

8/2/2018

Dear William

Here is a copy of the Lynett-
Helfron Casey Family History. It is
very interesting to say the least
Learned some things I never knew
Hope you enjoy reading it. will keep
you posted on the pictures situation
when they are ready and will drop box
to you

Austin Lydr

An Informal History of
THE LYNCH/CASEY FAMILIES

Compiled and Edited
by
Patricia Lynch Heffron

This account spans mostly the years of the Lynch/Casey families and their forebears from approximately the 1840s, the time of the great famine in Ireland, to around the 1930s, the time of the great depression In the United States.

My mother, Mary Catherine Casey Lynch, was the source of most of the information about the families. Her recollections were tape-recorded by daughter-in-law Susan Alling Lynch, wife of son Francis J. Lynch, and the subsequent transcript, with minor editing, is included. I and other family members spent many pleasant hours listening to Mother reminisce. To supplement my memory of these delightful occasions, I later began taking notes, which also were used in writing this narrative.

Additional information was obtained from a memoir, "The Families," written by Mary Gwinn Bowe, wife of my mother's first cousin, William J. Bowe; from conversations with another of Mother's first cousins, Grace Casey, daughter of Edward and Grace Kelly Casey; and from a book found in the Newberry Library in Chicago entitled "The Biographical History of the American Irish" by Charles French, published in 1897.

Patricia Lynch Heffron
March 1994

John Dominic Casey, born August 4, 1864, was the father of Mary Catherine Casey Lynch and John Anthony Casey, who later changed his middle name to Dominic. His parents were Thomas Patrick Casey who, according to family sources, was born in Athenry, County Galway, Ireland, and Catherine Bern Casey from County Roscommon, possibly the town of Stokestown. There is no record of Thomas's birth date; Catherine's was 1835 or 1836. They were married in Chicago, Illinois in 1862. Thomas had left Ireland and settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1840, and then moved to Chicago in 1852 where he worked as a carpenter and then a building contractor. The carpentry on Holy Family Church, built in 1857 at 1080 West Roosevelt Road, was said to have been done by him. One written account stated he was the contractor for the Stetthauer Block building erected at the corner of Franklin and Madison Streets after the Chicago Fire in 1871.

Thomas Patrick Casey died in 1895. He was known to have had two brothers; one settled in Canada and the other emigrated to Australia. A Casey family photograph album contains a picture of two persons identified as John D. Casey's first cousins, the Reverend P. J. Casey, S. J., and Sister Roseleta. It is presumed they were the son and daughter of Thomas's brother in Canada.

Catherine Bern Casey was one of three sisters. Elizabeth (Aunt Eliza) settled in Manteno, Illinois after marrying a retired farmer, John Denver. Maria Bern never married, and lived with her sisters. It is unknown when the Bern sisters arrived in the United States or where they first lived. Catherine became a successful businesswoman, owning a prosperous dry goods store at 868 Blue Island Avenue in Chicago for a number of years, and allegedly traveling to France on at least one occasion, perhaps in part for business reasons. Family lore indicates she was a friend and supporter of Jane Addams, and there is credibility in this because Hull House was in the same neighborhood as her store. Toward the end of her life she lived with her son Edward and his family at 9 South Waller Street in Chicago, and finally with her

son Fred. Catherine died in 1917 at the age of eighty-one or eighty-two.

Thomas and Catherine Casey had a large number of children, many of whom did not survive to adulthood. The family tombstone at Calvary Cemetery on the north side of Chicago is inscribed with these names and dates of death: Michael, 1863; Elizabeth, 1873; Thomas, 1881; William, 1897; and Francis, 1900. Four sons and one daughter did reach maturity: John, Joseph, Frederick, Edward, and Mary who died in 1887 at twenty-one years of age. John and Joseph were attorneys; Edward attended law school but did not practice law; and Fred was in business. Joseph married Anna Hefernan and moved to California; they had no children. Edward married Grace Kelly and they had two daughters, Frances and Grace. Fred never married.

As set forth in a slightly paraphrased version of a sketch from "The Biographical History of the American Irish in Chicago" by Charles French, published in 1897, John D. Casey attended the Christian Brothers School on Morgan Street, and the Harrison Street Public School. Later he enrolled in a commercial course at St. Ignatius College for three years. At the age of seventeen he became a bookkeeper in the Cashier's Department of the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company, where he remained for five years. He resigned to study law in the office of Judge Thomas E. Whiteside. Subsequently he left to take a two-year course in the Union College of Law, from which he graduated and then secured a license to practice. Immediately thereafter he entered the law office of Murphy and Cummings where he stayed for two years studying hard and gaining much experience in general practice. In 1895 he formed a partnership with John W. Bantz, a lawyer of twenty-years standing in Fulton County, Illinois, and together they opened an office in the Stock Exchange Building. Mr. Casey had a large general practice and represented a number of corporations as attorney. In 1897 he was appointed Master in Chancery in recognition of his legal abilities. He took the live-

liest interest in political matters, and believed that such is the duty of all good citizens. He acted as private attorney for the Honorable William Lorimer, was a delegate to the state convention in Springfield, and could always be relied upon to speak whenever his services were required. In 1894 he assisted in the organization of the Women's Catholic Order of Foresters, for which he became attorney. He was an advocate for Hull House, and organized and was for two years President of the Young Men's Club, which was instrumental in procuring for it a library and gymnasium. In his religious views he was a Roman Catholic and a member of the congregation of the Jesuit Holy Family Church. Yet a young man, by his energy and superior abilities Mr. Casey succeeded in pushing himself forward in the world, and his genial and thoroughly courteous manner made every client a friend.

Sometime after her retirement in 1973, probably in the middle to late 1970s, Mary Catherine Casey Lynch narrated on tape some of her family history based on personal remembrances and oral tradition, of which the following is a lightly edited transcript:

"This is a picture of my father John D. Casey. He was born August 4, 1864. He was thirty-four years old when he married my mother Margaret Canavan. He grew up around the 1300 block on South Blue Island Avenue in Chicago, Illinois. He went to St. Patrick's Commercial High School. After that he was a clerk for the Burlington Railroad for a short period of time. He decided he was going to study law. He was a law clerk for Judge Whiteside. Then I guess after a year or so he went to the old Union Law School which is now Northwestern Law School. He had been practicing law for several years when he was married to my mother January 11, 1899. He had a practice with his brother Joseph A. Casey, and then he was in partnership with a man by the name of Charles Obermeyer. They had offices in the old Rookery Building.

"My father lived in the 19th Ward and was active in Republican politics. In 1897 he was appointed a Master in Chancery for a short time before he was appointed an Assistant Probate Judge. He was

an assistant to Judge Cummings, who was quite a famous lawyer, and later held an important post with the Illinois Bell Telephone Company. In those days there was only one Assistant Probate Judge (nowadays there are many) and it was quite an important position. In 1908 he ran for Judge of the Probate Court on the Republican ticket and lost; the Democrats took over. He was in the private practice of law until the time of his death in 1915."

Margaret Elizabeth Canavan was born December 18, 1862 in Sumner Township, Kankakee County, Illinois. She married John D. Casey January 11, 1899 when she was thirty-seven years old. Margaret was the daughter of Anthony Canavan who was born in the tiny Village of Curraghadooey, near the town of Claremorris, County Mayo in 1820. Her mother was Ann Hughes Canavan who was born in the same area in 1818. Anthony and Ann married in Ireland in 1840. (In 1984 Anthony and Ann's great grandson John G. Lynch and his wife Roberta Wyman Lynch visited Curraghadooey and found numerous Hughes families still living there. They also found the Canavan name in the town of Tuam in Galway.) Anthony's father was another Anthony Canavan. He married Catherine Kirby who was said to have come from the Bishopric of Tuam. Anthony and Catherine had eight children, Austin, Anthony Jr., Ellen, Ann, James, Patrick, John, and Honora. Although all of their children left Ireland because of the desperate conditions during the great famine that struck in the 1840s, Anthony Sr. stayed in Ireland and died there. After her husband's death, Catherine Kirby Canavan came to the United States. She is buried in a cemetery in Momence, Illinois where her sons Austin and Anthony had settled.

Anthony Jr. and Ann Hughes Canavan had four children before leaving Ireland in 1846, James, John, Anthony III (Tony), and Mary. They had seven more in the United States, Austin Augustine, Patrick, two named Thomas (the first of whom died in infancy), Catherine, Ellen, and Margaret. These three sisters were born in Illinois.

In her memoir, "The Families," cousin Mary Gwinn Bowe has written

of the difficult Atlantic crossing Anthony, Ann, and their three very young sons endured to reach the United States. (Mary, only six months old then, remained in Ireland with her grandparents, and did not rejoin the family until it was settled in Momence, Illinois.) Bad weather, shipboard accidents and sickness plagued their passage. As the mainmast fell during one storm, part of it hit James and broke his arm. John lost an eye, and all suffered from ship's fever. Father Anthony was stricken with typhoid fever and, when the ship docked in Philadelphia, was carried to the Quaker's William Penn Hospital where he recovered. Upon his death many years later in 1890, he left a bequest of five thousand dollars to this hospital for their kindness to immigrants.

The family took up residence in St. Augustine Parish, Philadelphia, near Independence Hall, which was not far from their church at Fourth and Walnut Streets. The church was destroyed afterward in a fire thought to have been started because of anti-Catholic feeling prevalent at the time. Anthony worked nine years for a Quaker family who operated a wholesale grocery business. When he left for Illinois, his employers presented him with a spindle-legged table that is now in the home of his great grandson Francis J. Lynch, Margaret Canavan Casey's grandson.

Anthony's brother Austin had settled earlier in Momence, Illinois, a small town about fifty miles south of Chicago in Kankakee County, and married wealthy widow Ann Hathaway. He encouraged his brother to come to Illinois. Around 1855 Anthony and his wife and children, with all of their belongings, traveled in a freight car to Kankakee, then by wagon to Momence, and stayed with Austin and Ann for about a year. During this time he bought a section of land (640 acres) in Sumner Township near Momence for one dollar an acre out of the twelve hundred dollars saved from his wages in Philadelphia. Although the land was not very good and was seven miles from the railroad, Anthony was a skillful farmer who prospered and became a man of some substance in his community, where he was held in high regard. He died in 1890 at age seventy, and his wife Ann

died in 1899 at age eighty-one. They both lie in the Canavan burial plot at Manteno, Illinois along with their son Thomas Canavan and daughter Margaret Canavan Casey. Ultimately Anthony and Ann had thirty-seven grandchildren.

Mary Catherine Casey Lynch's account resumes with a section relating to her mother Margaret Canavan Casey, daughter of Anthony Canavan and Ann Hughes Canavan, and to her own early years:

"This is a picture of my mother. She was born December 18, 1862 on a farm in Sumner Township, Kankakee County, Illinois. She was the last born of the eleven children and always said she was the only child in the family born in the farmhouse my grandfather Anthony Canavan built. She went to a little country school until she was sent to boarding school at St. Joseph's Seminary in Kankakee. She attended St. Joseph's for two years where she studied music, French, literature and the domestic arts, and then came home to the farm and lived with her mother and father. For some years after her father died in 1890 she lived alone with her mother in the farmhouse. Her brother Tom (married to Victoria Graveline) lived on a farm down the road. After his father died, Tom moved the house on his farm to the old family farm to be close to his mother and sister. During the time my mother and grandmother lived together they traveled about visiting relations in Chicago, Michigan and Iowa.

"My mother's oldest sister and five of her brothers were the first to leave the farm and Momence to live elsewhere: Mary, who married Anthony McNulty, and John in Iowa; James and Patrick in Michigan; Austin in Chicago; and Tony (Anthony III), who journeyed around and finally disappeared despite efforts to locate him. Later her sister Catherine married William Wallace Parish of Momence where they settled, and her sister Ellen married John Bowe and lived in Chicago.

"My mother had known my father since they were children, as he visited his Aunt Eliza Denver in Manteno, Illinois quite often. They

were confirmed at the same little country church. My father courted my mother for some years before they married. She was reluctant to leave her mother alone on the farm, as would have been the case had she married and moved to Chicago where my father was practicing law. Her mother, on the other hand, when her health began to fail, was anxious that her daughter should marry. My mother and father were married at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago January 11, 1899 when she was thirty-seven years old and he was thirty-four.

"She had that dress made at Mandel Brothers store in Chicago" (said of a picture of her mother in her wedding dress). "It was quite a fancy place in those days. Mabel Canavan LeCour, her oldest niece" (and the daughter of her brother James), "stood up with her, and my father's brother Joseph with him. It was a very quiet wedding. Afterwards, the four of them went for dinner at the old Boston Oyster House in the Morrison Hotel, which has since been torn down. My mother had her 'stories' she loved to tell. One was about when she came up to Chicago to be married and stayed with her brother Gus" (Austin Augustine), "a lawyer, and his wife Emma Valiquette Canavan, who lived on South Indiana Avenue and 45th Street at the time. After the marriage the newlyweds were to stay at the Palmer House hotel, but my mother had registered for their room under the name of Miss Margaret Canavan. When my father tried to go up to 'Miss Canavan's' room with her, he was not allowed. Eventually he got up there all right. They remained at the Palmer House for several weeks until their flat at 26 West McAllister Place was ready, and Kate Canally, whom they had already employed as a housekeeper, was ensconced in the apartment." (Kate was a young Irish immigrant from the stockyards neighborhood on the south side of Chicago, and dearly beloved by the family. She worked for them for eight years, until she left to marry Will Slattery.)

"After getting settled in the apartment Mother went home because her mother's health was very fragile, and she was being cared for by Tom and his wife and other family members. Mother was intermit-

tently up and down between the farm and Chicago until her mother died in May of 1899. After the funeral she settled down and took up housekeeping. She entered into a rather busy social life. My father was in politics at the time so she met many of his political friends and their wives, and they socialized, played cards, and that sort of thing. She was a fine horsewoman, having learned to ride when she was very young. She also could drive a horse and buggy, and one time rode in the Washington Park Horse Show.

"I was born at 26 McAllister Place May 22, 1900. My mother called me a twentieth century baby. A few years later we moved from where I was born around the corner in the same building to 52 Lytle Street, where my brother John was born February 15, 1907. Later we moved farther west because all the ward boundaries in the City of Chicago were changed. Apparently my father was sponsored from the 19th Ward (the 19th Ward is now Beverly Hills). Anyway, we moved to 623 South Douglas Boulevard. South Douglas Boulevard is now Independence Boulevard, except that the part that goes east and west is still called Douglas Boulevard. We lived there for a while, and then moved to 4358 Washington Boulevard while my parents built a six-flat building at 4417 Washington Boulevard. We were living here when my father died May 8, 1915, and continued to live here until I went away to school in the fall of 1917.

"The first school I attended was the Brooks Classical School for kindergarten down in the area near McAllister Place. Then I went to St. Patrick's Academy as a little girl. In 1906 my parents sent me to Sacred Heart Academy in Lake Forest for the last half of that year, because my brother was on the way. I was very lonesome so they brought me home. Then I went to the Sacred Heart Academy on Taylor Street, where the Jane Addams Housing Project is now located. When we moved to Douglas Boulevard I went to the Presentation School, and then to St. Mel's, the local parochial school just a block or so away from home on Washington Boulevard, until I finished sixth grade.

"I am now looking at a picture of myself when I was twelve years old. In those days the children made their First Communion very late. They make it very early now, when they are in the first or second grade. I was very displeased with the dress that my mother picked out for me. It was a very plain dress, and most of the girls were in frills and everything, but my mother was very fastidious about the kind of clothes her daughter wore. She pacified me by buying two huge rosettes, which are shown in the picture, to liven up the dress so I would feel better about it.

"I was having some difficulties with the nun who was teaching me at St. Mel's and my mother did not like her too well either, so I resumed going to St. Patrick's Academy where I had gone before we moved from Lytle Street to Douglas Boulevard. Busses did not come that far west on Washington Boulevard, so my father took me to school on his way to his office. Eventually we got an electric car but I was finally allowed to take the streetcar to St. Patrick's from its stop at Oakley and Washington Boulevards. My mother would pick me up there in the electric in the afternoon and then do her grocery shopping. This annoyed me very much because I did not have much time left in the afternoon to play. I attended Providence High School for three years, and was sent for my senior year to St. Mary's of the Woods Academy in Terre Haute, Indiana, from which I graduated in the spring of 1918.

"After Mother sold the building on Washington Boulevard we moved north to 6556 Glenwood Avenue. In the meantime, I had met my husband-to-be, Patrick Columbus Lynch, who was a very popular young man on the west side. He lived on Emerson Street until he was fourteen or fifteen years old, when his parents bought a house at 4014 Adams Street. He graduated from St. Malachy's, the local parish grammar school, and attended St. Patrick's High School for two years, where he took a commercial course."

Patrick Columbus Lynch was born July 13, 1893. He was the son of Patrick Lynch, who was born in 1853 in Limerick City, County Limer-

ick, Ireland, and whose father was the son of yet another Patrick Lynch and Honora Lynch (maiden name unknown). Patrick and Honora had nine sons and one daughter. Five sons and daughter Honora survived and began emigrating to the United States in the 1880s. Son Patrick and daughter Honora settled in Chicago, Illinois; Daniel in Detroit, Michigan; Cornelius in Omaha, Nebraska; and two brothers in Toledo, Ohio. Honora married John McNamara, and their only child Mary wedded Raymond Harrer. Cornelius never married, and the fate and whereabouts of the other three brothers are unknown. Cornelius died in 1922 and is buried in the Lynch family plot at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Hillside, Illinois.

The mother of Patrick Columbus Lynch and wife of Patrick Lynch was Ellen Gibbons Lynch, born in Herbertown, County Limerick in 1858. She had no brothers and her only sister Sarah, who never married, remained in Ireland. Ellen was a teacher in Ireland employed by the British government before she emigrated to the United States, about the same time as Patrick Lynch in the early 1880s. She met and married Patrick in Chicago, where she worked as a clerk for Lyon and Healy piano company. Oral family history has it that son Patrick's middle name came from Columbus Healy, Ellen's employer, because he had helped the family buy their first house, on Emerson Street. (Another version, perhaps apocryphal, indicates the name came from the Columbian Exposition, a world's fair that opened on the south side of Chicago in the year of his birth, 1893.) The family later moved into a house they bought at 4014 West Adams Street, Chicago. Father Patrick worked as a conductor or motorman on the Chicago streetcar lines. Ellen died of influenza in December 1928 while visiting her son and his family in Elmhurst, Illinois, and father Patrick died a few months later. Both are buried in the Lynch family plot at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Hillside, Illinois.

Patrick and Ellen Lynch had four children, three sons and one daughter. Two sons died in infancy of diphtheria; Catherine was

born July 23, 1886; and Patrick Columbus was born last, July 13, 1893. As a young woman, Catherine did bookkeeping for Hart, Schaffner and Marx, men's clothing manufacturers. She vacationed in the summer at Strong's Resort on Paw Paw Lake near Coloma, Michigan. There she met Harvey Strong, who operated the resort with his widowed mother. Harvey's father was said to have come west with Mormon leader Joseph Smith but, because of some sort of disagreement, decided to leave the group and buy land around Paw Paw Lake.

Catherine Lynch and Harvey Strong were married in 1915 when she was twenty-nine years old and Harvey was in his thirties. Catherine's parents Patrick and Ellen Lynch lived during their later life in a home built for them at Paw Paw Lake by her and Harvey. Catherine and Harvey had three children, Harvey Jr. born in 1917, Ellen born in 1921, and Daniel born in 1923. Ellen Strong died in 1926.

The Strong Resort catered to families, many of whom would return year after year to vacation. Catherine managed the reservations, staff, and kitchen, and was noted for making delicious pastries. The resort included a small hotel, two eight-room cottages for guests who also took meals in the hotel dining room, a number of housekeeping cottages rented out by the season, and several cottages leased by the year.

Harvey Strong Sr. died during World War II around 1944, when his sons were in military service. Upon returning home after the war, they and their mother continued to operate the resort for a number of years. Catherine died November 11, 1973, following which the greater part of the Strong property on Paw Paw Lake was sold for condominium development. Dan and his wife Irma had three children, and make their home on a piece of the original Strong property at Paw Paw Lake. Harvey Jr. and his wife Wilma had five children, and moved to northern Michigan.

Mary Catherine Casey Lynch's narrative concludes with additional information about her husband Patrick Columbus Lynch, and about her own life:

"Pat began working for the City of Chicago when he was quite young, nineteen years old or so. He misrepresented his age because an employee was supposed to be at least twenty-one. Anyway, he had a relation who was a minor official with the City who helped him get the job, as a time keeper, I believe. He went up the ladder some distance and I met him in the meantime. I was sixteen or seventeen years old at the time and he was twenty-two or twenty-three. When the United States entered World War I in April 1917, he tried to enlist but was turned down because of a slight heart problem. He went to Washington, D. C. to see his congressman, James McAndrews, who was quite famous in his day, and who helped him get into the Air Corps, where he was given the rank of sergeant in the 502nd Aero Squadron. He was assigned to airfield construction for the pilots being trained, which in the First World War was a very new activity as far as the Army was concerned. He moved about from Virginia to Florida building airfields. The War ended November 11, 1918.

"Meanwhile, after I had graduated from St. Marys of the Woods, I came home and went to the Gregg School on Michigan Avenue, which was a fancy secretarial school. I went there briefly as I had already taken typing at St. Marys, and had spent most of my free time there working to improve my typing because I knew my mother was in financial straits. I wanted to get a job quickly. In September 1918 I was hired by Abel Howe Company in the McCormick Building on Michigan Avenue. They represented various machinery firms. It was a very nice job, and I enjoyed it very much because it was near the Northwestern Railroad Building on Jackson Boulevard where some of my friends were working. I would go to the bank as part of my job, and then meet my friends for lunch at Hyles Tearoom. Mr. Abel was very kind. When I took dictation he encouraged me to take my time, and never said a word to me about making mistakes, nor would he scold me when I was late. He lived

out in Wheaton and frequently asked me to do small favors for his wife. I was only making fifteen dollars a week, although wages had gone up since the War ended, but I was afraid to ask for a raise because I was late so much. About March 1919 I decided to go over to LaSalle Street where wages were sky high, and got a job with Bolger, Masser, and Willamin, a municipal bond house. I was in a stenographic pool and assigned to Mr. Gistsearch.

"Pat came home from the War in April 1919, about a week before Easter of that year. Since you could not get married during Lent, we were married the Wednesday after Easter on April 23, 1919. I left work at noon and we went to Holy Name Cathedral on State Street to get a dispensation because I did not have my mother's consent. She thought I was too young to get married, and that Pat was too old for me. It was a Dr. Dunn to whom we spoke, and he refused to give us the dispensation. Pat got very upset and said we would be married by a judge. In the meantime my mother was following us trying to stop the marriage. She was very upset. Rather than have a young couple be married by a judge, Dr. Dunn relented and gave us the dispensation. We went out to my parish church, St. Thomas Aquinas, and were married. A cousin, Marian McNulty, and Pat's friend Dick Hickey stood up with us. We spent our wedding night at the Sherman House hotel in downtown Chicago, and our honeymoon with Catherine and Harvey Strong. They took us all over the State of Michigan. And that was our honeymoon.

"My husband got back his job with the City of Chicago but, because there had been no construction during the War, apartments were scarce. We lived with his mother and father from the time we married until October 1919. We moved into a little apartment at 23 South Karlov Avenue, right on the corner of Monroe Street. I was only eighteen when I got married, but turned nineteen a month later. We lived in this apartment until Frank was born March 13, 1921. We were paying \$42.50 a month when the rent was raised to \$65.00. We thought we could do much better, so we moved to 1463 Cornelia Avenue on the north side. Meanwhile, my mother had moved

to a flat on the north side also, not far from us. Later we moved again, to 210 South Kostner Avenue where we lived until Jack was born August 12, 1922. Now we needed a larger apartment, so we moved to 11 Parkside Avenue in Austin on the west side of Chicago.

"My husband continued to work for the City and was selling real estate in his spare time. He was successful and sold a lakefront building. The Florida land boom was on so he decided to take a leave of absence from his city job, go to Florida, and try to make some money. I guess it was about early 1925. He made trips back and forth between Florida and Chicago, and succeeded in his endeavors. We decided to move to Florida around October 1925, and soon after Patricia was on the way. Everybody was buying property in Florida. During our stay there we lived on the ocean in a lovely place in Hollywood called Ocean City. There was a lot of high living at this time because everybody was making money. Gambling was everywhere. A man named Widley, who was the head of the Florida East Coast Railroad, ran the state. We and a group of ten or twelve others, including the Hickeys, decided to go to Cuba, which also was wide open with gambling and high living. We hired an elderly couple to watch our two boys while we were gone. We had a wonderful time, but when we got home I was terribly upset because Frank and Jack had impetigo. Fortunately, a doctor gave us some very effective medicine that cleared up the impetigo quickly - it was remarkable.

"We went back to Chicago early in 1926 because the land boom simply collapsed, and stayed at a little hotel on Central Avenue just north of Washington Boulevard. After we left Florida, a terrible storm hit the eastern coast, some time in 1927 I think, and destroyed the beautiful hotel complex we had lived in. Upon our return, Pat went up to Michigan to see his sister and took only Frank because Jack was not feeling well. It so happened that Jack was having a mild case of scarlet fever. When Pat came home, we got up one morning to look for a house to buy. It was a beautiful, beautiful day when we started out, but about noon the weather

changed radically into a sleet storm. Our Studebaker car was affected by the weather and became balky and stopped running. Pat began to feel sick, but had to walk a long way to find someone to help start the car. Although we did not know it at the time, he was coming down with scarlet fever.

"When we got back to the hotel I got some medicine called Asperol, which the druggist had recommended because of my husband's chills and high fever. We later discovered he was allergic to aspirin, which the Asperol contained. After taking the medicine, he broke out with the most terrible, terrible rash. I thought it was a reaction to the Asperol, but we decided to call a doctor because he was so very sick. The doctor examined him and said he thought it was scarlet fever, but that it might be a reaction to Asperol. Since we were in a hotel, we did not know what to do. Pat was so sick he could not be moved, so the doctor, who was a kind man, agreed it was an aspirin allergy. Because I was pregnant with Patricia, and if it was scarlet fever, the doctor said I was the one to worry about. Nevertheless, I did not get sick and we remained in the hotel. I stayed with my husband, and Catherine Strong came in from Michigan to stay with Frank and Jack in another room. The following Sunday he was feeling much better and took a bath, during which his skin peeled away in sheets. I was so alarmed I called the doctor, who said my husband definitely had scarlet fever and that we had better leave the hotel or the whole place would be quarantined.

"Catherine and I went out that very Sunday and rented a flat at 5006 West Adams Street. The landlady, Mrs. King, was very kind and understanding; when we told her what had happened she let us move in immediately. The warehouse storing our furniture agreed to deliver it the next day, Monday, as a special favor. The apartment was not what I wanted but it was vacant. Catherine and my brother John helped me move on Monday and get straightened out. We brought Pat to the apartment that day, but he was still very, very weak. We lived there for two years. And that is the story

of the scarlet fever episode.

"Patricia was born July 13, 1926 while we lived on Adams Street in Chicago. In 1927 we decided to buy a house and found this place at 607 South Poplar Avenue in Elmhurst, a western suburb of Chicago. The house was all finished, but the garage was not, nor was the driveway. I had a young girl named Mary Mahovic helping me then. The weather was foul the day we moved in. We had to go to bed early because the electricity had not been turned on, and the gas stove was not working. The next day I put my baby Patricia, who was thirteen months old, in a playpen on the porch to keep her out of mischief. Horses were brought in to dig up the driveway so the concrete could be poured. Boy, did they raise the dust! I finally went out to see her and she was covered with dirt from head to foot. We lived here from 1927 until 1937. Then we built a house at 201 Grace Street in Elmhurst and moved there in the fall of 1937.

"So many things happened in those years. I enjoyed life, and we went out an awful lot. We belonged to the Garfield Bridge Club, and the Assemblers, a group which gave formal parties about five times a year at the Drake Hotel in Chicago. When the financial crash came in 1929 it was not a complete disaster for us, although we lost some money. We did have a small amount of stock which we were buying on the installment plan. I think we had three or four hundred dollars invested in City Service stock. It had been selling for about fifty dollars a share. We sold the stock at twenty dollars a share, and this almost broke my heart because it was practically all the savings we had. We had used most of the money we saved to buy the house. Then the banks started to close. My husband went to the Garfield Park Bank where we had our checking account. George Madigan, who was married to my cousin Frances Casey and was a director of the bank, advised him and others to leave their money in the bank, and Pat did. The bank closed at noon the next day.

"My mother and brother had moved to Oak Park, immediately west of Chicago, and I used to drive in and pick them up on Sunday to come out for dinner." And so ends the tape-recorded story by Mary Catherine Casey Lynch.

Her daughter, Patricia Lynch Heffron, continues the family history with information from conversations with her mother and from her own recollections regarding her grandmother Margaret Canavan Casey and her uncle John Casey in the years preceding and following their residence in Oak Park:

"For a few years Grandmother Casey lived comfortably on the proceeds from the estate left by her husband upon his death in 1915 when Mother was fifteen years old and John eight. As her financial situation began to grow less secure, she found it advisable to sell her home in 1917 (the six-flat building at 4417 West Washington Boulevard in Chicago), and the family moved to Glenwood Avenue on the city's north side. Sometime after Mother married Dad in 1919, Grandma and John moved to Lakewood Avenue where pictures of their apartment are dated 1921. During their stay here John was finishing grammar school at Loyola Academy, and it became necessary for Grandma to seek her first job. Although she was fifty-nine years old, she was able to secure a position at Mandel Brothers department store on State Street. At this time in her life she was a large, full-figured woman, and her employer apparently thought she would be the ideal salesperson for the merchandise featured in what was then called the 'foundation garment' section. This confidence was not misplaced and Grandma enjoyed a successful sales career for the next five years.

"John also had periods of employment with Mandel Brothers during the years his mother worked there. I remember my mother saying that Grandmother and John had several apartments on the north and west sides of Chicago. Nevertheless, they did live long enough on the west side for John to attend Austin High School and graduate in three years. Then he gained admission and went to the University of Chicago for one or two quarters, but was unable to con-

tinue because of financial constraints.

"When John was about nineteen years old he began full-time employment as a clerk for the law firm of first cousins Augustine and William Bowe, sons of Grandmother's sister Ellen Canavan Bowe, whose daughter Anna also worked there before marrying Raymond Walters and moving to New York. The Bowes had already established a successful law practice in personal injury and the then new field of workman's compensation when John started working for them. Their office was at 127 North Dearborn Street in Chicago. John clerked while he attended the Kent College of Law, from which he graduated and passed the Illinois Bar in 1932 at the age of twenty-five. He became a member of Bowe and Bowe, and sometime thereafter a partner of Bowe, Bowe, and Casey. The firm had an excellent reputation in workman's compensation and was highly regarded in the legal community. John was the last surviving partner, as Gus left in 1960 to become Chief Justice of the Municipal Court of Chicago and died in 1966, and Bill retired and died in 1965. Later on, he shared an office for a while with John Bowe, Gus's son, until John Bowe was appointed a Municipal Court Judge. Uncle John Casey finally retired in 1985 at the age of seventy-eight, after having practiced law for fifty-three years.

"By 1926, Grandmother and John were living in an apartment in the suburb of Oak Park, which was very close to Elmhurst where my parents had bought a house in 1927. Having Grandma and John nearby was a great pleasure for our family. Nonetheless, probably in the early 1930s, they thought it practical to find housekeeping accommodations in Chicago not too far from John's office. Accordingly, Grandma and John took up residence for a time in the old Plaza Hotel on the southeast corner of Clark Street and North Avenue (now the site of the Chicago Latin School), and then in another apartment hotel, the Maryland, at Delaware Place and Wabash Avenue. Grandma's eyesight was failing and she was becoming quite frail. In 1935 it was decided that she would come to live with us permanently in our house on Poplar Avenue in Elmhurst. Then we all

moved in the late summer of 1937 to the home Mother and Dad built at 201 Grace Street, Elmhurst, and here Grandma spent her final days, happily, I believe.

"A cataract operation had improved Grandma's eyesight, allowing her to read more easily. She enjoyed sitting by a window in the sun and reading the newspaper with the aid of a magnifying glass. Grandmother was rather independent; she maintained her own daily schedule, making and taking her meals when she chose, but usually joining the family for dinner at night. Her room was never less than neat and orderly. Ever fastidious, she was a very regal-looking old lady, tall, and by now quite thin, whose dress-up attire always included a neckband, several of which I found among Mother's belongings.

"Grandmother was very close to her sisters Ellen and Catherine (Catherine Canavan Parish), and was the first of them to die. To those of us present at their occasional reunions in later years, it was clear we were in the presence of women of strong character and firm opinions. Grandmother was revered by her children, and regarded with affectionate respect by her grandchildren. Margaret Canavan Casey died at the age of seventy-five in March 1938, and, as she wished, was buried at the Canavan gravesite in Manteno, Illinois near her mother and father and the beloved farm where she was born.

"For a few years after Grandma died, Uncle John lived with us at 201 Grace Street, and was a wise mentor and friend to his niece and nephews. Later, the announcement of his forthcoming marriage to Martha Burns Gwinn, whose half-sister Mary was married to Cousin William Bowe, was a very happy occasion for the whole family. They were wed at the Gwinn home in Mount Washington, Maryland November 17, 1941. Martha was a very gracious person and a talented pianist, who brought enduring joy to John's life.

"Shortly after their marriage, the United States entered World

War II. John was drafted into the Army as an infantryman, but in basic training at Camp Adair, Oregon he fell and broke his leg, which did not heal properly. His convalescence took a year, during which time Martha, accompanied by her cherished piano, stayed first near Camp Adair and then, after he was transferred, in the Sherry Hotel across the street from the Gardner General Hospital on the southeast side of Chicago. When he recovered, the Army sent John to Judge Advocates School at the University of Michigan. The War ended soon thereafter, and he was promptly discharged from service. John and Martha returned to their Chicago apartment at 2512 North Lakeview Avenue, and John went back to his law practice.

"In the following years they welcomed two children into their family, Theodore Lawrence born February 6, 1948 and Margaret Elizabeth born August 23, 1950. In January 1954 John and Martha leased a larger, cooperative apartment at 2230 North Lincoln Park West, Chicago, where they reared their children and remained the rest of their lives. Martha died February 23, 1987 at the age of seventy-seven, and John died April 16, 1989 at the age of eighty-two. Both are buried in the Casey plot at Calvary Cemetery on the far north side of Chicago by Lake Michigan."

This concludes the family history for the present. Should time and inclination permit, Patricia Lynch Heffron may add to it later. On the following pages are some family pictures and a genealogical chart.



RES. 4417 WASHINGTON BLVD.

TEL. KEDZIE 623

LAW OFFICE OF

JOHN D. CASEY

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

4417 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD

FORMER ASSISTANT TO THE
PROBATE JUDGE

CHICAGO, ILL.



Upper left: John D. Casey, circa 1900

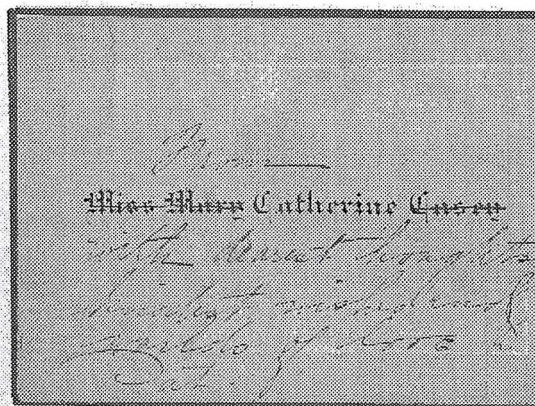
Upper right: Margaret Canavan Casey, 1899

Lower right: Ellen Gibbons Lynch, circa 1915?

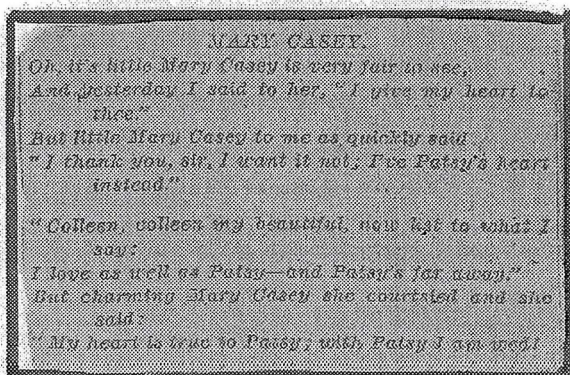
Unfortunately, no photograph is available
of Grandfather Patrick Lynch.



Dad (Patrick C. Lynch), circa 1920



A message from Mother to Dad during their courtship days



Mother saved this verse, evidently written about her by Dad while he was in the army prior to their marriage, Patsy referring to him.



Mother (Mary Catherine Casey), 1920

Mrs. John D. Casey
announces the marriage of her daughter
Mary C.
to

Mr. Patrick C. Lynch
on Wednesday, April twenty-third
Nineteen hundred and nineteen
St. Thomas Aquinas Church
Chicago, Illinois



Dad, Mother, and Frank, 1921

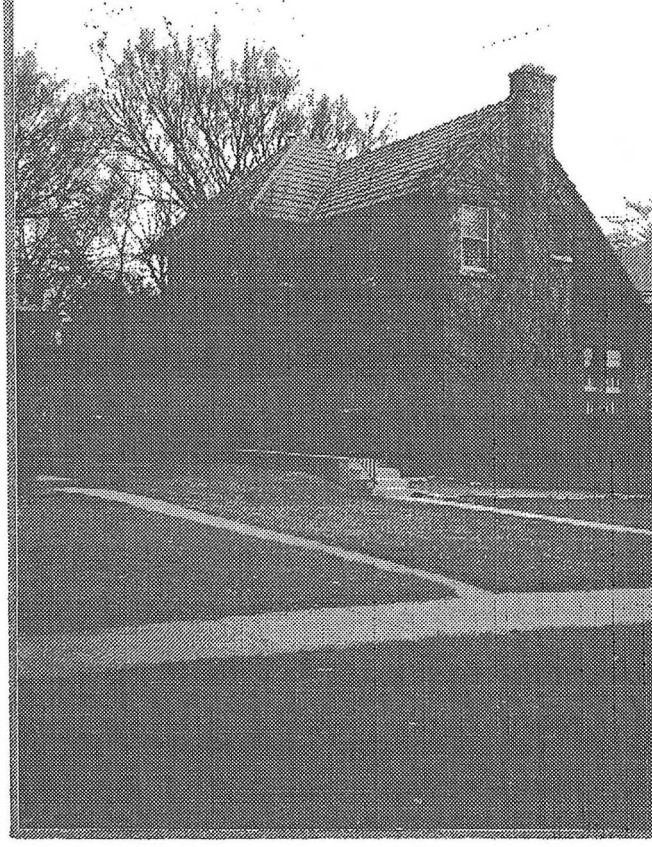
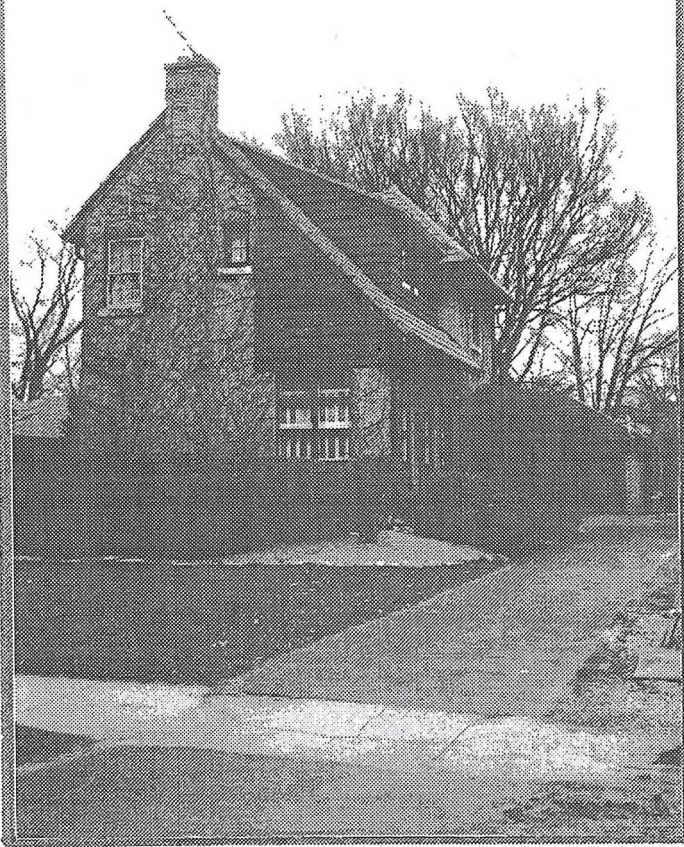


Dad and Mother at Jack and Roberta's
wedding reception, June 23, 1951

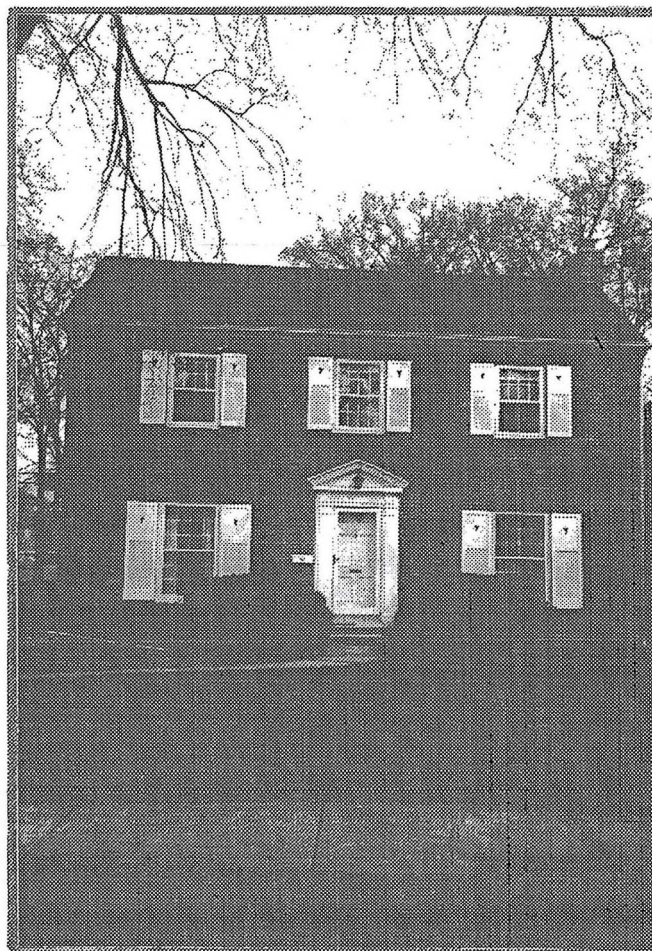
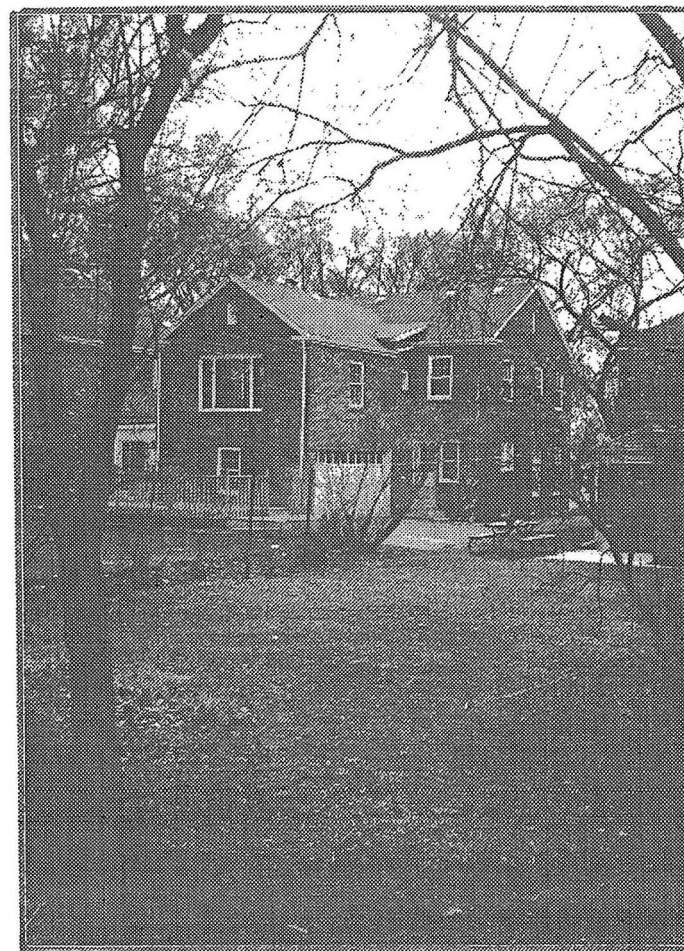


Photographed on board,
RMS "QUEEN ELIZABETH"

Mother and Dad on their trip to Europe, September and October 1958

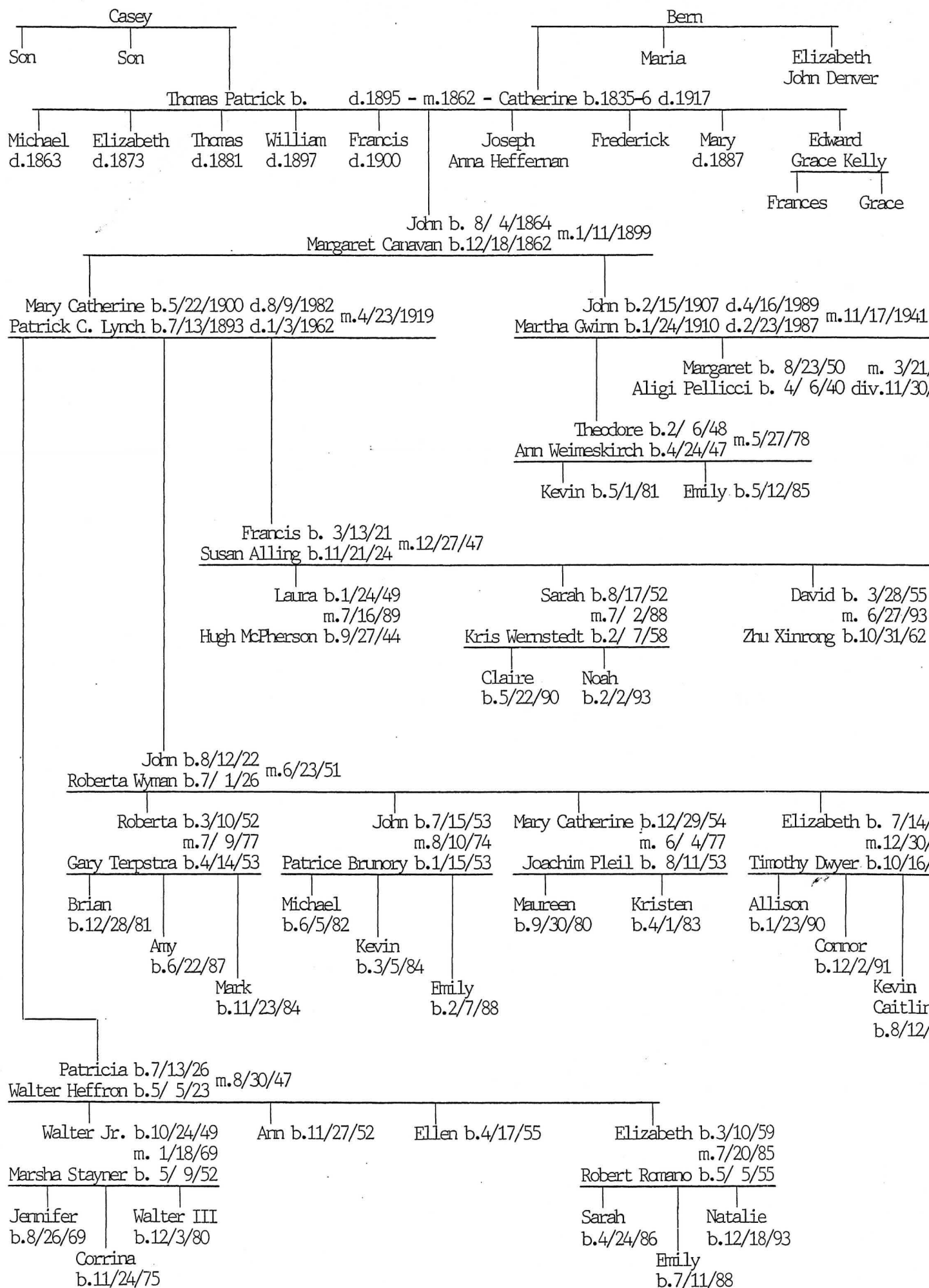


607 South Poplar Avenue, Elmhurst, Illinois, 1927 to 1937



201 Grace Street, Elmhurst, Illinois, 1937 to 1943

The Lynch/Casey Families - August 1994



Daniel b. 7/10/57
m. 6/18/93
Julia Geddes b.
Austin b.11/5/58

Casey b.10/26/58
m.10/15/88
Kristine Van Every b. 2/13/61
Margaret b. 4/11/60
m.6/27/81 div.
1. Patrick Heck b.
Patrick
b.3/17/83
Emily b.4/2
m.8/2
Joel Gomez b.2/2
Ivon
b.8/26/77
Rebecca
b.1/21/92
Be
b.
2. Richard Meyer m.10/27/90
b.11/23/45
Brady Zachary
b.7/12/79 b.7/5/82