

# *Descendants of Fredrick Ssyfka*

## *Generation No. 1*

1. FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA He married ANNA.

Children of FREDRICK SSYFKA and ANNA are:

2. i. ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, d. Bef. 1930.
3. ii. KARL "CARL" SCHIFKE, b. 1875; d. 1952, Almena, Wisconsin?.
4. iii. FERDINANT SCHIEFKE.
- iv. TENA SSYFKA.

## *Generation No. 2*

2. ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA (*FREDRICK*<sup>1</sup>) died Bef. 1930. He married BERTHA "BERTA" EICHMAN. She was born Abt. 1860 in Germany, and died Abt. 1937 in Belarus.

Notes for ROBERT SSYFKA:

Notes for BERTHA "BERTA" EICHMAN:

The letters were written in a combination of Polish, Belarusian, and Russian. The letters were translated by Mr. Alex Roy, OSIA-IOF/CCLTravis Air Force Base 94535; Nov. 1998. Alex.Roy@travis.af.mil Home phone: (707) 452-9165, duty phone, DSN 837-0269 or (707) 424-0269.

From: To:  
(Unreadable Street Address) America  
Hancewicze (Belarus) Mr. Ray Shifkey  
Laklady Deniskovich Albion, P.O.  
Berta Ssyfka Albion  
U.S.A.

Letter Postmarked: Detroit, Michigan, Dec. 12, 1933

My dear son, I am writing you to let you know that I am still alive, which I hope you are too. I wish you all the best things in life and God Bless you. Dear son, you brought me so much happiness with your gift, God Bless you for that. Son, you write in your letter that I didn't send you my photograph. I think about you all the time, except when I sleep. It would be so much better if we were together. My heart aches that I don't see you. Dear son, I had a recent misfortune - the wolves killed my only cow, so now I am left with nothing at all. When I had that cow I could at least survive, but now things got worse.

I wrote a letter to Karoly (Karl) where I asked him to do me a big favor, but I am not sure what he is going to say. You are wrong, I would love to get letters from you every week. It's as if I am talking to my son when I read a letter. As for me being rude in my letter, forgive me, I am still your mother, I care about my Rapus'ko (term of endearment, no translation).

Dear son Rapus'ko, I won't chide you too much, I am very weak - can't even carry a bucket of water anymore and there is no one to help me. Dear son, don't forget me, because when it is time for me to die, I have no money to pay for the burial.

Dear son, the money that you sent I received on November 28, 1933. I thank you very much. I hope God will help you in all your affairs, so you can help me live out my days. I also wish you Happy Holidays. May God give you health and make your life for the rest of this year happy and prosperous. Goodbye. Your mother B. Ssyfka. I am anxiously waiting for your letters.

NOV 28,1933

Letter postmarked - 18 Dec. 1934

Letter dated Nov. 11, 1934.

My dear son Rapus'ko,

I want to let you know that I received the money you sent. Thank you and God Bless you. Dear son, please forgive me for not writing you so long. I was sick and thought, that this is it, and I won't need anything else, but somehow I got better. Still not 100% and I have a terrible pain in my left side. I spent the money that you sent on pills, other medications and just everyday things, and there is nothing left.

My dear son Rapus'ko, I ask you not to forget me. I am still with the living, but it won't be for long, so I ask you not to forget me and send me a little something for the holidays. My dear son Rapus'ko, I ask you not to forget me. One more thing, my son, I would like to mention, that more than two million families (not a typo) are trying to immigrate to Africa. I ask you not to forget my request, please send me something because the winter is cold and a lot of people are starving. Well, goodbye, my dear son. God Bless you in all your endeavors. Your mother Berta Ssyfka. (On the other side) Dear son, please pass this letter to Karoly.

Letter postmarked - 4 Jul 1935

My dear son Rapus'ko, I am writing you to let you know that I am still alive. In your letter you wrote that because of me (or through me) you didn't marry well. It is your own fault. I haven't seen (or heard from ) her since you two parted (not sure what this means). Why Karoly's wife is not treating him right? After he came for her and took her with him and still she live apart from him? (Karl did bring a girl friend Ruby to America, he may have married her as well, but then she returned to the old country) I don't understand what's going on.

Please write me, my son. Tell me how you are doing and maybe you will find the same happiness as Karoly. (By this time Karl had remarried and probably had a new baby daughter).

My dear son, you scared me by saying that Karoly forgot about me. But, thank God, I have received your package. I waited and waited, going out of my mind, and finally it arrived on Jun. 25 1935. Thank you, my son and please don't forget about me. It is very tough here right now. I hope you feel better and write me soon. I await you reply.

I am living in my house, that you shunted me off to, all by myself, without any of my sons near me. I am bored and my old age burdens me. Goodbye. Write soon. Forever yours, B. Ssyfka, Jul. 3, 1935.

Children of ROBERT SSYFKA and BERTHA EICHMAN are:

5. i. REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY, b. November 08, 1891, Poland near German border.; d. November 29, 1962, Zephyrhills, Pasco Co., Florida.
6. ii. JOHN ALBERT SHIFKEY.
7. iii. KARL O. SHIFKEY, b. April 05, 1885, Minsk, Russia; d. January 1984, Battle Creek, Michigan.
8. iv. TELIA "TILLIE" SHIFKEY, b. 1888; d. 1924.

3. KARL "CARL"<sup>2</sup> SCHIFKE (*FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA*) was born 1875, and died 1952 in Almena, Wisconsin?. He married PAULINE KOHN Bef. 1901. She was born 1880, and died Abt. November 28, 1938 in Almena, Wisconsin.

Notes for KARL "CARL" SCHIFKE:

A letter written to Mr. Carl Schiefke, Almena, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 1946; from Johann Schiefke, Number 17 Kreis Einbeck, Uber Northeim, Germany.

The letter was translated in Aug. 1998 by German friend Alexandra Wilms of Munich, Germany.

Dear great uncle Carl,    November 4, 1946

First, I would like to introduce myself to you who I am. My name is Johann Schiefke, John Albert's son from Antonowka County Sarny-Wolienien. My grandparent's names were Robert and Berta who were probably your brother and his wife. I found out your address from Elisabeth, Ferdinand's daughter, as we are living only a few kilometers apart. 1939 we migrated to Germany and now we are living in the zone of the British occupying

forces. Dear great uncle Carl I ask you if it is possible for you to send me a message about my uncle Romuald (Ray Shifkey) and Carl. You emigrated together to America at that time, I was told by my father, so you might be in touch with them. I am closing these few lines and ask for a soon reply. Best wishes from your relative.

Johann Schiefke

My address is:

Johann Schiefke  
Number 17  
Kreis Einbeck (City of Einbeck)  
Uber Northeim  
Germany

Here is your brother's address:

Ferdinant Schiefke  
Rethen  
Kreis Gifhorn (City of Gifhorn)  
Bei Katenhusen  
Germany

Annotations: 1946 Germany was divided into several zones among the victorious powers U.S.A, France, Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

Children of KARL SCHIFKE and PAULINE KOHN are:

- i. ADOLPH<sup>3</sup> SCHIFKE, b. December 13, 1901; d. March 1987, Wisconsin; m. TILLIE KOHN; b. November 09, 1907; d. May 1995, Wisconsin?.

Notes for ADOLPH SCHIFKE:  
SSN: 391-38-2977.

\*A letter from Adolph Schifke, Comstock, Wisconsin dated 1 Jun. 1936 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Comstock, Wis.

Dear Ray and David,

I must take time to answer your most welcome letter we got the other day. We are all feeling fine and hope you're the same. We were all out to the folks today. We heard you folks are all coming out here this summer again. The fish are biting good. I am sure you will catch plenty, but be sure and bring David along. We are pretty lonesome since he left and I am sure the girls are too. Well we have been pretty busy this spring because this spring was pretty late to get in the fields. But now we are all done until haying starts. We sure have had a lot of funerals out here this spring. Dad's neighbor died right across the road. You must remember Olga Firch, (or Firsh) (the letter continues to say, "mean his brother Fred Zilke went and hung himself the other day for some unknown reason and at least a half dozen more") It was a bad winter but such is life. Tillie was in bed a few days. She had her tonsils removed in Cumberland Hospital, but is well again. Well we will be looking for you so don't forget to come - news is scarce - so I must close wishing you a good trip.

Adolph and Tillie

\*A letter from Adolph Schifke, Almena, Wisconsin dated 28 Nov., 1938 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Nov. 28 1938

Dear Ray,

I am sorry I could not write any sooner and let you know we received your and Carl's flowers for the funeral. They just come about an hour before the funeral. I wanted to thank you for them. Too bad you could not come out. It was a very sad funeral. There sure were a lot of people. Mother sure had a lot of friends. But it was too bad Olga could not come, but it could not be helped. While mother was sick, the short time, the Doctor always had so much hope that she was going to come out of it all right, until the last day. So, it was too short a time to come out from so far. As for dad, he took it very hard. I had to watch him all the time and have not left him alone ever since. Tillie is staying with him right now and I am getting along the best I can until we can decide what to do. He, himself, does not know just yet what he will do. We have all told him to

take a trip to see you folks or anywhere, but he does not like to leave home. But, he may change his mind. As for the rest of us, we are all well and hope you're the same. Will let you know later if he should want to come out there. Well then, there is not any more that I can tell you now, so I will close for this time and thanking you again for the flowers which were very nice. Tell them all hello from all of us and write again sometime.

Adolph and Tillie

\*A letter from Adolph Schifke, Almena, Wisconsin dated 3 Dec. 1946 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Almena Wis.  
Dec. 2 - 46

Dear Ray,

How are you all. We are fine and hope you are then same. Just to let you know we received a letter from Germany and they would like to hear from you and Karl. The letter come to Dad. And I will send it too you and you can let Karl know about it too. Dad has been getting letters from his Brother and his son's or help from us. We send clothes and canned food to them. Hope you can read the German letter. How is the weather up your way? Here it's pretty cold. But we haven't had very much snow yet. Tillie and her family were out her for dinner last Tues. They are all fine. Well there isn't very much news, so I'll close and hope to hear from you folks once too.

As ever Adolph and Tillie and Dad Carl Schifke

(The German letter translation is included in Uncle Carl Schifke's notes, of Almena, Wis).

Notes for TILLIE KOHN:  
SSN: 391-38-2978.

- ii. AGNES SCHIFKE, b. 1914; d. 1914.
- iii. ADELINE SCHIFKE.
- 9. iv. OLGA SCHIFKE, b. 1899; d. 1968.
- v. EDITH SCHIFKE, b. 1904; d. 1971; m. HERMAN SCHILKE.
- 10. vi. TILLIE SCHIFKE.

#### 4. FERDINANT<sup>2</sup> SCHIEFKE (*FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA*)

Child of FERDINANT SCHIEFKE is:

- i. ELIZABETH<sup>3</sup> SCHIEFKE.

### *Generation No. 3*

5. REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY (*ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born November 08, 1891 in Poland near German border., and died November 29, 1962 in Zephyrhills, Pasco Co., Florida. He married (1) MARY LYDIA FRISK October 03, 1914 in Ironton, Ohio, daughter of GUSTAV FRISK and EVA NICKEL. She was born August 30, 1900 in Hilltop West Virginia, and died March 29, 1990 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. He married (2) HAZEL STEEBY 1934. She was born July 30, 1892, and died January 1979.

Notes for REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK SHIFKEY:

\*Notes: Ray Shifkey obituary 1962: Word has been received here of the death of Ray Shifkey, 71, of Zephyr Hills, Fla., formerly of Albion, on Thursday. Mr. Shifkey was born Nov. 8, 1891, in Poland and came to America in 1911, becoming a naturalized citizen. He was married to Mrs. Hazel Steeby in 1937. Mr. Shifkey retired from the Albion post office staff in 1955, after 26 years as custodian, and he and Mrs. Shifkey moved to Zephyr Hills in 1956. Surviving besides his widow, Hazel, are four daughters, Mrs. Victor Doty, Mrs. Roger Watson, Mrs. Jack Torrey and Mrs. Melvin McCune, all of Albion; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Marcella Steeby of Springport; three sons, David Shifkey of Colorado, Roy Steeby of Homer, and Marshall Steeby of Battle Creek; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a brother, Carl Shifkey of Battle Creek. Services will be held Saturday at the Lair funeral home in Zephyr Hills with burial there.

\*Notes: Oct 2001. There is some question as to the name of Ray's father. On his death certificate his father's name is listed as "Albert". The problem with this seems to be the fact that Ray's second wife Hazel completed the death certificate information and this is not the name, popularly believed to be his father. My mother, Nancy Blodgett and another family researcher (Norman Kalenda) are quite positive Ray's father's name was "Robert". Though I have no official documents to support this, I will use this as my family tree guideline, along with the great grandparents names: Fredrick and Anna as reported by my mother and Norm Kalenda.

A letter from Adolph Schifke, Comstock, Wisconsin dated 1 June 1936 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Comstock Wis.

Dear Ray,

Dear Ray and David I must take time to answer your most welcome letter we got the other day we are all feeling fine and hope you are the same. We were all over to the folks today we heard you folks are all coming out here this summer again. Be sure and do. The fish are biting good and I am sure you will catch plenty, but be sure and bring David along we are pretty lonesome since he left and I am sure the girls are too. Well we have been pretty busy this spring because this spring was pretty late to get in the fields, but now we are all done until haying starts. We sure have had a lot of funerals out here this spring. Dad's neighbor died right across the road, you must remember. Olga (something unreadable) his brother Fred Zilke went and hung himself the other day for some unknown reason and at least a half dozen more. It has been a bad winter but such is life. Tillie was in bed a few days. She had her tonsils removed at Cumberland hospital, but all is well again. Well we will be looking for you so don't forget to come. News is scarce, so I must close. Wishing you a good trip.

Adolph and Tillie

A letter from Adolph Schifke, Almena, Wisconsin dated 28 Nov 1938 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Almena Wis.  
28 Nov. 1938

Dear Ray,

Dear Ray and family. I am sorry I could not write any sooner and let you know we received your and Carl's flowers for the funeral. They just came about an hour before the funeral and wanted to thank you for them. Too bad you could not come out. It was a very sad funeral. There sure were a lot of people. Mother sure had a lot of friends, but it was too bad Olga could not come but it could not be helped. While mother was sick, the short time, the Doctor always had so much hope that she was going to come out of it all right, until the last day. So it was too short a time to come out from so far. As for dad he took it very hard. I had to watch him all the time and have not left him alone ever since. Tillie is staying with him right now and I am getting along the best I can until we can decide what to do. He, himself does not know just yet what he will do. We have all told him to take a trip to see you folks or anywhere, but he does not like to leave home. But, he may change his mind. As for the rest of us we are all well and hope you're the same. Will let you know later if he should want to come out there. Well, there is not any more that I can tell you now so I will close for this time and thanking you again for the flowers which were very nice. Tell them all hello from all of us and write again sometime.

Adolph and Tillie

A letter from Adolph Schifke, Almena, Wisconsin dated 3 Dec. 1946 to Mr. Ray Shifkey, Albion, Michigan.

Almena Wis.  
Dec. 2 - 46

Dear Ray,

How are you all. We are fine and hope you are then same. Just to let you know we received a letter from Germany and they would like to hear from you and Karl. The letter come to Dad. And I will send it too you and you can let Karl know about it too. Dad has been getting letters from his Brother and his son's or help from us. We send clothes and canned food to them. Hope you can read the German letter. How is the weather up your way? Here it's pretty cold. But we haven't had very much snow yet. Tillie and her family were out here for

dinner last Tues. They are all fine. Well there isn't very much news, so I'll close and hope to hear from you folks once too.

As ever Adolph and Tillie and Dad Carl Schifke

(The German letter translation is included in Uncle Carl Schifke's notes, of Almena, Wis).

Notes for MARY LYDIA FRISK:

Mary FRISK SHIFKEY's children were already married and bearing children when Mary's brothers and sister were having their families. SSN: 365-09-3076.

\*Notes: Recorded by LeAnn (Blodgett) Hugeback in 1979: Depression Years. One of Gustav and Eva's children was my great Grandmother Mary. Mary was born August, 1900 and is now 79 years old. She attended school through the 6th grade. She was married October, 1914 to Reinhold, Ray, Schiefke, later changed to Shifkey. Ray had come to America from Poland in 1910, when he was 19 years old. He too worked in the West Virginia coal mines. He, Mary and their children came to Michigan in 1920. They came, as other immigrants did, to work at the Albion Malleable Iron Company. They settled in the western section of the city of Albion, which was commonly called "hunky town", a prejudice slang term detecting a person from east central Europe. The wages were about \$ .19 an hour, 10 hour days.

During the depression years that followed, they lived mostly off their garden, heating and cooking with coal picked up from alongside railroad tracks. Sometimes as a special treat for Sunday dinner they would have hamburger, which cost \$ .25 for 2 pounds.

There was no city water or pavement where they lived and was a long walk to school for their children. They lived near the outskirts of the city, near Brown's Woods, which was a meeting place for Hobos passing through. For about three years they had Hobos stop at their home for handouts. They would seem to pass by all the other homes and come to theirs. My Great Grandmother would always fix them a sandwich of her homemade bread and jam or bologna, if she had it. One time she remembers Great Grandfather Ray asking a Hobo why they always seemed to stop at their home, and he said because others before him had left a mark on the mailbox. But, even after they removed the mark, they all still know which home to come to. Hobos in that day were not bad, they were simply men out of work.

\*Notes: Memories of My Great Grandma Mary Shifkey as written by LeAnn Hugeback in Apr. 98

I loved the way she would say, "Hi honey!" with her West Virginia accent.

I was fascinated by her cuckoo clock, and her collectibles cabinet. The cabinet stood about waist high and had sliding glass doors. Inside were marvelous figurines and vases. With a little girl's big eyes, I thought they were as fine as any Ming Vase!

I loved her green velvet armchair that set in her living room, and the double wooden swing that was in the porch along side the detached garage. My bedroom lamps were hers.

I loved to watch her go into the fruit cellar under the stairs in the house. It looked dark and mysterious, with narrow staircase and wooden shelves. When she emerged from the cellar she would be carrying a special toy or jar of canned fruit.

I loved her apple turnovers. I even asked her to make them for me special for my 18th birthday.

When we were really little my sister Mary, cousin Cindy and I loved to "slide" down the stairs on our butts.

(Bump, bump, bump!) I think she was the only person I knew with wall to wall carpet in her house. Grandma Shifkey always gave us candy bars when we came to visit. Baby Ruth's as I recall. We never got candy bars! What a treat!

Great Grandma Shifkey taught me how to crochet.

She had a beautiful garden. She had the tallest green bean plants I'd ever seen! She called them pole beans, I think. She also had a patch of "Sour Grass" or "Sorrel Grass", that was said to have been brought from Germany when our family immigrated. Sour Grass looked similar to a radish plant above the ground. It had an oblong, broad, green, leaf, about 9 to 14 inches long. It was sour and used in soup. "Sour Grass Soup". The soup was made thick creamy, like potato soup.

Grandma told me that Grandpa Shifkey converted a barn into their house, on 610 E. North St., in Albion, MI.

For some reason the smell of roses reminds me of Grandma.

She told me how when she was a girl their family was very poor. They lived in West Virginia and her dad worked in the coal mines. She said every day he would save part of his lunch, and when she and the other

children would run to greet him coming home from work he would present it to them. She said usually it was the crust from the bread, but it was very special.

She told me that she and Grandpa eloped. She was only 13, and they had their first child when she was 14. They divorced when she was 33. She never remarried. They had moved to Albion, Michigan. She worked at "Union Steel". She told me how Grandpa Shifkey would walk along the train tracks and pick-up coal that fallen from the trains. During the Great Depression, she told me how the hobos would stop by her house to beg for food. One day she asked a hobo how come they would pass all her neighbors houses and come straight to hers. He told her that there was a mark on her mailbox, put there by the hobos, indicating that she would give them food. She told me after the hobo left she went out and cleaned off her mailbox.

From 1985 to 1989, (her death), I was stationed in Germany with the Air Force. I would write to Grandma Shifkey about Germany. She loved to hear about where her family came from, and everything about the country. I would write her things in German, like "I love you". She would write me how happy that would make her, reminding her of her parents who had spoken German and talked of Germany.

The following notes are described by Mary Frisk Shifkey, 1976 from the McCune family history collection.

My Grandfather, Fred Nickels and Grandmother, Louise Nickels with seven children arrived in this country at Rushrun, West Virginia in the year 1896. From there they went north to Engadine, Michigan where many German immigrants settled at that time and worked in the coal mines to make enough money to go back north to Wisconsin into large dairy farms. To Fred and Louis Nickels were born seven children--Martin, Andrew, John, Mike, Eva, Frazene and Minnie. At the time of this writing, March 19, 1976, all are deceased except Minnie who is now 81 years old and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico in good health.

Grandfather Nickels' family came to the U.S. in 1896 from Worlein Germany. Copy of marriage certificate of my Father and Mother--Gustav Frisk born in Province Rubland Zu Halenof, August 17, 1875 Eva Nickels, born in Province Rubland Zu Goregefka, December 17, 1884. Marriage witnesses--Jacob Wade and Robert Aldrich. Married by Rev. W. R. Smith.

On my father's citizenship papers--Fayetteville County Seat, year 1912; Eva Frisk, wife-27; Mary Ledia, 11; John Edward, 9; Clara Hulda, 5; Fredrick Michael, 3; address--Hill Top, West Virginia.

I, Mary Ledia Frisk, was born August 30, 1900 in Greenwood, (now Lawton), West Virginia to Gustav and Eva Frisk. I was christened on 16 September, 1900, in Greenwood, WVA.

Record of past years from 1920 to 1976 of my own family:

Reinhold Fredrick Schiefke (Shifkey) and Mary Lydia Frisk were married in Ironton, Ohio by Justice of the Peace on October 13, 1914. We eloped, walking and riding the train 5 miles from Hill Top, WVA to Ironton, Ohio.

We lived at Red Star, WVA. Ray worked in the coal mines. Our daughter Leda was born there August 20, 1915. We built our home at Hill Top, WVA in 1916 and lived there until 1920. Esther, our second daughter was born there December 25, 1917, and on September 19, 1919, our son David was born in this same house. Then in 1920, we moved to Albion, Michigan where Ray's sister Telia and family lived at 930 Austin Avenue. She passed away in 1924. Her daughter, Mary Kalenda survives her at this time.

Our daughter Ruth was born in Albion, May 14, 1923, and Barbara was born, October 30, 1927. They grew up fast and now have grandchildren of their own. Leda has two; Esther, eight; David, three; Ruth, one; and Barbara, two. These equal to sixteen great-grandchildren that I have. And, pus I have 11 grandchildren--Phillip, Leda's son; Jack and Nancy, Esther's son and daughter; David, Addie and Douglas are Dave's two sons and daughter; Patricia, Pamela, Carol are Ruth's daughters; and Dennis and Sherry are Barbara's son and daughter. Ray passed away on November 29, 1962. He was 71 years old. He got his citizenship papers in 1925. He was custodian of Albion Post Office for 26 years.

Obit from Albion Public Library 2 April, 1990 - Mary L. Shifkey - Mary L. Shifkey, of Albion, died on Thursday, March 29 1990, at Carriage Inn Nursing Home in Coldwater. She was 89. She was born on Aug. 30, 1900, in West Virginia, the daughter of Gustave and Eva Frisk. she had worked at Union Steel Products as a spot welder for 30 years, retiring in 1965. She was a member of the Old Timers Club. Survivors included three daughters,

Mrs. Jack (Ruth) Torrey, of Albion, Mrs. Melvin (Barbara) McCune, of Albion, and Mrs. Thomas (Esther) Hahn of Chippewa Lake, Mich.; two brothers, Charles Frisk of Beaver Creek, Ohio, and Fred Frisk of Mt. Hope W. Virg.; a sister, Mrs. Clara Allen, of Beckley, W. Virg.; 10 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; three great, great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son David, a daughter, Leda Doty, and a brother John. Funeral services will be held today, April 2, at 11 a.m., at the Albion Chapel of Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels, Inc., with the Rev. Chaplain Kenneth Ponds officiating. Interment will be at Albion Memory Gardens, Albion.

Marriage Notes for REINHOLD SHIFKEY and MARY FRISK:

Oral history says that Ray and Mary eloped when Mary was 14. Reinhold and Mary were married in Ironton, Ohio by Justice of the Peace. They eloped, walking and riding the train 5 miles from Hill Top, West Virginia to Ironton, Ohio.

Children of REINHOLD SHIFKEY and MARY FRISK are:

11. i. LEYDIA BERTA<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, b. August 20, 1915, Hilltop, West Virginia; d. June 26, 1989, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.
12. ii. ESTHER MADELENE SHIFKEY, b. December 25, 1917, Hilltop, West Virginia.
13. iii. DAVID EDWARD SHIFKEY, b. September 19, 1919, Hilltop, West Virginia; d. November 28, 1989.
14. iv. RUTH MERLE SHIFKEY, b. May 14, 1923, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan; d. August 01, 1993.
15. v. BARBARA JEAN SHIFKEY, b. 1927, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.

6. JOHN ALBERT<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY (*ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) He married JULIE PIOTROWSKI Bef. 1902.

Notes for JOHN ALBERT SHIFKEY:

\*Notes recorded in the 1970's: Albert SCHIEFKE came to America in 1909. Worked in Red Star Coal Mines, West Virginia a few years then returned to Russia and his family. Carl "Karl" and Ray came to America in 1910, worked in the Red Star Coal Mines and stayed with their Uncle Karl SCHIEFKE. Telia came to America with her daughter Mary and left one son in Russia with her mother. She lived in Albion, Michigan in later years and married John PEGESKI. Her daughter lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan; Mary KALINDA. Telia died in 1924. Ray came to Michigan in 1920, got his citizenship papers about 1925. Ray and Mary FRISK were married on October 3, 1914 and divorced in 1933, he later married Hazel STEEBY. He owned a house at 930 Austin Avenue until 1932. He was custodian at Albion Post Office for about 20 years before retiring. At retirement he moved to Zephyrhills, Florida where he died Nov. 29 1962.

\*Notes from Erhard Scholz (erhardscholz at gmx.de) from Norman Kalenda 5 Oct 01: Dear Norman and Marion, I visited Johann this afternoon in order to support you with further information concerning Johann and his relatives. Hope my English will be good enough for reporting about a family spread over the whole world. Of course this e-mail encloses greetings and best wishes to you from Johann. He still has got trouble with his health. This is what I found out, when I was talking with Johann: The family was living in Wolhynien (country between Lemberg and Kiev (Ukraine) - south of the Pripjet-Sumpfe (swamp). I'm sorry, but I didn't find the English names in my best dictionaries. In 1939 the Russians occupied this area. Johann's father Albert decided for Germany instead being forced to go to Siberia. Because this region belonged to Poland the first names of the eight children of Albert Schifke and Julie Pietrowski were Polish names. They all got German names and passport after leaving the region. But it didn't concern Wladyslaw. He was serving in the Polish army and later joined the Allied forces to fight against the Hitler Regime. Johann's father Albert went to Amerika with brother(s) and sister Otilie. Johann also mentioned the name Ferdinand. Albert came back in 1914 hidden on a ship as Johann told me. Brother Wenzel and family emigrated to Australia in 1946.

Children of JOHN SHIFKEY and JULIE PIOTROWSKI are:

16. i. JOHANN<sup>4</sup> SCHIFKE, b. 1924.
- ii. WLADYSLAW SCHIFKE, b. 1902.
- iii. GUSTAV SCHIFKE, b. 1906.

Notes for GUSTAV SCHIFKE:

Died early in childhood.

- iv. KARL SCHIFKE, b. 1909.
- v. HELENE SCHIFKE, b. 1916.

Notes for HELENE SCHIFKE:

Died early in childhood.

- vi. ROSALIE (ROSA) SCHIFKE, b. 1918.
- vii. WENZEL SCHIFKE, b. 1920.

Notes for WENZEL SCHIFKE:  
Wenzel and family emigrated to Australia in 1946.

- 17. viii. PETER (PIOTR) SCHIFKE, b. 1928; d. June 1998.

**7.** KARL O.<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY (*ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 05, 1885 in Minsk, Russia, and died January 1984 in Battle Creek, Michigan. He married SOPHIE KOWALSKI June 23, 1932. She died December 03, 2001.

Notes for KARL O. SHIFKEY:

\*Notes: Karl O. Shifky Obituary 1/16/84: Karl O. Shifky, 98, 106 Country Club Way, Battle Creek, died Saturday at Lakeview General Hospital, Battle Creek. He was a patient 1 day., Mr. Shifkey had been a patient of the Matheson Nursing Home in Galesburg since 1982. He was born in Minsk, Russia and came to the United States in 1911. He married Sophie B. Kowalski, in June 23, 1932, in Jackson, Ohio. Mr. Shifky settled in Charleston West Virginia. He was a coal miner in Cincinnati, and later managed a pool hall for the mining company. He then entered the hotel business, where he owned or managed hotels in Grand Rapids, Jackson and then Battle Creek. Before his retirement he owned and operated the Wilkens Rooming House which he ran until 2 years ago. The funeral will be 10 a.m. Wednesday at Shaw Funeral Home, 121 Capital Ave. N.E. Battle Creek with Rev. Fr. Howard D. Murray officiating. Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Interment will be at Memorial Park Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Sophie, 1 daughter, Mrs. Dudley (Lucille) Kuhlman of Columbus, Ohio, 1 step-daughter, Mrs. Charlie (Helen) Adamson of 100 Country Club Way, Battle Creek and 11 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, envelopes are available at the funeral home.

Notes from Norman W. Kalenda, 66 Parkmere Rd., Roshester, N.Y. 14617, letter dated 9 Nov. 1998:

Karl was not married when he came to America. In fact, he brought over a girl friend, Ruby, after he got here. There has been some family disension over the fact that he did not bring Tillie and Marie instead.

Child of KARL SHIFKEY and SOPHIE KOWALSKI is:

- 18. i. LUCILLE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY.

**8.** TELIA "TILLIE"<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY (*ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1888, and died 1924. She married (1) FRANZ WHEATMAN Bef. 1904. She married (2) JOHN PEGESKI Aft. 1904.

Notes for TELIA "TILLIE" SHIFKEY:

Also known as "Otilie".

Notes for JOHN PEGESKI:

Also listed as Pizewski.

Children of TELIA SHIFKEY and FRANZ WHEATMAN are:

- i. SON<sup>4</sup> WHEATMAN.
- 19. ii. MARY (MARIE) WHEATMAN, b. 1904; d. 1994.

**9.** OLGA<sup>3</sup> SCHIFKE (*KARL "CARL"<sup>2</sup>, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA*) was born 1899, and died 1968. She married HENRY ZILKE.

Children of OLGA SCHIFKE and HENRY ZILKE are:

- i. HARRIET<sup>4</sup> ZILKE, m. CHARLES STICKE.
- 20. ii. ARTHUR ZILKE.

**10.** TILLIE<sup>3</sup> SCHIFKE (*KARL "CARL"<sup>2</sup>, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA*) She married JOHN IVERSON.

Children of TILLIE SCHIFKE and JOHN IVERSON are:

- i. FERN<sup>4</sup> IVERSON, m. E. R. DYTOKO.
- ii. TED IVERSON.
- iii. EVELYN IVERSON.
- iv. GYDA IVERSON, m. MALONEY.
- v. ROGER IVERSON.
- vi. DENNIS IVERSON.

*Generation No. 4*

**11.** LEYDIA BERTA<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born August 20, 1915 in Hilltop, West Virginia, and died June 26, 1989 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. She married VICTOR DOTY. He was born October 07, 1913, and died July 1983 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.

Notes for LEYDIA BERTA SHIFKEY:  
Changed her name to Leda Bertha.

Child of LEYDIA SHIFKEY and VICTOR DOTY is:

- i. PHILIP<sup>5</sup> DOTY, b. 1947.

**12.** ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born December 25, 1917 in Hilltop, West Virginia. She married (1) ROGER LEE (BOYER) WATSON 1934 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan, son of LENIS BOYER and DOROTHY BOYER. He was born June 05, 1915 in Desloge, St. Francois Co., MO, and died May 31, 1976 in Michigan. She married (2) TOM HAHN Aft. 1976. He was born January 01, 1917, and died December 02, 2006.

Notes for ESTHER MADELENE SHIFKEY:

\*Notes: Memories of My Grandma Esther (Watson) Hahn as written by LeAnn Hugeback in Apr. 98

I remember visiting Grandma and Grandpa Watson's house (H Drive North) on the outskirts of Albion, MI. I remember bringing grocery sacks full of Bartlett Pears home from the tree in the front yard.

Grammy would always give us M & M's and Snickers bars, what a treat! Mom would never let us have candy! I remember summers at the "Cottage" on Chippewa Lake, MI. Gram' would take us for walks through the sand and woods to "Lost in Space". Sandy and mysterious this little open space in the woods had sumac trees growing in it, making the little opening look like some place from out-of-this world! (Such imaginations!) We'd collect cattails and scrape the brown outside off and color them with crayons then twist.

Gram' loves garage sales! She loves a bargain! And she loves to collect things, especially costume jewelry, vases, plates, and anything pretty.

She talked about growing up in West Virginia and moving to Albion, MI. I remember when she was a secretary working at State Farm Insurance in downtown Albion.

\*Notes: Memories of Grandma Esther Shifkey (Watson) Hahn as recorded by LeAnn Hugeback Jun. 1998.

Do you remember your first car ride? "Our Dad got a Model A or T. I was about, probably 12. No, wait, in 1926 I was about 9, it was a touring car with curtains on the side - the neighbors had it, in Albion.

I was three when I left West Virginia. I don't know how we got to the station. I don't remember riding in a horse and buggy. We moved to Albion, Michigan, and we lived on Austin Ave., (old U.S. 12 or Michigan Ave. as it's now called), until Barb was born. Then we moved to North Street. When we lived on Austin Ave., we'd walk out near Montcalm Lake (now Star Commonwealth land), with mom and pick huckleberries. All our neighbors made their own liquor but us. I think I still have a gold bracelet out where the outhouse used to be - I'd like to take a metal detector out there. I only lived at North Street for a short while, before I got married.

I got married in 1934 when I was 16. Nancy was born in '35. Your Grandpa Watson and I were neighbors. In school he was a hotshot football player. He was the quarterback.

He was in China in World War II, in the Navy. I still have his uniform. He was gone for only about two years. I got a job when he left. I worked at Kroger grocery store. I checked-out groceries.

Both of the babies were born at home. The doctors and R.N. would come to the house. It cost \$35.00 for everything, all the visits to the hospital and the delivery. We gave them \$10 each extra. Metropolitan Insurance Company paid a nurse to come to the house for 10 days to bathe me and the baby and check us. Back then you had to stay in bed two weeks.

The first thing I remember when I was a little girl was swallowing a campaign button (badge) with a stickpin. I passed it all right.

We did a lot of walking. We didn't have a car when we were growing up. But we rode on the streetcar. The inter or intra Urban line ran on a "hot rail" charged with electricity up Austin Ave. The Urban line also ran from Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Albion and Jackson. It was a people train that maybe carried mail.

My dad was active in the Baptist church. We got to do lots of things through the church. We also attended the Russian Baptist church. They still publish photos of me from the church activities.

Walked to "Dutch Town" (where Albion College is today). We'd walk to the Kalamazoo River, around where the Albion College football field is today. We used to take a salt shaker to get the bloodsuckers off. David and I would stop by someone's house on the river and ask if we could rent their canoe. They would agree, because we were brother and sister. We'd take it way up to Newburg road, (towards Concord). They'd let us rent it for \$ .25. How'd we get \$ .25? I know. We'd sell mulberries. Those people would buy them from us. We'd put the boxes in the wagon and away we'd go. Mom Shifkey would let us have some of her gooseberries, too.

Leda was always the bully of the family. I told Barbara we'd go down in the "holler" we called it, south of the house. There'd be old bums. They'd get drunk and all the change would fall out of their pockets. Barb was just a little 'ole thing, three or four, and she found the \$ .50 piece. I tried to talk her out of it, but she ended up taking it home.

My dad played the accordion. Mom would sing, Leda would sing, and I would sing, "When Roll is Called up Yonder," at the Russian Baptist Church. We'd sing in three-part harmony. Dad named us biblical names except Barbara - Mom said she was gonna name her "Barb", (enough is enough)!

We went to West Virginia when I was six, for mom's dad's funeral. She called him "Poppie". That was the first time I'd been to a different place. When a family member died, the body stayed at home for viewing. Somebody always sat up with them.

The Hilltop grocer's boys would bring me stuff; candy, gum. Dad missed us awful. We were there over Christmas. David, Leda, and Ruth must have been the baby, who went with us. My dad kept begging us to come home. That's the only time I remember going to a one-room schoolhouse. I went to school while I was there. I was in the second grade. They didn't sing children's songs. We sang all the mountain songs like "Wreck of '97" and "K. C. Jones". I got skipped two and a half years. The second and third grade.

Grandma Frisk - she was a quiet person. Mom Shifkey called her "Mommy." I don't ever remember her having an opinion. She was a widow most of the time I knew her.

Aunt Clara did a lot for us. She'd always send us clothes. We were so excited to get a box. Mom would always be sewing - "recycling".

Grandpa Shifkey is buried in Zeyphrhills, Florida.

20 Jul 1998 - Recollection of Grandma Esther.

I remembered an experience that happened when we went see Uncle Carl at his hotel (about 1926). The chef fried us a large pan of potatoes on the grill to eat - I loved potatoes - it was filling; for our large family - probably I was about 8 years old that summer and with us - probably Leda and me and Dave and Ruth. Dad and Carl took us to the local Capitol Theater - my very first, and I remember seeing black and white cartoons of (old) Mickey Mouse when he really looked like a mouse - long tail, etc. Also was the "Flora-Dora Girls", who did a lot of chorus-line dancing. I remember when we came in to pay the admittance charge that Carl and Dad tried to convince the manager that we should be charged less as a family because there was so many of us!

Notes for ROGER LEE (BOYER) WATSON:  
SSN: 363-07-0057.

Roger Lee was adopted in Desloge, St Francios Co., Missouri by Lenis and Dorothy Boyer. Roger's adopted name was Boyer, but when he entered the military he shortened it to just Watson.

\*Notes: Recorded by Nancy Blodgett in the 1980's. Roger Lee - Birth date - June 5, 1915, Desloge, St Francios Co., Missouri. Died June, 1975, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Albion. Adopted in 1915 by Lenis Boyer and Dorothy Hill Boyer. Dorothy divorced Lenis Boyer. She left Roger with her family, and went to work in Cairo, Illinois where she met Robert Watson, who was living working there at the time. They were married in 1924, and along with roger, moved to Flint, Michigan.

In 1927 they moved to Albion. They also lived in Marshall at one time, but eventually settled on West Cass Street, Albion. During this time, Roger met Esther Shifkey at Albion High School. They both dropped out of

high school, and married in 1934. Esther later received her diploma through Adult Education.

Roger said he attended so many different schools, that he lost out on his education. He did play football at Albion High School, though, and loved it. He was small and tough and was an excellent player.

When Dorothy was dying of cancer in 1944, she told him that he had been adopted. He visited Lenis Boyer in later years, but he had no knowledge of his biological parents. Roger went by the name of Roger Lee Boyer Watson (he was never legally adopted by Robert Watson), but when he was drafted by the Navy in 1945, they instructed him to use one last name. He chose Watson, and all his records were recorded in this name by the U.S. Government.

In my memory, the Hill family was very loving of Roger. He was the first grandchild, and grew up as one of the family. The grandparents were Thomas and Hester Hill. There were several children: Dorothy, Ava, Howard, Geoffrey, Doyle, Mabel, Hazel and Glenn. Glenn was about the same age as Roger.

Most of them lived in St. Louis, Missouri when I was a child, and we visited them a few times. They always showed us a wonderful time. Several cousins were my age: Goff's children, Bob and Patty Sue (who ended up having 12 children); Mabel's children, Marvin and Jeannie; and Hazel's children, David, Shirley, Donna and Sondra. I kept correspondence with Sondra and Aunt Mabel until the 1980's.

Robert Watson was employed at the Gale manufacturing Company, Albion. He was a long-time member of the City Council, and Watson Street in Albion was named because of this honor. He died about 1980, and was buried in Marshall, Michigan.

\*Notes: Memories of My Grandpa Roger Watson as written by LeAnn Hugeback in Apr. 98

Grandpa Watson was not always nice. Sometimes he would yell, and he was grouchy, but other times he could be funny. I remember one time when we were visiting up at Chippewa Lake, MI, when Grandma Esther and Grandpa lived in the mobile home behind the "Cottage". It was in the evening and we were all watching T.V. Grandpa walked through the living room and in to the dark kitchen he tooted and made us all giggle!

Grandma and Grandpa owned a cottage on Chippewa Lake and every summer we'd all go stay for a week, (usually the first week of August). The first thing I would do when I got to the Cottage was jump out of the car (after a three hour drive) and run to the concrete steps that went down to the water, strip off my shoes and socks and dip my toes in the lake. Ahh! Heaven! Grandpa owned a pontoon boat and would take us all fishing. I liked the pontoon because it didn't rock when the speed boats went by. I have a picture of Grandpa helping me fish off the dock when I was four or five years old. I have a lot of wonderful memories of visits to the Cottage and Grandpa is part of them.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=watson&GSfn=roger&GSbyrel=all&GSdyrel=all&GSst=24&GSob=n&GRid=8129976&>

Roger L. Watson  
Birth: 1915  
Death: Jun. 3, 1976

Note: S1, U.S. Navy, WWII.

Burial:  
Riverside Cemetery  
Albion  
Calhoun County  
Michigan, USA  
Plot: Block 73, Lot A.

Record added: Nov 26 2003  
By: Frank Passic, Albion Historian

Obit from Albion Public Library Jun 1 1976 - Roger L. B. (Boyer) Watson - Roger L. B. Watson, 60, R.D. 1 Evart, formerly of Albion, died Monday afternoon at Big Rapids Community Hospital, Big Rapids, after being in ill health 7 years. Watson was born June 5, 1915, in Desloge, Mo., to Robert H. and Dorothy (Hill) Watson. (\*Dorothy was his adoptive mother and Robert was his step-father). He married Esther M. Shifkey on March 31, 1934, in Marshall. He was a prominent athlete while at Albion High School, and served in the U.S. Navy during

World War II. Watson once was a foreman at Gale Manufacturing Co., was a city fireman for 5 years and at one time was a Calhoun County deputy sheriff briefly. He retired from Decker Nut Mfg. Co. in March 1970 because of ill health and moved to Ewart about 3 years ago. Survivors included his wife, Esther; a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth (Nancy) Blodgett, Albion; a son, Jack Watson, Marshall; his father, Robert H. Watson, Albion, and 8 grandchildren. Visitation will be after 4 p.m. Wednesday with services to be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Albion Chapel of Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels. Rev. Fred B. Cunningham will officiate. Burial in Riverside Cemetery.

Notes for TOM HAHN:

Grandpa Hahn is a longtime resident and farmer at Chippewa Lake, Michigan.

Notes from LeAnn Hugeback 7 Dec 06: Tom was a big teddy bear. A man with a booming voice and sweet disposition. He told stories of the early days on Chippewa Lake. About cutting ice with big saws in the winter to store. He talked about the saw mill that was on the end of the lake near the farm. He was a respected and well loved member of the community.

Big Rapids Obituary: Thomas E. Hahn - Chippewa Lake - Thomas E. Hahn, 89, of Chippewa Lake died Saturday, Dec 2, 2006, at his home. He was born Jan. 1, 1917, in Stanwood, the son of Delmer and Olive Hahn. He is a graduate of Big Rapids High School and Ferris State College.

Tom taught school in a one-room schoolhouse at Pogy Lake prior to serving as a Navy Seabee during World War II, where he was stationed in the South Pacific.

He was married to Margaret Zuse in 1941 and they raised four children. Margaret preceded him in death in 1963.

Tom was a lifetime dairy farmer. He served as a director for the Michigan Farm Bureau for more than four years. He also was a member of MMPA and served as a local board member. Tom also served as Chippewa Township supervisor and assessor.

In 1977, Tom married Esther Watson of Chippewa Lake. They were members of Chippewa Lake United Methodist Church and later joined the Barryton United Methodist Church.

Tom is survived by his wife, Esther; daughter, Sharon (Gene) Spaugh of Chippewa Lake; and sons, David Hahn and Wayne (Joyce) Hahn of Ewart and Elwin (Rosemary) Hahn of Battle Creek. He also is survived by his 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are his sister Alma Comer of Plant City, Fla. and brother, Wesley (Catherine) Hahn of Grand Rapids.

Tom will be remembered by his family and friends for his strong values and leadership. He was a role model and inspiration for all of us. He will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Funeral services will take place 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5 at the Daggett-Gilbert Funeral Home in Big Rapids with Pastor James Breithaupt officiating. Burial will be at Chippewa Lake Cemetery with a luncheon to follow.

The family will greet friends today (Monday) from 5 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions in Tom's memory may be made to the Faith United Methodist Church in Barryton, directed to the "Youth Building Fund".

Those wishing to leave online condolences may do so at [www.daggettgilbertfuneralhome.com](http://www.daggettgilbertfuneralhome.com).

More About TOM HAHN:

Burial: December 05, 2006, Chippewa Lake Cemetery, Chippewa Lake, Michigan

Children of ESTHER SHIFKEY and ROGER WATSON are:

21. i. NANCY LEE<sup>5</sup> WATSON, b. August 01, 1935, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.
22. ii. JACK LEE WATSON, b. March 14, 1939, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.

**13.** DAVID EDWARD<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born September 19, 1919 in Hilltop, West Virginia, and died November 28, 1989. He married (1) MARILYN. He married (2) JEAN SWEET. He married (3) VIEVA.

Notes for DAVID EDWARD SHIFKEY:

Listed beside "married" is (Jean, Vieva). Not sure if this was a first wife or not.

Obituary dated Nov 1989:

Word has been received of the death of David Shifkey, 70, of Tustin, MI, formerly of Albion. Mr. Shifkey, the son of Ray and Mary Shifkey, was a retired Tool and Die Maker. He was born September 19, 1919 in Hill Top, West Virginia. The family came to Albion in 1920. He is survived by his wife Marilyn; his mother, Mary Shifkey, Albion; a daughter, Mrs. Melvin (Addie) Choponis, Tursin; sons, David, Eaton Rapids and Douglas, Grand Rapids; five grandchildren; and three sisters, Mrs. Thomas (Esther) Hahn, Ewart; Mrs. Jack (Ruth) Torrey and Mrs. Melvin (Barbara) McCune, Albion. He was preceded in death by his sister, Mrs. Victor (Leda) Doty and his father, Ray Shifkey. Cremation. No funeral services were held.

Child of DAVID SHIFKEY and JEAN SWEET is:

23. i. DAVID BRYON<sup>5</sup> SHIFKEY, b. December 07, 1941.

Children of DAVID SHIFKEY and VIEVA are:

ii. ADDIE<sup>5</sup> SHIFKEY, b. 1950.

Notes for ADDIE SHIFKEY:  
Birth date also listed as 1952.

24. iii. DOUGLAS EDWARD SHIFKEY, b. 1952.

**14.** RUTH MERLE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born May 14, 1923 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan, and died August 01, 1993. She married JACK TORREY.

Children of RUTH SHIFKEY and JACK TORREY are:

i. PATRICIA<sup>5</sup> TORREY, b. 1942.

ii. PAMELA TORREY, b. 1947.

iii. CAROL TORREY, b. 1952.

**15.** BARBARA JEAN<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1927 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. She married MELVIN MCCUNE.

Children of BARBARA SHIFKEY and MELVIN MCCUNE are:

i. DENNIS<sup>5</sup> MCCUNE, b. 1947.

ii. SHERRY MCCUNE, b. 1949.

**16.** JOHANN<sup>4</sup> SCHIFKE (*JOHN ALBERT<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1924. He married EDITH KLINKE Bef. 1946. She was born April 15, 1928, and died December 31, 1995 in Eime, Germany.

Notes for JOHANN SCHIFKE:

Address as of 1995: Johann Schifke, Wassertor str. 6, 31036 Eime, Germany.

Notes for EDITH KLINKE:

German obituary sent to Norman Kalenda from Johann Schifke and translated by LeAnn Hugeback.

Emie (city name) 31 December 1995

Wassetor str. 6 (street name; the word street; house number)

Sudden and unexpected "death" today of my darling wife, good mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, cousin, sister-in-law and aunt.

Edith (Klinke) Schifke

15 Apr. 1928 to 31 Dec. 1995

Full of gratitude for all the love and good, she was a gift to us and we take our parting farewell. (Liberal translation :)

Johann Schifke with children and grandchildren (???) all relatives.

The funeral (????) is Friday 5 January 1996 at 13:00 in the Friedhofs Chapel in Eime city. Burial following.

Children of JOHANN SCHIFKE and EDITH KLINKE are:

- i. JOHANNA (HANNA)<sup>5</sup> SCHIFKE, b. June 24, 1946.
- ii. JOHANNES (HANNES) SCHIFKE, b. June 24, 1946.
- iii. PETER SCHIFKE, b. October 20, 1947.

**17.** PETER (PIOTR)<sup>4</sup> SCHIFKE (*JOHN ALBERT<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1928, and died June 1998.

Child of PETER (PIOTR) SCHIFKE is:

- i. PETER<sup>5</sup> SCHIFKE.

**18.** LUCILLE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY (*KARL O.<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) She married DUDLEY KUHLMAN.

Children of LUCILLE SHIFKEY and DUDLEY KUHLMAN are:

- i. AMY<sup>5</sup> KUHLMAN, m. (1) JOHN HINTZ; m. (2) BROOKS BUSH.
- ii. JAMES KUHLMAN, m. KIM KESSLER.
25. iii. DOLLY KUHLMAN.

**19.** MARY (MARIE)<sup>4</sup> WHEATMAN (*TELIA "TILLIE"<sup>3</sup> SHIFKEY, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1904, and died 1994. She married WENZEL J. KALENDA. He was born November 26, 1901, and died November 1985.

Notes for MARY (MARIE) WHEATMAN:

Lived in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Notes from Norman W. Kalenda, 66 Parkmere Rd., Roshester, N.Y. 14617, letter dated 9 Nov. 1998:

My mother said she was born in Poland, near Hanzewitch or Deniskowich. I have located two towns bearing similar names, Hadzilavicy and Deniskovichi, in Belarus, which would be a remarkable coincidence if they were not the ones, considering possible spelling changes over the years and the imperfection of human memory. She said she had a baby brother who died in a scalding accident. My mother was always called Marie, with the accent on the last syllable. She always referred to her mother as Tillie. I do not know when Tillie and Marie came to America but they came by themselves. Marie was naturalized 9/1/42. My mother did not speak much of Tillie's first husband, but I have him down as Franz Wheatman, and Wheatman has always been listed as my mother's maiden name. It was never mentioned whether Franz died or whether he and Tillie were divorced. I do not know how Tillie met John Pizewski or when they were married. I was too young when Tillie died to remember her.

SSN: 378-18-9518. Residence was listed as Comstock Park, 49504, Kent Co. Michigan on the SSDI.

Notes for WENZEL J. KALENDA:

SSN: 370-18-1536. Residence was listed as Comstock Park, 49504, Kent Co. Michigan on the SSDI.

Children of MARY WHEATMAN and WENZEL KALENDA are:

- i. NORMAN W.<sup>5</sup> KALENDA, b. 1928; m. MARION HELEN CORWELL; b. 1925.
- ii. LEONORA MAY KALENDA, b. 1932.

Notes for LEONORA MAY KALENDA:

According to Norman Kalenda, Nov. 98, she never married. She lives in Grand Rapids Mich.

**20.** ARTHUR<sup>4</sup> ZILKE (*OLGA<sup>3</sup> SCHIFKE, KARL "CARL"<sup>2</sup>, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup> SSYFKA*) He married MARGIE.

Children of ARTHUR ZILKE and MARGIE are:

- i. GLORIA<sup>5</sup> ZILKE.
- ii. CAROL ZILKE.
- iii. MIKE ZILKE.

Generation No. 5

**21.** NANCY LEE<sup>5</sup> WATSON (*ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born August 01, 1935 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. She married KENNETH DUANE BLODGETT October 20, 1961 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan, son of DONALD BLODGETT and GRACE RIEVER. He was born April 25, 1937 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.

Children of NANCY WATSON and KENNETH BLODGETT are:

- i. MARY ESTHER<sup>6</sup> BLODGETT, b. September 10, 1962, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan; m. RANDY SPENCER, September 1994, Blodgett home place, Albion Michigan.
26. ii. LEANN MARIE BLODGETT, b. August 02, 1964, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.
- iii. DEAN KENNETH BLODGETT, b. June 16, 1966, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan; m. MELISSA, July 29, 1995.

Notes for DEAN KENNETH BLODGETT:  
Divorced Melissa in 1997.

27. iv. DANIEL LEE BLODGETT, b. January 29, 1971, Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan.

**22.** JACK LEE<sup>5</sup> WATSON (*ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born March 14, 1939 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. He married (1) KAREN LUTZKE. He married (2) SANDY.

Children of JACK WATSON and KAREN LUTZKE are:

- i. JACK LEE JR.<sup>6</sup> WATSON, b. 1960.
- ii. CYNTHIA ANN WATSON, b. 1962.
- iii. MICHAEL LEE WATSON, b. 1963.

Child of JACK WATSON and SANDY is:

28. iv. STEPHEN MARK<sup>6</sup> WATSON, b. 1968.

**23.** DAVID BRYON<sup>5</sup> SHIFKEY (*DAVID EDWARD<sup>4</sup>, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born December 07, 1941. He married ELLEN.

Notes for DAVID BRYON SHIFKEY:  
Birth date also listed as 1941.

Children of DAVID SHIFKEY and ELLEN are:

- i. STEVEN DAVID<sup>6</sup> SHIFKEY, b. 1962; m. POLLYANNA.
- ii. MICHELE SHIFKEY, b. 1968.

**24.** DOUGLAS EDWARD<sup>5</sup> SHIFKEY (*DAVID EDWARD<sup>4</sup>, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1952. He married ELIZABETH.

Notes for DOUGLAS EDWARD SHIFKEY:  
Birth date also listed as 1954.

Child of DOUGLAS SHIFKEY and ELIZABETH is:

- i. SELINA<sup>6</sup> SHIFKEY, b. 1982.

**25.** DOLLY<sup>5</sup> KUHLMAN (*LUCILLE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, KARL O.<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) She married WESLEY NEWHOUSE.

Children of DOLLY KUHLMAN and WESLEY NEWHOUSE are:

- i. DAVID<sup>6</sup> NEWHOUSE.
- ii. SARA NEWHOUSE.

Generation No. 6

**26.** LEANN MARIE<sup>6</sup> BLODGETT (*NANCY LEE<sup>5</sup> WATSON, ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born August 02, 1964 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. She married RONALD JOSEPH HUGEBACK April 16, 1988 in St. Ann's Vail, Crawford Co., Iowa. He was born September 10, 1966 in Carroll, Iowa.

Children of LEANN BLODGETT and RONALD HUGEBACK are:

- i. HEATHER NANCY<sup>7</sup> HUGEBACK, b. March 10, 1992, Cape Canaveral, Florida.
- ii. KYLE KENNETH HUGEBACK, b. June 26, 1996, Travis Air Force Base, Solano Co., California.

**27.** DANIEL LEE<sup>6</sup> BLODGETT (*NANCY LEE<sup>5</sup> WATSON, ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born January 29, 1971 in Albion, Calhoun Co., Michigan. He married KRISTINE "KRIS" August 16, 1992 in Marshall, Michigan.

Children of DANIEL BLODGETT and KRISTINE "KRIS" are:

- i. ANTHONY JUSTIN "A.J."<sup>7</sup> BLODGETT, b. January 07, 1997.
- ii. KARISSA "KARI" LEE BLODGETT, b. October 14, 1998.

**28.** STEPHEN MARK<sup>6</sup> WATSON (*JACK LEE<sup>5</sup>, ESTHER MADELENE<sup>4</sup> SHIFKEY, REINHOLD "RAY" FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, ROBERT<sup>2</sup> SSYFKA, FREDRICK<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1968. He married VICTORIA JOAN MEIER August 29, 1998.

Children of STEPHEN WATSON and VICTORIA MEIER are:

- i. MIRANDA LYNN<sup>7</sup> WATSON, b. September 12, 2003, Born 11:17 a.m..
- ii. DANIELLE ELYSE WATSON, b. September 12, 2003, Born 11:24 a.m..