

# YUILLE ROOTS

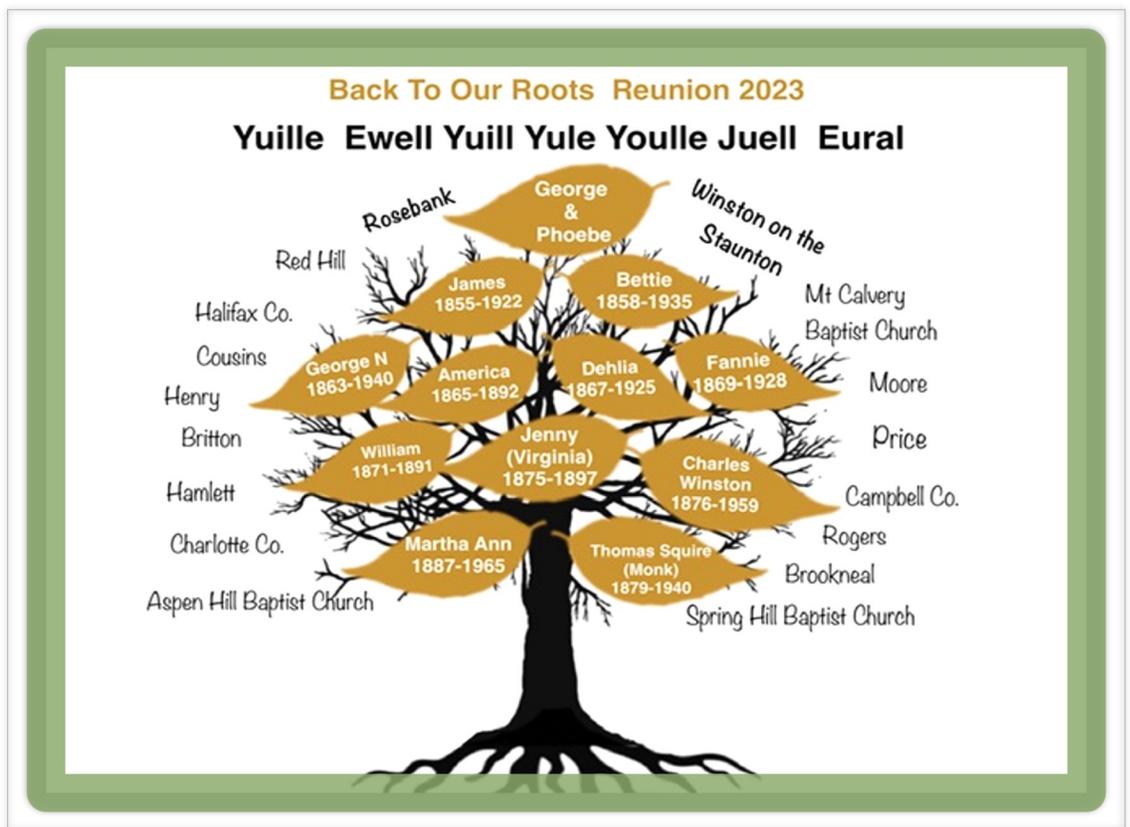


*An African-American Story :: Descendants of GEORGE & PHOEBE YUILLE*

## This is Us . . .

### Did You Know?

- Cumulatively the historical committee has over 200 years of research
- Our lineage has been traced to the 1700's
- George Yuille married Phoebe Ewell
- A DNA Family project will provide more Yuille cousin connections from the 6 living descendent lines.
- The plantation originally known as Rosebank, then Clarkton has played a major role in our history.



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It's reunion time! The time when we, as the African-American Yuille family descendants, will gather in Lynchburg, Virginia, to fellowship and connect with new and old family members. In support of the reunion, in the early spring of 2022, the Yuille Family History and Genealogy Committee was formed to develop the history of our family, beginning with George and Phoebe Yuille and their children. Lisa Beal accepted the challenge and took the lead as she contacted other family historians, many of whom, had already invested years in research. The challenge was accepted and the committee began to collectively synchronize their research efforts to expand their knowledge. The Yuille Family History and Genealogy Committee began a year of discovery. Members reviewed, challenged and re-certified each data point in our family's history as they developed a combined family tree which will be in the Family History Room at the Reunion along with other memorabilia. It will also be available on the web at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

*Continued on page 2*

# This is Us . . .



## **This is our story.**

We believed it began with George and Phoebe, but we have now discovered two generations of ancestors before them. We have uncovered records indicating that James and Mary Yuille and Joseph and America Ewell were the parents of George and Phoebe, respectively. Colin and Phae... Yuille were George's grandparents. This discovery is phenomenal; our lineage is now traceable into the previous century! The 1700's.

Many African-Americans have asked the question "where was my family before 1880?". They cannot trace their roots beyond the 1880 brick wall. This historical year denotes when African –Americans were first considered human—not just property—and began to be counted in the US Census. When compared to many other African-American families, what makes our Yuille family story "uniquely unique" is the verifiable documentation we have of our relatives who lived in the 1700's—over 273 years ago. Our story is exceptional. We are now part of a very small percentage of African-Americans who can trace their roots back to the slave owner and to the plantation where we worked and lived before we were granted freedom.

Our research has revealed that there are currently six living descendant lines from George and Phoebe Yuille. We hope that, as you enjoy the reunion, you will meet people from each of those lines—cousins that you may not know—from all over the United States and beyond. Keep your phones handy while you are at this historical event, so that you can take pictures, get phone numbers, and notate family connections you did not know. Upload your photos to Instagram [@yuille\\_roots\\_2023](https://www.instagram.com/yuille_roots_2023) so that they can be added to the family history archives.

## Our Living Legacy . . . Wert Alexander Yuille

*Interviewed by Gloria Elaine Yuille*

Wert Alexander Yuille was born September 27, 1932. At the age of 90 he had no reservation about driving an hour and a half from his home in Northern Virginia to visit his first cousin, Gloria Elaine Yuille, in Culpepper, Virginia, where they would share highlights of his life which has been filled with travel adventures, career firsts, and a commitment to community service along with vivid memories of his formative years in Charlotte County, Virginia.

Fondly known as Alec, Wert is the great-grandson of George and Phoebe Yuille. His parents were Edward Purcell Yuille and Flora Brooks-Yuille. Edward P. was the son of George N. Yuille and Susan Anderson of Charlotte County. They had three children; Edward L., Harold, and Alec who is the last living child.

Alec's earliest memories include his grandparents, George N. and Susan; his great-uncle Frazier; great-aunt Martha Ann; and great-uncle Winston. George N., Alec's grandfather was one of the early founders and one of the pastors at Spring Hill Baptist Church in Brookneal, Virginia.

Alec recalls stories of his grandmother, Susan, and her brother, Frazier, being enslaved as children. In many family stories, George N. is described as a very humble man. His wife, Susan (a quiet and patient woman), once accidentally spilled hot coffee in George's lap; he said nothing. Susan responded, "The least you could have said was *"damn."* Remember; George was a preacher; he did not cross that line of using profanity!

Alec also told the story about the time a family friend took him to a funeral, but Alec did not tell his grandfather because the deceased was his father's friend. They had not told Grandpa George that the friend had

died. When they returned, Grandpa George told them that he knew where they had been, and he knew his son's friend had died. He also told them that he himself would die the next day at 10:00. It happened exactly as he said!

When the family lived in Charlotte County, Alec and his brothers attended Spring Hill Baptist Church. His brothers joined Spring Hill Baptist Church but Alec joined Mount Calvary, a nearby church, because his mother was the pianist. The two churches held services on alternating Sundays to allow visitation from other churches and the sharing of pastors. Alec loved both churches, especially the Sunday School at Spring Hill Baptist.



Alec's family lived on the property where Gloria Elaine spent her youth. His first home was built close to where a cow had fallen into the well. Gloria Elaine remembers how carefully they would cross the meadow. Alec's parents built another house on that property. When they decided to move to Clarksville in 1945, they deeded the house to Gloria Elaine's father. The lot was 124 acres. A copy of that deed is still available in Gloria Elaine's keepsakes.

Alec's father, worked in the coal mines and on the Virginia Railroad, along with his brother Saunders. Later Alec's father worked in the textile mills in Clarksville. Alec's mother, Flora was a elementary school teacher. Alec attended Charlotte County Schools.

With the encouragement of his mother, Alec enlisted in the army in 1956. Later, he attended Virginia Union University in Richmond and majored in religion.

## Our Living Legacy:

### Silvia “BeBe” Yuille . . . A Community Trail Blazer

#### Integration of Charlotte County Public School’s

In 1966, the “Freedom of Choice Act,” in Charlotte County, Virginia marked the beginning of an important milestone in the lives of local residents especially black students. This significant legislation gave each pupil “*the unrestricted right to attend any school in the district public school system*”, thus allowing families for the first time to choose the schools their children would attend. Silvia “Bebe” Yuille was one of those students who decided to attend Randolph Henry High School along with several other black students becoming the first to integrate the high school.

Bebe’s experience at Randolph Henry High School was satisfactory; of course, there was apprehension, no one knew what to expect. All in all, Bebe does not recall having any racial problems from teachers, staff or the white students. She focused on doing her best as a student.

On February 27, 2010 at Southside Community College, John H. Daniel Campus, Keysville Virginia Bebe was recognized by the Central High Museum Inc. When they were honored with Trail Blazers certificates in the Integration of Charlotte County Public Schools, they were described us as being brave, willing and courageous students. Hats off to Sylvia and the other black students for this courageous walk of freedom.

This historical moment will be a part of Yuille Family History Archives for which Silvia “Bebe” Yuille will always be recognized as a Yuille Family Living Legend.



- George & Phoebe Yuille
- George N. Yuille and Susie Anderson-Yuille
- Saunders Yuille & Lizzie Rodgers-Yuille
- Arnold Yuille and Gertrude Small-Yuille

## Our Living Legacy . . . Mark Anthony Clifton

Mark Anthony Clifton is the great-great-great grandson of George and Phoebe Yuille. His great-great-grandmother was Bettie Yuille and his great-grandfather was Armstead Price; his grandfather was Carlton “Buster” Price, who lived and worked in the tobacco fields in Brookneal, Virginia. His parents were Grace and Hezekiah Clifton. Mark is married to Audrea Marie Guise of Vicksburg, Mississippi. They celebrate 30 years of marriage and are blessed with a family of 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

Mark is the founder and president of his own company, Spathe Systems, an Information Technology Services and Solutions Integrator, headquartered in Tampa, Florida. Spathe Systems is a Service Disabled, Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) comprised of military veterans from all branches of the Department of Defense.

Mark’s professional career is filled with significant accomplishments, but that does not reflect the back-story of Mark’s journey of growing up in the harsh realities of an inner-city environment. Like many African-Americans in the 1970s, Mark faced the “lack of reality” when he sought educational, training, and job opportunities. Mark believed there was more to life than what was available in his circumstances and surroundings. These things motivated him to leave that environment and enlist in the United States Army at the age of 18.

Mark served 24 years of active duty and retired from the U.S. Army as a Command Sergeant Major for Special Operations Forces and Conventional C4ISR units. He also

served combat tours of duty in Haiti, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Mark pursued his academic goals, receiving a Bachelor of Science in 2011, and later receiving a Master of Science degree—cum laude. Mark will complete his Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) this year.



In 1991, he was selected as the *U.S. Drill Sergeant of the Year* and was featured on several network shows: ABC’s *Good Morning America*, the *Regis and Kathy Lee Show* and NBC’s *Today Show*. He was also featured in many publications: *Black Enterprise*, *Ebony*, *Jet*, *Sports Illustrated*, and the *NY Times*.

Although he was passionate about army life, it was a microcosm of the world; Mark found that he faced similar biases and prejudices just like what existed in civilian life. Through his tenacity and persistence, Mark learned to traverse those biases and prejudices and to excel which was exemplified in the numerous awards and recognitions he received. A small sample of awards bestowed on Mark are: the coveted *Stephen Ailes Award*, which is given to the outstanding Drill Sergeant of the United States Army; *The Silver Order of Mercury Award*, which is given to a select few soldiers who have made conspicuous long-term significant contributions to the US Army Signal Corps (the highest award that can be received by members of the Special Corp). In 1993, Mark received the *United States Army Special Command Robert Sigholtz Award*, which is given to a person that embodies the tenacity of the legendary Colonel Robert Sigholtz, who led an airborne assault in 1967 and was killed in action in 1969 in Vietnam.



- George & Phoebe Yuille
- Bettie Yuille and Horace Price
- Armstead Price & Melinda Powell-Price
- Culton Buster Price & Mary Elizabeth Cook
- Grace Price & Hezekiah Clifton

# Viewing Our Yuille Family Tree at Ancestry.com

## **OUR FAMILY TREE IS NAMED:**

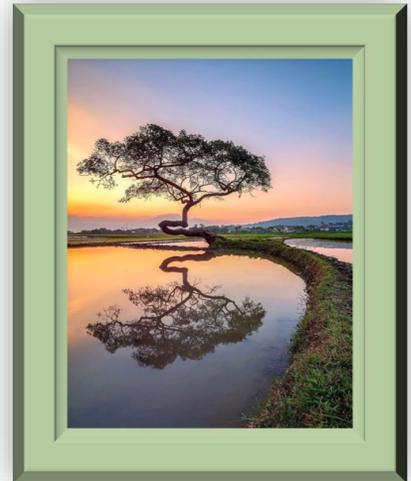
George & Phoebe Yuille Combined Family Tree

## **OUR URL:**

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/182505487?cfpid=252449211063>

## **GUEST ACCOUNT :**

[https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Registered-Guest-Accounts?language=en\\_US](https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Registered-Guest-Accounts?language=en_US)



## **OUR FAMILY TREE IS VIEWABLE WITH A REGISTERED GUEST ACCOUNT**

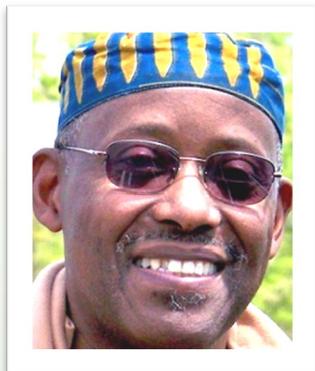
As a registered guest, you can...

- Search the free databases
- Activate a DNA kit
- Access articles in the Support Center
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- View educational videos in Ancestry Academy™
- Share trees with friends and family
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- Post to Ancestry Message Boards
- Read tips from our experts on the Ancestry Blog
- View your AncestryDNA® ethnicity estimate and matches (if you have a DNA test on your account)

# My Family



## Family Reflections & Memories. . . James M. Clark THE LIVING YEARS



There's so much to say. And so little time in space to say it in. I strongly recommend to all of you that you *carpe diem*. Seize the time!

I refer you to the song "The Living Year" by Mike (Rutherford, co-founder of the British rock band Genesis). It speaks to the generational divide between parents and children, elders and juniors. But to me, it says more than that. Part of the one verse says ". . . I just wish that I had told him in the living years". This verse suggests a similar message to me. I wish that I had ASKED them in the living years!

It highlights the need to use the time we have with our elders to learn as much as we can from them about our ancestors.

You see some of them daily but you probably see most of them only occasionally. It's on those occasions that I'm recommending that you take full advantage of the living years to get as much information as you can from your elders regarding family history.

I spent several Summers as a preteen with relatives in Baltimore (Cousin Margaret and her husband Henderson Fowlkes, her kids, Bobby and Myrna). And I took several trips with my family from New Jersey to Brookneal, VA to visit relatives (Uncle George and Aunt Bett and Uncle Buster and Aunt Mary and their families) with an overnight stopover in Baltimore County (Aunt Emma and Uncle Lloyd Reid) on the way.

Most of the memories of those mid 1940s through mid 1990 trips are as far gone as are Uncle George and Aunt Betts log cabin and Aunt Emma and Uncle Lloyd's quaint little house and Micro Farm in White Marsh, Maryland (there's a mall there now)

I know now that those trips were the perfect opportunities for me to learn family history about which I can do no more than speculate. I deeply regret not taking greater advantage of those opportunities.

I truly treasure what's left of those early memories of the Maryland Summers and Virginia family trips. I'm a great grandparent now and I record as much of family history as I can (in photos and videos and pass it on to my juniors).

I give you the same council that I give to them. If there's anything you want to know, ask me now— in the living years

Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandson of George and Phoebe Yuille

## Family Reflections & Memories

### Regina B. Cooper

"We, my two sisters, brother, and I, would go every summer to visit my grandparents (Alonzo and Sally Anne Yuille Moore) in Brookneal, VA. [I] remember going into the tobacco fields early in the morning to pass leaves to tie tobacco. That was an experience I will never forget."



Great-Great-Granddaughter of George and Phoebe Yuille.

### Gregory S. Cooper

"Each year I would travel with my grandparents (Raymond Banks, Sr. and Marcell Moore Banks) to Brookneal for Easter Sunday Service at Spring Hill Baptist Church. This was an exhilarating time for me as a young boy. I vividly remember sitting in the pew of the church that was packed with family. My grandmother's 13 siblings and cousins from near and far were in attendance. I remember them singing and the harmonies of those voices were heavenly. There was a spirit that dwelt among them and in their collective love for the Lord that drew you into a realization of who Christ was in your life. It was a special time of worship and fellowship."



Great-Great-Great Grandson of George and Phoebe Yuille

### Sylvia & Elaine Yuille



When We grew up in rural Charlotte County, VA we had plenty of fruit trees on the farm such as peach, an apple orchard, pears, and cherry trees. We had to go to the chicken coop to gather the eggs that the chickens had laid, worked in the vegetable gardens which was very large. In the winter my grandmother made sure we were well supplied with food that she had canned during the summer months.

We had chores to do every day; go to the spring to get water, gather the wood for the wood heater, which our grandfather and father had cut up.

We had to walk at least a fourth of a mile to meet the bus. Yes, we got cold and rained on.

On the farm we had pigs and two horses; one was named Bell and the other was named Prince.

We also worked in the tobacco – as soon as you learn how to count to three....you handed three leaves of tobacco to the person stringing the leaves on a stick.

Great-Great-Great Granddaughters  
of George and Phoebe Yuille.

## Family Reflections & Memories . . . Catherine Crawley

### PRECIOUS MEMORIES . . .

One of the fondest memories of my grandmother Elvira Moore Younger Johns, took place when I was about to turn 5-yrs.-old.

My mom, and stepfather had just gotten married on June 25, 1988. They were heading out on their honeymoon. Well, my sister and me spent that week with my grandma at her home in Charlotte County VA., "Randolph" to be exact! My birthday was approaching on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. I was about to turn 5 years old. She (Granny) had made me a yellow cake with Chocolate frosting.



Well, Granny had fixed dinner, and it was all I could do to hold my excitement! But, when the time came to eat the cake, there were no candles to be found...

So, being the wonderful granny She was, she said come with me! I knew we weren't going to a store because, if you know where Randolph, VA is, then you know stores were few and far between. So, I had no idea where we were going or what we were about to do. Well, she tied my shoes on my feet and took me outside to her cherry tree! We picked the Cherries and she put 5 cherries on my cake! It was the best birthday cake ever! I will never forget her!

Great-Great-Great-Granddaughter of George and Phoebe Yuille



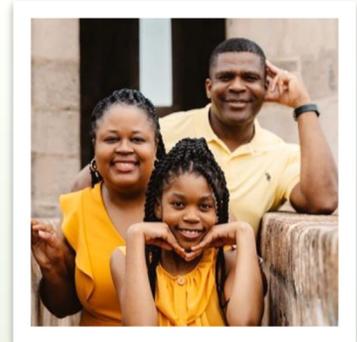
*The Sankofa Bird reminds us that we must continue forward as we remember our past. At the same time we plant a seed for the future generations to come after us.*

## Family Reflections & Memories . . . Gloria Price-Ketobiokou

When I think and reflect on my visits to Virginia as a child, I think of several memories from driving into Brookneal on 501, to playing with my cousins on the reddish/orangish dirt, family cookouts and everything in between. I am going to share five memories with you:

### **501 Brookneal**

I will never forget how to get back to Dad's hometown. Who can ever forget 501? It is the road home for Dad. Dad moved away on his 20 year adventure in the military. During Dad's 20 year adventure, we travelled in from far away places. My memory of our family travels start with when we moved back to the United States from Germany. We stopped in Omaha to see my Mom's family for about a month and then we traveled all the way to Brookneal on 501. We stayed about a month before we moved to Fort Dix, New Jersey. We had many fun times driving back and forth from Fort Dix, New Jersey to Virginia. And the story repeats itself as we moved from Fort Dix, New Jersey to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After retirement, in 1995 we made Omaha our home and continued to make many trips back to Dad's home. We will never forget how to find our way back to our Dad's roots, his home.



### **Reddish, Orange Dirt**

When I was a child of about eight years old, I remember playing along the reddish/orangish dirt road in the swarming heat with my sister Gemia, cousins Landa, Jennifer and Adrienne. We had three play areas along the road where we would play house and mix baby food from our littlest cousin's baby jar left overs with the reddish/orangish dirt.

I can also remember learning not to wear white tennis shoes to keep them clean. Also I remember how important it was to drive slowly down the dirt road - around huge muddy water holes when it was muddy from rain to keep your cars clean and from getting stuck. It is so funny to me that later in life I traveled to Lomé, Togo, Africa with my husband who is from there and found myself in a car driving around huge muddy water holes with the same color dirt.

### **Cheesecake ice-cream at the Country Store**

I don't remember the name of the quaint store where I got the very memorable cheesecake ice cream but I remember it and it being my favorite day with my Dad. It was my favorite day because Dad would take us out from Grandma's house to do something in the small town and visit family and friends on the main stretch of 501. I have since found an ice-cream kind of like the ice-cream they sold at the country store at Cold Stone Creamery.

### **Grandma Inez's Garden Goodies**

Grandma had a very nice garden outside her home in the country. I am so sad that the goodies that come out of Granma's garden is not repeatable today. She made the best pickles from her fresh cucumbers. Ahead of her pickles was her delicious jam and her oven baked biscuits from scratch for breakfast.

Great-Great-Great-Great-Granddaughter of George and Phoebe Yuille

## Family Reflections & Memories . . . Lynn Price Brownlee-Williams



When I think of my memories and family trips to Brookneal, Virginia, I recall being in the car for what seemed to be an eternity as we traveled down the highways from New Jersey. The stops were few and far in between because there were many places that we as black folks were not welcomed, and my father knew how to plan the trip to keep us safe. We took with us everything that we would need for the eight-hour trip including fried chicken and biscuits in a shoebox; after all, it was before KFC and McDonald's. Our stops were only for the absolute necessities--gas and bathroom breaks which sometimes occurred among the trees on the side of the road. My father carried his mechanical tools just in case he had to fix the car while on the road. Yes, this was truly back in the day.

I remember once we arrived, we would stay at Mrs. Bassett's home, a wood-frame farm house with a one room annex that contained a pot belly stove and sleeping quarters. Around that room all of our activities took place during our visit. My father's brother, George, lived further up the unpaved road, in the "Negro Bottom" backwoods where tobacco grew. His log cabin home was modest and contained a potbelly stove for heating and no indoor plumbing. Making the trip to see our Uncle George involved traveling "up the road" on a muddy trail not intended for cars. There was always concern about the car tires and axles because they could not easily navigate those rugged roads.

I fondly remember hearing the rooster crow early morning and waking up to breakfast with the smell of hot biscuits, grits and eggs. The eggs were right from the chicken coop on the farm, but you had to be careful because it was not unusual to find snakes in the chicken coop. I remember going to the well to get refreshingly cool water. I remember going to the local country store and getting just, picked fruits and vegetables. Here I learned how to select fruits and vegetables. The fuzz on the peach skin indicated it would be a harsh winter. Oh my, my, my. . . the practical knowledge that was shared by those who closely worked the land and knew the signs to look for.

As we sat on the porch at sunset, I remember conversations about the setting sun and how the redness of the sun and the chirping of the crickets indicated that it would be another scorcher of a day coming tomorrow.

In my early adulthood, I remember visiting my three aunts, Phoebe, Margaret and Betty who lived on RFD Route 2 in Brookneal and experiencing the darkness of country nights and the intense thunder and lightning storms. I remember hearing the buzzing sound as the lightning hit the Aunt Phoebe's trailer. That's where I learned to unplug every electrical device, and patiently wait out storms while remaining seated and perfectly still. Oh, the realities of country life, which teach self-sufficiency, patience, and tenacity. I came to appreciate the superpowers that these family members had; from the growing their food, killing their food (Yes, snapping the chickens' neck), to preparing daily meals and planning food for the winter when crops were not growing, these women did what needed to be done. I will never forget the taste of Aunt Phoebe's homemade peach ice cream, Aunt Margaret's homemade rolls and apple cobbler, and Aunt Betty's candied sweet potatoes and baked turkey wings. I recalled Aunt Margaret playing the organ as we sang our favorite hymns.

All of these memories opened my eyes while broadening my horizons, teaching me, the city girl from "UP NORTH" going "DOWN SOUTH", to have a posture of gratitude and appreciation for every blessing I've received.

Great-Great-Granddaughter of George and Phoebe Yuille.

## Family Reflections & Memories . . . Yolanda Jean Brown

I was the age 4 and then 5 years old when I was able to remember my visits to Brookneal, Virginia with my mother. The night was so very dark that it scared me. I can also remember going there for my first family reunion and playing in one of the Uncle's front yard. It was a two story white framed house. There was also an out house in the back yard. I was seeing family members for the first time. The family also had service at the Spring Hill Baptist Church. I remember how well our family was singing and praising God. It made me feel so proud of my family.



Great-Great-Granddaughter of George and Phoebe Yuille

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### SHARE YOUR FAMILY STORY . . .

The Yuille Family History and Genealogy Committee encourage you to share your family stories and contribute memorabilia, artifacts and documents as we expand our knowledge of our family history. From stories your grandma told you, to interviews of cherished elders, family pictures, home-going, memorial programs, obituaries and clippings of the Yuille Family. Do you have photos of unknown relatives, let us help you identify them. For our living relatives who are making history, let's get our stories told. So dust off those memories and share those stories—our stories tell us who we are!

Mail to the archives @ [yuilleroots2022@gmail.com](mailto:yuilleroots2022@gmail.com)

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### A FAMILY MEMORY . . . FROM THE HISTORY COMMITTEE



A local celebrity in his later years, George Ed Britton began his life as a sharecropper at Red Hill. By the time the property had passed to Patrick Henry's great-granddaughter, a large mansion had been constructed and Britton worked in its shadows.

On a winter's day in 1919, the mansion caught fire and Britton sounded the alarm in hopes of saving the structure. With Britton's help, nearby workers saved as many furnishings as they could. Britton continued work as a gardener in the town of Brookneal and was known as a friendly helping hand to his neighbors.

*Collection of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation*

## Our Living Legacy . . . Wert Alexander Yuille

(cont'd from page 3)

Then he moved to Arlington, Virginia, while maintaining a close relationship with his brothers who lived in the Campbell and Charlotte County.

Alec is a pioneer in the field of electronics, a skilled and brilliant man. In his position with the US Navy, as an electrical engineer, he received top security clearance. In his tenure of service as a safety officer, he covered five jurisdictions where he maintained, repaired and designed radio equipment. Alec spoke about a time when he attended a conference; he was the only African-American there among government staffers, doctors, admirals, and engineers. He alone represented Washington, DC. At the conference, he was asked, why was he there? because it was a conference of specialists. —What were his credentials? Was he a specialist?— After speaking with his manager, Alec provided an appropriate response.

Alex loves to travel and has traveled extensively both domestically and internationally for work and pleasure. He is a professional pianist and has played for his church 10th Street Baptist, in Washington, D.C. for many years. He also enjoys walking and being a member of the Sunday Morning Breakfast Club. He is a deacon, and participates in Prayer Service, the Sick Ministry, and the Men's Club which includes fishing trips going to Myrtle Beach and raising funds for Christmas baskets.

His best friend is Joe McDuffy. We all need them! Alec's best attributes are his care and concern for others, his love of music and his great ethics. He wants to be remembered most for these things.

Wert Alexander Yuille is recognized as a Yuille Family Living Legend.

*"I am just darn proud to be his cousin" Gloria Elaine Yuille*



- George & Phoebe Yuille
- George N. Yuille and Susie Anderson-Yuille
- Edward Purcell Yuille & Flora Brooks-Yuille



Well, the Family History & Genealogy Committee is creating a Yuille Family DNA Project to expand our collective knowledge.

Using DNA to research family history is a new and exciting tool that can be especially helpful in reconnecting broken lines. DNA testing is painless, safe, and most importantly, secure and the history committee invites all those that have been tested or are interested in testing to join us in creating a Yuille Family DNA Project.

To be clear, this work cannot tell us specifically where our ancestors came from, but it can help us find missing cousins that we have not found using traditional research. We are particularly interested in preserving the Y- DNA of our oldest men/ fathers. Interested in hearing more? Please reach out to Lisa Beal. [LisaSBeal@gmail.com](mailto:LisaSBeal@gmail.com)

## Our Living Legacy . . . Mark Anthony Clifton

(cont'd from page 5)

Mark has held several leadership positions within the Defense Industry and the Government Civilian Sector at Fortune 100 companies. Yet what Mark values most is his work in diversity, inclusion, and community development. He actively works to provide an entry platform for future technologists and engineers. He also leads the way in reaching into “communities of color” to present opportunities for technology mentorships, and he has created innovative internship programs. One such program is the partnership with Florida A&M University (FAMU), which provides real-world job experience; another is the onsite support to Local Title 1, K-8 Schools, located on the campus of University of South Florida, which primarily houses low-income, marginalized communities. Mark has built a professional and strongly unified diverse team that actively supports those corporate goals. Employees are encouraged to donate their time, money, and resources to community organizations such as the Fisher House Foundation, which provides a place to stay for military and veterans’ families when their loved ones are hospitalized.



In April of 2023, the Small Business Administration (SBA) of South Florida selected Mark Clifton as the SBA’s *District Minority Business Owner of the Year*. Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, describes this award as the reflection of the American dream—to own and build a strong resilient business; to create jobs; and increase competition, and innovation and power in America’s historic economic recovery. “These incredible entrepreneurs . . . are powering our economy. . . Their stories inspire and motivate the next generation of entrepreneurs.”

The characteristics that make Mark a Yuille Family Living Legend are reflected in the following statement: “Through his continuous community reach-backs for diversity, and ability to persevere through anything that life throws at him, Mark Clifton is a true embodiment of everything for which this award stands. His hard work, determination, and perseverance are what have helped him become one of the most respected influential leaders in the Tampa Bay area, and we hope his life story acts as an inspiration for future minority leaders ready to take on the world, regardless of what life throws at them.”

Thank you, Mark, for your life of service; we are proud of you, for being a Yuille Family Living Legend.



- George & Phoebe Yuille
- Bettie Yuille & Horace Price
- Armstead Price & Melinda Powell-Price
- Culton Buster Price & Mary Elizabeth Cook
- Grace Price & Hezekiah Clifton

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**THANK YOU**  
**TO THE YUILLE FAMILY**  
**HISTORY & GENEALOGY COMMITTEE**

Lisa S. Beal

Yolanda Jean Brown

Lynn Brownlee-Williams

James M. Clark

Catherine Crawley

Gloria Price-Ketobiokou

Tennia Leftwich

Christine Taylor

Brenda Yuille

Elaine Gloria Yuille

Silvia Bebe Yuille



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**The Sankofa Bird reminds us that we must continue forward as we remember our past.  
At the same time we plant a seed for the future generations to come after us.**