

Charles Allen- Ethical Will  
Christian Health Center

Ethical Will: The passing of the substance of a person's emotional life, including their accomplishments, failures, aspirations, fears, lessons learned, and hopes for the future.

**Childhood:** He was born in Detroit Michigan in 1925. Oldest of five children-has four older sisters. Charles was born premature, weighing in at only four pounds. He used to play tricks on his sisters, one time he put a mouse in their Christmas stockings. He is filled with childhood stories.

**Air Force:** Had a rough time in the service, was lucky enough to live through a few accidents. Charles had a shaky hand and thus was turned down to be a pilot, he instead loaded B-29 planes with ammunition and bombs. In fact, he had loaded the plane that dropped the atomic bomb several times before. He had a good relationship with the cooks there, he would loan them money for booze if they gave him the good stuff for meals.

**Early Years:** Mr. Allen went to Kentucky after getting out of the service and bought part of a timber mill from his uncle. He had an accident, which took most of the skin on his back off. He also has a wonderful story about finding his wife.

**Later Years:** He had two girls and a boy, every year they would go down to the Smokey Mountains. He recounts a story of how his son found the largest copperhead snake on record at mammoth cave.

**Old Hobbies Die Hard:** He used to make a ton of furniture. One type was a pie safe, which was used to cool pies without attracting flies. He would also make porch swings, which is how he got started making furniture. He made everything from stands to chests.

**Current Years:** He came to the health center when he broke his arm when he fell getting off the couch.

The will describes some touching and personal stories that have shaped Mr. Allen. At the end in a small Q&A with Mr. Allen and a note from the intern who helped write the will.