

## DENNY'S SEMINARY MEMORIAL CHURCH (#63)

**Source:** Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

Pg. 19: A tract of land, 150' square, belonging to Virgil T. and Audra Denny, was sold for \$5.00 to the trustees of Maddux Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church, namely Matt Sadler, P. T. Haggard, R. F. Shanks, Mrs. Ernie Plunket, and L. A. Shanks in the year 1926. This tract was specified for a church to be built on the land within one year. The church was dedicated in 1927 and became known as Denny's Memorial Methodist Church. It was organized with Virgil T. Denny as Superintendent of the Sunday School, he showed his superior knowledge of the Bible by teaching the adult class and also serving as elder. Walter and Luke Shanks were also elders. Walter Shanks lent a special touch to the singing with his big bass voice, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder", ringing throughout the building. Luke Shanks, who had served as Secretary-Treasurer in the Maddux Chapel Episcopal Methodist Church, continued on in this position. The three men were very instrumental in securing a minister and overseeing the building itself. Because of low attendance and structural defects, the church ceased to be around 1945 at this place designated as 150' square in 1926. The church continued to meet at the school building, called Denny's Seminary, which, too, was given by the Denny family much earlier and was built by the carpenter within the Denny family.

*Story submitted by: Carolyn Huddleston, Silver Point, TN.*

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**Byron BARTLETT** was born 18 March 1875 in Buffalo Valley, Putnam County, Tennessee, and died 13 September 1937. He was the son of Henry Bartlett and Illiaud McKee. He married Cora (Barnes) Bartlett and they had two children: Luke "Jack" Bartlett and Cora Bartlett who married Grady Suggs.

Byron Bartlett built the Denny's Memorial Methodist Church.

His siblings were: Edwin, Ova, Peter, Milton, Leah Annie, Ora, Hattie, Myrtie & Samuel "Sam" Bartlett.

Byron, Peter, Ewin, Ova, Milton, Sam, Byron and their mother Illiaud (McKee) Bartlett are all buried in the Young-Bartlett Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.



Cora (Barnes) Bartlett, w/o Byron Bartlett. Cora was the daughter of Jesse Crockett Barnes and his 1st wife Dorcas Morgan Montgomery. Jesse C. Barnes married 2<sup>nd</sup> Myrtle (Hurst) Broshear.