

Dr Brad Walker: Memories of Shirley Downs  
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Shirley grew up in Warren. Dr. Walker was their family doctor. In 1947 Dr Walker delivered Shirley's twin brothers at the Torrington Hospital. When her mother, Harriet Tanner, was ready to leave the hospital with the two babies, she asked Dr. Walker what his fee would be. He replied "\$50." She said, "\$50 is for one baby and I had two." To which he commented, "Not your fault" and charged her the \$50.

In about January of 1948, Shirley "came down with scarlet fever, the only case in the whole area." "I had to be quarantined for three weeks. There was a big sign on our door that said "Quarantined." Doctor Walker came to visit throughout the whole three weeks. I got lots of cards and my mother and I wanted to save them. But there was a worry about germs and so we asked Dr Walker. He thought a bit and then said we should hang them out on the clothesline in the sun. So we did. We made a scrapbook of all the cards."