Charles Evans Hughes
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court  (1862 – 1948)

Hughes was born in Glen Falls and attended Madison College (now Colgate University) before transferring to Brown. He graduated in 1881, then attended Columbia Law School, graduating in 1884. In 1885, he met Antoinette Carter, the daughter of a senior partner of the law firm where he worked, and they were married in 1888. They had two children.

In 1891, Hughes left the practice of law to become a professor at the Cornell University Law School, but in 1893 he returned to his old law firm. In 1905, he was appointed as counsel to a New York state legislative committee investigating utility rates, where his uncovering of corruption led to lower gas rates in New York City. This positioned him to win elected office in 1906 when he defeated William Randolph Hearst to become Governor of New York.

Hughes was offered the vice-presidential nomination in 1908 by WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT but declined. In October 1910, Hughes was appointed by Taft as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court but resigned on June 16, 1916 to be the Republican candidate for President. After losing the election he returned to private practice, and he re-entered government service as Secretary of State under President Harding. HERBERT HOOVER, who joined the Century the same month as Hughes in 1919, appointed him as the Chief Justice in 1930, a year after Hoover had appointed his son CHARLES EVANS HUGHES, JR. as Solicitor General. Hughes was Chief Justice for 11 years before being succeeded by HARLAN FISK STONE.

Hughes died on Cape Cod in 1948.