

## Sauter Family History Comments on Spouses of the “10 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Siblings”

Just as with the brothers and sisters who were a special part of our family so also were all their spouses. We were spoiled to have such loving, caring people during our younger and then adult lives. May they all rest in peace as their jobs were done very well. *Alan*

Walter - **Lydia Leno** (Born 1910 – Married 1930) (Married **Henry Berg** – 1972)

I can picture Lydia in her kitchen in the house west of the baseball diamond. Sometimes when I was there, an ironing board was standing there with her behind. I can't remember the specifics, but I have a memory of being there once when she had a massive amount of Vern's shirts she was ironing. Not only was the house spotless, but the yard also (and it was big!) was always beautiful.

It may have been when we (Patty, Laura and I) were in elementary school, Lydia fixed up a playhouse for Patty. It had at one point been a chicken coop. It was small, but big enough for 3 little girls and their imaginations. It smelled like fresh paint. It had cupboards and a small bed. It had green shingles. It was behind the garage, under big trees, surrounded by soft green grass.

Patty's bedroom was a cozy nook upstairs that Lydia had turned into a great spot for teenage secrets.

I remember seeing Henry Berg at a family reunion at Burt and Margo's, but I don't have any other memories of him. He was obviously a good person or Lydia and her kids would not have thought so highly of him. I think he was a twin brother to Harry Berg, whose wife, Eldora, had been our 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. *Linda*

I never knew Lydia very well but what I recall is that she was a very nice lady. She was a Leno (maiden name), and they are all mostly kind, intelligent family members who are very devoted to their huge extended families (both sides) as I am sure that she was. I also cannot imagine the huge responsibilities having to raise a sister's baby although I am sure that Minnie knew she would be a great mother who had helped raise (along with Walter) three sons to be kind, intelligent men. Patty turned out to be a very nice young lady that I thought highly of when we were in school together and I would suspect she still is. *Alan*

Lydia was a lovely person that I called Mom. I have many wonderful memories of her. I am forever grateful to her and Walter for taking me in, loving me and raising me as their own daughter. *Pat*  
Henry - one of the sweetest, kindest people who always had a smile on his face. He was very pleasant to be around and would do anything for you. *Pat*

Too many memories to put down. When it comes to parents I feel like I won the lottery. My mother was the best pastry cook I have ever known. She was a great grandmother to my children and to my children's children. Strange, but the older I got the better I understood the concept of unconditional love from both my parents. I think my mother sometimes felt looked down upon because she was a farm girl while all of the sisters were city girls, but it never interfered with her relationships with my dad's family. Being the third son, I believe my parents thought I would just raise myself with their values intact. I was pretty much allowed to set my own limits as I grew up. Probably different than my two older brothers. That doesn't mean I didn't get positive feedback as I got older. I always knew that they were proud of me. Several years after my dad died my mother married Henry Berg who was a very nice man and a good grandfather to our children. *Vern*

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Mom was a great cook; her chicken was excellent along with the other things she cooked. She made great coffee cake and raised doughnuts. Dad liked potatoes so we usually had potatoes twice a day. She was a very

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supportive mother and wife. She ran the household and Dad ran the business. She could also be stern when necessary. Seemed like the sternness landed on the middle son most of the time. We always had a very large garden. Lots of hoeing and weeding. Lots of potatoes. I recall that we did that all summer. In the fall she would can food that we would eat through the winter. We had one room in the basement with 200-300 glass pints/quarts filled with food from the garden. All very tasty. *Jim*

Aunt Lydia was welcoming and friendly. I was at their house quite often as a kid as Vern and I did things together. I remember snacks and friendly conversation with her. Later in life, when we moved to Bismarck in 1973 we reconnected with Lydia and Henry. We went to their home when Vern and his family would visit from TX. They also came out to our place to pick berries and fruit. Henry was a good mechanic and rebuilt the engine on an older tractor I had bought at auction. Lydia was a very good cook and was always so excited when her grand daughters came to visit from TX. *Burt*

I used to see Aunt Lydia regularly going to their place to play with Cousin Jim. As I recall Aunt Lydia was always in the kitchen – cooking or baking. Wonderful woman! She seemed very quiet. I remember her working in the Melhoff Drug Store. So proud of her boys and also Pat. She and Uncle Walter were blessed having Pat to raise. Lydia thrived with pride and love for her family.

I feel Uncle Walter and Aunt Lydia are so special for helping Fred when Minnie died. Pat knew her father and her parents, so she was able to receive love and attention from everyone. The death of Aunt Minnie affected the ENTIRE family in so many ways. Being a family they all survived together through caring and loving. *Liz (Betty)*