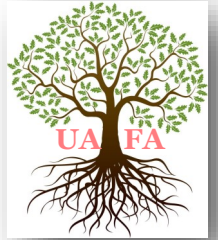


October 15, 2021

# UPCHURCH & ALLIED FAMILIES ASSOC.



UAFA National Home Office | 1130 Kildaire Farm Road, Suite 120 | Cary, NC 27511-4594



## FROM THE EDITOR



**Who**  
*doesn't love this  
time of year?*

If you've ever visited the beautiful Bonaventure Cemetery near Savannah, Georgia, you may have seen a unique monument there—which displays the name UPCHURCH. UAFA's Dr. Tom Upchurch relates the story behind it.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are several kinds of coordinator or leadership roles available at UAFA! Whether it be transcribing biofiles, working on the Upchurch Tree on Ancestry or something different. UAFA realizes, for our cause to advance and flourish, everyone who volunteers needs to be able to use their own special skill-sets and enjoy their contribution.

*Cindy Hale*

## Joseph Cole Upchurch, Sr. and the Granite Piano

**By UAFA President Tom Upchurch, M.D.**

**J**oseph Cole Upchurch, Sr. (1 Feb 1917 – 21 Mar 2001) is buried at Bonaventure Cemetery on a bluff overlooking the Wilmington River East of Savannah, Georgia. The cemetery is one of the most beautiful in the world and JC's grave marker, a grand piano carved from black African marble by Charles Sipple, is certainly one of the most unique. The location and monument are appropriate reminders of a good and productive man.

It did not begin well. His grandfather, George Alford Upchurch, was manager of a

turpentine farm in Screven Co., Georgia when he was murdered by an unhappy employee. George's wife Anna was left with six children to raise alone. It was more than she could manage so the three oldest children, JC's father George Kelly Upchurch and two stepbrothers, were sent to Bethesda Orphanage Farms. George was ten years old when

he entered the orphanage. Fortunately, he took advantage of opportunities there and entered apprenticeship with Ludden & Bates Southern Music House. By age sixteen he had mastered his trade enough to open the Upchurch Piano Company in 1898.



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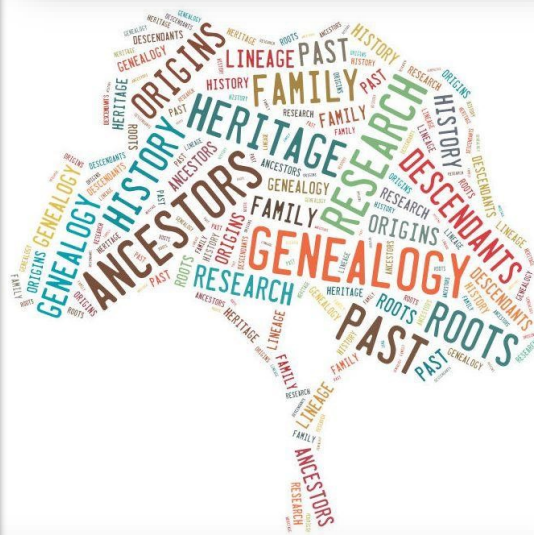
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UAFA is a great research resource! Thank you for your support. It's a good time to renew your membership or become a member of UAFA!



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UAFA is looking for Ancestry Tree Master Associates!

Do you or someone you know like genealogy and have access to Ancestry.com? Sign in and work on your own family tree. Our tree is growing and it's fun! Volunteer today! Contact: Linda Upchurch Sparks [lusparks@eplus.net](mailto:lusparks@eplus.net)





## Joseph Cole Upchurch, Sr. and the Granite Piano Continued from Page 1

JC worked with his father at the Piano Company when he was young then he and his new wife, Doris, joined his father in the business when he returned from his naval service in WWII. After George Kelly died in 1956, the business was moved to a new location in Savannah and renamed "Upchurch Music Company". JC and Doris subsequently operated the store at that site until the late 1980s when JC became too old to manage the business. After the store closed, he continued to work as a piano technician until his death. By that time pianos had been the family salvation and business for over 100 years. The marble piano memorial for JC seems quite appropriate.

The Joseph Cole Upchurch, Sr family is a member of the **Moses Upchurch clan**. JC and Doris had six children and many grandchildren. They named their first son Joseph Cole "Joe" Upchurch, Jr. He named his son Joe Cole "Cole" Upchurch III who named his son Joseph Cole "Joseph" Upchurch IV. If you have an Ancestry.com account, you can access the Joseph Cole Upchurch, Sr, family tree within the Moses Upchurch Clan Tree by [clicking here](#). (Note: living people will not be visible unless you are an authorized editor of the tree)

Joseph Cole "Joe" Upchurch, Jr is a strong supporter of UAFA and was an important source of information for this story. Thank you.

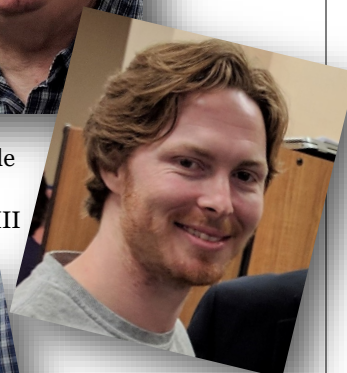
Joseph Cole  
"JC"  
Upchurch, Sr.



Joseph Cole  
"Joe"  
Upchurch, Jr.



Joseph Cole  
"Cole"  
Upchurch III



Joseph Cole  
"Joseph"  
Upchurch IV

David Thomas "Tom" Upchurch, M.D.  
is our distinguished President of UAFA  
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# 6 "Must Do" GENEALOGY PROJECTS FOR *October*

ANCESTRALFINDINGS.COM

*Are you looking for some excellent genealogy projects to keep you busy and building your family tree in October? Here are six of them you definitely must do before Thanksgiving.*

## 1. Do Some Cemetery Research in the Field

In some parts of the country, it is too hot to go outside and do cemetery research until around this time of year. If the weather is just starting to cool off for you, take some time to do that field research you've been meaning to get to.

## 2. Go to a New Archive or Genealogy Library

If you live in an area of the country where it is too cold to go out into the field in October, go to a new archives building or genealogy library instead. Make sure it's one you've been meaning to go to, and

enjoy some warm, toasty research inside.

## 3. Write Another Chapter on Your Family History

When you're working on a family history book, it can sometimes be difficult to find time to write in our busy lives. Try taking a month to write a chapter. Use this month to add one more chapter to the book.

## 4. Try Some Traditional Fall Family Recipes

Our ancestors ate seasonal foods, since shipping long distances wasn't widely available. Find some recipes using seasonal foods from your ancestors' time periods, and include one or two with your meals several times a week this month.

## 5. Make Fall Photo Collages

Gather pictures of your current family and/or ancestors in fall settings and make collages out of them. Frame the collages and put them on your walls for festive, seasonal genealogical decorations.

## 6. Visit Genealogically Significant Museums

With the weather getting cooler, now is the perfect time to get indoors and visit local museums with collections that are significant to your family history. Bring the kids to teach them more about the family history in a way they will enjoy.

Visit: [AncestralFindings.com](https://www.ancestralfindings.com)

