

Heritage Fair 2021

Gemma, Grade 4
Northern BC

Warner Stuart Goshorn

Warner Stuart Goshorn was my great-grandfather. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on March 31, 1916. His parents were Myrtle Warner and George Goshorn. His father's ancestors immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1750 under the name "Gansshorn." The family name later became "Goosehorn" and then finally "Goshorn." Warner's father George died in the Great Influenza Epidemic of 1918 when Warner was two and half years old.

Warner was married twice, his first wife was Florence Mackie and his second wife was Ruth Worret. He had four kids, Jan, Taffy, Abbie and Nick. Abbie is my Nana and my father's mother. Warner died in Victoria, BC on January 8, 2006 when he was 89 years old. He died before I was born so I never had the chance to meet him. His wife Ruth, my great-grandmother, died in 2014 when she was 88 years old. I met her when I was a baby.

Warner went to school at the Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana. His dad went to school there too. Warner was also very musical like his dad. He played the piano by ear and had been in a professional band in New York. Warner graduated as a Geologist from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio and as a Landscape Architect from the College of Forestry at the University of Syracuse, New York.

Warner was a landscape architect for the city of Akron, Ohio for seven years. Then he and his family moved to Montreal, Quebec in 1954. He became the Chief Landscape Architect of the City's new Parks Department. He held this

position from 1954 until 1976 when he retired. He worked on planning around 250 parks in the City of Montreal. A particular park that he worked on was Parc Lafontaine. He also worked on the planning for Expo '67. At the time, this event was the largest ever of its kind. The site was built in just five years. Warner also worked on the 1976 Summer Olympic Games that were held in Montreal. One of his projects was the rowing basin which was built at the site of Expo '67. The Expo site was redeveloped for the Olympics.

When he immigrated to Canada in 1954 from Ohio, Warner only spoke high school French. He used a translator until he became fluent. Warner also had a severe stutter and he went to school in New York to overcome this. During his career he made important contributions to the profession of Landscape Architecture in Canada. He was the first president of the Quebec Society of Landscape Architects in 1965. He became a Fellow of the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects in 1973.



Archives de la Ville de Montréal

Plans for skating facility at Parc Lafontaine.



Construction of skating facility, Parc Lafontaine.



Skating facility, Parc Lafontaine.



Skating, Parc Lafontaine.



Aerial photo of future Expo '67 and 1976 Olympic site, St. Lawrence River, Montreal.



Aerial photo of Expo '67. Artificial islands were built in the St. Lawrence River.



Aerial photo of the rowing basin for the 1976 Olympics. The Expo '67 site was redeveloped for this.



Aerial photo of Expo '67 site today.



Warner and Ruth wedding, with Jan. August 1947, Cincinnati, Ohio.



Myrtle and baby Warner.



Warner with Jan's dog Spot, 1951.



Taffy, Nick, Ruth, Warner, Jan, Abbie.