

Profile of Webster Wirt Moore (1874 – 1959)

Webster Wirt Moore was born June 29, 1874, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, son of Lewis C Moore and Eliza Beauclair (Boisclair). He was most likely named for Eliza's stepfather, Moses Webster. Wirt was six years old when his only sister, Emily Luella, was born (September 1880). When Wirt was twelve years old, his father, a volunteer fireman for the city of Ann Arbor, died after attending a fire. As a young boy, Wirt served as a bell-ringer in the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Huron and State Streets. He also enjoyed spending time visiting the men at the fire station.



Emily Luella and Webster Wirt Moore
ca. 1884

Wirt was educated in the Ann Arbor Schools, and following his graduation, he worked as a handyman for a Mr. Meacham, who was dean of the law school at the University of Michigan. In 1894, he was employed as an engineer at T. H. Electric Light Company, and boarding at 39 Thompson St. In the 1898 Ann Arbor City Directory, Wirt is listed as boarding at 523 S. Main St, which was the home of John and Mary Wood, and also Mary's mother Ann Johns Pickard, and her sister, Annie Grace Pickard.



Annie Grace Pickard and Webster Wirt Moore were married June 14, 1900, at the Wood home on Main Street. Wirt's mother and sister had moved to Detroit in 1898, where Luella was employed as a teacher in the Detroit Public Schools. Wirt and Annie settled in Detroit, and Eliza and Luella lived with them in a rented home at 147 Clifford St. Later the family moved to 311 Medbury Ave, and by 1918 were living at their home for the next fifty years, a two-family house at 2704 West Grand Boulevard, where they occupied the upstairs apartment.

With the help of Mr. Meacham, Wirt had secured a position at the Detroit Car and Foundry Company, where he spent his entire working career. American Car and Foundry, based in New York, was a manufacturer railway cars. During World War I, the company secured government contracts and produced huge quantities of ammunition, as well as artillery vehicles and train cars for the war effort. The 1920 Census shows Wirt's occupation as "Electrical Superintendent, Auto Company." His WWI draft registration also listed his occupation as "Electrical Superintendent".I

Wirt and Annie had four daughters: Vera, born Jan 21, 1903; Esther Ellen, born Jan 8, 1905; Ruth Virginia, born March 5, 1913; and Jean Elizabeth, born July 7, 1921.

Vera married Alfred T. Wilson, an attorney and banker. They had two children.

Esther was a teacher before her 1929 marriage to Herbert W Zoller. They had four children.

Ruth was a secretary at the Detroit Bank and Trust Company, and she married George H. Schoenheide in 1939. They had four children.

Jean died at the age of thirteen in March, 1935.

Wirt died at the age of 85 on Dec. 2, 1959, after suffering a heart attack. Annie died June 25, 1966 of congestive heart failure at the age of 91. Both are buried at Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit.



**Esther, Ruth, and Vera Moore
Ca. 1915**



**Annie and Jean Moore
Ca. 1923**



**Wirt and Jean Moore
ca. 1923**



**Ruth and Jean Moore
Ca. 1930**



**4 Generations - 1932
Eliza, Wirt, Esther, Jane**



**Jean Moore – 8th grade
graduation - 1934**



**Annie and Wirt
July 1939**

**50th Wedding
Anniversary
June 1950**

