#### **Dean Family History**

FOREWARD I never met my paternal grandparents, Eugene Dean and Margaret Griffin Dean, they died before my parents were married. However, my mother told me more than once that my father's parents came from Ireland and met on the boat coming over. I always thought it was a lovely story. Other than this story I had little knowledge about the Dean Family. Therefore, currently the tender age of eighty I decided to





collect some information about my Dean grandparents and their immediate offspring.

My mother Minnie Sickel Dean left me her old bible. In the bible she listed my father Henry Dean's parents as Eugene Dean and Margaret Griffin. She also listed that they both came from County Kerry and further identified the specific area they came from. [Verbally I recall her mentioning County Cork] My father also included a brief hand- written family tree of sorts that identified some of his relatives from the City of Holyoke where he grew up. I also inherited a scrapbook that my father's older and only sister Bertha kept. Equally important are photos such as those of my grandparents above and other material I obtained from my cousin Don Dean [Son of Jimmy Dean] in 2009. These initial sources coupled with other records of provenance, and my recollections and assumptions are the basis for this small Dean Family history.

This document is divided into two parts. The first section focuses on Eugene and Margaret's Irish roots followed by raising a family in their new American setting of Holyoke Massachusetts. For background, some historical information about Holyoke is also included. The second section provides and overview of Eugene and Margaret's six children that includes my father Henry W. Dean.

In defense of the dialogue that follows, I have done my best to provide support data [ Articles of provenance] that is provided in an Appendix. Further, regarding the history of Holyoke, I have highlighted footnotes that are tied to bibliographic references.

#### Margaret "Peg" Dean Dahlin -2020

<u>I- IRISH ROOTS</u> County Kerry is in the southwestern corner of Ireland and includes the Dingle peninsula. To many Americans, Irish ballads are key to the area. Bing Crosby's "Christmas in Killarney" is an example. Killarney, by many standards would be considered a village, is currently the capital of Kerry. A favorite on St. Patrick's Day is "The Rose of Tralee." Tralee is also in County Kerry.

One of the largest tourist attractions in Ireland is the Dingle Peninsula located on the western tip of Kerry and this it is where my Dad's parents were born.

Eugene Dean was born near Castlegregory that is on the northern side of the Dingle Peninsula. Castlegregory faces Tralee Bay on the north and mountains to the south and it was named after Gregory Hoare who built a castle there in the mid 16th century. The castle is no longer standing.

Evidence suggests my Dad's mother Margaret Griffin was born on the southern side of the Dingle Peninsula near Lispole. Lispole is a scattered community near the village of Dingle bounded by mountains to the north with cliffs and the Dingle Bay to the south.

Eugene Dean's death and marriage certificates list his parents as Maurice Dean and Mary Kerin. The transcripts from Castlegegory Parish Records show that Maurice <u>Deen</u>\* married Mary Keran/Kerin February 18,1865. The family address is given as Clahaneshiskeen townland.

The County Kerry records show nine boys and one girl born between 1866 and 1882. Supporting documentation shows that six of these boys immigrated to the United States and at least five ended up in Holyoke Massachusetts the city where my father Henry Dean was born in 1906

Trying to firmly link Eugene and Margaret's meeting on the boat from Ireland is compounded by a couple of factors. Records indicate that Eugene and Margaret came to the US before 1892 when Elis

Island was first opened. Consequently, they likely arrived at the Port of New York where, unlike Elis Island, retrieval of ship passenger records is extremely difficult. Further, the 1890 U.S. census records that could have provided supporting clues were almost entirely lost. This was due to a 1921 Washington, DC fire that destroyed about 98% of the Massachusetts records. However, Civil War veteran's records survived.

Finding my grandmother Margaret Griffin's family in Ireland proved to be a little more difficult and I did not pursue this great depth. I do know from my grandmother's death and marriage certified records that her Irish parents were James Griffin and Margaret Bowler. Unfortunately, the archivist at the



Kerry County Library who provided me information about the Dean family did not have Dingle records. He did however, identify that there were three James Griffins in the general vicinity of Lispole.

Independent of this barrier, from my father's hand-written notes and his mother Margaret Griffin Dean's 1933 obituary, Margaret had at least three sisters and five brothers. Records indicate that seven of Margaret's siblings lived in Massachusetts. Whereas, her 1933 obit shows a brother John Griffin still living in Ireland. Her sister Mary Griffin, who never married, is buried in the Dean family cemetery plot. Of further interest, James Dean's 3/28/1899 baptismal record shows his sponsors as Patrick Dean and Kate Bowler. Bowler as stated earlier is Margaret's mother's maiden name. **See Appendix for above** 

<u>II- FAMILY NAME ROOTS</u> The Scots have Clans, the Irish have Septs. \* My grandmother's maiden name, Griffin, appears to be a Sept [Clan] name. My review of an Ireland map designating various Septs or surnames showed the Dingle Peninsula with five names that includes Griffin. Further, my checking of various Irish Sept names did not show Dean.

Dean is a common Irish and English name that means: "He who comes from the valley or the dale." There are many mountains and valleys in the area that Eugene grew up in, and surnames traced to location are a common thread in most languages. More curious is that the Kerry archive record shows the name as Deen. Some evidence supports this spelling because Eugene's younger brother Frank's Elis Island ship passenger record shows him spelled Deen; Frank's niece Mary who came to Holyoke several years later had her name spelled Deen. Further, Eugene siblings an offspring are sometimes shown as Deane. For example, Eugene was the sponsor for his brother Patrick's confirmed church marriage record at St. Jerome's church July 17,1874. Both Eugene and Patrick are shown as Deane. Deane periodically also shows up in Holyoke newspaper articles about my father and his siblings.

\* Note: In a response to my inquiry for interpretation of the names Griffin and Dean, Michael Lynch, Kerry County Library Archivist, provided the following: "From my reading of MacLysaght's 'Irish Families', it would seem that you are entirely correct. The Griffin Clan [Sept is normally used for Irish clans, as opposed to the Scottish Clans] seems to fit the definition of sharing a single common ancestor, while MacLysaght points out several derivations for the Dean/Deane surname [including yours of the old English word for valley], which would seem to preclude a single shared ancestor."

A family tree starting with Maurice Dean and Mary Kerin is in the Appendix. This includes the children of Eugene Dean and Margaret [Griffin] Dean: Bertha 1898, James 1899, Eugene 1901, Emmett 1903, Henry 1905 and George 1907.

<u>III- ON THE BIG BOAT</u> Unlike those early Irish who came to the USA because of the great potato famine of the late 1840's and early 1850's, my Irish grandparents and kin did not come to the United States for mere survival. I can assume they came here like most of the Irish and other European immigrants during the late nineteenth century for two major reasons. First, there were opportunities for work and consequent economic improvement not available in the old country. Second, the new large steam powered ocean liners were fast, generally comfortable and relatively inexpensive compared to the old sailing ships. In fact, it was quite common for working class immigrants to return to the old country to bring back relatives to the US.

I add this note because it may have been a factor in the story about my grandparents' meeting on the boat from Ireland. The 1900 US Census clearly shows Eugene and Margaret living in Holyoke with their two children, Mary B. Born 1898 and James born 1899. However, the same census shows Eugene immigrating to the US in 1889 and Margaret in 1891. These dates appear to dampen the lovely story about my grandparents' meeting on the boat. However, to help keep this family history tale alive I ask that family members consider that Eugene may have gone back to Ireland to bring back his younger brother and equally important is that the census dates are often wrong. A further note is Eugene and Margaret's age difference on census records that show them as two years apart; whereas, their gravestone markers show then seven years apart [Eugene born 1870, Margaret born 1877]

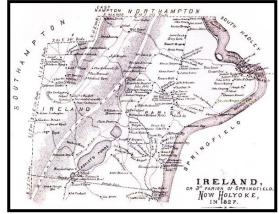


My imagine of Eugene, Margaret and their siblings arriving in the New York harbor is first seeing the "Statue of Liberty". A common procedure for ships entering the New York harbor at the time was to move in at night and anchor close to the 1886 dedicated statue.

I can only imagine my grandparents and their siblings, deck side, before dawn and with the rising sun slowly highlighting our beautiful symbol of hope, welcoming them to their new home.

IV- IRISH PARISH USA The Connecticut River is the largest river in New England flowing more than 400 miles from the Connecticut Lakes in northern New Hampshire to Long Island Sound. During the early days of the republic, it was a major source of transportation and commerce. However, this convenient source of boat transportation was restricted in western Massachusetts where there was a 53-foot drop in the river known as the "Great Falls of the Connecticut." Later when tedious portage was replaced with a canal and locks it became Hadley Falls.

The area adjacent to the falls was rich bottomland particularly desirable for agriculture. In 1660 a Protestant Irishman name Riley acquired land in the area. From Riley's nationality the place took its name, Ireland. In those early years geographic boundaries were ecclesiastical and in 1786 Ireland officially became a parish of West Springfield. An 1827 map of Ireland Parish is shown. By the early 1880's there was a small cotton mill at the falls plus a Ba ptist and Congregational church and yet by 1845, Irish Parish was still a rural community.



This rural setting quickly changed. In 1847 a group of Boston based entrepreneurs with the vision of a large industrial city supplied with power from the falls quietly bought up the real estate titles in the area as well as water rights. The Irish Parish farmers unaware of the grandiose scheme generally were

hoodwinked into selling their land far below its quickly rising value. Planning and construction of this envisioned industrial city began shortly after with hand- dug canals. The pick and shovel labor for this more than four mile effort was primarily from Irish Catholic immigrants who came to the Connecticut River Valley because of the potato famine that ravaged Ireland in 1845.

The Irish faced hostility and discrimination from native-born residents because of their generally low level of education and impoverished living conditions. The entrepreneurs controlling this massive project decided that a more puritan label would add dignity to the envisioned city so in March 1850 the town of Holyoke was created.<sup>5</sup> \* The irony of this name change is that the Irish became the dominant force in the construction of the canals and infrastructures as well as labor for the eventual mills. So dominant were these Irish immigrants that today with the mills all but silenced Holyoke still has a large St. Patrick's Day parade.

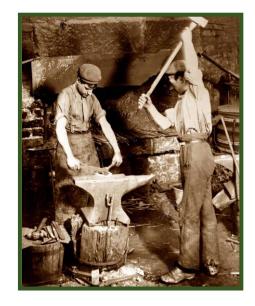
\* Some historians link the name to Elizur Holyoke who died in 1676 and never lived in the designated area. I think this is a better story!

Holyoke has another distinction that ties back to the mid nineteenth century engineers who planned a new city. These engineers who developed an industrial layout of the future city mapped a detailed design of canals, mills, machine shops, warehouses, boarding houses and a railroad terminal. So complete was this effort along with the successful construction that today Holyoke can proudly boast being: "The first planned industrial city in the United States."

A copy of this 1850 plan on Page 14

**V- THE BLACKSMITH** The Irish community that began working at the Holyoke mills quickly were exposed to the new industrial seting. Beginning at 4:00 AM a succession of bells punctuated the workday, telling mill workers when to get up, when to eat and when they returned home for the evening.<sup>6</sup> In 1880 more than 3600 textile workers entered the mills each morning compromising about half of the local work force. Six out of ten workers were women. Ten hours a day, six days a week this work force transformed wool, cotton and silk into finished cloth.<sup>7</sup> Another 1900 worked in the paper mills where more than 60% were also women.<sup>8</sup>

Wages varied greatly based upon skills and gender. The 1880 census providing daily wages in the textile and paper industry for 1876 identifies the following: Boss finisher \$2.50, Female cutter \$0.90, Millwright \$2.25 and Laborer \$1.40.9 I add these statistics to help develop my thought on how a poor nineteenth century Irish immigrant couple could produce six successful children all who finished high school and at least four-graduated college. My



grandfather, Eugene Dean, had to earn a little more money that his some of his neighbors so that his children would not be required to start working after grammar school to help support the family. My speculation is that this was possible because he worked as a blacksmith entailing Millwright pay.

If you take a close look at the attached 1850 map developed by those early engineers that planned the future city of Holyoke, you will see a blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop was not there to make horseshoes it was a critical link in the operation, maintenance and expansion of a mill complex. The blacksmith made tools, repaired equipment and helped in construction that required reliable attachment of steel and other metals. Blacksmithing is an art. It is not simply banging a piece of red hot metal with a hammer. A really good blacksmith would be a major asset to a successful mill. He would help with new equipment and installations and most important during equipment failure he could be called at any time, day or night, to help repair equipment and get the mill running. In today's mill complexes you would have a large maintenance shop staffed with millwrights and machinists. Today metal repairs are made by

welding, not blacksmithing. However, when there is critical equipment failure the plant manager knows which maintenance man to call to make the weld repair

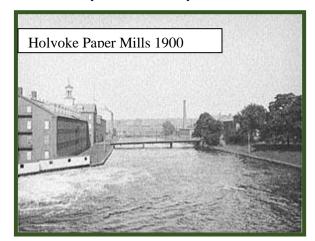
The 1900 and 1910 census show Eugene working at Lyman Mills as a blacksmith. His 1927 obituary shows he was employed as a blacksmith at Charles Keogel and Sons for the past nineteen years. *Note: In 1890 Eugene was employed by the Parson Paper Company. [See Page 13]. The 1920 census shows Eugene employed as a machinist; the 1927 Holyoke St guide shows him as a foreman.* 

<u>VI- PAPER CITY USA</u> By 1880 Holyoke, through paper mill expansion and reputation for fine grade paper products, was beginning to be known as the" Paper City." By 1883 some sources indentified the city as the greatest papermaking center in the world. This reputation was based more on quality than on quantity. Holyoke had several advantages as manufacturers of fine paper products because they had a canal system that provided both a source of power and chemically pure water. Another advantage was that the city was a textile center that supplied rags. Rags were the most important raw material in the production of high-grade paper.<sup>10</sup>

The paper mills also became a focal point for budding labor movement and worker reform legislation. This was because paper processing required the plant to operate 24 hours a day and close only on Sunday. Consequently, a part of the work force worked a 12- hour shift six days a week. They were

known as tour workers. In 1884 some of the tour workers organized to have a shorter workweek so they could be home with their family Saturday evening. Their proposal, that received broad community support, entailed closing the mills from six P.M. Saturday to seven A.M. Monday. Unfortunately, because of manufacturers resistance most of these workers were still working 72-hour shifts at the turn of the century. However, a successful 1901 strike earned the tour workers a 65-hour week and semi-skilled workers won a wage increase gaining support for the local union.

Women and minors also made gains. A1874 law limited the work hours for women and boys under 18 to a sixty-hour week. Further union action limited women to fifty-four hours after the turn of the century and a 1919 state law made 48 hours the legal workweek for women.<sup>13</sup>



I can easily speculate that my grandmother and her sisters worked in the mills before they were married. \* After my grandmother married, Eugene and her had a young Irish girl as a border who in the 1900 census shows her, at 19, working as a weaver in a cotton mill. All these young Irish girls were likely working a sixty-hour week under difficult working conditions. \* The 1896 Holyoke Street Register shows a Miss Margaret Griffin working at the Parsons Paper Company [paper mill].

<u>VII- MR. and MRS. EUGENE DEAN –EARLY YEARS</u> My grandparents, Eugene Dean and Margaret Griffin, were married May 4, 1887 in Holyoke's St. Jerome's Irish Catholic church.\* Eugene's younger brother Michael and Margaret's younger sister Bridget were their attendants.

Their first home was a rented apartment in a multiple dwelling building located at 33 Elm Street where they lived until at least 1910. Eugene's brother Patrick lived in the same building at 35 Elm Street. Some of Eugene's brothers as well at least two of Margaret's sisters lived close by. Their apartment was located in the Irish dominated Fourth Ward about two blocks from St. Jerome's that then was the focal point of the Irish Catholic community. *See Map Page 15* 

The Fourth Ward was no Nob Hill. From what I was able to assess the Dean's in their early years of marriage likely lived in poor overcrowded housing. Several facts support this. Census records show in 1880 that only two cities in the United States had housing problems as acute as Holyoke. Only New York and Hoboken New Jersey had a higher rate of persons to each dwelling. This statistic held until at least 1910 when Holyoke's rate had even increased slightly [11.9 persons per dwelling]. In 1915, Ward

Two, primarily inhabited by French Canadians, still averaged 22.3 persons per dwelling. Of further interest, in 1910, 86 percent of the city's infant mortality occurred in Wards One, Two and Four that civic organizations blamed on improper housing.<sup>14</sup>

Indoor plumbing may not have been a luxury for the Dean's and their neighbors on Elm St. where an outdoor privy could have been part of their daily lives. Two factors support this. An adequate sewerage system and proper connections with private houses and tenements did not begin to be enforced until the 1890's. More revealing is the story my father told me that he and his brothers and some other friends undertook on at least one occasion. The boys went out and tipped over a bunch of neighborhood outhouses and in one case were chased by man pulling his pants up after tumbling out of the door. To add more fun, the boys also did a little advanced planning. A small wooden gate that provided backyard access separated each building. The boys planted dog manure on the gate handle so when the man chasing them grabbed the handle, he had even greater reason to be angry.

Excess money is not something Eugene and his brothers appear to have had much of a problem with. Eugene's youngest brother Frank's 1905 ship manifest [See Appendix] shows his destination to be his

brother James Dean at 33 Elm Street, Holyoke. He was single, age 22 and the manifest showed his total wealth, carried with him, was \$15! To further illustrate that my father was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth he told me another story. His mother would often send he and his brothers out to attend Irish wakes because they always got some good food there.

His mother's life wasn't all silk and lace either. Eugene worked at least sixty hours per week. Margaret had six children in nine years and she was responsible for two women borders in the early years of her marriage.



Holyoke about 1900

At this point I want to take a direct quote from one of the books about Holyoke that I have been obtaining historical data on that far better describes the typical Irish family than I could ever do. [See attached bibliography]

"The Irish were always the most convivial people. Weddings were festive occasions and wakes scarcely less so. With the warm- heartedness common to their race they cared for each other in trouble or made merry at each other's homes. Unless there was no other possible bread- winner the mother did not work in the mills. Hers was the role of homemaker, and husband and children alike bent every effort to keep her in it. In consequence, the Irish family had a unity and dignity which neither poverty nor prosperity could destroy." <sup>16</sup>

Another point to understand that by the time my grandparents were married the Irish began to obtain social respectability in the community. In earlier days the Holyoke Irish were clearly at the bottom of the social ladder. Those early settlers that dug the canals lived in squalor, were illiterate and spoke a heavy brogue that most Yankees found extremely difficult to understand. To illustrate this stereotype image a 19<sup>th</sup> Century cartoon is shown depicting an face of an ape with cation" The usual way the Irish do things. In contrast, Eugene and Margaret's census records show that they could read and write English and likely obtained an elementary education in Ireland. More important, by 1883 Holyoke had its first Irish mayor.<sup>17</sup>

The election of an Irish mayor can be underscored by looking at Eugene and his brothers. The 1900 and 1910 US census shows that



Eugene was a naturalized citizen; whereas, Margaret was not. \* This characteristic was also evident with Eugene's brothers; that is, the men were naturalized and the women were not. This was primarily because women could not vote and only American men who were citizens could vote. This fact had a

major impact on the Holyoke community because the Irish who were now a major voting block undercut the wealthy Yankee businessmen, who had controlled the local government in the past. \*Note: In 1920 the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. The 1920 census shows Margaret as a naturalized citizen and therefore eligible to vote. I'll take easy money betting that Margaret and her daughter Bertha, then 21, voted for the first time together.

VIII- ST. JEROME'S CATHOLIC CHURCH The parish was established in 1854 and a small church was dedicated four years later.

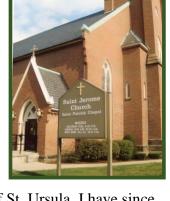
The first priest spoke fluent Gaelic and often delivered sermons and heard confessions in that language. 18 By the time my grandparents came to this country it was the epicenter of the Irish Catholic community with a large beautiful Gothic Architecture church building that still looks the same as it did when my grandparents arrived. They also had two schools that taught boys and girls separately. However, in 1910, a new pastor reorganized his parish school placing boys and girls under the teaching of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

All six Dean children were baptized at St Jerome's with godparents primarily from Eugene and Margaret's family. The lower photo was taken by my brother Bill who visited Holyoke in 2009

My grandparents must have been active and well-known parishioners. To support this, Eugene's obituary shows he was a member of the Holy Name Society and New England Order of Protection. Margaret's obituary shows she was a member of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters. The Foresters and Order of Protection were organizations designed to provide mutual protection for members in sickness, disaster or burial.

These examples, plus the fact that my father's family lived two blocks from the church and school heavily suggests my Dad and his direct kin attended St. Jerome elementary school. Further, my Dad's older brother Gene graduated from St. Jerome's High School.

Because my father, likely attended catholic school and certainly was exposed to standard Catholic Church rituals, I have been curious if his experiences parallel mine.



2009 Photo - Bill Dean

I attended High school in Kansas that was taught by nuns from the Order of St. Ursula. I have since learned that the Ursalines are a religious order originally founded for the education of women and they ran a couple of women's colleges in the US. I loved the school and the nuns and never thought my formal education was anything less than what I would have received in a public school. In contrast, I know people my age that also attended a Catholic school who have the opposite view. They have a very negative view and believe the nuns focused on fear, not love, and since their order was based on poverty, they were not adequately trained to be teachers. So, one of my interests is how did the Sisters of St. Josephs that taught my father compare to the Ursalines?

A second interest revolves around the fact that my Dad and I attended Catholic school and we were married when most nuns wore long habits and females were only allowed on the alter to clean or set up the alter. This was before Vatican II. \* Those were the days when the Mass was in Latin, the priest faced the alter, and having any religious type contact with Protestants or other religious groups was forbidden. One example underscores my personal experience when I attended a dance at Protestant youth organization. When I went to confession, the priest told me that unless I promised to break off with the boy that took me to the dance, he would not grant me absolution. That is, my sins would not be forgiven and therefore I could not take communion. I was thunderstruck! Fortunately, a favorite nun counseled me and generally told me not to worry about it.

To answer these interests, I was fortunate to exchange information with a retired nun, Sister Louise Thomas, from the Order of St. Joseph. Our exchange of writing was in 2009 when she was 83. She taught in the Holyoke schools and also served as a high school principal in another city. Her responses to my questions follow: "Both you and your father were educated before Vatican II. Catholic education in those years was pure Baltimore *Catechism*\*\* vintage. In other words, the Catholic schools, no matter where you attended, stressed a strong foundation in the three R's and a healthy dose of prayer life and moral values.

Looking back on the great women who taught at Jerome's in your father's time, I am certain his

education mirrored yours. --- For the most part our Sisters were well trained to teach. They attended school every summer to improve on their skills, and teaching for them was an all-absorbing occupation.

---- You mentioned, "fear". You know, Peg, the church before Vatican II might not have considered it fear; but they leaned a bit in the direction to enforce the regulations in those days. For instance, you could go straight to hell if you ate meat on Fridays, didn't go to confession regularly, and dared step into a Protestant church, and mortal sin of ALL mortal sins, MARRIED A NON-CATHOLIC!!! Horrors."



\* During the early 1960's Catholic prelates met at the Vatican and instituted major reforms such as changing the mass from Latin to vernacular; for example, the Mass in the US is now in English. Recognition and better working relationships with other religions was also instituted. The photo shows the shuttered Holyoke Catholic High School \*\* The Baltimore Catechism was established in 1885 as the standard text for Catholic religious instruction in The U.S.

**IX- WORLD WAR ONE** On August 4,1914,Germany marched into neutral Belgium as the first step in an attack on France, the Great War had begun! Shortly after, the United States declared itself neutral. Irrespective of this neutrality policy Americans continued to supply British and French with critical materials that severely impacted the German war effort. Consequently, by January 1917 the German production of U-boats [submarines] had increased to a level that they decided to ignore an earlier agreement.by declaring all shipping in the Atlantic war zone would be sunk on site. In March 1917, German U-boats sank three American ships. In reaction, on April 6, 1917 the United States declared war on the Imperial German Government.

Back in Holyoke, young Jimmy Dean who had graduated Holyoke High School and was working at the National Blank Book Company made a critical personal decision; he volunteered for the Navy January 2, 1918. His records show he entered the service May 2,1918 at age 19 years two months.



His records also show he served on two U.S. Navy vessels. The US Denver for 125 days of which 78 days were at sea and the Wurigen for 170 days with 160 days at sea. He was discharged July 3,1920. While he was in the service, Jimmy wrote home a letter to the family and assured them that the submarines were not going to get him. However, in reality, any sailor serving in the Atlantic at that time

knew that they could be attacked, without warning, at any time.

Jimmy's WWI navy experiences were recorded by him in a small bound book with his name embossed on the cover. The book was presented to him September 15, 1920 by his Holyoke employer, The National Blank Book Company, as a testimony for serving in the Great War. This book, in 2009,

was in the hands of Jimmy's son Donald. In this journal, Jimmy wrote: "Any army troop would be happy to be a soldier rather than a sailor if the army troop spent one day on a ship."

At least by 1917, the Dean's had moved to a rented location at 57 Chestnut Street which one can assume provided better living accommodations than at their earlier address. The 1917 Holyoke Directory shows Eugene working as a foreman at Charles Keogel & Sons. Keogel was a young engineer from Germany who started working in the paper mills and patented equipment for slicing paper that significantly improved production output. He started his own company that is still in business today, at the same location, but now makes specialty metal products.

During the war the other Dean boys, who were still in school, could brag to their friends about their older brother's adventures in the Navy. However, patriotic fervor was not just limited to the Dean boys, Margaret was a long- time member of the American Legion Auxiliary thanks to Jimmy's military service.

Bertha also left a small mark regarding her WWI interests. Nestled among pages of selected poetry, Bertha's scrapbook includes two newspaper clippings. One is a heart- wrenching story of American

Marines during the Battle of Belleau Wood. The other, perhaps a latent clue to her future education interest, is a fairly complex article discussing the legal and historical background surrounding the peace treaty between Germany and Denmark.

## X- HOLYOKE HIGH SCHOOL Bertha, Jimmy, Emmett, Henry and George graduated from Holyoke High.

By 1910 there were seven parochial grade schools and Two Catholic High Schools in Holyoke. Fortyeight percent of the city's school children attended



these private institutions. Father Harkins of St. Jerome's a dynamic community leader who served the church for almost fifty year was an outspoken foe of public education. He put the blame for the prevalence of lax sexual morality upon the public schools and had declared that training in the parochial schools would put an end to this evil. <sup>19</sup> Challenging Harkin's directive by sending their children to public schools must have been a difficult decision for Eugene and Margaret. However, supported by historical writings of the time, is clear, the parochial high schools did not have the financial resources to compete with the programs available at Holyoke High School

Independent of my grandparent's decision, I am still puzzled how Gene, the middle child, ended up graduating from St. Jerome's.

Enrollment in Holyoke High had mounted steadily during the early 1880's resulting in cramped quarters that impacted caliber of work. So, in response to public dissatisfaction, in 1885 plans for a new modern building were completed.

The new building was not occupied until 1898 and according to the Holyoke Transcript, Oct 27, 1898 "The attention of the educational world was for two years fixed upon Holyoke."

The spacious new building was equipped with laboratory facilities and designed to accommodate eight hundred pupils. Seven courses of study with almost unlimited opportunity for variation were presented. These included a Latin-scientific and English-scientific course, a business course, an art course and one in manual training. Conferences between pupil and parents and teachers and parents and teachers were put into operation and individual work in place of class work was arranged. Visitors flocked to see the workings of this new model scheme.

The new school for the first time had a gymnasium. Athletic teams- football, basketball, basketball and track – were organized and won envied interscholastic championships. <sup>20</sup>

Jimmy, Eugene and Emmett, likely all played on the School baseball team because they were all outstanding baseball players when they were out of high school. Bertha's scrapbook includes newspaper clippings showing both Henry and George playing baseball for Holyoke High at the same time.

One can assume that all the six Dean kids worked during high school; however, the only record available to me shows Emmett working as an errant boy. Independent if they worked or not it is important to recognize that playing varsity sports requires a lot of commitment; therefore balancing, study, sports and work would have been a challenging thing.

Note: My father told me more than once that all the Dean's helped each other through college. l can only assume that this philosophy was also true during high school

<u>XI – SACRED HEART CHURCH</u> In 1866 Father Harkin's pastor of St. Jerome's church purchased a square of land just between Maple, Franklin, Chestnut and Sergeant Streets. The land approximately one mile south of his own parish was exactly the same size as the beautiful Hamden Park close to St. Jerome's. A new church, Sacred Heart, was eventually built there and in May 1878 the parish was set off from St. Jerome's. \*\* An updated photo of Sacred Heart is shown on Page 21\*\*

It is evident that in later years the Dean family became active members of Sacred Heart rather than St. Jerome's because Eugene's obituary shows he was a member of the Sacred Heart Holy Name Society, Moreover, at least Eugene's, Margaret's and Bertha's funeral services were held there.

Why the Dean's transferred from St. Jerome's to another predominately Irish parish of Sacred Heart is easy to guess. Sometime before 1924, the Deans moved to 57 Franklin Street which was about two blocks walking from his workplace at 306 Race Street.

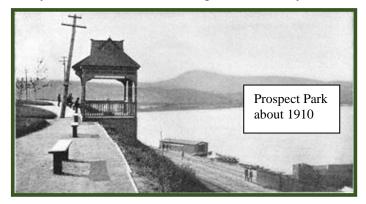
It is not clear if the Dean's owned the property on Franklin St, but it was clearly an improved residential area as opposed to their earlier quarters near St. Jerome's. In 1924 all six children were listed as residing there but Emmett was attending New York University [NYU]. At that time, Henry and George were still attending Holyoke High School. Jimmy was working at the American Tissue Mills and both Bertha and Eugene Jr. were working as clerks in one of the Holyoke Mills. These facts were obtained after a careful review of period Holyoke Directories.



Today if you try to Google Sacred Heart church in the Holyoke area you end up in Springfield! The original church building that the Dean's attended is still there but it is now Our Lady of Guadalupe. The old school was torn down several years ago and now is a parking lot. The Franklin St. area where my father spent a good part of his youth now has a 95% Puerto Rican population. If he were still around he would be carrying a Spanish/English translation dictionary rather than a Gaelic/ English dictionary.

#### XII- J TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL

GAME 
☐ By 1870 baseball emerged as America's "uncontested" national pastime. Holyoke fans were no exception. For years they supported the Shamrocks and then the Sharps that ranked with professional leagues until the cost of high-salaried players put them out of Holyoke reach. However, in response to fans interest a city baseball league and a group of industrial teams, soon sprung up. High school baseball also



generated a great deal of interest. Both venues precipitated large crowds and extensive newspaper coverage in the Holyoke Transcript. The five Dean brothers later became familiar names in the Holyoke baseball community.

While the Dean boys were growing up on Elm Street they were a couple blocks from both the Hampden and Prospect Parks. One can easily imagine the brothers in their free time practicing their skills together. In my case, I can visualize my father Henry, working on his fastball with his younger brother George on the receiving end because they both played together at Holyoke High. Or throwing a curve to his older brother Jimmie since they played City League ball together as adults. Further, if one were attending any ballgame where any of the Dean brothers were playing you would likely see Eugene, Margaret and particularly Bertha in the stands.

Bertha kept a scrapbook that is still in my possession. About 1923, the year my dad was a senior at Holyoke High, she began inserting newspaper articles about her brothers that were primarily about baseball; this practice continued through the summer of 1930. By that time Emmett and George had completed college and no longer lived in the area and my Dad enrolled as a full-time law student at Northeastern University that August. So, one can assume there was little to report about the Dean boys at that time; further, Bertha graduated from law school in 1930

Some baseball related highlights of Bertha's scrapbook follow:

**High School** One has to assume that Jimmy played baseball at Holyoke High because they had an active team while he was there. Gene graduated

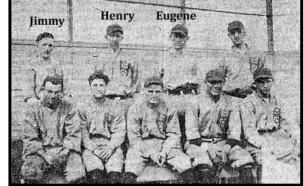
from St. Jerome's and his obituary mentioned he was a well-known baseball player. But since Bertha's scrapbook did not kick in until Jimmy and Gene were out of high school there is no article for either of these brothers. Even Emmett is left out of the limelight, his only tie is in a newspaper article when was about to attend NYU was that he was a former Holyoke High School Star.

Henry and George both show up in several articles where Henry pitched and George generally played third base. In 1923, the year my dad graduated from Holyoke High, the yearbook picture of the Varsity nine shows both Henry and George. However, George dominates Bertha's coverage with articles and some pictures and a 1925 article when George made the Holyoke All Star Team as third baseman.

**Adult Leagues** All five Deans played on the "Paper City League" teams where their foes were highly skilled amateurs or semi-pro. It is evident from the newspaper reporting that 3000 fans at some of these games were not usual. Holyoke also had the "Dusty League" that were industrial sponsored teams\*

An undated newspaper article headlines: "J. Dean Leads Hitters." In the article Jim Dean is shown with a .545 batting average and playing for the City League Parazards. The article further states that the Parazards have a good chance to play the leaders of the "Dusty League" the American Writing paper Team at Springdale Park on Independence Day.

During what appears to be the 1925 season, Jimmy, Eugene and Henry all are all shown in a Holyoke Transcript newspaper picture as members of the Holyoke Canoe Club team. In the 1880's canoeing became a pastime along the Connecticut River. A group of wealthy and influential Protestants purchased property near Smiths Ferry for a canoe club and later added a tennis court and a baseball field. Membership generally excluded Irish, French Canadians and Polish [all Catholics]. <sup>23</sup> Imagine the chagrin from those early



**Emmett** 

members if they were to see three Irish Catholic boys as key members of their precious Canoe Club Team: Henry Dean pitcher, Jimmy Dean center field, and Eugene Dean right field *Holyoke newspaper photo of the Canoe Club Team is shown* 

The article following the picture points out that the Canoe club team has been in existence for ten years and has played some of the fastest amateur and semi-pro teams in Western Massachusetts. In addition, they point out that teams playing there consider it one of the best ballparks in the state.

Another newspaper clipping from Bertha's scrapbook gives me particular joy. In the Monday June 9,1930 issue of the Holyoke Daily Transcript there is a large headline that states: ..." Dean Pitches No-Hit Game in Holyoke League" This is my Dad! The article begins "Henry Dean of the Churchill's turned in a no- hit, no- run game in the City League here this afternoon.---- He sent 14 of the Braves back to the bench by the strikeout route."

\*I have some personal understanding of the industrial baseball teams of that era. My mother-in-law had a close friend, born the same year as Jimmy, who was a well known semi- pro level Syracuse NY pitcher. He was hired by a local shoe manufacturer [Nettleton Shoes] to play on their team. During a game when he was at the plate, he was hit in the head by a wild pitch. In result, he lost full vision in one eye that essentially ended his career as a pitcher. He was out looking for a new job shortly after.

**College Baseball** Emmet played for New York University [NYU], he started out as a pitcher and ended up his four years in right field. George stared as third baseman on the Amherst squad and in 1929, the year he graduated, was team captain.

Bertha's scrapbook includes many newspaper clippings, some with photos, highlighting her two brother's college baseball experiences. Most of these clippings are from the Holyoke newspaper but several are from other newspapers. My favorite clipping for Emmett is the full- page Sunday photogravure section of the February 21, 1926 New York Times. The page is totally devoted to the NYU baseball team with a very large photo of Emmett with the caption "Pitcher Emmett Dean warming up" For George, my choice is the full page banner headline from Saturday May, 11 1929 edition of the Holyoke Transcript that reads: "DEAN SETS UP FIELDING RECORD AT AMHERST."

#### JWHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING J

Eugene's and Margaret's final resting place is in Holyoke's Calvary Cemetery. Five of their children along with two daughter-in-laws and Margaret's sister are also buried there.

Eugene and Margaret would be saddened to understand that services in their beloved Irish-based Sacred Heart Church are now in Spanish, but pleased to hear that St. Jerome's is still flourishing. Eugene would be disheartened that the old mills that he and his brothers worked in are closed and crumbling but happy that the canals that his Irish forbearers built are still intact after more than 150 years. Also, my grandparents would be happy to discover that the Irish impact on Holyoke is still unbroken evidenced by the large yearly St. Patrick's Day parade.

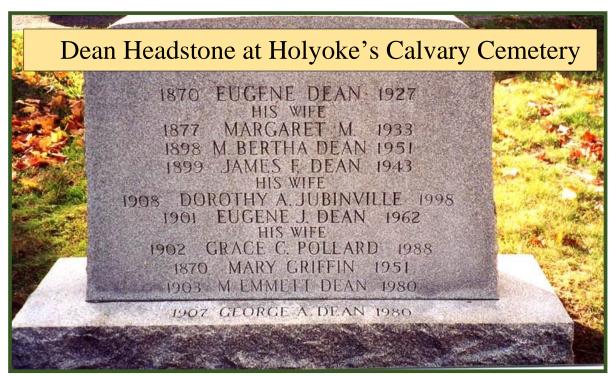


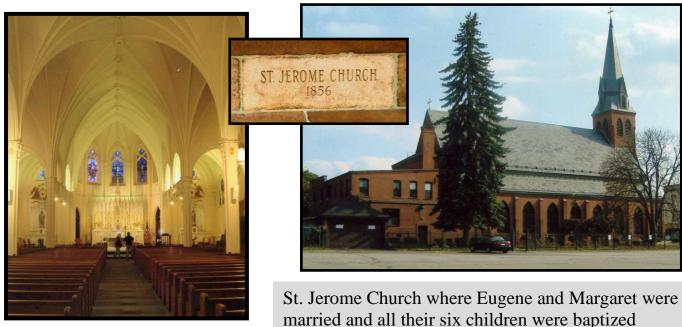
Eugene and Margaret would take great comfort to realize that after coming to America as poor Irish immigrants that through hard work and sacrifice they had produced some well-respected offspring. Their story is not unique but it is a testimony that many families would envy.

Eugene lived to see all of his children finish high school; that was in itself a major accomplishment for the era. Unfortunately, he did not live to witness any of his four children graduate college and all six children develop into successful working adults.

Somewhere in the great beyond Eugene and Margaret may be looking down on their adopted country and with great pride witness a multicultural generation of their offspring.

Clearly, those Irish Eyes are Smiling!





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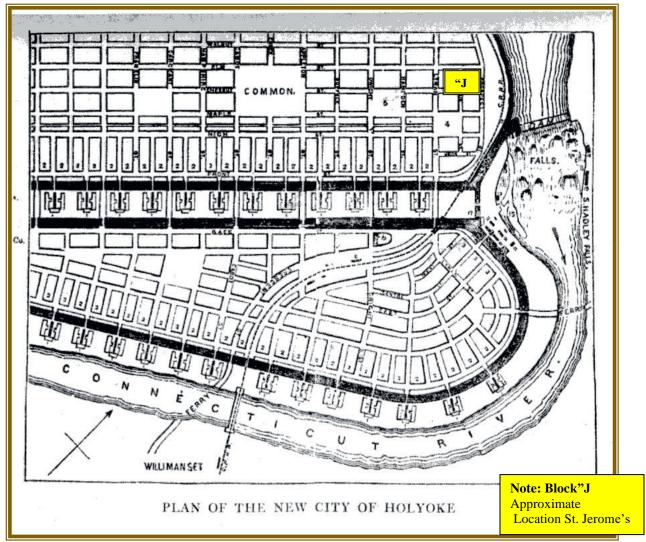
Foot Note [N]1-Page2, N2-Pg6, N3-Pg17, N4-Pg20, N5-Pg31, N12-Pg199, N13-Pg242, N14-Pg-260, N15-Pg257, N16-Pg370, N19-Pg311, N20-Pg306, N22-Pg375, Foot Note [N]23- Pages 374&376

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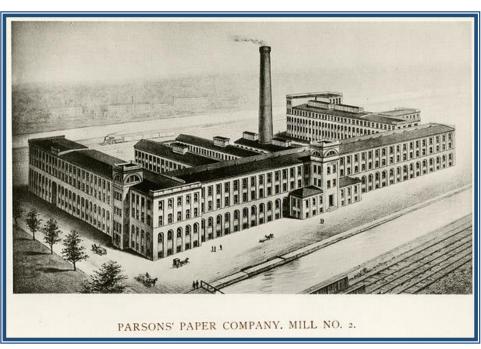
#### **HOLYOKE EARLY MILL YEARS**

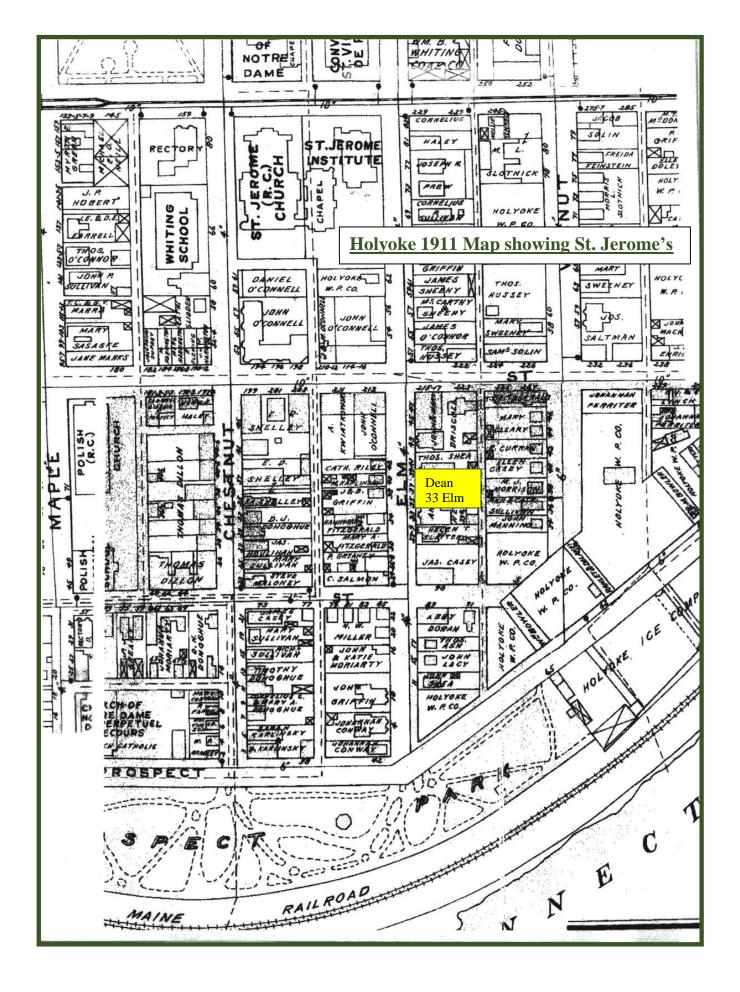


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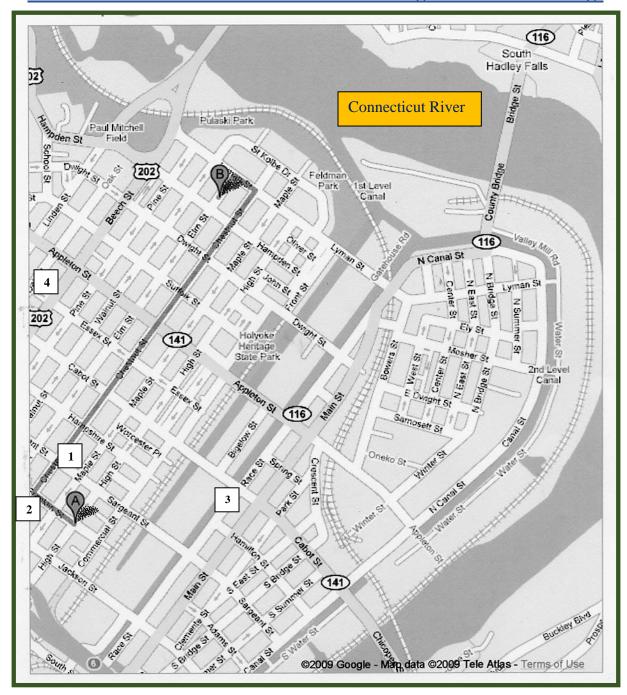
- 1.1.1. 22.2. 3.3.3. Cotton Mills.
- Boarding-house Blocks, Mechanic Blocks,

- Mechanic Blocks.
  Reservoir.
  Hampden Square.
  Railroad Station.
  Other of Hadley Fails Co
  Machine Shop.
  Furnace.
  Blacksmith Shop.
  Saw Mill.
  Old Cotton Mill.
  Flour Mill.
  Paper Mill.
  Glasgow Mill.
  Hotel.
  Leeks.
  Pump House. 10. 11. 12. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18.





#### **HOLYOKE 2009 GOOGLE CITY MAP Showing various Dean Settings**



#### **KEY**

- "B" St Jerome's -Dean's Original Church
- "A" 52 Franklin Where Eugene last lived 1927
- #1 Sacred Heart Church
- #2 480 Chestnut-Dean's early 1930's Margaret died there
- #3 306 Race St. Charles Keogel & Sons- Eugene's 19 yr work
- #4 200 Oak Bertha and Gene 1940's and 1950's
- Note: Distance between "A" and "B" 1.1 Miles

#### **SECTION TWO** -- Children of Eugene and Margaret Dean

#### M. BERTHA DEAN 1898-1951

It is unlikely that I ever met my Aunt Bertha but I have strong recollections about the day she died. We were living in Bellwood Illinois at the time. It was the Day after Christmas and an unusually warm day so my Mom took of us kids for a leisurely stroll to the store. Returning home, we opened the front door and saw my Dad holding a telephone in his hands and tears streaming down his face. That was the only time I ever saw my dad crying. He has just heard that Bertha had died. The date was December 26, 1951.

Bertha's obituary shows a solemn high mass at Sacred Heart Church followed by burial at Calvary Cemetery. A large delegation from American Tissue Mills is identified plus an extensive listing of prominent Holyoke leaders. The six pallbearers, all Dean related, included John Hickson of Springfield, John Griffin, Joseph B. Curran and Howard, John and George Dean. None of Bertha's surviving four brothers are not listed; however, my mother's diary states that Henry attended the funeral. *Note: Bertha's uncle Frank Dean who lived in Holyoke had two sons named George and John*.



Further, Eugène Sr. older brother Patrick had a son Howard. Sacred Heart [Now Our Lady of Guadalupe] burial records show Eugene Dean Jr. as Bertha's closest relative.

Bertha's baptismal record shows her as Mary Bertha Dean and that she was born February 7,1898. Her sponsors [godparents] at St Jerome's were Michael Dean [Eugene's brother] and Bridget Griffin [Margaret's sister.] They were the same sponsors that her parents, Eugene and Margaret, had for their wedding.

It is my understanding that the Irish commonly named their first girl Mary after the mother of Christ. In Bertha's case she apparently dropped her baptismal name of Mary and for legal purposes showed herself as M. Bertha Dean but in some cases, she is listed as Mary B. Dean.

My father left me with the story that Bertha's birth was greeted with a lot of excitement because she was the first girl born in the Dean family for at least a generation. Recent uncovering of the family records from Ireland throws some possible discord in that statement. These records show that among the eleven Dean children a daughter Mary was born March 8,1874. However, she may have died as an infant or for some other reason lost to my father's understanding.

Bertha graduated from Holyoke High School's Commercial Class in 1916. Her class school year book entry indicated she was one of the quietest girls in the class. [Copy minus photo shown] However, based upon her life experiences it is evident that she overcame that high school image with some clear determination. The following summary of her life's activities supports this assessment.

#### Bertha Beane

Bertha believed in the Commercial course, and so she is another one of the graduating class who is expected to maintain and upbuild the department. She is one of the quietest girls of the class. Bertha was a member of the Athletic Association, and took part in many of the "Q" Club entertainments.

#### **EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL**

University of Massachusetts extension class in Public Speaking January 1923. At the formal graduation dinner that was centered around roast turkey and all the trimmings she was one of the speakers. Her topic was "English as she is spoke."

Northeastern University 1930 Bachelor of Law Degree. The newspaper article heading from the June 1930 Springfield Daily News is shown. The full text is in the Appendix. The article states Bertha gave the June 13,1930 Commencement address entitled "The Police Power". Further it states she began the study of law in the fall of 1926 and is currently employed as a billing clerk at the American Tissue Mills. The article also mentions her she received a scholarship for having the highest average grade in all classes from her freshman to junior year inclusive. Family folklore suggests she was the first female to graduate there. However, the commencement folder shows two other female law school graduates.

**Massachusetts Bar Exam** Bertha received notification from the Massachusetts bar examiners that she was successful in passing the recent law examinations and

would be admitted to practice as an attorney on November 14, 1930. Full article from Holyoke newspaper is shown

**Practicing Attorney** The Holyoke City Directory for 1950 shows Bertha as Personnel Manager and lawyer at American Tissue Mills and lawyer at 200 Oak Street .She also maintained a law practice in her home at 200 Oak Street. The photo at the beginning of this section shows Bertha sitting at her law desk in her home. Note: Jimmy Dean's four children grew up in South Hadley Falls across the Connecticut River from Holyoke [ See Map page 16] and maintained contact with Bertha. Input from, Don, Dorothy and Mary Dean indicated that Bertha provided legal services to family, friends and clients. For example, Mary Dean McCabe said her Aunt Leona had a border who would not leave and Aunt Bertha helped evict him so that my mother and us four kids could move in. My sister Dottie still lives there.



#### Holyoke Girl Passes Recent State Bar Examinations

Miss Mary Bertha Dean, of 480 Chestnut street, has received notification from the Massachusetts bar examiners that she was successful in passing the recent law examinations and will be admitted to practice as an attorney on Nov. 14. She is a graduate of Holyoke High School and Northeastern University, receiving the degree of bachelor of laws from the latter school in June, 1930.

While at Northeastern, Dean won the scholarship awarded by Delta chapter of Pi Tau Kappa fraternity to all members of the junior class who attained the highest average in all courses from freshman to junior year, inclusive. At the close of her senior year, having maintained the same high average, she was chosen as commencement speaker for the division of Northeastern. Dean is at present a member of the office staff of the American Tissue Mills. She is the daughter of Mrs. Margaret Dean.



Miss Mary Bertha Dean

Lodging and Family Icon. Bertha never married ,or like her parents, appear to owned her own home. Independent of this fact she remained the central figure in the Dean clan particularly after her parents died. A review of Holyoke City Directories where she lived along with Google Earth photos plus photos my brother Bill took in 2009 indicates that Bertha lived only in apartments. Bertha graduated from high school in 1916 and began working in the American Tissue Mills office. At that point all the family was living in a rental property on 57 Chestnut. A photo of this restored apartment complex obtained from my brother Bill in 2009 in shown. This composite photo shows Chestnut St facing west taken from the St Jerome rectory and 57 Chestnut two blocks east of the rectory.



Eugene died in and his 1927 obituary shows the family living at an apartment at 52 Franklin. The exceptions showed Emmett and George as students in college.

Margaret Died in 1933. Her obituary identifies that Jimmy was in Chicago and George and Emmett in New York city. The obituary also notes that Margaret died in her home at 480 Chestnut after a long illness. One can easily assume that Bertha was the primary health care source for her mother. The 1934 Holyoke Directory still shows Bertha, Eugene Jr, and Henry living at that address.

My father told me that Bertha was always moving furniture around. He recalled coming home late one

evening after a date with my mother and, as normal, attempted to "flop" on the couch. Bertha had moved the couch and he went crashing to the floor. I must have inherited that trait from Bertha because this a characteristic that my children often mention.

Sometime after 1934 Bertha moved to a second story apartment at 200 Oak Street where she had her law office. Her brother Eugene and wife Grace lived on the first floor. A 2009 photo taken my brother Bill of this apartment is shown.



**POLITICIAN** My Understanding as well as my cousin Don Dean is that Bertha was the first female to be elected as a Holyoke Alderman. Technically this is probably correct but she was not the first women to "serve" as a Holyoke Alderman. The photo below from the 1937 Holyoke Transcript shows Mrs. Margaret A.Green greeting Bertha to the Board. A copy from the 1937 Government hierarchy shows both Mrs. Green and Bertha. However, input from Holyoke's History center archivist in 2009 indicated that Mrs. Green was **appointed** to this position and that there



Longer

Alone

On the

Board, Mrs. Green Welcomes

> Ticket Leader

#### ELECT Attorney M. Bertha Dean NO. 12 ON THE BALLOT FOR **ALDERMAN** AT-LARGE

no compelling evidence of a women previously serving on the board. Documentation shows that she served with Mrs. Green during 1937 and 1938. It was not determined if Bertha further served.

I have no evidence what political party Bertha belonged to. However, it is difficult for me to believe she was anything but a Democrat. My father Henry was an unswerving lifetime Democrat. Available documentation about Emmett, at least while he was in college, suggests the same political alignment. This alignment no doubt links to their father. During the early 20th Century Massachusetts Irish Catholics, like the Boston Kennedy's, were staunch Democrats. Further, during the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century the Holyoke mills were a hotbed of the Democratic- tied trade union development. Consequently, millworker Eugene could be expected to support this philosophy and pass it along to his offspring. Independent of this speculation, the Irish remain a Holyoke force as evident in Bill Dean's photo below showing a green stripe and shamrock in the road in front of the St. Jerome church.

#### GOVERNMENT

OF THE

#### CITY OF HOLYOKE

1937

Mayor

HON. WILLIAM P. YOERG

President of the Board of Aldermen SIDNEY E. WHITING, JR.

\*Members at Large of the Board of Aldermen for Three Years

WARD H. BUSHEE JOSEPH F. GRIFFIN FRANK O'CONNELL MISS M. BERTHA DEAN

MRS. MARGARET A. GREEN ROLAND F. PELTIER

DAVID A. WHALEN

\* Term extended by Biennial Municipal Election Act, Chapt. 327, Acts 1936, for Aldermen-at-Large elected in 1936.

Members at Large of Board of Aldermen for One Year TELESPHORE J. BOURASSA THOMAS F. McLEAN FREDERICK CHILDS JOSEPH A. NEUMANN

JOHN F. DOWLING LOUIS H. PREVOST SIDNEY E. WHITING, JR.

Bertha Dean



Community Leader A 2017 Photo of the old

Sacred Heart Church [Now Our Lady of Guadeloupe] where Bertha's 1951 funeral was held is shown. Attendees at that funeral included prominent Holyoke citizens such as the Holyoke Superintendent of Schools, William Dean director of the Holyoke Trade School\* plus several school principals. Further, representatives from local child care institutions and the Women's Principals Club [A social organization] were there.

Family folklore also indicated she wrote articles for the Holyoke Transcript newspaper. This family recollection was not confirmed although Bertha's wide interest and talent would not preclude this activity. As was noted earlier she also served as a Holyoke Alderman

Bertha and Jimmy Dean's Children. Jimmy died in 1943 and his wife Dorothy moved back with her French-Canadian family [Jubinville] in South Hadley that is across the Connecticut River from Holyoke. Dorothy raised her four children there including her daughter Mary who was born after Jimmy died. Jimmy's oldest daughter, Dottie, still lives in the Jubinville family home.

My understanding is that Bertha paid for Dottie's Irish step dancing lessons. A further reflection of Bertha's connection to Jimmy's family is the attached photo of Jimmy Jr. and Don Dean on Bertha's back porch. Most important is a testimonial about Bertha I received from Don Dean in a April 2009 email. "One other thing about Bertha-she worked really hard at keeping the memory of my father alive for us kids. And I kept my memory of him in my frontal lobe all through my growing up years- as Bertha [Aunt Bert] kept creating the memories. And whenever I met George or Henry [your father] through the years I always had good vibes from them too."

\*The old Holyoke Trade School is now the William J. Dean Technical High School. My brother Billy's 2009 photo is shown. Mary [Dean] McCabe's email to me

stated that her Uncle Gene told her that this Dean is a distant relative. Further, Mary mentioned that her father's cousin, Harold Dean, was a reporter for the old Holyoke Transcript that. closed in 1993.

**Reflection** Bertha competed in a 1930's man's world, never married and died young, yet she had a full house at her funeral. Few can leave this legacy. It is clear she had the brains, work ethic and empathy for success and one could wonder what the motivation was for her efforts. However, independent of this question, I was very close to my father Henry and I know he loved his sister; consequently, I am confident he would be pleased that Bertha's story survives.







#### **JAMES E. DEAN 1899-1943**

Good Friday April 23.1943 forever changed the dynamics of the Dean family. That is the day my Uncle Jimmy died from a bleeding ulcer in a Chicago hospital. My mother Minnie told me that Jimmy's wife Dorothy was pregnant with her fourth child and she had planned to surprise Jimmy Easter morning with this good news. My mother continued her story by pointed out that my father was at the hospital when Jimmy died. Henry was certainly unaware that Dorothy was pregnant but fully understood she faced the daunting task raising three young children as a widow. Moreover, it is important to understand that, unlike today, there was very little governmental support for a young widow and her family. Minnie continued saying shortly after Jimmy died. Henry was approached by a visiting priest. The priest said something like "Well this another funeral we will not be getting any money for". My father was so incensed that to my knowledge he did not attended Catholic Church services again. My first known exception to this statement was my 1958 wedding when my father walked me down the aisle in Syracuse's St. Anthony's Church. I am not sure whose hand was shaking more mine or my dad's.

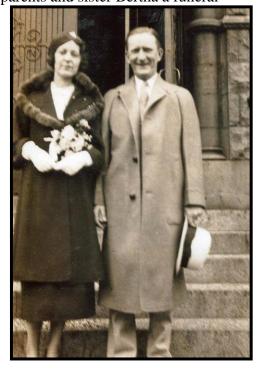


Dorothy almost immediately moved back with family in South Hadley. It is my understanding that my parents were instrumental in helping Dorothy in the logistics for this move

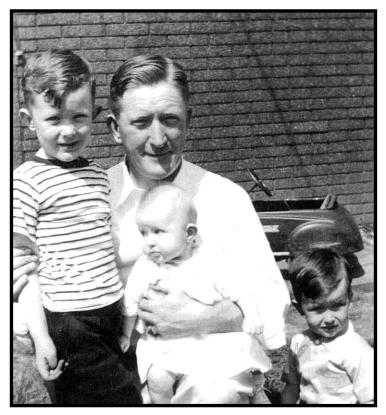
Jimmy was buried in the Dean family plot at Holyoke's Calvary Cometary. His obituary indicated funeral arrangements were incomplete. Yet, it is likely, like his parents and sister Bertha a funeral

service was held at the old Sacred Heart Church. However, as mentioned earlier this is now Our Lady of Guadalupe. This church was contacted but they do not have funeral records of the old church.

The picture shown is of Jimmy serving in the Navy during WWI. He volunteered in Springfield June 2,1918 Age 19years 2 months [Draft age during WWI was 21-30] As mentioned earlier in this Dean Family story, after WW1 Jimmy returned to previous his work at Holyoke's National Blank Book where a surviving school transcript shows he worked as a book binder. The 1924 the Holyoke Directory shows him working at the American Tissue Mills [ATM] and the same for 1930. During this period, he apparently graduated from Bay Path College that was a two-year business school. His obituary also identified he took a course at the Traffic Institute in New York City. While working at ATM he was promoted to traffic manager and met his future wife Dorothy Jubanville who was working as a secretary. In 1932 he transferred to Chicago to manage the ATM office there.



My mother's diary identified that Jimmy and Dot [Dorothy] were married April 20,1934. Their children Don and Mary told me they were married in Chicago. Don and Mary said their parents dated for almost seven years and that Jimmy told his mother he would not wed until after she died. Jimmy's mother Margaret died in September 1933. The attached photo I understand to be their wedding photo. Dorothy is carrying a bouquet and Jimmy is dressed in his finest. Don thought they had a small wedding with my mother and father in attendance. However, my mother's diary states that Henry left for Chicago Sunday November 22,1936. To me, this photo shows the background of a municipal building such as a courthouse and not a church. As a long shot, I tried contacting St. Angela's church where my mother and father were married on July 21 ,1938 thinking that Jimmy and Dot might have been married there also. Sadly, the



church was torn down in 2014 and records were not available from the Chicago Catholic Diocese. Jimmy was an outstanding athlete in Holyoke High School playing basketball, baseball and football. In addition, he played Baseball and Basketball in Holyoke adult leagues. Further, he was a respected golfer. Finally, he was an active member in the Knights of Columbus both in Holyoke and Chicago.

A photo of Jimmy and his three children Jimmy, Don and Dottie is shown, A later photo of all his four children that now includes Mary is also attached. A selection of more family photos and sport activities are included in this section.

It is obvious that this event had a far-reaching impact for Dorothy and her four children. Nevertheless, Jimmy's death dramatically changed my family's life also. I was a few weeks from reaching my fourth birthday when Jimmy died; whereas, my brother Billy was not yet one. Jimmy, Dorothy and my parents were very close, in fact they were the official sponsors at my parents 1938 Chicago wedding. I still have pleasant memories playing with Jimmy's children at their home. Unfortunately, that Dean connection ended with Jimmy's death and further connections with my father's family were fleeting at best. I was born in Chicago as well as three of my siblings. Our family moved to Kansas in April 1953 and my baby sister Marianne was born there in 1954. I have often thought that had Jimmy lived we might have had ten years growing up overshadowed by a close relationship with Jimmy and Dorothy's children.



#### Jimmy's Wife: Dorothy Jubinville Dean 1908 -1998

My mother Minnie had a warm place in her heart for Dorothy throughout her life. Before Jimmy died in Chicago our family lived next door. Dorothy and my mother were pregnant at the same time; Dottie Dean was born in February 1939 and I was born in May that year. That close personal contact ended when Dorothy moved back to South Hadley and to my limited recollection, they may have only met firsthand once. The one event I am sure of is when my mother took Billy I by train to visit my mother's family in Holyoke. My recollection is that I was about five and Billy was a baby and that we visited Dorothy at her South Hadley home. I recall that Dorothy's family lived on the first floor and all us kids played hide and seek or something on the stairs going to the second-floor apartment. In spite of that limited contact I am confident that Minnie and Dorothy exchanged many letters that are long gone. Further support to this contact, is that Minnie's personal diary listed the dates that all of Dorothy and Jimmy's children were born plus the date Dorothy's brother Harold Jubinville died on December



28,1953\*. Most important is that Minnie had only one photo in her diary that is shown. The back of this photo identifies Dorothy with her grandson Jeff son of Don and Claudette Dean.

\* Harold is buried in South Hadley's Notre Dame cemetery with his wife Emma Purcima Viau. Harold's obituary [See appendix] states that he was the general manager of the Morart Gravure Corp. and his parents were Philip and Delia [Taylor]Jubinville. High mass at St. Patrick's was celebrated by his nephew Father Roger Viau.... There are several other Jubinville Notre Dame graves with supporting cemetery documentation indicating they were from Quebec Canada.

Dorothy's children, Don and Mary indicated that Dorothy was French Canadian. Further information about Dorothy screened from Don Dean's 2009 emails plus a review of Dorothy's obituary follow.

Don's direct quote from his 2009 email states: "I know we could get my mother's goat easily if we asserted that we were Irish. She was French Canadian and we lived more and more of our lives with the French speaking side. But that difference [Irish versus Franco] was a big deal in that part of Massachusetts. I don't know how those two got together"

Her obituary indicated she died at age 90 in a Springfield nursing home. She worked in the South Hadley Intermediate School Cafeteria and retired in 1968. Born in Holyoke, she graduated from South Hadley High School and attended the Thompson Business School. She was a communicant of St.

Patrick's Church and active in the Alter Rosary Society. A photo of Dorothy, Don, Dottie and Mary taken Christmas 1956 in her home.is shown.

Note: Don Dean also mentions in his emails the following:

"I didn't know your father Henry at all. I was only five when my father died and I only saw your father twice after that when he visited Holyoke when I was small. I thought he was super. A real handsome man who laughed a lot. I thought all the Deans were super. An even though I did not know my father, those who did told me great things about him and he was my hero all through my growing up years."



#### Donald Eugene Dean 1937-2014

I decided to highlight the life of my cousin Donny for three reasons. First, he is only one of my Uncle Jimmy's four children that I have been fortunate enough to meet as an adult. Second, I have a real neat photo of both of us as children that is shown. Third, he provided an extensive amount of material, photos and personal stories that were a significant part of Jimmy's story.

Don visited our Pennellville home in October 2005 and we had breakfast the following day in Fayetteville. My husband Roger's handwritten comments from Don during that visit include: Don at that point lived with his wife Claudette in nice river front home in Dover Delaware.... He graduated from Holy Cross with an Economics degree; at one point considered becoming a priest ... Joined the Air Force and served as a navigator. Flew missions during the Viet Nam war including bringing back boys in body bags. Met future wife Claudette; she was not an officer... After formal Air Force hitch worked with Catholic organization with goal to introduce Vatican II; was very critical of the Monsignor he reported to... Returned to Air Force Reserve and retired as a Lt. Colonel ... Was currently



volunteering at an Air Force pharmacy... Mentioned he has a son Jeff who earned a Philosophy degree on a full scholarship. Jeff who works as a medical emergency tech is currently married to a gal who is a lawyer and they have no children ...well read...has diabetes...Quit smoking and has dropped weight in recent years...Said he would like to see Joe Biden run for President [ Delaware Senator] but was afraid he was to caustic to be elected.

In April 2014 we received a letter from Claudette advising us that Don had died. She said he was ill for four months but died in great peace and comfort. She indicated that a military memorial service was held April 6<sup>th</sup> and held in a C5 [ One of the aircraft he flew in; a photo of a typical C5 is shown] Also included was a memorial testament used for his memorial service that stated Don died Feb.8,2014 of leukemia at home with his wife and son at his side.

This memorial document highlighted Don's life that included several facts not previously identified. These included: He graduated from South Hadley High School in 1955 and played variety basketball, baseball and served as class president for four years. He amassed over 8500 of flight hours in a variety of aircraft and was promoted to Colonel twice but declined in order to remain in Dover. He volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Adopt- a- Wetland, as an adult literacy teacher, and was chairman of the Environmental Appeals Board for the State of Delaware. Don and Claudette chaired and received a House of Representatives tribute for a massive cleanup of the St. Jones River in 1993.



Don was an ardent Boston Red Sox fan. His great joy was seeing Ted Williams hit a home run at Fenway Park. He read avidly as was a fan, like my father Henry, of classical music, particularly Mozart and Beethoven

The Following Page Shows four photos of Don – As a baby with his father and older brother Jamie; 2008 photo of Don, Claudette with sisters Mary and Dottie plus Jamie's widow Anne; 2005 photo with Peg and Roger Dahlin; an undated photo of Don, wife Claudette, son Jeff and grandson William

# Four Photos of Donald Dean







#### Jimmy Dean Newspaper Coverage

#### Parazards, City League Champions of 1926 Season



Upper row—Padden Coach; Dean, J. Kalloch, Martin, O'Brien, Scanlon, Mgr. Lower Row—S. loch, Hague, Sweeney, McVeigh.

# 

#### DEAN'S BLOW WINS FOR PARAZARDS 5-4 OVER ROCHAMBEAUS

#### LaChappelle Hurls Fine Ball

Rochambeau LaChappelle, Cercle hurler, lost a hard-luck game yesterday on the West street grounds when the Parazards gained the decision 5-4 on a sixth inning rally, mainly due to the work of the Cercle hurler when he walked three runners with two out at the time, Jimmy Dean coming through with a drive over third base and into the crowd along left field line. When the dust of West street settled four runs had crossed the plate and Parazards were ahead 5-2. The hit was worth about two bases but the ball rolled into the crowd allowing Dean to go around all the sacks.

Up to that inning the Cercle held a

# FORCES WAY TO TOP OF CITY STANDING

#### J. Dean Leads Hitters

With the bigger part of the City League schedule already played, this week the fans find the Cercle Rochambeau club perched on top of the City League with a haif-game lead over its nearest rival, the Falcons. By gaining the lead the Cercle will play the Dusty League leaders, the American Writing, though they are tied for that honor with the Falcos, Independence Day at the games to be held at Springdale Park.

#### Dean's Double Starts Canoe Club on Way to Victory

HOLYOKE, May 20—Holyoke Canoe Club won a well played game from Cercle Rochambeau of the City League on the Smiths Ferry diamond this afternoon, 9 to 8. The feature of the game was an unassisted double play by Brien with the bases loaded. The Canoeists won the game in the ninth when with one down, Dean crashed a double to left, went to third on O'Brien's single and scored on Brien's ipfield tap. Summary:

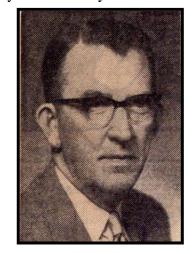
#### **EUGENE J. DEAN 1901-1962**

During the last year of WWII my father took me alone on a business trip from Chicago to Holyoke. I was five years old during this train trip. One event still stands clear in my memory; that is when two women in khaki uniforms [WACS-Women's Army Corps] helped me get ready for bed. They took

down my braids and helped me get into my bedclothing. The next morning, they combed and braided my pigtails.

We were met at the train station by my Uncle Gene and Aunt Grace and we stayed perhaps one night at their Holyoke apartment. My remaining recollection of that visit is that they bought me an ice cream cone and I was told to be carful it did not drip on the floor. To my knowledge that is the only time I met my father's older brother, Gene, and his wife Grace.

Jimmy Dean's daughter, Mary, said that Gene and Grace lived in a 200 Oak St, apartment throughout their marriage life, Grace continued there for almost twenty-five years after Gene died Jimmy's son Don said that his mother Dorothy and Grace were reasonably close until Grace's memory loss resulted in her need for an nursing home. Mary also indicated that Gene and Grace had a next-door neighbor named Mary Dean, but her uncle said they were very distantly related.



The photo shown of Gene is from a newspaper clipping of Gene's obituary. I have no photo of Grace Eugene was baptized in St Jerome's Church on January 5,1901. His godparents were his father's brother, Frank Dean, and Kate Sheehan....Gene ,like his five siblings graduated from St Jerome's middle school. However, unlike his siblings who all graduated from the Holyoke High public-school

Gene graduated from St. Jerome's High school where he played varsity baseball.

His obituary indicated that he was employed by the National Blank Book Company for 43 years and served as a production supervisor. Based upon his employment service, Gene, like his older brother Jimmy started working at this company immediately after graduating High school. Of equal interest, Jimmy's son Don Dean, thanks to Gene, recommendation, worked four summers there while attending college. Don indicated his \$1.14 per hour job entailed floor sweeper, elevator operator and machine operator. A more detailed overview of the National Blank Book Company is on the following page.

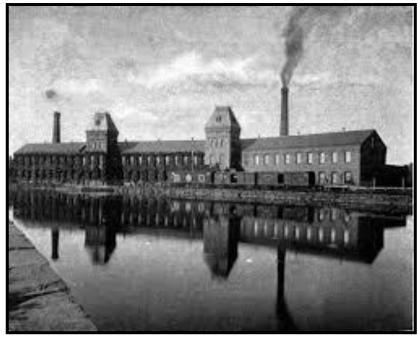
Eugene's obituary also mentioned he was a baseball player in local teams, an active member of the Holyoke Knights of Columbus and a highly recognized contract bridge player. Two Holyoke newspaper clippings highlighting some his contract bridge challenges are shown.

Minnie's diary identifies that Eugene married Grace C.Pollard October 9,1937. They had no children. Grace's obituary reflects that she was born in Springfield but lived most of her life in Holyoke. Further, that she was also well known in area contract bridge circles.



#### The Holyoke based National Blank Book Company [NBB] had its

beginnings in 1843 with a small New York City based owner named J.G.Shaw. By 1892 this operation had grown, changed owners and moved to the Holyoke canal with its new name. [An early photo is shown] At one point, NBB boasted being the largest blank book company in the world and had 2000 employees. It produced a wide variety of book products such as accounting ledgers, loose leaf binders and bound books lined or with special printed text for business and personal use. They also sold specialty products such as the one Jimmy Dean obtained when he returned to work after serving



in WWI. Copies of Jimmy's 6X10 inch leather bound book was obtained from his son Don, This includes a reduced copy of the entry page shown below and three pages of Jimmy's WWI naval records shown in the Appendix. It is important to understand that over 4,7 million American men and women served during WWI with 2.8 million overseas, Consequently, NBB may have used this product option.





BRANCH HOUSES

NEW YORK, N.Y.
92:96 BUANE 5T.
NATIONAL LODGE LEAF CO.,LTD.
LONDON,ENGLAND

DOMINION BEARK BOOK CO.,LTD.
BOTTHEPWILE P.O.

National Blank Book Company Molyoke, Mass.

Mr. James Dean Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Sir: -

Jimmy's WWI Military Service Recognition

As one of our employees who was in active service for his country during the Great War just closed, will you accept this little book?

We hope that in years to come it will prove a valued record of the part you were called upon to take and which you so loyally and cheerfully carried out.

Very truly yours National Blank Book Co.

September 15, 1920

Treas.

M. EMMETT DEAN 1903-1980 Somewhere in my youth my father casually mentioned to me that if Emmett's wife Jo died before Emmett, we would inherit money. Further, If Emmett died first, we would likely inherit nothing. Consequently, as a young girl I had visions of anticipated wealth. However, Jo buried Emmett in Holyoke in July 1980 and she was back for George's Holyoke burial in December of that year. My father died in 1969 so he was never in a position to comment on any missed inheritance.

My other curiosity about Emmett is his marital choice. Early 20th Century Irish men, particularly in the old country married later in life. My father was 33 and Emmett 35; moreover, they were married the same year. [My Mom and Dad July 21,1938 -Emmett and Jo



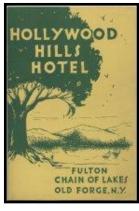
December 10,1938]. Moreover, Irish Catholic families at that time pushed to have their children marry Irish Catholics or at least Catholics. Gene married a non- Irish Catholic. My Mom was Protestant but converted to Catholicism. Contrariwise, my brother Billy and I both remember our father telling us that his brothers Emmett and George both married girls named Jo who were Judaic.

The 1956 photo shown is of Emmett and my father taken at the Holiday Hills Hotel outside Old Forge NY. I met Emmett at the same resort for a short visit in 1958. The only other times I firmly remember meeting him was at my wedding and during a visit to Emmett and Jo's apartment in New York City. This trip was a 1957 high school graduation gift from Emmett where I traveled alone by train to NYC. Emmett and his wife lived in swanky apartment on West 53<sup>rd</sup> St. where you were greeted by a uniformed doorman before entry. This was the first I met Jo [Josephine]. She was a small woman about the size of my mother but her clothes were in great contrast to my mother. Mom like most of the women I knew at the time wore house dresses. Jo dressed in a more formal, business- like, attire. My understanding from Jimmy's children is that she was a lawyer. My memory of the West 53<sup>rd</sup> St location is fixed in my mind because during the day I took a walk on my own away from the apartment. I soon became a aware that a young male was following me and I became very afraid. In desperation I crossed the street seeking help from a policeman. The policeman took care of the young man and gave me strict instructions and directions how to get back to Emmett's West 53<sup>rd</sup> St. apartment.

My next meeting with Emmett and Jo was in 1958 and this was considerably different. At that time, I was dating my future husband, Roger, who owned a camp in Old Forge. Emmet invited both us for dinner and to a night club show at The Holiday Hills. The entertainment for the evening was a comedian featuring "off color" jokes that by today's standard would be pretty mild. However, to a young lass educated in Catholic schools this was an eye- opening experience.

The land around the Holiday Hills was broken up and sold during the early 1970's for private homes. The resort hotel was converted to condominiums. A period post card of the resort hotel when Emmett was there in the late 1950's is shown. A photo of my father and Jo at that time is also included.







**GETTING STARTED** Emmett was born on February 25,1903 and baptized the next day at St, Jerome as Maurice Dean. James Dean [His father's brother] and Mary Griffin [His mother's sister?] were his sponsors. Apparently, Emmett was named after his grandfather Maurice Dean but used his middle name throughout his lifetime. This must have been a common characteristic at the time at least for Catholic's. My father was baptized as John Henry Dean. He apparently was named after his father's brother John who from Ireland's Castle Gregory Parish records was baptized on April 9,1871. This trait prevailed

with my husband Roger's family also. He was named after his grandfather so his legal name is Frank Roger Dahlin. All his siblings also went by their middle name. The other need for Catholic baptisms is the child must have a saint's name. There is no St. Emmett but there is a St. Maurice. In my husband's case there is no St, Frank or St, Roger and he was baptized Francis Roger

It is equally important to recognize that Emmet was baptized the next day after he was born. Copies of my father's baptismal records show that he was baptized the same day as he was born. Early baptism was a Catholic credo because mothers understood if the child died before it was baptized it would end up in the uncompromising Limbo rather than Heaven. That fear carried with me as a mother myself.



#### **Holyoke High School**

Emmet graduated from Holyoke High in 1921. A photo of the 1920 baseball team as well as his year book profile is shown. It was particularly surprising to me that Emmett was considered awfully shy at the time. However, growing up I was always singled out for having dimples and per his profile it looks like dimples is a Dean inherited characteristic





#### Emmett Bean

"Em"

Phi Alpha, French, Assembly.

A "real sport," an athlete and an excellent student—such is Emmett. He played baseball two years, and the team owes much to his brilliant work. Emmett is "awfully shy," though, but if you know how, you can get him to smile at you, and then—such dimples! He attributes much of his great popularity to them.

"There's daggers in men's smiles."

**Higher Education** Emmett enrolled at New York University [NYU] in 1926 and was a member of the Varsity baseball team and the Freshman Football team. Newspaper photos show Emmett at bat and pitching. Emmett did not play football in high school.

FEBRUARY 21, 1926.

#### **NEW YORK U. NINE BOASTS BAT POWER**

Violet Tossers Come to Fitton Field Saturday With Enviable Record of 14 Wins in 18 Diamond Starts



### Deane To Twirl For N. Y. U. Frosh Squad

Former Holyoke High Star Pitching Brilliantly in Early Scason Workouts-Held Varsity Scoreless in Recen Game—Has Baffling Delivery

The New York Times SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

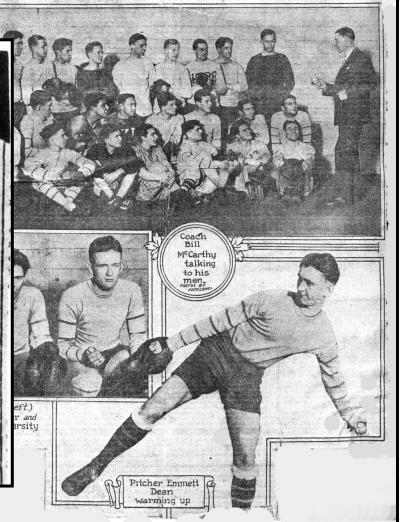
am Battery Men Will Start Indoor

**Emmett Dean Reports** for Grid Practise at New York University

Emmett Dean of this city, one of Holyoke High's star athletes in the past four years, reported for spring football practise under the direction of Chick Meehan at New York University Thursday.

Although Emmett never played the grid game while attending the local high school, he will no doubt make good at this pastime. Dean was always an excellent athlete, having played on the Holyoke High baseball team four years.

Under the able coaching of Chick Meehan, the new football mentor at the New York institution, Dean will no doubt develop into a grid star. His ability to play any sport has been demonstrated and there isn't the least doubt that he will make the university cleven. On account of the one year ruling at that institution he will be unable to participate in varsity baseball but will not doubt play with the freshman club.



**Reverend McCarthy and his Choir Boys** Bill McCarthy coached the NYU baseball team from 1922 to 1961. He was born in Holyoke in 1895 and was a star athlete at Springfield High School. He earned letters at Holy Cross in baseball, football and track. It is not clear how Emmett ended up at NYU but McCarthy's connection to Holyoke may have been a factor.

Bertha's scrapbook included two articles from the NYU 1927newspaper about the baseball team that is filled with satire and tomfoolery. The articles are about a team train trip to play Union College in Schenectady that required passing though Albany where New York States popular governor, Al Smith, resided. Smith was the Democratic nominee for President in 1928 who got trounced by Republican Herbert Hoover. During this trip it was suggested that someone should be elected to drop by and speak to the Governor. Emmett, who now played left field, was elected unanimously on the first ballot. In these articles, Emmett is referred to as "The alcoholic baritone from Holyoke" and "A free-born patriot of Old Ireland".

Copies of these articles that reflect the college hijinks of the "Roaring Twenties" are in the Appendix pages XX. When reading these articles, it is important to understand that NYU played three wealthy Ivy league schools [Columbia, Princeton and Yale] plus Army and Syracuse. A copy of the 1926 team schedule is shown.

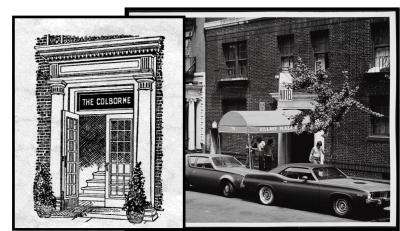
'VARSITY BASEBALL TUESDAY, APRIL 6 THURSDAY, APRIL 8
Manhattan ................................. At Home SATURDAY, APRIL 17 TUESDAY, APRIL 20 THURSDAY, APRIL 22 At Home Pennsylvania At Phil SATURDAY, MAY 1 Fordham FRIDAY, MAY 14
.....At Baker Field SATURDAY, MAY 13 At Home SATURDAY, MAY 22 MONDAY, MAY 31 SATURDAY, JUNE 5 .At Fordham Week Day Games Start at 4.00 P.M

New York University 1926

**Employment** Emmett's obituary states that he was a former employee of the Holyoke Transcript -Telegram newspaper. Further, that he received his bachelor's degree from NYU and that he had been employed for many years by the Better Business Bureau of New York City. His brother Jimmy's 1943 obituary indicated, at that time, he was working for the American Red Cross in New York City. One can assume that his employment at the Transcript was before he went to NYU. I have no confirmation what his college major was; but the article previously mentioned about his NYU baseball team provides a clue. Speaking about Emmett, the article states "It would practically ruin this chap's career as a college fielder and as tank-town journalist".

**Reflections from Greenwich Village** In 1938 Emmett was living at "The Colborne" and upperclass hotel in Greenwich village. During the early 1960's the hotel was sold, re-modernized and renamed the Village Plaza Hotel. A photo of the hotel from 1975 plus an inset of the stationary monogram from the old Colborne is shown. During the 1960's and 1970's, Greenwich Village was considered to be a heart of the counterculture movement known as the "Hippie Movement or Beat Generation". The hotel

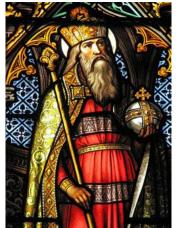
has since been renamed and refurbished. In any event, a short period before my father was scheduled to marry my mother, Emmett wrote a letter to Henry congratulating him about the upcoming wedding. My mother kept this letter and a copy is in the Appendix. Emmett starts out stating it was his fourth attempt to write this letter. The letter reflects the concern about his siblings, particular admiration about my father and a question of his own future.



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HENRY W. DEAN 1905-1969 My father has always been my hero, my knight in shining armor. It is not that I didn't love my mother, I still do. It is just that my father always had a special place in my heart and even today, long after he is gone, I look to him for solace and comfort.

**Baby Henry, John or William?** I have my father's original baptismal certificate showing he was born and baptized, John Henry Dean, June 19,1905 and his witnesses were his mother's brother Michael Griffin and his wife Jane. It is very likely he was born at home with



the aid of midwife common to that period. In addition, his aunt and uncle must have lived near by to be there when the priest arrived.

I mentioned earlier Catholic baptisms required a saint's name. If the family had access to the internet, like we do today, he would likely have been baptized Henry because they would have known there



was more than one St. Henry. For example, the one shown died July 13,

1024 and is the "Patron Saint of the Childless and the Handicapped"

My father's Social Security Card issued 12/5/36 shows Henry William Dean. Where the William comes from, I have no firm understanding.

<u>Holyoke High</u> Much has been provided earlier about Henry growing up with his family; therefore, at this point I pick up at his high school years A copy from my father's 1923 yearbook is shown. I knew he was an outstanding baseball and basketball player in high school. However, I never thought of him as being a shy person; but like my mother he was a quiet person and perhaps that is one of the reasons they got along so well together. The reference to his ukulele talent is nothing I ever heard about.



## Henry Bran "Henny" Assembly, A. A., Phi Alpha.

"Henny" is our official scorer and an ardent supporter of the athletic teams of H. H. S. "Henny" is a quiet, bashful and unassuming boy, but as the song reads, "When you get him alone—Oh Girls—you'd be surprised." Henny's abilities in athletics, especially baseball, have made him quite a popular boy. We must not forget his talent which drifts toward a ukelele. If he could play his instrument in school he would have everybody's feet stuttering.

1923

## HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT LEAGUE SPORTS "Henny"

Dean was an outstanding high school and Holyoke adult league baseball and basketball player. A yearbook photo of Holyoke High School's 1923 baseball team is shown where Henry was the pitcher and his brother George was the catcher. Some articles from the Holyoke newspaper are shown.

OVERCOMES LOCALS

Dean Brothers highlight

The Dean brothers battery for Holroke High experienced splendid success against the M. A. C. freshman team yesterday afternoon on the Falco grounds until the fatal ninth inning, in which the yearlings crashed out two hits and with the gracious but rather awkward assistance of the local team, crossed the plate no less than four times, copping the contest by an 8-5 score.

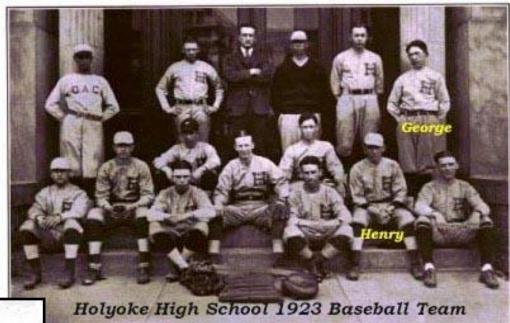
June 9,1930

# DEANE PITCHES NO-HIT GAME IN HOLYOKE LEAGUE

Gives Churchills Second Win of Season, Keeping Step With Falcons and Highland, Other Unbeaten Nines

Holyoke, June 8—Henry Deane of the Churchills turned in a no-hit, norun game in the City league here this afternoon, blanking the Churchill Braves, 10 to 0, and allowing only four men to reach first, all of these by way of the base on ball route, It was the second victory of the season for the Churchills. Deane sent 14 of the Braves back to the bench by the strikeout route.

The Falcons and the Highlands were the only other teams to remain in the unbeaten column. The former conquered the Mater Dolorosa outfit, 5 to 2, while the latter team set back the Rosary A. C., 14 to 3. Moriarty of



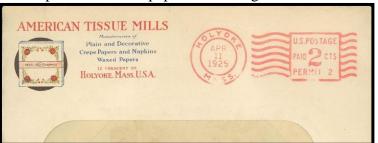




#### **Bachelorhood Beyond Sports: Work, Law School and Romance**

**WORK** The 1920 Census shows Henry's older brother age 16 and in high school working as an errand boy at the Star. It its assumed that Henry also worked in some capacity while he was in high school. It is likely that he started working at the American Tissue Mills [ATM] immediately after graduating because his older sister Bertha worked there. Further, the 1930 Holyoke Directory shows him employed at ATM. Finally, the 1932 and 1934 Holyoke Directory shows him as Assistant Traffic Manager at ATM. The American Tissue Mills was originally known as the Japanese Tissue Mills founded by the B.F. Perkins Co. in 1899. The name change occurred during the early 1920's and was closed in 1958. It manufactured crepe paper, napkins, waxed paper and wrapping paper. A copy of its advertising mailing

envelope and a waxed paper advertising is shown



# HEAVY WAXED PAPER FOR FOR PICKICS -new and different printed in dainty designs FRUIT BASKETS

#### Will Receive Law Degree Tonight at Northeastern Univ.

Henry W. Dean of 480 Chestnut street, traffic manager at the American Tissue Mills, will receive his LL.B. degree from the law school of Northeastern University in Springfield at graduation exercises to be held this evening. He is a brother of Atty. M. Bertha Dean, who graduated with honors from the same school in 1930.

Mr. Dean was formerly well known as an athlete, having been a pitcher for several seasons on Holyoke High School baseball team. He also played with the Holyoke Canoe Club and several independent baseball teams as well as performing in the City League. He also played basketball with the Falcos and other local clubs. Mr. Dean is a member of the Springfield Traffic Club and the New England Traffic Association.

The graduation exercises tonight will be held at North church on Mattoon street, Springfield.

LAW SCHOOL Henry enrolled August 30, 1930 as a regular student at the Springfield Division of Northeastern University of Law. This is the same university that his sister Bertha graduated from in June 1930. At that time, it was located at 114 Chestnut in Springfield. [Currently it is the Western New England

College of Law and located at 1215 Wilbraham Road in Springfield]. Like his sister Bertha, Henry worked full time at ATM and attended evening classes. He received his law degree, with honors, LLB on June 12, 1935. Two clippings from the Springfield newspaper are shown.



**ROMANCE** My mother's little diary said she met Henry in August 1932. Minnie was 17 and Henry 27. Per my understanding neither one ever dated anyone else. Minnie graduated from Springfield Central High that year. Her Yearbook indicated she planned to work at Springfield Hospital. Also, her selected quotation was "Friendship is constant in all things" Her Yearbook photo is shown.

I do not know how they met but the fact that she lived with her parents at 819 Chestnut and Henry's Law School was at 114 Chestnut could have been an influencing factor.



Henry normally rode the bus from his home in Holyoke to the Springfield Law school or to see Minnie. On at least one occasion he missed the late bus and had to walk the 9-mile trip back to Holyoke. He also owned a small coup with a rumble seat in the back. Minnie told me that Henry did not have a driver's license and he depended upon his older brother Jimmy to drive him around. This required Henry and Minnie to be stuffed in the rear rumble seat. For r

Their courtship lasted for six years before they were married. During that time, Henry continued to work at ATM, whereas at some point Minnie, like me, worked as a telephone operator. There recreation included a group of friends that Minnie referred to as "The Gang". Other than my mother and father, I do not recognize anyone in the 1933 photo. Photos follow.



### **Decision Making During "The Great Depression"**

I had always wondering why my father, like his sister Bertha, had never perused a career as a lawyer. In 1983 I found out why. I was on a business trip of my husband Roger to Sun City Arizona where we made contact with some retired friends of my parents. Hugh and Florence MacAskill were neighbors when we lived in the Chicago area. They were kind enough to invite us to lunch and during that meal Hugh told a story about my father that I never knew. Hugh said my father told him when he graduated during the heart of the Depression opportunities for a recent law graduate where almost nonexistent. You didn't even have an opportunity to volunteer in a law firm; instead, you had to <u>pay</u> the law firm to get in. This was not a realistic option for a poor Irish boy.

**GOOD BY HOLYOKE, HELLO CHICAGO!** Henry accepted his brother Jimmy's offer to join him for better income and opportunity. Minnie's diary stated that Henry left for Chicago Sunday November 22.1936

MINNIE'S MARRIAGE PREP Shortly before Minnie was scheduled to be married, she visited Henry in Chicago. She likely stayed with Jimmy and Dot. While there, Jimmy took Minnie and Henry in a little personal tour of Chicago that included a boat trip on Lake Michigan. A photo by Dot is shown.

It can easily be assumed that Minnie and Henry attended a prenuptial session at the Catholic church that they planned to be married in since this was common at the time. Minnie also agreed to raise any of their children as Catholic. Equally important was that she made a commitment to convert to the Catholic faith. Her little diary states that she was baptized as Maria at St Catherine's in Chicago on



Saturday October 15,1938 and went to her first confession that same day. On Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> she received her First Communion and was Confirmed as Mary Agnes October, 24, 1938.

**WEDDING VOWS** Henry and Minnie were married in Chicago's St. Angela's Church July 21,1938. James and Dorothy Dean were witnesses, Emmett also attended, Photos of the bride and the primary wedding party are shown. My mother is shown with a dark collared dress buffed by a large white collar and a white hat. Whereas, the groom and best man exhibit matching light-colored suits and shoes. I do not know who else attended the wedding or if they had a reception. They had a short honeymoon in the resort community of Wisconsin Dells



**WEDDING GIFTS** The only gifts I am aware of is a drawing by a Chicago artist that they received and we have framed and hung in our living room. My mother told me her step brother Buddy gave her a can opener when she left for Chicago



**FAMILY MAN - CHICAGO AREA** A copy of my birth certificate, dated May 30, 1939 shows my footprints. My mother told me that when her parents from Springfield, Massachusetts visited the following summer she made a particular effort to show her stepmother the birth certificate by noting how cute the footprints were. However, her real intent was to make clear that I was born safely beyond that critical nine- month window. My mother also kept my baby bracelets that I still have in my possession.

Three of my siblings were born when we were in the Chicago area [My baby sister Marianne was born in Kansas] Billy July 17,1942—Kathy February 13,1946 and Marilyn August 9,1947.

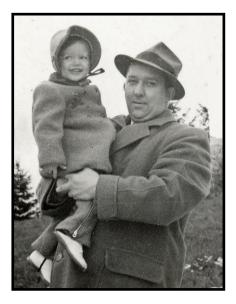
These dates were obtained from my mother's little diary that also listed, Baptisms,

First Communion, Confirmation and childhood diseases.

My father's office was in an upper floor of a building located on Michigan Avenue overlooking Lake Michigan that was, and still is, prime real-estate. My early memories are pretty limited but I do recall riding in the Chicago double-decker buses and being uncomfortable looking out from upper story office windows. A photo of a delighted little girl about two and her very proud father, then 36, is shown

I previously mentioned living in an apartment complex and playing with Uncle Jimmy's children. My birth Certificate shows when I was born my parents lived at 304 Washington Blvd in Oak Park that is outside downtown Chicago. A 2020 Google Map photo of this apartment complex is shown. I was surprised when reviewing this photo that it is as I remember it. Equally important is that this apartment complex is still attractive and well maintained suggesting a desirable location as it was when Uncle Jimmy's family and my family lived there. We lived in that same apartment complex for about a year after Jimmy died and we moved to the Chicago suburb of Bellwood Illinois when I was five.







**Bellwood, Illinois** was a great place to grow up. My parents bought a brand-new two-story brick- sided duplex with two bedrooms and one bath. We had a big backyard and my father purchased a used school-sized swing set that he had installed where I spent many happy hours with neighbors and siblings.

Brother Billy and I shared the one bedroom when we first moved in, but it became a little tighter when Kathy and Marilyn came along. At that point all of us squeezed in the one bedroom with Billy in one bed, Marilyn in a crib while Kathy and I shared the other bed. It wasn't too bad because Kathy was not a bed wetter. For privacy, so that I could play with my dolls, I would often hook the crib over the doorknob to keep Billy, Kathy and Marilyn out.

My father normally rode the "L" from Bellwood to downtown Chicago. Fixed in my mind is how well my father looked going to work with his white shirt, tie and sportscoat or suit. My other memory is that my father would not allow my mother to iron his shirts and instead sent then out for dry cleaning. His rationale for this was he felt that one of the reasons his mother died so young was because of all the washing and ironing she did.

My dad had a car in those days and he took us on small trips many weekends. Two particularly stand out because they were good memories and I took my own children on similar trips.



enjoy the zoo and we have a family membership but now we bring both children and grandchildren. My own children surely remember trips to the Syracuse Airport and sitting with a lunch watching the airplanes take off and land. When we were particularly good my dad took us to the little town of Wheaton for a special treat in a little store where we got penny candy and popcorn.

Bellwood was a good place for my father also; both he and mom were heathy and he was home from work every night. He also had several friends including some at the neighborly supported tavern where he sometimes played shuffleboard. The "Miami Moon" was a block from our house where Billy and I were sometimes treated to a soda pop. Some of my dad's friends organized a weekend fishing trip to a Wisconsin lake resulting in the photo of a happy guy showing off his catch. I remember the group brought home many fish packed in ice.

**Henry and the Mafia** Sadly, Bellwood today is recognized as a Chicago suburb with a a high crime rate. Seventy years ago, my brother

and I walked to school without any fear. However, as an adult I began to realize that when we lived there, organized crime, then labeled "Mafia" was beginning to filter in.

My father was approached to run for Bellwood mayor; but I doubt he sincerely considered it. Never the less. he had the credentials. He was lifelong registered Democrat with a law degree plus married with children. Further he was a manager in a highly regarded Chicago firm.

To further understand my continued story, you need to look again at the photo of our duplex above. We lived on the left; to our right lived a young couple with two small children. Late one- night Billy and I were awakened by a lot of noise and commotion. As we descended the stairs from our bedroom, we saw my father helping a severely beaten up young man into our living room chair. His face was all bloodied and his obviously broken arm hung listless over the arm of the chair. Our dad quickly shooed us upstairs with instructions to pound on our neighbor's adjacent bedroom wall. No response came from our neighbor, but shortly we heard men's loud voices with boots clambering up the stairs. We quickly found out they were policemen.

We later learned the basis for our family's uninvited guest. Our visitor was the brother of our next-door neighbor and he was "fooling around" with the wife of a Mafia thug. To quickly discourage this relationship he was beaten up and dropped off to what was thought to be his brother's doorstep and instead was dropped off at our doorstep.

It can be easily understood that this story could be embellished into some family folklore that would entail. "Irish Democrat ends mayoral bid after bloodied body is dropped at his doorstep."



Kansas Challenges My mother's little diary indicates that we left Chicago for Overland Park Kansas April,22 1953. This trip had no bearing to the local mafia but was instead primarily based upon the deteriorated condition where my father worked. As an adult, my mother told me that the owner of company died and left the business to his son. The son was a womanizer and a poor manager and quickly ran the business to the rocks.

This was a difficult move for me because it occurred two weeks before my eighth-grade graduation. I already had my cap and gown and I was looking forward to high school in the fall. Looking back, I recognize it was a move we had to make and, like myself, my parents were leaving good friends

Our new home, outside Kansas City, was a large, lovely old farmhouse in a quiet country neighborhood with mature trees and several other large older homes. The house also had a newly remodeled kitchen. More important, it had four bedrooms and for the

first time since I was very little, I had my own bedroom. Equally important, like both of my parents, I loved to read and the new house provided a lot of hiding places where I could do that. Unfortunately, the



house has since been torn down but a picture survives showing one of my hiding places and a glimpse of what the house looked like. A current view across from where our old home stood shows the same place when we were there.

I entered St. Agnes High School that fall that was one of the most memorable and happy periods of my life. Contrariwise, I now recognize that the Chicago to Kansas transition for my parents was not all serendipity. My dad's new job as a salesman for the Perkins Paper Products was over at least a three-state territory including Colorado. He was only home weekends and on at least one occasion was away for three weeks when he was stranded in a Colorado winter storm. This meant that my mother handled the household on her own during the week. My father also added another personal burden by staying at cheap hotels and cutting meal costs so he could bring saved expense money home. Equally disconcerting is my father did not have the cadre of friends he had in Bellwood. My mother never developed close friends either

**Signs of MS** The following summer,1954, my mother, pregnant with Marianne, was tired and weak most of the time. My sister Kathy and I speculated mom must have been in the early stages of Muscular Sclerosis [MS]. In any event, my dad pulled me away from my summer part-time job and had me stay at home to help takeover homemaking. Marianne was born September 10,1954; Minnie was 40 and Henry 49 at the time. Mom appeared to return to normal health. My sister Kathy and I speculated that her MS may have been in remission because of some biological issue tied to birthing.

When I was 15 my dad came home one weekend and found my mother collapsed on the floor. She was subsequently diagnosed with MS. The Doctor told my father he needed to find a job where he could be home with my mother and that he was probably best to find a place in the East where treatment for MS was better. My father subsequently found a job as a salesman in Central New York with the C.A. Reed Paper Company, so in November 1956 we moved to Syracuse New York

Syracuse, New York Moving from Kansas was the worst experience of my teenage years, I was just starting my senior year at St. Agnes with students and nuns I loved. My best friend Janice's mother tried to intervein to have me stay with them until I graduated but my father would not hear of it. Attending Syracuse's St Anthony's was a close second. The school was old and the curriculum boring. Most disheartening, I missed the joy, enthusiasm and intellect of the nuns and classmate camaraderie from my Kansas school. To my further dismay, the only uniform available was a used scruffy outfit that was too small. I wanted to attend



the nearby public high school but my dad drove by one lunch hour and saw students smoking and that killed this option. The kids at St Anthony's smoked as much, if my dad knew this, I might have graduated from Valley High. *My brother Billy's very positive view of St, Anthony's is in the Appendix*. A slight bright spot was that I still had my own bedroom and in retrospect this must have been a comforting time for my parents because my father was home nights. Further, at that time, 327 West Newel Street was in decent area that is far from true today. In addition, my father owned a home with pillars in front that was an important criterion to him. To add to his enthusiasm, he had a backyard flower garden that he took great pride in.

Oldest leaves the Nest 1958 was a pivotal year for our family, because I became engaged, got married and left home. My future husband, Roger, was working at Syracuse University at the time and had access to the photo lab that resulted in this early 1958 family photo. My mother at that time was in apparent good health. Although this initially meant a drop of one for family count, it was not too long before I brought home four grandchildren that helped keep my parents entertained...... During the first few years of our marriage my mother's health began to decline and then Henry lost his job.



<u>Practicality Versus Pride</u>. Being out of work for the first time had to be a devastating time for my father who was supporting young children and a sick wife. Later I found out he was secretly seeing a heart specialist without my mother's knowledge. In late 1962 he tried selling real estate, on commission, with little success. He also took a job at Montgomery Ward's trying to sell vacuum cleaners. This must have been truly humbling for him considering he had a law degree and at that time his surviving brothers were doing very well

Sometime in early 1965, at a point of desperation, he sent a letter to the Republican New York State US Senator Jake Javits explaining his dilemma. Javits arranged to get Henry a spot in Rochester's NY State employment office as an Employment Interviewer. My father loved this job but of course the down side was that he was again only home weekends.

<u>Hospitalization and MS</u> Mom's diary entry dated September 23, 1963 identified she was at Memorial Hospital. We were living in Oklahoma at the time and I called to talk to Minnie and was I dumbfounded to find out she was in the hospital. Apparently, dad gave instructions not to bother me because he was afraid this news would impact the impending birth of our son Tim who arrived October 14, 1963.... Dad later appealed to the State and was able to transfer to the Syracuse Employment Office resulting in his ability to be at home with mom during the week. Two favorite photos from close to this period follow.





**Prayers for Henry** Our daily schedule at St. Agnes was to attend mass before classes began. My best friend Janis Pfiefer and I both rode the bus to school and we nornallly arrived about 30 minutes early. We were greeted at the church door by Monsigner Koch who always said "Good Morning Miss Janis---Good Morning Miss Margaret." Every first Friday the mass was devoted to prayers to ensure that a selected person saw a priest before they died. Janis and my father did not attend church services so we both prayed that our father's would receive the "Last Rites" before they died.

Other Fledgings Leave the Nest I expect most mother's, like myself, have a difficult time when their

children leave home. Minnie's strengthens this concept in her little diary that highlights times when her children left home; this includes: Peg to Oklahoma June23, 1963, Bill married, Feb 8, 1964, Marilyn left home October 1966 and Kathy left home April 26,1968 ....We attended Kathy's wedding on April 26, 1969; a picture of mom in her wheel chair and dad congratulating the bridegroom is shown. At that time Marianne, age 15 was the only child living home. This is likely the last photo of my father.

**September 7,1969** We were living in Rochester at the time and I received a 2:00 AM phone call that Henry was on the way to the hospital but it was not necessary for us to rush there. I received another call about two hours later and was told it was serious.... When we got to the hospital no family members were there. I was told that my father had died but I did find out he received the "Last Rites" that was comforting to me. I later found out that my mother never made it to the hospital. **MY MOTHER TOLD ME** 



THIS WAS THE ONLY TIME IN HER LIFE SHE NEVER KISSED MY FATHER GOODBYE

#### Minnie May [Sickel] Dean 1914-1976

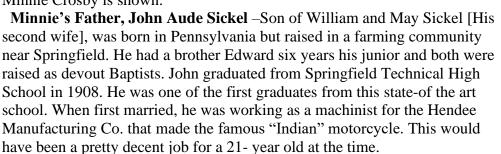
Minnie was born November 6, 1914 in Springfield Mass. She was named after her mother and her middle name, May, was in honor of her grandmother. She had only one sibling, John "Buddy" Sickel II who was born on August 6,1919. Minnie May found out that Buddy was really her stepbrother at her sixteenth birthday party when she overheard that her birthmother died when she was an infant. She was initially raised by her grandmother May [Veazy] Sickel , who she remained very close throughout her grandmother's life. Her father, John Aude Sickel, married his second wife, Mabel [Fellows] Sickel on August 12,1916 about three months before Minnie turned two. An early photo of Minnie is shown.



**Minnie's Birth Parents** John A, Sickel and Minnie Crosby [Higgins] Sickel were married by a Baptist minister in John's parent's East Longmeadow home December 20, 1913. John was 20 and Minnie 17. The newspaper account stated that the bride wore a traveling suit of blue cloth and a reception followed; further, that the young couple planned a short trip to New York.

Minnie's Mother – Minnie Crosby [Higgins] Sickel was the only child of Morton and Caroline Higgins. Morton's father came from England. Minnie Crosby was born November 14,1896 in the little

village of Huntington a few miles west of Springfield. Her father worked as a lumber inspector in a box factory and her mother took in laundry at their rented home. Her mother was an active member of the local Baptist church and served on the ladies' aid society. Caroline died in her Russel Street home from tuberculosis on April 14, 1913 after several weeks of illness. She was 35 Minnie Crosby worked as a stenographer in a local foundry when she married John. A Springfield historian surmised that she probably graduated from Westfield High because Huntington was in that district. Like her mother, she died of tuberculosis. According to her death certificate she died at 11:45 PM on September 10, 1915 at the Springfield Isolation Hospital. She had been there for several weeks. Her death certificate listed her as housewife and age 18 years, 9 months and 27 days. She was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery. *This meant her father, Morton Higgins, lost his young wife and only child from tuberculosis within about a two- year period*. The only known photo of Minnie Crosby is shown.



**Minnie's Stepbrother "Buddy"** was a pilot with the 10<sup>th</sup> Airforce during WWII in the China-India-Burma conflict. According to his wife Janet he received the Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Chinese Wings and was decorated by Chiang Kai-shek... They were married 22 years having identical twins John and Jeff born 1945 and Janet born 1947.

John A. Sickel III was killed in Vietnam March7,1967. A photo of his name that Roger and I took on the Vietnam War Memorial is shown .....The photo of Buddy is inscribed

"To My Dear Sister"









Daughter of the American Revolution Based upon extensive Sickel genealogical research, my daughters and any other female offspring of Minnie May [Sickel] Dean should be eligible to belong to the "Daughters of the American Revolution." The research to support this statement was obtained from my cousin Laura [Sickel] Mumma. My grandfather John A. Sickel [1892-1967] and Laura's grandfather Edward C, Sickel [1898-1979] were brothers. Laura pointed out that the Sickel [Seckel] line goes back to American pre-revolutionary times and several hundred years in Germany. She underscores that a distant cousin provided extensive research including several trips to Germany; further her parents also visited Schwabisch Hall in southern Germany where the family originated.

German Not Dutch I was brought up with the idea that my mother's family was "Pennsylvania Dutch". It is true that my grandfather was born near Philadelphia but his linage links to Germany not Holland. I strongly suspect that Minnie May's family picked up this handle because of the fierce ant-German sentiment during WWI where many German-Americans revised their actual heritage to avoid controversy.

For my 66<sup>th</sup> birthday, I received a truly wonderful gift. It was a photo album with pictures, and letters of my mom when she was a little girl. I doubt my mom ever saw these as an adult either. This material came from my cousin Laura [Sickel] Mumma. Some highlights from this album are the basis for this page. Details are in the Appendix.

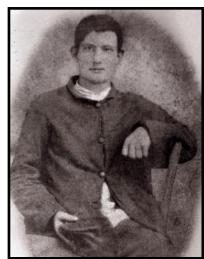
Minnie May's Grandfather – William S. Sickel served in the Civil War. He was born on a farm outside Philadelphia during 1846. He enlisted at age 18 with the Pennsylvania Volunteers on March 4, 1864. He served as a Private with 186<sup>th</sup> Military Regiment in Company G. The commander of 186<sup>th</sup> was the Provost Marshal for the City of Philadelphia. Williams first wife was Hannah. B. Haines; they raised three children in Mount Laurel N.J. across the river from Philadelphia. Hannah, age 43, died Jan. 14,1889. William's Civil War Photo is shown Minnie May's Grandmother-- May L. Veazey was William Sickel's second wife. They were married in Philadelphia during 1891. May, 17 years younger than William, was born March 1863 in Delaware. Their first child John Aude [Minnie's father] was born April 3, 1892 in Chester, Pennsylvania. May received a Civil War pension after William's death

**Thomas Ward Veazey**, former governor of Maryland was the great-grandfather of May [Veazey] Sickel . During the War of 1812 he abandoned politics and became a lieutenant colonel of Maryland troops, where his name has been preserved in Maryland history as the "Hero of Fredericktown". The Society of U.S. Daughters of 1812 dedicated a bronze plaque at Fredericktown commemorating the heroism of Col. Thomas Ward Veazey and the 35 men under his command. His relatives also fought in the Revolutionary War

Jan. 26,1916. May was a "bright star" in my mother's life.

**Revolutionary War Fighter:** Johan Wilhelm was the first Sickel immigrant born in the USA. He served in the Revolutionary War but was one of the oldest fighters at age 38. He was part of the Philadelphia Militia and called to duty August 19,1777. He was a member of the Second Brigade lead by Colonel James Irvine.









#### **Minnie May- Final Days**

Minnie May's only sibling Buddy died December 6, 1969 [Minnie's diary shows Dec 15] just three months after Henry died. Buddy was 50. This surely added to her grief and loneliness.

Shortly after dad died my immediate family moved in with Minnie May and my baby sister Marianne to West Newel St. In 1971 we bought a mid-nineteenth century built farm house in North Volney, north of Syracuse. Minnie May moved in with us shortly after and remained with us until her passing.

During that time her physical condition continued to downgrade changing from her ability to get outof -bed with some assistantnce into a wheel chair to complete bed ridden. Her mental capacity remained clear but she eventually lost most of her vision. Her primary form of recreation was television and in a rare burst of anger she would single out some evil soap opera character. Four photos are shown.









Reflections from Roger Dahlin In all the years I knew Minnie I never heard her complain or a say an unkind thing about anyone. During the time she lived with us in North Volney she suffered the humiliation of having to be lifted out of bed with a mechanical hoist and lost the control of her body waste systems. She even partly lost television, her daily companion, because of a vision problem. She described this vision loss like looking through a window that was half covered at the bottom. In other words, she had a split vision and could only see the upper part of an image. She never complained. Joe Volmer, who was a lifetime friend, came from an extremely religious family, best described Minnie.

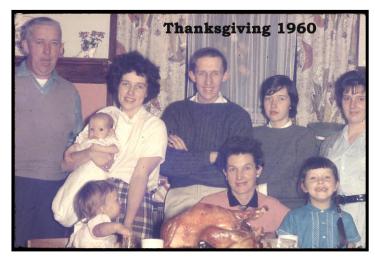
Joe said: "Mother Dean was a saint; she truly was a saint."

In Loving Memory of

February 11, 1976

Minnie Dean

#### MEMORIES OF HENRY AND MINNIE













#### George A. Dean 1907-1980

My recollection of the first time I met George is when I was 17. This was an extension of my Uncle Emmett's high school graduation gift that I mentioned earlier. While I was visiting Emmett and Jo in NYC, George picked me up and took me to see the "Rockettes" at the Radio City Music Hall. This glamorous precision, all girl, dancing ensemble was a very big thing in the 1950's as it still is today. Afterwards, George took me to high-ended restaurant for dinner. I do not remember what the meal was but I was greatly impressed by the bartender who played a musical tune on the wine glasses that hung upside down over the bar. George was at my wedding in 1958 and my father's funeral in 1969.

George must have been in contact with my parents throughout their marriage because entries in my mother's little diary indicates some key events during George's life. For example, Minnie's April 22, 1962 entry states: Thomas Edw. Dean 11:04 PM 7# 10 oz. son of Geo. Jr. & Nancy



Dean. [It is important to understand that what I refer to as "Minnie's diary" is not a diary in the traditional sense. It is a little leather-bound book with a key on the cover titled: "Dairy and Reminder". There is a page for each day of the year and many pages have no entry]

George's Social Security index states he was born June 12,1907. His baptismal record from St. Jerome Parish states that he was baptized June 12,1907 and that his godparents were Frank Dean [brother of his father Eugene] and Bridget Fitzgerald.

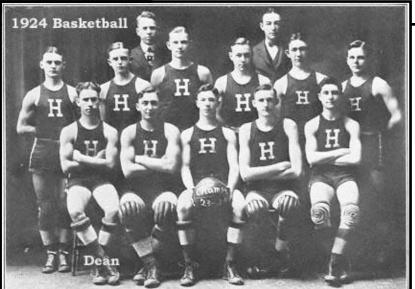
#### **EDUCATION** Holyoke High ,Graduated 1925 – Entered Amherst Fall 1925



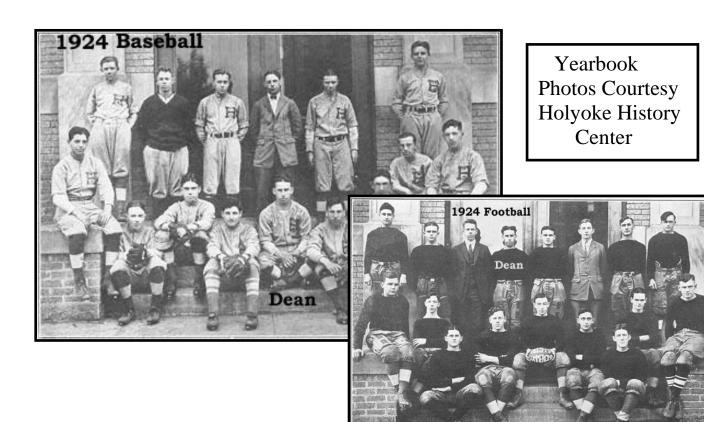
#### George Dean

Genial, good-natured "Georgie," the man with the million deliar smile. George's career at Holyoke High has been an unbreakable series of triumphs. Star third-baseman, half back and forward on the basketball team have been George's share of athletic achievements. Also he is "some shark" in his studies. Our Honor Roll would not have been complete without the name of George Dean engraved on it. Let us hope you won't forget us when you're holding down the "dizzy corner" for the Giants, George, "Strong reasons make strong actions."

—Shakespeare.







# George Deane, H. H. S. Star, Enters Amherst

Star Athlete Decides to Matriculate at Lord Jeff Institution Next Fall After Graduating from Local School in June -Is Also Brilliant Student

on the Holyoke High School baseball ball eleven. Deane is only 17 years team and a member of othe varsity basketball (cam. wii) enter Amherst j College next fall, it became known to- League besides playing with Holyoke day. Deane graduates from the local High. He has also performed with school in June and besides being a fine athlete is one of the brightest pupils in the class being entered in the first honor list for the entire four mond ever witnessed hereabouts. year course.

Deane had been considering entering other institutions but he has de-Ison and Johnny McDowell were much finitely decided to matriculate at better than the average. He is a Amherst. Amherst will gain a stu- good floor worker and possesses an dent who will be capable of perform- eagle eye. He should make good at ing on not only the baseball and Amherst,

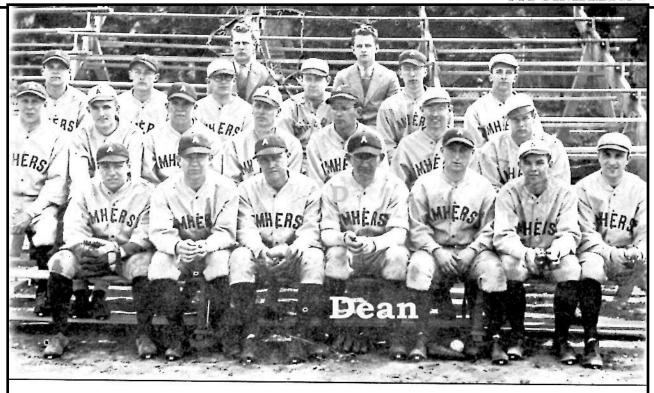
George Deane, star third baseman basketball teams but also on the footd but is nearly six feet in height and weighs about 165 pounds.

Deane is now playing in the City the Holyoke Canoe Club. He bats and throws right hand. He is said to have one of the finest pegs across the dia-

In basketball Deane is good but he was eclipsed because Eddie William-

## DEAN SETS UP FIELDING RECORD

AT AMHERST



AMHERST'S UNDEFEATED TEAM

# DEAN WINDS UP BASEBALL CAREER NEXT SEPTEMBER

Last Ball Game With Reds Here — Accepts Position With New York Telephone Company in Fall

When the Holyoke Reds wind up their Western Massachusetts League schedule this season George Dean, former Amherst College star, who plays third base for that club will hang up his baseball, togs for keeps.

Dean has accepted a position with the New York Telephone Company, and takes up his duties in the fail, leaving here September 9

Dean passed, up an opportunity to become an instructor at Pomfret School, at Pomfret, Conn., where he was also offered a chance to coach the baseball squad. Dean decided to neter business rather than take up the teaching profession

. He is one of a group of Amherst College graduates of last June who have accepted a position with the New York Telephone Company. The enjoining
Holyoke Transcript
article states that
Dean, Captain of the
Amherst baseball
team, turned down an
opportunity to teach
and coach baseball at
the Pomfret School in
Connecticut. Instead,
he accepted a position
with the New York
Telephone Company
in New York City



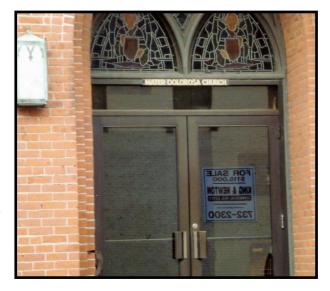
Captain George Dean '29
Third baseman whose consistent hitting and def
play have led the way to the team's succe

**EMPLOYMENT** The article on the previous page indicates that George started working at New York Telephone, with a BA from Amherst, in September 1929. His obituary from the Holyoke Transcript indicated he retired in 1969 after working 40 years for the Company. My understanding he worked in the office and possibly in the legal department.

**Courtship and Marriage** Minnie's little diary states that George and Jo [Josephine Ostrowski] married in September 1932. The only initial information I had about Jo is from family folklore that indicated she was born in Poland. However, via support from the Holyoke History Center I am able to

provided supporting information about her background. This support includes obituaries of Josephine's mother and aunt [See Appendix]. Jo's parents, Constantine Ostrowski and Mary [Miezerewski] Ostrowski were both Polish immigrants. Jo's mother Mary died, age 39, in February 1922 when Jo was 12 and her sister Sophia was 15. Jo's widowed aunt Mary [Domurat] Ostrowski died in February 1937. Her husband Peter was Constantine's brother. Her obituary listed George Dean of Mt. Vernon NY. The family lived in Holyoke and were communicants of Mater Dolorosa church that was founded by Polish immigrants in 1898.

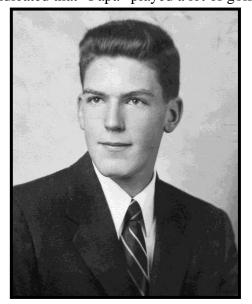
My brother Billy's 2006 photo shows the shuttered church for sale. The beautiful old church was demolished in 2018



**Family Man** George and Jo had two sons, George Junior and his younger brother John. John's obituary shows that he was born December 13,1937. I do not know George Junior's birthdate. I never met George Junior; however, a photo of him with his son Thomas follows. On the other hand, John was at my high school graduation and at my wedding. Further, a photo of him as a young man is shown. John's attendance at my high school graduation brings back particular memories; all the girls at St. Anthony's gushed over my handsome cousin.

According to my mother, in the early 1940's Jo was on the way to a doctor's appointment via a taxi. They were struck head-on. Minnie said Jo was never the same after that and she was later institutionalized. Consequently, George raised his two sons as if he was a single dad. Nancy Dean, wife of George Jr. indicated that "Papa" played a lot of golf with his sons. Equally important, he spent a lot of

time with us on vacations, baby sitting and on and weekends.





#### **Final Tribute**

George's wife Josephine lived almost 20 years beyond George. 12/18/99 She is buried with her parents, older sister Sophia and her Aunt Mary in the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery that is a subsection of Holyoke's Notre Dame Cemetery



The last time Emmett, George and Henry were together was at my December 27,1958 wedding. The photo was taken at the reception in our family home



<u>Front L-R:</u> Dorthy Tuttle, Grace Dahlin, Minnie Dean, Bunnie Rathbun, Marianne Dean, Agnes Grant <u>Back L-R:</u> Emmett Dean, Howard Tuttle, Carl Dahlin, George Dean, Henry Dean, Jean Dahlin, Vivian Luhr, Betty Dahlin, Ray Rathbun, Dick&Gordon Dahlin, John Dean