
The Thrasher Newsletter

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SUMMER 2022



Gone from my Sight

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side,
spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts
for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck
of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone"

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast,
hull and spar as she was when she left my side.
And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me -- not in her.
And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone,"
there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices
ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

Henry Van Dyke

Hope to see you at 2022 TFA Micanopy Reunion

By JOHN PAUL THRASHER, TFA president

We are looking forward to getting together in Micanopy, FL., July 22-24 for the 2022 TFA Reunion. However, it will be bittersweet. As we raise a glass to present company, we will remember those who have passed since we last gathered, including John E. Thrasher III, Bonnie Thrasher Bolin, and Glenda Thrasher. We are publishing their obituaries in this newsletter and will post them on the TFA website: www.thrasherfamilyassociation.com

During the Micanopy reunion we will be visiting several area historical sites and attractions, including the Thrasher Warehouse, which houses the Micanopy Historical Society Museum, and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park in nearby Cross Creek, site of the 1928 homestead of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "The Yearling."

I hope you will join us for some fun and fellowship with your cousins as we celebrate the life and legacy of John E. Thrasher III in his beloved Micanopy.



Reunion headquarters will be the historic Herlong Mansion Bed & Breakfast. As of June 27, there were still three of the 13 rooms available. To make a reservation, call owner Kim Shore at 352-466-3322. The TFA hold on those three rooms expires on July 1, which is also the reunion registration deadline. If you want to stay somewhere other than the Herlong, you can consider Gainesville, which is 15 minutes away with many hotel choices. There are

also some Airbnb properties in the Micanopy area that provide another option.

Finally, we want to make sure this weekend is as safe as possible for everyone. We strongly recommend that everyone be up to date on COVID vaccinations. Masks are not required, but if you feel more comfortable wearing one, please do so.

I look forward to being with my fellow TFA members as we explore our shared Thrasher heritage.

TFA MICANOPY REUNION SCHEDULE

Friday, July 22: "A Taste of Italy in Micanopy"

- 4 p.m. Check into accommodations.
- 5:30 p.m. TFA members meet in the lobby of the Herlong Mansion Bed & Breakfast (402 NE Chokolka Blvd.). Plan to carpool to dinner if you wish.
- 5:45 p.m. Depart for dinner from the Herlong.
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dinner at Antonio's (22050 N. U.S. Hwy 441).

Saturday, July 23: "Heritage and History"

- 7-8:30 a.m. Breakfast at the Herlong Mansion for guests of the inn.
- 9-10:30 a.m. TFA Annual Meeting in Long Hall, the Herlong Mansion event space.
- 10:30-11:45 a.m. Free time to explore downtown Micanopy's antique stores, art galleries and gift shops.
- 12-12:45 p.m. Box lunches available for pick up at Long Hall. Enjoy your box lunch from Blue Highway in the event space or on the grounds,
- 1-2 p.m. Tour Micanopy Historical Society Museum located inside the old Thrasher Warehouse (607 NE Chokolka Blvd.).
- 2:15 p.m. Depart for Cross Creek.
- 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tour of the 1928 home of Pulitzer Prize-winning author Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, who is best known for her book "The Yearling." An optional guided farmhouse tour begins at 3 p.m. (the last of the day). We'll be driving individually or carpooling.
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. BBQ dinner served in the Herlong's Long Hall.
- 8:30 p.m. Linger awhile to visit with your cousins after dinner.

Sunday, July 24: "We Say Our Good-byes"

- 7:30-9 a.m. Breakfast at the Herlong Mansion for those staying on property.
- 9 a.m. Visit with your "cousins" until checkout at noon.

If you have questions or need additional information about the TFA 2022 Micanopy Reunion, please contact John Paul Thrasher at john.thrasher@numail.org or call/text him at 770-328-3991. The registration fee is \$100 per person, which covers Friday dinner, Saturday box lunch, Saturday dinner and other reunion expenses. Deadline for registration is July 1.

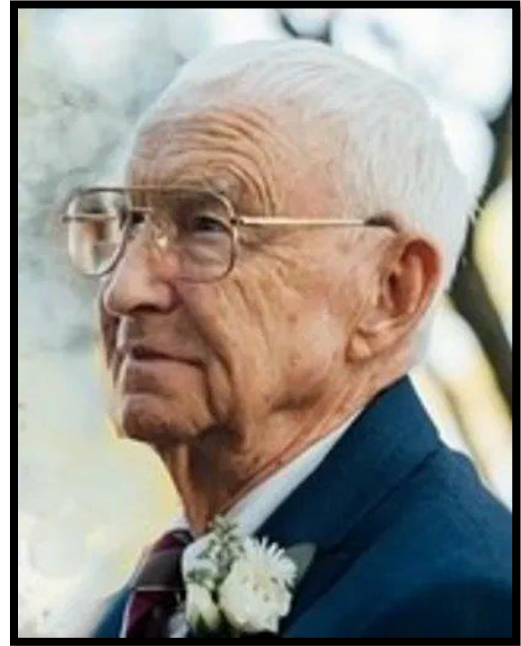
Name (s): _____

Number Attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Obituary for John Early Thrasher III

John Early Thrasher III, age 93, of Micanopy passed away on June 4, 2022, at Oak Hammock. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Eleanor Gretchen Keller Thrasher, his parents John Early Thrasher Jr. and Raymond “Rae” O’Neal Thrasher, and siblings, Annie Rae “Anne” Thrasher Pruitt and Martha Cade Thrasher Whittington.



John was born on November 29, 1928, and lived in Micanopy, Florida, where his grandfather and great grandfather settled in 1875. He attended the local public school, and for high school, the P.K.Yonge Laboratory School at the University of Florida, graduating in 1946. He attended the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL, where he had a group major (English, Sociology and Music) and earned a BA degree in August of 1950. John studied piano at the University and sang for one year with the University of Florida Glee Club.

John was drafted into the U.S. Army on November 10, 1950. He was stationed at Ft. Bragg, N.C., in the 403rd Evacuation Hospital and later at Camp Pickett, VA where he attained the rank of Sergeant (E-5). He also served in the 7th Evacuation Hospital in Ider-Oberstein and Baumholder, Germany, before being honorably discharged on November 1, 1952.

John returned to the University of Florida and earned his master’s degree in Education (MED) in August 1954. He had been a student intern at Lake Shore Junior High School in Jacksonville, Fla., and returned there to teach social studies for twelve years. During summers and weeknight classes, John pursued other graduate programs and became certified in Guidance, Administration, Supervision and Adult Education. For 12 years he taught the GED program in the evenings. For twenty-four years he served in various capacities, especially Guidance and as Assistant Principal for Curriculum. He retired from the Duval County School system in June 1990.

John met Eleanor in Paris, France, on September 15, 1952, while on leave from the Army. They were married on June 26, 1955, in Bronxville, NY. They lived in Jacksonville for thirty-five years. The family were active members of St. John's Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, FL. John was active with the Boy Scouts of America, Troop #2 for twelve years. He sang in the St. John's Presbyterian Church Choir for many years and with several oratorio groups. When John retired, he and Eleanor returned to Micanopy and built a home (1990) on his property at Fish Prairie.

John was the founding President of the Micanopy Historical Society in 1983. He served as President, Secretary and Treasurer. He and Eleanor served as docents in the Museum, and he was Archivist, computerizing the information in the Archives. He was a founding member of the Board of the

Thrasher Warehouse Preservation Corporation (non-profit) in 1987 and has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer. He was also active in the Gainesville Camellia Society and served as President and Show Chairman. He was a camellia grower, American Camellia Society judge, gentleman farmer, classical music enthusiast, dedicated genealogist, and an avid reader. He was an active member of the Thrasher Family Association since its formation in 1975 and served as Chairman. In 2017, he became a member of the Jamestowne Society.

John is survived by his son John F. Thrasher and his wife Kathy of Newberry, FL; daughter Gretchen Thrasher Harris and her husband William P Harris III of San Diego, CA; and grandchildren John Patrick Thrasher and his wife Phoenix, Anna Marjory Thrasher, William Patrick Harris IV and his wife Monika, Paige Christine Harris and Kelly Rae Harris and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Saturday, June 11, 2022 at the Micanopy Historical Society Museum, 607 NE Chokolka Blvd., Micanopy, FL. In lieu of flowers, memorials to The Micanopy Historical Society Archives, Box 462, Micanopy, FL 32667 and Haven Hospice in Gainesville.



Located near the Smith building at the Micanopy Historical Society Museum, John E. Thrasher Sr.'s original store burned in 1911. The warehouse served as general store until a new brick building was completed down the street in 1923.

Joe Stine: Entrepreneur, Engineer, and Family Man

By DAVID SUMNER

Joe Stine and his wife, Joan, have been married 66 years. They met in a freshman English class at the University of Florida in 1952 and dated for three years. He was studying industrial engineering, and she was studying speech pathology. He was also enrolled in the Air Force officer training program. “The university had just become co-ed in 1948 and the ratio of men to women was six to one. So, I was very lucky to date her,” he said in a recent telephone interview.



“Six weeks before I graduated, the Air Force changed my orders and assigned me to report to San Antonio, Texas, on June 10th. We had to re-arrange our wedding plans, which were originally scheduled for August. So, June 4, 1956, was a busy day. I graduated in the morning, I was commissioned at noon, and we were married at 6:00 that afternoon and on our way to San Antonio the next day.”

Joe spent three years in the Air Force as a navigator in the Strategic Air Command refueling in-flight strategic bombers. His assignments included San Antonio and Harlingen, TX; Savannah, GA; the Azore Islands, Morocco, and England. After completing Air Force duty, they returned to Orlando, where he began a 29-year career with Harry P. Leu, Inc., which was Florida’s largest industrial supply company at the time. Joe’s father was general manager of the company and after Mr. Leu retired, he sold the business to the Stine family. Joe was promoted to executive vice president from 1967-1978 and president from 1978-1987 when his family sold the company.

“Growing up, my brothers and I were always expected to work in the business. Dad sent my brothers and I to college to become engineers so we could go back and work for him. He turned the business over to me when I was 34.” Joe and his brother, Jon, and son, Jeffrey, are still trustees of the Harry P. Leu Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports youth educational activities and humanitarian organizations. From 1952 to 1965, his family owned the Lake Pickett Cattle Company, where Joe was a managing partner.

He was born in 1934 in Sanford and the family moved to Orlando when he was five. Joe and I share the same central Florida roots with the same great-grandfather, David Oliver Thrasher (1848-1912), and great-great-grandfather, “Cousin John” Thrasher (1818-1899). His mother, Willie Louise Thrasher (1908-1993), married Paul J. Stine. David O. Thrasher, his brothers and father, were late 19th century pioneers in Dade City, where I grew up. David O. was selected the first mayor of Dade City in 1885 and first county judge of Pasco County two years later. I first met Joe in 2004 when my mother introduced us at the TFA Reunion when we hosted it in Dade City. Joe’s mother was active in TFA, and he attended his first reunion in Micanopy in 1999 and has been coming ever since.

“Four of David Oliver’s children, including my grandfather, moved from Dade City to Sanford between 1900 and 1916,” Joe says. “Two of them were big in business and real estate development of Sanford. I still have a keen interest in Sanford because of all the Thrashers who lived there.”

While working for Harry P. Leu, Inc., Joe completed his licensing as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) and was a consultant in equipment design and using computers for inventory management and marketing systems. “I had put my engineering license on the shelf. When we sold the company, I took the license off the shelf and went back to professional engineering. I used my Florida Professional Engineers’ license to start my engineering consulting business.” He holds five U.S. patents for agricultural, medical and refrigeration inventions. Using his patents, Joe formed his own company, Tree Planting System, Inc., in 1986 and operated it until 1993 to manufacture equipment for tree nurseries using applications of his own patents.

He was honored in 2021 by the Orlando Rotary Club for 60 years of membership. The club’s tribute says, “As a professional engineer, Joe served his industry in many capacities. He is a senior member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, charter member and past director of the Central Florida chapter, and chairman of the Institute’s Environment Committee. Joe served as a director for the Florida Wholesalers Association in the 1970s and 1980s, president of the Southern Industrial Distributors Association 1972-73, and director of Associated Industries of Florida 1980-84. Joe’s impact on the Orlando community has been wide. Besides the Rotary Club, he served on the Central Florida Boy Scouts Council and the Citizens’ Advisory Committee that guided the Orlando Growth Management Plan. He was chair of the Heart of Florida Capital Fund Committee from 1994 to 2000.”



Joe and Joan have six children, who range in age from 52 to 65, and 10 grandchildren. Most live nearby in Orlando or central Florida. However, their oldest daughter, Martha Allison Chatham, died in Pinehurst, N.C., last year of pancreatic cancer at the age of 61.

Joe and Joan are active Christians and have been members of First Presbyterian Church of Orlando for more than 60 years. They moved to Orlando Lutheran Towers last year and now live two blocks from the church in downtown Orlando. At age 32 in 1966, he was elected as an elder, the youngest the congregation had elected until that date. He has taught Sunday School classes for junior high, senior high, and adult classes, and helped organize an International House for international students. He and Joan organized a class for young married couples in the 1960s.

Joe and Joan have been active the Thrasher Family Association for more than 20 years. Joe has done a lot of family research using Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.com. “I have also traveled in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania to research land and legal records. I have always enjoyed seeing where my ancestors lived. This is family history. We have some very interesting ancestors who have done a number of remarkable things. We enjoy staying in touch with everyone.”

A tombstone for Little Dora

By CAROL JEFFARES HEDMAN

This article was originally published in the Tampa Tribune on June 1, 1985, and reprinted in a 1987 book titled Pasco Heritage, a collection of articles celebrating the 100-year anniversary of Pasco County's founding in 1887.

A crudely painted tombstone standing in the old Dade City Cemetery represents more than just the marker for a child who died more than 100 years ago.

"It [the tombstone] is one of the most interesting examples of Florida folk art and certainly the oldest in this area," according to Dade City lawyer and local historian Bill Dayton.

The homemade tombstone, marking the grave of Little Dora Thrasher, appears to have been made by family members after the death of the 17-month-old girl.

"It's obvious the family sat down and did it themselves," Dayton said. An inscription and drawing of bird were traced into the wet concrete, probably with a twig, he said. The drawing is thought to be that of a "great speckled bird," Dayton said. It alludes to an old hymn with the line: "I'll be joyfully carried to meet Him on the wings of a great speckled bird," he said. Originally the bird was holding a scroll in his mouth.

The inscription on the tombstone reads: "To the memory of Dora, daughter of W.G. and D.P. Thrasher. Borned [sic] Feb. 10, 1885. Died July 22, 1886. With a farewell kiss to her heart-broken parents. Her little soul flew in the arms of Jesus."

The lettering is crude, Dayton said. And by the end of the phrase, space was running out and "sus" is squeezed into the corner following the "Je." Years of weathering have made it hard to determine the child's name, positively. The name is thought to be "Little Dora Thrasher." However, it may have read "Lunie Dora Thrasher," Dayton said.

The old-style grave consists of a brick square topped with the concrete tombstone carrying the inscription. It was not uncommon to have the graves squared off with bricks or fenced in, Dayton said. "In those days, cattle wandered into the cemetery and people didn't want cows walking on grandma's grave," he said.

In the late 1880s, stonecutters weren't available in the area, Dayton said, and many of the old pioneer graves were marked with tombstones apparently made from a kit. They were all basically alike with the inscription "Sacred to the Memory of" followed by the name of the deceased.

Dayton believes the tombstones were manufactured locally, probably by one of the pioneer mercantiles that offered everything from clothing to undertaking services. Other pioneer graves were marked with wooden tombstones. Many of those were replaced with marble markers in later years. Others remain unmarked, Dayton said.

In the 1890s, metal gravestones could be ordered through catalogs, he said. In pioneer days, the Dade City Cemetery was called the Oak Grove Cemetery named after the Oak Grove Baptist log church that stood amid the graves. The church was moved into Dade City in the 1890s and became the First Baptist Church. Usually church yards contained cemeteries, but a family's plantation often provided burial space.

The oldest cemetery remaining in Pasco is the Tucker Cemetery in Richland. There, marked graves date back to the 1850s. But Tucker family members believe unmarked graves in the cemetery date from the 1780s. In the 1890s, cemeteries started being separate from church yards.

Municipal cemeteries, their grounds owned and maintained by cities, came into existence in the 1900s. And in recent years cemeteries took a commercial twist and are now often operated as businesses.

The Thrasher Migration to Dade City, Florida

By JOE STINE and DAVID SUMNER

Eight members of the Thrasher family are buried in the Dade City Cemetery according to Findagrave.com. They include John J. "Cousin John" and his wife, Margaret; three of his sons: David Oliver and his wife, Barton Conway, and Johnny Wylie. Cousin John's brother, David Hughey Thrasher, is also buried there. "Little Dora" was the daughter of W.G. Thrasher and his wife, who are not buried in Dade City and must have moved after their daughter's death.

According to Joe Stine's land deed research, Cousin John purchased property near what is now Dade City from the Florida Land and Improvement Company on March 21, 1882. However, the first Thrasher to move to Florida was Cousin John's brother, David Hughey Thrasher, who probably arrived in 1874. Joe says that he purchased land on Jan. 13, 1875. David Hughey was named school superintendent of Hernando County in 1881 and then school superintendent of the newly formed Pasco County in 1887 when it was split off from the southern portion of Hernando County. Probably the second Thrasher to arrive in the Dade City area was Cousin John's son, David Oliver. While the date of his arrival isn't known, his first land purchase was on Jan. 8, 1885. He was named the first mayor of Dade City after it was incorporated that same year, first county judge after Pasco County was incorporated in 1887, and third school superintendent in 1896. Johnny Wylie Thrasher purchased land in 1881 and became a citrus grower. Cousin John's other son, Conway Barton, moved to Dade City and became a pharmacist and drugstore owner.

Pasco and Hernando counties have beaches on the Gulf of Mexico and are located immediately north of the Tampa-St. Petersburg area.

Reaching the end of the line

By PAULA CROUCH THRASHER

An hour-and-a-half drive south on I-75 from Micanopy, FL, site of the 2022 Thrasher Family Reunion, is Dade City, the final resting place of the affable man known as “Cousin John.” The end of the line for John James Thrasher -- the fabled railroad man, pioneer, builder, speculator, and politician -- came Nov. 24, 1899, at age 81. He is buried in the Dade City Cemetery next to his wife, Margaret Bethuel Scaife Thrasher, who preceded him in death by a year. His grave lies near the tracks of the Atlantic Coast Line (originally the Florida Southern Railroad), which Thrasher was instrumental in bringing to town. Dade City Cemetery records show at least 11 of his descendants are also buried there. Four Thrasher families were designated among the official “Pioneer Founding Families” of Pasco County in 1998 with individual cast bronze plaques embedded in the sidewalks leading to the restored Historic Pasco County Court House in Dade City.

What a life he lived! Here are a few snapshots from his colorful life -- but they by no means paint a detailed picture of a life well-lived. These tidbits were gleaned from a Dixie Living feature I wrote for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution July 5, 1987, as well as “Cousins by the Dozens,” a genealogical book compiled by his descendant Dorothy Sturgis Pruett and published in 1975, and other historical records. Additional source material was found in a June 29, 2016, article by Doug Sanders for the Laker/Lutz News, a weekly distributed in seven communities north of Tampa, including Dade City, the county seat of Pasco County. A source for that piece was Thrasher Family Association member David E. Sumner, a great-great grandson of “Cousin John,” who has devoted decades to researching his forebear’s life and legacy. Sumner was interviewed by Sanders at the 2016 TFA Reunion at the Pioneer Florida Museum and Village in Dade City. Besides Sumner, a 1964 graduate of Pasco County High School, other TFA members who trace their ancestral lineage to “Cousin John” include Joe Stine of Orlando. Let us know if you should be added to the list.

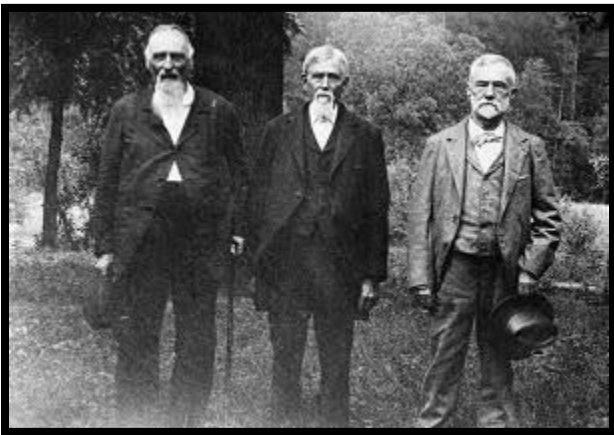
A Valentine’s Day baby

“Cousin John” lived the last 15 years of his life in Dade City. Born Feb. 14, 1818, in Georgia’s Morgan County to David and Mary (“Polly”) Thrasher, he was one of 14 children, including older brother Thomas Barton Thrasher and younger brother Albert Conway Thrasher. His father moved the family to what is present-day Newton County and then to Henry County.

He got around

Although the exact timeline of places he called home from 1839 until he moved to Dade City in 1884 is up for some debate, we do know for certain that in 1839 he moved to the wilderness area that would become Thrasherville (more on that period in the next section), then Terminus, Marthasville and ultimately Atlanta. During his time off and on in Atlanta, from 1839 until he followed his two sons and their wives to Dade City in 1884, he was a respected merchant and speculator, buying and selling mostly cotton. He built at least two fine homes in the city in the 1860s, built the municipal jail and served as state legislator representing Fulton County in the then-capital of Milledgeville from 1859 to 1863. After the Civil War, he moved up and down the railroad line, making investments along the way. The first stop likely was south in Coweta County. There he lived in the towns of Grantville and Newnan, where he was hotelkeeper at the Newnan Hotel and famously gave a barbecue, inviting every soul in town, both black and white. Moving north along the railroad line, he ended up at the place he founded in 1870 as the City of Norcross, naming it after his friend Jonathan Norcross. "Cousin John" served as Norcross's first mayor. Traveling northeast, he landed at Toccoa, where he ran a hotel, and later had a "railroad eating house" in central South Carolina. During the 1870s and early 1880s, before his move to Florida, he continued to run inns and eating establishments along the railroad.

Where Atlanta Began"



"Atlanta Pioneers": L-R, John J. "Cousin John" Thrasher, George W. "Wash" Collier, George W. Adair (1897).

Downtown Atlanta workers and visitors who pass by the Marietta Street office building that once housed the Federal Reserve Bank and now is headquarters of the State Bar of Georgia may notice a large historical marker that boldly proclaims the spot to be "THRASHERVILLE... Where Atlanta Began."

The location is near CNN Center and Centennial Olympic Park. It was in 1839 that an ambitious 21-year-old was awarded the \$25,000 contract to build the Monroe Embankment for the Western and Atlantic Railroad in what was then a heavily forested area. Near the stake that marked the terminus of the planned railroad, he built dirt-floored shanties to house his workers, mostly Irish immigrants. The settlement in modern-day downtown became known as Thrasherville, which, while never officially recognized, preceded Terminus and Marthasville as original names of Atlanta.

The first of a string of firsts

Besides being the first settlement, Thrasherville can lay claim to many a “first.” When “Cousin John” erected the first general store, a commissary to supply the needs of his workers, he became Atlanta’s first businessman. A small bronze plaque on the front of the State Bar building predates the Thrasherville marker which was placed in 1992. The plaque bears the inscription: “Site of First Mercantile Business, 1839, The General Store of Johnson and Thrasher General Store. Home, 1842-1845, home to Mr. and Mrs. Willis Carlisle and their daughter Julia Carlisle (Withers) Atlanta’s First Baby born August 17, 1842. First Presbyterian was built 1850 Rebuilt 1877 and occupied until 1917.”

They had a ball

Atlanta’s first social event was precipitated, oddly enough, by the first labor trouble. The wife of the foreman of the embankment project, an Irishman by the name of Mulligan, insisted that she, as the wife of such an important person, deserved wood floors instead of the dirt ones in the other shacks. Mulligan threatened to walk off the job if Mrs. Mulligan did not get the planked floors she wanted. Somewhat over a barrel, “Cousin John” relented, and the Mrs. got her way. Once the floors were laid, the Mulligans hosted a “ball” attended by the fun-loving workers and their wives. Even “Cousin John,” a bachelor at the time, showed up dressed in his finest clothing and his high-heeled Spanish boots. As he recalled in a recording of his reminiscences in the late 1890s, “I drug Mrs. Mulligan onto the floor and danced until I kicked both heels off my shoes.” After the dance, all the wives wanted to keep up with the Mulligans. At their wives’ urging, the men approached Thrasher with an ultimatum: plank floors in every shack or no more work. Thrasher obliged, and the threatened “strike” was averted.

Let us pray

You could also make the point that Atlanta’s first “open air church service” occurred when two of the rough and rowdy Irish workers got into a fight, letting off steam after a long day’s labor. Eventually, every man in the camp joined in the fray. “Cousin John,” unable to quell the riot that ensued, hopped on his horse and rode off to fetch a priest. He soon returned with the monsignor. According to an account by eminent Atlanta historian Franklin Garrett, “...the holy father who stepped into the center of the fighting, raised his hands and commanded peace. That ended the row instantly.” Amen.

For further reading:

David E. Sumner, “John Thrasher: Georgia Pioneer, Politician, and Philanthropist.” Amazon Createspace, 2017, 36 pages, \$5.99 paperback, \$2.99 Kindle.

David E. Sumner, “Everybody’s Cousin: John J. Thrasher Was One of Atlanta’s Founders and Most Colorful Figures,” Georgia Historical Quarterly, Vol. 84, No. 2 (Summer 2000, pages 295-307).

Obituary for Bonnie Thrasher Bolin



Bonnie Thrasher Bolin passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at Southland Health and Rehabilitation after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.

She was born on August 28, 1943, to Leroy Thrasher and Thelma Smith Thrasher in Atlanta, GA. Bonnie was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Edgar Bolin, and her parents. Bonnie is survived by daughter, Andrea Bolin Ferrara; granddaughters, Colby Ferrara, Anjelica Ferrara; and two great grandchildren.

While Bonnie was an only child, she grew up with many cousins. During her long illness, Bonnie was cared for by her cousins, Dale Chaney, Doe Evans, and Vickie Mills along with several loving caregivers.

Bonnie attended Truett McConnell College and graduated from Georgia Southern College. Teaching was a lifelong profession and in her later years, she was one of the first teachers to teach English Speakers of Other Languages. Bonnie taught in Atlanta City Schools, Clayton County Schools, and Fayette County Schools.

One of Bonnie's passions was genealogy. She was a faithful member of six lineage societies, and she traced her family history back to the Mayflower.

A memorial service was held April 4, 2022, in the chapel of Mowell Funeral Home in Fayetteville, Georgia. Donations can be made in her memory to Southwest Christian Care, 7225 Lester Road Union City, GA 30291, or the Alzheimer's Association.

Obituary for Glenda Joy Thrasher

Glenda Joy Thrasher, age 81, of Clovis, NM, formerly of Columbus, MS, passed away April 23, 2022, at her residence. Funeral services were held April 28, 2022, at Memorial Gunter Peel Chapel with Rev. Tim Williams officiating. The interment was at Mt. Vernon Cemetery.

Glenda was born August 12, 1940, in New Orleans, LA. Her parents were the late D. T. Crum and Hettie Ketchum Crum. She was a graduate of New Hope High School and was a member of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Thrasher was preceded in death by her birth mother, Jimmie Ruth Gober, and daughter, Patricia Joy Thrasher Gore.



Survivors include her husband of 62 years, Robert P. Thrasher, Jr. of Columbus, MS, son, Marshall Thrasher of Clovis, NM, Bobby Glen Thrasher and his wife Lanette of Columbus, MS, sister, Phyllis Hope Crum Cunningham and her husband John of Madison, AL, grandchildren, Garrett Thrasher, Zak Thrasher, Madison Thrasher, Emily Plemons, Mary Ann Thrasher, Trenton Thrasher, Clayton Thrasher, and Suzanna Renaud, and 8 great grandchildren. Pallbearers were her grandsons, Jason Renaud and Emic Plemons. Honorary pallbearers were the Gate Keepers of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. Memorials may be made to the American Stroke Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX, 75284.



The Thrasher Family Association is self-supporting through the dues and contributions of our members. Yearly dues are \$20 and support our newsletter, website and research costs.

Please come to the reunion ready to pay this year's dues or put a check into the mail to:

Thrasher Family Association
Attn: Angie Grooms, Treasurer
PO Box 1137,
Davidson, NC 28036

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Thrasher Family Association newsletter needs your input. Share ideas for stories – or better yet, suggest an article you'd like to submit. We're looking for profiles of TFA members, articles focused on family history and heritage, genealogy, photographs, reviews of books on topics related to the family, features on books written by members, and news about people and places. Get in touch with newsletter editor Paula Crouch Thrasher by calling or texting: [770-328-7716](tel:770-328-7716) or email to pthrasher@numail.org. The newsletter is published four times a year on a seasonal basis and is published via email.

Staff members include:

Paula Crouch Thrasher, newsletter editor
David E. Sumner, chief contributing writer
Sue Quillian Thrasher, layout and design
John Paul Thrasher, production director