



**Those who don't remember their ancestors don't deserve to be remembered!**

### From The Editor

We hope you ended 2016 with a healthy and happy note. It is just a few days away from the inauguration of President Trump. It is time to see "America made great again." I remember the innocence of the 50's with great family unity and then the beginning of change in the 60's. We shall never return to those days but we can hope for better than we have now.

Trish and I celebrated our 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas party with 77 souls on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. We wrote our 30<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas letter and mailed over 100 copies. Trish stated that she did not want to have any more Christmas parties. I told her that twenty three is an odd number that we have to have two more to make it twenty five and then we will quit. The annual letter will keep going until? Both have been long term efforts.

As age creeps (speeds) upon all of us, the year of 2017 may see the end of another long term effort, the quarterly newsletter *Lawrence, Etc.* It is enjoyable to prepare, but it is getting more and more difficult to write original composition for the newsletter. Sure, there will always be some unexplored orphan Peele family or article that one can write about, but there has to be a stopping point, maybe 2017?

Over the years, in spoken and written word, we have named many family members who have archived great success stories; from adventurers such as Lawrence, to farmers and senators, to justices and judges, lawyers and doctors, preachers and bishops, military members, businessmen and women and just great individuals. You will find our family in all sorts of endeavors. In this edition, I highlight Lydia Child Peele for her recent achievements as the author of ***The Midnight Cool***. In the next newsletter, we shall highlight a couple of other family members, both artists.



Trish Peele

In the meantime, Trish and I are getting ready for our summer journey back to England, Italy, and Switzerland.

If you are planning a trip to England, it is time now to get your English currency -- the lowest the pound has been in years because of the planned exit from the European Union.

Enjoy.



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# Family Spotlight

Ours is a wonderful family. I got a call by Cousin RB Peelle asking if I knew a lady named Lydia Peelle sponsored in the New York Times (NYT) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January? I guess the double “ll” spelling is what caught RB’s attention. I Googled the NYT to see the article and then looked into my data base to find Lydia Child Peelle. RB and Lydia are second cousins once removed.

Lydia Peelle’s web site <http://www.lydiapeelle.com> contains the following information:

Lydia Peelle is the author of the story collection ***Reasons For and Advantages of Breathing***, which received an honorable mention for the PEN/Hemingway Award. She received her MFA from the University of Virginia and has been a fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Ucross, Yaddo, and Ragdale. Peelle is a recipient of two Pushcart Prizes, an O. Henry Prize, the National Book Foundation’s “5 Under 35” honor, and a Whiting Award. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee. ***The Midnight Cool*** is her first novel.

I contacted Lydia and she approved this article and said she especially enjoyed my memories about one of our mules named PeeWee. Lydia’s web site lists several locations where she will be on “Tour” signing her books. You may visit that at <http://www.lydiapeelle.com/tour>. I wish one was close to Texas. I also sent an email to the John Williams who wrote the NYT article to ask about repeating his article but no answer. With slight variations, the article from the NYT is as follows:

## ***The Best Laid Schemes of Mules and Men***

*By John Williams, New York Times, January 2, 2017*

*A first Novel, set just before World War I, puts its animals front and center of the plot.*



*Lydia Peelle*

Early in Lydia Peelle’s first novel, “***The Midnight Cool***,” she surveys the teeming crowd of men and animals at a horse and mule auction, and writes: “Skinny dogs trotted through it all like they had someplace to be, crescents of hoof trimmings from the blacksmith held like cigarettes between their teeth.”

The people in Ms. Peelle’s fiction are fully imagined, but we’ll get to them. It’s animals that give her work its heartbeat. The first story in her 2009 debut, “Reasons for and Advantages of Breathing” — as assured and rewarding a collection as you’ll find — was titled “Mule Killers,” referring to the tractors that put these beasts of burden out of the agriculture business. The narrator’s father, a farmer, especially loves a now-unnecessary mule named Orphan Lad, with his “sharp shoulders and soft ears, the mealy tuck of his lower lip.”

The majority of the action in Ms. Peelle’s novel takes place in 1916 and 1917, in the months leading up to America’s entry into World War I, and mules are center stage. The book is even dedicated to them. Billy, a middle-age horse trader, and his young partner and charge, Charles, turn their attention to the British Army’s — and eventually the American Army’s — demand for

strong mules overseas. They're not above cutting corners, but they operate in a patriotic atmosphere in which people remind one another: "Don't just do your bit, but do your all."

Billy is injured by a bad-tempered, dangerous horse sold to the pair under false pretenses by Leland Hatcher, the richest man in a Tennessee town. Charles falls profoundly in love with Leland's spirited daughter, Catherine. The book revolves around three dramas, all of which unfold at a leisurely pace: Charles's potential consummation with Catherine; the men's ability to navigate their mule business to an honest profit; and flashbacks to the late 1800s for Billy's back story, including the explanation of his close relationship with Charles.

Billy and Charles, and their bond, are affecting. Billy's longer and fuller life makes him the more vibrant of the two, but the mysteries of Charles's fate propel the book. In addition to his luck with Catherine, we wonder about his past (he never knew his father, and his hard-luck mother died a prostitute) and his future: The novel opens, briefly, in 1918, with Charles and a mule stuck in mud during a battle in France.

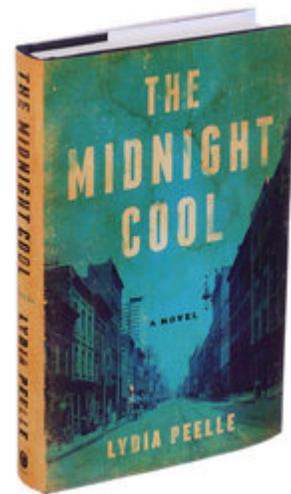
Ms. Peelle entertains in the novel in a folksy way that might lapse more frequently into hokey in a less confident writer's hands. She knows how to spin macho aphorisms in the way of westerns, making them feel both overheated and satisfying. "A man cannot be a man without the wilderness at his back," one character says.

Ms. Peelle is democratic, giving some of the best exchanges to minor characters. One boy dismisses horses and birds by saying they "spend their whole life either asleep or afraid." An older man corrects him with the description of a horse: "He's like a spider at the center of a web who knows the second a fly hits it way off in another corner. He ain't afraid. He's aware."

Remembering the rapid effects of eating poisonous mushrooms on a woman, another character says, "They were measuring her for her coffin before she sat up and asked for a glass of water." A miner, after breaking his back in an accident, says, "I can't die, I'll lose my job."

Despite the novel's more lively draws, there is something in its bones that keeps it from fully taking flight. In setting the story so early in the previous century, Ms. Peelle can become too tightly tethered to traditional historical fiction's demands for plot contrivances and period details. One of her great strengths is the ability to immerse the reader in an environment, but "The Midnight Cool" has features — reprinted newspaper columns, conveniently timed flashbacks and other devices — that often jostle the reader into distractedly noticing fiction's weights and pulleys. The plot also pivots on a few simply hoary devices, including more than one pregnancy reveal.

In her first book, Ms. Peelle ranged comfortably between the past and present, finding echoes of each in the other, making the past vital and the present somewhat mysterious and unknowable. In comparison, the recaptured Americana here sometimes feels too much like waxwork. But if "The Midnight Cool" doesn't sustain the brilliance of Ms. Peelle's earlier stories, it is still undergirded by the considerable agility and charm of her voice, and by her deeply attuned love of nature.



*Credit Patricia Wall  
The New York Times*

In a 2009 interview in Bomb magazine, she said: "I think a lot about our failure, as a species, to communicate well with each other, and that leads me to think about our communication with other species, how sometimes it can be, ironically, so much purer than the relationships we have with one another."

"The Midnight Cool" ends, appropriately, with a series of animal images: a whip-poor-will; a field mouse; and finally horses, startled awake in the middle of the night, aware.

----End of NYT Article----

I have not yet to read the book. But I, like many of you, was raised on a farm. My Dad, Marvin Peele, had six tenant houses for share croppers. The main crops were tons of fresh vegetables, cotton, and tobacco. Raising tobacco was a man-hour intensive problem. My Dad had a system using mules and sleds to gather the tobacco.

Wheeled vehicles were not allowed in the tobacco field since tobacco stalks get about six feet tall. Gathering the ripe tobacco leaves from the tobacco stalk and taking them to the curing barn was a dirty nasty task. I remember well the raw nicotine thickly coating each hair on my arm and how horrible the accidental taste!

One mule named "PeeWee" was used extensively to gather the tobacco. The way my Dad planted a tobacco field was in a pattern of four rows with a gap such that the sled could go down the middle between the four rows, two rows on each side of the sled. Four men, two each side of the "sled row", would gather the ripe leaves from the plants on each side and place them carefully into the sled. This continued all the way down the rows.

When the sled got to the end of the tobacco row, then it was the mule's job to pull the sled in a wide turn around and go into the next sled row. That was something that old PeeWee had mastered. He would do it without command. However he would sometimes misjudge the turn and knock over a plant of tobacco on the end of the row. The men would watch to make sure that did not happen.

PeeWee also knew his way back to the barn. Sometimes my Dad would turn him loose at a tobacco patch about two miles from home and he would walk directly back to the barn. It would take him a while but he always went home. I can remember riding him bareback to the barn. Once on the way back to the barn, he got spooked, bucked, and threw me off. I could not get back on so I had to walk the two miles back home as well.

Memories are amazing!

Maybe Sue Collier can help me with the next question "Who is Dempsey Peel?"

# *Who is Dempsey Peel?*

Once again, I dug into my book of **Disconnected or Orphan** Peeles. This time I picked up a family of Dempsey Peel as documented by several to include Jean Guice, Anita Quarles, and Diane Peel Walls. I am looking for help on this one, can anyone tell me how Dempsey-1802 fits into the family?

The first Dempsey was named after Captain Dempsey Sumner, who lived adjacent to many of the Peelle family members in the Upper Parish of Nansemond County, Virginia, and later in Chowan County, North Carolina. Both families had multiple land holdings in each of these counties and were next door neighbors in some cases. You may read more on Page 117 of the ***Peele Chronicles***.

## ***Descendants of Dempsey-1802***

**Dempsey Peel** was born 1802 in VA, and died Apr 1858 in Gates Co., NC. He married **Martha Benton** on 27 Oct 1828 in Gates Co., NC. She was born 1806 in NC, and died Jan 1860. .

Children of Dempsey Peel and Martha [Peel] are:

- 2 i. William R. Peel, born 1829 in NC; died Abt. 27 Jul 1864.
- 3 ii. Mary Jane Peel, born 1835 in NC.
- 4 iii. Willis Peel, born 1835 in NC.
- 5 iv. Dempsey Peel, born 1839 in NC; died 21 Nov 1889 in Crittenden Co., AR.
- 6 v. Martha Louise Peel, born 1840 in NC.  
She married Richard Arnold Bef. 1860; born 1840.
- 7 vi. Charles Peel, born 1843 in NC.
- 8 vii. John Abner Peel, born 1845 in NC.
- 9 viii. Wiley Peel, born 1848 in NC.
- 10 ix. Anna Elizabeth Peel, born 1851 in Gates Co., NC.

The 1850 Gates County, NC, Census (Page 20, 19 Aug 1850) lists Dempsey as a farmer, born in VA, with Mary Jane and Willis being the same age, assumed to be twins.

Martha petitioned the Court of Pleas in May 1858 for her estate, see below. She died shortly thereafter; her will was probated in February 1860. The last child Anna Elizabeth was added from Martha's will as recorded on page 445 of the ***Peele Chronicles***. In it she named the following children, some words are misspelled as in the will:

- Mary Jane Peal one feather bead stid and furniture first choise to her and her heirs.
- Ann Elizabeth one feather bead stid and furniture second choise to her and her heirs.
- Charles Peal one feather bead stid and furniture third choise to him and his heirs.
- John Abner Peal one feather bead and furniture to him and his heirs.
- I give and bequeath unto my three girls or daughters namly Martha Louisa Arnold wife of Richard Arnold, Mary Jane and Elizabeth Peal all the money that may be found in my house at my death to be equally divided between them to share and share alike.
- It is my will and desire that all my estate of every thing not before given away be sold and the money arising from such be equally divided between all my living children to share and share alike to them and there heirs.
- Lastly, I nominate my son William Peal executor to this my last will and testament this 23 day of December 1859.

Martha did not mention Willis, Dempsey, or Wiley in her will. But Dempsey and Wiley were named in her petition on the next page.



One important clue in trying to place a child into a family is the typical naming convention. In olden days, the third son was named after the father and that pattern fits above. So if that held from the prior generation, then Dempsey-1802 could possibly belong to Hertford County Dempsey-1755 or Bertie County Dempsey-1777.

**Hertford County Dempsey-1755**, son of Robert-1712. In the 1790 census of the Edington District, Hertford County, NC, Dempsey Peelle is listed with one free white male 16 year upwards and head of families, four free white males under 16 years, and one free white female and head of families. Dempsey had four boys but only three have ever been positively named. Dempsey as the fourth child could fit into this family.

**Dempsey<sup>6</sup> Peelle** (Robert<sup>5</sup>, William<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born 1755 in Chowan Co., NC, and died Oct 1811 in Edgecombe Co., NC. He married **Bashaba State or did he???**

Children of Dempsey Peelle and Bashaba State are:

- + 2 i. Mills<sup>7</sup> Peelle, born Abt. 1784 in Edgecombe Co., NC; died Abt. 1865 and is buried in "The Old Homeplace", Millen, GA.
- + 3 ii. Miles Peelle, born Abt. 1784 in NC (Lived 1850: Burke Co., GA).
- + 4 iii. Elijah "Elisha" Peelle, born 1790 in Hertford Co., NC.

Dempsey-1755 moved to Edgecombe County before 1800 where he died, his three sons settled the estate there in 1811.

**Bertie County Dempsey-1777**, son of Josiah-1752.

**Dempsey<sup>7</sup> Peelle** (Josiah<sup>6</sup>, Joshua<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1777 in Bertie Co., NC, and died 1838 in Near Kelford, Bertie Co., NC. He married **Judith Baker Seay** 24 Feb 1799. She was born Abt. 1780.

Children of Dempsey Peelle and Judith Seay are:

- 2 i. Mary<sup>8</sup> Peelle, born Abt. 1800; died 1840 in Bertie Co., NC. She married John Patrick Abt. 1830; born Abt. 1800.
- 3 ii. Lennie M. Peelle, born 06 Dec 1801; died 31 Aug 1892 and is Buried in St. Francis Methodist Cemetery, Woodville, Bertie Co., NC.
- 4 iii. Margaret B. Peelle, born 1803; died 1888 in Bertie Co., NC. She married (1) Henry Hancock; born Abt. 1805. She married (2) Edwin Womble 1857; born Abt. 1805.
- 5 iv. Eliza Lucinda Peelle, born Abt. 1812; died 1855 in Bertie Co., NC.
- 6 v. Martha R. Peelle, born Abt. 1815.

A Bastardy Bond was filed on Dempsey Peelle by a Bashaba State in 1797 in the State of North Carolina, Bertie County (Bastardy Bonds Records, 1739 to 1879) but we do not have a child listed as being born that year.

In the 1810 Census, the Bertie County Dempsey had 13 people in his household, one male between 26-44; one female between 26-44; seven females under the age of 16, one male under the age of 16, and three slaves. There are three missing children from the tree. In 1830 he had ten slaves.

Ok cousins; help me connect Dempsey-1802. If anyone has any clues, they would be greatly appreciated.

# Family Obits



*Doris Peele Love*

HAMLET, N.C. — **Doris Peele Love**, 90, of 109 Myrtle Ave., Hamlet, went to be with her Lord on Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016 at her residence.

She was born in Scotland County on Nov. 25, 1925, daughter of Henry Robert Peele and Mattie Smith Peele.

Mrs. Love was previously employed as a supervisor at Sara Lee Hosiery and a lifetime member of Tabernacle United Methodist Church. She served in many capacities over the years; a friend to everyone, always there to help with a visit or food or whatever one may need, she had a true servant's heart!

She was preceded in death by her parents; late husband, Hayne C. Love; sister, Blanche Hubbard; brothers, William Everette Peele and Ralph Peele; and daughter, Helen Faye Peele.

Survivors include her daughter, Martha L. Stubbs of Hamlet; sons, Harold C. (Gail) Love of Charlotte and Robert "Wilson" (Dottie) Love of Asheville; brother, Henry Robert Peele Jr. (Mary) of High Point; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday at Tabernacle United Methodist Church. The funeral will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday with the Rev. Kelly Hunt and the Rev. Don Dawkins officiating. Burial will follow at Richmond Memorial Park.

For those that wish, memorials may be made in Mrs. Love's memory to Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 1081 N.C. 381, Hamlet, NC 28345. Harrington Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Love family.

**Genealogical Line** — 11<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence: **Doris Louise<sup>11</sup> Peele** (Henry Robert<sup>10</sup>, Fletcher<sup>9</sup>, Robert<sup>8</sup> Peelle, David<sup>7</sup>, Robert<sup>6</sup>, Robert<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>). [Contributed by Doris' daughter Marti Stubbs. Doris was my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin once removed.]



*Bud Peele*

HOBBSVILLE, NC - **Abram Lynnier "Bud" Peele, Jr.**, 81, of 129 Muddy Cross Road, passed away on Monday, July 18, 2016 in Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital, Ahoskie. Mr. Peele was born in Beaufort County on February 28, 1935, and was the son of the late Abram L., Sr. and Ethel Mae Wilkerson Peele.

A retired pipefitter from Union Camp Corp. in Franklin, VA, he later worked for many years with his wife in her catering business. A member of Sandy Cross Baptist Church, he was a former member of the Gates County Rescue Squad, and had served in the North Carolina National Guard.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Sharon Aston; and by his sister, Linda Fulcher. Surviving are his wife of 61 years, Merrill Wiley Peele; two sons, Abram Lynn Peele, III and wife Judith of Pulaski, VA and George D. Peele and wife Terry of Plymouth;

his son-in-law, Thomas Aston of Suffolk, VA; his brother, Larry Peele of New Bern; six grandchildren, T.W., Kaitlin, Blair, Nicole, Amber, and David; and four great-grandchildren, Natalie, Jayce, Sebastian, and Adrian. Also surviving are his special girls, Paula, Sharen, and Angela; his two boys, Herbert and Mike; and a special nephew, Jackie Wiley.

A memorial service will be held Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in Sandy Cross Baptist Church and will be officiated by his former pastor, Dr. Jesse Croom. A private burial will follow in the church cemetery. Miller Funeral Home, 304 Main Street, Gatesville, is assisting the family with arrangements. Flowers are welcomed or contributions in his memory may be made to the Gates County Rescue Squad, 16 Hwy. 158 East, Gatesville, NC 27938, or to the Rheumatoid Arthritis Foundation, [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org).

**Genealogical Line** — 11<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence: **Abram Lynnier "Bud"<sup>11</sup> Peele, Jr.** (Abram Lynnier<sup>10</sup>, Henry Bennett<sup>9</sup>, Abram Tice<sup>8</sup> Peal, Thomas<sup>7</sup>, John<sup>6</sup>, Robert<sup>5</sup> Peelle, William<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) [Published in The Daily Advance. Abram was my 7<sup>th</sup> cousin once removed.]



*Lydia Peele*

**Lydia Peele-Barber Cianfichi**, 54, of Waldorf, MD, died unexpectedly after a brief illness on Friday October 14, 2016, at Med-Star Washington Hospital Center in Washington D.C.

Lydia was a native of Colerain, NC, lifelong member of Colerain Baptist Church and graduated from Bertie Senior High. She took great pride in her work in accounting for more than 30 years. Lydia was an excellent cook, loved growing flowers, enjoyed crafting and cross stitching but her greatest love was her family.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband, Anthony (Tony) Cianfichi, two daughters, Brynn Marie Butts of Knoxville, TN and Victoria L.

Barber of Durango, CO, a step-son, Army Captain Alec Cianfichi of Colorado Springs, CO, her mother, Betty Peele of Colerain, NC, a brother, Dr. Mark E. Peele (JoAnne) of San Antonio, TX, a niece, Sarabeth Peele and a nephew, Merritt E. Peele both of Houston, TX. Lydia was predeceased by her father, Merritt Edward Peele of Colerain, NC.

A celebration of life service will be held at Colerain Baptist Church in Colerain, NC on Thursday October 20, 2016 at 11:00 AM.

Memorial donations may be made to the Bereavement Fund of Colerain Baptist Church. A private burial will be held at a later date.

**Genealogical Line** — 12<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence: **Lydia Carole<sup>12</sup> Peele** (Merritt Edward<sup>11</sup>, Mark Edward<sup>10</sup>, Amos Calvin<sup>9</sup>, Amos Calvin<sup>8</sup> Peelle, John<sup>7</sup>, James<sup>6</sup>, Joshua<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) [Lydia Was my 7<sup>th</sup> cousin, her brother Mark lives close to me.]



*Virginia Peele*

Yadkinville- **Mrs. Anne “Virginia” Bowman Peele**, 84, of Wild Rose Trail passed away peacefully Monday December 26, 2016 at her home. She was born January 15, 1932 in Surry County to the late Johnny and Annie Flippin Bowman. Mrs. Peele was a member of Courtney Baptist Church where she was active with the choir and music ministry.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, homemaker, and was devoted to her family. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her beloved husband, Edward Franklin Peele on January 24, 2012, and by 4 brothers and a sister.

Surviving are her children, Brenda (Joel) Whitaker, Garry (Kathy) Peele, Rebecca (Eddie) Gregory; grandchildren, Denise Holt, James Whitaker, Kayl “Kyle” Whitaker, Lindsey Reeves, Ashley Beal; 12 Great-Grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; a brother, Monroe (Louise) Bowman; and several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 1-2 PM Wednesday at Courtney Baptist Church. Her funeral service will follow the visitation at 2 PM Wednesday in Courtney Baptist Church by Dr. Richard Capps and Rev. John Brown. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Gentry Family Funeral Service of Yadkinville is serving the Peele Family.

**Genealogical Line** — 10<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence through her spouse: **Edward Franklin<sup>10</sup> Peele** (James Byrd<sup>9</sup>, Elias Martin<sup>8</sup>, Jesse L.<sup>7</sup> Peel, Jesse<sup>6</sup>, Jesse<sup>5</sup> Peelle, William<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>). [Edward was my 6<sup>th</sup> cousin twice removed.]



*Dorothy M. Peele*

North Carolina - **Dorothy Marie “Dot”Peele**, 92, of Philadelphia [PA] and formerly of Mechanicsburg, [NC] died Friday July 22, 2016 at her home in Philadelphia. Her "wished-on niece" and good friend, June M. Fry, was with her when she passed away. Born in Lewiston, North Carolina, Dottie was the daughter of the late John R. Peele and Margaret Layla Peele.

After graduation from Lewiston-Woodville high school she attended East Carolina Teachers College and graduated with a degree in Physical Education and Science. While at East Carolina she was an outstanding Pirate athlete and excelled in all varsity sports available to women including tennis, basketball, soccer, field hockey, softball, and volleyball.

She was a member of multiple student committees and elected Class President by her peers.

In 1945, Miss Peele's teaching and coaching career started in Catonsville, MD. In 1955, she moved to Pennsylvania, teaching for two years at East Pennsboro High School, then moving to Mechanicsburg High School. At Mechanicsburg, she taught physical education and health and set the standard for women educators to follow as the Girls' Sports director, coaching multiple girls' sports teams. In 1961 Miss Peele's field hockey team won the first ever championship in the school's history; a second championship followed in 1962. Her basketball team was co-champion in 1960 and 1961, and sole champion in 1962 and 1963. During her tenure at Mechanicsburg High School she was a devoted educator, mentor, and role model who was respected, loved and admired by hundreds of students; many keeping in touch with her

throughout their lives.

In 1966 after earning a Master's degree in counseling, Miss Peele became a Mechanicsburg junior high/middle school counselor. She was devoted to her students. Her willingness to help them with any problem was a positive influence for the district and had a profound impact on many students' lives. She was an innovative educator and ahead of her time. She created the first Career Day Program for middle school students which became an invaluable resource for planning their futures.

While in the Mechanicsburg area Dot/Dottie became life-long friends with countless colleagues and neighbors. Common memories for the many friends she had are the soft accent, the proper lady with impeccable manners and the polite and gracious attitude, all of which accompanied her southern charm and fun loving spirit. She enjoyed antiquing, buying fine furniture and collecting beautiful cut glass.

Throughout her teaching career Dot continued to stay in touch with her southern roots and travelled to North Carolina for holidays and summer vacations. She enjoyed spending time with her parents, two younger sisters, Evelyn and Shirley (both of whom predeceased Dot) and her five nieces and nephews. Michael R. Carter and Holli Carter Thomasson Heck adored their Aunt Dot and remained close to her throughout her life. Holli's daughters, Samantha Michael Thomasson and Margaret Leora Thomasson, have always been very special; as was their late father J. Samuel Thomasson.

After a rewarding teaching, coaching and counselling career that made a difference to so many, Miss Peele retired in 1986 and returned to her family home in Lewiston, NC. Seven years later, she moved back north to the Philadelphia area. During retirement Dottie enjoyed the ocean, traveling, gardening, playing golf, adding to her collection of fine furniture, and beautiful cut glass, reading avidly, and visiting with her family and many friends.

A memorial service will be held on September 22, 2016 at 11:30 AM in the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian church. All are invited to a luncheon with Remembrances in the church's Social Room following the service.

Contributions may be forwarded to the Mechanicsburg Area School District, c/o Dorothy M. Peele Memorial Scholarship Fund, 100 E. Elmwood Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 with checks payable to the Mechanicsburg Area School District.

**Genealogical Line** -- 11<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence: **Dorothy Marie<sup>11</sup> Peele** (John Richard Jarred<sup>10</sup>, Jackson "Jack"<sup>9</sup> Peelle, Jarrod Ganell<sup>8</sup>, William H.<sup>7</sup>, Josiah<sup>6</sup>, Joshua<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>). [Published in The Virginian Pilot on Aug.24,2016. Dorothy was a 6<sup>th</sup> cousin once removed of both Harriett Peelle Terrell and myself.]

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“The First Peele Family in America”**

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**TO:**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Editor:** Horace Peele

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**Helpers - Contributors:**

- Cousin Claudia Williams (Eastern NC - VA)
- Joyce Braswell (Richmond County area)
- Sue Collier (Fantastic Researcher)
- Bobby Boykin (Wilson area.)

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