

What is the name of Elizabeth Gleaves' husband?

On Thu, Mar 10, 2011, Robert M Allen wrote:

Now I am on to Elizabeth Gleaves who married William Ramsey. I am having quite of bit of trouble getting started. I found an 1838 letter at the Gleaves website that gives the names of the children then living. I assume that William Ramsey died shortly before then because the 1838 letter discusses the trades that the boys were being trained to do and with whom the unmarried women were living.

I am very confused about Elizabeth Gleaves and when she died. The 1838 letter suggests to me that she died prior to then. Some family trees on the internet say that she died in 1850 in Adair Co., KY. There is an Elizabeth Ramsey, head of household in the 1840 Davidson Co., TN, census, but she is only age 40-50, not old enough to be Elizabeth Gleaves, born 1779. [Could] this Elizabeth Ramsey, age 40-50 in the 1840 census [be] the widow of one of the sons of William Ramsey, Sr.

Another problem is with William Ramsey, Jr., who was listed as head of household in the 1830 census for Davidson Co., TN, age 30-40. While he may be a son of William Ramsey, Sr., who died about 1838, he was born too early for Elizabeth Gleaves to be his mother (assume Elizabeth Gleaves married William Ramsey, Sr., in 1802).

On Thursday, March 10, 2011, Alice Hix wrote:

We know the least amount about the Ramsey family. It appears that Elizabeth is still alive about 1820 as she is mentioned in her father's will. Both she and Polly Porter are mentioned in their mother's will in 1840, but we know that Polly is already dead at this time; thus we cannot conclude Elizabeth's status from this will. However if you look at letter # 129, dated 1843-09-17, this appears to be a list of survivors in TN and lists several Ramsey children.

On Sun, Mar 13, 2011 Robert M Allen wrote:

I want to discuss the first name of Mr. Ramsey who married to Elizabeth Gleaves. I hope you are interested in helping me (try to) figure this out.

There is a letter at the Gleaves website from Thomas Gleaves to his mother Elizabeth (Turk) Gleaves dated May 13, 1838. Thomas Gleaves lived in Stewarts Ferry, TN. I believe Stewarts Ferry, TN was located in Wilson Co., TN. If not, it was in Davidson Co., TN. Anyway, the letter discussed "Betty Ramsey's Children". The children mentioned are (1) John Ramsay (lives at Triggs store), Emeline Ramsey (lives with John Ramsey at Triggs store), William Ramsey (learning the shoe and boot making trade), George Ramsey (learning the saddler trade), Allen Ramsey (learning the cabinet making business), Jane Ramsey (married to Annanias Stamps, blacksmith). All of them lived within the bounds of Thomas Gleaves' neighborhood (in Wilson Co. or Davidson Co.), TN. Polly Ann Ramsey lives with June Mather (possibly in the same neighborhood).

From this letter we learn that Mr. Ramsey and Elizabeth (Gleaves), his wife, had children who survived to 1838 named John, Emeline, William, George, Allen, Jane and Polly Ann.

There is another letter at the Gleaves Website from Thomas Gleaves of Davidson Co., TN, to Elizabeth Gleaves, his mother dated January 18, 1835 in which he states that on January 6, 1835 William Ramsey and his family started down the river to the Mississippi and John Ramsey has married a very decent girl and has settled in Thomas Gleaves' neighborhood.

This letter tells us that William Ramsey and John Ramsey were married by 1835. I think they were among the oldest of the children.

There is a one page receipt of distributions from the estate of Elizabeth (Turk) Gleaves dated October 12, 1843. This list has three entries for Ramseys. First is a crossed out reference to Ramsey Children by B. F. Gleaves involving \$59.52-1/2. There is an entry that William Ramsey, Jr., received \$11.90 and there is a reference that Elizabeth Ramsey's children by B. F. Gleaves received \$37.80. Notice that \$37.80 + \$11.90 equals \$59.70 almost the exact amount that was crossed out.

I think that William Ramsey was the William Ramsey, Jr., head of household, in the 1830 census for Davidson Co., TN. This means he was born between 1790-1800. There is a female in his household, age 10-15 who probably is not his wife. These were the only people in the household. If this is correct, he was born prior to the marriage of stated marriage date for ___?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves of December 24, 1802. What does this mean? It could mean that the Elizabeth Gleaves married ___?__ Ramsey prior to 1800 and not on December 24, 1802 or it could mean that he was Elizabeth Gleaves' child by a prior marriage (Eller?) who took the surname Gleaves. I don't think it means that he is ___?__ Ramsey's child from a prior marriage because that would not make him an heir of Elizabeth (Turk) Gleaves unless she specifically named him as a heir in her Will (unless somehow he had rights because Elizabeth survived her husband and inherited his property and his rights derived from the property that used to be his father's).

As to the other children:

John Ramsey was born September 25, 1807. He married Mary Ann Yandell December 29, 1834. He died on May 16, 1851 in Wilson/Davidson Co., TN. They had known children between 1835-1851. The oldest child (son) was William Thomas Ramsey, born November 4th or 11th, 1835 in TN. After John's death, before 1860 his widow and the children moved to Hickory Co., MO. The 1850 census listed in Wilson Co., TN, says that John Ramsey was born in TN. This seems to establish that the family was living in TN in 1807.

Jane Ramsey married Annanias Stamp(s) about 1835 in TN. They are listed in Davidson Co., TN in the 1840 census. She is listed as age 20-30 in the household (born between 1810-1820).

The only thing I know about George W. Ramsey after 1838 is his letter to Samuel Gleaves dated May 24, 1840 on the Gleaves website where he says that he was

living at Lebanon. I am not sure what state Lebanon is located in. My first thought was Lebanon, Wilson Co., TN, but that does not seem right. Maybe Lebanon, MO. I am not sure it was in VA as some have interpreted. I do not see where the letter was sent from. It was sent to Washington Co., VA. It says he has been through many states and within the next year he plans to come to Tennessee and settle his business and then return to "this state". Are you sure that "this state means Virginia? Anyway, I have not been able to find him in the 1850 or later censuses.

Mary (Polly) Ann Ramsey. After Jane (Ramsey) Stamp(s), wife of Annanias Stamp(s) died in 1845, Annanias Ramsey married Matilda Rice in June 1847, and then married Mary Ann Ramsey on October 18, 1855 in Davidson Co., TN. I think this Mary Ann Ramsey is the sister of Jane Ramsey, his first wife. There was a Mary Ann Ramsey living in the household of P. W. Cherry in the 1850 census for Davidson Co., TN, age 32, born TN. I am assuming this was the daughter of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves. This means she was born in 1818.

Emeline Ramsey was born on April 1, 1821 and married John E. Hager on August 26, 1841, I think in Wilson Co., TN.

Allen Ramsey was listed "laborer" in the household of Jno Ramsey in the 1850 census for Davidson Co., TN, age 27, born TN. This means he was born in 1823. I cannot find him in the 1860 census. If he died unmarried between 1850-1860, he might have written a Will that mentioned his siblings or if he did not have a Will his estate records, if any, may show his siblings as heirs. This might add to the information base on the children.

So I think we can conclude that __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey, his wife were both alive in the 1820 census and through at least 1823. I am not sure that either of them were alive at the time that Thomas Gleaves wrote his letter in 1838 stating where Elizabeth Ramsey's children were living and the trades they were being trained to do. I think what led the boys to be trained in a trade and why Polly Ann Ramsey (age 20) was living with June Mather is that they were orphans. Whether they were orphans in the 1820 census I do not know.

In the 1820 census there is one Ramsey head of household in Davidson Co., TN (William Ramsey) and 5 Ramseys head of household in Wilson Co., TN (Thomas K. Ramsey, Newell Ramsey, James Ramsey, John Ramsey and Richmond B. Ramsey). None of these households fit with the known people living.

None of the Ramsey listed in the 1830 or 1840 censuses seem to fit with either __?__ Ramsey or Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey, born 1779. This helps support the fact that Elizabeth Ramsey died prior to 1830.

A source on Ancestry.com says that __?__ was William Ramsey and gives the date of marriage of December 24, 1802 in Wythe Co., VA. Nobody seems to be able to find this marriage in Wythe Co., VA. I am not certain that William was the first name of husband of Elizabeth Gleaves. There is a William Ramsey in the 1820 census in Davidson Co., TN listed as 100111-00101. This does not fit with Elizabeth Gleaves who should be age 26-44 or with her known children living in 1820. There is a William Ramsey, SR., listed in the 1830 census for Davidson Co., TN as 0010000010-000000000. This does not seem right as Emeline Ramsey should be

in the household, age 15-19 and Allen Ramsey should be in the household age 15-19 and it is unlikely that Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey had any child after 1825 (after age 46) so the son age 10-14 seems an unlikely fit. If this source is unreliable, then the marriage date of December 24, 1802 is unreliable and/or may apply to the wrong Mr. Ramsey.

I am not sure if the Elizabeth Gleaves who married Mr. Ramsey is the same Elizabeth Glaves who married George Eller in Wythe Co., VA in 1799. The primary basis for my uncertainty is the William Ramsey, Jr., who is the son of Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey who seems to be the William Ramsey, Jr., listed in the 1830 census for Davidson Co., TN, as age 30-40.

I have serious doubts that Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey was the wife of the Josiah Ramsey who was an adult in Augusta Co., VA in 1748 and in Wythe/Montgomery Co., VA in 1762 primarily because of the tremendous age gap between him and Elizabeth Gleaves who was born in 1779 and also because there is no Josiah Ramsey listed as head of household in Davidson or Wilson Co., TN in the 1820 census when the father of Allen Ramsey and Mary (Polly) Ann Ramsey had to be living to create these children in 1821 and 1823, both of who (along with their older siblings) were born in TN.

I am looking for your feed back on this and if you have any other information or analysis that might help to identify Mr. Ramsey and Elizabeth (Gleaves) Ramsey and their children in the 1820 census and perhaps in the 1830 and 1840 censuses.

On Sunday, March 20, 2011, Alice Hix wrote:

Some thoughts:

Triggs store - could this be Guy Trigg Gleaves, a son of Absalom; and Guy did live in Wilson County

Thomas Gleaves' land and family burial site is in Davidson County.

Where did you find all of the detail info on the Ramsey children?

The letter 5-24-1840 from George Ramsey to Samuel Gleaves has Russell County, Virginia at the top of the letter page. In the notes I have added "Russell County, Virginia was formed in 1786 from a part of Washington County with Lebanon as the county seat." Also the two documents just before this letter refer to George Ramsey. Also see JTG ledger 1841, image 21 there is a reference to George Ramsey. I have not yet scanned JTG ledger for 1836-1840 but when I looked in the May 1840 period, I found no Ramsey reference. Looking at the payout for Eliz. Gleaves estate, it says B. F. Gleaves for George Ramsey. Since B F was sent as the agent to collect for the TN heirs, this would imply that George was in TN in 1843.

P. W. Cherry was the husband of Nancy Ann Gleaves, daughter of Thomas Gleaves.

I have checked Kegley's book for Eller and am attaching those pages. From this it appears very strongly that Elizabeth Gleaves was first married to George Eller, Jr. I

say this because of the marriage record and the Ellers and Gleaves lived in close proximity to each other.

On Mar 21, 2011 Robert M Allen wrote:

I am not saying that Elizabeth Gleaves, daughter of William Gleaves and Elizabeth Turk, could not be the Betsy Gleaves who married George Eller, Jr., in Wythe Co., VA, in 1799. However, my census research suggests that Elizabeth Gleaves was the mother of William Ramsey, Jr., who according to the 1830 and 1840 censuses in Davidson Co., TN, seems to have been born in the 1790s. That would conflict with her being married to George Eller, Jr., in 1799.

Other possible candidates for the wife of George Eller, Jr., are

- (1) Elizabeth (Bell) Gleaves, widow of Matthew Gleaves, Jr., who died in Pendleton Co., KY about 1800 (I don't know how much 1800 is an estimate and the exact date could be prior 1799. She married a John Norton in 1801, but could she have married George Eller, Jr., between the two?)
- (2) Elizabeth Gleaves, born 1753, daughter of Matthew Gleaves, Sr., and Esther ___?___. I have no marriage or descendants information on her.

Also on Mar 21, 2011 Robert M Allen wrote:

My sources for the Ramsey information are multiple sources from Ancestry.com. Census records. Marriage records for Tennessee. Family Trees at ancestry.com. I have almost finished what I can do on this line through the 1930 census. The only lines that I can trace any distance are Ann Ramsey who married Annanias G. Stamp, John Ramsey who married Mary Ann Yandall and Emeline Ramsey who married John E. Hager. I have a lot more information on the Hager line than you sent me a couple of weeks ago. I should complete this branch and send you my Ged Com in 1-2 weeks unless I get some further information that will allow me to do further research on the descendants down the other lines.

Also on Mar 21, 2011 Robert M Allen wrote:

I think that Alice Hix may have been the one who contacted you recently with a request to look something up about the Ramseys in Wilson Co., TN. I think she may have mentioned that I was researching the Unknown Ramsey who married Elizabeth Gleaves (born 1779), daughter of William Gleaves and Elizabeth Turk. Some people say that "Unknown" Ramsey was William Ramsey. I bought into this until I did some early census research and now I am back to "Unknown" Ramsey. There was a William Ramsey, but his household information in the early censuses does not match the 7 known children of "Unknown" Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves. I sent an e-mail to Alice Hix that contained a summary of my preliminary Ramsey. I will find it and send it to you after I send this e-mail.

The 7 children were George Ramsey, Jane Ramsey, John Ramsey, William Ramsey, Mary Ramsey, Emeline Ramsey, and Allen Ramsey, all born between about 1800 - 1823. I have done a pretty good tracing of the descendants John Ramsey, Jane Ramsey and Emeline Ramsey. George Ramsey was living in 1840, saying that he intended to move to VA where after traveling in many states he found the most desirable (no clue as to where in VA he meant), but I cannot find him in

any later census. I think Mary Ramsey married the widower of Jane Ramsey, Anninaias Stamp, in Davidson Co., TN in 1855, but I cannot find her in the 1860 or later census and I question whether if I find her that she would have had any children by him or an unknown previous spouse. I cannot find William Ramsey in the 1850 or later censuses and know nothing about whether he married or had a family. I find Allen Ramsey in the 1850 census, age 27, living in Davidson Co., TN, a single laborer in his brother's John Ramsay's household. I cannot find Allen Ramsey in any later census and I know nothing about whether he married or had a family. Trying to find the wives, descendants, if any, and vital dates for Allen Ramsey, Mary Ramsey, William Ramsey and George Ramsey are my main interest. As part of this, I wonder if Allen Ramsey, William Ramsey or George Ramsey died single between 1850-1860 where their estate papers would list information about their living siblings and possibly the surviving heirs of deceased siblings.

Regarding the middle name "Harvey" in Thomas Harvey Gleaves, my question and doubt is of those who say that Thomas Gleaves (1771-1849) who married Sarah Smith (1766-1845) had the middle name "Harvey". I do not think he had a middle name and if he did I question that it was "Harvey".

On Tuesday, March 22, 2011, Dennis Glaves wrote:

I am attaching a Word document that may have some of the information you are seeking. After reviewing the details you already have, I have cut and pasted from the 2009 document we published so as not to repeat information already in your possession. In some cases I have added additional discoveries since that date.

Bottom line; I can only add additional circumstantial evidence that William Ramsey was the father of Elizabeth Gleaves Ramsey's children.

I do believe though that I have found William Ramsey Jr. and would be interested in your thoughts.

Very little to add on George, John and Polly Ann/Mary but have included it as well.

I also have some thoughts on the bride of George Eller Jr. but will save that for another time.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2011, Robert M Allen wrote:

You conclude that the William Ramsey, son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves was the person who married Diana D. Austin in Sumner Co., TN, in the 1820s (year uncertain) and who was living in Sumner Co., TN, in the 1850 census. I do not see the proof that this William Ramsey had a link to the Ramseys of Davidson Co., TN and/or was the son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves. I was unaware of this couple until you mentioned them. I have some doubt he is the son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves. What causes you to believe this William Ramsey was the son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves? Meanwhile I will spend some time on my own checking this out.

There was a William Ramsey, head of household in the 1820 census for Davidson Co., TN, with the entire household listed as 100111-00101. It does not seem to me that this William Ramsey could be the husband of Elizabeth Gleaves because Elizabeth's age and the known children's ages do not match up with the age of the people listed in this household. This is why I question whether William was the given name for the Ramsey who married Elizabeth Gleaves.

There is a William Ramsey, Jr., head of household in the 1830 census for Davidson Co., TN, with the entire household listed as 0000010-00100. Also listed in Davidson Co., TN is William Ramsey, Sr., with the entire household listed as 0010000010-0000000000. Is it possible, but not certain, that William Ramsey, Jr., is the son of William Ramsey, Sr. Another explanation is that they are more remotely related or unrelated and "Sr." was the elder of the two and "Jr." was the younger of the two.

I have assumed that William Ramsey, Jr., in the 1830 Davidson Co., TN, census was the same William Ramsey, Jr., mentioned in the Elizabeth Gleaves estate memorandum of estate distribution in 1843 (at Gleaves website). If my assumption is correct, this William Ramsey, Jr., was born between 1790-1800. If this was the son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves, he was most likely born in the late 1790s.

There is only one William Ramsey listed as head of household in the 1840 census for Davidson Co., TN, with the entire household listed as 100100010-000010. This William Ramsey does not fit age-wise with either of the William Ramseys listed as head of household in the 1830 census. If he was the eldest male listed, he was age 50-60 (born 1780-1790).

If Elizabeth Gleaves, daughter of William Gleaves and Elizabeth Turk, is the Betsy Gleaves who married George Eller, Jr., in 1799 (assuming such a marriage record exists), then Elizabeth (Gleaves) Eller could not be the mother of William Ramsey, Jr., of Davidson Co., VA born between 1790-1800. I am curious who you think the Betsy Gleaves was that married George Eller, Jr., or whether his wife was in fact a Gleaves.

Regarding Elizabeth Catherine Ramsey, daughter of John Ramsey and Mary Yandall, I was unaware that she married Henry C. Drier in 1860. I have her marrying Benjamin Franklin Richardson in 1867 and thereafter lived in Dolan, Cass Co., MO. I need to check this out further. I need to rethink whether the spouse of Benjamin Franklin Richardson is correct. Also, I do not think that Wilson Yandall Ramsey and Taylor Jones Ramsey were twins. I have Wilson Yandall Ramsey born March 5, 1846 and Taylor Jones Ramsey born March 1849 with no exact day. Are you sure March 5, 1849 is the exact date for Taylor Jones Ramsey. What about Wilson Yandall Ramsey? Regarding Mary Emaline Nancy Ann Ramsey, you have added a spouse and child I was not aware of. What is the source of the middle names Nancy and Emaline?

Regarding Allen Ramsey, son of __?__ Ramsey and Elizabeth Gleaves, I was unaware of his listing in the 1860 census. I need to check this out. Are you sure this is the same Allen Ramsey. If he died without marrying and without children, if

his estate papers could be located, it may list all of his surviving sibling and the heirs of any deceased sibling.

Regarding Polly Ann Ramsey, I think she is also called Mary Ann Ramsey. I found her in the 1850 census in the household of P. W. Cherry, age 32, born TN and did not find her in the Wright household until you told me. Her sister, Anne Ramsey married Annanias G. Stamp(s). Jane (Ramsey) Stamp(s) died about July 1845. Annanias G. Stamp(s) then remarried to Matilda Rice in Davidson Co., TN, on June 1-3, 1847 and then he remarried Mary Ann Ramsey in Davidson Co., TN, on October 18, 1855. I think this Mary Ann Ramsey is the younger sister of his first wife, Anne Ramsey. I could not find either Annanias or Mary (Ramsey) Stamp(s) in the 1860 census and doubt they had children.

On Mar 23, 2011, Dennis Gleaves wrote:

I reread my email and I can see I should have worded that differently. No, I am not ready to declare this William to be the son of Elizabeth Gleaves Ramsey. Trying to identify our William Ramsey has proven to be very frustrating.

Having said that, I still feel this one is my prime candidate as "William Jr." at this time, given the fact that he was born in Virginia, his age works and that he lived so close to Davidson and Wilson counties.

I also checked the scanned copy of the book Tennessee State Marriages 1780-2002 and in fact the actual year he married Diana is 1826, Ancestry.com has it misfiled. I have also located him in both 1830 and 1840 appearing in the Sumner County Census. In neither case does the suffix Jr. appear.

I am familiar with the use of Jr. & Sr. to define not only heredity but age/status as well, as our Thomas Gleaves was sometimes listed in court documents as Sr. and his cousin Thomas, Michael's son, as Jr. Michael's son had passed away already so Thomas may not have felt the need to use it any longer.

I will continue to search to see if I can locate any court documents that will help solve this mystery.

With regard to the William Ramsey, Jr. you referenced from the 1830 Census, either we have Elizabeth's marriage date to Mr. Ramsey wrong or this person was born out of wedlock and took the Ramsey name after Elizabeth's marriage. Both are plausible. Too bad the 1830 census did not list birth locations.

With regard to Elizabeth Gleaves Ramsey's husband, without forsaking all others, am leaning towards his given name being William. Let me lay out the circumstantial facts.

1. We know the Josiah Ramsey family had earlier settled in the Max Meadows area of Wythe County.

2. Of the three sons, we have accounted for all but William through marriage or death. Acknowledging that there can be more than one Ramsey family in the area, we can't draw any conclusions from this.
3. We know that when Josiah Ramsey wrote his will in 1805, he was concerned that his son William might be predisposed to sell his half of the land he was to inherit and wanted to have his son Joseph get "first dibs" on buying it from him. This COULD mean that William may have left the area already or was planning to do so.
4. We know that Elizabeth's father William Gleaves had dealings with a man named William Ramsey on at least two occasions, first in 1818 when Gleaves buys a slave from Ramsey and sometime prior to his death, he loaned a man named William Ramsey money. The IOU was filed as part of his estate.
5. This brings me to the disposition of Elizabeth Gleaves Turk's estate. This is the only document I know of where the name William Ramsey, the son of Elizabeth Gleaves Ramsey, is listed with the suffix "Jr.". I have asked myself why a man in Virginia (James Turk Gleaves), making a ledger entry in a document that was to stay in Virginia, would know or care how many William Ramseys there were living in the Nashville area? I can't come up with a good answer other than the notation was a hereditary title. He was entrusting Benjamin Franklin Gleaves to deliver the inheritance to his cousin, he would not need to make sure he found the right William Ramsey. The only other reason for the designation I can think of would be if Elizabeth Ramsey's husband was still alive. We have assumed he was dead but family letters make it clear Elizabeth had passed but he is never mentioned. He was not Elizabeth Turk Gleaves' blood relative and perhaps she wanted the money to go to her grandson. In this case as well, the title is hereditary.

Sorry for this being so long but I want to address the 1799 George Eller-Betsey Glaves marriage as well.

I know I'm in the minority here but frankly am having trouble seeing how this entry could deal with William Gleaves' daughter, Elizabeth.

I looked at the entry in the Annals of Southwest Virginia 1769-1800 where I believe this marriage was uncovered. The actual entry was transcribed for the book as "Betsey Glowes", but somewhere along the way it got changed to "Glaves". Does the actual document exist?

Eller family records list George Eller Jr. as being born in Wythe County in either 1777 or 1782. While there is some biographical information dealing with his father, I have seen none pertaining to him. He is the right age and in the right location to be the groom.

Although there are numerous early occurrences of the Gleaves surname being spelled both ways, by 1799, virtually all entries were spelled Gleaves.

If this is actually Elizabeth Gleaves, it would mean this marriage occurred before she married Mr. Ramsey.

The normal way for a woman to get out of a marriage back then was for the husband to die. Eller family records have George living until 1851.

Divorce was not an option back then but was it possible for the marriage to be annulled? Perhaps plausible but highly unlikely.

I have looked at several other options to explain this mystery. First, I thought this could be William Gleaves' younger sister, Elizabeth Glaves, daughter of Matthew and Esther. We know nothing about her and it is possible she followed brothers William and Michael to Wythe County.

Born in Augusta County she would have been in her mid-forties at the time. This would mean that George Eller Jr. married a woman old enough to be his mother.

I looked at George Eller Sr. as a possible groom as he was about Elizabeth's age. Eller family records state he married Christine Yost in 1778 and she outlived him by more than 30 years.

I will offer two more theories just to exhaust all that I can think of and both deal with Michael Glaves, William's brother who left Wythe County for Tennessee around 1784.

Several of us believe that Michael was married in Virginia, before he married Rachel presumably in Tennessee. We have documented at least two women born into this previous marriage and I strongly suspect that the Elizabeth Gleaves Turner, mentioned in the codicil to Michael's will may be a third. Is it possible that a fourth daughter born in Virginia did not make the trip to Tennessee, instead living with family in Virginia?

Lastly, and this is a real stretch; Michael's first wife. Perhaps he just left her taking the children. She would have to wait around 15 years waiting for him to return. Under her married name, George again would be marrying a woman twice his age.