

~~~ Carl & Henrietta Geier Family ~~~



Carl Geier was born July 7, 1883 in the Caucasus German colonies of southern Russia. Nothing is known about his parents by any of his living descendants. Carl served in the Imperial Russian army and had not actually been discharged. He was either on extended leave of absence or placed on inactive reserve. It was during this time he and his wife, Henrietta Mahler, decided to visit relatives in North Dakota. With the outbreak of war, they chose not to return to Russia. They eventually took ownership of the farm Carl's grandmother homesteaded in Kidder County, North Dakota.



Henrietta Mahler Geier was born July 26, 1892 in the Caucasus German colonies of southern Russia. Her nationality was mainly either Danish or Dutch. Her father relocated to serve as a Lutheran minister to the German colonists in southern Russia. Henrietta was 20 years of age when she, Carl, and her two young sons made the long trip from Russia to North Dakota. Altogether, they raised 10 children listed separately below:



David Geier was born July 24, 1911 in southern Russia, the eldest of 10 siblings. He was two years of age upon arrival in North America. He married Martha Koenig and they had four children: Twins Earl and Pearl, Russell, who sadly passed away at the age of two, and Douglas. They operated a farm in Wells County, North Dakota. I looked upon Uncle David as a big, burly, teddy bear.



Charles Geier was born July 29, 1912 in southern Russia. He married Leah Beck and they had four children: Roger, Eunice, Dennis, and Sheila. They farmed in Wells County, North Dakota. It is an interesting fact that all the Geier boys lived fairly close to one another, which allowed for frequent family get-togethers.



Renada Geier Sagen was born November 11, 1913. As far as I know, Renada and those who came after were all born at the Geier home in Kidder County, ND. All the Geier girls had different but very interesting personalities. She married Al Sagen and they had four children, Jim, Judy, Robert and Linda.



William 'Dick' Geier was born December 4, 1914. All the Geier boys became farmers. Dick had land in both Kidder and Wells Counties. He married Martha Fullerton. At one time he, Martha, young William and my dad lived on a houseboat near Oakland, CA. They moved back to ND after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Dick and Martha raised three children: William Jr., Ellen, and Betty.



Selma 'Sally' Geier Baker was born December 16, 1916. She married Ed Baker and they had one daughter, Claudia. Ed worked as a civilian contractor for the military, which meant that Sally resided for a time in many interesting places, mainly the far east; a long way from her humble origins. Ed and Sally were avid golfers.



Hulda Geier Robinson was born December 14, 1919. She married Jim Robinson and they had three sons: Jim Jr., Steven, and Paul. Hulda, like Sally, got to see much of the world since Jim Sr. was a career Navy man. She was an amateur archeologist and collector of interesting antiquities. They spent their retirement years on the Hawaiian island of Oahu, though for a time they visited their Dakota relatives.



Bernard Geier was born May 8, 1922. In 1941 he went with William to California where he worked as a store clerk. That all changed after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He married Selma Herman and they raised three children: Galen, Durwood, and Marcy. They farmed in Kidder County, the land previously owned by Carl's dear friend, August Hinger.



Rosella Geier Drake was born June 19, 1924. Rose, as most people called her, married a fellow by the name of Francis Drake. They lived for a time in Lead, South Dakota, where Francis worked for the Homestake Mining Company, one of the biggest gold producers in the world. She later worked as an LPN. They had three children: Tom, Robert, and Carol.



Edward 'Calvin' Geier was born July 17, 1926. I believe he acquired that nickname because Calvin Coolidge was POTUS at the time of his birth. Calvin was in France near the end of WWII where he guarded German POW's. After serving his country, he met and married Betty Derheim. They farmed in Kidder County and raised three children: Tim, Karen, and Janny.



John Geier was born April 25, 1929. He also served a stint in the US Army but, fortunately, the war in Europe was over by then. I'll always remember John as a keen competitor at table games. He married Joyce Fisher and they raised two children: Rick and Connie. They farmed the Geier home place in Kidder County, North Dakota.