

Rupp Family



The Rupp family name came to this area through Gottlieb Rupp. Gottlieb (1815-1902) was born in Weiblingen Wuerttemberg, Germany. In 1857, he and his wife Margaretha (1827-1901), and their six children, boarded the ship "Argo" at Le Havre, France. The six children were: Christian born in 1845; John born in 1847; Wilhelmina born in 1850; Fredericka born in 1852; Jacob born in 1855; and six-week old Frederick born in 1857. They arrived in New York on July 24, 1857. The family traveled to Michigan and settled on a 40-acre farm in the northern part of Frankenmuth Township, on what is now called Bradley Road.

Their first house was of logs, later replaced by a large frame house. Here the family was blessed with three more children: Carolina born in 1859 and twins, George and Michael born in 1862. The family became members of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Frankentrost, a church that had been founded and settled just ten years earlier.

Christian, the oldest son, married Kunigunda Frisch and they had a daughter, Margareta Schulz.

John married Bettie Nienstedt. He became president of People's Savings Bank in Saginaw. His name is inscribed on the Lumbermen's Monument in Oscoda, Michigan. They had three children: Norman, Meta and Betty.

Wilhelmina married Gottlieb Fink. They had six children: Kunigunda Gruber, Fred, Paulina, Wilhelmina Schaberg, Emma Mueller and Ernest.

Fredericka married Christian Schlatterer. They had four children: Carolina, Wilhelmina, Ida and a son who drowned in the Saginaw River as a young boy.

Jacob married Christina Schury. They had seven children: Robert, Amalie Peters, Eleanor Roedel, Lillian Weiss, Aaron, Harold and Esther Steltzriede.

Frederick married Bertha Schlickum. They had three children: Emma, Martin and William C.

Carolina married George Bender. They had six children: Mary Steltzriede, twins Arthur and Albert, George, Herman and Norman.

George married Anna Maria Schnell. They had six children: Arthur, Edna Mossner, Florence Janson, Herbert, Meta and Amanda. In 1965 George, at the age of 103 and four years prior to his death, was designated Saginaw county's oldest native. He was the oldest man in Michigan collecting Social Security, having received benefits since 1940. For years, each time he had a birthday, he received special greetings from the State Social Security office. In 1967, he said his worst illness to date had been a sore leg. He never spent a day in a hospital until the year prior to his death. Anna predeceased him in 1951, after the couple had celebrated more than 62 years of marriage.

Michael, the other twin, never married and died as a young man.

Some of Gottlieb's family carrying the Rupp name settled several miles away in Blumfield Township and are still living in the Frankenmuth area. Jacob's eldest son, Robert, bought a farm next to his parents' farm on the northwest corner of Holland (M-46) and Gera (M-83) Roads. He married Emilie nee Rogner on June 19, 1910 at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth. They lived and farmed there until their retirement in 1953. They had seven children: Marian Dinse, Doris O'Conner, Harvey, Wilbur, Celia Ruthig, Edgar and Joanne Reinbold.

