
Chapter 5

The Briggs Children

Laura, Mildred, Mary, John, Robert

The Children of Irwin and Myrtle Crabtree Briggs:

Laura Margaret BRIGGS

Birth: July 24, 1920

Upland, Indiana

Death: March 23, 1995

E. Stroudsburg,
Pennsylvania

Mildred Louise BRIGGS

Birth: August 30, 1921

Upland, Indiana

Mary Rosamond BRIGGS

Birth: July 17, 1925

Harrison, Nebraska

John Clinton BRIGGS

Birth: October 31, 1927

Sparta, New Jersey

Robert Irwin BRIGGS

Birth: January 10, 1929

Death: January 21, 1929

Buried: Broadway, New Jersey
Behind Methodist Church

Robert Briggs lived 11 days. He had a cleft palate and they didn't know how to do the surgical closure I guess. He had a hard time nursing and then caught pneumonia and died. It was very hard on my mother.

—*Mary Briggs Austin* ❀



The Briggs Family. Back row: Myrtle, John, Irwin. Front Row: Laura, Mildred, Mary.



The Briggs Family in front of the Barryville Parsonage. Back Row: Irwin, John, and Mary. Front Row: Mildred, Myrtle, and Laura.

Laura Margaret Briggs Brink



Laura Margaret Briggs Brink.



Mildred and Laura Briggs high school graduation, 1937.



Aunt Laura was always fun to be around. She had a delightful laugh and smile.



Aunt Laura by her car in May, 1979.

Mildred Louise Briggs Lufburrow



Aunt Mildred with two of her students.



Aunt Mildred visited the Austin family every summer. She was my first violin teacher. Here we are standing in front of our home. Aunt Mildred is holding my brother Chuck. I, Louise, am on the left, and my sister, Carol, is on the right.



The Detroit Zoo: Aunt Mildred holding Chuck. Louise and Carol stand beside her.



Mildred Louise Briggs.



Mildred Louise Briggs.



Aunt Mildred with her doll Dimples, that she gave to me.

Mary Rosamond Briggs Austin (My Mom)



Mary Rosamond Briggs at 14.



"Johnny taught me to drive in this car or tried to. I have on his helmet and jacket."
—Mary Briggs Austin

High School Graduation, 1943.



Mary Briggs, Nurse



After high school graduation, Mary went to nurses' training in New York.



Mary is standing in front of the Delaware River that flowed past their house in Barryville. The photo was taken after her first year of nurse's training.



Mary working at the hospital.



Danger Mary!



Mary Briggs in uniform.



"This photo was taken during my senior year of nursing school. The Nursing Supervisor made me take this picture over again. She said this one was too glamorous."
—Mary Briggs Austin



Cadet Nurse Mary Briggs.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Austin



Art, Mary, and Louise Austin.



The wedding picture of my parents, Art and Mary Austin.



Grandma and me (Louise) 1949.

Mary Writes to Art Austin

At her mother Myrtle's suggestion, Mary Briggs wrote Arthur Austin when he served in the Army in North Africa and Italy during World War II. Twelve years her senior, Art, not realizing that "little" Mary had grown up, kept his promise to meet Mary when he got out of the service. The rest is history.

Art and Mary Austin had four children: Louise Elizabeth (that would be me), Carol Joy, Charles Arthur, and Mary Marie. ❀



12835 Peach St., Southgate, Michigan. This is the house where I grew up and where Grandma lived when she stayed with us.

John Clinton Briggs



Here is John in a similar pose as his dad's in World War I.



John graduated from the University of South Dakota.



John at High School Graduation.



John with his car.