

Catherine Upchurch XID-13839

Commentary: Catherine Upchurch (1810 – 1888) was the daughter of Allen Upchurch and the granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan #16. Catherine married Allen Deese and from this union 7 children would be born.

Acknowledgements: This biofile was transcribed by Ginger Sisney, one of UAFA valued contributors.

(1) Excerpt from book “The Upchurches” by Mae D Cox Apr 2008
Item:

Fifth Generation
Harmon Upchurch
Pages 137 – 171 for his biofile

- I. Michael Upchurch, I 1620 – 1681
 - 2. Richard Upchurch 1658 – 1700
 - 3. John Upchurch, I 1678 – 1758
 - 4. James Upchurch, III 1724 – 1784
 - 5. Harmon Upchurch 1740 – 1815
 - 6. Allen Upchurch 1779 – 1848
 - +Mary Dudney 1790 – 1850
 - 7. Elizabeth Ann Upchurch 1805 –
 - 7. William Allen Upchurch 1808 – 1884
 - 7. **Catherine Upchurch** 1810 –
 - 7. Patrick Bogan Upchurch 1816 – 1885
 - 7. Benjamin Upchurch 1819 –
 - 7. John Dudney Upchurch 1824 – 1857
 - 7. James Upchurch 1828 –

(1) See letter 1 Aug 1980 John Paul Lilly to RPU. “I was shown two graves in a plowed field about two miles north of Norwood, NC and was told that the woman was an Upchurch before she married. The gravestones read as follows:

1. **Catherine:** wife of Allen Deese died Oct 6, 1888 ages 78 years 4 months 24 days
2. Allen Deese: born 10 Apr 1810 died 20 May 1887.

She was born in 1810 and is likely a granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch.

(2) See letter 21 Jul 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU

- a. **Catherine (Upchurch)** Deese born 22 May 1810 died 16 Oct 1888 was my great great great grandmother. She married Allen Deese Sr born 10 Apr 1810 died 20

May 1887. Both appear in the 1850 and 1860 Census of Stanly Co, NC. Their children:

- i. James A Dees
 - ii. William Bogan Dees
 - iii. Mary A Dees
 - iv. John B Dees
 - v. Elizabeth Catherine Dees
 - vi. Allen Atlas Dees
 - vii. Allen Dees
- b. Letter 21 Jul 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU – continued. Allen Deese I born 10 Apr 1810 (NC) died 20 May 1887 (Stanly Co, NC) married **Catherine Upchurch** born 22 May 1810 (NC) died 16 Oct 1888 (Stanly Co, NC) daughter of Allen Upchurch and granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch, head of clan.
- c. “The earliest confirmed ancestor in the Deese line is Allen Deese (Dees) I born 1810, husband of **Catherine Upchurch**, born 1810, found in the 1840 Montgomery Co, NC Census living west of the Pee Dee River. In Montgomery Co, NC deeds, Allen Dees is shown with land along David’s Creek 12 Nov 1839. I have not found him in Montgomery Co, NC at an earlier date. In the 1820 and 1830 Census of Anson Co, NC an Allen Dees is found, however he and his wife are listed as being born no later than 1804. This does not fit with the tombstone records for Allen Deese I and **Catherine Upchurch**. If the land of Allen Deese I did not join that of Allen Upchurch and Howell Upchurch it was definitely in the same area – David’s Creek comes within a couple of miles of Jacob’s Creek.

(3) See letter 1 Oct 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU – provides map (see map file) showing where Allen Deese I and wife, **Catherine (Upchurch) Deese** in Stanly Co, NC. Notes that these graves are some distance from the land that Allen Deese I owned on David’s Creek.

(4) See letter 28 Aug 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU.

A former grade-school teacher of mine, Mrs Carol Hartzell Hopkins, is a descendant of both Catherine Upchurch and her sister, Elizabeth Upchurch. Elizabeth Upchurch married John David Smith (Feb 1776-15 Jun 1852) and was his 2nd wife. He is buried with his 1st wife on property owned by our family. The cemetery is within one mile of the Allen Upchurch cemetery and with 2 miles of the **Catherine Upchurch Deese** cemetery.

(5) See letter 17 Sep 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU –

As you’ve probably noticed, I spell **Catharine’s** name with a second “a”. I do this because it is spelled so on the will of her husband, Allen Deese I (23 Jan 1886) and on her tombstone. Should I spell it this way or the more modern way of Catherine. [I conclude to adopt 2 A’s – RPU] A story passed through the descendants of William Bogan Deese maintains that Allen Deese I was illiterate and that “Kattie” maintained the financial resources. When Allen Deese I wasn’t

farming he worked at a sawmill. Instead of counting his wages on payday like everyone else, he would take them home to Catherine to insure he wasn't shortchanged.

Enclosed is the death certificate of Atlas Dugan Deese which shows his parents as Allen Deese I and "Kattie" Upchurch. This is the most legitimate proof of my Upchurch line.

(6) See map file – Upchurch Country –Stanly Co, NC 1 Oct 1985 shows burial place of Allen Deese I and his wife, Catharine (Upchurch) Deese.

(7) See will of Allen Deese I – written 23 Jan 1886 Stanly Co, NC.

He leaves his wife, Catharine Upchurch Deese the home place of 160 acres plus other material goods including \$1000 in gold – with the property to go to daughter Mary A Deese at the death of the wife. Remainder of property to be divided between 4 living children.