

November 15, 2020

UPCHURCH & ALLIED FAMILIES ASSOC.



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



EDITOR'S DESK

Happy holidays everyone!

UAFA is proud of the work they have accomplished this year. Many steps forward have been made on the Big American Upchurch Index Tree on Ancestry. Our Tree Master, Linda Upchurch Sparks will update us on that, this holiday season.

If you have the privilege of speaking with older relatives this season, please consider some suggestions: 1) Write down family stories so they are not lost. 2) Record your thoughts and experiences for future generations. 3) Interview a relative or grandparent via phone, FaceTime or Skype. Lastly, visit your local library to see what digital or web genealogy offerings they have available. If you are not connected to [Ancestry](#), there is a good chance your library is! Dial in to our American Upchurch Index Tree on [Ancestry](#).

We'd love to hear from you! Send in old stories, pictures, grandma's best recipe and any comments and suggestions.

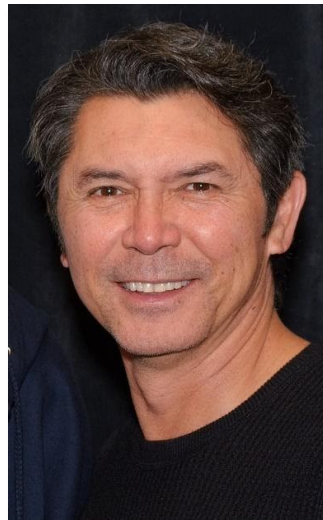
Cindy Hale — Editor

A Famous Upchurch Cousin *By Nancy Blair Upchurch Ariano*

Many might recognize Lou Diamond Phillips as an actor who made his breakthrough in the film industry starring as Ritchie Valens in the biographical movie 'La Bamba'. In addition, he earned a supporting actor Golden Globe Award nomination for his role in 'Stand and Deliver' and a Tony Award nomination for his role in 'The King and I'. What is lesser known about Phillips is his birth surname – Upchurch.

Lou was born February 12, 1962 at the Subic Bay Naval Station in the Philippines to Lucita Umayam (Lucy) Aranas, a Filipino native and Gerald Amon Upchurch, a United States Navy KC-130 crew chief. When their first son was born, they named him after Leland 'Lou' Diamond, a highly decorated USMC Gunner Sergeant who fought with great honor in both world wars. To this day Lou Diamond is still considered one of

the finest Marines of all times and is frequently referred to as "Mr. Leatherneck". Sadly, Gerald died when his plane crashed during military operations on September 10, 1963 leaving young Lucy to care for herself and their eighteen-month-old son alone. Fortunately, she eventually married another Navy man, George Phillips, who became the only father Lou ever knew.



Lou's Upchurch ancestry is well documented by [Upchurch and Allied Families](#) (UAFA) beginning with his father Gerald, his grandparents Ralph Amon Upchurch and Louella Maloy of Newton County, Georgia and extending back to Michael Upchurch who emigrated to America as an indentured servant in 1638. The information can be found in the Richard Upchurch III clan tree in [Ancestry.com](#) and in the biofiles (research notes) sec-

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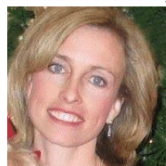
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A Famous Upchurch Cousin

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tion of the UAFA web page
"[AlliedFamilies.com](#)".

Lou Diamond Upchurch Phillips has honored both his father and stepfather over the years with a deep commitment to the veteran community. As a Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) National Spokesperson, he appeared in a series of television and radio commercials designed to increase awareness about VFW programs and services available to veterans, service members and military families. He also hosted the television series "*An Officer and a Movie*" on the Military Channel.



Nancy Blair Upchurch Ariano goes by a double first name and lives in Georgia with her family. She is a writer—and a Director at Upchurch and Allied Families (UAFA). Nancy Blair is a member of the William Upchurch IV clan and John V subclan. She has developed an 8000-member family tree based on the ancestry of her children with the core of her Upchurch genealogy tree based largely on information obtained from the [Upchurch Bulletins](#) and material from Phil Upchurch's research.

Leaves of Autumn

By Becky Upchurch

I admire the fallen leaves that clutter the curbsides,
the magenta of sumac, the cadmium yellow of the birch,
the lime colored white oak, turmeric yellow ginkgo,
rose madder of Japanese maple, the yellow ochre of ash,

the burnt sienna of red maple, flaming orange of oak,
and the chocolate umber of American beech.

I breathe the earthy smell of their leaf tannins
and cannot help but taste their sweet muskiness.

The sounds I hear when I step on autumn leaves
are the sudden release of all the tales of their lifetimes.
And I know that if I could just slow these down
then I would hear all of their stories of life

from the first bud to the final tumble from the trees.
They tell tales of how the warmth of the spring sun
pulses life through their veins, the watchful protection
they give to a robin's nest as her eggs are about to hatch.

They tell of soft chatter with squirrels in summer breezes.
And in autumn, they chitter excitedly about taking flight.
I am sure that they would conclude as Whitman wrote,
"I am satisfied... I see, dance, laugh, sing."

How many of us have tales as colorful as the leaves?
And I wonder if this also explains why some people,
when they know they are reaching the end,
decide to skydive, just like the leaves of autumn.

Read more of Becky Upchurch's poetry at
[All Poetry](#) on the internet.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Jay Buck, Office Manager
jay.buck@alliedfamilies.org

Cindy Hale, Editor
UpchurchRoots@gmail.com

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Your comments and sugges-
tions are always welcome.
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ily stories, photos, family
recipes and memories.

Email:
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Heritage Recipe Corner

Here's what's cookin' *Pumpkin Pie* Serves 1-3" pie
 Recipe from the kitchen of Virginia Hale (mom)
 1 1/2 C pumpkin
 1 C. milk 1/2 t. ginger
 1/2 C. Cream 1/4 t. pepper
 4 T butter-melted 1/2 t. allspice
 3/4 C. sugar 1 t. cloves
 2 eggs 1/2 t. salt.
 1/2 t. nutmeg - 1 t. Cinnamon -
 mix - pour into 8 or 9" pie crust (unbaked)
 place in hot oven 400°F. - reduce heat to
 moderate 350°F.

November, 1948



By Cindy Hale



Pumpkin pie is traditional for Thanksgiving and winter holidays. This is an old recipe that my mother wrote out for me and slipped into my little wooden recipe box as a young wife and mother. It's the recipe she used all of my life. And naturally to my way of thinking it's the best, but for sure a real classic. The recipe reads:

Pumpkin Pie (Virginia Upchurch Hale—1948)

- 1-1/2 C Pumpkin
- 1 C Milk
- 1/2 C Cream
- 4 T Butter—melted
- 3/4 C Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1/2 t. Nutmeg
- 1 t. Cinnamon

- 1/2 t. Ginger
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 1/2 t. Allspice
- 1 t. Cloves
- 1/2 t. Salt

Mix

Pour into 8 or 9 inch pie crust (unbaked). Place in hot oven 400 F(Fahrenheit) oven. Reduce heat to moderate, 350 F.

Mama's pies were usually decorated with extra pie crust. Perhaps not as fancy as the pies shown below. She drew her designs in the dough or used cookie cutters to cut out the shapes. I wonder if anyone remembers the red Tupperware cutters of the 1950's. I still use the turkey cut-



ter at Thanksgiving with perhaps a few oak leaves. Those cookie cutters were my favorites and still are today—and quite collectable now!

Virginia Upchurch Hale (1916-1996) was the daughter of William Brady Norman Upchurch and Dora Malinda Jane Church. She descends from the John U., III Clan (Clan 14) from North Carolina.





Church Members Continue Decades Old Thanksgiving Tradition

(WYMT —Nov. 23,
2017—Hazard, KY)

By Taylor Upchurch

Members of Bowman Memorial United Methodist Church gathered ingredients to make a home-cooked meal for not only themselves but for nearly 150 people in the community Thursday.

The tradition started 20 years ago when one family chose to help a few in need.

Judy Couch, a member of the church, volunteered to help when it began and continues still to this day. "I came and helped one time, and I was hooked," Couch said.



Many volunteers put their holiday schedules aside to not only make the meals but to prepare enough to-go boxes to be delivered to those who were not able to celebrate. "We've got men and boys that load them up and take them and deliver

them," Couch said. "And they enjoy that. It's very rewarding. People appreciate it."

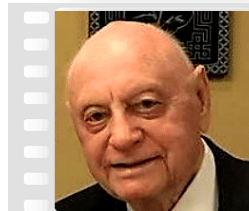
Pastor Glenn Cox says he is pleasantly surprised at how much the church gives back to the community not just on Thanksgiving day but every day. "It lets people know that they aren't alone in this world ... that there are people out there who care about them, that there's a God in Heaven who cares about them, and that they are not forgotten," Cox said.

Organizers say they hope this tradition continues to grow in future years to come.



UAFA NEWS

The UAFA Development Committee announces the annual kick-off of the 2021 Participant /Donor/ Membership Campaign starting mid-November, 2020 until the end of the year. The kick-off will be an invitation to make 2020 year-end contributions. But don't put it off, do it today! Thank You!!



Over 35 videos featuring founder **Dr. Phil Upchurch** telling family stories along with UAFA President, Dr. Tom Upchurch, free. Click the YouTube icon.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: OR [JOIN UAFA TODAY!](#)



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.

Contact UAFA today and let them know of your interests, skills and availability. They will help you to determine where your skills will be best utilized and may even design a custom role for you. The most often heard comment from volunteers is that UAFA gives them the opportunity to give back, while doing something they love.