

June 1979 Interview with **Eva Holbrook** (d/o **Wint Porter**, s/o Alex, s/o Andrew J Porter) at her home in Carter Co. KY by JC & Scott Porter

JC: About a week.

Eva: Did you?

JC: Yeah. Me and Scott went down to (**Grayson Co.**) **Virginia** where the Porters came from. We found the old **house** they lived in before they came here. (Home of **Andrew J Porter & Lucy Cornett Porter** address 4040 Carsonville Road, Elk Creek, Grayson Co. VA)

Eva: Oh, did you? And it is still standing?

JC: Yeah, it has been all remodeled.

Scott: People live in it. They put rock on it now.

Eva: Yeah, well I'll be.

JC: We found it.

Eva: Yeah. Never thought of that.

JC: I never thought we would find it. That is so long ago, before the Civil War. Had 262 acres with the house when they sold it.

Eva: I knew they come here from **Virginia**. I don't know which it was.

JC: **Grayson County, Virginia**.

Eva: Well where did grandma (**Laura Fulton**) come from, grandpa's (**Alex Porter**) wife?

JC & Scott: Lucy?

Eva: No grandpa's wife.

JC: **Laura Fulton**?

Eva: Yeah.

JC: She came from **Nicholas County, Kentucky** is where she was born.

Eva: Was it?

JC: **Carlisle** is the county seat, I think.

Eva: Yeah.

JC: She was born there, and her father was....

Eva: See, grandma died...(1:15)

JC: Here we go. This (chart) shows the ancestors. Here is our great grandpa was **Jasper (Porter, s/o Alex, s/o AJP)**

Eva: Yeah.

JC: Here is **Alexander (Porter)** and **Laura**. Her father was **Henry Fulton** and her mother was **Nancy Reveal**.

Eva: **Nancy Reveal**.

JC: Born 1817 and **Henry Fulton** born 1815. It shows Alex' parents.

Eva: Yeah, **Andrew (Porter)** and **Lucy Cornett**.

JC: It tells when they were born and where. We found Lucy's ancestors. This is her parents and grandparents. We were at their grave. They have tombstones standing. (**William Cornett & Jane Sutherland Cornett**)

Eva: Yeah.

JC: There in **Grayson County (Virginia)**.

Eva: That is something to find all of that.

JC: Yeah. I wonder who would have some old pictures of Uncle **Jim Porter** (s/o AJP)

Eva: No I don't. Now old **Uncle Jim**, he is buried out at **Fairview**.

JC: Yeah.

Eva: Did you get his...

JC: Yeah.

Eva: Now **Uncle Jim**, but I don't think they buried the old lady there (**Lucinda Long Porter**, wife of Jim). I think maybe they buried her maybe in **Ohio** somewhere, I'm not sure.

JC: Ohio?

Eva: She was up there I believe now. Now am I right? **Uncle Jim** and one of his boys, are buried out there at **Fairview, Ed (Porter)**.

JC: Yeah.

Eva: And **Andy (Porter, s/o Jim, s/o AJP)** is buried down I think at the **Lee Cemetery at Morehead**.

JC: Yeah.

Eva: I don't know about the girls, but I think that when his wife died, she was with some of the children, and I believe they buried her in **Ohio**. Now I wouldn't say for sure, but I don't think she is out here with **Uncle Jim**.

JC: I think you are right.

Eva: I don't think so now.

JC: I wonder who would have an old picture of **Jim (Porter)** or **Steve (Porter)** or **Levi (Porter)** or any of them?

Eva: Well I'll tell you who might have a picture. My first cousin. She lives at **Prestonsburg (KY)**. **Lula Elkins**. (d/o Arthur Porter, s/o Levi, s/o AJP) (Eva Holbrook and Lula Elkins are 1<sup>st</sup> cousins, their mom's Juda Leadingham Porter and Ann Leadingham Porter are sisters)

JC: We were just there.

Eva: Was you?

JC: On our way down to **Virginia**.

Eva: You didn't stop in **Prestonsburg**?

JC: No, we didn't know about her.

Eva: That is **Uncle Levi's** grandchildren lives there, about two or three of them.

JC: Oh they do? None of his grandkids live around here?

Eva Huh uh. No.

JC: Huh. Do you have her address?

Eva: Yeah, it is **Lancer, KY**. If any of them would have a picture, I'd think she would...(3:40)

JC: What is her name?

Eva: Just put **Mrs. Curt Elkins**.

JC: **Mrs. Curt Elkins**?

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: E-L-K-I-N-S?

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: And what is the name of the town?

Eva: Lancer.

JC: Lancer?

Eva: Uh huh. That is down near **Prestonsburg**.

JC: Near Prestonsburg. And she is a granddaughter of **Levi (Porter)**?

Eva: Uh huh. Of **Uncle Levi**.

JC: And what is her first name?

Eva: **Lula**

JC: Lula?

Eva: And then there is one named **Clemmie** and one named **Mae**. Now **Clemmie** is up there too, she is older.

JC: Who would be the best one to write to?

Eva: I think **Lula**.

JC: And she is a granddaughter of **Levi**.

Eva: Now she may have a picture of **Uncle Levi**. I couldn't say. I know where he is buried an all, but I don't...

JC: Where is he buried?

Eva: Up here around the ridge. It is about 2 or 3 miles from here. Aunt **Betty (Lundy Porter, wife of Levi)** and a lot of his children is buried there.

JC: Oh yeah?

JC to Scott: You want to go up there after a while?

Scott: I'm with you.

JC: How do we get up there?

Eva: You go up here just out from **Mae Porter's** (d/o W.A., s/o John C, s/o AJP), that first turn off. You go that road. Now there is one up there that goes to the right. You don't take it. You go over and down a hill, and when you get across to the bottom, you go up a hill, straight over and around. It takes you right around. Just keep going around that ridge. Don't turn off nowhere.

JC: It is up on a hill. Can you see it from the main road going to **Elliott** (County)?

Scott: Go out past Porter Creek Cemetery? Out that way, is that the road you are talking about?

Eva: No. **Porter Creek Cemetery** is up here.

JC: We mean **Fairview (Cemetery)**

Eva: **Fairview**, Oh no, you don't go that way. You go there to **Mae's**; first little turn off. There is a gravel road now around to it.

JC: Past **Mae's**?

Eva: Yeah. I'll tell you when you get over in there inquire for **William Lewis**. **William Lewis** lives just back... The cemetery is just back up on the bank from his house.

JC: Ok.

Eva: It is easy to find. There is a gravel road goes right in there. I've not been out to that cemetery for a long time, but his children, **Ed (Porter)**, I don't know all of **Ed's** children are buried in that **cemetery**.

JC: That is **Levi's** boy **Ed**?

Eva: Uh huh. That is where he died at **Ed's**. Somebody owns it and has a big trailer set there. The house is not there anymore. Where **Uncle Levi** lived, they have cleaned that off and there ain't no house there anymore. (6:10)

JC: Let's see, your children. **Paris, Lorene, Johnny, Carl, Clyde, Tracey, Alfreda?** Anybody else?

Eva: No.

JC: And are they all married?

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: Ok, I'll turn it over here. I'll get their stuff. You don't mind giving it to us do you?

Eva: Oh no. No.

JC: OK, **Paris (Holbrook)** is your first child? When was he born?

Eva: 1928.

JC: 1928, and who did he marry?

Eva: He married a Brown. **Lula Mae Brown**. They separated and he's never married ..... (6:58)

JC: Did they have any kids?

Eva: Yeah.

JC: What were their names?

Eva: **Johnny Wayne, Freda Jane**.

JC: **Johnny Wayne, Freda**.

Eva: Uh huh. **Freda Jane** and **Timmy**.

JC: **Timmy**.

Eva: And **Judy**.

JC: Julie?

Eva: Judy \_\_\_\_\_. She was named after mom. (7:20)

JC: Are any of those kids married?

Eva: No.

JC: None of them are married. Then your next child is....

Eva: **Loren (Holbrook)**.

JC: Who did he marry? Or when was he born first?

Eva: OH Lord. I guess he was born in 30.

JC: 30.

Eva: I guess that is right.

JC: OK, Who did he marry?

Eva: He married **Billie Jean Mays**.

JC: **Billie Jean Mays**.

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: And do they have any kids?

Eva: One daughter.

JC: What is her name?

Eva: **Kitty**.

JC: Is she married.

Eva: Yes, she married **Mike Wilson**.

JC: **Mike Wilson**. Do they have any kids?

Eva: No.

JC: OK, and who is your third child?

Eva: **Johnny (Holbrook)**.

JC: Johnny. And when was he born?

Eva: 1931

JC: And who did he marry?

Eva: He married **Ramona Cox**.

JC: **Ramona Cox**. Do they have any kids?

Eva: One. **Johnny Ray**.

JC: **Johnny Ray**. Is he married?

Eva: Yes. He married **Patricia Viars**.

JC: VIORS?

Eva: VIARS

JC: Do they have any kids?

Eva: No.

JC: OK. Who is your 4<sup>th</sup> child?

Eva: **Alfreda (Holbrook)**.

JC: Who did she marry?

Eva: She married **Wayne Cox**.

JC: Do they have any kids?

Eva: They have two daughters.

JC: What are their names?

Eva: **Debbie**, and she married **Radford Vance**.

JC: How do you spell **Radford**?

Eva: RADFORD I suppose.

JC: **Radford Vance**. Do they have any kids?

Eva: One. **Aaron**.

JC: **Aaron**. And **Alfreda's** other daughter?

Eva: She is at home. **Donna**.

JC: OK, and who is your 5<sup>th</sup> child?

Eva: **Carl (Holbrook)**.

JC: **Carl**?

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: Who did he marry?

Eva: He married **Ercel Porter's** girl, **Geraldine Porter**.

JC: What is her first name?

Eva: **Geraldine**. GERALDINE

JC: She is **Ercel's** daughter?

Eva: Uh huh. They was just a little bit of relation.

JC: Yeah kind of, pretty close. Do they have any kids?

Eva: Yeah, they've got two daughters.

JC: What are their names?

Eva: **Jerri**.

JC: **Jerri**?

Eva: JERRI

JC: Is she married?

Eva: Yeah, she married **Michael Walker**. (10:09)

JC: Do they have any kids?

Eva: No. The other one is **Jennifer**.

JC: **Jennifer**. Is she married?

Eva: No, she's not.

JC: Ok. Who is your 6<sup>th</sup> child?

Eva: **Clyde (Holbrook)**.

JC: **Clyde**?

Eva: Uh huh.

JC: Who did he marry?

Eva: **Evelyn Parsons**.

Scott: **David Holbrook**.

Eva: Uh huh. **David**. (Clyde's son)

JC: Is he married?

Eva: No. Then **Tracy (Holbrook)** (Eva's next child)

JC: **Tracy**. Who did he marry?

Eva: He married **Virgie Barker**.

JC: Do they have any kids?

Eva: They've got one daughter.

JC: What is her name?

Eva: **Chantil**. CHANTIL

JC: Chant...

Eva: IL. That is the bunch.

JC: That is all of them.

Eva: Yeah

JC: Wheh! (11:12)

Eva: I've got 12 grandchildren and the one great grandchild.

JC: They add up quick.

Eva: The oldest one is 25 and the youngest one is 10.

JC: Of your grandkids?

Eva: Uh huh.



JC: Let's see, we wanted to, what is her name again?

Eva: Lena.

JC: **Lena Pelfrey?**

Eva: Uh huh. She married my brother (**Reese Porter**, s/o Wint, s/o Alex, s/o AJP). That is the only daughter that Grandma **Katie (Pelfrey Porter**, 3<sup>rd</sup> wife of Alex Porter, s/o Andrew J Porter) has got living. And she might have had the **Bible**. I don't know now. I don't know who's got it. I don't know a thing about it. I never heard her name mentioned. I just figure it might have been there after he died and they might have destroyed it. They carried off an awful lot of stuff. So, I don't know.

**William Holbrook** (Eva's husband): Hello boys.

JC & Scott: Hello there.

Eva: This is Ed's boy, and this is Don Porter's boy, JC. (12:10)

William: A whole bunch of you Porter's has ganged up here, ain't ya? (laughing)

Eva: He is getting the family tree of all the Porters. He has been where my daddy I guess was born there? (**Wint Porter** was born in **Robertson Co. KY**)

JC: None of the grandchildren of Andrew Porter were born there. (**Grayson Co. VA**)

Eva: My daddy (**Wint Porter**) was born there wasn't he?

JC: No.

Eva: Well, where was he born? Up here?

JC: He was born in **Kentucky**.

Eva: Was he? Well. He said the house is still there that grandpa left in **Old Virginia**.

William: Is that right?

Eva: They've been to see it. Said they have redone it.

Scott: They said it was the first framed house on that Creek. (**Elk Creek, Grayson Co. VA**)

JC: Yeah, your dad was born in **Kentucky**.

Eva: Was he? Well. I was thinking he was born in...I guess they was all born here. I didn't know it. I thought that he was born in Virginia.

JC: No. **John C Porter** (s/o AJP) was the youngest son they had born in **Virginia**. None of **Andrew (Porter's)** grandkids were born in **Virginia**. Your grandpa (**Alex Porter**) born Jan. 29, 1855 **Grayson Co. VA** married **Laura Fulton** July 19, 1874 in **Robertson County, Kentucky**.

Eva: You know, I never did know about where grandma's (**Laura Fulton**) people was.

JC: She was born in **Nicholas County, Kentucky**.

William: Who was she?

Eva: A **Fulton**.

William: A **Fulton**.

Eva: I knew she was a **Fulton**, but I didn't know where she was borned.

William: That sun's hot ain't it?

Scott: Sure is. Humid too. (13:50)

Eva: How long have you worked on that, 4 or 5 years?

JC: Oh, about two.

Eva: I know you had been working on it. (Question to William) Who is the new Scout?

William: I don't know. (14:04)

Eva: They asked where you worked. I told them \_\_\_\_\_.

JC: Do you think if I ever wrote a **book** on the **Porter family**, people would be interested?

Eva: Well they might.

JC: It would be too late then. "Oh, we're not interested." (laughing)

Eva: I never did know nothing, just my immediate family you know.

JC: Yeah.

Eva: My daddy's (**Wint Porter**) brothers and sisters, Grandpa (**Alex Porter**) and **Uncle Levi**. I was telling him where **Uncle Levi** was buried. They wouldn't have a bit of trouble getting out there, would they?

William: Is he buried out here?

Eva: Uh huh.

William: No, it is a good road right to it.

JC: It is all gravel road.

William: Well, there is a little spot right pretty near that house.

Eva: On the end of it that ain't gravel?

William: Yeah.

Eva: Oh, well I know the school bus went out.

William: Right there where the school bus turns, where you go down toward...

Eva: I told him inquire for **William Lewis**...

William: There ain't no inquiring to it. You just go up there, follow that ridge road around, take a left plum around... (14:57)

Eva: The road turns to the right but you keep to the left.

JC: Once you turn off on that road, you stay on that road all the way, to the **cemetery**?

Eva: Yeah.

JC: How far is it up that gravel road then? A mile?

Eva: To the **cemetery** it is 2 or 3.

William: You mean where you turn off this road here?

JC: Yeah.

William: I would say it is 3 miles.

JC: OK

Eva; It's not over that I don't think.

William: I don't know whether you would have to walk or not. You might have to walk pretty near to that house yonder.

JC: Yeah.

William: Up a little bank.

Eva: They was looking for \_\_\_\_\_. (15:30)

JC: OK. We will stop and talk to **Lena** then we will go on out there.

Eva: Now she may have old **bible**. That is something I don't know. I just figured that **Herman (Porter, s/o Alex, s/o AJP)** and them kept it up there. But they should know, **Harlan (Porter, s/o Alex, s/o AJP)** and them about who had it and if she ever had it, she's got it hid.

JC: Yeah, she wouldn't have given it up, huh?

Eva: No. If she ever had the **bible**, she will have it. But I don't know now. You boys don't need to be in no hurry.

JC: Well, we have quite a few places to stop before dark. (laughing) Thanks a lot for your time.

William: You boys come back.

JC: OK, Nice meeting you both, seeing you again. Bye bye. (16:09)