



Brainerd



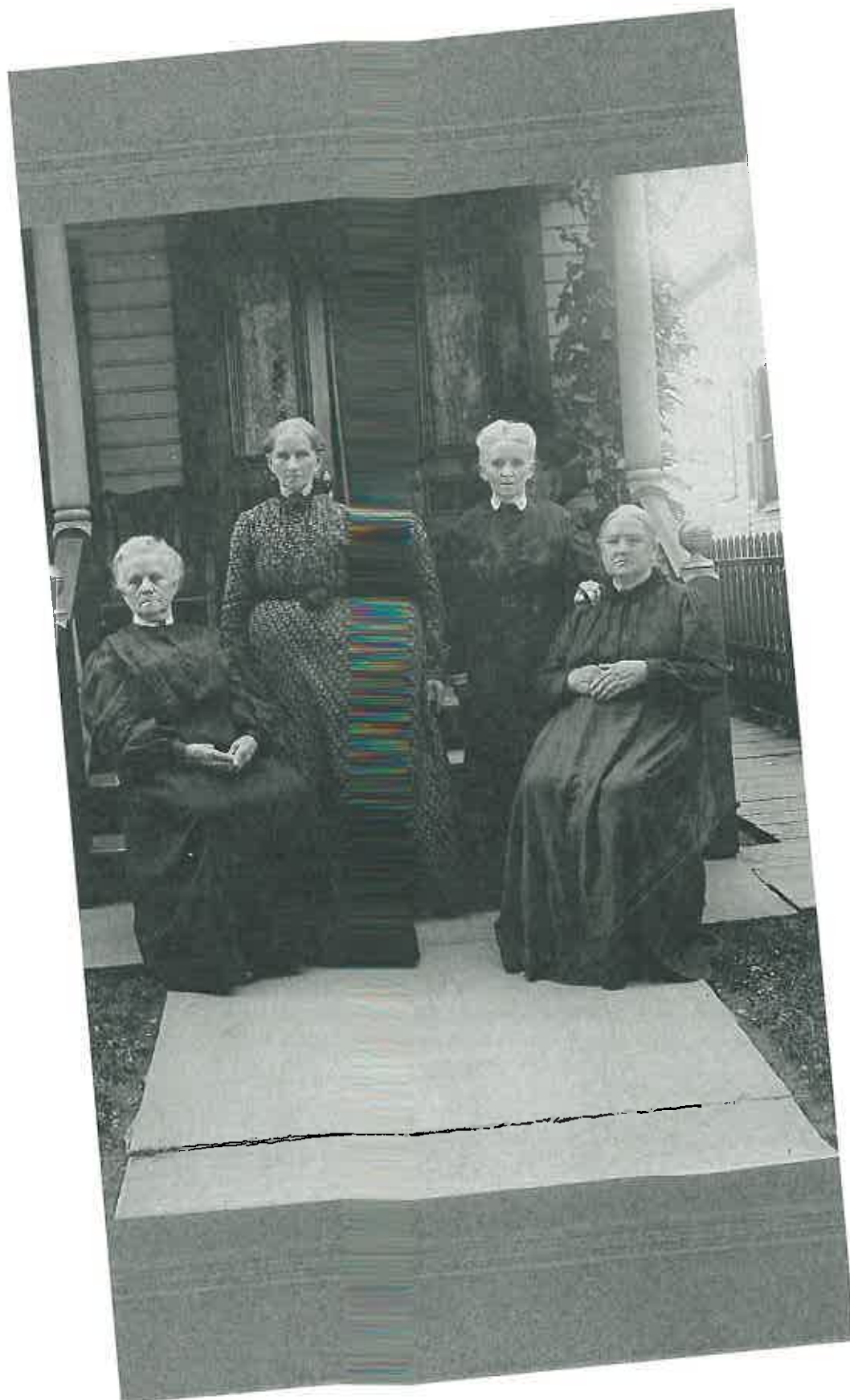
ROME, N.Y.

**Sarah (Merna) Dunn**

Merna Crouth's Grandmother  
And source of her first name

**William Dunn**

5/12/1835 - 2/12/1906  
He and Sarah came from  
Ireland, married and  
lived adult life in Rome.  
(see obituary)



The Merna Sisters

Sarah Merna (Dunn), (seated right),  
Sisters, Bridget (Bolger), Catherine  
(Murphy) and Mary (Burns)

## James A. Dunn Sr.

James A. Dunn Sr., 81, of 421 W. Park St., a retired Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. employee, died Monday, Nov. 5, 1984, at home after a long illness.

He was born Oct. 15, 1903, in Rome, the son of James T. and Nellie Wells Dunn. He attended St. Aloysius Academy.

On Jan. 16, 1934, he married Ellen D. Haley at St. Mary's in Rome.

Mr. Dunn was employed at Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. for 42 years, retiring in 1968. He was a member of St.

Mary's Church and its Holy Name Society, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Surviving in addition to his wife are six daughters, Sister Virginia Dunn, S.N.J.N., of Albany; Sister Eileen Dunn, S.N.J.N., of Tampa, Fla.; Mrs. William (Joanne) Gaffey of Rome; Sister Mary Ann Dunn, S.N.J.N., of Albany; Mrs. Wolfgang (Ellen) Spring of North Kingstown, R.I.; and Mrs. Gregory (Rose Marie) McCoy of Wilmington, Del.; two sons, James A. Dunn Jr. and Michael J. Dunn, both of Rome; five sisters, Mrs.



James (Margaret) Lanigan, Mrs. Raymond (Katherine) Hyde, Mrs. Joseph (Merna) Crouth, Mrs. Walter (Rose) Long, and Mrs. Carl (Eileen) Sturtevant, all of Rome; 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 9:15 a.m. Wednesday at Martin J. Nunn Funeral Home and at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Calling hours are 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday.

Donations may be made to St. Mary's Church Memorial Improvement Fund.



## The Late WILLIAM DUNN.

Rome, Feb. 16.—William Dunn, a well-known and respected resident of Rome, died last Monday evening at his home, 603 Calvert street. He had been in poor health for a long time, but his condition had been critical only during the past month. Mr. Dunn was born in County Wexford, Ireland, and was in his 71st year. He came here about 50 years ago. Here he was married to Sarah Merna, the ceremony being performed by the late Rev. Father Beecham. For a number of years Mr. Dunn was employed in the Locomotive Works. He was a member of St. Peter's Church. He was an honest and upright citizen and had the respect of all who knew him. Surviving are his wife, three sons and two daughters, William J. Dunn, of New Haven, Conn.; James, John and Miss Bessie M. Dunn, of Rome, and Mrs. Henry Morgan, of Mohawk. He also leaves one brother, James Dunn, of Burlington, Ia.



**Merna Dunn, age 15  
Lake Delta, 1921**



**Merna's "Sewing Circle" at Parent's  
Camp, Lake Delta, 1921 - Merna in  
Center of girls, (Mother Dunn in rear  
Two weeks before her fatal accident)**



**Merna Dunn (center) at Lake Delta with  
2 girl friends - est. 1923**



**Merna Dunn (left rear) with sister Rose rear right - with brothers Wick and Jim, Art Doyle, Hank Krauth, Walt Donovan est. - 1914**



**Merna Dunn, seated front center, with Marion & Jeanette Grogan, Elizabeth Doyle, Florence Sinclair, Thelma Ringrose**



**Joseph W. Crouth (L.) with Leonard Dunn and his girl friend est. 1923 at Dunn Camp - Lake Delta**



**Merna Crouth - Niagara Falls, 1964 attending son Jerry's graduation**



**Nellie (Wells) Dunn** with baby **Eileen**  
Mother died two years later due to tragic  
gun accident at Dunn camp at Lake Delta

Dunn Brothers

(l-r) top Jim, Wick  
Bottom - Leonard



Sept 4/1921

DAILY SENTINEL, ROME, N. Y.

# MRS. JAMES T. DUNN ACCIDENTALLY SHOT

## DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE AT LAKE DELTA BY WHICH ROME WOMAN LOSES HER LIFE.

Mrs. James T. Dunn, 601 Calvert street, was accidentally shot at Lake Delta on Sunday afternoon about 4:30 o'clock and died before reaching the Rome Hospital. The shooting was done by Milton Pepper, son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Pepper, 608 Kent street. The Pepper and Dunn families have cottages near each other on the shore of Lake Delta just south of Kettle Hill. Mrs. Dunn and her youngest child, Eileen, who had been sitting on the bank of the lake, went into the toilet, located at the rear of the Dunn cottage. Out on the highway, Milton Pepper and two of Mrs. Dunn's sons, Leonard and James, were strolling along, Pepper carrying a 23 caliber rifle.

Out side the Dunn cottage there is a fireplace built of brick and stone, having an iron grate over the top which is used when food is cooked. At this camp fire place hung an iron kettle and as the boys came along on the highway, Pepper said to the Dunn boys "Do you dare me to put a hole in the kettle?" to which one of them replied "I do not care what you do." He fired a shot which apparently glanced off the kettle or a flat stone, penetrating the wood of the door of the toilet, striking Mrs. Dunn on the left side of her neck, severing the jugular vein. She was unable to make any outcry or even speak but she managed to get out into the yard and beckoned to the boys for aid. Her son James was the first to reach her, she falling in his arms. She was carried to the automobile owned by William J. Carroll sr., which was nearby and Mr. Carroll's son, William J. jr. got under way for the Rome Hospital immediately. In the automobile accompanying Mrs. Dunn were her husband and son Leonard and Miss Mary Murphy of Utica. Just as they reached Stokes, about five minutes after entering the auto, she was shot and passed away.

This account of the accident was given the Sentinel by members of the family who were on the scene.

Dr. H. F. Hubbard and Dr. H. J. Teller, coroner, had been notified and were waiting at the Rome Hospital when the body arrived there. Mr. Dunn informed the coroner that he realized that the shooting was accidental. The remains were taken to the undertaking parlors of Giffin & Albridge and later were removed to the family home.

Mrs. Dunn's maiden name was Nellie Wells. She was born in Kemptville, Canada, 45 years ago. Twenty-five years ago in October she was married to Mr. Dunn in St. Peter's Church by the late Rev. A. Murphy. Since then she had always lived here. She was a member of St. Peter's Church, a promoter of the League of the Sacred Heart and a member of the Rosary Society. Mrs. Dunn was a devoted wife and the loving mother of eight children. She was a very kind and charitable woman with a pleasant word for all her friends and acquaintances of whom she had a legion, they being deeply shocked and grieved at her death.

Besides the husband, Mrs. Dunn is survived by eight children: Margaret, Catherine, Leonard, James, Merna, Rose, Wilfred and Eileen; also three sisters, Mrs. Levi Sabourin of Kemptville, Canada, Mrs. G. A. La Ducler and Mrs. Thomas Sabourin of Ottawa, Can. Mrs. Dunn had a brother killed in the World War, he being a member of the Canadian Army.

Utica Daily Press

N. Y. Dec 15 1921

### In Memoriam

**JAMES T. DUNN,  
BORN IN ROME, N. Y.**  
Rome—James T. Dunn, 89, 601 Calvert St., died Dec. 15, 1921, in a Rome hospital, after a short illness.

He was born Jan. 22, 1868, in Rome, son of William and Sarah Merna Dunn. He was educated in Rome schools and on Oct. 5, 1895, he married Ellen Walls at St. Peter's Church. She died in 1921.

A lifelong resident of Rome, Mr. Dunn was a machinist at Rome Turney Radiator Co. prior to his retirement. He was a member of St. Peter's Church and a member of its Holy Name Society.

He leaves five daughters, Mrs. James W. Lanigan, Mrs. J. Raymond Hyde, Mrs. Joseph Grouth, Mrs. J. Walter Long and Mrs. Carl Sturtevant, all Rome; three sons, Leonard A., James J. and Wilfred T. Dunn, all Rome; a sister, Mrs. William Youngs, Rome; 32 grandchildren, and 21 great grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 8:15, Wednesday from the Martin J. Nunn Funeral Home and at 9 at St. Peter's Church, where a solemn requiem high Mass will be offered. Burial will be in St. Peter's cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home today and tomorrow 2 to 5 and 7 to 9.



**Dunn Sisters**  
Est.1988

(l-r) Rose(Long), Merna (Crouth), Margaret (Lanigan)  
Catherine (Hyde), Eileen(Sturtyvant)



**Dunn Family**  
Est.1984

(l-r) Eileen, Rose, Merna, Jim, Catherine, Margaret  
Celeste(wife of Wick Dunn), Mildred -(Len's wife)

Joseph W. Crouth  
5/1/1905 (Rome)  
Died April 13, 1959 (Rochester)

Father  
Joseph E. Crouth  
April 26, 1881 (Verona)  
Died May 1, 1969 (California)

Mother  
Antoinette Finster  
August 17, 1881 (Rome)  
Died August 10, 1947 (California)

#### Great-Grandparents - Father's Side

The Crouth family name has had a unique and interesting history. The only existing family known within the United States and possibly the world that answers to this name are Merna Elizabeth Crouth and descendants of she and the late Joseph William Crouth. (Two surviving sisters of Joseph W. Crouth have Crouth as their maiden name - Geraldine Crouth Kirk and Myrta Crouth Parkison). Existing names that come close to Crouth include Crouther, Crout, Croutheimer, Crouse, Kraut, etc. but no direct relationship can be made from research conducted so far.

The Crouth name has come close to extinction on several occasions throughout the years. However, when Joseph and Merna Crouth produced five sons between 1929 and 1939 along with a single daughter, this placed the Crouth family name on safe footing for the first time in over 100 years. Prior to this, only one Crouth male adult in at least the three preceding generations survived to marry and produce progeny. In every case, the first male son was named Joseph. This tradition was maintained when Joseph and Merna Crouth named their first born Joseph, as well. (This son named his first son Gary Joseph which kept the name Joseph in the name of a

total of at least 6 generations.)

The following information tracks the Crouth name and includes the three other family names that led to the birth of Joseph and Merna Crouth i.e. Finster (paternal mother), Dunn (maternal father) and Wells (maternal mother).

Joseph Crouth, Krauth or Kraut  
Birth date - unknown

Place of birth - Germany (possibly Alsace-Lorraine)  
Nationality, probably German but could be French as both nationalities lived in that part of Europe at that time.  
Died late 1850s - early 1860s probably in Verona, NY area.

Joseph Krauth, Kraut or Crouth died in the late 1850's or early 1860's. His name was listed on his son Joseph Crouth's 1892 death certificate as Joseph Crouth from Germany (see copy attached). There is no way at present to tell what the real name was as his son Joseph had his name spelled Krauth (1870 federal census - see attachment), Kraut (1880 federal census - see attachment) and both Crouth and Krauth when listed on various entries of the records at the St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Churchville, NY. To date, there is no known grave site or details available but his son Joseph's tombstone in St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery in Churchville, NY lists his name as Crouth and his 1892 death certificate lists his father's name as Joseph Crouth. The only other information known about the first generation Joseph Crouth from Germany is that he married Sarah Herrig, who was shown to be born in 1838 or 1839 in either New York (listed in 1870 census) or Germany (as listed on her son Joseph's 1892 death certificate) Joseph and Sarah probably married in the Oneida County area and Joseph could very well have been a Erie Canal boatman, as Sarah Herrig's family had a strong boat connection. Sarah bore Joseph a son, on September 4, 1857. Sarah then married a boatman, Moritz Dietz (changed to Morris Dietch and Deach who was born in France) after Joseph died in the late 1850's or early 1860's. She cooked and probably lived with her family on the Morris Dietz boat, raising son Joseph from first marriage and producing 4 other children by Morris Dietz during the 1860's. Sarah's other four surviving children in the 1860's from Morris Dietch were - Catherine (1864), Elizabeth (1867) Jacob (1868) and a daughter, Anna (12/27/ 1869) in Seifert's Corner.



Joseph at about age 30  
Approx. 1887



First wife, Christina Singline  
about 18 years old - est. 1881

**Joseph Crouth, Krauth, Kraut**

Born September 3, 1857 - New London, NY  
Died January 9, 1892 - Rome, NY

Sarah's son was listed as Joseph Krauth and as a 14 year old in the 1870 census; he was also listed as attending school in the preceding year. By the 1880 census, Joseph had married Christina ("Teeny") Zinglain or Singline, eventually evolving to Zingerline. By then he was a 22 year old captain on a canal boat and Christina was his 17 year old bride and listed as a housekeeper. The census shows that they lived within the same house or next door to Christina's oldest brother, Philip and his wife Sophie (Alder)

Zinglain in East Varona (see 1909 map). Christina bore a son, Joseph Edward on April 26, 1881. She was a lovely young woman who met an untimely death from influenza or pneumonia on August 11, 1883 at the age of 20. She was born October 1, 1863. Young Joseph was brought up during his early years by his Aunt Sophie Zinglain and possibly her younger sister Margaret, who was 14 at the time of Christina's death. By that time, Sophie had her first child, William, who was born three months after Joseph. Meanwhile, his father Joseph continued his canal business and probably owned his first canal boat by then named the Albert S. Warner. It's believed to have been used to ship freight between Rome and Buffalo. On May 7, 1885, Joseph, listed as living in Vernon on his May, 6 marriage license, married Sophie's sister, Margarett (Maggie) at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Churchville. Reverend Philip E. Bahn presided. Joseph's name was listed as Crouth in the Rome NY marriage license registry. He was 28; Maggie was 17. They had two daughters, Anna Magdalena on May 29, 1886 where the family name was listed as Crouth in the St. Peter's Lutheran Church baptismal registry. A second daughter, Clara was born on April 7, 1889, and the family name was then registered in the same church record as Krauth. The family, including son Joseph and daughters, lived on the boat with their parents for at least the last three years before their father's accidental death. By that time, Joseph owned two boats, naming the second boat "Joie and Anna" probably after his son and daughter. They wintered their boat in Rome and moved about for business and pleasure during the other months. On January 7, 1892, Joseph, while helping his brother-in-law, Adam Alder, store carriages in a livery located in an alley behind Dominick St., fell backward from an elevated platform in a carriage storehouse and died two days later from shock (see news article, city map and death certificate.) Margaret Alder Crouth was pregnant at the time and gave birth to a son after husband Joseph's death on March 23, 1892. Her son, Charles Frank Crouth was believed to have grown to adulthood but died before he could marry, possibly as a result of suicide (no date or other known information about Charles). Margaret Alder Crouth later remarried William Storm on September 25, 1895. Joseph's mother Sarah predeceased him (no known cause or date) but step-father Morris Dietch survived and married Caroline Kobler on 12/11/1894 when he was about 50 years old. Step-brother Jacob of Joseph, then of New London, survived Joseph's death as did step-sister, Anna who had already married Henry Gifford of West Rome on Jan. 2, 1886. She was a young teenage bride who had several children, including Perry Gifford, Alice Gifford's father. She was a practicing German Lutheran of St. John's Church in Rome and died July 3, 1951.