

**RALPH W. AND PHILIPPINE J. (ANDERSON, McBAIN) SHIREMAN**

**The Ralph William and Philippine Judith Anderson McBain Shireman family has been life-long residents of Richland County. Bill and Judy, as they are known by the family and friends, make their home in Rockbridge Township. They have a home on the site of the old Fiddlers Green School.**

**Bill is the only son of Ralph Henry Shireman and Helen Frances (McNelly) Shireman. Judy is the fourth daughter of Myron Austin Anderson and Philippine Helen (Duren, Anderson) King. Myron Anderson died in February 1949. He had operated a garage in the small village of Rockbridge. Myron's father, Charles Anderson, operated a saw mill and was a barn builder in the area. There are several of the barns that Charles and Myron built around the county. Myron's mother, Bertha (Austin) Anderson, died shortly after his birth. Charles never remarried. Charles' father, David Anderson, came from Ohio and homesteaded a 160 acre farm in Rockbridge Township. The farm was in Judy's family until her mother sold it in 1974. Judy has three older sisters: Shirley Anderson, Darlene Ward, wife of Harlan Ward, and Bertha King, wife of Robert King.**

**Judy, upon graduating from high school in 1961, married Charles McBain. They have three children: Cheryl Judith who is married to Kevin Lawrence and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Charles John McBain, Jr., who is in the army reserve and attends UW Center-Richland; and Christine Judith McBain, attending Richland Center High School.**

**In May, 1974, Judy became the first female deputy sheriff for Richland County; also the first female road officer. Before she was hired, there was a two-year court battle which she won and Richland County was found guilty of sex discrimination in its hiring practices in the Sheriff Department. She worked for the department two years before resigning. Charles and Judy were also divorced in that year — 1976.**

**Bill's family purchased the family farm in Sylvan Township from his grandfather, P.M. Shireman, in 1952. The Shiremans were also some of the first people in the county. Members of the family operated a harness shop, a boarding house that still stands in Richland Center, and Shireman's Veterinary Clinic. Bill, who is**

**second in the family, has three sisters: Darlene Perkins, wife of Bruce Perkins; Cindy Illsley, wife of Evans Illsley; and Kristi Durst, wife of Joe Durst.**

**Bill went into the army after graduation from Viola High School in 1964. His class was the last to graduate from the old Viola High School. He spent three years in the army during the Vietnam War. He was a laboratory technician, working in military hospitals. He returned to Richland Center after his tour of duty and was hired by the Richland Hospital. He worked in both the lab and x-ray departments. After seventeen years with the hospital he left in 1985 and is now working for a company in New Berlin, Wisconsin. He sells x-ray equipment. Bill had been married for a short time and had no children. He was divorced in 1975.**

**Bill and Judy became re-acquainted in 1976. Their families had known each other for years. They were married in 1978. They have three daughters: Rachel, Rochelle, Raquel. They are members of St. Mary's Church. Rachel attends school at St. Mary's.**

**Bill served as commander of the American Legion in 1972. He has his private pilot license, collects coins, stamps and guns. The family enjoys camping. Bill is still an active member of the United States Army Reserve.**

***Submitted by Ralph Wm. Shireman***