



2015—2016

*Community Benches &
Memorial Plaques Project*

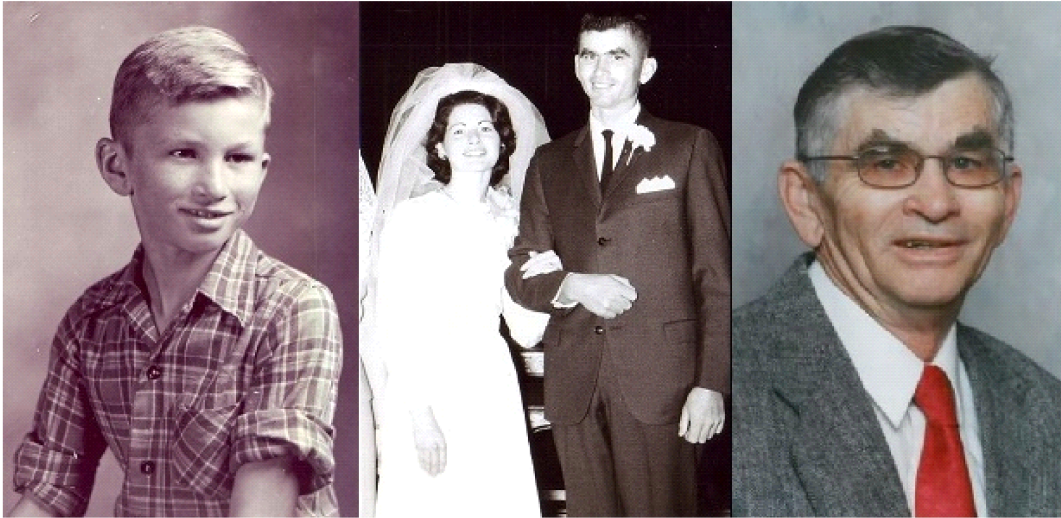
HAMMOND, NY



Allen R. Dunham

At the Hammond Presbyterian Church

**In Loving Memory of
Allen R. Dunham
Husband Father & Farmer
Hammond & County Leader**



Allen was born on July 15, 1936 in Hammond, NY, a son of Frank & Mary (Shutler) Dunham. He graduated from Hammond Central School as valedictorian class of 1953 and then received an Associate in Applied Science Degree with honors from Canton ATI in agriculture in 1955. He then married Catherine Bogart on October 20, 1966. Early in their marriage they traveled the world, visiting Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Tahiti. This always made for a great story to share. He was the proud father of a son Richard and daughter Megan. Besides the love and devotion for his family, his second passion was his farm. He owned and operated the family dairy farm until declining health in 2011. He took pride in his registered Holsteins, knowledge of their pedigrees and genetic lines, especially his rare red and white Holsteins.

Some of his activities while in school included, being a class officer, playing in the band and singing in chorus, FFA where he held several offices in the local chapter as county president and state secretary. He received the state farmer degree and went to the national convention in Kansas City twice. He also played basketball and was captain of the track team. He was very active in the grange first as a junior member, then moving on to 50 years in the Subordinate Grange where he held offices on the local, state and national level.

Allen was a lifetime member of the Hammond Presbyterian Church where he served

several terms as an Elder. He also sang in the choir for several years and did some solo work, being noted for his deep bass voice. He was a member and leader of the Hammond All Stars 4-H club, headed area dairy judging programs for 30 years, and was appointed to the county 4-H program committee, and was elected to the St. Lawrence County Cooperative Extension Board of Directors and as President. He was very active in the Hammond Fair, and was dairy cattle superintendent for 30+ years. Allen was also elected to the St. Lawrence County Legislature for 12 years where he also served on many committees. He was also a member of the Hammond Planning Board and the St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District for 12 years. Allen enjoyed showing and judging cattle, watching his children play sports, and spending time with his family.

This year, 2016, the family plans to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Allen and Cathy. Their marriage is a great love story, one worthy of a celebration of their lives together here and after this life.

"Allen Dunham, was a farmer, politician, leader, church goer, husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle. He was my father and my Daddy had a heart of gold. He gave to his community and had a love for dairy farming that even his diseases could not keep at bay. He took huge pride in his life's work being a farmer and I'll forever take pride in being a farmer's daughter. He was my teacher and my best critic. I'll miss him and how he always admired my long blonde hair. I have a love for the country, my family and the most wonderful memories of a childhood that I wish every child could have. All thanks to having two amazing parents and a community that helped raise me. If my Dad taught me one thing it was to never lose faith. He had so much faith in everyone around him whether he had known you his whole life or just strangers in passing. He took someone's word and to him it was enough." —Megan B. Dunham

"If I had to sum up my father's life in one word, that word would be, Love. His love for his family; He always made time for us, even after a long day in the hay fields and milking cows. He made the time to throw the ball around or play a game of "horse." No matter what I did, decisions I made, or "career" I chose, he was supportive. His love for community; he was a County Legislator from 1980 to 1992 (the 12 years I was in school.) He took pride in making sure the roads and bridges were maintained because that's where his family and those he represented traveled. He made sure that those in the community were well represented and able to keep their homes and family businesses as well as putting food on their table at the end of the day. He loved to be in the community whether it was church, Grange, numerous committee meetings or just hanging out at Agway. He always greeted everybody with a smile and loved to talk. He loved his farm! Woke at 4AM every day and didn't go to bed until the work of the day was done. My father did all this having severe diabetes which he had since he was a teenager and eventually suffering from Alzheimer's disease. It was the latter which ended his farming career. One thing Alzheimer's was not able to take away was his smile and happiness. He always greeted us with a smile and his patented and excited "Well, HI!", and told us, "Come back

soon!" Allen Dunham was a great teacher; he taught me love for community, looking out for others and to have a strong work ethic." —Rich. Dunham

"Allen was known for being quiet and not always saying a lot, but when he did have something to say, people (colleagues), they listened." —Robert McNeil (friend & county colleague)

The quote below contains the true essence of the life of Allen R. Dunham.

THE FARMER'S CREED

"I believe a person's greatest possession is their dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a person can spend their days on this earth.

I believe farming provides education for life and that no other occupation teaches so much about birth, growth and maturity in such a variety of ways.

I believe many of the best things in life are free: the splendor of a sunrise; the rapture of wide-open spaces; the exhilarating sight of your land greening each spring.

I believe true happiness comes from watching your crops ripen in the field and your children grow tall in the sun.

I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellow man.

I believe in farming because it makes all this possible."

— Author Unknown

This was our husband and our father, our everything.

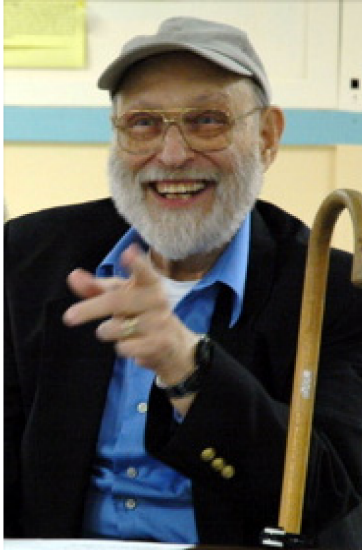
Sincerely,

Catherine, Richard and Megan Dunham

Rev. Dudley E. Sarfaty

At the Hammond Presbyterian Church

**REV. DUDLEY E. SARFATY
BELOVED DAD AND HUSBAND
HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE
OAK POINT, HAMMOND**



1927 - 2009 — Rev. Dudley E. Sarfaty was a native New Yorker with a deep love for family, Hammond and The River. Time at The River with family was the greatest joy of his life. He had a deep commitment to his faith, his congregations and to his ministry of justice and peace.

He graduated from Union Theological Seminary where he received a Masters of Divinity. He was ordained in the Presbytery of Long Island New York in 1950. He served as senior pastor in the First Presbyterian churches of Selden Long Island, Hoboken New Jersey, Chateaugay and Burke Ctr., NY. Summers he would share the opportunity with other clergy who were both friends and colleagues to preach frequently at the camp of the Presbytery of Northern NY at Oak Point. His children and grandchildren inherited his

love of the St. Lawrence River and Oak Point where some continue to live year-round and all gather each summer continually for more than six decades.

We fondly remember his delight at taking the family for breakfast at the Home Restaurant. He taught his five children both respect for The River and how to enjoy it beginning with rowboats and working up to motorboats. He loved the Oak Point family traditions of ice cream socials, square dancing, family-style meals in The Inn and water sports. He shared his musical talents with the church camp community with piano, organ and accordion. He contributed leadership along with other families when they purchased the camp from the Presbyterian Synod and ran it on an independent basis for a number of years until the demise of The Inn in the mid-70s resulted in the breakup of the property.

Every summer until the end of his life, from his retirement home in Malone, he gathered at The River with family to relax, vacation, as well as observe and celebrate numerous family milestones including birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and newborn family members. His deep and abiding love for this place was expressed in his last wish that following his cremation his ashes be spread at The River. It was a joy for him to know that his family will continue to gather at The River. It is a joy for us to do so, to remember him and to be grateful to him for the gift of Oak Point, Hammond New York.

James L. Cranfield

Across from Our Current Town Office Building & Library

**In Memory Of
James L. 'Jim' Cranfield
Model Citizen
Loyal Friend**



“We knew Jim Cranfield for well over 10 years. He was referred to us when we were looking for someone to mow our camp when we were away. Our 3rd generation camp has been in the family since 1955, and loving care it did need. We were so fortunate to find someone as nice as Jim. He was Mr. Steady -- dependable, solid, trustworthy, honest as the day is long, hard working, caring, and about all the right stuff. Jim was the type of person you could go to for assistance or a referral on

anything. And trusted advice he did give. He knew everyone in the community, gave good advice, and was always willing to go the extra mile.

Jim was the type of person you would want in your foxhole in time of trouble or simply on a sunny day. Jim was our Guardian Angel for our camp, given we live 800 miles away in NC, but as River Rats, we eagerly looked forward to our summer trek up to The River each year. Each year we always looked forward to seeing Jim and his wife Vicki, sitting by The River, and talking on topics from A to Z. It was always enjoyable.

Everyone who knew Jim lost something -- a brother, a husband, a father, a grandfather, a stellar citizen of Hammond, and a tremendous friend. Our memories remain full of Jim's spirit and his ever-present good will, and for our paths having crossed on Chippewa Bay, we are eternally grateful.” —*Bruce & Julie Mallette*

NMY Community Foundation

Across from Our Current Town Office Building & Library

**NORTHERN NEW YORK
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Stewarding Community
Legacies Since 1929**



Northern New York
Community Foundation

The Northern New York Community Foundation (Watertown, NY) raises, manages and administers an endowment and collection of funds for the benefit of the community. We use our earnings to support a program of college scholarships for area residents and grants to non-profit organizations to improve our community's quality of life. Since 1929, we have helped make good things happen in northern New York. We serve as a resource for local charitable organizations, donors, professional advisors and non-profit organizations.

Through the generosity of many donors, we have been able to invest in a permanent endowment now valued at over \$60 million, and have awarded more than this amount in grants and scholarships.

The Foundation's role in the community goes beyond grants and scholarships. We bring people together to discuss local community problems and work to find creative solutions. And, we work to help donors achieve their charitable objectives now and for generations to come.

Marcella Lavarney

*At Our Soon to be *New* & Town Office Building & Library*

**In Loving Memory Of
MARCELLA LAVARNWAY
Hammond Librarian
43 Years of Service**



February 3, 1930 – July 25, 2014—With Marcella’s death, the Hammond community and the Hammond Free Library in particular lost a devoted and longtime supporter of reading and the public library system. She was the librarian at the Hammond Public library for 43 years and after retiring as librarian she continued to be a trustee for 16 more years. She was also employed by Hammond Central School, first as a library aide and later as the school media specialist. The public library hours were arranged around her work schedule.

The Hammond Free Library and Hammond Central School have a close working relationship, partly due to Marcella’s influence. The school and library have worked together for many years to share and promote programs related to the enrichment of children’s joy of reading. She was known for going out of her way to help students get resources for term papers and guide them through the writing process. In 1990, Marcella received The Junior Lavarney Award for service to school and community.

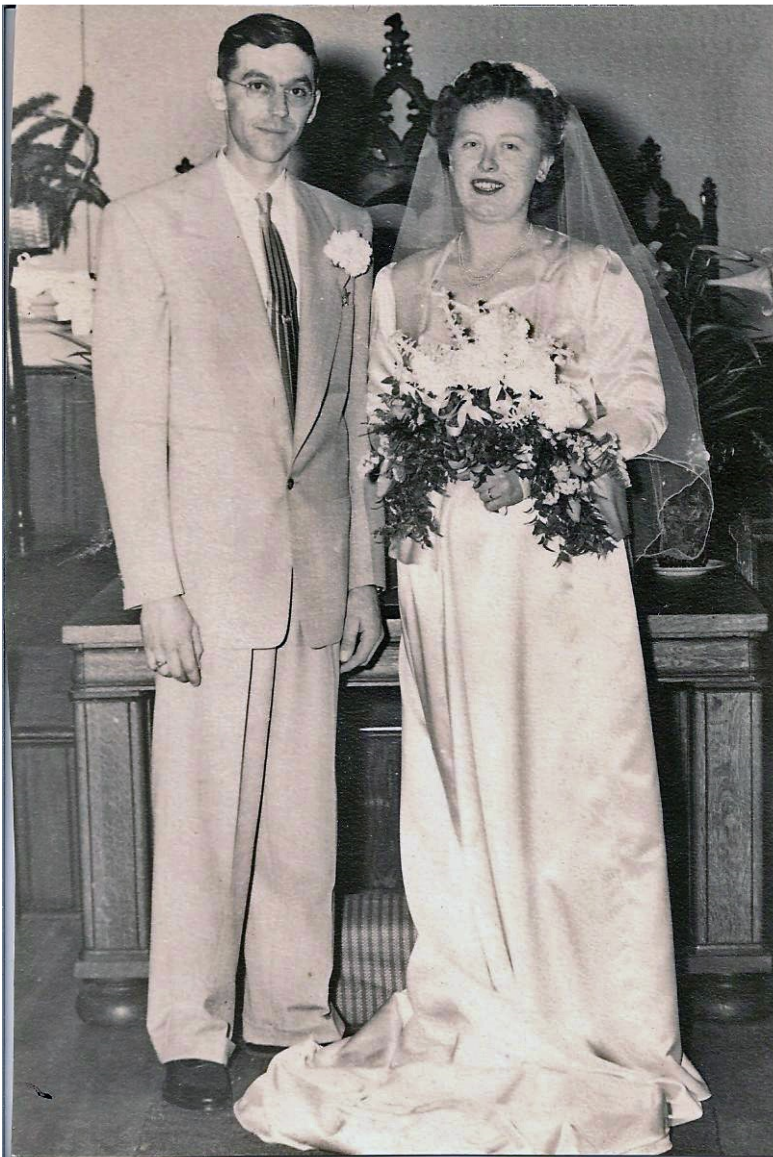
Marcella was a lover of people and a teller of the hard truth. She was on the phone a lot. Some people referred to her as the Mayor of Hammond. Some considered her to be the hub of our community. She drew together people of different educational levels and backgrounds. She had a great sense of humor. She was famous for the sign she kept on her desk for years, “Old age and treachery will overcome youth and skill.” She enjoyed witticisms such as “when a librarian dies, do we say she is out of print or ceased to be published?”

She cared about enriching people’s lives, especially their reading lives and she is greatly missed.

Stuart & Eleanor Demick

*At Our *New* Town Office Building & Library*

In Loving Memory Of
Stuart & Eleanor Demick
Town Judge & Farm Family
Dedicated to Community



Minerva Bohall

At the Spicy Olive Café

In Loving Memory Of
Minerva Bohall
Dedicated Mother
and Grandmother

Bill Miller

At the Spicy Olive Café

In Loving Memory of
Bill Miller
Who Loved The River

Virginia S. Gibson

At the Hammond Post Office

In Loving Memory of
Virginia S. Gibson
U.S. Postal Service
1944-1978

Bessie Gallagher-Rush

At the Hammond Post Office

**In Loving Memory of
Bessie Gallagher-Rush
"Forever in our hearts"
7/7/1926 - 11/4/2011**



Bessie was born on July 7, 1926 in Hammond, a daughter of the late Ernest & Alice (Yerden) Slate. She graduated from Hammond Schools and married Gerald J. Gallagher on May 8, 1946 at the Hammond Presbyterian Manse. He predeceased her in 1990. Together they raised 3 children, Janie, Patrick and Tammy.

She then married Robert Rush on April 10, 1993 at her home in Hammond, he predeceased her in 2011. She worked as the Cafeteria Manager for Hammond Central School for 27 years. Of course anyone that went to Hammond Central School remembers her delicious Apple Crisp!

She was a member of the Hammond Order of Easter Star, 56 year member of the Hammond Presbyterian Church and a member of the Hammond Historical Association. She loved to spend time with her family and friends.

Bessie was a very important person and touched many people's lives. She was caring and nurturing to anyone she met. Her love for cooking showed by the way she always had something freshly baked at her house for everyone to enjoy. You never left her house hungry!

Bessie is forever in the hearts of those that loved her.

Patricia S. Ceresoli

At the Citizen's Telephone Company

**PATRICIA S. CERESOLI
A Shining Star in Heaven
Loving Wife Mom & Gram
Friend to All; 1932-2010**

Joseph & Louise DeCondo

At the Citizen's Telephone Company

**In Loving Memory Of
Joseph & Louise DeCondo
Hammond Fireman 23 Years
Hammond Businesswoman**



Hugh C. Pitcher

At L.P. Thompson Insurance Company

**Hugh C. Pitcher
Father, Farmer, Friend
He Loved Hammond
Hammond Loved Him**



Hugh C. Pitcher was born December 29, 1933 in Morristown, NY. On April 10, 1955, he married Denise Wilson of Hammond.

Hugh and Denise purchased a dairy farm from her parents on the Chippewa Bay Road in 1960, and over the years purchased several adjoining farms to eventually own Pitcher Farms. Although Hugh was not born in Hammond, to him, there

was no place on earth better than Hammond. He truly loved our little community, the people in it, and what it stood for.

As a devoted member of the Hammond Central School Board for 30 years and the BOCES Board for 10 years, Hugh's goal was to make sure that all students had every opportunity to better themselves. His networking skills and dedication to education made many improvements to ensure that this happened. Hugh had a love for family and his community and was also known for quietly doing random acts of kindness. There were a few years when Hugh dressed as Santa Claus and drove around town visiting the elderly and also distributed gifts to children in the community. There were times when some people were having tough times, and he would order fuel to be delivered to them and leave a card signed "Santa". But people already guessed who it was. He had a very generous heart. Hugh loved Hammond and everything about it. He was well known for saying:

"There are two kinds of people in the world. Those who live in Hammond and those who wished they did."

Wayne R. Bertram

At L.P. Thompson Insurance Company

WAYNE R. BERTRAM
"POPPY"
ALWAYS LOVING
ALWAYS LOVED



Wayne Bertram grew up in Redwood, New York, graduating as Salutatorian of Redwood High School in 1951. In 1955 he married Lottie Jones. Together, they made their home and family on Calaboga Road in Hammond.

Wayne was the proud owner of Bright Raven Farms from 1955 until a fire destroyed the farm in 2011. In 1969, Wayne worked as a service technician for Hammond Agway, until his retirement in 1991.

Often thought to have made service calls to nearly every home in Hammond, Wayne also operated his own electrical, plumbing and appliance repair

company until 2011. A proud member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lakeside Lodge #328, Wayne attained the title of District Deputy Grand Master. Wayne was a member of the Young Farmers Group of Hammond, a former Director of the St. Lawrence County Cattle Club, a Boy Scout Master and a past master of both the Subordinate, Kirkland Grange, Redwood and Pomona Grange for Jefferson County as well as the New York State and National Grange. Wayne enjoyed stained glass, woodworking, and spending time on the majestic St. Lawrence River with his family and friends, especially his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Quiet, kind, and generous, Wayne was a friend to all. On July 2, 2015 Wayne Bertram passed away. He is missed every day.

The Rabozzi Family

At the Current Hammond Town Hall

Cheers! Cent' Anni
The Rabozzi Family
Of Oak Point



Parents are Helen and Mario Rabozzi.

House is Rabozzi cottage at Oak Point on the River, our favorite place!

Current one of girls are sisters in order; Ro Rabozzi, Vicki Rabozzi, Anet Hammett, Gina Rabozzi.

We have been at Oak Point since 1974, when we owned and operated the Oak Point Trading Post. That is when we met many new folks from Hammond, whose friendships we still cherish.

Ro and her sons own the stone house at Oak Point, formerly owned by Miriam and Menzo Preston.

Our saying — “Cent’ Anni” — is a saying that we use when toasting! It’s our family tradition and means “100 Years”...as in “To health, for 100 years.”

Daniel W. Szetela

At the Current Hammond Town Hall

**In Loving Memory Of
Daniel W. Szetela
Jan 1946 - Jan 2011
Found Peace on the River**



A man who lived by example with humor, insight and compassion. 1/11/46 – 1/16/2011 — Dan grew up in Rochester, N.Y. and spent many treasured summer days fishing and boating in Chippewa Bay with his mom, dad and sister, Bonnie. Dan attended Denison University in Ohio his freshman year of college. Then, he transferred to the University of Buffalo. He married his high school sweetheart, Dorrie and taught high school history after graduation. When they moved to Albany, N.Y. Dan started a career in the N.Y.S. Education Department. Over those 27 years he devoted his time and energy in serving the people of New York State. He moved up through the Department with ever increasing responsibilities. He retired as the Deputy Commissioner

for all of the professions. During that time Dan was instrumental in revising the licensing and certification processes, developing legislation and creating policies and procedures. He worked tirelessly to insure equal opportunities for all who were seeking higher education.

With their two children, Sam and Sabrina grown with families of their own, Dan and Dorrie retired to their home on Chippewa Point – Legacy Cove. The River and its' beauty fulfilled a dream come true. Dan loved photography and spent many hours capturing sunsets, freighters and cottages dotting the islands. He became involved in the Chippewa Point Road Committee and in the effort to keep the Hammond area pristine and free from the affects and looks of windmills.

Boating and exploring the islands was a favorite pastime. He never tired of finding a new place to explore. While drifting down the Lake of the Isles, Dan would often say "where would you rather be and what would you rather be doing". The answer was always "right here, right now soaking up the beauty and pull of the River". Dan was a loving husband and father. He was always willing and wanting to help a friend or even a stranger. He grew up admiring Hopalong Cassidy – who never failed to help someone in need. And part of Dan's legacy was to always do the right thing whether anyone was watching or not. Legacy Cove, the St. Lawrence River, his family, his cats and his friends were what made his last days on this earth the most precious to him.

The Hammond Museum

At the Hammond Museum

DEDICATED TO ALL
HAMMOND HISTORIANS
GIVEN BY R.T. ELETHORP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

IN HONOR OF THE MANY
VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED
BUILD AND MAINTAIN OUR
HAMMOND MUSEUM



Walter & Ruth Sisson's Legacy

Millsite Manor

**To Honor the Legacy of
Walter & Ruth Sisson and
Our Beloved Oak Point**



Left to Right: Our Mom (Ruth Sisson), Joe Sisson, Carol Freeman, Polly Hart, Pete Sisson, and our Dad (Walter Sisson). Picture taken summer 1955.

- Walter was born 09/05/1894 in Potsdam, N.Y. - He graduated Dartmouth College 1917.
- Served in World War 1 in France from May 1917 to Aug. 1919 attaining the rank of Captain. Joined A. Sherman Lumber Co. as Asst. Treasurer. 1931 joined Raquette River Paper Co. as Asst. Treasurer, became Treasurer in 1936. Served as President of Raquette River Paper Co. in 1955 at time of merger with Orchard Paper Co.
- Served on Board of Directors of Clarkson College.
- Active member Potsdam Country Club.
- Ruth Griffith graduated from Crane School of Music in 1923 and taught for one year.

Walter and Ruth were married in Ilion, NY on Sept. 4, 1924. Walter's father Rufus L. Sisson built the cottage at Oak Point in 1920. Walter and Ruth's family spent many summers at Oak Point

during the 1930's and 1940's forging lifelong friendships with many Hammond folks and numerous summer residents. Upon the death of his mother, Mary Coffin Sisson in June, 1947, ownership of the Oak Point Cottage passed on to Walter and Ruth Sisson. Walter died on Nov.13, 1957 in Potsdam, N.Y., after a year of ill health. Through a series of revocable trusts and finally the Sisson Point LLC, the property is "alive and well" and owned by all four families descended from Walter and Ruth Sisson. Through the sacrifices and dedication of our parents over the decades we descendants are today the fortunate recipients of several lovely properties at Oak Point and gradually becoming absorbed into the Hammond populace!

With our everlasting gratitude to Walter and Ruth Sisson we remain:

The Freemans, Sarfatys, Johnsons, Ruas
The Harts, Millers, Wagners
The Joe Sissons, Walter John Sisson, Mary Anne Sisson
Walter C. Sisson, Jr. (Pete)

The Freeman Family

Also at Millsite Manor

**To Honor Our Love For
The River & Oak Point
The Freeman Family**

Thank You

VisitHammondNY.com