

Book 1 – The Family of John & Marceline Lauzon

CHAPTER 2 – the 1st Child – Blanche

(April 14, 2021)

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BLANCHE LAUZON & URBAN WOLTERS

Disclaimer: Although all genealogical and family information (names, spellings, dates, places, relationships, stories, etc) has been gathered in good faith the nature of such information can never be 100% accurate due to variable reliability of documents. As a result, please be skeptical of any material that seems unreasonable and inform the author of such issues. The author reserves the rights to update all information as more data becomes available.

THE EARLY LIFE OF BLANCHE

Blanche Lauzon was the first child born to John B and Marceline Cholette Lauzon (see Chapter 1). She was born on Nov 11, 1906, 11 months after the January wedding of her parents. Blanche's parents were




Blanche, about 3 yrs., circa 1910




Blanche, about 5 yrs.,
circa 1911

Chapter

Children of John & Marceline Lauzon

 **Blanche M Lauzon**
(Wolters, Gellenbeck)
1906–1993


 **Lucille Marie Lauzon**
(Kittson)
1908–1985


 **Marie "Evelyn" Lauzon**
(Spielbauer)
1909–1980

 **Joseph Samuel Lauzon**
1910–1977


 **Yvonne Marie Lauzon**
(Schmidling)
1911–1974

 **Irene Marie Lauzon**
(Siefert, Brinkmann)
1914–2006

 **JOSEPH "ALBERT" LAUZON**
1915–1960

 **Marie Olive Lauzon**
(Scoggins)
1917–2008

 **Bernice Louise Lauzon**
(Jozwik)
1919–2012

 **Dorothy Mae Lauzon**
(Lewandowski)
1922–2014

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newlyweds who lived in the small, rural community of Schaffer in Bark River Township of Delta Co, Michigan. The community was also the home of Marceline's older brothers and sister. The Lauzon family finally ended up with 10 children over a period of 15 years.

CHILD BIRTH RESPONSIBILITIES

Blanche and Lucille, being the two oldest children, were required to get their younger siblings out of the house whenever their mother was due to give birth to another child. They would take the kids to uncle Clement Cholette's house, which was within walking distance, and stay there for a few days. The uncle was a doctor and that is where the older girls learned "the facts of life", since their own mother would never talk about such things. It was a sin to think or talk about things like that. Barbara Wolters Reuss, Blanche's daughter, speculated that such caring for the younger children and the household may have been a reason why Blanche jumped at a chance to get out of the house. [4]



Blanche, about 6 yrs., circa 1912



Blanche, about 12 yrs.,
circa 1918



Blanche, about 17 yrs.,
circa 1923

ELOPING

Blanche ran away from home to elope in Duluth, Minnesota with Urban Wolters. This was within months after the Lauzon family returned from their two years of living in Canada. Blanche was married on Oct 11, 1926 at the age of 19 years. Urban was 24 years old at the time. The family learned about the marriage in a letter from Blanche. Marceline, her mother who didn't know the guy that much, was hurt quite a bit by the elopement [3].

URBAN WOLTERS' YOUTH

Little is known about Urban's youth, other than the 1910 and 1920 US Census that showed him living with his mother.

- 1901 – Birth in Sturgeon Bay, WI
- 1910 – LaCrosse, WI with Mother & Father
- 1920 – Kaukauna, WI with Mother

We do not know anything about his residency or occupation, other than that provided by family stories.

In about 1926 Urban Wolters met Blanche when he was in Escanaba, Michigan selling magazines door-to-door, along with a friend [14]. She was apparently infatuated with Urban and wanted to leave the household. Perhaps she didn't get along with her father, or she was inspired by her younger brother, Joe, and his running away from home at about the same time. Blanche never mentioned the word "eloped" when she answered her daughter Barb's frequent questions.

Urban and Blanche traveled to Duluth and were married on Oct 11, 1926. When Barb asked her mother if she was married in a church, she said, 'Yes', but didn't mention anything about eloping. She never told Barb the time-line from when Urban first knocked at the door and when she was married. Barb guessed that leaving home and not marrying right away was considered "eloping" [14].

LIVING IN TEXAS

Barb Wolters Reuss said that soon after Blanche and Urban were married they moved to Texas. This has been verified by independent documentation. Neither Blanche nor Urban were named in the 1930 US Census of Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, or Texas.

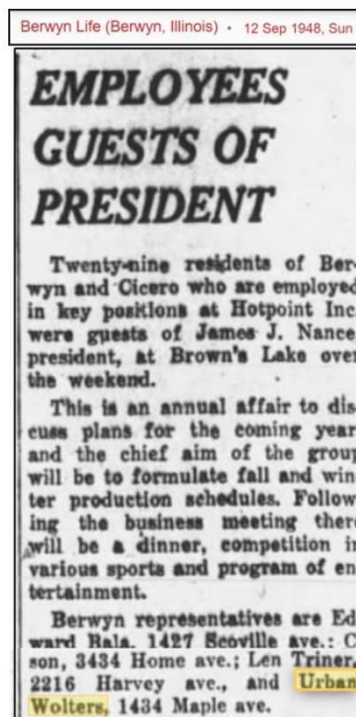
Barb told a secret that she had never told anyone concerning Blanche and Urban living in Texas.

"Urban was imprisoned shortly after Blanche met him selling magazines at her door. The story my mother told, and knowing her, she probably doubted in some ways, the friend of my father who also sold magazines, according to my father, withheld checks or cash that customers had paid him. I guess because they were a "team" they were equally accused and prosecuted. So my father was imprisoned in Texas for I believe, am guessing my memory, which is failing, says two years. During that two-year period my mother had to find work to have money to live on. She worked taking care of people's children in their homes while they worked. She sure had enough experience. When he was released at the end of two years, they moved to Chicago where my Dad eventually met Bob Kittson. Until right now I never asked my mother what Lucille did during that two years that my mother worked caring for other's' children. We don't know if she worked in Texas or went home and kept quiet about it all" [14].

MOVE TO CHICAGO

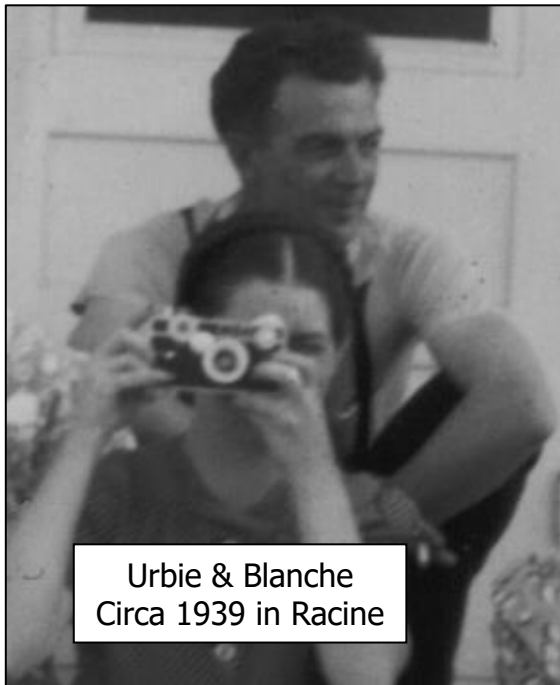
After living in Texas, Blanche and Urban moved to the Chicago area. He worked in various locations for Hotpoint, a division of General Electric Appliances.

- Per the US Census Blanche and Urban lived in Forest Park, Illinois in 1935.
- In 1940 they lived at 1121 Madison in Oak Park according to the 1940 draft registration of Bob Kittson (who lived in Milwaukee at the time).
- Urban's WWII draft registration in 1942 showed them living at 5150 W Madison St in Chicago. At the time he worked for Edison General Electric Appliances and was described as being



5'-10" tall, weighed 165 pounds, and had a scar on the left side of his neck.

- In 1948 the family lived at 1484 Maple Ave in Berwyn, IL when Urban dined at the Hotpoint presidents house in Sept.



Urbie & Blanche
Circa 1939 in Racine

In the mid-1940's Urban got his brother-in-law Bob Kittson a job at Hotpoint [14].? Bob had been working at the Milwaukee Stockyards.

ADOPTED KIDS

It seems that Blanche and Urban could not give birth to children. They adopted Barbara in 1941 and Diane in 1946. Please see the separate biographies on each of them at the end of this chapter.

Barb recalled that Urban couldn't have been a nicer man. [14]



Blanche circa 1941



**Barbara Margaret
Wolters (Ruess)**

1941-2019



**Diane Elizabeth Wolters
(Barkley)**

1946-2003



Blanche with her newly adopted daughter, Barbara, July, 1941



Barb, circa 1942



Urban, Barbara & Blanche
Christmas, circa 1944

Urban Wolters, 1942
World War II Draft Registration

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921)

SERIAL NUMBER **473** 1. NAME (Print) **Urban** **Nene** **Wolters** ORDER NUMBER **11448**
T **Urban** (First) (Middle) (Last) T **11448**

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
5150 W. Madison St. Chicago **Cook** **Illinois**
(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)

[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]

3. MAILING ADDRESS
Same
(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)

4. TELEPHONE **Manfield 2966** 5. AGE IN YEARS **40** 6. PLACE OF BIRTH **Sturgeon Bay**
(Exchange) (Number) (Age) (Day) (Month) (Year) (Town or county) (State or country)

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
Mrs. Blanche Wolters 5150 W. Madison St. Chicago, Ill.

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
Edison General Electric Appliance Co.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
5100 W. Taylor St. Chicago **Cook** **Ill.**
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.
Urban Wolters
(Registrant's signature)

D. S. S. FORM 1 (Revised 1-1-42) (over) ☆ GPO 16-21630-2



Urban, circa 1944

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION
White	5' 10"	165#	Sallow
	EYES	HAIR	Light
Negro	Blue	Blonde	Ruddy
	Gray	Red	Dark
Oriental	Hazel	Brown	Freckled
	Brown	Black	Light brown
Indian	Black	Gray	Dark brown
		Bald	Black
Filipino			

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification
Scar on left side of neck.

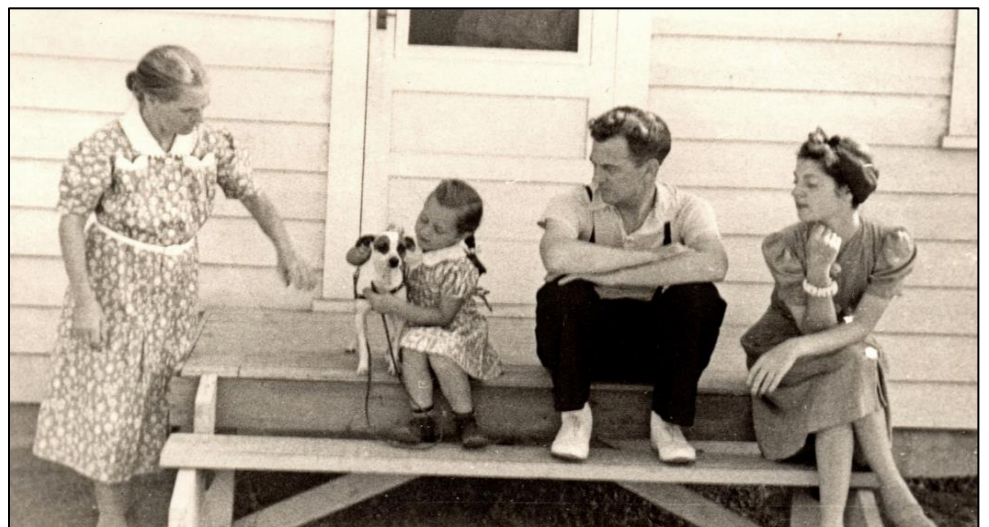
I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Sadie M. Grant
(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board **136** **Chicago, Ill.**
(Number) (City or county) (State)

Date of registration **FEB 16 '42** **731**
(Date) (Number)

LOCAL BOARD
CHICAGO CITY No. 45
4752 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)



Visiting Gramma Marceline: Barb, Urban & Blanche Wolters
(unknown name of doa) circa 1947

In about 1949 the Wolters family lived with Bob, Lucille and Joan Kittson for a year while their first house was being built. We had lived in a two-room flat until then. [19]



About 1949 "Early Morning Fishing"-Blanche & Lucille row the boat for some early morning fishing while the rest of the family sleeps at a cottage that was rented every summer by the Wolter, Kittson & Spielbauer families.



Urban and John Lauzon, circa 1947



Blanche, circa 1956



Blanche, circa 1960



Urban & Blanche at Barbara's
wedding in Chicago in Jan
1967



Blanche, 1967

RETIREMENT

Urban worked for Hotpoint Division of General Electric for 40 years and retired in 1961 as a sales statistician. In 1966 the family lived on LeMoyne Avenue in Chicago.

Urban died in 1970 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. It has not been determined [?] where Urban was buried.

In 1970, Blanche lived in N. Fond du Lac, Wisconsin at the time of her mother's death [2].



4 Generations in Sept 1968 - Blanche Wolters,
Marceline holding David Reuss, Barb Reuss



Blanche, 1970

Urban's Obit, Dec 15, 1970

Resident of Village Dies in Hospital

Urban Wolters, 68, of 10 Mockingbird Lane, North Fond du Lac, died at 8:12 a.m. today at St. Agnes Hospital.

He was born May 11, 1902, in Sturgeon Bay, a son of Gustave and Margaret Rommel Wolters. He married Blanche Lauzon on Oct. 11, 1926.

Mr. Wolters retired nine years ago as a sales statistician with General Electric Co.

Surviving are his widow; two daughters, Mrs. John Reuss of Lombard, Ill., and Mrs. Claude Barkley of Chicago; five grandchildren; his mother, Mrs. Joseph Drouth of the city; one sister, Mrs. Lloyd Brasher of the city; and one brother, Floyd Wolters of Appleton.

His father preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be held Friday at Brust Funeral Home at Lombard, Ill. Burial will be in Green of Heavens Cemetery, Lombard.

Friends may call from 3 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Uecker-Witt Funeral Home.



March, 1970, Blanche staying with Dave & Laura while Barb was in hospital having Peggy



Sept 1979: Irene, Dorothy & Blanche, dog? – "Having fun "our" orchard"



Blanche at Lauzon 1980 Picnic

BLANCHE MARRIES GELLENBECK

After Urban died, Blanche lived with her sister, Irene, in Racine. While at a bingo game at St. Edward's she met Mike Gellenbeck. He was living in Florida, but had come to Racine to visit his children. They got married, and Blanche moved to Florida with him. Marie and Roy

Scoggins visited them in Florida and reported they had a very nice house on a canal and had a boat. Blanche and Mike were divorced at some point and she moved back to Illinois where her daughter, Barb Reuss, lived. [23] Mike died in about 1993.



Blanche, circa 1982



Blanche, circa 1985



Blanche, circa 1986



Blanche, circa 1988



Blanche's 87th Birthday, 1993

BLANCHE'S PASSING

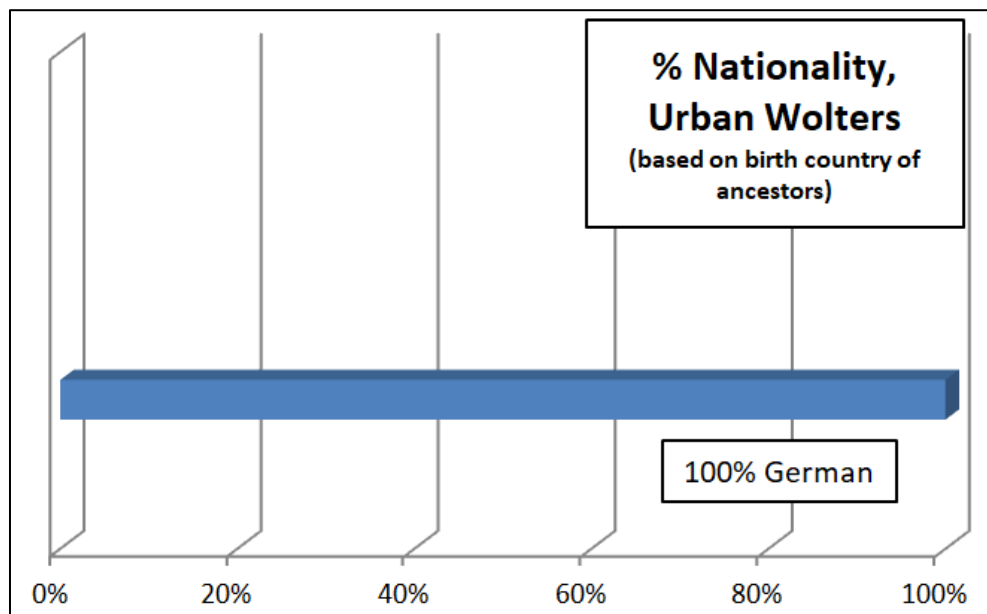
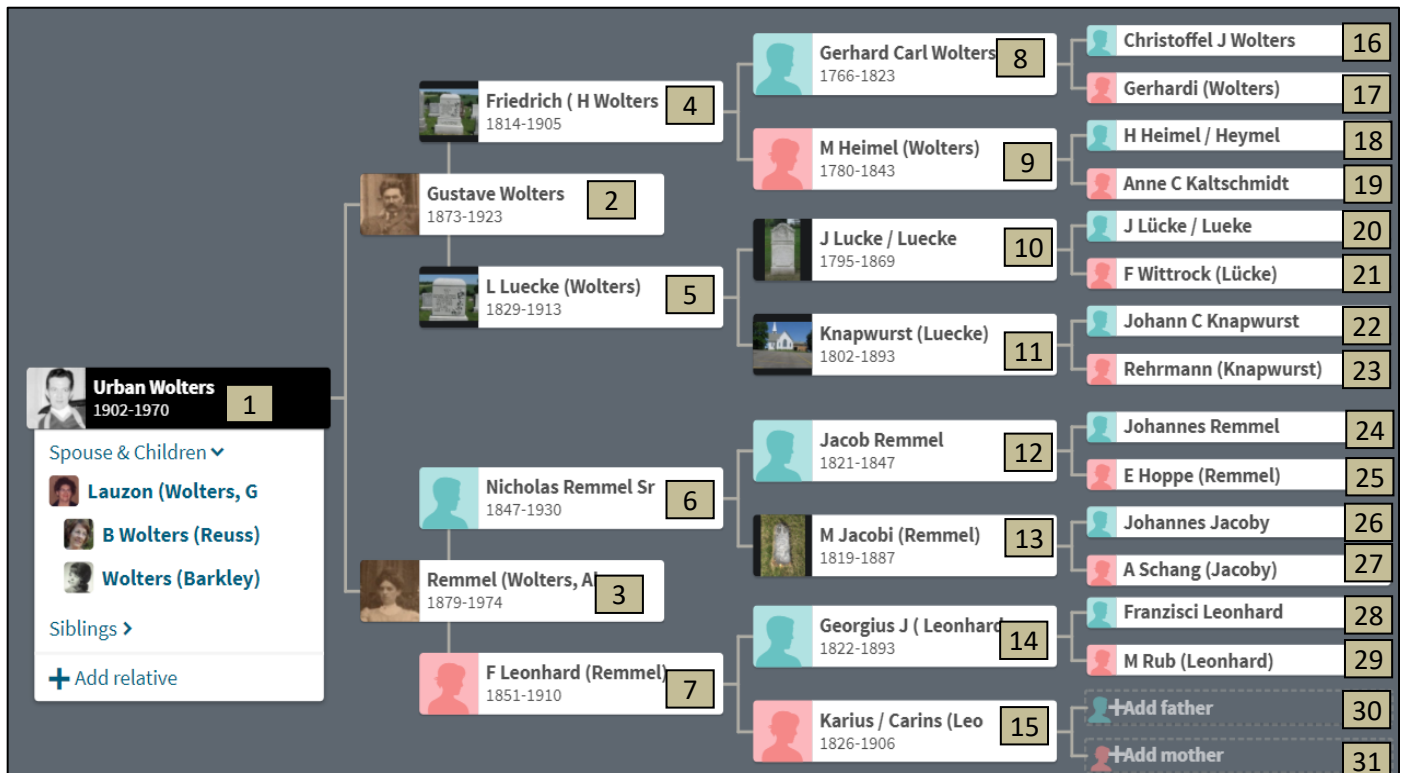
Blanche died on April 6, 1993 in Wheaton, Illinois and was buried in the Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery in Hillside, Cook Co, Illinois.

Blanche M <i>Lauzon</i> Gellenbeck	
BIRTH	unknown
DEATH	6 Apr 1993 Wheaton, DuPage County, Illinois, USA
BURIAL	<u>Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery</u> Hillside, Cook County, Illinois, USA
MEMORIAL ID	59329255 · View Source

Blanche M Wolters Gellenbeck, nee Lauzon, 86, of Wheaton and formerly of Lombard, died Tuesday, April 6, in DuPage Convalescent Center, Wheaton. Mrs. Gellenbeck belonged to the Sacred Heart Church, Lombard, the Younger Than Ever Club of Sacred Heart, the York Township Seniors and Abbey Seniors of Elmhurst. Funeral services will be held at 11:30 am Friday, April 9, at Brust Funeral Home, 135 S Main St., Lombard, with the Rev. Arno Dennerlein officiating. Interment is at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside. She is survived by her daughters, Barbara (John) Reuss and Diane Barkley; her grandchildren, David, Laura, Catherine and Peggy Reuss and Robert and Elizabeth Barkley; her great-grandchild, Molly Deeble; five sisters; and many other relatives. She was preceded in death by her husband, Urban; her grandson, Richard Barkley; two brothers; and two sisters. Memorials to the Alzheimer's Association, 4709 Golf Road, St. 1015, Skokie 60076, would be appreciated.

Wolters Ancestors

There are no blood relatives of the Wolters line in the Lauzon family because Blanche and Urban did not give birth to any children. Both of the kids in their family were adopted. More information is covered on these children later in chapter 2 at Subchapters 2B (Barbara) and 2D (Diane). Since there are no blood descendants of the Wolters family in the Lauzon tree this biography only covers the parents and grandparents (#2-7) of Urban Wolters. More information on the rest of the persons in the Wolters family is contained in the Lauzon Family Tree at Ancestry.com.



Wolters Biographical Sketches

Parents of Urban Wolters

#2. Gustave Wolters &

#3. Margaret Rimmel

(Urban Wolter's Parents)

Gustave Wolters was the youngest of 9 children born into the family of Frederick and Louisa Wolters (persons #4 & 5). He was born in 1873 at their farm near Waukon, Iowa. Gustave lived in Iowa and worked at his father's farm until his late 20s.

By 1900, he probably had enough of farm life and left it. In that year he worked as a photographer in the Village of Hilbert, in Calumet County, Wisconsin, which is located just west of Manitowoc. This was county his parents had first settled when they came to America. Gustave was single and lived in a boarding house in the village. Around that time he met Margaret Rimmel.

Mary Margaret Rimmel was always known as Maggie. Her father, Nicholas, had emigrated from Germany in 1856 and worked as a shoemaker and in other occupations in Wrightstown, Brown Co, Wisconsin. Maggie was the 7th of the 14 children in the Rimmel family. She was born on Feb 1, 1879.

Maggie and Gustave Wolters were married in Green Bay, WI on Feb 19, 1901. Urban Wolters was the first of 3 children that made up Maggie and Gustave's family. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin on May 11, 1902. This ship-building community was about 80 miles north of Green Bay.

We do not know what motivated Gustave and Maggie to move multiple times but, it was probably due to changes of Gustave's work. By 1910 the family had moved to La Crosse, WI and rented the house at 908 Adams Street [7]. At that time Gustave worked as a traveling salesman, which is the same occupation as Urban when he met Blanche.

In 1920 the family whereabouts started getting confusing. The 1920 US Census showed that Maggie lived in the City of Kaukauna with her three kids, but Gustave was not shown. Barb Wolters Reuss was told that her father, Urban, was seventeen when his father died, which would put his father's death as 1919 [17]. Perhaps, they were divorced, separated, or pulled apart by WWI military service.



Urban Wolters

1902–1970



**Ethel Vera Wolters
(Prasher)**

1908–1985

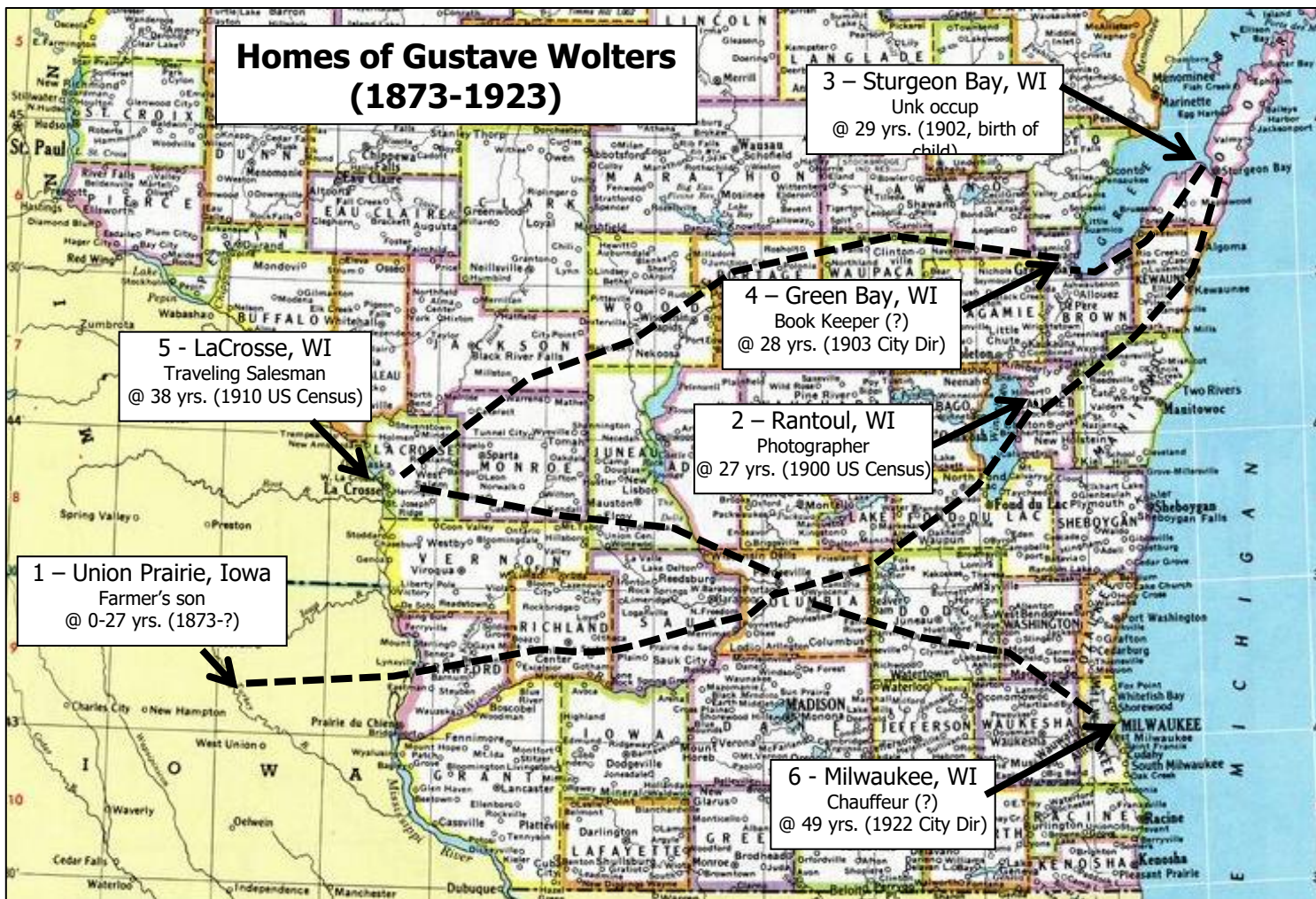


Floyd E. Wolters

1911–2009

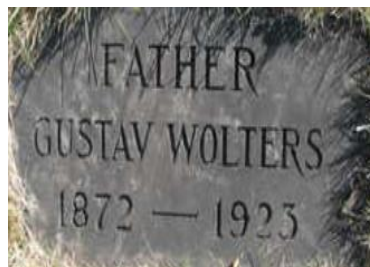


Maggie & Gustave Wolters, circa 1915



Military records for a Gustave Wolters were found, but with a mother living in Brooklyn, this person could not be confirmed as the same Gustave as ours.

We know from the 1922 Milwaukee City Directory that a person named Gustave Wolters lived in Milwaukee and worked as a chauffeur. This is a reasonable match with “our” Gustave, since it is supported by the Find-A-Grave listing that showed a Gustave Wolters was buried in Valhalla Memorial Park in Milwaukee (5402 N. 91st Street) in 1923. Another confirmation that this Gustave Wolters is very likely the father of Urban comes from the Find-A-Grave website that linked him with Margaret Rimmel and that Gustave’s older brother, Fred Wolters, was also buried at Valhalla Park.



Gustav’s Grave in Milwaukee, at Valhalla Memorial Park

After her husband, Gustave, died in 1923, Urban's mother had a hard time raising three children. Her youngest child, Floyd, was put in an orphanage because Maggie could not work to make money and have youngsters at home too. The two other kids, Urban and Ethel, were sent to Iowa in the summer, when they didn't have school. There, they lived on a farm with their uncle. Barb Wolters Reuss reflected that "Lives can get very complicated, can't they?" [17]

Maggie married again in 1926, to William Abendroth in Appleton. He had children from a previous marriage, but none with Maggie.

William Abendroth
 William Abendroth, 68, 1328 W. Pine street, died about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon after a 3-year illness.
 Born in Grand Chute July 18, 1875, he lived in Appleton and vicinity all his life. He was employed by the Kimberly-Clark corporation for 35 years and he retired 2 years ago. He was a member of the Holy Name society and St. Joseph's church.
 Survivors are the widow; a daughter, Mrs. Edella Foster, Menasha; a step-daughter, Mrs. Floyd Plummer, Appleton; a son, Orville, Appleton; two step-sons, Floyd Wolters, Appleton, and Urban Wolters, Chicago; three brothers, John and Edward Abendroth, Grand Chute, and George Abendroth, Greenville, and 8 grandchildren.
 Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Friday morning at St. Joseph's church. The casket will lie in state at 2:30 at the Wichmann Funeral Home. Burial will be at St. Joseph's cemetery. The body will be at the funeral home from 5 o'clock tonight until the hour of service. Viewing will be held at 7:30 tonight and Thursday morning.

Obit: July 12, 1944

Margaret Drouth
 Mrs. Margaret Drouth, 95, a resident of Maple Manor Nursing Home, died there at 8 a.m. today.
 She was born Feb. 1, 1879, at Wrightstown, Brown County, a daughter of Nicholas and Frances Remmel. She was married to Joseph Drouth. Mrs. Drouth resided in Fond du Lac the last seven years.
 Surviving are a son, Floyd Wolters of Appleton; a daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Prasher of Fond du Lac; 10 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and a sister, Sister Odile of Evansville, Ind. A son, Urban Wolters, preceded her in death.
 Funeral arrangements are pending at Uecker-Witt Funeral Home.

Fond du Lac Reporter
 June 25, 1974

In 1930, Urban's younger sister, Ethel Wolters, married Lloyd Prasher in Appleton, where they raised 5 children. She died in Pasco, Florida in 1985.

In 1936, Floyd Wolters, Urban's younger brother, married Helen Crabb in Appleton. He was born in 1911 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Floyd's family consisted of 5 children. Floyd died in Neenah in 2009. Barbara Reuss communicated with her uncle's family while she lived in Alabama.

After William Abendroth died in 1944 Maggie married Joseph Drouth. There appeared to be several persons with this name in the Fox Valley and it is unclear which was Maggie's

husband. There were various newspaper articles about a man named Joseph Drouth concerning illegal dealings, failed support payments, etc. but, it has not been confirmed to be the same person.

Ultimately, Urban's mother died in 1974 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin as Mrs. Drouth.



Maggie's Grave in Oshkosh, at Calvary Catholic Cemetery

LEGAL BATTLES OF JOSEPH DROUSETH

Winnebago Co Court Record
1924

Title: Drouth VS. Drouth
Case Type: Divorce
Court: County Court
Year: 1924
County: Winnebago
Case Number: 3128

Entity	Role
Matilda Drouth	Plaintiff
Joseph Drouth	Defendant

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Oct 3, 1925

CASES IN THE COURT

Harry Didrickson of Menasha, pleaded guilty in municipal court to having sold, on Aug. 15, certain chopped meat containing preservatives injurious to the health. He was fined \$10 and costs with the alternative of thirty days in the workhouse. The case against Joseph Drouth, charged with non-support, was adjourned to Oct. 7, at 10 o'clock and bail was fixed at \$500. William Keene, a local speeder, pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and costs.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Dec 1, 1925

The non-support case of state vs. Joseph Drouth was adjourned until Feb. 3.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Oct 14, 1926

TO HAVE JURY TRIAL

Joseph Drouth of Menasha Pleads Not Guilty in Municipal Court to Non-Support Charge.

Joseph Drouth of Menasha, pleaded not guilty to a charge of non-support in municipal court this morning. He was arrested on a bench warrant following his discharge from the United States marine corps. He is charged with failure to provide for a daughter, Marcella, 10 years old. Judge A. H. Goss set his case for a jury trial Oct. 29. Drouth failed to put up a \$300 bond and was committed to the county jail.

The man has been before the court at other times, once drawing a nine months workhouse sentence. At the time of his divorce he agreed to pay \$20 a month for the support of the child and it is alleged he has never made payment.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Oct 29, 1926

Short Notes

*Judge A. H. Goss this morning adjourned to Nov. 12 the hearing of Joseph Drouth on a charge of failure to support his 10-year-old child. The jury will be drawn on Nov. 10.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Sept 20, 1927

PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE OF FORGERY

Matter of Sentence in Case of Joseph Drouth Adjourned Until Next Monday

Joseph Drouth, Menasha, pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery when arraigned upon the information before Municipal Judge Goss this morning. The judge took the matter of sentence under advisement until Sept. 26.

Drouth admitted having signed the name Morgan S. Tews to a Valvoline Oil company check for \$22.50 Aug. 19. The check was one of several bogus checks on the oil company's blanks, which had been traced by the Neenah and Menasha police.

The defendant had been bound over to appear in municipal court here after a preliminary examination in justice court at Neenah.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
Sept 26, 1927

MENASHA MAN GETS STATE PRISON TERM

Joseph Drouth Given Indeterminate Sentence After Pleading Guilty

Joseph Drouth, Menasha, was sentenced to the state prison at Waupun for a term of from one to three years by Municipal Judge Goss, this morning. Drouth pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery several days ago.

The court was informed that Neenah police had traced several checks on the Valvoline Oil company, which had been signed with the name "Morgan S. Tews", to Drouth. The defendant had admitted he stole the blank checks from the oil company offices some time ago.

Drouth's sentence to Waupun was necessitated by a prior conviction, the judge informed him. He had pleaded guilty to a non-support charge on a previous occasion.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
May 6, 1936

A notice has been received here announcing the critical illness of Joseph J. Drouth, former Menasha man, who is in a hospital at Stanley, Wis., suffering from an attack of pneumonia.

Mrs. William Abendroth is seriously ill at her home on Appleton street.

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern
June 6, 1932

Court Dismisses City Cases

Acting on requests from Assistant City Atty. Vernon Swanson or the Oshkosh police department, Judge James V. Sitter dismissed city ordinance charges ranging from shoplifting to disorderly conduct in five cases Monday.

Joseph J. Drouth, 78, of 579A N. Main St., was acquitted of taking a bottle of aspirin from the Food Queen store, 717 Oregon St., on April 14. Value of the aspirin was estimated at 80 cents. The charges were dropped because no other complaints against Drouth had been filed.

Grandparents of Urban Wolters

#4. Frederick Wolters &

#5. Louisa Luecke

(Urbans Paternal Grandparents)

Frederick Wolters was born on July 16, 1814 in Uedem, Kleve, in the North Rhine-Westphalia area of Germany.

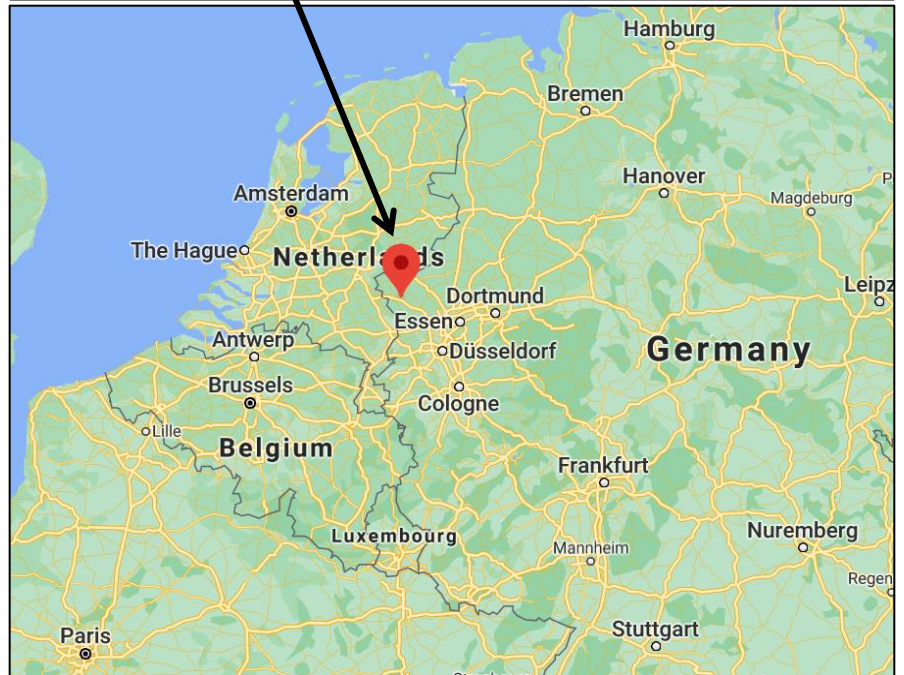
Frederick Frederick and several of his younger siblings emigrated from Germany in October, 1847, when he was about 33 [8]. At that time many Germans came to the U.S for a variety of reasons, such as military conflicts, government interference, religious persecution, religious freedom, etc. In his case, it appears that Frederick may have been among a large group that moved to start a Presbyterian congregation in Iowa. About 150 immigrants left their homeland in

Germany, and after a long and difficult journey, reached Milwaukee, Wisconsin on the 1st leg of their migration. Their destination from the outset was Iowa, but they were influenced by local land agents to remain in Wisconsin. Some stayed in Wisconsin and founded the Lipper Colony in the Manitowoc and Sheboygan areas.

Another branch of the Germans continued to Iowa and settled near Waukon. The Iowa community rapidly grew in strength through reinforcements from Wisconsin and further immigration from Germany.

The group established the Zalmona Presbyterian Church in 1856, located in the rural farmland just west of Waukon, Iowa [9].

Uedem is a village in Kleves, which is a town in the Lower Rhine region of northwestern Germany near the Dutch border and the river Rhine. From the 11th century onwards, Cleves was capital of a county and later a duchy. Today, Cleves is the capital of the district of Cleves in the current state of North Rhine-Westphalia.



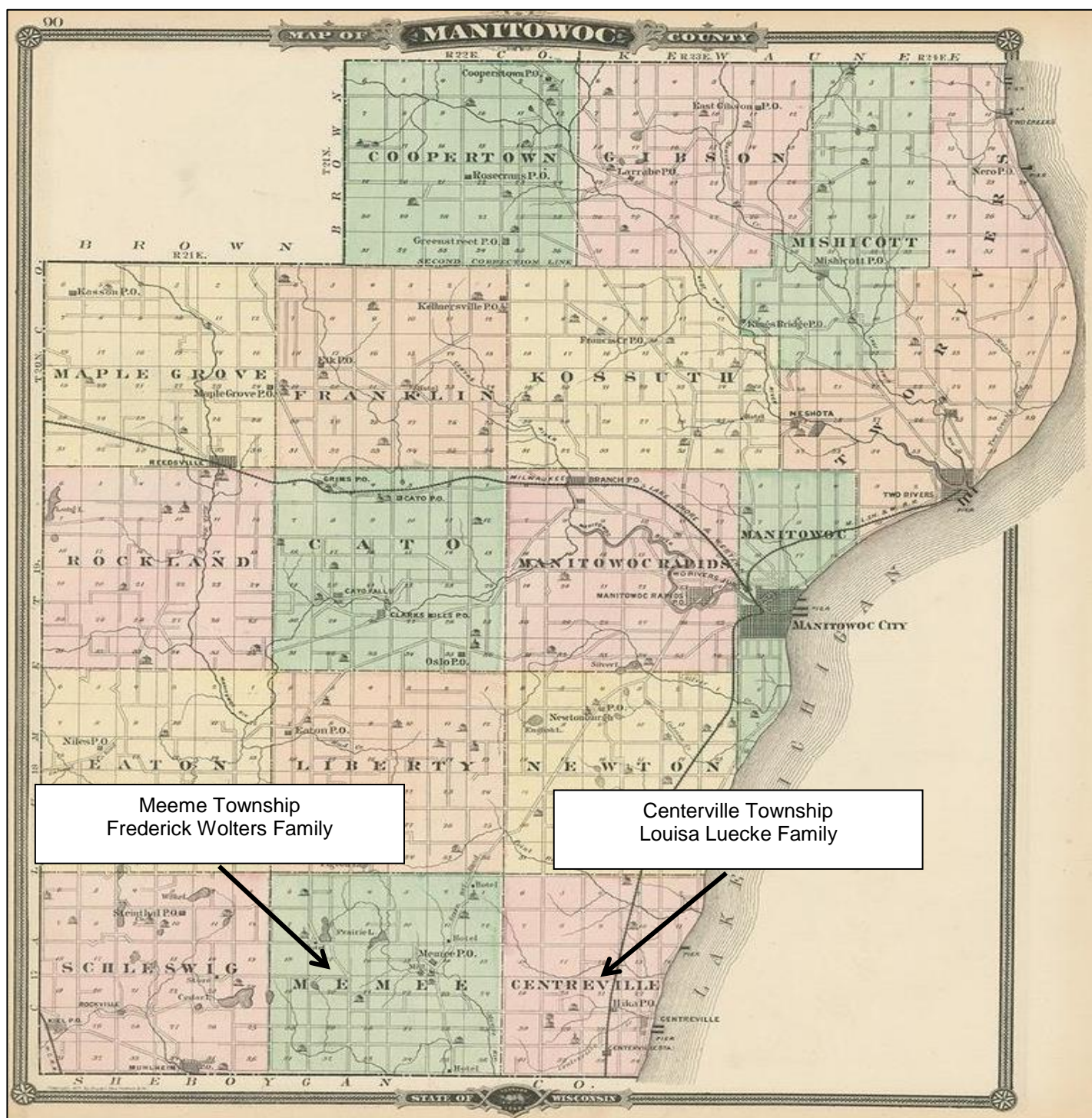
Frederick stayed in Wisconsin and established a farm in the southern part of Manitowoc County and was one of the early settlers in the area.

Louisa Luecke was born on April 27, 1829 in Hamlin, in Lower Saxony of Germany. She was the 2nd oldest of 10 children in the family of Johann and Wilhemine Luecke (persons #10 & 11). Louisa was Urban's paternal grandmother.

In 1847, when she was 18 years old Louisa immigrated with her family from Germany to America on the ship "Holsatia". They landed in New York. By 1850 they had moved to the Township of Centerville, Manitowoc, Wisconsin and set up a farm.

On September 4, 1850 Louisa married Frederick Wolters in Centerville. He was 36 and she was 21 years old.





Frederick and Louisa had 8 kids while farming in Meeme Township in Manitowoc County. The family lived there between 1850 and 1866. During this time Frederick became a naturalized American citizen.

In about 1866 the family moved to Union Prairie Township, Iowa, where 2 more kids were born into the family, including Gustave Wolters (person #2), the father of Urban. Gustave was the youngest of the couple's 10 children.

W - 436	
Name	WOLTERS, Frederick
Certificate No.	Date January 9, 1855
When Born About 1814	Where Born Prussia
Court No.	Circuit Court, Manitowoc County, Wis.
Name of Witnesses	Michael Herr
Date and port of arrival in U. S.	October, 1847 New York

Children of Frederick & Louisa Wolters



August Wolters
1851-1918



Marie Mary L Wolters
1853-1902



Julia C Wolters (Noll)
1855-1956



Frederick Ludwig Wolters
1857-1928



Wilhelmina Wolters (Wackerbarth)
1859-1942



Louisa Katherine Wolters (Noll)
1861-1900



Louis F Wolters
1864-1902



Louis G Wolter
1867-1912



Edward Christopher Wolters
1867-1948



Gustave Wolters
1873-1923

#2

Frederick was a successful farmer in Union Prairie. He owned 160 acres of land in the southwest quarter of section 34. Based on information in the 1880 US Census Agriculture Schedule, Frederick was one of the larger land owners in the township and leader in raising sheep, swine and poultry and growing a large variety of grain crops.

Frederick died in 1905 and was buried in the Zalmona Cemetery.



Zalmona Presbyterian church, Ludlow - ca1899

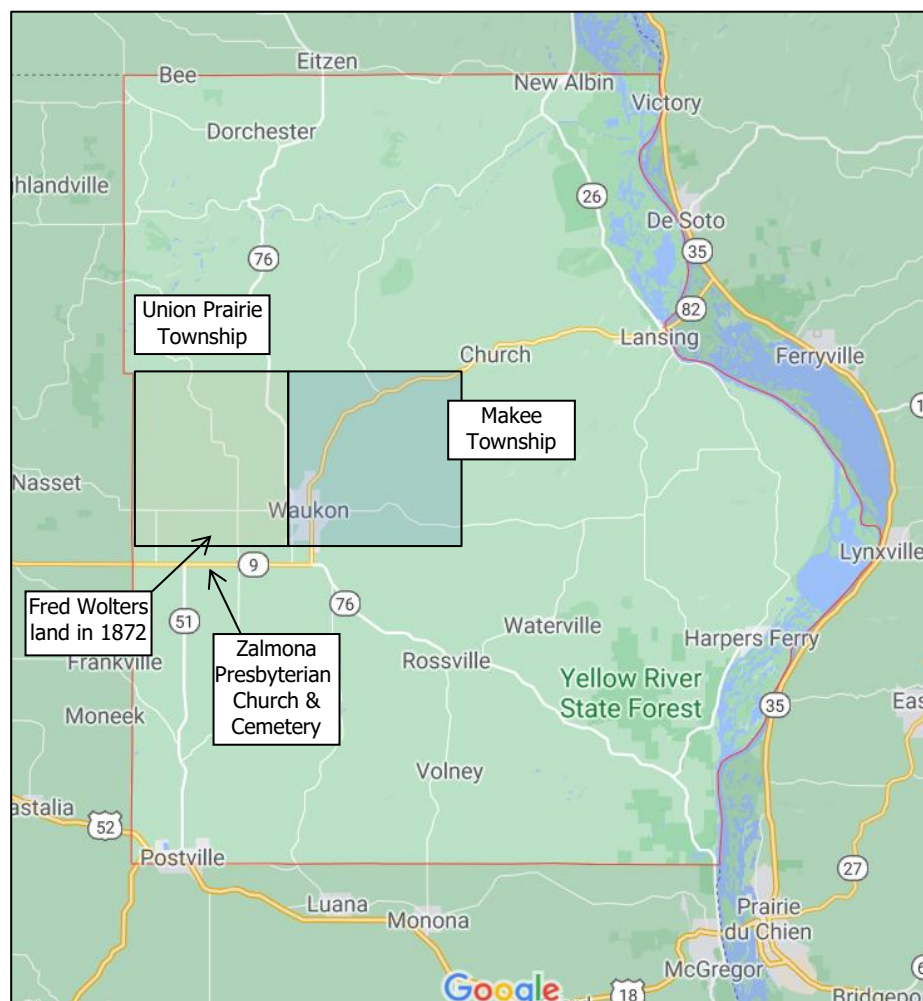
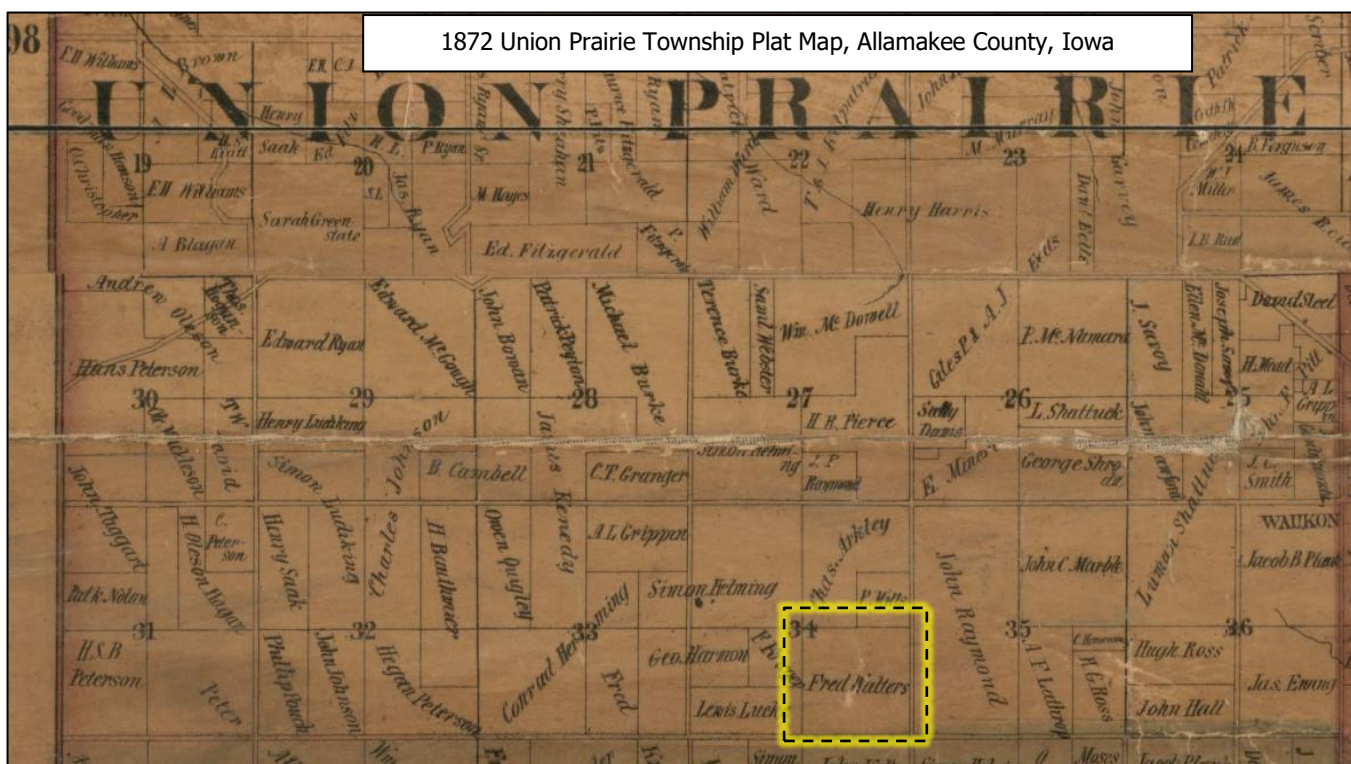
Nearby Church the Wolters attended



Tombstone in Zalmona Cemetery of Fred & Louisa Wolters

Frederick Wolters

1872 Union Prairie Township Plat Map, Allamakee County, Iowa



Allamakee County, Iowa

The Wolters were listed as living in Union Prairie, Makee & Waukon; but, probably lived only in Section 34 of Union Prairie; the other locations were probably based on changing post office or census reporting procedures. Most likely the family stayed on the farm that was near their beloved church.

Frederick Wolters

OF THE PERSON WHO CONDUCTS THIS FARM.		ACRES OF LAND.				FARM VALUES.			FENCES.		LABOR.			GRASS LANDS.									
THE NAME.	TENURE.	IMPROVED.		UNIMPROVED.		Of farm, including lease, fences, and buildings.	Of farming implements and machinery.	Of live stock.	Cost of building and repairing in 1919.	Cost of fertilizers purchased in 1919.	Amount paid for wages for farm labor during 1919, including value of board.	Wages hired labor in 1919 upon farm (and dairy) excluding house-work.	Estimated value of all farm productions (excluding stock, domestic or on hand) for 1919.	ACRES IN 1919.		PRODUCTS HARVESTED IN 1919.							
	Owned.	Rents for share of production.	Tilled, including fallow and grain in rotation, (whether pasture or meadow.)	Permanent meadows, orchards, vineyards.	Woodland and forest.									Other unimproved, including "old fields" not growing wood.	Mown.	Not Mown.	Hay.	Clover Seed.	Grass Seed.	Horses of all ages on hand June 1, 1920.	Cattle and hogs, all ages on hand June 1, 1920.		
		No.	No.	No.	No.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	No.	Dollars.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Bushels.	Bushels.	No.	No.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Waters Eugene	1			150	30	15		5000	200	600	40	20		1150	14		20	26					
Raymond William	1			40	13			1000	60	275			305	13		40	9						
Calhoun Andrew	1			110	24			5000	350	520	33		985	13		20							
Stall John	1			70	16	30		4500	200	300	28		550	14		25							
Robt Hugh	1			115	18	55		6000	400	1435			850	8		16		75					
Osborne Charles	1			110	12	50		7000	600	500	100		897	5		10							
Quinn Sophia	1			145	65	15		6000	75	325	10		1480										
Quinn Louis	1			140	45	20		6400	300	1000	50		1505	15	15	30							
Ray Jr Felix	1			250	75			12000	190	1735			350	2518	40	22	60	180					
Richards John	1			120	10	40		7000	500	400	125		75	625	10		15						

And Leader in Sheep, Swine and Poultry

CATTLE AND THEIR PRODUCTS.														SHEEP.														PORK.				POULTRY ON FARM.				POULTRY IN SHEDS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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Working ones.		Buck ones.		Other.		Cattle disposed.		Purchased.		Sold living.		Slaughtered.		Total, averaged for the movement.		Calves.		Lbs.		Lbs.		On hand Jan. 1, 1886.		Lbs.		Slaughtered.		Died by age.		Died of disease.		Died of cause of death.		Plumage.		Weight.		On hand Jan. 1, 1886.		Slaughtered.		Other.		Died.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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After her husband died in 1905, Louisa continued to live at the family farm near Waudon, Iowa. She died on May 6, 1913 and was buried next to her husband in the Zalmona Cemetery.

#7. Francisca Leonhard

(Urbans Maternal Grandparents)

In 1847, Nicholas Remmel was born in Orscholz in the Saarland area of Germany, He emigrated to the United States in October, 1856 and landed in New York on the ship, Mercury. He came with his mother, Margaret Jacobi Remmel, his sisters, Margarethe and Angela, and brothers Johan and Caspar (per Find-a-grave, Iowa).

Francisca was born in New York in August 1851 to George and Mary Ann Leonhard. She was their 3rd child out of 15 and also referred to as "Fannie". Her parents came to America in the late 1840s and by the 1860s they settled in Wrightstown Township, in Brown County, Wisconsin.

Nicholas married Fannie in 1868. The couple lived in Wrightstown from the time of their marriage and for the rest of their lives.

The Rimmel family had 15 or more children. Mary Margaret (person #3) was the 8th child.

In the 1870 US Census Nicholas was listed as a shoemaker. He was unable to read or write.

In 1880 the Census clearly defines that the Rimmel family lived in the Village of Wrightstown and that Nicholas was a laborer of some sort. The entire 1890 Census was lost in a fire so there is a gap in our knowledge of the family.
















The 1900 Census the revealed that the Rimmel's lived in Wrightstown Village, disclosed they had been married 32 years, and that Fannie had given birth to 14 children, but only 10 survived. It also confirmed that Nicholas had immigrated in 1856 and been in the country 44 years. His occupation was listed as store keeper, and he had learned to read and write. We do not know what kind of business his store dealt with. It indicated that they owned their home and it did not have a mortgage.

In 1910 the Census indicates that he operated a general merchandise store, and gave his immigration year as 1859.

Fannie died in August, 1910 in Wrightstown and was buried in the St. Paul Catholic Cemetery in Wrightstown.

The 1920 Census showed that the family lived on Main Street in the Village, that he immigrated in 1866, was naturalized in 1879, that he ran a general store in which 2 of his children assisted. It also showed that his son, Urban, was the Village Post Master, and his 44 year old daughter, Sister M Gregory, was a parochial school teacher.

Nicholas died in January, 1930 and was buried next to his wife, who had died 20 years earlier.

 Mary Margareth Rimmel (Mulholland) 1869-1957	 Catharina Rimmel 1875-	 Clara K Kersten 1882-1962
 Jacob Rimmel 1871-1871	 Nicholas ("Nick") Bernard Rimmel 1877-1963	 Gertrude Margaret Rimmel 1884-1970
 John Nicholas Rimmel 1872-1937	 Mary Margaret Rimmel (Wolters, Abendroth, Drousth) 1879-1974 #3	 Odella / Adile (Sister) ("Odile, Delia") T Rimmel 1887-1980
 Mary (Sister) Gregory Rimmel 1873-	 Peter J Rimmel 1880-1899	 Leo Rimmel 1890-1891
 Anna B Rimmel 1875-1954	 Josephine Rimmel 1881-1889	 Urban Bernard Rimmel ? Tul

**NICHOLAS REMMEL,
WRIGHTSTOWN, DIES**

**Pioneer Merchant Passes
Away Early This Morning.**

(Special to Press-Gazette)
WRIGHTSTOWN, Wis.—Nicholas Rimmel, 82, a retired merchant of Wrightstown, passed away early this morning after a lingering illness. Mr. Rimmel had been a resident of Wrightstown for 60 years and for a long time was proprietor of a general merchandise store there.

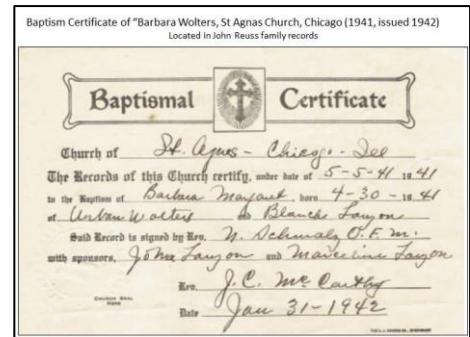
He is survived by ten children, Mr. John Mulholland of Kaukauna; J. N. Rimmel of Minneapolis; N. B. Rimmel of Wrightstown; Miss Catherine Rimmel of Appleton; Miss Anna of Wrightstown; Mrs. William Abendroth of Appleton; Mrs. Theodore Kersten of Forest Junction; Miss Gertrude of Wrightstown; Sister Odella, of New Orleans, La.; and Urban of Wrightstown.

The body will be at the home of his son, Urban, and funeral services will be held Monday at 9 a. m. from St. Paul's Catholic church with the Rev. Father Buytaert officiating.

Chapter 2B

BARBARA WOLTERS & JOHN REUSS

Margaret Kilimon (aka Barbara Wolters) was born on April 30, 1941 in Chicago, Illinois. She was adopted by Blanche and Urban Wolters when she was only 2 weeks old. Soon after she was adopted, on May 5, 1941, the Wolters had their new baby baptized at St Anages Church in Chicago. The child was renamed Barbara, and the child's birth name, Margaret, was used as her middle name. This was so Barb would always have something given to her by her birth mother. See Chapter 2C for information about Barb's biological family.



Although she was adopted into the Lauzon family, this was invisible to all the grandchildren of John and Marceline Lauzon, and she was treated like all the rest.



Christmas,
circa 1944



Barb, circa 1942



Barb & Diane Wolters,

BARBARA WOLTERS YOUTH



Barb as an
Attendant at Joan
Kittson's Wedding,
May, 1954
Age 13

Barbara grew up in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. Barb's obituary said that she graduated in 1959 from the York Township High School in Elmhurst, Illinois.

After high school, Barb worked at the American National Bank in Chicago. She met her future husband, John Reuss while working there. See also information on Blanche and Urban Wolters for some information about the Wolters young family.

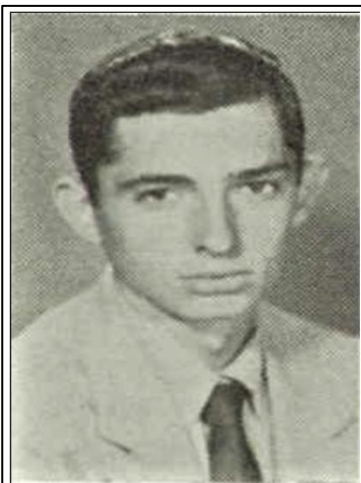
Barbara Wolters, 1959

York Township HS Senior, Elmhurst, IL
3 yr Music Letter, 4 yr Music Pin, Nurses Club Pin 3



BARB'S MARRIAGE

Barb decided that she would be married in January like her Grandma and Grandpa Lauzon because she figured that if they could live to see their 50th anniversary that was a good month. [13]



JOHN RUESS
Loyola Academy, Chicago, IL Jr, 1958

Barbara Wolters married John Reuss on Jan 28, 1966 in Chicago. Barb noted that they were married during the weekend of '67 in Chicago.

Wolters-Reuss

The engagement of Miss Barbara Margaret Wolters to John Francis Reuss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis H. Reuss of Sheridan road, has been announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Urban Wolters of Le Moyne avenue. A Jan. 28 wedding is planned. Mr. Reuss is attending Loyola university while working in Chicago.

Engagement Announcement
Dec 17, 1966



Barb's Wedding Day,
Jan 28, 1966

Blizzards of

John Francis Reuss was born in Chicago on Mar 20, 1939 to Francis (Frank) Henry and Dorothy Colgan Reuss. He was the oldest of 3


children in the family. Please refer to subchapter 2D for information on the Reuss ancestral family.




Family on Barb's Wedding Day, Jan 28, 1966

THE REUSS FAMILY OF CHILDREN

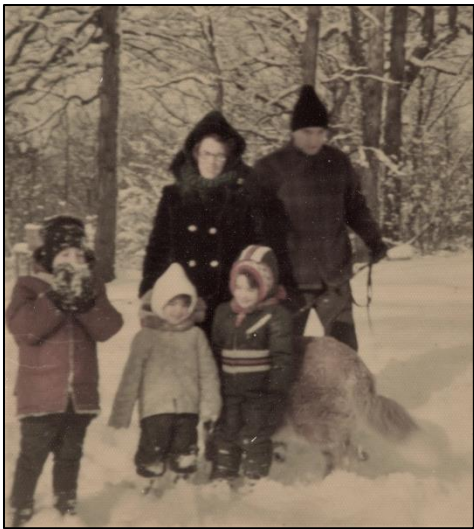
John and Barbara Reuss raised 4 children. Summaries of their biographies are found in chapters 2 F-H.

	David John Reuss 1967–
	Laura Reuss 1968–
	Margaret ("Peggy") Reuss 1970–
	Catherine ("Katie") Reuss 1975–

Barb decided at an early age to have a lot of kids. It came from her seeing her Grandma Marceline cry at her own birthday party. Barb wrote "I used to ask my mother why Grandma



Dec 1967-Barb & John with 15 day old David



Reuss Family, Winter 1973
David, Peg, Barb, Laura, John & Frieda the dog

would cry and my mom said, “because she thinks of the one child who wasn’t there or in her life, Joe; and it made her sad.” Barb recalled: “It was seeing her at those parties that made me decide at a very young age that I wanted to have lots of children to come to my birthday parties like she had. My mother made sure to tell me I didn’t want that many children. She said it took too much from the older ones. I guess being the oldest she got the brunt of the work and sibling watching . She and Lucille did as they were told”. [13]



Reuss Family, 1976

John w/Katie, Barb,
Peg, Laura, David



Reuss Family at Virginia Beach, 1979

BARB WAS LINDA DICK’S GODMOTHER

Barbara was close to Joan Kittson Slama, her older cousin. Joan and Barbara were cousins but Joan told her daughters that Barbara was the sister she never had. Barb was the Godmother of Joan’s daughter, Linda Kolicki Dicks. Linda barely had a childhood memory where Barbara was not there.

“She was always with us and when she had her kids I was one of the only people she would trust to babysit. Barbara always gave gifts that she had made herself, so beautiful and creative, I still have many things that she made for me. When I was pregnant (over 35 years ago) she threw me a baby shower and made my son the most beautiful quilt. I



John & Barb Reuss, Circa 1980

thought I would save it but as my son grew it became his security blanket and has much wear but is still in one piece, Barb had to make a few repair over the years. Barbara lived in Lombard, IL after she got married and that is where she raised her kids. Barb was so positive, happy, caring, creative, family oriented, thoughtful, devoted, she would always put others first and never expected anything in return. After she and John moved to Alabama I did not see her hardly at all. Barbara made a positive impact on my life she will always be in my heart, until we meet again. Love you Barb”
Linda Dicks, 3/8/2020 [10]

LIVING IN ILLINOIS

The Reuss family lived at 18 W 166th St 16th in Villa Park, IL, and in 1978 in Elmhurst, IL. In 1993 the family made their home at 218 Vance St, in Lombard, IL.

HURRICANE ADVENTURES

Two of Barbara's daughters moved to Wilmington, North Carolina in mid-1996. Unfortunately, that's also when a couple of hurricanes decided to move in too. Since July, 1996 they experienced two of the big storms, including Hurricane Fran. She gave them the happy time of being without electricity for 12 hours.
[6]

JOHN'S WORK

John worked at two businesses, even though he did finally sell one after trying for two years. He goes in every day to help the new owner so he hasn't slowed down at all [12].

ANIMAL RESCUE FOR HUMANE SOCIETY

Barb volunteered at the Humane Society and the local County Animal Shelter, so naturally she was always 'saving' someone. She tried VERY hard through animal rescue organizations to find good homes for the more easily adoptable. [12]

Barb and John didn't travel much because of their work with rescue and foster animals. It was not easy (or cheap) to get responsible replacement staff to watch the animals, nor did the organization like it when they were gone.

So they just don't get to go away. Usually either John or Barb goes somewhere, while the other took care of the animals. As an example,



John & Barb Reuss, 1995, 29th Anniv



Barb Reuss, 1989

in Jan, 2001, John went with their granddaughter, Molly, who is here for the summer from Colorado, up to Huntsville to visit their youngest daughter, Katie. Barb stayed home with the ten dogs and eight cats. The following weekend was their grandson's 2nd birthday in Auburn and again John and Molly went up for that. So that is why they didn't attend the reunions. It is one of Barb's goals in life to get there. [12]

LIVING IN ALABAMA

The Reuss family was scattered throughout the country, but John and Barb lived down in Alabama. In 2000 they tried to sell their home for 18 months and ended up taking it off the market for a few months to do some repairs and re-listed again in December. [12]

Barb and John had property in Florida that they intended to build on to be near Laura and her husband and watch little Jack grow up. John joked that their next move would probably be to a nursing home. [12]

They tried to sell our house for over seven years.

HEALTH ISSUES

2008 was a rather difficult medical year. In Aug. Barb had surgery to remove a "large cantaloupe size" cancerous tumor and had a hysterectomy. After months of chemo, she was in remission; however, due to the lymph nodes being removed, she developed lymphedema, which was a permanent condition. [11] The Lymphedema was in her right leg and was told by her doctor that she should NEVER fly again. As a result, Barb didn't even go to her daughter's wedding in Denver in 2009. A new internist she saw however said she never heard of such a thing that a person with Lymphedema can't fly [13]

John had a second hip replacement in Feb.2009, but was fine to fly to Colorado in June to give their daughter Peggy away at her wedding in Boulder. [11]

BARBARA'S PASSING

Barbara died on 23 Nov 2019. A memorial service in Illinois was postponed because of the Covid-19 virus pandemic of 1920.

Barbara Reuss passed away on November 23 at age 78.

Barbara was born in Chicago, Illinois on April 30, 1941. She was preceded in death by her parents, Urban and Blanche Wolters, and her sister Diane Barkley.

Barbara graduated from York Township High School, Elmhurst, Illinois in 1959. She worked as a secretary at American National Bank in Chicago where she met her husband John. After the birth of her son David, Barbara became a stay-at-home mom and homemaker in Lombard, Illinois.



Barbara loved every animal she met. After relocating to Magnolia Springs, Alabama, she became a volunteer at the Baldwin County Animal Shelter. Concerned that the shelter did not provide adequate care for the animals and did not follow accepted euthanization procedures, Barbara wrote a Letter-to-the-Editor about her concerns. This letter led to major changes; management of the shelter was transferred to the Alabama Department of Public Health, new staff was hired and the animal holding areas were improved.

Then Barbara became a volunteer at the Baldwin County Humane Society. She was twice named Volunteer of the Year. Barbara personally rescued dozens of dogs and cats, caring for many in Magnolia Springs. It was not unusual for up to 15 dogs to be with her at home.

She leaves to cherish her memory her husband of 52 years, John F. Reuss; her son David Reuss (Jennifer); daughters Laura Reuss (David Royce), Margaret Reuss, and Catherine Reuss; and grandchildren Molly, Michael, Jack, Andrea and Colby and great grandson Silas and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

Barbara loved her family and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. Animals and Perry Como were her passion and painting and quilting were her hobbies. She will be missed by all who knew her.

A memorial celebration of her life will be held at Pine Rest Funeral Home in Foley, Alabama. A second memorial celebration will be held in Illinois in January 2020. Barbara's family would appreciate Memorial Donations be made to All About Dogs Coastal Rescue, P.O. Box 476, Magnolia Springs, Alabama 36555.

Chapter 2C

SEARCH FOR BARB'S BIOLOGICAL PARENTS

Barbara was aware of her adoptive status and this always bothered her, especially at family functions. [5] As an adult, in about 1977 Barbara decided to research the identity of her birth parents.

Barb was very fortunate in her research because in a relatively short time, and with little expense, she found that her birth name was Margaret Kilimon, and her mother was Lillian. Lillian had her baby on April 30, 1941, at the Misericordia Hospital, which was a Chicago facility that specialized in the care of unwed mothers. The hospital closed in 1951 and was transformed into a home for unwed mothers and children. The birth certificate listed Lillian as 18 years old at the time of Margaret's birth and was working as a cushion maker in a Chicago furniture factory. Lillian had attended school up to the 7th grade.

When Barb was born her mother did not have a name for the child so her birth record listed the

Original Birth Certificate of "Lillian Kilimon" aka Barbara Wolters (1941, reissued 1977)
Located in John Reuss family records

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH
STATE OF ILLINOIS
JOHN REUSS, Governor
Department of Public Health—Division of Vital Statistics
ORIGINAL

1. PLACE OF BIRTH
County of *Cook* City of *Chicago* Registration No. *3104* Date of Birth *April 30 1941*

2. RESIDENCE OF MOTHER: (a) State *Illinois* (b) County *Cook* (c) City *Chicago*

3. FULL NAME OF CHILD
Last Name *Kilimon* First Name *Lillian* Middle Name *Kilimon*

4. SEX OF CHILD *Female* **5. TIME, TIDEL** *12:47 P.M.* **6. NUMBER MONTHS OF GESTATION** *9*

7. FATHER
Full Name *Margaret Kilimon* Age at Birth *18* Color of Hair *Black* Color of Eyes *Blue* Occupation *Cushion Maker*

8. MOTHER
Full Name *Lillian Kilimon* Age at Birth *18* Color of Hair *Black* Color of Eyes *Blue* Occupation *Furniture Factory*

9. SIGNATURE OF MOTHER *Lillian Kilimon* **10. SIGNATURE OF FATHER** *Margaret Kilimon*

11. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR *John Reuss* **12. DATE OF BIRTH** *April 30 1941*

13. DATE OF REGISTRATION *May 19 1941*



1977 Logo



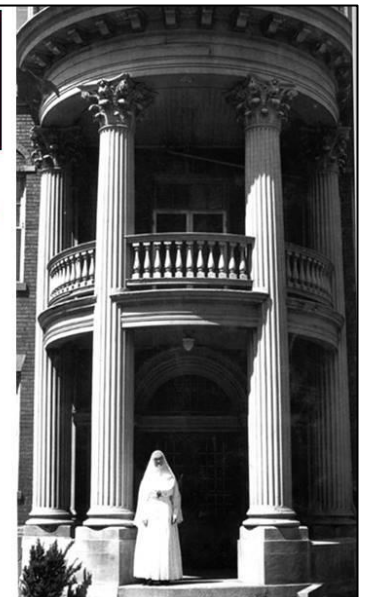
Margaret Kilimon (aka Barb Wolters) was born in 1941 in Misericordia Hospital in Chicago.

2021 Logo

In 1921, Misericordia first opened its doors as a maternity hospital for women of meager means, both married and unwed, at 2916 West 47th Street in Chicago.

The hospital for unwed and low-income mothers and their babies closed in 1951, but the facility remained a home for unwed mothers.

Milwaukee had a Misericordia Hospital for unwed mothers. It is now Elmbrook Memorial.



child's name the same as her mother, Lillian Kilimon. A name was quickly chosen, Margaret, and used in the child's Baptism on May 5, 1941 at the hospital. Margaret's baptismal letter was generated in 1977, probably a result of Barb's research.

Barb explained that the adoption paper she gathered said that her heritage was Irish and German, but gave no real details.

Unfortunately, all of Barb's research papers were lost during one of the many floods that she experienced while living in southern Alabama. She never did find the container with the adoption papers. The cabinet with six drawers that was in the bedroom had one drawer with the only pictures she had of her biological mother and herself. [20]

Barb's one picture of her mother was when her mom was about 7 or 8 years old. When she looked at her mom in the picture Barb thought she was looking at her daughter, Peggy, at that age. Barb felt they looked exactly alike. Barb never believed she looked like anyone in the world and that picture made her feel better. Now she knew that somehow some genes from her biological mother showed up in her daughter, Peggy. [20]

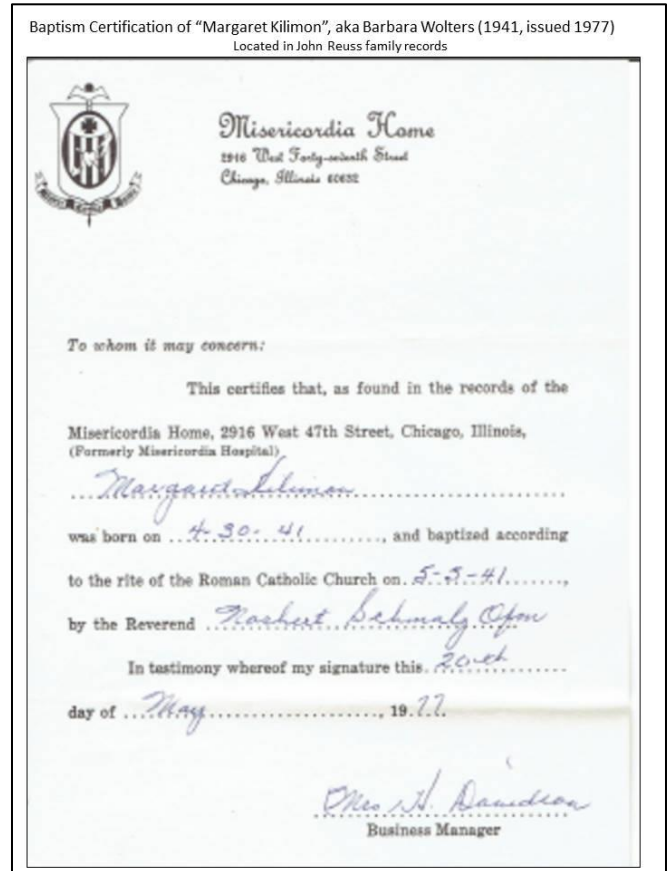
Bill Lauzon researched Barb's biological family in 2015 and found a few added details.

Barb was very appreciative of the findings, saying,

"Thank you soooooo much for all the information. You sure do have answers. That is more than I ever knew. My mother never went into "ancient" history about the family. She would just say, "it's not your relatives as you are not related to them, since you are adopted" and then she would change the subject. I felt when I was little that it was part of me and my family. I was so in want of a family to be connected to all my life. Then as I grew older I realized I am really not connected to anyone blood-wise on this earth. It is just me. Now I have my children." [6]

When Barb first learned some facts from her biological mother, she felt that God had substituted various people in her life with the same names that her original biological parents had.

- Her adoptive father, Urban Wolters, was married to Blanche and was called Wally from his last name of Wolters.
- Her biological mother had named her Margaret and when Blanche adopted Barb she used that name for the middle name so Barb would always have something given her by my mother.
- Turned out, Urban Wolters' mother's name was Margaret and Barb named her second daughter, Margaret. So it goes - generation after generation.[15]



Bill Lauzon located Lillian Frances Kilimon's birth certificate on-line. Barb's biological mother was born in Chicago on November 22, 1922. Lillian's middle name was shown as, Maryann, in a later Social Security application.

Lillian's parents were Walter Kilimon and Mary Pryzble, and both were 40 years old. They were born in Poland, immigrated in 1898. The two were married in about 1903 and had a child, George in 1906. It was another 16 years before Lillian was born.

Walter worked as an iron molder at Western Foundry, per documents in 1917-1922. His 1918 World War I draft registration described him as having a medium build, 5'-9" tall, with grey eyes and dark brown hair.

Its known that Mary Pryzble, Barb's biological maternal grandmother, died before the 1940 US Census, since her husband, Walter, was shown as a widower at that time. The 1930 Census could not be located for the Kilimon family, but there was a newspaper obit of a Mary Kilimon that died in December, 1926 in Mattoon, Illinois, which is located northeast of St. Louis. We do not know when or where Walter died.

During her research Barbara also found the 1946 marriage license of her biological mother to Charles Rabick. Lillian may have known Charles for years before they were married. The 1940 US Census showed that the 17 year old Lillian was living at 2814 Seeley Ave in Chicago with her older brother, George, and her widower father, Walter. Also, on the previous page of the Census the same address was given for the 22 year old Carl Charles Rabick and his mother, Mary, who was also widowed. Thus, they must have

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Department of Public Health
ORIGINAL

Registration No. 50888
(Consentive No.)

1. PLACE OF BIRTH
County of COOK
City CHICAGO
Registration No. 3104
Primary
Name of Hospital or Institution
Time at above place before delivery (Specify days or hours)
Street and Number, etc.
Ward

2. RESIDENCE OF MOTHER: (a) STATE Illinois (b) County Cook (c) City or Village Chicago
(d) Township (e) Rural Dist.

3. FULL NAME OF CHILD LILLIAN FRANCES KILIMON
4. Date of Birth November 22, 1922
(Month, day, year)

5. Sex of Child Female
6. Twin, Triplet or other? No
7. Number months of pregnancy 9
8. Legitimate? Yes XX No

9. Father's Name Walter Kilimon
10. Color or race White
11. Age at time of this birth 40 yrs.
12. Birthplace (city or place) Poland
13. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as laborer, miner, bookkeeper, etc. Iron Molder
14. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, sawmill, farm, etc.

15. Mother's Name Mary Pryzble
16. Color or race White
17. Age at time of this birth 40 yrs.
18. Birthplace (city or place) Poland
19. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as housekeeper, typist, nurse, clerk, etc. Housewife
20. Industry or business in which work was done, as own home, lawyer's office, silk mill, etc. Own Home

21. (a) Including this child, number of children born alive to this mother? 2
(b) Including this child, how many of these children are now living? 2
(c) How many were born dead to this mother, i.e., stillborn? 0

22. Mother's mailing address for registration notice:

Signature: Walter Heinekamp, Jr. Date Filed: December 5, 1922
Address: Chicago, Illinois Signature: M.O. Heckard Local Registrar
Post Office Address: Chicago, Illinois

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this record of birth is the original certificate of birth as established under the provisions of the Illinois statutes relating to the registration of births and the establishment of records thereof.

DATE 8-6-62
Bureau of Statistics
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

BY Leo G. Zur DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPUTY STATE REGISTRAR

Marriage License of "Lillian Kilimon & Charles Rabick, Chicago (1946)
Located in John Reuss family records

Form 44 Warning: This License Void 30 Days After Issuance No. 1926020
Returned and Filed—Date AUG 28 1946

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF COOK) ss.

MARRIAGE LICENSE
To Any Person Legally Authorized to Solemnize Marriage

GREETINGS

Marriage may be Celebrated in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, between
Mr. Charles Rabick of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois,
of the age of 27 years, and Mrs. Lillian Kilimon of Chicago,
in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, of the age of 23 years.

Witness, MICHAEL J. FLYNN, County Clerk of the County of Cook and the Seal thereof,
at my office in Chicago, this 28 day of Aug, A. D. 1946

The Person who solemnizes Marriage is authorized making any change in the names:

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF COOK) ss. JUDGE ARTHUR G. LARSON
hereby certify that B. Charles Rabick (Name of Person Celebrated) and Lillian Kilimon
were united in Marriage by me at CHICAGO
the day of AUG 24 1946, 194
In the County of Cook and State of Illinois, on
the day of AUG 24 1946, 194
The Name in this certificate is as he appeared with license as above issued
Address: Judge of the County Court of Cook County
Signature and Seal of the County Clerk of Cook County

U.S.—This license, with certificate of marriage properly made, must within 30 days be returned to the COUNTY CLERK, by the person who performed the marriage ceremony.

known each other, including the time in 1940-41 when Lillian was with child from an unwed pregnancy. Indeed, Charles may have known the father. It's possible that Charles was the father.

In the late 1940's Charles and Lillian have a child together, Carole Rabick. Carole is the half-sister of Barbara Wolters Reuss. Carole grew up in Chicago and graduated in 1967 from Schurz High School in Chicago. In about 1972 was married to Daniel Miller. Carole and Daniel had two children, Wendy and Danny. The marriage ended in a divorce in 1995 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

It turned out that in about 1977 Barbara learned that Lillian was living at the same address that was shown in her 1946 marriage license.

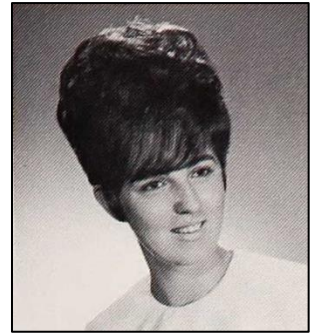
Barbara contacted her and they spoke for a short time on the phone.

John recalled that he drove Barb to Lillian's house and left her there for several hours while he and their kids went to a park. Barb and Lillian visited for several hours, but Barb was unable to learn much additional information. Barbara didn't research any farther, feeling the time and expense required wouldn't be worth the effort [5]. Unfortunately, much of Barb's research papers were lost during one of the many floods that the Reuss family experienced while living in southern Alabama.

Lillian Kilimon Rabick died in late February, 1990 in Chicago. There was a funeral Mass at St Hyacinth Church in Chicago and she was buried at St. Adalbert Cemetery.

In 2020, while researching for this booklet, Bill Lauzon followed a lead and contacted the Chicago

Archdiocese arm of Catholic Charities (312-655-7090, Diava Piscikoste, 773-372-7450), who had access to the adoption records of the St. Vincent Orphanage Home. There was an indication in the research that this facility may have been the location of Barb's birth mother's adoption or Barb's adoption. Illinois regulations prevent the release of the identification of names. Follow-up is underway.



Carol Rabick, HS Senior, 1967

Obit of Lillian Kilimon, Chicago Tribune, Feb, 1990

RABICK

Lillian Rabick, nee Kilimon, beloved wife of Charles; loving mother of Carole (Daniel) Miller; grandmother of Danny and Wendy. Funeral Friday, 9:15 a.m. from **Casey-Laskowski & Sons Funeral Home**, 4540-50 W. Diversey Ave., to St. Hyacinth Church. Mass 10 a.m. Interment St. Adalbert. Visitation Thursday, 3 to 9 p.m. 312-777-6300

POTENTIAL BIOLOGICAL FATHER #A –BILL BARR

Death Notice of Barb's
Potential Biological Father
(2004)

William 'Bill' Barr

WEST CITY —
William W. "Bill"
Barr, 81, West City,
died at 2:40 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004, at
home.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2004, in the Hobbs-Johnson Funeral Home in Benton, with the Rev. Cecil Sullivan officiating. Burial will be in the Brady Cemetery in Akin. Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Mr. Barr was born Oct. 22, 1923, near Akin, the son of James Wesley Barr and Blanche (Hobbs) Barr.

He married the former Loretta Bernice Sullivan in 1942, and she survives.

He was a retired farmer and coal miner and was a U.S. Air Force veteran of World War II.

He was a member of First Baptist Church in Benton, Benton American Legion, and Benton Elks Club.

He believed in perseverance and hard work. He was a man of character who loved his family.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta Barr of West City; one son and daughter-in-law, Dr. William Michael and Tami Barr of Clarksdale, Miss.; three grandchildren, William Michael James Barr of Clarksdale, Meri Elizabeth Barr of Gulfport, Miss., and Tyler Sullivan Barr of Clarksdale; two brothers, Dwight Barr of Carbondale and Bobby Barr of Texarkana, Texas; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mr. Barr was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Everett Edgar Barr.

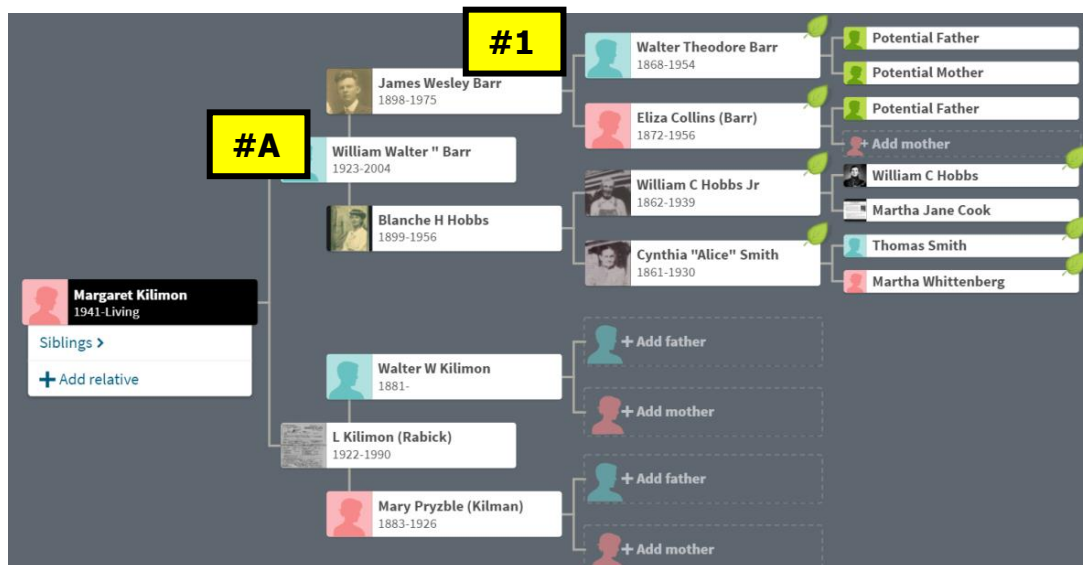
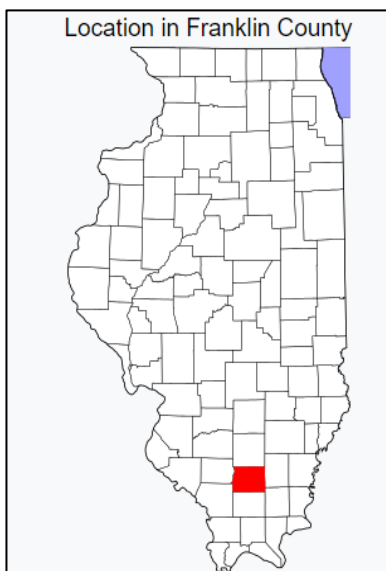
The father's name of Margaret was shown as "unknown" on the birth certificate. However, Lillian probably knew who he was, but chose not to identify him because he did not want to be involved with her or the child. Although she tried, Barb could not determine the identify of her father, other than he happened to be a dislikeable person, per Lillian in 1977.

Bill found several Ancestry clues that listed paternal possibilities, but nothing conclusive.

One potential person that is shown in some Ancestry trees was the 18 year old William Walter (Billy) Barr (192223-2004). Billy was from a farm in Franklin County in far downstate Illinois and Lillian lived far north in the City of Chicago. If they got together in late 1940, it

would have been a remote connection. It

turns out that Bill was married in 1942 to a girl from downstate IL and they farmed in downstate Benton, IL. In other words, it's possible, but not likely, that Bill & Lillian got together for a short fling. On a side note, Barb Reuss liked to comment that Bill's mother was named, Blanche, just like her adopted mother, so it fit Barb's linking of names.





Wesley and Blanch (Hobbs) Barr

James Wesley "Red / Wes" Barr

BIRTH	28 May 1898 Dahlgren, Hamilton County, Illinois, USA
DEATH	12 Jul 1975 (aged 77) Dahlgren, Hamilton County, Illinois, USA
BURIAL	Brady Cemetery Akin, Franklin County, Illinois, USA

[Find A Grave](#)

#1

James Wesley "Wes" Barr was born May 28, 1898. He married Blanche Hobbs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hobbs on April 5, 1919. Wes was employed at a defense plant during World War II and was later employed as a salesman for a roofing company. He was also a contractor. Wes had a good personality and loved to spin tall tales. Blanche died on April 24, 1956. Wes married Ruby Shelton Young on October 5, 1956, and she died on April 23, 1962. He later married Lillian Myers. Wes died on July 12, 1975. Services were conducted at the Johnson Funeral Home in Herrin with the Rev. Virgil Elmore officiating. Burial was in the Brady Cemetery in Akin, Illinois (Doris Jane Trotter) Died 12 Jul 1975 Hospital In Herrin

Obituary 14 Aug 1975
Times-Leader
Wesley "Red" Barr b. May 28, 1898, McLeansboro d. Aug 9, 1975 Hospital in Herrin - resident of Desoto; s/o Water & Eliza Jane COLLINS Barr. Leaves wife Lillian; 4 sons; Everett of West Frankfort, Dwight of Carbondale, William of Benton and Robert of Camden, AR. step-daughter Charlotte O'Neal of Cahokia and Wanda George of Cambria; 3 brothers Ottie Barr of Fairfield, Rosier Barrof McLeansboro, & Virgil Barr of Pickneyville; 4 sisters Emma Hayes, Vada Dale, Edna Irvin all of McLeansboro & Inez Tennon of Dekalb. Interred in Brady Cemetery, near Akin.

Buried Brady Cemetery Akin, Illinois

Family Members

Parents

- Walter Theodore Barr**
1868-1954
- Eliza Jane Collins Barr**
1872-1956

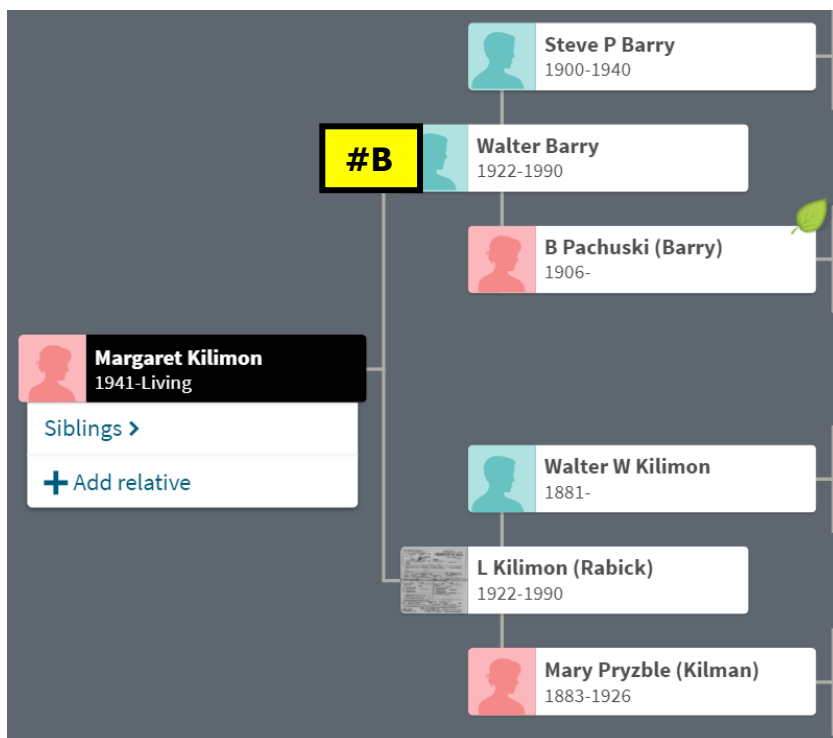
Siblings

- Oscar M. Barr**
1893-1909
- Arthur R. Barr**
1893-1977
- Mary Emma Barr Cross**
1896-1976
- Golda Jenkins**
1902-1964

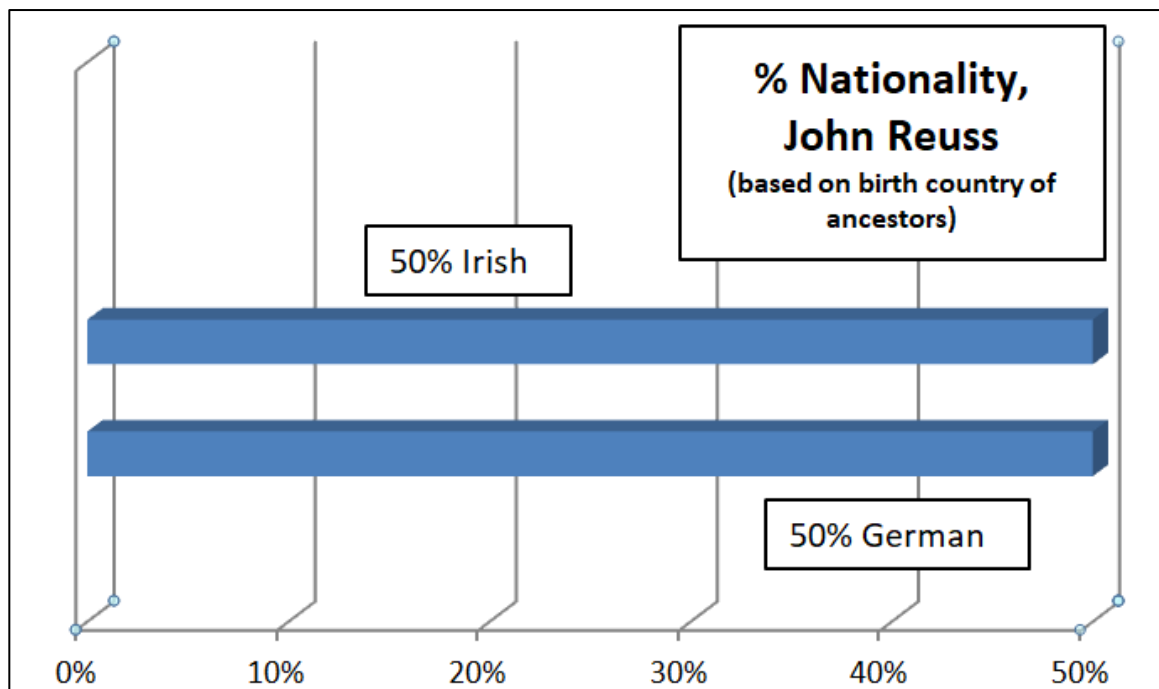
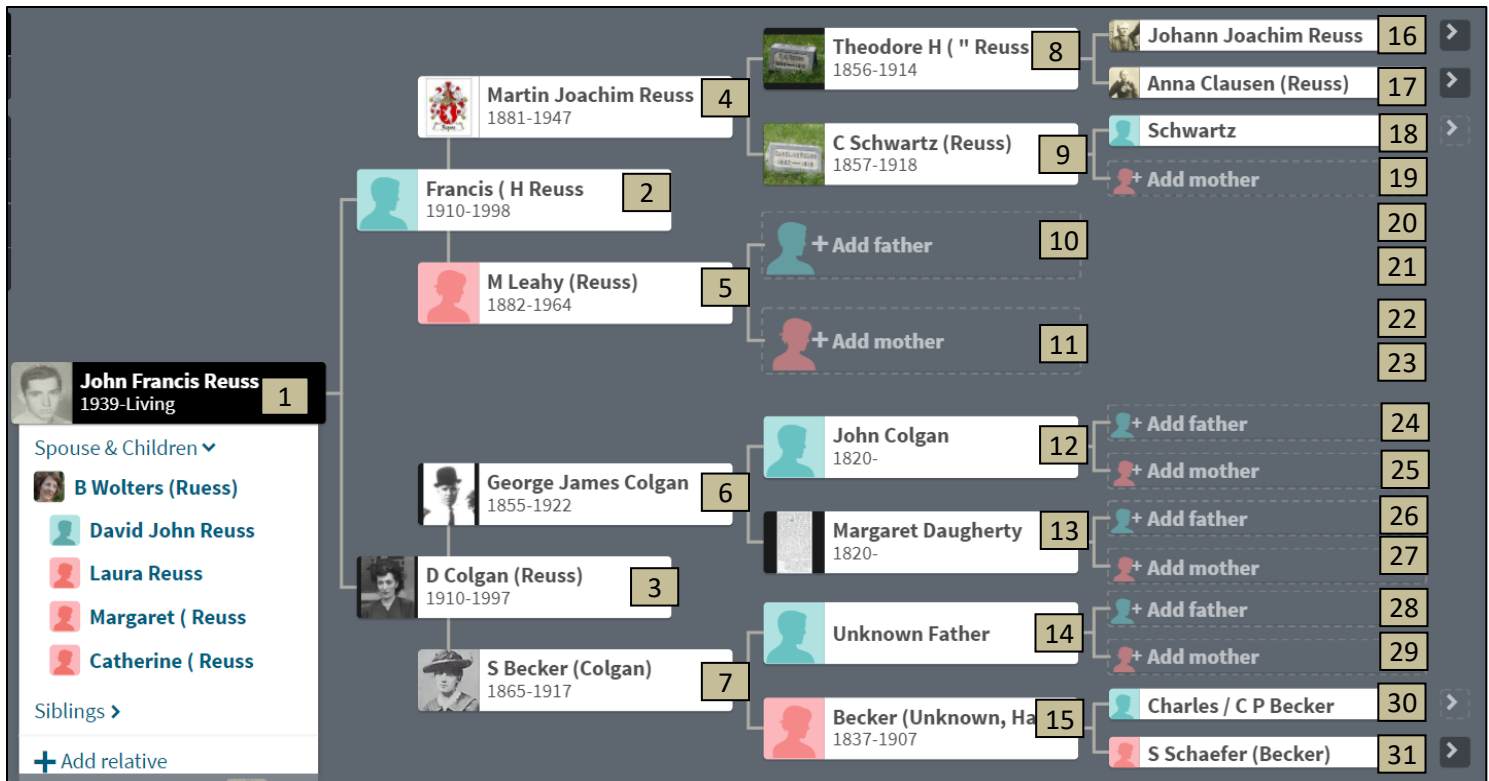
- Iva Inez Barr Tennon**
1904-1988
- Rosier Barr**
1906-1985
- Lettie Edna Barr Irvin**
1909-2001
- Frank B. Barr**
1911-1911

POTENTIAL BIOLOGICAL FATHER #B – WALTER BARRY

Another potential father of Barb is Walter Barry (1922-1990). Several Ancestry.com trees inter-mix him and William Walter Barr. After all their surnames are only one letter apart. In fact, one source had Walter Barry born on Sept 4, 1922 in Benton, Franklin Co, Illinois, which was the same community where Bill Barr lived. The 1930 and 1940 US Census' show that Walter lived in Chicago with his parents. In 1940 he was an 18 year old helper on a beverage delivery truck. Thus, he was in the same city at the same time as Lillian. Nothing is known of Walter's life other than he died on May 10, 1990 in Cook Co, Illinois. By coincidence, Walter Barry's mother was also named Blanche, and was Polish.



REUSS ANCESTRAL FAMILIES



Reuss Ancestral Biographies

Parents of John Reuss

#2. Francis Reuss & #3. Dorothy Colgan

(John Reuss' Parents)

Francis (Frank) Henry Reuss was born on Nov 19, 1910 in Cook Co, Illinois to Martin and Margaret Reuss (persons #4 & 5).

Dorothy Colgan was born in Ottawa, Illinois on Oct 25, 1910, the youngest of 10 children in the family of George & Sophia Colgan (persons #6 & 7).

On July 31, 1936, Dorothy married Frank Reuss when they were both 25 years old. The family had 3 children, with John (person #1) the oldest.

Frank's 1940 draft registration card showed that he worked for the Goldblatt Brother's company. The family rented a house at

Goldblatt's was an American chain of local discount stores that operated in Chicago, Illinois, as well as Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. Founded in 1914, the chain grew to more than twenty stores at its peak, gradually closing its stores in the 1990s before finally closing completely in 2000.

1228 Winnemac Avenue in Chicago, and his sister-in-law, Katherine Colgan, was living with them. Frank worked full time as a

shipping clerk for the Chicago department store.

Dorothy died on Dec 22, 1997 in Chicago and was buried in Hillside, IL at the Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery

Frank died on Dec 25, 1998 in Chicago, a year after his wife, Dorothy. He was buried next to her.



Dorothy Reuss

Frank & Dorothy Reuss' Kids (John's parents)



John Francis Reuss

1939-

Barbara W
husband



David George Reuss

1942-



Mary L. Reuss (Cardio)

1945-

28 SERIAL NUMBER 2212	1. NAME (Print) Francis Henry Reuss (First) (Middle) (Last)	ORDER NUMBER 1406
1248 Address (Print) 1228 Winnemac Ave - Chicago - Cook - Illinois (Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)	3. TELEPHONE Longbeach (Exchange) (Number)	4. AGE IN YEARS 29 (First) (Middle) (Last)
5. PLACE OF BIRTH Chicago (Town or county) (State or country)	6. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.	7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Margaret Reuss (Mr., Mrs., Miss) (First) (Middle) (Last)
8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mother	9. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON 11643 Church St. - Chicago - Cook - Illinois (Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)	10. EMPLOYER'S NAME Goldblatt Bros. Inc.
11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS State VanBuren Jackson Sts - Chicago - Cook - Illinois (Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)	I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.	
REGISTRATION CARD D. S. Form 1 (over)	Francis Henry Reuss (Registrant's signature)	

Obit, Dec 28, 1997, Chicago Tribune

REUSS

Dorothy M. Reuss, nee Colgan, beloved wife of Francis H. Reuss; loving mother of John F. (Barbara), David G. (Sherry) Reuss and Mary L. (John) Cardio; devoted grandmother of David, Laura, Peggy, Katie and Danny Reuss and Brian and Sean Cardio; great-grandmother of Molly; fond sister of the late Margaret Moran, Kathryn, Rose, Joseph and James Colgan, Sara O'Meara and Louise Stone. Funeral Monday at 10 a.m. from the John E. Maloney Funeral Home, 1359 W. Devon Ave., to St. Ita Church, Mass 10:30 a.m. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions to Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Assoc., 4709 Golf Rd., Suite 1015, Skokie, IL 60076 appreciated. Visitation Sunday from 4 to 9 p.m. Funeral info 773-764-1617.

Grandparents of John Reuss

#4. Martin Reuss & #5. Margaret Leahy

(John Reuss' Paternal Grandparents)

Martin Joachim Reuss, was born in Chicago on June 6, 1880, the oldest of 5 children that were born to Theis and Caroline Reuss (persons #8 & 9).

Margaret Leahy was born in Ireland in 1882 and emigrated to America in 1900, at the age of 18. Nothing is known about her parents or siblings.

Martin and Margaret Leahy were married on Nov 2, 1904 in Chicago. Frank (person #2) was born in 1910, and was the oldest of the 2 children in the family.

In 1920 Martin worked as a butcher in a local meat market. The family rented a house at 11643 Church Street in Chicago. The 1930 US Census showed the same situation..



Martin lived in Chicago all his life, dying there on Mar 12, 1947. He was buried in Evergreen Park, Illinois. Margaret died 16 years later in Chicago on November 28, 1963, and was buried in Evergreen Park at St Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

#6. George & Sophia Colgan & #7. Sophia Becker

(John Reuss' Maternal Grandparents)

George James Colgan was born February 4, 1855, in Brooklyn, NY. His parents were John and Margaret Colgan (persons 12 & 13).

Sophie Becker was born in August, 1865, in Hannover, Germany to Sophia and Conrad Becker (persons #14 & 15). She emigrated with her mother at age 8 to America. Nothing is known of her father and since her mother was remarried to Hermann Hadler many records used either her father's surname or her step-father's surname.

George Colgan and Sophie Becker were married in 1883 in Brooklyn, NY. She was 18 and he was 28.

The couple had 10 children. Dorothy (person #3), John's mother, was the youngest child in the family.













George Colgan



Sophia Colgan

By 1900 they had moved to Ottawa, IL, where George was a glass worker at the LaBastie Glass Works.



 Mary Colgan 1883–1883	 Sarah ("Sadie") Colgan (O'Meara) 1896–1973
 John Colgan 1884–1884	 Kathryn M Colgan 1899–1992
 Margrat Colgan (Moran) 1887–1973	 Louise (Lou) Veronica Colgan (Stone) 1902–1971
 Rosie Colgan 1890–1921	 James Joseph Colgan Sr 1905–1962
 Joseph George Colgan 1894–1923	 Dorothy M Colgan (Reuss) 1910–1997 #3

Ottawa, Illinois was known as the "Silica Sand Capital of the World" because of its high quality sandstone and for multiple glass companies that used the silica sand. The LaBastie Glass Works Company was known for its lamp chimneys. It opened in 1888 along the Illinois Canal. The plant closed around the turn of the century.

Sopha died in 1910 at age 45 and was buried at Saint Columbia Cemetery in Ottawa, Illinois.

George continued to work as a glass blower in the glass industry. George died in 1922 at age 67. Both were.



Great-Grandparents of John Reuss






#8. Theodore Reuss &

#9. Caroline Lena Schwartz (John Reuss' Paternal Great-Grandparents)

Theodore Henry Reuss was born in Flensburg, Germany in June 1856 to Johann and Kathariine Reuss (persons #16 & 17). He was the oldest of 7 children that the couple raised. When he was only 1 year old the couple and their only child journeyed to America. The family ultimately ended up living in Cook County, Illinois where 6 more children were born.

Caroline Lena Schwarz was born in Germany in April, 1857 to parents whose names have not been discovered. We don't know how many children were in the family, but we know that

Caroline was one of them. She and her family emigrated to America in 1866 when Caroline was 9 years old. The family settled in Chicago.

Theodore & Caroline Reuss' Kids (John's paternal great grandparents)	
	Martin Joachim Reuss 1880-1947 #4
	Mamie Reuss 1880-
	Ida Margaret Reuss (Kutteruf) 1885-1974
	Minnie A Reuss 1886-1949
	Lena Christina Henriette Reuss (Mund, Newman) 1889-1974

The 25 year old Theodore married the 24 year old Caroline in Chicago in September, 1880. They lived in Cook County for the rest of their lives. The couple raised 5 children, with Martin Reuss (person #4), John's paternal grandfather, the oldest.

In 1900, Theodore was employed as a saloon keeper. By the time of the 1910 US Census Theodore was retired at the age of 54.

Theodore passed on Nov 21, 1913 in Chicago at the age of 54. Caroline died 5 years later in April, 1918, in Chicago when she was 60 years old. Both were buried in the Mount Greenwood Cemetery in Chicago.









#12. John Colgan & #13. Margaret Daughtery

(John Reuss' Maternal Great-Grandparents)

John and Margaret (nee Daughtery) Colgan, were both born around 1820 in Ireland. They were married on Feb 21, 1843 in Kilonan, Ireland. The family arrived in Brooklyn, NY in about 1850 and started to raise a family of 6 children. George (person # 6) was the middle child.

The Brooklyn City Directories for 1867-1872 showed John as a "driver". They lived in various locations in the city.








John died when he was 53 in April 1873 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. Margaret lived almost 20 years longer and died at the age of 72 in Sept 1892

John & Margaret Colgan's Kids (John's maternal great grandparents)	
	John Colgan 1850-
	Mary Colgan 1857-
	Margaret Colgan 1855-
	Catherine Colgan 1858-
	George James Colgan 1855-1922 #6
	Joseph Colgan 1862-

#14. Conrad Becker & Sophia Becker

(John Reuss' Maternal Great-Grandparents)

Sophia Charlotte Becker was born on Jun 21, 1837 in Germany to Carl and Sophia Louise Becker. The names of her parents are very suspect, since the surname is the same as her future husband.

Sophia Becker's Kids (John's maternal great grandparents)	
 Unknown Father	Spouse & Children
 Sophia Charlotte Becker 1861-	 Hermann Hadler 1834-1897
 Sophia Dorothea Becker (Baker) 1863-1934	 Infant Hadler 1876-1876
 Sophia Becker (Colgan) 1865-1917 #7	 Louisa (Louise) Hadler (Molinet, Cox) 1878-1938

According to one source Sophia was married in Germany in about 1860 to Conrad Becker. It seems quite a coincidence to have both the bride and groom with the same surname, but possible.

Sophia and Conrad had 3 daughters, all named Sophia. This must have caused name-confusion with the same given name for 3 daughters, the mother, and grandmother. The Reuss ancestor was the 3rd daughter (person #7), who was born in 1865.

We don't know if Conrad died or something else, but he was no longer mentioned in the records. In 1871, mother-Sophia moved to the U.S. and settled in Brooklyn, NY. She married Hermann Hadler in 1873, who adopted the 3 girls. Herman worked in a sugar house in NY. The couple had 2 more children.

Hermann Hadler died in 1897 and Sophia on Aug 7, 1907 in Brooklyn at the age of 70 years.

2nd Great-Grandparents of John Reuss

#16. Johann Joachim Reuss &

#17. Anna Clausen

(John Reuss' Paternal 2nd Great-Grandparents)

Johann Joachim Reuss was born in Flensburg, Holstein, Germany on Mar 12, 1828 to Theis and Dorthea (nee Weaver) Reuss. He was the oldest of 7 children

Anna Clausen was born in June, 1829 in Flensburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. We don't know the name of her father, but her mother was Louise Elisabeth Dorothea Moller.

In about 1855 Johann married Anna Clausen in Mecklenburg, Germany. In 1856 Theodore (person #8)



was born in Germany. After his birth the young couple emigrated to America

New York Passenger Arrival List
May 4, 1857, Ship: Donau, Origin: Hamburg, Germany

District of New York—Port of New York.

I, J. Meyer, Master of the Ship Donau, do solemnly, sincerely and truly swear that the following List is a full and perfect list of all the passengers taken on board of the said Ship at Hamburg on the 4th of May 1857, and that on said list is every passenger, the age, the sex, and the occupation of each of said passengers, the port of origin, the country to which each belongs, and after the country of which it is intended by each to become an inhabitant; and that said List is a full and perfect list of all the passengers who have died on said voyage, and the names and ages of those who died.

Sworn to this 4th day of May 1857, before me
J. Meyer
 Master of the Ship Donau
 is Master, from Hamburg Germany 63 years old.

No help me God.
J. Meyer
 whereof J. Meyer

NO.	NAMES	AGES	SEX	OCCUPATION	The country in which they were born	The country to which they intend to become inhabitants	Died on the voyage	Part of the vessel employed by each passenger during the voyage
157	<u>Joach Reuss</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>farmer</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
158	<u>Anna Reuss</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>wife</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
159	<u>Marg Reuss</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>daughter</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
160	<u>Tries Reuss</u>	<u>6 mo</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>child</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>

TRANSCRIPTION:

No.	NAMES	AGES	SEX	OCCUPATION	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	DIED	SHIP CABIN
157	<u>Joach Reuss</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>farmer</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
158	<u>Anna Reuss</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>wife</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
159	<u>Marg Reuss</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>daughter</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>
160	<u>Tries Reuss</u>	<u>6 mo</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>child</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>United States</u>		<u>between deck</u>

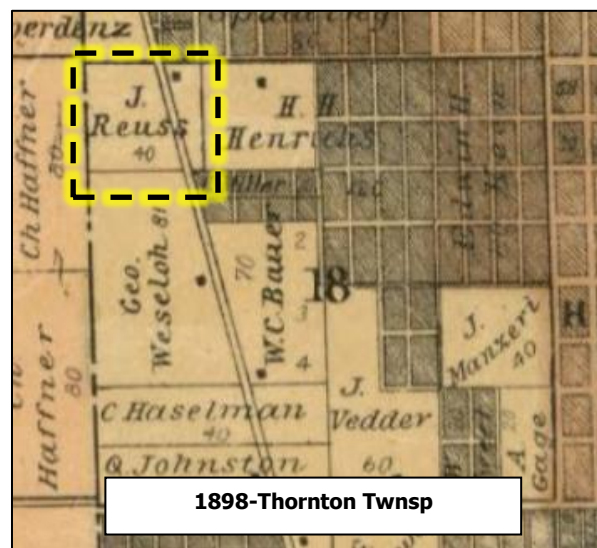
The family of 3 sailed on the ship, Donau, for a month from Hamburg, Germany to the U.S. in May 1857. Johann's sister, Margaret, also made the journey with them.



By 1858, Jochann and Anna settled in Thornton Township in southern Cook Co, Illinois and started farming.

In 1867, Johann purchased 40 acres in the NW corner of Section 18 for \$15 per acre.

Six more children were born between 1858 and 1874.



	Theodore Henry ("Tusy", "Theis") Reuss 1856-1913		Georg Reimer Theodor Reuss 1866-1880
	John Reuss 1858-1925		Margaretha Catharina Dorothea Maria Reuss 1870-1954
	Claus Frederick Reuss 1861-1929		Mary Catherina Reuss 1874-1955
	Henry August Reuss 1865-1965		

The family were members of the 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church in nearby Blue island, Illinois.

Anna died in 1898, at the age of 69. Johann died 2 years later in May 1900, in Alsip, Cook Co when he was 72 years old.

**#30. Carl Becker &
#31. Sophia Schaefer**

(John Reuss' Maternal 2nd Great-Grandparents)

Carl Philipp Becker was born in Germany in about 1802. His parents are unknown at this time.




Sophia Louise Charlotte Schaefer was born in Germany in about 1810.

Carl married Sophia on May 17, 1833 in Germany. They had 3 children while living in Germany. Sophia Charlotte was their oldest (person #15). The middle boy, Heinrich, died in 1870.

Carl died between 1867 and 1871.

In October, 1871, Sophia sailed from Bremerhaven Germany to New York with her two remaining children and her mother.

The ship's passenger registry showed them destined for Chicago, but we have no record of them reaching it. We do not know when or where Sophia died, but there is an unverified death record of a Sophea Becker that died in Chicago.

Carl & Sophia Becker Kids (John's maternal 2 nd great grandparents)	
	Sophia Charlotte Becker (Unknown, Hadler) 1837-1907 #15
	Heinrich Conrad Becker 1842-1870
	Maria Becker 1853-

Chapter 2E

DAVID REUSS (1st Child)

David John Reuss was the first child of Barbara and John Reuss. He was born in Melrose Park, IL on December 12, 1967.

David married Jennifer, who was a physical therapist. Their first child was Michael Ryan Reuss, born on Jul 24, 2003. The family had a girl in 2004.

David graduated from Auburn in May, 2004. He was 37 - better late than never.

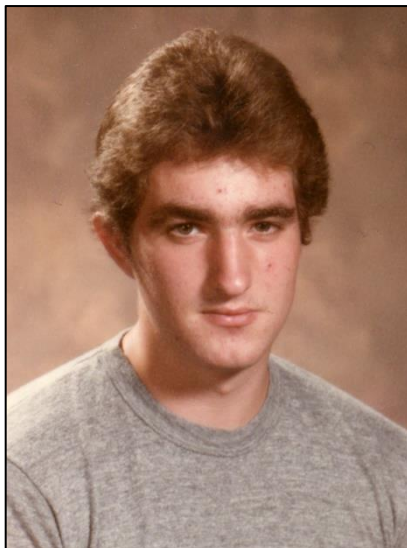
David's wife was a physical therapist and they had a boy and a girl. Barb felt Dave's didn't like her so the parents didn't see them very often - not even Christmas. They go to Illinois to visit her parents several times a year, and her parents come down and stay with them often. "We go when invited for "gift times" as I call it. Oh well." [11]



4 Generations, April 1968
Barb, Marceline & David Reuss, Blanche



David Reuss, 1978



David Reuss, 1983
16 yrs

Chapter 2F

LAURA REUSS (2nd Child)

Laura was the second child of John and Barb Reuss. She married David. They lived in North Carolina in 2003.

Laura had a very premature son, born Jan 27, 2003, at 2 lbs. and didn't come home from the hospital until Mother's Day. Barb spent the summer of 2003 in North Carolina taking care of the baby while Laura worked. Laura needed to work until August to be fully vested with the State of N. C.

The baby took his first steps in July, 2005. He went to therapy twice a week because he didn't talk yet, nor did he eat solid food. He gagged and vomited when anything thicker than formula was put in his mouth. They thought it was because of the tubing that had been in his throat for so long [11].

Laura lived in Lakeland, Florida.

For years Laura, Dave, and their family visited Barb and John for a few days in the summer during school break. Laura used to work at her son's school. She quit that job in 2015 and shifted to a new one. She didn't think she would qualify for a vacation because she would not have worked enough hours yet [19].



Laura Reuss, 1978
10 yrs.



Laura Reuss, 1984
18 yrs.

Chapter 2G

MARGARET REUSS (3rd Child)

Margaret was the 3rd child in the Reuss family. She was more commonly known as “Peggy”

Peggy was married in Boulder, Colorado in June, 2009 and continued to live there.

She was the mother of Molly, who visited her grandparents fairly often. Peggy worked as an interpreter to the hearing impaired at the local school district.



Margaret (Peggy) Reuss, 1978
8 yrs



Margaret (Peggy) Reuss,
1988



Molly Reuss, 1993,
18 mo.



Molly Reuss,
1995. 3 yrs.

Chapter 2H

CATHERINE REUSS (4th Child)

Catherine Reuss, the 4th and last child in the Reuss family was born in [?]. Her family calls her Katie.

Katie lived in Huntsville, AL. She worked as an art teacher at a private school and in the summer worked in the summer program at that school for the kids enrolled there.

In 2002 Katie moved back home due to her health. Barb and John went to constant doctor appointments with her. They went to Mayo Sept. 2004 for two weeks, but had to get home so Barb could start her chemo. [11]

Katie's medical journey had many dead-ends until July 2005 when a doctor fused together her L4 and L5 vertebrae. The disc was totally worn down which he said was very unusual in someone that young. Katie was 33 at the time. They also diagnosed her with Peripheral Neuropathy and ran tests to see if she might have MS. She had a lesion on one eye and had lost almost all peripheral vision. [11]. She lived in her parent's guesthouse for 13 years while she went to many, many doctor.

In 2016 Katie (age 40) continued her long battle with ailments. She and her mother went to New Orleans to have a spinal tap to determine if one of her many ailments was MS. She was also in line for a kidney removal and needed back surgery at some point [18].



Catherine Reuss,
1978, 3 yrs.



Catherine Reuss, 1991
16 yrs.

CHAPTER 2I

DIANE WOLTERS & NICK BARKLEY

Diane Elizabeth Wolters was born on Jul 25, 1946 in Chicago, Illinois. She was adopted by Blanche and Urban Wolters at an early age, but nothing is known of her biological parents.



Diane Wolters, 1952, 12 yrs.



Diane Wolters & Betty Scoggins
May, 1954 at Joan Kittson's wedding



Diane Wolters
1962

Diane Wolters
Flower Girl
May, 1954
Joan Kittson's wedding



Diane Wolters
1962 Mt Prospect HS Choir

Diane married Claude ("Nick") Barkley, possibly in 1967 in New York City. They raised 3 children.

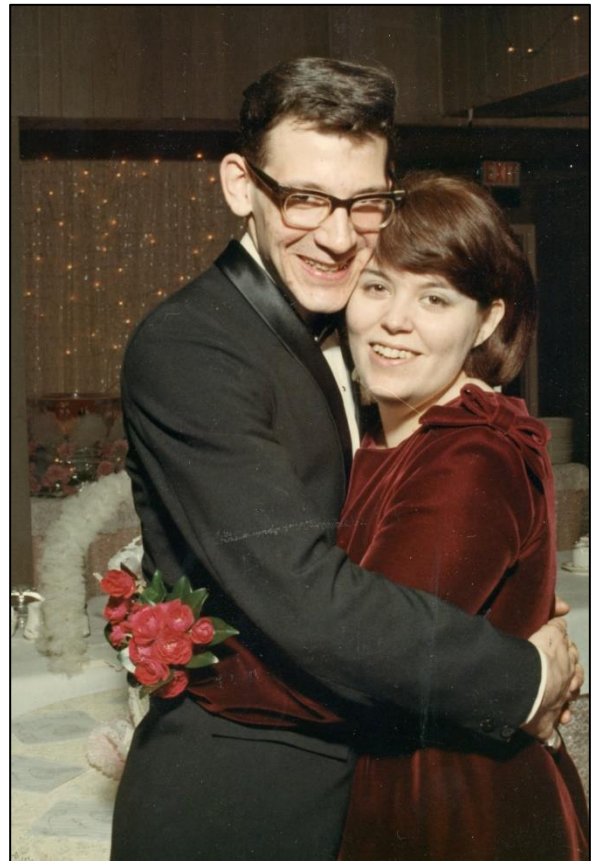
In 2001 Diane lived in a nursing home as her Alzheimer's advanced. Diane's daughter kept her Aunt Barbara up to date on Diane's condition, but there wasn't much change, other than going downhill. Barb wished so much that God would take her soon, for all involved [12].

Diane died on March 23, 2003 in Chicago.

	Claude ("Nick") Barkley
	Elizabeth ("Lisa") Barkley (Gamboa) 1963–
	Richard ("Richie") Barkley 1967–1989
	Robert ("Bobby") Barkley 1969–



Diane Wolters
1964 Senior at Willowbrook HS
Villa Park, IL

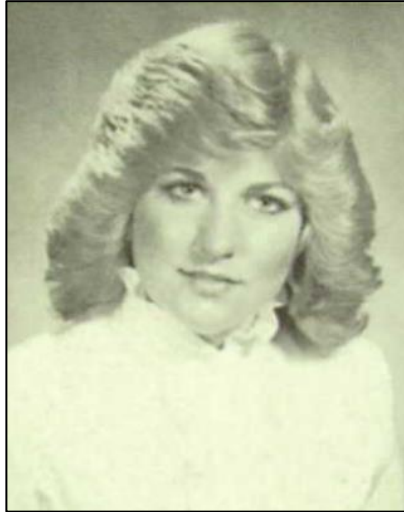


Nick & Diane Barkley
Jan 1967 at Barb's wedding

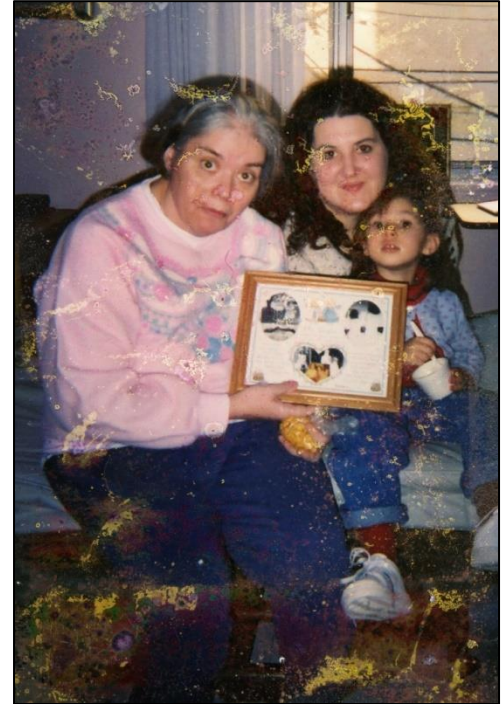
Chapter 2J

ELIZABETH (“Lisa”) BARKLEY (1st Child)

Lisa was the 1st child of Diane and Nick Barkley. She was born on Dec 8, 1963. Lisa married Sergio Gamboa and they had 3 children: Allison (born 1996), Isabel, and Anthony.



Lisa Barkley, 1983
Marion Catholic HS
Chicago Heights



Diane Barkley and Lisa & Allison
Gamboa circa 1992

RICHARD (“Richie”) BARKLEY (2nd Child)

Richard was the middle child of the three Barkley children in the family of Diane and Nick Barkley. He was born on September 15, 1967. He was known as Richie. Richie committed suicide at the age of 22 on Oct 30, 1989.

ROBERT (“Bobby”) BARKLEY (3rd Child)

Robert Barkley was born on Oct 9, 1969 to Diane and Nick Barkley.

SOURCES:

- [1] Obituary of John B. Lauzon
- [2] Obituary of Marceline Lauzon
- [3] Irene Lauzon Seifert, verbal recollection of her past at the 1996 Lauzon Family Picnic at the Racine Zoo; info given to Bill Lauzon, July 18, 1996
- [4] Barb Reuss e-mail, Jan 21, 2016
- [5] Verbal story from Barbara Reuss to Bill Lauzon via telephone, June 20, 1996
- [6] Letter from Barbara Wolters Reuss to Bill Lauzon, Sept 12, 1996 on her recollections of her grandparents
- [7] US Census of 1910 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin
- [8] Naturalization record of Friedrich Hermann Wolters, 1855 in Manitowoc
- [9] Zalmona Presbyterian Church History, <http://iagenweb.org/allamakee/church/zalmona.htm>, on Iowa Genealogy web site
- [10] Linda Dicks email, remembrances of Barb, 3/8/2020
- [11] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, July 23, 2005
- [12] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Jan 7, 2001
- [13] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Jan 13, 2013
- [14] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Jan 21, 2016
- [15] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Feb 8, 2016
- [16] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Feb 12, 2016
- [17] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Feb 13, 2016
- [18] E-Mail from Barb Reuss March21, 2016
- [19] E-Mail from Barb Reuss Jun 8, 2016
- [20] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Jun 23, 2016
- [21] E-Mail from Barb Reuss, Nov 24, 2016
- [22] E-Mail from Barb Reuss March25, 2017
- [23] E-Mail from Liz Scoggins Schlembach, April 11, 2021 with review comments