

Biographical notes for Walter Willis Walker

The new holder of the Boston Post Cane, Walter Willis Walker, age 90, has deep roots in Wilmot. Although he was born in Danbury, New Hampshire, his mother's ancestors, the Langleys, settled in Wilmot between 1820 and 1830, and eventually Walter raised his family in Wilmot. When Walter was young his mother taught school in the one-room school on Old North Road.

Born on October 18, 1930 to Frank and Annie (Langley) Walker, Walter attended all eight grades of elementary school in the one-room school in South Danbury. After grade school he went on to Andover High where he enrolled in an auto shop course. What he learned there enabled him to rebuild a car with two of his friends. After graduation in 1949, he and his friends drove to California and back in the newly refurbished car.

After high school, Walter enlisted in the Air Force and became a machinist—work he really enjoyed. He was stationed in Thule, Greenland, until his discharge in 1954 when he returned to this area. There were no machinist jobs available, so he went to work as an apprentice to Clarence Granger and became a carpenter. Eventually he formed his own construction business, which he ran until he retired.

Walter met and married Judith Ripley Schucker, a nurse from Massachusetts who was working at New London Hospital. They settled in Wilmot in a home that he built where they raised their four children, Wade, Rusty, Holly and Nathan, all of whom still live nearby. His sister Margery lives in Laconia and a brother Danny lives in Vermont.

An active member of the community, Walter has held the positions of Health Officer and Clerk for the Board of Adjustment on the Planning Board. He has a special interest in the historical legacy of the families and the town of Wilmot. He and Judy were on the 1976 Bicentennial committee, and he has been a member of the Wilmot Town History committee since 1976.

A recent video of Walter telling about his early life may be found at www.wilmothistoricalsociety.org under the tab "Memories of Wilmot."