



The Eller Chronicles

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ELLER FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Volume XXXVI, Issue 4

NOVEMBER 2021



Remembering Betty Eller

Inside This Issue:

Msg: President, Secretary, Webmaster & Editor

Board / Directors Meeting Minutes

A Tribute to Betty Eller

Thank You Ed Eller

Benefit for Doc Eller

New Fundraiser for Old Smyrna Access

Eller Descendant . . .

Reward Offered / WANTED

Obituaries

On The Lighter Side

Eller Books On Sale

Website Registration

EFA Membership Application

EFA Organization

**You may submit material for publication
in *The Eller Chronicles* as follows:**

Email to danliggett@gmail.com OR Mail to

Dan Liggett

849 Hidden Eddy Dr.

McKinney, TX 75071

**If you are submitting photographs, please scan
in JPEG format or copy to a CD. Most photo printer
services can provide a CD if you do not have a
computer. If you prefer, you may submit actual
photos; however, they will not be returned.**



From the President . . . Steve Eller

Hello,

As I sit here this morning in the mountains of Western North Carolina, I am looking out across a frost covered landscape. It's such a beautiful site to start the morning with. After reviewing the Chronicles first draft, I see that Dan has another great layout. A great lady is remembered on the front page. I am glad her memory lives on in all those that knew her.

My wife and I continue our fight against breast cancer with 3 more treatments to go. Jan has dealt with the side effects pretty well. We still are asking for everyone's prayers. We are thankful for all the prayers and people checking up on us. God has been good to us through the years and we look to him even now.

We are continuing our efforts on the Old Smyrna Cemetery Project. Our plan is to file the paperwork around the end of November and get work started in February. Please keep your calendars open for March/April. We have several new headstones to set and plan a dedication service for March/April.

Please continue to support the Eller Family Association with your membership fees. I also ask that you reach out to other family members and invite them to join the EFA. Please try to share the EFA website with everyone that will listen. I can never thank Dan Liggett and Harvey Powers enough for their dedication and hard work. Most people don't realize how much time and effort they put into the EFA.

The John Jacob Eller Book update is ongoing and we are up to around 24,000 folks. If I have contacted you about needing your family info (or you know that your family information needs updating), please forward to me as soon as possible.

I hope that all my family and friends have a Great Thanksgiving!

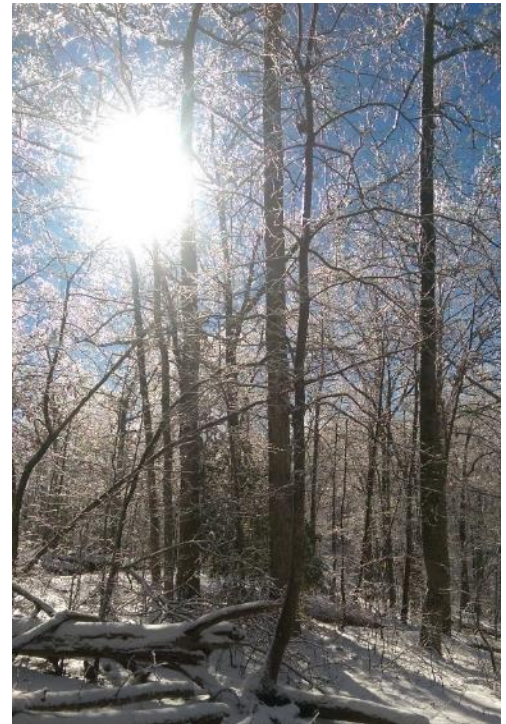
Merry Christmas to All!

Until next year!

Steve Eller

EFA President

ellerpop1@yahoo.com





From the Secretary / Treasurer . . . Lauren Liggett

Hey fellow Ellers,

Hope you all had a good Thanksgiving and were able to spend the day with family and friends.

We drove from McKinney, TX to my sister's house in Mesa, AZ. That is a long way to go. We stopped in Van Horn, TX to spend the night as that is about the half way point to our destination. It is not a very exciting drive as a lot of it is desolate desert country. The only good thing is that the speed limit goes up to 80 out there in that part of the trip. 😊

We spent Thanksgiving Day eating turkey and other yummy things with my sister, Dan's two sisters and brother, Bob, along with our brother-in-law and sister-in-law. Unfortunately, we did not get to play Farkle with them. It was so nice to spend the day together. We are blessed.



We always try to stop and go to church somewhere if we are away on a trip. This time we went to church in Las Cruces, NM on our way out to AZ. On our way home we stopped for church in Midland, TX. We enjoyed both services and wished we could find a similar church close to McKinney. Since we moved to McKinney back in June, we have visited 13 churches! None seemed to say "you're home here." We are ready to settle in and stay at one church. We have settled on one close to home. Maybe I'll find a cousin there. That has happened in the past. I met a 2nd cousin, once removed at a church in Winder, GA while visiting Dan's sister. Isn't that right Deonda Eller Shook?! You never know where those Eller cousins will turn up.

As your secretary/treasurer for the Eller Family Association, I am happy to report that we have had 3 new members recently join the EFA. There have been several others that have renewed their annual dues. I am learning how to use spreadsheets and other such things to keep track of it all. Thank you for helping me hone my computer skills!

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of the Eller Chronicles. Please send us pictures and stories about your line of Ellers. We would love to see them in the next issue.

Lauren (Eller) Liggett

EFA Secretary/Treasurer

missliggy@yahoo.com



From the Webmaster . . . Harvey Powers

We continue to grow the [Eller Family Association online database](#). For that, we thank EFA members and at least one non-member.

Both Donn Koenig and Steve Eller have been providing print-outs of their respective research. Donn has been working on the descendants of [George Eller, Jr.](#) (from the Christian Eller line). And Steve is working on an update of the [John Jacob Eller book](#) and has mailed me information that both he and Jerry Taylor have uncovered. And I have added the additional names found in David Eller's large 2012 book on George Michael Eller. One person found our information online and contacted me to update her family information.

The result is that we're now up to nearly 72,000 names in the database. There are some duplications as the information on the major lines are kept in separate files but, in some cases, overlap resulting in the same individual showing up twice.

We have 23,000 names in the Christian database. I have several hundred more names from Donn Koenig that I haven't added yet. We have 18,300 names in the Jacob database and I still have some to add. I also anticipate more when the book is finished.

The process of adding people does take time. I add each individual one at a time. I also have been trying to check many of the new additions against the *Ancestry* and the *Find-A-Grave* databases, so that I can add photos and obituaries when I can find them.

In addition to adding the individual names to the database, I have been placing online the Modified Registers that Donn and Steve sent. They are in the ["Research Documents" section](#) of the website. We now have some 233 documents going back to research from Gerald Eller.

Clearly people are using our website. In October, we had 2,668 visits to the website. These folks looked at a total of 31,762 pages. And October wasn't a particularly busy month. In July, visitors looked at 58,951 pages.

We make a determined effort (not always successful) to keep information hidden on anyone in the database who's still alive. But EFA members can see that data along with the most recent issues of the *Chronicles* using their login and password. If you never got one (or forgot yours) you can [contact me](#) and I'll see that you get access.



Harvey Powers

EFA Webmaster

harv@harveypowers.com



From the Editor . . . Dan Liggett

This edition of *The Eller Chronicles* is dedicated to remembering Betty Eller, wife of former EFA President and Secretary/Treasurer Ed Eller. If you have been to an Eller Family Conference in the past 20+ years, you couldn't miss Ed. He was usually up front as master of ceremonies. And his wife Betty was always right there at his side, probably reminding him what needed to come next on the agenda. She was always there, ready to pitch in whatever needed doing. And look out if you wanted to play Farkle with her. She was always ready to join in with gusto. I missed seeing her this past July in Hayesville, NC. Randy Poplin, former *Chronicles* Editor and Betty's son-in-law, put together a nice tribute to Betty along with her granddaughter Catri Barba. You will enjoy reading that.

You will also find several articles on Eller Descendants and a new fundraiser for the Old Smyrna Church access road. Please consider giving a gift of an EFA membership. The form is included later in the *Chronicles*.

I have found time this fall to revisit my own genealogy trail. In October, Lauren and I went up to Missouri to meet several second cousins for the first time (from my paternal grandmother's family). I have no 1st cousins. I know that is hard to believe, but it is true. My mother was an only child and my father's sister had no children. I met 7 in one day and 5 others on other days. I found out 2 live in the Dallas area where we now reside, so we got together with them in November. Keeping them all straight was not easy. I had to chart it all out to remember who was who. Above are some of my Minor cousins and me.



Have an idea for something you would like to see in the *Chronicles*? Pass it on to me or, better yet, why don't you write one yourself for the next *Chronicles*. I'm always looking for material.

Please send me any suggestions or submissions for future *Chronicles*. My contact information is found on both the front page and at the end of this publication.

Dan Liggett

Eller Chronicles Editor

danliggett@gmail.com

Board/Directors Meeting Minutes

Compiled by Dan Liggett

The October 24, 2021 Board/Directors meeting (by phone) was called to order at 9:20pm EDT. Present on the call were Lauren Liggett, Dan Liggett, Harvey Powers, Anna Bliss, Emily Cook and Corrine Casper. Ed Eller, Steve Eller, Jerry Kendall and David Eller were unable to attend.

Harvey Powers reported on his progress concerning the next EFA Conference in 2023 in Indiana. He has contacted several Methodist churches known to have been ministered by Eller descendants, but no additional information was available. He has been unable to connect with any local Eller descendants so far. Harvey has contacted the local Historical Society and they are willing to present something at the conference and they offered to open their facilities to the conference attendees regardless of their normal days/hours of operation. The nearby Eller Cemetery is located on the local airport property, but they will work with us to make access to the cemetery available during the conference. Several local accommodations are available and willing to work with us.

Harvey went on to report on the EFA website. We now have 71,836 names in the EFA database: 22,965 from the Christian line; 18,368 from the Jacob line and 13,674 from the George Michael line. We've added more than 3,000 names since the conference in Haysville. Steve Eller has been providing Harvey with a large number of Jacob-line names including some print-outs from Jerry Taylor. Included are James Eller, John Gordon Eller, James Kimsey Eller and Malinda Eller. Harvey still has several hundred he has not gotten to.

Donn Koenig has provided the names of hundreds of Christian Eller descendants. Harvey has added fewer than half the names. They are from the George Eller, Jr. line (John, Susan, Wilkerson, George Washington, Harrison, Henry and Betty). He continues to working on them.

For both projects, Harvey has been able to add a number of photographs that were on either Find-A-Grave or Ancestry. To further his efforts, he was wondering if the EFA would agree to pay for a 6-month subscription (\$60) to Newspapers.com so he would have better access to Obituaries and other information related to the research he is adding to the website. His request was approved and he will proceed with the subscription.

As treasurer, Lauren reported that she discovered that the EFA unknowingly lost their non-profit status about 10 years ago due to lack of reporting. Evidently, once the non-profit status was approved, the entity must report income annually. This is not the same as a tax return and could have been done with a postcard or online. However, the need to report was not passed on to the next Treasurer since 2007 or 2009 and so the reporting stopped. Once 3 years had passed without reporting, our non-profit status was revoked. A couple of years after that, the appeal process was no longer available. So, our only recourse is to reapply for non-profit status. The first form in the process has been submitted.

With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm EDT.

Before everyone hung up, Emily asked about some direction in looking up the name Lewis Monroe Eller. Harvey was able to quickly find in Ancestry and on Find A Grave that he lived 1865-1929 and that it looks like his father was John H. Eller, grandfather John Charles Eller, then John Melchior Eller and then Melchior Eller.

A Tribute to Betty Eller

By Son-In-Law, Randy Poplin and Granddaughter Catri Barba

When asked to write a memorial tribute for Betty Eller for the Eller Chronicles, two words came to mind...Family and Love. I'm sure all of you have many memories of Betty from Eller



Reunions, Family gatherings, and visits to Dalton. There was never a time when she was not loving and caring to everyone; whether it be holding a baby, cooking a delicious meal, or simply asking about how you are doing and to make sure you were comfortable.



I remember when I first met Betty when I began dating Tammy, I thought to myself "what a kind and gracious woman Betty is", and she did not change any in the following 30 years that I knew her. I know myself, as well as my other in-laws have always felt like her children and were welcomed graciously into her loving arms. When our girls were babies and toddlers, she would gravitate to them and love on and nurture them from the time she arrived until the time she left. As they aged, she never missed a ballet performance, choir concert, theatrical production, or band performance. She also traveled to California numerous times for important events for her long-distance grandchildren. She traveled with Ed, the love of her life, to many family events and Eller Conferences and would come back with stories of how much fun she had had seeing everyone and playing Farkle with her family.





My niece, Catri Barba, gave the following Eulogy at her grandmother's funeral that simply touched my heart and I feel like summed up her life. I thought these words were perfect and said exactly what I was thinking when asked to write about Betty.

"Some believe that things in life are left up to destiny; others believe in chance. Grandpa Ed would say Lady Luck smiled upon him the day that Betty stepped off her bus. From that chance meeting 63 years ago love bloomed. Three generations followed— an ever-expanding family tree of 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

In another chance encounter, as I sifted through a stack of papers in grandma's kitchen, I came across a hand-written note in her handwriting. On this small piece of paper were 6 little principles to live by – which I assume to be notes from a sermon. As I read these short proverbs, I was overwhelmed by the fact that they each represented my grandmother to a T. I'd like to share them with you.

1. Choose to be happy
2. Embrace Possibilities
3. Make the changes that make a difference
4. Pray hard
5. Celebrate the love of God
6. Live each day to the fullest

Betty was so good at sharing her wisdom through her generosity, kindness, and love. And after reading this, I was compelled to look for a verse to pair with it. I grabbed grandpa's bible and turned to the page that a red and white striped ribbon had marked. I immediately recognized the red underlined words of Proverbs 3:5-6;

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

By chance though, I kept reading the chapter and came across verses 17-18;

"Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her; and happy is everyone that retaineth her."

Doesn't that sound like Betty?

Betty Eller was an ever-flowing fountain of love. She lived every day loving her family, friends, neighbors and her Lord. Betty was the epitome of a good Christian woman who graced our lives with genuine joy. Whether it was destiny or chance, I am so glad it all happened. It has been a privilege to be love by her and to see how many near and far have been affected by her grace.

Catri Grisso Barba."

In closing, it's quite ironic that I'm composing this memoriam to Betty on All Saints Day, a Christian solemnity celebrated in honor of all the saints of the church. Today, Betty's name was read and a candle was lit in her memory. So many memories have crossed my mind today, and I know that her love and compassion will live on through her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Thank You Ed Eller

By Dan Liggett

Thanks to Randy for putting together the tribute to Betty Eller. Our hearts go out to Betty's husband of 62 years, Ed Eller, who has contributed greatly to the Eller Family Association.

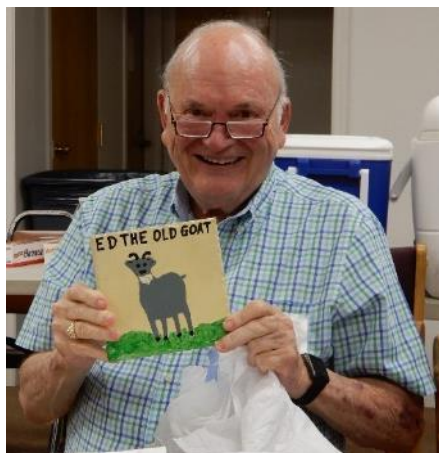
Ed has been an EFA officer for much of the last 22 years. He served as EFA President (1999-2003, 2007-2011), EFA Secretary/Treasurer (2013-2021) and is currently on the EFA Board of Directors. He was co-author along



with J. Gerald Eller and Janine Eller Porter of the book *John Jacob Eller and His Descendants*, published in 1998, which is in the process of being updated by current President Steve Eller. He was presented with the EFA Distinguished Service Award in 1997 and the James W. Hook Award in 2003 and again in 2011. And he has donated 10 EFA rugs over the years to be raffled for the benefit of the Eller Family Association.

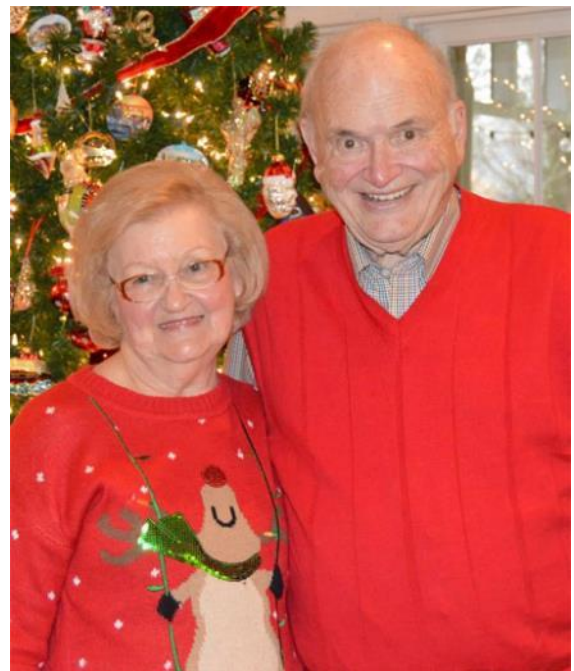


Ed has been an EFA member since at least 1993 when he was given a gift membership by his niece, Anna Marie Eller Bliss. Ed has been to every Eller Family Conference since Portland in 1993, hosting it three times himself (San Diego, CA in 1999, Chattanooga, TN in 2011 and Hiawassee, GA in 2013).



Ed almost always has a smile on his face and is ready to tell you a story if only you ask. He is a treasure trove of information regarding his beloved John Jacob Eller line.

Ed's not going anywhere. He is still very involved in the EFA. Now that he is no longer an officer, he has more time for playing bridge, visiting his local Lodge and traveling around the country visiting his grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Way to go Ed and thank you for your service to the Eller Family Association.

Benefit for Doc Eller

Submitted by Steve Eller



A benefit for Keith "Doc" Eller was held Saturday, October 23 in Walhalla, South Carolina. A large crowd gathered for the slow cooked BBQ that was prepared. Tables of items were donated for the auction and raffle events.

Doc was involved in an ATV accident on July 16, 2021. He has just recently moved from the hospital into a rehabilitation facility. Unfortunately, he did not have insurance and the medical bills will continue to increase as he goes through rehab. He is going to need a customized van as well as a special wheelchair. Please keep this family in your prayers and if you want to help in any way, please contact me (ellerpop1@yahoo.com).

As I talked with the folks at the benefit, I discovered that Doc was a very talented carpenter and specialized in pole barns. I was told that he built many barns in the Oconee County area. I'm sure that being in a wheelchair will be tough on Keith as he was an outdoorsman and a deer hunter.

Milton Keith "Doc" Eller is a distant cousin and his great great grandfather (Humphrey Posey Eller) was born in Towns County, Georgia in 1874. His grandfather (James Kimsey Eller) was born in Towns County, Georgia and died in Stephens County, Georgia in 1986. James Kimsey Eller and Lula Mattie Belle Gibson had 9 children. Three of those children ended up in Oconee County, South Carolina. Keith goes back to Susannah "Sukey" Eller through her son, Joseph.



Doc's sister, Kim Eller Jones was at the benefit and worked very hard to serve folks and assist in her brother's cause. Please pray for this Eller Family as prayers have been known to change things.



New Fundraiser For Old Smyrna Cemetery Access

Steve Eller, President of the Eller Family Association, has received a land use permit form from the US Forest Service. This land use permit will allow his group of dedicated workers to finally develop a usable road and allow people to drive right up to the cemetery. The road has been torn up by off road vehicles, rain and other factors. Steve feels like this may be the last chance to save this road which allows workers to maintain Old Smyrna Cemetery.



There are about 45 graves at this location. Out of the eleven known to be buried there, nine are Eller/Garrett/Nicholson/Rogers Descendants. The Eller Family Association, Towns County Historical Society and concerned citizens need your help. An engineer and other citizens have donated their time and expertise to this project. However, they are in need of donations for materials. A load of material (rocks, gravel and crusher run) will cost \$150 to deliver. They are asking for donations for the cost of a load of materials, at least. Other donations will be needed complete the road as well. Smaller donations will be accepted. Please help support this effort if you can. If you do not have a Facebook account, contact Steve Eller directly at <https://www.facebook.com/donate/979598179256246/>



Roanoke Eller Connection Confirmed

In the May issue of the Eller Chronicles, we expressed an interest in locating a male descendant of Jacob Eller of what has come to be known as the Roanoke Ellers:

Jacob Eller line (Roanoke Ellers) DNA

We are looking for a male descendant of Jacob Eller of the Roanoke Ellers who is willing to submit his DNA for the Eller Family Project at Family Tree DNA. The EFA will pay for the DNA kit and for the DNA test.

Soon afterward, we got a call from Howard Eller of Kokomo, IN whose ancestry goes back to the Roanoke Ellers (his 4th great grandfather was Jacob Eller, husband of Magdalena). Howard volunteered to do the DNA test as requested. We sent him a DNA kit to send on to Family Tree DNA for Y-DNA testing and comparisons to the Eller Family Project at Family Tree DNA.

The results are in. Howard and presumably all the descendants of the Jacob Eller line of Roanoke, VA match up with other DNA results from the George Michael Eller line. The exact relationship is yet to be determined, but they are definitely part of the George Michael Eller line.

Want to learn more about the Roanoke Ellers? Read a series of articles on the [Roanoke Ellers](#) beginning with the [May 1988](#) Eller Chronicles.

And there is more in the [May 1993 Chronicles](#) as well. In that article, a Howard Eller is mentioned in the vicinity of the Howard Eller who volunteered his DNA. I suspect the Howard in the article may have been Howard the DNA volunteer's father, but I am not sure.

The EFA website database has a page for [Jacob Eller \(Roanoke\)](#). On that page are links to 5 separate articles (under EFA Research) about Jacob Eller's descendants and of his probable connection to George Michael Eller (which until now was unproven).

Eller Descendant Remembered

Submitted by Steve Eller

I recently had lunch with Ed Eller and the wife of James Clifton Eller, Pauline (Polly). Clif was from Robbinsville, North Carolina and was buried at the Metz Cemetery. Take the time to read the obituary excerpt below for Clif. He and his family were early settlers (before statehood) in Alaska and started power/phone companies there.



Excerpt from <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/177341299/james-clifton-eller>

-- Originally published in The Alaska Dispatch News, 03/14/2017:

James Clifton Eller, 87, passed away peacefully at his home in Wasilla, Alaska, on March 9, 2017. Clif was born on July 23, 1929, in Robbinsville, N.C., the eldest son of Hobart Hobson and Fannie Elizabeth (Jones) Eller. He joined the U.S. Army shortly after high school and served for three years in Germany as a communications technician. After his time in the service, Clif worked and attended college in Fresno, Calif., until he was offered a job in Alaska with ITT, which paid more than his professors were making. Being an enterprising young man, he decided to take the job and move north to work on the Distant Early Warning (DEW Line) system being set up during the Cold War. He worked mainly in the Yukon River village

of Tanana, Alaska, where he met Paula E. Rothbauer, an adventurous young nurse from Calgary, Alberta, who would become his wife on Dec. 31, 1959.

Clif and Paula raised their four children in Tanana. They worked hard to improve life for their family and the community. They created Yukon Telephone Co. in 1960, which brought local phone service to the village for the first time. Six years later Clif purchased the town's power plant and created Tanana Power Co. The telephone company expanded to include the communities of Ruby and Whittier, Alaska, in the 1980s. With very little capital or equipment and even less experience, he and Paula became communications pioneers bringing modern technology to rural Alaska.



Clif loved being a pilot, and owned several airplanes throughout his adult life. He was an avid reader, enjoyed playing guitar and listening to bluegrass music. He also enjoyed games and passed many hours playing chess and cribbage with his family. Although he lived in Alaska for many years, the family farm in Atoah in the hills of North Carolina remained dear to his heart. He loved going "home" twice a year. He was an easy-going man, preferred to listen rather than speak and he will be remembered fondly and missed by many.

[James Clifton Eller in the EFA Database](#)

Eller Descendant Serves

Submitted by Steve Eller

Hiawassee, Towns County, Georgia has been served in many ways by John Jacob Eller Descendants. One such descendant was [Jay Vernon Chastain](#). He was shot and killed during a traffic stop in 1974. Sheriff Chastain goes back to Susannah "Sukey" Eller through her son Joseph.

He was well loved as evidenced by many remembrances posted online: <https://www.odmp.org/officer/reflections/2992-sheriff-jay-vernon-chastain-sr>

Sheriff Killed in Gunbattle

The Associated Press

HIAWASSEE, Ga. — Towns County Sheriff Jay Chastain was shot and killed early Sunday as he stopped a car for a traffic violation just east of this town near the North Carolina-Georgia border, police said.

However, Chastain, 46, managed to shoot back at his assailant before he died, authorities added.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation said Roy Struben Lockaby, 42, of Hiawassee was killed in the exchange of gunfire with officers arriving at the scene.

GBI agent R. C. McCracken said the shooting occurred when Chastain and Deputy Sheriff Rudy Eller stopped a car two miles east of here at the intersection of U.S. 76 and Georgia 288 for a traffic violation.

McCracken said the driver of the car, identified as Ernest Harold Hollifield, 36, of Dahlonega, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Later in the day, police obtained warrants charging Hollifield with one count of murder and two counts of burglary.

The agent said Eller was escorting Hollifield to the patrol car when Lockaby, a passenger in the car, fired three shots, striking Chastain once in the chest.

The sheriff was dead on arrival at Towns County Hospital, McCracken said.

Eller Descendant Killed in D-Day Invasion

Submitted by Harvey Powers

PFC Harry DeWitt of Deleware County, Indiana, was killed in the D-Day invasion in Normandy, France. He was in the 29th Infantry Division, 116th Infantry Regiment, Company B.

He was a descendant of Christian Eller/Ohler through his son George and George's Grand-daughter Susan Elizabeth "Betsy" Eller. His full genealogy can be found at <http://www.ellerfamilyassociation.com/getperson.php?personID=I21488&tree=christian2>

The first boats from his company hit the beach as part of a second wave on June 7th, the day after D-Day. There are records which say he died on June 7th and other records which say he died on June 17th, after his unit pushed inland near Vierville.

Unit records say the sea had been so rough throughout the journey that all hands had to bail with their helmets in order to keep the boats afloat. They were little affected by the enemy fire until the ramps were dropped; then



automatic fire from both flanks broke around the B-Company boat exits. The men jumped into neck-high water and started ashore. As it happened, the boat had come into the coast directly confronting a small cover. The beach was strewn with heavy boulders and could be traversed only with extreme difficulty.

They joined a group of Rangers at the cove and fought with them all day long helping them destroy the German positions around the fortified house and in the emplacements at the top of the cliff. There were 28 of them in all. After mopping-up the German trenches, they stayed at the second hedgerow beyond the cliff when they were ordered to rejoin the Battalion in its bivouac near Vierville.

Harry J DeWitt is buried or memorialized at Plot H Row 18 Grave 16, Normandy American Cemetery, Colleville-sur-Mer, France.



Eller Descendant Contributes

Submitted by Steve Eller

While updating the John Jacob Eller Book, I ran across another Eller Descendant that I thought made some outstanding contributions to the world we live in. [JoGayle Dillon Howard](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/103883788/jogayle-howard) goes back to John Jacob Eller Jr. through his son Adam (Adam was Sukey's brother). JoGayle passed away in 2011, may she rest in peace. Below is a portion of her story found in its entirety at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/103883788/jogayle-howard>

Born and raised in Dallas, but destined as a gift to the world, Dr. JoGayle Dillon Howard dedicated her life and work to endangered species. As soon as she arrived at the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park in 1980, a freshly graduated veterinarian from Texas A&M University, JoGayle's intense research on animal reproduction and her pioneering new techniques earned her the title of "Sperm Queen," a nickname she relished. Completing her doctorate at the University of Maryland in 1989, the National Institutes of Health awarded her the prestigious Special Emphasis Research Career Award Fellowship that helped support her work. Throughout her career, she received numerous awards and international acclaim for her innovative research.

In 2010, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service bestowed upon her the prestigious award of "Recovery Champion" for her work with endangered species.



JoGayle played a leadership role in understanding the reproductive biology of the world's beloved giant panda. She was a key scientist on a multi-institutional team that conducted a biomedical survey of giant pandas in China from 1998 through 2000. Her studies, along with Chinese and American colleagues, helped identify the causes of poor reproduction in giant pandas living in breeding centers and zoos, which then helped contribute to a panda population explosion over the past decade. With Chinese colleagues, she developed new protocols for sperm cryopreservation and artificial insemination. It was JoGayle who artificially inseminated the National Zoo's female panda, Mei Xiang, and produced the first surviving cub, Tai Shan, in 2005. But of the many species she studied, JoGayle was most interested in the secretive and beautiful clouded leopard of Southeast Asia. When the breeding program in North American zoos foundered, she established a research program in the range country of Thailand. She discovered the key to reproductive success was improved husbandry (including pairing animals at a young age), ensuring better nutrition, and providing more spacious enclosures. More than 50 cubs resulted, and JoGayle raised funds for the first-ever field studies of this elusive species.

Eller Descendant Directed the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Submitted by Harvey Powers



C. Bruce Tarter, a theoretical physicist, was the director of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for eight years starting in 1994. He established the Laboratory's post-Cold-war program to ensure the safety of the American nuclear stockpile and the development of the U.S. supercomputer.

He was a descendant of Christian Eller/Ohler through his son George and George's Grand-daughter Betsy Eller. You can trace his genealogy here at <http://www.ellerfamilyassociation.com/getperson.php?personID=I21535&tree=christian2>

He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and received his PhD from Cornell University.

During the last years of his tenure as Director he experienced the challenges of the Chinese espionage program, the creation of the National Nuclear Security Administration a new government agency to oversee the Laboratory's work, and the beginning of the Homeland Security Department.



Eller Descendant's Husband Designed Cards

Submitted by Steve Eller

Ken Shook (1946-2021) of Winder, GA passed away last January. He was the husband of Deonda Eller Shook, a John Jacob Eller descendant.

For most of his life, Ken worked as a Builder and Grading Contractor. He was a member of Hope Baptist Church in Winder and was a faithful servant. He was a loving husband, father, and Papaw.

In his spare time, he designed a few greeting cards. Below are a couple examples of what he created for Christmas. "Well done, good and faithful servant!"



[Obituary](#)



Eller Descendant On Record

VOLUME ONE Recorded, Produced & Annotated by ART ROSENBAUM ETHNIC FOLKWAYS RECORDS FE 34161

Folk Visions & Voices

TRADITIONAL MUSIC & SONG IN NORTHERN GEORGIA

Early Mountain Songs, Ballads & Tunes
Black Religious Singing



The Eller Family: Lawrence, Paralee, Leatha, Berthe, Upper Rightower, 1980



Marie Moon, Doc and Lucy Barnes, and Fanny, Little Lucy and Jackie Gomers, Athens, 1877



ETHNIC FOLKWAYS RECORDS FE 34161

VOLUME I, SIDE I
EARLY MOUNTAIN SONGS, BALLADS, AND TUNES

Band 1 I'M GOING TO GEORGIA
Berthe Rogers, vocal and piano; Paralee McCloud, vocal;
Lawrence Eller, vocal; Leatha Eller, vocal

Band 2 THE LITTLE SHIP (The Golden Vanity, Child, No. 286)
Paralee McCloud, vocal

Band 3 CINDY IN THE SUMMERTIME
Lawrence Eller, vocal; Vaughn Eller, mouth bow

Band 4 SNOWBIRD
Ross Brown, fiddle; Howard Cunningham, guitar

Band 5 DON'T GO RIDIN' DOWN THAT OLD TEXAS TRAIL
Lawrence Eller, vocal and banjo; Vaughn Eller, guitar;
Ross Brown, fiddle

Band 6 WHAT YOU GONNA NAME THAT PRETTY BABY?
Leatha Eller, vocal and piano

Band 7 THE FAMOUS WEDDING
Maude Thacker, vocal

Band 8 ONCE I HAD AN OLD GREY MARE
Maude Thacker, vocal

Band 9 AS I WALKED OUT ONE MORNING IN SPRING
W. Guy Bruce, vocal and banjo

Band 10 THE LILY OF THE WEST (Laws P29)
W. Guy Bruce, vocal

Band 11 SHOUT, I LULU
W. Guy Bruce, vocal and banjo

VOLUME I, SIDE II
BLACK RELIGIOUS SINGING

Band 1 WALK WITH ME
Brady "Doc" Barnes, vocal and guitar; Lucy Barnes, vocal

Band 2 DEAD AND GONE
Brady "Doc" Barnes, vocal and guitar

Band 3 MY NUMBER WILL BE CHANGED
Gospel Chorus, Greater Macedonia Baptist Church
of Athens, Naomi Bradford, leader

Band 4 SOON, ONE MORNIN'
Reverend Willie Gresham and congregation, vocals,
Greater Macedonia Baptist Church of Athens

Band 5 BROTHER, YOU OUGHT T'VE BEEN THERE
Rev. Nathaniel Mitchell, vocal; Sister Fieena Mitchell,
vocal and piano; Brady "Doc" Barnes, vocal and guitar;
Lucy Barnes, vocal

Band 6 I DON'T KNOW HOW WE MADE IT OVER
Brown's Chapel Choir, Imogene Riggins, lead; and Bea
Robinson, Viola Watkins, Lily Mae Davis, and Otha Cooper

Band 7 NO ROOM AT THE HOTEL
Otha Cooper, vocal

Band 8 WELCOME HOME
Brown's Chapel Choir, Imogene Riggins, lead; and Bea
Robinson, Viola Watkins, Lily Mae Davis, and Otha Cooper

Recorded, produced and annotated by Art Rosenbaum
Photographs by Margo Newmark Rosenbaum
This record is a companion to FOLK VISIONS AND VOICES:
TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND SONG IN NORTH GEORGIA. Athens:
The University of Georgia Press, 1983.

© 1984 FOLKWAYS RECORDS & SERVICE CORP.
632 BROADWAY, N.Y.C. 10012 N.Y., U.S.A.

Folk Visions & Voices

TRADITIONAL MUSIC & SONG IN NORTHERN GEORGIA

Early Mountain Songs, Ballads & Tunes

Black Religious Singing

Recorded, Produced & Annotated by ART ROSENBAUM

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

ETHNIC FOLKWAYS RECORDS FE 34161

FOLKWAYS RECORDS Album No. FSS 34161

©1984 by Folkways Records & Service Corp., 632 Broadway, NYC, USA 10012

Folk Visions & Voices

TRADITIONAL MUSIC & SONG IN NORTHERN GEORGIA

Early Mountain Songs, Ballads & Tunes

Black Religious Singing

Recorded, Produced & Annotated by ART ROSENBAUM

INTRODUCTION

North Georgia runs from the Tallulah Gorge and Chattooga River country on the South Carolina border across the Blue Ridge Mountains south of the North Carolina line, over to the long ridges of Lookout Mountain angling up toward Tennessee, then down through the piney woods and textile mill towns of the Piedmont into the northern edge of the old cotton belt plantation country extending east and west from Atlanta. In this area rural people of English and African descent and mountain folk of Scotch-Irish and German stock have nurtured and developed a variety of folk music styles, emblematic of Southern traditions and well-springs of later American musical forms. Some, like the spirited Piedmont fiddle band music and the raggy Piedmont blues, are distinctive styles that became popular beyond the region through early "hill-billy" and "race" commercial records in the twenties and thirties. Other traditions, like unaccompanied mountain ballad singing, banjo breakdowns and songs, black early spirituals and their secular counterparts in frolic and work songs, are more widespread through the South, though Georgians give them a distinctive flavor.

We have been seeking out and recording performers of these older styles since 1977 and have found singers and musicians with retentive memories and authentic and authoritative performing styles. They learned their music at a time when family, church, and neighborhood were the chief sources of musical expression and entertainment, just before or during the time when radio and recordings were beginning to draw upon, proliferate, and transform these local traditions. Of the many hundreds of musical examples we recorded, over eighty were published in our book Folk Visions and Voices: Traditional Music and Song in North Georgia (field col-

lecting, text, drawings and paintings by Art Rosenbaum; photographs by Margo Newmark Rosenbaum; musical transcriptions by Béla Foltin, Jr.; foreword by Pete Seeger. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1983.) This work emphasizes the lives and experiences of the most interesting informants we recorded and interviewed and presents drawings, paintings, and photographs from the exhibition which was the initial mode of presenting the material.

The present two-volume LP anthology draws all its material from the book. In most cases the example on the record was also the source for the text and tune transcription in the book, although in some cases an alternate take was used; and in a few instances pieces were re-recorded expressly for this record when a better performance was desired. The recordings were made on a Pioneer RT-1050 stereo deck in homes and churches across north Georgia, and the informality of the situations, heard at times through laughter, incidental comments, background noises, should contribute to rather than detract from the spirit and persuasiveness of the performances. These records can serve as companions to the book Folk Visions and Voices, along with our other Folkways LP, Down Yonder--Old Time String Band Music from Georgia, with Gordon Tanner, Smoky Joe Miller, and Uncle John Patterson (FTS 31089), which includes much of the musical material from the chapter on Gordon Tanner and his family and friends who have carried on the tradition of Gordon's father, Gid, and his famous Skillet Lickers string band.

Through their long history Afro-American and Anglo-American, and sacred and secular folk music traditions have coexisted and at times influenced each other in north Georgia. In this spirit we have paired the older white mountain ballad and lyric song traditions with black religious singing on Volume I; and black "worldly" music like blues, work songs, and pre-blues frolic tunes with white banjo tunes and string band music on Volume II. These two discs, along with Down Yonder, will present the powerful and varied folk music of north Georgia as it has been carried into the last decades of the twentieth century. Our appreciation goes to the talented and dedicated folk musicians of the area who welcomed us into their homes, churches, and social gatherings, and who shared with

us, and now with you, the listener, these treasured traditions.



Vaughn Eller, Lawrence Eller, Ross Brown, Upper Hightower, 1979.



Vaughn Eller playing the "song bow," Upper Hightower, 1977.



Brown's Chapel Choir: Lily Mae Davis, Viola Watkins, Otha Cooper, Imogene Riggins, Beatrice Robinson.



W. Guy Bruce, Trion, 1980.



Sister Naomi Bradford and Mavis Moon, Athens, 1977.



Rev. Willie Gresham, Greater Macedonia Baptist Church, Athens, 1977.

REWARD OFFERED



Need information to find who has possession of an old Bible printed in the German language at Halle, Germany in 1770. Believed to be the Bible willed to Jacob Eller by father George Michael Eller.

About 1957 it was in the possession of Mr. Wade E. Eller of Warrensville, N.C. This info is described in book:

**GEORGE MICHAEL ELLER
AND DESCENDANTS OF HIS IN AMERICA**

by James W. Hook published in 1957, on page 27.

Call with info: 336-921-3430

Christine Eller Walker

Editor's Note: Please note that Christine is only asking for information about who has the Bible. She is not trying to buy it, but only to locate it and hopefully be able to examine it.

WANTED

Looking For Indiana Ellers

With the 2023 EFA Conference tentatively planned for the Bloomington, Indiana, area, planning chair Harvey Powers is looking for contacts and resources in that area.

The Bloomington area, and specifically Monroe County, was home to John Eller, Sr. (1786-1840), grandson of Christian Eller. He moved there from Kentucky with his family (including his mother) about 1832 and settled on the Eller Farm (about 400 acres) five miles west of Bloomington. He became a Justice of the Peace and a Probate Judge. Nearly a thousand of his descendants are documented in Eller Family database. Maybe you or someone you know is one of his descendants and are not aware of it. Follow this link to see if any of the names are familiar:

[Descendants of John Eller Sr](#)

Do you or any of your family have contacts in Monroe County, Indiana? Or can you trace your family back to John Eller, Sr.? If so, will you please contact Harvey at harv@harveypowers.com?

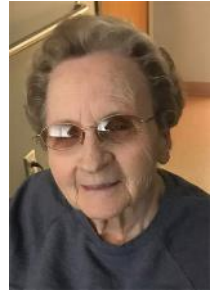
Obituaries

We've included Eller obituaries in *the Chronicles* for many years. We've now added them [to our website](#) as well. Please let both the [Chronicles editor](#) and [the webmaster](#) know of the passing of any of our Eller cousins. If possible, let us know how they fit into our genealogy and give us a link to their online obituary.

Irene Nicholson Eller

1925-2021

Irene Nicholson Eller, 96, of Hayesville passed away Friday, November 12, 2021. She was born in Hiawassee, Georgia to the late William P. and Della Margaret Nichols Nicholson. Irene had worked at Anderson's Grocery as a retail clerk. She was a member of the Lower Bell Creek Baptist Church. Irene loved gardening.



Irene was a Jacob Eller descendant going back to Susannah "Sukey" Eller through her son Joseph. Her husband goes back to Susannah "Sukey" Eller through her daughter Cynthia Avaline.

[[Obituary](#) / [Irene Nicholson Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Charles William Eller

1939-2021

Charles William Eller age 82 of Salisbury, passed away on October 29, 2021 at Atrium Cabarrus Medical Center. He was born on February 20, 1939 in Rowan County and was the son of the late Cicero Avery Eller and Annie Schronce Eller. He attended the Rowan County Schools and was a veteran of the US Army, serving during the Korean era.

He is from the George Michael Eller line.

[[Obituary](#) / [Charles William Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Linda Eller McDonald

1942-2021

Linda Eller McDonald, age 79, passed away peacefully on Sunday October 31, 2021 at Pulaski Health and Rehab Center surrounded by her family & with her Grandson Kamryn on the phone. Linda was born in Purlear, NC on May 11, 1942 to the late Gilbert Clayton & Fannie Elizabeth Eller. Linda retired from Pulaski County School System, where she worked in the cafeteria.



She is from the George Michael Eller line

[[Obituary](#) / [Linda Eller in the EFA database](#)]

William Kevin "Cuz" Eller 1955-2021

William Kevin "CUZ" Eller passed from this earth to his heavenly home in Gadsden, AL on October 7, 2021. Kevin was a free spirit. He loved bluegrass music and making people laugh. He played guitar, mandolin, and banjo. He loved spending time picking music with his friends. He was preceded in death by his father Otha Lee Eller, mother Edith Kelly Eller Howard, and sister Kathy Lee Eller.



He is from the Jacob Eller line.

[[Obituary](#) / [William "Cuz" Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Sue Eller Conn 1932-2021

Sue Eller Conn, age 88, died April 16, 2021 in Nashville, TN. She was born June 12, 1932, in Franklin, NC to Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Robert Eller (Frances Greer) where Rev. Eller was the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Franklin. She received a master's degree in Religious Education from Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. In 1960, she married Walton Thomas Conn, who passed away November 10, 2020.



She is from the Conrad Eller line (Melchior).

[[Obituary](#) / [Sue Eller Conn in the EFA database](#)]

Linda Lou "Lynn" Eller Cheever 1946-2021

Born on December 31, 1946 in Williamsport, IN to Jesse Eller and Wilhelmina (Weisheit) Eller. Passed on October 18, 2021 at St Vincent Heart Center. Lynn was married to Richard L. Cheever for over fifty-two years. She is survived by her husband and their son William Shawn Cheever and fiancé Natasha Hall, daughter Jennifer Leigh Lyle and husband Jerry.

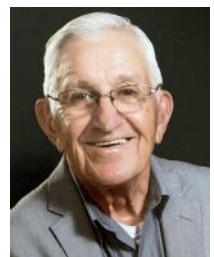


She is from the Mary Polly Eller line.

[[Obituary](#) / [Linda Lou Cheever in the EFA database](#)]

Joe Eller 1938-2021

Mr. Joe Eller, age 83 of Wilkesboro passed away Monday, September 20, 2021 at Forsyth Medical Center. Mr. Eller was born January 22, 1938 in Wilkes County to James Garfield and Cora Belle Lovette Eller. He is from the George Michael Eller line.



A member of Lewis Fork Baptist Church, Joe loved being outside gardening and to stay busy working. He drove the church bus, loved family time, his church, cookouts and sports.

[[Obituary](#) / [Joe Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Gregory Eller**1966-2021**

Gregory was born May 30, 1966 in West Chester Pennsylvania to the late Frank Eller and Norma Jean Eller. Gregory was a US Air Force veteran and he enjoyed golfing.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife Miok Chon Eller; two sons: David Eller of Mountain City, TN and Kevin Eller of Smithville, TN. He is from the George Michael Eller line.



[[Obituary](#) / [Gregory Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Nancy Gwendolyn Eller Nicklas 1937-2021

Nancy Gwendolyn Eller Nicklas passed away Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Baptist Health, Lexington of complications from chronic lung disease. She was born in Wilkes County, North Carolina on July 8, 1937 to Gwyn and Ola Staley Eller who preceded her in death.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Wesley Thomas Nicklas. Survivors include three daughters: Celeste (David) McRae of Lexington, Wendy (Neil) Gluckman of Decatur, Georgia and Christy Nicklas (Jim Graves) of Washington, D.C.



[[Obituary](#) / [Gwendolyn Eller Nicklas in the EFA database](#)]

Tony Sewell**1959-2021**

Tony Sewell, 63, of Belwood went to be with the Lord on Sunday, September 5, 2021, after a long valiant heart wrenching battle with esophageal cancer. Tony was preceded in death by his father, Troy Sewell. He is survived by his wife, Tatiana Kimbrough Sewell of Belwood NC, and three children.

Tony goes back to Sukey Eller through Harve Penland Eller, Humphrey Posey Eller, Joseph and Mariah Hedden Eller.



[[Obituary](#) / [Tony Sewell in the EFA database](#)]

Robert Joseph Eller**1974-2021**

Robert Joseph Eller, age 47, of Hudson, NC passed away at his home on August 4, 2021. Robert was born in Caldwell County on March 4, 1974 to William Ray Eller and Patricia Shields Eller.

He was a graduate of South Caldwell High School and attended UNC Greensboro and a graduate of Appalachian State University. He joined the Peace Corp and served his country in China teaching English.



[[Obituary](#) / [Robert Joseph Taylor in the EFA database](#)]

Raymond "Kenneth" Eller 1938-2021

Raymond "Kenneth" Eller, age 83, of Hays, passed away Sunday, September 12, 2021 at Wilkes Health & Rehabilitation Center. Kenneth was born August 8, 1938 in Wilkes County to Albert and Agnes Pearson Eller. He was a US Air Force Veteran and a member of Fairplains Baptist Church.

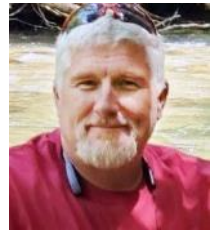


He was retired from Lowe's Companies as a truck driver. Kenneth loved collecting old antique cars and taking trips on his motorcycle.

[[Obituary](#) / [Kenneth Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Anthony Mark Ellison 1967-2021

Anthony Mark Ellison, age 54, of Garfield, GA died on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at the Emanuel Medical Center.



Mr. Ellison was born on August 17, 1967, to the late David Ellison, and Betty Boatright Ellison in Millen, GA. He was employed with the Georgia Forestry Department and he dearly loved being a Forest Ranger.

Joe Milton Eller (Anthony's ancestor) moved to Emanuel County around 1920 and changed his name to Ellison. Seems as if there were a lot of Ellison's in the area and everyone called them Ellison instead of Eller.

[[Obituary](#) / [Anthony Mark Ellison in the EFA database](#)]

Clarence Douglas Eller 1959-2021

Born in Habersham County, Georgia on December 19, 1959, he was a son of the late William Eller & the late Bertha Mae Garner Cheek. Clarence proudly served his country in the United States Army & was an equipment operator with Turner Grading for many years



Clarence can be traced back to Susannah Sukey Eller two ways. His great grandfather was Rev. John Franklin Eller and his great grandmother was Martha S. Eller.

[[Obituary](#) / [Clarence Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Karon Eller Goble 1949-2021

Karon Eller Goble, 72, of Salisbury, passed away Tuesday, August 31, 2021. She was admitted to the hospital for treatment of the devastating Covid19 disease however her spirit left this world joyously whilst listening to praise music.



Mrs. Goble is survived by her husband of 40 years, Tom Goble; son, Tommy and Andrea Goble of Salisbury; daughter, Kori and A.J. Johnson of Charlotte; grandchildren, Hayleigh Vaughn and Tommy Lee Goble; and brother, Ron and Judy Eller of Kodiak, Alaska. She is from the George Michael Eller line.

[[Obituary](#) / [Karon Eller Goble in the EFA database](#)]

Lela Frances Garrett Mashburn 1940-2021

Lela Frances Mashburn passed away recently.

She was the daughter of William Kinsey Garrett and the granddaughter of Thomas S. Garrett. She traces her ancestry back to Mary Ann Eller and, through her, to Sukey Eller.

[[Obituary](#) / [Lela Garrett Mashburn in the EFA database](#)]

**William Kyle Eller 1934-2021**

William Kyle Eller, age 87, passed away peacefully at his home in Wilkesboro on August 6th, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents, E. Richard and Selma D. Nichols Eller, a brother, Ernest Eller, his former spouse and friend, Ella Jean Whittington Eller, and numerous other beloved family members from the Wilkes and Valle Crucis areas.

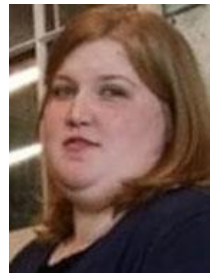
He is survived by his two children; Lee Ann Minton (Greg) of Wilkesboro and Greg A. Eller (Melissa) of Winston-Salem. He is from the George Michael Eller line.

[[Obituary](#) / [William Kyle Eller in the EFA database](#)]

**Amber Sue Radford 1987-2021**

Amber Sue Radford passed away on 30 Sep 2021. She was born on 11 Aug 1987, the daughter of Shelia Marie Beck and Russell Radford. She goes back to Joe and Mariah Hedden Eller through Alfred Webb Eller, Sally Eller Hooper and the Hilyer Clinton Berrong Family.

[[Obituary](#) / [Amber Sue Radford in the EFA database](#)]

**William Tracy "Bill" Eller 1950-2021**

William "Bill" Tracy Eller of Prague, passed away on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at the age of 71. Bill was born in Borger, Texas on July 17, 1950. He was the son of William Alonzo and Katherine Sybee (Morgan) Eller. He is from the Christian Eller line.

Bill grew up in Oklahoma City. He was a graduate of Putnam City High School. After high school, Bill proudly served his country by enlisting in the United States Army and served in Vietnam.

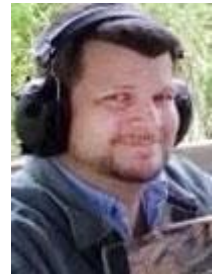
[[Obituary](#) / [Bill Eller in the EFA database](#)]



Rod K. Eller**1967-2021**

Rod K. Eller, at age 54, went to be with his Lord and Savior on September 5, 2021 after a brief illness. He was born in Ohio to Harold K. and R. Kay (Graybill) Eller. He is from the Jacob Eller of Roanoke/Botetourt line.

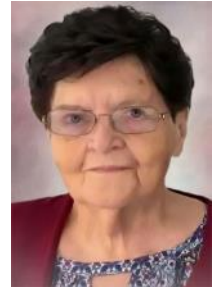
Rod's last 29 years of employment was dedicated to Sturgis hospital in Sturgis, MI where we worked in several departments ending in the pharmacy.



[[Obituary](#) / [Rod Eller in the EFA database](#)]

Ora Bell Parton Stewart**1928-2021**

Ora Bell Parton Stewart, age 92, of Hayesville, North Carolina, passed away on Friday, September 3rd, 2021. She was born on September 18, 1928 to the late Ernest Harrison Parton and Hattie Arrowood Parton of Hiawassee, GA. She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Claude J Stewart. She is survived by her 6 children.



Ora Bell goes back to Sukey Eller two different ways. Sukey's daughter (Malinda) married a Gillespie in Rabun County. Malinda's granddaughter married Hugh Parton. Joseph and Mariah Hedden Eller's g granddaughter (Hattie Arrowood) married Ernest Parton.

[[Obituary](#) / [Ora Bell Stewart in the EFA Database](#)]

Margaret Davis Eller**1931-2021**

Margaret Eller age 89 of Greensboro, GA passed away on Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Margaret was a Customer Service Adviser with BellSouth before retiring.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Homer Roberts in 2000, her second husband, Willard Eller in 2018; daughter, Brenda Sue Padilla in 2007; grandson, Tim Marks in 2012 and sister, Juanita Adams in 2009. She is survived by her daughters & sons-in-law, Marilyn & Billy Sharpton, Greensboro, GA; Pat & Duane Reynolds, Westminster, SC; son, Randy Roberts, Winder, GA.



[[Obituary](#) / [Margaret Eller in the EFA database](#)]

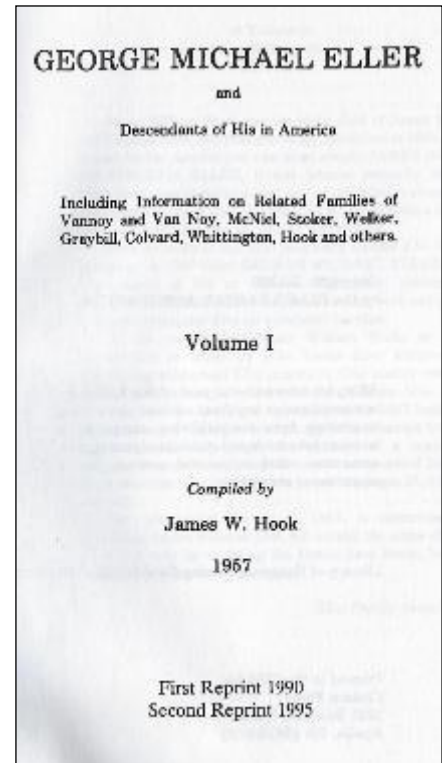
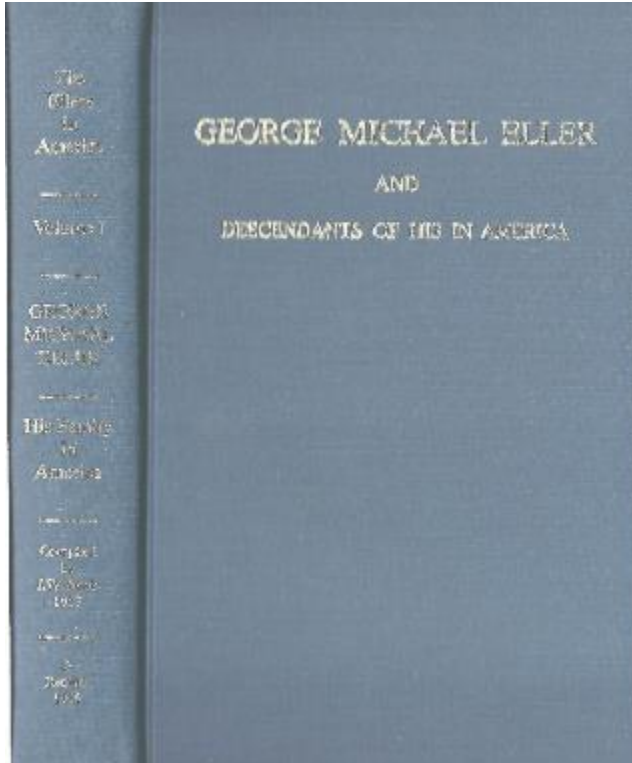
On The Lighter Side

Rules For Our Ancestors - or - How to Confuse Your Descendants

1. Thou shalt name your male children: James, John, Joseph, Josiah, Thomas, and William.
2. Thou shalt name your female children: Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, Maria, Sarah, Ida, May.
3. Thou shalt leave NO trace of your female children.
4. Thou shalt, after naming your children from the above lists, call them by strange nicknames such as: Sally, Polly, Dolly --- making them difficult to trace.
5. Thou shalt NOT use any middle names on any legal documents or census reports, and only where necessary, you may use only initials on legal documents.
6. Thou shalt learn to sign all documents illegibly so that your surname can be spelled, or misspelled, in various ways: Loftin, Lofton, Loften, Lofften, Lipton.
7. Thou shalt, after no more then 3 generations, make sure that all family records are lost, misplaced, burned in a court house fire, or buried so that NO future trace of them can be found.
9. Thou shalt propagate misleading legends, rumors, & vague innuendo regarding your place of origination.
 - a. You may have come from: England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Germany....or Italy.
 - b. You may have American Indian or Black Dutch ancestry.
 - c. You may have descended from one of three brothers that came over from England
 - d. Thou shalt leave NO cemetery records, or headstones with legible names.
10. Thou shalt leave NO family Bible with records of birth, marriages or deaths.
11. Thou shalt ALWAYS flip thy name around. If born James Franklin, thou must make all the rest of thy records in the names of James, Jim, Franklin, Frank, JF.
12. Thou must also flip thy parent's names when making reference to them, although "Unknown" or a blank line is an acceptable alternative.
13. Thou shalt name at least 5 generations of males, and dozens of their cousins with identical names in order to totally confuse researchers. (Example: William Alexander Loftin had a sister named Mary Frances Loftin. He also named his first daughter Mary Frances Loftin. Both of these women then married men with the last name of Drum)

Eller Books on Sale

A limited number of a definitive book on Eller genealogy, **George Michael Eller and Descendants of His in America** (1995 reprint of the 1957 edition), written by James W. Hook is still available for sale from the EFA. Make your check or money order for \$25 US to Eller Family Association. Order from Lauren Liggett (address below): missliggy@yahoo.com



**Eller Family Association
c/o Lauren Liggett
849 Hidden Eddy Drive
McKinney, TX 75071**

Eller Cookbooks Available

An Eller Cookbook was commissioned by the EFA in 2011. Copies are still available for \$10, postage paid, also from Lauren Liggett (address above): missliggy@yahoo.com

My Eller Cousins Available

A new George Michael Eller line book by Loveta Schweers focuses primarily on his Ashe County, NC descendants through his son, Peter Lenn Eller. For those interested in purchasing a copy, the cost of the CD will be \$30.00 postpaid. A personal check can be sent to Loveta Schweers, 425 Pinehurst Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801.

If you have any questions, Loveta can be reached by email at Loveta@comcast.net.

Her book can also be found on the EFA Website: [My Eller Cousins](#)





ELLER History and Genealogy

GEORGE MICHAEL ELLER, 1722-1778
AND DESCENDANTS OF HIS IN AMERICA

To The Families Of DAVID GALLOWAY ELLER AND
JAMES MARION ELLER, JR., As Of 2012

Includes Information On The Related Families Of
SCOTT, MARTIN, GALLOWAY, HARPER, BRYAN, STEWART.

James Hook printed the first work on the Eller genealogy in 1925 titled: *James Hook and Virginia Eller*. He printed the second edition on the Eller family after thirty-two years titled: *George Michael Eller and Descendants of His in America*. However, only a few copies of Hook's first two published works are still in existence.

According to tradition, the Eller ancestors were from the Palatinate of Germany, where Eller is the name of at least five villages. Eller means "dweller near the elder trees." The name was confirmed as being of German origin by its coat of arms, which was found in Reirstap's Armorial General P1 CCLXIII as well as by the will of George Michael Eller, written in German (1778) and recorded in Frederick County, Maryland. Strong evidence showing George Michael to the son of Georg Eller of Kaltenbrunn, Untermerzbach, Bavaria exists, showing George as the second son of the union of Georg and Margaretha Huels Eller.

Margaretha Eleonor Sallén began researching the Eller lineage in 1966 until her death in 1973 when it continued with David until completed and printed in late 2012. Each chapter focuses on nine generations of these figureheads: George Michael Eller, James Scott, John Martin, Sr., William Galloway, Robert Harper, Sr., William Smith Bryan, and John R. Stewart.

This 9" x 12", 776 page, limited-edition volume contains over 350 photographs and illustrations.

Complete the order form below and mail with payment of \$75 (include \$10 for shipping and handling and .0825% for sales tax) to: David Eller, 2401 Fountain View Drive, Suite 416, Houston, TX 77257.

For additional information, please contact David Eller at davideller@msn.com.

Yes! I want to purchase _____ copy(ies) of *Eller History and Genealogy: George Michael Eller and Descendants Of His In America*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Qty: _____

\$75 each: _____

.0825% sales tax: _____
(\$.619 each)

\$10 s&h each: _____

Total: _____

Please complete order form and mail (along with check) to:

David Eller
2401 Fountain View Drive, Suite 416
Houston, TX 77257

Sales Tax only applicable if you are purchasing from Texas.

Register Now As An EFA Member on the Eller Website

A special section on the Eller Family Association website (www.ellerfamilyassociation.com) is just for EFA members and will allow access to the current year's Chronicles, our membership list and other members-only features. But, to ensure that it's open only to EFA members, you need to register. This is important, especially for members who receive their edition of the Chronicles by e-mail. You can go to the website and look for the login link near the top left of the page (in the brown stripe). Then click on "Don't have a login? Register for a New User Account." near the bottom of the popup box. Or you can click on this address: <http://www.ellerfamilyassociation.com/newacctform.php>

ELLER FAMILY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The purpose of the **Eller Family Association** is to draw all Ellers, regardless of their particular family line, and allied families into a cooperative effort. We owe to the present generation and those of the future, this effort to come together, explore and record our common roots and heritage.

The **Eller Family Association** has already demonstrated that this approach is the quickest and most efficient mechanism for sharing family history and genealogical information.

The **Mission Statement** is that the Eller Family Association exists to assist all Eller and associated family lines worldwide to:

- Discover and preserve our historical past
- Report current events and ongoing contributions
- Develop and expand current family ties
- Provide ongoing biennial meetings to summarize accomplishments
- Socialize and provide inspired direction as we focus on the future.

A quarterly newsletter, *The Eller Chronicles*, is published and sent to each member in February, May, August and November. Information on all Ellers in the United States and Europe, from the 17th century to the current time is being gathered and made available.

To join the Association, please fill out the following information (to the extent known) and send with check for \$25 for an annual membership, or \$250 for a lifetime membership, payable to the Eller Family Association to:

**Eller Family Association
c/o Lauren Liggett
849 Hidden Eddy Drive
McKinney, TX 75071**

Gift memberships are now available also. Give the gift of family.

- Give a new one-year membership for \$20
- Give a lifetime membership for \$200
- Give 2 new memberships for \$35
- Give 3 or more new memberships at a rate of \$15 each

Eller Family Association Membership Application

You can complete this application on your computer, print it out and return it with your check for \$25 to the address to the right.

Eller Family Association
c/o Lauren Liggett
849 Hidden Eddy Drive
McKinney, TX 75071

Date

☐

One Year

☐

Lifetime

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Country

Phone Number

Email

☐ Please send "The Chronicles" via E-Mail to the address above☐ Please mail my copy of "The Chronicles"

Name, dates and place of oldest known ancestor:

Other family lines in which you are interested:

Remember...please enclose your \$25 membership fee
along with your application for membership.

Eller Family Association Membership Application

You can complete this application on your computer, print it out and return it with your check for the total to the address to the right.

GIFT

Eller Family Association
c/o Lauren Liggett
849 Hidden Eddy Drive
McKinney, TX 75071

Date				Giver Information	
Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Country					
Phone Number			Email		
Total Gift Amount:					

New Member Information☐ One Year☐ Lifetime

Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Country					
Phone Number			Email		
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send "The Chronicles" via E-Mail to the address above					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please mail copy of "The Chronicles"					

New Member Information☐ One Year☐ Lifetime

Name					
Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Country					
Phone Number			Email		
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send "The Chronicles" via E-Mail to the address above					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please mail copy of "The Chronicles"					

Remember...please enclose the total membership fees
along with the applications for membership.

EFA ORGANIZATION

President:	Steve Eller	P O Box 52 Marble, NC 28905	(706) 318-7826 ellerpop1@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Anna Marie Bliss	4217 East Carmel Ave Mesa, AZ 85206	(480) 396-3364 ajbliss3343@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	secretary@ellerfamilyassociation.com Lauren Liggett	849 Hidden Eddy Drive McKinney, TX 75071	(832) 331-4215 missliggy@yahoo.com
Directors:	Jerry Kendall	1700 Kendall Rd. Young Harris, GA 30582	(706) 970-0244 jerrykendall_2000@yahoo.com
	David G. Eller	PO Box 572216 Houston, TX 77257-2216	(713) 952-9400 davideller@msn.com
	Edward K. Eller	1124 Ridgeleigh Circle Dalton, GA 30720	(706) 278-1516 kermitteller38@gmail.com
	Emily Cook	1887 Slater Rd. Charlotte, NC 28216	(704) 200-8144 ecook082160@gmail.com
	Corinne Casper	1598 Heritage Hill Dr. Henrico, VA 23238	(804) 248-8235 virginiagirl147@comcast.net
Editor/Historian:	editor@ellerfamilyassociation.com Dan Liggett	849 Hidden Eddy Drive McKinney, TX 75071	(281) 222-7383 danliggett@gmail.com
Web Master	webmaster@ellerfamilyassociation.com Harvey Powers	4913 Wynn Ln. Apt. 102 Midlothian, VA 23112	(434) 247-0317 harv@harveypowers.com

Contact the Secretary/Treasurer:

- To apply for membership to the Eller Family Association
- To report a change of address
- To report a failure to receive *The Eller Chronicles*
- To purchase back copies of *The Eller Chronicles*
- To purchase the book *George Michael Eller and Descendants of His in America* by James W. Hook (1995 reprint of 1957 edition) @ \$25 ea

Contact the Editor to submit genealogy and family history for publication in *The Eller Chronicles*

Contact the Web Master about submitting and /or inquiring about information on the web site.

To view *The Eller Chronicles* on the internet, go to www.eller.org or www.ellerfamilyassociation.com