

## Carson Family

Compiled by Bruce A. Fowler  
Hartland Historical Society ~ February 18, 2025

Harold Eugene Carson, Sr

*s/o Frederick Douglas Carson & Marion Lee (Seamans) Carson-Collins*

b. 5 July 1901 Cary (noted as 1st child)

d. 14 July 1971 Hartland (Belden Cemetery, Prentiss w/Ernestine) at 70yrs

m. 25 June 1926 Princeton

Ernestine Louise Averill

*d/o Ira Ralph Averill & Rebecca May King*

b. 25 July 1905 Prentiss (8th of 16 children)

d. 12 Feb 1998 Hartland (Belden Cemetery, Prentiss) at 92yrs

*Harold was living in the household of his step-father Walter Collins in Hodgdon in C/1910 after his mother remarried in 1905 soon after his birth. He graduated from Higgins Classical Institute then received his B.S. at Colby College then his Master's Degree in Education from University of Maine.*

*Ernestine was raised in Prentiss with her large family and also graduated from Higgins Classical Institute then went on to graduate from Farmington Normal School. She received her B.S. and Master's Degree in Education from University of Maine.*

*They were living in Eustis in C/1930 after they married where he was Principal at the high school and Ernestine was teaching. They moved to Monson soon after continuing their respective educational professions before moving to Hartland with their children in 1939 where Harold became Superintendent of Hartland Schools serving until 1946. They resided briefly on Lower Elm Street as noted in C/1940 before purchasing the house they were renting on Commercial Street in January of 1943. They later purchased the "Century House", so called, next door in 1963 and continued renting it out as apartments.*

*Harold returned for a second term as Superintendent in 1949 serving through 1954. He was an early and vocal advocate while serving his first term as Superintendent to construct a centralized elementary school which eventually came to fruition during his second term when the new Hartland Consolidated School was built in 1950. Ernestine later continued her teaching career in the Hartland Elementary Schools until her retirement after a total of 44 years in the education field. They were both very active in various organizations as reflected in their obituaries at the bottom of the page and the dedication plaque at the Hartland Public Library in honor of Ernestine's many years of devotion to the children of Hartland.*

### Ch. CARSON:

1. Patricia Ann Carson "Pat"

b. 21 July 1932 Monson

m.

Guss W. Crowe

*Her birth announcement was made while her parents were living in Monson. She grew up in Hartland and graduated from Hartland Academy Class of 1950. She graduated from Lynn Burdett College Medical Secretarial Department in 1952 receiving the highest honors in her class. She & Guss eventually moved to California. Patricia has been a long time member and a generous contributor to the Hartland Historical Society.*

2. Harold Eugene Carson, Sr "Kit"

**Vietnam U. S. Air Force**

b. 10 Oct 1933 Monson

d. 6 Oct 2022 Tampa, Florida (Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia w/Lois) at 87yrs

m. 19 Aug 1956 Pittsfield

Sandra Lois Humphrey

*d/o Donald F. Humphrey & Erma C. (Davis) Humphrey-Coffin*

b. 15 Feb 1934 Waterville

d. 1 Dec 2021 Tampa, Florida (Arlington National Cemetery) at 87yrs

*As compiled from their respective obituaries, Harold grew up in Hartland and graduated from Hartland Academy Class of 1951. He went on to graduate from Boston University with a B.S. degree, Syracuse University with an MBA degree, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.*

*Upon graduating from Boston University, he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force and completed pilot training in Hondo and Laredo, Texas. He flew as pilot or instructor pilot in 11 types of aircraft during his career including the T-33, T-39, C-47, C-131, O-2B, KC-97, KC-135 and several versions of the EB-66. During the Vietnam War he flew 117 combat missions over Laos and North Vietnam in EB-66 electronic warfare aircraft. He completed his flying career with a command pilot training.*

*Col. Carson's staff assignments included tours at Pacific Air Force Headquarters in Hawaii, with Air Staff at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C. and with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Alexandria, Virginia. He retired at Macdill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida in 1985.*

*His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medals, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, and six Air Medals. He was a life member of The Military Officers Association of America, a member of the Air Force Association, the Vietnam Veterans of America Association, the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, the Maine Aviation Historical Society, and the Emerald Greens Golf & Country Club.*

*Following his retirement from the Air Force, Col. Carson was employed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Resolution Trust Corporation in Tampa, Florida where he served as Administrative Officer and Director of Administration. He was an active volunteer with Hands on Tampa Bay, Metropolitan Ministries and Habitat for Humanity.*

*Sandra was raised in Pittsfield where she graduated from Maine Central Institution then received her B.A. degree in Sociology from the University of Maine at Orono. Following their move to Tampa in 1981, she became an active member of St Joseph's Women's Hospital Auxiliary holding several office positions of the organization over the next 40 years. At the time of her passing, she had accumulated over 37,000 hours of volunteer service. Harold & Sandra were long time members and generous contributors to the Hartland Historical Society.*

Ch. CARSON:

I. Deborah Susanne Carson

b. 8 Apr 1957 Massachusetts

d. Dec 2000 Virginia (Belden Cemetery, Prentiss) at 43yrs

Col. Harold E. Carson, Jr. Medal Display





As displayed at Hartland Public Library Children's Activity Room



## Former School Head Dies

**HARTLAND** — Harold E. Kit Carson Sr., 70, died July 14 at a Skowhegan hospital after a short illness.

He was born July 5, 1901 in Cary, the son of Fred and Marion (Seamans) Carson. He had lived in Hartland for over 30 years and he was the former superintendent of schools in School Union 63.

He graduated from Higgins Classical Institute and received his B.S. degree at Colby College and his master's degree at the University of Maine. He was a member of the Retired Teachers' and Superintendents' Association of Maine, the Masonic Lodge in Hartland, the Hartland and St. Albans Lions Club and a member of the Grace-Linn Methodist Church in Hartland.

He is survived by his wife, Ernestine of Hartland; one son, Maj. Harold E. Carson of Hawaii; one daughter, Mrs. Guss (Patricia) Crowe of Los Angeles, Calif.; one granddaughter, Miss Deborah Carson of Hawaii; one half-sister, Mrs. Virgil (Evelyn) Greene of Kennebunk; one half-brother, Gerald Collins of North Amity; several nieces, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Grace-Linn Methodist Church with the Rev. William Morley of New Harbor and the Rev. Mervin Chadbourne of Hartland officiating. Cremation will be later in Auburn.

Friends may call at the Donald H. Shorey Funeral Chapel in Hartland Friday 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 p.m.

Masonic service will be Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the chapel.

### ERNESTINE AVERILL CARSON

**HARTLAND** — Ernestine A. Carson, 92, a resident of Hartland for more than 60 years, died Feb. 12, 1998, at the Sanfield Living Center. She was born in Prentiss, July 25, 1905, the eighth child of 16 born to Ira Ralph and Rebecca (King) Averill. She was a graduate of Higgins Classical Institute, Farmington Normal School, and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from the University of Maine. Ernestine and her late husband, Harold E. Carson Sr., former superintendent of schools, were career teachers and educators, spending most of their lives in the central Maine area. She retired after 44 years in the educational field. Ernestine was continually active in community affairs. She was a member of the Grace Linn Memorial United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school and vacation Bible school for many years. She was also trustee of the Hartland Public Library. In 1986, she received the Citizens Award for outstanding service to the town of Hartland in the field of education. In 1996, the children's activity room at the Hartland Public Library was donated in honor of her many years of devoted service to the children of Hartland. She was predeceased by her husband, Harold Sr.; five brothers, William, Leo, Lloyd, Lawrence and Lawton Averill; seven sisters, Ella Averill, Eula Ham, Elaine Budge, Edith Lombard, Marion "Eunice" Lewis, Enid Sumner, and Eleanor McLaughlin. She is survived by a daughter and her husband, Patricia and Guss Crowe of Pasadena, Calif.; a son and his wife, Harold and Sandra Carson of Tampa, Fla.; a granddaughter, Deborah S. Carson of Fairfax, Va.; three sisters and their husbands, Doris and George Stephens of Falls Church, Va., Esther and Roscoe Boyington of Gorham, and Frances and Arnold Withee of Westbrook; several nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be announced in June and will be held at Grace Linn Memorial United Methodist Church in Hartland. Inurnment will be in the Averill family lot at Belden Cemetery, Prentiss. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Grace Linn Memorial United Methodist Church, care of Harlow Powers, treasurer, 403 Great Moose Dr., Hartland 04943, or the Hartland Public Library, P.O. Box 620, Hartland 04943. Arrangements are with Shorey Funeral Chapel, 35 Hartland Ave., Pittsfield.



As seen in 2025, the Century House on the left next to  
the former home of Harold & Ernestine Carson on Commercial Street.

