

December 15, 2003

REUNION OF W. D. AND MYRTLE COLLINS' DESCENDANTS

Date/Time: Saturday, June 12, 2004
3:00 p.m. – registration
4:00 p.m. – visiting
6:00 p.m. – hamburgers, pictures and old movies of family
After meal – Share memories and old movies of family
Sunday, June 13, 2004
1:00 p.m. – lunch catered by Clanton's of Vinita
2:00 p.m. – business meeting
3:00 p.m. – tour of Granddad's and Grandma's home place

LOCATION: Bunker Hill Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
12 miles west of Vinita on Hwy 60

Dear Cousins:

June 12th and 13th will soon be here and time for another reunion. "Back to Bunker Hill" is the theme for the 2004 reunion. Please bring pictures from the past, especially ones of ranch life. I will bring "Old Movies" from the old reel movie camera put on VCR tapes. If you have any tapes please bring them also. If you have slides and need me to furnish a slide projector please let me know with your reservation.

Below you will find some motel names and their phone numbers. Also and RV Park if that is needed. MAKE YOUR MOTEL RESERVATION EARLY. PLEASE mail your meal reservations to me no later than May 15th. Cost per person will be \$7.00 per adult and \$4.00 per child. Tell your children and grandchildren so they can make their motel reservations early too.

Enclosed you will also find some questions you might answer and bring for Saturday evening. Looking forward to see you next June AND HAPPY HOLIDAY TOO ALL.



Wayne Collins 312 Savannah Park Pryor, Ok. 74361 (Cell Phone) 918-630-6967

Holiday Inn Express – 918-256-4900

Holiday Motel - 918-256-6429

Western Motel - 918-256-7542

Park Hill Motel RV Park 918-256-5511

Super 8 Motel - 918-783-5888 (Near truck stop at Big Cabin Exit)

Hope you can come. I think will have a large group of my nieces & nephews & my fam.

Identification, Pictures on Page 1

Row 1

- # 1 Bunker Hill Baptist Church, (near) Vinita, Oklahoma
- # 2 Frances "Fran" (Collins) Minson (dau of W. D. and Myrtle)
- # 3 Last ranch home of W. D (Uncle Bill) Collins; Bill Collins, Wilma (Cook) Collins, _____, Twyla (Collins) Dixon, Rex Collins, Jesse Bob Collins.
(Wilma widow of Carl; Bill, Twyla, Rex, and Jesse Bob children of Carl and Wilma)

Row 2

- # 1 Front row: Beth Dixon, Wilma (Cook) Collins (Beth dau of Twyla & Richard)
Back row: Robert "Jesse Bob" and Melinda (Dudley) Collins,
Rex and Marlene (Klotz) Collins, Richard and Twyla (Collins) Dixon
William D. "Bill" and Mary Ann (Humphrey) Collins
- # 2 Front row: Frances "Fran" (Collins) Minson; (daughter) Ramona Minson
Back row: Bradley and Cathy (Payne) Minson (son, dau-in-law of John & Becky),
John Minson (son of Fran and Glenn), Lance Minson (son of John and Becky)

Row 3

- # 1 Front row: Quinton Havener (son of Paul and Jennifer)
George and Rita Fern (Collins) Havener (Rita dau of Chester & Ruby)
Zachary Havener (son of Paul and Jennifer)
Back row: Paul Havener (son of George and Rita), _____ Havener (dau of Paul
and Jennifer), Jennifer Lea (Hood) Havener
- # 2 Front row: Girl friend of Matt Collins, Susan (Bilke) Collins (wife of Gary),
Joshua Collins (son of Gary and Susan)
Back row: Matt Collins (son of Gary & Susan), Gary Collins (son of Ray & Lorene)
- # 3 Front row: Robert and Glenda (Collins) Inman (Glenda dau of Glenn and Elma)
Grand-children on their laps
Back row: D'anne (Inman) _____ and Deborah (Inman) _____ with spouses
and children. The two older boys on left side of picture are D'anne's;
The two younger children on Grandpa and Grandma's laps are Deborah's.
(D'anne and Deborah daus of Robert and Glenda)
- # 4 Wayne and Phyllis Ann (Drake) Collins (Wayne son of Chester & Ruby)

Row 4

- # 1 Wayne and Ruth (Collins) McQuerry (Ruth dau of Edd and Glacie)
- # 2 Jamesetta (Collins) Newman (Dau of Glenn and Elma), _____,
Glenda (Collins) Inman, De'Anna (Inman) _____, Ruth (Collins) McQuerry
- # 3 Connie (Tucker) and Roy Collins (Roy son of Chester and Ruby)

Row 5

- # 1 Bill Collins; John Minson; Jesse Bob Collins; Rex Collins; Gary Collins
- # 2 Rita Havener; Twyla Dixon; Glenda Inman
- # 3 John Minson; Lance Minson; Lorene Collins; Gary Collins

"Back to Bunker Hill" W.D. & Myrtle Collins
Reunion Vinita, Oklahoma
June 12, 13, 2004

Collins Family Questions -

1. How many of W.D.'s horses can you name and what color. *Pet, Chief, SNIP, TAKE, Prince, Babe jawe, Babe, Ronny, JACIE*
2. What was the largest building on the ranch and where was it?
hay barn on top of hill; where church was held before Bunker Hill was built.
3. What two brands did granddad use in Craig County?
Diamond bar 1/4 circle diamond
4. What disease did grandma almost die from that she caught from chickens?
Rabbit fever
5. When a mother sheep had triplets - what did they do with the 3rd one and what was the group called? *orphan herd*
6. What was the largest number of acres of the ranch?
almost 1300 acres
7. Only one of the Collins preached at Centralia. Who was it?
Glenn
8. What was the original name of Bunker Hill Baptist Church?
Estella Baptist Church
9. Which one of the men did a horse drag?
Ray -
10. How many brothers and sister did granddad have? Name them.
1943 ↓
11. When did grandma and granddad's house burn? Where did they live while the new one was being built? *Lived in chicken house & fought the mites.*
12. In the 1950's - who was their closest neighbors?
Elva Berry ? Felling
13. What families lived in the shack on the west side of the ranch?
Wilma + Carl; Glenn + Elma; Ray + Lorena
14. What year was Bunker Hill Church building built?
1950
15. What family in Craig County influenced Collins' to move to Craig County?
Bert Beck
16. Where did W. D. & Myrtle live before moving to Craig County?
Pawnee, OK.
17. How large was granddad and grandma's house?
5 rooms
18. How tall was grandma?
5'
19. Who besides grandma and granddad had a house burn on the ranch?
Carl + Wilma 1948

Collins Family Questions –

1. How many of W.D.'s horses can you name and what color.
2. What was the largest building on the ranch and where was it?
3. What two brands did granddad use in Craig County?
4. What disease did grandma almost die from that she caught from chickens?
5. When a mother sheep had triplets – what did they do with the 3rd one and what was the group called?
6. What was the largest number of acres of the ranch?
7. Only one of the Collins preached at Centralia. Who was it?
8. What was the original name of Bunker Hill Baptist Church?
9. Which one of the men did a horse drag?
10. How many brothers and sister did granddad have? Name them. *12*
George, Myrtle, Meriam, & wife, Euel, Eunice, Walter, Rosa, Edwin,
Roy, unnamed baby, & Clara
11. When did grandma and granddad's house burn? Where did they live while the new one was being built?
12. In the 1950's – who was their closest neighbors?
13. What families lived in the shack on the west side of the ranch?
14. What year was Bunker Hill Church building built?
15. What family in Craig County influenced Collins' to move to Craig County?
16. Where did W. D. & Myrtle live before moving to Craig County?
17. How large was granddad and grandma's house?
18. How tall was grandma?
19. Who besides grandma and granddad had a house burn on the ranch?

June 2000

Collins descendants to gather for reunion

Descendants of the late W.D. and Myrtle (Wolf) Collins will gather Sunday, June 11 for their 2nd biannual reunion. Granddaughter Rita (Collins) Havenar and her husband, George, 323 S. Foreman, will again host the event.

The 1998 reunion was attended by 83 family members from Arkansas, Arizona, California, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas and Wyoming as well as a number of Oklahoma communities.

W.D. and Myrtle Collins moved from Jerioc Springs, MO, to Pawnee County, OK, in 1933 with their seven children: Glenn, Chester, Mabel, Carl, Lloyd, Ray and

Frances. Ten years later they, their unmarried children, and their married sons and their families moved to the Bunker Hill Community west of Vinita.

W.D., Glenn, Chester and Ray, who were ordained Baptist ministers pastoring churches in a number of area communities, including Bunker Hill. They, along with Carl, were also ranchers and did custom haying, doing business for many years as "W.D. Collins & Sons."

After serving in World War II, Lloyd moved his family to Cleveland, daughters Mabel and Frances lived with their families in Reedley, CA, and Ketchum, respectively. In the late '40's, Carl

and his family relocated in Phoenix, AZ.

W.D. and Myrtle have been followed in death by Glenn and grandson, Mitchell "Mitch" Collins; Chester, wife Ruby (Cliffman), and daughter-in-law, Shirley (Abbott); Mabel's husband, Herbert Lee; Ray and daughter, Sandra Polson; and Frances' husband, Glenn "John" Minson. The 121 living family members live in over 14 states and the U.K.

A good turnout is expected for this year's gathering. The family hopes many friends from the area will drop by to visit throughout the day, and a cordial invitation to do so is extended by the hosts.



Children of W.D. and Myrtle Collins are shown above: back row from right, Edwin Glenn Collins, Raymond Leroy Collins, Carl J. Collins, Chester Paul Collins. Front row: Mabel

Collins Lee, Lloyd Collins, Frances Collins Minson. Their descendants will gather this Sunday at the home of George and Rita Havenar for the 2nd biannual reunion.

March 18, 2000

Dear Family,

It doesn't seem possible that over two years have gone by since that first letter asking if you were interested in a reunion of W.D. and Myrtle Collins' descendants. The response was tremendous as was the turnout for our first get-together in over 30 years.

On June 14, 1998, eight-three of us, plus several long-time family friends in the Vinita area, showed up, and a good time seemed to be had by all. Some of the teenagers even told their parents they would like to do it again. WOW!! You can't get better reviews than that, now can you?

The majority of those attending either had never met or were meeting for the first time in a long time or as adults, but no one seemed to feel out of place or uncomfortable. Everyone entered into the spirit of the occasion, and by the end of the day, new bonds had been forged and old ones renewed. Rita and George were perfect hosts, opening up their beautiful home and spacious grounds to all. They have since added a large pool to the backyard and invite all who want to indulge to bring their swimsuit and towel, and enjoy!

The catered meal was delicious with enough left over for those who were still around at suppertime. A large awning provided shade and with lots of soft drinks on hand, no one seemed overly bothered by the warm temperatures. There were two wading pools for the little ones and volleyball for those young enough (in body and/or spirit) to play. The rest of us enjoyed a leisurely day of visiting, looking at photos and taking new ones. A large notebook held the memories you had sent, and as different ones read them, more than one "yes, and remember when..." was heard and enjoyed. It will be on hand again this year along with one holding the memories we are once again asking you to share. (This time there is not a 'memory theme' - just any special memory about any family member or family event that you would like to share.)

A short 'business session' was conducted after lunch by the M.C. for the day, W.D. & Myrtle's first grandchild, Jamesetta (Collins) Newman. It was decided to 'do it again' on the 2nd weekend of June, every other year (which makes it the even years). George and Rita graciously offered their home again for the next one on June 11, 2000. Their offer was appreciated and readily accepted.

Rita and I were asked to plan that event also; and Rita and Lorzne Collins to continue in charge of the money that comes in and the expenses incurred. It was voted unanimously that the balance left (around \$80.00) should go to George and Rita to help defray the cost of utilities. They declined, saying they preferred to leave it to help with the cost of future reunions.

That brings us to the upcoming reunion set for Sunday, June 11. Enclosed are several sheets much like those used before. Feel free to copy the family data sheet and memory sheet for other members of your household and any others who did not receive this mailout. Please note the due dates for the return portion so Rita can make final arrangements for the food and so forth. (If you're like me, the best time to do this is now before you lay it aside and forget!) Your timely participation is vital to the continuance of this event, so even if you aren't able to attend this time, please share a memory and update your family's data. And mark your calendar for Reunion 2002!

The data sheet is to be returned to Jan Collins (my sister). She has developed a database on which family information can be stored, updated, and used in the future. I am most appreciative of her help as several health issues make it impossible for me to continue doing it. (Hence, the 2-year delay of this report and thank you's, for which I sincerely apologize.)

Several of you have expressed a desire for a complete list of names and addresses of the family and I am happy to tell you that is now available by contacting Jan. Her address is included on one of the enclosures, along with Rita's and mine.

In closing, on behalf of Rita, I thank each one of you who responded to our query back in 1998, and expressed a desire to get together as a family. Thank you for making it happen by participating to the degree you were able (attending and/or furnishing memories/data), and for the many comments, cards, and notes of appreciation we have received since. We enjoyed doing it and were more than compensated by its success.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's event as well as those in the future. Remember, all the planning and preparation in the world will not keep it going and growing without YOUR participation!

Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart! Hope to see you in June!

Glenda (Collins) Inman

Lorene Collins 918-256-2926

821 N. Foreman 74301

REUNION OF W. D. AND MYRTLE COLLINS' DESCENDANTS

DATE/TIME: Sunday, June 11, 2000
 9:00 a.m. - registration
 12:30 p.m. - business session
 1:00 p.m. - lunch
 2:30 p.m. - photo session (by generations, families, etc.) *ph. 918-256-6166*

LOCATION: 323 S. Foreman, Vinita, OK (George & Rita Havenar's) 74301 - ~~427~~

MENU: BBQ meats, potato salad, baked beans, veggie tray, rolls, beverages (catered)

COST: \$6.50 per person (includes plates, cups, napkins, utensils, etc.)

BRING if you can: Dessert, lawn chairs, cameras, photos & albums (identified as yours), board games, musical instruments, family skit...

OTHER DETAILS:

- ↳ George and Rita are renting a large canopy at a cost of \$200. It will be set up on Friday and taken down on Monday by the rental company. If you can help with this expense, please include your donation in the check for your meal(s). Any extra money received will go to defray expenses for this/future reunions.
- ↳ Meal reservations need to be made by May 3. Please do so by completing and returning the enclosed form along with your check made out to Rita Havenar (address below).
- ↳ Roy Collins, being the second oldest grandchild, will serve as M.C. and lead a brief business session. Please be ready with thoughts and ideas for future reunions and ways you can/will help.
- ↳ George and Rita are getting 8-ft. tables and folding chairs, which need to be set up on Saturday. And veggie trays need to be put together (this is the only food item not being catered), as well as other odds & ends that could use some extra hands. If you are able to come and help, please do. And check with Rita about what to bring for lunch and/or supper that day. Several of us came on Saturday last time, and had a great time visiting while we worked.
- ↳ There will be lots of clean-up to restore the Havenar's backyard to normalcy on Sunday: left-overs put away, trash bagged, tables cleaned, collapsed, and returned; etc. Please try to help if you can.
- ↳ Lodging accommodations in Vinita are rather limited, so reservations should be made ASAP. The following are recommended by the 'locals' as well as those of us who used them before (prices may be slightly different):

Holiday Motel	On S. Wilson, near Havenar's	918-256-6429	King \$ 32 ⁰⁰ 9,10,11 2 queens/4 people \$38
Park Hill Motel	3 miles W. of Vinita	918-256-6429	Much older, but clean; 2 queens/4 people \$30; R.V. hookups too

If you have questions this mailout hasn't answered, please contact one of us, and we will be glad to help. We look forward to receiving your responses and seeing you June 11! Safe traveling!

To find us - Vinita Exit - turn right - continue straight ahead to Foreman, on Foreman turn left (S) to 323. See ya soon, F.

Second Collins Reunion Shenandoah Aug 1955

As August of nineteen fifty five began
There was a hustle and a bustle among the Collins Clan
All summer long at the Edd Collins farm
Things were changing about the house and barn.

There went George, high and low,
Making the buildings white as snow.

George sent Edd the weeds to mow,
When he thought he was done
Glacie put him on the go.

There were tomatoes in the garden,
Peaches on the trees,
Meat, strawberries and pastry
In the deep freeze.

Even the neighbors, hospitality showed,
Offering beds, to help shoulder the load.

Lucy and Elmer, tho' living in town,
Took care of all who gathered 'round.

One old gal to Elmer said

"Tell us, how do you put them all to bed?"

How in the world do you feed such a crowd?"

If they'd come in on me I'd need a shroud."

But Lucy and Elmer no sleep they lost,
For 'twasnt the first time they'd seen a host.

Friday, off to the park, Oh, what fun!
But when they mentioned the pencils

Bill's troubles began.

Some said pencils, others ball point pen,

when someone said Shaffer my fun
Came to an end.

One morning, quite early, Elmer took
Some of the Girls

Thru' the park where he works
But they saw no squirrels.

A beautiful park makes a wonderful playground;
What a blessing, if in every town one could be found.

Sunday morning - Off to Shen

To see the cousins and all of the clan.

People gathered from far away

To try to make this a happy day.

Pictures were taken and dinner o'er -

Now we must count to get the score.

Big, little, rich or poor,

We added up to eighty or more.

Now since George is far away,

Edd brought the beef home the other day.

Her says it's very very fine

But George says "Old fellow, there'll be another time.

The buildings can go dingy,

The tomatoes unmulched,

While I go see Bleanie

Across the gulch."

George and Verne would make quite a pair,

But that wouldn't be treating Bleanie fair.

That reunion is over - another's ahead
There won't be much to eat and a very poor bed,
But don't let that bother - just come along
We'll try to take care of the the joking throng.
It's only one year and eight months till Oct. 57,
So all come on down, lets make it one hundred eleven.

Composed Feb. 5, 1926 by W.D. and Myrtle Collins
Inspired by George's poem.

We're no poets as you can see
But, hope this jingle brings you glee

2938 Roberta Drive
Orange, CA 92669
28 June 1985

Dear Glenn & Elma;

Wayne and I congratulate you on your 50th Wedding Anniversary! We send our Best Wishes to each of you. Wayne and I will not be able to share in your celebration and joy in person but you can be assured we will be there in spirit.

Our families have been too far apart geographically to share everyday experiences, sorrows and joys. The earliest memories I have of Glenn was as a young man (before Elma!) and I'm sure he thought I was just another of those "silly, giggly girls" along with Frances and Virginia Foster. We all had such fun at family gatherings held at Grandma & Grandpa Collins near Jerico Springs.

Then the next thing that comes to mind is visiting the Collins Clan in Oklahoma during haying season, probably during the late 1930's. All the men were busy in the hay fields, while the women were busy cooking, washing dishes and all the other tasks involved. Glenn & Elma, you had one or two small children at that time, but guess I was too busy "running around" with all the teen-agers including Elsie, Lydy, Ray, Franny, "Tubby", etc, etc. to really get acquainted with you.

After I became an adult with a family of my own I became much more aware of relatives and their families, then began to realize the value of relatives for the love, joy and support from each one.

During one of the Collins Reunions in Oklahoma, you invited my parents, Wayne & I to be guests in your new home. We were nearly overwhelmed with your hospitality and I can assure you that has been a high light in our memories.

May God's love be with you on your Golden Wedding Day and for each day of the remainder of your lives.

Much love to you from
your cousins,

Wayne & Ruth (Collins) McQuerry

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

RESOLUTION RELATING TO RENTAL/HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR
RETIRED OR DISABLED MINISTERS OF THIS CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church has and functions through Ministers of the Gospel who are duly ordained or licensed; and

WHEREAS, the practice of The United Methodist Church is to provide a parsonage or a rental allowance as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed ministers; and

WHEREAS, pensions paid to retired ordained or licensed ministers of The United Methodist Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired ordained or licensed ministers in consideration of previous, active service, and disability benefits are considered payments in lieu of compensation for active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that the PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST Annual Conference is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for retired ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this Conference; and

WHEREAS, the disabled minister has the same legal relationship to an Annual Conference as does the retired minister and, thus, this Annual Conference is also the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for a disabled ordained or licensed minister who is a member of this Conference;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. An amount equal to 100% of the pension payments received by a retired minister, or 100% of the disability benefit payments received by a disabled minister, during the year of 1984 be and is hereby designated as a rental/housing allowance respectively for each retired or disabled ordained or licensed minister of The United Methodist Church who is or was a member of the P AND SW Annual Conference at the time of his or her retirement or disability;
2. The pension or disability payment to which this rental/housing allowance applies shall be the pension or disability payment resulting from all service of such retired or disabled ordained or licensed minister from all employment by any local church, Annual Conference, General Agency, or institution of The United Methodist Church or of any former denomination that is now a part of The United Methodist Church, or from any other employer who employed the minister to perform services related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension or benefit funds of The United Methodist Church for such retired minister's pension or disabled minister's benefits.

NOTE:

The rental/housing allowance which may be excluded from a minister's gross income is limited to the lesser of (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the minister's employer or other appropriate body, (2) the amount actually expended by the minister to provide his or her housing, or (3) the legally-determined fair rental value of the parsonage or other housing provided. As specified in Rev. Rul. 71-280, 1971 C.B. 92, "the only amount that will qualify for exclusion under section 107(2) of the Code as a 'rental allowance' is an amount equal to the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities." Beginning in 1984, there is no longer a sick pay or disability income exclusion available with respect to disability benefit payments. Therefore, the full amount of disability benefit payments will be taxable income to the recipient beginning in 1984.

February 10, 1985

Dear Friends and Relatives,

We are planning a celebration for our parents, Glenn & Elma Collins, on their 50th wedding anniversary, August 3, 1985. Since this is a special time for Mom & Dad, we ask your help in three ways to increase their joy:

(1) Plan to be at their Open House Reception at 2:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Room at the REC Building, east of Vinita, OK, on Highway 66.

(2) Share a memory -- some incident, recollection, sentiment, photograph (with your comments attached), poem, etc. that comes to mind when you think of times spent with our parents.

Put these on paper (8½" X 11" or smaller, one side only please--more than one page is fine) and mail at your earliest convenience to:

Jan Bass
11910 Plainfield
Houston, TX 77031

We'll mount everything in a book and present it to them prior to the Open House. It will be available at the reception for your enjoyment too.

(3) We are attempting to locate and invite everyone possible. Please send us names and present (or last known) addresses of our parents' acquaintances. Would you also circulate this letter to your friends, your church and anyone who has known them?

Thank you in advance for your help. Hope to see you August 3, 1985.

Sincerely,

Jamesetta Newman
Ed Collins
Glenda Inman
Jan Bass

June 3, 1985

Dear Friends and Relatives,

When we sent the letter of announcement/invitation to our parents' 50th wedding anniversary reception, August seemed far away. Now it's less than two months until that celebration.

We appreciate those of you who have responded to that first letter. Thank you for additional names and addresses you have sent and sharing the announcement/invitation with others, as well as your memory book contributions. We are excited about those of you who have also included a note that you intend to come to the open house and will miss you who cannot.

If you have not sent something to be enclosed in the memory book, we encourage you to do so. This will have such special meaning to "Glenn and Elma" and we want you to be included. Please send your greeting card, poem, picture, or memorable incident involving our parents at your earliest opportunity to:

Jan Bass
11910 Plainfield
Houston, TX 77031

Let us remind you that the Open House Reception is August 3, 1985, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., in the Hospitality Room at the REC Building on Highway 66 east of Vinita, OK. If you have any questions, you may contact one of us at our parents' home the week of July 29; area code 918, 256-2404. Prior to that week, you can contact Glenda at area code 417, 725-2716.

Hope to see you August 3,

Jamesetta Newman
Ed Collins
Glenda Inman
Jan Bass

P.S. We extend an invitation to you, our family members, to a luncheon before the Open House Reception. This is a special request from our parents to honor their families. It will be a buffet served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Family pictures will be taken at 1 p.m. We hope you will be present for these events.

Please send a separate note with your memory book item indicating your intention to attend and how many in your family will be with us for lunch. This is not a reservation but just to help us plan the amount of food to prepare.

The Family Reunion.

In nineteen hundred and fifty five
We arrived in Shenandoah all alive.
The welcome we got was something to behold!
For the half of it has never been told.

Friday we were off on a lark,
And all gathered in Waubaunsee Park.

The jokes that went around were quite a few,
If you said a word, they would land on you.

Sat. at Edd's with brains to lend

Geo walked off with the big fountain pen.

They done him wrong both women & men

For they gave him his own old pen.

We talked about things both good & bad

Some were funny and some were sad

But the saddest that comes to my mind

Well, just let it pass, as the sorrow was mine.

Sunday, that was the day for them all

We headed for Shenandoah both large and small.

When it was ready, you could tell by the pat of the feet
My, how I like to hear my kinfolks eat!

But there was plenty for all and then to spare,

It made you wish that more were there.

Monday, they were all off for home

With sobs and tears and then a groan.

Now we are all home and O, how sweet

May God bless all until we meet.

May the Lord watch over wherever you roam

By the lone Black Sheep that has no home. - Geo. Collins

Now we are all getting well along our life's way
The youngest of us is getting gray.
I hope that we all can improve our ways
And live for God the rest of our days.

For Father's & Mother's Wedding Anniversary
written by George

It is 61 years since their "vows" were spoken
and never a time have they ever been broken
The world can all take a lesson from them
And we'd have better women as well as men.

They have had their luck both up and down
And they have taken them both without a frown.
I would that the lesson we could remember
That was started back there in that month of December.

It made no difference if it was early or late
I have yet to see a man turned from their gate
Tho' it was not always the best they had to share
Yet they gave it freely without a care
And many's the night I have slept on the floor
To give up my bed to some wind jamming bore
But we will all have to wait to collect any pay
Until we meet in a brighter day.

Of their thirteen children they raised but ten
Five were women and five were men
But from this number one has passed
It's forty long years since I saw her last.

REUNION WRAP-UP

In my typical expeditious fashion I'm finally mailing out some of the pictures from the reunion, and putting together this summary.

There were seventy family members in attendance plus several local friends both days...including eleven out of sixteen of my cousins. I had a great time.

A special thanks to:

- ❖ All of you good cooks for the pot-luck. (I'm up a couple of pounds)
- ❖ To Jesse and Nathan for manning the grill.
- ❖ To Jennifer and Paul for the great lunch on Sunday.
- ❖ To Tim, D'anne, Jesse and Twyla for letting me sit in on the jam session.
- ❖ To the good people of White Oak and George & Rita for the use of the perfect facility.
- ❖ To all of you who made the effort to attend, that's what made it good.

In the business meeting we decided to continue to have the reunion every other year, but to move it to the weekend after father's day, so I think the next one will be June 19-20, 2010 (is that possible?)

We also voted to donate, from the Collins family, a dedication plaque or sign identifying the "Ray Collins, White Oak Baptist Church, Family Center" (I'm not sure I got that exactly right). A committee was formed to consider the options, liaison with the church, and make it happen, (we would all participate in the cost). The committee is Jesse, Marlene, and Crystal. I'll bet that they would welcome any input that you would like to provide.

With this, I pass the baton off to Rex and Mar and look forward to seeing even more of "us" in 2010.

Y'all come back now Y'hear?

W.D.

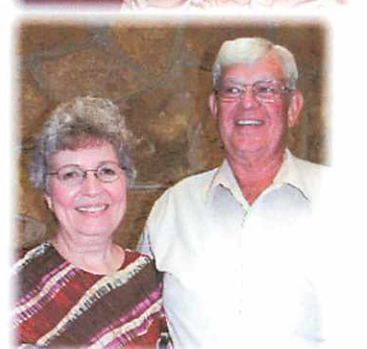


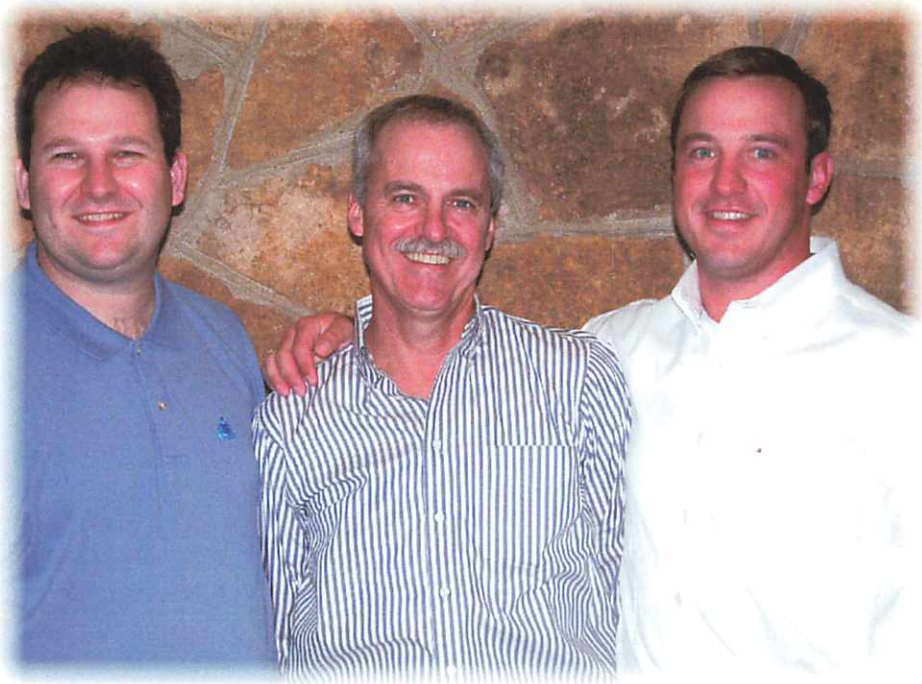
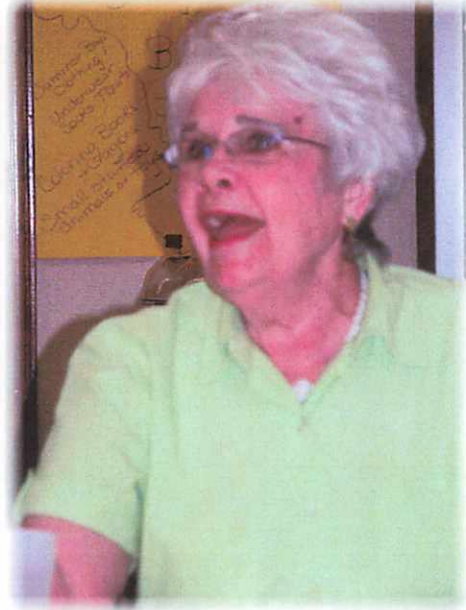
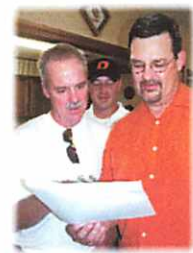
COLLINS FAMILY REUNION

June 12-13, 2004

Bunker Hill Baptist Church

Vinita, Oklahoma









With love, Rex & Mar





Identification, Pictures on Page 2

Row 1

- # 1 Lance Minson (son of John and Becky),
Brad and Cathy (Payne) Minson (Brad son of John and Becky),
John Minson (son of Glenn and Fran)
Rex Collins (son of Carl and Wilma)
- # 2 (upper) John Minson (son of Glenn and Fran)
Gary Collins (son of Ray and Lorene)
- # 3 (upper) Vernon "Tubby" Moore (relative of Myrtle (Wolf) Collins), John Minson
- # 2 (lower) Fran (Collins) Minson, Ruth (Collins) McQuerry, and Twyla (Collins) Dixon

Row 2

- # 1 seated: Fran (Collins) Minson, Ramona Minson (dau of Glenn and Fran)
Bradley and Cathy (Payne) Minson, John Minson, and Lance Minson
- # 2 Frances (Collins) Minson

Row 3

- # 1 Beth Dixon (dau of Richard and Twyla), Fran (Collins) Minson
- # 2 Brad Minson, John Minson, Lance Minson (Brad and Lance sons of John and Becky)

Identification, Pictures on Page 3

Row 1

- # 1 John Minson, Lance Minson, Lorene (Inman) Collins, Gary Collins
(John son of Glenn & Fran; Lance son of John & Becky; Gary son of Ray & Lorene)
- # 2 (upper) Wilma (Cook) Collins, Lorene (Inman) Collins study chart sent by Mable
(Collins) Lee. Mable dau of W. D. and Myrtle and widow of Herbert)
- # 2 (lower) Lorene (Inman) Collins (widow of Ray), Phyllis (Drake) Collins (w/o Wayne)

Row 2

- # 1 Susan (Bilke) Collins (w/o Gary), Lorene (Inman) Collins (widow of Ray)
- # 2 (front) friend of Matthew "Matt" Collins, Susan (Bilke) Collins (w/o Gary), and
Josh Collins (Matt and Josh sons of Gary and Susan)
- (back) Matt Collins, Gary Collins (Gary son of Ray and Lorene)
- # 3 (upper) Gary Collins, Rex Collins (Rex son of Carl and Wilma)
- (lower) Gary Collins, Rex Collins

Row 3

- # 1 Rex Collins, Lance Minson, John Minson, Ramona Minson, Gary Collins
- # 2 Beth Dixon (dau of Richard and Twyla), Gary Collins

Identification, Pictures on Page 4

Row 1 (All pictures in sanctuary, Bunker Hill Church, near Vinita, Oklahoma)

- # 1 Wilma (Cook) Collins (widow of Carl) and children – Twyla (Collins) Dixon and Bill, Rex, and Jesse Bob Collins
- # 2 Jesse Bob Collins, Rex Collins, Twyla (Collins) Dixon, Bill Collins, Wilma Collins
- # 3 Rex Collins, Jesse Bob Collins, Bill Collins, Twyla (Collins) Dixon, Wilma Collins

Row 2

- # 1 Mary Ann (Humphrey) Collins (w/o Bill), Rex Collins
- # 2 Marlene (Klotz) Collins and Rex Collins
- # 3 Beth Dixon (dau of Richard & Twyla), Richard Dixon, Twyla (Collins) Dixon
- # 4 Mary Ann (Humphrey) Collins and Bill Collins
- # 5 Jesse Bob and Melinda (Dudley) Collins

Row 3

- # 1 Rita (Collins) Havener (dau of Chester and Ruby), Mary Ann and Bill Collins, and Twyla (Collins) Dixon
- # 2 Rex Collins, Wayne Collins (son of Chester and Ruby)
- # 3 Connie and Roy Collins, Melinda and Jesse Bob Collins (Roy son of Chester & Ruby)
- # 4 Glenda (Collins) Inman, Melinda (Dudley) Collins

Row 4

- # 1 Beth Dixon, Wilma (Cook) Collins
- # 2 ?, Beth Dixon
- # 3 Rex Collins, ?
- # 4 Jamesetta (Collins) Newman (red blouse), Glenda (Collins) Inman (granddau on lap), Beth Dixon. The boy and other girl are Glenda's grandchildren. (Jamesetta and Glenda daughters of Glen and Elma)

Row 5

- # 1 John Minson, Jesse Bob Collins, Rex Collins, Gary Collins (John son of Glenn and Fran; Gary son of Ray and Lorene)
- # 2 (lower right picture) Wilma (Cook) Collins and Lorene (Inman) Collins study chart sent by Mable (Collins) Lee. Mable dau of W. D. and Myrtle and widow of Herbert)

Row 6 (lower left picture) Wayne Paul Collins conducts business meeting for reunion attendees on Saturday afternoon, 12 June 2004, at the Bunker Hill Church near Vinita, Oklahoma. (Wayne son of Chester and Ruby and organizer for the 2004 reunion of descendants of W. D. and Myrtle (Wolf) Collins.)

Identification, Pictures on Page 5

Row 1

- # 1 Wayne Paul and Phyllis (Drake) Collins, Ruth (Collins) McQuerry
(Wayne son of Chester and Ruby)
- # 2 (in door way) __?__, Susan (Bilke) Collins, Lorene (Inman) Collins (widow of Ray),
Richard Dixon, Beth Dixon, Twyla (Collins) Dixon, Gary Collins (behind Twyla),
Jesse Bob Collins, Wayne Collins. (Beth dau of Richard and Twyla; Twyla dau of
Carl and Wilma; Jesse Bob son of Carl and Wilma; Wayne son of Chester and Ruby)

Row 2

- # 1 Wayne and Phyllis (Drake) Collins
- # 2 George & Rita (Collins) Havener with son Paul and wife, Jennifer Lea (Hood) Havener,
and their children, Quinton, Zachary, and __?__ Havener.
(Rita dau of Chester and Ruby)
- # 3 Rex Collins (son of Carl and Wilma), Wayne Collins

Row 3

- # 1 __?__, Beth Dixon
- # 2 Wayne Collins, Rex Collins, Richard Dixon
- # 3 Connie (Tucker) and Roy Collins (Roy son of Chester and Ruby)

Row 4

- # 1 Visiting, catching up on family "comings and goings."
- # 2 Saturday evening supper at the Bunker Hill Church near Vinita, Oklahoma.
- # 3 Connie (Tucker) and Roy Collins

Identification, Pictures on Page 6

Row 1

- # 1 Wayne McQuerry, ___?___ (husband of D'anne Inman),
- # 2 Sons of D'anne (Inman) ___?___
- # 3 Jamesetta (Collins) Newman (red blouse), Glenda (Collins) Inman (granddau on lap), Beth Dixon. The boy and other girl are Glenda's grandchildren. (Jamesetta and Glenda daughters of Glen and Elma)

Row 2

- # 1 Bobby Joe Inman and granddaughter
- # 2 Deborah (Inman) ___?___, D'anne (Inman) ___?___, Deborah's youngest son (Deborah and D'Anne daughters of Glenda (Collins) Inman)
- # 3 Glenda (Collins) Inman, Lance Minson, Gary Collins (Lance son of John and Becky; Gary son of Ray and Lorene)

Row 3

- # 1 Bobby Joe and Glenda (Collins) Inman
- # 2 Bobby Joe and Glenda Inman with daughters, D'anne and Deborah (dark "T" shirt), D'anne and Deborah's spouses (back row), and Grandchildren. The two older boys (left side of picture) are D'anne's sons; the two younger children (on Grandpa and Grandma's laps) are Deborah's children.
- # 3 Glenda (Collins) Inman and grandson.

Row 4

- # 1 Bobby Joe Inman, Vernon "Tubby" Moore (Wolf relative)
- # 2 Rita (Collins) Havener, D'anne (Inman) ___?___
- # 3 George Havener, Bobby Joe Inman