

MY DAVISON FAMILY

by

Betty Louella Folmar Adair

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Why Me?

Why me? This is a tedious task, much work.

Not a great tree, my family,

Not any kind of tree. A spindly twig...

A stunted sapling of little importance,

No forest giant we.

A pause... Ethereal whispers...

Persuasive, soft and still...

"Daughter, if you don't remember us,

Who will?"

by

Dot Stutter

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

1996

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

As you read this book you will see why I call it my Davison Family. I am a direct descendant of Talbot Davison through his grandson James Allen Davison. My great-great-grandfather, Hugh Ross Rodgers, was the Uncle of Sarah Amanda Vickery Davison, second wife of James Allen and my great-grandmother.

I was born and raised in the Rodgers Community named for my Rodgers ancestors. The house where I was born was built by Oliver Hugh Rodgers on land formerly belonging to Hugh Ross Rodgers. My roots go deep in this community. The Davisons and Rodgers came here from Georgia in the 1850's. My branch of the Folmars came here in the 1830's.

I was educated in the public schools in Goshen, Alabama, attending grades one through twelve. My additional education came from attendance at Troy University and the University of Alabama.

After living in Los Angeles, California for a couple of years I returned to Alabama. For the next five years I lived in Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, Ozark and Troy, Alabama before coming home to the Rodgers Community.

I have two children and four grandchildren. My son Riley M. Adair and his wife, Traci T. Adair, reside in Birmingham, Alabama with their sons, Dalton Marshall and Chase Riley Adair. My daughter Rachael A. Railey and her husband, Charles W. Railey, reside in Goshen with their children, Sarah Virginia and Cada Jefferson Railey.



Betty Louella Folmar Adair
February, 2014

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I was asked by a cousin, Herman Carter, if I would write something about Grandpa Davison. Grandpa was James Allen Davison. I agreed to do so, but didn't really know that much about him or the Davison family. I was thinking I would probably come up with ten, maybe twenty, pages. As you can see from what follows, it has evolved into so much more than I anticipated. It has been a labor of love, and I have learned so much more about my Davison family than I ever dreamed possible. I therefore thank Herman for getting me started on this project and for all the input and contributions he has made. Without him this project would not ever have been started much less completed.

You cannot undertake a project of this magnitude without the help of others. There is a lot of information available on computer; you have to be a member of various services in order to use it. Sometimes you just have to know a name, date or location in order to do further research.

The very next person I must thank is Nancy Folmar Reykdal. I gave Nancy a copy of the few pages I had written when she came to the Folmar Reunion in July 2013. After reading it, she encouraged me to expand my story and tell more about the Davison family history. She gave me copies of genealogy charts, family notes and obituaries, and did countless hours of research. As I have written, she read what I wrote, checked facts and let me know if what I said made sense or not. Her husband Howard has doctored pictures making them clear and usable, and both have let me know when I have used too many "begats" rather than just telling the Davison story.

For those of you interested in the "begats", a chart is included at the end of each chapter, beginning with Chapter IV, which shows the names of descendants along with dates and places of birth and death for those who are deceased. (For descendants still living, *names only* are listed.) Hopefully this will enable the reader to keep the various family members in their proper slots. Also, this may help you to see the various interconnections and marriages. I have merely included those that were available to me at the time this was written. I know that I have not included everyone, as I do not know all the names or connections. I have done the very best that I could with the information available to me.

As time goes on, we lose those that are near and dear to us and new ones come along for us to love and cherish. This is just intended as a sampling. Hopefully, you can take what I have and go forward for your branch of the Davison family. We do have a good background.

Returning to acknowledgments, others have been helpful with finding pictures for me or giving me information on various members of the Davison family. To all these people I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude, including:

1. Louis Bryant - for letting me have family pictures and copies of letters written by his great-grandmother, and for allowing me to use the letters in any way I thought helpful. (And to his cousin, Robert Holley, who also felt the letters could and should be included in this book and gave me other information about his mother.) Louis Bryant also provided the partial translation of the Crankshaw-Davison Diary giving us a picture of 1864.
2. Jewell Veasey Griffin - for pictures of various family members and for encouragement along the way.
3. Alan T. "Tommy" Horn - for pictures, his family tree, stories and other information I would not have gotten anywhere else.
4. Ramon Stroud - for family pictures and consultation on the spelling of the Strowd/Stroud name. We may not have the real reason for the name variation, but he did come up with some good theories!
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6. Ron Head - for clarification of the qualifications for a pension by a Confederate Veteran in the State of Alabama.
7. Jerome Folmar - for family pictures and permission to use his story on Robbie Folmar which enhanced my story on rolling stores.
8. Gerald Folmar – for pictures of his father, brother and himself.
9. Loren and Carolyn Gibson - for information, pictures, computer, and just general encouragement.
10. Joan and Allridge Slaughter – for pictures of family members.
11. Retha Williams – for pictures of family members.
12. Lois Carter Stephens for sending out notices on the book to those in her database and for furnishing me names and mailing addresses for those requiring regular mail. Also for general information and encouragement.

In naming the above contributors, I sincerely hope I have not omitted anyone. If I have, it has not been intentional. Every effort has been made to eliminate errors, but if you spot any I would appreciate your letting me know.

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