

## Spooner Family of the Flathead Reservation in Montana

In the Pacific Northwest by 1884

Chalk Courchane

Joseph Spooner was born in 1834 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada to Joseph and Angelica Dow Spooner.

On February 10, 1861 he married Priscilla Dow, daughter of Anthony and Angela Dow.

They had six children: William B., Orville J., Orell F., George C., Mary L. and Noah Joseph Spooner.

Joseph Spooner. The death of this valuable citizen, which occurred April 10, 1899, was a source of deep regret to all who had the pleasure and the benefit of his acquaintance. He was born on February 3, 1834, at Montreal, Canada, the son of Joseph and Angelica (Dow) Spooner, also natives of Canada. They were the parents of fourteen children, of whom Joseph was the fourth. Mr. Spooner attended the Brothers' school until he entered the Jesuit college and studied for the priesthood. He was graduated at the age of twenty-two, but was never ordained. After leaving school he went to California with two of his brothers, and very successfully mined there for five years, and while there sold a mine which had come into his possession and went back to Canada, where he followed farming in the neighborhood of Montreal for the next ten years. He then opened a hotel at Cedars, which he conducted for four years. In 1884 he came to Montana and took up a claim two and one-half miles east of Victor on which he resided to the time of his death. His farm comprises 480 acres, and is well improved with a good brick house, modern in construction and arrangement and furnished with taste and judgment, with good barns, outhouses and other necessary appliances, and containing one of Bitter Root's famous orchards, which yields abundant crops of superior fruit.

All about the family that indicates thrift and skill in management, public spirit and enterprise in improvement, and taste and foresight in arrangement, is practically the work of Mr. Spooner's own agricultural genius. He was a model farmer and a good citizen in every respect, whose life work was well done. In religious faith Mr. Spooner was a devout Catholic, and in political affiliations a zealous Republican. He was married on February 10, 1861, to Miss Priscilla Dow, daughter of Anthony and Angela Dow, of Montreal. Their family consisted of fourteen children, of whom six are now living. Progressive Men of the State of Montana, A. W. Bowen, page 1820, Chicago,

Noah Joseph Spooner was born on February 12, 1887 in Victor, Montana, the son of Joseph Spooner and Priscilla Dow of Canada. He was a clerk at Beckwith's Mercantile Store in St. Ignatius, Montana. He drowned at Mission Dam near St. Ignatius, Montana on August 28, 1945 and was buried August 31, 1945 in Missoula, Montana. The boat he was in at Mission Dam turned over and the cold water caused him to have a heart attack.

He Married Anna Laporte who was born Feb. 2, 1887, Campbell, Franklin Co., Nebraska and died in Campbell, Franklin, Kentucky in 1975. Her parents were Francois Xavier Laporte (1852-1912 and Marguerite Brouille (1861-1947), both died in Campbell, Kentucky. Anna's siblings were:

1. Mary Stephene Laporte (1890–1975) 9 Jul 1890 • Campbell, Franklin, Nebraska
2. Imelda Laporte (1901–1987) 21 Aug 1901 • Campbell, Franklin, Nebraska
3. Charles Octave Laporte (1882–1945) he died 22 Jan 1945 • St. Ignatius, Lake Co., Montana
4. Laura Laporte (1880–1949) she died on 12 Jun 1949 • Canada
5. Mariam Ludovicam "Louise" Laporte (1885–1958) 23 Mar 1958 • St. Ignatius, Lake Co., Montana
6. Rose Anne Laporte (1884–1963) 5 Oct 1963 • Lincoln, Nebraska
7. Mary Stephene Laporte (1890–1975) Apr. 1975

#### WORLD WAR I DRAFT REGISTRATIONS: LAKE COUNTY (FORMER MISSOULA COUNTY) "S" SURNAMES. June 5, 1917, Registration:

Spooner, George Charles; 2. St. Ignatius; 3. 35 yrs.; 4. 28 May 1883; 5. white; 10. native-born citizen; 16. farmer; 17. self; 18. St. Ignatius; 19. Mrs. Louise Spooner; 20. St. Ignatius; 22. medium; 25. medium; 27. brown; 28. dark; 30. Sept. 12, 1918.

Spooner, George Lee; 2. Charlo; 3. 18 yrs.; 4. 3 Dec 1899; 5. white; 10. native-born citizen; 16. farmer; 17. myself; 18. (blank); 19. Elizabeth Spooner (wife); 20. Charlo; 22. medium; 25. medium; 27. brown; 28. brown; 29. no; 30. Sept. 12, 1918.

Spooner, Noah Joseph - 30 yrs.; 2. St. Ignatius; 3. 12 Feb 1887; 4. natural-born citizen; 5. Victor, MT; 7. clerk; 8. Beckwith Merchantile Co., St. Ignatius; 9. wife; 10. married, Caucasian; 11. no; 12. no; 13. short, medium; 14. brown, brown, no; 16. June 5, 1917.

Spooner, William Carl - 22 yrs.; 2. D'Aste; 3. 4 Feb 1895; 4. natural-born citizen; 5. Milladore, WI; 7. farmer; 8. myself, D'Aste; 9. none; 10. single, Caucasian; 12. no; 13. tall, medium; 14. blue, brown, no; 16. June 5, 1917.

1920 U.S. Census, Montana age 32 years, he lived in St. Ignatius, Montana. His wife Anna shown as 32 years, and their niece Adeline Laport, age 2 years, lived with them. His parents were from Canada. Owned his home and could read and write.

Record Citation: 1920 United States Federal Census. Official Enumeration Date: January 1, 1920. Enumeration District: 169. Place: St Ignatius,

Missoula, Montana, United States. Household ID: 13. Publication Number: T625. Page: 1A. Line Number: 49. Microfilm

Number:1820973. Image number: 01040.

STATE		COUNTY		TOWNSHIP		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE		ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE		SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.	
MONTANA		MISSOULA		ST. IGNATIUS		ST. IGNATIUS		JANUARY 1, 1920		169		A	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		NAME		RELATION		EDUCATION		NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE		OCCUPATION			
PLACE OF BIRTH		AGE		SEX		EDUCATION		NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE		OCCUPATION			
PLACE OF BIRTH		AGE		SEX		EDUCATION		NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE		OCCUPATION			
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
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17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
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19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
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27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
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35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
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41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

1930 U.S. Census, Montana, this says he was born in 1887.

The Ronan Pioneer, Jan. 28, 1932, P4:

"St. Ignatius

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Cunningham entertained at a "500" party at their home on Saturday night.

Noah Spooner and Mrs. Ben Detert received the favors of high score and L. C. McKinnon and Mrs. Noah Spinner received the consolations. A lunch was served at midnight to Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Harbour, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Strong, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Detert and their son Herman and daughter Verna, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. McKinnon, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Thompson, Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laporte, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Spooner, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Cunningham, Mrs. J.A. Morrow, Sylvan Morrow, Harold Watkins, Walter Spies and Doris Cunningham."

and

"Mr. and Mrs. Noah Spooner, entertained at Sunday dinner Mr. and Mrs. Ben Detert, their son Harvey and daughter Verna."

From The Ronan Pioneer, Jan 28, 1932:

Mrs. R. P. Stoll and Mrs. J. M. Owens' entertained the Catholic Ladies' Club at the home of the latter on Tuesday afternoon. During the business meeting plans were made for a card party to be held on February 4 and a committee consisting of Mrs. Noah Spooner, Mrs. George Spooner, Mrs. Therriault and Mrs. Ed Turnage was appointed to be in charge of the party. Refreshments were served during the social hour. Mrs. Frank Marin will entertain the club at the next meeting."

Mrs. A. R. Tomlinson moved her restaurant Saturday night from the old bank building to the lower floor of the Mission hotel.

The Ronan Pioneer, Jan. 28, 1932:

"St. Ignatius

Mrs. Myrtle Hilton was hostess to the Royal Neighbors at her home on Saturday, January 23. During the business meeting the officers which they elected at their last meeting were installed. Lunch was served by Mrs. Noah Spooner will entertain the organization at its next meeting on February 6."

and

"George Spooner spent a few days in Butte on business early this week."

and

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Harbour were hosts to a number of their friends at a "500" party Thursday evening at their ranch home. Prizes for high scores were awarded to Mrs. J. H. Newton and Herman Detert. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Spooner, Mr. and Mrs. George Buckhouse, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Detert, Herman Detert, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Strong, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Rognrud, Mr. and Mrs. Verne Hammond and Donald and "Chuck" Linn.

From The Ronan Pioneer, Feb. 11, 1932:

"St. Ignatius

Mesdames Ed Turnage, George Spooner and Terriault were hostesses at the card party given by the Catholic Ladies' club at the Loyola hall on Thursday evening. he prizes for high scores were received by Noah Spooner and Delia Vincent and the consolations by Bob McClure and Mrs. J. E. Simpkins. Lunch was served at midnight."

"Mr. and Mrs. George Spooner, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Lee, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Newton were Sunday dinner guests at the Bert Nelson home."

The Ronan Pioneer, Feb. 25, 1932, p4:

"St. Ignatius

Mr. and Mrs. George Spooner are spending several days in Butte on business. Mr. and Mrs. Noah Spooner are taking care of their ranch during their absence."

The Ronan Pioneer, Apr. 7, 1932, p4:

"St. Ignatius

The Foothills Country club met Wednesday afternoon, March 30, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Spooner. Mrs. George Spooner gave a reading entitled "Friendship"; and Mrs. A. W. Miller read a story "Tomorrow Never Comes." During the business meeting the club decided to remodel the Equity Hall. The work started April 14 and the labor is being donated. Mrs. A.W. Miller and Mrs. J.W. Brewton were guests of the club. Refreshments were served by the hostess at the close of the meeting. The next meeting will be a no-host one at the Equity hall."

The interior of the Buckhouse Meat Market is being decorated."

The Ronan Pioneer, May 12, 2016, p5:

"St. Ignatius

Mr. and Mrs. George Spooner were Sunday dinner guests at the N. J. Spooner home."

1940 U.S. Census, Montana, Lake Co., Mission:

Noah J. Spooner 53 years

Anna C. Spooner 53 years wife from Nebraska

George C. Spooner 56 years

Louise D. Spooner 55 years from Nebraska called "Louis D." on census

STANDARD, BUTTE, SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 23, 1940.

#### Events of Interest in the Treasure State

Recreational Center in St. Ignatius Will Attract Throngs. ST. IGNATIUS, June 22 —Special)—The St. Ignatius swimming pool opened the first of the week. Prior to the filling of the pool a three-inch layer of sand was spread extending to the bathhouse. The work was done under the direction of the recreation council with the financial backing of the St. Ignatius Woman's club, which sponsored the building of the pool. A chlorine solution has been added to the water this year as a health safeguard and antiseptic foot baths have been installed in the dressing rooms. In connection with the swimming pool are sand boxes, croquet and horseshoe courts and other organized games. Last year between 100 and 150 children and adults were in the pool daily. Mrs. Anna Detert, assisted by her daughter, Mrs. John Lensman, entertained the Foothill's club at her home Wednesday afternoon. Plans were made for their husbands' entertainment which is to be a picnic at the home of Mrs. Joe Newton Friday. Members present were: Mesdames Joe Newton; Seimer Detert, A. R. Anderson, Noah Spooner, Alfred Hulton, Mary McNeil, Arthur Detert, George Spooner, Albert Thompson, Ira Lee, Sterling Bail, G. A. Lensman, Tom Wheeler, Harold Nelson, Robert Roseliep, William Bristol, M. C. Mortenson, Leo Cunson; Theodore Cunningham, D. W. Johnson, Mrs. William Lensman and Mrs. Gene Norman were guests of the club.





After celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in June 1990, Jean passed away later the same year.

In 1995, Cap sold the family home and moved into the Maxwell Apartments in St. Ignatius and spent many happy hours at the Senior Citizens Center visiting and playing bingo. He never turned down the opportunity to play pinochle or cribbage and always had a story about the "good ol' days."

He is survived by his children, Sharon (David) Todd, Bill (Shirley) Cordis and Gary (Kristy) Cordis; nine grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and per his request no services will be held. A celebration of his life will be held from noon to 4 p.m., Monday, March 3, at the St. Ignatius Senior Citizen Center. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the St. Ignatius Senior Citizens Center.

Sunset Memorial Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at [missoulafuneralhomes.com](http://missoulafuneralhomes.com).

