

# The Dedmon Connection

February 2006 Number 45

(Dedmon, Dedman, Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond, Dedmondt, etc.)



**Leroy Dedmon**  
Editor

## THINGS CHANGE

It is truly amazing at the number of family members we are now in contact with. When I began this project I had no idea that there were as many “Dedmons” as there are. I really thought I knew all of them. It has been an exciting adventure for me. One of the basic fundamental facts that I learned a long time ago is that “THINGS CHANGE”...

That is the way life is. I suppose most of us can look back and wonder what might have been, if..... If we had not made a certain decision... If we had not been at the certain place at a certain time.... If, If, If..... such a little word, but represents big things...

If I had not created this web page over eight years ago, I would not have “met” and known so many of you. I have found kin folks, that I never would have known. In fact, there are folks that I have known but never knew we were kin. Folks like John Wagner and Tommy Broom. I knew both these men long before I knew we were related.

Eight years has brought many changes to me. I lost my dad and mom has reached the point that she no longer is able to get around like she wishes. Of course at 94, we feel fortunate to still have her. I became a great grandfather almost five years ago. Masie will be five years old next month and Curt turned two this past December. Jane and I will celebrate our 47th anniversary on April 5th. I will be 67 in June. I retired three years ago as a “located preacher”. I still miss preaching every Sunday (I think it has to do with the fact that I now have to sit and listen to preaching), I recently was diagnosed with sleep apnea as I was going to sleep every time I sat down. Now that I have the CPAP, which aids my sleep, I stay awake during church services. I told the preacher the other day that, “I had no idea he preached that long”. I don’t think I ever took a nap during one of my sermons.....



From February 1st to June 27th, Jane and I are the same age. Oh, I know we don’t look the same, but that’s the way it is. We were eating at Chic Filet the other day, (they give seniors free drinks), but when I went to pay I noticed they had charged me for one drink. “Ma’am”, I said, “we are both seniors”. She replied, “Oh, I am sorry sir, we knew she was, but we didn’t thing you were”. It would not have been so bad, but Jane was standing there. I am surprised she will eat there again. Anyway, “HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU”, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR JANE”. That is the closest to singing I will ever do. Now that I am looking at my picture at the top of the page, I admit, she is prettier than me.....





### ANY MOFF FADODMAN

We took the back road to Hamilton Place Mall in Chattanooga the other day and boy, did that bring back memories. We went through Graysville, Georgia on the way to the mall. That was one of the places where I lived as a young boy.

We moved to Graysville when I was around four or five years old. I do know that I started to school there. Back then, believe it or not, you started to school in the first grade. We never heard of pre-school or pre-K, etc. Dad was drafted into the army near the end of WW II, so when it came time for me to go to school, mom was not able to take me as she did not drive. Also, there were three other younger kids at home. Bill was yet to be born.

So when the big day arrived, mom pinned my name on my shirt and sent me down the road to school. It was probably less than a mile and was near the church that we walked to each Sunday. I was frightened and stood out in the school yard crying until the principal came out and took me to my class room. Once in the room, I was among some familiar faces. My Dickson cousins lived near us and several of them were in the same room. There were only three rooms and three grades to a room.

I had already learned to read before starting to school so I was soon promoted to the second grade, but of course it was the same room. When we moved shortly thereafter to the Rossville area, I transferred to Osburn Elementary and was put back in the first grade (where I belonged). I have often said the first grade was the happiest three years of my life.

When we first moved to Graysville, I was not able to “talk plain” and some of my words were not easily understood. The Post Office was about a block away from the house and I would often go for our mail. The folks working there knew me, but would not give the mail to me until I asked for it. Mom said it sounded like I was saying, “any moff fa Dodman”. However, they knew it meant, “any mail for Dedmon”.

We found the “great big house” and the “big yard” with the “big cedar tree” in the corner. I don’t know what happened to it, but it had shrunk in the past 60 years. Nothing was as large as I remembered it. The four of us (Carolyn, Ruth, Tommy and myself) spent many hours playing in that “ole” cedar tree. Also, there was a cemetery next to us and if we got real brave, we might make a quick run through it. Although that didn’t happen very often.



Me and my two sisters, Carolyn and Alma Ruth. Tom was a baby and not in the picture.

Dad left for the army on my birthday, June 27, 1945. The same day his father, Judson Dedmon, was hit by a truck and died two days later. We had to get “Uncle Alex” Dickson to drive us to Macon, Georgia to

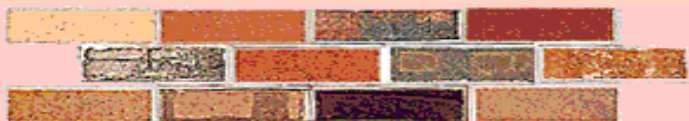


GORDON DEDMON (1945)

pick up dad and bring him home. He was able to stay a few days after the funeral before returning to duty. “Uncle Alex” was actually mom’s first cousin, but he seemed like an uncle, so we called him uncle, after all, his kids were cousins. We didn’t know the difference between first, second and third cousins in those days. The war ended soon after and Dad was discharged. They used to say with four kids at home the Army was paying mom more that it was paying dad.

After dad came home we bought our first house and moved to East Garden Farm Road near Rossville, Georgia. Prior to that we had lived in about five different houses, but they were either rental houses or one of the houses on the home place, near where I am now living. I remember tearing down one of the houses in which we lived. It was between where I am now living and my grandmother’s house. We have a barn near the spot where it stood. I lived on East Garden until after Jane and I married in 1959. At first we made an apartment out of the garage behind the house, but only lived there about three months and moved to Huntsville, Alabama. That’s another story for another day.

## THE BRICK WALL



*I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.*

From: Trista Dedmon  
[mailto:sascha911@comcast.net]  
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2006 2:24 PM  
To: gldedmon@alltel.net

Hi, just wanted to offer some information. Stumbled across this site looking up my surname. My name is Trista Dedmon, daughter of Thomas Benton Dedmon, Jr, son of Thomas Benton Dedmon, born 1921 all from Navasota TX ( Born in Stoneham/Plantersville, TX). Any connections out there? My email is sascha906@hotmail.com. Thanks, Trista

***Since this is an inquiry that I was unable to connect to the "tree", I decided to use it in the BRICK WALL column. I am sure with just a little more information we can make the connection. Here is my reply:***

Trista, Thanks for your inquiry... In order to make the connection, I will need to go a generation or two beyond your grandfather.... Is there anyone who may have some info on this.

For your information, Thomas is a very popular name in the Dedmon family. My grandfather was Thomas Judson and my brother is Thomas Gordon.

In the D E D M O N spelling we have record of 16 wearing the name Thomas. In the other variations we have 7- Thomas Dedman, 9- Thomas Deadman (our original spelling) 4- Dedmond and 2- Deadmond. Of course all of these are kinsman. While I believe all of us are related, there are two main lines of the Deadman lineage. One, which is my line, comes from Charles Deadman. The other is from the Christopher Deadman lineage. Both families came from England (Suffolk area). We have no info on Christopher's parents. I believe if we find them, they will connect to the Charles line... There are a few other "dead-ends" but these are the main two....

We had relatives who came from North Carolina to Georgia and then on to Arkansas. From there they dispersed to Oklahoma, Texas and California and parts beyond. I hope you have been able to read some of my Family Newsletters that are online at Dedmon.org. I will add your inquiry to the next issue....

Stay in touch and find some other family members who may hold the information we need. - Leroy

**Name:** Imogene Clanton  
**E-Mail:** ImgCln@aol.com

I am working on my grandmother Dedmon's family which goes back to Jesse Dedmon (son of Mark and Hannah) who married Anna McEntire. Would like to hear from others to possibly share and/or add information. GREAT SITE!

I found a mistake that I made on the date of marriage for William Leroy P. Dedmon. Instead of 2-21-1884 it should be 10-23-1884. He gave his age as 21 and Fannie Bell Lutz age her age as 18. I have a copy of this marriage license along with copies for the following Dedmons:

- 1). RUFUS L. (son of James Monroe) to Ollie May Self
- 2). CHARLIE CRAWFORD (Rufus Yancy) to Gertrude "Gertie" Wellmon
- 3). WILLIAM H. (James & Martha) to Sarah S. Walker
- 4). JESSE FRANK (Hezekiah) to Maggie Branton and his 2nd wife, Chalotte "Lottie" Wellmon
- 5). ALBERT JARKINS (Hezekiah) to Louisa Irvin
- 6). RUFUS YANCY (Hezekiah) to Minnie Susan Lutz
- 7). AUGUSTUS CLEOPHUS (William Leroy) to Connie Willman
- 8). THOMAS LAWSON (James Monroe) to Verdie Horn
- 9). ALONZO (James Monroe) to Ola Branton
- 10). WILLIAM WELLMAN (Jesse Frank) to Mamie B. Sipe

If anyone wants a copy, just let me know. Will be happy to share. Take care, Imogene

***I included more from Imogene on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter. Some of you may have additional information to add or change anything listed. It is interesting to find another of our "long lost" cousins by now.***  
--Leroy

## EDWARDSVILLE - Johnny Rockets may soon have an Edwardsville location.

Johnny Rockets' corporate officials have approved a site at University Pointe II, a 56,000-square-foot strip mall that opened earlier this year off Illinois 157 at 1053 Century Drive. **Susie Dedmon** is negotiating a lease for the spot, which will be her second franchise of the '50s-themed diner.



**Dedmon** on Nov. 7, 2003, opened her first Johnny Rockets at 3320 Green Mount Crossing Drive in Shiloh. She said she hopes to finalize a lease with the Edwardsville shopping center owner, RLP Development, within the next four months. "We're very serious about the location at University Pointe II," said **Dedmon**, who also said the city's expanding development and growing population enticed her to select the 2,600-square-foot spot at the shopping center. "I like it because it's kind of open to the high school and the college, since we're such a family-oriented restaurant. I think it lends itself to the neighborhood."

Pending approval, the metro-east's second Johnny Rockets restaurant could open within the next six months, **Dedmon** said. As part of her franchise-area development agreement with the Aliso Viejo, California based chain, **Dedmon** has agreed to open four franchises. She plans to open another one in St. Clair County and one in south St. Louis County. She would not say exactly where or when the final two restaurants will open.

Johnny Rockets in Shiloh has recently expanded its service and menu to include breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays, which **Dedmon** said will also be included at the new Edwardsville restaurant. The breakfast menu includes buttermilk pancakes, ham, bacon and potatoes.

"It's gone extremely well," she said of the weekend breakfast menu at the Shiloh restaurant. "We've had an overwhelming response from the market."

Breakfast at Johnny Rockets is served from 7:30-10:30 a.m. on Saturdays and 7:30-11 a.m. on Sundays.



...Just the  
**GOOD  
NEWS**

### Brian Dedmon

- Age: 24
- Gender: male
- Astrological Sign: Cancer
- Zodiac Year: Dog
- Location: Jackson: MS
- About Me:



I'm a 24 year old Seminary student who just returned to New Orleans, LA to finish my Masters Degree in Christian Education. I'm the guy everybody either loves or hates cuz I hate the movies everybody loves and love the movies everybody hates. Did that make sense? Read it a few times and you'll get it. I spent a year in San Francisco going to Seminary there and decided that Cali was too big for this Mississippi boy. I returned to the Bible belt to be with my family, my girlfriend, and don't forget sweet tea and food that has flavor. I graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2004 with a Film degree and minor in Vocal Performance (Music). I often lead worship and perform for various audiences. I love the whole experience of going to the theater and seeing a good film on the big screen. My mission is to lead participate in a ministry that is appealing, entertaining, worshipful, and life-changing for the average, everyday Joe.

*Of course this is not my nephew, Brian, but when I saw the picture and article, I did a double take. At this point I have no idea as to how he "fits" in our tree, but maybe someone who knows him will see this and send the information. He may belong to the Mississippi Dedmons that we have not been able to place. I did have a good contact in Mississippi, but lost the name and address. I think Jim Dedmon knows. We share the same Astrological Sign, Cancer. He can be contacted by his email at: [brainded\\_productions@hotmail.com](mailto:brainded_productions@hotmail.com). You can read his movie reviews at his web page: <http://www.hollywoodjesus.com/comments/brian/blog.html>*  
--Leroy

## From the Mail Bag

**From:** Imogene Clanton  
 [mailto:ImgCln@aol.com]  
**To:** gldedmon@alltel.net  
**Subject:** Dedmon file



My name is Imogene Clanton, a Dedmon descendent. My great grandfather was Rufus Yancy Dedmon. I am going to try to send you some information that I put together in my own design for his family line.

In my file, prior to Hezekiah "Kiah" Dedmon who married Leona Rozanna Weathers, is not correct according to Danny McBee, so just disregard that part. The rest of my information came from family members, cemetery markers, birth, death, and marriage records found at Register of Deeds offices.

Here is some STUFF that you may or may not want. I have these pictures that may be off interest to you or someone else so I am sending them your way. This does not mean that you have to use them. I have some items relating to the Dedmons also that I will try to send at another time.

My line of having Jesse Dedmon as a son of Mark and Hannah Bailey Dedmon was wrong according to Danny McBee. But the rest of the information I obtained from family members, birth, death, and marriage records. Also some data came from Heritage books for different counties.

Guess I will shut up for now. Was so glad to find your web site. It is GREAT! You are doing a great job with your web site.

Just wish now that I could gather more information on the Yarborough's. My father's mother was a Yarborough. I have some but there could be more. Later,  
 A cousin somehow related,  
 Imogene Clanton  
 from Lincolnton, NC



*Actually the above letter was two different letters, but I put them together as they seemed to go together very well. The "STUFF" she sent appears in the adjacent column as well as the next page. I labeled them as she did, with no additional information. --Leroy*



(FRONT ROW) MARY LOU F. SEAGLE, ELSIE MARIE F. BROWN, MARTHA ROZANNA "ROCKY" DEDMON FISHER, CHARLES "CHARLIE" LESTER FISHER, (BACK ROW) ALFRED EVOID, RUFUS FRANKLIN "R.Y." DEDMON, AND FOREST LEE FISHER.



RUFUS YANCY DEDMON



MINNIE SUSAN LUTZ



(1ST ROW) RUFUS YANCY DEDMON HOLDING DAUGHTER, HATTIE ELIZABETH AND HIS WIFE MINNIE LUTZ DEDMON HOLDING SON, FREDRICK YANCY. (2ND ROW ON THE LEFT) MARTIN LUTHER, (ON THE RIGHT) DRU ZELLA. (3RD ROW) CHARLIE CRAWFORD, BESSIE LEE LOU VIXIE, MARTHA ROXANNA



(FRONT) HATTIE ELIZABETH DEDMON, (FRONT ROW) AUNT "LIZ", FREDRICK YANCY ON RUFUS YANCY'S LAP, MINNIE SUSAN LUTZ DEDMON, DRU ZELLA, (BACK ROW) CHARLIE CRAWFORD, BESSIE LEE, LOU VICIE, MARTIN LUTHER, MARTHA ROXANNA "ROCKY"



**THE A.V. DEDMON FAMILY, 1950 FRONT ROW: (L-R) JOE, RICHARD, SUE, ROY. BACK ROW (L-R) DORIS ANN, AV. LIZZIE LEE, MARY RUTH, CHARLES.**



**TED DEDMON FAMILY: KAREN, ANNA MARIE, MICHAEL, ALLIE AND TED**



**DAVID VANCE AND BESSIE LEE DEDMON CHILDRES CELEBRATED 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 1959**



**LIZZIE LEE KENDRICK DEDMON, CIRCA 1965**



**SANDY, GARTH, SUSANNAH, AND RICHARD DEDMON, 1984**



**IRENE CHILDRES DAVIS 1911-2000**



**ROY LEE, ANNA LEE, CONNIE, LIZZIE, AND SARAH DEDMON**



**DEDMON HOMEPLACE**



**MARTHA ROZANNA DEDMON AND CHARLIE LESTER FISHER CELEBRATED 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**



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Ned Dedmon, Broker/Owner of Century 21 Dedmon Properties Ned has been in real estate since 1977 and has specialized in residential and commercial real estate. "I have always made customer satisfaction my number one priority and will accept nothing less for our clients and customers. You have a choice of who helps you with your real estate needs and we appreciate you choosing us."



Deedie Dedmon Deedie has been one of the top producers in Cleveland County for over fifteen years. In 2005, Deedie received her fifteenth Centurion Award from Century 21 International; this places her in the top two percent in the Century 21 System worldwide. Deedie's philosophy is very simple "I feel that every person is entitled to the same level of service no matter if they are buying their first home or a home on Moss Lake. I appreciate your business and will work for it."



Andy Dedmon Andy has been in real estate since 1990 and holds the prestigious GRI designation that is held by the top ten percent of Realtors. Andy places a high regard for public service and served three terms in the North Carolina House where he was elected to the position of majority whip which he held for four years. Over his years in real estate Andy has specialized in rental property management and investment properties.



**Rainbow Point Lodge**

Welcome to the Bitterroot Valley and Rainbow Point Lodge. We are a family operated vacation and fishing lodge in the heart of the Bitterroot Valley. We are located 10 miles south of Hamilton on Old Darby Road, which provides a scenic route from Hamilton to Darby. We have years of experience Fly Fishing

Western Montana. Our goal is to make coming to the Bitterroot Valley to fish as smooth as possible. With one phone call you can book a float trip, arrange lodging or even make dinner reservations. Let our staff help you with your Fly Fishing vacation plans.

*I am fascinated at the various businesses owned and operated by our family members. Just think about it. We probably can travel the length and breadth of this great nation and find relatives who are in business. Let me know of others that you know about. What a great way to plan our vacations. I have already found more for next month.*

*--Leroy*



*This page is dedicated to the “branches” of our tree that are not Dedmons. There are several hundred of such families. I will gladly print any information you send me as to your relatives. This includes inlaws and “outlaws”. --Leroy*

**Mary Walker, 57, Rossville**

Mary “Liz” Walker of Rossville died Wednesday, Jan. 18, at a local hospital. She was 57. She was a native of north Georgia and a member of Burning Bush Baptist Church. She was formerly employed with Lowe’s, Abe Shavin Hardware and K-Mart. Survivors include her husband, Terry Walker; sons, Chad Walker of Red Bank, Tenn., Heath Silvey of Chattanooga, Tenn.; brothers, Charles Jennings and Earl Jennings, both of Ringgold; sisters, Eva Hanshaw of Ringgold, Rose O’Dell of Dutton, Ala., Nancy Byrd of Chickamauga; nine grandchildren. Services: Sunday, Jan. 22, at 2 p.m. at the funeral home chapel with minister C.G. Griffith officiating. Burial: Burning Bush Cemetery. Visitation: Friday, Jan. 20, from 5-8 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 21, from noon to 4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Heritage Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe. Condolences may be sent at [www.heritagefh.com](http://www.heritagefh.com). Arrangements by Heritage Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe.

**Alton Walker, 60, Chickamauga**

Alton Walker of Chickamauga died Thursday, Jan. 19, at a local hospital. He was 60. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Bonnie Walker; wife, Rita Joyce Walker. Survivors include his daughters and sons-in-law, Tina and Bruce Hubbard of Chickamauga, Tammy Walker of Chickamauga, Terry and Tonya Walker of Rossville, Tracy Skyles of Chickamauga, Teresa Walker of Rossville; 14 grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Services: Monday, Jan. 23, at 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home chapel with Rev. Allen Boles officiating. Burial: High Point Cemetery. Visitation: Sunday, Jan. 22, all day, and Monday until service time. Online guestbook at [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com). Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe.

**Wendall Walker, 52, Rossville**

Wendall Eugene Walker of Rossville died Sunday, Feb. 12. He was 52. He was a lifelong resident of the north Georgia area, and was a landscaper with Yates Bleachery for more than 10 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Marie Walker; four brothers, Alton, Clinton, Richard and LeVon Walker. Survivors include three sisters, Norma Thomas of Flat Rock, Ala., Stella Belk and Charlotte Smith, both of Jasper, Tenn.; several nieces and nephews. Services: Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 2 p.m. at the Fort Oglethorpe chapel with Jerry Pittman officiating. Burial: Old Lookout Cemetery. Visitation: Monday, Feb. 13, after 3 p.m., all day Tuesday, Feb. 14, and prior to the service Wednesday at the funeral home. Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe.

**Jeffrey Petty Jr., 59, Chickamauga**

Jeffrey Lynn Petty Jr. of Chickamauga died Wednesday, Jan. 11. He was 59. A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., he worked many years at the Chattanooga Coke and Chemical Co., and also at Lake Winnepesaukah until he became sick with cancer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jeff and Beulah Petty; brother, David Petty. Survivors include his two sons and daughter-in-law, Michael Dewayne and Jill Petty of Ooltewah, Tenn., John Gregory Petty of Chattanooga; granddaughter, Sydney Michele Petty of Ooltewah; one niece and several cousins. Services: Monday, Jan. 16, at 1 p.m. at Lakewood Memory Gardens, South with Rev. Daniel Hamby officiating. Visitation: Saturday, Jan. 14, after 5 p.m., all day Sunday, Jan. 15, and prior to the service on Monday. Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe.

**H. Clark Daffron, 81, Ringgold**

H. Clark Daffron of Ringgold died Monday, Jan. 2, at a local hospital. He was 81. He was a longtime resident of Catoosa County, having been born and raised in Tennessee. He was of the Baptist faith and a member and Past Master of Thompkins Lodge No. 466 F&AM. He had been active in several of the local lodges of the Free and Accepted Masons. He was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Ringgold Chapter No. 245. He and his wife Jo were active members of the Chattanooga-area Antique Automobile Club of America for many years. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Navy as a gunner aboard the USS Intrepid. In his early years he worked at Chattanooga Mattress Co. and at Monarch Manufacturing Co. He opened Daffron’s Upholstery Shop on Graysville Road in 1963. He was a master upholsterer and retired after 35 years in business. He is preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Nora Dell Manley Daffron; brothers, Wiley, Olan and Andy H. Daffron; sisters, Myrtle Wells, Willie Bell Clayton, Inez Chastain. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Jo Williams Daffron of Ringgold; daughter and son-in-law, Cheri and Dave Garren of Ringgold; son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Nonnie Daffron of East Ridge, Tenn.; three grandsons, Matthew A. Sylar, Samuel C and Benjamin M. Daffron; one granddaughter, Savannah M. Daffron; one great-grandson, David Allen Mathis Sylar and granddaughter-in-law, Becky; sisters, LaVern Kellerhalls, Elnora Love, Evelyn Pharr, Shirley Keown; several nieces and nephews. Services: Thursday, Jan. 5, at 2 p.m. at the funeral home chapel with Dr. Keith McLeod, Howard Pippin and Rev. Steve Daffron officiating with a Masonic graveside service. Burial: Anderson Memorial Gardens. Visitation: Wednesday, Jan. 4, from 1-9 p.m. and Thursday, Jan. 5, from 8 a.m. until funeral time at the funeral home. Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Home, Ringgold.

*I am not sure if any of these were “family members. However, my grandmother was a Walker. I know several Walker families here in the North Georgia area. So far I have not been able to connect any of them to the tree. My Aunt Dorothy was married to Charlie Petty, but I don’t know if Jeff was part of his family. My ggg grandmother was a Daffron and we are still searching for the connections. --Leroy*