

ERIN TO NEW JERSEY—A FAMILY SAGA



Storage shed that was early Boylan home in Erin. Elena Boylan married Peter Degnan.



Ancestral Davis family home on Freeman St. in Orange, now divided into apartments.

Sine Qua Non

This saga could not have been told without family background provided by Eileen Degnan Callaghan and Michael Degnan, and genealogical research by Father Dan Degnan.

The author

ERIN TO NEW JERSEY—A FAMILY SAGA

by
Joe Rush

Traceably, it all began on the “oulde sod”—Ireland, of course—some four centuries ago if you include the one we’re welcoming.

While our lineage has to do not only with Irish aristocracy but Erin groundskeepers as well, all came to this country fired with desire to improve themselves and their surroundings. They and their siblings did just that, and went well beyond with major contributions to nation, state and community.

Where specifically did it all begin? In Kilkenny in southeast Ireland for sure. But no less prominently in northcentral County Roscommon and County Cavan. Finally, Dublin itself comes into the act. It was from these green lands and seaside capital the Degan-Dugan antecedents sprung.

Why did they leave? That’s easy. If you’re subjugated by a foreign power you hate, Great Britain in this instance; trapped in an agricultural domain in which if things don’t grow you don’t eat, and finally, hearing of a land of opportunity across the sea, why would you stay?

The Dugan-Degnan predecessors didn’t. With the Erin population dropping from 8.5 million to 5.5 million from 1847 through 1870, there was no question that with a potato famine on one hand and no industry to create jobs on the other, Ireland was a land of despair for all too many.

The earliest identifiable forbear of this clan that would prosper under the Red, White and Blue banner was one Dr. Michael Ryan of Kilkenny. With him and his wife Mary lay aristocracy, affirmed by their listing as “gentry” in ledgers of the late 1770s where they remained after Britain’s Tudor despots had divided the lands of Irish gentry.

It was in the 19th Century—approximately 1830—that the first member of the Ryan family emigrated to the United States of America. She was Amelia Ryan Dunn, one of Dr. and Mrs. Ryan’s 19 children. Amelia forsook Erin’s social registry to marry one John Dunn, a tailor, who not only didn’t qualify for the register but who longed to migrate to the new nation across the Atlantic.

The couple indeed came to America, eventually to be told that Amelia was the beneficiary of an annuity provided by Dr. Ryan in his will. But tragedy lay ahead as Amelia’s husband, while she stayed home with the children, traveled to Dublin to certify her existence abroad and her validity, as Dr. Ryan’s heir, to receive the generous sum of 20 British pounds a year for life from the estate of her father.

John Dunn, in a report that read like a novel, met a “sudden and suspicious” death in Dublin—with the annuity still to be confirmed. An action to claim the annuity was

initiated in "Her Britannick Majesty's Consulate" in New York in 1855, and dragged through courts in Dublin for seven years before Amelia Dunn received as much as a shilling from the estate.

✓The widowed Amelia's plight in 1863 before getting the first smell of her annuity was so desperate that she wrote her legal representative at the "Incumbered Estates Court" in Dublin: "I am so poor I cannot get the \$5 necessary to authorize the power of attorney document required by the British Consulate." The case proceeded nonetheless, and Amelia received her first six-month payment of 10 pounds on June 1, 1863. Her death in 1867 terminated the annuity.

It was Elizabeth Ryan Dunn, one of three daughters of Amelia and John, whose marriage to Daniel Dugan (no middle initial) of Orange, N.J., initiated what was to become the Dugan-Degnan familial dynasty in the Oranges that endured through the 20th Century and forthwith into the 21st.

An offspring of the Dunn-Dugan union was another Daniel Dugan, but this one distinguished by the middle initial "A". Daniel A., despite being a father of four at the time, enlisted in the U.S. Navy and became an ensign in the Spanish-American War. In time he became Governor (later President) Woodrow Wilson's choice for N.J. District Court judge in Orange, and commanding officer of the state's 113th Infantry National Guard unit. For much of his life Judge Dugan enjoyed the company of four sisters, the Misses Louise, Annie and Elizabeth Dugan and Mrs. Kate

Maier, all of whom resided in a Main St., West Orange, home occupied continuously by Dugan descendants. A current occupant is attorney Bill Byer, a descendant but three generations removed from Daniel A. Dugan.

The ingredient that generated the subsequent militarily heroic and otherwise productive Dugan family in Orange was the arrival of 18-year-old Michael Davis from Dublin in 1840. His immigration was not without incident. Hot, crowded and feeling dirty, he dove overboard in a becalmed Atlantic sea to get refreshed. Fished from the water by order of the ship's captain, he was severely reprimanded and threatened with being thrown into irons should he repeat the act.

The significance of Michael Davis in this account is that with his second wife, Mary Rooney McPhail, he parented Anna Davis, whose marriage to Daniel A. Dugan forged the union which produced so many of the subjects highlighted in this family narration of Irish immigrants and their American-born descendants.

Michael Davis, who left Dublin in 1840 to eventually settle in Orange, first married Susan Gallagher, with whom he had four sons, George A., John L., Michael E. and Richard Davis. After Susan's death, Michael married Mary Rooney McPhail, a widowed mother of two daughters. Mary had been a belle of her native County Monaghan in Ireland, but decided at age 18 that for her the grass would be greener in The States—which indeed it was.

A dynamo in both business and politics, Michael Davis was elected an alderman

locally, served as a justice of the peace and eventually was elected to the Essex County Board of Freeholders. He operated a general store in Orange, a social club known as "Shamrock Hall" which he built along with other structures, including residences. According to David Lawrence Pierson's "History of the Oranges Until 1921", Shamrock Hall burned down on March 22, 1874, at a loss of \$12,000.

Unlike family members in later years, Michael Davis, as the parent he was, was not attracted to the military. In fact, faced with being conscripted for duty for the North in the Civil War, he paid a bounty to Uncle Sam to enable him to remain a civilian, as was customary at the time.

Michael Davis had a reputation of going steadfastly by the book in his dealings, and his performance as presiding justice of the peace in Orange was true to form. The story is told that when one of his four sons by his first marriage was brought before him on an infraction, he confronted the son severely and demanded: "What is your name?"

It was Michael's second marriage that brought into the world Anna Davis, who was to marry Daniel A. Dugan and establish the family which, with the marriage of their daughter Dorothy to Bernard M. Degnan of West Orange shortly after World War 1 was to link the families to which this saga relates.

Besides her father Michael, there was no member of Anna Cotilda Davis's family to receive more recognition than Thomas A. Davis, Anna's brother via her father's second marriage. Thomas, who re-

ceived broad recognition of his legal talents, became a partner in Orange's most prestigious law firm of Howe and Davis. He was named counsel for the city of Orange and the village of South Orange before being chosen an Essex County Common Pleas Court judge in 1911. As if this were not enough, he also served as a State Supreme Court commissioner and special master in Chancery Court. Thomas Davis married Mary Adele Jacobs in 1896, and the couple had six children.

A Name Change That Endured

It was the Daniel A. Dugan-Anna Davis Dugan generation that would be joined in this country by the Duignan (Degnan) family with its roots in Ireland. Peter Duignan, while cherishing his family's Irish name and background, felt the name didn't resonate in this country and Americanized it legally to Degnan. It was a name destined to gain statewide recognition in legal, educational and real estate spheres.

Irish immigrant Peter Degnan was the husband of the former Elena Boylan, whose family operated and continues to operate Tonylion, a chunk of Irish farmland in Kilmaleck, County Cavan, that has been worked continuously since 1715 and said to be the oldest farm in that part of County Cavan. Pigs, cattle, geese and the valued Kerry Blue breed of dogs have been through the centuries and are still no strangers to Tonylion, in which seven generations of Boylans have nourished them.

Eighty-two year-old Charlie Boylan, a first cousin of earlier West Orange mayor Ben Degnan, remains at the helm of Tonylion, with his son, Kevin, as the working manager. A seemingly indefatigable farmer, Kevin is recognized for his agrarian expertise and concentration on whatever task may be on hand.

The story is told how Kevin, at loss to continue minor carpentry on a barn, called via cellular phone a brother who is a European consultant engineer in Ireland and Europe and spends weekends working on the farm with other members of the family. It turned out brother Cathal (Irish for Charles) was on a train to Paris preparing to consult with a engineering client.

"Where's the hammer?" Kevin demanded.

Cathal's further reply, after giving its location, has not been recorded.

The Degnan family today has no closer contact in the land of their forbears than with the descendants of Elena Boylan, who still run the farm. It was through the third son of Irish-born Peter and Elena that the family name began to attract notice. That son was Bernard M. Degnan, a Democrat who was elected a town commissioner of West Orange in 1934—a late depression year in which his meager commissioner's salary help offset the sharp drop in income from his real estate business as he sought to raise an expanding family.

As a Marine Corps volunteer in World War I, Ben passed the physical after eating bananas to gain enough weight, but that was the only picnic of his entire service in the Corps. He fought in all major Marine as-

saults in France with the Second (Indianhead) Division.

That Ben survived such fierce skirmishes in the trenches as at Belleau Woods and Chateau Thierry had to be considered miraculous. After being wounded initially, he was hospitalized only to return to fight again. A second and more serious injury caused him to be hospitalized for eight months before the Armistice.

The long-term mayor was a commander of both the West Orange Glennon-Sayres Post, V.F.W., and West Orange Post 22, American Legion. He was a trustee of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, West Orange, and former president of its Holy Name Society. He was chosen for diocesan lay committees by Archbishop Walsh and later Archbishop Boland.

After the war, Ben went to work for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and became chief clerk in its Perth Amboy office. Somehow attracted to real estate, he took advantage of the veterans' privilege of automatically being granted a license to practice in that field. It was the initial move towards establishing, in 1923, Bernard M. Degnan Inc. which eventually would propel the Degnan family into statewide recognition in real estate.

After World War II as mayor of West Orange, Ben pioneered successfully for veterans' housing in West Orange. With federal assistance a development of single-story homes, painted white with green shutters and dotted with flower pots in front, was built on a Pleasant Valley Way section known as "Victory Row". Demolished years later, they served as homes to veter-

ans readjusting to civilian life after the war. A number of those veterans were to gain recognition in later years in broad fields of endeavors.

Ben Degnan's election to town office was the entree of the family into politics—a field for which they found themselves eminently suited as have others with Irish warmth. After resigning as Newark manager of the Home Owners Loan Corporation to run for public office, he was elected a West Orange town commissioner with the highest number of votes in 1934.

Ben declined the mayoralty until after his second election in 1938. He was the No. 1 vote-getter each time he ran for the Town Commission, whose members selected the mayor from among their number. His 14 years as mayor was a record for length of service in that office in West Orange.

Ben had the wisdom throughout his career in local politics to continue as administrator of the Department of Parks and Public Property—the host of recreation gatherings and well removed from more controversial functions such as police, fire and finance. Unforgettable as Ben is in West Orange, the town Parks Department took no chances and established Bernard M. Degnan Memorial Park in Pleasant Valley Way.

With Democrats still in power at the federal level, Ben Degnan resigned the mayoralty to take the political plum of postmaster of the combined Orange-West Orange office. He gave up his remaining nine-months tenure in that position to serve as clerk of the Essex County jury commissioners.

The Degnan real estate firm thrived in subsequent years, and Ben and Dorothy Dugan Degnan comfortably saw the surviving eight of nine children through college, and indulged themselves in the dizzying number of grandchildren who came down the pike.

A combination of legal and political talent surfaced in the Degnan family as the 20th Century moved along. A younger brother of Ben, James A. Degnan, rose to become not only an authoritative legal figure in real estate, but a long-term judicial figure as well.

Jim, as he was popularly known, occupied the bench of West Orange Police Recorder for a record 33 years. Recognized perhaps more for a humanitarian rather than severe judicial approach, Jim had a reputation, especially during winter months, for sentencing alcoholics and vagrants to brief stays in the local lockup where recovery, warmth and food would be their lot rather than return to the street.

Jim initially gained note as a sprinter for St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, and after graduating from New Jersey Law School, now Rutgers, in 1928 began practicing law in a ground floor office on the corner of Main Street and Llewellyn Avenue, West Orange, adjoining the then humble real estate bailiwick of older brother Ben. The two later built an office structure on Main Street in which they set up separate legal and real estate quarters.

There seemed to be no end of laurels in his native town for Jim, who with his wife, the former Anne Gould, raised five off-

spring. Jim was West Orange Unico's Young Man of the Year in 1958, and Man of the Irish-American Society of the Oranges in 1960. And in West Orange, the James A. Degnan Senior Citizens Housing Corporation still recognizes him.

It was the third son of Jim, John J. Degnan, who was to become not only Attorney General of the state of New Jersey, the state's top legal office, but president of Chubb & Son, one of the nation's leading insurance corporations. As a student at St. Benedict's Preparatory, from which he graduated in 1962, John Degnan had the lead in the school play "No Time for Sergeants", and showed talent in debating and public speaking that would serve him in his public career.

John was graduated from St. Vincent College of Latrobe, Pa., where, not surprising in retrospect, he was president of the Student Council as a senior in 1965-66. John was editor of the student newspaper, The College Review. He received the John J. Maloney Award as the outstanding senior at St. Vincent, and graduated magna cum laude. History was his major.

From there it was on to Harvard School of Law, from which he graduated in 1969. While at Harvard he was a legal services volunteer and assisted the needy in the Cambridge area with problems in dealing with the law. Coincidentally, John's cousin Daniel A. Degnan, an attorney at the time, served as a teaching fellow at Harvard during John's last year there.

John served his legal clerkship with New Jersey Supreme Court Justice John J. Francis, who, again coincidentally, had been

served as clerk by cousin Dan Degnan when Francis was a member of the Appellate Division of the state Superior Court prior to his elevation to the Supreme Court. Dan was first clerk to Francis in Superior Court, and John was Francis's next to last clerk in Supreme Court.

After serving under Francis from 1969 to 1971, John joined the Newark law firm of Clapp & Eisenberg. In 1974 he was named assistant counsel to Governor Brendan Byrne and in 1976 became executive secretary and later that year chief counsel to Byrne.

John was appointed Attorney General of the State of New Jersey by Byrne, a West Orange compatriot, in January, 1978. At 33, he became the youngest to hold that office. Undoubtedly the greatest impact of his regime was his opening the ranks of the New Jersey State Police force, which came under his jurisdiction, to women.

Despite strong opposition from within the force itself, John inaugurated a class of female aspirants to the enforcement organization. Thirty-five women signed on, and a majority qualified to become troopers. While their appearance in standard uniforms came as something of a shock both inside and outside the organization, over the years it has become commonplace.

As Attorney General, John delivered a blow to the liquor industry and a great kindness to imbibers, whether for pleasure or medicinal reasons, by decontrolling liquor prices over opposition of the dispensers. He also opposed granting casino licenses to the first three applicants following legislative approval of gambling after ascertaining that

some had mob connections. The licenses were granted only after the undesirables were removed from the list of applicants.

There were strong feelings among Democratic power brokers at the time that Governor Byrne, who had acquired the sobriquet "One-Term Byrne" because of his part in imposing the state's first income tax, could not be re-elected because of it. John Degnan strongly opposed this view and called for the nomination of Byrne to succeed himself. John's viewpoint prevailed, and Byrne was nominated and elected to a second term.

At the urging of Democratic supporters, John agreed to seek his party's nomination to succeed Byrne after the latter's second term. He resigned as Attorney General in March of 1981 to join a dozen Democrats, including Jim Florio, seeking the gubernatorial nod. The New York Times endorsed John for the nomination, lauding him editorially as a "crime and corruption fighter." But Florio won out in the June primary, only to be defeated in the '82 gubernatorial election by Republican Tom Kean. Kean served eight years and was succeeded by Florio in 1990.

Having returned to private practice, it was with the law firm of Shanley & Fischer that John represented Englewood Cliffs in one of the most noted racial discrimination cases in history of the state. Englewood Cliffs sought to withdraw its students from interracial Englewood schools, but the courts rejected the plea.

Corporate recognition of John Degnan's talents came with his mid-90s appointment as senior vice president and general coun-

sel of Chubb & Son, one of the nation's major insurance firms. He remains president of that corporation. A son, Phillip, is also an attorney.

There are few reports John can pass along to amuse his confreres at Chubb more than that of his immigrant grandfather, Peter Degnan, having once been a part-time gardener for Hendon Chubb, founder of Chubb & Son, when the Chubbs lived in exclusive Llewellyn Park, West Orange, and the Degnans in modest Llewellyn Avenue outside the park enclosure with other service and grounds employees.

The second son of Jim and Anne Degnan, Jimmy, is an executive of the Texaco Company in Houston. Son No. 4, Peter, after being commissioned at the Naval Academy, served in the Marine Corps but left due to a knee injury. Coincidentally, he studied law at Syracuse University while cousin Dan Degnan was a professor there. Peter is now a prominent attorney in Atlanta, Ga. His younger sister Patricia, now Mrs. Tom Duffy, is West Orange's director of social services.

A Spiritual and Educational Leader

No descendant of Davis-Dugan-Degnan familial combines has gained greater public recognition for spiritual and educational endeavors than Rev. Daniel A. Degnan, S.J.—first son and third offspring of Bernard M. Degnan and Dorothy Dugan Degnan. Dan, as he is known affectionately within the family although entitled to "rev-

erend” and “doctor” with all his various degrees and entitlements, Dan presents the figure of a non-extraordinary individual who relates easily to the most unsophisticated among us.

About the only graduation at all educational levels of Dan’s that didn’t carry the “cum laude” stamp was that of Our Lady of Lourdes grammar school in West Orange, because it doesn’t have one. College (Georgetown) and law school (Seton Hall) both provided it for him. Hardly surprising when Dan had had offers of full scholarships from Xavier High School, Regis and Fordham Prep, all New York City, and from Seton Hall Prep. For convenience, he chose the latter. The houseful of youngsters in which Dan was raised did not deter his studies.

In tune with family tradition, Dan interrupted his educational pursuits to serve in the World War II military from 1944 through 1946. He was a naval quartermaster, engaged in convoy duty in both the Atlantic and Pacific in 1945.

The law was Dan’s first vocational choice, and he graduated from Seton Hall in 1954. His law clerkship was under no less a personage than Judge John J. Francis of the Appellate Division of state Superior Court—whose office was not just about legal matters but the legality of them.

As a practitioner, Dan in 1955 succeeded in lining up with John W. McGeehan, the state’s premier trial lawyer. Turning to more general practice the following year, he became an associate with the prominent Newark law firm of Gilhooly, Yauch & Fagan.

For Dan, spirituality took over in the late 1950’s. He prepared for the Jesuit Order by entering its Loyola Seminary at Shrub Oak, N.Y., and completed his studies there in 1962. He continued his preparation at the order’s Woodstock College, Woodstock, Md., and was ordained there as a Jesuit priest in 1966.

Within two years “Father Dan” was a teaching fellow at Harvard Law School. From there he became associate professor and then professor at the College of Law at Syracuse University. He served there five years before being named visiting professor at the Georgetown University Law Center in 1975.

It was at this point Dan was to take off on a lengthy career that would lead him to top administrative levels of the worlds of general and special education. In 1977 Loyola College of Maryland selected him as academic vice president. It was from there that Seton Hall, to which he was no stranger, reached out in 1978 to bring him back to serve as dean and associate provost of its law school. Following this and after a brief period as a visiting professor at Boston College Law School, Dan became president of St. Peter’s College of Jersey City in 1990.

During Dan’s five years as president, the college’s admissions of both freshmen and resident enrollments rose 50 percent, and enrollment in graduate programs 60 percent. A \$20 million expansion program was carried out in his regime. College fund-raising the year before his arrival at St. Peter’s totaled \$768,000 and in the 1993-94 academic year reached \$1.35 million.

Dan left St. Peter's in 1995 at age 68, saying he was "resigning rather than retiring." He said he felt the job should belong to a younger Jesuit.

Throughout his career from the 1960s on, writings of Dan appeared in various publications, a majority in more intellectual prints such as *Commonweal* and *America*, and in law journals and college reviews. They range all the way from "Public Rights in Ocean Beaches" to "Ecclesiastical Cybernetics", both in the same year—1973.

While his accomplishments themselves ranked above public recognition in Dan's persona, he has been pretty much inundated with honors and awards. In 1992 the Sir Thomas More Medal given at the annual "Red Mass" of Roman Catholic barristers was his, as was the Papal Benemerenti and a Fellowship of the American Bar Foundation. Nor did the William J. Brennan Jr. Award of the Federal Bar of New Jersey escape him in 1998.

As a corporate director, Dan had a hand in the development of Liberty State Park, Jersey City. In the legal area, he chaired the N.J. Criminal Disposition Commission in '82-83, and was a director of the N.J. Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Judiciary Conduct and on the state's Institute of Continuing Legal Education. The Archbishop's Committee on Diocesan Organization claimed him as director in the '80s and the Human Rights Commission of Syracuse in the '70s.

Another Degnan family member to achieve public service distinction is N.J. Superior Court Judge Michael Degnan, an

older brother of former Attorney General John J. Degnan and cousin of Father Dan. Michael as a youth followed the typical path of parochial education which marked progress of members of the Degnan family. A 1957 graduate of St. Benedict's Preparatory of Newark, he went to St. Peter's College, from which he was graduated in 1961. From there it was to Seton Hall School of Law, where he completed his formal education in 1964.

The young attorney had the advantage of practicing in the West Orange law office of his Dad, Jim Degnan. He also did work for the N.J. Realty Title Insurance Co., which set him on a course of considerable value to the high ranking realty operations of the Degnan family.

While still early in his career, Michael was introduced to in-court practice as an attorney in the juvenile section of the N.J. Public Defender's Office, in which he rose to senior trial attorney. He acquired a closeup understanding of the plight of juvenile offenders, finding "many without a father and otherwise lacking in family relationships." Murder cases were not rare in the office at the time in which he served.

Michael established his own private law practice in the early 1970s, in which he served for a time as attorney for the West Orange Zoning Board of Adjustment. With his Democratic political connection no drawback under Governor Byrne, whose father had served with Michael's uncle, Ben Degnan, on the West Orange Town Commission, Michael received his first appointment to the judiciary as Essex County Dis-

trict Court judge courtesy of Governor Byrne.

In 1985 the state's court system was overhauled, and with the merger of district courts into the state Superior Court, Michael Degnan became a member of the latter bench. It was a matter of recognition of quality of judicial service rather than politics when he was reappointed to the Superior Court bench in 1987 by then Governor Thomas Kean, a Republican.

Serving in the court's Criminal Division until 1993, Judge Degnan twice imposed the death penalty on convicted murderers. One was a cop killer and the other was found guilty of the double murder of members of his girl friend's family. Although both convictions were upheld by the state Supreme Court, neither went to the chair. Public opinion against the death penalty despite the law seemed as effective in preserving their lives as the legal maneuvers that kept them alive.

The torments and pressures of the criminal division judgeship lead to a request by a "burned out" Judge Degnan for a judicial transfer, which was granted through assignment to the Family Court division of Superior Court, in which he continues to preside.

Judge Degnan lives in West Orange with his wife, the former Jane Healy of Nutley, who taught English in the West Orange school system and did public relations work for Seton Hall.

Another Degnan, Frank Jr., a veteran of World War II combat in Italy, created international interest five years ago when he returned to the fifth century Castle Del Rio of Italy a banner he had taken after the Al-

lied invasion. He was welcomed by an Italian general and the local mayor, who had sought the banner for years.

A Life for His Country

While it is difficult to decide whether the combined families achieved greater recognition in legal or in military accomplishments, there were outstanding family members in these areas and in education. In the military, there was the tragic death of Daniel A. Dugan Jr., an Army captain who was killed in action in France in World War 1. He was the first son of Daniel A. and Anna Davis Dugan.

Tragedy first struck Dan as a late teenager on a Christmas morning in 1916 when a small boy ran in front of the car Dan was driving east on Main Street, Orange. Dan could not brake on time, and the tot's injuries were fatal.

The carefree life of a youth was no longer to belong to Dan Dugan. His hometown became the background of the tragedy which overwhelmed him, and he left to live elsewhere, with Pennsylvania his choice.

Within a year this country became involved in World War 1, and he enlisted to become the first of the four Dugan brothers who would go to war for his country. Through training and on the battlefield he rose in rank and led his company in combat with the Germans in France.

Within short miles from the German border, Dan was killed by artillery fire in

the course of capturing the village of Vaux-en-Dieulet. Dan was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously. His is another one among the thousands of stone crosses marking resting places of the valourous on the otherwise green strip of flatland known as the Meuse Argonne Cemetery. It was here that an honored but saddened Gold Star Mother, Anna Davis Dugan, visited between wars.

Unlike their older brother, the ill-fated Capt. Dugan, who had been a volunteer in World War 1, two career military officers were among the progeny of Daniel A. and Anna Davis Dugan. Both served in World War II.

Navy Captain Paul A. Dugan, upgraded to Rear Admiral as the result of his Pacific Ocean exploits against Japan, commanded the attack transport USS Doyen under fire in the South Pacific. He later participated in the direction of the war while serving as chief-of-staff to Fleet Admiral Forrest Royal. He was a product of the U.S. Naval Academy, and in retirement wrote and published a book on U.S. naval action in the Coral Sea.

Paul's brother, Army Colonel Augustus Dugan, a West Point product and a member of its polo team, was both an heroic and controversial figure as a leader of combat troops in what was described by author Charles B. MacDonald as the "Greatest Single Victory in U.S. History" in the subtitle of his "Time for Trumpets" book in 1984. The book described what was undoubtedly the Allies' riskiest fight in the conquest of Hitler's forces—the Battle of the Bulge.

On the heroics of then Colonel Dugan, consider the book's description of the struggle to retake the town of Recht from the Germans and shape the defense of St. Vith.

"The new commander of the 14th Cavalry Group, Colonel Dugan, found meanwhile that there was still fight left in the remnants of his group; it was a matter of exerting leadership to bring it out. The stub of an unlit cigar between his teeth, Dugan was here, there, and everywhere, trying to get the clogged traffic underway and at the same time reorganize his command to comply with General Jones's order to reoccupy the Wallerde-Born line."

As it turned out, Colonel Dugan's unit was smashed by a German attack force and was unable to capture Born as had been directed by General Jones. Convinced such a move would have completely decimated what was left of his 14th Cavalry, Colonel Dugan refused to expose what remained of his troops to further extinction.

Virtually wiped out as it already had been, the 14th Cavalry was reattached as a task force to the 7th Armored Division. Colonel Dugan, now on the controversial side, was relieved of his command along with other senior officers in his group. He was later exonerated of having disobeyed orders in abandoning what would have been an attack fatal for most if not all. The affection of his preserved troops and their families for Colonel Dugan was understandably undying.

You don't lead field maneuvers in a Battle of the Bulge and emerge unscathed. Gus Dugan certainly didn't, with a Purple

Heart with clusters for his wounds, the Bronze Star Medal and an uncommon Silver Star for his heroics as executive officer in the European theater. Colonel Dugan's son Daniel, also a West Point alumnus, carried on family tradition by flying helicopters in the Vietnam War. After that war he became a test pilot for a private corporation.

A Name That Survives

Reverting to an earlier generation, the name Daniel Dugan runs through four generations, with District Court Judge Daniel A. Dugan the ancestor whose life struggles and conquests merited so much recognition in the naming of siblings through the generations. American-born as he was in 1866, Judge Dugan was of a generation for which higher education, even high school, was a privilege. It was one he was unable to enjoy, having to sell newspapers as a youth to help support a family of seven.

The eighth grade of St. John's School, Orange, of which he eventually became a neighbor on Ridge St. during much of his adult life, was the end of formal education for Daniel A. The job of selling papers drew his attention to the news industry, and he took the first job available—typesetter for the Orange Journal, a semi-weekly.

The young man moved from the mechanical to the editorial side of the industry as a correspondent in the Oranges for the Newark Press, a daily paper. From the Press he became Oranges correspondent for

the Newark Sunday Call, and then Essex County correspondent for the New York Herald.

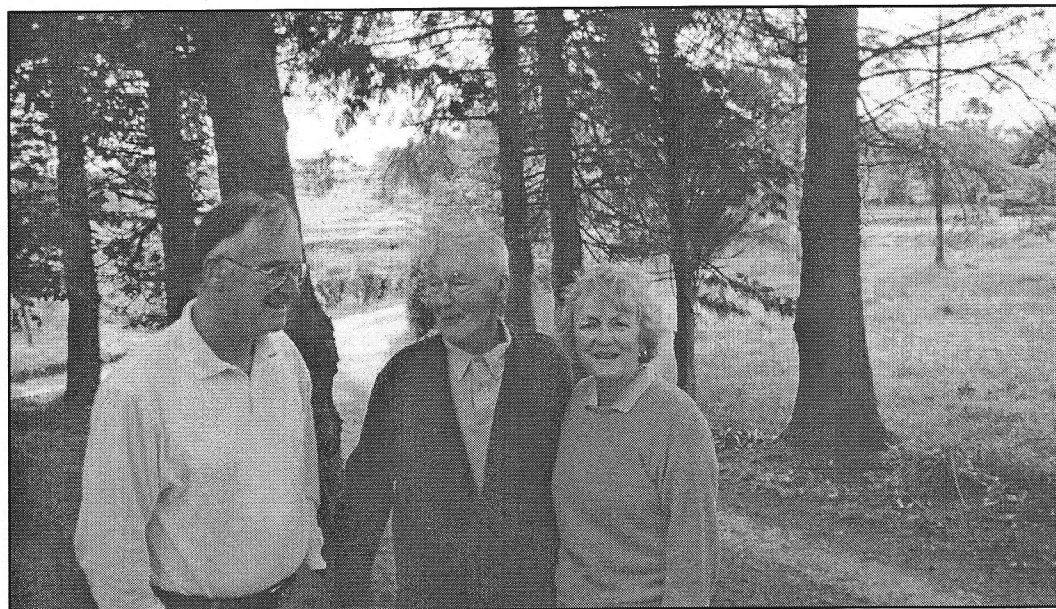
Taking advantage of openings for coverage of the state capital in Trenton, he went to work in that city, becoming alternately a correspondent for the World and the New York Tribune, predecessor of the Herald Tribune. Sarah Bernhard was one of the memorable subjects he interviewed for a New York paper.

While covering the State House, Daniel A. perceived advantages of the legal profession over journalism, both financially in raising a family, and opportunity-wise in the variety of needs for legal representation. In Trenton, it was the lawyers who had the good jobs, not the reporters. The private study of law presented no barriers to Daniel A., for lacking as he was in formal education he succeeded in whatever he undertook. His legal studies came in handy when he served as city clerk of Orange in 1897 prior to service in the Spanish-American War.

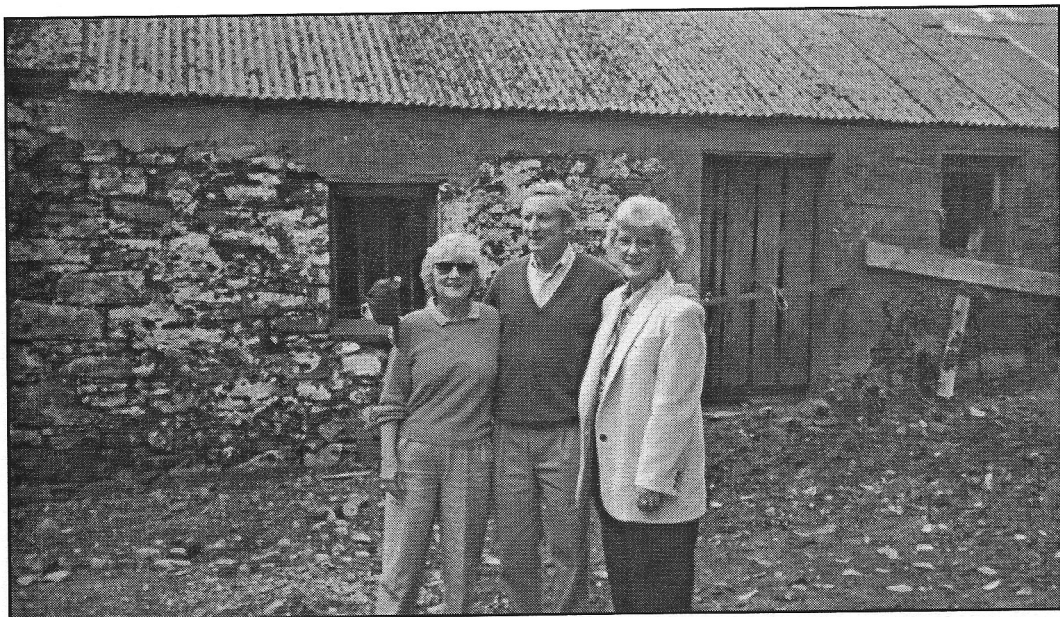
An embarrassing moment for Daniel A. at his Ridge Street home came during a visit from William Jennings Bryan during Bryan's campaign for the presidency in 1908. A teetotaler who stocked no alcoholic beverage, Daniel A. was taken aback when advised by an aide to Bryan that the candidate would enjoy a drink. The host was rescued by his wife Anna, who whispered she had some in a closet for medicinal use. It was trotted out, and to the relief of the fellow Democrat who was his host, the noted orator and perennial Presidential aspirant had his thirst assuaged.



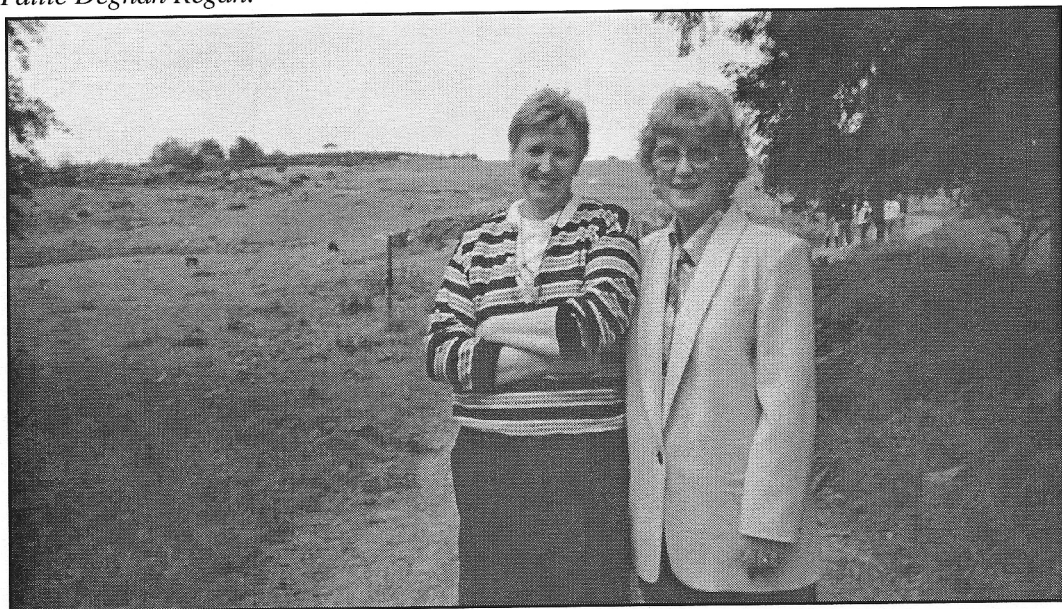
Charlie Boylan continues to run family farm in Ireland.



Peter Degan and sister Mary visit Charlie in County Cavan.



Storage shed is backdrop for family visitors Mary Degnan Flynn, Father Dan Degnan and Pattie Degnan Regan.



Brigid Boylan and guest Pattie on Erin family farm road.

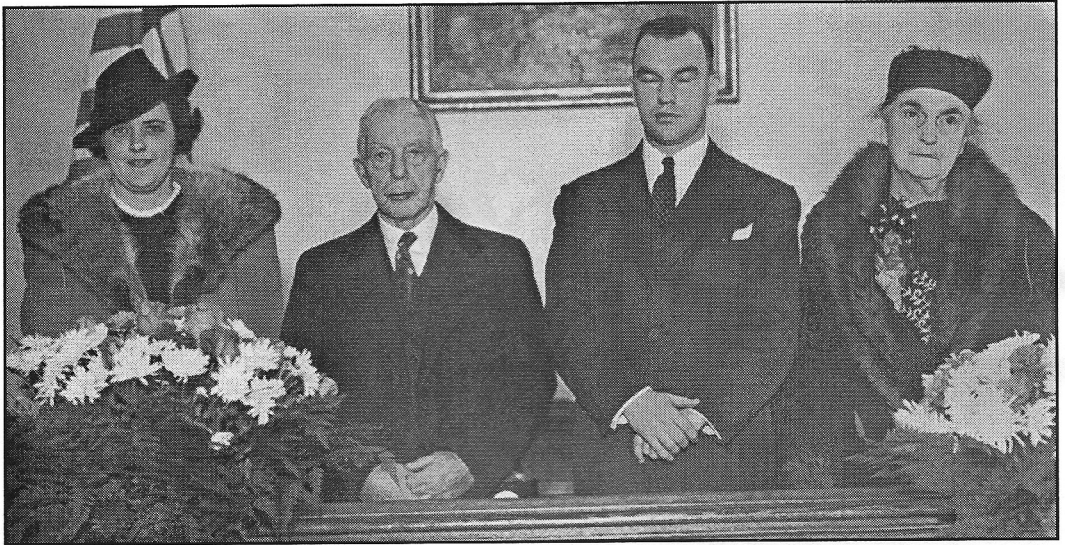
Clarissa
Baby Dorothy



Four generations of Davis family are posed above in 19th Century photo. Accompanying Michael E., founder of the family in the U.S., are granddaughter Lillian Davis Rush; son John L. Davis, and great-granddaughter Lillian Rush.



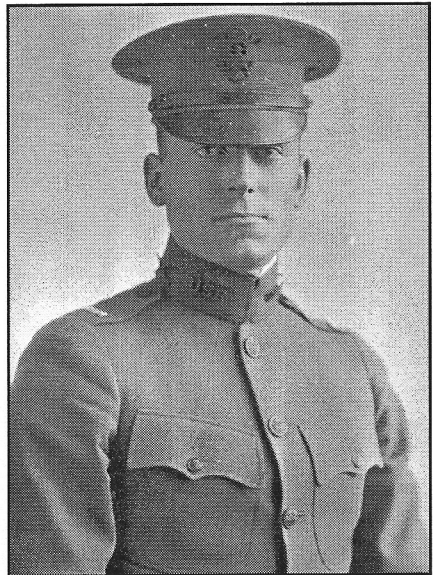
Orange District Court Judge Daniel A. Dugan, at far right, selected this first all-women jury in any U.S. court east of the Mississippi River.



West Orange Municipal Court Judge James A. Degan was surrounded by family when he took oath of office. From left were wife Anne Gould Degan; father Peter Degan; the new magistrate, and mother Elena Boylan Degan.



West Orange Mayor Ben and Dorothy Dugan Degan took time out in the early 1940s to meet family demand for photo of only the two together.



ARMY CAPTAIN DANIEL A. DUGAN
Killed in World War I combat

It was well after his admission to the bar that Daniel's connection as a reporter covering Woodrow Wilson paid off. Wilson conferred the judgeship on him in 1911, and he occupied the District Court bench in Orange until 1931.

A highlight of Daniel Dugan's judicial career was his selection of the first all-women jury to sit east of the Mississippi. It came at a time when women's suffrage was in its infancy, and attracted nationwide attention. To retain decorum in his court, the jurist directed the large assemblage of photographers to take their photos before or after court was in session.

Not one to abandon skills he acquired in a varied career, Daniel A. prior to his juridicate launched weekly newspapers in Orange, which he eventually disposed of, and worked on weekend editions of New York dailies to supplement his income. He continued his military career with the New Jersey National Guard, serving until reaching compulsory retirement at age 65. A major, he was featured in a formal review of his battalion in 1931. At that time, he was elevated to lieutenant colonel by then Governor Morgan Larson. Eight years later, on June 20, 1939, the Dugans celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

The Dugans' second daughter, Dorothy, possessed strong theatrical talent, with her voice, music and dance accomplishments much in demand. They surfaced early as a student in the Main Street, Orange, studio of her aunt, Kate Maher, to whom some of Dorothy's talents could well be traced.

Trained under a leading voice coach of her day, John Barnes Wells of New York

City, Dorothy's was one of the first voices to be heard on pioneer radio station WOR in 1920. She was recruited for the leading role in "Irene", the most popular musical of the time which was presented professionally in Orange. Dorothy sang the French National Anthem for the French ambassador when he visited this country during World War 1.

In another area, Dorothy was the only one among Daniel A. and Anna Dugan's progeny to reflect her father's journalistic bent. Reporting for the Newark Star-Eagle before her marriage to Ben Degnan, Dorothy Dugan quit when told she had to cover an electrocution regardless of her feelings that it was inhuman punishment.

Dorothy of course eventually opted for marriage and motherhood over entertainment, with not just a few apple pies thrown in. She remained available for piano and song at family gatherings at which she was so much in demand.

Dorothy's older sister, Anna, was the first born of the Daniel A.-Anna Davis Dugan duo. Anna moved to Flushing, Long Island, after her marriage to ex-Marine Bill Bailey, who worked for Swift & Co. in sales. The couple had four children, Billy, Betty, Mary Lou and Jean. Tragedy struck first with Billy, who as a young boy was fatally attacked by a German Shepherd dog in his neighborhood. The life of Mary Lou, the second of the three daughters, was lost to illness when she was but a young girl.

That destiny was not always to be kind to the Dugan family had become evident in 1919, when death from heart complications

befell 25-year-old Clarissa Dugan, the third offspring of Daniel A. and Anna Davis Dugan and mother of two, including this author.

A tiny, sparkling, dark-eyed, non-maternal appearing individual, Clarissa was the life of any gathering even after bringing a son and daughter into the world in the first three years of what fate ordained would be a short-lived motherhood. As her cardiac problems developed, Clarissa was unable to cope with the physical demands upon her and was forced to go under the care of her mother in the Ridge Street home. She succumbed there within months.

Clarissa was the wife of Joseph A. (Joe) Rush, editorial manager of the Orange Office of the Newark Evening News and a columnist for the Newark Sunday Call, a paper that was acquired by the Newark News shortly after World War II. Joe and Clarissa's children, Joe Jr. and Dorothy, lived at various times with the Dugans, Ben and Dorothy Degnan and with Joe's sister Sarah Rush McManus of East Orange, wife of a successful fuel dealer. Joe Sr. had a second marriage, this one to Margaret Farrell, a Howe & Davis law firm clerk who had been raised near the Degnan home on Llewellyn Ave., West Orange. Joe died suddenly at age 42 while enroute to his Newark News office in Orange.

The Daniel A.-Anna Davis Dugans' fifth son, Frank, like his father an attorney, also identified with the military. He left his law practice, in which he shared offices with his father, to serve in World War II. Frank married Regina Reagan after the war. The couple was childless. Another son, Stanley,

had been the Daniel A. Dugans's second boy. Stanley died in childhood.

The youngest of the Daniel A. and Anna Dugan's children was Madeleine, a beautiful brunette whose marriage to William (Bill) Read, a superb athlete who was outstanding in every sport he turned his talents to. A football player who made it to the pros, a high school and preparatory school high hurdler with great promise in that sport, his sideline of tennis produced trophies that were to adorn the recreation room piano at the Dugan home on Ridge Street.

The high school romance of Madeleine and Bill Read, son of an Orange policeman, drew page-spread coverage in the Newark press, which included a cartoon layout of Judge Dugan not only accepting the relationship but offering the young couple a place in his home.

Unfortunately, it meant the end of the adulation his athletic career had brought Bill. After high school and before the marriage, he was groomed at Mercersburg Academy, considered a proving ground for athletic and educational scholarships at Yale University. With the starting of a family, however, the competition for Bill's presence on intercollegiate campuses dried up perforce, and his professional football career was limited to the Orange Tornados, who competed against top teams of their day. Bill's later appearances on athletic fields were more in referee's rather than participant's attire.

After fathering three children, Joan, Jackie and William 3rd, Bill drifted away from his family. The Read offspring are now

spread around the country and include 22 grandchildren, among whom is Jason Kowalski, son of William 3rd and Joan Lutrell Read, who searches realty titles for Donald Trump.

The Family Business

The fourth generation of the Dugan-Degnan family dealt with herein came to enjoy the benefits of an American society which has advanced to providing kindergarten through college education for anyone really wanting it, health care to increase life expectancy to seven decades plus, multiple automobiles in individual families and transportation to remote sections of the globe. It adds up to lifestyles differing dramatically from those of pioneer Irish such as the Davises, Dugans, Degnans and Boylans who came to these shores.

Descendants of these 19th century pioneers who were born late in the first quarter of the 20th century or soon thereafter had to be considered victims of the eventual 1929-33 "Great Depression", although most were too young to remember its hardships. Their immediate predecessors remember it all too well, and for many there were several years of unforgettable struggles. No business suffered more than real estate—the sustenance of the then growing Ben Degnan-Dorothy Degnan family. Prior to the depression, Degnan Realty was doing extremely well.

Ben Degnan's loyalty to the Democratic party under Franklin D. Roosevelt paid dividends with his appointment during the de-

pression as an agent for the Federal Home Loan Administration, which arranged to save homes that were being taken due to owners' inability to meet mortgage payments due to joblessness during the depression. With Ben's less-than-prominent realty office over an ice cream store on Main Street, the Degnans struggled through the hard times.

The business turned the corner both figuratively and literally in 1939. Some time before, Ben had relocated the office to 308 Main St. at the foot of Llewellyn Ave. About 10 years later Ben and younger brother Jim, who by then was practicing law, put together a one-story cement block, colonial style building at 351 Main St. They had found a business and professional home, and it endured.

More of the eight-sibling family of Bernard and Dorothy Dugan than not participated at one time or another in the continuity of the Degnan real estate business. After Ben's death in 1967 it automatically reverted to wife Dorothy. She had little appetite for heading the operation, and sold it to daughter Dorothy and sons Bernard and Peter, the latter two after periods of military service—Bernard Jr. in the Korean War.

The new owners took over at a time when the economy was relatively strong, and built the business to a strength that it was able to ward off economic fluctuations that occurred during ensuing decades. Determined to concentrate on real estate, they sold the insurance end of the business, established by their father early on, to the DeCoster, Wilson & Duthie Agency Inc., also of West Orange. The realty firm was

given the revised name of Degnan Company.

There seemed to be no slowing down of the growth of the Degnan Company in the 1970s. With close to a dozen sales people on the road, the firm became the No. 1 seller of homes among the Board of Realtors of the Oranges. In 1971 it opened an office in Millburn, in 1975 purchased a building in Livingston in which it set up a third office, and then opened another in Caldwell.

As if these were not enough, the Degnan Company in 1983 merged with the Boyle Company, with offices in Union and Cranford as well as in Morristown. As Degnan Boyle Co., of which Peter Degnan became president early on and William Boyle chairman of the board, 14 offices were consolidated and headquarters established in Livingston.

The 1987-1992 economic recession, if not depression, caused Degnan Boyle real estate sales to drop 50 percent, and building and property prices to dip 25 to 30 percent. The firm's locations dropped to six offices. In 1994 Degnan Boyle became a franchise of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, and in 1995 merged with two other Prudential franchises—Prudential New Jersey Realty, corporate transferees, and Brown Fowler Co.

The '95 mergers produced affiliation with a total of 18 offices in North and Central New Jersey, with Degnan Boyle still independently owned and operated despite its status as franchisee.

As explained by Peter Degnan, who fought for the 1963 Fair Housing Law

adopted in New Jersey to suppress racism in the industry, the real estate business now operates regionally rather than locally. For this reason the Degnans have closed their West Orange office for the first time since it was opened after World War 1 by Ben Degnan. As far as the town is concerned, it's the end of an era.

"As real estate operates nowadays, we can do as much business as ever here without being here," Peter observes. Peter, husband of the former Joan Ronca, now commutes to the merged businesses' headquarters in East Brunswick.

Earlier in his career Peter was chosen as the Young Irishman of the Year by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, an organization founded by his grandfather, Daniel A. Dugan. Peter's cousins, Michael and John Degnan, were also recipients of the award later on.

Peter's slightly older brother, Bernard M. Degnan Jr., has also made a lifetime pursuit of the realty business founded by his Dad. He remains active in sales as his favorite pursuit in the industry.

Bernard has been regarded as the No. 1 male athlete of his Degnan generation. A standout tackle on the Seton Hall Preparatory School team, of South Orange when he played and now of West Orange, Bernard's gridiron heroics are recognized in the prep school's Hall of Fame. He went on to play varsity football at Holy Cross College. Bernard and his wife, the former Helen McDermott, are parents of three boys and three girls, and have been presented with nine grandchildren. The couple live in Roseland.

Progeny of Bernard and wife Helen, not unlike those of others among the Degnans, have responded to summonses that appear common to their genes. Daughter Regina was an attorney for the U.S. Foreign Service, and son Paul a teacher. Another son, Dr. Bernard Degnan 3rd, besides expertise in endocrinology, has not escaped exposure to pediatrics as a member of such a multitudinous family.

Direct or indirect connections with the real estate business have continued through generations of the Degnan family and those who became involved through marriage. In the immediate family, Eileen's daughter Kathy is a salesperson in the Millburn office of the firm, and Peter's son Peter Jr. has his own realty appraisal business. Patty, Tom and John Degnan, offspring of Tom and Pattie Degnan Regan, operate a mortgage business.

Mother of Twelve

Eileen Degnan Callaghan, first born of the eight children of Bernard M. and Dorothy Dugan Degnan, leaves one at a loss to fully enumerate her achievements as wife, mother, grandmother, and, with her family raised, contributor to society overall.

As mother of 12—nine girls and three boys—her fulfillment in what must be hailed as her No. 1 role is too obvious to be portrayed here. Most amazing to anyone who knows Eileen is how totally her physical appearance belies any sign of domestic wear and tear, or that she herself could date back to the 1920's. If you're looking to

achieve at least an outward appearance of serenity, Eileen's your model.

A graduate of St. Elizabeth College as are her sisters, Eileen has taken her turn in service of the Degnan real estate enterprise, but more as an avocation than vocation. Of course, when one raises a dozen kids, one learns to manage with human beings, and this was not overlooked by the Metropolitan Museum of Arts's branch in the Short Hills Mall. Free of domestic duties other than those of wife, Eileen was selected as hostess for special events at the museum in New York in recent years before retiring.

Among the Callaghans' dozen offspring, daughter Dossie has served as admission officer of several New Jersey colleges; Tricia as a meteorologist for the Air National Guard in this country and overseas, and Betsy is an attorney.

With no question of her eligibility via heritage, but more importantly for lifetime achievement, Eileen was chosen Irish Woman of the Year of Essex County in 1990. While living in Orange prior to moving back to West Orange, Eileen was regularly elected a member of the Democratic party's County Committee. Not content to let her political motivations lie idle, she served on the Citizens Committee for Bradley during the now presidential candidate's successful campaigns for U.S. Senator.

Eileen's interest in politics was buttressed by her husband, Harry J. Callaghan Jr. (Cal), whose father had been on the political scene in Orange as an appointee to the first Alcoholic Beverage Commission of that city following repeal of Prohibition. Cal himself was elected to both the Orange

City Commission and the Orange Common Council in periods of change of the two forms of government. He was then elected to the Essex County Board of Freeholders for two terms—1969 through 1975.

Eileen's slightly younger sister, Patricia (Pattie) Degnan Regan, coincidentally with younger brother Bernard, has three sons and three daughters. Pattie, the only one to inherit her mother's singing talent, is also a graduate of St. Elizabeth College and worked from time to time in the Degnan realty firm after raising her family. She is married to Thomas Regan Jr., also a West Orange native, who has retired as senior vice president of Columbia Savings Bank of Fairlawn but remains as a director. Tom is a former commander of American Legion Post 22 of West Orange, having served in the Air Corps in World War II. The family lives in Verona.

Patricia and Tom's contribution to current national service has been their son Michael, who serves the nation's State Department at its consulate in Juarez, Mexico.

The third daughter in the Bernard Degnan-Dorothy Dugan joint marital venture is Dorothy Degnan Hunt, purchaser with her two brothers of the Degnan realty firm from their mother, to whom it passed upon the death of their father. Dorothy was an active partner in the realty operation until retiring in 1995. Dorothy was the wife of the late Rex Hunt, who managed the comprehensive business policy department of Continental Insurance Co.

In World War II, Rex survived one of the more disastrous experiences of the Allied forces. He was one of the U.S. Army

troops on the transport ship USS Leopoldville, which was torpedoed by a German submarine in English Channel off Cherbourg, France, on Christmas Eve, 1944. Eight hundred men aboard, some penning Yule cards to loved ones, were killed.

Rex was among the few who made it to the ship's deck. Seemingly heaven-sent, a British destroyer came alongside the Leopoldville as it was going down. The British shouted to the troops to leap onto the destroyer's deck. Many failed to jump, but Rex was one of the fortunate ones who did so successfully.

Dorothy Hunt, a 1949 graduate of St. Elizabeth College, recently founded a sorely needed library at St. Rose of Lima parochial school in Newark, where the student body is composed mainly of black and Hispanic-American youngsters. She directed the acquisition of books, many gratis from publishing companies and private sources, and set up a system for cataloguing them. Teachers at the school are now in a position to give assignments for further reference in their various subjects.

Assisting Dorothy at the inner-city library has been her youngest sister Anne, wife of attorney Ken Kunzman and mother of five daughters and a son. Anne, who took the leading role in arranging the family gathering to welcome the new millenium, had found time to teach at Our Lady of Lourdes grammar school in West Orange. Anne has worked in behalf of the Stepping Stones, an organization for the retarded, and the Food Bank, which provides victuals for the poor.

Along with his wife's sister Eileen, Ken Kunzman was a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee which campaigned for now presidential candidate Bill Bradley when he ran successfully for U.S. Senator from New Jersey. Ken handles estate and corporate law as partner in Connell, Foley & Geiser of Roseland. Among the Kunzman progeny, daughter Margi followed a typical Degnan leaning—teaching.

Ken is an alumnus of Holy Cross College, where he played on the basketball team. He co-chairs Seton Hall's "Pirate Blue" sports law symposium, and is a director of Caldwell College and St. Peter's Preparatory School. Ken has been a recipient of the St. Thomas More Medal presented annually at the "Red Mass" of Roman Catholic law practitioners, as has his brother-in-law, Father Dan Degnan.

The second youngest issue of the Bernard M. Degnan-Dorothy Dugan bonding is Mary Degnan Flynn, whose late husband, Jack, was controller of the Philadelphia Daily News. Because of its proximity to Philadelphia, Moorestown in Southern New Jersey became of the residence of the Flynns—the most distant from Essex County of Mary's brothers and sisters. In keeping with the political pursuits of the family, Mary has served as a Democratic County Committee member in Burlington County.

Mary's youngest son, Bob, followed the military route of so many of his predecessors. A Naval Academy alumnus, he is a lieutenant serving as a naval air navigator based on the USS carrier Eisenhower.

The law and educational bents in the family are surfacing in Mary's son Bernard, an attorney and officer of Manufacturers' Trust Co.; in daughter Betsy, a law partner with her husband, Jim Sullivan, in Rhode Island. Son Jim teaches in Burlington County Vocational School and is head basketball coach at Rutgers University's Camden division, with son John operating a boatyard in his home area.

The premature death at age 25 of Clarissa Dugan Rush, third-born of Daniel A. and Anna Davis Dugan, cut short what took off as another prolific relationship. Age 2 at her mother's death, daughter Dorothy eventually became the spouse of Willard (Bud) Byer. Of their children, Bill and Peter followed the family legal bent, Bill practicing in West Orange and Peter in New York City. Peter and family reside in Llewellyn Park, where families had been served by Degnan newcomers to this country.

The late Dorothy's year-older brother, Joseph G. Rush, author of this legend, put in a half-century in the news business, including a full-time stint as editorial director of the former Newark Evening News and a part-time, quarter-century Essex County correspondence for the New York Times.

Joe was an organizer and president of the first Newark News Chapter of the American Newspaper Guild. A sizable number of editorial and business employees of the Newark staff signed on, but almost immediately acquiesced to management's demand they surrender their union cards. Joe's status with management

dropped meteorically, and it was some time before he was assigned to the central news desk, which he eventually headed.

A second and more successful guild organization, which precluded Joe's participation due to his management status, was accomplished at the paper in 1971. It preceded a year-long strike, in which mechanical unions participated. The strike contributed to the downfall of The News, previously the state's leading newspaper, in 1972.

In his home town of Chatham, Joe is a trustee of Senior Citizen Services and Fair Mount Cemetery, in the right order. He is a former trustee of St. Patrick Church and author of its history.

Among Joe's offspring by his first wife, Mary Conley Rush, daughter Deborah, now Mrs. Walter (Chip) Cronkite 3rd of New York City, son of the former CBS anchor, has graced stage and screen for two decades, and was a Tony Award nominee for her role in "Noises Off." Joe's son Peter is a retired Secret Service agent and guardian of presidents who now operates a nationwide security firm. Another son, Michael, who has conducted programs in experimental theater at the graduate school of Duke University, is a playwright, director and producer. Daughter Mary Ann taught grammar school in Chatham and multi-handicapped children in Springfield, N.J., public schools.

After eight years as a widower, Joe married Patricia O'Hanlon, whom he met on the tennis courts, in 1984. Patricia is retired as an English teacher at Columbia High School of South Orange-Maplewood, and

is a member of the Planning Board of Chatham Borough.

There is no era of history of any nation that compares with the progress of the 19th and 20th centuries in America in which the Dugan-Degnan families contracted, expanded and prospered. That great wars, economic disasters, collapses of morality and excesses of prosperity have been overcome is a tribute to the kind of merged families reviewed here. Hopefully, a measure of family stability and accomplishment responsible for our progress has been provided herein.

This account is mainly limited to four of the Davis, Dugan, Degnan generations who first came to his country in the 19th Century. Time, research and space have not permitted exploration of the added multiples of the fifth. For now, we are leaving the gate open for family historians of later generations.

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THE DEGNAN-DUGAN FAMILIES— FOUR GENERATIONS

1st

MICHAEL DAVIS-MARY ROONEY/McPHAIL
Thomas A., Susan, Anna

DANIEL DUGAN-ELIZABETH DUNN
Elizabeth, Kate, Daniel, Louise, Annie

PARENTS OF PETER DEGNAN, ELENA BOYLAN

2nd

DANIEL A. DUGAN-ANNA DAVIS

PETER DEGNAN-ELENA BOYLAN

3rd

Daniel A.-Anna Davis family

ANNA DUGAN-BILL BAILEY
Billy, Anna Lou, Betty, Jean

ARMY CAPT. DANIEL A. DUGAN JR.

CLARISSA DUGAN-JOSEPH A. RUSH
Joseph, Dorothy

DOROTHY DUGAN-BERNARD DEGNAN

Eileen, Pattie, Daniel SJ, Dorothy, Bernard Jr., Peter, Mary, Francis Paul, Anne

STANLEY DUGAN-Died in childhood

ADM. PAUL DUGAN-MARY WORKMAN

Nancy, David, Daniel, Mary

GEN. AUGUSTUS DUGAN-DOROTHY

Beth Elaine, Daniel

FRANK DUGAN-REGINA REAGAN

MADELINE DUGAN-WILLIAM READ

Joan, Jaqueline, William Jr.

Peter and Elena Degnan family

MAE DEGNAN

JOHN DEGNAN-HILDA HOLLMAN

John, Jean, Mary, Theresa

FRANK DEGNAN-ELIZABETH SHEPHERD

Mae, Elaine, Frank

BERNARD M. DEGNAN-DOROTHY DUGAN

(Family listed above)

JEROME DEGNAN

JAMES DEGNAN-ANNE GOULD

Michael, James Jr., John, Peter, Patricia

4th

BETTY BAILEY-BOB SPERL/JOHN CONKLIN

Kathy, Bill, Kevin Sperl
(4 grandchildren)

JEAN BAILEY-CHARLES FARRELL

Charles Jr., William, John
(4 grandchildren)

JOSEPH G. RUSH-MARY CONLEY/PATRICIA O'HANLON

Mary Ann, Peter, Michael, Deborah
(7 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren)

DOROTHY RUSH-BUD BYER

Bill, Mary Jean, Peter, Robert
(8 grandchildren)

EILEEN DEGNAN-HARRY CALLAGHAN

Mary Ellen, Kathy, Eileen, Betsy, Dan, Dossie, Anne, Tricia, David, Sheila, Joe,
Margo
(30 grandchildren)

PATRICIA DEGNAN-TOM REGAN

Michael, Pattie, Tom, John, Jeanne, Susan
(12 grandchildren)

DANIEL A. DEGNAN, S.J.

DOROTHY DEGNAN-REX HUNT

BERNARD DEGNAN Jr.-HELEN McDERMOTT

Bernard 3d, Anne, Regina, Nellie, Danny, Paul
(9 grandchildren)

PETER DEGNAN-JOAN RONCA

Mary, Joan, Marie, Peter, Kathy
(9 grandchildren)

ANNE DEGNAN-KEN KUNZMAN

Eileen, Margi, Mary, Carolyn, Anne, Ken Jr.
(13 grandchildren)

MARY DEGNAN-JACK FLYNN

Bernard, John, Betsy, Jim, Bob

FRANK DEGNAN-MONICA SMITH

Mary, Theresa, Ellen, Elizabeth, Frank Jr., Robert

MAE DEGNAN-JOE FAY

Elaine, Joey, John, Joanne, Cathy

ELAINE DEGNAN—EDWARD FESS

Betsy, Edward, Peter, Paul, Michael, Nancy

JOAN READ-WALTER KOWALSKI

Gregory, Karin, Lisa, Pamela
(12 grandchildren)

JACKIE READ-THOMAS CIANCITTO

Thomas, John, Steven, Marilyn, Robert, James
(10 grandchildren)

WILLIAM READ III-JOAN LITRELL

James, Patrick, Jason

WILLIAM READ III-MONIQUE

Gunter

MICHAEL DEGNAN-JANE HEALEY

Diana, Laura, Deborah
(3 grandchildren)

JAMES DEGNAN-LINDA IPPOLITO

James, Susan
(2 grandchildren)

JAMES DEGNAN-SHARON MOORE
Michael

JOHN J. DEGNAN-MARY WADE
Philip, Monique, Elena, Cynthia

PETER DEGNAN—ROBYN SATER
Jarred, Lisa

PATRICIA DEGNAN-TOM DUFFY
Ryan, Kevin

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