



Newsletter

incorporated in 2004 as Dunham/Singletary Family Connections

Issue 1

15 January, 2019

Volume 16

President's Letter

I hope all of you had an enjoyable Christmas holiday with friends and family. This organization is all about family and friendship. As an organization, we exist to help each other find out about our family histories. We do this by providing commonly shared resources such as our website, the quarterly newsletter, DNA testing program, and our professional genealogist Gratia Dunham Mahony. I have found many great friends and distant cousins through this organization, and helping all of them via our work here gives me great personal satisfaction.

Our Dunham family history is a challenging puzzle that needs to be solved. Understanding what political and economic changes drove our relatives to disperse and move across North America helps in this search. Knowledge of the wars, revolutions and economic challenges can help us understand our families and why they made the decisions that they did.

For me personally, I have learned a great deal about the Revolutionary War, the Loyalist Migration into Canada after the Revolution, and the economics of the northeastern United States and the maritime provinces of Canada. This information puts the records for birth, death and census into better focus and has helped me. It provides insight into the lives my distant relatives led.

I want to encourage you all to renew your membership in our family association and to spread the word about the genealogy work that we do. The more members that we have to share information and support our research efforts the more quickly we can move the ball forward in our individual and collective discoveries about our Dunham ancestors.

Jeffrey Michael Dunham, President

Dunham Genealogy Research Association

Editor's Corner

The Dunham line found on Deer Isle, Maine has been difficult to document. The first Dunham found there was Elijah Dunham who came to Deer Isle in 1766 with his two young sons, Elijah and Joseph. Several members of the Dunham Genealogy Research Association descend from this complex line. Part of the problem is that these Dunhams were in the area very early in its settlement, and part of the problem is that they seemed to go back and forth between this part of Maine and what was later Charlotte County, New Brunswick, Canada. Thus locating all the records of birth, marriage and death has been a challenge. I have been working on this line (from time to time) since 1999. I have been helped in this research by the other members who include our President, Jeff Dunham.

One of the research methods I like to use is to prove as many of the Dunham lines as possible. This then will eliminate from consideration the proven lines and allow me to focus on the undocumented lines. There were several Dunham lines who went to Canada; one line to Yarmouth, another to Nova Scotia, and other Dunhams apart from the line that originated on Deer Isle are found in New Brunswick, Canada.

As I approached the 15 January, 2019 time to issue the newsletter, I was still a long way from completing my article on the Deer Isle Dunhams. I think it is important to publish a complete and comprehensive line of this family in one issue. Therefore, I will accomplish this by publishing a "double issue" which will be the 15 January and 15 April, 2019 issues together in one issue.

Gratia Dunham Mahony, Editor

The Dunham Genealogy Research Association will hold, via conference call, the Annual Meeting on March 3, 2019. The agenda and documents can be found on the web site www.dunham-singletary.org

"What's New on the Dunham Website" by James A. Streeter

Since the last Newsletter only some minor updates have been added to the Dunham Families in America pages. I have been busy working on some research for Gratia for the article on the Deer Isle Dunham line from Adele and Nate Dunham. I was also traveling in November and then Christmas was here. I should have more to report in the next newsletter as several projects are in the works.

HELP NEEDED - We are looking for a number of volunteers to help prepare a complete name index of the Dunham Families in America pages, all lines. We are also looking for some help to help review the addition of lines from the DSFC Newsletter into the Dunham Families in America collection. If you have questions about what is involved or are able to help, please contact James A. Streeter - james8313@sti.net

In Memory Of

Paul C. Dunham, age 87, of Helena

April 11, 1931 – January 26, 2019



Paul C. Dunham passed away peacefully at the age of 87 in Helena, Montana on January 26, 2019. He was the loving and devoted husband of the late Margaret Dunham, who passed away in December of 2012.

He was born in Corinna, Maine in 1931 and grew up with humble beginnings in Vermont. Paul and his brother and sisters happily survived for many years without running water or electricity, spending their time gathering firewood, collecting sap for maple syrup and doing odd jobs to help out. He graduated from Montpelier High School in 1949, all the while working on various farms in the morning and a drug store after school. In 1950, he joined the National Guard and was eventually

called to active duty in the Army 43rd Infantry Division and was shipped to Germany as part of the occupation forces. He completed his duty in 1952 as a Sergeant and returned to Vermont. His friend took him to see the dean of the University of Vermont, who invited him to enroll. He graduated with a BA in 1959 and a MA in 1963, both in political science.

Paul eventually worked in the chancellor's office at the University of Maine as the director for institutional research. He was at the forefront of computer technology at that time and used mainframes to automate many tasks at the university. With his friend Irv, he started the first credit union for the U of Maine. In 1976, he moved his family to Helena where he worked for the Office of the Commissioner for the Montana University Systems. He concluded his career as the computer center manager for the Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation, finally retiring in 1994.

In retirement, Paul kept busy with a variety of activities. He was very active in genealogy and helped to start the Dunham-Singletary Family Connections group. He also volunteered at the Lewis & Clark Library. He and Margaret participated in several local square dance groups and travelled to square dance events around Montana. He enjoyed the outdoors, particularly hiking, running and camping. He travelled around the country to spend time with his children and grandchildren, and enjoyed playing cribbage and going to sporting events with his friends Dave and Steve.

Paul is survived by his children Barbara (Kathleen) and Bruce (Diane); four grandchildren, Emilie, Audrey, Finnegan and Gwendolyn; and his sister Fay Tucker. In addition to his wife, he is pre-deceased by his brother John, and sisters Alice and Suzie.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made in Paul's name to the Food Share of Helena (helenafoodshare.org) or the Intermountain Children's Home (www.intermountainresidential.org)

Editor's Note: Paul Clinton Dunham was instrumental in reviving the Dunham Family Association and served us in developing the Dunham Families in America web site and placing the early information onto the web site. Paul was also one of the first men to participate in Y-DNA testing and established the haplogroup for descendants of the Deacon John Dunham line.