

# MARK PETER WHITLOCK (1917-2009)

I was very sad to receive news from Peter's son John Whitlock that his father had died May 1, 2009. From our first contact in August 1969, Peter was sharing research and offering to assist our efforts in any way he could. Over the next 40 years we corresponded regularly and Peter was tireless in his efforts to expand not only our knowledge of his Oxfordshire line of the family but our history of the Whitlock name in general.

From that first correspondence I learned Peter descended from Mark & Ann Frances Warin (Bull) Whitlock married in 1863 at St. Paul's Covent Garden, London. Peter quickly made the connection back to Ducklington in Oxfordshire and over the years he was able to determine his descent from Elisha & Anne (Carter) Whitlock who were married in 1696 in Witney, Oxfordshire.

When I lived in Ware, Hertfordshire in 1970/71, I met and talked with Peter several times. Peter was a lawyer in London and I was invited to visit several times when persons of interest were visiting. I remember meeting the American, Richard Whitlock Davis at one of Peter's dinners and discussing Richard's Virginian origins and speculating on his connections back to England. Always interesting events and remember fondly Molly Whitlock's Jerusalem artichoke soup made from roots she had grown at their farm in Yeovil, Somerset. I also remember having to leave before dinner was finished to catch the last train home to Ware. I was very embarrassed.

We lost contact for some time after I returned to Canada and then re-commenced our correspondence in 1991 after I had done a couple of articles in the Newsletter about his sister the author Pamela Whitlock. I had known of Pamela who published her first novel at 16 in 1936 but had not realized she was Peter's sister until some years later.

Several other members of the family have gone on to publish books and Peter always kept me up to date with family events and achievements. Peter also passed on many stories about his part of the family. In one letter he described his and Molly's wedding day in Khartoum in the Sudan. The temperature was 115F!!

There are numerous "updates" from Peter shown in the files and it was always great to keep up with the latest additions to Peter's growing extended family. His son John has promised to continue this from time to time.

Peter was a long time subscriber to the Whitlock Family Newsletter and I will miss his comments and updates. Thanks to John for letting us know of the passing of a long time friend and mentor.