

Zachary Taylor Reynolds W4TXL *1938-1979* Born at Devotion NC to R. J. Reynolds Jr and Elizabeth D. Reynolds - R. J.Reynolds Jr had remarried and there were several half brothers and sisters in the lineage. Zach had three brothers; John, Richard Joshua III and William.

Zach was married to Linda Lee, there was at least one child.. Zach's grandfather was the Patriarch RJR 1850-1918 Tobacco Empire - Somewhere along the way Zach obtained W4TXL and had a world class station and enjoyed the bands, including 75 Meter phone. He could be heard nightly working DX with his huge antenna system and Collins rigs. He also enjoyed rag chewing and could be found nightly on 3895 KC, or the "Alligator Channel." Yes, Zach chatted with Big Al, The Duke from Paducah W4MPE & Kenny K8RXW Pudden City etall, the period of the 60s and 70s, long before the channel master wars.

Bill Tise now holds Zach's old issued W4TXL. Bill said, "My brother-in-law got me interested in the game and I fell totally into it." Zach used to entertain and welcome visitors into his incredible shack with an amp called his "Money Machine." He would ask you if you could get a KW out of a single 811A. You would laugh and say, NO! He would then ask if you would care to bet on it. You would say "Sure, why not?" No way could you draw a KW out of a single 811A!

Zach would then proceed to insert a brand new 811A into his money machine, complete with a Bird Peak Reading meter, to act as a referee. He would then hit the key and point to the Bird. If you weren't blinded by the 811A light bulb, there it was...over 1 KW on the scale. After having won the bet, he referred to his "Money Machine" as his 811A destroyer. The tube life was measured in milliseconds, but it put out over a KW and you had lost the bet! It was said W4TXL had a private stash of 811A's (Cases and cases stacked in his closet) just waiting for a gullible engineer who said "No way!"

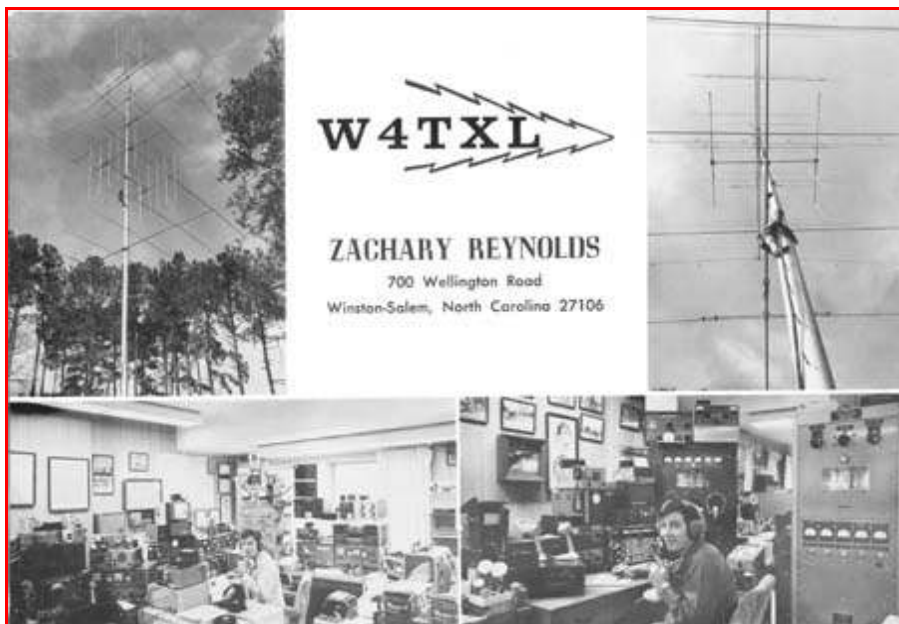
We have featured the "Telrex Company" elsewhere and Zach bought the very best! He had the fabled "Christmas Tree." Unfortunately death claimed our subject at an early age of 41 in an aircraft accident in a locale called Pinnacle, N.C. Zacks name is engraved on a plaque at the Reynolds family mansion.

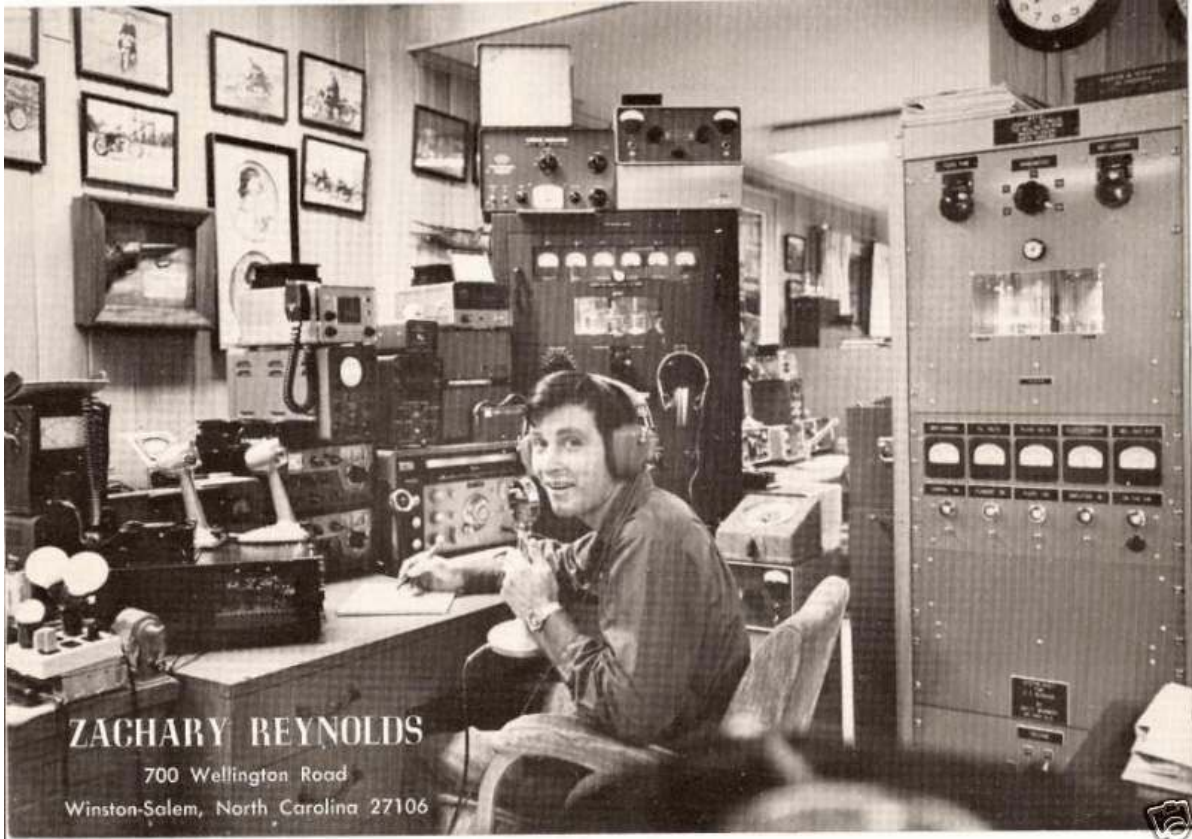
I find a fascinating side line. Zach's brother (possibly half brother) Patrick Reynolds, renounced smoking and became a fervent advocate of "A Smoke-Free America" Patrick's stand against the smoking habit I am sure would cause the patriarch to rejoice after the awful death and agony smoking imposed on his many descendants and public all over the world.

In 1966 Zach's mother was honored by a dedication in her name "Elizabeth D. Reynolds House" former mansion built by the late R.J.Reynolds Jr, a gift to Wake Forest College by her four sons, Zachary, John, Richard Joshua III and William.

More QSL cards to follow on page two. Last card dated 1961 from W8JOO collection.

w8SU 2007 added 2016





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W4TXL

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