**John S. and Julia A. Davis**

John and Julia Davis bought a parcel of land at 655 Paxson Drive in Yellow Springs, Ohio, built a house on that land, and moved into that house on December 16, 1972. They had three children: John Sidney Davis II, Jeffrey Craig Davis, and Jennifer Nicole Grace Davis. John was employed as a Computer Specialist at Wright Patterson Air Force Base and Julia was a stay-at-home wife and mother. The family attended Central Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Yellow Springs.

John was devoted to his family, his job, and his church activities. He steadily moved up on his job during his 37 years of government service and was awarded the golden eagle for distinguished service upon his retirement. He spent quality time with his wife and children, and he directed the choir at Central Chapel A.M.E. Church. John coached his sons’ soccer teams and he worked with their Boy Scout troops. John also liked to garden. He raised beautiful green beans, tomatoes, greens, okra, peppers, peas, carrots and corn. John also cultivated roses and he created a flower tree in his front yard. The “flower tree” was made by cutting out the top of a dying tree. He put nails in the tree and hung beautiful flower baskets on each nail. People from miles around came to see and admire John’s flower tree.

When Jennifer was in the 3rd grade at Mills Lawn **Elementary School,** Julia accepted a teaching position at Yellow Springs High School. She taught World History, American History, and Advanced Placement American History. Her classes were lively and sprinkled with humor. Students from previous years often sat on the floor in her class to hear a particular lecture again. Each year, the valedictorian and salutatorian in Greene County high schools are asked to select the one teacher in their educational career who was most influential in their success. Julia was awarded the valedictorian/salutatorian award three times. In 1997, Julia resigned from her teaching position to write and publish history books for young readers.

The Davis children were educated in the Yellow Springs school system and they have done well for themselves. Jennifer has a Bachelor’s Degree from Hampton University and a Master’s Degree from Wright State University. She is a middle school special education teacher. Jeffrey has a Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Based Information systems from Howard University. He is a senior programmer for the National Security Administration. John II has a Bachelor’s Degree from Howard University, a Master’s Degree, and a Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. He is senior engineering fellow for the Rand Corporation.

*Julia A. Davis*