

WILLIAM KYLE WHITLOCK (1928-2015)

One of the emails waiting for me when I returned from holidays this Fall was from Robert Whitlock, Bill's son advising that his father had died April 10, 2015 in Pennsylvania. Bill was a long time supporter of the Whitlock Family Association and our correspondence goes back to 1992.

Part of the Whitlocks of New Jersey (W16) with origins in Wiltshire, England, Bill was very proud of his descent from Thomas Whitlock (1623?-1703) who built the first house in New Jersey in 1654, on the property in Monmouth County overlooking New York City that became The Spy House. This was a long time ago at the very beginnings of America, the British Monarchy had been swept away, Cromwell was Protector and Lord Whitlock was Keeper of the Great Seal and Ambassador to Sweden. It was a dangerous and uncertain time and many Baptists such as Thomas were heading to America to start a new life.

Bill was particular displeased with the decision to remove the name Whitlock from this historical site when it was discovered that the building was likely not older than 1720 so did not include any of the original structure build by Thomas Whitlock. Bill argued that the Whitlock family's contribution to New Jersey's history was no less significant as he was the first to build at that location. Bill was not successful but we appreciated his efforts. We will miss his energy and enthusiasm for all things Whitlock.

Robert has his fathers collection of research and is interested in carrying on the legacy his father left his family.