Our Roots, Our History, Our Legacy

Rooted in Faith | Connected by Love | Sustained by Legacy

For 100 years, the Craig and Lock family has walked together in faith, supported one another through life's seasons, and built a legacy grounded in prayer, love, and unity. This is our history. This is our heritage. This is our legacy.

Our Beginnings

In 1926, our families came together in faith, hope, and love, united by a desire to stay connected and grow stronger together. What began as a gathering of relatives became the foundation of a lasting family tradition - one built on prayer, fellowship, and a shared commitment to future generations.

Reunion Traditions

Our reunions have become a treasured tradition filled with worship, laughter, storytelling, music, and cherished memories. These gatherings remind us of who we are, where we come from, and the importance of staying connected. Each reunion strengthens the bonds of family and adds another chapter to our shared story.

Faith Through the Years

Through the years, our family has been sustained by prayer, strengthened by love, and guided by faith in God. In every season - through joy, hardship, change, and celebration - those values have helped hold us together. This spiritual foundation has carried the Craig & Lock legacy from one generation to the next.

The Legacy Continues

As we look to the future, we remain committed to preserving our heritage and strengthening the generations to come. One important step forward is the establishment of the Craig & Lock Family Reunion as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. This milestone helps ensure that our family legacy will continue with purpose, unity, and lasting impact.

100th CRAIG & LOCK FAMILY REUNION

September 25-26, 2026

THE CRAIG & LOCK CHRONICLE

Established 1926

Centennial Special Edition

100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion

A CENTURY OF FAITH, FAMILY & FELLOWSHIP



Macedonia Baptist Church

September 26, 2026 | Noon

Rev. Arthur Lock, President

The Family That Prays Together Stays Together

ONE FAMILY | ONE LEGACY | 100 YEARS STRONG

BOUND BY PRAYER | ROOTED IN FAMILY

Letter from the President's Desk

Dear Craig & Lock Family,

With grateful hearts and joyful spirits, I welcome each of you to the 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion. What a blessing it is to gather as one family, one legacy, and one testimony of God's faithfulness. For one hundred years, the Craig and Lock family has continued to stand, grow, and remain connected through faith, love, sacrifice, and prayer. Genesis 1:26-31

Our theme, 'The Family That Prays Together Stays Together,' reminds us that we are bound by prayer and rooted in family. Prayer has carried us through generations, and family has kept us grounded through every season of life. As we celebrate this historic milestone, we pause to honor those who came before us - the mothers, fathers, grandparents, elders, and ancestors whose strength, wisdom, and courage helped shape the family we are today.

Many of them endured trials we may never fully know, yet they kept believing, kept working, kept praying, and kept building. Because of their faithfulness, we are able to gather today in celebration. This reunion is more than a one-day event. It is a tribute to our past, a celebration of our present, and a promise to our future. Genesis 2:4.

While we are commemorating this milestone throughout the weekend, the reunion itself is a special day set aside to come together in unity and love.

We reflect on the challenges that have tested us and the victories that have strengthened us. Through every season, God's grace has sustained us, guided us, and carried us forward. Today, we rejoice together, celebrating the grace of God that has brought us this far. Psalm 133:1-3

To every family member who traveled near and far, thank you for being here. To those who planned, served, donated, prayed, and supported this reunion in any way, thank you. Your love and commitment help keep the Craig & Lock legacy alive.

May this 100th celebration remind us that we are not just connected by name, but by faith, history, love, and purpose. May we continue to teach our children the value of family, the power of prayer, and the importance of honoring where we come from. As we celebrate together, let us give thanks for the roots that hold us, the prayers that cover us, and the family bond that continues to strengthen us. Galatians 5:16, 22-23

With love, gratitude, and blessings,

Rev. Arthur Lock, President
Craig & Lock Family Reunion

THE CRAIG & LOCK CHRONICLE
Centennial Special Edition

Honoring Our Living Legacies

A Legacy of Love | A Lifetime of Faith | A Heritage That Endures

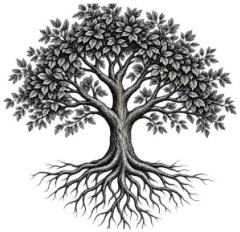
Chester Williams



Born on April 24, 1946, he is the son of Gertrude and Roosevelt Williams and the grandson of Hart Craig, one of the founders of the Craig & Lock Family Reunion.

Mr. Williams faithfully served his community through 28 years of dedicated employment with the Milwaukee Bus Company, retiring in 2010 after a distinguished career.

Congratulations on being recognized as a 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion Living Legacy Honoree.



As we celebrate 100 years of the Craig & Lock Family Reunion, we pause to honor those whose lives reflect the faith, strength, love, and perseverance upon which our family was built.

Our Living Legacy Honorees have carried forward the values of those who came before us. Their stories remind us that a legacy is more than something we inherit. It's something we live, protect, and pass forward.

Honoring Our 2026 Living Legacy Honorees

Ethel Collins McGough
Dale Penix
Eugene Penix
Arthur Whitaker
Chester Williams

One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. Psalm 145:4

Honoring Our Living Legacies

A Legacy of Love | A Lifetime of Faith | A Heritage That Endures

Eugene Penix



Born June 13, 1947, in Sparkman, Arkansas, Eugene Penix is the youngest son of Dulsea Eason Penix and Joe Penix. After graduating from Sparkman Training School, he relocated to Rockford, Illinois.

In 1968, Eugene married Marilyn Joyce Taylor. Their family includes daughters Kimberly Green and Trishonya Penix. Eugene managed Lord & Penix BBQ for 25 years.

Called into ministry, Eugene was ordained under Bishop F. G. Green and has faithfully served at St. Paul Church of God in Christ in Rockford.

Congratulations on being recognized as a 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion Living Legacy Honoree.

Arthur Whitaker



Arthur Whitaker, grandson of Arilla Craig Eason and Arthur Eason, was born September 8, 1948, to Jessie Lee Eason Whitaker and Milton Whitaker.

He graduated from Sparkman Training School in 1966 and later moved to Rockford, Illinois. In 1968, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served for two years.

After returning home in March 1970, Arthur resumed working at Rockford Screw, where he remained until retiring in 2014.

He married Lucy Jones Whitaker in September 1970, and they became the parents of two children. Raised in Macedonia Baptist Church, Arthur has been a member of Bethel Baptist Church since 1990.

Congratulations on being recognized as a 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion Living Legacy Honoree.

The Sacred Order of Celebration

Macedonia Baptist Church | September 26, 2026 | Noon

Congregational Song

Roosevelt House & Kim Wesley

Scripture

Rev. Jim Lockhart, Pastor, Macedonia Baptist Church

Hymn

Roosevelt House & Kim Wesley

Prayer

Rev. Arthur Lock, President, Craig & Lock Family Reunion

Musical Selection

Craig & Lock Centennial Family Choir

Welcome

Sister Betty Hanserd

Musical Selection

Craig & Lock Centennial Family Choir

Response

Sister Phyllis Deloach

Special Presentations

Oldest Living Craig & Lock Family Members

Recipient	Presenter
Ethel Collins McGough	Teresa Smith
Dale Penix	Tonya Penix Harris
Eugene Penix	Ruth Pettiway
Arthur Whitaker	Jeffery Whitaker
Chester Williams	Teresa Langdon

A Moment of Remembrance

Soft Music in Memory of Our Loved Ones

Celebration Continues

Macedonia Baptist Church | September 26, 2026 | Noon

Offering

Jamie Allen, Joyce Wolfe, Charlotte Cowser, Miranda Wiley, Brandy Simpson & Darrell Simpson

Musical Selection

Praise Dance - Sister Sharonda King

Paper

Sister Tehea Harding

Solo

Brother Hershel Thrower

Introduction of Speaker

Sister Deloris Williams

Musical Selection

Craig & Lock Centennial Family Choir

Centennial Sermon

Superintendent Leroy Williams

Invitation to Discipleship

Musical Selection

Craig & Lock Centennial Family Choir

Announcements

Closing Remarks

Rev. Arthur Lock, President, Craig & Lock Family Reunion

Benediction

Superintendent Leroy Williams

M.C. - Timothy Wright

Ushers

Debra Whitaker & James Medlock

SCAN TO DONATE

Craig & Lock Family Reunion has 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

THE CRAIG & LOCK CHRONICLE
Centennial Special Edition

Honoring Our Living Legacies

A Legacy of Love | A Lifetime of Faith | A Heritage That Endures

Ethel Collins McGough



Born on March 19, 1949, Ethel Collins McGough is the great-granddaughter of Ella and Marci Lock, the granddaughter of Edna Lock Collins - affectionately known as 'Aunt PO' - and the daughter of Allie Edward Collins.

Her sisters are Mrs. Corey Hughes, Mrs. Luby Butler, and Mrs. Mary House. Her brothers are Frank, Luther, and Roy Lock.

Congratulations on being recognized as a 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion Living Legacy Honoree.

Dale Willie Penix



Born on June 14, 1946, in Sparkman, Arkansas, Dale Willie Penix is recognized for a lifetime of faith, family, hard work, and service. A graduate of Sparkman Training School, he built a successful career in Rockford, Illinois, retiring after 28 years of dedicated service at Roger Brothers.

Dale and his wife, Johnnie, have built a loving family whose legacy now includes four children, seven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

A faithful trustee of Gomez Episcopal Church, Dale has served his church and community with humility and dedication.

Congratulations on being recognized as a 100th Craig & Lock Family Reunion Living Legacy Honoree.