

The New
MANFRED NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 3

April 2016

A Warm Welcome to Manfred!

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Tabs of special interest: Biography, Business, Newsletter

INGVALD AND OLIDA RAVNAAS FAMILY HISTORY

1961



THE INGVALD AND OLIDA RAVNAAS FAMILY

Standing: Ivar Ravnaas, Arvin Ravnaas, Oliver Ravnaas, Edward Ravnaas, Morris Ravnaas
Seated: Cecelia Ravnaas Lillemon, Inez Ravnaas Burgstahler, Olida and Ingvald Ravnaas, Cora Ravnaas Nelson
Not pictured is George who had died in World War II

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR THE RAVNAAS FAMILY HISTORY

Inez Ravnaas Burgstahler, Edward and Lorraine Ravnaas, Karen Ravnaas, Norman Ravnaas, Virgil Nelson, Carol Nelson Schroeder, Gary Ravnaas, Lindsay Ravnaas Gourneau, Linda Lillemon Scott, Joyce Lillemon Olson, Ruth Ravnaas Schuh, Maurice Ravnaas, Astrid Ravnås a niece of Ingvald Ravnaas and author of "Farm Ravnås" slektsbok (family history book), "Sigdal og Eggedal" by Andreas Mørk, "Hjelmeland Bygdebok," parish records in Norway, "Vang History Book" compiled by Annie Solheim, "Pioneer Biography Files 1936-1940" of the North Dakota WPA project, "Wells County Free Press," Berve history from "Growing With Pride," Carl Ravnaas on history of his father Torstein Ravnaas, photos from the Ravnaas family.

Wanda Melchert-Editor, Audrey Solheim-Historian.

The New Manfred News

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Manfred Heritage Museum

Museum open May through September – Website: www.manfrednd.org

Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas Family Photo Collection



Oliver and Ivar



L/R: Ingvald, Oliver standing on chair, Ivar standing on floor, Olida holding Cora



L/R: Ingvald's brother, Godtfred Ravnås holding Oliver, Ivar standing between Godtfred and Ingvald with fiddle, Olida with Cora in buggy. Godtfred was Cora's godfather for her baptism

Born to Ingvald and Olida:

- 1 Ivar b.1912 d.1986
- 2 Oliver b.1914 d.1975
- 3 Cora b.1916 d.2004
- 4 Arvin b.1919 d.2005
- 5 Cecelia b.1921
- 6 George b.1924 d.1944
- 7 Morris b.1926 d.1981
- 8 Inez b.1930
- 9 Edward b.1934

Early 1940s



Hay had just been hoisted into the barn on the Reistad farm



Norman Nelson, Morris Ravnaas, Ingvald Ravnaas, Egert Berve holding grain bundles



Ingvald and possibly Morris with a team of their horses



Oliver Ravnaas, Ingvald Ravnaas, Oliver Berve with a grain bundle being pitched behind them

Newspaper photo and caption from the 1946 or 1947 state convention for the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association



“Cooperators from Manfred, N.D., above, examine grain on display at the annual meeting. Left to right are Emil Schepp, Mrs. Alex Miller, Alex Miller, Ingvald Ravnaas, Mike Jenny and Jacob Springer.”



A group of Manfred farmers in the 1940s

- L/R
Standing:
Oliver Berve
?
Emil Rust
Casper Berve
Magnus Elton
Ingvald Ravnaas

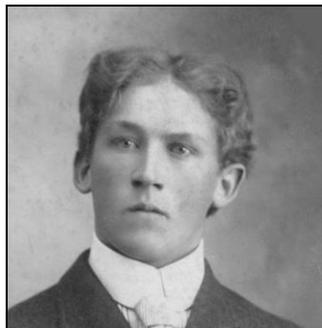
- In front:
Frank Kohler
Morris Ravnaas
?

If you can identify one or both of the unnamed men in this photo, please let us know.

INGVALD AND OLIDA RAVNAAS



Ingvald's parents, Ivar and Karen Ravnås remained in Norway. Ingvald often spoke of returning to Norway but was never able to fulfill that dream.



Ingvald Ravnaas



Olida Berve

Olida's confirmation photo



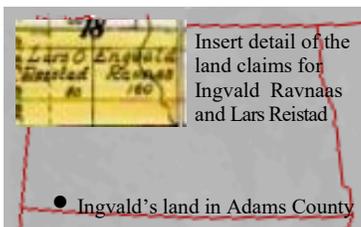
Olida's parents, Ole and Anna Berve and their son, Jone, immigrated to the United States in 1884.



Ingvald Ravnaas

←
Steamship S.S. Saxonia
upon which Ingvald
immigrated to the USA

Ingvald was born February 18, 1885 in Sigdal, Buskerud, Norway where he grew up. In 1903 at the age of 18, Ingvald immigrated to the USA, together with Ole, Gunhild, and Lars Reistad who were his mother's cousins. They sailed on the steamship S.S. Saxonia, which departed from Liverpool, England. The voyage was treacherous with high seas. Later, when relating this story to his daughter Inez, pointing to their windmill he said, "You see the windmill here. Some of the waves were as tall as that." Ingvald and his companions finally landed in Boston harbor on June 25, 1903. From Boston, Ingvald traveled with Lars Reistad to Stark County, North Dakota where, on June 29, 1906, he filed his Declaration of Intent, or "first papers", for naturalization. He filed for his claim in Adams County on July 5, 1906, listing Manfred as his address where he worked at times for area farmers between meeting requirements on his Adams County claim. In November of 1909, Ingvald filed papers, "proving up," with the Bureau of Land Management for a land patent in Adams County, North Dakota. Lars Reistad filed papers for his acreage in the same section. *(See page 5 for the story of Ingvald's heritage)*



SE ¼ of Section 18, Twp. 129N,
Range 97W - Holden Township,
Adams County, North Dakota

Ingvald provided the following statement in his land patent papers:

My house was built before the 15th day of November 1906, and I established my residence the 15th of November 1906. House 10 x 14, lumber, pitch roof, lumber, and two thicknesses tar-paper, one thickness boards and two of tar-paper on walls, two windows, one door, floor. Barn 18 x 18, sod, wire, and hay roof. 225 trees planted, 2 acres fenced, 4 wires, posts about 1½ rods apart. Well 9 feet, curbed with lumber, bucket and rope. 17 acres breaking. About 15 loads of rock picked up from the land.

Peter J. Thorson of Bucyrus, North Dakota served as a witness for Ingvald.

Olida Johanna Berve

Olida Berve was born March 17, 1891 near Buxton, Traill County, North Dakota. She moved with her parents and siblings to Manfred, growing up on a farm northeast of Manfred near Bethel Church where her parents became charter members. *(See page 6 for the story of Olida's heritage)*

Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas

On March 3, 1911, Ingvald and Olida were married. Mrs. Melvin Kittleson (Josephine "Josie" Rogelstad) served as bridesmaid for Olida and Ingvald's brother, Gottfried (Godtfred in Norwegian), as his best man. Rev. Hovland, pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church, officiated for their wedding at the home of Olida's parents near Bethel Church north of Manfred. Ingvald and Olida's first months of married life were spent on Ingvald's homestead near Bucyrus, Adams County, North Dakota, having moved there using a covered wagon. They found conditions so dry there that they soon returned to the Manfred area again using a covered wagon. A June 30, 1911 entry in the Wells County Free Press told of this: "Ingvald Ravnaas returned from Adams County where he has tried farming. But, the absence of rains compelled him to return to Wells County." Their daughter, Inez, recalled that they were also briefly at Tioga, North Dakota before making their home in the Manfred area. Ingvald and Olida's first child, Ivar, was born on February 6, 1912. Ingvald and Olida's desire to have a farm was realized in 1913 as indicated in the April 4, 1913 issue of the Wells County Free Press: "Ingvald Ravnaas has rented the O. K. Melby farm north of town and has been busy moving there this week."

INGVALD AND OLIDA RAVNAAS

Page 2
Life at Manfred

Born to Ingvald and Olida at the O. K. Melby farm were: Oliver in 1914, Cora in 1916, Arvin in 1919, Cecelia in 1921, and George in 1924. In 1926, Ingvald and Olida moved to the Jacob Klev farm just north of Manfred where their son Morris was born in 1926 and daughter Inez in 1929. In 1933, they moved to the Ranum farm and in 1934 to the "Old Lonesome" farm near Bethel Church in the area where Olida's parents lived. Their son, Edward was born in September of 1934. In 1939, Ingvald and Olida moved to the Reistad farm. The April 6, 1939 issue of the Wells County Free Press relates: "Ingvald Ravnaas moved onto the Reier Reistad farm this week." They farmed here until 1956 when Ingvald and Olida had a farm sale and moved to Manfred.

Ingvald and Olida were active in the community. Ingvald served as township supervisor for many years and was a member of the Farmers Union. In 1934, he supervised a dam project on the James River, a Civil Conservation Corps project. They were members of the Sons of Norway where Ingvald played fiddle for gatherings together with Oliver Berve and Oliver Ravnaas. Ingvald and Olida were also active in Sigdalslaget, an organization of those having roots from Sigdal, Norway, Ingvald's heritage. They belonged to Vang Lutheran Church in Manfred where Olida was active in the Vang Ladies Aid. Olida was also active in the Manfred Homemakers Club and helped with the 4-H Sewing Club.

Their granddaughter Karen Ravnaas, remembers Ingvald and Olida as being hard working people. Olida was always in the kitchen making things at the old iron stove, like baking bread. Turning ice cream and celebrating birthdays were special memories. Karen and her cousin Linda often stayed with their grandparents, riding on the Dinky train from their parents' homes at Harvey and Velva respectively.

Ingvald and Olida enjoyed 52 years of marriage together. Ingvald died April 1, 1963. Following Ingvald's passing, Olida remained in their Manfred home until her passing on April 13, 1969. Ingvald and Olida are interred at Vang Cemetery.

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

Ravnaas farm sites

- O. K. Melby farm SE ¼ Sec 9, 1913-1925
- Jacob Klev farm NW ¼ Sec 27, 1926-1933
- Ranum farm SW ¼ Sec 22, 1933-1934
- Old Lonesome farm SE ¼ Sec 3, 1934-1939
- Reier Reistad farm NW ¼ Sec 10, 1939-1956



The home in Manfred where Ingvald and Olida moved to after retiring from farming in 1956

← The 50th Anniversary celebration for Ingvald and Olida held in 1961 at Vang Lutheran Church

Wells County Free Press Entries

Sampling of community and family life

February 25, 1926

The Sewing Club met at the Ingvald Ravnaas home Wednesday evening.

June 14, 1928

Mr. and Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas and R. O. Reistad left by car Monday for Minot to attend the Sigdalslag.

February 19, 1931

Ladies Aid met in the church parlors Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Olaf Anderson, Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas, and Mrs. Albert Nelson were hostesses and a very delicious lunch was served. A neat sum was realized.

July 2, 1936

A number of friends and relatives gathered and helped Mr. and Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas celebrate their Silver Wedding at their home Friday evening.

July 30, 1942

The Manfred Homemakers members met at the home of Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas Wednesday.

July 7, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Nelson and family of Bemidji, Minnesota and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Burgstahler of Minneapolis spent the holiday at the Ingvald Ravnaas home. Mrs. Nelson is the former Cora Ravnaas and Mrs. Burgstahler the former Inez Ravnaas.

Farm and work related entries

October 27, 1927

Ingvald Ravnaas purchased a Fordson outfit and is busy turning over the ground.

March 22, 1928

Ingvald Ravnaas helped K. E. Nelson Saturday.

July 12, 1928

The high wind early Friday morning blew down the silo and machine shed at the Halvor Olsen farm. The auto shed and a new chicken house were wrecked on the Ingvald Ravnaas farm.

March 21, 1929

Ingvald Ravnaas helped K. E. Nelson Friday.

May 23, 1929

Ole Rudi helped Ingvald Ravnaas Saturday.

June 27, 1929

Oliver Berve and Helmer Solheim are putting a new coat of paint on the Ingvald Ravnaas house.

July 18, 1934

Mr. Ravnaas who is supervising the dam project reports the work progressing satisfactorily and will be completed in a few more weeks.

November 29, 1934

Mr. Ravnaas reported our dam across the James River is almost completed.

April 6, 1939

Ingvald Ravnaas moved onto the Reier Reistad farm this week.

The Heritage of Ingvald Ravnaas

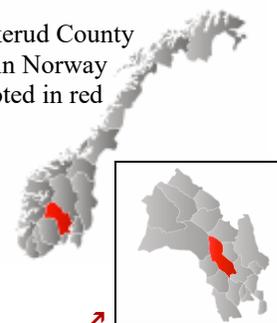
Ingvald Ivarsen Ravnaas was born February 18, 1885 in Sigdal, Buskerud, Norway, the second oldest of 12 children to Ivar Ivarsen Lillemoen and Karen Ivarsdatter Øverby.

Ravnås was originally farm #8 of eastern Eikje/Eken located just south of the town of Sigdal in Buskerud, Norway. The name Ravnås (Ravn + ås) means “Raven Hill,” “ravn” or “ramn” meaning “raven” and “ås” meaning “a long narrow hill or ridge.” Norwegian spelling variations have included Ravnås and Ramnås, and spelled Ravnaas in English (by doubling the “a” to represent the Norwegian letter “å”). Ingvald was 13 when the family moved to Ravnås. This farm has a total of 45 acres.

The Ravnås farm's first inhabitant was likely Peder Ravnås who was a tenant farmer until 1726. Various famers lived there until 1899 when Ingvald's father, Ivar, took over. It is unlikely that any of the earlier farmers were related to Ivar. Ivar and his family took the name Ravnås as was the custom of taking the name of the place where one lived. All the original buildings on the hill stood until 1950 when they began to be torn down. The last one of the original buildings (pictured at right) to be torn down was the house in the 1980s. Timber from the original storehouse was used to build the new storehouse. All buildings for the Ravnås farm are now located below the hill.

Ingvald’s father, Ivar Ivarsen Lillemoen, was a hard-working man of many talents. He repaired blacksmith tools and shoes and was a sought-after fiddle player. As translated from “Sigdal og Eggedal” compiled by Andreas Mørk, “Ivar was so good on the fiddle that he could play at coffee gatherings or other gatherings.” Ingvald's mother, Karen Ivarsdatter Øverby, was born on the Øverby farm. The meaning of the name Øverby, using the Old Norwegian spelling of "Øfribyr" (Øfri + byr), is “øfri” meaning “upper” and “byr” meaning “farmstead.” Karen’s father died when she was eight years old, so her mother ran the farm of 7.5 acres until her son, Knut, took over. Karen was a weaver and made clothing for her children.

Buskerud County within Norway as noted in red



Insert of the Sigdal community in red within Buskerud County



L/R: Ingvald's brother, Petter Ravnås and Ingvald's granddaughter, Karen Ravnaas standing on the porch of the old Ravnås house. Petter was born after Ingvald left for America, so the two never had the opportunity to meet one another.

The Children of Ivar Ivarsen Lillemoen and Karen Ivarsdatter Øverby

Child	Lifespan	Farm born on	Married to	Occupation	Place at death
1 Ivar	1883-1957	Vinnord in Eken	Kristiane Olsdatter Kinkebråten	Farmer and shoemaker	Norway
2 Ingvald	1885-1963	Tukua in Eken	Olida Johanna Berve	Farmer	North Dakota
3 Kristian	1887-1957	Eken	Gunhild Knudsdatter Øverby	Logger	Norway
4 Godtfred/Gottfried	1888-1962	Eken	Inga Johnsdatter Aaby (d.1928) Jenny Kristine Pedersdatter Haugen (d.1933) Ingeborg Knutsdatter Øverby Rolsrud	Forest work, played violin, whittled items like ax handles and rake teeth	Norway
5 Kristi	1891-1974	Eken	Jørgen Andersen Solheim	Well-known for her Hardanger sewing	Norway
6 Gunhild	1893-1981	Eken	Ole Nilsen Sund	Worked as a dairy maid until her marriage	Norway
7 Ragna	1896-1976	Tukua in Eken	Karl Andersen Kvislebråten (later Bråten)	Worked as a dairy maid until her marriage	Norway
8 Einar	1898-1986	Tukua in Eken	Did not marry	Farmer	Norway
			Immigrated to Canada in 1927 and bought a farm in Gronlid, Saskatchewan. Returned to Norway in 1976 where he stayed the rest of his life.		
9 Karl	1900-1967	Ravnås	Sigrid Johnsdatter Hagavold	Worked in the woods, made knives, sheaths, small birch bark snuff boxes	Norway
10 Torstein	1903-1955	Ravnås	Viola Constance Sjolin	Mining engineer, and also made skis and was a high jumper	Canada
			Torstein and Viola met in Oslo, married in Ottawa, Canada, then moved to Blind River, Ontario.		
11 Karoline	1905-1968	Ravnås	Andreas Godtfredsen Thorud	Did beautiful embroidery work	Norway
12 Petter	1907-1979	Ravnås	Hannah Olava Gunnarsdatter Ålien	Worked in the woods and in a blacksmith shop	Norway
			Received diploma from Buskerud School of Forestry, served on the Board of Education. Petter's grandson, Lars, now owns the Ravnås property.		

The Heritage of Olida Berve

Olida Johanna Berve was born March 17, 1891 at Buxton, Traill County, North Dakota the sixth of ten children to Ole J. Berve and Anna Marie Eilertsdatter.

Olida's father, Ole J. Berve, was born March 24, 1854 in Hjelmelandsvaagen, Rogaland, Norway. Ole's father was Jone Olson Børve (1831-1912) born in Hjelmelandsvaagen. Jone was a fisherman, a shoemaker, sold eggs and lumber, and hunted birds to sell. Ole's mother was Johanna Hermansdatter (1829-1905) born on the Sæbo farm in Hjelmeland.

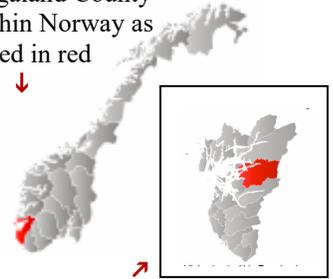
Olida's mother, Anna Marie Eilertsdatter was born July 5, 1857 in Hjelmelandsvaagen, Rogaland, Norway. Anna's father was Eilert Olsen (1825-1883) born on the Sandvik farm, Jelsa, Rogaland, Norway. Anna's mother was Sissel Osmundsdatter (1831-?) born on the Skiftun farm, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway.

Ole and Anna were married on April 22, 1881 in Hjelmeland, Norway. Like his father Jone, Ole made his living as a fisherman. Sadly, Ole and Anna's second child Egert died in 1883 when he was six months old. In 1884, Ole and Anna immigrated to the USA together with their three year old son Jone.

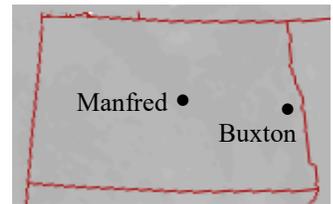
Ole and Anna settled in Traill County, Dakota Territory, near Buxton where their third child, also named Egert, was born in 1885. By 1886, they had built a one-room sod house. They made their own furniture; used straw for the mattresses of their homemade beds; heated their home with wood and flax straw; used wood in their cook stove; made candles from tallow; and Anna spun yarn to make clothing for the family and Ole made their shoes from wood. Ole applied for his First Papers for naturalization in Trail County in 1887. Other children born to them at their home near Buxton were: Johanna in 1887, Cecelia in 1889, Olida in 1891, Eilert in 1892, and Oliver in 1894.

By 1896, Ole and Anna moved to Wells County, North Dakota, settling north of Manfred where their daughter Olga was born in that year. Ole and Anna were charter members of the Bethel Lutheran Church, organized on June 2, 1896 under the leadership of Pastor Andreansen. In 1900, Ole received his Second Papers, finalizing his citizenship. Also that year, Ole was issued a land patent in Wells County. Their son Casper was born in 1901. Ole died February 2, 1925 in Fram Township and Anna died there on October 13, 1935. Ole and Anna are buried at Bethel Cemetery.

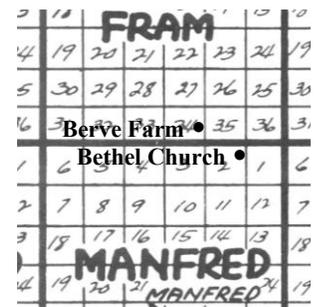
Rogaland County within Norway as noted in red



Insert of the Hjelmeland community in red within Rogaland County



Olida's birth place near Buxton, ND where she lived her first five years, and Manfred, ND where she lived the rest of her life



Berve Farm located in the SE 1/4 of Sec. 34 in Fram Twp near Bethel Lutheran Church

The Children of Ole J. Børve and Anna Maria Eilertsdatter

Child	Lifespan	Place of birth	Married to	Children	Place at death
1 Jone "John"	1881-1962	Hjelmeland	Helen Emelia Broe near Manfred	Ordean, Arnold	Williston, ND
2 Egert	1883-1883	Hjelmeland			Norway
3 Egert	1885-1956	Buxton, ND	Josie Thoring	Orville, Grace, Morris	Williston, ND
4 Johanna "Hannah"	1887-1967	Buxton, ND	Knute Leonard Ramsfield	Ordean, Alice, Nora, Alpha, Ole, Gladys, Esther, LeRoy, Jenevie, Robert	Williston, ND
5 Cecelia	1889-1918	Buxton, ND	Henry Broe	Esther, Oliver, Ervin, Sigverd, Archie	Appam, ND
6 Olida Johanna	1891-1969	Buxton, ND	Ingvald Ravnaas	Ivar, Oliver, Cora, Arvin, Cecelia, George, Morris, Inez, Edward	Manfred, ND
7 Eilert Laurentius	1892-1971	Buxton, ND	Did not marry		Rugby, ND
8 Oliver	1894-1980	Buxton, ND	Agnes Hagen at Harvey	No children	Harvey, ND
9 Olga Andrine	1896-1965	Manfred, ND	Henry Jesse Knudsvig	OraBelle	Williams County, ND
10 Casper	1901-1967	Manfred, ND	Selma Rodne, Hazel Solberg	No children	Minneapolis, MN

THE CHILDREN OF INGVALD AND OLIDA RAVNAAS

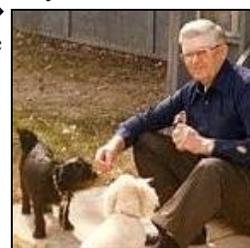
1 IVAR Ivar Ravnaas was born February 6, 1912 in North Dakota. He began his schooling in 1919 at Manfred School #2 called the “Solberg School,” and then attended Manfred School #1 for Grades 2 through 8. He was confirmed at Vang Lutheran Church as noted in an August 4, 1927 entry in the Wells County Free Press: “Ingrid Rogness, Lloyd Bergsgaard, Alvin Langseth, Eilert Nelson, Ivar Ravnaas and Lester Burkum were confirmed by Rev. Langseth at Vang Lutheran Church.” Ivar farmed with his father until entering the military service as noted in an August 20, 1942 entry in the Wells County Free Press: “Ivar Ravnaas left Tuesday for the army. This makes three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas to be in the armed forces, Arvin being in New Caledonia and George in the Marines.” Ivar was at first stationed at Fort Snelling and then served in Italy and North Africa during WWII. After the war, he returned to North Dakota where he farmed and was an avid hunter. Ivar was so well liked by everyone, especially his nieces and nephews whom he teased constantly. On April 4, 1986, he wasn’t feeling well so decided to drive himself to the hospital in Minot. Four miles west of Balfour, he drove into the ditch where he died. The funeral was held at Vang Lutheran Church officiated by Rev. Mark Kolbo. Casket bearers were Steven Burgstahler, Maurice Ravnaas, Douglas Ravnaas, Norman Ravnaas, Virgil Nelson, and Gary Ravnaas. Military honors were provided by American Legion Post #28, VFW Post 1868 of Harvey. Ivar is interred at Vang Cemetery.



←
Ivar
Ravnaas



Ivar with his dog Blackie and Cecelia’s dog



←L/R: After a hunt in the 1940s: Alvin Rogness, Emil Onstad, Ivar Ravnaas, Oscar Olsen, and Oliver Ravnaas

6 GEORGE

George Ravnaas was born April 8, 1924 at the O. K. Melby farm. In 1926, his family moved to the Jacob Klev farm just north of Manfred. George began his schooling at Manfred School in the fall of 1930 with Harriett Johnson as his teacher for first and second grades, then Harriett’s sister, Winnifred Johnson, for third grade, Eleanor Langlie for fourth grade, and Mildred Ongstad for fifth grade. He was active in school activities such as the spring music contests. When his family moved to the “Old Lonesome” farm near Bethel Church it is thought that he attended a rural school in that area, thus taking his eighth grade there. George worked on his father’s farm and for area farmers such as Albert Nelson until entering the U.S. Marine Corps. An April 30, 1942 entry in the Wells County Free Press noted: “George Ravnaas left Monday for Bismarck where he entered the Marines and left from there for camp.” He took part in several battles on various Pacific Islands and was wounded in the battle on Guam in the Marianas group. He died of his wounds on July 28, 1944. His body was buried on the island of Guam until the war was over and later shipped home to Manfred. In a plaque located in Vang Church honoring those who served in World War II, there is a gold star beside George’s name denoting his death in service to his country.



1942



December 16, 1948
Vang Cemetery

News article from the Wells County Free Press: December 16, 1948

Burial Today for George Ravnaas

Military Funeral Services will be held today, Thursday, at 2:00 p.m. from the Vang Lutheran Church in Manfred for Private First Class George Ravnaas, returned war victim. Rev. E. Aarthur will officiate and burial will be made in the Vang cemetery.

Memorial Services for Ravnaas were also held at the Vang Lutheran church October 15th, 1944.

George Ravnaas was born at Manfred April 8, 1924, where he attended the public schools, then worked in his father’s farm until entering service.

He entered the U.S. Marine Corps on April 28, 1942, and was trained at San Diego, Calif., before going to the Samoan Islands for completion of his training. He took part in several battles on various Pacific islands, and was wounded in the battle on Guam, in the Marianas group. He died of wounds July 28, 1944 and was buried there. He reached the age 20 years, 3 months and 20 days.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas of Manfred; five brothers, Ivar of Manfred, Arvin and Oliver, of Harvey, Morris and Edward, at home; and three sisters, Mrs. Norman Nelson of Bemidji, Minn., Mrs. Marvin Lillemon of Harvey, and Mrs. Roger Burgstahler of Seattle, Washington.

2 OLIVER

Oliver Ravnaas was born June 1, 1914 and raised on the family farm near Manfred. He began his schooling at Manfred in the fall 1921. His teachers included Grade 1-Mabel Lostensgard, Grade 2-M.C. Curtis, Grade 3-Helen Schauf, Grade 4-Mrs. Helene Hamuth, Grade 5-Elsie J. Mohr, Grades 6 and 7-Sidney J. Lee, and Grade 8-John W. Schroeder. He completed his primary education in the spring of 1929.

Oliver worked with his father on the farm, and then in the early 1940s, he went to work at the shipyards in the state of Washington during WWII. In 1945, he returned to North Dakota where he was employed by Herrick Implement of Harvey until 1948. On November 2, 1947, Oliver married Alma Sophia Schimke at the First Congregational Church in Harvey. Alma was born October 19, 1917, the daughter of Gotthilf and Katharina (Bollinger) Schimke, Germans from Russia who had settled in Pony Gulch.

From 1948 to 1954, Oliver was employed as a parts man for Auto Service Pontiac Sales. He worked for the Harvey Police Department, and then delivered propane for Schimke Gas Company. In 1969, he went to work for Loerch's Westland Service in Harvey where he worked until his passing on August 30, 1975 at St. Lukes Hospital, Fargo, North Dakota. The funeral service was held in First Congregational Church, Harvey, with Rev. F.W. Loewen officiating. Pallbearers were Ted Teske, Harold Helgerud, William Ryan, Roger Loerch, Edwin Dockter, and Leonard Marsh. Honorary bearers were Kernel Helgerud, Marvin Theige, Duane Akers, Chester Mortenson, Oscar Olsen, and Pete Barstad. Alma remained in her home until she died on April 8, 1990. Oliver and Alma are buried at Sunnyside Cemetery, Harvey, North Dakota.

Oliver and Alma were members of the First Congregational Church, Harvey, and Alma was also a member of the First Congregational Ladies Aid and the Rebekahs. Oliver was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, North Dakota Wildlife Federation, Fraternal Order of Eagles, the North Dakota Fire Chief's Association, and an associate member of Harvey Veterans Club. He also served as a member of the Harvey Volunteer Fire Department for more than 20 years – three years as Assistant Fire Chief and another three years as Chief. Alma worked at the Harvey Bakery, Kirton's Café, Harvey Coop Creamery, Harvey Public School Cafeteria, and St. Aloisius Hospital. Oliver enjoyed playing cards, woodworking, hunting and fishing. Alma played piano and was handy in doing anything with her hands, especially crafting; she could also easily use a hammer or saw.

Two children were born to them, Karen and Norman; both graduated from Harvey High School. **1** Karen graduated from NDSU (BA Math) in 1971. At graduation, she was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After basic training, she served at Ft. Carson, Colorado, and Pirmasens, Germany, and also participated in Desert Shield-Desert Storm. After resigning from active duty, she continued in the U.S. Army Reserves and attained the rank of Major. Karen completed her MBA-Finance at Western State Colorado University and then moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado where she worked for Transportation Technology Center (Assoc. of American Railroads) and Hewlett Packard, retiring in 2012. Karen took a trip to Norway in 1975 meeting four of her Grandfather Ingvald's siblings and other relatives. She is a member of Fjellheim Lodge, Sons of Norway in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

2 Norman graduated from North Dakota State School of Science, Wahpeton in 1974. He worked for Western Gear Corp in Jamestown, H.E. Everson in Harvey, Butler Machinery in Bismarck, Dakota Prairie Organic Flour Co. in Harvey, and is currently employed at American Welding and Gas of Mandan. Norman is a competitive shooter, motorcycle enthusiast, and amateur radio operator helping out during emergencies in North Dakota. Norman married Patricia Ellen Hartl on February 12, 1993. They have two children: **1** Samuel is an honors graduate of Mandan High School and is attending Massachusetts Institute of Tech (MIT), Boston, majoring in mechanical engineering, and, **2** Hannah is a junior at Mandan High School with interests in journalism and band.

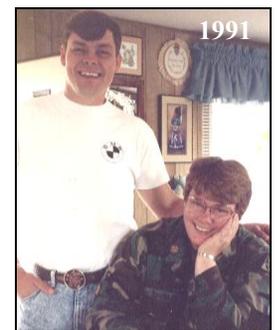
1917



L/R: Siblings: Cora, Oliver, Ivar



Oliver and Alma Ravnaas
November 2, 1947



Oliver and Alma's children
Norman and Karen



Oliver and Alma Ravnaas
on November 2, 1973 celebrating
their 26th Wedding Anniversary

3 CORA



Cora Ravnaas
in 1933 at age 17



Norman and Cora Nelson



Cora wearing the suit made from
her uncle Oliver Berve's suit



Cora, Carol, Virgil, Norman Nelson



Norman and Cora Nelson

Cora Ravnaas was born April 1, 1916 on the O. K. Melby farm north of Manfred. Cora began her education at Manfred School in 1922 with these teachers: Grade 1 - M.C. Curtis; Grade 2 - Clara Beiseker; Grade 3 - Mrs. Helene Hamuth; Grade 4 - Elsie J. Mohr; Grade 5 - Dollie Stewart; Grade 6 - Sidney J. Lee; and Grades 7 and 8 - John W. Schroeder. Cora was baptized at Bethel Lutheran Church north of Manfred and confirmed at Vang Lutheran Church. Members of her confirmation class included: Cora Ravnaas, Helen Nelson, Lilas Paulsen, Kermit Melby, Roy Melby, and Oliver Frovig. During and following her high school years, Cora helped people in the Manfred community such as assisting at the home of C. O. Roble when Mrs. Roble was ill and being employed at the Lars Rogness home. In early 1939, Cora worked in Barrett, Minnesota, and during the earlier part of 1940 she worked for Dr. Schaff of Harvey and also worked at Balta.

Cora's uncle, Oliver Berve, played Cupid and introduced Cora to her future husband, Norman Nelson. Norman, called "Tommy" by family and friends, was born May 3, 1912 in Lansford, North Dakota, the son of Peter Nelson and Gudrun Skogaker. Oliver Berve was living in a boarding house in Devils Lake while working for the railroad, and Norman was also living there. Norman worked for Goldberg's Furniture in Devils Lake where he sold furniture and installed linoleum and carpet. Oliver urged Cora to meet Norman. His efforts were successful, and on October 4, 1940 Norman and Cora were married. The suit Cora wore for her wedding trip was made from one of her Uncle Oliver Berve's suits. Norman and Cora made their home in Devils Lake where their son, Virgil, was born July 27, 1941.

When Norman was inducted into the Army in February of 1944, Cora and Virgil moved back to the Ravnaas farm north of Manfred for a time until Cora rented an apartment in Harvey. Norman was wounded in France in September of 1944, brought back to the United States on a hospital ship and spent his convalescence at the Camp Carson Hospital Center in Colorado until his discharge on May 31, 1945. After being discharged, Norman found employment with the Grand Rapids Furniture Store in Grand Rapids, Minnesota and moved his family there in July of 1945.

By 1948, Norman and Cora were living in Bemidji, Minnesota. Norman went into business with Tom Baker and opened the Baker-Nelson Upholstery Shop. Their daughter, Carol, was born in Bemidji on April 10, 1949. In the fall of 1949, they moved to Bagley, Minnesota where Norman opened up Nelson's Upholstery Shop which he ran as sole proprietor. Cora helped in the business by making draperies. She was also a talented seamstress. From Bagley, the family made a final move back to Grand Rapids in 1956 where Norman owned and operated Nelson's Upholstery until his passing on February 19, 1987.

After Norman's death, Cora closed out Nelson's Upholstery Shop and remained in Grand Rapids in an apartment of her own until her death on September 16, 2004 at age 88. She loved visitors and always had the coffee hot and ready to pour. She lived to see the birth of four of her five great-grandchildren. Cora enjoyed bowling and participated in a bowling league for many years. One of her favorite pastimes was playing whist, and when her grandchildren were old enough, Cora was instrumental in teaching them to play this card game.

Over the years, Norman and Cora and their children made numerous trips to Manfred to visit relatives, resulting in Virgil and Carol feeling a closeness to Manfred. Virgil owns the property in Manfred which belonged to his uncle Ivar. Both Virgil and Carol were fortunate to have known several of Cora's aunts and uncles, and also her cousin, Nora Rodne. Virgil spent many years hunting ducks with Ivar in the fall and came to know several of Manfred's inhabitants. Carol got in on those Saturdays in Harvey when everyone from the surrounding area would show up to shop or just to visit. Manfred holds very fond memories for Cora's family.

Norman and Cora had two children:

- 1 Virgil married Sharon Rogers Falk and they had a son Skip who married Candice Grenz and they have a son Zachary. Virgil later married Vicki Coffron.
- 2 Carol married F. John Schroeder and they have three children: 1 Jeremy died in 1969 in Minnesota; 2 Jarrod married Jennifer Bolduc and they have three children: Avery, Natalie and Brendan; 3 Jennifer married Jamie Dahl and they have a son Zackary. Jarrod Schroeder serves as webmaster for Manfred's website, www.manfrednd.org.

4 ARVIN

Arvin Ravnaas was born January 9, 1919 on the O. K. Melby farm in Manfred Township where his parents were farming. He was confirmed at Vang Lutheran Church and attended school in Manfred. The following were his teachers in Manfred; Mabel Lostensgard for Grade 1, M.C. Curtis for Grade 2, Helen Schauf for Grade 3, Mrs. Helene Hamuth for Grade 4, Elsie J. Mohr for Grade 5, Sidney J. Lee for Grades 6 and 7. Sidney J. Lee went on in his career in 1948 to serve as Dean of Bismarck Junior College (now Bismarck State College). An auditorium on campus is named in his honor, the "Sidney J. Lee Auditorium." Arvin had T.R. Nettleton as his teacher for Grade 8. His eighth grade graduation is noted in the June 1, 1933 issue of the Wells County Free Press: "Graduation exercises were held at the Sons of Norway Hall for the 8th grade. Six were graduated, Marie Nelson, Olene Renden, Ruth Melby, Bernice Hovey, Oris Biever and Arvin Ravnaas. The hall was decorated with cherry blossoms and cut flowers and the class colors were blue and white. A most excellent program was given, the rhythm band being very good and a fine address being delivered by Mr. Scott of the Minot State Teachers College. The diplomas were presented by Mr. Nettleton."

Arvin joined the National Guard in Harvey in 1941 and was stationed in Camp Clairborne, Louisiana as noted in the February 21, 1941 issue of the Wells County Free Press: "Oris Biever, Orvin Anderson, and Arvin Ravnaas left for Harvey Monday to enter the National Guard. They will be stationed there until February 25; then they will be sent to Louisiana." He served in the Asian Pacific Theater in the 164th Infantry. He also served near the Guadalcanal and Bougainville Island. Arvin was honorably discharged in 1945 as a Tech Sergeant as noted in the June 21, 1945 issue of the Wells County Free Press: "Sgt. Arvin Ravnaas of the 164th Infantry arrived here after spending over three years overseas. He will spend some time with his parents and other relatives. He has a discharge from the service."

On June 23, 1946 in Harvey, North Dakota, Arvin married Helen Rose Olenberger born December 29, 1922, the daughter of William Olenberger and Rosina "Rose" Stock. Arvin worked various jobs throughout his life, including owning A&H, a saw sharpening and repair business in Rolla, and for Bob's Red Owl before retiring in 1985. Arvin was a member of the Fire Department and American Legion and VFW of Harvey, Maddock, and Rolla, and the Fagerlund Sons of Norway of Manfred and Odd Fellows in Harvey. Arvin enjoyed gardening and his yard. Arvin and Helen loved their grand children. Arvin was able to see four out of five of his great grandchildren before his passing.

Helen died November 8, 2002 in Rolla, North Dakota and Arvin died there February 17, 2005. The funeral service for Arvin was held at the Presbyterian Church in Rolla, officiated by Pastor Paul Kuhn. Military honors were provided by the Fred C. Wagner American Legion Post #235 of Rolla, North Dakota. Inurnment is in Sunnyside Cemetery at Harvey, North Dakota.

Arvin and Helen had a son Gary who married Judy Lucke and they have two children: 1 Chelsie has two children: a son Austin Hoover and a daughter Taylor Hoover. Chelsie married William "Billy" Lavendure. 2 Lindsay has a daughter Tanley. Lindsay married Kelan Gourneau and they had a son Ayden. Lindsay is now with Jamie Wessels and they have a son Dane.



Arvin Ravnaas



Arvin and Helen Ravnaas



Arvin with his siblings on July 4, 1978
L/R: Morris, Inez, Eddy, Cecelia,
Arvin, Cora, and Ivar



Arvin and Helen Ravnaas
on the occasion of their
50th Wedding Anniversary

5 CECELIA

Cecelia Ravnaas was born December 6, 1921 on the family farm. She began attending Manfred School in 1928 with Harriet J. Johnson as her teacher for Grades 1, 2, and 3, Agnes Langseth for Grade 4, T.R. Nettleton for Grade 5, and Mildred Ongstad for Grades 6 and 7. During these years, Cecelia participated in the 4-H Sewing Club, school programs, the annual county "Play Day" events where she won in sports events, and also the annual Wells County Music Contest. The April 11, 1935 entry in the Wells County Free Press reported: "The annual Wells County Music Contest was held last Monday and as usual turned out to be a successful event. Students from Manfred who received ratings were: Margaret Anderson, piano solo; the Mixed Chorus; Orlien Melby, vocal solo; Phyllis Biever, Eileen Biever, piano duet; Norma Olsen, vocal solo; George Ravnaas, vocal solo; and Norma Olsen, Cecelia Ravnaas, vocal duet." It is thought that Cecelia took her Grade 8 at a rural school not far from a farm where her family had moved located near Bethel Church.

Her daughter, Joyce, recalls that Cecelia played the piano with her father Ingvald and brothers Ivar and Oliver when they played their fiddles. Cecelia attended Fessenden High School graduating in 1940. During her senior year, a March 28, 1940 news entry in the Wells County Free Press told of a special event: "Miss Cecelia Ravnaas will represent the Manfred community as a participant of the Queen's Court of Honor in the Wells County Alfalfa Day ceremonies on April 13, 1940."

Following high school, Cecelia worked for Penney's Department Store in Harvey where she had the opportunity to meet Mr. J.C. Penney during a visit he made to the store. On December 23, 1943 in Harvey, Cecelia married Marvin Ordean Lillemon, who was born March 17, 1921 near Wellsburg in Fram Township one of eight children to Willy Lillemon and Cora Anderson. Marvin had enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps in the fall of 1938 and was stationed near Broadus, Montana. On January 15, 1941, he enlisted in the North Dakota National Guard's 164th Tank Company and was sent to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana for training and served there as Military Policeman. He also served in Mississippi. A May 4, 1944 entry in the Wells County Free Press tells about one of his leaves: "Cpl. Marvin Lillemon arrived here from Alabama to spend a short time with his wife and other relatives. Mrs. Lillemon will return with him to Alabama." Marvin was honorably discharged on September 25, 1945 and returned to North Dakota. Marvin and Cecelia made their home in Harvey where Marvin worked for Ottertail Power Company.

Marvin and Cecelia moved to Velva and in 1952 he began to work at Central Power, working there until his retirement. Cecelia was employed in Velva at Penny's, a drug store, and other places at Velva. She was gifted in singing, crocheting, knitting, and sewing. She sewed clothing for her and her husband and children, as well as for her grandchildren. Marvin was forced to retire early due to health issues relating to asbestos lung disease that he had incurred through his work. He didn't let this stop him from enjoying many things such as bowling, hunting, fishing, and golfing. Marvin and Cecelia moved to an apartment in Minot, North Dakota. Marvin died November 4, 2004 and is interred at Sunset Memorial Gardens at Minot. Cecelia fell in 2006 and as a result has lived in a care facility in Minot since that time.

Marvin and Cecelia had three children:

- 1** George married Michelle Wysocki and they had a son: **1** Kanon. George then married Joyce Junokas and they had two children: **2** David, and **3** Sarah. Tragically, George died in 1985 in a plane crash in New York and is buried in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Minot, North Dakota.
- 2** Linda married Howard Scott and they have three children:
 - 1** Leiha married John Coonts and they have two children: **1** Jayme married Eric Martinez, and **2** John.
 - 2** Roxanne married Joseph Parke and they had a daughter **1** Jennifer married James Seela and they have a daughter Brooklynn. Roxanne then married Rich Lauber and they had a daughter **2** Kasandra. Roxanne then married Terry Smith.
 - 3** Nathan married Angela Branson and they had a daughter **1** Chantelle married Eric Tender and they have two daughters: Cecelia Rose and Auriella. Nathan later married Shanna Erickson.
- 3** Joyce married Robert Olson.



Three Ravnaas siblings
Edward, Cecelia, and Inez



Marvin and Cecelia
Lillemon



L/R Back: Nathan, Joyce, George, Linda
Front: Marvin, Cecelia, Roxanne, David



Marvin and Cecelia on their
50th Wedding Anniversary

7 MORRIS



Siblings - Morris and Inez



Morris began working for the Soo Line Railroad in 1953. This Soo Line train was pulling into Manfred.



Morris and Joyce Ravnaas



Morris Ravnaas with daughter Ruth



Joyce Ravnaas c.2008

Morris Ravnaas was born July 20, 1926 on the Jacob Klev farm his parents were farming. He began Manfred School with Winnifred Johnson as his first grade teacher, and Eleanor Langlie for second grade. For third through fifth grades, it is thought that Morris attended a rural school in Fram Township not far from Bethel Church when his parents farmed in that area. When his parents moved closer to Manfred, Morris transferred back to Manfred School where he had Anna Ekrem as his teacher for sixth and seventh grades. A May 30, 1940 entry in the Wells County Free Press relates that Morris participated in the Play Day event: "Wells County Play Day awards: Morris Ravnaas 1st Place Chinning, group 3." Morris completed his eighth grade in 1943 with Clara Kluck as his teacher.

Following his schooling, Morris continued helping on his parent's farm, and also enjoyed playing amateur baseball on a Harvey team. His baseball mitt continues to be treasured by his family. In 1953, Morris went to work for the Soo Line Railroad. On November 25, 1961 on the Brewer family farm near Kensal, North Dakota, Morris married Joyce Arlene Brewer, born December 27, 1935 at Carrington. Joyce grew up on the family farm near Kensal. She was one of seven children born to George Brewer and Burdella R. Romelfanger. Her siblings were Marilyn Alice (Bill Pritchert), Gerald (Francis Drong), George (Joyce Syverson), Janet (Carr), and James "Kenneth" (Ella), and Donnie.

Morris and Joyce made their home in Manfred where they raised five children. Their children fondly recall the annual family trip they would take to Grand Rapids, Minnesota for a week of fishing with Morris' sister, Cora and her family. Morris was a member of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Local 1498, and had been holding the post of Welder-helper with the Soo Line Railroad prior to his death in Manfred on January 23, 1981. The funeral service was held at Vang Lutheran Church with Rev. Ralph W. Hofrenning officiating, Dianne Aull served as organist, and special music was provided by Gene and Betty Melby, Ervin Boese, and Olga Johnson. Casket Bearers were Edgar A. Flick, Peter Anderson, Wesley Boese, Gene Melby, Glen Irons, and Roy Fandrich. Morris is buried at Hillside Cemetery, Fessenden, North Dakota.

After Morris died, Joyce continued living in Manfred, and then moved to Fessenden and later to Harvey. She worked at various jobs providing cleaning, outreach, and chore services. Joyce enjoyed volunteering at the Harvey Food Pantry for many years. She also enjoyed putting puzzles together, being with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and attending their school events. Joyce was a member of the Harvey Senior Citizens, Eagles Auxiliary, and St. Cecelia's Catholic Church. She enjoyed helping with the restoration projects in Manfred, pitching in with painting and yard work. She was a joy to work with, adding her delightful presence and infectious laugh.

Joyce died July 20, 2012 at St. Aloisius Nursing Home in Harvey. Her funeral was held at St. Cecelia Catholic Church with Rev Fr. Franklin Miller officiating and June Prom as organist. Her nine grandchildren served as casket bearers. She is interred beside Morris at Hillside Cemetery at Fessenden, North Dakota.

Morris and Joyce had five children:

- 1 Patricia "Patty"
- 2 Ruth married Steven Schuh and they have three children: 1 Anthony "Tony" married Melanie Martwick and they have two children: 1Mason and 2Logan, 2 Jeffery "Jeff," and 3 Casey married Kayla Crook
- 3 Diane married Kevin Baumbach and they have three children: 1 Dustin married Kirsten Ann Sarno and they have a son John, 2 Wayne, and 3 Brandon
- 4 Douglas married Shelley Rae Hoffer and they have three children: 1 Karlie married Cole Neumiller and they have a son Kyler, 2 Kylie, and 3 Kyle
- 5 Keith

8 INEZ

Inez Olene Ravnaas was born October 2, 1929 on the Jacob Klev farm north of Manfred. An October 10, 1929 news entry in the Wells County Free Press announced the happy news: "A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ingvald Ravnaas. Mother and daughter are getting along nicely. Congratulations!" Inez recalls starting school in a rural school with not many students about two miles from the Old Lonesome farm her parents were farming near Bethel Church. In 1938, she transferred to Manfred School where she began fourth grade with Ida Monson as her teacher. Anna Ekrem was her teacher for fifth and sixth grades and Clara Kluck for seventh and eighth grades.

During her fifth grade, activities mentioned in the Wells County Free Press include an April 25, 1940 entry on 4-H: "Miss Leake of Fessenden, ass't county agent, organized a 4-H Club at Manfred Monday. Fourteen members joined, as follows: Marjorie Biever, president; La Verne Schimke, vice-president; Helen Holzer, secretary; Marian Flick, treasurer; Florence Bendickson, reporter; and Margaret and Alice Hagemester, Inez Ravnaas, Fern Bendickson, Marian Smith, Marlene Holzer, Margaret Renden, Arlene Hustoft and Lillian Schimke. The leader will be Mrs. Ray Flick and the first meeting will be held at the home of Florence and Fern Bendickson, May 4th." Also reported in the news was her participation and awards in the Wells County Play Day in High Jump and 50-Yard Dash. Inez said that Manfred School was a neat school to attend and she also enjoyed participating at Vang Church. She remembers Leonard Rogelstad having a vehicle he used as a school bus for picking up some of the children in the area. She recalls that when her brother Morris played baseball, Katherine "Katie" Strauss and she would walk to Manfred to watch the games. She didn't think she missed any of them.

Inez was baptized and confirmed at Vang Lutheran Church, with Rev. Mathre, as noted in a May 4, 1944 entry in the Wells County Free Press: "Services were held at the Lutheran church here Sunday and the following were confirmed: Margaret Renden, Arlene Hustoft, Lillian Elton, Verna Anderson, Doris Rogelstad, Inez Ravnaas and Lowell Hanson." Inez attended Harvey High School, rooming with Katie Strauss. Then, Inez moved to Minot where she worked for the city of Minot, North Dakota for about a year before moving to Bemidji, Minnesota where her sister Cora was living. In 1948, Inez married Roger D. Burgstahler, born September 16, 1924 in Minnesota, the son of Victor Walter Burgstahler and Elsie Ann Fischer. Roger earlier had served in the Navy on Okinawa during WWII. Roger and Inez first lived in Seattle, WA for three months, went back to Minnesota for a short time before living at Portland, Oregon for a year where their son Alan was born. They then settled in Minnesota, first in Edina and then Eden Prairie. Roger worked at Rueter, Inc. for 36 years, retiring from there as Chief Engineer. After their children had grown, Roger and Inez did a lot of traveling and hiking, visiting Norway twice. During their first visit to Norway, they attended a Ravnås family reunion where Inez had the opportunity to meet many of her cousins and other relatives. She said the Holmen Church at Prestfoss where her father, Ingvald, had attended is so beautiful. Roger passed away January 12, 2012. His funeral was held at Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Minnesota. Inez continues to live in their townhome in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

Inez and Roger had five children:

- 1 Alan married Martha Sausser and they had two children:
 - 1 Grace married Keith Macatee and they have a daughter Aven Juliet and a newborn son. 2 Juliet died in 2007 in Florida. Martha died in 1989. Alan later married Karen Kelly. He died on September 18, 2013 at Mr. Reiner Park when he and Karen were on vacation celebrating his retirement.
- 2 Steven is with Liz Tanner. Steven is retired and Liz works as a nurse.
- 3 Charles married Jane Ecklor who had a son, Mark, whom Charles raised like his own son. Charles and Jane have two children:
 - 1 Calvin likes to travel and is at present teaching in Mexico City. 2 Ryan married Alexa and they have two children 1 Oliver and 2 Everly Rae.
- 4 Janis Kay married Norman Wong and they have two children: 1 Isabella and 2 Anna Elise.
- 5 Judy married Kenneth Nelson and they had three children: 1 Jennifer, 2 Ashley, and 3 Christoffer.



Ravnaas siblings
George, Edward, Inez
c. 1940



Roger and Inez Burgstahler
at the time of their wedding



The 50th Wedding Anniversary of Roger and Inez
L/R: Back: Steven, Inez, Roger, Alan
Front: Charles, Janis, Judy



Roger and Inez
Burgstahler

9 EDWARD

Edward “Ed” Ravnaas was born December 18, 1934 on the Old Lonesome farm where his parents were living at the time. He began his schooling in 1941 at Manfred with Florence Kluck as his teacher for first and second grades, Mrs. Hans Peterson for third grade, and Myrtle Mortenson (Rogness) for fourth grade. This was Myrtle’s first of many years teaching at Manfred. Ed was a member of the Manfred Agricultural 4-H Club as noted in a March 1945 news entry of the Wells County Free Press: “The Manfred Agricultural 4-H club, under the direction of Perry Anderson as local leader, is beginning its sixth year of work, with a membership of 12 boys. Projects selected by the different club members will be carlton durum, hybrid corn, certified seed potatoes, mida wheat, and livestock. Officers and members of the club are: Harley Rogelstad, president; Gene Melby, vice president; Donald Anderson, secretary and treasurer; and Roger Flick, Allan Flick, Donald Strauss, James Strauss, Kenneth Elton, Edward Ravnaas, Joe Holzer, Dale Opdahl, and Gerald Froeber.”

Ed’s teacher in the Upper Grades Room for fifth grade was Margaret Anderson (Mrs. Ted Thorson) and his teacher for sixth, seventh and eighth grades was Lorraine Roland (Lorraine Jenny Quie). A June 9, 1949 news entry in the Wells County Free Press announced: “Eighth grade students receiving their diplomas were Edward Ravnaas, LaVerne Sauter and Arlene Strauss at graduation exercises celebrated for all county 8th grade graduates. It was held at Fessenden on Wednesday afternoon with M. F. Peterson of Bismarck as speaker.” Ed attended Harvey High School and later served in the U.S. Army two years at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri and Fort Bliss in Texas. On November 22, 1958 in Hughes, South Dakota, Ed married Kathleen Elizabeth Reding, born August 17, 1938 in Harrold, South Dakota, the daughter of Peter Reding and Evelyn Boehmer.

Ed and Kathleen had three children: **1** Maurice married Lori Kleinsasser and they had three children **1** Veronica, **2** Samantha married Jason Marlow, and **3** Melinda “Mindy.” **2** Maurita married Patrick Philbrick and they had two children: **1** Kyle and **2** Ian. **3** Marietta. Kathleen died March 17, 1991 and is buried in St. John’s Catholic Cemetery, Harrold, South Dakota. Ed then married on August 22, 1992 to Lorraine Witucki. Ed and Lorraine continue to live on the farm where Ed has farmed for 59 years. Ed’s son, Maurice has taken over the farming.



Ed Ravnaas



Ed and Kathleen Ravnaas
November 22, 1958



L/R

With Ed are his children:
Maurita, Marietta, Maurice



Ed and Lorraine
Ravnaas

FROM THE RAVNAAS FAMILY PHOTO COLLECTION



Gathered for the funeral of Oliver Ravnaas in August of 1975

L/R: Ivar Ravnaas, Arvin and Helen Ravnaas, Marvin and Cecelia Lillemon, Kathy Ravnaas, Cora and Norman Nelson, Alma Ravnaas with Norman Ravnaas behind, Ed Ravnaas, Morris Ravnaas, Karen Ravnaas, Inez Burgstahler, Joyce Ravnaas, Roger Burgstahler

→

Back:

Jennifer Schroeder holding Avery, Jarrod Schroeder holding Natalie, Joyce Ravnaas, Karen Ravnaas

Front:

John and Carol Schroeder, Casey Schuh and his mother Ruth Schuh



Ravnaas family members attending the Manfred Days celebration in July 2001

A photo collection of the Descendants of Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas

Children of Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas

Born to Ingvald and Olida:

- 1 Ivar b.1912 d.1986
- 2 Oliver b.1914 d.1975
- 3 Cora b.1916 d.2004
- 4 Arvin b.1919 d.2005
- 5 Cecelia b.1921
- 6 George b.1924 d.1944
- 7 Morris b.1926 d.1981
- 8 Inez b.1930
- 9 Edward b.1934



L/R:

Ivar, Cecelia, Arvin, Cora, Inez, Edward, Morris

They had gathered for the funeral of their brother Oliver in 1975. Also not pictured is their brother George who died during WWII.

Descendants of Oliver and Alma Ravnaas



Oliver and Alma's daughter Karen Ravnaas



Oliver and Alma's son Norman and his wife Patricia Ravnaas with their daughter Hannah and son Samuel

Descendants of Cora and Norman Nelson



Cora and Norman's son, Virgil and family

L/R: Candi, Virgil's son Skip, Zach in front, Vicki and Virgil

Cora and Norman's daughter Carol and her husband John Schroeder



Carol and John Schroeder above; their son Jarrod and family above left; and their daughter Jenny and family at left: Zack, Jenny Schroeder-Dahl, Jamie Dahl



L/R: Avery, Jarrod, Natalie, Jen, Brendan



Descendants of Arvin and Helen Ravnaas



Gary, the son of Arvin and Helen, and his family: L/R: Lindsay, Gary, Judy, and Chelsea, late 1990's

Descendants of Cecelia and Marvin Lillemon



Grandchildren with Cecelia in 1978 L/R: Roxanne, Nathan, Leiha



Marvin and Cecelia in 1993 with their daughters: Joyce at left and Linda at right

A photo collection of the Descendants of Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas

Descendants of Morris and Joyce Ravnaas

Children of Morris and Joyce: Patty, Ruth, Diane, Doug, Keith



L/R: Melanie, Anthony, Casey, Ruth holding Logan, Kayla, Jeffery, Steve, and Mason in front of Jeffery



→ Joyce with her daughter Patty and son Keith standing in back

← In the families: Ruth and her husband Steven Schuh: their son Anthony and his wife Melanie and their children Mason and Logan; son Jeffery; and son Casey and his wife Kayla



Diane and Kevin Baumbach; their three sons Dustin, Wayne, and Brandon - Dustin is married to Kirsten and they have a son John

L/R: Dusty, Brandon, Diane, Kevin, Wayne

Doug and his wife Shelly: their daughter Karlie and her husband Cole Neumiller and their son Kyler; daughter Kylie; and son Kyle



L/R: Kyle, Kylie, Shelly, Kyler being held by Doug, Karlie, and Cole

Descendants of Inez and Roger Burgstahler

Children of Inez and Roger: Alan, Steven, Charles, Janis, Judy



Photo at left, Alan and his wife Karen and his two daughters Grace and Juliet in 1998. Top right photo, Grace and her husband Keith Macatee holding their daughter Aven in 2015; also pictured is their son Jack born in 2016



Steven and his wife Elizabeth "Liz"



Charles "Chuck" and his wife Jane



Janis and her daughters Isabella and Anna Elise in 2012



← Judy pictured at left; her children are pictured at right

L/R: Ashley, Christopher, and Jennifer

Descendants of Ed Ravnaas

Children of Ed: Maurice, Maurita, Marietta



L/R With Ed are his children: Maurita, Marietta, Maurice

A gathering in 1987 of some of the Ravnaas cousins

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Standing L/R: Norman, Judy, Chuck, Steve (in back), Linda, Virgil, Joyce, Marietta and Maurita. In front, Karen and Carol.

