

6432 East Gary Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254
December 14, 1984

Rev. Dr. and Mrs.
Robert E. H. Peeples
8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island
South Carolina 29928

Dear Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Peeples,

I was so thrilled to receive your kind letter and the many interesting Milam facts within it. Thank you very much.

I'm afraid that I can be of little service to you. The only information I have on Thomas Milam is that he was born circa 1757--my guess in Brunswick County, Virginia; he married Elizabeth Talbert on June 12, 1786 in Halifax County, Virginia; and that one known son was named John. As for the possibility of Judith Bartlett Cole having been a widow when she married John, I had read that in a couple of places--where, I can't remember; that was a time when I was more interested in the information rather than the sources. And finally, I have done no research on the Cole/Coles and Ferrill/Farrell families.

Enclosed is a copy of my book that I would like you to have at no cost to you. Except mabey that you could send me any corrective and additional material.

I was happy to see the review of my book in the "HELPER" although in the same token I was rather disappointed with it. It seems to me that the reviewer did not look over the book to closely. The reviewer makes it clear that the book only traces the descendants of John Milam, the son of Bartlett, then lists the children of John--which in itself is incomplete and in error on some points. In actuality the book traces the descendants of Bartlett Milam through six sons of his ten children.

I must confess that I originally typed up my book as a way to organize my "Milam mess"; it was to be a personal outline. I made copies and gave them to family members. Then I decided to make it available to any Milam researchers --knowing how difficult it is to find Milam in print. I put an advertisement in the May/June issue of the Genealogical Helper. Unfortunately I had very little success. But I was excited to receive an order from the New York Public Library in August.

I have a surprise for you. When I typed up my book in the summer of 1983 I was only 19 years old. Now I'm 21. I'm a history major at the Arizona State University. I've been interested in history since fourth grade and genealogy since seventh. I'm working on a second book. It's to be about my great-great grandfather, William Alexander Milam, and his service in the Civil War. This is one of my biggest goals. Another is to compile the most extensive research ever done on a family history and the Milam family.

Already my book is far outdated. During the summer I received a great abundance of material from wonderful people like yourselves.

A very Merry Christmas,

Robert M. Wilbanks IV