

## Davenports — Fifth Generation

### REUBEN DAVENPORT

BIRTH ABT 1798 PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
DEATH ABT 1860-61 CANNON COUNTY, TENNESSEE



### WIFE 1) SUSAN RICHARDSON

BIRTH  
MARRIED JUNE 15, 1820 WILSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
DEATH ABT 1824 WILSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Reuben and Susan Richardson had two children and she died either during the second one's birth or shortly thereafter.

### WIFE 2) RUTHIA M. SAULS

BIRTH 1805 RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
MARRIED MARCH 28, 1825 RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
DEATH BEF 1847 WARREN COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Ruthia parents were John Sauls and Barbara S. Vaunts — see previous article.

Back then folks married quite quickly following a spouse's death as there was no way they could manage daily life without two adults to care for the children and do the farming or whatever occupation earned their livelihood. So when Ruthia married Reuben, she took over raising Susan's two young children (three and one). Ruthia and Reuben went on to have eight children (Reuben's 3rd through 10th).

Ruthia died at age 42 when her youngest was about seven years old. By then Reuben's first two children were in their 20s.

### WIFE 3) SARAH "SALLY" MATHEWS

BORN MAY 28, 1830  
MARRIED MAY 4, 1847 CANNON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
DIED 1914 RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Shortly after Ruthia's death, Reuben married wife number three, Sarah Mathews. She took over raising Reuben's youngsters and, by 1850, according to the census, they also had one child, a girl named Jane. Over the next ten years, they produced six children. All together, Reuben fathered sixteen children spanning from 1822 to 1848.

That 1850 census indicates Sarah is 21, making her born in 1829. The 1860 census says she is 35, making her born in 1825. So not sure of her birthyear.

Ruthia Sauls,  
Reuben's second  
wife, is my  
GGG-Grandmother

Reuben fathered  
16 children over  
a 27 year period.