

Crary Family



he Crary name came to Frankenmuth when Edward "Dal" Crary came in 1962 to establish a commercial casualty department at Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company. "Dal" had been in the insurance business since 1947 when he started with Fidelity and Casualty Insurance Company in Detroit, transferring to Flint in 1950.

While at Frankenmuth Mutual, he held various positions of agency and sales manager, vice president and underwriting manager, senior vice president, and president. July 31, 1990, "Dal" retired as president, but he continued on the Board of Directors, which he had served on since 1977.

Edward Dallas Crary was born on July 25, 1927 in Flint, Michigan to Orville P. and Bessie Faye nee VanCamp. He served in the United States Marine Corp in 1945 and 1946. December 6, 1947, he married Wanda Ileen Bardwell in Flushing, Michigan.

"Dal" and Wanda had three children:

Donald Edward was born on December 2, 1949 in Detroit, Michigan. He married JoAnn Theresa Eckenswiller and they had a daughter, KaLynn Theresa born July 28, 1993, and a son Michael Dallas born October 28, 1998.

Lynn Marie was born on October 14, 1951 in Flint, Michigan. She married Thomas Werner List December 18, 1971, and they had one daughter, Shelli Lynn, born October 27, 1974. Lynn Marie and daughter, Shelli Lynn, both passed away August 16, 1976.

Brenda Sue was born on June 10, 1955 in Flint, Michigan. She married Daniel Paul Eastman May 31, 1975, and they had two children, Stacey Renee born August 11, 1976 and James Edward born June 30, 1979.

"Dal" was very active in business, church and community activities. He served on the advisory committee of Policy Management Systems Corp (a computer software company), National Association of Mutual Insurance Agents, and Michigan Insurance Commissioners Advisory Committee. He was a delegate to the Governor's Conference on Small Business, past president and honorary life member of Michigan's 1752 Club.

"Dal" and Wanda were members of Frankenmuth Methodist church. "Dal" served as church school superintendent, chairman of the Finance Committee, financial secretary, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and treasurer of both the Endowment and Memorial Fund. His community activities include: serving on the Board of Directors of Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce, member of the Industrial Development Committee, trustee of the Greater Frankenmuth Area Community Foundation, board member of the Frankenmuth Area United Fund, advisor to Junior Achievement, and president of the Parent-Teachers Association.

"Dal's" wife, Wanda Ileen died on March 12, 2003.

"Dal" can trace his ancestry back to March 22, 1863, when his grandfather, Frank Motford Crary, was born. He married Henrietta "Nattie" Crawford and their son, Orville Pearl, born December 7, 1892, was "Dal's" father. Frank Motford Crary died February 1, 1941, and Henrietta died March 17, 1917.

Orville Pearl Crary married Bessie Fay VanCamp who was born on January 7, 1902 in Emmet, Michigan. Orville died October 3, 1965, in Toledo, Ohio and Bessie Fay died June 12, 1994, in Frankenmuth, Michigan.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
For copies of Family Histories go to www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory