March 29, 1995

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Jack W. Dishman 2307 S. Forest Estates Dr. Spokane, WA 99223-3403

Dear Mr. Dishman,

DISHMAN. JAPTUNNI

In re: DISHMAN genealogy

My paternal 2nd-great grandmother was a Sarah Dishman, one of the daughters of Jeremiah P. Dishman and Nancy Ann Miller. Jeremiah was the son of Peter Dishman and wf. Sarah. Peter was the son of Samuel Dishman and wf. Cornelia C. To date, I have no birth or marriage data on Sarah. Jeremiah P. was born 11 March 1736?; Nancy July 1760, VA. In 1782, they were married in Russell Parish, Bedford Co., VA. They moved to Simpson Co., KY and are buried on the old Russell Farm off Stephenson Rd. Sarah and Nathan Horn had two children, Nancy Horn and (Wm.) Henry (H.) Horn. Nancy married a Briggs Russell and stayed in KY. Henry married Elizabeth Evans of Warren Co., KY. With two of her brothers, Henry & Eliz. moved to Johnson Co., MO, then to Hindsville, Madison Co., AR. Both are buried in the Hindsville Cemetery.

Descendants of Jeremiah B. Dishman, one of Sarah's brothers, who live in Strafford, MO (10 mi. NE of Springfield) gave me a copy of a letter written by Samuel Rowland Dishman, Sr. probably around 1938, to an Alonzo Dishman in Anniston, AL. At that time, he lived on West 15th Ave., in Spokane, WA. In the letter, he mentions his two brothers, A.T. and W.B. Dishman, sons Samuel Rowland, Jr. and Addison Vincent, and daughters Catherine and Florence. S.R. Dishman stated he was the 7th of 7 boys, that he married a Miss Vincent in Alexandria, VA in 1896, and was born in King George Co., VA, in 1871, the son of Addison Thorton Dishman, grandson of John Dishman (brother of Peter above), great-grandson of Samuel Dishman (and Cornelia C.) and that he knew his line of descent 7 generations.

I am trying to find descendants of that S.R. Dishman and discover if he had written a family history of those "7 lines of descent" and, if so, is there still a copy that could be copied? I know the DISHMANS were of French-Huguenot origin and that they came from Cannes, France via England, but I can find no record of the names, dates, and places involved. I found an obit on A.T. stating he had a grandnephew, Jack W. I'm hoping you might be that Jack W. and know who in the family I might contact to pay for copies of what S.R. Dishman may have written down. I would appreciate any information you could give me on this matter. Thank you for taking the time to answer my letter.

Respectfully,

Donna J. Williamson 2340 E. Rosebrier Springfield, MO 65804 417-887-2793 Elaine Dishman 2307 S. Forest Estates Dr. Spokane, Washington 99223 July 3, 1995

Dear Donna:

I received your letter requesting Dishman family information, and I will try to answer as many of your questions as I can. My husband, Jack Wilton Dishman passed away last year, on August 10th, 1994 after a long illness. We had been married for almost 57 years when he died. We were married on November 17th, 1937 in Los Angeles, California. He was born on September 19th, 1913. I was born Elaine Adelle Peterson, on January 26th, 1916, in Chicago, Illinois. We met in LosAngeles, where my parents had moved, We had two children, Bonnie Deanne Dishman, born February 17th, 1939, and Jack David Dishman, born September 8th, 1944. They were both born in Santa Monica, California. Our son also passed away, on April 12th, 1993. Apparently, he inherited his father's heart problems. The past few years have have been very difficult for me, as I love them and miss them terribly. They were both wonderful, kind, and loving men, and highly regarded by all who knew and loved them as I did.

Yes, my husband was A.T. Dishman's grand-nephew. His grandfather was Wilton B. Dishman. His grandmother was Nancy Doss Dishman. His father was Arthur Edward Dishman, and his mother was Marie Grear Dishman. (My mother and father-in-law.)

Besides Arthur, there were three more sons born to W.B. and Nancy Dishman -- William Dishman was the oldest, and his wife's name was Alma. Arthur was next to oldest, then Raymond, who was married to Gladys, and the youngest was Wallace. All have passed away. I have heard my husband speak of Samuel Dishman, but I never met him so I don't know the connection.

I sent a copy of your letter to Jean Dishman Smith, so that she might supply some of the information that I don't have, and I believe she has contacted you. She is my husband's cousin, and is married to Howard Smith and they live in San Marcos, California. She is Raymond and Gladys Dishman's daughter. William (Bill) Dishman and his wife, Alma had only one son, Robert who was married to Lucille, and I don't know where they are now. Wallace was married but they never had any children.

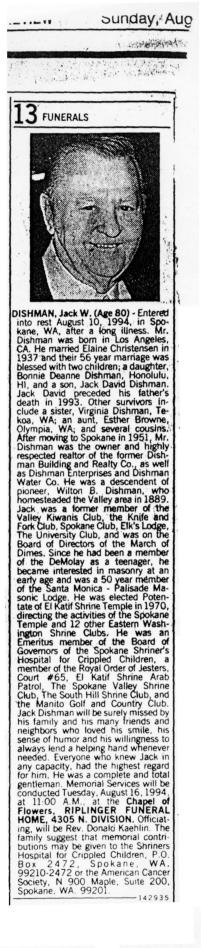
Hopefully, this may be of some help to you. I wish I knew more. Incidently, our Dishman family were early pioneers here in the Spokane Valley in 1888 and 1889, and they homesteaded that large portion of the Valley, and many businesses and people are familiar with the Dishman/Mica Road area, the Dishman Dodge Co,State Highway signs, with Dishman turnoffs, etc. It has grown tremendously since those early days.

Good Luck in your search!

Sincerely,

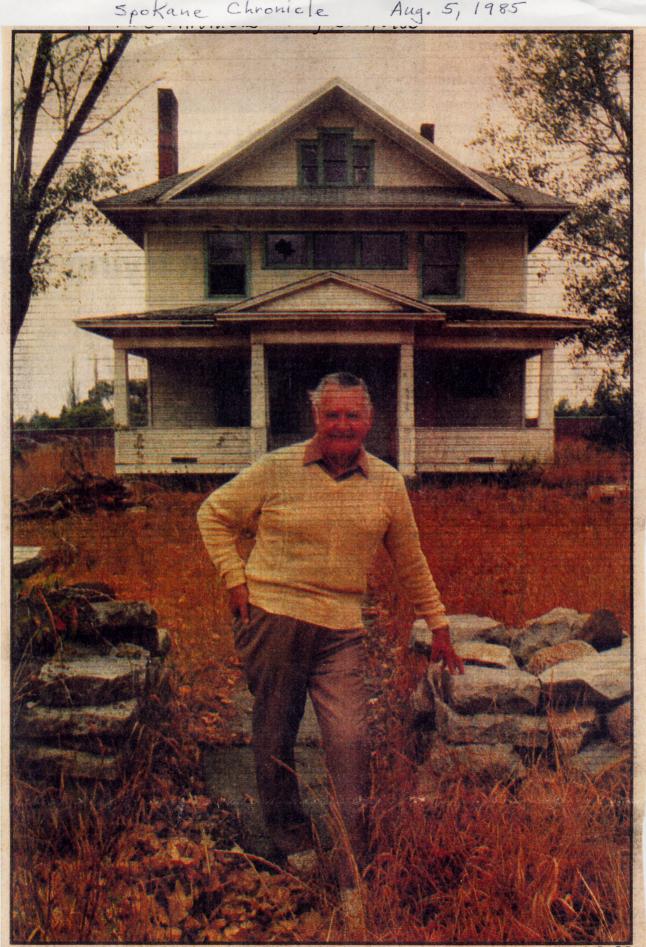
Elaine Dishman

P.S. I'm enclosing pictures and Articles That may be of interest. Please Keep in Touch with any Further information.



ROBLAT C. DISHMAN 133 Routten Road Hampton, VA 23664

1994



Jack Dishman stands in front of his grandfather's house at N315 Willow.

Staff photo by Dan Pelle

## Facing suburban sprawl

# Dishman's identity diffused by growth

#### By Erik P. Smith Staff writer

The old Wilton Dishman place has seen better days.

The grass went to seed long ago; a For Sale sign stands in the weeds.

Broken windows frame a scene of torn wallpaper and rotten flooring. Graying paint falls off in flakes.

You can tell the house was white, sometime before Mount St. Helens blew.

It's hard to picture now, but the house once was the toast of the small farming community that bears the family name.



The Spokane Chronicle's special report on the Spokane Valley continues each day through Aug. 11.

**Coming this week:** Valley neighbors and neighborhoods; the Valley's long commercial artery and big industrial heart; considering the options for government; one loud voice in the Valley.

Sunday, August 11: What do Valley people want? What's right and wrong with life in the Valley? How do Valley people feel about Spokane?

When Dishman built the place in 1902, the Valley was a land of orchards, berry farms, cornfields and homesteads barely within sight of each other. The Dishmans' backvard was a corral.

Today the backyard is a parking lot for a Mullan Road medical clinic. A subdivision has replaced the apple trees; the house is surrounded by Korean War-vintage starter homes with patios and cyclone fences.

The Dishman story begins here, at N315 Willow. But it might be the story of any farming-communityturned-suburb. Community identity has been blurred by suburban sprawl. And now there's no telling where Dishman begins and ends.

Dishman residents can tell you they live in Dishman. But ask them what that means and they're bound to puzzle over it a while. And if you

Please see SPRAWL: A4

#### /FROM A3

sage, both to the domestic produc-ers of marijuana and to major source countries outside our bor-ders, that the U.S. government takes very seriously the need to at-tack production of this drug," the attorney general said.

The ambitious nationwide series of raids, Lawn said in describing details of the mission, had been in the planning stage for "six to seven the planning stage for "six to seven weeks" and would be "the first one in which we are coordinating the eradication in all 50 states simultaneously."

Saying there have been "increas-ing incidences of violence in recent years" in connection with such efforts, Lawn said federal, state and local agents were prepared to confront such obstacles as dynamite, booby traps, fishhooks hung at eye level, attack dogs and guns. "These are not just itinerant farmers," the DEA chief said. Asked whether authorities had

obtained search warrants for raiding the private property of suspect-ed marijuana growers, Lawn re-plied, "This program is going to use every legal tool that it has in its arsenal.'

Lawn said Meese's high-profile role in the operation was not a pub-licity stunt, adding the United States must send a message to other countries it has asked to curb

drug production. "When we go to international meetings, the question is, 'You are asking us to do something in our country. What are you doing about your own domestic cultivation of marijuana?'" he said.

Authorities estimated that approximately 12 percent of the mar ijuana consumed in the United States is grown in this country — and that about a quarter of the and that about a quarter of the marijuana grown last year was on federal lands or public property. Last year, Lawn said, authorities eradicated nearly 13 million plants

on almost 20,000 plots in 48 states. The 1984 raids resulted in 4,941 arrests, and the DEA sent \$3.4 million to the states for marijuana eradica-

tion programs. The DEA estimates that 20 million Americans consume marijuana and that 4 million use it on any given day.

The government began a pro-gram of marijuana eradication in a handful of states in 1978, and since then the program has grown each year I awa said year. Lawn said Americans con-sumed between 15,000 and 17,000 metric tons of marijuana last year.

In advance of the nationwide raids, Kevin Zeese, director of the National Organization for the Re-form of Marijuana Laws, said, "Let them go and try. After making the effort, the futility will be clear. History shows it will not solve the problem.'

Zeese's organization favors government relaxation and taxation of marijuana, with violators subject to civil fines only.

### SPRAWL / FROM A1

ask what distinguishes Dishman from nearby Opportunity, the an-swer is nearly always "University City" City.

If it wasn't for Dishman Dodge, the Dishman Trailer Mart Inc., the Dishman Theater and a handful of other Sprague Avenue landmarks, you might not even know Dishman was there

distinctions were clear The The distinctions were clear enough when the Dishman farm-house was new. Valley land was free for the taking in 1889 when Wilton staked a claim in the bun-chgrass four miles east of town. He and his brother Addison founded a granite quarry in the Dishman Hills. But even before their settlegranite quarry in the Dishman Hills. But even before their settle-ment became a wide spot in the road, they recognized the potential of Sprague Avenue. When the brothers built the Dish-

man Trading Co. near the intersec tion with Argonne Road in 1895, it was the only store between Spokane and Coeur d'Alene.

The store was a place out of "Lit-tle House on the Prairie," with its pot-bellied stove and rocking chairs on the porch. Horses were watered for free and, every night before closing, someone would check the cracker barrel to make sure an Indian wasn't hiding inside.

Jack Wilton Dishman, 70, is pres ident of the Dishman Realty Co. He remembers the stories his grandfa-ther told of old Dishman. "Evidently there was a Valley Herald in those days," he said. "But people preferred sitting around and talk-

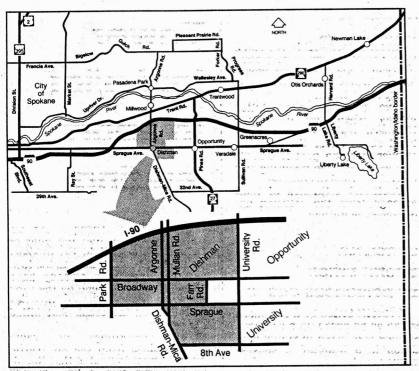
ing." Dishman was a tight-knit settlement of ranchers and fruit-growers that took Wilton's name when he out up the store. It wasn't necessarput up the store had ily out of gratitude — the store had a post office in back. Later, a farmer named Broad put up signs that called the place Broadville. Wilton gave his boys a quarter for every sign they brought in, and all the signs quickly vanished.

In 1911, the Spokane and Inland Empire interurban line pushed through on its way to Veradale, and railroad executives put the name "Hutchinson" on the station. But irate citizens tore the sign down late one night, and put up a bigger one with the names of 11 longtime residents. The railroad gave in, and the area has been known as Dish-man ever since. man ever since.

Not that it has much meaning in 1985.

After World War II, the suburbs seemed just the place for families with children. Five thousand people moved to Dishman between 1950 and 1965, 10,000 to Opportunity, and the housing tracts met in the middle.

From the air, the Valley seems one long city. Dishman is lost in the blur from the Spokane city limits to the Idaho border. Kay Moland, ex-ecutive director of the Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, said that when the state abolished the



township form of government in 1969, "the whole area became the Spokane Valley."

Moland is hard-pressed to find anything unique about Dishman. "There really is no Dishman," she said. "It doesn't exist as a separate entity."

Atlases say Dishman has a population of 10,169. But its hard to tell where they draw the boundary lines.

Even Dishman residents have trouble telling Dishman from Opportunity. Most agree that Dishman is bounded by Park Road and Interstate 90. Some say that it goes as far south as the Sherwood Forest subdivision on Eighth Avenue and stops just before the University City Mall to the east. Not even the post office seems to give it much thought. The mail gets through, as long as the house number and ZIP code are right.

These days, Dishman is simply a quiet suburban area much like any other in the Valley. There's shopping on East Sprague and at Dishman Square, on the Dishman-Mica Road. The hills to the south have been left undeveloped, as the Dishman Hills Natural Area.

The rest is suburbia. Farm roads have become residential streets, with '50s ranch-style homes and '60s' split-levels next door to farmhouses. On a hot summer afternoon, you can hear the jingle of an ice cream truck several blocks away — and the children race down the streets on motocross bikes, in search of Popsicles.

Houses started going up near the old Dishman spread in 1950. Frankie Puckett and her husband lived in Spokane, but they wanted open space. So they moved in around the corner, on Nixon Avenue.

"Dishman itself is very different than when we came here," she said." "It was a tight community back then. I knew a lot of the people around here."

Puckett, a widow, lives in a white house with a porch covered by bright-green imitation grass. A Doberman stands guard.

Her place, a third of an acre, was first on the 10-acre block. She told of old Sprague Avenue landmarks that have met the wrecking ball service stations and grocery stores. And she described how sick she became when the old Dishman Theater became a porno house a decade ago.

"Some things you just can't stop."

Another of the originals, Walter Doric, lives a block away on Locust Road. When he was an engineer for the city of Spokane, he drove to town each morning.

"I don't see any difference," he said. "The only reason I moved out here was because the house was cheaper."

But other Dishman residents say the place has its own character: A spirit of tolerance and a feeling of privacy that comes with large lots and semi-rural zoning. And these Valley partisans say you won't find that in town.

Michael Fuesinger, on Farr Road, moved to Dishman in part because the lots were big enough for his Dalmatians. "There's more freedom to raise animals," he said. "No one really cares if they bark much."

And, for some, a Valley address is part of the good life. Jim Hutchins, who ran the Millwood Pharmacy for 26 years, said, "We've got everything out here around us. We've got shopping five blocks away. It's convenient and ouiet. Nothing's too hard out here."

quiet. Nothing's too hard out here." Hutchins, 71, leaned back in his easy chair and grinned. It was over 90 outside, but the air conditioning kept the living room cool. Through the sliding glass door in his dining room, you could see the spacious back yard filled with trees and shrubs.

There's nothing wrong with Spokane, he said, except maybe traffic, parking, crime and pollution. The city's fine, he said, but for him, the Valley is the place.

"In town, you don't get to know anybody. But I lean over here, I talk to Fred. Over there is George Across the street is Joe. I know 'em all. Trouble is, I can't get any of 'em to do my lawn."

His daughter-in-law Kathy stopped by to leave her pre-school son for the afternoon. An Opportunity resident herself, she said the Valley is a good place to raise a family. Folks are friendly — but there's enough room between houses so you don't get the feeling people are looking in the window.

But sometimes it can be too quiet, she said. "When I want the nightlife I go to Spokane."

Jim Hutchins walked to the kitchen and asked if anyone wanted anything to drink. He came back with a can of root beer and a can of the old Coke.

"Valley residents have all the old things," Kathy said. "All the good old things."