

# FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

**Kentwood Players presents**

## MAME



**Book by**  
*Jerome Lawrence*  
& *Robert E. Lee*

**Music & Lyrics by**  
*Jerry Herman*

**Directed by**  
*Ben Lupejkis*

**Musical Direction by**  
*Catherine Rahm*

**Choreography by**  
*Lawrence Hatcher*

**Produced by**  
*Lori A. Marple-Pereslete*

**March 13 – April 18, 2015**

**Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM  
and Sundays at 2 PM**

Presented by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.

Westchester Playhouse • 8301 Hindry Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90045  
(310) 645-5156 • [www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)

# MAME

Book by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee  
Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman

Based on the Novel by Patrick Dennis, and the play AUNTIE MAME by  
Lawrence and Lee

Dance and Musical Numbers for the Broadway production staged by Onna White  
and Directed by Gene Saks

Produced for the New York Stage by Fryer, Carr & Harris

Director  
Ben Lupejkis

Musical Director  
Catherine Rahm

Choreographer  
Lawrence Hatcher

Producer  
Lori A. Marple-Pereslete

Set Design  
Tony Pereslete

Lighting Design  
Robert Davis

Costume Design  
Maria Cohen

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The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Patrick Dennis, age 10 .....             | Anderson Piller        |
| Agnes Gooch.....                         | Elizabeth A. Bouton    |
| Vera Charles.....                        | Catherine Rahm         |
| Mame Dennis .....                        | Patricia Butler        |
| Ralph Devine .....                       | Lawrence Hatcher       |
| Bishop .....                             | David Callander        |
| M. Lindsay Woolsey .....                 | Ben Lupejkis           |
| Ito .....                                | Roy T. Okida           |
| Doorman .....                            | David Callander        |
| Elevator Boy .....                       | Samuel Goldman         |
| Messenger .....                          | Thomas Guastavino      |
| Dwight Babcock.....                      | Harold Dershimer       |
| Art Model.....                           | Janet Lee Rodriguez    |
| Dance Teacher .....                      | Lynn Gutstadt          |
| Leading Man .....                        | Harold Dershimer       |
| Stage Manager .....                      | George Kondreck        |
| Madame Branislawski .....                | Sheridan Cole Crawford |
| Gregor .....                             | Lawrence Hatcher       |
| Beauregard Jackson Pickett Burnside..... | David Callander        |
| Cousin Fan .....                         | Erika Brauer           |
| Uncle Jeff.....                          | Mark Bruce-Casares     |
| Sally Cato.....                          | Lynn Gutstadt          |
| Mother Burnside .....                    | Sheridan Cole Crawford |
| Patrick Dennis, age 19-29 .....          | Thomas Guastavino      |
| Junior Babcock.....                      | Samuel Goldman         |
| Mrs. Upson.....                          | Sheridan Cole Crawford |
| Mr. Upson .....                          | George Kondreck        |
| Gloria Upson.....                        | Brittany Sindicich     |
| Pegeen Ryan.....                         | Janet Lee Rodriguez    |
| Peter Dennis .....                       | Anderson Piller        |

Ensemble: Erika Brauer, Mark Bruce-Casares, Sheridan Cole Crawford, Samuel Goldman, Thomas Guastavino, Lynn Gustadt, Jessie Harrison, Lawrence Hatcher George Kondreck, Janet Lee Rodriguez. Brittany Sindicich

Dance Captain: Jessie Harrison

## Orchestra

|                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Conductor/Piano .....     | Mike Walker      |
| Flute/Piccolo/Violin..... | Colleen Okida    |
| Reeds.....                | Jonathan Stehney |
| Trumpet.....              | Brent Dodson     |
| Percussion/Keyboard ..... | Nick Stone       |

## Setting

The action takes place in Mame's Beekman Place Apartment and various locales in which she becomes involved during a period from 1928 to 1946.

## Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers

### Act One

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Scene 1: Somewhere in New York, 1928   |                                       |
| St. Bridget.....   | Agnes & Young Patrick                 |
| Scene 2: Mame's Apartment  |                                       |
| It's Today.....  | Mame, Vera & Company                  |
| It's Today <i>Reprise #1</i> .....   | Mame, Young Patrick & Company         |
| Scene 3: Hallway of Mame's Apartment   |                                       |
| Scene 4: Mame's Bedroom  |                                       |
| Scene 5: Mame's Living Room (and all around New York)                              |                                       |
| Open a New Window.....   | Mame, Young Patrick & Company         |
| Scene 6: Mame's Apartment  |                                       |
| The Moon Song .....  | Vera, Mame & Moon Girls               |
| Scene 7: Shubert Theatre — New Haven   |                                       |
| My Best Girl .....   | Young Patrick & Mame                  |
| Scene 8: Salon Pour Messieurs  |                                       |
| Scene 9: Mame's Apartment  |                                       |
| We Need A Little Christmas.....  | Mame, Agnes, Ito, Young Patrick       |
| We Need A Little Christmas <i>Reprise</i> .....                                    | Mame, Agnes, Ito, Young Patrick, Beau |
| Scene 10: Peckerwood   |                                       |
| The Fox Hunt... Uncle Jeff, Young Patrick, Cousin Fan, Mother Burnside, Sally Cato |                                       |
| Mame .....   | Beau, Mother Burnside & Company       |
| Act One Finale.....  | Young Patrick & Company               |

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.  
Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players and Coffee Connection.

### Act Two

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Scene 1: Prep School and College (and Singapore) |                               |
| Opening Act II .....                             | Young Patrick & Older Patrick |
| My Best Girl <i>Reprise #1</i> .....             | Older Patrick                 |
| Scene 2: Mame's Apartment                        |                               |
| Bosom Buddies .....                              | Mame & Vera                   |
| Bosom Buddies <i>Reprise</i> .....               | Mame & Vera                   |
| Scene 3: Mame's Apartment (six months later)     |                               |
| Gooch's Song.....                                | Agnes                         |
| The Darien Dip .....                             | Company                       |
| Scene 4: Upson Farm                              |                               |
| That's How Young I Feel .....                    | Mame & Company                |
| If He Walked Into My Life.....                   | Mame                          |
| Scene 5: Mame's Apartment                        |                               |
| It's Today <i>Reprise #2</i> .....               | Mame, Vera & Company          |
| My Best Girl <i>Reprise #2</i> .....             | Older Patrick                 |
| Scene 6: Mame's Apartment — 1946                 |                               |
| Act Two Finale .....                             | Mame & Company                |

## About the Cast



**Elizabeth A. Bouton** (Agnes Gooch) – Elizabeth was last seen as The Witch in *Into the Woods*. Other Kentwood musical roles include Nancy, Lucille Frank, Edwin Drood, Molly Brown, Gabby/Bobbi, & Sister Mary Amnesia. Many thanks to Ben, Cat, & Lori for the opportunity & kudos to this very talented cast & crew! Love SKS - FLAMES MM!



**Erika Brauer** (Cousin Fan/Ensemble) – Erika, a Los Angeles native and classically trained singer, has appeared most recently as Florinda in *Into the Woods*. Her past credits include *We Will Survive*, *Ragtime*, *Oliver!*, *Oklahoma!*. She has worked in makeup and wig design in recent productions of *An Ideal Husband* and *Sordid Lives*, as well as head makeup artist in SMC's production of Federico Moreno Torroba's *Luisa Fernanda*. She sends out a big thank you to her family for all their love and support.



**Mark Bruce-Casares** (Uncle Jeff/Ensemble) – I am super excited to make my debut here with *Mame*. I have been performing for 30 years in Orange/Los Angeles counties. Some of you may recognize me from *Funny Thing Happen on the Way to the Forum* with The Aerospace Players this last summer. Also excited to work with 3 new directors (Ben, Catherine and Lawrence) and dear friend Elizabeth Bouton. Much thanks for his infinite love and support David BC.



**Patricia Butler** (Mame Dennis) – Kentwood veteran Patricia is elated to be in the company of the Dream (Production) Team: Director Ben Lupejkis, Producers Lori & Tony Pereslete, and Music Director Catherine Rahm. What's more, she is beside herself to be reunited with extraordinarily talented colleagues from *Parade* and *Into the Woods* – Elizabeth, Erika, Harold, Lawrence, and Roy! She is, once again, grateful to Ben for having more faith in her than she has in herself.



**David Callander** (Bishop/Doorman/Beauregard Jackson Pickett Burnside) – received his undergraduate degree in theatre from Pomona College after which time he made a career as a Broadway stage manager. Onstage, David has appeared in *Evita* (starring Marin Mazzie) and *A Chorus Line* at the Barn Theatre in Augusta, MI, and *The Winter's Tale* (starring HRH The Prince Edward). Last summer, David performed in the Cabaret Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center as well as the Chromolume Cabaret, directed by Joshua Finkel. He can currently be seen in *Putting It Together* at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. He wishes to thank his angels: Carol Tingle, Judy Balsam, and Karen Morrow.



**Sheridan Cole Crawford** (Madame Branislawski/Mother Burnside/Mrs. Upson/Ensemble) – Sheridan is delighted to be in this wonderfully uplifting musical with its message of "Live, live, live!" She has spent many years here at Kentwood in various roles both on and off the stage, and also as a board member. Next fall she will be directing the mystery *Ravenscroft*. Thanks to the audiences, both new and old, who have discovered our great little theatre and keep coming back for more!



**Harold Dershimer** (Dwight Babcock/Leading Man) – Harold's credits include *An Ideal Husband*, *Into the Woods*, *Sordid Lives*, *The Hollow*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Candide*, *Parade*, *Annie*, *A Little Night Music*, *Working*, and *The Odd Couple* at the Westchester Playhouse. He served as Stage Manager here for *Orphans* and has also directed the multiple award-winning Kentwood Players productions of *Oliver!* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. *Mame* marks his 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive production here at the playhouse. Harold thanks his family for their continued support.



**Samuel Goldman** (Elevator Boy/Junior Babcock/Ensemble) – Samuel is back in his third Kentwood Players production, after appearing in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Ragtime*. His theater credits span Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and he is also an extra on numerous TV shows. Samuel would like to thank the cast, crew, family, and friends for support.



**Thomas Guastavino** (Messenger/Patrick Dennis, age 19-29/Ensemble) – performs his first role at Westchester Playhouse this season. Past roles include Angel (*Rent*) and Leading Player (*Pippin*). His proud three years in the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles as a soloist has excited him for many years of musical, theatrical success.



**Lynn Gutstadt** (Dance Teacher/Sally Cato/Ensemble) – Lynn is delighted to be in *Mame*, her first musical since moving to LA from the SF Area. (Thanks, Ben and Catherine!) Favorite prior roles include Maggie in *42<sup>nd</sup> Street*, Hildy in *On the Town*, and Gladys in *Pajama Game*. Love to Patrick and thanks for tolerating my schedule!



**Jessie Harrison** (Ensemble/Dance Captain) – Jessie is thrilled to be making her Kentwood Players debut in *Mame*! Favorite credits include Laurey in *Oklahoma*, Liesl in *The Sound of Music*, and Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Jessie sends love and thanks to her family and friends for their support over the years. Enjoy the show!



**Lawrence Hatcher** (Ralph Devine/Gregor/Ensemble) – made his Kentwood Players debut in *Parade* as Jim Conley and couldn't be more thrilled to be part of this cast. He has performed in many musicals, such as *The Wiz*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Big River*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He's been singing, dancing, and acting since he was 10 and there's nothing that makes him happier.



**George Kondreck** (Stage Manager/Mr. Upson/Ensemble) – *Mame* is George's fifth appearance on stage with Kentwood following *Agatha Christie's The Hollow* in 2014, which he also directed. In 2013 George appeared in *Mr. Potcher's Holiday* and *Ragtime* and in 2012, *Oliver!* Recent Southland appearances include the triple role of Tom/Phyllis/Leslie in *Sylvia*, Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*; Barker in *The Golden Boy*, Faker in *Room Service*, Sophie in *Honeymoon at Graveside Manner*, and Karl in *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*.



**Ben Lupejkis** (M. Lindsay Woolsey) – has been on the Kentwood stage far too many times to mention and is very familiar to Kentwood audiences as recently as Narrator /Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*. He has performed from coast to coast, has favorite roles (ask him) and is pleased to be driving this subway car as well as being a passenger for the journey. Thanks to all, Pattie (always), Cat, Lawrence, and Lori for the esprit.



**Roy T. Okida** (Ito) – Roy is happy to be playing Ito in this production of *Mame*. His other Westchester credits include *Man of La Mancha*, *Funny Thing Happened*, *West Side Story*, *Parade*, *Candide*, *Ragtime*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *Into the Woods*, in which he played the murderous Steward. Roy thanks Ben and Cat for casting him in this fun show. Roy would also like to thank his wife and daughter for all their support.



**Anderson Piller** (Patrick Dennis, age 10/Peter Dennis) – Golly! Anderson is thrilled to be making his Kentwood Playhouse debut in *Mame* and to have the opportunity to perform with such a talented cast and production team. Anderson is 8 years old and has been acting since he was 5. His favorite roles have included Flat Stanley in *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley* and Gingy in *Shrek the Musical*. Anderson hopes to some day have a successful career in acting, both stage and film.



**Catherine Rahm** (Vera Charles) – Catherine is having a great time playing the outrageous Vera. After playing Sissy in *Sordid Lives* last summer and Granny in *Into the Woods* last winter, it's fun to switch it up to a crazy lush of an actress for the spring.



**Janet Lee Rodriguez** (Art Model/Pegeen Ryan/Ensemble) – is excited to be in *Mame*. She was last seen as Doris in *Agatha Christie's The Hollow*. She'd like to thank Ben, Catherine, and Lawrence for working with her and casting her. She also thanks her dad, Roger, Brenda, her boyfriend Jesse, and Jenny Sperry!



**Brittany Sindicich** (Gloria Upson/Ensemble) – Brittany is excited to be making her debut performance with the Kentwood Players. Her recent shows included *Urinetown* (Ensemble) and *A Chorus Line* (Bebe) at the Morgan-Wixson Theater in Santa Monica. Favorite credits include, *Guys and Dolls* (Adelaide), *Into the Woods* (Jack's Mom), and *Pippin*.

## About the Directorial Staff

**Ben Lupejkis** (Director) – is helming his 6<sup>th</sup> main stage production at Kentwood, having previously won Marcom Masque awards for *Parade* (2011) and *Most Happy Fella* (2006). *Mame* holds a special place in his heart, as it was the fifth professional production he ever did, way back in 1975, when people were still recording and humming the wonderful melodies. He wishes to thank his production team, veterans and newcomers, and this dedicated and talented troupe of old and new friends.

**Catherine Rahm** (Musical Director) – Catherine has served as musical director for Kentwood's last several musicals. After last year's *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Into the Woods*, *Mame* finishes up a trifecta of different musical styles. She is looking forward to directing this fall's *Something's Afoot*.

**Lawrence Hatcher** (Choreographer) – This is the first show Lawrence has choreographed with the Kentwood Players, and he hopes it is not the last. Some of his credits include *Annie*, *Damn Yankees Seussical*, and *Hairspray*. He couldn't be more thrilled to be working with this talented production team. A big thank you to our awesome director, our very talented cast, and his right hand woman (Dance Captain) Jessie Harrison.

## About the Producer

**Lori A. Marple-Pereslete** (Producer) – Lori has been a Kentwood member for 13 years and has held various Board positions along with being Kentwood's Properties Mistress. She can usually be found back stage producing, stage-managing, set building, decorating along with assisting other productions and theatres in searching for props. She's very excited to be working with such a talented cast and production team. She hopes you enjoy the show. Thanks to Tony for being a wonderful husband!

## A Note from the Director

When I first was awarded *Mame* to direct for Kentwood Players, I had a flood of memories from a production I did when I was a mere lad of eighteen, and as Junior Babcock, my “collections” were as few as were my theatrical experiences at that time. *Mame* was only my 7<sup>th</sup> production as an actor, and my 5<sup>th</sup> in a row at the Tidewater Dinner Theatre in my hometown of Norfolk, Virginia. Like our current production, where everyone plays multiple parts, I was consumed with changing, acting, singing, dancing, changing, acting, singing, dancing, etc. You get the picture, which will also be the picture of your time with us for our production. Enjoy theatre as I learned it: the theatricality, the multi-talented and versatile actors, the singing until one thinks one can’t sing anymore, the dancing that challenges yet highlights the talents of the cast, and a story well told.

Theatre is a communicative art at its foundation. If the story does not resonate, if you are not riding the outcome of our heroine and her charge, then we are not approaching the fundamental nature of theatre, and the way I was trained to direct, which was impressed upon me by teachers as mentors and as directors: the story always comes first – and last. *Mame* as a show, and a character, is the perfect blend of music and book: a great, heartfelt saga with singable, memorable, show-stopping melodies.

I spoke of a flood of memories earlier, but what has surprised and charmed me, and I hope it will for you too, is how many times I am sucked in by the raw emotion of the human drama this show holds, something that I missed as I was racing around backstage to make it on stage in the nick of time many years ago. As uproariously funny as this show is, *Mame* is also deeply personal for the nephew/autobiographer (although written under a nom de plume with all names changed), and this personal story, this inspiring relationship of this orphan boy and this free-spirited, forward-thinking woman, who is his aunt but becomes his mother in purpose, resounds again and again. Be an active participant in their journey. Enjoy the sentiment; reflect on your own journey; thank your own Auntie Mame; and, lastly: Live!

Ben Lupejkis, March 2015

## Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Samantha Barrios, Gail Bernardi, Erika Brauer, Patricia Butler, David Callander, Doug Carlson, William Carter, Geanne Clarke, Arlene Cohen, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Sheridan Cole, Jim Crawford, Terry Delegeane, Harold Dershimer, Kathy Dershimer, Samuel Goldman, Cynthia Gregoli, Marlene Grinde, Charlotte Lee Gunter, Lynn Gustadt, Barbara Haberman, Jayne Hamil, Jessie Harrison, Diane Hazen, Hutton Hazen, Glen Kacena, Jerilynn Kacena, George Kondreck, Ben Lupejkis, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Dennis McNett, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Barry Nackos, Colleen Okida, Fiona Okida, Roy Okida, Frank J. Olivadoti, Marie Olivas, Dave Parke, Lee Polak, Catherine Rahm, Brittany Sindicich, Bruce Starrett, Max Stormes, Elizabeth Summerer, Shawn Summerer, Susan Weisbarth, Amy Witkowski

## Special Thanks

MarLee Candell, Jon Sparks, Elizabeth Summerer

## About the Designers

**Tony Pereslete** (Set Design) – Tony is thrilled to be involved with the musical *Mame*. This show has always been special to him. This production will be special to you.

**Robert Davis** (Lighting Design) – Robert is thrilled to return to light the stage of the Westchester Playhouse, and he wishes to thank Ben for the chance to work together on *Mame*. Recent SoCal lighting credits include *Into the Woods*, *Sordid Lives*, *California Suite*, *The 39 Steps*, *Oliver!*, *Parade*, and *Dracula* here at the Westchester Playhouse; *Copenhagen* at The Attic; and *Play It Again Sam* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. Robert holds a BFA in theatre arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. When not hanging from the rafters, he busies himself narrating audiobooks. Much love to JP, always.

**Maria Cohen** (Costume Design) – After costuming *Agatha Christie’s The Hollow*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Ragtime*, Maria is back doing this show. She has been a fixture with Kentwood Players for many years. She has also worked for the Morgan-Wixson, Pacific Palisades, the James Armstrong Theater, and the Norris Theatre. Maria has her favorite shows: *The Little Foxes*, *A Little Night Music*, *A Few Good Men*, *Anastasia*, *The Constant Wife*, *The Mikado*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Rain*, *Ten Little Indians*, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. Maria will retire from costumes when she can’t do them anymore. She thanks her husband, Michael, for tolerating her being away from home.

## Production Staff

Stage Manager ..... Lori A. Marple-Pereslete, Kira Sherman  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Fiona Okida, Amy Witkowski  
Script Supervisor ..... Colleen Okida, Fiona Okida  
Booth Crew ..... Virginia Mekkelson, Jerilynn Kacena, Kira Sherman, Kirk Larson  
Sound Design ..... Shawn K. Summerer  
Set Decoration Design ..... Lori A. Marple-Pereslete  
Original Graphic Design/Lobby Design ..... Michael Cohen  
Master Builder ..... Doug Carlson, Shawn K. Summerer  
Set Construction ..... Jim Crawford, Lori A. Marple-Pereslete, Tony Pereslete,  
Set Painting ..... Kirk Larson, Lori A. Marple-Pereslete, Tony Pereslete,  
..... Catherine Rahm, Jon Sparks, Elizabeth Summerer  
Costume Construction ..... Nancy Brennan, MarLee Candell, Geanne Clarke,  
..... Sheridan Cole Crawford, Kathy Dershimer, Jayne Hamil, Diane Hazen,  
..... Ruth Jackson, Gretchen Luna, Marie Olivas, Cathy Picker  
Dressers ..... Gypsy Foster, Valerie Ruel  
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### 4000 Miles

A Dramatic Comedy by Amy Herzog  
 May 15 – June 20, 2015  
 Director: Gail Bernardi

### Brighton Beach Memoirs

A Dramatic Comedy by Neil Simon  
 July 10 – August 15, 2015  
 Director: Tony Torrisi

### Ravenscroft

A Dark Comedy by Don Nigro  
 September 11 – October 17, 2015  
 Director: Sheridan Cole Crawford

### Something's Afoot, a Musical

Book, Music and Lyrics by James McDonald, David Vos, and Robert Gerlach  
 Additional Music by Ed Linderman  
 November 13 – December 19, 2015  
 Director: Catherine Rahm

## Special Theatre Parties

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least ten friends, family members, or co-workers, special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance. For more information please call (310) 645-5156.

## Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY  
 Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER at the time reservations are made.

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

Kentwood Players is a Member of the  
 LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members  
 after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

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



*Hope everything's  
 coming up Shamrocks for you!*

*Charlotte*



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Kent & Linda Pearson

Laura & Ilbert Phillips

Mildred H. Pullman

Sybille Rogers

Ronald & Gwen Sperry

Shirley & Seymour Spiegel

Barbara Stone

Wayne Sult

Ken Thompson & Frieda Wang

Dorothy Vaughn

Walter & Betty Walsh

Susanne & Craig Wilson