

The Iburgs in America
Parentage and Descendants of
Herman Christian Iburg
1856 - 1910

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This is a work of nonfiction. No names have been changed;
no characters invented; no events fabricated.

Sources of information

I have made every attempt to document the sources for all facts presented, but as with any genealogical publication, the sources are only as good as the original documentation and research. For more than a few facts, I was unable to verify the accuracy of the source and used some literary license to portray the facts based on multiple unverified references or used the term “probably” based on the best sources available. In addition to books, manuscripts, and vital records gathered by the compiler, some of the sources used for research include: Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org (the online records of the LDS church), FindAGrave.com, and numerous family records, photos and documents provided by several Iburg descendants. Photos and images without attribution are in the possession of the compiler. Genealogy is always a work in progress. Flaws will be found in this manuscript and documented ancestral lines will change over time as new information is discovered. The compiler takes full responsibility for any factual errors.

Acknowledgements

Notice that I refer to myself as a compiler rather than an author. Most of the information and records would not have been discovered without the perseverance and dedication of many experienced genealogists and family members. I wish to credit a few of the many whose research and documentation were instrumental in the production of this manuscript.

Beverly Jean (Iburg) McFarland (1933-2008), my aunt and the first daughter of James Frederick Iburg, spent many years documenting the family genealogy, and published documentation that was instrumental in helping me trace the origins of our family. Many of the pictures you see in this book were from her collection of family photographs. Alice Joanne (Iburg) Villard (1936-2019), my mother, and the second daughter of James Frederick Iburg, provided significant documentation, stories, and the incentive to put all this information in the form you see here. I wish to thank Christopher Iburg, Philip Christon, Michael Iburg, and Molly Harmony for providing photos, family lineages, and supporting documents. I also wish to thank Lynn Francis, Becky (Iburg) Loiacono and Alice Richardson for help in editing this manuscript.

Lastly, wish to thank the faculty of Boston University for their 15-week Certificate Program in Genealogical Research, without which I would not have known where to begin my research, and Devon Noel Lee of Family History Fanatics for her Writing Workshop, hoping to make writing about our family history less boring. Hopefully, you’ll find this to be the case.

Forward

As I sit here writing this book in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, I'm sad because my wife, Lynn, and I can't do all the things we had planned this summer. We planned to attend two of my grandchildren's senior high school graduations as well as travel across the country in our trailer to attend the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower. It's been tough... we can no longer go to our favorite restaurants, coffee shops, micro-breweries, or farmers markets.

Then I think about the difficulties our Iburg ancestors faced. They went through far more than we could ever imagine. Herman C. Iburg, my third great grandfather, left Germany at age 16 to avoid military service right after the Franco-Prussian War, knowing that he would probably never see his family again. After what was surely a miserable transoceanic trip in steerage aboard a steamship, Herman traveled to St. Louis, Missouri looking for work, not speaking the language, not knowing anyone or where he would sleep at night. Herman's oldest son and my great grandfather, Frederick W. Iburg, lived through the Spanish American War, World Wars I & II, the 1918 flu pandemic, the 1888 Children's Blizzard, the death of his third son in a road construction accident, the sinking of the Titanic, the Great Depression, and the Dust Bowl. Ellen Cannon, Frederick's wife, emigrated from Ireland, the only surviving child of nine, the others having died of Tuberculosis. Yet they survived it all and prospered.

They were pioneers and strived to own their own land in Missouri, Nebraska and the Dakotas. Mostly farmers and sharecroppers, they worked long days to support their families and send their children to school. Much of their work was done by hand or horse-drawn equipment. Droughts made their livelihood unpredictable. The women raised the children, toiled over the stoves, made clothing, swept away the relentless dust. There was generally no running water or electricity during the earlier years, and the bathrooms were outside. After all the trees were cleared to allow for farming, their homes were heated by burning cow chips or kerosene.

It wasn't all bad. Through all this, some amazing things were happening in their lives. There were huge leaps in medicine. There were amazing inventions such as radio, cars, and airplanes. Highways were being built across the country along with National parks. Entertainment mostly consisted of activities like hunting rattlesnakes, and in later years, listening to baseball games and watching an occasional motion picture.

I think about what the impact of a pandemic, like COVID-19, would have been like when my grandparents, James and Coryl Iburg, were alive and running their roadside cafe. I'm sure they would have taken it all in stride by giving food to those in need, offering take-out to the rest, confident that this was only a temporary set-back and that things would return to normal, and telling everyone they knew "you will get through this." Looking back now, I'm confident we will all get through this.

Russell D. Francis

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Chapter 1 - Christian Herman and Catherine (Kinney) Iburg

Christian Herman Iburg was born on 23 Feb 1856 in Bad Oeynhausen (bad un-how-sen), Minden-Lübbecke, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, the eighth child of Johann Wilhelm Iburg and Christine Louise Charlotte Daniel, both born 1817 in Vlotho, which is within walking distance of Bad Oeynhausen.¹ Johann and Christine were married 17 Oct 1841 in Vlotho, celebrating nearly 15 years of marriage when Christian was born.²

Johann and Christine had their first child Fridrich (Fritz) Wilhelm Iburg in 1842. Johann was 25 and Christine was 24. Over the next 11 years, Johann and Christine had six more children; Ferdinan Bendix (1844), Heinrich Friedrich (1847), Johann Wilhelm, Jr. (1849), Christian Wilhelm (1852), Johanne Caroline (1852), and Gustav Adolf (1853). Johanne (the only girl) and Christian Wilhelm were twins. Christian Herman (1856) was the eighth of nine children born into this large family. Finally, in 1858, Herman's younger brother, Friedrich Wilhelm, was born.³



*Laurentius-Kirche (Lutheran Church), Rehme
(Photo by Grugerio - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0)*

Christian was 29 days old when he was baptized 24 Mar 1856 in the Evangelisch (Evangelical Church) in the district of Rehme. His family was a member of the Lutheran church, so Christian's baptism probably took place at the Laurntius-Kirche (Lutheran church) in Bad Oeynhausen's Rehme district, which belongs to the Evangelical Church of Westfalia. All but the oldest child of Johann and Christine were baptized in this church. The Laurntius-Kirche in Rehme dates back to the 12th century.⁴

At baptism, two given names were often bestowed on a child, the first given name was a spiritual name. The second given name was the secular, which is the name the person was known by, both within the family and to the rest of the world. All post-baptism records refer to Christian as Herman C. Iburg.⁵

The legend of Bad Oeynhausen alludes to a local farmer in 1745, who noticed that his pigs had a salty crust on their backs after they wallowed in nearby mud. In 1845, a mining captain, Carl Baron of Oeynhausen (1795–1865), oversaw drilling in search of salt deposits, but instead found a thermal salt spring. When the healing abilities of this spring were discovered, thermal baths were built. In 1848 King Frederick William IV of Prussia named the town "Royal Bath (German: Bad) Oeynhausen". Bad Oeynhausen received its own town charter in 1860.⁶

About the time Herman was born, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (known as the Brothers Grimm) released the seventh and final edition of *Children's and Household Tales*, or *Kinder-und Hausmärchen*, a collection of popular fairy tales for children. The book included stories such as "Cinderella," "Hansel and Gretel," and "Snow White." By the time this final edition was released, the book had become immensely popular across Germany, and many children in Herman's community loved the tales of princesses, witches, and talking animals.⁷

Thanks to the *Generallandschulreglement* (General Rural School Regulations) decree of 1763, all young citizens of Herman's homeland, both girls and boys, attend municipally-funded schools from the ages of 5 to 14. Families were taxed, and that money went into the compulsory primary education. In these schools, children learned reading and writing, along with singing, religion (in cooperation with local churches), math, and science.⁸

Even with nine children, it appears Herman was raised in a financially stable family. Family photos show they lived in a very nice, multi-level home. Herman's parents are well dressed and had enough money to sit for a professional photographer.



Iburg Family Home – Bad Oeynhausen

During this time, the German people were beginning to adopt the popular fashions of other European countries like England and France. Well-to-do men began wearing suits, while their female counterparts wore simple skirts and jackets, or elaborate gowns depending on the occasion.⁹ In the photos below Herman's father, with his bearded round face, thick mustache, and receding hairline looks very distinctive in his three-piece suit and bow-tie. Christine looks prim and proper with her hair tied-up wearing an elaborate, dark gown with a white collar.



Herman's parents – Johann Wilhelm and Christine Loiuise Charlotte (Daniel) Iburg

When Herman was a child, the prime minister of Prussia, Otto von Bismarck, unified the German provinces over the course of several wars. Bismarck forcefully united Germany through the "blood and iron" of military conquest, rather than relying on diplomacy and politics. Upon unification, he named King Wilhelm I of Prussia the *Kaiser*, or ruler, of Germany. From 1870 to 1871 the Franco-Prussian War took place between the Germans and the French. Prussian leader Otto von Bismarck started the war with the hopes of uniting the German states to fight against a common enemy. Bismarck's efforts were successful, as Prussia won the war in May of 1871.¹⁰

In 1873, Herman at age 16, left Germany for America.¹¹ It is said that he did so to avoid military service. At that time, young men in Germany were conscripted for two years of peacetime service which was to begin no later than age 20.

Herman's choices for emigrating to America were limited. In 1853, to slow down Emigration, Prussia implemented the "Law on the Conveyance of Emigrants". The Law offered emigrants three possibilities of leaving the country:¹²

1. Emigration with Consent – The emigrants would put in a request, they would be checked to see if they fulfilled their military obligation, and then the mayor would determine if there were any other debts or obligations. Then, after they were informed of their loss of Prussian citizenship, the candidate received his certificate of consent.
2. Emigration with Passport – A passport was obtained, the journey to America was undertaken, then it was the passenger's decision whether to stay or return home.
3. Emigration without Consent – This involved leaving the country illegally. This was the method used by many young men wishing to avoid military service.

We don't know whether Herman obtained consent or not, but if he did leave to avoid military service, option 3 was probably the option of choice. Despite state controls on emigration, there were numerous illegal agents to help people with no official consent emigrate to America.

We also find evidence that two of Herman's older brothers made prior trips to America: Ferdinand Bendix Iburg in 1864 (age 20), who later moved to Denmark, and Gustav Adolf Iburg, a painter, travelled to America in 1872 (age 18) and again in 1881 (age 27). There is no evidence that either brother stayed in America for more than a few years.¹³

Many emigrants from Bad Oeynhausen traveled to the town of St. Louis, Missouri, up the Mississippi river from New Orleans, where they landed in America. There the Lutheran parishes took charge of all immigrants arriving from their old homeland. German land agents found jobs and farmland for the Germans pouring into the area. The common language was Low German, and was a major reason for sticking together. Low German is an old form of German spoken mainly in Northern, or 'low' lands of Germany. Low German has not undergone the High German consonant shift, as opposed to German, which is based upon High German dialects. Low German evolved from Old Saxon (Old Low German), which is more closely related to Old English (Anglo-Saxon).¹⁴

We don't know what Herman's trip to America was like, but during this time period, most German emigrants traveled by steamship. From Bad Oeynhausen they traveled to Bremen on a train. Then, because seagoing vessels were prevented from silting up the Weser river, emigrants were transported by barge to Bremerhaven to catch a ship to America. With the exception of wealthy passengers who would travel in first class cabins, many Germans were crammed in steerage between the upper deck and hold. Since there was limited space available on ships, only one's most valuable necessities could make the trip. Many Germans brought a wooden trunk filled only with essential items such as clothing or tools. Passengers only had the right to 12 sq. ft. of space. There was typically one toilet for fifty people.¹⁵ While on board, some emigrants chose to pass the time by preparing for their new life, practicing English or becoming familiar with the U.S. measurement system. From Bremerhaven, steamships took an average of 40 days to reach New Orleans. It could be another eight weeks to travel along the Mississippi to St. Louis. We know from the 1880 census that Herman was living in Missouri, so that is probably the route he took.

The ambition of many emigrants once reaching America was to buy their own farm, but having no money after the voyage, they settled in the towns in order to work and save money for the purchase of land.

Fortunately for Herman, at age 16, he already had four years apprenticeship with a blacksmith in Germany learning to make surgical instruments. The passenger list from Bad Oeynhausen lists Herman as a “Schlosser”, the German word for machinist or metal worker.¹⁶

There were three stages of training for a craftsman in Germany:¹⁷

1. a boy apprenticed by his father or guardian to a master craftsman (*Meister*),
2. apprentices (*Lehrlinge*) worked for their masters for a minimum of three years,
3. and at the end of the apprenticeship period, the young man was allowed to take an examination (*Gesellenprüfung*), and if he passed, he became a journeyman (*Geselle*) and was given a journeyman's certificate (*Gesellenbrief*).

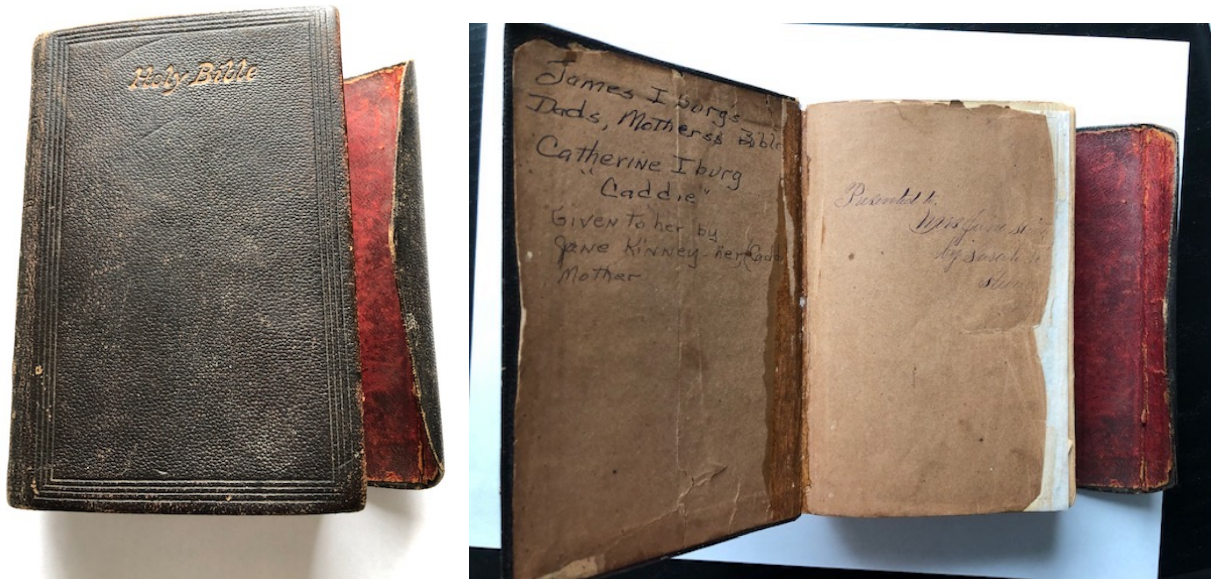
We don't know where Herman lived or what he did between 1873 and 1879, but in the 1880 US Census for Prairie, Jackson County, Missouri we find Herman at age 23, as a farm laborer living in the household of Francis Davis.¹⁸ We can only speculate that between 1873 and 1879 he worked as a blacksmith and farm laborer in Missouri saving to purchase his own farm.

On 27 Jan 1881 in Jackson County, Missouri, Herman, at age 25, married Catherine “Caddie” Kinney, age 18, born 21 Nov 1862 in Belmont County, Ohio.¹⁹ Caddie was the daughter of Henry V. and Jane (Davis) Kinney. The marriage took place at the home of Baptist minister L.M. Horn, and was witnessed by Ellen Perkins, Amie Horn, and Alexander Ashcroft. Caddie's parents likely attended the wedding since they were living in Prairie, Jackson County, Missouri, at that time. The marriage was recorded in Jackson County 15 Feb 1881.

Wm Mills, Jackson Co Mo. This is to certify that the Rites of
Marriage were duly solemnized by me between Mr
Herman C. Iburg & Miss Caddie Kinney, at my
residence County & State aforesaid, in the presence of Mrs
Ellen Perkins, Mrs Amie Horn & Alexander Ashcroft
J. M. Horn Bap Minis.

Filed and duly Recorded July 15th 1881
Chas H. Lucas Recorder
By R. H. Waller Deputy

Herman C. Iburg and Miss Caddie Kinney - Record of Marriages, Jackson County, Missouri



Bible given to Catherine "Caddie" Iburg from her mother Jane Davis

Prior to their marriage, Catherine Kinney was living with her parents and attending Lincoln College earning her certification to teach 2nd grade public school in Jackson County, Missouri. Caddie's mother, Jane Davis, was likely related to Francis Davis whose household Herman was living as a farm laborer in 1880.



Caddie's 2nd grade Teaching Certificate – Courtesy of Phil Christon

Caddie's mother, Jane Kinney, lost her left arm as seen in her photograph to the right. The family legend says her arm had to be removed after she was bitten by her pet squirrel and suffered blood poisoning. She learned to shoot rabbits with one arm. She also kept a lot of wild birds as pets.



Jane (Davis) Kinney



Herman and Caddie Iburg - circa 1892

Herman, shown here at about age 36, is round faced like his father with a thick mustache, but with a full head of straight hair. He's wearing a wool coat with off-colored shoes or boots. Caddie, about age 30, has bright eyes with curly hair. She is wearing full-length cotton, or more likely a linen dress with a white jabot. Farms near where Herman was raised, in Oeynhausien, were famous for growing flax which is used to make linen. It can't be seen in the photo, but another family legend says that Caddie lost the sight in her right eye after using a fork to untie a knot in her shoe.

Herman and Caddie had five children starting with Frederick William Iburg in 1882, followed by Ernestine (Tena) Matilda in 1884, Hermina (Mina) in 1888, Frank in 1891, and Cytha Catherine

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Iburg mourn the loss of their infant babe, about three weeks old, which occurred on Monday last.

in 1892. Their youngest son, Frank, died in infancy in 1891.²⁰ It is said he was killed by a horse, but it's difficult to comprehend how that may have happened at three weeks old. The children were born in Missouri except for the two oldest daughters, Tena and Mina, who were born in South Dakota, where Herman and

Caddie Iburg lived for a few years, possibly because Caddie's parents, Jane and Henry, may have been living in South Dakota at that time. While living in Missouri after marrying Caddie, Herman worked as a law officer or sheriff.²¹



Herman and Caddie Iburg's children - Mina, Tena, Cytha & Fred

On January 12th, 1888, Herman and his family lived through one of the worst natural disasters in the northern plains. January 12th was an unexpectedly mild day across much of the plains, and the sky was bright and clear. The winter had been unrelenting and bitter, so many decided to leave their homes and visit neighbors, go for walks, and enjoy the beautiful winter weather. Unbeknownst to them, a powerful blizzard had formed in the west and was making its way east, drawing energy from the warm air. It struck with a fury, dropping six inches of snow. Gusting winds picked up the fine powder and made it impossible for many to find their way back home. At least 250 people froze to death after becoming disorientated and unable to find shelter, though the death toll was likely higher, since many deaths were not reported. The bodies of many victims were not found until days later. The storm went down in history as the "Children's Blizzard," because many school children were caught in it on their way home from school and perished. In Plainview, Nebraska, a teacher was trapped with three students in her school house. When they ran out of fuel for heating, she tried to lead them to her home 82 yards away, but visibility was so bad they became lost. The children froze to death in the storm, and the teacher had to have her feet amputated. The Children's Blizzard was a traumatic experience that horrified the entire nation, and directly impacted many in Herman's community.²²

On 18 Jun 1888, Herman’s father, Johann, sent him a follow-up letter insisting that Herman write back with specific information about his new family:

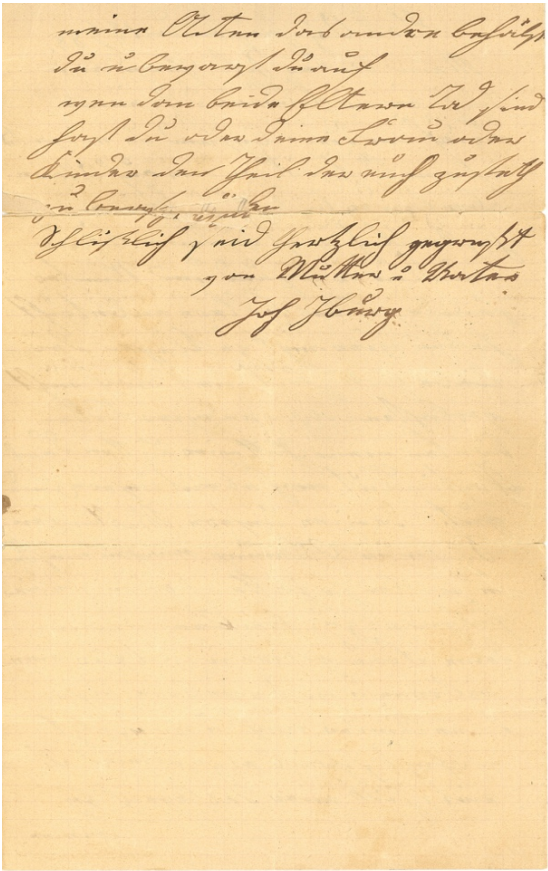
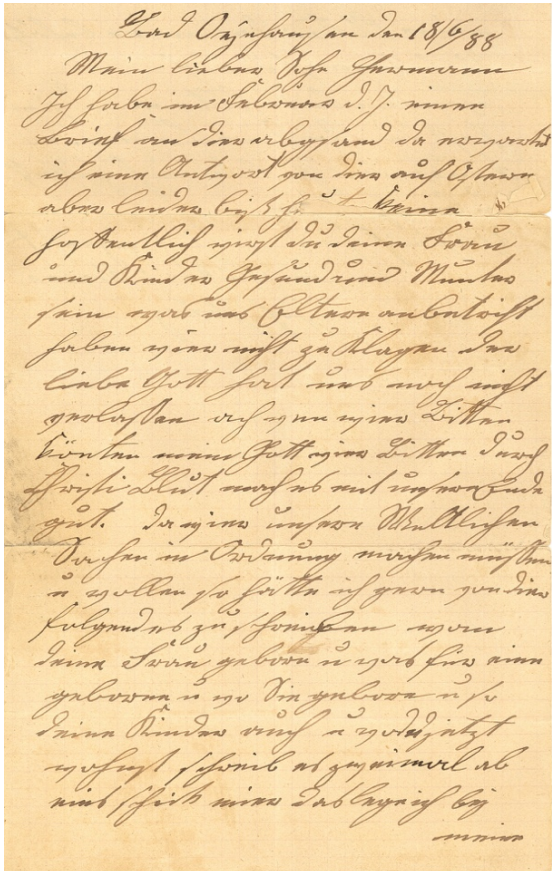
Bad Oeynhausen, June 18th, 1888

*My dear son Herman,
I sent a letter to you on February this year and I expected an answer from you by Easter, but none up to now. I hope that you and your wife are well and fit, we as parents have nothing to moan, our beloved God has not forsaken us yet.*

*And now my wishes, in the name of God and Jesus blood let us have a good end [to life].
And as we have to put in order our inheritance here on our world and we will do that, we want to have something from you, written on a paper: about your wife, what the name of her birth and where she is born, your children, too, where you live now, please write it twice and send me one copy. I will put it in my records; and the other copy you keep and refer to it. Then, when both parents are deceased, you, your wife, or your children will have to prove [your right] to the part to which you are entitled.*

Finally, heartfelt wishes from your mother and father.

Johann Iburg



Letter in from Johann Iburg to his son Herman, June 18, 1888– Courtesy of Phil Christon

Herman followed up with a letter with the details requested about his wife and living children:

Carthage December 19th, 1888

Dear Father,

It is a long time ago I received your letter. I do not like writing letters, as you demand, but if it must be, you will find it enclosed.

My letter will reach you after New Year's, but I still want to send you my best wishes for New Year.

I wish you both a happy New Year, healthfulness and a long life

Your son

Herman Iburg

We are doing pretty well here, and at this time we are all healthy, we make progress, slowly but surely. Last year we had a house built for us, only about 100 paces away from the school in which our children go. Our son is 6 years old and is able to read and write. Recently I bought a sewing machine for my wife, now she can make our clothing herself.

My wife's baptismal name is ~~Catherine~~ Caddie and her former name was Kinney, before I married her, she was born in Belmont County in the State of Ohio on November 21st, 1862.

My children are:

Son with name Fred born 5 June 1882

Daughter with name Ernestine born 24 September 1884

Daughter with name Hermine born 3 May 1888

My address is:

*Herman Iburg,
Carthage
Miner County
Dakota.*


When writing this letter to his father, Herman's youngest children, Frank and Cytha, had not yet been born.


Sadly, on 3 Oct 1910, Herman C. Iburg died at age 54 from apoplexy (unconsciousness or incapacity resulting from a cerebral hemorrhage or stroke) in Jackson Township, St. Clair, Missouri.²⁵ His physician was G. W. Wood, M.D. from Iconium. His death certificate reads that “he had a convulsion and fell out of his buggy dead”. He was buried 6 Oct 1910 in the cemetery in Ewing, Nebraska. Ewing is near Garfield township, Nebraska where their oldest daughter, Ernestine, was living with her husband John Christian (later changed to Christon). The undertaker was E. M. White of Warsaw, Missouri. Herman was listed on his death certificate as a farmer and his obituary indicates he was still a member of the Lutheran church.

Eighteen days later, Caddie held a public sale of their household furniture, farm animals and equipment.

PUBLIC SALE!

I will sell at public auction on my farm 3 miles NE. of
Iconium and 3 miles S. W. of Wisdom, on
Friday, October 21st, 1910
Commencing at 10 a. m., the following property, to-wit:





<p>1 good work horse. 1 good work mare. 1 cow, 7 yrs. old, giving milk. 1 cow, 5 yrs. old, giving milk. 1 2-yr-old heifer. 2 heifer calves. 1 hog, weight 225 lbs. 1 hog, weight 125 lbs. 8 head hogs, weight 90 lbs. 1 wagon. 1 buggy.</p>	<p>1 set of harness. 1 cultivator. 1 breaking plow. 1 corn drill. 1 single shovel. 1 lister. 175 shocks corn and fodder. 2 acres of fine kafir corn. 2 stacks of hay. 1 cook stove. Household and kitchen furniture.</p>
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TERMS: On sums of \$5 and over, a credit of 9 months will be given, purchaser giving bankable note with interest at 8 per cent. Sums under \$5 cash. 3 per cent off for cash.

Mrs. H. C. Iburg

Estate sale flyer – Courtesy of Phil Christon

Caddie moved to Garfield Township, Antelope, Nebraska to live with her oldest daughter, Ernestine, and husband John, along with several grandchildren. The 1920 Census for Garfield Township, lists Caddie as Mother-in-law, age 57.²⁶

Caddie died of paralysis on April 1st or April 2nd, 1921 at age 58, in Kennebec, Nebraska near the home of her son Frederick in Eddyville.²⁷ Paralysis may have been related to a stroke. The death certificate indicates the “Cause of Death“ duration was 14 days, and that she died 2 Apr 1921, but the date is partially scratched out. She was last seen alive by her doctor March 27th. Her death certificate lists her as a housekeeper. She was buried 4 Apr 1921 in the Ewing cemetery where her husband, Herman, was buried 11 years earlier. Her gravestone indicates she died April 1, 1921. Subtracting her date of birth from her age on the death certificate also indicates April 1.



Children of Herman and Catherine (Kinney) Iburg:

- i. FREDERICK WILLIAM IBURG, b. 5 Jun 1882, Springfield, Missouri; d. 26 Sep 1945, Eddyville, Nebraska, m. 23 May 1905, ELLEN SUSAN CANNON
- ii. ERNESTINE M. IBURG, b. 24 Sep 1884, South Dakota; d. 30 Oct 1949, Nebraska; m. 4 Mar 1901, JOHN ELIJAH CHRISTON.
- iii. HERMINA IBURG, b. 3 May 1888, Mitchell, South Dakota; d. June 1940 Greeley, Nebraska; m. 1909, HALLIE, MADISON.
- iv. FRANK IBURG, b. Feb 1891, Missouri; d. 2 Mar 1891, Missouri.
- v. CYTHA, C. IBURG, b. 4 Mar 1892, Rock Port, Missouri; d. 10 May 1963, St. Paul, Nebraska; m. 20 Apr 1908, EZRA CARGILL.

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- ¹ Ewing Cemetery (Ewing, Nebraska), Herman and Caddie grave marker.
- ² Germany, Select Marriages, 1558-1929; Salt Lake City, Utah: FamilySearch, FLH Film: 582825.
- ³ Germany, Select Births and Baptisms, 1558-1898; Salt Lake City, Utah: FamilySearch, FLH Film: 1052295
- ⁴ Wikipedia ([https://de.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laurentiuskirche_\(Rehme\)](https://de.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laurentiuskirche_(Rehme))).
- ⁵ 18th Century PA German Naming Customs (<http://www.kerchner.com/germname.htm>).
- ⁶ Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bad_Oeynhausen).
- ⁷ HistoryLines.com – Herman C. Iburg, Brother's Grimm, 1857.
- ⁸ HistoryLines.com – Herman C. Iburg, Education.
- ⁹ HistoryLines.com – Herman C. Iburg, Clothing.
- ¹⁰ HistoryLines.com – Herman C. Iburg, Otto Von Bismarck, 1862; Unification of Germany; Franco-Prussian War, 1870–1871.
- ¹¹ *Let's go to America! The Path of Emigrants from Eastern Westphalia to the USA*, Loehne: Heimatverein of the town of Loehne; Study Group for Local Culture, Bad Oeynhausen; and Hermann Brackmann KG, 1985, 124.
- ¹² *Let's go to America!*, 14, 16.
- ¹³ *Let's go to America!*, 123, 124.
- ¹⁴ Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Low_German).
- ¹⁵ *Let's go to America!*, 18-22.
- ¹⁶ *Let's go to America!*, 124.
- ¹⁷ *Occupations and Social Standing, Crafts and Occupational Records*, Genealoger.com: (https://www.genealoger.com/german/ger_occupational_records.htm).
- ¹⁸ 1880 US Census, Prairie, Jackson County, Missouri; Roll: 694, Family History Film: 1254694
- ¹⁹ Missouri, Jackson County Marriage Records, 1840-1985, Herman C. Iburg, 194.
- ²⁰ Atchison County, Missouri Journal, March 5, 1891.
- ²¹ Tom & Jean Iburg, *Ancestors Iburgs and Cannons*, Note: It is believed that an unknown family member still has the 32 Colt revolver (with stage coach hold-up etched on barrel) that Herman used while sheriff in Missouri.
- ²² HistoryLines.com – Herman C. Iburg, Children's Blizzard, 1888.
- ²³ 1900 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: 928, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1240928.
- ²⁴ 1910 US Census, Jackson, Saint Clair, Missouri; Roll: T624_801, Page: 5B, FHL microfilm: 1374814.
- ²⁵ Jefferson, St Clair County, Missouri, Death Certificate, Herman C. Iburg; Missouri State Board of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- ²⁶ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.
- ²⁷ Kennebec, Dawson County, Nebraska, Death Certificate, Caddie Iburg; Nebraska Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Chapter 2 – The Iburgs

Frederick William and Ellen Susan (Cannon) Iburg

Frederick “Fred” William Iburg was born 5 Jun 1882 in Springfield, Green County, Missouri.ⁱ Fred was the oldest child of Herman and Catherine Iburg. Chester A. Arthur was the 21st president of the United States at the time.



Frederick W. Iburg circa 1890

Not long after Fred was born, the family moved to the southeast corner of South Dakota where two of Fred’s sisters were born: Ernestine in 1884, and Hermina in 1888. Right around the time South Dakota gained statehood in 1889, Fred’s family moved back to Missouri, where two more siblings were born: Frank in 1891 and Cytha in 1892. Frank only survived for a few weeks. Fred would have been nine years old when his only brother, Frank, died. Fred was 6 years old when the Children’s Blizzard devastated the northern plains, January 12th, 1888.

Very little is known about Fred’s life between the ages of 9 and 18. He may have attended school in his younger years, but most young men of farming families also had an obligation to help with the farming.

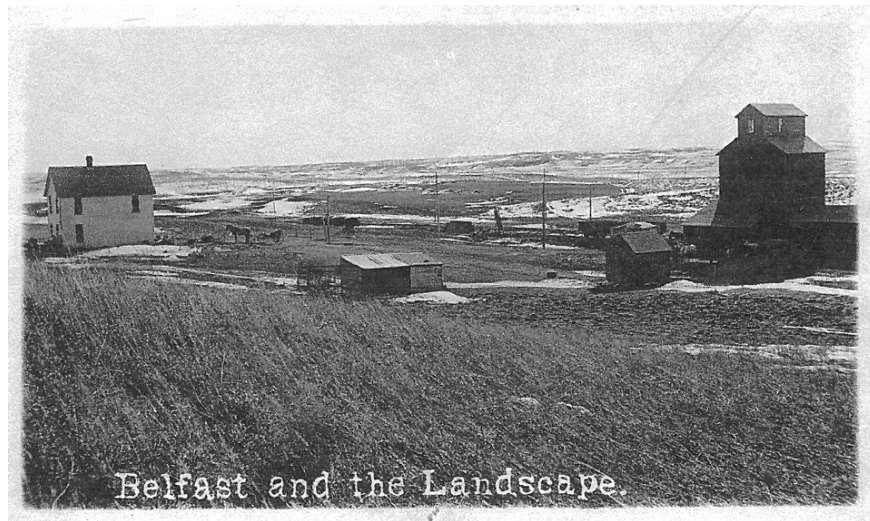
On the 1900 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, Fred is listed as single, age 18, and a farm laborer working on his father’s farm. His four younger siblings are also present with his 15-year-old sister, Ernestine, listed as a saleslady.ⁱⁱ

On 23 May 1905, Fred was married to Ellen Susan “Nellie” Cannon in the Sacred Heart Church in Greeley, Nebraska by Father Flanigan.ⁱⁱⁱ Nellie Cannon was born on 4 Dec 1886, in Killybegs, Donegal, Ireland.^{iv} She was the daughter of James B. and Susan (Kennedy) Cannon, and the only survivor of nine children, the other eight having died in Ireland of tuberculosis. Nellie was five years old in 1892 when they moved from Ireland to America. They left Londonderry, Northern Ireland on 24 Jun 1892 headed for New York on the steamship Ethiopia. The ship carried 300 passengers and the trip to New York took 32 days.^v

Nellie’s uncle, John D. Cannon was the first member of the pioneer family of Cannons to arrive in America in 1878, followed by his brother Dennis in 1880. The Catholic Bishop of Omaha, Nebraska, O’Connor, was organizing a plan to purchase a large body of land from the railroad with the idea of inducing Irish Catholic Immigrants to leave the crowded cities. Thus, O’Connor Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska was formed. In 1885, John and Dennis purchased 160 acres of farmland in O’Connor Precinct for \$700.^{vi}

In 1892 the brothers sent for the rest of the family which include their mother, Sarah, their 22-year-old sister, Mary, their brother, James, his wife Susan, and one daughter, Nellie. Nellie's mother, Susan, died at age 36 shortly after arriving in America. Her father, James B. Cannon, never remarried and raised Nellie in a sod house on his 200-acre farm in Belfast, a little southeast of the Iburg farm, near Belfast.

Belfast is now a ghost town with a couple of old buildings and foundations still standing. The area is now used for grazing cattle.



Fred and Nellie's marriage announcement reads:

"MARRIED - On Tuesday morning, May 23, 1905 at the Sacred Heart church in Greeley, Mr. Fred Iberg and Miss Ellen Cannon, Rev Father Flanagan officiating. Mr. John Kennedy and sister Miss Kennedy stood up with the couple during the ceremonies. The bride is a daughter of Mr. James Cannon and the groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman C Iberg, both living north of town. Mr. and Mrs. Iberg will spend a couple of weeks with their parents when they will go to their home in Spalding, where he is proprietor of a dray line and is doing a good business. This worthy young couple are well known to most of our readers and need no introduction, as they have the qualities that make fine men and women and their many friends will join with us in wishing them a long life of happiness."^{vii}

After the wedding, back in the sod house, Nellie Cannon's 1st cousin, Marie Harris, remembers "All were sitting on the bed and the bed broke down".



Nellie and Fred W. Iburg about the time of their marriage

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

The State of Nebraska, } ss.
 Greely County, }

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE.

LICENSE is hereby granted to any person authorized to solemnize marriages according to the laws of said State, to join in marriage Mr. Fredrick W. Iburg and Miss Ellen Cannon of the County aforesaid, whose ages, residence, etc., are as follows:

NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
<u>Fredrick W. Iburg</u> Groom	<u>22</u>	<u>white</u>	<u>Missouri</u>	<u>Greely Co</u>	<u>Herman E. Iburg</u>	<u>Bethune Kinney</u>
<u>Ellen Cannon</u> Bride	<u>18</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>Ireland</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>James Cannon</u>	<u>Susan Kennedy</u>

If blood relations, in what degree.

And the person joining them in marriage is required to make due return of the annexed Certificate to the County Judge of said County within ninety days, of the names of the parties, time and place of Marriage, and by whom solemnized.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at my office in Greely, in said County, this MAY 22 1905 day of _____ A.D. 18__.

John C. Byrne County Judge.

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

TO THE COUNTY JUDGE OF Greely COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

THIS CERTIFIES, That on the 23 day of May A.D. 1905, at Greely in said County, according to law and by authority, I duly JOINED IN MARRIAGE Mr. Fredrick Iburg and Miss Ellen Cannon, and there were present as witnesses Mr. Kennedy and Miss Annie Kennedy

Given under my hand the 23 day of May A.D. 1905

P. Flanagan Pastor

Fred W. and Ellen (Cannon) Iburg marriage license

Fred and Nellie settled in Spaulding, 18 miles from Belfast, where Fred ran a dray line (Drayage is the transport of goods over a short distance, often part of a longer overall move, usually with a low, strong cart without fixed sides for carrying heavy loads).



Fred Iburg and his dray wagon – 1909

Between 1905 and 1907, Fred and Nellie had two children, James Frederick, born 20 Nov 1905, and Francis “Frank” Edward, born 8 Mar 1907. In 1908, Fred earned his railway locomotive fireman’s certification through the National Railway Training Association.



In 1909 Fred and Nellie temporarily moved back to Belfast, Nebraska and lived with James Cannon. During that year, Fred and Nellie had another boy, Frederick Thomas, born 9 Apr 1909.

By 1910, Fred was renting and managing a farm in Loup Township, Custer County, Nebraska, about 100 miles southwest of Spalding.^{viii} On 4 Dec 1910, a fourth boy, Herman William was born in Georgetown, Nebraska. Georgetown no longer exists, but it was near Loup Township.

After a nine-year lapse in childbearing, Fred and Nellie had a fifth son, Raymond Orville, born 7 Oct 1919, in Eddyville, Nebraska. The 1920 US Census for Eddyville shows Fred was renting their home and working the farm as a sharecropper on his “own account” (a gainful worker who is neither an employer or employee). Their oldest son, James, age 14, was listed as a farm hand.^{ix}

On 1 Feb 1921, a sixth son, Ira Ivan, was born in Eddyville. Finally, on 21 Oct 1924, a daughter, Anna Laura, was born.



Fred and Nellie Iburg's seven children – 1926

Between 1910 and 1930, Fred moved every few years looking for better farmland to support the family. Moving day was usually the first Monday in March giving farmers the opportunity to prepare and seed their farmland for the upcoming summer crop. Fred was a “sharecropper”, typically would keep 2/3 of the grain they produced, and gave 1/3 to their landlord. There was often an additional cash amount given to the landlord for pasture land necessary to feed the sharecroppers horses and cows. Most farms had a house where Fred and his family could live, but they did not have any electricity and the only light was from kerosene lamps. Since most of the wood had been cut down for farming, they resorted to “cow chips” for burning in their wood stoves.

In 1928, Fred was working a 600-acre farm when they had an unusually large crop. Expecting continued success, Fred purchased a tractor, a corn-picker, and a 1929 Ford Model A vehicle. Unfortunately, the following years' crops were not so successful and Fred had to give up his tractor and corn-picker. He did manage to keep the Model A. To make matters worse, in 1929 when Fred was 48 years old, the collapse of the stock market started a decade-long period of economic hardships in America known as the Great Depression.

The unemployment rate for much of the 1930s reached above 25% across the U.S., as millions were forced out of their homes and into makeshift shantytowns dubbed "Hoovervilles." The hard times and bread lines continued into the early 1940s, when the outbreak of World War II and new policies instituted by President Franklin Roosevelt helped stimulate job growth and turn the economic tide.^x

Supplementing the disaster of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl ripped through the Midwest in the 1930s. After decades of farming practices that damaged the land, a period of severe drought and high winds ripped the top soil from previously fertile farms, creating "black blizzards" that reached all the way to the east coast and often reduced visibility to around three feet. Fortunately, most of the damage took place in Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, just skirting Nebraska and causing a five-year drought. Many years during this drought, corn would only grow 1-1/2 feet tall. It was a very trying time for Fred's family and friends who struggled to make ends meet.^{xi}

Sometime after 1928 Fred and his family moved into a farmhouse in Kennebec Precinct, near Eddyville. It contained 320 acres of farmland and was to be Fred's last move until he died in 1945.



Kennebec home (built 1919) – circa 1930



The Iburg's Kennebec home - 1989

The 1930 US census for Kennebec precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, indicates Fred's family owned a radio.^{xii} They were an early adopter. Until 1920, radios had only been used for one-on-one

communication. In 1920, the Pittsburgh company Westinghouse (one of the largest radio manufacturers in the nation) devised a plan to sell more radios. They decided to make a broadcasting transmitter that would allow radio owners throughout the region to tune in for different programs. To make this dream a reality, they hired Dr. Frank Conrad — a local ham radio operator who often played records over the air for his friends and listeners — to set up a broadcasting channel, KDKA. November 2, 1920, the day of the presidential election, was to be the first day of programming. Listeners in the area who tuned in that day heard a reading of the results of the presidential election, where Harding decisively defeated Cox. The broadcast, although heard by only a small group of people, was a stunning success and caused radio mania to grip the nation. Radio sales soon exploded throughout America, and there was a rush to open up and register commercial radio stations in most major cities.^{xiii}

Sadly, on 12 June 1939, Frederick Thomas, Fred and Nellie’s third son, was crushed by a road grader near his home. Frederick Thomas left a wife, Doris, and two small children, ages 5 and 2 months.^{xiv}

Name of Deceased	Late Address	Interred on Lot No.	Space	Field	Date of Death	Date of Interment	Age in Years	Months	Days	Cause of Death
Iburg, Frederick Thomas	201 W. 33rd St. Kearney, Ne. 68847	897	6	East	6/12/1939	6/14/1939	30	2	3	Accidentally crushed



Frederick Thomas Iburg – Photo by Tamara Truette Peterson, Find A Grave

Following is a letter from Nellie to her 1st cousin, Mary Cannon (Mrs. John Ryan), just a few months after Frederick Thomas’ death.^{xv}

Oconto Neb, Dec 13, 1939

Dear Cousin Mary & family

Well its about time for my annual letter, have about fourteen to write so must get busy. Most of my friends say they'd rather a letter than a card, so I just send a few cards to those I see or dont care so much. The letter you wrote my last summer I laid away among my Treasures. Thanks.

Well thirty nine is nearly gone, it was a heck of a year for a good many of us waent if. We didnt have any small grain, mostly on account of Hoppers, then of course no corn to shuck, cut all our corn stalks, Of course theres a little corn in spots through it. they shuck it out as they feed the fodder. By the time the Landlord took two fifths of fodder it looked small. had some Kaffir, Sooner Milo Kals, & cane, but it didnt grow any height, so didnt have enough feed. We bought ten tons of Alfalfa down near Lexington before prices went up. bought it 1st of Sept. for four dollars a ton, Now its eight + nine. Of course ours wasnt bailed, we just hauled it loose. It was about 26 miles so had a truck haul it. He hauled over four tons on our load.

Dad & I been alone for six weeks. Raymond got a job ~~of~~ husking down on valley so he was ~~gone~~ six weeks. He checked twenty eight hundred, but is home again. Its the first time we were alone since Jim was born, sure seemed funny. We sure listened to the Radio a lot, still I had plenty to do, as I done the boys washing & mending took lots of clothes in cornfield it was so dry. And of course Arnie has to do her washing on Saturday. She works for her board in town this year, their eight year old twins girls and a ~~three~~ four yr old girl. She likes it fine, Of course theyre plenty to do, lots of ironing & ect, but theyre so good to her. She has to stay some Saturdays, when theyre going to entertain Sunday, but if they buy candy bars for their kids, always get her one too, and pay her way to school if they go to Summers Lexington. He is the High school Supt. She's got along fine so far. Got all "A" credits last year, and all "A's" so far this year. Biology is her hardest I believe Frank & their two boys are fine, so are Jim's & they're two little girls after nearly eight years. Hermans are expecting. Child doctors & doped

but never had any hopes and ~~she~~ been begging
him to adopt one, but ~~there~~ hopes are
riding high now. And poor little Dorace
is doing a swell job of shouldering her
burden. The baby is the best little thing
you ever seen, just dont cry or fuss, she's
awful poor, but real strong. Can about sit
alone had one tooth through day before she
was four months, but Dorace is so run
down herself, she has to begin putting her
partly on the bottle, I suppose you knew
she went ahead and put in the Basement under
the house. she put water in the house and
toilet in basement, she thought it would
pay for children sake to go ahead with
what had been started. She only has two rooms
& porch, ^{closed in glass} but its plenty. Annie stayed eight
weeks, I staid ten days when Jack was in
was born, stays alone the rest. Her Dad
been staying there just lately. She drives
up and stays overnight with us every
once in awhile. We were down last
week, Frank, Raymond & Dad done some
work for her so Della & I went along. All
my kids & grandkids came home thanksgiving
We had an eighteen lb Turkey & trimings.

Dorace just let baby lie in Basket in back seat and came up about ten thirty and staid till Friday P.M, some of the Boys go to their wives folks this Xmas. Dorace has a sister coming from Calif. so they'll have dinner for their father at her ^{the} sisters at Rivendale, I had my Xmas already. Raymond bought me a new coat + hat, also a new Tea Kettle for Birthday. Was I ever proud of my coat its been years since I've had one. I picked a grey tweed, as it dont show every speck like black does. Annies just got her a new coat and hat monday. She raised ducks for her. If I waited till she returns from the farm bought a coat, I'm afraid I wouldnt need it. Aint it heck. Of course people get help, that absonloty have to have it I guess. We never do. ~~if~~ if we tried for any help, they'd take one of the Boys + send to CCC. and we dont want that. neither do the Boys want to go. they may have to go to War, so will hang on to them long as we can. We get along pretty good I think, the boys work out when the can, Ira been gone since March but will be home for a while after Xmas till March again anyway. then we milked 11 ^{coats} this yr,

all but three dry now, but soon start to
freshen. Marie said your mother didn't
feel so good but hope she's better. My but
I'd like to see all the bunch, maybe we can
next summer when Jim has vacation.

It sure is grand weather, but no rain no snow
yet and not much freezing weather even, no day
has froze all day yet. I just got done making over
a dress for Annie, its a weighted cape, almost new
was to small for girl who bought it, she bought
it last Easter, then was operated on in couple of
weeks and she's fleshed up so. Its a pretty old rose
with blue silk Bolero and buttons covered with
same. Well I could write all night and
not say anything.

so will close by wishing all
a merry Xmas and happy new year
love from

Cousin Nell & family

Mrs Fred Denny
Oconto Neb



Mrs John Ryan
Guley
Neb

On 29 Oct 1941 Ellen Susan “Nellie” Cannon died of stomach cancer at age 54 after being in the care of her doctor for 12 days.^{xvi} The secondary cause of her death was cardiac failure. She was buried in the Kearney Cemetery, Kearney, Nebraska, on 31 Oct 1941. Fred and Nellie were married for 36 years.



Ellen “Nellie” (Cannon) Iburg - 1941



Fred and his sister Tena

On December 7th 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, forcing the US into World War II. Fred was 59 years old. Even though it was not required (because he was over age 45), Fred registered for military service on 27 Apr 1942. His draft registration card states his height as 6’2”, weight 220 pounds, blue eyes, brown hair, and a light complexion.^{xvii}

Two of Fred’s sons, Raymond and Ira, joined in the war effort. Raymond enlisted in the Navy and Ira in the Air Force. Fred was very concerned about his two youngest sons fighting in the war. His son Ira, in a letter to one of his nieces wrote, “my father lived each day for a letter from Raymond and I, plus [reading] the Lincoln Star”.^{xviii}

Fortunately, the war ended 24 days before Frederick W. Iburg died on 26 Sep 1945, at the age of 63 of natural causes.^{xix} He lived just long enough to see the atomic bombs dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and knew then his boys would be safe. The mail lady noticed that Fred hadn’t picked up his mail for two days, so she asked a neighbor to check on him. The neighbor found Fred dead in his rocking chair. The informant on his death certificate was his oldest son, James. Funeral services were held at the Eddyville Evangelical Church by Reverend C.L. Sheffield. Fred was buried on 1 Oct 1945 alongside his wife, Nellie, in the Kearney Cemetery, Kearney, Nebraska. Fred’s death certificate and obituary incorrectly show his year of birth as 1881. He was the last of the farmers in the Iburg family, as his children all went into other occupations as adults.



Frederick W. And Ellen S. (Cannon) Iburg gravestones

Children of Frederick W. and Ellen (Cannon) Iburg:

- i. JAMES FREDERICK IBURG, b. 20 Nov 1905, Spalding, Nebraska; d. 1 Aug 1976, Waverly, Nebraska; m. 24 Mar 1929, Norton, Kansas, CORYL ALICE GRAY.
- ii. FRANCIS EDWARD IBURG, b. 8 Mar 1906, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 16 Nov 1957; m. 29 Jul 1931, DELLA ETTA BIRAM.
- iii. FREDERICK THOMAS IBURG, b. 9 Apr 1909, Nebraska; d. 12 Jun 1939, Nebraska; m. DORIS M. YOUNG.
- iv. HERMAN WILLIAM IBURG, b. 4 Dec 1910, Georgetown, Nebraska; d. 18 Jun 1989, Fontana, California; m. 30 Mar 1932, SADIE ELLA WARNER.
- v. RAYMOND ORVILLE IBURG, b. 7 Oct 1919, Eddyville, Nebraska; d. 24 Apr 2012, San Jose, California; m. 8 Apr 1945, GENEVIEVE THERESA BALDYS.
- vi. IRA IVAN IBURG, b. 1 Feb 1921, Eddyville, Nebraska; d. 9 Feb 2018, Smyrna, Georgia; m. OPAL MEISTER.
- vii. ANNA LAURA IBURG, b. 21 Oct 1924, Eddyville, Nebraska; d. 16 Jun 1998, Bellingham, Washington; m. 4 Jun 1944, Norton, Kansas, EARNEST DEWEY HARMONEY.

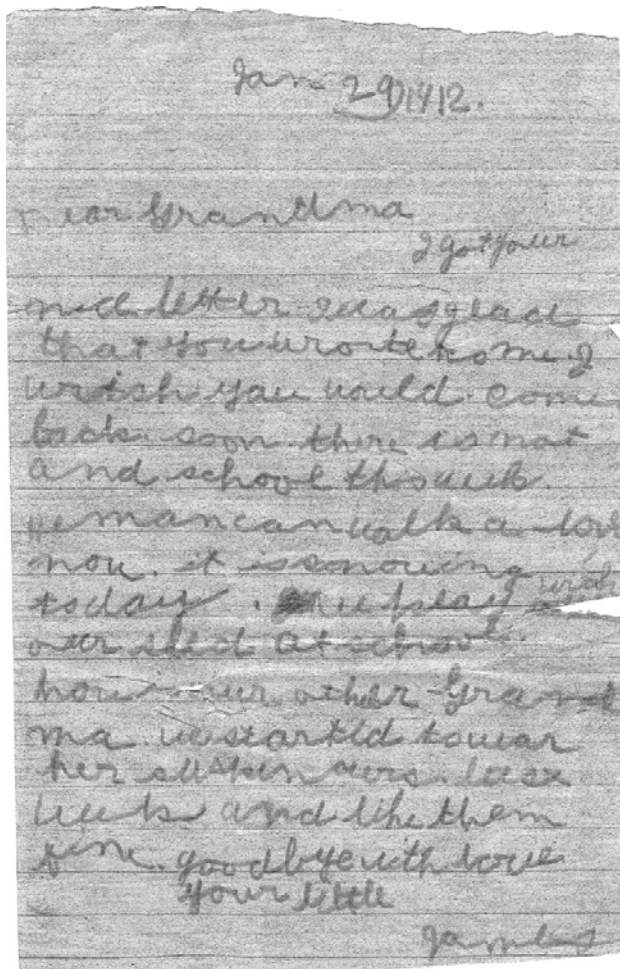
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- ⁱ Herman C. Iburg (Carthage, Miner County, Dakota) to “Dear Father” [Johann Iburg], Letter, 19 Dec 1888, obtained copy from Philip Christon, Longmont, Colorado, 3 Sep 2018. Translated 8 Jun 2019.
- ⁱⁱ 1900 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: 928, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1240928.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Nebraska Marriage Records 1855-1908, Frederick W. Iburg and Ellen Cannon; Library and Archives of the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- ^{iv} Killybegs, Donegal Ireland, Birth Certificate, Ellen Cannon, Births and Deaths Registration Acts, Ireland.
- ^v UK, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960, Ellen Cannon, age 4; Ancestry.com.
- ^{vi} Mrs. John J. Ryan, “Cannons – A Pioneer Family”, *The Greeley Citizen*, July 2, 1970.
- ^{vii} Ibid.
- ^{viii} 1910 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T624_841, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1374854.
- ^{ix} 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.
- ^x HistoryLines.com – Frederick W. Iburg, Great Depression, 1929-1940.
- ^{xi} HistoryLines.com – Frederick W. Iburg, Dust Bowl, 1934.
- ^{xii} 1930 US Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0; FHL microfilm: 2341005.
- ^{xiii} HistoryLines.com – Frederick W. Iburg, First Public Radio Address, 1920.
- ^{xiv} City of Kearney Interment Records (<https://www.cityofkearney.org/DocumentCenter/View/78/I>).
- ^{xv} Herman C. Iburg Letter, 19 Dec 1888.
- ^{xvi} Lexington, Dawson County, Nebraska, Death Certificate, Ellen S. Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.
- ^{xvii} U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942; The National Archives at St. Louis; St. Louis, Missouri; Draft Registration Cards for Fourth Registration for Nebraska, 04/27/1942 - 04/27/1942; NAI Number: 598911; Record Group Title: Records of the Selective Service System; Record Group Number: 147.
- ^{xviii} Ira Iburg to M & J [Mac and Jean (Iburg) McFarland], Letter, dated Oct 5, probably from Smyrna, Georgia.
- ^{xix} Kennebec Precinct, Dawson County, Nebraska, Death Certificate, Fred W. Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

James Frederick and Coryl Alice (Gray) Iburg

Theodore Roosevelt was President when James Frederick Iburg was born 20 Nov 1905 in Spaulding, Greeley County, Nebraska.ⁱ James was the first of seven children born to Frederick and Nellie Iburg. Frederick, age 22, and Nellie, age 19, were married just six months earlier. James was delivered by Dr. A. L. Barkett.

James was baptized 17 Dec 1905 by Reverend B. F. Galvin in the Roman Catholic Church of St. Michael, Spalding, Nebraska. Although James' father was from a German Lutheran family, his mother was Northern Irish Catholic.ⁱⁱ

The 1910 US Census for Loup Township, Custer County, Nebraska, shows James, age 4, living with his parents, two younger brothers, Frank and Fred, four farm hands, and a servant.ⁱⁱⁱ Their mail was addressed to Georgetown, which was part of Loup Township. Georgetown no longer exists on the map. By age six James knew how to read and write. Following is a letter from James (age 6) to his grandmother, Catherine.



Jan 29, 1912.

Dear Grandma

I got your
nice letter and I was glad
that you wrote to me. I wish
you would come back soon. There is
not school this week. Herman
can walk a lot now. It is snowing
today. We play with our sled at
school. How is our other grand
ma. We started to wear
her suspenders last week and they
are fine. Goodbye with love
Your little
James

Jan 29, 1912

Dear Grandma

I got your nice letter and was glad that you wrote to me. I wish you would come back soon. There is not and school this week. Herman can walk a lot now. It is snowing today. We play with our sled at school. How is our other grandma. We started to wear her suspenders last week and they are fine.

Goodbye with love.

Your little

James

A letter of response from his grandmother, Catherine, sent November 20th, 1912:

Enid Okla.
622 E. Cherokee.

Dear Jim - I received
your letter and was glad
to get it, and I am glad
you are learning your
letters and can spell, and
help mama. Be a good boy
that's what I want you to
be. When I get able to go
downtown I am going
to send you boys something
as I didn't get to xmas.
With lots of love
Grandma.
Write again.

Enid, Okla.
622 E. Cherokee

Dear Jim, I received your letter and was glad to get it, and I am glad you are learning your letters and can spell, and help mama. Be a good boy that's what I want you to be. When I get able to go to downtown I am going to send you boys something as I didn't get to xmas.

With lots of love.

Grandma

Write again.

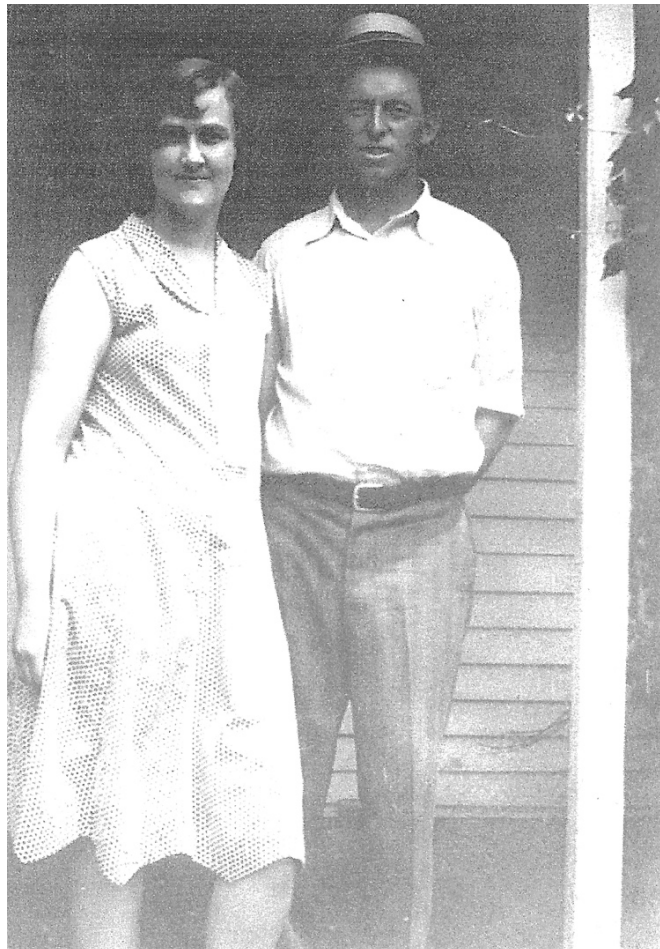
In 1920, at age 14, James was a farm hand on his father's farm in Loup, Nebraska. He was attending school and living with his four brothers, ages 3 months to 12 years.^{iv} James moved around with his sharecropper family for the next few years, helping his father on the various farms they worked.

The 1920s was the Golden Age of aviation. Around 1929, James and his brother Fred purchased an airplane. The biplane was a Swallow TP, a trainer aircraft produced in 1928 by the Swallow Airplane Mfg. Co. The fuselage was made from welded steel tubing with fabric covering. The wings were made with spruce spars, and spruce and plywood ribs with fabric covering. Built to be easy to fly, and for ease of maintenance, the Swallow TP was quite popular with nearly 200 being built. James taught himself to fly the aircraft, but he was never licensed to carry a passenger.^v



Iburg family in front of their Swallow TP biplane

It is not known how James met his future wife, Coryl Alice Gray, who was living with her parents in Norton, Kansas, about 100 miles south of where Jim was living. The 1930 US Census indicates he was a truck driver, and his truck route may have taken him south to Norton.^{vi} Regardless, on 24 Mar 1929, James married Coryl in Norton County, Kansas.^{vii} She was born in Gravity, Taylor, Iowa on 12 Feb 1909, the only daughter of Lewis Royden and Alice (Davis) Gray.^{viii} We can assume that Coryl's parents attended the wedding, but there is no evidence that James's parents attended. Probate Judge H.M. Palmer performed the marriage. James was age 23 and Coryl was age 20.





James Iburg by his State of Nebraska truck – 1942

Prior to their marriage, Coryl was working at the Kansas State Tuberculosis Sanatorium in Norton. In the 1930 US census for Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska, 24-year-old James and Coryl were renting their home for \$8 per month. In 1931, James started working for the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads and Irrigation. He worked for the State of Nebraska for over 21 years as a highway maintenance mechanic responsible for a 250-mile area of Nebraska highways.

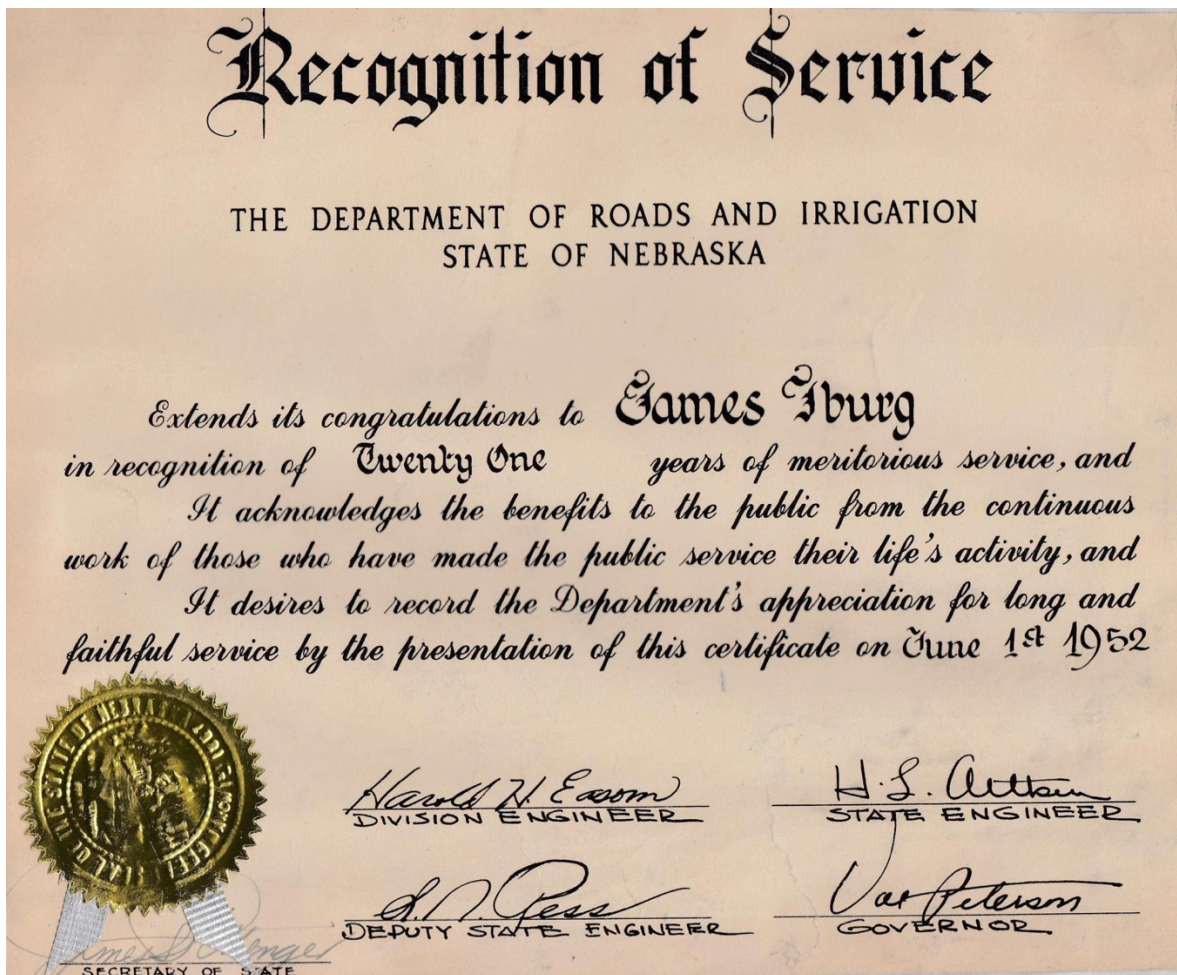
In 1933 James and Coryl were living in Elm Creek, a rural part of Buffalo County, Nebraska. Their first daughter Beverly Jean was born 9 May 1933. Their second daughter, Alice Joanne, was born in Elm Creek 20 Sep 1936.



Kansas State Tuberculosis Sanatorium

By 1940, the family of four had moved to Broken Bow, Nebraska. The 1940 US census for Broken Bow, Custer County, shows James, age 34, earning \$1200 per year as a mechanic for the State of Nebraska road department.^{ix} In 1942 the family moved to North Platt, Nebraska for about five years, then moved back to Broken Bow in 1947 and lived there until 1956.

As required by the Selective Service, James, age 34, registered for the draft on 16 Oct 1940 in Broken Bow.^x The registrar reported that James was 5'10" tall, weighed 198 pounds, had blue eyes, black hair, and a light brown complexion. The United States hadn't yet entered the war, so James wasn't drafted. He probably didn't enlist as he had two small children and a good job.



In 1956, after both their daughters were married, James and Coryl moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. With savings and \$10,000 borrowed from their oldest daughter, Beverly Jean, they purchased a DX gas station and the Tip Top Cafe, a roadside cafe on West O street, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Lincoln Air Force Base was nearby and James and Coryl used to invite homesick military men to their home for the holidays. The Lincoln Air Force Base was regarded as one of America's most important bomber bases of the 1950s. In 1966 the base closed, becoming Lincoln Air Park and Arnold Heights.

In 1959, a 60-room hotel called the Congress Inn was built near the DX gas station, replacing the Tip Top Cafe. Coryl continued to work in the new Congress Inn Coffee Shop. It is now part of a Days Inn Hotel.



Coryl (Gray) Iburg behind the counter - circa 1959



James and Coryl Iburg's house, 543 11th Street, Broken Bow, Nebraska. It has since been replaced.

In 1961, James and Coryl moved to Waverly, Nebraska to be near their oldest daughter, Beverly Jean, who worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in geriatric home health care. James and Coryl operated a roadside cafe next to their home in Waverly until about 1970.



James and Coryl Iburg - circa 1964

At 2:34 A.M on 1 Aug 1976, James Frederick Iburg died from exsanguination and hypovolemic shock (loss of blood) due to a ruptured abdominal aortic aneurism.^{xi} Seventy-year-old James spent five days in Bryan Memorial Hospital before his death under the care of Dr. John L. Reed. On 3 Aug 1976 he was buried in Rosehill Cemetery, Waverly, Nebraska. James and Coryl were married 47 years.

Just over three years later, Coryl Alice (Gray) Iburg died on 20 Oct 1979, at the age of seventy from squamous cell carcinoma of the lung (lung cancer).^{xii} She was a heavy smoker all of her life. Coryl was buried on 24 Oct 1979 in the Rosehill Cemetery, Waverly, Nebraska.



Children of James and Coryl (Gray) Iburg:

- i. BEVERLY JEAN IBURG, b. 9 May 1933, Elm Creek, Buffalo, Nebraska; d. 30 Oct 2008 in Lincoln, Lancaster, Nebraska; m (1). 16 Dec 1951, WILLIAM ANDREW SHERBECK; m (2). 24 Jan 1959 in Lincoln Creek Nebraska, THOMAS ELDON MCFARLAND.
- ii. ALICE JOANNE IBURG, b. 20 Sep 1936, Elm Creek, Buffalo, Nebraska; d. 1 Mar 2019, Simi Valley, California; m (1). 28 Jan 1954 in Custer Nebraska, DOYLE D. FRANCIS; m (2). 27 Apr 1963 in Los Angeles, California, ALBERT D. VILLARD.

ⁱ Spalding, Greeley County, Nebraska, Birth Certificate, James Frederick Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

ⁱⁱ Spalding, Nebraska, Church of St. Michael, Certificate of Baptism, James Iberg.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T624_841, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1374854.

^{iv} 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.

^v Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swallow_Airplane_Company).

^{vi} 1930 US Census, Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 23B, Image:1056.0, FHL microfilm: 2341005.

^{vii} Norton County, Nebraska, Marriage Certificate, James Frederick Iburg and Coryl Gray; State of Kansas, Central Division of Vital Statistics.

^{viii} Gravity, Taylor County, Iowa, Delayed Birth Certificate, Coryl Alice Gray; Iowa State Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

^{ix} 1940 US Census, Broken Bow, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T627_2242, Page: 2B.

^x U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942; The National Archives at St. Louis; St. Louis, Missouri; Draft Registration Cards for Fourth Registration for Nebraska, 04/27/1942 - 04/27/1942; NAI Number: 598911; Record Group Title: Records of the Selective Service System; Record Group Number: 147.

^{xi} Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, Death Certificate, James Frederick Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

^{xii} Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, Death Certificate, Coryl A. Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Francis Edward and Della Etta (Biram) Iburg

Francis “Frank” Edward Iburg was born 8 Mar 1907 in Spaulding, Greeley County, Nebraska. He was the second son born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census shows Frank, age 3, is living in Loup Township, Custer County, Nebraska.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Loup, Custer, Nebraska, he was age 12, attending school and living with his four brothers.ⁱⁱⁱ

In the 1930 US census for Kennebec Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, Frank is listed at age 23, single, and a “Farm Partner”, presumably with his father.^{iv}

On 29 Jun 1931 Frank married Della Etta Biram, born 23 Dec 1912 in Lomax, Nebraska, the daughter of George Biram and Mary Fick.^v

By 1940, at age 33, Frank had his own farm in the Wood River Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska. He registered for the draft on 16 Oct 1940, but did not serve in the military. The draft registration indicates he was 5’9” tall, 175 pounds, had blue eyes, light complexion and brown hair.^{vi}



Frank, Duane, Wilma, Della, and Donald Iburg - circa 1944

On 16 Nov 1957, Francis died of heart failure at age 50. He was buried in Kearney Cemetery, Kearney, Nebraska.^{vii}

Della later married Aubrey D. Carnahan. She died on 4 Jun 2010, at the age of 97.^{viii} She was buried with Aubrey Carnahan in Lincoln Memorial Park, Lincoln, Nebraska.



Frank E. Iburg - Photo by Tamara Truette Peterson, Find A Grave

Children of Francis and Della (Biram) Iburg:

- i. DONALD EDWARD IBURG, b. 19 Mar 1932, Eddyville, Dawson, Nebraska; m. 20 Nov 1956, NORMA JANE BARFKNECHT.
- ii. DUANE LEROY IBURG, b. 10 Jul 1933, Oconto, Custer, Nebraska; d. 27 Apr 1986, Lincoln, Lancaster, Nebraska; m. OPAL CHARLOTTE STAHLNECKER.
- iii. MARY ELLEN IBURG, b. 16 Jan 1936, Dawson County, Nebraska; d. 16 Jan 1936.
- iv. WILMA ANN IBURG, b. 22 Jul 1943, Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska; m. LARRY LEE FINLEY.

ⁱ Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/108557278>).

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T624_841, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1374854.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.

^{iv} 1930 US Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0; FHL microfilm: 2341005.

^v Tom & Jean Iburg, *Ancestors Iburs and Cannons*, self-published before 2008.

^{vi} WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 49.

^{vii} City of Kearney Interment Records (<https://www.cityofkearney.org/DocumentCenter/View/78/I>).

^{viii} Social Security Death Index 1935-Current; Ancestry.com

Frederick Thomas and Doris Marcelene (Young) Iburg

Frederick “Fred” Thomas Iburg was born 9 Apr 1909 in Spaulding, Greeley County, Nebraska, the third son born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census shows Fred, age 1, living in Loup Township, Custer County, Nebraska.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Loup, Custer, Nebraska, he was age 10, attending school and living with his four brothers.ⁱⁱⁱ

On 20 Jan 1934, Fred married Doris Marcelene Young^{iv}, born 13 Dec 1912 in Edgar, Clay, Nebraska, the daughter of Charles and Hattie Young.^v Her name is spelled “Dorace” in some records.

On 12 Jun 1939, at age 30, Frederick, while working for the State of Nebraska, was accidentally crushed by road machinery, leaving his wife, Doris, a widow with two small children. Fred was buried in Kearney Cemetery, Kearney, Nebraska.^{vi}

Doris was remarried about Dec 1942, to John Maze, a widower.^{vii} John Maze died 15 Oct 1993 in Kearney, Nebraska.^{viii} Doris died 13 Apr 2000 in Kearney.^{ix} Doris and John were married for over 50 years.

Children of Frederick and Doris (Young) Iburg:

- i. FREDERICK THOMAS IBURG, b. 14 Sep 1934, Elm Creek, Buffalo, Nebraska; m. 13 May 1956, MARGARET HOPKINS.
- ii. JACQUELINE LEE IBURG, b. 4 Aug 1939, Kearney, Buffalo, Nebraska; m. 24 May 1959 in Kearney, Nebraska, ALLAN R. SCHNERINGER.

ⁱ Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/108557010>).

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T624_841, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1374854.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.

^{iv} Source: Interview with Jacqueline Iburg, daughter of Fred and Doris Iburg.

^v Social Security Death Index 1935-Current; Ancestry.com

^{vi} City of Kearney Interment Records (<https://www.cityofkearney.org/DocumentCenter/View/78/I>).

^{vii} Source: Interview with Jacqueline Iburg, daughter of Fred and Doris Iburg.

^{viii} Social Security Death Index 1935-Current; Ancestry.com.

^{ix} Social Security Death Index 1935-Current; Ancestry.com.

Herman William and Sadie Ella (Warner) Iburg

Herman William Iburg was born 4 Dec 1910 in Georgetown, Custer, Nebraska, the fourth son born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Loup, Custer, Nebraska, Herman was age 9, attending school and living with his four brothers.ⁱⁱ In the 1930 US census for Kennebec Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, Herman is listed at age 19, single, working as a farm laborer and lodging with their neighbor, Charley Lawson, and his family.ⁱⁱⁱ The Lawsons built the Kennebec Precinct farm house in 1919 where the rest of the Iburg family was living in 1930.

On 30 Mar 1932, in Eddyville, Nebraska, Herman married Sadie Ella Warner, born 25 Aug 1913, the daughter of John and Bertha Warner.^{iv}

By 1940, at age 29, Herman was a farm laborer in Coyote Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska. Herman and Sadie had a 3-month old daughter, Dixie Lee.^v



Herman, Dixie Lee, and Sadie Iburg – May 1956

Later that year Herman and Sadie moved to Fontana, San Bernardino, California where Herman registered for the draft on 16 Oct 1940, the exact same day as his brother Frank registered in Eddyville, Nebraska, but neither Herman nor Frank served in the military. The draft registration indicates he was 5 foot 10-1/2 inches tall, 150 pounds, had gray eyes, a ruddy complexion and brown hair.^{vi}

Herman died on 18 Jun 1989 in Fontana, San Bernardino, California at age 78.^{vii}

Sadie died 1 Mar 2005 in Glendora, Los Angeles, California,^{viii} preceded by her daughter, Dixie Lee in Los Angeles who died on 23 May 1996.^{ix}

Children of Herman and Sadie (Warner) Iburg:

- i. DIXIE LEE IBURG, b. 30 Dec 1939, Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska; d. 23 May 1996 in Los Angeles, California; m. 21 May 1960 in San Bernardino, California, CHARLES H. RATLIFF.

ⁱ WWII Draft Registration, the National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 868.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0, FHL microfilm: 2341005.

^{iv} Nebraska Marriages 1855–1955, Nebraska Historical Society, Lincoln; FLH Library microfilm 1,954,029.

^v 1940 US Census, Coyote, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: T627_2243, Page: 6A.

^{vi} WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri.

^{vii} California Death Index 1940-1997; Ancestry.com.

^{viii} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{ix} California Death Index 1940-1997; Ancestry.com.

Raymond Orville and Genevieve Theresa (Baldys) Iburg



Raymond Iburg – Courtesy of Rebecca Loiacono

Raymond Orville Iburg was born 7 Oct 1919 in Eddyville, Nebraska, the fifth son born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ He is listed in the 1920 US census for Loup, Custer, Nebraska, as 3 months old living with his four brothers.ⁱⁱ In the 1930 US census for Kennebec Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, Raymond is listed as age 10 and attending school.ⁱⁱⁱ

Raymond registered for the draft in Oconto, Nebraska on 16 Oct 1940, on the same date as his younger brothers.^{iv} The draft registration indicates he was 5 foot 10 inches tall, 175 pounds, had blue eyes, a light complexion, and black hair. He enlisted in the Navy in January 1942 and went to San Diego, California for basic training. He was stationed at Moffett Field Naval Air Station, California, serving in a blimp squadron providing submarine patrol to convoys in the Pacific.

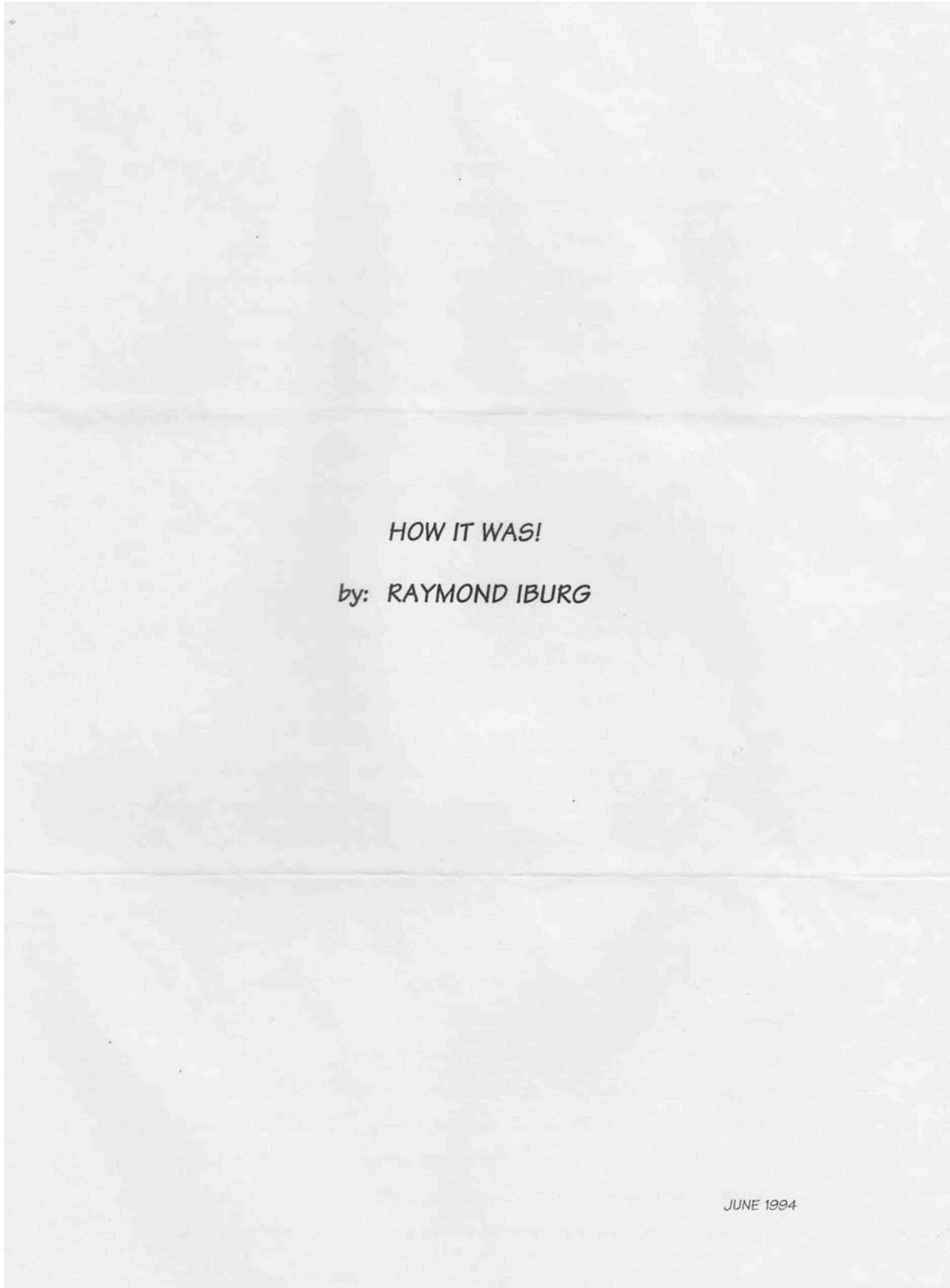
Six months before being discharged from the navy, Raymond attended a USO dance in San Jose where he met his future wife Genevieve “Jenny” Theresa Baldys. They were married in a Catholic church in Saratoga, Santa Clara County, California on 8 Apr 1945.^v She was born 17 Mar 1927 in Medford, Taylor County, Wisconsin, the daughter of Polish immigrants Phillip Baldys and Genevieve Zugnor.^{vi}

After his discharge, Raymond trained to become a butcher, a trade he stayed with for almost 40 years. Raymond and Jenny purchased a home in the San Jose, California and remained there for the remainder of their lives.



Raymond and Jenny Iburg – circa 1945

Raymond's life story in his own words:



I always wished that I knew some of "how it was" for my Dad and Mother when they were young, married and so on, but I never thought much about it until I was 35 or 40 - so here I go!

I would like to say that I was born in a sod house (there were several still around) on a frosty morning by the bank of the river - but 2 out of 3 ain't bad. I was born in a regular farm house on a farm near the Loup River, and being October, it may have been frosty. A farm called the "Nigh Place". Every farm seemed to have a name that stayed forever - near a settlement called Georgetown - 8 or 10 miles north of Eddyville Nebraska. Old Dr. Kyle helped at my delivery and I imagine he came from Eddyville by horse and buggy as there were very few cars in 1919; a few airplanes tho and as my mother was looking at me on my first day, an airplane cross country race was on and flying low over our house so mother said his middle name will be "Orville". Glad it wasn't Wilber.

In two years we moved to the "Farm south of Eddyville". I started school in a couple more years. Farmers moved every year - 2 or 3 hoping to find a better farm. The first Monday in March was move time - so in a couple more years, we moved to the "Hamer Place" - 600 acres or so. School was only 1/4 mile away. We had such a big corn crop in 1928, Dad bought a tractor, corn picker and 1928 Model 'A' Ford. That was the last time we had enough rain to have a big crop for 12 year or so. Of course the tractor and corn picker were repossessed after the first year, but the folks did keep the Model 'A' tho'.

These Hamer's had relatives who wanted our farm so we moved to the "Standby Place", after only 2 years on the Hamer Place. The school was the same, but 2 miles away. We now had 360 acres. All these farms were dry land, some hill, some lowland, but never enough rain, or you might get a hail storm and destroy the crop, or grasshoppers would eat a lot of it. We were really nothing more than share croppers (like the south had in slave time). We'd rent a farm for 2/3 of grain produced 1/3 to the Land Lord, plus a cash amount for the pasture land. Our last place, we gave the Land Lord 2/5 of the crop. That way no cash money had to be put out for the pasture land. People were pretty honest in those days. Your word was as good as a written contract and even if neither,

you did what was right. I can remember Dad in July and August, when our oats and corn ran out to feed the animals and new crop wasn't in yet. He would borrow a few bushels at a time from the Land Lord's last year's crop, write it down and pay it back when new crops were harvested. Why the Land Lord's share was still there in separate bins, I have always wondered. I am not sure that type of borrowing would work today with everyone.

We had the one room school house, all 8 grades, if there were that many children, usually about 17-23 pupils. For several years, Ira never had anyone else in his class. Men and women teachers, as long as the women were single, lived an upright life and had no visible boy friend. Several fathers had put up a barn holding 6 horses. So a lot of time we rode a horse. Some times we'd walk if we had traps set between home and school, trapping skunks; if that were the case we carried a .22 rifle to finish off anything we'd catch, hide the rifle in the weeds before we got to school and pick it up on the way home. We had to finish off a skunk one morning and I never noticed much odor, but once I got in a warm school house it got pretty strong. The teacher said that if I hadn't of had perfect attendance up to that time (February) she would had sent me home, but if it ever happened again she would send me home anyway, (it never did). We would get \$1.50 or sometimes \$2.00 for a good skunk skin and if you could see the size of a penny candy bar then (bigger than \$.45 one today) so \$2.00 was serious money. Skinning skunks or any animal, you had to be careful not to cut hide, then turn it inside out over a metal frame to dry for weeks. I found out the hard way that a skunk can still spray you even if it has been dead for 24 hours. By pulling down on the tail to skin it out, that would activate the scent mechanism and I got sprayed. After that we worked like the finest surgeon and carefully cut out that walnut size scent bag before skinning it any farther.

Our mail box was 3/4 of a mile away. Dad walked it, I rode a horse and or learned to drive the Model 'T'. Eddyville was 8 miles away up hills and down hills. Model 'T' would not go forward up hills unless you had a good speed up, so we'd have to turn around and back up the hill. No fuel pumps just gravity fed was the only way gas got to the motor. Eddyville had 200 to 300 people then, now 30.

Merchants put on outdoor movies in the summertime once a week. First silent (had to know how to read) finally sound, but never color.

Corn and oats were the main crop on the farm. Some barley and agrass for hay through the winter. We always grew popcorn. We had to shell it by hand by rubbing 2 ears together to get kernels off; then we'd use one of the cobs to shell the rest, toss it from pan to pan on a windy day to let the chaff blow away. We never shelled any regular corn except for seed corn to plant. For that we had a hand cranked machine you could push one ear at a time through it. Pigs, horses, sheep and poultry would eat corn off the cob like we do. Cattle would take the whole ear in their mouth and eat cob, corn and all.

From 12 until I went in the Navy I did a lot of reading, mostly western books. I hunted, trapped and ate pop corn. There was no electricity and we had gas lamps. There was no radio until Ira bought one when he started working out. It used a '6' volt battery like in a car. It seemed we had to get it recharged about every week.

We had lots of pheasants, and rabbits to eat. Coyotes, skunks, Civit cats and opossum to trap. 'Possums, I'd trap down in the Platte River Valley about 15 miles south of us. I'd stay there for room and board (food). I was 15 - 17 then and helped a guy milk cows twice a day and I had 8 to milk. My hands still ache when I think about it.

We would dig out dens of young coyotes in the spring. They were worth \$2.00 each. We would haul barrels of water in a wagon pulled by a team of horses to drown out a badger from its den. Anything to get money. We would get \$4-\$5 for a badger skin. One spring Dad and Brother found a likely coyote den to dig out. You had to read a sign to know that last foot prints in the dirt was going in-not out and or other signs of young in dens. So they left me at this den site while they went to get shovels to start digging. I had 2 coyote catching dogs, one on each end of a 10' chain. The den hole went into a little bank, so I just sat on the bank, my legs on each side of the hole. The dogs laid down and went to sleep. One on each side of me. All of a sudden, old mama coyote dashed out between my legs. The dogs woke up real fast and gave chase, tied together

by a 10' chain, and chasing the coyote. Grass and small bushes were laid over like there was a strong wind only ten feet wide. I can still see that. Mama coyote hadn't delivered yet and dogs caught her and put an end to her life. Such was the life then and probably now. Dad and Brother, 'tho, were happy that they didn't have to spend hours digging the den out.

Most of the trees in Nebraska where we lived had been cut down for fuel years ago, coal was high to buy, corn cobs only gave a short fast fire, we had no gas or electricity, so many times we'd go out in the pasture land, dad driving a team and wagon, I would walk, be on the look out for "prairie chips" "Buffalo chips" (whatever), now called meadow muffins; find the dry ones pick it up and throw it into the wagon. About the size of a dinner plate, dry - no odor, it was all grass that had gone through the cattle. They would burn with a low hot flame and were a useful by-product in those days.

I worked out for neighbors when I was 17-18 also. I received \$1.00 a day or \$30.00 a month. I always liked February - only 28 days to that month. I would pick corn on Platte River Valley Farms in the fall. I wore mittens and wore a hook on my right hand to open up the husk - then I would snap out the ear mostly clear of the husks. I got \$.04 a bushel and if you worked real hard for about 12 hours, you could pick 100 bushels, \$4.00 for the day. I made \$4.00 only once in my life. Of course after picking it then you had to shovel lit up in the corn crib - 14 hour days were the norm. No trouble eating or sleeping 'tho with all that fresh fall air and exercise.

I was going to be drafted into the army in February 1942 so I enlisted in the Navy in Mid January. The pay was \$21.00 dollars a month, but they took out \$4.00 a month for insurance. Still I had \$17.00 left. I got \$8.50 every 1st and 15th and found it hard to spend even that at first, as most everything was furnished. I was sent to San Diego for training and as I was familiar with guns I got in the ordinance branch of the Navy, I had fun shooting rifles, pistols, shot guns and machine guns. I realized about 30 days before I got out of the Navy that I was in the wrong field as there would not be many jobs for machine gunners, maybe for Al Capone and the like but I doubted if they would be

advertising for help.

Back in October 1942 after I had finished all my training, I was waiting to be assigned to another base ship. 80% of the ones with training like me were sent to be aircraft gunners on Cargo ships that left the East Coast ports for Murmask Russia. Not only was the weather very bad in the North Atlantic but 60-70% of the ships never got there but were sunk by Hitler's 'U' Boats. One afternoon, another fellow and I were going into town (San Diego); at the gate an officer said they wanted 2 volunteers for "lighter than air" duty in Sunnyvale California. It took only a split second to say "yes sir". Murmask run didn't sound like a sure long life ahead, so what ever was at Moffit Field, it could not be any worse. Pretty lucky - a minute or two either way and my life would have been a lot different. So I ended up flying blimps the next 3 years to wars end. Logged 2400 hours in the air or 300-8 hour days. After we were up and flying, my duty was also to handle either the up and down part or the left and right rudders. We'd change off every hour. We carried food to cook, my job too, but happily each one wanted to do his own cooking, we were also able to fix anything that went wrong except with engines or radio (nothing every did) and handle the 50 cal. machine gun if we had to shoot anything (never did). Did get target practice tho.

Blimp duty was to escort every ship that left San Francisco until 15 minutes after sundown. Just fly around back and forth looking for subs (never saw any). We had 2 depth bombs that could do some damage. The convoys traveled at the speed of the slowest ship so we were not very far out at the end of our escort as they only went about 3 miles per hour. But sometimes we would get a cruiser or a destroyer going to Pearl Harbor all alone and by night fall we'd be out 200 miles or so. We always seemed to have a head wind when we'd head home and as our top speed was only 65, it might take 4-5 hours to get back to base. Many of the flights would then run 14-15 hours. I would fly on the average 10 times a month and average 100 hours a month - some more some less.

The biggest thrill in the Navy was the day the pilot told me to take his seat for take off. I had flown with him over 30 times so he knew me. We were 2000 lbs. heavy with the gasoline we had on board - so you just push the

throttle ahead and go rolling down the run-way until you got up enough speed to get air born. It was a lot of fun but if anything had gone wrong, we would both probably still be in jail.

When I was discharged from the Navy in October '45 there was on the job training for painters and butchers. The government would pay us the difference between our salary and \$200.00 a month. I did not want to paint houses so I became a butcher. I started at \$29.00 a week for 6 days plus some extra hours after the store closed cleaning cases. We had to clean turkeys and so on. After one week the Union found out that I had replaced a girl butcher and she was getting \$35.00 a week so I was raised to \$35.00 - Big time now. But I would still get money from the government each month until I got up to the \$200.00 per month in salary. I gave this job up tho after 39 years and 11 months. I worked 6 days a week for over 30 years and when it got to be overtime after 40 hours it was good pay.

We were married about 6 months before I was discharged form the Navy, Jenny had heard of a small apartment, so she latched right on to it. The cheapest furniture you can imagine. The bed pulled down out of a closet. When I started cutting meat an old Osteopath Doctor friend of Jenny's family said he would loan us the down payment so we could buy a home; so we did, fully furnished with custom made furniture - the price \$7,900.00. It was located at 34th and San Antonio. We could see in a few months any children we would have would be speaking spanish right away as it was an all spanish area. So in a few months we sold it unfurnished for \$8,00.00 to a young mexican veteran, married with 2 children and he was a shoemaker by trade. He didn't have much money so we had to take a note for \$500.00. He made 2 payments and then stopped. Try as I might we couldn't get any more out of him. But we used the furniture for 30 years. In fact my dresser is still used and in good shape.

We rented then for a couple of years down stairs of an old, old house. But it was fine. I could walk to work at the Safeway at Willow and Lincoln, at first. Finally when Dan was coming we bought a home on Curtner Ave., it was built during wartime - hard-wood floors made out of pecan trees. Oil furnace under the

floor and a septic tank. We had a 200 gallon tank in the garage for the oil. The heater was okay when it worked - when it didn't it put soot out all over everything. The septic tank cover caved in one day - just a few feet from where Dan was playing, so then we hooked up to the city sewer. Next the city said they were taking 10 feet off the front of the lot to widen Curtner Ave. Chris was on the way so we had looked at this lot we now are on a few times and we decided to buy another house a few blocks away and rent out Curtner, which later we did. Before we moved 'tho we took another look at this lot and of course here was a sign saying a 52 home sub division was going in. So we went over to that builder's office in Santa Clara and bought this house just off the subdivision maps and plans. We figured we could live with this and we have so far for 40 years. We moved in here - now Chris was 8 months old and we had 2 houses. Easy to rent but they always moved out in July or August. I'd have 3 lawns to mow then and working 6 days it kept me busy. After the people in the Curtner house never paid anything but the rent - utilities were shut off. They used candles for light by the time I saw that, the whole house was black inside with smoke. We had to repaint every room, so I got discouraged and sold out. I made a few bucks and paid this house off in 10 years or so. But today they would be worth a bundle, if I could have handled it.

Well that's my story, Mother will have to start hers. I started out to have a couple of pages and now look at it. WOW!

Love you all -

Dad, Grandpa- & Great Grandpa too

P.S. After all this I should have written more about the drought of 5 years in the 30's where corn might get 1-1/2 feet tall and that was it. We couldn't grow anything for the farm animals, so most were sold.

About that time President Roosevelt started the "Public Works Administration". Where mostly the farmers could work on road projects and get some money. \$2 or \$3 a day and I drove a 4 horse team with a

scraper - hauling dirt off the top of the hills (we had to back up with the model 'T') and putting the dirt on the bottom. Now the hills were more rolling; now the 'T's had no problem. I never saw any of the money but it put food on the table.

Dad and I used to hunt rattle snakes in the fall - had to be real careful. The first 50 years were really amazing, from barely having cars and planes to walking on the moon and I can see that the next 50 will truly be amazing also.

CH
Love
Raymond

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1945

My dear Mr. Iburg:

I have addressed this letter to reach you after all the formalities of your separation from active service are completed. I have done so because, without formality but as clearly as I know how to say it, I want the Navy's pride in you, which it is my privilege to express, to reach into your civil life and to remain with you always.

You have served in the greatest Navy in the world.

It crushed two enemy fleets at once, receiving their surrenders only four months apart.

It brought our land-based airpower within bombing range of the enemy, and set our ground armies on the beachheads of final victory.

It performed the multitude of tasks necessary to support these military operations.

No other Navy at any time has done so much. For your part in these achievements you deserve to be proud as long as you live. The Nation which you served at a time of crisis will remember you with gratitude.

The best wishes of the Navy go with you into civilian life. Good luck!

Sincerely yours,

James Forrestal
James Forrestal

Mr. Raymond Orville Winters Iburg
Route 1
Oconto, Nebraska

Secretary of The Navy, James Forrestal letter to Raymond Iburg – Courtesy of Chris Iburg

On 24 Apr 2012 Raymond died at age 92. He was buried in Los Gatos Memorial Park, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California.^{vii} Raymond and Genevieve were married for 67 years.

Genevieve Iburg died on 19 Nov 2017, at the age of 90.^{viii} She was buried next to her husband in Los Gatos Memorial Park, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California.

Children of Raymond and Genevieve (Baldys) Iburg:

- i. DANIEL LYNN IBURG, b. 5 Oct 1949, San Jose, California; m1). 21 July 1970 in Carson City, Nevada, JOAN KETMAN, m2). 20 Oct 1977 in Pasquotank, North Carolina, MARION M. STANFORD.
- ii. CHRISTOPHER DALE IBURG, b. 19 Oct 1953, San Jose, California; m1). 12 Aug 1978, PATTI A. MCMAHON, m2). 31 Dec 1993 in Clackamas, Oregon, HOLLY E. PARKS.
- iii. TIMOTHY EDWARD IBURG, b. 17 Jul 1955, San Jose, California; m. 5 Nov 1978, in Santa Clara, California, SUSAN E. PARSELS.
- iv. REBECCA ELLEN IBURG, b. 14 Dec 1961, San Jose, California; m. 30 Jun 1985, JOSEPH C. LOIACONO.
- v. MICHAEL RAYMOND IBURG, b. 1 May 1963, San Jose, California; m. KATJA BUECHNER.

ⁱ Custer County, Nebraska, Birth Certificate, Raymond Orville Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Loup, Custer, Nebraska; Roll: T625_985, Page: 2B, Image: 421.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0; FHL microfilm: 2341005.

^{iv} WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri.

^v Santa Clara County, California, Marriage Certificate, Raymond Iburg and Genevieve Baldys; State of California.

^{vi} Taylor County, Wisconsin, Birth Certificate, Genevieve Baldys; State of Wisconsin.

^{vii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/89575504>).

^{viii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/185638544>).

Ira Ivan and Opal L. (Meister) Iburg

Ira Ivan Iburg was born 1 Feb 1921 in Eddyville, Dawson, Nebraska, the sixth son born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ He is listed in the 1930 US census for Kennebec Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, as 8 years old and attending school.ⁱⁱ

In the 1940 US census for Coyote Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, Ira is listed as age 20, a farm laborer, living in the household of Gottlieb and Kate Strauss.ⁱⁱⁱ

Ira registered for the draft in Lexington, Nebraska on 14 Feb 1942. The draft registration indicates he was 5 foot 10 inches tall, 165 pounds, had brown eyes, a ruddy complexion, and brown hair.^{iv} Ira enlisted in the Army Air Corp on 6 Nov 1942 in Fort Crook, Nebraska, near Omaha.^v It was renamed Offutt Airforce Base in 1948, headquarters of the Strategic Air Command. Ira entered bombardier training and was later trained as a navigator.

On 4 Oct 1944, Ira married Opal Meister in Casper, Wyoming. Born on 10 Dec 1921 in Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska.^{vi} Opal was the daughter of Ernest and Anna Meister.



Ira and Opal Iburg - circa 1943

In 1947 Ira and Opal were stationed at Matthew Air Force base in Sacramento, California, where their first daughter was born. Ira's flight crew was assigned to the island of Guam for a period of time during the Korean War.

Ira spent 12 years in the Air Force, earning the rank of Major, then went to work for Lockheed Aircraft in Tucson, Arizona where two more children were born. By 1991 Ira and Opal moved to Smyrna, Georgia where they remained for the rest of their lives.

Ira's life story in his own words:

THIS IS MY LIFE

By Ira Iburg

February 1, 1997

This story of my life is being put together as I feel sometime my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren maybe thinking back just as I do and wonder what it was like in my early years, I pretty much remember the way my parents life was in their early years, and even some of the life of the grandparents but things have changed so much and so rapid since the end of World War II, that it's difficult to think back and believe the things you may hear and see some of the things I write about may not fall at the proper time as I may be telling the story at the age of twenty and recall something many years earlier, also I will be putting information together as though we were sitting here in my home and having a conversation of years gone by. At one time my thoughts were to make a video tape but they may not last forever, where putting it in writing will be more permanent. There also is no attempt to use the proper grammar and punctuation which you will understand later.

I was born February 1, 1921, in the house (not the barn) at our home some six or seven miles Southwest of Eddyville, Nebraska, population about 250, I am sure Dr. Kile came by sometime during the day, it may have been some type of automobile or a buggy pulled by a horse, or perhaps riding a horse, this home is no longer there just a couple of trees where buildings were, also the town of Eddyville perhaps not over fifty people. I was the sixth son born in the family, later a girl came along, sister Ann.

I wish I knew more about the place where I was born and just how and why my parents selected this farm, but they moved here about 1920, I would guess there may have been 160 or 320 acres of land, it normally being broken into 80,160,320 (known as 1/2 sections) and 640 acres being an entire section which is square and a mile on each side, I would guess they may have paid around five dollars per acre and as I think back I wonder where and how they had the money for a down payment such as it was in those days and six children to care for. Things didn't last long and I think it may have been 1928 when they could no longer make the mortgage payment and were forced to vacate the property they had worked so hard for. We then moved to a rented farm seven mile west of Eddyville, today this type property is referred to as share croppers, there of course were no trucks to use for the move and everything was loaded into wagons pulled by horses, other live stock followed along and I suspect there was a brother or two riding horses to keep things moving. This new home had much better farm land and buildings. We gave as rent some portion of the crops raised, corn, barley, oats, perhaps about 1/4 and some cash for use of the pasture and buildings, this may have been 80 to 100 dollars per year. This being a good piece of land and the future looking good so my father invested in a tractor to farm with rather than to pull the machinery with horses, this was a big step up as tractors were few and far between, I also wonder how he obtained a loan to purchase the equipment as his credit must have been poor after loosing the farm. Now this was about the time of the great depression and things didn't

work out as planned and being unable to make payments on the equipment it was all repossessed by the bank, then about this time, perhaps 1930, the landlord (owner) of this farm decided we should move off so one of his married children could have the farm, we children liked it here as it was only 1/4 mile to the school. So it is move again but only about a mile and even a better farm, rent of course, and here we paid no cash rent but gave the owner 2/5 of the crops raised, corn, barley, oats, and it was back to farming again with horses. Now we had a larger house two story and five bedrooms, I had my own bedroom, seems like it was huge but in real life there wasn't much room after setting up a double bed, even though I wasn't there much this was my home until my father passed away in 1945, my mother having passed on in 1940. None of our homes had electricity and our lights at night was a kerosene lamp not much above a candle, we had no running water and carried it by bucket from some point in the yard, of course no bath room, but of course the outhouse out in the yard, they were two holers, why two I don't know, perhaps for someone with an emergency when already occupied, and talk about cold on a winter day, toilet tissue, what's that??, but there was last years Sears Catalog. Bath, I guess we got one once in awhile, in the winter they were spread apart as far as possible, you had to heat water on the cook stove and bathe in a laundry tub. In the summer we had a large tank such as used to water live stock and we could fill it during the day from the windmill (I know you want to know what a windmill is) then jump into it in the evening for a bath and pull the plug to water my Mother's garden. A windmill is a structure some 30-40-50 feet tall with a large wheel, fan type, on top that rotated from the wind and through a series of gears and rods pulled water out of the ground. Our heat was one stove (heater) burning coal or wood if you could find any, heating one room only generally the dining-living room combined, and the kitchen cook stove which was only used in preparation of the meals, fuel for heating was scarce and money hard to come by and there were times when we burned buffalo chips, what are they? it's cow dung, and if dropped in a pile and dried for several weeks it would burn pretty good. Since we had heat in only one room and that in the day time only meant that the remainder of house could get very cold at night, and in the kitchen was the water bucket which every one drank out of and it could freeze at night. There was a dipper in this bucket for drinking, a dipper is like a cup with a long handle, and I know that anyone dipping up a drink and getting too much the remainder went back into the bucket. We had no radio to listen to and in the winter we might play cards for a while but suspect we were in bed by 8 o'clock where you could keep warm, in the summer it was work daylight until dark. Our washing machine was hand operated and sat on the porch, water was heated on the kitchen stove in a boiler then carried to the washer, one filling of the machine served for the entire wash, the cloths were hung on a wire line to dry and in the winter would freeze immediately, with some wind and dry air they soon would thaw out and be really fresh. We did a lot of living off the land, raised a garden and my mother canned some, always had a large potato patch, we had some but not a lot of beef to eat, but always had some hogs to be used for meat, also sheep, chickens and turkeys were mostly in my mothers hands, some to eat and others to sell, there were also the eggs, we milked a few but not a lot of cows, the milk went through a separator to separate the cream from the milk which was then sold in town, the

milk went to the hogs, and of course we had our own real butter.

Now for the school, you can scratch your ear over this. The two schools I attended were each country schools, very small, and one through the eight grades were together, and one teacher for all. In the eight years I was there the total number of students went from about 15 to 23, see this was out in the sticks, there was a row of desks down each side, sometimes a desk would seat two students, the teacher sat up front. In the center was a big pot belly stove burning coal and in the winter the teacher would be there early and get the heater going. There was a boys outhouse in one corner of the grounds and the girls in another, it was a tornado area so there was a storm cellar in the center of the grounds, also there was a horse barn that would hold four or five horses, these horses needed to be inside during the cold weather and some of the children riding horses came three or four mile, I rode a horse my last year and my sister rode behind me, we must have been something like a mile and quarter from school. I went thru eight years of school with not another single student in my grade, also had the same teacher for the last three years. There were no busses any where, they never closed school because of weather, except the year when I rode the horse I never had a ride to school. Completing the eighth grade, and I did graduate, ended my formal schooling, see we were about seven mile from high-school, no busses, no way to ride with others or no money where you could drive each day. I did have a neighbor lady that thought a lot of me and her parents had a small business in this spot called Eddyville, and she worked up a deal where I could stay with them and work for my room and board. I didn't go for it as other students would have had nice cloths to wear and all I had was some worn overalls so I decided to just go to work. I did after the end of World War II go to school at night and was able to get a high school diploma. I know I missed a lot by not going to a normal high school, but that's water under the bridge, so now I am 13 and ready to go to work.

I paid my own way from the age of 13, I received room and board at home but we worked for that, for the first few years it was getting a day of work here and there, mostly when some crop was being harvested, would work all day for one dollar. I also had some money from trapping animals for fur along with an older brother, for a skunk hide we could get I think a dollar. At the age of 16 I went to work on a large farm and a lot of cows to milk, here I was paid ten dollars a month plus room and board, I lived with them as though I was one of the family, this was hard work and long days and I was doing the work of a man, after about a year I went back home and found odd jobs again. In 1939 at the age of 18 I found another job on a wonderful farm about 18 mile from home, here I lived with them like one of the family and was paid forty dollars a month plus room and board, can you see anyone doing this today? I was there for three years until my brother Raymond went into the Navy then I went home to help my Father on the farm, I also rented a joining farm myself. This last farm where I worked actually had two, one known as the home place and a second a mile away where their unmarried son lived, they had one tractor to farm with between the two and when I went there they bought a second one for me, and so now I'm feeling like something big. After about six

months I had saved all my money, not much of a way to spend any so I had to have a car and I found a beautiful 1935 Chevrolet coupe for less than \$300.00 and bought it, and I still have a promissory note that I signed for a balance of \$243.60 and \$20.30 per month, I drove it home the next day to show every one and I'll always remember my Mother's comment "You should have saved your money", I don't know if my father even looked at it. I kept that car for two years then traded for a 1938 Chevrolet, two door, two seat, the only reason for the trade was the frequent no brakes on the 35 because they were mechanical meaning they were applied thru a series of cables and they would freeze up from ice and snow in the winter and the only way to stop was to open the door and drag your feet, that 35 was a beauty in the summer. I do not remember my parents even having a car until I was around ten years old and they got a Model T Ford touring car, two seat and top, no side curtains, it wasn't long till my father cut the rear seat off and built a wooden box on the rear and now it's Mom and Pop up front and three kids in the rear. A Model T was some machine, not really bad in those days, but sometimes you could not make it up a hill forwards and would turn around and back up, this was because of a band slipping, so goes for the automobiles, we went to town many times in a wagon pulled by horses.

It's now 1942 and I am home to help my Father as Raymond has gone to the Navy because of World War II, my Father only had horses to farm with and perhaps I was spoiled, and some-how, either myself or my Father worked an agreement with a neighbor which had a tractor that I would do all their field work for the use of their tractor and equipment to do the work on my fathers place, and also the farm I had rented, it worked very well but busy. I also was faced with going into the military on November 7, 1942, so I enlisted on November 6, 1942, to get my choice of military. With my Fathers health and being a farmer it would have been possible to be exempt from the military, but it was his and my feeling that it was our duty to protect this wonderful country and he elected to stop farming and I departed, he remained in the house while others farmed the ground until his death in October 1945. His health was poor and we feel that once the war was over with and he saw his two sons had survived he was ready to go as it had been hard for him.

Our Christmas as a child was far different from the commercial it is today, yet it seemed so much like it was intended. Being no TV and living as one did in those days I suspect I may have believed in Santa until I was eleven or twelve faking at least the last one. My Mother always made certain to have money from the sale of chickens for Santa to bring some gifts, and yes, we would wake up long before daylight and ask if Santa had come yet. Of course, there was no malls and most shopping was from Sears Roebuck Catalog with the merchandise coming by mail from Chicago, Illinois, no 800 number to call and no UPS. To place your order it was necessary to meet the mail carrier at our mailbox about one half mile from the house and purchase a money order. My Mother always prepared a large meal, turkey, dressing, etc, and one thing I'll always remember is that this was one time of the year when she baked raisin bread and was it ever good. We had a Christmas tree by cutting a branch off a cedar tree and attached candles and even lit them, this is a hazard today, but we had no trouble, and we made

strings of popcorn to hang on the tree.

Our mail was the most important means of contact we had with the world, we received a daily paper, but of course a day old, and looked forward to each day. It was known as a rural route and our carrier was a lady, Mrs. Buckner, and she delivered it six days a week, I would guess her route may have covered fifty mile which was a lot of country dirt roads, and she was the only one we had for years. The mail would come up a railroad track to the towns along the way in a thing called "A Motor", it was no more than an engine pulling one car of mail, no passengers, it passed perhaps three or four mile from our home and you would hear the whistle and know very soon your mail would come, which was about noon except in very bad weather. The families always watched for the carrier in bad weather as we had a lot of hills and sometimes her car couldn't make it up the hill and the men would get a team of horses (2) out to pull her car to the top. Since mail was so important you would never fail to pick it up and when Mrs. Buckner found my father had not picked up his mail she drove into one of the neighbor farms to tell them and so they went to check and found him dead sitting in his rocker. Could you see anyone doing this today?

As we grew up at home we certainly did not have things as today, but we still had the best and opportunities that not even farm children have today. I had my little truck and played with it on the mound of dirt covering the storm cellar for many hours. As I grew up it was other activities, I some-how had enough money to purchase a goat harness, may not have cost but three or four dollars, but I could harness that old billy goat up, hook him to my little red wagon and he would pull me all over the yard, we had several goats and I wonder why but they were good for keeping weeds down, and that old billy goat would butt you sometimes if not careful. At the age of maybe twelve I bought my first gun, a .22 action repeater rifle, used, it also could not have cost much but I wish I had it today. We ran a trap line catching wild animals for fur and we would take the rifle on the way to school to check the traps then hide the rifle in the weeds until evening. Raymond and I started hunting with B,B, guns when we could not have been more then eight to ten, we would go out when snow was on the ground looking for rabbits, you would find them hiding under a clump of weeds or grass and you could kill one by hitting it behind the ears, and then we would eat them, later we hunted many kinds of animals and birds. We had the horses we could ride and many a time we would start out across the pastures, ours and others, when we come to a fence we would take the wire down and lead our horse across then put the wire back up, we would be hunting coyotes. Along about a warm October afternoon we would sneak up to something called a "wash" and spot dozens of rattle-snakes sunning themselves, we would cut loose and empty all the ammunition from our guns, we never went near to count them but I suspect there may have been twenty or more dead. Today you would not dare to enter any ones pasture or land without permission. In the spring I would sell garden seeds to the neighbors, and my Mother she was the best customer, no doubt this always because of some offer coming in the mail, I may have earned a dollar, one time it was a small box camera. We would ride a calf once in awhile but not with our father watching. We would get on backward, wrap our legs

around its neck, lay down and hang on, sometimes it would be a pretty good ride, but not exactly as they do in a rodeo. Sure we may not have had what some others may have had but as I think back I'm so thankful to have had our life rather than theirs.

he only grandparent I met was my Mother's father, I recall him being at our house one time, and we were to his home in Greely, Nebraska one time when I was very small, he was on a farm and lived in a sod house, that is a house built with dirt. My Mother did not have any sisters or brothers, my father did have three sisters but never did see them, I have met some of the cousins.

Now backing up to some early years, we have no radio, we could get the baseball scores from the day old daily paper we would get in the mail, and we were great St. Louis Cardinal fans, and am yet today. Frequently they would be playing in the world series and my Father would crank up the Model T, into Eddyville we would go and in the hardware store (only one) they would have a radio playing and we would listen to the game being played. Our favorite pitcher was Dizzy Dean and he was a 30 game winner with a salary of about six thousand a year, today a pitcher may win 20 games and be paid seven million. Another form of entertainment was the movies, also a bit different. The merchants in Eddyville put on a free movie on Monday nights, there was an open area between two buildings where the movie was shown, you sat on a wooden board, no backrest, kids of course down front. The first year or two the movies were silent, you had to read on the screen what was being said, then they came out with sound and what an improvement, movies, of course, in black and white. Gasoline was, I think, about five gallon for a dollar, and you hand pumped the amount you wanted up into this glass bowel perhaps six feet high then let it gravity flow into your tank. While in the military I did at one time purchase gasoline on the base for seven cents a gallon as there was no tax on it.

I had my first airplane ride about 1929 when two of my brothers, Jim and Fred, owned this airplane, it was a biplane (two wings) open cockpit, how they ever had the money to purchase an airplane is a big question, of course, I doubt they paid over five hundred dollars for it, but then again they were working building roads (dirt) with horses and they may have been paid 60 to 70 dollars a month. Neither Jim or Fred had a license to carry anyone up in the airplane so a friend of theirs took me up, Faye Walston was his name, he worked in a hamburger joint where you could buy six hamburgers for a quarter and I did many times in later years. This ride sold me on airplanes and it became a way of life for me while in the military during world war two in 1943 when I applied for flight crew training and was accepted to enter bombardier training following the war I further trained as a navigator, following twelve years of military duty I joined Lockheed Aircraft where I continued to fly accepting aircraft systems and training flight crew members of foreign countries. My time span involving airplanes from the first training flight in the military and until my last at retirement was a total of 40 years 3 months and 16 days.

There has to be one thing in your life that stands out as the best of all in your life and that happened on September 6, 1942 when through a friend I met the most wonderful person on earth, Opal Meister. I left

for the military on November 5, 1942 so we had little time together. I think we each felt the same and we kept in touch by mail and I doubt we ever missed writing Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. I was able to get a leave two or three times and be home for a few days and I guess our love for each other grew deeper and deeper and we were married October 4, 1944.

I must tell all that I was late for our wedding but see this was 1944, a big war effort taking place, and we were training seven days a week and all hours of the day and night. As it was scheduled I was to be off on this particular Wednesday afternoon October 4, 1944, and so we planned our wedding for that evening but as noon rolled around the schedule was changed and I was assigned some training duties all afternoon. While I don't remember how late I was, it may have been 30 minutes to an hour, but no problem for my wife to be, as I had to pick her up at the hotel where she was staying, now you don't see your bride until ready to tie the knot. We were married in the Air Base Chapel at Casper, Wyoming, the base is now closed but the chapel was moved into the city of Casper and is a Catholic Church. In June of 1995 we returned to Casper once again just to look around, there of course were many changes, we were able to find our first home, the building is now a business but the front section still remains. I was stationed there from October 1944 to mid February 1945 and shall never forget the snow and cold, being young I could take it then.

This is a bit of humor or perhaps one's most embarrassing moment. Ray was a year older and our Father would let us take the car once in a while to go to Lexington which was 18 mile, our car was still a Ford but a 1929 model A and was enclosed. Some times on the farm one might loose a bird or animal that needed to be disposed of and this time it was a turkey, it being winter it was frozen solid. This car had front fenders such that you could put an object like this turkey behind the fender and next to the hood and haul it away, well we did this and our intent was to dispose of it on the road to Lexington in a ditch or what ever, but we arrived in town, parked in front of a hardware store where we no doubt were to purchase ammunition, and when we got out of the car, there was that darn turkey. What did we do? I don't really remember but about our only choice would have been to grab it and toss it in the rear seat.

Earlier I mentioned having been in the service and perhaps you may wonder where I served and what did I do. I joined the military November 6, 1942 and served until December 24, 1954. For the first year I was an enlisted man putting in time and my ambition had been to be a flight crew member, pilot, navigator or bombardier, there was a very long series of written tests one took to apply for these positions, and I did take the test's prior to entering the service, but with my education I did not fair so well, in fact I failed. About mid 1943 with the loss of many crew members flying in Europe and the need for many replacements they eased off on the testing to the extent that I was able to pass the tests and I entered bombardier training. This training lasted slightly over a year then one joined a bomber crew where you trained for another period of time, after completing all this training we were assigned a new airplane (a B-24) and issued loads of equipment and prepared for departure to our base in Italy, At this time I became

very ill and after momentarily passing out I went to the doctor and a few moments later I was on the way to the operating room to have my appendix removed. The appendix had ruptured and I was in the hospital 30 days, 16 in bed. Of course, now the crew has gone on to Italy without me. This operation delayed me from seeing any action in Europe and by the time I could be prepared for duty in the Pacific the war ended in that area. I continued in the Air Force and was further trained as a navigator and radar operator and continued to be a crew member on bomber aircraft. Things have now changed in the way of equipment and we are trained in the use of delivery of atomic bombs such as were used to end the war with Japan. During the Korean War my crew was assigned to the Island of Guam in the Pacific for 6 months where we were on stand by to use the atomic bomb should the President have decided to do so. My military time did lots for me in the way of education, I had many high level assignments and not many have observed an atomic bomb being set off, it was at ground level in the Nevada desert and we were in an airplane 6 mile above, but it was one moment I shall never forget. This briefly was then some of my military experience.

We had this thing called the "County Fair", now it was the great celebration of the year back in the 30's. People brought in all kinds of things to display in the hopes of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place award, also there was some entertainment and one item was horse racing, these not race horses but just the plain old farm horse. My family had been acquainted with this one family for many years and they had a son with a Shetland pony named Dan, and a daughter with one named Spot, a Shetland pony is a very small horse. They wanted to enter these ponys in a race this particular day at the fair and the daughter wasn't up to riding Spot and her father ask if I might like to. I was probably around ten years old and, of course I jumped at it. We lined up out there on the track doubt we raced a quarter of a mile and Spot came in second, the other pony the son was on, Dan, came in first, there were many others in the race. For this fantastic ride the father gave me a dollar and the blue ribbon, that may have been my first whole dollar. We are still close friends of the lady which owned Spot, we see her any time we return to Nebraska and we exchange Christmas cards.

Haircuts was another experience, without going through this you will never really feel what it was like. My father cut my hair until I was 18, sure he had clippers but a far cry from ones of today, they had cutters similar to the present but they were operated by squeezing a pair of handles together by hand, there was a constant pull of hair as no one could be that steady and squeeze the handle and move the clipper at the same time without pulling hair, at 18 I was away from home and would get a haircut on Saturday night for fifty cents.

This thing could go on and on but this is some of the highlights from my life and I hope you will enjoy reading this as much as I did in putting it together, further I hope you treasure this and it will mean more to you in years down the road.

Your father, grandfather or whatever, I love you all. IRA I IBURG

Opal Iburg died on 10 Dec 2015, at the age of 93.^{vii} She was buried in Georgia National Cemetery, Canton, Georgia. Ira and Opal and were married for 71 years.

Ira died on 9 Feb 2018 at age 97.^{viii} Services were held in the Jonquil Chapel of Castellaw Funeral Home with Rev. Joey Hatchell officiating. Ira was buried in Georgia National Cemetery, Canton, Georgia with full military honors. Ira and Opal were survived by three children, three grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.



Photo by Bo Bell, Find A Grave



Photo by Bob, Find A Grave

Children of Ira and Opal (Meister) Iburg:

- i. JUDY ANN IBURG, b. 11 Nov 1947, Matthew Air Force Base, San Jose, California; m. MICHAEL MCEVEN.
- ii. LINDA KAY IBURG, b. 14 Jul 1950, Tucson, Pima, Arizona; m. 7 Jul 1977, JAMES E. MELSEK.
- iii. STEVEN PAUL IBURG, b. 18 Jan 1955, Tucson, Pima, Arizona; m. SHIELA F. FALLAW.

ⁱ WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 49.

ⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0, FHL microfilm: 2341005.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1940 US Census, Coyote, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02243; Page: 3A.

^{iv} WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri.

^v U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946, National Archives and Records Administration.

^{vi} Tom & Jean Iburg, *Ancestors Iburgs and Cannons*, self-published before 2008.

^{vii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/143422938>).

^{viii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/187255295>).

Anna Laura (Iburg) and Ernest D. Harmoney

Anna Laura Iburg was born 21 Oct 1924 in Eddyville, Dawson, Nebraska, the first and only daughter born to Frederick and Ellen Iburg.ⁱ She is listed in the 1930 US census for Kennebec Precinct, Dawson, Nebraska, as Annie L. Iburg, 5 years old and not yet attending school.ⁱⁱ

On 4 Jun 1944, Anna married Ernest D. Harmoney in Norton, Kansas.ⁱⁱⁱ He was born 6 Apr 1924 in Amherst, Buffalo, Nebraska^{iv}, the son of Dewey and Myrtle (Axtell) Harmoney.

In 1945, Anna and Ernest were living in Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska where their first daughter was born. By 1947, they were living in Bellingham, Washington where they had two more children.^v



Anna (Iburg) and Earnest Harmoney – circa 1944

In the 1960s, Anna worked for the Educational Service District in the court house in Bellingham, Washington. Later she worked as the school superintendent's secretary for Mt. Baker School District. Ernest worked on a "green chain", a type of lumber sorting system used in a sawmill. On a green chain, men would stand alongside and pull lumber that matched the required dimensions and placed it in piles. Later he sold mutual funds, drove a school bus, owned a gas station, and eventually retired from the Mobile Oil Refinery in Ferndale, Washington.

Anna Laura died on 16 Jun 1998 at age 73 from heart failure. She was buried in the Green Acres Memorial Park, Ferndale, Whatcom County, Washington. Anna and Ernest were married for 54 years.^{vi}

Ernest Harmony died on 8 Jun 2011, at the age of 87. He was also buried in the Green Acres Memorial Park, Ferndale, Whatcom County, Washington.^{vii}



Photo by Jim deLucia, Find A Grave

Children of Anna (Iburg) and Ernest Harmony:

- i. CAROLYN ANN HARMONEY, b. 28 Feb 1945, Lexington, Dawson, Nebraska; d. 5 Oct 2015 in Bellingham, Washington; m. 7 Oct 1965 in Nez Perce, Idaho, YON PATRIC WYANDT.
- ii. DAVID LEE HARMONEY, b. 27 Dec 1947, Bellingham, Washington; m. 20 Sep 1968 in Whatcom, Washington, MOLLY ANN O’ROURKE.
- iii. KAREN SUE HARMONEY, b. 7 Jul 1953, Bellingham, Washington; m1). 3 Mar 1973 in Nooksack, Whatcom, Washington, DAVID R. LAWSON, m2). 30 Apr 1988 in Whatcom, Washington, DONALD R. TOLLIVER.

ⁱ Eddyville, Dawson County, Nebraska, Birth Certificate, Anna Laura Iburg; State of Nebraska Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

ⁱⁱ 1930 Census, Kennebec, Dawson, Nebraska; Roll: 1270, Page: 2A, Image: 1005.0, FHL microfilm: 2341005.

ⁱⁱⁱ Norton County, Kansas, Marriage License, Ernest D. Harmony and Ann L. Iburg; State of Kansas, Central Division of Vital Statistics.

^{iv} WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 41.

^v U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989; Ancestry.com.

^{vi} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/99903311>).

^{vii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/82077984>).

Chapter 3 - The Christons

Ernestine Matilda (Iburg) and John Christon

Ernestine “Tena” Matilda Iburg was born 24 Sep 1884 in Charles Mix County, Dakota Territory.ⁱ Tena was the second child and oldest daughter of Herman and Catherine Iburg, and the first born in the Dakotas. The Dakota Territory was an organized incorporated territory of the United States that existed from March 2, 1861 until November 2, 1889, when the final extent of the reduced territory was split and admitted to the Union as the states of North and South Dakota. In the split, Charles Mix County became part of South Dakota.ⁱⁱ

By 1900, Tena, age 15, was a saleslady according to the US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska.ⁱⁱⁱ

On 4 Mar 1901, Tena, age 16, married John Elijah Christon, age 24, in Greeley, Nebraska.^{iv} They were joined in matrimony by Rev Isaac Augustine. Witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Iburg, and her siblings Frederick and Cytha. Both of John Christon’s Danish immigrant parents died in 1895 before their marriage.

The 1910 US census shows Tena and John, a farmer, living in Garfield Township, Antelope, Nebraska, raising three children ages two to eight.^v Between 1902 and 1919, Tena and John had a total of nine children.

In 1920, Tena and John were still raising seven children on the Garfield farm and taking care of Tina’s mother, Catherine Iburg, a widow for the past ten years.^{vi}

By 1940, Tena and John were living in Newport, Rock County, Nebraska, about 140 miles north of Garfield. The children were no longer living with them. John had apparently retired from farming and was working in a gas station earning \$250 a month.^{vii}



Ernestine Iburg (cropped photo)

On 30 Oct 1949 Ernestine died at age 65. She was buried in the Ewing Cemetery, Holt County, Nebraska. Tena and John were married 48 years.^{viii}

John Christon died on 14 Nov 1954, at the age of 78. He was also buried in the Ewing Cemetery, Holt County, Nebraska.^{ix}



Ernestine and John Christon Gravestone – Photo by Phil Christon, Find A Grave

Children of Ernestine (Iburg) and John Elijah Christon:

- i. CARL HENRY CHRISTON, b. 15 Feb 1902, Nebraska; d. 15 Aug 1985, Midland, Texas; m. 1929, ALTHA M. LARSON.
- ii. JOHN E. CHRISTON, b. 17 Jul 1904, Nebraska; d. 5 Jul 1970, Newport, Nebraska.
- iii. CATHERINE M. CHRISTON, b. abt. 1908, Nebraska; m. 8 Feb 1928, CLARENCE R. THORIN.
- iv. WALTER H. CHRISTON, b. 15 Nov 1910, Ewing, Nebraska; d. 1 May 2000, New Braunfels, Texas; m. CRISTINE C. BEELAERT.
- v. ERNEST M. CHRISTON, b. 12 Nov 1912, Ewing, Nebraska; d. Nov 1979, Boise, Idaho; m. 19 Apr 1937, RUTH L. FOX.
- vi. ROBERT H. CHRISTON, b. 16 Nov 1915, Ewing, Nebraska; d. 11 Dec 2002, Littleton, Colorado; m. 26 Dec 1940, ETHEL B. MATT.
- vii. DOROTHY J. CHRISTON, b. 28 Aug 1918, Ewing, Nebraska; d. 1 Jul 2008, Longview, Texas; m. 22 AUG 1948, CARL ULVOG.

ⁱ Herman C. Iburg (Carthage, Miner County, Dakota) to “Dear Father” [Johann Iburg], Letter, 19 Dec 1888.

ⁱⁱ Wikipedia (http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Dakota_Territory).

ⁱⁱⁱ 1900 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: 928, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1240928.

^{iv} Nebraska Marriage Records 1855-1908, John Christon and Ernestine M. Iburg; Library and Archives of the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska.

^v 1910 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T624_838, Page: 11A, FHL microfilm: 1374851.

^{vi} 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

^{vii} 1940 US Census, Newport, Rock, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02262, Page: 2A.

^{viii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/65490323>).

^{ix} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/65490267>).

Carl Henry and Altha Mae (Larson) Christon

Carl Henry Christon was born 15 Feb 1902 in Nebraska, the first child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census for shows Carl, age 8, is living in Garfield, Antelope County, Nebraska attending school, and living with two younger siblings, ages 5 and 2.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Garfield, he was age 17, no longer attending school, living with his six siblings and his grandmother, “Caddie” Iburg.ⁱⁱⁱ

In 1929 Carl married Altha Mae Larson, born 17 Jan 1908 in Antelope County, Nebraska, the daughter of John and Zella Larson.^{iv}

The 1930 US census for Bonanza City, Saguache, Colorado, shows Carl, age 28, and Altha, age 22. The census lists Carl’s occupation as tramping in the mining industry (a Trammer transported the mined material by dragging a tram). Altha was a public-school teacher.^v In 1935, Carl and Altha were living in rural Pennington, South Dakota where they had their first child.^{vi} By 1940, they had moved to Frenchtown, Antelope, Nebraska, where they had two children and Carl was farming on his own account.^{vii} In 1957, Carl and Altha were living in Denver, Colorado,^{viii} and by 1960 had moved to Midland, Texas.^{ix}

Carl died 15 Aug 1985, at age 83, in Midland, Texas and was buried at Resthaven Memorial Park, Midland, Texas. Carl and Altha were married 56 years.^x

Altha died 26 May 1998 at age 90. She was also buried at Resthaven Memorial Park, Midland, Texas.^{xi}



Photo by Bob, Find A Grave

Children of Carl and Altha (Larson) Christon:

- i. SALLY ANN CHRISTON, b. 23 Mar 1934, Hill City, Pennington, South Dakota; d. 27 May 1997 in Orange, California; m. JAMES J. CONWAY.
- ii. JOHN THOMAS CHRISTON, b. 31 May 1937, Ewing, Nebraska; d. 2 Sep 2012 in Midland, Texas; m. 9 Jun 1957 in Crane, Texas, ELOISE SUE NEELEY. It appears they divorced 3 Mar 1977 and remarried on 27 Dec 1979.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T624_838, Page: 11A, FHL microfilm: 1374851.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

^{iv} 1935 South Dakota State Census, Ancestry.com; FHL Film Number 2369738.

^v 1930 US Census, Bonanza, Saguache, Colorado; Roll: 250, Page: 1B, Image: 939.0; FHL microfilm: 2339985.

^{vi} 1935 South Dakota State Census, Ancestry.com.

^{vii} 1940 US census, Frenchtown, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T627_2236, Page: 2B.

^{viii} U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989, Ancestry.com.

^{ix} Ibid.

^x Texas Death Index, 1903-2000, Ancestry.com.

^{xi} Ibid.

John Irvin Christon

John Irvin Christon was born 17 Jul 1904 in Antelope County, Nebraska, the second child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census shows John, age 5, is living in Garfield, Antelope County, Nebraska attending school and living with his two siblings.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Garfield, he was age 15, attending school and living with his six siblings and his grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱⁱ In the 1930 US census for Glendale, Los Angeles, California, John, age 25, is single, and a pressman in a machine shop.^{iv}

John joined the US navy and fought in World War II. There is no evidence that he was ever married.

John Christon died on 17 Jul 1970, at age 65, in Newport, Nebraska and was buried in Ewing Cemetery, Ewing, Holt, Nebraska.^v



Photo by Phil C., Find A Grave

ⁱ U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010, Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T624_838, Page: 11A, FHL microfilm: 1374851.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

^{iv} 1930 US Census, Glendale, Los Angeles, California; Roll: 127, Page: 8A, FHL microfilm: 2339862.

^v U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010.

Catherine Marie (Christon) and Clarence Reuben Thorin

Catherine Marie Christon was born in 22 Jun 1907 in Nebraska, the third child and first daughter of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census shows Catherine, age 2, is living in Garfield, Antelope County, Nebraska living with her two brothers, ages 8 and 5.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Garfield, she was age 12, attending school, and living with her six siblings and her grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱⁱ

In 1927, Catherine married Clarence Reuben Thorin (pronounced tuh-reen), born 18 Jul 1906, in Clearwater, Nebraska.^{iv} His parents, Charles and Clara Thorin, emigrated from Sweden.

The 1930 US census shows Catherine and Clarence living in Golden, Holt County, Nebraska. Clarence was a ranch manager.^v The 1940 US Census shows Catherine, Clarence, and their two boys living with Clarence's uncle Oscar Thorin in Ord, Antelope County, Nebraska.^{vi}

Clarence Thorin died 6 Sep 1964 in Colorado.^{vii} Catherine died 4 July 1995. They are both buried in the Hampden Memorial Estates, Denver, Colorado.^{viii}



Photo by Sarah, Find A Grave

Children of Catherine (Christon) and Clarence Thorin:

- i. LEE THORIN, b. 27 Apr 1936; d. 16 Nov 1961; m. HELEN H. MAAHS.
- ii. JOHN THORIN; m. BOBBIE GENTRY.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T624_838, Page: 11A, FHL microfilm: 1374851.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

^{iv} 1930 US Census, Golden, Holt, Nebraska; Page: 4A, FHL microfilm: 2341018.

^v Ibid.

^{vi} 1940 US Census, Ord, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02236, Page: 3A.

^{vii} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{viii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/184589579>).

Walter Homer and Christina C. (Beelaert) Christon

Walter Homer Christon was born 10 Jul 1910 in Ewing, Holt, Nebraska, the fourth child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska Walter is age 9, not yet attending school, and living with his six siblings and his grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Garfield, lists Walter, single, age 19, working on his father's farm.ⁱⁱⁱ In 1935, he lived in Chambers, Holt, Nebraska. In the 1940 US census for Clearwater, Wheeler, Nebraska,^{iv} we find Walter is age 28, married to Christina C. Beelaert from Belgium. They had three children ages 2 through 7. Walter was working as a laborer on a ranch. By 1957, Walter and Christina were living in Rockford, Illinois.

Christina died 25 Aug 1998, at age 89, in New Braunfels, Comal, Texas.^v Walter died 1 May 2000, at age 84, in New Braunfels.^{vi} They were both buried in Saint Peters Catholic Cemetery, Holt County, Nebraska.



Photo by Linda W., Find A Grave

Children of Walter Christon and Christina (Beeleart) Christon:

- i. MARIE CHRISTON, b. 3 Jun 1931, Holt County, Nebraska; d. 4 Jun 1931, Holt County, Nebraska.
- ii. ELIZABETH JEAN CHRISTON, b. 29 Mar 1933 in Nebraska; m. GILBERT LEROY CHICHESTER.
- iii. RICHARD DEAN CHRISTON, b. 6 Aug 1935 in Nebraska; m1). 7 Jun 1957, LEONA M. SUMMERS; m2). 21 Dec 1979, LINDA K. BENSKIN.
- iv. CATHERINE CHRISTON, b. abt. 1938.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: 1265, Page: 1B, Image: 732.0, FHL microfilm: 2341000.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Clearwater, Wheeler, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02268; Page: 2A.

^v Texas Death Index, 1903-2000, Ancestry.com.

^{vi} Texas Death Index, 1903-2000, Ancestry.com.

Ernest Merel and Ruth Lucille (Fox) Christon

Ernest M. Christon was born 12 Nov 1912 in Ewing, Holt, Nebraska, the fifth child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska Ernest is age 7, not yet attending school, and living with his six siblings and his grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Garfield lists Ernest, age 17, attending school and working on his father's farm.ⁱⁱⁱ In 1935, he was living in Chambers, Holt, Nebraska.^{iv}

On 19 Apr 1937, Ernest married Ruth Lucille Fox in Tripp, South Dakota.^v She was born 30 Oct 1907 in Newport Rock County, Nebraska,^{vi} the daughter of Charles and Mercy Fox. Ruth already had a 4-year-old son by a previous marriage to Frank Laurence Schrad. In 1940, Ernest and Ruth were living in Chambers, Nebraska with two sons ages 7 and 10 months.^{vii}

By 1953, Ernest and Ruth's family were living in Boise, Idaho.^{viii} Ruth (Fox) Christon died 4 Nov 1978 in Boise, Idaho.^{ix} Ernest Christon died in November 1979 in Boise, Idaho.^x



Photo Courtesy of Phil Christon

Children of Ernest and Ruth (Fox) Christon:

- i. CHARLES LAWRENCE CHRISTON, (Ernest's stepson), b. 11 May 1932, Rushville, Nebraska; d. 11 Nov 2014; m1). 15 Jan 1956 in Boise, Idaho, GOLDIE M. COLLARD, m2). 18 Apr 1970 in Elko, Nevada, JUDITH FRUTIGER.
- ii. ERNEST MICHAEL CHRISTON, b. 27 Jun 1939, Newport, Rock County, Nebraska; d. 27 Jun 2011, Boise, ID; m. MARY JOAN HICKS.
- iii. PHILIP R. CHRISTON, b. 10 Apr 1941; m. LINDA KAY MARELA.
- iv. NANCY MARIE CHRISTON, b. 12 Jan 1944, Boise, Ada County, Idaho; m. KENNETH LEE JONES.
- v. GARY CHRISTON, b. 22 Jun 1949; m. GERI WEISER.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: 1265, Page: 1B, Image: 732.0, FHL microfilm: 2341000.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Chambers, Holt, Nebraska; Roll: T627_2250; Page: 3B.

^v South Dakota, Marriages, 1905-2013, Ancestry.com.

^{vi} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vii} 1940 UDS Census, Chambers, Holt, Nebraska; Roll: T627_2250, Page: 3B.

^{viii} U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989, Ancestry.com.

^{ix} Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.com.

^x Ibid.

Robert Howard and Ethel Barbara (Matt) Christon

Robert H. Christon was born 16 Nov 1915 in Ewing, Holt, Nebraska, the sixth child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska Robert is age 4, living with his six siblings and his grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Garfield, lists Robert, age 14, attending school.ⁱⁱⁱ In the 1935 South Dakota State census, we find Robert, age 19, single, living in Pennington, South Dakota.^{iv}

On 26 Dec 1940, in Pennington, South Dakota, Robert married Ethel Barbara Matt, born 1 Jul 1921 in Deerfield, Pennington, South Dakota, the daughter of Herman and Katy Matt.^v

By 1966, Robert and Ethel had moved to Denver, Colorado.^{vi}

Robert died 16 Nov 2002, at age 87, in Littleton, Colorado.^{vii} Robert and Ethel were married 62 years. Ethel died 27 Aug 2004, at age 83, in Littleton, Colorado.^{viii} They were both buried in the Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge, Colorado.



Photo by VDR., Find A Grave

Children of Robert and Ethel (Matt) Christon:

- i. KATHY CHRISTON.
- ii. MARY CHRISTON.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: 1265, Page: 1B, Image: 732.0, FHL microfilm: 2341000.

^{iv} 1935 South Dakota State Census, Ancestry.com.

^v South Dakota, Marriages, 1905-2013, Ancestry.com.

^{vi} U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989, Ancestry.com.

^{vii} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{viii} Ibid.

Dorothy Jean (Christon) and Carl G. Ulvog

Dorothy Jean Christon was born 28 Aug 1918 on a farm near Ewing Nebraska, the seventh child of John E. and Ernestine (Iburg) Christon.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska, she is age 1, living with her six siblings and her grandmother, Caddie Iburg.ⁱⁱ In the 1930 US census for Garfield, Dorothy is listed as age 11 and attending school.ⁱⁱⁱ Dorothy graduated from the Ewing high school and taught in rural schools in the area. She later graduated from the American Business School and was employed by the Bell Telephone Company in Omaha before taking a position as Secretary to the President of the School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota.^{iv}

On 22 Aug 1948, Dorothy married Carl Ulvog in Rapid City, South Dakota. Carl was born 11 Apr 1918 near Elk Point, South Dakota. He was a geologist for the State of New Mexico and a veteran of WWII.^v

Dorothy died 1 July 2008 in Longview, Texas and is buried in the National Cemetery, Santa Fe, New Mexico.^{vi} Carl died 29 Mar 2009 in Longview, Texas and is also interred in the National Cemetery, Santa Fe, New Mexico.^{vii}



Photo by Sidney, Find A Grave

Children of Dorothy (Christon) and Carl Ulvog:

- i. PETER C. ULVOG, b. abt. 1950; m1). 12 Mar 1971, PAMELA MITCHELL, m2). 30 Sep 2000 TERRY MCCLANAHAN.
- ii. PAUL D. ULVOG, b. 29 Nov 1951; m1). 2 Feb 1971, ALLENE LASATER, m2). 28 Jan 1975 SHEILA RIETZ.
- iii. RANDI ULVOG, b. 5 Mar 1953; d. 14 May 1993 in Manchester, New Hampshire; m. KEN RABBERS.
- iv. ERIC I. ULVOG, b. 4 May 1956; m. KELLY _____.

ⁱ Obituary, Dorothy Jean Ulvog, 10 Jul 2008, (<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/santafenewmexican/obituary.aspx>).

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: T625_979, Page: 10A, Image: 798.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Garfield, Antelope, Nebraska; Roll: 1265, Page: 1B, Image: 732.0, FHL microfilm: 2341000

^{iv} Obituary, Dorothy Jean Ulvog.

^v Ibid.

^{vi} Ibid.

^{vii} Obituary, Carl Ulvog, 7 Apr 2009, (<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/santafenewmexican/obituary.aspx>).

Chapter 4 - The Madisons

Hermina May (Iburg) and Hallie Madison

Hermina “Mina” May Iburg was born 3 May 1888 in Mitchell, South Dakota, the third child of Herman and Catherine Iburg.ⁱ The 1900 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, lists Mina as age 12, attending school, and living with her parents and three siblings.ⁱⁱ

The 1910 US census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, shows Mina with her own family.ⁱⁱⁱ She had been married to Hallie H. Madison for four years, with their son, Lloyd Herman Madison, age 2. The census mistakenly list Mina as age 32, when she was only 22, probably because her husband, Hallie, was 15 years older at age 37. Hallie Madison was a farmer.

The 1920 US census shows Mina and Hallie still living on a farm in Parnell Precinct, but now with three children ranging in age from 4 to 12 years.^{iv}

The 1930 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, shows an additional son, Lee Glenn Madison, age 9, and boarding a 24-year-old school teacher, Hazel Mason.^v

Hallie Madison died in 1937 and was buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Greeley County, Nebraska.^{vi} Hermina died June 1940 in Greeley, Nebraska at age 52. She was also buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery.^{vii}



Hermina May (Iburg) Madison – Photo by Starlight, Find A Grave

Children of Hermina (Iburg) and Hallie Madison:

- i. LLOYD H. MADISON, b. 11 Aug 1907, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 29 May 1975; m. 5 Mar 1930, HELEN JOHNSON.
- ii. GRACE A. MADISON, b. abt. 1911, Nebraska; m. 17 Sep 1927, GEORGE S. CLAUSSEN.
- iii. EARL E. MADISON, b. 12 Nov 1915, Horace, Nebraska; d. 15 Dec 1993; m. DONNIE M. _____.
- iv. LEE G. MADISON, b. 23 Oct 1920, Horace, Nebraska.

ⁱ Herman C. Iburg (Carthage, Miner County, Dakota) to "Dear Father" [Johann Iburg], Letter, 19 Dec 1888.

ⁱⁱ 1900 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: 928, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1240928.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T624_847, Page: 8B, FHL microfilm: 1374860.

^{iv} 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991; Page: 1A.

^v 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016

^{vi} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91885526>).

^{vii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/78492271>).

Lloyd Herman and Helen Evelyn (Johnson) Madison

Lloyd H. Madison was born 11 Aug 1907 in Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska, the first child of Hallie and Hermina (Iburg) Madison.ⁱ

The 1910 US Census shows Lloyd, age 2, an only child, still living in Parnell.ⁱⁱ In the 1920 US census for Parnell, he is age 12, attending school, and living with two siblings.ⁱⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska lists Lloyd, age 22, working as a farmer.^{iv} Lloyd was married on 5 Mar 1930 to Helen Evelyn Johnson, born 10 Nov 1908, daughter of Irving and Grace Johnson.^v The 1940 US Census for Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska lists Lloyd, age 32, employed by the WPA working in road construction. Lloyd and Helen had three children, ages 5 through 8.^{vi}

Lloyd enlisted in the in the armed services 4 Dec 1943, at Fort Francis E. Warren, Cheyenne, Wyoming, with no branch assignment.^{vii} Lloyd ended up serving in the Army during WWII.^{viii}

Lloyd Madison died 29 May 1975, at age 68, living in North Platt, Nebraska.^{ix} Lloyd and Helen were married 45 years. Helen (Johnson) Madison died 21 Apr 2006, at age 97, living in North Platt, Nebraska.^x They were both buried in the Ft. McPherson National Cemetery, Maxwell, Nebraska.

Children of Lloyd and Helen Madison:

- i. EVA MARIE MADISON, b. abt. 1932, Nebraska.
- ii. WALTER MILAN MADISON, b. 24 Jan 1934; d. 8 Sep 2009 in Arnold, Custer, Nebraska; m1). in 1958 JANICE CORNELL, m2). VERNA LOUISE REED.
- iii. RUBY CLAIRE MADISON, b. abt. 1935 in Nebraska.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1910 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T624_847, Page: 8B, FHL microfilm: 1374860.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 1A.

^{iv} 1930 US Census, Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2B, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^v “Helen Evelyn Madison”, obituary, *The North Platt Telegraph*, 23 Apr 2006 (https://www.nptelegraph.com/helen-evelyn-madison/article_c1529042-4f76-5f35-8dbe-b062d1259415.html).

^{vi} 1940 US Census, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 3B.

^{vii} U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946, National Archives and Records Administration, Ancestry.com.

^{viii} U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010, Ancestry.com.

^{ix} U.S. Veterans Gravesites, ca.1775-2006, National Cemetery Administration, Ancestry.com.

^x Ibid.

Grace A. (Madison) and George S. Claussen

Grace A. Madison was born about 1911 probably in Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska, the second child of Hallie and Hermina (Iburg) Madison.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska, we find Grace, age 9, attending school, and living with her two siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska lists Grace, age 19, married to George S. Claussenⁱⁱⁱ.

Grace and George were married on 17 Sep 1927, in Greeley, Nebraska^{iv}. George was born 25 Apr 1909 in Boone Nebraska^v. Grace and George had a daughter, Jeannine, born about 1929.^{vi}

In the 1940 US Census for Grand Island, Nebraska, we find Grace living with Orville Nicholson and her daughter Jeannine.^{vii}

No information was found for Grace or George after 1940.

Children of Grace (Madison) and George Claussen:

- i. JEANNINE CLAUSSEN, b. 1929.

ⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 1A.

ⁱⁱ Ibid.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 5A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} Nebraska, Marriages, 1855-1995, Database, *FamilySearch*. <http://FamilySearch.org>.

^v WWII Draft Registration, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri.

^{vi} 1930 US Census, Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska.

^{vii} 1940 US Census, Grand Island, Hall, Nebraska; Roll m-t0627-002248, Page: 22A.

Earl Eugene Madison

Earl E. Madison was born 12 Nov 1915 in Horace, Greeley County, Nebraska, the third child of Hallie and Hermina (Iburg) Madison.ⁱ

In the 1920 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska, we find Earl, age 4, not yet attending school and living with his two siblings.ⁱⁱ In the 1930 US census for Parnell, Earl, age 14, is attending school and living with his parents and one brother.ⁱⁱⁱ

By 1940, when Earl registered for the draft, he was living in North Platt, Nebraska, with Donnie Marie Madison, probably his wife.^{iv}

Earl Madison died 15 Dec 1993 in San Bernardino, California.^v

ⁱ California, Death Index, 1940-1997, Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 1A.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; WWII Draft Registration Cards for Nebraska, 10/16/1940-03/31/1947; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 65.

^v California, Death Index, 1940-1997, Ancestry.com.

Lee Glenn Madison

Lee Glenn Madison was born 23 Oct 1920 in Horace, Greeley County, Nebraska, the fourth child of Hallie and Hermina (Iburg) Madison.ⁱ

In the 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska, we find Lee, age 9, attending school and living his parents and one brother.ⁱⁱ The 1940 US Census for Greeley Center, Greeley, Nebraska lists Lee, age 19, single, living with his widowed mother, and employed by the WPA working in road construction.ⁱⁱⁱ

On 14 Feb 1942, Lee registered for the draft in Grand Island, Nebraska.^{iv} He was released from the Army with a Certificate of Disability Discharge on 13 Oct 1943.^v

No information was found for Lee Madison after 1943.

ⁱ U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947; The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; WWII Draft Registration Cards for Nebraska, 10/16/1940-03/31/1947; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 65.

ⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Wallace Creek, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1940 US Census, Greeley Center, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^{iv} U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947; The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri.

^v U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010, Ancestry.com.

Chapter 5 - The Cargills

Cytha Catherine (Iburg) and Ezra Cargill

Cytha Iburg was born 4 Mar 1892 in Rockport, Atchison County, Missouri.ⁱ She was the last child born to Herman and Catherine Iburg. Cytha was born a little over a year after Herman and Catherine lost their son, Frank, three weeks after he was born. On the 1900 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, Cytha is listed as age 8.ⁱⁱ



Cytha Iburg – circa 1903

On 20 Apr 1908, Cytha married Ezra Cargill in Antelope County, Nebraska.ⁱⁱⁱ Cytha was age 16, Ezra was age 22. There is no record of who administered or attended their wedding.

The 1920 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, shows Cytha and Ezra with four children living at home, ranging in age from 9 months to 10 years.^{iv} Ezra was a farm laborer.

The 1940 US Census for Parnell Precinct, Greeley County, Nebraska, shows Cytha and Ezra with four children living at home, ranging in age from 5-26 years.^v Three other children had previously left home.

Ezra Cargill died on 10 Feb 1946, at the age of 59. He was buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Greeley County, Nebraska.^{vi}

Cytha died 10 May 1963 at age 71. She was also buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Greeley County, Nebraska.^{vii}

Children of Cytha (Iburg) and Ezra Cargill:

- i. PERRY CARGILL, b. 14 Apr 1909, Belfast, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 17 Dec 1988 in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; m. before 1940, MILDRED MOHLER.
- ii. NEVILLE D. CARGILL, b. 6 Dec 1910, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 12 Apr 1999, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; m. 20 Oct 1937, MILDRED M. ACKER.
- iii. ELIZABETH C. CARGILL, b. 3 Nov 1912, Wheeler County, Nebraska; d. 1 Dec 2006, Saint Paul, Nebraska; m. aft. 1940, WILLIAM F. STANGER.
- iv. ALETHA BELLE CARGILL, b. 23 Mar 1919, Greeley County, Nebraska; d. 6 Apr 1999, Bridgeport, Morrill, Nebraska; m. bef. 1940, LAWRENCE J. WOZNICK.
- v. BEAULA FAYE CARGILL, b. 7 Jan 1921, Nebraska; d. 27 Jun 1997, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; m. 18 Mar 1946, ORVIL K. HAMER.
- vi. BERNICE C. CARGILL, b. 26 Jul 1923, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 15 May 2019, Lincoln, Nebraska; m. 24 Dec 1942, JOYCE L. GRANTHAM.
- vii. OWEN KEITH CARGILL, b. 8 Dec 1934, Greeley County, Nebraska; d. 24 Nov 2012, Ord, Valley, Nebraska; m. 24 Apr 1954, PHYLLIS MORAVEC.

ⁱ Find a Grave (<https://findagrave.com/memorial/91885261>).

ⁱⁱ 1900 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: 928, Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 1240928.

ⁱⁱⁱ Nebraska Marriage Records 1855-1908, Ezra Cargill and Cytha C. Iburg; Library and Archives of the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska.

^{iv} 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 3A.

^v 1940 Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^{vi} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91885425/ezra-cargill>).

^{vii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91885261/cytha-catherine-cargill>).

Perry and Mildred Irene (Mohler) Cargill

Perry Cargill was born 14 Apr 1909 in Belfast, Greeley, Nebraska, the first child of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1920 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Perry, age 10, attending school and living with three younger siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Perry, age 21, single, working as a farm laborer and living at home with five younger siblings, ages 6 through 19.ⁱⁱⁱ

The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Perry, age 31, working on his own farm.^{iv} He is married to Mildred Irene Mohler, born 12 Oct 1910 in Monroe, Platt, Nebraska, daughter of Foster and Blanch (Baker) Mohler.^v By this time, Perry and Mildred have two children, ages 1 and 3.

On 16 Oct 1940, Perry registered for the draft in Greeley, Nebraska.^{vi}

Mildred Mohler died 5 Dec 1973, at age 63, in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.^{vii} Perry Cargill died 17 Dec 1988, at age 79, in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.^{viii} They were both buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Nebraska.



Photo by Kathy Burgess Burr, Find A Grave

Children of Perry and Mildred (Mohler) Cargill:

- i. BLANCH C. CARGILL, b. 4 Mar 1937, Greeley, Nebraska; m. 18 Aug 1957 in Scotia Nebraska, JAMES A. SWANSON.
- ii. PERRY DON CARGILL, b. 30 Aug 1938 in Greeley, Nebraska; d. 15 Mar 1988 in Central City, Merrick, Nebraska; m. 11 Jan 1965, DONETTA _____.
- iii. ROBERT JAMES CARGILL, b. 23 Jul 1946, Nebraska; m. 19 Dec 1974, Norfolk, Virginia, NANETTE FOGLESONG FELTMAN.
- iv. DELWYN LYNN CARGILL, b. 30 Aug 1948, Grand Island, Nebraska; d. 18 Jun 2004, Ord, Valley, Nebraska; m1). 3 Apr 1971 in Onid, Colorado, NANCY LOFQUIST, m2). RUBY MAE _____.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 3A.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1B.

^v Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74474540>).

^{vi} U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947; The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; WWII Draft Registration Cards for Nebraska, 10/16/1940 - 03/31/1947; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 16.

^{vii} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{viii} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74474540>).

Neville Dale and Mildred Maxine (Acker) Cargill

Neville Dale Cargill was born 6 Dec 1910 in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska, the second child of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1920 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Neville, age 9, attending school, and living with his three siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Neville, age 19, single, working as a public-school teacher.ⁱⁱⁱ

The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Neville, age 28,^{iv} married, with a one-year-old son. He was married on 20 Oct 1937 to Mildred Maxine Acker, born 2 Dec 1913 in Greeley, Nebraska, the daughter of Clinton and Hazel Acker.^v

Mildred Acker died 27 Mar 1978, at age 63, in Ord, Valley, Nebraska.^{vi} Neville Cargill died 12 Apr 1999, at age 88, in Lincoln, Nebraska, leaving 17 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.^{vii} They were both buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Nebraska.



Photo by Destiny Hogue, Find A Grave

Children of Neville and Mildred (Acker) Cargill:

- i. RONALD DALE CARGILL, b. 25 Aug 1938, Nebraska; m. SHIRLEY SEVERANOE.
- ii. JEAN KATHLEEN CARGILL, b. 24 Dec 1939, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 25 Dec 1939.
- iii. JANIS MACINE CARGILL; m. DALE WHITE.
- iv. ANITA CARGILL; m. VERNON MOODY.
- v. JOAN ELIZABETH CARGILL; m. DON JENSON.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 3A.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^v Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/49968196>).

^{vi} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vii} “Neville Cargill”, obituary, *Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, Nebraska)*, 14 Apr 1999, p. 5, col 1.

Elizabeth Catherine (Cargill) and William F. Stanger

Elizabeth “Beth” C. Cargill was born 3 Nov 1912 in Wheeler County, Nebraska, the third child and first daughter of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1920 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Elizabeth, age 7, attending school, and living with her three siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists her as “Beth”, age 17, single, attending school, and living with her parents and five siblings.ⁱⁱⁱ

The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Beth, age 26, single, working as an office girl for the AAA (probably referring to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, a 1938 New Deal law designed to boost agricultural prices).^{iv} By October 1940 Beth had married William F. Stanger, born 11 May 1907 in Woodstock, Illinois.^v William was a farmer in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.

William Stanger died 25 Oct 1992, at age 85, in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.^{vi} Elizabeth Cargill died 1 Dec 2006, at age 94, in Saint Paul, Howard County, Nebraska.^{vii} They were both buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Nebraska.



Photo by Kathy Burgess Burr, Find A Grave

Children of Elizabeth (Cargill) and William Stanger:

- i. DAVID STANGER.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 3A.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^v Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91886183>).

^{vi} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vii} Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

Aletha Belle (Cargill) and Lawrence Woznick

Aletha Belle Cargill was born 23 Mar 1919 in Greeley, Nebraska, the fourth child and second daughter of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1920 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Aletha, age 9 months, living with her three older siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Aletha, age 11, attending school, and living with her parents and five siblings.ⁱⁱⁱ

The 1940 US Census for Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska shows Aletha, age 21, as the wife of Lawrence Woznick, born 14 Jul 1914 in Loup City, Nebraska. Lawrence was a clerk in a lumber yard. They had a three-year old daughter, Virginia.^{iv}

Lawrence Woznick died 17 Oct 1988, at age 74, in Bridgeport, Morrill, Nebraska.^v Aletha Cargill died 6 Apr 1999, at age 80, in Bridgeport, Morrill, Nebraska.^{vi} They were both buried in the Oregon Trail Memorial Park Cemetery, Bridgeport, Morrill County, Nebraska.

Children of Aletha (Cargill) and Lawrence Woznick:

- i. VIRGINIA WOZNICK, b. 1937, Nebraska; m. KENNETH HAUBOLD.
- ii. JAMES WOZNICK, b. 1940; m. JERI _____.
- iii. CAROL SUE WOZNICK, b. 1944; m. MIKE AMATEIS.
- iv. MARILYN WOZNICK, b. 1944; m. JIM VASSOS.

ⁱ Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/140184054>).

ⁱⁱ 1920 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: T625_991, Page: 3A.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

^{iv} 1940 US Census, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 5B.

^v Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vi} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/140184054>).

Beaula Faye (Cargill) and Orvil K. Hamer

Beaula Faye Cargill was born 7 Jan 1921 in Nebraska, the fifth child of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists “Fay”, age 9, attending school, and living with her parents and five siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Beaula, age 19, single, living with her parents and three siblings and working full-time as a public-school teacher.ⁱⁱⁱ

On 18 Mar 1946, Beaula married Orvil K. Hamer, born 21 Jun 1921, Ord, Valley, Nebraska. Orvil entered the Army in August of 1942, serving in the Pacific Theater, until being honorably discharged in January 1946.^{iv}

Beaula Cargill died 27 Jun 1997, at age 76, in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.^v Orvil Hamer died 14 Feb 2016, at age 94, in Greeley, Greeley, Nebraska.^{vi} They were both buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Nebraska.



Photo by Judy Hamer, Find A Grave

Children of Beaula (Cargill) and Orvil Hamer:

- i. HARLAN GENE HAMER, b. 23 May 1947, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska; d. 1 Sep 2016 in Pace, Santa Rosa, Florida; m. 8 Nov 2008, Leilani L. Gill.
- ii. WARREN HAMER, b. 1950.
- iii. WILLIAM KENNETH HAMER, b. 1952; m. Judy _____.

ⁱ Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

ⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^{iv} “Orvil Hamer, 94”, obituary, *The Grand Island Independent*, 17 Feb 2016.

^v Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vi} “Orvil Hamer, 94”, obituary.

Bernice C. (Cargill) and Joyce L. Grantham

Bernice C. Cargill was born 26 Jul 1923 in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska, the sixth child of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1930 US census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska lists Bernice, age 6, attending school, and living with her parents and five siblings.ⁱⁱ The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Bernice, age 16, attending school and living with her parents and three siblings.ⁱⁱⁱ

On 24 Dec 1942, Bernice married Joyce L. Grantham, born 8 Jul 1923 in Obert, Cedar County, Nebraska.^{iv}

Joyce Grantham died 2 Nov 1983, at age 60, in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska.^v Bernice died 15 May 2019, at age 95, in Lincoln, Nebraska.^{vi} They were both buried in in the Aurora Cemetery, Hamilton, Nebraska.



Photo by John Quiring, Find A Grave

Children of Bernice (Cargill) and Joyce Grantham:

- i. JUDITH A. GRANTHAM, b. 17 May 1944, Ord, Nebraska; m. 19 Aug 1966 in Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska, KENNETH TAYLOR.
- ii. STEVEN GRANTHAM, b. 8 Feb 1947, Ord, Nebraska; d. 22 Oct 1975, Aurora, Hamilton, Nebraska; m. Dec 1970, Aurora, Hamilton, Nebraska, JEANETTE HUENEFELD.
- iii. PENNY L. GRANTHAM, b. 4 Apr 1959, Ord, Nebraska; m. 16 May 1980, Scotia, Greeley, Nebraska, WILLIAM ROOT.

ⁱ "Bernice Grantham", obituary, *The Columbus Telegram*, 18 May 2019.

ⁱⁱ 1930 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Page: 2A, FHL microfilm: 2341016.

ⁱⁱⁱ 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

^{iv} "Bernice Grantham", obituary.

^v Social Security Death Index 1935 – Current; Ancestry.com.

^{vi} Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/199177728>).

Owen Keith and Phyllis M. (Moravec) Cargill

Owen Keith Cargill was born 8 Dec 1934 in Greeley County, Nebraska, the seventh and last child of Ezra and Cytha (Iburg) Cargill.ⁱ

The 1940 US Census for Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska shows Owen, age 5, not yet attending school and living with his parents and three siblings.ⁱⁱ

On 24 Apr 1954, Owen married Phyllis M. Moravec, born in 1935 to William and Ethel Moravec.ⁱⁱⁱ

Owen Cargill died 24 Nov 2012, at age 77, in Ord, Valley, Nebraska. He was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Scotia, Nebraska.^{iv}



Photo by Kathy Burgess Burr, Find A Grave

Children of Owen and Phyllis (Moravec) Cargill:

- i. DOUGLAS DALE CARGILL, b. 9 Mar 1955, Ord, Nebraska; m. ROSE M. DARGAN.
- ii. TERI RENEE CARGILL, b. 15 Nov 1956, Ord, Nebraska; m. DAVID LEE EDWARD.

ⁱ Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/101292789>).

ⁱⁱ 1940 US Census, Parnell, Greeley, Nebraska; Roll: m-t0627-02248, Page: 1A.

ⁱⁱⁱ Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/101292789>).

^{iv} Ibid.

Appendix A - DNA analysis

A number of Iburg descendants have taken autosomal DNA tests in recent years. Numerous matches can be found on AncestryDNA, 23andMe, MyHeritage DNA, and Gedmatch.com.

We find Herman C. Iburg and Ellen Cannon to be the common ancestor for many descendants across numerous chromosomes. The example below shows the DNA matching segments for Alice Joanne Iburg on chromosome seven for three descendants whose common ancestor is Herman and Catherine Iburg (red), and one descendant whose common ancestor is Frederick W. and Ellen Iburg (blue). The overlapping chromosomes segments prove there is a genetic relationship going back at least three generations.

A sample of DNA matches for chromosome seven:

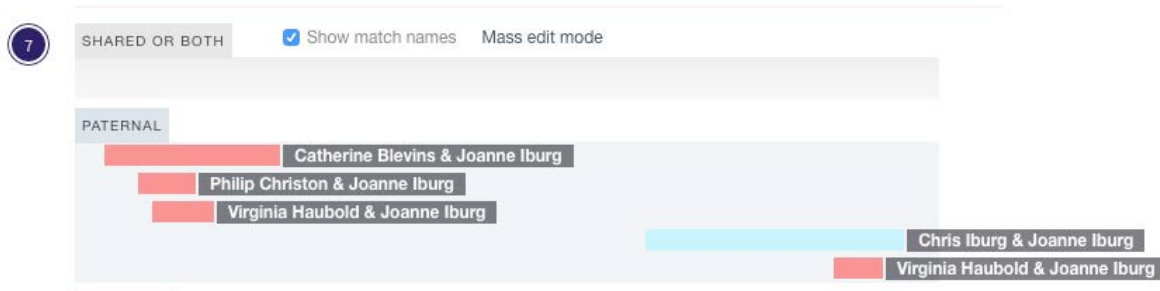
Virginia Haubold – the granddaughter of Cytha Iburg

Philip Christon – the grandson of Ernestine Iburg

Chris Iburg – the grandson of Frederick W. Iburg

Joanne Iburg – the granddaughter Frederick W. Iburg

Catherine Blevins – unknown common ancestor, but a genetic descendant of Herman C. Iburg



Based on two living male descendants with the surname “Iburg”, 23andMe identifies the Paternal Haplogroup for Iburg descendants to be R-M467. Paternal haplogroups identify unbroken lines of males that all trace back to the same ancient common ancestor.

In our research, we did find an individual named Dietrich Frederick Iburg, who emigrated from Hanover Germany in 1885. Dietrich married Bertha Mueller on 29 Jan 1874 in Hooper, Nebraska. Dietrich and Bertha produced nine children. It is now an extensive family, many of them still living in Nebraska. I requested that one of Dietrichs descendants take a DNA test at 23andMe to see if there was a genetic connection. Sadly, this individual’s results were determined to be Paternal Haplogroup I-Z138. So, although they have the same surname, there is no genetic connection.