



Dimitrios Stamatios Hiras

He was the second of five children, the first of three boys born to Stamatios Hiras and Maria ("Mariyo") Mihalis Deddi. He was probably named after his paternal grandfather.

Timeline:

Thurs.

September 15	1892		Dimitrios was born in his parent's home in the village of Ano (Upper) Klima on the island of Skopelos, Greece.
September 24	1892		Dimitrios's birth was registered on this date.
September 14	1898	6 yrs old	Dimitrios's future wife, Magdalene Dimitrios Ravanou, was born in the village of Kato (Lower) Klima.
November	1908	16 yrs old	Dimitrios served as a student in the Navy.
October 18	1912		<u><i>Balkan Wars Begin</i></u> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balkan_Wars
August 10	1913		<u><i>Balkan Wars End.</i></u>
	1916	24 yrs old	Dimitrios married Magdalene Dimitrios Ravanou in Kato Klima. His father Stamatios had a merchant boat built for him as well as all of the Hiras sons to be given to them at their weddings as a form of economic assistance.
July 2	1917		<u><i>Greece enters World War I</i></u> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balkans_Campaign_%28World_War_I%29
October 30	1917	25 yrs old	Dimitrios received his captain's license for merchant ships in the mainland city of Volos.
September 8	1918		Dimitrios officially became a <i>naftis</i> (sailor).
November 11	1918		<u><i>World War I Ends.</i></u>
September 5	1921	28 yrs old	Dimitrios's first daughter, Anna, was born in Kato Klima. Dimitrios and his wife had been without children for the first five years of their marriage. Dimitrios's wife, Magdalene, prayed and made a promise to Saint Anna that if she had a daughter, she would name her Anna, after the Saint. Had the child been a boy, it would have been named John.
September	1922		<u><i>Smyrna, Asia Minor falls to the Turks, Hellenic population is ousted from the region forever.</i></u>
			http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Fire_of_Smyrna
May 5	1923	30 yrs old	Along with the receipt of his captain's license, Dimitrios became the captain of a boat.

			Dimitrios became partners with his future in-law Varsamas Polizos on the merchant boat, The <i>Panormiti</i> .
June 3	1923		Dimitrios 's daughter Maria was born in Kato Klima.
October 15	1923	31 yrs old	Dimitrios 's father-in-law, Dimitrios Yioryios Ravanos, died.
February 2	1925	32 yrs old	Dimitrios 's brother-in-law Harilaos died at a young age.
June 25	1925		Another brother-in-law of Dimitrios 's, Thracivoulos, also died as a young boy.
May 10	1927	34 yrs old	Captain's license, captain of a boat.
May 20	1927		<u>Charles Lindbergh completes first trans-Atlantic flight</u> <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Lindbergh</u>
September 2	1929	36 yrs old	Dimitrios became an officer and sailor in the Greek Navy. Dimitrios travelled to the Bahamas.
April 7	1930	37 yrs old	Dimitrios received an exit visa from the Greek consulate in Bahamas.
April 23	1930		Dimitrios arrived in New York, New York.
April 28	1930		Dimitrios left New York for Greece.
	1932		Magdalene learned of her third pregnancy. She already had two daughters and, since daughters were considered "expensive" (in other words, requiring dowries), she had not planned for a third child. Mother-in-law Mariyo Hiras learned of the pregnancy and paid Magdalene a visit during which she accused her of tricking Dimitrios into having another child. After the delivery, Mariyo "matias" (placed an "evil eye" upon) Magdalene by saying, "You've done it again, [it's] a girl." Magdalene would become sick with a fever over these events.
July 5	1932	39 yrs old	Dimitrios 's daughter Kokitsa ("Kiki") was born in Kato Klima. She was baptized by Ioannis and Magdalene Triakosa.
December 4	1936	44 yrs old	Dimitrios 's father, Stamatios Dimitrios Hiras, died at sea on his cargo boat at the age of 71. His body was brought back, carried off of the boat on a ladder, and buried in Kato Klima.
Summer	1938	45 yrs old	Dimitrios 's daughter Anna married Angelis Diamandis Berdanis in Kato Klima. She was 17 years old. Their <i>koumbari</i> were George and Alexandra Berdanis, the groom's brother and sister-in-law. Dimitrios left for the Bahamas three days later. This was the only wedding of his three daughters' weddings that he attended.
	1938 - 1947		Dimitrios lived and worked in Nassau, the Bahamas.
November 22	1939	47 yrs old	Dimitrios renewed his passport until August 1943.
November 25	1939		Dimitrios received a visa to travel to the Bahamas from Greece.
November 30	1939		Dimitrios left for New York from Nassau on the ship <i>Nea Hellas</i> . <u>http://members.aol.com/nehellas/MemoriesNH.htm</u>
December 15/18	1939		Dimitrios arrived in New York.
December 25	1939		Dimitrios left New York for Nassau, the Bahamas.
	1940	48 yrs old	Dimitrios 's first grandchild, Diamandis Angelis Berdanis, was born. He died in a Volos hospital at six months of age during a surgery trying to remove a "tumor" located on the back of his neck.
October 28	1940		<u>Greece enters World War II with the Italian invasion into Epiros from Albania. The church bells of the island toll solemnly to inform the people. All contact with America ceases during the war.</u>

April 28	1941		http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greco-Italian_War
Summer	1942	49 yrs old	<u>Athens, Greece falls to Germans.</u> At the age of 19, Dimitrios's daughter Maria married Angeletos Ioannis Konstantakis in Kato Klima. Their Koumbari are a couple from the town of Skopelos. Dimitrios was not present. He was still living in Nassau, the Bahamas.
September 4	1942	50 yrs old	Dimitrios's mother, Maria ("Mariyo") Deddis Hirra, died in Ano Klima at the age of 68. She outlived her husband by six years. Her nickname was "Zibilou" (the meaning of which is derived from "an open fisherman's basket with handles"). This nickname would later become her daughter-in-law Magdalene's nickname as well. She also walked around with a clock in her basket because she liked keeping track of time and never wanted to overstay a visit in someone's house, earning her another nickname: "orologina" or "timekeeper". Towards the end of her life, when she was ill, her son Philippos's wife Magdalene and her son Dimitrios's wife Magdalene would take turns taking care of her. A joke developed between the two that whenever one would comment that this "seemed like the end," Mariyo would suddenly have a miraculous recovery. This earned her the fame of being "the mother-in-law that wouldn't die."
October 31	1944		<u>Last German troops evacuate mainland Greece in World War II, the church bells of the island rang joyfully to inform the people. Greece immediately fell into a brutal four year civil war. The island did not escape some of the trauma of these events.</u>
May 7	1945		<u>V-E Day, War ends on European Front</u>
August 14	1945		<u>V-J Day, War ends on Pacific Front</u>
November 26	1945	53 yrs old	Dimitrios received an American Visa.
December 3	1945		Dimitrios travelled to Miami, FL.
June 8	1946		Dimitrios renewed passport for travelling to America.
	1946		<u>Earthquake damages Kato Klima.</u>
	1947	54 yrs old	Dimitrios and Magdalene buy property in Volos to build their youngest daughter, Kokitsa ("Kiki") a home for her dowry. While his wife Magdalene was in Volos, she and her daughter Kiki would stay with her brother Konstantinos Ravanos and his wife Ourania ("Nina").
	1947		Dimitrios moved from Nassau to Greenville, MS to work in the Mayflower Café, owned by Stamatios ("Charles") Polizos, an uncle of his future son-in-law, Konstantinos ("Dino, Gus") Polizos.
Summer	1948	55 yrs old	Dimitrios moved to Montgomery, AL from Mississippi. He worked for Pete and Nick Mitchell at the Ritz Café (next to the Jefferson Davis Hotel) for two and a half years before returning to Greece for the last time. While in Montgomery, he lived in the apartments located above the Sheradin Café.
September 2	1948		Dimitrios's daughter Kiki became engaged to Konstantinos ("Dino, Gus") Varsamas Polizos.
October 10	1948	56 yrs old	At the age of 16, Dimitrios's daughter Kiki married Konstantinos ("Dino, Gus") Varsamas Polizos in Ano Klima. Their <i>koumbara</i> was the groom's first cousin, Ourania ("Nina") Fivya Christou. Dimitrios was not present. He was living in Montgomery.
December	1948	56 yrs old	Dimitrios's daughter Kiki left Skopelos and moved to Montgomery where he was living and working.

			He lived in Montgomery long enough to see her first two children, Victor and Dimitrios ("Jimmy").
September 22	1951	59 yrs old	Dimitrios received a smallpox vaccine in Montgomery before his return to Greece.
October 3	1951		Dimitrios took a \$15 train ride from Montgomery to New York. The ticket was purchased by his son-in-law, Gus. He returned to Greece via the ship <i>Olympia</i> . He would never leave Greece again.
	1953	61 yrs old	Dimitrios received his retirement paperwork from the Greek Navy.
	1955		<u><i>Large Earthquake destroys Volos and the neighboring island of Alonissos.</i></u>
August 3	1956	63 yrs old	Dimitrios 's last grandchild, Magdalene Polizos, was born in Montgomery, AL.
	1957	65 yrs old	Dimitrios received his American social security: Social Security Number: 427-48-2993
	1959	67 yrs old	Dimitrios moved into his daughter Anna's new home in Loutraki, Skopelos. This was one of the only homes in Loutraki to have electricity in some rooms and running water.
May	1960		Dimitrios 's daughter Kiki and her children Victor, Jimmy, and Magdalene visit Greece for four months on the boat, <i>TSS Olympia</i> (http://www.ssmaritime.com/olympia0.htm). This was Kiki's first trip back to Greece following her wedding in 1948. Dimitrios met Kiki and the children at the boat dock in Pireas and they spent a few days together in Athens seeing the city and visiting the Acropolis (photo). They travelled to the island together and arrived in Loutraki at 5:30 AM. The trip included spending the night on their boat, the <i>Kyknos</i> (swan), in Skiathos's harbor. Both Dimitrios and Magdalene travelled with Kiki and the children back to Pireas to see them off at the end of their trip. Kiki and the children's round-trip boat rides were on the Greek ocean liner the <i>Olympia</i> .
September 17	1964	72 yrs old	Dimitrios bought his own home in Loutraki.
March 9	1965		<u><i>Earthquake damages Ano Klima and begins the process of moving inhabitants to the newly established village of Klima/Elios in the 1980s.</i></u>
Summer	1965		Dimitrios 's daughter Kiki travelled to Greece with her children Jimmy and Magdalene. His son-in-law Gus and grandson Victor surprised the family by making the trip later that summer. This was Gus's first trip back to Greece since his wedding in 1948. This trip and all of their future trips will be by jet airplane.
March 7	1967	74 yrs old	Dimitrios attended first wedding of one of his grandchildren, that of Magdalene ("Litsa") Angeletos Konstantaki to Konstantinos Hristos Zóis in Larissa. The couple moved to Düsseldorf, Germany after their wedding.
April 21	1967		<u><i>Military Junta takes control of the Greek government establishing a dictatorship.</i></u>
October 8	1967	75 yrs old	Dimitrios attended the wedding of his oldest grandchild, Dimitrios ("Jimmy") Angelis Berdanis to Eleni Konstantinos Orfanou in Glossa, Skopelos. The couple moved to Nassau, the Bahamas after their wedding.
May 10	1968		Dimitrios 's first great-grandchild, Hristos Konstantinos Zóis, is born in Düsseldorf, Germany. Dimitrios lived to see five of the great-grandchildren who were born in his lifetime.
June 1	1969	76 yrs old	Dimitrios 's daughter Anna died in an Athens hospital at the age of 48 of rheumatic heart disease.
June	1969		Dimitrios 's daughter Kiki and her children Victor and Magdalene travelled to Skopelos for the summer. Dimitrios 's son-in-law Gus would later surprise the family for a two week

			visit. This would be the last time Dimitrios would see Gus.
<i>July 20</i>	1969		<u><i>Neil Armstrong walks on the Moon.</i></u> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_11
August 18	1969		Dimitrios transferred ownership of the house in Loutraki to his daughter Kiki.
October	1969	77 yrs old	Dimitrios 's grandson Victor enrolled in medical school in Athens, Greece so Dimitrios saw him on a more regular basis. Victor would visit often on major holidays and long breaks.
Summer	1970		Dimitrios 's daughter Kiki and her son Dimitri visit for the summer.
Summer	1972	79 yrs old	Dimitrios 's daughter Kiki and her daughter Magdalene visit for the summer.
November 10	1972	80 yrs old	Dimitrios 's younger brother, Mihail ("Mihalis") dies in Ano Klima at the age of 76.
October 7	1973	81 yrs old	Dimitrios falls and breaks his arm getting off of a ship in Volos, en route to Larissa. His wife's anxiety over his injury induced a stroke. He was admitted to the hospital for recovery.
October 9	1973		Dimitrios 's wife Magdalene Dimitrios Ravanou died of a stroke in Volos at the age of 75. They were married for 57 years. He missed the funeral due to his recent hospitalization.
October	1973		Dimitrios lived in Larissa with his granddaughter, Dimitra ("Toula") Yianousis.
November 26	1973		Dimitrios 's younger sister, Evanthia Paleoloyos, died in Ano Klima at the age of 62.
<i>July 23</i>	1974		<u><i>The Military Junta losses power and democracy is restored to Greece</i></u> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_military_junta_of_1967-1974
April 14	1975	82 yrs old	Dimitrios died in a nursing home in Larissa, Greece. He outlived his wife by two years.

As of: August 5, 2009

Note: While researching the genealogy of the Hiras family and their travels, we have chosen the *Hirras* spelling for usage in our documentation. We have also seen Hiras spelled Hiras, Heras, Hira, Chiros, Chira, Chiras, Cheros, and Tsiras.

We have chosen to use the spelling *Magdalene*. We have also seen this name spelled Magdaline and Magdalini.

We have chosen to use the spelling *Dimitrios*. We have also seen this spelled Demetre, Demetreos, and Demitri.