

December 2006

Halloway Family Herald

UPCOMING

2007

Jan: Alan Claire

Feb: Prudence Jane

Mar: Judith Pauline

Apr: Carol Ann

May: Henry Dale

Jun: Iris Elizabeth

Jul: Ralph Thomas

Aug: Leslie Dudley

Sep: Julia Lynne

Paul Gordon Halloway

3rd Child of Dale and Pauline Halloway



I REMEMBER

“After Mimi passed away, Gordy took me to a place in Ypsilanti called Seven Seas for dinner. I ordered the steak sandwich, and it was the best steak sandwich I had ever had!” ~Tootie Barnabei (Halloway)

“I don’t remember much about uncle Gordy, however, I do remember their yard in Ypsilanti – it was like a story book to me, because I was so young, and the yard seemed so huge. There were enormous Elm trees that must have been as big as Redwood trees, and a path that led up the hill to the house, with a rose arbor on the edge of the garden that I thought was very cool to be able to walk through it.” Amy told me that those Elms had to be cut down because of disease, and that Gordy would place his lawn chair on the stumps they were so big! ~ Rachel Brady (Meta)

“When I was quite young I remember that Alan came in after he had been drinking one time. Mother told him he couldn’t go out again, and Alan was arguing with her because he wanted to go. Gordy was there and ended up wrestling around on the floor with Alan to try and keep him there. Of course, when Dad came out they knocked that off!” ~ Henry Halloway

Children, Grandchildren, and *Great Grandchildren* of Paul Gordon

Martha Jane Halloway	Stewart Gordon Halloway	Amy Susan Halloway
Jacob Charles Amberg	Mary Elizabeth Halloway	Caitlin Patricia McKeighan
Alex Matthew Amberg	<i>Caitlin LeeAnn Goeman</i>	Paul John McKeighan
	<i>Caleb Stewart Goeman</i>	
	<i>Cody Brent Goeman</i>	
	Amanda Jane Halloway	
	April Joy Halloway	



Back Row: Chris (a friend), Alex Amberg, Stew Halloway, Jacob Amberg, Thomas (a friend), Alan Amberg
Middle Row: Madeline Halloway, Mary Stewart, Martha Amberg, Amy McKeighan, John McKeighan
Front Row: Amanda Halloway, April Halloway, Caitlin McKeighan, Paul McKeighan & Daisy!

Paul Gordon Halloway, born November 26, 1928, and better known as “Gordy”, was the first boy of Dale and Pauline Halloway. You can imagine the pride in Dale as he heard the news of his first son.

Gordy was a quiet boy, yet he loved music, and loved to sing. He would sing in harmony with his sisters and brothers while they did the dishes. He sang when he was happy and when he was engrossed in a project. “Old Man River” was one of his favorites. He listened to many types of music, including classical.

As a matter of fact, he and his sisters, Mary and Joyce, won a State Music Award in high school, and went to a contest in Minneapolis. The school covered all expenses and they got to stay at the Drake Hotel.

Sometime when Gordy was just 16 and they lived in Eau Clair, WI, he fell off a sand stone cliff along the river and tore cartilage under his kneecap. He was with his friend, Buddy Beam, who had just recently broke his leg, too. The boys came home that day with their arms around each other and the crutches on their other arms! Gordy ended up having surgery on his knee and had problems with it ever since. Later that same year, Gordy had an abscess on his elbow that he never told anyone about until it was streaking red with infection. They had to surgically open it up and drain it and it left a huge hole the size of a baseball. It took a long time to heal.

Gordy used to dote on his little sisters, Leslie and Julia. He called Julia, “Bootsie” and used to sing to them all the time. He was always carrying them around on his shoulders. He also loved animals, and had a cat at one point that he called, “MooMoo”.

During the time that his father was in the hospital and even after he was home, Gordy’s mother depended on him more, so he carried an extra burden of responsibility at that time in his young life. Gordy didn’t like making decisions, so he and his next oldest sister, Tootie, leaned on each other quite a bit.

When Gordy was growing up, with so many kids in the family, it was very rare that the kids got new clothes. Well, at one time, his sisters got some new clothes. Tootie remembers putting on her new pencil-fit skirt that came to her ankles and a nice, beige sweater, and when she came down the stairs, Gordy exclaimed, “Well! It’s about time you got some decent clothes!”

On one occasion, Gordy had asked Tootie to go to his room and find his green sweater. Well, poor little Tootie went up there and searched and searched, to no avail. Gordy made her go back and look again, but she came back empty handed. Finally, in his frustration, Gordy went himself to find the ‘green’ sweater. Tootie saw him coming down the stairs carrying a bright red sweater, and she knew at that moment that he was colorblind! One special talent of Gordy’s was walking around the back yard on his hands! He would walk on his hands for long periods at a time while the younger kids watched in amazement!

Gordy quit school in the 10th grade after his folks moved to Minneapolis, because the school required the kids to sell war bonds and collect money for them – he didn’t want to do it, so he quit. He got a job making hog feeders out of metal. It wasn’t long and he found his niche as a machinist, starting out as an apprentice for \$20 per week. He did, however, end up getting his diploma later in life through a correspondence course with the help of his first wife.

After World War II, his apprentice work dwindled, so he eventually started working for Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, a Detroit firm doing Ice Research at Willow Run in Ypsilanti, the same company his father worked for. He moved with the company to Ypsilanti in 1948 while still living with his folks and helping with the family income.

Gordy was drafted to the war in 1951 and was released in 1952. He told Henry he was released because of a “critical defense-related job”, which is a standard and reasonable deferment classification since Ice Research was supporting nuclear weapon development. However, in a letter written by his mother, she states that Gordon had a bad knee and shouldn’t have passed the physical, so they released him.

Yet another version has something to do with him getting in a fight while in service and assaulting his superior. One story told about him fighting in services was that Gordy visited one of the local bars and was having a drink. When he got up and went to the bathroom, he came back to find another man sitting in his

chair, where he left his drink. When Gordy approached the man and explained what happened, they ended up in an altercation. It escalated from there and the two men ended up really tearing up the joint. When it was all over, Gordy felt really bad about breaking up the place, and went back to talk to the owner. He told the owner that he would gladly pay for everything. But the owner refused, and said that the man in question had been a problem bully for some time and that it was about time someone kicked his ass.



Gordy married Mary Elizabeth Stewart, “Mimi” in 1952, and their first child, Martha, was born while they lived on Cross Street in Ypsilanti.

In 1954, Ice Research was relocated from Willow Run to Bartlett, New Hampshire. Throughout its history, the group had been conducting tests and evaluations of their devices and equipment atop Mount Washington. Gordon and family moved to Conway, New Hampshire. Gordon, his wife Mimi, and daughter Martha lived in an upstairs apartment of an old farmhouse with the barn attached, with his parents and siblings, Henry, Iris, Tommy, Leslie and Julia on the lower level.

When the ice research project ended, both families moved back to Michigan, however, Gordy and his family stayed an extra year in New Hampshire until the house sold in 1956. His sister, Iris, stayed with them until the house sold, and she remembers well Mimi packing up to move – the last thing Mimi did was mop that big kitchen floor before they got in the car and drove to Michigan!

Stewart Halloway was born in 1957, and Gordy ended up working for The University of Michigan, in the Physics Department, as an Instrument Maker. Even though he quit school in the 10th grade, you would never know it by his accomplishments. He was very skilled at what he did, and made a lot of money doing it. His brother, Henry, remembers going to a “machine show”, where they exhibited all the latest and greatest inventions. When Henry mentioned to one of the exhibitors that Gordy was his brother, the exhibitor exclaimed, “That Gordy, he’s a genius when it comes to fixtures!”

What Gordy did for a living was make devices for experimental research. So, when a professor would need a part that you couldn’t buy at a store, they would explain what they needed to Gordy, and he would visualize it, and make it – from scratch!

One project in particular Gordy mentioned to Henry: Gordy worked on a device to measure the force of a pendulum to see how much force it took to break a monkey’s skull. Of course, this research would later be transferred for use on human skulls in the medical field.

Gordy liked to hunt small birds, however, he said he would never hunt deer because it might make him sick to have to gut it. Although it seems he had no problem hunting mushrooms! He used to go north to a very rustic cabin in Rose City, and hunt mushrooms! He loved to go by himself and just be alone with nature. Gordy also liked baseball, and watched sports on TV.

Mimi had always wanted to travel, so Gordy worked extra hours in the evening making specialty devices for outside companies. He got paid well, and was saving his money to take Mimi traveling. Mimi was the love of Gordy’s life. He and Mimi were soul mates, and he loved her dearly.

Mimi had been to the doctor because she had lumps in her breasts – the doctors found they weren't cancerous, so, when she went in for the third lump, she chose not to be tested. She was diagnosed with cancer when it was too late, and suffered greatly through it. She refused to go for the radiation treatments. All the while, Gordy was there taking care of her, until the bitter end. He would pick her up out of bed, take her to the bathroom, bathe her, change her sheets, and put her back in bed. Tootie remembers that Mimi just wanted Gordy to lay there with her, in 'spoon' fashion for hours on end.

Mimi passed away on October 10, 1971, one day after their youngest daughter, Amy's, 10th birthday. Gordy was left alone to finish raising Stewart and Amy. Martha was a freshman at The University of Michigan at the time.

Mimi's death took a great toll on Gordy. He felt that all his life's work was in vain, and there was no reason to go on. It was many years before he finally met someone else to be his companion. Claudia helped Gordy get through the death of his wife, and after many years of companionship, Gordy married Claudia in 1991.

Gordy retired early from The U of M, when he had to have open-heart surgery at the age of 55.

At the age of 63, Gordy was diagnosed with a rapid-growing lung cancer. He died 5 days later on December 4, 1992. He was buried in Milan near his father, Dale Halloway.



FAMILY NEWS

Reese Bruce is in the hospital - please let Leslie know you are thinking of her.

Don't forget to stop by Angela Meta's store in Britton, MI - can't miss it – Britton is a small town! (517) 451-5000.

Send your stories about the next newsletter "Alan Claire" to Rachel ASAP!

Did you know Martha Amberg owns a yarn store in Canton Michigan called, "Old Village Yarn Shop" 42307 East Ann Arbor Road, PMC Center, Plymouth, MI 48170, 734.451.0580?