

The Lucke Family Newsletter

January 2018

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♥Congratulations♥

◇ *Anna Magee and William McCann* were married on September 23, 2017 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Weston CT. They are living in Darien CT. Anna is the daughter of *James and Karen Magee*, granddaughter of *Bob and Anne Magee*, great-granddaughter of *#10 Margie*.

◇ *Ken Bond*, son of *#5 Elsie*, celebrated his 90th Birthday on November 30, 2017!

Condolences

Stephen Charles Gucker, grandson of *#7 Carlie*, passed on to The Lord on October 21, 2017. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St Joseph's RC Church in Garden City with burial in Calverton National Cemetery. [See Obituary on page 2]. We offer sincere condolences to Steve's Wife *Anne*, and their children, *Jennifer, Matt, Charlie and Luke*, their spouses and their children.



Anna and Will McCann



Ken Bond



Anne & Steve Gucker



Magee 4th Generation
Maura, Joe, Katie, Annemarie,
Patty, Liz, Peg, Eileen with Jim



Ken Bond with Jon and Cathy Hover, Paulette Engel,
Nora Young, Bobby Young, Tom Engel, Paige Engel,
Chris Bond and Tyler Bond

Obituary

The Garden City News: "Stephen Charles Gucker, beloved husband, father of four, uncle, and grandfather has found his final resting place. Former Marine highly respected in the plumbing industry will never be forgotten. As a retired master plumber in multiple municipalities and NYC plumbing inspector, many were positively impacted by his dedication and knowledge of the industry. We pray others effected by Agent Orange have a painless path to heaven. On behalf of his family, we would like to take this opportunity to thank every active member of the military and the veterans who have served and sacrificed for our country."

Memories of Steve Gucker

We both grew up in Brooklyn, so I got to see my cousin **Steve** often when we were kids. I believe that three things in his early life really had a profound effect on molding the person he became. First was the influence of his Grandfather (**#7 Carlie**). Steve followed Carlie around on his plumbing jobs and learned the important lesson "Do the right thing, and do it the right way." That motto surely molded Steve's life-long vocation as a Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Contractor. [Note the accolades in the Obituary!]. Second, the fact that Steve was the oldest of 7 siblings imparted a lasting sense of responsibility for his brothers and sisters, indeed all his family. I recall when I was invited to dinner, I would hear Steve's Mom, Dottie, call out "Steve, round up the kids; it's time to eat." And like a Good Shepherd, Steve would gather up six somewhat unwilling tots. Third, enlisting in the US Marine Corps; his service reflected "doing the right thing the right way". Finding his soul mate **Anne Dietershagen** was the beginning of a great team which has produced 4 truly loving and dedicated children, **Jennifer, Matt, Charlie and Luke**.

-Bob Campbell

Uncle Steve was my Godfather, but he was like a second father to me. He always seemed more excited to see me than anyone else. We shared many holidays together and it always ended the same way - in a vicious game of Pinochle. He was a Vietnam Vet, a Master Plumber and a father of four. He epitomized an everyday hard working guy. He was a love him or hate him kind of guy - you felt one way or the other, but he didn't care. He was who he was. Steve will forever be remembered in the work of his children. **Matt** followed in his footsteps and runs a successful Plumbing business. **Charlie** does something with computers that only fellow computer folks can understand easily. **Luke** also works in IT and gained a passion for politics. His forever baby girl **Jenn** works in insurance and was probably the closest of them all. They all hover around my age and that of my brother **Dave**, so growing up together we became something closer than cousins. Probably more like additional siblings. We got dressed up for Easter, cut turkey at Thanksgiving, and exchanged presents at Christmas. Uncle Steve always presided as the Patriarch. The day he died, his family lost their Patriarch, the country lost a loyal soldier, the plumbing profession lost a leader and a teacher, and I lost my second father.

-Kristen Gucker MacLean



1949: Steve



1980



2009 Charlie with Trevor



2014: Matt, Jen, Steve, Luke, Charlie



2009: Bob Campbell, Anne, Steve, Luke, Jen, Matt



2017: Theresa, Jim, Paul and Dar



2017: Steve, Charlie, Karrie Vetti, Anne, Luke
Front: Katie Vetti, Henry, Trevor and Owen

Around the Family

Fantasy Baseball: Congratulations to **Doug Keeley (#2 Frank)** who won the Championship in the Lucke Family Fantasy Baseball League for 2017! Doug beat **Kevin Lucke (#8 Bill)** in the finals. **Brien Magee (#10 Margie)** finished in 3rd place. Eight Lucke Cousins participated this year. We invite more of your to join for 2018. It's free and fun! No prizes except "bragging rights" which now belong to Doug for one year! Contact **Bob Campbell (#11 Anna)** for details.

Caitlin Vitro began the 2017 fall semester at Binghamton University in Vestal, NY pursuing a double major in chemistry and music. She was chosen for a unique chemistry research program and will be performing on her clarinet for the University's symphony orchestra. Caitlin's brother **Matthew Vitro** will be attending RIT in the fall semester of 2018, studying Mechanical Engineering and playing baseball. Caitlin and Matthew are the children of **Theresa and Daniel Vitro**, grandchildren of **Ruth Ann and Michael Donovan**, great grandchildren of **Agnes and Edward Wilson** and great-great grandchildren of **#2 Frank**.

Website: Family history, past issues of the Newsletter, photos (including this year's Family Picnic) and birthdays are on the Lucke Family website at www.theluckefamily.com. Please visit and let us know what else you would like to find there. Contact arcyc@aol.com

The Fourth Generation: In 2017, we published stories of the grandchildren of **#7 Charles (Carlie)**. In the next issue we will move to the grandchildren of **#8 William**.

Lucke Family Picnic: On Saturday, August 26, 25 Lucke Cousins gathered at the home of **Brien and Victoria Magee (#10 Margie)** for our annual Picnic. We had a wonderful celebration of being "family". Once again, thanks to **Brien and Victoria Magee** for making the arrangements and providing the food.



#2 Frank's Family