

Held Family



he search through Saginaw County telephone directories does not reveal any Held's in this area at the present time. An 1877 Frankenmuth Township Platt map indicates 40 acres belonging to Johann Adam Held (1820-1903).

His farm was located four miles west of Frankenmuth on the present Junction Road. He and his wife Sybilla nee Koeppendoerfer were both born in Bavaria, Germany.

Sybilla died in 1856 leaving no children. Johann Adam then married Anna Maria nee Schnell (1834-1893) who had also emigrated from Bavaria. Johann Adam and Anna Maria's union was blessed with 12 children.

Seven of the children never married: Michael Adam (born in 1858), Anna Katharina (born in 1864), Theodor Eberhard (born in 1866), Margareth Barbara (born in 1869), Johann Adam (born in 1872), Margareth Barbara "Babett" (born in 1875), and Margareth Magdalena (born in 1881).

Maria Margareth (born in 1862) married a Mr. Bernthal and continued living in Frankenmuth.

Johann Friedrich (born in 1867) left home and went west. The family has no trace of this descendant.

Eva Maria (born in 1871) married Johannes Weiss in 1891. The couple moved to Richville and later to Gladwin, Michigan where they farmed.

Elizabeth Katharina "Lizzie" (born in 1877) married Robert Wendt and moved to Saginaw, Michigan.

Johann Georg (1860-1939), the oldest child to marry, farmed one mile west of his parents. He married A. Margareth Weiss in 1892. She died in 1909 leaving no children.

After A. Margareth's death, Johann Georg married Anna nee Schweiker Freudenstein. This marriage was blessed with one child, Harold Frederick Theodore, born in 1912. Harold was born and baptized at St. Lorenz. For three or four years he attended a one room St. Lorenz School not far from his home.

Johann Georg then moved the family to Saginaw, Michigan where he had two gas stations. This move was followed by a move to Reese where Johann operated an automobile sales business until his retirement.

After attending Reese Trinity Lutheran School and Reese High School, Harold studied for the Lutheran ministry at Concordia College, Milwaukee and at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1940, Harold was ordained and installed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lewiston, Michigan. Three years later he was called to St. John Lutheran Church in Hillman, Michigan. In 1959 he was called to Christ Lutheran Church in New Castle, Pennsylvania.

Harold and his wife, Norma nee Buetow, had three children, Edward John (born in 1943), Robert Harold (born in 1945) and Thomas Charles (born in 1952).



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