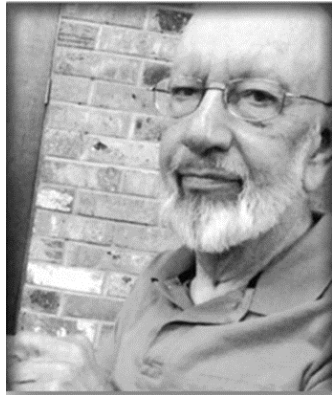
In addition to his mother, Lois, Steven is survived by his wife, Sandra Collins Sandifur; sons, Randall (Kasey) Sandifur and Christopher (Danielle) Sandifur; daughter, Cassandra (Nick) Brozek; grandchildren, Olivia, Parker, Harper, Claire, Isabella, Christopher, Jr., Baine, and Slade; and step-grandchildren, Chase and Carter. He is also survived by sisters, Ellen (Rich) Gordon, Margie (the late Danny) Wash, and Lori (Curt) Moore.

In addition to his father, Steven is preceded in death by his siblings, Barbara (the late Bill) and Ralph (Brenda).

Visitation and funeral services were held on 06/27/2021 at the Taylor Chapel of Voran Funeral Home, Taylor, MI.

Steven's wife, Sandra, descends from Richard Wells through George E. Wells and Roseanna Wells Spears.

JAMES S. WELLS, 75, of Wittensville, KY, passed away 06/27/2021 at his residence. Born 09/16/1945 in Johnson County, KY, to the late Arlie Wells, Jr. and Julie Mae (Stambaugh) Wells. In addition to

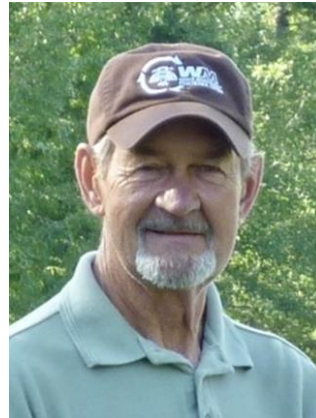


his parents, he is preceded in death by one brother, David Wells.

James is survived by three sons: James S. Wells, Jr. of Frankfort, KY, Mike Wells of Prestonsburg, KY, and Gary Murphy of South Carolina; one daughter, Julie Wells of Wittensville, KY; and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on 06/30/2021 in the chapel of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home with Wayne Price officiating.

We have been unable to determine whether James S. Wells descends from Richard and Susannah Hutchison Wells. If anyone knows this information, please let us know.



JEROME PAUL "JERRY" SCHUTZ, 78, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on 08/07/2021 at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena, MT.

Jerry, also known to his family as "Punky", born 03/11/1943 in Butte, MT, was the oldest of 13 children. In addition to his parents, Paul Schutz and Pauline Schutz Regan, Jerry is preceded in death by his in-laws, Ella Rae and Chester Harmon; his brothers, Petey and David; and a sister, Roxanne.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Brenda Harmon Schutz, whom he married in August, 1968; their daughter, Staci (Chance) Ferlicka, and sons, Jason Paul (Stacey) Schutz and Jared Michael Schutz; grandchildren, Cooper, Hayden, Jayci, Ryder Schutz, Alex (Seth) Long, and Zachary (Beth) Coe; his stepfather, Thomas Regan; sisters, Cynthia, Cathy, Paulette, Debbie, Pamela; brothers, Donald, Dale, Jon, and Tommy; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jerry was a kind, loyal, and reserved man who loved his family unconditionally and instilled in his children his strong work ethic and his love of

golf, all of whom play golf today. A loyal member of Bill Robert's Golf Course where he played league for many decades and amassed eight "hole in ones", a feat his family is very proud of.

A memorial service was held 08/14/2021 at Munis Sports Grille located at Bill Roberts Golf course. 201 N. Benton Ave. Helena, MT. 59601.

Jerry's wife, Brenda, descends from Richard and Susannah Hutchison Wells through his son, George E. Wells, by way of his son, George Washington Wells.

JIMMY MILLARD HOBSON, age 58, of Lexington, KY, passed away on 08/22/2021 in Lexington.



Jimmy was born 04/20/1963 in Cleveland, OH, son of the late Larry Hobson and Carol Wells

Davis. He is survived by two sons, Charles Hobson of Harrodsburg, KY, and Bryan Hobson and wife, Hollie, of Lexington, KY, and two brothers, Joe Hobson and Ned Davis both of Paintsville, KY.

Funeral services were conducted 08/27/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel with Dan Bear officiating. Burial followed at Lakeview Memorial Cemetery, Staffordsville, KY.

Jimmy descends from Richard Wells through George E. Wells, Moses Wells and Margaret Hillman Wells.



SAM HENRY MUSIC, 81, of Oil Springs, KY, passed away on 08/27/2021 at Pikeville Medical Center, Pikeville, KY.

Born 06/18/1940, he was the son of the late L.J. and Minnie Endicott Music. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Emma Joyce Sturgill Music, on 03/14/2014; one daughter, Shelia Music; four brothers, John Music, Milford Music, Jay Music and Phillip Music; and one sister, Mildred Compton.

Sam Henry is survived by two sons, James Norman Music and Milford Eugene Music; three daughters, Tammy Mann, Tonja Kay Blevins, and Marlena Blazer; and a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted on 08/31/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel with David Garrett officiating. Burial followed at Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, KY.

Sam and his family have been faithful attendants at the Wells reunions since returning to this area from Michigan several years ago. His late wife, Emma, and her family descend from Richard Wells through his sons, George E. and William Green, and his daughter, Agnes Wells Auxier.

FRANCIS HARMON, 101, passed away 09/04/2021 at North River Health Campus in Evansville, IN. Francis was born 02/13/1920 in Eastern Kentucky to the late Frank and Thelma (Meek) Harmon.



Francis graduated from Wayland High School, Wayland, KY, and attended the University of Kentucky. After enlisting in the Navy in 1940, he was stationed in Norfolk, VA, where he received electrical engineering training as an Aviation Electrical Maintenance Specialist. Francis returned to eastern Kentucky following WWII where he worked as General Superintendent of Princess Elkhorn Coal Company at David, KY.

After relocating to Benton, IL, in 1965, he worked as Chief Electrical Engineer for Freeman United Coal Company until his retirement in 1980.

Francis was an avid golfer, making two holes-in-one and golfing his age at 83, and was a member of the Benton Country Club for 40 years. He and his wife enjoyed traveling in their motorhome across the country and enjoyed numerous trips abroad. Francis enjoyed fishing with his family and spent many relaxing times with his family at his favorite fishing place, Lake Barkley.

After the passing of his wife in 2010, Francis continued living in their home in Benton, IL until 2018 when he moved into assisted living at North River Health Campus. He met with his "Liar's Club" buddies almost every morning, ate out at his favorite restaurant, The Cozy Table, and continued to mow his own grass until age 97. Francis had a great recall of his past and enjoyed telling his family about growing up in the hills of eastern Kentucky, talking about his coal mining days, fishing and golf, and he had a sense of humor, often embellishing his stories in order to get a laugh out of his grandkids. He loved reading about history and mechanical marvels (a favorite TV program was "How It's Made"), and he loved McDonald's cheeseburgers, fried green tomatoes, vanilla ice cream, cookies, and Kit-Kats, and was everyone's favorite centenarian and curmudgeon.

Francis was asked numerous times to take the Honor Flight trip to Washington, DC but was resistant to go until a young nurse at North River convinced him to go. He made the trip in 2019 at the age of 99 and enjoyed it so much he talked about it for months and months.

Francis was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Virginia "Jennie" Copley, whom he wed in 1937; his brothers, Herman and Richard; a daughter, Shirley Howell; and granddaughters, Jennifer (Howell) Pena and Catherine (Harmon) Suzer.

Surviving are his sons, Tom (Patti) Harmon of Evansville, IN and Frank (Jean Ann) Harmon of Owensboro, KY; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life for Francis Harmon will be held at a later date.

Francis descends from Richard Wells through his son, William Green Wells. His granddaughter, Leigh Ann Harmon Johnson, is a Wells Family Association board member.



PEGGY LOU COLLINS VANHOOSE, age 72, of Richmond, KY, formerly of Van Lear, KY, passed away Monday, 09/13/2021.

Peggy was born 08/23/1949 in Johnson County, KY, a daughter of the late Brooksie and Maggie

Wells Collins. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by one brother, Brooksie Collins, Jr., and two sisters, Daisy Williams and Willadean Schaff.

She is survived by one daughter, Nikki Bowling of Richmond, KY; one son, Michael VanHoose of Berea, KY; two brothers, David Collins and Stanley Collins both of Van Lear, KY; one sister, Madelyn Meade of Van Lear, KY; and two granddaughters, Maggie Bowling and Lauren VanHoose.

Funeral services were held on 09/15/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel with B. Joe Hill officiating. Burial followed in the Family Cemetery, Route 3, Van Lear, KY.

Peggy and her family descend from Richard Wells through George E. Wells and Moses Wells.

ROBERT "DUCK" DOUGLAS WELLS, age 55, of Rocky Hill Road, Staffordsville, KY, passed away on 09/21/2021 at his residence.



Robert was born 01/29/1966 in Johnson County, KY, a son of Dixie Bowling Wells and the late Samuel Lewis Wells. In addition to his father, he is preceded in death by one brother, Samuel L. Wells.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Ann Cantrell Wells; two sons, Zack Wells (Jayda) of Flat Gap, KY, Chris Wells (Shyanne) of Staffordsville, KY; one brother, Jefferson Wells (Missy) of Nippa, KY; two sisters, Margie Fitch (Ray) of East Point, KY; Laura Hamilton (Danny) of Prestonsburg, KY; and three grandchildren, Addison Marie Wells, Mason Lewis James Wells, and Jayleigh Ann Taylor Wells.

Funeral services were conducted 09/23/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel with Harry Neal Frisby officiating. Burial followed at Wells Family Cemetery, East Point, KY.

Robert and his family descend from Richard Wells through his son, George E. Wells, by way of his son, Lewis Wells.



GARY LEE JOHNSON, age 69, of Tucson, AZ passed away 09/23/2021.

He was born in Cincinnati, OH on 11/11/1951 to the late Jewell Dean and Patricia Worsham Johnson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Jacqueline Fryman, brothers, Michael Johnson and Rick Hard, and sisters, Louise Simonson and Patsy Schill.

Gary was a very dedicated Cincinnati Bengals fan, and due to the loving support of his wife Suzanne whom he married in June of 2017, he also became a dedicated fan of the University of Kentucky Wildcats basketball team. He loved to travel but most enjoyed spending time fishing any place his RV would take him as long as his wife or a grandchild was with him.

Gary is survived by his wife, Suzanne Patton Johnson; children, Sara (Jason) Dyer of Tucson, AZ, Niki (Jason) Savage of Gallatin, TN, and Matt (Lava) Spencer of Auburn, AL; and four grandchildren: Naomi, Eleanor, Keelie, and Livvy; two sisters: Jackie Runtz of Cincinnati, OH and Vickie Franklin of Ashland, KY; and one brother Edward Hard of Cincinnati, OH.

A memorial service was held on 10/13/2021 at East Lawn Palms Mortuary, Tucson, AZ with a graveside service and burial at East Lawn Palms Cemetery.

Gary's wife, Suzanne, formerly of Auxier, KY, descends through Richard Wells through his son, George E. Wells, by way of his son, Lewis Wells.

RICHARD J. KOUNS, SR., 70, of Ashland, KY, passed away on 10/06/2021 at Kings Daughters Medical Center in Ashland, KY. He was born in Ashland, KY, on 10/30/1950, a son of the late Bert and Bonnie Jo Evans Kouns.



Richard worked as a sales engineer at Byrd Manufacturing and was a U.S. Army veteran, receiving two silver stars and three bronze stars during his service. A member of the Garner Missionary Baptist Church, he was a past Commander of the American Legion Post 76, First Vice Commander of the American Legion Post 76, and Past Vice Commander of the State American

Legion. He also played the banjo and loved bluegrass music.

Richard and his wife, Karen, were married for 31 years. In addition to his wife, Karen Mollette Kouns, he is survived by two sons, two daughters, one stepdaughter, Kelly Eek, of Charlotte, NC, three step-grandchildren, one brother, Michael (Julie) Kouns of Columbus, OH, and one sister, Donna Kouns, of Ashland, KY, and a host of family and friends.

Graveside services were held on 10/11/2021 at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East, officiated by Pastor Gary Arrington and Steve Wolf.

Richard's wife, Karen, is the daughter of the late William & Edith Wells Mollette and descends from Richard Wells through his son, William Green Wells.



DANNY LEE CORNELISON, age 58, of Milan, MI, passed away on 10/09/2021. He was born on 03/27/1963 in Louisville, KY, the son of Marlene Sturgill Jarvis and the late Bill Cornelison. Danny was also preceded in

death by his stepfather, Doug Jarvis.

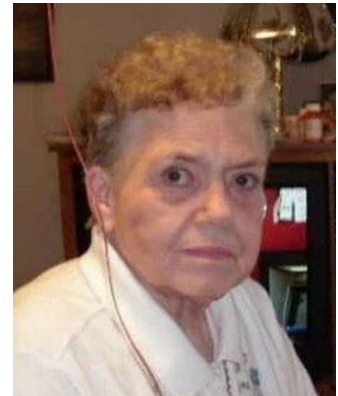
Danny attended Willow Run High School and Henry Ford Community College.

In addition to his mother, Danny is survived by his wife, Teresa Dunlap Cornelison; two sons, Kyle Cody Cornelison, and Kray Daniel (Chelsea) Cornelison; grandchildren, Mykola, Colton, and Delyla; two sisters, Dr. Drema C. (Onda) Hunt, of Ashland, KY, and Deborah L. (Chuck) Cleavinger, of Ypsilanti, MI; one brother, Sheldon (Darla) Jarvis, of Van Lear, KY; and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life was held in his honor at the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Ypsilanti, MI, on 11/01/2021 with family and friends sharing stories of his hunting and fishing experiences and love of family.

Danny descends from Richard Wells through his children, George E. Wells, William Green Wells and Agnes Wells Auxier. Both his mother, Marlene, and sister, Drema, served on the Wells Family Association Board.

EMMA AGNES BUTCHER WARD, 83, of East Point, died on 10/16/2021 at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center.



Emma was born 01/26/1938 in Johnson County. She was the daughter of the late Lewis Butcher and Carlis Ward Butcher. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Hiram Alfred Butcher.

Emma is survived by her husband, Jim Ward, of East Point; one daughter, Regina (Gary) McClure, of Paintsville; two sisters, Brenda (James) Frazier, of Flat Gap, and Ollie (Vernon) Maddix, of Huntsville, AL; two grandchildren, Josh (Kadeadra) Hall and Justin Hall; and two great-grandchildren, Pyper and Zeplyn.

Funeral services were held on 10/20/2021, in the chapel of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home. Burial followed in the Highland Memorial Park, Staffordsville.

Emma descends from Richard Wells through his daughter, Mary Polly Wells Butcher, and William Butcher.



GERALD RAY WELLS, age 72, Greenup County, KY, passed away 10/19/2021 at Kings Daughters Medical Center.

Ray was born on 09/30/1949 in Greenup, KY, son of the late Bennie Wells and Juanita Goble Wells. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death

by his wife, Vickie Conn Wells, one brother, Jerry Wells, and one sister Pat Wells Womack.

Ray is survived by two daughters, Dawn Michelle Wells and Lisa Ann Wells; one sister, Sandra Lee Wells, of Southshore, KY; several cousins, locally Ronnie Wells and Larry Collins, both of Van Lear, KY.

Funeral services were conducted on 10/22/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Home. Burial followed at Bricks Union Cemetery, Greenup, KY.

Ray was the nephew of Mary Wells Walton, and his late sister, Pat Womack, faithfully served the Wells Family Association in many capacities until her illness from Parkinson's disease made her unable to do so. Ray and his family descend from Richard Wells through George E. Wells, William Green Wells and Agnes Wells Auxier.

CHARLOTTE DENISE BENTLEY WELLS, age 63, of Paintsville, died on 10/28/2021 at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center in Paintsville, KY. She was born 02/20/1958 in Paintsville to the late James and Willa Meadows Bentley.



On 10/02/1997 in Paintsville, she married David Wells who survives. Additional survivors include one sister, Camilla (Tom) Salyers.

Funeral Services were held 11/01/2021 at the Tom's Creek Free Will Baptist Church with James Kelly Caudill and Chuck Slone officiating. Interment followed at the Highland Memorial Cemetery in Staffordsville.

We have been unable to determine if Charlotte's husband, David, descends from our Richard Wells. If anyone knows this information, please let us know.



VIRGINIA ANN CAMPBELL, age 76, of Allen, KY, wife of Paul Edward Campbell, passed away on 11/03/2021 at her residence. Born 05/10/1945 in Johnson County, KY, she was the daughter of the late Frank and June Wells Adams.

She was a retired Executive Secretary for First Commonwealth Bank.

In addition to her husband, Paul, she is survived by one son, Robby Watson, Prestonsburg, KY; one stepson, Christopher Campbell, Lexington, KY; two stepdaughters, Tamara Lynn (Allen) Samuelson, of North Carolina, and Sheryl (Bobby) Shepherd, David, KY; two brothers, Frank (Judy) Adams and John Adams all of Prestonsburg, KY; one sister-in-law; Jean "Mousie" Adams, Prestonsburg, KY; one granddaughter, Larah Ann (Isaac) Owens; one great grandson, Jack Owens; and a host of nieces, nephews, stepchildren, step-grandchildren and step great grandchildren also survive.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Ronald Adams.

Funeral services were conducted on 11/05/2021 in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel with Kevin Jett and

Bobby Shepherd officiating. Burial followed in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, KY.

Virginia and her family descend from Richard Wells through his George E. Wells by way of his son, Allen Wells.

HENRIETTA JANE “JANIE” CASTLE, age 75, of Auxier, KY, passed away on 11/03/2021 at Highlands ARH Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg, KY. She was born 07/21/1946 in Floyd County, KY, to the late Henry Clay & Glennora Wells Montgomery.



Janie graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelors' degree in 1969 and received her Masters' degree in 1970. She retired after 30 years of teaching math and served as head of the math department at Prestonsburg High School. Janie was a member of the Auxier First United Methodist Church.

Janie is survived by her husband of 53 years, Robert Darrell Castle; her son, Robert Darrell (Natasha Nikki Leach) Castle II of Auxier, KY; her brother, Thomas Eugene (Karen) Montgomery of Savannah, GA; her sister, Dr. Cora Lou (James) Sherburne, of Indiana, PA; Grandchildren, George D. Montgomery II, Mary Katherine Montgomery and Robert Benjamin Montgomery; and four great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, George D. Montgomery, and a sister, Bonnie Carol Joseph.

Funeral services were held on 11/08/2021 at the Auxier First United Methodist Church, Auxier, KY, with Merle Music officiating. Burial followed at Wells Cemetery, Auxier, KY.

Janie's sister, Lou Sherburne, serves on our Wells Family Association Board and her uncle, Bobby W. Wells and his wife, Herbie, served on the Wells

Board in various capacities from its inception until health problems prevented them from doing so. They descend from Richard Wells through George E. and Moses Wells.



RUSSELL EUGENE WELLS, 77, of Springfield, OH, formerly of Van Lear, died peacefully on 11/11/2021 at the Springfield Regional Hospital in Springfield, OH, following a brief illness. He was born

07/09/1944 in Van Lear to the late Beecher Wells and Margie Goble Wells.

Russ served in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era in France. He retired from Cooper Energy where he was a journeyman tool maker. He was an avid music lover who played several stringed instruments, including the guitar, banjo, mandolin and violin.

Russ is survived by his daughter, Nanci Hurst-Curtin (Steve); son, Adams Wells (Ashley); grandchildren, Alexandra and Caleb Saucedo, Cayden and Carter Wells; brothers: Roger and Wayne Wells; sisters, Judy Delong (Bill) and Phyllis Blevins; special nephew, Eric Wells (Michelle); and many nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

No public funeral service was held per Mr. Wells' request. Arrangements were under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home of Paintsville.

Russell was the uncle of our Board President, Danny L. Blevins. They descend from Richard Wells through his son, George E. Wells.

LELAND ROBERT WELLS, age 83, of West Van Lear, KY, passed away on 12/11/2021 at Paintsville ARH. Leland was born 12/18/1937 in Johnson County, KY, son of the late Woodrow and Irene Wells.



He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Tackett Wells; three children, Gina Wells of Charlotte, NC, Lisa (Jamie) Powell of Georgetown, KY, and Robert Wells of Nashville, TN; four grandchildren, Alina (Alexander) Banks, Evan Powell, Luke Powell, Ella Wells; and three brothers, Linton Wells of Louisville, KY, Larry Joe (Lola) Wells of Paintsville, KY and Edwin (Patty) Wells of Versailles, KY.

Funeral services were held 12/18/2021 in the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel. Burial followed at Highland Memorial Park, Staffordsville, KY.

Leland descends from Richard Wells through his sons, George E. and Moses Wells.

EDITOR'S NOTES

1) **We need news!!! Our newsletter is published two times a year, usually December and July. For all our relatives scattered here and there, we would like to keep up with you, and we welcome your submission of any family news from your branch of the Wells Family. As always, if any of you have news about your families that you would like to share with your extended Wells Family, please send it to me at the email or mailing address shown above or to Mary Walton at wmary582@gmail.com.**

We want to recognize all the graduates, athletes, and family members with news to share with your extended family. As your editor is not as familiar with our extended families as Mary Walton is, I have no way of

knowing all the news unless it is provided by you.

2) **We still have a few of the framed 2015 100th Anniversary Group photos to sell. The price is \$70. We will have them at this year's reunion as well as t-shirts and cookbooks.**

3) **Remember to bring items to the reunion to sell in our auctions.**

4) **Telephone Numbers for area lodging for those from out-of-town:**

**Paintsville - Ramada Inn - 606-789-4242
Days Inn - 606-789-3551**

**Prestonsburg - Jenny Wiley Lodge –
606-889-1790**

(This is our state park lodge and has beautiful surroundings)

Brookshire Inn - 606-889-0331

Comfort Suites - 606-886-2555

Super 8 - 606-886-3355

Should you find all these booked, Pikeville has a Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Hilton Garden Inn, plus others. Pikeville is about 35 miles south of Paintsville on U.S. 23. Louisa, KY also has a couple hotels a few miles north of Paintsville on U.S. 23.

5) **If you have a student in your family who will be graduating this spring, be sure to have them complete the application for the \$500 scholarship that we award each year. The money can be used for any expenses the student will have when starting college, not just for tuition or books.**

For those who get their newsletter by email, the form is attached. For those who get the newsletter by regular mail, let us know and we will drop it in the mail to you.

Applications must be submitted by 08/01/2022.

2022 WELLS REUNION AGENDA

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Johnson Central High School

Rt. 23 South, Paintsville, KY

Please join us for our annual Wells Family Reunion at the Johnson Central High School, Paintsville, KY, on 05/29/2022.

DOORS OPEN: 9:00 A.M.

Members will help the janitor set up tables for the reunion.

REGISTRATION: Please complete the registration form when you arrive and update any change in email or mailing address. You will receive a ticket for door prizes.

RECEPTION: Socialize with cousins and reminisce about old times. Get to know your extended family. There will be activities for the children to enjoy which will include the tossing of dollar bills for the kids to use at the Chinese auction.

WELCOME: President Danny K. Blevins

AUCTION: Bring items to be auctioned to benefit the organization such as family history items, handmade items, such as crafts, etc. Set a minimum price for the auctioneer to begin with. We don't want to sell items for less than what was invested in them, especially for handmade items.

SNACK TABLE: Snacks will be provided for those who would like to participate or for those who may have health problems and need a snack to hold them over until dinner is served. We welcome you to bring a snack for the table if it is convenient.

MEMORIAL SERVICES: Remembering family members we have lost since the last reunion.

BLESSING: Dinner prayer.

DINNER: Please bring your favorite dishes, plus a little extra to share with those who are unable to do so. Also, please bring a 2-litre bottle of soft drinks, a jug of tea, or bottled water. Remember, paper products, eating utensils and ice will be provided.

NOTE: There will be a greeter to assist in helping carry your food to the kitchen.

ELECTION: New officers will be elected.

WELLS SCHOLARSHIP: Dr. Randall Wells will award the \$500.00 scholarship check to the 2021 recipient.

AWARDS & DOOR PRIZES.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP:

The Workshop to discuss John's new information will be held in the school library.

DOORS CLOSE: 5:00 P.M.

OUR PRESIDENT MAY SEE THE NEED TO ADJUST THE SCHEDULE.



Revolutionary War Memorial Stone honoring
RICHARD WELLS III

Located at J.B. Wells Cemetery located on Depot Road, Paintsville, KY



Josh Wells with Rob Gronkowski at
Super Bowl LV, left, and Josh Wells and Tom
Brady showing off their Super Bowl rings, right.



Freddie "Munroe" Goble performing at the Mountain Arts Center

THE WELLS FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC. SCHOLARSHIP

The Wells Family Association, Inc. Board encourages family members of all ages to become involved in association activities that help preserve the heritage and legacy of the Wells family line. It further supports the need for graduates to continue plans for education beyond the secondary level. In view of these positions, a scholarship fund has been established for descendants of Richard and Susannah Hutchison Wells.

If you are a senior in high school and are interested in our annual scholarship, you need to get your application in as soon as possible. The necessary information will be outlined below. Your application is due in before August 1, 2022, and there will be no other newsletter before this deadline. **YOU CANNOT WIN UNLESS YOU APPLY!** So get your application in as soon as possible.

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT

The Wells Family Association, Inc. Board has established a fund for ONE (1) scholarship to be awarded annually in the amount of \$500.00. If you meet the eligibility requirements and graduate in the spring of 2022, please complete the application for the scholarship, and you may be the recipient of the 2022 scholarship of \$500.00.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each applicant must:

1. Be a biological or legally adopted descendant of Richard & Susannah Hutchison Wells and be a graduating high school senior the spring of the year of application.
2. Have a letter of acceptance from the school in which you plan to enroll in the fall (This has been defined broadly to include any recognized institution such as a vocational or technical institute, Junior or community college, regular four-year college, or university that grants a certificate, diploma, or degree based on a planned program of study.)
3. Complete the scholarship application form.
4. Have a minimum 2.0 ("C") GPA on a 4.00 scale. This is to be verified by the signature of a high school administrator or counselor on the application form. Submit a pedigree chart of family line, using the format provided by the historical committee.
5. Agree to use the scholarship money during the first academic year for which it is given or return the amount to the Wells Association Board Treasurer.
6. Agree to send a copy of your first-year semester/quarter grades to Dr. Randall L. Wells or the President of the Wells Family Association, Inc. Board.
7. **Anyone receiving the scholarship for 2022 will be required to have attended at least one Wells Family Reunion prior to submission of the application for the scholarship.**

APPLICATON DEADLINE

The Completed scholarship application form and pedigree chart must be postmarked by August 1, 2022, and mailed to Dr. Randall L. Wells, 10337 Timberwood Circle, Louisville, KY 40223. Only completed application forms, accompanied by the pedigree chart that ties you to Richard Wells, will be considered for the scholarship.

All qualified applicants will be presented to the Wells Family Association, Inc. The board voted in the event there are more than one qualified applicant, the board will develop a system to equitably determine the sole recipient of the scholarship.

All scholarship applicants will receive a letter from Dr. Randall L. Wells or the board president announcing the recipient. A check for \$500.00 will be presented at the Wells Family Reunion to the recipient. The recipient will be recognized both at the Wells Family Association, Inc. Reunion and in the Association Newsletter. All material submitted becomes the sole property of the Wells Family Association, Inc. board for use in naming a scholarship recipient and in updating Wells family genealogy records.

If in doubt of whether you have completed the chart correctly, please call any of the persons listed below, and they will be happy to assist you. Dr. Randall L. Wells (502)541-8822; John B. Wells III (678) 423-1247, or Mary W. Walton, (859) 971-7748. Remember if you don't get it correct, it could result in you not being considered for the scholarship. **GOOD LUCK!**

THE WELLS FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION.

If any applicant should need help in doing their pedigree chart, please phone one of the persons listed above and type or print the application.

FULL NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

HOME TELEPHONE _____

I understand that I must be enrolled as a senior during the year I apply for the scholarship. I will graduate (or have graduated) this school year from:

HIGH SCHOOL NAME _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP _____

OVERALL HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGE IS _____ ON A 4.0 SCALE

SCHOOL SIGNATURE (PRINCIPAL OR COUNSELOR)

I understand I must have a letter of acceptance from the school in which I plan to enroll in the fall. I have been accepted at:

NAME OF INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

As part of this application, I understand I must prepare my family tree. The line that I present in the format provided by the Historical Committee is: (Branch of Family Tree)

I have attended _____ reunions of the Wells Family Association, Inc. held over Labor Day weekend. I also agree to submit grades for the first Academic year to Dr. Randall L. Wells or the President of the Wells Family Association Inc.

Signature of Parent (or Guardian)

Date _____

Signature of Student Applicant

Date _____

PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No. _____

Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. ____ on chart no. ____

			8. _____	Born: Place: Marr:
				Place:
	Place:	Born:	4. _____	Died:
				Place:
		Marr:		
		Place:		
		Died:		
		Place:		
2: _____				9 _____
Born:				Born:
Place:				Place
Marr:				Marr:
Place:				Place:
Died:				Died:
Place:				Place:
				10 _____
				Born:
				Place
				Marr:
				Place
				Died
				Place
				11 _____
				Born:
				Place:
				Marr:
				Place:
				Died:
				Place:
1: _____				12 _____
Born				Born:
Place:				Place:
Marr:				Marr:
Place:				Place:
Dead				Died:
Place:				Place
:				
				6. _____
				Born:
				Place:
				Marr:
				Place:
				Died:
				Place:
				13 _____
				Born:
				Place:
				Marr:
				Place:
				Died:
				Place:
3. _____				14 _____
Born:				Born:
Place:				Place:
Marr:				Marr:
Place:				Place:
Died:				Died:
Place:				Place
				15 _____
				Born:
				Place:
				Marr:
				Place:
				Died:
				Place:
				7. _____
				Born:
				Place:
				Marr:
				Place
				Died:
				Place: