

**Wilford D. Kidwell (1868-1916)**  
**Wife: Martha E. (Sigafoose) Kidwell (1862-1926)**  
**Son: Raymond E. Kidwell (1891-1909)**  
**Son: Martin Ellsworth Kidwell (1899-1903)**

**Wilford** D. Kidwell was born in 1868 in Maryland, the son of **Hezekiah** and **Cecelia** Kidwell, who had moved to Maryland from Loudoun County a few years earlier. Their story is told elsewhere in this collection. In 1873, the family purchased a lot in Berlin, establishing their residence in that little village.

Wilford's wife-to-be, Martha E. Sigafoose, was born in 1862, also in Maryland. There were three Sigafoose families living in Brunswick at that time (three brothers), and it is uncertain to which family she belonged. In 1870, at the age of 8, she was living in the home of J.L. Jordan, a wealthy produce dealer in Berlin. She was listed as a "nurse," meaning, that she was helping to take care of Mr. Jordan's two little grandchildren (children of Mr. Jordan's son, a canal boatman, who was living with him).

Wilford and Martha were married in 1887, a year after his father died. They eventually became the parents of five children (listed at the end of this paper).

Their first son Willie was born in 1889. Other children soon followed: **Raymond** in 1892, Dallas in 1894, Mary in 1896, and **Martin** in 1899. Wilford's mother died while living with them in their home in 1899.

In the 1900 census, Wilford and Martha and their 5 children were living in Brunswick. (Note: When their son Dallas registered for the WWI draft, he gave his address as 316 Brunswick Street, which was probably where the family had been living most of their married life.) Wilford was employed as a railroad laborer.

Their son Martin died in 1903, just 4 years old, of measles. Their 17-year old son Raymond died in 1909 of diabetes. This was just 12 years before the discovery of insulin. Footstones in the family plot in the Old Berlin Cemetery mark their graves.

Sometime around 1909, Wilford became an invalid, from what we do not know, and remained an invalid until his death 7 years later.

In the 1910 census, Wilford and Martha had three children living with them on Brunswick Street in Brunswick. He was now a clerk with the railroad.

Wilford died in 1916 at the age of 48. He was buried in the private family plot in the northwest corner of the Old Berlin Cemetery, with his two sons.

In 1920, Martha was living with her son Dallas (25) and nephew Edward (24) in Brunswick. Her oldest son William lived just down the street.

Martha died in 1926 at the age of 64, and was buried beside her husband.

Descendants: Wilford and Martha had 5 children:

- William G (1889-1959). Buried Mt. Olivet Cemetery.
- **Raymond E.** (1891-1909). Diabetic, died age 17. Buried Old Berlin Cemetery.
- Dallas Downs (1894-1956). Buried in Park Heights Cemetery.
- Mary Elizabeth (1894 - 1975). Buried Ebenezer Cemetery, Loudoun Heights, VA.
- **Martin Ellsworth** (1899-1903). Died of measles. Buried Old Berlin Cemetery.

Kidwell family plot with headstone and 4 footstones:



Front of tombstone:



Side of tombstone:

