

OUR OLD HOUSE

By Dona Florence (Boyd) Shanks (1889-1977)
As told to her children in
1976 a year before her death.

Mr. Young built the old house and lived there during the Civil War. He was shot at by the soldiers going through.



Grandmother Eliza Jane Boyd lived there with her daughter Betsy Ann "Sis" who married Samuel Foster Maxwell, (grandmother didn't get along with Uncle Sam). The house was sold to a Mr. Crowell. It was sold many times...many families lived there: Elmo & Hay Maddux, Vada & Grady Maddux.

My Pa bought it from Clarence and Molly Maddux. A Mr. Bain lived there at one time also. I helped pay for the place.

Uncle Fayette Boyd lived on the ridge and built a small house beside his and Grandmother Eliza Jane Boyd lived there when Aunt Besty Ann moved.

I visited Grandmother Eliza Jane (Jared) Boyd when a little girl and stayed a few days at the old house.

We had a big family Bible, but the creek got in the house and the Bible was mostly torn up. I still have parts of the Bible.

Verna Maxwell married William "Willie" Timothy Denny and she died when her child was born. She is buried here (at the homeplace) in the Boyd-Russell-Young Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN, with the concrete slabs over the tent style grave. Verna was Aunt Besty Ann "Sis" and Samuel Foster Maxwell's daughter. Pa and Ma, when first married lived up the Medley Hollow. Martha Ann Sander's mother and father, Uncle Tom and Aunt Jenny Scudders lived and built the Bill Medley house. Ma made the pretty quilts for Aunt Jenny then.

Pa and Ma swapped houses with Uncle Irvin Boyd and moved to the ridge where I was born. Dr. Samuel Denton delivered us. My brother, Freddie Denton Boyd (1883-1883) was named for him. My other brother, Oscar Norman Boyd (1882-1882) both died as infants and are buried at the Steele farm (once owned by John Jared & Anna Carr/Kerr, Eliza Jane Boyd's parents).

The children of George Washington Boyd and Naomi Tennessee "Tennie" Kerr/Carr are: Leona Carolyn Boyd md William Walter Payne, Hattie Keith Boyd md William Mervin Denney, Dona Florence Boyd md Luke Alexander Shanks, Alice Gertrude Boyd md Charles Henry Harris & Georgia Kerr Boyd md Grover Cleveland Burch.



Family of Luther "Luke" Alexander Shanks

L to R: Children: Miriam, Carolyn & George Shanks.

Parents: Luther "Luke" Alexander Shanks & Dona Florence Boyd.

Dona Florence (Boyd) Shanks married Luther “Luke” Alexander Shanks and they had three children: Miriam (Shanks) Gwaltney, George Shanks & Carolyn (Shanks) Huddleston.

*Read more about the Boyd family, Shanks family & Buffalo Valley, TN history at:
<http://www.ajlambert.com>