
**Descendants of
Johanna Merz**

By Catherine Reuther

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Descendants of Johanna Merz

1-**Johanna Merz**,¹ daughter of **Michael Merz** and **Catharina Bransteff**, was born on 1 Oct 1812 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ and died on 15 Jul 1881 in Gruibingen¹ at age 68.

Noted events in her life were:

- Occupation: Rag Picker.¹

Johanna had a relationship with someone **Unknown**. They had three children: **Anna Barbara**, **Catharina**, and **Jakob Friedrich**.

2-**Anna Barbara Merz**¹ was born on 5 Dec 1833 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died on 25 Mar 1895 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut at age 61. Other names for Anna were Babette and Babette Merz.

General Notes: Babette Merz was born Anna Barbara Merz in Gruibingen in the Kingdom of Württemberg on 5 December 1833. Babette is a nickname for Barbara, her calling name, or the name she went by. Babette was born out of wedlock. Although she carried her mother's name, her father Johann Georg Lutz was listed on her baptismal record. Johann was born 26 Nov 1811 in Zell near Aichelberg, and he did not admit he was her father at the time. He may have admitted it later, as Babette was in later times called Lutzin.

Babette was a florist. By 1868 she was a teacher of knitting.

Babette had four children out of wedlock - Catharina Barbara Habann with Karl Habann, Mathilda Dorothea Merz with Johannes Markus Spangler, Julius Merz and Karl Julius Merz. The father of the last two is unknown. Mathilda and Julius died young. Babette then married Johannes Straub in 1869. She was pregnant with their first born when they married. She had three children with him, only the oldest, Anna, survived childhood.

In 1883, Babette immigrated to America with her husband Johannes Straub, and children Babette Habann, Karl (Charles) Merz, and Anna Straub.

Babette's two half-sisters, who survived childhood, also immigrated to Bridgeport. Elisabetha Börschl (Elizabeth Boerschel) immigrated in September 1892, and lived with her niece Babette Habann Speiser until her death in 1921. Margaretha Börschl (Margaret Boerschel) and her son Adolf immigrated about 1890 to Bridgeport.

Noted events in her life were:

- Immigration: 4 Sep 1883, New York.²

Anna had a relationship with **Karl Habann**. They had one daughter: **Catharina Barbara "Babette"**.

3-**Catharina Barbara "Babette" Habann**¹ was born on 16 May 1858 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany,³ died on 28 Jun 1947 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ at age 89, and was buried on 2 Jul 1947 in Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁵ Another name for Catharina was Babette Katrina Merz.

General Notes: Babette Katrina Speiser nee Habann. Born Grubingen, Wurttenburg, Germany, May 16, 1858. Parents Karl Habann - Babette Buerschel [should be Babette Merz].

At age 15 yrs to Stuttgart 1 yr. then to Goppingen to learn sewing 9 mos. to Dr Monk

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3 mos. then Switzerland for 3 yrs as personal maid to Baroness von Fischer geb von Blessen - 3 mos. in winter in Bern & rest of time in Eichberg near Thun. After 3 yrs returned to Dr Monk as his assistant & Mrs Monk for 5 yrs. At age 25 she came to America with her mother sister & step father. Took 2 weeks to cross arriving Sept 4, 1883 in N.Y. Came to Bridgeport & after 4 yrs at age 29 married Henry David Speiser, widower with four children Henry 13, Hugo 11, Herman 9 & Emma 4 yrs old [Emma was actually 6]. Gave birth to seven children Helene, Elsbeth, Reinhold, Irma, Erich, Lydia Anna & Lydia Johanna. Lydia Anna died at age 11 mos. All born 425 Jane St. Tante Eliz. Buerschel mama's aunt born Sept 25 1844 came to America Sept 1890 and lived with mama until her death Oct 16, 1921 [4].

My mother's Dad was the son of a Baroness [4]. Karl was actually a waiter from Bavaria. There is no information available on his parents at this time.

Babette was born in Gruibingen, Goppingen oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg, on 16 May 1858, to Karl Habann and Anna Barbara Merz. They do not appear to have been married. Her birth name was Catharina Barbara Habann [2]. Her calling name, or the name she went by was Barbara. Babette is a nickname for Barbara. Babette also went by the name Babette Katrina Merz, as recorded in the Speiser family bible when she married Henry Speiser.

Today the town of Gruibingen is in the district (or Kreis in German) of Goppingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg. It has a population of 2300.

When she first came to America, Babette worked as a servant. [5]

In the 1930 Census, Babette is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She is 72 years old and widowed. Babette was born in Germany, and lists her year of immigration as 1875. She is a naturalized citizen. Living with her are her daughter Elsbeth, 38, and a nephew Eric Speiser, 15, born in Connecticut, with his parents born in Germany.

In 1944, Babette H Speiser, widow of Henry D, is living at 28 Alberta Street in Fairfield with her daughter Elsbeth. [1]

Babette made Christmas cookies every year. Many of the recipes were from Germany, and may have been from her own mother. Her wooden molds for Springerle were passed to Lydia, then to Lydia's son Cal, then to Cal's daughter Cathy. Babette even made it into the Bridgeport newspaper when they took a picture of her making Springerle for an article on holiday traditions from the "old county". Babette made other recipes such as herring salad and potato salad that continue to travel through the generations.

On Mon June 23, 1947 my mother fell while pulling a few weeds from the flower garden she loved and fractured her hip. Was taken to Bpt Hospital and had it set by Dr. Griswald. Passed away on Sat. June 28 at 4 min to 10 P.M. with all her children around her who had been with her since 10 AM when she was in a coma. Irma had spent the night with her and Helene relieved Irm @ 9 AM. Mama didn't recognize Helene. the last words she said to me at 10 P.M. Fri when I left were "Gehst ... schon Heim? Bi hut sich Gott, Gute Nacht." She was buried at Park Cemetery July 2nd Wed.

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Looked beautiful in her casket in a lavender dress amidst a wealth of floral pieces, Beautiful service at the church. Six of her seven Grand children carried her to her last resting place. Henry Broch, Eric & Bob & Warren speiser, Stuart and Charles Forbes. Reinhardt Grah sand Sicher im Jesu Armen Harre Meine Seele. At the grave pastor Reisch read from the German Hymnal #577. "Geht nun hin in grabt mein Grab". [3]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] From the research of Martin Koepple in Germany, using the archives of Gruibingen, 2004

[3] Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook

[4] Lydia Speiser Reuther

[5] Lydia Speiser to Catherine Reuther, Sept 1988

Noted events in her life were:

- Confirmation: 21 Apr 1872, Gruibingen, Goppingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany.¹
- Immigration: 4 Sep 1883, New York City.²

Catharina married **Heinrich David Speiser**,⁴ son of **Johannes Speiser** and **Elisabetha Esenwein**, on 19 Nov 1887 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁴ Heinrich was born on 21 May 1850 in Jesingen (Kirchheim Unter Teck), Esslingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany,⁴ died on 18 Oct 1921 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ at age 71, and was buried on 21 Oct 1921 in Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁶ The cause of his death was pneumonia. Other names for Heinrich were Henry Speiser and Henry David Speiser. They had seven children: **Lucie Helene, Ella Elsbeth, Reinhold Columbus, Irma Mathilde, Eric William, Lydia Anna, and Lydia Johanna.**

General Notes: My Dad

Henry David Speiser born May 20, 1850 of Elizabeth Eiswein [Esenwein] & John Speiser in Jessingen, Wurttemberg Ger
Educated in Kirchheim High School - at age 14 to Mehringen to learn trade (Barrell making & beer brewing). Came to America at age 18 [about 1868 or 9] to escape military training and stayed until age 21. Then returned to Germany until 28 yrs of age. Settled in Bpt. and worked as foreman for Klaus Brewery. Later started own bottling business of soft drinks At age 36 married Babette Habann Merz [6].

Henry was born in Jesingen, Kirchheim oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg. Today the town of Jesingen has become part of the city of Kirchheim unter Teck, in the district (or Kreis in German) of Esslingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Heinrich David Speiser, living in the district of Kirchheim, applied at Wuerttemberg, Germany, in July 1869 to emigrate to North America. He was born 20 May 1850 in Jesingen. According to information about the Wuerttemberg Emigration Index, some immigrants left without permission, and sent word back to the Wuerttemberg state and town officials renouncing their citizenship. In the case of Heinrich, the application to emigrate in 1869 is probably accurate.

When Henry returned to Germany from America at age 21, he married Sophie after his future father-in-law promised to give him his brewery. Henry took his wife and 3 children, Henry, Hugo, and Herman, to America when his father-in-law did not keep

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his promise. [7]

A search of the 1880 Census, dated 7 June 1880, turned up a Henry Spicer, age 30 (born in 1850), born in Wurttemberg, living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with the John Stiufler family, also from Wurttemberg. His marital status is married, but no wife is present in the household. Henry is working in a brewery. Three other young men from Germany are also living with the Stiufler's, two working in a brewery. Sophie and their children arrived one month later on July 30 in New York.

After coming to America, Henry, Sophie, and family lived downstairs in a house also occupied by Babette Merz [should be Habann], her mother and step-father, and her sister. Young Herman used to visit Babette Straub [Babette Habann's mother] when she was alone and sick. [7]

In 1887, Henry's first wife Sophie died and he married Babette Habann.

In 1890 Henry Speiser is living in Bridgeport at 171 Jane Street. He is a bottler. In 1891 Henry is also operating a saloon at 394 East Main. Henry must have bought the saloon from his wife's brother-in-law Christopher Becker, as Christopher had a saloon at this address in 1890. [1]

In 1895 Henry Speiser is operating a saloon at 433 E Main in Bridgeport. His home is at 171 Jane Street. [4]

In 1899 Henry Speiser is operating a saloon at 1127 E Main. Son Herman is working for him as a bartender. [8]

About 1900-1901, Henry turned the saloon or tavern he owned at 1127 East Main over to his son Herman.

In the 1900 Census, Henry Speiser (Spiezer on the census) is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport. He is 50 years old, immigrated from Germany in 1869, and is a beer agent. Henry and his wife Babette, 42, have been married 15 years. She has had 7 children, 6 are living. All their combined children except Henry's sons Henry and Hugo from his first marriage are living with them. Also living with them is Elizabeth Boerschel, aunt, and John Kadlie, boarder.

In 1902 Henry Speiser is operating a saloon at 186 Railroad av. In 1904-1905, Henry Speiser is operating an ale, lager and porter business from 425 Jane Street, also his home. In addition, he operates a saloon at 186 Railroad Ave. [2]

On 20 May 1903 Henry Speiser and family boarded the steamer Potsdam in New York for Rotterdam, Germany, for a trip to celebrate his mother's 90th birthday. With Henry were his wife Mrs Henry Speiser, children Emma, Helene, Elsbeth, Irma, Lydia, Reinhold and Ehrich, and his wife's aunt Mrs Elizabeth Boerschel. On the souvenir passenger list Mrs Wilhelm Berlage's name was checked (she was accompanying her husband). They may have been friends or relatives. [9] They returned from this trip to New York City on the ship SS Potsdam (sailing from Rotterdam) on 28 July 1903. [10]

Henry applied to become a citizen of the United States October 23, 1884. He became a

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citizen on May 8, 1907. (Henry's naturalization certificate)

According to a newspaper dated May 18, 1907, as well as stationary Henry used, he was an agent for the Hupfel Brewing company of New York.

In the 1910 Census, Henry Speiser (Herman on the census) is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 59 years old, and born in Germany. Henry is a brewing agent for a brewery. Living with him are his wife Babbett (Babette), age 51, also born in Germany, daughter Hellen (Helene), 20, Elizabeth (Elsbeth), 18, Reinhold, 17, Erma (Irma), 16, Erich, 15, Lydia, 12, daughter Emma Broch, 29, grandson Henry P Broch, 3, and aunt Elizabeth Boerschel, 64. Henry immigrated in 1869 and is a naturalized citizen. Babette immigrated in 1884.

In 1913-14, Henry Speiser is operating an ale, lager and porter business from 425 Jane Street, also his home. In addition, he operates a saloon at 384 Railroad Ave. [3]

In the 1920 Census, Henry Speiser is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 69 years old and was born in Germany. Henry is a brewing agent for a brewery. Living with him are his wife Babette, 61, children Helene, 30, Elsbeth, 28, Reinhold, 26, Lydia, 22, grandson Erick, 4 11/12, and Elizabeth Brasschel (Boerschel). Elizabeth is Babette's aunt, but is listed as a servant?. Henry immigrated in 1869, and became a citizen in 1872. Babette immigrated in 1883, and is a naturalized citizen. Grandson Erich was apparently counted twice on the census, as he also appears with his parents Erich and Julia Speiser.

My Dad passed away 10 PM Oct 18, 1921 at age 71 of pneumonia and was buried Oct 21 at Park Cemetery. [6]

Henry's estate was appraised at \$3,595.66. His estate included bank deposits of \$3,166.66 and real estate valued at \$429. [5]

[1] Bridgeport, Connecticut, city directory, 1890-91 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directories 1902, 1904, 1905 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directories 1913-14 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Bridgeport City Directory 1895 (Ancestry.com)

[5] Bridgeport telegram, Bridgeport CT, 28 Jan 1922 (Ancestry.com)

[6] Lydia Speiser's notebook

[7] Lydia Speiser to Catherine Reuther, Sept 1988

[8] Bridgeport City Directory 1899 (Ancestry.com)

[9] souvenir passenger list for the steamer Potsdam, leave NY 20 May 1903 for Rotterdam, Germany (Lydia Speiser Reuther collection)

[10] ship passenger list (ellislandrecords.org ??)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: 25 May 1850, Jesingen (Kirchheim Unter Teck), Esslingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany.⁷
- Immigration: 1869, From Germany.⁸
- Immigration: Betw Late 1878 And Early 1879, 1878-1879.⁹
- Naturalization: 8 May 1907, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

4-Lucie Helene Speiser was born on 1 Jul 1889 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County,

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Connecticut,⁴ died on 28 Sep 1985 in Fairfield, Connecticut¹⁰ at age 96, and was buried on 2 Oct 1985 in Ashes Buried In Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.¹¹ The cause of her death was old age. Other names for Lucie were Helene and Lucy Helena Speiser (1943 Copy Of Birth Crtf).

General Notes: In notes made by Calvin Reuther from the Speiser family bible, Helene was operated on for her appendix on the dining room table on July 11, 1892.

In the 1920 Census, Helene is living in Bridgeport with her parents. She is 30 years old, and appears to be working out of the house. Her exact occupation was not clear.

After an eye operation, date unknown, Helene had a "slight shock" [stroke]. She fully recovered. [1]

In 1963, Helene was living in Montvale, New Jersey. [Herman Speiser's obituary]

In the summer of 1969, Helene and Otto were planning a trip to Germany to find a place to live. The trip originally planned for mid July was postponed as Otto was sick. On October 17, Helene's sister Lydia wrote that Helene would be arriving that week from Germany to breakup the house in Montvale. Otto remained in Germany as he was sick. Lydia must have written the letter before she heard about Otto's death the day before. By December Helene has returned from Germany and is living with her sister Lydia in Bridgeport, Connecticut. From Lydia's letters it appears as though Helene's and Otto's marriage had been on the rocks before he died, as Otto's brother received \$16,000 when he died and a life insurance policy that should have gone to Helene may have been changed to pay the benefits to Otto's brother. Helene appears to have been left destitute by Otto's death. [2]

At the end of the year Helene is living with her sisters Els and Irma. She wants to return to Lydia's. [2] Helene does appear to be living with Lydia in 1974. [3]

By April 1977 Helene is in a nursing home. Lydia writes that her mind is not clear and she does not walk well. The doctor tells Lydia that Helene can't come home as she needs more care than Lydia can give her. At \$46.75 a day, Helene only has enough money to last for four years. [4]

Helene lived out the last years of her life at the North Fairfield Geriatric Center in Fairfield, Connecticut. Most of her assets must have been spent on her care at the nursing home prior to her death. The remaining assets were used to pay her funeral and cremation expenses, and assistance to pay the remaining expenses was requested from the State of Connecticut.

[1] Letter from Lydia Reuther to son Calvin Reuther June 27 1961

[2] Letters from Lydia Reuther to son Calvin Reuther July - Dec 1969

[3] Letter from Lydia Reuther to son Calvin Reuther 12 Aug 1974

[4] Letter from Lydia Reuther to son Calvin Reuther 8 April 1977

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Noted events in her life were:

- Cremation: 1 Oct 1985.¹²

Lucie married **Otto Paul Weiland**¹³ on 10 Nov 1928 in New York.⁴ Otto was born on 16 Oct 1897 in Germany,² died on 5 Nov 1969 in Munich, Germany¹⁴ at age 72, and was buried on 7 Oct 1969. Another name for Otto was Otto Weiland. They had no children.

Marriage Notes: Helene was 39 years old when she married Otto. Otto was 31 or 32. They did not have any children.

General Notes: A folder with paperwork related to Helene's estate included a document in German for Otto. The document cover said "Konigreich Wurttemberg" - Kingdom of Wuerttemberg. I could make out a birth date of 16 October 1896. The place of birth was not readable as it was handwritten in old German script. The document was officially stamped or notarized 7 November 1919.

In the 1930 Census, Otto Wieland is living on East 87 Street in New York City. He is 33 years old and was born in Germany, as were his parents. Otto is a technician in a chemical laboratory. He immigrated in 1926. Living with him is his wife Helene (Helen on the census). She is 32 years old, and is a hair dresser at a beauty school. Helene was born in Connecticut and her parents were born in Germany.

Otto was a chemist for Lederle Laboratories in New York, one of the first commercial makers of penicillin. When he retired, he moved back to Germany. His wife Helene remained in the U. S. [Virginia Speiser Rutter] == Actually, Otto died in Germany when they were in the process of moving. Helene returned to the US. [CAR]

Sister-in-law Lydia Speiser Reuther recorded two dates for Otto's death - 5 October 1969 and 5 November 1969 - in her diary. Since her diary was written with multiple years, but the same day on each page, the November date is probably correct. [CAR]

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: 16 Oct 1896, Germany.
- Alt. Death: 5 Oct 1969, Munich, Germany.¹⁵
- Alt. Burial: 7 Nov 1969.¹⁵

4-**Ella Elsbeth Speiser** was born on 22 Oct 1890 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁴ died on 23 Jan 1976 in Fairfield, Connecticut¹⁶ at age 85, and was buried on 27 Jan 1976 in Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.¹⁷ The cause of her death was Cardio Respiratory failure due to arterosclerotic heart disease. Another name for Ella was Els Speiser. She never married and had no children.

General Notes: In the 1910 Census, Els is living at at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with her with her parents. She is 18 years old and a cashier for an insurance office.

Els played the piano and violin. [3]

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In the 1920 Census, Els is living in Bridgeport with her parents. She is 28 years old and a cashier for an insurance office.

In the 1930 Census, Elsbeth is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with her mother Babette. She is 38 years old, and a cashier in an insurance office.

In 1944, Elsbeth E Speiser is living at 28 Alberta Street in Fairfield with her mother. She is a cashier in an office at 1016 Broad. [1]

Els retired from Metropolitan Life Insurance company in September 1955 after 48 years with the company. She started as a stenographer in 1907 when she was 15 years old [actually 16 in 1907 until her 17th birthday in October]. She graduated from Old Bridgeport high school in Congress street. Els advanced from stenographer to cashier, then bookkeeper, and was office supervisor supervising 14 people. [3]

In February 1975 Els was in the hospital. When she was discharged she stayed with her nephew Eric Speiser and his wife Ann until she was able to climb the stairs at home. [2]

Sister Elsbeth died Fri Jan 23, 1976 @ 12:45 home of heart attack. Buried Tues Jan 27th from church. Eveline Heske sang Lords Prayer, Old Rugged Cross & Safe in the Arms of Jesus. Buried Park Cemetery. [Lydia Speiser's notebook].

Els left an estate valued at \$114,425. This included bank accounts, stocks, and a house at 28 Alberta Street in Fairfield, Connecticut. I believe Els and her mother, Babette Speiser may have owned this house together before Babette died.

Else directed in her last will that her stocks and the house be sold and the proceeds distributed to her heirs. Prior to her death she indicated her desire to change her will and leave the house to her nephew Eric Speiser and his wife, Ann. The heirs agreed to disclaim the house and allow Eric to take possession. The house was subsequently given (?) to Eric's daughter Janet Speiser Garber.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Feb 21 1975

[3] Bridgeport Telegram, Bridgeport CT, 20 Aug 1975 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Employment: Metropolitan Life (48 Years), Between 1907 and 1955.
- Soc Sec Num: 041-10-9875.

4-**Reinhold Columbus Speiser** was born on 10 Apr 1892 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁴ died on 2 Apr 1974 in Fairfield, Connecticut¹⁸ at age 81, and was buried on 4 Apr 1974 in Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.² Another name for Reinhold was Rein.

General Notes: In the 1910 Census, Rein is living at at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with his parents. He is 17 years old and a bookkeeper.

Rein worked as an insurance salesman until he earned enough money to attend

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dental school in Baltimore, Maryland. [6]

On June 5 1917, Reinhold C Speiser registered for the World War I draft. His address was 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport. Rein was born April 10 1892 in Bridgeport. He was a dental student at the Baltimore College of Dental Surgey in Baltimore, Maryland. Rein claimed an exemption from the draft as he wanted to finish his college course.

In the 1920 Census, Reinhold is living in Bridgeport with his parents. He is 26 years old and is a dentist.

When son Warren was born in 1923, Rein and Florence were living at 425 Jane Street. [2]

In the 1930 Census, Rhinhold Speicer is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Connecticut, at 149 Grovers Avenue. He is 38 years old and was born in Connecticut. He is a physician in general practice. Rein is also a veteran of the world war. Living with him are his wife Florence, 36 and born in Connecticut, and their children Warren, 6, and Virginia, 3 years and 2 months.

In 1942 Reinhold C Speiser is living at 149 Grovers Ave in Bridgeport with his wife Mrs Florence Speiser. He is a dentist. Rein's office is at 886 Main Street. He was born 10 April 1892 in Bridgeport. [4]

In 1944, Reinhold C Speiser and his wife Florence C are living at 149 Grovers Av in Bridgeport. Reinhold is a dentist. His office is at 886 Main Street. [1] In 1960, Rein's office and home are at the same addresses.

On Feb 1 1974, Lydia wrote about her brother Rein that she went to see him that afternoon and he looked awful and she could not understand him when he talked. The nurse said he is confused at times. He has a high fever up to 104 the day before and the doctor has put him on the critical list. Florence called Warren and he flew in from St Louis the night before. [3]

Brother Rein died @ Van Doren Nursing Home Tues Apr 2 1974. Buried Mt Grove Cemetary Apr 4, 1974 82 yrs old. [5].

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport Telegram, 5 Sept 1923 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Feb 1 1974

[4] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (Ancestry.com)

[5] Lydia Speiser's notebook

[6] Virginia Speiser Rutter

Noted events in his life were:

- Occupation: Dentist.

Reinhold married **Florence Christine Peterson**,¹⁹ daughter of **Gustaf Peterson** and **Nila**, about 1918.²⁰ Florence was born on 15 Jun 1894 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,²¹ died on 4 May 1982 in Midland, Midland County, Texas²² at age 87, and was buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport,

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Connecticut.¹³ Another name for Florence was Florence Peterson. They had two children: **Warren Henry** and **Virginia Florence**.

Marriage Notes: Florence and Rein married one weekend in Baltimore, Maryland, when Florence visited Rein at dental school. They kept it a secret for a year until Rein finished medical school. His mother Babette would have been very angry to find out they had married before he finished school. [VSR]

Noted events in their marriage were:

- Alt. Marriage: 1919, Baltimore, Maryland.¹³

General Notes: When son Warren was born in 1923, the Bridgeport Telegram described Florence as being formerly of Brooklyn. [1]

On the 1930 Census, Florence lists her parents' birthplaces as Sweden.

Florence moved to Midland, Texas, after Rein died and lived there about nine years, until her death in 1982. [VSR]

In early 1982, daughter Virginia wrote her aunt Lydia Speiser Reuther that Florence had gone into a nursing home. She developed an ulcer on her leg and can't walk. [2]

Florence Christine Speiser, born 15 June 1894, died in Midland County, Texas on 4 May 1982. [3, 4]

[1] Bridgeport Telegram, 5 Sept 1923 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Feb 14 1982

[3] Social Security Death Index

[4] Texas Deaths, RootsWeb

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1894, Connecticut.²⁰

5-Dr. Warren Henry Speiser

Warren married **Eileen Lupo**, daughter of **Domenick Lupo** and **Olivia Pieri**. They had three children: **James Warren**, **Sally**, and **Barbara Suzanne**.

6-James Warren Speiser

James married **Phoebe**.

6-Sally Speiser

6-Barbara Suzanne Speiser

5-**Virginia Florence Speiser** was born on 22 Feb 1927 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut²³ and died on 14 Jul 2010 in Midland, Midland County, Texas²⁴ at age 83. Another name for Virginia was Ginger.

General Notes: Born 5:00 PM, weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces [1].

Virginia's father nicknamed her Ginger because there were so many Virginia's

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in the neighborhood. [2]

Virginia Rutter died in her sleep on 14 July 2010. She was born 22 February 1927, the daughter of Dr. Rheinhold and Florence Speiser of Bridgeport, Connecticut. She attended Boston University for two years to earn an Associates' Degree. As a young bride, she moved to Midland in 1949, where she lived her entire adult life.

Survivors include husband A. William Rutter, Jr.; her older brother, Dr. Warren Speiser of Town and Country, MO; her four children, Robin Rutter Coleburn of Charlotte, VT, Bill Rutter III of Midland, Paul Warren Rutter of Mount Vernon, WA and Christopher Thomas Rutter of Midland; her eight grandchildren, Jessica Price, Katherine Webster, Mariah Rutter, Aren Rutter, Taylor Rutter, Morgan Rutter, and Harley and Cristen Manning; and her two great grandchildren, Lila and Penny Webster. [3]

[1] Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook

[2] Virginia Speiser Rutter

[3] Midland Reporter-Telegram from July 16 to July 18, 2010, www.legacy.com

Noted events in her life were:

- Residence: 1974, Midland, Midland County, Texas.²⁵

Virginia married **Albert William Rutter Jr.**,¹³ son of **Albert William Rutter** and **Unknown**. They had four children: **Robin Jessica**, **Albert William**, **Paul Warren**, and **Christopher Thomas**.

6-Robin Jessica Rutter

Robin married **Jeffrey Prescott Price**,²⁶ son of **Benjamin F Prescott** and **Jane Fahey**. They had two children: **Jessica Christine** and **Katherine Prescott**.

Robin next married **Robert Coleburn**.¹³

6-Albert William Rutter III

Albert married **Susan Kay Bottorff**.²⁷ They had two children: **Mariah Claire** and **Aren William**.

Albert next married **Monika F.**²⁸

6-Paul Warren Rutter

6-Christopher Thomas Rutter

Christopher married **Elizabeth Ann Malone**.²⁶ They had two children: **Taylor Michelle** and **Morgan Elizabeth**.

Christopher next married **Trena Gail Corbell**,²⁶ daughter of **Charles Kenneth Corbell** and **Evelyn Myrtle Schluter**.

4-**Irma Mathilde Speiser** was born on 1 May 1893 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ and died in Jun 1993 in Rochester, Monroe County, New

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York at age 100.

General Notes: Irma is not listed in the 1949 Bridgeport City Directory. She must have moved back to Bridgeport from Flint, Michigan, after her divorce between 1949 and 1952.

While still living in Flint, Michigan, Irma had a "slight shock" [stroke]. [2]

In 1952, Mrs Irma Forbes is working as a bridal consultant at Howland Dry Goods Co in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She is living at 28 Alberta street in Fairfield. (with sister Els). [1]

In 1960, Mrs. Irma M Forbes is working as a saleswoman at Howland Dry Goods Co in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She is living at 28 Alberta street in Fairfield. (with sister Els). [1]

After her divorce from Kingston, Irma returned to Bridgeport, Connecticut, and lived with her sister Els. After Els died in 1976, Irma lived with her youngest sister Lydia. In 1985, Lydia broke her pelvis, and went to Georgia and Alabama to recover at her children's homes. She remained in Alabama. Irma moved to Rochester, New York, where her son Charles and his family lived. She lived with her granddaughter Ann until the birth of Ann's youngest children, when she moved to a retirement home. Irma died in 1993 just a few weeks after her 100th birthday. [CAR]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1952, 1960 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia Reuther to son Calvin Reuther June 27 1961

Irma married **Kingston Francis "King" Forbes**,²⁹ son of **Charles Henry A Forbes** and **Edith Mary Francis**, on 3 Mar 1914 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁴ The marriage ended in divorce. Kingston was born on 1 Jun 1888 in London, England³⁰ and died in Oct 1965³¹ at age 77. They had two children: **Stuart** and **Charles Henry**.

Noted events in their marriage were:

- Divorce: Abt 1940.

General Notes: The birth of Kingston Francis R.C.S. Forbes was registered in the third quarter (July-Sept) 1888 in Islington district. [2]

Kingston's parents were Charles Henry A Forbes (born abt 1860 in St Pancras, Middlesex) and Edith Mary Francis (born abt 1864). They were married in the third quarter (July-Sept) 1887 in Turnbridge, Kent, Sussex. Charles' parents were Charles Carey Forbes (abt 1826-1905) and Susan Bridget (born abt 1844, died aft 1907). Both the elder Charles and Susan were born in New South Wales, Australia. Charles Carey Forbes was a wine and Australian merchant. [3]

Other information indicates that his father was Alexander Forbes, [6] perhaps Charles Henry Alexander Forbes [CAR]. Alexander was a physician and went to Panama to help with a malaria outbreak. He died in Panama and is buried there. [6]

Descendants of Johanna Merz

In 1891 Kingston F. R. C. S. Forbes is living in Kent, St Pancras district, London with his mother Editha Mary Forbes. Edith is married but her husband is not with her on the census. I have not found him on the 1891 census, nor a death record. Living nearby are his grandparents Charles Carey Forbes & Susan Bridget Forbes, and three of their children Ewan, Florence & Walton. [3]

In 1901 Kingston Forbes is living in Tottenham, Middlesex, England, with his grandparents Charles C & Susannah Forbes, and his uncles Ewen and Walter. [3]

On 27 Aug 1907 Kingston Chas Forbes boarded the ship SS Carmania in Liverpool. He arrived in at Ellis Island in New York on 4 Sept 1907. Kingston is 20 years old (should be 19), single, and an engineer. He has \$30 with him and is going to stay with his friend Wm Bibby in New York. Kingston was born in London, his last residence was in Nottingham. His nearest relative is his grandmother Mrs. S Forbes of London. [4]

King moved to Bridgeport, Connecticut, between 1907 and 1910.

In 1910 C Kingston Forbes is living in Bridgeport. He is working for "Loe Co", and rooming at 425 State Street. [8]

Kingston Forbes arrived in the US at Ellis Island, NY, after a visit to England, on 26 Sept 1910 on the ship Kaiserin Auguste Victoria departing from Southampton, England, on 18 Sept 1910. He was 22, a draftsman, born in England. His permanent residence was listed as US, and the manifest was stamped Non Immigrant Alien. Kingston's destination was Bridgeport, Connecticut. [4]

King and Irma married in 1914. They moved from Bridgeport to Flint, Michigan, shortly afterward, and were there by 1915 (family photos).

On June 5 1917, Kingston Forbes registered for the World War I draft in Flint, Michigan. Kingston was born June 1 1888 in London, England. He is an Automobile Engineer working in the Engineering Department of Buick Motor Company. Kingston is the sole support for his wife and child.

In the 1920 Census, Kingston Forbes is living in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan. He is 31 years old, and was born in England. He immigrated in 1908 and was naturalized in 1919. Kingston is a body designer at an auto factory. Living with him are his wife Erma M, age 26, and their sons Stewart, 2, and Charles H, 0/12. Also living with them are 2 lodgers, Jack Little and Gerald Rifkin. They are also employed at an auto factory, as were many of their neighbors.

Kingston Forbes, M.E., was the author of "The Principles of Automotive Body Design", published by Ware Bros, Philadelphia, PA, 1922. [1]

According to the source for King's book, he worked for the Springfield Body Co in Springfield, Massachusetts, in the 1910's and 20's, although the record so far indicates King was in Flint, Michigan, by 1917. Springfield began as Springfield Metal Body Co. (1902-1910), then Smith-Springfield Corp (1910-1921), and

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Springfield Body Co. (1924-1930s). Springfield was a custom body firm which became the body plant to the Rolls-Royce Company of America in 1921. Springfield Body made mostly bus and commercial vehicle bodies. [1]

Between 1917 and 1925 King received nine patents for improvements to the automobile. The patents included a spark-plug for internal combustion engines, door latch and a fastening device for motor vehicle hoods. [see below]

In October 1929 Kingston Forbes was appointed assistant chief engineer, along with Harold T Yongren, of Buick Motor Company. King was formerly executive engineer for Buick. He was to have charge of color & executive engineering, drafting, sales service, specifications, technical material, experimental manufacturing and experimental engineering. [7]

In the 1930 Census, Kingston Forbes is living in Flint, Michigan. He is 41 years old, and was born in England, as were his parents. He immigrated in 1910 and is a naturalized citizen. Kingston is an assistant chief engineer at an auto factory. Living with him are his wife Irma M, 36, born in Connecticut, and their sons Stuart, 13, and Charles H, 11. Stuart and Charles were born in Michigan.

Kingston and Irma divorced sometime in the early to mid 1940s. Kingston then married Elizabeth Cronenberger about 1946.

"King was an excellent cook and with a pretty drearer [dreary?] stove in a postage stamp kitchen in our cottage, but he made cakes on the stove top, mile high omelets in a small pan that I still have and wonderful stews and marmalades, he told me he learned how to cook and sew from his grandmother who said that these skills would serve him well all his life. He took very good care of me even in his poverty I never felt poor as he read to me and cooked wonderful dishes and had time to have a contemplative home." [9]

Kingston Forbes, born June 1, 1888, died October 1965 in Michigan. [5] He died from emphysema. [6]

[1] http://www.coachbuilt.com/bui/s/springfield_body/springfield_body.htm - coachbuilt.com is an Online Encyclopedia of American Coachbuilders & Coachbuilding. King's book was found in the listing for Springfield Body Co, Springfield, MA.

[2] England & Wales, Birth Index: 1837-1983 images (Ancestry.com)

[3] 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 & 1901 England Census, England & Wales FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1983, England & Wales FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1983 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Ellislandrecords.org

[5] Social Security Death Index

[6] Karyn Forbes Thomas, 2007

[7] Dallas Morning News, 20 Oct 1929, p. 5 (Genealogybank.com)

[8] Bridgeport City directories (Ancestry.com)

[9] Karyn Forbes Thomas, 2009

Patents, Kingston Forbes, Flint, Michigian

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23 Jan 1917, #1,213,471, catch
20 Nov 1917 #1,247,102, spark-plug for internal combustion engine
6 Sep 1921, #1,390,113, Curtain support
28 May 1922, #1,417,239, latch device for vehicle doors, assignor General Motors (GM)
11 Jul 1922, #1,422,431, combination back and side curtain, assignor GM
10 Apr 1923, #1,451,662, fastening device for motor vehicle hoods, assignor GM
30 Oct 1923, #1,472,715, combined jamb and buffer for automobile doors, with Marty T Cody, & John Gray, assignor GM
6 May 1924, #1,493,446, name plate, assignor GM
17 Feb 1925, #1,526,331, door latch, assignor GM
---- annual Patent Office reports (Genealogybank.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Immigration: 4 Sep 1907, New York, New York.³²

5-**Stuart Forbes** was born on 20 Apr 1917 in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan,³³ died on 22 Mar 1985 in Columbus, Polk County, North Carolina³⁴ at age 67, and was buried in Cremated.³⁵

General Notes: Born at 12:00 noon, weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces. [Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook]

Stuart was operated on for stomach cancer in 1984, and they had chemo treatments. His aunt Lydia says that weakened his heart. His death in 1985 was sudden and unexpected. [2]

The Social Security Death Index has Stuart Forbes born 20 Apr 1917 and died Mar 1985. His last residence was Tryon, Polk Co, North Carolina.

Stuart Forbes died 22 March 1985 in Polk Co, North Carolina, at age 67. Stuart was born 20 April 1917 in Michigan. He died at General Hospital, and was cremated. [1]

[1] North Carolina Deaths, 1983-87 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Apr 14 1985

Noted events in his life were:

- Residence: 1952, Chicago, Illinois.³⁶
- Residence: 1964, Baltimore, Maryland.³⁷

Stuart married **Margaret L Dodds**.³⁸

5-**Charles Henry Forbes** was born on 28 Jan 1919 in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan³³ and died on 19 Oct 1997 in Rochester, Monroe County, New York³⁹ at age 78. Another name for Charles was Charlie.

General Notes: Born 8:30 AM, weighed 5 1/2 pounds. [Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook]

The Social Security Death Index has Charles H Forbes born 27 Jan 1919 and

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died 19 Oct 1997. His last residence was Rochester, Monroe Co, New York.

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: 27 Jan 1919.⁴⁰
- Alt. Death: 19 Nov 1997, Rochester, New York.⁴¹
- Graduation: University Of Michigan, Bachelor's In Engineering & MBA.³⁹
- Occupation: Eastman Kodak Co., 1941.³⁹
- Occupation: owner/founder Forbes Products Corp, 1946.³⁹

Charles married **Janet Philips**.² They had two children: **Ann Elizabeth** and **Stuart Charles**.

6-Ann Elizabeth Forbes

Ann married **Charles Bradford**. They had four children: **Charles Forbes, William, James, and Edward**.

6-Stuart Charles Forbes

4-**Eric William Speiser** was born on 21 May 1894 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁴ died on 27 Jun 1957 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ at age 63, and was buried on 29 Jun 1957 in St. Michael's Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁴² Another name for Eric was Wilhelm Ehrich Speiser.

General Notes: Although Eric was born Wilhelm Ehrich Speiser (Speiser Family bible), he was called Eric, and in keeping with common usage in the US, he became Eric William Speiser.

In the 1910 Census, Erich is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with his with his parents. He is 15 years old and a plumber's apprentice.

On June 5 1917, Eric Speiser registered for the World War I draft. He was living on Armstrong Street in Bridgeport. eric was born May 21 1894 in Bridgeport. He was working as a chauffeur for the Home Brewing Company. Eric was married with 2 children.

In the 1920 Census, Erick W Speiser is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Connecticut. He is 25 years old, and is a chauffer at a brewery. Living with him are his wife Julia, also 25, and their sons Erick H, 4 11/12, and Robert W, 3 7/12. Julia was born in Connecticut. Her father was born in Austria, and her mother in Germany. Their native language was not legible, and appeared to be something other than German.

In the 1930 Census, Eric W Speiser is living in Bridgeport, Connecticut. The image of the census was too faint to read any information, and information on ages and who was living in the house was taken from the index. Eric was 36 years old and living with him were his wife Julia, 37, and their sons Eric H, 15, and Robert W, 13.

In 1942 Eric William Speiser is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with his wife Julia Speiser. He is working for the Bridgeport Brass Co. Eric was born 21 May 1894 in Bridgeport. [3]

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In 1944, Eric W Speiser and his wife Julia A are living in Bridgeport at 425 Jane Street. Eric is a muffler opr for BBCo. 425 Jane Street is the house Eric grew up in in Bridgeport. [1]

In 1954 sister Lydia wrote that Eric was ill and had been taken home from work two days earlier. Eric, Jr, told Lydia his father was having liver trouble. Lydia wrote "If only he were a good Christian & @ peace with God I wouldn't worry so. Please God hear my prayers & before it is to[o] late bring him back to the church." [5 - 19 May 1954]

Brother Eric William Speiser passed away in his sleep June 27, 1957 at age 63 years. He was buried from our church by Pastor Ludwig on Sat June 29th who also held the committal service at the church for he wasn't allowed in St Michael's Cemetary [a Catholic cemetery]. Eric wanted to be buried next to Julia, his wife who died Mar. 18, 1953. Eric had beautiful flowers the service at church was lovely. Pastor read verse from 90th Psalm 6th verse "In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth." Songs #360 #361 & #507. God rest his weary soul. Amen. [4].

Bob [Eric's son] said that had Eric known his Lutheran minister would not be allowed to have the committal service at the cemetery when he was buried that he would not have buried his wife Julia there. [2]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther July 1 1957

[3] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Lydia Speiser's notebook

[5] Lydia Speiser Reuther diaries

Noted events in his life were:

- Occupation: Bridgeport Brass Company for 23 Years.⁴³

Eric married **Julia Anna Fertelmiss**, daughter of **John A Fertlemiss** and **Bertha**, before 1915. Julia was born in 1893 in Connecticut,⁴⁴ died on 18 Mar 1953 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁵ at age 60, and was buried in St. Michael's Cemetary, Bridgeport, Connecticut. They had two children: **Henry Eric** and **Robert Wilhelm**.

General Notes: In 1910, Julia is living with her parents John A and Bertha Fertelmiss (Fertelmes on the census), five siblings and one cousin in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Julia is the oldest. John and Bertha were both born in Hungary and immigrated in 1889. Their native language was Magyar. John is a mechanic at an automobile shop. Julia is 17 and a shell hand at a cartridge shop.

5-**Henry Eric Speiser** was born on 17 Jan 1915 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ and died on 20 Nov 2002 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut at age 87. The cause of his death was lung cancer. Another name for Henry was Eric.

General Notes: Born 6:30 AM, weight 11 pounds. [Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook]

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In 1944, Eric H Speiser is living at 84 Calvert Place in Bridgeport. He is a guard for Bridgeport Brass Co, the same company his father works for. [1] In 1957, he continues to work as a guard for the same company. [2]

Eric helped his aunt Lydia Speiser Reuther & her husband Russell Reuther often, especially while Russ was sick, and helped Lydia after Russ died in 1967. In 1968 he asked Lydia about buying the two cemetery plots next to Russ for himself and Ann. [3] Eric and Ann may be buried next to Lydia and Russ in Lawncroft Burial Park, Fairfield, Connecticut.

In January 1974, Eric has his picture in the Bridgeport Sunday Post with a group of supervisors at Bridgeport Brass Company that have completed and advanced first aid course. Eric is office building supervisor. [4]

The Social Security Death Index has Eric H Speiser born 17 Jan 1915 and died 20 Nov 2002. His last residence was Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, CT.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1957 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Feb 3 1968

[4] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Feb 1 1974 - news clipping enclosed

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Death: 22 Nov 2002, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Henry married **Anna Toreson** on 17 Sep 1938.⁴⁰ Anna was born on 3 Aug 1915⁴⁰ and died on 25 Oct 2003 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut³¹ at age 88. Another name for Anna was Ann. They had four children: **Edith, Eric Bruce, Lynn Barbara, and Janet Eileen.**

General Notes: On 21 August 1943, Ann wrote a thank you letter to her sister-in-law Lydia Speiser and her husband Russell Reuther. From the letter it appears that in the summer of 1943 Ann and Eric had a child that died at birth, or Ann had a miscarriage. In the letter she wrote that they "live in hopes that the Lord will bless us with another child". [1]

Ann died in late October or early November 2003.

Ann Speiser was born 03 Aug 1916 and died 25 Oct 2003. [2]

[1] letter to Lydia and Russell Reuther, 21 Aug 1943 (Lydia Speiser Reuther collection)

[2] Social Security Death Index,

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: 3 Aug 1916.³¹
- Alt. Death: Oct 2003, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁴⁶

6-Edith Speiser

Edith married **John V Santos**.⁴⁷

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6-**Eric Bruce Speiser** was born on 27 Nov 1944 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut² and died on 19 Jul 1993 in Lowell, Massachusetts⁴⁸ at age 48.

General Notes: Eric B Speiser was 48 years old and divorced when he died on 19 July 1993 in East Haddam, Massachusetts. Eric was a bodyman in the automobile industry, and was living in Bridgeport when he died out of state. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Death: 19 Jul 1993, East Haddam, Massachusetts.⁴⁹

Eric married **Edith Karacson**.² They had two children: **Carolyn Ann** and **Eric Henry**.

6-Lynn Barbara Speiser

Lynn married **John Toth**.² They had one daughter: **Jennifer Lynn**.

Lynn next married **Gerald Bowman**.² They had one son: **Brent Douglas**.

6-**Janet Eileen Speiser** was born on 14 Nov 1952 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut² and died on 31 May 2005 in Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁵⁰ at age 52.

General Notes: Janet Speiser Garber, 52, wife of Art Garber, died Tuesday, May 31, 2005, at her home. She was a paraprofessional for the Board of Education in the Fairfield school system. Survivors include her husband, son Artie Garber, daughter Melissa, and two sisters Lynn Bowman and Dede Santos.

In lieu of flowers the family preferred memorial donations to the Janet Garber Scholarship Fund at Fairfield Ludlowe High School, the American Cancer Society, or the Alzheimer's Association. Fairfield Citizen News (ObitsArchive.com), June 3 2005

Noted events in her life were:

- Funeral: 4 Jun 2005, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁵⁰

Janet married **Arthur M Garber**,⁵¹ son of **Arthur Garber** and **Helen**. They had two children: **Melissa** and **Arthur Michael**.

5-**Robert Wilhelm Speiser** was born on 31 May 1916 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ and died on 28 Mar 1977 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 60. Another name for Robert was Bob.

General Notes: Born 9:00 PM, weighed 13 pounds [Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook]

In 1944, Robert W Speiser is away with the US Navy. Otherwise, he and his wife Evelyn M make their home at 140 Kent Av in Bridgeport. [1]

In 1957, Robert W Speiser and his wife Evelyn M are living in Bridgeport at

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623 N Ridgefield Ave. Robert is a foreman for Remington Arms Co. Also living with him is an Eric Speiser, furnaceman at Bridgeport Brass. I am not sure exactly which Eric this is. [2]

The Social Security Death Index lists Robert Speiser born 31 May 1916 and died Mar 1977. His last residence was Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1957 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Military: 1944, Us Navy.

Robert married **Evelyn M Balogach**⁴⁹ on 7 Aug 1941.⁵² Evelyn was born on 30 Apr 1920 in Connecticut⁵³ and died on 12 Jun 1998 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁵³ at age 78. Another name for Evelyn was Evelyne. They had four children: **Robert Wilhelm, Carol P, Judith,** and **Mary Beth.**

General Notes: The Social Security Death Index lists Evelyn M Speiser born 30 Apr 1920 and died 21 Jun 1998. Her last residence was Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut.

6-Robert Wilhelm Speiser Jr.

Robert married **Janet Midura**.² They had two children: **John Edward** and **Richard Michael.**

6-Carol P Speiser

Carol married **Wanis J Ganim**.⁵¹ They had four children: **Joseph Wanis, Elizabeth Noel, Robert William,** and **Catherine Marie.**

6-Judith Speiser

Judith married **James E Keane**.⁵¹

6-Mary Beth Speiser

Mary married **Anton Mayer**.⁵⁴ They had five children: **Emily Elizabeth, Mary Claire, Philip Jerome, Carolyn Annette,** and **Bridget Virginia.**

4-**Lydia Anna Speiser** was born on 14 Jul 1896 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴ and died on 24 Jun 1897 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁴

4-**Lydia Johanna Speiser** was born on 29 Oct 1897 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁴ was christened on 6 Nov 1897 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁵⁵ died on 12 Sep 1996 in Huntsville, Madison Co, Alabama at age 98, and was buried in Lawncroft Burial Park, Fairfield, Connecticut.

General Notes: Lydia was baptized November 6, 1897. Her godparents were

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Elizabeth Boerschel, Anna Becker, and Chris Becker.

In the 1920 Census, Lydia is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with her parents. She is 22 years old and a bookkeeper in a textile shop.

When her father died in 1921 Lydia had severe pains in her legs such that she could not stand and was in bed for three weeks. She suffered similar pains in her arm from the shoulder to her hand in 1983 when her nephew Henry Broch died. [1]

Lydia did not care for her middle name, and often used Ruth in place of Johanna. Her marriage license to Russell lists her name as Lydia Ruth Speiser.

Lydia had a third pregnancy that ended in miscarriage about 1940 when Joyce was a freshman in high school. [Joyce Reuther Holley]

Lydia continued the family cooking traditions she learned from her mother - potato salad, herring salad, and Christmas cookies. When Lydia stopped making Springerle, Brownie Lebkuchen & Schwaben Brodli, her son Cal took up making the cookies. He and Joyce had already been making potato and herring salad for many years.

In 1985, Lydia fell in the kitchen and broke her pelvis. She came South, first to daughter Connie's [Joyce] house in Decatur, GA, then to son Cal's in Huntsville, AL, to recover. By then Lydia was almost 90 years old. Connie and Cal decided she needed to be closer to them, so in the spring of 1986, they closed up and sold the house at 219 Toilsome Hill Road in Fairfield that Russ built for them after they married. Lydia moved into a retirement community in Huntsville, Alabama, near Cal.

In 1996, Lydia suffered a stroke, and died a few weeks later, just 6 weeks short of her 99th birthday.

[1] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Nov 6 1983

Noted events in her life were:

- Education: 1917, The Booth & Bayliss Commercial School In Bridgeport, Conneticut.⁵⁶

Lydia married **Russell Evans Reuther**, son of **Henry Christian Reuther** and **Anna Ruberta Barlow**, on 19 Nov 1924 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.⁵⁷ Russell was born on 8 May 1893 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,⁵⁸ died on 4 Dec 1967 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁵⁹ at age 74, and was buried on 7 Dec 1967 in Lawncroft Burial Park, Fairfield, Connecticut.¹⁵ The cause of his death was Pulmonary Endema. They had two children: **Joyce Babette** and **Calvin Russell**.

Marriage Notes: Russell & Lydia were married at the home of Russell's parents in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Reverend Swank. The marriage license shows Lydia as "Lydia R. Speiser". Lydia did not care for her middle name Johanna at this time, and used Ruth as her middle name.

Guests were Babette Speiser (mother of the bride), Reverend Stengler, Lula R. Diller, Edna R. Zimmer (sister of the groom), Elsbeth Speiser (sister of the bride)

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and maid of honor), Mr & Mrs Albert Phillips (Russell's boss at American Fabrics and best man), Helene Speiser (sister of the bride), Florence Reuther (sister of the groom), Mary Evans, Henry and Anna Barlow Reuther (parents of the groom). [As signed by the guests in the wedding book.]

Russell & Lydia honeymooned in Havana, Cuba, and Daytona Beach, Florida.

When first married Russell and Lydia had a room in Colonnese's (spelling?) house on North Avenue. Mr. C. had a meat and vegetable market where Lydia traded. He also delivered to their home on Toilsome Hill Road as there was no market there when they first built the house. [1]

Russell and Lydia always had the family (Speiser) parties at their house because they had the largest house. [Virginia Speiser Rutter]

[1] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Aug 14 1983

General Notes: Russell left school and Philadelphia at age 16 in 1909 to work for Mr. Phillips at the fabric company [in Bridgeport, Connecticut]. [Aunt Lotta]

In 1910, Russell Reuther is living in Bridgeport at the home of his boss H. Albert Philips. He was born about 1894 in Pennsylvania. [7]

Russ first lived with the Phillips, then took a room on Coleman Street near Park Avenue. [6]

On June 5 1917, Russell Evans Reuther registered for the World War I draft in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He was living at 346 Beechwood Ave in Bridgeport, and was an assistant manager for Alb. & E. Henkels Inc.

Russell E. Reuther was inducted in the United States Army May 23, 1918 at Bridgeport, Connecticut. He achieved the rank of corporal October 7, 1918. He served in the 15th Company, 152nd Depot Brigade. He was honorably discharged May 28, 1919 at Camp Upton, New York. The discharge papers list his height as 5 feet, 2 inches. [Russell E. Reuther honorable discharge & enlistment record, US Army, 1919] Russell served his enlistment in the United States & did not go to Europe during World War I.

In the 1920 Census, Russell is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Connecticut, on Beechwood Avenue in the house of Christopher and Ida Melick. Russell is 29 years old and an assistant manager at a lace factory. Christopher is 52 years old, and a telegraph operator for the railroad. Ida is 51. Both were born in New Jersey. Russell became very close to Christopher and Ida as he boarded with them when he first came to Bridgeport at age 16, and I recall a story that Russ loaned them money to start a business (CAR). After Christopher died, Russ helped Ida manage her affairs. When Ida Bigley Melick died in 1947 (or 1946), she left Russ her house at 346-8 Beechwood Avenue. The flintlock rifle owned by Calvin Reuther was given to Russ. It was in the Melick family and is believed to be from the Revolutionary War. (Calvin Reuther). Currently, the gun is owned by Russell's grandson Russell Reuther (CAR 2004).

In March 1930, Russell received word that his mother was very ill in Florida,

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probably visiting her daughter Lotta in Daytona Beach. Russ rushed to Florida to see his mother, but she passed away before he got there. She was buried in Philadelphia, and Russ returned to Fairfield the day before his son Calvin was born. [5]

In the 1930 Census, Russell is living in Fairfield, Fairfield Co., Connecticut, on Toilsome Hill Road. He is 36 years old and was born in Pennsylvania. He is an assistant manager at a fabric factory. Living with him are his wife Lydia, 32, and their children Joyce B, 3, and Calvin R, 1 month. Lydia was born in Connecticut, and lists her parents' birthplaces as Wurttemberg, Germany.

In 1944, Russell E Reuther and his wife Lydia R are living at 219 Toilsome Hill Road in Fairfield. Russell is assistant secretary for the American Fabrics Company at 1069 Connecticut Ave. [2]

On Monday, September 17, 1951, Russ was fired from his job as manager of American Fabrics by the new owners who had purchased the company in May 1948. In a meeting with the owners, they had already prepared a resignation letter for Russ to sign. He was immediately escorted out without even having the opportunity to say his good byes nor to clean out his office after 42 years with the company. He was given 5 months pay in lieu of notice. Both Russ and Lydia talked about the gangster Jews that owned the company and fired him. [3, 4] Russ was 58 years old when he lost his job.

In 1955, Russ was elected to one of the seats in District Six for the Representative Town Meeting. [1]

Russ was deathly afraid of dogs. When walking in the neighborhood, if he saw a dog, he was so shaken, he would go back home. [Virginia Speiser Rutter]

Son Calvin remembers Russ talking about a Barlow cousin who was a Rockette at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. He met her on one of his trips to the city. Cal thought she may have still been there when he was little and the family went to Radio City.

June 20, 1961 - Stroke, left side affected

Oct 1, 1961 - Spasm, left side paralyzed 1 1/2 hours

Apr 24, 1963 - Went to the hospital to be operated on for tongue tumor, same day Herman Speiser died.

Apr 29, 1963 - Operated on for tongue tumor - malignant, but doctor sure he got it all.

Sep 30, 1963 - upstairs at the house per Dr. Gardner as he could no longer make the stairs

Apr 1, 1964 - began coming down the stairs daily. Dr said it was a miracle.

Oct 11, 1965 - Upstairs again, down for Christmas 1965, and Easter 1966, but no more after that.

Dec 4, 1967 - Passed away at Bridgeport Hospital 9:41 PM, after only 5 hours at the hospital.

[8]

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After Russell's death on 4 December 1967, his body was prepared for burial and brought to his and Lydia's home on 6 December. Lydia wanted the burial to begin from the house. He was buried on 7 December. [9 - 6 Dec - 7 Dec 1969]

[1] Bridgeport Post, November 9, 1955, page 30

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Letter from Russ Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Sept 18 1951

[4] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Sept 24 1951

[5] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Mar 13 1971

[6] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Jan 28 1973

[7] The image on Ancestry.com was not available. This information was from the index.

[8] Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook

[9] Lydia Speiser Reuther diary

Noted events in his life were:

- Baptism: 23 Feb 1908, Hope Lutheran Church, Reading, PA, By Reverend H. W. Warmkessel, Cousin To Anna Barlow Reuther.⁶⁰
- Confirmation: 19 Apr 1908, St Matthew's Luthern Church, 628 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA.⁶¹
- Military: United States Army, Between 1918 and 1919.⁶²
- Soc Sec Num: 041-10-4440.⁶³
- Military: Corporal, Depot Brigade.
- Military: #2885979.
- Height: 5 ft. 2 in.

5-Joyce Babette Reuther

Joyce married **Edward Madison Holley**, son of **Carlos Reese Holley** and **Trilla Ann Rutherford**. Edward was born on 18 Nov 1925 in Marion, Alabama⁴⁶ and died on 24 Oct 1991 in Decatur, Georgia at age 65. Another name for Edward was Ed. They had two children: **Babette Ann** and **Paul Edward**.

Noted events in his life were:

- Graduation: Aug 1950, Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Now Auburn University) In Auburn, AL.⁶⁴

6-Babette Ann Holley

Babette married **John McCullough Dixon**,⁶⁵ son of **Robert Chester Dixon** and **Jeanne Muriel Owen**. They had one daughter: **Michelle Diane**.

Babette next married **Mel Kaufman**.⁶⁶

Babette next married **David Lee Broussard**,⁶⁷ son of **David Oralee Broussard** and **Edna Marie Caillouet**.

6-Paul Edward Holley

Paul married **Joan Adams Johnson**,⁶⁸ daughter of **James Ansley Johnson** and **Lucille Mary Schroeder**. They had two children: **Angela Joyce** and **Nichole Jean**.

Descendants of Johanna Merz

5-**Calvin Russell Reuther** was born on 16 Mar 1930 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁴ died on 14 Jan 2000 in Huntsville, Madison County, Alabama at age 69, and was buried on 18 Jan 2000 in Maple Hill Cemetary, Huntsville, Alabama. The cause of his death was Multiple organ failure following heart by-pass surgery several weeks prior to death. Another name for Calvin was Cal Reuther.

General Notes: Born one month premature at 7:05 PM, weighed 4 pounds, 13 3/4 ounces, at Bridgeport Hospital [Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook].

In September 1951, Cal's father Russ wrote Cal to tell him that after 42 years with the company, he had been fired from his job by the new owners. Russ told Cal that that meant there was no income coming in. While Russ had planned ahead for Cal's education (Cal was in college at Alabama Polytechnic Institute), so money was set aside for him to complete his education, but he should still watch his pennies. [1]

During college (Auburn, AL), Cal owned and flew his own airplane, an Ercoupe.

In 1951 or 1952, Cal flew to Connecticut from Auburn through bad weather with no radio and was the only plane flying over NY. Coming back to Auburn, he developed trouble in Maryland (?). He was able to land but could not afford to fix the plane, and left it at the airport. [Jane Reuther]

In June 1952, Cal had airplane trouble. As written by his father - "Imagine you in your little plane, 4000' high, sailing along, as you told me, perfectly - then all of a sudden the moto knocked, the plane quivered and vibrated - and then no engine. You, with only a few hours experience in the air, had this happen. . . To glide that plane, 20 miles away from the airport, to a perfect landing at the field, is a feat you can forever be proud of." Cal landed the airplane in Easton, Maryland. He left it there with someone to look after and sell for him. [2]

During college at API Cal worked for Mr. Fortner at Jake's Joint and the Elk's Club. He met Jane at Jake's Joint. Mrs. Fortner gave Cal her recipe for Barbecue Sauce and Barbecue Basting Sauce that he used throughout his life to make fantastic barbecue chicken on the grill.

Cal graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute (API - later re-named Auburn University) in Auburn, Alabama, in 1953, with a Bachelors of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. His first job was across the country for Boeing in Seattle, Washington, working on the B-52 airplane. He left Boeing in 1956 for Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, PA, but was on his way back to Boeing and Seattle in 1958 when Jane was pregnant with Cathy. Just weeks after Cathy was born in September, they headed for a new assignment in Fort Walton Beach, FL, and the BOMARC missile program at Eglin AFB.

In 1963, Cal, Jane, Cathy and Russell moved to California where Cal worked on the Minuteman weapon system.

Descendants of Johanna Merz

In 1964, Russell wrote his son Cal that he had asked the Republican Town Committee to send him an application for an absentee ballot. [3] - Was Cal still registered to vote in Connecticut? [CAR]

In April 1965, Cal, Jane and the children moved to Huntsville, Alabama, where Cal continued his work for Boeing, this time on the space program. He was responsible for the Boeing Saturn V Logistics Support Staff, developing a Logistics Support Plan. He was also responsible for Saturn V Logistics activities and program schedule. In 1967 he assumed responsibility for directing the preparation of the Saturn V Flight Manual, a single source reference prepared specifically for the astronauts' use.

When Boeing reduced their operations in Huntsville in 1974 (the summer President Richard Nixon resigned and the fall Cathy got her driver's license), Cal and Jane decided to stay in Huntsville rather than be transferred to another city, and Cal went to work for Sperry Corporation on tactical missile systems at MICOM. In 1980 he began a brief stint at Guest Associates providing marketing and technical representation for technically oriented customers, as well as consultation to small business through the Small Business Administration.

In 1982, Cal went back to work for Boeing on marketing management assignments for the Air Force, MSFC, MICOM, and SSDC customers. He took an early retirement in the fall of 1993 after Jane's brain aneurysms and surgery that year.

Early in their marriage, when they were young and poor, Cal decided to start making furniture instead of buying it. He bought the appropriate tools and set up shop in the spare bedroom in their apartment. The first thing he made was a long low bench in the Danish Modern style. He made their bedroom furniture and later on a hi-fi cabinet, kitchen table, and a new dresser for Jane in the 1970's.

In 1983, when his mother Lydia was no longer making the family Christmas cookies, Cal took up the task, often with daughter Cathy's help. He made their favorites Springerle, Brownie Lebkuchen & Schwaben Brodli, and new ones as well. Just as Lydia did, he kept track of what he made and how many. In 2002, Cathy took up the tradition on her own. Cal also had a vegetable garden for many years, and took up canning at that time. Not only did he can vegetables, but he also made jellies and pickles.

In 1988 & 1989, Cal and Jane built a new, larger house on Mountain Springs Circle in Huntsville and moved in in April 1989. The house included a 3-car garage with large shop attached, and Jane's large weaving room over the garage and shop. After Cal's death, the house was sold to Hank and Kathy Perkins, friends from church, and a school friend (Hank) of daughter Cathy.

Cal entered Huntsville Hospital November 25, 1999 (Thanksgiving Day) for heart bypass surgery on November 26. The surgery was successful, but numerous complications ensued due to Cal's emphysema and the steroids he

Descendants of Johanna Merz

had been taking for the emphysema that interfered with the healing process. After seven weeks in ICU, he passed away due to multiple organ system failure on January 14, 2000, at 5:05 PM. Daughter Cathy, son Russell, future son-in-law Bryan Kennedy, and Dr. T. Benton Washburn were present. He was buried January 18, 2000 at Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville.

Unknown to his family until after he entered the hospital, Cal had been having heart problems for some time. Nitroglycerin pills were found in his study for heart pain. Cal left a folder of instructions for his daughter Cathy just prior to entering the hospital in case he passed away. The information and instructions included the notice of his death to be published in the newspaper. Cathy used this almost as he had written it.

[1] Letter from Russ Reuther to son Calvin Reuther Sept 18 1951

[2] Letter from Russ Reuther to son Calvin Reuther June 12 1952

[3] Letter from Russ Reuther to son Calvin Reuther June 17 1964

Noted events in his life were:

- Education: Between 1948 and 1949, University Of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT.⁶⁹
- Graduation: Aug 1953, Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Now Auburn University) In Auburn, AL, B.S In Electrical Engineering.⁶⁹
- Graduation: 1948, Mount Hermon High School (Boarding), Northfield, MA.
- Occupation: Design Engineer For Westinghouse Electric Corp, Between Jan 1957 and Apr 1958.⁶⁹
- Occupation: Associate Engineer On B-52 Airplane Program For Boeing Company, Between Sep 1953 and Dec 1956.⁶⁹
- Occupation: Boeing Company Representative To The Air Force On The Bomarc Weapon System, Between Apr 1958 and Jul 1963.⁶⁹
- Occupation: Boeing Company Representative To The Air Force On The Minuteman Weapon System, Between Jul 1963 and Apr 1965.⁶⁹
- Occupation: Saturn Program For The Boeing Company, Apr 1965.⁶⁹
- Occupation: Boeing Company Marketing Representative For Usamicom, Weapons Ranging From Portable Stinger Missles To Long-Range Tactical Missles, 1988.⁷⁰
- Height: 5 ft. 9 in.

Calvin married **Jane Marie Hager**, daughter of **Henry Jordan Hager** and **Catharine Elizabeth Phillips**. They had two children: **Catherine Ann** and **Russell Evans**.

6-Catherine Ann Reuther

Catherine married **Bryan Kent Kennedy**, son of **Bill Kent Kenndy** and **Barbara Sue Gwinn**.

6-Russell Evans Reuther

Russell married **Jamie McCutchen**.⁷¹

Russell next married **Teresa Faye Watson**,⁷¹ daughter of **William Watson** and **Rachael**. They had one son: **Russell Evans**.

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Russell next married **Linda Marlene Schwarzmeier**,⁷² daughter of **Frank Schwarzmeier** and **Helen Wallace**.

Anna had a relationship with **Johannes Markus Spangler**,¹ son of **Marcus Spangler** and **Catharina Mutschler**. Johannes was born on 12 Oct 1835 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg.¹ They had one daughter: **Mathilda Dorothea**.

3-**Mathilda Dorothea Merz**¹ was born on 9 Jul 1861 in Zainingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died on 21 Nov 1874 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ at age 13.

Anna next had a relationship with **Unknown**. They had two children: **Julius** and **Charles**.

3-**Julius Merz**¹ was born on 29 Jul 1863 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died on 13 Nov 1863.¹

3-**Charles Merz** was born on 20 Jun 1865 in Jebenhausen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died on 1 Sep 1934 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁷³ at age 69. Another name for Charles was Karl Julius Merz.¹

General Notes: Charles was born Karl Julius Merz in Jebenhausen in the Kingdom of Württemberg on 20 June 1865. His calling name, or the name he went by, at his birth was Julius. By the time he got to America, he was Charles Merz. Charles' mother was not married when he was born and his father is unknown.

I have a note, probably from a conversation with niece Lydia Speiser, that Charles and his sister Babette Habann were full, not half, siblings. Lydia was probably incorrect and may have made that assumption because Babette often used Merz as her maiden name. [CAR]

Charles is probably the Charles Mertz found in the 1890 & 1891 Bridgeport city directories working for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co. [1]

In the 1900 Census, Charles Merz (looks like Mere) is living at 703 Ogden Street in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 34 years old, born in Germany, and immigrated in 1883. Charles is a cabinet maker. Living with him are his wife Mary, 29, and children Charles, 6, and Annie, 2. Mary was born in Germany and immigrated in 1888. Charles and Mary have been married 8 years. Mary has had two children, both are living.

In 1904, Charles Merz is listed in the Bridgeport City directory as Charles Merc. His is living at 54 Freeman Street, and is working for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg Co. [1]

In the 1910 Census, Charles Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 45, and a cabinet maker of sewing machines. Living with him are his wife Mary, 39, and children Charles, 16, Annie, 11, and Lillian, 2. Son Charles is an apprentice; what type is not clear. The Merz are living near Charles' cousin Adolphe Boerschel and his family. Also nearby, on the next census page, are Charles' half-sister Anna Straub Becker & her family, along with her father John Straub.

In 1913, Charles Merz (Merc on the city directory) is working for Singer

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Manufacturing. [1]

In the 1920 Census, Charles Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street. He is 55, and a cabinet maker. Living with Charles are his wife Mary, 49, and daughters Anna, 21, and Lillian, 12. Anna is working, but her occupation was not clear on the census. The Boerschel's are still living close by, and the Becker's are a few census pages away.

In 1923 Charles and Marie are living at 54 Freeman Street. Charles works for Colombia Graphophone Mfg co. [1]

In the 1930 Census, Charles Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street. He is 64 and a cabinet maker at a machine factory. Living with him are his wife Anna (should be Mary), 59, and daughters Anna W, 31, and Lillian, 22.

Niece Lydia Speiser Reuther wrote that her uncle was a very clever cabinet maker. [2]

In the 1934 Bridgeport City Directory, Charles is listed as having died Sept 1 1934 at age 69.

[1] Bridgeport City Directories (Ancestry.com)

[2] Letter from Lydia S Reuther to son Calvin Reuther 31 Dec 1964

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Jun 1865, Germany.⁸
- Alt. Death: Between 1930 and 1934, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Charles married **Maria Strolin**⁷⁴ about 1892.⁸ Maria was born on 28 Nov 1870 in Germany⁷⁵ and died on 27 Dec 1956 in Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 86. Other names for Maria were Maria A⁴⁹ and Mary.⁷⁶ They had three children: **Charles John**, **Anna Marie**, and **Lillian Louise**.

General Notes: Mary's name is Mary on the 1900, 1910 & 1920 Censuses, but Anna in 1930 and in the 1944 Bridgeport city directory. Since her age is consistent with the earlier censuses, I assume she is the same person.

In 1934 & 1935 A Marie Merz, widow of Charles, is living at 54 Freeman Street in Bridgeport with her daughters Anna M and Lillian L. [6]

In 1944 Anna M Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. She is widowed from Charles J. Anna is living with her daughter Anna M. [1]

After her daughter died in 1948, Marie A Merz continued to live at her home on Freeman Street. [2]

In 1952 Marie M Merz, widow of Charles J, is listed as having removed to Hamden. [3] Daughter Lillian Merz Marshall lived in Hamden, and Marie probably went to live with her.

In November 1955, Mrs. Mary Merz of Hamden and Mr. & Mrs. Rush Marshall of Hamden attended a surprise 80th birthday party for Christian Strolin. [5] Christian was probably Marie's brother.

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Maria A Merz, widow of Charles, died 27 December 1956 at age 86 at Hamden, New Haven, Connecticut. [4]

- [1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)
- [2] Bridgeport City Directory 1949 (Ancestry.com)
- [3] Bridgeport City Directory 1952 (Ancestry.com)
- [4] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)
- [5] Bridgeport Sunday Post, Nov 6 1955, p A-12 (Ancestry.com)
- [6] Bridgeport City Directory 1935 (Ancestry.com)

4-**Charles John Merz**⁷⁷ was born on 6 Jul 1893 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁷⁸ died on 19 Feb 1969 in Syracuse, Onondaga Co, New York⁷⁹ at age 75, and was buried on 22 Feb 1969 in Lake View Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁷⁹ Another name for Charles was Charles Merz.⁷⁶

General Notes: On June 5 1917, Charles John Merz registered for the World War I draft. He was born July 6 1893 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Charles was working as a machinist for the American Chain Co. He was married and living at 58 Edwin Street in Bridgeport.

In the 1920 Census, Charles Marz, Jr, is living at 102 Cowles Street in Bridgeport. He is 26, and a chauffeur for a factory(?). Living with him are his wife Ruth, 19, born in New York, and daughter Ruth M, 1 year and 11 months.

In 1923, Charles and Ruth are living in Bridgeport at 42 Whittier. Charles is a chauffeur. [1]

Charles Merz Jr was granted a license to operate a jitney bus between City Plaza and Sport Hill Easton in October 1924. [3]

In 1930 Charles J Mertz is living in Syracuse, Onondaga Co, New York, at 2306 Geneva? Park Dr. He is 39 and a supervisor for a trucking company. With him are his wife Ruth, 33, and their daughter Ruth M, 12. Charles was born in Connecticut, his father in Wurtemberg, Germany, and his mother in Germany. Ruth was born in NY as was her mother. Daughter Ruth was born in Connecticut. Charles and Ruth were married when they were 23 and 16 years old.

Charles Merz was born 6 Jul 1893 and died Feb 1969. His last residence was Syracuse, Onondaga, New York. [Social Security Death Index]

Charles J Merz died at his home on 832 Park Avenue in Syracuse. He had been employed as a tool and die maker at Brown-Lipe-Chapin for 25 years. He retired 5 years previously. Charles was survived by his daughter Mrs. G. Laurence Backer of Averill Park and his sister Mrs. Rush P. Marshall of Hamden, Conn. Funeral services were held in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with burial there in Lake View Cemetery. [2]

- [1] Bridgeport City Directories (Ancestry.com)
- [2] Syracuse Herald Journal, Syracuse, NY, 21 Feb 1969 (Ancestry.com)

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[3] Bridgeport Telegram, Oct 23 1924 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Jul 1893, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸
- Alt. Death: Feb 1969, Syracuse, Onondaga Co, New York.³¹

Charles married **Ruth**⁸⁰ about 1916.²⁰ Ruth was born about 1901 in New York⁸⁰ and died before 1969. They had one daughter: **Ruth M.**

5-Ruth M Merz

Ruth married **G Lawrence Backer**.³¹ G was born on 14 Sep 1914³¹ and died in Jan 1981³¹ at age 66. Another name for G was G Laurence Backer.⁸¹

General Notes: G. Lawrence Backer was born 14 Sep 1914 and died Jan 1981. His last residence was in Averill Park, Rensselaer Co, New York. [Social Security Death Index]

Lawrence may be the Gerlad L Backer who joined the US Army in 1942:

Gerald L Backer

Birth Year:1914

Nativity State or Country:New York

State of Residence:New York

County or City:Cattaraugus

Enlistment Date:17 Apr 1942

Enlistment State:New York

Enlistment City:Buffalo

Education:4 years of high school

Civil Occupation:Semiskilled photographic process occupations

Marital Status:Single, without dependants

== U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 (Ancestry.com)

4-**Anna Marie Merz**⁸² was born in May 1898 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁸ died on 3 Aug 1948 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁸³ at age 50, and was buried on 5 Aug 1948 in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁷⁴ Other names for Anna were Anna Merz⁷⁶ and Anna Maria Merz.⁷⁴

General Notes: In 1923, Anna is living with her parents in Bridgeport at 54 Freeman Street. She is employed at Singer Mfg Co. [5]

On the 1930 Census, Anna is living with her parents and sister in Bridgeport. She is 31 and a time clerk in a machine factory.

In 1935, Anna M Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street with her widowed mother Marie A and her sister Lillian. Anna is a bookkeeper for Singer Mfg Co. [6]

In 1944, Anna M Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street with her widowed mother Anna M. Anna is a bookkeeper for Singer Mfg Co.

Anna Maria Merz, who had been living at 54 Freeman Street in Bridgeport, died 3 Aug 1948 at age 50. Her mother Marie is still living at that address. [2]

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Anna died at home after a long illness. She had been employed at Singer Manufacturing company for 25 years. She was a member of the First Evangelical and Reformed Church and Freundschaft Rebekah lodge, I.O.O.F. [Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a fraternal organization]. She was survived by her mother Mrs. Maria Strolin Merz, brother Charles Merz of Syracuse, NY, sister Mrs. Rush Marshall of Hamden, and 2 nieces. [3] Pall bearers were Fred & Frank Foehrenbach, John & Henry Kaualer, Christian Strolin, Sr, and Christian Strolin, Jr. [4] Christian Strolin, Sr, is probably Anna's mother's brother.

- [1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)
- [2] Bridgeport City Directory 1949 (Ancestry.com)
- [3] Bridgeport Post, Aug 4 1948, p. 31 (Ancestry.com)
- [4] Bridgeport Telegram, Aug 6 1948, p. 33 (Ancestry.com)
- [5] Bridgeport City Directory 1923 (Ancestry.com)
- [6] Bridgeport City Directory 1935 (Ancestry.com)

4-**Lillian Louise Merz**⁸⁴ was born on 4 Nov 1907 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁸⁵ died on 20 Jul 1978 in Lynchburg, Virginia⁸⁵ at age 70, and was buried in Central Burying Grounds (Centerville Cem), Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut.⁸⁶ Another name for Lillian was Lillian Merz.⁸⁷

General Notes: Lillian graduated from Bridgeport High School in 1923. Her studies were in the commercial coursework. [1]

On the 1930 Census, Lillian is living with her parents and sister in Bridgeport. She is 22 and a pay clerk in a machine factory.

In 1935, Lillian L Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street with her widowed mother Marie A and her sister Anna M. Lillian is a stenographer in New Haven. [3]

Lillian Marshall was born 4 Nov 1907 and died Jul 1978. Her last residence was in Lynchburg, Lynchburg City, Virginia. Her Social Security number was issued in Connecticut between 1971 & 1977. [2]

- [1] Bridgeport Telegram, 17 Jun 1923, p. 6 (Ancestry.com)
- [2] Social Security Death Index
- [3] Bridgeport City Directory 1935 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1908, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁷

Lillian married **Rush Porter Marshall**,⁸⁵ son of **Rush Porter Marshall** and **Mary Augusta Hayward**, between 1930 and 1948. Rush was born on 14 Nov 1891 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,⁸⁸ died on 18 Jul 1973 in Hamden, New Haven Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 81, and was buried in Central Burying Grounds (Centerville Cem), Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut.⁸⁶ Another name for Rush was Rush P Marshall.⁸⁹ They had one daughter: **Marion**.

Noted events in their marriage were:

- Alt. Marriage: 21 Dec 1935, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁵

General Notes: In 1930 Rush P Marshall is living in New Haven, Connecticut, with his first wife Janet L. Rush is 37 and born in Pennsylvania. He is a

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pathologist with the Department of Agriculture?.

Rush was divorced from his first wife Janet Davis Little in 1935.

Rush P Marshall was director of Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories at Stamford.
[3]

In 1940 Rush P Marshall and his wife Lillian M are living in Hamden, Connecticut, at 44 Pickwick Rd. Rush is a pathologist at the Bureau of Plant Industry. [1]

In 1942 Rush Porter Marshall is living at 44 Pickwick Road in Hamden. Living with him is his wife Lillian Merz Marshall. Rush works for the US Department of Agriculture in New Haven. [2]

[1] New Haven City Directory 1940 (Ancestry.com)

[2] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards - 1942 (Ancestry.com)

[3] various editions of the Bridgeport Telegram

Noted events in his life were:

- Occupation: Director, Bartlett Tree Reserach Laboratories, Stamford, Connecticut.

5-Marion Marshall

Anna next married **Eduard Johannes Straub**,¹ son of **Johann Georg Straub** and **Anna Stöhle**. Eduard was born on 25 Feb 1842 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany,¹ died on 5 Feb 1927 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁰ at age 84, and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹¹ Other names for Eduard were John, Johannes Straub,⁴ and John Edward Straub.⁹¹ They had three children: **Anna Wilhelmine**, **Johannes Reinhold**, and **Johanna Bertha**.

General Notes: Eduard Johannes Straub was born 25 February 1842 in Gruibingen, Goppingen oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg. He was a weaver from an old family in Gruibingen. [2]

Today the town of Gruibingen is in the district (or Kreis in German) of Goppingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg. It has a population of 2300.

In 1890, John Straub is living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, at 392 East Main. He works for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co. John and his wife Babette must be living with their daughter and son-in-law Christopher and Anna Becker who live at the same address. The following year they are living at 163 Shelton, again the same address as Christopher and Anna. [1]

In the 1900 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna and her husband Christ Becker (looked like Belker on the census). He is 58 years old and a retired widower. John was born in Germany and immigrated in 1883. He may be a naturalized citizen.

In the 1910 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna and her husband Chris (Gustavus on the census) Becker in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 68 years old, widowed, and was born in Germany. His year of immigration was unclear, but he did

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appear to be naturalized. John speaks German, not English.

In the 1920 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna and her husband Chris Becker. John is 77 years old (born about 1843), widowed, and born in Germany.

Services were held for John Edward Straub on February 8, 1927. He died Saturday [Feb 5] at the home of his daughter. Burial was in Lakeview Cemetery. [3]

[1] Bridgeport City Directories, 1890-91, Ancestry.com

[2] From the research of Martin Koepple in Germany, using the archives of Gruibingen, 2004

[3] The Bridgeport Telegram, February 7, 1927, page 18.

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: 25 Feb 1841, Germany.⁹²

3-**Anna Wilhelmine Straub**¹ was born on 9 Mar 1870 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany,¹ died on 19 Sep 1945 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹³ at age 75, and was buried on 22 Sep 1945 in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹⁴ Another name for Anna was Anna Habann.

General Notes: Anna was a member of the First Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Ladies Aid Society. [1]

Mamie (Mary), Tillie (Matilda), and Johnnie Becker were in a photo in Speiser collection, identified by Lydia Speiser Reuther. They are children of Anna and Christopher.

The obituary for Anna lists five daughters - Mrs. Joseph Ryley of Westport, Mrs. William Schutt of Bridgeport, Mrs. Fred Paquette of Bridgeport, Mrs. Otto Salzer of Stratford, and Mrs. Thomas Linnenbrink of Fairfield, and two sons, Charles of Stratford, and Peter of Bridgeport. Anna had only four daughters. Mrs. Thomas Linnenbrink (Florence B in the city directory 1944) is actually her granddaughter, the daughter of Peter, and was raised by Anna and Chris.

[1] Kimberly Reinhard

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: 1870, Germany.⁹³
- Alt. Birth: Mar 1870, Germany.⁸
- Immigration: 4 Sep 1883, New York.²

Anna married **John Peter Christopher Becker**,⁹⁵ son of **John Becker** and **Johanna Rebecca Hallke**, about 1889.²⁰ John was born on 29 Jun 1867 in Bremerhaufen, Germany,⁹⁵ died on 11 Oct 1957 in Norwalk, Fairfield Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 90, and was buried on 14 Oct 1957 in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹⁵ The cause of his death was Coronary Thrombosis. Other names for John were Christopher and Christopher Becker. They had eight children: **John Carl, Matilda Marie, Johanna Rebecca, Marie Margaritha, Carl "Charles" Christopher, Adolf Peter, Anna Barbara, and Elsie R.**

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Noted events in their marriage were:

- Alt. Marriage: 29 Aug 1889, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁹⁵

General Notes: Chris was reportedly born in Bremerhaufen, Germany. This is most likely Bremerhaven in the German state of Bremen. The city of Bremerhaven is located on the Geest River at its junction with the estuary of the Weser River some 37 miles north of Bremen in northwest Germany. It serves as the North Sea port for that city. There was a medieval settlement at Lehe on the site. The modern city was founded as a port for Bremen in 1827, and the municipality was formed by the amalgamation of three towns in 1845. Throughout the 19th century, Bremerhaven grew and prospered as both a fishing port and a passenger port.

In 1890, Christopher Becker is operating a saloon at 394 East Main in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He lives next door at 392 East Main. His wife Anna's parents Babette and John Straub are living with them. In 1891, Christopher is living at 163 Shelton, and no longer has the saloon. He must have sold it to his wife's brother-in-law Henry Speiser, as Henry is operating a saloon at this address in 1891. Babette and John Straub continue to live with Christopher and Anna. [3]

In the 1900 Census, Christ Becker (looked like Belker on the census) is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He is 32 years old, and was born in Germany. He immigrated in 1882 and is a naturalized citizen. Chris is working as a day laborer. Living with him is his wife Anna, 30. She was also born in Germany and immigrated in 1883. They have been married 10 years, and Anna has born 7 children, 4 are living. Their children are Tellie (Matilda or Tillie), 8, Marmie (Mary or Marie), 4, Carl, 3, and Adolph, 1. All the children were born in Connecticut. Also living with them is John Straub, identified as Chris's father on the census, but actually Anna's father.

In 1904, Christopher Becker is working for Connecticut Railway & Lighting Company in Bridgeport. He is living at 551 Housatonic ave. [4]

In the 1910 Census, Christopher Becker (Gustavus on the census) was living in Bridgeport at 44 Florence Avenue. He is 42 years old, and was born in Germany. His year of immigration was unclear, but he is a naturalized citizen. Christopher may be working for an electric railroad, perhaps in a repair capacity. Living with him is his wife Anna, 40, also born in Germany. They have been married 20 years, and Anna has born 9 children, 6 are living. Their six children are Matilda, 18, Mary, 14, Carl (Charles), 13, Adolphe (Peter), 11, Anna, 7, and Elsie, 4. Matilda and Mary are working - Matilda in some kind of factory, and Mary is sewing in a lace factory. Also living with them is Anna's widowed father John Straub, 68. Living nearby, on the previous census page, are Anna's half-brother Charles Merz and his family, and Adolphe Boerschel and his family, relatives of Anna's and Charles' mother.

In the 1920 Census, Christopher Becker (or Becher) was living in Bridgeport. He is 53 years old and born in Germany. He immigrated in 1870 and was naturalized in 1908 or 1918. Living with him was his wife Anna, age 48/49, also born in Germany. Anna immigrated in 1880. Living with them were their children Mary, 24, Peter, 20?, Anna, 17, and Elsie, 14. All the children were born in Connecticut. Also in the house was Christopher's father-in-law John Straub, age 77, born in Germany. Christopher and Anna may have been naturalized citizens. Anna's relatives the Merz's and

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Boerschel's are living a few census pages away.

In the 1930 Census, Christ. Becker is living in Bridgeport on Hewitt Street. He is 62 years old and was born in Germany. He lists his year of immigration as 1882 and is a naturalized citizen. Christopher is a machine operator at a sewing machine factory. Living with him are his wife Anna, age 60, also born in Germany, daughter Elsie, 24, born in Connecticut, and granddaughter Florence, 9. Florence was born in Connecticut as was her father. Her mother was born in New York. Florence is Peter's daughter from his first marriage. Anna lists her year of immigration as 1883 and is a naturalized citizen. Elsie is working in a factory, the type of factory and work was unclear.

In 1944, Christopher J Becker and his wife Anna W are living at 194 Hewitt Street in Bridgeport. [2]

Chris J Becker died October 11, 1957, in Norwalk, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He was 90 years old, and widowed from Anna. Chris's last residence was in Westport. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directories, 1890-91, Ancestry.com

[4] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Jun 1867, Germany.⁸
- Alt. Birth: Abt 1868, Germany.⁹⁶
- Alt. Death: After 1930.
- Immigration: 14 Apr 1882.⁹⁵
- Occupation: Inspector For Singer Manufacturing Company, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁹⁵

4-**John Carl Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 28 Apr 1891 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁹⁵ died about 1893 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ about age 2, and was buried in Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹⁵ The cause of his death was drowning accident. Another name for John was Johnnie.

4-**Matilda Marie Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 15 Mar 1892 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 1 Nov 1961 in Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 69. Other names for Matilda were Tillie, Mathilda M Becker,⁴⁹ and Matilda Becker.⁸⁷

General Notes: Mathilda (Mathi on the record) M Ryley, wife of Joseph, died 01 November 1961 at age 69 in Norwalk, Fairfield, Connecticut. Her last residence was Westport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1892, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁷
- Alt. Birth: Mar 1892, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸

Matilda married **Joseph Ryley**⁹⁷ about 1913.²⁰ Joseph was born on 6 Jan 1889 in Stratford, Connecticut⁹⁸ and died on 1 May 1979 in Norwalk, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age

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90. They had two children: **Ruth Matilda** and **Joseph Roger**.

General Notes: On 5 June 1917 Joseph Ryley registered for the World War I draft. He was living at 1652 Stratford Ave, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Joseph was born 6 Jan 1889 in Stratford, Connecticut. He was employed as a guard at UMC Co in Bridgeport. Joseph has had military service, serving for 8 years in the US Navy as a 1st class boatswain mate. He is married with one child.

In 1920, Joseph Ryley is living at 1652 Stratford Ave in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 31 years old, born in Connecticut, and a foreman at a shipyard. Joseph's parents were born in England. Living with him is his wife Matilda, 27, and their daughter Ruth, 5.

In the 1930 Census, Joseph Riley is living on Rail Road Avenue in Westport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 41 years old, born in Connecticut, and a watchman at a toy factory. Joseph's parents were born in England. Living with him is his wife Matilda, 38. She was born in Connecticut and her parents in Germany. They have two children, Ruth M, 15, and Joseph R, 8, both born in Connecticut.

In 1942 Joseph Ryley was living at 572 Imperial Ave in Westport. He is working for Adm. Henry Comstock of Ridgefield, Connecticut. Joseph works at 617 Riverside Ave in Westport. On the WWII draft Joseph listed his closest relative as his son Joseph R Ryley, also living with him. [1]

Joseph Ryley was born 06 Jan 1889 and died May 1979. His last residence was Westport, Fairfield Co, CT. [2]

Joseph Ryley, widower of Mathi (Mathilda) died 01 May 1979 at age 90 in Norwalk, Connecticut. He was born 06 January 1889 in Connecticut. Joseph's last residence was in Westport, Connecticut. [3]

[1] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Social Security Death Index

[3] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1889, Connecticut.²⁰
- Alt. Death: May 1979, Connecticut.³¹
- Occupation: Watchman At A Toy Factory, 1930.²⁰
- Occupation: Foreman In A Shipyard.⁹⁵

5-**Ruth Matilda Ryley**⁹⁵ was born on 22 Apr 1914 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 5 Feb 1993 in Vero Beach, Indian River Co, Florida⁹⁵ at age 78. Another name for Ruth was Ruth M Ryley.²⁰

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1915, Connecticut.²⁰

Ruth married **Walter B Eager Jr**,⁹⁹ son of **Walter B Eager** and **Laura B**, about 1941.¹⁰⁰ Walter was born on 21 Mar 1914 in New York City¹⁰¹ and died on 6 Nov 2006 in Vero Beach, Indian River Co, Florida¹⁰¹ at age 92. They had three children: **Laura Marie**, **Sharon Ruth**, and **Deborah Jane**.

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General Notes: In 1930 Walter B Eager, Jr, was living in Weston, Fairfield County, Connecticut, with is parents Walter B and Laura B Eager. Walter Jr, is 16 and was born in New York. [1]

Walter B Eager enlisted in the US Army on 9 July 1942 at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. He was a resident of Knox County, Tennessee, at the time. Walter had 4 years of college, was a "Photographer, Retouching Artist", and was married. He was born in 1914 in New York. [4]

Walter B. Eager, 92, died Nov. 6, 2006, at Indian River Medical Center, Vero Beach. He was born in New York City, served in the Army Air Forces during World War II. and was a graduate of Washington & Lee University in Virginia. He moved to Vero Beach in 1979, coming from Lewiston, N.Y. Before his retirement in 1978, he had worked as a district manager for Metropolitan Insurance Co. in New York.

After retiring to Florida he wrote a weekly outdoors column for the Press Journal, the Sebastian Sun and TCPalm.com.

Survivors include daughters, Debbie Seelbaugh of Micco, Laura Del Prince of Buffalo, N.Y., and Sharon Eager of Bodega Bay, Calif.; and a granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Ruth Ryley Eager. [3]

Walter B. Eager was born 21 Mar 1914 and died 6 November 2006. His last residence was in Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida. His Social Security number was issued in Connecticut before 1951. [2]

[1] US Census 1930, Weston, Fairfield Co, CT, ED 219, sheet 2A

[2] Social Security Death Index

[3] Vero Beach Press Journal (FL) - Nov 8, 2006 (Genealogybank.com)

[4] U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: 1914, New York.⁹⁹

6-Laura Marie Eager

6-Sharon Ruth Eager

6-Deborah Jane Eager

Deborah married **Unknown Seelbaugh**.

5-Joseph Roger Ryley⁹⁵ was born on 7 Feb 1922 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut¹⁰² and died on 13 Oct 1983 in Westport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 61. Another name for Joseph was Joseph R Ryley.²⁰ He never married and had no children.

General Notes: Joseph R Ryley enlisted in the US Army on 7 Jul 1944 in New Haven, Connecticut. He was born in 1922 in Connecticut, and was living in Fairfield. Joseph had 4 years of high school, is single, without dependents, and is working as a "Master, Ship or Mail Clerk (Clerk, postal or mail.) or Personnel Clerk or Traffic Rate Clerk or Dispatcher, Motor Vehicle". [2]

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Joseph R Ryley died 13 October 1983 at age 61 in Westport, Connecticut. He was born 07 February 1922 in Connecticut. Joseph never married. He was a retired postal carrier for the US Post Office. His last residence was 10 St. John Place in Westport. [2]

[1] U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 (Ancestry.com)
[2] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1922, Connecticut.²⁰

4-**Johanna Rebecca Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 15 Jun 1893 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁹⁵ died about 1893 in Fairfield County, Connecticut,⁹⁵ and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹⁵

4-**Marie Margaritha Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 25 Nov 1895 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ and died on 28 Feb 1991 in Fairfield, Fairfield Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 95. Other names for Marie were Mamie and Mary Becker.⁸⁰

General Notes: Maria M Becker Schutt, widow of William, died 28 February 1991 at age 95 in Fairfield, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. She was born 25 November 1895 in Bridgeport. Maria was a homemaker, Her last residence was at 118 Jefferson Street in Fairfield. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Nov 1895, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸
- Alt. Birth: Abt 1896, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁰

Marie married **William Henrey Schutt**,¹⁰³ son of **William F Schutt** and **Mary M Felix**, about 1920 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.¹⁰⁴ William was born on 27 Apr 1896 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut¹⁰⁵ and died on 30 Sep 1982 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 86. Another name for William was William H Schutt.⁹⁷

Marriage Notes: Mamie and William were married at the German Reformed Church in Bridgeport. [Kim Reinhard]

General Notes: In 1910, William is living with his parents William F Schutt and Mary at 234 Union Ave in Bridgeport. Mary's parents George & Dorothy Felix and her sister Clara are living next door.

In 1920, William H Schutt is living at 234 Union Ave in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 23 years old and a pressman for a newspaper. William is living with his mother Mary Schutt and her sister Clara Felix.

In the 1930 Census, William H Schutt is living at 236 Union Avenue in Bridgeport. He is 34 years old, born in Connecticut, and a pressman for a paper company. Living with him is his wife Mary, also 34. They were married at age 24. William and Mary appear to be sharing a duplex with his mother and aunt living in the other duplex. Mary M Schutt, 57, and her sister Clara Felix, 53, were born in Connecticut and their parents in Germany. Mary is an assembler for a lace

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company, and Clara is a box maker for a corset company.

In 1942 William Henrey Schutt is living at 232 Union Ave in Bridgeport with his wife Mrs Mary Schutt. He is working for Post Publishing Co of 410 State Street. William was born 27 April 1896 in Bridgeport. [2]

William H Schutt, husband of Mary, died 30 September 1982 at age 86 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He was born 27 April 1896 in Connecticut. William was a retired pressman with Post Publishing Company. He had been living at 352 Union Ave in Bridgeport when he died. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[2] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1895, Connecticut.²⁰

4-**Carl "Charles" Christopher Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 30 Jan 1897 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,¹⁰⁶ died on 9 Jan 1952 in Stratford, Fairfield Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 54, and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁹⁵ Other names for Carl were Carl Becker⁸ and Charles C Becker.¹⁰⁷

General Notes: On June 5 1918, Charles C Becker registered for the World War I draft in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He was born January 30 1897 in Bridgeport. Charles was living at 44 Florence Avenue in Bridgeport. He was working for the Lake [?] Torpedo Boat Co. Charles' father's birthplace was Breman, Germany. His mother Anna Becker was listed as his closest relative.

On 22 May 1924, Charles Becker of Bridgeport was one of seven people arrested in New London, CT, charged with illegal transportation of liquor. Three trucks were seized and \$50,000 worth of liquor. [4]

In the 1930 Census, Charles Becker is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 33 years old, and a sheet metal worker for General Electric. Charles was born in Connecticut, and his parents in Germany. Living with Charles is his wife Mae, 27, born in New York, son Charles, 5 & 3 months, born in Connecticut, and brother-in-law Joseph McCullough, 34, born in NY, and a machine worker in a lock shop. Charles and Mae were married when they were 27 and 22 years old, respectively. Charles is a veteran of the World War.

In 1942 Charles Christopher Becker is living at 1501 Linden Ave in Stratford, Fairfield County with his wife May Becker. He is working for the General Electric Company in Bridgeport. Charles was born 30 Jan 1897 in Bridgeport. [5]

In 1944, Charles C Becker and his wife Mae R are living at 1501 Linden Ave in Stratford (Fairfield Co). Charles is a guard at GEC. [1]

In 1949, Charles C Becker and his wife Mae R are living at 1501 Linden Ave in Stratford (Fairfield Co). Charles is an inspector at GEC. Charles C, Jr, is living at home and is an employee at UCorp. Daughter Vivian M is a student. [2]

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Charles C Becker, husband of Mae, died 09 January 1952 at age 54 in Stratford, Fairfield, Connecticut. [3]

- [1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)
- [2] Bridgeport City Directory 1949 (Ancestry.com)
- [3] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)
- [4] Bridgeport Telegram, 23 May 1924 (Ancestry.com)
- [5] U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1897, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.
- Alt. Birth: Jan 1897, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸

Carl married **Mae Rose McCullough**,⁹⁵ daughter of **Unknown** and **Rose**, about 1925.²⁰ Mae was born on 4 Aug 1902 in New York⁴⁹ and died on 8 Dec 1984 in Easton, Fairfield Co, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 82. Other names for Mae were Mae McCullough²⁰ and Mae R McCullough.⁴⁹ They had four children: **Marion, Charles C, Vivian M, and Elsie Ann.**

Noted events in their marriage were:

- Alt. Marriage: 3 Aug 1923, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.¹⁰⁸

General Notes: Mae R McCullough Becker, widow of Charles, died 08 December 1984 at age 82 in Easton, Connecticut. She was born 04 August 1902 in New York. At the time she died her residence was in Stratford, Connecticut. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1903, New York.²⁰

5-Marion Becker

5-**Charles C Becker**¹⁰⁹ was born on 9 Dec 1924 in Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 3 Apr 1988 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ at age 63.

General Notes: Charles C Becker was born 09 December 1924 in Connecticut and died 03 April 1988 in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He was married to Hazel when he died, and was living at 124 Coach Light Square in Bridgeport. Charles was a toolmaker at Norden's. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1925, Connecticut.²⁰

Charles married **Hazel A Beausoleil**.⁹⁵

5-**Vivian M Becker**⁸² was born on 6 Nov 1930,⁹⁵ died on 25 Apr 2004³¹ at age 73, and was buried on 29 Apr 2004 in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

General Notes: Vivian M. Henry was born 6 Nov 1930 and died 25 Apr 2004. Her last residence was in Enola, Cumberland Co, Pennsylvania. Her SS# was issued in Connecticut before 1951.

Vivian M Henry, wife of Hamilton M Henry, was born 6 Nov 1930 and died

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25 Apr 2004. She was buried 29 Apr 2004 at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. It appears Hamilton was a Master Sergeant in the US Army. [<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov>]

Vivian married **Hamilton M Henry**.¹¹⁰

5-Elsie Ann Becker

4-**Adolf Peter Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 28 Feb 1899 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut,¹¹¹ died on 4 Aug 1964 in Baltimore, Maryland⁹⁵ at age 65, and was buried on 7 Aug 1964 in Baltimore National Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland.⁹⁵ The cause of his death was Arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Other names for Adolf were Peter, Adolph Becker,⁸ and Peter Becker.⁸⁰

General Notes: On September 12 1917, Peter Adolf Becker registered for the World War I draft in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He was born February 28, 1899. Peter was living at 44 Florence Avenue, and was a machinist for Bridgeport Cng Co. His mother Anna Beker was listed as his closest relative.

In 1920 Peter Becker was one of the founding members of the new Bridgeport Chauffers Union which included operators of public service cars, private chauffers and truck drivers. Application for an AFL charter was submitted. Peter was named temporary vice president until union elections are held. [4]

In the 1920 Census, Peter Becker, age 20, is living in Bridgeport with his parents Christopher and Anna Becker.

On the 1930 Census, Peter Becker is living in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut. He is 30 years old, born in Connecticut, parents born in Germany, and is an auto mechanic at a garage. Living with him is his wife Margaret, 26, born in Connecticut. Her parents were born in Italy. They were married at age 24 and 19, respectively. Their children are, Margaret, 5, Emma, 3, Edward, 2, and George, 10 months. All were born in New York except George, who was born in Connecticut.

Peter served in the US Army during World War II. [1]

Peter A Becker was born in 1899 in Fairfield County, Connecticut. On 23 Jul 1942 he enlisted in the military in Baltimore, Maryland, for the duration of the war. Peter had a grammar school education and was working as a "Gas And Oil Man" His enlistment record showed him as a widower, without dependents. [3] Peter was actually divorced from Margaret. Their youngest child was 12 years old.

Peter A Becker was a sergeant in the US Army from 6 August 1942 to 20 May 1945. [2]

Peter Becker was born 28 February 1899 and died 4 August 1964 at Saint John's Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. His last residence was in Maryland. Peter was buried on 7 August 1964 in Baltimore National Cemetery. [1, 2, 5]

[1] Kim Reinhard - died at Saint John's Hospital in Baltimore

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[2] <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov>

[3] U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 Record (Ancestry.com)

[4] Bridgeport Telegram, 30 Aug 1920 (Ancestry.com)

[5] Social Security Death Index

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Feb 1899, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸
- Alt. Birth: Abt 1900, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁰
- Alt. Death: Aug 1964.³¹
- Occupation: Auto Technician & Security Guard.⁹⁵
- Military: US Army, Between 6 Aug 1942 and 20 May 1945.

Adolf married **Mary Herman Macrowski Brunswick Mullins**.⁹⁵ They had one daughter: **Florence Elsie**.

5-Florence Elsie Becker⁹⁵ was born on 17 Apr 1921 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 30 Sep 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona¹¹² at age 88.

General Notes: After her parents divorced, Florence was raised by her grandparents Chris and Anna Becker. She was treated like their daughter and listed in Anna's obituary as her daughter.

Florence B. Linnenbrink, a long-time resident of Independence, Missouri, died 30 September 2009 in Phonex, Arizona, where she was living. She was born as Florence Elsie Becker on April 17, 1921, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. After business college, she went to work for Remington Arms in Bridgeport where she met Thomas Albert Linnenbrink. They married there in 1942, had two children, Thomas Edward and Cathy Ann before they were transferred to Independence, Mo., in 1951 to help re-open Lake City Arsenal.

She started volunteering at the Independence Sanitarium and Hospital (the San) in 1951 and joined the Auxiliary. Over the years, she served as Auxiliary president, secretary, treasurer, gift shop chairman, and fundraiser. In 1970, she joined the medical facility as coordinator of Auxiliary and Volunteer Services. In 1979, she was appointed director of community relations.

Florence received the Outstanding Leadership and Service Award from the Greater Kansas City Red Cross; the Matrix Table Award for Women in Communications; Club Woman of the Year from the Independence Examiner, Community Service Award from the Neighborhood Council; and the Best Auxiliary Newsletter Award and the Best Auxiliary Award for a hospital the size of the San by the Missouri Hospital Association.

Florence is preceded in death by her husband, Tom, who died in 1988. She is survived by her daughter, Cathy Myers, currently living in Glendale (Phoenix area), AZ and her son, Tom Linnenbrink, currently living in Colorado Springs, CO, four grand children, and five great-grand children. [2]

Florence Linnenbrink, 17 April 1921 - 30 September 2009. Last residence Glendale, Maricopa County, Arizona. SSN issued Connecticut before 1951.

[1]

[1] Social Security Death Index

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[2] The Examiner (Independence-Blues Springs-Grain Valley, MO), 1 Nov 2009 (GenealogyBank.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Residence: 2004, Arizona.⁹⁵

Florence married **Thomas Albert Linnenbrink**,⁹⁴ son of **Thomas Linnenbrink** and **Emma Malone**, on 27 Jun 1942 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁹⁵ Thomas was born on 10 Nov 1912⁹⁵ and died on 28 Mar 1988⁹⁵ at age 75. They had two children: **Thomas Edward** and **Cathy Ann**.

Marriage Notes: Thomas and Florence were married at the First Evangelical Reformed Church in Bridgeport.

General Notes: In 1944, Thomas A Linnenbrink and his wife Florence B are living at 939 Barnum ave in Bridgeport. Thomas is an engineer at the Devon company. [1]

The Linnenbrinks moved to Independence, Missouri, in 1951. [3]

Thomas A. Linnenbrink was born 10 Nov 1912 and died 28 Mar 1988. His last residence was in Independence, Jackson Co, Missouri. His SSN was issued in New York before 1951. [2]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory, Ancestry.com

[2] Social Security Death Index

[3] The Examiner (Independence-Blues Springs-Grain Valley, MO), 1 Nov 2009, obit for Florence Linnenbrink (GenealogyBank.com)

6-Thomas Edward Linnenbrink

Thomas married **Barbara Jean Schulz**.⁹⁵ They had two children: **Thomas A** and **Lisa Elizabeth Ann**.

6-Cathy Ann Linnenbrink

Cathy married **J C Myers**. They had two children: **Michelle Lynette** and **Melissa Ann**.

Adolf next married **Margaret Rose Bilotta**,⁹⁵ daughter of **Giambattista Bilotta** and **Guilia Del Donno**. Margaret was born on 1 Oct 1903 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut,⁹⁵ died on 23 Jan 2005 in Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida⁹⁵ at age 101, and was buried on 28 Jan 2005.⁹⁵ Another name for Margaret was Margaret.²⁰ They had five children: **Margaret Ann**, **Emma Rose**, **Edward**, **George Peter**, and **June Rose**.

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1904, Connecticut.²⁰

5-**Margaret Ann Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 28 Feb 1925 in Manhattan, New York,⁹⁵ died on 16 Feb 1993 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut¹¹³ at age 67, and was buried in St Bridget's Cemetery, Cheshire, New Haven Co, Connecticut.⁹⁵ The cause of her death was cancer. Other names for Margaret

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were Peggy and Margaret Becker.²⁰

General Notes: Margaret A Becker Dunn was born 28 Feb 1925 in Connecticut and died 16 Feb 1993 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut. She was married to Robert when she died and living in Cheshire, New Haven Co, Connecticut.

[Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1925, New York.²⁰
- Graduation: Wilby High School, Waterbury, Connecticut.⁹⁵

Margaret married **Robert Francis Dunn**.⁹⁵ They had seven children: **Robert F, Gregory M, Mary Margaret, Eileen Frances Becker, Barbara Ann, Jeffery M, and Jane Patricia.**

6-Robert F Dunn

Robert married **Marylee**. They had three children: **Christine, Hilary, and Laura.**

6-Gregory M Dunn

Gregory married **Jayne E Soden**. They had two children: **Gregory and Jeffrey.**

6-Mary Margaret Dunn

Mary married **Peter R Degeorge**. They had three children: **Peter Michael, Brandi Margaret, and Michael Lawrence.**

6-Eileen Frances Becker Dunn

Eileen married **Lin Robinson**.⁹⁵

6-Barbara Ann Dunn

Barbara married **Craig A Scalzo**. They had three children: **Amanda, Maggie, and Samantha.**

6-Jeffery M Dunn

6-Jane Patricia Dunn

Jane married **Scott R Barlok**. They had two children: **Sara and Zachery.**

5-Emma Rose Becker

Emma married **John Francis Rock**,⁹⁵ son of **Francis Rock** and **Sarah Carey**. They had six children: **Judith Ann, Sandra Ellen, John David, Richard Carey, Kenneth Edward, and Margaret Ann.**

6-Judith Ann Rock

Judith married **Keith Richard Reinhard**,⁹⁵ son of **Raymond Reinhard**

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and **Caroline Lindhardt**. They had two children: **Kimberly Ann** and **Keith Richard**.

Judith next married **Harold Lawrance Collins Jr**, son of **Harold Collins** and **Rose Jerolmon**. Harold was born on 26 Dec 1938 in New Haven, New Haven Co, Connecticut, was christened in St Peter's Church, New Haven, CT, died on 2 Jul 2004 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut at age 65, and was buried on 6 Jul 2004 in St Bridget's Cemetery, Cheshire, New Haven Co, Connecticut. The cause of his death was stroke.

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Death: Saint Mary's Hospital, Waterbury, CT.
- Graduation: East Haven High School, East Haven, CT.
- Occupation: Utility Worker, United Illuminating, Hamden, Connecticut.

6-Sandra Ellen Rock

Sandra married **Mark Earl Wagner Sr.**⁹⁵ They had three children: **Jennifer Ann**, **Kristen Margaret**, and **Mark Earl**.

6-**John David Rock** was born on 13 Jun 1950 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut, died on 16 Sep 1984 in New York, New York at age 34, and was buried in St Bridget's Cemetery, Cheshire, New Haven Co, Connecticut.⁹⁵ Another name for John was Johnny.

Noted events in his life were:

- Graduation: 1969, Cheshire High School, Cheshire, New Haven Co, CT.
- Graduation: New York University, NYC.
- Occupation: Light Therapist, New York University Hospital, NYC.

6-Richard Carey Rock

Richard married **Marilyn Louise Flood**. They had two children: **Kathryn Elizabeth** and **Christopher David**.

6-Kenneth Edward Rock

Kenneth married **Geralyn Mary Nunzianto**. They had two children: **Bryan James** and **Megan Lynne**.

6-Margaret Ann Rock

Margaret married **John Lockley Baker**. They had four children: **Lynn Ann**, **Mary Margaret**, **John Arnold**, and **Matthew Lockley**.

5-**Edward Becker**²⁰ was born on 2 Nov 1927 in Manhattan, New York,⁹⁵ died on 8 Jul 1988 in Union, North Carolina⁹⁵ at age 60, and was buried in Cremated.⁹⁵ The cause of his death was cancer. Another name for Edward was Eddy.

General Notes: Edward Becker was born in 1926 in New York. He enlisted in

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the military on 12 Jan 1945 in New Haven, Connecticut. Edward had 2 years of high school and was working as a "Machinists Helper". He is single. [1]

[1] U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 Record (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1928, New York.²⁰

Edward married **Barbara**.⁹⁵

5-**George Peter Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 5 Jun 1929 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut,⁹⁵ was christened in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut, died on 21 Aug 1999 in Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida⁹⁵ at age 70, and was buried in Manasota Memorial Park, Bradenton, Manatee Co, FL.⁹⁵ The cause of his death was cancer. Another name for George was George Becker.²⁰

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt Jun 1929, Connecticut.²⁰
- Occupation: Founder/Owner Of Hitech Machining, Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida.⁹⁵
- Military: US Army Paratrooper, WWII.⁹⁵

George married **Marie**.⁹⁵

George next married **Tina**.⁹⁵

George next married **Mary Ethel Holme**⁹⁵ about 1949 in Connecticut.⁹⁵ Mary was born on 4 Dec 1929 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut.⁹⁵ They had three children: **Candice Diane**, **Linda Jane**, and **Cheryl Louise**.

6-Candice Diane Becker

Candice married **Roger H Roy**. They had two children: **Michelle Diane** and **Joseph George**.

6-Linda Jane Becker

Linda married **Rogells**. They had one son: **Douglas**.

Linda next married **Guiseppe Gugliotti**. They had one daughter: **Dawn Rene**.

Linda next married **Daniel J Ellis**. They had one daughter: **Heather**.

6-**Cheryl Louise Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 16 Apr 1953 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 2 Feb 2001 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut⁹⁵ at age 47.

Noted events in her life were:

- Occupation: Certified Nursing Assistant With VNA.

Cheryl married **Robert Beardsley**. They had two children: **Robert Allen** and **Edward Frank**.

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Cheryl next married **Lawrence P Griffin** in Apr 1976. Lawrence was born on 25 Feb 1935 and died on 18 Mar 2002 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut at age 67.

5-**June Rose Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 15 Jun 1930 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut,⁹⁵ died on 30 Oct 1998 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut⁹⁵ at age 68, and was buried on 4 Nov 1998 in Calvary Cemetery, Waterbury, CT.⁹⁵ The cause of her death was cancer.

Noted events in her life were:

- Graduation: Wilby High School, Waterbury, Connecticut.
- Occupation: Homemaker.
- Occupation: Employed At Scovill Manufacturing Company, Waterbury, Connecticut.

June married **Edwin Parker Swift Jr**,⁹⁵ son of **Edwin Swift** and **Bertha Brown**. They had 12 children: **Edwin Parker, Kathleen, Stephen, Gregory T, Karen, Nancy E, Susan Mary Ann, Paul M, Jane M, Patricia Ann, Rebecca Ann, and Jennifer June**.

6-Edwin Parker Swift III

Edwin married **Angie**. They had one son: **Joseph**.

6-Kathleen Swift

Kathleen married **Jeff Nemerovsky**. They had one daughter: **Michelle N**.

Kathleen next married **Paul Metzger**. They had two children: **Robert** and **Tara**.

6-Stephen Swift

6-**Gregory T Swift** was born on 20 Sep 1955 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut, died on 22 Jan 1999 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut at age 43, and was buried in Calvary Cemetery, Waterbury, CT.

Noted events in his life were:

- Graduation: Crosby High School, Waterbury, CT.
- Occupation: USMC Veteran.
- Occupation: Us Postal Service.

6-Karen Swift

Karen married **Henry P Capozzi**. They had four children: **Amy, Christopher, Henry, and Sarah**.

6-Nancy E Swift

Nancy married **Stephen T Rossi**. They had two children: **Lauren** and **Stephen**.

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6-Susan Mary Ann Swift

Susan married **Bruce Hanley**, son of **Adrian Hanley** and **Lina Pineault**. Bruce was born on 28 Mar 1958 in Fall River, Bristol Co, Massachusetts, died on 13 Dec 1997 in Waterbury, New Haven Co, Connecticut at age 39, and was buried on 17 Dec 1997 in Mount Olive Cemetery, Watertown, New Haven Co, CT. They had one daughter: **Kristen Leigh Ann**.

General Notes: Bruce Hanley died in 1997, 15 years after slipping into coma. He was a rookie cop and former construction worker, 30 years old and a new father when he and officer Gene Caron responded to a report of a disturbance involving several youths on the night of Nov. 19, 1982. When they arrived at the scene, the officers found four suspects. One fled and Hanley ran after him, chasing him through a wooded area and several back yards before he collapsed, unable to breathe after tissue in his lung ruptured. Bruce suffered permanent brain damage from a lack of oxygen, lapsed into a coma and never recovered. [1]

He was buried at Mount Oliver Cemetery with full police honors. [1]

[1] New Haven Register (CT) - 16 Dec 1997 (Genealogybank.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Occupation: Police Officer for the city, Waterbury, Connecticut.

6-Paul M Swift

Paul married **Jean Bellefeuille**. They had two children: **Melissa** and **Paul**.

6-Jane M Swift

Jane married **Richard M Caisse**.

Jane next married **Gregory M Tortora**. They had two children: **Michael** and **Rebecca**.

6-Patricia Ann Swift

Patricia married **Frank Charles Lanosa Jr**. They had three children: **Frank Charles**, **Juliana June**, and **Edwin Parker**.

6-Rebecca Ann Swift

Rebecca married **Louis John Spina Jr**. They had three children: **Brianna Leigh**, **Louis John**, and **Matthew Becker**.

6-Jennifer June Swift

Jennifer married **Stephen Guy Labrie**.⁹⁵

4-**Anna Barbara Becker**⁹⁵ was born on 21 Aug 1902 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 17 Dec 1976 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 74. Other names for Anna were Anna Becker⁴⁹ and Anne

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Becker.⁸⁰

General Notes: Anna B Paquette, widow of Fred, died 17 December 1976 at age 74 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Her residence was in Stratford.
[Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1903, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁰

Anna married **Frederick William Paquette**,⁹⁵ son of **Jeremiah Paquette** and **Emma**, about 1926.²⁰ Frederick was born on 10 Mar 1901 in Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 21 Dec 1970 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 69. Another name for Frederick was Frederick W Paquette.⁹⁷ They had three children: **Barbara Emma, Frederick William, and Lois Ann.**

Noted events in their marriage were:

- Alt. Marriage: 10 Oct 1926.⁹⁵

General Notes: In 1910 Frederick W Packett [Paquette] is 10 years old, born in Connecticut, and living in Bridgeport with his parents Jeremiah Packett and Emma. Jeremiah was born in Massachusetts (parents in French Canada) and Emma in Germany. Jeremiah is a carpenter. Besides son Frederick, also with them are children RoseL, 11, Amelia, 7, Lena, 4, and George, 2. [2]

In the 1930 Census Frederick W Paquette is living at 200 Longbrook Ave in Stratford, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 29 and was born in Connecticut. His father was born in French Canada and his mother in Holland. Frederick is a chauffer for a concrete works. Living with him are his wife Anna B, 23, and their children Barbara E, 3, and Frederick W, Jr, 2. Frederick and Anna were married when they were 25 and 23 years old. Anna's parents were born in Germany.

Frederick W Paquette, married to Anna, died 21 December 1970 at age 69 in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. His residence at the time was Stratford. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[2] 1910 US Census, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, CT, ED 26, sheet 1A

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1901, Connecticut.²⁰

5-**Barbara Emma Paquette**⁹⁵ was born on 28 Apr 1926 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 20 Jun 1996 in Bridgewater, New York⁹⁵ at age 70. Another name for Barbara was Barbara E Paquette.²⁰

General Notes: Barbara Kopcik died 20 June 1996 at age 70 in Bridgewater, New York. She was born 28 April 1926. Barbara was a resident of Milford, New Haven County, Connecticut, when she died. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1927, Connecticut.²⁰
- Graduation: Warren Harding High School, Bridgeport, CT.
- Residence: Milford, Fairfield Co, Connecticut.

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Barbara married **Stephen Kopcik**,⁹⁵ son of **George Kopcik** and **Unknown**, on 9 Sep 1950.⁹⁵ Stephen was born on 17 Jan 1917 in Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 7 Dec 1986 in Branford, New Haven County, Connecticut⁹⁵ at age 69. They had one daughter: **Barbara Ann**.

Noted events in his life were:

- Graduation: Warren Harding High School, Bridgeport, CT.
- Occupation: Foreman, Schick Safety Razor, Connecticut.

6-**Barbara Ann Kopcik**

Barbara married **Paul F Horan**. They had three children: **Steven, Kendall, and Shaun**.

5-Frederick William Paquette Jr⁹⁵ was born on 27 May 1927 in Connecticut⁹⁵ and died on 30 Jan 1985 in Hartford, Hartford Co, Connecticut¹¹³ at age 57. Another name for Frederick was Frederick W Paquette Jr.²⁰

General Notes: Frederick W Paquette was born 27 May 1927 in Connecticut, and died 30 January 1985 in Hartford, Connecticut. He was married to Philoma when he died. They were living at 193 Housatonic Dr in Milford, Connecticut. Frederick was a sales manager with his own company. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1928, Connecticut.²⁰

Frederick married **Philomena Nell**, daughter of **James Nell** and **Kate**, on 19 Jun 1948.⁹⁵ Philomena was born on 5 Jul 1926 in Connecticut¹¹⁴ and died on 28 Nov 2002³¹ at age 76. Another name for Philomena was Philoma Nell.⁹⁵ They had one son: **David Todd**.

General Notes: In 1930 Filomena Nell is living in Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut, with her parents and sisters. James & Kate Nell. James was born in Italy and is in real estate. Kate is an automobile agent. Daughters Louise, 7, Harriette, 5, & Filomena, 3 & 9 months. [2]

Philomena N. Paquette was born 5 Jul 1926 and died 28 Nov 2002. Her last residence was in Milford, New Haven County, Connecticut. [1]

[1] Social Security Death Index

[2] 1930 US Census, Stratford, Fairfield Co, CT, ED 216, sheet 2A

6-**David Todd Paquette**

5-**Lois Ann Paquette**

Lois married **Raymond Orville Card**.⁹⁵ They had seven children: **Lois Ann, Chris Raymond, Bruce Allen, Carol Rae, Susan Gail, Joan Marie, and Mark Steven**.

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Lois married **Keith A Jacobsen**. They had one daughter: **Kirstina Marie**.

6-Chris Raymond Card

6-Bruce Allen Card

Bruce married **Elizabeth R Mrozek**. They had two children: **Jason Allen** and **Kimberly Ann**.

6-Carol Rae Card

Carol married **Michael J Freeman**.⁹⁵

6-Susan Gail Card

Susan married **Joseph J Balash**. They had three children: **Jennifer Lynn**, **Kelly Rae**, and **Sarah Marie**.

6-Joan Marie Card

Joan married **Charles Waggner**.⁹⁵

6-Mark Steven Card

4-**Elsie R Becker**¹¹⁵ was born on 9 Sep 1905 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ and died on 8 May 1992 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 86.

General Notes: Elsie R Becker Salzer, widow of Otto, died 08 May 1992 at age 86 in Bridgeport, Fairfield, Connecticut. She was born 09 September 1905 in Bridgeport. Elsie was a homemaker. Her last residence was at 105 Victoria Lawn in Stratford. [Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)]

Elsie was a former bench hand at a Chain Factory. [Kim Reinhard]

Noted events in her life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1906, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁸⁰

Elsie married **Otto S Salzer**,¹⁰⁷ son of **John Salzer** and **Margaret**, about 1930. Otto was born on 11 Aug 1907 in Connecticut⁹⁹ and died on 4 Jun 1963 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut⁴⁹ at age 55.

General Notes: In 1930 Otto Salzer is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut with his widowed mother Margaret and five of his siblings. Otto is 22, born in Connecticut, and a printer at a print shop. His parents were born in Austria-Hungary. Margaret spoke Hungarian before coming to the US in 1893.

In 1931, Otto S Salzer and his wife Elise R are living in Bridgeport at 33 Hewitt ct. Otto is a paper cutter at American Chain Co. [4]

In 1933, Otto S Salzer and his wife Elsie R are living in Bridgeport at 1882 Stratford av. Otto is a cutter at AC&C Co. [3]

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In 1944, Otto S Salzer and his wife Elise R are living in Stratford at 105 Victoria Lawn. Otto is a paper cutter at AC&C Co. [1]

Otto S Salzer, husband of Elsie, died 04 June 1963 at age 55 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut. His last residence was in Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut. [2]

[1] Bridgeport city directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport city directory 1933 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Bridgeport city directory 1931 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Abt 1908, Connecticut.¹¹⁶

3-Johannes Reinhold Straub¹ was born on 3 May 1871 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ and died on 9 Jun 1872 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ at age 1.

3-Johanna Bertha Straub¹ was born on 27 Sep 1872 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ and died on 26 Dec 1872 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg.¹

2-Catharina Merz was born on 31 Dec 1839 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 18 Sep 1843 in Gruibingen at age 3.

2-Jakob Friedrich Merz was born on 16 Feb 1842 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 4 Jul 1842 in Gruibingen.

Johanna next married **Johannes Börschl¹**, son of **Johann Michael Börschl** and **Christina Elisabeth Bätz**, on 18 Oct 1842 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany. Johannes was born on 27 Nov 1799 in Jebenhausen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 6 Sep 1880 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg¹ at age 80. They had six children: **Margaretha, Wilhelmina Elisabetha, Johannes, Maria Catharina, Georg Ludwig, and Maria Carolina.**

General Notes: Johannes' father Johann Michael Börschl was from Eybach, a Catholic village near Geislingen, and his mother Christina Elisabeth Bätz from Weilheim unter Teck. Teck is a beautiful castle ruined in 1525 during the Peasants' War but later rebuilt. Both are in the former Kingdom of Wüttemberg.

Noted events in his life were:

- Occupation: Shepherd.¹

2-Margaretha Börschl¹ was born on 26 Aug 1843 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died about 1907 about age 64. Other names for Margaretha were Margaret Boerschel and Margaret Boerschel.¹¹⁷

General Notes: In 1895 Margaret Börschel, widow of John, is living at 293 Shelton in Bridgeport, in the home of her son Adolf Börschel. [2] Although she is listed as a widow, Margaret never married.

In 1900, Magaret Borshel is living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with her son Adolphe and

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his wife Mary. Margaret is 56, widowed, born in Germany, and immigrated in 1890.

In 1904, Mrs Margaret Borschel, widow of John, is living at 759 Shelton, Bridgeport, in the home of her son Adolf. [1]

In 1907 Mrs Margaret Borschel, widow of John, is living at 60 Freeman Street in Bridgeport, in the home of her son Adolf. She is not listed in the 1908 City directory. [3]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1895 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directory 1907 & 1908 (Ancestry.com)

Margaretha had one son: **Adolf Johannes**

3-**Adolf Johannes Börschl**¹ was born on 19 Apr 1866 in Gruibingen, Goepingen District, Baden-Württemberg,¹ died on 22 Apr 1921 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut¹⁰⁸ at age 55, and was buried on 26 Apr 1921 in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.¹⁰⁸ Other names for Adolf were Adolf Boerschel and Adolf Boerschel.

General Notes: In 1895 Adolf Börschel, a house painter, is living at 293 Shelton in Bridgeport. His mother Margaret Börschel is living with him. [2]

In a newspaper obituary in June 1897 for Lydia Anna Speiser, flower arrangements were recieved from Mr. & Mrs. Boeshel (probably Adolf & Mary) and Mrs. Elizabeth Boeschel.

In the 1900 Census, Adolphe Borshel is living at 759 Shelton Street in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He is 34 years old, born in Germany, and a painter. Living with him are his wife Mary, 29, also born in Germany, and his mother Margaret, 56. Adolph immigrated in 1890, as did his wife and mother. Adolph and Mary have been married 7 years.

In 1904, Adolf Borschel is working as a painter and living at 759 Shelton in Bridgeport. His mother Margaret is living with him. [1]

In 1907 Adolf Boerschel is living at 60 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is a painter employed by H D Murphy. His mother Margaret is living with him. [4]

In 1910, Adolphe Boerschel is living on Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 43 years old and a painter. Living with him are his wife Mary, 39, and their adopted daughter Frada, 8. She was born in New York and her parents were born in Germany. Not too far away are his cousins the Merz and Beckers.

In 1920, Adolf Boerschel is living at 60 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 53 years old, and a painter. Adolf was born in Germany, immigrated in 1893, and is a citizen. With him are his wife Mary, 49, and daughter Frieda, 17. Not too far away are his cousins the Merz and Beckers.

Adolph John Boerschel, a painter of 60 Freeman street, died suddenly after the evening meal on 22 April 1921. He had worked that day. Adolph was survived by his

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widow. He was buried on 26 April in the family plot at Lakeview cemetery. Adolph was a member of the German Reformed church, Schwaben Sick Benefit society and Painters' union. Delegations from the Schwaben Sick Benefit society and Painters' union attended the funeral. Pallbearers were Adam Schemph, Martin Rau, Mike Broadbeck, John Broadbeck, Jacob Barch, and Frank Foehrenbach. [3]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1895 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport Telegram, 23 & 27 April 1921 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Bridgeport City Directory 1907 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in his life were:

- Alt. Birth: Apr 1866, Germany.⁸
- Immigration: 1890.⁸
- Immigration: 1893.⁸⁰

Adolf married **Mary**⁸ about 1893.⁸ Mary was born in Jun 1870 in Germany.⁸ They had one daughter: **Freida**.

General Notes: In 1921 Mary Boerschel, widow of Adolph, is living at 60 Freeman street. [1]

Mary is not listed in the 1923 Bridgeport City directory. She either moved to another town between 1921 and 1923, or passed away.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1921 (Ancestry.com)

Noted events in her life were:

- Immigration: 1890.⁸
- Immigration: 1893.⁸⁰

4-Freida Boerschel

2-**Wilhelmina Elisabetha Börschl**¹ was born on 25 Sep 1844 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany,¹¹⁸ died on 16 Oct 1921 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut³³ at age 77, and was buried on 19 Oct 1921 in Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut.¹⁰⁸ Other names for Wilhelmina were Elizabeth Boerschel and Elizabeth Boerschel.

General Notes: Tante Elizabeth Boerschel came to America in September 1892, and lived with her niece Babette Habann Speiser until her death.

Tante Eliz. Buerschel mama's aunt born Sept 25 1844 came to America Sept 1890 and lived with mama (Babette Habann Speiser) until her death Oct 16, 1921. [Lydia]

IN 1895, Miss Elizabeth Boerschel is living at 171 Jane Street, Bridgeport (in the home of her neice Babette Speiser). She is also listed as Miss Elizabeth Börschel. {2}

In a newspaper obituary in June 1897 for Lydia Anna Speiser, flower arrangements were received from Mr. & Mrs. Boeshel and Mrs. Elizabeth Boeschel.

In the 1900 Census, Elizabeth Boerschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser (Speizer on the census). She is 66 years old, single, and

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immigrated from Germany in 1892.

Elsbeth Boershel is found on the ship manifest July 28, 1903, with Henry Speiser and family returning from a trip to Germany. She is listed as an American citizen. [4]

In 1904, Elizabeth Borschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, the home of her niece Babette Speiser. [1]

In the 1910 Census, Elizabeth Boerschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser. She is 64 years old, single, and born in Germany. Her year of immigration is erroneously listed as 1884.

In the 1920 Census Elizabeth Brasschel is living in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser. She is listed on the census as a servant, although this was not entirely clear. Elizabeth is 76 years old, single, and was born in Germany. She may be a naturalized citizen, but those boxes on the census were not clear.

Elizabeth Boerschel died October 16 1921 at the home of her niece Mrs. Henry Speiser of Jane Street. She was survived by her nieces Mrs. Henry Speiser and Mrs. Christ Becker and nephew Charles Merz. [3]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1895 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport Telegram, Oct 17 1921 (Ancestry.com)

[4] www.ellislandrecords.com

Noted events in her life were:

- Immigration: Sep 1890.²

2-**Johannes Börschl**¹ was born on 16 Jul 1846 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany¹ and died on 18 Jan 1901 in Gruibingen¹¹⁹ at age 54.

General Notes: Lydia Speiser Reuther identified a picture in a Merz/Boerschel photo album as "My Great Uncle who was a Sheppard and his wife." She also noted that he immigrated to America.

I believe the picture is of Babette Merz Straub's half-brother Johannes Börschl and his wife Christine Zanker. Johannes' father, also Johannes Börschl, was a shepherd, so the younger Johannes may also have been a shepherd.

According the church records in Gruibingen, Johannes and Christine did not have any children. They died in Gruibingen, so it seems unlikely they immigrated to the US.

Johannes married **Christine Elisabeth Zanker**,¹ daughter of **Johann Michael Zanker** and **Christine Müller**, on 24 Feb 1881 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany.¹ Christine was born on 1 May 1844 in Gruibingen¹¹⁹ and died on 5 May 1917 in Gruibingen¹¹⁹ at age 73.

2-**Maria Catharina Börschl** was born on 20 Apr 1851 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 9 Nov 1851 in Gruibingen.

2-**Georg Ludwig Börschl** was born on 6 May 1852 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District,

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Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 16 May 1852 in Gruibingen.

2-**Maria Carolina Börschl** was born on 12 Jun 1855 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen District, Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died on 19 Sep 1855 in Gruibingen.

Source Citations

1. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
2. Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook.
3. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
4. Speiser Family Bible (in German).
5. Lydia Speiser Reuther.
6. Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook. Bridgeport Telegram (Ancestry.com).
7. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Oetlingen, Jesingen, Möhringen & Bebenhausen archives.
8. 1900 Census.
9. Herman & Bertha Speiser's 50th wedding anniversary - newspaper (Name: Bridgeport Sunday Post Dec 9, 1956;).
10. Calvin R. Reuther. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
11. Letters - Russ & Lydia Reuther to Cal Reuther, Lydia - Sept 29 1985.
12. Death certificate.
13. Virginia Speiser Rutter.
14. Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook. Lydia Speiser Reuther diary.
15. Lydia Speiser Reuther diary.
16. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
17. Obituary, Miss Elsbeth E. Speiser. Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook.
18. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Obituary, Dr. R. C. Speiser.
19. Midland County, Texas deaths (RootsWeb).
20. 1930 Census.
21. Social Security Death Index. 1930 Census. Virginia Speiser Rutter.
22. Social Security Death Index. Virginia Speiser Rutter. Midland County, Texas deaths (RootsWeb).
23. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Virginia Speiser Rutter.
24. Legacy.com, Virginia Rutter obit, Midland-Reporter-Telegram, 18 Jul 2010.
25. Obituary, Dr. R. C. Speiser.
26. Texas Birth Index 1903-1997 (Ancestry.com).
27. Texas Marriage Index 1966-2002 (Ancestry.com). Texas Birth Index 1903-1997 (Ancestry.com).
28. Texas Divorce Index 1968-2002 (Ancestry.com).
29. England & Wales, Birth Index: 1837-1983 images (Ancestry.com).
30. Social Security Death Index. 1930 Census. World War I draft registration.
31. Social Security Death Index.
32. Ellis Island passenger lists (ellislandrecords.org).
33. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook.
34. Calvin R. Reuther. North Carolina Deaths, 1983-87 (Ancestry.com). North Carolina Deaths & Burials 1898-1944 (transcription) (FamilySearch Labs).

Source Citations

35. North Carolina Deaths, 1983-87 (Ancestry.com).
36. Letters - Russ & Lydia Reuther to Cal Reuther, Lydia, July 12 1953.
37. Letters - Russ & Lydia Reuther to Cal Reuther, Lydia - Mar 29 1964.
38. Lydia Speiser Reuther's birthdays & deaths. U.S. Public Records Index Record (Ancestry.com). North Carolina Deaths & Burials 1898-1944 (transcription) (FamilySearch Labs), Stuart Forbes death lists Margaret's maiden name.
39. Obituary, Charles H. Forbes.
40. Lydia Speiser Reuther's birthdays & deaths.
41. Calvin R. Reuther.
42. Obituary, Eric Speiser. Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook.
43. Obituary, Eric Speiser.
44. Obituary, Mrs. Eric W. Speiser. 1920 Census.
45. Obituary, Mrs. Eric W. Speiser. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
46. Joyce Reuther Holley.
47. Fairfield Citizen News (ObitsArchive.com). Connecticut Marriage Index, 1959-2001 (Ancestry.com).
48. Massachusetts Death Index, 1970 - 2003 (Ancestry.com).
49. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
50. Fairfield Citizen News (ObitsArchive.com).
51. Connecticut Marriage Index, 1959-2001 (Ancestry.com).
52. Letters - Russ & Lydia Reuther to Cal Reuther, Lydia - July 30 1966.
53. Social Security Death Index. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
54. Mary Beth Speiser Mayer.
55. Baptism certificate, Lydia Speiser.
56. Booth & Bayliss Commercial School report card.
57. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Marriage license, Russell Reuther & Lydia Speiser.
58. Lotta Reuther Longstreet for Calvin Reuther, The Reuther Family.
59. Speiser Family Bible (in German). Russell E. Reuther death certificate.
60. Lotta Reuther Longstreet to Lydia Speiser Reuther, February 1968. Note from Russell Reuther. Baptism certificate, Russell E. Reuther.
61. letter from St. Matthew's Lutheran church to Lotta Reuther Longstreet, January 23, 1964.
62. Russell E. Reuther honorable discharge & enlistment record, US Army, 1919.
63. Russell E. Reuther death certificate.
64. Lydia Speiser Reuther's photo album, 1919 - 1954.
65. Michelle Dixon.
66. Letters - Russ & Lydia Reuther to Cal Reuther, Lydia Feb 8 1981. Lydia Speiser Reuther.
67. David Broussard.
68. Lucille Mary Schroeder Johnson.

Source Citations

69. Calvin R. Reuther, Application for professional engineer certificate, 1967.
70. Boeing Aerospace Marketing newsletter, Summer 1988.
71. Russell Reuther II.
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