

Utley Family Update

Volume 10, Issue 4

July/August 2007

ISSN 1531-7137

'Mardi Gras in Jackson' is almost here!

Final preparations are in the works for the upcoming 2007 Utley Family Reunion, to be held in Jackson, TN, on Saturday, July 28. The reunion will be at the Old English Inn with the lunch buffet served at noon. There will be time before the meal to visit with relatives, admire Utley family photo albums and memorabilia, and have group photos taken.

The award-winning Cajun Cookers have a wonderful menu planned for the reunion lunch.

The banquet room will be decorated in Mardi Gras colors of purple, green and gold. Family members may indulge



their Mardi Gras fantasies and wear costumes. Or you can wear one or all of the Mardi Gras colors.

Our generous relative will be paying for the entire lunch buffet. Please return your registration form by July 19. We have to turn in a definite head-count for food by that date. After July 19, they may not be able to add more people to the lunch list.

If you find that you are unable to attend after making reservations, please let us know. If we turn in a definite number, that's what the hotel will charge us, even if half that number eats the meal. We appreciate your help with this.

Menu for Lunch Buffet Garden Salad

Bacon-wrapped Chicken
Pork Loin
Green Beans
Cream Corn
Baked Potato Casserole
New Orleans Bread Pudding
Rolls and Butter
Iced Tea and Water

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Utley Family Update

A publication dedicated to continued communication between the descendants of John Allen and Lilla Maude Jacobs Utley.

Published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Photos for PowerPoint

We still need family photos for the 2007 version of the Utley Family PowerPoint. We'd like to have photographs of every family member. If you have school photos, senior photos, church directory photos or even candid shots, send them in. You can email them to me at JUtleyMail@aol.com or

mail them to 590 Wallace Road, Jackson TN 38305-2839. I'll scan photos and return them unharmed.

Everyone who contributes photographs will receive a DVD or VHS (your choice) copy of the program.

Start digging through those photo albums and

photo storage boxes, and send in your best photos. With your help, this will be the best presentation yet!





Cousin Spotlight: Earldine Utley Carver's Family

Earldine Utley was the third child and second daughter born to John Prentyce and Annie Bernard Utley. Earldine was born on March 18, 1931. On April 16, 1946, Earldine married Jack Leroy Carver in Corinth, Alcorn County, Mississippi. Earldine and Jack had three children: Richard Lynn "Rickey," Deborah Kay "Debbie," and Michael Wayne "Mike."

Our Cousin Spotlight focuses on their two sons, Rickey and Mike.

Richard Lynn "Rickey" Carver

In response to a questionnaire, Rickey wrote:

"My full name is **Richard Lynn** Carver. I' m called **Rickey**.

I was born September 14, 1950, the first of three bundles of joy to **Jack** and **Earldine Carver**, in Jackson, Tennessee. I was told that mom was pulling in catfish just weeks before I was born and that I was born during the Jackson fair. I guess that's why I still like fried catfish and fair food!

One of my first memories is that mom and dad made arrangements for me to ride the bus – by myself – from our home on Holland Street to Mid Town Motel where dad worked. I remember wearing my new leather jacket for this special trip to town. Also, I remember seeing the big fire in downtown Jackson during this time.

Christmas Eve was always spent at Mammaw and Pappaw Carver's and Christmas morning was always spent at Mammaw and Pappaw Utley's. Christmas morning was always special and I always looked forward to the fruits and nuts that Santa left.

A memory of elementary school: I remember studying about Australia and the thrill of throwing a boomerang. I also remember reading Old Yeller and then getting to see the movie.



Rickey Carver, Richard Utley (front), Bobby Utley and Jackie Utley Circa 1953

Vacation memories: As a family, we would go camping at Pickwick and pitch our tents for a week at a time. We enjoyed fishing during the day and playing games at night. We would wake each morning to the smell of breakfast cooking on a Coleman stove. Fun times! Wonderful memories!

My first paying job was when I was either 13 or 14 years old. A farmer who became sick and was unable to get his crop in turned this responsibility over to me. Thus, the tools of my trade were 12' cotton sacks. I remember picking cotton all week and then taking the cotton to the gin on the weekends.

I have had only two jobs as an adult – that of a bricklayer and my present job of sales. I worked five years for Bobby Day in Jackson, Tennessee, learning the masonry trade. I then owned my own masonry business for another five years before going to work for my father-in-law, Ralph Easterday, and his manufacturers' rep agency in 1978. With eleven full-time employees – five support personnel and six salesmen, Kathy and I consider it an honor and privilege to manage a company that is celebrating its 40^{th} anniversary in the HVAC/R industry this year.

My formal education was high school graduation and one semester at Jackson State. My favorite subject in school was history and my least favorite was English.

I first met my wife, **Kathy Diane Easterday**, in 1970 when she and my sister, **Debbie Carver Pumphrey**, were roommates at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. After dating for four years, **Kathy** and I were married June 28, 1974, in Memphis, Tennessee. My dad, **Jack Carver**, and **Joe Littlefield**, pastor of White Station Baptist Church in Memphis definitely tied the knot tight as **Kathy** and I will soon be celebrating our 33rd wedding anniversary. I married my soul mate. **Kathy** has been involved in every aspect of my life. She does

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Rickey Carver, cont.

(Continued from page 2)

more than just support – she rolls her sleeves up and gets involved all the way. Our life together has always been a team effort.

Special memories of my Utley grandparents: Having lived upstairs at **Mammaw** and **Pappaw Utley's** home for about five years, I have a lot of special memories. Three specific ones come to mind, however – squirrels, hard work, and Monday Night Football.

Squirrels – If you were kin to Pappaw Utley, squirrels had to be at the top of everyone's list or so Pappaw thought. One morning, Pappaw came upstairs and informed me that the pecan tree was full of squirrels. Without missing a beat, off to the roof we went, determined to make short work of those pests. The police, however, soon cut short our work. After a long discussion with the police, **Pappaw** asked what the fine was and paid it on the spot. Little did we realize that what had started out as an exciting mission would so quickly become mission impossible!

Hard Work – While working for **Bobby Day,** learning the masonry trade, I lived with **Mammaw** and **Pappaw Utley**. Although I worked long, hard days laying bricks, it never failed that each day I would always be greeted by **Pappaw** with yet another job. From working in the garden, to killing squirrels, to picking up brick pavers from Royal Street, **Pappaw Utley** always seemed eager for me to work!

Monday Night Football – One of my favorite memories of **Mammaw Utley** was watching Monday Night Football with her. If I was not already downstairs, **Mammaw** would always holler for me to come down that it was 'time for football'. We always had popcorn during Monday Night Football.

Kathy and I have one daughter, **Jennifer Leigh**, who was born October 24, 1977, in Jackson, Tennessee. **Jennifer** and **Bernie Gladden** were married May 20, 2006 in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Kathy and I have taught five year old children in Sunday school for over twenty years (or should I say, they have taught us!). We have a variety of interests: Grizzlies basketball and University of Memphis football games, plays and musicals at the Orpheum and concerts at the Canon Center. We are also having our 1964 Mustang (the car that we dated in) restored and look forward to getting it back soon.

If my home caught on fire and I could go back in to retrieve only one thing (assuming all people and pets were safely outside), I would choose the big green chair in our bedroom because that is the chair that I was sitting in when I proposed to **Kathy**. Her answer was 'YES' and the rest as they say 'is history'!

If I could give advice on how to live a happy life, I would say: try to daily live a Christian life, respect others, and always look for the positive in every situation."



Rickey and Kathy Carver



Jennifer Leigh Carver Gladden

Rickey and The Flying Turtle

"Rickey Carver went to work for Ralph Easterday and Associates in 1979 selling fireplaces and then air conditioning products. He said he

would chase any order. A story he tells on himself and everyone still laughs about he calls "The Flying Turtle." A man called from Birming-

ham saying he wanted to buy three truck-loads of Sundial air conditioning equipment. **Rickey** busted his buns to get down there to meet the

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Rickey and 'The Flying Turtle' cont.

(Continued from page 3)

man in a restaurant to finalize the order. Upon talking with him, **Rickey** learned he had no company, no address and the man made up the name and logo for his company drawing on a napkin a turtle with wings. The name of the would-be company was "The Flying Turtle." No orders ever came of it but a lot of

laughs have!

Rickey was appointed Sales Manager in 1996 and then President in 2006.

Kathy Carver manages the office in Memphis, doing accounting and the many tasks **Rickey** gives her as he runs out the door and into the territory. These talented, dedicated people have won many awards for the company, the latest being the 2006 DiversiTech Rep of the Year.

"We don't rest on our laurels," said President **Rickey Carver**, "but just keep going and strive for greatness."

From Tennessee HVAC Insider, March 2007

Michael Wayne "Mike" Carver

In response to a questionnaire, Mike Carver wrote:

"My name is **Michael Wayne** Carver. I'm called **Mike**.

I was born on Thursday, March 13, 1958 in Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, Jackson, TN. **Daddy [Jack Carver]** was licensed and ordained to preach 3 days after I was born. **Mother [Earldine Utley Carver]** and I were in the hospital because the doctor thought it best if **Mother** didn't go.

An early childhood memory is we helped some church members with picking their cotton. My brother would throw cotton bolls or dirt clods at me.

I remember most everybody gathering together as a family to celebrate Christmas.

One elementary school memory is every morning we would have to go to the book store to get the supplies that they needed. Most everybody would develop a cough and have to get Ludens' Cough Drops Cherry Flavour since we could not have candy in class.

Vacation memory: We went to Paris Landing in Paris, Tennessee. **Daddy** and **Debbie** laid out to get a tan. They fell asleep and got cooked.



Mike Carver in uniform

They got sick that night as it got cooler outside.

My first paying job was U.S. Army Private, radio teletype operator.

My longest employment as an adult was 14 1/2 years at Brother Industries, Bartlett, TN. Warehouse supervisor. I supervise the East Dock receiving parts and inventory control.

I graduated from Glen Moore Academy in Memphis, TN, on May 14, 1976. My favorite subject in school was history. My least favorite subjects were math and science.

I first met my wife, **Linda Carol Hammers**, in December 1963. **Daddy** accepted a call from New Union Baptist Church to be their pastor. My wife's family went to church at New Union. I was 5 years old and she was 6 years old.

We were married on April 25, 1981 at Midway Baptist Church in Whiteville, TN, by **Rev. Jack Carver** (my father) and **Rev. Claude Hammers** (her father). We forgot her suitcase in her Daddy's car and had to find them to get it back. Also we stopped at Pizza Hut in south Jackson to eat and the manager gave us our pizza free after he heard that we just got married.

Special memories of Utley grandparents: When Mother, Uncle J.P., Aunt Eloise and Uncle Bobby gave Mamaw Utley a TV for Christmas. Mamaw was very excited about the TV. One year, Mommy, Daddy and myself took Mamaw and Pappaw to the Smoky Mountains on vacation. We stopped at a rest stop. Pappaw went down a trail and when he came back there was a bear about 10 feet from him coming up to where we were.

My children are **Heather Michelle Carver**, born on September 3, 1983,

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Mike Carver, cont.

(Continued from page 4)



Mike, Heather, Jessica and Linda Carver

in Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, Jackson, TN; and **Jessica Marie Carver**, born on October 12, 1988, in Baptist East Hospital, Memphis, TN.

I served in the U.S. Army from 1976 through 1980 in Alaska and Colorado, and from 1985 through 1986 in Germany.

I am a member of Dixie Hills Baptist Church in Bolivar, TN.

If my home caught on fire and I could go back to retrieve only one thing (assuming all people and pets were safe), I would save pictures of my family, because there is nothing greater than the family and memories of the family."



Earldine, Heather, Linda, Mike and Jack Carver at 2006 Utley Reunion



Mike and Linda Carver at 2006 Utley Reunion

'My Dad' by Heather Carver

"I was wanting to write about my dad. He is a special person in our lives. He has always been a Christian man to lead his family the way it should go. He has always been there for us. We would not know what to do without him. I have had some really good moments with him and he

has always helped my mom when she needed him most. God put a special man in our lives when he gave us our dad. We love you dad. Always remember your baby girls.

Love **Heather** and **Jessica** and your wife **Linda**"

James Allen Utley 1929—2007

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the family of **James Allen Utley** who passed away on May 19.

The Dilday Funeral Home website reported the following:

"Mr. **James Allen Utley**, 77, of Jackson, Tennessee, died Sunday, May 20, 2007 at his home.

Funeral services will be conducted on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 3:00 PM at Dilday Funeral Home East Room. Interment will follow in the Sellers Hill Cemetery. **James Bolin** will officiate the services.

Mr. Utley was born June 2, 1929, in Lavinia, Tennessee, to the late John and Edrie Cotton Utley. He was a retired Ordinance Inspector for the Milan Arsenal and a Master Mason and Shriner. He was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn Carden Utley and a brother, Everett Utley.

He is survived by two daughters, **Pat (William) Bolin**, of Jackson, Tennessee, **Pam Taylor**, of Lexington, Tennessee, and a brother, **John (Mary) Utley**, of Jackson, Tennessee. He also leaves three grandchildren

and six great grandchildren.

Pallbearers who served were James Bolin, Roger Dabbs, Jerome Henderson, William Bolin, Harry Carden and Ron O'Brien.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday from 6 PM till 9 PM at Dilday Funeral Home East Room and on Wednesday from 8 Am till time of services.

Dilday Funeral Home – Huntingdon was in charge of arrangements."

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'Papaw' by James Bolin

James Bolin composed and read this at the funeral of his grandfather, James Allen Utley.

Papaw was born James Allen Utley June 2, 1929 He attended school in Lavinia, TN until the 9th grade when he decided it was time to serve his county.

At the age of 16 he joined the United States Navy he had to lie about his age in order to join the service.

He served four years in the Navy receiving three medals, a good conduct medal, a World War II Victory medal, and an Occupational Medal.

Upon returning home from the war he met and married Evelyn Carden.

They had two children Pam and Patsy.

The two remained married 47 years until mamaw passed away from cancer May 9th, 1998.

Papaw never would be the same from that point.

May 9th, 1998 my grandmother was singing the hymn, I'll Fly Away, these were my grandmother's last words heard by my mother.

May 20th, 2007 the closing hymn at my church was, I'll Fly Away; ironically we arrive home to discover papaw had just passed away.

At some point we must all fly away to a land where joy shall never end and meet with the Master, family and friends.

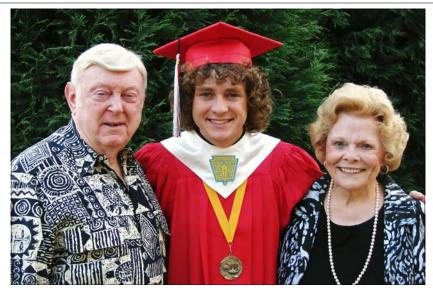
Congratulations, Graduates!



Monica House, at left, daughter of Gary and Donna House and grand-daughter of Lucy House, graduated this May 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Texas A&M University. Monica has been actively involved in a campus organization known as the Navigators, serving on the leadership team and

leading Bible studies. She has also worked at the campus library for over a year and works in both the shelving and circulation departments. **Monica** specializes in creative writing at the university with an emphasis on poetry. After college she plans to pursue teaching and tutoring students on a middle school and high school level.

John Utley, son of Richard and Becky Utley, and grandson of Wilma and the late J.P. Utley, graduated from Germantown High School on Monday, May 22, 2007. John, an Honor Graduate, was a member of the National Honor Society and the Beta Club. He received a scholarship from WalMart and a scholarship from University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he will begin classes in the fall.



Cameron Rainey Spratt pictured above with his Grandmother and Grandfather, Glenn and Geraldine Rainey, graduated Valedictorian from Harrison High School in Evansville, Indiana. He will be attending Indiana University where he will be majoring in Biology. Cameron is the son of Julie and Chris Spratt.

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Utley Family News

~Prentyce~

Richard and Becky Utley are excited that their daughter, Rachel Utley Andrews and her husband, Cobb, are expecting in January 2008. This will be Richard and Becky's first grandchild. Rachel is due around January 7th. Congratulations, Rachel and Cobb!

Richard>J.P.>Prentyce Rachel>Richard>J.P.>Prentyce

~Annie~

Linda and Mike Buck sent a photo of their granddaughters, Avery and Bailey Barrow, with their Easter basket. Their mom is Lori Buck Barrow. Mike and Linda hope to be able to attend this year's reunion.



On Mother's Day, brothers **Mike**, **Eric** and **James Buck** sang together at Beltline Missionary Baptist in Garland, TX. **Linda Buck** says, "It was really great!"

Mike>Louise>Annie James>Louise>Annie Eric>Louise>Annie Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie Avery>Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie Bailey>Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie

~Maudie~

Sue Bates, wife of Bobby Bates, emailed the photo of her granddaughter and wrote, "Padamae Gillmer (son Roger & wife Heather) did her folks proud. She won 3rd place in a cute baby contest at Swartz Creek, MI, Hometown Days, on June 3, 2007. The contest was sponsored by Sagelink Credit Union."



Sue also reports, "Bobby Bates completed 3 days of work-related training at the Tennessee Correction Academy located at Tullahoma, TN. This is an annual requirement for everyone who works in corrections and all staff members must complete their training by the end of the fiscal year (June) or else their facility/place of employment is out of compliance with state regulations.

"Dan and Martha Bates both have had some health issues which required hospital stays and surgery recently. They're both back home and mending. "Anna Marie Deschenes just returned from a missionary trip to Ecuador and had a very good time while there."

Martha Frances>Maudie Bobby>Martha Frances>Maudie Anna Marie>Diane>Martha Frances>Maudie

Brittany Michelle Sipe married Jason Glenn Rainey on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at Rumbling Bald Resort, Lake Lure, NC. They are pictured here with Jason's parents, Mary Ann and Denis Rainey. Congratulations and Best Wishes to you both! Welcome to the Utley family, Brittany!



Denis>Glenn>Maudie Jason>Denis>Glen>Maudie

Maxx Thomas was recognized by the Duke University Talent Identification Program at an Awards Ceremony at Davidson College for his outstanding score on the SAT which he took in January through the Duke TIP Program for 7th grade students. Maxx also came in 7th in the county-wide spelling bee for 5th—8th grade students. Maxx is the son of Jill and Craig Thomas and the grandson of Geraldine and Glenn Rainey.

Jill>Glenn>Maudie Maxx>Jill>Glenn>Maudie

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Newsletter Heroes

The "Utley Family Update" is an ongoing project with ongoing expenses. Although some newsletters are sent via email, the majority still must be printed and mailed through the postal service. With frequent postage increases, help is needed.

All contributions, large or small, are gratefully accepted.

Any money not used for the newsletter will be applied toward family reunion expenses.

Thank You to these Newsletter Heroes!

Jack and Earldine Carver
Sue Utley
Wilma Utley
Lynn Williams

Reunion Reminders

- Send your family photos for the Reunion PowerPoint and DVD before July 9.
- Order your Utley Family Heritage Cookbooks before the reunion.
- Return your Reunion Registration form before July 19, or risk having to watch all your relatives eat without you.
- Dust off your Mardi Gras masks and beads, and plan your green, gold and purple wardrobe.
- Gather up all your family albums and Utley memorabilia for the reunion.
- Have your camera ready to record all the family fun.

Sept/Oct 2007 'Utley Family Update'

The September/October 2007 will feature a wrap-up of the **2007 Utley Family Reunion, "Mardi Gras in Jackson."** We'll have lots of photos and fun information.

Our Cousin Spotlight will focus on **Bob J. Utley**, son of **Bob L. Utley**, and grandson of **Prentyce** and **Bernard Utley**. If you have stories, memories or photos of **Bob**, please share them with the family.

As always, we need your family news. Please send news, memories and stories and photos to **Jackie Utley**, 590 Wallace Rd, Jackson TN 38305-2839 or email them to JUtleyMail@aol.com.

Today's
Family News
will become
Tomorrow's
Family History

Celebrations: Utley Family Birthdays and Anniversaries in July and August 2007

JULY

- 1 Jackie and Robert Fortner, Jr.
- 2 Kathy and Heath Utley

Carson Williams

Dianalee Marie Bobadilla

- 3 Helen Utley—90
- 9 Cvnthia Wise
- 11 Rachel Andrews

Jeff Utley-40

Travis Usinger

- 13 Jerome Henderson
 Teresa and Jerry Hatcher, Jr.
- 15 Matthew Collin Buck
- 19 Andrew Buck
- 20 Rebecca Williams
- 22 Kathy Fourreau

24 Bennett Usinger

Alexa Svetz

26 Kathy Utley

Sarah and Elmer Massey-60

- 27 John Utley
- 30 Teresa Denson
- 31 Michael Utley

George Utley

AUGUST

- 1 Jack Utley
- 2 Paula and Robert Simpson
- 5 Stephanie BolinMelissa and Quint ErvinBrandi and Drew Draper
- 7 Barbara Mayo

Kayce and Jonathan Singleton

9 Rhonda and Neyl Williams

Suzanne Utley Bieri

Kate Utley Toon

10 Lindsey Sipes

Wil Simpson

Dane Utley

- 11 Carla Buck
- 12 Tracy and Michael Utley
- 14 Donald Glenn Rainey

Fernando Fuerman

Rachel and Cobb Andrews

- 15 Kae and Randy Utley
- 16 Julie Spratt

Jill Utley

Melissa Buck Smith

Diane and Paul Deschenes

- 18 John Simpson
- 19 Stephannie Welsh

Lynn Grenfell—50

Avery Barrow 20 Sunny Utley

- 21 Elizabeth Massey Jenna Utley
- 22 Sarah Grenfell
- 24 Jill Thomas
- 25 Gaines Massey
- 26 Lexie Bolin
- Alesha Utley
 27 David Utley
- Rhonda Williams
- 29 Jackie Fortner
- 30 Tracy Svetz
- 31 Scott Buck

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2007 UTLEY FAMILY REUNION OLD ENGLISH INN SATURDAY JULY 28, 2007 "MARDI GRAS IN JACKSON"

Please make your reservations, before July 19, 2007, by filling out the form below, and mailing it to:

Jackie Utley 590 Wallace Road Jackson, TN 38305-2839

731-668-5409 E-mail: JUtleyMail@aol.com.

An anonymous relative will pay for the catered meal. Please enclose \$10.00 per family registration fee. Please make checks payable to: Utley Family Reunion.

NAME:	,	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE NUMBER/S:		(Home)
		(Cell)
E-MAIL ADDRESS:		
SPOUSE'S NAME:		_
MILES YOU'LL TRAVEL T	O ATTEND THIS R	REUNION
NAME OF SOMEONE WH MOVE:		OW HOW TO REACH YOU, IN CASE YOU
NUMBER IN FAMILY WH	O WILL ATTEND:_	
NAMES FOR NAME TAC	S (ADDITIONAL)	NAMES ON BACK)
1.	4.	,
2.	5.	
3.	6.	
8 x 10 Reunion group	photos @ \$7 each	8 x 10 Family group photos @ \$7 each
5 x 7 Reunion group p		

Utley Family Heritage Cookbook

The Utley Family Heritage Cookbook will be available at the 2007 Utley Family Reunion on Saturday, July 28, 2007. We are offering an "Early Bird Special" for prepaid orders **until July 1, 2007**.

These family cookbooks are spiral-bound and printed on heavy 6"x 9" paper. Cookbooks contain over 280 pages of Utley family recipes and photos. The Utley Family Heritage Cookbook will make an excellent gifts and a delicious addition to your cookbook collection.

Date		
Name		
*Address	(\$5 postage per order for mailing)
*City, State, Zip		
I would like to purchase	Utley Family Heritage Cookbook/s	@ \$20.00 each (before July 1, 2007)
I would like to purchase	Utley Family Heritage Cookbook/s	@ \$25.00 each (after July 1, 2007)
I will pick up my cookbook/s at	t the 2007 Utley Family Reunion on	July 28, 2007
*Please mail my cookbook/s. \$	65.00 mailing cost per order is include	led and my address is shown above
Family COOKBOOK	Cookbook total	\$
	*Shipping (if applicable)	\$
	Total enclosed	\$

Mail form and checks to: Utley Family Heritage Cookbooks 590 Wallace Road Jackson TN 38305-2839

Sharing our Heritage