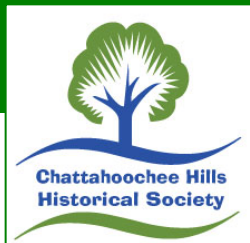


Tom and Vera Gullatt



Tom and Vera Gullatt Photo Album

Tom Gullatt was born in 1920 and grew up in the Rico Community of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia. In this album, we've captured photos of Tom and Vera at their current homeplace, the childhood homeplace of Tom, a few relatives, and a photo of Tom in Japan. To learn more about Tom and Vera, visit their oral history page at: www.chattahoocheehillshistoricalsociety.org.



1. Tom and Vera Gullatt



2. Vera and Tom Gullatt



3. Tom greets visitors on the front porch



4. Vera greets visitors at the car



5. Tom and Vera's homeplace



6. Their fruit tree, aged to perfection



7. Childhood homeplace of Tom Gullatt as it is today



8. Another view of the ancestral homeplace



9. The back 40 of the ancestral homeplace as it is today



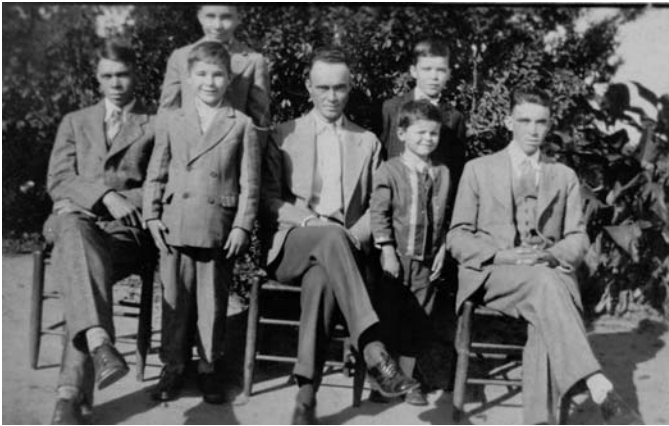
10. The ancestral homeplace is still in the family



11. Circ 1908 Toms parents:
Dow Gullatt with daughter Rena
Maie Barnes Gullatt with son Horace



12. The Gullatt Family
Front row, left to right: Edward, Ruth, Tom, Howard
Middle row: Letha, Dow, Marvin, Maie, Otis Gordon
Back row: Horace, Rena



13. The Gullatt Family
Front row, left to right: Edward, Tom, Horace, Albert,
Howard
Back row: Otis Gordon, Marvin



14. Grandma Gullatt, Aunt Ona Gullatt,
Nell and G.K. (other lady not identified)



15. Maie and Dow Gullatt



16. Dow Gullatt and Mattie Robinson



17. The Gullatt Family
 Front row, left to right: Rena, Dow, Maie, Horace
 Middle row: Otis Gordon, Ruth, Edward, Letha, Howard
 Back row: Tom, Marvin, Albert



18. One Room Schoolhouse Reunion
 Front row, left to right: Sara Petty, Willie Mae Cook,
 Ora Copeland, Ema Davidson, Ms. Thompson.
 Back row: Henry Thompson, Tommy Thompson, Fred Davidson,
 Howard Gullatt, Horace Gullatt, Edward Gullatt



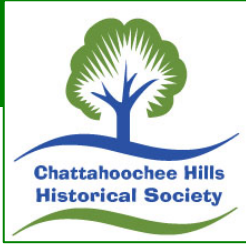
19. Tom Gullatt and Maie Gullatt on the day of Tom's graduation from seminary in May 1947.



20. Pictured left to right: Mary, Miriam, John and Tom Gullatt



21. Tom and Mary Gullatt in Japan



Tom and Vera Gullatt Interview

* * *

Date: September, 7, 2008

Interviewers:

Laurie Searle, Sara Ann Alford, Becky Hollis

Technical Assistance:

Sam Smith

Length: 55 minutes

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Overview**00:00**

Laurie Searle (LS) Welcome to the Chattahoochee Hills Oral History Project. The project is an effort to connect our past with our present through the sharing of stories.

Each oral history is conducted using a conversational style of interview to give the audience the sense of sitting around a kitchen table, listening to their neighbors talk about the good old days.

Each project includes:

- Index with an overview of the interview
- Digital audio recording of the interview
- Transcription of the interview
- Photographs and references

About the Subjects**00:38**

The interview subjects have a strong connection to our community. They may have grown up here, come here later in life, or only lived here for a short time, but one thing is for certain – they love the community.

About the Interviewers**00:53**

The interviewers are members of the Chattahoochee Hills Historical Society. We are not professional historians; however, we have a passion for preserving and sharing the history of our community.

About the Audio Recording**01:06**

The digital audio for the oral histories are available on the Chattahoochee Hills Historical Society Web site: www.chattahoocheehillshistoricalsociety.org. (See: Collections>Oral History>Tom and Vera Gullatt). They are also available on loan via CD at the Rico Community Library.

About the Copyright**01:25**

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00:00

Laurie Searle (LS): Today is September 7, 2008 and we are at the home of Tom and Vera Gullatt in Fairburn Georgia. We have asked the Gullatt's to share some stories about growing up in the area that is now known as Chattahoochee Hills. Our interviewers are Laurie Searle, Sara Ann Alford, and Becky Hollis. The interview begins by recording some vital statistics including birthdates and names of family members.

00:28

(LS): When is your birth date?

00:32

Tom Gullatt (TG): Birthday – March 20, 1920

00:36

LS: Do you have any siblings?

00:40

TG: One sister Letha Gordon, age 98, she is in a nursing home in Franklin, has Alzheimers. One sister Ruth Morris, 96, she's in the nursing home in Newnan, and she has arthritis. But all of the others have passed on.

01:08

LS: I'm going to check the box that you are married to this lovely lady here. When was it that you got married?

01:16

TG: It was July 9, 1996

01:21

LS: And it's Ms. Vera?

01:28

Vera Gullatt (VG): I was Vera Campbell.

01:30

TG: She had 43 years in Japan; I had 35. She retired in 1993, the year that my wife Mary died. And then we married in 1996

01:40

LS: And you said the schools you attended were?

01:45

TG: Rico Elementary. Palmetto had up to junior high school at that time. I went to 8th and 9th grade in Palmetto. Campbell High in Fairburn. Graduated in 1940.

Dropped out of school three years between 9th and 10th grade to help Daddy on the farm. My older brothers had gone and so I dropped out three years.

02:15

VG: They had gone to the war.

02:20

TG: Yes, they were in military service. I was 18 when I went back to finish high school. It was during those years that I had three years at New Hope Church in the Epworth League.

02:36

LS: Did you have military service too?

02:39

TG: No military service.

02:43

LS: After you finished high school what did you do?

02:46

TG: I worked for one year, and then went to Brewton Parker Junior College in 1941. It was a junior college then. Then graduated from Mississippi College in 1944. Then Southern (Baptist Theological) Seminary my BD (bachelor of divinity) degree in 1947 and THM (masters of theology) in 1948.

Track 3

LORD'S PRAYER

00:00

LS: Ms Becky and Sara Ann were telling us that one of the favorite things they've ever heard you do was to recite the Lord's Prayer in Japanese. And I wondered if that was something you could do for us?

00:22

TG: Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us for our debts as we

forgive those who debited to us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

0:45

TG: ten ni mashimasu warera no chichi yo
negawaku wa mina o agamesasetamae
mikuni o kitarasetamae
mikokoro no ten ni naru gotoku, chi ni mo nasaetamae
warera no nichiyō no kate o, kyō mo ataetamae
warera no tsumi o okasu mono o, warera ga yurusu gotoku
warera no tsumi o mo yurushitamae
warera o kokoromi ni awasezu, aku yori sukuidashitamae
kuni to chikara to sakae to wa, kagirinaku nanji no mono nareba nari
āmen

Track 4

GROWING UP

00:00

LS: What was it like growing up in the community?

00:15

TG: I grew up on a farm. It was a lot of hard work. Cotton was the main cash crop. We'd get out of school, and go by and get a baked potato, and change cloths and get the baked potato and eat it on the way to the field. Then pick cotton till dark. In the summer time, Daddy did a lot of truck farming. We raised watermelon and cantaloupes and all kinds of vegetables. And we gathered those vegetables and fruits and he took them to the farmers market in West End. The farmers market was there and so he took them there and so we'd gather that there and load it on the truck and take it in.

01:13

TG: In the winter time every week he'd kill a hog. We'd grind up the whole hog in sausage. We had a mill and we'd grind up the meat three times, to get it fine enough, you know, and then he took all of that sausage to West End and sold it to all of the customers that he had. And so that was how he made a living for us during the Depression. Because we didn't have any money to

spend, but we had good food to eat and clean air to breath and did lots of hard work. We'd work together. All of us had our own chores to do.

02:00

LS: What were some of your chores?

02:03

TG: We had 24 chicken coops and my job every Saturday morning was to clean out all those chicken coups and then take the manure and scatter it over the garden. And I had to milk cows. I was in school and I'd milk seven cows and caught the 7 o'clock bus.

02:30

LS: So you caught the bus from where you lived on Jones Ferry?

02:34

TG: I caught the bus from where I lived on Jones Ferry Rd. I caught the bus right there. My Daddy drove the bus when I was in school in Rico. He had a little bus built on a truck frame and he drove the bus to Rico. We had dirt roads and it would get in a mud hole and all of the boys would get out and push the bus out and the girls would stay in the bus.

03:00

LS: Who were some of your childhood friends?

03:05

TG: Harold and Ralph Eidson and Charles were the nearest neighbors to us. We grew up together and had good times together and worked in the fields together and always competed on Christmas morning as to which one would get the lights out first. And we had good times together and worked together.

Harold they started going to New Hope Methodist Church, and so Sunday night, Charles (?) was 15 and Harold (?) was 18, we'd all go together to the Epworth League at the Methodist Church. We had a wonderful teacher Polly Shell. She did a marvelous job teaching the Bible and teaching Wesley's book on holiness I remember and had a great influence on my life.

00:00

LS: When did you know you wanted to go into ministry?

00:06

TG: When I was 18, I was converted when I was 15, and when I was 18 I felt the Lord wanted me to do something, I didn't know what, and so I went back to finish high school. I really didn't know what I would do. Of course Daddy's goal for all of his sons was to go to Atlanta and to get a job. That's what he wanted us all to do.

But I felt the call and went back and finished high school. And I worked a year because Daddy had no money to send me to college. And I saved enough money to get into Brewton Parker College. And they had a farm and I worked on the farm and I worked in the dining hall and mopped the floors and washed dishes on a work scholarship. And Daddy thought it was real foolish of me to be spending money to go to college. And he didn't really understand my calling. But my Mother did. But that's how I got to college. On work scholarships getting through school.

01:24

TG: And it was my years in seminary that I met in prayer meetings with several students who were volunteers for missions; they knew they were going to be foreign missionaries. And I went to their prayer meetings and listened to them pray. And we had chapel every week and heard good speakers. And from that experience well I felt the Lords' call to missions.

01:50

TG: And I had special friends in Japan who were missionaries and they brought their prayer requests back to us and we would pray for them. And my first choice of mission places was Japan. And they said, "They need you in Africa." And I said, I grew up on the farm, and I said Africa has heat 12 months out of the year, I don't think I could do my best work in Africa. I need to go somewhere where there are four seasons. And so I chose Japan and they said alright. But after three months of language study, I decided I made a mistake. I should have gone to somewhere where they spoke Spanish. I knew it would be easier than Japanese. But we had to learn it, read it, write it, and speak it. And that was a two year study. And then my work in Japan was transplanting. Going north of Tokyo to a prefecture, Japan was divided into prefectures

instead of states. And starting a church in our home in a city where we didn't have any Christian witness.

03:05

LS: Had you started your family before you went to Japan?

03:13

TG: I got married my second year in Seminary. And then I had two years in the pastorate in Kentucky at Waco and the second year in my pastorate my daughter was born and she 18 months old when we went to Japan.

03:30

LS: So you spent two years as a pastor?

03:35

TG: Yes, I spent two years as a pastor in a country church in Kentucky. At that time the foreign mission board required that you get two years of experience before going to the field which was a wise decision. Because those were two valuable years.

03:55

LS: So how old were you, about 20 years old?

03:58

TG: When I became a pastor there I was 28 and when I became appointed I was 30 years old.

04:07

LS: Tell me what it was like, this farm boy from Rico, gets off the plane from Japan. And what did you think. What was your impression? I'm not in Oz anymore?

04:24

TG: We had the blessing of going by ship. All during the 50s and 60s, we had furlough every 5 years. It was two weeks from San Francisco to Yokohama with a one day stop in Honolulu. There were 27 missionaries on that ship all going to Japan all of us new and we didn't know what to expect but we had a definite feeling that God has called and he'll supply the strength that we need to do the work that he has called us to do. We had a lot of people praying for us. All of those folks back at New Hope and Sardis were praying for us and a lot of others too, we had tremendous prayer support. And then the foreign mission board, they supported us. We had our income from the board from mission offerings from the churches. They supported us through mission offerings from the churches.

05:34

VG: We had heard so much about Mt. Fuji on the way over and on the afternoon when we pulled into Yokohama we could see Mt. Fuji.

05:50

LS: It must have seemed like a dream or a big adventure.

06:00

TG: After two years of language study, moving to a city where no one spoke English at all we were just immersed completely in Japanese society. But our children all of their playmates were Japanese so they learned the language better than we did with the Japanese kindergarten. My wife taught our children through the 6th grade in homeschooling then they went to school in Tokyo to the American school in Tokyo.

Track 6

WORK IN JAPAN

00:00

LS: What was your assignment over there?

00:13

TG: My work was preaching, worship services, Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night, and then teaching English, Bible classes, and English classes, the young people wanted to learn English. And that was our main contact with the people. The older people they weren't interested, they didn't care about the missionary coming in, we have our own religion, and we don't need you, and they were never unkind to us. Every home we visited, they'd slide open the door, listen to what we had to say, receive the tracts, everyone in Japan could read and write. And so if they got the gospel tract, or the gospel of John, it was something they could read. And so we made contact with the people of the community. And then on Sunday after church was over, we'd have tea and fellowship and they would stay. The Japanese would roam through the whole house and open every closet and look through there. Ours was the only American style house in the city. All the other houses were Japanese where you slept on the floor.

01:22

LS: Did you wear Japanese cloths?

01:25

TG: No, we wore American clothes.

01:30

Beck Hollis (BH): What was their religion?

01:35

TG: Buddhism and Shintoism. The Shinto priests conducted all of the weddings and the Buddhist priest conducted all of the funerals.

01:46

VG: Tom I think you ought to tell what YouYang said to you when you went up there.

01:55

TG: Before I went to Mito they would give us advice. They said I didn't have anything to do with your assignment. They said that of all the cities you could go to in Japan you're going to find the most difficult work. Because those shrines there of the Buddha and Shinto, some of them are a thousand and four hundred years old. And those older people, even though emperor worship went out at the end of the war. And McArthur brought in new institutions and emperor worship went out those older people are still going to worship the emperor. And they're not going to welcome you, they're not going to want you, but God has called and you're going and we'll pray for you that God will comfort and help you. And he did he come up and help us. My wife taught a cooking class. All the women wanted to learn American cooking and then they'd have Bible study afterward.

02:50

LS: And did you teach farming?

03:00

TG: No. I would get out in the rice patties some, just to experience it a little bit with the farmers. But I never did get active in the farmers. But getting into those country homes though and staying. I'd get out in those country schools, and speak in country schools and they'd all want to know, tell us about celebration of Thanksgiving, and Christmas, and Easter. You could preach a whole sermon on that. We got into all of those country schools and could speak and make friends with them and I'd spend the night.

03:52

TG: They had thatch roofs, but those roofs were made so they would last 20 years. And they had a room off the kitchen where they kept the cow and the goat. When Jesus was born in the manger

that Japanese house was very much like that. It was on the same roof, off the kitchen where they kept the cow and the goat.

04:12

LS: I think that's very interesting because you're in another culture and presenting an new religion to them and there has to be some way for them to connect to that religion. That's a great way. Just like your cow and goat off the kitchen. Did you find that a challenge? Having some starting point?

04:35

TG: It was a challenge because they were kind to us. They sent a policeman to every Sunday to those worship services and he came dressed in uniform, he was quiet, he did not interfere at all. But after about three months, I got to know him well. I'd visit with him during the week, and he was our friend too. If he knew that the communist was planning a demonstration, and they were active in Japan at that time, well he would warn us, Don't you get out today. And later we'd have people that'd come into the city to visit, and they would ask the conductor now, "We need to speak to a Christian. Is there a Christian living in this City?" And he said that taxi driver will take you right there. And some of the missionaries said, when we visited you in Mito all we had to do was get off the train and get in the taxi and say I want to go to Gullatt's. The taxi driver knew right where we lived.

05:44

LS: Were those other 28 missionaries around you at all?

05:50

TG: The nearest one was in Tokyo. And every two months we would have a Tuesday meeting, they would meet in Mito sometime, and we would have a meeting together to pray together and fellowship. The nearest missionary north of us was Siada, but that was about a two and a half trip by train. But our children would go up there and visit their children sometime, and the conductor would look at them on the train and call us when we got there and say your children got there safely.

06:27

VG: Tell them how old they were when they went.

06:30

TG: Marian was about 8 years old when she started making the trip to Siada. She'd get to go to school one day when she was there. She could speak Japanese. Everyone started crowding around the train, a curiosity you know, and she had white hair and everyone wanted to touch her hair. And John started when he was going to, and when they'd get back to Mito, they'd get back with a whole bag of goodies. The vendors would come through the train and folks would buy them all kinds of stuff, chewing gum and candy and rice cakes, and they'd get off the train with a whole sack of stuff the people on the train had given them, but she said they'd all crowd around to talk, you know, while they were on the train.

Track 7

VERA AND WEDDING

00:00

LS: Vera you said something, you weren't married at this time but did you know Tom?

00:10

VG: Yes I did. My Daddy sold Watkins products, so I heard about him, about the family, and my sister was in the same class with him at school, but only by word. When I finished college I went to Brewton Parker to teach and he was in his second year there.

00:37

TG: Her Daddy came every month, at least once a month he'd have lunch with us. He was a good story teller and we all looked forward to Mr. Campbell coming and he'd give us all a piece of chewing gum. And my Mother bought all of her liniments and extracts vanilla and all that stuff and she'd buy it from Mr. Campbell.

00:57

LS: How long were you over in Japan, and give me the connection between when you all met.

01:05

TG: I was north of Tokyo and she was on the southern island of Kyashu. In the beginning it was about a 27 hour trip by train. Now they have bullet trains and you can make it in about 18 hours. But we'd get together once a year, all of the missionaries from all of the islands for a week of mission meeting and that was the only time we saw Vera. But the children always called the other adults uncles and aunts. And when we married, my daughter said, well all the years in

Japan we called you Aunt Vera, what do we call you now? Since you're our Mama. You can call me whatever you like, Aunt Vera is fine.

01:54

VG: I didn't see him after he graduated from Brewton Parker until we got on the ship in San Francisco.

02:00

LS: So that was the original year you went over to Japan, so you went over at the same time?

02:11

TG: August the 9th 1950 was when we went out for the first time.

02:13

LS: Did you come back to the United States and marry here.

02:18

VG: I retired. I was 75.

02:30

TG: We had a home wedding over in a missionary home over in Fayetteville. We couldn't have a church wedding. Every relative I had they'd all want to come, and we'd have Vera's church too full of people (Sardis)

02:48

LS: When did you come back from Japan?

02:50

TG: We came back from Japan in 1985 and my wife died in 1993 of a malignant brain tumor.

02:52

VG: And I came home (from Japan) in 1993.

02:58

TG: During the early retirement years, we went back to Japan several times for six month terms serving for missionaries on furlough.

- LS:** So when you came back from Japan in 1985, did you come back to Rico?
00:00
- TG:** We lived in Fairburn. Vera's family home had just opened up so we lived in her family home in Fairburn. But we joined Sardis Church.
00:06
- LS:** Sara Ann actually told a story about (the time she saw you in Savannah).
00:25
- Sara Ann Alford (SA):** On our 40th wedding anniversary, mine and Paul's we went to Savannah and we ran into you, and Marian, and Janice Peek, remember, at the River Street Inn.
00:33
- TG:** That's right.
00:48
- SA:** Oh he was so cute. He had on his Bermuda shorts and his little sandals, and his flowery shirt. Yeah, and that was right before you all got married. That was in June. And you all got married in July. But I knew you were getting married. Oh he was just so excited.
00:50
- SA:** But Mary was his first wife's name.
01:20
- TG:** She was a school teacher, we did love teaching and taught our children sixth grade and then she taught the Japanese children a lot of classes. And did a lot of teaching of English.
01:34
- VG:** To Japanese, all Americans look alike. And to Americans, all Japanese look alike.
01:46
- SA:** And black people are the same way. African Americans all think we look alike and we think African Americans all look alike but I don't think that true any more.
01:53
- VG:** Well Mary had white hair and I had white hair. The Japanese often got us confused.
02:04
- LS:** So when you came back and retired, and you got married you lived in Fairburn, is that right?
02:11

02:16

TG: Her family home was on Pinehurst drive in Fairburn. Mary's home, Vera and I lived there one year. But we moved out, married in 96, we lived in Fairburn one year then we moved down here in 97.

02:40

LS: So in 1997 when you moved out here did you move to this place?
(Fairburn, GA)

02:46

TG: That's right we moved out here in 1997.

02:48

LS: So you moved into this house?

02:50

TG: This house.

02:54

LS: And then you were still going to Sardis Baptist Church then?

02:58

TG: That's right. Sardis Baptist Church. That's where I was born and raised and all my friends were there.

Track 9

KINFOLK

00:00

LS: Did you connect with any of your old friends that you grew up with?

00:09

TG: Yes. All of them are distant cousins, a lot of the Peeks you know, their great grandmother was my great grandmother's sister. You know, Peggy and all of them. And so we're distant related, maybe the 12th or 13th cousin. And my uncle's farm, Uncle Charlie and Barns Farm is now Serenbe. He owned that farm, my uncle did. I was in that house a lot every Friday night I'd spend Friday night at their house then the next Friday night their son would come by my house.

00:52

LS: So that's over at Serenbe?

00:54

TG: That's the Serenbe Inn. It was a secure community, I mean, you knew everybody and everybody looked out after everybody and if we misbehaved at a neighbor's house well we were going to get it when we got home. Cause it'd be reported to our parents and so we had security. And people that loved us. I couldn't have grown up in a more loving environment than I grew up in.

01:27

LS: Can you give me any history on the Big House, that farm you grew up on?
(Jones Ferry Rd in the Rico Community)

01:34

Tom – That's right, the two-story house.

01:35

LS: And do you remember who built that house?

01:39

TG: R.J. Smith built it and it was built around, I think, 1885 or 1890. And my Daddy bought it from him in 1904. And my oldest brother and sister were already born and they moved into the house then. But his daughter Aunt Mamie married Uncle Charlie Barns and her sister was Ms. Frank Redwine. Ms Vena Redwine.

02:25

SA: The house at the end of Hutcheson Ferry, the Redwine House, Ms. Redwine was a sister to his Aunt Mamie.

02:46

TG: Said there were bedrooms upstairs and said they'd heard the noise of the chicken house and they'd raise the windows and hold out a gun and say, you better watch out, I'm fixin' to shoot.

03:00

SA: I'm confused a little bit, and I just want to know because I hadn't made that connection. Was that on the Gullatt side?

03:10

TG: No it was on the Barns side. My Mother's side.

03:14

LS: The R.J. Smith is something different. Did R.J. Smith build the house and live there?

03:30

TG: The Smith's build the house for themselves to live there and then they sold it to Daddy.

03:37

LS: What was your Daddy's name?

03:47

TG: Dow. All the Reeves in Rico there were about 10 uncles, and my grandmother was a Reeves, she was a sister to all of those brothers. He was named for his Uncle Dow.

04:04

SA: I have a question, when it comes to the Reeves, how does that connect to granddaddy's sister who was married to Frank Reeves? Estelle's' mother and dad?

04:20

TG: Estelle's father and my father were first cousins. No Estelle's father was my Daddy's uncle. Estelle and my father were first cousins. Jimmy Reeves, Uncle Jimmy Reeves.

04:48

SA: So how are you all related to Rocky Reeves?

05:00

TG: His Daddy was Earl and his grandfather was George. George was my grandmother's brother. So Rocky and I are cousins. [Note: According to Ken Langley, "His Daddy was Earl and his grandfather was also Earl and his great grandfather was George."]

05:24

SA: That was curiosity on my part but I knew it had to be somewhere down there because everybody down there is related.

05:30

VG: Was Earl Joe's Reeves cousin?

05:35

SA: Earl was Betty Reeves husband. Betty Reeves just died. And he was killed in a tractor accident after my dad was, that's been 40 years ago.

05:54

TG: Rocky's grandmother was Jo Reeves and she came to Rico to teach school. She started a WMU (Woman's Missionary Union) at Providence Church and she was real active in missions and they had a much stronger WMU than any of the churches around because of her leadership. But she was a school teacher at the Rico School.

06:20

VG: What was her husband's name?

06:25

TG: Her husband's name was Earl. Earl Jr. is Rocky's dad.

06:35

VG: The reason I'm asking is after I went to college, I went down to Rico and I stayed with Jo Reeves in her house for a week teaching GA work (Girls Auxiliary work). And that Joe Reeves is Rocky's great aunt.

06:57

TG: When I was in the 7th grade we had a celebration, a 4th of July Celebration, we didn't have it in the school yard, we went over to the yard at Providence Church, it was much bigger and so I stood on an apple box and recited Lincoln's Gettysburg address. And I was in the 7th grade, boy I was hot stuff.

Track 10

FAMILY LIFE

00:00

LS: Did you do any hunting or fishing when you were growing up?

00:06

TG: No. Daddy didn't do any hunting or fishing either. We'd dam up the creek in the summer and have a swimming hole, that'd we get into. But Daddy believed in work. We didn't get to participate in any kind of sports. After school we'd get home and get to the cotton patch, Because he thought all kinds of sports was an enemy of the cotton patch. But we could play at recess and then get out with a tree limb on Sunday afternoon and hit a ball out in the pasture, we could do that on Sunday afternoon, but no more sports.

00:53

SA: Did you play marbles?

00:55

TG: Oh yeah, we played marbles.

00:57

SA: Did you play with those big old marbles?

00:59

TG: Yeah.

01:00

LS: Did you have any music in your house? Did your Mother sing?

01:07

TG: We had a Victrola I guess I was about 4 years old and I'd stand on a stool and crank up the Victrola, we had all of those records you know of the old fashioned songs that we played, and we'd just sing along with them.

01:32

TG: And Momma never let us miss Sunday school. If we complained that we were sick she'd say well you'll feel better when you get there. She didn't let us stay home on any excuse. We had to be in Sunday School. When I was in 5 or 6 year old class, we had to memorize a scripture every week. So I remember Momma would have us to memorize that scripture so we could stand up in Sunday school and say it. I wasn't thinking much about glorifying God as I was thinking about pleasing the teacher -- and my Mother.

02:20

TG: She was very legalistic. She believed it was a sin to iron a dress on Sunday morning and a sin to polish shoes, so all that had to be done on Saturday. And she'd do as much preparation as she could for the Sunday dinner on Saturday and she'd do it. But Sunday dinner was the big feast of the week and the preacher would often, when I was small or a teenager, we had Saturday morning service and Sunday morning service and the preacher would drive the horse and buggy and stay at our house. And Saturday night the neighbors would gather in, we were the first ones in the community to have a radio, somehow Daddy had to hold the speakers in his lap to make it work right. And we'd gather in on Saturday night and listen to the Grand Ole Opry. They really were the good old days.

03:19

LS: Did you ever get a chance to go play at Cochran Mill Park when you were little?

03:30

TG: We didn't have a Cochran Mill Park. Or we had Cochran Mill.

03:47

VG: Is that where the covered bridge was?

03:50

SA: I don't remember a covered bridge at Cochran Mill. I remember a water fall.

04:10

TG: I had the privilege of conducting a wedding at the Waterfall in the background several years ago with Joe Harrelson's son. (Which one?) Steve. That was about 10 years ago, I guess. The wedding was down there with the waterfall in the background.

04:33

BH: Carol Thompson. Her Daddy used to grind.

04:50

SA: Wasn't it Bill Cook that lived there? What as the Cook guy at Cochran Mill that lived up there in that little house. Vera Waldrup's brother. The Redwines raised her.

05:20

TG: I didn't realize you were kin to Betty Hammel.

05:26

SA: I'm not. My grandmother's sister was a Collins, Jimmy Collins, and she was married to Homer Cook. Homer Cook and Betty's Mother were brother and sister Caldwell.

05:45

BH: Well who was Bessie Thompson married to?

05:48

SA: Jack.

05:51

BH: They used to have a mill. Where was the mill?

06:00

SA: I just remember going to Cochran Mill with granddaddy and getting corn ground. And remember when we got in a thunderstorm and we were in a two horse wagon and he took me off the seat and put me up under the seat because I was terrified. He put me under that seat and I can remember it to this day.

00:00

SA: OK can we ask him about the Fish Camp, Jakes Fish Camp. Tell us about Jakes Fish Camp. You know the fish camp. Jake Bryant had a fish camp. And all these people from Atlanta came down here but they didn't come to get the fish, they came to get the corn liquor.

00:26

TG: Every summer, Daddy's Sister, Aunt Mattie Robinson and Uncle Robert and they were members at New Hope and every summer we'd go to Jakes Fish Camp and they'd fish and we'd have a big fish fry.

00:45

SA: Where was that?

00:50

TG: Right close to the River.

00:53

SA: From Hutcheson Ferry where was it.

01:00

TG: Mr. Jake Bryants' house was between the Petty Place and Hutcheson Ferry Rd.

01:15

SA: It is where Mark Hennessy owns that property now.

01:21

SA: These are some of the things we're trying to find out Tom, in the Historical Society. Landmarks, and things that happened years ago.

01:36

LS: Do you remember shopping in that little store by Cochran Mill? The one on the corner that's called Cackle Corner?

01:43

SA: Where the Caldwell's store?

01:46

TG: I know the store but I don't ever remember shopping there. We shopped at the store in Rico, my cousin Bernie Smith, he had the store when I was growing up. And later on Barns had one across from the brick building, you know the school where we had 7th grade in.

02:13

TG: We'd get out and comb the woods for coke bottles, and he'd give us a stick of candy for every coke bottle that we'd bring him. So we'd collect all and go out through those woods and get all of the coke bottles and he'd give us a stick of candy.

02:31

BH: So you're kin to Helen, Daddy's wife.

02:38

TG: That's right, her Daddy was my first cousin.

02:44

SA: Good night. I'm telling you we're all connected, aren't we?

03:00

TG: When Patsy Bohannon moved down to the community, she said everybody told us you better keep your mouth shut, if you talk about anybody here, you talk about somebody's kinfolk. And so you better watch what you say.

03:21

LS: So what could you tell new people coming to this community? You know there's been a lot of new people that moved in. What would you tell them that was so special about it for you growing up?

03:37

TG: Learning the value of hard work. And if went to school you studied, you prepared your lessons and you obeyed the teacher, and you obeyed your parents, and you respected all of your neighbors, Yes Sir and Yes Madam, you respected all of them and people worked together. If a farmer got sick, well the others would bring their plows and mules and plant the crop and help lay the crops if they needed to. It was wonderful support. Support of community.

Track 12

REVIVAL

00:00

TG: And revival meetings every summer were great events in the church.

00:05

LS: What was revival like back then, tell me?

00:12

TG: When I was young sometimes we'd have it for two weeks. It was laying back time. All the crops were laid by, we'd have morning meetings from 10 o'clock to 11. It was experience meetings. Testimony meetings. And we young people heard all of these older people get up and give testimonies of their faith. It really made an impact on my life. And then there'd be preaching and then that night we'd have revival preaching again and once a year, invitation was given, we didn't have Baptisms during the year. But after the revival meeting was over I was Baptized in Mr. Henry Peeks' pond. There were 14 of us at that time who were baptized in his pond. In July 1935. August of 1935.

01:13

VG: At our church that week was a social event.

01:20

TG: Everybody went to each other's houses and visited and ate. It was a social event.

01:26

LS: That's the male perspective. What was the female perspective of preparing the food every day? How did that work? I think the females probably worked a little hard.

01:43

VG: We did the same thing we had morning services and evening services. And all of us cousins over at Bethlehem you don't talk about anybody, they might be your cousin. But there we just made it our vacation time and we would go to eat with different families, and of course the preacher would go to a different home every day. We would go spend the night with our cousins and stay up all night.

02:27

LS: You know now they have the different services for the Kids during revival. It wasn't like that?

02:35

VG: We were all together and everyone behaved.

02:39

LS: Was it inside the church? Or was it outside in a tent.

02:43

VG: At our church it was inside the church.

02:47

TG: Ours was inside the church, too. I don't remember a tent revival. On Saturday afternoon we would get our work done, get in the wagon, and go to Palmetto, and we would get a hot dog for 5 cents, and buy a block of ice and come back home and make a gallon of ice cream. That was high living. Yeah, that was high living. Yeah, churning the ice cream, yeah. And we would just finish one time my cousins at Rico, four or five cousins, just as we were finishing the ice cream, while here they came. And my older brother grabbed that freezer and started running and he didn't get out of sight, and they said, we see you, we see you. So we didn't save our ice cream, we had to share it.

03:50

SA: We still make home made ice cream. Paul Alford can eat more ice cream than any man there ever was.

04:00

TG: That's a real treat.

04:08

LS: Joe Smith told me that when he was growing up, what they used to do was on the way to church they would snatch a watermelon out of someone's farm or garden and stick it in the creek on the way to church and on the way back they would come back and get it.

04:25

TG: Well you know, getting a watermelon, the watermelon patch was right beside the road. I mean, we knew people were going to eat watermelons, and we would too. And that was one thing that no one regarded as stealing. You just ate out of each other's watermelon patch and at least as I remember it, if you wanted privacy, we had plenty of room and could have put the watermelon patch way on the back side of the place and nobody would ever know we had one. But we always planted the watermelon patch right beside the road.

End of Interview with Tom and Vera Gullatt

Dow B. Gullatt Family
From "Palmetto: A Town & Its People"
Submitted by Vesta Drake

Dow B. Gullatt was born January 4, 1877, and died December 15, 1969.
Maie Barnes Gullatt was born October 26, 1880, and died May 2, 1961.
Their children are:

1. Rena G. Hilborn, born December 15, 1902
2. Horace A. Gullatt, born March 19, 1905
3. Howard S. Gullatt, born December 21, 1907
4. Edward B. Gullatt, born December 21, 1908
5. Letha G. Gordon, born September 13, 1910
6. Ruth G. Narris, born April 21, 1912
7. Otis Gordon Gullatt, born May 12, 1913
8. Marvin B. Gullatt, born June 27, 1917
- 9. Tom D. Gullatt, born March 20, 1920**
10. Albert L. Gullatt, born December 21, 1922

Tom D. Gullatt married Mary Studdard; they had two children, Marian and John.
Mary died in 1993.
Tom married Vera Campbell in 1996.

Tom served 35 years as a foreign missionary in Japan.
Vera served 43 years as a foreign missionary in Japan.

Tom and Vera currently reside in Fairburn and attend Sardis Church in Chattahoochee Hill Country.

MAP OF JAPAN – Prefectures

Hokkaido Region

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Tohoku Region

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5. [Yamagata](#) 6. [Miyagi](#) 7. [Fukushima](#)

Kanto Region

8. [Tochigi](#) 9. [Gunma](#) 10. [Ibaragi](#)
11. [Saitama](#) 12. [Chiba](#) 13. [Tokyo](#)
14. [Kanagawa](#)

Chubu Region

15. [Yamanashi](#) 16. [Shizuoka](#) 17. [Niigata](#) 18. [Nagano](#) 19. [Toyama](#)
20. [Ishikawa](#) 21. [Fukui](#) 22. [Gifu](#)
23. [Aichi](#)

Kinki Region

24. [Shiga](#) 25. [Kyoto](#) 26. [Mie](#) 27. [Nara](#)
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Chugoku Region

31. [Tottori](#) 32. [Okayama](#)
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Shikoku Region

36. [Kagawa](#) 37. [Tokushima](#) 38. [Ehime](#)
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Kyushu Region

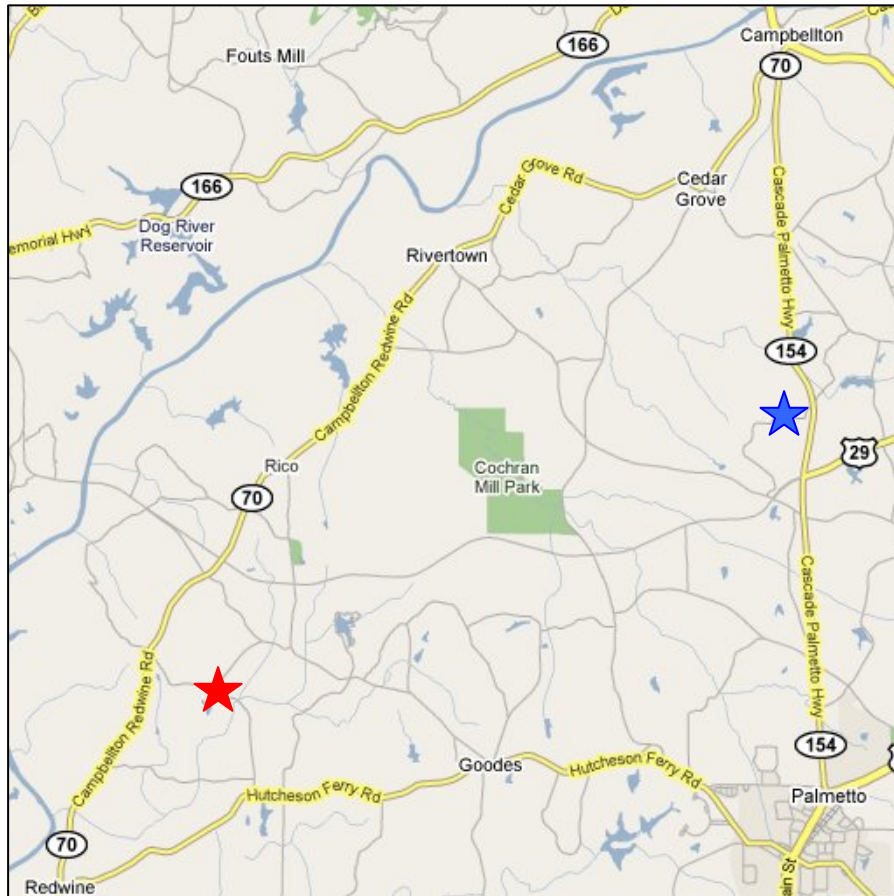
40. [Fukuoka](#) 41. [Saga](#) 42. [Nagasaki](#)
43. [Oita](#) 44. [Miyazaki](#) 45. [Kumamoto](#)
46. [Kagoshima](#) 47. [Okinawa](#)



★ Tom worked in Mito, number 13 on the map.

★ Vera worked and lived in Fukuoka, number 40 on the map.

MAP OF CHATTAHOOCHEE HILLS



★ Vera and Tom in their current home place



★ Gullatt home place were Tom grew up.