

Arlene graduated from Shenendoah with a Junior College Diploma in 1949. Arlene was active in student government, the Christian Workers League, and the Phi Theta Kappa honorary society. One year later, Bob and Emmie were married on Saturday, June 3, 1950. Elias Kessler, Arlene's father, officiated at the small wedding. The pianist played "I Love You Truly" and "Always".

In June of 1952, Bob graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Shenendoah. While living in Virginia, they had their first child, Robert Mark (always known as Mark), who was born April 17, 1951.

After Bob's graduation from Shenendoah, the three Solanos moved to Pittsburgh for a short period. It was there that they had their second child, Michael Wayne, who was born two days after Christmas in 1952. Michael was severely handicapped and died less than 6 months later on June 9, 1953. Arlene and father Elias transported the body to Schuylkill county, where he was buried in the Kessler plot.



In 1953, Bob accepted a position as a high school music teacher / band director in Crooksville, Ohio. While in Ohio, they had three children:

Lynn Louise	born May 16, 1954
Alan Craig	born August 11, 1955
Scott Jeffrey	born May 20, 1957

Bob also received his masters from Ohio University in 1957.

After their time in central Ohio, the five Solanos moved to Michigan, renting a home in a small town named Covert near Lake Michigan. Their fifth child, Laurie Ann, was born on March 1, 1960 in Michigan. It appears from the collective legend, that Dad had had enough of high school teaching, quit his job, and loaded up the family for a cross-country trip in the family vehicle. Nephew Billy joined in the adventure.



Sister Joan with Arlene



Robert and Arlene moved to Oneonta, New York in later in the year 1960. Robert received a job offer to teach music from the state college in the city. After renting a home in the west end of town, they bought a house