

# Story Four

## William James and Inga Cowan

By Larry Cowan

Keeping warm on a Cold and Snowy Wind-Swept Night

*The two small rooms in the split log house are quiet and dim. The wind howls and the oil lamp flickers in the draft. The walls creaks and the shutters bang. The children are tucked into their quilts on the loft. The night is long and you wait for spring on the Shyenne River plain. Larry Cowan*



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William J and Inga Cowan  
At farm in Granville, ND 1929



## The Jim and Inga Cowan Story

### Jim's Early Years

William James (Jim) Cowan was born on February 5, 1874 to William (Bill) and Margaret Cowan who farmed at Seaforth in Hullett Township, Ontario. He was baptized in the Christian faith five weeks later on March 14, 1874 at Seaforth in the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Seaforth (*Early Wesleyan Methodist Baptismal Register, Township of Tuckersmith, Entries Mainly 1840 – 1873*, vol. 3, p. 426). He was the firstborn son and named after his father.



In the spring of 1881 when Jim was 7 years old, and for reasons told in another story, the family loaded all of their possessions and their horses on the train and traveled to the Dakota Territory to start a new life. Margaret's father died a few years earlier and her mother was just laid in her grave. Although there is no record, it is likely that Bill's parents were also dead and there was no compelling reason to stay at Seaforth.

Bill and Margaret had three children by 1881; Jim was the oldest; Thomas was the middle child and Robert was the youngest. Robert was just 23 months old at the time that they went to the Dakota. They acquired land for farming in the sand hills of Owego on the Sheyenne River. Their 360 acre land is shown toward the top on the partial plat map shown on the left as S $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 8. Owego was a developing community and at that time in 1881 was larger than the new town of Sheldon about 12 miles to the north. Bill raised horses, had a small hay farm and opened a livery stable there. There was some issue with who owned the land on Section 8 and who had the right to sell it but in any case by at least 1885 William and Margaret had moved to Highland Township in Cass County a few miles north of Sheldon. You'll notice at the bottom of this 1910 map is a 160 acre farm of Bill's son Thomas. He had this farm up until before 1920 when the farm is shown abandoned.

A Dakota Territory Census taken late in the year 1885 shows entries for the family as follows living in Cass County:

Name	Age	Rel	Occ	Nativity	Address	City	ED	Cnty
Cowan, William	45	Head	Farmer	Can	Not Listed	Not Listed	17-027-17	Cass
Margret	40	Wife		Can	"	"	17-027-18	Cass
William J.	12	Son		Can	"	"	17-027-19	Cass
Thomas	9	Son		Can	"	"	17-027-20	Cass
Robert	6	Son		Can	"	"	17-027-21	Cass
Elithbeth	4	Dtr		Dak	"	"	17-027-22	Cass
Stanley	1	Son		Dak	"	"	17-027-23	Cass

Margaret died five years later at the age of 45 in 1890 when Jim was sixteen. The cause is unknown (likely pneumonia, tuberculosis or some other frontier disease) and she

is buried in the town cemetery at Sheldon. Many people had tuberculosis at that time as well and that may have been the cause of their mother's death. Bill and the children continued to live on the farm at Highland Township after Margaret's death up through 1898 or 1899. Bill married Dell Carr at Christmas of 1897 and their son Lee was born in 1899. By 1900 as shown by the census record, Bill and Dell move to Shenford and rent a farm there. Bill died in 1918 and Dell and Lee continued to live at Shenford up to 1920 when Dell married widower George Griffin. At that time they and several others of the family moved up to Granville to farm near Minot.

In February of 1996, I had a conversation with Newman Arntson of Sheldon who remembers the old days. He remembers that the Cowans had a farm in the hills area of Owego and that they raised cows and hay crop. He said he remembers Bill's youngest son Lee and son Jim and several of Jim's older children – Lloyd, Mel, Oliver, Jane and Hattie. The kids went to Owego Consolidated School

As a youth, Jim worked at the Sheldon newspaper, *The Enterprise*, and he tried working in the forests near Brainerd, Minnesota. Later he worked as a veterinary, traveling from farm to farm. He got his husbandry experience from working with horses in the livery stable for his father.

### ***A Bit About Inga***

A letter to Inga from a sister in Highlandville in the late 1880's refers to Inga's tragic loss of Johan Martin and of her toddler son. Apparently when Inga was 19 to 21, she married a person whose name was likely Johan Martin (surname unknown) and they lived in North Dakota near Sheldon or Owego Township where she would become acquainted with the Cowan family. Her husband and toddler son both apparently died shortly before Jim and Inger met (they were perhaps already acquainted as neighbors) and she was left to bury her family alone on the Dakota plains. The fact of this previous marriage is documented in some old letters to her from family in Highlandville that talk of him and their child. These letters were among Inga's belongings when she died in 1940. A couple of firsthand accounts seem to confirm this previous marriage. According to Francis Cowan, wife of Martin, Anna Akre Bidne told her years ago that Inga was married to someone before her marriage to Jim Cowan; that they had a son whom they called Billy; and that the child died while just a toddler and that her husband died about the same time before or after the child. This story is corroborated by a similar story as told to Bobbe Akre by her aunt Margaret Akre Pearson. It seems that this happened in the period between 1883 - 1886

APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE. E. Geo. D. Sumner & Co., Pub., St. Louis. Class 2

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, }  
Ransom County. } COUNTY COURT.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
William James Cowan  
 FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE

THE UNDERSIGNED, William James Cowan  
 of Sheldon in the County of Ransom and State of North Dakota,  
 hereby applies for a Marriage License for the Marriage of William James Cowan  
 of Sheldon in the County of Ransom and State of  
N. D. and Inger Johnson  
 of Sheldon in the County of Ransom and State of

The said William James Cowan represents that the said  
William James Cowan and Inger Johnson  
 are both single, of sound mind, not deprived of civil rights, nor of any of the degrees of  
 consanguinity prohibited by law, and may lawfully contract and be joined in marriage, and after being duly  
 sworn, deposes as follows, in answer to the following interrogatories:

QUESTION: What is the age of said William James Cowan ?  
 ANSWER: 17 years.

QUESTION: What is the age of said Inger Johnson ?  
 ANSWER: 26 years.

QUESTION: Do you state positively that William James Cowan is  
 over twenty-one years of age? ANSWER: I do not.

QUESTION: Do you state positively that Inger Johnson is  
 over eighteen years of age? ANSWER: I do.

QUESTION: Are the parties for whom application is made for Marriage License in any way related?  
 If so, to what extent? ANSWER: They are not.

Dated April 6 1891

SIGNED: William James Cowan

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, }  
County. } COUNTY COURT.

each being  
 duly sworn, depose and say ..., each for himself, that ... he acquainted with the contents of the  
 above application for Marriage License submitted to by  
 and that the statement contained in the said application, and the deposition to, and the answers given to  
 the questions therein, are true, as therein set forth.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this ... day of ... A. D. 189 ...

SHELDON, NORTH DAK. April 6<sup>th</sup> 1891

I, William Cowan of Sheldon N. D. do  
 hereby give my consent to the marriage of my  
 son William James Cowan, (a minor) to Mrs  
 Inger Johnson - William Cowan

Witnessed and sworn before me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of  
 April 1891

Wm. Dumbell Justice of the Peace

NO. 3764

MARRIAGE LICENSE

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

County of Ransom State of North Dakota  
April 6 1891

To any Person Authorized by Law to Perform the Marriage Ceremony.

**GREETING:**

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO JOIN IN MARRIAGE,  
William James Cowan of Sheldon & D  
aged 17 years and Inger Johnson  
of Sheldon & D aged 26 years  
 and of this license and your Certificate  
 you will make due return to my office  
 within thirty days

Signed: E. Geo. D. Sumner  
 Justice of the County Court

**CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE**

I hereby Certify that the persons named in the fore-  
 going license were by me joined in marriage at  
Sheldon County of Ransom  
 State of North Dakota on the 10th  
 day of April 1891

In Presence of  
Marion Dumbell Witnesses  
Alfred S. Banta Justice of the Peace

A US Census recorded on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1900 as shown below states that Jim had been married to Inger Akre for nine years. For Jim and Inger to have been married nine years at the time of the census they must have been married sometime in the twelve months prior to June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1891 which is nine years before the census. Since their daughter Mae Elizabeth was born on June 15<sup>th</sup> of 1891, I suspect that they were married in the days shortly before Mae was born. Jim was just 17 and Inga was 26 at the time of Mae's birth. A letter of consent to marry (minor) signed by Jim's father and the marriage application are dated April 6<sup>th</sup> and the certificate of marriage is dated April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1891 which is hardly 10 weeks before Mae was born. It is likely that they didn't have much of a wedding ceremony. The sequence of events is graphed here to perhaps give better clarity.

Date	Sequence of events as Jim and Inga become a family
Sep. 8, 1864	Inger Akre is born at Highlandville, Iowa. She is later called Inga.
Feb. 5, 1874	Jim Cowan is born at Seaforth, Ontario, nine years, seven months after Inga.
Spring of 1880	Jim at age six moved with his family to Owego near Sheldon, ND.
ca. 1883 - 1885	Inga, age 19 to 21 married Johan Martin _____ probably at Highlandville, IA. The fact of Inga's marriage and son is told in three letters and two oral story. There are no documents to confirm this.
ca. 1883 - 1885	Inga and her husband Johan settle in North Dakota, perhaps near Sheldon.
ca. 1886	Inga's son Billy is born.
ca. 1888	Inga's husband Martin and son Billy apparently die on the plains.
About Sep., 1890	Inga conceives child by Jim Cowan at Sheldon, ND. Inga had just turned 26 years and Jim is 16

	years and 7 months. Jim's mom has just died and is buried at Sheldon City Cemetery.
April 6, 1891	Jim and Inga are married on April 6th of 1891. Inga is seven months pregnant.
June 15, 1891	Mae Cowan, daughter of Jim and Inga Cowan is born. Mae is the first of eleven to be born of Jim and Inga.
June 7, 1900	The U.S. Census states that Jim and Inga have been married for nine years.

I have sometimes wondered how it was, after her child and husband died, that Inga connected with someone as young as Jim? Was she trying to erase her tragedy and found someone who was willing to strike out on his own as well because his family was in such upheaval?

One could speculate about Jim getting involved at that time as well. With his mother now dead there may well have been good reason for Jim to want to be on his own and to get married even so young to a widow woman. I have an impression that their marriage came about as a whirlwind of economic and emotional necessity and not so much of courting and romance. On the other hand it could have been a matter of boredom and frontier lust.

After the birth of Mae, Jim and Inga would be together for 49 years and have ten more children.

Inger's parents, John and Martha Akre, were respected and God-fearing farmers in their Norske community at Highlandville, Iowa. Family members would eventually own the creamery in the area and one brother became a preacher. The Akre's, it seems, were a caring and loving family. Martha, for example, often hosted community "quilting bees" on their farm with as many as seventy ladies present. And daughter Inga, after the death of her child and husband hooks up with a 16-year-old non-Norwegian son of a horse trader on the frontier and gets pregnant! I can imagine the family's consternation and concern for her.

### ***Inga's Family***

The record of Inga's family is found in another story and is briefly restated here. Inger's parents are John Akre and Martha Margrite Saervold of Os Parish, near Bergen, Norway. Inga was born in 1864 the oldest child of John Akre, b.1827 d.1904, and Martha Margrete Saervold, b.1839 d.1902, who had come from Norway and now farmed at Highlandville, Iowa. John and Martha's children, including Inga, are as follows:

1. Inger (Inga) b.1864 d.1940. In about 1883 - 1887, at about 19, she married Johann Martin \_\_\_\_\_. They had a son Billy who lived about two years. Both her son and her husband died apparently on the North Dakota plains and, when Inga was 26 years old, she connected with 16 year old William James Cowan (Jim) of Sheldon, North Dakota. In 1898, they homesteaded a farm at Anselm, about five miles to the south of Sheldon. Inga and Jim had eleven children.
2. Martin Johann b.1867 d.1921 Married Olena Peterson. Martin and Lena had four children. Martin owned the creamery at Highlandville together with his brother-in-law, Peter Bidne.
3. Ole J. b. 1870 d. 1946. Ole was a minister in the old Norwegian Lutheran Church and was called "Uncle Preacher" by family. He baptized many of the nephews and nieces. In 1897, Ole married Anna Louise Strand and they had one child; Roland who was born while Ole served a church in Wisconsin. During the period of 1907 to 1913, Uncle Ole served a church in Velva, N.D. that was only about fifteen miles south of Granville and a few miles

east of Douglas where many of Jim and Inga's family lived. Ole's sister Hattie and her husband Krogh lived about forty miles to the south of Velva at Mercer. Ole married Mathilda Toftness in 1921, three years after Anne died, while serving as pastor at Hinsdale, Montana.

4. John b. 1872 d. \_\_\_\_ John was a blacksmith and harness maker for many years at Spring Grove, Minnesota, about ten miles to the north of Highlandville. In 1898, John married Nellie Mathilde Halvorson Juve - - John was 26 and Nellie was 19 years of age. One adopted daughter, Martha.

5. Anna b. 1875 d. 1963 Married for over fifty years to Peter Bidne. Anna is Hattie's twin sister. In 1908 the Bidne's took in sister Inga's son Martin who was four years old and Martin grew up there at Highlandville. Peter was a master butter maker for many years and, in fact won the blue ribbon for sweet cream butter at the Chicago World's Fair in 1900.

6. Henrikke Amalie (Norwegian form of Henrietta) She was called Hattie. b. 1875 d. 1952 Hattie married Krogh Ovre of Highlandville. Hattie is Anna's twin sister. Hattie and Krogh had eight children, two of whom died as infants. In 1901, the family homesteaded at Mercer, North Dakota where they farmed for many years.

7. Jonas b. 1877 d. 1963 Married Susanna Christine Peterson, sister of Martin's wife above. Jonas had a large farm at Highlandville. Jonas and Susanna had four sons.

8. Belle J. b. 1879 d. 1932. Her actual name was Ingabor Marie but she was called Belle. Belle was still a young girl in school when Inga was married and Belle would often write to Inga to tell her about school and to ask about how she was getting along. This was in the middle and late 1880's. Belle married Martin Wassenberg; they lived in North Dakota and later in Wyoming where Martin worked in the oil fields. Belle and Martin had six children.

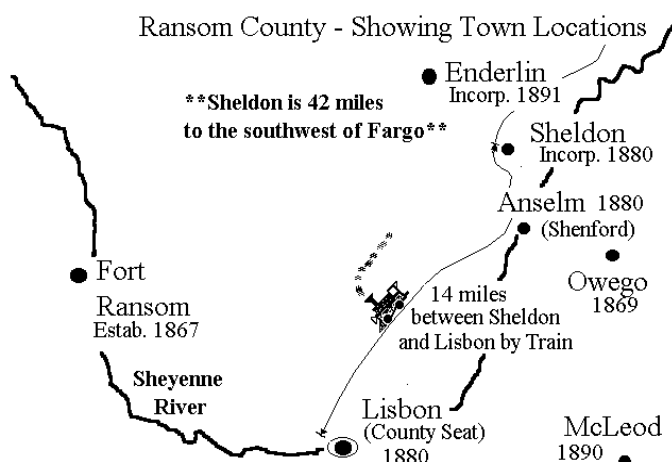
9. Christine Pauline b. 1882 - d. 1889. Christine died of tuberculosis at eight years of age and is buried near her parents at the Big Canoe Lutheran Cemetery.

### ***The Early Years***

During the first eight years of their marriage, Jim and Inga lived at Owego near Sheldon. They didn't have a farm of their own but Jim worked at several different jobs and, I'm sure, helped on his father's livery stable. Jim and Inga had four children during their eight years at Owego.

Later Jim and Inga and the family had a house in Sheldon but in the spring of 1898, according to an article in the Sheldon *Enterprise*, Jim began a farm of his own just south of Sheldon at the village of Anselm. Jim was 24 years old and Inga was 33. At Anselm, the Sheyenne River winds up from the south then jogs to the northeast toward Fargo. Their farm was twelve miles to the southeast of Sheldon toward the village of Owego and near what would become known years later as the Sheyenne National Grasslands.

In the first winter at their new farm at Anselm (the winter of 1898 -1899), Inga took the children and traveled by train to Decorah, Iowa where they stayed with her family over the winter. The children were Mae, age 7; Willie, age 5; Bud, age 3; and Lloyd, age 2. Jim meanwhile went to Brainerd, Minnesota and tried to make some money working in lumbering. It didn't work out too well so he came back and worked the rest of that winter at various jobs including a time working for *The Enterprise*, the local newspaper at Sheldon. I guess that life at the farm that first winter was not good.



News Articles: *The Sheldon Enterprise*

- [January 9, 1897], Born to Mr. and Mrs. James Cowan of Highland Township a fine boy during the storm. (This would be their son Lloyd, born Jan. 3)

- [April 1, 1898] Sheldon Progress: "James Cowan moved onto his new farm 12 miles south of town, April 1, 1898." An abstract file shows this land to be on Section 25, 135N, 54W, east of Venlo and one mile NE of Shenford. Another record shows that in 1898 Jim and the family have a home in Sheldon. Perhaps there was no home or buildings on the farm land.

- [November 4, 1898], James Cowan has gone to Brainerd, Minnesota to work in the woods this winter. Mrs. Cowan and the children have gone to Highlandville Iowa where they will spend the winter.

- [December 16, 1898], James Cowan has returned from Minnesota where he went some time ago to work in the woods. He says it is harder to get a job there.

- [March 3, 1899], Mrs. W. J. Cowan returned yesterday, along with her children from Decorah, Iowa where they had been visiting for the winter. (She was then six months pregnant with Tip.)

- [April 14th, 1899], James Cowan who has been holding down cases on *The Enterprise* during the winter said good-bye to the rule and stick and will go on his travels as a veterinary. Jim is too much an outdoor fellow to stay housed up during the summer. (Apparently Jim was working on the local newspaper, *The Enterprise*.) This and entries above suggest that as yet there was no farm but was land yet to be tilled and, indeed, they were living in town.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1900 a listing of the families of Owego Township was taken as part of the **1900 Federal Census** Twelfth Census of the United States and Jim's family was listed as follows and Jim is working a farm which he owns. Jim is age 26 and Inga is 34.

Survey Item	Twelvth Census of the U.S., Owego Township of Ransom County, June 7, 1900						
Name	James W Cowan	Inger	Elizabeth	William J.*	Robert O	Loyd A	Melbourne J
Hshld Status	Head	Wife	Dtr	Son	Son	Son	Son
Race	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Birth month	Feb	Sep	Jun	April	August	Jan	Jun



Birth Year	1874	1865	1891	1893	1895	1897	1989
Age	26 yrs	34 yrs	8 yrs	7 yrs	5 yrs	3 yrs	1 yr
Marital status	M	M	S	S	S	S	S
Yrs married	9	9					
Births		6					
Living Children		6					
Birthplace	Canada(Eng)	Iowa(Nor)	Nor Dak	Nor Dak	Nor Dak	Nor Dak	Nor Dak
Father's brthplc	Canada(Eng)	Norway	Canada	Canada	Canada	Canada	Canada
Mother's brthplc	Canada(Eng)	Norway	Norway	Norway	Norway	Norway	Norway
Emmig. Year	1881						
Years in US	19						
Naturalization	Yes	Yes					
Occupation	Farmer						
School attendance			7 Mos	7 Mos			
Read	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	NA
Write	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	NA
Speak English	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Own or rent	Own						
Own free or mort	Free						
Farm or house	Farm						
Notes: 1. Inger lists six children born to her and that are living. Her daughter Margaret was born in 1900 (month Unknown) and there is record from correspondence of a child Billy born to her from a previous marriage but who died back in the 1880's. Is the sixth child she is reporting Margaret who is but months old but being cared for elsewhere or is this her child Billy? 2. The child listed as William J. is listed incorrectly. His middle initial is A.							

In 1905 an excerpt from case file 2534 in the record of Abstracts and indexes to Ransom County Trust Company (Sheldon, N. D.) states that William J. Cowan about five years earlier acquired 400 acres (Sec. 25. 135N 54W) east of Venlo from C. & C. Land Co. of Sheldon. Venlo is about seven miles straight south of Sheldon; one mile northeast of Shenford (Anselm) Township; and about four miles west of the township of Owego. The family actually moved there on April 1, 1898 according to the Sheldon Progress. The 1900 US census places their farmstead at Owego Township.

The Ransom County Trust Company records document the operations of a major North Dakota Land company dating from circa 1899 – 1940 relating to transactions between the corporation and its customers. These records provide an excellent insight into the economic and agricultural climate during that period.

We move ahead two years to the winter of 1901. Jim and Inga are approaching their third planting season at Venlo (Post Office Anselm) and Inga receives a letter from a sister in Iowa. At the time of receiving the following letter, Inga is 36 years old and has children Mae, Willie, Robert Oliver (Bud), Lloyd, Melbourn (Tip) and Maggie, born in 1900. Mae, the oldest, is ten years old and Maggie is a baby. Note that the English composition and spelling is good. Whoever wrote this learned English in school - - This may well have been Belle who, I've heard, wrote to Inga often. I doubt that the Anne written of here was Inga's younger sister Anne as she lived to old age and died, I believe in the 1950's.

*Sattre, Iowa*

*Jan. 25 1901*

*Dear Sister Inga,*

*I promised to write after Xmas but now is a while after so I think I better write. And I have been waiting for a letter from you. Well Xmas was kind of still this year every place around. We did not have slughing so I guess that was why. And we have so many sick ones. Anne has been sick since before Xmas but she has been up and around this week. Before Xmas she has been sick in bed for a week but these last days she has been up again. She has*

*got many kinds of diseases. It is kidney trouble she has had and the doctor said she ought to had doctored for it two years ago and now it has turned to dropsy but he thought he could cure it. and she coughed a cold and she got the grippe and neuralgia that she was so swelled up in her face that we could hardly see her eyes but now she is almost alright of that she has had quite a time while the doctor has . . . .*

[the rest of the letter is missing] Is this letter from sister Belle? Who is Anne written of here?

### ***One Room Country School***

A school souvenir of Owego School No 2, District #9 of Ransom County, North Dakota was given to me by Madelyn Cowan Dodd in December of 1995. It was in the possession of her father; Jim's son Lloyd Cowan for many years and it lists the 27 students who attended during the period of March 1901 - June 1902. The spellings of some of the names are different than what we know. Four are children of Jim and Inga and Lynne is the daughter of Bill and Dell:

May Cowan - (Mae) She would have been nine or ten.

Willie Cowan - He would have been eight or nine.

Oliver Cowan - This is Robert Oliver and he would have been six or seven.

Loyd (sp) Cowan - Lloyd would have been five.

Lynn Cowan – This is Bill and Dell's daughter and she would be twelve.

Margaret Stoffel gave their teacher the school souvenir mentioned here to the pupils. The school officers at the time were W. G. Crocker, County Superintendent; William Hutchings, President; and Anton Johnson, Director.

### ***The Years Go By***

The family lived at Venlo for just a few years at most and, following up on excerpts from case files in the record of Abstracts and indexes to Ransom County Trust Company (Sheldon, N. D.), Jim and Inga and the children face difficult times over the next few years. File 2534 states that in 1905 Jim is having difficulty working the land with the problem being partly the sand delta area soil. Jim shows very little advance in breaking on his 400 acres east of Venlo. One complete quarter remains unbroken prairie. Cowan ends up with 80 acres that have a \$399 mortgage against them. An absentee owner from Spencer, Iowa bought the half section Cowan lost in 1905. On March 11, 1905 to Ed Pierce, he gives directions for ration of seed per acre that might well have been right for Iowa, but seems a bit heavy for the sand delta.

File 2816 - W. J. Cowan, renter in Shenford, Ransom County, N.D. is very hard up in 1906 having had sickness in his family. Through his attorney of the firm of Lacy, Glasford and Thelan at Lisbon, N.D., he finally makes settlement satisfactory to the Spencer, Iowa owner. James A. Schenum, now of Lisbon, N.D. sold Cowan some oats, and was paid through R.C.I.A. 1905.

File 3195 – 1906 W. J. Cowan (See also #2816) suffered foreclosure on a chattel mortgage given to Fowler & Banks, on four horses, one surry and an old engine, 1906.

File 2383 – 1905 A black and white spotted cow trespassed on his farm on Owego Township and turned J. H. Sours sour. The animal belonged to W. J. Cowan who sued when it was impounded privately.

Then sometime around 1905 they moved up to Buffalo (Post Office Valley City), just West of Fargo. File 3221 The file presents the case of the absentee owner who is short on cash, removes from Adrian, Michigan to Yankton, South Dakota, to St. Paul, Minnesota, and back to Adrian. He rented his farm to W. J. Cowan, who removed to Buffalo, N.D., and let his son William take over as a renter. (William is only thirteen here!) At Yankton, it would seem that the owner of the eighty acres got in with an "operator" in the boots & shoes business there.

Jim was good with horses and probably worked as a horse trader there. Their mailing address was Valley City in 1907 when the twins, Walter and Wallace, were born. In September of 1908, they received a postcard from Inga's sister Anne addressed to Inger Cowan at Valley City, North Dakota.

A land patent recorded on March 30, 1905 shows Jim has acquired three tracts of land as follows: The code 251101 PA refers to farmland acquired by patent.

COWAN WILLIAM J - 05 - 135 N 053 W 030 - 80 251101 PA 11371 03/30/1905

COWAN WILLIAM J - 05 - 135 N 053 W 030 - 38.77 251101 PA 11371 03/30/1905

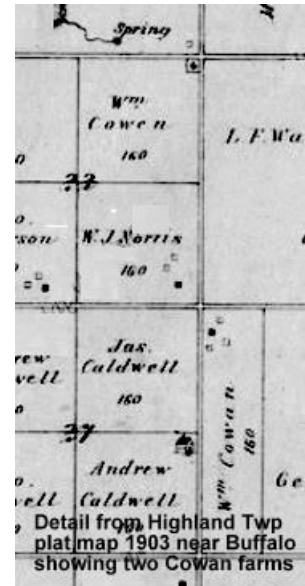
COWAN WILLIAM J - 05 - 135 N 053 W 030 - 38.52 251101 PA 11371 03/30/1905

The Bureau of Land Management North Dakota Land Patents Database contains the following information for each land transaction: date, location (township, range, section, meridian), name of person the land was patented to, case type, conveyance type, county, and the patent document identification number.

The family lived at least through the fall of 1908 at Buffalo (post office at Valley City). Then in 1909, they were receiving mail at Enderlin, a few miles to the west. They lived at Enderlin from 1909 through at least the summer of 1923.

By 1909, Jim and Inga had eleven children and were 35 and 44 years of age. Their children were Mae (now eighteen years of age), William (Willie), Oliver (bud), Lloyd, Melbourn (Tip), Margaret Jane, Harriet, Martin (Marty), Walter and Wallace (the twins), and Pearl (born in September of that year). The twins graduated from first grade at Enderlin in 1913 and Walter continued school through the seventh grade there. So I assume they lived there at least through the spring of 1919 and probably up to 1923. As reference to this, some family photographs taken at Enderlin are dated 1922 and 1923. Jim apparently did well at Enderlin and made a bit of money there - - Jim is said to have two farms and ran a livery stable.

There are probably a lot of stories about the family and growing up that the grandchildren have heard. Jim was a fair violinist and played by ear. I am told he played at many barn dances over the years. Jim apparently had a good understanding of animals and their health and about diseases because he also worked as a local veterinary for other farmers in the area. You remember, his father ran the livery stable and he probably learned a lot about animals during his youth from him. Jim and Inga, I am told, while at Enderlin owned two farms and were becoming a little prosperous. As the boys, grew up, of course, they helped manage and operate the farms. Jim was strict with discipline and



maintained that the husband was the master of the home and this was sometimes demonstrated with physical abuse.

Jim often left it to the oldest son, Bud, to carry out discipline among the other children. Jim's drinking was said to be a problem from time to time in their home. When I visited with Dudley in the early 1970's, he related to me that drinking was a common among many of the older folks on the farms in the Dakota and it contributed to the early deaths of many. Drinking and abuse was consistent with the hard life, the loneliness and losses that were part of farming at that time. It's no revelation that alcohol was a way to try to drown out the bad times and difficult days. Inga, it is said, was a tireless, hard working woman. In those days, a woman didn't get many thanks except in the sense of accomplishing another day's labors.

This is a very curious item: Among Inga's things that were kept is a leather post card from her addressed to W. J. Cowan, Enderlin, N. D. with the note, "*June July 1909 the months of Trouble, Inger.*" The face of the card is stamped with a picture depicting Enderlin High School. This is a very pointed comment that there were troubles that summer - Was it the family? The crops? The year previously, Inga had left Martin, age 4, to live with her sister Anne and Peter Bidne in Highlandville, Iowa.

**The 1910 US Census** for the city of Enderlin, Liberty Township, Ward 2 lists the family again now married for 19 years. Jim apparently does not have a farm but is employed. His type of work is difficult to read on the record.

Cowan, James, A	Head	Age 38	Employed
Inger	Spouse	43	
William J.	Son	18	Hotel Clerk
Oliver A(?)	Son	16	Bell Boy
Loyd A	Son	14	Farm Labor
Melborn	Son	12	School
Jane A.	Dtr	9	School
Martin L.	Son	5	School
Hattie	Dtr	7	School
Walter O	Son	2	
Wallace O	Son	2	
Jennie W	Dtr	8/12	
The reference to Jenny W. is either incorrect or the name was later changed. The child is Pearl born Sep. 2, 1909			

## ***Minneapolis***

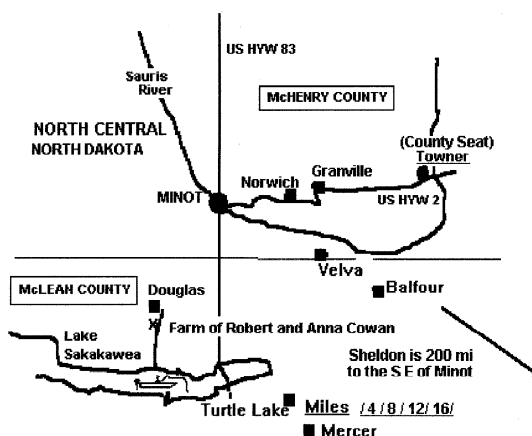
For some reason, Jim and the family then left Enderlin and moved to Minneapolis for a year or so, spending their money. Were they tired of the farm life and looking for an opportunity in the city? In the city they lived on their savings and, I am told, enjoyed life. There was little money to be made farming in North Dakota at that time and perhaps Jim was looking to make his mark in the city. There also was little future there for young folks there. A studio portrait of Walter and Wallace was taken at Minneapolis in 1924 when they were seventeen. After about a year, Jim and Inga moved back to North Dakota and started on a smaller farm at Granville.

## Granville - The Gathering Place

Jim and Inga were not city folks and it appeared that it wasn't going to work out in Minneapolis. In the spring of 1925 when Jim was 51, Jim and Inga moved again with the family back to the farm and they settled at a smaller place in Granville close to his brothers and sister. Granville was about 200 miles to the northwest of their old place at Enderlin. A photograph dated September 1925 is of Pearl at age 16 standing in front of the farmhouse at Granville.



As I read about the family at that time, it seems Granville was a gathering place for the Cowans. Jim's sister Lizzie and his two brothers, Robert and Stan, all eventually moved from Sheldon to the Granville area. Family photographs taken at Granville in the summer of 1928 are of Lloyd's children and his wife Louise; of Harriet and Whitey and their daughter Dorothy; of Tip's wife Myrtle and their children; Bobbie, Donald and Lois; of Pearl and, of course; Jim and Inga. There are several photos of Pearl now nineteen years old. Pearl was the last child living at home and all of the others were now married except Walter and Martin. Many of the children were now living in Minneapolis, having gotten jobs there when the family moved there in 1924.



Map #2

Did the death of Jim's father have anything to do with the decision to return to the farm life? Did they run out of money in the city? There's probably no answer to that. But I think the answer why they moved to Granville is clear. Back in 1897, his sister Lizzie and her husband Ira moved from Sheldon to homestead a farm near his family. That town happened to be Granville - - a town about twenty miles east of Minot. So for example by 1912, his sister, Lizzie and her husband Ira were well settled into their farm and had three children. Also, his brother Robert and his wife Anna were farming up at Douglas - - a town near Granville - - since 1905 and had five children. At that time, also, his uncle Stan and his bride Mae were living at Granville. So when Jim and Inga moved to Granville, that brought together all of Margaret's children (Except their brother Thomas who had died a few years earlier). The only other brother was Lee (Dell's son) and he was still just fourteen and at home in 1912.



One of the families near Anselm in Ransom County with whom the Cowans were acquainted was the Van Horns. They had three children: Kate, Louise, and George. In the early 1920's as the children grew up, Jim's son Lloyd and Jim's brother Lee (being about the same age) courted the girls Kate and Louise respectively and married them. Lloyd and Louise were married on May 4th of 1920 and then lived at Granville for a few years before moving out to California. Lee and Kate were married about the same time (but I don't know the date) and they then moved to Lisbon, the town near where Lee's mother was born. Of course, the families were very close over the years. During the W.W.II, Lee and Kate moved out to California as well.

Jim's daughter Mae married Paul Penfield and they moved to Little Falls, Minnesota and had five children. Mae and Paul later separated and Mae and the children moved back to Granville where they lived for many years while the five children were growing up. Mae lived at Granville most of her life.



taken during the middle and late 1920's showing the kids growing up and work on the farm there at Granville - - All of the children except Pearl had moved away by then and most were married.

So my goodness, as you may imagine, life at Granville included many family gatherings, weddings and special occasions. Jim was good on the violin and provided much entertainment. Life was, however, never the same there, I am told, as before down at Anselm on the Sheyenne River. There are many photographs of life at Granville, I'm sure, spread out among the family. My mother Esther has a number of pictures which Walter had which were



## Later Years

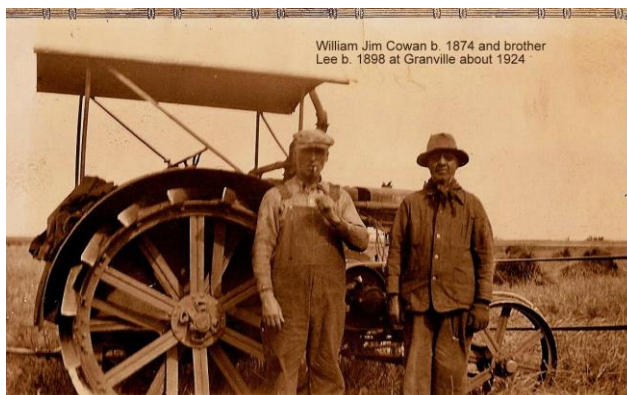
So Jim and Inga continued to farm at Granville for about the next eight years up to the spring of 1932. In the early summer of that year when the wheat began to grow and Jim was age 58, he had a stroke while operating the tractor. It tipped over in a ditch pinning him beneath and he was covered with gasoline. He was able to crawl out but was never able to work or care for himself again.

Fortunately, there was no fire and he was able to crawl out. Jim was confused and stumbled home and was mentally never the same after that. Jim's son Lloyd and his wife Louise had a farm nearby and their daughter Madelyn remembers the day he came to their door. It was a warm day and the door was open to let in the summer breeze. Jim came stumbling in through the screen door and she remembers he was wearing his winter boots and overcoat and his old brown cap. Madelyn was about eleven at the time and was afraid of him. Jim was combative, angry and his speech was slurred.

Inga, now age 68, was not able to take care for him so he was kept at his son Lloyd's home for a while. Jim was never again able to care for himself and now needed someone to take care of him so Lloyd and Louise took him in to care for him at their home. He would often complain of gasoline running over him. I have no information about what happened to Jim's farm after that.



So a short time later, his son Martin who lived in Minneapolis borrowed a large car from his employer Buzz Arlett and, along with Bud and Walter, drove up to Granville and brought him back to the cities where he was hospitalized. In June of 1933 Walter's 3 1/2 year old daughter Shirley was run over by a car and was killed. Lloyd and Louise wrote to Walter and Esther at the time of the child's death and asked at the end of the letter, "How is Grampa? Is he still in the hospital?" Later in the year of 1933 Jim was moved to Walter and Esther's home to be cared for and to spend his last days. Harriet, Bud and Pearl who were in the cities helped with his care. But Jim now needed constant personal care and was often combative and difficult to manage. Jim had visitors all the time there at Walter's. A photograph taken in the summer of 1934 shows him and his wife Inga together with Esther and Walter and Pearl and Chet at the back of Walter and Esther's home on Humboldt Avenue.



Now Esther and Walt's son, Walter Jr. (called Junior), became critically ill with a kidney disorder (nephritis) and was hospitalized so they really didn't have time to do anything for Grandpa Jim. So Harriet and Bud moved in at Walter's and took care of him. But, now when it was time for

Walter Jr. to come home from the hospital to be cared for, a decision needed to be made for Jim to be moved. There wasn't much time for searching and the closest place they could find was the Rochester State Hospital.

Jim was placed in the State Hospital at Rochester, Minnesota in the summer of 1933 and was cared for there for about eight years. He was visited regularly on weekends; particularly by Marty and Francis, Walter and Esther, Bud, and Pearl and Chet, all of whom lived in Minneapolis. The kids would pack picnic baskets and, most Sundays, made a holiday of the trip to Rochester. I am told that the trips to Rochester back in the early 1940's were quite an excursion. On one trip the radiator went out and they had to stop at every farm along the way for water. They visited with a lot of people because of that and had quite a laugh about their adventure that day.

Let me back up a bit to tell you about Inga's last days. In the summer of 1938, Inga went out to visit her sister Hattie at Mercer and toward fall went up to Granville to stay for a while with her daughter Mae. She then went to visit her son Tip at Marshall and again back to Minneapolis where she stayed with Walter and Esther. I believe that was her last trip. In Inga's later years, she became ill and eventually bedridden. Esther's mother, Marie, however was also staying on at Esther's at the time and they would sometimes become jealous of one another for the care they got. Such a time - - It must have been hard for everyone. Inga was a farmwoman and Marie was not - and they would argue. In any case, Esther and Walter's son, Wayne, was also sick at that time with Leukemia and was in and out of the hospital (This was several years after Junior's bout with nephritis). It was in 1938 when Esther and Walter took Wayne to the Rochester Clinic and they confirmed what was said in the cities that Wayne's illness could not be cured and that he would die. From that moment Esther decided that the most important thing in their life was to take care of Wayne and so Inga had to be moved. Inga was first taken to Pearl's home for a while (complaining to Esther that she was being abandoned) and then placed in a nursing home. She was cared for at the nursing home for about eighteen month until her death on January 14, 1940 at the age of seventy-five.

Jim died at the State hospital in Rochester, Minnesota two years later in 1942 when the flowers of spring began to bloom. The following is a letter from daughter Mae to her brother Walter just after Jim died.

Tues noon, [no date but likely May 6th] - - Jim died May 5th, 1942.

*Dear Walter and Esther*

*Read your wire over the telephone this morning Walter and Thanks very much for letting me know. You've always been so very good to send wires to me. Well, Dad is better off. Someone write to me details. Don't know if Harriet or Lloyd are coming but I didn't think I'd come now as there isn't anything I could do so am sending 3.00 to put on flowers or anything else that is necessary and let me know cost of everything. We are fine here hoping all you folks are. am in a hurry so must close again thanking you brother for sending wire and much love to all, Sister Mae*

And so I conclude this chapter in the life of our family. Jim and Inga are now buried side by side at Crystal Lake Cemetery, section 26 in north Minneapolis. Their daughter Margaret Jane Cowan Annette is buried close by and Esther's mother Marie is buried about 10 yards away. Thanks be to God.

I have several questions.



1) How is it that Jim and Inga met and where? (I have no clues) Inga's sister married Krogh Ovre and lived on a farm at Mercer, North Dakota and this may have been part of the tie to North Dakota.

2) What were the circumstances of their leaving Owego and coming to Minneapolis?

3) What was the tie to Granville that brought them there to farm?

4. What is this letter? A poem or prose in 6 parts on 2 pages in Old Norwegian written on the 11th of April in the year of our Lord 1884 by Anna Olsoettke (sp.) Haalam (sp) to Enga Yousvattre (sp) Akre. This may be a wedding note or wish or .... This needs to be translated to English. This may well be an important tie to the past.

5. What is this letter? [To "Dear Sister Inger" from Anna Johnson (nee Akre later married to Peter Bidne?) from Highlandville, Iowa January 16th, 1889. A four-page letter written in Norwegian that needs to be translated.

7. Does anyone have pictures of Grampa Cowan or of his dad and mother or of the Akre's; many others and I would love to see them!

Jim was the oldest of the five children of William M. (b. 1840) and Elizabeth nee McMichael Cowan (b.1845) of Ontario, Canada and grandson of Robert (b. ca. 1819) and Eliza nee Gunston Cowan (b. ca. 1815) of Scotland. Thanks be to God.



## ***The ELEven Children***

<u>Child</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Age</u>
"Billy"*	(date?)-1886?	(date?)-1888?	aged 2
1. Mae Elizabeth	Jun 15, 1891	Jul 2, 1973	aged 72
2. William A____. (Willie)	Apr. ?, 1893	(date?),1913	aged 19
3. Robert Oliver (Bud)	Aug 8, 1895	Oct 21, 1964	aged 69
4. Lloyd Adrian	Jan 3, 1897	Sep 10, 1980	aged 83
5. Melbourn Julian (Tip)	Jun 5, 1899	Mar 25, 1959	aged 59
6. Margaret Jane	(date?), 1900	(date?), 1948	aged 48
7. Henriette ____ (Hattie, Harriet)	Oct 9, 1902	Feb 29, 1992	aged 90
8. Martin Lawrence (Marty)	Oct 27, 1904	Oct 25, 1961	aged 56
9. Walter Orville**	Sep 16, 1907	Feb 15, 1977	aged 69
10. Wallace Owen**	Sep 16, 1907	Aug 25, 2003	aged 95
11. Pearl Agnes (Jennie)	Sep 2, 1909	Sep 25, 1969	aged 60

\* Billy was born to Inga by previous marriage. The dates are approximate.

\*\*Walter and Wallace were twins

## ***The Children and their Families***

### ***1A. Mae Elizabeth Cowan Penfield***

b. June 15, 1891 at Sheldon, N. D. d. July 2, 1973. Mae was the first child of Jim and Inga Cowan. Inga was 26 and Jim was 17 at the time of Mae's birth.

Jim and Inga had been together since the early fall of 1890 and living at Owego near Sheldon, North Dakota on Jim's dad's small farm. Mae was born at Sheldon, North Dakota and when she was eight years old the family moved south about nine miles to a farm just south of Anselm, a small village near the Sheyenne River.

Mae attended one room country school at Owego School No 2, District #9 of Ransom County. The teacher, Margaret Stoffel, gave a souvenir of attendance for the period of March 1901 to June 1902 to the pupils and her name was listed. In 1907, when Mae was 16 years old, the family lived at Valley City and her brothers, Walter and Wallace, were born.

When Mae was age 17, she married Paul A.



Penfield, then 21, in McHenry County at Towner, the county seat. They were married on January 21, 1909 - - about a half year before her youngest sister Pearl was born.

Paul Penfield was born Nov. 10, 1887 at Cleveland, Ohio and is an adopted son of Joseph L. Penfield and his wife Lois Levina Penfield. Joseph was born Nov. 16, 1834 at Owego, N. Y. and died at Motley, Minn. Lois was born 1842 at Rotland, Wis. Joseph and Lois adopted two other children, Margaret ( Maggie) and Audrey. Maggie married Tim Coan and they lived at Bend, Ore.

Mae and Paul lived at Granville for a short while and then moved to Little Fork, Minn. and later to Clarissa, Minn. They had five children and they are Florence, Floyd, Francis, Forrest and Ferde.

<b>Children of Mae</b>	<b>Date of Birth</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
Florence Inger Lavina	Sep. 11, 1909	Mar 21, 1992
Floyd Llowellyn Paul	Jun. 14, 1911	Oct. 26, 1994
Francis William Oliver	May 03, 1913	Nov. 11, 1992
Forrest Henry Walter	May 30, 1915	Oct. 2, 2004
Ferde Roland	July 12, 1919	

Mae and Paul separated some time later and Mae brought the children back to Dakota and they lived at Granville for many years. Also Mae taught school in one-room country schools in North Dakota and in Montana.

The 1930 US census shows Paul, living as a lodger at Modesto, Stanislaus County, California. Two other lodgers were Mary B Heffernon and Sena Christianson. The 1930 census shows Paul born in Ohio 1879 but both are not correct. He was born in Germany and adopted in Ohio and his adoption record shows his birth in 1887, not 1879. At the time of the 1930 census, Mae was living at Granville, ND with the four children. Paul died at Modesto on Jan. 11 of 1933 at the age of 45 likely while still renting a room.



Mae lived at Walford City, ND about 35 miles southeast of Williston in her later years. She lived to just past her 82nd birthday and died at Walford City. Memorial services were held at the Welander - Quist Chapel in north Minneapolis and Mae's nephew, the reverend William Cowan of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Proctor, MN officiated and gave the message. Mae is buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery in North Minneapolis where her parents and many of the family are buried.

The following is a letter from mother Inga to her son Walter and his wife while visiting with her daughter Mae and her family.

*Granville, N.D.*

*June 2 - 38 [1938]*

*Dear Walter Ester*

*Well we arrived at Granville Sunday eving sure surprised Mae [fore onse Floy]*

got a car so we have plenty of rides even up town Mae her hur work it school house goes it a come home it 2 so dit Floyd Ferde Flos at home they just come home left work from their chools - how are the children has the youngest got the measles yet? hope they are not sick the 2 oldest be up this weake I hope - yesterday [Medelin] and Doris [corvin coled Medlin Just came back from Douglas N.D. She sure is tal and slim doris chinke the picture of Kate hur mother - Florense just told me they was going to a showers fore a nue married cuple acras the streat this afternoon - told me I was to go also - we are going over to my sister some Sunday before Floyd goes away with the car it soon diner time Mae be home then she will mail all my leter & then see how will anser first we are a houseful here 6 at the table 3 times a day - Mae got a nice please here hedges - fence- around house a nice please - Floyd Ferde is playing chicken it son diner time so I beter hurey hoping to here how the children are - is nice and soney today but the north west wind is chiley hoping to here from yous soon

*your loving mother*

This letter by Mae's mother was written upon arriving at Mercer, N.D. It sounds like she is staying with her sister Hattie (married to Krog Ovre) at Mercer, N.D. shortly before the joint wedding of their twin daughters Martha and Anna (Ruth).

*Sep 16 -38*

*Dear Walter Ester and all -*

*Gat here O.K. but ofel tired din't get here til nerley 1.a.m. he was afraid to hurt thet car of his wife was tired then I was She was laying around all the next day. they had a days drive home to the South western part of N. Dak - It cloudy and cold this a.m. everything is dead around her none cropes here again only some corn not fare from the lake - Martha Ovre was home from Bismark yesterday the 15- drove beck lest eving she his some country werk Thersa - hed onley hed a card from Mae thet we should drive up but they heve none car is goe thet far onley a roun about the farm and Mae hes non car Floyd is a way teaching Mae dint say if Flornse was beck from Fargo yet Ferde Penfild dint get to chool this year dint make eney more this sumer so Mae got 2 hure hendes - I dont now when I*

*(page 2) If I get up to Mae She hasent asked me yet it cold lokkes like an erle winter hope not how is Pearl what did the Dr say Pleas - lest Sunday we vesited Ruth Father & mother in lone a mr mrs anderson hed chicken Super they are quit old peopel onley heve a Son and a Daughter - here will be a duble weding this fal the girls will be marred at home my brother will come here to mare them - Ruth is cleng house this a.m. so I beter get thrue and move - Here is a bank at Merser but I send it beck so you can cashe it et the please where we awak cashed it and send the mone beck to merser my sister might get a chense to goe to minet soon then I goe along to Dr Stone I got hedake all the time well let me here from yous Sun love to all from all*

*You Loving Mother - [Inga]*

Part of a letter from Mae at Granville to her mother: The letter is undated and the first page is missing but, based on the text the letter, it was written prior to Christmas of 1939 (Two of her children had just gotten married).

*Pg 2. . . "another grand day but is getting a little cloudy so may rain or snow but we have had it so nice shouldn't mind some bad weather. Alice and Forrest are just fine and is baby Jerry ever growing goes all over in his walker weighs 21 1/2 lb. has 5 teeth and is some baby we think. They live next door north in Hilda Wagener's house. Ferde*

*and Amy Westrum were married Oct 12 had a lovely church wedding. They run a cafe at Sherwood and are getting along fine but I miss my baby. Amy is a stranger here. She came from Fessenden, N. Dak. last Dec and run the Model Cafe with her sister and brother. Is a very nice girl. Floss and Pete were married Nov. 15 and are living on a farm. Mr. Graham is with them but is going to Indiana for the Winter. So I'm all alone but really don't mind it..."*

*(3) ...children are having a spell about me staying alone am kept busy all the time. Floyd will be home for two weeks a Xmas time teaches at Springbrook near Williston. Fan is still at Los Angeles Cal. and wants me to come there and stay with him. Haven't made up my mind yet. Everybody is well here. Kate works part time at Cafe, Doris finishes high School this year in June. Don't hear from Louise and Lloyd but they were all here over Labor Day Sept. 7. Kenneth is married and so is Elaine, Madelene, Babe and Billy are home young to school. Kate was out there short time ago got a ride there with friends. Well must stop my scribbling and write me if you are able and let me know all about yourself won't you Mother dear. Hoping this finds you getting better every day and loads of love. Daughter Mae*

At the time of the above letter, Mae's mother Inga was 75 years of age and in a nursing home in Minneapolis. Inga died about two months later in January of 1940.

**1A-1 Florence Inger Lavina Penfield** (Flossie or Flo) b. Sept. 14, 1909. d. Mar. 21, 1992. Daughter of Paul and Mae Penfield. Florence Penfield was born to Paul and Mae (Cowan) Penfield at Granville, N. D. The family moved to Little Fork, Minn. some time after Flossie was born.

A photograph, which shows Flossie and her brothers Floyd, Francis and Forrest, was taken when the baby Forrest was just 2 1/2 months old. It shows the children sitting in the brush by a small bay of a lake and there is a forest in the background and a rowboat at the shore. Flossie is sitting holding Forrest and has large white ribbons at each side in her hair. Written on the back is: *"To Mrs W. J. Cowan [Inga], The other side of this card shows you what I can keep myself interested with Babe was 2 1/2 mo old here Write when you can Love Mae."* Brother Ferde was not yet born at the time of the photograph. The card is undated but likely taken in 1915 at Little Fork.

When Flossie was in her early teens, the family moved back to Granville, North Dakota where Florence was graduated from high school. At age 30, Flo married Lawrence R. Graham (Pete) on Wednesday, the 15th of November 1939 at Towner, N.D. Pete was born Oct. 29, 1909. Pete and Flo farmed near Granville, N.D. and adopted a daughter, Marcia. Marcia was born 1949. The Penfields and Walter Christiansons used to get together from time to time and were close. Walter served as State Treasurer for a number of years and was involved with the political affairs of the State. Florence and Pete retired in Mesa, Arizona. Pete died there in February of 1987 and Flos died five years later in February of 1992. More information?

**1A-1a Marcia Ann Graham**, b. April 8, 1949 and adopted daughter of Pete and Florence Graham. Marcia grew up at Granville. I remember that in the mid 1960's when Marcia was in her early teens that she and her mother came down to Minneapolis to the University for treatment of a spine curvature and that they always stopped at my mother and dad's. Marcia had a full back brace and neck support and it needed frequent adjustment. Mom and dad saw to it that they were taken care of while here in the cities - driving them around and taking them to dinner and visiting and such. They all enjoyed the opportunity to be together and to visit.

Marcia married Kim Osteroos, an Air Force man, on March 5, 1969 and they lived at Granville while he was stationed at Minot and later they moved out to Longmont, Colorado.

At Easter of 1981, Marcia's Aunt Hildegard writes to Esther Cowan about Marcia, *"We were down to Granville in March - Stayed overnight with Marcia and kids. She is - Oh - so busy fixing up the house and changing things and building in cupboards, etc. Kim is in California at an air base training until May and then he'll be there, too, stationed at Minot. Marcia is a real worker and can do just about anything - never complains, either."* Marcia and Kim and the kids, now quite grown up, live at Longmont Colorado (written 1996).

As Kim and Marcia move to their new home in Evergreen, Colorado Marcia writes in her Christmas letter of 1998, "We will miss our home, friends and church family very much. The Longmont community and Boulder County have been very kind and supportive to us. When we needed their help the most, 11 years ago when Arafel died the day we moved in here, we have had supportive friends in the community. Their old house has seen much growth and many changes. Kim's move to United, the 720, training Center, the 747-400, and doing volunteer work for the Child and Family Advocacy Center; and Marcia earning her BA and M.S.W., recovery from cancer, job at Jefferson County Department of Human Services and her dream position as Outpatient Director at Forest Heights Lodge in Evergreen. This old house watched us volunteer as victim advocates for the Boulder County Sheriff's Department, help start a Stephen's Ministry program at Bethlehem Lutheran, teach a class on Christian Care giving and Classic Christianity. It has been a painful, growthful and joyful eleven years. Had you asked me where we would be today I would never have envisioned the journey that God has planned for Kim and I, KiMar, Ryan and Andrea, or where we ended up. I can only say that we are where we are supposed to be and doing what God intended for us to do. And now we start a new pathway!"

**1A-1a-1**

**KiMar Dorence Osteroos** b. Aug. 1969 at Granville, N.D. KiMar graduated from NCSU and now teaches 7th and 8th grade math at Elko, Nevada. Married David Shannon Gartman, b. 1965.

**1A-1a-2**

**Ryan Osteroos** b. \_\_\_\_ at Granville, N.D. Ryan graduated from Longmont High and the Air Force Academy. Married to Andrea Nicole\_\_\_\_, b. 1972. From the US Air Force Academy Facebook page: Here's a cool story about Lt. Col. Ryan Osteroos and his actions during the Reno Air Races tragedy last year. The Colorado Springs Red Cross recently named Osteroos its Military Hero of 2011, an award it will present to him at the Anders Hilton hotel downtown March 8



**1A-1a-3**

**Arafel Rohanna Osteroos** b. June 18, 1985 at Granville, ND, d. Nov. 4, 1987. Little Arafel died from a fall off the deck on the day the family moved into their new home at Longmont, Colorado. He is interred at Granville Cemetery.

**1A-2**

**Floyd Llowellyn Paul Penfield**, b. June 14, 1911. d. Oct. 26, 1994. Son of Paul and Mae Penfield. Floyd was born to Paul and Mae (Cowan) Penfield at Little Fork,

Minnesota. Mae later moved with her family to Granville, North Dakota, a town where many of her family lived. Floyd grew up and was graduated from Granville High School. Floyd married Hildegard Heipler b. Sept. 24, 1915 d. Jan, 4, 2005.

The following biography was written as part of the funeral service held October 29th at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Interment at Hillside Memorial Cemetery, Williston, N. D.

"Floyd completed his undergraduate work and was graduated from North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, and was later graduated from Greeley College with his Master of Education degree.

"On May 17, 8, 1985 29, he was united in marriage to Hildegard Heipler in the Lutheran Church in Wolf Point, Montana. They established their home in Springbrook, eventually moving to Williston where they have resided these many years. They celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1991.

"During his professional life his commitment and dedication to education took many forms. He was principal at Alamo High School and in Poplar, Montana; was superintendent of schools in Springbrook, Tioga, and Columbus, North Dakota; and taught at the Junior and Senior Highs in Williston for twenty years until his retirement in 1976, after which he continued to substitute for some years. Floyd also taught at UNDW when it first started, was athletic director at the Epping Bible Camp, and coached and refereed boy's basketball.

"Floyd was a charter member and past council president of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, a life member of National Education Association, charter member of the North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and on the State Board of Classroom Teachers.

"Floyd is survived by his wife, Hildegard, two brothers, Ferde of Fargo and Forrest of Ladysmith, Wisconsin. He is preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Francis, and his sister, Florence."

In a letter at Easter time of 1981 to Esther Cowan, Hildegard writes,

*"Hi - Will drop a line now. Think of you often but guess you know how it goes. All is fine. We've been well and busy all this 'beautiful' winter weather we've been having. Hardly seems possible Easter is next Sunday. Mom is about the same. Keeps at her usual hand work and says the time goes by so fast. Floyd has been over there cleaning up her yard last week. Then he has done quite a bit of substitute teaching, too. So he keeps out of mischief. We are enjoying our new church now. And have that about full both services. Another 26 families joined today. School will be out May 21st - Then I'll have 41 1/2 years of teaching in and I'm through and I'm really looking forward to it. Greet your family and have a happy Easter. Love. Floyd and Hi."*

**1A-3 Francis William Oliver Penfield** (Fran) b. May 3, 1913. d. Nov. 14, 1992 Son of Paul and Mae Penfield. Paul and Mae (Cowan) Penfield lived in Littlefork, Minnesota. Mae and the children later moved to Granville, North Dakota where Fran was graduated from Granville High School. In 1945 Fran married Alice Cody, b. May 20, 1913, and they have two adopted daughters. Alice lived at 1210 Loara Street # 1, Anaheim, CA 92802. Alice died Feb. 8, 2000 at Anaheim.

**1A-3a Darlene Penfield** b. 1953

**1A-3b Janice Penfield** b. 1954

**1A-4 Forrest Henry Walter Penfield** (Forrie) b. May 30, 1915. d. Oct. 2, 2004 Son of Paul and Mae Penfield. Paul and Mae (Cowan) Penfield lived in Little Fork, Minnesota. The family later moved to Granville, North Dakota where Forrest was graduated from Granville High School. At age 23, Forrest married Mary Alice Barnett, b Nov. 12, 1918 on June 12th, 1938. Alice was 20 when they married. Forrest and Alice retired and lived at 700 West College, Apt 241, Ladysmith, WI 54848. They have two children - - Bonnie and Jerry.

**1A-4a Jerry Lee Penfield** b. April 16, 1939 at Granville. Jerry married Marlene Long and they later divorced. Jerry and Marlene have two Children.

**1A-4a-1 Brian Penfield** b. \_\_\_\_\_ Kewaskum, Wisconsin

**1A-4a-2 Michelle Penfield** b. \_\_\_\_\_ Married Tom Parkovich.

**1A-4b Bonnie J. Penfield** b. Sept. 23, 1942 at Minot, N. D. Bonnie married Robert Alvin Baarlie on August 25, 1962 at Milwaukee. Bob was born Aug. 25, 1941 at Milwaukee and is the son of Alvin and Ruby (Schmidt) Baarlie. Bob and Bonnie run a farm at Bruce, Wisconsin and have three children. Home (715) 868-6561 N2359 Buena Vista Rd, Bruce, WI 54819-9540. Robert died in 2012.

**1A-4b-1 Michael Scott Baarlie** b. Sept. 29, 1963 at West Allis, Wisc. Mike married Teresa \_\_\_\_\_, b. June 24, 1961 at Monomomie, Wisc., on Aug. 27, 1994. Mike has two children

**1A-4b-1a Shane Baarlie** b. Mar. 26, 1985 at Monomomie, Wisc.

**1A-4b-1b Cory Baarlie** b. July 7, 1988 at Monomomie, Wisc

**1A-4b-2 Julie Ann Baarlie** b. Sept. 1, 1965 at St. Michael's Hospital in Milwaukee. Julie married Jerome Allen Karpowicz of Minneapolis on July 14, 1984 at Bruce, Wisc. Jerry was born Sept 25, 1964 at Minneapolis to Vincent and Catherine (Sieja) Karpowicz..

**1A-4b-2a Daniel Andrew Karpowicz** b. Aug. 22, 1984 in Rush County at Ladysmith, Wisc.

**1A-4b-2b Ashley Karpowicz** b. Aug. 26, 1987 at Rice Lake.

**1A-4b-3 Tracy Kay Baarlie Sieja** b. July 13, 1971 at Milwaukee. Tracy married Thomas Frank Sieja, b. May 3, 1970 of Rice Lake, Wisc. on Sept. 16, 1989. Tom's parents are Albert Sieja and Antoinette Schulz.

**1A-4b-3a McKyle Thomas Sieja** b. May 3, 1990 Rice Lake, Wisc.

**1A-4b-3b Jason Sieja** b. Feb. 20, 1992 Rice Lake, Wisc.

**1A-4b-3c Mark Sieja** b. June 20, 1995 Rice Lake, Wisc.

**1A-5 Ferde Roland Penfield,** b. July 12, 1919 at Clarissa, Minn. Son of Paul and Mae Penfield. At the time that Ferde was born, the family had moved from Little Fork to Clarissa and later moved to Granville, North Dakota where Ferde was graduated from high school. At age 20, Ferde married Amy Westrom of Fessenden, North Dakota on October 12th, 1939. Upon their marriage they ran a cafe at Sherwood. N.D. Ferde and Amy have three children; Alan, b. 1940, Roland, b. 1941, and Mark, b. 1952. Ferde and Amy have lived in Fargo, N. D. for many years and in 1986, Amy died of emphysema.



Ferde remarried in August of 1987 to Winnifred (Winn) Murphy and at the time of this writing (1995) they live at 2403 20th Ave South, #202, Fargo, N.D. 58103. Ferde and Winn are retired and each winter they go to Braunfels, Texas 78130 for the season leaving about November 1st and returning in April. In Texas, they live in the same apartment each year and enjoy golf and visiting with their southern friends there. Every other year, Ferde and Winn come back to Fargo for Christmas. Ferde writes to me that Winn has seven children and five grandchildren so they are busy visiting them and Ferde's family.

#### Obituary for Ferde R. Penfield

Ferde Roland Penfield passed away on June 5, 2015 at Bethany on 42nd in Fargo.

Ferde was born on July 12, 1919 in Clarissa, MN. He moved to Granville, ND with his family at an early age where he attended school, graduating in 1937. He went to Minot State College for one year.

In 1939, he married Amy Westrom and moved to Sherwood, ND. They later moved to Los Angeles, CA, where he worked for Lockheed Aircraft until he was drafted in the US Army in 1944. He served overseas in Italy and Austria and was discharged in 1946.

Ferde and Amy moved to Towner, ND in 1947 and Ferde was appointed Manager of the McHenry County ASCS office. In 1955 he transferred to the ASCS State office in Fargo, ND, and in 1965 was the Branch Chief. He later became the Assistant to the Administration of the USDA in Washington, DC. He returned to the Minneapolis Commodity office in 1970 and retired in 1974.

After retirement, they lived at Lake Alexander in central Minnesota and spent their winters in Texas, moving back to Fargo in 1983. Amy died in 1986 and Ferde married Winnifred Strandberg Murphy in 1987.

Throughout his life, Ferde was active and interested in sports and played Legion and Amateur baseball with numerous towns, especially the Towner Cowboys. He would also officiate football and basketball games for some 20 years. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and a charter member of Hope Lutheran in Fargo. Ferde was also a member of the American Legion.

He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Winnifred; his sons, Allen (Sandy) of Hudson, WI, Roland (Carol) of Staples, MN, and Mark (Marcia) of Fargo, ND; eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.



Ferde and Amy's children and grandchildren are:

**1A-5a**                      **Allan Paul Penfield** b. \_\_\_\_\_, 1940. Married to Sandra Showman \_\_\_\_\_ of (town) \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_. Two children.

**1A-5a-1**                      **Jay Paul Penfield** b. Feb 17, 1969, Married to Christy \_\_\_\_\_. Jay and Christy live at Hudson, Wisconsin.

- 1A-5a-2**                      **Jennifer Penfield** b. May 1, 1972. Hudson, Wisconsin.
- 1A-5b**                      **Roland David Penfield** b. 1941. Married to Carol Leetun. Three children.
- 1A-5b-1**                      **Timothy Penfield** b. April 9, 1968
- 1A-5b-2**                      **Jeffrey Penfield** b. June 22, 1970
- 1A-5b-3**                      **Sarah Penfield** b. October 11, 1974 Attending Concordia College in Morehead, MN
- 1A-5c**                      **Mark Lane Penfield**. b. 1952. Married to Marcia Stone. Three Children.
- 1A-5c-1**                      **Heather Penfield** b. August 13, 1972
- 1A-5c-2**                      **Kristi Penfield** b. July 14, 1976. Attending Bemidji State College
- 1A-5c-3**                      **Brian Penfield** b. November 9, 1982

## ***2. William A. Cowan (Willie)***

Willie was born in 1893 at Owego and died in 1913 at age 19 of Pneumonia. Willie was the second child of William and Inga Cowan, being born two years after Mae. He was called Willie and possibly named after his mother's earlier child, Billy, of a previous marriage who died as a toddler. The child and father both died in the latter part of 1888 or in 1889. Of course, Willie's father and grandfather were also named William.

Willie attended one room country school at Owego School No 2, District #9 of Ransom County. A souvenir of attendance for the period of March 1901 to June, 1902 was given to the pupils by the teacher, Margaret Stoffel and his name is listed. Owego Township is about 12 miles to the southwest of Sheldon toward Lisbon.

Possibly the only picture of Willie is an oval studio photograph taken of him at about age thirteen in about 1907 with his sister Jane (Margaret) and brother Martin. Willie is wearing a dark double-breasted suit with trousers that come to the ankles and high lace boots. He has a high collar white shirt and a large floppy (what looks like colorful) bowed tie. His hair is parted in the middle. Jane, standing to his right, is about six or seven and is wearing a white dress with dark knee socks and buckle shoes. Her hair is long and combed back in curls. Martin is about three to four years old and is wearing a white children's suit with short pants and long dark socks.



Willie moved away from the farm and worked on the railroad selling newspapers a few years (probably up at Fargo) and it is unlikely that his younger brothers and sisters knew him very well at all. Willie

worked as a news butcher on the railroad - selling newspapers to people as they traveled from place to place. He likely lived on the trains and the railroad boarding houses. This would have been about 1905 or so when railroads were flourishing and people were traveling. What a time - Great steam engines, billowing smoke, piercing whistles and conductors that hollered, "All Aboard!" - and news butchers that hollered, "Git'cher paper here!"

Willie is buried at the Enderlin City Cemetery, lot 91 and his grave marker reads, "William A. Cowan 1893 - 1913." His dad Jim Cowan purchased his grave. Possible information in the Sheldon Enterprise? A distant relative - the McMillan Iron Works of Buffalo, N.Y, built the great steam engines of the time. May his soul rest in peace.

**Figure 1 Sheldon Train station connected to Fargo and Valley City**

### ***3. Robert Oliver Cowan (Bud)***



b. August 8, 1895 d. October 21, 1964. Robert was born while the family still lived at Sheldon and it is likely that the family; including the children Mae, Willie and Robert, lived at grampa's small farm. Remember that their grandmother had died back in 1890 and that grampa Bill was a widower. In 1898 - about the time that Grampa Bill married young Dell - the family moved to Anselm where their dad started a farm there.

The boy was called Oliver in his younger years and later picked up the nickname of Bud. At Anselm, Oliver attended the one room country school at Owego School No 2, District #9 of Ransom County, which was a few miles walk from the farm. A souvenir of attendance for the period of March, 1901 to June, 1902 was given to the pupils by the teacher, Margaret Stoffel and his name is listed. In about 1904 when he was nine, the family moved to a farm at Valley City and then in about 1909 the family moved to farm at Enderlin. By 1909, there were eleven children in the family.

In 1917 when the war broke out, Bud was aged 22 and he joined the U. S. Army. His younger brother Melbourn, now age 18, joined the Navy as well. Bud served as a private and was sent to Europe and eventually went to Germany. His service # is 4421659. He served in Co. G, 161st Depot Brigade. Their older brother Willie died of pneumonia four years before the war in 1913.

My mother tells me that Grandpa Jim used to drink and often passed off discipline and management of the younger children to Bud. Bud was a strict with the younger kids -

likely from his experiences in the war - and was abusive to the younger boys. According to mother, it was due to Bud that Walter ran away from home in 1922 at age 15. Bud would have been 27 then. It is my guess, as well, that experiences of childhood had its effect on Wallace and compelled him to move away to Detroit.

A few years later, Bud married Audrey \_\_\_\_ of Brainard, Minnesota. Her family owned the hotel at Brainard. Bud moved to Brainard with his bride and he did not keep close contact with the rest of the family after he moved there. Bud and Audrey were together at least through the fall of 1928 when his brother Walter got married but later Bud and Audrey were divorced. Both mother and aunt Francis say that he later lived with two other woman at different times but didn't marry again. Francis Cowan says that the person who Bud lived with most recently still lives in Brainard. He has no Children. Places where Bud lived include Baxter, Crow Wing, Brainard, East Gull Lake and Lake Shore, Minnesota.



An interesting story of the brothers relates to the time when the boy's father, Jim had the stroke at Granville in the summer of 1932 and could no longer care for himself. He needed just about complete daily care and was difficult to manage. Martin borrowed a big new car and, along with Walter and Harriet, went up to Granville to bring him back to Minneapolis. He was first in the hospital and then kept at Walter's home in Minneapolis where Bud and his sister, Harriet were very involved in his day-to-day care. I suspect that Bud had a strong attachment to his father and this time was difficult for him and his relationship his brother Walter stumbled toward a kind of reconciliation. It is interesting to note that, although Bud and Walter didn't get along in years past, Bud was one of just two brothers that attended Walter's wedding and he was a sponsor for the baptisms of several of Walter's children.

It is also interesting to note that many years earlier during the winter of 1898, Jim his father had spent some time in the Brainard area logging in the woods trying to make some money. This was when the children were small (Bud would have been three) and they were still living in Sheldon. Was there an earlier tie to the Brainard area?

Bud died at the age of 69 at the Minneapolis Veteran's Memorial Hospital and is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, lot E874, in Minneapolis.

#### **4. Lloyd Adrian Cowan**

b. January 3, 1897 d. September 10, 1980. Lloyd was born to Jim and Inga Cowan while the family was still living at Owego near Sheldon, ND. In the spring of 1898, the family moved to Anselm near McLeod to farm there. Lloyd attended one room country school at Owego School No 2, District #9 of Ransom County. A souvenir of attendance for the period of March 1901 to June, 1902 was given to the pupils by the teacher, Margaret Stoffel and his name is listed. Owego Township is a few miles to the southwest of Sheldon toward Lisbon.

I am told that the farm was adjacent to the farm of the George Van Horn, Sr. The



Van Horn's were among the earliest settlers in the area and their place was close to Pigeon Point on Section 19. Pigeon Point is where the old storm shelter and lookout was located on the road between Fort Abercrombie on the Red River and Fort Ransom to the west.

The Van Horns had four children - - George, Louise, Kate and Mabel. Louise, who later married Lloyd, was born Jan 7, 1901 at McLeod. Interestingly, only one family lives at Owego today and there is little that remains. Lloyd was about ten when the family moved to Valley City and twelve when they moved to Enderlin.

A wonderful photograph taken in the summer of 1919 shows Lloyd and Lee Cowan on the Owego Baseball team - - It's a group of nine guys in their early twenties posing for a group photograph. The photograph shows Lee Cowan (age 20), Burton Thompson, Harold Wiltse, Carl Bjugstad, Allan Carter and Clarence Evanson in the back row. Sitting in the front are Lloyd Cowan (age 22), Clifford Black and William Duty. Early cars are visible in the background and the fields are flat for as far as one can see. Owego is the name of the school that the boys attended back in 1901 - 1902. Lloyd would have a strong interest in baseball all his life.

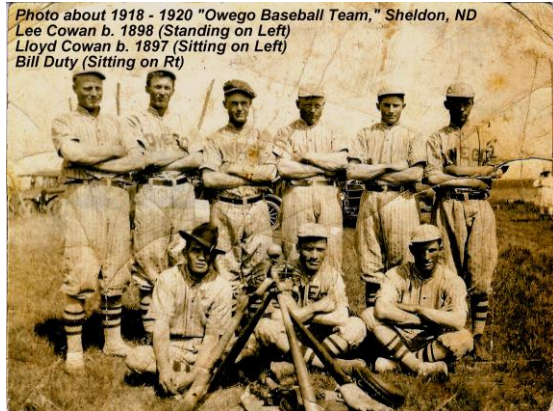


Photo about 1918 - 1920 "Owego Baseball Team," Sheldon, ND  
Lee Cowan b. 1898 (Standing on Left)  
Lloyd Cowan b. 1897 (Sitting on Left)  
Bill Duty (Sitting on Rt)



(l-r) In back are sisters Louise and Kate Van Horn Cowan.  
Louise married Lloyd Cowan and Kate married Lloyd's uncle Lee Cowan  
Louise' Children listed by eldest first are Kenneth b. 1920, Madelyn, b. 192  
Lois, b. 1923, Eileen, b. 1925, and Bill, b. 1929.

Lloyd and Louise were married at Lisbon on May 4, 1920 and lived at Sheldon (where Grandpa Bill Cowan used to have a farm). Their son Kenneth was born in the fall of that year at Sheldon. By the spring of 1922 they moved to Lisbon and daughter Madelyn was born in April. Lloyd's brother Lee, who married Louise's sister Kate, also had a farm at Lisbon and, in June of 1922, Lee and Kate had a daughter whom they named Doris. Madelyn and Doris have been lifetime fast friends as well as cousins.

<u>Children of Lloyd</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Kenneth Lloyd	Oct. 11, 1920	Jan. 2, 2000
Madelyn Mae	Apr. 11, 1922	Feb. 22, 2006
Lois Elaine	Aug. 12, 1923	Nov. __, 1981
Eileen Faith	Feb. 14, 1925	Date unknown
William George	Aug. 27, 1929	Oct. 28, 1994

By spring of 1923, Lloyd and Louise and Lee and Kate all moved to up to Granville near Minot. They farmed there until shortly after the outbreak of W.W.II. Jim and Inga also moved up to Granville at about the same time.

In the summer of 1932 when they had all been at Granville for ten years, dad Jim came over to Lloyd's farm wearing his heavy coat and boots and gloves and old brown hat.

Lloyd's daughter Madelyn remembers the day when Grampa opened the screen door and came in wearing all those heavy clothes on that hot summer day. It turned out that he had a stroke and was confused. He had been out on the tractor and it tipped over. Lloyd and Louise took dad in and cared for him for a while and then Lloyd's brothers from the cities came up to bring him to the hospital in Minneapolis. Lloyd and Louise continued to farm at Granville until 1941.

In 1941 Lloyd and Louise moved out to Bremerton, Washington where Lloyd could find work in the Navy shipyards. Also traveling with them was Lee and Kate, and Louise and Kate's brother George Van Horn and his wife Wilma, and their respective children. In 1942, Louise started working at the shipyards, as well, along with her daughter Madelyn and niece Doris. After the war, Lloyd worked for the fire department for a while and then went to Alaska to do carpentry. In 1948 Lloyd went to Reno, Nevada to manage hotels. He worked there until 1956 when he moved to Long Beach, California to manage hotels there until his retirement.

From Lloyd's early days he loved to play baseball. Lloyd managed a ball team at Bremerton and then at Reno and then at Long Beach. Lloyd loved sports and could watch one game on TV, listen to another on the radio and follow what people are saying in the kitchen as well!

I remember the date of Lloyd and Louise's marriage because on May 4th of 1970 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and my dad and mom, Walter and Esther, were out visiting them. That is the date our daughter Jennifer was born and we call out there to tell them about her birth. The 1969 Los Angeles city directory shows Lloyd living in a two story apartment building at 830 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt 4 in Long Beach. The record shows he is retired.

Lloyd died on September 10th of 1980 at Long Beach, California at the age of 83. His wife, Louise, their five children and their families, survived him.

**1D-1            Kenneth Lloyd Cowan** b. Oct 11, 1920 at Sheldon, ND. Married Amelia (Molly) \_\_\_\_.

**1D-1a            Erlanda \_\_\_\_ Cowan** May 30, 1951 at San Bernadino, CA

**1D-1b            Kenneth Demetrius Cowan** b. Oct. 2, 1954 at San Bernadino, CA.

**1D-1c            Lloyd Adrian Cowan** b. Oct. 5, 1959 at Hollywood, CA.

**1D-1d            Robert Curtis Cowan** b. Mar. 18, 1961 at Long Beach, CA.

**1D-2            Madelyn Mae Cowan** b. Ap. 11, 1922 at Lisbon, ND. Married to James Dodd Oct 18, 1946 at Reno, Nevada. James died Ap. 9, 1984 and Madelyn died Feb. 22, 2006.

**1D-2a            Gary Lloyd Stredwick** Obituary Kingman, AZ Daily Minor: Gary Lloyd Stredwick passed away Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009, at the age of 68. He was born to Bennie and Madelyn Stredwick in Glasgow, Mont., on July 5, 1941. He was raised in Sweet Home, Ore., by Bennie and Evelyn Stredwick.

He served in the U.S. Navy for six years and worked in construction for 25 years. He moved to Kingman in 1998.

Gary is survived by his loving wife of six years, Arletta; three children: son, Steven Patrick of Winchester, Ky., daughter, Tara Stredwick, and son, Joshua Stredwick of Santa Rosa, Calif.; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; three stepchildren; and eight stepgrandchildren.

He is also survived by stepbrothers, Jim Wyatt of Phoenix and Shane

Stredwick of Sweet Home; stepsisters, Mona Berg and Peggy Hufford of Oregon; uncle, Bill Cowan and Thelma Roberts of Downey, Calif.; aunts, Moli Cowan of Murrieta, Calif., and Doris Randleman of Monmouth, Ore.; and numerous cousins and friends.

- 1D-3 Lois Elaine Cowan** b. Aug. 12, 1923 at Granville, ND. Married Michael Alesko. Died Nov. 8, 1981. Lived at Portland, Multnomah, Oregon
- 1D-3a Michael Trent Alesko** b. July 8, 1950 at Reno, Nevada
- 1D-3b Robin \_\_\_\_ Alesko** b. Feb. 9, 1955.
- 1D-3c Patrick \_\_\_\_ Alesko** b. Feb 14, 1957
- 1D-4 Eileen Faith Cowan** b. Feb. 14, 1925 at Granville, ND. Married John (Jack) Walsh on Ap. 3, 1945 at Bremerton, WA. Died of mouth cancer.
- 1D-4a John \_\_\_\_ Walsh** b. Ap. 13, 1945
- 1D-4b Mark Herring Walsh** Jan. 25, 1960 at Port Townsend, WA.
- 1D-5 William George Cowan (Bill)** b. Aug 27, 1929 at Granville, ND. Married Jane Terrell. Jane died Oct 28, 1994. The 1969 Long Beach city directory shows Wm G. living at 2401 Quincy Ave.
- 1D-5a Kim Ann Cowan** b. Jun 21, 1955 at New Orleans, LA.
- 1D-5b William \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. Oct. 22, 1957 at Long Beach, CA.
- 1D-5c John \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. Jan. 12, 1960
- 1D-5d Mary \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. Ap. 20, 1961
- 1D-5e Louise \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. Oct 16, 1967.

### **5. Melbourne Julian Cowan (Tip, Ted)**

Ted was born June 5, 1899 and died March 25th, 1959. He was born during the first year that the family was at Anselm. Later the family moved to Valley City and then to Enderlin. Ted joined the United States Navy during W.W.I. and served as a ship's cook. The war now over, the 1920 U. S. census shows Ted, now 21 living in Ransom County boarding at the home of Christ and May Thompson together with their three children and two other boarders.



In around 1921, Ted married to Myrtle H. Hegstrom, b. May 3, 1903, and they had three children; Bobbie who lived in Washington, Lois who lived in Maryland, and Donald of California. I believe Myrtle's family was from the Enderlin area - - Her sister would sometimes come to visit at the farm and there are some photographs of that period of time. Their son Donald was Jim and Inga's third grandchild - - The first was Lloyd's son Kenneth (1920) and the second was Harriet's daughter Dorothy (1921).

In about 1934, Ted married Mabel R. (Dolly) Bouressa, b. July \_\_\_\_, 1905. According to the 1920 U. S. census of Lyon, Minnesota, Mabel was born in Illinois to George, b. 1876 and Cordelia, b. 1883 Bouressa. She was the oldest child of six children at the time: Mabel; 14 yrs, Edward, 10; Evelyn, 8; Loraine, 8; Harry, 5 and Blanch, 3 yrs. The

1930 census shows Mabel is now age 24, the family is living at Fairview, Lyon, Minnesota and there are five more children: Lloyd, 10; Robert, 7; Marie, 5; Elroy, 4; and James, 3.

Ted and Dolly lived at Marshall, MN all their life. Ted and Dolly ran a café, Ted was a postal carrier and he later owned a Cab in Marshall. Ted and Dolly have three children and they are Carol, Dean, and James (Jim). There are many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many stories. Ted died March 25, 1959 of cancer at age 59 and is buried at Marshall, Minnesota. Dolly died July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005 just days before what would have been her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and is buried next to Ted.

**Figure 2 Lois, Jim, Dolly, Dean, Carol and Ted Cowan**



Children of Ted	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Donald A.	May 24, 1922	Mar. 17, 2000
Robert Vaughn	Apr. 18, 1924	Aug. 18, 1994
Lois Lorraine	Feb. 27, 1926	Aug. 17, 1983
Carol Ann	Aug. 23, 1935	
Dean Melbourn	May 8, 1938	
James George	Dec. 5, 1939	

- 1E-1 Donald A. Cowan** b. May 24, 1922. Don lives with his third wife Joan in Vallejo, CA. After 40 years of little or no contact with his immediate family, Don attended his mother's (Myrtle Peterson) funeral in Tacoma in February, 1998, seeing many of his nephews and nieces for the first time in almost 45 years. Donald lived at American Canyon, Solano, Vallejo and Solano, California. Donald died March 17, 2000.
- 1E-2 Robert (Bob) Vaughn Cowan** b. April 18, 1924. d. Aug. 18, 1994. Bob married to Rose Eileen Gibson, b. Sep. 6, 1923, on June 5, 1944. Eileen died October 9, 2009 in Tigard, OR. The SS index shows Bob's death as Aug. 16, 1994. Bob and Eileen lived at 6920 45th Ave. Ct. N.W., GIG HARBOR, WA 98335
- 1E-2a Robert V. Cowan, Jr.** b. June 18, 1945 in London, England. Rob married Barbara Ann Houser, b. Feb. 4, 1944 on Dec. 16, 1967 at Tacoma,WA. 2 children.
- 1E-2a-1 Elizabeth (Beth) Carol Cowan,** b. Sep. 14, 1971. Elizabeth married Ralph Shackelford Bevins on September 20, 2003. Interested in information about the Cowan clan. Two children.  
Location: Maple Valley, WA 98026
- 1E-2a-1a Matthew Robert Bevins** b. August 4, 2006.
- 1E-2a-1b Katherine Anne Bevins** b March 3, 2009.



1E-2a-2	Rebecca Eileen Cowan, b. Aug. 4, 1974. Married on August 24, 2002 to Ean Norman Hernandez, b. Nov. 23, 1969 at Boulder, CO. <u>Location:</u> Seattle, WA 98103 (recorded 2012 05 11)
1E-2a-2a	Isabel Josephine Hernandez b. 5/14/09 London, England
1E-2a-2b	Anastasia Elise Hernandez b. 10/30/11 Seattle, WA
1E-2b	Lois Marjorie Cowan b. Feb. 11, 1947, married to John Belcher, b. Feb. 5, 1945, on Oct. 1, 1966 at Tacoma, WA. Lois died January 2, 2012. Three children <u>Location:</u> Seattle, WA 98366
1E-2b-1	Angela Rose Belcher, b. Oct. 6, 1967. Married on Jan. 24, 1987 to Richard Burk, b. Sep. 21, 1962. Three children.
1E-2b-1a	Kasandra Irene b. Dec. 1, 1987, Married Michael Hawks b. Oct. 28, 1984 on Aug 17, 2007. Three children
1E-2b-1a-1	Tori Elizabeth Rose Hawks b. June 24, 2007
1E-2b-1a-2	Jayden Ellen Hawks b. January 14, 2009. Twin
1E-2b-1a-3	Dylan Paul Hawks b. January 14, 2009. Twin
1E-2b-1b	Kenneth Burk, b. July 9, 1990 d. Jan. 14, 1992 at 18 months of age.
1E-2b-1c	Brittany Renee Burk, b. Jan. 15, 1993.
1E-2b-1d	Chelsea Jean Burk, b. March 27, 1994
1E-2b-2	Heide Rene Belcher, b. Feb. 25, 1970, m. Cole Roger Freeman, b. Jan. 5, 1970. Two sons.
1E-2b-2a	Seth Roger Freeman, b. Aug. 14, 1994.
1E-2b-2b	Alex John Freeman b. April 26, 1998
1E-2b-3	April Pauline Belcher, b. Mar. 15, 1975, not married. One son.
1E-2b-3a	Nikolai Belcher b. May 3, 2011
1E-2c	Wayne Gibson Cowan, b. Dec. 3, 1950, m. Cheryl Bjelland, b. Oct. 11, 1959 on June 3, 1972. 3 children. <u>Location:</u> P.O. Box 4779, SUNRIVER, OR 97707
1E-2c-1	Kara Ann Cowan, b. Nov. 8, 1969, m. Jason Michael Mayes, b. Mar. 10, 1967, on Oct. 11, 1994, 2 children. <u>Location:</u> 4411 "N" St., TACOMA, WA 98406
1E-2c-1a	Carson Michael Mayes, b. Dec. 18, 1995.
1E-2c-1b	Colin Jacob Mayes, b. June 2, 1997.
1E-2c-2	Christian Michael Cowan, b. Jan. 23, 1971, not married.
1E-2c-3	Corina Renee Cowan, b. June 22, 1975, one daughter.
1E-2c-3a	Mckenna Renee __, b. Feb. 12, 1995.
1E-2d	Jacqueline Rose Cowan, b., b. April 4, 1956, m. Terry Leffel, divorced. As of April, 1998 engaged to Dean Kirkpatrick. One son <u>Location:</u> 16226 Snapdragon Lane, TIGARD, OR 97223
1E-2d-1	Mathew James Cowan, b. Oct. 30, 1986.
1E-2e	Mark Cowan, b. Sep. 24, 1966, m. Freya, 2 children.

Location: ISSAQUAH, WA 98027

- 1E-2e-1                    Victoria Rose Cowan, b. Aug. 21, 1993.
- 1E-2e-2                    Robert Vaughn Cowan III, b. May 5, 1995.
- 1E-2f                    Tami Eileen Cowan, b. Oct. 29, 1968, m. Terry Innocente, divorced. Living with (\_\_\_\_) Randell b. May 3, 1965. One son
- 1E-2f-1                    Austin Randell b. October 2, 2001
- 1E-3                    Lois Lorraine Cowan**, Third child of Ted and Myrtle Cowan, b. Feb 27, 1926. Lois had her first child at age 18 on June 20, 1944 (Suzanne) and being unmarried at the time the child was put up for adoption. Three years later in 1949 when Lois was age 21 she married James Everett McClure. On Dec. 7, 1949 Lois and James had a daughter whom they named Kristine Lois. Lois and James later separated and were divorced in 1952. A couple of years later Lois married Daniel F. (Buddy) Robson and they lived in Maryland where Buddy was a sergeant in the Marine Corps. Lois and Buddy had two children, Daniel (Buddy) b. 1955 and Matthew b. 1964. Lois and Buddy separated. James McClure died in an auto accident ten years later in 1962. Buddy Robson Sr. died of a heart attack in 1982. Lois died of cancer on Aug. 17, 1983.
- 1E-3a                    Suzanne Prescott Irey**. Suzanne was born June 20, 1944 and placed for adoption. Over fifty years later in 1997, Suzanne was found by her sister Kristine (Kris) and has visited with Kris and her brother Matthew and family in North Carolina. Suzanne and Daniel, Jr. (Buddy) and his family met in Minneapolis at the funeral for their grandmother, Myrtle Hagstrom Peterson. It is a blessing to Suzanne to be met and be welcomed by this wonderful family. m. Jerry Parrish on Dec. 30, 1960. Suzanne and Jerry have three children and 4 grandchildren.
- Address: 1228 Backman's Valley Road., Westminster, MD 21158-3153.
- 1E-3a-1                    Melanie Faith Parrish**, b. Sep. 18, 1961, m. Kenley Allan Hamlin, b. July 6, 1962 on May 28, 1985.
- 1E-3a-1a                    Courtney Faith Hamlin**, b. April 16, 1981.
- 1E-3a-2                    Gerald Leon Parrish, Jr.**, b. Nov. 16, 1962, m. Lisa Marie Colson, b. Oct. 12, 1964 on June of 1981, one daughter Heather Ann. Gerald later married Cheryl Lynn Bendig on June 19, 1988 and they have one daughter Stacey.
- 1E-3a-2a                    Heather Ann Parrish**, Aug, 30, 1983.
- 1E-3a-2b                    Stacey Lynn Parrish**, b. June 8, 1992.
- 1E-3a-3                    David Parrish**, b. July 17, 1966, m. Michelle \_\_, b. Sept. 13, 1967 on Oct. 28, 1989
- 1E-3a-3a                    Nicholas Meyers**, b. June 8, 1997
- 1E-3b                    Kristine (Kris) Lois McClure**, Second child of Lois Lorraine Cowan, b. Dec. 7, 1949. Kristine married Paul Edward Erhard on Jan. 1, 1969. He was in the U. S. Army and served in Germany and in Vietnam. Separated in 1971 and divorced June 12, 1975. Son James Everett. Remarried to Maurice Monhollen, b. Jan. 30, 1946, on Aug. 30, 1985. Maurice is a carpenter and is recently disabled due to cancer. Maurice has a son Michael Orchard, b. Dec. \_\_, 1972. Kris received her LPN on Sep. 4, 1978, and works for the VA outpatient clinic in Charlotte, NC. She has been employed by the VA for 10 years since 1988. Kris died January 18,

2011 at Mecklenburg, North Carolina.

Address: 10707 Brief Road, Charlotte, NC 28227 Tele. 704-573-2104

- 1E-3c-1**                    **James Everett Erhard**, b. April 16, 1969, m. Diane Banks, Son Anthony Banks. m. Donna Cook April 16, 1997, two children Derea and Ashley. James is a metal foundry steel worker. Dona is a homemaker.
- 1E-3c-1a**                    **Anthony Brett Banks**, b. Feb. 23, 1991
- 1E-3c-1b**                    **Derea Starr Cook**, b. Sep. 19, 1993.
- 1E-3c-1c**                    **Ashley Miracle Cook**, b. March 24, 1995.
- 1E-3c**                    **Daniel F. (Buddy) Robson Jr.**, b. Dec. 13, 1955. Not now married and kids are living with him.  
Address: 8907 59th Ave. College Park, MD 20740.
- 1E-3c-1**                    **Erik Jon Robson**, b. May 9, 1978.
- 1E-3c-2**                    **Kyle Aaron Robson**, b. Aug. 8, 1980
- 1E-3d**                    **Matthew Robson**, b. Feb. 13, 1964, m. Rhonda Polk, b. Mar. 30, 1963 on Aug. 31, 1991. Matthew and his wife live in Monroe, NC. Matthew is employed by Vanguard Supreme, makers of industrial sized knitting machines. His hobby is playing with his kids.
- 1E-3d-1**                    **Megan Alyssa Robson**, b. July 17, 1993.
- 1E-3d-2**                    **Candice Nicole Robson**, b. Aug. 18, 1995.
- 1E-4**                    **Carol Ann Cowan McKay**. b. August 23, 1935. Married Jim McKay b. \_\_\_\_\_. Jim and Carol were married at \_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_ and have lived in Omaha for many years. Jim and Carol have four children. After a long time heart illness, Jim died at home on Sunday, September 3rd, 1995 of a heart attack.  
Address: 9715 Louis Drive, Omaha, NE 68114
- 1E-4a**                    **Timothy James McKay**, b. Sept. 23, 1956. Married to Debbie \_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-4a-1**                    **Aaron McKay** b. \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-4a-2**                    **Rachele McKay** b. \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-4b**                    **Laurie Ann McKay**, b. Nov. 7, 1959. Married to Rick Hardin. Doing work on family tree.
- 1E-4b-1**                    **Catherine Hardin**, b. \_\_\_\_
- 1E-3c**                    **Douglas John McKay**, b. June 4, 1964. Not married as of this writing in 1997.
- 1E-4d**                    **Kelly Colleen McKay**, b. Sept. 7, 1966. Married to Michael Oman on \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-4d-1**                    **Alycia Oman** b. \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-4d-2**                    **Andrew Oman** b. \_\_\_\_.
- 1E-5**                    **Dean Melbourne Cowan** b. May 4, 1938. Married Marie Flemming on May 10, 1958. Dean and Marie live in the Camden area in North Minneapolis and Have three children. Dean enjoys woodworking and furniture restoration.  
Address: 3546 No. 6th St. Minneapolis, MN 55401
- 1E-5a**                    **Thomas (Tom) Dean Cowan**, b. May 14, 1959. Married Irene Coste, b.

Aug 31, 1963 on April 22, 1990.

**1E-5a-1** Maria Jean Cowan b. Dec. 23, 1993

**1E-5b** **Condence (Connie) Marie Cowan**, b. May 3, 1961. Connie married Fred Cromack b. Sept. 29, 1958 on Dec. 13, 1987. Fred worked in Washington, DC. Fred died suddenly in his sleep on the morning of February 3, 1997 at age 38.

**1E-5b-1** **Jessica Marie Cromack**, b. May 18, 1988.

**1E-5b-2** **Fred Royal Cromack, Jr.**, b. Sept. 30, 1990

**1E-5c** **Michael James Cowan**, b. Dec. 8, 1965. Married Kim Best, b. Dec. 14, 1966 on March 31, 1995.

**1E-5c-1** **Tiffany Marie Cowan**, b. May 17, 1996.

**1E-6** **James (Jim) George Cowan**, b. Dec. 5 1939. Married to Kay Strand on May 5, 1968. Jim and Kay live in Eden Prairie and have two children. Jim graduated from the University of Minnesota where he played on the Gopher football team. Jim owns a business forms company.

Address: 9220 Overlook Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

**1E-6a** **Heather Nicole Cowan**, b. August 25, 1972 Married to Michael Tacheny on August 1, 1997 at Minneapolis.

**1E-6b** **Summer Nicole Cowan**, b. August 14, 1975 Married to Daniel Northup on June 13, 1997 at Minneapolis.

**1E-6b-1** **Timber Zoe Northup** b. Dec. 2, 1997 at New Haven, CT.



## **6. Margaret Jane Cowan**

Margaret was born in 1900 and, I suppose, she was named after her grandmother. She was called Jane. Jim and Inga had been farming at Anselm for two years when Jane was born - their sixth child. As a little girl she traveled with her mother several times by train down to Highlandville, Iowa to visit her aunts and uncles there. She was about seven when the family moved to Valley City and nine when they moved to Enderlin and would have been in the fourth grade at Enderlin School then.

Jane was an impulsive girl who sometimes got into trouble with her pranks and she wasn't very ambitious about school. Mostly she worked on the farm and when she grew up she got a job for a time helping with farming for a farmer near Moorhead, MN.

According to my mother, Jane was a nice person to be with and, "Funnier than all get out." Mother tells a story of once when Harriet, Pearl, and Esther and Walter were with Jane on a drive up by the farm at Granville. They were going down the gravel road when the steering wheel came off. So Jane handed it to the folks in the back seat and

said, "Here, you can drive!" Life must have been hard for her and I'm sure there are more stories.

Jane had at least one crazy job - at one time she was the "Spider Woman" in a traveling carnival and side show that traveled around to towns in the area!

I have heard that she was married at one time and later divorced or separated and also that she was an alcoholic. Jane had no children. The 1930 U.S. Census lists her as Margaret Annette, wife of Carrol Annette and they were living in Fargo, Cass County. ND. The 1920 U.S. Census lists Carrol Annette, born in 1901, age 19 and a single white male living in Sherburne County.



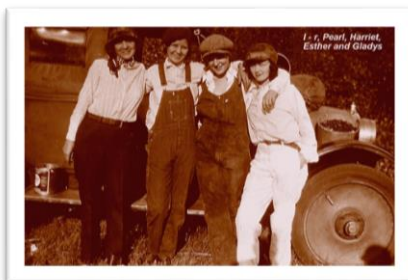
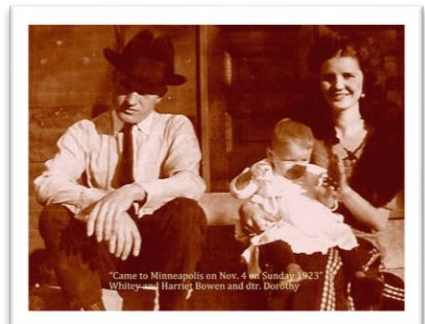
I have been told that in the early 1940's Jane lived for a time with a man who owned a turkey farm at Morehead. I suspect that this was her husband Carrol and they were actually in Fargo. Lois Clairmont remembers the family going up to visit Margaret on the farm [in Fargo] for vacations when she was a little girl.

Jane died suddenly of a heart attack on 30 Dec, 1948 at age 48 at Riverton, in Clay County, MN. Riverton is a little town about five miles west of Crosby in the Brainard lakes area. The Minnesota Death and Burials 1835-1990 record shows that she was married to Carrol Annette at the time of her death. Jane is buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery, section 26, in Minneapolis just a few yards away and in the same row by her mother and father, Inga and Jim Cowan. The cemetery record shows her name as Margaret Annette but her grave marker shows her name as Margaret Cowan. Jane was married to Carrol Annette from at least years 1930 to the time of her death in 1948. I have no further information about her.

## **7. Henriette Cowan Bowen (Hattie, Harriet)**

Harriet was born Oct. 9, 1902 and died Feb. 29, 1992.

Harriet was born at Sheldon, N.D. The family at that time may have still been living on their farm at Anselm, just south of Sheldon or at Valley City then. She was about six when the family moved to Enderlin. As a little girl she also



traveled with her mother several times by train down to Highlandville, Iowa to visit her aunts and uncles there, sometimes staying for a couple of months during



the winters.

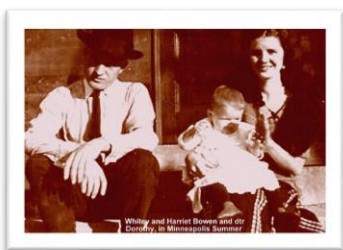
Several photographs show Harriet and Jane and the younger kids in their teens horsing around and laughing and posing sitting on the running board of a car. There are pictures that show Harriet as a teenager with her brothers, Walter and Wallace and with Sisters, Pearl and Margaret working in the fields and also horsing around.

Harriet married Earnest (Whitey) Bowen in about 1919 when she was seventeen and they had one child whom they named Dorothy.

<u>Child of Harriet</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Dorothy	July 19, 1921	Dec. 6, 1970

In 1928 Harriet and Whitey had an apartment at 629 - 3rd Ave., Apt 20, in Minneapolis and it was there that her brother Walter married Esther Siems. Her brother Walter was married there on Saturday, August 6, 1928, at 8:30 in the evening. Brothers Martin and Bud and several others were there that evening. Whitey was apparently out of town.

In 1934 Whitey owned Bowen Motor Company and sold cars. Whitey, along with his two brothers, Cliff and George, was a card



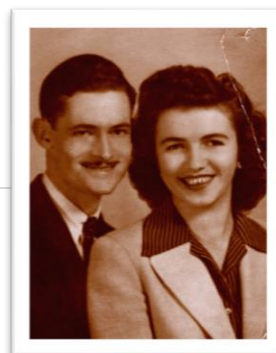
gambler and they traveled on the railroad gambling. They'd travel from town to town setting up poker games and then worked the unsuspecting players for their money. When Harriet was with Whitey, she would stay in the car for hours and wait while Whitey played cards. Then when the game was finished he would hurry out to the car and off they would go and leave town. I'm told they were run out of several towns and an old news article in the Minneapolis Tribune

is about Cliff and George being arrested for gambling. The Bowen brothers were told to stay out of Minneapolis and also out of Reno. In the early years Francis Cowan once asked her husband Martin what it was that Whitey did. So Martin told her that he sold can openers and she believed him!

Harriet often traveled with Whitey as he went around the country and then they would visit relatives and

stay for a while. Lois Clairmont, a daughter of Harriet's sister Pearl, remembers when she was little (in the early 1940's) that Harriet and Whitey several times came to visit and would stay for about a month during the summers. Their car was packed full of suits and clothes in the back and so Lois thought that Whitey was a clothing salesman.

Whitey's parents were William H. Bowen b. 1848 d. 1929 and Bertha A. Bowen b. 1863 d. 1940. William was a horse trader. He had one sister Mamie E. Bowen b. 1893 d.

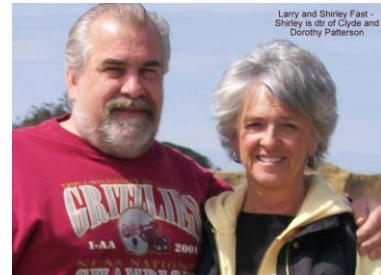




1932 and she did not marry. His brothers Cliff and George and their wives are buried out west. Cliff had a son Cliff H. Bowen, Jr. who lived only 8 months from June 10, 1922 to February 26, 1923. Whitey and his parents and his sister, Mamie, and nephew Cliff, Jr. are buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery in north Minneapolis.

According to my mother, Harriet loved Whitey and she didn't settle down in one place until 1949 when Whitey died. Around the time that Whitey died, Harriet got an apartment in Minneapolis and began working in a munitions factory. After that she worked at Honeywell as an assembler. Harriet worked at Honeywell for many years until she retired in 1967.

One of the things that I remember about Aunt Harriet was that she was very talkative and had many stories to tell. She always enjoyed a good laugh and was fun to be with. Harriet continued to live alone in an apartment in Minneapolis and on occasion traveled out to Oregon to visit her daughter's family. She continued to drive her car and visited her brother Walter and his family frequently. In 1988 when Harriet was 86 years old, her granddaughters Sharon and Shirley moved her out to Portland, Oregon to live with them. She lived alternately every three months between Shirley and Sharon's houses for a few years. Then toward the end Harriet was placed in an adult foster care home where her daughters say her care was fabulous. On February 29, 1992 at age 89 Harriet died. Services were held at the Crystal Lake Cemetery chapel in north Minneapolis and her nephew, Rev. Bill Cowan officiated. Harriet and Whitey are buried side-by-side at Crystal Lake Cemetery, section 10, in north Minneapolis.



- 1G-1**                 **Dorothy Pearl Bowen**, b. July 19, 1921. d. Dec. 6, 1970, of a stroke at age 49. Dorothy became deaf as a result of **Scarlet Fever** as a child. Dorothy married Clyde Patterson. Clyde was born Nov. 24, 1915 in Spokane, Washington and died April 10, 1984 at Portland, Oregon. Clyde became deaf at two years of age from **Spinal Meningitis**. He worked as a painter for many years. Clyde and Dorothy have two daughters, Shirley and Sharon.
- 1G-1a**                 **Shirley Ann Patterson**, b. Nov 14, 1944. Shirley has two children. Shirley married Larry Fast on June 30, 2002 and they live in Portland, Oregon.
- 1G-1a-1**                 **Anne McDonald**, b. July 23, 1964. Anne was adopted by Bob & Lila Bueermann of Portland, Oregon.
- 1G-1a-2**                 **Brandon Scott Griswold**, b. Dec 20, 1974. Married Deanna Stuhr on Feb. 14, 2008. 1 daughter.
- 1G-1a-2a**                 **Alexis (Lexi) Griswold**, b. Oct 1, 1998.
- 1G-1b**                 **Sharon Lois Patterson**, b. Jan. 31, 1947. Sharon is married to **Dennis James Polston** and they live in Portland, Oregon. One child.
- 1G-1b-1**                 **Terry Michael Polston**, b. Sept 21, 1962 Terry has one daughter.
- 1G-1b-1a**                 **Ashley Marie Polston**, b. Oct 5, 1992

## **8. Martin Lawrence Cowan (Marty)**

Martin was born Oct. 27, 1904 and died Oct. 25, 1961.

Martin was born at the maternity hospital at Enderlin, North Dakota and was the

eighth child of Jim and Inga Cowan who, I believe, lived at Valley City at the time. Valley City is about 30 miles to the northwest of Enderlin. The family may have moved to Valley City from Anselm at about the time of Marty's birth in 1904. Inga was 39 years of age at the time she gave birth to Martin. In 1907 Jim and Inga were receiving their mail at Valley City and the twins were born there. In 1909 the family moved to down to Enderlin and received their mail there.

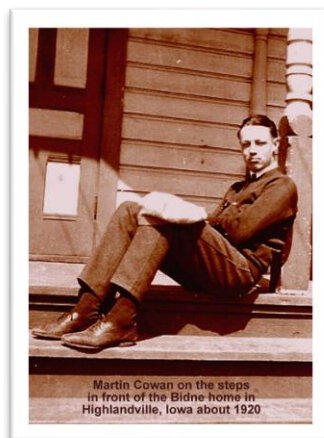
An oval studio photograph taken of Martin show him at about age three along with his sister Jane and his brother Willie. Martin is wearing a white children's suit with short pants and long dark socks and his hair is combed neatly to the side. This photograph was taken in 1907 or 1908 and may have been taken just before going to stay with aunt Anna and uncle Peter.



From about four years of age, Marty was raised by his mother's sister Anne Bidne and her husband Peter at Highlandville, Iowa. This story may not be accurate but how I see it happened is this: Martin's mother, Inga would frequently, and as often she could, take the train to Highlandville in Iowa to visit her family. She would take the children along and, according to the *Sheldon Enterprise* (See story of Jim and Inga), would often stay for several months, particularly during winter trips. On one occasion in 1908, however, her sister Anna made a trip up to Valley City to visit Inga and her family and she stayed for four months from September to December. Now Anna and Peter had no children and her sister Inga had ten children by then and her twin sister Hattie over at Mercer had several children, too. Inga's children were the twins: Walter and Wallace who would be one year old that September; Martin who was 4; Harriet who was 6; Margaret who was 8 years old; and the older children; Mae, Willie, Bud, Lloyd, and Ted. I expect that during her stay at Valley City, Anna convinced Inga to allow one of the children to make the trip back to Highlandville

with her. Little Martin, at four years of age, was the youngest child no longer in diapers and he was chosen. This trip is recorded on a picture postcard that Anna left with Inga as a memento when she left to return to Highlandville. It was a photograph of her and Peter's home in Highlandville and Anna wrote on the back of the card, "*Paid a visit to Dakota from Sept to Dec 1908, Highlandville, Iowa from your sister Anna.*"

I have an impression that life was hard for Inga at Valley City and the place was more like a frontier to her and that the family at Highlandville and Decorah was home and civilization. The Bidne's, on the other hand, owned and operated the Creamery at Highlandville, which was just down the road across the creek from their house, and so they were doing very well. Peter was a successful butter maker. Letting Martin go with her sister Anna was like sending a part of herself with her family. And so from





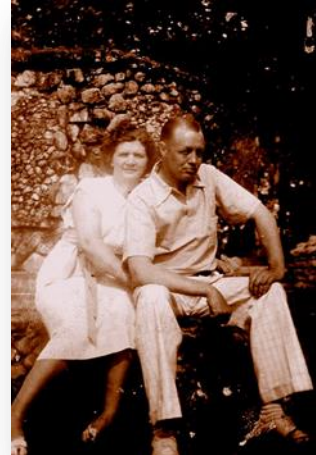
that time on, Marty was raised by Peter and Anna Bidne as their own child. Of course, it was not uncommon for families in those days to leave children with other family members to share in the raising of their children.

The next summer, in 1909, there were some troubles going on at Enderlin and I don't know what they were, but it may have had something to do with their decision. Inga wrote a very curious note on a post card to her husband. It was a leather post card addressed to W. J. Cowan, Enderlin, N. D. with the note, *"June July 1909 the months of Trouble, Inger."* The face of the card is stamped with a picture depicting Enderlin High School. Martin was now five years old and had been living with Aunt Anna and Uncle Perer for six months. This is a very pointed comment that there were troubles that summer - Was it the family? the crops? enough money? Something was going on.

Marty grew up at Highlandville and Inga had a number of photographs of Martin from Highlandville during those years. At age 15, Martin was confirmed at Big Canoe Lutheran Church.

Peter and Anna's niece Margaret Akre (b. Dec. 4, 1914) remembers what it was like at Highlandville and at the Bidne's at Christmas time:

*"I am sure many happy times can be recalled by anyone who visited Highlandville. It was a great place to live. There was always fishing. In the spring we picked wild flowers. Gooseberry bushes were found 'in the pasture.' At Christmas time we gathered at the Bidne house to go to the evening Christmas tree program at the church. Gilbert Gjere, a farmer who lived one mile to the north, came with his sleigh pulled by horses. We all piled in and covered ourselves with blankets and went to our annual Christmas Tree Program. After all of the children had performed with their 'speeches' and songs, we paraded around the alter and were given a bag of candy and fruit. Then home again. The horses were kept in the shed and covered with blankets. This was a yearly ritual."*



In the years 1921 - 1922, from age 17, Martin attended Luther College in Decorah along with his cousins Roland Akre (son of Anna's brother, Rev. Ole Akre) and Leslie Ovre (son of Anna's twin sister Hattie). Leslie's sister, Ruth relates how Les later told about the fun they had together (Pat Mohrbacher says her uncle Les was mischievous). Marty stayed at college for two years, got good grades and played a lot of baseball. After college, Marty taught at a one-room school at Highlandville for a few years and played baseball.

Now Francis, Martin's future wife, tells a story that one day after a ball game when Martin was in his early 20's, he didn't go home to Peter and Anna's but took off to Minneapolis - - He didn't tell anyone and he didn't even pack his belongings. Francis tells that it was she that later got Martin back together and in talking terms with Peter and Anna.

So at age 25, and seven years out of college, Marty married Frances Zahradka of Minneapolis on September 10, 1929 at Minneapolis. Frances was born Francheska Mary Magdalen Zahradka on October 21, 1904 at her mother's sister's home next to the old Catholic church in Excelsior, Minnesota. Francis' mother, Mary Koschinska, was born

January 15, 1882 at Vienna, Bohemia (now Austria) and was nine months old when the family came to America and settled at Chaska, Minnesota. Her father, Anthony Alouicious Zahradka was born on June 9, 1878 at St. Anthony (now Minneapolis). Francis has a brother Earl Zahradka who was born in 1913 and who lives in St. Louis Park. She also had a brother Carl Zahradka who was born in 1902 and who died at three years of age in 1905. Her mother Mary died in 1946 and her father Anthony died in 1963 and they are buried at Crystal Lake cemetery in north Minneapolis. Francis' mother had a sister named Ida M. LeClair b. 1887 d. 1939 who is also buried there.

Marty and Francis have lived in Minneapolis all their lives and, as the children grew up, made many trips to visit Gramma and Grandpa Bidne and the folks at Highlandville. The 1940 and 1940 Minneapolis city directories show Marty and Francis living at 1823 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, about 12 blocks west of where his cousin Dudley lived on Lyndale. The city directories shw that Marty worked as bartender and manager at Russell L. (Buzz) Arlett's Bar and Pool Hall off Lake Street and Lyndale Avenue from at least 1940 and he continued working there up to the time of his death in 1961. Francis worked as a telephone switchboard operator at the St. Andrews Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. I remember Marty owned a 1947 Chevrolet coupe. Many stories.

Marty and his brother Walter were very close over the years and, in fact, in about 1950 they lived across the street from one another on Third Street during the years that the children were growing up. Marty and Walter played a lot of pool together and were quite good. Marty and Francis and Walter and Esther enjoyed many a night playing cards at each other's homes. Often times Harriet and Pearl and Chet and uncle Stan would join in as well. Again, there are many stories.

<u>Children of Martin</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Beverly Jean	Oct. 18, 1930
Mary Lou	Oct. 6, 1934
Jerome Martin	Mar. 4, 1937
Martin Carl (Rusty)	Sep. 5, 1944

In the summer of 1961, when Marty was 56, Walter and Esther asked Marty if he and Francis would go with them to California to visit their brother Lloyd but Marty said he didn't want to go and Francis felt badly about that. Instead Marty and Francis rented a cabin for a week on a small lake up past Milacs and Walter and Esther stayed with them there for a few days before they left for California. When Walter and Esther got back, Marty had been admitted to St. Barnabas Hospital and was being treated for cancer of the throat and esophagus. He was operated on to remove the cancer but it wasn't successful and he also developed a staphylococcal infection. Marty condition was critical and Francis, along with Marty's brothers and sisters who were in town, stayed with him in his room around the clock on assigned shifts. Walter, I am told, talked to his brother about salvation and Marty made his confession a couple of weeks before he died. Marty died on October 25, 1961 two days before his birthday with Walter, his brother and Esther, his sister-in-law at his side. Francis asked Walter to help with arrangements and services were held a couple of days later on Saturday, October 28 at Knable Funeral Chapel and Pastor Roger Carlson of Hope Lutheran Church officiated. Marty was buried in lot 219, section 10, space 7 at Crystal Lake Cemetery in Minneapolis where his mom and dad are buried. May Marty rest in peace in the arms of our Lord.

Peter and Anna Bidne owned land in the foothills of Montana and as part of their

estate when they died the land was willed 75% to Marty and the rest to Marty's brothers and sisters. Marty didn't see any benefit from the estate and the land was in probate for many years during which time most of Marty's brothers and sisters also died leaving scores of secondary heirs. Marty's children sold the right to their portion of the will to the person who was renting the land. In the 1980's, because so many years had passed, the state turned over the land to the renter and the will was declared void.

Marty and Francis lived in Minneapolis all their lives have four children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The children are Beverly, Mary Lou, Jerome (Jerry) and Martin Jr. (Rusty). There are many stories.

- 1H-1**      **Beverly Jean Cowan**, b. October 18, 1930. Graduated from Patrick Henry High School in north Minneapolis. Beverly married John Searles and they had three children and later divorced. John was a baseball player. Beverly is married to Jim Miller. Jim deals in antique furniture. Bev has three children and several grandchildren.  
Address is: 8829 Springview Alcove, Woodbury, MN 55125 (612) 714-1906
- 1H-1a**      **John Martin Searles** b. Nov. 16, 1951. Married to Reggie Webber and they have two children Jacob and Tiffany. John later married Sandy Bennington. John married to Kathy Fick on April 10, 1993 at Plymouth, MN. Kathy was born April 15, 1954 and is from Wacouta, MN. Kathy has a child John by a previous marriage. John has been driving a beer and pop truck since 1983 for Mark 7 Distributors. Address is: 6337 Quail Av N, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429 (612) 533-3665
- 1H-1a-1**      **Jacob John Searles**, b. April 23, 1977
- 1H-1a-2**      **Tiffany Ann Searles**, b. Mar. 10, 1979
- 1H-1a-3**      **John Allan Holst**, b. May 25, 1981. Stepson, child of Kathy.
- 1H-1b**      **Mary Denise Cowan**, b. April 27, 1953. Married to Michael Wright and has one child. Later married Daniel Bullard. Dan and Mary run a primitive dude ranch in the foothills North Fork, Idaho and do wild river rafting. Their ranch is on the Salmon River about 100 miles south of Missoula, Montana. They have no electricity except for a generator they use to run power tools. In years past persons such as Walt Disney and Walter Cronkite have vacationed there. Their address is HC64 Box 105A, North Fork, Idaho 83466. Three children.
- 1H-1b-1**      **Bo Michael Wright**, b. Mar. 22, 1977.
- 1H-1b-2**      **Sarah Katheryn Bullard**, b. Nov. 14, 1983
- 1H-1b-3**      **Samuel Allan Bullard**, b. Dec. 11, 1985
- 1H-1c**      **Michael Jerome Searles**, b. Nov. 23, 1954. Married to Debby Burnes and had two children and is now married to Katie Barrett. Michael works at a Wholesale florist.  
Address is: 6836 Thomas Av South, Mpls 55423 (612) 866-2449
- 1H-1c-1**      **Matthew Michael Searles**, b. Sept 24, 1977
- 1H-1c-2**      **Eric Anthony Searles**, b. Feb. 2, 1980
- 1H-2**      **Mary Lou Cowan** b. October 5th, 1934. Graduated from Patrick Henry High School in north Minneapolis. Mary Lou married Lawrence Richard (Larry) Cronin b. Dec. 8, 1929, on June 5, 1954. Larry and Mary Lou have eight

children. Address is: 1954 St Clements, NE Mpls 11848 Kumquat Coon Rapids 55448 (612) 755-1878.

- 1H-2a**            **James (Jim) Martin Cronin** b. April 23, 1955. Married to Ingrid Weber. Three children. Live in West Concord, Minnesota. Jim works in a grocery store in Waseca, MN  
Address is: Rt 1 186 C West, Concord, MN 55985
- 1H-2a-1**           **Pamela \_\_\_\_ Cronin**, b. July 30, 1981
- 1H-2a-2**           **Nicole \_\_\_\_ Cronin**, b. Aug 19, 1985
- 1H-2a-3**           **Jeffrey \_\_\_\_ Cronin**, b. June 20, 1984
- 1H-2b**            **Gregory (Greg) Thomas Cronin** b. August 27, 1956. Greg is married to Tina Wiborg. Married Jan 15, 1994. Address is: 10035 Russell Av N, #4 Brooklyn Park MN 55444 (612)493-5421
- 1H-2b-1**           **Heather May Cronin** b. May 15, 1977
- 1H-2b-2**           **Jennifer May Cronin** b. Jan. 3, 1985
- 1H-2c**            **Davey Lawrence Cronin**, born September 17, 1957. Died March 25, 1978, Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Davey died accidentally of carbon monoxide poisoning when he fell asleep while warming up his car.
- 1H-2d**            **Katherine Mary (Kathy) Cronin Bearse**, b. January 19, 1959. Kathy married Barry Bearse but they are now divorced. Also Kathy was previously married to Dan Cadis. Kathy has three children. Kathy works in a physician's clinic as medical assistant and does the book work for her former husband's blacktopping business. Kathy's address is: 721 Rt 32, Uncasville, CT 06382 (203) 848-9862.
- 1H-2d-1**           **Daniel \_\_\_\_\_ Bearse**, b. June 30, 1979
- 1H-2d-2**           **Toni Kathleen Bearse**, b. Dec. 23, 1981
- 1H-2d-3**           **Tiffany Mae Bearse**, b July 25, 1985
- 1H-2e**            **Margaret Ann (Peggy) Cronin Schlichte**, b. Jan 20, 1960. Married to Glen Schlichte. Glen is a carpenter and Peggy is an electrician. Address is: 9496 72nd St S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016. (612) 459-5932
- 1H-2e-1**           **Chad Allen Schlichte**, b. Aug. 4, 1991
- 2H-2f**            **Patricia Marie (Patty) Cronin Johnson**, b. Feb. 21, 1962. Patty married Tim Johnson and has two children; Brian and Amy. Patty is now divorced and works as a nurse at the Minneapolis Children's Hospital. Address is: 8755 168th Av NW, Ramsey MN 55303. (612) 441-0510
- 1H-2f-1**           **Brian Johnson**, b. March 23, 1987
- 1H-2f-2**           **Amy Johnson**, b. June 6, 1988
- 1H-2g**            **Susan Francis Cronin Carlson**, b. Jan. 9, 1963. Susan married Patrick Carlson. Susan is a nurse at the Coon Rapids Clinic and Pat is a Policeman in Coon Rapids. Address is: 121 43 Lily, Coon Rapids 55433. (612) 422-1029
- 1H-2g-1**           **Patrick David Carlson**, b. Oct. 9, 1987
- 1H-2g-2**           Derek Martin Carlson, b. July 25, 1990
- 1K-2h**            **Michael John Cronin**, b. Sept. 27, 1966. Married Tracy Cline. Michael

works at Stillwater prison as corrections officer. Address is: 11082 thrush St. NW, Coon Rapids 55433. (612) 754 1807

- 1H-2h-1**                    **Tawny \_\_\_\_\_ Cronin**, b June 23, 1989
- 1H-3**                    **Jerome Martin Cowan (Jerry)**, b. March 6, 1937. Son of Marty and Frances Cowan. Graduated from Edison High School in northeast Minneapolis. Married on March 3, 1962 to Margaret Ann Buechele (Marge) b. Nov 13, 1938. Address is: 2909 Silver Lake Ct., St Anthony, MN 55421. (612) 788-5678
- 1H-3a**                    **Paul Martin Cowan**, b. Dec. 28, 1962. Married to Diane Stone, b. Sept. 13, 1965 Three children.
- 1H-3a-1**                    **Kelsey Lee Ann Cowan**, b. Sept. 10, 1986
- 1H-3a-2**                    **Brianna Therese Cowan**, b. July 21, 1988
- 1H-3a-3**                    **Hayley \_\_\_\_\_ Cowan**, b. March 11, 1992
- 1H-3b**                    **Cheryl Ann Cowan**, b. Jan 21, 1965
- 1H-3c**                    **Michael Jerome Cowan**, b. Jan. 1, 1968
- 1H-3d**                    **Christopher (Chris) Cowan**, b. June 29, 1970
- 1H-4**                    **Martin Carl Cowan (Rusty)** b. Sept. 5, 1944. Son of Marty and Frances Cowan. Graduated from Edison High School in northeast Minneapolis. Rusty married Gayle Christiansen and they have two children, Denise and Danny. Rusty then married Bobbie Hazen and they have one child, Patrick. Rusty works as a jobs coordinator for Masterson Personnel, a job service company.
- 1H-4a**                    **Denise Anne Cowan**, b. Sept. 26, 1968. Married to John Videvol on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 1992 at the Sheraton Ritz Hotel in Minneapolis. They were one of 92 couples married that day sponsored by KQRS FM radio station. John is a marketing analyst for Daymark Co. and Denise has worked for Equifax verifying medical histories.  
Denise and John live at 13766 Swallow Street NW. Andover, MN 55304.
- 1H-4a-1**                    **Joshua John Videvol** b. January 17, 1996 bap. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1H-4b**                    **Daniel Carl Cowan**, b. Jan 31, 1970. Danny works for Lund industries. Danny and Barbara Shawn Hofschild were married 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 18, 1996 at The Church of the Epiphany, Coon Rapids, MN. Barb's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Howard H. Hofshild.  
Address is 13790 Swallow Street NW. Andover, MN 55304
- 1H-4b-1**                    **Brandon Cowan** b. April 1, 1992.
- 1H-4c**
- 1H-4d**                    **Patrick Michael Cowan**, b. April 3, 1981. At the time of this writing in 1996, Patrick is 14 years old and lives in Portland, Oregon with his mother Bobbie.

## 9. Walter Orville Cowan (Walter)

Walter was born Sept. 16, 1907 d. Feb. 15, 1977. Walter was twin brother to Wallace. Walter and Wallace were born at Valley City and I suppose their birth records are there. When the twins were born, Inga was 42 years old and their oldest sister, Mae, was already 16. Their oldest brother Willie died of pneumonia at age 19 when the twins were just seven years old.

The boys and Pearl were quite a bit younger than the others and were just children during their time on the farm at Valley City and later at Enderlin. We have a number of pictures of harvest time, of working and some playing in the fields, also of the old farm machinery and of the old homestead at Enderlin. Walter attended school at Granville through the seventh grade and a couple of years



Walter and Wallace Cowan - Photo taken for their eighth birthday on Sept 16, 1915 at Enderlin, ND

later, at age 15, ran away because of his abuse and rode the freight trains. He later returned and then took a job following the harvesting machines along the Dakota border up to Canada.



Walter went back to the farm at Granville for a while and then at age 19 went back to Minneapolis and found work at various jobs including a time in an auto Garage across from the Veterans Memorial Hospital and at the old Forum Cafeteria. While working as a waiter in a Chinese cafe in downtown Minneapolis he met a 17-year-old girl named Esther Siems. They went out, fell in love, and were married on October 6, 1929. Walter was 21 and Esther was 18. In the late 1930's Walter worked as a waiter at the Jolly Miller in the Nicollet Hotel. Walter was very proud of his children and loved Esther dearly. During the 1930's, three of the children died in different situations and this was over their lifetimes a heavy weight.

Children	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Shirley Diane	Dec. 27, 1929	June 19, 1933
Walter Orville, Jr.	Jan. 24, 1931	June 5, 2003
Mary Ann (Jacqueline)	Sep. 9, 1932	
Wayne Owen	Aug. 24, 1934	Oct. 13, 1939
Betty Diane	Jan. 10, 1937	Jun. 14, 1938
William Owen	Dec. 30, 1938	
Lawrence Richard	May 11, 1940	



The 1940 Minneapolis City Directory shows Walter and Esther living at 1718 Emerson Ave North and Walter is working as a waiter for the glitzy Jolly Miller at the Nicollet Hotel. In the early 1940's, while working at the Jolly Miller, Esther told Walter that either he stop drinking or she was leaving him. Well, he stopped drinking and there were many changes in their life after that. Because the war was going on and it was possible that Walter could get drafted if he wasn't in a necessary industry, he applied for a job working as a route

truck driver for the Railway Express. He worked there for many years until his retirement in 1971. Walter and Esther have seven children, Walter Jr., Mary Ann, William (Bill), Lawrence (Larry) - and Shirley, Betty and Wayne who died in childhood in the 1930's. Walter died suddenly of a heart attack in Mesa, Arizona two days before Valentines Day in 1977 and is now buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery, section 26 where many of the family are buried. Thanks be to God. *The story of Walter and Esther Cowan is told in detail under the title, "On Third Street."*



- 1l-1 Shirley Diane Cowan** b. December 27th, 1929 d. June 19, 1933. Baptized May 26, 1930 by her dad's uncle, the Rev. Ole Akre. At 3 1/2 years of age, Shirley was struck by a car on the street and was killed.
- 1l-2 Walter Orville Cowan, Jr.** b. Jan. 24, 1931. Baptized Sept. 4, 1938. Walt is married to Shirley Marie Maseline. Walt served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict and received a Purple Heart. After discharge he and Shirley lived at Brooklyn Park, MN where the children grew up and he worked for the Northern Ordinance, later called the FMC Corp., for many years until his retirement there. Upon retirement Walt and Shirley moved to Fort Meyers, Florida where he works in manufactured homes sales. Walt died June 5, 2003.
- 1l-2a Robert Cowan**, b. March. 27, 1953 d. Sept. 19, 1982. Wally his dad was 22 at the time of his birth. Robert married Peggy Hult and they were later divorced. Robert and Peggy have two children. Robert died in a construction accident in Texas in 1981 at age 28.
- 1l-2a-1 Dawn Elaine Cowan**, b. Dec. 26, 1975. South Mpls.
- 1l-2a-1a Cody Mark Cowan**, b. Sept 23, 1994
- 1l-2a-2 Reed Walter Cowan**, b. May 4, 1977. South Minneapolis
- 1l-2b Lee Paul Cowan** b. Feb. 2, 1955 Married to Vicky Lynn Holman and they have three children, Shelly, Lee, Jr., and Ray. They divorced and later on

June 8th of 1991, Lee married Kathy Lynn Skalbeck, b. Sept 30, 1959 of Sacred Heart, Minnesota. Lee and Kathy divorced. (952) 544-6263



- 1l-2b-1 Shelly Cowan b. Sept. 30, 1977 Married Pete Clifford.
- 1l-2b-1a Madison Marie Clifford b. March 25, 2008
- 1l-2b-2 Lee Paul Cowan Jr., b. Nov. 19, 1979
- 1l-2b-3 David Heissler b. Feb 12, 1980.
- 1l-2b-4 Ray Robert Cowan b. March 1, 1984 Maynard, MN
- 1l-2b-5 Holly Marie Cowan b. Dec. 12, 1993.
- 1l-2c** Wayne Clayton Cowan, b. Nov 4, 1957, Married to LuAnn Nicole Dupont b. Dec. 29, 1960. They were married on June 27th of 1981 in Brooklyn Park, MN. Wayne works in the eMarketing division at Prudential. (763) 898-3389
- 1l-2c-1 Angela Nicole Cowan, b. July 13, 1983. Note 2013: Angela works for TCF Bank and is married to Jeremiah John Carlson (Oct. 9, 1976) and works for ACME Tools. They have a daughter Grace Ann Carlson (Aug. 3, 2012)
- 1l-2c-1a Grace Ann Carlson, b. Aug. 3, 2012
- 1l-2c-2 Ashley Renee Cowan, b. July 25, 1985. Note 2013: Ashley works for SJE Rhombus and is married to Shannon Lamar Patterson (Aug. 4, 1983) and works for Wells Fargo Bank
- 1l-3** **Mary Ann Cowan Jordan**, b. September 9th, 1932 at Minneapolis. Baptized Sept. 4, 1938. Mary Ann married Milton Wells in 1951 and they have one daughter Shirley. Mary Ann and Milton divorced. Mary Ann later met Ronald Jordan while they were both working at Ace Hardware Stores central offices and in 1955 they were married at Hope Lutheran Church. Mary Ann and Ronny have seven children. Ron was born on November 17, 1929. Mary Ann and Ronny bought a new house in Blaine and Ronny became a police officer for the City of Blaine. On November 20, 1968, Ronny died of a sudden heart attack. He was 39 and little Stacie was just 15 months old at the time that her dad died. Ronald is buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery in North Minneapolis.
- 1l-3a** **Shirley Ann Jordan** b. May 14, 1952. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Married to Tom Linn b. Dec. 2nd, 1952.
- 1l-3a-1** **Andrew Thomas Linn**, b. Dec. 10, 1977. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3a-2** **Ann Marie Linn**, b. Oct. 17, 1979. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. I am her Godfather.
- 1l-3b** **Susan Marie Jordan**, b. Jan 20, 1956. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3c** **Sharon Diane Jordan**, b. April 13, 1957. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3d** **Sandra Kay Jordan Gunderson**, b. June 7, 1959. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Married to Peter (Pete) Edmund Gunderson, b. May 26, 1962. They were married on June 8th, 1985.
- 1l-3d-1** **Keegan Peter Gunderson**, b. Feb. 3, 1991
- 1l-3d-2** **Trynn Gunderson**, b. April 9, 1998
- 1l-3e** **Sally Lynn Jordan**, b. Nov. 27, 1961. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Married to Kevin Farrington on October 12, 1991.
- 1l-3e-1** **Kyle Michael Farrington**, b. Aug. 31, 1992. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1l-3e-2**                    **Colin Michael Farrington**, b. Jan. \_\_\_\_1995. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3f**                    **Steven Ronald Jordan**, b. March 25, 1962. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3f-1**                    **Sarah Marie Jordan** b. June 14, 1989. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3f-2**                    **Sherri \_\_\_\_ Jordan** b. July 24, 1992. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3f-3**                    **Paul Steven Jordan**, b. March 24, 1994. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3g**                    **Scott Timothy Jordan**, b. Nov. 30, 1963. Bapt. \_\_\_\_.
- 1l-3h**                    **Stacie Rene Jordan**, b. August 11, 1967. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Married to Joe Mutzberg in July, 1991.
- 1l-4**                    **Wayne Owen Cowan** b. Aug 24, 1934 d. Oct. 13, 1939. Bapt. Sept. 4, 1938. At 5 years, Wayne died of Leukemia.
- 1l-5**                    **Betty Diane Cowan** b. Jan. 10, 1937 d. June 14, 1938. Bapt. June 10, 1938. Betty died of Pneumonia at seventeen months four days after she was baptized.
- 1l-6**                    **William (Bill) Owen Cowan** b. Dec. 30, 1938 at Minneapolis, MN. Baptized June 9, 1940 by Rev. Ole Akre. Confirmed at Hope Lutheran Church. Bill attended Patrick Henry High School and later attended Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis for one year. He then graduated from Augsburg College in Minneapolis and the Lutheran Seminary at Rock Island, Illinois. Over the years has served churches at Proctor and Ortonville, Minnesota and at Grand Island, Nebraska and has worked for Lutheran Social Services of Nebraska and of Minnesota. He is currently manager of medical benefits for psychological services for United Health Care Systems of Minnetonka. Bill and Beverly have two children and live at Cokato, Minnesota. Bill has officiated at several family marriages and funerals.
- 1l-6a**                    **Brian William Cowan**, b. Nov. 15, 1969 at Duluth. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Graduated 1982 from Reed College, Portland, Oregon in history. Brian has a 5-year Ph.D. scholarship to Princeton University and will be teaching history at college level. Married in Portland, Oregon on June 21, 1993 to Karen Monique Chaussabel of Ardeche, France. Reception was held at Brian's parent's home on Sept. 4th, 1993.
- 1l-6b**                    **Britt Rachelle Cowan**, b. July 22, 1971 at Duluth. Bapt. \_\_\_\_\_. Graduated 1993 from Reed College, Portland, Oregon in psychology. Britt married Ari Galen in May of 1996 at the beautiful Como Park Conservatory.
- 1l-6b-1**                    **Noah \_\_\_\_ Galen** b. Sept. \_\_\_\_, 1999
- 1l-7**                    **Lawrence Richard Cowan** b. May 11, 1940 at the Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis, MN. Larry was baptized at home June 9th, 1940 together with his brother William by their great-uncle, the Rev. Ole Akre of Decorah, Iowa. Married to Nancy Ellen Dornfeld, born Dec. 16, 1943 and baptized July 19th, 1944. They were married on April 19th, 1966. Nancy's parents are Dean Richard Dornfeld and Marguerite Nordstad. Dean's parents are Robert



Charles Dornfeld and Ida Lena Knorr. Margarite's parents are Fred and Violet Nordstad. Larry and Nancy have two children who are very much loved. Address is 3752 Grovner Road No., Oakdale, MN 55128

**11-7a Jennifer Lynn Cowan** b. May 4, 1970 at St. Paul, MN. Baptized on July 19, 1970 at Trinity Lutheran Church on the East bank of the University of Minnesota campus by Rev. Sheldon Torgerson. Graduated from Concordia Academy in Roseville, MN and attends the University of Minnesota, working her way through. Since the fall of 1992, Jennifer is living together with her friend, Mark Reckner. Mark graduated in humanities and Art history from the University of Minnesota. Mark works in archeology and has participated in two digs in Italy and several in the Midwest. Jennifer and Mark together participated in a Roman era dig near Sterling, Scotland during the summer of 1997.

Jennifer and Mark were married at Minneapolis City Hall on March 20, 1998 and Jennifer received her BA at the University of Minnesota in June of 1998.

**11-7b Jeffrey Lawrence Cowan** b. Oct. 1, 1974 at St. Paul, MN. Baptized Dec. 1, 1974. at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Maplewood, MN. Jeff graduated from Concordia Academy high School in 1993. He plans to graduate from the University of Minnesota in Computer Science. On December 10, 1994, Jeff and LeAnn Karin Gerenz, b. Jan. 16, 1974 were married at Gethsemane Church in Maplewood, MN. LeAnn graduated in Chemistry from the University of Minnesota in June of 1996. Jeff began work as a computer programmer for Zeos Computers in 1995 and later that winter the company was bought out by Micron Technologies of Boise, Idaho. Jeff was offered a package to transfer to Boise and moved there on May 1, 1996. LeAnn and Noah stayed on at St. Paul until June to complete her graduation. They have since built a house at Boise and make their home there. Jeff is a Manufacturing Systems Engineer in charge of the production line technology and loading operating systems onto desktop computers in production.

In October of 1998, Jeff accepted a new job in programming at Born Information Systems of Wayzata, Minnesota and so the family has moved back to St. Paul.

**11-7b-1 Noah Jeffrey Cowan**, b. April 11, 1995 St. Paul, MN. Baptized August 26th, 1995 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Maplewood, MN.

**11-7b-2 Hannah Marie Cowan** b. May 8, 1997, Boise, Idaho. Baptized Sept. 21, 1997 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Maplewood, MN.



## 10. Wallace Owen Cowan (Wally)

Wallace was born Sept. 16th, 1907, twin brother to Walter at Valley City, ND. When the twins were born, Inga was 42 years old and their oldest sister, Mae, was

already 16. Their oldest brother Willie died of pneumonia at age 19 when the twins were just seven years old. The boys and Pearl were quite a bit younger than the others.

Jim and Inga moved a few miles west from Valley City to the town of Enderlin a couple of years after the twins were born and the twins attended school at Enderlin. Photographs of their first grade class show them sitting at their desks in the classrooms; one of Wallace and the other of Walter. There are several photographs of the boys as toddlers and some portraits of them as they were growing up, of them at harvest time, of working and some playing in the fields, also of the old farm machinery and of the old homestead at Enderlin.



In the mid 1920's Jim and Inga moved to Minneapolis and a couple of years later they moved back to North Dakota to farm at Granville. Although there was little money to be made in North Dakota farming at that time, Jim was a farmer and city life wasn't suited to him. By the time they moved up to Granville, most of the kids were married and settling down on

their own or working in Minneapolis and so only Pearl who was only about 14 returned to Granville with them.

There were few jobs in North Dakota farming whereby one could make a living and, even if you had your own farm, families could hardly get by. History tells us, in fact, that about 80% of the young folks during that period left the state for work elsewhere. But most of the young people had little formal education beyond grammar school and they had few skills that could get them a good job in the city. The Cowan kids were among the thousands of young people from North Dakota who trickled into the cities during those years looking for work and to find a place to build a life.

By the spring of 1928, all of Jim and Inga's children except Mae, Lloyd and Margaret were living in Minneapolis. Those living in Minneapolis were Wallace and his brothers Walter, Bud, Ted, and Marty, and sisters Harriet and Pearl. And most of the kids were married: Wallace was married to Gladys; Bud to Audrey; Ted to Myrtle; and Harriet to Earnest (Whitey). Walter and his sister Pearl and his brother Marty weren't yet married. Marty married Frances Zahradka of Minneapolis about a year later on September 10, 1929 at Minneapolis and Walter married Esther Siems a month later on October 6, 1929 also in Minneapolis. Sister Pearl married Chester Clairmont a year after that on August 5, 1930 at Minneapolis. Brother Lloyd was living at Granville and married to Louise Van Horn and sister Mae was living at Little Fork, Minnesota and married to Paul Penfield. Mae, Lloyd, Ted and Harriet had been married for a number of years by then and had growing children. I'm not sure what sister Margaret was doing during those years - - she was probably working odd jobs on and off. Brother Willie had died several years earlier in 1913.

In Minneapolis, Wallace worked at a gas station for a while and had other jobs including dish washing and Chinese food delivery.

During the late 1920's in Minneapolis, Wallace got jobs as a local boxer - He was known as "Kid Wallace" and was known for his purple trunks. Wallace used to try to get his brother Walter to spar with him, but every time he tried, Walter would just break out laughing and Wallace would chase him around the ring. They had a good time but, I guess, Walter wasn't much of a boxer.

Shortly after Wallace's brother Walter was married, Wallace worked together with sister Pearl and Walter and Esther at a Chinese restaurant in downtown Minneapolis. Esther and Pearl waitressed while Wallace and Walter worked in the back and did deliveries. Esther says the cook was an excitable man and wanted his cooking just right. So if the meat delivery wasn't just right or the meat not to his liking, he would holler in Chinese at the deliveryman and chase him around the place with his hatchet! When Wallace and Walter were sent out to do deliveries they had a habit of stopping off to get in a game of pool. And then Pearl would get hollered at, "Where are your brothers!?" When the Chinese manager would get mad he would holler and swear at people in Chinese. But when he hollered at Esther, she would holler back in nonsense Chinese gibberish and it would stop their being mad and they would laugh! One story told is that if Wallace or his brother got in trouble, they would simply blame the other to confuse the owner!



Wallace met a waitress there named Gladys Haiskary and they started going out together. She was Swedish girl. Wallace and Gladys were married shortly thereafter in Minneapolis on \_\_\_\_\_.

Here is a story about a trip up to Granville shortly after they were married of which there are several photographs. Winter was over and it was now late spring of 1929. Wallace and Gladys, together with his brother Walter and his wife Esther, and his sisters Pearl and Harriet, spent some time at their dad's farm at Granville. While there, they took the old Ford out and went to pick chokecherries. Wallace was driving along the road and said, "Let's just go in here," so he turned off the road and crashed through the brush into the fields and woods.

The several photographs of their time together show the gallons of chokecherries they collected and how they had a good laugh and enjoyed themselves that afternoon. Esther was in her early pregnancy with Shirley and they were happy. Just about all of Wallace's brothers and sisters were up at the farm at Granville that spring and many pictures were taken.

The 1940 Minneapolis City Directory shows Wallace and his wife Gladys living at 2100 East 224<sup>th</sup> Street in Minneapolis (near Washington Ave and the Third Ave Bridge) and Wallace was working as a cab driver for Yellow Cab Company. In their years in Minneapolis, Wallace and Gladys had five children:

<u>Children of Wallace</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
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Darlene	Sep. 20, 1932	Apr. 03, 1997
Wallace Richard Gerald	Dec.08, 193?	May 10, 1988
Donald Alvin	May 23, 1933	Oct. 7, 1975
Ronald ____ (Buddy)	May 06, 1936	Jun. __, 1994
Gary John William	May 16, 1947	

[Dates need checking and correction]

The social life for Wallace and Gladys was not unlike that of his brothers in Minneapolis in those years and they spent time in the bars and Wallace liked to play pool. Wallace also liked to gamble. According to my sister Mary Ann, Gladys during that time liked to socialize in bars and because Wallace was devoted to Gladys and busy working he didn't do much about it.

Developing relationships was hard in the family because of what some call a Cowan family trait of not talking openly and the result was sometimes abuse of the children. There are indications that up at the farm in North Dakota Wallace and the other younger children were subject to physical and emotional abuses particularly by the older brothers. Their father Jim worked hard on the farm all of his life until the time that he had a stroke in 1932 and I'm told that Jim left the bringing up of the children to Inga and the disciplining of the younger children to the oldest son Bud. When it was time for Jim to relax, however, it was time to have a drink and a good time. Their mother Inga was hard working farmwoman with strict moral heritage. And so it goes.

In the early years, I am told that Wallace and Gladys' children felt the abuses of their parents as is related in several stories. These stories are fifty years old and the extent of the truth of them is probably impossible to tell. For example, during the early 1940's when Wallace would come home from work, Gladys would tell him that the children have been bad and they need a spanking and so Wallace would beat them all with a belt. I am told he didn't even know what they did that was bad. Darlene was twelve (1944) when she ran away from home to aunt Pearl's house. Wallace and Gladys came for her and took her back home. Darlene confided in her play friend and cousin Mary Ann that her mother told her that all of her relatives hated her. Mary Ann remembers that episode because she remembers that she responded to Darlene that it wasn't true at all.

After that episode, Wallace and Gladys didn't keep in touch much with the rest of the family and, shortly thereafter moved his family to Detroit where Wallace worked at the General Motors auto assembly plant for many years. Wallace and Gladys at first lived in an apartment and the children were in their preteen or teenage years. Wallace worked two jobs for a while - He'd go to one job; then sleep in the car for a while and go to the other.

In the early 1950's, Wallace and Gladys divorced and Gladys went to California and remarried. Darlene was married to Frankie Koshinski and living in California and so was Buddy. About that time Richard left and joined the Marines and seldom contacted his family again. Gladys later divorced the person she was married to and I am told that she took to living in a car and later under a bridge. In her later years, she developed terrible emphysema. In the end she was hospitalized and during a bronchoscopy, developed a collapsed lung. She was in the hospital for about a month before she died on \_\_\_\_, 1958, 29 years after she and Wallace were married. May Gladys rest in peace.

After Wallace and Gladys were divorced, Wallace married Elsie \_\_\_\_\_. His daughter Darlene says that they in fact were married twice.

I spoke with Wallace's son Gary on March 15 of 1996 and he told me that Wallace, now 88 years old was hit by a car a few months ago and broke his arm in two places. He was in the hospital for two weeks and then in a convalescent home for another two weeks.

Wallace has eight grandchildren and many great-grandchildren and at the time of this writing, Wallace is age 89 and is the sole surviving child of Jim and Inga Cowan. Wallace lives in an apartment in Detroit and his son Gary and his grandchildren visit often and care for him. Address is 16885 Lahser Road, #A2, Detroit, MI 48219 Phone (313) 537-0742.

Update summer 2003: Carol Cowan called me and told me that Wallace died at a nursing Home in Detroit on Aug 25, 2003 and was cremated. No memorial service was held. Carol got the information from her daughter who was told by Gary's daughter Tammy. Otherwise she wouldn't have known. Apparently, whatever last arrangements for Wallace were handled by Gary (or not?). After hearing of his death, several relatives in Minneapolis asked about sending flowers but there was nobody to send them to. Wallace's only living son Gary has left no address for where he can be contacted.

So Wallace died and thus ended the saga of the lives of the eleven children of Jim and Inga Cowan. It seems that something sage and poetic should be said here to conclude this saga but nothing comes forth.

#### **1J-1                      Darlene \_\_\_\_ Cowan**

Born Sep. 20, 1932 and died Apr. 03, 1997. Since I began collecting this genealogical record back in 1972, I have learned that our lives are affected by situations over which we seem to have no control; that we carry with us not only how we were brought up but also how our parents and their parents lived and the joys and troubles that they went through. Often times we carry difficult baggage and so we do things to ourselves and to those we love that hurt and that unfortunately control the direction of our lives and send us where we don't wish to go. I am convinced of the truth of the African proverb "*It does take a village to raise a child;*" not only by caring family but also by people who understand the hurts.

I have not known Darlene but relate here the stories I have been told. Darlene and my sister Mary Ann were close buddies when they were little and some of what I write is from her. Some is from her brother Gary, from my mother and from Darlene's friend Tammy Dillon of Clearwater, Florida, to whose children Darlene was like their grandmother. When I consider her life, I am reminded the lyrics of a song by Linda Ronstad:

"Who can I turn to  
When I cry like a rainstorm,  
When I howl like the wind?"

Darlene was born Sept. 20, 1932 in Minneapolis and died April 3, 1997 at the age of 64 at Clearwater, Florida.

Darlene spent her childhood in north Minneapolis where the family lived. She was a pretty girl. The family often visited with Wallace's twin brother Walter and his family and she often played with her cousin Jacqueline (daughter of Walter and Esther later renamed Mary Ann). Mary Ann and Darlene were close and Mary Ann remembers her fondly.



My sister Mary Ann says that it was due to drinking and gambling that the family had difficulty. But some say this kind of thing was simply a continuation of what was characteristic of the family in North Dakota.

Darlene was the oldest of the children and became the family housekeeper and baby sitter. Mary Ann tells a story that one of the younger kid's diapers would be messy and he'd be bawling but Darlene wasn't allowed to change his diapers until she finished cleaning the house. Elsewhere, I've already told the story of when Gladys would tell Wallace upon his arrival home from work that all of the children needed spankings so Wallace would whip them all with his belt even though he didn't know what they had done.

At age twelve (1944), Darlene ran away to live with Wallace's sister Pearl and her family. She didn't want to go home but her mother Gladys took her back and told her that all of the family and relatives hated her so she'd better not try that again. Darlene confided in Mary Ann about what her mother said and Mary Ann told her that it wasn't true.

After that incident, Wallace and the family didn't keep in touch with the relatives as much. Eventually, Wallace took the family to Detroit where he began work in the GM auto factory.

In Michigan, Darlene married Frankie Kochansky. They moved to California and they had one child whom they named Sherryl. Frankie and Darlene divorced many years ago. Darlene then married \_\_\_\_ and they were married about six years when he ran off with her daughter Sherryl who was then age fourteen. Sherryl eventually left him and later married Bob Amell and they have three children. Darlene took back her old name and has gone by the name Cowan since. She sold the house they had lived in and moved to a mobile home at Clearwater, Florida.

Carol Cowan of Romulus, Michigan tells a different story of the separation between Darlene and her daughter Sherryl. She says that Darlene's husband and Sherryl did not run off together but moved out for Sherryl's own well being because Darlene was not a fit mother. They got an apartment in Detroit and Carol was in touch with them for many years. I think the truth is somewhere between these two stories.

Darlene had two close friends at Clearwater: Susie Henson and Tammy Dillon. But they would sometimes get mad at one another and fight. They have even stopped talking to each other for lengthy times, but Tammy said it was never a matter of not loving her. I talked to Tammy Dillon in July of 1997 after Darlene died and she said Darlene had a good heart, loved children and took in foster children. She also says that Darlene was like a mother to her and she loved her. Tammy's children considered Darlene their grandmother and called her grandma. Darlene bought the children gifts for holidays and birthdays and Tammy always saw to it that Darlene had a Christmas tree. These children were perhaps the only brightness in her life.

In the early 1990's, Darlene was in a serious auto accident and has been disabled since. In addition to the injury from the accident, Darlene suffered from lupus, diabetes and heart disease. Darlene's brother Buddy was suffering from alcoholic liver disease but he came down to Florida to help her after the accident. If it weren't for Buddy, said Tammy, Darlene would have had to be placed in a nursing home. He even took care of her personal toilet needs. Buddy died about a year later in June of 1994 of liver disease.

In the spring of 1996, I located Darlene's address and passed it on to my sister Mary Ann. Mary Ann hadn't seen Darlene for many decades but Mary Ann contacted her and later in the year she and Esther (Darlene's aunt, Mary Ann's mother) flew out to Florida to visit her. They took Darlene out a bit including an excursion boat trip on the gulf and bought her some clothes and things. A melancholy story here that typifies her condition is that Darlene had lost a lot of weight and her old slacks fell down as she got onto the boat. Mary Ann had to help her pull them up and then found some pins to hold the slacks up again. This story would be funny if it wasn't so sad. Darlene lived in mobile home park on the gulf coast at Clearwater, Florida for several years and it was there that she died. Her address was 24698 US HWY 19 North, Lot 218, Clearwater, FL 34623. Phone (813) 724 1713.

Darlene's neighbor Gordon \_\_\_\_ said that on Easter Sunday she was really sick and, sadly, Darlene died four days later on Thursday, April 3, 1997 sprawled across her bed with no one to tend to her. Her body was discovered a day and a half later. Darlene's friend Tammy Dillon said the doctor told her it may have been a ruptured abdominal aneurysm but no autopsy was done. Tammy took care of her arrangements and cremation and of disposing of her few possessions and the mobile home that were to go to Darlene's brother Gary. According to Darlene's wishes, Tammy and Susie spread her ashes out over the gulf. Tammy can be contacted at 1034 Bass Blvd., Dunedin, FL 34698 (813) 736 8580 and Susie Henson's phone number is (813) 736 8321.



Did she have happy times and good times? I'm sure she did, but the general span of her life was marked with difficulty and obstacles.

**1J-1a** **Sherryl Kochansky Amell.** B 16 February 1950. Father's surname is Kloeppfer. Married to Bob Amell. Three children. (216) 274-0672. Sherryl has said she is interested in tracing the family history. Lives in Portage, Ohio. More information? The three children must be in their middle and late 20's in the year 2000.

Sherryl died age 56 on 17 September 2006. Her funeral notice states that Sherryl M. Amell, 56, of Shalersville died Sunday, September 17, 2006, at her residence. She was born February 16, 1950, in Detroit, MI to Robert C. and Darlene

J. (Cowan) Kloeppfer. Mrs. Amell has lived in Shalersville since 1977. She is survived by her husband of 30 years Robert, daughter Lisa Marie



Jones of Smithfield, PA, sons Curtis Russell Zansickle of Mantua and Robert Thomas Amell of Kent, 13 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Memorials may be made to the American Liver Foundation.

**1J-1a-1** Lisa Marie Amell Jones. b. \_\_\_\_

**1J-1a-2** Curtis Russell Zansickle. b. \_\_\_\_

**1J-1a-3** Robert Thomas Amell. b. \_\_\_\_

**1J-2**

**Wallace Richard Gerald Cowan (Dickie)**, b. Dec. 8, 193\_\_\_\_. d. May 10, 1988 at age 57. His cousin Mary Ann Cowan says he was called Dickie in his younger years. Dick married Geraldine Grimsby (sp) and they have five children. Geraldine was born in 1933 and died April \_\_, 198(3?) at age 50. Dick was 21 and Geraldine was 20 when Carol was born. Dick joined the Marine in about 1953. He served in the Marines in the Korean Conflict and was wounded three times by machine gun fire and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal. After the war Dick and the family lived at Long Beach, California and later at Los Vegas for a number of years. Since about 1970, Dick had no contact with the family but was said to be living in California. Knowledge of Dick's whereabouts came about only after he died when his son Rick contacted Gary's daughter Tammy in Detroit. He thought to call her because she has the same name as his daughter. More information? Dick's children are:

**1J-2a**

**Linda Cowan** b. \_\_\_\_ Linda was the firstborn and Rick says she was born in the late 1940's when Dickie was still a teenager. Linda died at a young age of tuberculosis. The family was quiet about her and apparently only a few folks actually knew of her. After her death, little was said of her. Linda is probably buried at Long Beach, California.

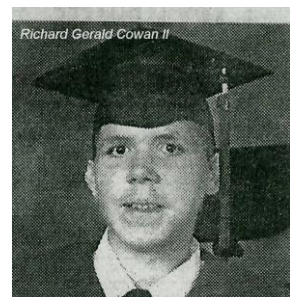
**1J-2b**

**Carol Ann Cowan** b. April, \_\_1954 at Zieger Hospital in Detroit. Carol was 6 months old when the family moved to San Jose, California. In her early teens, Carol moved away with a family she babysat for and left no forwarding address. I have been told that she left to get away from what may have been a sexually abusive situation in her family. Carol Ann was known to be in Ohio some years ago and her brother Rick is searching for her. Rick says he last saw her almost thirty years ago back in about 1969. Gary says Carol's married name is Fry (sp) and that she was in Toledo. I have located a number of persons named Carol Fry or C. Fry in Ohio and these need to be followed up. I found a Carol A. Fry in Mansfield who is deceased. Her husband's name is Lewis Fry and he is retired from Lumberman's Insurance Company and I haven't been able to locate him.

**1J-2c**

**Richard Gerald Cowan** b. April 12, 1959 at San Jose, California. Rick married Terry Eaton, b. June 24, 1961, at Riverside, California on July 4, 1980. Rick and Terry and their three children live at 4775 Palma Drive, Lot 305, Kissimmee, FL 34746-5911 (407) 396-9577.

Terry is a muscular dystrophy carrier and the boys both have the disease. Rick and Tammy don't get out much and, I am told, spend most of their time with their children and caring for the boys full time. More information?



**1J-2c-1**

**Richard Gerald Cowan II "Ricky"** b. August 28, 1979. Riverside, CA. In 1997 Ricky is 18, has muscular dystrophy and is confined to his wheelchair.

Obituary: Ricky, age 25 was called to heaven Sunday, April 3, 2005. He was born in Riverside, Ca on August 28, 1979. He graduated from Poinciana High School in May of 2001. He loved to watch movies, sports and especially wrestling. He dreamed of being a sports announcer. The family will be having a small ceremony to celebrate Richard's life at his home on Sunday, April 10, 2005 at 7PM. His loving family includes Daddy, Mommy, his brother Nicky, his sister, Tammy, brother-in-law Angel; nephews, Angel and Isaiah; nieces, Trindy and Alisha; Grampa; aunt Debbie, Pam and Vicky; uncle Bruce; 13 cousins; Nick and Hector. Grissom Funeral Home, 330 Emmett Street, Kissimmee, FL is in charge of arrangements.

1J-2c-2

**Nicky David Cowan** b. October 16, 1981. In 1997 Nicky is 16, has muscular dystrophy and is confined to his wheelchair, as well.

1J-2c-3

**Tammy Lynn Cowan** b. Sept. 7, 1983. Married to Angel \_\_\_\_\_. Four children.

1J-2c-3a

**Angel** \_\_\_\_\_

1J-2c-3b

**Isaiah** \_\_\_\_\_

1J-2c-3c

**Trindy** \_\_\_\_\_

1J-2c-3d

**Alisha** \_\_\_\_\_

1J-2d

**Vickie Lynn Cowan** b. \_\_\_\_\_, 1960. Vickie was born in California - possibly at San Jose where Rick was born. Rick says that Vickie was last seen in Houston, Texas when she was about age 13 (1973). I am told that she also was the subject of abuse in her family prior to her running away. No further information. Rick would like to find her, also. Update summer 2003: Vickie located her brother Rick and has visited him in Florida and with her Aunt Carol Cowan in Michigan. She has been looking to find any records of her family and has visited the graves of her parents and is looking into records of her sister Carol Ann in Ohio. I visited with her Aunt Carol on the phone and she wrote to me that she was so excited to see Vickie again.

1J-2e

**Mark Lee Cowan** b. 1961 d. Dec 198(3). Mark was the youngest of the children of Dickie and Geraldine. Mark died some years ago at age 22 at Phoenix, Arizona of alcoholism and of acute alcohol poisoning at about the same time that his mother died. He was buried by the State of Arizona. No further information. Before he died Mark fathered a daughter at Long Beach, CA born to Ms \_\_\_\_ Morales in the early 1980's.



1J-2e-1

**Michelle** \_\_\_\_ **Morales** born \_\_\_\_ in the early 1980's at Long Beach, CA. No further record. Gary knows some about her.

**1J-3**            **Ronald Cowan**, (Buddy or Bud) b. May 6, 1936  
d. June, 1994 Married to Joyce Honeycutt.  
Joyce died in March of 1994. Two children.  
More information?



**1J-3a**            **Renee \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. June 2, 1960  
Married Mark Taylor. They have six  
children. 37839 Marsala, Palmdale, CA  
93552 (805) 272 1867.

**1J-3a-1**            **April Taylor**, b. June 16, 1984

**1J-3a-2**            **Joshua Taylor**, b. March 14, 1986

**1J-3a-3**            **Zachery Taylor**, b. Feb. 13, 1988

**1J-3a-4**            **Samantha Taylor**, b. June 20, 1990

**1J-3a-5**            **Rachel Taylor**, b. Sept. 19, 1991

**1J-3a-6**            **Sassadna Taylor**, b. Oct. 11, 1995

**1J-3b**            **Deborah (Debbie) \_\_\_\_ Cowan** b. May 23, 1961. Debbie is married to  
David Sunter and they have two children. 1051 7th Avenue North, St  
Petersburg, FL 33705-1305 (813) 895 1198. (813) 321-3536

**1J-3b-1**            **Autumn Sunter** b. Oct. 8, 1991

**1J-3b-2**            **Faith Sunter** b. July 6, 1995

**1J-4**            **Donald Alvin Cowan**. Born May 23, 1933 and died Nov. 7, 1975. Married to  
Carol Marie Fairbanks, born 1933. Donald died at age 42 of Sarcoidosis. I  
was told that he picked this up from volcanic ash while in the military. Carol  
has kept the Cowan name and has kept in touch over the past years. Mother  
says that Carol is a sweetheart and I've heard comments from several folks  
that their family is real nice. Donald and Carol have one child. Carol lives at  
6045 Metro. Romulus, MI 48174. 313 291 3273.

**1J-4a**            **Lynne Marie Cowan** b. Jan 31, 1957. Married to Jeff Voss but now  
divorced. Two children. 21226 Annapolis, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125.  
(313) 730-0251. Interested in family history.

**1J-4a-1**            **Diana Marie Voss** b. Jan. 11,  
1983

**1J-4a-2**            **Jeffrey Allen Voss** b. Oct. 1,  
1984

**1J-5**            **Gary John William Cowan**, born May 16,  
1947. Married to Nadeen Levere in  
September of 1969 and they divorced  
some years ago. Since 1984, Gary has  
been in a partner in a carpet cleaning  
business in Detroit. Gary and Nadeen  
have three children. Gary lived with his  
father to care for him since his accident during the winter of 1995 - 1996 Gary  
now lives with Debbie \_\_\_\_, his fiancée at 28730 Grand River, Lot 19,  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336. (248) 471-2106. Update: Gary and Debbie were  
married on Nov. 21, 1997. Another update: Gary and Debbie are no longer  
together. More information?



- 1J-5a** **Tammy Dawn Cowan** b. Dec. 2, 1971. Tammy has lived with her boyfriend Brian \_\_\_ for several years and doesn't keep much in touch with her dad. Tammy and Brian have two children. Tammy and Brian live at 2162 Homeplace Street, Dearborn, MI 48124-2435 (313) 724 0548.
- 1J-5a-1** **Elizabeth Dawn Cowan** b. Nov. 24, 1990
- 1J-5a-2** **Samantha Anderson** b. April 17, 1997
- 1J-5b** **Gregory Joseph Cowan** b. April 5, 1976. On July 12, 1997, Gary says he hasn't heard from Greg for about a year.
- 1J-5c** **Marcy Michelle Cowan** b. Jan. 3, 1979 On July 12, 1997, I talked with Gary, her dad and he said that Marcy stopped by the day before to say goodbye as she and her boyfriend were moving to Florida to live near Rick at Kissimmee, FL. (407) 396 9577
- August 2006 - Marcy married Timothy Walls in March of 2005 and they live at 28730 Grand River #6, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 and her phone # is 313.459.1979

## 11. Pearl Agnes Cowan Clairmont

Pearl was born on September 2, 1909 and was the youngest of the children of Jim and Inga. Inga was 44 when Pearl was born. She was born at Enderlin, Liberty Twp., North Dakota at the maternity hospital. The 1910, May 2 census of Liberty Twp lists Pearl, age 9/12ths year and she is named Jennie V. then. Her mother Inger is age 43 and has eleven children and all are alive. The other children listed are William, Oliver (Bud), Loyd[sp], Melborn[sp] (Tip), Jane (Margaret), Hattie, Martin, Walter and Wallace (twins. Her oldest sister, Mae, almost 19 years old, was married the year before her birth and was not on the census. Her

brothers William, Bud, Lloyd and

Tip were the older kids at home; Margaret was age 9 and Harriet age 7; Martin was age 5 and was soon to go to live with Inga's sister Anna at Highlandville.

During her early teens, Pearl lived for a year at Highlandville, Iowa with Aunt Anne and Uncle Peter and her brother Martin. Pearl was also confirmed at Big Canoe Lutheran church at Decorah where Peter and Anne and so many others of the Akre families were members.



Photographs show Pearl as a young girl on the farm at Enderlin and that she was a handsome girl. Some photographs show her with her brothers Walter and Wallace and with sisters Harriet and Margaret sitting on the running board of an automobile and horsing around and laughing.



Pearl Agnes Cowan, b Sept. 9, 1909 married Chester Lou Clairmont of Minneapolis, b. Sept. 12, 1904 in Minneapolis in late 1930 or early 1931. Pearl was age 20 or 21 and Chet was age 26. The following census reports.

1910 US Census Minneapolis		Gender	Age	Birthplace
SELF	<u>Adlor O Clairemont</u>	M	30y	Wisconsin
WIFE	<u>Arvilla Clairemont</u>	F	29y	Minnesota
SON	Chester L. Clairemont	M	5y	Minnesota
DAU	<u>Elizbeth Clairemont</u>	F	11m	Minnesota
	<u>Lawerence J Stellpflue</u>	M	33y	Wisconsin
	<u>Lida M Barnhart</u>	F	15y	Minnesota
SELF	<u>William T Geyden</u>	M	39y	Canada

1920 US Census Ransom County, ND		Gender	Age	Birthplace
SELF	<u>William J Cowan</u>	M	45y	Canada
WIFE	<u>Inga Cowan</u>	F	54y	Iowa
SON	<u>Melbourne J Cowan</u>	M	21y	North Dakota
SON	<u>Wallis Cowan</u>	M	12y	North Dakota
SON	<u>Walter Cowan</u>	M	12y	North Dakota
DAU	Pearl Cowan	F	10y	North Dakota

1920 US Census Minneapolis		Gender	Age	Birthplace
SELF	<u>A O Clairmont</u>	M	41y	Wisconsin
WIFE	<u>Jeneive Clairmont</u>	F	28y	Minnesota
SON	Chester Clairmont	M	14y	Minnesota

1920 US census Minneapolis		Gender	Age	Birthplace
SELF	<u>Peter Protteau</u>	M	52y	Massachusetts
WIFE	<u>Mary Protteau</u>	F	47y	Wisconsin
DAU	<u>Hazel Protteau</u>	F	22y	Wisconsin
SON	<u>Adler Protteau</u>	M	18y	Minnesota
	Chester Clairmont	M	15y	Minnesota

1930 US census Minneapolis		Gender	Age	Birthplace
Head	<u>Peter C Prottau</u>	M	62	Massachusetts

Wife	<u>Mary E Prottau</u>	F	56	Wisconsin
Son	<u>Adlor O Prottau</u>	M	28	Minnesota
Nephew	Chester L Clairmont	M	25	Minnesota

Note that Chester and his father are listed in the 1920 US census but Elizabeth his sister is not and his father has a different wife. It looks also like in that same year Chester, age 15 moved to live with his mother's sister and her family. According to the 1930 census ten years later Chester continued to live with them (probably until his marriage in 1931 to Pearl Cowan).

Chet's father, Adlor O. Clairmont was born May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1879 in Wisconsin to \_\_\_\_\_. At age 24, Adlor married Arvilla Demarias on June 3<sup>rd</sup> of 1902 in Hennipen County of Minnesota. Arvilla, age 21 was born in Minnesota in 1881. On December 12<sup>th</sup>, 1904 a son, Chester Lew Clairmont was born to them in Minneapolis. In about 1909, his sister Elizabeth was born.

The 1910 US census lists Adlor O. Clairmont, age 30 and his wife Arvilla, age 29 together with their two children Chester L., age 5 and Elizabeth, 11 months living in Ward 8 of Minneapolis. Also living at their residence is Lawrence J. Stellpflue, 33 from Wisconsin, Lida M Barnhart, 15 of Minnesota and William T. Geyden, 39 from Canada. Note that apart from the list of residents at the address is specific information about Chester. That specific census information obtained for Chester states that Chester's father was born in Illinois and his mother was born in Minnesota and that is different than the nativity for residents Adlor and Arvilla shown. Are Chester's parents then not Adlor and Arvilla?



Chester is apparently listed twice in the 1920 census at two different Minneapolis households. The first is the household of Adlor O. Clairmont, age 30 nativity Wisconsin and his wife Jeneive Clairmont, age 28 nativity Minnesota. Chester Clairmont is age 14 and nativity Minnesota. In the other 1920 US Census, Chester is age 15 and living with his father's sister Mary E Prottan and her husband Peter in Minneapolis. Ten years later, the 1930 census says he is age 25 and still living with his aunt and uncle. The 1930 census states that Chester's parents were born in Wisconsin.

Minnesota, Death Index, 1908-2002 shows Chester L. Clairmont, born Dec 12, 1903, died in Hennepin County on Nov. 25, 1993 (at age 92).

Pearl and Chet had four children: Edward (Eddie) the oldest, Roy (who likes working on cars); Lois (who was funny and a dickens); and Marlys; the youngest (The mischievous one) (written 1996).

<u>Children</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Edward Ronald	Apr. 02, 1932
Leroy Adler	Sep. 27, 1933
Lois Pearl	Dec. 22, 1937

Marlys June

Mar. 15, 1942

The family lived in south Minneapolis near Chicago and Lake Streets for many years. Pearl worked for many years in the ladies garments department at the Sears Department Store on Lake Street in Minneapolis. She later transferred to the office. Chet was a cab mechanic in Minneapolis for many years.

Cousin Larry Cowan remembers thinking back to childhood in the late forties and early fifties, that it was always fun going over to Pearl and Chet's. The kids were fun and there was always so much to do and they had great toys that we didn't have. I remember the Lincoln Logs and Eddie's electric football game.

In the late 1960's, Pearl was in an auto accident and suffered a whiplash injury that caused her continuous difficult pain. She was in therapy regularly and taking medication but the pain and discomfort was intolerable. One day Chet came home from work to find that she had taken her own life. Much loved by her husband and family, Pearl died September 25, 1969 at age 60. Pearl is buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery, section 26 where many of her family are buried.

A while later, Chet had a friendship with Adeline \_\_\_\_ and they went on many trips and enjoyed retirement together for about 20 years until his death in 1993.

**1K-1 Edward Ronald Clairmont**  
(Eddie or Ed), b. April 2, 1932. Ed married Darlene Shirley Samuelson on June 20, 1953. Ed and Darlene live in San Diego, California. Ed is a high school teacher and has taught underprivileged kids for years.



**1K-1a Edward Ronald Clairmont, Jr.** b. May 3, 1954. Married Francis Grudzinski.

**1K-1a-1 Edward Ronald Clairmont, III.** b. Jan. 27, 1974

**1K-1a-2 Michele Marie Clairmont.** b. Oct. \_\_, 1991

**1K-1b Brian James Clairmont,** b. Nov. 24, 1955. Married Francis Miller.

**1K-1b-1 Alecsander Brian Clairmont.** b. Feb. 7, 1989

**1K-1c Denise Marie Clairmont,** b. Nov. 26, 1961. Married William Lowes on May 6, 1989.

**1K-2 LeRoy Adlor Clairmont** b. Sept. 27, 1933. Married Virginia Bajaci in 1956. In 1993 Roy married Louise Gertler. Roy and Virginia have two sons and one daughter. Roy has worked as an airline mechanic at Los Angeles for many years. He has always liked mechanics and worked on cars and raced them as a kid. Roy and Louise live in a suburb of Los Angeles.

**1K-2a David Leroy Clairmont.** b. Jan. 4, 1957. d. May 31, 1991. Married to Patricia Jean Quirk. Three children. David died of a sudden heart attack at age 34.

**1K-2a-1 David Jason Clairmont.** b. July 3, 1982.

**1K-2a-2 Jessica Lynn Clairmont** b. 1985.

- 1K-2a-3**                    **Justin \_\_\_\_ Clairmont** b. 1988.
- 1K-2b**                    **Robert Alan Clairmont.** b. July 2, 1959. Married Kim Waltman April \_\_, 1989.
- 1K-2b-1**                    **Shawna Waltman** b. 1982. Stepdaughter.
- 1K-2c**                    **Dona Lyn Clairmont.** b. Jan 19, 1963. Married Michael Merges Dec. \_\_, 1990.
- 1K-2c-1**                    **Dartanian James Merges.** b. Mar. 14, 1986.
- 1K-2c-2**                    **Dustin James Merges.** b. Oct. 18, 1987.
- 1K-2c-3**                    **Dakota Michael Merges.** b. Dec. 5, 1988.
- 1K-2c-4**                    **Dillan Robert Merges** b. Dec. 3, 1990. d. Dec. 4, 1990
- 1K-2c-5**                    **David Thomas Merges** b. June 15, 1993.
- 1K-3**                    **Lois Pearl Clairmont** b. Dec. 22, 1937. Married to Robert James Rowbottom on Feb. 2, 1957. Bob and Lois have three children and live in the Minneapolis west suburb. They have a large Lake cottage that Bob built. Bob works in heavy construction and Lois has worked as an office manager in purchasing for Carlson Companies in Plymouth for many years. . 2014 - Bob and Lois have been retired since \_\_\_\_ and live at 2025 Oakview Lane No. Phone (763) 559 2689
- 1K-3a**                    **Deborah Marie Rowbottom,** b. March 21, 1958. Married Richard Wilber Gaylord on Nov. 2, 1991.
- 1K-3a-1**                    **Brittany Lynn Gaylord.** b. Feb. 24, 1984. Stepdaughter. Married Michael Parks and later married Kenneth Hutchinson.
- 1K-3a-1a**                    **Justice Michael Parks**
- 1K-3a-1b**                    **Thomas Chett Tegtmeier**
- 1K-3a-1c**                    **Alyonna Lynn Parks**
- 1K-3a-1d**                    **Kaleb Hutchinson**
- 1K-3b**                    **Dawn Carol Rowbottom.** b. Dec. 18, 1959. Married Brian Edward Ihnken on May 16, 1987. Brian died April 11, 2009.
- 1K-3b-1**                    **Beau James Ihnken.** b. July 12, 1988.
- 1K-3c**                    **Diane Sue Rowbottom.** b. Oct. 28, 1963. Married Steven Ruchti Sept. 28, 1985. Married Jeffrey Allan Lehmberg on April 17, 1993. Two sons born to Diane and Jeffrey.
- 1K-3c-1**                    **Travis Lee Lehmberg** b. Feb. 17, 1992.
- 1K-3c-2**                    **Barrett Ryan Lehmberg** b. Aug. 31, 1995.
- 1K-4**                    **Marlys June Clairmont.** b. March 15, 1942. Marlys married to John Williams on Sept 4, 1971. Marlys works for the airlines as does her husband. They have one child and live in the suburbs out of Los Angeles.
- 1K-4a**                    **Kristina (Kristy) Marie Williams,** b. June 4, 1981.



*Jim and Inga are surrounded now by  
their many descendants to the fifth generation and more.*

*May they be remembered with affection and peace.*

*Glory is to God*

