

## August and Bertha Gast

August Carl Gast Jr. was born December 13, 1872 at Stolp in the Province of Pommern, Pomerania (Germany), the son of August Sr. and Albertine Schwinke Gast. He emigrated with his parents and siblings to the United States in July 1887 settling on a farm in Marsh Grove Township in Marshall County, Minnesota. August Gast Jr. married his first cousin, Bertha Knitter, born August 31, 1878 on March 22, 1898 and they had the following children.

Frank Raymond, born July 10, 1898, died August 25, 1908

Walter August, born August 14, 1900, died February 18, 1927

Ester Clara, born April 18, 1902, died December 24, 1920

Clarence Richard, born March 26, 1904, died June 27, 1976

Alice Marie, born February 16, 1906, died February 20, 1974

Nora Evelyn, born January 15, 1908, died September 9, 1989

Roy Norman, born January 6, 1910, died February 10, 1991

Lee Lester, born June 2, 1912, died July 9, 1912

Baby Girl, born July 14, 1914, died July 14, 1914

Baby Boy, born November 12, 1915, died November 12, 1915

Chester Robert, born July 14, 1918, died May 9, 1986

After their marriage, August and Bertha Gast moved to Middle River township near Argyle where August operated the City Meat Market in Argyle for two years until 1900. August and Bertha returned to Marsh Grove township to farm until the fall of 1905 when August traded 80 acres of land in Marsh Grove township to his brother Paul for Paul's interest in the meat market in Argyle. August operated the market in partnership with another brother, Charles until the fall of 1907. At that time the business was in arrears. August quit and resumed his farming operation in Marsh Grove township.

Bertha Knitter Gast was rather sickly most of her life. She passed away May 24, 1922 at her home in Marsh Grove township of pulmonary tuberculosis and general weakness. She is buried in Bethesda Lutheran Cemetery, Marsh Grove township. She was 43 years old at the time of her death.

August continued to reside on his farm following the death of his wife. His son, Roy, lived with him and did the active farming. His daughter, Nora also lived for a time on the farm. August died April 18, 1950 at his home of 77 years of congestive heart failure, arteriosclerosis heart disease. Interment was in Bethesda Lutheran Cemetery beside his wife.