

Our Family News Letter

Issue 108

Greendale, Wisconsin

March 2020

Carol J. Heck 1938 - 2019



**Carolyn
"Carol" J.
Heck**, age 81,
passed away
Tuesday, De-
cember 17,
2019 at Fran-
ciscan Gar-
dens, South
Milwaukee.
She was born
in Racine, Sep-
tember 16,
1938, daughter
of the late
John and

Mathilda (Nee: Stepanski) Witkofski.

On September 17, 1960 at St. Patrick Catholic Church she was united in marriage to the love of her life **Eugene "Geno" B. Heck** who preceded her in death, April 6, 2017. Above all Carol was devoted to her family, and it was time spent with them that she treasured the most.

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.

She will be dearly missed by her children, Dennis Heck (Jeanette), Vickie (Kurt) Weiss, Sandy

(Mike) Prelewicz; five granddaughters, Nicole (Nick) Stark, Danielle (Blake) Seehusen, Sydney, Amanda, and Taylor; one great-grandson, Luka Stark; sister, Marilyn Stephens; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Myrt Witkofski, Dolores (Bernie) Kunka, Shirley Heck, Clarence (Mary) Heck, Mary Kay (Dave) Hanson, Donna (Al) Benedict, Lorraine Heck, Cel Heck; nieces, nephews, other relatives and dear friends.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, December



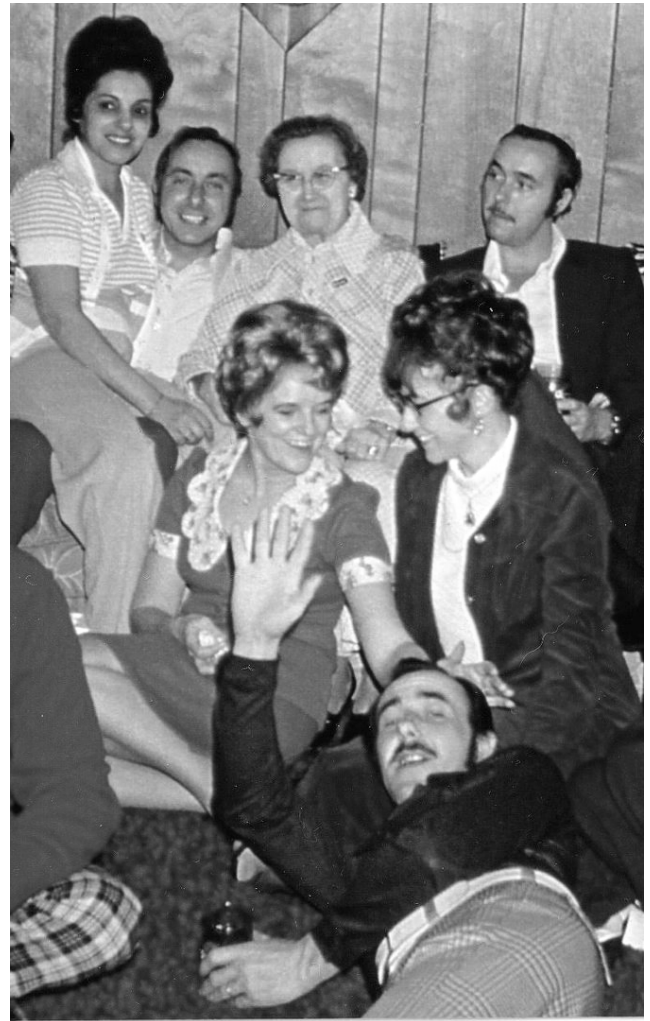
22, 2019, 2:00 pm at the funeral home. Relatives and friends may meet with the family Sunday at the funeral home from 1:00pm until time of service at 2:00pm. Private interment will be held at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

A very special thank you to the entire staff at Franciscan Gardens for their loving and compassionate care.

The following photos were taken from the 1957 Horlick High School yearbook in Racine, Wisconsin.



At left is Carol Witkofski's graduation picture from 1957. Below is Carol as a cheerleader at Horlick High School.



At upper right is a photo of some of the Heck family. Back row left to right: Cel, Robert, Frances, and Clarence (Jr.) Heck. At center left to right: Carol and Shirley Heck. In front is Eugene Heck.

At lower right is the wedding picture of Carol and Eugene taken on September 17, 1960.



We will miss Carol and Eugene and the amazing stories that they told us at the family gatherings.

Documents from the past

REGISTRATION CARD

SERIAL NUMBER **375** ORDER NUMBER **2899**

1 **Robert Stephen Heck**
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: **901 Hamilton** RACINE WIS.
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

3 Age in Years **38** 4 Date of Birth **December 1879**
(Month) (Day) (Year)

RACE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Negro	<input type="checkbox"/> Oriental	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen	<input type="checkbox"/> Noncitizen
5	6	7	8	9	

U. S. CITIZEN **ALIEN**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Declarant	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-declarant
10	11	12	13	14

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?

16 PRESENT OCCUPATION **Bartender** 17 EMPLOYER'S NAME **Mike Gembroski**

18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: **1300 N. Main Racine Wis.**
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

NEAREST RELATIVE Name **Margaret Heck (Wife)** 19
 Address **901 Hamilton Racine Wis.** 20
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE
 P. M. G. O. **Robert Stephen Heck**
 Form No. 1 (Red) 2-1-17 (Registrant's signature or mark) (OVER)

Rob

The document above is the World War I draft registration of Robert Steven Heck, my grandfather. He was 38 years old and was employed as a bartender at a bar located at 1300 North Main Street in Racine, Wisconsin. He was living at 901 Hamilton Street in Racine at the time of registration in 1917. Within a few years he was living at 2704 Charles Street where he died of an aneurysm in 1923. A short time later his family was living at 1335 North Main Street in Racine, where his son Edward Heck died in 1931 at the age of 15 years. Ironically, 1335 North Main Street is at the opposite end of the block from the tavern where Robert Steven Heck was employed.

At right are photos taken in about 2018 showing top to bottom: the tavern at 1300 North Main Street, the home at 2704 Charles Street and the home at 1335 North Main Street. My dad, Robert Gerald Heck and I were able to tour the home on North Main Street many years ago. My dad

pointed out each of the rooms where he and his siblings slept.



New Information on the Children of Benajah Burgess.

While researching the Internet for a presentation that I will be making to our genealogy group, MPAFUG, I uncovered some new information about the children of Benajah Burgess. Benajah was born in 1761 and died in 1830. Benajah was my 4th Great Grandfather. He was born in Rhode Island, lived in Voluntown, Connecticut, and in Hoosick, New York and Vermont. He is buried at the Walloomsac Methodist Episcopal Cemetery (ME Cemetery) in Rensselaer County, New York. His land in Vermont is where the battle of Bennington was fought during the American Revolution.

Children of Benajah Burgess and Zilpha Matteson:

1. Cynthia Burgess Potter
Born 1784, Died 1 FEB 1845
Married 1st William Potter 1783-1822
Married 2nd Amos Potter 1770-1837.
Cynthia is buried at the Old Bennington Cemetery at Bennington, Vermont.
Here is a photo of her tombstone:



2. Lurana Burgess Potter
Born Unknown, Died 16 Aug 1860
Married Joshua Potter 1778-????
Lurana is buried at the Mitchell Cemetery, Parish TWP, Oswego County, New York.
Here is a photo of her tombstone:



3. George Burgess
Born March 1787 in Rhode Island, Died 28 FEB 1862 in Wisconsin.
Married Mary Polly Matteson 1791-1840
George is buried in the Union Cemetery, Lebanon, Dodge County, Wisconsin.
Here are photos of his tombstone.



4. Archibald Burgess
Born 1791, Died 10 Oct 1840 at Bennington, Vermont.
Married Mary Hillman 1794-1840
Archibald is buried at the Old Bennington Cemetery, Bennington County, Vermont.
Here is a photo of his tombstone:



5. Nancy Burgess Potter
 Born 5 FEB 1794, at Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York, Died 6 MAR 1862 at Bennington, Vermont.
 Married 1st Hunnamon Potter 1788-1819
 Married 2nd Johnson Potter ???-1871
 Buried at Walloomsac Methodist Episcopal Cemetery, at Walloomsac, Rensselaer County, New York.

Here is a photo of her tombstone:

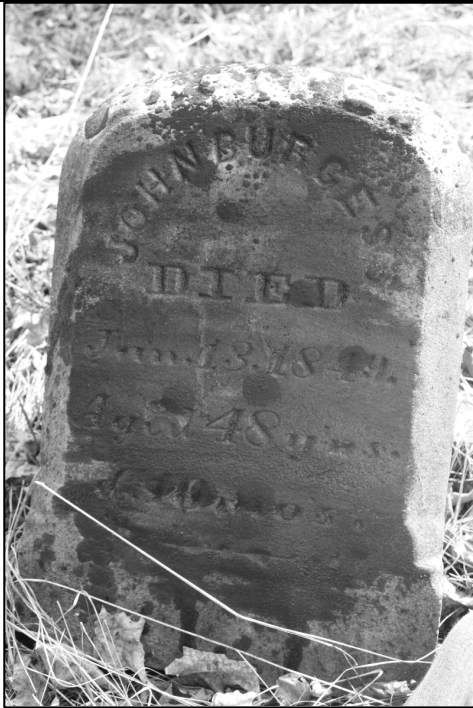


6. Benjamin Burgess
 Born about 1794, at Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York, Died MAR 1838 at Racine County, Wisconsin.
 Married 1st Rebecca Chase
 Married 2nd Amanda Foster 1799-1886.
 Buried on home land, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.
 There is no photo of his tombstone.

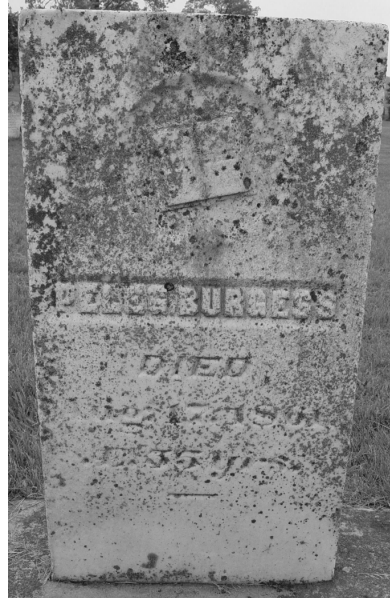
7. Hannah Burgess Matteson
 Born 1796
 Died 10 MAR 1847
 Married Smith Matteson 1791-1867
 Buried at West Exeter Cemetery, West Exeter, Otsego County, New York. Here is a photo of her tombstone:



8. John Burgess
 Born 1800, at Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer County, New York, Died 13 JAN 1849.
 Not Married.
 Buried at Walloomsac Methodist Episcopal Cemetery, at Walloomsac, Rensselaer County, New York.
 Here is a photo of his tombstone:



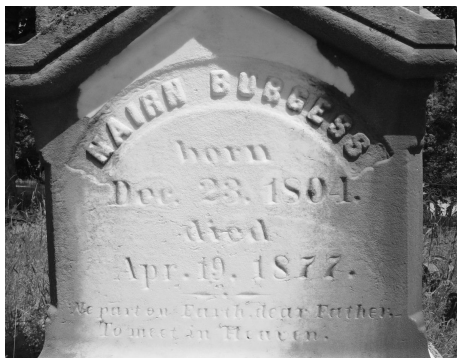
11. Peleg Burgess
 Born 1806 at White Creek, Washington County, New York. Died 17 AUG 1861 at Ironton, Sauk County, Wisconsin. Married Roxa Harrington 1801-1849 Buried at Resting Green Cemetery, Ironton, Sauk County, Wisconsin. Here is a photo of his tombstone:



9. Harvey Burgess
 Born 31 DEC 1802, at Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York, Died 10 OCT 1872.
 Married Aurelia Hand.
 Buried at Verona Cemetery, at Huntley, Faribault County, Minnesota.
 There is no photo of his tombstone:

12. Zilpha Burgess Bacon
 Born 1809, at Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York, Died 15 APR 1885, at Sunderland, Bennington County, Vermont.
 Married George W Bacon 1802-1865. Buried at Lawrence Cemetery, Sunderland, Bennington County, Vermont. Here is a photo of her tombstone:

10. Nairn Burgess
 Born 23 DEC 1804, at Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer County, New York.
 Died 19 APR 1877 at Hoosick, New York.
 Married Ruth Jewett 1807-1874.
 Buried at Walloomsac Methodist Episcopal Cemetery, at Walloomsac, Rensselaer County, New York.
 Here is a photo of his tombstone:



If you look at the tombstones for Nancy Burgess Potter and John Burgess on the previous pages you can see that someone used a chemical of some sort to be able to read the letters on the stone. That person has caused severe damage to the stones which will shorten the life of them. It is against the law to use any solution on a tombstone and the person who did it to these stones could be fined a great deal.

If you are ever in a cemetery and have a hard time reading a stone, there are a few simple steps that you can take without damaging the stone. One of the easiest is to take a piece of aluminum foil and hold it so that the sunlight reflects at an angle on the stone. That will cast a shadow of the letters allowing you to easily read and photograph the inscription.

A second method is to spray distilled water on the surface. That will make the inscription stand out long enough for you to read and photograph the inscription. Distilled water does not contain any minerals that could cause damage to the stone.

Another interesting fact about the Burgess children is that they sure liked to marry spouses from the Potter and Matteson families.

Join “What the HECK”

If you would like to learn more about our family, join our Heck Family Facebook Group. Log into Facebook and search GROUPS for “What the HECK”. You can then request to join the Group. All we ask is that you state how you are related to the Heck family.

Here is the web address for our group page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Whattheheckfamilygroup/>

Here is the address in larger letters:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Whattheheckfamilygroup/>

You can also send an e-mail message to Cheryl Ann Heck and ask her to send you an invitation to join the “What the Heck” group. Cheryl’s address is **whatdahek@sbcglobal.net**
Cheryl is the one who created the group page for our family.

Right now there are 76 members of our family who belong to the “What the Heck” group on Facebook.

Some of the features that we have on the group page include the following:

DISCUSSION SECTION: There are many photos in this section with detailed descriptions and sometime a request for help in identifying people on the photos.

MEMBERS SECTION: Includes a list of all 76 members and includes a way for you to contact them individually with a message.

EVENTS SECTION: Includes upcoming events such as the Heck Family Picnic.

VIDEOS SECTION: Twenty videos made from 8mm home movies and slide shows created from old photos. Some include sound recordings of interviews made with your relatives. Some of the movies go back to 1939. Some are movies of family picnics such as Browns Lake in 1948, Lincoln Field in 1969.

PHOTOS SECTION: One hundred and eight family photos. Some go back to the Civil War era.

FILES SECTION: Here you will find a history of the Heck family including a 149 page book that starts in 1778 at Alendorf, Germany, containing photos of many and it’s completely indexed at the end of the book.

We invite you to join the FREE Heck Family Group on Facebook.

It is your family so why don’t you drop in for a visit?

Our Family News Letter On-Line.

Thanks to my son, Bill Heck, 108 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 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 over 800 pages of our family history!

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

I Have A New E-Mail Address...

If you need to contact me or send me photos or articles that you wrote please send them to me at my new address: **heck.bob@gmail.com**

My old address at **bheck@execpc.com** has been shut down and deliveries are no longer made to it.

This newsletter is written and published by **Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive, Greendale, WI 53129.** Our Family News Letter is published quarterly and is distributed without charge. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated. My e-mail address is **heck.bob@gmail.com**

From the Newspapers...

The Antioch News, Antioch, Illinois
Thursday, January 27, 1949.

Pioneer Resident Dies Wednesday Night.

"Mrs. Loretta Dibble, 82, passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Fields, last night, Wednesday, January 26. Mrs. Dibble had been ill for a long time preceding death.

She was born at Kansasville, Wisconsin, on September 15, 1866, and most of her long life was spent in this community. Her husband preceded her in death in 1936.

Beside Mrs. Fields, she is survived by a son, Sylvester Dibble, of Salem, Wisconsin, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The body is at the Strang Funeral home, but no funeral arrangements have been made as yet."

Note: Loretta was the daughter of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess. When she died in 1949, she was the last of 13 children to pass away.

Loretta was married on 19 Feb 1887 at the house of the rector of St. Francis church at Brighton, Kenosha Co. Wis. The witnesses were James Henry Heck and Mary Ann Heck. The marriage was thought to be a mixed marriage as Adam was not Catholic. Loretta and Adam were found living in Bristol, Wisconsin in the 1910 census.

She is buried at the Hickory Union Cemetery, Antioch, Lake Co., IL.



The Loretta and Adam Dibble family in 1924. Seated: Loretta and Adam Dibble. Standing L-R: Sylvester, Bessie (nee Turnock), & Lawrence Dibble, Charlotte (nee Dibble) and Ralph Fields.