

MY MOTHER - VIRGINIA IDELL CARR ZULKER -

by william allen zulker

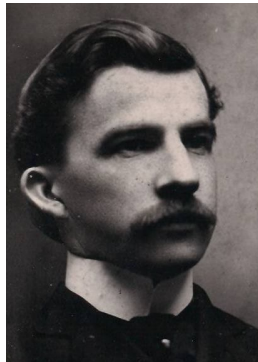
June 14, 1903 - December 13, 1984

updated 2/12/2013



Virginia with little sister Josephine

Virginia Idell Carr Zulker was born on June 14, 1903 in Haddonfield, NJ. Her parents were Elizabeth Cordelia Boogar Carr (Feb 10, 1878-1964) and Guy Leathem Carr (March 1, 1877-May 7, 1912). He had been a dancing instructor before his conversion at the age of twenty-one. Leathem met Elizabeth Boogar when the Carr family moved to Haddonfield, NJ, but no information is available as to where they previously lived. Before Elizabeth was married, she and one of her sisters owned and operated a millinery shop in Haddonfield.



Guy Leathem Carr

Leathem developed tuberculosis which he attributed to his former life of late hours, etc. Nevertheless, he and Elizabeth were married in 1898 and Virginia Idell was born five years later on June 14, 1903. She weighed twelve and a half pounds at birth, but due to illness was down to six pounds just three weeks later. Leathem, at that time, was a druggist and worked in a local drug (pharmacy) store in Haddonfield until his doctor advised him to get an outside job for his health.

When Virginia was six weeks old - sometimes stated as six months - the family moved to Atlantic City, NJ where Leathem's health improved and he became an outside painter. While he was painting the famous Hotel Marlboro-Blenheim, the largest hotel on the Boardwalk, he fell from a ladder and broke his shoulder-blade.

When Virginia was almost five years old, her sister Beatrice Josephine Carr was born on April 29, 1908 in Atlantic City, and weighed eleven and a half pounds; but she was also sickly. Virginia began kindergarten at age five but was struck by Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria and missed school for most of the year attending classes for just the last two weeks of school in Atlantic City.

In May [1909] the family moved to Mays Landing, NJ where Leathem worked as a Pharmacist in a local drug store and/or managed several stores for the Child's Grocery Chain. Whether he had any formal pharmaceutical training is not known. While there, Virginia attended first and second grades in Mays Landing.

The family then moved to Pleasantville in 1910 when Virginia was seven years old. The address may have been 11 West Pleasant Avenue. At Pleasantville, Virginia attended elementary school and said that she had to repeat third grade, but did not give any reason as to whether it was because of the move, illness, or whatever.

Her father Leathem died on May 7, 1912, in Pleasantville and is buried in the Atlantic City Cemetery there..

Her grandpa, Thomas Boogar and grandma Abigail Boogar moved to their daughter Elizabeth's home and lived there the rest of their lives. My mother, Virginia, said that her grandpa was a very strong influence in her early Christian development and loved the "good old hymns of the church like 'O Happy Day', and 'There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus, no, not one.'"



Papa Carr (as Virginia always referred to Leathem) died in May 1913 at the age of thirty-six when Virginia was only nine and sister Josephine four. Her mother, Elizabeth was thirty-four years old and opened a millinery shop in their living room to support the family.



Virginia, Mother Elizabeth, Sister Josephine



Virginia

Virginia graduated from grammar school when she was fourteen (1917) and started at Pleasantville High School. While there she worked at two ice-cream stores as well as at Weaver's Department Store.

Her mother Elizabeth remarried on May 30, 1917 to Walter Haseltine Ott, a widower and a men's barber. His daughter, Edna Ott [born 1900], two and a half years older than Virginia, who had been living with her grandmother in Philadelphia, now joined her father, step-mother, two step-sisters, and Clara Boogar, Elizabeth's sister.



Walter H. Ott - Elizabeth Boogar Carr Ott



Clara Boogar

Sometime that year or in the next, while Virginia was still in high school, her mother Elizabeth had surgery (undefined) and was very ill for several weeks. Though her aunt Clara Boogar (her mother's unmarried sister) lived with them, as well as her step-sister (Edna Ott - also a teen-ager), Clara was working and could not provide the care that was needed. Mother, Virginia, missed school for seven weeks and took care of her mother and the family including her younger sister Josephine, then nine years old. Thinking that she could not make up missed classes, Virginia dropped out of high school and began classes at Hardcastle's Business School in Atlantic City for a three-month course which was all that was offered. (The Atlantic City Free Public Library said that the 1917 and 1918 City Directories listed the Atlantic City Business School at 627 Guarantee Trust Bldg., Harry D. Hardcastle, Mgr.)

Somewhere along the line mother learned to play the piano, as also did her sister Josephine. Mother said that she enjoyed accompanying her grandfather as he sang, his favorite being "Higher Ground - I'm pressing on the upper way, new heights I'm gaining every day...."

At that time she met Bill Zulker at the Wesley Methodist Church Sunday School, went back to work at the ice-cream stores and at Weaver's. She and Bill "got serious but waited until I was seventeen" and were married at that church on July 9, 1920, [three weeks after her birthday]. Sister Josephine joined Georgeanne Bennett and Norman Adams in the wedding party.



Wesley Meth Church, Pleasantville, NJ - Virginia/Bill - Josephine - Georgeanne/Norman Adams



Virginia & Bill Zulker

Dad (Bill) had been working as a butcher, but then was employed as a clerk in the offices of the Gulf Oil Company. Mother said that she did not work in an office, for which she had been prepared at Hardcastle's, until they had moved to Cape May Court House [1927-1933], and then worked in the Motor Vehicle Office.

On April 14, 1921, Elizabeth Josephine Zulker was born in Pleasantville, NJ while Mother and Dad were living in an apartment on Pleasant Avenue just across the street from her parents Elizabeth and Walter Ott. On January 19, 1924, Mother gave birth to twin sons - Walter Leathem Zulker and Robert William Zulker. Robert died a few months later on July 2, 1924.

On December 20, 1926, a second set of twins was born - William Allen Zulker and Charles Bates Zulker - at 105 Linden Avenue, Pleasantville - in a house that Dad had purchased from the Sear's Roebuck catalog and constructed on the lot adjoining the grandparents Ott's. It was also just across the street from the Wesley Methodist Church where Mother and Dad had been married and where they were very active in worship and service. Here are two photos taken in 2008.



121 Linden Ave. Pleasantville, NJ

Sometime in 1927, the family moved to Cape May Court House, NJ where Dad had been transferred with the Gulf Oil Company, and the family lived in a house [Albrechts] on Mechanic Street a block or so from the Gulf Oil Office. Then it was to what was referred to as "the stucco house," to the east of Main Street. and then to a house on Mechanic Street, a few doors from Main Street. It was rented from Mr. Joseph. On January 16, 1933, Mother gave birth to her sixth child, Virginia Idell Zulker who was born at a maternity home operated by a Mrs. Applegate located south of town on Main Street.

The family moved again in that year to Lakewood, NJ due to another transfer with the Gulf Oil Company, and lived in a rented house on County Line Road.



Chuck-Mother-Walt-Ginny-Betty-Dad-Bill - Nov.1,1942



Betty-Chuck-Dad-Walt-Mother-Bill-Ginny - [Xmas 1952]

As always, Mother was involved with the Methodist Church where she was a soloist in the choir and played the piano for many meetings. She was also active in the Young Women's Christian Association.

At the beginning of World War II, while living in Lakewood, Walt joined the Navy, Betty attended the Evanston Collegiate Institute near Chicago, Illinois and then came home, worked, and married Norman Curcio in 1943. Dad was struggling to meet expenses. In addition to his full-time employment at the Gulf Oil Company and having an after-hours part-time job as the sexton at the Methodist Church, he moved the family to a three-floor apartment house on Second Street across from the YMCA, where he became the superintendent of the building with the help of Mother and all the family. That meant that he was the janitor responsible for the heating of the building (coal furnace), cleaning two offices on the first floor, as well as the stairway to the four apartments. Snow removal was also included. In return, the family occupied one of the apartments without charge. Mother was the homemaker. Pictured below are Walt, Ginny, Betty, Bill, visiting the Apartment House site and the Methodist Church in Lakewood, NJ in 1992.



Dad was transferred again in 1943 and the family moved to Trenton, NJ where Mother also worked at a local five and ten cent store to help make ends meet. Once again she took up her usual roles in the local Methodist Church, and Dad again found a second job as janitor of a nearby church.

As the War continued, Betty's husband Norman entered the Army as did both Chuck (Charles) and Bill after their graduation from high school in 1945. Mother then rented a room to the wife of a soldier stationed at nearby Fort Dix, hoping for more income to meet expenses.

In the Summer of 1945, during war-time, Mother was suddenly confronted with around-the clock care of our sister Ginny who was afflicted with the dreadful disease of polio at the age of twelve. Few can appreciate the burden Mother carried. Three sons, and a son-in-law were all in the military, and now this happened! How her heart must have ached. Anyone who knew Mother would have to say that it was her strong faith in Christ that enabled her to face the trials of the day and give her the victory. About that faith, she was unapologetic.

Following the end of the war, Dad and Mother purchased a home in 1946 after renting from others for the previous fifteen years. They moved from 121 Park Avenue in Trenton to 335 Independence Avenue, just a few blocks away.



121 Park Avenue, Trenton, NJ



335 Independence Ave. Trenton, NJ

Walt returned from the Navy and married Miriam Waldt in 1948; Chuck married Ginny Lou Wright in 1949; Bill married Isabel Claire Cox in 1950; only Ginny still lived with our Mother and Dad. In 1955 Dad, Mother, and Ginny moved to 85 Ridgewood Road in Trenton.

After thirty-five years with the Gulf Oil Company, Dad retired in 1957. He and Mother volunteered for a winter of Christian service at the Boca Raton Bible Conference in Florida in 1958-59 and again in 1959-60 where Mother worked in the Tea Room and Dad was a painter and general handy-man.. They also did similar volunteer work during the summer at the Montrose Bible Conference in Montrose, PA in 1959 and again starting on May 9, 1960 where Dad died on June 30, 1960 after another heart attack. Returning to 85 Ridgewood Avenue in Trenton, Mother and Ginny lived together.

In 1961 Mother went to live with Chuck and Ginny Lou in Montrose, PA to assist them in their ministry at Radio Station WPEL and at the Montrose Bible Conference, helping them in the care of their children. In her diary on July 3, 1964 she wrote that she told the family of "my ill health and returning to Trenton." She left there on September 4, 1964 and returned to Ridgewood Avenue where Ginny was still living.

A year later on September 5, 1965 Mother, always wanting to do something for the Lord in Christian service, moved to Providence, Rhode Island where she was employed by the Providence Bible Institute as a House-Mother in one of the women's residence halls. It was another endeavor to serve the Lord and to provide for her own welfare. She spent the year there and returned to her home in Trenton on June 10, 1966.

Not wanting to be idle, even in her declining years, Mother became an employee at the New Jersey Baptist Home in Riverton, NJ, on September 14, 1967 assisting the Director as needed. The day arrived when she decided that she could no longer work, and at that point made the decision to become a resident there for the remainder of her life. It was August 25, 1969. However, the situation changed as her health deteriorated at which

time Isabel and I took her into our home in 1975 at Wayne, PA. on February 15. She officially left the Baptist Home on February 29, 1976.

While living with us, she regained strength, her health improved, and she actively participated at the Newtown Square Baptist Church in Newtown Square, PA often playing the piano and attending worship and Bible Studies.

On June 10, 1978, the wedding day of our daughter Beth and husband-to-be Jim Mellon, Mother was to play the piano at Faith Church in Worcester, PA. As she entered the church, Mother fell. Not realizing that she had broken her hip, she got up, was helped to the piano at the front of the church and played, despite her pain. Immediately after the wedding she was taken to the hospital where she underwent surgery. Following rehabilitation she returned to our home.



Mother and son Bill in 1968

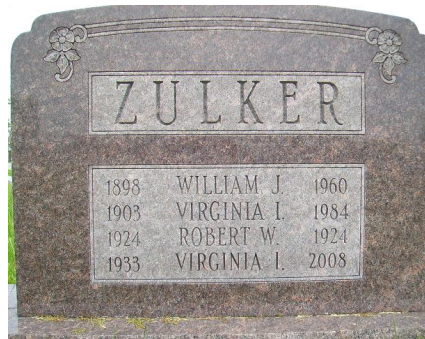
A very memorable event occurred on Memorial Day, May 30, 1983, just a few days before Mother's eightieth birthday. It was the day of the annual parade in Wayne when the cadets from the nearby Valley Forge Military Academy would be participants. Because of her recent illness I knew that Mother would not be able to attend. But, I also knew the route that the cadets would take in their return march to their campus. I contacted one of the officers at the Academy requesting that they march down our street where I would have Mother seated on the porch. A small contingent of cadets did exactly that, and one of the officers walked up to the porch, saluted Mother, and then greeted her with kindly words. We were all thrilled, as was Mother.

In addition to this special event, Mother received eightieth birthday greetings with a printed card from The White House with Nancy and Ronald Reagan's autographs [machine printed, of course], a typed letter from Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter, a typed letter from Pennsylvania Congressman Richard T. Schulze, and a letter from Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh.

In the fall of 1985 Mother was taken seriously ill and was moved to the Bryn Mawr Hospital from December 1 until the December 13 when she passed away. We had made arrangements for her to move from the hospital to the Wayne Nursing Home nearby but during the night before the scheduled move, Mother passed away peacefully. She did not fear death, and often spoke of her longing to go to her heavenly home.

A funeral service was held at Parsell's Funeral Home in Absecon, NJ on December 17, 1984. She had asked that the hymn "O that will be glory for me" be included and that Psalm 17:15 be read: "As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness, I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness."

A graveside service was held at the Atlantic City Cemetery in Pleasantville, NJ. where she was buried in the Zulker family plot # 605 with Dad and their infant son Robert William Zulker.



Mother's Birth-father



Step-father

Mother's mother

REFLECTIONS by son, Bill Zulker

In 1959 when Mother and Dad went for their first summer of volunteering for Christian service at the Boca Raton Bible Conference in Florida, her sister Josephine and husband Gene Berry gave them a diary to record their experiences. It was just the beginning, for from that time on Mother kept an annual diary right up until the time of her death in 1984. After her funeral, I found her diaries in a metal file box which I stored away with the thought that someday I might sit down and read them. That time has arrived, and I have recently spent many hours reading them and reconstructing the time-line of her life as indicated in the information above. What a record! What a story! What a life!

During those years from 1959-1981, I was engrossed in my own life - family life, employment at Eastern College - preaching and ministering schedule - involvement in the Philadelphia Presbytery - and other normal activities. Until she came to live with Isabel and me in 1975 for the rest of her life, I did not realize that so much was happening in her life and how busy she was in serving the Lord. Now, her diaries have told me her story.

Mother loved to be in fellowship with other Christians. We knew that early in our lives when frequently ministers, evangelists, missionaries, and Christian musicians were welcome guests in our home. When she and Dad went to Boca Raton and Montrose Bible Conference she met and mingled with numerous Christian leaders, many whose names she recorded in her diaries. Though she never went to college, she could converse with the most educated among them, including college presidents. Here diaries are like a "Who's Who?" directory.

As children, we always knew that Mother played the piano. Where she learned or took lessons, we never knew. But no matter how poor Mother and Dad may have been through the years of the Great Depression and following, there was always a piano in our home. Many were the times when Mother would gather us around the piano to sing. Both Betty and Ginny, with

Mother's encouragement, also learned to play and used their talent in church, Sunday School, and public school programs. Wherever she went she played the piano - and she sang.

Mother not only sang in the church choir but was also a soloist participating in both church and community musicals.

Not until I read her diaries did I realize that she was also a speaker and was often called upon to speak at church programs such as a Mother and Daughter Banquet, a trustee meeting at the Baptist Home in Riverton and Women's Circle meetings in Montrose. I found a file containing some of those talks which she had typed, and as time allows, I will add them to my web site with the hope that the messages she gave will become a challenge to many others. She also wrote poetry which my granddaughter Lisa compiled and had printed for us in book form. A couple of her songs were purchased and printed by the well-known musician, song-writer, and publisher John Peterson, who was a close friend.

Mother strongly believed in prayer as her diaries indicate. Of course, we in the family knew that, but it has been interesting to read some of those prayers and to realize how much she relied on that personal and private time communing with the Lord. She prayed with thanksgiving for her daily blessings and interceded for family and friends alike. Her concern for others became evident to many as they sought her counsel in visits which she recorded in her diaries. That was true whether she was living in Montrose, Barrington, Trenton or Riverton.

Her pleasant and cheerful attitude also meant that she became a friend of many. She saw the best in everyone she met and disliked hearing someone express negative comments about someone else whether in the family or without. Some may have thought that she was too much of an idealist, but that wouldn't have mattered to her. She tried as best she could to emulate the life of Christ.

All in all, as I reflect upon my Mother's life, I think that she was a combination of those two women in the Bible who lived in the town of Bethany. Mary and Martha were the sisters of Lazarus. Jesus was their friend who visited in their home. Martha seemed to be the servant-type while Mary wanted to sit listening to Jesus. Mother loved to do both. At the beginning of her day she first began in prayer, in fellowship with Christ; and from then on she went forth to serve. It didn't matter to her whether she was singing, playing the piano at meetings and worship services, setting tables in the dining room or tea room, cleaning guests rooms, leading Bible studies or prayer groups, chaperoning and counseling college students, running errands for the director, chauffeuring residents at the retirement home, or taking care of the children of Christian workers, she did it all as service for Christ.

So then, I find that she left this message: that we too, should experience the joy of a personal relationship with Christ as our friend, Savior and Lord, and then step forward and find ways to serve Him by serving others in His name.

END

4/30/2012

Miscellaneous Photos



GENEALOGY -

Thomas Boogar married **Abigail Bennett** in Haddonfield, NJ
He was a glass-blower but developed cataracts and was unable to work by 1903. He had a surgical operation which was not successful. They were both buried in Harley Cemetery in Camden, NJ

Daughters - **Lida**, **Dorothy**, **Clara**, **Elizabeth Cordelia** [married **Guy Leathem Carr**, and **Walter Hazeltine Ott**].

Lida and **Dorothy** also married, but **Clara** never did. **Clara**, along with **Thomas** and **Abigail** moved in with their son Guy and wife Elizabeth after Thomas could no longer work.

Dorothy married **Albert Eldridge**, an upholsterer, and lived in Atlantic City. Their only child died at birth.

Lida, the oldest of the sisters, married **Rev. Leonard Reeve** and had a house in Wildwood, NJ. They had two sons, Forrest and Malvern who died at the age of eighteen of Spinal Meningitis. **Forrest** married ("a Jewess **Ann**") who died a few years later. They did not have children. Forrest died in 1959 or 1960.

Mother referred to a cousin by the name of **Clara Hall** of Vineland and her sister **Oleda Hall**, but we have no further information about them.

She also mentioned a cousin by the name of **Marjorie Givenbach** who attended the Friends School in Atlantic City. majoring in music, piano, and organ. Later she was employed as a member of a church choir in Atlantic City. then moved to Fort Walton Beach, FL

Another cousin was **Owen Stockton** living in Absecon, NJ, with a plumbing business in Atlantic City.

Cousin Albert Stockton, a Veterinarian, lived in California.

Cousin Leslie Carr was a school teacher in California.

Cousin Kenneth Stopfer lived in Brigantine, NJ.

A note about C. AUSTIN MILES, Hymnwriter of "In The Garden," "And He Walks With Me."

Will Boogar, the brother of Thomas Boogar, married the sister of C. Austin Miles. After his mother died, Aunt Kate Boogar, wife of Will, encouraged and insisted that Austin study piano, and often disciplined him to keep practicing.

Will Boogar was a foreman for the laying of the first rails for the Reading Railroad Company from Camden to Atlantic City.

Two Boogar brothers of Will changed their name to Bowker with relatives living in Ocean City and in the Real Estate business.

THE CARR FAMILY GENEALOGY-

Charles Carr married Mary Jane-

He was an accountant for the first Trolley Car Company in Philadelphia, PA.

He wore a beard, goatee, and mustache - "Very handsome."

Eight children - Guy Leathem was the youngest born in _____.

CHECK FURTHER ON THIS INFORMATION -

Charles W. Carr -
William Carr
Edward Carr
Mary Jane Carr

The following are buried in Harleigh Cemetery 1640 Haddon Ave. Camden-Haddonfield, NJ - (1856-963-3500) where Walt Whitman is also buried.

Lydian Boogar -

Lizzie Boogar -

Frances Boogar

Clara Boogar - 1918

William Boogar

THE FOLLOWING FOUR ITEMS ARE COPIES OF MOTHER'S NOTATIONS REGARDING HER LIFE AND FAMILY

(Family Notes #1)

THE CARR FAMILY - Notations found in Mother's papers - Virginia I. Carr Zulker -
Dated 1964 [some info added later]

Charles Carr and **Mary Jane Carr** & Siblings

Parents and two sons - Harleigh Cemetery, Camden, NJ

William - deceased in early youth

Edward - same

Herbert Carr - deceased - Atlantic City Cemetery, Pleasantville, NJ

Lillian Carr (wife) Nursing Home, Northfield, NJ

Leslie Carr, their only child & son [in law] California

Guy Leathem - deceased - Atlantic City Cemetery, Pleasantville, NJ

Elizabeth Boogar Carr Ott, his wife, Nursing Home, Northfield, NJ

Virginia Idell Carr Zulker, daughter, Montrose, PA

Beatrice Josephine Carr Berry, Sandquist, Colkitt, daughter, Pleasantville, PA

Mabel Stofer, deceased

Charles Stofer, husband, deceased

Kenneth, son, deceased

James, son, Brigantine, NJ

Anna Ginnenback, deceased

Harper Ginnenback, husband, deceased

Virginia Ginnenback, deceased

Marjorie Gillingham, daughter, Fort Walton Beach, FL

Margaret Stockton, deceased

Albert Stockton, husband, deceased

Owen Stockton, son, Atlantic City, NJ

Albert Stockton, son, Pasadena, CA

Dorothy Leiling, daughter, Mays Landing, NJ

Ruth Stockton, daughter, deceased.

[I thought she said there were eight children, but only seven listed here. Also, Aunt Jo, in writing to Betty spoke of Emma Stopher. I wonder what the relationship is? Note spelling! Aunt Jo also said that "Stockton's big house was in Chelsea, not Ventnor. Went there many times even with Uncle Gene. Grandma Ott never wanted me to have any connection with them, but I always kept in touch."]

(Family # 2)

THE BOOGAR FAMILY - 1964

[The following persons are buried in the Atlantic City Cemetery - Pleasantville, NJ]

Thomas & Abigail Boogar & Siblings - both deceased

Lydia Boogar Reeves, deceased -

Leonard Reeves, husband, deceased -

Malvern Reeves, son, deceased -

Forrest Reeves, son, deceased

Dorothy Boogar Eldridge, deceased

Albert Eldridge, husband, deceased

Clara Boogar, deceased, - unmarried

Elizabeth Cordelia Boogar Carr Ott, Nursing Home, Northfield, NJ - (deceased 196?)

Guy Leathem Carr, first husband, deceased

Virginia Idell Carr Zulker, Montrose, PA (deceased in 1984)

Beatrice Josephine Carr Berry Sanquist, Colkitt, Pleasantville, NJ(deceased 19??)

Walter Haseltine Ott, second husband, deceased (1952)

(Family Notes #3)

Here is a copy of Mother's (**Virginia Idell Carr Zulker**) notations found in her papers:

BOOGAR FAMILY - MATERNAL

Grandpa Boogar - Thomas [8/15/1838-1919]

Grandma Boogar - Abigail [Bennett] - both devout Christians

Four daughters -

Lida, Dorothy, Clara, Elizabeth, my mother, youngest

Papa and Mama married in Haddonfield, NJ - (when ?)

Grandpa, a glass blower in Haddonfield, not able to work even before I was born on June 14, 1903, due to cataracts both eyes. Operation in one, not too successful.

Lida and **Dorothy** married, but **Clara** remained single.

She [**Clara**], Grandpa [**Thomas**] and Grandma [**Abigail**] moved into Mother's [**Elizabeth**] and Papa's [**Guy Leathem**] house right after marriage and remained with us until their Home-going, years later [Abigail in 1917, Thomas in 1919].

Mother [**Elizabeth Boogar Carr**] a widow at thirty-four -

Papa [**Guy Leathem Carr**] was thirty-six at death - [d. May 7, 1912].

Josephine was four, **I** was nine.

Mother [**Elizabeth**] and her sister **Dorothy** had a millinery shop in Haddonfield, NJ before their marriages. For a living, Mother went back to millinery in our living-room [on Washington Ave. in Pleasantville] and supported the whole family after Papa's death. I had diphtheria and scarlet-fever together at the age of five. Lingered for weeks.

Grandpa [**Thomas Boogar**] had six strokes before he died at eighty-one.

Grandma [**Abigail**] softening of brain, died in institution at seventy-four. [Northfield].

Mother [**Elizabeth**] remarried after five years, **Walter H. Ott**, a widower and barber. His daughter Edna, two and a half years my senior [b-1906] came to live with us from her

former home with her Mother's Mother in Philadelphia. Later Dad Ott was called into the ministry.

We three girls married. **Edna [Mrs. Walton Glick]** died with cancer before Dad [**WH Ott** - d 8/16/52] from angina. He was a real servant of the Lord. However, most of my early Christian training came from **Grandpa [Thomas] Boogar** and also from the good old hymns of the church - "Happy Day" and "No, not one" taught me on his knee at ages three and four. Went with him each Sunday AM as he led the Love Feast in the Methodist Church and always testified, or else he would ask me if I didn't love Jesus this AM. When he prayed, always on his knees as were we all, the very windows of Heaven seemed to open. **Grandma (Abigail)** would walk down the church aisles with hands clasped, saying softly, "Glory, Glory, Glory."

I learned to play the piano for Papa to sing, and he was so proud and happy. His favorite, "Higher Ground" was sung at his funeral by the quartet (male) in which he sang as long as he could. Someone, of course, took his place.

Mother's sister **Dorothy** lost her only child (a son) at birth. She was married to **Albert Eldridge**, an upholsterer and lived in Atlantic City, NJ.

The other sister **Lida**, the oldest, married **Rev. Leonard Reeve** (Baptist). Two sons **Forrest**, (home in Wildwood, NJ) and **Malvern**. Forrest married a Jewess who died childless years later. **Forrest** died in 1959 [?].

Boogars, Reeves, Eldridge, Carr and Ott burial in Pleasantville, NJ [Atlantic City Cemetery.] No living cousins. A second cousin **Clara Hall** lives in Vineland. Her sister **Oleda**, somewhere.

An interesting item: **Grandpa Boogar's brother Will** married a sister of **Austin Miles** [who wrote the hymn "In The Garden."] Their mother [Miles] died and **Aunt Kate [Miles Boogar]** was the oldest and was insistent that Austin study piano, and disciplined his practicing, often using a ruler on his hands so her tale goes. Year later, Austin thanked her for her determination and persistency. She visited our home often in my early childhood along with **Uncle Will [Boogar]**, and after his death. He was foreman for the laying of the first rails for Reading Railroad Company from Camden to Atlantic City. One or two other brothers changed the name **Boogar to Bowher**, some descendants now in Ocean City Real Estate.

(Family Notes # 4)

This is a copy of my mother's notes:

Mother Virginia Idell Carr Zulker

Born June 14, 1903 - Haddonfield, NJ.

Family moved to Atlantic City, NJ at age - 6 months. Began kindergarten at age t. Sept. - Oct. was stricken with Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. No further school till May, when family moved to Mays Landing, NJ.

Attended kindergarten last two weeks, attended first and second grades and again the family moved to Pleasantville, NJ and I went into third grade.

Had to repeat third grade.

Papa Carr died, this being 1913 (May). [Aunt Jo said May 7, 1912 which is correct]

Graduated when I was fourteen. [grammar school].

Mother Carr remarried on May 30, 1917, same year I was fourteen.

I worked in two ice-cream stores and in Weavers Department Store. I started high school in September.

Mother had surgery soon afterward and was critical for weeks, and was confined to bed for weeks. Although Aunt Clara [Boogar] lived with us, she worked and so did our step-sister Edna [Ott-Glick]. Mother had to have care and I was the only one available. I lost seven weeks of school and knew I could not make it up. I asked mother if I might quit. Papa Carr had left me some money so mother said I could go to Hardcastle's Business School in Atlantic City. I took a three-month course. That was all they had to offer. In the meantime I met Bill Zulker in our Sunday School, Wesley Methodist Church [Pleasantville]. I went back to work in ice cream and department stores. Bill and I got serious but waited till I was seventeen, and we were married in that church, July 9, 1920. I never did work in an office for which I was prepared until later years in a Motor Vehicle Office in Cape May Court House, NJ.

The following is a copy of some notes that I found in the files of my mother - Virginia Idell Carr Zulker. No date is indicated.

They are from a photo-copy that is quite faded. Maybe we will find the original. It is on Memo sheets of "Sun Radio and Electronics Co., Inc - 650 6th Ave. New York, NY.

(Family notes #5)

"My grandfather **Carr (Charles)**

Grandma Carr, - **Mary Jane.**

Eight Children

Papa was the youngest (**Guy Leathem**)

Grandpa -accountant for the first trolley car company in Phila.

Wore beard, goatee and mustache

Very handsome by picture.

Had gone to Methodist altar with Papa and received the Lord. The only two in family to my knowledge ever saved, a society family, aristocrats.

Papa was a dancing instructor before conversion at age twenty-one.

Later met my mother **Elizabeth Boogar** when family of Carr moved to Haddonfield, NJ.

Papa developed TB but married Mother. He blamed it on his former life of late hours, etc. After five years married, I was born a sickly baby. 12 1/2 lbs but at three weeks down to six pounds.

Papa was a druggist but later Doctor ordered an outdoor job.

At six weeks, i moved with the family to Atlantic City where Papa took up outside painting. Health improved so did some indoor work such as painting the dome of Hotel Marlboro-Blenheim, at the time the largest hotel on Boardwalk. Fell from ladder and broke shoulder blade.

When I was five years, except for two months, sister was born, Beatrice Josephine - eleven and a half pounds, also sickly. Papa was not so well so we moved to Pleasantville when i was seven years, then three years later to Mays Landing.

Papa then was managing stores for Child's Grocery Chain Stores.

In 1912 (May 7), Papa went to be with the Lord. Had moved back to P'ville at Papa's request, hoping health would improve.

Grandma Carr lived in a Pent House in Atlantic City with one of Papa's sisters, **Anna Ginnenbach**. Had Chinese maid and apartment filled with Chinese furniture and screens, rugs, etc. - everything oriental.

Grandma passed away sometime after I was married around 1921-1922. Had lived later years in Venice Park, Atlantic City.

Other aunts and uncles died at early age.

One aunt **Margaret Stockton** (86) lived in Mays Landing with a daughter Dorothy Leiling (1960) whose husband is owner of Lenape Lake Park (amusement), still society folks.

At one time, Aunt Margaret (Maggie) and husband Uncle Bert (Albert) owned a huge home, three floors in Ventnor with maids (maid quarters). At Christmas the whole third floor was given over to the four children for entertaining with a huge tree, etc. No expense spared.

Papa was a high tenor, played zither.

One of my cousins, **Marjorie Givenbaach** went to Friends School in Atlantic City, majored in music, piano and organ. Later was paid singer in church choir in Atlantic City. Now living in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

One cousin, **Owen Stockton** lives in Absecon, plumbing business in Atlantic City.

Cousin **Albert Stockton**, a veterinarian in California.

Cousin **Leslie Carr**, a school teacher in California.

Cousin **Kenneth Stopfer** in Brigantine.

Grandma and Grandpa burial place - Harleigh Cemetery, Camden-Haddonfield.

Here is a copy of a letter that Aunt Jo[sephine] wrote to Betty Zulker Curcio in 1985.

"Just a few memories from Josephine. My earliest memory goes back to when I was supposedly three years old, of Papa [Leathem Carr] being sick and I would put a pillow at his back.

At Papa's request we had moved back to Pleasantville from Mays Landing. Papa died just a week after on May 7, 1912. As was the custom, he was laid out in our parlor. The children from Virginia's school came to view him. Later at the meal of potato salad and ham, the dining room table collapsed. Even at the age of four that still linger in my minds eye today at seventy-seven.

As Grandpa and Grandma Boogar and dear Aunt Clara [Boogar] made their home with us, I never knew what it was to just have a Mother and Father and sister to live with.

When Grandma Boogar was mentally ill due to hardening of the arteries and softness of the brain, she had to be institutionalized and I was the only one who comforted Grandpa then, at my age of ten years.

Previously, the year before, a wonderful person came into our lives. I used to call him Uncle Walter when he and Mother were courting. But the day, how well I remember, when they were married in the parsonage of Wesley Methodist Church [Pleasantville,

NJ], by the Rev. Lee, that I looked up to him and called him Daddy. What a father he was to me.

It seemed that he and I could look at each other and know our thoughts without saying a word. At the Fourth of July, he would buy numerous fireworks and the children of our neighborhood would enjoy them with us. Then he used to bring me chocolate-creams, and at bed-times pick the toe-jams out of my toes , and buy ice cream and bring it up to me in bed.

Some of those things might not mean much to others, but they hold so many lovely memories, even though there have been many heartaches throughout the years, including many illnesses and deaths. But Praise the Lord, I will be seeing them again some day.

These few memories were written as requested by my dear niece, Betty.

February 16, 1985 in Ocean City, NJ

Josephine Berry Colkitt (nee Carr)

One Child - Doris Berry Endicott

Three grandsons - Kirk, Craig, Gary

Four great-grandsons - Michael, Steven (Kirk's)

Brentley, Benson - (Craig's)

Another due in March (Gary's)

Some dates to work on from notations in Mother's diaries.

11/1958 - WJ Zulker retired from Gulf Oil

10/19/1959 - Left Montrose after working on Staff during Summer

6/27/1960 - WJ Zulker died in Montrose, PA

1/1/1963 - Mother living with Chuck and GL in Montrose in "New Home" for one month

9/6/1963 - Living with Chuck and GL in Montrose

9/9/1963 - In Trenton

9/21/1963 - Bill speaking in Pitman, NJ - Hotel, supper - group from Collingdale RE church.

6/13/1964 - Grandma Ott went to Atlantic County Home from Ellen Nursing Home, both in Northfield, NJ.

9/4/1964 - Left Montrose and moved back in with Ginny in Trenton, NJ

12/6/1964 - Received back into membership at Central Baptist Church, Trenton, NJ

1/1/1965 - Mother returning to Barrington College - (House-mother)

Chuck working at WTTM

MISCELLANEOUS -

Emma and Jack Zulker (Brother of WJZ)

Rebecca (Aunt Becky) Sister of WJZ
Lucy B. Collar - (niece of WJZ) - Edward H. Jones, her son
Mary and Oscar Doughty, and Mary Elizabeth (?)
Alfred S. Doughty
Dot and Reuben Gaunt (?)
Charles and Pauline Doughty Birch

END