

Gloria, a native of Argentina, also earned a degree from the University of Illinois; she has been employed by various financial institutions before child-rearing took priority. She took the position of Art Director of Monica's eight-page school newspaper since she has always enjoyed art projects; she then became Editor of the publication.

VIII 1. MONICA ELIZABETH RASMUSEN b 22 Jul 1994 2.VERONICA LISA RASMUSEN b 9 Jul 1999

Below is a photo of Marilyn and Ben's immediate family, except for Faith.



Scott, Mary Ben Eric Åndrew Gloria Marilyn Helen Benjamin Veronica Jacob Elizabeth Monica Amelia

V 9. ARTHUR FRANKLIN GRAF b 16 Mar 1893 d Dec 1980 wed 2 Jun 1921 Elizabeth Worheir Agar b 22 Oct 1894 In their childhood their mother announced that Dora was to watch over Arthur and Edna was to take care of Harold.

Here is a photo taken about 1910 of Helen, Harold, Dora and Arthur.



Arthur had the distinction of being the only one of his siblings to attend Chicago's Columbian Exposition of 1893. He was only a few months old at the time but that gave him priority over his brothers and sisters who were distributed among stay-at-home relatives and friends. His mother Helen had a new coat for the occasion (Dora related to her daughter) and that coat is now in the Olmstead Museum; it was probably her first coat since coats replaced heavy shawls about this time.

This expedition to the Chicago fair was soon after the Frank Graf's came to Illinois. The Graf farm house was none too large for the expanding family and so the summer kitchen which had been built separately to the north of the house was moved a bit south and joined on to make more living space. (The present owner says the thick wall was noted during some re-modeling) For heating, hard coal was shoveled into the living room stove which had isinglass panels all around so that the blue-tipped red coals could be seen. The dining room had a Franklin stove which burned coal or wood, and kitchen heat came from the cook stove where wood was burned "because you didn't want a long-burning fire", Dora said.

Once when Helen had a brand new cook stove, she was showing it to a visitor. lifting off the lid of the deep-well cooker, she said, "Here's a new invention." Much to her embarassment the well was filled with cookies. Dora had baked and hidden the cookies there to be out of sight from her marauding brothers, which would have included Arthur. Arthur had asthma as a boy, and it was decided when brother Will and sister Myra went with their spouses to Idaho that Arthur would go with them. When the First World War came along, he joined the Army serving as a medic overseas. He returned to Illinois, at least long enough to leave his kahki overcoat, puttees and helmet with Dora, then went back to Idaho. He grew to love Idaho, and after he had spent years ranching and running a Bellevue grocery store, came to be a bonified Westerner. When daughter Mary settled in the East, however, Art and Elizabeth left their mountains to move near her and Dante and the grand-children. Art found employment in a military PX and they enjoyed many years of family get-togethers though Art told grand-nephew Eric that he always missed the mountains. Art and Elizabeth made several trips back to visit the brothers and sisters in the Midwest. Below is a picture of Arthur in later years.



Elizabeth's parents both died when she was four and she was raised by her grand-mother till she was 13 when her grand-mother also passed away. She taught school in Idaho until her marriage to Arthur.

VI MARY BARBARA GRAF, b. 2 Jan 1922. Wed 12 Jul 1944 Dante A. Romano, b. 16 May 1922. Mary grew up on in the Idaho ranchland. In winter she would put on her skis and fly over the countryside to the schoolbus stop. When she graduated, it was wartime, and she decided Washington D.C. would be the place to work. Marilyn and Janice remember her stopping in Chicago at her Aunt Helen and Uncle Harry's. The girls

were impressed with their cousin going off on her adventure in the East. Mary not only helped the war effort but met Dante there and they have had many happy decades. On their 60th anniversary they sponsored an Alaskan cruise for their progeny, including a great-grandbaby in arms. The following picture is of Mary and her three grand-children when they were small.



VII 1. ROBERT DANTE ROMANO, b. 22 Jun 1945. Wed 20 Jun 1970 Elizabeth I. Bullock, b. 12 Mar 1945

VIII 1. LAURA ALLISON B. 7 Nov 1971 wed 26 Apr 2003 Frank G. White b. 27 Apr 1976

IX 1. ETHAN GRAHAM WHITE b 1 Jun 2005

VIII 2. REBECCA CAREY 7 Mar 1974 wed 10 Jul 2004 Philip Charland b. 21 Nov 1969

IX 1. MARY MADISON CHARLAND b 20 Mar 2004

VIII 3. GREGORY LAWRENCE ROMANO b. 24 Mar 1978

VII 2. DENNIS ROMANO , b. 17 Apr 1951