

**ALAN C. CITO-IANNACITO**, North High Class of 1959



Charles Cito, Alan, Ellen Cito-Iannacito c: 1943

I didn't know my legal name was Iannacito until I went on active duty in the USN after high school. My *Molise (Esernia, Italy)*, paternal grandparents and my immediate family all acquiesced through immigration as "Cito." My father, Charles Cito, hadn't changed my name on the birth certificate to "Cito." My Grandmother Carmela "Nellie" was delighted that, of all of my family, I kept the legal name. Two more cousins fell into line after me. My mother, Ellen A. Robinson, from Louisville, Colorado liked the English name "Alan," a very un-Italian name; not at all a traditional family Cito-Iannacito moniker. There you have Alan Cito-Iannacito.

My maternal grandfather, William Robinson, immigrated from Northumberland, England and managed coal mines in Louisville, Colorado. My Grandmother, Laura Ewing Matthews Robinson is alleged to have crossed the prairies from Iowa in a covered wagon. I have evidence that her family were possible Confederate sympathizers. Laura Ewing was a Southern Baptist with Arkansas and Texas connections. She was educated at Drake University in Iowa, and was a Louisville, Colorado piano teacher, artist and beloved character.

Unlike one of my bigoted uncle's, who we think had Klan affiliation, my Grandmother Laura and my Mother Ellen loved my father, a black-haired Italian from the Cito-Iannacito homestead on Gun Barrel Hill in Niwot, Colorado. During High School, Dad lived in Louisville with my Great Grandparents, DiLemma and my Aunt Angie Cito (Sottli) Daum. In Louisville Dad met my mother, an accomplished dancer and downright hoot.

My father Charles and his cousin, Vincent Damiana, from Louisville, (Son Larry Damiana, North High 59), were good musicians who played regularly with Dick LaSalle and other orchestras in Northern Colorado. They both went to Denver for education and work.

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My father attended D.U. and Barnes Business School. He worked for Ford Motor Company and then in the mining machinery business in Denver from 1939 to 1945. We lived at 2741 Wolf Street. I was four years old when Dad went to San Pedro, California with the Navy. Mother and I lived with an Aunt in Pasadena. Vince Damiana and family went to San Leandro for the ship yards. We all ended back at 2741 Wolf St together. Larry and I attended Edison Elementary. I left in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to a four year ordeal in Houston, Texas. My family and I returned to Denver, to two locations between 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and Yates St. I attended the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Lake, matriculated to North High School—my Colorado Connection.



Cito-Iannacito Homestead Barn,  
Highway 52, Gun Barrel Hill, Niwot, Colorado.  
Cousin Dan Cito-Iannacito painted  
the original flag during the first Iraqi War.

Family Matriarch and legend "Aunt Angie" c: 1978



Carmella "Nellie" &  
Angelo Cito-Iannacito



William Robinson



Laura Ewing Robinson