# The Turrentine Letter

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## 2018 TURRENTINE REUNION – Save the Date

**Save the date June 29-July 1st** for the 2018 Turrentine Reunion at the Best Western Plus, Loveland, Colorado. This is located at I-25 and Hwy 34. Loveland is near the mouth of the Big Thompson Canyon, the gateway to Estes Park, Colorado and Rocky Mountain National Park. It is conveniently located between Denver, Colorado and Cheyenne, Wyoming. A shuttle service to Denver airport is available. There will be a special room rate for the Turrentine reunion of $129 for a double Queen.

## Deaths

Betty Joyce Turrentine was born 2 March 1938 in Bladen County, North Carolina to Junius Woodrow and Pauline Ramsey High. She married Wilburn Charles "Dee" Turrentine who died in 2002. This is one of the Turrentine lines which we have been unable to connect to the Alexander and Samuel Turrentine tree.

Nathaniel Paul Turrentine #3071 died on July 20, 2017. Paul was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on Dec. 17, 1931, to Edward Lee Turrentine and Myrtle Elvira (Riedesel) Turrentine and Joined the Church Triumphant on July 20, 2017. He was 85 years old. Paul was a quiet man who loved his family, friends, the Lord and all of God's creatures. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany and retired from the Department of Defense as a photographer and printer. Paul is survived by his wife, Suzy; sons, Mark and Kenneth; brother, Jim; and sister, June. He is preceded in death by his parents Edward and Myrtle Turrentine; brother, David Turrentine; sisters, Naomi Warden, and Wanda Fairweather; wives, Bessie Turrentine, Marie Turrentine, and Veronica Turrentine.

**The Turrentine Family 3rd edition edited by Edgar M. Turrentine, October 1972, aka "The Orange Book" has been scanned and digitized. It is now available on the internet at ExlibrisRosetta. See link below:**

https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE3648303&from=fhd

The link has also been added to the home page of our website: http://turrentinenews.tripod.com/
If you go to the top of the page, a tool bar pops up that will allow you to download the entire book or to print all or part of the book. Caution is a large book, I would not recommend printing it all.

## DNA TESTING

I have been fielding a bunch of questions about the use of DNA in family research. The ads on the television are a bit misleading. I thought I was German, but I am really Scotch. These ads are about autosomal DNA (atDNA). The inheritance of atDNA is very random. I rapidly noticed that the amount of atDNA that one shares with a cousin or even an aunt or uncle is indeed random. My son and my brother share the overall percentage of atDNA that is expected, but they share no portion of chromosome #13. I have a 3rd cousin who does not appear as a match to myself, but he matches my brother. I have a person who, following the paper trail, appears to be a 8th cousin who is a match. There are many companies who do the testing. You can get a test on sale for under $99 from Ancestry, FTDNA, 23andMe and several others. Ancestry has the most people who have tested. I personally like FTDNA as there is no monthly fee to access the tree you input or your matches. 23andMe also has no monthly fee and has health reports, but has fewer people who have tested. You can opt to share ancestry only or ancestry and health information. For all these tests you can download the raw data and then upload the data to GEDmatch for comparison to people who tested at other sites.

If you plan to use atDNA to find "lost cousins" and missing ancestors, I recommend that multiple siblings and cousins test. The last time I checked, I have 3,037 matches. My brother, Stan has 3,091 matches. However, there are only 1,071 people whom we both match even though we are full siblings and related to all 5,057 (3091+3037-1071) people in the same way. For an atDNA match, you should have a common ancestor couple back to a maximum of 300 years. Still that is back far enough, that I only know how I am related to about 30 of my 3,071 matches, 1%. The other 99% remain an unsolved puzzle.

When we look at our "ancestral origins", it says my brother Stan is:
**76% British Isles** and 22% Eastern Europe, less than 2% East Middle East and less than 1% West Africa.
I am **93% British Isles** and 8% Eastern Europe with less than 1% Southeast Asia and less than 1% Siberia. I have noticed that the percentages change over time as they refine their models.

Now let's look at my son. My percentage are above, his father's are:
**16% British Isles**, 47% West and Central Europe**, 34% Scandinavia**, , less than 2% Finland.
What would you guess are out son's percentages? Here is his report from 23andme:
**39.8% British Isles**, 13.1% French and German, **8.4% Scandinavian** 36.2% broadly Northwestern Europe, 1.2% Southern European, .8% Siberian, 1.2% broadly European, and .1% Sub-Saharan Africa.

At GEDmatch you can choose different models to see what the percentages are under each model. So take your percentages with more than a few "grains of salt."

There are two other types of DNA which can be tested. Only males can take a Y-DNA test as only they inherit the Y-chromosome from their father, and they pass it to their sons, but not their daughters. Therefore, it follows the surname, assuming the sons took their father's name. It only tells you about that one line. The only matches are to other men whose straight line paternal ancestor is also goes back to the same line. There are various levels of testing, from 12 markers to 111 markers. Generally the test at less than 37 is not very useful. These tests can sometimes be useful to narrow down where a male line originated or to find a father's line when there has been an adoption or illegitimate male birth. It is

of no help in tracing the parentage of a female. Females have to find a male with the direct paternal line she wants to pursue this line of testing.

My father has a very common surname, Moore, but of the 733 males who joined the Moore project, he matches only his son, a cousin, one other Moore and 2 Mohers. All the other men on his match list do not have the surname Moore. However, those 3Moore/Moher lines know their lineage back to County Cork, Ireland. The connection could be back with the origin of surnames. One of the men also is an atDNA match which means it should be within 8 generations. Looking at where his family came from and then looking for other atDNA matches whose families trace back to the same area, I am developing a circle of families who it appears have associated with each, intermarried over many generations, and continued in some cases to associate with each other in Canada. I have not found the link, but at least I know where to look for it.

Then there is my husband. His surname is Hodges, but the only Hodges he matches is his cousin. He has two pages of men with the surname Crow or Crowe who match his Y-DNA. A few of them are also atDNA matches, allowing us to focus on the Crow families of South Carolina. We still have not solved why the surname is Hodges instead of Crow, but the search is narrowed down to those South Carolina Crow families.

Then there are our two Turrentine males who have tested. They are not exact matches to each other, and match a wide range of surnames, none of which are also atDNA matches. We need more Turrentine males to test to attempt to establish the markers for the two Turrentine brothers.
Only FTDNA offers the Y-DNA test.

The last type of test is mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). The mtDNA is passed from a mother to her children. Her daughters pass it to their children, but the sons cannot pass it to their children. It can tell you the 3-5,000 year ago origin of only the mother's, mother's, mother's line.... It will tell you nothing about the rest of the people in your ancestry. The only people you will match must share a common female ancestor along that single maternal line. The problem is that shared maternal ancestor could be back thousands of years. It can tell you if that line was direct Native American Indian or African. But you may also get a surprise. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., being black, assumed he would have a match to Africa. However, his maternal line goes back to Europe. His African roots only show up in his atDNA. Of all the matches for my father's maternal line, my maternal line, and my husband's maternal line, we have only one match that we have figured out: a cousin we found through atDNA who goes back to the same maternal line on this side of our "brick wall". So it did not provide us any new information.

This may sound a bit discouraging, but I have met some really neat distant cousins, and helped several adoptees find their birth families. You may also find out things about your ancestors that they did not share and had hoped to keep hidden. There are bound to be lots of mysteries you will never solve: adoptions, child kidnappings from the streets of England and Ireland, early New England raids where persons were taken to what was French Canada or into Native American Indian tribes, slavery, children orphaned on the famine ships from Ireland. Back in the early days of hospitals, infants were not immediately tagged and there are true incidents of "switched at birth".

In a previous letter, I shared that the maternal line of Lively Murphy, wife of Gilbert Turrentine, based on an mtDNA signature of L3b1a6, went back to Gambia. Lively's parent were Gideon and Deliah Murphy. The will of their owner, John Murphy, listed them as the servants of his late wife Cassandra. A descendant did an atDNA test which supported that her parents, Gideon and Deliah, came from the farm/plantation where John Murphy's wife Cassandra Harpool was raised. John and Cassandra were married 13 Jun 1837 in Hempstead County. At that time Hempstead County was much larger than it is now. It included most of present day Montgomery, Garland and the northern part of Polk Counties.