

Clan DUFF

ARMS CREST MOTTO

A gold shield with a red lion rampant. Not available Deus Juvat (God assists).

As a personal name this is a curtailment of a longer double-stemmed name (cf. Flann, Flann, etc.). The Gaelic is Dubh, from older Dub. "The family name Duff is merely the adjective dubh Used epithetic ally" (Macbaln). Duncan Duff was witness to a charter of c. 1275 and in 1292 the lands of another Du Dkan Duf and others in Kintyre were erected into the sheriffdom of Kintyre. In 1341 Brokynns Duff was one of an inquisition on lands in Aberdeen, and in the following year Machabeus Duff is in record as burgess of Cullen (ibid., I, p. 73). In 1404 Robert Duff and his spouse had a charter of the lands of Maldavit and Baldavy. Paul Duff was one of an inquisition in 1414, and part of the lands of Twlifergns was let to Donald Duff in 1456. Andrew Jervise (Epitaphs) "having gone carefully into the subject with all the data at his disposal, gave it as his opinion that the connection of the Duffs of Craighead or Muldavit with the ancient earls of Fife is pure assertion, founded on no evidence" (The Book of Duff, I, p. 12). Duif 1582.

Taken from "Surnames of Scotland", by Black, The New York Public Library.

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