

Addendum to the Pinter Family History Book

The Leo Jacob Pinter Family

by Ken Pinter
Updated 2018

Leo Jacob Pinter was born to Katie and Gus Pinter on 28 December 1911 in Hall Township, Bureau County, IL. Leo was the third child born. When he was born, his older brother Herman was about 6 years old while his sister Lula was about 5 years old.

There is limited information about his childhood and early adulthood except to say that he lived on the farm with his brothers and sister and probably participated in the same things they did including school, confirmation in his church, and farm work. He graduated from high school.

On 25 February 1933 at the age of 21, he married Rose Bernardoni. Rose was born in 1911 in Bureau County, Illinois. The 1920 census shows that she lived somewhere in Westfield Township and that by 1930 she was 18 years old and was living in Ladd, IL. In fact, she lived about 10 houses from the Abramo Filippini family (my grandparents on my Mom's side). Rose's parents were Ricco and Erma Bernardoni. She had three brothers and two sisters. More information about the Bernardoni family can be found at the end of this report.



Rose and Leo had two children: Doris, born 29 November 1933, and Elaine, born 20 November 1935. Doris was born in Ladd, IL.

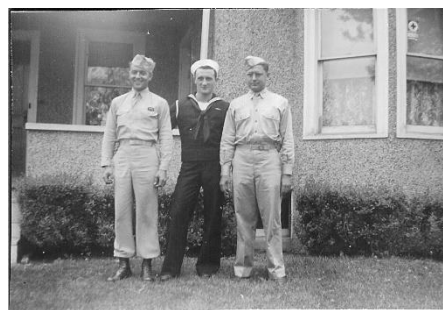
Sometime between 1935 and approximately 1940, Leo and Rose divorced. In 1940, per the census, Leo was 28 years old and was living in Chicago, IL, and was employed as a machine operator in a steel mill. He indicated he was married but he was living in a boarding house and no wife was listed.

On 13 November 1942, at the age of about 31, Leo married Laura Kankovsky. According to a ship manifest for a 1938 arrival in New York, Laura, a US citizen, was on this ship and listed her birthdate as 7 March 1912 in Chicago. No other information can be found for Laura. It is unknown how they met or where they met and how long they were married but the marriage license was issued in Cook County, IL.

For reasons unknown, Leo and Laura moved to the state of Washington and bought or built a house in LaConner, WA. For some period of time while married to Laura, Leo was a Sheriff's deputy of Skagit County, WA. This may have occurred after he separated from the Navy since the time between his marriage and enlistment was only about 3 months. The picture to the right is Leo and Laura.



On 25 January February 1943, Leo enlisted in the Navy. He was trained as an airplane mechanic. He became Airplane Mechanic 3rd Class while in the service. His airplane was the PV-1 Ventura (Vaga Ventura Land Based Patrol Plane.) He sent various post cards with a picture of his plane back home to his family. On the back of one of the cards he wrote: "Hiya. I finally got some pictures of my PV-1 Ventura. You can't see the turret cause it's behind the wing. Nice plane huh? So long. Leo." He seemed to be proud of his plane. The picture to the right is Lester, Leo, and Harold when they all were all home on leave.



Note: the term "Hiya" may have been a term used in that time or perhaps by the Pinter family because I have heard it used in the past, I think by my dad, Aunt Lula, and Uncle Gilbert.

After leaving the Navy on 5 November 1945, he apparently made his home with Laura in Skagit County until their divorce in unknown year. They apparently had no children.

Sometime after his divorce from Laura, Leo went to work at the Walking M Ranch in Big Lake, WA, which is very near to Mt. Vernon. He worked there as a ranch hand. One of the housekeepers there was Edith Ellen Lunsford. Edith was born 6 June 1926 in Waynesville, NC. Leo dated and then married Edith on 25 August 1949. The picture to the right is of Leo and Edith. More information on the Lunsford family can be found at the end of this report.



Leo and Edith's first two children, Brenda Gail and Wyman Leo may have been born while they lived on the ranch. Their birth dates are 28 May 1950 and 2 September 1953.

Leo's family then moved from the ranch to Mt Vernon, WA, and Leo went to work for the railroad. He worked for the railroad until around 1957.

Their third child, Katherine Gay (Kippy) was born in Mt Vernon, WA on 28 July 1955.

Then Leo and family moved to Sedro Wooley, WA, just a few miles away.

Dale Galen (born 17 July 1957) and Crystal Fawn (born 24 November 1960) were born while they lived in Sedro Wooley, WA.

Leo worked for the Shell refinery in the area from about the time Dale was born (mid 1957) until a point a few years (about 1962) after Crystal was born.

For a while during this time frame he also worked in the logging industry.

Kippy died on 11 March 1958 at the age of about 2 ½ years. She had brain cancer.

Sometime in the 1962-5 time frame, Leo and Edith divorced. He worked for a while as a handyman doing odd jobs and then went to Alaska to live and work. He apparently worked on fishing boats during this time. He came back once in 1965 to see his family and to try to convince them to go to Alaska. They apparently refused so Leo went back to Alaska was not heard from for many years after that.

In 1974, his son Dale, 17 years old, was killed in a car accident in Wyoming. Leo was not able to be contacted about his son's death. It is thought he was somewhere in Texas.

Sometime while in Alaska, he married an Eskimo woman named Mary Unknown. Mary is listed as Leo's spouse in his Social Security Death Index entry.

For much of his later life, no one really knew Leo's whereabouts. In about 1986, he reappeared in the town of The Dalles in Wasco County, Oregon, and was living for a while in a small trailer. Later, he became ill and ultimately went into a nursing home in The Dalles. This town is on the Columbia River about 100 miles from the Pacific Ocean. His brothers Harold and Gilbert and their wives drove to Oregon to visit him as did at least one of his daughters.

On 5 October 1988 he died in this nursing home. He was cremated and his ashes were spread at sea.

One of his children said that Leo "had beautiful penmanship, and wrote letters and poems. He also loved music and played the accordion and he had a nice singing voice and was a great dancer (he taught me how to waltz)."

He was also a regular church goer and drove a church bus for some time. He also liked to play the harmonica as did one or more of his brothers.

This table is a complete listing of Leo and his families:

Name	Born	Died	Married to	Date	Children
Leo Jacob Pinter	12/28/1911	10/5/1988		2/25/1933	2
Rose Bernardoni	2/16/1911	1/7/1978			
Doris R.	11/29/1933		Dale Billhorn	1/13/1951	6
Elaine M.	11/20/1935	9/9/1997	Ronald Summers	7/11/1953	2
Laura Kankovsky	3/7/1912			11/13/1942	0 ??
Edith Ellen Lunsford	6/6/1929	~1996		8/25/1949	5
Brenda Gail	5/28/1950				3
Wyman Leo (Dean)	9/2/1953				1
Katherine Gay (Kippy)	7/28/1955	3/11/1958			0
Dale Galen	7/28/1958	12/10/1974			0
Crystal Fawn	11/24/1960		Robert Elias		1 #
Mary E. Unknown	5/15/1918	12/6/1999			0

Rose Bernardoni

Before this discussion of Rose begins, it is important to note that there were two Riccardo Bernardoni families in Ladd, IL. In one family, the wife is named Erminia. In the other, the wife is named Maria. The family with Erminia is Rose's family. The one with Maria is not.

Leo Pinter's first wife was Rose Bernardoni. Rose was born on 16 February 1911 in Bureau County, Illinois. The exact location is unknown but in 1920, her family was found in the census living in Westfield Township where her father was a farmer.

Rose's parents were Riccardo (Ricco) and Erminia (Erma) Bernardoni.

Ricco was born Riccardo Enrico Bernardoni on 18 May 1879 in Italy per his WWI draft sign up card. Note that the Illinois Death and Stillborn index shows he was born in 1878. He died in Ladd, IL, on 26 December 1931. He was a farmer and later a truck driver. His parents were Joseph Bernardoni and Erminia Michelini according to the Illinois Death and Stillborn Index 1916-1947. It is curious that Ricco's mother and wife have the same name. It is feasible that his mother's name was improperly recorded on his death certificate. Or, maybe coincidentally, there were the same.

Ricco's wife Erminia was born in the same town in Italy on 7 June 1882. She died in Ladd, IL, in October 1974.

Ricco and Erma immigrated to the US on the ship S.S. La Savoie. The ship left La Havre, France, on 20 June 1903 and docked in New York City on 27 June 1903. The following information was found on the ship manifest:

- Ricco was 24, Erma was 21
- The ship manifest indicated they were both US citizens. Ricco was listed as a farmer
- Their origin in Italy was the Frazioni of Maserno in the commune of Montese, in the province of Modena, in the region of Emilia-Romagna in Italy. Emilia-Romagna borders on the northern boundary of Tuscany.

Their home village was about 40 miles to the north of Pistoia and Florence.

It is curious that both were listed as being US citizens on this ship manifest. This implies that either they had lived in the US (perhaps born here) or had achieved US citizenship before 1903. The 1930 census shows that Ricco immigrated in 1882 and Erma in 1909. The 1909 date is possibly an error. If he immigrated in 1882, then it is quite possible he/they became a US citizen before 1903.

The 1930 census suggests they were married in 1903 or 1904.

On 26 December 1908, there is another record in the ship manifests data base. This time, Erminia is on a ship with two children and possibly her brother:

Erminia Michelini Bernardoni age 26 shoe maker
Beatrice (Joseph) age 4
Guiseppe age 1
Gicho or Jicho Michelini age 16

They docked in New York on the ship SS La Touraine from La Havre, France, and were from Modena, and were referred to as non-immigrant aliens. Rico was not with them. The record indicated that Erminia's father in Italy was named Luigi Michelini.

1900 and 1910

This family cannot be found in the 1900 or 1910 census. The time before 1910 is confusing due to the various ship arrivals.

On 12 September 1918, Ricardo Bernardoni registered for the WWI draft. He provided this information:

Ricardo Bernardoni
Age 39
Born: 18 May 1879
Occ: farmer
Tall, slender, no physical limitations
Wife: Erminia living in Zearing, Bureau Co, IL.

1920

In 1920, this is the Bernardoni family as found in Westfield Township, Bureau Co, IL:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Recardo Bernardoni	40	5/18/1879	IT ??
Erminia	35	6/7/1882	IT
Beatrice	15	~1905	
Joseph	13	~1907	
Geno	10	~1910	
Rosie	8	2/16/1911	
Mary	6	~1914	
August	2	~1918	

Recardo was listed as a farmer. Rosie married Leo Pinter.

1930

By 1930, the family had moved from their farm to Chicago St. in Ladd, IL, and Ricardo was employed as a truck driver. Here is the family per the 1930 census.

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Ricco Bernardoni	51	5/18/1879	IT
Erma	47	6/7/1882	IT
Beatrice	24	~1906	IT
Geno	20	~1910	BC
Rose	18	2/16/1911	BC
Mary	16	~1914	BC
August	12	~1918	BC
Joseph or Joseph A	21 22	~1909 ~1908	

Rose's occupation in 1930 was that of "operator, clock factory", which is assumed to be the Westclox company in Peru, IL. Beatrice was a teacher.

In 1930, there were two Joseph's found, one age 22 and the other age 21. Both worked in a glass factory. Both Bernardoni families, as mentioned earlier, had a Joseph.

Rose married Leo on 25 February 1933, presumably in Ladd, at the age of about 22. Sometime after that, or maybe right away, they lived in Chicago. They had two children, Doris and Elaine. They separated and divorced sometime around 1937. Rose and the children returned to Ladd. Leo remained in Chicago.

1940

Ricardo died on 26 December 1931 at the age of about 51. Erminia was still alive however, in 1940. Here is the family in 1940 in Ladd, IL.

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Erminia Bernardoni	57	6/7/1882	IT
Eugene	30	~1910	IT
August	22	~1918	
Doris Pinter	6	11/29/1933	Ladd, IL
Elaine Pinter	4	11/20/1935	Ladd, IL

For a few months or years around 1940, Rose worked at a small women's college in Rockford, IL. During this time, Doris and Elaine were raised by their "Nona" Erminia.

Note: In that time frame, the Rockford Female Seminary existed in Rockford. It was later renamed Rockford University.

In 1940, Leo Pinter was living in a boarding house in Chicago.

On 9 December 1941, Rose married Alfred Christian Loebach. He was a resident of Leonore, Illinois, (about 25 miles southeast of Ladd) and was born on 10 May 1903. Based on existing Public Family Trees on www.ancestry.com, Rose and Alfred had 4 children of their own. In 1960, they were living in Peru, IL.

Rose died on 7 January 1978 in Peru, IL, at the age of about 66. Alfred died in June of 1971. They are buried in the St. Vincent's Cemetery in LaSalle, Illinois according to www.findagrave.com.

One interesting side note: it appears that Rose's sister Mary E. Bernardoni married Alfred's brother Carl J. Loebach in Chicago in 1938. Perhaps this is how Rose met Alfred.

Edith Ellen Lunsford

Leo's third wife was Edith Ellen Lunsford. Edith was born in Waynesville, NC, on 6 June 1926. Edith is the daughter of Alvin and Dora Allie Wilson Lunsford. (Note: at least two other spelling have been found for her given name: Allie Dora and Alliedora.)

In this section of the report, I will begin with the oldest known Lunsford family and work forward. Note that some of the names and birthdates were extracted by other public family trees found online at www.ancestry.com.

1870, 1880, and 1900

John W. Lunsford was born in November 1826 in North Carolina. He died in 1905 in NC. On unknown date, he married Mary Matilda Pendergrass. Mary was born in January 1833 in NC and she died 27 May 1918 in NC.

John and Mary had 13 children of which 3 died at a young age. This chart shows the family based on merging the 1870, 1880, and 1900 censuses:

Name	Born	Born in
John Lunsford	11/1826	
Mary Matilda Pendergrass	1/1833	
Mary Etta or Marietta	~1857	
Sarah Louise	~1859	
James Henry	~1860	
Thomas J. (or C.)	~1861	
Polly	~1864	
John Gevan Richard	~1865	
Dargas	~1867	
Margaret	~1869	
Emma J. or T.	~1870	
William W.	~1873	
David A.	~1875	
Rachael (Roxie)	~1877	
Robert A.	~1880	

In 1870, the family was found in Valley Township, Cherokee Co, NC. He was a farmer.

In 1880, they were found in Macon Co, NC.

The 1890 census was destroyed in a fire in 1921.

In 1900, they were again in Cherokee Co, NC

1900

By 1900, most of the John Lunsford family members were out of the house and on their own. Only two children were still at home.

Name	Age	Born
John Lunsford	73	11/1826
Mary M.	67	1/1833
Roxie	24	3/1876
Martin	21	7/1878

Roxie is probably Rachael. It is not clear who Martin is. According to the above family chart, this person should be Robert A. based on birth year.

Also found in the 1900 census were some of John and Mary's children who had married and who could be identified in the census:

Name	Age	Born
James Lunsford	40	10/1859
Nelia	22	6/1878
Willie	1	10/1898

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
John Lunsford	35	4/1865		
Roan??	32	6/1867		
James M.	14	11/1885		
Mary	12	9/1887		
Samuel	11	1/1889		
Addie	9	11/1890		

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
Arthur	26	5/1874		
Dora M.	22	1/1878		
Polly	10 mo	7/1899		

It is not clear who Arthur is. His birth date matches that of John Lunsford's son David A. Lunsford, so perhaps the middle initial A. stands for Arthur.

Thomas Lunsford could not be found in the 1900 census. However, a widow, Molly Lunsford, and her two sons Alvin and Emma were found in 1900 living with Jonathan and Jane Gibby in Murphy Township, Cherokee Co, NC. The census states that Molly was the daughter of Jonathan while the two children were grandchildren. This suggests that Mollie's husband Thomas Lunsford was deceased and that her maiden name was Gibby. Here is a chart of that family:

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
Jonathan Gibby (or Gibbie)	64	6/1835	GA	
Jane	56	9/1843	NC	
Mollie Lunsford	26	1/1873	NC	Daughter of Jonathan and Jane
Emma Lunsford	9	3/1891	NC	Granddaughter
Alvin	7	3/1893	NC	Grandson

It is not known what happened to Thomas Lunsford who apparently died between 1891 and 1900. It is also not clear as to his age because there are two different birth years found for him: 1871 and 1861. Another anomaly found shows that John and Mollie married on 1 August 1886 when he was 15 and she was 13 years old. These anomalies need to be researched further. This is complicated by the fact that the 1890 census was destroyed by a fire in 1921.

1910

In 1910, the widow Jane Gibby was found living in Tomoela, Cherokee Co, NC with her two grandchildren Emma and Alvin:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Jane Gibby	71	~1839	
Emma Lunsford	18	~1892	
Alvin	18	~1892	

This data shows that Jonathan Gibby passed away between 1900 and 1910 as did Mollie Lunsford. Jane Gibby was still alive in 1910 and was and raising Emma and Alvin.

In 1918, Alvin registered for military service. He was 24 years old and stated that he lived in Marble, NC and that his DOB was 11 March 1893. He indicated he was a farmer and had a wife and child.

Alvin Lunsford is the father of Edith Ellen Lunsford.

1920

Sometime around 1916, Alvin Lunsford married Dora Allie Wilson. Dora was born around on 26 April 1897 in NC per the SSDI and died in Mt. Vernon, WA, on 10 November 1986 at age 89 according to the Washington State Death Index.

Here is the family in 1920:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Alvin Lunsford	25	~1895	
Dory	22	~1898	
Elbert	2 y 9 mo	~1917	
Nina	9mo	~1919	

They lived in Murphy Township, Cherokee Co, NC and he was a farmer.

1930

By 1930, the family was located in Waynesville, Haywood Co, NC and Alvin was a farmer:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
Alvin Lunsford	38	3/11/1893	
Dora	35	~1895	
Elbert	12		
Ina (Nina)	10		
Loyd (Lloyd)	8		
Glen	6		
Edith	3y 7mo	8/25/1949	NC

The census showed that Alvin and Dora had married at the ages of 26 and 23 placing their marriage about 1916.

1940

In 1940, the family was found still living in Waynesville Township, Haywood Co, NC. (Alvin's name was spelled Allen Lansford in the census.)

Here is that family:

Name	Age	Born	Born in	Died	Died in
Alvin Lunsford	46	3/11/1893	NC	5/17/1979	WA
Dora	42	4/26/1897	NC	11/10/1986	WA
Elbert W. (William)		~4/1917			
Nina		~4/1919			
Loyd (Lloyd Andrew)	19	8/16/1920	NC	12/22/1981	NC
Glen	16		NC		
Edith (Edith Ellen)	14	6/6/1926	NC	1996	WA
Hazel (Virginia Hazel)	9	7/19/1930	NC		
Emma	5	5/18/1934	NC		

Note: Elbert and Nina were not listed in the 1940 census. They are included in this table in order to show the complete family (assuming there were no children after Emma).

The above dates of death were found in the Washington State Death Index 1940 -1996. The birth dates were taken from the North Carolina Birth Index 1800-2000.

Edith Ellen Lunsford married Leo Jacob Pinter.

Move to Washington State

The Washington Death Index and the SSDI both show that both Alvin and Dora Lunsford, parents of Edith, died in Mt Vernon, WA. Since they were living in NC in 1940 and Edith married Leo in Washington in 1949, we can deduce that at least part of the Lunsford family moved to Washington from NC between 1940 and 1949.

Dora Allie Wilson

As noted above, Edith Ellen Lunsford's mother is Dora Allie Wilson Lunsford. This report will include a brief history of this Wilson family.

The first family member of this Wilson family know at this time is George Wilson. He was born in North Carolina in about 1816. He married Nancy Unknown in Unknown date.

1850

The George Wilson family was found in Yancy Co, NC, in 1850. George was a farmer. By 1850, they had 5 children:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
George Wilson	31	~1816	
Nancy	37	~1813	
James A	14		
William A.	13		
Sarah A.E.	10		
Mary E.	6		
John	6mo		

1860

In 1860, the family looked like this in Yancy Co, NC:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
George Wilson	42	~1818	
Nancy	46	~1814	
William A.	21		
Sarah Ann E.	18		
James N.	13		
John B.	11		
Martha L.	4		

1870

By 1870, they were living in Crabtree Township, Yancy Co, NC:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
George Wilson	53	~1816	
Nancy	56	~1813	
Sarah	25	~1845	
John	20	~1850	
Martha	12	~1858	

1880

In 1880, George and Nancy lived in Slow Creek Township, Mitchel Co, NC. George was a farmer. Here is their family:

Name	Age	Born	Born in
George Wilson	64	~1816	
Nancy	67	~1813	
Sarah	38	~1842	
Martha	28	~1852	
Newton	13	~1867	
Richmond	10	~1870	

George and Nancy's son Newton continued the family line that is the subject of this report.

1900

By 1900, Newton had married and was farming on his own. He married in about 1888. They were living in Forney's Creek, Swain Co, NC. Here is their family.

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
Newton Wilson	29	8/1871		
Emeline	25	1/1875		
John	12	4/1888		
William	10	8/1890		
Arvel	7	8/1873		
Sarah J.	5	8/1875		
Dara (Dora)	2	4/1898		
Oscar	9mo	8/1900		

In this family, Dora is Dora Allie and is the mother of Edith Ellen Lunsford. Remember that the 1900 census provided month and year of birth.

1910

In 1910, Newton and his family were still in Forney's Creek:

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
Newton W. Wilson	42	8/1871		
Emeline	38	1/1875		
John	22			
Elbert W.	20			
Orvil M.	18			
Dora A.	13			
Oscar	11			

Emiline had given birth to 7 children by 1910 but one died in infancy.
Note that William is probably Elbert W. (William).

1920

In 1920, Newton and family were farming in Murphy, Cherokee Co, NC and lived on Slow Creek Road. They lived next to daughter Dora and Alvin Lunsford.

Name	Age	Born	Born in	
William N. Wilson	54			
Ema L.	49			
Elbert W.	29			
Oscar	20			

It is interesting that in 1920, for the first time, Newton referred to himself as William N. (presumably Newton) Wilson.

In summary, William Newton and Emeline L. Wilson had a daughter Dora who is the mother of Edith Ellen Lunsford. Edith's grandparents were George and Nancy Wilson.

Leo Pinter Photo Album



Edith, Brenda, and Leo



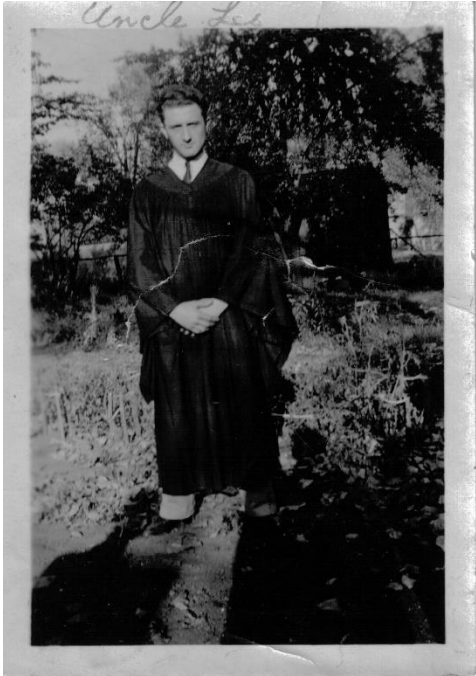
Leo and Brenda



Wyman, Brenda, and Dale,
1960



Leo in the Navy, kneeling, right



Leo, probably high school graduation



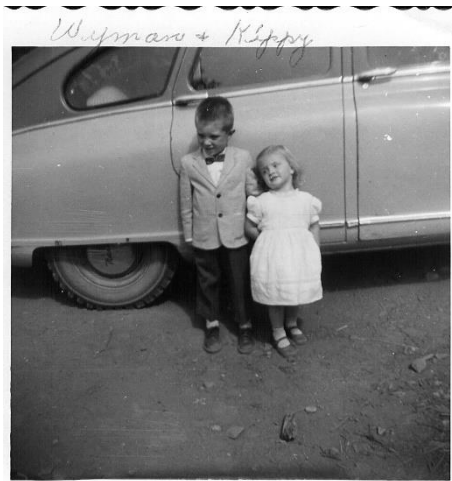
Doris and Elaine, date unknown



Leo and unknown dog



Leo Pinter, date and location unknown



Wyman and Kippy, May, 1958



Left to Right:
Herman and Marie with Herman, Jr,
Phillip and Lula with Wayne, Leo and
Rose with Doris, ca 1935



Harold holding Crystal in Sedro
Wooley, WA ca 1960



Leo, in Sedro
Wooley, WA
ca 1960



Edith and Brenda



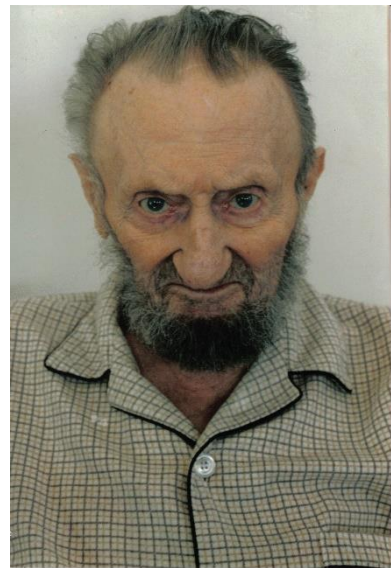
Gus, Katie, Leo, and Laura in Washington State, date unknown



Leo on a log float



Leo in the Navy, back row, left



Leo Pinter, about 1988