

STAMPS CEMETERY

Putnam Co., TN

Tucked into the mountains off of Brotherton Mountain Road, Stamps Cemetery is a small graveyard, easy to miss. For decades it's been nicknamed "The Witches' Graveyard" because of the site's spooky features. Located on Buck Mountain. Recorded by Zola Pointer in 1960 and Azilee Wilkerson in 1989. There are a few fieldstone markers.

Sources: Findagrave, Ancestry.com and pp. 523-524 Putnam County Tennessee Cemeteries by Maurine Ensor Patton and Doris Garrison Gilbert.

George Washington Beaty

b. 4 November 1874, Fentress Co., TN – d. 19 July 1941, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN, md **Victoria (Ramsey) Beaty**, b. 11 February 1880, Fentress Co., TN – d. 22 December 1914, Fentress Co., TN, buried in Mount Gilead Cemetery, Fentress Co., TN. She was the d/o **Robert Caleb Ramsey** (1854-1928) & **Deborah Jane Crouch** (1858-1940). George Washington Beaty md **Parzetta (Stamps) Beaty**, b. 30 October 1885 – d. 19 July 1976. George Washington Beaty, s/o **Thomas Jefferson Beaty** (1844-1915) & **Margaret Jane Franklin**.

John Ernest Beaty

b. 14 March 1909 – d. 3 January 1997, md **Pauline (VanWinkle) Beaty**, b. 29 April 1936 – d. 24 October 1970, Cumberland Co., TN, d/o **Henry Franklin VanWinkle** (1904-1978) & **Lillie Ada Burgess** (1910-1987). Pauline (VanWinkle) Beaty is buried in Thomas Springs Cemetery, Cumberland Co., TN. John Ernest Beaty, s/o **George Washington Beaty** (1874-1941) & **Victoria Ramsey** (1880-1914).

Lisa (Dye) Bowman Obt.

b. 11 December 1963, Piqua, OH – d. 26 April 2018, TN, md **Otis B. Bowman**. Lisa (Dye) Bowman, d/o **Kenneth Dye & Dolores Agenbroad**.

Celebration Of Life Gathering For Lisa Dye Bowman, Age 54, Of The Shady Grove Community Were Conducted On Sunday, April 29, 2018, From 12:00 PM Until 2:00 PM From The Chapel Of Goff Funeral Home. Interment Followed In The Stamps Cemetery.

Mrs. Bowman Was Born On December 11, 1963, In Piqua, Ohio, To The Late Kenneth Hermon And Dolores Agenbroad Dye. Mrs. Bowman Passed Away On Thursday, April 26, 2018, At Her Home.

Mrs. Bowman Was A Sewing Machine Operator. She Attended Puqua High School.

She Was Survived By Her Husband, Otis B. Bowman Of The Shady Grove Community; 4 Daughters, Amy Beth Barger Of The Shady Grove Community; Deanna Marie Rozelia Barger Smith Of Baxter, TN; Katrina Kay Barger Sherfield Of The Shady Grove Community; Heather Alyce Barger Luffman And Husband, Andrew Luffman Of Smithville, TN; Stepchildren, Tammy Theophile And Partner, Teresa Nichols Of

Cookeville, TN, Michael And Wife, Michelle Bowman Of Cookeville, TN; Grandchildren, Brittney, Johnathon, Dustin, Shiann, Brandon, Jacob, Hailey, Sofia, Christopher, Jason Troy (J.T.), Shelby, Danielle, Stephanie, Bryan, Wade And Nick; Great Grandchildren, Miles, Brilley, Hailey, Evan, Owen, Peyton, Kinley, And Aaleigha; Sister, Kathy Grau Of Piqua, OH; And Brother, Jeff Dye Of Plano, TX.

In Addition To Her Parents, She Was Preceded In Death By Her Daughter, Becky Ann Dye; And Stepfather, John Bair.

The Family Received Friends At Goff Funeral Home On Sunday, April 29, 2018, From 12:00 PM Until 2:00 PM.

Foister Edmond Doyles Bowman

b. 12 November 1959 – d. 14 December 1960.

Robert "Bob" Cunningham

b. 18 February 1859, TN – d. 8 August 1886, TN, md **Nancy Jane (Neal) Cunningham Jones**, b. 28 August 1866 – d. 23 December 1937, buried in Shady Grove Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. She is the d/o **Thomas David Neal** (1845-1905) & **Polly Stamps** (1846-1884). Robert Cunningham, s/o **Aaron Cunningham** (1818-1885) & **Sarah Gallion**.

'We Will Meet Again'

Robert Cunningham was married to Nancy Jane Neal. Sally A Cunningham is their daughter. Sally is my great grandmother on my mother's side. After Bob died, Nancy Jane married Andrew Jackson Jones. Sally was married to Charley A. Blaylock and is buried in the Shady Grove Cemetery in Monterey, TN. Findagrave.com

Charlie L. Haney

b. 30 October 1899, TN – d. 30 May 1968, TN, md **Ethel (unknown) Haney**, b. 27 April 1914.

Mary Helen Haney

b. 1 September 1936 – d. 9 March 1937, TN, d/o **Charlie L. Haney** (1899-1968) & **Ethel**.

Willie B. Harris

b. 6 August 1914, Overton Co., TN – d. 7 October 1994, Putnam Co., TN, md **Ina (Phillips) Harris**, b. 11 July 1913 – d. 24 March 1994, d/o **George & A. C. Phillips**. Willie B. Harris, s/o **Franklin & Josie D. Harris**.

*See Buddy Talmadge Short Obt.

Frank Henry

b. 27 January 1871 – d. 7 March 1871, s/o **Elijah Nelson Henry** (1836-1912) & **Rachael Elizabeth Neal** (1840-1933).

'The blessed babe of E N Henry'

James Sanford Henry

b. 28 August 1868 – d. 21 January 1869, s/o **Elijah Nelson Henry** (1836-1912) & **Rachael Elizabeth Neal** (1840-1933).

John V. Henry

b. 10 March 1872 – d. 24 September 1891, s/o **Elijah Nelson Henry** (1836-1912) & **Rachael Elizabeth Neal** (1840-1933).

Mary Jane Henry

b. 1 July 1866 – d. 16 January 1869, d/o **Elijah Nelson Henry** (1836-1912) & **Rachael Elizabeth Neal** (1840-1933).

Rebecca (Stamps) Henry

b. 10 February 1835, Putnam Co., TN – d. 29 April 1864, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 15th of September 1859, **Elijah Nelson Henry**, b. 18 January 1836, White Co., TN – d. 23 October 1912, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Vinet Henry** (1793-1863) & **Roseanna Lower** (1799-1858). Elijah Nelson Henry is buried in Shady Grove Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Rebecca (Stamps) Henry, d/o **Sanford Stamps** (1811-1895) & **Nancy Ray** (1811-1881). Elijah Nelson Henry md on the 24th of April 1870 to **Rachael Elizabeth (Neal) Henry**, b. 13 July 1840, Wayne Co., KY – d. 1 June 1933, Putnam Co., TN.

We could not find Rebecca's gravesite; there are many sandstone markers that are completely eradicated. The pictures we've posted here are of the Henry family area at Stamps Cemetery. Many of these markers are not readable and one of them may well be Rebecca's final resting place. Findagrave.com

Source: Rebecca (Stamps) Henry, b. 10 February 1835 – d. 29 April 1864, w/o Henry Stamps.

Alex L. Lee

b. 25 August 1880 – d. 24 May 1916, s/o **William C. Lee** & **Elizabeth Myatt**.
'An honest man, the noblest work of God'

Corman Hollis Lee

b. 17 August 1907 – d. 11 November 1909.
'A sweet little babe of P. A. & Z Lee'

Huenetta Lee

b. 20 May 1918 – d. 23 September 1918.
A sweet little baby of P. A. & Z Lee'

Infant Lee

b. 20 February 1904 – d. 20 February 1904.
'Infant of Alex & Lean Lee; At rest'

Infant Lee

b. March 3 – d. March 5.
'Infint of M/M John Lee'

Lee Ann Lee

b. 16 November 1882 – d. 11 October 1915, md **A. L. Lee**.
Gone But Not Forgotten'

William Thurman Lee

b. 30 March 1906 – d. 15 June 1906.
'Little babe of Z. & P.A. Lee'

Douglas Lee McDowell Obt.

b. 31 March 1966, Houston, TX – d. 20 February 2006, TN, s/o **Walter McDowell & Joyce Quast Whittaker**.
'We Will Meet Again'

PUTNAM COUNTY - Graveside services for Douglas Lee McDowell, 39, of Monterey, will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb.22, at Stamps Cemetery.

The family will receive friends immediately following the services at the cemetery.

Mr. McDowell died on Monday, Feb. 20,2006,in Standing Stone Care and Rehab Center. He was born on March 31,1966, in Houston, Texas, to Joyce Quast Whittaker of Cookeville and the late Walter McDowell.

He was a member of the Baptist faith and a former associate with Exxon Oil Company. In addition to his mother, his family includes his stepfather, Ken (Whit)Whittaker of Cookeville; a brother and sister-in-law, Walter and Sherry McDowell III of Katy, Texas; and four sisters and brothers-in-law, Georgia and David Cook of Cypress, Texas, Paricia and Ronnie Brooks of Spring, Texas, Cindy and Jeff Dillon of Cookeville and Jennifer and Johnny Harris of the Lovejoy Community of Overton County.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

Rev. Johnnie Elmer Lee will officiate the services.

Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home of Cookeville is in charge of arrangements.

Benjamin Jeremiah Neal

b. 13 September 1842, KY – d. 22 March 1904, Putnam Co., TN, md **Nancy Catherine (Stamps) Neal**, b. 11 May 1844, Overton Co., TN – d. 26 October 1900, Putnam Co., TN d/o **Sanford Stamps** (1811-1895) & **Nancy Ray** (1811-1881).

'Asleep dear father but not forgotten; Let God's will be done not ours'

*See William Harvey Neal buried in Stamps Cemetery.

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

Infant Neal

b. 8 August 1878 – d. 20 September 1878.

'Child of B. J. & Nancy C. Neal'

J. T. Neal

b. 15 December 1879 – d. 17 November 1879.

Lam Neal

b. 13 May 1859 – d. 13 March 1880, w/o **T. H. Neal**.

'To the memory of...; A wife of T. H. Neal; Age 20 years 10 mo'

Mary Ann (Stamps) Neal

b. 9 August 1846, Putnam Co., TN – d. 11 May 1884, Putnam Co., TN md on the 10th of November 1864 to **Thomas David Neal**, b. 4 February 1845, KY – d. 25 January 1905, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Jonathan Neal & Lucinda Hooks**. He is buried in Shady Grove Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Mary Ann (Stamps) Neal, d/o **Sanford Stamps** (1811-1895) & **Nancy Lee Ray** (1811-1881).

William Harvey Neal

b. 9 October 1870, Putnam Co., TN – d. 16 July 1906, Putnam Co., TN md **Mary Elizabeth "Bettie" (West) Neal**, b. 1870 – d. 1940. William Harvey Neal, s/o **Benjamin Jeremiah Neal** (1842-1904) & **Nancy Catherine Stamps** (1844-1900).

'Gone to that bright home where grief cannot come'

C. E. Perry

b. 27 May 1858 – d. 18 April 1859.

Donald Glenn Peters

b. 23 March 1982 – d. 2 October 1982.

'God's greatest gift returned'

Samantha Lynn Peters

b. 6 August 1985 – d. 30 September 1986.

Clarence Phillips

b. 11 January 1916, Overton Co., TN – d. 2005, Putnam Co., TN, md **Donia Mae (Swafford) Phillips**, b. 15 December 1916, Putnam Co., TN – d. 9 August 2000, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Johnny Mack Johnny Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952). Clarence Phillips, s/o **Mansfield Howell Phillips** (1883-1968) & **Mary Lena Bilbrey** (1883-1965).

*See Donia Mae (Swafford) Phillips Obt.

Donia Mae (Swafford) Phillips Obt.

b. 15 December 1916, Putnam Co., TN – d. 9 August 2000, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md **Clarence Phillips**, b. 11 January 1916, Overton Co., TN – d. 2005, Putnam Co., TN.

Donia Mae (Swafford) Phillips, d/o **Johnny Mack Johnny Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952).

*See Mack Johnny Swafford buried in Stamps Cemetery.

MONTEREY - Funeral services for Donia Mae Phillips, 84, of Monterey, will be held at 10 a.m. on Fri., Aug. 11, from the chapel of Horner Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Stamps Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6-9 p.m. today, Thurs., Aug 10, at the funeral home. Mrs. Phillips died on Wed., Aug 9, 2000, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

She was born on Dec. 15, 1916, in Putnam County to the late Johnny Mack and Azzie Neal Swafford.

Mrs. Phillips was retired Certified Nursing Assistant at Standing Stone Health Care Center. She attended Monterey Community Church.

Her family includes her husband of 54 years, Clarence Phillips; four sons and two daughters-in-law, Lemmuel Phillips of Chesapeake Beach Md., Leon and Regina Phillips of Monterey, Johnny and JoAnn Phillips of Cookeville; and Randy Phillips of Crossville; a sister, Ethel Haney of Monterey; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two daughters Joyce Faye and Glenda Faye Phillips; five sisters, Mertie Whittaker, Sarah Stamps, Maggie Rockwell, Leona and Bertha Swafford and six brothers, Charlie, Burton Jack, Waymon, Hurbert and Virgil Swafford. Rev. Dewitt Sampley will officiate at the services.

Glinda Mae Phillips

b. 22 February 1949 – d. 21 July 1949, infant daughter of **Clarence Phillips** (1916-2005) & **Donia Mae Swafford** (1916-2000).

Lester E. Phillips

b. 24 November 1905 – d. 2 October 1987, TN, md on the 14th of March 1929, Overton Co., TN to **Hennie Etter (Vaughn) Phillips**, b. 12 June 1910 – d. 26 February 1969.

'Together forever'

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Overton Co., TN, pg. 41 – Lester Phillips married 14 March 1929, Overton Co., TN to Hennie Vaughn).

Joyce Fay Phillips

b. 15 January 1946 – d. 18 March 1946, infant daughter of **Clarence Phillips** (1916-2005) & **Donia Mae Swafford** (1916-2000).

William P. "Bill" Presley

b. 26 January 1926, Overton Co., TN, md on the 30th of November 1944, Putnam Co., TN to **Ermine E. (Beaty) Presley**, b. 21 December 1924 – d. 13 May 2000. William P. "Bill" Presley, s/o **Arthur Ewin Presley** (1890-1979) & **Annie** (1894-1979).

Moody George “M.G.” Presley Obt.

b. 18 October 1933, Overton Co., TN – d. 5 April 2012, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 29th of September 1954, Putnam Co., TN to **Louesther (Harris) Presley**, b. 18 June 1936, Overton Co., TN, d/o **Willie Ben Harris** (1914-1994) & **Ina Phillips**. M. G. Presley, s/o **George Presley & Rosie Harris**.

*See Michael Dewayne Presley Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 408 – M. G. Presley married 29 September 1954, Putnam Co., TN, age 20, b. 18 October 1933: address; Rt. 3, Monterey, TN to Louesther Harris, age 18, b. 18 June 1936: address: Rt. 2, Monterey, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Willie Ben Harris, father, Rt. 2, Monterey, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of male: Rosie Presley, mother, Rt. 3, Monterey, TN).

Graveside funeral services for M.G. Presley, age 78, of Monterey, Tennessee were conducted Saturday, April 7, 2012, at 4:00 pm at the stamps cemetery in Monterey, Tennessee. Rev. Kevin Phillips officiated at the services. Mr. Presley was born October 18, 1933, in Overton county, Tennessee to the late George and Rosie Harris Presley. Mr. Presley passed away Thursday, April 5, 2012 at the Cookeville regional medical center. Mr. Presley was a logger and freewill Baptist in faith.

He was preceded in death by a son, Michael Dewayne Presley; and a great grandchild Macie Lynn Presley.

Michael Dewayne Presley Obt.

b. 28 December 1971, Crossville, TN – d. 13 July 2004, Overton Co., TN, md **Sandra Faye (unknown) Presley**, b. 3 July 1977. Michael Dewayne Presley, s/o **Moody George “M.G.” Presley** (1933-2012) & **Louesther Harris**.

MONTEREY - Funeral services for Mike Presley, 32, of the Plateau Community in Cumberland County will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 18, from the chapel of Goff Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Stamps Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, July 17 at the funeral home. Mr. Presley died on Tuesday, July 13, 2004, in Overton County.

He was born on Dec.28, 1971 in Crossville to M.G. and Louesther Presley of Monterey. Mr. Presley was a disabled construction worker and a member of the Harris Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

In addition to his parents, his family includes his wife, Sandra Presley of the Plateau Community; a son, Josh Presley of the Plateau Community, sister, Wanda Lane of Monterey; and three brothers, Benny and Charles Presley, both of Monterey and Kenny Presley of Muddy Pond.

Rev. Gary Farris will officiate at the services.

Infant Ray

b. 19 June 1895 – d. 19 June 1895, infant of **Joseph Benjamin Ray** (1875-1932) & **Martha Adeline Stamps** (1877-1970).

Infant Ray

b. 28 March 1896 – d. 15 April 1896, infant of **Joseph Benjamin Ray** (1875-1932) & **Martha Adeline Stamps** (1877-1970).

Infant Ray

b. 2 January 1897 – d. 2 January 1897, infant of **Joseph Benjamin Ray** (1875-1932) & **Martha Adeline Stamps** (1877-1970).

Claudie Lee Richardson

b. 12 February 1930, Overton Co., TN – d. 13 October 2006, (PHC US Navy), md on the 29th of May 1954, Putnam Co., TN to **Willberta Ruth (Blaylock) Richardson**, b. 4 September 1936, d/o **Emery Blaylock**. Claudie Lee Richardson, s/o **Eddie Richardson** (1892-1972) & **Georgia May Dennis** (1902-1985), both buried in the Richardson Cemetery, Overton Co., TN.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 288 – Claudie Lee Richardson married 29 May 1954, Putnam Co., TN, age 24, b. 12 February 1930, address; Rt. 2, Monterey, TN to Willberta Ruth Blaylock, age 17, b. 4 September 1936, address: Rt. 1, Brotherton, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Emery Blaylock, father, Rt. 1, Brotherton, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of male: Eddie Richardson, father, Rt. 2, Monterey, TN).

James T. Roberson

b. unknown – d. 9 May 1895.

Robert Lee Shelton Obt.

b. 9 October 1955, Lincoln Co., TN – d. 13 November 2011, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **James Madison Shelton** & **Billie Jean (Whittaker) Shelton Grant** (1933-2013). Billie Jean Whittaker also md **Ralph Grant** (1929-2004), both buried in Sand Springs Memorial Gardens, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN.

*See Elbert Whittaker buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Graveside funeral services for Robert Shelton, age, 56, of Cookeville, Tennessee, were conducted on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, at 2:00 pm at the Stamps cemetery in Cookeville, Tennessee. Rev. Richard Buckner officiated. Mr. Shelton was born on October 9, 1955, in Lincoln County, Tennessee, to Billie Jean Whittaker Shelton Grant of Livingston, Tennessee, and the late James Madison Shelton. Mr. Shelton passed away on Sunday, November 13, 2011, at the Cookeville regional medical center. Mr. Shelton was a resident of Cookeville for over 4 years, most recently a resident of Masters Healthcare in Algood, Tennessee.

He was survived by his mother, Billie Jean Grant of Livingston, TN; 2 sisters, Barbara Shelton of Livingston, TN, Vera Dean Brown of Dickson, TN; 2 brothers, James Edward Shelton of Tulsa, OK, Ronald George Shelton of Seattle, WA; Uncle and Aunt, Kenneth and Joyce Whittaker of Cookeville, TN. He also left behind, 3 nieces and a nephew. May god hold him close to his heart. The family received friends at the cemetery immediately following the service

Buddy Talmadge Short Obt.

b. 22 November 1940, Overton Co., TN – d. 28 January 2000, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 2nd of September 1961 to **Edna L. (Harris) Short**, b. 12 March 1943, Overton Co., TN, d/o **Willie B. Harris** (1914-1994) & **Ina Phillips** (1913-1994). Buddy Talmadge Short, s/o **Walter Harrison Short** (1890-1972) & **Hattie Mae Cunningham** (1899-1994), both buried in Shady Grove Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

*See Willie B. Harris buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Funeral services for Mr. Buddy Short, 59, of the Shady Grove Community near Monterey, were conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, January 31, 2000, from the chapel of Goff Funeral Home in Monterey with Rev. Mike Kerr officiating. Burial was in Stamps Cemetery with Goff Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

Mr. Short, owner/operator of Bud's Lawn Service and a retired factory worker, died Friday, January 28, 2000, at his home.

Born November 22, 1940, in the Shady Grove Community, he was the son of the late Walter Harrison and Hattie (Cunningham) Short. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three sisters, Jane Bowman, Cora Fee, and Vada Matheney; and three brothers, Joe Hollis Short, George Thomas Short, and Kenneth Short.

He was a member of the Shady Grove Freewill Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Edna (Harris) Short, Shady Grove Community; three daughters and sons-in-law, Margaret and Tracy Langford, Ella and Rick Dishman, all of the Shady Grove Community, and Gail and Jimmy Dishman, Livingston; a son and daughter-in-law, Brad and Phyllis Short, Monterey; two sisters, Rena Belle Dixon, and Eva Beaty, both of the Shady Grove Community; a brother, James Short, Sciero, IN; 10 grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

James C. Stamps

b. 17 August 1879 – d. 12 November 1881, s/o **S. W. & A. E. Stamps**.

'To the memory of a son'

Note: He has a second gravestone jointly with his twin brother; the original is a tent grave.

James L. Stamps

b. 31 March 1881 – d. 9 November 1881, s/o **John Anderson Stamps** (1853-1937) & **Sarah Isebel Roberson** (1852-1936).

'To the memory of a son'

John Anderson Stamps

b. 15 April 1853, TN – d. 7 July 1937, Putnam Co., TN, md **Sarah Isebel (Roberson) Stamps**, b. 15 May 1852 – d. 9 October 1936. John Anderson Stamps, s/o **Sanford Stamps** (1811-1895) & **Nancy Lee Ray** (1811-1881). Children: Thomas Frank Stamps (1888-1980) md Vio Lou Bohannon (1895-1971), buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN; Martha Adeline Stamps (1877-1970) md Joseph Benjamin Ray (1875-1932), buried in Shady Grove Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

*See James L. Stamps buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Johnnie E Stamps

b. 17 August 1879 – d. 17 August 1879, s/o **S. W. & A. E. Stamps**.

Note: Double stone with twin brother James C; he also has another headstone with a tent grave

Leon Stamps

b. 14 July 1881, TN – d. 11 October 1915, s/o **William Stamps** (1840-1910) & **Permelia Asenath Bilbrey** (1848-1931).

Mandy Ida Stamps

b. 3 June 1887 – d. 1 October 1887, d/o **William Stamps** (1840-1910) & **Permelia Asenath Bilbrey** (1848-1931).

Nancy Lee (Ray) Stamps

b. 23 February 1811, VA – d. 30 August 1881, Putnam Co., TN, md **Sanford Stamps**, b. 2 May 1811 – d. 21 September 1895, s/o **James Stamps** (1779-1862) & **Elizabeth** (1789-1876).

*See Nancy Lee (Ray) Stamps buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Sanford Stamps Obt.

b. 2 May 1811, Overton Co., TN – d. 21 September 1895, Putnam Co., TN, md **Nancy Lee (Ray) Stamps**, b. 23 February 1811, VA – d. 30 August 1881, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Leonard H. Ray** (1780-1853) & **Rebecca Stamps** (1782-1876). Sanford Stamps, s/o **James Stamps** (1779-1862) & **Elizabeth** (1789-1876). Children: Rebecca Stamps (1835-1869) md Elijah Nelson Henry (1836-1912); William "Bud" Stamps (1840-1910) md Permelia Asenath Bilbrey (1848-1931); Nancy Catherine Stamps (1844-1900) md Benjamin Jeremiah Neal (1842-1904); Mary Ann Stamps (1846-1884) md Thomas David Neal (1845-1905); Leonard Stamps (1848-1914) md Surrildy C. Bilbrey (1844-1883); Sanford Washington Stamps (1850-1920) md Amanda Brown (1858-1920) & John Anderson Stamps (1853-1937) md Sarah Isebel Roberson (1852-1936).

*See Nancy Lee (Ray) Stamps buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Sanford Stamps, an aged and highly respected old mountaineer, died at his home near Rector last week. [Date 9/26/1895, Vol. VIII, No. 47, Page 8].

Ruben Ventis Stamps Obt.

b. 5 May 1901, Putnam Co., TN – d. 4 December 1990, Roseville, MI, md on the 23rd of December 1930, Overton Co., TN to **Rissie Ann (Bowman) Stamps**, b. 18 February 1900 – d. 1 February 1998. Ruben Ventis Stamps, s/o **Sanford Washington Stamps** (1850-1920) & **Amanda Brown**.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, Overton Co., TN, pg. 550 – Ventis Stamps married 23 December 1930, Overton Co., TN to Rissie Ann Bowman).

MICHIGAN -- Funeral services for Ventis Stamps, 89, of Roseville, Michigan, formerly of Putnam County, will be held Saturday, December 8, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Hooper and Huddleston Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Stamps Cemetery.

Mr. Stamps died Tuesday (December 4, 1990) in Roseville.

A native of Putnam County, he was the son of the late Sanford Washington and Amanda Brown Stamps.

His family includes his wife, Rissie Ann Bowman Stamps; two sons, Bill and Eukle Stamps, both of St. Clair Shores, Michigan; one daughter, Rita Dudek of New Baltimore, Michigan; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home after 1 p.m. today.

Rev. Ted Malouf will officiate at the services.

Permelia Asenath (Bilbrey) Stamps

b. 28 July 1848, Overton Co., TN – d. 23 June 1931, Putnam Co., TN, md **William “Bud” Stamps**, b. 29 February 1840, TN – d. 11 June 1910, Putnam Co., TN. Permelia



Asenath (Bilbrey) Stamps, d/o **William Bilbrey & Nancy**.

*See William “Bud” Stamps buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Death Certificate-Name: Permelia Aceneth Stamps [Permelia Aceneth Bilbrey] Birth Date: 28 Jul 1848 Birth Place: Putnam County, Tennessee Age: 82 yrs. 11 mos. 6 days Death Date: 23 Jun 1931 Death Place: Shady Grove, Putnam, Tennessee Burial Date: 24 Jun 1931 Cemetery Name: Shady Grove Gender: Female Race: White Marital Status: Widowed Occupation: Housekeeper Father's Name: William Bilbrey Father's Birth Place: Tennessee Mother's name: Nancey Bilbrey Mother's Birth Place: Tennessee Spouse's Name: William Stamps Cause of death: peritonitis

William “Bud” Stamps

b. 29 February 1840, TN – d. 11 June 1910, Putnam Co., TN, md **Permelia Asenath (Bilbrey) Stamps**, b. 28 July 1848, Overton Co., TN – d. 23 June 1931, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **William C. Bilbrey** (1821-1888) & **Nancy** (1820-1901), buried in Binom F. Bilbrey Farm Cemetery, Shady Grove, Putnam Co., TN.

'Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life'

*See Permelia Asenath (Bilbrey) Stamps buried in Stamps Cemetery.



Family of William 'Bud' Stamps & Permelia Asenath Bilbrey Stamps about 1900.

Bertha Jane Swafford Obt.

b. 22 January 1910, Putnam Co., TN- d. 16 January 1970, Dayton OH, d/o **Johnny Mack Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952).

'Gone But Not Forgotten'

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

Funeral services for Miss Bertha Jane Swafford, 59, will be at Hooper & Huddleston Tuesday, Jan 20 at 11 a.m. with Rev Tommy Vaughn officiating. Miss Swafford, a former resident of Putnam county, died in Dayton, Ohio following a short illness. Burial will be in Stamps cemetery in Putnam county. She was the daughter of the late Johnny Mack and Azzie Neal Swafford. Survivors are 3 sisters, Mrs. Mertie Whiteaker and Mrs. Dona Phillips of Monterey; Mrs. Ethel Haney of Algood; 5 brothers, Waymon, Sparta; Herbert, Algood; Henry and Jack, Monterey; Charlie, Dayton, Ohio.

Cookeville Herald, TN: January 20, 1970.

Dorothy M. (Richardson) Swafford Obt.

b. 18 June 1924 – d. 26 December 2000, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 23rd of December 1941 to **Shirley B. Swafford**, b. 16 September 1923 – d. 2 March 2003, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN. Dorothy M. (Richardson) Swafford, d/o **Van Richardson & Henny Lou Whitaker**.

'In my Father's house there are many mansions'

SPARTA - Funeral services for Dorothy M. Swafford, 76, of Sparta will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 28, from the chapel of Whitson Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Stamps Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 4-8 p.m. tonight at the funeral home.

Mrs. Swafford died on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2000, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She was born on June 18, 1924, to the late Van and Henny Lou Whitaker Richardson. She was a homemaker and of the Baptist faith.

Her family includes her husband of 59 years, Shirley B. Swafford of Monterey; two sons and daughters-in-law, Melvin and Gladys Swafford of Tipp City, Ohio, and DeWayne and Mary Swafford of Miamisburg, Ohio; two daughters and sons-in-law, Janice and Jim Loveless of Petersburg, Ind., and Linda and Walter Moya-Mendez of Florence, S.C.; a sister, Edna Pearl Rhodes of St. Cloud, Fla.; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by an infant brother.

Bro. Johnnie E. Lee will officiate the services.

Hollis Cordell Swafford Obt.

b. 11 May 1929, Wilson Co., TN – d. 25 July 2012, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Henry Burton Swafford** (1903-1983) & **Callie Ellen Elrod** (1907-1966), both buried in Sand Springs Cemetery, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN.

Funeral services for Mr. Hollis Cordell Swafford, 83, of Monterey, will be held at 10 am Saturday, July 28, in the chapel of Horner Funeral Home in Monterey with Rev. Richard Buckner officiating. Interment will follow in the Stamps Cemetery.

The family will receive friends Friday from 5 – 8pm and again Saturday from 9am until service time at the funeral home.

Mr. Swafford died Wednesday, July 25, 2012 in the Cookeville Regional Medical Center. He was born May 11, 1929 in Wilson County, TN to the late Henry Burton Swafford and Callie Ellen Elrod Swafford.

Mr. Swafford was a member of Woodcliff Baptist Church. He was an Ordained Deacon.

He was a member and Past Master of Monterey Masonic Lodge #751 F&AM and he member and Past Worthy Patron of Monterey Eastern Star Chapter 502.

Prior to retirement and moving to Monterey, he was a retired truck driver with Darling Truck Company in Dayton, OH with over 27 years of service.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Edward Swafford, Bobby Swafford, and Arnel Swafford; and sister, Vella Snyder.

Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

b. 7 May 1866, Putnam Co., – d. 21 May 1932, Lebanon, Wilson Co., TN, md **Sarah Azzie (Neal) Swafford**, b. 24 March 1873 – d. 10 February 1952, d/o **Benjamin Jeremiah Neal** (1842-1904) & **Nancy Catherine Stamps** (1844-1900). Johnny Mack Swafford, s/o **Alexander Jefferson "A. U." Swafford** (1840-1903) & **Bartheny Sarah Jane Hammock** (1834-1899), both buried in Woodclift Cemetery, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN. Children: Thomas Virgil Swafford (1891-1891); Lu Oney Swafford (1892-1894); Wayman Swafford (1894-1977) md Lille (1893-1975); Sarah Swafford (1896-1947) md Wilson Stamps (1887-1975); Joyce Herbert Swafford (1899-1988) md Manda Swafford; Mertie Lee Swafford (1901-1988) md Elbert Whiteaker (1894-1964); Henry Burton Swafford (1903-1983) md Callie Ellen Elrod (1907-1966); Maggie Ann Swafford (1905-1965) md Lafayette Rockwell (1881-1964); Jack Arnold Swafford (1907-1985) md Vola Marie (1915-1979); Bertha Jane Swafford (1910-1970); Charlie B. Swafford (1912-1984) md Ollie Mae Blaylock (1922-1999) and Donia Mae Swafford (1915-2000) md Clarence Phillips.

'Rest father and mother, rest in quiet sleep while friends in sorrow o'er thee weep'

*See Benjamin Jeremiah Neal buried in Stamps Cemetery.

*See Bertha Jane Swafford Obt.

*See Joyce Herbert (Swafford) Swafford buried in Stamps Cemetery.

*See Lu Oney Swafford buried in Stamps Cemetery.

*See Thomas Virgil Swafford buried in Stamps Cemetery.

*See Elbert Whiteaker buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Mack Swafford, 68, died suddenly at his home in Lebanon, TN. Although in failing health, his condition was not considered serious.

Funeral services were held Sunday at Stamps graveyard by Rev Hammons. For many years Mr. Swafford lived in this community on his farm among the hills, where he reared a large family. He leaves his wife, Mrs. Axie Neal Swafford, and 11 children.

Cookeville, TN: Herald May 26, 1932

Joyce Herbert (Swafford) Swafford

b. 22 May 1899 – d. 14 April 1988, md **Manda Swafford**. Joyce Herbert (Swafford) Swafford, d/o **Johnny Mack Johnny Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952).

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

Lu Oney Swafford

b. 14 June 1892 – d. 6 October 1894, d/o **Johnny Mack Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952).

'In heaven there is one more angel'

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

Thomas Virgil Swafford

b. 28 April 1891 – d. 23 June 1891, s/o **Johnny Mack Johnny Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952).

'In heaven there is one more angel'

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

Magnolia White

b. 26 January 1921 – d. 15 February 1921.

Elbert Whiteaker

b. 14 June 1894, TN – d. 6 June 1964, md **Mertie Lee (Swafford) Whiteaker**, b. 12 March 1901 – d. 5 February 1988, d/o **Johnny Mack Johnny Swafford** (1886-1932) & **Sarah Azzie Neal** (1873-1952). Children: Hazel R. Whittaker (1930-1971) md Mr. Vinepller; Edward B. Whittaker (1931-2009) md Zettie; Billie Jean Whittaker (1933-2013) md Robert Lee Shelton (1955-2011) & md Ralph Grant (1929-2004); and Ola Mae Whittaker (1935-1936).

*See Robert Lee Shelton Obt.

*See Johnny Mack Swafford Obt.

*See Ola Mae Whiteaker buried in Stamps Cemetery.

Ola Mae Whiteaker

b. 14 September 1935 – d. 4 November 1936, d/o **Elbert Whiteaker** (1894-1964) & **Mertie Lee Swafford** (1901-1988).

Georgia Marie Whittaker

b. 15 February 1942 – d. 22 July 2007, Putnam Co., TN, md **Willie J. P. Daniels**, b. 5 January 1940. Georgia Marie Whittaker, d/o **George McDonald Whittaker** (1919-1969) & **Edith Eldridge** (1923-1990), both buried in Whittaker Cemetery, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN.

'God's little angel'

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 165: Willie J. D. Daniels married 23 June 1959, Putnam Co., TN, age 19, b. 5 January 1940, address: Algood, Putnam Co., TN to Georgia Marie Whittaker, age 17, b. 15 February 1942, address; Monterey, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female; Edith Whittaker, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN).

James R. Whittaker

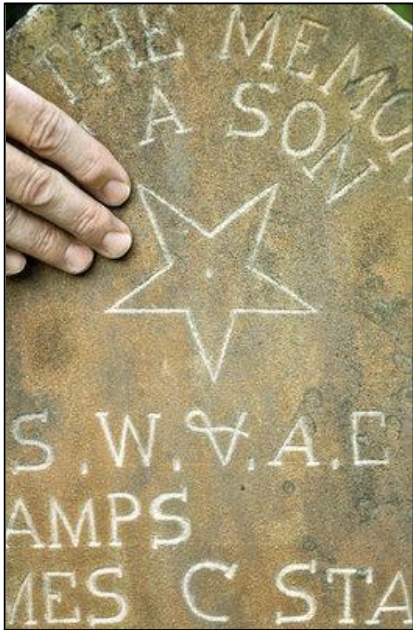
b. 26 April 1941 – d. 16 April 2008, Monterey, Putnam Co., TN.

*See more cemeteries of Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas and virtual cemetery at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>

WITCHES' GRAVEYARD? -- THE TRUTH ABOUT STAMPS CEMETERY

by Megan Trotter
Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

(Pictured: This downward pointing star and the unusual symbol between the initials on this gravestone sparked rumors of buried witches in Stamps Cemetery. Photo by Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen).



Tucked into the mountains off of Brotherton Mountain Road, Stamps Cemetery is a small graveyard, easy to miss. For decades it's been nicknamed "The Witches' Graveyard" because of the site's spooky features.

Settled among the more modern gravestones are graves from the 1800s, but instead of the typical setup of the coffin in the ground and a tombstone to mark the location, these have two giant slabs of rock in a tent formation over the spot where the body is buried. Small triangles of stone prop up the slabs, while a headstone and smaller stone cap off the head and foot of the structure.

In addition, most of these headstones are marked with stars, some of them pointed downward, and have strange marks mixed in with the person's name, birth date and death date.

Somewhere along the line, the rumor bloomed that these were marks of witches. A right-side-up star marked those of the "good" witches, while the upside down ones marked the "bad" ones. Some even said if someone touched the pentagram engraved on one of the stones at midnight during a full moon, it would awaken a demon.

Adding fuel to this tale was the claim that a boarding house near Tennessee Tech had a pentagram painted on the house, marking it as the original home of the coven of witches. In fact, in the Oct. 30, 1987, issue of The Oracle, TTU's newspaper, an article quotes a member of Kappa Sigma — the former location of the boarding house — as saying there was indeed a symbol that looked like a pentagram that had recently been painted over, plus there were similar symbols hidden all over the house.

The real explanation of the stars' origins is less thrilling, but still interesting.

“According to local folklore, the original Mr. Stamps was illiterate,” Michael Birdwell, TTU history professor, said, “He didn’t want to just sign his name with an X, because somebody would confuse his mark with somebody else’s. So he supposedly came up with the star. Another story is this is a masonic symbol. Stamps may have been a mason, which is not unusual at all. You’ve got to have a real talent to do this stuff. These (stones) were clearly done by skilled craftsmen.”

And the pentagrams in the Kappa Sigma house? According to the 1987 TTU article, they are actually stars that are a part of the badge design of the group.

The strange grave construction has an explanation, too. They are called “tent graves” or “comb graves.”

“There are lots of rumors as to how this tradition got started,” Birdwell said. “The one that makes the most sense to me is that the folks who moved here originally were Scots-Irish. The Scots graves are ‘cairns,’ where they heap up stones on top (of the grave). Well, this is much more efficient instead of heaping up a whole bunch of rocks, and plus there’s not a lot of top soil here. So it’s a modification of the traditional cairn.”

Historians also theorize that the comb graves could have come from the Swiss or Eastern Europeans, who had a similar style of grave construction.

Even though the cemetery’s strange appearance has had historical explanations in place for years, TTU students and other locals still occasionally use the spot to spook friends and newcomers to the area.

“The whole notion of it being haunted is a Tech tradition, not a local Stamps Cemetery tradition,” Birdwell said. “It was a great spot to bring somebody, maybe dare them to stay overnight, and then hide in the woods back there and really scare them.”



(Pictured: Michael Birdwell, TTU history professor, discusses the “witches’ tombs” found in Stamps Cemetery in Cookeville. Photo: Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen)

Herald-Citizen,
Cookeville, TN: 5
September 2013

*Read more about the cemeteries in Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>