



Lynch, James J., 1899-1962

Name at birth/Nicknames/Other identifying names: James Lynchehan

Date of birth: August 15, 1899

Place of birth: Tonragee, Achill Parish, County Mayo, Ireland

Date of death: March 20, 1962

Buried: Holy Cross Cemetery, Cleveland, OH

Parents: Michael "Vicksheen" Lynchehan and Bridget Gallagher Lynchehan

Siblings: Thomas (Celia Keating), Michael (Mary Henry), Bridget (Pat Kilbane), Ann, Patrick (Catherine Dacre), Neil (Alice Kennedy), Dennis (Jane Sweeney), Hugh (Elizabeth Essig)

Grandparents: Michael and Mary Lynchehan and Michael "Micky Peggy" Gallagher and Bridget Cattigan Gallagher

Spouse: Beatrice Gallagher

Married: April 24, 1924, in New York

Children: James, Thomas (Margaret Gibbons), Francis, Maureen (James Berry), Jackie, Michael Joseph (Bonnie Armbruster), Dennis (Mary Kay Joyce)

Immigrated to Cleveland: February 1916

Principal addresses/neighborhoods/parishes: When his parents arrived in Cleveland in 1921, the family lived at 4221 Whitman in St. Patrick's Parish. After marrying, he lived at a variety of addresses on W. 104th, W. 105th, and W. 106th Street, all in St. Ignatius Parish, finally buying a house at 2122 W. 105th Street in about 1937 and living there for the rest of his life.

Education: Attended school in Ireland until he was about 11 or 12 years old.

Work: He did seasonal, summer labor—picking potatoes—in Scotland and the north of England for several years after he quit school. His first job in Cleveland was repairing street car engines, but an engine block fell on his legs and he was severely injured. Other jobs included policeman, truck loading for Fisher Foods, plumbing, and construction. But he was a furnace and heating inspector for many years, from about 1945 on.

Organizations/activities: He was a member of the West Side Irish American Club and the Knights of Columbus and was active in St. Ignatius Parish as an usher and member of the Holy Name Society and active in Democratic Party politics. But his primary involvement was with the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He was a frequent division and county officer for the AOH, was the Hibernian Man of the Year in 1959, and was Co-Chair, with his wife Beatrice, of the St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1962. A trophy for the best band in the St. Patrick's Day parade was named in his honor in 1970.