

**SOME REMEMBRANCE OF
DILLARD PAUL AND
CORA CHAFFIN ANDERSON
BY JAMES PAUL ANDERSON**

Dillard Paul Anderson was about 6'1" and weighed about 200 pounds. He was a hearty eater. I can remember watching him, on a hot summer afternoon, drinking a cold glass of clabbered milk with a piece of side bacon and corn bread. He would talk about how good this was. To keep the milk cold back then, it was carried to the spring where we got our drinking water. The spring in Peter's Hollow was about ½ mile from the house. So, it was a good jaunt for one of the kids to go to the spring to fetch Pa Dillard some clabbered milk.

Dillard served as a deputy sheriff under Sheriff Oplin Smith. He worked the Hensley-Ramsey fight on the Seven Knobs. I can remember hearing the family telling about Sheriff Smith coming to Pa Dillard's home and they rode horseback to the scene.

I remember him at the molasses mill. Uncle Clay would be feeding the mill. Daddy would be firing the pan the changing the sweetwater from bend to bend and Pa Dillard would be drawing of the molasses. He would be crewing his tobacco and mopping sweat from his heavy eyebrows and say to the grandchildren, "Whittle you out a paddle and come get some of this good foam." At his encouragement some of us over ate and ended up sick to our stomach. He made molasses each year to his death.

Cousin Elizabeth "Libby" Allen was shaving Pa Dillard not very long before his death, and she did something I shall never forget. After she had softened his beard with a warm cloth and had made a big mug of later, she gently began to lather his face, stopping suddenly and saying, "Pa, there's something in your mouth, open up." When he opened up real wide, to the amazement of all, she crammed the big shaving brush full of soap lather in his mouth. I will leave the rest of the story to your imagination.

I remember, several years before his death, he had a big cherry tree sawed into lumber and placed in the barn loft to dry. This was to be used for Ma Cora's and his casket. When they died, this lumber was used as he intended. Men from the community came and built the casket in the backyard. The night before the funeral some people stayed up singing hymns and spiritual songs for most of the night. Both funeral services were conducted under the cedar tree at the Nan Rash place, directly in front of the Rash Cemetery.

Ma Cora was a small woman, fragile, soft spoken, and sick since I can first remember. She began having light strokes in her early 50's and this plagued her to the final one. Once, while sitting in the spring seat, riding the wagon, she was hit by a light stoke, pitching her from the wagon and cutting a big gash in her forehead.

She wore her dresses long to her ankles. All of them were handmade. She carded wool and would run the spinning wheel and rode horseback in a sidesaddle. I remember her sidesaddle and watching her card and spin. She combed her white hair straight back and put in a little bun on the back of her head.

Dillard and Cora Chaffin Anderson were married December 8, 1896. They had twelve children.

Evie A. Haile (1897-1984)
Lura A. Gailbreath (1899-1981)
Elbert (1902-1917)
Oliver (1903-1974)
Liddie A. Allen (1905-1995)
Thomas (1907-1908)
Lorena A. Brown (1909-1982)
Lyda A. Chaffin (1911-1995)
Ruby A. Davis (1912-)
Johnny (1914-)
Paul (1919-1919)

Clay (1922-1985)

The grandchildren of Pa Dillard and Ma Cora have discussed replacing their tombstones, which are beginning to deteriorate.

James Paul Anderson has volunteered again to oversee the purchase and placement of a new monument. There is now a new monument placed for them.

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