

Russell Guy Wrightstone (1893 - 1969)

Russell Guy Wrightstone was born March 8th 1893 in to Jonathan Wrightstone and Sarah Fortney in Siddonsburg, Monaghan Township York County Pennsylvania. ¹ Russell attended school until the 6th grade.

Russell married Anna G. Cookerly in 1915. Anna was born in 1892 to Fred C. and Emma Jane Cookerly of New Cumberland Pennsylvania. In 1920 Russell and Bertha lived with Anna's mother, Emma Stahl-Cookerly, ²at 219 North Street New Cumberland, while Russell worked as a machinist for the rail road.

Since the mid 1917 and into the mid 1930s, Russell was a machinist for the railroad, even while he was a major league baseball player. He stood 5' 10.5", weighing 176 lbs, and was a valuable utility man who played all over the infield and outfield. He made his debut on April 19th 1920 with the Philadelphia Phillies, where he was a versatile and hard-hitting, plugging any gap on the field. Russell batted .300 five times, and was often used as a left-handed pinch hitter.

On May 29th 1928 the Philadelphia Phillies traded Russ to the New York Giants for Art Jahn. Russ's final game was September 29th 1928 with the New York Giants. In 2,992 plate appearances he batted .297 with 60 home runs and 425 runs batted in. His best season was 1925, when he hit .346 with a career-high 14 home runs in just 92 games. Most memorable was the game of May 5, when he smacked two home runs and drove in five runs against the Giants. ³

By 1930 Russell lived at 643 3rd Street in Lemoyne, and continued to work for the railroad as a machinist. In 1940 Russell and his family lived at 504 South 3rd Street in Lemoyne. Living with him and his family was his mother-in-law, Emma Cookerly. By this time Russell was working as a manager for the local Hardware store.

Russell was 79 years old when he died February 25th 1969 in Harrisburg Dauphin County Pennsylvania. He and his wife were laid to rest in the Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery in Harrisburg, Dauphin County Pennsylvania. ⁴

Russell and Bertha had two children.

- i. Betty J. Wrightstone was born 1911. Betty was 22 years old when she married 21 year old Frederick Clesson Corby Jr. On May 24th 1943 in Harrisburg Dauphin County Pennsylvania. Frederick was born 1922 to Frederick Clesson Corby and Margaret Salisbury. ⁵
- ii. Robert G. Wrightstone was born March 5th 1927. Robert was 21 years old when he married 19 year old Mary Jane Byerly on August 31st 1948 in Harrisburg Dauphin County Pennsylvania. Mary was born 1929 to Benjamin J. Byerly and Muriel Rhemn. ⁶

In 1981 Robert lived at 1509 Carlisle Road in Camp Hill Cumberland County Pennsylvania. He died June 1981. His child was Robert G. Wrightstone Jr. who was born June 13th 1950 and lived at 125 Willow Road Harrisburg Dauphin County Pennsylvania.

Bibliography

1. 1900 Jonathan Wrightstone Census: Monaghan, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T623_1502; Page: 8B; Enumeration District: 166; 1900 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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.
2. 1910 Jonathan Wrightstone Census: Chambersburg Ward 3, Franklin, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1347; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 8; Image: 655; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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.
3. 1910 Russell Wrightstone Census: East Pennsboro, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1335; Page: 10B; Enumeration District: 13; Image: 245; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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.
4. 1910 Fred C. Cookerly Census: New Cumberland, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1335; Page: 10B; Enumeration District: 28; Image: 758; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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.
5. Russell Guy Wrightstone WWI Draft Registration: Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1877942; Draft Board: 1; World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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.
6. 1920 Russell Wrightstone Census: 1920; Census Place: New Cumberland, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625_1557; Page: 10A; Enumeration District: 31; Image: 227; 1920 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 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).
7. 1930 Russell Wrightstone Census: Lemoyne, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: 2025; Page: 28A; Enumeration District: 19; Image: 79.0; 1930 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 193; T626, 2,667 rolls.

8. Russell Guy Wrightstone WWII Draft Registration: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); Washington, D.C.; State Headquarters: Pennsylvania; Microfilm Series: M1951; Microfilm Roll: 348; U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States, Selective Service System. Selective Service Registration Cards, World War II: Fourth Registration. National Archives and Records Administration Branch locations: National Archives and Records Administration Region Branches.
9. 1940 Russell Wrightstone Census: Lemoyne, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T627_3478; Page: 2A; Enumeration District: 21-25; 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 Russell Guy Wrightstone Birth: Russell was not born in Bomansdale, as reported by other researchers or in his WWI registration application (See Bibliography #4) At the time of his birth and into the early 1900s, his parents were living in Monaghan Township York County, in the family home area of Siddonsburg. (See Bibliography #1)

² Emma Stahl-Cookerly Maiden Name: In the 1920 Federal Census, Emma's mother, Martha Stahl, was living with her, and Russell and Bertha Wrightstone.

³ Russell (Russ) Wrightstone Baseball Synopsis: Sportspool.com Baseball database.

- A valuable utility man who played all over the infield and outfield, Russ Wrightstone spent all but his last 30 games in the majors with the Philadelphia Phillies. He was 27 years old by the time he reached the majors, and played more third base than any other position. He hit .305 in 1922, the first of five seasons he hit over .300. His best season was 1925, when he hit .346 with a career-high 14 home runs in just 92 games. Most memorable was the game of May 5, when he smacked two home runs and drove in five runs against the Giants. Playing more second base and first base later in his career, he had his last .300 season in 1927, batting .306 with 75 RBI, his peak total. His career average was .297 with 889 hits.

⁴ Russell and Bertha Wrightstone Death and Burial: Bertha M. Wrightstone Obituary; Harrisburg Patriot News December 28th 1987, and the Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery, 4855 Londonderry Road Harrisburg, Dauphin County Pennsylvania 17109-5205

⁵ Betty Jane Wrightstone Marriage: Reference ID: p223; GS Film Number: 21220; Digital Folder Number: 004455248; Image Number: 00122; Pennsylvania, County Marriages, 1885-1950, index and images, FamilySearch, <https://familysearch.org>; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

⁶ Robert Guy Wrightstone Marriage: Reference ID: p 325; GS Film Number: 21230; Digital Folder Number: 004455202; Image Number: 00173; Pennsylvania, County Marriages, 1885-1950, index and images, FamilySearch, <https://familysearch.org>; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.