

Ira Alfred Wrightstone (1867 – 1953)

Ira Alfred Wrightstone was born June 11th 1867¹ to Michael Wrightstone and Eliza Kline in the Siddonsburg area of Monaghan Township York County Pennsylvania. Ira also was referred to as Al and in some newspaper articles as Alvin, which we interpret as Alfred.²

Ira lived with his parents until late 19th century, when in 1900 he moved about seven miles away to Shiremanstown, which is a borough in Hampden Township Cumberland County. While there he rented a home with Alfred Blessing,³ and worked as a farm laborer. On April 1st 1900, Ira was visited by his brother Maurice Wrightstone, who at the time was still living about five miles away with his parents near Shepherdstown in Upper Allen Township Cumberland County Pennsylvania.⁴

By 1910 Ira was still living in Shiremanstown Cumberland County, in the home of David and Susan Mumma on 60 Main Street.⁵ While there he worked as a laborer for the Railroad.

Ira was 48 years old when he married 39 year old Christeena Stalter-Felter⁶ on July 26th 1915 in Bloomingburg New York. Christeena Stalter was born August 18th 1875⁷ to Nicholas Stalter and Margaret Townsley in New Jersey.⁸

Christeena was born on August 18th 1875 in New Jersey.⁹ When she was 19 years old she 1st married David Henry Felter on May 24th 1890 in Park Ridge, Bergen County New Jersey. David was born June 1865 in New Jersey.¹⁰ David and Christeena lived in Washington Township Bergen County New Jersey when David died prior to 1910. Christeena moved with her son William to Warrick in Orange County New York, where she worked in the home of Peter Vangelder.

After Ira and Christeena married in 1915, they bought a home on Green Street in Shiremanstown Cumberland County Pennsylvania. The home was not far from Ira's brother and his family, Frank, who lived on East Green Street. Christeena's daughter Ida Felter-Stalter and her family, and Christeena's son, William Felter and his family, were also living at the Green Street home.

On Tuesday February 9th 1920, Christeena left for Park Ridge New Jersey to visit her mother, Margaret Stalter, who was 86 years old, and in serious health. Margaret was living with her sister-in-law, Muriah Demerast, and next door to her son Abraham Stalter in Montvale located in Washington Township New Jersey.¹¹ Christeena was delayed in her trip by a snow storm, and arrived to her mother's home, only to learn her mother had already died. Also on February 9th, Ira and his brother, Frank's wife Edith and children went to visit Frank's and Ira's brother, William and his family in Mechanicsburg.¹²

In 1920 Ira was working for the Rail Mill, which was the steel mill, making rails for railroad tracks in Steelton. By 1930 he was an assemblyman for the steel mill. Ira continued to live with his step son William Felter and his family. Ira and Christeena then moved to 2 Locust Street Mechanicsburg, not far from Christeena's grandson, Ira A. Stalter, who lived with his wife Margaret and her parents; Herman and Bertha Myers at 33 Locust Street.

Ira died June 27th 1953, and Christeena died on February 23rd 1964.¹³

Ira and Christeena did not have any children, but she was previously married and had three children.

- i. Ida May Felter was born January 31st 1892 in New Jersey, and died January 15th 1997. She first married William P. Stalter who was born January 25th 1880 in New York, and died June 28th 1928. After William died, Ida married Luther Kone, who was born June 9th 1893, and died May 25th 1962. Ida and Luther did not have any children. ¹⁴ Ida and William Stalter had five children.
 - a. William P. Stalter (II) was born February 1912 in New York. He served in WWII in as a Seaman 1st grade, United States Navy Reserve. William II died April 9th 1955. ¹⁵ He married and had two sons. William (II) had Donald E. who was born in 1936, and William P. (III) who was born November 1st 1937, and died October 10th 1990. ¹⁶
 - b. Christeena A. (Christine) Stalter was born 1914 and died 1918.
 - c. Jessie M. Stalter was born 1916 in New York.
 - d. Wesley Stalter was born February 26th 1917 in New York, and died May 14th 1979. ¹⁷
 - e. Ira A. Stalter was born 1919 in Pennsylvania, and married Margaret J. Myers. He was most likely named after Ira A. Wrightstone.
- ii. Charles Felter was born October 1893 in Bergen County New Jersey.
- iii. William C. Felter was born in October 15th 1896 in Bergen County New Jersey. ¹⁸ He was 19 years old, and a widower, when he married 18 year old Berta Decker on December 28th 1914 in New York, New York. Bertha was born 1895 in Samsonville New York to Dewitt Decker and Jennie Ward. ¹⁹ William and Berta had three children.
 - a. William E. Felter: b. December 1915 in New York
 - b. Martha W. Felter: b. October 1918 in New York
 - c. Warren Felter: b. December 1919 in PA

Bibliography

1. 1870 Michael Wrightstone Census: Monaghan, York, Pennsylvania; Roll M593_1469; Page: 86B; Image: 174; Family History Library Film: 552968; 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
2. 1880 Michael Wrightstone Census: Monaghan, York, Pennsylvania; Roll 1205; Family History Film: 1255205; Page: 200A; Enumeration District: 2; 1880 United States Federal Census; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Michael and Eliza Family Bible, Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: Translated Out Of The Original Greek; And With The Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised; New York” American Bible Society, Instituted In The Year MDCCLXXVI, 1867; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.
4. 1870 Nicholas Stalter Census: Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: M593_852; Page: 576B; Image: 776; Family History Library Film: 552351; 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
5. 1880 Nicholas Staler Census: Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: 771; Family History Film: 1254771; Page: 613C; Enumeration District: 017; Image: 0747; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.
6. 1880 Christine Stalter (Christeena Stalter) Census: Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: 771; Family History Film: 1254771; Page: 613C; Enumeration District: 017; Image: 0747; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
7. 1900 Margaret Stalter Census: Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: 955; Page: 14A; Enumeration District: 0027; FHL microfilm: 1240955; United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900; T623, 1854 rolls.
8. 1900 Ira Wrightstone Census: Hampden, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1400; Page: 7B; Enumeration District: 0011; FHL microfilm: 1241400; United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.
9. 1900 David Feltar (David Felter) Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: 955; Page: 10A; Enumeration District: 0027; FHL microfilm: 1240955; United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

10. 1910 Ira Wrightstone Census: Shiremanstown, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1335; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 0021; FHL microfilm: 1375348; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
11. 1910 Christine Felter Census: *Warwick, Orange, New York*; Roll: *T624_1061*; Page: *13A*; Enumeration District: *0084*; FHL microfilm: *1375074*; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910; (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
12. 1918 William Powell Stalter WWI Draft Registration: New York; Registration County: Orange; Roll: 1818613; Draft Board: 2; United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm.
13. 1918 William Felter WWI Draft Registration: New York; Registration County: Orange; Roll: 1818613; Draft Board: 2; United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm.
14. 1920 Ira Wrightstone Census: Shiremanstown, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625_1556; Page: 2A; Enumeration District: 20; Image: 1242; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920; (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
15. 1920 Margaret Stalter Census: Washington, Bergen, New Jersey; Roll: T625_1018; Page: 6B; Enumeration District: 73; Image: 1116; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 are on roll 323 (Chicago City).
16. 1930 Ira Wrightstone Census: Shiremanstown, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: 2025; Page: 6B; Enumeration District: 0044; Image: 601.0; FHL microfilm: 2341759; United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930; T626, 2,667 rolls.
17. 1940 Ira Wrightstone Census: Mechanicsburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T627_3478; Page: 3A; Enumeration District: 21-9; United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940; Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1940; T627, 4,643 rolls.
18. 1940 Ira A. Stalter Census: Mechanicsburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T627_3478; Page: 4A; Enumeration District: 21-29; United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940; Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1940. T627, 4,643 rolls.

19. William P. Stalter Census: Upper Allen, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T627_3479;
Page: 13B; Enumeration District: 21-58; United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Sixteenth
Census of the United States, 1940. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records
Administration, 1940. T627, 4,643 rolls.

End Notes

¹ Ira Wrightstone Birth Date: The date came from Michael and Eliza Family Bible, and Ira's funeral memorial pamphlet; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372

² Ira Wrightstone's Nickname: The name Al and Alvin came from two newspaper articles; 1.) Tuesday April 3rd 1900, The Patriot News, Harrisburg Pennsylvania; 2.) Page 4, The Patriot News, Harrisburg Pennsylvania, Thursday February 12th 1920; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

³ Alfred Blessing: This man may be a family friend. In 1900 he was 51 years old, born about 1849 in Pennsylvania.

⁴ Ira Visiting His Brother William: Ira was referred to twice; 1st Ira's wife was referred to as Mrs. Alvin Wrightstone, and 2nd Ira was referred to as as D. A. Wrightstone, which is an error. There are no 1st names starting with "D: in the entire Wrightstone Line. Given the circumstances of the article, it could only be Ira the paper is referring too; Page 4, The Patriot News, Harrisburg Pennsylvania, Thursday February 12th 1920; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

⁵ David and Susan Mumma: David is 58 years old in 1910, born about 1852 in Pennsylvania, and Susan is 57 years old, born about 1853 in Pennsylvania. Their children were Amy born 1893, and David born 1894. David N. Mumma married Susan Bowman on December 5th 1875 at the Saint Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church in Shiremanstown Cumberland County Pennsylvania. Their child Amy later married Clarence Bear and in 1949 Susan was a widow living with the Bear family in Mechanicsburg, nit far from Ira and Christeena Wrightstone. Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M50540-1; System Origin: Pennsylvania-ODM; GS Film Number: 823571; Reference ID: Pennsylvania, Marriages, 1709-1940," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org>)

⁶ Christeena is spelled as it appears on the marriage application, funeral memorial pamphlet, and her headstone; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372

⁷ Christeena Felter Birth Date: The date came from Christeena's funeral memorial pamphlet; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372

⁸ Ira Wrightstone and Christeena Felter Marriage: On the marriage application, Ira's birth place was written as Bloomingburg, Orange County New York. Reference ID: 6760; GS Film Number: 829655; Digital Folder Number: 004477952; Image Number: 00185; New York, County Marriages, 1908-1935, index and images, FamilySearch; <https://familysearch.org>; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

⁹ Christeena Stalter's Birth Date: The date came from their funeral memorial pamphlet, and her headstone; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁰ Christeena Stalter's 1st Marriage: Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M02517-8; System of Origin: New Jersey-Easy; GS Film Number: 495711; New Jersey, Marriages, 1678-1985," index, FamilySearch; <https://familysearch.org/pal>

¹¹ Washington Township, Bergen County, New Jersey: Montvale is where Margaret Stalter was living, which is about 2.5 miles north of Park Ridge. Christeena's transportation was most likely by train, and her train destination was most likely Park Ridge New Jersey.

¹² Ira's Wife Christenna's visit to her Mother, and Visiting his brother William: Page 4, The Patriot News, Harrisburg Pennsylvania, Thursday February 12th 1920; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

¹³ Ira and Christeena Wrightstone's Death Date: The dates came from their funeral memorial pamphlet, and her headstone; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁴ Ida Stalter-Kone and Luther Kone Birth and Death Dates: The dates came from his headstone next to her mother, Christeena Wrightstone in the Mechanicsburg Cemetery; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁵ William P. Stalter II Birth and Death Dates: The dates came from his headstone next to his mother, Ida Stalter-Kone in the Mechanicsburg Cemetery; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁶ William P. Stalter III Birth and Death Dates: The dates came from his headstone next to his mother, Ida Stalter-Kone in the Mechanicsburg Cemetery; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁷ Wesley Stalter Birth and Death Dates: The dates came from his headstone next to his mother, Ida Stalter-Kone in the Mechanicsburg Cemetery; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁸ William C. Felter Birth Date and Other Information: The father David was 31 years old, and Christeena was 21 years old; Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C01147-5; System Origin: New Jersey-Easy; GS Film Number: 494234; Reference ID: 21; New Jersey, Births and Christenings, 1660-1980, index, FamilySearch <https://familysearch.org>.

¹⁹ William E. Felter Marriage: William's birth place was identified as Sheffield England; Reference ID: 6207; GS Film Number: 829655; Digital Folder Number: 004477952; Image Number: 00129; New York, County Marriages, 1908-1935, index and images, FamilySearch; <https://familysearch.org>