

John Wesley Upchurch**XID – 7882**

Commentary: John Wesley Upchurch was the son of John VII and the grandson of John III, head of Upchurch Clan 14. He and his wife Sarah Roberts had eight children and lived in North Carolina all their lives.

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) Records assuming John Upchurch 29 on 1900 Census of Grayson Co, VA and beyond is son of John Upchurch 34 on 1880 Census of Alleghany Co, NC – RPU 8 Feb 2012

1880 Census – NC, Alleghany Co, Prathers Creek					
Name			age	born	
John Upchurch	head	1846	34	NC	brick mason
Elizabeth Upchurch	wif	1851	29	TN	
Callie Upchurch	dau	1868	12	TN	
John Upchurch	son	1870	10	TN	
Sarah Upchurch	dau	1872	8	TN	
Julia Upchurch	dau	1874	6	NC	
Thomas Upchurch	son	1877	3	NC	
Lilian Upchurch	dau	1880	9m	NC	
Henry Woodson		1865	15	VA	mulatto

1900 Census – VA, Grayson Co – Wilson Creek					
Name			age	born	
John Upchurch	head	Aug 1869	29	VA	married 6, 6; father and mother also born VA
Minnie Upchurch	wif	Mar 1880	20	VA	[2, 2]
Dack Upchurch	son	Dec 1897	2	VA	
Clyde Upchurch*	dau	Apr 1900	1/12	VA	

1910 Census – West VA, McDowell Co – Huger					
Name			age	born	
Bart Upchurch	head	1871	39	?	carpenter, frame work
Minnie Upchurch	wif	1882	28	VA	
Dock Upchurch	son	1900	10	VA	
Clide Upchurch*	dau	1902	8	VA	
Julia Upchurch	dau	1903	7	VA	

1920 Census – FL, Polk Co – Lake Wales					
Name			age	born	
J Bart Upchurch	head	1870	50	TN	contractor, building
Minnie Upchurch	wif	1880	40	VA	

Loe Upchurch	son	1898	22	VA	
Mae Upchurch*?	dau	1901	19	VA	
Julia Upchurch	dau	1902	18	VA	
Harry Upchurch	son	1912	8	FL	
Evelyn Upchurch "Doc"	dau	1920	0	FL	1/12

1930 Census – FL, Polk Co – Highland Park					
Name			age	born	
Doctor J Upchurch	head	1899	31	VA	carpenter, \$2000, m @ 25
Lillian Upchurch	wif	1906	24	WV	m @ 18
Dorie E Upchurch	dau	1925	5	FL	
Alice V Upchurch	dau	1927	3	FL	
Martha L Upchurch	dau	1929	1	FL	1 6/12
Minnie E Upchurch	mot	1880	50	VA	widowed
Evelyn M Upchurch	sis	1920	10	FL	

A. Stephanie's Family Tree

John Franklin Upchurch

Birth September 1846 in Grayson County, Virginia

death 17 Oct 1937 in Bristol, Sullivan, Tennessee

Marriage 29 Oct 1869 Johnson

Residence 1850 Age: 4 Thompsons, Surry, North Carolina

Residence 1860 Age: 14 Alleghany, North Carolina

Residence 1870 Age: 24 District 4, Johnson, Tennessee

Residence 1880 Age: 34 Prather's Creek, Alleghany, North Carolina

Residence 1900 Age: 54 Wilson Creek District, Grayson, Virginia

Residence 1910 Age: 64 Holston, Washington, Virginia

Residence 1910 Washington, Damascus, VA

Residence 1920 Bristol, Sullivan, Tennessee

Parents

John Wesley Upchurch 1819 – 1887

Sarah Roberts 1831 –

Spouse & Children

Anna Elizabeth Heck 1850 – 1929

Callie Upchurch 1858 –

Sarah Upchurch 1872 –

Julia Upchurch** 1874 –

Thomas Upchurch 1877 –

Lillian Upchurch 1879 –

Oscar W Upchurch** 1884 – 1933

Emma F Upchurch 1886 – 1958

E Letcher Upchurch** 1888 – 1961

** See biofiles for more - RPU

B. Watson/ Ingram/ Peoples/ Warren/ Tree

John Franklin Upchurch

Birth 15 Sep 184 in North Carolina, United States

death 17 Oct 1937 in Bristol, Sullivan, Tennessee

Oscar W Upchurch	1884
Emma Frances Upchurch	1886 – 1958
Emmet Upchurch	1888

C. Epright Family Tree

John Franklin Upchurch

Birth 15 Sep 184 in North Carolina

death 17 Oct 1937 in Bristol, Sullivan, Tennessee

Same children as “A” except add:

John Upchurch	1870 –
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I. John Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. John Upchurch, VII

1. **John Wesley Upchurch**

married () Sarah Roberts

a. John Franklin Upchurch [A// = b 1846 B// & C// = b 1844 – The meaning of this notation is unclear – CJM 5 Nov 2020]

married () Anna Elizabeth Heck

i. → x. = Callie, John, Sarah, Julia, Thomas, Lillian, Oscar, Emma, Emmett, Homer

ii. John Bartlett Upchurch

married () Minnie E ---

(I) Doctor J Upchurch married () Lillian --- ---

(A) Dorie E Upchurch

(B) Alice V Upchurch

(C) Martha L Upchurch

(II) Clyde L Upchurch (F) (vs Lula Mae Upchurch**]

** See biofiles for more – RPU

(III) Julia Upchurch

(IV) Harry Upchurch

(V) Evelyn M Upchurch

(no number) Records for the family of John Franklin Upchurch, son of John Wesley Upchurch of the John Upchurch, III/ John Upchurch, VII Sub-clan – RPU 8 Feb 2012

1850 Census – NC, Surry Co, Thompsons		
Name		age
<u>Wesley Upchurch</u>	1819	31
Sally Upchurch	1829	21
John Upchurch	1847	3
James Upchurch	1849	1

1860 Census – NC, Alleghany Co, Thompsons, PO – Glade Creek		
Name		age
Wesley Upchurch	1822	38
Sally Upchurch	1830	30
John Upchurch	1848	12
James Upchurch	1850	10
Thomas Upchurch	1853	7
Morgan Upchurch	1855	5
Nancy Upchurch	1857	3
Rosamond Upchurch	1859	1

1870 Census – TN, District 4, Johnson Co, PO Bakers Gap		
Name		age
John F Upchurch	1846	24, born NC
Anna E Upchurch	1851	19, born NC

1880 Census – NC, Alleghany Co, Prathers Creek					
Name			age	born	
John Upchurch	head	1846	34	NC	brick mason
Elizabeth Upchurch	wif	1851	29	TN	
Callie Upchurch	dau	1868	12	TN	
John Upchurch	son	1870	10	TN	
Sarah Upchurch	dau	1872	8	TN	
Julia Upchurch	dau	1874	6	NC	
Thomas Upchurch	son	1877	3	NC	
Lilian Upchurch	dau	1880	9m	NC	
Henry Woodson		1865	15	VA	mulatto

1900 Census – NC, Grayson Co, Wilson Creek District					
Name			age	born	
James Upchurch	head	Sep 1846	53	NC	[JFU]
Annie E Upchurch	wif	Mar 1850	50	TN	[10, 7]
Oscar H Upchurch	son	Nov 1884	15	VA	
Emma F Upchurch	dau	Jul 1886	13	VA	
Emmet Upchurch	son	Sep 1888	11	NC	

1910 Census – VA, Washington Co – Holston					
Name			age	born	
J F Upchurch	head	1847	63	VA	
Anna G Upchurch	wif	1848	62	VA	
Osias W Upchurch	son	1887	23	VA	
Emmett L Upchurch	son	1889	21	VA	
Ada Upchurch		1890	20	TN	daughter in law
Ambers Waddell		1888	22	VA	hired man
1920 Census – TN, Sullivan Co- Bristol					
Name			age	born	
John F Upchurch	head	1847	73	VA	
Annie E Upchurch	wif	1851	69	TN	
Emmett L Upchurch	son	1892	28	NC	single

1930 Census – TN, Sullivan Co- Bristol					
Name			age	born	
Emmett L Upchurch	head	1890	40	NC	
Bessie Upchurch	wif	1893	37	TN	
Paul Hesse		1909	21	TN	stepson [= see below]
*Minna Hesse		1911	19	TN	stepdaughter
*Otto Lee Hesse		1913	17	TN	stepson
*Margeret Hesse		1916	14	TN	stepdaughter
*Gustave Hesse		1919	11	TN	stepson

Stephanie's Family Tree

E Letcher Upchurch

Birth 7 Sep 1888 in Alleghany County, North Carolina

Death 23 Jul 1961

Parents

John Franklin Upchurch 1846 – 1937

Anna Elizabeth Heck 1850 - 1929

Tennessee State Marriages

Name: John F Upchurch

Spouse: Anna E Heck

Marriage Date: 29 Oct 1869

Marriage County: Johnson

I. John Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. John Upchurch, VII

1. **John Wesley Upchurch**

married () Sarah Roberts

- a. James Upchurch
- b. William Thomas Upchurch
- c. Morgan B Upchurch
- d. Nancy Elizabeth Upchurch
- e. Rosamona Upchurch
- f. John Franklin Upchurch

married () Anna Elizabeth Heck

- i. Callie Upchurch
- ii. John Upchurch
- iii. Sarah Upchurch
- iv. Julia Upchurch
- v. Thomas Upchurch
- vi. Lillian Upchurch
- vii. Oscar H/W Upchurch

married () Laura Ada Heck

viii. Emmett Letcher Upchurch

married () Mrs Bessie Hesse nee?

(I) Five Stepchildren*

(no number) Records for John Wesley Upchurch born 15 Feb 1819 (Wilkes Co, NC) died 14 Nov 1887 (Buried Ashe Co, NC) – by RPU 17 Jun 2010

1850 Census – NC, Surry Co, Thompsons		
Name		age
<u>Wesley Upchurch</u>	1819	31
Sally Upchurch	1829	21
John Upchurch	1847	3
James Upchurch	1849	1

1860 Census – NC, Alleghany Co, Thompsons, PO – Glade Creek		
Name		age
<u>Wesley Upchurch</u>	1822	38
Sally Upchurch	1830	30
John Upchurch	1848	12
James Upchurch	1850	10
Thomas Upchurch	1853	7
Morgan Upchurch	1855	5
Nancy Upchurch	1857	3
Rosamond Upchurch	1859	1

1870 Census – Johnson Co, TN 0 District 4, Bakers Gap PO				
Name		age		
John W Upchurch	1818	32 [52]		next door to son John F Upchurch
Sarah Upchurch	1831	39	NC	
Morgan B Upchurch	1854	16	NC	
Nancy E Upchurch	1856	14	NC	
Rosa A Upchurch	1858	12	NC	
Columbus L Upchurch	1860	10	NC	
Sarah A Upchurch	1863	7	NC	
Larkin Morris	1856	14	TN	

1880 Census – Alleghany Co, NC – Prathers Creek – Taken 14 Jun 1880

959619	John Wesley Upchurch	W 7 62		1	Hopper
	- Sarah	W 7 50	Wife	1	Hopkins house
	- Columbus	W 7 19	Son	1	with 2 farms
	- Sarah	W 7 16	Daughter	1	at Hopper
	- Larkin	W 7 64	Brother	1	with 2 farms

I. John Upchurch, III – Head of Clan No. 14

X. John Upchurch, VII

A. Larkin Upchurch born 1816

B. **John Wesley Upchurch** born 15 Feb 1819 (Wilkes Co, NC)

married () Sarah Roberts “Sally” born 0 Apr 1830 (Alleghany Co, NC) died 27 Dec 1897 () (Buried as husband) [versus Sarah Ellen Tay.or; versus Emily Hoppers???

1. John Franklin Upchurch bon 15 Sep 1846 ()

married () Elizabeth Higgins Heck (Anna Elizabeth Heck :Annie”) born about 1851

[See added extract for more details – RPU]

2. James Upchurch born 1849/ 1850 [RPU has George Washington Upchurch born 1847/ 1849 in this slot rather than James Upchurch]

3. William Thomas Upchurch born 1850/ 1851

4. Morgan B Upchurch born 1854/ 1855 (NC)

5. Nancy Elizabeth Upchurch born 1856/ 1857 (NC)

6. Rosamond Upchurch (Rose A Upchurch) born 1858/ 1859 (NC)

7. Columbus Lafayette Upchurch born 1860 (NC)

8. Sarah Evelyn Upchurch born 1863 (NC)

9. Further issue?

(1) See letter 16 Jun 1980 Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU

She lists an Upchurch Patriarch – Jimmie (James) Upchurch* who had several children some of whom resided in Wilkes Co, NC. The full list of his children:

Larkin Upchurch	born 1816
<u>John Wesley Upchurch</u>	born 15 Feb 1819 died 14 Nov 1887 married Sarah (Sallie Roberts)

Sanford Upchurch

William Upchurch

Green Berry Upchurch born Jun 1827

*We later learned this patriarch is John Upchurch, VII, son of John Upchurch III – RPU 30 Jun 1999

She gives much detail on many descendants of John Westly Upchurch (yet to be extracted as of 9 Aug 1981 – RPU). This group was said to have been in Surry Co, NC at one time. Also, a Thomas Upchurch, son of John Wesley Upchurch, was said to have come from Franklin Co, NC. Page 8 – **John Wesley Upchurch** was living in Surry Co, NC in 1850 and in Allegheny Co, NC in 1860. His birth place is unknown. He was buried at the Cranberry Primitive Baptist Church, Ashe Co, NC where his burial site has a marker with dates. His wife Sarah (Sallie) Roberts born 20 Apr 1830 died 27 Dec 1897 & she s buried in Cranberry Cemetery, Furches Community and has a marker with dates.

(2) See letter 12 Mar 1982 Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU

Re: Photo File 82-5. “The copy of the old Upchurch home”

I was told by Aunt Minnie Upchurch Richardson and her husband John Richardson that this picture was the home I described (I Peach Bottom Mountain) in my last letter. But if so – in times past logs had been weather boarded and by the time we (mother and my brother) used to hike across the mountain only log showed that I recall. Can’t be positive this is same spot as I described before. Old log house partially falling in would have been about size of this house in picture – no signs of an out building by time we passed there. The old gentleman is **John Wesley Upchurch** and old lady his wife, Sara (Sallie) Roberts. The adult on the left end was a grandchild – but I can’t recall which one’s daughter Frank or Morgan Upchurch’s). The sewing machine must have been a recent purchase from the son that sold them. I recall that one son – Wash or Frank was a sewing machine salesman. No idea who the others in the picture are.

(3) See letter 14 Aug 1981 – Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU

“The only place I know **John Wesley Upchurch** lived was in present Alleghany Co, NC. This place may have been Wilkes or Ashe Co at one time or another. To get to his place – There is Cranberry Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery on Road 113 (called County Line Rd) between Laurel Springs and Furches. When traveling from Laurel Springs turn right in front of church and then in a few yards turn right again about 1 1’2 miles to old home place of John Wesley Upchurch. I used to walk with my mother through the old place in head of Peach Bottom Mountain. At that time, it was a two-story log house partially falling in.

John Wesley Upchurch and his wife Sarah (Sallie) Roberts are buried in Cranberry Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery near center. They have separate stones, marble I think, about 28 – 30” x 18 – 20” wide. Nearby are other relatives. The records of Old Cranberry Church were

burned a few years ago I've been told. While I think John Wesley Upchurch and wife Sallie were Methodists, Sallie had a brother Daniel Roberts that was a Methodist minister.

About 1919 (a deed exists) Green Berry Upchurch arranged to sell a farm in or near the Trap Hill area of Wilkes Co, NC which must have belonged to John Wesley Upchurch & Green Berry Upchurch (9 brothers) in that all of the children of John Wesley Upchurch had to sign.

Attachment shows 1841 School Census – Wilkes Co, NC

Happy Upchurch (nee Happy Shaw) is head of household.

Children: Wesley Upchurch = **John Wesley Upchurch**
 James Upchurch
 Berry Upchurch = Breen Berry Upchurch

(4) See letter 1982 Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU

See letter 9 May 1876 from William B Upchurch to his brother John Wesley Upchurch filed with the former. W B is trying to sell land to J W.

(5) See letter 6 Aug 1983 Ruth Alice Westly to RPU

Larkin Upchurch (son of John Upchurch & Happy Shaw) age 64 is on the 1880 Census in Allegheny Co, NC (Cherry Lane Township) in the home of his brother Wesley Upchurch [**John Wesley Upchurch**].

John Wesley Upchurch is a farmer in Allegheny Co, NC in 1860, 1870, 1880. Enumerated as “Wesley” in 1860 Glade Creek – RE \$300/ PP \$200.

(6) This sheet Page (8) from letter 6 Aug 1983 Ruth Alice Westly to RPU

B 1819 15 Feb

Son of John Upchurch & Happy Shaw (Brother of William B Upchurch)

1850 Census Index Listing – Wesley Upchurch [John Wesley Upchurch], Surry Co, NC 323 North District

1860 Census – Allegheny Co, NC, Glade Creek Rd, Page 216, Line 30, Fam 503.

Wesley Upchurch, 38, farmer, 300/ 200, born NC; wife Sallie, 30; John, 12; James, 10; Thomas, 7; Morgan, 5; Nancy, 3; ?Rosamonia, 1.

1880 Census, Cherry Lane Township, Allegheny Co, NC, age 62, farmer, (listed as “Wesley Upchurch [John Wesley Upchurch]; wife Sarah, 50; Columbus, 19; Sarah, 16; Larkin, 64 – brother.

(Son John, 34, brick mason + Elizabeth, 29, wife; and Callie, John, Sarah, Julie, Thomas, Lilian were neighbors. Also, son Morgan, 26; wife Francis, 34 and Daniel, John, Mary, Ellen, Isaac, and infant were neighbors.)

1887 Died 14 Nov. Buried Cranberry Baptist Cemetery. Allegheny Co, NC. As J W Upchurch [John Wesley Upchurch presumed wife Sally Upchurch (born 20 Apr 1830) died 27 Dec 1897, also buried there.

(112-B) John “Wesley” Upchurch aka Wesley Upchurch RPU #7882)

(7) From letter 15 Apr 1989 Vicki Marie Barefoot to RPU

Found 76 Upchurches in Civil War records including Wesley Upchurch [**John Wesley Upchurch**], Co K, 5th NC Sr Reserves. Mustered 27 Sep 1864 born Wilkes Co, NC; height 6 ft, fair complexion, dark hair and eyes. Jan & Feb 1865 “absent on sick furlough” [These details on a card sent by Vicki. The card was destroyed – RPU]

(8) See letter 12 Sep 193 David Kent Vickerman to RPU
JWU born TN, married circa 1848 Sarah Sally Roberts

(9) See letter 19 Aug 1995 Don L Ford to RPU
JWU married Sarah Ellen Taylor “Sallie”

(10) See letter 8 Apr 1997 Louis Timothy Ferrier to RPU “Tim”

Tim is the great grandson of Sarah Upchurch who married Alexander Osborne. RPU records show this Sarah Ann Upchurch to be the daughter of **JWU**. Tim says his grandfather [Morgan Bryant Osborne, son of Sarah Upchurch] told him that the parents of Sarah Upchurch were Wesley Upchurch [**JWU**] and Emily Hopper. [Note – This is the first indication I have that **JWU** had a wife Emily Hopper – RPU]

(11) See Death Certificate of nee Sarah Evelyn Upchurch, daughter of **JWU**

The certificate shows father of the deceased as Wesley Up church (**JWU**) born TN and mother of deceased as Sally Roberts born Alleghany Co, NC.

(12) From letter 8 Sep 1997 Louis Timothy Ferrier to RPU



On back: "Gravestone of J W Upchurch, Cranberry Cemetery, Alleghany County, NC. Taken by Tim Ferrier, July, 1997"

(13) See letter 20 Sep 1997 Louis Timothy Ferrier to RPU

There seems to be no doubt that Sarah "Sallie" Roberts was the wife of **John Wesley Upchurch**. They're buried next to each other in Cranberry Cemetery and their daughter's death certificate (my Sarah Upchurch Osborne) clearly indicates that they were her parents. I have no proof that Emily Hoppers was Sarah's mother except for what I was told by my grandfather, Morgan Osborne. There's an outside chance that a married **Wesley** got Emily pregnant at the age of about 15, had Sarah, with Sarah being raised by Wesley and Wesley's wife. Quite a long-shot I would think.

Linkage for above (RPU)

I. John Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. John Upchurch, VII

1. **John Wesley Upchurch** married Sarah Roberts

a. Sarah Evelyn Upchurch* married Alexander Osborne

i. Morgan Bryant Osborne

*reported to be daughter of Emily Hoppers by Morgan Bryant Osborne

(biofile continues below)

(14) Civil War Records for JWU in letter 3 Jan 2000 from John Raymond Perey to RPU

(Confederate.)
Ru | **5** | **N. C.**
 Senior Reserves.

Wesley Upchurch
Pvt, Capt. Adolph Russau's Company.*

Appears on
Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above, from Wilkes
 County,

for *Sept 27*, 1864.

Enlisted:
 When _____, 186 .
 Where _____
 By whom _____
 Period _____

Age _____
 Height *6* feet _____ inches.
 Complexion *Fair*; hair *Blk*
 Eyes *Blk*; occupation *Farmer*
 Where born *Wilkes Co. N. C.*

Remarks: _____

* This company was successively designated as Captain Russau's Company; Captain Russau's Company, Stowe's Battalion, North Carolina Senior Reserves; and Company K, 5th Regiment North Carolina Senior Reserves.

The 5th Regiment North Carolina Senior Reserves was formed about December 5, 1864, by the addition of three unattached companies to Stowe's Battalion, North Carolina Senior Reserves.

Book mark: _____

(642)

R. J. Mason
 Copyist.

(Confederate.)
Ru | **5** | **N. C.**
 Senior Reserves.

Wesley Upchurch
Pvt, Co. *H*, 5 Reg't Senior Reserves.*

Appears on
Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for *Jan & Feb*, 1865.

Enlisted:
 When *July 7*, 186 .
 Where *Wilkesboro*
 By whom *Pvt.*
 Period *War*

Last paid:
 By whom _____
 To what time _____, 186 .

Present or absent *Absent*
 Remarks: *Absent on sick furlough*

* The 5th Regiment North Carolina Senior Reserves was formed about December 5, 1864, by the addition of three unattached companies to Stowe's Battalion, North Carolina Senior Reserves.

Book mark: _____

(642)

R. J. Mason
 Copyist.

(15) Civil War Records for JWU – continued – in letter 3 Jan 2000

101-2

Upchurch Wesley

**Co. H, 5 North Carolina
Senior Reserves.
(Confederate.)**

Private Private

CARD NUMBERS.

1 48403710	20
2 3779	21
3	22
4	23
5	24
6	25
7	26
8	27
9	28
10	29
11	30
12	31
13	32
14	33
15	34
16	35
17	36
18	37
19	38

Number of medical cards herein 1

Number of personal papers herein 2

BOOK MARK: _____

See also _____

[(16) missing number – CJM 5 Nov 2020]

(17) RPU extract of 21 Dec 1903 Wilkes Co, NC Deed – Book 47 Page 385

[Deed #4 in letter 24 Apr 1999 Lewis Timothy Ferrier to RPU]

This is the same tract Green Berry Upchurch acquired on 25 Sep 1900 from the heirs of his brother **John Wesley Upchurch** contains 55 1/2 acres as before. Land touches same tracts as shown in 1900 – except Wade Darnell is spelled Wade Darnall. Note that this deed shows the style Greenberry Upchurch rather than Green Berry Upchurch. Sale price \$300.00. Land sold to R M Chatham of Surry Co, NC.

(no number)

Census – 1850 – Surry Co, NC, Thompson District

789-781	Wesley Upchurch	31	m
	Sally	21	f
	John	3	m
	James	1	m

Received 6 Dec 1980 RPU

Note:

I. John Upchurch, III

A. John Upchurch, VII

1. **John Wesley Upchurch** born 15 Feb 1819 (Wilkes Co, NC)

married () Sarah Roberts “Sally” born 20 Apr 1830

a. John Franklin Upchurch born 15 Sep 1846

b. George Washington Upchurch born 31 Jan 1849

[Note: The above census shows a son James Upchurch born 1849?? – RPU 3 Dec 2003]