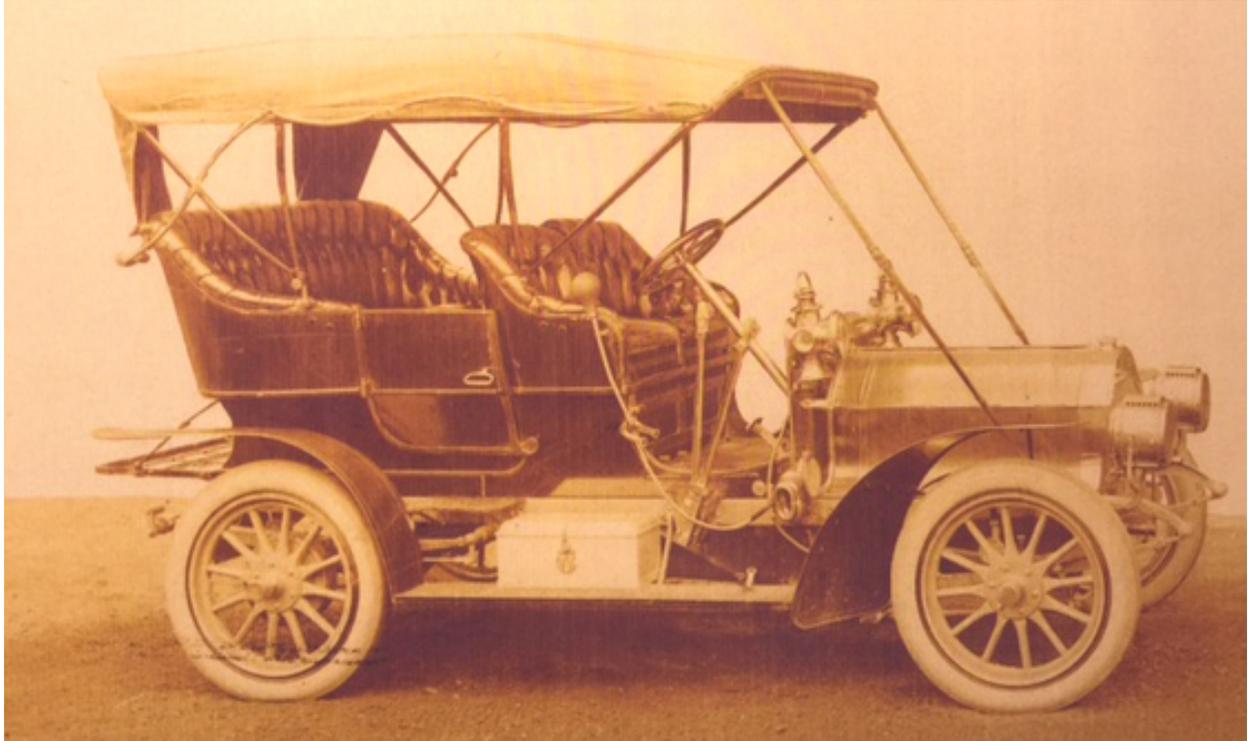


EARLY DAYS



The Conover Car. My grandfather, according to my understanding of family history, was going into the automobile manufacturing business. Two prototypes were actually produced. If Grandpa Edwin been healthy, and lived longer, the car could have been a rival for Ford and Chrysler.



Edwin K. Conover (1863-1918) and Annie Abrams Conover (1865 – 1956) were Edna's mother and father. (These portraits bear the legend J. H. Smith, 769 Broad Street, Newark, N.J. This must be a photographer.)





Photo circa summer 1918 - It looks like Edna, standing in the back with her hair ribbon swooshing, is about 12-years old.

Front row (L to R) Sister Virginia Conover (Roets), Annie Abrams Conover (my grandmother), Edwin K. Conover (my grandfather), sister Belle Conover (Helmer)

Back Row Edna K. Conover (My mom) A.H. Sutphin, Mary Elizabeth Conover Sutphin. Annie has a magazine in her hand and Mary Elizabeth (maybe she is a great aunt to me) is holding a camera. Edwin looks ill.

JANUARY 1916 – E. K.
CONOVER HOME AT
30 DENNIS STREET,
ADRIAN, MICHIGAN



I believe that Annie converted the home in Adrian to a rooming house after Edwin's death to cover her family's financial needs. The letters mention names of people I think were paying for room and board. Annie must have been a very busy lady with the metronome of her life being the need for regular breakfasts and suppers, and cleaning chores.

In the first letter Edna mentions her engagement and impending marriage to Ralph and her regular morning routine of preparing breakfast to give her mother some rest. The house looks like it could accommodate quite a few boarders.

1916 This is Mom's brother,
John Conover, who died
young. He looks so much like
my son, Bill Serle, III, in his
features and posture. (Fine
looking man)





Here's a photo of Edna (l) and Virginia (r). The photo has a note penciled note on the back saying "At Rest-A-Bit." I'll guess the year at 1912.

Miss Belle Conover- taken in Adrian, Michigan in 1916.





Year unknown. One senses a love of the outdoors and a love of music. (Note instruments in the girls' hands in the family photos).



Finally found a photo of brother Percy Conover attending Edna and Bill's wedding in 1930. When I was a little boy I used to enjoy family visits to his home in Newark, New Jersey where he lived with wife, Tilly, and children.



Back row - (Standing), Edna, A. H. Sutphin, Virginia Conover,
Front row - (seated) Mary Elizabeth Sutphin, Ellen S. Conover,
Annie Conover, Edwin K. Conover,