

## THIS ISSUE LATE

The first week in June, Veda and I left home by car for a six week trip to the mid-west. Because we did not return until the middle of July, and the large volume of mail on my return that needed my attention, this issue of the Newsletter is late.

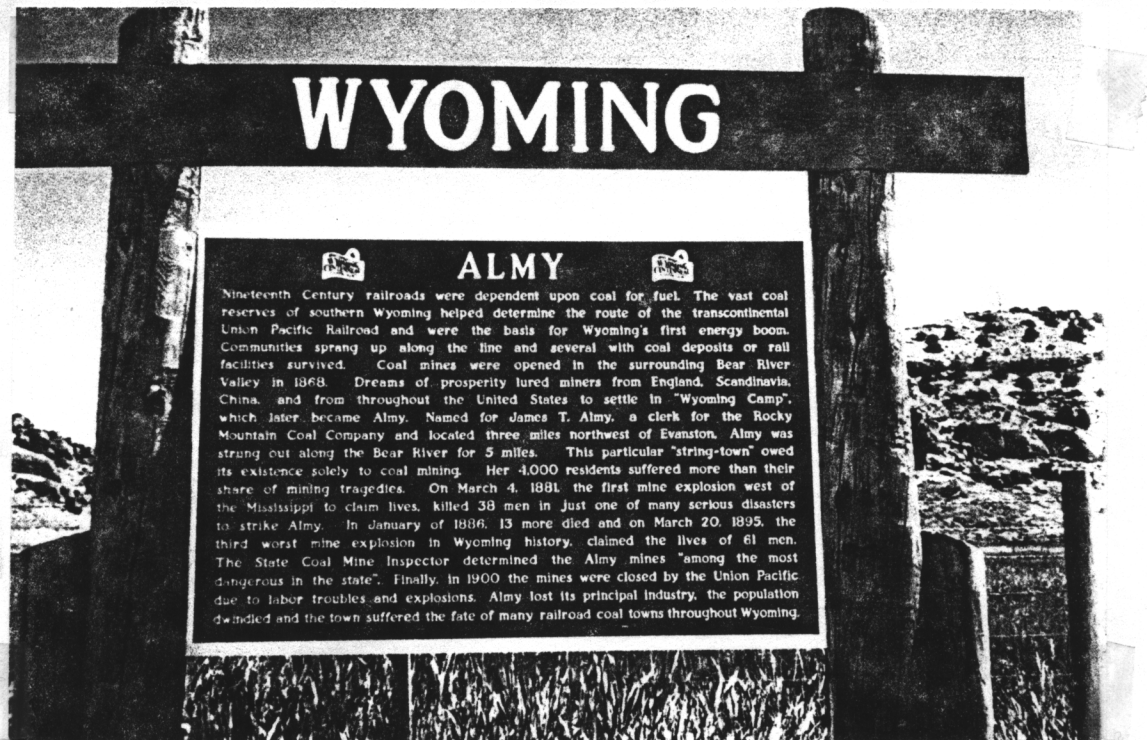
Four days before we were scheduled to leave on our trip, Veda fractured a bone in her heel and tore ligaments in her foot. She had to wear a cast boot on her foot whenever she was on her feet. This prevented taking hikes and long walks to view sites on the trip, but in spite of this handicap we had a great time.

During our trip, we spent two different weeks at time-share condominiums which came in handy to rest up. We visited Veda's relatives in Gillette, Wyoming, went to Badlands National Park, Wind Cave National Park, Mt. Rushmore National

Monument, Devil's Tower National Monument, Yellowstone National Park, and the Grand Tetons National Park. We saw many wild animals at these places, including bison (buffalo), moose, elk, deer, antelope, marmots, and prairie dogs. We visited these places 29 years ago and it was interesting to see the changes in the access roads and viewing areas. The natural beauty had not changed.

We also went to Almy, Wyoming, and found many changes since our visit there 29 years ago. There is a new main road through the area and the old road is now known as Almy Road 107. The old Almy cemetery is now fenced in with an entrance way and is maintained by various churches and Boy Scouts. Shown here are pictures I took of the Almy Fire Station and the 1881 Almy Cemetery. Sorry about the quality of the pictures, but color prints do not reproduce well.





Above is a picture of the historical marker that has recently been erected on the main road in Almy. The marker states "Nineteenth Century railroads were dependent upon coal for fuel. The vast coal reserves of southern Wyoming helped determine the route of the transcontinental Union Pacific Railroad and were the basis for Wyoming's first energy boom. Communities sprang up along the line and several with coal deposits or rail facilities survived. Coal mines were opened in the surrounding Bear River Valley in 1868. Dreams of prosperity lured miners from England, Scandinavia, China, and from throughout the United States to settle in 'Wyoming Camp', which later became Almy. Named for James T. Almy, a clerk for the Rocky Mountain Coal Company and located three miles northwest of Evanston. Almy was strung out along the Bear River for 5 miles. This particular 'string-town' owed its existence solely to coal mining. Her 4,000 residents suffered more than their share of mining tragedies. On March 4, 1881, the first mine explosion west of the Mississippi to claim lives, killed 38 men in just one of many serious disasters to strike Almy. In January of 1886, 13 more died and on March 20, 1895, the third worst mine explosion in Wyoming history, claimed the lives of 61 men. The State Coal Mine Inspector determined the Almy mines 'among the most dangerous in the state'. Finally, in 1900 the mines were closed by the Union Pacific due to labor troubles and explosions. Almy lost its principal industry, the population dwindled and the town suffered the fate of many railroad coal towns throughout Wyoming.

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The above marker is very nice looking and puts "Almy" on the map, so to speak, but the information is incorrect. Naming a town after a company clerk does not seem logical to me. See the write-up in Almy Family Newsletter No. 8 (October 1976) which states that the old local historian got his names mixed up and had James T. instead of Thomas J. (J.T. instead of T.J.). Another relative of the founder of Almy, Wyoming, informed me (Newsletter No. 25 (January 1981) that Thomas Jefferson Almy (1233-5143-3) was not a clerk, but had purchased the land there in Almy and had operated mines on it. This descendant had letters and other documents to substantiate the true history of Almy, WY.

**OBITUARIES****MILDRED E. COWLEY**  
(1232-1218-421)

Mildred Eleanor Almy Cowley, 85, of Rockford, Illinois, died March 27, 1991. She was the wife of the late Milford A. Cowley, whom she married on June 30, 1934. Mildred was born March 25, 1906 in Mansfield, Ohio, the daughter of Albert Hume and Fannie (Balliett) Almy. Eleanor was employed as an elementary school teacher and later as textbook librarian at the University of Wisconsin in La Crosse. She was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

**IRVEN C. ALMY**  
(1252-95A3-21)

Irven C. Almy, 84, of Saginaw, Michigan, died August 23, 1990. Irven was born September 30, 1905, in Saginaw, the son of Wellington and Abbie (Stile) Almy. He married Marion (Della) Rex on November 19, 1932. They had one son, Michael, of Saginaw, Michigan. Irven engaged in farming in Spaulding Township, Michigan, and was a member of The Farm Bureau.

**DONALD JUDSON ALMY**  
(1252-95A3-29)

Donald Judson Almy, 65, of Saginaw, Michigan, died July 1, 1990, in Saginaw. He was born on May 25, 1925, in Saginaw, the son of Wellington and Abbie (Stile) Almy. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. I do not have the information on his marriages and children.

**CLIFFORD GEORGE ALMY**  
(1252-95A6-81)

Clifford G. Almy, 71, of Saginaw, Michigan, died January 9, 1991. Clifford was born in Saginaw on September 3, 1919, the son of George Harvey and Bessie Mae (Poquette) Almy. He married Virginia L. Coates in Saginaw on March 17, 1945. He was a founding member of the Hopevale Memorial Baptist Church. He had served in the United States Army during World War II, during which he was teaching at a machinist school. Prior to his retirement on October 1, 1980, he had worked for General Motors as a machine operator.

**LAURA E. PECKHAM**  
(1408-3832-43)

Laura Elizabeth Peckham, 77, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, died recently (obituary I received did not indicate date). She was the wife of the late Walter E. Peckham. Laura was born February 5, 1914, in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, the daughter of Gideon W. and Dora (Reilly) Almy.

**BARBARA ALMY**  
(1408-3833-113W)

Barbara Bryant Almy, 68, of Hallowell, Maine, died April 25, 1991. She was the wife of Donald W. Almy who died September 4, 1990 (Newsletter No. 64, p.5). Barbara was born December 25, 1922 in Madison, Maine, the daughter of Perley and Mildred (Perry) Bryant.

CLAYTON JOSEPH ALMY  
(1252-95A6-82)

Clayton J. Almy, 68, of Carrollton, Michigan, died October 23, 1990, in Saginaw, Michigan. Clayton was born February 5, 1922, in Saginaw, the son of George Harvey and Bessie Mae (Poquette) Almy. Clayton married Virginia T. Schroeder in Freeport, Illinois, on June 22, 1946. They had two sons: Jack H. Almy and Richard C. Almy. Clayton was a member of U.A.W. Local 699, and its Retiree Group, the Indian Guides of the Y.M.C.A., and the Carrollton Township Senior Citizens. Clayton served with the U.S. Army Air Corps as a Staff Sergeant in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

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NEWS FROM ENGLAND

Brian Almey of Saffron-Walden, Essex, England, writes very interesting letters and usually encloses newspaper clippings of items showing the British view of American events and/or articles in my many areas of interest. I quote one of the articles in part: "The most interesting use of television over the weekend was made by BBC-2's **White Noise** series, which acts as a showcase for new work in video. Of the three shown last week, Max Almy's *The Thinker*, which offered a history of evolution from caveman to yuppie, was witty but thin;"

(See Almy Family Newsletter No. 44 of October 1985 for more information on Max Almy (1407-1C73-43).)

CORRECTION

In the first article in the last issue I made two errors which I would now like to correct. Gregory Scott Almy's mother was

Norene E. *Tryck* before her marriage to Harold D. Almy (1233-4668-132). I must have been very tired when I typed the rest of the article because I congratulated Scott (his middle name) instead of Gregory. I thank Barbara K. Almy, Gregory's sister, for pointing out the errors.

FAMILY NEWS

David Almy (1235-5792-114, of Garrett Park, Maryland, has served for five years on the Board of Directors of the Helen Hayes Theater Art Awards.

Shannon Almy (1235-5792-1141, his daughter, is going into her fourth year at the University of West Virginia. She is majoring in advertising.

Brooke Almy (1235-5792-1142) his other daughter, is a sophomore at Elon College in North Carolina. She is a varsity soccer player and her team finished fourth in N.A.I.A.

DENISON ALMY GRADUATES

Denison Wells Almy (1408-6612-1212), son of Captain John and Mercy (Zwerling) Almy, sent me his very colorful embossed Central Kitsap (Washington) High School graduation announcement. His graduation exercises were held at the Kitsap Pavilion on June 11, 1991. Congratulations Denison, and the best of luck on your future activities.

In July 1989, I announced the graduation of his sister Jennifer from Ledyard High School in Gales Ferry, Connecticut. Their father is a captain in the Navy and was the subject of the Change of Command article I put in the October 1989 Newsletter.

**ALMY MEMORIAL TREE**

Nancy Onthank Johnson (1481-2385-2332) wrote that she had purchased two Almy crabapple trees -- one for herself and one for Lillian Onthank (Paul Onthank's widow). They were planted on Memorial Day (May 30, 1991) in memory of her father Frederick, his brothers Paul and Franklin, their mother and father, to all

the Onthinks that have departed and to their connection with the Almeys/Almys.

I tell about the Unthank/Onthank connection with the Almy Family in Newsletter 50 (April 1987). I wrote about Paul Onthank's death in Newsletter 63 (July 1990). Paul Onthank would have been well pleased with this memorial.

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Following is a listing of those cousins who have sent in contributions since the last issue of the Almy Family Newsletter to help defray the costs of printing and mailing. This help is most appreciated. Many thanks to each and everyone of you.

Name	Almy Number	Residence
Millie Almy	1233-4666-21	California
Barbara K. Almy	1233-4668-1323	Washington
Richard R. Almy	1233-5143-242	Virginia
Mrs. Robert T. Almy	1233-5147-53W	Rhode Island
Ernestine (Almy) Benson	1233-5147-531	Puerto Rico
David O. Almy	1235-5792-114	Maryland
George C. Almy	1252-9531-224	New York
H. Raymond Almy	1252-9532-741	New York
Mrs. Clifford G. Almy	1252-95A6-81W	Michigan
William A. Knowlton	1252-9773-34	Virginia
Elva Lawton	1252-9831-12	Washington
Mrs. E. Grinnell Almy	1407-1C74-3W	California
Donald G. Almy	1407-1C74-31	California
David B. Almy	1408-3132-243	Ohio
Andrew A. Almy	Unknown	Illinois
Fred J. Almy	Unknown	Indiana
Jeffrey A. Almy	Unknown	Montana
Jennifer J. Almy	Unknown	Michigan
Brian Almey	Broughton-Astley line	England

Your cousin (1408-3312-112),



Merwin F. Almy  
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Tualatin, OR 97062