

# Local Boy Makes Good

April 19, 2021



## A wedding

Local girl Alda Mae Case marries downstate boy Marshall Smith, the teacher at the Roseville School.

## Children are born out on the Case farm

Stanley George Smith, born in a snowstorm on April 19, 1921. He never attended the Roseville School. The family moved to 409 North Main Street in 1925.



**Pioneers**  
The Case  
family  
farmed  
this piece  
of ground  
from 1840  
until 1965.  
Through  
most of it  
they were  
dirt poor.



### **A Rare Photo**

George Case, Anna Dowell Case, Alvin Case, Edith Converse Case,  
Marshall Smith with Robert and Stanley in front c. 1924

Ed Swanson  
Stan Smith  
Earle Matthews  
Russell Cook  
Elger Berkeley  
Kenney Krueger  
Harold Vasey  
Lorraine (Buzz) Turnbull  
Johnny Shipman  
John Pence  
Rollie Brown  
Don Stadfeld  
  
Coach Ernest Bighthop



## The Lightweight

Stanley loved basketball and was pretty good, I think. He played with the heavyweights in '38 and '39. The basketball says, "Champs 1936".



## The GRADUATES



GERALDINE M. KIRK    LORRAINE A. FROEHLKE    ELGER A. BERKLEY    GERALD JEPSON  
KENNETH D. KRUGER    STANLEY G. SMITH    FRANK F. OTTO

### GERALDINE KIRK

Here is a girl named Jerie Kirk,  
She is never known to shirk.  
Glee Club 1, 2; Operetta 1, 2; G.A.A. 1, 2; Press  
Club 1, 2; Student Council 3; Dial 3, 4; Junior and  
Senior Plays.

### LORRAINE FROEHLKE

Lorraine is quite the lass  
She is well liked by all her class.  
Glee Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Operetta 1, 2; G.A.A. 1, 2, 3;  
Press Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Student Council 2, 3; Band 1,  
2, 3, 4; Junior Play; Dial 3, 4; Latin Club 1, 2.

### ELGER BERKLEY

"Gus" really likes to sing.  
Some day he may be another Bing.  
Glee Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Operetta 1, 2; Basketball 1, 2, 3,  
4; Baseball 1, 2; Press Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Band 1, 2, 3;  
Junior and Senior Plays; Dial 4.

### FRANK OTTO

Frank, better known as "Ott",  
To try to fool him you better not.  
Glee Club 1, 2; Operetta 1, 2; Basketball 2; Student  
Council 1, 2; Junior and Senior Plays; President 3;  
Dial 4; Latin Club 1, 2.

### GERALD JEPSON

Jep is quite the boy,  
Full of pep, laughter, and joy.  
Baseball 2; Basketball 1; Band 1; Press Club 1;  
Junior and Senior Plays; Dial 4; Student Council 3.

### KENNETH KRUGER

This shy boy we call "Kenny",  
On airplanes spends his last penny.  
Glee Club 1, 2; Operetta 1, 2; Dial 4; Baseball 1, 2,  
3; Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4.

### STANLEY SMITH

"Smitty" is our pride and joy,  
With the girls he is no decoy.  
Glee Club 1, 2; Operetta 1, 2; Band 1, 2, 3, 4; Stu-  
dent Council 1; Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Junior and  
Senior Plays; Press Club 1, 2, 4; President 1, 2, 4;  
Dial 4.

## The Graduate 1939

The text reads:

"Smitty is our pride and joy, With the girls he is no decoy.

Glee Club 1,2; Operetta 1,2; Band 1,2,3,4; Student Council 1; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Junior and Senior Plays;  
Press Club 1,2; President 1,2,4; Dial 4.

He was also Salutatorian.



## Man About Town

His parents divorced, in a depression, no money for college. He worked, mostly at Carr's Sweet Shop.

## The Depression

He would never eat turnips again.  
All his life, he couldn't throw anything away .  
He couldn't pass by anything left alongside the road.

... but I never did without.



# Warrior

Drafted in 1943, the Army sent him to:

- Ft. Riley, Kansas for Radio and Cryptography School
  - five died when a tornado hit
  - “the barracks I was in was carried right off its foundation”
- Columbia , SC awaiting D-Day – there he married a pretty girl on March 7, 1944
- Encamped near Stonehenge for a month
- Europe: 2nd Cavalry, Patton’s Third Army.
- Went ashore at Normandy 6 days after D-Day
- Battle of the Ardennes Forest (Battle of the Bulge) -- one of the coldest winters in European history. Overcome by carbon monoxide about Christmas 1944, saved by another radioman
- After VE day, France, Luxembourg, Germany, Czechoslovakia.
- Sailed home on the Queen Mary
- Arrived Wauconda -- Dec 8, 1945
- Discharged as Tech Sargent 4

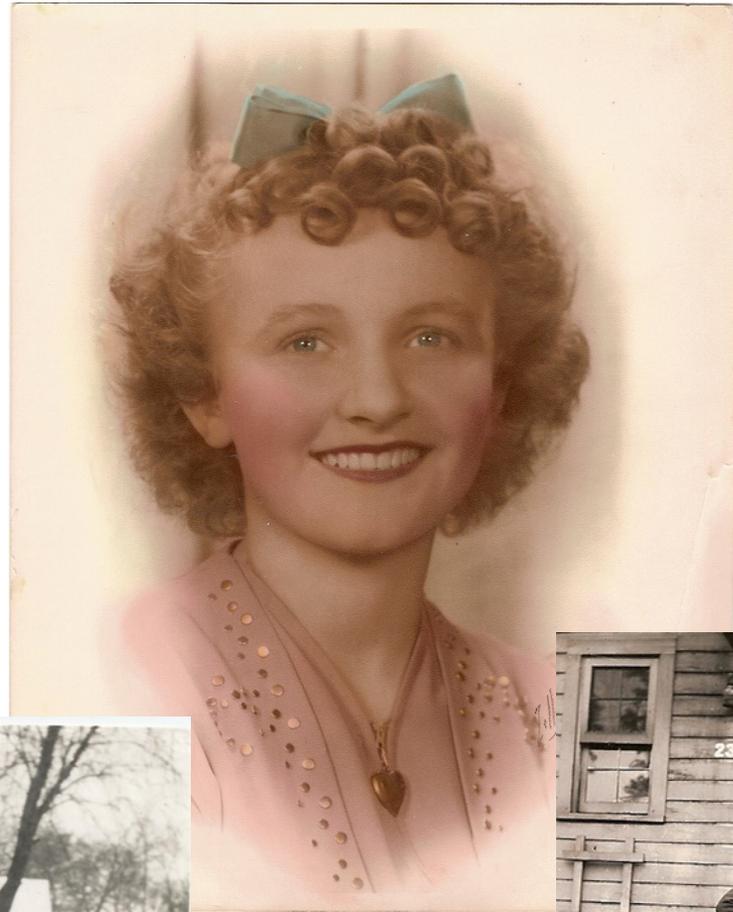


## Love and Marriage

The pretty girl he married in South Carolina was Patricia Oswald, oldest daughter of a Williams Park saloon keeper. She traveled alone on a train for four days, got married by a Justice of the Peace, then returned to Illinois three days later. He left for Europe on a ship two weeks later.

The kid on the sled was born 9 months and one day after Stan returned to Wauconda.

The marriage lasted 54 years. Only death could end it.



- Rescuing the Lipizzaner stallions



General Patton's Headquarters

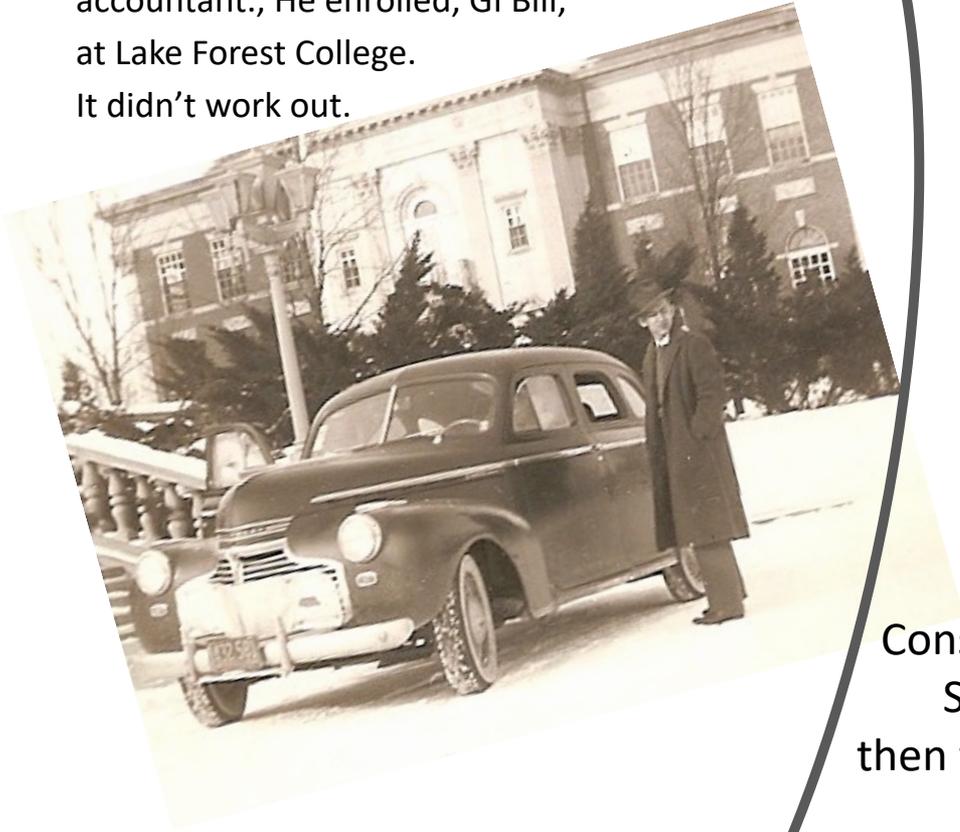


Camping out, Army style

The radio truck in which he almost died (the guy in the T-shirt saved him).

## College Boy

Always good at math, he wanted to be an accountant., He enrolled, GI Bill, at Lake Forest College. It didn't work out.



## Working Stiff



With a family to support, he found jobs. Construction, including on the Wauconda Grade School addition, driving for Curtis Candy, and then for Cary Dairy, where he stayed for 27 years.

Up at 3:45, 7 days a week at first. Just about everybody in Wauconda and Island Lake knew him. They left the back door open. For many he put the milk in the refrigerator. Hard work in summer. In winter ....

## Social, no distancing

A thousand parties, a thousand bridge games, two thousand Cubs games.



The fabulous Hubbards Woods Christmas tree untrimming parties.

**Let's play  
dress up**



Parade's, charities,  
Frontier Casino, etc.  
She always made a  
costume and he  
always did them  
proud.

**He taught me  
everything I know  
about being Grandpa**



## Travel

Hawaii

Charleston

Virginia

Monterey

England

Ireland

Italy

... any where I  
went, they went.

Plus ... maybe a  
dozen trips to Las  
Vegas ... and ...



## Our old friends, the Germans

In the '80s and '90s, they attended 2nd Cavalry reunions around Europe. Their German hosts were friendly and gracious.

**And the Award  
Goes to ...**



**Fiftieth Anniversary party. Pamela and I  
flew home from England to be there.**



**75 doesn't seem so old ...**

Birthday Party at the township office.

## Life is what happens ...

- Milkman -- 27 years
- Umpire – 7 years
- Libertyville Sports Shop – 20 years
- Township Trustee
- Township Clerk
- Bishop's Committee
- Cemetery Renovation
- Historical Society Factotum
- American Legion 40+ years
  - Commander 1952
- Expert Bridge Player
- Everybody's Favorite Uncle
- *Thank you for your service .. thank you for everything*



**... when you're making other plans**