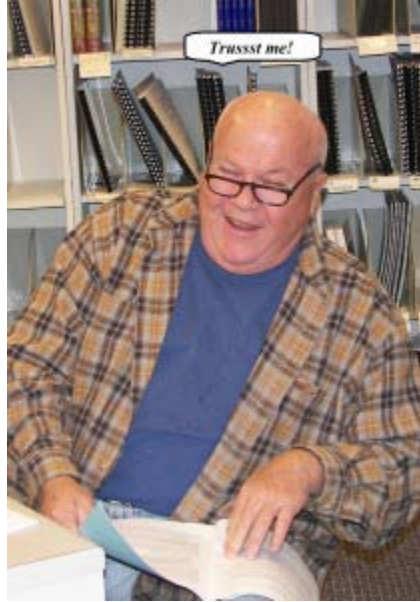


William Vance "Bill" Trantham

May 4, 1940 - May 12, 2014



It is with great sadness that we report that long-time member and volunteer Bill Trantham passed away unexpectedly on Monday, May 12, 2014 in Asheville. Bill was an avid genealogist and a great asset to OBCGS. He was also a member of First Families of Old Buncombe, tracing his ancestry back to six different early settlers of the county. He served as volunteer coordinator for many years and was always willing to help anyone in their search for their ancestors. His passing leaves a great gap at OBCGS, one that will be very difficult to fill. It surely will not be the same around OBCGS without Bill's "Trusst me!"

Obituary

William "Bill" Vance Trantham, age 74, of Fletcher died Monday, May 12, 2014 at the Memorial Campus of Mission Hospital. He was born in Henderson County on May 4, 1940 to the late Hubert Vance Trantham and Margaret Wineferd Watkins Trantham. He was also preceded in death by his cousin, Conrad Watkins.

Mr. Trantham was a native and lifelong resident of Henderson County; he graduated from Western Carolina University with a Master's Degree in education. "Bill" began teaching in the Henderson County School system in 1962 and taught elementary education for the next 35 years, retiring in 1997. He attended Fletcher First Baptist Church. He enjoyed genealogy not only of his ancestors but also enjoyed helping people at "Old Buncombe" every Monday searching for their roots as well. He spent countless hours cataloging the history that will be cherished for generations of Western North Carolina families.

Survivors include many, many special friends including: Jeff Smith and wife, Pamela and their children, Savannah and Branson; Shirley Cunningham, Arlene Watkins and her daughters, Connie Stewart, Angela Brumfield, Kelly Franklin and her husband, Rodney; Vickie and Francis Wilder all of Hendersonville; Mike Brown of Asheville, Buddy Gosnell of Charlotte. Other survivors include numerous cousins and not to be forgotten, he is also survived by his loving pets Baby and Boy.

A graveside service will be held 2:00 PM Friday, May 16, 2014 at Patty's Chapel Cemetery in Fletcher conducted by Reverend Roy Waldroup and Reverend Norris Wright.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Patty's Chapel Cemetery c/o Fletcher United Methodist Church, 50 Library Road, Fletcher, NC 28732.