

Mr. & Mrs. Mack Wileman Family History

By

Clyde Kunz

Mr and Mrs. “Mack” Wileman

(as of December 19, 2010)

I have compiled the following family history of my Grandfather and Grandmother, Mr and Mrs “Mack” Wileman, from the family records that I have obtained from other family members and from some that were passed on to me so that it will not be lost and can be passed on to other family members in future generations. I have tried to be as factual as possible but I have had to rely on a lot of information from third and fourth generation family member’s memory. My Grandfather’s name on the 1900 census is Samuel McClenard Wileman, my Grandmother wrote Sam Mc in the family Bible, it is McClennon Wileman on his Church Confirmation Certificate, my mother once told me it was Sam Mclenord and it is Mack S. in his obituary. His grave stone is simply Mack Wileman. Census records state that he could not read or write so that probability contributed to the confusion. His first son was named Bee McClendon Wileman so my best guess is that his name was Samuel McClendon Wileman. All of his children and grandchildren called him “Pappy” but my mother did not like that name and would not let me call him Pappy. I was only six years old when my grandfather died but I have a vivid memory of what he looked like; my family would travel to visit with my Wileman grandparents at their home place in Ladds Cove most Sunday afternoons. My grandmother died when I was nine but she lived with us at our house after my grandfather died so I remember her well.

Clyde Kunz, December 19, 2010

Mack Wileman

Mack Wileman was born on April 9, 1866 and died on February 4, 1949 and is buried in the churchyard of St Johns Episcopal Church in Ladds Cove In Marion County, Tennessee (His death certificate has different dates but I have used the dates that my grandmother wrote in her bible). I asked my mother once where he was from and she said, "My Daddy never talked much about his people but I think he was from over around Prairie Planes". In the late 1800s and early 1900s Prairie Planes was a small farming community between Hillsboro and Winchester Tennessee near where the county lines for Grundy, Franklin and Coffee County come together. There was a store and several churches. There were many Wileman families listed in the various census records for this area and the store was known as the Wileman Store and there is a Wileman Cemetery there. The 1880 census record for that area lists a Jane Wileman age 55 as head of the household and widowed or divorced. Both of Jane's parents were listed as being borne in North Carolina. Living with Jane Wileman in 1880 was a daughter, Martha Wileman age 29 also a widow or divorced, a grandson Calvin Wileman age 15, a grandson Samuel Wileman age 13 and a granddaughter Emma Wileman age 10. The records indicate that Calvin and Samuel were farmers and could not read or write but that Emma could read and write. Mack would have been 13 in 1880 so this is probably him and he was living with his grandmother Jane and Martha could have been his mother.

Mary Willis Dudley

Mary Dudley was born in Kentucky on March 20, 1868. Her father was Isaac Newton Dudley born in Kentucky in 1850 and her mother was Julia Ann (Mitchell) Dudley born in Grundy County in 1846. She married Mack Wileman on July 28, 1887 and they divorced on ----- . She later married George (?) Bennett and lived in Monteagle where she worked in restaurants and the Monteagle Hotel. She died on December 24, 1956 and is buried in the Pleasant Grove cemetery near Jasper Tennessee in Marion County.

Mack and Mary Dudley Wileman

Mack Wileman married Mary Willis Dudley on July 28, 1887 and the marriage is on record in Winchester in Franklin County, Tennessee. Mack and Mary Dudley had three children, Mamie Beatrice (Wileman) Simpson born in July 1892, Lillian M. (Wileman) Love born in January 1894 and Bee McClendon Wileman born June 13, 1898 and Died December 6 1972.

The 1900 census records show Mack and Mary Dudley with their three children living in Huntsville Alabama where he was working in a cotton mill as a "Card Stripper".

Mack and Mary Dudley were divorced in ----- and he married my Grandmother Mary Ella Henley July 17, 1909 in Marion County Tennessee. I have not been able to obtain the circumstances leading to the divorce but Mary Ella was a much younger woman and the circumstances may have not been flattering.

Mary Ella Henley

Mary Ella Henley was born on October 27, 1890 in Ladds Cove near Dove Tennessee in Marion County. Dove Tennessee was later renamed Martin Springs. Her Mother was Abby Jane (McCoy) Henley who was born on February 13, 1844 and died on January 11, 1938 and is buried in the Summerfield Cemetery between Monteagle and Tracy City Tennessee. Her father was James Granville Henley who left the family when the children were small and there has been no further information on him passed down by family members. Mary Ella had three sisters: Sally (Henley) Henry, Ruth Viola (Henley) Johnson and Ada (Henley) Keel (twin of Ella) and one brother James Henley. She married Mack Wileman on July 17, 1909 and died of breast cancer on April 26, 1952 and is buried alongside Mack Wileman in the churchyard of St John's Episcopal Church in Ladds Cove.

Mack and Mary Ella Wileman

Mack Wileman and Mary Ella Henley were married in Marion County Tennessee on July 17, 1909. He was forty three years of age and Mary Ella, his second wife, was only 19. The 1910 census shows Mack living in Marion County with his second wife Ella and two of his three children from his first marriage, daughter Lillian age 16 and son Bee age 11. Mack and Ella later had two children; Horace Marvin Wileman born on May 18, 1911 and died in December-----, 1985 and is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery in Chattanooga, Tennessee and Ruby Lee (Wileman) Kunz born March 21, 1915 and died August 25, 1994 and is buried in the Tracy City, Tennessee Cemetery.

Mack and Ella lived on what is now called Kirby Tate Road in Ladds Cove just north of St John's Episcopal Church. They had a two room house with a kitchen, a barn with a cow and chickens and a few acres of farmland. There was no electricity, running water or well. They got drinking water from the Tate spring across the creek. They raised or made most of what they needed and lived a very simple and austere life. They were very hard working, honest and religious.