



Robert Floyd Kilpatrick  
1890-1965

Cir. 1933  
(Photo Courtesy of Leon Kilpatrick)

He was probably most commonly known as "Brother" Kilpatrick, but also known as Floyd and R.F. to his friends. He was known as "Dad" to his ten children and "Granddad" to his abundance of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I was only five when Great-Granddad died, so I don't remember very much about him. I do remember going to see him and Great-Grandmother at the big house in Maysville (Madison County, Alabama). I may not remember much about Floyd Kilpatrick myself, but I find he still lives in the hearts of many. Visiting several congregations of the church in Athens and Limestone County, I have had several people to ask if I was related to Brother R.F. Kilpatrick. When I tell them he was my great-granddad they then relate to me their memories of Brother Kilpatrick. He may have been the one that baptized them, or maybe he stayed with them when he preached in the area, or they have memory of a certain sermon that had stuck with them (usually "The Wheel" sermon). Their remembrances plus those of my Dad have fostered in me an appreciation for Floyd Kilpatrick, or more accurately for the work that God worked through him.

## Chapter 1 – Some Family Background

To fully appreciate Floyd Kilpatrick, you have to look at what he came out of. For him to have become a Gospel Preacher would seemingly be against all odds. Great-Granddad was born April 28, 1890 in Flintville, Lincoln County, Tennessee. He was born to William (Billy) Reed and Mary Caldonia (Callie) Graham Kilpatrick, third of six children who Billy would father (that we know of).



**Billy and Callie Kilpatrick**

Picture of Billy from "Flintville, A People's History"

Picture of Callie Courtesy of Donald Derrick

Billy Kilpatrick was a well known figure in the post war (Between the States) history of Flintville. Billy had been born in Elora (also in Lincoln County, Tennessee) in 1844 to James and Matilda Kilpatrick (one of six children). James died somewhere around 1849 leaving Matilda, daughter Nancy, and sons Billy and John alone (sisters Mary and Margaret were married). Billy possibly enlisted in 1864 with Mead's 25th. Alabama Cavalry, a partisan battalion that operated in this area. There was in Company D, a Private William Killpatrick (sic) that enlisted in Franklin County, Tennessee. There was in Company G, a Private W.R. Killpatrick (sic) that enlisted in Madison County, Alabama. I lean more towards Company D because some of his friends were enlisted in that same company. Billy married the daughter of William A. Metcalf from Madison County, Alabama after the war. I can't find any record of this marriage other than in the body of Mr. Metcalf's testimony in some litigation with David Counts in 1869. I don't know what become of this marriage or if any children came out of it. Sometime prior to 1880, Billy would marry Mary Caldonia Graham. Callie was daughter of John and Louiza Jane Graham of Francisco, in Jackson County, Alabama. I could not find any documentation for this marriage either except in Great-Grandmother Lorena's Bible, and Mary is listed as Billy's wife in the 1880 Census. Jim Kilpatrick, my mother's dad who grew up Flintville, said that Billy and Mary's marriage was a common-law marriage.

Billy's career was varied. He was a cotton farmer, and a store keeper. Great-Great-Granddad Billy would be in the distillery business with a Mr. Mims manufacturing what they would call "bug juice". They would cease this operation in the Spring of 1884. Billy's store would also serve as a drinking establishment after Flintville was incorporated. He was an interim mayor of Flintville and later an alderman. You can find his name mentioned in the Flintville section of the Fayetteville Observer many times from 1884 through 1897. It was reported in April of 1896 that someone had shot Billy's mule wounding it, and the last report that mentions him is in May of 1897 when someone had set fire in some woods that he owned. After 1897 he dropped from sight in Flintville. We can assume then, that it was sometime between 1897 and 1900 that he moved to Deposit, in Madison County, Alabama, where he is found in the 1900 Census listed with Callie, Great-Granddad Floyd and his brother Willy, and daughters Elma, Bell, Ida, and Minnie. Why did Billy leave Flintville? Looking for greener pastures, maybe he was ran out of town, who knows? Billy would eventually move to Belleview, Marion County, Florida. He died in 1923 at the age of seventy-nine and is buried in Belleview. Mary is said to have remarried. She died in Florida in 1934 at the age of seventy and is buried in Mount Dora. This family was just not the kind that you would expect a gospel preacher to come out of. Some blame the mess that is their lives on their family or their circumstances. Floyd Kilpatrick showed us though, that with God's help, we can rise above our circumstances.



Marry Ida Kilpatrick

Form 1 <sup>113</sup> 1197 REGISTRATION CARD No. <sup>213</sup> 213

1 Name in full *Robert Floyd Kilpatrick* Age, in yrs. *27*

2 Home address *New Market, Ala.*

3 Date of birth *April 28 1890*

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? *Natural Born*

5 Where were you born? *Flintville, Tenn, USA*

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? *Farmer*

8 By whom employed? \_\_\_\_\_  
Where employed? \_\_\_\_\_

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? *No*

10 Married or single (which)? *Married* Race (specify which)? *Caucasian*

11 What military service have you had? Rank *none*; branch \_\_\_\_\_; years \_\_\_\_\_; Nation or State \_\_\_\_\_

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? *No*

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

*Robert Floyd Kilpatrick*

If person is of African descent, record this

Robert Floyd Kilpatrick WWI Draft Card

Sources: Flintville, A People's History  
The Sword of "Bushwhacker" Johnston - Milas Eddings Johnson

## Chapter 2 - The Three Greatest Events



The three greatest events in anyone's life are when they decide to serve The Lord, when they marry, and the births of their children.

Floyd Kilpatrick married Lorena Rhoden on March 12, 1908. Floyd was eighteen. Lorena was the daughter John Henry and Jemima Annie Sisk Rhoden of Madison County. She was one of ten children of the Rhoden family. Great-Grandmother was seventeen when she married Great-Granddad. Floyd and Lorena would take up residence in the community of Deposit. Carl (my granddad) was Floyd's and Lorena's first child. He was born at Deposit, Madison County, Alabama on March 27, 1909. Lonnie was born there May 9, 1910. After Lonnie's birth, Floyd and Lorena moved down to Belleview, Florida, probably taking Billy and Callie with them. Floyd and Lorena's oldest daughter, Oma was born there on May 19, 1911.

The Kilpatrick family were Presbyterians when they came to this country in the 1750's or 1760's. Many became Methodists and Baptists in the 1790's and early 1800's. One of our uncles was even a delegate in the first Baptist Convention in 1845. It is probable that Floyd was brought up in the Flintville Baptist Church. He was baptized into the Flintville Baptist Church or a Baptist church near Deposit or Bell Factory. When Great-Granddad was baptized into the Baptist church, he was given a New Testament which he promised the preacher that he would read. He kept that promise, and this was a turning point in his life. As he read more, he noticed discrepancies between what he was reading and what the preacher was preaching. He would point out these discrepancies to the preacher each time, trying to find answers. The preacher could not provide any substantive answers to Floyd's questions and finally in anger said that he must have been listening to some "Campbellite" preacher to have got such ideas. At that point Great-Granddad made up mind to go and hear one of these "Campbellite" preachers because if he was teaching what he was reading in his Bible, then he was kind of preacher he wanted to hear. Great-Granddad Floyd would soon have an opportunity to hear evangelist John T. Smithson at a brush arbor or tent meeting in 1912. He heard the Gospel preached as he had read it in his Bible, and he obeyed it. This time he would be baptized unto the remission of sins, baptized into Christ instead of a church. He would not only obey the Gospel but he wanted this good news of Jesus Christ with others.

We know that sometime before January 05, 1913 Floyd moved his family to Bell Factory, Alabama, because that is when and where Sam was born, but they would be back in Florida for Clayton to be born there on March 16, 1915. This would be their last move to Florida. Although Great-Granddad would go down to Florida to visit his mother, he would never live down there again. They would move back to the Tennessee Valley to stay in 1917. My Granddad, Carl, would recall this last move saying that they traveled in a covered wagon, coming up through Georgia, through Atlanta, before going over to the Tennessee Valley. The trip through the city of Atlanta would take them all day, and they camped outside of town that evening. Floyd and Lorena moved on a farm on what is now Hurricane Creek Road near Sharps Hollow Road in

Hurricane Valley. Iva was born on May 02, 1917, Laymon on February 27, 1919, and Fred on April 02, 1921.

Between 1921 and 1923 Great-Granddad and Great-Grandmother moved into the old Samuel Baker home on what is now called County Lake Road near it's intersection with Hurricane Creek Road. There Nelta Faye was born on March 2, 1923. Netta Faye was born with Hydrocephalus (water head). Lewis was born in the Sam Baker house on October 18, 1924 and Leon on March 14, 1927.



The Floyd and Lorena Kilpatrick Brood – Circa 1930

Top Row, Left to Right – Carl, Sam, Lonnie  
Second Row, Left to Right – Laymon, Lewis, Clayton  
Bottom Row, Center to Right – Leon, Iva, Fred

**Sources:**

"History of Hurricane Valley" by Elaine Stiles Russell Gotvald.  
"Preachers' of Today, 1959 Edition", Gospel Advocate  
Information on Children's birth dates and places from Lorena Rhoden Kilpatrick's Bible  
Thanks to my dad Jimmy Kilpatrick for his recollections.  
Thanks to Wayne Kilpatrick for providing the excerpt from "Preachers of Today".

## Chapter 3 - Floyd Kilpatrick the Planter

Sharecropping has been described as a method of land lease that replaced slavery in the South. Unlike slavery, it would be inclusive of the white and black man alike. Sharecroppers definitely did not prosper under this system, they were subsistence farmers. Work was hard and days were long during planting and harvest season and there were chores that had to be done everyday no matter the time of year. They raised corn, but had to split their yield between their landlord, the miller, themselves, and their livestock. Around here sharecroppers raised cotton as a money crop, but had to split its yield with the landlord and the gin owner. Usually money from their cotton just paid off their debt to the landlord and to the local store from the previous year. Disposable income was a rarity among sharecroppers. Money went to buy coffee, sugar, flour, shoes, and anything else they needed that they couldn't make or raise for themselves. Many people left farming for work in the mills. Working in the cotton mills was harsher work, the days were just as long (and there was no rest in laying by time nor in the winter), but housing was better and pay was twice that of farming. Farm subsidies programs of the 1930's were instrumental in driving sharecroppers and tenant farmers from the lands they were working. Many were forced into northern cities to compete with the few jobs there or on to one of the Resettlement Administration's farms such as the one on Skyline Mountain, Jackson County, Alabama where Lonnie Kilpatrick helped build the houses the resettled farmers would live in.

Great-Granddad Floyd Kilpatrick was a farmer, a planter. Sometime a sharecropper or tenant farmer, sometime a land owner, he tilled and planted for a living. He tilled the soil in Northern Madison County at Deposit, Bell Factory, Hurricane, and Beaver Dam. I assume he also farmed down in Marion County, Florida. Floyd also tilled another kind of soil and planted another kind of seed, a seed sown to the Spirit (Galatians 6:8).

I am not sure when Great-Granddad began his work in preaching The Word. The 1959 edition of "Preachers of Today" says he began preaching in 1931, but his evangelistic work began in Hurricane valley in the 1920's. The Greenfield church still meets in Hurricane Valley in the building that they built in 1951. The church first started meeting in 1923 at the home of Floyd and Lorena Kilpatrick. When the weather was good, they met in grove of trees next to their home, and in rain or winter in their house. They began with three families (including Floyd's and Lorena's family). One family came six miles out of Sharp's Cove to worship. Another family came three miles from the other direction. These distances seem nothing to us today, but at this time walking or wagon were the modes of travel. Cold weather didn't stop these folk from assembling. They trudged through the worst of it, sometimes arriving with their outer clothing stiff with ice. In 1929, the congregation at Greenfield bought land on which they would set up their first building. The building was a one room school house that they moved in sections on wagons from Rice (southwest of New Market). It took a week for the men to move and then reassemble the building. They then made slat benches from logs that they had cut. Great-Granddad Floyd made a table for the Lord's Supper from an old bedstead. About this same time, Floyd's son Clayton, acquired an old T-Model Ford. The Kilpatrick family would pick up some of the members to ride to worship. Sometime they would have as many as twenty-one people in, and hanging onto that old T-Model going to worship.

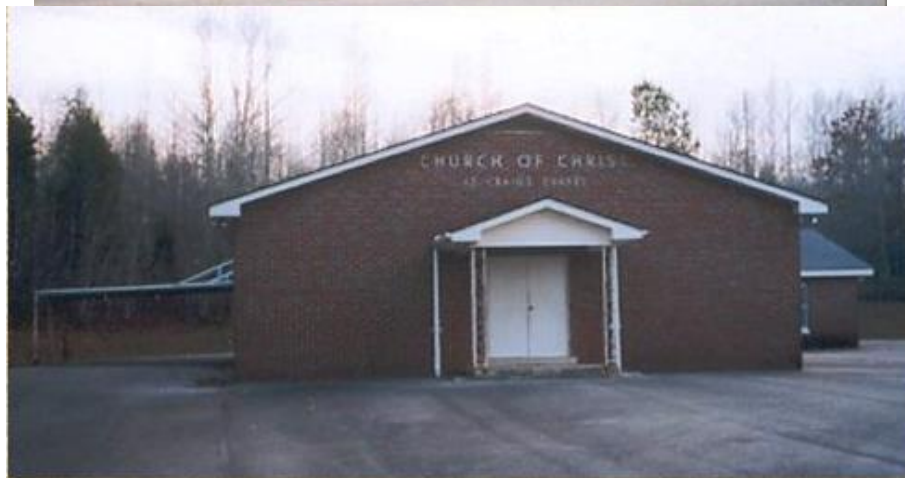
One Sunday morning in 1936, the Kilpatrick family set out for Greenfield not having enough gas to get there and no money to buy any. But on the way, a man and woman flagged Great-Granddad down and wanting him to marry them. Now I don't know this couple's real names, but the man's nickname was Churnhead and the lady's was Applecore (now you have a mental picture of what this couple must have looked like). Churnhead produced a marriage license and Great-Granddad married them in the middle of the road. When Great-Granddad

Floyd was done, Churnhead asked him what he owed him, to which he replied, "What's she worth to you?" The man paid Great-Granddad fifty cents with which he bought gas to continue on to church.

Greenfield was not the last church (and possibly not the first) that Floyd would help establish, but just one part of an over thirty-five year long work. Great-Granddad never was a "located" preacher, he was a itinerant preacher, an evangelist. Traveling by car, bus, and by train and relying on the hospitality of christians for accommodations, Floyd would preach in much of North Alabama, several locations in Tennessee, in Western Mississippi, East Central Kentucky, Georgia, and in Florida (probably in Lake and Marion Counties).

Great-Granddad Floyd held meetings in several Tennessee towns and communities, even as far away as Hartsville and Lafayette which are northeast of Nashville. Holding a meeting in one rural Tennessee community's church, Great-Granddad preached hard against the false teaching of the Baptist church. One man threatened Great-Granddad with death if he kept preaching against the Baptist doctrine. The following nights Floyd preached all the harder, and nothing came of the threats.

In North Alabama, Great-Granddad preached in Madison, Marshall, Jackson, Limestone, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Colbert, and Franklin counties. Here in Limestone county he preached in Gospel meetings in several congregations, in lectureships at Athens Bible School, and even on the Limestone County court house steps. One congregation he spoke at was Craig's Chapel in the western part of the county.



Craig's Chapel Old Building Moved to Another Location  
Craig's Chapel Present Building Located Across the Road From Where the Original Building Stood.  
Pictures Courtesy of Van and June Bowers



In Madison County Floyd preached in meetings at most every congregation in the county including Dallas (East Huntsville), Lincoln, and West Huntsville. He also had a radio program on WBHP. For a while he would have to be at the WBHP studio at six o'clock in the morning for his broadcast, but later he bought a wire recorder and was able to record his lessons a day a head. He still had to make the trip into town to deliver the recording and in the winter time the cold battery wouldn't crank his old dodge, so the boys would hitch the mule to the car and pull it off.

At the coal mine camps in the vicinity of Corbin Kentucky, Floyd would simply park his car and begin preaching over a loud speaker mounted on his car. Soon he had an audience. He helped established about seven congregations in that area.

The only work that supported Great-Granddad full time was in Lawrence County Tennessee where he was the county wide evangelist from 1944 through 1947. He received his support from the Lawrenceburg Church of Christ.

Great-Granddad preached in congregations in Marshall County including Arab, Albertville (1948), and Columbus City (1952-1959). He also had a radio program on WAVU in Albertville for several years. He also helped to establish several congregations in the Honeycomb area.



Great-Granddad Floyd participated in seven debates with denominational preachers. One of these was with Holiness Preacher A.C. Weaver. The Debate was held at the West Huntsville Church of Christ. The house was so packed that there was not even standing room. Many were standing outside of windows to listen. Some even climbed trees to look in.

Great-Granddad's philosophy on preaching was "preach with love in your heart and your hat in your hand", which is the basic thought of II Timothy 4:2, 3, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;". There was no "whipping the devil around the stump" for Floyd Kilpatrick. Though his sermons were seasoned with sometimes humorous illustrations, he didn't pull any punches. He understood that a person's soul was important, too important to worry about sparing feelings. One example of this was at a congregation where Great-Granddad was not greeted with the hospitality you would expect of God's people. In fact, he had been treated much better at a Baptist church that he had stopped at by mistake that same morning. In his lesson he said, "This church has more hospitality than any other I've come across. I know you have a lot of hospitality, because you haven't used up any of it." Being an old country boy that had grown up hard and having little formal education, he was able to present The Word in a way that everyone could understand. People hungering and thirsting to hear God's Truth came from miles around to hear Great-Granddad preach it. They sat for two or two and a half hours, on slat benches, trying to stay cool with funeral home fans, listening to him as he preached God's Word. Funny how we complain now after we have to sit through a thirty minute sermon on padded pews in a comfortable building.

Great-Granddad also encouraged other men to preach the gospel. One was Marlin Kilpatrick of Lake County, Florida. Marlin was the grandson of Willie Kilpatrick, Floyd's younger brother. Marlin began preaching about 1952 and continued preaching in Lake and Marion Counties (as much as his health would allow in his later years) right up until he preached his last sermon about week before he died in the summer of 2001. Floyd gave Marlin several of the charts he had used in his work including "The Wheel". Great-Granddad would influence other men to preach including several of his grandchildren.

Yeah Great-Granddad was a planter, a tiller of the soil, turning the dirt to plant his corn and cotton, and pricking the hearts with the planting of the seed of the Gospel. Back in his day, preachers were expected to wear a tie all the time. So great-granddad could be seen out plowing in his fields wearing his overalls and a white shirt and tie. We live in a time now where congregations will not support an evangelist locally and sometimes even in the mission field unless he has B.A., M.A., or even P.H.D. from a recognized Church of Christ college. Look at all the work that The Lord accomplished through a poor farmer with no more than an elementary school education. So many Christians and churches have lost their way today because somewhere along the way we have lost faith in God and the power of His Gospel and misplaced it in educational institutions.

Robert Floyd preached up until he suffered a debilitating stroke in 1962.

Sources: "History of Hurricane Valley" by Elaine Stiles Russell Gotvald.  
"Preachers' of Today, 1959 Edition", Gospel Advocate  
Thanks to my dad Jimmy Kilpatrick and his uncle Leon Kilpatrick for most of the information I have on Floyd Kilpatrick's evangelistic work.  
Thanks to Wayne Kilpatrick for providing the excerpt from "Preachers of Today".  
Thanks to Elbon Kilpatrick and Jim and Sharon Williams for information on Malrin Kilpatrick's evangelistic work.

## Chapter 4 - Strangers and Pilgrims (Hebrews 11:1-16)

Floyd and Lorena Kilpatrick lived many places. Floyd was born and raised in Flintville, a small town in Southeast Lincoln County, Tennessee. Floyd and Lorena had children born in Deposit and Bell Factory, two small communities in North East Madison County, Alabama. Two of their children were born down in Marion County, Florida. They lived in two locations in Hurricane Valley in Northeast Madison County where the remainder of their children were born. The last was born in 1927, making a total of eleven children. Youngest daughter Nelta Faye died about 1928 while they were living in Hurricane. She was buried in the Rice Cemetery just southwest of New Market.

About 1938 Floyd was able to buy a farm at the Beaver Dam Community (near Gladstone) in Northwest Madison County, Alabama. Lonnie, wife Macon and their children and Clayton, wife Hallie and their children would live in an old tenant house next to Great-Granddad there at Beaver Dam. My granddad, Carl, moved his family close by on the Mance Betterton farm, but moved on to Will Jackson's farm at Antioch about 1940.

Floyd and Lorena's sons, Laymon, Fred, and Lewis were all drafted in World War II. They would all three go in as conscientious objectors. Laymon did not have to leave the states, he was stationed in Georgia working as a x-ray technician. It was there he would meet his future wife Sue. Fred and Lewis would end up in Europe, Fred a cook and Lewis a medic. People joked that Fred made them sick and Lewis got them well. Being drafted as conscientious objector doesn't mean that you will be out of harm's way. Lewis would be on the front lines in some of the worst fighting, spending days crouched in a foxhole. Floyd would sign for youngest son Leon to join the Navy at age 17. Leon would end up on a submarine hunter in the Atlantic.



Floyd with Son Carl, Son-In-Law R.B. Derrick, & Sons Laymon & Sam

In 1944, Great-Granddad left Beaver Dam to go live in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee and Carl would move from Antioch to work the farm while he was away. Floyd and Lorena would live in Lawrenceburg while he worked as county-wide evangelist in Lawrence County. They would live in Lawrenceburg until 1947 when his work was finished in Lawrence County, then they moved into a house in the Lincoln Mill Village on Dallas Avenue near the Rison School (Huntsville, Alabama).

Clayton and Sam both had Tuberculosis and went to an asylum. It was said that Clayton left the asylum before he was completely cured. He had a reoccurrence after having been exposed to mustard gas while working on Redstone Arsenal and died on the farm at Beaver Dam in 1946.

Sometime in the 1940's the R.F. Kilpatrick family reunions would start. Originally they were held at Three Forks Flint (Northeast Madison County, Alabama). Besides all the children and grandchildren that attended, several of Greats Granddad and Grandmother's brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, in-laws, and outlaws would attend also, so it must have been quite a large affair.



**From Kilpatrick Reunion, Circa 1947**  
**Top Row, Left to Right – Carl, Laymon, Leon, Fred, Lonnie**  
**Bottom Row, Left to Right – Sam, Iva, Lorena, Floyd, Oma, Lewis**



**In-laws- Circa 1947**  
**R.B. Derrick, Sue, Macon, Naomi (Tuter), Hallie, Geneva, Eatheal, Velma**



**Relatives, In-laws, and Outlaws – Circa 1947**

In 1949 Great-Granddad Floyd bought a farm from a Mr. Milsap on Brownsboro Road in Maysville. Maysville is a little town that sits straddle the intersection of Ryland Pike, Maysville Road, Brownsboro Road, and Hurricane Creek Road in Northeast Madison County. It has been there since to the old stagecoach days. This is where, except for one year, Greats Granddad and Grandmother would live the remainder of their days. The farm included a big house, several tenant houses (at least seven), a pond, good bottom land, and some hilly pasture land. The big house faced the Maysville Gin and the District 2 County Shed and was in the backdoor of the Brooks Lewis Store.

About 1956, Great-Granddad bought a farm at the "Hump" Community near Walnut Grove School (Northeast Madison County, Alabama). Floyd and Lorena and Fred and Geneva left Maysville and moved there, but a year later they were all back in Maysville. Great-Granddad let my dad, Jimmy, move there. Dad's first cotton crop was a failure and he gave it up, turning to factory work (Giles and Kendal Cedar Mill), so Great-Granddad sold the farm at Hump.

In Maysville, Floyd and Lorena would soon have several of their children, grand-children, and other kin living with them or near them. From the time I can remember, Laymon and wife Sue lived about a half a mile down the road. Lewis and wife Naomi (Tuter) lived about a quarter of a mile distance down Ryland Pike and grandson Billy lived just above them. Oldest daughter, Oma Gipson, and her husband Rice lived on Kelly Hill about three-quarter mile away. Great-Granddad gave my granddad Carl four acres and the pond. Granddad and Grandmother would build a house there in 1952 within sight of the big house. Fred and wife Geneva built a house next to the big house. My grandmother, Lattie Mae Kilpatrick, and her mother, Minnie Cates, lived in a small tenant house between the big house and where Fred would build his house. They lived there for just a short time after my other Grandpa, Jim Kilpatrick, died in 1959. Daughter-in-law, Hallie Kilpatrick (Clayton's wife) lived in an old house across the road from where Granddad built his house. Her daughter Edna Fae Renfro and husband Eugene lived in a tenant house overlooking the pond. Great-Grandmother's sister, Maude Morris, and her husband Pete lived two houses up from Laymon and Sue. Pete and Maude's daughter Billie Nolan and son-in-law Bill lived in one of Floyd's tenant house two houses above them. Lorena and Maude's sister-in-law, Flossie, and sons Clarence and Lawrence Rhoden, lived in the second small tenant house down from the pond. Grandson, Jimmy Kilpatrick (my dad), my mother Devonia and sister Brenda lived in the big house with Floyd and Lorena for a while as did granddaughter Joyce Swafford and her two daughters, Sherry and Joy. They would later move out into two of the tenant houses, Joyce in a small one next to Aunt Flossie, and Jimmy into the one between Maude and Pete their daughter Billie.

Most of the tenant houses were shotgun houses. The one that we lived in had a room added on the back. They had been moved there from land later occupied by Redstone Arsenal. They were made from WWI ordnance boxes and were sided with faux brick asphalt sheet siding, and, as you might expect, had no indoor plumbing. Hallie's house had been built on it's sight. It was built pole-style like a barn, framed up with cedar logs set in ground.

Greats Granddad and Grandmother would sit on the front porch of their home and watch all the hustle and bustle of the little town of Maysville. As you can imagine it was noisy and dusty with the trucks going in out from the county shed. It was especially noisy, even late into the night, when the gin was running in the fall. Sometimes things got exciting around the gin like when the fork lift driver knocked the butane line loose from the tank causing a fire that spread to the some of the cotton bales out front. Cotton bales smoldered for days. But Floyd and Lorena would get to see their grandchildren and great-grandchildren as they would go back and forth to either Brooks Lewis or Carl Swafford's store. Floyd was considered by many to be very solemn, but yet he could tell funny stories and showed a lot of affection towards his grandchildren.

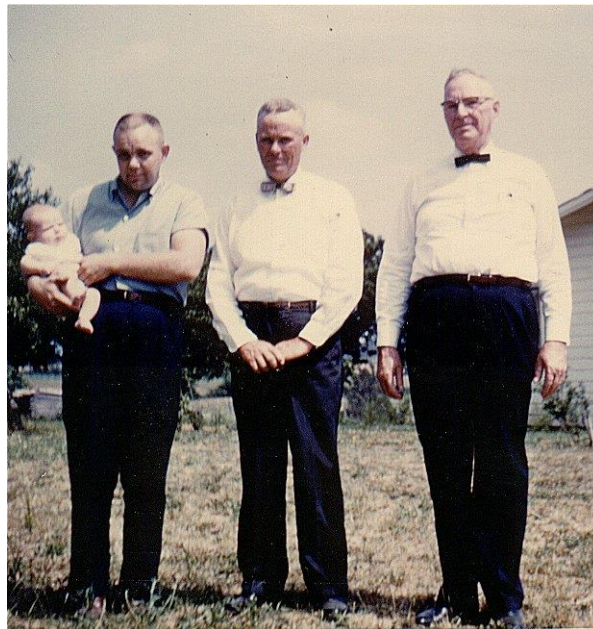
I can't remember much about the old house except that that stairs went up to the second story from the foyer as well as from the kitchen. The back steps were very steep, so I wasn't allowed up-stairs. Great-Grandmother would tell me that there was a bloody-bones upstairs that would get me scare me from sneaking upstairs. There was a high backed love seat set next to the stairs that would later end up at Granddad Carl's house. And in the parlor, there was a cuckoo clock hanging on the far wall. Great-Grands were the only people I have known that had a cuckoo clock.



1958  
Floyd and Lorena Kilpatrick at their 50th. Wedding Anniversary  
Picture Courtesy of Donald Derrick



1960  
Lorena, Floyd, Carl, Lonnie. Oma, Sam, Iva, Lewis, Fred, Laymon, Leon



1960  
That's me, Jimmy, Carl, Floyd

Great-Granddad Floyd suffered a stroke about 1962 and was no longer able to drive himself to preaching appointments. His ability to preach was also hampered by memory loss that was a result of the stroke. His health continued to deteriorate.

Lorena died from a stroke in her sleep on January 22, 1964 at the age of seventy-two. Norman Hooten preached her funeral at the Maysville Church of Christ building. She was



buried in Huntsville Memorial Gardens. Hallie moved in with Great-Granddad for a while, but his health deteriorated to the point that he had to go to the Crestwood Nursing Home. During the time he was in the nursing home, the family suffered another loss. Lewis and Tuter's youngest son, Gary, drowned while on a family outing. Being one of the youngest grandchildren, Gary was very special to Great-Granddad, but he was never told about his death. Great-Granddad died in July of 1965 at age seventy-five. Brother Norman Hooten would preach his funeral also, and he was buried next to Great-Grandmother Lorena at the Memorial Gardens. Only then did he rest from approximately fifty-three years in the Lord's service, the majority spent in teaching and preaching the gospel of Jesus the Christ. He had spent so much of his time separated from his wife and family while preaching the gospel, but always with the hope that he would be reunited with them for eternity in heaven. He died with many children, grandchildren, and brethren in the faith to mourn their loss, but yet rejoice in his gain. *"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."* (II Timothy 4:7, 8).

All the children of Floyd and Lorena Kilpatrick have passed away now, as well as most of their spouses. The Kilpatrick reunion is still held every year. The responsibility for this event which had been passed down to the children Floyd and Lorena has now been passed to the grandchildren. The tradition still continues today, but is not very well attended anymore.



**Sometime in the 80's  
One of the last reunions with most of the children still living  
Leon, Lewis, Fred, Laymon, Iva, Sam, Lonnie, Carl**

Sources: Thanks to my dad Jimmy Kilpatrick for his recollections.