

Collection #  
M 1416  
OM 0693

**WILLIAM RILEY AND CATHERYN SCANLON ENNIS  
COLLECTION, 1931-2005**

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Processed by

Maire Gurevitz  
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department  
William Henry Smith Memorial Library  
Indiana Historical Society  
450 West Ohio Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 1 manuscript box, 1 oversized manuscript folder, 4 photograph folders, 1 folder OVA graphics

**COLLECTION DATES:** 1931–2005

**PROVENANCE:** Linda Garner, Donna Dufek and Will Ennis, Greenfield, IN

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:** Scanlon Family Materials, M1115

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 2009.0019

**NOTES:**

## BIOGRAPICAL SKETCH

William Riley Ennis (18 May 1925–24 May 2008) was born to Minor and Ida Brummett Ennis in Indianapolis. Minor Ennis worked as a painter/contractor, and the family, which included seven siblings (Verbal, Everett, Rosetta, Marjorie, Jack, Philip, and Harry), resided on the east side of Indianapolis.

William attended Arsenal Technical High School, where he played on the football team. He enrolled in the Reserve Officers Training Corps while in high school and then transitioned into naval training upon his graduation. He served on the U.S.S. Gunston Hall as a Machinist until he was honorably discharged in May 1946.

While in the Navy, William married Catheryn Scanlon in Portland, Oregon, on 6 October 1945. The couple settled back in Indianapolis and had three children: William II, Linda, and Donna. William worked for the family business, Ennis Brothers Paint Contractors. He was an active square dancer, RV enthusiast, and member of the Old Bethel United Methodist Church and Masonic Lodge #669.

Catheryn Scanlon Ennis (12 August 1925–7 July 2008) was born to Joseph and Blanche Fitch Scanlon in Scottsburg, Indiana. She had two siblings, Josephine and Edward. The Scanlon family moved to Indianapolis in 1936. Catheryn graduated from George Washington High School in 1943. She was a homemaker for William and their three children. Her activities included serving as a Den Mother in the Cub Scouts and also serving as secretary and treasurer of the Coachmen Camping Club. Additionally, she was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Old Bethel Methodist Church.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

Ancestry.com Library Edition

“William R. Ennis Obituary.” Accessed August 1, 2018.

<http://tributes.com/obituary/show/83484569>

“Catheryn S. Ennis Obituary.” Accessed August 1, 2018.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/indystar/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=144879724>

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains mostly certificates and programs documenting the school years, naval career, and social activities of William and Catheryn Ennis. The collection also contains a 1943 yearbook from George Washington High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, and an Arsenal Technical Schools reunion book from the Class of 1943 wherein class members write a brief update of their lives and activities since high school.

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Snapshot, Ennis Brothers– Bill, Phil, Jack, Harry, ca. 1930s

Report Cards, Catheryn Scanlon, 1931–1943

Autograph Book, School 46, 1938–1939

Diploma and Certificate, Arsenal Technical Schools, 1942–1943

Certificates, U.S. Navy, 1942–1946

Portraits and Class Photos, U.S. Navy, 1942–1946

High School Diploma, George Washington High School, 1943

*Senior Post* Yearbook, George Washington High School, 1943

Certificate Commemorating the Equator Crossing, 1944

Marriage Certificate, 1945

“Harmony in Marriage” by Leland Foster Wood, 1944

Group Snapshots, Ennis Siblings and their spouses, ca. 1950s

Indiana Monitor and Freemason’s Guide, 1953

Certificate, Freemasons, 1955

Certificates, Freemasons, 1955–2005

Snapshot, William Ennis and his son, William Ennis II, 1956

Certificates, Social Activities, 1960–1996

### CONTAINER

Photograph:  
Folder 1 of 4

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

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| Commemorative Book, <i>One Hundred Years Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis</i> , 1965 | Box 1, Folder 12 |
| Certificate, Den Mother, 1966   | Box 1, Folder 13 |
| Reunion Program, Arsenal Technical Schools, Class of 1943, 1993   | Box 1, Folder 14 |
| Army Horse Show Ribbon, n.d.  | Box 1, Folder 15 |
| Fireman's Stripe and Patch, n.d.  | Box 1, Folder 15 |