



## Request for Assistance with "My Family Tree"

### Primary Surnames are **Clark** and **Sheppard**

#### My Family Tree:

Calvin Lewis Sheppard, my great grandfather married Martha Elizabeth Forbes. Calvin was the 10<sup>th</sup> child of James "Jimmie" Sheppard and Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Dowdy. Jimmie and Betsy were married on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1821 in Bedford County, Virginia. I am in the process of collecting information on all descendants of this marriage. To date I have over 2,000 names descended from Jimmie & Betsy. My primary sources of documentation are Family Notes, Census Records from Heritage Quest, Ancestry.com and the books "The Heritage of Stokes County, Vol 1 & 2".

According to my grandmother's (Alice F. Sheppard) marriage license she was living with her parents in Surry County when she married John William Thomas "JW" Clark in April of 1900. When JW died in 1917 of pneumonia, the obituary (Rockingham County) stated that he was survived by his wife and 8 children. "He also leaves a sweet loving Mother, 72 [*b Abt 1845*], four sisters and four brothers." I have been able to confirm that JW's parents were Charles and Susan Clark, but I have no further information on them [CLARK] and their other children.

Alice Sheppard and JW Clark had 9 children, 8 lived to adulthood including my Mother, Lily Estelle. My Mother moved to Richmond, Virginia where she met and married my Father, Walter James Martin. I have 2 sisters, only one of whom is still living with a family of her own. As for me, I am married and have been living in California since 1969.

Researching local courthouse records in North Carolina is not easy for me and I would appreciate any assistance with my research in exchange for information that I have. Please use my email address below.

Regards, Bonnie Wagner,  
email = bonnie.wagner@comcast.net

# Descendancy Chart

**William? James? CLARK**  
b -,England

**sp: UNKNOWN**  
m BEF 1787

**Mary CLARK**  
b 1787/1788-,NC,USA

**sp: Jesse ROARK**  
b 1790/1800-,NC,USA  
m 26 Apr 1815-,Stokes Co,NC,USA  
d 1845/1846-,Owen Co,IN,USA

**Elizabeth ROARK**  
d AFT 14 Nov 1846

**sp: Henry FULK**  
m 22 Oct 1841-,Owen Co,IN,USA

**2 daughters ROARK**

**Amos ROARK**  
b 1818-,NC or IN,USA  
d AFT 14 Nov 1846

**sp: Mary SMITH**  
m 28 May 1848-,Owen Co,IN

**William Riley ROARK Sr.**  
b 27 Nov 1823-,Stokes Co,NC,USA  
d 24 Nov 1865-,Owen Co,IN,USA

**sp: Catherine OSBORNE**  
b 10 Apr 1817-,Greene Co,IN,USA  
m 17 Apr 1842-,Greene Co,IN,USA  
d 13 Jun 1880-Worthington,USA

**William Riley ROARK Jr.**  
b 12 Feb 1843-Jefferson Twp,Owen Co,IN,USA  
d 7 Jul 1920-Worthington,IN,USA

**sp: Nancy E. FULK**  
m 16 Oct 1863-,IN,USA  
d ABT 1870-Battleground,WA,USA

**Alfred P. ROARK**  
b 6 May 1864  
d 14 Aug 1865

**Harrison C. ROARK**  
b 11 Mar 1866  
d 3 Sep 1920

**James Fletcher ROARK**  
b 18 Aug 1869-Worthington,Greene Co,IN,USA  
d 12 Nov 1939-Chicago Heights,IL,USA

**sp: Ola Leona WAGGONER**  
b 8 Sep 1882  
m 7 Sep 1901

**Ruby Violet ROARK**  
b 23 Aug 1902-Danville,IL,USA

**sp: John Francis SEME**  
m 30 Aug 1922

CONTACT:

MICHAEL S. ROARK  
327 VERMONT AVE.  
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830  
(615) 483-7860

**Juanita Maurine ROARK**  
b 31 Jul 1907-Danville,IL,USA

**sp: Chester Howard WELDER**  
d 8 Mar 1960-Crete,IL,USA

**Malinda Violet ROARK**  
b 23 Sep 1871  
d 17 Aug 1947

**sp: Cloyd E. STEGNER**  
m 16 May 1900

**Virginia STEGNER**

**sp: BATTE**

**William Anderson ROARK**  
b 5 Jan 1874-Worthington, Greene Co, IN, USA  
d 8 Mar 1959-Vancouver, WA, USA

**sp: Mary Olivia BAKER**  
b 7 Feb 1879-Newark, IN, USA  
m 21 Sep 1906-, Knox Co, IN, USA  
d 6 Sep 1952-Vancouver, WA, USA

**Robert Marlin ROARK**  
b 10 Aug 1907-Portland, OR, USA

**sp: Rosamonde Downs POMEROY**  
b BEF Jun 1932

**Yvonne Barbara ROARK**  
b 12 Sep 1927

**Robert Marlin ROARK**  
b 30 Jun 1932

**sp:**

**Robert Marlin ROARK**  
b 15 Feb 1954-San Diego, CA, USA

**William Alton ROARK**  
b 4 Oct 1910-Portland, OR, USA  
d 2 Dec 1962-Marysville, CA, USA

**sp: Leota Jean HANSON**

**William Alton ROARK**  
b 19 Jan 1939

**sp: Mildred EADES**  
b BEF 1942  
m BEF 1964

**Billie Jean ROARK**  
b 21 Dec 1963

**Kevin Leonard ROARK**  
b 24 Apr 1949

**Dorothy Emily Ann ROARK**  
b 15 Apr 1916

**sp: Bert ABRAMS**

**Linda ABRAMS**

**Danny ABRAMS**

**Elias Byrd ROARK**  
b 19 May 1877-Worthington,IN,USA  
d 26 Mar 1958-Hickory Ridge?,AR,USA

**sp: Mamie MILLER**  
m 2 Aug 1896

**Arthur ROARK**

**Orville ROARK**

**Roy ROARK**  
d 1940/1945-WW2

**Olive ROARK**

**Carrie ROARK**

**Edith ROARK**

**Nora Delilah ROARK**  
b 13 Feb 1911

**Rhoda A. ROARK**  
b 1887  
d 1888

**Catherine "Anny K." ROARK**  
b 20 Jul 1845-,Owen Co,IN,USA

**Stewart N. ROARK**  
b 13 Jun 1848

**sp: Phoebe PADGETT**  
m 22 Sep 1868-,IN,USA

**Mary Elmira ROARK**  
b 14 Jan 1850-,IN

**Olla "Olive" ROARK**  
b 9 Feb 1852-,Owen Co,IN,USA

**John Fletcher ROARK Sr.**  
b 28 Jun 1857-,IN,USA  
d 1910/1920-Johnstown,Owen Co,IN,USA

**sp: Mary Ellen "Ella" LANDIS**  
b 1855-,IN,USA  
m 18 Mar 1877-,IN,USA  
d 1943-Terre Haute,Vigo Co.,IN,USA

**Stewart Stanley ROARK**  
d BEF 1920-Johnstown,Owen Co,IN,USA

**Oscar Burton "Bert" ROARK**  
b 5 Sep 1877-Terre Haute,Vigo Co,IN,USA  
d 16 Oct 1958-Washington,DC,USA

**sp: Julia Ellen "Ellie" DUNN**  
b 2 Aug 1876-Des Moines,IA  
d 11 Nov 1963-Middletown Twp,Delaware Co,USA

**Juanita Marie "Marie" ROARK**  
b 3 Jul 1915-St. Louis,MO,USA  
d 28 Sep 1978-Paso Robles,USA

**sp: Lawrence Alfred "Larry" MOYERS**  
b ABT 6 Jun 1927-,WV,USA  
m 3 Jul 1950-St. Gabriel? RC,Washington,DC

**Melody Anne MOYERS**

b 14 Apr 1951-Bethesda,MD,USA

**sp: Raynard Harold "Ray" DEMERITT**

m 9 May 1970-St. Rose R.C. Church,CA

**Zachary Giraud "Zak" DEMERITT**

b 22 Aug 1974-San Luis Obispo,USA

**Victoria Ellen "Vicki" MOYERS**

b 1 Apr 1953-Oceanside,CA,USA

**sp: Richard Jay "Jay" ANDRUS**

m 2 Feb 1970-Paso Robles,SLO Co,CA,USA

**Steven Erik "Erik" ANDRUS**

b 16 Apr 1970-Paso Robles,USA

**sp: Hope Suzanne BUDETTI**

b ABT 1970

m 26 Jan 1991-St. Mel RC Ch,Woodland Hills,CA

**ANDRUS**

b ABT Jun 1991-Los Angeles,USA

**Joshua Paul "Josh" ANDRUS**

b 5 Jul 1973-San Luis Obispo,USA

**sp:**

**sp: Greg LEE**

b 27 Apr 1952-Honolulu,HI,USA

m 9 Aug 1978-Lake Tahoe,NV,USA

**Trevor Adin GIBSON**

b 3 May 1979-San Luis Obispo,SLO Co,CA,USA

**sp: Larry GIBSON**

m 1984-,CA,USA

**Catherine Marie MOYERS**

b 29 Jun 1954-Bethesda,MD,USA

**sp: Pat KELLEY**

m 1970/1980

**sp: Jason SHUBB**

b 13 Jun 1953-Los Angeles,Los Angeles Co,USA

m 15 Aug 1985-Los Angeles,Los Angeles Co,USA

**Cameron Roark SHUBB**

b Aug 1991-Los Angeles,Los Angeles Co,CA,USA

**Oscar Burl ROARK**

b 25 Jul 1916-Lewistown,MT,USA

d 23 Nov 1990-Sayre,Bradford Co,PA,USA

**sp: Catherine Anne "Cathy" or "Kay" NOLAN**

b 25 Nov 1919-Primos,Delaware Co,PA,USA

m 21 Sep 1940-St. Gabriel R.C.,Norwood,PA

**Michael Burton "Mike" ROARK Rev.**

b 28 Jan 1942-Darby,Delaware Co,PA,USA

**Thomas Charles "Tom" ROARK**

b 21 Jun 1947-Darby,Delaware Co,PA,USA

**sp: Brenda Kaye SMITH**

b 16 Mar 1947-Lewisburg,Marshall Co,TN,USA

m 25 Sep 1971-St. Eliz. R.C.Ch,Wilmington,DE

**Christopher Brian "Chris" ROARK**  
b 30 Jul 1972-Springfield, Delaware Co, PA, USA

**Kevin Burl ROARK**  
b 5 Oct 1978-Murfreesboro, Rutherford Co., TN, USA

**Marcia Jean ROARK**  
b 16 Oct 1952-Darby, Delaware Co, PA, USA

**sp: Gary COZENS**  
m BEF 1984-O.L. Charity RC, Brookhaven, PA

**sp: Joseph John "Joe" HALL**  
m 4 Dec 1987

**Ryan Joseph HALL**  
b 25 Jan 1990-Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co, USA

**Kelsey Campbell HALL**  
b 2 Aug 1991-Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co, USA

**Monica Mary ROARK**  
b 23 Aug 1959-Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital, USA

**sp: Richard Steven "Pick" CONWAY**  
m 25 Mar 1978-, Elkton, Cecil Co, MD

**Michael Steven "Mike" CONWAY**  
b 11 Oct 1978-Chester, Delaware Co, PA, USA

**Matthew Richard "Matt" CONWAY**  
b 5 Oct 1984-Chester, Delaware Co, PA, USA

**Jessica LEE "Jessie" CONWAY**  
b 2 Feb 1989-Chester, Delaware Co, PA, USA

**Jesse ROARK**  
b 1879/1885-, IN  
d AFT 1923

**sp:**

**Elizabeth "Lizzie" ROARK**  
b ABT 1882-, IN, USA

**sp: Eli MILLER**  
m 6 Jul 1901-, Owen Co, IN, USA

**Clem MILLER**

**Opal MILLER**

**John Fletcher "Boone" ROARK Jr.**  
b 1885-, Owen Co, Indiana  
d 2 Jun 1967-Hailey, Blaine Co, Idaho

**Rosa "Rosy" ROARK**  
b BEF 1891  
d BEF 1911-Johnstown, Owen Co, IN, USA

**Dolly ROARK**  
b BEF 1891  
d BEF 1943-Terre Haute, Vigo Co, IN, USA

**sp: Stewart MCKENNON**

**Thomas R. ROARK**  
b 1828-, IN  
d AFT 14 Nov 1846

**Thomas CLARK Squire**

b 7 May 1791-,NC,USA

d 2 Jan 1864-,IN,USA

**sp: Rhoda DUNNEGAN**

b 6 Aug 1794-NC,USA

m 3 Feb 1814-,Surry Co,NC

d Mar 1866-Greene Co,IN,USA

**Jesse Franklin CLARK**

b 6 Jun 1815-,Surry Co,NC,USA

d 27 Jul 1892-,KS,USA

**sp: Juliann HOOY**

m 1853

**Sally M. CLARK**

b 25 Apr 1817-,Surry Co,NC,USA

d 1878

**sp: Samuel DYER**

m 1835

**Mary CLARK**

b 14 Mar 1819-,Greene Co,IN,USA

d 1869

**sp: James Madison DYER**

m 1837

**John CLARK**

b 30 Oct 1821-,Greene Co,IN,USA

d 18 Nov 1880

**sp: Sarah BOYLES**

**James Berlin CLARK**

b -,Owen Co,IN,USA

d -,Custer Co?,OK?,USA

**sp:**

**Orin CLARK**

d 1955

**sp:**

**1 Son CLARK**

**Velma Berniece CLARK**

b -,Custer Co?,OK?,USA

**Hiram Jackson CLARK**

**sp:**

**1 Son CLARK**

**sp: Polly Ann ARNEY**

m 1858

**Violet CLARK**

b 17 Jan 1823-,Greene Co,IN,USA

d 1823

**Cyrus W. CLARK**

b 3 Jan 1825-,Greene Co,IN,USA

d 25 Feb 1913

**sp: Temperance FULK**

m 1853



**Amy CLARK**  
b 29 May 1827-,Greene Co,IN,USA  
d 4 Feb 1904

**sp: Jackson NEWSOM**  
m 1848

**Kerren Happuch CLARK**  
b 29 May 1827-,Greene Co,IN,USA  
d 1866

**sp: William S. MCGEE**  
m 1851

**Ira CLARK**  
b 24 Feb 1832-,IN,USA  
d 6 Dec 1902

**sp: Elizabeth CULLISON**  
m 1857

**Elzira CLARK**  
b 15 Aug 1834-,IN,USA  
d 1882

**sp: Nephi OWENS**  
m 23 Dec 1852

**Nancy Ann CLARK**  
b 21 Mar 1837-,IN,USA  
d 9 Feb 1916

**sp: Isaac BROWN**  
m 2 Jan 1867

**Phoebe CLARK**  
b 1 Oct 1838-,IN,USA  
d 31 May 1905

**sp: Isaac BROWN**  
m 2 Jan 1867

**Thomas Pierce CLARK**  
b 27 Dec 1842-,IN,USA  
d 4 May 1922

**sp: Mary Ann PERREN**  
m 1878

# The Mount Airy News

E-mail us at: [mtairynews@advi.net](mailto:mtairynews@advi.net)

## Clark Thrilled With The Success Of His Book

By WILL FOUSHEE

Staff Writer

One lone microphone beside a small table, illuminated by dim restaurant lights and the lamps from the street below, made an unfamiliar bench for a Stuart, Va., circuit court judge turned author.

Martin Clark, author of *The Many Aspects of Mobile Home Living*, wowed a packed audience at Dak's Restaurant in the Main Oak Emporium Friday night.

The circuit court judge, who found success in a hobby of writing, spent the evening revelling in the spotlight of his book's literary success, and recalling all the rejections that it took to get him there.

"I got so many rejection letters, that I had a wall of shame," he said.

Clark said after 46 stops on his book tour, it's still hard to believe that his book has garnered as much success as it has in recent weeks.

"There was a time when I would've paid to have my book published," he said, "just so I could sell it out of the trunk of my car."

Clark, who was invitingly open, said he traveled a long road to become acquainted with success. He said during one of his earlier readings, his wife explained to him that he read from his book like a judge.

"She told me that I stunk," Clark said. "She said that I should look up from my book every once in a while."

Clark, who shed the brief-reading monotone voice of a circuit court judge for the evening, enticed the audience with a reading about the mishaps of Evers Wheeling, the protagonist of his book, and fictional Norton.

With a charismatic charm that accompanies all his endeavors, Clark said the theme behind his book was not evident by looking at the cover.

"It's a story of faith and redemption," he said. "Since people don't like to know that they are reading a book about redemption, it's obscured within a story of drugs, sex, and rock and roll."

He said even the title has its roots and its problems.

"The title is mentioned in the book, but I used it because it accurately tells the reader what they are going to get," he said of the book's title, but Clark said it has caused problems in many bookstores.

"Border's Online site had my book listed in the 'How To' section since February," he said. "And even after it had been published as a fiction novel, it was still listed in the 'How To' section."

Although, these simple setbacks have occurred, they haven't dampened Clark's upbeat spirit or lessened the tidal wave of success that his book has generated.

With his tour to continue throughout September, Clark said he was ready to get back to his normal life in Stuart, but, for a moment, he was willing to let the audience in on the secret of his next novel.

"Knopf (Clark's Publishing Company) wants the next book in two years, and I've already started working on it this past week," he said. "It's going to be about a preacher." The typically humorous Clark said that he had reasons for venturing away from another story about a judge.

"I figured since I had already turned off one respectable aspect of the population, that I'd go after another," he said.

Clark said the only change that he had noticed in his life, has been the only downfall of being an author.

“When I go into a bookstore for a book signing, I will pick up another author’s book to read,” he said. “I no longer see them as authors, but the competition.”

Even with his new competition, this country judge, with his humble background, satirical and witty humor, and even humbler love for family and town is sure to be a rave in the literary world for years to come.

# The Mount Airy News

E-mail us at: [mtairynews@advi.net](mailto:mtairynews@advi.net)

## Former Mount Airy Mayor Dies

By R.J. BERRIER

Staff Writer

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. today in Central United Methodist Church for a retired businessman and two-term mayor, Edward Thorne Clark Sr. Officiating will be the church pastor, the Rev. Phillip Cole. Burial will be in Oakdale Cemetery.

He was 84 when he died Saturday at Twelve Oaks Rest Home. He had been in declining health for some time.

Ed Clark succeeded W. Frank Carter Jr. as mayor of Mount Airy in 1961. Carter had served as this city's chief executive for some 16 years.

Clark had a fight on his hands to win the post of mayor following Carter's lengthy tenure. He faced Democratic opposition from Roy Hutchens, Main Street merchant, and Dr. Otis Oliver, local dentist. He successfully surmounted their challenge and then went on to defeat Frank Sabin, the first Republican Party challenger for the office.

He served for eight years, from 1961 to 1969, and then, at a press conference, announced that he had served two terms and that was long enough.

His successor was W. Maynard Beamer, Quality Mills official and a member of the Mount Airy Board of Commissioners.

Clark's lineage was of the First Families of Mount Airy. He was a member of the Foy, as well as Clark, family. Both families were prominent in Mount Airy's church, school, community and civic life. He married the former Heath Hendren, whose late father, E.S.

Hendren, was a superintendent of the Surry County Schools.

Clark was born Nov. 24, 1915, in Roanoke Rapids, the son of Alexander Littleton and Clara Belle Foy Clark.

He moved to Mount Airy when he was 20, going to work to help support his mother and six children. His father had died, and his mother had moved back to Mount Airy to be near her kinfolk.

Clark first worked at the Charles Store, a Main Street department store, but then went to work for Foy Lumber Co., operated them by his grandfather and two uncles, E.C. Foy Sr., E.C. Foy Jr. and W.H. "Rusty" Foy.

He attended school for two years in Washington, D.C. but returned to Mount Airy and, in 1944, was inducted into the Army.

After the war, he worked for Hennis Freight Lines and then returned to Foy Lumber Co.

In 1953, he and Walter Parker bought the former Hines Lumber Co., changing the name to Clark and Parker Lumber Co.

During World War II, he was a member of the U.,S. Army, serving in the Philippines.

After World War II, he joined the Claude E. Hooker Post 2019, Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also a former member of Jesse B. Jones Post 123, American Legion.

He had been a member of Granite Masonic Lodge \$322, A.F. and A.M. and was a past treasurer of the Mount Airy Kiwanis Club. He was formerly active in Boy Scout work.

He was owner and operator of Clark and Parker Lumber Co. for over 43 years.



**Col. Woody Clark**

## Mount Airy Vet Ends Colorful Career

By **ELEANOR POWELL**  
Staff Writer

It was 25 years ago this past June that First Lt. Woody Clark was shot down over Vietnam.

It was eight days before he would be rescued. Remaining in the service and reaching the rank of colonel, Clark went on to become air commander of the Nevada Air Guard's Reno-based 152nd Tactical Reconnaissance Group and served in the Persian Gulf during Desert Storm.

Last week was the final chapter in his colorful service performance as he began retirement following 28 years in the United States Air Force.

Clark, who just recently turned 50, was honored at a retirement dinner held at Fort McNair Officer's Club in Washington, D.C. with Gen. John B. Conaway and Congressman James Gibbons (Nev.) as featured speakers.

Special guests were Clark's wife, Vernita, their daughters, Alicia Clark-Hoadley, and husband, Dusti Hoadley, Anna Clark and Shyla

Clark, and his parents, Ed and Heeth Clark and brother, Bill, of Mount Airy.

Other siblings present were Missy and Rainier McCown, and children, Evie McCown and Kristin and Tim VanVranken, and Clara and Matthew Walters.

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**"...in Desert Storm, President Bush had one book on War; the book had one page; the page had one word - win"**

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**-Col. Woody Clark**

Gen. Conaway spoke of Col. Clark's efforts in Desert Storm.

He said, "In order to stop the oil flow into the Persian Gulf by the Iraqis, Col. Clark, commander of the Nevada High Roller Air National Guard, flew his team over the area, obtaining photos of the exact origin of spill for the successful hit and destruction.

"Other soirees by the High Rollers," he continued, "provided proof that the Iraqi reports of the U.S. bombings on milk factories, religious mosques, etc. were false. Col. Clark provided valuable expertise for the Defense Department as a veteran of both the Vietnam and Desert Storm conflicts."

Col. Clark, in his speech said, "The Vietnam

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## Vet

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War was a one-year war fought for 10 years. The politicians, not the professionals, ran the war. LBJ used to brag about his books on war and that not an outhouse was bombed in Vietnam that he did not know about.

"On the contrary, in Desert Storm, President Bush had one book on War; the book had one page; the page had one word - win," he said. "He (Bush) handled the political decisions and left the military decisions up to the professional military staff."

Clark also spoke of his faith, relating to an incident after he was shot down over North Vietnam.

"I had been lying still for three days and was very thirsty. I heard a brook flowing just down the hill and I asked God to show me a sign if I should move towards it. At that time bullets were fired hitting the tree above me. I got my answer and didn't move."

He concluded by emphasizing that no one works alone, that all success is the collective efforts of many people. He thanked his staff for all they had done.

Clark's sister, Missy, spoke of his early years in Mount Airy.

She told of the love of the Mount Airy folks for Woody as a young paper boy but, especially, the kindness shown to the family when he was shot down and missing for eight days.

A retirement ceremony was held Aug. 1 in the Joint Chief of Staff briefing room at the Pentagon. About 60 people attended including Gen. Donald Shepard, Air National Guard, and Gen. John Maher, U.S. Army.

The Mount Airy native received five awards during the celebration. These included the Defense Superior Service Medal for exceptional service during 1995-97; Certificate of Appreciation, U.S. Air Force, signed by President Bill Clinton; and Certificate of Appreciation, Joint Chiefs of Staff, signed by John M. Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Certificates were also presented to Clark's wife.

Gen. Shepard recognized Ed and Heeth Clark and spoke of Col. Clark's leadership and management skills in setting up the Air National Guard office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Gen Maher spoke of Col. Clark's "superb leadership and diplomatic skills in creating a more comprehensive readiness system that now identifies deficiencies and produces innovative fixes to enhance the readiness of the warfighting CINCs."

A reception followed at the Pentagon.

### Clark's Career

A 1965 graduate of Mount Airy High School, Clark was nominated for appointment to the Air Force Academy by North Carolina senior Senator Sam J. Ervin.

He graduated from the academy in 1969, specializing in navigation and reconnaissance, and was assigned to duty in Sacramento. He later served at Mountain

Home, Idaho, and was then assigned to duty with the U. S. Air Force in Southeast Asia, operating from a base in Thailand.

The Mount Airy native was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with two clusters and seven Air Medals. He also received the Bronze Star with "V" for valor, the Purple Heart and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Clark's brother, E.T. Clark Jr., also served four years in the Air Force and had a tour of duty in Vietnam.

### Rescue Efforts

The Clark family recalls the town had an outpouring of love when news reached Mount Airy that Clark's Phantom Jet had been shot down in the southern sector of North Vietnam.

According to reports from The Mount Airy News on April 25, 1972, Clark and another pilot flew their jet unarmed into North Vietnam on a reconnaissance mission. An exploding SAM missile riddled their aircraft and they parachuted from the crippled aircraft into the dense jungles.

Automatic signaling devices told other pilots in the area the two landed safely. This information triggered immediate search and rescue efforts by trained Air Force helicopter crews.

Separated from his fellow pilot, Clark was unable to make radio contact (via his survival kit radio) with would-be rescue aircraft because of the dense jungle and the presence of clouds and thunderstorms in the area.

Out of water for three days, he began moving toward higher ground. During his breathtaking journey toward a high hilltop in the area, he spent much of his time avoiding patrolling North Vietnamese forces, one unit of which was reported to have passed within a dozen feet of the hidden airman.

From the hilltop, Clark was able to re-establish radio contact with the American Forces but weather turned them back. On the eighth day two of the "Jolly Green Giant" helicopters braved missile fire to swoop into the area.

Hovering 150 feet above the jungle below, the helicopter used a winch and cable to lower a torpedo-shaped bucket device through the jungle foliage to Clark, who directed the efforts via his portable radio.

In moments he was strapped in and lifted aboard the chopper and on his way to a hospital in Thailand and safety.