

## One by One –Clarence “Snowy” Simpson

By Karen Zach, Around the County

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Born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the eve of Valentine's in 1916, the son of William John and Madeline Schindler Simpson, this week's soldier really travelled the world and ended-up in Montgomery County, Indiana as a Wabash College basketball coach. Although I don't know how the nickname came about, Clarence Charles Simpson was called "Snowy" by all of his friends. Both sides of his family were Irish, some of his grandparents having been born overseas. His father had various jobs, a laborer in a manufacturing plant, a department store shipper, but mainly he was an insurance agent for Western Southern Life. I believe Clarence was their only child and that he and his wife, Romaine Dimitt (don't you love that name), had but one daughter, so a small family for sure.

Kind of an interesting fact, Snowy's father-in-law was also named Clarence. Clarence Simpson was in the service in the WWII era, and was compensated \$380 for his work from Dec 23, 1945 – Feb 20, 1946 on the atomic weapon development, the Manhattan Project. He finished up at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

A graduate of Kansas State he also served as their head basketball coach before coming to Crawfordsville. Also, they lived in Salt Lake in the late 50s and early 60s where he also worked for the university (of Utah) but not sure in what capacity.

Before the war, he worked for the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing plant and when he registered for the draft, he was listed as 153 pounds, at 5'6" with light complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. At that time, he lived on Fleming Avenue in Pittsburg. His home at Crawfordsville for some years was 1422 W. Market, although he passed away in Lane Nursing Home on June 13, 1987 just shy of two months after his beloved Romaine succumbed. They are buried at Oak Hill with a new flat stone and I for one am thankful to Kim Hancock and Suzy Petry that Snowy can now Rest In Peace as he is now Etched In Stone.

Over the coming weeks and months I will write these columns highlighting each new stone. Karen Zach is the editor of Montgomery Memories, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. And she writes Around the County, which appears each Thursday in The Paper of Montgomery County. One by One: Etched in Stone is her latest offering and will appear periodically on Mondays in The Paper.

