Coward Family Newsletter December 2007

116th Coward Family Reunion Held in Cullowhee

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The 116th Coward Family Reunion was held in Cullowhee on June 10, 2007. The weather was nice, the food spectacular, and a good time was had by all. These reunions just keep getting smaller and smaller, though. Sigh. The next one will be held on June 8, 2008 and I hope that many of you who have not been recently will be able to come. I know that we often don't know very many people, but its always fun to talk to other family members and learn some things about them.

Family attendance is as follows: Clara C. Smith, 4; Dave Coward, 5; O.B. Coward, 3; Sally Norton, 5, Benjamin Coward, 3; Eastern North Carolina Cowards, 3. This is the first time since I've been doing this newsletter that I remember any Easter NC Cowards being in attendance. They were just delightful! The oldest person present was Frances Payne; the youngest was Madelyne Robinson (such a cutie); and the person who came the longest distance was Gene Coward from Richmond, VA. You can see candid shots of reunion activity on the family website (www.myfamilynames.com). Click on Photo Gallery, then click on Coward Reunion. There are pictures from several reunions, so click on the 2007 one.

The picture below is a group picture of the 2007 reunion's attendees. You win the prize is you can name them all!!!



Missing In Action

I had an unusual number of newsletters returned to me after the April mailing. Please check this list and let me know of the addresses (or e-mail addresses) of anyone you recognize. Some of these names have been receiving newsletters at these addresses for years, so I hope you'll help me find them so they can continue to receive the Coward Family Newsletter.

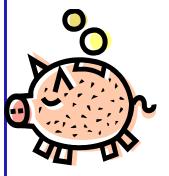
Bert and Nancy Adams, Lithia, FL
Amy Bell, Buckhead, GA
Forest and Marilyn Coward, Pasadena, TX
Mary Wallace Griffin, Dillard, GA
Jennifer and Mitchell Rohde, Winter Haven, FL
Margaret Henson, Sylva, NC
Raymond N. Hooper, Tampa, FL
Hazel Lewis, Sylva, NC
Scott Meyers, Edmund, OK
Carl Painter, Sylva, NC
James Parsons, Waynesville, NC

Bill and Grace Reeves, New York, NY Will and Catherine Rideout, Raleigh, NC Wayne and Anna Robinson, Winterville, NC Mary E. Underwood, Hendersonville, NC Susan G. Williams, Lancaster, SC

Lois Cowart reports that her husband, Fred. F Cowart, died December 4, 2005. He had had a stroke in January of 2001 and a second one in January of the year he died. He was born in Clay County and received his master's degree at WCU. He was an educator by trade and retired from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in 1970. His hobbies were bees and gardening.

Fred is survived by his wife, Lois; a son and a daughter; two grandchildren; and a great grandson. Our sympathy is extended to Fred's family.





Thanks from the Piggy Bank

A heartfelt thanks to the following people who generously supported the Coward Family Newsletter;

Elaine Nichols (in memory of Trudy Adams) Nellie Coward Attendees at the 2007 Coward Family Reunion

Any donation is appreciated!



Gertrude Hampton Adams

September 13, 1923– July 7, 2007

Gertrude (Trudy) Hampton Adams was born in Jackson County, NC on September 13, 1923 and died on July 7, 2007. She was the daughter of Annie Coward Hampton and W. Oscar Hampton, the granddaughter of Lou Norton and Jonathan David Coward, and the great granddaughter of Nathan Coward. Although born in Sylva, because of her father's profession as an educator, Trudy lived in many places, finally taking up permanent residence in Birmingham, AL when she married Bob Adams, a photographer and artist whom she met after graduating from the University of Montevallo. The story of their meeting is family legend: Trudy won the Birmingham News Secretary of the Week contest, and Bob, who photographed for the paper, was assigned to take her picture for publication. He came away smitten and a few days later asked her out. The rest is history. They remained married for 56 years, a testament to love and character.

Trudy and Bob adopted three brothers (Charlie, Jerry, and Bill) when the boys were aged 2, 4, and 6. Several years later, they gave birth to a fourth boy, Casey. Trudy was the grandmother of twelve and the great grandmother of nine. She died shortly after the birth of Casey's youngest son, Ryan Alexander.

Her love of the history of her family began with her first reunion with her mother, Annie Coward Hampton and continued for 35 years. After becoming editor of the Coward Family Newsletter, Trudy became the "go to" person for information and stories of the family, always bringing trees, charts, and scrapbooks to the reunion. Her research was accurate and from the original sources, typically actual court and library documents. Son Casey notes that she never met a cemetery, courthouse basement records room, or historical library document that she didn't love. Her family members recall visiting many a cemetery when Trudy rubbed numerous headstones that couldn't be read with the naked eye with pencil and paper so she could document who was buried in the grave.

Family remained very important to Trudy until her death. She always stayed in touch with her cousins, and her love for family connections led her to travel extensively researching her roots., the result of which was the publication of the family history <u>Dave Coward and Lou Norton</u>, <u>Their Descendants and Ancestors</u>.

Traveling for research purposes wasn't the only reason Trudy traveled. She traveled because she just LOVED it! She and Bob have traveled to all fifty of the United States, have taken several driving trips in Ireland and England, took a month long train trip across Europe, and have embarked on several cruises. Almost to the end, Trudy was hoping for one more cruise!

Trudy is survived by her husband, Robert Abner Adams; sons William Patrick Adams, Jerry Robert Adams, Charles Terry Adams, and James Casey Adams, as well as by 12 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

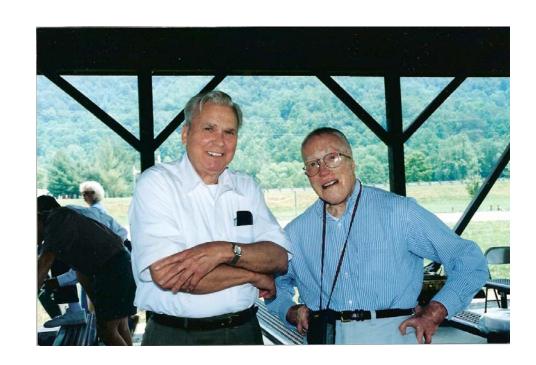
The Coward family is appreciative of Trudy's dedication to the sharing of its rich history. Thank you, Trudy. You will be missed.

Reunions Past!



Trudy Adams and Jule Coward at the 2001 Coward Reunion

John Nichols and Bob Adams at a reunion that took place in the late 1990s.



Reach the Coward Family Newsletter!

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CELEBRATE
YOUR
FAMILY!!!

Notes From Lynn's Desk

I apologize to all of you who did not get an opportunity to contribute to the family newsletter. I attempted on numerous occasions to e-mail everyone and for some reason (I still don't know why) the group wouldn't go. Of course, I wasn't notified of that, so I just had to figure it out and do some testing.

Geez! Consequently, those of you who read your newsletter on line got an e-mail which I wrote one at a time! That's a lot of e-mails! I'm going to try to find out why this is the case before the next newsletter.

I hope all of you have a happy holiday season. Please do send me your news, as this newsletter is a little scimpy! I will publish the next newsletter in late April or early May.

Relatively Yours,

Lynn