

MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER & HONOR









COASTAL CAROLINA SUBMARINE VETERANS REMEMBER & HONOR



Carl Henery "Sonny" Gerbensky



IN MEMORIAM USS S-28 (SS-133) 50 SAILORS ON ETERNAL PATROL 4 JULY 1944

USS S-28 (SS-133) WAS LOST DURING A TRAINING EXERCISE ON 4 JULY 1944. SHE WAS LOST OFF PEARL HARBOR AT 21-20N, 158-23W, IN 1400 FATHOMS (8400 FEET) OF WATER, PRECLUDING ANY POSSIBILITY OF SALVAGE. THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS.

JAMES I. APPLING, BM2 LEVI BOLTON, STM1 JOHN F. BROWN, S2 RUDOLPH F. BUZEK, EM3 ARTHUR G. CHAPMAN, MoMM3 GENE A. COX, EM3 DONALD A. DURKEE, F1 JOHN R. HANEY, MOMMI H.L. HESTER, ENS NORBERT J. W. HIZER, MoMM1 KEITH KEIRN, MoMM2 STEVE LIKEVICH, JR., PhM1 MARVIN R. MCMILLAN, RM3 CHESTER M. MOFFITT, SM1 CHARLES E. NELSON, LTJG JOHN F. PURCELL, EMI JOSEPH J. SALERNO. EM3 FRANK S. SMITH, SC2

F. ANDERSON, F2 W. GARDNER, QM3 KY. MOMN GERB

LOST BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

JAMES K. BENNETT, JR., GM3 HUGH D. BROWN, MoMM2 HOWARD M. BULLARD, TM2 JACK G. CAMPBELL, LCDR (CO) CLAUDE W. COVINGTON, LTJG JOHN F. DURANT, F2 JOHN GRESSWELL, JR., MoMM3 R.F. HARSMA, ENS LEONARD E. HIGHFILL, S2 NEAL K. JOHNSON, MoMM3 A.J. KUNKEL, JR., SI ROBERT MADSEN, ENS ROBERT T. MCNEELA, RT3 EDWARD J. MORRISON, F1 GEORGE V. PEET, MoMM2 GEORGE R. RUNNELLS. TM3 EARLE C. SCHREIER, MoMM2 JAKE SPURLOCK, CK2 WALTER T. WHITTED, MoMM2 KENNETH A. WURTZ, FI

SHIPMATES IN TRAINING) J.L. CONNELL, F1 J.D. GARZA, MoMM2 J.F. McGUINNESS, PhM2 D.M. OUDERKIRK, MoMM3 E. VAUGHN. SI

SAILORS, REST YOUR DARS

NDER W.

E.F. ANDERSON, F2 E.W. GARDNER, QM3 C.H. GERBENSKY, MoMM3 W. NOTTAGE, GM3 J.W SPRADLEY, S2

Carl H. Gerbensky was born November 16, 1902 to German immigrant, livery man, and saloon keeper Charley Gerbensky and his wife Bertha of Hartland, Wisconsin.

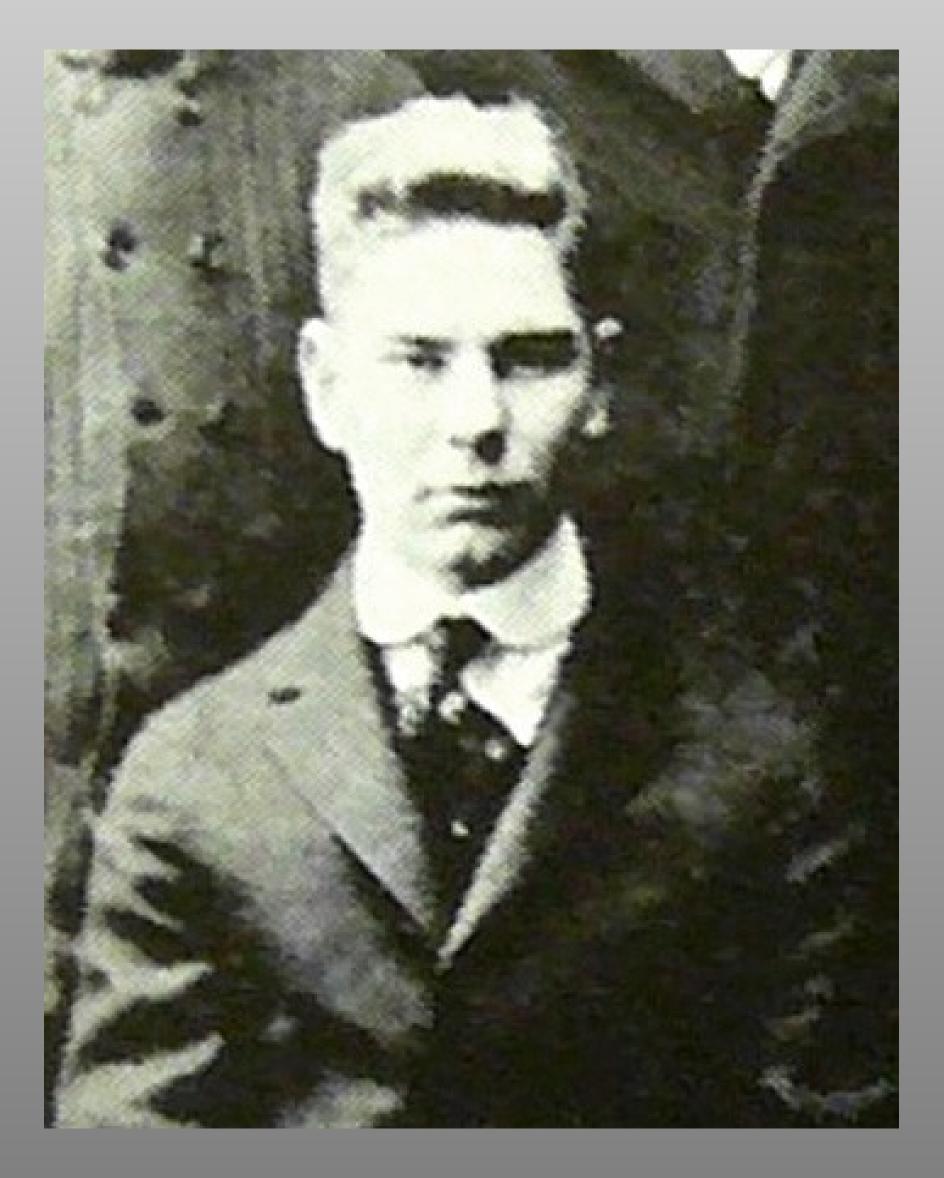
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"Sonny", as Carl was known, grew up in the small Town of Hartland, Wisconsin.

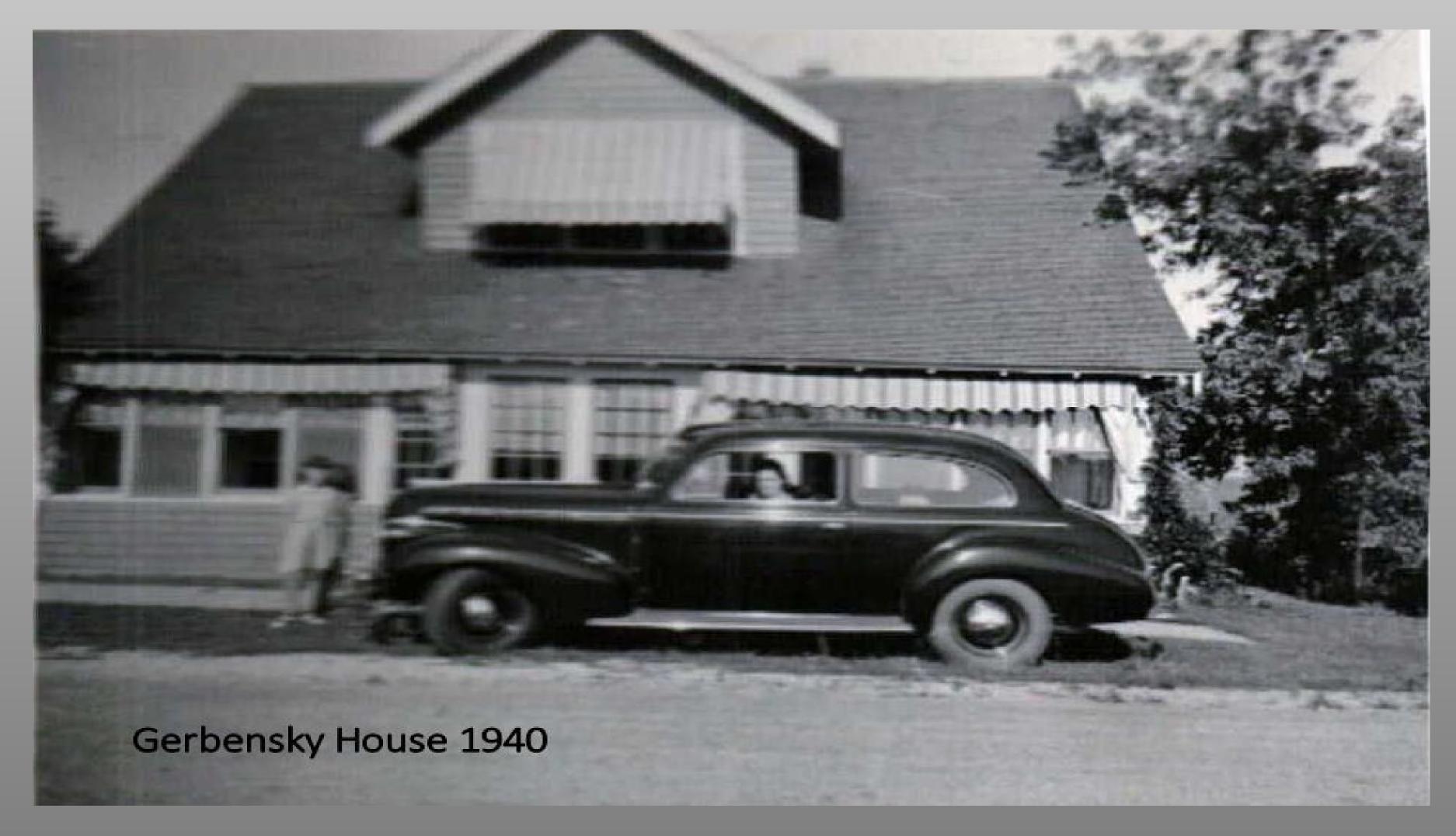


By the age of 18, Sonny had attended Beaver-Hartland High School a was working as an automobile mechanic.



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By 1930, Sonny had lost his father, married, had a 9 year-old son, Chester, and was painting houses while living in the home of his mother with his brother George, his family, and his sister Helen.



Gerbensky's son, Chet, was a star baseball pitcher, and by 1940 was in his first year of college, worked as a bookkeeper in the local brewery, and being scouted by the major leagues. He was the light of his father's life.



S28.

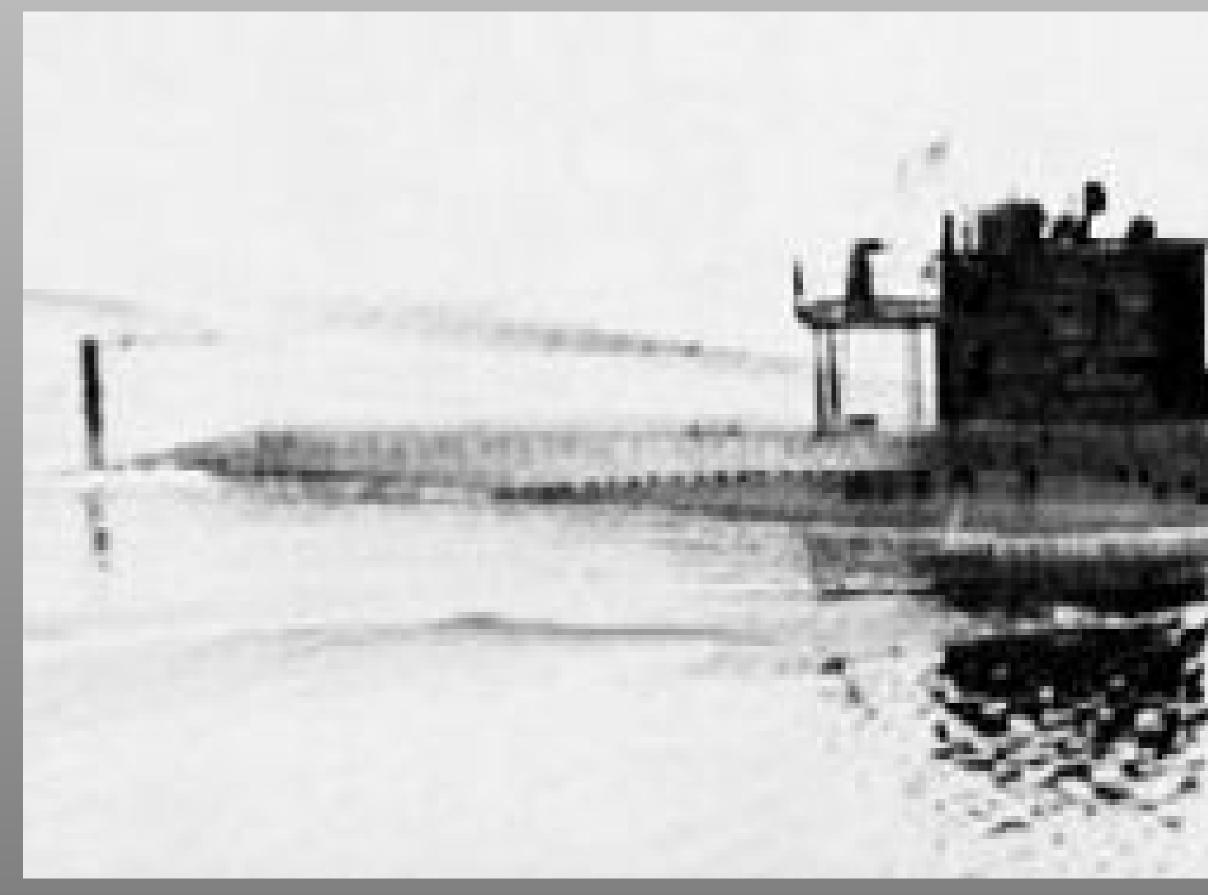
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3. MAILING ADDRESS 135 West Park St. Hartland	Wankerha Co. Wis-
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D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 1-1-42) (over) & GPO 16-21630-2	Registrant's signature)

Sonny was a member of the Wisconsin National Guard, but decided to enlist in the Army when his son enlisted in the fall of 1940. When he turned 40 years old in 1942, he was discharged from the Army due to age on a medical discharge. He immediately enlisted in the Navy to be near his son, who was in combat in New Guinea at the time. He was assigned to submarine duty as a Motor Machinist Mate trainee on the

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On 3 July 1944, S-28 began training operations off Oahu with the United States Coast Guard cutter Reliance. The anti-submarine warfare exercises continued into the evening of 4 July. At 17:30, the day's concluding exercise began. Contact between the two became sporadic and, at 18:20, the last, brief contact with S-28 was made and lost.









As far as we know, he did not re-unite with his son in the Pacific theater.

Carl's son, Chester "Chet" Gerbensky used his pitching arm to great advantage, throwing grenades against Japanese bunkers in New Guinea, for which he was later awarded the Silver Star. After the war he was awarded a commission and became a prominent officer in the Wisconsin national guard, taking command of troops responding to riots in Milwaukee in the late sixties.

In 1955, Chester presented the first Carl Gerbensky award to the most outstanding Wisconsin National Guard member of the year.

The remains of S-28 were found on 20 September 2017, at a depth of 8,500 feet off the coast of Oahu.

Carl Gerbensky was lost on July 4, 1944 with the entire crew of S28.



Carl has many descendants still residing in Waukesha County, Wisconsin.