

# Introduction

This set of books is meant to document the history of my ancestors. The purpose is to present interesting and fact based information on the lives of my ancestors, while keeping the format relatively easy to follow and understand. Only information about the families of my direct ancestors is given. This means I have not dealt with cousins. Maybe I will in the future, but for now it is everything I can do to keep up with this.

I first started writing down information about my great-grandparents in 1992. Before that, I would look at old pictures and wonder who those people were and how they lived. In my first two years of researching I used index cards to record everything I knew about each person I discovered. But when I got a computer in 1994, it became a lot easier to keep up with the information I was finding. This set of books is a compilation of everything I have found so far. Each of the first four volumes deals with the ancestors of a different grandparent. Eventually, I plan on using this information to write histories of individual families. Before I start on that, I want to find everything I can while making sure that what I present is as accurate as possible.

I have used a numbering system to identify each family. As an example:

B-1-2 Benjamin Floyd Duncan (4).

The number "B-1-2" is only given to this one family. The "B" means that the family is on my father's father's side. The letters A, C, and D have been given to my other grandparents. The "1" means that the family is on this Duncan line (i.e. each last name has a different number). If there are two different lineages which have the same name by coincidence, they still have different numbers. The "2" means that this is the second most recent family in "B-1". The underlined name (here, Benjamin Floyd Duncan) is usually the father in the family. The number in parentheses, 4, denotes the number of generations above me. In this case, Benjamin Floyd Duncan is four generations above me, or my great-great-grandfather. In some cases, I am descended from one ancestor by more than one of his children. In other words, he may be a (6) when following the lineage in one way, but a (7) when following a different lineage. When this happened, I arbitrarily picked one or the other for that ancestor. Also, a family number (such as (B-3-1)) following a person's name indicates the number of the family where his/her line is continued.

The children are first listed in order of birth (if known) for easy reference. An asterisk (\*) before a name identifies my direct ancestor. The first date is the date of birth, and the second is the date of death. When part of a date is underlined, it indicates that there is a discrepancy. I have given either the most probable date, or an average of dates from more than one source. Each list is followed by information on the family as a whole including any census information I have found. This is followed by more information on the children. The source of the birth and death date is supplied in brackets after information on that individual (for example, [b<sup>62,113</sup>, d<sup>8</sup>]). The superscripted numbers indicate the number of the sources for either the birth or death date. Here, the date of birth came from Refs 62 and 113, while the death date came from Ref 8.

Before September 1752, March 25 was the first day of the year in many countries. Therefore, days between December 31 and March 25 were included in the previous year. For example, March 24 was the last day of the year in 1634, but today, we would consider it early 1635. In this book, I have listed that day as 3/24/1635\*, just as we would write it today. The asterisk (\*) is a reminder that at that time, people actually considered it to be the previous year, or, in this example, 1634.

Please remember that some names are interchangeable with other names (i.e. Sarah and Sally, Mary and Polly, etc.). Also, because some of this information was obtained by word of mouth, there is the possibility of error. Some of the public records even have mistakes because of misinformation. I may have made typographical errors, also. So if anyone notices mistakes or can supply additional information about our ancestors, please let me know. Changes are not a problem and corrections are appreciated.

Much of my information came from county records including birth, death, marriage, land, and census records. I generally consider these sources to be more reliable only because this is first hand information. I have visited several cemeteries, most of which are in either NC or VA. A list of all of the cemeteries mentioned in this book can be found in Volume 5. Several of my relatives have helped in supplying facts which would not be found elsewhere. Some of my other sources include books, papers, email acquaintances, and the internet. Throughout this book, the source for nearly all of my information is noted with superscripts and is listed in the "Sources" section in Volume 5. I have referenced my sources to give credit to those who have done their own research, but also to help me remember where I got the information. This makes it easier to update the information when I find something new. Please keep in mind that information gathered from webpages on the internet is probably the least reliable. Anyone can easily post anything on the internet. However, if someone goes to the trouble to write a book, that person has probably done more error checking and validation. While I'm on the subject, my information is available both as a book and on the internet.

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During the years following this printing, if you do not get a response from me at that mailing address, use this one:

104 East St.  
Jonesville, NC 28642  
(use only if other address is outdated)

## History of Printings

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Printing Date</u>	<u>Page Count</u>	<u>Copies Created</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Edition (1 volume)	12/16/1996	196 pages	1 complete copy printed
2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition (1 volume)	1/15/1998	260 pages	9 complete copies, several excerpts
3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition (1 volume)	4/10/2000	374 pages	1-complete, 4-A, 10-B, 2-C, 1-D
4 <sup>th</sup> Edition (4 volumes)	7/1/2003	518 pages	V1 (13), V2 (13), V3 (5), V4 (4)
5 <sup>th</sup> Edition (5 volumes)	4/10/2007	641 pages	to be determined...

With this Fifth Edition, each of the first four volumes follows the heritage of a different grandparent. Volume 5 is essential to those four volumes because it includes the full name index, the list of sources, the list of cemeteries, and many pages of pictures of the families I am researching. Each volume is available for sale individually at my cost for printing and mailing. I have no desire to make money from this book, but I would like to share the research with as many distant cousins as possible in an attempt to learn more about our ancestors.

I began including pictures in the Third Edition. The Fourth Edition included over 230 pictures. I have now collected over 700 old pictures and it is no longer practical to include them all in the book. There are over 260 of the best pictures included together in Volume 5. The rest of the pictures are available on my website. Anyone who has pictures that could be included in the next edition is encouraged to get in touch with me.

Here are my and my parents' families.

1 John Albert Duncan (1). I, **Jason Michael Duncan**, am the son of **John Albert Duncan** (AB) and **Teresa Gail Brooks** (CD). They had three children.

1. Jason Michael Duncan 2/ 1/1976
2. Trent William Duncan 12/27/1977
3. Jarel Ross Duncan 11/11/1990

AB Roy Clifford Duncan (2). My father, **John Albert Duncan**, is the son of **Roy Clifford Duncan** (B-1-1) and **Doris Faye Bauguess** (A-1-1). They had two children.

1. Leroy Duncan 4/25/1952
2. John Albert Duncan 4/17/1954

CD Billy Edwin Brooks (2). My mother **Teresa Gail Brooks** is the daughter of **Billy Edwin Brooks** (C-1-1) and **Opal Delores Billings** (D-1-1). They had one child.

1. Teresa Gail Brooks 4/ 8/1957