

Written In Stone

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Belleville Faulk AME Zion Church Cemetery – Part II

According to one of the Kyser family researchers, many of the earlier Kyser family members interred now in the Belleville Faulk A.M.E. Zion Church Cemetery were moved from the Kyser Family Cemetery around the 1950's. With that date in mind, it would appear that the earliest known and identified grave would be that of Arris Mosley, who was born in 1891 and died in 1926. In researching Arris Mosley, I came across the obituary for Mrs. Katie Viola Mosley, who was born 18 Feb 1895 and died 13 April 1982. At the time of her death, she had two sons, two daughters, two sisters, 22 grandchildren, 40 great grandchildren, 2 great, great grandchildren and a number of other relatives. The next oldest identified grave belongs to James Mallory, who was born in 1876 and died in June of 1929. His wife was Drucilla Mallory, and she was born in 1878 and died in 1950. One of the longest running and most diligent members of Belleville Faulk AME Zion Church happened to be the late Leslie Crosby, who passed away in 1977, being about 74 years of age. My mother remembered that he was a friend of my own grandfather, the late Charles S. Beasley. His obituary states that after becoming physically disabled, he was a familiar figure as he sat in his pickup truck, parked on the corner by Brantley-Lee Tire & Supply, greeting friends, black and white, with his usual cheerful smile and manner.

When reading about the older families who settled in that part of the county, around the Lime Hill area past the airport, one comes across the names of Les Crosby, Mack Salter (still living), Early Reed and Mahalia Mallory. You can find many of these names in the Belleville Faulk church rolls and now, today, lying in eternal rest in the cemetery.

In the previous column, I suggested that the last known grave was that of Mrs. Melvine P. Burnett, who passed away in 2006. However, the records actually indicate that this would be Clarence Bernard 'CB' Reed, who was born in 1940 and died 21 September 2007. He was the son of Early & Bessie Reed. Another death that occurred between Mrs. Burnett's and Mr. Reed's death was that of Christopher T. Jackson, who along with two others, were killed in a horrible accident in September 2004 on US 84.

For more information about this cemetery and others, please visit your local Evergreen-Conecuh County Public Library.