

# The Kenneth Amgwert Lett Family

-- by Margaret Mary (Greene) Lett





Kenneth Lett Family



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Kenneth, son of Lena Amgwert and Charles Clarence Lett, was born September 30, 1914, the eldest son. I, Margaret Mary Greene, daughter of Margaret Pilling and Samuel Albert Greene, was born October 14, 1917, the only daughter with four older brothers: Thomas, Clarence (Chaunce), Howard, Robert. Kenneth and I graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School, Council Bluffs, 1932 and 1935 respectively. We married May 18, 1936. We've had nine different homes including one in Colorado. We're members of Glendale Presbyterian Church, Council Bluffs. We have three sons and three daughters:

Ken, Jr., born May 27, 1937; married Shirley Woodring; has three daughters (Julie Kay, Jennifer, Joann); and lives in Boone, Iowa.

Douglass, born June 14, 1939; married Minnie Krull; has three sons (twins-Ronald and Donald, David); and lives in Kahoka, Missouri.

Evelyn, born November 12, 1947; married James Zumwalt; has three children (Jason, Jeremy, Katrina); and lives in Joplin, Missouri.

Howard, born July 11, 1949; married Mildred VanVolkenburgh; has two daughters (Darcy, Cynthia); and lives in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Teresa, born March 11, 1953; married Larry Gerner; has two children (Josiah, Sara); and lives in Joplin, Missouri.

Denise, born December 19, 1957; married Gale Miller; and lives in Persia, Iowa.

Our family moved to Persia January 1, 1966, from an acreage on the outskirts of Council Bluffs. Kenneth was born and raised on a farm very near there, but I was born and raised in Council Bluffs. All our children were born during our years in the Glendale community. Our three oldest graduated from A.L. High School. Our three youngest graduated from Tri-Center Community School.

1976, the nation's bicentennial, was an important year for us! Denise graduated from Tri-Center; Douglas retired from the Navy as Chief Petty Officer with 20 years service; Kenneth, a Union Pacific Railroad switchman-brakeman, retired with 34 years service; and we celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary!

Kenneth's family originally came from Swe-

den. His grandfather John was born at sea coming to America. His mother's family originated in Switzerland. She named one of her two sons for Switzerland's capitol, Gerald *Berne*, Council Bluffs. Kenneth has one sister Margaret Osborn (Mrs. Joe M.), Missouri Valley, Iowa.

My ancestors came from England. I am not sure whether my maiden name is correct because my great-grandfather, as a boy, was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker. When he didn't like it, he stowed away on board a ship. He was discovered, but the captain allowed him to stay. Upon arrival in America he changed his name so he wouldn't be sent back. He didn't tell anyone this story for many years. He *never* told anyone (not even his wife) what his real name was.

Mother's people were also from England. Her father Thomas Pilling lived in Garner Township near the Glendale community.

We were told when we bought our farm west of Persia that it was located on the "Good Enough Road"; that's why we call our place the "Good E'nuf Farm"! One of Kenneth's favorite sayings is "Good e'nuff!"



Kenneth and Margaret Lett

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