

FAMILY OF ELMER LOUIS PENNER **ADDRESS** BEATRICE NEBRASKA **NO.** 114231

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: ELMER LOUIS PENNER SON OF LOUIS EDWARD PENNER AND ADA VON STEEN	2-22-1919	BEATRICE NEBRASKA	MENNONITE	12-9-1943	DOCTOR OF MEDICINE	
Mother: LORRAINE MAY ZABKA	9-7-1920	DODGE NEBRASKA	MENNONITE	12-9-1943	REGISTERED NURSE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1142311	SHARON KAY (F)	9-4-1944	MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN	MENNONITE		
1142312	RODNEY LOUIS (M)	4-21-1950	BEATRICE NEBRASKA	MENNONITE		
	MARRIED AT CLARKSON NEBRASKA					

JACOB HENRY RUTH-MARY SUSANNA PLETSCHER FAMILY

FAMILY OF RICHARD FRANK MASSEARS **ADDRESS** 330 JOB STREET, EAST ALTON, ILLINOIS **NO.** 114311

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: RICHARD FRANK MASSEARS SON OF JOHN HENRY MASSEARS AND FRANCES IDA WALTERS	9-7-1909	JERSEY COUNTY, ILLINOIS	LUTHERN	10-11-1953	WELDER	
Mother: ELIZABETH MARIE RUTH DAU. OF WALTER SYDNEY RUTH AND ELLA ANNA BAER	10-25-1921	LEBANON, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	10-11-1953	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1143111	SHARON FRANCES (F)	10-15-1959	ALTON, ILLINOIS			
	MARRIED IN SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS					

FAMILY OF		ELDRED ALVA RUTH			ADDRESS	EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS	NO.	114312
		Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died	
Father:		ELDRED ALVA RUTH SON OF WALTER SYDNEY RUTH AND ELLA ANNA BAER		3-16-1922	LEBANON, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	2-1-1953	FARMER
Mother:		RUBY LOUISE VIERE DAU. OF BENJAMIN ANDREW VIERE AND JESSIE MATILDA FRICKENSTEIN		5-25-1923	MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS	EVANGELICAL REFORMED	2-1-1953	HOUSEWIFE
No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died		Remarks	
1143121	LOUISE MARJORIE (F)	11-20-1954	HIGHLAND, ILLINOIS					
1143122	JOHN ELLSWORTH (M)	12-12-1956	EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS					
1143123	WILLIAM EUGENE (M)	1-1-1961	HIGHLAND, ILLINOIS					
	MARRIED IN FRIEDENS EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH,			TROY, ILLINOIS				

FAMILY OF GROVER J. OGDEN **ADDRESS** MORTON ILLINOIS **NO.** 114313

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: GROVER J. OGDEN SON OF GROVER OGDEN SR. AND PEARL EVA WARREN	8-18-1926	LEBANON ILLINOIS		6-7-1947	MACHINE OPERATOR	
Mother: MARILYN CLARA RUTH DAU. OF WALTER SYDNEY RUTH AND ELLA ANNA BAER	4-28-1927	LEBANON ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	6-7-1947	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1143131	GARY GROVER (M)	4-4-1948	HIGHLAND ILLINOIS	MENNONITE		
1143132	GENE TERRY (M)	10-13-1949	HIGHLAND ILLINOIS	MENNONITE		
1143133	STAN ERIC (M)	10-9-1957	MORTON, ILLINOIS			
	MARRIED AT LEBANON ILLINOIS					

A SYNOPSIS OF THE LIFE OF

MISS KATHRYN MARIE RUTH

Miss Kathryn Marie Ruth was born on February the eighteenth in the year of 1926 at Trenton, Illinois. She was the daughter of Henry Jacob Ruth and Frieda Katherine Baer who made their home on the old Ruth Homestead that has been in the family for more than a century. It is located in Mascoutah Township about four and one half miles southeast of Summerfield.

She received her elementary and grade schooling in the Ruth School, Community High School and higher education in teachers College and graduated from the McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois.

She taught at the Ruth School a number of years and taught the last term of school to be held there. At the close of the 1947-1948 school term the school was closed and consolidated with the Public School of Mascoutah, Illinois. The Ruth School was located on a part of the Ruth farm in Mascoutah Township and was known as School District Number Eleven.

She taught for one year at Gibson City and then for one year at Wherry Housing Project at Scott Air Base, after which she was forced to discontinue her teaching career due to the nature of her affliction.

She attended Sunday School and Church services at The First Menmonite Church of Summerfield, Illinois and was received into the fellowship of the Church on June 23, 1940 through her confession of faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. She was very active in church and Sunday school work and was teaching a class for quite some time before and after she lost the use of her eyesight due to a detached retina.

She took up the study of the Braille system and with the help of her only sister Marion, became very proficient in reading and writing it. It was through the use of Braille that she was able to continue her work of teaching Sunday School. Emotionally she was

always well balanced, always good natured and never made any complaints about her affliction.

It was her sincere and unwaivering faith in God that gave her the strength to maintain her cheerful disposition despite the suffering she had to endure due to the complications of her illness.

She always helped with the usual household chores and other duties. At one time during peach canning time the writer had the privilege of seeing her peel and prepare the peaches for canning. She removed the peeling, removed soft and bad spots from the fruit as good as if not better than anyone with normal eye sight. Having received some letters from her, I can truthfully say that she typed her letters as neatly and correctly as any normal person.

She was admitted to the Saint Elizabeth Hospital in Belleville, Illinois as a medical case, where she was found to be suffering from a kidney ailment. Her general condition became worse and complications set in, causing medicine that was given her to alleviate one condition to react and aggravate the others.

On the third day of March, three weeks after she was admitted to the hospital, her general condition became critical and on that day informed her parents of her readiness to receive and answer the last roll call of the Great Creator. One week later, Saturday morning at 7:20 A.M. on the tenth day of March, 1956 she received the answer to her prayers when the Lord took her to her eternal home in heaven.

Funeral services were held at the Meyer Funeral Home on Monday, March the twelfth at 11:00 A.M. with Reverend Walter Neufeld and Reverend A. S. Bechtel officiating. Her earthly remains lie buried in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, relatives and friends made a contribution toward the reconstruction of the Church that was damaged in the tornado that passed through Summerfield on February 24, 1956 about 1:00 A.M..

April 2, 1956

By Albert J. Ruth.

FAMILY OF ROBERT JOHN RUTH **ADDRESS** ROBBINSDALE, MINNESOTA, 4431 ZENITH AVE N. **NO.** 114341

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: ROBERT JOHN RUTH SON OF ALBERT JOHN RUTH AND ESTHER MARIE SHAW O'LEARY	1-24-1919	SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI	PRESBYTERIAN	12-16-1939	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	
Mother: RHEA RUSSELL DAU. OF DAVID WILLIAM RUSSELL AND ETHEL BUCHMILLER	12-22-1910	JEFFERSON, IOWA	PRESBYTERIAN	12-16-1939	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1143411	ROBERT JOHN (M)	7-27-1941	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	PRESBYTERIAN		
1143412	RUSSELL EDWARD (M)	9-30-1948	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	PRESBYTERIAN		
	MARRIED IN DETROIT MICHIGAN AT HER SISTERS HOME					

DAVID SAMUEL RUTH-BARBARA KATHERINE BAER FAMILY

A SYNOPSIS OF THE LIFE OF

DAVID SAMUEL RUTH

AND

BARBARA KATHERINE BAER

David Samuel Ruth was born on February the tenth in the year of 1865 at Summerfield, Illinois. He was a son of David B. Ruth and Maria Berger.

He received his schooling in the Summerfield area and with the exception of a few short trips he spent his entire lifetime in and about the vicinity of the village of Summerfield, Illinois.

He was raised on the farm located just north of town which was first purchased by the Reverend David Ruth and Barbara Strohm. After the death of Reverend David Ruth in 1867 it was purchased by David B. Ruth who lived there until his death in 1900. After the death of David B. Ruth the farm north of Summerfield and the one about four and one half miles south east of it were divided among the children. David Samuel received forty acres of the home farm along with the sixteen acres along the State Road and County Road. In consideration of the buildings on his share and the sixteen acres as well as its location, he was to pay a stipulated sum to the executors. He was also given the option to buy the forty acres that was to have been the share of his brother Samuel. This then made a total of ninety seven and one quarter acres of land in the farm that David Samuel was to own and to operate.

On the fourth of November in the year of 1894 he was united in marriage at Summerfield, Illinois with

Miss Barbara Katherine Baer of Black Jack, Illinois. The couple made their home on the old Ruth homestead and they were blest with five children, three girls and two boys. The youngest child, a daughter, named Margaret, who was always so full of life and fun was not to be with them for long for she passed away at an early age of a little over twelve years.

David Samuel was injured in an accident in which he fell head first from a load of hay and his head hit the steel pin that holds the double tree on the wagon tongue. It was a serious injury and for some time it appeared that he would not recover. He was on the critical list for some time and was not able to be up and around. In spite of all that happened he improved slowly and finally was able to be up and around and do odd jobs and a little bit of gardening before he finally had to give up working on account of his age. He was the last one of the family in his line and generation of the Ruths. His wife passed on to her reward on January the twentieth, 1919.

Despite his injury and condition, he had a clear and brilliant mind and memory up to the time of his death. Less than three months prior to his death he gave a deposition to the Saint Clair County Court in the State of Illinois and County of Saint Clair that contained some information required to complete the abstract on that part of the Ruth farm now belonging to Henry J. Ruth, son of Jacob H. Ruth. He gave this information correctly from memory, naming all of the heirs and the status of each and every one.

David Samuel lived in a part of the old home for some time after his two sons operated the farm, then moved to a place directly south of it and finally to a home in town just east of the railroad depot where he lived until he passed on to his eternal reward on the third day of March in the year of 1952.

The earthly remains of David Samuel and his wife, Barbara, lie buried in the Summerfield Cemetery.

July 1, 1954.

By Albert J. Ruth.

FAMILY OF DAVID SAMUEL RUTH **ADDRESS** SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS **NO.** 1144

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: DAVID SAMUEL RUTH SON OF DAVID B. RUTH AND MARIA BERGER	2-10-1865	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	11-4-1894	FARMER	3-3-1952
Mother: BARBARA KATHERINE BAER DAU. OF JACOB BAER AND ELIZABETH LANGENWALTER	3-31-1869	BLACK JACK ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	11-4-1894	HOUSEWIFE	1-20-1919

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
11441	MARY ELIZABETH (F)	8-7-1895	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	1-14-1948	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS
11442	HERBERT ALFRED (M)	9-14-1896	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE		
11443	ELLA (F)	1-30-1899	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE		
11444	ARTHUR JACOB (M)	1-14-1901	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE		
11445	MARGARET ANNA (F)	3-5-1903	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	6-3-1915	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS
	DAVID S. RUTH PASSED AWAY AT THE ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL, HIGHLAND, ILLINOIS					
	MARRIED AT SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS					
	BURIED AT SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS					

FAMILY OF HERBERT ALFRED RUTH **ADDRESS** SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS **NO.** 1142

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: HERBERT ALFRED RUTH SON OF DAVID SAMUEL RUTH AND BARBARA KATHERINE BAER	9-14-1896	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	8-27-1926	FARMER	
Mother: HAZEL ISABEL PETERS DAU. OF GEORGE PETERS AND MARY ELIZABETH MAPLE	6-4-1906	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	8-27-1926	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
11421	VIVIAN JUNE (F)	6-27-1927	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS		1-10-1928	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS
11422	NORMA JEAN (F)	5-30-1930	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	CATHOLIC		
11423	HARVEY LEE (M)	8-28-1936	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	EVANGELICAL		
	MARRIED AT BELLEVILLE ILLINOIS					

FAMILY OF CHARLES HENRY NIEMEYER **ADDRESS** SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS **NO.** 114422

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: CHARLES HENRY NIEMEYER SON OF HARRY CARL NIEMEYER AND CELESTE AUGUSTA SEGER	12-6-1926	TRENTON ILLINOIS	CATHOLIC	5-13-1950	CLERK	
Mother: NORMA JEAN RUTH DAU. OF HERBERT ALFRED RUTH AND HAZEL ISABEL PETERS	5-3-1930	SUMMERFIELD ILLINOIS	CATHOLIC	5-13-1950	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1144221	DENNIS CHARLES (M)	3-11-1951	HIGHLAND ILLINOIS	CATHOLIC		
1144222	RUTH ANN (F)	2-15-1960	TRENTON, ILLINOIS			
	MARRIED AT TRENTON ILLINOIS					

FAMILY OF HARVEY LEE RUTH **ADDRESS** COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS **NO.** 114423

	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: HARVEY LEE RUTH SON OF HERBERT ALFRED RUTH AND HAZEL ISABEL PETERS	8-28-1936	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	EVANGELICAL	8-31-1957	DRAFTSMAN	
Mother: YVONNE BAUDINO DAU. OF LAWRENCE VINCENT BAUDINO AND GERALDINE BUNYARD	11-19-1938	COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS	EVANGELICAL	8-31-1957	HOUSEWIFE	

No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks
1144 231	BRENDA KAY (F)	11-22-1960	COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS			
	MARRIED IN COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS					

CARL HEINRICH ANTON VAN DER SMISSEN-ELIZABETH BERTHA RUTH FAMILY

A SYNOPSIS OF THE
LIFE
OF
CARL HEINRICH ANTON VAN DER SMISSEN

December 4, 1851 -- June 30, 1950

Carl Heinrich Anton van der Smissen was born on December 4, 1851, in Friedrichstadt, Schleswig, Holstein, Germany, to Carl Justus van der Smissen and Sarah Cornelia, nee van der Smissen.

In his youth a sermon on Jacob wrestling with God made a deep impression on him. He made the verse Genesis 32:26 his motto: "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." On April the 7, 1867, he was baptized and his father chose the text, Isaiah 54:10 as an answer to his motto: "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be re-moved, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee." He experienced God's nearness and kindness throughout his long life of nearly ninety-nine years.

On November 25, 1868, his parents and two sisters sailed for the United States leaving him in Europe to continue his studies in Basel and Tuebingen. Six years later he came to this country, arriving in New York on June 17, 1874. He was ordained into the ministry by his father on October 15, 1875. He served various churches in Ohio and Pennsylvania and also the Mennonite Church of Summerfield, Illinois.

On the twelfth of October, 1881, he married Mary Elizabeth Knight. To this union, two children were

born, a son, Karl, and a daughter, Alieda.

God saw fit to call this mother, his companion, to her heavenly home on February 13, 1892.

June 18, 1893, he married Elizabeth Bertha Ruth. God blessed this union with seven children, namely, Hilda, Frieda, Alwin, Elsie, Roland, Edna and Ruth. After serving the Summerfield, Illinois, Church for twenty-one years, Father was asked to become editor of several General Conference Mennonite Publications, and in December, 1911, he and his family, moved to Berne, Indiana, where the publications were printed at that time.

For fifteen years he served as secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Mother and Father entered the Bethel Home for the Aged in Newton, Kansas, in October, 1932.

Here they lived happily to-gether, enjoying the fellowship, love and care, of those in charge until the Lord called Mother home in May, 1934.

Father found much comfort in having his sister, Hillegonda, so near, and daily they would walk and talk together until the good Lord took her home on September 7, 1949.

After his sister passed away, Father failed perceptibly and he longed to go to his heavenly home.

On June 30, 1950, the Lord granted his wish and he peacefully breathed his last.

Many have been blessed through his long ministry as pastor, Sunday School and Bible School teacher, and editor.

His memory and prayers have been and will be a guide and stay to many who knew him.

In his autobiography which he typed for his children after Mother's death, his last words were, "God bless you all, and make you a blessing to others. Be sure that by the grace of God and the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we will meet our dear Mother before the throne of God. Farewell: Auf Wiedersehen."

References: his obituary.

FAMILY OF <u>CARL HEINRICH ANTON VAN DER SMISSEN</u>		ADDRESS <u>SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS</u>			NO. <u>1145</u>		
		Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Date of Marriage	Occupation	Died
Father: CARL H. A. VAN DER SMISSEN SON OF CARL JUSTUS VAN DER SMISSEN AND SARAH CORNELIA VAN DER SMISSEN		12-4-1851	FRIEDRICHSTADT, GERMANY	MENNONITE	6-18-1893	MINISTER	6-30-1950
Mother: ELIZABETH BERTHA RUTH DAU. OF DAVID B. RUTH AND MARIA BERGER		9-29-1866	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE	6-18-1893	HOUSEWIFE	5-24-1934
No.	Children	Birth	Place of Birth	Church Membership	Died	Remarks	
11451	HILDA CORNELIA (F)	3-26-1894	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11452	FRIEDA WILHELMINA (F)	8-20-1895	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11453	ALWIN THEODOR (M)	5-24-1897	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11454	ELSIE KATHERINA (F)	5-13-1899	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11455	HINRICH ROLAND (M)	6-2-1900	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11456	EDNA RUTH (F)	1-14-1906	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
11457	RUTH MARGARET (F)	11-9-1907	SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS	MENNONITE			
		NOTE: HINRICH ROLAND HAS BEEN GOING UNDER THE NAME ROLAND H.					
		NOTE: THIS WAS THE SECOND MARRIAGE FOR CARL H. A. VAN DER SMISSEN					
		THE FIRST WAS TO MARY ELIZABETH KNIGHT ON OCTOBER 12, 1881. SHE DIED ON FEB. 13, 1892.					
		THEY HAD TWO CHILDREN: KARL AND ALIEDA.					
		MARRIED AT SUMMERFIELD, ILLINOIS					
		BOTH PARENTS ARE BURIED AT NEWTON, KANSAS.					