



# Harwood Notes

26



Season's Greetings

MCMLXXXVI  
(1986)

'Tis coming up that time of year again - seems like such a short time ago that we were sending out Christmas cards and hanging up the decorations for 1985!!

We are in reasonably good health for 66 - and keeping happy and well. Have had a good year - stayed mostly around home, except for September.

September 15th, we closed up the mobile home and headed East - to Iowa. We arrived in Eldora on the 19th, after a fairly slow trip - I didn't want either of us to get too tired on the trip. My older sister, Florence (Mrs. J.P.HARDING) from Coralville, Iowa was there already, and of course, Helen (Mrs. Del DREW) only lives about 15 miles away at Ackley. On Monday, my brother, John, and his wife of a year arrived from their home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. When Helen & Del came down that evening it became the first time since 1940 that all four of us children had been together. Actually, I had thought it had been Christmas, 1939 - but I was overruled.

Mother's 91st birthday was on Saturday, the 27th, and Helen had us all up to Ackley for dinner. During the week, we had eaten out about once a day at various places - including the Senior Citizen's Center one day. The occasion was in honor of all those persons in Hardin County ninety years of age or older. The oldest one present was 98, and there is one lady who wasn't present who had celebrated her 100th birthday not long before.

Sunday was John and Bernie's first anniversary - they were married in the church there last year. About 1940, John & Mrs. DeCOOK - the organist - had surprised Mother one Sunday by John singing a solo - The Old Rugged Cross for her. The 28th, he sang How Great Thou Art. This time she knew in advance.

Sunday afternoon, John and Bernie (Johnny & Johnnie - maiden name, JOHNSON) left for Des Moines to visit her children before returning to Albuquerque on Monday. Monday morning, Kathie & I started back home; and in the afternoon, Florence went back to Coralville (Iowa City).

Kathy & I were a little leery of snow in the mountains of Western Wyoming and Utah, since it was raining while we were crossing Wyoming, so we kept driving later than usual to get south of Salt Lake City on Tuesday. Finally stopped at Nephi. (It was at Nephi on 16 September in 1978 that we woke up with over 4 inches of snow on the car.) We did not drive so late from then on, and got home on the 2nd of October.

That was the day that Elizabeth Jean HARWOOD was born (in Denver?), making my sister Helen a great-grandmother!!! Helen's daughter Meta Elizabeth (Beth), had a daughter Denise whomarried a HARWOOD (I do not know his first name) and is the mother of Elizabeth Jean. I haven't seen Denise since 1978, and it doesn't seem right for her to be a mother yet - or for Beth to be a grandmother. It was only a few years ago that I tossed a little ball of clothes into the air at Syracuse, New York (1948).

When we got back home and went to the Post Office to pick up the mail that had been held for us, it was a whole arm-load. One was a note from Connie DOBERT, 1220 Ave. F, Ft. Madison, Iowa 52627:

"...I am looking for information on a Mary MASSIE who married my gr-gr-grandfather James BROWN. They lived in St. Louis and had two daughters - Mary and Sarah.

"Mary MASSIE was supposedly from Cheshire, England and had been married to a YARWOOD and had a grown family before marrying Mr. BROWN in about 1835. We understand that Mary Could not write and lost track of her family in Genland. She died about 1854 in St. Louis.

"If you have any information about Mary (MASSIE) YARWOOD and/or her descendants, I would appreciate hearing from you. Or perhaps you could suggest someone else for me to contact.

Connie DOBERT, 1220 Ave. F, Ft. Madison, IA  
52627

I told her that I was unable to help - do any of you know anything about Mary MASSIE and her ancestors and descendants?? Or is there some place to check further. About the only place I think of at present is the passenger lists - which she may already have checked. (I need to do so for my great grandfather and his father-in-law, William C. LEE).

Don SILVA - a non-YARWOOD correspondent - mentioned in a note that when he grew up in Sacramento, his neighbor was Paul YARWOOD. Do any of you know Paul?

A letter from Mrs. Edna (Yarwood) (Brown) KAPPLER mentioned that she is now 93 and that "some parts of me don't function well" so she had a hard time reading the last NOTES. "One eye is totally blind and the other is very weak". Sounds like my Mother. She likes to read very much, but now has to use a strong reading glass, and doesn't read as fast as she used to. She and my two sisters purchase different books and then trade them around until all three have read them. While I was home, I read seven of the Louis L'AMOUR books (Sackett series) that Florence had just brought to Mother. They read pretty fast, or I couldn't have done it.

Edna mentioned that William YARWOOD - her nephew who lived in Beltsville, Maryland died of a heart attack on March 22nd. He was in a hospital and due for a bypass operation on Monday, but died 11:45 PM on Saturday. His middle initial was also W. I do not know what it stood for. He used to drive from Beltsville to Moorestown, New Jersey to visit her.

Edna also said she had written a 14-page (longhand) family history about her family. She said it didn't have much about the YARWOOD's as her father never talked much about his family - sounds a lot like my father who died when I was 15. I rather expect that I have included much of her story in the notes from time to time. Atleast about YARWOOD's.

My uncle Ray Leonard YARWOOD died 8 August 1986 at Austin, Minnesota.

Ray Leonard YARWOOD, b 12 March 1905, son of William Leonard and Mary Lucinda (McCulloch) YARWOOD, married 11 November 1926, Bertha ORTH; died 8 August 1986 at Austin, Minnesota.  
Ray was born at Calmar twp., Winneshiek County, Iowa. As a young boy he had gone to Chico, California with his family. They did not stay there very long, and soon returned to Decorah, Iowa. Later they lived at Battle Lake, Minnesota and finally moved to a farm between Austin and Lansing, Minnesota.  
Ray's parents had the farm for a few years, then Ray and Bertha farmed it vor over forty years - first as tenants, then as the owners. Finally they sold the farm and moved into Austin. They have one daughter, Rosemary.

We had a nice Christmas card from Ray and Bertha last Christmas. They had hoped to see us at my Mother's 90th birthday, but I couldn't make it. Hospitalized about two weeks earlier, and wasn't up to the trip.

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In her Christmas letter last year, Louise ROLFS, Dorothy EMMONS' daughter had at the top: "To the YARWOODS 'Naqwagron atooklakut Christ-anuia ni elipni esumok ooplook iluknan ookwu mi.", and below translated "Eskimo translation - 'May the love we share at Christ's birthday be yours every part of the year.'"

She mentioned that she and Dorothy had made a trip to Alaska and the Canadian Rockies in July - had a very pleasant trip - nice weather and all. Dorothy later took a trip to Europe.

Dorothy had been to visit her in January & February also, and they had visited Arizona - including Casa Grande on the way back.

Louise also mentioned 'congratulations to nephew Scott on his engagement to Carolyn.'

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In his note with card last year, John mentioned that he & Bernie were to visit her daughter, Donna, in Austin, Texas (her husband is being transferred to Louisiana and they may be there this year for Christmas) and that her other daughter, Mary, was to be there also. Then on the 24th they were to fly to Virginia Beach to visit his son, Robert, where Barbara and family were to be also.

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Barbara & Gene GAMBLE have now moved to Fairfax Station, Virginia, however Robert and his family have been transferred to Okinawa, so they are farther apart than ever.

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Paul & Betty SEAL mentioned last year that their Portable X-ray business had grown from one van to three with complete dark rooms with automatic processors working off generators. Then they have a nice passenger van for EKG and courier service. Their daughter Linda is teaching in the Business Dept. at Pacific Union College in Angwin, Cal. Their son Richard works with them and was to be married last December 29th to their EKG Technologist, Susan WASHBURN. Susan has a son, now 10, Rick whom they all adore.

Betty included a clipping that had been sent to them: (Betty (Y) Seal.

"Can you believe that Christmas is just six weeks away?

I know, it seems like a long time, but not when you celebrate Christmas the way I do. I'm one of those people who plans a back-to-basics Christmas where gifts are made by love, baking is done from scratch and tradition lives in my heart.

Do you know I even make out a checklist and a timetable every year? Organization is the only way you come out even.

Here's the one for this year which I've just set down.

XX Five Weeks Before Christmas: Start knitting three sweaters for children, alternate working on quilt for Mother and needlepointing bookmarks for stocking-stuffers. Work on hand-carved Nativity Scene, and take family picture for Christmas Card.

XX Four Weeks Before Christmas: Gather walnuts for fruitcakes.

Bake and freeze 15 or 20 of them as gifts for special friends.

Start making felt stockings for children in neighborhood with their names in sequins.

XX Three Weeks Before Christmas: Gather children around hearth (or videogame) and ask for input on the Christmas newsletter, writing

down anything that can be reported on a religious holiday. Make name tags for gifts, using dried material gathered and saved from last summer. With dried materials that are left, make scented pot-pourri to tie on top of gifts. Start collecting old milk cartons to use for candlemaking. Start making Christmas tree ornaments by crocheting stars and starching them.

XX Two Weeks before Christmas: Buy rolls of inexpensive paper and design and make own wrapping paper. Make large Della Robbia wreath for fireplace by preserving and waxing own fruit. Duplicate Christmas carols for group you are assembling to tour neighborhood. Decorate extra rolls of toilet tissue in bathroom as a snowman by painting black eyes, adding a black belt and top hat, and adding a plaid scarf out of sewing scraps.

XX One Week before Christmas: Bring in tree, string up popcorn and cranberries and decorate with hand-made ribbons. Make five gallons of Wassail punch and refrigerate for drop-ins. Phone all good friends out of town and wish them a Merry Christmas. Make little corsages out of home-grown poinsettias and give them to teachers and hair-dresser. Make Christmas placemats for the family for Christmas morning using gingham and green felt Christmas trees.

The secret is organization! Let's see, where did I put that list? It was here just a minute ago, I hope I don't lose it like I did last year when someone wrapped their gum in it.....or the year before when I threw it out with a nose tissue....or the year before that when the dog did a number on it, or the year before that....."

+++++THANKS, BETTY+++++  
Caroline (Y) HOVDEN wrote last year that Gerald had been in the Hospital for a month and had two surgeries (didn't mention reason) and that they weren't able to get to Mother's birthday. Says she remembers her from 'years ago'. Must have been over 50 - I don't think Mother had been up there since my Father died in 1935.

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Florence's son, Joe HARDING, mentioned in his Christmas Card last year that: "We had a wonderful time, seeing familiar, long-lost and new relatives!" He was referring to Mother's Birthday and John & Bernie's wedding.

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A letter yesterday from Helen - "Elizabeth HARWOOD, born 3:19 am, Oct 2, 1986 in Manhattan, Kansas (I had thought Denver), 7 lb 14 oz., 20½ inches long. Denise went home that night after supper, but Elizabeth had to stay until Monday - a little pneu onia so they wanted to monitor her and give her antibiotics for 3 days. Home now and doing fine Beth says. She says she has lots of blonde hair."

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Mary Delight CRAIGMILE wrote last January that the summer before, she had gardened about as usual - seemed awfully dry, but things seemed to grow well and the garden produced 'much'. October 12th, 1985 she fell and broke her left hip in 2 places. Her nephew-in-law saw her, picked her up immediately and carried her to the house. His son-in-law is an EMP and ambulance man, so it was there in no time - to the hospital, where her doctor and a bone surgeon were just finishing an operation - so she was soon in surgery. Then on Monday the therapist was in to have her walk. "Oh the torture." Home in 10 days, with 3 around-the-clock helpers(?). Her nephew Charlie is sure she's going to fall, so she's to be fitted with a 'beeper' to call the hospital. (Mother had a fall some time back, and now has one of those Life Line beepers that actuates the phone to call the office. Makes us all feel much more confident.)

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Leona & Manly HAMMER were out to Big River again last winter - they had planned to come again this winter, but since she has had some problems, don't know if they'll make it. In a January letter, Leona said

They were glad to be out here in California - on the Colorado River - instead of back in Minnesota. They had talked to all their children the Sunday before Christmas - including her son Steve from Fairbanks, Alaska.

Leona's brother Charles from San Diego had visited them in December, and her sister Marian & husband planned to get there before they went back. We planned to see them at Big River also - but just at the time we were to go, a man I had worked with for 20 years died and I went to his funeral. Fred BUCKRUCKER always called me 'cousin'. He had a genealogy printed in Germany that traced the family back to Charlemagne, and according to some things I have read, my family in one line goes to Charlemagne also. I'm not sure that the information is correct, but fun to talk about sometimes if you don't take it too seriously.

If they come out this winter, I'll try much harder to see them.

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Dean YARWOOD - professor at U of Missouri, Columbia - wrote that their Christmas Holiday in 1985 started off very well when their son, Keith flew in the 14th to spend a week. Keith then went back to Lynchburg, Virginia. He is producer of the 6 and 11 pm news on WSET, ABC affiliate in the Lynchburg-Roanoke area. Keith had received his MBA at UM-C, May 1985.

Then Douglas came home from Baltimore on Christmas Eve day (1:45 am) Doug is a graduate student at Peabody Conservatory (part of Johns Hopkins) studying the bass with Eugene LEVINSON of the New York Philharmonic.

Cindy, David and their dog Erica arrived from Ft. Worth, Texas on Christmas day. Unfortunately, Kent, Tricia and Teresa were not able to get home for Christmas from Kingsville, Texas. (Costa - Santa Tricia, 1985, 1986)

Dean mentioned that in December he had a meeting at Washington, D.C. and while there went to the Archives to try to find something about the ship our great-grandfather (George W. YARWOOD came over from England on. Since there are no indices for the period from about 1847 to about 1892, he wasn't able to find him in the time he had available.

With Keith in Lynchburg, Douglas in Baltimore, Joe HARDING in Blacksburg, Va. and Barbara GAMBLE in Fairfax Station, Va. - we could have a mini-reunion fairly easily if we went back there. I've never met Keith or Douglas (May have met Dean, but so long ago that I don't recall) and it has been a very long time since seeing Joe and Barbara.

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Margaret (Mrs. Murlin) YARWOOD of Sacramento, Calif. wrote last year that Joyce (her granddaughter, I believe) has finished Law School. With my neices Beth and Barbara, that makes at least three lawyers by the name, or descendants, of YARWOOD. (Lover)

(Unfortunately, I do not really recall just who each of the persons mentioned in Christmas letters is - that is, just what is the relationship to the writers of the letters - sons & daughters, or grandsons & daughters - great-grandsons & daughters - or in-laws of each generation. If I give the wrong relationship, I'd appreciate a correction.)

Margaret also said "little Kristina can march into Grammy's house as big as her brothers and keeps up with Richy in checking all the drawers and kitchen cabinets - she's a climber too, which upsets her Mommy who thinks little girls should only set & look pretty with hands folded. I told her once how my mother fished me from the peak of the roof running up and down long before I was a year old so I feel she just comes by such behavior naturally." (None of my sisters and cousins would do that would they???)

They have learned that grandson(?) Richard has a genetic disease - Meta Chromatic Leuko-Dystrophy - it requires that the genes be on both sides - that is both parents. Normally results in death at an early age. Richard is doing better than most victims. Margaret had herself checked as both she and Murlin had siblings whose children were at the child-bearing age and should be warned about the possibility. Apparently it was on Murlin's side of the family.

By the way, may I insert a comment here??

Such genetic diseases present a good argument in favor of knowing the family history - genealogy - since it could alert us to the chance of genetically related diseases such as diabetes. A doctor told me that adult-onset diabetes does not belong to such - he said: "Anyone who lives long enough gets it." However, juvenile diabetes (Diabetes Melitis) does appear to be genetically related. This also pertains to at least some types of cancer. Not necessarily the cancer itself, but a tendency towards getting it. For instance, I have read that Scandinavian persons have a tendency towards having skin cancer. Negroes on the other hand seldom have skin cancer - but are likely to have heart disease.

Enough.

Margaret said that her mother's last brother and sister died in 1985. Gene in February just before his 89th birthday Lottie just shy of her 94th, in November. Lottie was buried in Modesto near many family members, including Margaret's great-grandfather TALBOT. Margaret's younger brother died last December 1st - instantly - while talking to some of the church brethren. She said that at 50, he was much beyond what the doctors had expected at one time.

She mentioned that after her uncle died her cousin found some of the old family records in the attic, including proof that her great-grandmother, Nancy Ellen (Clark) TALBOT was a direct descendant of the CLARK of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Another coincidence - another great-grandmother - on her mother's mother's side - had a maiden name of CLARK. She married Humphrey SMITH, and Sarah (the gr-grandmother) was her eldest daughter. Sarah married Charles FOSDICK who was imprisoned at Andersonville in the Civil War - Margaret has names of this family back to 1774.

It doesn't have anything to do with YARWOOD as such, but I have a great curiosity about any family history. Sometimes I find a possible 'relative' - other times an interesting story. Along that line, my great-grandmother Lucy Jennette (one spelling) (Garfield) had a sister, Sarah, whose husband died in a Confederate prison during the Civil War. I have never checked into any more details, but plan to some day. Lucy Jennette married John L. McCULLOCH -it is through his great grandfather that Florence was able to join the Daughters of the American Revolution. So Margaret, if you care to share, I'd like to read more about your family history.

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With her Christmas card last year, Aunt Lucy sent a pretty long letter (later) and the following clipping - Harry had sent some information a while back that was included in the NOTES.

HARRY YARWOOD; WW II Aviator Shot Down, Eluded Capture  
Harry YARWOOD, who eluded capture in Germany and German-occupied France during World War II after his bomber was shot down near Berlin, died Sunday (when) at 74 in Phoenix Baptist Hospital.

Mr. YARWOOD who moved to Phoenix nine years ago, was on a bombing mission in March, 1944 when his Royal Air Force plane was shot down.

Mr. YARWOOD, who was a navigator, and Steve BULLMER, the plane's gunner, walked through Germany and German-occupied France, eluding the Nazis in a seven-month odyssey to Spain, where he was jailed by the neutral country as a soldier of a warring nation.

The trek is documented in the book THEY WALK ALONE.

He is survived by two sons, Capt. John YARWOOD of Williams Air Force Base, and Peter YARWOOD, who lives in England.  
Arrangements for his cremation are pending.

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A sister of Lucy's late husband, Everett SUBRA, who lives at Sun City, Arizona had sent the clipping to her.

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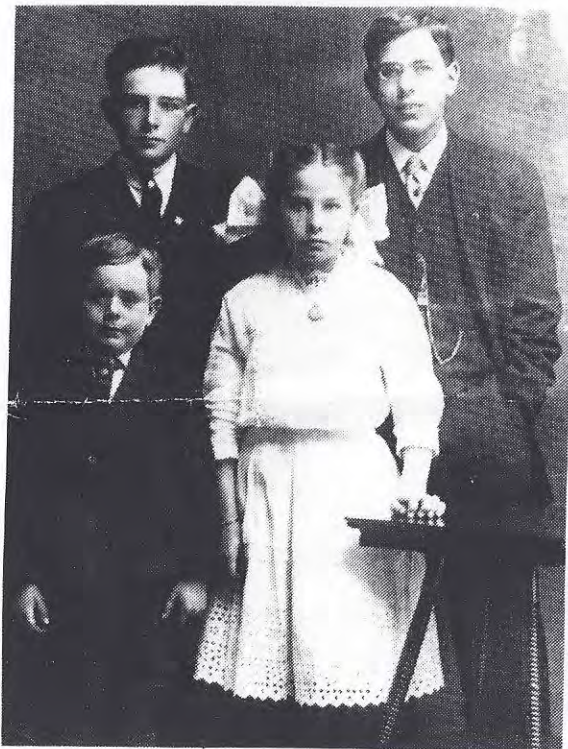


Mary (McCulloch) YARWOOD

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Wedding of Kent & Patricia YARWOOD  
Rear: Dave, Cindy & Keith - center: Dennis,  
Dean & Elaine (parents of Kent); 'Tricia', Kent  
and Doug. front: Teresa 26 Nov. 1933



Ray, Guy, Lucy & Bob YARWOOD  
Now, only Lucy left.  
probably about 1912.



Florence HARDING, Helen DREW, Lorena VILMONT,  
John YARWOOD, Bill YARWOOD 23 Sept. 1936

In her letter, Lucy mentioned quite a bit about her family - She had the flu around the first of November, but at the time she wrote, she was much better except for her arthritis. Hands hurt a great deal, but was trying to get her cards out (12/8/85)

She had spent Thanksgiving with her youngest daughter - Lorraine. Spent about a week there. She was to go to Albert Lea to spend Christmas with Irene and Doris. Doris was feeling pretty good after a year of recuperation from back surgery - 3 discs and vertebrae repaired. She was planning to start substitute teaching after the first of this year - had retired from regular teaching 2 1/2 years before. Lucy was expecting new great-grandchildren this last April and May. Her 45th was July 1985, Glen's middle son had Nathan Paul SUBRA. Lucy said that among her descendants were 2 Benjamin's, 2 Jeremiah's, 2 Nathans, 2 Erics, 2 Andrea's 2 Hannahs, etc. Lorraine's girl and Irene's girl were expecting their 2nd children. Glen's youngest boy was to be married last December 21st. Then had a job in an accounting company in the Twin Cities (probably St. Paul). She wasn't sure whether she'd be able to go or not.

She went to Mother's birthday and John's wedding last year. Went with Roger & Violet, but Roger's wife had to work, so they didn't stay for the wedding. Lucy stayed with Lila who lives at or near Waterloo, and was able to be at the wedding. John mentioned that he appreciated that very much.

LaVonne and her husband, George, took her out to dinner on his 60th birthday. Roger was 61 on September 16th, 1985. Same day John was 63. She mentioned that May looked very good when at Eldora.

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Last fall, both Edna (Brown) KAPPLER and her nephew, William W. YARWOOD of Beltsville, Maryland ( I mentioned earlier that he had died suddenly) told me about the honor that Thomas M YARWOOD of Whittier, California had received. Parts of the news story are:

SPRINGS NAMES TOP CITIZENS (The Daily News, Santa Fe Springs)

A Santa Fe Springs and another that does business in the city were honored as "Citizens of the Year" this week by the Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce/Industrial League.....Tom and Doris YARWOOD received a special community award "due to their many contributions to both the business and residential communities of Santa Fe Springs" said George GROSSMAN, chairman of the chamber committee that selected the winners.....Although the YARWOOD's do not live in Santa Fe Springs, they have been involved in the city through their photography business and membership on city committees.

The couple has been married for eight years and are co-owners of Crest Photography of Whittier.

YARWOOD has been city photographer for 24 years and serves on the Historical, Beautification and Sister City committees and was a member of the All America City Second Award Presentation Committee.....

YARWOOD is a member of the Kiwanis Club, The American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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William W. also sent a copy of a letter from Senator Pete WILSON and of the certificate accompanying the present of a flag which had flown over the Capitol of the United States.

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William of Beltsville (As Edna says to differentiate from William of Media, Pennsylvania) sent a note along - after he received last fall's NOTES - in which he mentioned a great resemblance between Harold H. YARWOOD and Bill's cousin Alfred YARWOOD - who was also a Navy man. Alfred died on Barbados just before World War II.

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My father and Uncle Guy were both in the Army in WW I - but all of Guy's boys, John & I were in the Navy. Also at least one of Aunt Lucy's sons. I'm not sure about the others, but think they went Navy too.  
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Edna (Yarwood) (Brown) KAPPLER sent me some information about her family, including some about her mother's line - just a little, she had more in a handwritten genealogy, but sent me a little. I'll include the information about her YARWOODS, but first want to give a little poem that she wrote. It is to be in the 'House organ' of the Lutheran Home where she stays. *Sheet 23.*

THEN AND NOW

Do you realize what's happening here in full view  
In the good old U.S.A.?  
A group of men are out to destroy  
What our forefathers hoped would stay.

They call themselves Humanists. Their theme is this:  
Put man over God all the way.  
In fact, they declare that there is no God  
It's man that should have all the say.

It's man who produced what we have on this earth,  
Forget about God on a throne.  
It's man who can tell you the right way to live  
And what to teach in your home.

They've been hard at work on the youth of our land  
Our most precious treasures we love.  
You know there's no prayer in our schools anymore  
And no mention of our God above.

They're working on churches and government too  
All text books are changed in our schools  
The discipline's gone and there's more time for play,  
There's an entirely new set of rules.

The results are disasterous. Our children rate last  
In contest with children abroad  
They come out of school unprepared for good jobs  
Their morals we surely can't laud.

It's up to us Christians to let our voice be heard  
To stand up and fight for our rights  
It isn't too late if we do it right now  
Put good men in Congress who'll fight.

Thank God there are strong men who realize the truth  
They work hard with tongue and with pen  
To 'rouse up the sleepers to join in the fight  
To bring law and order again.

Edna (Yarwood) (Brown) KAPPLER

She called her genealogy "LOOKING BACK", and had sent them all to her daughters and neices and nephews. One nephew, William W. YARWOOD, had been going to type up and reproduce it - but on page 2, you'll see that he died suddenly before he got it done. Edna has also written a short article regarding the SHAKERS - her great grandmother took her 2 daughters to the Pleasant Hill Shaker Home near Brooklyn, Kentucky after their father died. They lived there about 10 years - from 1842 to 1852. Edna's idea is to give the younger members of the family an idea of the living in a Shaker community.

From "LOOKING BACK", she sent me the following:

Walter YARWOOD was born in Manchester, England, November 20, 1851. His parents were Joseph YARWOOD and Frances SMITH. They had 15 children, 10 of whom died. The remaining five were:

- Mary Ann YARWOOD, called 'Polly' who married Septimus POTTER. They had one daughter, Ethel, who never married.
- George - married Jane MATTHEWS - no children.
- Walter - married Betty Frances GEERS and had 5 children - below.
- Jane - who married John HUTCHINSON - no children.
- Eugenia Victoria - never married.

Walter YARWOOD came to America in 1871 when 20 years old. First he went to Boston, then to Philadelphia.

Walter took a room at the home of Josephine GEERS. On June 3, 1876 he married her very beautiful daughter, Betty Francis, whom he always called 'Fannie'. He was 22, she was 18. They had 5 children.

George YARWOOD - b. 23 September 1877 - died April 14, 1928  
Joseph YARWOOD - b. 25 September 1881 - left home in 1901 and never returned.

Alfred YARWOOD - b. 30 May 1884 - died May 1933

Edna YARWOOD - b. 23 January 1893

Alice YARWOOD - b. 4 October 1897 - died 1 September 1975.

'Fannie' died September 5 1901 of consumption, age 43 (TB of the lungs.)

Walter died March 1923 of cancer - age 72.

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Edna saw in census records that her father was listed as a blacksmith, but all the time that she knew him, he had a music store and taught music.

She mentioned that Bill YARWOOD of Beltsville, Maryland who died in March was a son of her brother George. George YARWOOD who lives out here in California is another son of George. Edna has to refer to her nephews named Bill by where they live, thus 'Bill of Beltsville' has 2 sons, Bill and Clifford and one daughter, Elizabeth (Yarwood) POWELL.

Bill YARWOOD, of Media, Pennsylvania, is the son of her brother, Alfred. I think that Thomas M. YARWOOD who was mentioned earlier as the proprietor of Crest Photography in Whittier, California is also Alfred's son. Bill of Media has two sons - Bill and Bob. As William Robert, I have both those names. In fact, when very young, I sometimes called myself 'Billy Bob'.

Edna's sister Alice married a man named DRAVING and had 6 children. Family names are funny - in our family, William, George, Walter and Robert are found - Also Alice as one of Guy's daughter's middle name.

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That covers what she gave me about her YARWOOD's.

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Dorothy EMMONS sent some information about her 80th Birthday Celebration - There was a little folder with pictures of Dorothy and her first husband, Richard ROLFS and their three daughters, Louise, Evelyn and Margaret and Richard's nephew, Leslie LATERMAN, who lived with them. Another picture of Dorothy and Ted EMMONS - probably taken at the time of their wedding. It is dated September 30, 1941.

There was also Dorothy's Christmas letter, and a short biography written by Louise ROLFS.

"1906 - 1986 80 years.

A lot happened in that time. I would like to highlight some of the happenings in those 80 years.

Mom's first recollection as far back as she can remember, is an accident that happened when she was 2 years old.

She and her father and mother, Ernest and Jennie (Risdahl) YARWOOD left the driveway of the old YARWOOD farm into the Town Line Road in

their top buggy. They were on their way to second day Christmas service at the Union Prairie Church.

Crossing the plank bridge, the horse, Nance, caught her shoe between two planks, causing her to stumble, and roll off the bridge into the creek.

Nance rolled on Jennie, and pulled Grandma's ligaments in her leg and hip. Mom hung by her feet in the harnessing behind the horse's hind-quarters, and if the horse had kicked, we wouldn't be here today.

Grandpa freed the horse, jumped on her back and rode after Great Uncle George YARWOOD and Great Uncle Peter RISDAHL who were going to Decorah with a lumber wagon loaded with grain to be ground.

They loaded Grandma on the wagon and took her home. Then a doctor was called out.

Mom had received a little red chair for Christmas. She sat down by Grandma and when they were telling all about the accident, Mom said, "And we didn't go to church!"

After graduating from Decorah High School, Mom taught for two years, and then, was married April 29th, 1926 (sixty years ago) to Richard ROLFS. They lived in Glenwood Township where Evelyn and Louise were born, and Richard's eight year old nephew, Leslie LATERMAN came to live with the family.

Then they moved to Calmar Township where Margaret was born, and Evelyn and Louise began school in Calmar No. 1 where Mom and all her brothers and sisters attended school. That is also where Mom had taught.

In 1936 they moved west of Burr Oak to the farm now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Durwin KALLEVANG.

One Saturday night the next year, the family went to Decorah. Do you remember when people went to town on summer Saturday nights?

The kids went to the dime movies. About two thirds of the way thru the projector stopped and it was very quiet. Finally the projector started up. We saw the rest of the movie, met the folks, and headed for home.

We drove into our driveway. Daddy said, "There's a tree across the road." We got out to walk. Then Daddy said "The pigs are out--the machine shed is gone" and he started to run. Then we realized the barn was down.

Some of you can probably remember that tornado that did so much damage in the Burr Oak area.

At daylight our good neighbor, Jimmy WELDON, came over to help Daddy and Leslie drive our cows to Jimmy's barn to be milked by hand.

Somebody notified Zack ERICKSON, the owner of the farm, who came out. Together with other neighbors they pulled the stanchions out of the wreckage. The cows were milked outside that summer until Mr. ERICKSON got the new barn built.

Grandpa YARWOOD died Sept. 25, 1939. Mom was named administrator of his estate. Two weeks later Mr. ERICKSON died. Then in two more weeks, Daddy was killed in a farm accident. With all of this happening, a more faint hearted person might have sold out, but not our MOM! With 16 year old Leslie's help and aided by Uncle Lloyd BAKER, Mom continued farming for three more years until her lease ran out.

I remember the kindness of the neighbors after Daddy's accident. Frank KNOX and his mother were there within minutes. Many others lent support, among them, Louis UNTERBAKKE and Anita and Elmer BUTLER. Later that fall Evelyn and I came home from school and the house was filled with ladies serving food, and most of the neighborhood men were husking corn.

September 30, 1941, Mom married the Burr Oak barber, Ted EMMONS. After renewing her teaching certificate, Mom returned to teaching, and a farm sale was held. A couple of years ago, Mom and I ran into Bill RONAN at the Nordic Fest. He had clerked that sale, and he said he was so impressed that Mom not only knew the name of each cow, but she could

spiel off their age, how many calves each had had, and the facts and figures of each cow's milk production record.

Mom and Ted were great fishermen. One time I went along with them to fish near Bluffton. I was looking for a snake to dissect in Maybelle BROWN's biology class. I found a lively one in the road near the bridge. Mom stepped on its tail, I held the jar in front and it wriggled in. After putting on the lid, Ted looked at it and said, "I think that's a small rattlesnake. It was, and I never dissected it. Miss BROWN kept it in formaldehyde until she retired.

Getting back to the fishing at Bluffton. Well, Evelyn and I debated my telling this story. You know there are all kinds of fish stories and this one is kind of scandalous!

Mom caught a trout. A big trout, a beautiful trout. She wrapped that fish and went over to Ted's Desoto Coupe. She lifted the backseat Ted had built for a place for us kids to ride. She put that fish under the seat.

I said, "Ma, what are you doing?" She said that was one of the best fish she'd ever caught and she was not putting it back.

She was fishing in the river, not a trout stream, and the season didn't open until the next day.

I want you to know I was aghast that my mother would do such a thing!

After teaching 13½ years, on Jan 31st, 1956, Mom became postmaster in Burr Oak. At that time Ted had his barbershop in the front of the bank building and the Post Office was located in the back. When Ted retired in 1968, Mom took over the whole building for the Post Office. Once she was robbed. July, 1975, Mom retired as postmaster. Like most retired people she was busier than ever.

Ted and Mom moved to Decorah in 1979. Ted passed away August 26, 1982.

At present, Mom has her daughters strategically located. With Margaret in Rochester, she has someone close enough to help in an emergency. And believe me, Mom really appreciates the strong support Margaret and Merlyn have given her.

With Evelyn in Florida and Louise in California, Mom is able to get away from the cold Iowa winters.

Mom has seven grandsons. Michael JECHE, Rochester, MN; Mark JECHE, St. Paul, MN; John MARTIN, Hollywood, Florida; Richard MARTIN, Atlantic Beach, Florida; David MARTIN, Raleigh, North Carolina; Scott MARTIN, Boca Raton, Florida and Jeffrey MARTIN, Gainesville, Florida. On May 17, 1986, Scott married Caroline FABRITIUS and now Mom finally has a granddaughter.

(Incidentally, Dorothy's birthday was on August 7, 1906)wry

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In her Christmas letter, Dorothy mentioned Scott's marriage:  
"..May 17 when my grandson, Scott MARTIN, married Caroline FABRITIUS, thus bringing the first "granddaughter" into the family...First Presbyterian Church in Winter Haven, Florida....Scott is the 4th son of my oldest daughter, Evelyn and her husband, Col. Jack MARTIN of Gainesville, Florida...Caroline is working in an office now. Both are graduates of the University of Florida at Gainesville.." She also mentioned her 80th birthday. She and Louise went to Boston for the National League of Postmasters convention. Louise had taught there 1956-1960, and had earned her Master's at Harvard. Dorothy's car was demolished June 13th, a Friday, when she was hit by a driver who did not stop at a stop sign. No injuries, but she has a new Century Buick. She plans to go to Florida in Dec. and later to San Diego to be with Louise.

In a note, she mentioned that my aunt, Lucy (Y) SUBRA and daughter, Doris were there for her 80th birthday. She stopped in at Spring Valley October 21st and had quite a talk with Lucy. "we really went back in the past - I think we went back 70 years!"

Her brother, Donald YARWOOD (Rochester) "had by-pass surgery Jun 17. doing fine but has problem getting insulin adjusted for his diabetes."

Caroline (Yarwood) HOVDEN wrote in November that Gerald had pneumonia. He is 85, and she says he seems to get one thing after. Since Caroline is nurse as well as "chief cook and bottle washer", she is kept busy.

She mentioned that two of her granddaughters were married this last summer. Maynard and Diane's daughter, Connie Jo, married Don KOSHATKA on April 5th. Connie is an RN and Don a farmer and a salesman for farm implements. Donnie and Don live on a farm about 6 miles from Ridgeway, Iowa where Caroline lives.

Wayne & Pat's daughter, Lesa, married Steve LEE on June 7th. Lesa is a barber with her own shop in Ridgeway and Steve works at CamCar in Decorah. They live in Ridgeway and Steve commutes.

(Query - does Steve happen to be a descendant of our ancestor - William C. LEE? Father of Maria Elizabeth YARWOOD and Susan SMITH?)

Caroline also mentioned that Maynard's youngest daughter graduated as an RN last June and is employed at North West Memorial Hospital in Minneapolis. Tracey is employed by a computer company in Minneapolis, so they have two daughters up there. Tracey graduated from Luther College in Decorah in 1984.

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I seem to have run out of information - at least for the time being, and it is already December the 6th - so I'll stop here and get this to the printer so I can send them out.

We wish all of you the very best for Christmas and the New Year.  
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I hope that the pictures on pages 8 & 9 turn out all right. I am a little leery, since the half-tones don't look quite right. The picture of the wedding of Kent & Patricia YARWOOD came three years ago, but I had kept forgetting it - It had been put away, like so many things do.  
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