

WALTER COWART

Walter Cowart was born December 15, 1885, in Ware Co., Ga., the son of Charles and Martha (Pearson) Cowart. They lived near Millwood where they farmed. His father died Dec. 13, 1892 of tuberculosis.

Walter's brothers and sisters were: James, Manning, Daniel, Fannie, Georgie.

Martha's second husband, whom she married June 22, 1894, was John Arnold.

Walter borrowed money and went to Columbus to business school. Afterward he went to Atlanta and got his first job with SSS Blood Tonic makers. He got a job with Homer Gullatt at Union City working in the mail order razor business and later started his own business, the Union Razor Cutlery Co., selling razors to barbers by mail order.

He met Fannie Phillips from Smithville, Tenn., when she came to visit the Goodsons (he was postmaster at Union City). They were married Dec. 20, 1911, in Smithville at her parents' home.

Walter's business prospered and the family, consisting of his wife and three daughters, Elizabeth, Emily, and Frances, moved to a two story house at the corner of what is now Roosevelt Highway and Dixie Lake Road. Walter was active in the affairs of Union City and Campbell County. He served as mayor and was on the county school board. . He was a good sport, had a lively sense of humor, was generous and hospitable.

As hobbies, he liked to play tennis, swim, fish, hunt, and to read. He had a tennis court, swimming pool, and a good sized library.

Fannie was killed in an auto-train wreck 2-25-28. Walter got Mrs. Harper, Dr. Crawford W. Long's daughter, to come live with the family and to see that the girls were brought up properly.

On May 26, 1929, Walter married Mary Roller, ^{schoolteacher,} daughter of John and Mary Belle Roller. They had four daughters: Vinita (died of colitis when she was 17 mos. old), Georgia, Jane, and Juanita.

During the depression, the razor business dwindled away. Walter managed Dr. M. D. Collins' race for State School Supt. and after he won, became chief clerk at the State Dept of Education. Because of some political difference with Eugene Talmadge, this job was abolished in 1940.

Walter went to law school and passed the bar when he was in his late 50's. He did not practice law but used his legal training in operating East Point Realty ^{Co.} which he started in the early 1940's. He operated this business until his death on July 14, 1970.