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David and Don provide information at the Shakopee Heritage Society's booth at the International Festival.



The Valley Cemetery tour has been rescheduled. See page 3 for details.

Summer Membership Potluck Meeting

Wednesday, July 17, 2017,
6 p.m.

Jay and Melissa Whiting's
520 Third Ave. E.

Bring a dish to share and a friend!

Pathways of Shakopee History Project Update

Our Pathways of Shakopee History Project is up and running. We have already received some money for the project. Our goal is to have \$60,000 in order to make the Pathways an important part of downtown Shakopee.

David R. Schleper gave a tour of the site to members of the Pond Dakota Historical Society. About 20 people took the tour and asked questions about the Dakota in Tinjatonjwe, and Šakpe II and Šakpedan, Prairie des Français (French Prairie) and Oliver Faribault and Wanken Yanke, and Prairieville and Reverend Samuel W. Pond and Cordelia Eggleston Pond.

Please support our sponsors!

Title: Shakopee Mdewankanton Sioux Community

Gold: Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative, Shakopee Public Utilities Commission

Silver: Canterbury Park Minnesota Fund, Venture Bank

Bronze: Fred Jurewicz Financial, James W. Arhart, DDS, McNearney-Schmidt Funeral & Cremation, Pond Dakota Heritage Society, Riverside Printing, Shakopee Gravel, Inc.

Pathways Fundraiser and Silent Auction

Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017

The Shakopee Heritage Society will be holding a fundraiser event and silent auction for the Pathways of Shakopee History project at Turtle's 1890 Social Centre on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017.

There is a social at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., and a presentation by David Schleper at 7:30 p.m. The silent auction ends at 7:30 p.m.

For more information on the event, contact Lois at 952-233-8923.

How can you help?

- Buy a ticket for \$40 and enjoy the meal, presentation, and silent auction. You can also buy a table (for 6 people) for \$200. Tickets may be purchased from David Schleper, Don McNeil, Jay Whiting or Lois Wendt.
- Do you have any silent auction items, or know where we could obtain some? Any suggestions would be appreciated!
- Let others know. The SHS is raising money for the history signs for the Pathways of Shakopee History Project. Each sign costs \$2,000. If someone purchases one sign, the person/business will be able to put their logo on the sign. For \$1,000, the person/business will be able to put the logo on half the area. For \$500, the person/business will be able to put the logo on one-quarter of the advertisement area! Please let people and businesses know!

Editors' Notes

- Don't forget that the summer potluck membership meeting will be Wednesday, July 12 at 6 p.m., at Jay and Melissa Whiting's house, 520 Third Avenue East. We will have a "Picture This" photo identification game there. Bring a dish to share and a friend.
- Save the date for the Pathways of Shakopee History Project Fundraiser and Silent Auction, held Thursday, Aug. 17 at Turtle's 1890 Social Centre. More details on page 1.
- Pat Ploumen has resigned as treasurer. Melissa Whiting has taken over the treasurer role, and Wes Reinke has taken over Melissa's secretary role. Pat remains a board member. We thank Pat for her many years of service as SHS treasurer!
- We were at the Shakopee Diversity Alliance International Festival on Friday, June 23. Quite a few community members stopped by our booth to learn about SHS and the History Park project.
- If you missed the last membership meeting, the video of David Schleper's presentation on The Streets of Shakopee has been posted on the website at shakopeeheritage.org/videos/. Thanks to David for presenting another great topic! We will be adding a Streets of Shakopee section to the newsletter. See page 4 for the first installment.
- To receive future issues of the Shakopee Heritage Society newsletter in color via email, instead of receiving a black and white paper copy, please send your name and email address to newsletter@shakopeeheritage.org.
- If there's anything in particular you'd like to see included in future newsletters, please let a board member know or send an email to newsletter@shakopeeheritage.org. We would love to hear from you!

Remembering our members

Talida L. Nolting

Talida L. Nolting, "Tal," age 98, of Shakopee, longtime member of the Shakopee Heritage Society, passed away on Saturday, April 15, 2017, at St. Gertrude's Care Center in Shakopee, Minnesota.

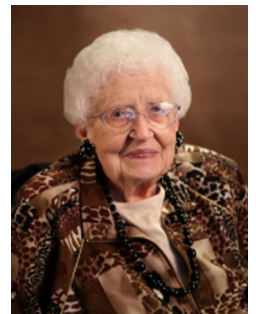
Tal was born in Waterloo, Illinois, on Jan. 19, 1919, the daughter of George and Mary (Steinstick) Lich.

She was raised on, and loved, the family farm. She was proud to graduate from Roosevelt High School.

Tal married Harry "Russ" Nolting on Sept. 21, 1940, in St. Louis, Missouri. She was a homemaker, and always very supportive of her husband, Russ and his career.

She loved people, especially her family and grandchildren. As an active member of the Presbyterian Church for over 60 years, she seldom let a day go by without helping others. A friend, a true Christian, she always had a smile and a helping hand outstretched whenever she was needed. Bloodmobile, singing hymns, camping, Arizona, cooking, and playing cards and dominoes were all high on her list of things she enjoyed.

Tal was preceded in death by her husband, Russ; and siblings. She is survived by son, James (Carol); daughter, Mary (Nathan) Olson; grandchildren, Rebecca (Nathan) Harrell, Adam Blatzheim, Erik (Colquitt) Nolting, Michael (Carissa) Nolting; and great-grandchildren, Liam, Stellan, Nico and Lucy, Dean and August, Luke and Emmie.



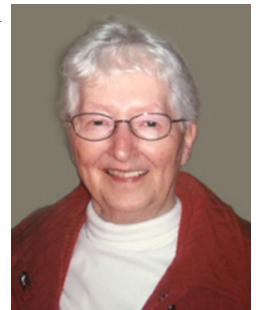
Talida L. Nolting

Rose Bernadette Herzog

Rose Bernadette Herzog, age 90, of Shakopee, MN, longtime Shakopee Heritage Society member, entered eternal life on Saturday, April 1, 2017, at St. Francis Regional Medical Center in Shakopee.

Rose was born on Jan. 1, 1927, in Sand Creek Township, MN, the daughter of Bernard and Rose (Hoeschen) Herzog. She received an RN Degree in the nursing program at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN; then she was employed as a nurse at the VA Hospitals in San Francisco, CA, and Minneapolis, MN.

Rose is survived by her sister, Agnes Searles; brother, William Herzog; many nieces, nephews, and other family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Bernard and Rose; siblings, Clarence, Anna Lepine, Virgil, Cyril J., Marie Gelhaye, James, Carol Logan, and 3 young siblings, Dorothy, Betty and Cyril M.



Rose Bernadette Herzog

Billy Williams

By David R. Schleper

A century before Kirby Puckett led the Minnesota Twins to World Series championships, Minnesota was home to countless talented African-American baseball players. But few are known today. When the Major League Baseball and affiliates imposed a strict policy of segregation in 1884, African-American ballplayers in Minnesota were relegated to semipro leagues, barnstorming clubs, and loose organizations of all-black teams.

A “gentlemen’s agreement” was struck between teams of baseball players which barred non-white players from baseball. Moses Fleetwood Walker and his brother, Welday Walker, were unceremoniously dropped from major- and minor-league rosters in 1884. It was not until 1947, six decades later, when Jackie Robinson (in the National League) and Larry Doby (in the American League) finally began to break the color barrier.



Billy Williams

But in Minnesota, as well as other areas of the country, individual African-American players joined teams. Sometimes they would play as Native Americans, or South or Central Americans. But some defied the rule and played anyway, and as African Americans. The first one was Prince Honeycutt, an African American in Little Falls. He had learned the game while serving as a mess boy during the Civil War, and in 1875 he played for the Fergus Falls ballclub. Though some baseball clubs in Minnesota began banning African Americans as early as 1867, other leagues held out. The National Association agreed to ban “any club which may be composed of one or more colored persons.” By 1900, all of organized baseball “had signed on to the so-called gentlemen’s agreement banning African Americans,” said Frank M. White.

At the time, the African-American population of Minnesota was small. Only about 4,000 of Minnesota’s nearly two million residents were African-American, and more than 90 percent of them lived in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

But African-American baseball teams did play in Shakopee. The St. Paul Colored Gophers and the St. Paul Quicksteps played in Shakopee.

In 1887, the Shakopee Reserves played against the St. Paul Quicksteps, which was an African-American team. An announcement in the *Western Appeal* prior to the game on Aug. 20 announced that the Quicksteps were to “leave the Union Depot at 8:30, and all who wish to go are invited. Fare for round trip \$1.40.” The Reserves won, 23-4.

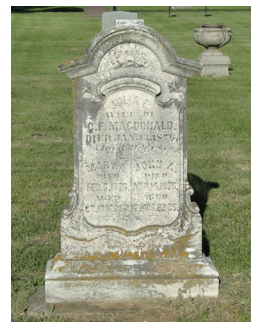
One African-American baseball player, William Frank Billy Williams, played on over 20 teams in the Midwest, including the Chaska White Diamonds, the Knoblauch Lands Carver team and the Shakopee Browns! Despite the fact that he was a stellar athlete and a standout player on several integrated teams, Williams ultimately followed a path out of baseball, which was too resistant to having African-American ballplayers in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

For more information about Billy Williams and other African Americans who lived and worked in Shakopee, look for the new book, out this summer, called *We Were Here, Too! African Americans in Early Shakopee*. It will be sold through the Shakopee Heritage Society.

References: White, Frank W. (2016). *They Played for the Love of the Game: Untold Stories of Black Baseball in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society Press. *History of baseball in the United States at Baseball Reference at http://www.baseball-reference.com/bullpen/History_of_baseball_in_the_United_States*. Hoffbeck, Steven R. (2005). *Swinging for the Fences: Black Baseball in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society Press, p. 11. Britts, Maurice W. (1977). *Billy Williams: Minnesota’s Assistant Governor*. St. Cloud, MN: North Star Press.

Valley Cemetery tour rescheduled

Unfortunately, the May cemetery tour was rained out, so re-mark your calendar for Betty Dols, who will be sharing stories at the Valley Cemetery in Shakopee. This is an exciting tour for Shakopee Heritage Society members worth joining! It will happen on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at the cemetery, 1700 East Fourth Avenue (just east of the Knights Event Center). Meet at the windmill at 10 a.m. Following the tour, we will have lunch at Turtle’s Bar and Grill, lunch cost being on your own. Lois will be calling those who signed up for the May field trip to confirm they are still interested. If you didn’t RSVP and would like to join us on this field trip, please contact Lois at 952-233-8923 or lkwhshak@gmail.com. In the event of rain, we will meet at the Shakopee Public Library at 10 a.m.



Grave of
Julia E. MacDonald

The Streets of Shakopee

John and Sophronia and Sommerville Street

By David R. Schleper

John C. Sommerville was born in Vermont in 1803. He was in the lumber business in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Minnesota

He came to Shakopee in the spring of 1851, and was a pioneer associate of Thomas A. Holmes. John Sommerville located on a section of land where he built a house in Helena Township, Scott County, Minnesota. Later he lived on the southern extremity of the street named after him: Sommerville!

John was elected county commissioner in Scott County in 1863, and continued as a commissioner until 1864. He was farming there when he and his wife, Sophronia, joined the Holmes Wagon Train of 1864 to Idaho to look for gold, though they ended up stopping in Montana.

In 1862 a group of immigrants in a wagon train decided to build houses for the winter in Prickly Pear Valley, but this settlement proved temporary. In 1864, four ex-Confederate soldiers from Georgia discovered placer gold in Last Chance Gulch, the heart of Helena, Montana's present-day downtown. The gold strike attracted hundreds of miners eager to find riches.

Other miners joined the Georgians to pitch tents and mine claims during the summer of 1864. Some stayed but more moved on, discouraged by the scant supply of water. In mid-September, the first group of emigrants arrived with the Thomas A. Holmes wagon train from Shakopee. They arrived at Last Chance Gulch on Sept. 29, 1864.

The train included several hundred men and fourteen women. Only half of their names were recorded. Many hailed from Minnesota, but emigrants also came from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and some were European-born immigrants. The incomplete roster includes a number of pioneers who stayed and became citizens of Helena, Montana Territory. Among them were longtime Helena attorneys John H. Shober, his partner Thomas J. Lowry and pioneer rancher Nicholas Hilger. John Sommerville, who would soon play a key role in naming Helena, was also part of the group.

Most of the emigrants had no experience as miners, and the Montana Post poked fun at them, noting that they used blunt picks and worked "like chickens on a grain pile." But some had good luck. John Marvin Blake of Wisconsin found one of the largest gold nuggets in the area, worth \$2,300. With his fortune Blake studied dentistry in Philadelphia and returned to practice in Helena for fifty years. Others opened businesses and made places for themselves in the new community.

In the fall of 1864, the miners decided that the camp at Last Chance needed a proper name. They gathered and elected John Sommerville chairman. As in, John C. Sommerville from Shakopee!

By Oct 30, 1864, the town's official christening took place, according to several historic reports from eyewitnesses.

"(S)ome 30 miners crowded into the cabin of George J. Wood," wrote Ellen Baumler. "Chairing the meeting was John Sommerville, a towering man who had arrived with the recent Holmes wagon train that had been on its way to Idaho, but had changed its destination to Helena."

The miners jokingly offered names such as Squashtown and Pumpkinville, along with the names of Winona, Rochester and Tomah.

Sommerville proposed Helena. Since it was a Union mining camp, the miners balked at the name. Many of the mostly Union camp were reminded of Helena, Arkansas. Sommerville offered a different reason.

Sommerville stood up and rose to his full height. He was a very tall man and he said, "I propose we name it Helena after Helena, Minnesota, in Scott County. That's where I'm from and that's the best town in the best county in the best state in the union."

Helena (pronounced he-LEE-na) won by two votes.

By the time Reginald Stanley returned to visit Helena in 1883, he was surprised to find the city's name was being pronounced HEL-i-na, apparently based on a hack driver misspelling it "Hellena," on the door of his hacks!

Over the next 20 years \$3.5 billion worth of gold was discovered in the gulch. By 1888 Helena was home to more millionaires



Looking south on Sommerville St. from First Ave.

per capita than anywhere else in the world.

John Sommerville made rich claims in a gulch near Helena, but lost part of his fortune in expensive litigation over the ownership of one of his holdings. John and Sophronia returned to Minnesota in 1867.

After returning from the gold fields, John used the money he made in mining to carry out his long-cherished idea of manufacturing a harvester to supersede the old platform reaper. He spent most of his money on this, but before he got it completed, the Marsh, Steward & Company beat him to it. John lost all of the capital he put into this unsuccessful manufacturing venture.

Marsh, Steward & Company began with the invention and patent of a reaper-harvester by brothers Charles Wesley Marsh and W. W. Marsh of De Kalb, Illinois in August 1858. By 1863 the improved machine, known as the Marsh Harvester was developed.

The Marsh Harvester was a reaper and a hand-binder, on which two men rode, and bound the sheaves by hand. It is the half-way mark, the child of the reaper and the parent of the self-binder. The theory of the inventors was that two men might bind the grain cut by the five-foot sickle in ordinary motion provided it could be delivered to them in the best possible position and condition for binding and if they could have perfect freedom of action. They knew that the binders must have a free swing and open chance at the grain to enable them to handle it, so they arranged the elevated delivery, the receptacle, the tables and the platform for the man with these things in view. The Marsh brothers believed two men riding and binding could do the work of four men walking and binding.

Somerville thought the same thing...but he was just a bit too late to cash in!

Sophronia died on Sept 8, 1872, and was buried in the Valley Cemetery in Shakopee.

Becoming disappointed and restless, John decided to start out for the mining country again, hoping to regain his lost fortune. But he did not reach there.

John died penniless in St. Paul on March 7, 1889 at the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor, aged 79 years old. The Little Sisters of the Poor set up homes to take care of poor old people.

John died from a large wart that he had on the back of his right hand. He used all sorts of remedies to remove it, but without success. It finally turned into a cancer, which extended up his arm and into his body. If he had consented to have his hand amputated way back in October when he was in St. Paul, his life may have been saved.

John's remains were brought back to Shakopee, and interred in the Valley cemetery.

And so, the next time you are driving down Sommerville Street in Shakopee, stop and think of John and Sophronia. And if you have a wart, please see a doctor!

References: 20th Century History of New Castle and Lawrence County, Pennsylvania and Representative Citizens © 1908 by Hon. Aaron L. Hazen, Chicago, IL: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Company; Montana Moments: The Camp of Last Chance by Ellen Baumler at: <http://ellenbaumler.blogspot.com/2014/07/the-camp-at-last-chance.html>; Society of Montana Pioneers, vol. 1, edited by James U. Sanders © 1899, Society of Montana Pioneers; How Sommerville Street Obtained its Name by Scott County Argus, Jan. 7, 1910; Ho! For Gold Fields: Northern Overland Wagon Trains of the 1860, © 1966 edited by Helen McCann White, Minnesota Historical Society.

The Little Store

By David R. Schleper

Hubert J. Pass (Butz) had two sons, Kenny and Leroy. Hubert built the Little Store on Sixth Avenue and Sommerville Street for his two sons after they came home from World War II. It was built around 1950, according to Pat Pass.

The two sons started the Little Store, but both Kenny and Leroy decided that they did not enjoy working there, and so Butz eventually sold it. Butz sold it to Mr. and Mrs. George Huss, who owned and managed the store as Huss Grocery Store in 1953.

George and Nancy Huss owned Huss Grocery Store until 1960. Stephen Wigger embarrassingly remembered, "I wanted a squirt gun and Mom said no! I took money from her purse and bought it anyway. Guess I didn't pilfer enough to pay for it but they sold it to me regardless and then contacted Mom for the remainder. You can guess the rest, it didn't bear well. I was very young. That is when everybody knew everybody in Shakopee."



The Huss Grocery Store

The Little Store continued on page 6

"I lived right next door. I remember the Wonder Bread (truck) coming to visit the store, and them slicing bologna to order," said Barb Norring.

Mona Carpenter remembered Huss Grocery Store. "My parents went on vacation and put our neighbors in charge of caring for us for a week. They arranged an account at Huss's so if we really needed anything we could charge it there and they would pay for it when they returned. Every day we went there and filled up on candy on our way home from school. My parents were not happy when they returned and saw their bill!"

According to Barbara Huss DeMers, her father was a post office carrier. But George was also one of the owners of the Little Store. George and Nancy wanted to adopt a baby. The Catholic Charities, at that time, felt that it was too much to have both jobs, both postman and store owner. And so George and Nancy Huss sold the store in order to adopt Barbara!

The Little Store was then bought by Ralph and Pat Mingo Christensen in the 1960s, and renamed Christensen Grocery. The store, which was a favorite for students at St. Mary's School, which was located across the street, continued until 1977. Anne Schneider Jefferson remembered, "When I was three, we lived in a basement apartment on Sommerville. My mom told me I walked to Christensens' because I wanted candy. At that age I didn't understand you had to pay for it!"

"On Saturdays after lunch, we would ask Mom if we could have a nickel for candy. We were all excited when she obliged, and headed up to Christensens' to spend it. My routine favorites were Bub's Daddy Bubble Gum, jaw breakers and Sixlets," said Bill Schleper, "I also loved the 'Push-ups,' which are basically orange sherbet packaged in a colored toilet paper roll...but they cost 15 cents, so we had to use some of our own allowance to afford that rare treat!"

Janae Larsen commented, "I remember a few times we would write a ransom note to my mom saying we kidnapped the family dog, and we would release him for a dime a piece. With our dime we would ride our bikes down to Christensens' and buy Bazooka Bubble Gum."

Summer days were hot, and children on bikes loved to go to the Little Store for popsicles. And Ron Von Bank and others remembered Pat Christensen's popsicle splitter! Kathy Jefferson explained, "When you would buy a popsicle (the kind with two sticks), Mr. Christensen had a homemade splitter and would split them, which made it nice for you and a friend to share!"

"After school was best. Grab a gum ball to chew when we played baseball, if I had money." said Laura Lee Mertz. "It always smelled good in there. They had odd-looking little boxes of laundry soap and those sticky fly catchers and cans of Campbell's soup." In fact, Stephen Wiggen remembered buying one of those flycatchers, "thinking they were some kind of fireworks. I was very nervous while paying for them!"

"Loved that store. I remember the Christensens well. There was so much to choose from!" said Michelle Kay. "We used to walk away with little brown bags full of sugary goodness. I also remember going there to get cigarettes for mom!"

Irene TenEyck recalled, "Mom would send us up there to buy the ripest brownest bananas they had for pennies a pound so she could make banana bread, banana pie, banana cookies, banana pudding." Cal TenEyck, Irene's sister: "I always felt like a big shot being able to just say 'charge it' and walking out."

Brenda Schleicher Anderson remembered getting money from the mailman. "We gave the mailman drinks of water out of our hose, and he gave us the change in his pockets. We then saved the money and walked to Christensens' and bought penny candy and then walked back home."

Marian Breimhorst Nelson said, "The thing that I remember is when my daughter, Rae Ann, was about six I let her walk to the store alone for the first time. We lived on Eighth and Spencer. I walked with her to Sommerville and then stood there to watch her walk the rest of the way there and then home. She was so proud that she could go on her own."

Pat Rein, like a lot of kids, remembered the trading cards. "My favorite thing to buy was Topps Baseball Cards. Always looking for, or trading for Killebrew, Oliva and my other favorite Twins. I would occasionally have to ride down on my bike to get something for my mom that she needed for dinner."

Beth Ecker remembered, "My mom would send us there with a note to get her cigarettes. Then we each got to buy 25 cents of penny candy! ... Loved having a little brown bag filled with candy." Beth also remembered the rules that the nuns at St. Mary's set up, including not having candy in class. "We would all go to the little store and buy Luden's cherry cough drops because they tasted like candy and they were allowed!!" Mary Jo Moonen King remembered doing the same thing.

Gary and Sally Raasch owned the store after the Christensens and before the Stockers. According to Sally, "We were only

Au pair? Au revoir!

The murder of Geraldine Mingo 1948

Compiled by David R. Schleper

Geraldine Mingo, who was born in Shakopee on July 24, 1931, was the daughter of Andrew and Katherine Mingo. Her father died in 1944, and in 1948, Geraldine was looking for an adventure. While looking for an interesting summer job, she heard about the job as au pair in St. Paul.

The word “au pair” is a French term, which means “on par” or “equal to,” denoting living on an equal, caring relationship between the host family and the children. An au pair will typically be a young woman who chooses to help look after the children of a host family and provide light housekeeping. The au pair is given room and board and is typically paid a weekly “pocket-money” salary.

Geraldine secured a position as an au pair with the Alfred S. Butwinick family in the Highland Park area of St Paul. She would take care of the children during the days, and stay overnight at their place each night. On weekends, Geraldine went home to Shakopee to visit her mother.



Geraldine Mingo

On Monday, Aug. 9, 1948, Geraldine Theresa Mingo, age 17, left the Butwinick residence early Monday evening to attend a show. Later, she met with her fiancé, Lawrence Ludeen, age 22, and spent the evening in company of another friend. Lawrence brought Geraldine to the Randolph-Hazel Park streetcar at 12:30 a.m. According to a report, motorman Glenn Anderson reported that Geraldine and one other passenger were on the streetcar when it reached the Highland Park neighborhood. She alighted the streetcar alone.

And that was all that was seen of Geraldine Mingo.

At 5:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 10, Saul L. Selle, age 45, let his dog, Tippy, out to do its business. After returning to the bedroom, Saul looked out a rear window and saw what appeared to be a bare leg. Saul asked his wife, and they both looked from the window, and then called the police.

The police arrived and looked at the young adult, who had been slashed and stabbed on both sides of her neck, the back of her head, and both wrists. From a slip of paper in a billfold in her sweater pocket, the police identified the victim of a most sadistic slaying.

Sheriff J.P. Wermerskirchen was also called, and he took George Mingo of St. Paul to confirm the identification. It was believed that Geraldine was attacked and slain at some other spot, and deposited near the Selles' backyard. It was about 20 blocks from the Butwinick home.

The St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press posted a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer, but no critical information was received.

Services for Geraldine were held on Saturday, Aug. 14, 1948, at the home and St. Mary's Church. Rev. Michael McRaith led the requiem mass, and the burial was at St. Mark's Cemetery (now the Shakopee Catholic Cemetery). Pallbearers were James Anderson, Eugene Brown, Louis Engel, Steven DeMers, Thomas Huth and George Rutherford. Honorary pallbearers included Lelia Dellwo, Valerie Dellwo, Carol Dellwo, Jean Dellwo, Delores DeMers, Della DeMers, Bonnie Meuwissen, and Lucille Koll.

Preceding her in death was her father in 1944, brother Henry and sister Catherine. She was survived by her mother, three brothers, George, John and Bernard, and sisters Mary Thorbus and Betty Christensen.

The outpouring of sympathy for the bereaved family was boundless. Flowers, mass cards and other tokens of condolences gave mute testimony to the sorrow felt by the entire community. More than 1,000 people attended the funeral.

References: *Girl, 17, Murdered Here: Victim's Body Left in Yard on Highland, St. Paul Dispatch, Aug. 10, 1948. Murdered Girl's Boy Friend Held for Questioning: Spent Evening in Bar, St Paul Pioneer Press, Aug. 11, 1948. Search for Murderer of Shakopee Girl: Geraldine Mingo Meets Death Early Tuesday in St. Paul, Shakopee Valley News, Aug. 12, 1948. Shakopee Girl Victim in Brutal St. Paul Slaying, Shakopee Argus Tribune, Aug. 12, 1948. \$1,000 Murder Posted by Pioneer Press: Clues Elude Police, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Aug. 12, 1948. Time and Place Pose Puzzle in Mingo Murder, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Aug. 13, 1948. 5 Held in Mingo Slaying, St. Paul Dispatch, Aug. 13, 1948. Mingo Services Held Saturday, Shakopee Argus Tribune, Aug. 19, 1948. Friends Throng Shakopee Church at Geraldine Mingo Burial Rites, St. Paul Dispatch, Aug. 19, 1948.*

The Little Store

Continued from page 6

there a short time. Was fun to get to know so many kids. St. Mary's requested that we open after school started because it was making kids late for school. The biggest crowds were on Wednesday evenings before the CCD classes." The Raasches owned the store, as Raasch's Grocery, in 1977.

Mary Baden remembered "those round multicolored candies we would play like we were going to communion. I don't even think they tasted that good! Mary Jo Moonen King knew that they were called Stark's.

Then the Little Store was owned by the Stockers. Dottie Stocker was often the person who customers would look forward to seeing. "She was always so sweet!" said Tamy Furrer Bachelor. "Dottie, by far, was the happiest person in the world," said Craig Huckabone.

"I remember going there in the morning before school and buying gum so when we went to the (Shakopee Area Catholic Middle School), I could chew gum in those classes!" noted Kim Tieben.

Laurie Ploof remembered when the store was called Christensens' and then Stockers'. "I just mainly remember getting the penny candy...and I look back and think about the patience! It was all behind the counter, and I'd pick my 10 pieces one by one. Never felt like I had to hurry up or was a pain. Just felt like a real customer!"

Judy Theis remembered, "We would walk the five blocks to the store when we scraped together five pennies for a popsicle and they would split the two pops so my sister and I could share! Two and a half cent treat on a hot summer day! And we had to brave our way past Bastians' German shepherd to get there! I'm sure he was a nice dog, but he was as big as we were and scared the heck out of us!"

Finally, after more than 30 years, and the rotten teeth of every child growing up around the place, the store closed, and the Little Store became a house.

It is still there. And every time people drive by, they think of the Little Store, and the fun that everyone still remembers!

Read even more memories at <http://www.shakopeeheritage.org/historic-tidbits/places/>.

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