Grace Valentine

In F. R. Harris's book, *Hometown Chronicles,* he writes about Grace Valentine, a Greenfield girl that went on to fame on stage and screen. She was the daughter of J. H. Schnarenberger who lived on the northwest corner of South and Fronts streets and her grandfather was a local farmer.

As a young girl, according to sources on the web, her family had their name changed from Schnarenberger to Snow. She took the name Valentine as her stage name as she was born on Valentine's Day in 1884. Other sources including Find a Grave say she was born in Springfield, Ohio, in 1882. Harris does not say that she was born in Greenfield but claims her as a Greenfield girl.

Grace began her acting career in touring companies. Her first two movies were in 1915, *The New Adam and Eve* and *Black Fear*. She continued in films and stage through 1932. According to Harris she came out of retirement to star in the patriotic spectacle, *The American Way* opposite Frederick Marsh. Harris says that in a news article in the New York Times, she was described as a "grand old trouper with red hair." She is quoted as saying that Mr. Marsh talked "exactly the way grandpa did." She also described Mapletown, the setting of the play, as being very similar to Greenfield.

Her last stage performance was A Season in the Sun in 1950.

She married Shephard Wayne Nunn, an actor, in 1903. He died in 1947. She died November 12, 1964, in New York City and was buried in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, West Chester County, New York, beside her husband.





