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Mystery solved: Martineau Park in Eastwood is named for Carol Baldwin's father, D. Roy Martineau, a former city parks commissioner

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By



The Post-Standard

Carol Baldwin says Martineau Park in Eastwood is named after her father.

We have an answer to a mystery: who was the namesake of Martineau Park, in Eastwood?

A kin has stepped up.

Carol Baldwin says, "It was named for my father."

The man in question was D. Roy Martineau, who was superintendent of recreation for Syracuse's Municipal Recreation [Commission](#) in the 1930s. He died in 1961. He was Carol Baldwin's dad.

Not only that, Carol tells me her brother, Dan Martineau, donated the land for a park in the hamlet of Warners. The property – 13 acres – became a town park dedicated by Warners to the memory of those who served in the Armed Force.

It's now part of the Town of Camillus Erie Canal Park.

We know Carol Baldwin as the founder of the [breast cancer](#) research fund that bears her name. She's also the mother of the four acting

Baldwin "boys." She lives in Camillus.

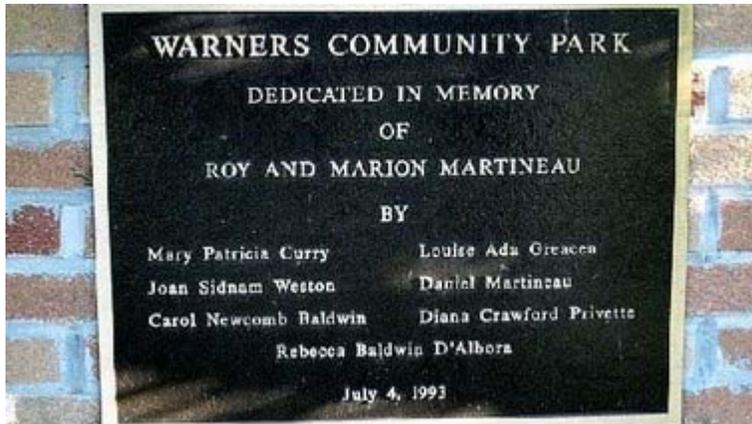
She explained she called me not only to clear up the puzzle about Martineau Park, but settle the impression "my family is from Long Island. We're not; we're Syracusans."

Carol said she was born here, in Memorial Hospital. Her parents, Marion and Roy Martineau, were born in Solvay.

Roy was a senior member of the [insurance](#) firm of Martineau and Cadaret at the time his death. He dropped dead while playing golf at the Tecumseh course.

Roy coached at Valley Academy and his wife taught there. Both Martineaus were Syracuse University graduates. He was an SU line coach and played professional football with the Buffalo All-Americans. He was a veteran of World War I and was heavyweight wrestling champion of the Atlantic Fleet in 1918.

Marion and Roy had six daughters, including Carol Baldwin, and one son, Dan.



Provided photo

Plaque shows how park in in the Warners section of Camillus was donated by Dan Martineau in honor of his parents.

There is a [bronze plaque](#) in the Warners park noting its dedication July 4, 1993. It reads the park was dedicated to the memory of Roy and Marion Martineau and lists their seven children. The park begins at Newport Road.

The gift of the land by Dan Martineau was confirmed by Liz and Dave Beebe, founders of Camillus Erie Canal Park 40 years ago.

Liz said her and the late Dan Martineau were friends, through St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Camillus. She explained he'd bought the property originally for a home development project, but abandoned the idea when the Beebes suggested the land would make a fine addition to the canal park.

Liz described Dan as a "very generous man" and a "self-starting business man."

Carol Baldwin, his sister, is an SU graduate who moved to Long Island after her marriage to Alexander Baldwin, a [teacher](#). They raised their family at Massapequa. Carol moved back to the Syracuse area after her husband's death.

She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1990. It's in remission, she explained. "I'm doing great with cancer," she said.

She founded the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center at Stony Brook University on Long Island.

I wrote about Martineau Park Aug.5. At that time, no one knew where the name came from, including Margaret McVicker, the Eastwood historian. Pam Priest, archivist at the Onondaga Historical Association, found it listed as a park on city records as early as 1944.

The park, known unofficially by neighbors as "Poop Park," was reborn last year when neighbors pitched in and

reclaimed the 0.076 spit of city land at Sunnycrest Drive and Caleb Aveune in southeast Eastwood. That includes neighbors such as Rachael Perkins and others connected with Nader Maroun, the fifth district councilor, and Realtor Jan Nastri of Eastwood. Nastri's company, Nastri Realty, bought two derelict apartment houses near the park. That started the turn-around.

The park now has beds of flowers, benches, new sidewalk, solar lights, planters, plans for neighborhood activities and a new sign, proclaiming "Martineau Park."

Nader Maroun, who did some of the planting himself, said the work on the park created a new sense of neighborliness. "I think this project gives people a new sense of hope."

Among other things, neighbors set up a schedule for watering plants and grass in Martineau.

Dick Case writes Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Contact him at dcase@syracuse.com or 470-2254.

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