

## The Family of Joseph Kelib White

Written by [Clarence Crocker](#)

Joseph Kelib White, born May 17, 1860, the son of Rufus Belton and Jane Nanz White, married Annie Donnie Shackelford, the daughter of I.P. and Nellie Shackelford of Glenn Springs, S. C. They became the parents of 11 or more children. The White families were very prominent in the area and Spartanburg County/City. This writer personally knew a number of the families and knew them to be honorable, highly respected, fine people. Asterisks indicate more information follows. Census records were recorded as the Enumerator understood the registrant which led to many errors in name and dates. I have tried to copy the census exactly as recorded, where errors occur, I apologize.

The 1900 Spartanburg County/Cherokee Township census listed the household as;  
Joseph White 40, husband/farmer, born May 1860      Wife; Donnie 34, born Nov. 1866  
Children;

Bessie 14, born June, 1885	Rufus 13, born May, 1887
John 10, born July, 1889	Boyce 8, born June, 1891
Bernard 7, born January, 1893	Clarence 5, born April, 1895
Algie 3, born November, 1897	Beulah 1, born November, 1899

The 1910 Spartanburg County/Glendale Census showed that Joseph and Donnie had been married 25 years and were the parents of 11 children, all living.

The household was listed as;

Joseph K. White 49, husband	Wife; Donnie 44		
Children;			
John 20	Bernard 17	Clarence 15	Algie 13
Beulah 11	Rush 9	Ray 9	Gladys (G.A.) 7

The 1920 Spartanburg/Ward 6 Census listed the family as;

Joe K. White 59, husband/ watchman, county court house	Wife; Donnie 53	
Children;		
John 30	Ray W. 19, city fireman	Ralph (G.A.) 17, railroad inspector

Excerpts from the Obituary of Joseph K. White published Tuesday March 12, 1929;  
“J. K. White, 69, widely known citizen of Spartanburg County, died at his home yesterday afternoon after an illness of five months. Funeral services will be conducted at the Second Presbyterian Church tomorrow afternoon. Burial will be in the Oakwood Cemetery.

Mr. White had been prominent in the county for many years. He was actively interested in politics for many years and took part in the affairs of the County. He was a Spartanburg County Officer during the administration of Governor Ben Tillman and was a salesman for W.R. Dillingham’s stable. In recent years he was the caretaker of the Spartanburg County Courthouse.

Mr. White was the son of Captain Rufus Belton White, a Confederate soldier that was killed in the War Between the States. Mr. White was the father of John Belton White, a Spartanburg boy who was wounded 63 times during WW1. He wore six wound stripes and was decorated by General John J. Pershing.

Survivors were; his widow, Mrs. Donnie White and the following children; Mrs. J. G. Horton, Mrs. Fred Love, Rufus C., Boyce D., H.B., J. Clarence, Algie V., W. Rush., W. Ray and G.A. White; 27 grandchildren.”

Death Certificate for;

Joseph King White, age 68 years. Born May 17, 1860=Died March 11, 1929

Father; Rufus Belton White

Mother; Jane Nanz White

Interment; Oakwood Cemetery, Spartanburg, S. C.

Excerpts from the obituary of Donnie White published Saturday June 14, 1945;

“Mrs. Annie Donnie White, 80, member of one of Spartanburg’s oldest families, died last night after a long illness at the home of her son, H. Bernard White, Superintendent of [Glendale Mills](#), where she had made her home for the past nine months. She was a member of the Central Methodist Church.

Survivors were; 2 daughters, Mrs. Bessie A. Horton and Mrs. Beulah Love ; 8 sons, R.C., B. D., H. Bernard, J.C., A. V., W. Ray, W. Rush and G. A. White.

Interment was in the Oakwood Cemetery.

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John Belton White;

John B. White entered service at an early age and never married;

Excerpts from the Obituary and other articles about John B. White published May 13, 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1920;

“Funeral services for Sergeant John B. White, who met his death in an automobile accident near Chick Springs yesterday, will be held this afternoon at the home of his father, J. K. White. Interment will be in the Oak Wood Cemetery tomorrow. Pallbearers will be soldiers, sailors and ex-soldiers, all intimate friends of the deceased.

Sergeant White celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday last July and was unmarried. Up until about 12 years ago, he worked as a weaver in [Glendale Mills](#). He then joined the U.S. Army and served in the military and naval services of the United States twelve years, winning rapid promotions in both branches. In 1915, he was Chief Master at Arms on the scout ship Chester on the trip around the world. Sgt. White was at one time a member of the local police force and was recently offered a position as a detective with Erie Railroad in N. Y.

White became one of the most honored veterans of WW1. He was among the first to go over to Europe when war was declared against Germany. He was a member of Co. G. 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Division, which was the first American Military unit to set foot on French soil. They captured every position selected for assault. He fought in the great battles of

the Argonne and was wounded 63 times by German machine gun bullets. He was decorated and commended by General Pershing in person, speaking in glowing terms of the conspicuous bravery of the soldier. The French Government also decorated him.

Returning from France, he was incapacitated for active military service and was detailed in a special order from the War department, as a worker for the Liberty Loan Drive and was directly responsible for many large contributions. After finishing his work on the Liberty Loan, he was detailed as a confidential messenger between Camp Merritt, N. J. and the port of Hoboken, N. J. On July 3, 1919, while returning from Hoboken to Camp Merritt, the motorcycle which was being driven by another soldier in which White was being transported, overturned and for 1 hour they though White was dead. After several weeks of hospitalization and treatments, he was discharged from military service and returned to his father's home where he lived until his death.

Survivors were; his parents, J. K. and Donnie White; eight brothers, R. C., B.D., H.B.,J.C. A. V. Rush, Ray and G.A. White; two sisters, Mrs. John Horton and Mrs. Fred Love;

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The Family of Rufus C. White;

Rufus C. White married Ora Lee Horton.

The 1910 Spartanburg City/5<sup>th</sup> WD Census listed the household as;

Missouri Horton 65, widow/head of household

Boarders;

R.C. White 22, City Policeman/married three years

Wife; Ora Lee 18

Children;

Howard 2                      Annie May 5 months

Bessie White 26, Public School Teacher

Excerpts from the obituary of Rufus C. White published Wednesday February 20, 1946;

“Funeral services for Rufus C. White 59, who died at his home yesterday after an extended illness, will be held tomorrow afternoon at the Mountain View Baptist Church. Interment will be in the church yard.

Mr. White was born at Glenn Springs May 3, 1887, a son of Joseph K. and Donnie Shackelford White. He was a retired farmer and former city policeman serving under Mayor Johnson and Mayor Lee.

Survivors were; his widow, Mrs. Ora Lee Horton White; 1 daughter, Mrs. Rebecca Conley; 1 son, J. Howard White; 2 sisters, Mrs. Bessie Horton and Mrs. Beulah Love; 7 brothers, H. Bernard, Boyce D., J.C., W. Rush, W. Ray., G.A. and A. V. White; 8 grandchildren.”

Ora Lee Horton White died at age of 71, September 16, 1962  
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**The Family of H. Bernard White;**

Bernard White married Winnie Hames and became the Superintendent of [Glendale Mills](#).  
For picture and family record click; [Glendale Mill Superintendents](#)

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**The Family of John Clarence White;**

John Clarence White married Lena Watson.

**The 1920 Spartanburg County Census** listed the household as;

Clarence 30, husband/carpenter

Wife; Mary 26

Children;

J. H. 6

Wallace 4

Verium 2

**Excerpts from the obituary of John Clarence White published Friday June 22, 1951;**

“J.C. (Slim) White, 56, died at Mary Black Hospital Thursday at 3; 30 PM after a long illness. Mr. White was born in Spartanburg County, a son of the late Joseph K. and Donnie Shackelford. He was in the transfer business and was a member of the Piedmont Baptist Church and the Saxon Masonic Lodge 336.

Survivors were; his widow; Mrs. Lena Watson White; 2 daughters, Mrs. Mary Kimbrell and Miss Donnie Mae White; 1 son, J. H. White; 2 sisters, Mrs. John Horton and Mrs. Fred Love; 6 brothers, Boyce D., H. Bernard, A.V., W. Rush, W. Ray and G. A. White; 6 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements to be announced.

Lena Watson White died at the age of 66 in June 1963

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**The Family of Algie V. White;**

Algie V. White married Bell Reynolds.

**The 1920 Spartanburg County/Cherokee Census** showed;

Algie V. White 22/farmer, living with his sister Bessie and her husband, John G. Horton

**Excerpts from the obituary of Algie V. White published Friday October 30, 1959;**

“Funeral services for Algie V. White, 63, who died unexpectedly at his home Wednesday, will be conducted Friday at the Piedmont Baptist Church.( Interment was not mentioned) Mr. White was a native of Spartanburg and was the son of J.K. and Donnie Shackelford White.

Survivors were; his widow, Mrs. Bell Reynolds White; 2 sons, Eugene and Claude White; four grandchildren; 4 brothers, Ray, W. Rush, Jim and Boyce White; 2 sisters, Mrs. Beulah Love and Mrs. Bessie Horton.”

**Bell Reynolds White died** at age 45 in December 1995.

**The Family of Bessie White Horton;**

Bessie White married the widower John G. Horton.

**The 1920 Spartanburg County/Cherokee Census listed the household as;**

John G. Horton, 75, husband/farmer

Wife; Bessie 38

Children;

Rufus B. 9

Algie G. 5

John B. 4

Beulah L. 1

Lipton Sinclair 19, adopted grandson  
daughter

Dorcas Sinclair 17, adopted grand-

daughter  
Algie White 22, brother in-law/farmer

**Excerpts from the obituary of Bessie Horton published Sunday September 4, 1960;**

“Mrs. Bessie White Horton, 76, died Saturday at her Chesnee home after four years of declining health and four weeks of serious illness. She was a member of the Piedmont Baptist Church and the widow of John G. Horton,

Survivors were; a daughter, Miss Beulah Horton; 3 sons, R. Belton, Algie G. and John B Horton; an adopted son, Sam Tipton; one sister, Mrs. Beulah Love; 4 brothers, Ray, Rush, Jim and Boyce White; 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.  
Funeral arrangements to be announced.”

No records found on John G. Horton’s death.

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**The Family of Boyce D. White;**

Boyce White married Della Crossley.

**The 1940 Spartanburg County/Glendale census listed the household as;**

Boyce White 48, husband/oiler in mill

Wife; Della 46

Child;

Eugene 19, adopted.

**Excerpts from the obituary of Boyce White published Friday June 28, 1963;**

“Boyce Dean White, 72, of [Glendale](#), died Thursday morning at the General Hospital after a long illness. He was a native of Spartanburg County, the son of the late J.K. and Donnie Shachelford White. He was a member of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#).

Survivors were; his widow, Mrs. Della Crossley White; 1 son, Eugene E. White; 3 brothers, Rush, Ray and Gladys (G.A.) White; 1 sister Mrs. Beulah Love; three grandchildren. Services to be conducted at Floyd’s Mortuary with interment in the Oakwood Cemetery”.

**Della Crossley White died in April, 1972**

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**The Family of W. Ray White;**

Ray White married Connie Bishop;

No census records found.

Excerpts from the obituary of W. Ray White published Friday April 23, 1971;

“W. Ray White. 70, husband of Mrs. Connie Bishop White, died Wednesday in the General Hospital after a long illness. Native of Spartanburg County, he was a retired employee of the South Carolina Department of Labor; formerly with Spartanburg Health Department; a member of the First Baptist Church and the son of the late Joe and Donnie White.

Survivors were; his widow; 2 brothers, W. Rush and G. A. White; 1 sister, Mrs. Beulah Love; three grandchildren. Funeral service today at Floyd’s with burial in the Oakwood Cemetery.”

Connie Bishop White died at the age of 78 in September 1972.

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The Family of Gladys A. White;

G. A. White married Clara Cothran.

No census records found.

Excerpts from the obituary of G. A. White published Tuesday November 14, 1972;

“G. A. White, 76, husband of Mrs. Clara Cothran White, died Monday at his home in Spartanburg after a long illness. Son of the late Joe and Donnie Shackelford White; retired from the Clinchfield Railroad’ member of the Second Presbyterian Church.

Survivors were; his widow; 1 daughter, Mrs. Shirley Livesay; 3 sons, Jimmy, Gil and Harry White; one brother, Rush White; one sister, Mrs. Beulah Love; 10 grandchildren and one great grand-child.

Graveside services in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”

Clara Cothran White died at the age of 78 in June 1977.

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The Family of Beulah White Love;

Beulah White married Andrew Fred Love.

The 1920 Spartanburg County/Beech Springs Census listed the household as;

Fred Love 23, husband/farmer

Wife; Beulah 20

Children;

Nell 3

Joseph 9 months

Excerpts from the obituary of Beulah White Love published Tuesday March 12, 1974;

“Mrs. Beulah Lavada White Love, 74, widow of Andrew Fred Love, died Monday in the General Hospital after a brief illness .

She was a native of Spartanburg County, retired from Startex Mills; the daughter of the late Joe and Donnie Shackelford White.

Survivors were; 2 daughters, Mrs. Lucile Fortenberry and Mrs. Genell Turner; 6 sons, Joe, Fred, Ray, Bill, Charles and Norman Love; 1 brother, Rush White; 13 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren, services to be announced.”

Andrew Fred Love died at the age of 62 in May of 1954.

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**The Family of W. Rush White;**

**W. Rush White married Niema Jackson.**

**The 1920 Spartanburg/Beech Springs Census listed the household as;**

**Rush 19, husband/cotton mill weaver**

**Wife; Niema 20**

**Excerpts from the obituary of Rush White published Monday October 11, 1982;**

**“William Rush White, 81, the husband of Niema Jackson White, a former police chief for the City of Spartanburg, died Sunday in the General Hospital. A native of Spartanburg County, he was the son of the late Joseph and Donnie Shackelford and was a member of the Tucapau Methodist Church and the Startex Masonic Lodge.**

**He began his law enforcement in 1924 with the Spartanburg County Sheriff’s department. He then joined the City Police force in 1934. There he served as head of the vice squad, chief of detectives and chief of police. He retired in 1950.**

**Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Myrtle Genovese; a son, John White; 3 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Graveside services today in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”**

**Niema Jackson White died at the age of 86 in July, 1984.**  
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**All Census and *Spartanburg Herald Journal* Obituaries, courtesy of Spartanburg Public Library.**

**Compiled by [Clarence E. Crocker](#), December 2012**