

James Ray**XID – 997****Commentary:** I. Richard Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. James Upchurch, VII

1. Gilly Upchurch married **James Ray**

Acknowledgements: The following Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, a volunteer and tireless contributor, who administers the UAFA center in Cary, NC

(no number) From: The Ray Family of Wake Co, NC by William Carroll Ray 1999, Page 35
One of Seven Ray Families on 1790 Census of Wake Co, NC

1. Daniel Ray [Head of Clan]

Little is known of this Daniel Ray. The 1790 census shows Daniel as the head of a family of four males and four females. Daniel is not thought to be a relative of Nathan Ray. Daniel is not documented in the early Wake County court records. A Daniel Ray owned 118 acres in adjoining Franklin County in 1820. On January 10. 1825, a Daniel Ray deeded land to James Ray in Franklin County.

(no number) Note: **James Ray** [son of Daniel Ray] married Gilly Upchurch, daughter of James Upchurch, VII of the Richard Upchurch, III/James Upchurch VII Sub-clan.

(no number) See biofile of Lucie Inez Hodge – Entry 6 Aug 2009

Inez confirms that her ancestor **James Ray** who married Gilly Upchurch was the son of Daniel Ray.

(no number) Franklin Co, NC Wills – Bradley Vol. 1 Entry 356

356. James Upchurch 1 May 1833 March Court 1850 (Bk N, p. 318)

To my wife, Thany – lend to her for life 400 acres where I now live; also negroes Esther, Richard, Rilly, Abram, Clary & Harriet; livestock, household & kitchen furniture, farming utensils, crops. To my son Kearney – 278 acres on Mocson Creek joining Burkely Upchurch, Larkin Upchurch, John Pearce & others, where he now lives, at my wife's death, I also give him half the negroes I have lent her. To my son Jimmison – 400 acres where I now live; the other half of my negroes that I have loaned my wife. At my wife's death, the residue of my estate to be sold & the money to be divided among my children a& granddaughters as follows: Gilly Ray the wife of **James Ray**, Elizabeth Phillips the wife of John Phillips, Cloa Cooley the wife of John Cooley, Jr., Thomas Upchurch, Jimmison Upchurch & my granddaughter Lecy Upchurch.

Ex. My son Kearney Upchurch

Wit. Matthew Strickland, Cornwell P Strickland, Saml Harris, Moses Harris, N. L Harris

James Upchurch, VII

Kearney Upchurch

James Ray

Gilly Upchurch

Elizabeth Thaney Upchurch

Stream file:

Moccasin Creek [cross list under UFU < 1850

NC Wake/Franklin Border

Thomas Upchurch

Jimmison Upchurch = Jamison Upchurch

John Phillips	Lecy Upchurch
Cloa Upchurch = Cloe Jane Upchurch	Matthew Strickland
John Cooley, Jr.	
Cornwell P. Strickland	Samuel Harris
Moses Harris	N. L. Harris

Will File

Thany Upchurch = nee Elizabeth Thaney Butler
 Burkley Upchurch Larkin Upchurch
 John Pearce

[Note: This is the family of James Upchurch, VII – head of the Richard Upchurch, III/James Upchurch, VII Sub-clan. Since the 1833 will of James Upchurch, VII doesn't not mention a son Williford Upchurch, it is presumed that Williford Upchurch died before 1833 – but a best guess is that granddaughter Lecy Upchurch is the daughter of Williford Upchurch. The son Thomas Upchurch, alive in 1833 is yet to be identified otherwise in the records – RPU]

(5) See Wake Co, NC Genealogical Society Newsletter Vol 6 No 2, May 1987

There will be a reunion 14 Jun 1987 – Zebulon, NC of

A. Descendants of **James Ray** born circa 1785 and Gilly Upchurch Ray born circa 1798.

B. Descendants of Thomas Ray and Elizabeth Pearce Ray who married 29 Mar 1783.

(6) See letter 12 Feb 1989 Willis Alton Reid, Jr to RPU

James Ray born circa 1785 died > 1860 presumably in Wake Co, NC married Gilly Upchurch.

(1) Per Attachment #27 West letter 18 May 1975 – Extract of Will – Franklin Co, NC

James Upchurch in 1 May 1833 will names wife Thaney – sons Kearney & Jamison and daughter Gilly Ray wife of **James Ray**. See James Upchurch for details.

(2) See 1850 Census- Wake Co, NC – Little River District

James Ray	age 65 m	farmer \$400	born NC	XID-997
Gilly Ray	age 52 f		“	[Gilly (Upchurch) XID-991]
Alvin Ray	age 20 m	farmer	“	
Bryant Ray	age 18 m	farmer	“	
Burwell Ray	age 14 m		“	
Thomas Ray	age 11 m		“	
Norman Ray	age 9 m		“	
Nancy Curtis	age 24 f		“	
Margaret Curtis	age 5 f		“	
Mary Faison	age 17 f		“	

(3) See Mar 1984 Newsletter – Wake Co, NC Genealogical Society

Daniel Ray was in Augusta Co, VA 1745 – 1800. His son **James Ray** married Elizabeth Gilly Upchurch, daughter of James and Thaney Upchurch.

[Note: The Gilly part is OK bur her 1st name may not have been Elizabeth as she had a sister Elizabeth – RPU] [James Upchurch is son of Richard Upchurch, III – RPU]

(4) See Biofile Gilly Upchurch – Entry 7 May 1984 – provided by Lucie Inez Hodge – a direct descendant

James (Jimmy) Ray born 1785 had 8 children as follows:

1. Albert Haywood Ray
2. Thomas Crudup Ray
3. Burl Ray
4. Norman Ray
5. Henderson Ray
6. Thaney Ray
7. Lizzie Ray
8. Candace Ray

(no number) Deed obtained by RPU & John Lee Upchurch, Jr on 15 Oct 1990

Franklin Co, NC

10 Jan 1825

Deed Book 21 Page 356 (mentioned in Reference 41, Page 154)

Daniel Ray (his home place) to **James Ray**

50 acres

Adjoins: --- Sandeford
William Richards

(no number) Re: Cindy Mize input to RPU 26 May 2007 re: Ray History

Her 10 page report concerns 4 early Rays of Wake Co, NC; Joseph Ray born 1754; John C Ray born 1759; Luke Ray born 1760; Nathan Ray born 1765.

Re: Luke Ray born 1760:

4. Luke² Ray (Ray¹) was born 1760, and died 1810 in Wake Cty, NC. He married (1) Unknown. He married (2) Ruth Cape January 09, 1804 in Wake Cty, NC, daughter of William W Cape. Luke Ray is first mentioned in Wake Cty Court records when he purchased land on Feb 3, 1778 so he was alborn prior to 1757.

Although this is the earliest surviving record of our Ray ancestors owning property in Wake Cty, NC, there were probably earlier deeds that were destroyed by the 1832 fire in the Register's office. The 1781 Wake County Tax list (Captain Robert High's District) shows Luke Rake Ray as the owner of 100 acres, 4 hours and 12 cattle valued at 116 pds. On March 4, 1783, Luke acquired by grant 158 acres on the north side of the Neuse River. On November 16, 1791 by State Grant #1103 Luke Ray acquired 150 acres on the north side of the Neuse River and on both sides of Horse Creek adjacent to Stafford's Corner, Cedar Hill and a small path. The 1799 Wake Cty, NC Tax list shows Luke Ray as the owner of 300 acres and 4 slaves.

More about Luke Ray: Burial: Wake Cty, NC

Children of Luke Ray and Ruthy Cape are:

- *7. **James Ray** born 1783, died 1819 Wake Cty, NC
- 8. Polly Ray, born 1796 NC
- iii. John Ray born 1787 married Fanny Little, February 15, 1813, Wake Cty, NC born 1788 NC
- iv. Rachael Ray born 1788
- 9. Biddy Ray born 1800 NC
- vi. Winnafred Ray born 1790, married Joseph Davis, November 01,
- vii. Charles Ray, born 1791

*7. **James³ Ray** (Luke², Ray¹) was born 1785, and died 1819 in Wake Cty, NC. He married (1) Gilly Upchurch. She was born 1798. **He** married (2) Rachel. She died 1826 in Wake Cty, NC – Both James & Rachel buried Wake Co, NC.

Children of **James Ray** and Gilly Upchurch are:

- i. Bryant⁴ Ray born 1832
- **14 ii. Thomas Ray, born 183, NC
- iii. Alvin Ray, born 1830
- ***15. iv. Burnell Ray, born 1836
- ****16. v. Norman Ray, born 1841

Children of James Ray and Rachel are:

- vi. Zadoc⁴ Ray born 1800
- vii. Elizabeth Ray married High

**14. Thomas⁴ Ray (James³, Luke², Ray¹) was born 1839 in NC. He married Martha Liney “Lina” Harrison November 21, 1857 in Wake Cty, NC. She was born 1837 in NC.

Children of Thomas Ray and Martha Harrison are:

- i. Cordelia⁵ Ray, born 1859 NC
- ii. Joseph M Ray, born 1862 NC
- iii. James I Ray, born 1865 NC
- iv. Jessie Ray, born 1870 NC
- v. Lathy A Ray, born 1873 NC
- vi. Alpheous S Ray, born 1877 NC, married Lona born 1875

***15. Burnell⁴ Ray (James³, Luke², Ray¹) was born 1836. He married Elizabeth J Gean February 06, 1856 in Wake Cty, NC. She was born 1836.

Children of Burnell Ray and Elizabeth Gean are:

- i. William M⁵ Ray born March 20, 1853, died September 30, 1932, Tulsa, OK, married Rebeca Lue Harrison born December 29, 1859, Ark. Buried Moores Chapel Cemetery, Havana, AR. Rebeca buried as husband & Yell Co, AR.
- ii. Robert Ray, born 1860
- iii. Gilly Ray, born 1861
- iv. Mary Ray born 1862
- v. Francis Ray born 1864
- vi. Pennie Ray born 1866

****16. Norman⁴ Ray (James³, Luke², Ray¹) was born 1841. He married Nancy A Powell 1865.

Children of Norman Ray and Nancy Powell are:

- i. Alhous⁵ Ray, bon 1873
- ii. Riley or Wiley Ray, born 1877
- iii. Edward H Ray, born 1879, married Bessie V born 1884.

(1) From Ancestry.com 29 May 2007 – Family of James Ray and Gilly Upchurch

1860 United States Federal Census

Name: Thomas Ray

Age in 1860: 22

Birth Year: about 1838

Home in 1860: North Eastern Division, Wake, North Carolina

Gender: Male

Post Office: Rolesville

Household Members:

Name	Born About	Age
James Ray	1785	75
Gilly Ray	1795	65
Norman Ray	1842	18
Bryant Ray	1834	26
Thomas Ray	1838	22

1870 Little River Township – Wake Co, NC – Forestville PO

Ray, Thomas 31 m w farmer born about 1839

Ray, Martha 34 f w keeping house born about 1836

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: Thomas C Ray

Home in 1880: Little River, Wake, North Carolina

Age: 42

Estimated Birth Year: about 1838

Birth Place: North Carolina

Relationship to head of household: Self (Head)

Household Members:

Name	Born About	Age
Thomas C Ray	1838	42
Martha N Ray	1837	43
William Perry	1863	17
William Barham	1861	19

(2) RPU input using above and other info – 29 May 2007

I. Richard Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. James Upchurch, VII

1. Gilly Upchurch married **James Ray**

a. Bryant Ray born about 1834

b. Thomas Crudup Ray born about 1838

married () Martha A Stallings born about 1837

[Note that this couple appeared to have no children in 1870 and now in 1880]

c. Norman Ray born about 1842

The relationship of William Perry born about 1863 and William Barham born about 1861 to the family of Gilly Upchurch and **James Ray** is not clear.