

June 15, 2017

Jerry -
your Grandfather,
William Dot Luens,
created some hand-
written diaries for
several years.

Attached are entries
he made for the
year of 1945. I thought
that you & Tim might
be interested -

Love,

Mopra

Happy Father's
Day!



From the Diary of W.D. Lucas

1945

January 11th:

In office most of day. At 9:25 P.M., received a message from war depart. saying that Elwood was missing in action over Yugoslavia on bombing mission. May God be with him.

January 12th:

In office a little while today - All sad at home - May God bless us all. Lena came in this P.M. all in great suspense - hoping God will save him.

January 13th:

Another real cold, wet day. In office awhile. We are all living in hopes to hear from dear Elwood. Still praying for him. Thanks for friends.

January 14th:(Sunday)

Went to Sunday School awhile - did not attend church - too sad. Attended funeral of Mr Pryse Eager (sp?) at church in P.M. Many visited us last few days.

January 15th:

In office some - no work. Still no news from Elwood - Still hoping and praying. Lena is still with us. Cold today. Doing best we can.

January 16th:(A Happy Day!)

Lena went to Irvine this A.M. In office some. Had a letter late from Elwood saying safe also was confirmed by war dept. later - bailed out of plane on mission, safe back to base. Thank God.

January 17th:

All indeed so happy at the Lucas house as Elwood is reported safe in Italy - missed over Yugoslavia - God was with him. All so happy.

February 28th:

In office most of day. Rev. Luther Newnam died this P.M. result of a stroke Thursday. A real good man is gone.

March 12th: (Monday)

In office most all day - had a letter from Harry and Elwood. Nancy getting ready to take off for Calif. Do not want her to go.

March 14th:

In office all day working on records. Nancy left for Lexington at 6:30 P.M. on way to California. I was hurt when the baby girl left. May God be with her.

March 15th:

In office all day putting on raises by Board of Supervisors - court still in session. Kindly sad and lonesome because Nancy went away.

March 16th:

In office most of this day. Lonesome since Nancy left for Calif.

March 18th:

Attended Sunday School and Church - was my birthday. Enjoyed a real good dinner. A nice warm day. Pearl went to church at nite.

March 21st:

In office most of day, worked some at home. Had a letter from Harry and a good long letter from Nancy. Gearl Henry rec'vd a crate of oranges from Billy in Florida. Good.

April 1: (Easter Sunday)

Pearl attended sunrise services - we all went to Sunday School and Church - a large crowd all "dolloed up". Pearl went to church at nite.

April 10th: (Tuesday)

Worked in garden - in office in afternoon. Had a letter from Elwood now in southern Italy. Had a letter from Harry away out in Pacific on a big ship.

April 12th:

In office some. Wrote Elwood. President F.D. Roosevelt died in Warm Springs, Ga. at 3:30 P.M. today. Came as a great shock to the nation.

April 19th:(Thursday)

Worked all day at home helping on a chicken house. Billy came home today from Sanford, Florida on leave. Cool tonight.

April 23rd: (Monday)

Left for Frankfort early in car with J.P. Thomas, George Hogan and Sedley Stewart to appear before revenue department. Back home late. A letter from Harry today.

April 28th:(Saturday)

In office some today. Billy left on train at 6:30 for Louisville thence on to Sanford, Florida. May God be with the boy. A leave of 11 days at home.

May 1:

Worked in office part of day. Hitler reported killed today - may mean end of war in Europe. Had a letter from Nancy.

May 4th: (Friday)

In office some in P.M. Attended a doings at school - was speaker for the occasion. Gearl H. attended play at school.

May 6th:(Sunday)

Attended Sunday School & church. Visited by Gearl Eckman. In office in P.M. Wrote the boys. Gearl Henry became very sick late today.

May 7th:

Pearl & J.S. Darch took Gearl H. to hospital at Richmond. Was operated on for appendicitis - a bad case. God bless the dear boy.

May 8th:

Went to Richmond to see Gearl in the hospital - was very sick but improving. Pearl still with him. Back home late.

May 11th: (Friday)

In office working on Sheriff's Settlement. Pearl with Gearl in hospital at Richmond. At home by myself. Very lonesome.

May 12th: (Saturday)

Still hard at work in office. Was Lodge nite at St. Helens - did not go. Gearl Henry improving. Thank God.

May 15th: (Tuesday)

At same work all day in office. The baby is still better. Still cool. Keeping house alone.

May 16th:

In office all day - at same work. Pearl said, "Come for Gearl H. tomorrow!"

May 17th:

J.S. Darch & I left for Richmond. Found Pearl and G.H O.K. Brought them home. Glad I am. Gearl doing fine. Rain in A.M.

May 30th: (Memorial Day)

To Decoursey Lucas' to grave yard. Decorated Father & Mother's grave. Visited old home. Back to town in P.M.

June 7th:

In office still making out tax bills. Court in session. Elwood landed in Atlanta, Ga. by plane from Italy. God bless him.

June 14th:

Hard at work in office - a big crowd in town. Elwood & wife came home today - been gone long over seas.

July 6th: (Friday)

At same work - began on New Virginia book. Elwood & Lena left on train today. God bless him.

July 23rd: (Monday)

Gearl Henry & I went to Heidelberg spent most of day. At nite went to Delvenna to speaking. Things look good for votes.

August 4th: (Saturday - Primary Day)

A very busy day in down all day - hard at work. Began counting votes early. All worked until 2:00 A.M. on Sunday morning. I was ahead.

August 5th:

Attended Sunday School after being up until 2:30 this morning. Slept some in P.M. Was ahead 132.

August 6th:

All precincts are in but Fillmore & Ross Creek. They came in and were counted. I carried both. Won by a majority of 151. Happy day.

August 13th: (Monday)

Began on tax bills after stopping to electioneer. Had to defeat L.D. Arnold which I did. Now to finish the tax bill job.

August 31: (Friday)

In office all day hard at work. Had letter and picture from Nancy & John. Elwood now in Louisville.

September 2: (Sunday)

Attended Sunday School & church with Pearl and G.H. We all attended church at nite. Prof. Arterberry was baptized.

September 15th:(Saturday)

The county fair still on - a big crowd in town. Worked very little today. At nite Pearl & I attended a big O.E.S. doings at the grade school bldg. Big time.

October 20th:(Saturday)

Same as above. Still hard at work taking lists, etc. Is reported that Elwood will be discharged today.

October 30th: (Tuesday)

At same work all day hard at it. Pearl busy at home awaiting the arrival of Nancy & husband.

October 31st:

Nancy and her husband came in at 3:00 A.M. today from Calif. Glad to see them. Busy all day in office.

* John - Now we know the exact date and time that the famous line, "Hi, Sailor" was delivered. Another interesting thing - he didn't make another entry in the diary for 16 days!

November 24th:(Saturday)

We began copying the St. Helens books - still hard at work. Pearl, G.H. & I left with Jim Cundiff & Gearl Eckman for the Cundiff hotel in Vada.

November 28th:(Sunday)

Spent all day at Elbert Cunfiff's & Jim's. A real good time. Back home in P.M. Missed Sunday School today. First time in 1 yr.

December 25th:(Tuesday)

Spent day at home with family. Elwood & Lena in from Richmond. Harry came in. John & Nancy. A great Xmas. Thank God.

December 28th:

Still cold. In office at the same work. Harry still in. Billy to be in Monday. All Happy.

December 29th: (Saturday)

Still cold. In office most all day checking on recap which I will take to Frankfort Monday. John West left today for Calif.

December 30th:

To church & sunday school all os us. In office in P.M. Gearl & I left on train to Lexington in route to Frankfort.

December 31st: (Monday)

Gearl & I left Frankfort back to Lexington to John Eckman's on home at 3:00 A.M. Tuesday. Billy came in today. The Darches & Pearl met him in Richmond. So ends the year of 1945. The history making year.