

Knight ancestry

William and Grace Knight Ruesink

9. Grace

Typical of the Knights, traveling was a part of her life.

As a young teacher in Chicago she took a boat trip up to the copper mining town in northern Mi.

While teaching 6 years in Chicago she and sister Alice spent 2 weeks in a gold mining region of Colorado at 10,000 ft.

She and Will went twice by car to conventions for welfare workers in northern Mi.

She went 3 times to California. Once by train, once by plane, and once by car.

Shuffeling

Feb. 14, 1906 Grace Knight married William Ruesink and moved into house across road on west side of Knight Hwy sec. 8

Oct. 1906 Will Knight married Kate Baker and moved into farm house on east side Knight Hwy. sec 9

1907 William and Francis Knight moved to Redlands California leaving their house to Will and Kate Knight

8. William Henry Knight

and

Francis McKenzie

b. 10-30-1842 d. 12-10-1928 age 86

b. 5-14-1842 d. 6-20-1928 age 86

William was 19 yr old when the civil war broke out. He studied religious theology at the Haviland Institute in Ypsilante which made him exempt from the draft. After the war he soon married Francis McKenzie and purchased the farm across from Lloyd Ruesinks house on Knight Hwy. He was a book keeper at Stevensons Lumber and coal for 1 ½ years. Township supervisor for 3 years. School inspector for several years. Sundayschool superintendent for his last 20 years.

His farm was called Mapleside Fruit, Grain and Stock Farm. Michigan State Collage sometimes came down to take note of some of the experiments he was conducting on the farm.

He and Francis moved to Redlands California in 1907 to be near son Charles who had moved there several years earlier. He continued his fruit business there with an Orange Grove.

7. William Erastus Knight and **Anna Smead**

b. 2-17-1807 d. 11-8-1901 age 94

b. 9-14-1810 d. 7-4-1885 age 74

William was 1 yr 4 mo old when his mother Polly and his older sister died.

William lived in Chesterfield Ma until the age 20

Then to New Jersey as a ship carpenter for 1 year

Then to Williamsburg and bought land and farmed for 3 years

Then Greenfield 3 yrs.

Then in the spring of 1834 he came to Michigan with the Rufus Smead family (Rufus & Anna & 2 daughters & son). Most likely they came by way of the Erie canal(363 miles) to Lake Erie and then by steam boat to Toledo where they would have to have bought a horse and wagon for the trip to Adrian. On their way from Toledo to Adrian on the 7th of May, due to recent heavy rains, their wagon became disabled in a small lake in the Cottonwood Swamp in SE Lenawee county. Night was at hand and there seemed to be no way of getting the wagon out. Mrs. Smead and her daughters became alarmed at the situation. Mr. Knight finally proposed to carry them to dry land, many rods distant on this back. This he did as a difficult and laborious feat.

William first bought land in Rome twp but couldn't find someone to board him because he was single, so he traded for land in Adrian twp. Sec 18

On December 24th of that same year, one of the young ladies, Anna Smead, became his wife, and by that time he had completed building a log cabin.

By 1841 he completed a much nicer house

They had 8 children...Julia became one of the first group of female freshmen at U of M

William accomplishments

District #9 school founder

West Adrian Cemetery founder

West Adrian Church founder

Maple sugar bush for 45 years, up to 500 trees tapped

6. Erastus Knight and **Polly Little**

b. 11-18-1776 d. 2-14-1846 age 69

b. 1780 d. 5-10-1808 age 28 age 28

Moved from North Hampton CT to Chesterfield MA, most likely a farmer

Erastus had 4 wives, none of which died naturally of old age

1st. wife Polly and a daughter died the same day when son William was 1 yr 4 mo old

4th wife died, age 80, in Williamsburg Flood of 1874 when earthen dam collapsed wiping out 4 towns and killing 139 people

5. Joshua Knight b. 9-3-1746 d. 12-26-1815 age 69

farmer and shoemaker in Chesterfield MA

Lieutenant in Revolutionary war

4. Jonathan Knight

Norwich CT

3. Jonathan Knight

b. 7-2-1698 d. 3-7-1770 age 71 Norwich CT

2. David Knight b. 1660 ? d. 1698

surveyor in Rhode Island

1. Richard Knight b. 1602 d. 1680 age 78

came from England in 1635 to Newport Rhode Island

carpenter by trade

prison keeper 1648-1658