

Descendants of John Wales Take Tour of Church of Our Saviour



Dear Joel:

Thank you so much for the opportunity to visit Church of Our Saviour this summer and to talk with you and to spend a few minutes in the sanctuary that was very central to the lives of one part of our family one hundred and twenty years ago.

John Wales (1832-1900) was a very successful business man. He and his wife Susan built a home across Monmouth from the church. They built another home for their son, George, when he married in 1885. George and Mabel had three children: Helen, Susan and John, all of whom were a part of the church from birth through their early teen years.

John Wales (the grandfather) died suddenly while riding home from work in his carriage on November 15, 1900. Over the next few years the family spent more time at their summer home in Beverly and finally settled there. Helen was very active in social causes and served for more than 30 years as a trustee for the Beverly School for the Deaf. Neither Helen nor John married. Susan married Herbert D Rollason, a Congregational minister who served South Congregational Church in Middletown, CT. After her husband's untimely death at age 61, Susan remained active in the church. Even into her eighties she raised more than \$2,000 by baking bread for the steeple fund for her church in Newburyport. While we enjoyed a few moments of the peace and beauty of the Church of Our Saviour especially the beautiful windows, including the window given by John Wales, (Tiffany on right hand side) we noted that the gifts of members more than a century ago continue to inspire worshipers today. But to us, just as significantly, the ministry of the church impacted the Wales family, both in the formative years of childhood and as early teens. The church was also there to minister to the Wales family at the untimely death of John. Like waves of the ocean, the impact of this ministry continues to ripple into the lives of successive generations of the Wales family, even to this day.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share in these moments of remembrance. May your congregation continue to touch lives with the grace and love of God in years to come.

Bob and Ruth Inhoff

Church of our Saviour, Brookline, MA

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