

Catherine Kelly and M. William Sick
(1865-1910) (1863-1938)

Catherine Kelly was the 7th of 18 children born to Daniel Kelly (1829-1902) and Mary Ann Leahy (1840-1898). There was a 28-year span (1857-1885) between the births of all of the known Kelly children (Timothy to Agnes). She was born in 1865 on Kelly Hill in Forks Township (Sullivan County) near Overton, PA (Bradford County).

The Civil War ended April 9 with Lee's surrender at Appomattox. Lincoln was shot on April 14 in Ford's Theatre and died the next morning. His assassin (Booth) was killed April 26. Andrew Johnson (1808-1875) (Democrat) became the 17th president and would serve until 1869. The US had 36 states with the admission of Nevada.

She married William Sick at St. Basil's Church in Dushore, PA on July 8, 1886. William was born November 28, 1863 in Cherry Mills, PA. He was the 13th child of Francis Charles Sick (1815-1872) and Hannah Reinfried (1820-1864). His parents were German immigrants who had arrived in the US in 1836 (Francis) and 1822 (Hannah). They had 13 children and William was the youngest.

As reported by Kathy Dumansky Chassin, a great-granddaughter of William, William was quite young when his mother died so he lived with one of his older sisters who raised him.

Kathy records that William was a harness maker, shoemaker and farmer. He had a glass eye after he lost an eye from an accident when a nail struck him. He was very particular about wearing safety goggles!

They had ten children:

- Stephen Francis, M (1887-1963)
- Augustine Joseph, M (1889-1951)
- Mary Ethel (Sister Mary Hildegard,RSM), F (1891-1933)
- Roseanna, F (1894-ca1920)
- Maude Victoria, F (1897-1923)
- Catherine Lillian, F (1901-1919)
- Jennie Claire, F (1903-1976)
- Lucy Fredricka, F (1905-1941)
- Margaret Louise, F (1907-1998)
- Amelia, F (1910-1962)

Catherine perished as a result of the birth of Amelia in August 1910. She was 45 (see death certificate). She is buried in St.Francis Xavier Cemetery in Overton.

After Catherine died, he moved from the family farm to New Albany and re-married. At the time of his death, he had a harness shop in the Exchange Hotel that was

owned by his second wife Mary Louise Bauer Hannon. He died July 29, 1938 at age 74 and is buried in St. Francis Cemetery in Overton.

Four of the children of Catherine and William died of tuberculosis between the ages of 18 and 41 and one died of toxemia during pregnancy. Their stories are:

- Stephen Francis was born June 7, 1887 in New Albany. He was a teamster in Sullivan County and then a miner in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area. He married Mary Agnes (Mollie) Walsh on April 21, 1909 at St. Francis Assisi Church in Mildred, PA. She was born in 1891 in Old Forge, PA. They moved to Buffalo where he worked for the Hanna Furnace Company and ran his own welding business. He died February 17, 1963 at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo, NY. He and Mollie are buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Lackawanna, NY. They had four children:

- Hildegard Kathryn (1916-2004)
- Paul Joseph (1919-)
- John Francis (1923-1953)
- Teresa Marie (1925-)

- Augustine Joseph was born August 31, 1889 in New Albany. Gus worked at the Endicott Johnson Shoe Factory in the Endicott-Johnson City area. He married Lola Marion Packard in 1918 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Overton. She was born in 1897.

They had seven children:

- Leonard
- James
- William
- Rita
- Joseph
- Lucy
- Edward

Augustine died June 13, 1951 at age 61. He and his wife are buried in Calvary Cemetery in Johnson City, NY.

- Mary Ethel was born August 20, 1891 in Overton. According to Kathy Dumanasky Chassin, she was a nun in the Sisters of Mercy and taught in schools in Pennsylvania and Virginia. She became Sister M. Hildegard, RSM. She graduated from the College Misericordia in 1930 with an AB degree.

Her brother Steve once gave her a really good pair of shoes. Her mother superior made her exchange them for two pairs of cheaper shoes so that another nun would also be given new shoes. She lived in Hopewell, Va. in a house that was heated by the mines. There was no heat on weekends. It is believed that this could be a factor in her poor

pulmonary health and she died of tuberculosis on April 2, 1933 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. She was 41.

Ed Kelly provided the following in 2003:

- August 20, 1891: born at Overton, PA
- August 31, 1891: baptized @ St. Francis Xavier Church; Overton, PA
- May 3, 1914: entered Sisters of Mercy; Wilkes Barre, PA
- August 15, 1921: made profession of religious vows @ St. Mary's; Wilkes-Barre, PA
- April 2, 1933: died at Wilkes-Barre, PA

Ministry:

1916-1924: teacher-St. Mary's; Wilkes-Barre, PA
1924-1925: teacher-St. Mary's; Wilkes-Barre & Hazelton, PA
1925-1927: teacher-St. Mary's; Wilkes-Barre, PA
1927-1931: teacher-St. Ann's; Freeland, PA
1931-1932: teacher; Hopewell, PA
1932-1933: in residence: Mercy Hospital; Wilkes-Barre, PA

- Roseanna Sick was born September 21, 1904 in Overton. She married James O'Hara. She died of tuberculosis when she was approximately 25. She is buried in St. Francis Xavier Cemetery; Overton, PA

- Maude Victoria was born September 26, 1897 in Overton. She died of tuberculosis on August 2, 1923 at the Belvedere Sanitarium in California. She was 25.

- Catherine Lillian was born January 14, 1901 in Overton. She was called "Lily." She died July 2, 1919 of tuberculosis at age 18 while she was still in high school. She is buried in St. Francis Xavier Church Cemetery; Overton, PA.

- Jennie Claire was born October 1, 1903 in Overton. She married Joseph O'Brien in Buffalo, NY. They had two daughters: Patricia and Carol. Jennie died May 6, 1976 in Buffalo at age 72.

- Lucy Fredricka was born November 21, 1905 in Overton. She was a nurse and married Frank Zeiss. She died May 3, 1941 of toxemia in her eighth month of pregnancy at age 35. She is buried in St. Francis Xavier Church Cemetery; Overton, PA.

- Margaret Louise was born May 6, 1907 in Overton. She was a nurse and married three times: Alfred Blenkle, Paul Shugerman and Andrew Hottenroth. Bessie Kelly Beirne's book states that she had one daughter but that has not been confirmed. Margaret died August 17, 1998 in St. Louis, MO at age 91.

- Amelia was born August 16, 1910 in Overton. Her mother died on August 28, 1910 just 12 days after she delivered Amelia. Amelia married Edward Barry and they had four children:

- Bernard (-1954)
- Kathryn (ca1937-)
- Joyce (ca1938-1990)
- Jeanne (ca1939-)

Amelia died August 24, 1962 at age 52. She is buried in St.Basil's Cemetery; Dushore, PA.

• excerpt from

“The Best Things Always Disappear, A Family History”

by Ken Beirne (www.beirne.com)