Samuel Dunstan Williams

Samuel Dunstan Williams, 73, died on June 18, 2010, at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, after a six-month battle with a rare and very aggressive form of cancer.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ichabod Thomas Williams (Eda Marie Dunstan), originally of New York and Long Island, and later of Hillsdale, NY, and Mountain Lake, FL. Sam grew up in Lawrence, attended Lawrence County Day School, and learned to sail at the Cedarhurst Yacht Club, winning many awards there and in races in the Great South Bay in his Lightning. He also enjoyed cruising on the open seas with his father and older brother, Tom, in his father's sailboat, Onda, a Tartan '28, which was kept in Sag Harbor for easier access to the open water. Sam became an avid racquet sport player at the Rockaway Hunting Club, winning many tennis and squash tournaments there as well as at the Union Club. He entered Gronton in 1949 and graduated with the class of '55. While there, he was a member of the crew (the prestigious A boat), and captain of the soccer team (playing center halfback), and he was skilled and tennis and Fives. A member of the chorus, he was given the honor of ringing the number-eight bell in the chapel as well, the biggest and deepest in tone. As an alumnus, here served as class agent until his death.

Growing up, Sam developed a love of music, art, and sports-car racing. At Harvard (class of '59), he majored in fine arts and studies classical piano. Told by his teacher that he would have to work very hard to become a concert classical pianist, he thought it would be more fun to race sports cars, which he proceeded to do with an Osca Bandini (which he owned with a good friend from Lawrence, Arthur K. Peck Jr.), and with his Austin-Healey. For fun he drove an HRG, a very rare automobile, and was very easily recognized motoring in tweeds and a smile. He was also a member and president of the Phoenix-S K Club at Harvard, and a member of the Harvard freshman crew, which he loved but gave up for auto racing. In 1959 and 60' he participated in many races with the Sports Car Club of America. In 1960, in Marlboro MD, he won the David Herson Memorial Trophy at the President's Cup Races in his Austin-Healey.

After Harvard, Sam served in the U.S. Armey as a member of the National Security Agency. Before beginning his long and respected career in the investment business, worked at his family's prestigious company, the I.T. Williams Company. Founded by his great-great-grandfather Ichabod Thomas Williams in 1838, it imported fine hardwoods from the world over. In the 1980's, he served as chair of the building committee to complete the construction of the Cathedral of St. John the Devine in New York under Dean James Parks Morton and Bishop Paul Moore Jr.

From 1984 to 2002, Sam chaired the National Council of the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco (the Palace of the Legion of Honor and the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum), a position he greatly enjoyed. Upon the death in 1939 of his wife, Mildred Anna Williams, Sam's great-uncle Henry K.S. Williams shipped his entire sizeable collection of paintings from Paris to the Legion of Honor in memory of his wife. H.K.S. Williams also bequeathed to them what was then their largest endowment for the purpose of collecting art of the same genre. Eighty important works were added before 1979. The Mildred Anna Williams collection remains one of

their most prestigious. It was natural that Sam would serve as chair. The Council's goal was to strengthen the national stature of the Fine Art Museum of San Francisco. He was very proud of the accomplishments of the National Council during his tenure, under the leadership of Ian McKibben White and Harry S. Parker III and the museum's board of trustees. The chairs during that time included the late Leonard E. Kingsley, Mrs. W Robert Phillip (Alexandra Keliam), Richard W. Goss II, and Mrs. Alfred S. Wilsey (Dede Buchanan). The late John Rosekrans, grandson of Alma Spreckles, founder of the Palace of the Legion of Honor, was also instrumental in the creation and completion of many museum projects with Sam. The council has been disbanded under the present director.

At the time of his death, Sam was a senior managing director of the Carret Asset Management LLC. In 1966, he became a life member of the Union Club, where he served as a governor from 1971 to 1979. He also served on various committees, including the committee on candidates, which he chaired from 1976 to 1979, and the squash, entertainment, house finance, and art committees. 1981, he joined the Brook, and he was also a member of the Pilgrims. He was a third generation member of the Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York for 40 years, and served as its president from 2001 to 2004. On Long Island, he was a longstanding member of the Rockaway Hunting Club, the Lawrence Beach Club, and the Cedarhurst Yacht Club. He was a member of the Mill Reef Club in Antigua. From 2003 to 2010, he served as president of the board of his cooperative apartment building. Since its inception in 1996, he sat on the board of the AHRC New York City Foundation, Inc., an organization that benefits individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, for which he was an ardent advocate. (Sam's 25-year old son, Edward, whom he adored, is Autistic.)

An avid sportsman, he loved the ocean, sailing, deep powder skiing, squash and tennis. Brilliant, sensitive, a consummate gentleman with extraordinary charm and poise and a wonderful sense of humor, an even temper and a great smile, he will be missed by many.

Survivors include Sam's beloved wife of 26 years, the former Susan D. Welch; their son Edward; two brothers, Thomas Williams of Inverness CA, and Resolvert Waldron Williams of Martha's Vineyard; a nephew and many cousins.

THOMAS WILLIAMS

The History of New York State Biographies, Part 67, pp. 372-373. Editor, Dr. James Sullivan.

Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1927

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New York City is the headquarters of the oldest and largest firm in the world dealing in mahogany and other imported cabinet woods--Ichabod T. Williams and Sons. The present head of the firm is Thomas Williams, who, in his personality, character and business methods sustains the fine ideals and traditions of one of America's oldest Colonial families.

Welsh genealogists have traced this family back to the ninth century, placing it among the oldest and most distinguished in Wales. The Williamses of Elizabethport, New Jersey, including the ancestors of Thomas Williams, all migrated from Connecticut. Among the early comers to Wethersfield, that State, were several families of the name of Williams. Among these was Matthew, "the brickmaker," as he was called, and Thomas, who came to the town at a later date. Whether these two men were related is not known. By far the greater number of New Jersey Williamses are descended from Matthew; but it is possible that the branch of the family here under discussion may trace its lineage from Thomas. That Christian name was used quite commonly b both families. The line here recorded has been traced back to Benjamin Williams, who died February 26, 1731-32, and whose will was probated soon after that date. His wife's Christian name was Mindwell (her surname has not yet been learned), and her father's given name was Joseph.

Their son, Thomas Williams, was born in Elizabethtown in 1724, and died July 21, 1776. He married Rebecca Halsey, born in 1729, and died October 5, 1785, daughter of Joseph Halsey. Ichabod Williams, son of Thomas and Rebecca (Halsey) Williams, was born May 10, 1768, and died September 23, 1837. He married Hannah, who was born May 18, 1766, and died December 31, 1852. Their children were: 1. Elizabeth W., who married Jacob D. Howell. 2. Mary D., who married Ichabod Woodruff. 3. Phebe C.,

Page 372who married William Craig. 4. Thomas of whom further; he was executor of his father's will. 5. Hannah, who married Jacob H. Davison. 6. Ichabod. Ichabod Williams Sr., was a clockmaker, and he left his shop, which stood beside his residence, to his youngest son for his own use, rent free, so long as he used it himself. He was also to have use of half of the family residence—which he was already occupying—rent free.

Thomas Williams, son of Ichabod and Hannah Williams, born in 1800, was the founder of the lumber business already mentioned, and of which more is to follow. He had his home at No. 18 Beaver Street, New York City, and the house is now in possession of his grandson, Henry K. S. Williams. The city directory of 1823 names him as a cabinetmaker, with a place of business at "Broad n. Beaver" Street. The following year he is named as a member of the firm of Williams and Dawson, cabinetmakers, at No. 51 Broad Street. In 1827, they were located at No. 65 Broad Street. Thomas Williams married Sarah Waldron, born October 29, 1788, and died in 1862, daughter of Adolph and Christina (Zabriskie) Waldron, and great- granddaughter of Resolveert, or Resolved, Waldron, who was said to be "Perhaps the most noted of the Harlem Patentees." The Waldron farm extended from the East River at Eighty-sixth Street to the North River.

Their son, Ichabod Thomas Williams, was born in New York City, in 1826, and died there in 1899. He was an officer in the 27th Regiment, which was the predecessor of the famous 7th Regiment, New York National Guard, and took part in the famous Astor House Riots. The major part of his time and energy was occupied in the development of the lumber business, which his father had established in connection with his cabinetmaking and to which Ichabod T. Williams succeeded. But he was a man of fine artistic taste, and this he indulged, especially in the collection of pictures. He was a director of a number of important financial institutions. Ichabod T. Williams married Elizabeth Skelding, of Stamford, Connecticut, which was the home of that family since the beginning of the eighteenth century. They had four children: 1. Thomas, of whom further. 2. Henry K. S., who resides in Paris. 3. Waldron, deceased. 4. Lloyd, deceased. The family were members of the Parish of the Incarnation.

Thomas Williams, son of Ichabod Thomas and Elizabeth (Skelding) Wiliams, was born in Stamford, Connecticut, August 10, 1854. He was educated at Churchill's well-known school in Sing Sing, and then went to work in his father's lumber business. This business was established in 1838 on Broad Street near the site of the present Stock Exchange. From there it was moved to Broadway and White Streets. The venture was successful from the beginning, growing in volume and importance with the expansion of the city; so it was not long before later premises and docking facilities were required. Accordingly a location at Desbrosses Street and the North River was found and was occupied until 1850. The establishment of the Desbrosses Street ferry by the Pennsylvania Railroad brought congestion to that district and made it necessary to move the business again. So, Ichabod T. Williams, who had succeeded his father in the management of the business, purchased the property on the east side of Eleventh Avenue, from Twenty-

fifth to Twenty-sixth streets and extending to the river. At this time both hard and soft woods were brought from the Great lakes to Buffalo and then shipped by canal and Hudson river to New York City. In 1885 the city of New York condemned the waterfront between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth streets, building piers and docks and establishing what is now known as Twelfth Avenue. The firm continued its retail business on the remainder of this property on Eleventh Avenue, where the offices are still located, but it was forced to seek a new waterfront property. A purchase was made of about half a mile of waterfront property located on the main ship canal in New York Bay, between Tompkinsville and Stapleton, Staten Island. There, with wonderful facilities of deep water and rail connections, sawmills were built and the largest mahogany and hardwood yards in New York City were established.

In 1880 Thomas Williams became a partner in the firm, and two years later his brother, Henry K. S., was admitted to membership, the firm name becoming Ichabod T. Williams and Sons. The two remaining sons, Waldron and Lloyd (both now deceased), were later admitted to partnership. In 1900, Thomas Resolved Williams, elder son of Thomas Williams, became associated with the firm, and became a partner in 1905. Henry K. S. Williams retired in 1910 and the vacancies left by subsequent deaths of the two younger brothers were filled in 1918 by the admission to partnership of Frederick C. Leary and Thomas Blagden. In October, 1919, the city condemned the waterfront property on Staten Island for municipal docks; and for the sixth time it became necessary for the firm to find a new home. Industrial locations from Boston to New Orleans were examined, and it as finally decided to purchase seventy acres of property owned by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation at Carteret, New Jersey, which borders Staten Island Sound in New York harbor. This property, served by the line of the Central Railroad of New Jersey. connecting with all trunk lines, has a frontage of 1,300 feet on a thirty-foot channel--an ideal location as a manufacturing and distributing point. Construction of the largest mahogany sawmill and veneer mill in the world was begun in 1922 and completed in 1925. With the keen competition of modern business, profits are now derived from volume and through economy of operating such as the facilities mentioned afford. These advantages enable the firm to continue to carry the very choicest of cabinet woods in logs, lumber and veneers and to offer the lowest possible prices to consumers. A description of the plant would be too technical for the average reader, but the following facts and figures may convey some idea of the magnitude of this great New York industry. The waterfront is developed with a slip for lighters; a reinforced concrete dock three hundred and fifty feet long by one hundred feet wide on which is direct rail connection with the Central Railroad of new Jersey; a timber basin of eight hundred and fifty feet frontage and covering approximately ten acres. Three large steamers can be discharged at one time. Between the dock and sawmill a large logyard is laid out, equipped with standard gauge railroad alongside each pile of timber, which, together with the timber basin, provides a storage capacity for over fifteen million feet of logs. Two thirty-ton oil-burning steam-driven locomotive cranes and four electric derricks handle the timber. The entire plant is electrically driven. There are sixteen buildings with a total floor area of about 250,00 square feet-six acres.

For many years the firm maintained its own fleet of schooners on the Great Lakes to bring hardwood lumber to Buffalo. They also owned and operated sawmill sin Kentucky and elsewhere until the timber in those sections was exhausted. Large quantities of choice hardwoods have been exported. At one time the firm opened yards and an office in London, England, with agents in France, Belgium, and Germany. For many years it has maintained offices and resident managers in British Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Colombia, and has imported tropical cabinet woods from every known producing area. It has an office and resident manager in Grand Bassam, Ivory coast, French West Africa. An interesting item in connection with the logging methods of that far-off continent is that the "tsetse" fly makes the use of cattle impossible. African logs are so large and heavy that tractors have not worked successfully; hence the use of "man-power" only in getting out the huge logs, which often weight ten to fifteen tons.

Notwithstanding the exacting demands made by this business upon the time, thought and energies of its senior partner, Thomas Williams, he has still found it possible to take an active part in the conduct of many other important organizations. He is president of George D. Emery Company; Stapleton Dock and Warehouse Company; Matowoc Corporation; Resolved Corporation, and is a director of the following corporations: White Rock Company; Baltimore & New York Railroad Company; Niagara Fire Insurance Company; United States Mortgage and Trust Company; National Bank of Commerce of New York; Edgewater Mills; Thompson Starrett Company; United States Safe Deposit Company. He is a trustee of the Mutual Life Insurance Company and of the Nassau Industrial School. He is a member of the executive committee of the Charity Organization Society; is chairman of the Community Trust; president of the Rockaway Hunting Club and a member of the Union, Manhattan, Bankers'. Jekyl Island, Mountain Lake, Broad Street and Wickyup clubs. He is a member of the St. Nicholas Society, and is a vestryman of St. John's Episcopal Church of Lawrence, Long Island, where he resides.

On October 21, 1880, Mr. Williams married Emma Wells Stott, daughter of Charles H. Stott, of Stottsville, New York, they have four children: 1. Thomas Resolved. 2. Henry Waldron. 3. Edith S., married to Mr. Van Blydenburgh, of Smithtown, Long Island. 4. Dorcas, who married Morris D. Ferris, of Lawrence, Long Island.

Pasted from http://www.newyorkroots.org/bookarchive/historyofnewyorkstate/bio/pt67.html

The New York Times





June 24, 2010

Paid Notice: Deaths WILLIAMS, SAMUEL DUNSTAN

WILLIAMS--Samuel Dunstan, 73, died Friday, June 18 after a six month battle with cancer. He was the devoted husband of Susan, and the adoring father of their autistic son Edward. He is also survived by two brothers Thomas of Inverness, CA and Resolvert Waldron Williams of Martha's Vineyard, MA, a nephew and many cousins. Sam grew up in Lawrence, Long Island. He was a long time New Yorker. He attended Lawrence Country Day School, graduated from Groton School '55, where he was a member of the crew and captain of the soccer team, and served as the class agent until his death. He also graduated from Harvard '59, where he was a member of the Freshman Crew and was the President of the Phoenix S.K. Club. He served in the U.S. Army as a member of the National Security Agency. Before beginning his long career in the investment business he worked at his family's company, the I.T. Williams Company, which imported hardwoods from the world over. At the time of his death he was a Senior Managing Director of Carret Asset Management, LLC. In the 1980's he was the Chair of the Building Capital Committee to finish the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Sam was a member of The Brook, and since 1966 of The Union Club where he served as a governor from 1971 to 1979. He also served on various committees including the Committee on Candidates of which he was Chair from 1976 to 1979, the House Committee, the Finance Committee, the Art Committee and the Entertainment Committee. He was also a member of The Pilgrims. He was a member of the Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York for 40 years, and served as President from 2001 to 2004. On Long Island he was a long standing member of the Rockaway Hunting Club, the Lawrence Beach Club and the Cedarhurst Yacht Club. He was a member of The Mill Reef Club in Antigua. He served as the President of the Board of his cooperative apartment building from 2003 to 2010. He also served on the Board of AHRC / NYC Foundation, Inc. since it's inception in 1996. He was an ardent advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities because of his son, Edward. He was an avid sportsman who loved the ocean, sailing, deep powder skiing, squash and tennis. He was a brilliant, sensitive, consummate and elegant gentleman with extraordinary charm, poise and a great smile. He will be missed by many. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in Sam's memory to The Saint Nicholas Society of the City of NY, 20 West 44th Street, Room 508, New York, NY 10036-6603 or to The Cedarhurst Yacht Club, c/o NMB Books, Inc., PO Box 631, Pomona, NY 10970. A memorial service will be held in September.

York Volunteer Infantry, with which he continued to serve until the end of the war. He was mustered out of the service on June 28, 1865.

When he completed his military service he went to California, where for five years he was employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company as an operator. In 1870 he returned to his old home in Saratoga County, bought a farm, and conducted it successfully until 1896. In that year he sold the farm, and came into Amsterdam to live. Here he has been a resident ever since that time, and has come to be most highly regarded by his many acquaintances and friends.

It is only natural that a man who has so nobly served his country should be deeply interested in military matters, as Mr. Wait is interested in them. He served for nine years on the staff of the commanding general of the Patriarchs Militant, in which he held the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and now has a retired commission with that rank. He was formerly commander of the Amsterdam Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, in all of whose affairs he was most active. This post, which at one time had three hundred members, now has but ten. Mr. Wait, among his other activities, also is active in fraternal and social organizations, being a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, in which he is affiliated with the Amsterdam Chapter, No. 81, of the Royal Arch Masons; with the Knights Templar, holds the thirty-second degree, and is identified with the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; the Artisans, of Amsterdam, Lodge No. 84, of the Free and Accepted Masons; the Valley of Albany Consistory of the Scottish Rite; and Oriental Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Welcome Lodge, in which he has been admitted as an honorary participant in its activities. He is a Past Grand of the Galway Lodge, No. 453, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Galway, New York; Past Chief Patriarch of Star Encampment, No. 33, of the same order, of Amsterdam; Past District Deputy Grand Patriarch; and Past Captain of Canton, Amsterdam, No. 20, also of the Odd Fellows.

On August 15, 1865, Charles Franklin Wait married Alice H. Loomis, who died in 1903, daughter of Gilbert L. Loomis, also a member of one of the old families in that part of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Wait had a daughter, Alice Delia, born October 2, 1871, who married (first) Dewitt A. Devendorf, of Fort Hunter, and to them was born a daughter, Dorothy, who married H. Stanley Alstrom, of Springfield, Massachusetts. By marriages in this family, Mr. Wait has two great-grand-children, namely, Virginia Alstrom and Robert Stanley Alstrom. Mrs. Devendorf subsequently married J. S. Burt, and is now living in Oakland, California.

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who married William Craig; Thomas, of whom further; he was executor of his father's will; Hannah, who married Jacob H. Davison; and Ichabod. Ichabod Williams, Sr., was a clockmaker, and he left his shop, which stood beside his residence, to his youngest son for his own use, rent free, so long as he used it himself. He also was to have the use of half the family residence—which he was already occupying—rent free.

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FRANCIS CLARKE WILLIAMS—Devotion to the interests and needs of his community have marked the career of Francis Clarke Williams, one of the leading attorneys of Corning, New York, who has received many official positions of trust and responsibility from his fellow-citizens, including the office of Food Administrator for his locality during the Great War.