Histories From The 1986 Centennial Book

Abts

Michael Abts, son of John and Maria Abts was born in Rommerskeshen, Germany in 1825. He came to America in 1853 and settled in Galena, Illinois. On March 31, 1861, Michael married Anna Lemper. They moved to Cassville, Wisconsin, and lived there until 1864, when they moved to Fountain City, Wisconsin.

Seventeen children were born to this union: Adeline, John Henry, William, Joseph, John Peter, Anton, Peter, Matilda Marie, Adeline, Moritz, Carl, Marie Caroline, George, Jacob, Marie Gertrude, Anna Marie and Edward. Of the seventeen children, four: William, Joseph, Anton and Henry settled in the Randolph area. William married Frances Hildebrand in 1896 in Fountain City, Wisconsin. He was a carpenter and contractor. He built many sets of buildings in this area.

Will and Frances were the parents of four children: George, Gertrude, Ervan and Herbert. All are deceased except Herbert who lives in Belden. Herbert married Beulah Seyl in 1926. They are the parents of two children, Louis of Dixon, Nebraska, and Norma (Mrs. Alvin Ehlers) of Wayne, Nebraska. Herbert and Beulah own and operate the farm homesteaded by Beulah's grandfather. To date the farm has been in the family for one hundred fifteen years.

Joseph married Sedonia Kuhl. They were the parents of six children: Lena, Jerome, Everett, Beatrice, Genevieve and Dolores. Two children died in infancy. Lena and Everett are presently residing on the family farm east of Randolph.

Anton came to Randolph in 1892 and went into the harness and leather business. Four years later he sent for Christina Lang, who came from Fountain City, Wisconsin to be his bride. Anton stayed in the same location on main street until he sold his business in the 1940's. Children of Anton and Christine Abts were: John, Albert, Arthur, Dorothy, Eugene, LaVerne and Thomas. Thomas was a World War II casualty.

Henry Abts married Anna Schleier and farmed in the Randolph area. They were the parents of five children: Katherine, Mayme, Anton, Edward and Frank, plus an adopted daughter Alfrieda. Henry was also a musician and played the accordion for many dances.

Mayme was the only member of Henry and Anna's children to remain in the Randolph area. She married James Dendinger, they farmed northeast of Randolph and raised a family of four daughters; Loretta, Genevieve, Helen and Marie. Loretta and Leo Wattier were married in 1939. They have five children: James, Thomas, Roger, Barbara, and Larry in addition to a son Robert by Leo's first wife, Alfrieda Abts, who passed away in 1936. Genevieve married Harold Caldwell; they were the parent’s of one daughter, Terry. Harold passed away in 1961. Genevieve is now Mrs. RJ. Durante and is living in Fairfax, California. Helen married William Dwyer in 1943. They had one child, William Patrick. William, a Major in the Air Force during World War II lost his life in the Pacific area. In 1950, Helen married Louis Dwyer. They are the parents of four children: Daniel, Colleen, Joan and Karen. In 1945, Marie married Donald Lenhoff. Their children are: Donald Charles, Mary Lou, William, Randall, Timothy, Nicholas and Victoria (twins), and Donna. Victoria died in infancy. Helen Dwyer

Martin Sherman Adams

Martin Sherman Adams, better known as "Sherm", was born June 25, 1866, at Cedar Falls, Iowa. He came to Randolph from Pierson, Iowa, in 1898 or 1899. He came because there was carpenter work to be done in this new community. He lived at the old Randolph House until his marriage to Eliza Ostrander of Pierson, Iowa in 1900. The wedding took place at the home of her sister, Mrs. RF. Smith, and was conducted by Rev. Morning of the Presbyterian Church.

The family first lived in rented houses, but by the spring of 1904, they moved to their own home that he had built in south Randolph. By that time, they had two daughters, Louise and Mildred.

Both daughters are graduates of Randolph High School. Both became teachers. Louise has a B.A. Degree from Wayne State College and a Masters Degree from the University of Nebraska.

Mildred has a B.A. Degree from Wayne State College. Sherm spent most of his life doing carpenter work, but during the depression he took the job as janitor of the high school. He retired in 1936 and that was the year of his wife's death.

While in Randolph, Sherm enjoyed the summer trips he took, mostly by car, with his family. They toured the Black Hills, Minnesota, the Ozarks, the Colorado Mountains, Yellowstone Park, Washington, Oregon, and Canada.

In 1942, the family home was sold and he and his daughters moved to a home in Kearney, Nebraska, where Louise was teaching at the college. He passed away there in 1961. He was 95 years of age.

Louise and Mildred retired from teaching in 1966 and moved to Laguna Hills in California where they lived for 14 years, spending much of their time in travel. In 1980, they returned to Nebraska and now live at Eastmont Towers in Lincoln. Mildred Adams
Emil C. Aegerter

My grandfather, Emil Clement Aegerter, was born April 30, 1865, in Curselen, Bern, Switzerland, and came to this country as a young man of 16. My grandmother, Minnie Augusta Brauer, was born in Anamosa, Iowa, August 16, 1864. She was born to Charles and Dorthea (Peters) Brauer who had immigrated to Jones County in Iowa from Prussia some time in their early married life. My grandparents, Emil and Minnie, were married in Monticello, Iowa on September 15, 1886, and their first child, Pearl was born July 10, 1887, in Hopkinton, Iowa, where Grandfather worked at a creamery. Sometime during this period Emil's parents, Clement and Elizabeth (Graub) Aegerter came over from Switzerland to the same location. More children soon joined Emil's and Winnie's family; Carl in 1890, Minnie Mae in 1892, Hazel in 1893, and Earl in 1897.

The family, Grandfather and Grandmother, and their five children, then moved to Randolph, Nebraska, where they set up housekeeping in a rented house in the country. Grandfather then went to work for a time in a creamery and then a butcher shop, both in Randolph.

My mother, Elsie Elizabeth, was born in Randolph on September 10, 1899, and the youngest of the family came along June 1, 1901. His name was Martin. Around this time, Grandfather decided to go into real estate where he made a substantial living and moved his family into a large white home at the top of the hill on the main street of town. My Aunt Mae indicated to me that the home was remodeled and my mother always told me that Grandfather believed in living on a hill.

I was in Randolph the summer of 1984 and my husband and I went searching for that home, and sure enough it still stands. Now there have been some additions, but the spirit of my mother's family and what she told me about it is still there.

My Aunt Mae and mother have told me a story about Grandfather when there needed to be a Presbyterian Church built in town. He got up one Sunday and said that he would pledge $500 to build the church if five or six others would do the same so that the church could be built.

They did, and he did, and the church building went up. My mother, Elsie Elizabeth, married Fredrich Wilhelm Matschullat on February 17, 1929, and they had four daughters; Maxine, Rita, Myrna and Donna. I am Myrna. Myrna is married to Ray Welch and they reside in Berthoud, Colorado, belong to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, love family history and have a keen interest in the life and times of Randolph, Nebraska.

The descendants of myself, Myrna Mae (Matschullat) Welch are a son, three daughters, and three grandchildren with two more on the way. The total descendants of my mother and father are four daughters, six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

My mother passed away on October 21, 1982, and my father passed away on January 28, 1984. They both are buried in Boulder, Colorado. My grandfather Emil Aegerter passed away August 10, 1941, in Norfolk, Nebraska, and my grandmother Minnie Aegerter passed away April 30, 1951, in Boulder, Colorado. They are both buried in the Randolph cemetery along with some of their children and great-grandfathers Aegerter and Brauer.

All of Grandfather Aegerter's children have passed away except my Aunt Mae who is 93 and living in Cedaredge, Colorado. She has given me much of the above information, for which I am very grateful.

When my husband and I went to Randolph in 1984, and went searching for my grandparent's graves in the cemetery, I knew that they must be somewhere on the hill. Sure enough, that's where they were, as in life he wanted to live on a hill. Myrna (Matschullat) Welch

Amanda Albers

Amanda's parents were John and Caroline Albers. They came from Germany with their parents. John and Caroline were married at Atlantic, Iowa. They lived in Atlantic for nine years before they moved to Randolph, in 1892. They lived on a farm two and one-half miles north of Randolph, known as the Theodore Frederick farm. The Albers were parents of two daughters, Martha and Amanda.

Martha married Anton Helms and they had one son who died as a very young man.

Amanda was born January 24, 1897, and lived her young life in Randolph. The Albers moved to town when Amanda was six years old, and she attended the Randolph Public School, graduating with a class of 20 from high school in Randolph. After graduation she taught a rural school for one year. She started working as a postal clerk in Randolph in May 1918. Her salary was about $30.00 per month. The day's work began at seven o'clock in the morning and would not end until the last train arrived and the mail was distributed. Sometimes it would be nearly 10:00 p.m. before the train arrived. The mail at that time was of great importance since no one had radios or televisions from which to get the news.

The Randolph Post became a second class post office and this meant an increase in wages. The Democrats

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came into office. Amanda was a Republican so she lost her job. In those days the ruling political party removed employees belonging to the opposing party and hired people belonging to their party.

Amanda moved to Laurel and managed a variety store for a few years. In 1954, she accepted a position as a postal clerk in Fremont, Nebraska. She retired in 1965 after nearly thirty years service as a postal clerk.

During her lifetime, Amanda made several long trips, including those to California, Florida, and Washington, D.C. She especially enjoyed the trip to Washington, D.C. because of the many historic sites there.

After her retirement, she returned to Randolph where she made her home. Due to poor health she moved to the Colonial Manor in 1982. *Amanda Albers and Frances Anderson*

**Edward W. Anderson**

Edward W. "Mike" Anderson was born December 23, 1889 near Page, Nebraska. He was a small boy when he moved to Randolph with his parents, Howard and Fannie Anderson. He attended the Randolph Public School. When he was a boy, he helped at the Hill Drug Store. While working there he was nicknamed Mike.

Ed spent two years overseas during World War I. After his service in the Army, he worked a few years as a mechanic in Wisner, Nebraska. He returned to Randolph and started his own business which was known as Anderson Plumbing and Electric. He also installed furnaces and did refrigeration. Many calls were received late at night or early in the morning responding to a furnace that wouldn't start. There are still many furnaces in use that he sold. Ed sold his business to Jack Brookly but continued to do repair work and refrigeration.

Frances Yelsma Elder Anderson was born May 23, 1906 on a farm near Atkinson, Nebraska. She also had a twin brother. Their mother died during childbirth. Since her father had four other children to care for, he was willing to place the twins for adoption.

Thomas and Jennie Elder wanted a baby girl to fill the vacancy in their home left by the death of their daughter. Frances was adopted by them in July, 1906. She was welcomed by five brothers. The twin brother was adopted by another family.

Frances attended a rural school through the eighth grade and graduated from Atkinson High School in 1924. After graduation, she taught in rural schools for six years either walking or riding a horse to get there. Then she would have to build a fire to warm up the school building before the children arrived. It would be a hot lunch treat when a patron would send a kettle of soup to be kept warm on the stove. They often sent milk for hot cocoa.

Frances spent her summer vacations attending summer school at Wayne State. After attending a full term and completing two years of college, she had a certificate to teach in town. She came to Randolph in 1932 and taught first grade for six years.

Frances and Edward were married June 12, 1938. Frances quit teaching and devoted her time to being a homemaker. They became the parents of two children: Robert and Richard. Edward died July 18, 1960. Frances returned to teaching and taught fifth grade for ten years. During this time, she taught children of students she had taught in first grade such as the children of Paul Dittman, Joedy Sellon and Robert Sellon.

Robert Anderson graduated from Randolph High School in 1958. He served eight years in the Air Force. He graduated from the University of Nebraska and from Law School in Buffalo, New York. He is an attorney in Washington, D.C.

Richard graduated from Randolph High School in 1962 and from Milford Technical College in 1964. He married Marian Struthman, May 23, 1964. They live at Raymond, Nebraska and are the parents of three children: Laura, Lee and Linda. Richard is employed by the Burlington Northern Railroad. *Mrs. Edward (Frances) Anderson*

**Howard Frazier Anderson**

Howard Frazier Anderson was born June 28, 1859 near Marvin's Chapel Virginia. The early years of his life were spent on the historic old family farm that traces its ownership to Lord Fairfax who transferred title to the Anderson family in 1751. It remained in the Anderson family for 168 years. Records show that George Washington surveyed the estate.

Mr. Anderson came to Nebraska in 1887 and settled at Neligh where he clerked in a general store. It was there he met Miss Frances Meyers, a native of Myersville, West Virginia. She was born April 16, 1861. Her parents died when she was a small child and she lived in Mechanics Town, West Virginia with relatives until moving to Neligh where a brother lived in 1888. They were married in Neligh on March 5, 1889 and lived in Neligh about a year before moving to a farm near Orchard where they lived six years.

The couple moved to Randolph in the spring of 1895. Mr. Anderson was a carpenter and many of the buildings in and about Randolph were in part or entirely built by him. They were members of the Presbyterian Church where Mr. Anderson was an elder for many years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson died in 1932.

Their children were Edward, Oscar, Virginia, Jess and Pine. Edward and Jess were long-time Randolph residents. Virginia died at age 13 in 1906.

Oscar moved to Des Moines where he was a butcher. He married Freda Peck. They had two sons, Robert and Phillip. Oscar died in 1938. Robert still resides in Des Moines with his wife, Pat. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Pine resided in Randolph for a number of years and taught school both in the country and in the Randolph school system. She also worked in several stores in Randolph. She married Warren F. Kehs of Philadelphia. They had one son, Kent, who resides in Ipswich,
Massachusetts with his wife, Judy, and two children. Pine died in 1982. Her husband now lives in Baltimore. Frances Anderson Leeper

Jess Anderson

Jess Anderson was born March 18, 1895 in Randolph. He was born in a house located where the lumber yard is now located, a block south of the Methodist church. He attended public school until grade ten and then worked at various jobs in Randolph. He served as a Medic in the United States Army during World War I. After the war, he worked for a few months near Moore Haven, Florida clearing land. He then attended school in Chicago to learn window decorating and sign making for stores. For a time, he was in the electrical business with his brother, Edward (Mike).

He started a Confectionary Store on the corner of Main Street in the 1920's that sold tobacco, ice cream, etc. He was married to Frances Hathaway, a teacher in the public schools, in 1930. Jess opened a dry goods store in 1933 in the Wattier building and stayed in that location until 1943 when the building was sold. He then moved his business to Hartington where he was in business for ten years before returning to Randolph where he operated the store until his death in 1960.

Mr. Anderson was an elder in the Presbyterian Church for many years. He was also a Mason, a member of the Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of the American Legion. He served as a commander of the American Legion.

His wife, Frances, daughter, Frances Pine, and granddaughter, Kim, reside in Fort Myers, Florida. Frances Anderson Leeper

Don and Donna Andrew

Donald Allie Andrew, son of Paul and Elsie Andrew, was born in his parents' present home in Randolph on November 1, 1937. He attended the Randolph Public School and graduated in 1955. He entered the Army in January 1956. Fort Chaffey, Arkansas, is where he received his first eight weeks of basics, completing his basic training at Fort Hood, Texas. The rest of his Army days were spent at Fort Meyer, Virginia, at the Honor Guard Company. He received his honorable discharge January 1958.

In May 1958, he helped lay the foundation for Randolph's new water tower. In June, he went to work for Harold Bush, who owned the Bush Well Co.

Donna May Synovec, daughter of John and Helen Synovec, was born in her parents’ home at Pierce, Nebraska, on November 10, 1940. She attended Pierce Public School and graduated from there in 1958. She worked as a secretary for the Beach and Webster Law Office and at the Pierce County Courthouse as a secretary for the County Clerk.

Don and Donna met in the summer of 1958 and were married December 20, 1958, at the First Congregational Church, Pierce, Nebraska.

Don continued to work for the Bush Well Co. In October 1959, he began working for Wm. Galvin and Son, International dealer, as a tractor mechanic. He is still employed there as of this writing. A daughter, Kimberly Kay, was born to them on March 3, 1960. A son, Scott Brian, was born on September 29, 1962. John Paul, a son, was born November 2, 1968. All children were born at the Osmond Hospital, at Osmond, Nebraska.

In 1970, the family bought a house from the Frank Walz estate. They still reside there.

Kimberly (Kimmy) was killed in a car accident in August 1975, at the age of 15 years. Scott Brian graduated from Randolph Public School in 1980. Scott moved from home in 1982, and in 1984, he bought a house from Harry McCune. He is presently residing there and is employed by Joedy Sellon. John is presently at home and is a junior in high school.

The family are members of the United Methodist Church. Donna Andrew

George and Lillie Andrew

George Andrew and Miss Lillie Jane Dewey were married March 29, 1892, at Mt. Ida, Wisconsin. They moved to Pierson, Iowa, where they lived until 1902, when they moved to Randolph. George came ahead of the family to buy the land where the house was built for their new home. He bought the east half of block fifteen, Fisher Randall Addition. He had the home built on the southeast corner, where it now stands at 512 South Douglas St. - the home of Paul and Elsie Andrew. George found a house by the standpipe, where the family lived while the new home was being built. When they moved to Randolph, the family consisted of George and Lillie, and their children George Jr., Ruth, and Wier. Wier passed away in 1902. Paul was born in the house by the standpipe and Clyde was born in the new home.

George Andrew was a Civil War Veteran. He enlisted at Boscobel, Wisconsin for three years. He was a Private in Co. B, 33rd and 11th Regiments, Wisconsin Infantry. George was wounded in the leg at Spanish Fort, near Mobile, Alabama. He was honorably discharged from service on June 23, 1863, at Madison, Wisconsin.

He enjoyed going to the G.A.R. Veterans Reunions held in towns around here and Iowa. Sometimes the family went along.

George was a dealer in farm real estate. He had several farms he rented out. When he passed away in 1912, he had one farm one mile west and six miles south of Randolph. He had several renters starting in 1929, his son, George and wife Anita farmed it for many years. The farm now belongs to Leonard Robinson. The other farm was two miles west and north across the Northwestern Railroad track, on the west side of the road. The description of the land was: N.E. quarter section 27,
Township 28, Range I1 west of PM. It had no buildings. This land remained in the Andrew family until 1982, when Cecil Leiting bought it. This land had been rented to Cecil’s father, the late Frank Leiting. Later the late John Meyer rented it. After that John’s son, Elmer, rented it until it was sold.

The northeast 100 ft. of block 15, Fisher and Randall Addition, was sold to Pete Milander, March 5, 1949, where he built a house. Pete and Violet lived there until he sold it to Louie Bauer. Later Paul Paulsen bought the house. He and Mary live there now. Clyde and Bert Andrew took 100 ft. for their home. In 1980, Clyde sold 25 ft. and Paul sold 50 ft. to Lowell and Marge Van Slyke, where they built their home. Clyde moved to Kansas, where his daughter, Vicki lives. Jean Meyer and family have lived in the Clyde Andrew home since 1983. The east half of block 15, Fisher Randall Addition, is filled.

Paul and Elsie Andrew

Paul Andrew, born March 24, 1904, in Randolph, was the son of George and Lillie Jane (Dewey) Andrew. Paul grew up in Randolph, and finished his schooling in Morgan Park Military Academy, Chicago, Illinois. He was always interested in mechanics and liked fixing bicycles. Paul attended the Lincoln Auto and Tractor School and worked at the Raubach Garage. He later worked for Ed Lewis as a mechanic.

Paul met Elsie Riddiough at a picnic at Marsden Park in Fennimore, Wisconsin, in June, 1924. He had gone to visit his brother, George, who was farming in Wisconsin. Elsie had finished her junior year in high school, where she had taken a commercial course. Elsie Laura Marie, the oldest daughter of Allie J. and Otillie Kasper Riddiough, was born December 10, 1906, in Castle Rock Township, Grant County, Wisconsin. She lived on the farm for three years, the family then moved to a farm near Stitzer, Wisconsin, owned by Elsie’s grandparents and later purchased by her father. She loved to milk cows, feed calves, drive the horses and mules, and go fishing.

Courtship was by letter writing until Paul went to Wisconsin to visit in June 1925. He returned to Wisconsin and Paul and Elsie were married on September 9, 1925. They moved to Randolph and lived there a year. Paul was in partnership with Fred Overhue in a Battery Shop.

In 1927, Paul and Elsie moved back to Wisconsin. Paul worked as a mechanic until the doctor told him to work outdoors, because of his health. He finished the year working for Al Riddiough on the farm, and moved to Randolph that fall.

Paul went into the Rabbit and Guinea Pig business for a couple of years. Daughter, Pauline Jane, was born in 1928. Paul started working for Alfred Nelson as a mechanic in 1930. In 1932, daughter, Harriet Louise was born. This was the beginning of hard times in the thirties.

George Gilbert was born in 1936, Donald Allie was born in 1937, and, daughter, Judith Esther was born in 1939.

After Alfred Nelson sold his garage to Ed Nissen, Paul worked for him until 1966. While there, he received a plaque for being a certified technician for 33 years. In 1967, Paul started in business for himself - The Andrew Tune-Up Shop. He was there until 1976, when he had to retire because of his health.

Paul and Elsie celebrated their fiftieth anniversary in 1975 and their sixtieth in 1985, in Randolph, where they reside.

John and Susan Arens

John Arens was born June 16, 1948, to Irvin and Barbara (Steffen) Arens in Crofton, Nebraska. He spent the first years of his life on a farm southwest of Crofton and then on a farm north of Randolph where his parents moved. He attended District 51, grades one through eight, graduating from Saint Frances High School in 1966. John left for the army in 1967 and returned in 1969 after having served one year in Vietnam.

Susan Rogers was born May 25, 1955, to Joseph and Edna (Thieman) Rogers. She attended Saint Frances grade school, graduating from Randolph High School in 1973. Susan attended Mount Marty College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Technology. She worked in West Point, Nebraska, at Saint Frances Hospital until her marriage.

John and Susan were married November 10, 1979, at Saint Frances Church in Randolph. They have two children, Jennifer born November 9, 1981, and Brenda born December 26, 1983.

The couple is now engaged in farming north of Randolph. They are members of Saint Frances Church.

Susan (Rogers) Arens

Father Richard Arkfeld

Father Richard Arkfeld was appointed pastor of St. Frances Church in Randolph and moved into the parish on June 20, 1985. He was formerly pastor of St. Peter’s Church in Ewing, Nebraska.

Father Arkfeld is the youngest of nine children born to Rupert and Rose (Hughes) Arkfeld of Battle Creek, Nebraska, where they lived on a farm west of town. The other children in the family include his brothers Joe and Lucille (Dillrick) Arkfeld of Norfolk; Bill and Mary Clair (Walz) Arkfeld of Battle Creek; Tom and Marilyn (Powers) Arkfeld of Lincoln; and John and Phyllis (Rehmus) Arkfeld of Lincoln. His four sisters include; Marge, Mrs. Bob Knag, of Alliance, Nebraska; Sister Mary Rosenda Arkfeld of Aurora, Colorado, Mary, Mrs. Leon Wacker, of Battle Creek; and Rosalie, who is deceased. He graduated from Battle Creek High School in 1952 and was ordained a priest in Omaha on May 26, 1962.

His ties to Randolph go back to the turn of the century when his great grandmother lived here in her late years of
life. She was born in Germany, and came to America sometime around the year 1850. Her name was Magdalena Luckenollo and she was first married to Henry Arkfeld. He was killed in a house moving accident. To this union were born five children, two of whom lived in the Randolph area. They were Ben Jurgensmeier who was married to Regina Grabowski, and Elizabeth Jurgensmeier, who was married to Martin Queeney, the parents of Dorothy Queeney, now Mrs. Paul Dendinger. According to the "Randolph Times-Enterprise", December 3, 1915, Magdalena died in Randolph at the age of 84 years.

The grandmother of Father Arkfeld, Anna Queeney Arkfeld, had family living in Randolph in these same years. Her brother Martin Queeney, who married Elizabeth Jurgensmeier, farmed north of town. Their daughter is Dorothy, now Mrs. Paul Dendinger. Anna Arkfeld also had a sister here, married to Dr. Charles Kelley. Her name was Catherine. Several of their children were born here in the early 1900's. Charles was a physician.

Anna Queeney's cousin was Harry Burke, a tailor who had his business on main street. An aunt of Father Arkfeld, Lucretia (Arkfeld) Harsch, was born in Randolph and baptized at St. Frances Church. Her mother, Anna Queeney Arkfeld, came to Randolph to be in the care of Dr. Charles Kelley, at the time of her delivery.

**John and Claire Atwood**

John Atwood came to Randolph in the fall of 1929 as a mathematics and science teacher in the Randolph Public School system. John and Claire Evans were married June 16, 1933. Before their marriage, Claire attended Morningside College in Sioux City, majoring in music and also attended Wayne State Teachers College. She taught school in what was known as the Wareham South School. John taught for eight years in the Randolph School, the last year serving as Principal. In 1937, Ed Evans, John's father-in-law and John purchased the Aegater Insurance Agency, at which time John also inherited the City Clerk position and the job of utility billing and collecting. Wife, Claire, assisted in the office duties. John served two years in the navy in World War II as Lieutenant J.G. During that time, Claire ran the business and assumed the City Clerk's position until John returned from the service. The Atwood Insurance business was sold to the First State Bank on November 1, 1975.

After 44 years as City Clerk for the City of Randolph, John retired in June 30, 1981, having served as a city employee, with the longest term of employment in the history of the city. The Atwoods' celebrated their Golden Anniversary in June 1983. Claire has been an active member of the Randolph P.E.O. Chapter EA for over 50 years. In their retirement, John and Claire kept busy with many kinds of hobbies and they like to travel. For relaxation, Claire enjoys her electric organ. They have two children; Edward C., who with wife Mane, and son, Alan, live in Huntington, New York; and daughter Sara Jo Worley, who with husband Don and two daughters, Julie and Jill reside in Tempe, Arizona. Claire, son Edward, and daughter Jo, are all graduates of the Randolph Public School. *Claire and John Atwood*

**Dan and Mary Ann Bach**

Daniel Dale Bach was born to Dale and Lucille (Gubbels) Bach in Norfolk, Nebraska, on February 5, 1958. Dan received his kindergarten through second grade education at Robin’s Country School north of Randolph and the rest of his education at Randolph Public School, graduating in 1977. Immediately after graduation Dan started farming at his home north of Randolph where he is presently residing. Dan’s hobbies are fishing, hunting and collecting toy tractors.

On October 22, 1977, at St. Frances Church in Randolph, Dan married Mary Ann Moser, daughter of Floyd and Alfreda (Aschoff) Moser. She was born on July 8, 1959, at Osmond, Nebraska. When Mary Ann was two, she moved to Iowa with her parents and older brother and later to Belden and then to Randolph again. She received her kindergarten schooling in Belden, first through sixth grade education at St. Frances Catholic School and seventh through twelfth grades at Randolph Public, graduating in 1977. Mary Ann's hobbies are swimming and doing crafts.

Dan and Mary Ann are the parents of four children: Jennifer Suzanne born January 14, 1979, at Osmond, Nebraska; April Elizabeth born November 11, 1980, at Osmond; Anthony Daniel born February 24, 1982, at Osmond; and Traci Renae born April 18, 1985, at her home.

Dan and Mary Ann and their family are currently farming north of Randolph. They are members of St. Frances Catholic Church.
Dan has three sisters: Julie, Janet and Lisa. Mary Ann has two brothers: Michael and Kevin; and six sisters: Joann Diane, Carolann, Kathie, Marcie and Cheryl.

Hans and Wilma Bach

Hans Bach, son of Kristian and Anna (Jensen) Bach, (born at Nikobing Mars, Denmark) was born December 30, 1912 at Laurel, Nebraska. He received his education in rural schools around Randolph.

He was a farmer most of his life and retired in 1970, to Randolph. He purchased the home owned by Harold Martindale, and worked at Carhart Lumber Company as yardman.

On September 11, 1936, he married Wilma Irene Joslin, born April 8, 1916, to Ed and Jemime (Copenhaver) Joslin (born at Mt. Liberty, Indiana). Irene was born at Coleridge, received her education in rural schools and Northeast Technical College at Norfolk.

They were members of the United Lutheran Church of Laurel. The couple have three children: James of Columbus, born August 26, 1937, who has four children, Crystal, Clinton, Valerie and Nathan; Wilma Jean Burns, Enid, Oklahoma, born October 5, 1941, has six children, Kevin, Douglas, Dawn, and Doug Manzer, and Jeremy and Jason Burns; the youngest, Robert Bach, born October 12, 1943, has two children, Brian and Theresa. Robert graduated from the Randolph High School.

Mr. Bach passed away September 27, 1971. Mrs. Bach resides at 301 Cedar Street Randolph. Wilma Irene Bach

Clarence and DeLores Backer

J. Fred Brandt was my father. He married Jenny Allen in 1914. To this union two children were born; one daughter, DeLores, and one son, Rex. In February of 1919, Jenny passed away after contracting the flu during the epidemic.

Having no mother, my Grandfather and Grandmother Brandt took us to Wisconsin to care for us. Rex and I lived six years with them. In February of 1925, Dad remarried, so Rex and I came back to Randolph in June 1925. I’ve lived in Nebraska since that time.

I met Clarence Backer in 1938 and we were married in October 1939. We farmed different farms until 1960. Clarence became a chef and quit farming. He has been chef or manager/chef in several eating establishments in Neligh and Norfolk.

We have seven children, three daughters and four sons: Carol (Hubenthal), Kay (Lackas), Bob, Ron and Ray (the twins), Michele (Zautke), and Kevin. All are married and have their own families.

Eighteen grandchildren have come into our lives in the 25 years since we left Randolph. Mrs. Clarence Backer

Edwin and Rosanne Backer

Edwin Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Backer, was born January 16, 1947, at Norfolk, Nebraska. He was a 1966 graduate of Randolph Public School, obtaining his earlier years of education at St. Frances Catholic School and the country school, District 38 Southeast, one-half mile south of the family farm.

After graduating in 1966, he moved to Springfield, Missouri, and attended trade school. In the fall of 1967, he was employed by Allied Office Machine’s of Sioux City, Iowa, for one and one-half years.

In April of 1969, he began working for Prince Manufacturing of Sioux City where he has been employed for seventeen years.

Edwin married Rosanne Winkelbauer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Winkelbauer, on September 8, 1973. Rosanne was born October 16, 1949, in Randolph. She received all of her education at St. Frances Catholic School, graduating in 1968. Rosanne attended Stewart's School of Hairstyling and was employed by Stewart's Hair for five years. During her single years, she did much traveling, including a 17 day tour of Europe. Other places visited included California, Arizona, Kentucky, and many visits to Minnesota to go fishing with her grandpa.

The couple have two daughters; Jennifer Rose, born April 10, 1975, and Stephanie Marie, born December 28, 1976, in Sioux City, Iowa. They now reside in Sioux City. Rosanne Backer

Tony H. Backer

Tony Backer was born November 16, 1896, to Mr. and Mrs. Anton Backer at Exira, Iowa. In approximately 1900, the family moved to Oklahoma where they intended to farm but because of the drought there, they returned to Exira after three days. They farmed in Iowa until 1909 when they moved to Randolph because land prices were so high in Iowa. Tony, as a young man, did farm work and developed his knowledge of mechanics.

Helen Kelsch was born in Solka, Austria on September 5, 1906. At the age of two, she moved with her parents to a farm northwest of Randolph. They left Austria so her older brothers, Frank and Ed, would not have to go into the army there. Helen went to school at the "old Stober School" along with her younger brother and sister, John and Katie.

In the spring of 1917, her mother became ill with cancer and passed away. The family moved to west Randolph where they lived until after their father passed away in 1921. Helen then quit school to take care of the family. On December 26, 1922, Helen and Tony were married and took John and Katie to live with them.

Tony got a job on the Bill O’Gara farm near Laurel, Nebraska. Bill was a State Senator at the time. They lived there until spring when Tony went to work for Martin Buol at the oil station. He worked there four years. In the spring of 1927, they moved out to the Backer farm and farmed for three years.

By this time, Tony and Helen had four children: Arlene, Marie, Dorothy, and Edward. Arlene started school at the Huwaldt School. They moved back to Randolph in 1930,
where they bought an acreage on the northwest corner of town.

Tony went to work for Ed Lewis in his repair shop. After several years there, he had a shop behind the Gamble Store when George Reed owned it. In the late 30's, he built the shop now operated by Bob Winkelbauer. After several years there, he sold the building to Luther Barnes and bought the building now occupied by Nordhuus Feed from the Oberts. There he took on the John Deere dealership. After three years, he traded the business to Ed Burbach for a farm north of Randolph which their daughter Shirley and husband Bob Eddie farmed.

In 1948, he built the shop by their home in east Randolph. During the intervening years, three more girls were born: Vernelle, Joan, and Shirley. Helen worked hard during all these years, raising the family, milking one or two cows, raising a big garden, chickens, and taking care of the meat when they butchered. Tony also farmed the 17 acres on their place.

All their children are still living: Arlene, at Belden, Nebraska; Marie, at Fairplay, Colorado; Dorothy, at Carroll, Nebraska; Edward, at Auburn, Washington who works for Boeing; Vernelle, at Lincoln, Nebraska; Joan, at Canby, Minnesota; and Shirley, at Golden City, Missouri. They have 24 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

They are still quite active in their own home as they do all their own gardening, yard work, and housekeeping. Tony, at 88 years, still tinkers in his shop part of the time, especially in the warm months. Arlene Graham

Gene and Lois Baird

Gene B. Baird was born August 4, 1922, in Wayne County near Winside, Nebraska, to Harry and Pearl (Wylie) Baird. He has five sisters and one brother. Both of his parents are deceased.

Gene received his grade school education in a rural school and graduated from Winside High School. Gene volunteered for the Navy in December of 1942. He is a World War II veteran of Omaha Beach and the Normandy Invasion of France.

While in the service, Gene spent three months attending the University of Missouri. He was discharged from the service in November of 1945. Gene farmed for six years in Wayne County before coming to Randolph in 1954. Here he was employed as a plumber and also did welding.

On January 29, 1956, Gene was married to me, Lois (Breding) Boughn, daughter of George and Emma (Druhe) Breding, at St. John's Lutheran Church with Pastor David Rath officiating.

I was born May 9, 1921, at my parent's home west of Randolph. I had an older brother, Clarence, and an older sister, Florence. I attended three years of rural school in District 28, Pierce County, receiving the rest of my education in Randolph. I am a graduate of Randolph High School and attended Wayne State College for two years. My girlhood days were spent as normal, on the farm, except I was a tomboy and spent any available time riding horseback. My delight was herding cows and pretending I was a cowgirl.

After graduating from high school, I taught school for ten years. Seven years were spent in District 28, Pierce County; two years in McLean; and one year in Randolph Public School.

On October 26, 1948, I was married to Miles Boughn, son of Oakie and Hazel (McDonald) Boughn. We farmed southwest of Randolph. Our son, Randy, was born June 26, 1951. Miles died of leukemia on May 16, 1954.

Since our marriage, Gene and I have farmed west of Randolph these past 29 years, where we still live. Until three years ago, Gene also spent 14 years engaged in custom spraying.

Besides Randy, our children are Kirby, born September 19, 1956, and Logene, born December 24, 1963. All of us were baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church. We were active members of the Allen-Eastern Livestock 4-H Club for 25 years. Gene served several years as leader and assistant leader of the club. Each of our three children was a ten year 4-H member. Each was also an active member of St. John's Luther League.

Randy attended a rural school for two years in District 28, Pierce County. This district then merged with the Randolph Public School where Randy completed his grade and high school education. Kirby and Logene received their education in the Randolph Public School, graduating from Randolph High School. Both Randy and Kirby are graduates of the University of Nebraska.

Randy was married to Konnie Lindquist on February 10, 1973. They farm south of Schuyler, Nebraska, and are the parents of three children: Todd, Tonya and Tara.

Kirby was married to Virginia Spomer on January 5, 1980. They live in Lincoln, Nebraska, where Kirby is employed by the University of Nebraska as superintendent of the City Campus grounds. Virginia is employed by the City of Lincoln as a secretary. They are the parents of one daughter, Jessica.

Logene was married to Kevin Leonard on July 29, 1983. They live in Norfolk, Nebraska, where Kevin is employed by Gillette Dairy. They are the parents of one daughter, Amber.

Besides trying to enjoy our children and grandchildren whenever possible, I am busy helping care for my mother, Mrs. Emma Breding, who is still able to live alone at the age of 92. I am serving my ninth year as Sunday School superintendent at St. John's Church and am involved in the Dorcas Circle. Keeping busy is supposed to keep one feeling young. Sometimes, I wonder! Lois (Breding) Baird

Duane and Debbie Bargholz

On August 23, 1954, I was born at Osmond General Hospital to Don Lienemann, son of Jack and Helen Lienemann, and Janice (Lee) Lienemann, daughter of
Henry and Evelyn Lee. My first home was six miles south and one and one-quarter miles west of Randolph. A few years later, we moved to a farm five and one-quarter miles south of Randolph where I grew up and loved farm life. I attended District 39 through the fifth grade then transferred to Randolph Public School. I was involved in choral music, annual staff, FHA, Pep Club, Luther League, and Jr. Church Choir during high school. I graduated in May, 1972, and began school at Northeast Nebraska Technical Community College in August. It was there I met my future husband. I received my Medical Secretary Degree in May, 1973. I began part-time employment at Norfolk Medical Arts which developed into a full-time position.

Duane Bargholz, son of Elmer and Mylet Bargholz of Wakefield, and I were married on September 28, 1974, at St. John's Lutheran Church. This is also where I was baptized and confirmed. Our first home as newlyweds was in a trailer court at 505 W. Wayside Lane in Wayne. I joined Redeemer Lutheran Church where Duane was already a member.

Duane has been employed at Logan Valley in Wayne since December, 1973. I worked for Dr. Willis Wiseman until the birth of our daughter, Dawn Marie, on July 31, 1979, at Providence Medical Center in Wayne. We also purchased our own home in February, 1977, at 113 W. 6th in Wayne where we still reside. I have operated a day care home since Dawn's birth.

On September 15, 1981, our second daughter, Darci Lee, was born at Providence Medical Center; and on June 5, 1984, our son, Darin Duane, was also born there. Dawn is anxious to begin kindergarten this fall, Darci enjoys playing with the children in our day care, and Darin is learning to walk, talk, and get into everything.

Duane plays softball and bowls for Logan Valley and is president of the Wayne Jaycees. I teach nursery Sunday School, am involved in Young Women's Group at Redeemer Church, and I'm president of the Wayne Jaycee Women. So between family, day care, home and organizations, I have kept busy. Debbie (Lienemann) Bargholz

James and Frieda Bargstadt

Ludwig Bauer was born in Germany and migrated to the United States in the 1890's, going first to Iowa and then to Nebraska where he met and married Barbara Herbolsheimer. He started farming approximately seven and one-half miles south of Randolph on what later became the old Norfolk road. As his sons grew older, he kept accumulating more land so they could farm and live nearby. They lived on the farm until retiring in 1923 and moved to a house in the south part of Randolph, where they lived until their deaths. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, June of 1941. Ludwig died in 1947 and Barbara died in 1952.

They were the parents of 11 children. One child died at age of three and the rest remained in the Randolph area with the exception of Rose Nisson and Bertha Buckett who live in California, and George (deceased) who lived in Kearney. Also deceased are: Louie, Ed, Herman, Walter and Amelia Kruger. Mary Bierschenk and Frieda Bargstadt still live in Randolph.

Frieda was born March 3, 1903, south of Randolph. She attended school at District 22 until one day when her father went to school at noon and found them dancing. He took her home and she never got to go back. Besides helping with the house and farm work, she worked for the neighbor women, most of the time when new babies were born. She married James Bargstadt son of George and Lena (Voss) Bargstadt of Pierce on February 2, 1927.

Jim was one of 12 children. They started farming northeast of Pierce. After living there one year, they moved to one of her dad's farms south of Randolph. They moved to another one of his farms in 1931 and remained on this farm until they retired in 1975.

Times were hard during the depression years. Jim worked on the WPA. They usually boarded the school teacher. They went without a lot but there was always food on the table and clothes to wear. They always had a lot of company. Jim and Frieda enjoyed having people around. Both enjoyed softball and played during the early years of their marriage. Jim pitched and thought he was pretty good. They belonged to the Zion Lutheran Church northwest of Hoskins.

To this union four children were born. One was dead at birth. Melva is married to Ed Broer. They are the parents of four children and six grandchildren. They live in Norfolk.

Mildred is married to Robert Dennis and they have four children and seven grandchildren. They live in Lincoln.

Gerald who lives on the home place, married Patricia Lackas and they have five children and one grandchild. All of the children attended District 22 and graduated from Randolph High School.

All their spouses were from the Randolph area.

After farming for 49 years, Jim and Frieda decided to move to town and take life a little easier. Where else would two people who loved ball games build other than...
right across from the ball park in Randolph in the Lackas Addition.

Jim and Frieda would have celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary February 2, 1977, but it was not to be as nine months after moving to town June 23, 1976, Jim went to his heavenly home. Frieda still lives in her home surrounded by her flowers, family and her friends. Weather permitting; she still attends her church in the country. Melva (Bargstadt) Broer

**Matt Becker**

Matt Becker was born in Ucherath, by Hennef, West Germany on January 23, 1869. He came to the United States in 1893 and settled at Mendota, Illinois, 50 miles west of Chicago. He worked on various farms in the area until 1901, when he married Helen Roeder, who was born in Retzatadt, Bavaria, Germany, on April 19, 1873. They farmed at Mendota and this is where their three children were born: Frank on August 25, 1902, Theresa on May 11, 1905 and Edna on July 15, 1907. Edna passed away in April 1920.

At this time, a common saying was "go west, young man, go west". So in 1908, they bought a farm at Newell, Buena Vista County, Iowa. Matt took the land sight unseen, taking the land agent's word that it should be all that he expected it to be. At that time it was impossible for one to take a train to any great distance, with three children at home and the daily chores.

They were well satisfied with the land and the buildings, but still had a yearning to go to Nebraska, where Helen's brother, Anton, lived. So in 1909, they bought a farm four miles northwest of Hartington, and lived there for the rest of their lives.

In 1922, Matt decided to visit the old home in Germany. While there in the company of a nephew, they took the train to Oberammergau, where the world renowned Passion Play was being played that summer. When almost there, they had to change trains and while sitting in the depot, waiting for their train to come in, who should come into the depot, but his old friend Reverend Father Birnbach of Bow Valley, who was also vacationing in Europe at the time. He was just coming from Oberammergau and had to change trains too. They only had about 20 minutes to visit, but long enough to have a glass of beer together, and his train came in so he had to go. Matt always considered this the highlight of his trip to Germany.

Matt Becker died October 6, 1948, and his wife, Helen, died on July 3, 1951.

Theresa Becker married Ignatius Arens on April 22, 1924. He was the grandson of pioneers who came to Bow Valley area in 1869. Mr. Arens passed away March 13, 1925. They had one son, Francis, who lives on the farm where his parents lived. On September 3, 1940, Theresa married Leo Dendinger, whose grandparents also came to the Bow Valley area in 1867. They farmed near Fordyce until they moved to Randolph in 1951. They had three sons: Bob and Don who farm near Randolph, and Tom who is in construction at Norfolk. **Bob Dendinger**

**William and Ida Becker**

In 1951, the William Becker family settled into farm life on the southeast corner of the McLean junction on Highway 20 and started active involvement in the Randolph community.

William Becker of Osmond and Ida Lange of Creighton had married in 1940, farmed in the McLean and Magnet areas, moved to Norfolk for one year, and decided to return to farming at the above mentioned site. By this time, they had five of their seven children.

St. Frances de Chantal Church and School became the center of activity for the family with the seven children attending the parish school. William and Ida participated in parish functions, including the fall bazaar and Women's Guild.

The children were involved in music, plays, and sports. All of them graduated from St. Frances except Roger because St. Frances closed its school doors and incorporated with Randolph High.

The style of farm life, on the quarter section of land, changed from milking cows, separating milk, and gathering eggs to feeding cattle and breeding and feeding hogs. Irrigation put in 1975 added to the farming success story. Currently the corn and hog businesses keep William and Ida busy. Remodeling of the house has been a top priority over the years with an addition of a utility room and garage.

The neighbors have been a key factor in the joy of the farming scene. They help each other in times of need, butcher together, and keep the card games going.

Careers for the children have all meant college education, including Creighton, College of Saint Mary, Saint Catherine's, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and University of Nebraska-Omaha among others.

Colonel James W. Becker, stationed in Oslo, Norway, with his wife Ann and family of two daughters and one son, is the Assistant Chief of Staff for NATO Allied North in charge of Logistics and Management. Carol Conway-Gerhardt, who lives in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, with her husband, Todd, two daughters and two sons, is a humanities-language arts teacher at Sheboygan South High. Joyce Gubbeels makes her home in Omaha with husband Luvern and two sons. She is principal of Pius X-St. Leo Catholic Grade School. Elaine McCarthy resides in Oroville, California, with her husband Pat, three daughters and one son. She is a recovery room nurse at Oroville Hospital. Larry Becker recently switched from Job Corps to physical education teacher K-12 and varsity coach of basketball and track. He lives with his wife Charlene, one daughter, and one son in Wahoo, Nebraska. Patty Rome, her husband Dick, and three sons and one daughter live in Kansas City where Patty is a nurse at Baptist Medical Center. Roger Becker, unmarried, is
William often tells his wife, Ida, to sell the farm if anyone drives in with a good offer, but Ida knows he is just kidding. They seem to want to farm forever. William and Ida Becker

Adolph and Doris Behrend

Adolph and Doris Asmus Behrend were married November 9, 1873, in Pluege, Holstein, Germany. They lived in their native land for ten years before coming to America in 1883 with their family, which at that time was: one daughter, Lena, and three sons, William, August and Henry. They settled in Marni, Iowa, where Adolph worked on the railroad. While living at Marni, a son, Adolph Jr., and two daughters, Tena and Martha, were born. Adolph and Doris farmed near Kirkman, Iowa before moving to Randolph in 1893, to a farm three miles north of Randolph.

Lena married Carp Gear of Harlan, Iowa. To this union one son, Adolph, was born. Lena died at Kirkman, Iowa and was buried at Harlan, Iowa. William married Anna Gear and to this union four sons were born: Philip, Elmer, Oliver and Ernest, one daughter Elizabeth. William moved his family to South Dakota. William and Anna are buried at Sturgis, South Dakota. August lived in Randolph and was an electrician for several years before his death in 1930. August never married. He was buried at Randolph. Henry married Mable Hughes and they didn't have a family. Henry and Mable are buried at Colome, South Dakota. Adolph Jr. married Eva Creps and to this union one son, Harold, and one daughter, Doris, were born. Adolph Jr. and Eva are buried at Sturgis, South Dakota. Tena married Edgar Simmons at Randolph, and to this union one son, Leonard, was born. Tena and Edgar are buried at Randolph. Martha married Cleveland Simmons and to this union one daughter, Evelyn, was born. Martha married Charles Hart and to this union two sons, Howard and Kennard, and one daughter, Bernice were born. Martha and Charles Hart are buried at Sturgis, South Dakota.

Adolph and Doris Behrend were charter members of St. John's Lutheran Church in Randolph. They and their son, August, and daughter, Tena Simmons were buried in the Randolph City Cemetery.

John and Carrie Bennett

John E. Bennett (1848-1916) was born in Ohio. He served at Lookout Mountain as a water boy and transport driver for the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war, he moved to Storm Lake, Iowa, where he met and married Carrie Highland (1859-1937). Three of their children were born at Storm Lake: Ella (Brown), Roscoe, and Mabel (Lageschulte). In 1886 they moved to a farm south of Wayne, where Wayne and Leora (Thomas) were born. Our mother, Mabel, remembered the move from Iowa to Nebraska. They crossed the Missouri River at Omaha on a ferry. In 1890 the family moved to Randolph. All of the children graduated from the Randolph High School.

John was a carpenter and built many of the original homes and business houses of Randolph, including the old Abts buildings and the three houses which stood where the new school house is located. Grandmother said that Grandfather would build a home for his family; if anyone wanted to buy it he would build another and move his family. Grandmother would have liked permanency. The family lived in Randolph and owned a farm one and one half miles south of town where Grandfather operated a dairy for several years. The lake on that farm was the center of many activities: picnics, baptisms, and the source of ice to fill the ice house located north of the school building. One of their traditions was going ice skating, for the first time each year, on Thanksgiving Day.

During the 21 years they lived in Randolph, they took an active part in molding the new community. Their daughters were all teachers in the area. They were talented in music and served as church musicians. A great pastime for the family and their friends was singing around the piano.

John was active in the politics of the Randolph community. Many letters and articles written by him appear in the early Randolph papers.

In 1911, John and Carrie left Randolph and settled near Portland, Oregon, where all of the children, except Mabel, eventually joined them. In 1916, they spent the summer visiting in Randolph and remodeled a Ford Touring car for a camping trip home. The markings and construction of the roads were rather crude at that time. Their car plunged over a cliff east of Wallace, Idaho, and John was killed instantly. Carrie, not badly hurt, lived the remainder of her life in her Oregon home. Evelyn Weese, Frances Lageschulte

Family Histories Submitted for the 1986 Centennial History Book
Burgess "Byrd" and Leila Benson

I don't know when my ancestors reached American shores. I have no dates other than those given later in this account except that Grandmother Cotton's first son, John, was born in 1864, the last year of the Civil War.

My Grandmother Cotton was English, but I don't know what shire in England she came from. My Grandfather Cotton came from England, also, I believe. I know nothing about Dad's mother's birthplace except that they lived in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, before moving to Iowa. His father died when he was just a boy, and my grandmother later married a man named Wilson.

Grandma Cotton's family (the Binns) came to America on a sailing vessel. It was an extremely long and difficult voyage and Grandma's mother, who was in delicate health, died a few years after they arrived in America.

There are gaps in the family history, so I will go on to a later generation. My parents, Burgess Benson and Leila Cotton, were married in 1895 in Oakfield, Iowa. To this union were born Earle, Muriel, Helen, Ellsworth (Buzz), and Harold Benson.

The Bensons farmed in Iowa until 1902 when they moved to a farm north of Randolph. Eight years later, they moved to the Andrew Mackie farm where they lived for one year. The family then moved to a farm my father had bought, which was a short distance from the one we had vacated.

The new occupants of the farm we had just left became a large part of our lives. The Colliers came from Dumferline, Scotland, and these dear folks opened up a new, fascinating world to us. I recall that often on New Year's Eve we would be invited to their home, and Mr. Collier, who had been a dancing master in Scotland, and Mrs. Collier would do the Highland Fling for us. There were so many glimpses of the Old World for us like that.

The Colliers' daughter, Agnes, still lives in Randolph.

It would be impossible to overestimate the influence the characters of our parents had on our lives. My grandmother told this story about my dad which happened early in my parents' marriage. It seems hog cholera was rampant in the neighborhood in which they lived, and dad lost his entire herd. Grandmother said that she would never forget looking out the open window one fine April day and seeing him burying his last hog, and he was whistling! Grandmother told us life cannot defeat such a man, and it never did.

My mother had to have had tremendous energy. She was a wonderful mother, a baker of superb bread, and always had a white tablecloth on the dining table every day, even for threshers! She canned innumerable jars of vegetables. The height of tomato canning was in early September, and she often said she would have loved to have canned for threshers!

She canned innumerable jars of vegetables. The height of tomato canning was in early September, and she often said she would have loved to have canned for threshers!

After 13 years at Carroll they moved to Coleridge, Nebraska, and then to Page, Nebraska. They had nine children, five sons; Frank Jr., Louis, Joe, Victor, Albert and four daughters; Veronica, Agnes, Clara and Maude. In 1912 they came to Randolph and bought the Hanssen Meat Market, the same building where the Meat Market is now located, Mr. Flager on the project to bridge the Florida Keys to Key West, an overseas highway well over 100 miles long, touching key after key on that long line of keys south of the tip of Florida. I've never been there, but friends who live in Florida tell me that it is still considered to be an excellent piece of work.

My other uncle to whom I referred was Uncle Ed Cotton, a veterinarian. He worked for many years for the government in the field of infectious animal diseases, first at Bethesda and then at Betsville, Maryland, winning distinction in his profession for his accomplishments. When he retired, he still continued to work and taught at Auburn University for some five or six years before his death.

In later life, we had varying occupations. My sister Helen and I became housewives. My oldest brother Earle, now deceased, was personnel director in the company for which he worked in Minneapolis. Ellsworth (Buzz) farmed for some years on the family farm and later became State Forester of Nebraska. He still retains ownership of that farm.

Harold (now also deceased) was president of the Road Builders, Inc., of Memphis, Tennessee, and was chairman of the board at the time of his death.

My father was very active in the Methodist Church in Randolph. He was, for many years, a member of the Board of Stewards there. Yet, although our parents were active Methodists, two of their children turned out to be Presbyterians (Muriel and Earle).

This, then, is our family history. The reader may feel that it isn't very exciting, but we have all tried to live as our parents would have wanted us to live, and at whatever our work happened to be, to do it the very best that we are capable of doing. Muriel Stapleman

Frank and Mary Bernholtz

My grandfather, Frank Bernholtz, was born November 26, 1859, at Freeport, Illinois. Grandmother, Mary Hollants, was born February 1, 1862, in Touger, Belgium, and lived in her native country until 15 years of age, when with her parents, she came to America and settled in Carroll, Iowa. Here she grew to young womanhood and was married in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 11, 1882, to Frank Bernholtz. They lived in Ida Grove, Iowa, five years, then moved to Carroll, Iowa, and engaged in farming.

After 13 years at Carroll they moved to Coleridge, Nebraska, and then to Page, Nebraska. They had nine children, five sons; Frank Jr., Louis, Joe, Victor, Albert and four daughters; Veronica, Agnes, Clara and Maude. In 1912 they came to Randolph and bought the Hanssen Meat Market, the same building where the Meat Market is now located...
housed today. Grandfather conducted this business for six years and made many friends in Randolph.

Frank and Mary and the unmarried children then moved to Spirit Lake, Iowa. Mary died September 5, 1920, and Frank, December 27, 1938. Fern (Blotz) Meier

Earl and Dorothy Bethune

Dorothy was the daughter of John and Mary Staben. She was born south of Randolph on a farm on November 27, 1917. When she was three months old, her family moved north of Randolph to a farm. She attended Eagle Valley country school, District 55, in Cedar County. She moved with her parents to the edge of Randolph and graduated from Randolph High School in 1935.

On November 26, 1937, Dorothy married Earl Bethune, son of Dee and Flo Bethune. Earl was born near La Mae, Missouri, in 1912. His parents spent a couple of years in Missouri and then returned to Randolph. Earl entered service in World War II. He fought in the Philippines and spent some time in Japan before returning home.

Dorothy and Earl are parents of two children, a son, Milton, and a daughter, La Neta. Milton served in the Viet Nam War from 1965 to 1969 in the Air Force. In 1971, he married Nancy Dowling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Dowling. They now live at Beaver, Nebraska. Both are graduates of Randolph High School.

La Neta (Bethune) Berger, graduated from Randolph High School. She married Robert Berger at Norfolk in 1977. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Berger of Norfolk.

Earl and Dorothy quit farming and moved to Norfolk in 1970. They retired there. They are the grandparents of three grandsons of Beemer, Nebraska, Jamie, Scott and Nicholas Bethune, and a granddaughter, Amanda K. Berger of Norfolk. Ruth Staben

Howard T. Black

Thompkins Cowan Newman, his wife Levenia Ellen Davis, and their five children, including our grandfather, Fanny Belle, moved to Belden, Nebraska in the late 1880's from near Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa. Five more children were born to the family while they lived in Belden.

In the early 1900's, they moved to Randolph, where the youngest of their 11 children was born.

Samuel Thomas Black and Lucy Tedrow, his wife, moved along with their family to Pierce County, Nebraska, from Henry County, Iowa, in the late 1880's. Their son, our grandfather, Roscoe (Ross) William Black, met and married Fanny Belle Newman. That marriage took place in Wayne on December 31, 1902. Their children were Ray William, Viola Bell, Howard Taft, and Earl Roscoe. Ross and Fanny raised their family in Pierce County on a 160-acre farm they had purchased, located one-half mile west of McLean. Ross encouraged and helped his sons in farming. Ross was always very proud of his draft or work horses, raising purebred Percheron Horses.

Howard met Helen Leonore Axelson, and they married on December 22, 1928. They moved into what was known as the Shannon place at McLean, which now belongs to Ernie Voss. Their daughter, Yuvonne (Bonnie) Leonore, was born there. They then moved north of McLean to the Preston farm and farmed there for several years. A son, James Eugene, was born there. In 1937, Howard, Helen, and their two children moved to a farm four miles east of Randolph, owned by Emma Warner. Dennis Howard, their second son, was born there.

In 1944, Howard and Helen bought the property in west Randolph owned by Mrs. S.O. Black, wife of the late Dr. Sam O. Black. Howard immediately set up a business known as “Howard's Lunch,” a very successful cafe on Main Street in Randolph. Many can remember the fresh-baked pies, donuts, frying hamburgers, and the background sounds of "The Mills Brothers" originating from the Wurlitzer juke box. The cafe was sold to Bob Schenk in the fall of 1944, and he later sold it to Jim and Frances Jensen.

Howard then worked for Simpson Insulation Company of Norfolk for nine years where he sold insulation, siding, and aluminum windows. Following the years as a traveling salesman, Howard went into the poultry and egg production business for DeKalb Hybrids at his west end acreage, and also raised corn, beans and alfalfa on the farm.

During all these years, Helen was an elementary teacher in the Randolph and Wausa school systems. In 1958, Howard got a call to go to Yellowstone National Park. His son, Dennis, was working there at the time. Howard worked for the government for 12 years at Grand Teton National Park where he cooked for college boys who went to the park to work during the summer months. In 1969, he was transferred to Yellowstone to the hospital where he cooked for patients and staff. During all this time, Helen worked at his side, assisting with the many duties.

Helen died in July of 1972 at Yellowstone. Howard retired from his work at age 65. In 1973, he married Mabel Lucille Hicks from Louisville, Nebraska. They make their home on the acreage in west Randolph.

The children of Howard and Helen, Bonnie, Jim, and Dennis, have left the Randolph area, married, and raised families of their own. Bonnie lives in Waco, Texas, and is employed as a salesperson by the Sears-Roebuck Company. Jim lives in Norfolk and has a transcontinental trucking business. Dennis lives near Newton, Iowa, and is a State Representative in the Iowa House of Representatives from Iowa's 71st District and is also director of the Jasper County Conservation Board. Bonnie Black Barker and Dennis H. Black

David and Janell Blade

David Blade was born October 27, 1952, in Hettinger, North Dakota. He lived with his parents, Mr. and Mrs.
M.V. Blade on a ranch at Prairie City, South Dakota. He was the fourth oldest child in a family of eleven. Dave attended a rural school for eight years and graduated from Hettinger High School in 1970. In 1971, he graduated from Wahpeton State School of Science with a trade in welding.

After having worked for three years, he joined the U.S. Army for two years. Then on June 5, 1976, Dave and Janell were married in Harvey, North Dakota.

Janell was born in Harvey, on August 19, 1953, to Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Graumann. She attended school in Harvey for 12 years, graduating in 1971. She was the fifth in a family of six children. She also attended Jack's Hairstyling College in Minot, North Dakota. She graduated and began working in Harvey as a cosmetologist. She worked for four years before her marriage to Dave.

Dave and Janell lived and worked in Fargo, North Dakota, their first year of marriage and in May of 1977, Dave accepted a job with Schwans Sales. On June 5, 1977, they moved to Randolph to start work as a retail salesman for Schwans.

Their first evening in Randolph was spent at the Cedar Motel, because there was no housing available and it also happened to be their First Wedding Anniversary. They lived in Randolph seven years, making their first home in the Krueger Apartments. In April of 1979, they purchased a new home at 621 Nebraska Street.

The Blade home was blessed with two healthy children. The first born was a son, Beau David, who arrived August 23, 1978. The second child, also a son, Jeremy Jon, who made his presence, on December 11, 1980. Both boys were born at the Osmond General Hospital.

In November, 1983, Dave was offered a promotion with Schwans Sales and in March of 1984, they moved from Randolph to Harvey, North Dakota. Dave is now a Sales Manager for the Harvey Minot area. They are making their home at 1415 Advent in Harvey. Janel (Graumann) Blade

When my sons were two and four years old, I came back to Randolph to live with my father until his death in 1942.

William Petsche and wife Kathryn live at O'Neill, Nebraska. He owns the Johnson Drug Store. His daughter, Patti, is a special education teacher at Ainsworth, Nebraska. His son, Chuck, is an environmental scientist at Glenwood, Iowa. Jim's wife and sons reside at Norwalk, California.

I worked in Havorka's Cafe, Mike Anderson's Plumbing and Electrical Shop, and was working for Brookley Electric when the REA came to Cedar County. My last job was at the Sherwood Meat Market.

In 1947, Myron Bloomer and I were married. He was a son of Dr. Milo and Clara (Caine) Bloomer of Dodge, Nebraska.

Myron and Osborn Scott were partners in the barber business for over 40 years. Myron passed away in 1969. My brothers and sisters were Matt, William and Emil Hauser, all half brothers, all deceased; Fred, Louie and Henry Rohde, all deceased; Kate (Zartman) and Caroline (Beltz), deceased; Elsie Snyder, Freda Snyder, and Clara Weber, all of Randolph and Anna Krause of Faith, South Dakota.

My hobbies are knitting, reading and traveling. Helen (Rohde) Petsche Bloomer

Frank and Maude Blotz

My father, Frank Blotz, was born April 12, 1894, at Ashton, Nebraska, and when he was two and one-half years old came to Randolph with his parents. He was a graduate of the Randolph High School with the class of 1913, and had attended the University of Nebraska. Mother, Maude Bernholtz, was born July 10, 1898, at Carroll, Iowa. Frank and Maude were married January 26, 1916, at St. Frances Church, and they began farming north of town. Frank and his father raised purebred Duroc hogs and held auctions on the farm selling Duroc boars. F.W. Blotz and Son were members of the National Duroc Record Association. Don Cunningham, auctioneer at the Sioux City, Iowa, stockyards would cry these sales and these boars in 1922 brought from $40.00 to $85.00.

Frank and Maude had nine children: Eugene (died when 14 months old), Frances, Harold, Marjorie, Dale, Fern, Jack, Elizabeth (Beth) and Donald. Father died April 1, 1943, at the age of 48 after an extended illness. Mother and the boys farmed for several years and then on January 10, 1946, she had a farm sale and moved into town. She worked at Barkers Grocery Store for a few years, owned and operated the Randolph Cleaners for several years, then sold that to Mr. and Mrs. Gale Blesedale. She then went to work at the Gamble Store for Mr. and Mrs. Glen Stingley until she moved to Roseburg, Oregon, in May of 1955, and from there to different locations in California. On October 1, 1960, mother married Harvey Cole at Reno, Nevada. Harvey passed away in February 1962. Fern (Blotz) Meier
Fred and Frances Blotz

Grandfather, Fred Blotz, was born June 9, 1861, at Dodgeville, Wisconsin. In 1882, he came to Nebraska locating at Schuyler, where he farmed for a year. He then began his career as a salesman for farm machinery with the Buckeye Company, then with the McCormick line and when that company merged he advanced by promotion to "blockman" for International Harvester Company, a position he held for 20 years. He was connected with the farm machinery industry for more than 33 years, retiring in 1921 on pension. He was held in high esteem by his superiors.

Grandmother, Frances Grabowski was born September 17, 1875, in Germany. She came to America with her family at the age of six to New York State. Later she resided at Loup City, Nebraska until her marriage to Fred Blotz on August 30, 1893, at Ashton, Nebraska. They came to Randolph in 1896. They had one son, Frank. Fred passed away November 20, 1936. On May 7, 1938, Frances married John Schlichting and he died January 5, 1950. Frances died January 3, 1965. Fern (Blotz) Meier

Stephen and Viola Bolender

My father, Stephen Otis Bolender was born April 12, 1876, to Solomon and Caroline (Love) Bolender at Felicity, Ohio. He was from a family of 12 children. At age 12 he moved with his parents and five brothers and sisters to Seymour, Missouri. He and a brother, Homer Bolender, came to Sholes Nebraska, in 1903. On December 31, 1905, he married Viola D. Winningham at Seymour, Missouri. They farmed in the Sholes-Randolph vicinity for a number of years.

While in Wayne County four children were born to them: Wayne, Genevieve, Dorothy, and Paul. Later they purchased a farm in Pierce County southwest of Randolph. Two daughters, Gladys and Lucille, were born there. All the children attended rural schools and high school at Randolph.

In the 1920’s, the family moved to a farm in Cedar County and continued to farm until they retired. The youngest boy, Paul, died in 1938. Stephen and Caroline moved to Moville, Iowa, in 1946, and lived there until the time of their deaths. Stephen died March 24, 1951, and

Caroline died May 28, 1959, with burial at Moville. Wayne served in World War II, European Theater, died in 1975, and is buried at Moville, Iowa. He was survived by a wife and three children.

Three members of the family became telephone employees at the Randolph local exchange office of Northwestern Bell. Mrs. Dorothy (Bolender) Sommer

Ida Henrietta Bolte

Ida spent the last number of years of her life with the Rossbach family in Randolph, where she was lovingly known as "Gram" by family and congregation members. She looked forward to the women's meetings at the church and especially enjoyed the Dorcas Circle. She was hospitalized a number of times in the Osmond Hospital. One time when she became ill in Cheyenne, Wyoming where she was visiting, she remarked "Get me back to Osmond. They take good care of me there"! After spending a number of weeks in the Methodist Hospital in 1976, she was dismissed to come home, but in two days entered the Osmond Hospital where she spent the last day of her life in the good hands of the Osmond Hospital staff.

Ida Studier was born in Guillian, Illinois, March 3, 1899, to Wilhelm Studier and his wife, Dorothea Bohnsack. She was the tenth child in a family of 12 children. There were five brothers: Willie, Sigmund, Herman, George, and Albert and six sisters: Christina, Dorothea, Johanna, Helen, Esther, and Adeline. Adeline is the only one living, and she lives in Galena, Illinois.

Ida spoke and wrote both German and English as her mother was never allowed to speak anything but German in the home. Her father spoke both German and English.

Ida met Albert Herman Bolte at a moonlight dance on a stern-wheeler on the Mississippi, and they were married in Galena, Illinois. They made their first home on a farm near Gordon's Ferry, Iowa, where their first daughter, Darlene, was born.

In a few years, Albert's mother sold the farm, and before she could cash the check, the bank closed. The new owner of the farm held the signed deed, so the family had to move. After lengthy court proceedings, it was determined that the new owner had known of the bank's closing before the deed was signed and had negotiated the purchase under false pretenses. The Iowa State Court required him to pay for the farm, but by that time much of the money had been used to pay for the court costs.

The Bolte family lived in Bellevue, Iowa, and Galena, Illinois, and finally moved to Dubuque, Iowa, where Albert obtained employment in a factory. Two more daughters, Elnora and Lois, were added to the family.

The Depression came, the factory closed, and Ida became one of the working mothers of the 1920's and 1930's. As a waitress, wearing black uniforms with tiny white aprons and caps, Ida worked in a large hotel dining room. Many of the people she met while working there
were well-known, such as Gene Autry and Eleanor Roosevelt.

In the 1950's, Al and Ida built one of the first motels in Dubuque, Iowa and called it the "Alida". Albert died June 3, 1959, and Ida continued to operate the motel until she was 65.

Ida came to Randolph in the early 1970's to make her home with the Rossbachs. She died August 30 1976 and is buried beside her husband in Memorial Gardens, Dubuque, Iowa.

Little did anyone know that in 1903 a chain of events linked Ida with the Rossbachs through the ordination of Reverend Otto Rossbach, Millard, Nebraska, by her uncle, Reverend Herman Studier pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Ithaca, Nebraska. After the marriage of her daughter, Darlene, to Walter Rossbach, and his ordination, it was discovered that the name of Studier was familiar to the Rossbachs. Darlene E. Rossbach

Paul and Gladys Borst

Paul and Gladys (Hochstein) Borst were married May 1, 1951, and are living in Randolph. During their first years of marriage, Paul owned the West Randolph Ballroom and Bowling Alley, along with his brother Ab (deceased).

In 1959, Paul and Ab sold the ballroom. The following year, Paul and Gladys built their own home, and have lived there ever since. After completing the house, Paul went into contracting and carpentry work full-time. He is the owner of Borst Construction and is now building government housing for H.U.D. in Wyoming and South Dakota. Since their marriage, Gladys has been a full-time homemaker, and has been an Avon representative for approximately eight years.

Their first child, Vicki, was born on July 30, 1952. She attended St. Frances School for 12 years. After high school, she completed a year of training at Patricia Stevens School in Omaha. She later entered the University of Nebraska at Omaha and graduated with a B.A. in Biology. Vicki married John Peebles in 1979, and they moved from Omaha to Niorbrara where they still reside. Vicki works at Santee Public School and is certified to teach secondary science. John is the senior partner of a law firm with offices in Niorbrara and Neligh.

The next child was Kim who was born April 25, 1955. He completed grade school at St. Frances and graduated from Randolph Public High School. He is currently attending the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and plans to graduate in May, 1986, with a B.F.A. with Photography in the Art Department.

The next addition to the family was Lori, who was born on May 2, 1958. She attended St. Frances School and graduated from Randolph Public School. Following graduation, she moved to Lincoln and found employment. Lori married Dennis Poppe in 1983 and they own a home in Randolph. Lori and Dennis are presently employed by Borst Construction.

Jackie the fourth child was born November 22, 1967. She is a senior at Randolph Public High School, where she is active in various activities including the National Honor Society. Jackie plans to attend college after graduation. Gladys Borst

Leslie and Kathryn T. Boughn

Leslie Herbert Boughn was born December 14, 1890, to Benjamin and Mahala (Gates) Boughn, son of Zachanah Boughn II at Belden, Nebraska. Leslie Boughn married Kathryn Theresa Meyer on February 24, 1914. Leslie farmed around Randolph for a number of years then moved into town. Among other jobs, he worked in the ice house and also ran a dray line. Leslie and the family moved to Hillsboro, Oregon, and lived there for over a year and then came back to Randolph.

Eventually, they moved to Center, Nebraska, where he managed the old Stageman Ranch. From Center, the family moved to Hartington. When the war time factories opened up, Leslie moved his family to Torrance, California where he worked in the steel mill until the war's end. He then got a job as a custodian in the Torrance School District.

Leslie and Kathryn had eight children: Herbert lives in Knoxville, Iowa; Mahala, Mrs. George Arrison, in Crescent City, California; Helen, Mrs. Victor Joslin resides in Geneva, Iowa; Bonnie Jean, Mrs. Jack Taylor, lives in Redding, California; Bernice, Mrs. Ronald Williamson lives in San Bernardino, California; Georgia Belle, Mrs. Elvis Queen, lives in Merced California; Donna Fae, Mrs. Robert Schrauben, lives in Torrance California and Lorraine, Mrs. Bill Evered lives in Dominguez, California.

Leslie Boughn was killed by a hit and run driver in Torrance, California, in 1964. His widow, Kathryn, is still living at age 91. She is residing with her daughter, Mahala in Crescent City, California. Kathryn Boughn

Oakie and Emma Boughn

Our Dad, Oakie Harrison Boughn was born November 6, 1887, at Pleasant Hill, Missouri, to Benjamin and Mahala (Davis Gates) Boughn.

Oakie moved to Randolph, Nebraska, with his parents in 1888. His mother passed away when he was nine years old. He then traveled and worked with his dad, brothers and sister. They traveled 35,000 miles in ten years. They worked mostly in California and Colorado.

Oakie returned to Randolph, Nebraska when he was 21, and worked on farms. He married Hazel Emma Vanderbilt on February 6, 1918. The couple farmed in the Randolph community, living east of Randolph (on what was known then as the Boughn Ranch) for many years. They retired from farming in 1947. They then moved (to what was known then as the Herman Ottoman farm) and just lived in the buildings.

Our mother passed away October 20, 1951 of a heart attack. Dad then moved into Randolph and was employed...
by the city of Randolph for several years. Dad passed away October 16, 1973.

Oakie and Hazel became the parents of five children: Miles, Dale, Darrell, Dorothy and Darlene. After Miles graduated from Randolph High School, he farmed with his dad and then later married Lois Breeding and they farmed west of Randolph. They had one son, Randy - who now lives near Columbus, Nebraska. Miles passed away from leukemia in 1954.

Dale graduated from Randolph High School and then joined the Air Force. He served in World War II and after the war was employed at the Randolph Post Office. He later married Darlene (Manzer) Van Slyke and they raised four children. Lynette (now Mrs. Ronnie Sullivan) lives in Norfolk, Dayna (now Mrs. Dennis Folkers) lives north and east of Randolph on a farm. Layne at home and Deyon works in Lincoln at Bryan Memorial Hospital. Dale passed away of a heart attack in July, 1983.


I, Dorothy (Boughn) Darling, graduated from Randolph High School and started working with Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. I had several duties with Bell in Nebraska and Iowa. I am presently an AT&T long distance telephone operator in Omaha, Nebraska. I married Byron Darling in 1964: He was a painter and worked in factories but is now semi-retired because of disabilities from the Korean Conflict. We are the parents of two boys, Jeff and Greg. Jeff was recently married and will be going to Metro Tech Community College this fall.

Greg will be an eighth grader.

I, Darlene (Boughn) Levos, taught school after graduating from Randolph High School. I married Chris Milo Levos in 1956. Chris is with the Police Force in Columbus, Nebraska. I presently am employed at the Columbus Clinic Pharmacy. We are the parents of three children, Milan, Malinda, and Joann. Milan is married and is employed at Walgreens in Columbus. He and his wife, Linda, have two daughters, Amanda and Jennifer. Malinda and Joann are attending the University at Lincoln. Mrs. Dorothy (Boughn) Darling, Mrs. Darlene (Boughn) Levos

**Boughns**

My great-grandfather Zachariah Boughn II was born in Pottsville, (now Lincoln) Illinois in 1837. As a young man, he engaged in farming and cattle raising, later entering into railroad building.

He was married three times and had 19 children, seven of whom died in infancy or early childhood. At the time of his death only five sons were still living, one of whom was my grandfather, John. Also surviving were John's brother, Will and half brothers, Charles, Chester and Cecil.

In 1868, Zachariah II moved to Warrensburg, Illinois, and was very successful in several business enterprises including a flour mill and a grain business. At one time, he owned half the town of Warrensburg.

In the spring of 1886, his spirit of adventure led him to a move further west and an interest in undeveloped country led him to trade his Illinois holdings for land east of Randolph in Cedar County and the cash sum of $86,000. He lived on the ranch east of Randolph where he engaged in cattle ranching and land speculation until 1887, when he moved into town and into the Bougln Hotel which he had built and where he had private living quarters. He also owned Bougln’s Big Store and a grain elevator as well as several business enterprises in Belden, Nebraska, where at one time he owned the entire town site.

He owned an elevator at Orchard and built the Walthill National Bank and a pharmacy in the town of Walthill. At the time of his death, he was president of the bank.

When Mr. Boughn took his cattle by the trainload to market in Chicago, they were accompanied by a band composed of his own ranch hands. At each stop along the way, the band would play and Mr. Boughn would give a speech extolling the virtues of Nebraska.

Great-Grandfather Boughn was a devout Methodist all of his life and contributed generously to the establishment of Methodist churches In Warrensburg, Illinois, and in Randolph and Walthill, Nebraska.

Zachariah II and wife, Jennie, were charter members of the Randolph chapter of O.E.S. Mr. Boughn was also a member of Golden Sheaf Lodge No. 202 AF and AM in Randolph, and was on the cemetery board there.

Zachariah II's son, John, who was my grandfather, was married to Lenna Bruner in Belden in 1890. At that time, John was operating the hardware store. They were the first couple from Belden to marry. The descendants of John and Lenna along with their family members are listed in the Bruner family history.

The Zachariah II Boughn family or some of his descendants have been in continuous residence in Randolph since he moved into Randolph in 1887.

Linda (Mrs. David) Rosberg, a great-great-granddaughter of Zachariah II and her children, Kim, Scott, Michelle, Bryan, Jeffrey and Janet live here at the present time.

Deyon Boughn, also a Randolph resident, is the great-great-grandson of Ben Boughn, eldest son of Zachanah II. Deyon's grandparents were Oakie and Hazel Boughn. Deyon is the son of the late Dale Boughn and his wife, Darlene Boughn. Jean Boughn Andersen, Julia Boughn

**Robert H. Bowles**

"Bob" (Robert Hiram, R.H., Robert H.) Bowles spent the first year of his life in Lincoln, Nebraska, the remainder of the time until high school graduation in
Randolph. Several exciting events nearly of equal importance, but not necessarily in order are mentioned here.

Being born to Marvin "Mike" and Victoria "Vic" Bowles, to Bob was a great event. None of his untoward adventures can be credited to a "bad home environment". There was always enough to eat, a place to sleep, and the right clothing. Mike operated Bowles Drug Store from 1923 to the time Vince Hartz purchased it in 1949. Recent inspections of Mr. Hartz's emporium resulted in a rating of four stars, and this writer is sure that Mike would have been very pleased if he could have visited it. At one time, Roger Buchanan "Buck" worked for Mike before he opened his own pharmacy. To this writer the earliest recollection of "Buck" was a ride in the "Big"! It seems that Buck built the body himself over a chassis of some kind. It seated only two.

Mike's mother Clara Electa Bowles, daughter of Amorette Tabathy Hill, lived for a number of years in the home immediately west of the old jail and fire station. Then she moved to an apartment over Bowles Drug. There was nothing this woman, Clara Electa Bowles, could not do, including making her grandson a set of tails for the Military Ball at Nebraska (she had never seen a pair of tails) and worked only from the picture. The tails fit perfectly when tried on for the first time. While homesteading in South Dakota in 1908, she first designed, then supervised the building of a barn on the prairie. All her life she supported four children and her mother by homesteading in South Dakota in 1908, she first designed, then supervised the building of a barn on the prairie. All her life she supported four children and her mother by sewing squares together for use in patchwork quilts, and was an excellent nurse when he had sewn his finger or in ridding him of "fire ants" back of the jail.

While at the University of Nebraska, Robert earned, under Coach Ed Weir, three major letters in the quarter mile. It was then the Big Six. He was awarded for three major letters a Life Pass No. 745 which entitles him to admittance to any athletic event at the University of Nebraska, including football. Now the life of the pass is three years.

On August 29, 1943, Robert graduated from the Quantico, Virginia, Marine facility as a shavetail. He rose to a mustang status from shavetail before leaving the Marines in 1947. It would be interesting to this writer to know if there were any captains or above in Cedar or surrounding counties. A sidelight of his practice of Pharmacy was the effort Dean Joseph P. Burt, Dean of Pharmacy, made with the State Board of Pharmacy for him to take the two-day exam before reporting for duty. He passed. Robert is presently registered in Colorado, Nebraska, Texas, and was at one time registered in Alaska, Illinois, Minnesota, and others.

Ten years ago, Joyce Ann Edmiston consented to be Mrs. Bob Bowles, in Pueblo, Colorado. Their Tenth Anniversary was October 12, 1985. Their friends advise Mr. Bowles that they can see multiple areas of "vast" improvement since she has taken over. Whether this is true or not isn't known. On or about October 5, 1985, she left for a month with a group invited by Radio Peking, China. Her place in the group was warranted by reason of her Master of Education Degree from Texas. R.H. Bowles

**Al and Leona Brandl**

Al and Leona came to Randolph in 1964 from a farm between Randolph and Belden. Al was involved in soil conservation and was a Hampshire hog breeder. He has worked as a carpenter and for local lumber yards since coming to town. His parents were Joe and Helen Brandl of Coleridge.

Leona worked ten years at the school lunch program and several years at local cafes. Her parents were Peter and Margaret O’Gara, farmers from Laurel.

They belong to St. Frances Church and have seven children: James, Joan, Patricia, Alanna, Frederick, Joseph and William and eight grandchildren.

In the past, Al was a baseball pitcher for a number of years and Fred and Joe have followed in their dad's footsteps. Al has helped coach some baseball teams in Randolph and has umpired a lot.

James, a mechanic at a Coleridge garage, is married to Alice Rae Guy, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Guy of Hartington. Joan is a bookkeeper for an oil company in North Carolina. Patricia (Mrs. Vern) Wattier works for H & R Block through tax season. Vern, a mechanic, is the son of Caroline and the late Byron Wattier. Alanna (Mrs. Terry) Constable works with the school lunch program in San Diego. Terry is in the Navy. Frederick is a painter and carpenter. Joseph is a painter, carpenter and an artist. He married Ann Marie Lambing of Sioux City, Iowa. Ann Marie is the granddaughter of the Jay Constables.

William Brandl lives at Lincoln, Nebraska. He is a motorcycle mechanic and married to Cindy Carter of Nevada, Iowa. Leona Brandl

**Carl Henrich Brandt**

In 1893, Carl Henrich Brandt was put aboard ship at Bremahaven, Germany, by his father.

On arrival at Fremont, Nebraska, at his brother's, he had 15 cents left in his pocket. From Fremont he went to Pierce and worked as a hired hand on the Greenwald farm, to pay for his passage. In the spring, he walked behind a plow barefoot, as he had only one pair of shoes.

Later on he tried farming for himself, but two years of continuous drought, bankrupted that enterprise. In Fremont again, he worked in the foundry and nursery. Then it was back to the railroad, where he was a bridge foreman for 19 years.

My father married Ethel E. Mangus in December 1903 and they had three children: Frances E., Arnold F., and Doris M. My parents bought the two-room house from Roy Hall in 1906, but built on two more rooms and a
Fred moved to a ranch near the deceased C.H. Brandt and the function of highways 81 and 20 were completed in 1919. Rex Brandt was born May 12, 1950, and his wife entered the hardware business, while Doris has logged 40 years in Laurel County country school and graduated from the McLean area on the same farm for 34 years. Our children, Lon, Jon Raymond, and Marilynn went to Pierce County country school and graduated from high school in Randolph.

J. Fred and Jennie Brandt

J. Fred Brandt was born in Hamburg, Germany, on July 11, 1884. When he was 12 years old, his mother, Marie, and four brothers crossed the Atlantic Ocean to join his father, John, who had come earlier to locate work and prepare a home. They landed in New York City and came to Fremont, Nebraska on a train. There, John worked as a blacksmith and carpenter. Fred worked on Schroeder Ranch there and herded cattle and broke horses.

They moved to Randolph in the early 1900’s. By that time Fred had eight brothers; Fred was the oldest son. The family settled on a farm south of Randolph that now belongs to the Stevens family. They later moved to a farm southwest of Randolph that is now on Highway 81. Fred’s father built the buildings on this farm and the house and barn still are standing.

In 1914, he married Jennie Allen who had been a rural school teacher. They lived on a farm south of Randolph. In 1916, a daughter, Delores, was born and in 1918 a son, Rex, was born. Jennie contracted the “flu” and died in 1919.

At this time, Fred took his children to his mother in Wisconsin. She raised them until Fred remarried in 1925. He farmed north of Randolph until his retirement.

Fred was always a horse trader and spent a lot of time pursuing this hobby. He was one of a faithful bunch who always had a card game going. In later life, he moved to Norfolk and was employed at the sale barn. He was attacked by a bull at the sale barn and died in August 1962, from injuries he received. Rex Brandt

Johann and Antze Brandt

Johann Brandt was born June 24, 1859, in Fehrenbruch, Hanover, Germany to Friedrich and Elisabeth Brandtjen Brandt. He married Antze Meintz Eden on April 8, 1883, at Bargstedt, Hanover, Germany. They farmed near Hagen, Hanover, until 1895 when they migrated, by sailing ship, a trip of six weeks, to the United States and settled at Scribner Nebraska. They then moved to Fremont and in 1902 to the Randolph area. They lived seven miles south of the junction of highways 81 and 20. They had nine sons; the oldest six, J. Fred, John Jr., Jacob, Henry, Bartus, and Carl, were born in Germany. The three youngest, Edgar, Dick, and Art were born in the United States. In 1914, they moved to the Stanley, Wisconsin area to reside there until they died.

Their second son, John Jr., was an adventurous young man and spent the winter of 1913-1914 trapping in Canada in the wilderness north of Athabaska, Alberta. On December 22, 1915, he married Hannah Amelia Hanson at Mapleton, North Dakota. He was a barber and worked at this trade in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Sioux City, Iowa, before coming to the Randolph area to farm. They stayed on the same farm for 39 years until 1957, when they moved to West Randolph. John died May 27, 1957, and Hannah died May 27, 1979. They had one son, Orville, born June 1, 1918. He graduated from the Randolph High School in 1936, and farmed from then until retiring in 1978. Orville was married March 8, 1946, to Rhoda Pronneke at Norfolk, Nebraska. We continued to farm in the Mclean area on the same farm for 34 years. Our children, Lon, Jon Raymond, and Marilynn went to Pierce County country school and graduated from high school in Randolph.


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George and Emma Breding

George Herman, the youngest son of Alexander and Lena (Dickman) Breding, who immigrated to America from Hamburg, Germany, was born August 4, 1888, near Bancroft, Nebraska. Here he was baptized in the Lutheran faith in a country church. As a small boy, George received his education at this Lutheran church school, where German was spoken in the morning classes and English taught in the afternoons. This particular Lutheran church is active today.

When a young boy, George moved with his parents, five brothers and one sister to Coleridge, Nebraska. When he was fifteen the family moved to Agawam, Montana, where they filed a homestead claim. George worked on the family farm and various ranches where he loved breaking horses. Indians were plentiful in this barren territory, but George said that if you made friends with an Indian, you had a friend for life. He often related tales of cowboy shootouts and brawls in this area. At this time, most of the traveling was done either by stagecoach or on horseback. Although George only received a fifth grade education, he could do mental arithmetic much faster than one could figure on paper.

George returned to Randolph, Nebraska, at the age of 21 and was married to Emma Druhe on February 15, 1911. The Reverend E.H. Gabriel of St. John's Lutheran Church performed the ceremony at her parents' home.

Emma (Druhe) Breding, the youngest daughter of Fred and Minnie Druhe, was born June 15, 1893, near Sholes, Nebraska. She had five sisters and two brothers. When a young girl, her family moved west of Randolph. When received eight years of formal education in District 28, a country school southwest of their farm, where she learned to speak English. She and her sisters always walked the two miles to school unless they were required to stay home to work in the field. Emma was baptized and confirmed at the Lutheran church in Randolph.

George and Emma resided on a farm west of Randolph for 50 years. The Bredings were general crop and livestock farmers. George also operated a steam engine threshing rig for several years.

During their farming, they endured several years of crop failure from drought, hail and grasshoppers. They survived the battle of the "great depression." There were also the good years!

They were the parents of three children: Clarence, born January 7, 1912; Florence, born August 27, 1913; and Lois, born May 9, 1921. All of the family were members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Clarence was married to Freda Schroeder on January 9, 1936. Their children are Jacqueline, Rodney, and twins, Loren and Karen. Clarence died in November, 1976. Florence, a school teacher, died August 27, 1946, following a major operation. Lois was married to Miles Boughn on October 26, 1948. They had one child, Randy. Miles died of leukemia May 16, 1954. Lois was later married to Gene Baird on January 29, 1956. Their children are Kirby and Logene.

George and Emma Breding observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary in February, 1961. That year they retired from farming and moved to Randolph where they had built a new home and where Mrs. Breding still resides.

George died on June 4, 1966. Burial was in the Randolph Cemetery. Lois (Breding) Baird

Henry C. and Freida Broer

Mr. and Mrs. Broer and their daughter, Betty, arrived in Randolph, Nebraska on November 6, 1905 from Holstein, Germany. They were welcomed here by Henry's brother Herman, his sister Sophie and her husband, H.C. Langbehn. In later years, they were joined by Henry's sister, Emma Markert, with her husband, Fred, and their family, and Henry's nephews - Hans, Ludwig, Walter and Richard Broer, who also emigrated from Germany.

Henry worked on the railroad with his brother-in-law, H.C. Langbehn, for some time, but as soon as it could be arranged, they started farming. They farmed west of Randolph for six years and then moved south of Randolph where they farmed until 1939.

Henry and Freida celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary in 1929. On October 4th of 1931 Mrs. Freida Broer passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Broer had nine children, eight of which were born at Randolph. Betty, (Mrs. Fritz Bernet) of Randolph, was born in Holstein, Germany in 1904. Richard was born in 1906 and died in October of 1976. Henry Jr. was born in 1908 and married Frances Thomas. They reside in Randolph. Mynne, (Mrs. Willard Westover) was born in 1911. The Westovers live in...
Grand Island, Nebraska. Elsie, (Mrs. Ruben Stamm) was born in 1913 and she and Ruben currently live in Randolph. Bill, (born in 1915), married Mildred Tietgen and they reside in Turin, Iowa. Alfred was born in 1919 and married Betty Manzer. They live in Norfolk, Nebraska. Martin, (born in 1923), deceased October of 1960, was married to Ruth Collier of Randolph. Edward, (born 1925), married Melva Bargstad and they reside in Norfolk, Nebraska.

Five sons served in the United States Army in World War II. At one point during the war all were overseas: Richard and Bill in Germany, Alfred in Egypt, Martin in Australia, and Edward in Burma.

Mr. and Mrs. Broer were members of St. John's Lutheran Church. Mr. Broer held offices in the church and sang in the Men's Choir. After he retired in 1939, Henry moved to his son Richard's farm on the south edge of Randolph. He made his home there until his death in October of 1961.

Herman Broer

Hermann Broer was born in Schleswig, Germany, on June 14, 1882. He came to the United States in 1904. He soon dropped the extra n from his first name, and also the umlaut over the ŏ in Broer. He came to Randolph, because his sister, Sophie, and her husband, Henry Langbehn, and their family were already living here. Herman's brother-in-law was a section boss on the railroad, and employed Herman for a short time in that field of work. In 1905, Herman started the Broer Planing Mill. A German girl, by the name of Margaret Kuhl, came to the United States in 1914. She had come over with people from Plainview, Nebraska, who were visiting relatives in her home town of Wilster, Germany.

Shortly thereafter, she was employed in Randolph, and it was there she met Herman. On May 15, 1915, they were married, in St. John's Church, by Reverend D.H. Franzen.

The couple bought a small house in south Randolph. Through the years, Herman enlarged and improved the home. He was talented and ingenious with his hands. In the days before refrigerators, he devised an electric dumbwaiter that went into the ground 20 feet, to keep things cool.

The couple took an interest in learning to speak English, and were glad to be Americans. Herman was interested in community affairs and served as city councilman.

Margaret had a green thumb, and grew beautiful flowers, and loved to garden. In addition to many vegetables and fruits, she had apple and cherry trees. She enjoyed her home. Herman and Margaret had four children: Albert, Olga, Harold, and Lillian. Harold died early as a baby.

Herman was subject to bouts of pneumonia. After a long siege of this illness in the winter of 1946-1947, the family moved to Pomona, California, where Olga was a teacher in the city schools. Even in retirement, Herman kept busy with woodwork and sharpening lawn mowers. He passed away suddenly in Pomona, in 1963.

Their son, Albert, died in 1983, after a long illness.

Mrs. Broer and her daughter, Lillian Meyer, now live in Santa Maria, California. She is now 97 years old at this writing. Her daughter, Olga Lovely, and her husband, Al, live in nearby San Luis Obispo and visit often. She enjoys her two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Olga (Broer) Lovely

Joseph and Selma Brown

My grandfather, Henry M. Brown, was born at Lithopolis, Ohio, May 30, 1842. While a young man, he worked for his father and served an apprenticeship in the harness maker's trade. In June of 1863, he married Sarah Blackwood. They had eight children. His first vote for president was for Abraham Lincoln while he was a soldier in the Civil War. He was also a member of the National Drum Corps, playing the fife. I have one of his fifes and some of his music. Grandfather died April 9, 1931.

One of Henry's and Sarah's children was my father, Joseph Willard, known as "Joe" to everyone. He was born November 8, 1871, at Pella, Iowa. He moved with his parents to Atlantic, Iowa, in 1880. He married Hattie Folley in 1896, and they farmed in Iowa a few years before coming to the Randolph community in 1899. Randolph was just a new town of 13 years. They lived on a farm south of town until 1905, when they moved into town and formed a partnership with I.R. Ours, his brother-in-law, and opened a harness shop and shoe and harness repair business. With the exception of three years, he was in business in the community for 45 consecutive years. "Joe" was the third generation to follow this profession. They built their home in 1905 in the northeast part of town. In 1915, they adopted a daughter, Vivian. Hattie's health failed and she died in February, 1923. Vivian married Vernon Weyhrich and they have two children.

My mother, Selma, was born October 10, 1891, at Wayne, Nebraska. She attended Cedar County schools. On January 25, 1909, she married Chris Olsen. They had a daughter, Edith. Chris died September 7, 1911. Mother then married my father on August 7, 1925, at Atlantic, Iowa. Both were members of the United Methodist Church. Pop sang in the choir for many years. They had four children: Ralph, Betty, Arthur, and Irene. All of us, as well as a grandson, Larry Milander, attended and graduated from Randolph Public School. Mom was a woman of many talents and would help anyone needing her. Sewing, rug weaving, crocheting, and hemstitching were some of her hobbies. More than anyone I know, she loved flowers. These she shared with everyone, including her church. Some of the sewing included, cheerleaders' uniforms used at both of the schools.

I think that all of us kids took piano lessons from Minnie Pitman, a longtime Randolph resident.

Edith married Richard Milander. They lived in the area, later moving to Minnesota. They had five children.
Ralph was in the medical corps of the Army. He married Jean Graham and they have three children. He is presently employed at the Madison Foods, Inc., Madison, Nebraska.

Arthur (now deceased) was in the Air Force. He married Dorothy Stewart of Omaha. They had two daughters. They were divorced, and he later married Ernestine Nemer. At the time of his death, he was working for Packer's Engineering in Omaha.

Irene worked for Jim Kuhl in the photography store. She married Louis Winkelbauer of Randolph. They had seven children and lived at Randolph and in Iowa.

I taught school two years and married Neil Hight. We live on a farm at Scranton, Iowa. We have three children. I remember helping my father at the shoe shop in the summer - the smell of the harness and oil, even the price of having your shoes resoled and rehauled. The Good 'ole Days! *Mrs. Neil (Belly Brown) Hight*

**John and Letah Brummer**

John Herman Brummer was born at Neola, Iowa, on July 17, 1896, to John Brummer and Adeline (Lubbers) Brummer. He grew up in Iowa and moved with his parents to Crofton where they farmed. He was united in marriage to Letah M. Caster (born June 7, 1901), daughter of Fred M. and Mabel (Leicy) Caster, on February 27, 1922, at Crofton. They moved to McLean, and John worked at different jobs around McLean and Osmond. In 1942, they moved to a farm eight miles southeast of Randolph, owned by Boyd Edwards of Osmond. They lived there for 12 years. They quit farming in 1957 and went to California for awhile. They moved to Albany, Oregon, in 1960 where Letah still lives. They were blessed with six daughters: Mrs. Damon (Maxine) Korth - deceased; Mrs. Stanley (Melva) Guse, Eugene, Oregon; Mrs. Millicent Abbott, La Puente, California; Mrs. Marcelline Jaustra, Whittier, California; Mrs. Arthur (Mary) Olson, Randolph; and Mrs. Steve (Marsha) Backer of Albany, Oregon. The Brummers have 23 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren. John passed away on February 14, 1984. *Mary (Brummer) Olson*

**Bruners**

At this writing, Linda Rosberg (Mrs. David) and her children, Kim, Scott, Michelle, Bryan, Jeffrey, and Janet, are the only surviving members of the Brumer family now residing in Randolph. Linda is the daughter of Janet (Boughn) O'Sullivan (1924-1985) who was the daughter of Zachariah L. IV and Bessie (Gordon) Boughn. Zachariah IV was the son of John and Lenna (Bruner) Boughn. Lenna was the oldest daughter of Lucien H. and Nancy (Briggs) Bruner, a pioneer family.

Joseph Bruner and family immigrated to America from Baden, Germany, in 1727, settling in Maryland. Two of his grandsons, Adam and Peter, served in the Revolutionary War. In 1825 they moved to Indiana, and later to Illinois. Six of Adam's sons were Methodist preachers, one of whom, the Reverend David Bruner, was a “circuit rider” preacher.

David's son, Joshua, was married to Nancy Briggs and had three children, Lenna, Iva, and Joshua II. Lucien was elected Sheriff of Sully County for two terms at the same time he was serving as U.S. Marshall.

Many homesteaders led tragic lives, being totally unprepared for the loneliness and complete devastation that the droughts, blizzards, et cetera, eventually caused. Sheriff Bruner had to transport many a poor soul to the mental hospital at Yankton.

Because of the wilderness of the area, Sheriff Bruner had an Indian guide who lived at the ranch and accompanied him at all times as he was carrying out his duties. Nancy was a capable pioneer woman who was an expert in handling guns, protecting her family, home, and livestock while her husband was away.

As Marshall, Sheriff Bruner was charged with the rationing of meat for the tribes of the Sioux Nation under the Government Treaty with Sitting Bull. The situation with the Indians at that time was tense.

Due to the early blizzard in October 1888, and the severe blizzard in the spring of 1889, the loss of livestock was staggering. The family then migrated to Omaha with 300 head of mules and horses to fulfill a water works excavation contract Lucien had previously negotiated with that city.

Then they moved to Belden where Lucien was in the livestock business. A short time later they moved to Randolph where they resided for the remainder of their lives. Lucien was a livestock dealer and served one or more terms as Cedar County Commissioner.

Daughter, Lenna, married John H. Boughn in 1890 and had three children: Marjorie, who died in infancy; Zachariah IV (1895-1931); and Kathryn (Mrs. James) Ryan of Ames, Iowa.

At one time, Lucien Bruner and his grandson, Zack Boughn, operated the only independent lumber yard in Randolph. It was known as Bruner and Boughn Lumber Co.

In February 1926, after a routine day, Lucien H. Bruner passed away. At the time he was in the process of building a new home north of the high school. His wife, Nancy, was the lonely occupant of the house until she died in 1929. The Joshua A. Bruner family resided four blocks south of Broadway on Douglas until 1926.

Zachariah IV married Bessie Gordon in 1916 and had four children: Jean (Mrs. Walter) Andersen, who at different times has been a teacher, postal employee, and a social worker; Zachariah V., a high school and college teacher; Janet O'Sullivan (deceased), a teacher; and Keith.
a high school teacher and a Nebraska State Senator from 1976 until his death in December 1977, due to a heart attack.

Jean's children are Andrea (Mrs. Harry) Lindner of Norfolk, and Hugh, at home. Zachariah, married to Julia Whitney, a retired high school and college teacher, has two daughters: Lisa (Mrs. Ron) Simon of San Francisco, and Gina Campisi of Wayne, and two stepchildren: Scott Moody and Judy (Mrs. Pat) Rooney of Casper, Wyoming. He has five grandchildren.

Janet is survived by Linda (Mrs. David) Rosberg, Marcia (Mrs. Keith) Koski, Sheila (Mrs. Rick) Evans, one son, Dan and fifteen grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one daughter, Juanita.

Keith is survived by daughters Kolleen Hoover, Kelly Boughn and a son, Keith M. Boughn Jr. "Butch," as well as one grandson, Jesse Hoover. They are all residing in Norfolk. Jean (Boughn) Andersen, Julia Boughn, Joshua K. Bruner

Bruner

From the latter part of the 19th century and approximately the first 43 years of the present century, there were three related families living in Randolph, Nebraska, known by the name of Bruner. They were the families of Joshua Bruner, Curtis Bruner and Newton Sherman Bruner. Curtis and Newton Sherman, known as Curt and Sherm, were brothers.

Joshua was a stock raiser, mostly hogs, in the memory of this writer. Curt operated a livery stable in the days before the automobile came to Randolph. Sherm was a veterinary of the old Horse Doctor type, having his office in the livery stable of his brother, Curt, and often drove horses for his brother. In later years Sherm, N.S. Bruner, became a Justice of the Peace and Police Magistrate for the City of Randolph. While serving in this capacity, he became known as Judge Bruner.

There also was a fourth Bruner family living in Randolph during these times, by the name of Bernie Bruner, who was not directly related to the other three families.

All of the family of Curtis Bruner is now deceased. There may be some descendants of the families of Joshua Bruner and Bernie Bruner living, of which this writer is not aware. From the family of Newton Sherman Bruner, there remains Sherman Ward Bruner. He is a retired minister of the Gospel of the United Methodist Church and is now living in Mt. Vernon, Missouri. Ward, as he was known to the people of Randolph, is a graduate of Randolph High School, Class of 1919. He received most of his early religious training from the Methodist Church of Randolph. This early training was sometimes supplemented by the former Presbyterian Church of Randolph.

Much of the time known as the great depression years, Sherman Ward Bruner lived in Lincoln, Nebraska. After marriage to a Lincoln girl, this couple moved to Missouri and spent some quiet years in the Ozark Country of southern Missouri. Here their two children, Sandra and Stuart, were born.

The opportunity to serve the churches of the United Methodist Church came from the people of southern Missouri. Further instruction and training was obtained from correspondence schools, experience, and attendance at Perkins School of Theology, S.M.U., Dallas, Texas.

Reverend and Mrs. Bruner are in the middle 80's in age and do not stir around a lot these days. They are very grateful that both are still alive and in reasonably good health for that age. S. W. Bruner

Harold and Berdine Brunssen

Harold Brunssen was born at Randolph on August 24, 1935, the son of Herman and Alvena (Thaden) Brunssen. He graduated from Randolph High School in 1952 and spent two years in the United States Army.

Berdine (Bartling) Brunssen was born at Coleridge, Nebraska, on April 9, 1940, the daughter of Martin and Laura (Frerichs) Bartling. She graduated from Coleridge High School in 1957 and attended Wayne State College. She taught schools near Coleridge, at Oakland, Nebraska, and at Ida Grove, Iowa.

Harold Brunssen and Berdine Bartling were married on November 13, 1965, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Coleridge where they are members. They have farmed near Belden since their marriage. Their children include: Trent, born December 11, 1966, who is a freshman at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; Doyle, born August 28, 1968, who is a junior at Randolph High School; Stephanie, born April 8, 1971, who is a freshman at Randolph High School; Vanessa, born November 24, 1972, who is a seventh grader at Randolph Public School; and Melanie, born October 10, 1977, who is a second grader at Randolph Public School. Berdine Brunssen

Ralph and Audrey Bruse

My grandfather, Jacob Hiebenthal, was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on January 14, 1844. He first located in Ashton, Illinois, where he married my grandmother, Katherine Beck, on June 24, 1870. They later moved to Dysart, Iowa, where my mother, Christena, was born on September 23, 1876. In 1891, they bought a farm two and one-half miles north of Randolph where they lived until my grandfather retired. My grandmother died in 1909 and my grandfather in 1931. In 1866, Herman Arthur Mabeus, my father, was born to August and Henerietta Mabeus, in Burlington, Iowa. He came to Nebraska, and bought a farm three miles north of Randolph. He married Christena Hiebenthal. They had seven children: Lester, Victor, Frank, Paul, Harvey, Marvel and myself.

I was graduated from Randolph High School in 1931, and taught a rural school for four years before enrolling at the University of Nebraska. Here I met Ralph Bruse of Albion, Nebraska. We both were graduated on June 6,
1938, and married the same day. The next few years were spent living in Nebraska, Ohio and Michigan.

During the war, Ralph was a Special Agent for the F.B.I. In 1946, he joined the Allis-Chalmers Company and we moved to Scottsbluff, Nebraska. In 1949, he was transferred to Amarillo, Texas as sales manager of the Allis-Chalmers Branch Office and was branch manager from 1952 to 1970.

Disappointed that Texas did not have two active political parties, I did considerable volunteer work for the Republican Party and held various Republican offices. In 1966, I was persuaded to run for Randall County Treasurer and was defeated by only 60 votes. In 1968, I was a candidate for Randall County Tax Assessor-Collector and was elected and re-elected three times. I was the second Republican Tax Assessor-Collector elected in Texas. At their 1969 Convention, the Texas Federation of Republican Women named me one of the "Ten Outstanding Republican Women in Texas."

During my term in office, I was President of Region I of the Texas Association of Assessing Officers and state President of the Tax Assessor-Collectors Association. Governor William Clements appointed me to the Texas Board of Tax Assessor Examiners in 1979.

My husband was president of his civic club, served on the Board of Stewards of Polk Street Methodist Church, and president of the Sunday School Class. I was a member of the Amarillo Library Board, president of the Amarillo Branch of the American Association of University Women and also state treasurer.

We have two sons, Robert Alan and Richard Carl. They are both married and we have three grandchildren. We enjoy traveling and have been to Hawaii, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

We also travel in our Airstream trailer. We have spent the past three winters in Mesa, Arizona and enjoy the warmer climate so much that we have decided to make Sun City West, Arizona our permanent home. Ralph enjoys golf and I enjoy the various crafts and we both enjoy bowling, bridge and square dancing. Audrey Mabeus Bruse

Fred Martin Buol

Our father, Fred Buol, was the oldest son of Paul Buol (1854-1934) and Tilla Buol (1859-1945). The family lived in Monticello, Iowa, where Fred was born on December 9, 1879, and his brother, Martin, in 1881. In 1884, the family came to Cedar County locating on a farm south of Coleridge. In 1886, the family moved to Randolph and established the Buol Hardware Store. Paul (1891-1919), Ida (1896) and Margaret (1900) were born in Randolph and all five of the children graduated from Randolph High School, as did their four granddaughters.

Fred graduated from High School in 1896 and immediately entered the old Security State Bank as assistant cashier under C.H. Randall, cashier. He worked in the bank for 15 years. On June 11, 1901, he married Helen R. Peverett (1882-1971), another Randolph High School graduate, daughter of John R. Peverett of Randolph. They had two daughters, Florence and Paulina.

Due to poor health, Fred had to leave the bank so they moved to Cedaredge, Colorado, in 1909 to live on a fruit ranch. They were there for seven years. Fred's health improved and in 1915 he organized the Quimby State Bank in Iowa and became cashier. After four years, he had to leave inside work so he joined his brother, Martin, (1891-1972) in the garage business in Randolph in 1919. He remained in this work until his sudden death on January 27, 1922.

Helen and the girls remained in Randolph until Florence graduated from High School in 1924. They then moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, where Helen felt her daughters would have better educational opportunities and she could secure gainful employment.

Florence attended Business College that summer and in the fall entered the University and Paulina entered Lincoln High School. In November of 1926 Helen married Dr. A.E. Cook (1870-1950) and returned to live in Randolph.

Florence worked part-time at The Midwest Life Insurance Co., and the School of Fine Arts Library, graduating in 1929. In the meantime, Paulina returned to Randolph and graduated from Randolph High School in 1928. The next year she attended Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Missouri. At the close of this year, Dr. Cook was her incentive to enter the three-year Nurse's Training program at Methodist Hospital in Sioux City, Iowa. After graduation, Paulina worked in the city for a doctor. In 1935, she joined the Navy Nurses Corp and was placed in the Naval Hospital in San Diego, California.

Florence taught school for three years and in 1932 married E. Dayle Babcock (1904-1966) of Lincoln, Nebraska. They had two children, Jean and Richard, and four grandchildren. Dayle graduated from Nebraska University Law School in 1928. He was employed with The Travelers Insurance Company Claims Department in Omaha, Sioux City, and the home office in Hartford, Connecticut, from which he retired as secretary in Compensation and Liability in 1963. Following retirement, his health began to fail and he died on October 3, 1966.

After Paulina went to San Diego, she met John R. Pence of Wood, Wisconsin, who was also in the Navy. In 1937, they returned to Randolph and were married in her mother's home. They have two children, Susan and John, and five grandchildren. Bob served for 16 years in the U.S. Navy, saw active duty during World War II and retired after "D" Day.

Health services interested both Paulina and Bob. She continued nursing and retired in 1971. Bob served as hospital consultant and administrator in rural hospitals until his retirement in 1977, when they moved to El Paso, Texas. These positions awarded him a life membership in the California Hospital Association.
As a family, they enjoyed many pack camping trips, fishing in British Columbia, as well as deep sea fishing out of Florida. After retirement they entered into serious golf playing.

Florence continues living in her home in West Hartford and occupies her time chiefly with social service and volunteer work at church homes in Hartford, where Helen Cook spent the last four years of her life. Florence Buol Babcock, Paulina Buol Pence

John and Elizabeth Burmester

John Henry Burmester was born July 20, 1889, in Darmstadt, Germany. He was the son of Joachim Burmester and Caroline M. (Ohrens) Burmester. To this union were born three sons: Rudolph, John, and Carl Burmester. There was also a half-sister and a half-brother.

My father came to America in 1910 and lived with his brother three miles east of Sholes for two years. Then he went to work for an uncle in Oregon. He came to Randolph in 1915 and worked on a farm west of Randolph. On March 1, 1923, he moved to a farm five and one quarter miles south of Randolph. His brothers, Rudolph and Carl, and his mother came from Germany that year to keep house and farm with him.

In December of 1930 he went back to his native country to marry my mother. They were married on January 17, 1931. On March 6, 1931, they arrived by train in Randolph and went to the farm five and one-fourth miles south of Randolph. To this union were born two sons, Hans H. Burmester, born July 1, 1932, and John W. Burmester, born January 9, 1935.

On May 24, 1948, my mother's mother, Mrs. Anna M. Tagge, came to live with us. She lived with us for three years. She was born on February 26, 1875, and died June 30, 1951, at Randolph.

My father's mother passed away February 19, 1933, at her home at Randolph. Her husband died in 1908 in Germany. My mother's maiden name was Elizabeth M. Tagge. She was born February 16, 1904, and passed away February 24, 1964, in Chicago, Illinois, when she was on a visit to her cousin's home. My father died June 19, 1965, at Coleridge, Nebraska.

On December 8, 1952, I was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in Korea and was released on November 30, 1954. On August 18, 1963, I was married to JoAnn Hansen of Coleridge. To this union were born three daughters: Susan Elizabeth born May 27, 1964, Sherrill Irene born August 29, 1966, and Sally Jo born November 1, 1970. On November 23, 1980, my wife, JoAnn, died.

On August 20, 1982, Sherrill Irene married David A. Anderson at Yankton, South Dakota, and a son was born, David Allen, Jr. He passed away in infancy.

Susan Elizabeth married William Joe Eisenhauer of Wakefield, Nebraska. To this union were born three daughters: Rose Ann on May 31, 1983, and David Jeremy on August 2, 1984.


In 1964, I moved to the present farm where we live, one-half mile south one mile west, and a one-half mile south of Sholes. I have been a farmer all of my adult life. Hans J. I. Burmester

Norman and Jean Anne Buss

Jean Anne Olberding, the oldest daughter of Norbert and Marianne Olberding, was born on November 5, 1953 at Osmond, Nebraska. In the fall of 1958 she started kindergarten at the Randolph Public School; from there, she went to St. Frances for grades one through nine. She finished her education at the Randolph Public School, graduating with the Class of 1971. In July of 1971, Jean Anne continued her education at the Lincoln School of Commerce in Lincoln, Nebraska, studying accounting. Upon finishing her studies at the School of Commerce she went to work for an insurance company for a year. After leaving the employment of the insurance company, she worked at Norden Laboratories for the next eight years.

On June 17, 1972, she married Norman Buss of Laurel, Nebraska. They have made their home in Lincoln and are the parents of three children: Eric Frank, born on June 12, 1975; Adam Scott, born on March 8, 1978; and Jennie Marie born on August 19, 1982. A fourth child, a daughter, was stillborn on July 11, 1974.

James Fremont Callaway

Jim Callaway brought his family to Randolph in August, 1945. He was Superintendent of Schools at Randolph for four years (1945-1949). Florence W. Callaway, wife of Jim, taught English in the high school and also served as principal.
A son, James Robert Callaway, graduated from Randolph High School in 1946, and a daughter, Dorothy Ann Callaway, graduated in 1947.

Jim Callaway was active in Nebraska education all his life and died while serving as Superintendent of Schools in Little Sioux, Iowa, in 1957. He will be remembered in Randolph not only for his contribution to education but also for his love for horses and horse trading.

During a parent conference one time, he was reminded that students, like colts, did not know and obey all the rules. He replied, "That is true, but in a week I can ride an unbroken colt down the street with just a halter". His expectations for both students and horses were high. He was active in community affairs and had many friends throughout the county.

Florence and Jim were active in the Methodist Church while in Randolph. They were also members of the Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, and PEO. Florence continued in education after Jim's death and served as librarian at the Beatrice High School until her retirement in 1961.

She then moved to Eugene, Oregon, and passed away in 1969.

James Robert Callaway graduated from Wayne State Teachers College in 1950 and received his Master's Degree from Omaha University in 1955. He was Superintendent of Schools in Kennard, Nebraska, and Wakefield, Nebraska. He then moved to Eugene, Oregon, and served as junior high school principal. He married Lois Jean Cunningham of Fremont in 1951. They have three children and six grandchildren. They are living in Eugene, Oregon.

Dorothy Ann Callaway also attended Wayne State Teachers College and taught in Nebraska and Bellevue, Washington. She married Wayne E. Redden. They have two children and are living in Redmond, Washington.

"Sandy" and Shirley Carpenter

Clyde Arthur Carpenter was born October 18, 1932, to Wilburn Carl and Cora Agnes (Blasdell) Carpenter in the home of Cora's parents in rural western New York State. He was the oldest of eight children. Clyde's father was a laborer and his mother a rural school teacher, having graduated from Training Class in Springville, New York. He attended both rural and town schools, graduating from Collins Center High School in 1951. That summer, he worked in a tannery in Gowanda, New York, and entered Fredonia State Teachers' College in September.

It was here, during a Mummers Drama Club Variety Show rehearsal, that he met Shirley Mae Holden from Rochester, New York. Shirley was the daughter of Henry Guy and Elsie Evelyn (Cosier) Holden and was born in Rochester on September 22, 1932. Her mother had died the year before they met.

At the end of Clyde's first semester, due to a shortage of funds, he returned to the tannery. On July 4, 1952, he married Shirley and they moved to Rochester where they both worked in the Rochester General Hospital, Clyde as an oxygen orderly and Shirley in central supply. In October of that year, he enlisted for two years in the Army and was assigned to the Ordinance Corp. He spent the first half of his enlistment at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland, during which time their first son, Carl Guy, was born.

The second half of the enlistment was spent in Korea stationed south of Seoul at the Eighth Army Ordinance Training Battalion as an instructor in the Ammunition Supply Specialist School. He returned to Fredonia State Teachers College in the fall of 1954, graduating with a Bachelor of Elementary Education degree in January, 1958.

During his senior year, he counseled at school camp and took the name, "Sandy," since it was an informal setting, and relieved the necessity of being called Mr. Carpenter by the students. He used this name almost exclusively after that.

While he was a student, Michele Suzanne and Scott Grayson were born, and shortly after beginning his teaching career, Eric Gregory was added to the family. After nine years, Christy Cora was born while Sandy was teaching in West Valley, New York, and two-year old Janice Marie was adopted soon after.

In 1975, the family sold their home and furniture and moved to Warner Robins, Georgia, where Sandy had accepted a teaching position with the Bibb County Schools. At the end of one year, he accepted the call to the Pastoral Ministry and served a downtown church in Macon, Georgia (1976-1977). This necessitated another family move, from a furnished apartment to a furnished parsonage.

In June of 1977 they moved once again. This time it was to Henry, Nebraska, where Sandy pastored two United Methodist Churches - one in Henry and the other in Lyman - while he was a student at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. After three years of commuting two hundred miles to Denver for eight months of the year, he graduated in May 1980.

In the meantime, Shirley had answered a call into the ministry and began attending St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, to become a local pastor. After attending their Course of Study School for five summers, she graduated in July, 1985.

In June of 1980, the family moved again, this time to Randolph, Nebraska, where Sandy pastored the United Methodist Churches in Randolph and McLean, and Shirley the church at Winside.

Shirley decided to go full time into a gospel music ministry and left the Winside Church in 1982. Sandy was then assigned the three church charge of Randolph-McLean-Winside. By now the only children left at home were Janice and Christy, and they spent their high school years in the Randolph High School.
Herman and Marie Carstens

Herman E. Carstens was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1823. He was a painter by profession and as the rules of his country demanded, he traveled eight years continuously, thereby visited the greater part of Europe. He served as a sergeant in the Austria-Hungary War in 1848.

In 1815, his father served as a Lieutenant General in the English army and fought under Wellington at Waterloo whose forces helped to defeat Napoleon. Hanover was under English government at that time. As a reward for his services he received a pension of $400 yearly for almost 50 years. After the Austria-Hungary War, Herman returned to Hamburg, Germany. In 1859, he married Marie Stuckenschmidt and lived at Bruecken, Germany. Three of their children, Marie, Charles and Wilhelmina were born in Germany.

Marie came to the United States and worked for wealthy families to earn passage for her family who came over on a freighter in 1878. They settled in Washington Heights, Illinois, where Bertha Carstens was born.

There Herman was a painter for the Union Pacific railroad. In September, 1882, they came to West Point. In the 1880's, they homesteaded a farm near Elgin, Nebraska. Their one milk cow was kept in their home to protect her from freezing. But severe drought, grasshoppers, and frigid winters during which they burned buffalo chips and twisted hay due to the lack of wood on the treeless plains finally took their toll and the family moved to Randolph in 1898.

For $22 per acre, they purchased the 160 acre farm five miles south of Randolph which the Dean Carstens family now owns. The family lived on this farm until 1906 when they built a new home across the street from St. John's Lutheran church and moved to town. There they lived until their deaths - Herman in 1913, and Marie in 1917.

Marie Carstens married Ludwig Schmidt in Chicago, Illinois, and they moved to the northeast Nebraska area. They were the parents of seven children.

Charles Carstens and Frieda Hartwig Schairer were married in 1901 at the home of the groom's parents. Frieda Schairer Carstens and her daughter, Estella, by a previous marriage, joined the family on this day. Five children were born to this union: Herbert, Ester Carstens Anderson, Walter, Wilma Carstens Bargstadt and Charles Jr. Charles and Frieda farmed the land until Charles' death in 1917. Frieda and her family continued to farm until Estella's untimely death at the age of 32. She moved to Pender to help care for Estella's family in 1927, to Lincoln in 1936, and back to Randolph in 1941 where she died in 1966 at the age of 93.

Wilhelmina Carstens married John Dohse of Elgin, Nebraska. They were the parents of nine children.

Bertha Carstens and William Krohn married in August, 1904. They resided on a farm three miles south of Randolph until William's death in December, 1904. Bertha was a former rural school teacher, worked in Boughn's, Larson's and Hill's stores in Randolph and was a housekeeper for many people in Randolph until her death in 1970 at 91 years of age. Jo Ann Hokamp

James and Frances Casteel

Grandfather, James Allen Casteel was born in upstate New York in 1842. He came to Henry County, Iowa, with his parents and two brothers. Orphaned soon afterward, he was taken in by Horatio Walkers.

After serving in the Union Army in the Civil War, he married Frances Cartwright, granddaughter of the Walkers. They had five sons: Charles, John, Wm. Edgar (1873, our father), Ray and Frank.

The family moved to a farm south of Pierce, Nebraska, in 1884. Grandfather walked from Pierce to Niobrara to file papers on a homestead near Creighton, but he knew how to walk having marched with Sherman to the sea.

In 1902 the family moved to Randolph where grandfather became janitor of the public school until his death in 1907. Grandmother who was born in 1846 died in 1917.

Our parents, Geneva Ann Bell (1874) and Wm. Eager Casteel, schoolteachers, were married in Pierce September 5, 1894. They moved to Randolph in 1902, when father taught in the Randolph school. In 1903 he became one of the first rural mail carriers out of Randolph: Route 2 carrier at $50.00 a month. He made his first trip of 28 miles on horseback after having sorted his mail on a bed in his home. He retired January 1, 1934. At one time he was president of the Nebraska State Rural Letter Carriers Association.

In the move to Randolph our parents bought a small house which had been moved from a site near the Catholic Church to an acreage west of the public school. Three rooms were added later to accommodate a growing family.

James Alden (1895) and Marie Bell (1898) were born in Pierce. John and Ruth, twins, were born December 17, 1903 and Arlene ten years later. All were graduates of Randolph High School.

Alden taught at Marsland and Magnet, Nebraska and had entered the University of Nebraska when his course was interrupted by World War I. He remained in the army the rest of his life, being Provost Marshall of Washington, D.C. during World War I and Commandant of a prisoner of war camp on Cheju Island during the Korean War. He and his wife, Elinor Lettney, were the parents of James A. Jr., and Jeanne. Their grandchildren are James A. and Bill Kirkpatrick and Kathryn Casteel Robinson. Alden died in July 1963.

Marie, a teacher, attended the University of Nebraska. She married Wm. L. Lea of Pierce. She died in June 1977, survived by a daughter Ruth Ann Caylor and grandsons John and Wm. Lea Caylor.

John attended Nebraska Wesleyan University, then Northwestern University, where he earned a doctorate degree. He taught at the University of Oregon and at
Union Seminary in New York City, and later was on the staff of the Council of Lay Life and Work of the United Church of Christ. He married Audeline Boughn, daughter of Forrest and Emma Heidermann Boughn and a great-granddaughter of Grandpa Z. Boughn. They have a daughter, Margaret Bloom, a son John Alden, and grandchildren Jack and Kirsten Casteel, and Jan Bloom Shaw.

Ruth, a teacher, attended Wayne State Teachers College, taught in McLean and Randolph and taught music privately. She married Clifford Hughes in 1954 and has three step-children and four step-grandsons.

Arlene, also a teacher attended Wayne State Teachers College and graduated from Hastings College. She married Austin Cramer of Red Cloud, Nebraska. They are the parents of a son James A. and a daughter Ann.

Descendants of Jimmy and Frances Casteel are scattered from coast to coast with only one remaining in the home town of Randolph. John Casteel, Ruth C. Hughes

E.W. and Olive Caster
In the fall of 1897, on a farm four miles north of Randolph, on the road known as Mill Road, a son was born to Fred and Mable (Leicy) Caster on November 20, 1897. He was the first son born and one of the eldest children. His name was Edward Wesley, known to everyone as "Jack". Jack had four sisters, Nina (Cunningham) (deceased), Letah (Brummer), Lourette (Gracey) and Rose (Grunig). His brothers were Charles Omar (deceased) and Victor (deceased).

Jack grew up in the Randolph, Belden, and Laurel vicinities. His education was received from the Belden Public School. He met and courted Olive Mae Hirschman, who was the daughter of John and LouEtta (Dawson) Hirschman. Olive was born October 10, 1899, one mile west of Belden, where Earl Fish resides today. She received her education from the Belden Public School. Olive is the eldest of five children. Her brothers were Ferdinand (deceased) and Kermit (deceased). Her sisters are Marjorie (Jenkins) (deceased) and Ada (Upright) who still resides at Grant, Nebraska.

Jack and Olive boarded the train at Belden on February 15, 1921, and rode to Sioux City, Iowa, where they exchanged their marriage vows.

A few days following their marriage, they gathered their belongings and livestock and made their way north to a farm five miles south of Crofton. They survived the drought and the depression along with the other people. To this union of marriage were born five children: Kermit (deceased), Randall (who now resides in Littleton, Massachusetts), Natalie (Foster) (who now resides in Chicago, Illinois), Richard (who now resides in Denver, Colorado), and Shirley (Richards) (who now resides in Belden).

They have three grandsons, six granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1970 and their 60th anniversary in 1981.

Because of age and health they moved from their farm near Crofton, where they resided for 52 years, to Laurel in 1972, where they now reside. They will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary February 15, 1986. Shirley Richards

Fred and Mabel Caster
Fred M. Caster, born September 18, 1874 in Adair County, Iowa, was the son of Samuel Wesley and Rebecca Ann (Wethers) Caster. He came to Nebraska as a young man with his parents.

Mabel W. Leicy was born August 14, 1876 in Adair County, Iowa, coming to Nebraska with her parents, Edward W. and Mary Elizabeth (Wallace) Leicy in 1892. She attended Randolph High School and taught in a rural school a short time.

On July 4, 1895 Fred and Mabel were married at the home of her parents four miles northeast of Randolph. The couple farmed in Cedar and Pierce counties for many years before retiring to Coleridge, Nebraska, in 1942. Their family of seven children grew up in the Randolph area and attended schools in both Belden and Randolph.

Mr. and Mrs. Caster celebrated 50 years of marriage on July 4, 1945.

Mr. Caster died September 16, 1954, and Mrs. Caster passed away June 6, 1967. They are buried in the Randolph City Cemetery.

Nina (Caster) Cunningham, Charles O. Caster and Victor L. Caster have also gone to their rewards.

The surviving children are E.W. Caster, Letah Brummer, Lourette Gracey, and Rose Grunig. Rose (Caster) Grunig

David A. and Christal A. Clark
David A. Clark was born October 9, 1959, the first born son of Donald G. and Marian A (Sellon) Clark.

The first years of his life were spent on a farm south of Randolph. Later the family moved into Randolph.

Don, David's father, worked at various jobs until his untimely death in February of 1982. Marian, David's mother, was employed at Randolph Public Schools as a teachers' aide.

Dave received all of his 13 years of education at Randolph High School. Dave missed his graduation ceremony due to a car accident which involved another classmate, Dale Loberg.

Dave was employed at the Piggly Wiggly Store, now Jim's Food Center, until his graduation in 1977. After his graduation, he was employed at McLain Oil Co. in Belden, Nebraska, until January of 1982, when the family purchased Home Oil Co. in Randolph. After Don's death, they continued to operate Town and Country Service for a short time.

Dave became a member of the Randolph Volunteer Fire Department in 1982, and still serves on the department.
His mother, Marian, is currently employed and lives in Wayne, Nebraska.

Dave also has a younger brother, Gary.

Christal (Chris) A. Gubbels was born March 9, 1961, the daughter of Walter M. and Detta A. (Rameil) Gubbels. Chris grew up on her family's farm, which is located east of Randolph.

Chris received the first three years of education at St. Frances Catholic School and the remaining years at Randolph High School, where she graduated in the top ten of her class in 1979.

Chris was employed at the Randolph House Cafe until her graduation. Chris attended U.N.S.T.A. (University of Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture) for one year. She then moved to Norfolk, Nebraska, and was employed at Pizza Hut for about one and one-half years. Chris then moved back to Randolph and worked as a bookkeeper for Town and Country Service. Chris is presently employed at Bobo's in Randolph. Her parents are still engaged in farming. She has one sister, Barb, and three brothers, Jeff, Tony, and Gary.

On October 2, 1982, Chris Gubbels became the bride of Dave Clark. They were married in St. Frances Catholic Church. Chris received a beautiful registered Quarter Horse for a wedding gift from Dave.

They presently make their home in Randolph. Christal A. Clark

Henry and Marget Claussen

Henry Claussen was born June 4, 1912, at Pender, Nebraska, to John and Johanne (Meyer) Claussen. In February, 1919, the family moved to a farm nine miles northwest of Randolph that John Claussen purchased. Henry received his education at Magnet, Nebraska. He remained at home to help his dad on the farm.

Marget Vogt was born March 14, 1913, at Beemer, Nebraska, to Wilhelm and Luise Vogt. In 1917, the family moved to a farm nine miles north of Randolph.

Henry Claussen and Marget Vogt were married February 20, 1935, at her parents' home. They began farming on land owned by Ray Fleury six miles northwest of Randolph. Three years later they moved to the home place vacated by John and Johanne Claussen who moved to Magnet, Nebraska, to begin their retirement.

Two children were born to Henry and Marget (Vogt) Claussen. Stan was born November 11, 1940, and Barbara was born November 2, 1944. They attended Eagle Valley District 55 Country School. Stan graduated from Randolph High School in 1958 and Barb graduated in 1963. Stan graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1962. Barb graduated from the University of Nebraska two year Secretarial College. Stan married Carolyn Wendt of Columbus, Nebraska, on August 24, 1960. They had two children: Judd and Audra. The family has lived on the Claussen home place. Barb married Bill Martindale November 20, 1965. They had two children: Shawn and Ryan. They live in Omaha, Nebraska.

Henry and Marget moved to Randolph in November 1963. In 1966, they moved into a new home at Randolph. They observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary in February 1985.

The family has been active in church, school, 4-H, etc. Henry served on rural school board, church council, rural telephone board and the Colonial Manor Board of Directors. Marget has been an active member of the former Ladies Aid and Dorcas Group of the A.L.C.W. She taught Sunday School for fifteen years. Through the years, Henry and Marget have enjoyed playing cards with friends. They also have enjoyed a small amount of traveling. Henry and Marget Claussen

John and Johanne Claussen

John D. Claussen was born in Oldenburg, Germany, August 17, 1879. After he received his education, learned the cabinet making trade, and served in the military, he came to America in the early 1900's. He worked at the cabinet trade in New York City for some time before coming to Pender, Nebraska, where several uncles lived. John spent considerable time at the farm home of Gerhard Claussen, while he worked at the carpenter trade.

John Claussen returned to Germany where he married Johanne Meyer who was born December 26, 1883. They both returned to Pender, Nebraska, via Niagara Falls in 1912. John continued working as a carpenter and also began farming. John and Johanne had one son, Henry, born at Pender, Nebraska. In the fall of 1918, they purchased a farm northwest of Randolph, Nebraska.

In February 1919, the family moved by railroad, from Wakefield to Randolph. They arrived at Randolph on a cold winter day. This farm is still in the Claussen family.

John and Johanne moved to Magnet in 1938, to begin their retirement years. They later retired at Randolph in 1942. John helped build the new St. John's Lutheran Church in 1942-1943. John and Johanne observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1962.

John Claussen passed away May 11, 1973, at the age of 93 years. Johanne (Meyer) Claussen passed away Nov. 24, 1978, at the age of 94 years. She spent her last few years at Colonial Manor in Randolph.

Stan and Carolyn Claussen

In general, our ancestors came to America to find a new and better way of life. They were seeking more freedom and to have the privilege to live in the new land of many opportunities.

John Claussen (1879-1973) and Johanne (Meyer) Claussen (1883-1978) of Oldenburg, Germany; Wilhelm Vogt (1888-1958) of Pender, Nebraska, and Luise (Lutjen) Vogt (1890-1969) of Wusting, Oldenburg, Germany, were Stan Claussen's grandparents. John and Johanne (Meyer) Claussen had one son Henry Claussen, Stan's dad, born June 4, 1912. Wilhelm and Luise (Lutjen) Vogt had four daughters. Marget Vogt, Stan's mother, was born March 14, 1913.
Henry and Marget (Vogt) Claussen were married February 20, 1935. They had two children: Stan, born November 11, 1940, and Barbara, born November 2, 1944. Barb married Bill Martindale, and they had two children: Shawn and Ryan.

Fred Wendt (1872-1940) of Wisconsin and Alma (Dasenbrock) Wendt (1874-1949) of Zwischenahn, New Oldenburg, Germany, later of Leigh, Nebraska; Otto Muhle (1892-1973) and Louise (Bakenhus) Muhle (1892) of Leigh, Nebraska, were Carolyn (Wendt) Claussen's grandparents. Fred and Alma (Dasenbrock) Wendt had eight children. Paul Wendt, Carolyn's dad, was born April 26, 1917. Otto and Louise (Bakenhus) Muhle had four children. Ruth Muhle, Carolyn's mother, was born March 7, 1919.

The two families of Fred Wendt and Otto Muhle were neighbors and friends; therefore, Paul Wendt and Ruth Muhle grew up as childhood friends. They attended public school and Sunday School together. Paul played an accordion and had his own band. He played for many country and town dances. Paul Wendt and Ruth Muhle were married June 10, 1937. Soon after their marriage, they purchased a farm near Columbus, Nebraska. They have retired on their farm. They have enjoyed dancing and traveling. Their last travel was a tour to South America and the Panama Canal.

Paul and Ruth (Muhle) Wendt had three children: Carolyn, born August 22, 1939; Michael, born August 10, 1945; and Linda, born February 14, 1948. Michael married Cindy Staroscik, and they had one child, Paula. They have lived at Columbus, Nebraska. Linda married Gordon Osten and they had three children: Shane, Reid, and Gina. They have lived at Phoenix, Arizona.

Stan Claussen and Carolyn Wendt met at the University of Nebraska. Carolyn never believed in blind dates - Stan was her first and her last! They were married August 24, 1960. Stan received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture from the University of Nebraska in 1962. Carolyn graduated from the University of Nebraska two-year Secretarial College in 1962. While attending school, Carolyn worked as a secretary to the Secretary of the State of Nebraska.

After college graduation, Stan entered the National Guard. He was stationed at Ft Ord near Monterey, California. During that time, Carolyn worked in Omaha as secretary to attorney and vice president of J.L. Brandeis & Sons.

After Stan returned home from Ft. Ord, California, he decided to pursue his career in farming on what was once his grandfather's and father's farm northwest of Randolph. They have farmed for approximately 25 years as beef and grain producers.

Stan and Carolyn had two children: Judd, born December 14, 1969; and Audra, born March 17, 1974. They both have attended Randolph Public Schools. Judd has played guitar. Audra has played piano and sang. Together they have performed duets at church services and other occasions. For hobbies, Judd has enjoyed riding motorbikes and launching model rockets. Audra has three horses and has enjoyed horseback riding.

The family has been members of St. John's Lutheran Church, where Carolyn has taught Sunday School for several years. Stan and Carolyn have served on the Parish Education Committee of St. John's Church. In 1982, Stan was elected to the Randolph School Board.

In conclusion, they have been thankful that their ancestors, among others, had the courage to come to the new land of opportunity. America has been a beautiful country in which to live. Stan and Carolyn Claussen

Marvin and Alice Closter

Marvin and Alice Closter, with their two little daughters, Carole and Betty, moved to the Randolph area in 1945. In January, 1948, Robert was born. Twins, James and Edward, were born in 1949. The Closters farmed southwest of Randolph until 1958. The children received their early education in one-room country schools of Districts 66 and 54. Later, they all attended St. Frances School in Randolph. The children enjoyed membership in Allen Eastern Livestock 4-H Club while on the farm.

The Closters sold the farm and bought the Cedar Motel in Randolph in 1958. The family operated the motel eight years.
Carole, Betty, and Robert graduated from St. Frances High School. James and Edward graduated from high school in Oklahon, Oklahon.

Carole received a degree in Medical Technology from the College of St. Mary in Omaha. After eight years of employment at St. Mary's Hospital in Kansas City, she now works in the laboratory for Drs. McMullen, Wilkins, and O'Neil in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Betty attended the College of St. Mary and the University of Nebraska majoring in art. She married John Lavelle and now lives in Hickman, Nebraska, with their two sons.

Robert served in the U.S. Army and fought in the Vietnam War. He graduated as a pipefitter from Texas State Technical Institute and works on air conditioning systems in Austin. Robert and his family live in Manchaca, Texas.

James attended college in Weatherford, Oklahoma and served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He has a Taco Bell restaurant in Marble Falls, Texas and lives in nearby Granite Shoals.

Edward graduated from Texas State Technical Institute in Restaurant and Motel Management. He served in the Texas National Guard. Edward died in a car accident in 1972, leaving his wife and two daughters.

After selling the Cedar Motel in 1966, Alice and Marvin owned and operated motels in Yukon, Oklahoma, and Shamrock, Texas. In 1970, they retired in Sedona, Arizona. Now they are living in Cortland, Nebraska.

Alice Closter

William J. and Sylvia Coenen

William J. "Bill" Coenen and Sylvia Lippold were married at St. Frances Catholic Church, Randolph, Nebraska on August 19, 1941. Sylvia was the oldest daughter of Mary and Fred Lippold of Randolph. She has one sister Mrs. Ted (Phyllis) Tunink of Randolph. She was born on August 19, 1921 on the home farm four miles east of Randolph, where she and Bill lived most of their married lives. Sylvia graduated from St. Frances Catholic School in 1939 and worked at Dominis and Son Grocery Store until her marriage. Bill was born at Defiance, Iowa to Catherine and William H. Coenen. He had three brothers and two sisters, Gerald of Plainview, now deceased, John of Defiance, Iowa, Paul of Harlan, Iowa, Mrs. Clair (Irene) Finn, now deceased, and Mrs. Paul (Lucile) Rust of Harlan, Iowa.

Bill graduated from Defiance Catholic High School at Defiance, Iowa in 1936. He graduated from Grand Island Business College in 1938 and worked for the railroad, and began farming at Defiance in 1940. Sylvia and Bill lived on a farm at Defiance, after their marriage, and moved to Randolph in 1942. They farmed four miles east of Randolph until Bill's sudden death at the age of 58 on September 28, 1977.

Sylvia moved into Randolph in 1981. They had two children, Rick and Nila. Rick was born February 6, 1950, and now lives at Malmo, Nebraska, where he works for Madena and Sons Corporation. He married Barbara Sherwood of Laurel, Nebraska, on September 21, 1984. Rick has three children, Melissa, Michelle and Mark of Randolph. Rick graduated from St. Frances Catholic High School in 1968 and farmed with his father.

Nila was born October 17, 1952, and graduated from St. Frances Catholic High School in 1970. She graduated from Northeast Junior College at Norfolk as a secretary in 1971. She was married to James Dickes of Hartington, Nebraska, on August 28, 1971, at St. Frances Catholic Church. They lived at Norfolk until 1978 when they moved to a farm two and one-half miles east of Randolph. They have two children, Melinda, and Angela. Melinda was born September 6, 1973, at Norfolk, and Angela was born October 3, 1978 at Osmond, Nebraska. Nila is a secretary at Osmond Hospital and Jim is a carpenter and sub mail carrier.

The family's favorite recreation was fishing, which was Bill's family's favorite pastime when he was growing up. That continued to be a favorite family vacation as Rick and Nila were growing up, making many happy memories. Sylvia Coenen

William and Janet Collier

William Collier was born at St. Davids, Scotland in 1863. He was a stone mason by trade. Janet Mackey was born in 1870 at Leslie, Scotland. William and Janet were married in 1889 in Dunfermline, Scotland. Their children were William H., James, Agnes, Robert, Andrew and Katherine. William and James worked in the coal mines until the family came to America.

The Colliers boarded the Baltic at Liverpool, England, for a two weeks ocean voyage to New York City. They traveled by train from New York to Randolph where they were to make their home on a farm.

Life in a strange country and especially on a farm was a new experience for the Colliers. In Randolph, they went to a café for dinner. Never having seen toothpicks, they were puzzled by the sticks in a glass on the table. When they arrived at the farm, they asked Aunt Libby why the wooden sticks were on the table.

One day, thirteen year old Robert called to his dad, "Come quick! A bunch of rats are eating a big pig!" When Robert's dad arrived at the barn he found a litter of new-born pigs having their first meal.

The Colliers' oldest son, William, worked on a farm near Sholes. He served in the army during World War I and met and married Jessie Edwards in Scotland. After the war they lived at Randolph, in New York, and later in California. They had three children, Isa Ann, Phyllis and William Jr.

Jim farmed with his dad for four years before going to work for Fred Muhm where he met his future bride, Hazel Muhm. They were married at the Muhm home and
farmed most of their lives. They had six children, Dorothy, twins Vera and Vena, Dean, Ruth, and Hugh, who died in infancy.

Agnes stayed at home until 1939 when her parents moved from the farm to Randolph.

She worked in St. Paul, Minnesota, for three years, until the death of her mother. She returned to Randolph to care for her father until his death in 1944. Agnes was a bookkeeper for Harold Sherwood and Paul Dittman for 28 years before her retirement.

Robert worked on the farm for a few years until the excitement of the big city called him to New York. He worked as a garage mechanic until his retirement when he moved to Florida where he resided until his death.

Andrew worked on the farm until he was eighteen years old when he enlisted in the army. He was stationed at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he met and married Wilhelmina Phillips. After Andrew’s discharge he worked in the post office until his retirement. Andrew’s and Wilhelmina’s children are Donald, William and Gene.

Katherine married Ed Lloyd in 1923. They had a son Roy. Katherine married Clarence Dorfler in 1926. They live in Oregon as do their two children, Jack and Betty.

The only members of the immediate family that are surviving are Agnes of Randolph and Katherine Dorfler of Oakridge, Oregon. Vena (Collier) Marreel

Nicholas and Margaret Colling
Nicholas Colling, son of Peter and Catherine (Delahamet) Colling (1840-1919), was born September 22, 1868, in Cascade, Iowa. Margaret Steiner, daughter of Nicholas (1841-1922) and Lena Kramer (1841-1913) Colling, was born April 13, 1875. On January 23, 1894, Nick and Margaret were married. They farmed for several years north of Randolph before moving to the farm on the south edge of Randolph, now owned and operated by their granddaughter and family, Eldred and Armella Bloomquist. There the boys bought and sold cattle and hogs. He had an office in town where the Winkelbauer elevator now stands.

Nick Colling raised a large family. The children were Peter, Kathryn, Cecilia, John, Viola, Mary, Nick, Dorothy, Florence, Sylvester, Irene, Margaret, Modesta, Delbert, and Vincent “Kent.”

Margaret Colling died June 11, 1938, and Nick Colling died in 1926.

Pete was born in 1895 and died in 1964. He had married Esther Swanson and farmed near Hartington.

Kathryn was born in 1896 and died in 1917.

Cecilia was born in 1897 and died in 1964. She taught school for many years, married Jake Stukel, and lived on a farm north of town before retiring and moving into Randolph.

John died at birth.

Viola was born in 1900 and died in 1946. She had married John Meyer and lived on the farm west of Randolph until her death.

Mary was born in 1901 and died in 1924. She drowned while on vacation in Colorado.

Nick was born in 1902 and died in 1978. He had married Ann Reding and farmed south of Randolph until retiring and moving into town.

Dorothy was born in 1905 and died in 1978. She had married Albert Sauser. They lived in Randolph all their lives.

Florence was born in 1907, married Russell Kiser, and lives in Omaha.

Sylvester was born in 1908 and died at an early age in 1916.

Irene was born in 1910. She married John Kelsch. They lived in Randolph until John passed away. She later married John Pock of Randolph.

Margaret, born in 1912, married Don Hoile (deceased) and is now living in Norfolk.


Delbert’s birthdate is unknown. He died at an early age.

Vincent "Kent," born in 1922, married Virginia Pape and is now living in Clayton, California.

All the Colling children went to school in Randolph and were members of St. Frances Catholic Church. Norma (Meyer) Stueckrath

Dr. Arthur E. and Mrs. Belle Cook
The Cook family was part of the history of Randolph for the first half of the 20th Century. Beginning in 1899, young Dr. Arthur E. Cook began practice here a year following his graduation from Sioux City Medical College.

The oldest of ten children born near Ponca to a homesteading Civil War veteran, and his wife, Dr. Cook exemplified the pioneer spirit of the fledgling state and town. In the early years he was a familiar figure on country roads driving a horse and buggy on his rounds.

A young bachelor when he arrived in Randolph, he boarded a train for Sioux City one July morning in 1899. He returned, in the evening, with a bride, the former Miss Belle Hosmer, a registered nurse at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Three children were born to the couple. The oldest, Dr. Stuart H. Cook, practiced medicine here with his father in the depression years before serving as a major with the Army Medical Corps in World War II. He later moved to Rock Rapids, Iowa. A daughter, Mrs. Alice Edlund, was a resident of New York for many years, and another son, Kenneth, was a long time newspaperman in Pasadena. He now lives in Huntington Beach, California.

Another member of the household was Miss Grace Hosmer, sister of Mrs. Cook, who resided with the family from 1900 until her death in 1927.

Mrs. Cook was among the victims of the influenza epidemic of 1918-19. In 1928 Dr. Cook married Mrs. Helen Buol who survived him in 1951.
Dr. Cook always took a keen interest in affairs of the community and was a member of the school board for many years. He was a long time active member of the Volunteer Fire Department. Dr. Cook was commanding captain of the Home Guard during World War I.

Dedicated to the medical field, he was a past president of the Nebraska State Medical Society and his influence resulted in third and fourth generation doctors and nurses in the family. He encouraged perhaps a dozen Randolph students to pursue medical careers.

Dr. James Cook, who was born in Randolph, the son of Dr. Stuart, is a physician in Asheville, North Carolina. Mrs. Nancy Moore, daughter of Kenneth, is a registered nurse in Aurora, Colorado. Nancy’s daughter, Deborah, is a student nurse at Long Beach State University in California.

Oscar and Bessie Coulter
This is the family history of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Coulter and their descendants.

My mother, Bessie Collier, was born to Elva and Daniel Collier on November 27, 1895. She had one brother, Clayton. At the age of 12, she lost her mother and she accepted the household duties as her responsibility from then on. She attended Randolph High School and was a star basketball player. She graduated with the class of 1915.

My father, Oscar Coulter, was born to John and Martha Coulter on October 23, 1897. He was the youngest of seven boys, the others being Rob, Jim, John, George, Fred and Ed. He had one sister, Anna. He graduated from Randolph High School with the class of 1917.

As a young man, my father learned, as an apprentice, to be a druggist. He worked at Obert and Walz Drug Store.

They were married on January 1, 1918. During the first year of their marriage, Oscar decided he liked the outdoors better than being inside all of the time and they started farming north of Randolph.

They were blessed with two daughters. Evelyn was born in January, 1919, and Vivian in September, 1920.

Evelyn graduated from Randolph High School in 1935 and Vivian in 1937.

In March, 1937, the family moved to Blue Earth, Minnesota.

In July, 1938, Evelyn was married to Louis Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyer of Randolph. They were the parents of seven boys and one girl. Evelyn died in June, 1970, at the age of 51, as a result of cancer.

In April, 1954, Vivian was married to Cord Laue in Blue Earth, Minnesota. They are members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Blue Earth. After three years of marriage, Cord was stricken by cancer. He had surgery, having his voice box removed. He uses an electronic device to talk and gets along very well.

Vivian and Cord have two daughters, Sharon and Kathleen. They have two granddaughters, ages two months and three years and one grandson, age twelve. Cord is an independent milk dealer.

Vivian worked full-time in a tape recorder factory for fifteen years. In 1982, she started working part-time. Most of her working hours are spent soldering and assembling parts.

Vivian’s mother and father did lots of traveling in their retirement years. In later life, her father spent quite a bit of spare time writing a story called "Memoirs of a Nebraska Farmer."

On January 1, 1978, Vivian’s parents celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with an open house celebration.

In October of the same year, her mother was admitted to a rest home in Blue Earth due to failing health. The following month her father died of a heart attack.

Two years later, in November of 1980, her mother passed away, never forgetting all of the fun times and also the not-so fun times she spent with her loving family. Vivian (Coulter) Laue

Horace and Estella Countryman
My dad, Horace Haud Countryman, married my mother, Estella Twogood, January 11, 1894, at Moville, Iowa, where both were born. Dad's parents, Louis and Sarah Countryman, came from Holland. Mother's parents were Sydney and Katherine Twogood. They resided in Moville for ten years before moving to a farm north of Randolph in 1904. Their home place was located eight miles north of Randolph where they farmed for 36 years. Dad added a big barn and a hog house to the farm which already had a large house and corn crib. He made most of his money by raising hogs but also had some chickens and cattle. His crops were corn, oats, and alfalfa.

Dad and mother had six children in their family: three daughters, Mrs. Erma Hensley of Modesto, California (deceased); Mrs. Irene Thies of Randolph; and Mrs. Ruth Wingett of Norfolk; two sons, Harold of Marysville, Washington; and Leonard of Salem, Oregon (deceased). One son, Kenneth, died in infancy. I taught school three miles from our home. I rode a horse the first couple of years then bought a new black roadster. Ruth also taught country school in the Randolph area.

Dad enjoyed reading in his spare time along with playing cribbage. Mother spent many hours in the garden, cooking, sewing, and caring for the children. Every Sunday we had company or went to visit relatives and neighbors. Arch Bacons, Charlie Bacons, and Will Lienbaugh came over quite frequently. Their wives were mother's cousins. The men played horseshoe and cards, but the women were never included. We always had to make ice cream in the winter and always a lot of popcorn. We went from home to Coleridge and from there to Sioux City on the train. From there, we continued to Correctionville to visit all the Twogood cousins. We also attended reunions in Iowa for 40 years.

Mother and Dad retired from the farm in 1940 and moved to Randolph where the Al Brandl’s family
presently resides. Mother passed away August 25, 1960, after a lengthy illness, at the age of 86. Dad passed away May 13, 1962, after spending a few months in the Coleridge Nursing Home. He was 91. They were members of the Methodist Church. Irene (Countryman) Thies and Eileen Thies

Roy and Lillian Crain

Roy E. Crain was born July 2, 1902, in Dixon, Nebraska. There were many families - from the Crain side to the French side. Usually their socials were with families, church, and school. He attended school to about the sixth grade since he was needed on his grandparents' farm. The family surname was originally Crane, but he changed it to Crain as there was another Crane family, and it made him mad to get their mail.

Dad's boyhood was pretty uneventful. I remember him telling me he took care of his two younger brothers from the time he was nine. As a boy, he worked hard on the farm, but he enjoyed himself, too. He fished and hunted and learned to use his hands making things. During the winter months, Dad and his brothers skated on a creek between Dixon and Concord.

As a young boy Dad learned to fix cars and became a mechanic for Ford cars. Any other make was an "off brand," and he always referred to them as such.

When he was grown, he worked in South Dakota at Mt. Rushmore, his brothers carving on the faces and Dad working in the power house.

In 1933 he met and married my mother, Lillian Thompson. I believe they met at a dance. They had three children: Bob, Merle, and me, Mary Margaret. They moved to Pender, and he worked for the Ford Motor Company there. From Pender they moved to South Sioux City where they raised us kids. During World War II, my father went to California to work. I remember two things about that: (1) we were so excited to have him home again, and (2) he so hated oranges. He had lived off them for several weeks in California!

After that he went to work at Win Charger in Sioux City and was there until the war ended. At that time he went back to working on Ford Cars, first in Sioux City and then at Ponca for O. N. Knerl and Sons.

He drove each day to Ponca, and during summer vacation he made a point of taking one of us kids with him. Usually it was during the Ponca State Fair. He always drove an old Model-A-Ford in the parade and has many pictures of that in his albums.

My father was a skilled carpenter and made many beautiful things for us: wooden toys, wooden wheels (which were impossible to get during the war), teeter-totters, and swing sets just to name a few. During two winters he worked on two different campers, starting from just wheel bases, and we enjoyed using them on trips to Colorado.

Dad made a gas-powered lawn mower before anyone heard of them, and again you'd see him out there laughing as the neighbors pushed theirs. Also, he made many parts for Ford cars to make them run even better.

In 1954 they moved to Crystal Lake outside of Sioux City. My mother finished nursing school and then ran Engleside Nursing Home. They enjoyed their jobs and their home, always planting a garden and taking care of us kids. When grandchildren came along, they were always special, and Mom and Dad delighted in the antics of the small ones.

Mother passed away in May of 1977. Dad not only lost his mate, but a very dear friend, each gaining strength from the other in so many ways. Mary (Crain) Hornby

James and Kathy Cunningham

James D. Cunningham, son of Dale and Jane (Dowling) Cunningham, was born and raised at Randolph. He received his education at Belden, Randolph and later attended Northeast Tech. at Norfolk. He managed a service station in Norfolk and now is employed at Madison Pork Plant in Madison.

He purchased a home in Norfolk In April, 1980. He has two sisters.

On September 6, 1980, he was married to Kathy Ann Korth of Norfolk at Christ Lutheran Church. Kathy is the daughter of Lorlan and Mildred (Vyhidal) Korth and has four sisters. Kathy graduated from Norfolk High School. She worked at Lady of Lourdes Hospital and the past eight years has been with Dale Electronics.

The couple has a daughter, Shauna Marie, born January 29, 1983. They live in the home Jim purchased and are active members of Christ Lutheran Church of Norfolk. They both enjoy softball as a pastime and Jim does a lot of umpiring. Jim plays on Bobo's team of Randolph. Kathy Cunningham

Gus Danbom

Gus Danbom, who was a brother-in-law of Roy Hall, built the first cistern in Randolph, located by the Boughn Hotel. It was built about 1886. Gus celebrated his 100th birthday in his own home, which he built at Hemingford, Nebraska. The whole town turned out to honor him. Mrs. CM. Schager

Theo R. and Elizabeth Davidson

Theo Davidson was born in Illinois, on December 25, 1869. He left his native state at the age of 20 and moved to Washington County, Nebraska. In 1883, he married Elizabeth Murphy.

Elizabeth Murphy Davidson was born August 29, 1867, at Joliet, Illinois, and when a young child moved with her parents to a homestead near Herman, Nebraska. She lived there until she married Theo Davidson.

The Davidson's moved to Randolph in 1894, and for many years resided on the home farm southeast of Randolph. Theo was a great lover of horses and he raised many fine draft animals that commanded top prices on the
market. He drove well-matched draft teams and took pride in taking good care of them. He also had fine cattle, at one time raising purebred Shorthorns. He took much pride in his well kept farm place.

The Davidson's were active members in the community and of the Methodist church.

Three children were born and educated in the schools at Randolph. They later attended college in Wayne. There were two daughters, June and Winefred, and a son Fern. The Davidson’s lived in Randolph for 31 years. In 1925, they moved to Walthill, Nebraska, and lived there for several years. They moved to Sioux City when their daughter June died and assisted with the care of her two young daughters.

June had died at the age of 37 leaving her daughters, Winefred and Beth, and her husband, W.A. Patton. Elizabeth Murphy Davidson died in Sioux City on September 27, 1928. Theo Davidson died at the home of his son Fern in Yankton on December 6, 1929. Mrs. Rex Brandt

Ralph and Pearl Daws

Ralph T. and Pearl (Philson) Daws, natives of Harlan, Iowa, were married December 23, 1903. They farmed near Harlan until 1908 when they moved to Randolph with three sons, Lyle, Howard, and Rex, on what is now the Ed Gerber farm just east of town. They had added Richard, Irene, Donald and Marjorie to their family when they moved onto an acreage in south Randolph in the spring of 1917.

Ralph enjoyed working with horses so he brought a team to town along with three ponies. He soon added about a dozen ponies and raised and sold them for a number of years. A familiar sight was the Daws children riding in their pony cart which easily held 6-8 children.

The family increased after moving to town adding Kenneth, Merle, Dale, Leone, Willard and Lucy May. The family has scattered to seven different states, and their children even farther. Irene married to Hilary Hosch, is the only member still residing in Randolph.

John Richard and Lotta Mae DeKay

The DeKay family traces its ancestry in America to Jacob T. DeKay, a director of the Dutch West India Company. He came from Holland to Fort Amsterdam (now New York) about 1630. He died in 1691 in New York.

Dr. Henry George DeKay of Lafayette, Indiana, is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Huguenot Society, which proves the ancestry to Ansiou de Cois of Picardy, France.

John R. DeKay was born June 2, 1863, in Forestburgh, Sullivan County, New York. In Ida Grove, Iowa, on April 29 1893, he married Lotta Mae Zimmer of Buffalo, New York. They both died in Randolph, John on January 8, 1926, and Lotta Mae on May 26, 1945.

The family came to Hoskins, Nebraska, in 1894, and moved to Randolph in 1895. John DeKay was a carpenter and plumber. Many times he was called out late at night for service work of all kinds not only in homes but also for the railroad. On many occasions he was called to service the Burlington passenger train (that came through Randolph at 10:00 PM) to repair steam and water lines. While John's main work was plumbing he was a millwright by trade and he helped build many elevators through the northwest, up as far as Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Basically his work was to set the scales (Fairbank-Morris) for these grain elevators. In those early years one had to do many kinds of work to make a living and support a large family.


Leona Fisher researched the family history and a book was published in 1974. H. George DeKay, J. Kenneth DeKay

Paul and Helen Delozier

Delozier's ancestors came from a peninsula in the Northwest part of France. This peninsula juts out into the Atlantic Ocean, just south of the English Channel.

Three Delozier men are said to have come to the United States and to have served in the Revolutionary War. Paul Delozier's great-grandfather went with his parents, in a covered wagon drawn by oxen, from South Carolina, to Tennessee, to join other relatives there.
Edward H. Delozier, Paul's great-grandfather, was born in South Carolina, in 1811, and died in 1876, at Calhoun, Missouri. James H. Delozier, Paul's grandfather and his grandmother, Eliza (Dodson) Delozier, were the parents of sixteen children. They resided near Calhoun, Missouri.

Wm. C. Delozier, Paul's father was born August 24, 1861, in Henry County, Missouri. He came to Nebraska in 1880, and settled in the Union area. He married Martha Jane Niday, (born March 4, 1870) on November 4, 1886, at Union, Nebraska. The family lived at Union and Bancroft before moving to the Randolph and Magnet areas in 1906.

Paul and his brothers and sisters attended the Magnet school until the family moved to a farm near Bloomfield, in the spring of 1923. Paul graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1928. He continued to help his mother on the farm after his father passed away in October, 1926.

On June 24, 1931, Paul and Helen Jacobson, daughter of Elmer and Lillie (Reiland) Jacobson, were married at Bloomfield. In the fall of 1933, the family, after suffering complete destruction of crops by hail, left the farm and moved to the Sholes area. They worked for Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schutt. In 1934 they moved into Randolph where they have since resided.

The children: Beverly, Duane, Joyce, Marlee and Kathleen, are graduates of the Randolph High School. Their mother also graduated from R.H.S. in 1929. She had stayed with her grandmother, Mrs. Philip Reiland, to attend high school.

Paul became a carpenter and contractor and built or remodeled various homes and farm buildings in the Randolph area. He always said remodeling gave him the most satisfaction. In August, 1966, he built a home in south Randolph for his family. His wife still resides there.

The couple observed their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 21, 1981, at the United Methodist Church in the Randolph area. They have since resided.

The children: Beverly and Dale Ballentine, Fullerton; Duane and Alyce (Schultze) Delozier, Broken Bow; Joyce and Cleo Karnes, Hartington; Marlee and Clifford Burbach, Carroll; and Kathleen (Kathi) and Ronald Meyer, Randolph.

Fifteen grandchildren include: Sheryl and Gary Ballentine; Todd and Richard Delozier; Joe (Jack) Karnes and Debra (Karnes) Konken; Dean Burbach, Lori (Burbach) Owens, Karla (Burbach) Korth, Connie and Sandy Burbach; and Melinda, Gregory, David and Paul Meyer. The addition of three grandson-in-laws increased the family to twenty-eight.

Paul passed away April 20, 1983. Helen Delozier and before the turn of the century they moved to a farm northeast of Randolph.

They lost a son who is buried in Ida Grove, Iowa. A daughter, Frankie Belle, was born in 1896. They were also the parents of twins, Charles Orval and Cora Olive.

In 1921, they bought a home and moved into Randolph. On December 21, 1927, Cora passed away. Charles and his daughter Frankie Belle, who was teaching school, continued their residence here and his father came to live with him.

Charles fell while working on a porch, and suffered a broken back and passed away May 21, 1936. Mrs. Dale Cunningham

Lester and Nellie Dowling

Lester and Nellie (Dewhirst) Dowling were married in a rural community in Iowa before moving to the Randolph area. They farmed for several years then moved into Randolph in 1954, when Lester worked as a custodian for the Randolph Public Schools. They are now both deceased.

Their children are: Evelyn Wahl of Napa, California; Lela Jones of Laurel, Nebraska; James Dowling of Wilder, Idaho; Kenneth Dowling of Martinsburg, Nebraska; Hilda Fox of Mt. Clemens, Michigan; Shirley Huey of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Leonard Dowling of Belden, Nebraska; Leo Dowling of Wayne, Nebraska; Genevieve "Genny" Hyatt of Norfolk, Nebraska; and Gladys Patent of Randolph.

Norton Hess Dowling

Norton Hess Dowling, a Civil War veteran, was born February 21, 1841 in Aiagrica County, New York. When he was fourteen years old, he moved with his family to Mendota, Illinois. On August 26, 1861, when he was 20 years old, he enlisted in the Union Army in Co. I, 55th 111 Inf. He was wounded and spent a year in a St. Louis hospital and later at a Chicago hospital. He received an honorable discharge from the service on January 28, 1863. He carried the scars of his wound to his grave.

He married Elmina Jenks on December 12, 1862 at Prairie City, Iowa. He farmed there for 17 years, then he and his family moved to Mountain Grove, Missouri. They had five children. Elmina passed away June 12, 1902 in Missouri.

Norton moved to Utica, Nebraska in 1903 and to Randolph in 1910. He spent the last years here, with his oldest son Charles William. He passed away at the age of 92 and is buried at Randolph. Mrs. Dale Cunningham

Fred and Minnie Druhe

Fred Druhe was born October 27, 1853, in Westphalia, Germany. He received his education in his native land. As a young man he was employed in a meat market. Fred was united in marriage to Minnie Alberg on April 6, 1877. Minnie Alberg was born in Westphalia,
Germany, on December 9, 1852. For five years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Druhe lived near Westphalia, where three of their children, Lettie, Lizzie, and Henry, were born.

In the early part of 1882, Fred came to America to prepare a home for his family. He settled near Fontenelle, Nebraska. His wife and three children joined him in October of 1882. One year later the family moved to Wayne County where the town of Carroll is now located. They farmed there until 1891 when they located four miles southeast of Randolph.

During this time the Druhes became the parents of five more children; William, Anna, Mary, Minnie and Emma. In 1903 they moved to a farm west of Randolph which was their home until they retired from active farming in 1910 and moved into Randolph.

Mr. and Mrs. Druhe were truly pioneers. They were here before the railroad and saw this section of the state emerge from a wild, bare prairie to an improved farming community. The family was hard working and thrifty. Nearly all their food was home grown. Some wheat was raised which was taken to the mill and ground into flour for family use. Like most of the early settlers, Fred planted many trees.

Members of the entire Druhe family were life-long members of the Lutheran church.

Minnie Druhe died at their home in Randolph in December of 1924. Fred Druhe died April 16, 1936, at a Norfolk hospital. Burial was at the Randolph Cemetery. Lois (Breding) Baird

John Dwyer

William Dwyer, the father of Jack Dwyer, was born in 1843 in Dwyer Hill, Canada. His father and uncles originated in County Cork, Ireland. His wife Annie Rooney was born in 1843 in Ottawa, Canada. Annie's father was born in Ireland, and her mother was born at sea, according to the 1900 Cedar County census.

William and Annie were married at Ottawa, Canada in 1865. Four children were born in Canada - Edward, Lena Jennie and Jack. They moved to Shelby County, Iowa, where five more children were born: Emma, James, Anna, Edith and Emmett.

In 1891 the family moved to Randolph, they settled on a farm five miles northeast of town. William passed away in 1897. Annie moved to town and lived in the house now occupied by Robert and Angelene Aschoff. Annie died in 1919.

Of the nine children, there were five girls and four boys. All of the girls taught school in the Randolph area. Only three Jack, Anna (Mrs. John Vinckel) and Edith (Mrs. Peter Liewer) remained in the Randolph community.

Jack Dwyer married Anna Vinckel on May 21, 1907. Anna was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vinckel; she was born in Clearwater, Nebraska. Jack and Anna's first home was on a farm six miles northeast of Randolph. In 1909 they moved to a farm one mile east of town.

They were the parents of eight children; Wendell, Jack, Louis, Cecelia, William, Marjorie, Mildred and James who died in infancy. Louis was the only one of seven children to remain in the Randolph area. He farmed the home place.

Wendell the eldest graduated from Creighton University in 1931, that same year he and Ruth Legg were married. They are the parents of four children.

Michael is married to Barbara Jensen. They have five children and reside in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sheila and her husband John Scates have two children and live in Mercer Island, Washington.

Debra is married to Dr. John Batjer, and lives in Mercer Island, Washington. They are the parents of three children: James and wife Janet have two children and also live in Mercer Island, Washington.

Wendell was a math instructor at Creighton University, manager of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Systems Analyst for Aerospace and finally Chief Scientist of Military Airlift Command. He remained in that position until his retirement in 1974. He passed away in 1977 in Mercer Island, Washington, where his wife Ruth is presently residing.

Jack was County Clerk of Cedar County from 1936-1942 when he entered the service during World War II. He and Helen Bruening were married in 1941. Four children were born to this union. Jay, a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Air Force and his wife Kathy have two children. Jay is presently stationed at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Kathleen, (Mrs. Dave) Holdorf, lives in Concord, Massachusetts. Kathy and Dave have two children. Margaret and her husband Dave Lukasek are located in Apollo Beach, Florida. Timothy and wife Cheryl live in Omaha, Nebraska. They are the parents of two children. After Jack was discharged from the service, he was manager of the Hartington Telephone Company until his death in 1964.

In 1945, Louis bought the farm from his father and remained there until 1981. He married Helen (Dendinger) Dwyer in 1950. They were the parents of four children: Daniel, Colleen, Joan and Karen. Cecilia taught school in Cedar County and Stratton, Nebraska. In 1941, she and Edward Boyle were married. Their first home was in Needles, California. Later they moved to Bakersfield, California where they presently reside. They are the parents of four children: Sheila Fry of Bakersfield and her husband, George, have four children. Rhea and husband Phil Strauser have one daughter and also live in Bakersfield, California. Jerry and wife Rowena are the parents of three children and live in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Colleen is married to Ken Albrecht; they live in Gainesville, Florida.

William was a Major in the Air Force during World War II and married Helen Dendinger in July 1943. They had one son, Patrick. William lost his life in the service on February 27, 1945.
Marjorie and Tom Masters were married in 1951. They had six children; John, Tom, Philip, Steven, Bill and Mary. Tom passed away in 1972 after a lengthy illness. Marjorie presently lives in Memphis, Tennessee.

In 1946 Mildred and Bill Burgel were married. Their children are Mary Donna, Bill, Dianna, James, Barbara and Christine. Bill Burgel passed away in 1956. Mildred is now married to Hal Rice and lives in Stanwood, Michigan.

**Louis and Helen Dwyer**

On April 17, 1950, Louis, the son of Jack and Anna (Vinckel) Dwyer, and Helen (Dendinger) Dwyer, daughter of James and Mayme (Abts) Dendinger, were married. Rev. Herman Kaup performed the ceremony at St. Frances Church.

Louis was born on the Dwyer farm on February 4, 1914. He attended St. Frances School and graduated from high school in 1931. After graduation he engaged in farming with his father. He purchased the family farm in 1945; several years later he bought the quarter across the road from his farm. This land had been owned by his Aunt Cecelia (Vinckel) Cochran.

Helen was born on a farm near Coleridge, Nebraska, on April 6, 1921. She attended grade school in the Prairie Hill, District #68, country school. In 1938 she graduated from St. Frances High School. She attended Grand Island Business College for one year. In May of 1939 she accepted a position with the Agriculture Adjustment Office in Hartington. Later she transferred to the County Clerk's Office. She was Deputy Clerk when she resigned in 1943.

In July, 1943, Helen and Major William P. Dwyer, U.S.A.F., were married. They were the parents of one child, William Patrick. In February, 1945, William lost his life in the Pacific area.

After Louis and Helen were married in 1950, they lived on the farm one mile east of town formerly occupied by Louis' parents. In addition to William Patrick, four more children joined the household: Daniel, Colleen, Joan, and Karen.

Patrick graduated from St. Frances High School, attended Creighton University, and graduated from Utah State University in Logan, Utah. He married Diane Bissing in 1968 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. They have two children: Douglas and Timothy. Patrick is a Fisheries Biologist in Bozeman, Montana.

Daniel attended St. Frances school and graduated from St. Frances High in 1969. Four years later he received his Master's degree from the University of Nebraska, Omaha. He has been employed at Boys’ Town and is presently engaged as a psychotherapist in Omaha.

Colleen, after graduating from Randolph Public High School, attended Creighton University. After her graduation from Creighton, she continued her studies at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and earned her Master's degree. Colleen and Jerry Morrissey were married in August, 1983. Presently Colleen is employed as a speech therapist in the Omaha Public School System.

Joan also graduated from Randolph Public High School. She attended Creighton University for two years, then transferred to Utah State University in Logan, Utah, and received her degree. She married Brent Dean, D.V.M., in 1977. They live in Pinedale, Wyoming, where they operate a veterinary clinic.

Karen, a graduate of Randolph Public High School, attended the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. After teaching one year in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, she married Ronald Kortan in July, 1982. They are living in Fremont, Nebraska, where Karen is employed as a Special Education teacher.

In 1971, Louis and Helen sold their livestock and farm equipment. They continued to live on the farm for ten years. In 1981, after all the children had "left the nest," Louis and Helen made plans for retirement. It had been a good life on the farm, but was time to look ahead.

They sold the farm to Paul Korth, and built a house in Randolph on the site formerly occupied by Cecelia (Vinckel) Cochran. This is their present home.

Since 1971, Louis has been employed as Cedar County Weed District Superintendent. Helen has been working in Dr. Billerbeck's office the past fourteen years. Helen Dwyer

**Kenny and Kathy Eberhardt**

My parents, John and Mary Pock, and my two sisters, Patty and Linda moved to Randolph from Sioux City, Iowa, in 1947.

I was born in Sioux City on December 23, 1949 on my sister, Patty's 12th birthday. I went all 12 years to Randolph Public School and graduated in 1967. In 1968 I attended the Weaver Airline School in Kansas City to become a reservationist. Some girl friends and I moved to Denver shortly after and lived and worked there until 1970. I then moved to Lincoln and worked as a secretary at I.D.s. and a waitress at the original Valentino's until April of 1972. It was then that I moved back home to Randolph and worked for my father as a bookkeeper at P. & M. Motor Company and that is when I started dating Kenny.

Kenny's parents were Leroy and Mardelle Eberhardt and they farmed by Randolph. Kenny was born on June 28, 1948, and has one sister Kay. He went to school through the eighth grade at District 54 at Pierce County. He then went to high school in Randolph and graduated in 1966. He enlisted in the Navy and served on the aircraft carrier USS Ranger during the Viet Nam War. Four years later, in 1970, he moved back home and farmed and worked in Osmond as a welder.

We started dating in September of 1972, and got engaged in February. On May 12, 1973, we were married in Randolph and then moved to Denver, Colorado. We both were employed with Coors Porcelain Company of Golden. I was employed until the arrival of our first
child; Kristin Ann. Kristin was born July 3, 1974. Kyle Lee, our second child was born November 19, 1976. Kenny then worked as a welder for Porta-Drill, and I was a full time homemaker.

In July of 1978, we moved to Norfolk, Nebraska, where Kenny went to work for Nucor Steel as a mechanic on a maintenance crew. We bought our own home in October of 1978 in the Western Heights area. I enjoy being a home-maker and I like being involved in volunteer work with the community, school and church projects.

Kory John, our youngest son was born on July 27, 1981, in Norfolk. Our children now 11, eight and one-half, and four are busy in school and pre-school along with lots of extra-curricular activities.

Kris links enjoys dancing, playing piano and bowling. Kyle partakes in every sport he can, likes playing the piano and participates in scouting. Kory likes doing things at the Y.M.C.A. Our family enjoys doing things as a family such as, camping, swimming, fishing, bowling, and playing cards and games.

Kenny and I are happy we grew up in Randolph, and feel Randolph has that small town atmosphere that brings everyone closer. We have many relatives and friends there who make it very enjoyable to go back and visit. Kathy (Pock) Eberhardt

Leroy and Mardelle Eberhardt

Leroy's grandfather, John Eberhardt, was born in Germany. He came to America, settling in Illinois. There he met and married Elizabeth Schaefer. William, Leroy's father, was born at Green Valley, on October 12, 1891. He came to the Randolph and McLean areas in 1916. On Valentine's Day in 1917 he and Emma Weyhrich were married. They moved to a farm south of McLean and lived there until retiring to Randolph in 1957.

They are the parents of four children: Willis, Leroy, Irene and Donald. Leroy was born on April 10, 1921. He attended school at District 54, Pierce County for eight years, the same school his mother had attended. He then went to high school in McLean, graduating in 1939. He farmed with his father until February 15, 1947, when he married Mardelle Johnson of Wausa, Nebraska.

Her parents were Martin and Esther Johnson. Mardelle was born at Wausa on September 5, 1927. She attended schools near Wausa and graduated from high school there in 1944. She went to Wayne State College and taught school near Wausa.

Leroy and Mardelle moved to a farm south of McLean. They were members of Hope Lutheran Church. When that church disbanded, they joined Thabor Lutheran at Wausa, where they had been married.

Two children were born to them: Kenneth on June 28, 1948, and Kay on May 15, 1952. They also went to school at District 54, making three generations who attended the same school. Both children graduated from Randolph High School with salutatorian honors, Kenneth in 1966 and Kay in 1970.

Kenneth joined the Navy, spending his service time in San Diego, Jacksonville, on the U.S.S. Ranger with stops at Hawaii, Philippines, Japan and in Hong Kong. He received his discharge in 1970. He then farmed and worked for a well company. In May of 1973 he married Katherine Pock. They lived in Denver and Norfolk. They have three children: Kristin, Kyle and Kory.

Kay went to Grand Island Business College, graduating in 1971. She found employment in Lincoln, where she met and married James Lehr. They have two children: Jason born April 1, 1976 and Dawn born February 18, 1979.

Leroy was a member of District 54 school board for many years and Democratic chairman for Allen Precinct in Pierce County for a number of years. In 1968 when the Randolph Rural Fire District was formed, he became a board member, retiring in 1985.

Leroy and Mardelle moved to Randolph in 1984. They are presently members of Thabor Lutheran Church at Wausa. Mardelle Eberhardt

Bill and Laura Eike

This all started in Pierce, when Laura Schulz met Bill Eike and touched off a courtship that lasted almost a year. Bill had come to the Pierce area, from Iowa, when a small child.

After working at various jobs, including learning the tinsmith trade, he went to work with a clothing company and his way of life was set. On May 4, 1910, Laura and Bill were married and in 1912, moved to Randolph. He purchased a clothing company and for fifty years, The Model Clothing Co., Wm. Eike, Proprietor, was a part of the Randolph business community.

Six children kept Laura busy but she still found time for church work and a social life that included being a charter member of the O.A.O. Club. The oldest Eike child entered school, and for twenty-six years there was an Eike attending school. During this time there was also an Eike (Bill) on the school board. He also planned and supervised construction of the first swimming pool in the City Park.

For many years Laura and Bill shared mutual interest in the out-of-doors and she often accompanied him on fishing expeditions. An ardent hunter and renowned wing shot, Bill joined with Dr. Kerley in introducing ring-necked pheasants to Northeast Nebraska. In the 1920's they shipped in twenty crates of pheasants from Washington State. After caring for them all winter, the birds were turned loose, and Northeast Nebraska was on its way to becoming the pheasant capital of the nation.

Through all of this, community service was a part of his daily life. In addition to helping organize the first Randolph Community Fair, he represented this area as Knight to the Royal Court of Ak-Sar-Ben.

The family, though retaining a close relationship, scattered to the four winds; Harold to Denver, Colorado, Leila to Houston, Texas, Lorraine to Auburn, California,
Marian to New Orleans, Louisiana, Delmar to Norfolk, Nebraska, and Doris to Minneapolis, Minnesota.

There are thirteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Bill passed away in 1962 and Laura followed him in 1976. Laura and Bill Eike were active and contributing citizens of Randolph for half a century. Lee Eike

"Vera" Veronica Elton

As I start writing this, it occurs to me that I am probably one of the oldest old time Randolphites still living. I was born on July 24, 1900, on, what at one time, was known as "The Bruner Farm" six miles northwest of Randolph. My father, Bernard Madison Bruner, and my mother, Eoline (Mailliard) Bruner, had moved to the farm from Lenox, Iowa, in 1896.

They were both born at Avon, Illinois, in 1859 and were married there in 1882. My sister, Mabel, who married Dr. Glen Peters, and my brother, Ernest, who married Beatrice Kimble were both born in Lenox, Iowa. I married Vernon Elton, but enough of the Bruners. We are not celebrating a Bruner centennial, but, rather a Randolph Centennial.

In 1905, my father sold the farm and moved into Randolph, buying a home in west Randolph, and a livery stable which was situated where the post office now is.

In those days, traveling salesmen came into Randolph by train and had to have transportation to get them into the countryside and to their prospective customers. Likewise, the local doctors needed transportation to call on their farm patients. So the livery stables were a necessary asset. When my father sold the livery stable, he went into the grain business, operating an elevator located on the Burlington tracks. He later acted as city assessor.

I remember the main city square. On the northeast corner was the Boughn Hotel. The bank is now located in that spot. Just east of the hotel was the opera house. Back then we had local little theatre and a new play with local talent, was put on about every six weeks. The opera house was also the place for dances. That was long before the dance pavilion was built at the ball park. There was always a home town band and I learned to play saxophone so I could be one of them.

The old opera house was finally demolished and replaced by my brother-in-law's (Dr. Peters) office. The building is now the V F W headquarters. Then there was the depot farther east. Just west of the tracks was a low spot which the city fathers filled with water in the winter time so we could skate. We also skated at the old mill pond, along the tracks about one-half mile north of town.

I remember the old post office. The postmaster's name was Stewart. It was located about three-fourths of a block west of the city square, on the north side of the street. Directly across the street was the Variety Store owned by my uncle, Eloy Mailliard. I remember Reed's creamery, a block or so south of the main square. I remember Obert & Walz drugstore on the northwest corner of the square.

Next west was the hardware store and on the second floor, the tailor shop operated by Harry Burke. On west, was the Kessler barber shop, then the meat market, then the bowling alley. Across the street, on the south side were the three banks, the general stores and the grocery store and restaurant - also the movie theatre, which at its beginning had been on the north side of the street.

An annual event was the Halloween Hunt. Groups were formed, captains appointed and in alternating years, the gents would hide and the ladies hunt, or the ladies hide and the gents hunt. Afterward, one of the churches would put on a big feed.

And above all, I remember the flu epidemic in 1918, which took the life of my sister, Mabel. I had graduated in 1917 and was in the second year of teaching at what was known as the Mabeus School four miles north of the Catholic Church. Never, will I forget the day when five of my pupils were stricken. I remember how it rained and rained and people died and died and died. I remember seeing Lee Brenner, the local mortician, driving an old Ford that looked like a spring wagon, through the mud on the road back of our home in west Randolph, with a rough box on the back of his vehicle and, I remember wondering, "Who has died now?"

Memories, memories, many so beautiful and many so sad. But there is no one, absolutely no one, who dare tell me they weren't the good old days. "Vera" Veronica (Bruner) Elton

Edward G. and Edna Evans

Edward and Edna Evans moved to Randolph in 1921 from what was known as the Welsh settlement area where they farmed several years and was located between Randolph and Carroll, Nebraska. Ed was very active in this community in musical activities. He formed a Welsh band and directed it, as well as a Welsh sextet and later a Welsh quartet. They performed and entertained at several celebration events and programs in the community and surrounding areas. His sextet performed on the Orpheum circuit and also on Bond drives during World War I.
After coming to Randolph he began to venture into auctioning and worked many sales in the local area. In 1937, he, with his son-in-law, John Atwood, went into the insurance business which they purchased from the Aegerter Insurance Agency. Then gradually his auctioning began to grow into a full time business for him. He was known as a prominent auctioneer in the community and surrounding areas and in many large sale barns in the western part of the state, where he worked for many years. He was the innovator of the use of the public address system to be used at livestock sales pavilions.

At the height of his auctioning career, he was invited twice to participate in the selling at the International Livestock Show in Denver, Colorado.

His wife, Edna, was very active in all kinds of church work in the Presbyterian Church. She also participated in the Randolph Woman's Club work and was an active member of P.E.O. Chapter, EA of Randolph.

They had one daughter, Claire, better known as Mrs. John Atwood. Edna Evans passed away on January 30, 1952, and Edward G. passed away on April 14, 1955. They are buried in the Randolph Cemetery. Claire (Evans) Atwood

Fox

Schuyler Colfax Fox, son of Casper and Maria (Wills) Fox, was born June 29, 1861, at La Porte, Indiana. When he was six weeks old his parents moved to Illinois where his father died. He and his mother and five brothers (James J., Frederick W., Jacob S., Casper A., and George J.) moved to Wayne County, Nebraska, in 1876 and lived there except for the ten years spent near Wausa.

Schuyler devoted most of his years to farming though he did drive the stagecoach for a time. He was one of the Midwest’s pioneers, of sterling character and recalled vividly the grasshoppers, blizzards and other hardships of pioneer days.

In 1891 he married Jessie Skiles. They had a son, Robert James Fox. In 1906 the family took residence in Randolph and lived in this community until 1922. Both he and Jessie are deceased.

Robert J. Fox graduated in 1910 with a class of seven. Graduation was held at the Opera House at Randolph. He attended Wayne State and met and married Anna Lackas. To this union four children were born. Robert did custodial work and for several years was manager of the Randolph swimming pool. In 1944 he and his wife moved to Kearney where he passed away in 1968.

Quillen Fox (eldest child) graduated from Randolph High School with the Class of 1934. He enrolled at Wayne State and was a member of the football, track and boxing teams. He taught schools in Winside, Nebraska, and Lawton, Iowa, before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He served on active duty in the Pacific for five years, and continued to serve in the Naval Reserves until his retirement in 1965.

Since 1970 he has taught physical education and coached basketball and softball in the Chicago Public Schools. Quillen married a college classmate who was killed in an automobile accident.

In 1945 he married Phyllis Kendall and they have three daughters and five grandchildren. He and Phyllis recently attended his 50th class reunion held at Carroll, Nebraska.

Audrey (Fox) Headlee (second child) attended the Randolph Schools and graduated with the Class of 1936. She attended Wayne State and taught schools in Cedar, Wayne and Buffalo Counties. Since 1944 she and her husband have lived at Kearney, Nebraska. Audrey and her husband attended her 40th class reunion held at the Wagon Wheel at Laurel and also attended church services at the Randolph Methodist Church. Both are now retired and enjoy their two children and two grandchildren.

Estel Fox (third child) attended the Randolph Schools and graduated with the Class of 1938. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and as a 1st Class Musician played in various countries of the world. While stationed in England he married. He is retired from the Navy with 21 years of service and 24 years with Caterpillar in Aurora, Illinois. He and Audrey attended his 45th class reunion and the alumni meeting held at Randolph at the West Randolph Ballroom. Estel has four children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Gerald Fox (youngest child) attended the Randolph Schools and graduated with the Class of 1940. After graduation he worked for McLean's Dry Goods Store. In 1942 he enlisted in the Armed Forces. While serving overseas he was wounded and spent many days in the hospital. He was discharged from the Armed Forces in 1945. Gerald married Ida Hallberg and was manager of the Midway Hotel at Kearney, Nebraska. Later he moved to Cozad, Nebraska, where his two children were born.

After Ida's death he married Beth Hegg. He and Beth are both retired and plan to fish and travel and spend time with his five grandchildren.

Frederick Wm. and Anna Fox

Frederick Wm. Fox was born in Marshall County, Indiana, June 11, 1851. When he was twelve, the family moved to Illinois. Here he met and married Anna Catherine Bryant, daughter of Raymond and Mary (Williams) Bryant, on the 17th of December 1876. In 1878 they moved to Wayne County, Nebraska, where Frederick's mother and five brothers had gone earlier in the 1870's. His brothers were James J.W., Jacob S., Casper Allen, Schuyler C., and George J. Fox. Frederick's mother died in 1924 at the age of 97. She and several of her sons are buried in the cemetery in Wayne.

Anna's mother, brother Edwin D., and sisters Nancy Bryant Jones (Mrs. Benjamin A.), and Jane Bryant Aird (Mrs. Lewis W.), and families, joined the Fox family in Cedar County Nebraska, sometime after 1880. Mary
Aunt Mat," came to er of the Odd Fellows o them on age at Fort Ord, California, -

Family Histories Submitted for the 1986 Centennial History Book

...they lived with Mayo's father, Theodore and Elizabeth Ann. The oldest, Franklin Leroy, was born in 1878 in Wayne County. Three more children were born on a farm five miles east of Randolph, which was acquired under the Revised Timber Culture Act of 1873. They were Clyde Wm., Myrtle M., and Frank Elmer, 1889.

In 1891 the Fox family moved to Belden where Frederick operated a store. Daughter Mary Alice was born in December 1891. Three years later the family moved to Randolph and operated what is said to be the first bakery. This business was destroyed by fire in 1902 and Frederick became city engineer and ran the old steam pumping plant until a modern electric plant was installed. He was later engaged in the flour and feed business for ten years. This was his last business venture.

Frederick was a charter member of the Odd Fellows Lodge in Randolph.

In 1927, his wife having died in 1908, he and his daughter Myrtle moved to California, where Leroy and Clyde had gone with their families in 1922. Frederick died in 1934 and is buried beside his wife in the Randolph Cemetery. Myrtle died in California in 1973 and is buried beside her parents. She never married but cared for her father until his death.

Leroy married May C. Dolen in Randolph, December 28, 1904. One son, Louis Leroy, was born to them on February 17, 1906, in Randolph. Leroy worked as a carpenter and later in the lumber and building supply business in California until the Depression. Then he drove a delivery truck until retirement.

Clyde Wm. married Mattie Fern in Omaha on August 8, 1905. They had no children. Clyde retired from a police force in California. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1955 and were active church members and flower gardeners during their retirement years.

Elmer married Clara Hendrickson on November 30, 1916, in Iowa. They had two children, Eugene Bryant, and Elizabeth Ann. After the loss of his wife in 1935, he married Jessie V. Shinn in 1942. Elmer graduated from Randolph High School in 1908, played semi-pro baseball for Randolph, and attended Wayne College. Later he graduated from Iowa State College in 1915. He taught in agricultural colleges for more than thirty years as a poultry professor. He later moved to Oregon in 1921.

Mary Alice married Lee Sellon in 1924 and they lived and raised their family in Randolph. Elizabeth Kent

Marvin L. Frederick

Marvin L. Frederick was born January 19, 1938, to Mayo and Bernice (Greeno) Frederick on a farm two and one-half miles north of Randolph. When Marvin was two years old the family moved one fourth mile north where they lived with Mayo's father, Theodore. Marvin attended school at District 58 East. In 1945 the family moved to a farm south of McLean and moved back to the home place in 1947.

Marvin recalls the winter of 1948 when he walked to town with his granddad when the snow was as high as the telephone wires. No cars moved up the Mill Road for six weeks.

Marvin belonged to a Soil Conservation Club and the Eagle Valley 4-H Club where he participated in swine and beef raising projects. Marvin fed feeder lambs through the Sioux City FFA Junior Western Lamb project taking top honors. He remembers raising 16 feeder lambs his first year and losing $50. The second year he had 32 lambs on which he made a $150 profit.

After graduating from Randolph High School in 1956, he worked for two years as a farmhand for Howard and Lowell Weber. Then for two years he worked at the Randolph Hatchery. In 1960, Marvin married Eudene Manzer. The marriage was dissolved in 1972. To this union two sons were born. Mark was born in 1963. He now resides at home and helps with the farming operation. Eric was born in 1968. He is presently a senior at Randolph High School.

In 1961, Marvin spent one year at Fort Ord, California, in the Army National Guard. In 1962, he returned to Randolph to begin farming. He rented farmland from his parents which he purchased from them in 1975.

On July 21, 1973, Marvin married Randolyn Cox of Foster, Nebraska. Randy is the daughter of Rex and Vivian (Wachholtz) Cox. Randy received her early education at Foster Dist. 30 and her high school education at Osmond Public School. In 1968, she attended CE Business College in Omaha and returned in 1969, to work at the Osmond General Hospital. She worked for Dr. A.E. Mailliard from 1970 until his death. She then went to work for Dr. Dave Johnson until 1974.

Marvin and Randy had one daughter, Amy Jo, born February 19, 1975. Amy is now in the fifth grade at Randolph.

The Frederick family is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Randolph. They run a farrow-to-finish hog operation along with their cow-calf herd.

Theodore and Julia Frederick

Theodore Frederick came to Randolph, Nebraska, as a young man of 27, in February, 1903. He brought with him his bride of only two months; Julia (Petty) Frederick. Theodore was the eleventh child of fourteen children born to Theodore and Henrietta (Burr) Frederick of Allentown, Illinois.

Young Theodore followed a sister and two brothers to Randolph and purchased a quarter of land from John Albers in 1903, which is now farmed by a grandson.

Soon the family grew and Mayo, Ivo, Leo, Cleo and Charley were born. His wife Julia died at a young age and a sister, Martha, known as "Aunt Mat," came to help him raise the children. Charley was a baby at the time...
and was raised by another sister, Celinda and her husband, Charles Howell.

Theodore was a hard worker and good farmer and soon was able to make improvements on the farm. In 1914 a large barn was built and in 1916 the present two story house was built. The house was equipped with its own generator for electric lights.

Theodore took an active part in development of the community, serving as director of school district 58, Pierce County, for many years, where his children and some of his grandchildren received their education. He was a director of the Farmers State Bank of Randolph, and was a member of Modern Woodman for many years. He attended and supported the Methodist Church.

His children and grandchildren remember him for his large fruit orchard with plum, cherry, apple and walnut trees, and his large strawberry patch.

Theo raised lots of hogs and shorthorn cattle. He farmed with horses all his life and when tractors came into use most of the farming was done by his sons. In 1946, Mayo and family moved back with Theo and took over the farming. Theo retired but still enjoyed daily trips to town for coffee with the men and when the roads were bad he would walk to town for supplies and the mail.

Theodore died September 8, 1956, at the age of 80. He was preceded in death by his wife, and one son, Ivo. Mayo died in 1976. Charley resides in Randolph, Leo in Modesto, California, and Cleo Rinehart (Mrs. Elary) lives in Wayne, Nebraska. He had eight grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Clifford Frederick

Marie Frost

I was born in Pocahontas, Iowa, on May 8, 1897. My father, Barney Schmaing, was a foreman for the Great Northern Railroad. He and my mother, Anna, had ten children - four boys and six girls. My father was German and my mother, whose maiden name was Stegge, was Irish and German.

I grew up in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and went to a parochial school there. We had a nice house, provided by the Railroad, which was lit by kerosene lamps. Each Friday I went with my mother to the Farmer's Store for groceries, pulling a little red wagon with wooden spokes. My father built up the sides to hold the sacks of flour, sugar, etc. Every Saturday I rode with my dad on a hand car to inspect the railroad tracks, often stopping at a farmer's house to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, especially sweet corn. Also on Saturdays the bigger children in the family had to help pump water from the well for our weekly baths, which Mother heated in a boiler on a black stove in the kitchen, using corn cobs for fuel. Each Saturday, also, Mother made bread and rolls, which smelled delicious and were so good to eat.

When I was ten, my dad took a summer's leave of absence from the railroad, and we moved to Fromberg, Montana, where the entire family (except for the two youngest children) worked in the sugar beet fields. It was very hard work. We labored from early morning until evening, thinning sugar beets on our hands and knees. There was sadness there, too. My sister Margaret, a year older than I, died the summer we lived in Framberg.

That fall my dad went back to work as a foreman for the Great Northern Railroad, and we moved to Bridger, Montana, where we stayed for quite some time, Mother continuing to bake her bread with corn cobs as fuel because she wouldn't burn kerosene in her kitchen.

Later Dad was transferred to Barnesville, Minnesota, where we lived on a farm. We then moved to Ledgerwood, North Dakota, then to Great Falls, Montana, and later to Hingham, Montana, where Mother operated a restaurant with my help.

That's where I met my husband, Phil Frost, who managed the Farmer's Store in Hingham. We were married January 12, 1914. We had eight children: Bill, Joseph, Agnes, Lucille, Lorraine, Gari, Joan, and Rita. All of the children, except Lucille, were born at home with the help of a midwife and doctor. Joseph and Agnes died in infancy.

We lived in Montana and in Fargo, North Dakota, before moving to Omaha, Nebraska, in March of 1920 where Phil worked at a store in Omaha and later for a floor sanding company. During the Depression years, there was not much work, but, like others, we managed to survive even though food was rationed. I made all the children's clothing (material was 15¢ a yard then), and I drew all my own patterns. I also did a lot of canning.

Even though we didn't have a lot of money during the Depression, I kept the children neat and clean and well fed, and I think they all turned out to be pretty nice children. I now have 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, and I love them all.

When my children were grown and I was alone (Phil died in 1968), I began taking care of other children when their parents were out-of-town. I did this until I was 85 years old. During that time I went into many homes, some of the nicest in Omaha, and met many wonderful people.

In May, 1984, when I was no longer able to live alone because of my back problems, I moved from Omaha to Colonial Manor in Randolph. My daughter Rita Bartels lived here then. I like Colonial Manor very much. Everyone has been nice to me. This is my home now, and I plan to stay here. Marie Frost

Doug and Cheryl Gansebom

Cheryl Anne was born two years after her sister, Carmen, to James and Loraine (Thelen) Backer on February 25, 1950, at Norfolk, Nebraska. The family lived on a farm near Sholes, Nebraska, from the time Cheryl was born, until moving nine miles southwest of Randolph in the spring of 1953. Cheryl attended school at District 68 from 1955 to 1960 when her parents moved to a farm closer to Randolph. Her parents currently reside...
on this farm. The local school, District No. 28, S.W. consolidated with Randolph Public Schools that year. Cheryl belonged to A and E Girls 4-H Club and Randolph Saddle Club. She graduated from Randolph High in 1968, and attended a technical school in Denver, Colorado.

Cheryl married Jack Munter in the spring of 1969, and lived in Norfolk, Nebraska, where their son, James L., was born November 7, 1969. They also lived at Kearney, Nebraska, where Jack attended college. Cheryl returned to Randolph in 1971. Cheryl and James lived in Norfolk from 1974 to 1982.


Their son, Beau Douglas, was born August 20, 1984. Cheryl and her family reside on a farm three miles south of Osmond, Nebraska.

**Clarence A. and Selma Grant**

Clarence A. "Art" Grant, born May 11, 1889, at Cherokee, Iowa, son of David S. and Lottie Grant, came to the Coleridge area with his parents in 1898.

Selma, daughter of Swan E. and Inger Strom, born April 11, 1899, at Pender, Nebraska, came to Randolph with her parents as a small girl. She spent her girlhood on the family farm, attended Eagle Valley School and, after a couple of years, operated a dressmaking shop at Wausa.

She married Art at the Strom home on March 31, 1911. They immediately took up a homestead north of Ardmore, South Dakota, where they stayed until they "proved up". Their first son, Richard, was born there, but died at seven months. They sold out the homestead for $480.00 and returned to Randolph where they rented a farm near Mclean. Their second son, Dallas, was born in 1914. They purchased 160 acres on the Mill Road six miles north of Randolph from Hans Jacobson and remained there until 1935.

A combination of depression, drought, and a disastrous hailstorm forced them off the farm at that time, but there were some good years, too. Five children were born there, namely, Grace, Kenneth, Frances, Wallace, and Donald. All attended Eagle Valley School.

Art farmed and fed cattle and also had the dealer shop for Whippet and Willys Knight cars and Willys and Studebaker trucks with a garage in Magnet. For a couple of years, he had four gravel trucks on subcontract to the State graveling roads.

Selma was very proud of her flock of Purebred Rhode Island Reds. Art bought the first Farmall tractor in the area in 1927, and his first attempt at corn cultivation attracted a large audience. Most spectators were surprised when the thing worked.

After leaving the farm, Art worked for a time as salesman for Gibson Motor Company until the family moved to Idaho in 1936. Art wound up his career as a carpenter and paint contractor in Long Beach, California. He died in 1953 at age 64.

Selma worked at food processing and hospital work until her retirement, spending her later years living with her daughters, Frances and Grace. She died in 1984 in Nampa, Idaho, at age 95. She left 85 direct descendants. Art and Selma are buried in Kohlerlawn Cemetery at Nampa, Idaho.

Dallas married Clara Adams and is now retired and living at Ryderwood, Washington.

Grace, RHS 1932, married Art Jerome of the Pearl Creek area and is now retired and living at Caldwell, Idaho.

Kenneth, RHS 1936, married Edith Hancock and is now a retired railroader and operates a general store at Ryderwood, Washington.

Frances, with her husband, Dick McLaram, is still farming at Melba, Idaho.

Wallace, deceased, was a crane operator.

Donald is a sheet metal contractor in Anchorage, Alaska, where his wife, Jane, also runs a jewelry store.

**K.D. Grant**

**David Solomon Grant**

David Solomon Grant born January 29, 1860, at Kirksville, Missouri, spent his younger years in Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri. He met and married Lottie Moore at Lyons, Nebraska, in 1883.

They came to the Coleridge area in 1898 and lived in the general area of Randolph thereafter. Lottie died in 1914 after having borne five sons: Earl, Walter, Art, Clinton, and David, and one daughter, Bessie, who later married Leander Bridenbaugh of Coleridge. Of these children, one son, David, was killed in a railroad accident at the age of 23. One son, Art, lived for many years on a farm six miles north of Randolph on the Mill Road after selling out his acreage near Sholes.

Mr. Grant retired and lived with the Art Grants until 1935. For a time about 1921 he operated a truck in the Randolph area; otherwise, his occupation was operating a steam threshing rig. He was proud of the fact that he had not missed a harvest season for fifty years prior to his retirement in 1932. For several years prior to retirement, his threshing runs were in the Magnet and McLean areas. A tall, powerful man with rugged features, including a glass eye on the left side, he was possessed of a short temper and it was said he could swear for two minutes without using the same word twice. Nevertheless, he was a colorful character and had many friends. He died at Nampa, Idaho, in February, 1936, and is buried beside his wife and son, David, in the Randolph Cemetery.

**K.D. Grant**
Harry and Frieda Grau  
John and Irma Grau

My grandparents spent half their lives in the Randolph community. Harry J. Grau (1861/1943) and Frieda (Sievert) Grau (1867/1945) were born, raised, married in 1887 and farmed for fifteen years in Iowa. In 1902 they bought the home farm five miles northwest of Randolph and lived there until 1919 when they retired to a home on Hughson Street in Randolph. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary at that residence in 1937.

Four sons and seven daughters were born into the family: Henry, Lydia (Mitchell), Sarah (Marsh), Frieda (Walker), John (my dad), Elmer, Mildred (Richl), Gertrude (Sellon), Hilda (Stageman), Charles and a daughter who died in infancy. My Aunt Mildred is the only survivor of this large family and she now makes her home in Arkansas. There were twenty grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Some still reside in Wayne, Norfolk and Osmond.

My three sisters, Evelyn, Waunetta, Bonadelle, and I were born near Randolph. I attended a country school for three years before our family moved to South Dakota for a time. On our return to Nebraska, I started high school at Randolph and after two and one-half years we moved to Pierce.

My mom, the former Irma Helms, resides in her own home in Silverton, Oregon. My dad passed away in 1981. My parents had celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary the prior year. My husband and I return to northeast Nebraska to visit cousins and friends still living in the area.

On one of the last trips to the Randolph community we made a tour of the former Grau and Helms family farms. Buildings on the Helms farms have been razed, but the Grau family residences are still there and all brought back many memories. Millison (Grau) Rosburg

Although their history at Randolph is only some 65 years old, their ancestry can be traced as far back as 1850 and as far away as Germany.

Nicholas Greiner was born May 8, 1850, in Germany. In the early part of life he left behind family and friends to come to America. He settled around the Panama, Iowa, area where on January 16, 1877, he became the husband of the 19 year old daughter of Peter Ohlinger, Anna.

Nicholas and Anna were parents of ten children: Angela, Catherine, Peter, John, Henry, Mary, Anna, Rose, Lizzie, and Nicholas. Farming was the trade of Nicholas until his death in Council Bluffs on February 4, 1927, at the age of 77. His loving wife Anna followed his death in 1937 on June 2 at the age of 79.

Their son, Nicholas, was the first permanent family resident in the Randolph area. He was born July 9, 1889 in Shelby County, Iowa. After leaving Iowa to come to Nebraska, he worked at several locations in central Nebraska and served in the military during WWI. He then moved to a family farm in the Randolph area in the early 1900's. Being a single farmer, he required the help of a widowed housekeeper by the name of Marie (Buthala) Smith. In time they fell in love and were married on April 23, 1923.

Together they raised a family of four: Lorraine (Mrs. Joe Rohloff), Alfred, Lester, and Lola (Mrs. Keith Martindale of Golden Valley, Minnesota). Nick and Marie lived out the rest of their lives in Randolph. The family farm where all the children were raised was lost in the Great Depression but the farming spirit continued with the purchase of a farm between Randolph and Sholes which still proudly retains the Greiner name. Nicholas entered eternal rest on February 22, 1970, at the age of 80. Marie continued her life for another ten years until April 16, 1980. Both are fondly remembered as they lay resting in the St. Frances Cemetery.

The work of the family farm continued still another generation with Nick and Marie's eldest son, Alfred. After his duty in the Army during WWII, he returned home to his new bride Shirley Hoeppner, daughter of Louis and Mary (Reimer) Hoeppner of Osmond. Together they raised a family of five sons and one daughter: Robert, Michael, Douglas, Nancy, Steven, and Daniel. Together this generation has added 15 more members to the family.

In 1978, Alfred and Shirley left the farm to move to their new home in town. Lester and Lorraine are still residing in Randolph as well as the family of Douglas. We, who carry the Greiner name, feel love for this small Nebraska town. Our lives and dreams started there and our memories of our childhood since the 1920's are centered around Randolph. We are very proud of our name and the history that it carries as well as the town in which it happened. We wish it many more years of happiness for all who, as we, remember it lovingly. Dan Greiner

Alfred and Shirley Greiner

The Greiner family has been a proud part of the history of Randolph since the early 1920's. Their loving devotion and hard work to the farming industry is the basis on which their lives were centered.
James and Mabel Gries

James W. Gries was born in Jackson County, Iowa, on June 12, 1881. He spent most of his boyhood years around Shelby, Iowa. James died in 1944.

Mabel Roland Gries was born August 27, 1885. She died June 18, 1970. They are both buried in the Randolph Community Cemetery.

They were married March 22, 1905, in Portsmouth, Iowa. They lived around the Tennant, Iowa, area until 1908. Then they moved to Belden, Nebraska and later to their farm north of Randolph where they lived for 23 years. In 1934, they moved to Randolph due to James' failing health.

For 15 years, James W. and sons operated a trucking firm out of Randolph. Each of their sons was associated with the trucking firm at some time. Mr. Gries built a service station on Main Street in Randolph in 1939. Before that he worked in another service station in Randolph.

James and Mabel were the parents of seven sons and one daughter. Deceased are: Alvin, Leonard, Frank, Clayton and Howard. James and Gaylord presently live in Norfolk, Nebraska. Gladys (Gries) Lenzen lives in Sioux City, Iowa. Maxine (Gries) Marshall

Denman Griffith

Mr. and Mrs. Denman Griffith left Pierceton, Indiana in 1878. They settled in Iowa for awhile and then came to Randolph by wagon. The Griffith family experienced the terrible blizzard of 1888. Their children were: Stella, Elmer, and Orville who came with them, and Leonard and Chloe who were born at Randolph. Chloe was born in 1892. The Griffiths lived north of Randolph.

Their first mail delivery was in 1903 on Route #3 and their first mailman was Mr. Earl Hadley. Chloe attended Wayne Normal College and taught school north of Randolph. Chloe, the wife of the late James D. Coulter, is now living in her own home at Norfolk, having moved there from Randolph in 1967, where she had lived for 75 years. She was 93 in September, 1985.

Their children are: Mrs. Clarence (Blondelle) Albrecht of Elroy, Wisconsin, Mrs. Richard (Onalie) Nordhues of Norfolk, Mrs. Paul (Glyde) Hisey of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Mrs. Gilbert (Lois) Brummels of Hartington, and Mrs. Omar (Gloria) Smith of Norfolk. All of the children attended the Mabeus elementary school, Dist. #38 N.W., three miles north of Randolph. Chloe has 20 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The late James Coulter lived over 50 years in the Randolph area. He died in 1942. He was the son of the late John and Martha Coulter. They were a family of nine children: Robert, John, Fred, Edward, George, James, Anna, William and Oscar. Richard Nordhues

Cyril John and Mary Gubbels

Cyril Gubbels was born December 29, 1913, at Hartington. He was the son of Peter and Mary (Meyer) Gubbels who were both born in Iowa. Cyril grew up on a farm near Hartington and attended school there. He was one of twelve children.

Casper and Dorothy are both deceased as are his parents. Ray, Francis, Irene Solberg and Maria Lammers are all of Hartington; Louis of Beaudette, Minnesota; Deloris Nissen of Osage, Iowa; Martin of Sioux City, Iowa and Margaret Korth of Randolph.

Cyril met Mary Sauser and married her on April 29, 1935, at the St. Frances Catholic Church of Randolph. Mary's parents both came from Luxemburg, Germany, and were married in Randolph. Mary grew up on a farm and attended school in Randolph. She had six brothers and a twin sister. Her parents and brothers Nick, Albert, and Arnold are deceased. Henry, Leonard, and Herbert live at Randolph, and Loretta Ulrich lives at Sherwood, Oregon.

Cyril and Mary moved to a farm near Hartington. After two years of drought and grasshoppers in the fall of 1936, they moved to a ranch at Bassett. In 1938, they moved back to a farm near Randolph. In 1960, they moved into Randolph, leaving two sons on the farm. Cyril worked at Al Sauser's filling station and Mary worked at Pock's bakery and restaurant.

In 1962, their son Gene lost his arm in an ensilage cutter in an accident so they moved back to the farm. In 1967, they had a sale and bought a home in Randolph. Cyril worked at Dennis and Gubbels fertilizer plant and also Terra. Mary worked at Johnson's Clothing Store. In 1970, Cyril and son Gene bought a grain elevator in Carroll. Mary worked at Wattier's Grocery and also helped out at the elevator. In 1978, Cyril sold his interest to Gene and became semi-retired doing many jobs.

The Gubbels are parents of seven children. Beverly married Vernon Loberg, a trucker, and they have thirteen children. They live at Randolph. Gene married Linda Pock. They own a grain elevator in Carroll. They have three children and live in Randolph. Rosalee married Joe Nordhues, a farmer. They have eight children and live near Randolph. Larry married Barbara Sukup, a nurse. He is assistant manager of a Ford garage and they have two children. They live in Douglas, Wyoming. Luvern married Joyce Becker. Both of them are Catholic school principals. They have two children and live in Omaha. Roger married Connie Reiggs. He is a tool and dye operator and she is a college counselor. They have two children and live in Kansas City, Kansas. Pat married Patti Slattery. He is a bridge foreman and she teaches at Norfolk Tech. They have two children and live in Norfolk. All the Gubbels children graduated from St. Frances school except Luvern who graduated from the seminary at Elkhorn. He attended two years at Conception Missouri. Four of the sons were in the service. Gene spent two years in Texas and New Mexico.
Larry and Roger were in Germany. Pat was shot in Vietnam and received an honorable discharge. Cy and Mary celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph in 1985. They have thirty-two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Duane and Patty Gubbels

It was one of the hottest days of the year when Duane and I were married on August 3, 1959. As was quite customary in those days, we were married in the morning. St. Frances Church provided the setting for the ceremony, with the reception being held outdoors in the afternoon at the home of my parents. A dance was held that evening at the Randolph Ballroom.

Duane was born in Randolph to Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Gubbels, on November 19, 1939. I was born in Sioux City, Iowa, to Mr. and Mrs. John Pock on December 23, 1937. We moved to Randolph when I was nine and one-half years old.

After a short wedding trip to Colorado, Duane and I made our home in a basement apartment in Omaha, Nebraska. Duane worked at a serum plant in Ralston, while I was a secretary at McMillan Jr. High School in Omaha, having worked there since the summer of 1958.

In January 1960, we moved back to Randolph and farmed for eight years. During our years on the farm we became the parents of four children. June was born June 7, 1960; Barbara on May 22, 1962; Mark on February 19, 1966; and Dean on February 1, 1968. All of the children were born at the Osmond Hospital, with Dean being especially impatient and arriving only one-half hour after we checked in. Our social life on the farm consisted of belonging to various card clubs which we enjoyed very much.

Occasionally, we would take in a dance at the local ballroom. In January 1968, we had a farm sale and moved to West Point, Nebraska, where we bought a home. Duane went to work for a feed company as a salesman. It was in West Point where our fifth and youngest child was born. Karen made her appearance on January 18, 1972.

During our years in West Point we became very active in the Jaycee organization. Duane was president of the Jaycees from May 1971 to May 1972. I was president of the Mrs. Jaycees Group from May 1970 to May 1971.

While living in this community, I spent some of my weekends working as a waitress at the Vet's Club. Working there was especially enjoyable when they would have a dance band play on Saturday night. While we lived in West Point, Duane went into the construction business.

He, along with his brother, Ron, built and sold a house in West Point. November of 1975, found us making another move; this time to Norfolk, where we are presently residing.

Since moving to Norfolk, Duane has been in the construction business. I worked for the J.C. Penney Company for six years until February 1985.

The sorrows we have faced were: Duane having a brother die in the Vietnam War; I lost my mother in 1978; and Duane lost a sister the same year.

As I write these words, our eldest daughter, June, lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, Jim, and their daughter, Joy. Barbara lives in Dallas and Mark, Dean, and Karen live at home.

As Randolph celebrates its 100th birthday, I feel fortunate to have grown up in a small, friendly town. All of the cultural advantages of a large city cannot compare with this special "way of life". Patty (Pock) Gubbels

Howard and Eileen Gubbels

Howard Gubbels, son of Ray and Lorita Gubbels, was born August 13, 1948, in Laurel. He graduated from St. Frances School. After graduation in 1967, he spent two years in Germany with the United States Army.

Eileen Wattier, daughter of Vincent and Jean, was born December 20, 1950, in Norfolk. She graduated from Randolph Public School in 1969.

Howard and Eileen married November 22, 1969, at St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church at Randolph. They made their first home one mile east and one mile north of Randolph. It was owned by Cy and Mary Gubbels. Here they had their first child, Brian, born May 9, 1971. He is now a freshman at the Randolph Public High School.

From here they moved to a farm owned by Gordon Dennis, seven miles north of Randolph. They farmed for five years at this location. Their second son, Steve, was born here on May 2, 1973. Steve is a seventh grader at the Randolph Public Schools.

In December of 1975 the Gubbels moved to their Uncle Aloie and Aunt Clara Gubbels' farm. This farm is two miles north of Randolph. They purchased this farm in 1977. Here they had their third and fourth sons. Michael was born July 25, 1976, and is a fourth grader at Randolph Public Schools. Craig was born November 11, 1980. Howard and Eileen Gubbels

Isidore and Angela Gubbels

Isidore, son of Mathias and Sophia Gubbels, was born November 2, 1919, on a farm one mile north and one-third mile west of the Randolph Catholic Cemetery. He lived his entire life in the Randolph community and was a member of St. Frances Catholic Church. He received all of his education at St. Frances school. He graduated from the eighth grade in 1933 with the highest average in Cedar County. Eighth graders were required to take county examinations in order to graduate from the elementary school. After graduating from high school in 1937 he farmed with his father.

In 1952 Isidore was married to Angela Reifenrath in St.'s Philip and James Church at St. James, Nebraska, by Rev. Godfrey Meiergerd.

Family Histories Submitted for the 1986 Centennial History Book
She is the daughter of John and Julia Reinfenrath. She was born January 30, 1920, on a farm near St. James. She is the ninth of ten children. Angela is the first girl and second baby baptized by Archbishop Edward Hunkeler when pastor at St.'s Philip and James Parish. She received most of her education at St.'s Philip and James school until the school closed. She graduated from Holy Trinity School in 1938. Angela taught six years in Cedar County country schools.

After their marriage, Isidore and Angela Gubbels settled on a farm six miles north and one-half east of Randolph. To this union were born six children. Daniel, born December 17, 1952, married Diane Kruse in St.'s Peter and Paul Church at Bow Valley, September 9, 1978. They have three children; Christine, Kathy and Andrew. John, born April 22, 1954, married Karen Thoenen in St. John the Baptist Church, Fordyce, Nebraska, April 22, 1983. They have one child, Nicholas. Mary Ann was born October 23, 1956, married Kenneth Kneifl from Newcastle, Nebraska, in St. Frances Church at Randolph, June 9, 1979. She is teaching at Newcastle. Jo Ann was born May 22, 1958. She is teaching at Walthill, Nebraska. Julie, born August 11, 1959, married Patrick Steffen in St. Frances Church at Randolph, August 4, 1984. She is presently teaching at Fordyce Catholic School. Mathias was born November 24, 1960. He is farming with his brothers, Daniel and John. Isidore passed away on September 6, 1975, at the age of 55 years. His funeral was at St. Frances Church and burial in St. Frances Cemetery at Randolph, Nebraska. Angela Gubbels

**John Sr. and Elizabeth Gubbels**

John Gubbels was born in Lumba, Holland, on July 29, 1859. At the age of three, he came to this country with his parents, John and Martha Gubbels. His father was born August 3, 1821, and died October 3, 1880, at the age of 59. His mother was born July 26, 1824, and died October 18, 1907, at the age of 83. Both were buried in Westphalia, Iowa. John had four brothers: Peter, Jacob, Matt and William. They settled in Kieler, Wisconsin, and as a young man, John came to Westphalia, Iowa. Here he met Elizabeth Wurdinger, who was born June 10, 1860, in Kososchitz, Austria. She was the daughter of John and Theresa Wurdinger.

She had three sisters: Mrs. Pete (Mary) Hoffman, Mrs. Matt (Anna) Kuhl, and Sister Hilda. Elizabeth came to this country with her sister, Sister Hilda, at the age of 19. John Gubbels and Elizabeth Wurdinger were married at St. Boniface Church, Westphalia, Iowa, on September 11, 1883. They came to Nebraska in 1894, making their first home on a farm east of Randolph now owned by John's grandson, Glen Gubbels, and operated by Glen's son Steve. In 1909 they bought a 160 acre farm southeast of Randolph now owned by John Jr. and Dorothy Meyer. Dorothy Meyer was the granddaughter of John and Elizabeth. John and Elizabeth Gubbels lived on this farm until they retired in 1925. They moved to town, and their son Arnold continued living on the farm until his death in 1955. They built the residence west of St. Frances Rectory and resided there until their deaths. Theresa and Mary Gubbels, daughters, dedicated their lives to their parents, caring for them until their parents' deaths.


Elizabeth died at the age of 76, May 8, 1936, and John at the age of 93, on July 13, 1952. At the time of his death, John had 102 descendants. Both John and Elizabeth Gubbels are buried in St. Frances Catholic Cemetery at Randolph. *Elvera Dominisse*

**John and Mamie Gubbels**

John Raymond Gubbels was born December 11, 1890, at Westphalia, Shelby County, Iowa, to John Sr. and Elizabeth (Wurdinger) Gubbels. His father of German descent, came to the United States from Holland and his mother came from Austria.

John moved with his family to Randolph, Nebraska, in 1894. His father, John Sr., filed a homestead claim three and one-half miles east of Randolph near the small community of Wareham. A temporary house of sod was built until a permanent home was constructed a year later. John attended school, grades first through fourth, at St. Frances in Randolph.

As the years passed, he returned occasionally to visit relatives in Iowa. He later met and married Mamie Theresa Weihs on August 25, 1914, at Westphalia, Iowa. John Sr. and Elizabeth retired from farming and moved to Randolph. John and Mamie took over the duties of farming and raising livestock. New buildings were added and trees were planted for protection against the severe winter storms. Mamie took great pride in her flower and vegetable gardens and special interest in raising chickens. John raised choice cattle and hogs. There was always a herd of milk cows. The chores were never ending.

They managed to keep the land through the drought and depression years. The work was hard, but they always maintained their faith in the land and in the future. They considered it "the good life."
By the end of the 1930's electricity and the telephone had come to the rural area followed by the introduction of tractors, combines, and corn pickers; horses became obsolete. Times became better.

John and Mamie had two children: Glenn and Doris. After farming 41 years, John and Mamie retired and moved to Randolph in December of 1955. They turned over the farm to their son Glenn and his wife Janelle (Colling) Gubbels.

John died November 12, 1957, at Randolph, and Mamie died November 28, 1960, at Randolph. They were long-time members of St. Frances Catholic Church.

Steven Gubbels is the great-grandson of John Gubbels Sr. and son of Glenn Gubbels. Today, Steven, with his wife Marcia and their two daughters, lives on and farms the original homestead started nearly a century ago.

In loving memory of our parents and grandparents.
Glen Gubbels, Doris Gubbels (Gregory) Gromley

Joseph Gubbels

Over 117 years ago my grandparents came to this country from Holland with their family. My dad was nine years old. On September 11, 1883, he married my mother, Elizabeth Wurdinger, at Westphalia, Iowa. She was born June 10, 1860, in Holland and came to this country from Austria when she was a little girl.

My parents had eleven children. My oldest brother John was born September 17, 1884, and died March 23, 1885. My brothers, Peter, Matt, John and Louis, and sister Theresa were all born at Westphalia, Iowa. Then my parents moved to Randolph, Nebraska, and homesteaded on the place three and one-half miles east of Randolph on the farm where Steve Gubbels now lives. I was born on April 2, 1894, in a granary, as my folks were building a house. After me came Walter, Martha, Hilda, Arnold and Mary. Mary and myself are the only members of our family left.

I went to the country school at Wareham for a couple of years and then I went to the Catholic School in Randolph. There weren't any roads so we walked the railroad tracks to school. When the weather got bad we had to board with the Nuns. A lot of kids boarded there.

In 1918 I left for the service. I was stationed at Camp Dodge, Iowa, and Jacksonville, Florida. When I was at Camp Dodge I got the flu. A lot of boys died from it, as they didn't know what it was or what to do for it.

On February 4, 1920, I married Clara Wehs at Defiance, Iowa. Her mother and dad were from Austria. Her father came to this country with some friends and the day he left he waved goodbye to his parents and never saw them again.

We homesteaded on the place three miles east of Randolph, where my son Gene and his wife still live. I hauled all the lumber for the house and the barn from Sholes with a team and wagon at night after I had my other work done on the farm. Many times I got caught in rain storms. The roads weren't like they are now. Many times I drove my hogs to Wareham, where they were put on a stock car and shipped by train to the Sioux City stockyards. Wareham was no longer after the elevator burned in the 1950's.

We had three children: Evelyn (Mrs. Bernard) Arduser of Coleridge; Merlin, who married Marvene Leiting and now lives at Denison, Iowa; and Gene married to Ailene Rameil, who lives on the home place.

We moved to Randolph in September of 1955 and retired from farming in January of 1959. We have been members of St. Frances Church in Randolph over 65 years. Clara is a member of St. Frances Guild, Christian Mothers, Catholic Order of Foresters and an Auxiliary member. I am the only Randolph World War I Veteran left in Randolph. We have 15 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. We are both active and are residents of the Colonial Manor in Randolph.

Joseph Gubbels

Tom and Patricia Gubbels

Tom Gubbels and Patricia Kurtzhals were married December 27, 1960, at Coleridge, Nebraska. Tom, son of Matt and Sophia (Scharf) Gubbels, has lived his entire life around Randolph. Patricia, daughter of Henry and Agnes (Backer) Kurtzhals lived near Coleridge.

In 1962, they had their first child, a son, Mark. He is now the manager of Foster Repair & Service in Foster. In 1964, Madonna was born. She is now the wife of John Buss of Pierce where they are making their home. They were married March 30, 1984. She is an LPN and is employed at the Lutheran Community Hospital in Norfolk. John is employed in farming. In 1966, another daughter, Anna Marie, was born. She is now the wife of David Haselhorst. They were married June 22, 1985. Anna Marie is working at the Colonial Manor Nursing Home in Randolph and David is working for his dad on the farm. They are making their home on a farm near Randolph.

In 1970, Patricia passed away. Tom is working at the AMPI plant in Laurel and lives near Randolph.

Walter and Irene Gubbels Sr.

Walter Gubbels, son of John Gubbels and Elizabeth (Wurdinger) Gubbels, was born February 15, 1896, on a farm east of Randolph and grew up on a farm. Later his parents bought a farm southeast of Randolph near Sholes, where they lived until they retired.

In 1926 Walter bought 160 acres of land from his dad and built a whole new set of buildings on that farm. October 25, 1927, he married Irene Gerber, daughter of Frank and Rose Gerber. They lived there until 1964 when he built a new house on the east edge of Randolph. His wife still lives there.

They had six children. Frances Gubbels, born September 13, 1928, married Charles Lenhoff April 5, 1948. They have seven children: Kathy, Joan, Lynn, Wayne, Russell, Michael and Kevin.
Walter Gubbels Jr., born November 11, 1931, married Detta Ann Rameil of Bow Valley, Nebraska, September 11, 1956. They have five children: Jeff, Barbara, Christal, Anthony and Gary.


Donna Mae, born December 1, 1936, married James Lackas, November 16, 1955. They have five children: Sally, Karla, Thomas, John and Jean.

Richard Gubbels, born March 18, 1940, married Rita Reineke, August 1, 1964. They have five children: Jane, Jill, John, Regina, and Rebecca.

Ronald Joseph born November 29, 1944, died in infancy.

The Gubbels have 21 great grandchildren.

Their three sons were in the service: Gilbert and Richard in the Army, and Walter Jr. in the Air Force.

Walter became ill in the fall of 1972 and in November entered Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Norfolk. He died there November 10, 1972, from heart failure. Irene Gubbels

Patricia A. Guilfoyle

Patricia A. Peters, daughter of Dr. Glen and Paula Peters, was born July 26, 1926. Patricia attended and graduated from St. Frances School. She then attended St. Joseph's School of Nursing and graduated as an R.N. Later, Patricia married Tom Guilfoyle, who died August 19, 1969. Patricia and Tom had eight children. The children have shown exemplary conduct and love for their mother (as Patricia has been a victim of multiple sclerosis for years) by caring for her in her home following Tom's death until March of 1984. At that time Patricia took up residency in Flower Nursing Home.

In July of 1982, Patricia, totally confined to a wheelchair, was accompanied by two of her daughters to Omaha to celebrate her 25th year jubilee graduation from St. Joseph's School of Nursing.

Patricia and her family currently reside in New York City, New York.

Gerald J. and Lavone Hansen

Gerald J. Hansen and Lavone Sellon were married September 14, 1945 at the Randolph First Methodist Church.

Gerald is the son of the late Henry and Augusta Bucholz Hansen. He has two sisters, Alvera Houston and Lillian Peterson, and his brothers are Lawrence, Irwin and Wilfred. He was born on a farm northeast of Randolph. He attended Prairie Hill, District 68, a local rural school. All of his growing-up years were spent on the same farm until enlisting in the Marine Corps in August, 1942. His tour of duty was spent in the South Pacific until receiving his discharge in October of 1945.

Lavone was also born in rural Cedar County, one mile north of Randolph. Her parents are Joe E. and Eleanor Otte Sellon. Twilla Friedrick of Wausa and Joedy Sellon are other members of the family. All twelve years of her schooling were received in the Randolph Public Schools. After taking "Normal Training" classes the last two years in high school, she was qualified to teach in rural schools for several years.

The first nineteen years of their marriage were spent on a farm nine miles northeast of Randolph, near Coleridge. In 1965 they moved their family to a farm northwest of Randolph. The farming operation over the years has consisted of growing corn, oats and soybeans. They were also involved with a dairy herd, a large flock of chickens, hogs and beef cattle until recently.

Gerald and Lavone's children are: Carolyn Bossung of Lincoln; Dianne Smith of Hastings; Bob Hansen of Hastings; Joe Hansen of McLean; and Dan Hansen of Lincoln. There are ten grandchildren at this writing.

Over the years the family has attended the Coleridge Immanuel Lutheran Church and currently Lavone and Gerald are members of St. John's Lutheran Church in Randolph. Lavone Hansen

Unloading corn 1949

John and Luella Hansen

John Hansen and Luella Pearl French were married during World War II at the Methodist church in Wenatchee, Washington, on July 17, 1943. We came to the rural Randolph area in 1949.

John was born July 5, 1914, at Carroll, Nebraska, to Christen and Maria Hansen, who had come from Denmark. He attended school in District 51 Wayne County, farmed for his parents, worked for the telephone company, worked as a trucker and for other farmers, picking corn by hand for two cents a bushel, which was big pay in those years.

I was born near Laurel, Nebraska, November 1, 1913, the eldest of eight children, to William and Ollie Pear (Burton) French. My parents lived on several farms, so I attended schools at Dixon, Ponca, Concord and Laurel, graduating from Laurel in 1930 as valedictorian and
I taught school eight years. The first year I received $55 a month and paid $8 a month board and room. By the eighth year I was getting $100 a month. In the spring of 1939, my folks moved to a farm west of Wayne. That is when John and I first met. That summer was very dry, and grasshoppers took the crops. Five of us brothers and sisters borrowed $800, took our Dad's 1938 Hudson, and went to the Golden Gate Exposition (San Francisco's World's Fair).

In 1942 my parents bought the farm west of Carroll where my brother Darrell French still lives. That year I rode a horse four miles to school because of gas rationing.

John was drafted into the air force on December 17, 1942. His mother had a farm sale and moved to Wayne. John went to Atlantic City, New Jersey, Camp Crowder, Missouri, Salt Lake City, Utah, Ephrata, Washington, and Ardmore, Oklahoma. Our first child, Ollie Maria, was born in Oklahoma. John was discharged in February, 1946. We rented a farm near Carroll for two years, at Dixon for two years, and then lived near Randolph.

We are proud to have raised four daughters and three sons on the farm. We are members of the Zion Congregational Church near Carroll. Our children were confirmed there by the Reverend Gail Axen and were active in church, Sunday school and music. All attended the same rural school, District 74 Wayne County, where John was secretary of the board for sixteen years. The four oldest graduated from Wayne High School and the others from Randolph. All are graduates of Wayne State College.

Our oldest child, Ollie Maria (Mrs. John) Archambault (born April 25, 1945) of Casa Grande, Arizona, is an elementary teacher. She has her master's degree from Flagstaff, Arizona, and is working toward her doctorate at Flagstaff. Her children are Margaret Maria and Eric John.

Lonnie Jay (born November 27, 1946) of Peterson, Iowa, manages a Co-op elevator, fertilizer plant, and filling station. He and his wife Sheryl have Susan Lynn, Jack Christian, and Sara Jane.

William Christian (born November 30, 1948) lives on a farm near Stanton. He spent two years in the army. He and his wife Janet have Brent Lee and Jill Maria.

Pearl Annette (born August 25, 1950) of Wayne earned a four year scholarship to Wayne State College, taught school in Australia one year and traveled around the world, and received her master's degree from Manhattan, Kansas. She teaches art at Wayne State and is working toward her doctorate at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Loren John (born October 29, 1951) of Randolph teaches and coaches at Osmond High School. He received the Eva May Strathman Scholarship to Wayne State. He and his wife Christina, who teaches art in the Randolph schools, have three boys: John Christen, Jeremy Joseph, and Nicholas Loren.

Margaret Lue (Mrs. Ed) Hue (born May 21, 1953) of Kennewick, Washington, studied Spanish in Europe two summers, earned her master's degree at Chadron, and got her Ph.D. in Industrial Education at Ft. Collins, Colorado. She is a Spanish teacher. She and Ed live on a farm and have Todd Christopher and Annalene Maria.

Mary Ellen (Mrs. Timothy) Hasne (born December 18, 1954) lives at Wisner, Nebraska, and was valedictorian of the class of 1973 at Randolph. She taught one year at Sholes school. She and Tim farm and have three children: Thomas Timothy, Trisha Mary, and Dale Peter.

We moved to Sholes, Nebraska, in 1976 and still farm. John is treasurer of Sholes’ board and secretary of the Sholes’ school. My hobbies are sewing, crafts, crocheting, and baking. We are blessed with many good neighbors, friends, and family. Mrs. John Hansen

John and Mary Hansen

John Herman Hansen, born July 10, 1888, at Pender, Nebraska, was one of six children belonging to Chris and Christine (Jensen) Hansen. John grew up on his father's farm. He played the violin and was popular at the community gatherings.

Eve Marie, known as Mary, born April 20, 1888, at Bancroft was the daughter of John and Louise (Koehler) Buchholz. Mary's parents were born in Berlin, Germany. They migrated to this country and settled on a farm near Bancroft, where their sixteen children were born and raised.

John met Mary at her folk's home. John and Mary were married August 3, 1910, and moved to a farm near Randolph. John was a good farmer. He always farmed with horses. John and Mary were well loved in the community and were active in school, church and social activities. John was on the school board for a number of years.

The Hansen’s had nine children: Esther Harmeyer born November 25, 1911; Dorothy Whipple born June 4, 1914; Harvey born January 17, 1916; Raymond born September 8, 1917; Louise Seely born October 13, 1919; Elaine Imboden born April 8, 1921; Elder born July 12, 1923; Irene Ambroz born June 23, 1927; and Mary Lou Corenza born January 29, 1930. All of the children attended District 95 North, a rural school, and some of them attended Pearl Creek, a country high school for the ninth and tenth grades. Louise, Elaine, Elder and Mary Lou graduated from Randolph High School. The children were all baptized and confirmed in the St. John's Lutheran Church.

John and Mary lived on the same farm for 36 years. John's health became poor and he passed away suddenly, at his home, November 16, 1946. He is buried in the Randolph City Cemetery. Mary moved to Randolph, in 1952. She lives with her oldest daughter, Esther Harmeyer.

Mary celebrated her 97th birthday April 20, 1985. She remains well and active. She enjoys her 21 grandchildren.
43 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grand children. The Hansen children have married and moved to various places. Esther Harmeyer lives with her mother in Randolph. Dorothy Whipple lives at the Colonial Manor. Harvey lives on a farm at Battle Creek, and Raymond lives at South Lake Tahoe, California. Louise Seely lives at St. James, Minnesota. Elaine Imboden lives at El Cerrito, California, and Elder is at Santa Clara, California. Irene Ambroz lives at Sioux City and Mary Lou Cosenza is at Sunnyvale, California.

Many of the Hansen men have served their country. Raymond and Elder were in the Navy during World War II. Grandsons serving their country were: Roger Ambroz in the Navy; Donald Whipple and Larry Whipple in the Army; and Duane Harmeyer with the Sea Bees during the Vietnam War. **Mary Hansen, Elder Hansen, Esther Harmeyer**

**Loren John and Christina Hansen**

Loren Hansen, son of John and Luella (French) Hansen, was born October 29, 1951, in Wayne, Nebraska. He received his education from District 74, Wayne Public High School, and Randolph Public School, where he graduated in 1970. In 1973 he graduated from Wayne State College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education. From 1973 to 1978, he taught Social Studies at North High School for the Omaha Public Schools.

Loren married Christina Pignotti, daughter of Joseph and Viola (Johnson) Pignotti, on July 14, 1973. Christina was born February 14, 1950, in Omaha, Nebraska. She received all of her education from the Omaha Public Schools, graduating from Benson High School in 1968. In 1972 she graduated from Wayne State College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in education and taught art for the Omaha Public Schools from 1972 to 1977.

The couple moved to Randolph in February of 1978. Loren was employed by Rokahr Implement Company from 1978 to 1981. In 1981 he began teaching for the Osmond Public School. He is still a member of the faculty and coaching staff at Osmond. Christina has been teaching art for the Randolph Public School since 1978.

Loren and Christina are blessed with three boys: John Christin, born May 24, 1977, in Omaha, Nebraska; Jeremy Joseph, born March 27, 1979, in Osmond; and Nicholas Loren, born September 28, 1980, in Osmond, Nebraska.

In 1984, the Hansen's began a new business for the community at their residence at 407 East Jackson. Hansen's Greenhouse supplies the community with vegetable and bedding plants.

Loren has served on the Randolph Volunteer Fire Department since 1978. He was elected to the City Council in 1984.

The Hansen's are members of St. John's Lutheran Church. **Loren and Chris Hansen**

**George Hartman**

Dr. George Edward Hartman, born July 10, 1868, came to Randolph in 1900 to practice dentistry after his graduation from Western Dental College in Kansas City, Missouri. On June 7, 1899, he had married Bertha Mae Locke whom he had met when both were students at South Dakota Wesleyan College in Mitchell, South Dakota. She had been in Randolph since 1895 as either assistant principal or principal and English teacher in Randolph High School, and also organist at the Methodist Church. They had five children: Lois Margaret (Boggs), Ruth (Ellis), Georgia (Reese), Hazel (Hiter) and Harold. Mrs. Hartman died April 6, 1922. In 1923 he married Grace Hall, June 27. They had one son, Robert. She died in April 1932. Of the six children, all except Ruth Ellis and Georgia Reese survive.

As one of eight children, Dr. Hartman was the son of Frederick Hartman who emigrated from Stuttgart, Germany, in 1855, bought a farm in Shelby County, Illinois, and married a Scotch-Irish girl, Margaret Mitchell. At age 24 his son, George, tired of being just a farmhand on his father's farm, left home to make his way to the wheat fields of Minnesota and South Dakota for any job he might find. Later, becoming interested in dentistry by knowing a pair of totally untrained dentists, he decided to go to school. Entering South Dakota Wesleyan, he worked his way through to graduation, then went to dental school, first in Kansas City and later to one in Omaha, Nebraska.

During his more than sixty years as a dentist, not only in Randolph but earlier years found him once a week in Wausa or Bloomfield. Dr. Hartman was Mayor of Randolph, City Treasurer, on the school board, helped start the Public Library to be on the board for years, judged high school debates, spoke in public for various causes including sale of Liberty Bonds in World War II. He received several state and national honors as a dentist and in the field of hygiene. An avid reader, his home was crammed with books and magazines - books on Biblical history, classics, reference material, including a set of encyclopedias borrowed for use by many. Having taught himself to type, he carried on a large correspondence with old friends and former neighbors living away. A most observant traveler, he visited most of the states in the U.S. as he liked to travel.

On the land where he built his house were planted all kinds of fruit trees and berry bushes and a huge vegetable garden which he tended himself and stored winter vegetables for the family. Late in life he grew flowers near his home in Wayne, Nebraska, where he went in 1947. He continued to practice until 1967 to care for former patients. Probably he was at that time the oldest living practicing dentist in the U.S. He went then to the Crowell Home in Blair, Nebraska, where he died January 22, 1970, at age 101 years and seven months. He was buried in the Randolph cemetery beside his first wife and her sister, Mrs. John Dales, and her husband Dr. John
George and Rosa Hausmann

George Hiriam Hausmann was born May 5, 1891, at Arthur, Iowa to Charlie and Sophia (Woofter) Hausmann. He was baptized in early infancy and confirmed in the Lutheran faith as an adult. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Norfolk, at the time of his death.

Rosa (Stueckrath) Hausmann was born March 29, 1896, at Arthur, Iowa. She was the daughter of Chris and Martha (Schade) Stueckrath. She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Norfolk, and sang in their church choir.

George married Rosa April 3, 1915, at Sioux City, Iowa, and both resided near Arthur, Iowa. In 1920 they moved to Nebraska. They resided on various farms in the Randolph, Pierce and Hadar areas before moving to Norfolk, where they maintained residence for twelve years.

To this couple were born four children: Mrs. Paul (Hazel) DeHaes Norfolk; Vernon Hausmann, Norfolk; Mrs. Delbert (Marjorie) Ahlman, Pierce; and Robert Charles (Randolph), who died in infancy. All of the members are deceased except Mrs. Delbert (Marjorie) Ahlman, Pierce. They had eleven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

George loved his purebred Hereford bulls. While farming east of Randolph, he always had a hired man to help him when his family was growing. His favorite hired man was Chet Hugat. George raised popcorn and was known as, "the Jolly Time popcorn man". He sold popcorn by the pound, all hand shelled and cleaned. He delivered it to all movie theaters, including the Roxy Theater at Randolph. Hazel, Vernon, and Marjorie were responsible for hand shelling the popcorn. The excess of his popcorn was shipped back to Odebolt, Iowa, George’s former home.

Rosa was a member of the Sholes Social Club, of which Mrs. Grace Huwaldt of Randolph was a member.

Since horses were used for farming, George did a lot of horse trading and he was able to provide his family with riding horses. Some of the favorite riding horses were Cheyenne, a spotted Palomino; Lindy, a black stallion; and Baldy and Billy, little Shetland ponies. They had a top buggy and a two-wheeled cart, which Hazel, Vernon, and Marjorie enjoyed as youngsters. All the activities of the farm family kept them well occupied, including a trip to Randolph every Saturday night. Marjorie (Hausmann) Ahlman

Darrel Heese

Darrel was born on a farm near Page, Nebraska, on September 15, 1926. His parents were Henry and Ella (Ohlhorst) Heese. They are now deceased. He has only one brother, Alvin who is Veteran's Service Officer at O'Neill, Nebraska. Darrel attended Page High School where he played six-man football and graduated in 1943 at the age of sixteen.

Mildred’s parents were William and Cecile (Throckmorton) Derickson. I was born on a farm near Knoxville, Nebraska, on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1921. Later, we moved to farms near Dorsey and Star, Nebraska. These three small towns were located between O’Neill and Verdigre, but have been gone for many years. I have three brothers and four sisters. Most of them live in O’Neill, Nebraska. Our parents are deceased. I attended Lynch High School and graduated in 1938. I taught schools in Holt County for six years.

Darrel Heese and Mildred Derickson were married on June 10, 1950, at a rural Lutheran church near Orchard, Nebraska. Our first home was near Middlebranch, Nebraska. We milked four cows and raised a few pigs and chickens. We had no REA and no telephone. Our closest town was Page, about fourteen miles away, but there was a small country store only two and a half miles away. We’ve always called O’Neill our home-town, although it was over twenty miles away on gravelled roads.

In the spring of 1951, we moved to a farm near Orchard, Nebraska, and went into partnership with a farmer auctioneer there. Our first child, Steven, was born on Christmas day, 1951, at Orchard. Neil was born at Norfolk, on September 11, 1953.

We moved to the Randolph vicinity in February, 1954. Our boys attended country school nearby. We became members of Immanuel Lutheran Church at Laurel. Vernon was born at Osmond, on December 3, 1958. David was born at Osmond, on July 19, 1960.

In the spring of 1966 we moved to a farm near Belden. By then our boys were attending Belden and Randolph Public Schools. They were active in Cub Scouts, football and wrestling. Steven graduated in 1969, Neil in 1971 and Vernon in 1977. David completed the fifth grade here and died July 21, 1971. Steven died February 18, 1976. At the present time, Neil lives in Norfolk, and works at the pork plant in Madison, Nebraska. Vernon is farming near us.

We moved to our present home north of Randolph in 1970. At that time, we joined St. John’s Lutheran Church here.

Neil’s daughter, Jessica was born March 31, 1978, at Osmond. She is our only grandchild. Mildred Heese

Darrel F. and Hazel Heiderman

Darrel F. Heiderman and Hazel I. Moore were born in Randolph. He was born August, 1921, and she was born April, 1925. At the age of five, Tippie, as she is most usually called due to begging her Grandfather to sing the song "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" moved with her parents to Scottsbluff where she attended school. She met Darrel while spending the summer with her grandmother, Mrs. Mertie Slagle in 1940 at Magnet.
Darrel graduated from Randolph Public School in 1939, joined the Navy September 18, 1941, and was married to Tippie, October 14, 1942, at South Sioux City, Nebraska. She made trips to Groton, Connecticut, whenever the submarine he was assigned to returned to the USA. When WWII ended he was discharged September 26, 1945, at Jacksonville, Florida, where his father and mother were married on that date 26 years earlier.

Darrel and Tippie stayed in Scottsbluff until she and the first son, Michael D. born September 29, 1945, were able to travel. Mike is presently a professional diver working for Seaward Marine Services of Norfolk, Virginia. He and his family reside in New Hill, North Carolina. The Heiderman's then moved to Randolph, he worked for his step-father, Glenn Hyatt, and then managed the old Sinclair Service Station for a time. They returned to Scottsbluff for awhile and on January 7, 1947, Darrel enlisted in the US Army, spending time at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, Tehran, Iran, Ankara, and Turkey where the second son, Kevin P., was born on January 13, 1954, during a raging blizzard. Darrel drove Tippie to the hospital in a Weapons Carrier, not trusting the local taxi drivers in the storm. Kevin is presently an assistant director at UNO for Educational TV, Omaha, and plays, mostly weekends, with the "Itchy Brother's Band".

From Ankara the Heiderman's were assigned to Des Moines, Iowa, and could make it home to Randolph on weekends. From there they spent three years in Bad Kreuznach, Germany, then went to Fort Gordon, Georgia, for a couple of years. Darrel's retirement was effective January 1, 1963. They returned to civilian life and Scottsbluff where Darrel started Work February 1, 1963, for United Telephone Company. He retired October 1, 1983, after an interesting 20 plus years.

Since retirement they have maintained their home at Scottsbluff, traveling mostly to see children and grandchildren, and Tippie's relatives who were mostly residents of Randolph at one time, now living in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and California. Army friends range from Texas and Virginia to North Dakota.

Recently, Darrel was surprised by an old school chum, R.H. Bowles of Pueblo, Colorado, who supplied him with the information pertaining to this rather sketchy history since graduation 46 years ago. Darrel will see him next year, if not before. Kenny Grant (Class of 1936) of Ryderwood, Washington, had previously informed Darrel of the reunion while he was in Washington last year. He hopes to see many old school friends and his old hometown of Randolph in 1986, but has been back many, many times throughout the years. Darrel F. Heiderman

Herman and Katheryn Heiderman

My grandfather, Herman Heiderman, was born near Bielefeld, Prussia, Germany, on December 25, 1844. He came to the United States when he was four years old with his parents, William and Anna Heiderman, an older brother, Deitrich, and two younger brothers, George and Henry. They landed at Ellis Island with very little resources so they walked to Binghamton, New York, where his father knew a family from Germany.

They moved to Belvideere, Illinois, engaged in farming and prospered. They raised a foster daughter, Augusta. It was from Belvideere, in 1860, my grandfather enlisted in the Union Army, 95th Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served the last year of the Civil War.

After the war he went west to Iowa and started farming. He met Katheryn Nolan and married her at Toledo, Iowa, on March 23, 1877. They farmed near Washta, and Cherokee, Iowa, where my father, Walter L. Heiderman, was born December 27, 1883. In the following years Emma, Henry, Roy, Mabel, Thomas and Estelle were born to Herman and Katheryn.

The family moved westward to Coleridge, Cedar County, Nebraska, and later to Wareham where they farmed many years. Wareham consisted of only a store and a grain elevator.

Early in the 1900's my grandparents moved to El Dorado Springs, Cedar County, Missouri, and farmed a few years. It was there my father, Walter L. Heiderman, met Dora M. Teague. They were married November 8, 1906. My oldest brother, Raymond M. Heiderman, was born in Missouri, January 10, 1908. Walter and Dora went to Selma, California, where my sister, Verl L. was born September 17, 1912, and I, Rena M., was born July 1, 1915. Father worked in the fruit orchards pruning trees and also in a raisin packing house.

Eventually, my parents and grandparents returned to Nebraska and settled near Belden. It was there my youngest brother, Frank L., was born February 3, 1917. Grandfather retired from farming and bought a home in Randolph where my grandparents lived for many years. At one time all four of his sons were farmers in Cedar and Pierce Counties.

Some of my fondest memories are the Fourth of July celebrations Randolph had when I was growing up on the farm. All the families would go to town to our grandparents home laden with food and our ice-cream freezers. Pictures were taken and lots of visiting went on besides the feasting that was always topped off with home-made ice-cream. Later we walked up town to watch the parade. I can still see my father with my younger brother, Frank, on his shoulders standing at attention as the flag went by. The noise of the fireworks going off everywhere and cherry bombs blasting off the sidewalks was deafening to the ears. What an exciting time it was for us! Rena Heiderman Alsid

Catherine Heimes

Catherine was born in 1930 to H.J. and Lauretta (Schmit) Nordhues. Her school days were spent at St. Frances de Chantal, Briar Cliff College and Wayne State College. She taught school three years in the Randolph area and one year north of Hartington, where she met Edwin Heimes. On August 17, 1953 Edwin and
Catherine were married in St. Frances de Chantal Church. After nine children: Michael, Patricia, Philip, Raymond, Ruth, Laura, Gail, Jacqueline and Thomas, and twenty-three and one-half years of marriage, Edwin died on February 13, 1977. Their eldest son, Michael, came home to help his mother and younger siblings with the farming.

In October 1980 Catherine married Glenn L. Bergman. They continue living on the Heimes farm. Glenn drives a gravel truck for the county while Catherine and Michael are engaged in farming.

Gerhardt Helms

Gerhardt Helms, one of eight children, was born in 1866 and raised in Twistringen, Germany. Due to economic conditions, he and four brothers immigrated to America in 1884. Two brothers settled in Iowa, one in Washington, and my father, Gerhardt, and Uncle Henry in Nebraska.

My mother, Alvina Pockrandt, was born in 1889 in Odessa, Russia. She lost her mother when she was a baby and was raised with three half-brothers and one half-sister. She came to Nebraska in 1895 after two half-brothers had settled here.

My parents met and were married in Coleridge, Nebraska, in 1897. They moved to a rented farm six miles northeast of Randolph in 1901, and that was home for the next 21 years. There were eight children born to this union, but the two youngest sons lived only a short time. Three sons, Ernest, George and Gerry and three daughters, Elsie, Irma and Tillie were raised and attended school from that home. Those of us that went to high school attended St. Frances in Randolph.

Uncle Henry Helms purchased a farm one mile north and two miles east of the farm we called home. In 1922 my parents moved to his farm and spent the rest of their lives there. My father passed away in 1934 and my mother in 1948. Their last resting place is in St. Frances Cemetery at Randolph.

My two sisters spent their entire lives near Randolph. Elsie was married to Walter Graf. She taught school in the area for many years. Tillie was married to Herman Graf. Their daughters, Lorraine (Graf) Winkelbauer and Virginia (Graf) Young both reside near Randolph.

Also, grandchildren of Walter and Elsie Graf and my brother George Helms and his wife Margaret (Lowther) Helms are living in the area.

I married John L. Grau from Randolph, but we moved from Nebraska many years ago. My husband passed away in 1981. I continue to live on our small acreage here in Silverton, Oregon.

At 86, I am the only survivor of my generation. Irma (Helms) Grau

Gustav and Louise Hilkemann

Gustav Hilkemann was born June 20, 1885, in Lippe Dietmold, Germany, to Herman and Louise Langenberg Hilkemann.

In 1894, the family of five (parents, two sons, and one daughter) came to America, landing in New York City. They went immediately to Hoskins, Nebraska, where he worked for a cousin of Louise Langenberg.

On January 26, 1910, he married Louise Pieper at her home southwest of Winside. After their marriage, they moved to a farm they had purchased southwest of Winside.

In March of 1919, the family of seven (parents and five children; Ervin, Herbert, Freida, and twins Henry and Mary) moved to a farm southwest of Randolph. The move was made by team and buggy. The farm was purchased from Christopher Tatge. Today, this farm is still in the Hilkemann family.

The Tatge farm was widely known for its nursery and fruit orchards. Almost all known fruits were raised there. To the east of the buildings was a man-made lake. The water was supplied by windmills surrounding the lake. The lake was used for recreation.

The youngest son, Harold, was born on this farm.

The house and one barn are still standing and have been modernized and are in use today.

Gustav Hilkemann raised both cattle and hogs. However, he was especially interested in cattle and was a cattle buyer for other farmers as well as himself.

In 1943, Gustav and Louise moved into Randolph. Harold took over the family farm until Henry returned from the service.


Henry and Virginia Hilkemann

Henry Hilkemann, one of six children of Gustav and Louise Hilkemann, moved to the present location in 1919, from the Winside area. Henry was then two years old. The farm was purchased from the George Tatge family.

Henry has lived here on the farm all these years with the exception of a time in the service. He was inducted into the army in 1941, and discharged in December of 1945.

Upon completion of service for his country, he was married to Virginia Arduser, daughter of George and Fern Arduser from rural Belden.
To this union were born a son, Arlen Hillemann, now residing in Wolf Point, Montana. He is an American Missionary Fellowship Missionary over the northeast area of Montana. The Hillemanns have a daughter, Carolyn, living in Pontiac, Michigan, and another daughter, Marilyn Brighten, living in Woodbridge, Virginia. Henry Hillemanns are grandparents of eight grandchildren.

Housekeeping was set up with such convenience as a bathroom, electric refrigerator and an electric stove.

Because corn picking was one job Henry disliked, a single row Minneapolis Moline corn picker was purchased the first year he began farming. Henry and his brother Herb bought the picker together on black market for $1200.

Fat cattle have been the Hillemanns main source of income. All the crops grown have been fertilized by the cattle. Henry and his dad were in partnership until Gus passed away in 1973.

Through the earlier years the hay was baled and hauled into the barns. Much handling of the bales was done by the boys of high school age in the area. When the Wattier boys grew up and left home, baling hay about came to a halt.

Through the 60s, 1,000 hens kept the Hillemanns busy with egg handling. This pursuit was continued for quite a number of years. As the years went by it proved unprofitable, so it was discontinued.

**Joseph and Olwen Hinkle**

Joseph Andrew Hinkle and Olwen Bennett Jones were married December 24, 1924, at Sioux City, Iowa. They farmed around the Walthill area until 1928 at which time they moved to Omaha where Joe worked as a mechanic for "The Nebraska Public Power District". To this union were born four children and 19 grandchildren. Their children are Betty Jo, Oliver, Vincent, Mary Evelyn, and LaVina Joy.

On March I, 1940, the Hinkles moved to a farm southeast of Randolph where they remained until 1971 when poor health forced them to sell out and move back to Omaha. Joe passed away on October 16, 1973, and just nine months later on July 27, 1974, Olwen joined him. L. Joy Olberding

**Carl Calvin and Clara Margarete Holmes**

Carl, born to John and Ellen Carter Holmes, ca. 1880, in Nebraska, was one of eight children. Carl lived on a farm until he and his brother, Bill became partners in operating a cafe (owned by Tony Kaiser, located in the building now housing Bobo's Bar) for two years. On February 25, 1913, Clara, daughter of Frank and Mary (Hollents) Bernholtz, and Carl boarded the train for O'Neill, Nebraska, and were married. Clara was one of nine children, who moved to Randolph from Carroll, Iowa in 1912 with her parents. She worked as a waitress in the Randolph Hotel dining room. After spending a few days in O'Neill they came back to farm southwest of Randolph (now the Dennis Kollar's farm). In 1914 they moved and homesteaded 25 miles southwest of Baker, Montana.

On June 12, 1919, a son, Earl, was born. Completing his schooling in Baker, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot in World War II. He married a Montana girl, Dorothy Perry, on March 27, 1943. He was killed in a plane crash on October 6, 1943.

Robert, their second son, came along six years later. After attending school in Montana and Randolph, he also enlisted as a pilot. On April 22, 1944, Robert married Georgia Weber, daughter of Clarence and Marien Weber, who now live in Sioux City, Iowa. On September 11, 1945, a son, Robert Jr. was born to them. After serving his time in the Air Force, Robert Sr. had a jewelry shop in Buchanan's Drug Store (now Randolph Drug). He later moved to California and is now living in Santa Barbara, California. Their son also living there is married and has two daughters, Nicole and Natalie.

Carl and Clara's third son, Kenneth, passed away in infancy.

Their only daughter, Velma, also attended school in Montana and Randolph, married Robert Meyer, son of Herman and Ella Meyer, on November 30, 1950 and is now living on a farm north of Randolph. They have one son, Randie, born June 20, 1951, who also lives north of Randolph with his wife, Jan (Kluver), daughter of Neil and Karen Kluver. They have a daughter, two and a half-year old Vandy Jean.

On September of 1941, like homing pigeons, Carl and Clara came back to Randolph, bought and operated the Randolph House Hotel until 1970 when Carl passed away. Clara sold the hotel but stayed in Randolph until 1982, at which time she passed on. Now they, with their son Earl, are at rest in Randolph, the place they most loved. Velma Meyer

**Mrs. James (Elizabeth) Horan**

Elizabeth (Meisenbach) Horan came to Randolph to live in February of 1960. She and her husband, James, had lived in Manson, Iowa, where he passed away August 24, 1955. Elizabeth decided to move to Randolph to be close to her daughter, Mrs. Henry (Margaret) Billerbeck.

She purchased a lot and built a red brick house directly across the street from St. Frances School, now the Randolph East School.

Elizabeth's grandfather, John Billesbach, was born December 20, 1830 somewhere in Germany, one of seven children. He came to America in 1853 and settled in Wisconsin.

Elizabeth's grandmother, Mary Ann Germhein, daughter of William and Mary Catherine Germhein, was born in Germany on April 6, 1833. She came to America in 1853 with her sister, Anna Mary. She, having been John's childhood sweetheart in Germany, married John in Wisconsin in August of 1854. Their first child, Mary Anna (Mrs. John Meisenbach) was born on July 18, 1856,
in Milwaukee. The family of three then moved to Peru, Illinois. During the nineteen years they lived in Peru, Illinois, ten more children were born.

On June 21, 1879, John died of cancer of the stomach, and four years later, Mary Anne, widowed and with nine children still at home, moved to a farm near Heartwell, Nebraska. She passed away on January 17, 1918, at the age of 84.

Mary Anna Billesbach met and married John Meisenbach, a native of Cologne, Germany, in Peru, Illinois, on April 28, 1874. Mary Anna and John Meisenbach, along with five small children, moved to a farm near Heartwell, Nebraska, at the same time as Grandma Billesbach (Mary Anne). Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. John Meisenbach, one of whom was Elizabeth Meisenbach (Horan). Elizabeth was born in Peru, Illinois, on October 15, 1878. She was five years old when the family moved to Heartwell, Nebraska.

That same year, 1878, on September 1, a baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Horan of Cleveland, Ohio. They named the boy James. James' grandparents were born and raised in Ireland probably County Mayo. They were Patrick Horan and Winifred (Moran) Horan and Hugh Kiely and Hannah (Hoben) Kiely. John Horan, James' father, was born June 24, 1840 and he worked his way from Ireland to the United States in the engine room of a vessel. He lived in Cleveland, Ohio, and there he met Margaret Kiely, who had been born in Ireland on August 4, 1850. They were married in Cleveland and moved to Nebraska in 1883 with five small children. James was five years old at the time. He told the story of a friend of his giving him a small red wheelbarrow when he left Cleveland. The first thing the family had to do after moving on their land northeast of Heartwell was to plough a fire guard. After the fire guard was ploughed, James spent a lot of time pushing the little wheelbarrow around in the furrow of the fire guard.

The railroad at that time only went as far as Lowell, Nebraska, and from there the pioneer families fanned out to take over the farm land.

The community of Heartwell was pretty evenly divided between people of German and Irish heritage. It seemed that in growing up the young people were sort of persuaded into their own nationality. Naturally, the young Irish lassies had their hearts set on James. However, one sunny Sunday afternoon the young people planned a picnic at the Platte River. James showed up with a brand spanking new buggy and sharp team of horses and sitting beside him was Elizabeth Meisenbach. They were married on February 21, 1906. Four children were born to this marriage, Hugh, Mary Horan Brazda, Jim and Margaret Horan Billerbeck.

South central Nebraska was a land of combination corn and wheat farmers. During the bad years in the 1930's it seemed as though just before harvest each year, something would happen to the crops. There were a lot of hail storms, grasshoppers, dust storms and drought. So when the boys came back to the farm after World War II, they decided to go to Iowa to see if they couldn't get better land. They both rented over there first and finally bought land, Hugh at Moorland, Iowa, and Jim at Manson, Iowa. James and Elizabeth Horan sold their farm in Nebraska and moved to Manson, Iowa in 1949. James passed away at the age of 76 in 1955. Elizabeth moved to Randolph in 1960. She was known as the "lady with all the flowers" in the east end of town. She lived by herself and was very active until about six months before she died, in 1972, at the age of 94. Mrs. H.J. (Margaret) Billerbeck

Hilary and Irene Hosch
Hilary Mathias and twin sister, Helena, born July 7, 1907, on a farm west of Randolph, were the children of Mat J. and Anna (Knepper) Hosch. He became a farmer.

Irene, born August 2, 1912, on a farm east of Randolph, was the daughter of Ralph and Pearl (Philson) Daws.

Hilary and Irene were married September 17, 1940, in St. Frances de Chantal. The couple engaged in farming, living on two farms before moving to the Hosch farm northeast of Randolph in March, 1944. Many happy times were experienced while living there but also some that were bad. Such as when they almost lost a son to diphtheria; losing a large barn and milk cows in a fire; when several buildings were damaged in a wind storm; and when their youngest son rolled the tractor right in front of the house. We are thankful that he only suffered a broken leg.

Hilary and Irene had seven children. Thomas Joseph was born April 14, 1942. He met and married Jean Janssen of Crofton, Nebraska, December 28, 1967. He farmed for several years, but is currently employed in an elevator in Adair, Iowa. They have five children: Matt, Joan, Rebecca, Martin, and Christopher.

Donald LeRoy was born September 29, 1943. He married Kathleen Janssen of Crofton, Nebraska, July 3, 1971. In November they moved to Aplington, Iowa, where he started farming. They have one son, Jason.

Paul Duane, born December 28, 1944, worked at many jobs before becoming a carpenter. He met and married Louise Reiverts of Ackley, Iowa, on March 6, 1971. They live in Aplington, Iowa, and have two girls, Melissa and Jennifer.

Nancy Anne, born October 22, 1946, became an x-ray technician. She married Roger Ericksen from Ida Grove, Iowa, on June 21, 1969. He was also an x-ray technician, but is now a Nuclear Medical Technologist, working at St. Luke's in Sioux City, Iowa. They have four boys: Brett, Grant, Trent, and Kyle.

Barbara Susan was born July 30, 1948. She also is an x-ray technician. She married David Fisher of Aplington, Iowa, November 4, 1972. He is a lawyer in Hastings, Nebraska. They have three children: Nicole, Kathleen, and Paul.
Dennis Raymond was born August 29, 1950. He married Ruth Reiverts of Kesley, Iowa on July 2, 1977. They live in Cresco, Iowa. He works as a television and radio repairman. They have two boys: Jeffrey and Justin.

Mary Kay was born April 29, 1952. She married Roland Pochop of Osmond, Nebraska, August 25, 1973. He had four children: Lisa, Stacey, Michael, and Terri. They live in Yankton, South Dakota, where he is a trucker and she works part time as a bookkeeper. They have three children, Deborah, and twins John and Joe.

Paul and Mary Huetig
The year of 1957 was the beginning of my life on August 27th in Osmond, Nebraska. I'm Mary Claudia (named after my mother) Hartz Huetig, the youngest of the four children of Vincent and Claudia (Blair) Hartz. I have a sister, Kay, who is twelve years my senior; my brother, Joe, nine years my senior; and, finally, Dick, six years my senior. I was raised in Randolph the first eighteen years of my life. I grew up with my two brothers. My sister was already grown and left home for college by the time I was old enough to remember growing up. I entered kindergarten in 1962 at Randolph Public School. In 1963, I began the first grade at St. Frances. I remained there until its closing in 1970 and then reentered the Randolph Public School system in the fall until I graduated in May of 1975.

The year of 1975 brought many good memories - the reacquaintance of my sister and me. I never got to know my sister until then, since she was always on the move while I grew up. It was a good feeling to finally get to know my "sis".

A man also entered my life, the man I would learn to know, respect and love Paul Duane Huetig. Paul was the third in line of the children of Harold and Lula (Fiscus) Huetig of Belden. Paul and I married in July of 1976 and our lives were blessed with our first child, Eric Michael. Eric was special - the first grandson in the Hartz family. Eric grew to be one and one-half years old and I entered LP school in February of 1978, thanks to my mom and her long hours of caring for Eric, and Paul with his patience. I graduated in February, 1979. After graduation, I began work at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Norfolk, Nebraska.

In November of 1980, we were blessed with a beautiful daughter, Michelle Jennifer. Sheli was special, being the youngest of the Hartz grandchildren.

Paul and I have lived our married years in Belden. Eric is nine and entered the fourth grade. Sheli remains at home waiting for her chance to go to school. I have continued to work and go to school. In February of 1985, I became a CPR instructor in which I've found a great reward. In the near future, I hope to return to school and get my RN.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my dad and mom for their support, guidance, and love that has helped me grow to the person I have become. Thanks, Mom and Dad! Mary Huetig

Cliff Hughes
The John Hughes family came from Bagley, Iowa, to Randolph in 1891 settling on the farm now owned by the Hegers. Coming from England on their honeymoon they made their first home in New Jersey where Wm., known as H.W. or Bill, was born in 1872.

H.W. married Christina Wagner of Hadar. Christina was eight when she came from Germany with her parents in 1881. After her mother's death in 1885 she made her home with the James Casteel family.

H.W. and Christina were the parents of six daughters: Carrie, Lillian, Ruth, Zelma, Agnes and Alice, and four sons: Clifford, Ralph, Irving and John. Carrie was Randolph's telephone chief operator for many years.

In 1917 following a rally and navy recruitment, Cliff needed his father's consent to join. Under duress and Cliff's threat of running away, H.W. signed and Cliff joined his friends Paul Carroll, Marvin Bowles, and Leonard Waggoner when they left for the Great Lakes Training Center.

Cliff served on the troop carrier the U.S.S. George Washington until his discharge in October 1919. He had made seventeen round trip crossings of the Atlantic and had been aboard when President Woodrow Wilson was a passenger in route to the Paris Peace Conference.

Cliff's most memorable naval experience occurred when his ship brought King Albert and his family to the United States seeking aid for war-torn Belgium. Cliff was on duty in the anchor room when sixteen year old Prince Leopold rattled the door. Cliff admitted him and they visited for an hour.

Cliff was employed by Dwight Burney and by Martin Buol. Both remained his life-long friends. After twenty-three years with Sinclair Oil Company he farmed the remainder of his active years.

Fern Snyder and Cliff were married October 24, 1926. Fern was born at Osmond May 5, 1904. A Randolph High School graduate, she taught country school two years. They bought the family home in 1931. They were the parents of Paul (1927), Dale (1931) and Betty (1933). All three were R.H.S. graduates. The family enjoyed active participation in the Methodist church, school and community.

Graduating from R.H.S. in 1945, Paul served in the United States Army in Korea 1946-1948. As a 1951 graduate of the University of Nebraska he lettered in gymnastics in 1948, '49, '50, and 1951 when he was team captain. He earned a Physical Therapy Certificate at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1952. In 1956 he married physical therapist Liv Anderson in Oslo, Norway. They have had a private physical therapy practice in Portland, Oregon, from 1960-1985. They have two sons: Erik (wife Kelly) and Scott.
Dale served in the United States Navy off Korea. He has worked for Safeway in Sacramento, California, for 27 years. He is an avid fisherman and enjoys gardening and remodeling.

Betty worked for the F.B.I. in Washington, D.C. She married Harold Miller of Missouri in 1951. They live in San Luis Obispo, California, where her husband is a member of the Cal-Poly-Tech College faculty. They have two sons; Timothy B. (Wife Rhonda and daughter Natalie) and Daniel J.

Fern met an untimely death in an automobile accident in Texas in February 1953.

Cliff and Ruth Hughes, granddaughter of James and Frances Casteel, were married October 2, 1954. Cliff died November 15, 1981, a month and a day before his 84th birthday.

Ralph, his last surviving brother, died in March 1983, leaving Zelma Hughes Griffith of Miami, Florida, the only surviving member of the H.W. Hughes pioneer family. Hal and Betty Miller

**John and Elizabeth Hughes**

John and Elizabeth Hughes were immigrants from the London, England area. They were both born in England. Elizabeth's birth date was November 8, 1848. In 1870 they were married and shortly after sailed for the United States. They settled in Orange, New Jersey.

After a few years they migrated west to Guthrie County, Iowa, where they were engaged in farming. Later, in 1891, the family moved to Randolph, Nebraska, where they made their home for 15 years.

John and Elizabeth with their younger children then moved to Hemmingford, Nebraska, about 1905 and later on to Keeline, Wyoming.

They had seven daughters and six sons. The older son, Bert, lived at Bagely, Iowa, and was a well known farmer and cattle feeder. Many of his fat cattle were purchased by an exclusive restaurant in Chicago. Bert and his wife had no children. The second oldest son, H.W. "Bill" Hughes settled in the Randolph area and married Cristina Wagner. Bill and Cristina had six daughters and four sons. Bill also farmed and was a cattle feeder.


The oldest daughter, Florence (Hughes) Hon, moved to Salt Lake City. Gertie (Hughes) Curtis located in Mammoth Springs, Arkansas. Susie (Hughes) Buchanan's home was in Randolph. Her son Roger Buchanan is a well known Randolph native. Sadie (Hughes) Stigle of Keeline, Wyoming, passed away early in life. Annie (Hughes) Moore made her home in Alliance, Nebraska. Millie (Hughes) Preston settled in Lincoln, Nebraska. Mollie (Hughes) Airhood, the youngest of the girls, lived in Lusk, Wyoming.

John and Elizabeth Hughes endured many of the hardships of the early pioneers. They raised thirteen children who all settled from Iowa and Arkansas to Utah. Since they spent their last years in Hemmingford, Nebraska, and Keeline, Wyoming, their younger children settled in eastern Wyoming and in the western panhandle of Nebraska. John and Elizabeth are both buried at Hemmingford, Nebraska. John passed away in 1910 while Elizabeth expired July 9, 1924. In late years their only descendants that were living in eastern Nebraska were their grandsons Cliff, a native of Randolph, Ralph "Jack" living at Lynch, and Pete at Bloomfield. The only living descendants, with the Hughes name, in eastern Nebraska are Rolland Hughes of York, Nebraska, and Rodrick Hughes of Norfolk, sons of R.L. "Jack" Hughes.

The living descendants of John and Elizabeth Hughes are living from Florida, where Zelma (Hughes) Griffith resides, to Oregon, and from Alaska to Arizona.

The John Hughes family had a gathering August 8-10 at the H.W. Bill Hughes ranch near Lynch, Nebraska, in the late 1920's. This was the only time the entire family had gotten together since 1910.

**Gerhard and Emma Idler**

My parents, Gerhard and Emma Idler, moved to Randolph in 1912, so that their three girls could attend town school. They sacrificed their own satisfying and comfortable life as farmers for the benefit of their girls. Town life was difficult for my mother and father, but they met the challenge and managed well.

Father bought the South-Side Livery Stable. In those days, farmers drove their teams of horses, hitched to a buggy or wagon, to town. Sometimes, they tied the horses to a hitching post on the street, but many put them in Father's stable where he cared for them for a fee. Father also provided rides for Dr. Cook when he was called to a home in the country.

Mother was a very ambitious and capable lady. She could do everything and anything and do it exceptionally well. She would wash and iron, sew and even hang paper for the other families.

Many times, I would go with Mother to do the pasting of strips of wallpaper. For Mom, days were filled with hard work.

We three girls, Freda, the youngest, Alvena, next, and I, Tillie, the oldest, attended Randolph Public School. We were conscientious about our work and enjoyed our school days. Mother would say, "If you have an education, you can take care of yourself." She taught us to work and save, and once a year, took us to Mr. Stegge's bank to deposit our yearly savings. The three of us benefitted from the fine teachers and graduated from Randolph High.

After teaching country school for a few years, Freda married Arthur Kiehl of Bloomfield on July 29, 1928. Art was an excellent baker and businessman. He and Freda operated a bakery at Coleridge, then at Ainsworth, and...
then at Fairmont, Minnesota. Here they had a very successful business and a beautiful home for many years. Three children, Wendell, Gwenilyn and Roberta blessed their marriage. Unfortunately, Freda became ill and died suddenly, November 26, 1956, at the young age of 49 years.

After teaching a few years in a country school, Alvena took a course at a beauty school in Chicago. She earned an operator's certificate and opened a beauty parlor in our Randolph home. She gave manicures and permanents to the ladies of Randolph and vicinity. Mother even assisted Alvena by giving haircuts. It was a busy household.

February 2, 1930, Alvena married Arthur Geringer of Chicago. Art owned a hardware store there and was a very successful businessman. Alvena had a happy life being a housewife and caring for Art's two young boys. After some years, they moved to Glendale, California.

My life has been school, school, school. After two years of normal training in high school with Lena Stewart as a demanding and enthusiastic teacher, I started my career. For two years, I rode my horse, Chub, to a country school. Here I built the fire, did the janitorial work and taught all eight grades. With one year and three summer sessions at Wayne Normal School, I was certificated to teach town school. Randolph School Board members kindly accepted me as the second grade teacher. Superintendent Dawson guided my teaching with skill and understanding for four years.

Eager for a new experience, I applied and was accepted for a position in the Minneapolis Minnesota Public Schools. September 1928, I came to Minneapolis and became a link in the big city system. Many opportunities were provided for me to learn and to improve, and I zealously took advantage of them.

Along with teaching, I started taking night classes at the University of Minnesota and also attended summer sessions at Columbia University, New York City. After five summers of work there and an accumulation of class credits, I received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Columbia. Not long after this, I was asked to teach first grade at Tuttle School, a Minneapolis Public School that was the demonstration school for the University of Minnesota.

While attending Columbia, I met Herbert Warner, a Minneapolis teacher and counselor. We were married June 22, 1952, and "lived happily ever after" at 4010 Highwood Road. Both of us continued our work in the schools until retirement. June 1970, after forty-two years of teaching in Minneapolis and six years in Nebraska, my career came to its finale.

Thanks Randolph!

You gave me the fundamentals for many years of service to the public schools and an enjoyable life. Tillie (Idler) Warner

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Karen K. Isom

My father, Roley Ray Isom, was the son of Henry Victor and Josephine Isom. He was born in Woodbine, Iowa, on June 25, 1902. My mother, Bessie Bertha, was the daughter of Joseph John and Emma Silhacek. She was born near Pierce, Nebraska, on January 4, 1908. They married April 7, 1928, and farmed in Wayne County near Sholes. They had six children: Phyllis, Lila, Roley, Ilene, Emogene and me, Karen.

Five years of my elementary education were achieved in a rural school at Sholes. Upon my brother's marriage, my mother, Emogene and I moved to Randolph, where I received the remainder of my education. I was the first recipient of the John F. Kennedy Citizenship Award. I had always wanted to be a teacher, like my four sisters, so I attended Wayne State College. Taking advantage of the trimester program, I received my BAE in 1967. My first teaching position was fourth grade in Fremont, Nebraska, where I taught for three years. In 1970, I lived in Wahoo while I taught in Yutan, Nebraska. Later I moved to Yutan and purchased a home. In 1976, the Wahoo Jaycees named me Outstanding Young Educator in Saunders County. After teaching in Yutan for nine years, I decided to leave the profession. I now work in the office for the P&E Department at 3M in Valley, Nebraska. I sold my home in Yutan in 1985 and am now living in Omaha.

I am a member of the St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Yutan. During my membership, I served on the Consistory, sang in the choir and helped with Sunday School.

The love shared by my family is important to me. There are twenty-eight nieces and nephews and their thirty offspring who add joy to my life.

My favorite pastimes are baking, bridge, reading, embroidery, bowling and playing volleyball. I have traveled to thirty-three states and feel that my college minor in history laid the foundation for my interest in the United States, and especially Nebraska history and my desire to visit historical sites. Karen Isom
Roley and Bessie Isom Sr.

Roley, son of Henry Victor and Josephine (Barnes) Isom, was born June 25, 1902, in Woodbine, Iowa. He had three brothers and four sisters, Wesley, Lynn, Zora Mae, Sterling, Sarah, Mary and Clara.

I, Bessie, daughter of Joseph John and Emma (Pospisil) Silhacek, was born near Pierce, Nebraska, on January 4, 1908. I had three brothers and five sisters, Mary, James, Anna, Lillian, Agnes, Joseph, Sophie and Frank. My father, Joseph, immigrated to Nebraska from Czechoslovakia in 1869.

Roley and I met at a dance in Wayne County and were married April 7, 1928, at the Court House in Yankton, South Dakota. We worked on a farm one and one-half miles northeast of Sholes for T.W. Schutt. Two years later we started to farm one mile west of there on the George R. Noakes farm which we later purchased. There were six children that blessed our union. Our first child, Phyllis (Mrs. Harold) Burns, was born while we were farming the Schutt farm. Five other children were born after moving to the 160 acre farm we later purchased. They are: Lila (Mrs. Charles) Junck, Roley, Ilene (Mrs. Leonard) Guinn, Emogene (Mrs. Glen) Andrews and Karen.

Roley served on the Sholes school board for several years. We later added to our holdings by buying the Jake Lackas farm which was one and one-half miles south of Sholes. My son, Roley, bought the 160 acre home farm and still farms it along with the farm south of Sholes.

Roley passed away January 29, 1956. In September of 1958, I purchased a house in Randolph. My daughters, Emogene and Karen, moved into this home with me.

In 1964, I went on Floyd Root's United Nations Tour to Washington, D.C. and New York City. It was on this tour that I met Marvin K. Garrett of Central City, Nebraska. We were married November 28, 1965. We took several trips together after that including a trip to Hawaii and a tour to the Holy Lands. Marvin passed away June 25, 1985, in a Grand Island Hospital.

I am a member of the United Methodist Church. At the time of this writing, I have 28 grandchildren, 17 step-grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 22 step-great-grandchildren. Bessie Isom Garrett

Peter Eric and Anna Louise Jacobson

Peter Eric Jacobson was born November 14, 1863, in Sweden. He came to the United States and first settled in Meade, Nebraska, where other relatives had settled. Later he sent for his bride-to-be Anna Louise Allen, and they were married in Meade. She was born in Sweden on July 21, 1912. Esther's birthdate is June 3, 1919.

They farmed near Coleridge for two years before moving to a farm northeast of Randolph, known at the time as the Queeney farm. In early 1947 they moved to their farm home northeast of Randolph with their three young children.

This was to be their family home for twenty-nine years. Their children attended the country school, District 58E, in Pierce County, for their early education. They are graduates of the Randolph High School. The Janssen's were members of St. John's Lutheran Church of Coleridge in 1947.
They were also involved in 4-H. The boys in livestock and Gloria in home projects. The terraces and contours were built in the early 50's and many shade trees were planted, also some fruit trees. Mervyn received a Sioux City Journal Award in Conservation in 1962.

The family includes three children, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, namely, Keith and Brenda Janssen, Michael and Dedra Peterson and Melissa of Minden, Daryl and Diane Janssen, Carrie and Jodi of Fremont, Adolph and Gloria (Janssen) Knapp, Michelle and Craig of Madison.

The Bicentennial Year of 1976 had both happy and sad events for this family. The two youngest grandchildren were born and death took Mervyn from his family. Since then, Esther has made her home in Randolph. Esther (Vogt) Janssen

Marvel E. Jensen

Marvel, born March 7, 1907 to Herman and Christina (Hiebenthal) Mabeus, had five brothers, Les, Victor, Paul, Frank and Harvey, and a sister, Audrey (Mabeus) Bruse. Her parents were early settlers on a farm three miles north of Randolph.

Marvel was destined to work with and love the earth on which she lived. Her early years at home trained her in gardening, cooking, sewing and helping churn butter for the First Country Creamery, which her mother established at their home. The butter was hand-churned in a big barrel-sized churn.

Marvel married Einar Jensen who came to America from Denmark at the tender age of 13. The local residents of this vintage will remember Einar when they reminisce about the happy times, the house and barn dances where Einar played his violin. Music and dancing were an important element in Marvel and Einar's lives. They began married life by running the grocery store and creamery at Wareham, which was located between Belden and Randolph. They returned to farming because of Einar's parents' need for assistance. They spent almost all their working years farming at Coleridge, Laurel, Hartington, Randolph, and Waterbury, Nebraska. They were blessed with two daughters, Virginia and Fern. Virginia graduated from Hartington and Fern graduated from Randolph High School in 1947 and married the local Dale Adams in 1948.

In 1949-50, Marvel and Einar traveled, bought the old J.C. Penney home in St. Joseph, Missouri, remodeled and sold this home and bought a farm at Waterbury, Nebraska.

Hard physical work was a way of life for Marvel as she tended the household duties and helped Einar with all the fieldwork. She loved working outdoors but in September, 1978, it became necessary to leave their farm and move to Lincoln. Einar lost a leg from gangrene diabetes and required the conveniences of in town living. Marvel was able to care for Einar's needs even after his second amputation. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 6, 1982. Einar died later that month.

If you visited Marvel today at 2435 Kessler in Lincoln, she would tell you many proud tales of her three grandsons, two granddaughters and ten (plus one more expected) great-grandchildren. She would take you on a tour through her little brick home where she lives a cozy, happy life. She would share with you her joyful secret that has been a golden thread throughout her life, she still toils the soil and works with God's beautiful gifts of nature.

Marvel extends an invitation to her old friends. She assures you that her reputation for having home-baked goodies on hand to serve you has not changed. Marvel E. Jensen

Ed and Alma Johnson

We lived in the Randolph community 45 years. The first nine years of our married life were in the Wausa area. We then rented a farm two and one-half miles south of McLean along Highway 20. We lived there three years, then we bought a farm from the loan company that owned it at that time. It was three and one-half miles south of Highways 20 and 81.

Our family consisted of three children then: Richard, Georgine, and Marianne. They went to the country school north of our place and usually walked the half mile. We had neither electricity nor a telephone at that time. We used an icebox and the ice man would come and deliver ice several times a week. It was nice! We had such good apple trees on that place: Greenings, Wealthies, Whitney Crabs, Jonathans and winter apple trees. The Hale family planted all those trees. They owned the farm at one time before we lived there.

Our house wasn't much. We put cupboards in the first year as there wasn't any pantry nor any place to store dishes, etc. We had to get our water from the well when the wind would blow so the windmill would bring it up. We did have a rain water cistern and a pump in the house, so we had good water to wash with, etc.

A few years later, Ed dug a cistern by hand with a spade and shovel. It was about 15 feet deep and 12 feet wide. August Kruger, Jr., helped him dig some and my dad, John Closter, helped cement it and put a top on it. The trenches where the pipes were laid were all dug by hand, five to six feet deep, across the yard to the stock tank where the windmill brought the water up. The windmill was about a block from the tank and we depended on the windmill for water. For over 40 years, we had the same well all the while we lived there with plenty of water. It was a shallow well and it's still good and still has plenty of water.
After the well was completed, Ed dug from the cistern to the house so we could get water in the house. The cistern was up higher on a hillside so the water would come into the house.

After Richard graduated from eighth grade country school, he drove to high school at St. Frances Catholic School. Georgine and Marianne went, too. They graduated from high school there. Two more children were born: Rick in 1947 and Roseanne in 1949. They went to country school as soon as they were old enough to go. A few years later, the school was closed and they then went on a bus to Randolph to school.

Richard was inducted into the Army for two years from 1952 to 1954. He remained in the United States. In 1956, he married Beverly Kruger and they farmed nearby.

Georgine married Gene Whalen in 1953. They farmed near Randolph, too.

We got electricity in 1948 and had our house and other buildings wired by Jeff Cleveland of Randolph. We got a refrigerator right away and by-and-by we got more.

Marianne married Melvin Strathman. They were married six and one-half years when he died of a brain tumor. He was sick several months before he passed away. They had four children. In 1967, she married August Weiss of Madison, Nebraska.

Roseanne married Marvin Sauser in 1971. Rick was single at the time of his drowning accident in Minnesota. He was 27 years old at the time.

We farmed all those years, then about 1979 Ed quit farming and rented the farm to Richard. We celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary on January 11, 1981. We have 19 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Ed passed away October 26, 1984, from a coronary stroke. I moved to Randolph in December, and in May I bought a house at 212 West Wayne Street where I now live. Alma Johnson

Kathleen Johnson

Roger Everett Johnson, born August 22, 1935, at Martin, South Dakota, was the son of Clarence Arthur Johnson and Evelyn Elizabeth (Sultz) Johnson. Roger grew up in Martin, Pine Ridge, and Batesland, South Dakota. He moved to Tilden, Nebraska, to attend high school, living with his Grandmother, Margaret, and his Aunt, (Millie) and her husband (Aner Anderson).

Roger met Marian Agnes Kent while attending school. Marian was born August 26, 1938, the third child of Thomas James Kent and Freda Anne (Sauler) Kent, who farmed southwest of Tilden until Tom's death in 1955 at the age of fifty-eight. Marian's siblings are: James, Katherine, and Robert.

Roger and Marian were married on June 9, 1956, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Tilden. Both were teaching school near Elkhorn at the time. Roger attended Midland College in Fremont and Worsham College of Mortuary Science in Chicago. While Roger attended school, Marian returned to Tilden to reside with her sister and husband, Katie and John Beal. Kathy Sue was born there, October 14, 1958. Roger graduated in Chicago in June of 1959 and returned to Nebraska, serving his apprenticeship in Aurora, moving the family there for one year. Roger attended his annual two week stint with the National Guard in Minnesota in July of 1960. While he was away, Joan Marie was born on July 21. Upon his return he accepted a job at the Ericson-Hult Funeral Home in Wahoo. Employment continued there for five years.

The National Guard in Wahoo, an Air Ambulance Company, was still a part of their lives. When President Kennedy recalled the Guard to active duty for the Berlin Crisis in August of 1961, Roger was ordered to report to duty on October 1st. In June of that same summer Evelyn (Roger's mother) became ill and died September 16, 1961. When Roger reported for duty, Marian and the two girls returned to Tilden as a third daughter was on the way. Lorrie Elizabeth was born in Tilden on November 8, 1961. In June of 1962 Roger moved the family of daughters to the army base town of Waynesville, Missouri. The Outfit was released in August; its members returned to their former homes, ours being Wahoo. Bradly Thomas was born October 18, 1962. Jacqueline Jeanne was born there April 26, 1964.

In 1965, a new chapter of the Johnsons' lives began to unfold when they purchased the O'Neill Funeral Home and Clothing Store in Randolph. Roger has always been a community minded person, and arrived in Randolph just as Randolph was formulating the proper paper work to build a nursing home. He continued to encourage stockholders to obtain a letter of need and after many personal calls to area people - he made application to become the administrator of the completed facility. In April of 1968 the building was complete and the doors were opened with three residents. Roger was the administrator.

Ann Margaret was born in Osmond, May 31, 1973, and Roger Eric was born there July 4, 1974.

Roger and Marian are my parents. I can attest to the fact that it's been a busy life at our house. Dad has served as Mayor of Randolph, putting in many hours to make this town a better place for everyone.

As Randolph reaches its 100th birthday, Kathleen owns and operates the Spear-Johnson Funeral Home at Scribner. Joan married Bill Gubbels, August 1, 1981. They live on the Joe Aschoff farm one mile north of Randolph with son, Kyle, born January 18, 1984. She is a registered nurse. Lorrine is a registered nurse at the University Medical Center in Columbia, Missouri. She is currently on the heart surgery team there. Brad married Terri Scott on September 1, 1984, and is apprenticing as a funeral director at Megruce-Price Funeral Home in Superior, Nebraska. Terri is an LPN working in a Nursing Home there. Jackie is attending St. Luke's School of Nursing in Sioux City, Iowa. Ann is a seventh grader at Randolph Public School and Eric is in the fifth grade. Both are horse lovers. Kathy Johnson
Roger and Marian Johnson

Erick Johnson, born December 11, 1880 in Norrtalje, Sweden, to John Johnson and Charlotte Erickson, came to the United States in March of 1909. He chose not to land at Ellis Island because it was compulsory to be in the service in Sweden. Fearing he would be denied entry and returned to Sweden he landed at Nova Scotia traveled down the St. Lawrence River, taking a train to Marquette, Nebraska. An old Swedish custom was, the eldest son supports the family so Erick's younger brothers, Warren and Zachaeus and his mother, Charlotte, soon came to America.

In August of 1909, Ingeborg Johnson (Erick's sister) and her friend, Margaret Bloomquist (born October 27, 1887, to Edla Sundstrum and Emil Bloomquist in Shebrobruk, Sweden) arrived at Ellis Island, traveling by train, also to Marquette.

Margaret and Erick were married, December 19, 1909. Together, on land ten miles south of Tilden, they built a one room house. Nine children were born: Clarence, Harold, Vivian, Maynard and Mildred (twins), Stanley, Bernice, John, and Audrey.

Clarence moved to Martin, South Dakota, and spent a summer working on a ranch. There he met Evelyn Schultz (born to Roy Schultz and Sophia Hansen). They were married in the winter of 1933. Clarence and his father-in-law had a partnership in a trucking firm "White Star Transfer". The couple had four sons - Roger, Gary, William, and Clarence Arthur.

In 1941 Clarence purchased a restaurant, operating it until the family moved to Pine Ridge and purchased a bakery. Part of the daily routine for the boys was forming bread into loaves before going to school in the morning. After school Roger had 180 World Herald newspaper customers waiting for their papers.

In 1949 the family moved to Batesland, South Dakota, and purchased the Batesland Grocery, Cafe, and Motel. Roger's summers were regularly spent with his grandmother, on the farm, riding the train from Dakota at the age of five until his teenage years when he became an important part of the farming operation.

Roger's brothers, Gary and Arthur, now live in Fremont and Wilham lives near San Francisco.

Roger and Marian own and operate the Johnson Funeral Home and are Administrators of the Colonial Manor Nursing Home in Randolph. They have a family of seven children - Kathleen, Joan (Mrs. Bill Gubbels), Lorrie, Bradly, Jacqueline, Ann, and Eric, either born or raised in the Randolph community. Marian Johnson

Frederick and Hilda Kaiser

Hilda Gubbels Kaiser daughter of John and Elizabeth Gubbels was born March 6, 1899, on a farm southeast of Randolph. She attended St. Frances Catholic School. She married Frederick Kaiser of Crofton, Nebraska, April 6, 1921, at St. Frances Catholic Church. Frederick was the son of Fred and Bertha Kaiser of Crofton. Frederick was born March 21, 1898, in Sheldon, Iowa.

To this union was born one child a daughter, Elvera, February 24, 1922, in Crofton, Nebraska. They lived on a farm near Crofton until Frederick's death September 14, 1922.

Hilda and her daughter, Elvera, then moved to Randolph and kept house for her brother Arnold Gubbels until 1936. Due to illness Hilda and her daughter moved to town with her parents until her death on May 15, 1940, at the age of 41. She is buried in the St. Frances Cemetery. Unfortunately, Hilda did not live long enough to attend her daughter's graduation from St. Frances High School in May of 1940. Elvera Dominisse

Gene and Teresa Kaiser

Gene Kaiser was born on December 25, 1920, (Christmas Day) to Tony and Alvina Kaiser in Randolph; the second youngest in a family of six sons.

Tony and Alvina came to Randolph in 1905 from Carroll County, Iowa. Their children were Marc, Muril, Russell, Francis, Gene and Pat. All attended and graduated from St. Frances Parochial School. Gene attended Wayne State College for a time. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in February 1942 and spent most of the next four years in the South Pacific. During this time he participated in thirteen major naval engagements, losing two ships and twice being picked up from life rafts. After his discharge in February 1946, he entered into business with his father. A short time later he formed a partnership with brother Pat known as Kaiser Bros. Produce; this business enduring for thirty-seven years. It consisted mainly of dealing in cream, eggs, poultry, Purina Feeds and mobile mixing and grinding.

On May 29, 1952, Gene married Teresa Estelle Coughlin of Newcastle. They have three children; Barbara Schindler of Fremont, Jane Laska of Norfolk and Dan, currently a student at NTCC in Norfolk. They have three grandchildren; Tammy, Tina and Tim Schindler.

Gene also started and coached the St. Frances basketball team for six years. He served on the Randolph City Council for eight years, was President of the St. Frances Parish Council for four years and has been an active choir member for over thirty five years.

Teresa (Coughlin) Kaiser's family consisted of five sisters; Mary, Loretta, Bernadine, Alice and Ursula and one brother Jack. Teresa attended country grade school near Newcastle and graduated from Holy Trinity High School of Hartington. Upon coming to Randolph she was employed by Secord Hardware; later James Hardware, Buchanan Drug, Tunink's IGA Store and the past twelve years by Hartz Pharmacy.

Gene has always been active in sports, having played many years of baseball. One of the highlights is a 279 game in bowling. The Kaisers have attended many service reunions nationwide which are held at three year
intervals by survivors of the U.S.S. Helena and U.S.S. Benham's sinkings. Gene retired from his business in 1983 and is now a part time employee at Nordhues Feed and Equipment while Teresa continues her work at the pharmacy.  *Gene and Teresa Kaiser*

**Pat and Elvera Kaiser**

James Paul "Pat" Kaiser was born on January I, 1928, to Tony M. and Alvina (Brunsmann) Kaiser, at Randolph. He attended St. Frances School for 12 years and graduated "Salutatorian" of his class. He also attended Creighton University in Omaha for one year, then enlisted in the U.S. Army. After his discharge, he rejoined his father in the produce business. After the death of his father in January of 1948, he and his brother, Gene, formed a partnership, and were in business until January 1, 1982. During these years, they bought cream, eggs and poultry. They also sold Purina Feeds, and ran a mobile grinding service for 19 years. On January 4, 1982, Pat was hired as custodian of the Randolph East School. Pat was also a volunteer fireman for almost 30 years.

On May 17, 1948, he married Elvera Winkelbauer, who was born to Frank and Othilia (Meyer) Winkelbauer on February 17, 1928, at Randolph. She attended St. Frances School 12 years and after graduation worked for Northwestern Bell for three years. She is presently employed at Dr. De Naeyer's Dental Office, where she has worked for 17 years.


**Tony and Alvina Kaiser**

Tony M. Kaiser was born to Anton and Mary (Olberding) Kaiser on December 17, 1884, at Breda, Iowa. His wife, Alvina Brunsmann, was born on July 31, 1887, at New Vienna, Iowa, to Tony Brunsmann and Pauline (Bunker) Brunsmann. They were married in 1905 at Arcadia, Iowa, and moved to a farm south of Randolph in 1907, that is known as the Lee Sellon farm.

They moved into Randolph in 1910, where Tony operated a "Dray Line" for a number of years. He also owned a "Butcher Shop" where B & D Meat Market is now located. He then went to work for Smith Holveson Lumber Company and later for Carhart Lumber Company. In 1939, he opened "Tony's Bar" and operated the bar until April of 1942.

On May 2, 1942, he started "Kaiser Produce", and was the owner until his death January 9, 1948. Alvina passed away on March 31, 1977.

They were the parents of six boys: Marc A. of Oroville, Washington; Muril, deceased in 1957; Russell H. of Spokane, Washington, Francis A., Gene J., and James P. "Pat" of Randolph.  *Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kaiser*

**Ben and Ann Kalvelage**

Ben Kalvelage born in Oldenburg, Germany, came to the United States at age 17, to be with an Uncle Barney Haverkamp and brother Frank Kalvelage living at Arcadia, Iowa.

In 1910, Ben married Ann Schrad and came to Randolph. They started farming southeast of town on several different places where four sons Lawrence, Clarence, Louis, and Eugene were born.

Later they moved to the farm now occupied by Keith Huwaldt. A daughter Violleta, was born here. South of Riverside, at Norfolk, was their next home where Annabelle, the youngest of the family was born. Here all enjoyed swimming, ice skating, hunting, and fishing in and on the Elkhorn River.

Several more moves were made during depression and drought times, to Crofton, Hadar and finally settled at Osmond.

Sons, Clarence and Louis served in the military during World War II for five years in Ambulance and Medical Corps. Sons Lawrence and Eugene were also drafted but failed to pass for medical reasons.

Lawrence better known as "Knuckles" farmed and ran a threshing rig. In 1943, he came to Randolph, started a trucking business adding custom corn shelling and finally went into custom combining. He is still at home in Randolph, married to Mrs. Ella H. Kruger.

Clarence is married to Evelyn Baird. They have a son and a daughter. They lived in California working at Douglas Aircraft, then retired moving to Blue Springs, Missouri, which is their present home.

Louis married Meridith Anderson while in service. They have a son and a daughter. They farmed southwest of Wausa and have now retired living in Wausa.
Violletta is married to Frank Reineke. They raised a family of six sons and three daughters on a farm west of Randolph. They have retired in Randolph.

Annabelle is married to Andrew Weeder and they have a family of three sons and two daughters living on a farm they own southwest of Osmond which is still home.

Eugene worked as a farmhand and farmed for himself in the Wausa vicinity. He retired to Norfolk, and is now a resident of the Wausa Nursing Home. He never married.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kalvelage were devout Catholics and always tried to move near a church school for their children. They celebrated their 30th Anniversary. Both are deceased. Mrs. Kalvelage died in 1941 and Ben in 1949. Lawrence Kalvelage

Lawrence and Ella Kalvelage

Lawrence Kalvelage born February 17, 1911 at Randolph, Nebraska, and Mrs. Ella (Rohlfs) Kruger born November 20, 1913 at Craig, Iowa, were married Thursday, 2 P.M., January 22, 1981, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Randolph, Nebraska, by Pastor Ivan Amman. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Lienemann were their attendants.

After a trip to Colorado, a free wedding dance was given February 6, 1981, at West Randolph Ballroom music by Town and Countrymen. At the dance, friends announced, "It's usually a custom to give a shower before you are married, but seeing this combining critter and a housewife gal kinda pulled a quickie, we will give you a shower at this time.” They gave them such gifts as a hoe and garden cultivator, old lawn mower, a small live pig, baby carriage, six pigeons, vitamin pills and a beautiful bouquet.

They were also honored by friends with a charivari, and also a surprise party by the Kountry Klub.

They make Randolph their home. Lawrence known to almost everyone as "Knuckles" operates a custom service combining grain. Ella belongs to several clubs, is active in church activities and at the Senior Citizen Center. She is also deeply concerned in all activities of her family of three sons and two daughters, fifteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. Beverly Johnson

John and Irene Kelsch

John Kelsch, son of Leon and Theresa Kelsch, and Irene Colling, daughter of Nichalos and Margaret Colling were married February 6, 1932. We were both native Randolphs. John was born here December 10, 1909 and I was born September 27, 1910.

Our first home was in the south part of town where we promptly settled down to raise a family. I quit my job as bookkeeper for Ford Motor Co. in August as we were expecting our first child. Rudy was born November 25, 1932, and on April 2, 1934 our first daughter, Jeanne, was born. Our third child, Mimi was born October 25, 1935.

So in the "Dirty Thirties" we had three children and little else.

We had managed, however, to open a beer tavern and with Johnny working and myself part time, one regular bartender, and a girl to help at home, we made a decent living.

On April 19, 1940 our second son Rick was born. 1941 brought on World War II and many changes. Eventually most things were rationed, but by "wheeling and dealing" we managed to keep in the necessities. Our sugar stamps were almost all traded for shoe stamps to keep four active youngsters in footwear.

In 1943 we moved our tavern to a larger building and our family into a larger home.

Our youngest daughter, Sue, was born September 16, 1945.

While in business in Randolph, Johnny was very active in civic affairs. He was a Volunteer Fireman for 23 years, and very interested and active in baseball and all sporting events.

We were members of the Catholic Church and educated our children in the Catholic school.

We sold our tavern in 1958 and in 1959 we bought Sandy Beach Resort on Enemy Swim Lake in northern South Dakota. This we operated for 14 years and sold it in August 1972. By then Johnny's health was failing and he kept getting worse every year and on July 4, 1978, he passed away.

Our children had all married and moved away. Rudy, after four years in the Air Force, and graduating from Wayne State College, married Sharon Nohr. They had two children but were divorced in 1980. In 1983 Rudy and Pam Christenson were married. He is employed by Sherwood Inc. and is head of his department there. They live at Longmont, Colorado.

Jeanne, after graduating from St. Catherine’s School of Nursing, married Del Gartner and traded nursing for homemaking. Del is a Captain with United Air Lines and they live at Bloomingdale, Illinois. They have four daughters and four grandchildren.

Rick, after graduating from Kearney State, married Marlene Rockafellow, a college classmate, and after five years in the Navy Air Force, was hired as a commercial pilot by Delta Airlines. They live in Hurst, Texas and have one daughter.

Sue, graduated from Kearney State, also married a college classmate, Ron Paine. Ron enlisted in the Air Force and made a career of it. He is now a Lieutenant Colonel and flying instructor at Colorado Springs and they have two children. Sue is content to make a nice home for her group.

On August 18, 1978, John Pock and I were married. We had both lost our spouses, were both retired and had been friends for many years. So we decided to spend our remaining years together. We are living in the west part of town. Irene Kelsch Pock
Agnes Kenny
The name, Dougherty, tells you my great-grandparents came from Ireland. Patrick Dougherty was born March 17, 1832, in Donegal County, Ireland. Margaret Demming was born in 1837, in Donegal County, Ireland. Patrick and Margaret were married in 1855, in Ireland. They came to America in 1857, with a son, Bernard and resided at Cresco, Iowa. Additional children of the couple were Jane, Margaret, Joe, Agnes, Elizabeth, Mike, Alice and Anastacia.

Margaret died July 16, 1895, and Patrick died March 20, 1901. They were buried from the Catholic Church in Cresco, Iowa.

My grandmother, Agnes Theresa (Dougherty) Kenny, was born March 14, 1870, at Cresco, Iowa, the daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Demming) Dougherty. On Thanksgiving Day, 1890, she was married to John Thomas Kenny at Cresco.

John Kenny was born March 13, 1865, at Cresco.

The year of their marriage, John came to Wayne County and bought a farm east of Sholes. The next year, he came out and improved the place and later brought his bride to the then new country. Two children, Joe and Marie were born in Iowa.

John died June 21, 1911, at a Sioux City hospital following an appendicitis operation. Funeral services were held at the St. Frances Church in Randolph with burial in the parish cemetery. John had six sisters.

Agnes stayed on the farm to rear their ten children, seven boys and three girls. After the children were grown and had established homes of their own, Agnes moved into Sholes where she made her home for several years. She had 28 grandchildren and how we loved her and enjoyed going to her home.

In later years, she took care of several elderly ladies in their homes. In 1941, she returned to her farm home near Sholes.

In 1945, Agnes sold her household goods from her farm home and went to Sioux City to reside with her youngest daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bales.

She died March 4, 1953, in Sioux City. She is buried with her husband in the St. Frances cemetery at Randolph.

The second oldest child of John and Agnes Kenny Mrs. Joe (Marie) Winkelbauer, at the age of 92, resides at Colonial Manor in Randolph. The other children, all deceased, are Joseph, Mrs. Leonard (Leona) Whalen, Lenis, Edward, Charles, Damond, Eugene, Mrs. Ray (Agnes) Bales and John. Geraldine (Whalen) Caster

Dr. Quillen Avery Kerley
Dr. Q.A. Kerley was born September 3, 1872, near Cairo, Illinois. He married Mary Ann Roberts, (born August 11, 1880 in Litchfield, Illinois) March 1, 1899. He graduated from Barnes Medical School (now St. Louis University Medical School) in 1900.

When Clara (Mrs. John) Bowles wrote her relative, Virgil Roberts, Mary's father, of the death of Dr. Craw in a runaway accident, they moved to Randolph and took over his practice and they moved into his house where they lived until Dr. Kerley's death in 1927 in Sioux City, Iowa.

During those twenty seven years that he practiced in Randolph, the surrounding community, and towns around Randolph, he gave unstintingly of himself. It is quite certain that he never turned down a single patient no matter how he felt or what the weather. His devotion to his patients probably brought on his early death at 54 years.

One time when a blizzard had closed all the roads, he rode a hand car on the railroad as close as he could to the farm. The farmer met them in a sled and he was able to take care of his daughter.

He was a great fisherman and hunter. He was instrumental in bringing pheasants to the area.

Mary Kerley was very active in community affairs. She sang in the choir at the Methodist Church, taught a Sunday School class of boys, and almost single handedly rebuilt the church when the first one burned. She died May 14, 1961, in Boulder, Colorado.

They had two daughters, Aulda and Flo. When Dr. Kerley passed away they moved to Colorado. Flo (Mrs. James F. Westerberg) died December 13, 1975, in Boulder, Colorado. Aulda (Mrs. Frank E. Mielenz) lives in Denver, Colorado. Aulda (Kerley) Mielenz

John L. Kessler
John L. Kessler was born on October 17, 1883, in Iowa, one of the sons of Leo Kessler and Josephine Korth. He had two brothers, Fred and Joe, and five sisters, Rose, Katherine, Emma, Mary and Ann. As a young man he came to Nebraska in 1902 and worked on a farm near Lindsay.

In 1911, he went to Barber College in Sioux City and opened a barber shop in Madison, Nebraska. He moved to Randolph in 1915 and established himself as a barber.

He was married in April of 1917 to Ema Pierson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Pierson, also of Randolph. One son, Gene, was born to this union in March of 1918. Mr. Kessler's wife, Ema, died in October of 1921, at the age of twenty-seven. On November 19, 1928 Mr. Kessler married Pearl Trentz.

He followed the trade of a barber until 1935, when he became the owner and operator of Randolph's only liquor store. He remained in the business until his death on February 3, 1952. He was widely known throughout northeast Nebraska baseball circles and for many years was actively interested in the Randolph team, either as a manager or as a baseball officer.

Surviving him were his wife, Pearl of Randolph and his only son, Gene, of Humphrey, Nebraska. Pearl died in 1971. Gene has been practicing law in Humphrey, Nebraska for forty-four years, except for the time spent in the U.S. Army during World War II. Gene married Florentine Winkelbauer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank
Winkelbauer in June of 1941. Gene and Flo have five children: Judy Sander of St. Louis, Missouri, Mary Alice Mark of Omaha, Donald of Humphrey, James of Lincoln, and John of Columbus. EJ "Gene" Kessler

John and Katie Klocke
Frank and Dorothea (Otto) Klocke came over from Germany. Son John Klocke was born at St. Bernard, Nebraska, on March 31, 1890. He was one of nine children. At the age of five he moved with his family to Randolph, where they farmed four miles east of town.

John married Catherine Weis from Earling, Iowa, on June 11, 1912. They farmed on the home place, where his parents had farmed. John was one of our well-known farmers in the area. To this union five children were born, all at Randolph: Alex, Adeline, Marjorie, Elmer and LaVertus. They all attended the Kuhl Country School. Elmer and Verdy played a lot of ball, also did a lot of sleigh riding in the winter time.

My Aunt Mary and Uncle Fred Lippold lived across the road from us. I was over there more than I was at home. Sylvia, their daughter, was just like a sister to me. Sylvia's sister Phyllis was younger than we were, and we thought she was too little to play with us big gals. Evelyn (Gubbels) Arduser lived across the section from us, and we had lots of good times playing house, etc. together.

Harvest time was always busy. We could always count on all of our good neighbors to help. I can remember when we threshed; we didn't have any ice boxes or refrigerators, so the food could not be prepared ahead. All the neighborhood ladies came in to help cook the meals for the men.

Lex, Elmer, and Verdy all spent time serving their country. They also were hired hands for many farmers.

Wedding bells rang, not once, but twice. Adeline and I planned a double wedding for February 11, 1941. The dinner was held at home. It was prepared by Mrs. Clara (Joe) Gubbels, Mrs. Ova (Lud) Kuhl, Mrs. Vera (Ed) Hansen and a few others. We had a big dance, or what we thought was big, at the Sons of Herman Hall. Admission was ten cents. They didn't serve lunch after the dance, like they do today.

I married John Daniel Kint of Laurel, Nebraska. We had two children, Dorothy and Robert. John was inducted into the service in June of 1944. He was killed in Germany on February 19, 1945. On August 3, 1963, I married Lowell Van Slyke. We lived in Winside, Curtis and Cozad, Nebraska. We are now retired and live in Randolph.

Adeline married Frank Kramer of Earling, Iowa. They farmed in the Randolph area for a few years, then moved to Iowa. In 1954 they moved to Arizona, where they still reside. They have five children: Duane, Donald, Diane, Richard (Dick) and Dean. Frank had to take early retirement, due to his health problems. They keep busy with family and friends that come to visit them.

On June 1, 1947, LaVertus was married to Rita Krammer of Earling, Iowa. (She is a sister to Adeline's husband Frankie.) They lived on the home place and farmed where the folks lived. As John and Katie retired in 1947, they moved into town. Rita and Verdy had six children: Linda, Kathy, Darlene, Tim, Tom, and Victor. Oldest son Tim was killed in a tractor accident on August 13, 1968. They now reside at Cascade, Iowa, and are farming. Rita has many hobbies such as painting, ceramics, flower arrangements and many others.

On September 12, 1950, Alex married Adele Hosch of Cascade, Iowa. They farmed for a number of years. They are now retired and live in town. They both have many interests, including gardening, and Adele and a group of ladies do quilting.

On November 17, 1952, Elmer married Eva Mae Monternach, of Monticello, Iowa. They made their home in Iowa, where they operated a farm. They were the parents of nine sons: John, Ralph, Stephen, James, Gregory, Mark, Gary, Robert, and Jeffrey. Their oldest son, John, was killed in an auto accident on June 17, 1979. They now reside in Wisconsin and still are farming and in the dairy business.

Our parents John (who died in October of 1958) and Katie (who died in December of 1956) are buried at the St. Frances de Chantal Cemetery.  *Marjorie (Klocke) Van Slyke*

Neil and Karen Kluver
The very earliest spelling of the name Kluver was Klaue (Claw), hence the bear claw in the Coat of Arms. Early records indicate the Kluver group inhabited a small principality in southern Germany. However, in the seventh century when the Romans began their conquests, the Kluvers migrated northward, settling in Northern Germany and the Scandinavian countries. In 1971 there were approximately 200 heads of households in the United States or an approximate total of 620 persons carrying the Kluver name.

Neil and Karen (Clark) Kluver moved to Randolph in 1960, along with daughters Lisa and Jan. They were joined by Marcy (1965), and Sally (1970), bringing the family to six in number.

Neil, from Platte Center, Nebraska, was a coach and teacher in the Randolph School system until 1965 when he became school Superintendent. He attended the University of Oklahoma, Wayne College, and the University of Nebraska, earning a Master of Arts degree in American History in 1962, a Master of Education degree in 1965, and an Administrative Specialist degree in 1968. Karen also taught school, having earned an Associate Teaching degree in 1956. It was during this year that they were married, having met while attending Wayne College.

Neil is a veteran of the Korean Conflict having served in the Naval Air Corps. He is a member of the V.F.W.,
American Legion, Retired Naval Personnel, and Disabled American Veterans.

Among the many activities participated in by the Kluvers, are Mrs. Kluver's bridge club, and Mr. Kluver's golf competitions. Neil has won the Randolph match play Championship on seven different occasions, as well as numerous other titles, and golf trophies totaling over seventy-five in number.

Mr. Kluver has had extensive involvement in community activities. He has served twice as president of the Community Club and for several years on its Board of Directors, as chairman of the Randolph Planning Commission, and president of Cedar View Country Club. He considers his most satisfying accomplishments as the successful merger of the Public School and the Catholic School in 1970, and his efforts as liaison officer in negotiations that brought Randolph an expanded park and a new swimming pool in the 1970's.

In 1985, the Kluver children were all gone from home, Lisa, who has a degree in Business Administration, is Financial Analyst at the Norwest Bank in Norfolk, Nebraska. Jan is married to Randy Meyer of Randolph. They have a daughter, Vandy Jean. Marcy is a junior at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. Sally Jean died in 1983 of the effects of Cystic Fibrosis. She rests in the Randolph Cemetery.

Neil's paternal great-great-grandparents, Herman and Henrietta (Johnson) Kluver were born in OstFriesland, Germany. His maternal great-grandparents, Maurice and Margaret (Kennedy) Langan, were born in Askeaton, Ireland, on the banks of the Shannon River in Limerick County. Karen's grandparents Charles and Florence (Mitcheltree) Clark, were early settlers in her home town of Concord, Nebraska. Her maternal grandparents, Peter and Johanna (Johnson) Nelson, were born in Storkjord, Sweden. Neil and Karen Kluver

Hans Detlef Krohn

My great-grandfather, Detlef Krohn, was born May 12, 1831 in Toenningstedt, Holstein Province, Germany, being baptized and confirmed there in the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

At the age of nineteen he served as a volunteer in the Holstein-Danish War and after peace was established he was drafted for military service by the Danish government and served in the army over a year at Rendsburg.

In 1858, Detlef married Fridericke Kroeger and to them were born eight children, two of whom died in infancy in Germany. After fighting for Germany, the oldest child, Fritz C. or Fred as he was known in later years, was the first to come to the United States. He was a mason by trade and lived in St. Louis where he married Christine Storjohan.

Detlef, Fridericke and children, Sophia, Dora, Maria, August, and William came to the United States about 1884 and settled in Crawford County, Iowa, near Denison. While there Sophia married Louis Messenbrink June 19, 1884. Dora married John F. Prosch March 27, 1887. Maria married Claus Poggensee and August married Dora Claussen in 1891.

August and Dora Krohn moved to Bloomfield, Knox County, Nebraska in 1896 and in 1899 they moved to Randolph. Detlef and Fridericke, Maria and Claus Poggensee and the youngest son, William, also moved to Randolph in 1899. Detlef and William farmed just three miles east of Randolph. William married Bertha Carsten in June of 1904 but became ill and died in December of 1904, a sad loss for such a young life. Shortly thereafter Detlef retired from farming, sold his land and moved into Randolph. August also moved into town about that time. The Krohns were members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

January 17, 1908, Fridericke Krohn died. Detlef asked his son, Fred, and wife, Christine, to move to Randolph from St. Louis and they did in 1908. That same year Dora and John F. Prosch and family moved to Bloomfield, Nebraska.

Detlef Krohn died April 12, 1910. He and his wife are at rest in the Randolph Cemetery. Fred and Christine Krohn were residents of Randolph for thirty-seven years and Fred is said to have laid the brick street in Randolph. Sophia (Krohn) Messenbrink died in Iowa in 1891. Dora and John Prosch lived out their years in Bloomfield. Maria (Krohn) Poggensee resided in Randolph until her death in 1922. August and Dora Krohn were residents of Randolph until his death in 1942. Mrs. Barbara Prosch Cullings

August and Ella Kruger Jr.

August Jr., born in Pierce County, Nebraska, March 20, 1907, and Ella H. Rohlfs, born in Plymouth County, Iowa, November 20, 1913, were married June 1,1933, in Pierce, Nebraska. They started married life on his dad's farm south of Randolph. In 1943 they bought the former Viergutz homestead. This was their home until 1957. Farming was done with horses and a team of mules. The first years were lean due to drought, hail storms and depression. The big advancement was made when they traded a team of mules for a new B John Deere Tractor.

The move to their own farm was the beginning of better times. The home was modern with running water, indoor plumbing, furnace and wired for electricity ready for R.E.A. That was one of the greatest things the federal government ever did for rural America.

With good crops, cattle and hog feeding operations, they could add to their land holdings and improved the homestead with an upright silo and high moisture grain storage bin. When the children grew up to help they added a Holstein milking herd.

They reared a family of three sons and two daughters, and helped each one to get started in his endeavors. Eddy, a son, married Shirley Wingell December 19, 1951. They started out farming and now live on their own place southwest of Randolph. They have a family of five children and seven grandchildren.
Jimmy, a son, served his country in the Volunteer Army. He came home and was married to Kay McMann, January 26, 1957. They farmed the home place and when the farm was sold they moved to Randolph. They now reside in Norfolk, working at Norfolk Iron and Metal Company. They have a family of two daughters and one son, and two grandchildren.

Beverly, a daughter, married Richard Johnson September 5, 1959. They started farming southwest of Randolph on the farm they now own. They have built a new house on it. They have four daughters and two grandsons.

Gary, a son, graduated from Norfolk Junior College and attended University of Nebraska and Midland Lutheran. He married Judy Flemming and they made their home in Randolph working for Woodrow Miller with bees and for a few years he had an Apiary of his own. Both worked at the Randolph Creamery for Harold Sherwood. Later they moved to Fremont. Gary worked for Gamble Distribution Company, Hormel Packing, and now at Valmont Industries, Valley. Judy works at Fremont Printing. They have a family of two sons and one daughter and two grandchildren.

Janice, a daughter, attended University of Nebraska and received her Master's degree. She taught one year at Platte Valley College, and now is Volleyball Coach at University of Nebraska at Omaha. She was most valuable volleyball player four years at Randolph High School and played Varsity for three years at University of Nebraska. In 1983 she was named top Coach of the year of N.C.A.A. Division II including 160 colleges. She is truly dedicated to her profession. She owns her home in Omaha.

After moving from the farm Gary's parents lived in Laurel for one year and then bought a home in Randolph. During retirement August worked with Emil Carlson's Oiling gang. Later he bought a truck hauling gravel and his last endeavor was driving a bus for the Randolph School District.

August passed away suddenly January 29, 1976. Ella worked hard helping with all the aspects of raising the family and the operation of the farm. She still resides in Randolph and married Lawrence Kalvelage January 22, 1981.

Gary Kruger

Albert Kuhl, son of Mathias and Anna Wurdinger Kuhl, was born on a farm near Randolph on December 7, 1899. He married Helen A. Derieg, daughter of Frank and Margaret Derieg. They had one son, James.

Albert and his brother, Frank, owned and operated a chicken and egg business. Albert also farmed east of Randolph, where in 1936 he started his bee business with a few colonies of bees. He was the first bee keeper in the Randolph area, which made Randolph the Honey Capital of the nation. Among his employees were, Frank Schrad, Swan Landberg, Joe Winkelbauer, Art Wurdinger, Harold Lenhoff, Clarence Hosch, Frank Nordhues, Merlin and Dwight Dominisse and Don Kuhl.

In 1942, he bought the Frank Winkelbauer farm, which is now the honey farm five miles west of Randolph. Albert built the extracting plant and garage on this farm. He was one of the largest honey producers in the country, selling his honey to the Sioux Honey Association in Sioux City.

Albert owned several farms, on which he had fields of sweet clover. The bees would pollinate the sweet clover, which would produce sweet clover honey. This process enabled him to start his sweet clover seed business. In 1948, he sold his bee business to Miller Honey Company of Colton, California.

In 1949, Albert built a photography studio, which his son operated. This building is now a dentist office. In 1951, he built the Cedar Motel and several homes, one of which is now the St. Frances Rectory. Albert and Helen lived in this home from 1950 to 1967.

Helen Derieg Kuhl graduated from St. Frances High School. She then attended St. Catherine School of Nursing in Omaha, where she graduated as an R.N. in 1929.

Their son, James, married Doris Winkelbauer in 1949. James operated the photography studio and worked with his father at the Cedar Motel. James and Doris moved to Omaha in 1956. James was an Omaha Police Officer and now owns and operates the Funeral Escort Service in Omaha. James and Doris have six children: Daniel, Patrick, Thomas, Mary Jo, Jane Ann and Michael. They have 12 grandchildren.

James Kuhl

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Albert and Helen Kuhl
Arthur John and Margaret Kuhl

Arthur John Kuhl was a life-long resident of the Randolph Community. As a young man, he walked behind the plow and helped his family till the soil. He loved the land and his farming conservation methods showed his care and appreciation of it.

In 1927, Art and Margaret Derieg were married and together they developed a well integrated farm program, combining corn, oats, hay, hogs, chickens, milk cows and in later years soybeans. Both Art and Margaret were active in the community. Art was on rural school boards, member of NFO, and on the Cedar County Advisory Committee for the Farm Security Administration for several years. Margaret had an associate degree from Wayne State Normal School (now Wayne State College). She taught for several years (before her marriage) in the Newcastle and Albion School Systems. She continued to enjoy educationally oriented activities such as the Agricultural Home Extension Service Programs where she held positions on local, district and state levels. Margaret was also involved with various church groups: St. Frances Guild, St. Thomas Aquinas Study Club, her local church circle and the Hartington Catholic Deanery. She was among several rural homemakers honored by both Omaha and Sioux City Chambers of Commerce.

Margaret was known for her research of family and local history. One of her major accomplishments was an in depth history of St. Frances parish.

The Kuhls’ three children were graduates of the University of Nebraska in agricultural related areas. Margaret married Tony E. Schoonen. They live near Butte, Montana. Tony is retired from the Butte School System. They are engaged in a fishing guide business. Their sons Tony A. and Jack attend the University of Montana, daughter Maggie attends St. Mary College, Leavenworth, Kansas, and daughter Rebecca is a senior at Butte Central Catholic High.

Arthur D. is married to Jean Werst, living in Ames, Iowa. Their children attend Ames schools: John and Elizabeth in high school; Joseph in junior high and David in elementary.

Rosemary E. married Charles Leach. They reside in San Francisco, California, where Charles is a Senior Premium Auditor with Firemans Fund Insurance Company and Rosemary is Director of Fashion and Merchandising at Skyline College. Their daughter, Bridget, attends the Convent in the Sacred Heart elementary school.

Arthur John Kuhl died in San Francisco in March of 1982, 11 days before his 88th birthday. Margaret D. Kuhl was killed in an auto accident near Randolph in June, 1983, at the age of 81.

The Kuhls didn’t leave their farm home except for travel and extended visits with their children. Margeret (Kuhl) Schoonen

John Kuhl

John Kuhl, one of Randolph’s more noted early citizens, moved to the Randolph area in 1890. He was the younger brother of Mathias, Anna, Katherine, Lena and Sedonia Kuhl. He developed a prosperous harness business in the Randolph area, but left it to be managed by others while he enrolled in Notre Dame University. After one year, he transferred to St. John University in Collegeville, Minnesota, where he graduated with a degree in Commerce. Upon returning to Randolph, he expanded his harness business to other areas and began dealing in farm real estate. He also became involved in real estate and farm managing in Oklahoma.

In 1906, he was elected to Nebraska State Legislature as a representative of Cedar and Pierce Counties. This was at the time Nebraska still had their two-house legislature. He served three terms, being elected as Speaker of the House in 1912.

Mr. Kuhl was an avid reader and traveler. His personal library was one of the largest in the Randolph area, and consisted of books and periodicals which he enjoyed sharing with others. During his trip to South America and Europe (prior to World War I), he became interested in fine arts and during the remainder of his life, he devoted much time to these interests.

John Kuhl’s philosophy of “you do not have to spend millions to do good, often a little help, helps” was felt by friends, relatives and especially young people who were trying to further their education. His generosity was appreciated by many.

In 1935, he and Josephine Murphy were married. After John’s death in 1953 (at his home in Omaha), a $60,000.00 Trust Fund was bequeathed to the Archdiocese of Omaha for post-graduate education of priests showing special aptitude in theological and social fields. This bequest is known as the “John and Josephine A. Kuhl Trust”. Margaret (Kuhl) Schoonen

Mathias and Anna Kuhl

Mathias Kuhl and Anna Wurdinger were married at Panama, Iowa, in 1889. They homesteaded on 160 acres southeast of Randolph, built their home and broke the raw prairie, making their farm into one of the most highly improved places in this area. They experienced the rigors of the pioneer days and were influential in the development of the community and establishment of St. Frances Parish, being among its first parishioners.

Mathias Kuhl was born in Wisconsin in 1867, and died in March of 1927, following a lingering illness. Several members of his family also moved to the Randolph area. They were his brother, John, and sisters: Lena (Kuhl) Lorge, Sedonia (Kuhl) Abts and Katherine (Kuhl) Wattier. His sister, Anna (Kuhl) Book, remained in Iowa.

Anna (Wurdinger) Kuhl was born near Vienna, Austria. She was 87 years old when she died in January of 1957. She didn’t leave the farm until the last years of her life. Brothers of Anna, who settled in the Randolph area were:
Tony; Frank, who married Anna Denner; and Joseph, who married Mary Denner. Frank and Joseph had farms close to the Kuhl home place. Both Frank and Tony died early in life; Frank left his widow and a large family, part of who eventually moved to Hugo, Colorado. Anna’s sisters were: Mary (Mrs. Pete Hoffman) who lived near Osmond; Elizabeth (Mrs. John Gubbles) living near Randolph; and Sister Hilda, who was a Catholic nun with the Order of St. Francis of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mathias and Anna Kuhl had ten children: Helen, born in 1890, died in 1912; Ludwig, one of the first children born in the Randolph area in 1892, was married to Ova Daniels and died in 1969; Arthur John, born in 1894, died 1982, married Margaret Derieg; Hilda, 1896 to 1976, married Dr. A.F. Voss; Isidor, 1898-1956, married Genevieve Hopkins; Albert, 1899-1981, married Helen A. Derieg; Frank, 1901-1959, married Mildred Timlin; David, born in 1901, married Luella Bohnson, and at the present, resides in Irvine, California; Rita, born in 1905, married Francis Derieg and resides in Hastings, Nebraska; Charlotte was born in 1908 and died in 1925; Clara Kuhl, born in 1910 and died in 1979 was married to Michael Paige. Margaret (Kuhl) Schoonen

**John R. Lackas**

John R. Lackas was born August 14, 1893, on a farm near Pierce, Nebraska. He was one of ten children born to Nicolas and Anna (Ollinger) Lackas. John’s brothers and sisters were: Pete, Jake, Matt, Margaret, Rosalie, Anna, Elizabeth, Minnie and Lawrence.

John was quite young when his youngest brother, Lawrence and his father, Nicholas, died. This left Anna, the mother, with nine children to raise alone.

Anna Lackas moved her growing family to a quarter section of land six and one-fourth miles north of Randolph on what is known as “The Old Mill Road”.

On this land the children grew to adulthood and eventually married and moved away from the home place. John and Matt remained on the farm and joined a partnership in farming.

Anna Lackas moved to Randolph and lived out her remaining years in town.

John R. married Beulah M. Delozier, the daughter of William and Lila (Beaudette) Delozier of Magnet, Nebraska, on October 9, 1916 at Hartington, Nebraska. Three daughters were born to John and Beulah, namely: Ethel June Nelson, Florence Evelyn Anderson and Phyllis Elaine Titman.

A number of years after Matt had married Alice Hansen of Carroll, the partnership of the two brothers was dissolved and Matt, Alice and their four children: Loyal, Kearney, Marlin and Sandra moved to a farm south of Belden.

John and Beulah remained on the old home place until their deaths. Beulah died in 1951 and John died in 1961.

**Peter R. and Irene Belle Lackas**

Nicholas A. Lackas, my grandfather, was born in Rheine, Germany in the region of Prussia, July, 1856. He grew to young manhood there. He came to the U.S.A. during the early 1870’s, a passenger on a German freighter, bound for New York City. He began working on farms and moved westward as far as Keokuk, Iowa. He found friends and work in that locality. He also met my grandmother, Anna Olinger, there. They were married at Keota, Iowa in July, 1879. They worked on farms as they trekked westward. In 1885, they purchased a small parcel of land southwest of Randolph and farmed for themselves. The next year they rented a 320 acre farm just across the road and moved there. The farm owner was Henry Beck. Grandfather Nicholas A. died in June, 1908. Grandmother Anna moved her family to the farm she had bought, six miles north of Randolph. She resided there until 1918 when she retired and moved into town. She lived in Randolph until her death in April, 1943. They are both buried in the cemetery at Pierce, Nebraska.

They are parents of ten children, namely: Margaret, Peter R., Jacob, Rosalie, Matthew, John, Anna, Minnie Marie, Elizabeth and Lawrence, who died of accidental injuries in June, 1905.

My father, Peter R. Lackas, was the eldest son. He was born in Keota, Iowa, November 4, 1883. He died at his residence in Magnet, Nebraska in February, 1968. He married Irene Belle Manzer at Hartington, Nebraska, in April 1904. Belle’s parents were Colonel Ellsworth Manzer and his wife, Martha Minnie Tatge. My great-grandparents, Christopher and Sophia Tatge, came from Germany and settled in Benton County, Iowa. In 1887, they came to Nebraska and bought land southwest of Randolph. ‘This was their home for many years. They are buried in the Randolph Public Cemetery.

My parents started farming south of McLean, Nebraska. Our nearest neighbor was the George Weyhrich family. Several years later we moved to a rented farm seven miles north of Randolph on the Old Mill Road. In 1918, father bought a farm near Magnet, Nebraska. This was home until 1946 when they moved into the village of Magnet. Father continued to farm until 1964. Mother Belle died in December 1975.

Two children were born to my parents: Me, L. C. Opal Irene and my younger sister, Alda LaVerne. Our home life was happy and healthy. We attended a rural school in Cedar County, District #50—the Muhm School, named for the Fred Muhm family who were early residents of Cedar County and prominent in civic affairs. We had a variety of teachers there; my favorite was Onar Muhm. She was a kind, intelligent, loving individual. Our parents sent both of us to Randolph High School. Alda graduated with honors in the class of 1925. I was lucky to be a member of the class of 1921. Some of the members of this class keep a round-robin letter going after all the years. Members of the robin are: Mathilda (Idler) Warner, Mildred Adams, Esther (Swanson) Colling, Edna...
(Nelson) Axelson, Mabel (Larsen) Lenzen, Gladys (Beaton) Wagner, Ruth (Casteel) Hughes, Opal (Lackas) Sutton, plus one of our favorite high school teachers, Lena Stewart Bain. We do enjoy the robin.

Frank F. Sutton and I were married May 29, 1929. We have always lived on the farm. We have two daughters, Mary Belle (Sutton) Pfefl, Elkhorn, Nebraska, and Opal Kay (Sutton) Berg, Omaha, Nebraska, and two sons, David Frank Sutton, Concord, California and Dan Cary Sutton, Shelton, Nebraska. We have twelve grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Alda LaVerne and Kenneth Lyle Dawson were married September 25, 1929. Alda has one son, Bill Vaughn, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Her husband is deceased. Alda and her son, Bill, are in the oil business at Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Frank and I are living on an acreage on the outskirts of Hartington, Nebraska. He is a “small” farmer and I am a retired teacher. We are kept very busy with our work, family and friends. Opal Irene (Lackas) Sutton

Frank and Mabel Lageschulte

Frank (see Garrett and Bena Lageschulte) and Mabel (see John and Carrie Bennett) came to Randolph in their early childhood. Frank attended school three and one half miles from home. The school was located one mile south and one mile east of what is now the intersection of Highways 20 and 81. He was ten years old at the time of the blizzard of 1888 and spent the night with the other children at school. The teacher, Lizzie Tatge, nearly lost her life trying to bring coal in from an outside shed. The teacher and children finally tied all their coats together and tied them to the oldest boy, so he could reach the coal bin and be pulled back to safety. When the four new school buildings in District 28, Pierce County were erected, a coal bin was attached to each schoolhouse, and a tin box of crackers stored on the hall rafters.

In 1904, Frank was a member of the neighborhood group that organized to purchase materials and build their own telephone line into Randolph. This brought them even closer to their families and the social life of Randolph.

Mabel taught in the southwest school of District 28 and boarded and roomed with the Garrett Lageschulte family. She and Frank were married in 1905 and lived and farmed in the area. Their specialty was poultry. They maintained a 16,000 capacity incubators and were unable to meet the demand for their chicks. Frank died in 1937 and Mabel continued to live on the farm and operate it until 1945. At that time she moved to Omaha. She and her daughter, Frances made their home together until her death in 1954.

Three daughters were born to Frank and Mabel: Evelyn (Weese), Arlene (see Frank and Arlene White) and Frances. They were of college age during the depression, but by helping each other, they all became college graduates. Evelyn taught school and worked for the government, Arlene was a teacher and Frances an accountant working in Omaha.

In 1941, Evelyn married Dale Weese, who was in the Air Force until 1945. At that time they moved to the Weese farm located at 110th and Adams Street, Lincoln. At the time of Dale’s death, Frances retired and moved to Lincoln, where she and Evelyn make their home together on the Weese farm.

In 1984, as a memorial to their families, Evelyn and Frances donated the Weese farm to the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation to become the Lageschulte-Weese Living History Farm for Nebraska. Evelyn Weese and Frances Lageschulte

Garrett and Bena Lageschulte

Garrett Lageschulte was born June 13, 1851, in Schale, Germany. At the age of eight he came to the Chicago area with his father and stepmother. Shortly afterwards he went to Belle Plaine, Iowa to live with a foster family. He told of carrying a school lunch of cracklings on bread.

On September 30, 1875, Garrett married Louisa Shield (1852-1882). Her family was of the Amish culture but not a member of the colonies. They had two sons before her death, Frank (1876-1937) and John (1879-1926).

In 1886, Garrett married Bena Meyer. They moved to the area seven and one half miles southwest of what was to be Randolph. Three children were born to them, William and Irene who died in childhood, and Walter (1892-1954). Garrett’s nephews, Fred (1870-1935) and Sam (1873-1937) made their home with his family until they could prepare homes of their own on adjoining farms.

It was difficult to start farming in the new area. All of the material for their home and numerous outbuildings had to be hauled by team and wagon across the prairie, twenty-two miles, from Norfolk. The men often told of the tedious half mile walks behind the walking plow and cultivator and of husking endless rows of corn.

In 1898, the Lageschults, Tatge and Manzer families, most of whom had come from the Belle Plaine, Iowa area and their neighbors, organized the New Evangelical church which was located about nine miles southwest of Randolph. It served to make a very closely knit neighborhood. In 1918, the church was closed because membership had declined. All of the Lageschultes became active members of the Randolph Methodist Church at that time.

Garrett tried to leave the farm several times. He retired to Randolph from 1905 until 1911, then he returned to his original home. In 1919, he and his wife again retired and moved to California, but they became so homesick for farm life in the Randolph area they returned and moved to a farm four miles south of Randolph.

A quote from Garrett Lageschulte’s obituary in the June, 1929 issue of the Randolph Times: “In the great blizzard of January, 1888, Mr. Lageschulte nearly lost his life in driving to his farm home from Randolph. He did
not look upon the inconveniences and the labor of his pioneering as a regrettable hardship, but rather as a service, and as doing his full part in transforming a new country into the possibilities he foresaw and lived to see fulfilled.”  

Evelyn Weese and Frances Lageschulte

Brigit Lamb

My mother, Mrs. Grace Lamb, my sister Helen, and I moved from Jackson to Randolph in 1918.  

Mother, Brigit Grace (Mahn) Lamb, was born near the site of Homer, but there was no Homer at that time. Our father, Nicholas Theodore Lamb, was born in Ireland. He came to America with his parents shortly before his third birthday.  

Father and mother were married in Jackson in 1895. He was a carpenter by trade. I was born in 1896 and my sister Helen in 1898. 

Helen and I grew up in Jackson and graduated from St. Catherine Academy, each with a teaching certificate. We taught in rural schools. Helen taught three years and then decided upon a business career. She attended the National Business Training College in Sioux City. I attended the State Teacher’s College at Wayne and embarked on a teaching career. 

Helen began working at the First National Bank in Randolph in 1918 and continued to work there until she married Daniel J. McCarthy in 1925. They farmed in the McLean and Randolph area. Born to them were ten children. They were: Ruth, Marjorie, Daniel, Mary, Thomas, John, Ellen, Alice, Caroline and Judith. 

The McCartys and mother and I moved to Jackson in 1940. The children grew up on a farm near Jackson. Mother died in 1943. 

Ruth married Patrick Rooney. She died in 1969 and he in 1971. Their three sons, Patrick, John and Eugene live in Sioux City. There are seven grandchildren. 

Marjorie married Vernon Loutsch. They farmed near LeMars and are now retired in LeMars. They have seven children and six grandchildren. 

Daniel served four years in the Navy. He and his wife, Marilyn, live in Sioux City. They have six children and five grandchildren. He is an accountant. 

Mary married Samuel Morgan. They live in Sioux City. They have five children and three grandchildren, all in Sioux City. 

Thomas served in the Army. He married Margaret Meert. Five children were born to them. They farmed near Jackson until Tom’s death in 1966. His family then moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. 

Dan and Helen had moved back to their farm near Randolph and Tom had been farming the home place near Jackson. 

Caroline and Judith were killed in a car accident, December 31, 1962. Caroline had been an office secretary and Judith a school teacher. 

When Dan and Helen retired from farming, they moved to Laurel. John (Jack) took over the farm. He had been in the Reserves. He and his wife, Madonna (Hoesing) are still farming there. They have five children. 

Ellen married Charles Livingston, a Sioux City teacher at Woodrow Wilson School. They have three children. 

Alice married Gerald Reeg. They live in Sioux City. They have four children and two grandchildren. 

Helen died in 1984. Dan lives at the Casa de Paz nursing home in Sioux City. 

I, Benetta Lamb, live at my home in Jackson. 

Landburg

Eric Landburg was born in Smeland, Sweden, near 1849. He was born on a 400 acre estate. Forty families worked this estate. After serving four years in garden and trees, he signed on as a cabin boy on a sailing freighter; in New York Harbor he jumped ship. 

In visiting Swedish embassy, for declaring intention of becoming a citizen, he met Louisa Dorthea Samelson, who was born in Horton, Norway in 1855. She came by steamship to America, with some help from other Landburgs in Illinois, where they were married. They then moved to Kansas and took a homestead. Luther, Victor, Joseph, the twins (Dave and Alex), John and William were born in Atwood, Kansas. After years of drought and hardship they sold their claim and moved to Nebraska in 1890. They took a tree claim seven miles north of Randolph on the Mill Road. Here Arthur, Harry, Sarah and Roy were born. 

Due to an asthmatic condition Landburg was advised to move farther north. The sale included 36 head of horses as they had farmed seven quarters. In 1910 they moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. 

The writer, Gleason Landburg, son of Victor and Mary (Greeno) Landburg, had two sons, Robert Gail of North Platte and Gary Lee of Augura, California. There is only one grandson to carry on Gleason’s branch of the Landburg line. Gleason Landburg
**Anton and Mary Lange**

Wilhelm Lange was born August 16, 1835, in Entrup, Germany and died January 10, 1922 in Entrup. He married Theresia Wiedemeier June 21, 1862. She was born in 1834 and died August 7, 1894 in Entrup. They were farmers.

They were parents of three sons and one daughter. Anton, the oldest, was born July 22, 1867, in Entrup, Germany and came to the United States alone at the age of seventeen. He made his home with an uncle and an aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wiedemeyer, at Carroll, Iowa.

Mary Straub was born May 24, 1874 in San Francisco, California and later moved with her family to Onawa, Iowa where her father was a butcher. Later they moved to Carroll, Iowa and became farmers.

Anton and Mary were married April 3, 1894 in Carroll, Iowa and farmed there and at St. James, Minnesota. Because of Mary’s health and the damp Minnesota weather, they came to Randolph in 1909 with their family. They were parents of nine children.

Josephine was born May 25, 1895 at Carroll, Iowa and presently lives in Chicago, Illinois. She married Jacob Friesinger.

Anna was born October 12, 1896 at Carroll, Iowa and died January 12, 1966 at Hollywood, Florida. She married Joe Stukel, a former Randolph farmer.

Anthony (Tony) Lange was born July 26, 1898 in Carroll, Iowa and since retiring from farming lives in Laurel. He married Helen McNally, a daughter of Frank and Ellen McNally, former Randolph farmers.

William was born October 18, 1900 at Carroll, Iowa and died November 19, 1950 at Lodi, California. He married Alta Wiese of Randolph.

Clara born in Carroll, Iowa October 15, 1902 died in Chicago June 13, 1928. She was married to Jacob Friesinger who later married her sister Josephine.

Mary was born July 6, 1904 at St. James, Minnesota and married Max Schlacher. They are now living in Tucson, Arizona.

Joseph, born July 12, 1906 at St. James, Minnesota, married Clara Lee, who died March 14, 1950. Later he married Marguarite Mitchell of Belden. He is living in Belden.

Laurence, born May 19, 1910 at Randolph was killed one mile south of Randolph on the Sholes road at the age of six on December 16, 1916. He was walking home from school with his brothers and sisters when he was hit by a car.

Leonard was born October 25, 1913 at Randolph and died October 12, 1956 in Chicago, Illinois. Leonard was born six months after the death of his father.

Anton, the father, died April 14, 1913, at Randolph and was buried in the Catholic Cemetery. He died of blood poisoning and pneumonia.

Mary, the mother, left with eight children to raise and expecting another, continued to farm on the land presently owned by Irvin Haselhorst. She died December 19, 1918 during the 1918 flu epidemic that took many lives in the Randolph Area.

Mary’s body was the first one to be taken into the new St. Frances Church. Although there were several deaths before from the flu, they feared the sickness was contagious and left the bodies outside of the church.

Among the descendents living in the Randolph area are: Mrs. Ray Gubbels (Lorita Lange) and Delwyn Lange, daughter and son of Tony Lange; his grandchildren and great-grand-children: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gubbels and sons Brian, Steven, Michael and Craig; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Gubbels; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haselhorst (Jolene Lange) and children Scott, Barbara and Jill; Mr. and Mrs. John Lange and Sharon; and LuAnn and Susan Lange. 

_Mrs. Ray Gubbels_

**Carl “Charlie” Larson**

Charlie Larson was born in Sweden in 1853. In 1882, at the age of 29, he came to America and worked as a farm hand in the Stanton, Iowa area.

Augusta Josylin Carlson was born in 1852 in Sweden. In 1883, she came to America and worked as a hired girl in the Stanton, Iowa area.

On February 26, 1884, Charlie and Augusta were married in Red Oak, Iowa. Their first daughter Anna was born February 12, 1885 near Stanton, Iowa. Later that year they left Iowa and moved to a farm north of Randolph, where they lived in a sod house. The following children were born there: John, September of 1887, Emma, March 1889, Rose, May 1891, Cecelia, December 1892 and Carl, February 1895.

In March of 1898, they moved to a quarter of land east of where they had first settled. They built the wood house before moving.

In 1913, Charlie Larson donated an acre of land to be used as “school land”. It was District 38, known for years as the Mabeus School. The last school building stands today.

The children became adults and married. Anna married Gus Peterson, December 30, 1908 at Randolph. They later moved to Alliance, Nebraska area. John married Victoria Hildren, March 15, 1911 at Stanton, Iowa. They made their home in the Red Oak area. Emma married Fred Coulter, January 4, 1911 at Wayne and lived their entire lives in Cedar County. Rose married Lee Lookabill, March 27, 1912 at Randolph. They moved to Wood, South Dakota in the 1920’s. Cecilia never married and lived in Norfolk at the time of her death. Carl married Lulu Axelson at Randolph, February 15, 1915 and lived in the Randolph area all their lives.

Charlie and Augusta retired and moved into Randolph. Charlie passed away in 1921 and August, his wife, in 1924.

A fond memory of Carl Larson’s was of his mother baking bread for her family. She had to twist the straw and prairie grasses that they burned for there was no
wood. The straw had to be twisted to keep the oven temperature even.

In 1927, Fred and Emma Coulter moved to the farm where Charlie Larson had built. Fred was one of eight children born to John and Martha (Glick) Coulter. He was born December 4, 1881 in Stanwood, Iowa. His brothers also settled in the Randolph area. They were: George, Jim, John, twin Ed and Oscar. They had one sister, Anne.

Ralph married Juaneta Mooney in Pierce, June 7, 1939. She was the daughter of Ray and Rachel (Moore) Mooney of the Randolph area.

Virgil married Lucille Russell, February 25, 1947 at Blue Earth, Minnesota. They had three sons, Duane, David and Douglas and left Randolph in the 1950’s to make their home near Neligh, Nebraska.

George married Ardith Adams, September 15, 1941. They had four “chosen” children: Danny, Linda, Julie and David. George passed away, June 17, 1966.

Ralph and Juaneta Coulter spent their entire lives in the Randolph area. Ralph passed away, April 28, 1972 and Juanita, his wife, July 30, 1972. They had one daughter, Florene.

At the present time, she and her husband, William Milander and their daughters, Penny, Deb, Patti, Sandi and Amanda live on the farm three miles north of Randolph which contains the house Charlie Larson built in 1898.

Charles Larson

Anna Marie Larson (February 12, 1885-August 29, 1976). She married Gust Peterson from Stanton, Iowa on December 30, 1908, at Randolph. Gust was born September 29, 1874 and died January 29, 1957. They farmed in the Stanton, Iowa area where their children Delbert, Viola, Mabel and Edith were born. The family moved to a farm near Hemingford, Nebraska in 1921 where the Peterson children grew up. One of the main crops in that area was potatoes.

John Andrew Larson (July 10, 1887-June 5, 1979) married Victoria Hildur on March 15, 1911, at Stanton, Iowa. They lived on a farm on the Mill Road, the one where Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Simmons lived just before they moved to town. They farmed the west quarter of the Larson home farm.

Two daughters, Iva and Doris, were born in Nebraska. The family moved to a farm near Stanton, Iowa in the spring of 1916. Two sons, Kenneth and John Donovan, joined the sisters. After farming near Elliot, Iowa for several years the John Larsons moved into town. Mrs. Victoria Larson was born January 16, 1889 at Stanton, Iowa. She is now 96 years of age and lives in a nursing home at Griswold, Iowa.

Emma Constance Larson (March 4, 1889-November 6, 1967) married Fred Coulter on January 4, 1911 at Wayne, Nebraska. Mr. Coulter was born, December 4, 1881 and lived until January 16, 1963. They farmed north of Randolph on the Church Road and also farmed the home place before moving to Randolph. They had four boys: Leslie born in 1912, died June 27, 1923; Ralph born November 24, 1914 – Died April 28, 1972; George born March 5, 1918 – Died June 17, 1966; and Virgil.

Virgil is a semi-retired farmer living near Neligh, Nebraska. He and his wife, Lucille, have three sons, Duane, David and Douglas.

Florene (Coulter) Milander, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Coulter and her husband Bill own the Larson home farm where they now live.

Rosa Larson (May 3, 1891-December 13, 1969) married Lee Lookabill on March 27, 1912 at Randolph. They lived in Randolph on a farm north of town. After living on the home farm they moved to a farm near Wood, South Dakota about 1924. While they lived in the Randolph community six children were born. They are: Dorothy, Ivil, Fern (December 23, 1915-July 4, 1979), Lyle, Dale and Bernice. Darlene was born at Wood, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Lookabill raised their children in the Wood, South Dakota community.

The Lookabills, Petersons and Iowa Larsons continued to keep in touch, over the years with the families in northeast Nebraska.

Cecelia Augusta Larson (December 26, 1892-July 14, 1964) lived in Norfolk after her parents were gone. She enjoyed going to the Granada Theater. The nieces and nephews have many fond memories of her.

Carl August Larson (February 1, 1895-February 21, 1985) married Lulu Edna Axelson on February 16, 1916. Their children were: Ruth Edna, Grace Helen Fos (March 29, 1919-April 30, 1984) and Phyllis Ann Johnson. A daughter born February 23, 1922, died at birth.

The family lived on the west quarter of the land acquired by Charles Larson. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Larson moved to a house in Randolph in 1947. Later Mr. Larson sold the farm to Marvin Frederick, son of his long time friend, Mayo Frederick.


Phyllis’ four children Tonda, Gary, Carla and Shirlene live in Lincoln.

Charles J. and Augusta J. Larson

Charles John Larson was known as “Charley” by his friends and family. He was born near Linkopping, Ostergothland, Sweden, December 18, 1853. At age 27, he sailed for America. Mr. Larson came first to Stanton, Iowa, where he worked on farms, began to learn the English language and became an American citizen.

Augusta Josephina Carlson was born near Linkopping, Sweden on November 24, 1852. As a young girl, she was confirmed in the Lutheran faith. She came to America when 28 years of age and located at Red Oak, Iowa.
Charles J. Larson and Augusta J. Carlson knew each other in their native Sweden. They were married February 26, 1884 at Red Oak, Iowa. A year later they brought their little daughter Anna, to what is now Randolph and settled on an 80 acre farm five miles north on the Mill Road.

When the Larson’s came 101 years ago there was no Randolph. They came from Iowa to Wakefield by railroad and by team the rest of the distance to prairie country in Cedar County. They drove by team to Coleridge and Hartington to trade and settled down to pioneer life determined to do their best.

During the 15 years the family farmed the 80 acres, five children joined their daughter Anna. They were: John, Emma, Rosa, Cecilia and Carl.

The size of the house on the 80 acre farm was 12’ x 14’. There was an area for storage under one end.

In 1900, Mr. Larson sold the 80 acres and bought the farm three miles north of Randolph on the Church Road, the place now owned by Mr. and Mrs. William Milander. The new location grew to a total of 320 acres as more land was acquired. The younger son, Carl, and his family farmed the west quarter from 1916 to 1947. Prior to moving to the new home, Charles Larson hired carpenters to build a barn and a house. During the days of the building, it was the daughters’ task to carry lunch to the workers. They walked through fields from the home on the Mill Road to the new place on the Church Road. The new house had four rooms and a second story with two rooms.

The children attended the school on the Church Road, known later as the Benson School, which was five miles north of Randolph. After they moved they went to the school south of their place on the southeast corner of the Larson farm.

Trees were planted for wind break and fruit trees for the enjoyment of the harvest. A vegetable garden was the main source of food. Mother Larson and girls often walked to the pasture and milked the cows there, a practice in her native Sweden. Cow chips were collected when extra fuel was needed during the grain threshing season.

Winter evenings Mr. Larson would not go to bed until the last embers of wood or coal were burned, because of fear of possible fire.

Mr. Larson’s son, Carl, mentioned that his father made a trip to Texas. He told about the many times he took his mother to Sholes to visit her niece, Mrs. Emma Landberg. On one of those trips they had the experience of a runaway. Carl remembered when the telephone was installed in the house.

As the Larson children grew up, the older ones enjoyed going to barn dances and country school picnics. They went by horse and buggy to the county fair and to see a movie in Randolph. One day trips could be made to Wayne by train.

Mr. and Mrs. Larson and family continued to live the life of the pioneer farmer, on the second farm, until the spring of 1916, when they, and their youngest daughter, Cecilia, moved to a house in Randolph. The house was on the southwest corner of the block, just south of the old bank building. There was a barn on the property at the time. Carl had the barn torn down.

Charles and Augusta Larson had been continuous residents of the vicinity of Randolph for 36 years at the time of Mr. Larson’s death on June 19, 1921. That stretch of years marked them as among the earliest pioneers of the area. Mr. Larson often said that (this from the 1921 write-up in the Times) “The Whitneys – Frank and George – were here when he came in 1885, and Z. Boughn came a year later”, as his memory recalled it. They had seen this area grow from a pioneer condition to its present state (1921) of well tilled farms and good farm houses with conveniences they little dreamed of at the time they came.

Mrs. Larson passed away July 22, 1924. The couple is buried in the Randolph Cemetery.

E. W. Leicy
Last Civil War Veteran of Randolph G.A.R. Chapter

E. W. Leicy was born October 24, 1845, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, within 20 rods of the home of James Buchanan, 15th president of the United States. He was an only child; his father was killed by lightning before his birth.

He enlisted in the Union Army on February 27, 1864, at the age of 19, in Company H of the 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was with General Sherman on the “March to the Sea”. He was wounded in the left shoulder at Selma, Alabama, April 2, 1865, and was taken prisoner at Macon, Georgia.

He married Mary Elizabeth Wallace of Camp Point, Illinois, on September 17, 1874. In October of the same year, they moved to Stuart, Iowa, where they farmed for seven years.

In 1892, the Leicys with their family of five children, Mabel, Mina, Ellen, Omar and Charles, moved to Cedar County, Nebraska, arriving on St. Patrick’s Day. The family spent the first night in the old Boughn Hotel. They settled on a farm four miles north of Randolph. Mr. Leicy bought the farm and lived there until a tornado destroyed all of the buildings except the house. After losing his land, he moved to a farm northeast of Randolph owned by Z. Boughn and resided there until moving southeast of Randolph with his sons, Omar and Charles.

Mr. and Mrs. Leicy celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1924 at the home of their eldest child, Mrs. Fred (Mabel) Caster, of Belden. Also attending were their other children, Mrs. George (Mina) Vanderbilt, Mrs. Steve (Ellen) Griffith of Omaha and Omar and Charles. The Leicys also observed their 55th Wedding Anniversary. Mrs. Leicy died May 30, 1930.
Mr. Leicy was very active in the Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, Masons and Eastern Star Lodges. He attended many G. A. R. Encampments which included the 75th Reunion of the Blue and Gray in 1938 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He celebrated his 93rd birthday in October of 1938.

Mr. Leicy died June 7, 1939, thus closing the chapter of the G. A. R. of the Randolph vicinity. Rose Caster Gunig

Bernard and Mary Leiting Sr.

Bernard “Barney” Leiting Sr. was born September 11, 1868, at Ramsdorf, Germany. At the age of five he came to this country with his parents and settled in New Vienna, Iowa.

He was married to Mary Schrad, February 16, 1892. Mary was born September 15, 1872, in New Vienna, Iowa. They lived near Arcadia, Iowa for thirteen years.

They came to Randolph in March of 1905 and lived on a farm west of Randolph. They retired and moved to town in 1939.

The Leitings were members of St. Frances Catholic church. They had the great privilege of celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 1942.

To this union eight children were born, three sons and five daughters: Joseph (March 18, 1893-April 26, 1967); Clem (March 8, 1899-March 13, 1980); Bernard Jr. (April 13, 1910-April 14, 1964); Elizabeth Leiting (October 24, 1894-May 9, 1981); Josephine Dominisse Lanz (November 8, 1896-December 18, 1966); Mrs. John (Frances) Meyer (August 6, 1901-July 30, 1980); Mrs. Jim (Ann) Mahon (February 21, 1904-February 22, 1955); Mrs. Leo (Helen) O’Brien (August 11, 1906-December 19, 1984). All are buried in St. Frances Cemetery except Clem, who is buried in Hillcrest Cemetery in Norfolk, Nebraska.

Mary died at the age of 73 on April 4, 1945. Barney Sr. died at the age of 81 on February, 1949. Both are buried in St. Frances Cemetery. Elvera Dominisse

Leonard Joseph and Lillian Velma Leiting

Leonard Leiting, born August 12, 1917 at Randolph, was the son of Anthony and Bernadine (Schrad) Leiting. He grew up on his parents’ farm two miles west of Randolph, on the farm where his nephew, Earl Leiting, and family now live. Leonard went to the Catholic school and was a member of St. Frances Church. He really enjoyed playing cards.

Leonard’s dad died November 28, 1944 and his mother died September 1, 1952. They are buried in St. Frances Cemetery.

Leonard had five brothers and three sisters: Eleanor (Mrs. George Bierschenk) died September 25, 1969; Louie died July 18, 1945; Paul lives at Sacramento, California; Elmer died May 22, 1972; Vernice and Mildred both live in Randolph; Anna Lee (Mrs. Fern Schutt) lives one mile north of Sholes on a farm; and Marvin died November 6, 1982.

Lillian Velma, born March 23, 1919, was the daughter of Chris and Albertine (Olson) Gunderson. She was born on a farm northwest of Randolph, where Mr. and Mrs. John Lange now live. Lillian had two brothers and two sisters: Carroll of Goodland, Kansas; Elvina Boupen of Kansas City, Missouri; Ida June Winkelbauer of Hastings; and Marvin, who died February 19, 1963. Lillian graduated from the Magnet High School in 1935. She belongs to the Catholic Church and the St. Frances Guild in Randolph.

Leonard and Lillian were married November 20, 1939 at Guckeen, Minnesota. They lived one year in Minnesota and worked for Thomas Guckeens at Blue Earth, Minnesota. In December 1940, they returned to Nebraska and moved to a farm north of Randolph, the Frank Stegge farm, now owned by Mrs. Vernon Viergutz. While living there, a son Roger Dean was born on January 18, 1944. On March 1st they moved to a farm two miles west, owned by Harold Martindale and Clarence Haley.

On August 1, 1946, another son, Marlin Edward was born. Leonard and Lillian lived on the Martindale farm for 28 years.

Leonard suffered a severe stroke July 7, 1971 and in November had a farm sale and quit farming. The Leitings moved to the Kenny Rolfes farm now owned by Norbert Schaeffer in December 1971. In November 1974 they moved to the Hank Korth farm now owned by Jack Korth. In January 1977, they moved to a farm one mile west of Randolph owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gubbels.

Roger Leiting graduated from the Randolph High School in 1961 and in October 8, 1966 he married Marilyn Zibell of Pierce. They have three daughters Debra, Karla and Brenda and live in Randolph.

Marlin Leiting graduated from Randolph High School in 1964. On September 4, 1971, he married Jennie Peck at Coleridge. They have a daughter Kay and a son Keven. They live in Plainview.

Leonard passed away November 23, 1982, and is buried at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Norfolk. Lillian lives on the Gene Gubbels farm.

Henry and Pauline Lenzen

My earliest recollection of Randolph was coming to visit my grandmother and grandfather, Herman and Christina Lenzen, during the summer when I was little. My grandfather was section foreman on the CSTP & O Railroad and my grandmother owned and operated the Randolph House.

Her hobby was making grottos and lawn decorations out of chipped rock and cement. She made many crosses that were used as tomb stones, especially for babies, in the St. Frances Cemetery. On a recent trip to the cemetery I found several crosses in very good shape. They had to be made at least 45 to 50 years ago. She also made many table top grottos. I’m sure several families in the

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Randolph area have them. I have the last one she made just before she died in December, 1942.

On my summer visits I remember the Randolph House as a very large hotel with a big back yard. I also remember going shopping with my grandmother and I always got a delicious fresh made hot dog from Sherwood’s Meat Market.

My father, Henry Lenzen, lived in Randolph many times. He had five brothers and one sister and although they moved around a lot because of grandpa’s job on the railroad, they kept moving back so that their children could have a Catholic education. My father started to work for the railroad when he was fifteen. He was living in Randolph when he married my mother, Pauline Pinkelman, from Wynot, November 24, 1924.

Although my second oldest brother, Wayne, was born in Randolph, I was born in Sholes in the box car that was used as the railroad station. My mother was the caretaker and my father worked on the extra board for railroad agents. After moving to Wakefield and Winside we moved to Randolph in January, 1946, where he was the agent. When we moved to Randolph it was just after the war and we couldn’t find a house so my father built four rooms in the large waiting room of the depot. We used that for three bedrooms and a living room. We used the ladies waiting room as our kitchen. Early in the spring of 1951 he took the agent’s job in South Sioux City. My oldest brother, Wilfred took over the agent’s job in Randolph and also used these living accommodations until he took the agent’s job in St. James, Minnesota, several years later.

My father retired in 1968 after working over 50 years for the CSiPM & O Railroad and had never taken one day sick in all that time. While living in South Sioux City, my mother became a licensed practical nurse and she retired in 1970. My mother passed away at the age of 83, July 21, 1985.

I graduated from St. Frances in 1951 and although I have lived in New York for over 25 years, I still come back and visit when I can. My brother, Wilfred, and his wife, Marian, still live in St. James, Minnesota; my brother, Wayne, (Better known to many of his Randolph friends as Tubber) and his wife, Ginger, live in Sioux City; and I with my husband, Bill, live in Wappingers Falls, New York. Even though I did not move to Randolph until I was 13 years old and left in 1952, I truly think of Randolph as my home town and am very proud of it. Marilyn McGinnis

Herman and Christina Lenzen

Herman Lenzen was born in St. Nazians, Wisconsin, on January 1, 1874, to Henry and Anna Lenzen, who had emigrated from Prussia. Sometime in the 1880’s the family, including another son, John, moved west to Hartington, Nebraska.

Christina Hassman was born in Fort Madison, Iowa on December 18, 1878. She was the fifth of 11 children born to Bernard and Katherine Hassman. The Hassmans moved to Randolph about 1880.

Herman Lenzen married Christina Hassman on February 19, 1901. They farmed only a short time before Herman took a job on the railroad as a section hand. They then moved frequently, living in Fordyce, Leigh, Humphrey and Randolph, to name a few places. The railroad became Herman’s mode of transportation. He always used the “gas-car” when taking the family on outings. He never learned to drive an automobile.

Eventually the Lenzens became permanent residents of Randolph. Herman continued his work on the M & O Railroad, as section foreman. In September of 1919, they purchased the “Randolph House” from the Frances estate. The place was in disrepair and very poorly furnished, but Christina went to work reconditioning and refurbishing it until it became a show place of the community. It was there she took up the hobby of building grottoes, statuary and other lawn and garden accessories with stones and rocks set into cement.

One daughter and six sons were born to this union. Their daughter, Elizabeth married Joseph Pinkelman of Bow Valley and now lives in Wayne.

Four of their sons, Henry, Leonard, Bernard and LaVern, followed in their father’s footsteps and chose careers with the railroad.

Henry married Pauline Pinkelman of Bow Valley. He presently lives in South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Leonard married Mabel Larsen, daughter of Peter and Anna Larsen of Randolph. He is deceased. Mabel lives in South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Bernard married Gladys, daughter of James and Mabel Gries of Randolph. They are living in Sioux City, Iowa.

LaVern served in the Army Engineer Corps in the Philippines during World War II. He and his wife, Nina, reside in Omaha.

A fifth son, John, married Dorothy, daughter of Herman and Philomina Kaiser of Randolph. They farmed in the Randolph vicinity until moving to Hinton, Iowa. John is deceased. Dorothy lives in Sioux City, Iowa.

A sixth son, Herman, Jr., married Lois Branch of Sioux City, Iowa. He resides in Portland, Oregon.

In addition to these seven children, the descendants of Herman and Christina include 23 grandchildren, 47 great-grandchildren and 28 great-great-grandchildren.

Christina Lenzen died December 28, 1942. Herman married Elizabeth (Pinkelman) Marx, the widow of his cousin on May 29, 1944.

Herman passed away on December 2, 1956. Madeline Kelly

W. E. Lewis

William E. Lewis and Winifred (Hawk) Lewis and family moved by rail to Nebraska in 1916 from a farming area in Audubon County, Iowa. They settled on a farm near McLean, Nebraska.
The family included two sons and one daughter. The eldest, Frank E. Lewis, brought his bride Lucile (Cannon) Lewis, who was from the same vicinity in Iowa. Her mother was concerned about her daughter going “out west” on that prairie land and Indians!

Two teenagers in the Lewis family, Percy and Hannah, enrolled in the McLean High School.

In 1918, a first grandchild, Evelyn, was born and in 1920 her sister Alene was born to Frank and Lucile.

Winifred Lewis cared for her entire family during the 1918 flu epidemic as she was spared the illness. She also served as a midwife to a number of families through the years.


William and Frank Lewis farmed in partnership in several communities in Cedar, Wayne and Pierce Counties, with Randolph as the “hub”. Their last seventeen years were on the Gurney Moore farm ten miles southwest of Randolph.

From the Moore farm the daughters of Frank, Evelyn and Alene, attend Randolph High School. The miles and country roads were not always easy. Those were the depression and dry years of the “Dirty thirties”. Kittenball was a favorite summer sport, the girls being active on the McLean team. It was not “slow pitch” at that time. Many games were starred as the Randolph Junior Fair entertainment. Free outdoor movies were also a source of recreation at McLean. Many Randolph people attended.

After graduation in 1936, Evelyn taught rural schools in Pierce County for ten years. In 1945, she married Melvin S. Miller whose parents had moved to rural Randolph in 1911 from Shelby County, Iowa. Their children are Karla and Leon. Both are Randolph Alumni. The Millers farmed in the Randolph Community until 1972 when they moved into Randolph. Melvin served for a time on night deputy police duty. He passed away, December 18, 1981.

In 1938 Arlene married Blair Van Slyke whose father and grandparents came to Randolph from Audubon County, Iowa. Their children are Gary, Karen and Billy. They attended Randolph Elementary School. Gary, the first born, had a total of ten grandparents. Blair was an auctioneer while residing in Randolph. His early services were with Ed Evans of Randolph. The family left Nebraska in 1949 and moved to Idaho. Blair and Alene now reside in Puyallup, Washington.

On December 24, 1944, Will and Winifred Lewis celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Will and Frank dispersed of their farming operation in 1948 and moved to the acreage which they purchased in 1948 in east Randolph. Frank served as night marshal several years. Will was a great participant through the years in horseshoe games and tournaments. Will died May 24, 1952 at 83 years of age.

Lucile, wife of Frank, died September 7, 1952.

Winifred, wife of Will died December 23, 1962 at age 90.

Frank died March 24, 1968. He had married Ruth (Blair) Dibbert of Randolph in 1957. She lives in Randolph.

Evelyn (Lewis) Miller is a present resident of Randolph and has been employed in the school kitchen the past twelve years. Hannah (Lewis) Copple also resides in Randolph and both are members of the First united Methodist church. Evelyn (Lewis) Miller

Diamond Days 1961
Back row - Eldred Pentico, Clarence Shrad, Leonard Schrad
Middle row – Tony Backer, Paul Mannion
Front Row – Keith Huald, Gett Bermel

Merlin and Nancy Lewon
Merlin is the son of Roy and Lola Lewon of Hartington. Nancy (Heckert) Lewon is the daughter of life-time Cedar County veterinarian, R. W. Heckert of Hartington, Nebraska and M. Marie Heckert, the first home economics teacher of Hartington High School. Merlin and Nancy moved to Randolph in 1967 and built a home in west Randolph where they still reside.

They are the parents of four sons and one daughter, who all graduated from Randolph Public High School. They also have ten grandchildren.

Steven of South Sioux City married Rhonda Meier. They have two daughters: Michele and Melinda.
David of Texas married Beth Siecke. They have one son, Zachariah.

Brian married Valerie Leiting. They have three children, Marsha, Bradley and Kevin and live in Randolph.

Michael of Laurel married Jacqueline Gast. They have two children, Faith and Christopher.

Becky married Kenneth Wattier and they have two children, Randy and Karie and they farm near Randolph.

Merlin and Nancy attend the First United Methodist Church. Nancy Lewon

John D. and Marie Lienemann, Sr.

John D. Lienemann, Sr. was born in Oldenburg, Germany, November 20, 1870 and came to the United States in 1889 as a young man. He worked on a farm near and around Hooper, Nebraska for five years. Then he returned to Germany in the fall of 1894 to see his future bride and visit relatives.

John returned in March, 1895 bringing his future bride, Marie Stover, with him. John had a place for him and Marie to work on a farm near Hooper, Nebraska. They were married on March 10, 1896 at Hooper, where they lived for seven years.

Their four oldest children were born there; Henry, William, Martha and Anna. In 1903, they purchased a farm near Wayne, and they added five more children to their family - John (Jack), Emma, Marie, Bernard (Ben) and Frieda.

In 1913, they purchased a farm south of Randolph and later another son, Ernest, was born. This made the family of ten children complete.

The moving was all done with teams of horses, wagons and hayracks. The cattle were herded all the way by horseback riders and on foot. The moving took several days to complete.

Marie and the younger children came by train to Randolph. They were met by Henry Rudebusch, Sr., a good friend of the family, and taken to their farm home. Later they were taken to their new home which had been made ready with stoves and beds for family living when they would get there. They lived there until they retired in 1935.

Their golden wedding was observed March 10, 1946 at the Unity Hall in Pierce and hosted by their children. All ten children and their families were present.

They experienced many hardships and much illness during their married life. One of these times was when Marie became very ill in 1917 at their farm home. John called Dr. A.E. Cook. He came out with his horses and buggy and diagnosed it as appendicitis. Dr. Cook called a surgeon at Sioux City, Iowa to do the surgery and a nurse to assist him. After removing the appendix, the doctors re-examined her with flashlights and discovered she had an infected gall bladder which was also taken care of.

At the time the surgery was done in the home on a large dining room table. The nurse remained to take care of Marie for nearly two weeks.

At this time Fred W. Meyer’s mother, Mina Meyer, came from Wayne to help take care of Marie’s family with the younger Lienemann children staying at the Fred W. Meyer’s home. The Meyers had been neighbors at Wayne. They had also moved to Randolph and helped on many occasions.

This was one of the many unusual experiences. There were many, but too numerous to mention.

John passed away June 20, 1948 and Marie passed away September 29, 1968.

Marie was the first resident to enter the Colonial Manor at Randolph in 1968. At this time nine of the ten children are still living. William passed away December 28, 1979. At the time of Marie’s death, she had all ten children, twenty-nine grandchildren, fifty-seven great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren. Those surviving in August 1985 are: Henry Lienemann of Norfolk, Martha Bargstadt of Norfolk, Anna Bargstadt of Pierce, John (Jack) of Randolph, Emma Bargstadt, Pierce, Marie Rathman, Norfolk, Bernard (Ben) of Randolph, Frieda Broer, Randolph and Ernest Lienemann of Denver, Colorado.

William and Elsie Lienemann

William “Bill” Lienemann, the second eldest son of John and Marie Lienemann was born at Hooper, Nebraska on January 4, 1898. When several years old, he moved with his parents to a farm near LaPorte, south of Wayne. In 1913 his family moved to a farm south of Randolph. He assisted with the farming while living with his parents, except for one year while he worked for William and Tina Kruger. Their daughter, Elsie, was born on the farm. She became his bride on February 8, 1921. The wedding was at the Charlie Kruger Home.

They moved to a farm southeast of McLean. After several years they moved to the farm east of them. They purchased this farm in 1927 from Ludwig and Marie Schomberg.

They had three children: Marvin, Vernon and Darlene.

Marvin, their eldest son, was born in 1922. His entire education was received from the McLean Public School. After graduating from high school he helped on the family farm. He entered the military service in 1943 and served in the United States infantry. He was in combat in Germany and also in the “Army of Occupation” in the Philippines before he was discharged in 1946. In January 1949 he married Lydia “Ann” Aaberg of Norfolk. She graduated from Norfolk high School in 1944.

They started farming southwest of Randolph, where they lived for three years and have since resided on the farm east of McLean. Marvin served on the school board of the McLean School for 25 years and also, served on various organizations of St. John’s Lutheran Church of Randolph, of which they are members.
They have two sons, Randy and Ricky. They attended McLean Elementary School and graduated from the Randolph High School. Randy attended Augustana College at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, two years and then spent six years in the Navy. After he was discharged he attended UNSTA at Curtis, Nebraska. He graduated as a diesel mechanic. He married Kris Jorgensen of Curtis, in April 1978. They have three children, Kari, Ryan and Erik. They live at Loomis, Nebraska.

Rick attended UNSTA of Curtis, graduating with a Degree in production agriculture. He returned home where he was engaged in partnership with his parents. He married Marilyn Botos of Missouri Valley, Iowa in October 1981. They have two children, Camtrice and Leah Renee. They live at Woodbine, Iowa.

Vernon, their second son was born in 1924. He has lived on the same farm his entire life. He attended the McLean School and has been farming since graduation. He married Vernelda Meyer of North Hollywood, California in September 1954. After attending Altona Parochial School for eight years, she furthered her education four more years, graduating from Wayne High School. They have two children, David and Joan. All have been members of St. John’s Lutheran church in Randolph, being active in various organizations of the church.

David and Joan attended the McLean School, graduating from there after the eighth grade. They went to Randolph High School and both graduated from there. David graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and is now employed in Iowa as a design engineer. Joan graduated from Southeast Community College, Lincoln and is now employed in York, Nebraska.

Darlene, their only daughter, was born in October 1929. After graduating from McLean High School in 1947, she resided with her parents until she married Keith Aaberg of Stanton, Nebraska in June 1955. They live on the Aaberg family farm, east of Stanton.

They have three children, Kurt, Alan, and Tracy. Kurt and Alan are both graduates of Stanton Public and High School. They also are graduates of Northeast Technical School of Norfolk. Kurt has a degree in architectural drafting and Alan graduated as a diesel mechanic. Kurt married Nancy Stelling of Stanton in April 1983. They have one daughter, Kimberly. Tracy, their only daughter attends school in Norfolk. They are members of Faith Lutheran Church in Stanton.

William and Elsie remained on the farm until November 1954, when they moved into Randolph. They observed several wedding anniversaries and were able to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary February 7, 1971. They were members of St. John’s Lutheran Church of Randolph. Elsie was a lifetime member, William served on the Church Council for over 30 years and was voted to be an Honorary Member of the Council. He also served on the McLean School Board for many years.

Elsie passed away December 7, 1975 and William passed away December 28, 1979. Marvin and Vernon Lienemann and Darlene Aaberg

Henry and Susanna Lippold

On September 9, 1959, Henry Lippold, a resident of Randolph, for 50 years, passed away. At this time he was the oldest living resident of Randolph. Henry was almost 94 years old.

Henry was born December 24, 1865 at St. Mary’s, Iowa. On August 30, 1892, he married Susanna Berscheit, who had come with a brother and sister to this country when she was 17 years old, from Bodom, Germany. Her parents and several brothers and sisters remained in Germany. Susanna passed away May 14, 1936 at the age of 67.

Henry and Susanna were the parents of six children, four boys and two girls. Two girls and two boys died in infancy. Fred and Art were the oldest and the youngest of the six children.

Arthur, the youngest, was born at Randolph, March 21, 1906. He graduated from St. Frances High School in 1925, and then attended Creighton University, graduating from the College of Pharmacy in 1929. On June 6, 1936, he married Betty Rupprecht, of Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and they lived in Omaha, until 1940, when they moved to Prineville, Oregon, where he owned and operated a drugstore. On February 8, 1948, after a lengthy illness he died, leaving his wife, Betty and his daughter, Darlene. The daughter, Darlene, died several years ago leaving her husband and small daughter as survivors.

Henry and Susanna also raised Tillie, a great niece, from infancy to adulthood. She attended school at St. Frances High School. She later married Clarence Barrier and moved to Texas. She passed away there several years ago.

Fred, the oldest of the children, was born at Panama, Iowa, July 23, 1894. In 1900, when he was six years old, he came with his parents to Randolph, settling on the farm four miles east of town. They had purchased the farm along with a little two room house and a small barn for horses.

On May 25, 1916, Fred married Mary Weis of Earling, Iowa. They first met when Mary came to visit her uncle Pete Weis, who was a neighbor of the Lippolds. Mary’s parents were originally from Luzenburg, Germany. She had two brothers and five sisters.

At the time Fred and Mary were married, Henry and Susanna retired. They moved into a new home in the East part of Randolph, which they had built near the St. Frances Church. In 1935, when Susanna died, Fred and Mary moved into town to make a home for Henry. Fred continued to farm until 1949, when he retired.

Mary and Fred had two children, Sylvia and Phyllis. Sylvia married William Coenen of Defiance, Iowa, August 19, 1941. At the time of Fred’s death, Sylvia and
Bill moved to Henry’s farm. Phyllis, the younger of the girls, married Ted Tunink, November 13, 1952.

Fred Lippold died suddenly at the age of 56 on July 19, 1950, while visiting in Belden with friends. Mary remained living in Randolph where she continued to make a home for Henry Lippold until he passed away in 1959. Mary continued to live in this home near the Catholic Church until she passed away October 1, 1976, at the age of 83. The farm originally settled by Henry Lippold is still in the family belonging to Sylvia (Lippold) Coenen.

Reynold and Odelia Loberg

Mike Hosch was born October 20, 1880, in Cascade, Iowa to John and Catherine (Besinius) Hosch. He was one of 12 children. He grew up on a farm.

Mike married Elizabeth Neiers, daughter of John and Anna (Loes) Neiers of Cascade, Iowa, on May 10, 1904, at the Catholic Church. They lived at Cascade where their son, Francis, was born March 12, 1906. Later they moved to Farley, Iowa, where their daughter, Odelia, was born November 7, 1907. In 1908, they decided to move to Randolph on his Dad’s 320 acre farm three miles northeast of Randolph. They belonged to St. Frances Church.


We went to country school District 38, the Thaden School. My Dad was on the school board for many years. Part of the time we went to St. Frances Sister School to get our religious education.

For entertainment after we went to church, we sometimes would pack a picnic lunch and drive to Pearl Creek to fish and pick wild berries. Other Sundays, we would go west of Randolph to my Uncle Matt Hosch’s farm where there was always a ball game. After the game, we were invited to the house for cake and delicious homemade ice cream. There were also neighborhood house parties where we would dance or play cards. Saturday nights were town nights to do our shopping, visit with neighbors, or go to the show.

Our farm was sold to my uncle Matt Hosch on March 1, 1931, and we moved into Randolph. Dad worked for Harold Sherwood in the slaughter house and butcher shop, butchering and cutting meat. He was also night watchman for several years. He had a job taking mail from the post office to both depots and from the depot to the post office pushing a two wheeled cart. His faithful dog was always with him.

Mom raised a big garden – chickens, ducks and geese. After they moved to town, she would work for anybody that needed help or a babysitter.

My dad died July 9, 1951 in an Omaha hospital. Mom lived by herself until she moved to the Colonial manor soon after it opened. She died at the Osmond Hospital September 29, 1969.

I married Reynold Loberg of Carroll, Nebraska at St. Frances Catholic Church on November 24, 1931. Reynold was the youngest of seven children to August and Ursula (Braunger) Loberg. He was born January 27, 1906 on a farm north of Carroll. He farmed with his brother Will. In March of 1932, we moved to our farm five miles north and one and one-half mile east of Carroll. We lived there for almost 52 years.

We had six children: Vernon of Randolph, born January 17, 1933; they had eleven boys and two girls, their second eldest, Lester, Died February 23, 1984. Harold, of Carroll, born September 20, 1934; they had four boys and two girls. Raymond, of Carroll, born June 23, 1936; they raised three boys. Melvin, of Laurel, born June 20, 1939; they had four girls and two boys.

Esther Coble, of Lincoln, born July 21, 1943, has one daughter. Her husband, Larry, died in a jeep accident on June 13, 1974. Betty (Mrs. Raymond) Bloomquist of Lincoln, born January 27, 1951; they had one daughter.

On Wednesday nights we would go to Carroll during the summer to do our trading, and then go to free movies in an empty lot. On Saturday nights, we went to Laurel to shop and, if there was a good movie, we would go to it or visit with friends and neighbors. We belonged to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Carroll until it closed. At that time we joined St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Laurel.

All of our children went to School District 103, a country school. The children went to different high schools: Vernon, Harold and Raymond went to Laurel; Melvin to Belden; Esther went to St. Frances in Randolph for three years and graduated from Wayne High. Betty attended high school one year in Belden and then went to Randolph High. She graduated as valedictorian and her husband Raymond as salutatorian the same year.

We lived on the farm until October 1, 1983. Due to Reynolds’s health, we moved to Wayne, Nebraska at 901 Walnut Street. We now go to St. Mary’s Catholic Church located less than a block away. The grocery store is five blocks away. Mrs. Reynold (Odelia Hosch) Loberg

Vernon and Beverly Loberg

Reynold and Odelia (Hosch) Loberg presently of Wayne were married November 11, 1931. Their first child, a son, Vernon, was born January 17, 1933, in Randolph. Vernon lived in the Carroll vicinity his first twenty-one years. He attended District 103 for his first eight grades and then Carroll and Laurel for his high school years.

Vernon helped his dad with the farming until April 1953 when he entered the Army. He received his discharge March 31, 1955. The members of Vernon’s family are Harold and Raymond of Carroll, Melvin of Laurel and his two sisters, Esther (Mrs. Larry) Coble and Betty (Mrs. Ray) Bloomquist both of Lincoln.
Cy Gubbels and Mary (Suager) Gubbels were married in Randolph April 29, 1935 and gave birth to their first child Beverly on September 8, 1936. She is the oldest of seven children. Gene, Rosalee (Mrs. Joe) Nordhues of Randolph, Larry of Douglas, Wyoming, Luverne of Omaha, Roger of Kansas City, Missouri and Pat of Norfolk. Beverly was born in Stuart, Nebraska.

Beverly received most of her education in Randolph at St. Frances where she graduated in 1954. Beverly and Vernon met in the fall of 1953 and became engaged in May of 1954 and were married June 2, 1955, at St. Frances where both of their parents had been married. Through this sacred union they were blessed with 13 beautiful children.

Paul was born in Randolph, February 18, 1956, and married Julie Bargstadt, September 12, 1980. They have one child, Emily. Paul owns the welding shop in Randolph.

Lester born in Laurel February 7, 1957 and graduated from Randolph as all of the children have. Lester lived in Wayne where he worked for Wayne Public Power until he became ill with melanoma cancer and died February 23, 1984.

Loren was born December 15, 1957 graduated in 1976 and went to school in Wichita, Kansas for a year. He has worked in Norfolk auto body shops ever since.

Dale was born March 10, 1959 and married Julie Kruse July 19, 1980. They have two children, Josh and Lyndsee. They reside in Randolph and Dale works for Thiesen Construction.

Oh how happy we were on July 19, 1960 when our first daughter, Verlene, was born. She graduated in 1978 and married Jerry Synovec August 14, 1982. She works at Affiliated Foods and has two children, Nick and Erica. They live in Randolph.

Keith was born September 9, 1961 and married Diane Lienemann on April 12, 1980. He works for Morton Buildings in Norfolk and they reside in Randolph also.

Daryl was born January 7, 1963 and was married to Julie Jensen on June 23, 1984. He worked with bees several years, He then moved to Hill City, Minnesota, where he works at a resort.

Merlin was born March 5, 1964, graduated in 1982, and is now going to Wayne State College where he is presently a sophomore and wants to become a coach.

Arlyn was born June 17, 1965, graduated in 1984, and is still undecided as to what he wants to do with his life, so he is still at home.

Darin was born October 8, 1966 and graduated in 1985. He was the state wrestling champ at the 155 lb. weight class which made the family very happy and proud as all of the boys had been wrestlers. They had three state qualifiers prior to this. Darin is employed at Marley’s Standard Station and lives at home.

Steven was born August 29, 1968 and is now a senior in the Randolph Public School.

Vanessa, a very special child from God, was born January 18, 1972 and is in the special Education program here.

Jason was born March 15, 1974, and is a sixth grader. He is a paper boy as have all of our children been paper carriers for either the Omaha World Herald, Sioux City Journal or the Norfolk Daily News.

Vernon and Beverly farmed in the vicinity from 1955 to 1968 when they had a farm sale. Vernon went to work for Dawson Transport and has been employed there ever since. Beverly is employed at school in the hot lunch program.

They bought the St. Frances rectory in November of 1971 and moved it on to the acreage on the south edge of Randolph where they are presently living. Beverly Loberg

Judy Loofe

My parents, Paul Wesley and Elsie Laura Marie (Riddiough) Andrew were married September 9, 1925 in Dubuque, Iowa. They began their life together in Randolph. They have five children: Pauline, Harriet, George “Gilbert”, Donald and me, Judith Esther, born September 30, 1939. We were all born in my parents’ present home.

I remember many wonderful summer nights: playing games like kick-the-can with my two brothers and neighborhood friends; swimming; the Fourth of July picnics at my Uncle George’s farm; homemade ice cream made by the old crank machine; eating 25 cent watermelon; and the 5 cent double-decker maple ice cream cones I used to buy at Buchanan’s Drug Store. I also loved to go sleigh riding down “Copple’s Hill” sometimes going as far as the bridge. I remember the blizzard of 48 and 49; with snow drifts so high you could touch the wires. These are wonderful memories!

I was an active member of the Methodist church. I was also active throughout my school years in Randolph. Two highlights of my senior year were being chosen Homecoming Queen and being selected to the National Honor society.

After graduation in 1957, I worked as a telephone operator for nine months before moving to Sacramento, California, where I lived for 18 years. My five children were born in Sacramento: Pamela Marie, June 8, 1959; Jeffery Thomas, May 31, 1961; Cynthia Diane, February 2, 1963; Nancy Ann, February 15, 1964; and Raymond Michael “Mike”, December 20, 1971.

After two unsuccessful marriages to Clifford T. Olufsk, 1958-1969, and to Raymond C. Mogus, 1970-1977, I returned to Nebraska in 1976. I moved to Walthill with my five offspring. I met my husband, Dannel G. Loofe, born October 24, 1943 and married him on February 4, 1978. We moved to Wakefield on May 23, 1982. Dan is the night plant manager for the Milton G. Waldbaum Egg Company. Dan has three sons living in Sioux City. They are Daniel G. Loofe II (November 12,
1966), Thomas John Loofe (November 4, 1968) and Steve Lee Loofe (May 15, 1971).

My daughter Pam married Ralph Peterson, born September 13, 1961. They were married November 24, 1981 and have a daughter, Brandi Marie, born April 13, 1983. They live in Wakefield.

Jeff married his high school sweetheart, Jamie Lyn Frese, who was born December 9, 1963. They were married September 18, 1982. Their first son, Joseph Robert, was stillborn July 7, 1983. Jeff Jr. “J.J.” was born September 18, 1984, on his parent’s second anniversary.


Nancy is in her senior year at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She is majoring in Fashion Merchandising.

Mike is an eighth grader in Wakefield.

Me? I’m a homemaker who enjoys bowling, golfing, and being a grandma.

All of us enjoy camping and fishing.

*mrs. s.*

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**Lena Lorge**

Lena Kuhl (Mrs. John Lorge) moved to the Randolph area in 1888. Mr. Lorge was in the real estate business. Although they left this community in 1909, their early financial support and active participation of the Catholic community was notable. They were involved with the early development of St. Frances parish. Mass was often celebrated, by visiting priests in their home before the first church was built.

At the time of Lena Lorge’s death, a $16,000.00 endowment was left to Creighton University for scholarships in Medicine, Law and Liberal Arts, as well as $5,000.00 to Duchesne College. Both John and Lena Lorge are buried in St. Frances Cemetery in Randolph.

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**James and Rosa Macklin**

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Macklin started out in 1867 from New York state and slowly made their way west. Along the way they made their home in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa and finally Nebraska, they had a large family of six boys; Andrew, Bob Jr., Alex, James, Will and John. The Macklins homesteaded on a farm one mile west of Randolph. Of the six boys born to the Bob Macklins only two stayed in the Randolph area, James and Will.

In 1905, Will married Anna Horstman. To them were born three children, none of whom remained in the Randolph area.

In 1906, James married Rosa Reiland also of Randolph. James and Rosa were blessed with five children, two of them being twins. The youngest, Merle died at age of two of pneumonia. The eldest, Willie, now lives in Laurel. He and his wife, Irene, have two sons, Darrell and Vernon. The sons are presently living in Laurel and near Carroll.

Ella was the second child of James and Rosa. She and her husband, Leo Bathke, are living in Norfolk. They have two children. Jimmy died at age ten and Jerry now lives in Norfolk.

The twins, May and Mary, were the next born. In 1932, May married Lee Bethune. They made their home in the Randolph and McLean areas. May now lives in Randolph.

Mary married Christopher Young in 1941. Mary and Chris made their home near Magnet. To Mary and Chris four children were born, two also being twins. One of the twins was still-born. After Chris’s death in 1952, Mary and her three children, Gary, Larry and Vila, made their home in Magnet and Randolph. Gary presently lives near Magnet, Larry in Des Moines, Iowa and Vila in Norfolk. Mary passed away in 1978.

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**Andrew Parker and Anna Mary McDonald**

Andrew Parker “Park” McDonald was born April 2, 1843, Juniata County, Pennsylvania to Joseph and Nancy McDonald. His grandfather was a native of Scotland. He received a common school education and as a young man enlisted in the Union Army at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1861, in Company “M” 9th Pa. Cavalry and served under Captain Patterson and was mustered out at Lexington, North Carolina, July 18, 1865.

While serving in the army, he participated in many major engagements and was with General Sherman on his famed march to the sea.

He returned to his home in Pennsylvania where he was united in marriage to Anna Mary Foltz on February 11, 1869, at Walnut, Pennsylvania, by the Reverend James B. Anthony.

They moved to Dakota County, Nebraska in 1881, residing there about a year until November 1882 when he
came to Cedar County and filed on a homestead of 160 acres two and three-fourths miles southwest of the present town of Belden, this being his home until his death. This homestead is eight miles east of Randolph on the road past the present East Public School. One year later he filed on a 160 acre tree claim.

Charles J. McDonald was the first child born on the old homestead on February 16, 1883. The following being born after Charles were Nannie Jane, Parker Edward “Sandy”, Asa Leona, Etta “Maggie” May, and George Foltz.

The following were born in Pennsylvania and Dakota County: Joseph Brown, Thomas Foltz, John Calvin, William Leonard and Mary Elizabeth.

Andrew was always pushing for better meat and an advancement of the community.

The family faced many hardships such as prairie fires, the blizzard of ’88 and grasshopper plague. They burned hay and weeds to heat because of the expensiveness of coal.

Their entertainment was all “homemade”, such as horse shoe pitching, baseball, boxing, barn and house dances. Several of the family and neighbors played musical instruments.

The first home on the homestead was 12 x 16. Later larger and better buildings were built. The first livestock barns were hog and straw sheds.

When the Burlington Railroad came through, it offered employment to many of the farm youth, the older McDonald boys being among them. William “Bill” and Thomas “Tom” continued with the railroad. “Bill” became a fireman from which he retired on a pension many years later. “Tom” became an engineer, which profession he followed until his death.

Andrew became Belden’s first mail carrier in the late 90s. Charles was appointed his substitute and later became the “regular” carrier when Andrew retired from that position.

The government would not allow them to carry the mail with anything but horses. Automobile or motorcycle posed too great a danger of fire. This was their contention.

In 1910, Charles quit the mail route to farm and help his father improve the homestead. The improvements being made were a new home, a large barn, corn crib, and various sheds.

Andrew was a carpenter by trade as well as being a farmer. He worked on many buildings in Sioux City and built several buildings in the vicinity of Belden. During the first few years he would walk to Wayne, a distance of 17 miles, board the train to go to Sioux City for a week of carpenter work there. He would return at the end of the week, purchase a sack of flour and other necessities and walk the 17 miles home. Reports are that he would make the trip in about four and one-quarter hours.

There was much joy in the family when the towns of Randolph and Belden were established, for they didn’t have to travel so far for supplies.

When the G. A. R. Post was instituted in Randolph, Andrew became a member and was very active, as were many of the other Civil War Veterans of the area.

Andrew Parker McDonald passed away January 17, 1917, and was buried in the Belden Cemetery beside his wife, Anna Mary, who passed away December 1, 1912.

Anna Mary had acted as midwife and nurse in many of the homes around Belden Community during her life time. Willis C. McDonald

Charles J. and Esther E. McDonald

Charles J. McDonald was the first child of A. P. McDonald and Anna Mary McDonald to be born on the old McDonald homestead eight miles east of Randolph. He was born February 16, 1883.

He received his elementary education and grew to manhood in that community helping with the farm work on the homestead and later became the substitute mail carrier for his father, who had the first mail route out of Belden. Upon his father’s retirement from the mail route which he held for four years, in 1910 he resigned as mail carrier to farm and help his father improve the homestead. He helped to build a house, barn and other buildings.

On February 7, 1912, he married Esther E. Vanderbilt, a former neighbor girl, at Hartington.

To this union was born four children. Willis Charles was born August 1, 1913, near Osmond, Plum Grove Township, Pierce County. He married the former Mildred L. Graham and resides in Randolph. Ethel Marie was born February 17, 1917 at Belden, Cedar County. She married George W. Keifer and resides in Norfolk. Franklin Howard was born June 23, 1923, near Randolph, Cedar County, Nebraska. He married Loretta Johnson and resides near Laurel. Ruby Mae was born July 2, 1926 and married Kenneth R. Nicholas. They reside in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Charles and Esther, upon their marriage, moved to a farm they acquired near Osmond. They lived there three years and upon selling their holdings moved to O’Neill. They lived there two years which was enough for them. The first year they drowned out, the next year they dried out. Charles came back to Cedar County that fall to pick corn and while there rented what was known as the Fred Harper farm two and three-quarter miles northwest of Belden. They resided there three years. He then rented what was known as the Henry Helms farm and they resided there four years. He then acquired the farm one mile south of the Helms place where they lived until retiring from the farm and moving into Randolph in 1950.

Charles was active in community affairs and belonged to the Farmer’s Union for several years. He was elected to District 68 school board as director in 1923, which he held until moving to their farm in District 70. One year
after moving to that district, he was elected director in 1927, a position he held until 1942.

He was a firm believer in education and was instrumental in the standardization of District 68. He wanted his children to get as good an education as he could possibly give them.

Being close to school was the main reason he acquired the farm from which they retired. The children only had half a mile to go to school.

He insisted in discipline. He promised his children that if they got a paddling in school they would get one twice as hard from him. They all knew he wasn’t kidding and none of them ever got paddled. (In those days there was such a thing as getting paddled in school).

He also never liked the idea of their having to stay after school because they didn’t have their lessons. His motto was “study hard in school and if need be bring books home to keep your grades up.”

Another thing in the McDonald household; it was never said, “If you go to high school, such and such will be done.” It was always, “When you go to high school, such and such will be done.”

All four of the McDonald children graduated from the Belden High School. Willis graduated in 1932, Ethel in 1934, Franklin in 1941 and Ruby in 1943.

The farmers owned the rural telephone lines out of Belden. Charles was on the board and also a lineman for many years.

The family experienced many hardships such as hail, tornado, drouth, the depression, serious illnesses, blizzards, floods and their home was also totally destroyed by fire on January 5, 1931, with very few belongings being saved.

Charles passed away at Randolph, after several months of illness, on August 23, 1951 and was buried in Belden cemetery. Esther passed away after an illness of a few weeks, on May 20, 1973, in the Osmond Hospital. She was buried in the Belden Cemetery beside her husband. Willis C. McDonald

Joseph P. and Dorothy McDonald

Andrew P. McDonald was born April 1, 1843, near Miffletown, Pennsylvania. He was a cabinet maker by trade and was in the Civil War from 1861 – 1865. He married Anna Mary Foltz in Pennsylvania. In 1881 they came to Nebraska and settled near Dakota City, then later near Altona in Wayne County. They moved to their last home two miles south of Belden on November 2, 1882. They had twelve children.

Joseph B., the eldest, was born in Miffletown, Pennsylvania, on April 25, 1870. At the age of eleven years he moved to Nebraska with his parents. On December 6, 1899, he married Clarissia Martha Akins in Hartington, Nebraska. He was a carpenter and they made their home near Crofton. To them were born seven children: Joseph, Anna, Orva, Tom, Fern, Avery and Jim.

The eldest, Joseph P. McDonald, was born July 16, 1901, five miles south of Crofton. At the age of six months he moved to Belden with his parents. In 1916 they moved to a farm one mile west of Belden where they lived for two years. Then they moved five miles south of Randolph to a farm where they lived for five years. Their final home was two miles southeast of Sholes until his father passed away on September 29, 1936.

On February 19, 1938, Joseph married Dorothy Evelyn Hayward at the courthouse in Wayne. They made their first home one and one-half miles southeast of Randolph where they lived for six years. During these years he was a farmer.

In September of 1945 he moved to Randolph. He drove a truck off and on for approximately 30 years for various people and for himself. During these years he hauled stock and grain to markets in and around the area. When he wasn’t driving truck he worked at other places such as the city light plant, the ice plant and a paper route for the Sioux City Journal, which took him 141 miles every morning seven days a week for two years. In 1957, he began working at the Galvin Implement shop. He did this until 1977.


Joseph, at the age of 84 lives in the city limits of Randolph. He remains very active. To keep busy he cuts and hauls iron to Norfolk, plows gardens in the area, helps load trucks for Schwans, has his own garden, and raises various animals. He has seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The great-grandchildren are Sonya and Lacy Olson, daughters of Danny and Lori of Norfolk, and Tara, daughter of Lori and Randy Rudder of Greenwood, Nebraska. Lori (Peters) Olson and Joseph P. McDonald

Paul and Antonia Mannion

Our life in the Randolph community began some 32 years ago. We moved here in 1954 with ten children and a need to get our children into the Catholic school. My parents, Joseph and Helen (Kaiser) Brandl were from the Hartington area. My father came from Germany at the age of 14 and met my mother at St. Helena. They married in 1910. I had nine brothers and sisters. Paul’s parents, William and Elizabeth (Dougherty) Mannion came from the Newcastle area with his grandparents having come directly from Ireland. Paul had five brothers and one sister.

Family Histories Submitted for the 1986 Centennial History Book
Paul and I met at East Bow, east of Hartington, at a house dance in 1932, the same year I graduated from Trinity which is now Cedar Catholic of Hartington. We married in 1938 and began farming near Laurel, coming to Randolph in 1954. We had lived on the Mike Finn farm 23 years and have added three more children to our family.

Nine of our children have attended and graduated from St. Frances high School. Paul Joseph, our eldest, graduated in 1957 and joined the Air Force. He then attended the University of Nebraska and has been Director of an Adult Mental Health program in Kansas City for some 14 years. Joe married Yolanda Nichols of Guatamala and they have five children.

Dennis graduated in 1958, attended Milford two years and then studied computers in Elion, New York. He worked for Documation in California and married Fran Jordan. They have three children, reside in Indialantic, Florida, and own their own “Mr. Fireplace” company.

Jerry, a 1960 graduate of St. Frances, attended St. Benedict’s in Atchison, Kansas, receiving degrees in math and Spanish. He married Norma Radmaker of Lincoln. They have two children and live in Huntington Beach, California, where Jerry teaches high school and college Spanish classes.

Mary graduated in 1962 and went on to study hair styling. She married Don Duffy of Laurel and they have two children. They reside in O’Neill where Don works for UPS and Mary refines her talents in golfing, bowling, quilt making, antique doll and dress collecting.

Kathy, a 1964 graduate, attended Mt. Marty College, Yankton, receiving a degree in nursing. She married Rich Sullivan of Randolph and they have seven children. The Sullivan’s live in Norfolk where Kathy is Nursing Supervisor at Our Lady of Lourdes and still finds time for her talent of singing.

Thomas, 1966 St. Frances alumni, received a Bachelor’s degree from Rockhurst College in Kansas City and is a Viet Nam veteran. He married Jane Zeller and they have two children, a third son having died in 1981. Tom is Assistant Administrator of Alden, Missouri Hospital and claims the Mannion talent in mechanical and handyman skills.

Colleen graduated in 1967 and entered the field of X-Ray Technology. She married Mike Rhoades and they have three children. Colleen works at Children’s Mercy hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, enjoying her avocation as a professional clown.

Dave is a 1968 graduate and a Rockhurst College alum. He married Louise Lerch and they have three children. Currently residing in St. Louis, Dave is employed as a trucking dispatcher.

Our son, John, graduated in 1970. At age 19 and in his sophomore year at Rockhurst College, John was killed in an automobile accident returning from a rugby game. John loved sports and had been an active member of the St. Frances basketball team. We miss John.

Vicki, 1972 graduate of Randolph high received a degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse in Kearney. She married Pat Conway and they have four girls. Currently living in Hartley, Iowa, Vicki expands her interests in horses, dogs and crafts.

Steve a 1973 graduate went on to study Culinary Arts at Johnson Wales in Providence, Rhode Island. He studied professional dance and is a member of the Austin Texas Ballet Company. Steve has performed in several arrangements of the Nutcracker Suite. He currently has his own catering business.

Ray graduated from Randolph high in 1975 and also attended Rockhurst College in Kansas City. He has worked in all aspects of restaurant and food service management. Ray is currently manager of the Crown Center’s Crystal Pavillian Restaurant and is furthering his education in business.

Debra, a 1978 graduate, attended Benedictine college in Atchison, Kansas. She married Mike Campbell, Radio Sales Manager, and they have one daughter “Annie” - Antonia (my name sake). Debra worked at Colonial Manor and went on to study Gerontology, working currently as Assistant Administrator of Blue Hills Centre in Kansas City.

Dr. Carroll delivered the “Baker’s dozen” with Raymond, our 12th being fee. Paul and I have been blessed during our stay in the Randolph community. We continue to hold down the farm. I enjoy my rosary making, quilting, and baking rolls, since retiring from my job with the Randolph School Cafeteria where I worked from 1971 to 1984. Our 31 grandchildren look forward to their visits back to the home town where their parents grew up and their grandparents take pride in living. Anttonia (Mrs. Paul) Mannion

Colonel Ellsworth Manzer

Colonel Ellsworth Manzer was born June 23, 1862, in Keithsburg, Illinois (Mercer County). He was reared in Hancock County, Illinois where his family moved soon after his birth. His father, Harvey Manzer, was born in New York State in 1837 and was killed by the falling of a derrick, which struck him on the head, July 26, 1871. His mother, Louisa (Hinds) Manzer, was born in New York State in 1843 and died in 1903. She was a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson. She was a writer, a temperance worker, and an ardent worker for women suffrage. She was an advocate of the Populist Party.

Colonel Ellsworth Manzer (El), at the age of nine, after his father was killed, began shifting for himself. El worked for one family three years and another family for four years earning his board.

In 1877, the family moved to Adams County, Nebraska where his mother took up a claim of 160 acres and built a sod house in which they resided for many years.

In 1880, Mr. Manzer went to Benton County, Iowa and was employed as a farm laborer. There he met and
married Martha Tatge at Belle Plain, Iowa, on July 10, 1883. He worked for one year on a large sheep ranch.

In 1884, El and Martha came to Pierce County and lived in a granary on Grandfather Tatge’s farm southwest of Randolph, now occupied by Henry Hilkmann. They lived there until they were able to haul lumber from Norfolk and build a home and outbuildings on their own farm for which they received title from B. S. Williams who had received it through an original grant.

El and Martha were the parents of eleven children: Ida, (Mrs. Ed Leach); Belle (Mrs. Pete Lackas); Roy, who married Ella Whitney; William who married Maggie Larsen; Alice (Mrs. Ed Auwerter); Bessie (Mrs. Ernest Samuelson); Chris who married Martha Larsen; Emily (Mrs. Ed. Rosenbach); James who married Myrtle Shurtleff; Elmer who married Ruth Loucks; and Ruth Lavaty Peters.

The Manzers had their share of disappointments and hardships. They lost crops to hail, hot winds, drought and grasshoppers. They experienced the blizzard of 1888 and the depression of 1893.

Mr. Manzer was an active member of the community. He was a member of the local school board for many years. He served as County Commissioner from 1899 to 1905. In 1916, he was elected to the State Legislature. He was an avid tree planter.

Mrs. Manzer was very proficient and well known for her kind and efficient service to the community in times of sickness, accidents and deaths. She assisted in the birth of many babies.

El and Martha Manzer were members and workers in a rural United Evangelical Church.

Mrs. Manzer passed away June 7, 1918. After her death, Mr. Manzer moved to Norfolk. There he married Ella Clute. They made their home in Norfolk for many years. Ella (Clute) Manzer passed away April 26, 1944.

Mr. Manzer passed away July 26, 1950 and was laid to rest in the Randolph Cemetery.

Thus ended the life of another pioneer who along with his wife brought many ideals and years of hard work to better a country and a community where they chose to make their home. Mildred Manzer Hilkmann

Charles and Fern Meier

Fern Blotz was born November 2, 1922 in Randolph, Nebraska. Charles Meier was born January 26, 1912 at Orient, South Dakota but grew up around Osmond, Nebraska. Charles and Fern were married March 27, 1940 at St. Frances Church in Randolph. They farmed one year at McLean and one year at Osmond before moving north of Randolph. They have three girls: Patricia, Sharon and Judy. On September 27, 1955, they had a farm sale and purchased the Borst Bar from Ab Borst, taking possession on October 1. After 22 years, on July 21, 1977, they sold “Chuck’s Bar” and Charles retired. Fern is still working part-time as a waitress at Jerry’s hilltop and barmaid at Rohde’s Bar. They have twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, who all live close. They are very happy living in Randolph. No place like home. Fern (Blotz) Meier

Edward and Mary Meyer

Edward Meyer was born September 15, 1863, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meyer. He was one of four children. Edward married Mary Gerber in Waterloo, Iowa. When first married they lived in New Vienna, Iowa, later moving to Dyersville, and then to Arcadia where they lived until moving to Nebraska.

All of their children were born in Iowa. The children were Francis, Mary, Othila, Martha, Susan, John, Herman, Clem, Edward and Laurence. Several of the children died at birth or shortly after.

Edward came to Randolph with horses and wagons in 1908, several years after buying land here. The family came by train. They moved to the farm west of Randolph, on Highway 20, which is now owned by Elmer Meyer. Edward also bought several other tracts of land.

When a young man, Edward helped build St. Frances Church, in 1917. Much of the work was done by the parishioners.

Edward's wife, Mary, died in 1927. He later married his wife's half sister, who died shortly after their marriage.

When he retired, he moved into Randolph, where he lived until he passed away on December 22, 1956. His son, John, then lived on the home place.

All of the Meyer children married and farmed in the Randolph vicinity. Mary married Charles Lenhoff, Othila married Frank Winkelbauer, Martha married Jake Backer, Susan married Frank Leiting, John married Viola Colling and Herman married Ella Kruger. All of them had large families, with many staying in the Randolph community.

A family tradition was to hold a family picnic on July 4th at one of the family farms. The last picnic was held on the home place, in 1956. This tradition was discontinued after Edward passed away, until July 4, 1982, when a reunion was held at the West Randolph Ballroom, with about 550 guests attending from ten states.

Harriet Meyer

My dad, Paul Andrew, was born in Randolph, in the same house in which he and Mom still reside. Mom was born on a farm near Stitzer, Wisconsin. They were married on September 9, 1925. All of us kids were also born in that same house.

I have many fond memories of my “growing up” years in Randolph. That winter of ’48-’49 was a dandy. It was a big event when the train came through with a huge rotor plow in front. The whole town turned out to watch.

I had a seven year perfect attendance record for Sunday school. The minister once stated, “If the Andrew kids can make it, we’ll have Sunday School.” We older kids had to blaze a trail through the snow so the younger ones could make it. In all these years, I’ve never seen such
beautiful stained glass windows as have in the Methodist Church in Randolph.

Since I was born during the depression, I can recall many hard times. We always had a huge garden. At that time we owned a whole half block and the lower half was corn and potatoes. Many hours were spent picking potato bugs and putting them in tin can that had kerosene in it. We each took a row until the patch was done. If we had extra corn, we sold it for 25 cents per dozen and Mom made sure they were nice big ears --- she said she didn’t want to gyp anybody.

One summer I worked at the pool. The pool had to be emptied each week, hosed down and brushed, then refilled. There was a box of old fashioned swim suits in the bath house which were rental suits. They were wool and some came to the knees. One day a bunch of us put on the old suits and played “Keystone Kops” on the diving board. It was great!

I recall, as a freshman, our sextet went to St. Joseph, Missouri to the National Music contest. The sextet included Bonnie Broer, Darlene Hyatt, JoAnn Backer, Ruth Ann Gibson, Irene Brown and myself. We were so nervous.

The pep club had to find rides to the games. We had no buses in those days. But we did have a lot of pride in our school and in our team. We also had the utmost respect for our teachers. If anyone stepped out of line at school, we got it twice as bad when we got home. It’s sad that these qualities are lacking in some of the schools today.

I taught country school for two years after I graduated. I married Clayton Meyer in 1952. We have six children: Greg, Randy, Jeff, Cristi, Clay and Kip. I won’t go into all the wonderful and terrible times I had raising the kids. I just like to remember the good times. Clayton and I were divorced in 1972.

All the kids are grown up now, but I still remain active in church and local activities. I am Sunday School Superintendent and on the church board. I am also Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Walthill, Nebraska. The little girl from Randolph is much older and wiser. Harriet (Andrew) Meyer

John and Viola Meyer

John H. Meyer, born July 15, 1899 and Viola H. Colling, born May 12, 1900, were married in St. Frances Church at Randolph. They moved to a farm west of Randolph, where they farmed and had a herd of dairy cows. It was here they started their family.

Their first three children were born only a year apart. Shirley Margaret was born May 23, 1926, John Edward, born July 1, 1927 and Earl Julius, born September 11, 1928. After a three year break, they had a second baby daughter, Norma Marie, born January 21, 1931, followed by another girl, Dolores Helen, born November 30, 1933. After the first three toddlers were off to school, they were blessed with three more boys, Edward Joseph, born March 18, 1937; Elmer William, born July 27, 1939 and Vincent Francis born February 8, 1943. All were educated at St. Frances School in Randolph and attended St. Frances Catholic church.

A large family meant many happy times, a lot of work and a few disappointments. There was always a large garden, which meant a lot of canning in the summer.

In the spring of 1946, it was discovered that Viola had cancer. After several months of treatments, she passed away at the farm home on July 17, 1946. John was left alone to care for a large family.

One by one, the children married and set out on their own. Some grown children stayed in the Randolph area and some went to other parts of the country.

On May 17, 1950, John married Frances Leiting at St. Frances church. Frances cared for the younger boys as her own and once again the family was complete.

On the morning of February 19, 1973 word was received that Earl, living in Blue Earth, Minnesota, had suffered a heart attack. He died about an hour after being taken to the hospital. All were really sadden by this news.

In October 1971, John suffered a stroke and was hospitalized in Osmond, Nebraska, where he passed away November 25, 1971, on Thanksgiving Day.

Now only Elmer was at home, taking care of Frances who was in failing health. She was later taken to the Colonial Manor Nursing home in Randolph where she passed away July 30, 1980. Norma (Meyer) Stueckrath

Earl and Elsie Miller

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Miller and their two oldest children came to Randolph, March 3, 1910. They went to a farm northeast of Randolph and were neighbors to Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Dowling.

The farm was bought by Herman Haselhorst, so they moved to a rented farm southeast of Randolph. After farming several years, misfortune from hailed-out crops and failure of the Sholes Bank, put an end to their farming in 1922.

Earl did some railroad summertime construction work after moving his family to a house in Sholes. Most of the time he had employment as a farm worker.

They had a family of five boys and three girls. The boys were all farm employees and four were in the armed services in World War II. The oldest daughter, La Rue, married Omar Leicy and they were farmers. She now resides in Carroll.

Melvin Miller married Evelyn Lewis and they farmed first southeast of Randolph and then north of Sholes. They retired to Randolph. Melvin died in 1981. Evelyn is residing in Randolph and is employed by the public school’s food service.

Lyle married Violet Lackas and they are retired farmers at Magnet.

Rex married Goldie Jannsen of Winside and they lived in Norfolk, where he was employed at Storz Auto Supply and later trucked grain and hay. He died in 1971.
Eugene married Helen Kadlic of Wagner, South Dakota, and they live at Rapid City, South Dakota, where he is a retired machinist and she teaches at Rapid Valley School.

Neva married William Wickett, a farmer at Laurel. She now resides at Valentine, Nebraska.

Gail married Miriam Logerwell of Wood Lake, Nebraska and they reside at Council Bluffs, Iowa. They taught school in different high schools in Nebraska before teaching in Council Bluffs.

Zona married Eddie Deuel of Norfolk who made the Navy his career. She is now residing in Gridley, California.

Earl and wife, Elsie, moved to Norfolk in 1946. He was employed as a maintenance man at night for Scherwin’s Hatchery; Montgomery Ward Company; then Hotel Madison, until his retirement. He passed away in 1965. Elsie lived in an apartment at Coleridge a few years until her death in 1970.

Luther and Ethel Milliken

William Luther Milliken was born May 30, 1888, at Wayne, Nebraska. He was the son of Oscar and Ida (Heikes) Milliken. He grew up in rural Wayne and attended Wayne Normal College.

Luther was married to Ethel Kopp of Wayne on September 6, 1916, at West Point, Nebraska. She was the daughter of Corbin and Anna (Parkhurst) Kopp.

They moved to Randolph in March 1918, to a farm six miles northeast of Randolph. They farmed here for 25 years, growing corn and small grain and raising cattle and hogs. Luther was a good horseman, raising and training many good draft horses for his own farm work as well as for sale.

Luther was treasurer of the school board of District 38, Cedar County, for more than 20 years. This district included four schools known as the Dowling, Mabeus, Thaden and Kuhl schools.

The Milliken family enjoyed the community custom of coming to town on Saturday nights with the farm produce of cream and eggs and trading for weekly groceries and supplies, followed by visiting with neighbors and friends.

The Milliken family was members of the Presbyterian Church in Randolph.

Luther and Ethel were the parents of six children: Kenneth, living in Hayward, California; Lucille Witte of Randolph; Virginia Carzoli and Margueritte Ridnour, Fullerton, California; Jeannine Anderson of Laurel, Nebraska; and Doris Mann of Mondovi, Wisconsin.

Kenneth, Lucille and Virginia graduated from Randolph High School. Margueritte, Jeannine and Doris graduated from Wayne High School.

In March 1943, Luther Millikens moved to a farm seven miles southeast of Laurel. They farmed there until 1962 when they retired and moved into their home in Wayne.

Luther and Ethel celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September, 1966, with all of their family in attendance.

Luther died May 13, 1967 at Wayne and Ethel died January 16, 1974 also at Wayne. Lucille and Ernest Witte

Nelwyn and Eva Moran

N. B. “Nellie” and Eva were married in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on June 12, 1931. Mother and Dad moved to Sioux City, Iowa then to Hartington and finally to Randolph in 1934. They bought The Randolph Times in 1939 from H. L. Peck.

Pat and Rob were born and raised in Randolph and graduated from Randolph High School. Jeane was born in Randolph and graduated from Norfolk High School after their folks moved there in 1958.

Mother and Dad were always very involved in community, church and various Masonic activities. An active family was the norm for many families in Randolph and it seemed as if everybody was your friend.

School at R.H.S. was a mixture of growing pains offset by good times! We were influenced so positively by teachers (Myrtle Wefsco, Margaret Woods, Jim Wolfe, Orwin White); family friends (Dal and Louise Phillips, the McGrews, Atwoods, Robinsons); and coaches (Bill Norvell, Ted Morgan, Bill Nicholas) just to name a few. And who could forget our wonderful classmates and their families; Leonard and Bessie Robinson never knowing how many young guests they might have for dinner on a given night, a girl friend’s father getting out of bed on a cold, winter night to give his daughter’s date’s car a push because of a dead battery (and laughing about it), being thrown in the Randolph jail on Halloween night, or the incredulous look of a friendly farmer awakened in the night because the car that a bunch of guys were driving ran out of gas while going down the rails toward town!!

Life seemed very mellow and predictable for the Morans in those early years. Monday, Tuesday and
Wednesday always seemed busy because Dad worked late on those nights and Wednesday was especially busy as that was “press day” when the paper was printed (hope that press does not break down tonight!).

Reflecting on those early years also brings back warm memories for Rob, of many days at the Randolph swimming pool (later managing it), playing baseball at the Midget and Junior Legion level, riding sleds on cold winter nights and Pat’s many friends and activities.

Jeane was born into the family in August of 1949 and what a joy that was for everyone. Then, in 1950, Pat left for college, graduated from the U. of Nebraska and went to work for TWA as a stewardess. Rob graduated from the U. of Nebraska in 1959 and now lives about 90 miles from Pat in central California. Jeane graduated from the U. of Nebraska and lives in Humboldt, Nebraska. The folks sold The Times in 1958 where they enjoyed many wonderful years. The Lord called Mother home on May 6, 1984 and Dad on April 30, 1985. Rob, Pat and Jeane are thankful for their folks’ 75 plus years and for the wonderful gift of loving and caring for others that God gave to them to share with others.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Centennial celebration July 12, 1986, and say thanks to all those who are working on the project. Pat Mahin, Jeane Cooker (Mrs. Jim), Rob (and Louise) Moran

Casper and Olive Moser
Casper Moser, son of Thomas and Mary Elizabeth (Book) Moser married Olive Dowling March 3, 1926. They lived 50 years on their farm north of Randolph. They had six children: Thomas, Maurice, Floyd, Faye, Marilyn and Jim. All of the boys spent time in the service of their country. Jim was killed in the Viet Nam War in 1968. Floyd is the only family member living in Randolph. Floyd and Alfreda Moser

Floyd and Alfreda Moser
Floyd, son of Casper and Olive (Dowling) Moser, was born on a farm north of Randolph. He married Alfreda, daughter of Joe and Lucy Aschoff, October 9, 1956. They lived in Iowa for three years before returning to Randolph. Floyd and Alfreda are the parents of two boys and seven girls.


Mary Ann was born July 8, 1959. She married Dan Bach, October 22, 1977. They have four children: Jennifer born January14, 1979; April born November 13, 1980; Anthony born February 24, 1982; and Traci born April 18, 1985.


Kevin, born April 26, 1962, married Pam Brodersen July 31, 1983.

Carol Ann, born October 18, 1964, lives in Newton Centre, Massachusetts.
Katie Ann, born March 8, 1966, lives in Norfolk.
Marci Ann, born May 29, 1969 and Cheryl Ann, born March 19, 1972, live at home. Floyd and Alfreda Moser

Gottlieb H. and Eliza Munter
Gottlieb H. Munter was born in Bern, Switzerland on September 30, 1867. On December 28, 1889 he married Eliza Stucki who was born at Bumpliz on April 17, 1870. Their son, Adolph, was born in Bergenstein, Switzerland.

Several months after his marriage, Gottlieb came to America and settled at Monticello, Iowa. He found work to earn money to bring his wife and son to America.

The trip on the ship was quite an ordeal for Mrs. Munter as sickness on the ship caused them to be quarantined for some time.

After her arrival in America the family moved to Manchester, Iowa and they started to farm. Their children Robert, Elizabeth, Frederick and John were born in Manchester.

In 1900, they came to Nebraska on an emigrant train. Mr. Munter rode in the car with the machinery, livestock and a team of horses. The family rode in the passenger car.

They purchased a farm north of Randolph for $12.50 an acre. The children Paul, William, Walter, Lilian, Emma, George and Helen were born on this farm. The children attended a one-room school, District 68.

The family was members of the Hope Reformed Church in Belden. The eldest children were confirmed in this church.

Mr. Munter, with the help of his family, farmed 640 acres with horses. He also fed many cattle. He drove them to Wareham to be loaded on the train to be shipped to Chicago.

Elmer Munter, year-old son of Robert, came to live with his grandparents after the death of his mother in 1918. He stayed with them until 1923.

The family remained on the home farm until 1922. They then moved to Hartington with children Lilian, Emma, George, Helen and grandson Elmer.

The children attended the Hartington School. After graduation, Lilian went to California. Helen and Emma taught in rural schools near Belden and Randolph, sometime later they also went to California. George found work in Hartington and later worked for his brother William. George passed away in 1932.

On October 17, 1937, Mrs. Munter passed away in a Kearney hospital. The funeral was in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Hartington with burial in Hartington.

In 1938, Mr. Munter moved to Long Beach, California to be near his three daughters. He made his home there.
until his death in 1946. The funeral was in St. John’s Lutheran church at Randolph with burial at Hartington.

Elizabeth married Albert Arduser. Soon after their marriage they moved to a farm near Madelia, Minnesota. They had four daughters and two sons. Albert passed away in 1975. Elizabeth lives in Madelia.

Adolph married Dora Arduser and they farmed in Minnesota. They had a son and a daughter. After Dora passed away Adolph married Lena Kiem. They had one son. Adolph passed away in 1977.

Frederick married Alma Rath. They farmed north of Randolph and moved into town after retiring. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. Fred passed away in 1971 and Alma in 1981.

Robert married Hattie Rath and they had one son. Hattie passed away in 1918. In 1922, he married Marjorie Bayne. They had two sons and three daughters. They farmed until 1964 when they moved to Laurel and later to Sun City, Arizona.

Walter married Velma Knapp. They had one daughter. They farmed his father’s farm at Butte, Nebraska for 18 years and then moved to Omaha. Walter passed away in 1978. Velma lives in Sun City, Arizona.

John married Fern Mahrt. They had three sons. John farmed the home place until they moved to Randolph in 1975.

William married Ruby Reed. They farmed until 1930 when they purchased the West Randolph Ballroom and operated this business until retirement.

Lilian married Marion Arnold who was a chemist for Richfield Oil Company. They had a son and a daughter. Marion passed away in 1984. Lilian lives in Downey, California.

Emma married Bert Northup who was a salesman. He passed away in 1973. Emma lives in Long Beach, California.

Helen married Deryl Houdeshell who operated a restaurant and later a dairy. They had a son and two daughters. Helen lives at Los Osos, California. Ruby and Bill Munter, Fern and John Munter.

**William and Ruby Munter**

William Munter, the seventh of twelve children, was born June 14, 1902, to Gottlieb H. Munter and Eliza Munter on the home farm north of Randolph. He attended country school near the farm. He was confirmed in the Hope Reformed Church in Belden. He helped his father who farmed many acres with horses.

He was united in marriage to Ruby Reed on January 9, 1924 in Sioux City, Iowa. Ruby was born February 22, 1904 at Randolph, the eldest of four children of Edith and Sam Reed. She attended the Methodist Church and received her education in the Randolph Public School. She graduated in 1922 and taught in rural schools until her marriage.

For their honeymoon they went by train to Madelia, Minnesota to visit Bill’s sister and family, the Albert Ardusers. It was bitterly cold and there was a lot of snow. They met them at the depot with a bobsled. The trip back to the depot on their return was by bobsled also.

They stayed with Fern and John Munter on the farm until they moved on a farm south of Belden in March. They moved with hayracks. It was very muddy and every so often they had to stop and clean the wheels before they could go on.

Farm life was quite an experience for Ruby for she had always lived in town with modern conveniences. They ordered a kitchen range but the shipment was delayed. They set up a topsy stove. The meals at first were not so good but Ruby blamed that on the stove.

While they lived south of Belden they attended the Hope Reformed Church.

They acquired a large flock of Leghorn hens. They purchased two incubators and hatched and sold many baby chicks for 3 cents a piece.

They moved to a farm north of Randolph in 1928 and in 1930 moved to Randolph, where they operated a gas station and café.

In 1936, they built their home near the station and café in West Randolph. In 1956 they moved their home to its present site.

They purchased the Legion Pavilion and moved it to West Randolph in 1938, where they held dancing, skating and bowling. They sold this business in 1952.

They built a cottage on East Battle Lake in 1946. They enjoyed many hours of fishing and relaxing at their cottage through the years.

Ruby and Bill are members of St. John’s Lutheran Church. Ruby is a charter member of Colonial Manor Auxiliary and a member of the Mary Circle at church.

Bill’s hobbies are fishing, hunting, gardening and cards. Ruby’s hobby is bowling. At present she is bowling in two leagues.

Ruby and Bill celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in January 1974 with open house in St. John’s Lutheran Church. On January 9, 1985, they celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. Ruby and Bill Munter

**Lyle P. and Karen J. Nannen**

This Centennial year, 1986, is our 15th year in Randolph, Lyle’s 25th year in teaching and coaching and our 25th Wedding Anniversary.

Theresa Jo was eight, Mary Geralyn was six and Ann Elizabeth was two when we moved to Randolph in 1971. Lyle had taught nine years at West Point Central Catholic, West Point, Nebraska and one year prior to that at Emerson Public Schools, Emerson, Nebraska, after having received his degree from Wayne State College in 1961. He had attended UN-L for four years where he played varsity basketball on scholarship which can be attributed to the dominant role athletics played in his high school years as a student at Syracuse High School, Syracuse, Nebraska. He was a member of the Class “C” State Championship Basketball Team in 1954 and was selected...
“Athlete of the Year” by the *Lincoln Journal & Star* for his performance in track, football and basketball.

A Syracuse High School friend of Lyle’s who was Karen’s student teacher in Odell, Nebraska, introduced the two of them and after attending Marymount College in Salina, Kansas and Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, they were married three years later in 1961.

Theresa graduated from Randolph High School in 1980, graduated from College of St. Mary in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1982 with an Associate Degree in Business, and is presently pursuing her bachelor’s degree at Wayne State College while employed at First National Bank of Belden. She and Brad Stapelman of Belden were married in 1984 and live in Belden.

Mary graduated from Randolph high School in 1983 and is a junior at UN-L.

Ann is a junior at Randolph High. *Karen J. Nannen*

**Emil and Helene Norman**

Having just returned from five weeks in Europe where we spent a generous portion of our time visiting in Sweden and Germany, the homelands of our ancestors, I feel the importance of contributing to this collection of family histories.

Our father, Emil, was born at Alfta, Halsingland, Sweden, July 1, 1899, and came to America in 1910 with his parents, Johan and Brita (Jonsson) Norman, a brother, Everett, age eight years and a sister, Anna, age four years. Anna is Mrs. William C. Johnson of Wausa, Nebraska.

Our mother, Helene (Boettner) Norman, was born at Antigo, Wisconsin, on May 26, 1900. She moved with her parents, Oscar and Amalia (Kater) Boettner to Coleridge, Nebraska, along with her two sisters and two brothers.

Our parents were married October 2, 1919 at Hartington, Nebraska and farmed in the area eight miles north of Randolph. They spent a year away from farming to help our Grandmother Boettner with her theatre business in 1927-28. They returned to farming north of Randolph.

To this union three children were born. Phyllis on February 22, 1920, Evelyn on March 31, 1921 and Eugene on May 17, 1925. All were born in the general area north of Randolph.

In 1939, our parents moved the family to San Diego, California, where my father worked as a construction foreman for San Diego Gas and Electric Company until his retirement in 1963.

Over the years the family has grown. Phyllis married David Fosse, Sr. on February 24, 1940, at San Diego and now they have three children and four grandchildren. Evelyn married Eugval Hellemansen on March 30, 1940, and they have three children and four grandchildren. Eugene married Marion Klabunde on September 5, 1947 and they have four children and ten grandchildren.

Emil passed away December 30, 1970 at Lemon Grove, California and is buried at San Diego. Helene passed August 29, 1975 at Lemon Grove and is also buried at San Diego.

Evelyn and I graduated from Randolph High in 1938. Gene graduated from San Diego High School in 1943.

We all live in the San Diego area and see one another often. We were all on the trip this summer to Sweden and Germany. We find out more and more how deep our roots really are. Our years in Nebraska prove this too.

*Phyllis (Norman) Fosse*

**Everett and Laura Norman**

Everett Norman was born October 24, 1901, in Alfta Halsingland, Sweden, to Johan and Brita Norman.

In April 1910, along with his parents, brother Emil, and sister Ann, he came to the United States. He came first to Richmond, Virginia, to his uncle, who was a tobacco farmer.

Five weeks later, the family moved to Wausa, Nebraska and lived there until March 1, 1912, when they moved to a farm eight miles north and one-half west of Randolph.

On March 2, 1927, he was united in marriage to Laura Engelbart, daughter of Wilhelm and Mary Engelbart.

Laura was born on September 2, 1909, in Bancroft, Nebraska. In 1919, Laura, her parents, brothers Fritz and Marvin, and sister Augusta moved to the Dick Osterlow farm north of Randolph.

With the exception of one year, Everett and Laura resided on the farm north of Randolph. Everett passed away on October 3, 1953, and Laura resided on the farm until 1964 when she moved to Randolph. Laura passed away on June 17, 1969.

Everett and Laura had five children. Ronald was born December 18, 1933. Joyce (Norman) Lovejoy was born August 20, 1936. She was married August 23, 1961, to James Lovejoy, who was born November 22, 1936. Two children were born to Joyce and James. They are Bradley, born February 28, 1962, married June 20, 1981 to Gayleen Thiele, who was born May 22, 1962. Their daughter, Andrea Lea, was born May 23, 1983. Bryan Lovejoy was born November 18, 1963.

He was married June 1, 1985 to Pam Ermels, who was born April 20, 1965. Delwyn was born September 30, 1937 and LaNoy was born January 13, 1941. Darrel, born July 12, 1944 was married to Carol Schuetz, who was born May 17, 1944. Two children born to Darrel and Carol are Heather, born October 17, 1970 and Heath, born February 4, 1975.

**Paul and Olga Obst**

Paul Obst and Olga Larsen were married August 2, 1916 at Wayne, Nebraska. They were the parents of three children. Lloyd, born June 4, 1917 at Carroll, Nebraska was married to Rosella Van Pelt, of Spirit Lake, Iowa on March 11, 1949. He was entered into rest on January 14, 1977 in Newton, Iowa, where they had made their home for the past number of years.

Mrs. Paul (Leona) Schrad, born November 25, 1921, and her husband Paul, now live at Norfolk.
Randy and Donna Page

Born and raised on a farm near the small town of Fedora, South Dakota, Randy Page came from a family of seventeen. When the Fedora school closed down, the students were transported to Howard, South Dakota, where Randy met and eventually married Donna Feldhaus. They lived in the Howard area for eight years after their marriage. Randy worked in a factory and then went to work in the oil fields. For three years he traveled the mid-west with an exploration company.

Through the years, Randy and Donna have added four “Pages” to the book of their life. They are Heidi, Christina, Nicholas and Danielle.

On December 30, 1983, Randy and Donna moved their family to Randolph where Randy is currently employed by Schwans Sales Enterprises. Donna Page

Walter and Evelyn Palmer, Sr.

In 1727 Joseph Bruner, his four sons and their wives, immigrated to America from Baden, Germany. Adam Bruner, grandson of Joseph and my great-great-great-grandfather, served four years in the Revolutionary War. He was with George Washington as he crossed the Delaware in December 1776. He is buried in the family cemetery on the original Bruner homestead located in Knox County in the state of Illinois.

One of Adam’s sons, David Bruner, was a circuit-riding Methodist preacher. His home was located in North Henderson Township, Indiana.

David’s son, Joshua Bruner, carried the title of “Judge” although he had no formal schooling. He was widely known as a trustworthy and successful manager of legal cases. Shortly after Joshua’s death, his wife and children migrated to Ft. Pierre, South Dakota, in 1882. They homesteaded 19 quarter sections of land and because it was unsuitable for farming, they raised cattle.

His son, Lucien H. Bruner (1848-1926) served two terms as Sheriff of Sully County and at the same time was appointed U.S. Marshall. During this time, Lucien rationed out meat for Sitting Bull and the rest of his tribe. In the spring of 1889, Lucien’s family migrated toward Omaha, Nebraska, where he worked for the Municipal Water Works of Omaha. They moved to Belden and then to Randolph, Nebraska. Lucien was an active livestock dealer and also served one or more terms as Commissioner of Cedar County.

My mother, Iva, daughter of Lucien H. Bruner and Nancy Briggs Bruner was born in 1875. She married Lewis Taylor and resided in Randolph where they ran a boarding house. Living through many of the same trials as recorded in the books by Laura Ingles Wilder, who was a contemporary of her time, Iva became a talented painter in oil.

My father, Lewis, died of tuberculosis when I was 14 years old. At this time I went to work for my cousin, Zack Boughn, hemstitching and stamping embroidery pieces for mail orders. Upon graduation from high school, I left home and worked as a cook on the railroad for a while. I moved to Logan, Iowa, to work as linotype operator for the weekly newspaper.

While in Logan, I met my husband of 54 years, Walter Thomas Palmer. We both attended the Christian Church. We have two sons, Walter Thomas Palmer, Jr. and Lewis Earl Palmer. When the boys were young we moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where my husband worked for Civil Service. He was transferred to Denver, Colorado and worked 31 years at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital until he was forced to retire because of heart trouble. We visited Randolph many times after we were married and moved away but now the Boughns and Bruners are gone from there; however, the house built by my grandfather, Lucien Bruner and the house built by my parents is still standing.

My son, Walter, lives with his wife, Betty, in Englewood, Colorado and Lewis lives with his wife, Carol, and their children in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Evelyn (Taylor) Palmer

Johannes Wilhelm “John” and Marie Patent

Johannes Wilhelm “John” Patent was born October 8, 1873, at Hamburg, Germany. He was drafted into the German Army at age fifteen. He served as an aid to his uncle who was a colonel in charge of buying horses for the army. John was released from the German Army in 1893 after the death of his father, Heinrich. John traveled...
to the United States in 1894 with his sister, Marie, her husband, Joseph Boettger, and their two small children, William and Bertha.

They spent their first winter in the house where Marilyn Van Slyke now lives. The next couple of years John worked for August Huwaltd and lived on the farm one mile east and three-fourths mile south of the Junction of Highways 81 and 20. Living there, John started farming the quarter of land located just north of where Henry Hilkeman now lives. Phil Pill loaned John the money to buy his first team of horses and harnesses that helped him get started in farming.

During the time John worked for August Huwaltd in the latter part of the 1890’s, he and Joe Boettger were asked to go to Pierce and pick up the William Wipperling family for August. August Huwaltd helped several families get established in the Randolph area by giving them employment and housing until they could get started on their own. The Wipperling family lived on the farm one mile south of where John and Joe lived.

Later in the year John and Joe decided to expose the Wipperling children to the American holiday of Halloween and took two large jack-o-lanterns and walked to the Wipperling home. Upon arriving they were surprised. William had seen them coming and had sent his wife and children to bed. He had also grabbed a club, “cause for sure the devil had come!”

In 1905, John purchased his home place. It was one hundred and twenty acres of bare land located between Highway 20 and the railroad on the west side of what is now Highway 81. He built a house and moved there the following year.

In the summer of 1907, John joined a threshing crew as the spike pitcher. The crew was run by Franz Hickey, who lived three miles north of John. On March 3, 1908, John married the daughter of Franz and Louisa Hickey, Marie. Marie was born September 3, 1889, at Suczaua, Bocovina (now northwestern East Germany) and traveled to the United States with her parents. My parents, Marie and John, migrated from Bucovina, Rumania in 1889 and came to the United States as a small girl.

My wife Gladys was the youngest daughter of Lester and Nellie (Dewhirst) Dowling, now both deceased. Gladys Dowling. They have two children, Kevin and Jane.

Ray (Johnnie) was born October 13, 1933 and married Jerry Foels. They have one child, Sharon. Johnnie was the thirteenth child and was born on Friday the 13th of October.

Raymond was born September 12, 1931 and married Gladys Dowling. They have two children, Kevin and Jane.

Glenn John was born September 8, 1928. He married Alta Mae Fiscus and they are the parents of three children, Debra, Kayleen and Lynette.

Ray Patent was born October 5, 1926 and married Marvin Konken (now deceased). She was married to Louis Hahn and the mother of four children. Gail and Galen (twins), Gary and Gregg

Glenn John was born September 8, 1928. He married Alta Mae Fiscus and they are the parents of three children, Debra, Kayleen and Lynette.

Raymond was born September 12, 1931 and married Gladys Dowling. They have two children, Kevin and Jane.

Ray and Gladys Patent

My grandparents migrated from Denmark to Germany. My father, John, born in Germany in 1873, came to the United States around 1900. My mother, Marie, was born in Bucovina, Rumania in 1889 and came to the United States as a small girl.

My wife Gladys was the youngest daughter of Lester and Nellie (Dewhirst) Dowling, now both deceased.

Gladys and I started the Patent Electric business in 1962. As the business grew so did our family. Our son, Kevin was born in 1958 and our daughter Jane was born in 1965. In 1982, we acquired a daughter-in-law, Alice (Wattier). Now Kevin and Alice are associated business partners of Patent Electric. Jane is a student at Kearney State College. Ray Patent

Ed and Alma Paulson

Ed Paulson was born January 23, 1892, to Nels and Betsy Paulson in Oakland, Nebraska. His childhood was spent living around Wausa, Nebraska, where he attended a country school. December 31, 1910, he married Alma Carlson, daughter of Nels and Hannah Carlson, at
Hartington, Nebraska. Most of his early married life was spent farming in Nebraska and Minnesota. Their children include: Harriet, Harold, Lloyd (passed away January 12, 1984), Doris, Geraldine, and Wayne (passed away January 17, 1934). In the spring of 1934 the family moved into Magnet where Ed owned and operated the town’s only bar. Then in the spring of 1941 they moved to Randolph and lived in the house located at 301 E Mosher Street. In 1945, Ed bought and moved into the house located next to the creek at 302 S Main. This house had been moved into town by Dusty Miller. While in Randolph, Ed served as town marshal and owned his own gravel truck.

Alma died April 28, 1959 at the age of 69. At the end of the year Ed married Ann Peterman and moved to Frazee, Minnesota, where he lived the rest of his life. He died on February 11, 1972 at the age of 80 years. Doris Winkelbauer

H. L Peck

Three of my grandparents were born in New York State and my grandfather Peck was born in Montrose, Pennsylvania near the New York boundary. Grandfather Morgan G. Burch went west as far as Illinois. My grandmother and her parents later moved to Iowa. She was the oldest of nine children of the Loren Gleasons. He was a mason and built the first building of the newly established Grinnell College. My grandmother and Morgan Burch were married and moved back to New York. They later bought a farm in Jones County, Iowa. They raised three children: Loren, Albert and Jennie Gertrude, my mother.

Grandpa Burch had to give up farming due to a health problem and moved to Anamosa, Iowa. Henry L. Peck was born in Anamosa March 17, 1868, the eldest of five children of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Peck. He received his early education in Anamosa and at the age of thirteen he entered the office of the Anamosa Eureka where he began his apprenticeship as a printer. He worked as a printer and foreman in a number of Iowa newspaper offices, during which time he married Cordelia Corbett in the fall of 1889. Mrs. Peck died in 1892 leaving him with two children, Neva, age two and Floyd, three months.

My parents, H. L Peck and Jennie Gertrude Burch were married August 27, 1985, at Anamosa and moved to Cascade, Iowa where he was foreman on the staff of the Cascade Pioneer. Grandfather Peck died in November 1895. Neva and Floyd were age three and five. Dorothy Jane was born in 1899.

Near the turn of the century several from Cascade moved to Nebraska. It was at this time H. L Peck came to Randolph and bought The Randolph Times. Dad went on ahead by train and mother moved with the three children accompanied by Grandpa Burch. Grandpa Burch saw two lots in east Randolph and built a house there in 1902. It was in that house I was born and married. It is now owned by Russell Van Slykes.

In the fall of 1911, Neva and Floyd went to Park College near Kansas City. Neva succumbed to typhoid fever in March 1912. Floyd went another year and was married in 1918.

Grandpa Burch died July 16, 1915 and was buried in Anamosa.

My father was appointed Postmaster in Randolph in 1912 when Taft was president. It was a political appointment so he went out with Taft in 1916. The Times was sold in 1912, the purchaser also buying The Enterprise, and calling it the Times-Enterprise. The editor later sold to H. L. Peck and my father again became an editor.

My parents were active in community affairs and in the Presbyterian Church. Dorothy attended Wesleyan University and in 1923 married Leslie Nelson. They moved to North Platte in 1929 where he was principal of the high school. He died there in 1977.

Dad was interested in the young people of Randolph and gave them space in The Times for the high school as their weekly paper. In his later years he taught a class of teenage boys in the Presbyterian Church.

I was married to Gothermal Anderson in 1932. We had one son, Alan Burch Anderson born in 1936.

Dad accompanied us to the New York World’s Fair in 1939 and Floyd took charge of the newspaper. After returning Dr. Cook sent my father to Mayo Clinic where he was told he had Lou Gehrig’s disease. He died January 25, 1940. He was honored by a memorial service at the Randolph High School.

My brother Floyd lived in Huron, South Dakota. He had four children.

Dorothy had four sons and lost one.

For several years, Mother spent her winters in Wahoo or North Platte and the summers in Randolph. She entered the home in Coleridge in June 1951. She died in February 1952.

By that time, Floyd was also gone. He had moved several years before to California where he worked in a Kaiser War plant.

In 1962, my husband had a severe heart attack and had to retire from the postal department. We spent our winters in Florida after that and finally had to rent a lot by the year in order to have a place near Naples on the gulf. He died in 1973 at the age of 69. At that time, Alan was in Columbia, Missouri, where he was on the staff of the University. He and his wife had two sons and a daughter.

I am the only living member of the family. Dorothy died in 1985 at the age of 85. Two sons, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive her.

I received my BA degree from the University of Nebraska and taught English and French for five years. I sold my home of 51 years in 1973 and moved into a duplex owned by my brother-in-law. It is only three
blocks from “home”. I am active, though my heart slows me down. Gertrude Peck Anderson

Leland Thurston and Amelia Louise Peebles

Leland Thurston Peebles was born on March 15, 1895 in Pender, Nebraska to John Norris Peebles and Florence Elizabeth Maryott. His five older brothers and sisters; Elwood (30 May 1883), Dudley (14 November 1884), John (9 September 1886), Margaret (17 September 1889) and Nellie (8 February 1891) were born in Decatur, Nebraska. Florence (10 February 1897), Leland’s other siblings were born in Pender, Nebraska.

The Peebles family emigrated from Scotland to Pennsylvania, Cumberland County, Southampton Township prior to the Revolutionary War. Leland’s great-great-grandfather, Alexander Peebles, was a Captain in the Revolutionary War. John Moody Peebles, Leland’s grandfather, emigrated from Pennsylvania to Michigan to Iowa to Decatur, Nebraska. John Moody Peebles was a physician and Presbyterian minister. John Norris, Leland’s father, ran a general store and traded with the Indians. While growing up Leland lived on the Winnebago Indian Reservation.

Amelia Louise Didam was the second child born to John Didam and Elizabeth Josephine Promes on 19 October 1892, in Omaha, Nebraska. Amelia had an older sister, Anna, born 22 October 1888, in Omaha, Nebraska. Her father was a saloon keeper in Omaha until he was injured in a horse and buggy accident. He died 17 October 1897 in Bow Valley, Nebraska. Her mother later married Henry Pruss and had a third child, Margaret on 15 January 1900.

Amelia’s parents were both born in Germany. They each came over with their families around 1880 and settled in Bow Valley, Nebraska. Amelia graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Hartington, Nebraska. After graduation she went to Omaha and worked for the Commonwealth Life Company.

Leland graduated from Blair High School, Blair, Nebraska in 1914. He entered Creighton University in 1919 and graduated in 1923 with a Doctorate in Dental Surgery.

During World War I (1917) he joined the U.S. Army in the Quartermaster Department of the Rainbow Division in Omaha. He landed in France in March 1918, with the 77th battalion and spent 17 months with the traveling sales commissary. His last consignment was with the 37th division, which he went with into Belgium after the Armistice was signed. He was discharged May, 1919.

Amelia and Leland were married in Omaha on 18 June 1922. Their only child, Leland John, was born in Omaha on 12 June 1924. After practicing dentistry in Omaha for one and one-half years (1923-1924), the Peebles family moved to Randolph, Nebraska on 1 January 1925, where Leland had purchased the dental practice of Dr. Burgess. Their first home was near the Lutheran church on Broadway. In 1932, they purchased their home, 504 East Jackson. Dr. Peebles would tell the story that Harry Brummels had a bad toothache. Because the weather was bad, Harry rode his horse into town to see the new dentist. Mr. Brummels was his first patient.

The first Peebles Dental Office was on the second floor of the bank building on the southwest corner of Main and Broadway. Later he moved the office to the building which is now New Horizons. When Leland John joined his father in the practice of dentistry in 1951, they purchased the former Kuhl Photography building on Main at Wayne Street.

Being very active in the American Legion, Leland was elected District Commander of the Third District. He also had been post commander, finance officer and service officer, county commander for Cedar County and vice commander for the Third District. He was also a life member of the American Dental Association. For the Northeast Nebraska Dental Association, in 1938 he held the office of president. The previous year he held the office of president-elect. In appreciation of Leland’s community service he was appointed an Admiral in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. He also was president of the National Highway 20 Association, served on the Randolph City Council and was a volunteer fireman.

The Cedar County News carried an article on a kittenball game where the Republican Cedar County candidates were playing the Democratic candidates. “Doc”, dressed as an elephant, was umpiring bases and in one instance grabbed a nice fly ball which landed in his mitt down near second base. He then called the runner out. Joe Rogers of Randolph also interfered with the game to the benefit of his side.

“Doc” and Milly loved people and enjoyed life. Leland died on 7 January 1970, in Osmond, Nebraska. Amelia died on 20 December 1972 in Randolph, Nebraska. They are buried in the Peebles Family Plot in the cemetery at Blair, Nebraska. Mary Peebles Turner

Martha Peeks

I was born and raised on a farm two miles east and a quarter of a mile north of Randolph. This farm was known as the Thaden Farm, and remained in the Thaden name over fifty years. I was the youngest of six children in the Carl and Sophie Thaden family -two sons, Fred and Henry and four daughters, Freda, Alvena, Augusta and me, Martha.

All of us children attended the rural school in District #38, (known as the Thaden school), which was only one-fourth mile north of our house. Our childhood days were happy ones and each one was given certain chores to do.

Sunday mornings we usually attended church. In the summer time we went with the carriage or buggy and team of horses. In the winter time when the roads were
snowy we used the bobsled and had plenty of blankets to keep us warm.

Speaking of winter, I will always remember the sight of the lovely glowing isinglass windows in the big base burner that heated our living room. In the chilly bedrooms in the winter time, we slept on feather beds and used sheets made of cotton flannel.

For two weeks in the summer time the Chautauqua was the main entertainment in town, under the big tent. Our parents bought season tickets so we could enjoy the various programs of lectures, concerts, plays, etc., given afternoons and evenings. I very well remember the day Helen Keller was on the program. She made quite an impression and was a real inspiration to all.

We children were confirmed in the Lutheran Church of Randolph by Pastor Franzen and Pastor Raabe.

An exciting event on the farm was threshing time. Neighbors helped each other at this time, bringing their hayracks and pitch forks to haul bundles of oats to the threshing machine. The womenfolk were extremely busy too, preparing lavish meals for the hungry gang.

Corn shucking was quite an event each year, too. Corn was husked with the use of a hand hook. Brother Henry, many times, shucked over one hundred bushels a day.

After graduation from Randolph High School, all of us pursued our own interests by attending colleges and university. We rode the trains to our destination and home again, and well remember the old Burlington and M & O depots.

In 1921, brother Henry was married and resided on the home place.

In the spring of 1922, my parents and I moved to Randolph, father having purchased the Gus Hansen house in the south part of town.

After graduation from high school in 1923, I taught for three years in District #38 in Cedar County (riding horseback to and from school the first two years), and then attended Wayne State Teachers College. After graduation I continued in the teaching profession in Cass County.

I often think back to the days while growing up in Randolph, and shall treasure the memories of my twenty-three years there. Martha (Thaden) Peeks

Peper

In the early part of 1916, Albert, son of John and Agnes (Mundt) Peper and Edna, daughter of Claus and Caroline (Jorgensen) Minster, with infant daughter, Caroline, arrived in Randolph.

Albert came from a family of eight sisters and brothers. His father migrated to the States from Germany when he was 18 years old. The last farm they owned was near Denison, Iowa, before his parents retired to Sioux City, Iowa.

Mother Edna’s family consisted of four girls and one boy. The family farmed at several areas in northern Iowa.

When Dad rented the farm (160 acres), little did we realize that would be our home for thirty years. My grandfather, John Peper, owned the farm which was south and west of Randolph. Brothers Harold and Merle were born at that farm.

We attended school at District 38 Wayne County through the eighth grade, then transferred to Randolph for high school.

We experienced many good years with good neighbors and friends. The “thirties” were almost devastating with either hail or drought which continued for seven consecutive years. Then came a “bank moratorium”—many banks were closed. When I hear of the present day problems of the farmers, banks closing, etc., it all seems awfully close to those earlier times.

Barn dances and card clubs were very popular when I was growing up. Many times, I can remember being taken to a barn dance and put to bed on bales of hay or straw while our parents joined the party and danced the night away. Lunch was served before leaving. The card clubs were active in the winter. Weather never seemed to be a deterrent for such activities. Horses hitched to a wagon or sled worked just fine.

Every Saturday night was a time to go to Randolph for groceries and much visiting. Young people walked up and down the streets, stopping in the drug stores for ice cream cones, soda or whatever.

When the swimming pool opened in Randolph, my parents took time every day in the summer to get us there to learn to swim. My two brothers and I graduated from Randolph High School.

I entered nurses training in the fall of 1934 and graduated from Lincoln General Hospital in June 1937. I worked for the Lincoln Public Schools five years. I joined the Army Nurses Corp for three years, with one year in England, before and during the invasion of the Continent. I married Kenneth Kling, February 15, 1945, in Aberdeen, Maryland. He was discharged from the service in September of 1945. We have a son William and daughter Patricia.

I returned to school nursing in 1951 for the Lincoln Public Schools and served a total of 31 years before retiring in 1977. I completed a B.S. Degree from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1955.

My husband, Kenneth, worked for O’Shea-Rogers and Meginnis Ford, retiring in February of 1977.

Our children are both married and Bill has two sons.

After high school, Harold worked in Iowa on farms. In 1942, he secured his call for the military, serving three years in combat with the Tank Corps in North Africa and Italy. He was discharged September 1945. He farmed the family farm for one year, worked at Glen Hyatt Service Station and later at the Rosenbach Station. He worked in Lincoln for the Hannon Station and moved to Friend, Nebraska with Hannon. Later he was employed by the Randolph City Light Plant until a terminal illness caused him to retire.
Merle attended Wayne State College and worked in Iowa until his call for military service in 1941. He married Florence Johnson on July 1942. He worked in a grocery store in Slayton, Minnesota and farmed nine years. The family moved to the State of Washington and bought a restaurant at Arlington. They have six children, all married and fourteen grandchildren. The youngest son manages the restaurant. Merle has retired and enjoys his family. The older son owns a restaurant at Castle Rock, Washington.

My parents moved from the farm in 1945 to Randolph. They purchased the house at 512 South Main in 1947. In 1965, they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary and in 1976, their 61st. Mother was a charter member in the “Birthday Club.”


Harold died November 3, 1982. Carolyn (Peper) Kling

Darrell Peters

Darrell Peters was born to Dr. Glen Peters and Mable (Bruner) Peters in late 1914 in Bloomfield, Nebraska. During his very early life, at the time of World War I, his father was away in the army. It was during this time that Darrell and his mother fell ill with the Spanish Influenza. Mother, Mable, died but Darrell recovered and went to live with his grandparents, Bernard and Eloise Bruner of Randolph. Darrell remained with his grandparents until Glen returned from the army.

Young Darrell attended and graduated from St. Frances High School in 1929 at the age of fourteen. He attended college for two years at Conception Missouri and two years at Wayne Normal College.

Following his college education, he worked for a time in Lincoln, then moved with his family to California in 1939. Some of his work years took him into 20th Century Fox Studios and Mattel Toy Industries.

He currently is retired and resides with his wife, Margaret, at San Marcos, California.

Joseph Pflanz

My grandfather, Joseph Pflanz, was born in Wilbourgstetten, Germany on September 17, 1962. He came to the United States at an early age and was working on a ranch at Laurel, Nebraska during the winter of the blizzard of 1888.

Grandmother was born Babetta Mahler on August 29, 1861, at Radwang, Germany. She immigrated to this country, reaching Bakerton, Pennsylvania, on June 16, 1888. They were married the following year on September 30, 1889 at Wayne, Nebraska. They had been sweethearts, having met while picking hops in the fields of Germany. They settled on a farm south of Belden, Nebraska where they lived until retiring to a home in Randolph in 1929.

They were the parents of nine children: Mrs. William Loberg (Clara Pflanz, my mother); Otto; Edward; his twin sister who died in infancy; Fred; Mrs. Joe Allar (Lydia Pflanz); Mrs. John Wurdinger (Josephine Pflanz); Mrs. Henry Beuck (Hilda Pflanz); and Eugene.

Grandmother Pflanz died on October 1, 1949, one day after their sixtieth wedding anniversary and grandfather died on November 15, 1949. Lucille Loberg

Joseph and Elizabeth Pinkelman

Conrad and Elizabeth Wiesener emigrated from Westphalia, Germany in 1859 and settled in Hancock County, Michigan. In the fall of 1865, they followed the example of many others and took advantage of the Homestead Act. They boarded a train for Boone, Iowa where they bought a covered wagon; and with eight other families, they headed west. After three weary weeks, they arrived in the vicinity of Bow Valley, Nebraska, where they built a log cabin and established their homestead. Mary, their youngest daughter, married August Pinkelman, who had been born in Westphalia, Germany on August 6, 1862 and whose family immigrated to America only a few years later. They, too, had first settled in Michigan and later homesteaded in Nebraska.

Mary and August had ten children. The third youngest, Joseph, was born November 10, 1900. He married Elizabeth Lenzen, daughter of Herman and Christina Lenzen, on January 20, 1925. They farmed at Wynot for a short time, then moved to Randolph where Joe worked on the railroad for a couple of years. In 1929, they moved to Wayne to farm on the Warren Schultheis farm. In March 1930, Joe received a severe cut on his right arm from a buzz saw. Only the patience of Dr. Walter Benthack saved the arm and in time it was as good as new. There was only a deep scar to show how close he had come to losing his arm.

The depression forced the Pinkelmans to move back to Randolph in 1931. There Joe worked on many farms as jobs were available. In 1935, he became custodian of St. Frances Catholic School and Church. He held that position until 1943, when he again moved back to the Schultheis’ farm at Wayne.

They continued to farm until the three children had married and moved away. In 1955, they gave up farming and bought a tavern in Carroll, Nebraska. In May of 1958, Joe had a cerebral hemorrhage which left him partially paralyzed on his right side. This forced them into selling the tavern. After struggling through several more Nebraska winters, they moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Joseph Pinkelman passed away on Sept. 19, 1970. Joe’s widow, Elizabeth, spends the summers in Wayne, where her son, Cliff, lives. He commutes to South Sioux City each day to operate his business - Dakota Auto Parts. Cliff and Elaine have five children and six grandchildren.
In the spring and fall, Elizabeth visits her daughter, Madeline Kelly, in Whippany, New Jersey. Madeline is a buyer for AT & T Bell laboratories. Madeline and Jim have four children and five grand children.

Elizabeth spends the winters in Albuquerque with her youngest daughter, Shirley Ocobok. Shirley is co-owner of an insurance adjustor's agency. Recently, she was the first woman to be elected as vice president of the Rocky Mountain Region of the National Association of Independent Insurance Adjustors. Shirley and Ivan have six children and eight grandchildren.  

Mary and John Pock

My father, Lewis Franklin Pock, born July 4, 1887, and my mother, Luella Haakinson, born March 3, 1885, were married on September 5, 1907 in Sioux City, Iowa. My Dad’s ancestors came to the United States from Germany in 1777 and my Mom’s ancestors were from Norway.

Mary’s father, Bernard F. Muntifering, born February 25, 1884 and her mother, Gladys Waid, born on June 8, 1885 were married September 13, 1913, in Bismarck, North Dakota. Mary’s ancestors came from Germany.

Mary was one of four children and was born February 10, 1915. I am also one of four children and was born on August 22, 1912.

Mary and I were married October 3, 1936 in Sioux City, Iowa. While living in Sioux City, I worked for Metz Baking Company also known as Old Home Bread and Mary was a homemaker. Our daughter, Patty, was born on December 23, 1937 and our daughter, Linda, on September 19, 1941.

In 1947, our family along with our friends, Clara and Larry Arndt, moved to Randolph where we purchased the Cornhusker Café and Bakery. Kathy, our last daughter was born on December 23, 1949.

In 1965, Mary and I built a new home in West Randolph and moved there. That same year, while still owning the café, I was granted a franchise from Ford Motor Co. to sell their cars. F. C. Meyer and I formed the P & M Motor Co. and opened our Ford and Mercury garage in 1966. Mary and I also sold our café that year.

Ed Kessler bought out F. C. Meyer’s interest in the business in 1968 and we were partners until 1977, when we sold out to Darrell May and Jack Bartels. After that I retired.

While in business in Randolph, I served a four year term on the City Council and was a volunteer fireman for nineteen years. I was instrumental in getting the Elkhorn Valley Night Baseball League organized and served as its president one year. I was also in charge of the Nebraska Semi-Pro double elimination tournament and we played the semi-final game at the Junior Fair in 1952 with paid admissions exceeding 2,100, the largest baseball crowd ever in Randolph. I enjoyed participating in all of Randolph’s civic affairs.

Upon retirement Mary and I enjoyed traveling and spending extra time with our families and friends.

On January 26, 1978, Mary passed away. Later that year I was asked to run for City Councilman again, was elected and served another four years.

I married Irene Kelsch, on August 18, 1978. Irene has five grown children. Some of our hobbies are golf, playing cards and travel.

As I write this my daughter Patty is married to Duane Gubbels and they have five children: June, Barb, Mark, Dean and Karen and one grandchild, Joy. Patty and Duane live in Norfolk, Nebraska.

My daughter Linda is married to Eugene Gubbels and they have three children: Chuck, Pam, and Scott. They live here in Randolph.

My youngest daughter, Kathy, is married to Ken Eberhardt and they have three children, Kristin, Kyle and Kory. They live in Norfolk, Nebraska.

Over the years I have really enjoyed making Randolph my home and have had the pleasure of many friends and fond memories.

Martin and Elizabeth Queeney

Martin and (Lizzie) Elizabeth Queeney, moved to Randolph, Nebraska in the spring of 1899. They were married near Portsmouth, Iowa and then farmed for four years before coming to Randolph. They, like other young couples felt that the Randolph area held a better promise and opportunity.

Martin made the trip to Randolph to consult land agents and to look at available land. He bought a quarter section, two miles east and four miles north of Randolph. The purchase was made from Mr. E. C. Aegerter and Minnie A Aegerter. The cost was $4,000.00.

Lizzie had not seen the farm site and had remarked that if she could have seen what lay hidden beneath the snow, she would have returned to Iowa. As the snows melted, she became accustomed to the barren landscape. She missed the trees of Iowa, but the couple soon had that detail corrected by planting a large grove and orchard. In 1917, they enlarged and remodeled their home.
Their move to Randolph was by railroad. They had pooled their loads of livestock and household goods with two other couples. They all arrived together, on a cold and very wintry spring day. As it was late in the afternoon, getting the stock unloaded and to the farm before more snow fell was a big problem. They left Randolph that night and because there were no roads, just wagon ruts laid out across the prairie, traveling was difficult. The horses and wagons they had shipped with them were their only means of transportation.

They arrived safely and unloaded their possessions. The late afternoon and evening were beautiful; everything was covered with white snow. Friends, who had already settled here, helped them with the tasks to be done.

The farmstead was built up and the couple retained ownership until 1967. The farm was then sold to Dr. Harry Lortz and Betty Lortz, who in turn sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Brussens. Melvin took ownership on March 1, 1980.

Dorothy was the only child of Martin and Elizabeth Queeney. She attended one term in the rural school north of their farm and then her parents made the decision to move to town so she could stay at home and have the opportunity to attend a Catholic school. In December of 1919, they purchased the home of Dorothy’s grandfather, Joseph Jurgensmier, in east Randolph. This is now the home of the Eugene Eich family. After buying this house they filled in the low lots and rebuilt and enlarged the home. This modern and comfortable house was Dorothy’s home, until adulthood.

Martin Queeney passed away suddenly on August 26, 1936 at the age of 70. Dorothy was teaching at the time. She and her mother continued to call Randolph home until June of 1939. Then Dorothy married Wayne Ewing. They all moved to Hartington, Nebraska and lived there until 1943. Dorothy and her mother then returned to Randolph and Wayne left for the war overseas.

With the end of the war, Wayne returned to Randolph and they continued to live in their home. Wayne became the manager of the Great Plains Supply Co., in 1948. He held this position until his death in May, 1958. Dorothy and Wayne had two children, Mary Ellen, now Mrs. Ken Thunker of Hartington and Martin Ewing of Yankton, South Dakota. Mary and Ken have two boys and two girls.

Dorothy remained in Randolph until August 1962 when she married Paul Dendinger and again moved to Hartington. Dorothy’s mother died in St. Vincent’s home in Omaha, Nebraska on August 26, 1962. Elizabeth had been a widow for 26 years after the death of Martin. With the demise of Elizabeth, the Queeney name was gone. Dorothy’s father had two brothers, who had married, but only had one daughter each. Dorothy is the only survivor.

Dorothy’s education was received at St. Frances Grade and High School. She attended Wayne State College and began her teaching career at a rural school in 1932. All her teaching was in Cedar County or adjoining counties. She never went far from the Randolph area. Dorothy is very much a part of Randolph’s history and past. She has seen the many changes in the community and its residents.

Dorothy’s and Wayne’s children attended St. Frances School until they moved to Hartington. They attended Holy Trinity Grade School and Cedar Catholic High School.

The many memories of grandfather Jurgensmier’s stories of the Civil War and Dorothy’s father’s and mother’s tales of the pioneer days in Randolph and of the willingness of people to help others over fifty years ago would fill books. The memories of one room school houses, snowstorms and the goodness of friends and neighbors will never be forgotten.

Dorothy took an active part in the Randolph community. Her father served as special duty policeman for many years.

Dorothy and her husband are actively involved in the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, in the V. F. W. Dorothy is a charter member of the Randolph V. F. W. Auxiliary. Her parents encouraged her to partake and be active in her church and community. This is something she has tried to do and to encourage her family to do also. Dorothy feels there is a lot of truth in her father’s philosophy. “It is better to wear out, than rust out.”

Dorothy keeps busy trying to do just that. Dorothy (Queeney) Dendinger

C. H. and Mary Randall

Charles Harrison Randall was born in Little Falls, New York in 1864. He accompanied his parents to Illinois and then pressed westward to Wyoming where he engaged in railroad construction. While returning to Illinois in 1887, he left his horses with a farmer near Wausa. It was this time that he first came to Randolph and met Paul Buol who was in the hardware business. Attracted to the new town, Randall returned to Randolph the following year, 1888; bought 100 acres of prairie land at the edge of town for $2.00 per acre and lived in a sod house. This young man’s industry and reliability prompted Mr. C. S. Whitham to offer him a job in the old Randolph State Bank. Mr. Randall soon rose to become a cashier and a few years later joined with Mr. Buol to direct the Security State Bank, which later became the Security National Bank. He remained with this bank until his death in 1931.

C.H. Randall’s father was Albert Elisha Randall, born in New York in 1840. He was an only child and orphaned at a very early age. He married Elizabeth Snell in 1865; she died in 1868 and left her husband and small son, Charles. Albert then married Amelia Fralick in 1872, served for some time as a captain of a canal boat on the Erie Canal, moved to Illinois, and then took residence in Iowa. Albert Elisha died in 1924, survived by his wife and son. Amelia lived until the mid 1930's, well into her nineties, residing first with her son and his wife, Mary, and then with her daughter-in-law, Mary Stewart Randall.
C. H. Randall was an initial member of the State Bankers Organization which he helped to found in 1898 and he later served as its president. He was a very active citizen of Randolph as a member of the School board, as village trustee, as Mayor, as advisor and counselor of Boy Scouts of America and of the Y.M.C.A. Devoted to the Methodist Episcopal Church, he also became a member of the Board of Trustees of Nebraska Wesleyan University. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, consistory and Shrine. Active in the Republican Party, he served in the State Legislature as Senator and was nominated by his party to run for the governorship of Nebraska in 1922, but lost the race to his Democratic opponent, Charles W. Bryan. He and his wife, Mary Stewart, were married in 1892, in Randolph and they cared for and reared “as their own” her two nieces and nephew—Lena, Gene and Harriet Stewart.

Mary (Stewart) Randall died in Randolph in 1942, and was particularly mourned by her nephews and nieces, Frank, Mollie Greenslit, Lena, Gene and Harriet Bain and their families. Born in Illinois in 1866, she had come to Nebraska with her parents in 1884. Prepared to teach, she was employed in a school near Fremont. While yet eighteen years of age, she suffered a terrible mishap. She and her sister, Ida, were passengers in a buggy driven by their brother. A passing train startled the team, the horses bolted, the buggy careened and the girls were thrown overboard. Ida suffered painful and scarring injuries, but Ray struck a barbed wire fence and her right arm was virtually mangled. Taken to a nearby farm house, she awaited the attention of a doctor who had, finally, no alternative but “to cut off her arm above the elbow.” The surgery took place while she lay on a kitchen table. She resumed her career as a teacher and taught in Randolph until she married Charles Randall. She was a charter member of Randolph Chapter AE, PEO. As a devotee of the Methodist Church, she served for twenty-five years as president of her local church’s Woman’s Home Missionary Society. Mary Elizabeth (Stewart) Cessna

Peter and Anna Reding

Early pioneer settlers of Randolph were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reding.

Peter Reding, a twin, was born at Dahl Luxenberg, Germany on September 14, 1850. His wife, Anna Majerus was born April 30, 1858 at Luxenberg, Germany. On July 15, 1879, they were united in marriage at Johnsberg, Minnesota. They spent their married life in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota. In 1892, they moved from White Lake, South Dakota to a farm south of Randolph, now owned by Frances Viegutz. They farmed on this place and raised their family there. In 1909, they retired and moved to Randolph.

As early parishioners of St. Francis, they helped establish the first church and school.

They were the parents of 11 children: Peter, John, Margaret (Mrs. Joseph Friedenbach), Nicholas, Anthony, Catherine (Mrs. John W. Gubbels), James, August, Mary (Sr. M. Davina), Anna (Sr. M. Jotha) and Elizabeth (Mrs. Bernard O’Kane). The only survivor of these 11 children is Elizabeth who lives at Columbus, Nebraska.

Peter Reding passed away on February 1, 1923 and Anna on June 11, 1945. Velna Leiting

George I. Reed

George I. Reed was born March 14, 1880 in Montour, Iowa to Hiram I. and Mary (Babb) Reed. In March of 1885, the family settled on a farm near Scotia, Nebraska. In 1897, George and his brother Sam rode on horseback from Scotia to Randolph to visit their sister, Mrs. R. L. (Kate) Brown. They remained in Randolph to enter business. Their first venture into business was a café and then the Reed Brothers Creamery.

On June 4, 1913, George married Elsa L. Given, daughter of W. A. and Frances Given, of Lincoln. Elsa was a graduate of the University of Nebraska School of Music. George and Elsa lived in Randolph their entire married lives.

The Reeds had five children: Bruce, Frances Ann, Willa, Albert (Bert) and George Dean. Bruce was killed in Japan during World War II while serving in the infantry.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska, Frances Ann taught in Tilden where she met and married J. Phleet Hash. Pfleet was in the Air Force during World War II, stationed in Laredo, Texas, as an instructor in gunnery. Following his stint in the service, Pfleet rejoined Gambles as manager of the Fairbury store. He later managed the Norfolk store for over 30 years, until his retirement. Frances Ann was a teacher in the Norfolk Business College and a legal secretary in Laredo. After her family was raised, she began another career with Northwestern Bell Telephone Company where she remained until their offices were moved from Norfolk.

Pfleet and Frances have two children: Jay Riley Hash of Lincoln and Jeré L. Mrsny of Omaha. Jay married Sharon Monson of Norfolk. They have two sons, Jay Brian and Justin Andrew. After twelve years as a pilot in the Air force, Jay resigned and is now Vice-President at First National Bank in Lincoln at 56th and O Streets. Jeré has worked for Northwestern Bell since 1967 and is associated with AT & T since the divestiture. She has two sons, Shannon Thomas and Shane Donovan.

Willa graduated from the University of Nebraska and while working in Lincoln, met and married Robert Barr of Lincoln. Bob served in the infantry during World War II, in the Pacific zone. After the war, Willa and Bob lived in Lincoln and then moved to Arvada, Colorado, where Bob worked for the state laboratory and Willa was associated with the public schools in Thornton. They are both retired and are in the process of moving to Columbus, Indiana. They have two children: Robert W. Barr of Wrentham, Massachusetts and Dr. Timothy Barr of Columbus,
Indiana. Robert married Jane Esterling of Mexico, Missouri. He is national sales manager of A. R. Company. Timothy married Sharon Pickard of Indianapolis, Indiana. They are both practicing chiropractors in Columbus. They have one daughter, Elaine Marjorette and are expecting Willa’s second grandchild in October.

Following high school, Bert joined the U.S. Navy. He was stationed on the USS California when it was bombed at Pearl Harbor. He served on the USS Portland and the USS Kassin Young in the South pacific during World War II. After being discharged from the Navy, he lived with his mother in Lincoln, where he still resides.

Upon his completion of high school, George Dean had to wait two months to be eligible to enter the U.S. Navy. During World War II, he was stationed in Hawaii. After his discharge, he graduated from Wayne State College. He married Lois Russell of Wayne. “Dean”, or George, was with the Social Security Office in Norfolk until his retirement. Dean and Lois have four girls: Debbie, Cheryl, Diane and Mary. Debbie married Randy Benish of Norfolk. Randy is associated with Beatrice Foods and Debbie is prominent in golf circles. They have one son, Ryan. Cheryl married Randy Jackson of Wayne. They are both employed in Denver, Colorado where they reside.

Diane divides her time between Omaha and Norfolk. She works with Lutheran Family Service in Omaha and also sings and plays guitar in lounges in Omaha and Norfolk. Mary married Frank Griffith of Neligh. They work and live in Neligh and have one child, Sarah.

George and Sam ran the creamery in Randolph for thirty some years before selling to Fairmont Foods. George opened the Gamble Store in Randolph which he owned and operated until his death on December 31, 1948.

Elsa gave piano lessons as long as she lived in Randolph. She continued to operate the store until selling one-half interest to Glen Stingley. At that time, she moved back to Lincoln, where she lived until her death on July 15, 1983. She was 93 at the time of her death.

Through their entire life in Randolph, the Reeds were active in church and city activities. George was one who believed strongly that one should buy in his home town. He served on the Randolph School Board for several years. He was influential in getting the swimming pool constructed in Randolph and the nine-hole golf course west of town. The Reed kids “lived” in that swimming pool while the “old” folks played golf.

**Samuel D. Reed**

Samuel D. Reed was born September 2, 1877 at Montour, Iowa to Hiram and Mary C. (Babb) Reed. He had five brothers and four sisters.

The family moved from Iowa in 1885 and settled on a farm near Scotta, Nebraska.

In 1897, Sam and his brother George came to visit a sister, Mrs. R. L. Brown, making the trip by horseback.
graduated in 1935. She married Roy Porterfield on September 2, 1936. They had one son. Roy’s work was air conditioning and heating. They lived for a time in South Sioux City. Later they moved to Topeka, Kansas where they still reside.

Edith Reed passed away April 20, 1960. The funeral was at the Methodist Church. Reverend Gustafson officiated. Burial was in Randolph Cemetery.

Sam Reed passed away March 18, 1963. The funeral was held in the Methodist Church, Reverend Anderson officiated. The burial was in the Randolph Cemetery, with Masonic rites by Golden Sheaf Lodge. *Ruby Munter and Charlotte Porterfield*

**Philip and Anna Reiland**

The Reiland family name has been associated with the town of Randolph almost the entire 100 years – 1888-1982.

Philip Reiland was born February 19, 1863, near Milwaukee, Wisconsin and lived there six or seven years. He then moved to St. Nazianz, Wisconsin until he was 19 years old, when he moved to Scribner, Nebraska, where he worked on a farm for $15 a month.

On March 3, 1883, he married Anna Mary Westphalen at Fremont, Nebraska. They lived in the Scribner vicinity for four years and in 1887, they moved to a farm four and one-half miles north of Plainview. After a year, in 1888, two years after Randolph was established, they moved to the old “Black” timber claim, 11 miles southwest of Randolph. They lived on this place for three years, then purchased and moved on to the home place, one mile west and four miles south of Randolph in Pierce County, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Backer. Philip farmed this place for 23 years and moved into Randolph in 1913, where he died October 8, 1926. His wife, Anna, died November 3, 1949.

They had five children.

George Ferdinand was born December 30, 1893 at Scribner, Nebraska; married Emma Dora Scheel on September 26, 1906 and died November 4, 1958 at Plainview, Nebraska.

Rosa Anna was born April 11, 1886 at Scribner, Nebraska and lived in the Randolph vicinity most of her life. She married James G. Macklin on April 11, 1906 and died July 7, 1977 at Wausa, Nebraska. One of her daughters, May Agnes (Macklin) Bethune, still lives in Randolph.

Lillie Marie was born July 2, 1892 at Randolph and lived in the Randolph vicinity nearly all of her life. She married Elmer Julius Jacobson on September 14, 1922 and died January 27, 1964 at Randolph. Her daughter, Helen Anna (Jacobson) Delozier, still resides in Randolph.

Emma was born August 7, 1894 at Randolph; was married to Max Hill and also to Fred Fletcher.

Arthur (Art) August was born August 10, 1897 on the home farm. Since he is the only Reiland that remained a lifelong resident of the Randolph community, further elaboration will follow.

After serving in the U.S. Army during World War I, he returned to farm the home place until 1949. On March 3, 1925, he married Elsie Elizabeth McDonald, daughter of John Calvin and Bertha Alderson McDonald of the Belden community.

In 1945, they moved into Randolph into the “Peasinger” residence, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Meier. Elsie was active in the Onward Rebekah Lodge, #156, serving in various capacities including, Noble Grand. She died August 4, 1968. Art was a charter member of the American Legion, holding various offices including, Post Commander. For many years he served as a Deputy Cedar County Assessor and also served on the election board for several years.

Before his death on May 8, 1982, he had been honored in 1976 as being the oldest continuous male resident of the Randolph community.

Their only son, Philip Leonard, was born on September 17, 1932, on the same farm where his father was born. They both attended the same one-room country school house, District 28 S.E. in Pierce County for eight years. Phil graduated from Randolph High in 1949 and from the University of Nebraska in 1953. After serving in Korea with the U.S. Air Force, he has never returned to Randolph to live, but still refers to Randolph as his home town. He now resides in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he is an accounting supervisor for A.T. & T.

On January 29, 1954, he married Joan Helena Warner, a registered nurse of Holbrook, Nebraska. They have three children:

Mary Janelle born on October 24, 1954; married Rodney Dale Owen of Shreveport, Louisiana. They reside in Shreveport and have one child; Travis Anthony.

Ann Elizabeth born and died on April 18, 1956.

Philip Leonard, Jr. born on September 14, 1958; married Diane Lynn Effinger of Shreveport, Louisiana. They also reside in Shreveport, where he is a C.P.A. They have two children, Laura Elizabeth and David Philip.

*Willey house located one block north of school – this house was removed for Highway 20*
Oliver and Esther Reimers

Oliver and Esther Reimers, with their small son, Ronald, moved from Pierce to a farm three miles north of Randolph in February 1940. The farm then was owned by Travelers Insurance Company. It was there, in 1941, that their daughter, Roma, was born. They lived there for four years and then moved to a half-section three miles west of town, owned by Mrs. Ida Kemph. They bought a quarter-section north of Randolph from Turk Reed. The farm now is owned by their son, Ronald. In 1965, they purchased the adjoining quarter section from Mrs. Sadie Lackas.

Ron graduated in the spring of 1957 and the following September went into the Navy for four and one-half years. When he received his discharge he decided to farm. He married Martha Leapley in 1963. They have six children: Bruce who farms north of Randolph; Karon, who has just completed school at Stewart’s School of Hair Styling; Margaret and Edward who are in school in Randolph and Aaron and Bryce who are at home.

Roma went to school at Wayne State College and earned her bachelor’s degree in Music. She married Harlan Screebner in 1964. Harlan is principal in the Logan View school system and Roma teaches vocal music there. They have five children: Mark and Mindy are in school at Logan View and Mia, Megan and Marisa attend the Hooper Elementary School.


Joseph and Helena Reineke, Sr.

Joseph J. Reineke was born July 9, 1874 in Newton, Iowa to John and Mary Reineke. He was raised in Carroll, Iowa and farmed with his father. On February 23, 1897 he married Helena Straub, who was born in Onawa, Iowa on December 19, 1876.

In 1897, Joseph and Helena moved to Randolph, Nebraska and settled on a farm one and one half miles southeast of Randolph, which belonged to his parents, John and Mary.

Joseph and Helena bought the farm from his folks on July 21, 1902. They raised five children there. Mary was born January 10, 1898 and she kept house for Monsignor Lordemann of Hartington, Neb. She married Maxalinda Olberding in 1928. Minnie was born December 30, 1899. She lived with her parents until their deaths and later moved in with Mary.

John was born October 5, 1903. He went to college in Omaha, Nebraska and also worked as a meter reader. He was killed when hit by a truck on January 30, 1929.

Joseph was born December 14, 1908. He farmed for a living. On September 3, 1940, he married Maxalinda Olberding.

Helen was born January 4, 1916; she became a registered nurse receiving her training at Saint Joseph School of Nursing in Sioux City, Iowa. She then went to Detroit, Michigan to practice and while there she met and married Victor Kozian on December 28, 1940. They have three children: Clifton, Philip and Donna. Clifton married Roseanne Spatafore on October 11, 1969 and have one daughter, Lisa.

Joseph and Helena retired in 1929 and bought a home in Randolph which is located east of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Helena Reineke died on July 31, 1952 and Joseph died on January 14, 1958.

They were members of Saint Francis Church. Rita (Reineke) Gubbels

Everett and Kate Roberts

Everett Roberts was born in Utica, New York, July 4, 1868 the son of William and Elizabeth Roberts.

In 1870, the family moved to Iowa, settling first at Burlington and later at Wales, Iowa. They left Iowa and moved to Nebraska in 1885. They located on the old Wadsworth ranch in western Wayne County, about six miles southwest of Carroll.

This part of Nebraska was sparsely settled at the time and had scarcely a barbed wire fence in the county. The roads did not follow section lines; you just started out across prairie until coming to a trail leading to where you wanted to go. There were no bridges over creeks, they were forded.

Everett continued to farm with his parents. Droughts and hot winds came quite regularly in the 1890’s.

In 1885, they bought a farm nine miles south and three-fourths east of Randolph in Wayne County where Everett and Kate lived after they were married March 11, 1896. Kate, the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Beistline) Hunt, born at Blair, Nebraska, May 18, 1878. She moved to Wayne County with her family about 1892.

After farming one year, Everett and Kate moved to Randolph, operating a feed, flour and oil business for several years. After selling this business, they moved to Wareham where they owned a small general store until 1913, when they sold out and moved back to the farm south of Randolph. They lived here until retiring and moving to Carroll in 1949.

They were able to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the same farm they set-up housekeeping on. They also observed their 60th Anniversary before Everett passed away in April of 1956. Kate passed away in November of 1963. They are buried at Bethany Cemetery, southwest of Carroll.

Everett and Kate were the parents of eleven children. Deceased are: Celia, Everett Jr., Dave, Deemer, Lucille and Dwight (Bus). Living are: Their oldest child, Will, Corpus Christi, Texas; Elheanan (Shorty), Hershey, Nebraska; Mrs. Francis (Hazel) Allen, Crofton, Nebraska; Mrs. James (Ruth) Gries, Norfolk, Nebraska; and Mrs. Howard (Minerva) Gries, Omaha, Nebraska. Will Roberts and Minerva (Roberts) Gries
George and Barbara Roeder

To reminisce a bit, 1928 was what you might call an in-between year. It was two years after Lindberg’s flight across the Atlantic and one year before the depression. It was the last year for the Model “T”. It was the year, however, that a bashful George Roeder and a blushing Barbara Engelhaupt promised before God to stick it out come “Hell or High Water”. True to their promise “Hell” came in the form of drought, dust and grasshoppers. They can’t recall any bouts with “high water” unless one counts the countless number of wet diapers generated by their six children portrayed in the family picture.

George Anton Roeder, the fourth eldest of ten children born to Anton Adam Roeder (born at Retzstadt, Bavaria, Germany) and Caroline Herchenbach (born at Neunkircken near Cologne, Germany) was born April 10, 1903 at Carroll, Iowa. In 1909, the family moved to a farm near Cornlea, Nebraska, then in 1912 to a farm near Baker, Boyd County Nebraska. (Baker is now extinct). It was in these communities that he grew up on family farms and received his education at the Cornlea and Baker schools.

He was united in marriage to Barbara Mary Engelhaupt on June 5, 1928 in St. Joseph’s Church at Baker. Barbara was born on October 25, 1906 at Baker, the eldest of five children of John Adolf Engelhaupt (born at Mellerichstadt, Bavaria, Germany) and Anna Elizabeth Koenig (born at New Vienna, Iowa). Barbara received her education at St. Joseph School at Baker, St. Mary’s Academy, O’Neill and St. Ludger’s Academy at Baker.

To this union were born six children: Robert John Anthony, born November 19, 1929, married Annette Spicuzza, February 6, 1960. They live in Des Plaines, Illinois. Bob is employed in Chicago by United Airlines.

Marilyn Helen born November 29, 1931, married Alban Smith, June 14, 1954. They live in Michigan City, Indiana where Marilyn is a registered nurse at St. Anthony’s Hospital.

Donald Edward born June 23, 1933, married Geraldine Harmer, February 15, 1959. They live in Dixon, Nebraska where they own and operate the Roeder Honey Company.


Janet Irene born March 23, 1951, married Steven Lammers, June 16, 1973. They live on a Grade A Dairy Farm west of Hartington, Nebraska where they own and operate a 60 cow registered dairy herd.

After their marriage, George and Barbara Roeder settled on a farm near Baker, where their three eldest children were born. In 1934, they moved to Randolph, where they have since resided. They have owned and lived in their present home since 1943. George was employed as an agent for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, until his retirement in 1968.

The Roeder’s pride and enjoyment were their family, home and traveling. George’s hobbies were cars, gardening, yard, repair work and playing cards. Barbara’s hobbies consisted of compiling scrap books, writing letters, gardening, plants, crocheting and reading.

The Roeders have been members of St. Frances Church and Parish since 1934. Their six children received their formal education at St. Frances School.

George and Barbara celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on June 18, 1978. Their six children and spouses and 25 grandchildren were present for the celebration.

In 1980, the number of grandchildren increased to 26. Since then, four grandchildren have married. Their spouses and four great-grandchildren have been added to the family.

George and Barbara celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on July 3rd and 4th, 1983.

George died at the age of 81 years, 7 months, 8 days on November 18, 1984, at his home. His funeral was held November 20, 1984 at St. Frances Church and the burial was in the St. Frances Cemetery at Randolph. Barbara Roeder

Harold and Elsie Rohde

Farming and horse-trading provide the background for my family. My grandfather, John Henry Krei, Jr., was born July 20, 1886 and took special interest in cattle and horse-trading as well as farming. He met and married Wilhelmina Henrietta Maria Kuehn (Minnie) on September 14, 1910 at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her family had resided in South Dakota for some time with Minnie being born December 3, 1891 at Wall Lake. They moved to Wayne where John farmed. To this union three daughters were born: Esther (August 9, 1919); Martha (March 22, 1914) and Elsie (November 26, 1918). John and Minnie moved to Randolph in their later years. John passed away June 8, 1968 after suffering a fall in his home. Minnie built a new house in Randolph and resided there until ill health forced her move to Colonial Manor in 1980, where she resided until her death July 16, 1984.

Farming was also evident to my paternal grandparents’ side as John Henry Rohde (Henry) was born on the home farm at Randolph on September 24, 1895. He met and married Lucetta Morn Zortman (born November 23, 1894 in Harrison County, Iowa) on March 6, 1918 at Sioux City. They resided on the home place at Randolph where they had five children: Harold (January 11, 1919); Donald (March 30, 1921); Robert (November 20, 1925); Merle (September 23, 1929) and Beth Louise, who only lived a few hours on March 16, 1924. Merle resides on and farms the home place today with his wife, Edie.
Harold Rohde and Elsie Krei were married November 17, 1940 at Hoskins. They were involved in farming in the Wayne, Sholes and Randolph areas. They later purchased a business after moving into Randolph and renamed it Rohde’s Bar. Harold served in World War II, where he lost his right leg in performing military “clean-up” duty in Belleau Wood after the main divisions had broken down enemy lines. For this Harold received the Purple Heart and rejoined his family May 31, 1946.

Three children were born to Harold and Elsie: Jack (January 9, 1942); Jerry (September 24, 1945) and Cindy (June 22, 1956). Harold passed away December 3, 1973 at his home from a heart attack. Elsie still runs Rohde’s Bar.

Cindy Rohde and Rick Bieghler were wed June 21, 1980. She teaches school in Beaver City, Nebraska and Rick is a city employee. Jack Rohde is a postal employee residing in Plainview and has three children: Jody (February 13, 1965); Kelly (October 7, 1966) and Carmen (May 32, 1968). Jerry Rohde resides in Phoenix, Arizona with his second wife, Julie and stepson, Brandon, and new born daughter, Sasha (July 30, 1985). He has three sons by a previous marriage: Michael (October 25, 1965); Christopher (January 9, 1967) and Jonathon (March 24, 1970).

I sincerely miss my friends and relatives in the Randolph area and love visiting every chance I get. I cherish the memories I have and feel very lucky to have been raised in such a fine Nebraska community. Cindy (Rohde) Bieghler

### Louis Carl and Hazel Rohde

Louis Carl Rohde was born January 19, 1892 in Carroll County, Iowa to William and Marie Rohde.

Louis came to Nebraska with his parents at the age of six years, helping his father on the farm until he started farming for himself.

He married Hazel Dell Bowles on March 8, 1916 at Wayne. Hazel was born July 12, 1894 in Silver City, Iowa to William and Dinah (Hart) Bowles. Hazel left Iowa with her family in 1897 to reside at Winside and moved to Randolph in 1904.

They had six children: William (Bud), Clifford, Mrs. Lloyd (Neva) McFadden, Wayne, Mrs. Dick (Betty) Sellin and Arthur (Buzz) Rohde.

Louise and Hazel bought their first farm in 1917 north of Sholes. Because of the depression, they lost the farm to the bank in 1937. For the next four years they rented a farm a half mile south of Sholes. On December 30, 1941, they bought a 160 acre farm south of Sholes.

Towards the end of October, 1951 Louis and Hazel moved into a house in Randolph. Louis’ son Arthur (Buzz) continued living on the farm. Arthur rented the farm for many years from his parents and bought the farm in 1966.

Louis was a very kind and gentle man, who took great pleasure in his grandchildren. On one particular Christmas he had a bag of silver dollars and he had great fun giving a silver dollar to each grandchild. Hazel always had her vegetable garden and made the very best cookies. She loved to quilt and made many beautiful quilts.

Louis died suddenly of a heart attack in his home on June 10, 1953 and Hazel died of a heart attack on June 8, 1965.

Louis and Hazel were members of the Methodist Church in Randolph. They are buried in the cemetery in Wayne. Diane Osberg

### Wayne Eldon and Irene Mary Rohde

Wayne Eldon Rohde was born July 4, 1923 at Sholes, Nebraska to Louis and Hazel Rohde.

Wayne and Irene Mary Thelen were married on August 14, 1945 at St. Frances Catholic church in Randolph. Irene Thelen was born July 30, 1921 at Randolph to George and Anna Thelen.

Wayne and Irene have three children: Mrs. Larry (Diane) Osberg of Lincoln, Nebraska; Mrs. Darryl (Nancy) Kempf of Boonville, Missouri and Randy Rohde of Wausa, Nebraska. They are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren.

Wayne served in the Army from August 30, 1944 to June 26, 1946. After Wayne’s discharge from the army, he and Irene farmed near McLean, Nebraska, then in 1953, they moved to a farm east of Wausa, Nebraska.

They moved from the farm in February 1960 to Magnet, Nebraska where they bought a grocery store. On August 13, 1962, Wayne became Postmaster in Magnet. For the next 13 years the post office was in the grocery store. While Wayne spent his time in the Post Office, Irene ran the grocery store. In August 1975, they sold the grocery store and the post office was moved to a new building which Wayne built. For eight years Irene worked at Peter’s Hardware Store in Wausa, Nebraska.

Wayne retired as Postmaster on January 3, 1985. Irene also retired from her job at the hardware store at the same time. They have enjoyed their retirement traveling, golfing and fishing. They also spent time with their fruit trees and working in their yard.

Wayne and Irene belong to the St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph. Diane Osberg

### William Fredrick Rohde

William Fredrick Rohde was born April 6, 1862 in Germany to John and Catherine (Gassman) Rohde.

Because of the dictatorship in Germany, William stowed away on a ship, coming to the United States in 1878. He married Marie (Bauer) Hauser on March 4, 1890 at Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia, Iowa. Until 1898, William farmed in Crawford and Carroll Counties in Iowa. At that time he and his family moved to Nebraska.

Marie (Bauer) Hauser was born on July 18, 1867 in Germany to George and Elizabeth Bauer. Marie came to
Westside, Iowa with her parents in 1884. Marie married John Hauser on April 21, 1884 in Arcadia, Iowa. Her husband, John, died May, 1888, leaving her with two sons and pregnant with a third child. Marie’s children from her first marriage were: Carl (Matt) born November 27, 1885; Ludwig (Bill) born July 22, 1887; and Emil (Louis) Hauser born October 4, 1888.

William and Marie had ten children. Five children were born in Carroll County, Iowa: Fredrick born September 10, 1890, married Bertha Marthwig; Louis born January 19, 1892, married Hazel Bowles; Marie (Kate) born November 21, 1893, married Jerry Zortman; John (Henry) born September 24, 1895, married Lucetta Zortman and Caroline born April 21, 1897, married Adolph Beltz.

Five children were born in Nebraska near Randolph: Elsie born November 8, 1899, married Oren Snyder; Freda born August 20, 1901, married Clifford Snyder; Clara born April 14, 1905, married Albert “Ted” Weber; Helen born March 29, 1909, married Mike Petsche and later married Myron Bloomer and Anna born March 12, 1913, married Harry Krause.

Marie Rohde died March 23, 1913, 11 days after the birth of her youngest daughter, Anna.

When William retired from farming, he bought a house in Randolph on August 18, 1917 and moved with his daughters in November 1917. When William moved into Randolph, his son, John (Henry) continued to live on the farm. After Henry’s death in 1972, his son, Merle Rohde, stayed on the family farm. The farm house is the same house that William moved his family into in 1900. His daughter, Helen, lived with him until 1927 in his home in Randolph and then in 1932, Helen and her two sons moved back into the house. Helen still lives in her father’s home.

William died in his home of a stroke on November 2, 1942.

William and Marie were members of St. John’s Lutheran Church. They are buried at the Randolph Cemetery.

From their 13 children there are approximately 550 descendants. Diane Osberg

Theresa Rohls

Theresa Rohls was brought to the United States by her parents from Germany at the age of two. They settled in northwestern Iowa. Growing up as a child she had very little chance to go to school because being the eldest had to help with the chores of a large family of seven brothers and five sisters. She did a good job of self-education. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Her faith sustained her in all the ups and downs, narrow escapes, tragedies, bouts with sickness, operations and concerns for her family.

She became a widow at the age of 47. Her children at this time were married and on their own, but she had to get out into the world to make her living – and out she did go. Her first adventure was to Grand Island, Nebraska doing housework. The next move was to Manatowoc, Wisconsin, where she was employed in a large restaurant, where the special was roast duckling. She came back to Sioux City, Iowa, working at the Windcharger Plant.

Several girls coaxed her to go along with them to Denver, Colorado as their mother to find different work. She found work as a bus girl in a restaurant at Buckley Field, a military base. While there, she developed blood poisoning from a bump on the knee. A new drug, penicillin, at the time was the only thing that saved her life.

In Denver, a call came from a sister that their son had been killed in a plane crash at the Avon Park Bombing Range, Florida. She decided to leave Denver to be with and comfort them in their sorrow. While there another of their sons and wife were going to California to seek different work, so she went along with them. She landed a job in the shipyards as a joiner helping to build troop carriers called “Liberty” ships. She worked here from 1942 until 1946. She joined a union to get higher wages. For the first month, she slept under her coat each night, in barracks where she lived, too tired to go somewhere to purchase bedding. Theresa’s daughter, Lavern, joined her after her husband was sent overseas.

They came back to Randolph to visit and bought a black market car to go back to California. On this trip they had a narrow escape from death, when the brakes went out going down the mountains. But the Good Lord was with them, answering the prayers of two passengers; Mrs. Frank Bloomquist and Signe Thomas.

After the shipyards closed down she continued her stay in California working at different jobs at chinaware, overall, and canning factories.

She finally came back to Nebraska to be near her children. She could draw unemployment but after a short time was employed at Lutheran Hospital at Norfolk, Nebraska.

She took a trip to Willimington, Delaware, to visit a brother and while there took a job at Dupont Hospital. While there, she got a call for help to come to LeMars, Iowa, to keep house for a brother-in-law for two years. When he died she was appointed guardian over his son and inherited the house for doing this. Theresa, being a “handyman”, redid the whole house and took in roomers until she sold it to manage a motel for her son, Elmer. This was too big an undertaking for her. She bought a new trailer home and worked in LeMars, Iowa at many different things- cap- factories, hospitals and several homes taking care of elderly people.

Then in 1967, she bought a lot in Randolph, moved her trailer home here and set it down permanently. She was quite a carpenter - practically rebuilt the inside of her home. She always had a good garden and a beautiful yard. She also helped care for several elderly people in Randolph.
She was able to live in her own home and care for herself until October 1, 1984, when she moved into Colonial Manor of Randolph. She passed away February 28, 1985 at the age of 91 years.

There was surely much happiness in her life with her continuing attitude of joyful anticipation. Ella (Rohlfs) Kalvelage

William and Theresa Rohlfs

William Rohlf was born December 15, 1884 at LeMars, Iowa and Theresa Popken, born October 29, 1893 at Javer, Germany were married April 10, 191, at LeMars, Iowa in St. John’s Lutheran Church. They started their married life on an 80 acre farm they purchased from the estate of his father. A daughter, Ella and a son, Elmer, were born here.

In 1919, they sold this farm and came to Nebraska. The purchased a quarter of land northwest of Randolph. They made the move in the spring of 1920. All their possessions were shipped by railroad and hauled from the depot by new neighbors, with teams and wagons. The children were enrolled in school knowing only the German language.

Shortly after their move to Nebraska, the war inflated. Prices dropped, banks were going broke, their dreams were shattered and a real effort had to be made to make a living. One of the extra projects was raising potatoes and they had an excellent crop. They dug deep caves to store them but the market dwindled and most of the potatoes were carried back out of the caves, cooked in large outdoor cookers and fed to the hogs.

A daughter, Lavern, was born here January 25, 1923. Mother’s sister, Kathryn (Popken) Bloomquist, came from Iowa to help at this time and stayed to make Nebraska her home.

Ella, a daughter, graduated from Magnet, Nebraska High School as valedictorian, receiving a scholarship to Wayne State Teacher’s College. She attended one year and taught a rural school in Cedar County for one year and then married August Kruger Jr., June 1, 1933. They made their home on his dad’s farm south of Randolph, rearing a family of five children.

Elmer, a son, after graduating from eighth grade, went to Iowa to work. He served his country in the Sea Bees during World War II at New Guinea and on up to the Philippines. He was married twice and reared three sons, making his home in LeMars, Iowa.

On April 10, 1937, they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

With everything looking good and things going their way, it all ended in a few minutes. It was beautiful day, when a storm cloud on June 18, 1937, turned into a huge tornado which took everything. Their home, livestock, crops and all they owned. Their lives were saved by going into the cave, but thinking all the while they would be buried alive. An old letter addressed to Dad that had been stored in an old trunk came floating down on the yard of Ella’s home signaling the disaster. This made the “Believe it or not” by Ripley.

With the help of neighbors and the CCC camp of Hartington, Nebraska, things were cleaned up and a few things salvaged. A new house was being built when Dad, with a broken heart, ended his life October 4, 1937.

Mother, left penniless and with a teenage daughter, Lavern to raise, stayed on the farm for two years, doing the farm work herself. Lavern attended McLean, Nebraska High School and finished the last two years at Randolph Public School taking normal training. She taught school several years. She married Donald Galvin who was drafted into the Army. He served in Europe. They made their home in McLean, Nebraska and reared a family of two daughters and one son. Donald served as a mail carrier out of McLean, Nebraska. He later moved to Colorado Springs. Donald is deceased but Colorado is still home for Lavern.

In the spring of 1940, after a farm sale, Mother left the farm to pursue life on her own. Ella (Rohlfs) Kalvelage

Ben and Elizabeth Rohloff

Ben Rohloff was born November 2, 1872 in Baltimore, Maryland and was the son of Anton and Rose (Wiese) Rohloff. Anton Rohloff was born in West Priesen, Germany, April 22, 1845. He married Rose Wiese in Germany. She was born January 6, 1846 in West Priesen, Germany, April 22, 1845. He married Rose Wiese in Germany. They lived in Randolph most of their married life in a little house on Jennie Street, two blocks east of Weyhrich’s station on the east side of the street. They had eight children. Ben and Elizabeth are buried in Randolph.

Elizabeth (Nowatzke) Rohloff was born October 28, 1882 in Westphalia, Iowa. Her parents were farmers and they had six children. Elizabeth stayed with her parents and helped with her brothers and sisters. She worked on the farm until she met and married Ben Rohloff on October 2, 1900 in Westphalia, Iowa.

They moved to Randolph and farmed east of Randolph. To this union seven children were born: Mary (died in infancy); Lawerence; Mathilda (Rohloff) Halva; Agnes
(Rohloff) Neubauer; Theresa Rohloff (died at the age of four); Joseph and Bernard Jr.

They bought a farm in Lynch, Nebraska. The built the home they lived in which is still standing. They lived in Lynch until 1914, when they moved back to Randolph where Ben learned the well-drilling business from Bert Herbes, his brother-in-law, who lived in the house at 708 East Jackson Street which he later purchased. He also worked in Bemelm’s Grocery Store.

Well-drilling was done differently then. The drilling machine was constructed by Ben on the back of a truck and much of the work was done by hand. Windmills were the main source of getting water. After windstorms they had a lot of work to do. Ben retired in the forty’s and his son’s Joe and Ben took over the business.

One of Ben’s pleasures was driving his 1918 Model T up town every afternoon to play cards with his friends.

Elizabeth and Ben celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on October 2, 1950, with all their children and grandchildren. There are twenty-five grandchildren and sixty-eight great-grandchildren.

Ben Rohloff died July 10, 1957 in Norfolk and is buried in St. Frances Cemetery.

Elizabeth Rohloff died February 16, 1964 in Lynch and is buried in St. Frances Cemetery. Mrs. Virgil Podany, Mrs. Joe Rohloff

Everett and Barbara Rokahr

In 1959, I moved to Randolph, Nebraska with my parents, Beulah and Fred Rokahr and my sister, Linda. Moving from a farm west of Creighton, Nebraska, my parents entered the John Deere business.

While growing up in Randolph, I participated in scouting, receiving my Eagle Scout Award at the age of 15. Linda and I delivered the Omaha World Herald from 1961 to 1966. This provided us the opportunity to meet many of Randolph’s citizens.

While attending Randolph High, I participated in many activities, such as; sports, drama and music. I served as the Senior Class president in 1967.

Upon graduation, I entered the University of Nebraska. During the summer of 1969, I returned to Randolph to manage the Randolph swimming pool. While at Nebraska University, I received my Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education.

In my senior year, I met my wife, Barbara Slater of Wilmont, Minnesota. Her parents are Jim and Mary Slater of Wilmont. On December 30, 1972, we were married and made our first home in Lincoln, Nebraska. A year later, we moved to Ralston, Nebraska, where I have been employed as a sixth grade teacher at Seymour Elementary School since January of 1972. My wife, Barbara, has been teaching physical education in Ralston since September of 1977.

We have two children: Kori Kirsten and Shane Aaron. Kori was born February 8, 1976 and Shane was born September 25, 1977. They both attend Seymour Elementary School. This makes life interesting for them, knowing their dad is looking over their shoulder each day of school. Shane and Kori stay busy with music and soccer.

Each July 4th our whole family is involved, along with the Seymour sixth grade class in the building of an interesting float. This is pulled in the annual Ralston Fourth of July parade.

Our family enjoys traveling, camping, canoeing, backpacking, hiking, snow skiing and soccer. Everett Rohloff

Oliver Ward and Susanah Roland

Oliver Ward Roland known as O. W. Roland, was born at Marshalltown, Iowa on February 1, 1867, to Jonathan and Sara C. Cross Roland.

Susanah Ellen Gardner was born at Jones County, Iowa on November 1, 1868, to Joseph and Sarah Short Gardner. O.W. and Susanah Ellen were married February 16, 1888 at Harlan, Iowa. They farmed and threshed. A son, Roy Oscar, was born December 8, 1890 and a daughter, Ethel Veda, was born December 14, 1897.

The family came to Cedar County to live near Belden, Nebraska in the spring of 1898, breaking the sod to farm and residing in a granary until housing was available.

The land was barren of trees and fences. On December 10, 1899, Glenn Aaron joined the family in the granary. A small house was built by the time Esther Mae was born on April 7, 1902 and Walter Franklin was born on July 22, 1905.

In 1907, the house was enlarged to its present size. The family farmed 160 acres of land, had a herd of registered Black Angus cows, Duroc Jersey hogs, some sheep, white chickens, ducks and geese. They kept a few hives of bees and had a huge apple orchard. They gave apples galore to the neighbors and friends and made cider by the gallons. Other fruits of the orchard consisted of: strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, plums, mulberries, white and black cherries, a variety of crab apples, a grove of black walnuts, grapes and currants.

Many church picnics were held there. A neighborhood butchering bee was held each spring and fall. In the summer of 1914, a new barn was built. In the spring of 1925, O. W. and Susanah Ellen (Ella) moved into Randolph, to assist the widowed Ethel Veda Claussen with her four children; Metta, Howard, Frank and William.

Oliver Ward Roland died September 8, 1934 in St. Joseph Hospital, Sioux City, Iowa.

In the spring of 1942, Walter Franklin bought and moved to a farm accompanied by his son, Lowell and daughter, Phyllis. Susanah Ellen died October 24, 1948 at her home in Randolph. Esther Mae (Roland) Glassock

W. H. Root

An early settler of Wayne County was William Henry Root, who came from Cattaragus County, New York.

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State, with his mother, two sisters and two brothers. They came to Wayne County in November 1880. They spent their first night in Nebraska at the home of C. C. Barstedar at La Porte. The father and uncle had come earlier. Mr. Root at the age of 21 took out a timber claim of 160 acres, setting out five acres of trees in the spring of 1882. This land was seven miles southeast of where Randolph now stands. It was part of the Marvin and Dorothy Haselhorst farm.

Mr. Root was united in marriage December 26, 1882 to Lydia Marsh of Bradford, Pennsylvania, and after four months in New York State, came back to Wayne County, residing with his parents until they could move to their claim.

Mrs. Root’s parents and family also came to the vicinity to take tree claims.

The W. H. Root family consisted of sons, Marvin and Guy and daughters, Iva and Alice. Iva married Warren Classen and went to San Diego, California to live. Guy and wife, Florence and their children also went to California. Alice married Ed Gentleman and resided at Alliance, Nebraska. Marvin married Bell Martin, daughter of Dan and Gertrude Martin, also Carroll farmers.

W.H. Root was a progressive man and invested heavily to give Sholes a bank of which he was president. He served as director of the school district many years, was a charter member of Randolph Lodge of Odd Fellows and a Past Grand of that lodge. Both Mr. Root and his wife were members of Randolph Onward Rebekah Lodge.

Mr. Root passed away at his retirement home at Sholes, April 8, 1934. His wife, Lydia, spent her last years with daughter Iva in California. They and Mrs. Root’s parents, the Marshes, are buried at Carroll.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Root lived on the Root homestead farm many years. Their children were: Mae, Raymond and William.

Mae went to Alliance and had employment there, before going to Omaha to live. Raymond and William became bee keepers and had a honey extracting business along with farming. They later moved to a farm southwest of Sholes.


William H. and Lydia Root

It was on November 14, 1880 that my grandfather William Root, then a young man of 20, came from New York State to the new Nebraska country, with his mother and younger brothers and sisters. William traveled to Missouri Valley by rail, crossed the Missouri River on a pontoon bridge to Blair and then to Wisner, the terminus of the old M.V.F. and E. Railway. At that time La Porte was the Wayne County seat.

He built a cabin, 12x16, a one room affair. Two years later, he returned to New York to marry his sweetheart and bring her to his little “mansion” in the west.

William and Lydia worked hard and gradually improved their home. It was entered as a tree claim, the condition being that 10 acres of trees be planted and cared for, over a five year period. After completing his contract, my grandfather received his patent, which was signed by Benjamin Harris, President.

He was a progressive man. He invested heavily to give Sholes a bank, of which he was president; was a charter member of Randolph Lodge of Odd Fellows; held office in the Grand Lodge; and was a member of the Encampment Branch.

It was in the fall or winter of 1887, on the south side of the main street of Randolph, in what was called the Sioux City Building; William played his “fiddle” for the first dance that was given in the village of Randolph. The inscription printed inside the violin is as follows, “Antonires Stradivarius Faciebat Anno 1721”.

My grandfather couldn’t claim as old a date for his violin as the violin, owned by George Vanderbilt, but was older than the one owned by Sam Reed.

A beautiful violin, that played beautiful music, even “Skip to My Lou”.

My grandfather passed away April 8, 1934. Zoe Root Harlow

William and Esther Rosenbach

William H. Rosenbach, known to all his family and friends as Bill, was born October 6, 1893 at Bancroft, Nebraska to William and Anna (Wegner) Rosenbach. In 1910, he moved with his parents to a farm near Wausa. His family included one sister, Mable Eckstrom, and five brothers, Rudolph and Fred who died in infancy, Oliver, Walter and Edward.

Bill was united in marriage to Esther Dierks, daughter of John and Martha (Reimers) Dierks on September 20, 1916 in the Methodist parsonage in Pierce by Reverend Zimmer. For six years they farmed near Wausa, moving to Randolph in 1923. The first few years he operated a dray service and also had a dairy operation, delivering milk to homes each morning and evening. Esther always had a large garden, canning most of the family’s supply of fruits and vegetables as well as meat. The cave and ice box were then the only means of refrigeration. She was also a valuable helper to her husband in the dairy operation.

Bill later worked for a number of years at the Randolph Creamery and from there he was employed at Randolph Oil Company. His last employment was with the City of Randolph where he was forced to retire because of poor health.

They were the parents of three children. Their oldest, Melvin, resides in Atkinson with his wife Wanda (Dempsey). They are the parents of one son, Gary, who
with his wife Susan reside in Columbus with their two
dughters, Jamee and Allison.

Rosenbach’s only daughter, Ferne, is married to Harold
Lenhoff. They reside in Osmond. The Lenhoff’s two
children are Carolyn Kay and Bradley. Carolyn is
married to Neil Lackas; their children are Rebecca Sue,
Jeffery Michael and Anthony Neil. Bradley and his wife
Patricia (Krueger) reside in Randolph as do the Lackas
family.

Kenneth, the youngest Rosenbach, is married to the
former Mary McFadden; they reside in Randolph. They
are the parents of one daughter, Mary Beth. Mary Beth
and her husband Lonnie Benson reside in Norfolk with
their son Ryan and daughter Sara.

Bill and Esther celebrated their 50th Wedding
Anniversary on September 20, 1966. Bill passed away
April 17, 1969 at the age of 75. He is buried in the
Randolph City Cemetery. Esther resides in Randolph and
since April 22, 1985 has been a resident of Colonial
Manor.

The couple raised their family in the large green house
just south of the Randolph Ball Park. Both were members
of the United Methodist Church. Bill was a member of
the Modern Woodman of America. Esther still has her
membership with her church and is also a member of the
Royal Neighbors of America. She observed her 89th
birthday, June 9, 1985. She was born in 1896 near Pierce.
Esther is the last living member of her family. She had
two brothers, George who died in infancy and Fred. Her
sisters were Emma, Anna, Minnie, Martha and Hannah
who died at the age of seven. Ferne (Rosenbach) Lenhoff

Henry and Marie Rudebusch

Henry Rudebusch was born to Dietrich and Margaret
(Schulz) Rudebusch, September 13, 1876 at Oldenberg,
Germany. He came to the United States at the age of
seventeen and located at Hopper, Nebraska. He was the
only member of his immediate family to come. He spent
the following years at Pender, Nebraska and Anaheim
and San Francisco, California, where he was employed for
two years. He returned to Pender and was employed as a
farm worker. During this time he met Marie Meyer who
was working for room and board and attending
confirmation school in the Pender area.

Marie Meyer, daughter of Dietrich and Sophie
(Schumacher) Meyer was born February 23, 1880 at
Oldenberg, Germany. In 1883, her father came to the
United States, locating at Wisner, Nebraska. A year later
he sent for his wife and children and they settled on a
farm southeast of Wayne.

Henry Rudebusch and Marie Meyer were married
February 13, 1902 at the home of the bride’s parents at
Wayne. They began their married life together on a farm
two miles west of Pender, where they lived for nine years.
Six of their ten children were born at Pender: Sophie
(Mrs. Henry Reeg), Anna (Mrs. Herbert Carstens), John,
Henry, and August. One son, Gerhard, died in infancy
and is buried at Pender.

In 1911, Henry and Marie moved to a farm five miles
south of Randolph. The household goods, cattle and hogs
were brought from Pender by train. The dishes and
canned fruit were packed in barrels and filled with oats,
arriving with not one piece broken. The horses were led
behind a spring wagon, pulled by a team of horses. It
took two days to make the trip. Marie and the five
children went as far as Wayne, to her parent’s home, with
a carriage and then came to Randolph by train. Upon
arriving in Randolph, they were taken to the farm by a
team of horses and a lumber wagon. Their closest
neighbors were Ferd Gerkins, a bachelor, and Mr. and
Mrs. Philip Reiland. Their closest telephone was in the
August Huwaldt home.

The farm at Randolph was chosen because of its close
location the school, District #28 S.E. All nine children
and some of the grandchildren attended the school.

Henry and Marie did all their farming with horses and
bought their first car, a Ford, for $350.00 in 1917. “It just
took one wagon box of hogs”, quoted Henry to his
children.

Four more children were born to the Rudebusch family
at Randolph: Gesina (Mrs. August Wipperling), Elmer,
Bernard and Vernon.

Henry and Marie moved from their farm, which is now
vacant, to their home in Randolph in 1945.

During their time together, Henry and Marie celebrated
their 50th and 60th wedding anniversaries at St. John’s
Lutheran Church at Randolph where they were members.
They celebrated their 64th anniversary at their home in
Randolph.

Henry passed away on October 29, 1966 and Marie on
August 18, 1973. Anna Carstens, Geraldine Rudebusch

John William C. and Joseph
Monterville Salyards

Donald Dobrovolny, Mildred Dunn, Lori Poppe, Floyd
Wickman and Dick Wilkinson are familiar names to
present day Randolph citizens? Then why is a
transplanted Minnesotan in Upstate New York writing
about them? Because they have the present-day property
which is labeled “Salyards” Addition to Randolph,
Nebraska. This some-what triangular property of about
360 feet by 300 feet was purchased by Lowell Salyards’
grandfather, John William C. Salyards in December of
1890. It was purchased from the Northern Nebraska Land
and Improvement Company for $90.00. The Nebraska
and Western railroad cut off its northwest corner.

John Salyards was born about 1836, in Shenandoah
County, Virginia. He was the son of Wesley B. and
Isabelle (Keessler) Salyards. Wesley was a country
physician. By March, 1858, John is in La Salle County,
Illinois, where he married Mary Jane Hadley. John was a
carpenter by trade. A son, Milton, was born in about
1859, but died young. Samantha Ann was born March 26,
1863, and Joseph Monterville “Monty” was born April 15, 1865. He was named for an uncle of John’s who was a well-known poet, linguist and educator in the Shenandoah Valley. By 1870, John’s two younger brothers, Milton L. and Joseph M. and a sister, Charlette (Mrs. William) McCauslin, had joined him in La Salle County. By 1876, John was on a farm near Buckley, Illinois, with a new wife, Jane E. Webster, a native of England. Here, Emery Webster, Charles Frederick and Wesley, who died at the age of eight, were born. In 1887 the family was in Fairmont, Minnesota, where John Albert was born.

Now, let’s go back to “Monty”, for he is the real Nebraskan. About 1884, “Monty” served in the U.S. Calvary in Fort Snelling, St. Paul, Minnesota. He returned to Iroquois County, Illinois, where he married Ida Mae Poulson, daughter of Peter and Matilda Meisey Poulson on December 31, 1888. They migrated to Nebraska in 1889, possibly to Randolph. Perhaps he encouraged his dad, John, to buy the Randolph property in 1890. John left Randolph the following spring for Lake Park, Iowa. Here, Everett Lindsley, the writer’s father, was born in 1895. John died in Lake Park in December 1910.

Meanwhile, back in Randolph, Lela was born to “Monty” and Ida in 1890. An unnamed infant was buried in the Randolph cemetery in 1894. The family had moved on by 1900. They lived in Trumbull, Overton, Brady, Grand Island, and Sargent. “Monty” was a blacksmith, a restaurant operator, saloon keeper and railroad worker. He loved the outdoor Nebraska life and had a great sense of humor. Ida Mae died in 1919 while “Monty” died in 1948. Four children, Lela, Floyd, Erma and Lawrence, grew to adulthood. Grandchildren remain in Gibbon, Alliance, Lincoln, and Papillion, Nebraska. Others have scattered to Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Colorado and Arizona.

The Salyards family lays claim to being part of that great tide of humanity that swept across these United States, surviving hardship, disease, death, family problems and settling communities such as Randolph. Lowell Everett Salyards

John Samuel and Carolina Samuelson

John Samuel Samuelson was born August 22, 1851 at Killebo, Smoland, Sweden. He came to the United States with his father and step-mother when he was 15 or 16. After spending a few years in the Rockford, Illinois area, he moved with his parents to Red Oak, Iowa. They farmed in the Red Oak-Stanton area until moving to Randolph in 1892. They lived on a farm six miles south of Randolph when they first arrived.

John kept diaries which have been a great treasure to his family. In the diary he kept from 1892 to 1897, he tells of their move from Iowa to Randolph by train. The cost $46.40 for the freight car his belongings and livestock were on, 60 cents for freight for his plows and $16.53 for his family. At that time, his family consisted of his wife and three small children. Upon arriving in Randolph, he tells of some of the supplies they bought and the cost. He paid $12.50 for five tons of hay, $31.00 for 150 bushels of oats, 45 cents for coffee, 50 cents for sugar, 25 cents for baking powder, 20 cents for oatmeal, 5 cents for yeast and 65 cents for five gallons of oil.

Tragedy struck twice within the first year they were in the Randolph area. Within a month of moving, their son, Harry, died. He was only four years old. The next winter, John’s only brother, Frank, passed away. Frank had been living in the Randolph area before John and Carolina moved there.

John was a very devout Christian. At one time he was superintendent of the Sunday School at the old Methodist Church in Sholes. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Rebekah. John’s last years were spent living with his son, Harry, and his family. He passed away in 1940.

The following children were born to the union of John and Carolina: Milton, Harry, Clarence, Matilda, Mae, Blanche, Ellen, Frederick, Clarence and Harry. The first Harry and Clarence died as small children so when the twin boys were born in August 1899; they were named after their deceased brothers. They were born in Randolph. Clarence passed away in 1917 of the flu.

Harry married Rosie Jacobson in June of 1924. They farmed in the Randolph, Sholes and Laurel areas until they moved to Laurel in 1963. Harry, in his eighties, still runs a shoe repair shop. He learned this trade as a young man working in a harness shop in Randolph.

Harry and Rosie have three children, Emrys, Flo and Eugene. Emrys and his family live in Salida, Colorado. Emrys and Wanda have three children: Amy, Ty and Jeanie. Flo and her husband, Harry Gifford, from the Belden area, live in Vancouver, Washington. They have two children, Larry and Sheryl and one grandchild, Kelley. Eugene and Charlotte live in Indian Hills, Colorado. They have two children, Greg and Michelle, and three grandchildren, Cody, Kaycee and Brittany. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Samuelson

Albert and Dorothy Sauser

Albert William Sauser was born July 14, 1906 at Randolph, Nebraska. He was the son of Prosper and Katherine (Kohnen) Sauer and lived all of his life in Randolph, attending St. Frances Catholic School.

Dorothy Kathryn Colling was born, the eighth of fifteen children to Nicholas and Margaret (Steiner) Colling on July 15, 1905. She also attended school at St. Frances and lived her life in Randolph.

On January 23, 1929, Al and Dorothy were married and soon after Al was employed by Martin Buol at the Buol Oil Company in Randolph. In 1936, Al and Dorothy purchased the station and changed the name to “The Home Oil Company”. Al operated the station until his retirement in 1972.
Al and Dorothy were the parents of five children. James Joseph was born in 1929 and died unexpectedly in 1976. Jim married Melodie Critchfield and they have six children: Leslie, Jimmy, Lori, Jeffrey, Stacy and Sarah. Jim had purchased and was operating the Home Oil Company at the time of his death.

William Albert, born in 1933, married Ruth Aschoff and they have five children: Thomas, Mark, Theresa, Mary Kay and Christopher. Bill is the head of the laboratory at Kearney Nebraska Hospital.

Barbara Ann was born in 1936 and lives in White River, South Dakota with her husband, Gene Jones, who is an attorney. Barb and Gene have four children: Janet, Julie, Kathy and Rob. Barb works at the local clinic as a medical technician.

Joan Marie was born in 1939 and she lives in North Carolina with her husband, Zach Russ. Zach is a psychiatrist. Joan has five children; Steve, Sandra, Richie and Randy Nathan and Mark Russ.

Paul Raymond, born in 1946, operates a restaurant in Lincoln, Nebraska and does landscaping in that city.

Randolph was always home to Al and Dorothy and the coffee pot was always on. They were dedicated to their family, church and community and were active in many organizations such as Volunteer Firemen, Saddle Club, City Council, Community Club and Guild. They also loved to play cards with family and friends and it took very little to get a rousing game of “ten point pitch” going at the Sauser home. After his retirement, Al learned to play and love golf and Dorothy always bowled with “the girls” and their morning coffee at the café was almost a ritual.

Dorothy died in July of 1978 and Albert soon after, in May of 1979. They were loved and respected by their family and friends alike and are greatly missed. Barbara (Sauser) Jones

Leonard and Thelma Sauser

Prosper Sauser and Catherine Kohnen were born and raised in Luxemburg. Early in their lives they came to the United States. They met and were married at St. Frances Church in Randolph. They were blessed with eight children. Prosper died when the family was quite young so Catherine was left to raise the children alone. Leonard stayed with his mother until the family members were all married and on their own.

Frank Leiting and Susan Meyer were born and raised in Iowa. At an early age they moved to this community. They first met in Randolph. They were married at St. Frances Church. Thelma, their daughter, was the oldest of thirteen children.

Leonard and Thelma met at a dance in the Randolph Ballroom. After a courtship of a year they were married at St. Frances Church on February 24, 1941.

Their first home was north of Randolph where the Sausers had lived for twenty-five years. They didn’t have anything but they were happy.

Their first child, Connie, was born in December. Two years later on the same day, Edward arrived.

At this time Uncle Sam wanted Leonard for the service, but because they had two children and was farming he was deferred.

In August 1946, they had their fourth baby. That year they had acres of sweet clover for seed, so they had four hired men to help with the harvesting and two hired girls. One was hired to take care of Thelma and the new baby and the other one had to do the laundry and keep food on the table. It was like “Grand Central Station” at the house and very hard to rest.

The following year the polio epidemic hit the area. Connie took sick on Sunday evening and died on Friday morning. This was a very trying time for the Sausers because no one knew too much about polio so everyone was afraid. There were a number of cases in the area but she was the only fatality.

The next year they bought the farm from the Petersens at Belden. They moved there in 1948. They had their first electricity which really was a big treat.

The family continued to grow. God blessed the Sausers with ten beautiful children, five boys and five girls. The last one, Michael, was born March 1960.

In 1963, Edward went into the service. He was sent to Japan. The next year Vincent joined the Navy and went to Viet Nam. The following year Marvin was sent to Viet Nam. He was injured twice over there. This was a very trying time for the Sausers. Before Edward finished his duty, Dennis joined the Army and was sent to Germany. God watched over all of them and all four came home again.

Leonard and Thelma retired and moved into Randolph in 1978. Edward, Vincent and Michael are farmers and live in the Plainview-Neligh area. Marvin is an engineer in Des Moines. Dennis is a carpenter in Omaha. The girls are all working with computers. Ileen is in Omaha and Donna, Kathy and Lynette are in Phoenix, Arizona. None of the children live around Randolph. They have given the Sausers 24 grandchildren.
Leonard and Thelma have had many blessings in their lifetime. This was a great community in which to raise and educate their family. *Thelma Sauser*

**Nicholas and Dorothy Sauser**

Nicholas Joseph Sauser, son of Prosper and Kate (Kohen) Sauser, was born July 11, 1903 at McLean, Nebraska.

Dorothy Frances Warnish, daughter of John and Mary (Winkelbauer) Warnish, was born on April 16, 1911 at Belden, Nebraska.

Nicholas met Dorothy at a dance at Randolph. They eventually married January 23, 1934 at Randolph. They farmed in the Randolph area.

Nick and Dorothy have four children. The first, a daughter Shirley Mae, was born May 20, 1936 at Hartington. The second, a son Robert Nicholas, was born June 24, 1938 at Hartington. The third, a daughter, Irleen Lucille, was born on January 12, 1941 at Hartington. The fourth, a daughter, Sharon Ann was born June 28, 1942 at Coleridge.

Shirley Sauser met Lawrence Kuchta at Randolph. They were married April 26, 1954 at the St. Frances Catholic Church at Randolph. They are engaged in farming in the Randolph area. Shirley and Lawrence have five children: Lavon Kay, Richard Dean, James Joseph, Vickie Jean and Larry Lee. Lavon married James Litel of Coleridge. He is a dentist in Coleridge and Hartington. They have one son, Nicholas Lee. Richard married Diane Eggerling of Wisner. They are engaged in farming south of Randolph. They have one daughter Kimberly Kay. James married Janet Bach of Randolph. They are engaged in farming north of Randolph. They have a son, Andy James and a daughter Amanda Lynn. Larry is engaged in farming and lives at home with his parents.

Robert Sauser met Sandra Cushman of Sioux City, Iowa. They were married September 16, 1961 in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Sioux City, Iowa. They are engaged in farming north of Randolph. Robert and Sandra have three daughters: Kristie Sue, Beckie Jo and Dorothy Joan. Kristie married Kevin Arens of Hartington. They farm north of Hartington. Beckie Jo is attending Northeast Technical Community College at Norfolk. Dorothy Joan “Dottie” is attending Coleridge High School and living at home with her parents.

Irlene Sauser met Robert Wicheman of Hartington. They were married October 24, 1964 at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph. They are both engaged in teaching in Omaha, Nebraska.

Sharon Sauser met Ralph Sherer Jr. of Coleridge. They were married September 10, 1960 at Yankton, South Dakota. Sharon and Ralph have two daughters, Lorraine Kay and Gina Lynn. Lorraine married James Kennedy. Gina is working as a waitress and is living at home with her mother. Sharon and Ralph were divorced in 1977. Sharon is a waitress in South Sioux City, Nebraska.


**Alfred and Mary Schaefeule**

William and Frederica Schaefeule were the parents of Alfred Schaefeule of Cleebran, Germany.

William was born in 1872 and Frederica was born in 1873 at Cleebran, Germany. To this union eight children were born, four boys and four girls: Leuisa, Caroline, Fredericha, Emma, William, Alfred, Otto and Gene.

Alfred was educated in Germany. At age 14 he attended trade school in Stuttgart, Germany, where he graduated with the highest grades in his class of sausage makers. At age 17, he decided to come to America to visit his sister, Mrs. William (Emma) Hieldenbrand of Lincoln, Nebraska. While in Lincoln, he sought employment at Lincoln Pac. This was very difficult for he could not speak a word of English. He then went to night classes to learn the English language. He worked two years at Lincoln Pac. By accident, he came to Randolph with a friend, who came to visit Hans and Louie Broer. It was on a Saturday evening and of course all businesses stayed open on Saturday evening. Naturally Alfred had to see what the meat market was like in Randolph. At the time, Mr. Ouersan and Harold Sherwood were in the shop. They asked him where he was from and his trade. They said they would like for him to come and work for them. He had to think this over, as there wasn’t much here to offer, since he was use to a large city and a big packing plant. So after several visits to Randolph, in 1931, he decided to give it a shot.

As he liked the people very much in and around Randolph, he has been here ever since and loves it even more. In 1963, he was forced to sell out for health reasons, but recovered and in a couple of years returned to the market to make sausage two days a week, until his full retirement.

In 1981, he was selected Employee of the Year. Alfred had no trouble keeping busy as he loves yard work, gardening and his dogs, but most of all hunting and fishing. He still goes on hunting trips with our son, Bill. As much as I love having Alfred at home, I still miss all the good sausage and hotdogs, but I guess after 50 years of sausage making and hard work, all good things come to an end.

Alfred and I met in 1938 at the Catholic Church Bazaar. That was the greatest bazaar I ever attended.

We were married May 5, 1941 at St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church in Randolph. Alfred purchased the home that we still occupy from Tellie Swanson, one month before we were married. The house has been fully remodeled since and we still love it even if it is one of the oldest homes in Randolph.

In 1945, we were blessed with a bouncing baby boy, “Bill”, he was and always will be the pride and joy of our
lives. He attended all twelve years at St. Frances School. In 1964, he attended Barber College in Omaha and took a styling course in Chicago. After graduating from college, he was employed at a barber shop in the Madison Hotel in Norfolk. Mary Schaeufele

**William and Del Rae Schaeufele**

In 1964, “Bill” Schaeufele opened a barber shop at the Sunset Plaza in Norfolk where he is presently.

In 1965, he married Del Rae Becker of Hartington. To this union three daughters were born: Jeannie, Julie and Amy.

Bill has been a hunting enthusiast since he started going with his dad. At that time, Alfred often had to carry Bill along with his gun since he was too small to keep up. Bill shot his first pheasant when he was 12 years old. When we were dating, I saw little of Bill during hunting season and knew this would continue after we were married. Luckily I have a sister whose husband also enjoys hunting, so she, Mary and I make good company for each other.

We have lived our entire married life in Norfolk. Jeannie our oldest daughter was born in 1966 and is now a sophomore at NTCC. Julie was born in 1967 and is a senior in high school. Amy, who was the 1973 New Year’s Baby in Norfolk, is in the seventh grade. Bill loves barbering and likes having Sunday and Monday off so that he can go hunting and fishing with his dad. Bill went big game hunting in Montana in 1979. He did not get his elk but did shoot a brown bear the next spring. He hopes to go back for an elk in the near future.

We love to travel and have been to most of the states except Alaska and Hawaii. We would also like to travel to Germany and visit Bill’s relatives there someday. *Del Rae Schaeufele*

**Vincent and Shirley Schmit**

Vincent, the second of 11 children, was born at rural Osmond, Nebraska on January 14, 1924. The father, Cornelius John Schmit, was born in 1898 in Butler County, Nebraska. His mother, Gertrude Mary (Billerbeck) Schmit, was born in 1900 at Osmond. They were baptized in the Catholic faith and lived in the rural area and later the town of Osmond all their lives.

Vincent, baptized in the Catholic faith, attended a rural Pierce County School five years and three years at St. Mary parochial school in Osmond. He graduated from the Osmond Public High School in 1941. After working as a farm laborer four years and serving two years in the military during World War II, On February 10, 1947 Shirley and Vincent were married at St. Frances Church of Randolph.

Shirley is the oldest of eight children of John and Viola (Colling) Meyer. She was born May 23, 1926 at Randolph. Shirley was baptized into the Catholic faith and attended St. Frances Parochial School twelve years. She graduated in 1944. After graduation, Shirley spent two years working at Secord’s Hardware and later at the First State Bank.

To this union thirteen children were born with ten living at this time. Those deceased are Joseph and Mary who died in infancy and Margaret who drowned in a stock tank at eighteen months of age. Their living children were all educated in St. Frances Parochial School until 1970 when it was closed, then in Randolph Public Grade and High School.

David, the oldest, was born March 19, 1948. He and Bert (Gravel) were married at Ulysses, Nebraska on June 5, 1971. They have two living children. One daughter died as a result of an automobile accident in 1977.

Katherine was born, May 23, 1950. On August 22, 1969, Kathy and Edward Sauser were married at Randolph. They have seven children.

Theresa was born April 17, 1952. On May 26, 1973 she married John Bailey at Randolph. They have three children.

Barbara was born January 21, 1954. On June 30, 1973, she and Virgil Young were married at Randolph. They have five children.

Patricia was born October 18, 1955. She married Greg Schultz, November 26, 1977 at Randolph. They have three children.

Joanne, born May 8, 1958, married Alan Ekberg at Randolph on July 15, 1978. They have three children.

Paul was born December 24, 1959. Paul and Corinne (Helsing) were married January 5, 1985 at Randolph. Rose Marie, born December 9, 1962, is working in Norfolk.


Michael was born May 31, 1968. Mike is a senior in Randolph Public School.

The family made their home on rented farms until 1962 when they purchased 320 acres from Albert Kuhl, where they made their home for twenty-two years. During this time another 320 acres, along with three irrigation wells were added. They specialized in raising grain and feeding hogs and cattle.

In 1984 and 1985 they built a new home in Randolph and moved into town in April of 1985. They still operate the farm in a family way. Paul and Corinne live on the farm. Bill and Mike are also a part of the farming and livestock operation. After a few years Vincent and Shirley plan to phase out of the farming and livestock operation but remain active in both community and church affairs. *Vincent Schmit*

**Mathias and Augusta Schmitt**

Mathias Schmitt was born March 19, 1864 near Trier, Germany, Province of Rhineland. He came to Harlan, Iowa from Germany in 1881. In 1886, he became an American citizen at Hartington, Nebraska.

Mathias “Math” came to Randolph with his sister and her husband, Margaret and Peter Lorge in 1890. They
lived on the Fred Warner farm near Wareham and two years later moved to the John Friedenbach farm east of Randolph.

In 1898, he married Augusta Honke of Pierce, Nebraska. Augusta was born in Deutch Kronin, Germany. They lived a few years in Belden, Nebraska where their first daughter was born. They moved to Randolph and remained there the rest of their lives.

They had nine children: Cecelia (Mrs. Pat Sherlock), Gregory, Malania (Mrs. O. H. Scott), Frances (Mrs. Manchester), Edward, Dorothy Ann (Mrs. Harvey Stewart), Joseph, Marie (Mrs. Deeths) and Florence (Mrs. Thomas).

Mathias made his living as a carpenter and in 1917 was one of the carpenters who helped build the Catholic Church.

Malania Scott and Joe Schmitt spent all of their lives in Randolph. Joe was in the service and was a volunteer fireman.

Marie Deeths lives in Northridge, California (a suburb of Los Angeles). She attended St. Frances grade school and graduated from Randolph High School. She went to St Catherine’s School of Nursing, Creighton University and graduated in 1932. She married Harry J. Deeths, M.D. on June 5, 1935. They celebrated their 50 Wedding Anniversary with their three children, seven grandchildren and many friends. Marie K. (Schmitt) Deeths

**Jon and Jeanne Schnoor**

Jon Roger Schnoor, son of La Verle and Lois (Meyer) Schnoor, was born August 15, 1960 at Osmond, Nebraska. He lived on a farm on mile south, one mile west, then one and one-half miles south of Sholes, Nebraska with his mother, father, three older sisters: Deb, Joanie, Linda and his younger brother, Jim. He attended grade school in Sholes.

His mother died of cancer in 1969. When La Verle remarried in 1973 to Delores Marks, the family moved to Norfolk, Nebraska.

In 1980, Jon met and married Jeanne Ann Gregorius. Jeanne was born May 28, 1962 at Lincoln, Nebraska to Walter C. Jr. and Delores (Hansen) Gregorius. In 1970, Jeanne, her parents and younger sister Lynn moved to Norfolk where she received the rest of her schooling.

In October of 1982, Jon began driving for Schwans Sales Enterprises as a route salesman. Jon and Jeanne moved to Randolph in March of 1983, when routes were available in the area.

On June 25, 1983 a son, Cole Jon, was born to Jon and Jeanne in Norfolk.

On April 6, 1985 a second son was born in Norfolk, Cody James.

Jon, Jeanne, Cole and Cody live at 402 West Lorge Street, where they bought their home in Randolph. They joined the St. Frances parish in Randolph and attend church there. Jeanne Schnoor

**Anton Schrad**

Anton Schrad and Josephine Reker were married in 1906 at Remson, Iowa. Their first child, a son, Alouis, was born May 17, 1908 at Maple River, Iowa.

In 1910, the Schrad family, along with relatives and friends, boarded an immigrant train and came from Arcadia, Iowa to Randolph, Nebraska.

They moved to a 160-acre farm one mile east and one and one-half miles north of Randolph, which they had purchased on March 1, 1908, from Christopher and Catherine Nepper of Spencer, Nebraska. They paid $75 per acre and the realtor was W. H. Stageman. The farm had a large cottonwood grove which died out in the 1930’s. The farm was known as “Cyclone Hill”, due to cyclone-type winds periodically destroying trees or buildings. The house and barn are still in use, as is the gravity water system.

Josephine entered into rest on March 11, 1929 and Anton on June 27, 1936.

The farm remained in the family until 1945, when it was sold to Cy and Mary Gubbels of Randolph, for $100 per acre.

The Schrads were the parents of three other children. Mrs. George Wintz (Cecilia) born at Randolph on September 23, 1910, is presently residing at Randolph, Nebraska. George entered into rest on December 8, 1972.

Paul, born on April 3, 1917 at Randolph, married the former Leona Obst. They now reside in Norfolk, Nebraska.

Mrs. Milton (Carolyn) Goddard, born at Randolph, December 9, 1919, resides on a farm near South Sioux City, Nebraska.

The family were members of the St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church and the children received their education at the parish school.

Alouis passed away November 23, 1968 and he, along with his parents, are entered into rest at the parish cemetery.

**Paul and Leona Schrad**

Paul Frances Schrad born April 3, 1917 at Randolph, Cedar County, Nebraska, was the son of Anton and Josephine (Reker) Schrad. Paul grew up on his parents’ farm northeast of Randolph.

Leona Mae, born November 25, 1921, was the daughter of Paul and Olga (Larsen) Obst.

Paul and Leona met when they were both employed on farms northwest of Carroll.

Paul entered the Armed Forces in July of 1941, so it wasn’t until June 3, 1945, that they were married at the Cathedral of the Epiphany Catholic Church in Sioux City, Iowa, where Leona had been employed.

At the completion of Paul’s furlough they returned to Dodge City, Kansas and later were transferred to Fort Worth, Texas, where they were at the time of his discharge in December of 1945.
They returned to Sioux City, Iowa, where Paul took employment with the Purina Feed Mills.

On June 4, 1946, their first child was born, Gary Paul.

Having the urge to get back to the country, Paul took employment on the Henry Claussen farm where they moved in the spring of 1947.

In 1949, they moved to a farm east of Randolph and began farming for themselves. On May 4th of that year, they became parents of their first daughter, Dianne Kay. On November 29, 1954 a second daughter, Cheryl Rae, was born.

Since years were getting drier and farming didn’t look like the best, they decided to try something different. They held a farm sale in the fall of 1956 and moved to Minnesota where they both took employment at Kiehl’s Bakery, where he worked nights, so he would be with the children during the day. After completion of her course at the beauty college, Paul and Leona decided to return to Nebraska. Laurel was the choice of their destination. Leona opened her own shop and Paul took employment with the John Deere Implement Company. In 1964, they moved to their new home which was built in the new Hillcrest Addition.

In February of 1965, tragedy struck their family; Gary lost his life in a car accident at the age of 18.

When Dianne and Cheryl had completed high school and were both married, Paul and Leona moved to their home in Norfolk where they now reside. They were both employed with Norfolk Junior High School until their retirement in May of 1984. Paul is now employed part time at Blueberry Hill Farms of Norfolk.

Dianne was married to Terry Lamb at Kearney, on June 26, 1971. They reside at Kearney and have two daughters, Heather and Allison. Cheryl was married May 26, 1973 to Kevin Johnson at Laurel. They reside in Norfolk and have two children, Christen and Eric. Paul

Paul and Mary Ann Schurman

Paul’s grandparents, Theodore Schurman, son of Theodore Sr. and Mary Catherine (Kruse) Schurman and Theresia Spors, daughter of John and Susanna (Strawiski) Spors, were born in Germany and married at St. Helena, Nebraska in June 1883. They lived north of Wynot, Nebraska and are buried at St. Helena Cemetery. Theodore died at age 43 leaving Theresia with eight children to raise. The youngest was Paul’s father (Paul being two and one-half years old at the time).

Paul’s grandparents on his mother’s side, Louis Marx, son of Werner and Agnes (Lenzen) Marx and Christine Hochstein, daughter of Frank and Josephone (Pinkelman) Hochstein, were born in Bow Valley, Nebraska area, married there at the church in June 1893 and are buried at the cemetery there. At Louis and Christine’s wedding dance at the Bow Valley Hall, a young man from Broooky’s Bottom (east of St. James, Nebraska) who was under the influence of alcohol, stabbed Louis’ cousin Herman in the right chest. He died leaving his wife and two sons.

Louis and Christine had six children (Paul’s mother Rose being the third oldest).

Paul Schurman Sr. married Rose Marx in February 1925 at Bow Valley. They moved to Lantry, South Dakota where three children were born, including Paul Jr. After being plagued with poor crops due to drought, hail, grasshoppers, etc., they moved back to Nebraska north of Wynot. Four more children were born there. Paul and Rose are buried at Crofton, Nebraska.

Mary Ann’s grandparents on her father’s side were Jacob Eskens and Maria Tyssen who were born, married and died in Holland. They were the parents of 6 children, the youngest being William, Mary Ann’s father, who was 3 years old when his mother died of cancer.

Mary Ann’s grandparents on her mother’s side, Herman Ahlers, son of Johann and Anna (Modige) Ahlers and Klara Reifenrath, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Stricker) Reifenrath, were born in Germany, married in Yankton, South Dakota and buried at Bow Valley.

Herman Ahlers’ mother, Anna, lost her husband and other relatives while serving in the German army, so she brought her son and daughter to America to save her son from the German wars.

Herman and Klara were the parents of seven children. Their three sons died in infancy and the youngest of the four girls was Clara, Mary Ann’s mother.

William Eskens, born in Holland, was a blacksmith and came to America at the age of 16. He married Clara Ahlers in February 1920, at Bow Valley and lived on the farm southwest of Wynot where Clara was born. They are the parents of six children, Mary Ann being the oldest. Clara who is 86 years old resides in Hartington and William is buried at St. Michael’s Cemetery there.

Paul and Mary Ann were married at St. James Church in November 1949. Their wedding dance was at Homewood Park, located north of Wynot. At midnight the electricity went off leaving the whole area in darkness. In the confusion of looking for candles, lamps, etc, Paul and Mary Ann were able to leave her folks’ home unnoticed.

Their first home was a two-room house on the farm southwest of Hartington, belonging to Willard Burney. Their first child, Mary Lou, was born while they lived there.

In February 1952, they rented the Bart Mahon farm and moved one mile west. Their first crops were planted with the use of a team of horses. Kary, Barbara, and Steve were born while living on this farm. In 1956, the share rent was increased to one half, so in 1957, they moved to the Eddie Mueller farm east of Hartington. Roger was born while the family lived here. In 1958, the farm was sold and on February 22, 1959, they moved to the Friedenbach farm owned by Jake Backer located east of Randolph. Randy was born January 1960; Chuck was born in January 1964.
Mary Lou and Klara Lee “Kary” graduated from St. Frances School. Barbara, Steve, Roger, Randy and Charles “Chuck” graduated from Randolph High.

Mary Lou married Rick Coenen and their children are Melissa, Michelle and Mark. Kary married Dave Lurz and their children are Timothy, Tony and Tabitha. Barbara married Dough Korth and their children are Christopher, Cassandra and Catrina. Roger married Linda Modig. Randy married Lisa Bach and their son is Ryan.

The Schurmans belong to St. Frances Catholic Church.

Mary Ann Schurman

Alfrieda Schutt

Alfrieda Schutt was born January 16, 1898 to Thomas and Magdalina (Bornholtz) Schutt on the farm east of Sholes, Nebraska. She is the youngest of six children. Her brothers and sisters are Ella Stapelman and Bill Schutt. The following are deceased: Christina, Gath, Franz and Rudolph. She lived with her parents until they passed away, her mother in 1933 and her father in 1944. Then she continued to live with her brother Franz until he passed away in 1971. She then continued to live on the home place until she entered the Colonial Manor at Randolph in August of 1984. She is a member of St. John’s Lutheran Church. Merle Schutt

T. W. “Bill” Schutt

T. W. “Bill” Schutt was born November 23, 1892 to Thomas and Magdalena (Bornholtz) Schutt, on a farm one and one-half miles east of Sholes, Nebraska. On March 10, 1915, he was married at Council Bluffs, Iowa to Hanna Huff, the daughter of Peter and Mary (Danger) Huff. She was born December 4, 1893 at Randolph and later moved to Iowa in 1902. They were the parents of four children: Alfred, born in 1917; Gladys (Schutt) Backer, born in 1919; Fern, born in 1924 and Merle, born in 1927.

They farmed all their married lives on a farm northeast of Sholes, Nebraska. Hanna passed away in 1980. She is buried in the Randolph City Cemetery. Bill resided on the farm with Merle until March 1983, when he went to reside in the Colonial Manor at Randolph. He is a member of St. John’s Lutheran Church. Merle Schutt

William and Emma Seeger

My grandparents, William and Emma Seeger, came to Nebraska in 1903 from Rock Island, Illinois. They located in Belden. The reason for them coming to Nebraska was that they had three children, Minnie, Henry and Ida, living around Belden and Randolph. My grandfather wasn’t very well and he wanted to be close to the children. He died in January 1911. Grandma died in April 1948.

My uncle, Henry Seeger, farmed near Wareham for many years. My mother, Minnie (Seeger) Hirsch, her sisters and brother are all deceased.

My aunt, Veda Seeger, passed away December 1, 1982. She had been a resident at the nursing home in Randolph for some time. She was 94. I am a daughter of Minnie, the last one of my family. I lived around Belden and Randolph half of my life. We came west in 1941 to Portland, Oregon and have lived here since. I have two daughters here. My husband died in 1976. I have been to Randolph many, many times. I was there in 1980; it hadn’t changed to speak of. I can look back for 75 years and not see too much of a change. Mrs. Mabel (Hirsch) Linafelter

Claude L. Sellon

Claude L. Sellon, third eldest son of William W. Sellon and Alta McMichael, was born February 22, 1899 near Nora Springs, Iowa. The family moved from Iowa to five miles south of Randolph in 1906.

Claude received his education through the eighth grade at a nearby country school. He attended Randolph High to the tenth grade and completed a winter course at Wayne State Teacher’s College in 1915.

He then began to farm and married Mildred Grau. They had three children, namely Jeanne, Margie and Richard. Due to a back injury, Claude left farming in 1925 and the family moved to Sioux City, Iowa where Claude went to work for a commission firm in the Sioux City Stockyards. He stayed in the commission business until 1947.

In 1947, he married Hazel Burlison Sigmond and in 1949 they moved to Missoula, Montana to enter business with his brother, Glen. However, this did not work and the couple moved back to Randolph in September 1949, where Claude accepted a position as District Distributor for Murphy’s Concentrate and began feeding cattle. He retired some fifteen years later and Claude and Hazel continued to reside in their home in Randolph.

Claude noted in his biography that “My paramount interest has always been with agriculture, farming and livestock,” and “I never ceased to consider this (Randolph) my home.” He was a great supporter of this community. In later years, he became known for his strong Republican affiliation and his numerous correspondences to the editor’s columns of various newspapers.

Hazel was born October 24, 1894 at Mankato, Minnesota and died April 25, 1978 at Randolph. She had received a master’s degree from Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois and a Bachelor of Science degree from Mankato State Normal at Mankato, Minnesota. She taught in Minnesota and later in Sioux City, Iowa for many years. She was active in the United Methodist Church of Randolph, Chapter EA PEO, and Silver Leaf Chapter 110, Order of the Eastern Star.

Claude Sellon died June 6, 1982. In addition to his community activities he had been a member of the Morningside Masonic Lodge No. 615, the Columbian Commandery, Abu Bekr Shrine and a member of the White Horse Mounted Patrol. He was also a member of the United Methodist Church of Randolph.

Family Histories Submitted for the 1986 Centennial History Book
John D. and Mildred Sellon

I was born May 12, 1922 near Randolph to Wilhelm and Luise (Lutjin) Vogt. I joined three sisters: Mrs. Fay (Erna) Bobenmoyer of Hartington, Mrs. Henery (Marget) Claussen and Mrs. Mervyn (Esther) Janssen both of Randolph. I attended a Cedar County rural school, Pearl Creek High School and Electronic Radio Television Institute at Omaha, Nebraska.

I was employed as agent-telegrapher for Union Pacific Railroad in the Hastings, Nebraska area until my marriage.

On August 12, 1944, I was married to John Davidson Sellon at Hartington, Nebraska.

John Davidson was born near Randolph (Wayne County) March 24, 1918, to Lee E and Winifred (Davidson) Sellon. In 1920, they moved to Walthill, Nebraska. In 1921, when John was three years old his mother passed away. John and his sisters Mrs. Rex (Betty) Brandt of Galva, Iowa and Mrs. Ralph (Janet) Frass of Lodgepole, Nebraska returned to Randolph to live with their grandparents, Will and Alta Sellon. They made their home there until their father remarried. The family then moved to the Sellon farm five miles south of Randolph. The family was joined by a sister, Mrs. Don (Marian) Clark of Wayne.

John attended a Wayne County rural school, Randolph High School and Wayne State College. He farmed and taught school until induction into the United States Army at Fort Crook, Nebraska on December 2, 1941.

John was stationed at Camp Callan, San Diego, California. In April 1942, he was sent to the Aleutian Islands and returned to the States in March 1944. At that time he was stationed at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas and Camp Maxey, Paris, Texas. In February 1945, he was sent to Europe with the 9th Infantry Division. He participated in the Battle of the Bulge and was the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal. John was discharged October 24, 1945, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

After John’s discharge, we moved to the Sellon farm and farmed in partnership with his father. In 1952, we moved to the farm five miles north of Randolph. We continued to farm and John also taught school.

In 1961, John started working at the Norfolk State Hospital as a psychiatric aide and later as their education therapist. He worked there until 1968. We spent full time farming and caring for a dairy herd after that.

We’ve been members of St. John’s Lutheran Church, VFW and Auxiliary and Lions Club.

We had three children: Dennis Davidson was born April 5, 1947. He attended Cedar County rural schools, Randolph High School and Dana College. He married Mary Lemke of Bruning, Nebraska. Their children are David Lee, Daniel John and Dawn Renee. Dennis is a coach and teacher and Mary is an elementary teacher in the Blair school system. They reside in Blair.

Diann Luise was born August 4, 1949. She attended Cedar County rural schools, Randolph High School and Dana College. She resides in Blair and is Financial Analyst for Godfather’s Pizza in Omaha.

Denise Renee was born September 18, 1953. She attended Cedar County rural schools, Randolph High School and Norfolk Beauty College. She married David Dowling of Belden. They have on child, Joshua Paul. They reside in Hartington, where Denise is a beautician and David is co-owner of Town and Country Repair and Auto Sales.

John passed away April 23, 1983. At the time of this writing I continue to reside at the farm. Mildred M. Sellon

Lee Sellon

Lee Sellon was born on a farm near Rudd, Iowa January 29, 1894. His parents were Will and Alta McMichael Sellon. His first school was one his grandmother and mother had attended.

The family moved to a farm at Dexter, Minnesota, then made the move to Randolph where Lee has always lived, with the exception of a few years in Sioux City and Walthill. He finished his schooling at Sholes High School and Wayne State Normal.

In 1916, he married Winifred Davidson and took his bride home to a new farm house his father had built for them. Winifred was born on a farm in Washington County, Nebraska on May 18, 1892. When she was three years old she moved to Randolph, Nebraska and later moved to Walthill, Nebraska. She graduated from Randolph High School with a class of six in 1910. She attended Bellevue College and Wayne State Normal and studied music. She graduated in 1914 and was employed for two years as a teacher in the Bloomfield Schools as a teacher of the fourth grade and supervisor of music in all grades. After she and Lee married they lived on various farms near Randolph until they moved to Walthill in 1920. She passed away in March of 1921. Children born to this marriage are John Davidson, now deceased; Betty Lea Brandt, Galva, Iowa and Winifred Janet Fraas of Lodgepole, Nebraska.

During his lifetime, Lee farmed and also worked on the Indian Reservation at Macy, Nebraska for a few years and from 1921 to 1923, he ran the assembly line for Thorndike Ford in Sioux City. In the 1930’s he was chairman of the Wayne County Agricultural Committee and later became a field man for the State Agriculture Office. He also served on the Wayne County War Board.

In June 1924, Lee married Mary Alice Fox. She was the daughter of Fred and Anna C. Fox and was born in Belden, Nebraska in 1891. She received her education at the Randolph Schools and graduated with the class of 1910. She furthered her education at Wayne Normal and graduated from the college in Ames, Iowa. She taught third grade in the public schools in Randolph and Sioux City, Iowa. Lee and Alice added on daughter to the Sellon clan. She is Marian Alice Clark of Wayne, Nebraska. Lee and Alice first lived on a farm north of
Randolph, then they moved to the Sellon farm south of Randolph, which they later purchased. They lived there until they moved into their home in Randolph in 1946.

Through the years Lee and Alice enjoyed working in the Methodist church and took many trips to visit their families. Their twelve grandchildren and many great-grandchildren were always a special joy to them.

Alice died in 1971 after a long illness. Lee lived in their home until November of 1984 when he moved to Colonial Manor in Randolph. He celebrated his ninety-first birthday there in January of 1985.

Roy R. Sellon

Roy Ross Sellon was born June 3, 1874, near Cedar Falls, Iowa. He was of English, Irish and Scottish descent. Rose Hannigan was born and reared near Logan, Iowa. Her parents were Irish and she was born October 25, 1878.

Roy and Rose were married in 1897. They were the parents of five children. Florence died of influenza in 1918. Wayne married Hazel Francis and they moved near Mason City, Iowa in the late 1930’s. They are the parents of four children. Joe married Eleanor Otte. They have three children. Alice married Gary Helms and they had two children. After his death, she married Ernest Helms and they moved to Albany, Oregon. Donald is married to Alice Backer and has one daughter. They live in Albany, Oregon.

After the Sellon’s marriage, they first lived on a farm near Sholes. In a few years they bought a farm five miles south of Randolph. A couple of years later they decided to homestead on a farm near Kadoka, South Dakota. The homestead was later sold and the family moved back to their Randolph farm.

Mrs. Sellon passed away in 1912. A succession of housekeepers followed. Eventually, Mr. Sellon married a widow, Jennie Barnes Lang.

The Sellons were involved in raising Duroc hogs and Leghorn chickens.

When retirement years approached, they moved into Randolph where they lived until Roy’s death in 1944. Jennie continued to live in Randolph awhile, then moved to Washington State, to be near her relatives until her death. Lavone Hansen

William and Alta Sellon

William W. Sellon was born in a small log house near Cedar Falls, Iowa on March 7, 1870 and died in March of 1954. He attended school until the fourth grade. He always had a thirst for more knowledge and made every effort toward self-education. He became an avid reader and grew into a well-read, knowledgeable person. He had four brothers and one sister: Charles, Roy, Gene, Jim and Flo. When he was 16, he and Charles left the old home and came to Nebraska. They found employment on a ranch about 15 miles from where Randolph now stands. They raised corn and stacked enough hay to fatten 300 steers for market. Each fall the rancher shipped in 300 Texas Longhorns to feed during the winter months. Will worked here for two years and was there during the terrific blizzard of 1888.

Will returned to Iowa in 1892. In 1893, he married Alta McMichaell; she was born April 23, 1876 and passed away in April of 1963.

They farmed in the Nora Springs, Iowa area until 1903. Here four sons were born: Lee, now living in Randolph; Glen and Claude, deceased and Archie of California.

In 1902, Will moved his family to a farm near Grand Meadow, Minnesota, which he had purchased. This farm was sold in 1905 and Will purchased a farm near Randolph. The family moved to Randolph in 1906 and settled on a farm south of Randolph. Lee now owns the farm which has been in the family since 1905.

Two daughters were born in Nebraska; Mildred, who died at the age of 11 months from measles and pneumonia and Dorothy who died in a Sioux City hospital the day before Christmas in 1924. She was 13 years old.

Will and Alta farmed for several years before moving to Randolph. In the early 1920’s they found themselves raising John, Betty and Janet; the children of Lee and Winnie Sellon. Winnie had died when Janet was born. In later years they moved back to the farm and then returned to Randolph. Will worked as a carpenter for many years. They were both active members of the Methodist Church - always attending services both Sunday morning and Sunday evening. They were working members of various church organizations. Will was interested in hunting and fishing and they took several trips with “Old Doc” Kerley.

They always enjoyed having their grandchildren visit them and were especially saddened when grandson, Bill Sellon, lost his life on the Battleship Oklahoma during Pearl Harbor Sunday.

True pioneers in every sense of the word; they lived out their lifespans in a swiftly changing world.

Pete Seyl

I have seventy-five years behind me. It seems it has slipped by in a hurry.

My parents were German; all my grandparents came from Germany. Those on Dad’s side lived in a dugout on the Missouri River around Wynot until they moved to Belden. My dad’s name was Louie and my granddad’s name was Louie.

His mother was Grace Pflanz. My mother Annie’s maiden name was Stapelman; her parents were Friedericka and Henry Stapelman. I have one older sister, Beulah Abts, living in Belden and one younger brother, Victor, in Pierce.

We grew up two miles east of Belden. I remember being sick a lot of the time while I was growing up. Pneumonia was almost an every-winter occurrence while I was little. Old Doc McFadden would come from Belden and put me in a very cold room. We had a lady working for us who cooked oats and onions together and made a
poulstice for my chest. I could feel it go right through me. That was the fifth time I had pneumonia and the last one. I was only five, but I remember it like it was yesterday. I’d had it twice that winter. I had every disease there was outside of smallpox. I can remember having scarlet fever and the Doc putting a quarantine sign on our house – I think for two weeks.

Then came the First World War flu. We were all in bed but my dad. He cared for us as best he could. Doc McFadden came from Belden. Belden had two doctors then. Our doctor came right to the house and stayed one whole night.

As we kids were growing up, we never left the place much. Interesting things happened, though. Every summer we could look for a tribe of gypsies or horse traders. They would stop for the night on top of our hill across from our orchard. The folks always kept us pretty close to them as these people could not be trusted. They would help themselves to our fruits, eggs and chickens. I remember Mom always got the eggs in when they came. They would try to sell us some of their lace. I remember all of that beautiful lace, big red blankets and big white lace shawls. They had beautiful handwork. Our dad bought us kids a beautiful black pony from them. We really enjoyed him. They always stayed a week – not any longer and not any less, just a week.

When my dad got his first car (and the first one he ever drove), he took us kids to school and the gas pedal stuck. He couldn’t stop and drove a half-mile past the schoolhouse. It made him so mad he got out and left the car right where it was for a week. When he finally went back for it, he had Mom with him and made her get in and steer it while he hooked on to the back and hauled it home with his team and wagon. He left it set there the rest of the summer. We would get into it and pretend to drive. When he and Mom passed the schoolhouse with her steering it backwards and him pulling it, all of us kids ran to the window and watched them go by.

In 1948, I went to the West Coast after my own family was grown, and lived in Oregon and California for twenty years. My oldest son, Merrill, now lives in California. Dora, the next child (Now Mrs. Laddie Arduser) lives in Alaska, and the two younger sons, Gene and Roger, both live in California near Merrill.

The years have come and gone. I still feel I’m not very healthy, but I have a wonderful home in Colonial Manor here in Randolph. Everyone is my friend. Pete Seyl

Stephen and Carmen Shaffer

The first child of James and Loraine (Thelen) Backer was a daughter, Carmen, born at Norfolk, Nebraska on February 6, 1948. Carmen and her parents lived on the Herb Carstens farm south of Randolph where James was Mr. Carstens’ hired man. In February of 1950, her sister, Cheryl, was born at Norfolk and in March the family moved to a farm southeast of Sholes.

The present Sholes School was built in the next few years and Carmen was looking forward to starting school there; but, in March of 1953, they moved to a farm south of Randolph. Carmen started first grade at St. Frances School in Randolph in the fall of 1954. The next fall, the local neighbors and Mr. Backer petitioned to have their school district reopened. The fall of 1955, Carmen, Cheryl and half a dozen other children started at District 68 on Highway 81. The land is now part of the Bud Johnson farm.

Five years later, in March 1960, Carmen and her family moved a few miles closer to Randolph. James and Loraine purchased this farm in later years and still reside on it. A few short months were spent at District 28 SW, then the district consolidated with Randolph Public Schools. School buses were purchased and the rural children of the district started school in Randolph in the fall of 1960. Carmen graduated from Randolph High School in 1966, having been active in 4-H, vocal music and other activities. During her junior and senior years, she worked after school and on weekends at Hartz Pharmacy in Randolph.

Carmen entered the University of Nebraska in September of 1966. After attending the University for two years, she moved to Denver, Colorado in June of 1968, with two other girls from Randolph, Kathy Pock and Marie Kessler. In Denver, Carmen worked as a bookkeeper.

On March 1, 1969, Carmen was married to Stephen Shaffer, Jr., of Massapequa, Long Island, New York at St. Frances de Chantal in Randolph. Steve was born and raised on Long Island. His parents, Stephen and Alvera (Addario) Shaffer, are originally from southwest Pennsylvania. Steve was stationed at Lowry AFB in Denver. Their first child, a son, Stephen Shaffer III, was born on September 2, 1969 at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Aurora, Colorado.


The Shaffers decided to move to Nebraska in April of 1976. They purchased the W. H. Galvin home in McLean, Nebraska that summer. Steve III attended the McLean School for two years. The school was closed in 1978. Jennifer started kindergarten in Randolph that year and Steve was in the fourth grade. In October of 1980, the family moved to the Jacob Backer residence in Randolph. Jacob Backer is residing at Colonial Manor and he is Carmen’s paternal grandfather.

Carmen is an image consultant, Steve is a building contractor and the children attend Randolph Public Schools. Steve and Carmen Shaffer
Albert Sharp was born in Edgewood, Iowa March 31, 1867. He was the son of Robert Weams and Sarah (Ringer) Sharp. His forebears had come originally from England.

Albert grew to manhood in Iowa and then went to South Dakota where he studied pharmacy. He came to Randolph when the town was a small settlement and found employment in J. L. Stewart’s Drug Store. Thus it was that Albert met his employer’s sister, Ida, and they married June 29, 1892. Ida and her sister, Mary, had graduated from a ladies’ seminary in Fremont and were teachers in the Randolph School. These young ladies had often talked of having a “double wedding”, but Mary had already become the bride of Charles Randall on April 6.

Albert and Ida soon moved to Allen, Nebraska where he had established a drug store of his own. While living in Allen their first child, Paul Francis, was born December 6, 1894. Circumstances brought the family back to Randolph before the birth of their second child.

Zella Mary, born April 22, 1897, died of pneumonia April 11, 1900. The doctor tried valiantly to save the child and was simply unable to inform the parents that “their darling little girl” would die; he called in another physician to tell them. At the time, Randolph had no hearse and caskets were taken from a church to the burial place on a flat-bed wagon. Albert and Ida refused to have Zella’s small coffin transported in such a manner; so they carried it across their laps in their own carriage. This child was the first to be buried in the Sharp family’s lot in the Randolph Cemetery.

Two more children were born in Randolph to Albert and Ida: Irma Marie on February 8, 1899 and Reba Evelyn on January 1, 1901. Some humor surrounding the birth of Reba. Ida’s younger and unmarried brother, Will Stewart, had arrived to spend the New Year’s Holiday. His older sister was attired in a “Mother Hubbard Dress” – consisting of a yoke with fully gathered material, amply hanging nearly to the floor and without a belt. In those days, pregnancy was never mentioned in public and expectant mothers preferred to remain at home. Will had not been informed of his sister’s condition, did not seem to comprehend the situation and was a bit peeved when she refused to go with him to the “watch night meeting” at the church. Before Will’s return after midnight, Albert had gone to fetch the doctor and Reba made her appearance “right after midnight”. Will “Uncle Will” surprised when he came back from the service!

Soon after Reba’s birth, Albert moved his family to Lincoln, Nebraska. Two sons were born in Lincoln. The first son lived only three days, September 14 to 17, 1902. They named him Ray because “he was here only as long as a ray of sunshine”. Charles Willard’s birth came August 18, 1903. Zola Alberta, the last child of Albert and Ida, arrived July 2, 1907 in Walthill, Nebraska where the family lived at that time. From 1911 to 1919, Albert Sharp had a drug store in Thayer, Nebraska.

In 1915, when cousins Lena and Harriet Stewart were attending Nebraska Wesleyan University, Aunt Mary Randall, who had many years before lost an arm because of an accident, asked Irma to come to Randolph to help her and to attend high school. This Irma did and she graduated from the Randolph High School in 1917.

Albert Sharp returned to Lincoln in 1919 and was employed in the Grevish Drug Store. He purchased a home in University Place, soon to be incorporated into the City of Lincoln. Today, Reba lives in this home. Albert died in 1933 and was buried in the Randolph Cemetery.

When Albert died, Ida returned to Randolph to live with her sister, Mary Randall, to assist in the care of Mary’s step-mother-in-law, who insisted that the family address her as “Auntie Randall.” “Auntie” died a few years later and Ida resided in Randolph until her sister’s death in 1946.

Ida Sharp returned to Lincoln where she died September 29, 1951. She is buried at Randolph. Willard Sharp, as a result of an automobile accident, died in Iowa, July 25, 1965. Irma (Sharp) Herrington died June 8, 1971 in California and she is also buried at Randolph. Today, Paul lives in Modesto, California. Zola Wissenburg lives in Crete, Nebraska and Reba lives in the family home in Lincoln. Reba Sharp Wroth

Harold H. and Elly Sherwood

Harold H. Sherwood was born November 14, 1901 to Harvey and Euphemia (Weber) Sherwood in Randolph, Nebraska. He is the grandson of Fredrick Weber, who owned and operated a grocery store and blacksmith shop six miles south of Randolph before Randolph was even a town. At an early age Harold moved with his parents and three sisters, Annabel, Lela and Sadie to Presho, South Dakota and from there to Newell, South Dakota. In 1911, the family returned to Randolph and Harold started school in the Randolph Public School the first year it was built. He was active in a variety of sports during his high school years and was graduated from Randolph High School on June 1, 1923. On July 14, 1923, he went into business with Fritz Oversen in the Oversen & Sherwood Meat Market in Randolph. In 1934, he purchased Mr. Oversen’s share of the business and called it the Sherwood Meat Market. Later that year he put the sausage department in the meat market and hired Alfred Schaeufele as sausage maker. In 1938, he built and started the Randolph Creamery on the lot just north of the meat market. In 1952, he added a locker plant. On June 1, 1925, he was married to Elly Markert, daughter of Frederick and Emma Markert, who was born in Kiel, Germany on September 24, 1903. At the age of four she emigrated with her parents, sister Magda and brother Fritz, to the United States settling in Randolph, Nebraska. She attended Randolph Public School and was graduated in 1922. After graduating from Wayne State College, she taught in the Randolph Public School for two years.
Harold has been active in community affairs. He was a member of the school board for several years, served as mayor of Randolph for five years, was a former member of the Lions Club, an active member of the Community Club, a 60-year member of Golden Sheaf Lodge of Masonic Order, 50-year member of Silver Leaf Chapter, Order of Eastern Star and a member of the United Methodist Church. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the First State Bank and Colonial Manor. He retired from the meat market in 1962 and from the creamery in 1972.

Elly was a member, worthy matron and 50-year member of Silver Leaf Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, was a charter member, past president and 50-year member of Chapter EA, P.E.O. Sisterhood and a member of United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.

Harold and Elly are the parents of two daughters, Mrs. Jeannette Donkin and Mrs. Marilyn Kock, both of whom are teachers in the Fremont Public Schools, Fremont, Nebraska. They have four grandchildren, Jamie (Donkin) Campbell, Dr. Scott Donkin, Kim Kock and Keri Kock and three great-grandchildren, Cody Campbell and twins Jennifer and Jered Campbell.

Edgar married Tena Behrend of Randolph in 1905. They lived on the farm vacated by his parents. To this union on son, Leonard, was born. After retiring in 1958, they lived in Randolph. Edgar died in 1969 and Tena died in 1984.

Leonard graduated from Randolph High School, attended Wayne State College two years and taught school three years. In 1928, Leonard and Edna Carlson, daughter of Anton and Anna Carlson of Sholes, were married. They had one daughter, Vicki, who married Gwen Atwell of Fremont, Nebraska. They live in Omaha, where Vicki is a counselor in the Omaha school system. Leonard and Edna owned and operated their farm north of Randolph. In 1973, they retired and moved to a home they bought in Randolph. Edna passed away in 1981, after a lingering illness. In 1984, Leonard married Frances LaBreck of Ekalaka, Montana and they reside in Randolph.

Jacob and his wife Luna, their daughter Bessie, Edgar and his wife Tena Simmons and Leonard’s wife Edna are all buried in the Randolph City Cemetery.
Randolph, graduating in 1951. In January 1954, he joined the Air Force, training as an aircraft mechanic and was stationed at Perrin AFB, Texas. After his enlistment was up, he worked for Northrop Aircraft in Lancaster, California. In 1960, he worked as a missile mechanic for General Dynamics at Missouri Valley, Iowa where he met his wife, Rosemary.

Rosemary Reardon, the oldest child of James and Helena (Stewart) Reardon, was born May 2, 1933 on a farm one mile east of Magnolia, Iowa. She attended country school near Woodbine and Portsmouth, Iowa, until the fifth grade when her family moved back to Magnolia. She graduated from Magnolia High School in 1951. She enrolled in Mercy School of Nursing, graduating in 1954. Her first job was at Murphy Memorial Hospital, Red Oak, Iowa. In 1958, she joined the Air Force as a First Lieutenant serving as an Air Force nurse in Alabama, Massachusetts and Saudi Arabia. In 1960, she became an industrial nurse for General Dynamics at Missouri Valley, Iowa.

John and Rosemary were married April 3, 1961, at St. Bridget’s Church, Magnolia, Iowa. Their first home was in Topeka, Kansas, where John was transferred with General Dynamics. Rosemary worked at Stormont Vail Hospital in obstetrics.

In September, John was transferred to Beatrice, Nebraska and Rosemary worked at Lutheran Hospital. On March 2, 1961, Kevin John was born. In September, they were transferred to Plattsburg, New York. In 1963, they moved back to Nebraska and on September 13, 1963, Deanna Patricia was born at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

In October, the family moved to St. Peters, Missouri, where John was employed for McDonnell Douglas of St. Louis. Rosemary worked part-time in obstetrics at St. Joseph’s Hospital in St. Charles, Missouri.

Mary Suzanne was born June 22, 1965 and Lawrence A. Joseph was born August 6, 1966 at St. Joseph’s Hospital, St. Charles, Missouri.

Kevin and Deanna attended All Saints School in St. Peters.

In 1971, the Sohlers moved to a farm one and one-half miles south of Sholes. John farmed and Rosemary worked at the Norfolk Regional Center at Norfolk, Nebraska Veteran’s Home as a supervisor on the late afternoon shift.

The children attended Sholes Public School through eighth grade then attended Randolph High School. Kevin graduated from Electronic Computer Programming Institute of Omaha in 1980. He worked in Denver, Colorado until 1983, when he joined the Air Force Reserve Training a Lockland AFB in Texas as a Security Specialist. He retired to Nebraska and attended Wayne State where he met his wife, Susan Classen of Fremont, Nebraska. He joined the regular Air Force in January, moving to Elgin AFB at Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Their first child, Kevin Sean, was born August 30, 1984.

Deanna graduated from Randolph High School in 1981. She spent the summer at Fort Jackson, South Carolina in basic training for the Nebraska National Guard. In the fall of 1981, she attended Mount Marty College, Yankton, South Dakota. That summer she spent in further training with the National Guard at San Antonio, Texas. She graduated from Bishop Clarkson College of Nursing in June 1985 and is working in a Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mary graduated from Randolph High School in 1983. In June of that year, she left for Boston, Massachusetts, where she was employed as a mother’s helper. In August of 1984, she entered school at Boston University, graduating in June as a certified dental assistant. She is employed in the Boston area.

Larry graduated from Randolph High School in 1984 and is attending his second year at Norfolk Technical Community College in Norfolk, Nebraska. He works part-time at Wendy’s in Norfolk. Rosemary Sohler

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**Matt and Martha Spader**

“Matt” John Mathias Spader was born at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, 25 miles south of Omaha on January 18, 1894. His father, Peter Spader (sic) had been born in Valyburg, Germany on April 8, 1862. Peter came to the United States at the age of 20. Matt Spader’s mother, Mary Knappe, had been born in Alt Lammetz, Germany on December 28, 1866. She came to the United States in 1888. Mary Knappe had a marriage of short duration to George Applegate and a son, George Applegate Jr. was born of this marriage. After her first husband’s death, Mary (Knappe) Applegate and Peter Spader were united in marriage at Plattsmouth, Nebraska on April 17, 1893. Five of their six children were born in Plattsmouth. In 1906, the Peter Spader family moved to a farm four miles north of Osmond, Nebraska and it was here that their last child, Joe, was born in 1908. They then moved to a farm of 450 acres four miles east of Osmond. In the spring of 1918, the entire family moved to South Dakota. Thus, all of Matt Spader’s family settled in the Howard-Oldham, South Dakota, area. Peter and Mary Spader are both buried in the Catholic Cemetery at Howard, South Dakota.

Martha Agatha Gubbels was born at Randolph, Nebraska on August 1, 1897, the ninth child of John and Elizabeth Gubbels. Matt Spader and Martha Gubbels were united in matrimony at St. Frances Catholic Church, Randolph on February 10, 1920. They spent the first four years of their marriage on the Spader family farm at Oldham, South Dakota. It was there that their first two children, two daughters, were born: Louise Marie on April 3, 1921 and Marcella Elizabeth on October 19, 1922.
In 1924, Matt and Martha moved with their two daughters to Randolph, Nebraska to the farm which would be their home for 46 years, until June 1970, when they moved to a house in the town of Randolph. It was on this farm that the remaining eight children were born. It was also in the year of 1970 that Matt and Martha celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Matt Spader died at 77 years of age on August 24, 1971. Martha (Gubbels) Spader died on June 29, 1979 at the age of 81. Both are buried in St. Frances Catholic Cemetery.

Ten children were born to this marriage of Matt and Martha Spader: Louise (Mrs. Gene) Eich, living in Randolph; Marcella (Mrs Richard) Brickley, living in Ludington, Michigan; the third child, Edward Walter, was born on December 19, 1925 and died at the age of five years of leukemia on May 10, 1930; Fred, who lived in Randolph all his life, was born on January 5, 1927 and died of multiple sclerosis at the age of 41 on January 11, 1968. Both Edward and Fred are buried in St. Frances Catholic Cemetery. George Mathias was born on May 2, 1929 and lives on the farm at Randolph. Alvin John, born February 7, 1931, lives at Lyons, Nebraska. Bernice Martha (Mrs. Dean) Campbell, born June 27, 1933, lives in Fountain, Colorado. Thomas Walter, born September 5, 1936, lives in Fremont, Ohio. Robert Ed, born February 25, 1937 and ordained a Catholic priest on May 30, 1964, lives and ministers in Bonanza, Nicaragua, Central America. Melvin Paul, born February 23, 1940, lives on the 20 acres that remain of the “Spader Family Farm” at Randolph. 

Louise Eich

Staben

Mary Reah was born in Wisconsin in 1876. After the death of both of her parents, she lived with an uncle. Her uncle refused to buy books to further her education, so at the age of 12, she was on her own doing domestic work for others, including her three married sisters and their families.

Around 1903, she came to Magnet, Nebraska to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Leckler. She began doing domestic work for several farm families in the Randolph area. During this period, the style for women and girls was lots of ruffles on dresses and petticoats, so it took a lot of time to press the ruffles with a flat iron heated on a cook stove. Also during this period, larger barns and out-buildings were built, and the carpenters roomed and boarded with the farm families, making extra work around the house.

Mary later began doing domestic work in the homes in Randolph. If the family for whom she worked took a trip, it was her responsibility to take the dairy cow to a pasture at the edge of town and then return the cow in the evening to the barn to be milked. Everyone had a small barn for either horses, cows, hay, grain or a buggy. During this period, there was an epidemic of scarlet fever and smallpox. Mary cared for the ill but never contracted either illness herself.

After this, she worked for four years as a cook at the café owned by George Hyatt. Each item of food was served on a separate dish, and, oh, the dishes that had to be washed! Although the many salesmen and travelers who ate at the café had their own special foods, they all seemed to like soft boiled eggs that had to be prepared just so. It must have been the fresh country eggs. Mr. Hyatt had decided not to give handouts to the many rail riders and tramps that came to the café. However, one day when the boss was gone, Mary and the two waitresses decided to feed a man who asked for a meal. His clothes were worn, but he was clean. A month and a half later, the man returned and paid Mr. Hyatt for the meal. Although the three girls were “caught”, nothing was said.

In 1912, Mary Reah married John Staben, who had moved from Herman, Nebraska with his family four years previously to a farm seven miles south of Randolph. In 1918, they moved to the Axelsen farm and lived there 12 years. Their two daughters, Ruth and Dorothy, attended Eagle Valley School in Cedar County. In 1930, they moved to the north edge of Randolph and their two daughters graduated from Randolph High School. In 1941, they made their last move to a home within the city limits of Randolph. Their grandchildren, Milton and LeNeta Bethune, also graduated from Randolph High School. 

Ruth Staben

Stageman

For 78 years of the 100 years of Randolph’s existence there was at least one Stageman family living there. At one time there were four Stageman families in town. These were William, Philip, Jared and Jared’s son, Miles.

The three brothers were born in a log cabin near Neola, Iowa, just outside Council Bluffs. The oldest of the three, William, came to Randolph in 1890, and was engaged in the real estate business. He had interests in many farms and ranches in northeast Nebraska. He married Sarah Dillon and they had on daughter, Marjorie, who now lives in California. During the 1920’s Bill Stagemen went to Florida for a year or two and was involved in real estate during the Florida boom of that time. Bill lived in the house just west of Lee Sellon.

Jared married Emma Klopping and farmed about a mile west of Randolph, prior to moving to town. They lived in the big house at the south end of Douglas Street. The big hill a couple of blocks to the south of their house was used for sledding in the winter and was known as “Stageman’s” hill. Jared and Emma had a son, Miles and a daughter, Mildred. Mildred married Floyd Hough, who ran the White Motor dealership in Omaha. They had two daughters. Mildred lives in Omaha.

Philip married Martha Heileman. He was a traveling salesman for the International Harvester Company and one year was the champion cream separator salesman of the entire United States. They lived in the house on the northwest corner of Pierce and Wayne Street, 302 Pierce. They had three children, Arthur, Leone and Delno.
Arthur worked for the Western Electric Company in Chicago and retired to Sun City, Arizona. He had married Mabel Tully of Chicago. He died in 1981. Leone married Marion R. Leach of Greenville, South Carolina. While Mr. Leach was working in India, a daughter, Marion Leone, was born to them. Leone now lives in Greenville, South Carolina and daughter Marion, who married Carl Maroney, lives in Huntsville, Alabama. They have a daughter, Nancy Leone. Delno, worked as an accountant and controller in the Schenectady, New York, area, married Robin Sanders of Schenectady. They have a daughter Delanne and still live in Schenectady.

Miles, a cattle dealer, married Hilda Grau of Randolph; they lived on South Main Street about a block north of Randall. They had a daughter, Donna and a son, Miles, who both now live in Helena, Montana, as does the elder Miles.

Philip, who died in 1968, was the last Stageman to live in Randolph. Delno Stageman

Max and Emma Stahl
Max E. Stahl was born in Schlagsdorf on Island of Fehmarn, Germany, November 7, 1886. He came to America in 1902. Max and several brothers and a sister homesteaded first in the Froid, Montana area.

He married Emma Brogren November 27, 1912. She was the daughter of Ola and Dorthea Brogren of Winside, Nebraska; born February 21, 1883 at Elkhorn, Nebraska.

The Stahls farmed near Winside for nine years, then near Comstock, Nebraska; later lived one year on a farm south of Norfolk and in 1927, rented a half section approximately nine miles south of Randolph.

They were parents of five children who were all born at Winside - Sophia on August 29, 1914; Willy on April 26, 1916; Siegfried on January 20, 1918; Roland on September 1, 1919 and Hilda on February 15, 1921.

Sophia Stahl married John Morris in 1936. They will celebrate their Golden Wedding in 1985. They are now retired in Wayne and are parents of five children.

Willy Stahl and Irene Morris were married in 1936; they are also retired and now live in North Hollywood, California.

Siegfried “Fritz” Stahl married Evelyn McCune (daughter of Harry McCune of Randolph) while he was serving in the Air Force. They also live in North Hollywood, California, where he has worked for many years for Lockheed Aircraft. They are parents of two sons and one deceased daughter.

Roland Stahl and Roberta Waller (daughter of Robert Waller of the Belden area) were married in 1948. They farmed in the Sholes area, then east of Carroll for ten years and have farmed near Galva, Iowa since 1964. They have three daughters.

Hilda Stahl married Bill Lamoree in 1943. They were parents of twin girls and another daughter. One twin is deceased. Hilda passed away January 1, 1980 and is buried in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Stahl children all attended District 46 south of Randolph.

Roland entered the United States Army in December 1941 and served 4 years some time in England and the European Theatre of World War II.

Siegfried enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1942 and served until 1946, spending some of that time in China.

In March 1943, Max and Emma purchased and moved to a farm on the south edge of Sholes. Emma Stahl passed away November 3, 1949 and is buried in the Wayne Cemetery.

Max married Dora Staben in 1956. Several years later they purchased a home in Carroll, where they lived until their health failed and they had to move to a Wayne Nursing home. Max passed away in Wayne, December 17, 1972 and Dora Staben Stahl on June 27, 1975. Mrs. Roland Stahl

Don and Nancy Starzl
Don, son of Clarence and Evelyn (Koopman) Starzl was born December 2, 1948 at Wakefield, Nebraska. He received all of his education at Sacred Heart School in Emerson, Nebraska and graduated from the Medical Institute of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Nancy, daughter of Forrest and Bernadine (Kai) Steele, was born April 22, 1950 at Wakefield, Nebraska. She received all of her education at Emerson Public School in Emerson, Nebraska and graduated from Omaha Technical Community College nursing program in Omaha, Nebraska.

Don and Nancy were married on April 24, 1970 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Emerson. They made their first home in Creighton, Nebraska. Don was employed at the Lundberg Memorial Hospital in Creighton. Nancy worked at the Plainview Hospital for one year, was then employed by Dr. D. M. Laflan of Creighton until 1974 when they moved to Norfolk, Nebraska. There Don was the manager for Iseman Mobile Homes and Nancy was employed by the Lutheran Community Hospital.

In 1977, they moved to Randolph, Nebraska. Don owned and operated the Star Clothing Store until 1982. He is now employed by the Osmond General Hospital as an x-ray supervisor and also owns and operates a shoe repair shop in Randolph. Nancy is employed by Dr. H. J. Billerbeck.

Don and Nancy have two children. Jayni Lynn, born February 21, 1975 in Omaha, is in the fifth grade at the Randolph Public Schools. Kristin Ann-Marie, born July 15, 1981 in Omaha, attends Kiddie Corner Pre-School in Randolph.

They are members of St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph. Don and Nancy Starzl
David and Joan Steffen

The David Steffen family came to the Randolph area in 1970. David has been a teacher in the Randolph Public School system for 15 years.

David is one of two sons born to Frances and Lawrence Steffen of Crofton, Nebraska. Lawrence and Frances were farmers and they lived in the Crofton area all their lives. David and Dennis were born August 26, 1943 at home on the farm. Besides his twin brother, David has one sister, Marvalee of Lincoln, Nebraska and four other brothers: Roger of Madison, Wisconsin; Keith of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Loren of Crofton, Nebraska and Paul of Hartington, Nebraska.

David attended St. Rose Parochial School, Crofton High School and Norfolk Junior college. He then taught elementary at Platte Center, Nebraska for one year. He went back to college at Wayne State College in 1964. On January 8, 1966, David and Joan Mach were married in Yankton, South Dakota.

Joan is the daughter of Arthur and Luella Mach of Yankton, South Dakota. Arthur was employed by the State of South Dakota Highway Department as a checker of the Ports of Entry of Trucking. He retired in 1976 and passed away in 1980 of a lengthy illness. Luella has been employed by the TG&Y Department Store in Yankton for 34 years. She is currently a co-manager there and still resides in Yankton. Joan has one brother, Gerald, who also lives in Yankton.

Joan attended Sacred Heart Parochial School, Yankton High School, Yankton College and Mount Marty College in Yankton. She also worked at the Feldman Law Offices in Yankton before marrying David and moving to Sioux City. After their marriage, they lived in Sioux City, Iowa while David taught in the Leeds Public School and Joan worked as a legal secretary at the Gleysteen, Harper, Kunze and Eidsmoe Law Office.

Angela Marie was born February 5, 1967. They then moved to Battle Creek, Nebraska where Dave taught seventh grade in the Battle Creek public Schools for two years, then moved to Belden, Nebraska where Dave taught and attended Wayne State College. Timothy was born March 10, 1972. In 1974, they moved to Randolph.

Joan did bookkeeping for Arnold Hansen in Belden. He operated the Hansen Farm & Auto Shop. In 1976, Joan took a job in Norfolk, Nebraska at Midwest Canners, Inc., as a bookkeeper-secretary. She worked there for two and one-half years. In 1979, Joan started working at Rokahr Implement in Randolph as a bookkeeper and she works there at the present time.

The Steffens belong to the St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church in Randolph. Dave is a member of Lion’s Club, Randolph Education Association and golfs as a hobby. Joan belongs to T.A.O. Extension Club; St. Barbara’s Circle and teaches C.C.D. Angela is a freshman at Kearney State College majoring in Commercial Art and Tim is an eighth grader. Joan Steffen

Frank and Anna Stegge

Frank Stegge, son of Bernard and Margaret (Kruel) Stegge was born January 31, 1878 at Pocahontas, Iowa. His father was born in Rhed, Hanover, Germany on June 17, 1829. In 1853, he came to America locating at Quincy, Illinois. It was there that he met Margaret Kruel and on January 1, 1853 married her. After living at Highland, Wisconsin, they came by ox-drawn covered wagon (a trip of 21 days) to Lincoln Township, Pocahontas, Iowa where they farmed. After years of trials and hardships of a pioneer farmer’s life, he moved his family to the town of Pocahontas. Nine children were born to this union.

Frank received his education at Pocahontas, Iowa and attended college at Dubuque, Iowa.

On January 7, 1903, he married Anne Meehan at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pocahontas, Iowa.

Anna (Meehan) Stegge, daughter of John and Nora (Ford) Meehan was born on October 10, 1877 in West Virginia. Her father was born in Ireland, educated in Glasgow, Scotland and came to America in 1867. He located at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he worked as a boilermaker for several years. On November 1, 1871, he married Nora Ford at Westernport, Maryland. She also was a native of Ireland. In 1879, he traveled west by covered wagon and settled at Fort Dodge, Iowa. Here he helped build the Des Moines Valley Railroad. In 1892, the family again moved to a farm in Lincoln Township, Pocahontas County, where they resided until 1913, when they moved to the town of Pocahontas. Nine children were born to this union.

Frank and Anna lived at Barnesville and Alexandria, Minnesota before coming to Randolph, Nebraska in 1905. He was employed by the First National Bank under the ownership of James F. Toy, Sioux City, Iowa and later became cashier and manager. In 1935, Frank and other progressive local businessmen bought the stock from James F. Toy and it became the First State Bank of which Frank was president.

He was active in all community affairs and especially enjoyed working with the young people in 4-H clubs. He served the community of Randolph in the banking business for 55 years.

In 1911 or 1912, they built their home in east Randolph. After many years of putting up with high water, a basement full of water and washed out foundations, they moved their house to a site one block north.

Frank and Anna were members of St. Frances Catholic Church and were active in many parish organizations.

They were the parents of one daughter, Frances (Mrs. Vernon) Viergutz and had four grandchildren: Susan Kollars, Patricia Verzani, Daniel and Mark Viergutz.

Frank passed away on August 11, 1959 at the age of 81 years and Anna followed shortly on January 14, 1960, at the age of 82 years. Frances Viergutz
Stewart

Francis Asbury Stewart, whom the citizens of Randolph affectionately called “Father Stewart“, came to the town in 1889. His wife, nee Rebecca Shoemaker, died within the year. The couple had come to Randolph to join two sons who were already residents of the young community. Born in Maryland in 1822, he lived until 1901. He and his family had through the years moved westward through West Virginia and Illinois to arrive in Fremont in 1884. “Father Stewart” was a “Leader” in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was survived by his seven children, five of whom James L., John, Frank, Mary (Randall) and Ida (Sharp) continued to reside in or near Randolph; and two, Sarah (Sadie Hyatt) and William H., lived elsewhere.

James Levin Stewart was born in West Virginia in 1856. He grew to manhood in Illinois and then took up employment in Minnesota where he was married in 1883 to Rosalinda Briggs. The following year the couple moved to Dodge County, Nebraska, near Fremont and would come to Randolph in 1888 with their infant son. “Linda” died in 1900, leaving with her husband five children: Frank, Mollie, Lena, Eugene and Harriet. James and Linda had joined the Methodist Church in 1893, and as noted in The Randolph Times, “when the tolling of the Methodist Episcopal bell Thursday evening announced the death of Mrs. J. L. Stewart, the saloons closed for the day, a worthy and commendable action.”

James Stewart owned and operated a furniture store, advertised in the newspaper that he sold “Everything required to furnish a house in latest style and everything sold at the right price,” and served the town as “undertaker”. He held memberships in the Ancient Order of United Workers and the Odd Fellows and had become active in the Republican Party. In his third term as postmaster of Randolph, for which service he was acclaimed to be “efficient and popular”, he died of a cancerous infection January 10, 1903, leaving his five children, the three youngest (Lena, “Gene” and Harriet) whom he had placed in the care of his sister Mary and her husband Charles H. Randall. These three would later attend Nebraska Wesleyan University and Lena and Harriet would return to teach in the Randolph Public School.

Eugene Briggs “Gene” Stewart was born in September 1894 and lived his entire life as a resident of Randolph. He graduated from the high school in 1913, attended Nebraska Wesleyan University and the University of Nebraska, was in the Army in the U. S. during World War I and returned to Randolph to serve as cashier in the Security National Bank. When the government imposed the “Bank Holiday” in 1933, he gained employment with the “Farm Loan Branch” of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company of Newark. In 1943, he turned his full attention to the sale of real estate in Randolph and surrounding areas. He died of cancer in May 1950.

While attending Nebraska Wesleyan, Gene met his wife-to-be, Elizabeth Mickey, a daughter of the late John H. Mickey, who had served as Governor of Nebraska. This couple would spend their entire married life in Randolph. Five years after her husband’s death, Elizabeth moved to Lincoln, Nebraska and this change brought to a close an era of more than sixty-five years in which members of the Stewart and Randall families had been residents of Randolph. Gene and Elizabeth had been respectively affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star. They had been very active members of the Methodist church. She was a member of P.E.O. (charter member of Chapter EA) and other organizations. She resided in Lincoln, Nebraska until her death in 1969.

Gene and Elizabeth Stewart had two children: Mary Elizabeth, born in 1918 and Eugene Mickey, born in 1922. These youngsters respectively graduated from Randolph High School in 1936 and 1940 and both currently reside in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mary Elizabeth attended Nebraska Wesleyan and the University of Nebraska, married Clifford L.D. Cessna in 1943 and has two children: Jill Elizabeth Neafus of Denver, Colorado and Dow Stewart Cessna of Damascus, Virginia. Clifford Cessna died in 1976.

Eugene Mickey Stewart attended Doane College and the University of Nebraska and served during World War II in the U.S. Marine Corps. He married Betty Storjohann of O’Neill, Nebraska in 1949. “Mickey” and Betty have two sons: Randall Mickey Stewart of O’Neill, Nebraska and Dr. Jay Evan Stewart of Grundy Center, Iowa. In more recent years, Mickey Stewart served under Governor Charles Thone as Nebraska State Director of Agriculture and is currently serving as State Director of A.S.C.S. in Nebraska. Mary Elizabeth (Stewart) Cessna

Stewart

In 1884, Francis A. Stewart left Illinois with his family to come to Nebraska. The family lived near Ames, Nebraska for a few years. In 1885, son Frank R. Stewart married Mary Ellen “Ella” Cissne of Fremont, Nebraska. She left her teaching position in Scribner, Nebraska and they moved to Banner County that same year. In 1889,
Francis A. Stewart and family moved to Randolph and lived on a farm two and one-half miles east of Randolph, later known as the Lou Harding place.

There were now five children at home: John C., William, Mary “Mollie”, Sadie, and Ida. Ida and Mary Stewart taught in the Randolph Public Schools. John was a farmer and William was a student in the Randolph Public Schools. J.L., who had gone to Minnesota, moved to Randolph in 1888 where he opened a furniture store. J.L. and his wife, Linda Briggs of Wisconsin, both died at an early age and left five children. Three of the children were adopted by their Aunt Mary, who was married to Charles Randall, a Randolph banker. Sadie Stewart married J. W. Hyatt, a Civil War veteran. Ida Stewart married Albert Sharp, a druggist who worked for Boul & Hill Drug.

In 1894, Frank R. Stewart and family moved from Banner County to Randolph. Frank taught school two miles west and one mile north of Randolph. He later became postmaster. Assistant postmaster was his wife, who also managed their home. He later went into business buying cream and poultry. Their oldest son, Roy, taught school in Martinsburg, Nebraska and later went to Florida with Bell Telephone Company.

They had six children, three of whom died in infancy. One son, Teddy, died at the age of 19 of smallpox.

Roy married Blanca Becker of Verdigre. They had three children. Two are residing in Florida.

Harvey Stewart taught school in Holt County and then took over his father’s business of cream and poultry. In 1929, he moved to Omaha and married Dorothy Ann Schmitt of Randolph. They had four children. Two daughters and a son live in Omaha and another daughter lives in Overland Park, Kansas. Harvey retired at 65 as manager of Pure Carbonic Dry Ice Company. At this writing, Harvey lives in Omaha.

Francis A. Stewart (May 9, 1822-September 24, 1901) married Rebecca Shoemaker (July 8, 1832-July 23, 1889). Their children were James L. (February 13, 1856-January 10, 1903), Sarah “Sadie” (January 22, 1858-February 1951), John C. (September 13, 1859-March 30, 1957), Francis R. (August 4, 1861-August 25, 1925), Mary (September 30, 1866-March 29, 1951) and William Henry (October 9, 1873-April 12, 1947).

Francis R. Stewart (August 4, 1861-August 25, 1925) married Mary Ellen Cissne (October 10, 1861-December 28, 1945). Their children were Lawrence (December 4, 1886-November 28, 1889), Sylvia (February 28, 1889-April 2, 1889), Roy Glenn (January 19, 1892-January 10, 1967), Harvey Dwight (June 20, 1899), Theodore “Teddy” (March 29, 1902-November 30, 1921) and Armand (February 26, 1904-August 12, 1904).

Harvey Dwight Stewart (June 20, 1899-) married Dorothy Ann Schmitt (November 5, 1907-October 23, 1979). Their children were Dolores Blanche (October 3, 1929), Dorothy Ann (February 23, 1931), Virginia Mary (August 17, 1932) and Robert Gregory (August 18, 1945).

**Francis “Frank” Robert Stewart**

Frank Stewart was born August 4, 1861 in Aledo, Illinois to Francis Asbury and Rebecca (Shoemaker) Stewart. Frank was one of seven children who moved with their parents to Fremont around 1873. After a number of years, they moved to Randolph. Frank’s brothers and sisters, Sarah “Sadie”, John Clinton, Mary, Ida and William lived in Randolph and brother James L., moved to Minnesota. They lived and farmed two miles east of Randolph on the old Harding place. Rebecca died in 1889 and Francis followed in 1901. Both are buried in Randolph.

While in Fremont, Frank married Mary Ellen Cissne, September 23, 1885. They soon moved to Banner County and lived in a sod house. They had three children, two of which died very young. They moved to Randolph with their one son, Roy, about 1896. Both Frank and Mary Ellen taught school and later served as Randolph postmaster and assistant. They had three more children, Harvey, Teddy and Armand. Armand died as an infant. Teddy died of smallpox at age 19.


Harvey taught country school and later went to Grand Island Business School and worked for the telephone company. He returned to Randolph to run a restaurant that his father bought for his brother who died. Harvey met and married Dorothy Ann Schmitt, daughter of Mathias and August Schmitt of Randolph. Harvey and Ann moved to Omaha in 1929. They had four children, Dolores, Dorothy, Virginia and Robert “Bob”. Ann managed the home while Harvey worked for Robert’s Dairy, Martin Bomber Plant and later retired as manager of Pure Carbonic Dry Ice Company in 1964. Ann died in 1979. She had Parkinson’s disease for twenty years. Harvey, his son, Robert and his family, daughter, Dorothy and her family and Virginia live in Omaha. Dolores and part of her family live in Kansas.

**Glen and Claribel Stingley**

The Glen Stingley family came to Randolph in 1938, but stayed only three years, going to California in 1941. They returned in 1949 and operated the Gamble Store for 22 years. Claribel (Slutz) Stingley returned to teaching and taught for 21 years in rural Randolph and McLean schools and the last 14 years in first grade and kindergarten in the Randolph Public School.
Glen Stingley

Glen is of German and Swedish ancestry. His father’s ancestor Johanna Stingley came from Germany in 1738 and settled in what is now West Virginia. Elizabeth Bussard’s husband and son both died on the voyage to America and after working two years as an indentured servant, she married Johanna Stingley in about 1743. Five generations later, Glen’s father, Alvy Stingley, lived at Laurel (deceased).

Glen’s mother’s (Mary Swanson) parents came from Sweden and settled near Concord about 1870. Glen’s parents lived in Dixon and Cedar Counties all of their married lives except for one year at Highmore, South Dakota. In 1895, Glen’s father, Alvy, who was then ten years old accompanied his parents and family as they moved from Page to Laurel. They came with a team and wagon, driving their livestock and stayed overnight in Randolph. Glen’s father and grandfather slept in the livery stable with the stock and his grandmother and his sisters stayed with the livery barn family at their home. After getting to Laurel they had no plow for that heavy soil, so they bought a walking plow for $1.75.

Claribel is of German and Canadian-English ancestry, her father’s family going back to the settlers of the Delaware Colony in the early 1800’s. Christopher Springer, the oldest known ancestor, is buried in the cemetery of Old Swedes Church in Wilmington, Delaware. Her mother’s family came to Michigan from Canada about 1800. Claribel’s parents, Harris and Nola (Tomlinson) Slutz, came to Nebraska from Denver, Colorado in 1909 and except for two years at Kingsley, Iowa, lived their entire married lives near Allen.

Their children are Marly and Ardis. Marly is consultant with True Value Stores and lives in Houston, Texas. He married Delores Nelson of Dixon. Their two sons are Mark, who is singing with the Lake George Opera Festival of Glen Falls, New York. He plans to leave in August to study in Vienna, Austria. He is a tenor soloist and married to Mary Gresak. They have no children. Marly’s other son, Jay, is single and lives at Solomon, Kansas.

Ardis is now Mrs. Gerry Cunningham and lives in Laurel. Gerry is Regional Sales Manager with Century Manufacturing Company. They have five children and five grandchildren.

Kevin Cunningham married Lisa Lorenzen and is in the loan department of the Northwest Bank in Grand Island. They have one son Matthew.

Kerby Cunningham married Naomi Reichenberg and is a certified personal accountant with the Roman, Weimers and Schultz accounting firm in Beatrice. They have two sons, Jeremy and Joshua.

Toby Cunningham married Patti Stark and is assistant manager of the De Kalb Swine Breeding Station at Laurel. Their two girls are Lark and Toni.

Jana Cunningham is single and a junior at Wayne State, Wayne Nebraska. Joedy Cunningham is a sophomore in high school.

Martin and Claribel Stingley

Martin Stober was born May 27, 1850 in Hardin County, Ohio. The family had come west from Pennsylvania and with the end of the Civil War, continued their migration westward to southern Iowa. Martin homesteaded in Kansas, but returned to his people in Iowa after the death of his second wife. His first wife had died shortly after they were married. He came to the Randolph area in 1882, when this part of the country was very much in the pioneer stage. He traveled with horses to Pierce to have his grain ground into flour and to purchase groceries and supplies as there was no town of Randolph at that time.

He located on a farm six and one half miles south of Randolph; know for many years as the John Black farm. He married Sarah Henderson in 1887.

Later he bought and homesteaded on a place four miles northwest of Randolph. Mr. Stober improved this place nicely. His love of trees and fruit prompted him to set out and care for one of the best apple orchards in this vicinity. He also experimented with peaches and pears to some extent. For years, Mr. Stober sold many bushels of apples from his orchards. He also had many swarms of bees and sold honey. He loved to raise berries and vegetables in his gardens. Martin was elected treasurer of the original school district #22 Wayne County formed in August of 1883 and was a charter member of the Christian Church of Magnet. Martin and Sarah lived on the farm place northwest of Randolph until 1933. Martin passed away on April 11, 1935, at his daughter’s home. Sarah passed away on November 9, 1953.

At the time of their marriage, Martin had a son, Harley, by his second wife. Harley died at home at the age of 18 or 19. Sarah also had a son, Robert, from a previous marriage. He married Emma Furness of the Magnet community and in the 1920’s homesteaded in Tripp County, South Dakota. Robert passed away October 4, 1947.

Martin and Sarah had four children of their own.

Ollie, born March 26, 1890, married Alex Bayne in 1908. They farmed in the Pearl Creek community until moving to Sioux City in 1952. Ollie passed away December 29, 1970.

Clarence, born July 29, 1892, married Marie Beems of Randolph. They divorced and he later married Jesse (Johnson) Stober, a cousin’s widow at Moulton, Iowa, where he lived for the rest of his life. Clarence passed away in August of 1970.

Clifford, born April 28, 1896, married Helen Greeno of the Randolph community in 1920. He died at Scottsbluff, Nebraska December 25, 1933 as a result of a highway accident. He had been employed on a sugar beet farm. His widow, the only original family member now living, resides in Eugene, Oregon. Ruth (Bayne) Westadt and Helen (Stober) Lukens, Martin and Sarah Stober

Elvin and Enid Stoltenberg

E. W. Stoltenberg was born October 27, 1900 at Carroll, Nebraska, son of Henry Peter and Anna Marie (Zepf) Stoltenberg. He finished grade school at District 80, Wayne County and attended Sholes High School for two years. They did not have twelve grades in Sholes at that time. His father died in 1921. Elvin and brothers Allen and Harold and sister Celia lived with their mother. Elvin worked on nearby farms. In 1923, he rented the Paul Buol farm across the road from his mother’s farm.

I, Enid Foltz, was born November 11, 1904, six miles northwest of Pender, Nebraska, to Henry and Maggie (Wright) Foltz. I lived on farms in Wayne County before my marriage. I attended Wayne Public Schools and finished grade school in District 20, Wayne County. I received my teaching certificate from Wayne Normal School in 1922 and taught in District 24, near Winside for one year.

I met Elvin one Sunday afternoon. As I was walking, he came in his Ford Roadster and offered me a ride. Unbeknown to him, I had made arrangements to board with his mother that very day. When we came to the Stoltenberg lane he said, “I go here” and I said “I do, too”. He was surprised. I taught the next two years in District 80 and boarded at the Stoltenbergs. They were very helpful to me in many ways.

Elvin and I were married September 29, 1925. After a short trip to South Dakota, we lived with his family and in early January moved into a new house Mr. Buol built on his farm.

Gerald Dean was born July 9, 1926, Donna Jean, December 1, 1927 and Elvin William Jr., January 23, 1929. Elvin Jr. died October 9, 1929.

Crops were good in 1929, but in the 30’s drouth, hail and grasshoppers left us with short crops.

Jo Ann was born November 24, 1934 and Henry Peter, November 12, 1936.

In 1937, we moved to a Farmer’s National farm, just one mile east of the Buol farm.

Dixie Lee was born there in 1944.

Donna and Gerald graduated from Carroll High School. Elvin was Director in School District 80 for twenty years before we moved to the Stella Taylor half section farm, eight miles south of Randolph in 1945.

Elvin liked to work with horses and bought Buster, a Shetland pony stallion and raised Shetlands and half Shetlands. He drove four horses on a maintainer for Wayne County for many years.

Elvin was in the hospital in 1960 and off and on until his death, January 27, 1974.

In 1966, we bought a farm seven miles south of the Taylor farm and moved there in 1967. Gerald and I continue to live on the farm northwest of Hoskins.

Donna married Melvin Albright and lives in Davenport, Iowa where she has taught English at Central High for many years. They have three daughters, Amy, Sally and Polly. Amy is married to David Round and they have a son Andy and a daughter Melanie.

Jo Ann married Bill Kern. They live at Everman, Texas near Fort Worth. Bill is head of the Art Department at Tarrant Junior College. They have a daughter Jenny Lee.

Henry and his son, Patrick, live in Huntington Beach, California. He has worked for The Southern Gas Company for over twenty-five years.

Dixie married Melvin Kucera. They farm two miles south of Tilden, Nebraska. They have a son Regan. Enid Stoltenberg

Hans and Margarethe Stoltenberg

Hans Stoltenberg was born December 26, 1839, in Barsbek in the Probstei, Holstein, Germany. His parents were Hans and Antje (Stoltenberg) Stoltenberg. On March 16, 1867, he married Margarethe Schneekloth also of Barsbek. She was born on October 6, 1845 to Peter and Katharene (Rethwisch) Schneekloth. According to family stories, Hans was a roof thatcher and a maker of wooden shoes. Peter Schneekloth sold hats made by his wife. They also sold seaweed which Katharene gathered.

Before coming to America, Hans and Margarethe had six children. They were Johannes, Anna Dorothea, Cathrina Alvina, Wilhelmina (Minnie), Harry Peter and Emma Helen.

In 1880, the family came to America. Margarethe’s parents and her brother, Jochim, also came along. Jochim lived in Iowa, the older Schneekloths bought lots in Fort Calhoun and the Stoltenbergs settled on a farm southwest of Fort Calhoun.

Several of the babies born to the Stoltenbergs died in infancy. Emil Peter, born in 1883 not only survived infancy, but lived 91 years. However, Hans born in March 1885 died of diphtheria in May. According to the 1885 Nebraska State Census Mortality List, he was not alone. Of the 12 people who died in the township that year, ten were children under five. Four of those died of

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diphtheria, two of croup and one of pneumonia. Statistics from the other townships were depressingly similar.

There was much sadness for the Stoltenbergs during their 13 years in Washinton County. Johannes, their oldest son died at age 20 on November 25, 1887. Maria, born in 1889, died at one month. She shared a tombstone with her brother Johannes, her grandfather and her father.

Grandfather Peter Schneekloth passed away on August 25, 1891. His obituary described him as “Inoffensive as a child, everybody liked the kindly hearted old man. Brought up in Germany to steady honest labor, he worked to the very last day his strength would admit.” He was 73 years of age.

Hans died less than a month after his father-in-law, on September 24. He was described as “a remarkably quiet man very neat and careful in his habits his farm was a model of neatness and thrift”. According to family stories, just before he died, he took a train to Carroll, Nebraska and walked about five miles to the farm (just two and three-quarter miles east of what would become Sholes). He walked around the farm, waded across a creek several times and spent the night with a neighbor. The next day he went to Wayne and bought the farm. He was sick by the time he reached Fort Calhoun and died of pneumonia a few days later.

In 1893, Margarethe, her mother and the six children moved to the farm Hans had bought. Margarethe died in the fall of 1894 leaving Grandmother Schneekloth alone with the children who ranged in age from Ann, 23 to Emil, ten. Two administrators were appointed to take care of the estate. The children stayed together working the farm and making the annual mortgage payments until 1898.


Cathrina Alwine married Claus Wilhelm (Bill) Glandt and moved to Bennington, where Bill was in the construction business. Their children were Rudolph, Arthur, Otto, Carl, Emil, Emma and Peter. Carl and Emil died as children during the same week of scarlet fever. Emma and Peter died in infancy.

Minnie married David Francis O’Keefe. They are buried at Pierce, Nebraska. Their children were Katherine, Lawrence, Margaret, Evelyn, Raymond and Leslie David.

Henry married Anna Zepf. (See their biography.)

Emma married Elbridge Allender and they moved to Washington State before 1905. Their two sons were Otis and Earl.

Emil married Lillian Franzen and lived in Bennington, where he had a furniture store for more than 30 years. They had a daughter Margaret. Jo (Stoltenberg) Kern

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**Henry and Anna Stoltenberg**

Henry Stoltenberg was born on May 16, 1876 in Barsbek in the Probstei, Holstein, Germany to Hans and Margarethe (Schneekloth) Stoltenberg. When he was four, the family moved to America, settling near Fort Calhoun in Washington County.

He attended the Wrench School. When Henry was 15, his father died shortly after buying a farm in the northwest part of Wayne County. When he was 17, his mother, grandmother, four sisters and younger brother moved to that farm. Since there was no house on the farm when they arrived, they lived in the granary part of the barn while the house was being built.

Henry’s mother died in the fall of 1894. Administrators were appointed to oversee the estate and the family was kept together on the farm. On March 8, 1898, he married Anna Zepf, daughter of Sebastian and Wilhelmina (Koltermann) Zepf of Creighton. Sebastian Zepf was the first white settler in Knox County arriving at Brazile Mills in the winter of 1871.

Anna lived in Randolph, working for the Bowles family, who owned the drug store. Her sister and brother-in-law, Emma and C.F. Schapner were in Randolph at the time. Mr. Schapner was a blacksmith. Anna also lived at Belden, Nebraska with her sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Paul Smith.

After the wedding in the Zepf home in Creighton, Anna and Henry took the train back to Belden. Two months later Henry listed his address as Randolph, settling on the Stoltenberg home place. In 1902 the town of Sholes began less than three miles to the west.

Elvin was born, October 27, 1900; Allen on July 8, 1902; Harold, February 26, 1905 and Celia, May 8, 1908.

Emil, Henry’s younger brother, at age 16 had gone to Bennington and worked for Bill Glandt, his brother-in-law, who was a contractor, but returned to Carroll and farmed for five years. He lived with Henry and Anna and farmed the land east of them. While Emil was there, he and Henry built a corn crib. Henry also helped build a house for his sister and brother-in-law, Minnie and Dave O’Keefe.

Elvin attended Sholes High School for two years and Celia graduated from Carroll High School in 1924. In 1919, the family built a new house.

Henry died at age 45 after a long illness on November 18, 1921. Anna stayed on the farm for several years, lived with Celia and Bus Otte and later moved to Wayne, Nebraska. She spent her last years in Carroll. She died December 1, 1953. Henry and Anna are both buried in the Carroll Cemetery.

Elvin married Enid Foltz (see their biography).

Allen married Wilma Mills, daughter of William and Martha (Spence) Mills, in 1929. They farmed near Carroll. Their children are: Anabelle (Mrs. Robert Peterson), Don, Dale, Lois (Mrs. Leonard Townsend), Dennis and Bryan. Allen and Wilma now live in Carroll.

Celia married Elmer (Bus) Otte, son of Henry and Bertha (Kremke) Otte, on May 10, 1933. Celia died at age 28 on January 4, 1937. Snow plagued the country during the week of her death and caused the funeral to be postponed more than once. The funeral was held at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Carroll. Horse drawn vehicles were used for the funeral procession. Two of Celia’s cousins who were pallbearers, Leo Jundt and Ernest Zepf of Creighton and her uncle, Emil Stoltenberg of Bennington, arrived in Wayne by train and walked to Carroll for the funeral. Celia’s mother was recovering from a broken leg and her son Dean was only a year old.

Dean and his wife Linda now live near Garret, Wyoming in the summer and move to Laramie in the winter. Their daughters are Celia and Shawna. Bus Otte died in 1980.

Today Gary Stoltenberg, great-grandson of Henry and Ann, lives on the home place with his wife, Nanci (Prott) and their children: Erica, Ryan and Linsey. Gary is the grandson of Harold and son of Loren and Jo Ann (Volwiler) Stoltenberg. Jo (Stoltenberg) Kern

Paul and Catherine Strathman

Paul Strathman was born in Rensburg, Schleswig-Holstein Province, Germany on March 13, 1859. He came to America, directly to Omaha, Nebraska, at the age of 18 years, where he lived four years. He then went to Butte, Montana, where he worked in the mines and smelters for ten years. Naturally, being a man of the soil and wanting a farm home, he came back to Nebraska in 1895 and bought land in Wayne County near Carroll, Nebraska.

On December 14, 1895, he was united in marriage to Catherine Pahl of Omaha, Nebraska. She was also born in Rensburg, Germany on December 25, 1864 and came to America at the age of four.

The Strathmans lived near Carroll for six years and then purchased and moved to the home place eight miles northwest of Randolph. Here they built a substantial home and developed a well improved farm home. At the present time Don Eddie lives on this farm. The Strathmans lived on this farm about 22 years and then moved to the F.E. Ballard acreage on the Westside of Randolph in 1919. In 1924 they moved back to the farm one-quarter mile south of the home place and kept house for their son, Ernest, helping him build a new house and improve his farm. In late 1929, they moved into their comfortable town house on West Broadway. The Strathmans were one of the earliest members of St. John’s Lutheran church. To this family were born five sons: George, Paul Jr., Carl called Ed, Ernest and Henry and a daughter who died in infancy. George died from the flu while in the service of World War I and Paul Jr. died from the same illness at the family home near the same time. Paul died June 26, 1935 and Catherine died August 12, 1951. Marlene (Strathman) Sellon

Strom and Graham

My grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Strom, came from Sweden to live in America. Grandpa had a good position on a large estate in Sweden as overseer, even though he was a young man. He and Grandma were planning to get married. Unexpectedly an opportunity came for him to join a company that was sailing to America. He decided that he wanted to go and had just a short time to make arrangements. The first was to get married. They were married by Justice. The custom at the time, now changed, was that a coming marriage was to be announced each Sunday for three weeks. There was not three weeks time in which to do this and the Justice, discovering this old formality had not been complied with, did not issue the newly married couple with certificates. Thus when Mrs. Strom came to America to join her husband after a year, neither had a marriage certificate. So with a promptness of decision that marked their marriage in Sweden on December 5, 1881, they again took the marriage vows in America and became and remained American citizens.

Grandpa came to America and settled at Oakland, Nebraska on February 15, 1882. He had previously agreed with his wife that he would stay in America a year and see how things were. If he didn’t like America, he would return to Sweden. He didn’t go back. In that first year he saved $150 out of a total income of $165. If those same qualities of thrift were employed today, there would be no condition like the present.

Grandma and her son, Nels, came to Oakland on May 28, 1883. They lived there three years then moved to Pender. After three years, they bought the farm five miles north of Randolph and moved onto it in 1890. This farm was bare land, school land. Grandpa paid $12.50 an acre with $340 down payment. Thus began the struggle of meeting the balance and improving the farm. Grandpa worked for a time for the railroad when it was being
constructed between Wayne and Randolph. They lived on the farm for 23 years. In 1923, they retired and moved to Randolph and lived there until their deaths. My mother, Ellen, was the sixth of their nine children.

My grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Graham moved to Randolph in the late 1890’s by train from Lewis, Iowa. Grandpa had been born in Pennsylvania and married my grandmother, Clara Tye. My dad, Fred, was the oldest of two sons. Grandpa and Grandma moved off the farm north of Randolph to town in 1913. When my folks were married, they along with Uncle Allie Graham farmed the place. In 1921, my folks bought a farm near Wausa. They lived there until 1930 when they moved to Grandpa Strom’s farm at Randolph. My mother died in January 1938. My dad and I moved to town in 1949 and he lived there until his death in January 1974. I had two brothers, Melvin and Frank. Frank died in June of 1978 and Melvin in December 1982. Mildred (Graham) McDonald

Charles and Albertina Swanson

Charles Swanson was born September 27, 1863 in Sweden. He came to the United States at age 20, because of the treatment of the poor. He had heard of the freedom over here and many times I heard him remark about this wonderful country of ours, compared to Sweden.

He worked as a coachman in Omaha, where he met Albertina Carlson, whom he married. They lived in Omaha, where he worked for Metz Company many years, driving big horses on a beer wagon delivering beer to all parts of the city.

In 1907, they decided to move to a farm near Craig, Nebraska, as they had four sons and one daughter whom they wanted to raise on a family farm. William Stageman, an influential land agent from Randolph, brought Charles and others to farms around Randolph, showing them what good opportunities they would have here. Mr. Stageman was a kind man, helping many people get started farming, introducing them to bankers for loans, etc., so they could get ahead. And many of them did well!

Our place was seven miles north of Randolph on the Mill Road across the road from the Pete Lackas family. We had a beautiful farm with fruit trees, grape vines and many flowers. We all enjoyed this place and decided to make it our home. We attended country school District #50, where pretty Lavern Garwood of Randolph was the teacher.

The oldest son, Gus, served in World War I and was stationed at Camp Grant, Illinois. When he returned home he took boxing lessons from a trainer from Lincoln, Fritz Machalette, who gave lessons to the young men around Randolph. Many boxing duals were held in the old Opera House and many people came to be entertained. Gus also played on the town football team. Later, he worked for the railroad and was transferred to California, where he married and is presently retired in the Los Angeles area. He has two children who live there too.

The second son, Joe, worked at home and for other farmers. He worked for Emil Aegerter, who managed many farms. Joe is living in Norfolk where he and his wife are retired.

The third son, Reuben, was a hard worker. He loved music and dancing, often driving miles to hear good music and to dance. He served in World War II for a short time being stationed in Texas. He passed away in 1963.

The Swanson’s daughter, Esther, attended Randolph High School, graduating with the class of 1921. She married Pete Colling and later moved to a farm near Hartington. She has three sons and a daughter. Esther is retired and lives in Hartington.

The youngest son, Carl, played the banjo for many barn and house dances. The only pay was a hat collection among the dancers. He accompanied other players; Russel Kiser, Ernest Kock and Ray Moore. Carl married Venita Kopp of Wayne. She was an outstanding Cedar County teacher in the Randolph and Coleridge area for 30 years. Carl and Venita are now retired in Coleridge among their many friends.

Charles and Albertina are buried in the Randolph City Cemetery. Esther Swanson Colling

Craig and Sheila Swanson

I, Sheila R. Cunningham, daughter of Dale and Jane (Dowling) Cunningham was born and raised at Randolph and graduated from the Randolph High School. I attended Platte College, Columbus and graduated as an L.P.N. in 1973. I began working at Clarkson Hospital in Omaha and have continued my education at the University of Nebraska in Omaha and Chicago. I still work at Clarkson in Renal Education Department of the hospital.

On December 9, 1978, I was united in marriage to Craig T. Swanson, son of George and Florence Swanson Craig enjoys flag football in the fall. Sheila Swanson

Christopher Tatge

Christopher Tatge was born March 1, 1830 in Reppin, a village of Hesse-Cassel, Germany. He lived in his native
land until 1849, when at the age of 19, became dissatisfied with the limited field for advancement there. He then set sail on the “Wieland” from Bremen to the New World.

Christopher landed in New York after a voyage of 28 days. Coming west to Chicago, he remained there for three weeks until he secured work with a noted horticulturist, Mr. Menkler. There he was employed for six years and received training in the science and art of horticulture.

In 1853, Christopher was married to Sophia Collman in Oswego, Illinois (Kendall County). They were parents to nine children: one daughter, Mary, died at a young age; Charles, married Annis May; John, married Lydia Boody; Martha, married C.E. Manzer; Edward, married Jessie Norton; Elizabeth, married William Peters; William, married Lula Totten; Anna, married Fred Wendell and George, married Arteena Manzer.

Christopher and Sophia moved to Benton County, Iowa in 1855 where he engaged in building a successful nursery business. Hearing of the good opportunities offered in northeast Nebraska, he came west settling southwest of Randolph in Pierce County in 1887. Here he acquired 1,280 acres of land which he divided among his children as they married, retaining the first homestead (now occupied by Henry Hilkemann) for his family home.

On his farm southwest of Randolph, he had 40 acres of fruit and shade trees with many varieties of berries and small fruit. In his orchard he had apple trees from the seed which he had imported from Arabia. He had an especially fine variety of winter snow apples. In his research for producing better quality and quantity of fruit, he developed a spray mixture which proved very effective in preventing disease and insect damage to fruit. He also experimented extensively with budding, grafting and crossing different varieties and succeeded in originating the Randolph and Tatge plum, which have been used extensively. He originated some 50 varieties of apples.

The Tatge farm was the center of many neighborhood gatherings. They held Fourth of July celebrations, complete with a speaker and a parade with plenty of homemade ice cream and cake. Mr. Tatge attempted to enhance these gatherings by having a pond dug with slipscrapers and horses which he filled by digging wells, installing windmills and beautifying with tree plantings.

Sophia Collman Tatge died at the age of 57 years after a short illness. Christophe Tatge made his home with his youngest son, George, until his death in 1922 at the age of 92 year.

These early pioneers, among many, did much to transform early Nebraska from a wild prairie into a beautiful and productive orchard and farm land. Mildred Manzer Hilkemann

**Carl and Sophie Thaden**

My father, Carl Frederick Thaden was born February 8, 1864, in Fedderwarden Groden, in the province of Oldenburg, Germany. He lived, as a boy, on a farm which was bought by his grandfather, Casper Thaden, in 1770. He attended school for eight years at Rusteziel, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Fedderwarden Groden.

In 1891, he came to the United States. After working as a hired hand for three years in Iowa, and Illinois, he returned to Germany. On March 29, 1894, he married Sophie Tienken (daughter of Johan and Margarete Hulstede) of Reitland, by Seevelt, Germany. She attended school in Reitland, Germany, eight years, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church there.

Carl and Sophie Thaden came to America in 1894, and settled on a farm near Monticello, Iowa, where they resided for four years. Here two sons, Fred and Henry were born.

In 1898, they bought a farm in Cedar County (two and one-half miles northeast of Randolph) where they moved in March 1899. It was on this farm that four daughters were born, Freda, Alvena, Augusta and Martha.

My parents took great pride in their farm and felt it was an ideal place to raise a family. They planted many trees (both for windbreaks and for fruit). New buildings were erected as needed. They always had a large vegetable garden and did much canning, besides storing some vegetables in the cave. The farm crops consisted mostly of corn, oats and alfalfa, and horses were used in doing the farm work. Cattle, hogs and chickens were raised and butchering was an annual event. Usually 12 to 15 cows were kept for milking and all members of the family learned to milk, besides helping with other chores. No one ever went hungry as there was plenty of food to supply the needs of their growing family.

One of the ways they showed an interest in their church and various organizations was by providing a picnic area in their large grove of trees so the members and friends could gather on Sunday afternoons in the summer time for games and sociability.

My parents saw to it that their children received the best education possible. Of the six children – four graduated from colleges and became teachers; one became a stenographer in a business firm and one a prominent farmer, who remained on the home farm.

My father was active in numerous community enterprises, among them being moderator on the school board of District #38 in Cedar County for several years; an officer in the Wareham Farmers Telephone Company since its organization in 1910; and an active member for many years in the Farmers Union cooperative Association, and the Sons of Herman Lodge. He also was an officer of the Grand Lodge, Order of the Sons of Herman.

In 1922, my parents retired from the farm and moved into town. They were members of St. John’s Lutheran church in Randolph. In 1921, and again in 1928, they were privileged to return to their native land to visit with relatives and friends.

Anton and Katherine Thelen

Anton Thelen was born November 28, 1860, in Prussia, the son of Servase and Anna Thelen. Anton came to America at the age of six with his parents and the family settled on a farm at Westphalia, Iowa.

Katherine (Lohneis) Thelen was born March 11, 1869, in Bavaria, the daughter of Alois and Margaret (Schwiblein) Lohneis. When as a young girl she came to America with her parents and also settled in Westphalia, Iowa. She often spoke of her homeland across the ocean. She remembered cutting the grain with a scythe, tying the bundles by hand and carrying them to the barn.

Anton and Katherine were married in Westphalia, Iowa on February 14, 1888 and began their married life on a farm near Panama, Iowa. Six children were born during the ten years they lived in Iowa. They were Anna, Peter, George, Mary, Barbara and John.

In 1898, Anton decided to move his family to Nebraska and try his fortune there. At that time Nebraska was considered wilderness to Iowans. Anton loaded his family and belongings on a train immigrant car and headed for Randolph. An Iowa neighbor hid a sack of flour among his belongings in the immigrant car, thinking they would at least have something to eat when they arrived in the Nebraska wilderness. They purchased a farm six miles northeast of Randolph and lived there for the next 18 years. During this time four more children were born, Herman, Tony, Nick and Leonard.

In 1919, Anton and Katherine again decided to move on West. With their four youngest children they put their belongings on another immigrant car and headed for Hugo, Colorado. They bought land near there and lived there for 13 years. In 1932, they returned to their farm north of Randolph.

Anton as a young man loved to hunt and was always anxious to show visitors his gun collection and his good teams of horses. In his first years at Randolph he worked in the brick factory at the southwest edge of Randolph when he could find time from his field work. These bricks are still in use on Randolph streets.

Katherine always had a big garden and kept busy canning many jars of produce in the summertime. She loved to quilt and was known for the fancy quilts she made in her spare time.

Anton died July 24, 1941 and Katherine went to live with her youngest son, Leonard. She passed away on April 28, 1946. They are both buried in the Catholic cemetery at Randolph.

Of their ten children, four sons, George, Pete, Tony and Leonard remained in the Randolph area most of their lives. Two daughters also stayed in the area. Mary married Joe Kessler and Anna married Pete Keifer. Nick, Herman and Barbara lived in Colorado and John in Michigan. Herman was killed at the age of 30 while riding horse back in Colorado. Two children of the ten still survive. Tony lives in Randolph and Nick in Hugo, Colorado.

Anton and Katherine had 55 grandchildren and 216 great-grandchildren. Mary Ann (Thelen) Tunink

George and Anna Thelen

George Thelen was born December 27, 1892 at Panama, Iowa, the son of Anton and Katherine (Lohneis) Thelen. At the age of six he moved with his parents, three sisters and two brothers to Randolph where they lived on a farm six miles northeast of Randolph. Four more brothers were born after the move to Nebraska. George and his brothers loved to hunt and any spare time away from farming was spent this way.

Anna (Hoffman) Thelen was born January 23, 1894 at Panama, Iowa, the eldest daughter of Fred and Suzanna (Wingert) Hoffman. She with her four sisters and five brothers, lived on a farm just outside of Panama where her father ran a hardware store. Anna learned to sew at an early age and helped her mother with the sewing for the younger children. She learned to play the piano from a music teacher who came by train each week to give lessons. In her late teens, she worked as a hired girl for neighbors and friends in the area.

George returned to Panama, as a young man, and worked for relatives there. This was where he met Anna at a friend’s home and began courting her. They were married on November 21, 1916 and moved to a farm northeast of Randolph where George had lived as a bachelor before their marriage. A daughter Helen and a son Urban were born there.

In 1919, George’s parents moved to Colorado and he and Anna moved to the Thelen home place a mile away. They lived there for 13 years. Six more children were born there: Irene, Melvin, Kathleen, Loraine, George and Norbert.

In 1932, the family moved to a rented farm four miles west of there and lived here for the next nine years. Paul and Mary Ann were born there. These were hard times for the family during the Depression. Anna often spoke of cooking cornmeal mush and of butchering one of their milk cows so they had meat to eat.

In 1941, George and Anna moved their family to a farm seven miles south west of Randolph. It was World War II and Urban and Melvin both served in the Army. Later George and Norbert entered the army and served in Korea. Paul also served during peacetime.

In 1952, they moved back to their old neighborhood north of Randolph to a farm they had bought.

George and Anna retired to Randolph in 1955. Now George had time for his favorite pastime, fishing. He and Anna made many trips to South Dakota fishing and to Iowa to visit relatives.
George passed away on December 14, 1978 and Anna on May 4, 1981. They are both buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Randolph.

All of their children married. Helen married Ed Schmidt and has always lived in Sioux City, Iowa. Urban was a bachelor for many years and married Marge Bower after his mother’s death. Irene married Wayne Rohde and has lived in the Magnet area. Melvin married Leola Shallberg and also lived on a farm near Magnet. He passed away in 1962 of a brain tumor. Kathleen married Keith Lenton and lives at Hadar. Loraine married Jim Backer and lives at Randolph. George Jr. married Norma Jean Brodersen and lives at Randolph. Norbert married Doris Lewis. She was killed in a farm accident in 1961 and he later married Ruth (Leiting) Moore. They live at Randolph. Paul married Imogene Cobb. He died in 1982 of cancer. Mary Ann married Bob Tunink and lives at Randolph.

George and Ann had 50 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Mary Ann (Thelen) Tunink

George and Norma J. Thelen, Jr.

George was born northeast of Randolph on the Thelen home place, August 26, 1929 to George and Anna (Hoffman) Thelen, Sr. He went to school at District #55 Cedar County and District #28 S.W. Pierce County. Hunting and fishing were his pastimes.

Norma was born September 4, 1932 at Hartington to Adolph N. and Martha M. (Wohlman) Brodersen. She attended a country school there for seven years before the family moved southwest of Randolph in 1944. After graduating from Randolph High, she went to school in Omaha, Nebraska and worked there. George and Norma were married December 27, 1950 at Sioux City, Iowa. George served eighteen months in the Army, from November 1951 to April 1953, part of that time in Korea.

They started farming in 1954 on the place now occupied by the Floyd Moser family. The following year they moved to the place on the correction line north of Randolph, known as the Frank Blotz place, where they now live.

Their children are: Mike of Randolph; Doug of Fordyce, Nebraska; Charles of Wyoming; and Greg, John, Maureen, Joe, Dan and Andy of Randolph. Maureen attends college in Yankton, South Dakota and Joe in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Their grandchildren are Skip, son of Mike Thelen and Amy daughter of Greg Thelen.

Two sons: Patrick and David are deceased.

Paul and Imogene Thelen

Paul Francis Thelen was born July 29, 1933 at Randolph to George Sr. and Ann (Hoffman) Thelen. He attended country schools, grades one through eight and graduated from St. Frances Catholic High School in Randolph in 1950. He helped his dad farm after graduation. He served in the Army from 1953 to 1955 and was a veteran of the Korean Conflict. He farmed one year after being discharged from the Army. He was a mechanic most of his life. He worked for Nissen Chevrolet in Randolph for eight years, Montgomery Ward Auto Center in Norfolk eight years, Jerry’s Hilltop garage and worked on his own a few years until illness forced him to retire.

He loved to hunt and fish and many family vacations were spent in Minnesota fishing. He also went deer hunting in western Nebraska many times. The wild game and fish were always cooked and eaten at home. His sons also love to hunt and fish, which he hoped they would.

Paul and Imogene L. Cobb were married on February 11, 1956 at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph.

Imogene was born November 15, 1935 to Howard and Lafay (Volk) Cobb at Osmond. She attended country grade schools at Randolph and Randolph Public School grades one and seven through twelve, graduating in 1954. She then worked at Joe Miller’s grocery store for one and one half years. She worked at Colonial Manor Nursing home from 1977 to 1982.

Paul and Imogene became the parents of four daughters and three sons.

Wendy graduated from Randolph High School in 1974 and later married Albert Leimer. They have two daughters and live at Clarksville, Tennessee.

Kathy lives at Beatrice, Nebraska.

Neil graduated from Randolph High School in 1979. He studied Auto Mechanics for two years at Northeast Technical Community College at Norfolk.

Brian graduated from Randolph High School in 1980. He spent two years at Northeast Technical Community College at Norfolk, studying auto body.

Sheri attended Randolph High School and later married Doug Backhaus. They have two daughters and live in McLean, Nebraska.

Julie attended Randolph Public School grades kindergarten through eighth and Norfolk Public School grades ninth through eleventh.

Jeffery attended Randolph Public School grades kindergarten through sixth, and Norfolk Public School grades seventh through ninth.

Paul died November 19, 1982 at Randolph.

Imogene, Julie and Jeffery moved to Norfolk in the spring of 1983 after living in Randolph all their lives. Imogene Thelen

Tony and Nicasia Thelen

Tony and Nickie met at a picnic to which they were invited by a friend. That was how the romance of Tony’s and Nickie’s lives began.

Tony M. Thelen was the eighth child of ten born to Anton Thelen, born in Prussia and Katherine Lohnes, born in Bavaria, Germany. Tony was born August 3, 1903 at Randolph.
Nicasia Anna Koppes was the eighth child of nine children born to Nicholas Koppes born at Luxemburg, Germany and Clementina Koppes born at Greenwich, Iowa. Nickie was born October 21, 1906.

Tony attended the Benson school near Randolph. Nicasia attended country school at Hanover, Kansas. They met at a friend’s home for a picnic and that was the beginning of their lives together.

Anton Thelen moved to Hugo, Colorado in 1919. The Nickolas Koppes family moved to Hugo in 1924. Tony and Nickie were united in marriage on a snowy day on February 8, 1927 at Hugo, Colorado, at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic church. They lived on a farm south of Hugo.

Talk about the dirty thirties. They knew what it was all about. They used kerosene lamps in the day time to see in the house because the dust was so bad. They went out on the prairies and picked up dry cow chips to heat the house and picked up cobs out of hog lots for the cook stove. Tony drove a horse and wagon 15 miles west to get slack coal for winter.

Four of the older children were born at Hugo, Colorado. Delores Jean was born June 1, 1928. She married Dale Bloomquist on January 4, 1947. Dale served in the U.S. Navy. They live at Magnet, Nebraska. Marcella Anna was born October 28, 1929. She married Joe Grosserode in October 1950. Joe served in the U.S. Army. They live at Oakdale, Nebraska. Merle La Vern was born January 13, 1931. He married Janelle Mathine on February 3, 1958 and they live at Seward. Merle served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is a letter carrier and Janelle is a registered nurse. Donna Frances was born December 23, 1933. She married Merlin Klug on March 15, 1955.

The Thelen’s lived at Hugo, Colorado until December of 1934, when they had a farm sale. In March of 1935 they traveled to Cour de Alene, Idaho.

They lived in Idaho six months and tried to find work but had no luck. Delores started school there. They journeyed to Nebraska and settled at Randolph where they lived on a farm north of town. That was where their next child was born, Mary Katherine in 1936. She died at birth. Delbert Eugene born October 23, 1939, married Charlene Shroeder May 8, 1965. Delbert served in the National Guard. They live at Parkston. Four of the children started school at the Dowling School District 38.

In March of 1941, they moved south of Randolph where Clarence Urban was born in 1942. He died in infancy. Lawrence “Larry” Wayne was born September 5, 1946. He married Linda Kundra on November 19, 1983. Larry served in the U.S. Army. They live in Lincoln and he works for the Veterans Administration. Delbert and Larry started school at District 38, Wayne County. The three older children went to Randolph High and the three younger to St. Frances.

The Thelen’s had a farm sale in 1963 and moved into Randolph in 1964. Tony did carpenter work until a few years ago and still does a little in his shop in the basement and enjoys gardening. Nicasia’s hobbies include crocheting, reading and embroidery work. The Thelens have been members of St. Frances Catholic Church since 1936.

Tony and Nicasia celebrated their golden anniversary on February 8, 1977. Their children and grandchildren joined them in the celebration. Tony and Nicasia celebrated their 55th anniversary on April 4, 1982 in the V.F.W. Hall. They have 31 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.
My mother, Claire Olson is now a resident of Colonial Manor.

My acquaintance with Randolph began in 1942, when I came to teach school in District 82. I boarded with the C.B. Wattier family. There were 13 pupils from grades one to eight.

Leo and I were married June 15, 1944 and lived on his family farm. An eventful year for us was 1946, when our first child, Janet Sue was born on January 5.

The birth of our second daughter, Judy Kay, was November 16, 1948, the year we had purchased the farm from Leo’s father.

As in 1946, we rejoiced in the birth of our first child closely followed by the death of Leo’s mother, Anna Thieman, February 11, 1946. May 19, 1951, brought sorrow in the loss of his father, T. J. Thieman. We were happy to have our only son, Robert Theodore, join us October 8, 1951.

February 12, 1952, we had a farm sale and moved to Merced, California. A daughter, Carmella Ann, was born there July 28, 1953. We returned to Nebraska in November 1954 and lived in Wayne until 1955 when we again took up residence on the family farm. We lived there until November 1975 when we moved to town. Son Robert moved on the farm which he purchased in 1976.

Janet is married to Charles DeVos, a Jr. High School teacher. Janet, an R.N. is a recovery room specialist at St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota. They have two children, Elizabeth and Teddy Joe.

Judy Wattier graduated from Career Academy in Milwaukee as a dental assistant. She and her two children, Shawn Philip and Julie Claire live in Norfolk where she is employed at Midwest Specialty Clinic as a dental assistant.

Robert and Janice (Lange) Thieman have four children: Amy Ann, Angela Ann, Theodore Andrew (Teddy) and just recently, Malinda Sue. They have resided in Ingalls, Kansas, since April 1984, where Robert is employed by Irsk and Doll, Inc.

Carmella Kinkaid and husband Dayle and family, Shane Lee Schutt, Eric Joseph and T. J. (Theodore Joseph) live in Madison, Nebraska. Carmella is an L.P.N. but currently is employed at the Madison County Sheriff’s Office as a dispatcher. Dayle is employed as an agronomist foreman on the Kosik Farms. He has a degree in Agri-Economics from the University of Nebraska.

We are members of St. Frances parish. Janet and Judy graduated from St. Frances; Robert and Carmella graduated from Randolph Public.

I returned to college and taught school at St. Frances from 1965-1969. December 13, 1970, I received my B.A. degree in Education from Wayne State College and in 1971 began employment as a third grade teacher in the Randolph public Schools system. Mrs. Leo (Phyllis) Thieman

Fred and Irene Thies, Jr.

Fred was born May 3, 1895 at Violet, Nebraska. He has three brothers and three sisters, Henery, Raymond, Frank, Emma, Elsie and Frances. Fred is the only one living. He and his brothers were all farmers.

While Fred was young, he and his family lived many places. They moved from Steinauer, Nebraska to Coleridge in a covered wagon, a trip of 200 miles. They lived there for three years. They moved to the old Graham farm where Fred started country school. In those days the children ranged in age groups, some as old as 20 years old. His first teacher was Sadie Conley. The family moved to the Randolph area and then to Eldorado Springs, Missouri where they lived for one year.

In 1904, Fred’s father traded his farm for a threshing machine. Fred Sr. said, “That was the best trade I ever made.” After three years, they moved to Lake Andes, South Dakota. According to reports that is where he made his money. While they were living there, they had many good Indian friends. They then moved back to Tecumseh.

When he was 22, Fred Jr. went to Camp Funston, Kansas and trained as a machine gunner. The average life of a gunner was nine minutes. He was still in camp when WWI ended. After the war, Fred farmed one year in Johnson County and then moved to Cedar County where he now lives.

During his early years Fred played for many barn dances. In January 1924, he played the concertina over Omaha Radio Station WAO and at the Palace Hall. Fred, an acquaintance of Lawrence Welk, played the concertina for the backup music when Welk was a big hit over WNAX radio in Yankton from 1926 to 1929. Fred, also a violinist, composed a song “Just Thinking,” which was published in 1923. The Orpheum Circuit urged him to go on with his career professionally, but Fred enjoyed playing locally and farming.

He met Irene Countryman in 1922 at her cousin’s, Arch Bacon’s home where Fred played the concertina for a dance. They were married June 17, 1925 at Yankton, South Dakota.

Irene was born April 12, 1904. She was a school teacher and she taught four months after they were married. They have five children. Richard was born in 1927. He married Eileen Smizer in 1948. They now farm near Randolph. They had six children, one of whom is deceased and three grandchildren.

Elaine, their only daughter, was born in 1928. She became the bride of Howard Huffstodt in 1953. Howard is now retired from the Northern Railroad. They have five children and three grandchildren.

Dale was born in 1931. He married Ruth Ritter in 1958. They farm and operate a café in Sterling, Nebraska. They are the parents of three children and the grandparents of two.
Donald was born in 1934. He married Ann Marie Moes in 1959. They farm near Randolph and have six children and two grandchildren.

Born in 1945, was Larry. He married Nancy Rohde in 1964. They operate a tire shop in Tecumseh. They are the parents of five children.

Fred and Irene felt very fortunate to have raised five children with a few home remedies, no broken bones, no serious illnesses and all were born at home except for Larry.

During the 1950’s and 60’s Fred spent some time woodworking, making cabinets, furniture and knick-knacks. In that era the family hosted several pheasant hunters in the fall.

Fred and Irene are both living. Irene is in the Colonial Manor and Fred spends his winters there. During the summer, Fred moves back out to the farm. He still enjoys fishing. They celebrated their 60th Anniversary and Fred’s 90th birthday on May 26, 1985 with an open house. Many friends and relatives were present. Fred and Irene have twenty-five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Fred and Irene family had always attended St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Belden. Mrs. Donald Thies

Fred Thies, Sr.

Fred Thies Sr. was born January 16, 1865 at Hanover, Germany in Nierburg County. Fred was one of three children. He had a half-brother, William, born in 1872 and died in 1966 and a sister, Sophie. Fred was 17 years old when he came to Nebraska City. He helped build the bridge over the Missouri River, which was destroyed in 1984. He worked in the bar, which was across from the Courthouse, where he witnessed a horse thief being hung.

Fred worked for Anton Lintz, who was a neighbor to the Fchmans, the banker at Graf. That is where Fred met Caroline Millar, who worked for the banker as a housekeeper.

She was born in 1869, in Germany and came to Nebraska City when she was 14 years old. Fred, who played an accordion, was playing for a dance in the Fchman house. In those days, when they had a dance, they moved all the furniture out of one room so they could dance.

They were married October 1887, at Steinauer, Nebraska. Together they had four boys, Henery, Raymond, Fred and Frank and three girls, Emma, Elsie and Frances. Fred and Caroline lived many places, such as South Dakota, Missouri and Nebraska. Their later years were spent in Tecumseh, Johnson County, where he died April 1, 1939 at the age of 74. At the age of 81, Caroline died in 1950.

Greg and Joan Thies

George V. Hefner was born in Coleridge on October 27, 1930. All his life, he, his parents, four brothers and one sister lived on the farm. In 1947, George and his brothers opened a gas station in Coleridge. They have had the station ever since. He and his high school sweetheart, Kay Hansen, were married on December 17, 1951. Their romance blossomed into four children of which I am the youngest.

Joan Marie Hefner and Gregory Gene Thies were married November 6, 1982, at Coleridge, Nebraska. Greg was born March 27, 1960, in Osmond. He is the oldest child of Donald and Ann Marie Thies and he has two brothers and three sisters. He graduated from Randolph High in 1978. He has worked at Hefner Oil in Coleridge, Great Plains and Korth Farms in Randolph, Jessen Feedlots in Bloomfield and is presently employed at Carhart Lumber in Randolph. He enjoys being on the farm.

Joan Marie, born August, 18, 1963 at Laurel, is the youngest with one sister and two brothers. She graduated from Coleridge High in 1981 and Northeast Tech in 1982. She has worked at Colonial Manor, The Randolph Times and Rogers & Rogers in Randolph. She enjoys spending time with people.

During their marriage, they have one child, a son, born June 8, 1984. His name is Kenneth Adam. He has lived in Randolph and Bloomfield. Ken enjoys being outside and enjoys animals and being on the farm. In March, they are expecting their second child. Greg and Joan are looking forward to spending their lives together, enjoying their children and someday their grandchildren. Joan Thies

Hans and Cecelia Tietgen

Hans Tietgen born May 23, 1888 at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska was the son of Hans Dietrich Tietgen and Dora (Mohr) Tietgen who was born in Hamburg, Germany. Hans married Cecelia Kruse at Fort Calhoun, March 11, 1914 and they then moved to Sholes. To this union were born seven children: Grant, Alvin, Gladys, Irene, Wayne, Lee and Donald. Cecelia passed away May, 1940 of cancer. In 1945, Hans married Elsie Stuthman of Pilger. He was Sheriff of Wayne County 14 years. He passed away May 23, 1958 on his 70th birthday. He was very respected and loved by all his family and friends and county workers. Elsie passed away in 1978.

Their children are: Grant, who retired from Safeway Stores; lives in Wayne and is married to La Verne Anderson of Randolph. They have two sons, Keith of Minnesota and Larry of Florida.

Alvin, who works for 3M of Norfolk, married Valdine Konopasek of Clarkson. Valdine sells real estate. They have three children: Cheryl (now deceased) and twins, Ronnie and Connie.

Gladys married Dwayne Van Auker of Randolph. They have four children: Diane, Janet, Eugene and Cindy.

Irene married Melvin Ehrhardt of Randolph and they have two sons, Lonnie and James. Mel farmed and is now a school bus driver.

Wayne married Mabel Luschen of Wayne. They have two sons, David and Dick and one daughter Jeannie.
Lee married Shirley Long of Wayne. Lee manages a filling station and Shirley works in the court House.

Don married Dorothy Bengston of Cherokee, Iowa. They have four children: Donna, Randy, Mike and Steven. Irene Ehrhardt

**Anton J. and Anna Topf**

Anton J. Topf, known best by A. J. Topf, was born at Charter Oak, Iowa, April 18, 1872. Mother, Anna Copps, was born January 30, 1876. They were married in 1897 at Charter Oak, Iowa. To this union 12 children were born. Six of the 12 children were born in Iowa and Nebraska and the last six were born in Calome, South Dakota, where the family moved in 1910.

In 1935, they moved to a farm southwest of Randolph. Mr. Topf passed away in 1940, Mrs. Topf passed away in 1963. Their children are as follows: Margaret Hamling lives in Gregory, South Dakota; William, in the religious order, died in 1947; Arthur, died in 1945; Veronica Spatz lives in Plainview, Nebraska; Anton lives in Omaha, Nebraska; Ann Drucker lives in Randolph; Gustave died in 1974; Richard lives in Plainview, Nebraska; Edward is living in Bella Vista, Arizona; Joseph died in 1966; Paul died in 1918; and Mary Schaeufele lives in Randolph, Nebraska.

**LaVern and Ruth Ellen Truby**

Clayton Daniel Collier (1893-1939), son of Dan O. Collier and Elva (Drake) Collier, was born and grew up on the same farm I, Ruth Ellen Truby, now live. The house was built for Dan’s bride when he brought her out from Dekalb County, Illinois. The Colliers had always lived there. He had one sister, Bess, Mrs. Oscar Coulter.

Mary Bryan was born on a farm near Sycamore, Illinois. She graduated from Dekalb Normal School and taught in Oak Park, a suburb of Chicago. She met Clayton and they were married in 1919 and came here to the farm. To this union, I was born in 1924. Two years later my Bryan grandparents came to live with us as Grandma was confined to a wheelchair and Grandpa was losing his eyesight. I had the benefit of grandparents in the home who gave me lots of love and attention. Grandma died when I was six.

These were very hard years with depression, hail and drought, keeping everyone eyeing the clouds and the banker. Everyone was poor but there was no stigma. I was attending District 89 and we had an active PTA with District 55, which provided social life with people coming for miles around to see our plays, debates, spelldowns, lectures, music, etc. A wash boiler of coffee smelled mighty good.

I entered high school in 1938, staying in town during the week with Leila Benson and Lydia Lageschulte. My father died in 1939 and after a farm sale, Mother, Grandpa and I moved to Randolph. Just before graduation, I met LaVern Truby who had moved to Randolph with his family from Corona, California. I attended Wayne State College and then taught in Shelton, Nebraska and LaVern joined the Army Air force and served in the South Pacific. We corresponded for over three years and were married in 1945 in the Methodist Church in Randolph. We spent two months in Santa Ana, California, where he was then discharged.

Wanting to farm, LaVern entered the University of Nebraska. We then worked in Iowa for five years when Martin Buol gave us the opportunity to rent his farm. In Iowa, Tom was born at Aurelia and Mary Sue at Sheldon. After moving to the farm, we had our only South Dakotan, Sylvia, born in Yankton. Patricia and Nancy were both born at the Osmond Hospital.

Farming has not always been profitable. In 1965, LaVern was paralyzed when using an insecticide, Thimet. He was in the hospital for a month and had to learn to walk all over again. In six months he was able to handle his own farm work as Tom left for college. In 1979, LaVern lost a hand in a farm accident, while I, at the same time, had a blood clot in my lung. We shared a room in the Osmond Hospital. We lost my mother in 1980.

Now Tom is a pastoral counselor in St. Joseph, Michigan. His wife, Laura, is pastor in a Methodist Church. They have two children, Angela and Aaron.

Mary teaches Spanish in Norfolk Catholic High School and helps in the drama and music departments. She sings and plays piano in school, church and community.

Sylvia, Mrs. James Johnson, lives in Pasadena, California, where Jim is the head of the media department at Fuller Seminary. Sylvia is teacher in “home school” for their two children, Matthew and Andrea.

Patricia (Truby) Dillard just married Carl this summer, 1985 and is teaching in the Little Rock, Arkansas schools. Carl works for the Salvation Army.

Nancy married Jim Travnicek. They met in Joyfolk at Wayne State. Jim works for Henke Manufacturing Co. in Columbus and Nancy is the manager of Nutrisystem. They have two children Joel and Kelli.

This farm has been in the family since 1888, when the land was purchased by the homesteader by Dan O. Collier, my grandfather. We hope to make one hundred. *Ruth Ellen Truby*

**Henry and Mary Tunink**

Henry Tunink married Mary Ann Pint, March 1, 1916 at Pierce. They lived in Butte until December of 1933, when they moved back to a farm south of Pierce. Eugene, Ted, Lucille, Paul, Theresa and Aelred were born at Butte. Robert and Charles were born at Pierce. Sundays found the family in their 1928 Chevy heading out to visit relatives. They hurried through chores to play pinochle or Chinese checkers. The children ice skated on the farm pond and at Gilman Dam. They attended Mass at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Pierce.

Eugene married Dorothy Martischang on June 29, 1941 at Pierce. While in the service he was stationed on the Aleutian Islands and helped build the Alaskan highway.
They farmed by Pierce and raised two children, Tom and Doris.

Lucille taught country school until she married Ernest Drahota on June 13, 1944. They live on the Drahota farm south of Pierce. They have eight living children, five boys and three girls.

Henry bought a farm by McLean in February of 1945 and was delighted with the heavy soil. They remodeled the house and Mary was happy to have running water and electricity. During the winter of 1948-49, many people were stranded with the Tuninks.

Theresa married LeRoy Herscheid on July 7, 1954 at Randolph. They farmed south of Winside and raised two boys and two girls. Theresa suffered from diabetes. She died on November 12, 1982.

On March 1, 1956, Henry and Mary celebrated their 40th Anniversary in the St. Frances Church Hall with a dinner for relatives and a reception for friends. Robert was stationed in Germany, so could not attend.

When Aelred married Eileen Siebrandt on February 26, 1957, his folks moved to John Korth’s house in Randolph. They later moved to a new house in east Randolph. Aelred had three boys and four girls. One girl died of crib death.

All six of the Tunink sons were in the service. Ted was in the Marines and the rest were in the Army.

Henry and Mary enjoyed life in town. She had quilts on the frame and Henry played Sheephead uptown. Mary liked to cook. She made rabbit cookies decorated with coconut and delicious donuts. At Christmas she furnished the divinity. She sewed a quilt for each grandchild and made dozens of doll outfits and monkey dolls. Pop played the harmonica, rocked the babies and teased the older children. They both enjoyed a good poker game.

Henry and Mary were honored on their 45th Anniversary on March 1, 1961 at a dinner at their daughter’s, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Drahota, in Pierce. Seven children and twenty-seven grandchildren attended; not present was Charles Tunink of Memphis, Tennessee.

Henry Tunink died October 25, 1964 and was buried in the St. Frances Cemetery. His sons were pall bearers.

Charles Tunink married Jacquelyn Stall on February 27, 1965 in Mobile, Alabama. They have two sons and one daughter. Mary flew to New York when Charles was attending IBM School and later to Mobile.

Mary babysat new babies and had numerous family dinners. Family was important to her. She drove her Nash to visit friends and relatives. Another of her hobbies was keeping scrapbooks of news items. Mary Tunink died April 26, 1969 at the age of 74. She was an industrious and talented lady. Helen Tunink

Tunink and Pint

Bernard Tunink, Sr. was born 1843 in Hannover, Germany to Albert and Adeleide Tunink. When he was two, his family moved to Holland. He and his brother, John, came to America in 1876 and became citizens on September 27, 1881 in Delaware County, Iowa. Bernard married Theresia Lampmann at Petersburg, Iowa on September 4, 1877. They lived in Roselle, Iowa. They moved to Raeville Nebraska in 1881 and had seven children, Clara, Gerhard, Mary, Bernard, Henry, Theresia and William. His wife died on September 19, 1894 at the age of 38 from typhoid fever. She is buried at Raeville. Bernard Sr. went back to Holland and married a Mrs. Reestmann, a widow with two children, Hank and Gerhard. They returned to Raeville. Bernard died on June 19, 1917 and is buried at Raeville.

Clara married Joe Hahn, August 1900, farmed at Butte and they had eight children. Gerhard married Gesiena Kuiper, January 1908, farmed by Butte and had six children. Mary married Pete Hahn, October 1902, farmed by Pierce and had ten children. Bernard Jr. married Clara Sibbels, January 1910, farmed by Butte and had nine children. Theresia married Bernard Von Bonn, September 1913, farmed by Elgin and had seven children. William married Catherine Overmoehle, October 1915, farmed by Elgin and had seven children. All Bernard Tunink Sr. children are deceased.

Theodore Pint was born January 15, 1869 in Schleid, Germany. Theresa Hahn was born June 11, 1876 in Nittenau, Germany. Theresa came to the United States with her mother, Margaret Gleisner, her brother, Peter and sister, Mary, when she was 17 years old. They came to Norfolk and Theresa worked in a house for Tannehills in Norfolk. Ted was 19 when he came to the United States. They met in Norfolk and were married there on January 23, 1894. They moved to a farm by Pierce in 1901. The family became United States citizens on September 22, 1913 at Pierce. They had eleven children.

Clara became a nurse and married Samuel Hicks and had one son, Sam. Susan became a nun and took the name Sister Perfecta. Julia married Victor Kneiif and farmed by Newcastle. Frances married John Martischang. They had one son, Norbert, who died of polio in 1950, while in the service. John died from M.S. Theodore married Theresa Pfeiffer, farmed by Pierce and had four children. Theresa Pint worked for the Government and spent from 1945 to 1947 with the Justice Department, working in Germany on the Nazi War Crimes. She lives in Norfolk. Lawrence became a veterinarian, married and had two sons. Nona worked for Doctor Devers in Pierce. She lives at St. Joseph’s Nursing Home in Norfolk. Carrol married Darlene Otto, farms by Pierce and has two sons and one daughter. Raymond died at the age of five months.

The parents, Theodore died April 26, 1928 and Theresa died February 14, 1954 are buried at Pierce.
Mary was born September 1, 1895 in Norfolk. She went to St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Pierce until eighth grade. She later went to a cooking and sewing school in Carroll, Iowa. Henry Tunink was born January 3, 1889. Mary met Henry while he was working for his brother-in-law, Pete Hahn in Pierce in 1910. Henry moved to Butte and lived with his brother Gerhard and wife and farmed his own farm. The family still has cousins living in Butte. The Tunink family reunion is held each year in August. Helen Tunink

The Turner and Hickey families originated in Bucovina. The folks spoke of our great-grandparents and grandparents who were Carl and Ceciela (Eisenhauer) Hickey. They lived at Glitt, Bucovina. They had a son Carl who married Rosella Kramer. To them were born four children: Franz Joseph, Anna, Ceciela and Carl.

Franz Joseph Hickey, my father, was born February 17, 1853. My mother, Alozia “Louise” Turner, born September 1, 1864, married Franz Joseph on February 3, 1882. They lived at Suceava, Bucovina. Mother’s grandparents were Anna Zorne and John Shaetz and Catherine and Edward Turner. Mother’s parents were Carolyn “Lena” Shaetz and Andreas Turner. To them were born seven children: Rudolph, Barbara, Rupert, Robert, Catherine, Alozia “Louise” and Franciscus.

My father had two sisters and one brother. Anna married an Etz. They had one son, who was killed in World War I. Ceciela never married. Carl married and had two children, Rudolph and Stefanie. Stefanie came to Canada to live.

After Dad and Mother were married, Dad worked for Gramp’s Construction Company until 1891, when Gramps and Grams sailed for America. Many other families and relatives sailed to America with them. After landing, they bought covered wagons to travel to Mason City, Iowa and then to Yuma, Colorado. While my grandparents were in Colorado, they sent money for my folks to come to America. Coming with them were brother Peter and sister Marie. My two brothers, Edward and Emil and sister Andrea died in Bucovina. The folks landed in New York, July 3, 1892. There were 14 families that came at the same time. They all bought covered wagons and horses to travel westward and stopped at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After leaving Milwaukee, the folks traveled to Colorado. Rudy was born there.

In 1893, they all traveled to Iowa and then went to Dorchester, Wisconsin to work. Gramps and Grams, the Kortuses and the folks went to Wisconsin to clear timber. Due to bad weather, they all left for Iowa in the spring. When the folks got to Iowa they were told that a man named Charlie Book was looking for a family to work for him in Randolph. Mother, Dad, Peter, Marie and Rudy came to Randolph to work. Leo and Kate were born here. If Dad and Mother worked for Mr. Book for two years, he would help them buy an acreage. Mr. Book helped Dad buy 160 acres of ground with no buildings. With the help of Mother and Peter, they built a two-room house and added more rooms later. Carl was born the next year. He lived only one week. The other children were Anna, Bertha, Wilmina “Sara” and Ferdinand “Ferd.”

On October 28, 1916, my father got sick with pneumonia and died. He was buried at Randolph.

Peter met and married Birdie Hamilton at Niobrara. Anna married Fritz Olshesky and moved to Lead, South Dakota. Kate married Ben Trunde and moved to Colorado. Leo married Myrtle Hamilton and moved to Homer, Nebraska. Fred married Mary Isom. Bertha married Milo Reed and moved to Randolph. I married in February and moved to Lead, South Dakota in December.

During hard times, Mother lost the farm. She lived with Lawrence and me until we moved to Colorado. Then she lived with Anna Olshesky until she died, June 14, 1937. She was buried at Randolph.

Marie Hickey married John Patent of Randolph. Their children were Hilda, Richard, George, Chris, Alfred, Ruby, Julie, Elsie, Loretta, Raymond, Glen, Charles and Gleason.

Peter and Birdie Hickey had six children: Robert never married and lives at Boise, Idaho; Etta married Tom McDonald and they had six children, Tommy, Betty, Shirley, Neva, Billy and Judy; Arthur married Fern Sorenson and their children are Patty, Jerry, Birdie Ann and Petra; Ruth married Dean Perry and their children are Donna, Robert, Betty, Derold, DeWayne, Billie Jean and Beverly; Kathleen Myrtle died in infancy; Frank married Doris and their children are Frank III and Patrick; and Kate who married Ben Trunde, had a daughter, Marty, and after her divorce, Kate married Jack Richards and had four more children.
Rudolph married Mary Adams.
Leo married Myrtle Hamilton. They had five children—two died in infancy – the others are Leo Jr., Gerold and Phyllis.
Anna married Fritz Olshesky. They had one daughter, Beverly.
Bertha married Milo Reed and had a family.
Wilmina “Sara” married Laurence Ton. They had children.
Fritz married Mary Isom and they had four children.
The only Hickey's that are now living at Randolph are Etta who, after her husband Tom passed away, married Donald Dobrovolny and Ruth whose husband Dean passed away in 1971. She then married William Snook of Randolph.  *Ruth Snook*

**Ralph and Edna Van Auker**

Ralph Van Auker was born March 30, 1896 and died February 10, 1960. Edna Van Auker was born December 16, 1894 and died January 26, 1962. The Van Aukers came to Randolph from Foster, Nebraska in the mid 1930's. They operated a gas station and small café at the edge of town on Highway 20. They became known as “Ma and Van”. After leaving Randolph they bought a small acreage at the edge of Belden in 1941. Ralph was one of four children born to Bert and Myrtle Van Auker who also lived in Belden in the 1940's. His brothers were Everett and Curtis, his sister was Josie Shearer, who operated a beauty shop in Laurel.

Mrs. Ralph Van Auker (Edna White) was one of eleven children born to Bert and Ellen White. Her sister’s name was Sophia. Her nine brothers were Maurice, Ralph, Everett, Trevor, Walter, Maywood, Harold, Roy and Fern. Ralph and Edna were parents of four children: Leo, Irene, Dwayne and Clair. All three sons served in World War II. Irene’s husband, Harold Kunselman worked at Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kansas. Ralph also worked there for some time. He farmed their small acreage and also sold Fuller Brushes as well as did floor finishing until his death in 1960. Edna began having health problems and then lived with her son, Dwayne and his wife and family in Randolph, until she had to be hospitalized preceding her death in 1962.  *Mrs. Dwayne Van Auker*

**William Henry and Emma Jane Vanderbilt**

William Henry Vanderbilt was born to James Vanderbilt and Esther (Warren) Vanderbilt on December 26, 1836 in East Aura, in Erie county New York.
There he grew to manhood, farming with his father until he was 20 years old. Some of the entertainment in those days was: box socials, dances and literary society, which was similar to the P.T.A., of today. They would stage spell downs, cipher downs, plays, singing and music contests.

Young William captured the title of champion bass singer in Erie County, New York at the age of 18, this being the result of his attending the literary society.
At the age of 20, he left New York for Iowa. Then came the Civil War. William enlisted in the union Army, August 15, 1862. He was assigned to the 27th Iowa Infantry Company “C” and attained the rank of sergeant during his enlistment.
He returned to his home in Iowa, from the war, June 5, 1865. He met and married Mary E. Bowen, who was born in 1844. To this union was born a daughter, Nellie Grace, March 22, 1866. The mother, Mary passed away August 2, 1867.
After his wife’s death, William moved to Nebraska, where he homesteaded seven miles west of Ponca.
There William met and married Emma Jane Russell on December 25, 1872.
Emma Jane Russell was born February 25, 1857 at Buffalo Grove, Buchanan County, Iowa. As a young girl, she moved to Nebraska with her parents, residing near Ponca.
To this union were born Mary Alice (Vanderbilt) Curry, George Henry Vanderbilt, Willis James Vanderbilt, Gertrude Belle (Vanderbilt) Elsberry, Effie Jane (Vanderbilt) Elsberry, Warren Philetus Vanderbilt, Esther Eliza (Vanderbilt) McDonald, Hazel Emma (Vanderbilt) Boughn and Walter Martin Vanderbilt. All of these children were born in Dixon County near Ponca, Nebraska.
They endured many hardships such as the blizzard of 1888, grasshoppers, drought, hail storms, tornadoes, depression, poor prices, etc.
The Vanderbilts resided in Dixon County until 1898, when they sold the homestead and moved near Coleridge where they lived one year. They then moved to Wausa for a couple of years. They then moved to the Randolph area, where they resided on farms near Belden, south of Randolph and northeast of Randolph.
In 1918, they retired from the farm and moved into Randolph. Upon moving to the Randolph area, William joined the Randolph G.A.R. in which he was very active and took great pride in being a member.
On September 22, 1922, William passed away unexpectedly as a victim of acute Bright’s Disease. He was buried at Silver Ridge Cemetery which was near the old family homestead.
Emma Jane Vanderbilt passed away January 8, 1924 from a heart attack. She was buried beside her husband in Silver Ridge Cemetery in Dixon County.  *Willis C. McDonald*

**Marjorie Kint Van Slyke**

Marjorie was the daughter of John and Katie Klocke. They lived east of Randolph. She attended the rural country school. On February 11, 1941, she was married to John Daniel Kint, son of Walter and Tillie Kint of Laurel, Nebraska. A rather unusual wedding, she and her
sister Adeline had a double wedding at St. Frances de Chantal Church. Also, the wedding invitations were hand written, something that was not out of the ordinary in those days.

They lived in the Randolph community. Johnnie worked at the local D-X service station; Marjorie was a housewife.

Children born to this union: Dorothy Catherine, December 7, 1941, Robert John, March 25, 1944.

The War broke out and Johnnie was called into the armed forces, as many others were from this area. Johnnie was home to visit in November of 1944, he then returned to overseas duty in Germany.

Bob and I were little then, but I can remember Daddy visiting us once. Then on February 19, 1945, Father Kaup came to visit us with a telegram, telling us that Johnnie, our Daddy, was killed in action on the front lines in Hamburg, Germany. He is buried in the Netherlands cemetery in Holland.

We continued to live in Randolph in my grandparents’ home. When they retired from farming, we had to find another place to live. We rented two rooms from an uncle of mother’s, Joe Klocke. This is one thing we will always remember. Living quarters were very small.

We didn’t own a car. Our entertainment was going to the movie on Sunday nights. We spent time with the Earl Cunningham family. In the winter time we would go out to their place; they had a bobsled and horses, so we would go for a ride in the country and that was great fun. One winter night a winter storm came while they were visiting us and they and the three boys got stranded at our house. But we made room for everyone perhaps not the most comfortable, but it was fun. I’m sure mother was not always certain how we would struggle through the years ahead. But she managed to buy a big home down the block from where we were presently living. We moved in, lacking a lot of furniture, but eventually that came, along with many happy memories.

On August 3, 1963, Mother and Lowell Van Slyke of Randolph, were married. Lowell was employed for Kansas-Nebraska Gas Company. They moved to Winside, Nebraska; then transferred to Curtis, Nebraska; and then on to Cozad, Nebraska. After they retired, they returned to Randolph to make their home. They are active in the community.

I, Dorothy, now reside in Charter Oak, Iowa and work for an insurance firm. My husband, Gary Korver, has a feed and fertilizer business. Our three children, Jeff, Gary and June are all grown and away from home. We have one daughter-in-law and two grandsons.

Bob and his wife, Sandra (Eddie) and children, Christal, Brian, Lisa and Teresa live in Randolph. They own and operate Belden Lumber. Dorothy (Kint) Korver

Peter and Anna Vinckel

Peter Vinckel was born in Metz, France on February 12, 1852. He grew up there and enlisted in the French Cavalry serving in the War of 1870. His time in service was spent in Algiers, Africa and in 1875, he returned to his hometown, where he married his childhood sweetheart, Anna Emeringer. They left immediately for America and settled in Dubuque, Iowa. Their son, John, was born there. In 1883, Peter and Anna took up a tree claim in Clearwater, Nebraska. Four more children were born there.

In 1894, the family moved to Randolph, Nebraska and settled on a farm seven miles north of town. Anna died in 1902 and the following spring Peter moved to a farm one and one-half miles northeast of town. His son, John, had married Anna Dwyer previous to this and they moved to the “North Place” with their three sons. Peter continued to make this his home, while conducting his implement and livestock business in town on the corner where the City Clerk’s office and True Value Farm & Home Center are now located. During these years, his daughter, Anna, married Jack Dwyer on May 21, 1907. His son, Jim died in 1904 while a student at Nebraska Normal College, Wayne, Nebraska. Nick farmed the land and younger daughter, Cecelia known as “Sis”, studied for two years at Nebraska Normal College and then finished nursing training in Sioux City, Iowa.

In 1912, Peter sold his business to his son, John, who moved his family to town into a home, where the L. J. Dwyer home has been built.

John and Anna reared their family in Randolph. Roland, Jim and Eugene are graduates of Randolph high School. The only surviving son of that family, Eugene, is retired now. He was the Superintendent of Adult Education in Merced, California. Jim’s widow, Edith K. Vinckel, lives in Cambridge, Illinois. Their daughter, Suzanne, is a travel consultant and mother and daughter are experienced world travelers.

Anna Vinckel Dwyer and her husband, Jack, moved to the farm which Peter vacated in 1912 and bought up their family there. Lou is the only descendant of Peter Vinckel still living in Randolph.

Nick, in 1912, operated an International Harvester business in Bloomfield, Nebraska. He enlisted in the Army in 1917 and served in Europe during World War I. He was a victim of mustard gas and after the war spent most of his time at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, Colorado. He died in 1939.

“Sis” had a very interesting life. After finishing training, she went to Chicago and took a post-graduate course in obstetrics and became acquainted with the newly formed Public Health Nursing. Returning to Sioux City, she became the second public health nurse in that city. The flu epidemic, which broke out in 1917, found her back in Randolph caring for members of several families, among them were the Frank Schrad family, the Brandt family and finally the Jack Dwyer family. She then went to the home of G. E. Peters. Dr. Peters was serving in the Army, and his wife, Mabel (Bruner) Peters was severely ill and died. “Sis” helped with their son

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Darrell until arrangements could be made for the senior Bruners to care for him. She then enlisted in the Red Cross Nurses. Before she was called, her brother, Nick, enlisted. At that time she went to Bloomfield and managed his business until she sold it for him. That summer she sold 26 binders and had a write-up in the International Harvester Magazine. After selling the business, “Sis” notified the Red Cross of her availability, received sailing notice of November 13, 1919 and was enroute to New York when the Armistice was signed. After World War I, “Sis” went to Denver, due to the illness of Nick. She continued living in Colorado, homesteading land, working winters as house nurse for the Broadmore Hotel in Colorado Springs and finally taking care of her father until his death in Denver. While in Denver, she met and married Carl H. Cochran, a Denver attorney. Cecelia made her debut into this world, and two years later, “Sis” was widowed. In 1931, they moved back to Randolph, where she lived until a few months before her death in 1970.

As another survivor of the Peter Vinckel family, Cecelia graduated from her mother’s Alma Mater, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Sioux City and married Warren Parlette. They left Randolph, with their son, John, in the fall of 1956 moving to a suburb of Los Angeles, California. Presently Warren is retired, after working 24 years as an inspector for the City of L.A. He has also retired as an instructor of Los Angeles Trade Tech College, after teaching 12 years. He is now a state licensed Electrical Contractor and keeps very busy. Their son, John, is service writer for a Ford Agency in Ontario. Their daughter, Sandy (Mrs. Gary Colombero) is in an escrow office in the San Gabriel area. Cecelia is working part time as night supervisor in a hospital in Glendora, California. The Parlettes still keep their roots in Randolph, Nebraska. Cecelia “Cece” Cochran Parlette

Wilhelm and Luise Vogt

Wilhelm Vogt was born March 13, 1888 near Pender, Nebraska. As a young man he worked on farms in Colorado, Minnesota and Pender, Nebraska. Wilhelm Vogt married Luise Lutjen on February 15, 1911.

Luise Lutjen was born in Wusting, Oldenburg, Germany is still occupied by relatives.

Wilhelm “Bill” and Luise Vogt farmed in Cuming County until 1917. They purchased a farm of their own in Cedar County where they lived until their retirement in 1946. Wilhelm and Luise lived near the Robins school – district 94 and the Randolph-Hartington and Coleridge-Wausa crossroads. They had a Hartington mail route and a Randolph telephone. They banked in Coleridge and traded at Randolph and Coleridge. They were members of St. John’s Lutheran Church at Randolph. Over the years, Wilhelm and Luise replaced all the buildings on their farm. They had good years but also experienced the drought, grasshopper and depression years. They always remained optimistic and were a close family.

Wilhelm and Luise had four daughters: Mrs. Fay (Erna) Bobenmoyer, Mrs. Henry (Marget) Claussen, Mrs. Mervyn (Esther) Janssen and Mrs. John (Mildred) Sellon and ten grandchildren. The four daughters remained living in this area.

Wilhelm and Luise Vogt’s first two years of retirement were at Hartington. Later they purchased a home in Randolph where they spent their remaining years.


Mark and Alpha Waggoner

Alpha Black was born in Randolph, February 26, 1897 to John and Jenny Black. She joined an older sister, Julia, and was followed later by Heman, Roy, Esther, and Gene. All seven of the Black children attended Randolph Schools.

Alpha graduated from Randolph High School in 1915. Twenty years later her oldest son, Dallas, graduated from Randolph High School.

Alpha attended Wayne State Normal to become a teacher. She had taught two years when she met Mark Waggoner. He courted her a short time, and on September 2, 1917, they were married at the Methodist Church in Randolph. Mark and Alpha were very active in the Young Peoples group at the church. Mark owned and operated a farm in the area.

Mark and Alpha had five children: Dallas, Coila, Dwight, Maxine and Thelma.

Four of the children were born in the Randolph area. Thelma was born in Iowa. The Waggoners lived in the area around Randolph for 18 years. Their former neighbors moved to the State of Washington and Mark decided they would move west. In August of 1937 they headed out. Mark had outfitted their 1936 Chevrolet truck as a traveling home. He put in bunks, an oil stove, table, chairs, all their dishes, and pans, plus their personal belongings. It took five days for the trip. They camped out along the way, one stop being in Yellowstone Park. In the evening when they stopped for the night, out came stove, table and chairs. Alpha cooked the meal, and the older children cleaned up afterward. Breakfast was the same. They would then repack and were off again.

The Waggoners arrived in Selah, Washington, where they stayed for three years. Mark and the two boys worked in the orchards. Mark then decided to travel farther west and they moved to Issaquah. Coila did not go with them as she had met and married a local boy. Maxine and Thelma met and married fellows from the Issaquah area. Dwight married a girl from Seattle and then went into the Navy. Dallas went into the Army and married a girl from California.
Mark and Alpha celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1967. All their children were there plus 12 grandchildren and a number of great grandchildren.

Mark passed away in November of 1977. Alpha lives today in a small home near her daughter, Thelma. The other four children are not far away. In 1985 she had 33 great-grandchildren and was expecting more in the future. She is still active in Church affairs and also in the local Senior Citizens' Group. She is doing her own housework, etc. Alpha was 88 her past birthday and still very active. Dallas Waggoner

Fred and Emma Warner

During the late 1800's Fred and Emma Warner came from Delaware County in eastern Iowa, and settled on a farm between Randolph and Belden. Their farm was adjacent to the area that had been planned for the town of Wareham, on U.S. #20.

When he retired from farming they built a house in the south part of town in Randolph. Their two daughters were Ida and Vena, who were both school teachers. Vena married Vern Sellon. Ida became home economics instructor at Wayne State College. Bessie Martin

Irven "Milt" and Lydia Waters

In 1899, when he was about 18, Irven Waters moved to the thriving young town of Randolph. He gave his name as "Milt," after an older man he admired.

For a time he served as the town marshal. When someone took a shot at him for fun and barely missed him, he decided to change his occupation.

Eventually, he became a drayman, forming a partnership with C.C. Hill. Draymen provided the link between the railway, which brought in most goods which people could not make themselves, and stores or individual purchasers. There were no cardboard cartons. Furniture was put into wooden crates made to fit each piece. Loose articles, such as crocks, were packed in straw in boxcars, and the drayman would take a merchant’s copy of an order to the freight car, count out those ordered by the merchant, and deliver them. Hauling coal and wood to heat homes and businesses was a vital service of dray-lines.

Waters and Hill also dug basements. A "slip" or "wheel scraper", simply a big shovel pulled by a team of mules driven by a man on foot was used. First the ground was plowed; then the scraper scooped up the dirt which was piled beside the deepening hole. This was eventually shoveled by hand into dump wagons and hauled to repair the dirt streets or to fill in the low spots.

One of Milts contributions was to use his digging equipment to straighten and widen the creek beds of the two streams that used to cause damaging floods in Randolph.

Milt was also interested in the fire department. Originally a hose cart provided the only fire protection. This was simply two wheels connected by a log around which a large hose was wrapped. Poles were attached so that the apparatus could be pulled by hand, or team, wherever needed. A bell, called the volunteers to service. In 1909 Milt became fire chief a position he held until 1915.

In 1900 Lydia (Beach) Vradenberg was newly widowed. A practical nurse who had also attended a "domestic science" school, Lydia arrived by train and spent the night at the town's only hotel. Next morning the hotel was quarantined for smallpox. She proved to be such a skilled nurse that the doctor recommended her after the quarantine was over. Later she attended a tailoring school held in Randolph and became an excellent seamstress.

In 1906, Milt and Lydia were married. They had one daughter, Vera born in 1910. Milt built the house that in 1985 was the Atwood home.

Milt died of pneumonia in 1918. Lydia supported herself and Vera by turning her house into a teacherage and by sewing. They continued to live in Randolph until Vera's graduation from high school when they moved to Lincoln so that Vera could attend the University of Nebraska. There she earned both B.A. and B.F.A. degrees. After marrying Lloyd Zimmer and raising five children, Vera graduated from Iliff School of Theology in Denver in 1974 and became a minister in the Methodist church. Vera Waters Zimmer and Jeannie

Albert Ray "Ted" and Clara L.Weber

Albert Ray Weber was born at Randolph on January 14, 1895, to Tilton and Laura E. Weber. When he was 15 years of age his father was killed in one of the first auto accidents in this area. He attended rural school southwest of Randolph and Randolph Public School. As a youngster baseball and boxing were his favorite activities.

He was a veteran of WW I. After returning from military service he worked for Bill Stageman who was in the land and ranching business. "Ted" and Clara L. Rohde were married May 2, 1924.

Clara L. Rohde was born April 14, 1905, to William and Marie (Bauer) Hauser Rohde on the farm five miles south of Randolph. Her mother died March 23, 1913. Clara had three stepbrothers, three brothers, and six sisters. She attended the rural school one quarter mile west of her home. The Rohde farm is located one mile north of what was formerly the Frederick Weber farm. Clara's older brothers and sisters would walk across the fields with baskets of eggs for trading purposes at the country store and post office operated by Frederick Weber. This post office was known as Weber, Nebraska. Frederick Weber was "Ted" Weber's grandfather. William Rohde retired from farming in 1917 and moved to the home in the south part of town which in 1985 was occupied by Clara's sister Helen Bloomer. After moving to town Clara attended the Randolph Public Schools graduating from RHS in 1924. Clara's two sons, Marvin
and Jerald and Marvin's three children (Brad, Karen, and Laurrie) also graduated from RHS.

When Clara and "Ted" were first married he was in the trucking business for a few years along with farming. Until 1944 their residence was at the old "brick yard" located about one mile west of Randolph on U.S. #20. In 1944 they moved to the farm southwest of Randolph where they resided until his death April 22, 1962. This was the farm where Mr. Weber lived as a youngster.

Clara moved to town shortly after Mr. Weber's death. She lived in the apartment above the James Black veterinary office for three years, she then built a home across the street to the west of the old First State Bank building where she continues to reside. Clara is a member of the First United Methodist Church, U.M.W. and O.E.S. Marvin R. Weber

**Frederick and Sarah Weber**

Frederick Weber was born in New Jersey on August 8, 1847. He spent his early life in that state. He enlisted in the Union Army in 1864 at the age of 17 and served ten months with Co. K., 38th New Jersey infantry. He was married to Sarah Taylor at Trenton, New Jersey, on September 6, 1866. They began farming in 1867 at Titusville, New Jersey, along the Delaware River. It is of interest that their home was within 30 rods of where General George Washington and his Colonial Army crossed the Delaware on the ice and marched against the British at Trenton.

After farming in New Jersey for ten years they moved to Mills County, Iowa, (near Glenwood) in 1877. After living near Glenwood for seven years they sold their farm and moved to Wayne County, Nebraska, in 1884 to farm five miles southeast of Wayne and two miles west of old La Porte. In the spring of 1886 they moved to the old home place six miles south and one-half mile east of Randolph on a half section known as the "old Weber place". A country store and post offices was established on this farm. Frederick was appointed Postmaster September 11, 1899, and served until the post office was discontinued in June, 1903. Me Weber was the great grandfather of Marvin R. Weber who served as Postmaster at Randolph for over 30 years. The country store discontinued operation in 1908. In the spring of 1911 the Webers moved into Randolph. They had joined the Presbyterian Church in 1867 but joined the Methodist Church after moving to town.

Sarah C. Taylor was born on July 28, 1847, at Hamilton Square, New Jersey. She had been reared on a farm prior to her marriage to Frederick. Nine children were born to this marriage: Delia (Mrs. Burlington Cunningham); Tilton, killed in an auto accident on April 26, 1910; John; Mary (Mrs. J.H. Young); Lillie (Mrs. J.D. Lumsden); Elizabeth (Mrs. Walter H. Weber); Anna (Mrs. Harry Hunt); Euphemia (Mrs. H.L. Sherwood); and Caroline (Mrs. H.F. Taylor). All are now deceased.

Mr. Weber's obituary mentioned the fact that he very seldom wore an overcoat even on the very coldest days in the winter. Another interesting story has it that Mr. Weber had the first Model T in Randolph and that he had the road dragged from his farm to town, then raced his vehicle to town just to see how fast he could go. An early Nebraska publication described Frederick as "a man of patriotic spirit, untiring energy and active mind, and has done his full share towards developing the matchless resources of this section, where he has made his home for so many years. He has a wide acquaintance and an enviable reputation." The article goes on to say that when Mr. Weber came to Nebraska "deer and antelope were plentiful at that time, with an occasional elk, during the first few years of his residence. Prairie fires, however, were a constant peril to the settler, and the subscriber had several times been compelled to fight fires, in order to save his own farm buildings."

Sarah Weber died December 7, 1924. Frederick died August 20, 1931, with military honors at the grave by the American Legion. Marvin R. Weber

**Marvin R. and Virginia A. Weber**

Marvin is the son of Albert Ray "Ted" Weber (1895-1962) and Clara L. (Rohde) Weber, grandson of Tilton and Laura Weber, and great-grandson of Frederick and Sarah Weber. His maternal grandparents were William and Marie (Bauer) Hauser Rohde.

Marvin was born October 18, 1924, at Randolph. He attended the Randolph Public Schools and graduated May, 1942. After attending one semester at the University of Nebraska he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. While in the navy, he served on the U.S.S. West Point in the Asiatic Pacific and European African theatres of operations. He was discharged from the U.S. Navy in March of 1946, and returned to the University of Nebraska and graduated in June, 1950 with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. He also attended the University of Wyoming during the summer sessions of 1951-'52-'53.
He coached athletics and taught mathematics at Meadow Grove, Nebraska for two years and at Creighton, Nebraska for two years.

In November of 1953 Marvin married Virginia Ann Falter, daughter of Carl and Olive Falter (1906-1975) in Creighton. Virginia had attended one year at the University of South Dakota. She has been active in the United Methodist Church, past chairman of the district nominating committee and currently president of the UMW. She is also active in the Order of the Eastern Star and P.E.O. Virginia worked at Colonial Manor for approximately nine years.

Marvin took the Civil Service examination for postmaster and received the appointment as Randolph Postmaster from President Dwight D. Eisenhower and postmaster general author E. Summerfield on May 27, 1954, and was installed in that position on July 10, 1954.

As Randolph postmaster, he also worked out of the Norfolk Management Sectional Center on a variety of assignments and details, such as, officer in charge of the South Sioux City Post Office for approximately four months, officer in charge of the Plainview Post Office for ten months, detailed to the Lincoln MSC for two months plus a variety of other assignments. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service on November 2, 1984 with over thirty years as postmaster and over thirty-four years and four months of total Government service.

Marvin and Virginia have one son, two daughters, and five grandchildren.

Bradley Ray was born October 13, 1954. He married Deborah (Thieman) and their daughters are Melissa Marie "Missy" born August 22, 1979, and Meggan Elizabeth born May 18, 1983. They live in Wayne, Nebraska. Brad teaches instrumental music at Emerson-Hubbard Public School and part-time at Wayne State College. He has a degree in music from Wayne State and is working towards a Masters Degree at the University of Wyoming. Brad is currently secretary of the State Bandmasters Association, plays in the Sioux City Symphony and Municipal Band and the popular combo WEBSTERS NEW WORD. Deborah works as a secretary at Wayne State College.

Karen Elizabeth was born February 27, 1957 and her husband is "Rick" Dominisse, they live in Randolph. Rick is in the honey producing business. They have one son Kyle Richard born June 2, 1980, and one daughter Karissa Elizabeth born April 26, 1985. Karen has a degree in elementary education from Wayne State and does substitute teaching. Karen has also been a member of Kappa Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honorary Society.

Laurrie Louise was born September 18, 1959, and her husband is Robert Steele. They live in Osmond, Nebraska. Bob is a graduate of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture and is with Peterson and Son, Inc. of Osmond. They have one son, Scott Daniel born March 7, 1985. Laurrie received an LPN certificate from Northeast Tech at Norfolk and attended St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing, Sioux City to become a registered nurse. She is currently employed at Plainview Manor Nursing Home.

Marvin Weber has served on the Randolph Board of Education, Past President of the Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Postmasters of the U.S., and is President Elect for 1986 of the Retired Postmasters of Nebraska of NAPUS. He is a member of the American Legion, VFW, Randolph Community Club, Golden Sheaf Lodge #202, Scottish Rite Consistory, Shrine, and O.E.S. He is chairman of the Randolph Centennial Committee. His favorite sports have been baseball and football. He enjoys music and has played trumpet in U.S. Navy bands and several other groups. While his son Brad was in high school, they both played with a group known as Michelle and the Music Makers. Marvin enjoys fishing, camping, traveling and reading.

Marvin had one brother, Jerald E. Weber. Jerald graduated from Randolph High School in 1943 as class valedictorian, attended the University of Nebraska on a Regents Scholarship one semester, then enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served on a minesweeper in the Asiatic Pacific area. He returned to the University of Nebraska in September, 1946, graduating in 1950 with a degree in science and mathematics. Jerald farmed a short time then entered the geophysical and seismograph field. In this profession he worked in various parts of the U.S., South America and Spain. At the time of his death on March 21, 1983, Jerald was employed with R.E. Dick Lee and Associates, Geophysical Assistance in Jackson, Mississippi. Marvin Weber

Tilton F. and Laura E. Weber

Tilton Frederick Weber was born at Titusville, New Jersey, October 27, 1867, to Frederick and Sarah Weber. He moved to Glenwood, Iowa, with his parents in 1877, then to Wayne County, Nebraska in 1884. On October 31, 1888, he was married to Laura E. Collier at Pierce, Nebraska and lived in the Randolph area until the time of his death.

Laura Emma Collier was born May 25, 1867, at Sycamore, Illinois, and moved with her parents to Shelby County, Iowa in 1882, then came to Randolph in 1888. At the time of her husband's death they were living in the south part of Randolph where Joedy Sellon now lives. She later purchased the home where the Don Andrews live. Several years later she purchased the home where the Jim Kilburns now live and resided there until the time of her death on October 17, 1942.

Tilton was killed in one of the first fatal auto accidents in this area. The accident occurred on April 26, 1910, about one and one-half miles east of Osmond in a 1909 Cadillac. Following is an excerpt from the local news item telling of his untimely death: "Tilton was the type of man known in the west as a hustler. He had a vast amount of nervous energy that sought an outlet in business. He was a good judge of land values and a good buyer and by
his excellent judgment in deals he amassed a fortune. About a year ago he purchased a fine Cadillac touring car and used it for both business and pleasure. He quickly learned to handle his car and he took no one's dust. He was fearless in driving and this fact led his family to plead with him to give up the practice of showing land with his car for they feared he might meet with accident.” Apparently Tilton had inherited some of the business characteristics of his father, Frederick Weber. His funeral was held at the Randolph Opera house with a vast crowd attending.

Tilton and Laura purchased and moved to a farm five and three-fourths miles southwest of Randolph (this half section is still in the Weber family owned in various portions by Howard Weber and Ethel Moore, Clarence Weber, and Marvin Weber). Later they moved from that farm to one they owned just southeast of Randolph. From that farm they moved to their property in the south part of town where they resided at the time of his death.

Tilton was survived by his wife, Laura, three sons, and two daughters, Florence Ethel 17, Albert Ray 15, Iva 12, Clarence nine, and Howard one. Iva was the first to join her father in death, August 21, 1915. Albert Ray "Ted" died April 22, 1962. Howard resides in Randolph on Wayne Street. Ethel lives at Colonial Manors. Ethel and her husband Gurney Moore had the distinction of celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary on February 16, 1985, just a few short weeks before Gurney's death. Clarence resides in Sioux City, Iowa.

Ted Weber had two children, Marvin of Randolph, and Jerald (deceased). Clarence has three children: Tilton of Plainview, Marguerite of Sioux City, and Georgia of Santa Barbara, California. Howard has two children, Paulina of Tacoma, Washington and Lowell of Ogden, Utah. Marvin R. Weber

Gene and Georgine Whalen

Gene and Georgine (Johnson) Whalen were married April 7, 1953, at St. Frances Church in Randolph. We are graduates of St. Frances High School.

The first ten months of our married life were spent on a farm east of Randolph. We then moved to the McLean vicinity and at present we have lived on our farm for 21 years.

We had six children: Mrs. Terry (Mari Beth) Gilleland of Prescott, Arizona, Douglas of McLean, Mrs. Jim (Michelle) Sedlacek of Mission Hill, South Dakota, Mrs. Tom (Melissa) Lackas of Casper, Wyoming, and David of Belden. He married Rhonda Graf. Our son, Danny, died November 9, 1976. We have four grandchildren: Kyla Gilleland, Chelsea Sedlacek and Christopher and Jamie Lackas.

We are members of St. Frances Church at Randolph. Gene belongs to the Foresters and I belong to Circle 4, Christian Mothers and the Willing Workers Club. Georgine Whalen

Leonard and Leona Kenny Whalen

Leonard Whalen, the youngest of 13 children of Maurice and Alice (Murphy) Whalen, was born August 16, 1896, at Cresco, Iowa. He grew up in Iowa. On February 12, 1918, he and Leona Kenny were married at St. Frances Church in Randolph, Nebraska.

Leona was the third of ten children of John and Agnes (Dougherty) Kenny, born March 30, 1895, at Sholes, Nebraska. She met Leonard while vacationing at the home of relatives in Iowa.

They spent their first year farming at Cresco, Iowa, after which they moved to a farm near Wareham, Nebraska. A son, Francis, and a daughter, Virginia, were born here. At the age of three, Francis died of blood poisoning. From Wareham, the family moved to a farm east of Sholes, where four children completed their family, Geraldine, Dorothy, Eugene and Donna.

During the 1930's there was depression and drouth, which really didn't affect the children. There was a lot of friendliness in the neighborhood and farm work was exchanged freely. Besides helping with outside work, Leona found time to sew. Canning was a big event during the summer. They also had a large fruit orchard.

Saturday night was always fun, going to Randolph with all the stores open. Popcorn was a nickel and for a dime they could see a movie. During the summer months, they would go to Carroll on Wednesday nights and see free movies. Dances in Sholes were also attended. Parents always took their children and had beds set up in the back room for them.

Mass on Sundays was attended at St. Frances Church. The remainder of the day was usually spent with relatives as several of Leona's brothers and sisters lived in the area.

Many times during the winter when they'd be blocked in with snow, the radio and party line were their only connection to the outside world. They dearly loved the party line. Leona was always busy wintry nights with piecing quilts, embroidery or crocheting. They would usually have popcorn along with checkers or games.

Virginia and Geraldine graduated from Sholes Public School. Virginia and Harold Blotz were married in 1939. In 1942, the family moved to a farm just west of the St. Frances cemetery. Geraldine and Victor Caster were married in 1942 on her parents 24th wedding anniversary.

Dorothy and Gene graduated from St. Frances High School. Dorothy and Kenneth Dowling were married June 14, 1944. Donna died of leukemia April 15, 1946, at the age of 14.

Gene served two years in the Korean Conflict. Following his discharge, he and Georgine Johnson were married April 7, 1953.

Following a farm sale in 1952, Leonard and Leona purchased a home in Randolph. They enjoyed living in town but Leonard still kept farming interests with his son. Leona was active in clubs and church affairs. They were blessed with 18 grandchildren.
After an illness of three years, Leona passed away July 22, 1965. Leonard lived alone at his home and kept house just as Leona had until his death on February 28, 1972.

Members of the family have many pleasant memories of both of them and they will be cherished forever. Geraldine Whalen Caster

Frank and Arlene White

Frank's parents, Clark White (1889-1976) and Mary Smedly (1889-1970) were married in September, 1909 at their home town, Lewis, Iowa. Several years later they moved to the area six miles southwest of Randolph where they made their home for fifteen years. They spent the remainder of their sixty years of married life in the Mclean and Magnet area. Their four children were Frank, Hazel, Alvin and Mary Lou (Oxley). Frank and Hazel attended school at District 28 Southwest.

On December 26, 1942, Frank and Arlene Lageschulte (See Frank and Mabel Lageschulte) were married in Osmond. Frank, who was in the army, had a three-day pass from Ft. Crook Automotive School, and Arlene was on vacation from her duties as a high school teacher in Stanton. (She had previously taught in Belden) They were able to spend weekends together for four months before Frank was sent overseas for twenty-nine months. This was a long time for newlyweds to be separated. He served in the African and European areas in a motor maintenance unit earning six battle stars.

Frank returned home October 6, 1945. He and Arlene made their home on the Lageschulte home farm, six and one half miles southwest of Randolph, until Frank's death from a heart attack in April, 1974. Arlene sold the farm and lived in Randolph until her death In June, 1976. They had one son, Dennis, who with his wife, the former Jacqueline Wragge, and their children Michael, Kimberly, Kirk and Mitchell have made their home in Pierce.

Frank and Arlene fed cattle and hogs. Their big project was poultry, specializing in laying hens, carrying on the tradition of the Lageschulte family.

They participated with their neighbors in exchange of work and social activities, were active members of the Randolph United Methodist Church and shared their talents in projects of the Randolph community. They were selected as outstanding conservationists of Pierce County in 1958. Frank was on the REA Board of Directors from Pierce County. Arlene was a member of P.E.O., Dial Club and the Allen Friendly Neighbors Extension Club. Evelyn Weese, Frances Lageschulte

Whitney, Hall, and Schager

Franklin and Frelove Whitney migrated from Wisconsin in 1880, staked out 320 acres of raw prairie land and filed on it under the homestead and tree claim laws to become the first family to make their home in the Randolph Township. They built and operated the first general store in Randolph.

On December 12, 1893, Florence Whitney daughter of Franklin and Frelove was married to LeRoy H. Hall. Later they operated Hall's Cafe for 25 years. It was located on the main street. Florence was well known for her pies, often baking 300 a month and selling them for five cents a slice. Roy was noted for his Irish Stew but kept his recipe a secret.

Leslie, Ruth, George, Floyd and Marvin were children born to the Halls. Leslie enlisted in the First World War and settled in Sioux City, Iowa, after being honorably discharged. Lloyd was operator of Hall's Barber Shop several years before moving to Denver, Colorado. George taught school in Norfolk with his wife Lilly (Webb). He was also Superintendent of Schools at Magnet, Winside and Donaphen, Nebraska, before moving to Salem, Oregon. Marvin operated a shoe repair shop from 1954 to 1977. Many people will remember his witty jokes and friendly smile.

Ruth Hall married Clarence Schager in Hartington on February 27, 1918. They moved to Randolph in 1920 where they've spent most of their married life. Clarence was a mail carrier in Hartington previously and continued carrying mail here for a total of 33 years of service. He retired in 1949 but worked as a clerk in the post office until 1951. Roads in those days were sometimes impassable when it rained, but Clarence and his horse and buggy carried the mail in the old tradition, "the mail must go through." His route was 33 miles long, and he drove a horse and buggy for ten years. In 1929 he bought his first Model T to drive on his route. When he drove the heavier cars, he hired two men to go along in the winter and help dig the car out of the snow banks so they could get through. Ruth acted as his substitute on the route when he couldn't make it. Clarence was manager of the Randolph baseball team for five years and umpired many games for seven years. Ruth taught country schools for four years. She was recently honored by the Rebekah Lodge #156 with a 62 year membership pin and corsage, and is their oldest member. The couple has been happily married for 67 years.

To this union was born three daughters Marjorie was a country school teacher near Hartington. Later she moved on to a secretarial job in Washington D.C While there she met and married Captain Roy Gardner who was in the Air Force. They have three children, Patricia, Barbara, and Richard. They are retired and living in Laramie, Wyoming.

Dorothy and her husband Glenn MacKeane reside at La Mirada, California. She has six children, Eldon and Judith Fleming, Tom and Jerry West, Linda MacKeane and George Michael who is deceased.

Florence married Robert Munter in 1951 and they moved onto a farm near Wausa. They have eight children, David, Don, Diane, Dan, Denise, Dean, Dennis and Doug. Florene Munter
Richard and Wilma Wilkinson

Richard Lee Wilkinson was born July 5, 1936, at O'Neill, Nebraska. As a young boy he moved to Randolph and made his home with his grandmother, Caroline Dittman. Dick received all of his education in the Randolph Public School.

In August of 1954 Dick joined the United States Air Force. He spent time in Texas, Lincoln, and Guam.

On August 14, 1955, he married Wilma Cunningham at the Methodist Church in Randolph.

Wilma is the daughter of William and Nina (Caster) Cunningham. She was born at the farm north of Randolph on October 17, 1918. Wilma had two brothers and eleven sisters. She spent her entire childhood on this farm. Her elementary education was gained in a rural school north of Randolph. She graduated from Randolph High in 1934 and attended Wayne State College for one year. She taught rural schools in Cedar County for six years.

Their first child, Brenda Lee, was born February 28, 1961, at the Osmond Hospital. A second child, Scott Richard, joined the family on February 5, 1965. Scott was also born in the Osmond Hospital. On May 11, 1965, Brenda passed away at the Osmond Hospital.

Dick has been an employee of Carhart Lumber since May of 1958, becoming manager in 1972. Wilma became a part time employee of Carhart Lumber in 1970 and is now full time.

Scott attended Randolph Public School for thirteen years, graduating in 1983. He is a junior at Kearney State College, majoring in Industrial Technology.

The Wilkinson's are members of the United Methodist Church.

Dick is a member of the Randolph Volunteer Fire Department. Wilma is treasurer of the Randolph Volunteer Rescue Unit.

After working hours you will find Dick busy in his garden. Gardening is a very rewarding hobby for him. Wilma has to help harvest and preserve the crop. We enjoy Randolph where our roots are planted. Wilma Wilkinson

John was a member of the Golden Sheaf Lodge No. 202 A.F. and A.M. in Randolph. The family were members of the Methodist Church.

In 1961, forty-five years later, the farm was sold to Tony Backer. The Williams moved to Wayne to spend their remaining years.

John passed away December 31, 1967 and Edith passed away August 25, 1982. To this marriage two children were born: Dayle D. and June B. Both children graduated from Randolph High and attended Wayne State Teachers College.

Dayle graduated from Randolph High School in 1933 and from Wayne State College in 1937. Dayle married Arlene Roe of Carroll, Nebraska, daughter of Merle Roe, in 1938. They moved to Magnet, Nebraska as Superintendent of Schools. Several years later he joined the Continental Insurance Company with his office in Chicago. Dayle and Arlene retired in 1974 and moved to Florida to enjoy the "Sun and the Sand". Their two sons, and their families, enjoy the winter visits to see Dad and Mom.

June graduated from Randolph High in 1936. Securing her teachers certificate from Wayne State, she returned to District 38 to teach for two years. June married C.W. Richards of Decatur, Nebraska, June 11, 1939. June and Cecil spent their entire careers teaching and have retired in Harlan, Iowa. The Richards raised three children and have five grandchildren. Dayle D. Williams, June B. Richards

Don and Isadore Wilson

I came to Randolph from Canada with my parents and five brothers in 1919. This makes my acquaintance with Randolph 67 years, which is two-thirds of my lifetime. We look forward to visiting the area sometime in 1986.

I graduated from Randolph High School in 1929 and went to Chillicothe Business College in 1931. An automobile accident interrupted my education.

In 1932 I went to California and worked at various jobs in the San Francisco Bay area. I accepted an appointment with State Farm Insurance Company in September, 1934 and returned to marry my betrothed, Isadore Williams. We were married June 30, 1937. Our honeymoon was a leisurely motor trip to California via Yellowstone Park in a new car that I drove out for an old classmate, Ernie Von Seggen. Ernie had moved to California and was taking factory delivery of his car.

I continued with State Farm until my retirement on March 1, 1977. We have five children and seven grandchildren. Four of the children live in this area, and one is in Colorado Springs. Don Wilson

Howard and Ruth Wingett

Howard Wingett and Ruth Countryman were married May 3, 1930. He was the son of Elbert and Daisy Wingett of Sholes and she the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Countryman of Hartington.
It was the beginning of the famous depression years. They lived in Sholes for two years where they paid $8.00 a month rent. They began farming northeast of Randolph with the help of Fred Thies. The equipment was very primitive as they had two old mules to plow and plant every field. They bought the mules from Fred Thies for $39.00, also a cow and calf for $39.00. One mule was obstinate, when she got tired she laid down and you were through for the day. Soon eggs were 8 cents a dozen and butterfat from cream was 12 cents a pound. Groceries were cheap if you could afford to buy them. One thing the Wingett's had were wonderful neighbors.

In two years they moved one-half mile north and that was where their two children were born. Shirley was born in 1936 and Stanley in 1941. Both were delivered by Dr. B. F. Gleason at the Wingett home. Dr. Gleason made the trip, eight miles, twice each time and charged $42.00 and $45.00 for the entire sessions.

In 1945 they bought Ruth's old home place, eight miles north of Randolph for $95.00 per acre, and moved there. Ruth's parents, the H.H. Countrymans, retired to Randolph and bought the Sherman Adams residence. By the way, Adams built the barn, hog shed and corncrib on the farm.

Ruth went back to teaching in 1947 and taught for 14 years in rural schools, resuming her education at Wayne State Normal.

Shirley married Eddy Kruger of Pierce and Stanley married Carol Seyl. Stanley did a three year hitch in the Navy and was at the Bay of Pigs in Cuba.

The Krugers have five children and seven grandchildren. Stan has three sons and two grandsons.

In 1977 Howard and Ruth sold their farm to Harold Jr. and Marie Korth, for $600 an acre and retired to Norfolk in a new house constructed by Stan Wingett and decorated by Shirley and Eddy Kruger.

Howard passed away in December 1984.

**William Elbert and Daisy Wingett**

William Elbert Wingett was born January 3, 1873, the son of Oliver Curtis and Mary Marcia (Norris) Wingett in Lathan, Missouri, Monotor County. When he was four years old he migrated with his family to Minnesota where they farmed for ten years. William grew up on his parents farm. The family came to Nebraska by covered wagon drawn by oxen. Many hardships were endured by the family. W.E. Wingett was the second eldest of twelve children.

Daisy Dean Lamb was born November 6, 1878, the daughter of John and Mary Jane Lamb in Ringghold County, Iowa. She attended a country school where she received her education. She was the youngest child of 12 brothers and one sister.

William Elbert Wingett and Daisy Dean Lamb were married March 18, 1897, at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Most, a sister of Daisy's, Laurel, Nebraska.

The newlyweds resided at the Most farm, in a tenant house, and William worked as a hired man.

After a year in California, they became homesick and returned to Nebraska, The Good Life.

They settled on the Schwerin farm by Belden where they raised their family. The family were members of the Belden Methodist Church.

A corn shelling accident resulted in the loss of William's left arm. Their youngest daughter arrived a few weeks after the accident.

William continued to operate his farm and at this time he and his brother Brainard purchased and operated a general store in Hartington. Learning to drive his new “Grant” car with one hand was quite a problem but with great determination he was successful. In 1918 the family moved to the Wadsworth ranch south of Randolph which they rented for one year. Later William and Daisy bought a farm south of Sholes where the girls finished high school. The farm was later sold to Charles Junck.

Daisy was active as a Sunday School superintendent at the Sholes church for many years.

William and Daisy lived their 65 years in northeast Nebraska. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, March 18, 1946. All their children were present and five brothers and sisters.

Daisy passed away February 8, 1952. William passed away May 17, 1960. Burial was in the Greenwood cemetery at Wayne, Nebraska.

William and Daisy were the parents of seven children. One died in infancy. They are: Hazel, Bertha, Mary, Glenn, Howard, and Esther.

Hazel M. (June 6, 1898) married Coin J. Beuck September 13, 1917. Their children are Marvin C., Coin Jr., Maxine Emma who died in infancy, and Betty Jean. Betty Jean married Everett Sohren. They were later divorced. Betty's son, Larry Sohren (May 27, 1951), married Jean Marie Starzl April 8, 1972. Their children are Laura Ann Sohren (September 24, 1976), and Rachelle Sue Sohren (September 2, 1979). Bertha Marie Wingett (February 7, 1900) married Paul Sellentin on May 25, 1920. Paul is now deceased.


Of the 7 children of William and Daisy, 4 celebrated their 50th or more wedding anniversaries: Bertha, Glenn, Howard and Esther. Roger and Esther Buchanan

Ambrose and Agnes Winkelbauer

Ambrose Winkelbauer, born in Austria, December 8, 1858, died March 20, 1938. Agnes (Richter) Winkelbauer, born May 15, 1861, in Austria, died June 11, 1938. They were married in 1879. In 1888, they, with a party of friends from Austria, came to America, settling near Yuma, Colorado. Seeing no future in that section, they soon moved to Wisconsin, settling near Dorchester. After one year they came to Nebraska, near Cedar Rapids, then to Fremont and in the fall of 1899, they moved to Randolph. Here the family farmed for 22 years and then moved to Monowa. After two years they moved to Sioux City, Iowa.

Their children were Frank, Albert, Joseph, Robert, John, Louis, Edward, Fanny, Mary, Margaret and Lucille. Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kaiser.

Charlie and Jane Winkelbauer

Charlie Winkelbauer was born January 11, 1949, to Sylvester and Maurine Winkelbauer on a farm near Randolph. His wife Jane was born November 8, 1950, to Julius and Lucille Arens of Hartington.

Charlie attended a country school until the second grade and later attended St. Frances Catholic School in Randolph. He graduated in 1968 and entered the army. In 1970 he began farming.

Jane attended a country school until the eighth grade. She graduated in 1969 from Cedar Catholic High School, then went to Stewart's Beauty School and worked in Hartington for several years.

On November 6, 1971, Charlie and Jane were married at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hartington, Nebraska. They have three children, Chad, Wendi, and Heather, who attend the Coleridge Community School in Coleridge. The Winkelbauer s have a dairy farm near Randolph. Jane Winkelbauer

Donald and Lorraine Winkelbauer

Donald Winkelbauer was born July 25, 1920, on a farm south of Sholes. His parents were Joe and Marie Winkelbauer. One month later, June 1920, Lorraine Graf was born to Herman and Tillie Graf in Belden.

Don and Lorraine attended high school in Sholes. Their means of transportation to school was by horseback and Don assumed the task of saddling their horses after classes.

Although Don and Lorraine dated while in high school, they were not married until November 23, 1941, in San Francisco, California. The following year Don entered the Army Air Force and they lived in Georgia and South Carolina, until he went overseas to the European Theater of War.

After his discharge in November 1945, they lived two years at Juniata, Nebraska where Don worked for a wheat farmer. Here their first child, Linda, was born July 1, 1947.

The following year they started farming on their own - moving to Grandma Agnes Kenny’s farm by Sholes. They became members of Saint Frances Church in Randolph. A son, Loren was born September 7, 1950. Linda and Loren attended grade school in Sholes.

In 1962, they moved to their present home-- being the third generation to farm that land. Family activities enjoyed were 4-H, saddle club and school activities. Twin Palomino colts being born on the Winkelbauer farm was a big event in 1964. They were broke to drive on a two seated surrey and took part in many parades.


While many changes have taken place since their growing up through the "Terrible Thirties," the
Winkelbauer, Mr. and Mrs. Don

Frank and Othilia Winkelbauer

Frank Winkelbauer, son of Ambrose and Agnes (Richter) Winkelbauer, was born in Sokol, Austria, on September 16, 1886. He came to the United States in 1888. He, with his family, moved to Randolph, in 1899. He married Othilia Meyer, daughter of Edward and Mary (Gerber) Meyer. They were married on February 27, 1911, at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph by Father Peter Grobbel. Othilia Meyer was born at Arcadia, Iowa, April 12, 1893. She and her family moved to Randolph in 1908.

Frank and Othilia farmed in the Randolph community for more than 30 years. They built the house and farm buildings on the farm west of the Highway 20 and 81 Junction, known as the "Honey Farm." While farming, Frank also worked for Jonas Well Company. In 1942, they bought an acreage in Randolph from Signe Thomas, located south of the Catholic Church across the bridge on the west side of the road. They farmed the land and also had a milk route. They had 13 children, Sylvester, Rita, David, and Elvera live at Randolph; Vincent, LaVern, Arnold and Doris live in Omaha Florentine lives at Humphrey; MaryAnn lives at Caldwell, Idaho; Louis lives at Lehigh, Iowa; Raymond died at age three and Gail died at the age of one year. Frank Winkelbauer passed away May 22, 1964, and Othilia passed away March 28, 1973.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kaiser

Joe and Marie Winkelbauer

Joseph Winkelbauer was born October 6, 1890, at Yuma, Colorado. As a boy, he came to Randolph with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Winkelbauer. Marie Kenny was born in 1892 at Cresco, Iowa, and was three-months-old when she came to Nebraska with her parents, John and Agnes (Dougherty) Kenny.

Joe and Marie were married April 26, 1915, at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph by Father Lordeman. They farmed many years in the Sholes vicinity. The Depression of the 1930's hit and in 1943 they moved to Hastings, Nebraska. Joe worked in the Naval Ammunition Depot and Marie worked thirteen years as a psychiatric aide at the Hastings State Hospital.

Their family consists of four boys: Gerald and Richard of Hastings, Nebraska; Gene of San Francisco, California, and Donald of Randolph.

Joe died in 1956 and Marie resides at Colonial Manor in Randolph. She is nearly 93 and is the last living member of the Kenny family. Lorraine Winkelbauer

Sylvester and Maurine Winkelbauer

Sylvester Winkelbauer was born January 12, 1912, to Frank and Othelia (Meyer) Winkelbauer, the oldest of thirteen children. He attended St. Frances Catholic School and after that he worked as a farmhand. He later went to Minnesota and later to Helena, Montana, and worked at a dairy.

When World War II broke out, he was in the first group to be drafted. After eight months in the service, he was discharged as were all the men his age. He arrived home a few days before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

On December 10, 1941, he married Maurine Dendinger, daughter of Lou and Lucy Dendinger, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Coleridge, Nebraska.

In April, 1942, Sylvester was called back to the service, this time for four years. The company he was previously in was sent overseas, so he was reassigned and sent to school. Later he worked in the office at Fort Crook south of Omaha. This is now Offutt Air Force Base. A daughter, Mary Catherine, was born October 16, 1942. They lived in Omaha after that and a son, Bill, was born in May, 1944.

In June, 1944, Sylvester was sent to school again, this time at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He was placed in the Medics and went to France where he was with the 230th General Hospital for eight months. He was then discharged.

The family lived in Omaha until February, 1948, and a son, Mike, was born in May, 1947.

In February, 1948, they moved to the Dendinger farm near Coleridge and they bought this farm in July, 1949. They farmed and had a dairy for twenty-eight years. Their son, Charles, and his wife, Jane, bought the farm in 1976, after Sylvester and Maurine retired to the acreage they bought from John and Fern Munter. In December, 1978, they sold the acreage to John and Judy Sullivan and bought the Sullivan house in Randolph.

They have eight children: Cathy (Mrs. Jerry Seyl) of Bellevue; Bill of Omaha; Mike of Ord; Charles of Randolph; Paul of Laurel; Ed of Coleridge; Richard of Randolph, and Russell of Omaha.

Five of the boys entered the service after high school graduation: Bill, Charles, and Paul in the Army, and Mike and Ed in the Marines.

They have fifteen grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Henry and Emma Witte

Henry Ludwig Witte was born January 26, 1883 in Oldenburg, Germany. He was the son of Dietrich and Sophie (Kalmus) Witte.

In 1900, at the age of 17, he came to the United States and worked as a hired man on farms in Washington and Thurston Counties.

He married Emma Bottger on June 26, 1913 at Emerson, Nebraska. Emma was the daughter of Johann and Aline (Bochalu) Bottger of rural Emerson. They lived on a small farm near Thurston, Nebraska where their oldest son, Ernest, was born in August 1915.

In the year 1917, they bought a farm in Cedar County, located four miles east of Randolph, Nebraska and moved to this farm in March 1918. Their property was moved by
railroad freight trains, leasing a stock car for the horses and cattle and a flatcar and boxcar for the machinery and household goods, etc. The family traveled by passenger train from Emerson to Randolph.

The farm bordered the surveyed site of Wareham, which included three homes, a general store, two grain elevators, a stockyard and a small train depot. The right of way of the Chicago Burlington Railroad passed through the farm, a branch line running from Sioux City, Iowa to O’Neill, Nebraska.

They lived on this farm for 20 years. During these years four other children were born Bertha, June 8, 1918; Alice, January 14, 1920; Evelyn, January 11, 1923 and Melvin, May 11, 1925.

The five Witte children all attended and finished elementary education in the rural school of District 70 South, known as the Wareham School. They also attended and were members of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Randolph.

In 1937, their dad and mother and Melvin moved to a nearby farm, three miles east of Randolph. This was their home until 1951.

Henry liked to farm, growing corn, small grain and hay, as well as raising hogs and cattle. He and Emma also had a great interest in gardening and planting trees. In the 48 years of farming, they planted four orchards and trees on four farmsteads that they occupied.

Emma died in January 1952 following surgery at a Sioux City hospital.

In the fall of 1952, Henry retired and moved to Wayne, Nebraska.

Melvin married Bonnie Broer of Randolph in August 1953 and continued the farming operation until March 1964.

Henry died July 9, 1965 at the Wayne Hospital after a short illness.

The present addresses of the family are: Ernest and Lucille Witte, Randolph, Nebraska; Bertha Witte (Stolz), Imperial Beach, California; Alice Higham, Overland Park, Kansas; Evelyn Witte, San Carlos, California; Melvin and Bonnie Witte, Yankton, South Dakota.

There are 15 grandchildren. Ernest and Lucille Witte

Arthur and Dorothy Wurdinger

Arthur Wurdinger was born June 19, 1912 at Randolph, Nebraska. He is the son of Joseph, Sr. and Mary (Denner) Wurdinger. On December 30, 1952, he married Dorothy Nowatzke at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Portsmouth, Iowa. Two sons were born to this union: Lynn, born May 15, 1956 and Paul, born January 24, 1959.

Dorothy is a member of the Wareham Club and Circle 7, St. Frances Catholic Church.

Art was in the Air Force from May 28, 1942 – October 31, 1945. The rest of his life has been spent at Randolph farming.

Art and Dorothy are members of St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church. Art and Dorothy Wurdinger

Joe Wurdinger

Joe Wurdinger born February 18, 1899, was raised in the Randolph Community. He has spent most of his life on the “home place”, located four miles east of Randolph. He became a resident of the Colonial Manor in April of 1985.

Joe is the son of Joseph, Sr. and Mary (Denner) Wurdinger. He is the third oldest of ten children. His brothers and sisters are: Lex (Craven), Rose (Borgman) and Art; the rest are deceased: Lucy (Friedenbach), Lawrence, John, Alfons, Mary (Broeker) and Edward.

Joe is a member of St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church. He has been a farmer his entire life. Art and Dorothy Wurdinger

Johanan and Theresa Wurdinger

The following history of the Johanan Wurdinger family was taken from a bronze plaque placed on a marker erected by Joseph Wurdinger on the Randolph, Nebraska “home place” as a memorial tribute to his grandparents:

“The Johanan Wurdinger family immigrated from Europe to the United States in October of 1882. They crossed the Atlantic on the ship TONOW in a total of ten days. Making the trip across the ocean and settling in Panama, Iowa, were Johanan and Theresa Wurdinger and four children. Sons: Tony, Joseph and Frank and a daughter, Mary, made the trip with their parents. Two years earlier, three of their daughters, Hilda, Anna and Elizabeth came to the U.S. and settled at Panama, Iowa.

After eight years of farming in Iowa, they moved to Nebraska and bought 480 acres of grassland at $10.00 per acre, four miles east of Randolph, Township 19, Section 25.

When they moved to Randolph, they crossed the Missouri River at Council Bluffs, Iowa with all of their belongings and livestock on a ferryboat arriving in Randolph on February 15, 1890.”

The first years the Wurdingers lived in Nebraska, the boys, Tony, Joseph and Frank worked for the railroad. In helping to build the line from Belden to Randolph, they earned money to pay the taxes on the land.

Joseph and Mary Wurdinger

Joseph Wurdinger, Sr. was born January 1, 1876 in Austria, the son of Johanna and Theresa Wurdinger. Johanna and Theresa were farmers in Austria.

Joseph crossed the Atlantic on a ship called Tonow with his parents and siblings. They settled at Panama, Iowa where they farmed for eight years. In 1890, the Wurdengers crossed the Missouri River by ferry at Council Bluffs, Iowa setting four miles east of Randolph, Nebraska at the present day “home place”, where they broke the prairie to farm the land.

On October 25, 1894, Joseph married Mary (Denner) at St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph, Nebraska. They lived on the “home place”. 
Joseph and Mary were the parents of ten children: Lucy (Freidenbach) born April 10, 1896 – died May 1919; Lawrence born September 5, 1897 – died May 30, 1983; Joe born February 18, 1899; John born August 11, 1900 – died August 11, 1968; Alfons born December 20, 1901 – died April 15, 1969; Mary (Boecker) born March 10, 1903 – died November 6, 1980; Lex (Craven) born January 24, 1906; Rose (Borgman) born March 1, 1908; Edward born March 11, 1910 – died May 19, 1976 and Arthur born June 19, 1912.

Joseph, Sr. passed away July 15, 1951 and Mary passed away in April of 1917. They both have been buried at St. Frances Cemetery, Randolph, Nebraska.

Joseph, Sr. hauled lumber for the building of St. Frances Catholic Church in Randolph. They were members of St. Frances and spent their lives farming. *Art and Dorothy Wurdinger*

**Lynn and Sandy Wurdinger**

Lynn and Sandy were married November 14, 1981 at St. Mary’s Church, Panama, Iowa.

Lynn (born May 15, 1956) is the son of Arthur and Dorothy Wurdinger. He attended St. Frances Elementary and Randolph High School graduating in 1974.

Sandy (born December 10, 1959) is the daughter of Joseph and Doris Jean Nowatzke. She attended St. Mary’s Elementary and Harlan Public Schools. She graduated in 1978 from Harlan Community High School.

Lynn and Sandy reside four miles east of Randolph in a trailer house on Joe Wurdinger’s farm. Lynn has been engaged in farming since graduation from high school. Sandy is the treasurer of School District #45 at Randolph.

Lynn and Sandy are members of St. Frances de Chantal Catholic Church. They enjoy softball, tennis and golfing.

**Alvin and Kathryn Young**

Alvin “Slim” Young and Kathryn Loberg were married on June 4, 1919 at Wayne, Nebraska. Alvin was born September 11, 1896 at Hancock, Iowa to William and Stella (Halladay) Young. In 1902, he moved with his parents to a farm in Wayne County, Nebraska. Kathryn (Loberg) Young was born March 9, 1897 at Carroll, Nebraska to August and Ursula (Braunger) Loberg. She graduated from Carroll High School and attended Wayne State Teacher’s College after which she taught four years in rural schools. To this union two children were born: Mrs. Clarence (Joyce) Stapleman on April 12, 1920 and Paul Young on July 16, 1921.

Alvin and Kathryn spent their first years farming in the Laurel and Winside areas, the rest of their years were spent in the Randolph and Belden communities. Alvin “Slim” Young was a mechanic in the Nelson Chevrolet Garage in Randolph for many years and Kathryn was cook at the West Side Café, owned then by the Brandt family. In 1959, they went into partnership with Paul and Virginia Young and purchased the West Randolph Ballroom and Roller Skating Rink and built on an eight lane bowling alley. Alvin and Kathryn were members of the Union Presbyterian Church of Belden. They were blessed with ten grandchildren, one who is deceased and twenty-five great-grandchildren.

Alvin died at the age of 78, on August 11, 1975. Kathryn died at the age of 85, on October 26, 1982.