

# WHITLOCK GINN RODD

**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023**

*"A Family that prays together, stays together."*

## FAMILY REUNION

**SUMMER 2024**

INFO  
COMING  
SOON

### Website Updates Coming Soon!

- \* Reunion Information
- \* Family History
- \* Newsletters
- \* Valuable Information

**CELEBRATIONS!  
BIRTHDAYS  
& ANNIVERSARIES**



**80 YEARS PLUS CLUB**

**WE  
ARE A  
STRONG  
& PROUD  
FAMILY**

**Get Vaccinated!**

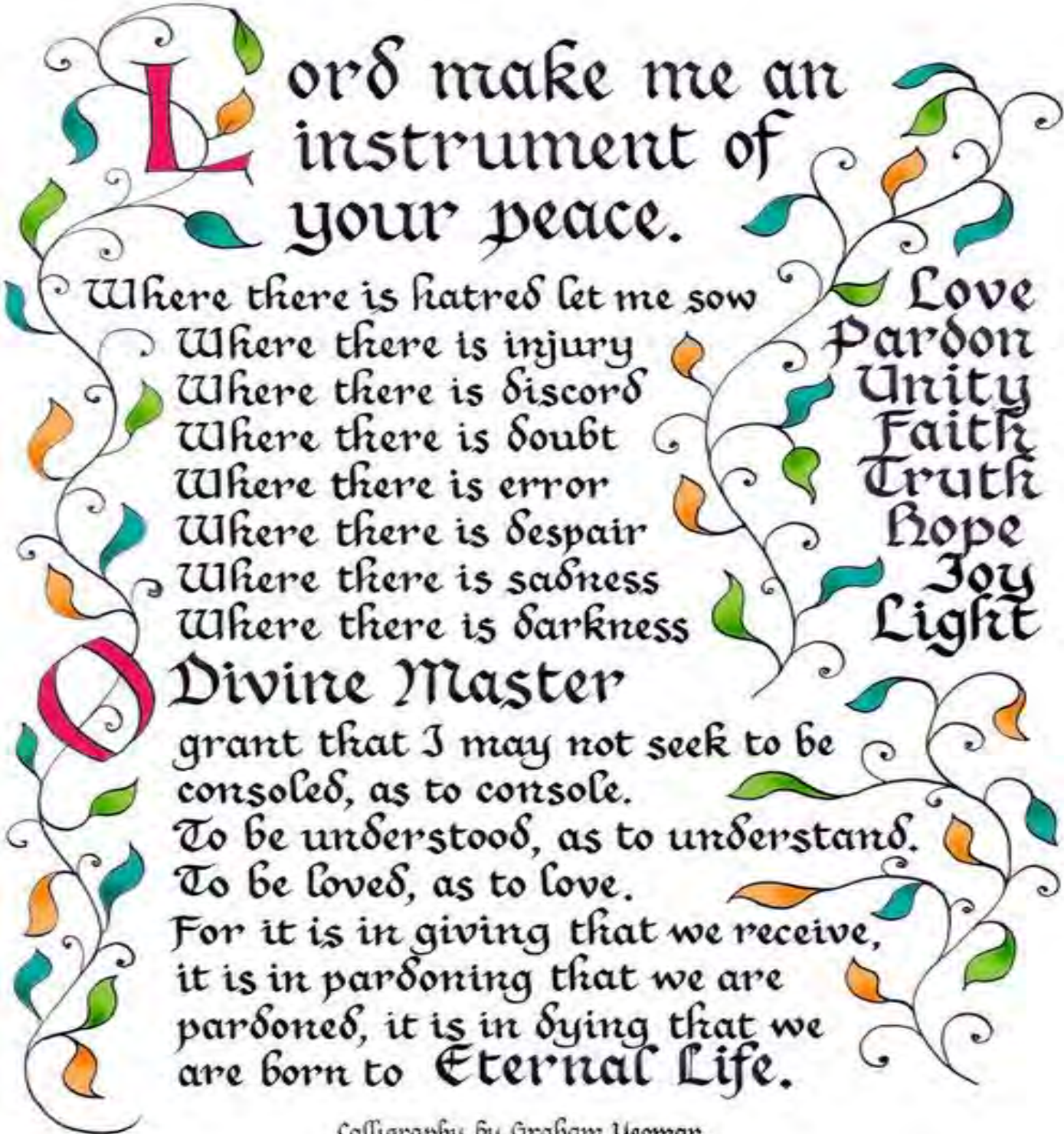
**Members We've Lost**  
**in September & October**



**SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION TO THE NEWSLETTER**



Dear Family & Friends,



**L**ord make me an  
instrument of  
your peace.

Where there is hatred let me sow

Where there is injury

Where there is discord

Where there is doubt

Where there is error

Where there is despair

Where there is sadness

Where there is darkness

**O** Divine Master

grant that I may not seek to be  
consoled, as to console.

To be understood, as to understand.

To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are  
pardoned, it is in dying that we  
are born to **Eternal Life.**

Love  
Pardon  
Unity  
Faith  
Truth  
Hope  
Joy  
Light

Calligraphy by Graham Yeoman

# **WHITLOCK~GINN~RODD 44TH FAMILY REUNION:**



## **ATTENTION!**



**BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE  
2024 REUNION INFORMATION**

**WHICH WILL BE SENT OUT BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS MONTH.**

## **WHITLOCK~GINN~RODD WEBSITE INFORMATION:**

We will be launching our family website later this month. You have already had a sneak peek leading up to and during the reunion, but the website will continue to grow each month as our website team uploads information and builds out the website. We will also rely on you to submit key information and suggestions for improvement.

The new website will provide a modern and more efficient way to bring the family closer together and share important information.

Some of the exciting features you will find on the website in the near future are:

- Upcoming reunion information
- Our family history- This is very intensive and requires a lot of research by our historians).
- Current family officers
- Family picture gallery – We will need your help. We will make it easy to submit your current and historical pictures.
- Current and archived newsletters.
- Links to WGR social media
- Security login - Will be added very soon
- Family announcements – Graduations, marriages, prayer requests, family members who have passed, and other events (no event is too small to share). ☺
- Financial information & advice
- Everyday life tips & hacks
- If you specialize in an area you would like to share with the family, please submit your written article. Please stay within one page if possible.

[www.WGRFAMILY.com](http://www.WGRFAMILY.com)

Sincerely,

Your WGR Website Team

- Troy Gray
- Jantrell Williams
- LaTonya Mixon
- Patricia Rodd

- Porshe' Robinson
- Dexter Washington
- Etienne Pourtout

# **WGR FAMILY ANNUAL DUES INFORMATION FORM**

REMINDER,

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR WHITLOCK~GINN~RODD FAMILY REUNION DUES, PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED FORM TO SUBMIT YOUR DUES.

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

SEE ATTACH FORM

### **SICK -HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME:**

Health does not always...



“God doesn’t give us what  
We can handle  
God helps us handle what  
We are given!”

† Jennifer Rodd

† Myra Jamison

† Melvin Raymond

† Abigail Verdree

† Sabrina Murdaugh

† Sinclair Brown

† Peggy Washington

† Aaron Harrison Sr.

† James Lilley

† Delrenia Bodrick

† Gregory Hector

...and those of you that are not mentioned.



# WHITLOCK-GINN FAMILY 80 YEARS PLUS CLUB:

“Age is just a number the longer I live,  
the more beautiful life becomes.”



Name:	Age:	Family Tree:
Ora Smith	105	Honorary Member
Ruth Cox	92	Minnie “Binkie” Ginn
Dorothy Rodd Smart	92	Amos Rodd
Richard Rodd	92	Amos Rodd
Ben Sanders	89	Minnie ‘Binkie’ Ginn
Hazel Whitlock	89	Walter Whitlock
Henry ‘Junior’ Whitlock	90	Joe Whitlock, Sr.
Cressie Walker	89	Rodd Family
Virginia Manigo	87	Joe Whitlock, Sr.
Martha Lawrence	86	Family Friend
Earline Lagair	85	Agnes Whitlock
Maj. Arthur Lee Murdaugh	84	Joe Whitlock, Sr.
Thomas Rodd	84	Butler Rodd
Geraldine ‘Gerri’ Brown	82	Walter Whitlock
Mary Ann Brown	82	Joe Whitlock, Sr.
Carolyn Lawton	81	Iva Whitlock
Hilda Goodridge	81	Joe Whitlock, Sr.

# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:



**Michelle Horton**

**Kyleik Middleton**

**Bertha Williams**

**Bernard Gadsden**

**Patricia Williams**

**Charles Small, III**

**Julia Shaw**

**Roger Taylor**

**Jaes Singleton**

**Myra Jamison**

**Tracy Whitlock**

**Joe Whitlock, Jr.**

**Cheryl Solomon**

**Tawanna Williams**

**Kelsey Smart**

**Fred Wright III**

**Chelsey Williams**

**Stephaine D. Whitlow**

**Denise Woody**

**Tyrell Whitlow**

**Tammy Small**

**Delrina Bodrick**

**Delvin Crawford**

**Haskell Raymond**

**Christalyn Solomon**

**Jonnie Jamison**

**Joyce Russell**

**Lazetta Young**

**Jourdon Bryan**

**Jane Ieirce**

**Ernestine Washington**

**Anthony Williams**

**Terreal Witherspoon**

**Mark Williams**

**Janet Moultrie**

**Diamond Harrison**

**Steve Williams**

**Henry Whitlock**

**Jeremiah Moultrie**

**Cymphonique Thomas**

**Isaiah Curtis**

**Nevach Johnson**

**Syreeta Corbin**

**Geraldine Thompson**

**Lee Martin**

**Barbara Gray**



## SEPT. ANNIVERSARIES

**Moneak & Dominic Mack**

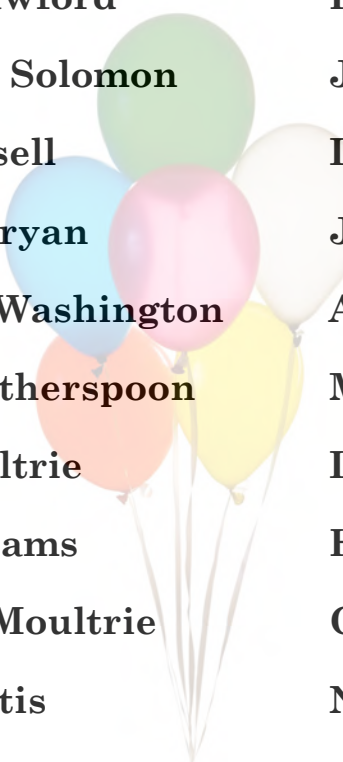
**Natalya Bodrick~Mmeje &  
Obieze Mmeje**

**Ashlie & Kennard Allen**

**Carolyn & Leroy Singleton**

**Bernard & Patricia  
Williams**

**Kelvin & Shelia Smart**



# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:



**Alysa Jackson**

**Abigail Verdree**

**Melia Seabrooks**

**Angela Henry**

**Leroy Singleton, Jr.**

**Shavonna Harrison**

**Melvin Raymond, Jr.**

**Kaydence Smart**

**Porche Brown**

**Annette Whitlock**

**Sarah Farmer**

**Chanel Frazier**

**Bracelon Drayton**

**Delmar Whitlock**

**Leona Brown**

**Pamela Crawford**

**Katisha Chisolm**

**Brandon Williams**

**Nikki Raymond**

**Jacquaz Cooper**

**Joshua Duncan**

**Marion (JR) Kench**

**Paris Nicole Martin**

**Tammy Small**

**Barbara Cockerhan**

**Caleb Mack**

**Thomas Rodd**

**Janie Raymond**

**Jamal Washington**

**Cleveland Ferguson, Jr.**

**Warren Brown**

**Jackie Green**

**Shautria R. Smalls**

**Jackie Black**

**Shawntna Rodd**

**Khary Brown**

**Aquilles Harrison**

**Chemene Harrison**

**Fred Johnson**

**Syreeta Corbin**

**Isaa Seabrooks**



## **CONDOLENCES:**

**“No one on earth can pretend  
To know what's in God's plan.  
All we can do is take it on faith”  
Believing that He never makes a mistake.**



**We've had a few deaths from July ~ September  
With Heartfelt Sympathy God's sovereignty is unpredictable. We  
must always trust Him even when we don't understand. ~Tony Evans**

**Your family holds you in our thoughts and prayers.**

**To the families of:**

**Manigo Family**

**Bodrick Family**

**Prioleau Family**

**Lovell Ginn Family**

**Allen Family**

**The Holcomb Family**

**The Drayton Family**

**The Geiger Family**

**Barbara Gray Family**



# *Celebrating the Life of*

## **DENNIS GRAY**

October 18, 1970 - September 22, 2023



***"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I am found, and God has set me free."***

God had a special plan on October 18, 1970, when he blessed the late Herman Gray and Barbara Gray with their second son, Dennis Diondro Gray, born in Estill, SC. He entered eternal rest on Friday September 22, 2023, in Mesquite, TX, his home for the past 23 years.

Dennis attended elementary and middle school in Brooklyn, NY, and three (3) years of high school in Long Island City, NY. He completed his final year at Allendale-Fairfax High School, in Fairfax SC, where he graduated in 1989. Dennis entered the United States Army and attended basic training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, SC. He was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, CO, then Seoul, South Korea, and Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC.

Dennis was employed at Brooklyn College, NY, as an electrician where he installed and maintained electrical and fire systems. In 1994, Dennis became a student at Brooklyn College which is where he began his journey toward becoming an electrical engineer. He was at the World Trade Center working during the terrible event of 9/11, 2001. Dennis relocated to Dallas, TX, in December 2001.

Dennis and his wife Juanita started their lives together in Dallas, TX. While in Dallas, he began working at small company in the fire and electrical industry. He taught the owner of the company so much and helped him build his business into a huge corporation.

In 2008, Dennis started his own Fire Alarm systems company, The Life Safety Network, and has been servicing major hospitals, restaurants and corporate businesses throughout Dallas, TX, since 2008. As an entrepreneur, Dennis also started a soap company where he would sell his merchandise at the farmers market through his small store.

"As the saying goes, "A Dog is a man's best friend". Dennis being a lover of pets, owned two dogs. One named, 'Treat' and the other named, 'Trouble'.

## CONDOLENCES *CONTINUED...*

### *Predeceased...*

A host of Angels precedes him on this journey. A leaf has fallen from the tree of his beloved grandmother, Marion L. Washington (Nana), his grandparents Eva and Dennis McGraw, Edna & Robert Gray, great-grandparents, Minnie & Monroe Green, and Deacon Josh and Elder Mary McGraw. He was blessed to have known all the above with the exception of Monroe Green and Robert Gray.

### *Survived By...*

He leaves to cherish and rejoice his memories a loving and devoted Wife Juanita Gray, Mesquite, TX. Mother Barbara Gray-Lilley (James) Acworth, GA, Two daughters Diondra Gray, Norfolk, Virginia and Faith Rivers, Columbia, SC, Nathaniel (Karen) Sapp, Mesquite, TX, Travis Sapp Michigan, Mary Turner, Mesquite, TX. Grandchildren Caleb Sapp, Bre'annah Turner, (raised in the home) Eli Davis, Zoe Davis, Tedric Davis all of Mesquite, TX, Two Brothers Troy (Edna) Gray, Oviedo, FL, Etienne Pourtout, Marietta, GA. One sister Hermone 'Dee' Plumer, Laeland FL. Nine dedicated Aunts and Uncles, Ernestine "Peggy" Washington, Marietta, GA, Jimmie (Benita) Washington, Warner Robbins, GA, Vivian "Biddie" Washington, Allendale SC, Llyvonne "Bonnie" (Greg) Hector-Washington Kennesaw, GA, Robin Bamberg, Kings Mountain, NC, Dexter (Charlene) Washington, Marietta, GA, Tracy (Terrell) Whitherspoon, Warrenton, SC, Briggett (James) Bartlett, Acworth, GA, Douglas (Delia) McGraw, Jamesville, NJ. Aunts Evelyn Grant, Fairfax, SC, Aunt/cousin Yvonne Cohen Fairfax, SC A special Cousin Derrick McGraw, Florence, SC, a special childhood friend Tyron Brabham, Allendale, SC and a host of extended family and loving friends.

## WE REMEMBER... SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER:

*"Always on my mind, forever in my heart."*

† Julie Addie Lee Miley

September 4, 1928 - October 5, 2018

† Richard Pinckney

September 16, 1949 - March 2015

† Leroy Kearse, Jr.

October 13, 1941 - July 12, 1995

† George Fuller, Sr.

October 15, 1909 - February 1, 1999

† Catherine Granderson

October 17, 1908 - November 6, 2012

† Dennis Gray

October 18, 1970 - September 22, 2023

† Clyde Raymond

October 22, 1955 - February 11, 2018

† Issac Seabrooks

October 25, 1961 - March 10, 2022

† Leonard Murdaugh, Sr.

October 26, 1916 - June 29, 2008

# URGENT!! HICKORY HILL CEMETERY DONATIONS NEEDED!



## URGENT!

### WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS



As we reflect on our cemetery, we see that it has been in the community for over 150 years. In the early years, some family and church members tried to do their best to clean and maintain the family plots. Our oldest family members in the cemetery are:

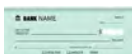
**Rina Harvey-Ginn**  
1835-1912



**Ramson Ginn**  
1833 -1933

Besides keeping the grass cut, the real struggle with maintaining the cemetery is keeping the overgrown trees and branches trimmed and hauling the debris away. This is where we come in as a family to help with keeping our historic cemetery cleaned.

If you have not made a donation or want to give again, you have two options to make your donation. You can donate by check/money order or use the CashApp.

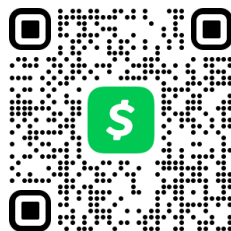


For Checks and money orders, please

make a check or money order out to:

"Hickory Hill Cemetery Fund" and mail it to:

**Geraldine Brown**  
Post Office Box 357  
Hampton, SC 29924



Click or Scan this code.

 **Cash App**

cash app: \$gerriwhitlock  
Phone: (803) 383-6691  
Email: browngerri03@gmail.com

I assure you that your donation will be used for the betterment and upkeep of our family cemetery. Thanking you in advance for your donation and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Gerri Brown



## **BARBARA'S INSPIRATIONAL CORNER**

### **Please Listen To My Bell**

Just up the road from our home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each looks like every other horse. But if you stop your car, or are walking by, you will notice something quite amazing. Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him. This alone is amazing.

If nearby and listening, you will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, you will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field. Attached to her halter is a small bell. It lets her blind friend know where she is, so he can follow her.

As you stand and watch these two friends, you'll see how she is always checking on him, and that he will listen for her bell and then slowly walk to where she is, trusting that she will not lead him astray. When she returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, she stops occasionally and looks back, making sure her friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need (read the books of Ruth and Esther).

Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives (cf. John 9:1-7; Acts 9:8-9). Other times we are the guide horse, helping others see (cf. Matthew 5:16; Acts 8:26-31; 1 Peter 2:12). Good family and friends are like this. We don't always see them, but we know they are always there.

So, can you please listen for my bell? I'll remember to listen for yours!

- Author Unknown

# LAUGHTER IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL



## Proverbs

A first-grade teacher collected well-known proverbs. She gave each kid in the class the first half of the proverb and asked them to fill in the rest. Here's what the kids came up with:

Better to be safe than... punch a 5th grader.

Strike while the... bug is close.

It's always darkest before... daylight savings time.

Never underestimate the power of... termites.

You can lead a horse to water but... how?

Don't bite the hand that... looks dirty.

No news is... impossible.

A miss is as good as a... Mr.

You can't teach an old dog... math.

If you lie down with dogs, you... will stink in the morning.

Love all, trust... me.

The pen is mightier than... the pigs.

An idle mind is... the best way to relax.

Where there is smoke, there's... pollution.

Happy is the bride who... gets all the presents.

A penny saved is... not much.

Two is company, three's... The Musketeers.

None are so blind as... Helen Keller.

Children should be seen and not... spanked or grounded.

If at first you don't succeed... get new batteries.

You get out of something what you... see pictured on the box.

When the blind lead the blind... get out of the way.

There is no fool like... Aunt Edie.

Laugh and the whole world laughs with you. Cry and... you have to blow your nose.

**LOVE Y'ALL**