

Note: This family genealogy report was given a final grade of 3 (out of 4) because the professor had trouble confirming all of my information. This was originally written for Dalton State College HIST 2111-02 (US History to 1865) and was turned in on October 10, 2002.

- I. FULL NAME:** Kristopher Thomas Marks
- II. WHEN BORN:** 30 July 1981
- III. WHERE BORN:** At Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton,
Whitfield County, Georgia

I am the first born of three children, I have one brother and one sister. I grew up and still live in the rural Villanow area of Walker county, Georgia. I attended Armuchee Valley Elementary (which burned in 1992) from the age of 5 until the middle of 3rd grade when my parents made the decision to home educate their children. I finished my education at home and completed highschool in 1997, after which I attended Northwestern Technical Institute (now Northwestern Technical College) for one year and received a degree in computer networking.

Following my tech school career I worked with United Parcel Service in December 1999 as a holiday driver assistant in LaFayette, Walker County, Georgia. From February to September 2000 I worked for Hamilton Medical Center as a radiology film librarian, then went back to UPS in December 2000 and was a driver assistant in Chickamauga, Walker County, Georgia. After that I realized that my limited upper-level education would prevent me from obtaining better work, so in the summer of 2001 I became a student at Dalton State College. I am still currently a DSC student and also work there as Web designer for the Division of Business Administration.

I am currently a member of Naomi Baptist Church in Naomi, Walker County, Georgia, and there I hold the position of sound technician. I also spend several hours each week, after class and on weekends, performing service at the West LaFayette Baptist Mission in LaFayette, Georgia.

- I. FULL NAME:** Charles Roper Marks
- II. WHEN BORN:** 02 August 1954
- III. WHERE BORN:** At Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle, King County, Washington (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 02 August 1980
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** At Friendship Baptist Church in Walker County Georgia

My father was born in Seattle, Washington, during a period of time when his parents were trying to find work in the Northwest. My aunt Phyllis, his only sister, was also born in Seattle a few years earlier. Before his third birthday the entire family had moved back to Summerville, Georgia, where my grandparents had grown up and owned a portion of the family farm. He grew up there, part of the First Presbyterian Church, a quarterback for the Chattooga Highschool Indians football team, and an active Boy Scout. While in highschool he worked for his uncle's used car dealership and learned how to do automotive body repair work.

After graduating he traveled to Blairsville and attended North Georgia Technical Vocational School (now North Georgia Technical College) and received training to become a brick mason in 1972. He spent the next decade doing brick, block, and concrete work in good weather and automotive repair during the bad, trying to support his growing family. In 1977 and 1978 he worked with a group of masons laying block for the original portions of Dalton Junior College's technical education building, which opened in 1979. In 1984, with the economy in a down period, he gave up his difficult, unreliable job as a mason and went back to work full time at his uncle's car dealership and has worked there ever since. (2)

NOTES:

(1) Personal interview with my paternal grandmother, Mary Lois Marks, of Summerville, Georgia, conducted 08 October 2002.

(2) Personal interviews with my father, Charles Roper Marks.

- I. FULL NAME:** Nancy Gail Hall
- II. WHEN BORN:** 26 October 1958
- III. WHERE BORN:** At Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton,
Whitfield County, Georgia
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 02 August 1980
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** At Friendship Baptist Church in Walker County
Georgia

My mother, who prefers to be called Gail, was the only child of Malcom Cecicl Hall and Edna Conell Dunn. She grew up in the community of Rocky Face, Whitfield County, Georgia, and attended Westside Elementary And Junior High schools then graduated from Northwest Whitfield Highschool, all in Whitfield County. (1) She and her parents lived in four different homes in the Dalton-Whitfield area during her childhood but she remained a member of Friendship Baptist Church until 1997. (1) She married another member of the church, Charles Roper Marks, in August 1980. They have lived in the same place in the Villanow, Walker County, Georgia, community ever since.

I was born the next year, followed by her daughter two years later and a second son in 1993. Most of her time since then has been spent raising her children as a homeschooling mother or teaching a variety of children's classes at the Friendship or Naomi (in the Naomi, Walker County, Georgia, community) churches.

NOTES:

(1) Personal interview with my mother, Nancy Gail Marks, of LaFayette, Georgia, 08 October 2002.

- I. FULL NAME:** Charles M. Marks
- II. WHEN BORN:** 03 February 1923
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 25 December 1941
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** In Rome, Floyd County, Georgia

My grandfather Charles M. Marks was born a twin in 1923, but his brother died shortly after birth. Counting the twin, he had a total of five brothers and three sisters. (1) His legal birthday (according to the birth certificate) is January 3rd, 1923, but the family Bible states his date of birth as being February 3rd, the date when his mother always celebrated it. (2) His middle name is also a mystery, indicated on the birth certificate only as "M." (As an adult he decided the initial stood for "Miller" so he would have something to use on military forms.)

He grew up on the family farm, taking care of his father's dairy cows and attending public school in the area. In the summer of 1938 he worked on a neighboring farm making \$30 a month plus room and board. He eventually turned his fascination with aircraft into a job assembling planes and joined the Army Air Corps a few days after the attack against Pearl Harbor in 1941. In the Air Corps he reached the rank of Staff Sergeant but was never deployed into combat, spending his entire military career inside the United States.

After his military service ended he spent the next few years moving around the country looking for work. His many jobs at that time included working a glue machine for the Nashville Shoe Company, running a general store, building freezers and busses on an assembly line, selling Bibles door to door, and running a gas station in Seattle, Washington. He spent nearly 10 years in Seattle and had two children there but eventually decided to move back home to Summerville, Georgia where he owned part of the old homeplace. In 1956 his family came back to Summerville and he worked for his brother while struggling to build a permanent home there. (3) Eventually he found work with Chattooga Highschool as a vocational teacher and occasional bus driver until retiring in the late 1980's.

NOTES:

(1) Family photograph currently in possession of my mother, Nancy Gail Marks, of LaFayette Georgia.

(2) Family Bible currently in the possession of my maternal grandmother, Mary Lois Marks, of Summerville Georgia.

(3) Personal interview with my paternal grandfather, Charles M. Marks, of Summerville Georgia.

- I. FULL NAME:** Mary Lois Roper
- II. WHEN BORN:** 26 September 1925
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in the Armuchee community, Floyd County, Georgia
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** December 25, 1941
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** In Rome, Floyd County, Georgia

My paternal grandmother, Mary Lois Marks, was born the last of three children in rural Floyd County, Georgia, in the Armuchee community between Rome, Georgia, and Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia. She had two sisters, one of whom was significantly older than she and was never around much during her childhood. Both of her parents died for unrelated reasons when she was still a very young child, leaving her to be raised by her middle sister Susan, my great-aunt.

Shortly after her sister got married, Mary decided she needed to do the same thing and eloped with Charles M. Marks, a boy she met in Summerville. On Christmas day 1941 (when she was 16) they were married in the middle of the night by pastor W.F. Conn, shortly before Charles reported to the Army Air Corps. She followed her new husband as he was stationed in military bases across the country, working odd jobs and living with her sister and brother-in-law when she could. While Charles was stationed in Charleston, South Carolina, she worked briefly as a welder in a shipyard until she finally got tired of sparks falling in her face and quit. She eventually had two children with Charles and has spent the rest of her life raising them and enjoying the four grandchildren they eventually provided her with. She was heavily involved in community activities and charity work until her health finally reduced her ability to drive and socialize. (1)

NOTES:

(1) personal interview with my paternal grandmother, Mary Lois Marks.

- I. FULL NAME:** Malcolm Cecil Hall
- II. WHEN BORN:** 18 March 1934
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in the Mill Creek community, Whitfield County, Georgia
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 07 August 1954 (1)
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Justice of the Peace Office, Rossville, Walker County, Georgia (1)
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 10 July 1993
- VII. WHERE DIED:** Hamilton Medical Center, Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** West Hill Cemetary, Dalton Georgia

Malcolm Cecil Hall, my maternal grandfather, was the sixth of nine children born to "Bub" and Anne Hall in Mill Creek, Whitfield County, Georgia. He had five brothers and three sisters. They spent most of their childhood getting themselves or each other into trouble, probably on purpose. (2) When Cecil was 16 years old he dropped out of school and started work on his brother-in-law's farm in the Villanow community of Walker County, Georgia. He eventually went back to school but dropped out again after eloping with another student, Edna Conell Dunn, in 1954.

Several days after their marriage he was called to report for the draft and serve in the Korean war, but was spared from military service because of an unknown health condition that resulted in him being declared 4-F by the draft board. He and my grandmother then lived in a rental house on the farm for several more years until he got a job at the Sweetwater carpet mill in Ringgold, Catoosa County, Georgia, and moved back to the Mill Creek community.

He worked at Sweetwater for 25 years as a carpet sewing machine mechanic until that company went under, then got a job doing the same thing at Patcraft Mills for 10 years until he retired in November 1986 for health reasons. (3)

(1) Marriage certificate, copy in possession of my mother, Nancy Gail Marks, of LaFayette Georgia.

(2) Personal interview with my maternal grandfather, Malcolm Cecil Hall, approx. 1990.

(3) Service award certificate awarded by Patcraft Mills, November 9 1986, currently in possession of my mother, Nancy Gail Marks.

- I. FULL NAME:** Edna Conell Dunn
- II. WHEN BORN:** 20 November 1937
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in Fort Payne, Dekalb County, Alabama
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 07 August 1954
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Justice of the Peace Office, Rossville, Walker County, Georgia

My grandmother Edna Conell Dunn was the 7th child of 11 and had a total of three brothers and seven sisters. Her father Claudie was a sharecropper so they never lived in the same spot very long, but at the same time never moved too far from Dekalb County Alabama. When she was about 12 years old she and the other siblings still living at home were left in Alabama with Claudie while her mother Mamie went to Whitfield County, Georgia, to find work in the area's booming rug industry. While her mother was away Edna had to raise her younger brothers and sisters, forcing her to skip school more often than she attended.

Her parents soon decided that the remaining family would be better off in Whitfield county, so they packed up and moved to Whitfield County where Claudie built the only home he ever owned on a small lot on Mill Creek Road. Edna was then able to resume her education, but did not attend school very long before she and a classmate, my grandfather Malcolm Cecil Hall, snuck out in the middle of the night and eloped.

After a few years they both started working in the carpet industry, Cecil as a mechanic and Edna as a floor rug serger. She eventually was promoted to a management position and briefly ran the old Del-Rube rug mill. After the birth of my mother in 1954 she took on additional work ironing clothes during her off hours and weekends. After her daughter started school she studied and got a GED, learned to type, took the state merit test, and got a job working for the Georgia Department of Labor. (1) She worked there for over 25 years and finally retired in September 1999.

NOTES:

(1) Personal interview with my maternal grandmother, Edna Conell Hall, of Rocky Face Georgia.

- I. FULL NAME:** Harry M. Marks
- II. WHEN BORN:** 21 August 1878 (1)
- III. WHERE BORN:** Didsburg, England (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 20 May 1902 (2)
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Rockford, Illinois (2)
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 04 May 1944 (3)
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At his home in Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia (3)
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Summerville City Cemetary, Summerville Georgia

Harry M. Marks, my paternal great-grandfather, was born in Didsburg, England. Shortly after his birth his father, who was a skilled stone mason, heard that there was a lot of opportunity for work in America and moved the entire family to Wisconsin in 1880. Harry's father intended to return to England after discovering most people in America did not build homes out of stone, but continued to have more children and was unable to travel, so the Marks clan settled in Rockford, Illinois. (4)

After he married Maude Inez Nichols in 1902, Harry traveled south to live in a warmer climate. He intended to bring his high level of education and advanced knowledge of farming to the rural south, a goal which he eventually accomplished in the Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia, area. Harry was an esteemed community leader and served as the town's mail carrier while operating his own dairy on a large plot of land that is now split in half by highway 48. Harry imported a new breed of dairy cow which had not previously been seen in this area, making his dairy still more successful. (3) Harry and his wife Maude were heavily involved in local charities until his death in 1944.

NOTES:

- (1) Charts and research done by my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks, of Summerville Georgia.
(2) From Marks Family Bible currently in possession of my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks.
(3) From personal interview with my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks.
(4) From article in Walker County Historical Society newsletter (date unknown) by Mary Thornhill Marks, approximately 1980.

- I. FULL NAME:** Maude Inez Nichols
- II. WHEN BORN:** 09 September 1881 (1)
- III. WHERE BORN:** Rockford, Illinois (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 20 May 1902 (2)
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Rockford, Illinois (2)
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 29 September, 1962 (3)
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At her home in Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia (3)
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Summerville City Cemetary, Summerville Georgia

After she and her husband Harry moved to the Summerville, Chattooga County, Georgia area, my paternal great-grandmother Maude Inez Nichols dedicated herself to community service. She spent years teaching Summerville's poor rural children and advocating help for the area's poorer families, making many friends along the way. (4) In 1937 she founded a Sunday school in the area, a church which became the Wayside Community Chapel in 1948. (5) Maude was also a highly skilled artist who spent much of her leisure time creating with paints or pastels. A handful of her works still exist and are currently in the possession of her surviving children. She died from cancer in the early 1960's and was buried in the center of the town she helped so much during her life. (3)

NOTES:

- (1) Charts and research done by my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks, of Summerville Georgia.
(2) From Marks Family Bible currently in possession of my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks.
(3) From personal interview with my maternal grandmother, Mary Roper Marks.
(4) From obituary in The Summerville News, 30 September 1962.
(5) From article in Walker County Historical Society newsletter (date unknown) by Louise Dillard, approximately 1980.

- I. FULL NAME:** John A. Roper
- II. WHEN BORN:** 19 September 1878
- III. WHERE BORN:** Dry Creek community, Chattooga County, Georgia (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 10 December 1905
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** DNK
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 03 November 1931 (2)
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At his home in the Armuchee Community, Floyd County, Georgia (2)
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Armuchee Cemetary, Floyd County, Georgia

Even though his youngest daughter is still alive, not much is known about my paternal great-grandfather John A. Roper. Information that would ordinarily be passed on from generation to generation was lost because he and his wife died while their children were all fairly young. We do know that John A. Roper was a blacksmith who worked in the Armuchee valley area of Floyd county and at one time operated a mill for grinding corn into meal. He had six siblings, three brothers and three sisters, apparently all younger than him. He died in 1931 from a heart attack related to a condition of high blood pressure that could not be remedied by the old home remedy of "bleeding."

NOTES:

- (1) 1900 walker county census record, apparently lived in walker county.
- (2) personal interview with maternal grandmother, approx 1990.
- (3) obituary, summerville news, no date

- I. FULL NAME:** Lula Mae Dunaway
- II. WHEN BORN:** 21 May 1888
- III. WHERE BORN:** DNK - likely Dry Creek community, Chattooga County, Georgia (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 10 December 1905
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** DNK
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 29 June 1939 (2)
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At her home in the Armuchee Community, Floyd County, Georgia
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Armuchee Cemetary, Floyd County, Georgia

After her husband died in 1931, my paternal great-grandmother, Lula Mae Dunaway, was left to raise three children on her own. One of them was already an adult, but she still had to work hard for the family to survive in depression-era Georgia without a male breadwinner. (1) But despite all that, she still had enough generosity to share what little she had with the beggars and homeless who passed through the Armuchee valley area. (2) Like her husband, she died at a somewhat early age of a heart attack related to having high blood pressure.

NOTES:

- (1) Personal interview with my paternal grandmother, Mary Lois Marks, of Summerville Georgia.
(2) Obituary in The Summerville News, 30 June 1939.

- I. FULL NAME:** William Anderson "Bub" Hall
- II. WHEN BORN:** 23 October 1883 (1)
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in the Mill Creek community, Whitfield County, Georgia (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 21 September 1924 (1)
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** DNK
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 29 January 19750 (2)
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At home in the Rocky Face community, Whitfield County, Georgia (2)
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Dunnagan Cemetary, Whitfield County, Georgia

"Bub" Hall (we are unsure where the nickname came from) was the oldest of four children. When he was approximately 12 years old an epidemic of typhoid or emphysema came through this area (we aren't sure which) and killed a brother and a sister, but he and another sister fully recovered from the incident. After he completed primary school, his father sacrificed and saved to send him to a boarding school so he could have a complete education. This was a rare privilege for a relatively poor child from Mill Creek, and would likely have never happened if his other siblings had still been alive. (3)

Every Sunday Bub would walk or hitchhike from Mill Creek to Ringgold, Catoosa County, Georgia, so he could attend the Ringgold Masonic and Literacy Institute, which was then located across the street from where the Ringgold schoolboard building is now. He stayed there during the week and had his classes, then hitchhiked and walked back to Mill Creek to spend weekends with his parents and sister. (1)

After graduating, Bub moved in with a friend who lived in the Reo, Walker County, Georgia, community. They started a store together in the 1920's and were quite successful for a while, even briefly selling Cocaine - which was then legal but very valuable and had to be hidden. The store sadly

went under in the middle of the depression because Bub and his partner let too many people have open-ended credit during those bad economic times. The physical building that store was in still stood until the mid-1990's. (4)

Bub founded Friendship Baptist Church on a lot beside the store and was the church clerk for decades, a deacon for the rest of his life, and taught adult sundayschool until he was no longer physically able. When he died he left 9 children despite waiting to marry until he was 40 years old.

NOTES:

- (1) Personal interviews with the remaining children of William Anderson "Bub" Hall, conducted 1991-992.
- (2) Personal interview with my mother, Nancy Gail Marks, of LaFayette Georgia.
- (3) *History of Catoosa County*, chapter 10, Schools of Catoosa.
- (4) Photograph currently in the possession of my mother, Nancy Gail Marks.

- I. FULL NAME:** Anne Pyrene Leonard
- II. WHEN BORN:** 11 August 1900
- III. WHERE BORN:** At home in the Springplace community, Murray County, Georgia (1)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 21 September 1924
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** DNK
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 29 November 1979
- VII. WHERE DIED:** Hamilton Memorial Hospital, Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Dunnagan Cemetary, Whitfield County, Georgia

Oldest of 10, 3 sisters and 6 brothers. took care of siblings. siblings didnt want her to get married because she took care of them. hated them because she left. 2 father was a logger. grew up in murray county, moved to whitfield because her uncle had land and would share it with them if he would help, but he wouldnt share. he became logger. doolittle district of murray county.

(1) interview with her brother will leonard of whitfield leonard, approx. 1998. now deceased.

(2) youngest sister still alive in lousiana, interview approx. 1998.

- I. FULL NAME:** Claudie Guss Dunn
- II. WHEN BORN:** 25 April 1903
- III. WHERE BORN:** In a covered wagon near Oklahoma City,
Oklahoma
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 28 August 1922
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Dawson County, Alabama (near Fort Payne)
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 25 May 1982
- VII. WHERE DIED:** Hamilton Memorial Hospital, Dalton, Whitfield
County, Georgia
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Beulah Cemetary, Dekalb County, Alabama

youngest of 4, one brother and 2 sisters. his father was unreliable and gambled, had women, went to ohio and midwest, disappeared for 3 years, 4 years. packed up family to go out west, headed to oklahoma, guss was born en route. turned around and came back because of the geronimo war incidents and violence, got scared and came back to place where they had just sold everything. worked hard to get tools or land, mule, then father charley would come back and sell it all for himself. had 11 kids, was a sharecropper, story from grandmother. worked at a broom factory, security guard, dishwasher at old oakwood cafe. had bad emphysema and weird eating habits, water on cereal. used inhalers. died from emphysema, in his late 70s. enjoyed fishing and hunting, bought lifetime hunting license after retirement.

(1) personal interview with Dudley Hancock, distant cousin, over internet.

- I. FULL NAME:** Mamie Lee Frasier
- II. WHEN BORN:** 31 August 1906
- III. WHERE BORN:** Dawson County, Alabama (near Fort Payne)
- IV. WHEN MARRIED:** 28 August 1922 (1)
- V. WHERE MARRIED:** Dawson County, Alabama (near Fort Payne)
- VI. WHEN DIED:** 09 July 1997
- VII. WHERE DIED:** At her home in the Mill Creek community,
Whitfield County, Georgia
- VIII. WHERE BURIED:** Beulah Cemetary, Dekalb County, Alabama

2 brothers, 4 sisters, one unknown, 5th of 8. father died when she was 2, cutting down tree for firewood so they could have church revival meeting at their home. fell on him and horse came back. never was able to go to school, had to stay home and plow because her other sisters refused to behave like boys. wore overalls, dressed like a man, could plow as good as any man. never learned to read, could write her own name and count money. out plowing one day around 14 and charley dunn came back and asked her if she needed a husband, introduced her to guss dunn. had nothing but cornbread because of poor situation, lived with Willie Williamson and he purchased lard and white flour with whiskey money, but her father wouldnt let them have any because of where it came from. broke mules that were unbreakable, owner made her quit before she hurt the animals. midwife for years, helped neighbors have children. one woman had a baby and she was washing it to lay it out and the child revived. people thought was a good midwife because of that incident. had 11 children, first born at 14 and was so little everyone thought she would die. died in 1997 of congestive heart failure at 89.

- (1) vital marriage record book, volume 8, pg 333, dekalb county alabama.
(2) personal interviews