

Children of Sam and Ada Wagner

After their marriage in 1911, Sam and Ada Wagner moved to Webster Groves, Missouri, where their first son Don was born. Then they moved to St. Charles, Missouri, where Jean, Dick and Lois were born, and about 1918 they moved to Erie, Pa, where Alice and Robert were born. In 1929, the Wagner family moved to Rochester, New York where the Wagner children spent their young adulthood.



Sam and Ada Wagner, living room
310 Castlebar Rd. 4 12 43.

Donald Lou Wagner: October, 1912-April, 1949.

Don worked for Kodak in Rochester. In the 1940's he was exempt from World War II because his work was considered vital to national security. Don worked in the Movie Projector section of Kodak, where he also worked with Alice Wagner's future husband, Gordon Ellsworth, who also worked in that unit. Don was interested in boats. An October 1935 article in Rochester's the "Democrat and Chronicle" shows Don launching a 30 inch model of a ketch rigged sailboat called "Green Dragon" at Wide Waters. Don also enjoyed sailing on Lake Ontario. Don died from cancer on April, 22, 1949.

Don married (Catherine) Kay Semo on June 6, 1936. Kay was born September 26, 1914. After Don's death, Kay married Ed Sanford. They lived on Brockley Road in Rochester. After Ed Sanford's death about 1955 Kay and her two sons moved to California, where Kay died in 2003 and is interred with Don at the Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Rochester, New York.



Don Wagner - 1930s?
Sailing on Lake Ontario ?

Jeanne Wagner December - 1913 - 2000

Jeanne was a homemaker and known for her loving sewing and beautiful quilts. Jeanne married Richford McCaffery February 2, 1934. Rich was born August 11, 1914. He was Circulation Manager for the Rochester newspaper *The Democrat and Chronicle*. He died in 2002.



Jean Wagner McCaffery - 1940s?

Richard Charles Wagner July, 1915 - June, 2000.

Dick, as he was known to the family, graduated from Monroe High School and as a young man made scale models of airplanes. Dick had a life long interest in aviation. He worked as a private pilot and as a commercial and corporate pilot. At one time he flew for the Mercury Company. He was also a designated pilot examiner.

Dick married Margaret Peg Mahoney on August 24, 1940. Peg was born in 1918 and died in 1999.



Dick Wagner c. 1945

Lois Josephine Wagner Nov,1916 - Sept, 1986

Lois attended Hillside Grade School and Monroe High. Then then worked for Kodak. Lois was a good artist and enjoyed doing water color and oil paintings. She also also sewed and collected dolls. In her youth she enjoyed s ice skating at Cobb's Hill and sailing on Lake Ontario with her brother Don. Lois died from cancer at her Florida home in 1986.

Lois met Walter Kennedy at Kodak, where they both worked. They married in 1937 and divorced about 1944. Walter was born in Rochester but was raised in Brooklyn New York where he graduated from Tilden High (under the name of Walter Meeker) and then returned to Rochester. Walter had many interesting jobs. In the 1950's he was an Inspector for the NY State Dept of Agriculture and had his own TV show demonstrating agricultural products. He served with the Rochester Coast Guard Auxiliary in the 1950's. He achieved the rank of Major with the US Army Reserves. He also did army intelligence work. After his retirement as an expediter with the Xerox Company he made numerous trips to Hawaii. He died from cancer in 1988.



6-24-45 - Lois Wagner Kennedy



Capt. Walter E. Kennedy - Fort Drum, NY - 1970's?

Alice Louise Wagner - 1919-1996

Alice was a gifted pianist and organist. She received her training at the University of Rochester, Eastman School of Music. She participated in many church music workshops at the University of Michigan, and had a wide background in church and coral music. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists and the Choristers Guild. She played for many churches in the Detroit area and at the time of her death was organist for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Ferndale, Michigan. She is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, Birmingham, Michigan.

Alice married Gordon Ellsworth. They met in the 1940's while working at Kodak in Rochester, NY. Gordon in 1948 graduated from the University of Rochester with a degree in audio electrical engineering, one of the first degrees in that field. After their marriage, Alice and Gordon moved to the Detroit, Michigan area where Gordon worked for General Motors .He was a Vice President of GM Photographic. At various times Gordon managed four different plants with a title of GM Photographic Manager. At his retirement, Gordon was manager of a photographic printing plant and a special technical group. Gordon is deceased.



Alice Wagner Ellsworth - c. 1950?

Robert Leland Wagner - May, 1920 - Dec, 2012

Robert, known as Bob to the family, was born in Erie, Pa. He graduated from Monroe High School in Rochester NY and then graduated from Cornell University in 1942 with a major in Agricultural Economics and Poultry Husbandry. Bob was commissioned from the Cornell ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Core) and saw active service in World War II. Bob was stationed in England for 18 months. Then his squadron was sent to Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge. After 72 hours traveling from England they arrived in Belgium. Bob was the only one in the Squadron who could speak French and he sought food and supplies from a local monastery. After he returned from the war Bob worked for his father Sam Wagner in the Rochester District Office of the Master Electric Company. In the 1980's Bob and his family moved to Florida where Bob taught science in Florida schools.

About 1943, Bob married Jean Evelyn Gillis. They met at Cornell. Bob says they met at Willard Straight Hall, and Bob looked up and saw this very attractive co-ed. Bob asked her out to go dancing—

and she said yes. Jean received her degree in 1944 from Cornell with a major in rural sociology and psychology. Jean also taught in the school system in Florida. After retiring from teaching, Bob and Jean moved to Dowling Park, Florida. They are interred in the Dowling Park Cemetery.



Robert Wagner & Jean Gillis Wagner - c. 1943?



Bob and Jean Wagner, 2000

Much more about the Wagner Family is available on the webpage “The Wagner, Bliley, and Dowd Families of Erie, Pennsylvania,” found on Charles Bliley's website: www.Bliley.net

Norma Jean Venable
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