



"Older is better in so many ways, and what great perspective it brings to our days." -Steve and Anna Becca

Only a handful of true Wildwoodians can say. . .
"I WAS BORN AT HATTIE LONG'S!"



Hattie Long's house still stands on Montgomery Ave. in Wildwood. Birth records are dated between the years of 1926 to 1946



The Long's Maternity Home Sign hangs in the Wildwood Historic Museum on Pacific Ave.

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| 1. Brook Koeneke March 29, 1936 | 7. Louis Griesbach Jan. 19, 1937 |
| 2. Dave Grasso Jan. 20, 1927 | 8. Cathy Nesbitt Smith March 25, 1944 |
| 3. Rex Allen Garrison Dec. 14, 1947 | *9. Florence E. Newmaster July 19, 1941 |
| 4. Paul W. Dare Feb. 16, 1949 | 10. Carol Tozour Lechner Dec. 14, 1941 |
| 5. Ann Gaskill Rea Feb. 1, 1938 | |
| 6. Inge Friesenborg Laine Aug. 2, 1939 | |

(Carol makes the pilgrimage from Alexandria, VA back to the Wildwoods to reminisce about all of the fun she had growing up.)

A Brief History of Long's Maternity House

In the early 1900's, maternity homes were an easier, more comfortable, convenient way to deliver your baby and in Wildwood, there were two popular places for this! The first home, in which around 6,000 babies were delivered, was Dr. Margaret Mace's hospital in North Wildwood. The second home, located on Montgomery Avenue in Wildwood was also a very special maternity home that was run by mid-wife, Mrs. Hattie Long.

After Mr. Long passed away in 1923, Mrs. Long started the maternity home in 1926 in order to make a living for herself. The maternity home was successful for twenty years as four or more doctors worked along side of Mrs. Long to keep the business going. Mrs. Long and her team of doctors delivered around 515 babies during that time, nine of which were her own. Unfortunately, only



(Left) Mrs. Hattie Long (right) maternal Grandmother of John Long

seven of the nine Long babies survived; however, the oldest daughter of Mrs. Long grew up helping with the home and soon became a very helpful aid for Hattie Long during the birth processes.

John Long, grandson to Mrs. Long, was born on August 5, 1929. He was the only guy born into the Long family during that time-"he is the last of the Long's". John has visited the maternity home a couple times after the ma-

ternity home was no longer; his cousin Dotty lived there after Hattie Long passed away. There was also a small house attached to the back of the maternity home in which John's parents lived at the time as well.

Although it has since been sold many times, the maternity home still stands today, filled with many memories. It still has the long, enclosed porch in which the babies were held after they were born. This was a three bedroom house, and through the duration that the house was a maternity home, the bedrooms' upstairs were the sites of where the mothers stayed during the procedures. Mrs. Long made the living room into a bedroom for herself to make all of her guests comfortable.

At a photo gathering for this maternity home in July, 2012, ten people that were born in the home showed up to capture the memory for a lifetime.

by Ashley Goodsell

SAVE the DATE for 2013!
Monday July 15, 2013 10am
at the Hereford Lighthouse

- 9th Annual  Dr. Mace Baby Photo
- 4th Annual Long's Maternity Photo
- FIRST Annual "Babies Born at Home in Wildwood" Photo

Call (609) 522-2721 for more info

Thank you to Steve Murray & Betty Mugnier of the Hereford Lighthouse for your help with this very special event.