

Silas Denny Obituary
s/o Jonathan Denny & Agnes Winfree
Putnam County Herald – Cookeville, TN
Thursday, January 3, 1935

**Prominent Carpenter, Cabinet Maker, Succumbs to Heart Attack. Was Buried Here
Odd Fellow Member - 34 Years**



Silas Dean Denny

Funeral services for Silas Dean Denny, 80 who died at his home on Oak Street, Sunday night after a short illness, were conducted at the home Tuesday afternoon by the Rev. Dow A. Ensor. Burial took place in the Cookeville City Cemetery, *Cookeville, TN.*

Mr. Denny's death was a shock to his hundreds of friends in Cookeville and Putnam county, where he was well known. He had been in town Sunday afternoon and had started to his home after the Tennessee Central passenger train No. 1 had pulled out. Mr. Denny had met passenger trains almost daily for many years, and had appeared to be in excellent health Sunday afternoon when talking with friends at the depot. He was stricken when near his home, became worse later in the night, and died toward midnight.

He was a native of Putnam county, being born near Buffalo Valley, December 1, 1854, the son of Jonathan and Agnes Winfree Denny. He was educated in the public schools of the county, and early in life became a carpenter by trade. He moved to Cookeville about 40 years ago, and by his woodwork became known as one of the best carpenters and cabinet makers in the state.

He was married in 1879 to Miss Molly Essex, who died seventeen years ago. To this union three children were born, Walter Denny, Mrs. Gertrude Dillard, of Cookeville, Ed C. Denny, of Fort Worth, Texas. Walter Denny died here several years ago.

Mr. Denny became a member of the Methodist church when a young man, and had been a steadfast member until his death. He had been a member of the Cookeville, Lodge, I.O.O.F., for 34 years, joining in 1900 shortly after his removal to Cookeville.

Active pallbearers were Judge Oscar King Holladay, Hubert Clark, Linnaeus Milan Bullington, Leslie Marvin Bullington, Virgil Timothy Denny, Dr. E.A. Conger, and Clifford Massa.

Honorary pallbearers were W. A. Holladay, Hiram Knight, U. T. Brown, Beeman Graves, Comer Cannon, Jim Haynes, Bill Hughes, Jim Viteto, Theodore Essex, Hugh Hargis, Walter Carlen, Dillard Hix, P.Y. Jared, D.W. Dow, Bonnell Appel, and Perry Wassom.

**See Chapter 5 – Jonathan Denny for complete family listing.*

...Silas Dean Denny – Odd Fellow Member, 34 yrs.- Heart Attack.

b. 1 December 1854, nr. Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN

d. 30 December 1934, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

md ca.1879, "Mollie" Mary Ann Essex –

b. 27 December 1854, TN – d. 30 April 1919

Silas was a carpenter – Building booms which both preceded and followed the coming of the railroad kept contractors busy.

James T. Carlen, Silas Dean Denny, L.B. Allison, and Joe F. Scott were some of Cookeville's leading builders. Putnam County, Tennessee, 1850-1970 by Mary Jean DeLozier – pg. 129.

Both Buried: + Cookeville City Cemetery, TN

Children of Silas Dean & "Mollie" Mary Ann (Essex) Denny
 ...Walter C. Denny – b. 26 August 1879 – d. 12 February 1929, TN
 md Mary C. – b. 25 May 1877 – d. 13 August 1942
 Both Buried: +Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN
 ...Holland Dean Denny – b. 23 July 1905 – d. 11 September 1949
 TN Pfc 3529 Ord Medium Maint. Co WWI
 md Gladys Moody – b. 5 June 1909 – d. 28 October 1965
 Both Buried: + Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN
 ...Gertrude Denny
 b. 20 September 1884 - d. 13 May 1963, TN
 Buried: + Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN
 md Steven Levent Dillard –
 ...Mary Katherine Dillard - md Arnold Judd
 ...Edward C. Denny – Lived in Forth Worth, TX.



Gertrude Denny

Agnes Winfree Denny wife of Jonathan Denny listed as Agnes Thompson in the book, Genealogical Records by Lela B. Winfree, pg. 99. It has been further updated that her name should have been shown as: Agnes Thompson Winfree.

Certificate of Death: Silas Dean Denny #28797 – State of Tennessee, Department of Health
 State of Tennessee, County of Putnam, Cookeville
 Residence: 301 Oak, Cookeville, Putnam Co, TN
 Male: White: Widow:
 Date of Birth: 1 December 1854 – Place of Birth: Rock Springs, TN
 Date of Death: 30 December 1934: 80 yrs. old
 Occupation: Cabinet Maker, Retired 3 yrs.
 Father's Name: Jonathan Denny: Birthplace: TN
 Mother's Name: Agnes Winfrey: Birthplace: Unobtainable: *Census 1860 states born in TN – 1880 census states born in TN & 1880 census states born in TN.*
 Informant: Mrs. Gertrude Dillard, Cookeville, TN
 Undertaker: Pendergrass Funeral Home, Cookeville, TN
 I Hereby Certify, death is said to have occurred on the date stated above at 11:00 p.m. - Angina Pectoris
 Place of Burial: Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN



Silas & his daughter Gertrude (Dillard) Denny. Silas s/o Jonothan & Agnes (Thompson) Denny. Putnam County 1890 Buffalo Valley, TN: lists; S&T furniture and carpenters. Silas and his brother Thompson Luther were running this business.

*See Chapter 5 at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>



Home of Albert Stanton and Mary Frances Jared built in 1892 by Silas Denny.

Picture courtesy of Evelyn Stanton Harding.

Pictured in the book: Stray Leaves of Putnam County, by Mary Hopson, pg. 206.