

**ABRAM "ABE" HENDERSON LYNCH  
MARTHA JANE WILKERSON LYNCH**

of Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN

By Don Wilson Lynch

106 Beets Avenue

Clinton, TN 37716

(865) 457-1725

Members of the First Families of Tennessee

**Abram "Abe" Henderson Lynch** was the son of **William "Billy" Burr Lynch** (b. 12/12/1850- d. 12/13/1937) and his first wife, **Lenora Frances "Franny" Flat Anderson Lynch** (b. 8/18/1844 or 1846 – d. 10/2/1897).

He was born 9/2/1877 at Sullivans Bend, Smith County, Tennessee. He died 8/1/1961 at St. Thomas Hospital in Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee. The cause of death was Acute Myocardial Infarction of 6 days, due to Diabetes Mellitus that he had had for 2 months. He is **buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Cookeville, Tennessee.**



Abe Lynch was a "Funny Man". He was quiet and did not talk a lot. He was short in height and had strong, large hands. He was a rough, tuff person and you did not want to mess with Abe Lynch.

(Pictured: Abe Lynch, left, son William H. "Willie", center, wife Martha, holding daughter Sally).

Abe did things when he wanted to and not when it was necessary to do them. He "did his thing" and it did not matter what people thought or said. He could cook, can vegetables, and sew as good as any woman. He kept a clean house and born with a green thumb, he always had a large garden each year. An excellent carpenter, he would do repair work and help build houses for his neighbors.

A strong Democrat, he would always go to Cookeville, Tennessee to vote and he would help count the votes after the election. Abe would always ask his grandson, Don Wilson Lynch, "Boy what are you" and Don would reply "Paw Paw", "I am a Democrat" and

grandfather Abe would reward him with a quarter.

He loved music and would lead singing at Camp Meeting Services" in Smith and Putnam Counties. A member of the Buffalo Valley, Tennessee Church of Christ, he was their Musical Director for many years. Abe did not teach a Sunday School Class but helped with the communion.

Never owning a car, he walked to where he wanted to go. He never talked about himself or his family.

On 9/26/1897, Abe married **Martha Jane Wilkerson** in Smith County, Tennessee. Martha was born 5/26/1881 and died 4/5/1916 in Putnam County, Tennessee of complications of child birth. She was buried at Rittenberry Hill near Buffalo Valley, Putnam County, Tennessee where she and Abe lived. **(See letter to Don Lynch from Hazel Bates from Buffalo Valley, TN).** The neighbors dug her grave. Abe later moved her body to the Lynch Cemetery in Sullivan's Bend, Tennessee.

An excellent seamstress, she taught her daughters how to sew.

After her death, her oldest daughter, Sally Lynch Russell, sewed for her brothers and sisters at the age of 14.

Martha was described by her family and friends who knew her as “A joy by everyone who knew her”. “Sweet and kind to everyone she met.”

She was a loving mother to her children. Abe and Martha’s children were: William Henderson, Alfred Eligea, Sally Jane, Oliver W., Floy Mae, Cecil, Mary Margie, Leon W. “Dick”, Eva Lillian, and Martha Ova.

Alfred Eligea Lynch died from an accidental gunshot wound obtained by one of the children while they were playing around the fireplace. He was around 2 years of age.

Cecil Lynch died of Pneumonia at an early age.

In August of 1928, Abe purchased land in Buffalo Valley, Tennessee on Hamer Street from Anna and Ennis Upchurch. The children attended Rock Springs, Gentry and Buffalo Valley Schools.



(Pictured: The Abe Lynch house in Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN)

William Henderson Lynch was the eldest son of Abe and Martha Lynch. He was born 11/2/1898 in the Dillard’s Creek Community, Smith County, Tennessee. He died 9/21/1985 at Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge located in Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Tennessee of Acute Respiratory Failure and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. “Willie” married Irma Wilson Thompson on 10/6/192 in Gentry, Putnam County, Tennessee. Irma was

born 1/9/1903 in Baxter, Putnam County, Tennessee. She died 12/27/1995 at Methodist Medical Center, Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Tennessee of Congestive Heart Failure caused by Aortic Stenosis and Terminal Arrhythmias.

Irma is a descendant of the Johnathan “Jack” Alexander Newman Family that migrated from Somerset, Kentucky to the Rock Springs – Buffalo Valley Community in the early 1800’s. This valley was also known as the “Newman Valley”.

Johnathan “Jack” Alexander Newman married Jane Smith. One of the 7 children was James “Alex” Newman (1857-1894) who married Martha Evans (1860-1894). James and Martha had a daughter, Betty Leona (b. 4/11/1885 – d. 8/9/1969) who married Taylor Thompson (b. 10/24/1878 – d. 1/7/1965). Taylor and Betty had a daughter Irma Wilson who married William H. Lynch.

Willie was a graduate from the old Gentry High School, located in Gentry, Putnam County, Tennessee and graduated in 1917. He was a very talented baseball and basketball player. “Willie’s coach and teacher, Professor Sam McCuskey, was from Germany. He wanted “Willie” to return to Germany with him and play basketball in Germany but his father said no. An excellent outdoorsman, “Willie” loved to hunt and go fishing with his uncle, Homer B. Lynch. “Willie” never killed doves. He called them the “Peace Birds” and he said that “No one should kill these creatures of God.”

“Willie worked for the Coca Cola Company in Cookeville, Tennessee for 23 years. He also worked for the Packard Motor Company in Detroit for almost 2 years. In 1944 and 1945, the family moved to Oak Ridge,

Tennessee where “Willie” worked for Union Carbide. He retired from the Y-12 Plant in 1963. Irma and “Willie” were members of the Highland View Church of Christ in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. “Willie” was also responsible for counting the offering after each Sunday’s church service. After “Willie’s” death, Irma attended the Karnes Church of Christ in Karnes, Tennessee.

Irma was a homemaker. She loved to work in her garden and flowers. Born with a green thumb, she was famous for her green beans and tomatoes. Like her mother-in-law, Martha Lynch, she stressed to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, the importance of learning how to sew. An excellent seamstress, she was still making her own clothing at age 90. Irma loved music. She sang with the “Sweet Adelines” for 11 years.

Children of Irma and William Lynch are: Betty Willene, Robert James, Doris Jean, and Don Wilson Lynch.

### **OLIVER W. LYNCH**

Oliver W. Lynch, was the son of Abe and Martha Lynch. He was born in Buffalo Valley, Putnam County, Tennessee on 8/5/1904 and died 12/10/1995 at Masters Health Care Center in Algood, Tennessee. The cause of death was Cardio-Pulmonary Arrest due to Coronary Artery Disease. He is buried in Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, Tennessee. On 8/29/1929, he married Beulah Pearl Adcock, (b. 10/9/1907 – d. 10/11/1996). Oliver worked at the planning wood working factory for many years located in Cookeville, Tennessee. He was an insurance salesman for Woodman of the World and had an insurance office in Cookeville, Tennessee and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Woodman of World.

Oliver was a member of the Cookeville Shriners. He was awarded a certificate of appreciation for ten years or more loyal, dedicated, and untiring service to the order of the Eastern Star. This certificates was awarded by the Grand Chapter O.E.S. in Tennessee.

As a hobby, Oliver raised Bob White Quail and when they were old enough, he released them back into the wild throughout Putnam, Jackson and Smith County Tennessee.

Beulah was a housewife. She was a caregiver for several members of her family until their deaths.

### **SALLY OR SALLIE JANE LYNCH RUSSELL**

Sally Jane Lynch Russell was named after her step-grandmother Sally V. Lynch and her mother Martha Jane Lynch. She was born (8/16/1902) and died (7/5/1988) of a Cardio-Pulmonary Arrest at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, OH. She also had Dementia.

Sally married Clarence Garret Russell on 8/19/1923 (b. 5/25/1901 – d. 6/10/19?).

Sally was 14 when her mother died. She helped her father care for her younger brothers and sisters. An excellent seamstress, she made their clothing. She also sewed for people who lived in Buffalo Valley, Tennessee. The people that she sewed for would give her left over materials and she would make clothing for her family. After her marriage to Clarence, she lived near her father and helped him car for the children.

Sally and Clarence moved to Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio where Clarence was an inspector for the B. F. Goodrich Tire Company there. Sally was a housewife and also enjoyed gardening and growing flowers.

Sally and Clarence have 2 children: Mable Russell Baumgardner and Paul Lynch Russell “Bud”.

### **FLOY MAY LYNCH, GREEN, ROBINSON, HAZELWOOD**

Floy Mae Lynch, Green, Robinson, Hazelwood, was the daughter of Abe and Martha Lynch. She was born 8/26/1906 at Sullivan’s Bend, Tennessee. She died 11/24/1996 at University Medical Center, Lebanon,

Wilson County, Tennessee of Cardio-Respiratory Failure due to Arteriosclerosis-Generalized and Uro Sepsis-Bacteremia.

As a young girl, Floy came to work at the DuPont Company in Old Hickory, Tennessee. She met and married, William Green, Sr. (b. 11/2/1905 – d. 6/3/1972) on 9/16/1926. She and William lived on Jones Street in Old Hickory, Tennessee. When WWII broke out, Floy and William went to work at Vultee Aircraft. After the war was over, Floy went to work at the Vultee Aircraft. After the war was over, Floy went to work at the Hermitage, home of Andrew Jackson, as a guide until she retired. William worked as an engineer for the Old Hickory Coal and Ice Company until he retired.

Floy loved to crocket and sew and from the time that her granddaughter, Debbie Green Amman, was born until she went into Junior High School, just about all of her clothing was made by her grandmother. Floy would go to a store and see an outfit that she thought would look good on Debbie and then she would go home and cut out a pattern and make it. Many beautiful quilts and crocheted pieces were passed down to her family members. She was a good cook and many of her son, William's, friends would never pass up a chance to eat at the Green's.

Known for her beautiful flowers, Floy was known for prize winning roses. Many people would pass by her home in the summer to look at her flowers.

Floy's second husband was James Monroe Robinson, (b. 10/8/1896 – d. 8/21/1964). They were married 8/6/1955. They had no children.

Floy's third husband was Carson Eugene Hazelwood, (b. 3/4/1918- d. 11/14/1993). They were married on 4/3/1970. They had no children.

Floy's children were:

Lyda Willett Green, (b. 9/20/1927 – d. 9/20/1927)  
William Wesley Green Jr., (b. 1/19/1929)  
Edward Douglass Green, (b. 10/5/1931- d. 7/8/1932)

Floyd was a student at the Rock Springs and Buffalo Valley Schools, Putnam County, Tennessee.

### **MARY MARGIE “MARGE” LYNCH HOLMES**

Mary Margie Lynch Holmes was the daughter of Abe and Martha Lynch. She was born 12/17/1909 and died 1/17/1995, Buffalo Valley, Tennessee. As a young girl, she worked for Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Denton of Buffalo Valley, Tennessee. They bought her clothes and sent her to school. She went to the Rock Springs and Buffalo Valley, Putnam County, Tennessee, schools.

Like her mother, Martha, she had a great love for her family and friends. She always enjoyed planning the Lynch Family Reunion. She would take photographs of the family and kept scrap books of their progress each year.

Like her sister, Floy, Marge went to work as a factory worker and supervisor at the DuPont Company in Old Hickory, Tennessee. She was an active member of the Madison Ave. Church of Christ. She loved to shop for clothing and kept up with the latest fashions. She would make her clothing when she had the time to do so.

On 9/28/1940, Margie married Zollie B. Holmes (b. 8/13/1907 – d. 9/29/1984). Margie and Zollie had no children.

Margie died at the Oak Ridge Health Care Center, Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Tennessee of Cardio Pulmonary Failure to Septicemia, A.S.H.D., and Dementia. She is buried at the Spring Hill Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee.

Zollie was a supervisor at the DuPont Plant at Old Hickory, Tennessee. Margie and Zollie loved to travel and went on vacations with relatives.

### **LEON W. "DICK" LYNCH**

Leon W. Lynch was the son of Abe & Martha Wilkerson Lynch. He was born 1/15/1911 and died 8/25/2001 in Carthage, Smith County, Tennessee. He died at the Oak Ridge Health Care Center in Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Tennessee. Cause of death was C.O.P.D., Dementia, and complications from a recent Stroke.

"Dick" was also a student at the Rock Springs and Buffalo Valley Schools in Putnam County, Tennessee. "Dick" along with Bo Medley, then 21 and Jim Russell along with many other Buffalo Valley residents helped work on the Buffalo Valley School in the late 1920's. He was 18 at the time.

On 10/6/1937 he married Doris Hilda Neely, born 5/25/1913- d. 8/9/1993.

He was a WWII Veteran and served in the Army from 1943 to 1946 with the 661<sup>st</sup> Tank Destroyer Division. He was a avid hunter, golfer, and fisherman. He and his wife were active members of the First United Methodist Church in Old Hickory, Tennessee.

"Dick" owned and operated a small engine repair shop in Old Hickory, Tennessee. He lived in Old Hickory, and worked for the DuPont Company for 43 years in Chemicals and Security as a Guard Captain.

Doris and Dick loved to travel on hunting trips. They also vacationed with other family members. Doris was a homemaker.

"Dick" is buried at Hermitage Memorial Gardens, Hermitage, Tennessee.

"Dick" and Doris had no children.

### **EVA LILLIAN LYNCH, KNIGHT, CORNELL, PRUENTY**

Eva Lillian Lynch was the daughter of Abe and Martha Lynch. She was born 9/14/1914 and died 3/16/2001 at Belleville Nursing Home in Belleville, Ohio. Cause of death was Senile, Dementia. She is buried in the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Wadsworth, Ohio.

Eva married Edward Knight on 2/9/1931 or 1932. They were divorced in 1939. Eva Knight married in 1945, Don Cornell (b. 9/9/1907 – d. 10/9/1967). On 11/28/1968 Eva Knight Cornell married Olen Pruenty (b. 3/20/1925 – d. 8/19/1982). Edward Knight (b. 3/30/1906).

Eva had one child, Lloyd Edward Knight Cornell (b. 12/29/1932- d. 8/19/1982). Eva's second husband, Don Cornell, adopted Lloyd and changed his name to Lloyd Edward Cornell. Lloyd was born in Old Hickory.

Born also with a green thumb, Eva was an excellent gardener with many beautiful flowers surrounding her home and a kitchen garden to supply fresh vegetables in the summer. She also made lovely quilts and had an especially good eye for color combinations.

Eva worked for the Berben Citizens Hospital where she was head of the laundry department. She ran a "TUFF" ship. Like the Navy no wrinkles were allowed on the linen. Her second husband, Don Cornell, was a deputy sheriff for Summitt County in Akron, Ohio. Eva's third husband, Olen Pruenty, was retired when they married.

### **MARTHA OVAH "OVA" LYNCH PRITCHETT**

Martha Ovah Lynch Pritchett was the daughter of Abe and Martha Lynch. She was named after her mother, Martha, who died when she was born. She was born 4/5/1916 and died 1/11/2001 in the Rittenberry Hill Community.

Like her older brother "Willie" Lynch, she excelled in basketball. Her teacher and coach let Ovah shoot all of the foul shots for the basketball team. She was a student at the Rock Springs School and later when her family moved to Buffalo Valley she was a student there.

After Ovah's birth, her mother's best friend, Betty Leona Newman Thompson, cared for her until she was six weeks old. Older sister, Sally, also cared for her.

Ovah, like her older sister, "Margie", loved to plan the Lynch Family Reunions. She would also take photographs of the family and kept scrap books of their progress each year. Like her older sisters she also like to do garden work. An expert at needle work, she loved to make beautiful lace from tatting that she did herself.

One of her favorite pastimes was collecting and working picture and cross word puzzles. She also did beautiful quilting and sewed her own clothing.

On 10/29/1936 Ovah married James Cecil Pritchett (b. 6/14/1912 – d. 3/19/1991). James worked for the DuPont Company in Old Hickory, Tennessee. He retired from the DuPont Company. Ovah and James Cecil had 2 children. James Ray Pritchett born 1/23/1938 and his wife Doris and Jerry Wayne Pritchett born 1/31/1947 and his wife Judy.

Ovah shared many life time memories of growing up in Buffalo Valley, Tennessee with 2 of her grandchildren, Penny Pritchett Boyd and her brother, Larry Ray Pritchett.

She was a member of the Madison Church of Christ in Madison, Tennessee. Ovah is buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens. Cause of death was complications from a total hip replacement after she fell and broke it. She had to be placed in a nursing home. She later could not swallow and a feeding tube was inserted to give her nourishment. Later she contacted Pneumonia and passed away in a nursing home in Hendersonville, Tennessee.

Sources: "The Lynch Family of Sullivan's Bend, Tennessee" & "The Lynch-Wilkerson-Thompson Family History" by Don Wilson Lynch, 106 Beets Ave., Clinton, TN, (865) 457-1725.

This family history is in memory of Howard Western Lynch, William "Willie" E. Lynch, Homer B. Lynch, and Mrs. Beulah Thompson Bentley, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lynch & Betty Willene Lynch Mynatt.

We would like to thank the following members of the Abe Lynch family and the Taylor Thompson family for their help.

Carrie Thompson Mathis, Opal Thompson Hale, Zora Thompson Homes, Gail Mynatt Burgess, Paul and Mable Russell Baumgardner, William Green Jr., Lloyd and Pat Cornell, James Ray & Jerry Wayne Pritchett, Mrs. Bryan Keith Boyd, Wilma H. Lynch, Milo & Tee Jaye Lynce, Doris Jean Lynch Starr, Judy & Doris Pritchett.

Also to my late Aunt Bulah Adcock Lynch who said that "I was the meanest little boy that she had ever seen" and "the meanest little boy in Cookeville, Tennessee." I made it and I did keep all of the baseball fields in Cookeville green. Don Wilson Lynch.

We would like to also thank the late Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Boyd & the late Hazel Bates. Thank you, from the Abe Lynch Family Tennessee Vital Records, Oral Family History and 8 Generations of Family Bible Records. Gail Mynatt Burgess, Lynch Family Consultant.

**DESCENDANTS OF LYNCH-BROWN FAMILY OF TENN. THAT ARE LIVING FROM THE ABE LYNCH FAMILY**

Doris Jean (Dr. Harold) Lynch Starr, d/o W. H. Lynch.

- (1) Wade Evan Starr
- (2) Anna Priscilla Starr
- (3) Joseph Wade Starr
- (3) Abigail Jean Starr
- (3) Boyd Ryan Starr
- (3) Taylor Evan Starr
- (2) Tara Starr

(1) Don Wilson Lynch, s/o W. H. Lynch. Don's wife Wilma H. Lynch

- (2) Julie Ann Lynch
- (3) Ashton Mary Ann Hicks
- (3) Tristan "Bubba" Hicks
- (2) Steve Allison Lynch
- (3) Andrew Wilson Lynch

(2) Gayle Lynn Mynatt Burgess, d/o Betty Willene Lynch Mynatt.

- (3) Melanie Ann Lowery Minor
- (4) Carylee Brice Minor
- (3) Cameron Reid Lowery

(1) Mabel Russell (Paul E.) Baumgardner Johnson

- (2) Bonnie Faye Baumgardner Johnson
- (2) Paul Garry Baumgardner "Buz"
- (3) Jessica Lynn Baumgardner
- (3) Amanda Marie Baumgardner
- (3) Ben Michael Baumgardner
- (1) Paul Baumgardner Sr. (deceased son of the late Sally Lynch Russell)
- (2) John Russell
- (2) William Russell
- (2) Dan Russell
- (2) Paul Russell Jr.

(1) William Wesley Green Sr., s/o of the late Floy Mae Lynch Hazelwood.

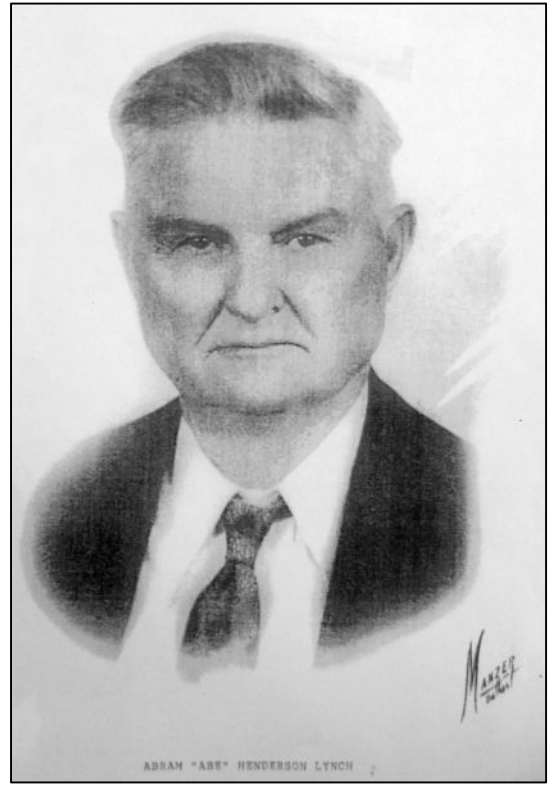
(2) Deborah Green Amman

(1) Children of the late Lloyd Edward Knight Cornell, Lloyd was the son of Eva Lynch Pruenty.

- (2) Craig Edward Cornell
- (3) Caleb Michael Cornell
- (3) Joshua Aaron Cornell
- (2) Scott Fulton Cornell
- (3) Michael Scott Cornell
- (2) Kevin Howard Cornell
- (3) Kaitlin Marie Cornell

Children of the late Martha Oval Lynch Pritchett

- (1) James Ray Pritchett
- (2) Penny Raywina Pritchett Boyd
- (3) Garrison Keith Boyd
- (3) Landon Reice Boyd
- (2) Larry Wayne Pritchett
- (1) Jerry Ray Pritchett
- (2) Jennifer Lynn Pritchett Marshall



**Abram "Abe" Henderson Lynch**

- (2) Joy Marie Pritchett White
- (3) Peyton Elizabeth White

**Abe Lynch Obt.**

b. 2 September 1877, Sullivans Bend, Smith Co., TN – d. 1 August 1961, Davidson Co., Nashville, TN. He md on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 1897 to **Martha Jane (Wilkerson) Lynch**, b. 25 May 1881 – d. 5 April 1916, Putnam Co., TN of complication of child birth. She was buried at Rittenberry Hill near Buffalo Valley, TN, Abe later moved her body to the Lynch Cemetery in Sullivans Bend, TN. Abe Lynch's obt. states he was buried in Cookeville City but he is buried in the Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Abe was the s/o **William "Billy" Burr Lynch (1850-1937) & Lenora Frances "Franny" Flat Anderson Lynch (1844 or 1846-1897)**.

Abe Lynch, 83, of Buffalo Valley, Tenn., a retired farmer, died of a heart attack at 9:04 a.m. yesterday in St. Thomas Hospital.

Services will be at 11 a.m. tomorrow at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, 2707 Gallatin Road, with the Rev. Robert Lee officiating.

Burial will be in Cookeville Cemetery. The body is at the funeral home.

Lynch was born in Smith County, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Henderson Lynch, and was educated in the public schools of Chestnut Mound.

In 1897 he married the former Martha Wilkerson, who died in 1917. He had lived in Buffalo Valley for the last 35 years.

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Sally Russell, Cuyahoga Falls, OH, Mrs. Floy Robinson, Detroit, Mrs. Margie Homes, Nashville, Mrs. Eva Cornell, Barberton, Ohio, and Mrs. Ovah Pritchett, Madison; three sons, Willie Lynch, Oak Ridge, Oliver Lynch, Cookeville, and Leon W. Lynch, Old Hickory; a brother, Benton Lynch, Gallatin; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**DEAR BUFFALO VALLEY LIBRARY:** 10-2-2006

I am sending you a copy of the Abram "Abe" Henderson and Martha Jane Wilkerson Lynch family history.

Abe and his children came to Buffalo Valley in the early 1920's. Here is their own story told by Abe's grandson, Don Wilson Lynch.

I hope, this story will add some information to your library.

We would love to hear from relatives or friends that us this family history.

Sincerely,  
Don Wilson Lynch  
106 Beets Avenue  
Clinton, TN 37716  
(865) 457-1725

Buffalo Valley, TN 38548  
3/14/1998

Dear Don,

In reply to your letter inquiry about Uncle Abe Lynch and his family. I grew up with his children, Margie and I were the same age, we went to school at Buffalo Valley and finished the eighth grade together. I

think I went one year with Floy, she was in the upper grade and I was a beginner. Eva started school before I finished eighth grade. Dick was just behind Margie and me.

I was five years old when Mrs. Lynch died. I can remember my parents and the neighbors going. I think my father and Uncle and the neighbor men dug the grave. I remember my father & mother talking about it when I was older. It was below west we know as the Rittenberry Ridge now. The road has been changed three or four times since then.

Long ago you could see the old road but not a trace of it now. It was just below what we call Gentry now. There was a house on that road and that is where Mr. & Mrs. Lynch lived.

Sallie was the oldest girl and when her mother died she took her place and helped Uncle Abe raise the children. They lived in and around Buffalo Valley. Uncle Abe bought a house and lot at Buffalo Valley and he and the children moved there. I never knew your father very well he left and went to Cookeville and went to work at the Cola plant he stayed there for many years and then moved to east Tenn. While he lived in Cookeville I used to hear Uncle Abe say he was going to see Willie but after he moved I never heard him say anything about him.

Sallie was an excellent seamstress and she sewed for the public when they would have scraps left they would give them to her and she would make the little ones dresses out of it. She helped Uncle Abe provide for the family that way. She married a neighbor boy and moved across the road from Uncle Abe but she never stopped helping him. He would work of the farm of the neighbors and always had a big garden and the girls canned everything. One by one the children all went away to work. Margie stayed with Doctor and Mrs. Denton. They sent her to school and bought her clothes. She worked hard. Dick went to Old Hickory and went to work and then Margie went too then Eva & Ova followed. They lived and knew what hard work was, but Uncle Abe taught them to be good honest and upright citizens and to go to church. They were a good family and an asset to the community.

Uncle Abe worked for my father a lot then when I married he worked with and for my husband a lot. In an the time I knew him I never heard him call his wife's name or any of his family. I learned early in life to not ask him questions just to let him do the talking. I wish I knew something to tell you about the family. Hardly a day passed but what he was in our house sometimes during the day but I never heard him mention his family any way nor did I ever hear any of the children talk about their relatives.

I would be glad for you to visit me sometime. I am a better talker than a writer. Now that my vision so impaired I can hardly see to write.

Resp. yours,  
Hazel Bates.

#### **Census Sources:**

(1880 census 11th Civil Dist., Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 43 Family: 43 – **William B. Lynch** is head of household, 29 yrs. old, TN, (parents both b. in TN), Occupation: Farmer md to **Fannie**, 33 yrs. old, TN (parents both b. in TN). Children: John, 16 yrs. old; Martha J., 14 yrs. old; Creary (sp), 9 yrs. old; Isaac, 7 yrs. old; William D., yrs. old; Julia (sp), 4 yrs. old; **Abram**, 3 yrs. old & George W. Lynch, 1 yr. old. All born in TN).

(1900 census 11<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 103 Family: 103 – **Abe Lynch** is head of household, 22 yrs. old, b. September 1877, TN, Occupation: Farm Laborer, md 2 yrs. to **Mary J.**, 19 yrs. old, b. May 1881, TN (parents both born in TN), 2 children born, 2 children livings. Children: William H., 1 yr. old, b. November 1898, TN & Elijah Lynch, 5/12, b. February 1900, TN).

(1910 census 8<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Dillard Creek Road, Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 18 Family: 18 – **Abe Lynch** is head of household, 33 yrs. old, TN, Occupation: General Farmer md 12 yrs. to **Martha**, 30 yrs. old, TN, 7

children born, 5 children living. Children: Willie, 13 yrs. old; Sallie, 10 yrs. old; Oliver, 7 yrs. old; Floy, 5 yrs. old & Margy Lynch, 1 4/12 yrs. old. All born in TN).

(1920 census 9<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN: Dwl: 31 Family: 33 – **Abe Lynch** is head of household, 43 yrs. old, TN, Occupation: Farmer, Stock, widow (parents both b. in TN). Children: Willie, 19 yrs. old; Sallie, 17 yrs. old; Oliver, 15 yrs. old; Floy, 13 yrs. old; Margy, 11 yrs. old; Leon, 9 yrs. old; Eva, 5 yrs. old & Ovah Lynch, 2 7/12 yrs. old. All born in TN).

(1930 census 9<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN: Dwl: 81 Family: 88 – **Abe Lynch** is head of household, 56 yrs. old, TN, Occupation: Laborer Odd Jobs, widow. Children: Margie, 20 yrs. old; Leon, 19 yrs. old; Eva, 16 yrs. old & Ova Lynch, 14 yrs. old. All born in TN).

\*See History – Buffalo Valley at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>



CHILDREN OF ABRAM “ABE” HENDERSON LYNCH  
& MARTHA JANE WILKERSON

L to R: Ova (Lynch) Pritchett, Leon “Dick” Lynch, Marge Holmes, “Willie” Lynch, Floy (Lynch) Hazelwood, Oliver Lynch and Sally (Lynch) Russell.

Sitting: Abram “Abe” Henderson Lynch.



Back row L to R: Oliver W. Lynch, Leon “Dick” Lynch, William “Willie” Lynch.

Front row L to R: Mary Margie (Lynch) Holmes, Martha Ovah (Lynch) Pritchett & Floy (Lynch) Hazelwood.



### LYNCH FAMILY REUNION

The Lynch family reunion was held on July 3. Shown in the picture are left to right, back row: Margie L. Holmes of Nashville, Oliver Lynch of Cookeville, TN, Willie Lynch of Oak Ridge, TN, Sallie Russell of Akron, OH, and Floy Hazelwood of Old Hickory, TN.

Front row, left to right: Eva Prueny of Barberton, OH, Leon W. Lynch of OH and Ova Pritchett of Madison, TN.

#### THE LATE ABE LYNCH HAS FAMILY REUNION:

The late Abe Lynch family had their reunion on July 3 at the roadside park at Buffalo Valley, TN, where the family was reared. Each member brought a covered dish.

Each member of the family was there with their families. Many grandchildren and great-grandchildren celebrated the event with picture taking.

Later in the day they were joined by friends of yesteryear and old school mates. This has been a family tradition of the past 24 years.

#### Abe Lynch

Abe Lynch, 83, of Buffalo Valley, Tenn., a retired farmer, died of a heart attack at 9:04 a.m. yesterday in St. Thomas Hospital.

Services will be at 11 a.m. tomorrow at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, 2707 Gallatin Road, with the Rev. Robert Lee officiating.

Burial will be in Cookeville Cemetery. The body is at the funeral home.

Lynch was born in Smith County, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Henderson Lynch, and was educated in the public schools of Chestnut Mound.

In 1897 he married the former Martha Wilkerson, who died in 1917. He had lived in Buffalo Valley for the last 35 years.

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Sally Russel, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Mrs. Floy Robinson, Detroit, Mrs. Margie Holmes, Nashville, Mrs. Eva Cornell, Barberton, Ohio, and Mrs. Ova Pritchett, Madison; three sons, Willie Lynch, Oak Ridge, Oliver Lynch, Cookeville, and Leon W. Lynch, Old Hickory; a brother, Benton Lynch, Gallatin; 10 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.