



## WHERE NEVILLE CAME FROM: AN INTRODUCTION

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#### 1. THE OCCUPATIONS OF NEVILLE'S MALE ANCESTORS

Neville's family heritage has a point of distinction worth noting: her male ancestors of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were primarily professional men. The careers of these Southern ancestors spanned one hundred years, from about 1840 to the 1940s. During that time, agriculture was the main source of income in Mississippi and Arkansas, and most men in the South earned their living on farms. Yet only two of Neville's fifteen male ancestors who lived during this period are defined primarily as farmers. In a similar list of my ancestors, thirteen out of fifteen would be classified as farmers.

##### GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHERS

**Dr. Charles Calvin Frierson (1811–1879)** practiced medicine in Tennessee and Mississippi for about forty-five years.

**Dr. Newlin Addison Davis (1821–1876)** practiced medicine in Missouri and Arkansas for about twenty-six years.

**Dr. Thomas Quincy Martin (1817–1862)** practiced medicine in Alabama and Mississippi for about twenty-two years.

**Levi James Galloway (1819–1867)** was a newspaper owner and editor in Alabama and Mississippi for over twenty years.

**Rev. Stanley Peurifoy (1800–1864)** was a Methodist preacher and a farmer in Georgia for about forty-five years.

**Rev. Patrick Neal Maddux (1801–1870)** was a Methodist preacher and a farmer in Georgia for about forty-seven years.

**Samuel Edward Gillespie (1815–1863)** was a farmer in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas for about twenty-five years.

**Dr. William George Mackey (1814–1898)** practiced medicine in Tennessee and Mississippi for over fifty years.

### GREAT-GRANDFATHERS

**James Gordon Frierson (1837–1884)** was a lawyer, politician, and judge in Mississippi and Arkansas for about eighteen years.

**John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)** was a railroad man in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Louisiana for about eighteen years.

**John Cornelius Gillespie (1843–1907)** was a brick mason and contractor for at least thirty-seven years in Mississippi and Arkansas.

**John Whitfield Purifoy (1829–1900)** was a farmer in Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi for about fifty years.

### GRANDFATHERS

**Charles Davis Frierson Sr. (1877–1947)** was a lawyer, judge, and banker in Arkansas for forty-six years.

**Stanley Neville Purifoy (1879–1942)** was a manager for the Singer Sewing Machine Company and in the real-estate business for about forty years.

### FATHER

**Charles Davis Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)** was a lawyer, politician, banker, and farmer for thirty-nine years in Arkansas.

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#### 2. NEVILLE'S SEVEN CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS

When the Civil War began in April 1861, twelve of Neville's direct male ancestors (her eight great-great-grandfathers and four great-grandfathers) lived in areas within the Confederacy or in areas that were sympathetic to the Confederate cause. Seven of the twelve fought in the Civil War.

THE GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHERS	AGE ON 4/12/1861	RESIDENCE IN 1861
Dr. Charles Calvin Frierson (1811–1879)	50	College Hill, Mississippi
Dr. Newlin Addison Davis (1821–1876)	40	Ozark County, Missouri
Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)	41	Mobile, Alabama*
Dr. Thomas Quincy Martin (1817–1862)	43	Corinth, Mississippi
Rev. Stanley Peurifoy (1800–1864)	60	Yatesville, Georgia
Rev. Patrick Neal Maddux (1801–1870)	60	Zebulon, Georgia
Samuel Edward Gillespie (1815–1863)	46	Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Dr. William George Mackey (1814–1898)	46	Hernando, Mississippi

THE GREAT-GRANDFATHERS	AGE IN 1861	RESIDENCE IN 1861
James Gordon Frierson (1837–1884)	23	Oxford, Mississippi
John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)	17	Columbus, Mississippi
John Cornelius Gillespie (1843–1907)	17	Pine Bluff, Arkansas
John Whitfield Purifoy (1829–1900)	31	Russell County, Alabama

Out of these twelve male antecedents, six volunteered\*\* early in the war and fought for the Confederacy. In early 1864, one of the twelve antecedents, Levi James Gallaway, joined the Union Army. Dr. Charles Calvin Frierson provided medical services to the Confederate forces (and occasionally the enemy Union forces) during the Civil War, but he was fifty years old and never officially served with the Confederate Army.

\*In early 1861, Levi James Gallaway left Columbus, Mississippi, and arrived in Mobile, Alabama, where he was seeking refuge after having been ordered to leave Mississippi because of his strong views against the secession of Mississippi from the United States.

\*\*All six of Neville's Confederate Army ancestors volunteered before the Confederate Conscription Act was passed in April 1862. After that point, all white males—ages eighteen to thirty-five—had to register for the draft. By 1864 the age range for draftees was seventeen to fifty years old.

CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS	RANK	UNIT	SERVICE PERIOD
Dr. Newlin Addison Davis	Surgeon*	14th Texas Cavalry	Dec. 1861–May 1865
Dr. Thomas Quincy Martin	First Lt	32th Mississippi Regt	Feb. 1862–Oct. 1862
James Gordon Frierson	Private	15th Mississippi Regt	April 1861–Jan. 1862
	Second Lt**	30th Mississippi Regt	April 1862–June 1865
John Bell Gallaway	Private	14th Mississippi Regt	April 1861–Feb. 1865
John Cornelius Gillespie	Private	18th Arkansas Regt	Feb. 1862–July 1863
John Whitfield Purifoy	Drum Maj***	8th Alabama Regt	Aug. 1861–April 1862
	Private	39th Alabama Regt	April 1862–bef Sept. 1862
	Private	29th Georgia Cavalry	Jan. 1864–c. 1865

#### FEDERAL SOLDIER

Levi James Gallaway	Captain	1st Florida Cavalry	Jan. 1864****–Nov. 1865
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Lieutenant James Gordon Frierson and Private John Bell Gallaway were captured and put in Northern prisons during the war. John Cornelius Gillespie was captured, paroled, and later exchanged. Captain Levi James Gallaway was captured and spent most of his Federal service in Confederate prisons. Dr. Thomas Quincy Martin died of typhoid fever in Knoxville, Tennessee, during the Confederate retreat from the Battle of Perryville in October 1862.

\*The title of surgeon was the equivalent of major in the Confederate Army.

\*\*James Gordon Frierson was elected a second lieutenant on February 1, 1863. He was the highest-ranking active officer in Company B of the 30th Mississippi until November 24, 1863, when he was captured at the Battle of Lookout Mountain.

\*\*\*Drum major is a noncommissioned title.

\*\*\*\*Levi Gallaway began his military support for the Union in late 1862. His first official assignment on behalf of the Union came in January 1864. His date of muster as a Union captain was ultimately decided to be April 26, 1864.

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### 3. JONESBORO

Since 1883 Neville’s ancestors and their descendants have resided in Jonesboro, a city located in Craighead County on Crowley’s Ridge\* in the Delta region of northeastern Arkansas.

The Delta region of Arkansas runs along the western side of the Mississippi River. It is an alluvial plain, created by deposits of sediments from the overflow of the river over a very long period of time.



*The six geographic regions of Arkansas. Crowley's Ridge and Craighead County are located in the Delta region.*

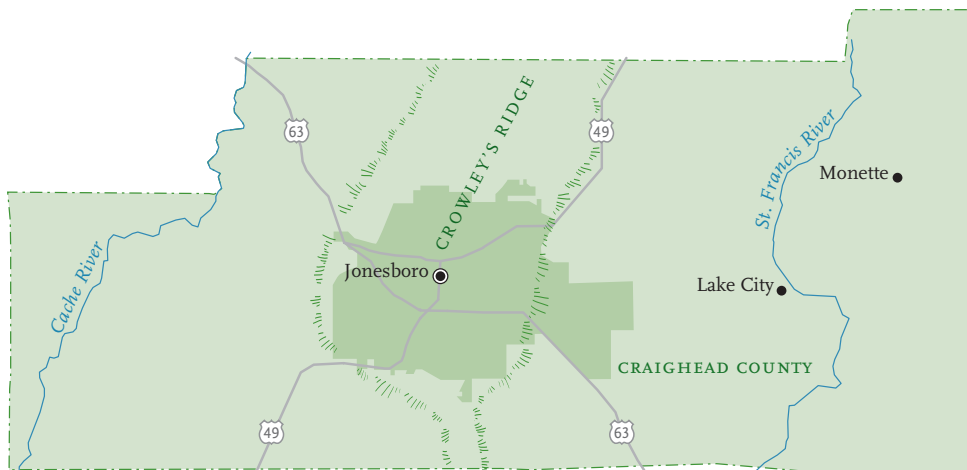
Crowley’s Ridge is an unusual geologic formation that arises in the Delta region of Arkansas. The ridge is about 150 miles long and between 1 and 12 miles wide. It was likely once an island in the Mississippi River. The first settlers came to Crowley’s Ridge around 1820. Among them was Benjamin Crowley (1758–1842), for whom the ridge is named. These settlers operated farms in

*\*Neville pronounces the first syllable in Crowley like crow (the bird), and that is correct. However, I have also heard it pronounced to rhyme with both caw and cow.*

the Arkansas Delta, but they built their homes on the higher ground of the ridge in order to avoid the frequent flooding and abundant mosquitoes in the low-lying areas. **James Gordon Frierson (1837–1884)** lived on Crowley’s Ridge in the town of Cleburne in Cross County from about 1868 to 1878. In 1883 he moved his family again to Crowley’s Ridge, when he came to Jonesboro in Craighead County.

Craighead County in northeastern Arkansas was formed in 1859 out of three adjoining counties. The county was named for a state senator, Thomas Craighead (1798–1862), whose support for forming the new county was gained by naming it after him. After the act to form the county passed, Senator Craighead proposed that the county seat be named after Senator William A. Jones, the official who had cleverly suggested that the county be named Craighead. Senator Craighead’s reciprocation thus gave the city of Jonesboro its name.

In 1859 Jonesboro’s population totaled 150 persons. Today Jonesboro has a population of about 70,000 people in its city limits and 130,000 in its metropolitan area. It is the largest city in northeastern Arkansas and the fifth largest in all of Arkansas.



*The city of Jonesboro on Crowley's Ridge in Craighead County.*

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#### 4. NEVILLE'S ELEVEN ANCESTORS AT REST IN JONESBORO

Neville has eleven direct ancestors who were buried in Jonesboro, Arkansas, between 1884 and 1973. That fact is a reflection of the extraordinary attachment of her family to the community of Jonesboro.

The gravesites of these eleven ancestors are found in two cemeteries, both on Matthews Avenue in Jonesboro. The older cemetery is City Cemetery, located in the center of Jonesboro. It is on East Matthews Avenue, next to St. Bernard's Hospital. Seven ancestors are buried there. The other Jonesboro cemetery in which Neville's antecedents are buried is Oaklawn Cemetery (also known as Woodlawn and Westlawn), established in 1904. It is located less than two miles west of City Cemetery on West Matthews Avenue. Four ancestors are buried there.



*The tombstone of Emma Davis Frierson, with its original urn at the top of the column. These photographs were taken c. 2000. The Heart Care Center of St. Bernard's Hospital appears in the background.*



*The tombstone of Judge James Gordon Frierson. The column once sat atop the tombstone but has been dislodged in this c. 2000 photograph.*



*A c. 2000 photograph of the gravestone of Eliza Murray Drake Davis, Neville's great-great-grandmother. The tombstone is beside an old oak tree and next to the markers for her daughter, Emma Davis Frierson, and son-in-law, Judge James Gordon Frierson.*

In City Cemetery, the tombstones of Neville's earliest three ancestors are located in the western part of the cemetery in front of a large oak tree, which is certainly older than the tombstones. The three grave markers are, from left to right, **Emma Davis Frierson (1847–1899)**, Neville's great-grandmother; **Judge James Gordon Frierson (1837–1884)**, her great-grandfather; and **Eliza Murray Drake Davis (1826–1888)**, the mother of Emma Davis Frierson and thus Neville's great-great-grandmother.

Neville and I visited the City Cemetery gravesites in October 2014. Regrettably the three tombstones had been recently cleaned and had, thus, lost all of their patina. Also, the roots of a large, burly oak tree had encroached upon the three gravestones, causing them to topple over.

In March 2016, the three Frierson tombstones were re-erected on a level surface, and the lost urn of Emma Davis Frierson's marker was re-created and mounted atop her tombstone.



*Neville and me at City Cemetery in Jonesboro in October 2014 in front of three broken and fallen Frierson tombstones.*



*From left to right: The restored tombstones of Emma D., wife of Jas. G. Frierson, Judge James G. Frierson, and Eliza M. beloved wife of Dr. N. A. Davis. This restoration was completed in March 2016.*



Two of Neville's maternal great-grandparents, **John Cornelius Gillespie (1843–1907)** and **Sarah Alice Mackey Gillespie (1857–1911)**, are also buried in Jonesboro's City Cemetery. Their grave markers are almost identical.



*The tombstones of Neville's great-grandparents John Cornelius Gillespie and his wife, Sarah Alice Mackey Gillespie, who died four years apart in the early twentieth century.*

The death certificate of Neville's grandmother **Ola Frank Gillespie Purifoy (1881–1934)** first recorded that she was to be buried in Oaklawn Cemetery. That entry was marked out, however, and City Cemetery was noted as her burial place instead. Interestingly, Ola was given a gravestone identical to those of her parents, who are interred nearby.

When Ola's husband, **Stanley Neville Purifoy (1879–1942)**, died seven years later, he, too, was buried in City Cemetery. His tombstone was selected by his daughter, who paid \$75 for it.



*The tombstone of Neville's maternal grandfather, Stanley Neville Purifoy, who died at age sixty-two (left). His grave marker is dissimilar to his wife's marker.*

*The tombstone of Neville's maternal grandmother, Ola Frank Gillespie Purifoy, who died at age fifty-three (right). Her grave marker is of the same design as that of her parents.*



*The gravestones of Neville's paternal grandparents, Charles Davis Frierson Sr. and Charlotte Martin Gallaway Frierson, at Oaklawn Cemetery.*



*The gravestones of Neville's parents, Charles Davis Frierson Jr. and Margaret Alice Purifoy Frierson, at Oaklawn Cemetery.*

Neville's paternal grandfather, **Charles Davis Frierson Sr. (1877–1947)**, was the first of her ancestors to be buried in Oaklawn Cemetery. His wife, **Charlotte Gallaway Frierson (1878–1968)**, joined him there twenty-one years later.

**Charles Davis Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)** and **Margaret Purifoy Frierson (1908–1973)** are buried in the same plot in Oaklawn Cemetery. The family plot has a large Frierson headstone in the center.

Additional Frierson ancestral relatives buried in Oaklawn Cemetery are Neville's great-uncle **James Gordon Frierson Jr. (1872–1951)** and his second wife (and first cousin), Pearl Clardy Frierson (1871–1934). Neville's only aunt, **Margaret Frierson Cherry (1912–1990)**, and her husband, Francis Adams Cherry (1908–1965), are also buried in Oaklawn Cemetery.



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**5. NEVILLE’S AUNT AND THREE FIRST COUSINS**

**SISTER OF CHARLES DAVIS FRIERSON JR. (1907–1970)**

**Margaret (Aunt Margaret) Frierson Cherry (1912–1990)** had three children.

**NEVILLE’S FIRST COUSINS**

Haskille Scott (Scott) Cherry III (1940–2007)

Charlotte Frierson (Charlotte) Cherry (b. 1942)

Francis Adams (Sandy) Cherry Jr. (b. 1947)

## 6. NEVILLE'S TWENTY-THREE GREAT-AUNTS AND GREAT-UNCLES

### SISTERS AND BROTHER OF CHARLES DAVIS FRIERSON SR. (1877–1947)

**Mary Corinne Frierson (1868–1870)** died in infancy.

**James Gordon (Uncle Gordon) Frierson Jr. (1872–1951)** had no children.

**Camille (Aunt Camille) Frierson Hughes (1872–1961)** had six sons and two daughters.

### SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF CHARLOTTE MARTIN GALLAWAY (1878–1968)

**Irene Dabney (Aunt Irene) Gallaway (1869–1957)** was unmarried.

**Eldon Gallaway (1871–1872)** died in infancy.

**Paul Martin (Uncle Paul) Gallaway (1873–1941)** had one son.

**Earle Walker (Uncle Earle) Gallaway (1875–1916)** had no children.

**Rowena McCord (Aunt Rowena) Gallaway (1882–1960)** was unmarried.

**Margaret Bell (Aunt Peg) Gallaway (1885–1964)** was unmarried.

### SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF STANLEY NEVILLE PURIFOY (1879–1942)

**R. S. Purifoy (1854– )** is a half brother for whom we have no further records.

**E. E. Purifoy (1856– )** is a half sister for whom we have no further records.

**Mary Lucinda (Aunt Mary) Purifoy Newman (1859–1927)** is a half sister who had three sons and four daughters.

**Julia (Aunt Julia) Purifoy McDonald (1861–1949)** is a half sister who had two sons and five daughters.

**John Maddux Purifoy (1871–1876)** died in childhood.

**William Patrick (Uncle Will) Purifoy (1873–1945)** had four stepchildren.

**Leila Arlone (Aunt Lela) Purifoy (1874–1907)** was unmarried.

**Martha Elizabeth (Aunt Mattie) Purifoy McPherson (1876–1962)** had four daughters.

**Linfield (Uncle Linn) Purifoy (1878–1949)** had seven daughters and six sons.

### SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF OLA FRANK GILLESPIE (1881–1934)

**Margaret Lee (Aunt Marguerite) Gillespie Snowden (1875–1951)** is a half sister who had no children.

**Robert Henry (Uncle Bob) Gillespie (1876–1951)** is a half brother who had two sons.

**John Lewis (Uncle Lewis) Gillespie (1883–1970)** had no children.

**Emma Edith (Aunt Deedie) Gillespie Jackson (1888–1976)** had six daughters and one son.

**William Thomas (Uncle Tom) Gillespie (1892–1962)** had one daughter and one son.



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#### 7. HOW TO “DO COUSINS”

A cousin is a relative with whom a person shares a common ancestor. First cousins share grandparents, second cousins share great-grandparents, third cousins share great-great-grandparents, and so on.

Your first cousins are the children of your parents’ brothers and sisters (your aunts and uncles). Your second cousins are the children of your parents’ first cousins. Your third cousins are the children of your parents’ second cousins.

If you are from a different generation than one of your cousins, you must define the degree of removal. For example, your parents’ first cousins are your first cousins once removed. Your grandparents’ first cousins are your first cousins twice removed.

While compiling information on Neville’s first and second cousins, I received a newspaper column entitled “You Always Have Your Cousins.” It was written in 1989 by Andy Rooney (1919–2011), a popular radio and television writer for many years, and it was published in multiple Tribune Media Services newspapers. The column was sent to me by Ola Virginia “Jin” Jackson Faulkner (b. 1926), Neville’s first cousin once removed. Excerpts from the article appear at right.



*Andrew Aitken "Andy" Rooney, a columnist and radio and television personality.*

### **"You Always Have Your Cousins"**

By Andy Rooney

*Some families are more serious about cousins than others.*

*We never made much of cousins in our family. I can't even remember exactly how many I have. They were nowhere near as important as uncles and aunts.*

*You are more aware of cousins when you are young than you are later. I knew some of my cousins pretty well, but in our family, we treated cousins more like friends. If we liked them, we saw them.*

*One of the first questions I recall having about cousins is why both boy cousins and girl cousins are both just called cousins. It's as if aunts and uncles were called by the same word.*

*I'm not in favor of being best friends with every cousin I was born with, but there's some value to the permanence of cousins. Friends can drift apart by accident. You move to another city or get another job and make new friends. You still like your old friends, but you never see them and pretty soon, even the Christmas cards stop.*

*Cousins are forever. You always have them.*

*Southerners make more of cousins than people from other parts of the country. In the South, everyone knows their second and third cousins. I hardly know what a second cousin is and I know darn well I couldn't give the definition of a third cousin or a cousin twice removed. Whatever it is, we didn't do third cousins in my family. Just plain cousins were enough to deal with.*