



Only a handful of true Wildwoodians can say. . .

“I WAS BORN AT HATTIE LONG’S!”



The Long's Maternity Home Sign hangs in the Wildwood Museum



(Left) Mrs. Hattie Long the grandmother of John Long
(Right) is the maternal Grandmother of John Long



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

1. Patricia Nesbitt Nagel Oct. 12, 1946
2. Anthony Dennison April 20, 1933
3. Cathy Nesbitt Smith March 25, 1944
4. Carol Tozour Lechner Dec. 14, 1941
5. Rex Allen Garrison Dec. 14, 1947
6. Paul W. Dare Feb. 16, 1949
7. Steve Wade Dec. 10, 1948
8. Karla Svard Frederick April 17, 1940
9. Ann Gaskill Rea Feb. 1, 1938
10. Linda Geiger Brown Oct. 4, 1950
11. Inge Friesenborg Laine Aug. 2, 1939
12. Audrey White Buckingham March 16, 1939
13. Louise Bebler Coront March 13, 1950
14. Louis Griesbach Jan. 19, 1937
15. John (Jack) Long Aug. 5, 1929
(the grandson of Hattie Long)
16. Dave Grasso Jan. 20, 1927
17. Evelyn "Snooks" Bailie July 27, 1936
18. Bill Callahan March 17, 1930
19. Brook Koeneke March 29, 1936

LONG'S BABIES who were here last year but were not able to attend this year.

- Edwin Nesbitt Oct. 2, 1940
- Irma Friesenborg McVey Sept. 9, 1935
- Maureen Cullen Manlandro Mar. 14, 1947
- Rita Cullen Canning April 3, 1943
- Susan Sheldon Luskin Nov. 26, 1946
- Eleanor Carlson Carr Dec. 2, 1934
- John Carr Sept. 14, 1934

which were her own. Unfortunately, only 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, (#15 above). 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 maternity 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, 2011, nineteen people that were born in the home showed up to capture the memory for a lifetime. Look for 2012 date in early next spring.

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