

1977 was a significant year. That summer Carolyn went to "Little Beaver Summer Camp". The girls and I went to Cooperstown to see the old gang. We picked up Carolyn at camp and headed for the lake. That's Judy and Dave below, Carolyn ready to interrupt.



The words kept coming back "I never loved you", "I only married you because that was what everyone expected"; "You don't love me; you just love being in love"; "you'd be better off without me". The time had come. I filed for divorce, which was granted in July 1978. The following month I bought our town house at 105 Grant Road. My adult life had just begun.



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He was still the father of my daughters.

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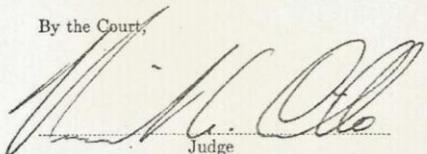
IN THE
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA.

No. 78-02137

ANN. G. SMULLEN
vs.
STANLEY B. SMULLEN, III

IN DIVORCE A.V.M.
CAUSE: INDIGNITIES

AND NOW, July 3, 1978, the Master's Report in the above case having been duly approved, the Court by virtue of the authority vested in it by law decrees that hereby Divorced from the Bonds of Matrimony, and all the duties, rights and claims accruing to either of the said parties at any time heretofore, in pursuance of said marriage, shall henceforth cease and determine, and the said parties shall severally be at liberty to marry again as if they had never been married.

By the Court,

Judge



CERTIFIED FROM THE RECORD OF SAID COURT AT
NORRISTOWN, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
this 11th day of July A.D. 19 78
Mary H. Gleason
DEPUTY PROTHONOTARY

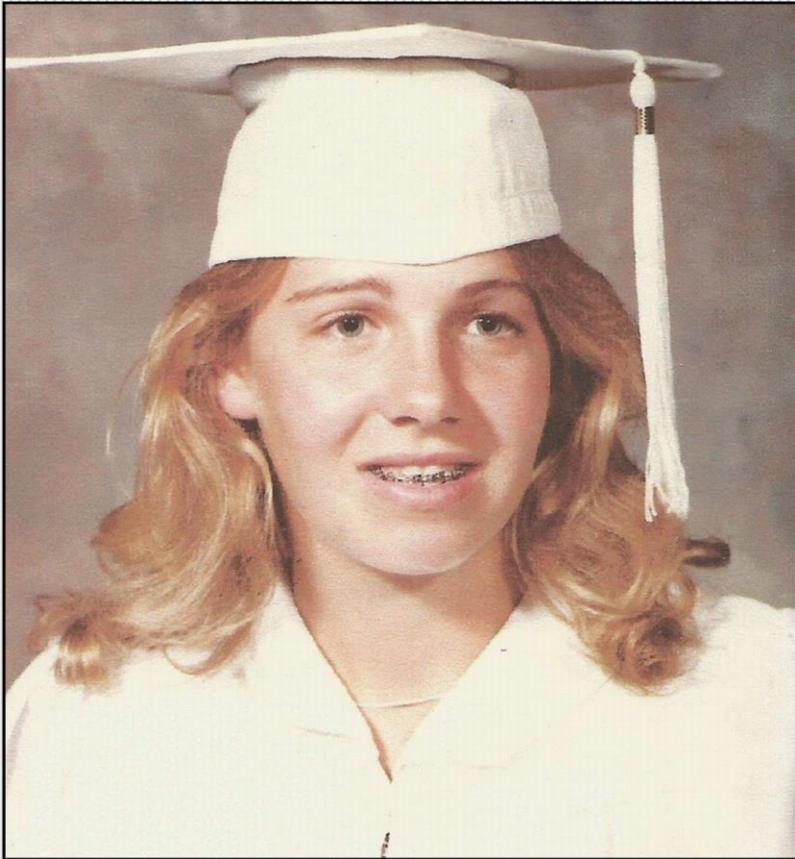


1979

I became more involve with my work at Aydin Monitor; however the company was not doing well. American Electronic Laboratories Inc. (AEL), in Lansdale, was winning the government contracts.

March 19, 1979 I started at AEL as a software engineer with three people reporting to me. I was the 'software section head' My first project was "Color Bar". It was a contract with the Jet Propulsion Lab to develop a video communication system. AEL sent the whole engineering team to NATO war exercises in Belgium to demonstrate the capability sending maps from the caves to the battle fields. This was my first experience of leaving the girls alone: Liz was 21 and in college, Charlotte was in 12th grade and Carolyn in 4th. Their father lived close by and super neighbors, the Moores, lived next door.

Charlotte graduated from Mathacton High School and started Penn State at the Altona campus in September of 1979. I sold my Firebird convertible for a mini station wagon; needed a car to take Charlotte to college!





Carolyn trying out makeup artistry. Below is Char's graduation. Jeff is also sitting there somewhere. He too graduated in June '79.



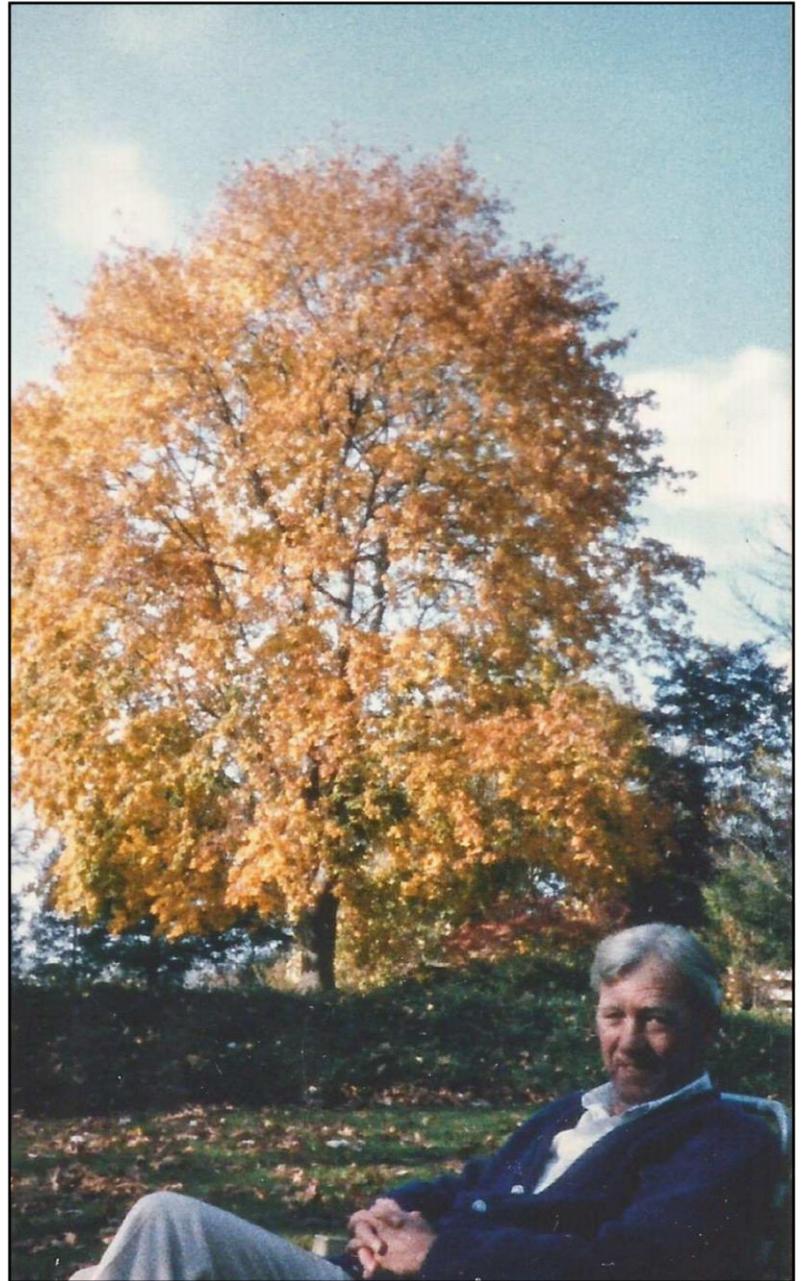
Scott was a friend of my nephew, Dave Focht. Both joined the Navy together. When Liz was little she said she was going to marry Dave. Instead she fell in love with Scott.





*When the girls visited their father
I visited Merrill. We went out for lunch on Saturdays
and he did the cooking*





Lined many gold leaves with Merrill



*On Sunday we (Captain too) visited Merrill to watch football. Carolyn claimed she could name every city and it's NFL team. She did !!
I actually kept the list .
Note the PSU sweat shirt Carolyn is wearing. Charlotte was now on the PSU campus in State College where she met Ken Osmolenski.*



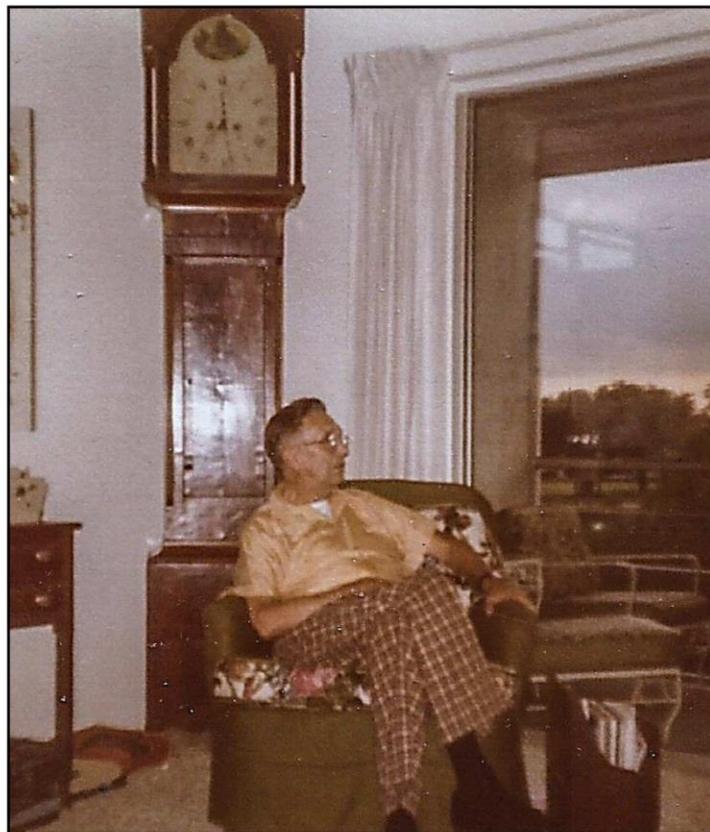
state	city	Name of team	
Texas	Dallas	Cow Boys	superbowl won
P.a.	Phila.	Eagles	superbowl lost
N.J.	Phila. NEWARK	Giants	
ILL.	St. Louis	Cardinals	
D.C.	Washington	Redskins	
Minnesota	St. Paul	Vikings	superbowl won
Michigan	Detroit	Lions	
Fla.	Tampa Bay	Buccaners	
ILL.	Chicago	Bears	
Wiss	Green Bay	Packers	superbowl won
Georgia	Atlanta	Falcons	
Calif.	Los Angeles	Rams	
Calif.	San Fran.	49ers	
Louisiana	New Orleans	Saints	
Fla.	Miami	Dolphins	superbowl won
N.Y.	Buffalo	Bills	
M.D.	Baltimore ^{Indonopolis}	Colts	superbowl won
New England		Patriots	
Indiana	Cincinnati	Bengals	
Pa.	Pittsburg	Steelers	superbowl won
Ohio	Cleveland	Browns	
Texas	Houston	Oilers	
Calif	San Diego	Chargers	
Kansas	Kansas City	Chiefs	superbowl lost
Colorado	Denver	Broncos	
Calif	Oakland ^{LA}	Raiders	superbowl won
Washington	Seattle	Sea Hawks	
New York	N.Y.C.	Jets	



Pete is in the red shirt. His future bride took the photo. We attended their wedding held at Beaver College . . beautiful wedding



We were dressed ready for Pete's wedding and no one around to take our picture so . . .

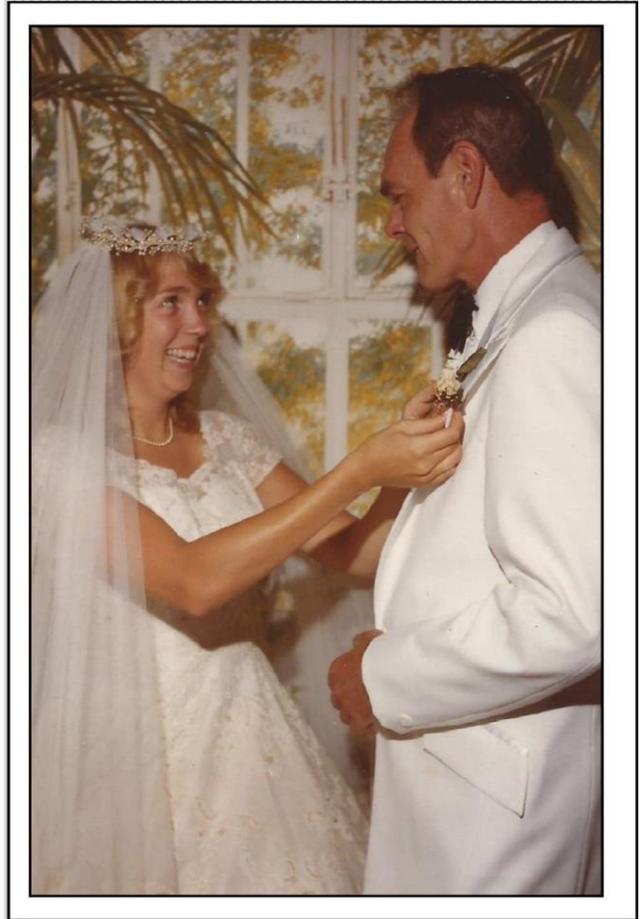


Aunt Dorthy & Uncle Dick had retired to Clearwater, Florida. Dad and Hyda visited them regularly. After his heart attack they moved down permanently. Since Dad had retired in 1971 we seldom saw each other except for holidays. Carolyn and I drove went to Clearwater in 1979 to visit. Dad died in his sleep March 24, 1980; he was only 74 years old.



Charlotte was at PSU so it was the three of us. Carolyn spent many weekends with Stan or her close friend Trica. Liz graduated from Temple with a BS in Political Science and was employed as manager of a fast food in Lansdale. Liz had become an avid bridge player and organized bridge games with Stan and Sue. I would be the fourth. Stan and Sue lived in a rented house on Skippack Pike just around the corner from us.





Scott came home- - -

*Liz and Scott were married
August 5, 1981*

*Stan played the role of
"Father of the Bride"*

Actually he paid 1/2 the expenses-



That's Liz and cousin, Dave Focht, dancing in the back ground.



Above is a photo of Katie Beullie, Sue Walker and Marilyn. Katie was an old Smullen family friend; Marilyn was a real estate associate. Stan married Sue Walker. Sue was a divorcee with two children (her exhusband had custody).

After the wedding Liz and Scott left to make their home in Florida. Charlotte went back to PSU. It was just Carolyn and me; it was so peaceful again. AEL reorganized the engineering division. A Systems Engineering Division was formed. I was now manager of the Software Engineering Department. I had a private office with a door (no window though). It was necessary to increase the software staff and I was continually hiring more programmers. There was a Digital Engineering and a Systems Analysis Department

Merrill was an owner of a place in Prime Hook, an natural sanctuary for migratory birds, located on the Delaware Bay. Rehoboth Beach was only 27 miles away; in between was Merrill's Airstream trailer. We often stayed in the trailer. One weekend we took Carolyn and Tricia down. They were not very excited about the horse shoe crabs on the beach nor the seaweed in the bay. WE took them to Rehoboth to swim, had dinner and saw "ET"; Merrill was not charmed by "ET". Tricia was like another daughter; the girls were together all the time. This was about the time Carolyn met Jeff. Jeff was the brother of the baby sitter for Trica's family and also a friend.



The following spring Liz left Scott and came home, but that's another story in itself. She arranged to be transfer to a McDonalds in Lansdale. Carolyn claimed she now had three mothers - Me, Sue and Liz Ann! Home life became peaceful again when Liz rented an apartment. Scott came back north in February and they reconciled.

Carolyn and I went to Char's 1983 PSU Graduation at University Park. She graduated with a BS in Agricultural Science. She announced she was going to Texas with Ken to visit his uncle and relatives (actually she requested my approval). There was no "facebook" then, so I only knew what she wrote or when she called.

Carolyn and I enjoyed the house to ourselves. Of course we had Captain, Cece and her kittens, Rosie and Squire. Hyda remarried. She and Howard drove across country in their Mobile home and gone for a year.





My first grandchild, Kathryn Elizabeth Fair, was born November 30, 1983. Liz and Scott decided to move back to Florida, where he was going to college. They came to my house until they left. It was just Carolyn and me and the Fair family. It was a hectic Christmas.



Christmas dinner



Merrill came by to give me moral support



Kathryn was christened at my house. She asked her god parents, Jack and Judy Lord to sponsor her daughter.



The next day Scott packed his family in the car and drove off with my first grandchild! They were back in August for Charlotte's wedding September 1st



Char and Ken came back from Texas in spring of '84: she came home and Ken went home in Chambersburg, PA. They were engaged soon after and planned a wedding. Ken lived with us; they shared the front bedroom. Carolyn continued to have the master bedroom all to herself. The Eairs came up for the wedding:



September 1, 1984





*The reception was held
at the Center Square
Golf Club.*

*It was a perfect day
and a perfect wedding
& fun reception*

*Left is Stan, his parents, his niece and nephew (Ginny and
Dave) Stan walked his daughter down the aisle. His mother
was taken ill shortly later and died.*



Life did become hectic. Char and Ken continued to live with me after the wedding. They had brought their Bluetick Coonhound with them. Carolyn and I had three cats and Captain. I must have been extremely tolerant by this time, but I was about ready to blow my top. When Ken's hound dog killed Squire I gave them notice - get out. They took the dog to his parents the next weekend and started looking for jobs in Harrisburg and property in Perry County. Christmas was coming.

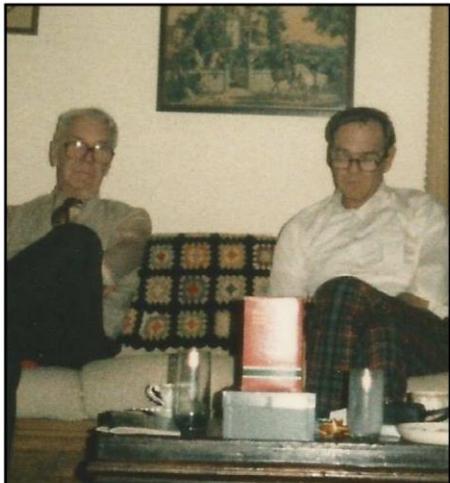




Liz and Scott had come up for Nana's funeral so they stayed for Christmas. Ken and Char went to the Osmolenskis in Chamberburg for Christmas but come back for dinner.



I had Christmas dinner; everybody was there Priscilla and her three kids including Cindy with her Japanese husband and Kishen, Nick and his family, Hyda even Stan and his father came. The dinner table ran from the diningroom into the livingroom.





We celebrated Captain's thirteenth birthday



Life had returned to normal. Ken and Char moved out. Carolyn had gotten her driver's license and learned to drive a gear shift. I bought a black Thunderbird coup with four-on-the-floor and still owned an AMC Concord station wagon. Carolyn was dating Jeff Pio and soon going to be a senior. After Charlotte left for college Carolyn started riding at a stable on Skippack Pike where they basically rode western. One time she was barrel racing. The horse rounded the barrel but Carolyn didn't. Her back was a mess - made a mother' blood cold. That was when we bought 'JR' and she was able to show English again. She spent most of her time at Gambone's Our Farm stables with her horse 'JR' (not junior). The stables was right down the road from the Pio's.

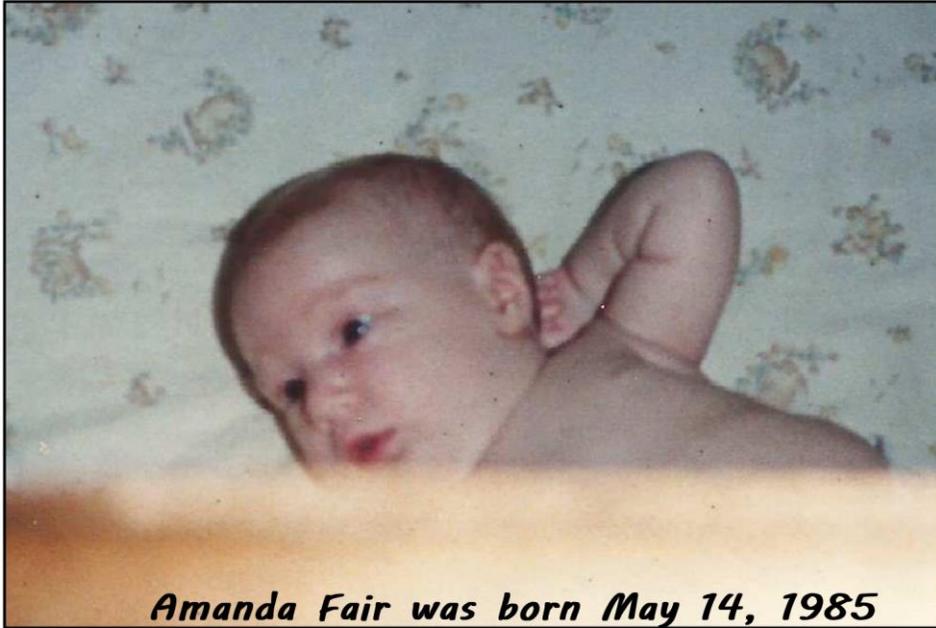




Marty was Merrill's neighbor who had Lou Gehrig's disease, We visited him regularly. With him is his girl friend and care taker. He had been a VP at PECO.

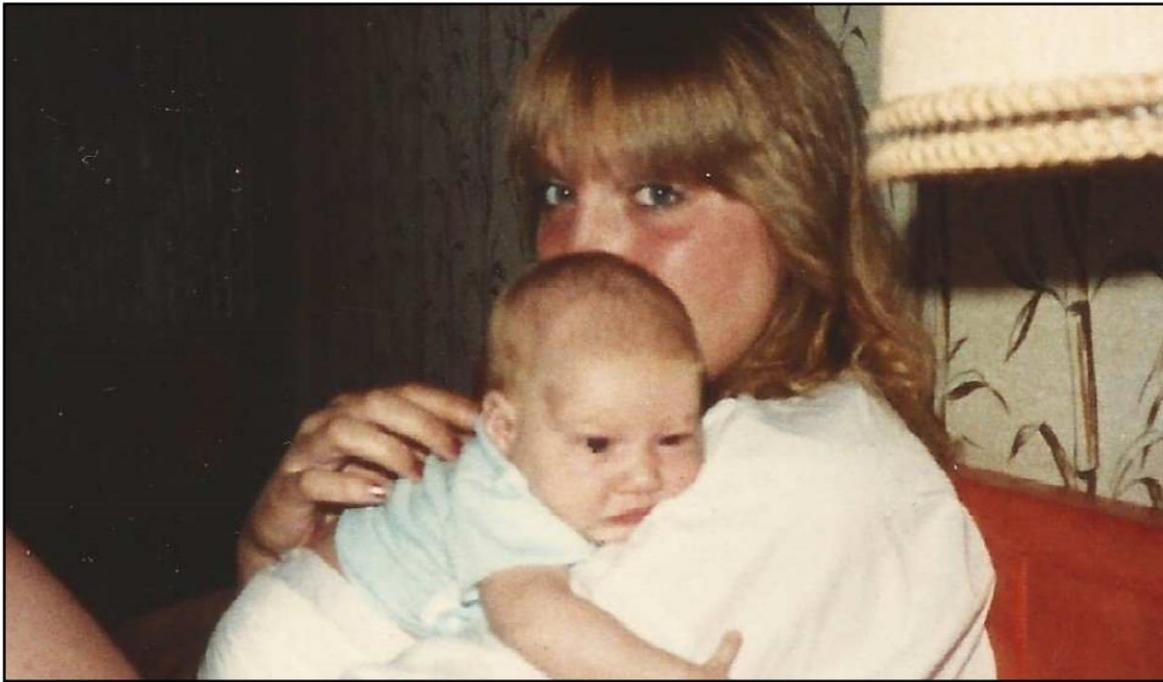


I was seeing Merrill off and on for the past ten years. You might say we were 'an item'. We both were not happy about our divorces but we enjoyed each other except when he lectured me about reuniting with my ex. I left in tears many times, Stan was still very active in my life since he was the father of my girls.



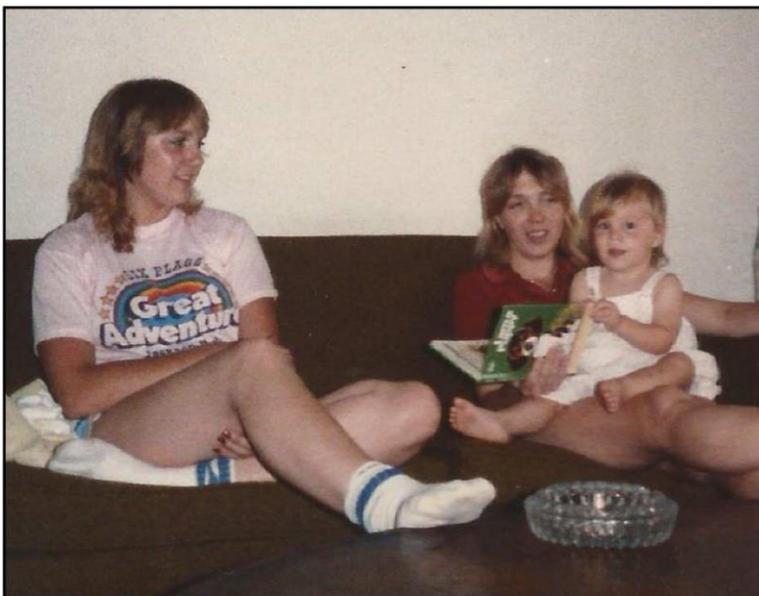
Hyda died the day before. She was in the Messiah Nursing Home suffering from Alzheimer's. Her husband, Howard, flew her north to be admitted into the home that she so diligently established. She had fallen out of bed and died as a result of a hemoglobin. Howard arranged to have all the furniture moved north to Nick's. I am not show who or why divided the furniture but I was pleased and so was Priscilla. I am sure Nick's wife had no complaints. I got the grandfather clock, the Victorian dresser, the china cabinet and china. Priscilla and I used her truck and we collected our inherited furniture.

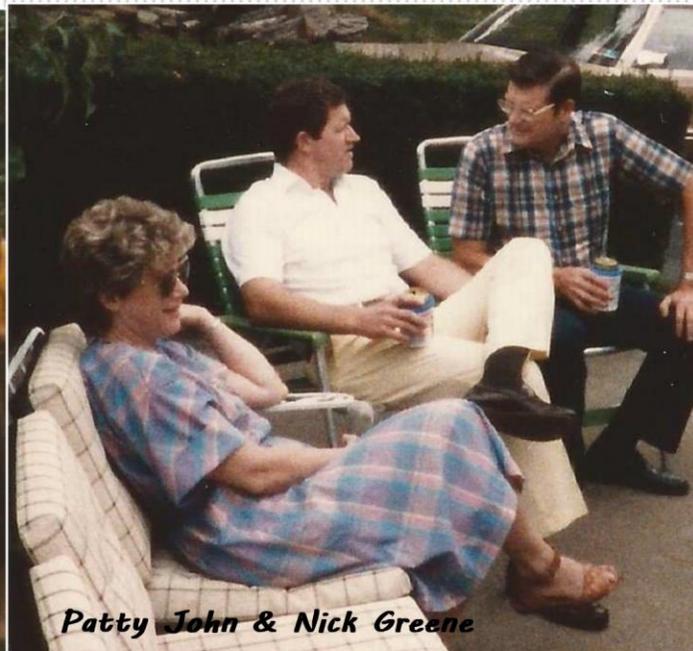




Amanda Fair was born May 14, 1985. That June Carolyn and I went to Deltona to visit my new granddaughter.

We never leave FL without a visit to the springs.

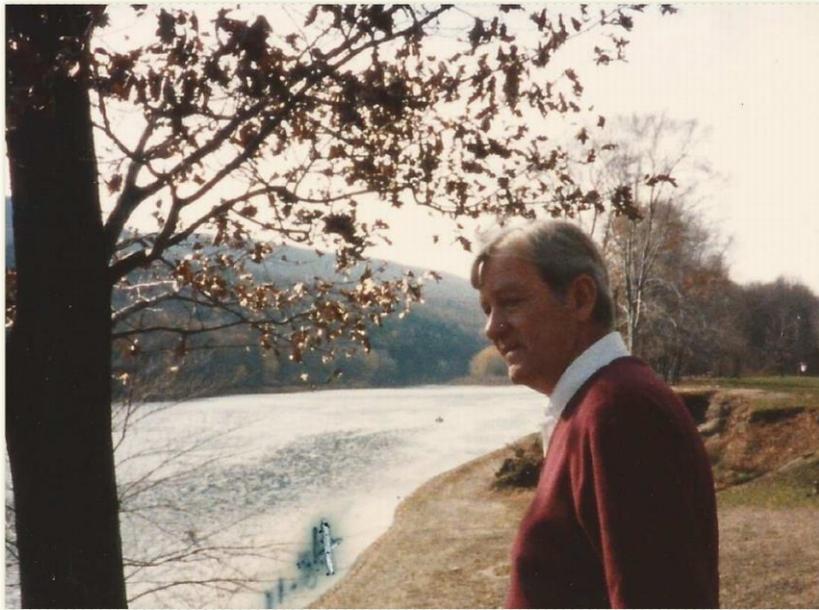




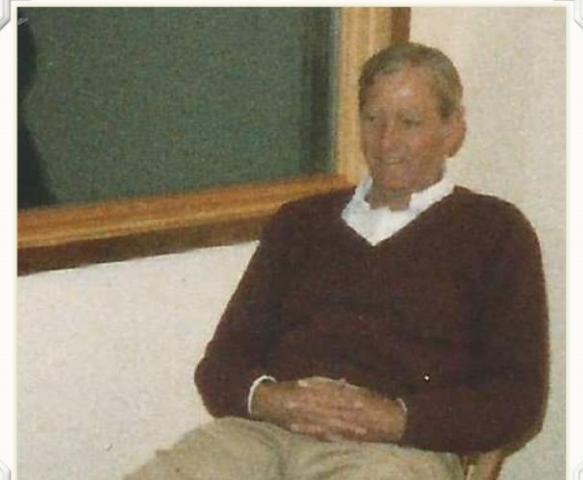
September 1985 Nick & Liz hosted a Greene Family Reunion; Aunt Peggy and her kids' families drove north. This was the first time we had seen each other in the last twenty some years. What would be a Greene picnic without a game of croquette?







Fall of 1985 Merrill and I escaped to the Pocono Mountains for a weekend.



November - 1985 Carolyn and I left Captain with Charlotte to drive to Deltona FL to visit Liz, Scott and my granddaughters. I had planned to put Captain to sleep; he no longer climbed the steps and he slept all day and night. Char insisted we leave him with her. That was the last time we saw him; he journeyed off to doggie heaven.

It was Thanksgiving Day and the morning traffic was horrendous. We drove down the Interstate 87 through the Blue Ridge Mountains then east to I-95. We took our time stopping two nights. Charlestown was the finest; we drove through the city and stayed at a river front hotel. Carolyn jogged while I people watched. When we got to Florida we stopped at St. Augustine for lunch and then onward to Deltona.

Katie's 2nd birthday was November 30th and Amanda was six months old

