

## Chronology of Arleen McCarty Hynes

### Based on letters to her twin Eileen

Transcription of her handwritten notes, done when she read through her letters to Eileen from the late 30's through 60's, as part of a life review. *I remember her saying she was doing it and finding it very powerful but I can't remember if it was after Aunty Eileen died?* As is evident, the chronology does not go much beyond a list in many cases.

Mary Hynes-Berry has made additions, based on memories or other records. These are in *italics*. (MH-B, April 2006)

1936 summer to 1937	<p>Graduation from Sheldon Junior College; late June, attended the Vogue School of Dress Design. Margaret (Margy) O'Donnell, Robert Griffin's aunt and Loretta McCarty Coonan's friend drove to Chicago to take a summer update course in Gregg shorthand, which she had done before.</p> <p>She offered to drive me up and let me stay with her for the 2 or 3 weeks she would be in town. Then I was to stay at the Rita Club. The Rita Club was advertised in some Catholic magazines as a residence for young Catholic working girls. It was run by dedicated women who did not wear religious habits. The address was 158 North Ave—rode the bus through Lincoln Park to Vogue School on Michigan Ave, across the street from the Art Institute. Lovely ride.</p> <p>The Vogue School was advertised in Vogue Magazine. Since there was no art school anywhere near Sheldon, that seemed a practical thing to study since we were always sewing and 'designing' dresses for our paper dolls (as teenagers)</p> <p>1103 N Dearborn was The Club, where I moved with Eleanor Peterson, one of the girls I met at the Rita Club. A lovely person. It was a former mansion and a republican Club.</p>
Sept 1937	I returned to Sheldon and Eileen came to the Vogue School for the year. Robert Griffin began medical school. I stayed in Sheldon and Eileen stayed at The Club. ( <i>Note: At this point, Josie Dunn was virtually bedridden by a broken hip and other complications of old age so the twins traded off staying with her.</i> )
Dec 1937	I worked during the Christmas rush at Stearitt Brothers store. Did not go back daily after Christmas
Jan 17 1938	Glenn Mulhern is mentioned on a skiing Sunday and Monopoly game at Bob Diamond's in my letter of Jan 10, 1938. In a letter from Robert on Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> he mentions sending around a spiritual bouquet card Richard in Mpls thought of sending. Glenn and Dale were two brothers, cousins of Cecilia Mulhern's whom James McCarty married ( <i>James and John twins</i> ). Glen was found in the family garage on the farm where they lived, with the motor on. He was asphyxiated at 21. Sad for all our gang. ( <i>Joan Hospers Emerson had dated Glen or Dale—she and mom mentioned in their 2005 visit how troubling this</i>

	<p><i>was for everyone—not clear if it was suicide or accident)</i> <i>In all this period, Eileen was dating madly while Arleen was “seeing” Robert Griffin—the assumption was they would marry after he finished medical school. There is a picture of Arleen’s dorm room that shows Eileen and Robert’s pictures up on the dresser. There are also two or three letters from Robert</i></p>
Jan 8, 1938	<p>Varnius McCarty married Leonard Brady (Leonard Brady was a railroad man. Varnius is the younger of the twins 2 birth sisters; after VC McCarty gave up the farm in the depression (about 1932), he gave his sons including 12 year old Xie \$10 and the girls \$25 and sent them off on their own. The two girls went together to their aunt Gertrude McCarty in Omaha, who had worked with Father Flynn in the early years of Boys Town and later had their own place in Omaha before they were married. Other Gannon cousins, including Nelly and Mike Flynn’s sons Leo also were there and they all got together. The twins spent several summers and other times with their sisters. Trudy and Varnius always had a very proper Sunday dinner, with tablecloths and china—perhaps a reaction to the poverty of the family after their mother Mary Grace Gannon died.</p>
1937 to 1938	<p><i>Eileen at Vogue School of Design</i></p>
NO LETTERS—this account reflects stories told by Arleen and Eileen to Mary H-B	<p><i>For two years in this period, Arleen went to College of St Catherine’s in St Paul and got her degree in Library Science. She met Emerson in the year that Eileen was at Vogue and Emerson was at Notre Dame. The twins went to the Spring Ball, Eileen blind date with Em and Arleen with their Sheldon friend Tim Donahue. They knew something about Emerson because Tim had sent them all the St John’s Records that included Emerson’s editorials. Coming back to their room after the dance, Arleen announced to Eileen that she was going to marry Emerson Hynes—she was in love with him. Eileen was astonished and said she exclaimed “But what about Robert!” Arleen said she cared very much about Robert but loved Emerson and would marry him. Eileen reported “It was like a divorce in the family” but that she immediately said that if Arleen had made her mind up she knew it was what she would do.</i></p> <p><i>Emerson mentioned he had tickets for a concert in Chicago a week later and wondered if Arleen would still be there. Arleen immediately said yes though she had almost no money. She spent the week on Eileen’s floor, budgeted a nickel a day for food—alternated a loaf of bread and a can of pork and beans. Obviously it paid off Fed by love!</i></p> <p><i>Arleen and Robert remained friends throughout his lifetime—they (and their spouses) visited every year while Arleen was in Minnesota. There are photos and dance cards from the Notre Dame meeting—I remember us children coming across them and being a bit scandalized by one of Daddy and Tim drinking beer.</i></p>

1938 to 1940	Arleen at College of St Catherine
June 1940 to Jun 41	Arleen at Mandan North Dakota High School Library –Gene McCarthy, Abigail and Cleve Cram also were on the faculty (Many letters from Arleen to Emerson and vice versa from this period, in separate collection).
June 26, 1941	Emerson and Arleen married at St John's University ( <i>Eileen had suffered a concussion and fairly serious leg injury in a car accident shortly before the wedding but insisted on attending as Bridesmaid.</i> )
1940-42	Eileen at St Catherine's in library school; Before and a bit after Denis, Arleen worked at St Benedict's library with Sister Henrietta. <i>There were a number of nuns who always reminded Denis they were his first babysitter—including Sister Rosalinda</i>
7-24-42	Denis Emerson Hynes born; Eileen and Stanley godparents
Sept 43-June 44	Eileen librarian at Mandan High School Robert Griffin married Honey got more seriously sick with mental illness (depression/?schizophrenia) and was hospitalized at St Peter Emerson finished the upstairs of Kilfenora; In this period there was trouble about Ma Hynes and her children—around family farm ownership and how much Stanley had put in: Emerson was peacemaker and got his siblings to agree that farm should be deeded over to Stanley and Char. <i>Aunty Char was always very grateful to Emerson for this. His letter is still around.</i>
2-11-44	Patrick Benedict Hynes born; Glad & Gene McCarthy godparents
August 1944	Arleen learned to drive Iron gates were put up in the St Ben's library
October Nov 1944	Trudy McCarty Jackson's son Michael was born New Yorker Cover design for the quilt I did for the baby's bed. (Mary H-B has this quilt—in 1990 or so, Eileen and Arleen spent time in Chicago and as a gift to me, and after much consultation about choice of fabric and method of attachment, restored it, preserving all the appliquéd figures and discarded the white sheet backing which had suffered from too many wet diapers. Cover shows up in NY Archive as August 19, 1944 Emerson puts "Palisades" up around the front porch so Denis and Patty wouldn't fall off next spring Loretta Coonan starts Social Work School at Wash U St Louis
Jan 1945	Mary born; Sister Henrietta's cousin Delores Spanier came to help; Edna Phelipson helped on weekends after; Don and Dutch godparents
May 28 45	Arleen finished lettering "In Green Pastures the Lord has settled me" over living room picture window.
Aug on 1945	In August, Em to Norfolk Neb so D, P, M and I went to visit Mama in Sheldon; I remember Vete and Agnes who had 4 sons in the war being glad about the atom bomb;

	There were big arguments, Most people wanted to go on to fight Russia at the end of the war. Em and I against the war, thought we ought to "understand"
July 45-46	Eileen in Kansas City Library ( <i>Varnius lived there</i> )
1946- Jan 47	No letters –Mary Devitt must have visited for a month in 1946; Harry Sullivan letter mentions Jim and Betty Powers being married; Aug 14, Linus Brady and Glad marry Sometime in this period “Patty said he loved me and wants me to go to heaven.”
June to Nov 1946	Eileen in California with Aunt Duddie (Deliah—Mary Grace Gannon’s sister married to Tom one of the Duignan brothers who worked on the railroad. Tom had lost an arm at work and so was hired for a crossing gate. They raised their sister and brother’s children May Duignan and Peter—she died in childbirth also
3-1-46	Hilary Mark Hynes born
Nov 7, 1946	Mamma (Josie Dunn) died in Sheldon—Eileen woke up in the middle of the night with a premonition and rushed back from CA by train. Got there in time; Eileen lived in Collegeville until April 47
April 46- May 47	Eileen librarian in Anoka Eileen in the hospital; Fran visits—Marries her!
Feb 1947	Mary and Don Humphrey’s house burns to the ground at Mill Creek, St. Joe—20 below
June 14 1947	Eileen married Francis Scott Yeager at Collegeville; all of the twins’ siblings were at the wedding—one of the few and perhaps the last time they were all together.
1947	Pat and Patty Crowley visit (CFM)
3-28-47	Brigid Eileen Hynes born
1948-49	Gene elected to Congress; few letters just the victory) Bob Hovda ordained; McCarty family reunion in Sheldon IA Removed closet in kitchen where spinning wheel was and built the garage
8-21-48	Peter McCarty Hynes born
1949	Denis in hospital with pneumonia; mentioned in letter Emerson’s book “Ha Ha Ha Daddy’s in the hospital”
1949 Nov	Fire in the little kids’ bedroom; JF Powers poured milk on it Eileen and Fran homeowner’s in Mpls (Fran working on phd in economics at U of M

## Foot notes; Additional info

Rita Club: from an obituary found on the web; **Mary A. Cogley**

Mary Ann Francis COGLEY, 90, Chicago, died at 2 a.m. today in the Miller nursing home where she had been a patient two weeks. She had been ill three months.

She was born April 13, 1878, in Chicago, the daughter of William and Ellen HUGHES COGLEY. Miss Cogley came to Rochester in July, 1968, to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. David SHAFFER. She resided in Rochester from 1915 to 1931 with Dr. Howard A. SHAFFER and family. She was one of 13 women who founded the local St. Joseph Catholic Church. *In Chicago, she was directress of the West Side Rita club for 23 years, and directress of the Rita club at West North Avenue in Chicago 17 years. The clubs are sponsored by the Mission of Our Lady of Mercy.* This group also sponsored the Mercy Home orphanage/

NEW YORKER Cover that the baby quilt was modeled on

August 19, 1944 by [Ilonka Karasz](#)

