

Being the smallest in my class, you would not believe it now, we had what was called a dinner House at the south of the school house near the well. The Dinner House had two shelves. The bottom shelf was for students in the Little Room—primer through third grade. The big Room was for fifth through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. I must have been in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3d grade. Miss Lilla Gaskins Whidden Underwood was my teacher. She boarded with Uncle Joe & Aunt Bertha Outlaw. Bertha was my father's half sister. Aunt Bertha & Uncle Jim's mother was a Guthrie. She died and later my Grandfather Sam Watson married Betsy Boykin. Grandpa & Grandma had three children one died very young. Then my father & Aunt Georgian.

Living in one of the Outlaw tenant house[s] a family named [WHO: ɾ]. They had a grown girl going to school. From time to time she would go in my lunch box at recess & eat my lunch. I would get upset because I had no lunch so Miss Lilla would take me to Aunt Bertha's. Aunt Bertha would humor me & sometimes Miss Lilla would go back to school & Aunt Bertha would take me later.

By the way, Miss Lilla married a Whidden. He got sick years after they married. She operated a beauty shop & hired Miss Beulah Connell to care for Mr. Whidden so she could work. Times were hard. Mr. Whidden died & Miss Beulah lived with Miss Lilla until after she married Frank Underwood. Then Miss Beulah lived & worked with some of the Hughes.

After Underwood died, Miss Beulah went back & lived with Miss Lilla until she died. She then lived with her sister or the two lived together until she came to help us. Miss Beulah lived on with me after W.H. died until she had cancer surgery. I could hardly take care of self let alone someone sick & had to be looked after.

Note

Mr. Underwood organized a community band. Billy was young but wanted to be in the Band. I will never forget one night the Basketball team from Nashville played Willacoochee in Willacoochee Billy would lie down on the seat & go to sleep. Mr. Underwood would have to wake Billy every time the Band played. If I remember Bill had an upright alto horn.