

The Biography of Flonnie Webb Stephens

By Ella May Webb Van Fleet

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HER GRANDPARENTS

Flonnie's paternal grandfather was Ewell Smith, who lived in the Oak Grove community of Oneida, Tennessee. He was born July 25, 1844, in Scott County.

Ewell was a calm, soft-spoken individual. Among the memories that Flonnie has of this grandfather are his coming to visit her family in the country. Once, she recalls, he told her mother how to make a particular kind of herbal tea for sores on Flonnie's feet.



Figure 1 - Flonnie Smith Webb Stephens, of Oneida, turns 100 old on January 22, 2009

Grandfather Ewell became the superintendent of the Sunday school at Bethlehem Baptist Church after converting to Christianity at an older age.

Ewell Smith died on February 16, 1921, at his home in Oneida. He was 77 years of age. His death was attributed to pneumonia and old age. His funeral was held at Bethlehem Baptist Church.



Figure 2 - Leonard Terry (seated) and family members



Figure 3 - Richard S. and Etta Terry Smith and family riding in the wagon

Flonnie's paternal grandmother was Luvanie (Marcum) Smith, also from Scott County. She was born on July 10, 1846. Flonnie remembers only that this grandmother was very small in stature and that she was a housewife. Luvanie died of pneumonia at her home in Oneida on November 15, 1914, at the age of 68.

Flonnie's maternal grandfather was Leonard Terry, who along with his twin brother (Lindsay) lived to be the oldest set of twins in the U.S. He was born on September 14, 1861, in the Grave Hill community of Scott County. He was the third of eight children: Martin, John, Leonard and Lindsay, Bart, Nancy Jane, Lucinda, and Tilda.

Leonard was a happy, jovial individual who was small but strong. He laughed a lot and was quite talkative even when he was in his nineties. When he was a young man, he loved to go to dances. He was a devout Baptist; but his twin brother, who was significantly larger in size, was a devout Methodist.



Figure 4 - Leonard and Lucy Anna West Terry and other family members



Figure 5 - Flonnie Smith and sisters, Cassie and Zona, in 1911 photo

Leonard died at the home of one of his children on December 23, 1955 and was buried on Christmas Day. He was 94 years of age. His twin brother lived to be 96 years of age and was buried on Thanksgiving.

Flonnie's maternal grandmother was Lucy Anna (West) Terry, who also lived in the Grave Hill community of Scott County (Oneida). She was born on March 20, 1866, the fourth of four children. Her three (older) brothers were Jonathan Marcum (later spelled Markham after he married a German woman), Calvin Marcum, and John R. West.

Lucy was a tall, rather large-framed woman with long dark hair. Flonnie remembers that her health was poor and that she could not hear well. She was a devout Christian woman, housewife,

and mother of ten children. She lived about three miles from Flonnie's house, and Flonnie's family visited her once a week.



Figure 6 - Lillie Smith Litton (1911)



Figure 7 - Nevada and Cassie Smith (1911)

The grandchildren do not recall receiving much attention from this grandmother, perhaps due to her health and hearing problems. Flonnie remembers that Grandma Lucy called tomatoes "Matterses," and that she liked to go to dances when she was younger.

Lucy Terry died at her home on November 29, 1934, at the age of 68. Her death is believed to have resulted from cancer or diabetes.

HER PARENTS

Flonnie Smith was the third-born of the six children of Richard S. Smith and Mary Etta Terry Smith.

Richard was born on January 26, 1880, in Scott County, Tennessee. He was the eighth of ten children born to Ewell and Luvanie (Marcum) Smith. Flonnie describes her father as a kind person who was small in stature but strong and sturdy. He always wore a moustache. A term that she remembers hearing him say most frequently was "dousted," as in "that dousted mule" or "this dousted wagon."

Richard Smith loved his dogs and his mules, Joe and John. His favorite activity was hunting, and his occupation was teamster (dreyer) and farmer. His wife once said that it took most of his earnings to feed and harness his team. Richard had his last team in 1930, when one of his mules

died after suffering an infection from a huge splinter in his thigh. Flonnie remembers that “Daddy” was emotionally devastated at losing one of his favorite mules.



Figure 8 - Richard, Etta, and Zona Smith



Figure 9 - Flonnie, Crusoe, and Alta Smith

Flonnie says that one of her most vivid memories is how she and her sisters would run down the dirt road to meet him so they could ride his wagon the remainder of the way home.

She also remembers his using his meager wages to buy little Christmas gifts for her and his other children. Knowing how much Flonnie loved dolls, he always wished he could get her a big doll for Christmas. He taught his children to value an education, which he had been deprived of, and to be a loving family.

Richard Smith loved his children and his grandchildren deeply. His grandchildren remember him as a shy, quiet, peaceful man who had tremendous love for his dogs (and all other animals). They recall his special way of slicing Irish potatoes and laying the pieces on top of the stove to cook for the visiting grandchildren on cold winter days. All the families remember the pain that he suffered when he underwent cataract surgery in his later years.

“Daddy” Smith died February 16, 1963, at 7:20 a.m. at the Scott County Hospital in Oneida. His death was the natural result of aging; he was 83 years of age. He supposedly had bleeding ulcers, but some members of the family thought that he perhaps had stomach cancer.

Flonnie learned of her father’s death through a telephone call from a sister who was maintaining vigil at the hospital. Her reaction, she recalls, was deep sorrow, yet they all knew that he had reached a point where he could not enjoy life and that death would end his suffering.

Flonnie's mother, Mary Etta Terry Smith, was the first of ten children born to Leonard and Lucy Ann (West) Terry. Ettie, as she was called, was born on November 8, 1885, in Scott County, Tennessee.



Figure 10 - Flonnie, Alta, and Cornelia (1937)



Figure 11 - Flonnie and Zona Smith (1930)

Flonnie remembers "Momma" as "so pure and angel-like, and so talented." She wanted her children to grow up likewise. She taught them good morals, leadership, and obedience to parents and teachers.

Flonnie also describes "Momma" as a soft-spoken, jovial individual who was not easily angered. She displayed fine sportsmanship at all times. She was quite short in stature but very strong. She wore her angel-white hair in a bun on the back of her head; and like most other women of that time, she frequently wore an apron.

Mary Etta (or Aunt Ettie, as most of her friends knew her) never complained about her many hardships and troubles. She dedicated her life to her family and her church. She was a superb housewife, a good cook, and an accomplished gardener. Her hobbies were crocheting and making quilts. Her grandchildren fondly remember her kindness, her impish laughter, and the special kind of cornbread she made.

Flonnie says that one of her most vivid memories of her mother is how she played games (marbles, horseshoes, Fox and Geese) with her daughters when they were young. Flonnie was especially close to her mother. She was always with her in the house, in the garden, picking berries, etc. Flonnie says that her mother entrusted leadership to her at an early age.

Another treasured memory is the way Flonnie's mother cared for her semi-invalid daughter for many years and for her husband after he became older. Also, she remembers what a hard worker

her mother was at home and on the farm. Momma never stopped feeling the pain of losing her beautiful first baby, Cassie.

Mary Etta Smith died at her daughter Alta's home on October 24, 1964. She was 79 years of age. Her death was the result of uremia poisoning, indirectly the result of her diabetic condition.



Figure 12 - Espy Smith at 12 yeas of age



Figure 13 - Flonnie and Alta Smith at church in 1931

Flonnie learned of her mother's death when her sister telephoned (Flonnie had already left because she did not want to see her mother die.)

Giving up her mother was very difficult, but Flonnie says that she was comforted by the fact that her mother had been granted her wish to be able to live long enough to care for her invalid daughter and husband.

HER BROTHER AND SISTERS

Flonnie Smith was the third of six children: five girls and one boy. The eldest daughter, Cassie, died of diphtheria at the age of six.

The second daughter, Arizona (Zona or Zonie), was born on March 17, 1907. She was known as a “blue baby,” which means that she had a severe congenital heart condition that did not allow her to be very active. She was a loveable person who enjoyed singing and playing with her sister’s children.

Zona died of heart failure just before daybreak on May 15, 1954, as her parents, sister, brother, nieces, and nephews kept vigil at the Richard Smith home during the long night and early morning hours. So Flonnie, the third daughter, was the eldest of the healthy survivors.

The fourth daughter, Alta (Webb), was born on August 12, 1911. She was a jovial person like her mother. She did not like school. Alta married the brother of Flonnie’s first husband; they had three sons.

The youngest daughter was Cornelia (Rosser). She was born on September 20, 1913. These six girls were born approximately two years apart.

Their only brother, Ralph Espy, was born May 16, 1922, 13 years after Flonnie’s birth. Like his father, Espy loved dogs and hunting. Flonnie’s only brother was drafted to fight in World War II, in both Japan and the Philippines. He was severely wounded with a bayonet stab in the leg, and still later he single-handedly took out nine Japanese infantrymen after they killed his war buddy. Prior to the slaughter of his buddy, he had felt he could never kill another human being. Every day Flonnie listened to her mother pray for the young son’s safe return.

Finally, he did come home with a Purple Heart, a Medal of Honor, and other awards. But he was too modest to talk about his heroic deeds, so few family or friends knew of his heroism.

His nieces and nephews remember him tossing them into the air, and they recall the monkey zoo he kept in his backyard for several years. “Smitty” and his wife, Rebecca, owned Smitty’s Grocery in the High Point community of Oneida. He died at age 68 on July 24, 1990, the day that Flonnie’s second husband was buried.

Flonnie recalls many activities and events of her childhood with these brothers and sisters. In their earlier childhood, she especially recalls visiting their grandparents, playing housekeeping, playing games indoors in the winter, and going to their country school. Later, as teens, she remembers strolling in the woods, picking mountain tea, etc., and going to church and Sunday school.

Like most siblings, Flonnie and her sisters and brother were alike in many ways. For example, they all loved each other very much and were very devoted to their parents. Flonnie and Alta were perhaps the most nearly alike. In fact, they married brothers; and Flonnie had four girls while Alta had three boys.

Flonnie like school better than did her siblings. She remembers helping mother indoors while the other girls were outdoors with their father and his horse-and-wagon. The entire family had much sympathy for Zona and were quite protective of her.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

Flonnie Smith and Esau Webb's wedding ceremony was held at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Day at the West Oneida home of the officiating minister, Rev. J.S. Garrett. It was a bitter-cold Christmas day, with a high wind blowing and a beautiful snow falling. The ceremony was performed after Flonnie finished her day's work at the Telephone Company.

The couple met initially at Pine Creek Sunday School about three years before they were married. Both were diligent church workers and busy persons, helping their parents financially. Because of his family responsibilities, Esau's mother did not approve of his marrying; and the long engagement reflects this family conflict.

Flonnie remembers that she began dating Esau because he was kind and gentle, did not drink liquor, was a hard worker, and was an active church worker. She thinks that he chose her because she was kind, knew how to be a good housekeeper and wife, was a diligent worker, and had high moral standards. Dating consisted mostly of going to church activities or staying at her home talking.

When Esau proposed, Flonnie remembers that he said, "I want you for my wife. Will you accept? I don't have much to offer, but we can make a living together with the help of God." For the wedding, Flonnie wore a frilly blue dress because she was too poor to buy a new white dress. She remembers being very excited about getting married. They celebrated the wedding by dining with her parents and then going to the home that the groom had built.

Esau Webb was born on the 29th of November in the year 1897, in a mountainous area (Smith Creek) of Scott County, Tennessee. He was the seventh child of five boys and four girls born to Henry Clay Webb and Mary Jayne Honeycutt-Burchfield Webb. The Burchfield family was one-half Cherokee Indian.

At the age of 17, young Esau had to assume the responsibility as head of the household because his father suffered a disabling stroke. In order to care for his siblings and his mother, he delayed marrying until he was 38 years of age. He was therefore understandably proud that, in addition to supporting his family, he was also able to save enough money to purchase a sizable piece of fertile land and a herd of dairy cattle. To support his new family, he became a self-employed dairy farmer.

Esau was a very strong man and a hard worker. He was tall and very thin and had gigantic muscles that looked like they belonged to a weightlifter. His Indian features were quite apparent: jet-black hair, prominent cheeks, and red-brown, Cherokee skin coloring.

Esau was an outgoing person with a good personality, liked by all who met him. He was a very patient man who was never loud spoken or scolding. He was typically a leader and a peacemaker. People probably remember him most from his visible church roles. He was a deacon and faithful member of the Pine Creek Baptist Church, and the lead bass singer in the church choir and the Webb Gospel Quartet. An amicable person, he was loved and admired by citizens of the community who often sought his advice.

Flonnie says that her most vivid memories of him as a marriage partner are as a loving, kind, and compassionate husband who showed strong feeling for his family and his community. The two of them were too busy earning a living and caring for four children to enjoy life very much.

In remembering Esau as the father of her children, she notes especially the great love he had for the four daughters. He was never fussy with them, and he took great interest in their activities. He also allowed them to take part in his work, teaching them to drive a tractor, etc.

Esau always managed to find some time to spend with his children and was extraordinarily good at caring for a child during an illness. She remembers how he would sit up all night holding an ill child or sit on the porch for hours holding and comforting one who was ill.

Flonnie thinks Esau would have described her as a good wife and mother who was always faithful and who helped him earn a living. He admired her intellectual ability, her talents such as sewing and cooking, and her ability to manage.

Flonnie lost her devoted husband and father seven months before their 20th wedding anniversary. He drowned on the 29th of May 1955, at approximately 2:00 p.m., in the Big South Fork River, near the Leatherwood Ford. The entire family was there on a family outing and heard the screams and saw the rescue attempt.

The funeral was held at 2:00 p.m. on May 31, 1955, at the Pine Creek Baptist Church. Interment followed at the Forbes Cemetery, just off Coopertown Road, in West Oneida. The entire community was shocked and mourned his death, and they rallied to support his wife and daughters. News of his death was carried in out-of-town newspapers, including the *Knoxville-Journal* and *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, which was unusual in those years.

MOTHERHOOD

The first of the four Webb daughters, Mary Lou, was born at 10:30 a.m. on August 6, 1938, in Oneida. Flonnie remembers that her first child was beautiful, with black curly hair and brown eyes. She weighed seven pounds, two ounces. She could not digest milk and thus was fed Biolac.

Mary Lou crawled and cut teeth before seven months, and she was walking at 11 months of age. She could complete sentences before she was 18 months old. Everyone noted that she patterned after her mother at a young age.

After graduating from high school, Mary Lou worked as a secretary for several years before moving with her husband to Muncie, Indiana. Today, she lives in Farmland, Indiana, and has a successful fabric store (Fabric Flair) in Anderson, Indiana. She also helps two of her daughters-in-law with their young children.

The second child, Etta Jane, was born at 7:35 .m. [a.m. or p.m.?] on June 5, 1940, in Oneida. She weighed seven pounds and had a fair complexion and big blue eyes. She had very little hair. She could not digest milk and thus lost weight until lactic acid was added to her formula.

Jane had to be quite self-sufficient and independent, as she was the second child and only 15 months old when the third child was born. She learned to feed herself quite early. She crawled and cut teeth near seven months of age, and walked at 12 months, and talked at a young age also.

Jane is probably the only one of the four girls who is a natural-born cook and also has “a green thumb.” As a young girl growing up, she was noted for her easy-going attitude, her smile, and her laughter (which she seems to have inherited from her grandmother Smith). Even today, she can get the infectious giggles when she and her sister Maye get together to decorate a Christmas tree or work on some project.

Today, Jane is a homebound schoolteacher in Scott County. She earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in elementary and special education; and for several years she has taught mentally retarded youngsters.

Ella Maye, the third daughter, was born at 3:20 p.m. on September 22, 1941, in Oneida. She also had very little hair and weighed seven pounds. She had dark brown eyes. She, too, had much difficulty digesting milk, crying continuously for the first three months. She was a somewhat unhealthy child, experiencing migraine headaches beginning about age four.

According to Flonnie, Maye was always a leader and eager to learn. She read books before starting to school, and she skipped the first grade. As the third child in three years, she had to have initiative. Her mother remembers her as a top student in school and always looking out for Jane and Ruth.

Ella, as she is known outside the family, has Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctoral degrees in business administration and has taught in several universities. Today she lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, where she is trying to start another career after undergoing major back surgery.

Much to the surprise of her three teens, Flonnie gave birth to a fourth child, Lynna Ruth, on July 26, 1949, at the Thompson Clinic in Oneida at 7:15 a.m. This child, Flonnie remembers, had thick, black curly hair and big brown eyes. She crawled and cut teeth by the age of seven months, walked, and talked by 11 months.

Ruth did not appear to have the milk digestion problem experienced by her siblings. However, she experienced vision problems at a young age, had pneumonia at age three, and also had a tonsillectomy when she was quite small. Although given lots of attention from her older siblings and from others after her father’s premature death, she was not easily spoiled.

Ruth always desired to be grown up like her sisters. She like school and was studious, and she also had a great love for music. Ruth received a scholarship to Centre College but transferred to UT-Knoxville. Later, she earned Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in psychology. She has worked as a clinical psychologist and a school counselor. Today, she lives in Cleveland, Tennessee, where she helps in her husband’s medical clinic while trying to decide her own future.

In 1958, Flonnie “lost” three daughters on the same weekend. Mary Lou married on a Friday evening, and both Jane and Maye went away to college on Sunday, leaving Flonnie alone with nine-year-old Ruthie. Although the children were away from their mother, they stayed close to her in their hearts and minds. They felt very protective of her and very dependent on her.

If these children were asked to describe Flonnie as a parent, she thinks they would say she spent too much time working instead of being with her girls. She thinks they would also say that she was always home when they needed her and that she trained them to be loving Christians.

But her children have always felt that she was a sharp, extraordinarily talented individual who did an effective job as both a mother and father. The only change they would like to make in her was to have her give more consideration to herself and sacrifice less for others. No matter how tired she was, she never complained and she always kept on working. And regardless of how angry or disappointed she may have been, she never lost her temper.

Flonnie would describe herself as a good mother but feels that she had too much work to allow proper time with her children. She wishes she had not felt compelled to devote so much time to chores.

As a parent, Flonnie felt it was her responsibility to live the right kind of daily life that would set a good example and to train the children to be good, obedient, and diligent workers. She thinks that parents should teach their children to refrain from indulging in harmful things.

Looking back, Flonnie thinks that the most difficult or most challenging thing about being a parent was perhaps setting a desirable example for the children to follow and having an adequate economic base to provide the proper education. The best thing about her role as a parent is the pride she has felt as she watched her daughters become successful adults.

If Flonnie could change her parenting role in any way, she would try to spend more leisure time with her children and also show her love and affection more. If her daughters could have changed anything, they would have her visit them in their homes.

When asked if there were anything she had always wanted to tell her children, Flonnie said that she would like for them to know that she is so very proud of them and that she loves them more than words can convey. She is grateful that they did not cause her much worry.

If asked for advice, she would probably tell her children to do God's will. If new parents were to ask Flonnie her advice on parenting, based on her experience and observations, she would most likely tell them to set the right standards, not be too critical, and to enjoy the children while they are growing up. Parents should take an interest in their children's interests.

Life as a grandparent eventually revolved around six grandsons, one granddaughter, and one adopted granddaughter. The grandchildren refer to her as "Meemaw."

Tony, Greg, and Brian Clark are the sons of Mary Lou (Webb) and Larry Clark. Tony (Anthony Russell) was born in Oneida on November 9, 1960; Gregory Scott was born in Oneida on October 4, 1962; and Brian Keith was born in Muncie, Indiana on July 14, 1966. Tony graduated from Purdue University and works as an electronics troubleshooter. Greg and Brian attended technical school and became automotive mechanics in Farmland, Indiana.



Figure 14 - Espy and Rebecca (1945)



Figure 15 - Flonnie, Alta, Mary Lou and Jane (1945)



Figure 16 - Cornelia and Ruth (1955)

Adam and Aaron Standridge are the sons of Lynna Ruth (Webb) and John Standridge. Adam Brendle was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, on June 29, 1970; and Aaron Gabriel was born in

Memphis on April 8, 1973. Adam graduated from Cleveland (Tenn.) High School and is currently a college student, trying to decide what he wants to do with his life. Aaron is a high school senior and a Merit Scholarship finalist in Cleveland.

Marijke and Dirk Van Fleet are the daughter and son of Ella Maye (Webb) and David Van Fleet. Marijke Joi was born in Akron, Ohio, on April 1, 1973; and Dirk Antoon was born in Bryan, Texas, on February 1, 1975. Both are honor students at Chaparral High School in Scottsdale, Arizona. Marijke's interests are modeling and nature study; Dirk was an ardent skateboarder but is now a movie buff, model rocket builder, and collector of playing cards.

Darla Price is the daughter of Etta Jane (Webb) and Bill Price. Darla was born in Crossville, Tennessee, on March 8, 1982. She attends Oneida Elementary School and is an excellent student. She is a brave little lady who fights a constant battle with juvenile arthritis. Flonnie picks her up at school most afternoons.

Grandparents have always played a special role in the lives of their grandchildren. Flonnie said that the best thing about being a grandparent is that you can give the children plenty of attention and do your tasks after they leave. You have more time to spend with them that you did with your own children.

When she visited her grandchildren when they were small, she especially enjoyed participating in whatever activities they chose. When the grandchildren visited her home, the activities she most remembers were taking nature strolls or whatever other activities they chose. She tried not to act too old for them to enjoy.

The most difficult part of the grandparenting role is seeing the children leave when they must return to their own homes. The most challenging thing is making the children happy enough so they'll like to visit their grandmother again. This is especially important to Flonnie because her grandchildren almost always lived far away.

Flonnie says that she views the role of grandparenting as being young at heart so you can enjoy activities with the children. Also, she feels that the grandparent must set good standards and try not to spoil the youngsters. Based on experience and observations, her advice to new grandparents would be to enjoy the grandchildren while they are young, never act too old, and set good moral standards.

The first thing that Flonnie enjoys most these days with her grandchildren is cooking foods that they like and making them feel at home when they visit. She also enjoys shopping with them.

She says that her grandchildren would probably describe her as affectionate and pleasant to be around, a good cook who tries to prepare what they like, and a person they enjoy visiting. They would probably remember some of her "pet" expressions, or mountaineer words, such as "You don't say!", "Eh, Law," "Lawsy Mercy!", and "Lawsy Me!"

SECOND LOVE

As the age of 63, after 17 years as a widow, Flonnie married Thomas Edward Stephens on the first Sunday in November 1972.

The marriage of Flonnie and Eddie Stephens was solemnized at the Pine Creek Baptist Church at 9:45 a.m. on November 5, 1972. They exchanged vows in a simple ceremony prior to Sunday School services, in the presence of the entire church.

Eddie Stephens was born October 10, 1900, in Fentress County, Tennessee. He was the first of five boys and one girl born to George Stephens and Sarah Elizabeth Winningham Stephens.

The widowed couple met at Scott County Hospital when Eddie was a patient following an auto accident and Flonnie was an employee. He was retired and had been a widower for about seven years. The new couple dated “only 11 months,” seeing each other on Flonnie’s days off. Eddie would bring her big bouquets of flowers that he had grown in his garden — especially gladioluses and dahlias.

Eddie was a tall, trim man who was very strong and young-looking for his 72 years. He was a neat person, always dressed like a gentleman, including a hat. He enjoyed joking with people and was well liked and admired by all who knew him. He was a loving person who was generous with compliments.

As a husband, Eddie always tried to please. He almost idolized his wife, and sometimes he would comment that he wished they had met sooner, while both of them were strong and healthy. He generously complimented his “pretty blue-eyed sweetheart” and was always kind and loving to her family. He seemed so happy in this marriage and so grateful for his “second life.”

Flonnie thinks he would describe her as “a sweetheart and a good wife.” He always remarked that she was a very talented woman, a good housekeeper, an excellent cook, and most of all an unselfish person.

Eddie enjoyed looking back on life as a mine foreman, and he enjoyed playing a banjo. As a young man, he had enjoyed fishing and hunting. He also enjoyed singing and became a faithful member of the Pine Creek Baptist Church and its choir. His love for the Masonic Lodge was evident to everyone as he shared his accomplishments. He had many friends, as he was never shy about meeting people and never at a loss for something to say or a story to tell.

Eddie died just prior to church services on Sunday morning, July 22, 1990, only ten weeks short of his 90th birthday. Mentally, he was very active throughout his life, and his physical health remained quite good until the few months preceding his death.

Flonnie was a devoted wife and caretaker during the nearly 18 years they had together. She tried so hard to keep him at home rather than putting him into a nursing home. But when she fell and broke her hip in March 1990, she realized that she would not be able to bring Eddie back home. She visited, fed, and comforted him during the seven months he spent in the Scott County Nursing Home.

Eddie was loved by all the workers and the patients. So, it was not surprising that on Father’s Day in June 1990, just a few weeks before his death, he was voted “Father of the Year” and saluted also for being the eldest man in the nursing home. He was buried beside his first wife in

Cumberland County, Tennessee, following a funeral in Oneida and a graveside Masonic funeral in Rinnie Cemetery in Cumberland County.

Update of biography . . .

[EDITOR'S NOTE — This is an update of the biography of Flonnie Webb Stephens, concerning her children and grandchildren.]

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MARY LOU owned and operated Farmland Fabrics in Farmland, Indiana. After she and husband Larry Clark retired they traveled until his illness. They live in Farmland and are the parents of three sons and have seven grandchildren.

ELLA MAYE (Ph.D.) and husband David write and publish college textbooks used by several universities. She retired from teaching at the University of Phoenix after a liver transplant in 1997. Her husband, Dr. David Van Fleet, remains at the University of Phoenix as Dean of Economics. They live in Scottsdale, Arizona. They are the parents of two children, a boy and a girl.

LYNNA RUTH and husband, Dr. John Standridge, live in Harrison, Tennessee. She worked several years as a psychologist in Chattanooga before she began a bookkeeping/tax service business. They are the parents of two boys and have two grandchildren.

ETTA JANE teaches special education in the Scott County School System and works part-time at Scott Appalachian Industries with special needs adults. She lives in Oneida and has one daughter, Darla and husband Ron.

— Etta Jane Price