



*Home of William T. Wilson
Danville, Virginia
Picture Made 2005*



*Sallie Farmer Wilson
December 27, 1858 -
December 15, 1930*



*William T. Wilson
January 20, 1847 -
November 16, 1915*

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PAPA WILSON

From the files of William Farmer Wilson, the Wilson family bible and 96 years of living with the Wilson family. In those days the name "PAPA" was commonly used by the children for their father as a token of fondness and love, therefore this publication is named PAPA.

William T. Wilson, born January 20, 1847 and married 30 years later to Rebecca Moss, Nov 11, 1870. To this union their three children were born: Gideon, Mary and Nannie. Private William T. Wilson, was born at the Wilson homeplace in Cedar View, Halifax County, Virginia. His parents were William Thomas Wilson, Jr., and Maria Rice Webb. He enlisted at Halifax Court House, Virginia on February 6, 1862 with 2nd Company K, 3rd Regiment Virginia Infantry for one year. He later served Battery B, 13th Battalion (Ringgold) Virginia Artillery, part of the Longstreet Corps attached to the Army of Northern Virginia. The Ringgold Battery action at the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg, Virginia. Here, shortly before the devastating explosion in July, 1864, Wilson and fellow Confederates worked alongside Yankee soldiers cutting trees for firewood that was divided between North and South. One of these soldiers, from Pennsylvania, Wilson met again at a reunion in Gettysburg in 1913. Wilson also kept a scale drawing of the Crater, completed and given to him by a friend in the CSA Engineer Corps. On April 4, 1865 at Amelia Court House, Virginia, Wilson was captured and taken to Point Lookout, Maryland. He subscribed to the Oath of Allegiance, and was released on June 22, 1865. He was a farmer in Ringgold, Virginia, where he moved in 1870. In 1897, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates representing Danville and Pittsylvania County, where he also served as Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors. Wilson died in Pittsylvania County, Virginia on November 16, 1915.

- Gideon Moss Wilson - born April 20, 1875, lived in Charlotte County, Court House, Virginia. I remember he had red hair and told us about his children in school - doing well.

- Mary Josephine Wilson - born Aug, 1877 and married R. Kyle Slaughter and I only saw her one time. She was a very large lady as I recall. She was tall and attractive.

- Nannie Rebecca Wilson - born June 26, 1879 and married Mr. Bolton and he died only a few years after they married. She then married Mr. Abbott - they lived very close to our home in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. She was the last one of the family. She lived in a small cottage between our home and "New Design" school. One room, wood stove, filled with chairs and desks. Our school day ended about 4:00 PM. Her home was convenient for an afternoon snack.

SECOND GENERATION:

Second marriage of William T. Wilson was to Sallie F. Farmer and they were married Oct 20, 1880. I believe they lived on the family farm near Ringgold, Virginia. The economy in those days was largely agricultural, requiring lots of hand labor to produce the food and necessities of life. This union produced four children - three boys and one girl: Robert, William (Willie) Thomas, George and Frances.

1. Robert Edward Wilson (Uncle Bob) - born Aug 8, 1881. In his early adult life he was sent to Cuba to teach the people how to grow tobacco for cigars. This is very thin leaf tobacco grown under canopy shade. He returned to the states and went to Caswell County, N.C. where he married Gertrude Hodges. This union produced two daughters: Sallye and Catherine, both college graduates and professional teachers.

Catherine taught school in Caswell County and married Julian Moore. They had one son, Robert. Sallye (formerly Sally-she changed the spelling of her name from Sally to Sallye when she entered high school because she thought Sallye sounded better) married Bill Page and they had one daughter: Ann Page who married Richard Watson. They had two children: one boy and one girl. Uncle Bob Wilson was elected clerk of court and served as county tax supervisor and was also a farmer.

2. William (Willie) Thomas Wilson - born Jun 7, 1884. He married Vela Louise Farmer, January 18, 1910, in the Baptist church in Ringgold, Virginia. To this union was born three children: two boys and one girl - William Farmer, Edward Howell and Vela Rebecca.

A. William Farmer Wilson, born Nov 25, 1910 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia at Eagle Wood Springs. His father, William (Willie) Thomas Wilson and his grandfather, William T. (Initial only) Wilson had five springs and bottled drinking water and sold it in Danville, Virginia. William Farmer Wilson and his brother, Edward Howell Wilson, Sr., both graduated from North Carolina State College and both were commissioned officers serving in World War II. William served in the Phillipines and retired from the US Air Force as a Lt Colonel after thirty years of service. He married Margaret Mae Hudson April 11, 1935 and she died Feb 4, 1998.

In August 1999 William married a long time friend: Ruth O'Dell Durham Lucas. She is the mother of two daughters: Linda Lee Lucas Maines and Vicki Lynn Lucas Myers. Ruth's grandchildren are: Lucas, Casey Alison and Joren Blake Myers, and Shawn and Eric Maines. Ruth and Bill have truly enjoyed life together on the family farm in Conyers, Ga. Bill is now 96 years old.

B. Edward Howell Wilson, Sr. born Dec 16, 1916. He married Jeanette Roach Zigler, Jun 20, 1942. They had four children: The first born was Edward Howell Wilson, Jr. (Bud) and he married Sue McFarland and they had two children - Steven and Sherry. The second born was James R. Wilson (Jim) and he married Linda Williams. They had twins that died at birth and are buried at Highland Park in Danville, Virginia in the Wilson plot. They also had two daughters - Leigh Anne and Jamie. Next born was Connie Sue Wilson and she married John Crook and they had two sons - John Thomas (J.T.) And Wilson (Will). The last of the four children was Anne Z. Wilson. Her first marriage was to Lyn Bryan and they had two sons - Michael and David Bryan. Her second marriage was to Jack Rogers.

C. Rebecca Vela Wilson was born June 30, 1921 and married Thomas Hughes. They had one daughter: Patricia Hughes and she married Kenneth Kerns. She cared for her mother in her later years and Rebecca died March 7, 2007. She and her husband are buried in the Wilson plot in Danville, Va.

3. George Patton Wilson - born August 31, 1887 and died 1949. He married Nancy Morgan and they lived at the Wilson home on Main Street, Danville, Va. for a short period. He was a dairyman. William Farmer Wilson bottled milk and worked in his dairy on Main Street. Children born to this union were two girls: Frances Wilson and Mildred Morgan Wilson. They both graduated from college in New York and joined in a business in New York.

Frances Wilson married a pharmacist and lived in Lynchburg, Va. They had several children and grandchildren before they died.

Mildred Morgan Wilson married C. P. Wells and they had one daughter, Patricia Wells who married Roberto Livegi Marchetti. They have a son, Alberto and a daughter, Laura, both of whom graduated from college in New York.

4. Frances Woodson, born Dec 20, 1891 and married Irvin Slade from Caswell County, N.C. They had one daughter, Mary Irvin Slade and three sons - Wilson Slade, J.W Slade. and Pemberton Slade who is the only living one. He and his second wife, Edna, live in Raleigh, N.C. area.

The people of this time established many of the qualities and faith of our present time and our goals. Those who have helped prepare this document are: David Kenemer, neighbor and friend, for preparing many drafts and coordinating research. My wife, Ruth Wilson, in preparing script, for writing and copying drafts and coordinating paper work. Mike Skypek, for his computer abilities in achieving the excellent quality of the photographs. Several cousins also gave information on the contents of the document. Other information was gathered from the family Bible, newspaper clippings, hand-down letters and notes, Mildred Morgan Wells and her letter with information about her grandfather, William T. Wilson.

A sincere effort was made to give facts or reasonable opinions through all of the research.

William Farmer Wilson
July 7, 2007