

Sauter Family History Comments on Spouses of the “10 2nd Generation Siblings”

Fred – **Minnie Leno** (Born 1915 – Married 1938)

I wish I had known her. *Linda*

Never knew her at all, although since these Zoom sessions started, I didn't even know for sure (or had forgotten) she was Lydia's sister. *Alan*

My birth mother who passed away shortly after I was born. I feel like I was robbed of her presence as a mother and am disappointed I never had the chance to know her. *Pat*

I had to work the hardest at bringing up memories of Aunt Minnie. Being my mother's sister and the two of them marrying brothers created some interesting dynamics. I had what I called double cousins. I was 8 years old when Minnie died, but I do remember her as being a happy, outgoing person who enjoyed having fun.
Vern

One Saturday night Fred was in the pool hall (with all the other farmers in town) and it was getting late. Minnie walked in and said something like "It's getting late, let's go home." Fred said he wasn't ready, so Minnie said to the bartender, "OK, give me a shot of whiskey" which the bartender did. She drank it down without stopping. Minnie was not a drinker at all, but she said to the bartender, "give me another whiskey" at which Fred said, "Let's get out of here; this is going to cost too much." Minnie could handle Fred better than anyone and they got along very well. *Jim (from his memories of Fred)*

A very cheerful, positive person. I remember her laughing a lot. Great personality. My mother and her were very close as they were sisters and grew up on the Leno farm together. We traded dinners many Sundays. Fred and she were a great couple; she enjoyed teasing him. When she died it was very hard for him. I don't know if he ever got fully over it. Before she died she asked my mother to raise Pat as her daughter. To her brothers she has always been our sister. *Jim*

I do have recollections of Minnie at family gatherings, but her premature death occurred when I was only 7 or 8. I do remember all of the adults in the Sauter side of my family grieving her loss and expressing concerns about the hardship it would mean for Fred and their daughters. *Burt*

Very difficult to write. She died so, so young. I recall she was short in stature, had beautiful thick wavy brown hair, a wonderful laugh. She loved "her girls" (Fredricka and Roberta) to be dressed alike. She took beautiful care of their long, long curls. I remember baby "angel" Frances' funeral. He died during childbirth; a little angel; what a loss. Aunt Minnie could handle Uncle Fred like a symphony. She'd just stand up to him and stare at him, and he'd settle down. She was a loving, hardworking farmer's wife. She loved company. *Liz (Betty)*