



# **The Owen Family Reunion**

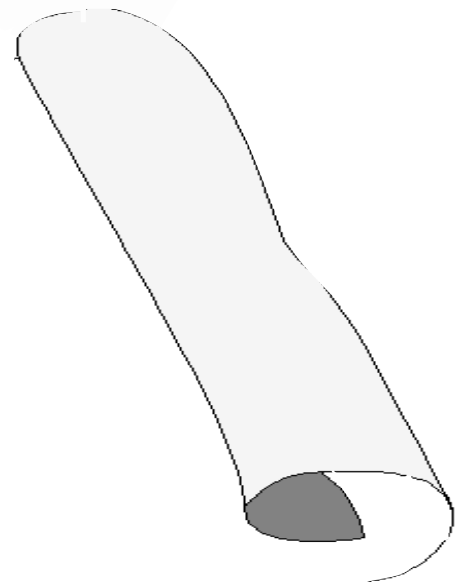
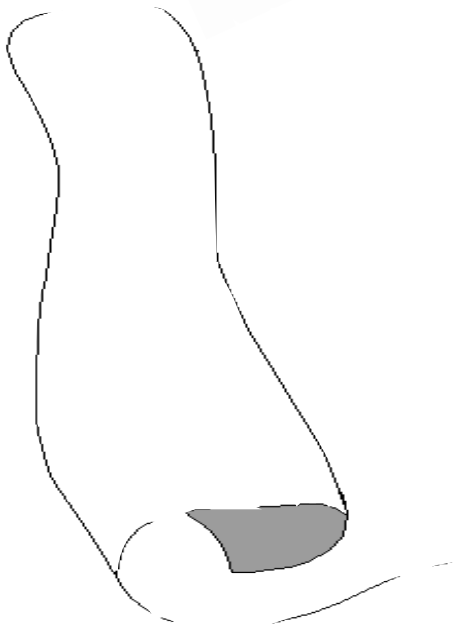
**July 6, 1996  
Ottumwa, Iowa**

A "Desktop Heirloom"™  
created by Mary Graham  
©1996



About 1924  
~While courting

**George Reno Owen  
&  
Nina Elsie Schertz**



About 1923



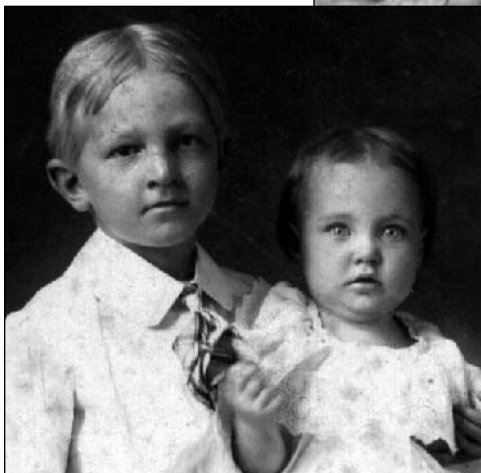
### Nina's Girlhood

Nina in her teens. Photo taken on a bridge near the railroad tracks — not far from her farm home in Wapello Co., Iowa.

Roscoe Elijah Schertz  
(b. May 19, 1901  
d. September 3, 1975)



About 1911



Nina and older brother Roscoe.  
1907

Nina with her younger brother  
Joseph Charles Schertz  
(b. January 31, 1909  
d. December 12, 1978)



Nina  
1924



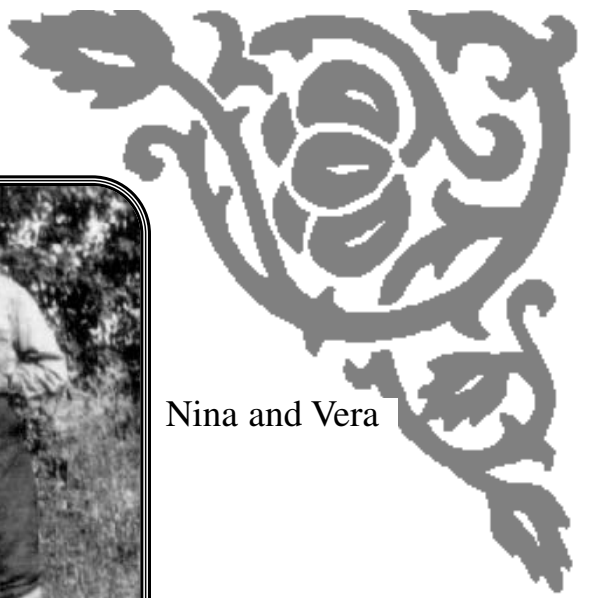
Nina and Vera



About 1924



Vera Evelyn Schertz  
(b. November 30, 1903 in Wapello Co., Iowa  
d. June 16, 1996)  
and Nina Elsie Schertz  
(b. September 13, 1906 in Wapello Co., Iowa)





George Reno Owen  
(b. May 9, 1903, in Wayne Co., Iowa  
d. November 7, 1988)

### George's Boyhood



1910

Ralph Henry Owen  
(b. September 30, 1905  
d. December 22, 1986)  
and George and their goat carts.



Ola May and Bennie Owen and their boys George,  
Ralph, and Clyde Herald Owen  
(b. July 28, 1910  
d. September 29, 1911)



George in his Teens



George and Nina were  
married  
February 22, 1925, in  
Ottumwa, Iowa.



# George and Nina's Children



Virginia  
at 8 months

About 1929, Summer.  
Photo taken in front yard of  
house on 61st Street.  
Des Moines, Iowa.

“Aunt Vera” with Leo Ernest Owen  
(b. March 22, 1929)  
and Virginia “Ginny” May Owen  
(b. November 3, 1926)



Virginia bundled up for cold weather. Nina called her Gigi when she was little.  
About 1927

Both Owen children read at an early age.



Leo  
About 1933







A dashing  
George Owen

About  
1934



Nina, George,  
Leo & Ginny  
Owen



About  
1937

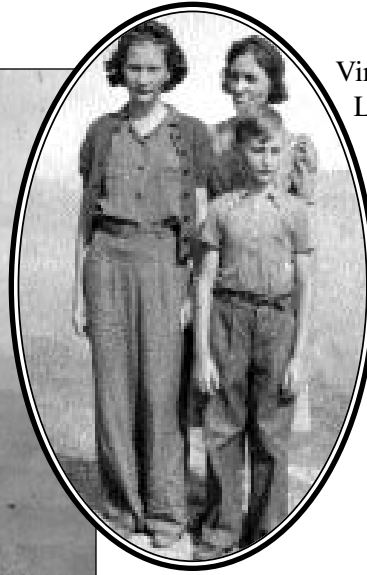
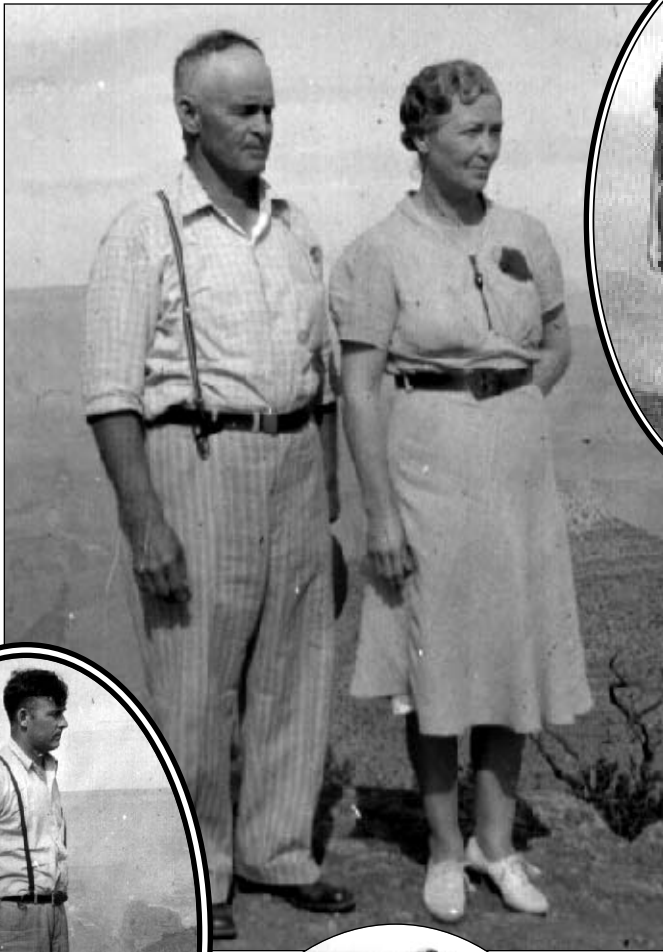


George  
with Leo

Ginny holding 'Nicky' the dog, Harold Gaston, and Leo. Photo taken on the side lawn in back of their house. The pump in the background is just outside the back door. Nicky first belonged to Windle and Martha, but Harold was a little rough and Nicky not terribly forgiving, so they gave him to George Owen and family. Ginny and Leo had him until they moved to Wisconsin in 1942, after WW II began. By then Harold was considerably older and nice to a little dog. Ginny and Leo missed Nicky and hated to give him up.

# Summer of 1941 on a Trip through the West

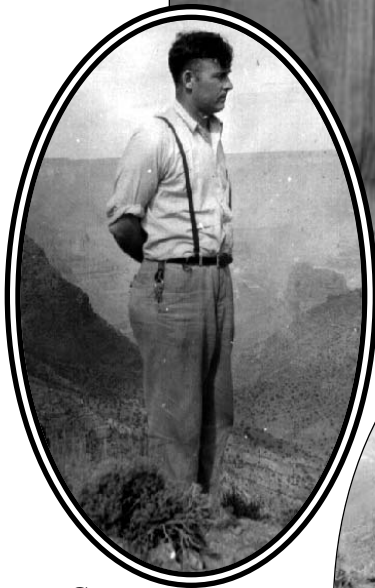
## Grand Canyon National Park



Virginia, Nina, and  
Leo

Benjamin

“Bennie” S. Owen  
(b. October 25, 1878  
d. March 25, 1952)  
and Ola May Gail  
(maiden name)  
(b. October 13, 1884  
d. July 15, 1966)  
Married March 26, 1902,  
in Decatur Co., Iowa.

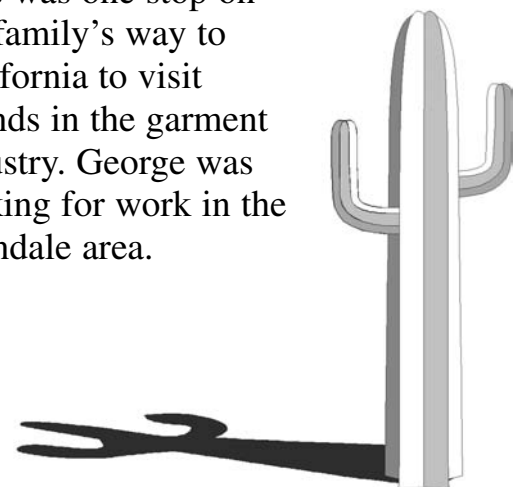
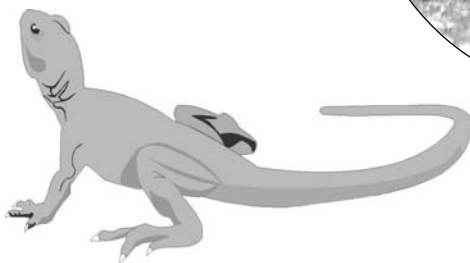


George



Leo and  
Virginia

This was one stop on  
the family’s way to  
California to visit  
friends in the garment  
industry. George was  
looking for work in the  
Glendale area.





July 1941

## Seeing the Sights Out West

What a thrill to dress up as an Indian with such a classy Indian! He was a real showman and made these shy Owen kids have a great time.

(The film processors took a copy of this picture and blew it up for their store front window as a promotion.)

Throwing  
snowballs!



# Owen Family Picture

About 1943



Windle  
Gaston  
(married  
Martha)

Grandpa  
Bennie  
Martha  
Bernice Owen  
(maiden name)  
(b. Sep. 24, 1914)

Grannie  
Ola "Olie"  
Leo

Ginny  
(holding  
'Nicky')

Nina

Margie  
(married  
Ralph)

Ralph  
Henry Owen  
(b. Sep. 30, 1905  
d. Dec. 22, 1986)

Harold (Windle  
& Martha's  
son)

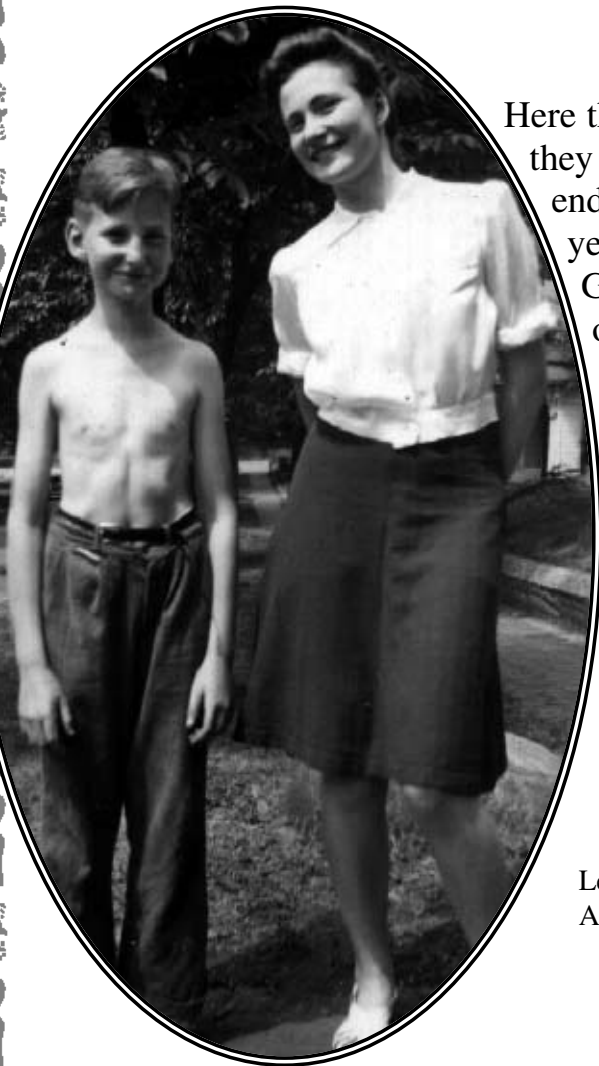
Marilyn  
(Margie &  
Ralph's daughter)

Ralph, Jr.

Here is Grandpa Bennie and Grannie Ola with their grown children, George (taking picture), Ralph, and Martha and their families.

## Ginny and Leo Growing Up

The Owen family on a  
visit to Ottumwa at  
Grannie and  
Grandpa's house.  
1943



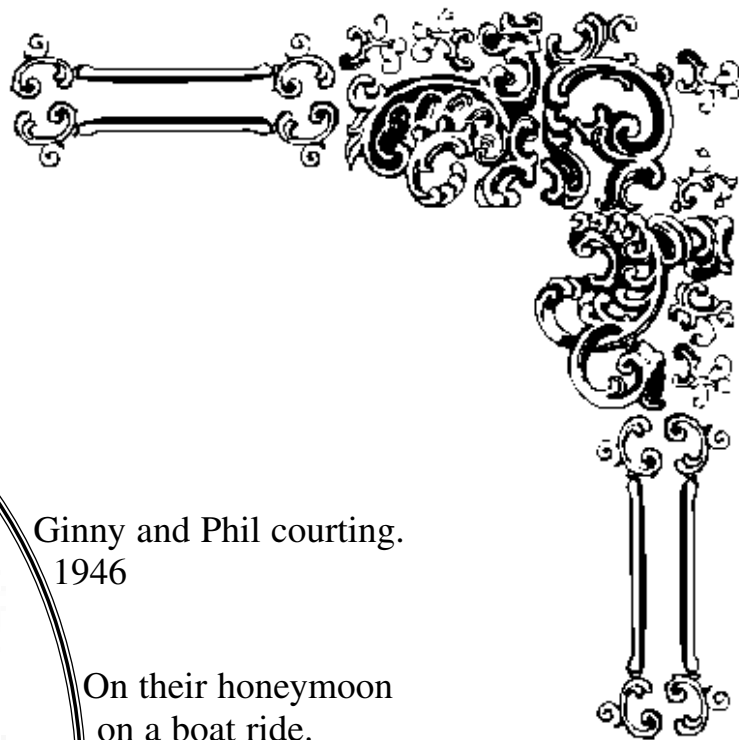
Here they are in Des Moines, where  
they lived in an apartment until the  
end of the school  
year in 1942.

George had moved  
on ahead of the  
family to  
Kenosha,  
Wisconsin.



Leo in Kenosha.  
About 1942

Virginia meets and marries  
Philip Wallace Graham  
(b. April 25, 1925  
d. July 3, 1982)



Ginny and Phil courting.  
1946

On their honeymoon  
on a boat ride.

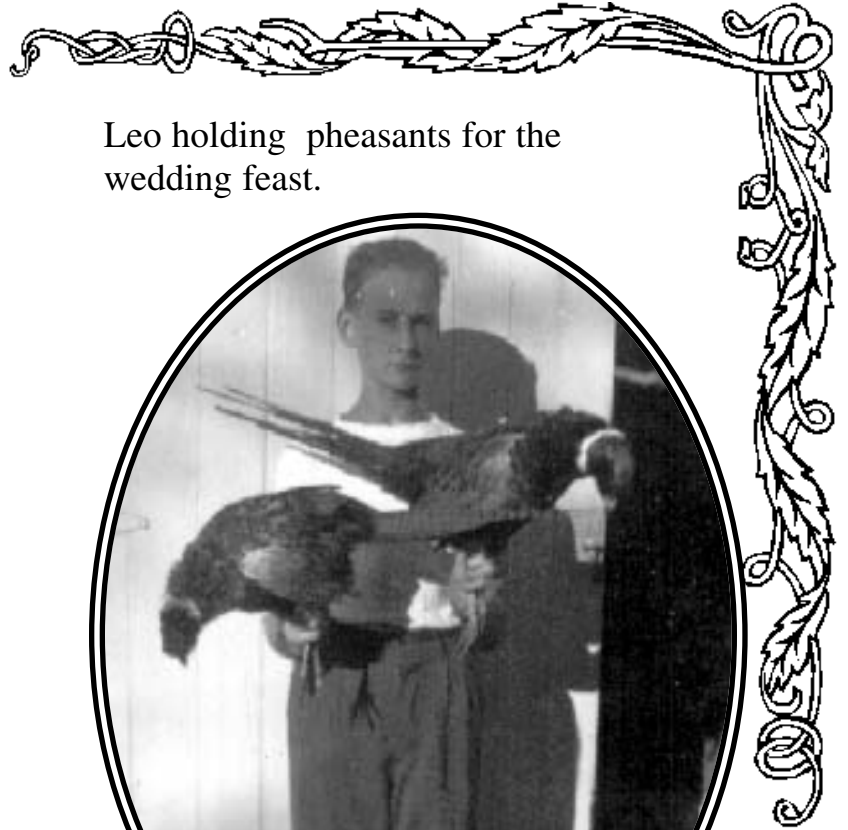


Married June 7, 1946





Leo's High School Graduation was the day after Virginia's Wedding June 8, 1946



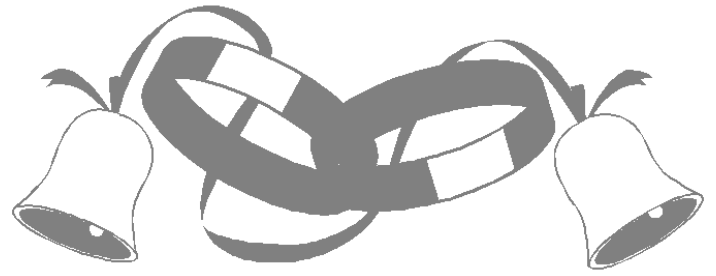
Leo holding pheasants for the wedding feast.



Leo, Virginia, and friends Barbara (maid of honor) and Bill (best man) Sensenbaugh.



Leo meets and marries  
Norma Jean Herring  
(b. June 27, 1929  
d. July 1994)



Leo graduated from Iowa  
State in Ames in 1952.

Married  
January 5, 1952 in  
Blair, Nebraska





# Virginia & Philip Graham's Children

Jeffrey Owen  
(b. April 30, 1947)



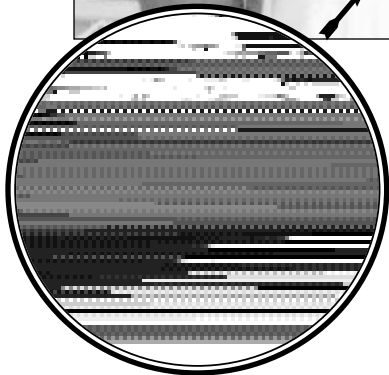
Robert Philip  
(b. July 14, 1952)



Laura Jeanne  
(b. April 3, 1949)



December  
1987



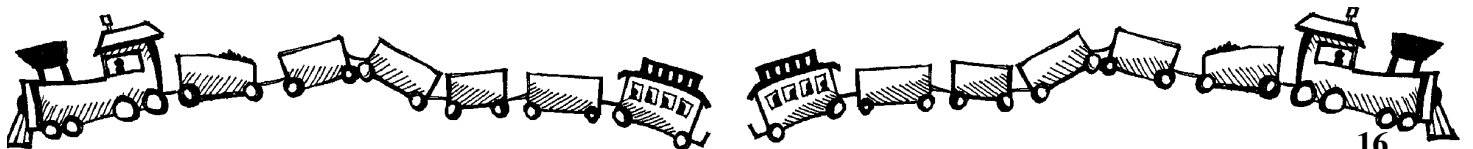
Wendy Suzanne  
(b. August 3, 1961)



Nancy Christine  
(b. April 11, 1963)



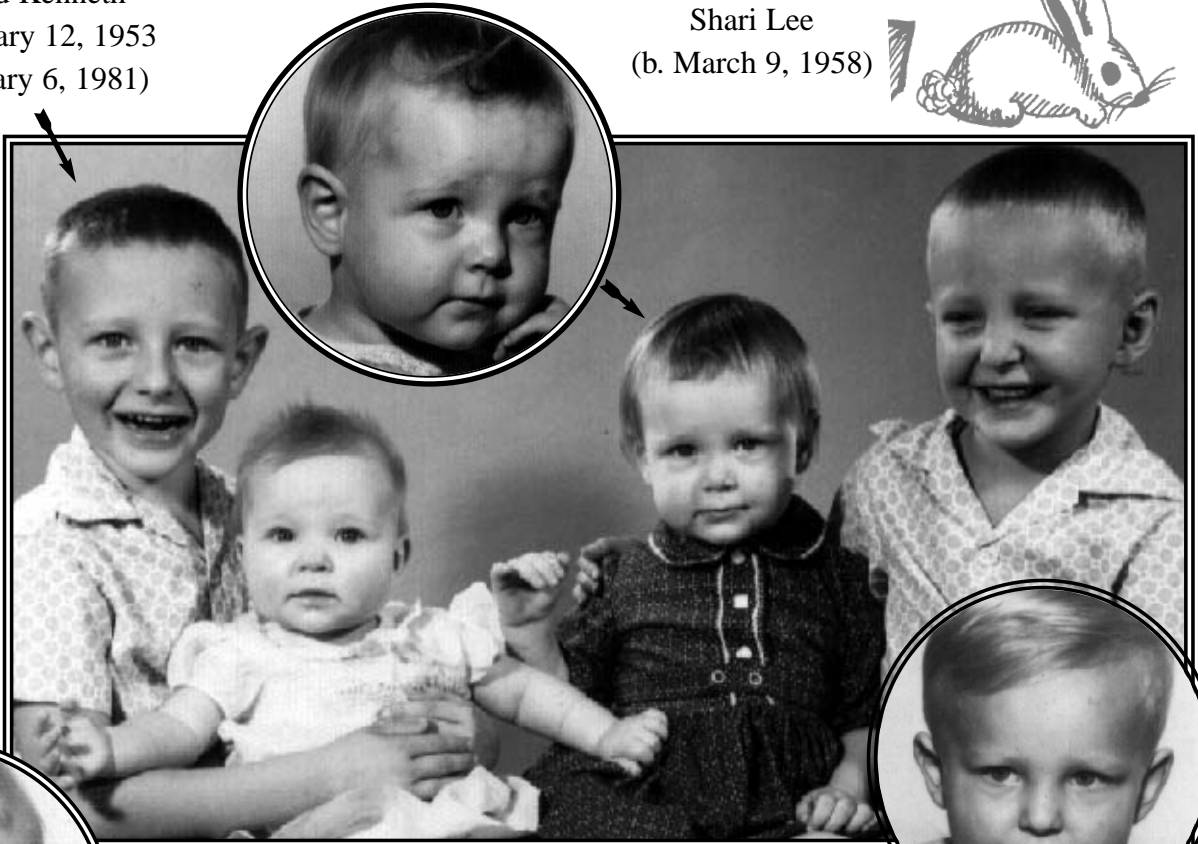
Mary Ann  
(b. February 28, 1958)



# Leo and Norma Owen's Children

Richard Kenneth  
(b. February 12, 1953  
d. February 6, 1981)

Shari Lee  
(b. March 9, 1958)



About  
1959



Linda Jean  
(b. April 25,  
1959)

Kenneth Robert  
(b. June 25, 1962  
d. April 30, 1984)



Michael George  
(b. March 9, 1954)



From left to  
right: Linda,  
Kenneth,  
and Shari.



Jeff Graham playing the organ.



Laura's longtime companion, 'Streak' the cat, died in the spring of 1996 at the age of 15.

Laura Graham in December 1994.

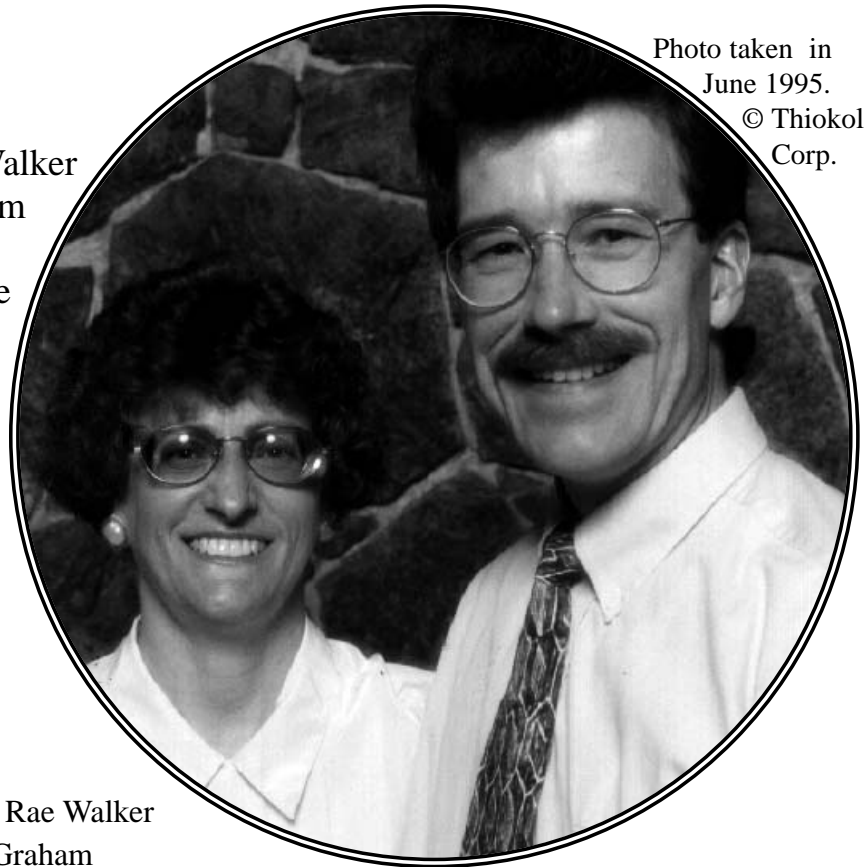


Nancy, Bob, and Laura after completing a 50-mile hike. Spring 1995



Photo taken in  
June 1995.  
© Thiokol  
Corp.

Bob met Cheryl Rae Walker  
while attending Brigham  
Young University in  
Provo, Utah. They were  
married December 22,  
1975, in Idaho Falls,  
Idaho.



Cheryl Rae Walker  
Graham  
(b. August 16, 1953)

Robert Philip Graham  
(b. July 14, 1952)

Bob and Cheryl and  
their cats, Teila and  
Titia.



June 1996

Mary Graham & Dennis Kelly and Family

Married May 1, 1981, in Arlington, Virginia



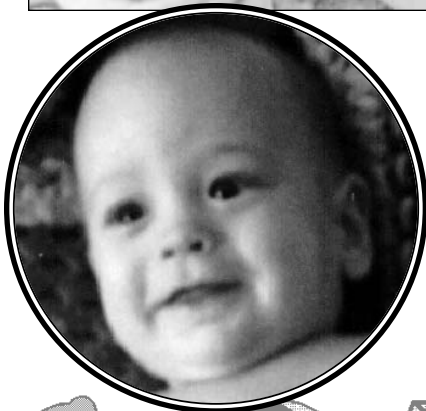
Dennis Jerome Kelly  
(b. September 30, 1959)



Fall  
1993



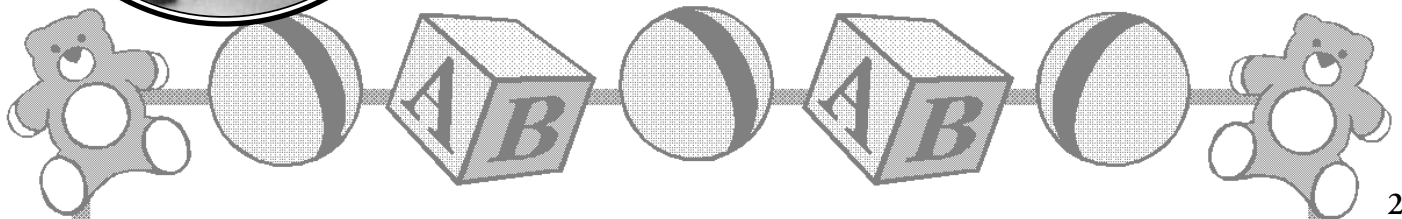
Mary Ann Graham  
(b. February 28, 1958)



Philip Graham Kelly  
(b. August 5, 1984)



Madeline May Kelly  
(b. May 25, 1987)



Wendy & Tom Speck and Family

Married May 11, 1984 in  
Bethesda, Maryland



Stacey Marie  
(b. Aug 2, 1985)

Thomas Allen Speck  
(b. August 15, 1962)



Virginia "Ginny" Mae  
(b. April 14, 1989)



Douglas Benjamin  
(b. August 22, 1987)

January 1996

Wendy Suzanne Speck  
(b. August 3, 1961)



Samantha Elizabeth  
(b. May 15, 1994)

Julie Anne  
(b. June 30, 1992)





Stuart & Nancy Riggs and Family

Married November 10, 1984, in  
Arlington, Virginia

Nathan and his  
dad.  
1994

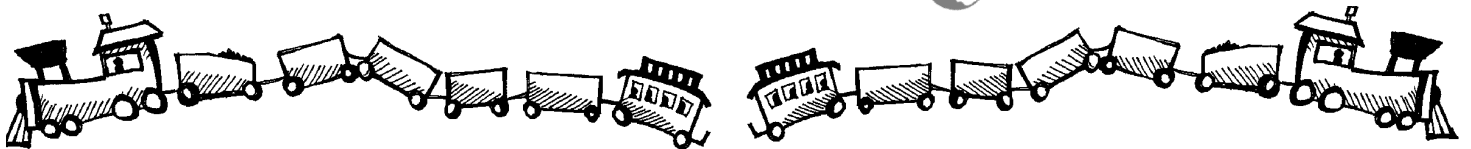
Stuart Riggs  
(b. August 23, 1962)



Nancy Christine Graham Riggs  
(b. April 11, 1963)

1996

Nathanial Edgar  
(b. December 31, 1993)



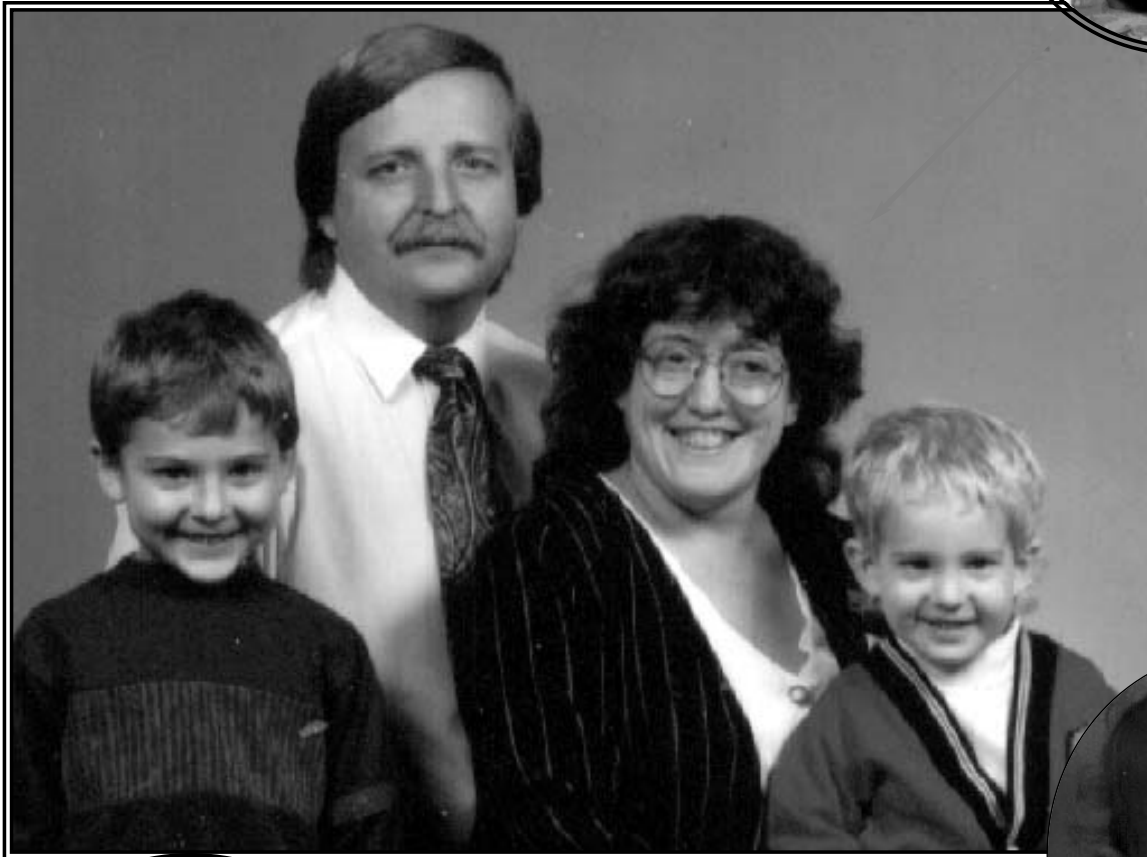
Mike & Sharon Owen and Family



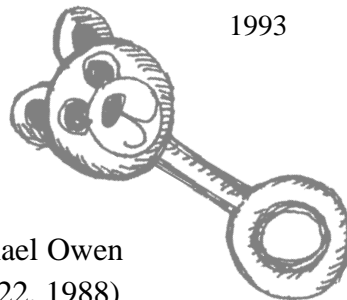
Married August 22, 1987, in  
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Sharon "Shari" Ann Owen  
(maiden name Swoboda,  
b. March 25, 1957)

Michael George Owen  
(b. March 9, 1954)

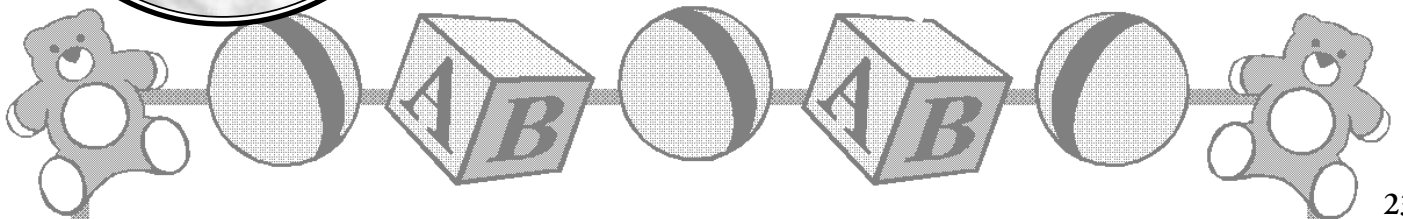


1993



Jesse Michael Owen  
(b. March 22, 1988)

Andrew George Owen  
(b. June 11, 1991)

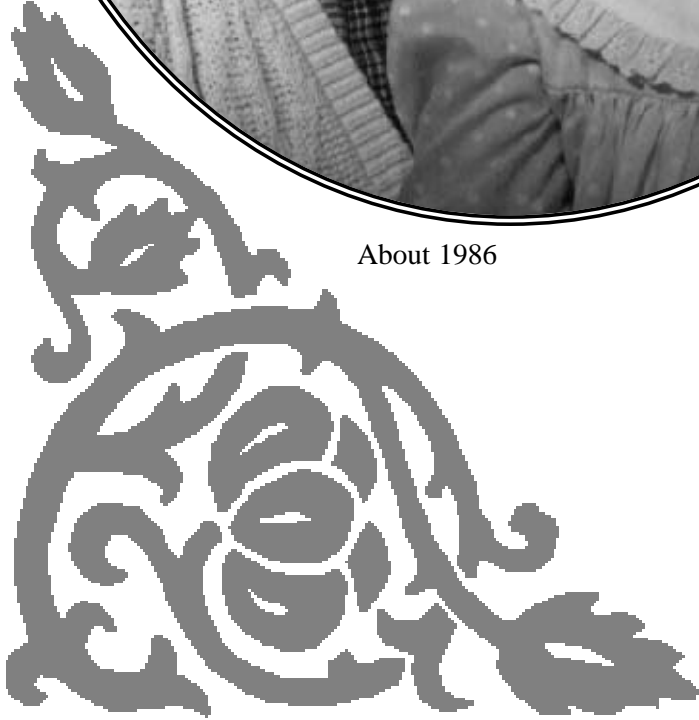




Shari Owen and her Daughter Jennie

Shari Lee Owen  
(b. March 9, 1958)

Jennifer "Jennie" Lynn Owen  
(b. May 14, 1980)



About 1986



Jennie

Linda & Stephen Herget and Family

Married June 30, 1984



Linda Owen Herget  
(b. April 25, 1959)

Stephen Wayne Herget  
(b. February 12, 1955)



1995



Silas Wayne  
(b. March 3, 1986)



Arlene Elsie  
(b. July 20, 1988)



Malachi Stephen  
(b. June 3, 1994)



# Family Get-Togethers Over the Years



About  
1952

Sitting: Windle Gaston, Martha  
Gaston, Virginia, Mary  
Standing: Grannie Ola  
In Sandbox: Bobby  
In Wagon: Marilyn's kids. 1958

Leo, Norma, Phil, Ginny, and Bobby



Tallest: Jeff, Leo, Ginny, Laura  
Middle: Mike, Ricky, Bobby  
Sitting: Mary

At Great Falls, Virginia  
1960





Phil, Ginny, Nina, Leo, Laura, George,  
Dog 'Danny,' Bob, Shari, Mary, & Jeff.



Mary and Shari in outfits made by  
Grandma Nina Owen



Kenny, Nancy, Ginny,  
and Laura



## Family Camping Trip



Bob, Jeff, Leo, Norma, Ginny, Phil,  
Ricky, Mike, Mary,  
Linda, Shari,  
Wendy, Nancy, and Kenny



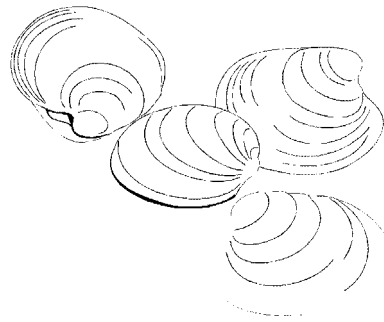
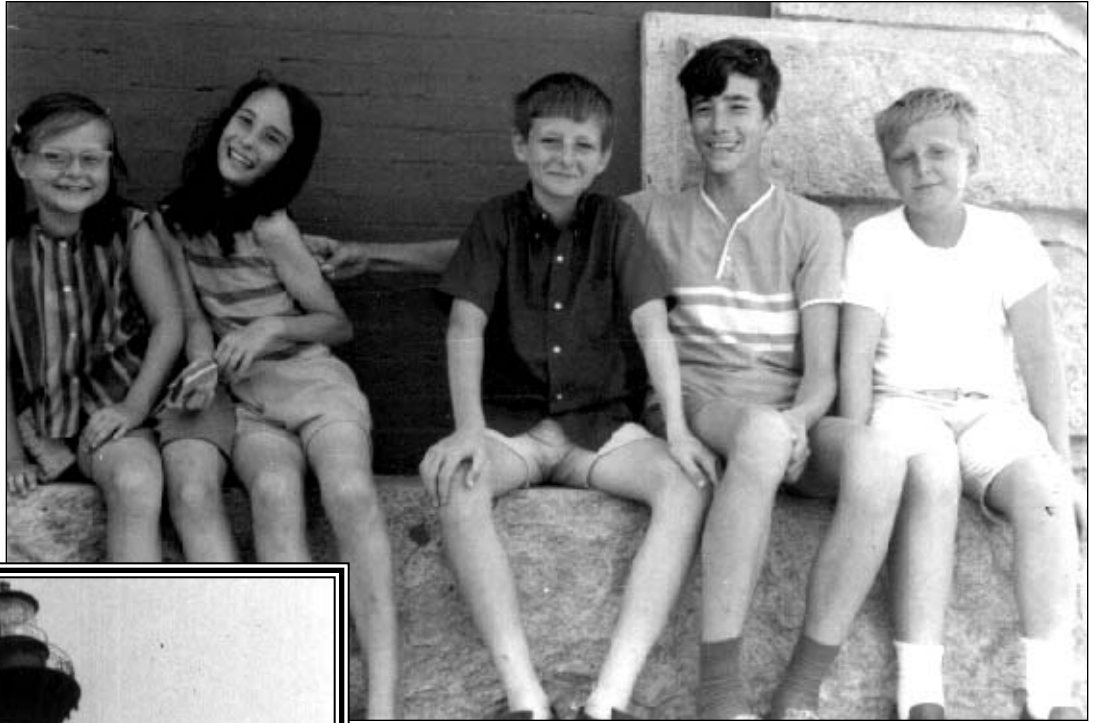
Leo

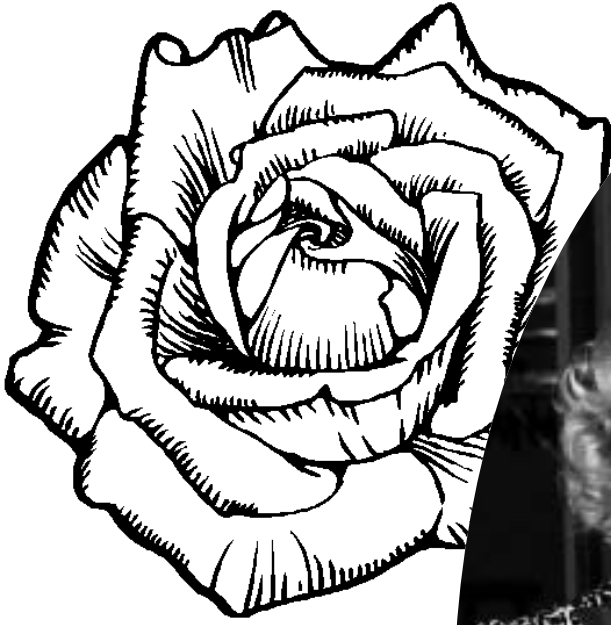






**Kitty Hawk  
North  
Carolina**





Leo met and later married  
Bette Harlan. Their wedding  
was January 1, 1987.



## The Owen Family

Leo, Ginny, Nina and George

