

CHAPTER – 1G

“The Farm or The Home Place”



Farm House Today

Left: picture of how the Farm House looks today. The back Porch was put on about 1950, the Garage on the North Side of the house was built in the 80's. The house had aluminum siding put on in the 70's. You can barely see the Old Smoke House on left top of the house as it is still there today.

Right: Picture of the Farm House Around 2000, Note the new garage to the left of the house. The ramp on the front porch was built so Mom could leave the house by wheel chair.





Pictured left is the living room on the Northwest corner of the house. You will note the senior pictures of all ten children hang on the east wall along with senior tassels. The house is pretty much like it was when Catherine passed away on June 19, 2007. The home did not contain high priced valuable furniture but was well kept.

Right: This picture was taken facing the West wall of the living room. Note a picture of the farm house from the air hangs on the wall. The door right beside the picture was the entrance where special guests arrived at the farm house. All us kids knew we would enter the back door and better not have mud on your shoes.

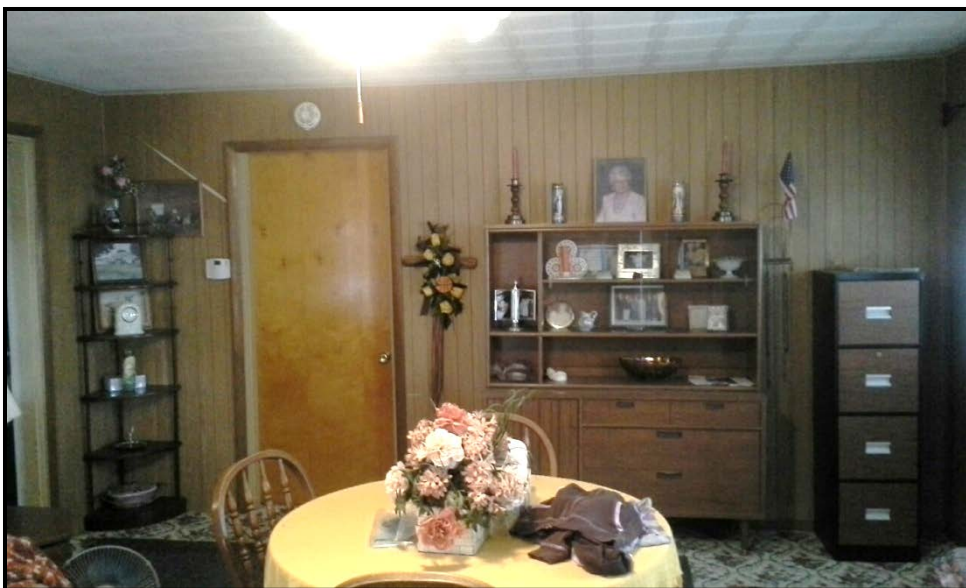


Left: This picture is the south wall of the Living Room. Seems like Mom may have won that picture on the wall sometime and it has hung in the living room for many years.



Left: The Dining/TV Room. We always called this the dining room because that was named before we had a TV. This is where we would entertain Family and friends and watch ballgames and where we would say the Rosary as a Family. As you can see in the corner a closet and next to it is the flue where an cold stove once heated this part of the house. The dining table and chairs were added in the 70's when most of the kids were gone.

Right: The Dining/TV Room. This is a view of the South wall facing the kitchen. The recliner in the middle of this picture was commonly referred to as "The Chair". It was where Mom rested through most of her late years in life. No one would sit in that chair if Mom was up and around.

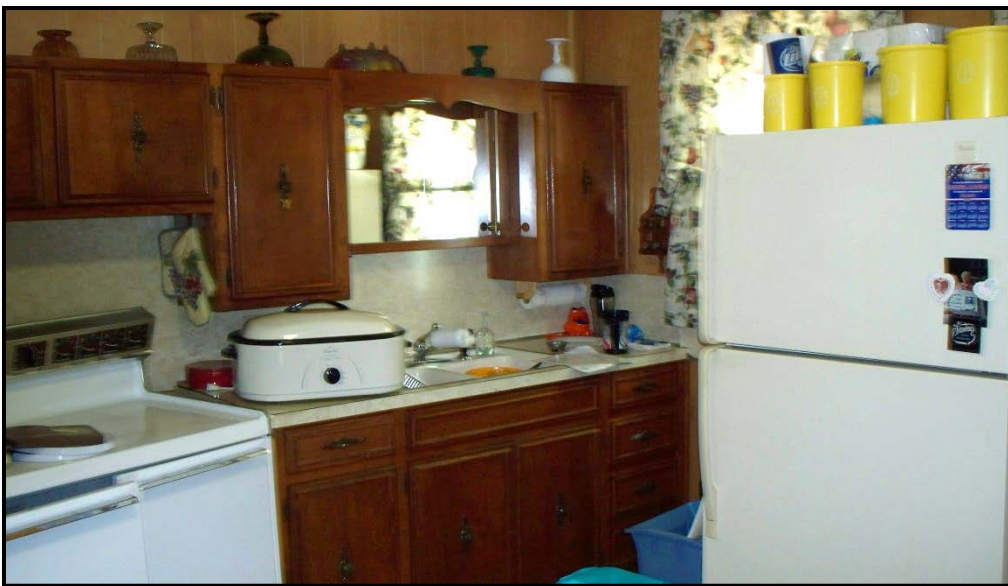


Left: The Dining/TV Room. This is a view of the West wall. The door that is in the left portion of the picture leads to the living room. Mom use to have a china cabinet there in her early years of marriage but it was replaced by this piece of furniture in the 70's.

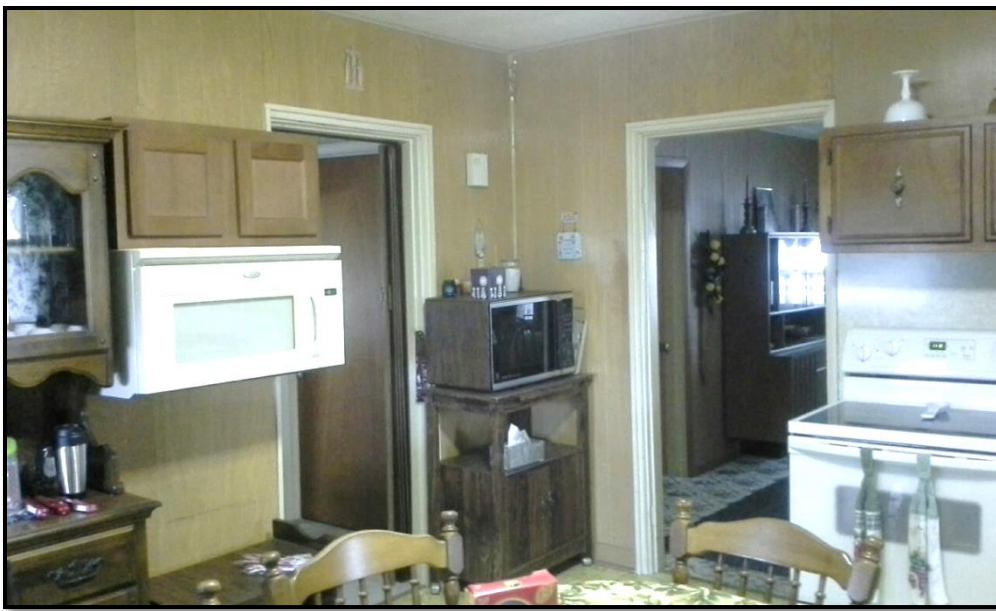


Left: This is Mom/Dad's Bedroom. The door on the right would be to the bathroom and the closet on the right portion of the picture.

Right: This was Mom/Dad's Bedroom, on the West side of the house adjoining the living room on the north and the back porch on the south. The door to the bathroom is to the left in this picture. The closet was Mom's and that was the only closet she had. It was not built until maybe in the 70's. She just had one small closet on the north wall.



Left: The Kitchen. In this view you can see the sink area that was set up for the Family Reunion. The Kitchen was located on the East side of the house. Where the refrigerator sits now was where the big old cook stove use to set and that was our heat and where we would also cook and got our hot water to wash dishes from the boiler that was inside the stove. At one time we cooked on the old cook stove as well as the cooking range on the left.



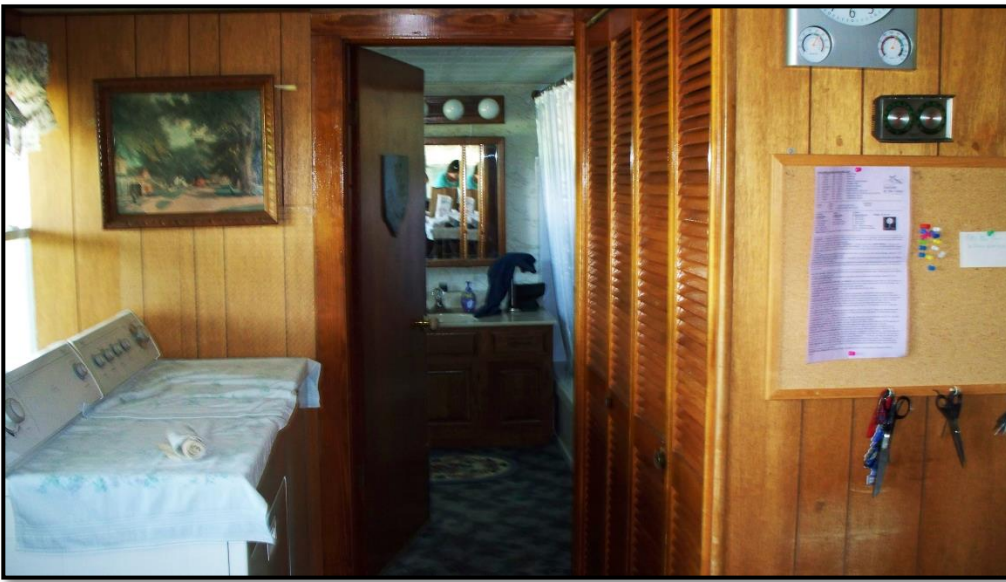
Left: The Kitchen shows the door on the left to Mom/Dad's Bedroom and the door on the right to the dining/TV room. Before we got a TV that was a formal dining room you might say. In the corner of the kitchen where a microwave now sits use to be a wash stand and that is where we washed up for meals. Before running water that is.



Left: This is not the table set that we grew up with, this set was purchased well after most of the kids were gone. We had a slightly larger table that had 3 on each side and 2 on each end and if all twelve were there for a meal, two would sit on the stair steps in the far corner. There were two steps that started the stairway up to upstairs and you can make out the door in the corner leading to a winding stairs to the upstairs. The door to the left is the closet door under the stairwell.



Left: This is a picture of the back porch as you are facing East. In this picture you will see it set up for the Kavanaugh Reunion with the extra tables. The sink that is along the south windows was at one time the main sink used in the kitchen. This area was built onto the house in about 1950.



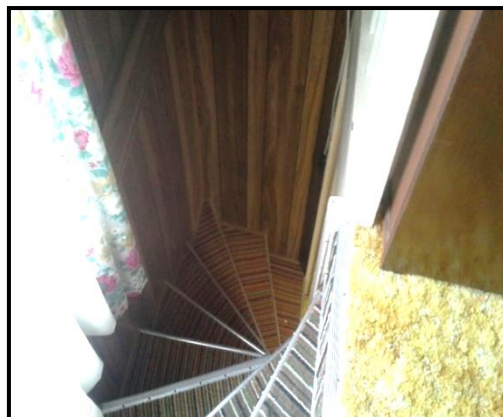
Left: This is a view of the back porch looking West with the laundry on the left, the furnace on the right and the bathroom straight ahead. When the porch was first built, it was all open as Mom had an old fashion washing machine and tubs to do all the laundry for 10 children. The Bathroom was put in around 1963 and the furnace was put in the 60's.



Above: First room upstairs: Not a good picture but the lamp is sitting on Mom's old Cedar Chest that has been in the family for as long as I can recall. Use to be in Mom's bedroom downstairs.



Above & Left: The Stairway to the Upstairs. Winding and had to be very careful. Many times someone came sliding down on their backside when they lost their footing.

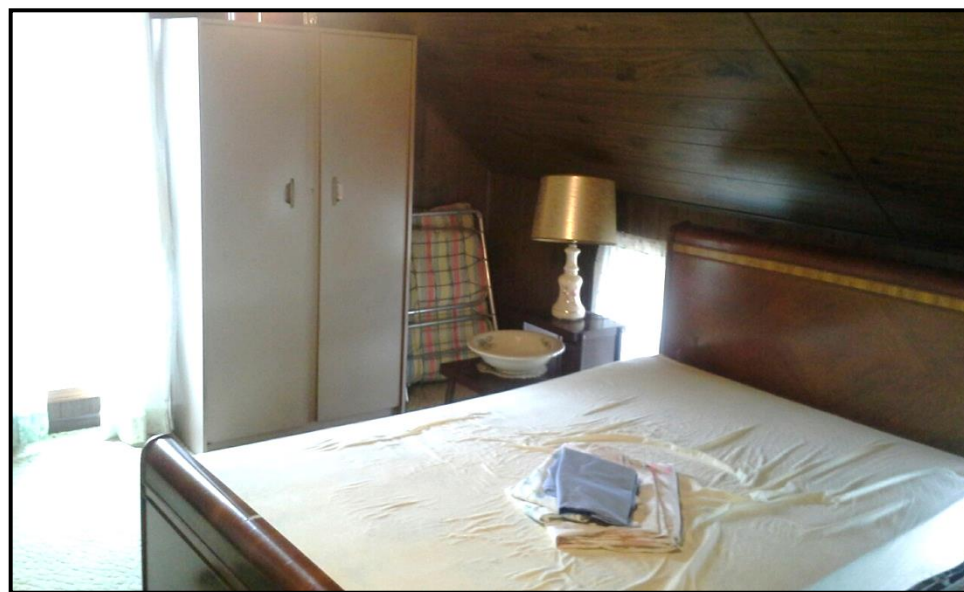




Left: First room upstairs: This is a view from the corner of the room, with the wall in the center to the middle room. The door can be seen to right of the picture. This room was the girl's bedroom, considered the suite, the best of the three rooms.



Left middle: First room upstairs: This is a view of the East wall with the large window and the stairwell in the corner. Along the east wall was a small closet and the Chimney flue that came up from the kitchen below. Behind the Chester drawers is a small door that went to the attic where some item were stored. The upstairs bedrooms are still used by family members when there is a get together at the Farm. There is no air conditioning in the upstairs and that does create a problem. In the old days we all slept upstairs during the heat of the summer. Don't think I could do that now.



Left: Upstairs Middle Room: This is the view looking to the Southwest corner. Dad told us years ago that the small windows use to be open in the summer time and one time when he came home he slept in this room and there was no electricity so he got ready for bed and when he got in bed he discovered a snake had come up the tree outside the window, onto the porch and right through the window into his bed. Needless to say, he did not let it stay there long.

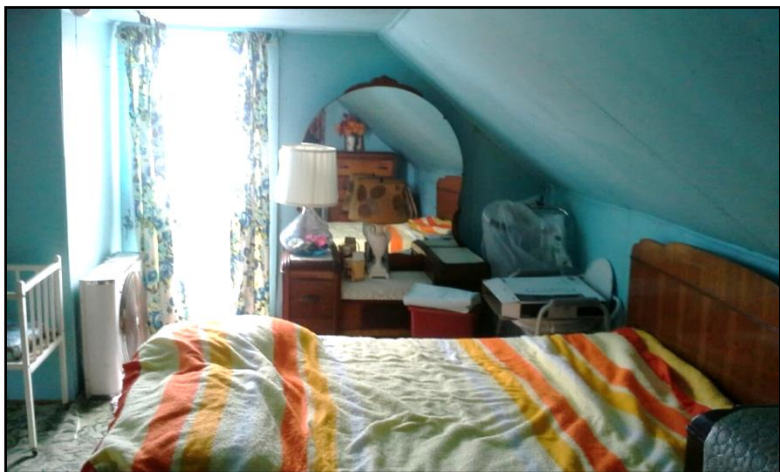
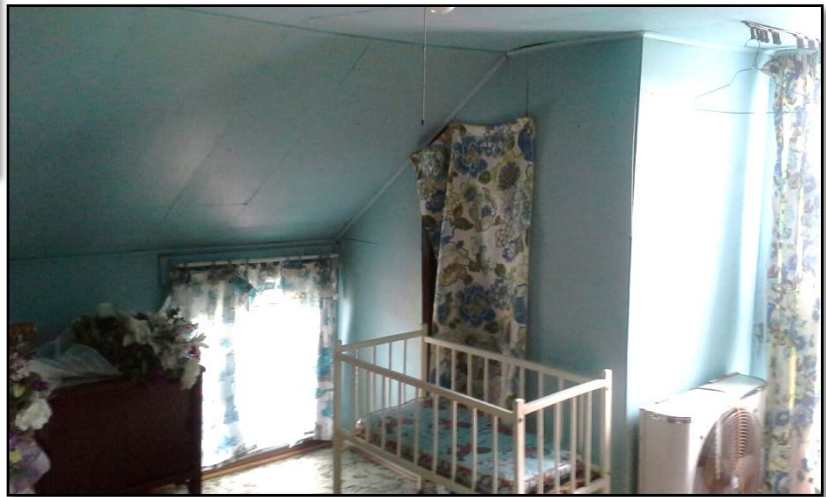


Left: Upstairs Middle Room: In this picture you can see the door on the right leading to the first room as you come up the stairs and the door on the left is the door that leads to the back room.



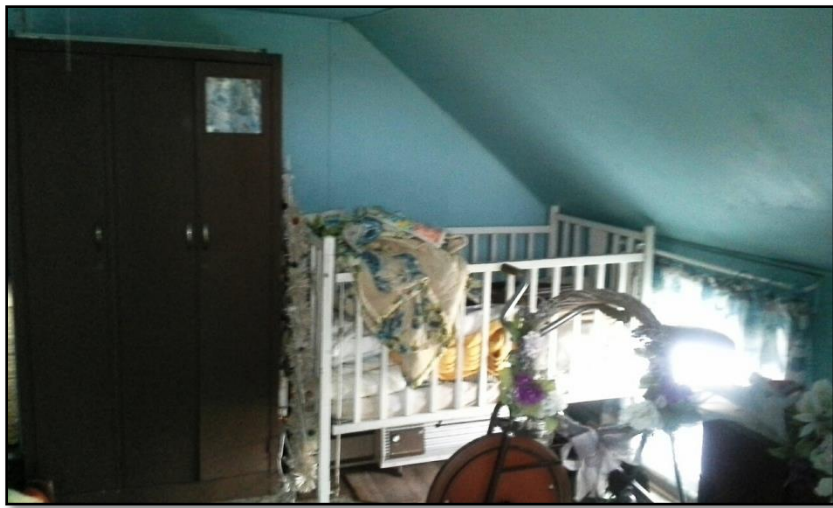
Left: Upstairs Middle Room: This is a view looking thru the door to the first room upstairs. The curtains went to a closet that we all shared. There were two big double beds in this room as in the back room.

Right: Upstairs Back Room: Here is a view of the back upstairs bedroom, looks more like a storage room now but there use to be two double beds in this room. This little baby bed was use by all of Louis and Catherine's children when they were infants.



Left: Upstairs Back Room: This is a view facing the North side of the house. Through this window you can view the barn and the lots. No heat was upstairs but a vent did come up from the dining room into the back room.

Right: Upstairs Back Room: This is a view of the South wall with the old baby bed with all blanket stacked in it. Not sure how old this bed would be but it too was used by all the Kavanaugh kids. Even some of the grand kids too!



Left: The Picture was taken in front of the Farm House around 1938-39. The little one standing there is Johnny and Mom (Catherine) is holding Lee. Note the Farm House in the back ground, the back porch was not added until around 1949-50 time frame.



Right: The Farm House in 1939-? Picture of the "Farm House" in the late 30's. The picture on the left is some of the Kavanaugh's that were neighbors that came over on Sunday afternoon to hang out. In this picture you can see Joe Kavanaugh far right on the porch, along with Margaret Grow, Dad holding Johnny or Lee on the far left. Note the house had stucco siding.





Left: The Farm House in 1939-
? In this picture you get a clear picture of what the house looked like on the front. Grandpa & Grandma is pictured with Aunt Rose around 1939.



Left: The Farm House in 1954: *This is view from the south side of the house looking north. You can see the Back Porch before indoor plumbing was put in the house.*



Above: the Farm House around the 70's.



Left: Picture of the Farm House in the 70's, *Note the Smoke House and the fence is up to separate the yard from the Barn lot. Also the new garage was not build until ??*



Above: Dad standing along the fence that separated the yard from the potato patch. Note the old Buggy Shed in the background. It was replaced in the 90's with an up to date machine shed. I think this picture was taken about the time the farm was being mined.



Above: the Farm House around the 70's.

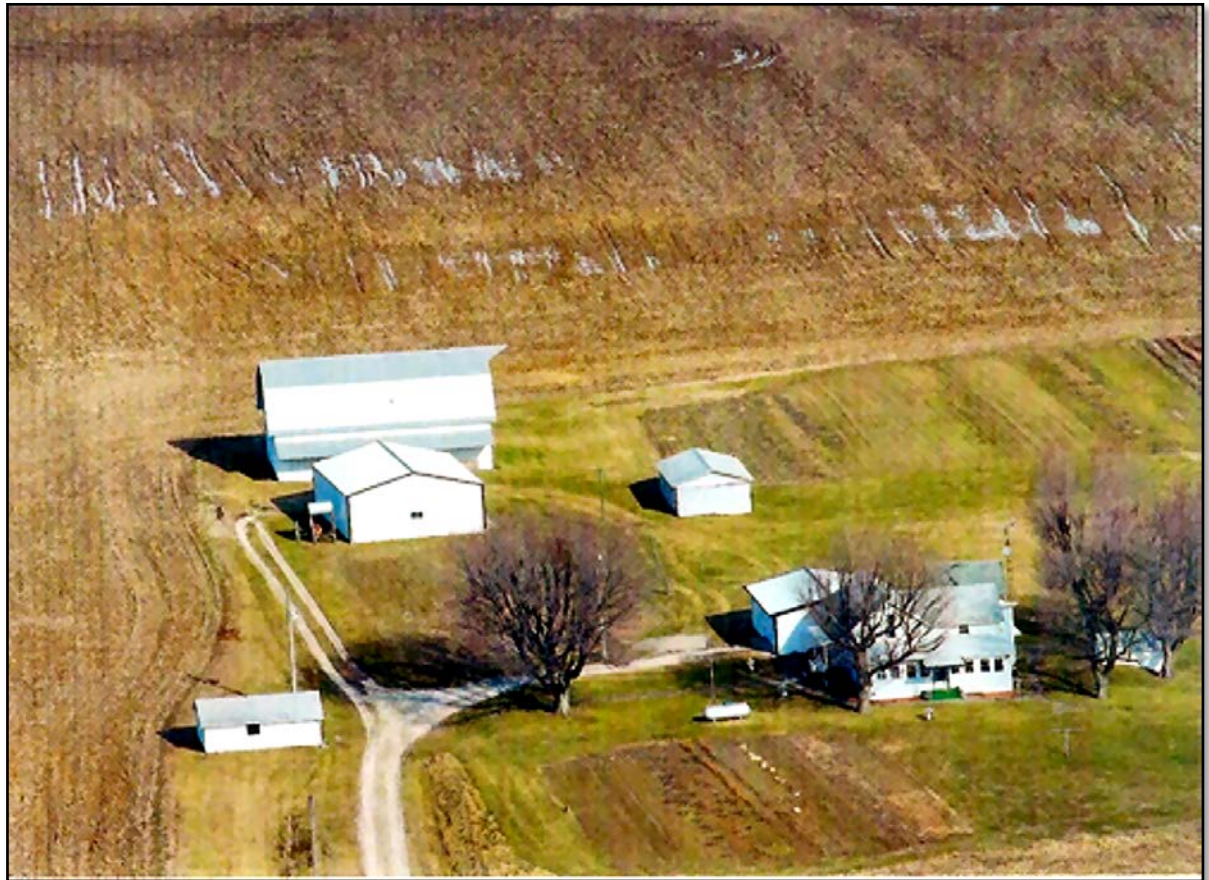


Left: Farm House 1976. *The picture on the left was taken in July 1976 on Celebration of Mom & Dad's 40th Wedding Anniversary. Dad's Brothers and Sisters stand in front of the Farm House where they all grew up. The scrubs and landscaping was put in not too long before this picture was taken.*



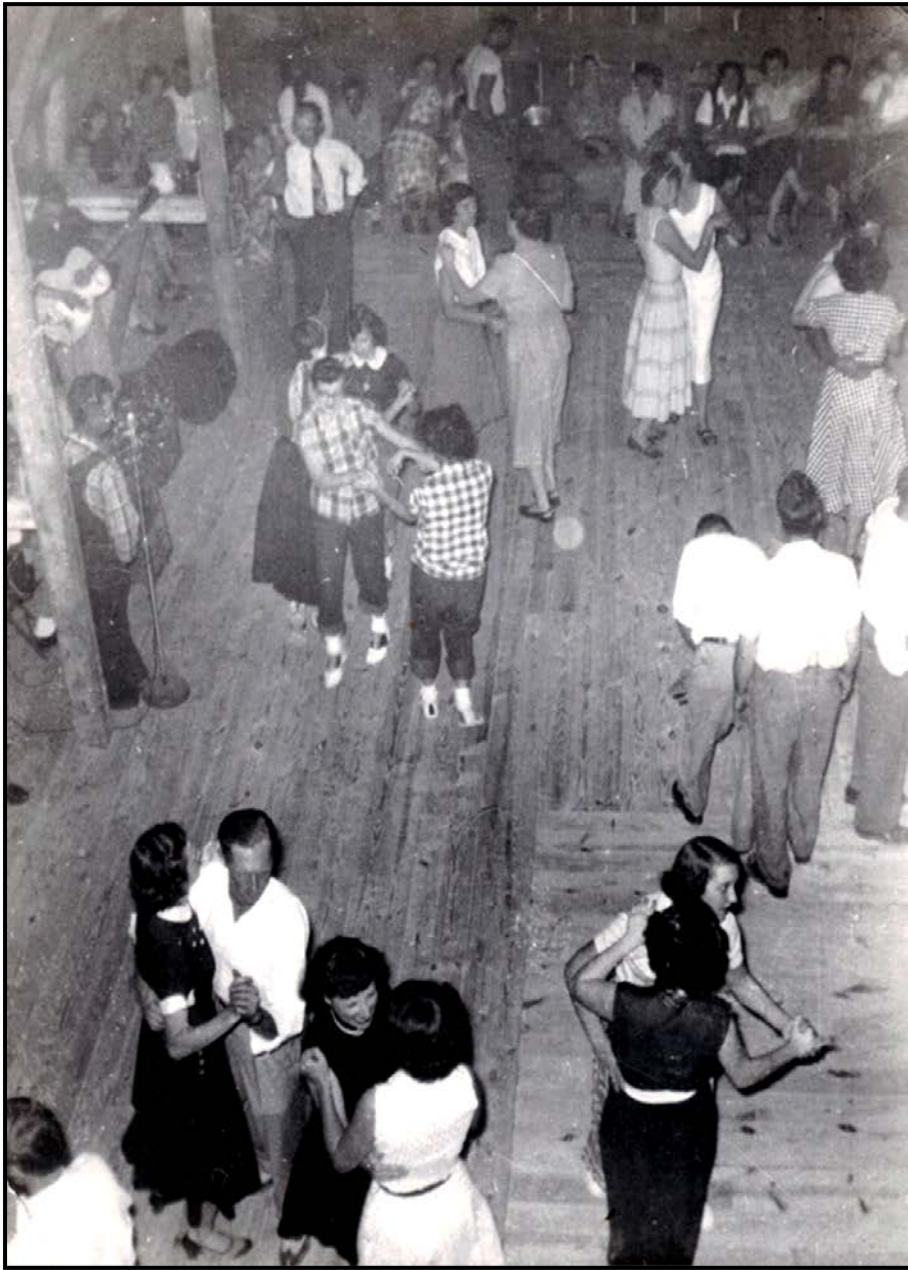
Left: This a picture taken from the air in the 70's before the farm was mined. Note the old pond is still there behind the barn and the garage west of the house is still there in side of the bank. The old Machine shed is still there and the old out house is still there. It was destroyed during the tornado in June of 1990.

Right: Picture of the farm buildings taken around 2010. Note the changes from Picture-1 to Picture-2.





Left: Kavanaugh Barn Dance in Oct. of 1953: As you can see in this picture everyone was dancing at the Kavanaugh Barn Dance in 1953. This was one of the largest social events in the community as people came from all over to dance in the new barn built at Louie and Catherine Kavanaugh's Farm. Pictured at the bottom of this picture is Louis "Pete" and Essie Hart. This picture was taken from the west crow's nest next to the roof of the barn. Hundreds of people were there as the 12 acre field west of the barn was nearly full. Relatives from Indianapolis also travel to the home place for this major event. As you can tell the floor was a new pine tongue and groove floor that many of us kids helped Dad to lay just weeks before the big dance. This was in the loft area of the barn and it looked very clean as the barn was not used as of yet. It was just a few weeks later that All Saints Church in Cannelburg had a fire and the pews from the Church were stored in the barn until the Church was refurbished.



Left: The Old Hoe Down Barn Dance at Louis/Catherine Kavanaugh's Farm, Picture-2. *In this picture of the Barn Dance you can see on the left of the picture is the live band that played square dance music and the guy at the microphone was the caller. The only one in this picture that I recognize is Paul Eichmiller Sr. at the bottom of the picture and it appears he is dancing with his wife Veronica. As you can see at the top of the picture people were sitting along the outer walls and people were huddled all downstairs and throughout the barn. A concession stand was set up in one of the stables downstairs and it was a stable that had not been used as the barn was brand new. In fact once the barn was finished in Sept. of 1953 no livestock or grain was put in the barn until after the big Barn Dance. I remember Mom talking about how they come to have the Barn Dance and it was not her idea but was suggested to them by family and neighbors as they said, that is what people do when they build a new barn. This was one of the biggest events ever held on the Kavanaugh Farm.*