

CHARLES WHITLOCK ROCKETT (1925-2011)

I was very sorry to receive the email from Chuck's family advising that he had died May 12, 2011. He first contacted me in 1983 regarding his ancestor, Reuben Whitlock. Chuck was a avid Whitlock researcher and had a huge collection of Whitlock census records he had collected together while doing census research for others. Whenever he came across a Whitlock entry he would record it and store it away. His first of many packages he sent to me was 61 pages and it took me a month to catalogue and cross-reference.

Chuck collected everything Whitlock that he came across and over the years contributed thousands of pages of source material for the Whitlock Family Association. In 1985 I was in Disneyland and took a day to drive down to visit with Chuck. We had a great time and shared endless stories and theories about Whitlock research. This time Chuck sent me home with 276 pages of new material. In 1986 Chuck hired a researcher to extract all the Whitlock and Whitelock entries from the whole 1900 census. Over the next five years Nancy Waterhouse sent me a steady stream of material until there was 479 pages and this project did not even include the black Whitlocks which still need to be done. This provided a huge research tool that allowed me to connect hundreds of persons to the family charts we were building.

With advent of the Internet and email Chuck came into his own. He acquired a computer and by 1995 I was receiving regular emails from Chuck. This opened a whole new world of research and Chuck combed the Internet constantly for Whitlock items. Constantly expanding our knowledge base. Chuck became the American agent for the Whitlock Family Association and answered questions and passed on researcher to me and encouraged others to share their research.

Charles Whitlock Rockett was the son Harold Challinor Rockett and Helen Marguerite Whitlock who were married in New York City in 1921. The family traced back through Ithaca, New York to Rush, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania where George Whitlock and Elizabeth Kase were married in 1808. George's eldest brother John Whitlock married Mary Morris in New Jersey in 1793 and their parents are known to have been Reuben and Christine Whitlock.

All through this process we kept the search on for Chuck's elusive Reuben Whitlock. Unfortunately, even today the WHITLOCK36 chart that includes Chuck's Pennsylvania ancestors, is still headed by Reuben & Christine Whitlock. We have yet to determine who his parents were.

All avenues of Chuck's life were about selflessly helping others and his legacy to the Whitlock family is immeasurable. His work brought many families together and in many cases answered questions about their origins that he was unable to answer about his own. The current website with over 1,000,000 pages of Whitlock research means Chuck will go on helping others well into the future.

We will all miss him and our sincere condolences go out to his family.