

Sometime during the 1790's, William's widow, Sarah, and many of her children moved to Laurens County, South Carolina. Sarah Roberts passed away in Laurens County in 1809. By the time of the 1799 tax list for Randolph County, North Carolina, there seemed to be only one Roberts listed, Ryland, whose exact identity is unknown. He is believed to have been a son of William and Sarah. This author along with other genealogical researchers believes that William and Sarah had a son known as William Junior. Probably to keep from confusing the two, William went by his middle name of Ryland. There is still some question as to Ryland's identity as William's son, grandson, or a close cousin. However we know that Ryland lived in Randolph County, North Carolina near William and Sarah Roberts. William died without any legal will and his son James was executor of the estate. Along with James, Ryland also signed several of the documents dealing with William Senior's death. Sometimes Ryland signed his name as "Jurat". When Ryland and Susannah Roberts were married on January 8, 1789, Haman Miller was the bondsman. Haman was also the husband of Frances Roberts who was the daughter of William and Sarah. Haman Miller would have been Ryland's brother in law, supposedly. Ryland named one of his sons Hamon Roberts. Other connections include that William Senior's son, George Roberts, left a will which named one of his sons as Ryland and another son as George Ryland Roberts. Therefore, Ryland must be directly related to William and Sarah.

Ryland was likely the fourth son of William and Sarah and was born 1760 in Halifax County, Virginia. As a child his father operated a ferry along the Dan River. Then as a boy of 19 and during the middle of the Revolutionary War, he traveled with his family to Randolph County, NC. This was a remote wilderness at the time only being recently settled in the early 1770s. Soon after the war was over, Ryland married Susannah 1789 in Randolph County, NC. They had at least four children - James, William, Mary Franky, and Hamon. Another connection between William Sr. and Ryland is the probate record of James Roberts (son of William Sr.) in 1803. James left property to Ryland Roberts on March 10, 1803 - some 130 dollars on one record and is noted as a "drum man" and paid 20 dollars on another record to do with this document. These documents are attached here online. There are census records showing a "Rylen" Roberts in Randolph Co, NC in 1810 so he remained there for over 30 years. After 1810, it is thought that Ryland moved to Newberry County, SC, just one county to the east, where he resided until his death in 1834.