

Thomas Nathan 'Bud' and Willie Myrtle Chick By *Bobbie Sue Shelton*



A family may move away from the Eagleville Community, but their heart remains in Eagleville is so true with Thomas Nathan, better known as Bud, and his wife, Willie Myrtle. After their marriage, they lived at different locations in the Eagleville area. In 1947 they settled in a new house in the New Town subdivision, north of Eagleville and lived there until 1970 when they relocated to Pettus Road in the Nolensville area. Recently they have moved to Cain Ridge Road in the Antioch area to be near their son Billy and wife Elvin. Their daughter, Barbara, also lives nearby.

Bud, son of Benjamin Thomas and Myrtle Sanders Chick grew up in the Rover area and attended the Rover school He recalls the first airplane he saw was at a Unionville picnic. Someone had a plane and would fly people for short rides. When he was about 9 years old he helped break up rocks for the roadbed near the Rutherford-Bedford county line on what is presently Highway 41A. At this time the road was dirt and the rocks helped the horse and wagons to travel the road without getting stuck. His father had a 2-horse wagon with slats in the bottom. They would load their rocks on the wagon and when they got to the roadbed, they would open the slats and the rocks would fall out. The county paid them, 2 ½ cents for a bushel of broken up rocks and in a days work would earn about 25 cents. When his father and siblings all worked, they would still earn less than one dollar per day. Bud also remembers the good times he had hunting with his father. At that time 25 gun shells cost 50 cents. Many days they killed about 30 rabbits or 8 to 10 squirrels. These hunting trips helped feed this family of eight children. They often sold the rabbit hides for 10 to 20 cents each.



John Perrell and Bud Chick in the Eagleville Texaco Station

When Bud was older, he farmed until about 1932 when he started working as a mechanic in the Eagleville area. He worked in service stations with Joe Crosslin, Claude Shelton, John Perrell, Eddie Blanton, Jess McElhaney, Sneathen Bellenfant and had his own business at one time. Bud also ran the projector at the Eagleville Theater in the 1950's and his son, Billy, would sell popcorn. Bud retired from the Cloverbottom Home in Nashville after 8 years of employment.

Willie Myrtle the daughter of William J. and Virginia Tennessee Taylor Clark grew up in the Jackson Ridge area and attended Pleasant Hill School. She was introduced to Bud by Clemmie and Rye Sanders at a Jackson Ridge Church ice cream supper. Being the oldest of seven children she recalls having to help her mother take care of her siblings. She remembers the days of washing the family wash on a washboard. At the time she

was a child, children entertained themselves often making play houses with rocks and pulling young trees over and riding them as they sprang back up. Anyone living in Eagleville in the 50's and 60's remember Willie Myrtle working in restaurants in Eagleville and Chapel Hill. She recalled her pay was \$12.00 per week at the Eagleville Drugstore (restaurant). She later worked in Nashville with a firm that made hypodermic syringes and also retired from the Cloverbottom Home after 13 years of employment.

Bud and Willie Myrtle's three children graduated from Eagleville High School. Billy, born in 1937 retired from Vanderbilt as a chemist. He married Elvin Hatcher of College Grove and has 2 children: Twana is a sergeant with the Metro Police Department and Adrain is an attorney. Barbara born in 1941 lives on Pettus Rd in Nolensville married (div.) Rick Wardlaw and is retired from Bridgestone in Lavergne after 26 years of service. She has a son, Bruce Wardlaw and two grandchildren: Ashley and Duane. Donald Ray "Donnie", born in 1943, married 1st Annette Ralston. They have a son, Donald Ray Chick Jr., and 2 grandchildren Amber and Donald Ray III. Donnie

married 2nd to Sandra Ellis. As a young boy Donnie worked in a grocery store in Eagleville for Russell Puckett and later at Puckett's Grocery in Triune for 14 years. He worked for Heil Quaker and later Bridgestone Tire where he was employed at the time of his death in November 1995.

Bud and Willie Myrtle returned to Eagleville on Sunday's to attend church as long as they were able. They still enjoy receiving the church bulletin each week and keeping in touch with friends and family. At their new home they have a lake in their front yard, full of fish that Bud feeds each day. They also have turtles, ducks, hen and a rooster that they can keep an eye on from their porch. Bud's 95th birthday will be October the 13th and Willie Myrtle will be 88 years old on November the 16th. They will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary January 11, 2006.



Willie Myrtle and Mildred Holder in the old Phillips Drug Store in Eagleville