

## Donna Gifford Basham

I was born in Palmer in 1946. My parents, Eugene Gifford and Georgia Lee Lockhart lived in a house beside the railroad tracks next door to my Grandparents, Russ and Daisy Gifford. My father worked for Tennessee Consolidated Coal Co. and my Mother was a homemaker. I started Elementary School in Palmer and attended James K. Shook School in Tracy City for a brief period. Shortly into the third grade, I moved to Ohio with my Mother and Stepfather (Isaac Nunley) and finished school there. Our family returned to Grundy County in the mid sixties. I worked as a cashier at Geary's Supermarket in the mid seventies in Tracy City and Amtane Gas Co. where I was secretary/bookkeeper. For the past 19 years, I have been employed at the Grundy County Courthouse as the Administrator of Elections.

My husband Glenn Basham and I live in the Orange Hill Community of Tracy City. Glenn is self-employed in the manufacturing business-Basham Industries is located in Coalmont near the jct of Hwy 108 & 56. I have two children by previous marriage – Jimmy Blair (b.1967) - a construction worker and Dusty Geary Adkins (b.1976). Dusty works for Grandview Medical Center as the Director of Business Development in the marketing department and is married to Don Adkins, Jr. They live in Jasper and are expecting their first child-a boy due in June 2004.

### My Brothers and Sister:

Gary Gifford –born 1944, in Palmer. Gary grew up in Palmer at the home of our Grandparents. He served 20 years in the U.S.A.F. where he retired as a Master SGT. during which time he obtained a Master's Degree in Business from East Texas State University. He had two children, Gary Gifford, Jr. and Melissa Gifford Sanders. Gary died from complications of leukemia 2003. At the time of his death, he was owner of Foxfire Realty and Auction Company in Hohenwald, TN

Mike Gifford – born 1951, in Chattanooga. Mike grew up in Palmer at the home of our Grandparents –Russ and Daisy Gifford, attended Palmer Elementary School and graduated from GCHS in 1970. He received a Bachelors Degree from MTSU and was Girls Basketball Coach at GCHS for several years in the late seventies and early eighties. He is now self-employed in sales and resides in Pelham. Mike has one daughter, Laura Gifford who lives in Nashville.

Kathy Nunley VanHooser – born 1953, in Cleveland, Ohio, lived there to 14 years old, when the family moved back to Grundy County. She graduated from GCHS in 1971 (where she was an outstanding basketball player) and also graduated from the Barbizon School of Modeling in Atlanta, GA. She was employed as a medical receptionist at the Grundy County Health Department and later at the Monteagle Medical Clinic. Her two children, Ryan VanHooser and Alice Beth VanHooser, both make their home in Grundy County. Kathy died at the age of 36 after a two-year battle with leukemia in 1989.

Keith Nunley – born 1955, lived in Cleveland, Ohio through the age of 12, when the family moved back to Grundy County. Keith obtained an Associates degree from Chattanooga State and is presently working toward a Bachelor's Degree from MTSU. Keith is a Civil Engineer at Arnold Engineering in Tullahoma. He and his wife Charlene Perry Nunley make their home in Gruetli-Laager and they have three children, Michelle Nunley Whiteaker, Jason Nunley and Jarred Nunley.

Rick Nunley – born 1956 in Cleveland, Ohio. The family moved back to Grundy County when he was 11 years old. Rick and his wife Terry Scott Nunley have lived in Jacksonville, Florida for the past twenty years where he is a commercial and residential licensed electrician. They have two sons, Richard and Derrick.

*submitted by Donna Basham*

*429 words*