

**Memories**

**of**

**Carol Villa**

**The land, people, and home  
of**

**Seth and Neva Johnson**

**Compiled and Edited  
By Walter M. Albritton, Jr.**

**July 4, 2009**

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# Contents

Introduction . . . . .	1
Ecclesiastes Chapter 12. . . . .	3
Parley Phillip Johnson Jr. . . . .	5
Wylie Benjamin Johnson. . . . .	7
Gene Burt Johnson Davis . . . . .	9
Melanie Fay Johnson . . . . .	11
Judge Orson (Pete) Johnson . . . . .	13
Miriam Musette Johnson Petrunic . . . . .	15
Barbara Johnson Hill . . . . .	16
Julianne Bassett Hawkins . . . . .	17
William Randall (Bill) Bassett . . . . .	19
Margie Helen Albritton Flomer . . . . .	21
Joyce Graham O'Brien. . . . .	22
Neva Caroline Albritton Williams . . . . .	23
Nancy Lillian Johnson Harle . . . . .	24
Betty Ann Johnson Zay . . . . .	26
David Glenn (Buddy) Johnson Jr. . . . .	27
Jeanne Susanne Johnson Yancey . . . . .	28
Dean Brown Albritton . . . . .	29
Walter Matthew Albritton Jr. . . . .	30
Aunt Katie Johnson Murphy . . . . .	32
Aunt Gene Burt Johnson . . . . .	33
Uncle Wylie Pierson Johnson . . . . .	35
Pictures . . . . .	

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## Introduction

The idea for this booklet came to me from my cousin, Parley Philip Johnson Jr. He suggested we collect memories of Carol Villa from our cousins, bundle them together in a booklet, and pass the booklets out to one and all at our July 4<sup>th</sup> Reunion this year. We even discussed selling them for a few bucks, with all the proceeds going to our annual Seth Johnson School Library Fund collection. After some reflection we ditched the idea of selling the booklet in favor of giving them away. Anyway the credit for the idea of this delightful booklet belongs to Cousin Parley.

With Parley's encouragement I began asking our cousins and other family members to send me their memories of the remarkable old home and our grandparents, Seth and Neva Kate Carmichael Johnson. I made a few phone calls and sent out email requests to more than 20 cousins. Some responded; others did not. Some of the email addresses may have been outdated. At any rate we were open to having anyone wishing to contribute their memories to do so. Those who did share have done their part to make this collection a treasure for the entire Seth and Neva Johnson family.

The memories are arranged according to age – beginning with the youngest and concluding with the oldest contributor. The booklet is thus anchored by the remarkable memories of Uncle Wylie. At age 90 he is the oldest surviving member of the Johnson family. His capacity to recall details of places, people, and events – even in his early childhood – can only be described as extraordinary. His descriptions will stagger your imagination. This documentation of his memories will surely become a treasured keepsake. We are also indebted to Uncle Wylie for offering to publish the booklet in this attractive format. Wisely, Uncle Wylie recognized the connection of these memories to the wisdom of Solomon, so I have included in the booklet the inspiring 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ecclesiastes. I suggest you read it first.

The pictures included should stir even more memories. Regrettably no picture was available of one person mentioned in many of the memories. If one of you has a snapshot of old Fling Down, perhaps we can include it in Volume II. When it comes to our memories of Carol Villa, Fling Down takes center stage. That prompts me to warn you: Enjoy the memories recorded here for your reading pleasure – or Fling Down will surely get you. @

*Walter Junior*

July 4, 2009

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Walter Junius