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Editor's Note

Sam Carnley

This story below and parts of the following one on the Bludworth Family came from the book; "The Heritage of Walton, Count, Florida. The book can be purchased at the Walton County Heritage Museum in Defuniak Springs.

Farm Smoke Houses

By **H. Oscar Harrison**

*Transcribed and edited by
Sam Carnley*

For many years no farm was complete without a "Smoke House." The Smoke House, always with a dirt floor, was used for curing and smoking meat and for storing canned meat, vegetables and home-made soap and "cracklins."

My parents and their thirteen children made up the population of our huge farm in northeast Walton County, Florida. My father, with the help of his sons, made the smoke house in 1917 by cutting and splitting pine logs from the old farm stead. These logs were carefully notched and stacked ten feet high. The old smoke house is still in first class condition and has been moved to the farm of a grandson, Rev. Kenneth Harrison, ten miles away.

The old smoke house stood for more than a half century on the Sam Harrison farm, where it was used for storing and curing 2500 pounds of meat and sausage per year. During its lifetime more than 100,000 pounds of meat, sausage, and dried beef were cured in the building.

Small fires were made from oak, hickory and sassafras wood for curing the meat. Once the wood

began to burn, the blaze was extinguished with a small amount of water. The wood continued to smoke for hours. These wood smokes tended to gives the meat its tasty and satisfying flavor. Cold storage, deep freezes and refrigerators have long ago replaced the old farm smoke houses in the Deep South and everywhere else. But many of us living today can still remember the old smoke houses that provided so abundantly the rich red proteins our bodies needed while we were doing the hard labor of plowing and cultivating our crops, chopping the firewood, cooking the food and doing other farm chores. We worked hard and needed the rich red meats to sustain our bodies. Yes, this rich red meat built and sustained our strong bodies. Hen nests were often nailed to the side of the smoke houses. No locks were placed on the smoke house doors. Two black-mouthed cur dogs served as locks.

At age 92 and having gone through the greatest depression this world has ever known, I can truthfully say, "joy is not in things. It is in us."

With so many of our friends of the meat smoking days have gone on to Heaven I feel like we who remain here on earth should utter a prayer like this, "O Lord we pray for thy hand to lead us in all the paths our feet must tread; and when the journey of life is ended, may light from our immortal home illumine the dark valley of the shadow of death, and voices of loved ones welcome us to that house not made with hands, eternal in heavens."

Walton County Heritage Museum

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Bludworth Family of Walton County

A compilation of two stories

By David Bludworth and Marla Drake Dooley

*Transcribed, edited and additional information contributed by
Sam Carnley*

The Bludworth family appear to trace their lineage back to **John Bludworth**, born Beardsall, Derbyshire, England in 1575 and died there in 1648.¹ His son, **Edward Blidward, aka Bludworth**, was born in 1590 and died in 1648. Edward's son, **Sir Thomas Bludder Bludworth** was baptized in Derbyshire 13 February 1620 [alternate birthdate and place, 23 January 1624, Leatherhead, Surrey, England]:

Thomas, [identified as] yeoman of Heanor, Derbyshire, was baptized on 13 February 1620. In 1635, he was apprenticed to a London Vintner and became a member of the mercantile guild the Company of Vintners. He became a successful Turkey merchant and was primarily a timber merchant. He was a member of the committee of the E.I.C. from 1651 to 1661 and one of the Court Assistants for the Levant Company from 1652 to 1665. In 1658 he was elected an alderman of the City of London for Dowgate ward.[1] in 1660 he was elected Member of Parliament for Southwark in the Convention Parliament. He was knighted on 16 May 1660. He was a Colonel of the Orange Regiment in 1660 and a colonel of the yellow Regiment from 1660 to 1682. In 1661, he was re-elected MP for Southwark for the Cavalier Parliament.[2] He became an alderman for Portsoken ward in 1662 and was a member of the committee of the E.I.C. from 1662 to 1663. In 1663 he served as one of the two sheriffs of London. He was alderman of Aldersgate from 1663 to 1682 and was on the committee E.I.C again from 1664 to 1665. In 1665 he was Master of the Vintners Company.[1] Bloodworth became Lord Mayor of London in November 1665 and held that office for the term 1665-1666 (during the Great Fire of London).²

Sir Thomas was the father of **Timothy James Bludworth, Sr.** (1686-1749) who, according to his birth year, was born four years after his father died in 1682. Obviously, if this is the correct family line, there is some confusion regarding birth and death dates. Timothy James was born in Elizabeth City, Nansemond, Virginia, British Colonial America. It seems Sir Thomas had immigrated to America at some point prior to Timothy's birth. Timothy m. (1) Jane Armistead (1678-1734), 1705, Elizabeth City and (2) Margaret Evans (1715-1786), 1735, New Hanover, North Carolina, British Colonial America.³

Timothy James Bludworth, Jr., was born 1736 to Timothy Sr. and Margaret Evans in New Hanover, North Carolina, British Colonial America. Timothy Sr. had migrated from Virginia to North Carolina in the early 1700s:

He [Timothy Jr.] spent most of his life before the American Revolutionary War as a teacher. He had two brothers, James and Thomas, who were active local politicians. In 1776, he began making arms including muskets and bayonets for the Continental Army. In 1778 and 1779, he served as a member of the North Carolina state legislature.

¹ John Bludworth, (1575-1648) | Person | Family Tree | FamilySearch; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LY22-Z7Q>

² Sir Thomas Bludder Bludworth (1624-1682) | Person | Family Tree | Family Search; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCJL-TNG>

³ Timothy James Bludworth, Jr. (1736-1814) | Person | Family Tree | Family Search; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L4YZ-JVX>

Following this, he held a number of political posts sequentially until serving as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1786. He was elected to the First United States Congress as a member of the House of Representatives, serving from 1790 to 1791 before returning to the North Carolina state legislature. In 1794 Bloodworth was elected to the United States Senate, where he served from 1795 to 1801. From then until 1807, Bloodworth served as collector of customs in Wilmington, North Carolina. During the Second World War, liberty ship SS Timothy Bloodworth was named in his honor.⁴.....



Timothy Bloodworth was a standard liberty ship, similar to SS *John W. Brown*, seen here.

SS Timothy Bloodworth was a standard Liberty ship built for the United States Maritime Commission during World War II. The vessel was built by Delta Shipbuilding Company of New Orleans in 1943. She was named in honor of Timothy Bloodworth an American teacher who made muskets and bayonets during the American Revolutionary war, then went on to become a statesman in North Carolina.

The ship was laid down in February 1943, launched in March, and delivered in April. Powered by a triple expansion steam engine manufactured by the Hamilton Engine Company, she was capable of a speed of 11 knots. She served in many transatlantic convoys supporting the buildup for and supply of the Allied invasion of Western Europe. On 24 December 1944, SS Timothy Bloodworth became the first ship damaged by a German V-2 rocket. Post war, her periods of active service alternated with time in reserve, until she was sold for scrap in 1963.

[Note: See Bibliography: Dictionary of American Biography; Bloodworth, Timothy. "Letters of Timothy Bloodworth and Thomas Person to John Lamb." In Historical Papers Published by the Trinity College Historical Society, 14th ser., pp. 77-81. 1922. Reprint. New York: AMS Press, 1970.]

Timothy Jr. married Priscilla Jones (1742-1803) abt. 1760 in New Hanover, North Carolina, British Colonial America. Included among their seven children was **John D. Bludworth**, b. 1763 in New Hanover and d. 1 January 1824 in Newton, Georgia and was buried in Rutledge, same state, U. S. John m. Ann Jane DeVane (1772-1820) in Bladen, North Carolina in 1785. She was born in Duplin, North Carolina and died in Bladen.⁵

The youngest of the twelve children of John D. and Ann Jane was **Timothy Junius Bloodworth**, b. 1786 in New Hanover, N. C. and d. 1865 in Dale County, Alabama. He m. Elsie Jane DeVane (1787-1863), 1804, in New Hanover, N. C. She was b. in New Hanover and d. in Dale County, Alabama.⁶ She was laid to rest at Salem Baptist Church Cemetery north of Skipperville, Alabama on County Road 23.

Junius is buried in an unmarked grave beside her. After migrating from North Carolina, Timothy Junius, his wife Elsie/Alice Jane DeVane, and their family of eleven children lived in Fayette County, Georgia. Timothy Junius (or just Junius as he was known) is shown on the U. S. Census records as living in Dale County, Alabama in 1840, 1850, and 1860. His residence was at Roberts Crossroads on County Road 33 just west of Bloodworth Bridge on the West Choctawhatchee River. He patented 200 acres around his residence. Salem Baptist Church is about one mile from his residence.⁷

Timothy Wade Bludworth, son of Timothy Junius, was b. 13 September 1821 in Georgia, and d. 13 November 1864 at Howard's Grove Hospital, Richmond City, Virginia. He was buried at

⁴ Timothy Bloodworth, Wikipedia; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timothy_Bloodworth

⁵ John D. Bludworth, (1763-1824) | Person | Family Tree | Family Search; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LHHS-MXH>

⁶ Timothy Junius Bloodworth, (1786-1865) | Person | Family Tree | Family Search; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCTJ-3N8>

⁷ Timothy Junius Bloodworth, Finda A Grave memorial; <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/172738354>

Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond, Richmond City, Virginia. He m. Hester Ann Brigman (1825-1894) on 17 October 1849 in Alabama, probably Dale County. On Aug. 12, 1863 he enlisted as a private in Co. E., Artillery Battalion, Hillard's Legion, Alabama Volunteers, CSA, at Clopton, Alabama.⁸ Clopton is in Dale County on present day State Route 105 about 10.9 miles west, northwest of Abbeville in Henry County. In Nov. 1863, his unit was re-designated as Co. E, 59th Regiment, Alabama Infantry.⁹ On May 31, 1864 he signed a receipt for clothing issued to him.¹⁰

There are no other fold3 records of his activities until November 10, 1864 when he was admitted to Howard's Grove Hospital in Richmond, Virginia.¹¹ No explanation was given for the cause of his hospitalization. Apparently his muster rolls between May 31 and November 10 have been lost and it cannot be determined from that source what led to his death. All that is known is that he died in the hospital on November 13, 1864.¹² Burial followed at Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond City, Virginia.¹³ Service records of companies other than Co. E provide information on the overall movements of the 59th Alabama as a whole. It is learned from the Co. D muster rolls for example, where the company and hence the entire 59th Alabama, operated between October 31, 1863 and June 30, 1864. The company's station as of June 30 was "in the lines in front of Petersburg, Va.":

Left Chattanooga, Tenn. 22 Nov. 1863. Moved to Knoxville, participated in siege of that place. Left Knoxville, Tenn. on the night of 5 Dec. 1863, marched up E. Tenn. & Va. railroad, participated in action, Bean's Station 14 Dec. 1863. Remained in E. Tenn. until 25 April 64 when Company took train for Richmond where it arrived 29 April 1864. Participated in skirmishes near Richmond against Sheridan's Raiders, May 12/64. Engaged in reconnaissance above Bermuda Hundreds, May 14/64. Participated in Battle of Drewry's Bluff May 16/64. Stayed at Chaffins Farm about 3 weeks. Went to Bermuda Hundreds, stayed 2 or 3 days. Marched down to Swift Creek near Petersburg, Va. Left there June 17/64, engaged in battle at Petersburg June 17/64. Have been in trenches around Petersburg ever since. In battle at Petersburg 17/June 1864 Company records were lost and the Company not having been paid since 31 Oct. 1863 to June 30, 1864. Company entitled to Light Artillery pay according to decision of Q. M. General the Company having been mustered and received as such by War Department.¹⁴

Another source apart from Timothy Wade's service records has come to light which provides additional information on his Civil War activities. While he was away from home serving in the Confederate Army, he regularly wrote letters to his wife, Hester. Those letters have been preserved and are publicly available on line at the University of West Florida Library. The information they contain fills in many of the gaps in his military service records available on the fold3 website, but

⁸ T. W. Blutworth, Company Muster Roll, Co. E, Artillery Battalion, Hillard's Legion, Alabama Volunteers, dated Aug. 31 to Oct. 31, 1863, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/20957357>

⁹ Bledwith, T. W. Reference Slip, Co. E, 59 Alabama Infantry, Card filed under Blutworth, J. W.; fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/13805650>

¹⁰ Receipt Roll for clothing, T. W. Blutworth, Issued May 31, 1864, Signature: T. W. Blutworth, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/13805683>

¹¹ Morning Report, 2d, General Hospital, Howard's Grove, Richmond, Va., for Nov 11, 1854, fold3; (T. M. Blutworth, "Admitted Nov 10, 1864, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/13805691>)

¹² Register of General Hospital, Howard's Grove, Richmond, Virginia, (T. W. Bledwith, Nov 10, 1864, under Remarks: "Died Nov 13/64," fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/13805673>)

¹³ Buried Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond City, Virginia, Sec. G, Row J. Grave 80, Find A Grave Memorial ID 16837407; <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/16837407>

¹⁴ Co. D, 59 Reg't Alabama Infantry, Company Muster Roll, Oct. 31/63 to June 30, 1864, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/20/13801889>

unfortunately those letters written around the time he died are in such poor condition as to be illegible and divulge nothing of the circumstances leading to his hospitalization and death.

The letters reveal that his regiment was present at the battle sites of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Petersburg, Virginia. Many Confederate soldiers went through the war unscathed until the Trenches of Petersburg. It has been written that due to the incessant Union Army bombardment of the Confederate lines, that as many as one third of the Confederate soldiers who went into the trenches were killed or wounded. And that is where the war ended for Timothy Wade Blutworth. In a letter to his wife from Petersburg dated Oct. 5, 1864 he writes:

Dear Wife

It is with the mercy of God and kind providence that I have the pleasntry of dropping you a few lines to let you hear from me. I am well in feeling but I got knocked down night before last with a piece of shell. It struck me behind the hip bone on that flesh part of the but. The piece would way two or three pounds. It did not go in me. It made the blood ouse out a place as large as a horse shoe. [The letter continues several more lines but is insufficiently legible to transcribe with any certainty. He seems to describe what happened to things around that he might have fallen on or scattered about when he fell but his writing is unclear. The news of his injury was the most relevant part of the letter]

Immediately after the injury, he decided against seeking medical aid for it. Sometime later however, he decided to go to the Brigade hospital. In a letter written October 12, he informs his wife he is in the hospital and that “my lick in mending. . . I have on my hip a black place where the shell struck me. . . I am going to the dithches [trenches] in a few days . . .” He eventually recovered from that injury and returned to the trenches.

The last letter he wrote from Petersburg was dated October 30, 1864, about two weeks before he died. It was barely legible, but in it he wrote that he was well. One other followed this, but was undated and although the writing was heavy, the words could not be made out. The letter after that, which appeared to be dated Nov. 14, was from Captain W. J. Peacock, an officer in Co. E whom Timothy Wade had mentioned in his letters. The Captain’s words that could barely be deciphered were obviously those of someone offering sympathy and condolences to a person who has lost a loved one. It appeared to indicate that Timothy had died, but nothing in the way of a cause could be gleaned from the very unclear writing.

In most of his letters to Hester, Timothy indicated he was hale and hearty and not prone to illness other than an occasional cold. He even wrote once that he had fared surprising well in the war up to that point in spite of the harsh conditions he faced every day.¹⁵ Although more soldiers in the Civil War died of causes unrelated to battle than those killed in combat, Timothy’s previous record of good health would seem to preclude illness as a cause of his death.

What seems more likely is that he suffered a mortal wound resulting from the incessant bombardment and musket fire the Union Army poured into the Confederate trenches. It probably occurred on or about 10 November, the day he was admitted to Howard Grove Hospital and where he died three days later.

¹⁵ AMH3930 /research Assistance, Civil War Homefront in Florida; <http://www.library.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/amh3930c.html>

There was a second Timothy Wade Bloodworth from Alabama in the Confederate Army. He was a son of Thomas F. Bludworth who appeared on the 1860 U. S. census enumerated at Clayton P. O., in Barbour County and was a cousin of the other Timothy Wade. He was b. 23 Jan. 1825 in Muscogee County, Ga., and d. 7 June 1902, Lauderdale Mississippi and buried Lockhart, Lauderdale, Miss. He m. Charlotte Bevil 16 April 1846, Barbour, Alabama.¹⁶

He enlisted as a private on February 10, 1862 in Co. F, 1st Regiment, Alabama Infantry, at Clayton, Barbour County, Alabama. During the engagement with the Union Army at the Battle of Island Number Ten on the Mississippi River on Feb. 23-Apr. 8, 1862, he was captured by the enemy on April 5 and imprisoned at Camp Douglass, Illinois.¹⁷ From there he was sent to Vicksburg, Mississippi on September 6, 1862 to be exchanged.¹⁸ After the Union handed him back over to the Confederates, his regiment was deployed to Port Hudson on the Mississippi River in Louisiana. The Union Army laid siege to the Port from May 22 to July 9, 1863.

During that engagement Timothy was captured on July 9, for the second time in the war, but paroled between the 12th and 13th and apparently set free because he was not sent to a POW camp.¹⁹ In his Regiment's next campaign they faced the Union forces in the Battle of Nashville, Tennessee December 15-16. Timothy was captured the first day of the Battle and sent to a Union military prison in Louisville, Kentucky where he arrived on the 19th.²⁰ From Louisville, he was forwarded to Camp Douglass, Illinois, and arrived there on December 22, 1864.²¹ He set out the remainder of the war at Camp Douglass and was discharged from there on Jun 18, 1865.²²

Timothy returned home to Alabama after the war, but sometime afterward, migrated to Mississippi. He was not found on the census of either Alabama or Mississippi in 1870, but is in Mississippi as of the 1880 U. S. census. His household was enumerated at Beat No. 2, in Gainesville Junction, Kemper County, Miss.²³ He died 7 June 1902 and age 77 in Lauderdale County, Miss., and was buried in Lockhart Cemetery, same county.²⁴

[Because there seems to be confusion in some records between the two Timothy Wades, I have gone to extra effort to document each of them as thoroughly as possible. That is the reason for all the

¹⁶ Timothy Wade Bloodworth (1825-1902) | Person | Family Tree | Family Search; <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/24RJ-YTL>

¹⁷ Enlisted Confed. Army as private , Feb 10, 1862, Co. F, 1 Regiment, Ala. Infantry, at Clayton, Barbour, Al. Captured by Union Apr. 5, 1862, at Battle of Island Number Ten, Feb. 23-Apr. 8, 1862. On roll of POW at Camp Douglass, Ill., Aug. 1, 1862. (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, 1 Aug. 1862, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387630>)

¹⁸ Sent to Vicksburg, Miss. To be exchanged, Sept. 6, 1862. (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, 6 Sept. 1862, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387631>)

¹⁹ Rejoined Co. F, 1 Regiment, Ala. Inf., sent to Port Hudson, on the Mississippi River in Louisiana. Union laid siege to it from May 22-July 9, 1863. T. W. captured there on July 9. Was paroled same place, between July 12 and 13. (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, Paroled Port Hudson, La. July 12 and 13, 1863; fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387672>)

²⁰ Again rejoined Co. F, 1 Reg. Ala. Inf. Participated in Battle of Nashville, Tn., Dec. 15-16 and was captured on the 15th. Sent to military prison in Louisville, Ky., Dec. 20, 1864 where he appeared on Roll of Prisoners of War that date; (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, Louisville, Ky., Dec. 19, 1864, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387650>)

²¹ From Louisville, he was forwarded to Camp Douglass, Ill, where he arrived on Dec. 22, 1864, (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, Camp Douglass, Dec. 22, 1864, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387660>)

²² He remained at Camp Douglass until being discharged on June 18, 1865 (Timothy W. Bloodworth, Roll of Prisoners of War, Camp Douglass, card not dated, fold3; <https://www.fold3.com/image/9387666>)

²³ As of the 1880 U. S. census enumerated for Beat No. 2, Timothy, Charlotte and family are in Gainesville Junction, Kemper County, Mississippi; <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBL-ZN8?i=13&cc=1417683>

²⁴ Timothy died 7 June 1902 at age 77 in Lauderdale County, Miss., and was buried Lockhart Cemetery, same county; Find A Grave <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58248312>

detailed info and references on Timothy m. Charlotte, even though he is not in the direct line of the Walton County Bloodworths.]

Hester Bloodworth, unmarried Civil War widow of Timothy Wade, appears on the 1870 U. S. census of Beat No. 11, Skipperville P. O., Dale County, Alabama as the head of her own household. She was a forty year old school teacher with six children ranging in age from nineteen to six. They are listed only by their initials, but they agree with the full names found elsewhere in the records: O. A.- Octavia Ann, 19; T. F.- Timothy Franklin, 16; H. A. M.- Hester Ann Marthellah, 14; R. P.- Robinson Patrick, 11; W. T.- William Tally, 8; and C. I.- Columbus Irving, 6.²⁵

Sometime after the 1870 census, Hester and her children moved to the Florida Panhandle and settled in south Walton County where her sons are listed in the 1880 U. S. census as “sailors.” She died June 24, 1894 and was buried at Hatcher Cemetery in Freeport Community.

Hester’s oldest daughter, Octavia (1851-1939), married John William Watson March 11, 1878. Born August 14, 1848, he was the son of George Washington Watson and Ruth Brooks. John was master of the steamboat “C. Fisher” and on January 4, 1880, near the head of Choctawhatchee Bay, the boat exploded and John died. He is buried at Hatcher Cemetery. Octavia was laid beside him when she died in 1939. Octavia and John had four children; William Henry, John Franklin, Colletta and Edward. William Henry (1876-1967) married Mary Frances Baker on January 23, 1907. He was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1897, served a four year term as Walton County Superintendent of public instruction, and later moved to Pensacola. At the time of his death he was considered the longest practicing attorney in the state. His sister, Colletta b. ca 1879, married J. E. Ellenberg on November 12, 1908.

Hester’s son, T. (Timothy) Frank, known as Frank, was born April 15, 1854, in Dale County, Alabama. His wife Ella was born June 12, 1861. They made their home in south Walton County where their five known children were born: Ludas (ca 1879), Frank (ca 1887), Ola (ca 1893), Ila (ca 1896) and Alma (1899-1986; buried in Pensacola). Frank, a marine engineer, died August 22, 1917, and his wife, Ella T., on April 16, 1941, both buried at Hatcher Cemetery.



Left to Right: Blutworth Family Geraldine, Hazel, Patrick Herman, Julia Vaughan, John Frank, Patrick

Robinson Patrick, known as Patrick, was born April 11, 1859. He married Isabell McLeod (born in 1868). Patrick died April 26, 1910 and Isabell in 1905, both buried at Hatcher Cemetery. Patrick was engaged in the timber and turpentine industry in the Point Washington area. He was also captain of the steamboat, the “Captain Fritz,” which plied the Gulf between Point Washington and New Orleans. Patrick and Isabell were the parents of five known children born in south Walton County: Patrick Herman, Edward (b. ca. 1891), Ethel (b. ca. 1896, married Claude Lathinghouse), Adrian (b. ca. 1898) and Gladys (b. ca. 1901). Oldest child Patrick Herman (1888-1960) married March 22, 1908 in Walton County, Julia Vaughn. Patrick followed his father as captain of the “Fritz” for a time, but later moved to Eucheanna where he joined in the management of the Blutworth/McCaskill mercantile

²⁵ Hester Blutworth hh, 1870 U. S., Skipperville, Dale, Alabama. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-XC74-NWS?i=7&cc=1438024>

store. One of their sons, John Franklin (1914-1981) served as a coach, principal, superintendent of Walton County School System, city councilman and Mayor of DeFuniak Springs.

John Frank and his wife, Nina Ruth Culley, had six children: John Frank, Jr., David (Bunny), Pat, Nancy, Robert (Bo) and Margaret Ellen. John Frank Jr. followed in his father's footsteps and also served as Superintendent of Schools in Walton County in the 1990s. David became a lawyer and served as State Attorney for Palm Beach County for 20 years. Pat has worked at Eglin Air Force Base for over 40 years. Nancy lives and works in Alabama, Robert (Bo), retired as a Lt. Colonel in the U. S. Army and lives in Tallahassee, and Margaret Ellen married Ken Little and lives in Seagrove Beach.



Bludworth Family Back Row: Pat, Robert (Bo), John Frank (Jr.) (Jack), David; Front Row: Margaret Ellen, John Frank, Nina Culley, Nancy Rebecca

William T. Bludworth, son of Timothy and Hester, was born August 21, 1861. He attended Florida State Normal College, becoming a teacher and then lawyer. After receiving his law degree, William practiced in Westville, Bonifay and then in 1908 to DeFuniak for forty years. After retirement William became a steamboat captain. He married Lucy Jackson, born ca. 1866 in Alabama.

Lucy was first married to Mr. Kennedy, parents of John, Mary and Minnie Kennedy. To William and Lucy Bludworth five known children were born: Eunice (1898-1899), Edwin (b. 1898), Glenn (b. 1900), Loyce Leroy (1902-1905) and Walter (b. ca. 1909).

Quoting David Bludworth, now a retired attorney, "Finding their way to Walton County many years ago has proved to be a lucky charm for our Bludworth family."

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Walton County Heritage Association

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2019

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