



Mrs. Julia Williams

## Stories From The Past Of Mrs. Julia Williams, Age 92

as interviewed by BETH DAVIS

### From Newsletter Britthaven Nursing Home

When asked for an interview by the Editor of the Britthaven Press, a mouthful of wit, humor and stories from the past started. Originally from Vanceboro, N.C. she was raised on the Wooten Plantation, owned by her daddy, Albert Wooten. Julia states "Daddy sat on his tail under the fruit tree and lost it all."

Julia married Mott Williams and they ran the Williams' Cafe in Vanceboro for many years. In those days Williams' Cafe was the only cafe around to meet and eat. Julia did all the cooking, baking and serving. Julia remembered "when a local woman came into the cafe wanting to see the man who baked those good pies." Mott, says Julia "always took the blame for baking those pies." "He didn't even know what went into them." "He never baked a pie in his life but he sure could eat them." Julia was wide known for her famous pies.

Mott and Julia served full meals for (believe it) 25¢ a plate. Those plates consisted of 1 meat, 2 fresh vegetables, homemade breads, desserts, and beverages. They sold coke for 5¢, hamburgers for 10¢, hot dogs for 5¢. Julia stated "Well, S---, we gave away everything we had." "Anybody coming around hungry Mott and me fed." Many famous people ate at Williams' Cafe. Sen. Sam Ervin, Sheriff Charley Berry, Dick Lane (Julia's favorite dancing partner) and a young Walter Jones.

Julia then told stories of her granddaddy Col. John B. Wooten. Col. Wooten was known in the Civil War as the Gray Fox. He was a famous look out scout who knew all the woods and forest around Craven County.

Julia's Aunt Annie Pittman told the story of the hole in her bedroom wall from a YANKEE'S cannon. Grandmother was in the yard cooking a chicken stew. Grandmother told the gathered family that "we're going to have a big dinner today." She turned around to look down the lane to see a group of YANKEE soldiers coming. They stopped and asked Grandmother "who was furious," stated Julia, "What's us going to eat." Aunt Annie, while sitting on the porch holding her cat, told the children to take the cat in the house before the soldiers ate him. The YANKEE soldiers replied to Aunt Annie "We've had all the cats we want to eat." Then they headed down the lane.

When asked by the interviewer how many acres did Wooten plantation have Julia picturesquely replied "How the H--- did I know."

Julia then told of her children and about her husband's love for hunting dogs. Mott took hunting parties and their dogs into the Vanceboro woods looking for Bear. She told of a time a man offered Mott \$90.00 for a dog named "Old Bill." Of course, he wouldn't sell the dog and this was against Julia's principle, she says "I would sell all of them for \$90.00."

Julia remembered one time her son, Mott, Jr., got made with the old farm mule, hit the mule and knocked him unconscious. She said, "Mott, Jr., was something else." "He's gone now" she said with tears in her eyes.

## baseball news

### Vanceboro Softball Schedule

- June 14:  
7:30 p.m.  
Gators vs Cougars  
8:45 p.m.  
Senators vs Rons
- June 18:  
7:30 p.m.  
Gators vs Senators  
8:45 p.m.  
Cougars vs K & J
- June 20:  
7:30 p.m.  
Senators vs Cougars  
8:45 p.m.  
Garris II vs Rons
- June 21:  
7:30 p.m.  
K & J vs Garris II  
8:45 p.m.  
Rons vs Gators

baseball news  
baseball news  
baseball news

### For Your Information:

June 17 - Father's Day  
June 25 - 8 p.m. - Town of  
Vanceboro Public Meeting on  
Budget.

June 25 - Vacation Bible  
School - Kitt Swamp Christian  
Church from 9-11:30 a.m.  
June 25-29 - Vacation Bible  
School - Vanceboro Christian  
Church 9-11:30 a.m.

Advil the first new non-prescription pain reliever  
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## Vanceboro Pharmacy

Main Street, Vanceboro

244-1086



## Children...

Get out of the summer heat and go to the Vanceboro-Craven Co. Public Library on Wednesday, June 20 for Story Hour! The program of movies and stories will begin at 4:00 p.m. Also, learn more about the upcoming summer reading game in July!

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Vanceboro, N.C.

244-1179

## JUNE SPECIALS

New Summer Store Hours

Beginning June 4:

Mon., Tues., Thurs - 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wednesday - 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Fri., Sat. - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

NOTICE: Closed Wednesday afternoons

Sunglasses  
\$2.97

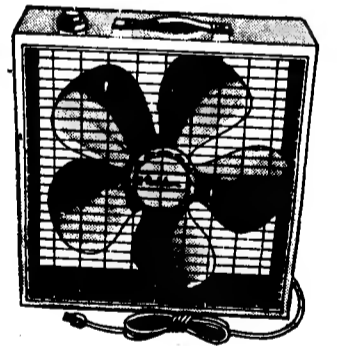


Blue Duchess  
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New Asst.  
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## CANNON'S VARIETY STORE

Main St., Vanceboro, N.C.