

# Our Family News Letter

Issue 97

Greendale, Wisconsin

June 2017

## Eugene B. "Gene" Heck 1938 - 2017



Eugene B. "Gene" Heck  
September 18, 1938 -  
April 6, 2017

Eugene Bernard Heck, "Gene", age 78, passed away Thursday, April 06, 2017, at the Clement Zablocki

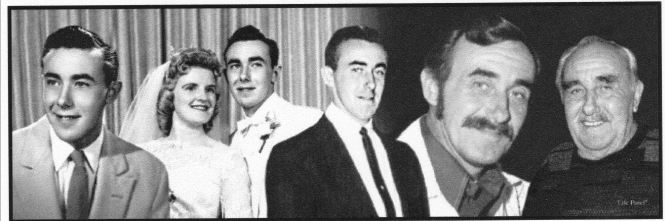
V.A. Memorial Hospital. He was born in Racine, September 18, 1938, son of the late Clarence and Frances (Nee: Pierre) Heck.

Gene graduated from St. Catherine's High School "Class of 1956" and then proudly served in the U.S. Army until 1962. On September 17, 1960 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church he was married to the love of his life, Carolyn J. Witkofski. Gene was self-employed in the Auto Repair business. He was an avid Packer Fan who enjoyed going up north, fishing and hunting. Above all it was time spent with his family he treasured the most. He will be dearly missed.

Surviving are his loving wife of 56 years, Carol, 3 children, Dennis Heck, Vickie (Kurt) Weiss, Sandy (Mike) Prelewicz; 5 granddaughters, Nicole, Danielle, Sydney, Amanda, and Taylor; siblings, Delores (Bernie) Kunka, Shirley Heck, Clarence (Mary) Heck, Mary Kay (Dave) Han-

son, Donna (Al) Benedict; sisters-in-law, Lorraine Heck, Marilyn Stephens, Cel Heck, Myrt Witkofski; nieces, nephews, other relatives and dear friends. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by siblings, Richard, Larry (Nancy), Robert, and Margie (Don) Johnson.

Funeral services were held at the funeral home, Monday, April 10, 2017, 12:30 P.M. Interment with full military honors will follow at Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Relatives and friends may meet Monday 11:00 A.M. until time of service. Memorials to the family have been suggested.



Carol and Gene Heck in 2016. Above are photos of Gene and Carol from 1956 through 2017.

# Peggy Ann Murray Heck 1958 – 2017

Surrounded by her loving family, Peggy Ann Heck, age 59, passed away Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at her residence. Peggy was born in Woodstock, IL, January 29, 1958, daughter of the late Lawrence and Betty (Nee: Koljer) Murray. She grew up in McHenry, IL and graduated from McHenry High School "Class of 1976". Peggy was employed for twenty years by Kemper Insurance in Long Grove, IL.



On April 8, 2006 she was united in marriage to Robert M. Heck. Peggy was an animal rescue advocate who enjoyed music, movies, traveling to New Orleans, and collecting cookie jars. She will be fondly remembered for her witty, silly, fun-loving personality and will be dearly missed.



Surviving are her loving husband, Robert; her sisters, Judith (Erich) Weidner of Chanhassen, MN, Janet (Thomas) Bower of Chicago, IL, Laurie Murray of Kirkland, WA; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mary and Clarence Heck; sisters-in-law, Debra Heck, Kelly Heck (Jon Fireham-

mer), Jody Heck (Burton Hathaway); numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and dear friends.

Funeral services will be held Monday, March 6, 2017, 10:00 A.M. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, Hwy 32. Relatives and friends may meet with the family Sunday from 3:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. and Monday at the funeral home from 9:00 A.M. until time of service at 10:00 A.M. Memorials to the V Foundation (cancer research) or Villalobos Rescue Center (for dogs) have been suggested.

A special thank you to Dr. Choi and staff at Wheaton Franciscan Cancer Center and to Tina and Ann from Wheaton Franciscan Hospice Care for their loving and compassionate care.



The photos on this page were from the funeral collection of Peggy Ann Heck and from her wedding photos.

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All of us wish to express our deepest sympathy to the members of the Gene Heck family and to the family of Robert Michael Heck. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

# Bill Heck named Guitar Player of the year by WAMI for 2017.

We were all very proud of Bill Heck, son of Gloria and Bob Heck your Editor, when he was nominated as Guitar Player of the Year for 2017. Bill was in a field of eight musicians nominated for this prestigious award by WAMI (Wisconsin Area Music Industry) at its 37<sup>th</sup> annual Awards Banquet held at the Turner Hall Ballroom in Milwaukee.

We were jumping for joy when Bill's wife, Michelle, texted us in the evening from the Awards Banquet with the simple message, "He Won!"



Bill Heck, WAMI Guitar Player of the Year.



At bottom left is the Rush Tribute Band. Band Members left to right: Sean Jones Vocals, Bass, Keyboard, Tom Slawnik Drums, and Bill Heck Guitar, Backing Vocals.

The three piece band has a huge following and a busy schedule for this Summer and Fall. Their schedule includes:

The Saloon on Calhoun Thursday, May 18th at Brookfield, WI.

Rustic Road Run III Saturday, May 20th at Delavan, WI.

Penny Road Pub Saturday June 17th at Barrington, IL

Rockin' In The Park Thursday July 20th at MB Financial Park, Rosemont, IL.

Wisconsin State Fair, Saturday August 5, 2:30pm, Tuesday August 8, 3:30pm, and Friday August 11, 2:30pm.

Brock's River Walk Saturday September 23rd at Fort Atkinson, WI.

The Metal Grill Saturday October 21st at Cudahy, WI.

The Cue Club Saturday November 11th at Waukesha, WI.

The band has two concerts tentatively scheduled for New York City.

If you get a chance to attend one of their presentations, I would suggest that you do what I always do. Bring along cotton balls for your ears.

Congratulations Bill. We are all very proud of you and we admire you and your fellow band members for your dedication for music perfection. You guys put in a lot of effort and it shows by your huge following.

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Mark Your Calendar...  
Sunday, July 9, 2017,  
The Heck Picnic at the  
Leisure Center.

The Heck Family Picnic will be held at the Leisure Center near Wind Point, Racine, Wisconsin. The golf outing at Shoop's Park is still a central activity as is swimming in the outdoor pool at the Leisure Center.

Originally the Heck Picnic was for descendants of Henry Heck (1839-1920) and Mary Ann McNulty (1844-1912) and included family members from Racine, Waterford and Burlington. The first recorded picnic took place in 1948 at Brown's Lake at Burlington, Wisconsin. There were probably many earlier picnics dating back to the post-Civil War period. Henry and Mary Ann were married in 1869 and it is almost certain that they had picnics in Burlington and in Waterford.

**For more information about the Heck Picnic and/or the golf outing you can contact Cel Heck at (262) 639-5370 or contact her by e-mail at cecelias@wi.rr.com.**

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## **Don Heck Instrumental in helping US Veterans.**



Picture and article from the Racine Journal Times. 22 April 2017, Saturday.

My brother, Don Heck, has been very active in Viet Nam Veterans activities. The Racine Journal article follows.

### **Pillow Donation**

“Vietnam Veterans Chapter 767 of Racine/Kenosha recently made a presentation to Jessica Serdyski, left, voluntary service specialist at Clement Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee. They presented comfort pillows for the veterans on behalf of Operation Jersey Cares and Vietnam Veterans of America. Both organizations also presented comfort pillows to the VA nursing home in Union Grove last November. To Serdyski's right is Don Heck, George Miller and Jon Rybar. Heck, while visiting his son in Providence, RI met Liz Hackett, donated product officer of Operation Jersey Cares. This chance encounter resulted in Operation Jersey Cares to send more than 80 pillows to Heck for distribution to veteran health care facilities in our area.”

Thanks Don for all you do to support our veterans. We all appreciate what you do.

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## **Meet your distant lost cousins.**

Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess had 13 children between 1840 and 1869. Part of genealogy research involves trying to find out what happened to each of those 13 children.

The third child of Peter and Patience was Adaline McNulty, sometimes shown as Adeline McNulty. Adaline was born in Kenosha County, Wisconsin in 1845.

Adaline McNulty was found in the 1850 census for Pike, Kenosha County, Wisconsin at the age of 5 years.

In the 1860 census she was listed as Adaline McNulty age 16 years but was indexed on Ancestry.com as Adaline Nulty.

She married John Newman on 5 Jun 1861 at the age of 17 years at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church located at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.

John Newman and Adaline McNulty had six children as follows:

- (1) Mary N. Newman born 1862,
- (2) Daniel W. Newman born 1864,
- (3) Julia Newman born 14 March 1867,
- (4) Bennett Newman born 17 October 1869,
- (5) Adelaid N Newman born 29 August 1872,
- (6) John William Newman born 6 December 1877.

Bennett Newman (4) was also known as Benjamin and as Bernard Newman in later records.

John Newman died on 10 February 1879 at Burlington, Racine County, Wisconsin leaving Adaline alone with six young children.

Adaline McNulty Newman was found in the 1870 and 1880 census. However, no record of her could be found in the 1900 census or beyond. The 1880 census shows her as a widow and her age is shown as 34.

After 1880 Adaline McNulty Newman seemed to disappear from the face of the earth. There were a lot of possibilities. She could have died at an early age or she could have remarried since she was only 34 years old when her husband died in 1879. Many years of searching took place but she was not to be found anywhere in Wisconsin.

While researching in the Burlington, Wisconsin Historical Society records recently, I found reference to one of Adaline's sons, Benjamin Newman, who visited Burlington after living in California for 24 years. The reference on the Burlington web page stated:  
"Benjamin; S 7/11/1908 - visited after 24 years in Calif.; S 8/15/08 - returned to Calif." The reference S 7/11/1908 is for the newspaper, The Burlington Standard Press 11 July 1908.

Benjamin was born on 17 October 1869 thus he would have been 14 years old when he left Wis-

consin for California. It is unlikely that a 14 year old boy would leave Wisconsin alone for a life in California.

The next logical step was to search for Adaline and her remaining family in California.

Adeline J Newman was found in the 1910 census living in Lexington, Los Angeles County, California with her son, Daniel W. Newman. She was found in the 1920 census living at Seal Beach, Orange County, California.

A search of the FindaGrave web site found Adeline Newman buried in Wittier, California. The record showed that she was born in 1842 and died in 1923. Her burial was at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, Los Angeles County, California, USA.

Plot: Mausoleum I - Crypts, Section 1, Grave 205.

(1) Mary N. Newman married William C. Davis and she died in 1923 and is buried near her mother in Plot: Mausoleum I - Crypts, Section 1, Grave 201. Her husband, William C. Davis died in 1931 and he is buried in Plot: Mausoleum I - Crypts, Section 1, Grave 200.

(2) Daniel W. Newman died on 20 November 1936 and is buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, Los Angeles County, California, USA. He never married.

(3) Julia Newman married Nicholas Smith on 5 January 1888 at the San Gabriel Mission, Los Angeles, California. We were unable to find her death or burial records.

(4) Benjamin Newman married Mabel L Jones on 30 July 1914 at Santa Ana, California. On his marriage certificate from California, his name was shown as Bernard Newman. The marriage certificate stated that he was born in Wisconsin and was 40 years old in 1914. His parents were shown as John Newman and Adaline McNulty. The certificate incorrectly listed his mother's birth place as Maine. She was born in Wisconsin. Bernard was probably confusing his mother's

birth place with his grandmother's birthplace. A record of his death and burial have not been found.

(5) Adelaid N. Newman married Elbert J Dodson on 27 October 1897 at El Monte, Los Angeles, California. She died on 6 January 1933 in Orange County, California. Elbert J. Dodson died on 31 January 1935 at Rosemead, Los Angeles County, California.

(6) John William Newman was single and living with his mother at the time of the World War I draft registration. WWI Draft Registration 2 SEP 1918: Living at home with his mother at 122 14th Street Seal Beach, Orange County, California. The draft record indicated that his age was 40 years in 1918. It is believed that he remained single and died in California.

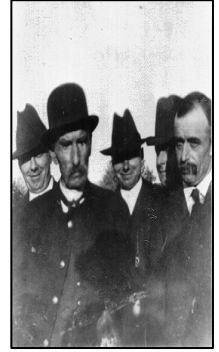
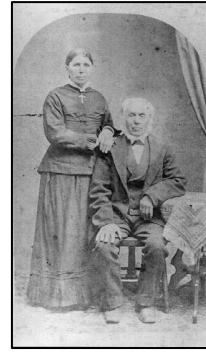
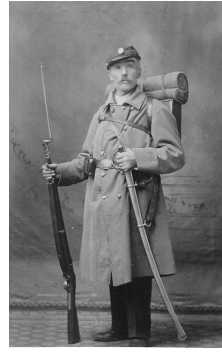
In conclusion, an obscure entry in the Burlington, Wisconsin Historical Society web page about Benjamin Newman visiting Burlington after 24 years led to the discovery of a missing branch of our McNulty family. "Benjamin; S 7/11/1908 - visited after 24 years in Calif.; S 8/15/08 - returned to Calif."

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## Bring Your Photos...

For the picnic in 2017, I would like to suggest that you look in your closet for some old family pictures that you would like to share with others. Bring them to the picnic and I will scan them into my computer. You can copy them with your smart phone. If you bring along a flash drive you can have copies of 611 of our old family photos along with a description of who is on each photo. This is a rare opportunity for you to obtain copies of our family photos that I have collected over the past 40 years. Can't identify people on your photos? Bring them along and maybe we can help ID those relatives of old.

Following is a small sample of the 611 photos: Henry Heck in Civil War uniform; Johann Heck and his second wife Susannah Zeren; Henry Heck with four of his sons: Matt, Robert, Lawrence, and James.



Clara Stratman Henningfeld with six of her children: Carlos, Margaret, George, Molly, Sylvester, and Fred.



First Communion party for Marjorie Heck.

**Bring a flash drive to the picnic on July 9, 2017 and you can have a free copy of all 611 photos from our family photo albums.**



Thanks to Bill Heck, 96 issues of Our Family News Letter are now available to you on-line and for free. They are available to you at the following web address:

**<http://ourfamilynewsletter.com/>**

Just go to the web address shown above and select a year and then an issue. There are four issues per year starting in 1993. Each issue is usually eight pages in length and in PDF format. That's 768 pages of our family history!

You should feel free to share the web address and the newsletters with other members of your family. If we don't share our family history, someday there won't be anyone around to tell our story.

In our 500 member computer-genealogy group that I head up, you would be surprised at how many have boxes of old photos and yet have no idea of who the people are on the photos. Usually those old photos end up as land fill in a city dump or show up at the Seven Mile Fair. (For those living outside of the Racine area the Seven Mile Fair is a gigantic flea market.)

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## Thanks to our contributors...

**My deepest thanks go to all of our readers but especially to those who are the contributors who help keep this newsletter going with their generous donations. This list is for the period September 2016 to April 2017.**

Rebecca & Brian Wright

Philip W Heck

Lorraine Heck

Ellen (Heinrichs) & Bill Steiner  
 Jeff & Susan (Bark) Miller  
 Frank Lamping  
 Howard Heck  
 Pat (Heck) Merritt  
 Don & Sharon Heck  
 Ann (Pfeiffer) & Daniel Kelley

Contributions to keep Our Family News Letter going are always welcomed and can be sent to:  
**Robert J Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive,  
 Greendale, WI 53129.**

If you would like to contribute a story or an article that you wrote or copies of family pictures, please send them to me at **bheck@execpc.com**. If you can identify the people on the picture, that would be a big help.

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## From the newspapers...

Burlington Free Press 29 SEP 1943:

### **James Heck, 73, Dies After Short Illness.**

James Heck, 73, son of Henry Heck, Civil War veteran, died at 11:30pm Wednesday. Mr. Heck had been a resident of Burlington for many years.

He was born Nov. 1, 1869, on a farm in the town of Brighton, Kenosha County, and spent his entire life in that vicinity, later moving to Burlington. His wife, the former, Wilhelmina Hoerneman, died in 1919. Mr. Heck, a painter by trade, had been in poor health for the past 10 years, but was not confined to his bed until a week prior to his death. He was a member of St. Mart's Catholic church, and the Holy Name society of that parish. Friends will gather at the McCarthy funeral home at 8pm Friday to pray the rosary. Surviving Mr. Heck are four children, Ray Heck and Herbert Heck, Burlington; Mrs. Nick Pier, Racine, and Corp. Joseph Heck, at Camp Shelby, Miss., who will be home for the funeral. He is also survived by two sisters, Miss Eva Heck and Mrs. Alfred Plucker, Waterford; a brother, Laurence Heck, Milwaukee; a cousin, Miss Anna Hugenin, and seven grandchildren.

# Family Pictures...



Bob and Gloria Heck with their granddaughter, Lauren Emily Heck celebrating her Confirmation on Sunday, 7 May 2017.



Dave and Judi Heck with their children, Lauren and Grace on Sunday, 7 May 2017. Lauren will turn 14 on 31 May 2017 and Grace turned 9 on 25 April 2008.



At lower left is a picture of our granddaughter, Grace Heck singing at a talent show at the Robinwood school in Franklin, Wisconsin. Grace and a friend were singing and acting out parts from the musical Annie. The girls received a big round of applause from the audience when they finished.



Lauren Emily Heck holding her trophy and wearing her medal from a forensics competition in 2017.



Lauren singing at the Franklin, Wisconsin 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

We are very proud of our grandchildren and love to see them perform.