

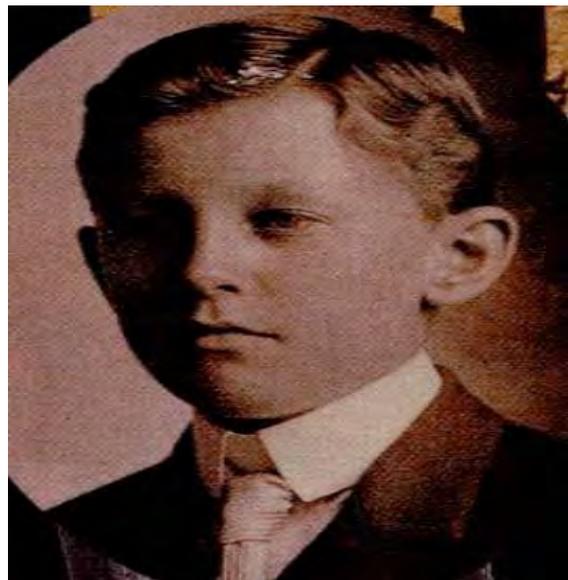
Pictures of Bill and Lois Wilson



THE WILSON HOUSE

The Birthplace of WILLIAM GRIFFITH WILSON
Village Street, East Dorset, Vermont 05253
802-362-5524

In 1846 this lot was vacant. Five years later the Barrows House opened as a hotel. When Bill Wilson was born here in 1895, his Grandmother Wilson owned the hotel, which had been in her family since it was built by her father. When she married Bill's grandfather, the hotel became **The Wilson House**. * Doctor Bob (Robert Holbrook Smith, 1879-1950) was also a native Vermonter, born in St. Johnsbury. His boyhood home is now a drug and alcohol abuse treatment center.



Bill Wilson as a child



A young Lois Wilson Bill's mother Emily Wilson in 1912



Bill Wilson's high school picture



Bill and Lois at Fort Adams, Rhode Island, June 1918

Lois Wilson





Bill Wilson on Horseback

**Bill Wilson Just Before the War
(Bill Wilson, back row, far right)**



Traveling in the Early Days with Lois



The Wilson's with their Harley



Bill & Lois Later in Life

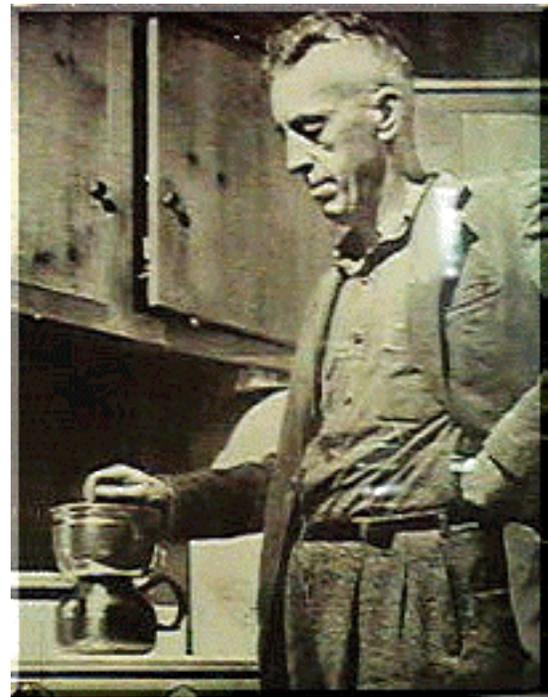
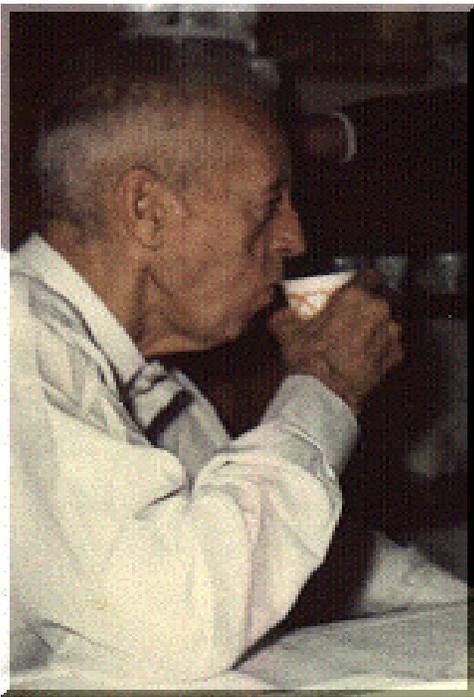
Bill Wilson and Lois after Doctor Bob's funeral



***Stepping Stones'*, Bill's & Lois's Home**



In the spring of 1941, the Wilson's moved into their house. After 23 years of marriage, Lois and Bill finally had a home of their own. The Wilson's lived in the house for the rest of their lives. Bill spent almost 30 years there until his death in January 1971 at age 75. Lois lived on 17 years longer.



Bill Wilson at an AA Meeting William Griffith Wilson 1940's



Bill and Lois W. in a later Christmas picture

BILL W.'s CHRISTMAS MESSAGE - 1944

To All Members

Greetings on Our 10th Christmas - 1944

Yes, it's in the air! The spirit of Christmas once more warms this poor distraught world. Over the whole globe millions are looking forward to that one day when strife can be forgotten, when it will be remembered that all human beings, even the least, are loved by God, when men will hope for the coming of the Prince of Peace as they never hoped before. But there is another world which is not poor. Neither is it distraught. It is the world of Alcoholics Anonymous, where thousands dwell happily and secure. Secure because each of us, in his own way, knows a greater power who is love, who is just, and who can be trusted. Nor can men and women of A.A. ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough humility to enter the portals of that New World. How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weakness, that humiliation goes before resurrection; that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth. Knowing it's full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity where there was poverty, peace and joy have sprung out of the very midst of chaos. Great indeed, our blessings! And so Merry Christmas to you all from the Trustees, from Bobbie and from Lois and me.

Bill Wilson

Bill W. of Alcoholics Anonymous Dies

By JOHN W. STEVENS

William Griffith Wilson died late Sunday night and, with the announcement of his death, was revealed to have been the Bill W. who was a co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. His age was 75.

The retired Wall Street securities analyst had expected to die or go insane as a hopeless drunk 36 years ago but — after what he called a dramatic spiritual experience — had sobered up and stayed sober. He leaves a program of recovery as a legacy to 475,000 acknowledged alcoholics in 15,000 A.A. groups throughout the United States and in 88 other



William Griffith Wilson

other alcoholics. She is a founder of the Al-Anon and Alateen groups, which deal with the fears and insecurity suffered by spouses and children of problem drinkers.

Mr. Wilson last spoke publicly on July 5 of last year in a three-minute talk he delivered after struggling from a wheelchair to the lectern at the closing session of A.A.'s 35th anniversary international convention in Miami, attended by 11,000 people. He had been admitted three days earlier to the Miami Heart Institute, his emphysema complicated by pneumonia.

Last Oct. 10, he was under hospital care for acute emphysema and was unable for some time to attend the A.A. S...

Bill

Wilson's

obituary



William G. 'Bill' Wilson

b. November 26, 1895. d. January 24, 1971

Co-Founder of Alcoholics Anonymous

Bill W.'s Last Message

My dear friends,

Recently an A.A. member sent me an unusual greeting which I would like to extend to you. He told me it was an ancient Arabian salutation. Perhaps we have no Arabic groups, but it still seems a fitting expression of how I feel for each of you. It says, "I salute you and thank you for your life."

My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our Fellowship and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God's Grace.

If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our continuity, I would say, the "Concept of Anonymity."

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.

A.A. must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God's Grace.

And so -- once more, I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you *for your lives*. May God bless us all now, and forever.

*Ever Yours
Bill*