

Wilhelmina Gerritts

My name is Wilhelmina Gerritts, daughter of Peter Gerritts and Joanna Jansen. I was born April 30, 1888. I lived on a farm in Freedom, WI. I married Egbert (Bill) Williamsen on February 2, 1907.

After we married we moved to Foley AL. In the summer of 1909 we moved back to Little Chute. Our home address was 613 E. Lincoln Ave.

We had 4 children.

Agnes was born in Foley, AL on July 9 1907. She married George Vander Velden on November 20, 1927.

Cecelia was born in Little Chute on August 10, 1909. She married Louis Verhagen Jr on October 5 1926.

Silvan J. was born in Little Chute on August 31, 1911. He married Mary Poppe on August 4, 1931.

Earl was born in Little Chute on April 30, 1915. He married a lady named Helen. I don't remember her last name. When she passed away, he married a lady named Birdie. I am not sure of her real name or her last name.

Bill and I ran a small grocery store on the corner of Taylor and E. Lincoln St. In 1940 we had the old store moved so we could have a new store, tavern and residence built in its place. The building still stands at the present time. It is a day car center, Cradle to Crayon Learning Center. I took care of the tavern and Bill managed the grocery store.

In the tavern we had a little room where we kept the liquor. In this room we also had a nickel slot machine. If you wanted to play the slot machine, I had to press a button under the bar so you could go in and out. If a stranger came into the tavern while you were playing the slot machine, I pushed a button that flashed a light in the room you had to stay quiet in the room until the stranger left. It was illegal to play slots.

I died November 7, 1957 at the age of 69 from lung and throat cancer.

My name is and I am Minnie's (grand daughter)

Little Chute Historical Society Cemetery Walk 2011