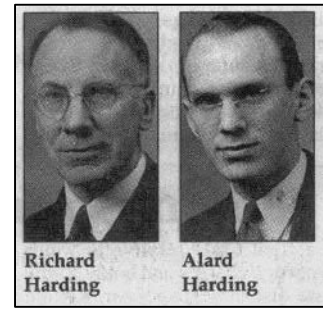


HARDING STUDIO
Cookeville's Past in Photography
By Jill Thomas
Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN
Sunday, 13 June 2004
<http://www.ajlambert.com>



In 1914 a young photographer from Indiana opened a studio in Cookeville, TN.

For the next 30 years, Richard Henry Harding made it his business to make Cookevillians look good. When he died in 1944, his son, Alard, continued the family business until 1974.

Now, some 65 of the more than 80,000 images taken by father and son at the Harding Studio between 1916 and 1974 will be highlighted in a new exhibit, *Images of Our Lives*, which opens Thursday at the Cookeville History Museum.

But the exhibit is not just about photos. Thanks to generous loans from the Tennessee State Museum, Tennessee Tech (which now owns the Harding Studio collection and photos) and to private donors, museum curator Larry Slaboda has been able to place on display the original turn of the 20th century equipment used by Richard Harding.

“I was flabbergasted at what they had (at the Tennessee State Museum). I envisioned a medium-sized studio camera or two, something boxy you could set on a table or hold in your hands,” Slaboda said.

Instead, he found himself displaying huge, mounted cameras and five-foot-long enlargers that practically took up all the display areas in the little museum.

Cameras featured in the exhibit include:

A Graflex Century Master Studio Camera and stand made by Bausch & Lomb, an optics company known today for contact lenses.

“It’s absolutely beautiful,” Slaboda said. “It looks almost new.”

The wooden gears and braces have a quality that 100 years has not lessened and a shine that has improved through age and handling.

All visitors to the exhibit will automatically get a close-up view of the camera since they have to walk around it to get to the rest of the exhibit. The only place Slaboda could find that was large enough to hold the camera was in the center of the room.

There is a revolving circuit camera.

“They didn’t have a wide-angle lens, so they used this to get the same effect,” Slaboda said.

The camera is set on a tripod on top of a sort of lazy-susan turntable. The people to be in the photo were placed in a semi-circle and the camera panned across them very slowly. When the photo was developed the semi-circle look was gone and everyone seemed to be standing in a straight line.

“There’s a photo in the archives of Tennessee Tech where the east dorm and the west dorm appear to be standing side by side,” Slaboda said.

The most familiar photo from many which illustrate the workings of the circuit camera is the one in the permanent collection of the museum showing Dibrell’s 8th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment. It pictures a line of men on horseback in a wide-angle view of the Civil War vets. Even knowing that the men had not been in a straight line, but in a semi-circle, doesn’t change the effect of the photo.

There’s an elegant studio camera from about 1890 with a brass-enclosed French lens donated by Caroline Lowe Brown of Cookeville.

There are many more cameras on display. Slaboda became so fascinated by the old equipment that he set up a “photographic time-line as part of the exhibit. Cameras in that part of the exhibit. Cameras in the display include a variety from early hand-held cameras to old Brownies to a 1960’s James Bond spy camera.

In addition to the old cameras, the Harding Studio part of the exhibit includes ancient wooden boxes and glass plates, carbon arc spotlights and assorted memorabilia that Mary Harding Johns – Alard’s daughter, now a Cookeville dentist – saved after the studio was shut down and then donated to the Tennessee Tech State Museum.

But the main things in this striking exhibit are of course, the photos:

Elegant black and white portraits of women in the fashion of the day with hair styles that date from the 1920’s through the 1940’s.

A team shot of the girl’s basketball team at the former Darwin School, a school for African Americans in west Cookeville, perhaps from the 1940’s.

A hand-colored photo of a child’s funeral done in pastels that make the situation look cheery and surreal:

One of the many aerial shots taken by Alard Harding as he lay on the floor of an airplane with friends holding his legs to keep him from falling out:

A Christmas photo of four happy children sitting on the hard floor in front of a Christmas tree, each with one gift a piece.

And on and on.

Who are the people in the photos?

We may never know.

“Richard Harding had his own filing system,” said Slaboda. “He filed photos under the names of the people who paid the bills, not the subjects of the pictures. We may never know who the people are in these shots,” he said.

“Some day I’d like to open this up and display everything and have the community come in and see if they can identify their relatives,” he said.

The photographic studio was a family affair with father and son behind the camera: Alard’s wife, Mary (called “Lovey” by family and friends), doing the hand coloring of prints and the oil backgrounds; and Alard’s young nephew, Richard, helped with the proofs during his high school years.

But the studio on Cookeville’s Westside business district was closed in the 1970’s when the photography industry began to go through so many changes and Lovey’s health was deteriorating.

For years, all the old glass plates and negatives, equipment and history were boxed up in the attic of the former studio on Broad St. Then the material was divided up and given to Tennessee Tech to borrow their collections,” Slaboda said.

“After that, putting it all together became a career!” he added.

“We could never have done this without the help we received,” he museum director Judy Dukes. “We were able to put this together with only \$4,000 and an additional \$1,000 that was donated by the Friends of the History Museum.”

“Everybody - - the Tennessee State Museum, TTU, private donors - - everybody donated so much. And vices department was invaluable in helping with the images. We can’t thank Mansil Johnson and Dean Carothers enough for their help,” she said.

The exhibit opens this coming Thursday, June 17, 2004, at 10 a.m. The Cookeville History Museum is located at 144 Lowe Ave. in Cookeville, TN, south of the Courthouse Square and across from the back of the Justice Center. Museum hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Call (931) 520-5455 for additional information.



Cookeville’s Past in Photography
Photo by Camille Fliss

Mary Linda Harding Johns, Alard Harding’s daughter and Steve Johns, both Cookeville dentists, and her cousin, Richard Harding, at right, who holds a photo of his and Mary Linda’s grandfather, the late Richard Henry Harding who founded the Harding Studio in Cookeville, TN.

Harding Photo Exhibit Opening
Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN
16 June 2004

Late 19th century photographic equipment and vintage photos taken in Putnam County highlight the new exhibit opening today at the Cookeville History Museum.

The exhibit is free to the public and features the work of father-son team who recorded portraits of the people and many of the goings-on in Putnam County from 1914-1974.

Early equipment owned and created by Richard Harding has been loaned to the museum from the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville and Tennessee Tech has loaned the museum photos from its collection of more than 80,000 photos negatives and pictures from the Harding Studio.

While the grand opening for the exhibit was to be held at 4 p.m. today, it may be viewed after today during regular museum hours – Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Cookeville History Museum is at 144 Lowe Ave. in Cookeville, across from the Putnam Justice Center, TN.

Call: (931) 520-5455 for additional information.



At Cookeville History Museum
Herald-Citizen Newspaper: 20 June 2004-Page7
Photo by: Shawn Sidwell

Family members of the late Richard and Allard Harding, two generations of photographers who operated studios in Cookeville for 60 years, from 1914 until 1974, gathered last week at the Cookeville History Museum for the grand opening of a retrospective exhibit featuring the Hardings' work and the equipment they used when photography was still in its youth. From left are Dr. Steve Johns; Mary Jennifer Johns; Chandler Johns; Dr. Mary Linda Johns, daughter of Alard and granddaughter of Richard Harding; Andrew Johns; Jucille Davis, longtime employee in the Harding Studio; Ruth Harding and Richard Harding, grandson of Richard Henry Harding; Donna Thomsen, a granddaughter, and Bill Thomsen; and Ursa Jean Burris, also a granddaughter, and Gene Burris. Hours for the museum, in a yellow house at 144 South Lowe Ave., across from the Putnam County Justice Center, are 10 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each Thursday, Friday and Saturday; admission is free, and the public is welcomed. For information, call (931) 520-5455.

Alard Clark Harding – b. 20 January 1915, TN – d. 4 October 1980, Putnam Co., TN
(1st Lt. U.S. Army WWII)

Mary “Lovey” (Wayenberg) Harding – b. 25 December 1913 – d. 31 October 1986
Both Buried: Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN

Donald Henry Harding – b. 24 July 1911, Logansport, IN – d. 13 January 1956, TN,
s/o **Richard Henry Harding** (1883-1943) & **Ursa Carpenter** (1887-1956).

Edith (Palk) Harding – b. 31 January 1916 – d. 12 December 1983, d/o

William B. Palk & Alice Delina Randolph.

Both Buried: Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN



Alard Clark Harding



Young Donald Henry Harding poses for his father, Richard Henry Harding early in the last century. Harding opened Harding Studios in the early 1900s and another son, Alard Harding took over and operated the studio into the 1960s.

Picture taken from the Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN on Sunday, 29 August 2004.

1900 Census 13th Dist., Broadway, Eel, Cass, IN

Dwl: 1805 – 88 – 91

Richard A. Harding is head of household, 57 yrs. old, b. February 1843, Jamacia W. I., md 19 yrs. to **Charlotte A.**, 42 yrs. old, b. September 1857, Canada (Eng), (father born in England, mother, Canada (Eng), 4 children born, 4 children living. Children: **Richard H.**, 17 yrs. old, b. January 1883, IN; Karl, 14 yrs. old, b. March 1886, IN; Bertha, 11 yrs. old, b. October 1888, IN & Inez Harding, 8 yrs. old, b. March 1892, IN.

1910 Census Ward 5, Logansport, Cass, IN

Dwl: 1618 – 457 - 480

Richard H. Harding is head of household, 26 yrs. old, IN, Occupation: Mail Clerk Station Railroad, md to **Ursa**, 23 yrs. old, IN. Child: Richard Harding, 11/12 yrs. old, IN.

1920 Census 1st Dist., Putnam Co., TN – Washington Ave.

Dwl: 246 Family: 277 Line: 54

Harding, Richard (H)enry Head M W Owns 37 Married Photographer Studio IN Canada Canada

Harding, Ursa Wife F W 32 Married IN IN IN

Harding, Donald (H)enry Son M W 8 IN IN IN

(Donald Harding, born 24 Jul. 1911, IN – died 13 Jan. 1956 md Edith Palk, born 31 January 1916 – died 12 Dec. 1983. Both buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN).

Harding, Alard (C)lark Son M W 4 11/12 TN IN IN

(Alard Clark Harding, born 4 Jan. 1915, TN – died 4 Oct. 1980. He md Mary “Lovey” Wayenberg, born 25 Dec. 1913 – died 31 Oct. 1986, both buried in the Crest Lawn Cemetery, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN).

Social Security Death Index:

Name: **Alard Harding**

SSN: 411-07-7151

Last Residence: 38501 Cookeville, Putnam, Tennessee, U.S.A

Born: 20 Jan 1915
Died: Oct 1980 State (Year)
SSN issued: Tennessee (Before 1951)
Name: **Donald H. Harding**
SSN: 408-76-3589
Last Residence: 37206 Nashville, Davidson, **Tennessee**, U. S. A
Born: 13 Jan 1951
Last Benefit: 37206 Nashville, Davidson, Tennessee, U. S. A
Died: 15 Dec 1997 State (Year)
SSN issued: Tennessee (1963)

Herald Citizen Newspaper:

(May 29, 1913) R.L. Harding has opened a photography studio here. He was associated for past two years with the W.S. Lively photographic business in McMinnville and has purchased the Baxter Studio here and moved his family to Cookeville. John Baxter is returning to his home in Delaware.



IMAGES COMMENDED

Photography in Cookeville, TN

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN 2005

Lara Brossoit, at left, holds the 'Award of Commendation' presented recently by the Tennessee Association of Museums to the Cookeville History Museum for its exhibit, 'Images of Our Lives: The Harding Studio, 'designed and constructed by her father, Larry Slaboda, who died last June after completing the work. Clockwise around a giant camera from the studio operated in Cookeville by Richard H. Harding and his son Alard are, in back, Steve Johns; Richard Harding, grandson of Richard H. Harding; Mary Linda Johns, daughter of Alard Harding; Judy Duke, Cookeville museums administrator; and Madison Brossoit, Lara's daughter. The free exhibit will continue through May at 144 South Lowe Ave, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN.



HARDING STUDIO

The Harding Studio had its beginnings long before it opened its doors on Broad Street in 1916. Five years earlier Richard Henry Harding, a young man from Logansport, Indiana enrolled at the Southern School of Photography in McMinnville. His instructor, a renowned photographer, W. S. Lively, thought so highly of his student that he asked him to run the Lively Studios there, which he did. Later, while still a student, he opened his own studio on Cookeville's City Square... He moved it to West Broad Street in 1916, a location that was to become home to two generations of the Harding family business, and a location that seventy five years later would be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, a lasting tribute to the contributions to local history preserved in the product of this business.. thousands of images recording the lives and times of those generations that they served.

Picture of Richard Henry Harding and information found at the Cookeville History Museum, Cookeville, TN.

Alard Clark Harding Obt.

COOKEVILLE – Alard C. Harding, who for many years operated the Harding Studio of photography on Cookeville’s Westside, died Saturday morning, Oct. 4, 1980, at his home here.

Funeral services will be conducted in the chapel of Hooper & Huddleston Funeral Home on Monday at 1 p.m. Mr. Harding was 65.

He was a veteran of World War II and a member of the First United Presbyterian Church.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Sunday night from 7-9.

Officiating at Monday’s services will be the Rev. David Campbell. Burial will be in Crest Lawn Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Mary “Lovey” Wayenberg Harding; a daughter, Mary Linda Harding Johns; and a nephew, Richard Harding.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Hooper & Huddleston Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN: 5 October 1980.



Pictured is Alard Clark Harding (1915-1980). He became the first Eagle Scout of Putnam County on December 28, 1928. He had earned 28 merit badges at that point. Troop No. 12 was chartered in 1912 and later became Troop No. 108 as the districts were reorganized in 1930. Alard was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henry Harding, who founded Harding Studio in 1913 and who took this photograph as well as numerous others in this publication. Courtesy of Dr. Steve Johns.

Source: Images of America Cookeville and Putnam County, TN, pg. 71.



Alard Harding, Cookeville’s first Eagle Scout, entered the U. S. Army in the Spring of 1942. He took basic training at Fort Benning, GA, after which he was assigned to the 66th Armored Regiment. He served in France where he attained the rank of 1st Lieutenant in WWII. He was discharged in 1945. He held the Bronze Star and other decorations.

R. H. HARDING: The Photographer.

Mr. R. H. Harding the gentleman who performed the photographic work for the edition was born at Logansport, IN, and learned photography under Mr. W. S. Lively in McMinnville, one of the finest photographers in the United States. At Mr. Lively's request he took charge of the Lively Studio and conducted same until time of purchasing the Cookeville studio last May. Mr. Harding understands "At Home" portraiture and has modern equipment for making pictures in the home. He is much pleased with Cookeville, its future prospects, and likes the people.



(Pictured: Richard Henry Harding – photo by Harding Studios).

Putnam County Herald, Thursday, 2 April 1914.

Harding's Photo Studio To Be Enlarged

Will Move To New Quarters Recently Purchased In West Cookeville

One of the most important real estate deals that has been made in Cookeville for some time, and one that should mean a great deal to the city's future was the purchase by R. H. Harding of the brick building, formerly known as the Watts' Drug Building, laying between the stores of Jenkins & Darwin Bros. and A. L. Neely, is West Cookeville. Mr. Harding will immediately go to work having the building put in order and equipped for a modern up-to-date photographic studio, and it goes without saying that when Mr. Harding does a thing, it is well done, for he has earned that reputation since his sojourn in Cookeville began, as thoroughly as any business man who could be named. He came to Cookeville about eight years ago, having then purchased a small photographic business which was even at that time apparently insignificant with reference to volume of business done, and he has gradually built it up until today he has a most flourishing establishment because he has refused absolutely to turn out anything but first class work, which compares favorably with that of any city photographer, and he is recognized as one of the leaders in his profession.

Mr. Harding has planned his studio along modern lines and will have it conveniently equipped with reception, dressing rooms, and studio on the ground floor, with all finishing and work rooms on the second. He will be in a position to take photographs by flash, electric, or daylight according to the whims and fancies of the weather, or his patrons; he will have the stairway changed to an inside entrance instead of outside, as it now is, and will in fact have the whole building renovated to suit the most artistic tastes.

The Herald feels that Cookeville is more than fortunate in the decision Mr. Harding has made to remain with us permanently, for it goes to show that we have some wonderful opportunities, and with men like R. H. Harding to help boost and build the town, we may reasonably expect the future to be exceptionally bright, for this, the metropolis of the Cumberland Plateau.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 4 January 1921.

Harding Attains Honor For Superb Work:

Word has just come of the distinction awarded our fellow townsman, R. H. Harding, in an exhibit and competition at the Golden Anniversary Convention of the Photographers Association of America, just concluded from July 21st to 24th, at Milwaukee, WI. The Harding Studio was permitted to exhibit three fine examples of the photographers art, a likeness of a man, of a woman, and of a mother and child. This contest was open to members all over the United States and Canada, and it is indeed a unique and highly prized honor to be thus selected as a craftsman capable of producing work of the highest order. Those three photographs will compose a part of the Traveling Loan Exhibit of the Association and will be shown in all the principal cities of the U. S. and Canada, and will be displayed in the widows of the Harding Studio soon.

We are proud of our townsman and his splendid work.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 7 August 1930

Lieut. Alard C. Harding

Lt. A. C. Harding formerly stationed at Camp Campbell, KY-TN, was here to spend Easter Sunday with his parents, Mrs. and Mrs. R. H. Harding. Lt. Harding is now at Ft. Knox, KY, where he is taking special training in tactics. Joining him here for a weekend visit were Mr. and Mrs. Donald Harding and children of Owasso, MI.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 29 April 1943

Lieut. Alard C. Harding, U. S. Army, Promoted:

First Lieutenant Alard C. Harding, U. S. Army, now serving somewhere in Germany, has recently been promoted from the rank of a Second Lieutenant to his present rank, according to information received by his mother, Mrs. R. H. Harding, of Washington Avenue.

Lieut. Harding has been with an Armored Tank Division serving with the Ninth Army since going overseas the early part of last year and at the present in maintenance and executive officer of a Headquarters Company of the Ninth Army. He was in England, France, and other combat areas in Europe before going into Germany.

He is a graduate of Tennessee Tech, receiving his degree there in 1936 at which time he was also awarded the Science Medal. Since entering the service, he was stationed at Ft. Knox, KY, and Ft. Benning, GA. At Ft. Knox, he was commissioned a second Lieutenant.

Lieut. Harding is married and his wife, Mrs. Mary Weyenberg Harding, is residing in Louisville, KY. In civilian life, he was associated in business with his father, the late R. H. Harding, who earned and operated the Harding Studio.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 15 March 1945.

Lieut Alard C. Harding Awarded Bronze Star

First Lieutenant Alard C. Harding, who has been in the European Theatre of War for the past year is now stationed in Germany, and is with the 67th Armored Division and wears on his shoulder loop a green strip (showing combat troop leader) on which is the regimental insignia. Lieut. Harding saw service in France and was in the Battle of the Belgium Bulge. He has been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement against the enemy on January 10. On his ETO Ribbon are four battle stars.

Since V-E Day he has spent much time in Germany, and for several weeks was stationed in Berlin. He recently sent his mother, Mrs. R. H. Harding, a collection of interesting snapshots made during his stay there, showing buildings of historic interest, famous statues (not destroyed by bombs), views of Linden, once considered the most famous street in Europe, and many others. In a recent letter, Lieut. Harding states "the total devastation and destruction of Berlin is beyond imagination until one has seen it – it really is an education. His homecoming is indefinite.

The junior Mrs. Harding makes her home in Louisville, KY, while he is away on foreign duty.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 30 August 1945.

The Hardings Return From Visit With Daughter:

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Harding, their son and daughter, Richard and Donna Harding, have returned from a two week's visit in Little Creek, VA, which is located near Norfolk. They were guests of their daughter and sister, Mrs. V. E. Burris, Jr., Mr. Burris and infant son. Mr. Burris is stationed there with the United States Navy.

The Hardings went especially to see their grandson and nephew born, July 29, who has been given the name of Ronald Mark. He and his parents are receiving numerous congratulations from any friends here, their former home, and their circle of naval friends. Mrs. Burris is the former Miss Jean Harding and the baby's paternal grandparents, are Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Burris of Cookeville.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 25 August 1955.

Richard Henry Harding

b. 13 January 1883, Logansport, Cass Co., IN

d. 12 January 1943, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

Wife: Ursa Carpenter, md 18 August 1908, Logansport, Cass Co., IN

Father: Richard Alexander Harding

Mother: Charlotte Ann Wales

Richard Henry Harding was born in Logansport, Indiana January 13, 1883, receiving his preparatory education in the local schools. He finished his literary education in the International Correspondence School of Scranton, PA in 1900 and entered upon his business career as a printer in 1898 until 1905. Mr. Harding was in the Railway Mail Service from 1905 to 1912, and during this time he also studied photography. In 1913 he graduated from the Southern School of Photography at McMinnville, TN.

He married Miss Ursa Carpenter of Logansport, IN August 19, 1909.

He moved to Cookeville, TN in 1913 and opened the Harding Studio, known as the best equipped studio between Nashville and Knoxville. The Photographic Association has repeatedly recognized the high quality of Mr. Harding's work.

Ursa (Carpenter) Harding Obt.

b. 17 February 1887, Logansport, Cass Co., IN – d. 17 March 1956, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 18th of August 1908, Logansport, Cass Co., IN to **Richard Henry Harding**, b. 13 January 1883, Logansport, IN – d. 12 January 1943, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Richard Alexander Harding & Charlotte Ann Wales**. Richard Henry Harding and Ursa (Carpenter) Harding are buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Logansport, Cass Co., IN. Ursa (Carpenter) Harding's brother was **James Richard Carpenter** md to **Ethel Barker**, buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Logansport, Cass Co., IN.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ursa Carpenter Harding, 69, were conducted this morning at Logansport, IN. Mrs. Harding, a native of Indiana, died Saturday night of a heart attack at Cookeville General hospital.

Mrs. Harding was a member of the First Presbyterian church, the Woman's Guild, and had held offices in the Eastern Star, Business and Professional Women's Club and Parent-Teacher association.

She was a member of the OES 35 years and was an officer 26 years, serving as matron in 1921-22.

She had lived in Cookeville since 1913 and was associated with her husband in the photo-graphic business until his death in 1944. After, she and her son, Alard, operated the business.

Local services were held Sunday night at Hooper and Huddleston funeral home with Dr. C. N. Sharpe, officiating.

Surviving besides her son, Alard Harding, is a sister, Mrs. Mary Zimmerman, Logansport, and four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 22 March 1956.

Donald Henry Harding

b. 24 July 1911, Logansport, Cass Co., IN – d. 13 January 1956, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md **Edith (Palk) Harding**, b. 31 January 1916, Putnam Co., TN – d. 12 December 1983, Nashville, Davidson Co., TN, d/o **William B. Palk** (1881-1962) & **Alice Delina Randolph** (1888-1975). Donald Henry Harding s/o **Richard Henry Harding** (1911-1956) & **Ursa Carpenter** (1887-1956), both buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Logansport, Cass Co., IN.

*See Edith (Palk) Harding Obt.

*See Richard Lee Harding Obt.

(TN Death Record #56-03663: Donald Henry Harding, b. 24 July 1911, Logansport, IN - d. 13 January 1956, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN. Name of Hospital: Cookeville General Hospital. Usual Occupation: Mechanic, self employed. Was deceased every in US Armed Forces: Yes, Peace Time. Father, Richard Harding. Mother: Ursa Carpenter. Informant: Mrs. D. H. Harding, Cookeville, TN. Cause of Death: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, 2 hrs. How injury occurred: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning while doing auto repairs at home in workshop, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN. I hereby certify that the deceased died on the date and from the cause stated: Jack L. Clark, Cookeville TN. Burial: Crest Lawn Cemetery, Cookeville, TN. Funeral Director: Whitson Funeral Home, Cookeville, TN).

Edith (Palk) Harding Obt.

b. 31 January 1916, Putnam Co., TN – d. 12 December 1983, Nashville, Davidson Co., TN, md **Donald Henry Harding**, b. 24 July 1911, Logansport, Cass Co., IN – d. 13 January 1956, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Richard Henry Harding** (1911-1956) & **Ursa Carpenter** (1887-1956). Edith (Palk) Harding, d/o **William B. Palk** (1881-1962) & **Alice Delina Randolph** (1888-1975).

*See Donald Henry Harding buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery.

*See Richard Lee Harding Obt.

Services for Mrs. Edith Harding Maynard, 67, are set for 1 p.m. today, Wednesday, in the chapel of Whitson Funeral Home with Bro. Bob Spurlin officiating. Burial will be in the Crestlawn Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Maynard, of First st. in Algood, died Monday at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville after an extended illness.

A native of Putnam County, she was the daughter of the late W.B. and Alice Randolph Palk. She was a retired merchant and the former owner/operator of Harding-Maynard Grocery in Algood. She was a member of the Algood Church of Christ.

She is survived by a son, Richard Harding of Cookeville; two daughters, Mrs. Jean Burris of Crossville and Mrs. Donna Thompson of Aberdeen, Maryland; a sister, Mrs. Louise Lewis of Washington; two brothers, Bill Palk of Baxter and Ed Palk of Bloomington Springs; two grandchildren, Mark Burris of Crossville and Kimela Dooley of Spartanburg, South Carolina; and a great-grandson.

Whitson Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Anna Ruth (McDonald) Copley Harding Obt.

b. 8 September 1938, Clarkrange, Fentress Co., TN – d. 26 May 2017, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 21st of August 1988, Putnam Co., TN to **Richard Lee Harding**, b. 23 March 1938, Owasso, MI – d. 7 December 2018, Putnam Co., TN, (US Navy), s/o **Donald Henry Harding** (1911-1956) & **Edith Palk** (1916-1983). Anna Ruth (McDonald) Copley Harding, d/o **Arthur William “John” McDonald** (1919-1988) & **Fonzie Parris** (1918-?), both buried in Fentress Memory Gardens, Jamestown, Fentress Co., TN.

Anna Ruth (McDonald) Copley Harding also md on the 6th of February 1960, Fentress Co., TN to **Harold Edwin Copley**.

*See Richard Lee Harding Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Fentress Co., TN, pg. 287 – Harold Edwin Copley married 6 February 1960, Fentress Co., TN, age 21, address: Jamestown, TN to Anna Ruth McDonald, age 21, address: Jamestown, TN. Female's parents, guardian, or next of kin: Father: Arthur McDonald. Mother: Fonzie Parris, Jamestown, TN).

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 455 – Richard Lee Harding married 21 August 1988, Putnam Co., TN, age 50, b. 23 March 1938, address: 365 N. Washington, Cookeville, TN to Anna Ruth Copley, age 49, b. 8 September 1938, address: 800 E. Spring St., Cookeville, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Janet Copley, 612 S. Willow, Cookeville, TN).

COOKEVILLE — Anna Ruth McDonald Harding, 78 of Cookeville, Tennessee passed from this life Friday, May 26, 2017, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Harding was born Thursday, Sept. 8, 1938, in Clarkrange. She was the daughter of Fonzie (Parris) McDonald and the late Arthur (John) McDonald.

Mrs. Harding was a member of Algood United Methodist Church. She retired from Cookeville Regional Medical Center as an administrative assistant to the director of nursing.

In addition to her mother, her family includes her husband, Richard L. Harding, of Cookeville; two brothers and one sister-in-law, Tom and Susan McDonald of Brentwood and Henry McDonald of Jamestown.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Janet Swafford, and one brother.

Mrs. Harding had chosen cremation and a memorial service may be held at a later date.

Donations may be made to Algood United Methodist Church for the columbarium and the memorial wall.

Please visit www.crestlawnmemorial.com and sign the online guest register and send a message to the family.

Crest Lawn Funeral Home-Cremation Center is in charge of arrangements.

Richard Lee Harding Obt.

b. 23 March 1938, Owasso, MI – d. 7 December 2018, Putnam Co., TN, (US Navy), md on the 21st of August 1988, Putnam Co., TN to **Anna Ruth (McDonald) Copley Harding**, b. 8 September 1938, Clarkrange, Fentress Co., TN – d. 26 May 2017, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Arthur William “John” McDonald** (1919-1988) & **Fonzie Parris** (1918-?). Richard Lee Harding, s/o **Donald Henry Harding** (1911-1956) & **Edith Palk** (1916-1983), both buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

*See Anna Ruth (McDonald) Copley Harding Obt.

*See Donald Henry Harding buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 455 – Richard Lee Harding married 21 August 1988, Putnam Co., TN, age 50, b. 23 March 1938, address: 365 N. Washington, Cookeville, TN to Anna Ruth Copley, age 49, b. 8 September 1938, address: 800 E. Spring St., Cookeville, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Janet Copley, 612 S. Willow, Cookeville, TN).

COOKEVILLE — A celebration of life for Richard Lee Harding, 80, of Cookeville, will be held at noon Saturday, Dec. 22, at Algood United Methodist Church.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until time of services Saturday at the church.

Richard passed from this life Friday, Dec. 7, 2018.

He was born Wednesday, March 23, 1938, in Owasso, Michigan to the late Donald Harding and Edith (Palk) Harding.



Richard grew up in Cookeville and was very active in Scouting, being one of three from Troop 108 who earned Eagle Scout Gold Palm, God and Country and Explorer Silver Award in the mid-1950s. After proudly serving in the Navy, he came back to Cookeville, attending Tennessee Tech and earning a degree in math. Then, spending a brief stint in Maryland, he moved home to open a family business, Exotic Tropicals, with his uncle and aunt, Alard and Lovey Harding.

(Pictured: Richard Lee Harding, Junior at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute 1960, Cookeville, TN. TPI Eagle Yearbook 1960).

He is survived by two sisters, Ursa Jean Burris of Crossville, Tennessee, and Donna Thomsen of Cookeville, Tennessee.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Anna Ruth Harding.

A special thank you to Dennis and Pam George whose love and support blessed Richard and Ruth in so many ways.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Algood Methodist Church.

Pastor Albert Willis will officiate at the services.

Please visit www.crestlawnmemorial.com and sign the online guest register and send a message to the family.

Crest Lawn Funeral Home-Cremation Center in Cookeville is in charge of arrangements, 526-6384.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 16 December 2018

*Read more about the people of Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>

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