

November 29, 1982

I am going to try to write the story of the Moore family. Someday our great-great-grandchildren might be interested in it. Please make corrections when you see they are needed, also, I'd like each of the children to write their impressions in their own words and send them to me, and I will re-write the story. I have put in too much about myself, but I hope it will encourage you to write something about yourself so it will be more interesting to your own children.

This is the story of Roby Louis Moore and Betty Lou Johnston, who were married in Dallas, Texas, on Nov. 12, 1927. He worked for Texas Power and Light Company and she worked at Hope Cottage as a nurse.

LOUIS: His mother died after she had given birth to twins in 1907, when he was two years old. One twin, Lucile, survived. He and his sister lived with their grandmother, Wylantha Cadwell Burch, until she died in 1909. He then lived with his father and Lucile lived with Wylie Burch, their uncle. His father re-married, and had eight more children. He lived part of the time with them and part of the time with his Uncle Wiley at Omega, Ga. His father and step-mother bought a farm at Adel, Ga. He attended schools at Ty Ty Consolidated School near Omega and also at a small school near the farm at Adel. He joined the Merchant Marines in 1921 at age 16.

BETTY LOU: Her earliest memory was seeing her great-grandmother Ella Gary, at her grandmother's house. This was just before her great-grandmother died. She spent part of her childhood on a farm near Tempson and part of it in a sawmill town, Appleby, with her grandparents, the Jordans, and her mother, Ella.

Betty Lou never knew her father, Joseph D. Johnston. He lived on a farm near the Jordans. The story has been told that he and Ella planned to visit the penitentiary, which was a local outing that people took on Sunday afternoons. Joe told Ella to wait for him to take her, but she went ahead with some friends of hers one day, and when she returned home, her trunk was on the porch. She went home to her parents without telling her husband she was pregnant. Evidently, they were both stubborn young people. His family was connected with the Johnstons of civil war fame, General Joseph E. Johnston, and General Albert Sidney Johnston. He had two brother, Dave and Birch, born and raised between Jacksonville and Rusk, and they died there. When Betty Lou was about five, her grandfather, Sam Jordan, came in from town one day and told his wife, "Keep Betty Lou in the house. Joe Johnston is in town and he says he's coming to get her." But she never saw him.

Ella married John Wesley Lingo in 1920, when Betty Lou was 12 years old. They had three sons, Samuel Wesley, James Clifford and Michael Dale.

Betty Lou attended school in Tempson, Texas, Cumberland Hills School in Dallas, and Bryan High School in Dallas. She attended church at Pearl and Bryan St. in Dallas at the Church of Christ. Grandpa Lingo's first cousin, Mr. Zimmerman, was principal at Cumberland Hills School. When she was in the sixth grade, she was sent to the office for talking. The principal made her cut out movie tickets for her punishment. They had a special movie every Thursday for 10¢. Bryan High School had about 5,000 students of 27 different nationalities. She quit school and entered nursing school at Parkland Hospital at age 17 (lied about her age). The hospital was affiliated with Southern Methodist University. Part of her training was at the Dallas Baby Hospital. The superintendent, Miss Smith, had a new permanent of which she was very vain. While folding diapers one day with some other students, Betty Lou put on a show, imitating the superintendent, patting her hair and talking about her new permanent. The superintendent heard her and made her go into her office for a lecture. They would do the Charleston while working around a table. One night Betty Lou barely made her curfew at 9:00 and jumped into bed, shoes and all, just as the superintendent came by. They had many strict rules and had to say, "Yes, Miss Smith and No, Miss Smith". Betty Lou forgot and said "Yes Ma'am" one time and Miss Smith made her go into her office and say, "Yes, Miss Smith" over and over. The students had to live at the hospital, and if they got married, they had to leave. They started off making \$8.00 a month; the second year they got \$10.00 and the third year \$12.00. They had to buy their own books and uniforms. They furnished laundry and room and board. They paid seniors \$20.00 a month at the Baby Hospital. Betty Lou made the highest grade out of 350 nurses. Betty Lou quit her training with six months to go, to take care of her grandmother at Tenaha. She superintendent offered to let her come back, but she went to work at Hope Cottage, an adoption agency of the Community Chest. This was a hospital for indigent babies under two years of age. After they were two, if they were not adopted, they were sent to an orphanage. At one time, 15 babies died and when they did autopsies, they found baby powder in their lungs. She quit her job there and got married Nov. 12, 1927.

Louis' and Betty Lou's first child was born June 16, 1928, at Parkland Hospital. I was named Colleen after the silent movie star, Colleen Moore, and Dodge after a car, I think. When I was a year old, they moved back to Georgia to Grandpa's farm at Adel. They bought a farm at Berlin, Georgia, next to the May family. Robert Leland Moore was born at home there on Nov. 1, 1930. When he was six weeks old, they decided to go back to Texas where things might be better during the depression. They lost the farm. Betty Lou took the train to Texas with Leland and me.

One of my earliest memories is sitting down on a pair of andirons in the fireplace after the fire went out, and Daddy putting unguentine on my bottom. I can also remember someone giving me a baked sweet potato out of the oven of a little wood cookstove at Grandma Lingo's house. I also remember biting the buttons off of James Lingo's little suit, and getting a spanking. I remember when my uncle, Mike Lingo, was born, and also when my sister, Bonnie Faye was born on September 2, 1932 at Gary. Bonnie's hair was very blond and cut short. Grandma called her "my white headed baby". We lived in

a tent one summer and Leland went missing one day. We found him asleep on the steps of a house nearby. We lived in a grist mill building near Aunt Hettie Brown's one winter, and I remember a light coat of snow being on my bed one morning where it blew in at the window. Leland lost his shoes outside and they were found in the spring after the snow melted. We liked to play in the snow, make tracks in it, and make "snow ice cream" which had sugar and vanilla flavoring in it. Sam and James Lingo played with us and when mother washed my hair and made a little curl just above my ear, they would kiss it and call it a "kiss curl". Leland learned to talk and say "I want a ball" and one day when he said it, Daddy handed him a ball. We got little toys, fruit, nuts and candy at Christmas and made paper chains. Charlotte Ann was born on July 31, 1934, at Alma, Texas. She was named for Daddy's mother, Charlotte Elizabeth, and grew to favor the Burches, with dark eyes like Daddy. Also, she is tall like I remember Aunt Sadie Lindsey being.

I started to school at Danville Elementary School between Longview and Kilgore, Texas, in 1934. We lived on Bear Horton's place upstairs over a filling station. The summer before school started, we lived in a little house on Bear Horton's brother's place, where we had a creek behind the house with a natural rock-lined swimming pool where Mother and Daddy would take us swimming. We would make jello by putting it in a pan and placing the pan in the cool water. Before that summer, we had lived on Dwight Dixon's farm, Valley Farm, which was a huge place with lots of houses. Daddy worked for Dixon and Horton, driving a truck. Sammy Luckinbill lived next door and we played with her and Patsy Dixon. Leland, Patsy and I had two goats which someone would hitch to a little cart, and we would ride in it. Our house at Valley Farm caught fire, and one of them men helping put it out stepped on Bonnie's hand and hurt it. Mother caught a possum in the kitchen and put him under the pressure cooker with an iron on top of it. He had got into the house where the fire had made a hole in the wall. It was a neat white house with a nice big yard. The ladies at Valley Farm would get together and make a big pot of chili in a black iron washpot, and also churns of ice cream. There was a big building where everyone would go when a tornado was expected, and also, go for dinners and get-togethers. Charlotte reached for a hot cup of coffee when she was a year old and got burned. Mother had to cut her sleeve off.

My first teacher was Edna Meadows and she would take me home with her sometimes. I would walk to a little store near the school at lunch time and buy a hamburger for a nickel and a devil dog (devil's food cake shaped like a hot dog) for a nickel, also. When the ice cream truck came by, we would buy dixie doodles for a nickel. Some of my friends at school were Buddy Glover and Bobby Meadows. One older girl (9 years old) teased me all the time. She would say, "Colleen Moore fell out the kitchen door, eating the floor." It would make me furious, but I was too little to do anything to her. Mother told me to say a poem about her, "Mary Eloise Nix picks up sticks". That was bad motherly advice, because when I said it, I really got clobbered. We had free textbooks in Texas and IQ tests, and I never had another one after first grade.

We moved to Grandpa Moore's farm near Adel, Ga. in September 1935. We moved in a Model-T truck, which Daddy bought for \$25.00 and fixed up like a camper so we could sleep in it. We camped out all the way to Georgia and it took us a week to get there. A highlight of the trip was crossing the Mississippi River on a ferry. To save gas, Daddy would coast down the hills.

I went to Lone Star School near Adel in the second grade, and my aunts, Lilette and Louise, also went there. Lucy and L.B. were in high school. Leland started to school the next year and we started getting some free textbooks. I read his primer reading book to him before school started and he memorized it. In chapel on the first day of school, I heard him reading it to a little friend.

We lived in a four room log house on Grandpa's farm with white pine floors which were scrubbed with a corn shuck scrubber and lye soap. Mother cooked on a wood stove and washed with a washboard, boiling the clothes in a black iron washpot in the back yard. We had an outdoor toilet and did our bathing in a washtub in the kitchen, except in the summer when we would put the washtub in the back yard. Our heat was from a fireplace in the front bedroom (no living room) and the cook stove in the kitchen. We fed a baby pig from a bottle and kept it in a box in the kitchen for a while, because its mother wouldn't feed it. We also had a pet chicken which had the run of the house. We had some very enjoyable times there, picking violets and pink honeysuckle in the woods. We went to the river bottom to pick may haws in the spring. They made the best jelly in the world. There were also plenty of blackberries for jam and blackberry cobbler, persimmons which turned your mouth wrong side out if they were not ripe, peanuts, grapes and pecans grown on the farm, as well as pork, chickens and all kinds of vegetables and melons. Grandpa had an old fashioned cane grinding machine which was run by a mule walking around and around. We played on the piles of cane "pummings". We liked to chew the sugar can, which to us was better than drinking it after it was ground. They would cook the juice in a large vat to make syrup. Some popular entertainments in those days were "cane grindings" and "Peanut boilings". Also, Daddy gave a dance for Uncle Lawton at our house one time, and they had liquor or moonshine (I'm not sure which) and they had people playing the fiddle and guitars. We went swimming in Little River which was on the farm.

We had charts at school put out by Lifebuoy Soap to encourage cleanliness in some of the backward people, I suppose. You were supposed to check it when you washed your hands, brushed your teeth, took a bath or washed your hair. Mother helped me check mine very honestly and I showed it to Aunt Lucy when I went to their house to catch the school bus. She checked all the squares and acted like she was mad at Mother. When Mother found out about it, she was furious. Nobody washed their hair everyday in those days! Speaking of "backward people", there were not very many at that school. Some of those people were very wealthy farmers. Mary Frank Rountree (now Mrs. Dan McCook) was one of my special friends, and Betty Ann Rountree (her cousin) was Bonnie's (later on).

Grandpa's daughters made their own peanut butter and jelly for their school lunches. The peanut butter was sort of thick and dry. We had no lunchrooms at school. The one thing you hated to do then was take biscuits in your lunch. It was considered kind of "poor", but sometimes you would run out of store-bought bread out in the country and would have to take biscuits.

We moved to Aunt Sadie Lindsey's farm near Omega, Ga. and went to Ty Ty Consolidated School when I was in the third and Leland was in the first grade. Daddy had grown up with some of the teachers. Leland's teacher, Irene Powell, was one of them. We visited the Frank Powell's (her father) who lived in the house that Uncle Wiley had lived in when Daddy lived with him and Aunt Nonnie. It was a big, white house. Uncle Wiley then lived on the farm that had originally belonged to Daddy's mother and was left to Daddy and Aunt Lucile. He got Daddy

to sign it over to him when he was in debt and lost his big place, and Daddy and Aunt Lucile never got it back. Daddy had several cousins, the Lindseys, that we were very fond of. They were very nice to us. I spent the night with Aunt Sadie one night in a feather bed and kept rolling toward the middle of the bed. For some reason, she didn't invite me back. She had a tall solid wooden headboard and big, heavy furniture. She washed clothes by beating them with a wooden paddle. Her house had a big open hall down the middle of it.

We grew cotton on the farm and Daddy would let us pick a little of it until we got tired. Most of the time we played while Mother and Daddy picked cotton. The Lindseys grew lots of tomato plants, and Mother pulled them for 1¢ a hundred. I pulled some, too. We got our first radio while we lived there and lots of people would come to our house on Saturday night to listen to the Grand Ole Opry. My favorites were Asher & Little Jimmy, and Shelby Jean Davis. One time I woke up during the night and there was a strange family in our front bedroom. They were travelling, looking for work, and stopped and asked for a place to spend the night. We children played in a tobacco barn near the house, stringing up weeds like tobacco and we saw some pigs being born there one time. We played in the woods near the house and had all kinds of imaginary adventures. We heard a strange noise one time and ran home as hard as we could. I remember Christmas there very well. We got a tree from the woods and decorated it with paper chains and popcorn strings. We always hung up our stockings (or socks) and got candy, nuts, fruit, sparklers and firecrackers in them. We got dolls and trucks and balls (for Leland). We always played together. We girls played trucks and cars and cowboys with Leland and he played dolls and paper dolls with us. Of course, we all played ball a lot with any kind of ball we could find.

We went to Sunday School at Leila Methodist Church. Our Grandmother Moore and Great-grandmother and Great-grandfather Burch are buried there, also, Uncle Wiley Burch. We moved back to Grandpa Moore's farm for a while and then moved to Moultrie where Daddy worked for the REA. This was 1938, I was in the fourth grade and Leland was in the first (he had been retained because of a speech problem). His teacher was Miss Hatcher who we knew at Ty Ty and she was very young and pretty. My teacher was a witch named Mrs. Gammadge who was not happy at having a new pupil near the end of school, and who was not impressed at all with my grades or my high-topped tennis shoes (which I loved). The first day I didn't carry any books home because I figured my Daddy would not make me go back to that awful school, but back I went the next day. Bonnie started to school the next year and her teacher's name was Miss Chandler (Bonnie called her "Miss China"). She loved school and talked about everything that happened there. She was an excellent student.

In May, some people invited Mother to a Church of Christ revival and we went. It was at a neighbor's house and the preacher was James Fulford. Mother and I were both baptized (I was 9) in a river near Moultrie. We attended church at the City Hall and children from the Dasher Bible School and Orphans' Home would come over sometime and sing for us.

We had some good times at Moultrie and lived in a brand new six room house with a bathroom. We played with the Rowell children (Francine and Murray) among others and one of our favorite things was telling ghost stories late in the evening like "Bloody Bones" which would scare the wits out of us. Leland swallowed a quarter one time and Daddy put him into the REA truck and carried him to the doctor. We went to the picture show when Shirley Temple was playing. The church built a new building while we lived there.

One of Daddy's bosses at the REA was Reid Bingham, who was an engineer and invented new things. He visited us many times during the next few years and was interested in teaching Daddy electrical engineering. The Reid Bingham State Park near Grandpa Moore's was named after him. It is on Little River and partly on Grandpa's farm.

We moved to Adel in 1939 and rented a big house from Mr. Sirmans near the Adel Grammar School. Charlotte was four, Bonnie six, Leland 8, Colleen 10. Bonnie's teacher was Miss Minnie Shaw, Leland's was Marian DeVane and mine was Mary Parrish. We went to Sunday School at the First Baptist Church because there wasn't a Church of Christ there. We played with the Daughttrys, Bobby and Dorothy, Bobby Sirmans, Jackie Crowe and Mildred Carter. We played cops and robbers on bicycles, baseball at the school playground, also "dirt ball war" on the playground until the neighbors made us quit. Leland and his friends were wild about "Zorro" which was a serial on Saturdays at the movies. We played "Zorro" a lot and climbed a big chinaberry tree in our yard. We girls bought paper dolls with our dime allowances and spent many hours playing with them, also paper dolls from pattern books. Our other favorite outdoor games were jump rope, hopscotch and play house. We went to all the Shirley Temple, Jane Withers and Gene Autry movies. The Wizard of Oz was made that year but we went to visit Grandma Lingo in Texas for a month and missed it. Grandma lived at Mertens, Texas, and we went to school there for a month. We had good time but were glad to get back home to Daddy and Adel, also, the bird dogs.

The REA transferred Daddy to Quitman and we moved there during the summer of 1940. We rented a six-room farm house with a pantry and (empty) bathroom and lots of outbuildings and a huge yard to play in, with lots of woods to play in, too. We liked to roller skate down the Quitman-Perry Highway in front of our house. We had a bird dog named Bumpy, because his tail was lumpy.

We went to Palmetto School that year, a little unpainted wooden building. Charlotte started to school, Bonnie was in the third, Leland the fourth, and I the seventh. Bonnie was put up to the fourth during the year, so she was in the same grade as Leland. Mrs. Brown, the principal, was my teacher. We had three grades in our room, three in Bonnie's and Leland's (their teacher was Mrs. Hulett) and just the first grade in one room. We enjoyed school very much, played "Bum, bum, bum", "Capture the Flag" and basketball on a dirt court, and hunted violets in the spring. The teachers made hot chocolate at lunch for everybody and we had "commodities" furnished by the government which consisted of dried milk, apples, prunes and grapefruit. We ate in class when we could get away with it, hiding behind our geography books. We also read comic books, "Superman" and "Batman" behind our geography books. We put on lots of programs that year and creativity was very much encouraged. We had a Christmas pageant and I played "Mary". Leland was a wise man. Daddy and Mother went to the program and Daddy asked afterwards why I didn't look at him instead of that bundle of rags (somebody forgot to bring the doll for Baby Jesus). I knew if I looked up at him I would break up laughing. I also played the negro maid in a play and had all the funny lines. Leland was in a skit where he played a schoolboy. The teacher asked him to spell "needle" and he said "neidle". The

teacher said "Needle doesn't have an "i" in it." Leland said, "It must be a pretty poor needle if it doesn't have an eye in it."

We had a negro woman to wash for us for a dollar or maybe \$1.25. We listened to the Joe Louis fight on the radio, and rooted for the other man because people thought the negroes would get "biggety" if Joe Louis won. I won the Brooks County spelling contest that year and went to Atlanta with Daddy and the school superintendent. I missed my first word, "stringency" after all those hours of studying, but the trip was an unforgettable one. We had lunch at the Ansley Hotel, met Dean deOvies, who was the master of ceremonies, saw the Cyclorama and toured the Coca Cola plant. I graduated from the seventh grade in a long white dress with lace that had black ribbon threaded through it at the neck and had to make a speech as Salutatorian. Mother and Daddy gave me a party - a weenie roast and everybody came from miles around. Daddy had to make a trip to town to get more food. We played games and had to walk up and down the road in couples. Charlotte would walk down the road with a big boy and he would come back carrying her. She said she hurt her ankle. I think we were the only ones who gave any parties. We gave two while we lived there. On the 4th of July we went to Twin Lakes at Valdosta and spent the day swimming and watching the high school kids jitterbug. The girls wore broomstick skirts. Of course, Mother made me and Bonnie one as soon as possible. We moved to Dixie near Quitman during the summer of 1941 in a house rented from the Groovers. They had a daughter named Ruth who was Bonnie's age and she played with us a lot. The Groovers would take us to church with them to a real nice country Baptist church on Sunday nights. Ruth's older sisters, Emily and Ann, were our idols - they seemed so glamorous, going to the movies at Boston and having dates.

Mr. and Mrs. Vess Moore lived up the road from us and we had met them at church in Quitman, so we often rode to church with them, since we didn't have a car (Daddy had it - he quit the REA and went to Palatka to work in an electric business with Mr. Womble). The Hall children lived near the Moores and they went to church, too. Bill Moulton from Valdosta was our preacher and Prewitt Copeland led singing.

We started to school at Dixie that year, Bonnie and Leland in the 5th, Charlotte in the 2nd and I was in the 8th - a freshman in high school. First through 11th were all in the same school. We had a lunch ^{room} and it costs 5¢ a day to eat lunch. We had a cow, so we would carry a quart of milk to school each Monday and get 5 lunch tickets for the week. Some children would carry meat or vegetables. Lunch was mostly soup and dried milk, which tasted terrible until they put chocolate in it. We had a very active basketball program and I played as a substitute. My best friends, Claire Wilson and Martha Crane also played. We were forwards and the court was divided in the middle. We enjoyed taking the school bus to out-of-town games.

The Japs bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7th and the next day at school everybody was talking about it and listening to the news on a car radio, looking very serious. At first, I thought Pearl Harbor was in New York.

We sometimes had a negro woman to wash for us - we still had a wash pot but Daddy bought us a wringer washer . The house we lived in was well built but small. It had four fireplaces and had little chandeliers in each room and a screened porch. There were hydrangea bushes in the front yard and the yard was fenced in. One day a rough looking man walked right in the front door and when Mother saw him, she said "What do you want?" He answered, "I want you to cook me some dinner." She yelled, "Louis, bring the gun!" The man rushed right out again. Daddy was away working, but Mother wasn't the scary type.

We moved to Palatka, Fla. that spring to be with Daddy, and Leland, Bonnie and Charlotte went to the elementary school and I went to Putnam High School. We lived at Sunny Heights in a neat white six-room house with an outdoor toilet and a garage. There was a skating rink not far away and we skated there a lot. We went to the Baptist Church right near the house and were involved in the G.A.'s, R.A.'s etc, and sometimes went to the Church of Christ which was across town. Daddy's good friends were Zack and Betty Cushionberry who had two children, and an orange grove in the back yard. Daddy had lived in Palatka when he was young and he knew a lot of people. Elizabeth and Wendel Brown owned the neighborhood store and lived upstairs over it. Elizabeth liked Bonnie a lot and would get her to play with her baby, Betty Rose, while she worked. She carried Bonnie with her in the summer to the beach at St. Augustine where they had a cottage. This friendship lasted for years and we went back to visit them after we came to Brunswick.

Another of Daddy's friends was Adeline, who had been married several times (an oddity to us). She had a Sunday paper route and Leland got a job with her and we girls went along sometimes, too. We always had a lot of friends everywhere we lived because Daddy and Mother were outgoing and friendly. Some of those friends, the Clarence Lowes, had lived with us for a while in Adel. They had two daughters. Clarence was an electrician like Daddy and was later killed while working on a hot line.

We moved out into the country at Palatka in a great big old house on what used to be a dairy farm. The other kids went to Peniel School and I continued in town. Daddy wanted to go to work in a Defense Plant, so we moved back to Adel to be near kinfolks while he went to work at J.A. Jones Shipyard in Brunswick. We moved into a tiny house near Massey that Cousin Docia Bland (She was a Coleman) found for us. I went to Sparks-Adel High School and Leland, Bonnie and Charlotte went to Adel Grammar School. We had a great time with our old friends and some new ones, too. Charlie Maloney was a special friend of Leland's, Nathalia and Jan Vittum were Bonnie's and Charlotte's and Anne Simmons was mine. All of them visited us later in Brunswick. I had a boy friend, Eugene Newbern, who also visited us in Brunswick and was killed in a plane crash many years later, along with his wife. Lilette went to the same high school and was very pretty as well as smart. I played basketball again. We worked in tobacco a little bit for the fun of it during the summer of 1943 and visited friends a lot. One interesting girl I visited was Mary Martha Hicks, who lived in an unpainted unscreened house with a piano in it. Her mother asked us what we wanted to eat the next day. We said fried chicken, and she had it ready for breakfast the next morning. The next day we had steak for breakfast.

She was a very talented lady (painting and music) but very plain with her hair pulled hard back and no makeup. She talked very countrified. Mary Martha went to GSCW College in Milledgeville after high school.

The war went on in Europe and Japan and the boys all went into service as soon as they were old enough. We had a Victory Corps at school and wore uniforms, white shirts, navy ties, caps and skirts (khaki for the boys) and we marched a lot. We moved to Brunswick in July of 1943 to be with Daddy and lived in brick war housing, a three-bedroom apartment near where the National Guard Armory is now. We were right at the edge of the playground and the recreation building for the housing project and spent a lot of time playing baseball and horseshoes and going to clubs and Leland to boy scouts (Bonnie went to Boy Scouts, too) at the recreation building. I went to some of the dances, would dance every dance and go home (had a good time, too). Mother and I did volunteer work for the Red Cross, rolling bandages, and I volunteered in the library in the recreation building.

Mother went to work at the shipyard as a welder. Although she was a trained nurse, she had never worked outside her home after she married (except, she says, at picking and hoeing cotton). She quit her work at the shipyard in May 1945. She worked again for a little while at the Sea Island Pants Factory in Brunswick just before David was born.

I started to Glynn Academy that fall as a junior, Bonnie and Leland were at Prep High in the seventh grade and Charlotte went to Ballard in the fourth, where they had double sessions. A new school was built at Norwich and Fourth, called the Fourth Street School (now called C.B. Greer School) and they transferred her there. We made lots of new friends right away and Daddy and Mother carried us to St. Simons to the beach over the causeway which had several rickety wooden bridges. We enjoyed riding around and looking at the beautiful houses and the Cloister Hotel on Sea Island and hearing about the yankees who went swimming there in the winter time.

We listened to the radio and went to the movies a lot. We also read a great deal - library books, comic books and magazines. We all had household chores to do. We had many hobbies such as drawing, embroidering, playing the piano and building model airplanes with balsa wood and a special kind of paper. We had to cut the pieces out of the balsa wood with a razor blade and Leland and I scarred Mother's new maple dining table with it. We collected movie star pictures and displayed them on the bedroom walls. The big stars at that time were Clark Gable, Betty Grable, Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, etc.

President Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945, and Dan Spell and W.L. Holt came by and told me about it. I could hardly believe it. We didn't realize until later years how long he had been sick. The war was always with us and Uncle Sam was in the Army, Uncle L. B. Moore was in the Air Corps, James Lingo later joined the Navy. Sam came to see us in Brunswick before he went overseas. He was wounded with the paratroopers in New Guinea and received the purple heart. We were all extremely patriotic during that war (except for a few draft dodgers who were not well thought of at all). Mother and I rolled bandages for the red cross, we bought war bonds and defense stamps. Lots of things were rationed - gasoline, tires, shoes, sugar, coffee, meat. Some things were hard to get, such as chocolate candy, and cigarettes. When all those kids from Adel visited us at one time, Mother told the man at the grocery store that she had eight kids to buy candy bars for and he gave her some he had hidden under the counter.

The week Leland and Bonnie graduated from Prep High and I graduated from Glynn Academy, Uncle Wiley Burch died and we went to the funeral the next day at Leila Church. We saw Aunt Lucile and her children whom we always liked a great deal.

Mother and I went to Orange, Texas, that summer to see Sam. We went by bus and it was so crowded people were standing in the buses. Sam was married and we met his wife, Edna Earle, while we were there.

We moved to another housing project, Gordon Oaks, on the south end of town right after the war ended in 1945. The day the war ended I was spending the night with my girl friend, Dot Newman, on St. Simons. We stayed up all night listening to the radio. Everyone was very happy it was over, although we lost quite a few men from Glynn County. Charlotte attended Sidney Lanier elem.school.

I went to work at Glynco Naval Air Station in November at the age of 17 as a clerk-typist and worked there a year until they reduced the force and let almost everyone go. After the shipyard closed, Daddy worked at Glynco for a while as a laborer until he was hired as an electrician at Hercules Powder Co. in Brunswick. He was chafing at the bit to get moving again, but the government froze everybody on their job and he couldn't leave right then. It seemed his wandering days were over and he stayed at Hercules for the next 25 years. He was a "construction" man at heart and never did get reconciled to working with a bunch of "maintenance" men as he called them.

I went to work at Parker, Burroughs & Way, an old established insurance firm in Brunswick in November 1946 and stayed with them for several years and attended Perry Business School at night.

On February 28, 1948, our family was blessed with a surprise package from heaven (the doctor thought it was a tumor) and we named him David Louis. With the youngest sister 13 years old and the oldest one 19, he was well blessed with attention and adoration.

Leland joined the navy Sept. 17, 1948, at the age of 17, before finishing high school. He got his diploma through the U.S. Armed Forces Institute. He was stationed at Moffet Field, California, also Bremerton, Wash, Barber's Field, Hawaii and Japan. He was with the group which had the famous "Blue Angels" flying group. He flew over Korea battlefields with a photographic mission from Japan and didn't bother to tell us until it was over. He had worked for the Brunswick News for several years in the circulation dept., carrying papers to St. Simons, also, he had a bicycle route for a while in town. He and C.A. Cloud were very close friends and worked together.

Bonnie graduated from Glynn Academy in 1949 and went to work as a telephone operator. She and I went to Texas on the bus right after her graduation and had a really good time, going places with Mike and his friends, playing tennis, going to church (Grandpa was a deacon in the Orange Church of Christ). Jim was in the Navy and Sam was going to Baylor University in Waco. Bonnie went to work for the Sea Island Company in 1951 and also attended Perry Business School.

Leland introduced me to a friend of his, Wilton Sellers (he called him James) and we dated occasionally off and on for two or three years. We were married October 7, 1951. Charlotte was still in high school and went with Chester Poole, a boy from Waycross, whom she had met on a band trip. Wilton took Charlotte to get her driver's license in his new baby blue 1951 Ford. After she got the license and was backing out to go home, she backed into a post and bent the back bumper. We kept this a secret from Daddy and Mother because we figured Charlotte would never get to drive again if we told.

Charlotte graduated from Glynn Academy in 1952 and went to work at the telephone company. She went to Sea Island Company accounting department the next year and worked with Bonnie and Mr. Potter F. Gould.

I had a miscarriage in June 1952. I quit work at the insurance firm (which was now Way, Peters & Harris) in January 1953, and Joseph Wilton Sellers was born on April 12, 1953.

After quite an enjoyable social life with lots of nice boy friends, Bonnie was introduced to Hugh Spencer Tait, Jr. (son of H.S. Tait and Pearl King Tait) in 1952 and they were married July 18, 1953, at the Johnston Street Church of Christ - the same little white wooden building where Wilton and I were married. The reception was held in the Plantation Room of the Oglethorpe Hotel in Brunswick. We built a larger church building a couple of years later. Bonnie and Spence bought a house on Sherwood Drive and she continued working at Sea Island Company until Ella Marsha Tait was born on November 29, 1954.

Leland came home in 1952 after four years in the Navy and went to work at Georgia Power Company in 1953. After dating several girls, he met Peggy Ann Owens (daughter of Mitchell Edward Owens and Peggy Burns Owens) and they were married March 13, 1954 at Norwich Street Baptist Church. James Leland Moore was born January 11, 1955. They bought a house in Pine Ridge and moved there in January 1956.

Peggy Ann was born September 26, 1934, in Brunswick and had five brothers. She graduated from Glynn Academy in 1952 and attended Bessie Tift College in Forsyth. After her children were of school age, she finished her education at Brunswick Junior College and Georgia Southern, earning her degree in 1979. She began teaching fourth grade at Ballard and completed her master's degree in 1981. She had substituted in the schools for several years and also had taught Sunday School at Norwich Street Baptist Church for many years.

We bought a house right around the corner from Leland in April 1956. John Louis Sellers was born Jan. 21, 1956.

Charlotte met Thomas E. Lair (son of Mathy Elmer Lair and Laura Ione Howell Lair) who was stationed at Glynnco and they were married July 16, 1955, at Bonnie and Spencer's house on Sherwood Drive. Thomas Steven Lair was born May 10, 1956 in Atlanta, where Tom was attending Georgia Tech and Charlotte was working at the Capital City Club, where she saw rich and famous people like Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher. After Tom graduated from Tech, he went to work for Callaway Mills in LaGrange, Georgia. Charlotte had another bad burn in LaGrange. Her housecoat caught fire at a gas heater and her back and arm were severely burned. She ran into the bathroom and got under the shower to put the fire out. She was pregnant at the time.

Hugh Spencer Tait III (Trey) was born August 17, 1956. (1956 was a great year for boys). Michael Isaac Sellers was born May 18, 1958, and Robert Scott Moore July 19, 1958. Jeffery Eugene Lair was born at LaGrange June 29, 1959, and Margaret Ann Tait was born in Brunswick October 6, 1959. Robert Mathy Lair was born October 15, 1960, Timothy Allen Tait was born July 20, 1962, Russell Owens Moore was born February 7, 1963. Charlotte and Tom moved to Kansas City where he went to work for the H. D. Lee Company and Philip Lair was born there September 4, 1964. Joffre Louis Moore was born March 10, 1968.

Mother and Daddy sold the house at 2501 Townsend Street in 1960 and bought a house at 107 Enterprise Street. David started to school at Greer Elementary in 1954, went to Jane Macon Junior High and graduated from Glynn Academy in 1966. He joined the army right after high school and volunteered to go to Vietnam. He spent a year there and came home in 1968 much to our great thankfulness.

David met Fay Green (daughter of Foy and Reddie Green) in 1970 and they were married August 28, 1970. He went to Brunswick Junior College after working at Hercules for a while. Fay went to BJC and studied nursing. She received her R.N. in 1971.

Daddy died on August 6, 1971, after a heart attack. He had been on sick leave from Hercules for a year. Most of his brothers and sisters came to the funeral which was held at Gibson-Hart Funeral Home. He was buried at Brunswick Memorial Park Cemetery on Highway 17. Roy McNew and John Hunt officiated.

David went back to work for Hercules and was transferred to Statesboro. Fay went to work at the hospital there and David Louis Moore, Jr. was born there April 27, 1973. David left Hercules and went to work at ITT Grinnell.

I had worked at home for Way, Peters & Harris for several years and started at the office part-time when Mike started to Kindergarten. Scott also attended Jack and Jill Kindergarten and mother would pick them up. When Mike was in the fourth grade and John the 6th I started working full-time at Ballard School as secretary to Carl Rooks, Principal.

Joe graduated from Brunswick High in 1971, went to Brunswick Junior College and then to South Georgia Tech in Americus. He met Sharen Morris, whose father was in his class, and whose preacher was his teacher. They were married at Southern Methodist Church in Americus on June 14, 1975. Joe was working at the Chevrolet place in Americus. He went to work as a mechanic for the state on Sapelo Island in 1976. Kerrie Michelle was born November 28, 1976, in Americus and went to Sapelo Island when she was two weeks old.

Bonnie went to work at Tait Feed and Seed Store with Spencer after his father died in 1967. She had worked at home for many years for Mr. Gould, who had retired from Sea Island Company and had his own accounting firm. She also worked some for Shelander and Krauss Insurance Company.

Marsha graduated from Brunswick High in 1972 and went to Valdosta State College. She transferred to Brunswick Junior College and married Jay Stewart at the chapel at Glynco on June 2, 1974. Roy McNew officiated. Jay was in the marines and was stationed in California. They lived there until 1975 when he was transferred to Jacksonville, N.C. Jennifer Ann was born there January 16, 1976. Jay got out of the marines and went to the University of Georgia. Jason was born in Athens April 12, 1978. They moved back to Brunswick after Jay got his degree in accounting and he went to work at the store with Spencer and Bonnie. Bonnie and Spencer built a home on Osprey Road in 1979 and Marsha and Jay built one nearby in 1980.

Trey graduated from Brunswick High in 1974 and went to BJC. He worked with Boatright Air Conditioning for several years. He married Rebecca (Becky) Snead at Lovely Lane Chapel at Epworth on St. Simons on September 29, 1978. He went to work at the downtown store in August 1980 after they opened a new store on Highway 341 and Jay went there as manager. Amber was born May 7, 1981. Trey and Becky bought a house on Windsor Circle in Beverly Shores in 1979.

James graduated from Brunswick High in 1973 and attended BJC. He lived in Atlanta where he worked for a small newspaper and also worked at a second job in a store. He moved to California, then to Washington state in 1980.

John also graduated from Brunswick High in 1974 and went to South Georgia Tech in Americus. He went to work for Seaboard Construction Company in 1975 then to B&W the next year. He married Gloria Denise Chapman (daughter of A.J. and Helen Chapman) on March 26, 1977 at Sterling Baptist Church, where Gloria has been organist for several years. They were both very active in the work there. They had a baby daughter, Holly Denise, on September 30, 1980. She had a serious heart defect and after being carried to the University Hospital in Jacksonville, died on October 8, 1980. They had a baby boy, John Adam, on October 10, 1981. They bought a trailer and lived on Highway 341 near Sterling. He went to work at Brunswick Pulp and Paper Company in 1982 after B&W closed down. Gloria's father, A. J. and her uncle, Billy Chapman, also worked there. Gloria worked for Milton J. Wood Construction Co. before the birth of her children.

Mike graduated from Brunswick High in 1976 and went to BJC. He went to work at Coastal Chevrolet as a mechanic. He married Lisa Kate Sumner (daughter of James L. and Doris Stephenson Sumner) on June 17, 1978. He went to work for the state as a mechanic on Ossabaw Island in December 1978. James Isaac Sellers was born January ~~20~~²⁸, 1980, at the Brunswick Hospital. He went to Ossabaw when he was a month old, the only baby on the island. Lisa also went to work for the state, keeping books and doing secretarial work for Noel Holcomb, the island manager. She and Mike have many hobbies such as photography, making wood furniture, picture frames, needlework and other crafts.

Scott graduated from Brunswick High in 1976 and attended Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville. He went to work for Ramada Inn in Brunswick after college. He married Janet Stewart on August 24, 1980 at Christian Renewal Center where they were very active in church work. He went to work for Georgia Power Company. He took a position as Youth Minister at the Abundant Life Church in Norman, Oklahoma, in November 1982 and he and Janet moved there.

Ann graduated from Brunswick High in 1977 and attended BJC and Georgia Southern. She studied dancing with Gail Moore, Marie Stubbs & Jill Stanford and worked at State Farm Insurance Company and Credit Thrift of Brunswick. She married Barry Morgan (son of Lemuel and Mary Stuckey Morgan) on January 23, 1982, at First Baptist Church in Brunswick, where Spencer was a deacon.

Tom and Charlotte moved to Lebanon, Missouri where they lived for several years and then moved back to Kansas City with the company and lived at Overland Park, Kansas. They attended the Overland Park Church of Christ and Tom became a deacon. The whole family was very active in the work there. The boys were active in athletics, football, basketball and track.

Steve went to the University of Kansas, met Gail and they were married August 15, 1981. After graduation, he went to work for the Lee Company as a salesman in Reno, Nevada. After his marriage, he transferred to Spokane, Wash., then to Sacramento, Calif.

Jeff went to Kansas State College and graduated in 1981. He went to work as a salesman for Jerrell of Dallas. Matt went to Abilene Christian College in Texas and met Lisa Kaye Young of Rock Springs, Texas. They were married May 22, 1982 at Rock Springs.

Timmy graduated from Glynn Academy in 1980 and attended college at BJC and South Georgia College in Douglas. He went to work for Holiday Inn on Jekyll Island.

Russell graduated from Brunswick High in 1981 and attended BJC while working for a security firm in Brunswick.

Marsha and Jay had a third child, Jeffery, born in Brunswick on February 1, 1981.

In 1972, I went to work as secretary to Mr. Sidney Boswell, Superintendent of Schools. After his retirement, I was R. E. Jonas' secretary. Then I transferred to Data Processing and became a computer programmer. In November 1982 I transferred to Instructional Services as secretary to Tom Lewis, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction.

Joe left Sapelo Island in 1978 and moved to Waverly where he helped oversee some property for Dr. Jack Arras. He left there and went to work for Coastal Chevrolet and bought some property on Keith Drive, off Highway 341 and placed his mobile home there.

In July 1973, Wilton had a heart problem and had to have a hole in the wall of his heart repaired at Birmingham. He was medically retired from the Seaboard Coastline Railroad in 1974. Tom had a heart bypass in December 1973 in Kansas City and was able to resume work. Wilton's mother died in May 1967 at the age of 67, and Tom's father died in 1979. Fay's father died in 1980. Sharen's father died in 1981 and Jay's father was killed in an auto accident Dec. 24, 1980. Wilton's Father died Dec. 18, 1982.

FAMILY TREE

Roby Louis Moore

b. Cordele, Ga.

Jan. 31, 1905

d. Aug. 6, 1971

Brunswick, Ga.

(Brunswick Memorial Park)

Mother: Charlotte Elizabeth Burch

b. Dec. 26, 1884

Eastman, Ga.

d. May 28, 1907

Moultrie, Ga.

(buried at Leila Church, Omega,

(Mrs. M. F. Moore) Ga.)

Married 12-24-03

Father: Millard Filmore Moore

b. July 13, 1876

Tifton, Ga.

d. Feb. 25, 1951

Adel, Ga.

Step-mother: Mattie Jane Moore

(both buried at Primitive Baptist

Cemetary in Adel, Ga.)

Grandmother: Wylantha Cadwell

b. Jan. 20, 1849

d. June 6, 1909

Grandfather: Lenard L. Burch

b. Sept. 30, 1849

d. Mar. 3, 1926

(both buried at Leila Church)

(See Burch family history)

Grandfather: Tom J. Moore

Grandmother: Nancy Bussells Easter

(buried near Tifton)

Betty Lou Johnston

b. Lufkin, Texas

Aug. 22, 1908

Mother: Lucy Ella Jordan

b. Sept. 10, 1887 at Beckville

near Gladewater (30 mi. from Tenaha)

d. Aug. 20, 1978

Orange, Texas

Father: Joseph D. Johnston

b. 1885 Alto, Texas

d. Unknown

Step-father: John Wesley Lingo

b. Jan. 24, 1888

d. Orange, Tex. 1-18-78

Grandmother: Betty Collier Gary

b. Nov. 14, 1862 Jackson, Miss. (Natchez)

d. July 19, 1929

(buried at Appleby, Tex. near Garrison)

Grandfather: Sam Freeman Jordan

b. Dec. 17, 1852 San Augustine, Tex.

d. July 9, 1933 Alabama

(buried at Appleby)

Great-grandmother: Ella Elizabeth (Betty)
Collier

Great-grandfather: Irwin Gary

Natchez, Miss.

(both buried at Carthage, Tex.)

(See Gary and Jordan family histories)

FAMILY TREE

Roby Louis Moore
b. Cordele, Ga.
Jan. 31, 1905
d. August 6, 1971
Brunswick, Ga.

m. Betty Lou Johnston
b. Lufkin, Texas
Aug. 22, 1908

1. Colleen Dodge Moore
b. Dallas, Tex.
June 16, 1928

m. James Wilton Sellers
b. Baxley, Ga.
Mar. 4, 1925
d. May 12, 1986

A. Joseph Wilton Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Apr. 12, 1953

m. Sharen Malicia Morris
b. Blakeley, Ga.
Nov. 25, 1957

m. Oct 7, 1951

1. Kerrie Michelle Sellers
b. Americus, Ga.
Nov. 28, 1976

2. Teri Malicia Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
June 22, 1983

B. John Louis Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Jan. 21, 1956

m. Gloria Denise Chapman
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Dec. 11, 1958

1. Holly Denise Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Sept. 30, 1980
d. Oct. 9, 1980

2. John Adam Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Oct. 10, 1981

3. Jill Kay Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
August 15, 1984

4. Maggie Sellers
5. R. Sellers

C. Michael Isaac Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
May 18, 1958

m. Lisa Kate Sumner
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Feb. 22, 1959

1. James Isaac Sellers
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Jan. 20, 1980

2. Robert Leland Moore
b. Berlin, Ga.
Nov. 1, 1930

m. Peggy Ann Owens
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Sept. 26, 1934

A. James Leland Moore
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Jan. 11, 1955
d. October, 1988
Seattle Washington

m. March 13, 1954

B. Robert Scott Moore
b. Brunswick, Ga.
July 19, 1958

m. Mary Janet Stewart
b. Vicenza, Italy
May 31, 1959 (Father in Service)

1. Marissa Ann Moore
b. Norman, Okla.
Sept. 28, 1983

2. Bradley

3. Tyler

C. Russell Owens Moore
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Feb. 7, 1963

D. Joffre Louis Moore
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Mar. 10, 1968

3. Bonnie Faye Moore
b. Gary, Tex.
Sept. 2, 1932

A. Ella Marsha Tait
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Nov. 29, 1954

1. Jennifer Ann Stewart
b. Jacksonville, N.C.
Jan. 16, 1976

3. Jeffery Allen Stewart
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Feb. 1, 1981

B. Hugh Spencer Tait, III
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Aug. 17, 1956

1. Amber Renee Tait
b. Brunswick, Ga.
May 7, 1981

C. Margaret Ann Tait
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Oct. 6, 1959

1. Derrick

D. Timothy Allen Tait
b. Brunswick, Ga.
July 20, 1962

4. Charlotte Ann Moore
b. Alma, Tex.
July 30, 1934

A. Thomas Steven Lair
b. Atlanta, Ga.
May 10, 1956

1. Christopher Aaron Lair
b. Sacramento, Calif.
July 17, 1983

m. Hugh Spencer Tait, Jr.
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Sept. 2, 1928

m. Jay Charles Stewart
b. Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Feb. 24, 1953

m. July 18, 1953

2. Jay Charles Stewart, Jr.
b. Commerce, Ga.
April 12, 1978

m. Rebecca Snead
b. Ottawa, Ill.
Dec. 27, 1959

2. Tyler Austen Tait
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Dec. 28, 1983

m. Barry Morgan
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Sept. 15, 1954

m. Gina Suzanne Maulin
of Shiloh, Ga.

m. Thomas Eugene Lair
b. Rome, Ga.
Nov. 6, 1932

m. July 16, 1955

m. Gail D. Zarick
b. Washington, D.C.
Dec. 23, 1958

B. Jeffery Eugene Lair
b. LaGrange, Ga.
June 29, 1959

m. Deborah Lynn McGehee
of Ottowa, Kan.

C. Robert Mathy Lair
b. LaGrange, Ga.
Oct. 15, 1960

m. Lisa Kaye Young
of Rock Springs, Tex.

1. Lauren Ashley Lair
b. Abilene, Tex.
Dec. 15, 1982

D. Philip Louis Lair
b. Lebanon, Mo.
Sept. 4, 1964

5. David Louis Moore
b. Brunswick, Ga.
Feb. 28, 1948

m. Ruby Fay Green
b. Brunswick, Ga.
July 9, 1946

A. David Louis Moore, Jr.
b. Statesboro, Ga.
April 27, 1973