

Descendants of Ludwig Heinrich (L. Henry) Riedesel

Generation 1

1. **LUDWIG HEINRICH¹ RIEDESEL** was born on July 12, 1818 in Wunderthausen. He died on July 30, 1894 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). He married (1) **MARIA AMALIA RIEDESEL**, daughter of Johann Franz Riedesel and Florentine Beitzel, on August 08, 1841 in Wunderthausen. She was born on June 16, 1822 in Wunderthausen. She died about 1848 in Galion, Ohio. He married (2) **ELISABETH SCHUMACHER**, daughter of Daniel Schumacher and Susan Seanor, on November 21, 1854 in Galion, Ohio. She was born on October 02, 1831 in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. She died on April 05, 1887 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Ludwig Heinrich Riedesel:

Known as L. Henry in America. Born in Haase Haus in Wunderthausen. Came to Crawford County, Ohio in 1845 with his parents, wife and two known children, three siblings, and the fiance of his brother, J. Ludwig, who came here in 1844. They arrived in New York on June 7, 1845. The families lived first near Galion, Ohio. An epidemic (presumably cholera or influenza, and certainly not "the plague") claimed the lives of the older couple, Henry's wife Amalia, and their daughter Anna. As of the 1850 census, he was living with his older son in the household of Franz and Anna Homrighausen. 2-year old John was living with the Christian Gerhardt family. Henry and Franz are listed as farmers though with no stated real estate value (they didn't own the land).

In 1852 (later than previously believed), Henry and his brother, George, walked from Ohio to Iowa to purchase land. A Davenport-based land agent took them to the area that was to become Wheatland in the Spring Rock Township of Clinton County. Before returning to their families, they walked to Iowa City to register the deeds. The story is that the land cost less than they expected so they could afford to return by river boat rather than walking; this took them down the Mississippi and then up the Ohio River. Henry and his family actually moved to Wheatland in 1855. The 100-year anniversary history of St. Paul's Church says that L. Henry and Elisabeth came in 1852 but this seems incorrect since Crawford County marriages say the marriage took place on November 21, 1854, which we will take as authoritative. Henry was naturalized on the same date--November 21, 1854--at Galion.

Others in the family bought land and moved to Wheatland. The town was officially founded in 1858 when the railroad came through. Prior to this time, it was very much an open frontier with limited communications and transportation to the outside world. Life was tenuous. In 1863-1864, several children from the Riedesel and Dürr families (and probably others) died of diphtheria.

Henry was a founder of the German Reformed Church in Wheatland (St. Paul's) and served as one of the first Trustees in 1861. He donated the initial half acre for the cemetery of St. Paul's Church. His land was to the north and east of Wheatland, and most of it has remained in family hands. Before the founding of St. Paul's in 1861, he is recorded as a founding member of a German Reformed congregation or community (Gemeinde) in 1857. In 1878, Henry built a new house to replace the cabin in which they had lived since coming to the area. He bought and sold land over the years but the core of his farm was in Section 10 of the Spring Rock Township immediately adjacent to Wheatland. He and two of his brothers were the only Wunderthausen emigrants to receive "patents" on their land, meaning they were the first (white) owners.

Notes for Maria Amalia Riedesel:

Although her parents did not marry, Maria Amalia was apparently known as Riedesel. This was the name recorded at the time of her marriage. Her father's identity was acknowledged though what became of him is not known. Numerous other secondary sources give her name as Beitzel. This is not wrong in a technical sense but I am opting for the name she was evidently known by. She came with the extended Riedesel family to New York, landing on June 7, 1845 with their two small children. We know only that she died in 1847-1848 in some kind of epidemic.

Ludwig Heinrich Riedesel and Maria Amalia Riedesel had the following children:

2. i. **LUDWIG² RIEDESEL** was born on December 10, 1841 in Wunderthausen. He died on October 23, 1923 in Hennepin County, Minnesota (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls). He married Emma Wirth, daughter of Jacob Wirth and Catherine ??, on October 01, 1878 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on October 28, 1858 in Lyons, Clinton, Iowa. She died on May 22, 1942 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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(Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls).

- ii. ANNA ELISABETH RIEDESEL was born on May 10, 1844 in Wunderthausen. She died about 1847 in Galion, Ohio.
- 3. iii. JOHN ALBERT RIEDESEL was born on January 02, 1848 in Galion, Ohio. He died on June 06, 1932 in Idalia, Yuma, Colorado. He married Katherine Strackbein, daughter of Johann Georg Strackbein and Maria Magdalena Homrighausen, on May 07, 1875 in Afton, Cherokee, Iowa. She was born on June 16, 1846 in Wunderthausen. She died on June 14, 1914 in Idalia, Yuma, Colorado.

Ludwig Heinrich Riedesel and Elisabeth Schumacher had the following children:

- iv. WILLIAM F. RIEDESEL was born on September 10, 1855 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on November 08, 1932 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). He married Anna Koch, daughter of John Koch and Amalia Knebel, in 1894 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on April 07, 1868 in Clinton County, Iowa. She died on November 03, 1948 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).
- Notes for William F. Riedesel:
The family story is that he returned home from voting for Franklin Roosevelt, sat in his chair, and expired. They had no children.
- v. MARY F. RIEDESEL was born on December 22, 1857 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died on October 02, 1863 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).
 - 4. vi. THEODORE RIEDESEL was born on December 21, 1859 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on August 21, 1941 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). He married Emma Meyer, daughter of Michael Meyer and Elizabeth Seigmuller, on March 04, 1887 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on September 04, 1863 in Lyons, Clinton, Iowa. She died on August 12, 1934 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).
 - 5. vii. ALBERT MARTIN RIEDESEL was born on April 03, 1862 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on June 26, 1955 in Colorado (Fairmount Cemetery, Denver). He married Edith Ellen Henderson, daughter of William Albert Henderson and Eliza Augusta ??, on September 08, 1891. She was born on November 18, 1872 in South Mountain, Canada. She died on July 22, 1937 in Denver, Colorado (Fairmount Cemetery, Denver).
 - 6. viii. CHARLES HENRY RIEDESEL was born on August 21, 1871 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on November 12, 1960 in Norfolk, Madison, Nebraska. He married Elise Marie Zipf on April 18, 1897 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on July 20, 1871 in Marengo, IA. She died on February 03, 1949 in Norfolk, Madison, Nebraska.

Generation 2

- 2. **LUDWIG² RIEDESEL** (Ludwig Heinrich¹) was born on December 10, 1841 in Wunderthausen. He died on October 23, 1923 in Hennepin County, Minnesota (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls). He married Emma Wirth, daughter of Jacob Wirth and Catherine ??, on October 01, 1878 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on October 28, 1858 in Lyons, Clinton, Iowa. She died on May 22, 1942 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls).

Notes for Ludwig Riedesel:

Baptised as Ludwig but known as J. Louis in the US. He was born in Haase Haus in Wunderthausen but was brought to America before his fourth birthday. The extended family arrived in New York on June 7, 1845 and settled immediately in Crawford County, Ohio. His mother died 2-3 years later. His father did eventually remarry but the boy was taken care of by relatives in the meantime. They came to Wheatland in 1855.

It is possible that he owned a small farm in Section 2 of Spring Rock Township in Clinton County as of 1874. Some "L. Riedesel" did, though it could have been his father's as well. He went on to live near Battle Creek, Iowa where he was Vice President of the bank and a member of the city council

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in 1897. By 1920, they were living in Minnehaha County, South Dakota with their daughter, Bernice. That 1920 Census erroneously gives his age as "88."

Notes for Emma Wirth:

She bore a total of six children.

Ludwig Riedesel and Emma Wirth had the following children:

- i. BERTHA³ RIEDESEL was born on December 30, 1880 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. She died on June 24, 1979 in San Diego, California (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls). She married Rawson Joseph Pickard on July 15, 1908 in Minnehaha, South Dakota. He was born on May 18, 1882 in Loda, Iroquois, Illinois. He died on May 22, 1963 in San Diego, California (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls).
- ii. LUELLE RIEDESEL was born on October 29, 1882 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. She died on July 13, 1982 in San Diego (Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls). She married Tore Teigen on June 26, 1912. He was born on September 01, 1879 in Newnelle, Norway.

Notes for Luella Riedesel:

Divorced by 1940 and living with mother in Sioux Falls. Also known as Lulu.

- iii. DOROTHY RIEDESEL was born on July 07, 1889 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. She died on March 05, 1976 in Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota. She married William Ontjes on November 08, 1916 in Sioux Falls, Minnehaha, South Dakota. He was born on September 23, 1886 in Iowa. He died in June 1981 in Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota.

Notes for Dorothy Riedesel:

In 1914 she traveled to Panama by ship, and was listed as "Miss". She and her husband were living with her aged parents in Sioux Falls as of the 1920 Census. No children are listed.

- iv. JAY LESTER RIEDESEL was born on January 18, 1898 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. He died on April 21, 1898 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa.

Notes for Jay Lester Riedesel:

A death record for "Jay Riedesel" appears in the Ida County records. It is my assumption that he was a child of J. Louis and Emma.

- v. BERNICE RIEDESEL was born in September 1903 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. She died on September 19, 1999 in San Diego, California. She married Henry Germain Fenn on May 15, 1929. He was born on November 19, 1903 in Minnehaha County, South Dakota. He died on October 21, 1958 in Minnehaha County, South Dakota.

Notes for Bernice Riedesel:

Divorced by 1940 and living with mother in Sioux Falls.

3. **JOHN ALBERT² RIEDESEL** (Ludwig Heinrich¹) was born on January 02, 1848 in Galion, Ohio. He died on June 06, 1932 in Idalia, Yuma, Colorado. He married Katherine Strackbein, daughter of Johann Georg Strackbein and Maria Magdalena Homrighausen, on May 07, 1875 in Afton, Cherokee, Iowa. She was born on June 16, 1846 in Wunderthausen. She died on June 14, 1914 in Idalia, Yuma, Colorado.

Notes for John Albert Riedesel:

Lived near Tingley, Iowa, when first married but moved to Idalia, Colorado in 1887. At the time of the 1850 Census when he was a motherless 2-year old, John was living with the family of Christian Gerhardt (Frau Gerhardt was his father's aunt).

His son George's Social Security application (1936) gives John's middle name as Adolph rather than Albert. He also spelled his mother's name as Catherine rather than Katherine.

Notes for Katherine Strackbein:

Born in Hutheschäfers Haus in Wunderthausen. Arrived in New York on November 8, 1867 aboard the "Argonaut" out of Bremen. Others from Wunderthausen were aboard.

John Albert Riedesel and Katherine Strackbein had the following children:

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- i. EDWARD³ RIEDESEL was born on May 02, 1876. He died on April 04, 1880 in Tingley Township, IA.

Notes for Edward Riedesel:

Died shortly after drinking water from a stream that was contaminated by a toxic plant "resembling a wild parsnip."

- ii. FRANK JOHN RIEDESEL was born on December 02, 1877 in Tingley, IA. He died on August 03, 1936 in Idalia, Yuma, Colorado. He married Emma Romkee on March 02, 1910. She was born on September 04, 1885 in Canon City, CO. She died on May 14, 1953 in Canon City, CO.

Notes for Frank John Riedesel:

Farmed at Idalia, Colorado.

- iii. ALBERT WILLIAM RIEDESEL was born on February 22, 1880 in Tingley, IA. He died on November 18, 1955 in Wray, Yuma, Colorado (Lucas Memorial Cemetery, Yuma County). He married NORA NEVILLS. She was born on March 16, 1878 in Inland, Cedar, Iowa. She died in 1938 (Lucas Memorial Cemetery, Yuma County).

Notes for Albert William Riedesel: No children.

- iv. ELIZABETH RIEDESEL was born on September 20, 1881. She died in January 1970 in Denver, Bremer, Iowa. She married Charles Thomas Shields on August 08, 1899. He was born on May 14, 1889.

Notes for Elizabeth Riedesel: Known as Lizzie.

- v. GEORGE W. RIEDESEL was born on August 07, 1884 in Tingley, IA. He died in September 1975 in Denver, Colorado. He married Amy Mace on September 10, 1920 in Denver, Colorado. She was born on January 22, 1898 in Leon, IA. She died on March 15, 1987 in Ector County, TX.

Notes for George W. Riedesel:

As of 1936 and 1937, he was working for the Lock Joint Pipe Company of Denver, CO.

- vi. LILLIAN B. RIEDESEL was born on December 12, 1889. She died in 1907 in Idalia, Colorado.

4. THEODORE² RIEDESEL (Ludwig Heinrich¹) was born on December 21, 1859 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on August 21, 1941 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). He married Emma Meyer, daughter of Michael Meyer and Elizabeth Seigmuller, on March 04, 1887 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on September 04, 1863 in Lyons, Clinton, Iowa. She died on August 12, 1934 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Theodore Riedesel:

Took over most of the farm of L. Henry Riedesel; his brother William had, but lost, the other portion.

Notes for Emma Meyer:

She was adopted (at least as of the 1880 Census) by the childless J.P. and Louisa Schneider.

Theodore Riedesel and Emma Meyer had the following children:

- i. ESTHER³ RIEDESEL was born on March 07, 1891 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died in August 1977. She married MELVIN DENNIE. He was born on May 07, 1890. He died in May 1969.
- ii. REUBEN HENRY RIEDESEL was born on December 22, 1892 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on February 14, 1988 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). He married Florentina Beckmann, daughter of Dietrich Beckmann and Florentina Riedesel, on December 25, 1918 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on February 23, 1897 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died on July 15, 1935 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

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Notes for Reuben Henry Riedesel:

Third generation to farm the land homesteaded by L. Henry.

- iii. ELMER VINTON RIEDESEL was born on January 05, 1896 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on May 05, 1969. He married Augusta Mathilda Stanke on May 31, 1923. She was born on January 12, 1900 in Clinton, Iowa. She died on November 08, 1965.

Notes for Elmer Vinton Riedesel:

Earned M.D. in 1921 from the University of Iowa and practiced medicine in Wheatland for almost 50 years. However, he was on military duty in the Philippines in 1941, was captured there by the Japanese, and survived the infamous Bataan Death March.

- iv. WILMA RIEDESEL was born on August 15, 1901 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died on October 11, 1998.

Notes for Wilma Riedesel:

Never married. Was active in the music program at St. Paul's Church in Wheatland.

5. **ALBERT MARTIN² RIEDESEL** (Ludwig Heinrich¹) was born on April 03, 1862 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on June 26, 1955 in Colorado (Fairmount Cemetery, Denver). He married Edith Ellen Henderson, daughter of William Albert Henderson and Eliza Augusta ??, on September 08, 1891. She was born on November 18, 1872 in South Mountain, Canada. She died on July 22, 1937 in Denver, Colorado (Fairmount Cemetery, Denver).

Notes for Albert Martin Riedesel:

Lived in Denver, Colorado, and had a brokerage business there, but also lived in Battle Creek, IA, as early as 1893 when their daughter was born, and as late as 1906 when he is listed in a local directory. Could well be the "A. A. Riedesel" listed in an 1884 directory. The son, Jay, I have listed for J. Louis Riedesel might have been Albert's son instead. At the time of his baptism in 1862, he was referred to as "Martin Alfred."

Albert Martin Riedesel and Edith Ellen Henderson had the following child:

- i. NELLIE³ RIEDESEL was born on May 26, 1893 in Battle Creek, Ida, Iowa. She died in September 1990. She married Floyd Pool on June 07, 1915 in Denver, Colorado. He was born about 1893 in South Dakota.
6. **CHARLES HENRY² RIEDESEL** (Ludwig Heinrich¹) was born on August 21, 1871 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on November 12, 1960 in Norfolk, Madison, Nebraska. He married Elise Marie Zipf on April 18, 1897 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on July 20, 1871 in Marengo, IA. She died on February 03, 1949 in Norfolk, Madison, Nebraska.

Notes for Charles Henry Riedesel:

Graduate of Heidelberg University (Ohio) and ordained into the German Reformed Church in 1896. Over a long career he served churches in Wheatland; North Carolina; the original family home of Galion, Ohio; Indiana; Idaho; another church in Ohio; and finally Norfolk, Nebraska.

Charles Henry Riedesel and Elise Marie Zipf had the following children:

- i. DOROTHY CHRISTINE³ RIEDESEL was born on March 05, 1903 in Rockwell, NC. She died on December 24, 1938 in Massillon, Stark, Ohio. She married Robert A. Miller on June 12, 1924 in Galion, Ohio. He was born on June 29, 1898. He died on October 11, 1965 in New York.

Notes for Robert A. Miller:

Educated at Heidelberg College (Ohio) and Princeton Seminary.

- ii. PAUL GERHARD RIEDESEL was born on August 27, 1904 in Galion, Ohio. He died on March 17, 1996 in Moscow, Latah, Idaho. He married Edna Fannie Pember on December 25, 1929 in Buhl, ID. She was born on February 21, 1904 in Gilmore, WI. She died on November 14, 1996.

Notes for Paul Gerhard Riedesel:

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Known as Gerhard A. Attended Idaho Technical Institute (now Idaho State University) and Iowa State College (now University) where he completed a degree in civil engineering. Held a variety of positions throughout his career including posts with the Idaho Transportation Department, the University of Idaho-Moscow, Washington State College (now University). He was also active in a variety of church-related and other volunteer organizations.

Notes for Edna Fannie Pember:

1925 graduate of Iowa State University.

- iii. NORMAN ADALBERT RIEDESEL was born on January 31, 1906 in Galion, Ohio. He died on November 07, 1983 in Xocenpich, Yucatan, Mexico. He married Sadie Ethel May Haye on May 26, 1935. She was born on July 28, 1902 in Washington (state). She died on January 25, 1998 in Jefferson, Adams, Ohio.

Notes for Norman Adalbert Riedesel:

Graduated from San Francisco Theological Seminary and then entered the Presbyterian ministry.

Notes for Sadie Ethel May Haye:

1925 graduate of Iowa State University.

- iv. MIRIAM HENRIETTA RIEDESEL was born on November 14, 1907 in Poland, Clay, Indiana. She died on December 31, 2005 in Jamesburg, Middlesex, New Jersey. She married Kenneth Edward Hughes on May 03, 1941. He was born on October 25, 1901 in Ohio. He died on September 15, 1998 in Jamesburg, Middlesex, New Jersey.
- v. CARL CLEMENT RIEDESEL was born on June 05, 1910 in Poland, Clay, Indiana. He died on January 28, 1996 in Davenport, Scott, Iowa. He married (1) PHOEBE ALICE MERCHANT on November 28, 1935 in Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah. She was born in 1912 in New York. She died in 1936. He married (2) BERTHA HUBER on October 15, 1939. She was born on June 29, 1910 in Bowdle, Edmunds, South Dakota. She died on September 09, 1997 in Davenport, Scott, Iowa.

Notes for Carl Clement Riedesel:

Received degree in pharmacy in 1934 from the State University of Idaho, M. S. at the University of Nebraska, and Ph.D. at Iowa State University. Served on the faculty of the University of the Pacific beginning in 1948.

- vi. MAURICE ADOLPH RIEDESEL was born on May 16, 1912 in Poland, Clay, Indiana. He died on January 22, 2000 in Quarryville, PA. He married (1) CLARA SYBELLA ULRICH on June 18, 1939. She was born on November 08, 1914. She died on July 07, 1978. He married (2) CAROLIN STEPHENS in December 1981. She was born in Anapolis, MD. She died on July 11, 1996.

Notes for Maurice Adolph Riedesel:

Ordained into the Reformed Church in 1939 and spent his career serving missions in Central and South America. Educated at Heidelberg College (Ohio) and the Eden Seminary in St. Louis.