

## **Family of Stephen Risse (1830-1907) and Margaret Fuchs (1836-1927)**

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky.

From the book, Jent – Schum – Weikel – Hochgesang – Risse – Kost, by Jerry Long, McDowell Publications, Utica, KY, 1994; copies of the book can be found in the following repositories - L.D.S. Library, Salt Lake City, UT; Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.; Kentucky Historical Society Library, Frankfort, KY; Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, WI; Daviess County Public Library, Owensboro, KY; and Spencer County Public Library, Rockport, IN:

Johann Stephan (“Stephen”) Risse was born 12 April 1830 in the German state of Westphalia (Wesfalen), located in the northwestern part of Germany. A birth record listed his parents as Johann Stephan Risse & Wilhelmina Caspary. On a declaration for pension for service in the Civil War Stephen wrote in 1907 that "he was born Prussia, 1830, at Westfallen" and in the 1900 Spencer County, Indiana census it was recorded that he was born in April 1830.

Westfalen/Westphalia at the time of Stephen Risse's birth was a province of Prussia. Prussia occupied roughly the northern half of Germany and after it became part of the German Confederation of States it comprised nearly two thirds of the total German population. The capital of Prussia was at Berlin. The Congress of Vienna (1814-15) gave Prussia several territories including Westphalia. Westphalia (7,806 square miles) then became a province of Prussia. The capital of Westphalia was Munster. At the beginning, of World War II Westphalia's population was 5,209,401. In 1945 Prussia was dissolved and Westphalia was incorporated into the new German state of Nordrhein-Westfalen (North Rhine-Westphalia), whose capital was established at Dusseldorf. The surname of Risse, pronounced Re - see, was found spelled (or misspelled variously as: Reas, Reasae, Rees, Reese, Reis, Reise, Reiss, Rice, Ries, Riese, and Risie.

Stephen Risse, according to the 1900 Spencer County, IN census, immigrated to the United States in 1847. This census also reports that he had been naturalized. Neither his declaration of intention to become a citizen nor his final naturalization (citizenship) papers were found in the records of Spencer County, IN. The records of Jefferson County, KY, another early residence, were not searched. The first record found of Stephen Risse was his marriage in Spencer County, IN on 15 Oct 1854 to Margaret Fuchs.

Margaret Fuchs, wife of Stephen Risse, was a native of Bavaria., Germany and was born on 18 Jan 1836. Margaret in her husband's Civil War pension file on 2 Oct 1916 testified to her birth as follows: “I am eighty years of age, having been born January 18, 1836, at ?Perverian, Germany.” Her place of birth appears to be spelled - Perverian, Germany. No town of this spelling could be found in an atlas of Germany. It is possible this was a misspelling of Bavaria. Since Margaret could neither read nor write English someone else apparently wrote this for her and they may have misunderstood what she said.

Margaret Fuchs immigrated to the US with her parents, John & Barbara Fuchs, between 1836-1842. The 1900 Spencer County, IN census reports she immigrated in 1836 and the 1920 Hancock County, KY census gives the year as 1842. Her father, John Fuchs, was born about 1805, and her mother, Barbara, was born on 5 March 1815, both were born in Bavaria. By 1844 they were residing in Indiana. They were enumerated in the 1850 Federal census of Spencer County, IN. By then they were living in the northeastern part of the county, in Huff Township, in the vicinity of where the town of New Boston was laid out in 1851. The 1860, 1870, 1880 & 1900 censuses show members of the family residing in the same neighborhood. John Fuchs was a farmer and owned a farm of 80 acres. Located about 18 miles northeast of Rockport and 2 miles southwest of New Boston, it was on the road from Maxville to Santa Claus (named in 1852), in 1888 the town of Evanston was established about one-half mile south of his farm. The farm appeared on plats of Huff Township in Atlases of Spencer County published in 1879 and 1896.

The families of John & Barbara Fuchs and Stephen & Margaret Risse attended church at St. John's Lutheran Church, about one mile west of New Boston. The church was a little over one mile from the Fuchs home and about two miles from the Risse home. The publication, Spencer County, Indiana Sesquicentennial (1818-1968)[p40], states that the Fuchs and Reis families were among the first members of the church. A dozen or so German families established the church about 1850. The first church built was a log structure, in 1874 a frame building replaced it. It stood until it was destroyed by fire in 1963. The new church there was dedicated in 1964. The first pastor of the church was Rev. Frederick Eppling, who celebrated the marriage of Stephen Risse and Margaret Fuchs in 1854. A record of the cemetery at the St. John's church records that Barbara, wife of John Fuchs, was buried there, her birth and death were listed as 5 March 1815 & 15 Sep 1875.

John Fuchs died in 1896. He wrote his will on 17 Sep 1895 and it was probated on 20 Aug 1896 (Spencer Co.IN Will Book 3, pp31-32). He gave his farm of 80 acres to his son, Fred Fuchs, on the condition that he would pay \$200 each to his other three living children, Margaret Risse, John & Henry George Fuchs, and \$50 to the heirs of his deceased son, George Fuchs. The name of John Fuchs does not appear in a listing of the gravestones at the St. John's Lutheran Church, he however, was probably buried there by his wife.

John & Barbara Fuchs had five children, who lived to adulthood, they were: Margaret (born 1836 Bavaria); John (born about 1840 Bavaria, , single in 1880, living in 1895); George (born about 1844 Indiana, married & died prior to 1895). Frederick (born Dec 1850 Spencer Co.IN, married Anna Schazer, 27 Nov 1873 Spencer County, IN, in 1900 was living in the same neighborhood where his parents had settled 50 years earlier) and Henry George Fuchs (born about 1854 Spencer County, , living in 1895).

Stephen Risse was a neighbor of George & John Ries in Huff Township, Spencer County, IN. Records, however, suggest no relationship between the two families. George & John, sons of Conrad Reis & Anna Spring, were natives of Bavaria (Byron), whereas Stephen was born in Prussia. The two brothers arrived in the US seven years prior to Stephen. They arrived on the same ship at Baltimore on 11 Oct 1840. On 13 Oct 1847 in Spencer County, IN they applied for US citizenship (Spencer Co., IN Order Book 3, pp481 & 491). George was born on 20 Jan 1815 and died in 1894. Both he and his wife, Margaret Gorthfort (1821-1866) were buried at the St. Peter's Evangelical Church, near Lamar, Spencer County, IN; following the death of his wife he married Margaret Polster. He had 9 children by his first marriage, viz: Barbara, Elizabeth, Michael, Barbara, Catherine, Christenia, Andrew S., Stephen & Margaret. John Ries was born

about 1823, married Christena in Germany, died after 1860, their children included: Elizabeth, Catherine, Margaret, Magdalena, Margaret, Coneann & Ann C.

Another "Reis" family also resided in Huff Township, Spencer County, IN. They lived a little east of the town of Maxville, along the Spencer & Perry County line, about 3 or 4 miles southeast of the residence of Stephen Risse. Nothing was found that established a relationship to Stephen Risse. Alais / Aloewise Reis (spelled variously as Alois, Aloyes, Ael and as Riese, Reiss and Rice), was a native of Germany and arrived in the US between 1843-1846. On 10 Aug 1846 he purchased 120 acres in Huff Township, Spencer County, IN, some of the tract was in Perry County, IN (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 13 ,p153). The 1850 Spencer County, IN Federal Census Mortality Schedule reports that "Ael Rice" was drowned in March 1850. On this record it was reported that he was a resident of Huff Township, age 40, married, farmer, born Germany. On the same list it is interesting to note that two other farmers of the eastern section of Spencer County, Henry Bunce and Mr. Gress, were also drowned in March 1850. They may have all perished in the same accident. Later the same year, on Aug 12, his widow, Nancy Adaline, married Anthony Grass, her last name was spelled "Reiss". On 19 Nov. 1850 the federal census taker visited their home in Spencer County, IN. He recorded their names as Anton & Nancy Gres (Grass, possibly an Anglicized version, is the way the surname appears in most subsequent records). Living in their home were 5 children: Barbara; age 15, George, 10; Leopold, 8; Peter M., 6; & Adeline, 3; all were born in Germany except the last named, who was born in Indiana. The children were reported under the name of Gres, but other records prove they were Nancy's children by her first husband (this is commonly found in census reports).

Wilson Huff was appointed the administrator of the estate of Alais Reis, deceased, on 12 Aug 1851. On Nov 10 of that year he filed an inventory of the estate, and upon his request on the following day a guardian was appointed for the infant heirs of Alais Reis, who were listed in Probate Order book E, p233, as Barbara, Gregor, Leopold, Agatha & Adaline (in same book also see pages 199, 230 & 260 for items pertaining to the estate of Alais Reis). In a circuit court suit versus the Reis heirs Wilson Huff requested a sale of the lands of Alais Reis, in order that the estate may be settled. In 1852 part of his lands were sold at public auction to Martin Friedman, which was transferred by deed in 1856 (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 17, p.264). In 1857 Anton & Nancy Grass sold other lands having been purchased by Alais Reis in 1846 (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 19, p58). On an 1879 property owners map of Huff Township in the Atlas of Spencer Co., Indiana (p42) is listed Nancy Ries - 43 acres, located east of Maxville and a little north of the Ohio River, on the banks of Anderson Creek - the county line between Spencer & Perry. This is probably Alais Reis' widow, who was the only Nancy identified in the Spencer County records.

Anthony & Nancy Grass were enumerated in the vicinity of Maxville in the 1860 & 1870 Spencer County, IN censuses, they were not located in the 1880 Spencer County census. In the 1860 census four "Riese" children were residing in their home (in a published book of this census the census taker's handwriting was interpreted as "Rose", however, upon looking at the original I interpreted, it to be "Riese"). In the 1870 census Anthony & Nancy were reported to be natives of Bavaria, he was born about 1812 and she about 1814, by their marriage they had a daughter, Mary, who was born about 1852 and died after 1870. At this point the only link established between the families of Stephen Risse and Alais Reis is proximity. Both families arrived in the US at about the same time. Alais Reis' wife, Nancy, would have been about 16 or 17 when Stephen Risse was born. Stephen would not appear to a son of Alais by the fact he was not named as an heir in documents pertaining to the estate Of Alais Reis. In the 1860 census a

child, Barbara, was listed in the household of Stephen Risse. Alais Reis had a daughter, Barbara, who does not appear in the home of his widow, Nancy Grass, in the same census year. The ages of Alais Reis' daughter, Barbara, as reported in the 1850 census, however, varies by 9 years from the age of the Barbara, who was living with Stephen in 1860.

Stephen & Margaret Risse within the ten months following their marriage in 1854 left Spencer County, IN and moved to Louisville, KY, where they lived for the next decade. Their first child, Emma, was born in Louisville on 16 Aug 1855 (her place of birth was reported in the 1883 History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, p656), as well as by several of her grandchildren). Their family was counted in the 1860 Jefferson County, KY census (3rd ward City of Louisville, p660), unexplainably their surname was written as "Rose". Their household was discovered only accidentally when checking index to the 1860 KY census for possible variations of the Risse name. In the index was listed an Eliza "Ressae", upon checking the original record it was found that she was residing in a Drum(?) household, she was age 23, born Germany, and listed under her name was a child, Albert, 8 months old, born Missouri. Looking at her neighbors the following household was found immediately preceding theirs:

257-417 Rose, Stephen	30	clerk	Germany
Margaret	24		"
Emma	5		Kentucky
Robert	3		"
Barbary	16	servant	Indiana

The first names of the family and their ages matched perfectly that of Stephen & Margaret Risse and their first two children. No doubt it was the family of Stephen Risse! It was not discovered how Barbara (?Risse) or Eliza Ressaie were related to Stephen Risse.

Stephen Risse enlisted for service in the Civil War on 18 Aug 1862 at Louisville, KY. He enrolled in Co. L, 6th KY Volunteer Calvary of the Union Army. At the time of his enlistment he was 32, in his military file the following personal description was recorded: "Height 5 feet 10 inches, complexion light, color of eyes blue, color of hair light, occupation bookkeeper, born Prussia, 1830, at Westfallen". At Louisville on 15 Sep 1862 he was mustered into service as a private. During the following two months he was raised to the rank of sergeant, one of 8 in company L. Company L was under the command of Captains Albert M. Green and Edwin R. Phillips, 115 served in the ranks of the company and of these 4 died in battle and 18 died of disease.

Stephen Risse was with the 6th KY Calvary in south central Tennessee in the early months of 1863. The Battle of Stone's River, a major battle, was fought near Murfreesboro, TN on 31 Dec 1862 and 1-2 Jan 1863. The Union victory is memorialized by the Stone's River National Military Park there today. During the next 6 months following the battle the two armies remained in the vicinity, less than 50 miles apart. The Confederates were attempting to block the Bluecoats advance toward Chattanooga. In February 1863 Stephen Risse's company was near Nashville, in March 1863 they were at Franklin, TN. While encamped at Shelbyville, TN, 25 miles south of Murfreesboro, Stephen Risse was disabled by chronic diarrhea and piles and on 1 July 1863 he was transferred to the military hospital at Nashville. He remained there until October 1863 when he was transferred to Brown's Military Hospital in Louisville, KY, where he was until 30 April 1865.

On 19 July 1864 Stephen Risse wrote a letter to the Assistant Surgeon General requesting that he may be considered for the position of Hospital Steward at the Louisville hospital. He did not receive the appointment. An order dated 6 June 1864 was signed by William H. Fidler, a major of the 6th KY Calvary, then stationed at Wauhatchie, TN, reducing Stephen Risse to the rank of private. The Major wrote that this was "in consequence of protracted absence from his company and there being at the same time a pressing demand for sergeants for duty in the company".

Lee's army surrendered on 9 April 1865. About 30 April 1865 Stephen Risse left the Louisville military hospital and rejoined Co. L of the 6th KY Calvary - in March they were stationed at Chickasaw, Alabama. Stephen's rank of sergeant was reinstated on 14 May 1865. Two months later, on July 14, he was one of 42 men in Co. L, who were mustered out of service at Edgefield, TN.

Stephen Risse while stationed at the military hospital in Louisville may have met and shook hands with President Abraham Lincoln. Several of his great-grandchildren (Dottie Rembold Schnapf, Margaret Sue Hardesty, Martha Kirk Reed) all reported similar details of such a meeting. Their grandmother, Emma Risse Weikel, told them that when she was nine years old, which would have been in 1864-65, she met and sat on the lap of President Lincoln. They were living in Louisville and her father, a paymaster for the Union Army, was introduced to Lincoln.

Not long after his discharge from the army Stephen Risse and his family moved from Louisville, returning to their former home, the New Boston area of Huff Township, Spencer County, IN. On his military pension application Stephen reported that since the war he had resided at Evanston, IN - his home was within one-half mile of Evanston, when the small town was laid out in 1888. On 26 Feb 1868 Zachariah & Ann Klahn sold Stephen Risse 4 lots, in the recently laid out town of New Boston (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 29, p448). He paid \$225 for lots 17, 18, 23 & 24. In the 1870 Spencer County census Stephen Risse could not be found, if he was then residing on his property in New Boston, the census taker apparently missed his household. By 12 Feb 1876 Stephen was serving as a Justice of the Peace in the New Boston area.

Stephen Risse purchased a 40 acre farm from John & Magdalena Meyer on 17 April 1876, the price was \$700 (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 38, p515). One month later he sold Meyer his four lots in New Boston for \$300 (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 38, p513). Stephen & Margaret lived on this farm for the next 30 years. The farm was drawn on an 1879 and 1896 plat maps of Huff Township published in atlases of Spencer County. It was located about one mile southeast of the farm of Margaret's parents, John & Barbara Fuchs. It was within 10 miles of the former home of President Lincoln and the grave of Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, at Lincoln City, and the popular amusement park at Santa Claus, IN.

In the 1880 & 1900 Spencer County censuses the occupation of Stephen Risse was listed as that of a farmer. His Civil War pension file lists his occupation as bookkeeper. In the 1880 census the homes of Stephen Risse and John Fuchs were enumerated three households apart. Stephen & Margaret sold a strip of land, 60 feet wide, across the northern part of their farm, on 10 Aug 1887, for \$45, to the Huntingburg, Tell City & Cannelton Railroad Co. (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 51, p407). The Southern Railroad was constructed there in 1888. At a railroad campsite about one-half mile west of their farm the town of Evanston was laid out in 1888.

Stephen Risse applied for a disability pension from the government on 1 Aug 1887. On his application he wrote that "he was disabled by contracting chronic diarrhea, piles and

rheumatism at Shelbyville, Tenn. about July 1863". Under the Federal Act of 27 June 1890 he was granted a pension of \$12.00 per month, commencing on 25 June 1891.

At the age of 77 Stephen Risse died near Evanston, IN on 16 Aug 1907. The following day his funeral was conducted by Rev. Charles Meyer at the St. Peter's Evangelical Church and he was buried in the church's cemetery. The church was about 2 miles north of the Risse farm. St. Peter's Evangelical and St. John's Lutheran churches were about equidistant from the Risse home and the family had had affiliation with both at different times. The Evangelical Church was the largest Protestant church in Germany. It had been established in 1817 in Prussia by Jacob Albright, a Lutheran who had converted to Methodism. It may be that Margaret Risse was a Lutheran while her husband was a member of the Evangelical Church. Edward, a 9 months old infant of Stephen & Margaret, had been interred at St. John's Lutheran Church in 1878, where her mother, Barbara Fuchs, had been buried two years previously. A military monument, at the northwest corner of the cemetery, the first gravestone across the driveway from St. Peter's Evangelical Church, bears the inscription: "Sergt. Stephan Risse, Co. L., 6 KY Cav." No dates were on the monument. Stephen Risse's date of death was notarized in his widow's application for his pension.



On 15 April 1909 the estate of Stephen Risse, including his real estate of 38 acres, was appraised at the value of \$350. The Spencer County court ordered it to be set aside for the support of his widow (Spencer Co., IN Court Order Will & Partitions Book 2, p503).

Margaret Risse, wife of Stephen, for the next couple of years after her husband's death, continued to reside on their farm at Evanston, IN. . She was residing there when her daughter,

Annie, married in Feb 1909 (Perry Co., IN Marriage Supplement Book 5, pl). By Aug 25 of the same year, according to Stephen Risse's Civil War pension file, Margaret, was living in Daviess County, KY, near Owensboro. Margaret Risse was not found listed in the Daviess County, KY census of 1910 or in that of Huff Township of Spencer County, IN. At this time the families of 4 of her children were found in the Daviess County census, 2 others were located in the censuses of Spencer County, IN and Hancock County, KY. Two other children, Gus & Theodore, were not located in the 1910 federal census, their mother may then been living with one or the other. Margaret Risse, "of Daviess County, KY", on 28 Feb 1911 sold the farm in Spencer County, IN purchased by her husband 34 years earlier (Spencer Co., IN Deed Book 74, p315). The 38 acres was sold to Adam Ficker for \$415.

By October 1916 Margaret Risse was residing near Lewisport in Hancock County, KY. The last decade of her life she lived at the homes of her daughter, Annie Aders, and her son, Gus Risse in Hancock County. Her son-in-law, John F. Aders, owned a farm a little east of Lewisport, along the road to Hawesville. When the 1920 Hancock County census was enumerated Margret Risse was living at the Aders home. During part of the 1920's she lived with her son, Gus Risse, who had also moved to the Lewisport area. At the age of 91 Margaret Risse died at the home of Gus Risse near Lewisport on 8 June 1927. The following obituary was published in the Owensboro, Ky. newspaper:

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Thursday, 9 June 1927:

#### AGED LEWISPORT WOMAN IS DEAD

Mrs. Margaret Reese, 92, Had Many Descendants in Daviess County.

Lewisport, Ky., June 8 —Mrs. Margaret Reese, 92 years of age, died at 10 o'clock this morning, at the home of her son, Gus Reese, with whom she had made her home for several years. Her husband died about eighteen years ago. Mrs. Reese had been in good health apparently until recently when she began failing from age and quietly passed away today.

Born and reared at Evanston In., Mrs. Reese came to Southern Indiana many years ago with her husband, where she reared a family of eight children, six of whom survive. They are three daughters, Mrs. Emnia Weikel, of Owensboro; Mrs. John Adleman, Michigan; Mrs. Anna Adere, Lewisport; three sons, Gus Reese, Lewisport; Thomas and Robert Reese, of Cincinnati.

Funeral services will be held from the residence at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, with burial in the Lewisport cemetery.

Deputy Sheriff Robert Weikel, Owenaboro, is a grandson of Mrs. Reese and will go to the funeral this afternoon at Lewisport.

The preceding obituary contained several errors, her name was misspelled Reese and it was stated she was "born and reared at Evanston, Ill.", it should have read that she was born in Germany and had formerly resided at Evanston, IN. Margaret was buried in the Lewisport Cemetery. Her monument there records that she was born 18 Jan 1836 and died 8 June 1927. The same dates are reported in Stephen Risse's pension file and on her death certificate. A copy of the latter was viewed at the Hancock County Public Health Department in Hawesville, KY. The informant for this record was her grandson, Gus Aders (Moore), who reported that her parents were Jacob & Barbra Fuchs. Margaret was described by several of her great-grandchildren as a

"medicine woman", in times of illness her advice and assistance was sought by members of the community and she acted as a midwife, helping to deliver many children of her neighbors. To the marriage of Stephen Risse & Margaret Fuchs nine children were born (see 1900 Spencer Co.IN census, p115). The first five were born in Louisville, KY and the others in Spencer County, IN. The names and birthdates of 8 of the children were recorded by Stephen Risse in his Civil War pension application on 4 May 1898. One other child had died previous to this. The birthdates for all the children, except for Theodore, have been confirmed by other sources. Stephen & Margaret's children were:

	Born
Emma Wilhelmina Margaret	16 Aug 1855
J. Charles Robert	11 Aug 1857
John S.	29 Jul 1860
Henry Julius	19 May 1864
Katherine May	19 May 1864
Theodore John	27 Nov 1866
Gustavus P.	7 Jun 1869
Anna Barbara	17 Nov 1871
Edward P.	21 May 1877

Emma W. M. Risse, daughter of Stephen & Margaret, married Michael Weikel on 29 Jan 1880 in Spencer County, IN. A native of Jasper, Dubois County, IN, he was born on 17 July 1855 to John Weikel & Margaretha Hochgesang. His father had been a sheriff of Dubois County. Mike & Emma made their home near Owensboro, Daviess County, KY. They were listed there in the 1880, 1900, 1910 & 1920 federal censuses. Michael was a farmer and his family were members of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Owensboro. Emma as an adult became a Catholic convert.

Both Michael & Emma Weikel died in Owensboro at the home of their daughter, Edith, on 25 March 1927 and 19 Aug 1947, respectively. They were the parents of 8 children: Robert Sebastian ("Bob", married Florence Elizabeth Payne), Frank Matthew ("Matt", married Mary Elizabeth Bellwood), "Sebastian" Andrew (married Henrietta F. Millay & Maude Prindle), Ann "Bertha" Katherine (married John Franklin Rembold), "Lorena" Catherine (married John Volk Vittitow), Mary "Amelia" (married Arthur B. Kirk), "Edith" Sue (married John Gilbert Yeand & Thomas Howard Hayden), and "Anna" Christine (married Robert Greenwell). Robert S. Weikel (1880-1966), served as a Deputy Sheriff and a jailer of Daviess County, KY, during which time he was a participant in two of the most talked of and written about episodes in the history of the county - the last public execution in the U.S. (1936) and the capture of the bank robbers, Carl & Grace Browder (1929).

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 20 August 1947:

Mrs. Emma Wilhelmina Weikel

Mrs. Emma Wilhelmina Weikel, 92, widow of Mike Weikel, died at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Tommy Hayden, 1523 Hathaway street, at 12:50 p.m. Tuesday.

Surviving are two sons, R. S. Weikel, Owensboro, Matt Weikel, Daviess county; five daughters, Mrs. Bertha Rembold, Evansville, Mrs. John Vittitow, Rockport, Ind., Mrs. Arthur Kirk, Daviess county, Mrs. Tommy Hayden and Mrs. Robert Greenwell,



both of Owensboro; two brothers, Theodore Risse, Cincinnati, O., and Gus Risse, Lewisport; thirty-nine grand-children and forty-five great-grandchildren.

The body was removed to the Owensboro Funeral home but will be taken to the home of a daughter, 1523 Hathaway street at noon today.

Funeral services for Mrs. Weikel will be conducted Thursday at 9 a.m. in St. Joseph's church by the Rev. Peter Braun with burial in the Catholic cemetery.

Pallbearers will be grandsons.

J. C. Robert Risse, son of Stephen & Margaret, married Rhoda Ann Jackson in Spencer County, IN on 19 Apr 1888. On a record of their marriage his parents' names were listed, it also listed that he was a farmer and was born in Louisville, KY (Spencer Co., IN Marriage Supplement Book C, p228). At the time of the 1900, 1910 & 1920 censuses Robert's family was living in Huff Township, Spencer County, IN. These census reports listed him as a farmer and renter. At Troy, Perry County, IN Robert Risse later worked at the Troy Chair Company. He died at Troy on 13 Feb 1936. His wife, Rhoda, was born on 6 Aug 1867 and died at Troy on 27 Dec 1950. They had 7 children: Stephen B. C. (died age 2, buried at the St. John's Lutheran Church, near New Boston, IN), William Harrison (never married), Anna Jane (married Clarence Howe), Charles Robert (married Ethel Parr), Earl Acie (died age 11 months), Warren Raymond (married Pauline Hudson), and Julius Allen (married Catherine Claycomb). Robert & Rhoda Risse and their five adult children were all buried at the Troy Cemetery, in Troy, Perry County, IN.

John S. Risse, son of Stephen & Margaret, married Lucinda Alena ("Lena") Davis in Spencer County, IN on 19 Feb 1889. On their marriage the names of his parents were recorded, and it reported that he was a farmer and was born in Louisville, KY. (Spencer Co., IN Marriage Supplement Book C, p260). In the 1880 census John was listed as living at the home of his sister, Emma Weikel, near Owensboro, KY. In the 1900 census he was recorded in the Anderson Township of Perry County, IN. Between 1904-1910 he moved his family to Owensboro, KY, where he died of tuberculosis on 11 March 1910. He was buried in Owensboro at Elmwood Cemetery, in a listing of the monuments there his name appeared as John S. Rissie. His widow, Lena, was enumerated in the 1910 & 1920 censuses of Daviess County, KY. She married second, C. Fred Seim, on 26 March 1912 in Owensboro, he was a former neighbor in Spencer County, IN. The daughter of J. W. & Matilda Davis, she was born on 28 March 1871 and died on 6 June 1931 at Red Hill, in Daviess County, KY. She was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Owensboro. John & Lena Risse had six children: Margaret Matilda ("Tillie", married Jesse B. Moseley), Minnie Catherine (married Mack Smith), Jahue Theodore (married Etta Bell Ridgway, Inez Mae Bell Trumbo & Minnie Lee Drake Reed), John S. (married Callie Karney), James D. (died single at age 23), and Emma Adrhine (married William James).

Henry Julius Risse, son of Stephen & Margaret, married S. Angeline Coombs in Spencer County, IN on 12 March 1899. Henry worked as a farmer. In the 1900 Spencer County, IN census he was enumerated 8 households from his parents. When the 1910 census was compiled he was living on the farm of his twin sister, Kate Adelman, near Owensboro, KY. By the 1920 census he had returned to Huff Township of Spencer County, IN, where he was listed as being a resident in the home of his father-in-law, George Coombs. Henry died in Spencer County on 16 Dec 1934 and his wife died on 21 June 1961 at a nursing home in Princeton, IN. The daughter of George Coombs & Elizabeth Beard, she was born 26 May 1877. Henry & Angeline Risse were buried in the Troy Cemetery, Troy, Perry County, IN. They had one child: Bernice R., who married Everett T. Groves.

Katherine ("Katie") May Risse, daughter of Stephen & Margaret, was a twin to her brother, Henry. In Daviess County, KY on 18 Dec 1888 she married John Adelmann. The son of Jacob (died 27 Nov 1896) & Margaret (died 23 Dec 1903), he was born 13 Oct 1863 in Spencer County, IN, where his father had a farm across the River from Bon Harbor in Daviess County, KY. In the early 1880's Jacob Adelmann moved his family to Daviess County, KY, where he acquired 300 to 400 acres, just south of Owensboro, extending from near the Livermore Road (now South Frederica St.) east to the Veach Road, the lane to this farm off the Livermore Road extended along the edge of the farm of Henry & Kunigunda Kost Kuegel, near where the Wendell Ford Expressway is now. Jacob Adelmann divided his farm among his 7 children: John, Jacob, Joseph, George, Stephen & Conrad Adelmann, and Katherine, wife of Albert Neubauer. The farm of John & Katie Risse Adelmann bordered on the Veach Road, past its S curve and the Owensboro Country Club & Golf course. At the time of the 1900 & 1910 Daviess County censuses they were living on this farm. When the 1920 Daviess census was taken they were living at 811 Clay St. in Owensboro. In these three censuses he was listed as being a farmer. They later lived at 630 Triplett St. in Owensboro, where Katie died on 4 Feb 1936. John Adelmann died in Owensboro on 12 Dec 1941. They were buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Owensboro. John and Kate's family had been members of the (German) Zion Evangelical Church in Owensboro at 7th & Allen. John & Katie Risse Adelmann had 6 children: Lorena (married John Rafferty), Sadie (married Samuel Jones Ling), Augusta ("Gussie", died single at age of 24), Conrad Stephen (married Audrey Lee Brown, she is now age 91 and resides at the Roosevelt House in Owensboro), Louis Henry (married Emma Lucille Schadd) and Pauline Margaret (never married).

Theodore John Risse, son of Stephen & Margaret, married Olive Minnie Davis in Spencer County, IN on 5 Nov 1896. Their family was counted two households from his parents in Huff Township, in the 1900 Spencer County, IN census. He was listed as being a coal miner. When his mother died in 1927 he was living at Cincinnati, Ohio according to her obituary, the obituary of his sister Katie Adelmann in 1936 listed him as residing at Lawrence, IN, and in the obituary of his sister, Emma Weikel in 1947 he was listed as living at Cincinnati. He was then 80 years of age. He died in Dearborn County, IN on 14 May 1955 and was buried Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Logan, Dearborn County, IN. His wife, Minnie, was born in 23 Jan 1876 and died 25 Nov 1932. Theodore & Minnie Risse had the following children: a son died infancy, Agnes Marie (married Charles Beck), Everett W. (married Dolly), Luvina (married Floyd Davis), Curtis E. (never married), Elwood T., Manuel (married Helen), Roy Albert (married Betty), and Margaret Matilda (married Ike Pennington & Floyd Sibrel).

Gustavus P. ("Gus") Risse, son of Stephen & Margaret, in the 1880 census, in his father's pension file and on his first marriage his name was written as "Gustavus", in his obituary and on a funeral home record (copy at Gibson Funeral Home, Hawesville, KY) his name appeared as "Gustave", but in most records his name is simply "Gus", which is engraved on his gravestone. He married Ida Jackson in Perry County, IN on 25 Sep 1898, she was born 3 May 1882. His household was enumerated immediately next to his parents in the 1900 Spencer County, IN census. He was listed as being a coal miner and as renting a house. About 1910 he moved his family to Owensboro, KY. His wife, Ida, died on 1 Aug 1902 in Perry County, IN. Their only child, Edgar, was born 16 May 1900 and died on 1 Dec 1911 at the age of 11 in Owensboro, Daviess County, KY, when he was struck by a streetcar; he was buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Owensboro. On 6 Aug 1914

Gus Risse married a second time, his bride was Mrs. Nola (Sapp) Browning. They were married in Owensboro, on their marriage bond it was recorded that he was age 44, widowed, born Spencer County, IN, resident Owensboro, occupation spoke tinner and his parents were Stephen & Margaret Risse. In the 1914 Owensboro City Directory he was listed as August Risse and as an employee of the Owensboro Wheel Co. The 1918 edition of the same listed him as Gus P. Risse, wife Nola, works wheel co., resides at 710 Hall St. At the time of the 1920 Daviess County census they were living at the same location, he was listed as being a wagon Co. laborer and as renting. By 1927 Gus & Nola had moved to Hancock County, KY, the former home of his wife. At the home of his stepdaughter at Valley Station, KY he died at the age of 89 on 12 March 1959. His widow, Nola, died in Louisville, KY on 16 May 1965, she was born in Hancock County, KY on 23 Dec 1869. By her first marriage she had two children: Virginia Browning (married H. T. Gilliams) and Charles Browning. Gus & Nola Risse were buried in the Hawesville Cemetery, in Hawesville, Hancock County, KY.

Anna ("Annie") Barbara Risse, daughter of Stephen & Margaret, married George R. Moore in Spencer County, IN on 4 Oct 1894. They were divorced in October 1897. In 1900 Annie was living with her parents at Evanston, IN. On 15 Feb 1909 she married John F. Aders, of Hancock County, KY. On their marriage record in Perry County, IN the following was recorded: her father, Stephen Risse, born in Germany, a bookkeeper, deceased; her mother Margaret Fuchs, born Germany, is a resident of Spencer County, IN (Perry Co. IN Marriage Book 11, p16 & Marriage Supplement Book 5, pl). At the time Annie was a resident of Evanston, IN. A humorous item about their marriage was published in the Rockport, IN newspaper on 5 March 1909. It was reported that John Aders had been looking for a wife and he asked for the assistance of a friend, John F. Bosley, formerly of Troy, who asked around and introduced him to Miss Risse and their marriage soon followed their meeting. John F. Aders was born in Perry County, IN on 12 Aug 1860. About 1889 he moved to Hancock County, KY, where he married Mary J. Kellems in 1890, she died on 4 Aug 1904. He owned a farm just east of Lewisport. John & Annie were living there at the time of the 1910 & 1920 Hancock County, KY censuses. John F. Aders died on 11 July 1921 in Hancock County, and his wife, Annie Risse Aders, died there on 31 March 1931. He was buried at the Greathouse Cemetery in Hancock County and she was buried in the Lewisport Cemetery, in Lewisport, KY. On her death certificate at Hawesville, KY it was recorded that she was born at Boston, IN, which should have been New Boston. Her husband survived her. Annie had one child, Gus Everett, born on 24 Aug 1899, apparently between her two marriages. In the 1900 & 1910 censuses he was listed as Gus "Risse". In the 1920 census and on the death certificate of his grandmother, Margaret Risse, in 1927 his name appeared as Gus "Aders". When his mother died in 1931 he was listed as Gus "Moore", on all subsequent records he used the Moore name. He married Katie Hurst and died at Lewisport in 1983.

Edward P. Risse, youngest child of Stephen & Margaret, died at the age of 10 months on 19 Feb 1878. He was buried at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Spencer County, IN.

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25 December 1993

Dear Linda, Christy, Heather, Brian and Katie:

This year I do not have a separately wrapped gift for you, but hopefully during this year you will receive a separate gift. This is a letter of explanation.

The last year and half I have been working on a history of your grandmother, Monnie Rivette's family. The result of several hundred hours is given as a present to your whole family. The notebook, you are now receiving, is not complete, as I had visualized. I had intended to write a narrative chapter for each of the four primary families [Yeand, Weikel, Risse, & Kost] discussed. I finished the Weikel chapter, but ran out of time and was not able to complete the other three. I decided to go on and give you what I had now and the other three chapters I will add later.

I have really enjoyed working on this history and have learned a great deal. Last year I decided to begin this after talking at the library to Mrs. Rivette's first cousin, Margaret Weikel Roberts - she told me of her father's role in two of the most talked of and written about episodes in the history of Daviess County - the last public execution (1936) and the capture of the bank robbers, Carl & Grace Browder (1929). However, long before this in the back of mind I had entertained the thought of compiling family history for you - including some of the many great discoveries I have made about the ancestors of your dad. You would not believe the volume and wealth of data I have collected since 1979, when I chose genealogy as an avocation.

During the course of the last year, in talking to many of your distant cousins, many have expressed an enthusiasm for obtaining a copy of the info I was compiling for you. As a consequence I would like to propose that, if you don't mind, that the family notebook I am giving you be published in book form. The information could then be made available to all the other families it touches upon, as well as insuring that it would be preserved by placing copies in libraries. If I have your consent and it is published, I then will give you, as the second part of this Christmas present, a copy of the book.

If you would like to see this done - can you think of any additional suggestions and would you want to assist? I still would like to find several dates (ex the birth date of your great-grandfather, Gilbert Yeand) and pictures. Another possibility is helping on compiling an index for the final manuscript. An index is not essential but would contribute to the book's attractiveness and value. I will not have the additional time to do this option.

I hope you will enjoy this gift for years to come and see it of some value. I believe it is much more than a few pieces of paper and of a greater personal importance than most printed material that could be purchased. I believe family history is an important part of one's educational background - it can be a source of pride, as well as a means of attaining knowledge, and can give one a sense of kinship with the world. It is the study of the "person" in history - and places value on one's life.

Have a great new year!!!

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

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The following is the Table of Contents of the book, Jent – Schum – Weikel – Hochgesang – Risse – Kost, by Jerry Long, McDowell Publications, Utica, KY, 1994:

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