

McLean County Museum of History

Craig Family Collection

Processed by
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 Boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1943-2018
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	Gift of daughter Shirley Craig in June 2018 and February 2023
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

Warren Craig was born Dec. 24, 1920, in Fairbury, Illinois, to Will and Georgia Craig. In 1946 he married Joybelle Dickey, born January 30, 1922. Warren died in May 26, 2015, and Joybelle died December 19, 2015. Their children are Barbara Craig-Schniepp, Shirley Craig, Linda (Craig) Reed, and Paul Craig.

Warren Craig served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war he graduated from Illinois State Normal University and earned a master's degree from the University of Illinois. He taught speech, English, reading, and drama in Lincoln, Bloomington, and Normal, serving as Unit 5's first Reading Coordinator. Warren operated Craig Canvas Service for over 50 years. An active member of the North Bridge Baptist Church of Normal, he held many church offices and was part of the American Baptist Men's disaster relief team. He formed the first neighborhood association in Normal and assisted other neighborhoods to do the same.

Joybelle (Joy) Craig graduated from Illinois State Normal University in 1940 and began teaching business courses in Clinton. When her children were older, she returned to part-time secretarial work and then became a valued volunteer with the McLean County Historical Society. She also participated in the Woman's Missionary Society, taught Sunday school, and held several American Baptist Association regional offices.

The Craigs became the first off-campus ISU student housing providers to deliberately integrate their rented rooms. In later decades, Joy and Warren hosted international students and foreign exchange teachers in their home. As a result, they traveled to Japan and Germany as invited guests of those students.

(from obituaries in Folder 2)

Scope

This collection covers day-to-day events in Warren F. Craig's life starting in the late 1930s to 2015 documented in ledger books, which include his time in the service (1942-46) as well as a scrapbook, notebooks and 3 ledgers of expenses. The scrapbook contains photos and newspaper articles of Craig's time as a high school speech teacher and speech coach. He was also technical director of several Bloomington High School plays.

The collection includes a one-year diary written by Joybelle Craig and 4 spiral notebooks in which she wrote every day from 1982 through March 2001. The entries include everything from weather and grocery store trips to sponsoring foreign students and volunteer work as well as her comments about whatever happened that day.

The miscellaneous file includes a business card for Craig Canvas Service, additional newspaper articles with photos and the gift agreement listing donation contents.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Donation Information

- 1.1 Gift agreement from Shirely Craig, June 4 2018.
- 1.2 Gift agreement from Shirley Craig with attached list of donated items, February 8 2022.

Folder 2: Correspondence

- 2.1 Envelope containing various correspondence and documentation regarding loans, undated.
- 2.2 Warren and Joy Craig to unspecified family and friends aiming to inform them about general life updates of different family members, December 1983.
- 2.3 Various family and friends to unknown recipients congratulating them on their wedding anniversary via a German greeting card, 1989.
- 2.4 Warren and Joy Craig to unspecified family and friends aiming to inform them about general life updates of different family members, December 1989, unpagged.
- 2.5 Ahmed to Shirley Craig reminiscing about the friendship he had with Joy and Warren Craig, 7 April 2003.
- 2.6 Email between a man named Brian and two individuals named Cliff and Earl passing along Shirley Craig's biography of her father in a bid to win him the Man of the Year nomination, 4 July 2007.
- 2.7 Email between a man named Brian and two individuals named Cliff and Earl passing along Jan Hazekamp's letter of recommendation for the Man of the Year award, 4 July 2007, unpagged.
- 2.8 Email between a man named Brian and two individuals named Cliff and Earl passing along Shirely Craig's expanded biography for the Man of the Year award, 5 July 2007, 2pp.
- 2.9 Warren and Joy Craig to unknown recipient with holiday wishes, 2009.
- 2.10 Minden to Shirley Craig offering condolences for the passing of Joy and Warren Craig, 19 February 2016.

Folder 3: 502 Hovey

- 3.1 Various business recites for material purchases and business transactions, and business cards for Warren Craig's business which was based at 502 Hovey, as well as mortgage papers and remodeling proposals and permits for aforementioned building, 1952-2002.

Folder 4: Scrap Book

- 4.1 Various newspaper clippings from the Aegis on the topic of events within Bloomington Highschool such as sporting speech team events, theatrical productions and other similar topics, class photographs as well as staff photographs along side a large number of photographs of high school plays, two copies of Warren Craig's teacher contract from different times, the constitution of the Bloomington Highschool forensics club and

various programs from theatrical productions put on at the high school, formerly in 3 ring binder, 1948-1950, unpagged.

Folder 5: Quote File

- 5.1 Warren's collection of quotes, jokes, witticisms, stories, anecdotes and parables, complete with handwritten index, nd. Originally in a 3-ring binder, 1950-unknown, unpagged.

Folder 6: Newspaper

- 6.1 "Preparing To Put Show On Road," *The Aegis*, May 24 1951.
- 6.2 "Debate Event Ends: Silver-," *The Aegis*, February 2 1952.
- 6.3 "LeRoy District Speech Contest Winners Named," *The Aegis*, March 9 1952.
- 6.4 "BHS Students Direct, Take Roles in 4 One Act Plays," *The Pantagraph*, February 22 1953.
- 6.5 "Hufford, Pietsch, Butler, Joslin Win Sixth Place At State," *The Aegis*, April 7.
- 6.6 "You Tell 'Em, Patsy," undated.
- 6.7 "Fuller Brush man Meets All Types Of People During Work," undated.
- 6.8 "Disaster Relief Ministry Reactivated," *Mainstream*, June/July 2004, 7pp.
- 6.9 Photocopy of "Warren Craig," *The Pantagraph*, July 5 2015, unpagged.
- 6.10 Photocopy of "Joybell D. Craig," *The Pantagraph*, December 20 2015, unpagged.

Folder 7: Insurance

- 7.1 Northwest Mutual Life Insurance contract containing prints of the original contracts for both Joybell and Warren Craig, March 5 1946
- 7.2 National Service Life Insurance breakdown sheet and photocopy of original insurance papers for Warren Craig for his military service, November 28 1952.
- 7.3 Certificate of Membership for the Travelers Protective Association of America with enclosed paraphernalia pertaining to the organization and a copy of Warren's application, March 9 1954.
- 7.4 Massachusetts Mutual life insurance contract including prints of the original signed contract, September 23 1963, unpagged.

Folder 8: Military

- 8.1 "Christ Is Risen 1943 Easter 1943," pamphlet containing the schedule and list of chaplains on base for the 1943 easter mass, 1943, unpagged.
- 8.2 "Post Chapen in Alaska," pamphlet containing the schedule and list of chaplains on base for the mass, September 23 1943, unpagged.
- 8.3 "Protestant Services 186th Station Hospital APO 948, U.S Army," pamphlet containing the schedule and list of chaplains on base for mass, February 6 1944, unpagged.
- 8.4 "Protestant Services 186th Station Hospital APO 948, U.S Army," pamphlet containing the schedule and list of chaplains on base for mass, February 23 1944, unpagged.
- 8.5 "Flag Day," pamphlet containing the schedule and lyrics for the star-spangled banner for mass, undated, unpagged.
- 8.6 "Independence Day," pamphlet containing the schedule for mass, a dialogue about religious freedoms and the pledge of allegiance, undated, unpagged.
- 8.7 Certificate honoring Warren Craig's military service posthumously, undated.

Folder 9: Religion

- 9.1 "In Memory of Mr. Warren F. Craig," booklet containing information about a memorial service for Warren Craig as well as various bible verses and religious saying as well as a copy of the obituary for Warren which appeared in the Pantagraph, July 9 2015, unpagged.
- 9.2 "First Baptist Church," pamphlet containing information on mass and the general schedule for the week, January 10 1943, unpagged.
- 9.3 "The Church With a Cordial Welcome," pamphlet containing information on mass and the general schedule for the week with a small flyer containing times and dates for youth engagement seminars, April 22 1945, unpagged.
- 9.4 "First Baptist Spire," newsletter updated the congregation of the First Baptist Church on the weekly schedule, various events in the then near future and a few small letters from various members of the congregation abroad, January 14 1943, unpagged.
- 9.5 "The Methodist Church," flyer containing the schedule for mass and various announcements, February 25 1945.
- 9.6 Photocopy of a certificate presented to the Craig family by the First Baptist Church of Normal for their contributions, 1987.

Folder 10: Miscellaneous

- 10.1 Scanned copy of a photo of Warren Craig standing over his mother's grave with handwritten notes in the margins, 2012.
- 10.2 Sign in sheet containing instructions for the rules of a temporary living lodge, undated.
- 10.3 Handwritten list of a list of stories Warren Craig used to tell which includes the titles of the stories and vague details but not the complete story, undated.
- 10.4 Warren Craig's membership card to the Theta Alpha Phi Fraternity, June 2 1947.
- 10.5 Collection of documents pertaining to loan and property acquisition by the Craigs, 1952.
- 10.6 Birth certificate for Linda Craig at Mennonite Hospital, February 22 1955.
- 10.7 Feeding instructions for Linda Craig at the time of her infancy that also contain general information of her dimensions, undated.
- 10.8 Enveloped containing a photo of a reunion featuring the Bloomington Lodge of Perfection, Zerubbabel Council, Prince of Jerusalem, Mt. Calvary, Rose Croix, and Bloomington Consistory members, 8x10, 1980.

Box 2

Loose Items

Account Book, 7 ½ x 12 inches, labeled "Cash," Joybelle D. Craig and Warren F. Craig,
January 1958 – 1980

Five Year Diary, 4 x 5 ½ inches, Joybelle Craig, 1976

Meal Menu Book, 3 x 4 ½ inches, Warren Craig, 2014

Personal Calendar, 3 ¾ x 6 ½ inches, Warren Craig, 2014

Five wire-bound notebooks, 8 x 10 ½ inches, Joy Craig diary

Orange (1982-1989)

Teal (1989-1992)

Red (1992-1996)

Blue (1996-2001)

Purple (2001-2010)