

Wilhelm Heinrich Karl "Bill" Menze

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Birth: Sep. 16, 1882
Death: Jun. 30, 1923

William was the oldest child of Fritz (Fred) and Sophie Ehlers Menze. He was known as Wilhelm in his early years, and then as Bill.

Many thanks to Gary Beard for the following information:

Seward Journal, July 12, 1923 Obituary:

"William Henry Carl Menze (or Wilhelm Heinrich Karl Menze), oldest son of Fred Menze and his wife Sophie nee Ehlers was born Sept 16, 1882, in Seward County, NE. By Baptism in his infancy, he was made a member of the Lutheran Church.

March 29, 1896, he was confirmed in his faith in Marysville.

January 12, 1912, he joined in marriage with Margaret Brown. Of this union, one son and one daughter were born.

Since about the beginning of this year, his health failed, no one probably suspecting how serious his case was. Not long ago, he went to Waconda Springs for treatment. Reports are that his case there was pronounced incurable. About two weeks before his death, he submitted to medical treatment. He seemed to be improving, at least he thought so, likewise his relatives.

Last Saturday night, however, while in the best of spirits as a result of his hopes for a speedy recovery, he suddenly dropped dead to the floor, heart failure evidently being the cause of death.

His age was 40 years, 8 months, 14 days.

His widow and two children, his parents, three brothers, three sisters, and many other relatives mourn his death.

His burial occurred July 3 at the Marysville cemetery, Rev Rittamel speaking words of consolation based on Isaiah 28, 29 and 1 Cor 15, 41-44 speaking in German and English.



Added by: [Cindy Menze Gregorius](#)

William Menze, born and raised on a farm, made farming his occupation until several years ago when he, with his brothers, erected and conducted a garage on his farm. His friends will long remember him."

"CARD OF THANKS:

We wish at this time to sincerely thank all neighbors and friends who so kindly assisted during the illness and death of our dear husband and father. Rev Rittamel for the words of comfort and the Marysville choir for the songs sung. To all donors for the profuse floral offerings we wish to express our thanks. Mrs Wm Menze and Children
Mr and Mrs Fred Menze and other relatives"

OTHER INFORMATION:

Baptized Nov 20, 1882, at Zion Ev Luth Church (now Our Redeemer) in Marysville, Seward Co.
Confirmed at Zion on March 29, 1896.
Died June 30, 1923, buried on July 3, 1923

RECORD EXTRACT FROM ZION EV LUTH CHURCH, MADE BY GARY BEARD ON NOV 29, 1971;

His confirmation verse was Romans 8:28.
He was present at the marriage of his brother heinrich to Meta Baack in 1907.
He was a baptismal sponsor for Henry and Meta's son, Walter.

FROM A CONVERSATION BETWEEN HATTIE MENZE WITH GARY BEARD IN BELLEVUE, WA, FEB 16, 1968:

"William had the flu and got a heart condition, or vice versa. he was a big tall man with bad tonsils. he went to a hot springs to get rid of the flu, but that turned out to be a bad move. He came home worse and went to Seward Hospital. They decided to take his tonsils out, and then changed their minds. Carl, hattie, and Grandma Menze went there to take him home.

He was sitting on a table with one foot dangling and had a heart attack right there. He raised up and fell on the floor between Carl and Grandma. his face was black and blue. The doctor said he was dead when he raised up."

FROM GARY BEARD:

To my knowledge, Marguerite never remarried. My grandmother, Hattie Menze (wife of Carl) told me that William's father Fred purchased a farm across the road from his own farm and

placed William on it. When he died, it eventually passed to Leslie and Florence. A garage was built on Bill's farm right next to the road between the two farms. They worked on cars and other machinery in the winter, running engines with the doors closed because of the cold weather. They knew nothing about carbon monoxide poisoning , so they often got ill.

Bill's children:

Florence Sophia Meta Menze, born march 30, 1913, baptized April 27, 1913, at Zion Lutheran. Her baptismal sponsors were Sophie Menze (her grandmother) and Meta Menze (her aunt married to henry Menze). I believe she died in 2002.

Gary Beard's last visit with her was in 1995 while she was living in Seward, NE. She was divorced and had a son. Her last name was Bender.

Leslie Friedrich Heinrich Menze was born oct 21, 1914 and baptized at Zion on Nov 29, 1914. His baptismal sponsors were Friedrich (Fred) and heinrich Menze. Leslie died young in an automobile accident in MN.

Family links:

Spouse:

[Marguerite Menze \(1887 - 1955\)](#)

Inscription:

On the Front:Matthew 6:10

Thy will be done

On the reverse:

O How Blest

Are ye Whose

Toils Are Ended

Who Through

Death Have Unto

God Ascended

Burial:

[Our Redeemer Lutheran Country Cemetery](#)

Staplehurst

Seward County

Nebraska, USA

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Created by: [Cindy Menze Gregorius](#)

Record added: Dec 25, 2008

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