

**MATTIE LEAH (BYRNE) WATTS OBT.**

**IN MEMORY OF MRS. MATTIE WATTS**



We loved her! We loved her face, which reflected an almost faith in God. We loved that spirit that kept her buoyant even after her paralysis affliction. We loved that faint whisper that apprised us was nearer God's portals that she was to us. We loved her silent being, her beautiful eyes, as when unable to speak more she raised her almost lifeless hand upward toward God where He waited for her. How much better we feel to take up our cross and try harder than ever to live a better life! How much more we want to sing the dear old songs, the songs that she requested to be sung to her in her last illness, "How Firm A Foundation," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and "Amazing Grace."

Mrs. Mattie L. Watts, age 75 years, 8 months and 20 days, was born April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1853. She was born at

Bainsboro, Tennessee; converted to the Christian religion at the age of twelve years, and joined the Methodist Church, of which she was a loyal member and a faithful worker until affection of paralysis rendered her a cripple in 1924. All of her children were at her bedside in the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. L. Chem of Blackwell, to shower upon her their love and give her all the tender care in their power.

*Note: Bainsboro/Gainsboro, TN is a mistake – Mattie Leah (Byrne) Watts was born near Granville, TN.*

Many friends of the Chem family were exceedingly kind and helpful. Rev. L. N. Lipscomb of Sweetwater preached Mrs. Watts' funeral. He was better able and more fitted for the occasion since Mrs. Watts mothered him and his wife before he became a preacher. He loved her and he has her wonderful inspiration to strive to impart to others.

Thus will the gems of her life be scattered on and on and on. Rev. Lipscomb is only one who had the rare privilege of coming in direct contact with Mother Watts. Many others can testify to the radiance of her life of light and love. Rev. Van Zandt, Methodist pastor of Blackwell, offered some thoughts at the service which were held in the Methodist Church of Blackwell. The interment was in the Blackwell cemetery.

"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone and in that stone

*Bainsboro, Tennessee*

**IN MEMORY OF MRS. MATTIE WATTS**

She lived but "we loved her face, which reflected an almost faith in God. We loved that spirit that kept her buoyant even after her paralysis affliction. We loved that faint whisper that apprised us was nearer God's portals that she was to us. We loved her silent being, her beautiful eyes, as when unable to speak more she raised her almost lifeless hand upward toward God where He waited for her. How much better we feel to take up our cross and try harder than ever to live a better life! How much more we want to sing the dear old songs, the songs that she requested to be sung to her in her last illness, "How Firm A Foundation," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and "Amazing Grace."

*Grandma Watts*

1923 Snyder, Texas

Mattie Leah Byrne Watts  
b 10 April 1853  
d 31 December 1929

Blackwell Cemetery  
Blackwell, Nolan County,  
TX  
Same stone as  
J. E. Watts, b. 1849 - d. 1933

a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.” (Rev. 2-17, which is the text that Rev. Lipscomb based his remarks upon. Mother Watts loved that part of the scriptures.

Mrs. Watts is survived by her husband, J. B. Watts, age 80, and by one sister and three brothers. The sister and two brothers live in Tennessee and the other brother in the state of Oregon. She is also survived by five children and has two dead. The five children are: Walter Watts of Fort Worth; Will Watts of Abilene; Mrs. Dee Laules of Goree; Mrs. H. C. McKee of El Paso, having visited Mrs. Chem only two weeks before her death. Other relatives are: A niece, Mrs. Mattie Wren of Big Spring, and Mrs. Margaret Watts of Snyder and children, who attended the funeral.

The Watts family are well known here, having lived a number of years near Snyder. For the past few years they have been living at El Paso.

**Blackwell Cemetery, Blackwell, Nolan Co., TX**

Located N of Blackwell, TX on Hwy 70, about 1 mile N of town on the E side of Road:  
320641N  
1001919W

**\*Martha “Mattie” Leah (Byrne) Watts**

b. 10 April 1853, Jackson Co., TN – d. 31 December 1929

**d/o Terrell Byrne, (s/o Lawrence Byrne & Martha “Pasty” Jared) and Mary Jane Spurlock, (d/o Col. Josiah Spurlock & Leah Manier). She was the w/o James Bennett Watts.** She md January 1874, James Bennet Watts.

**\*J.(ames) B.(ennett) Watts**, b. 1849, Jackson Co., TN – d. 1933, s/o Thomas Watts & Matilda Clark.

**Note: Col. Josiah Spurlock**, a physician and surgeon. Veteran of the war of 1812, where he was raised to the rank of Colonel. He was with Andrew Jackson in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 and served as companion and bodyguard to “Old Hickory.”

**Note: Lawrence Byrne, s/o William Byrne/O’Byrne** (b. 1768, Dublin, Ireland – d. 23 December 1823) & **Rhoda England** –(b. 2 October 1773, White Co., TN) Rhoda lived to be 104 yrs. old. Everyone called her “Granny Byrne.” Lawrence was a brother of Malinda Byrne who married Martha “Patsy” Jared’s brother Moses Jared. Many children of William Byrne are intermarried with those of the Jared family. **Martha “Pasty” Jared, d/o William Jared (Revl’ War) & Anne Elizabeth “Besty” Roulston/ Raulston.**

**Byrne Family Cemetery on Shepherdsville, Rd., Jackson Co., TN**

Located in Civil Dist. 5. From Gainesboro take Hwy 53 leading from Gainesboro to Granville (about 4 miles from Granville). As you do down “Bell Hill” turn left on Shepherdsville Road (290) and go about 100 yards. The cemetery will be on your right. You can read of the Byrne family on pages 76-79 of the Jackson County History Book-200 years of memories.

**\*Terrell Byrne**, b. 8 April 1826, TN – d. 17 August 1905. s/o Lawrence Byrne & Martha “Pasty” Jared.

**\*Mary Jane (Spurlock) Byrne**, b. 8 April 1834, TN – d. 19 January 1890, d/o Col. Josiah Spurlock & Leah Manier. Mary Jane Spurlock was the w/o Terrell Byrne.

**Leona M.(ae) Byrne**, b. 19 May 1873, TN – d. 7 December 1933, d/o Terrel Byrne & Mary Jane Spurlock.

**Sabe Byrne**, b. stone is off base no dates. She was the colored servant to Mary (Spurlock) Byrne erected by children of H.(enry) C.(lay) Byrne 1958.

\***Bascom Byrne**, b. 20 October 1856, TN – d. 14 March 1942, s/o Terrell Byrne & Mary Jane Spurlock.  
 \***Darthula (Watts) Byrne**, b. 8 April 1855, TN – d. 8 June 1924 md 26 September 1875, Bascom Byrne.  
 She is the d/o Thomas Watts & Matilda Clark.

**Mattie (Byrne) Brown**, b. 14 July 1890, TN – d. 5 September 1924, d/o Bascom Byrne & Darthula Clark.  
 She was the s/o Dave Brown.

**James Byrne**, b. 25 November 1888 – d. 24 December 1888

**NO STONES WERE FOUND FOR THE NEXT SIX PEOPLE:**

\***Henry Clay Byrne**, b. 17 November 1879, TN – d. 30 April 1925, s/o Bascom Byrne & Darthula Watts.

\***Mary Geneva (Spurlock) Byrne**, 23 December 1887 – d. 21 September 1956, d/o Uriah Thomas Spurlock & Betty Draper.  
 Jackson County Sentinel 27 September 1956 obituary of Mary calls for family cemetery. Henry Clay was listed by Maude McGlasson.

**Pauline Josephine Byrne**, b. 16 February 1911 – 5 February 1956, d/o Henry Clay Byrne & Geneva Spurlock.  
 Jackson County Sentinel 16 February 1956 call for Byrne Cemetery.

**Mary Ruby Byrne**, b. ? – d. 16 November 1906, d/o George Byrne & Mattie Mae Vantrease.

**Thomas Uriah “Tommy” Byrne**, b. 10 August 1953 – d. 5 January 1957, s/o Henry Bascom Byrne & Ruby Vangtrease.

**Henry Bascom Byrne**, b. ? – d. 19 August 1907, s/o Henry Clay Byrne & Geneva Spurlock.  
 Jackson County Sentinel 10 January 1957 has Tomas Uriah calls for family cemetery.

**Census Place: 1880 District 20, Smith Co., Tennessee**

Source: FHL Film 1255280 National Archives Film T9-1280 Page 171B

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
<b>Ben WATTS</b>	Self	M	M	W	30	TN
	Occ:	Farming	Fa: ---	Mo: TN		
<b>Mattie WATTS</b>	Wife	F	M	W	28	TN
	Occ:	Keeping House	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Walter WATTS</b>	Son	M	S	W	5	TN
			Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
Mary WATTS	Dau	F	S	W	4	TN
			Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
Matildy WATTS	Dau	F	S	W	1	TN
			Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
John WOODSIDES	Other	M	S	W	11	TN
			Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
Joshua JOHNSON	Other	M	M	B	30	TN
	Occ:	Farm Laborer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
Henry HUGH	Other	M	S	B	25	TN
	Occ:	Farm Laborer	Fa: TN	Mo: VA		

**1900 census Hillsboro, Hill Co., TX**

Dwl: 207 Family: 213

**Walter Watts** Head 25 M W March 1875 Married (1 yr. married) Farmer TN TN TN

**Alicie Watts** Wife 22 F W May 1878 Married (1 yr. married) (1 child born, 1 child living) TX MS MS

Bessie Watts Dau 2/12 F W March 1900 Single TX TN TX

**Census Place: 1880 District 5, Jackson Co., Tennessee**

Source: FHL Film 1255264 National Archives Film T9-1264 Page 247A

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
<b>Terril BYRNE</b>	Self	M	M	M	54	TN
	Occ:	Farmer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Mary BYRNE</b>	Wife	F	M	W	46	TN
	Occ:	Keeping House	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Laurence BYRNE</b>	Son	M	S	W	21	TN
	Occ:	Farmer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
	(Lawrence Byrne md Martha "Pasty" Jared, d/o William Jared (Revl' War) & Anne Elizabeth "Besty" Roulston/ Raulston)					
<b>William BYRNE</b>	Son	M	S	W	19	TN
	Occ:	Works On Farm	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		(William James Byrne)
<b>Lafayette BYRNE</b>	Son	M	S	W	14	TN
	Occ:	Works On Farm	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Lemual BYRNE</b>	Son	M	S	W	12	TN
	Occ:	Works On Farm	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Lenora BYRNE</b>	Dau	F	S	W	10	TN
	Occ:	At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		
<b>Leona BYRNE</b>	Dau	F	S	W	7	TN
	Occ:	At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN		

**1900 census 5<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Jackson Co., TN**

Dwl: 50 Family: 81

**Terril Byrne** Head 74 M W April 1826 Widow Farmer TN TN TN  
**Leona Byrne** Dau 26 F W May 1874 Single Housekeeper TN TN TN  
**Martin J. Dowell** Son-in-Law 42 M W November 1857 Married Farmer TN TN TN  
**Clio Dowell** Dau 31 F W December 1869 Married Housework TN TN TN  
**Huston Brooks** Board 20 B M March 1880 Single Farm Hand TN TN TN

**1900 census 5<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Jackson Co., TN**

Dwl: 221 Family: 222

**Bascom Byrne** 43 M W October 1856 Married (24 yrs. md) Farmer TN TN TN  
**Darthuly Byrne** 44 F W April 1856 Married (24 yrs. md) (10 children born, 9 children living) TN TN TN  
**Pierce Byrne** 22 M W November 1878 Single Farm Laborer TN TN TN  
**Clay H. Byrne** 20 M W November 1879 Single Farm Laborer TN TN TN  
**Fannie L. (?) Byrne** 18 F W April 1882 Single Housework TN TN TN  
**Alvis B. Byrne** 16 M W February 1884 Single Farm Laborer TN TN TN  
**John Byrne** 14 M W February 1886 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Mattie B. Byrne** 10 F W July 1889 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Carry M. Byrne** 8 F W November 1891 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Mary T. Byrne** 3 F W July 1896 Single At School TN TN TN

**1900 census 5<sup>th</sup> Civil Dist., Jackson Co., TN**

Dwl: 90 Family: 91

**Will J. Byrne** Head 39 M W November 1860 Married (14 yrs. md) Farmer TN TN TN  
(William James Byrne, s/o)  
**Annie Byrne** Wife 34 F W February 1866 Married (14 yrs. md) TN TN TN  
**Hascal Byrne** Son 13 M W April 1887 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Auther Byrne** Son 10 M W June 1889 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Charley Byrne** Son 8 M W November 1891 Single At School TN TN TN  
**Willie Byrne** Son 3 M W June 1896 Single TN TN TN  
**Rildy Byrne** Boarder 7 M W May 1893 Single TN TN TN

**Cookeville City Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN**

\***John Martin Dowell**, 15 November 1857, TN – d. 18 January 1932, h/o Cleora Bryne.  
\***Cleora (Bryne) Dowell**, b. 2 December 1869, TN – d. 28 May 1921, d/o Terrell Byrne & Mary Jane Spurlock.

**Callie B. Sherell Dowell**, 17 February 1887 – d. 22 February 1966

\***William James Byrne**, b. 27 November 1860, Jackson Co., TN – d. 30 November 1943, s/o Terrell Byrne & Mary Jane Spurlock.  
\***Ann (Carter) Byrne**, b. February 1865, TN – d. 1937, w/o William James Byrne.

**Arthur D. Byrne**, b. 4 June 1889, TN – d. 24 December 1941, s/o William James Byrne & Ann Carter.

\***William H. Byrne**, b. 7 June 1897, TN – d. 15 August 1938, s/o William James Byrne & Ann Carter.  
\***Billye (Jones) Byrne**, b. 16 September 1896 – d. 24 February 1977, w/o William H. Byrne.

### LINEAGE TO WILLIAM JARED – REV'L WAR

William Jared (Revl' War) md Anne Elizabeth "Besty" Roulston/ Raulston =

Martha "Pasty" Jared md Lawrence Byrne =

Terrell Byrne md Mary Jane Spurlock =

Mattie Leah Byrne md James Bennett Watts =

Addie Lee Watts, b. 26 September 1885, Jackson Co., TN md 1st 10 April 1917, Jack Elsy Parsons, s/o George W. & Ida B. Parsons. She md 2<sup>nd</sup> 26 March 1925, Henry Christopher McKee, b. 1874.

Eileen Parsons, b. 6 June 1919, Alamogordo, NM md Clarence A. Griffin, b. 12 May 1911 – d. 15 August 1981. Source: Book of Jared #3 by Eleanor Hall. Eileen tells us of it in her letter dated September 10, 1981. "We put Clarence in the hospital July 8<sup>th</sup> with pneumonia. He had severe reaction to the medicine. It was just too much. He passed away 15<sup>th</sup> of August. I am doing well, amazingly but find it very hard to close out 41 years. I suppose I never will. I am enclosing the eulogy from our editor of the local paper. We were married 14 February 1940.

Eileen Parsons-McKee Griffin (DAR National No. 589491)

Clarence A. Griffin Eulogy by Peter Bryan: Alamogordo, NM, Daily News: Tuesday, 25 August 1981:

This community lost a fine citizen in the passing of Clarence Griffin. Griffin had been in failing health for several weeks. I had not known Clarence before moving to Alamogordo but became acquainted with him and Eileen and grew to think highly of both.

(Griffin was serving his second term as county commissioner at the time of his death. He was already widely known in the southern part of New Mexico, from Corona south. His acquaintanceship and friends extend far beyond the boundaries of the southern section of this state).

To say he had "a lot of friends," would be putting it mildly. That fact was attested by the numbers of people who attended his funeral at Faith Baptist Church.

Speaking of the church where services were held. I did not learn until recently that he had donated an acre of land and Tiny Sloan had donated an acre, on which the beautiful church stands. That was characteristic of Griffin. He was not one to make such things known. Clarence was of a breed whose ranks are thinning.

Many people's lives were enriched for having known Clarence Griffin. His passing leaves a gap in the community.

He will be missed.

Children of Clarence A. Griffin & Eileen Parson are:

Cleve Griffin, b. 1 February 1941 md Donna Turner

Clarence Albert Griffin, b. 1 May 1942 md 1st Gladys Moore – md 2<sup>nd</sup> Sharon O'Quinn

Garvin Griffin, b. 8 May 1944 md Charlene Bagwell

Garrett Griffin, b. 27 July 1947 md Susie Bagwell

**DC: William James Byrne**

Date of Birth: 27 November 1860, Jackson Co., TN

Date of Death: 30 November 1943

Age: 83 yrs. 0 months 3 days

Place of Death: 200 Maple St., Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN

White – Male – Widowed

Occupation: Merchant (Retired)

Father: **Terrell Byrne**, Jackson Co., TN

Mother: **Mary Spurlock**, Jackson Co., TN

Informant: Mrs. Jack Rowland, Cookeville, TN

Burial: 1 December 1943, Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN

Arrangements: Jack Carver Funeral Home, Cookeville, TN

Cause of Death: Rumatism & Apoplexy

Attended by: Lex Dyer, M. d. Cookeville, TN

**Source: Book of Jared by Eleanor Hall:**

Martha "Pasty" Jared, b. 10 October 1795, d/o William Jared & Elizabeth Raulsten/Raulston; md 12 June 1821, Putnam Co., TN, Lawrence Byrne, b. 8 August 1798, Burke Co., ND – d. 19 January 1854 at Jasper, Putnam Co., TN, s/o William Byrne & Rhoda England. Lawrence was a b/o Malinda Byrne who md Patsy's brother Moses. Pasty died 10 April 1832 in Putnam Co., TN. A letter from Elizabeth Raulsten/Raulston gives the circumstances:

At Home, May 7, 1832

Dear Sister,

I avail myself of this opportunity of writing to you that you may once more hear the language of your old friend and associate for I never expect to see you again unless you visit your old settlement for I am utterly unable to travel any distance but thee hope to see you and brother James sometime and would be glad to hear from you often as I am deprived of your company.

I am in tolerable health at present... I must here relate the death of Pasty Byrne who took her departure on the 10<sup>th</sup> of last month. She left home about seven weeks before she died and came here on horseback but was very much fatigued when she arrived and gradually grew weaker until the period of her dissolution. She expressed the strongest confidence in God until the last and gently sank to rest in the arms of the dear Redeemer. You must know something of the trouble I feel which is inexpressible but it is much appeased when I contemplate the happy time when my children shall all, with all the followers of Immanuel be restored again to their parents where parting shall be no more.

Yours affectionately until death Elizabeth Jared –To Jane Raulsten/Raulston

\*See Chapter 9 & William Jared Family Sheet at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>