

# Old Milton genealogy available in new book

Thanks to a new book by a young Atlantan who has family roots here, the full names, birth and death dates and other data on 13,132 people, taken from tombstone inscriptions throughout Old Milton County, is just off the press. Included are many onetime slaves and their progeny, as well as other African Americans. Locations of many more graves, marked only by fieldstones, are also recorded.

Ablly researched and authored by Phillip B. Anglin, this is the first full-length book to cover any one aspect of Old Milton history. A handy, easy to read necrology of males and females of all ages, buried in 69 presently known cemeteries – large and small, public, church or private, scattered throughout Old Milton.

Titled "Milton County, Georgia Cemeteries," the 608-page, hard-cover book was printed by Gateway Press Inc., Baltimore, Md., 2002. Publication costs were funded by a grant from The R. J. Taylor Jr. Foundation and copies, \$35, shipping included, may be ordered from the author at P. O. Box 13772, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Born in Buford in 1963, and educated at Young Harris College and LaGrange College, (BA history), Mr.

Anglin proudly records his own ancestral roots in several pioneering Old Milton families: Anglin, Buice, Gray, Gilbert and Smith.

Gray's Crossroads, the present-day intersection of Medlock

Bridge and McGinnis Ferry roads, was named for his maternal great-grandfather.

Eagerly spreading the word about his scholarly addition to recorded local history, focusing on Alpharetta and Roswell and every crossroad for miles, this youngish historian figures he's filling an important niche. I agree.

Since he was born and grew up in Buford, and graduated from Buford High, it's only natural that a host of his friends, relatives and mentors should plan an autographing send-off. The affair is set for Saturday, Feb. 23, from 3 to 6 p. m., in Buford United Methodist Church at Hill and Main streets.

While acknowledging that he had a lot of help and guidance from such local historians as Ted O. Brooke, Michael D. Hitt, and William S. "Billy" Bates, and such organizations as The Atlanta History

## Aubrey Morris

North Fulton  
Footprints



Center, Georgia Department of Archives and History, and Fulton County Department of Environment and Community Development, Mr. Anglin probably needs a new set of tires for his faithful Jeep. This trusty vehicle carried him many a mile over still-unpaved roads and trails, on muddy hill-sides, and through brush and bramble throughout Old Milton County, from July 1998 to December 2000.

This was Mr. Anglin's silent quest for "live history," just by recording those whose names alone tell an important story.

When Milton County died, on its annexation to Fulton County on Jan. 1, 1932, much more than local political control passed from the county seat of Alpharetta to Atlanta.

The names of those people, young and old, now memorialized in Phillip Anglin's new book, were

forgotten.

To the pragmatist, though, the most-lasting loss probably has been the continuing legacy of taxation without representation. And that's a story I've heard over and over all my life.

As a native-born Old Milton countian, however, I see our biggest loss as a real sense of local history. Here I mean that human quality that makes people, no matter their age or state in life, feel their intrinsic worth and gives them pride and purpose – true self-identity, even in death – to time and place.

Reviewing the dusty pages of Georgia history, you'll find that now-extinct Milton County was formed by the Georgia Legislature on Dec. 18, 1857, from portions of Cherokee, Cobb and Forsyth.

Milton lived through the Civil War and to the ripe old age of 75. The seven decades since Milton's death have, of course, been marked by groveling under the yoke of annexation.

To remedy Old Milton's loss, the Alpharetta Historical Society is

making some progress in pulling together some of the area's vanishing local history – though, admittedly, it has some catching up to do with the Roswell Historical Society and that town's political/economic claim to the title "Historic Roswell." (More than a few taxpayers also chafe over Roswell's leaving Cobb County Jan. 1, 1932, to accept the same Fulton annexation ploy that snagged Milton.)

How would the pioneers of Old Milton and the town of Roswell, those whose names are inscribed on the tombstones listed in Mr. Anglin's new book, react to today's state of affairs?

My own answer to that question, though admittedly from an old-timer, is that our post- World War II generations haven't particularly cared about those folks who planted civilization in these parts. But, there are exceptions, mostly young people like Phillip B. Anglin, and newcomers who show community pride.

These are the ones who can hear our builders of the past as they speak from those scattered old graveyards within our midst.

## Shrine Club contributes \$32K to hospital fund

In a ceremony at the Horseshoe Bend Country Club, North Fulton Shrine Club recently presented a check in the amount of \$32,000 to Potentate JJ Moore and Chief of Staff Lou Gaylor for



## Keep a Healthy Beat

North Fulton Regional Hospital  
recognizes February as American Heart Month



We encourage the community to maintain a healthy diet and to exercise regularly to help prevent heart