

REUBEN SHEPHERD HART FAMILY REUNION

22 June 1979

The fifteenth annual Reuben Shepherd Hart Reunion was held June 22, 1979 at Mt. Sidney, Virginia with Robert Seymour, Clara Belle Hart, and their children hosting the lovely occasion.

The excitement of greeting family members again, started at the Hotel Ingleside as each family began checking in. Most of us gathered at the pool for children to be entertained while we continued to greet and visit one another. Indeed the reunion was in progress.

Everyone gathered on Saturday at Bob and Clara Belle's home and visited under the shade of big trees and in the attractive and spacious new den. Once again that warm hospitality that is felt annually at the reunion permeated the air.

A delicious meal of barbequed chicken, salads, and desserts was prepared by Bob, Clara and children. How those boys can cook a chicken! And the desserts were special. Food and drink galore until the late hours!

Everyone visited past bedtime and many chatted long past that time, either by the pool or congregating in a motel room. What fun!

On Sunday, dinner was served to the Hart descendants in the banquet room at Hotel Ingleside, Staunton, Virginia. We enjoyed

At each place setting there was a map of Virginia and a personalized pencil memento of the Hart Reunion 1979.

Following the meal, our business meeting was called to order by the Edward J. Hart, President. The welcome was extended by Bobby Hart who expressed his joy and that of his family in being able to host so many Harts. He invited us to extend our visit or to come again and enjoy some of the many tourist attractions in the Shenandoah Valley.

Franklin Hart expressed thanks to the Robert S. Hart family for hosting the reunion and for their gracious hospitality. Their pleasure in providing for this occasion was genuine and evident to everyone. During this weekend, everyone sentiment was the usual one for a Hart reunion, "I'm so glad I came. I wouldn't have missed it for anything."

Following Frank Hart's remarks the group joined hearts in praising God through saying Psalms 100, the scripture we have used for a number of years. This is a rich experience to be able to have not only a blood kindred fellowship, but also kindred minds in spiritual matters so that together we can worship through God's word.

The minutes of the 1978 reunion at Angier, hosted by the children of David Glen and Estelle Parker Hart were read by Billy Warren and approved.

1979 Minutes

The treasurer reported a balance of \$47.00 in the Hart Memorial Flower Fund.

The roll call of the families in attendance was made and all visitors were welcomed.

James and Clara Elliott expressed a special joy in sharing in the Hart reunion.

Aunt Mary Hart, sister of Reuben Shepherd Hart Sr., expressed her special joy at being present. Her words were a blessing as she attributed her long life of nearly 90 years to thanking God for each day and asking for the next. Even though she is left daily from 8:00am to 4:30pm by herself, she says she isn't alone because the Lord is with her and she feels His presence. What a joy to hear our 90 year old aunt give testimony of the depth of her experience and relationship with our creator. Thank you, Aunt Mary!

Nominations were presented from the nominating committee and the following were elected to serve for the coming year:

President	Franklin D. Hart
Vice President	Robert S. Hart, Jr.
Secretary/Treas.	Dorothy H. Warren
Historian	Mary R. Hart
Assist. Historian	Franklin D. Hart

Max and Gail Hart extended an invitation to the Harts to gather in Maryland in June 1980. Sue and Wilson asked to host the reunion in 1981. These invitations were gladly accepted.

Robert Hart Sr. presented gifts to the following:

Registered First - Woody & Roxanne Hart
Traveled Farthest - Zoa Fannie Hart, Miami, FL
Exceptional Faithfulness to Harts - Clara & James Elliott
Youngest - Kelly Sue Thomas

Robert Hart also led the group in reflecting over the years and sharing with one another things each remembered about loved ones who have gone on to be with the Lord. He first paid tribute to his own mother Annie Belle Elliott Hart.

Reuben Gaither Hart

Reuben Gaither Hart, oldest son of Reuben S. Hart Sr., & Annie Belle Elliott Hart was remembered by Dot as the unseen brother who sent fresh oranges and grapefruit at Christmas time and the big edition of the Miami Sun News occasionally. To Bob, who visited Gaither five Christmases straight, he was always young in heart. He had a restaurant in Miami and Bob got free room and board while there and the use of his cadillac for dating. Bob's High School ring, paid for by Wilson for \$9.00 was left there in Miami with some girl who was impressed by either Bob or the cadillac.

Edward Jenkins Hart

Remembered by Dot as a brother she felt greatly loved by, but she somehow didn't relish being hugged and kissed by him as a child and played a game of "hide" each time he came. He had a great way with all children except for Alton Lee Warren. Being left in Uncle Jenkins care, quote "He squalled from the time you left til you got back." Mary said, "He was always laughing and joking and just making everybody happy." He has a grandson with his same bid laugh.

1979 Minutes

James Garland Hart

Bob remembers Mary & Garland as the most affectionate husband and wife he knew. In fact thanks to them he says he learned to kiss.

Reuben Franklin (Bub) reminded all present of his dad as he entertained with his stories. One in particular was his special ability to relate to Ostell and Alton. Some few knew exactly of what he spoke. But Vivian assured the three that God didn't make but a few perfect heads, all the rest had hair. Reuben expressed all of our sentiments when he said, "I miss my dad."

Frank remembers Uncle Garland's and Uncle Jenkin's sense of humor as one that we should all try to emulate.

William Thornton Hart - Dorothy Currin Hart

Thornton delighted in making children happy. He was never too tired to get the pony and cart out when children arrived to give a ride. His first wife Dorothy was a great cook and always cordial to all. Thornton was full of fun!

David Glen Hart - Estelle Parker Hart

This couple was especially remembered for their hospitality. Vivian said, "They made us feel welcome and made a lot of our children."

Hettie said, "Estelle was one of the best cooks. Her table was always loaded with food.

Bob shared, "Glen had the first convertible in our family. He was a sport."

Sue told of the good times she, Wilson, Estelle & Glen had playing Rook when they were first married. Frank, Betty, and Julian would be bedded down at Sue's & Wilson's and they would play on Saturday nights til 12:00 or 1:00. If the men were losing too badly Wilson would say, "Sue, it's time to go." On those evenings bedtime came earlier!

Annie Sue Hart

Fannie remembers Annie Sue Hart, the first child born to Novie Sue and Reuben S. Hart as "the most beautiful baby I ever laid eyes on." She lived eighteen days.

After these reflecting moments, heads were bowed for a minute of silence and thanksgiving for the lives of our loved ones that so enriched each of us.

Several experiences were shared by various members. Reuben shared his experience of riding down a backroad with Hettie trying to find the birthplace of his dad, only to suddenly see a woman setting behind a tree with a 30-30 rifle. He was relieved to learn she wasn't waiting for him but for a ground hog instead.

Reuben also visited Dad's grave on Memorial Day and suggested that we place flowers at his grave on this occasion since it was a time most other graves were decorated.

1979

Mary R. Hart, our historian, brought us up to date on the happenings in the family and paid special tribute to her Mother Hart as our queen. She recognized Mother as one who brought unity to a family when an emptiness through death occurred. The Hart house was not divided!

Marriages

George Hart to Diane Gigaudet
Kimberly N. Hart to Darrell

Those Hospitalized

E. J. Hart
Hettie Hart
Wilson Hart

School News

Steve Hart - attending Potomac State (football star)
John Thomas Hart - graduated from High School
Linwood Hart - attended summer school
Jane Robinson - graduated from Pembroke Univ. in Special Educ.
Denise Morgan - attending State College

Frank Hart, the new president for the coming year was recognized and spoke briefly. There being no further business, the 15th Reuben Shepherd Hart Family Reunion was adjourned with the singing of "Blest Be the Tie," to reconvene in Elkridge, Maryland at the home of Max and Gail Hart.