

# Mantel Family



The Mantel family was established in Frankenmuth, Michigan in 1872. Johann Friedrich Mantel was born on October 26, 1849 in Weissenbrunn, Bayern (Germany). His future bride, Elizabeth Margarethe Diegritz, was born on May 21, 1846 in Hochstetten, Bayern. In 1872, John and Elizabeth left for America and made their way to Frankenmuth where they were married at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church on October 6<sup>th</sup> of the same year. John worked 35 years as an engineer for the Hubinger Bros. Saw Mills. He belonged to two local social clubs, the Grey Fox Club and the Frankenmuth Trap Club.

John purchased their home at 617 South Main Street in 1875. It was located in the center of town next to what is now the Frankenmuth Museum. The purchase price at that time was \$175. In 1879, taxes on the house and property were \$3.22 and included a 59 cent school tax. In 1975, the Mantel home was designated as a centennial home (1875-1975). Although the house no longer exists, there is a commemorative plaque on the property next to the Frankenmuth Museum.

John and Elizabeth raised seven children, five daughters and two sons. They resided in this house until their deaths. Elizabeth died November 22, 1922, the same year they celebrated their Golden Anniversary. John lived until April 14, 1929. Their children were:

Elizabeth Margarethe who moved to California and worked as a private nanny, and later returned to Frankenmuth where she died on July 17, 1936.

Daniel M. died as a result of a tragic accident on February 14, 1880. He was only seven years old when he fell through thin ice on the Cass River and drowned.

Anne Marie Friederike was born September 2, 1875, married Henry Goetz, and then in 1904 they built the Hotel Goetz.

They pioneered the Frankenmuth Style Dinner and operated the hotel/restaurant until it was sold to Henry Fischer in 1926. Henry Goetz died in 1937. Anna later married George Rummel in 1941. He died in 1954. She continued to live in Frankenmuth until her death on July 21, 1962.

Magdalene Margarethe Barbara was born February 5, 1877, and married Wolfgang Hoerauf. They lived in Detroit and had five children. She died May 17, 1950.

Dorothea Sophie Barbara was born September 29, 1879, and married John Rondo in 1902. They lived in Saginaw and had two children, Charlie and Waldo. She died December 15, 1966.

George Paulus Leonard was born November 24, 1881. He was the only son to carry on the Mantel name. He left Frankenmuth for Detroit to seek work in the newly developed automobile industry. Paul married Elizabeth Heyel Caton August 2, 1909. He worked several years for Strohs Brewery as a cabinet maker. Later he worked with Dodge Bros. Motor Co. as a superintendent, until they were sold to Chrysler. Paul then went to Studebaker Corp. as a production manager until he retired. Paul and Elizabeth remained in Detroit until their deaths. Paul died on June 1, 1956 and Elizabeth on November 30, 1964. Paul and Elizabeth had three children: Russel John, Elizabeth Dorothy, and Robert. They had six grandchildren: JoAnn (Mrs. Sam Cardella), Barbara (Mrs. Jim Reitzloff), Robert, Debra, Karen (Mrs. David Skorski), and Paul. They all resided in Michigan except for Debra, who lives in Florida.

Katharine Bertha Barbara was born on February 27, 1884. She married Charles Vanek of Frankenmuth. They had two children. Katharine (Bertha) lived in the Mantel home until her death on February 22, 1975. The Mantel home was located on Main Street between the Frankenmuth Historical Museum and the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce.



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