

Knowing and Loving Alice.....

I met my dear cousin, Alice Hix, at the first family reunion in Wytheville in 2003. At the auction, Alice was offering to print out large family trees from a large printer where she worked. I bid on it big time.....I don't remember what I bid but I won. Little did I know that that was the beginning of a friendship and closeness with Alice that I treasure deeply.

We shared a love and appreciation of the bounty we shared with all of the Gleaves cousins who have attended a reunion or connected on the website that Alice created. Alice toted all of the historical documents from the attic in Wytheville to Georgia, scanned them, organized them, returned the documents to the Dunkley family and put them on the website for everyone to access.

Just last night, my granddaughter wanted to interview me about our family history for a school assignment. I was able to send her a link to the website that has the letter written in 1811 telling of my William Gleaves, Jr.'s death to his parents in Wytheville.

With the website alone, Alice has given us all a huge gift that will keep on giving. She did it with talent, creativity, humor and love. I think we figured out we are related 7 generations back. I feel like we were first cousins....our Gleaves connection was so strong. I am blessed to have been able to know and work with Alice on the reunions and everyday life. Alice will be missed greatly by all and particularly by me.

Paula Johnson Poll, Treasurer, Gleaves Family Association.