



Volume 33 Number 1

# VAN VOORHEES NIEUWSBRIEF

Spring/Summer 2016

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This issue of the *Nieuwsbrief* marks a transition in editorship. Since 2001, Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall has performed not just the role of editor, but also authored several articles each issue, along with doing the layout and formatting, and providing photographs and illustrations to augment the articles with the technical assistance of her husband, Roy. I have always stated that the *Nieuwsbrief* is the life blood of our organization. It provides our current members with a way to more fully appreciate our Dutch heritage and also is an essential marketing tool in attracting new members. Marilyn has asked to be relieved of this responsibility and we are extremely fortunate that Marie

Voorhees Avelsgaard has stepped forward to assume this essential role for the VVA. Marie is certainly not new in volunteering on our behalf. She has performed many functions over the years, including handling inquiries and representing the Jan line. I cannot think of anyone more qualified to assume the role of editor going forward.

On behalf of all of us in the VVA I want to publicly thank Marilyn and Roy for an outstanding job over these many years in making our newsletter the centerpiece of our organization, and welcome back Marie. We are indeed fortunate to have such individuals in the VVA.

### Message from the Editor

It is with great pleasure that I accept the challenge of being editor for the *Nieuwsbrief*. I have been a VVA lifetime member for close to 20 years. In the late 90's I had the pleasant experience of Judith Van Voorhis teaching me how to use the VVA database. I still remember her willingness to share her extensive knowledge with me and her undying patience while I learned. Since the VVA website was still in its infancy, there was an influx of inquiries and as result, I was able to answer hundreds of inquiries. I am happy to serve the VVA. My only request, at this time, is that when future articles, obituaries, etc. are submitted for publications that they are in a Word or PDF file format.

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**MEMBERSHIP:**

**FEATURED ARTICLE**  
**Bruce Avery Van Voorhis**

Bruce Avery Van Voorhis was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his bravery and sacrifice during World War II. He was a squadron leader of Navy bomber pilots based on Guadalcanal . On July 6,1943, he volunteered his crew of eleven to undertake a solo and potentially suicidal mission, involving a flight of 700 miles to an isolated Japanese-held island. The Japanese presence on the Kapingamarangi Atoll (also known as Greenwich or Hare Island) of the Southern Caroline Islands was a threat to the northern flank of Allied forces advancing in the Solomon Islands and on New Guinea.

Flying a PB4Y-1, the Navy's version of the Army Air Corps B-24, Van Voorhis left before dawn on the flight that would cost the lives of all aboard.



Medal of Honor

**EARLY LIFE:** Bruce was born January 29, 1908, in Aberdeen, Washington, to Walter Avery Van Voorhis and his wife Lillian Simson. Walter was one of five sons born to Abraham Frye Van Voorhis and Jennie Campbell. Walter and Lilly had met and married in Kansas, where both had been school teachers. They had accepted positions as superintendent and teachers on the Quinault Indian reservation in Washington State. Also in their household was Lilly's mother, Alice. In January, 1909, the whole family moved to the Stillwater Nevada Paiute Reservation near the town of Fallon where Walter was appointed superintendent and Lilly was a teacher. There, Walter set about establishing a reliable water supply for the school. He also founded a tribal police force of two Native American officers and improved agricultural yields. Walter oversaw the building of the privately funded Baptist Indian Mission next to the school. The Mission served as a church for the community and a home for the missionary volunteers. In Nevada their second son, Wayne Simson, was born December 9, 1909.

Walter accepted a transfer to the Fort Washakie reservation in 1917 in Wyoming, where he served for only nine months before returning to Fallon. Back in Nevada, he accepted a position with I H Kent Company, a building supply concern. Walter contracted pneumonia in Fallon and died at home January 8, 1919. He was transported back to Robinson, Kansas, and buried in Rose Hill cemetery, where his mother, two brothers, and some of their families would also be buried. He has no headstone.

Bruce, Wayne, Lillian, and Alice continued to live in Fallon, where the boys attended and graduated from the local schools. Lilly remarried in 1921 to Leo Pinger, manager at I H Kent Company. Bruce finished at Churchill County High in 1924. His high school classmates predicted a career as a pugilist, while Bruce wanted to be an agriculturist. In spite of this prediction and career goal, he applied for and received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, starting in June, 1925. He graduated in June 1929 with the rank of ensign. His Academy yearbook mentions that “ 'Boning' (cramming) for him was an unnecessary evil. About once a year he gets ambitious and does a little serious boning and pulls star grades for the month. Van knows what he wants and usually gets it. This should get him success in the Navy in any other line he might enter.”

Upon graduation, Bruce was assigned to the Battleship *Mississippi*. In November 1930, He was ordered to Pensacola Naval Air Station for aviator training and received his wings September 3 1931. He served on the aircraft carriers *Maryland, Ranger, Saratoga, Enterprise, and Yorktown*, flying a number of carrier and land-based aircraft. In January, 1932, he was promoted to Lieutenant, Junior Grade. Land-based assignments included Panama Canal Zone, Norfolk, San Diego, Long Beach and possibly England. At the onset of World War II he was assigned to Anacostia Air Station outside Washington, D.C.

PERSONAL LIFE: Bruce was a lieutenant when he married Kathryn Nora Warden, *nee* Johnson, February 19, 1938, at Parris Island, SC. Her father was a naval or Marine Corps dentist there. The couple returned to Norfolk where Bruce was based after their honeymoon. Kathryn had previously been married to a Britisher, Vere Warden, and lived with him in India where he died. Together they had a son, born in 1931 in India. I have not been able to find where Bruce and Kathryn met, perhaps in 1935 in England (where both resided in 1935 per the 1940 census) or at one of his state-side duty stations. Bruce seems to have adopted the lad, for in a 1951 news article he attended a plaque dedication at the Naval Academy in honor of his step-father. The step-son, who was taking flight training, was a US Naval Reserve Midshipman at that dedication.

Bruce and Kathryn had two sons: Bruce, born June 17, 1939, in San Diego, California, and died September 14, 1998 in Martin, Florida. Son Bruce and Kathryn are buried in Beaufort, SC. The second son is still living, as far as I can determine, and will not be named here.

Photo # 80-G-457603 Ensign Bruce A. Van Voorhis, USN



Lt. Cmdr. Bruce A. Van Voorhis



Bruce was promoted to Lieutenant Commander by November, 1942, and was appointed commander of Bombing Squadron VB-102 in Hawaii. The squadron was trained on the new PB4Y-1's, which replaced the outdated PB4Y bi-planes. After training, the Squadron flew to Carney Field on Guadalcanal May 1, 1943, to patrol for enemy ships and aircraft and support operations in the Solomons. On July 4, 1943, he bombed three Japanese ships, a cargo vessel, a destroyer and a destroyer escort. Bruce led a squad of three bombers on a bombing mission of the island of Ballale in support of the invasion of New Georgia.

As noted above, Van Voorhis left Carney Field on Guadalcanal before dawn on a 700 mile flight to Kapingamarangi Atoll. Once over his target, he conducted six bombing and strafing runs, destroying the Japanese radio station, anti-aircraft emplacements, one fighter plane in the air, and three planes on the water. Forced lower on each run, his aircraft was damaged by his own bomb blast or enemy fire and crashed into the lagoon, killing all aboard. Back at Carney Field, with no radio reports from the mission, it was assumed the plane was lost. Only later did the Navy learn of the heroism of this crew from reports of coast-watchers and friendly natives. The crashed aircraft was explored after the war. The remains of the crew were repatriated and interred stateside. One of Bruce's boots was all that remained for his positive identification. Bruce and five of his crew are buried in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri. The other crew members are in various National Cemeteries.



July 6, 1943, Van Voorhis' flight Guadalcanal to Kapingamarangi Atoll

For his actions and sacrifice, Van Voorhis was awarded the Medal of Honor. Congress awarded the MOH and President Truman presented it. His Citation reads:

### CITATION

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life, above and beyond the call of duty as Squadron Commander of Bombing Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWO and as Plane Commander of a PB4Y-1 Patrol Bomber operating against the enemy on Japanese held Greenwich Island during the battle of the Solomon Islands, 6 July 1943. Fully aware of the limited chance of surviving an urgent mission, voluntarily undertaken to prevent surprise Japanese attack against our forces, Lieutenant Commander Van Voorhis took off in total darkness on a perilous 700 mile flight without escort or support. Successful in reaching his objective, despite treacherous and varying winds, low visibility and difficult terrain, he fought a lone but relentless battle under fierce antiaircraft fire and overwhelming aerial opposition. Forced lower and lower by pursuing planes, he coolly persisted in his mission of destruction. Abandoning all chance of a safe return, he executed six bold, ground-level attacks to demolish the enemy's vital radio station, installations, antiaircraft guns and crews with bombs and machine-gun fire, and to destroy one fighter plane in the air and three on the water. Caught in his own bomb blast, Lieutenant Commander Van Voorhis crashed into the lagoon off the beach, sacrificing himself in a single-handed fight against almost insurmountable odds, to make a distinctive contribution to our continued offensive in driving the Japanese from the Solomon's and, by his superb daring courage and resoluteness of purpose, enhanced the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

Co-Pilot Jack O. Troub was awarded the Navy Cross and he was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. The other nine crew members were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Bruce also has a memorial stone in Arlington National Cemetery. He is memorialized in the Medal of Honor Grove at Valley Forge and Washington State MOH Memorial in Olympia, Washington. Nevada has inducted him into the state Aerospace Hall of Fame. The Navy also posthumously promoted Bruce to Commander.

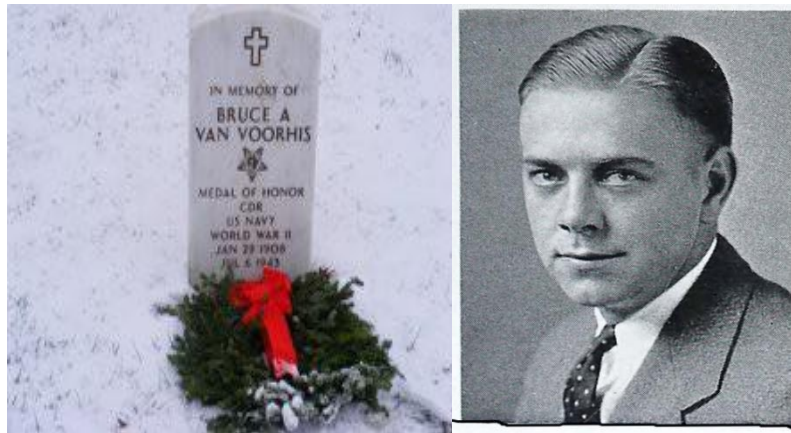


Van Voorhis and crew stones, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

The Navy has continued to honor Bruce since his death. In 1951 a plaque with his photo and award was placed outside his dormitory room at the Naval academy, naming the room for him. His mother and step-son attended the ceremony. Destroyer Escort (DE1028) was launched 28 July 1956 at Camden, New Jersey, and named *Van Voorhis*. His wife launched the ship and their two sons also were in attendance that day. The ship was decommissioned in 1972.

The Naval Air Station in Fallon, Nevada, was renamed Van Voorhis Field in 1959 in honor of Nevada's only MOH awardee. Construction of the field was begun in 1942, completed in 1944, and has been the location of the TOPGUN School for aerial combat training since 1996.

On Armed Forces Day, May 17, 1975, the Commander of Van Voorhis Naval Air Station presented Bruce's personal memorabilia to the Churchill Historical Museum in Fallon.



Arlington National Cemetery

Wayne S. Van Voorhis

### **Wayne S. Van Voorhis 1909-1942**

Bruce's brother Wayne graduated from University of Nevada in 1934 with a Psychology degree. He returned to Fallon where he lived with his mother and step-father and was a bookkeeper at the I. H. Kent Company. He enlisted in the Army Air Corp after the 1940 census and was in the Phillipines as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant with the 27<sup>th</sup> Materiel Squadron, 20<sup>th</sup> Air Base Group. Captured during the Japanese invasion, Wayne survived the Bataan Death March in April, 1942. The March was over 60 miles in 5 to 10 days. The marchers were provided with little food or water. Walter succumbed to malaria July 10, 1942, in the O'Donnell Prisoner of War Camp. He was eventually interred in the American Military Cemetery in Manila. Thus, Lillian lost both her sons in the Pacific Theater in World War II.

Mother Lillian Simson was born September 1878 in Kansas and died December 28, 1959, in San Mateo, California, while visiting friends. She was cremated and returned to Fallon. Her second husband, Leo Pinger, had died December 17, 1941.

Kathryn Van Voorhis was born July 27, 1910, in the District of Columbia. She remarried, probably after 1956, and lost her Navy pension. She died February 15, 1995 in McLean, Virginia. Son Bruce and Kathryn are buried in Beaufort, SC. Her mother Alice is listed in the 1920 census, but not in 1930.

Bruce's grandfather Abraham Frye Van Voorhis was a Civil war veteran. He was born August 4, 1843 in Washington County, PA. He served in the Washington PA Cavalry and in the 6 PA Heavy Artillery (212<sup>th</sup> PA Volunteers.) After he was mustered out, he married Jennie A. Campbell December 24, 1865, in Washington County. The family moved to Missouri in 1868 and to Kansas in 1870, where he farmed and was a carpenter. He died December 2, 1895, and is buried in Kirwin Cemetery, Phillips County, Kansas. He was quite proud of his army service for it was noted in his obituary. Members of the Grand Army of the Republic (a Union Veterans organization) were among his pallbearers. No doubt he shared stories of his war experiences with his sons growing up in Kansas.

Gordon Frye provided the initial information and inspiration for this article.

# Ahnentafel between Bruce Avery VanVoorhis (194351) and Steven Coerte VanVoorhees (30020)

--- 1st Generation ---

1. Bruce Avery<sup>1</sup> VanVoorhis (194351). Born on 29 Jan 1908 at Aberdeen, Grays Harbor Co., WA. He married Kathryn (---) (194371). Died on 6 Jul 1943 at age 35. He was a Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy. As Squadron Commander of Bombing Squadron 102 and as Plane Commander of a PB4Y-1 Patrol Bomber operating against the enemy on Japanese-held Greenwich Island during the battle of the Solomon Islands, 6 July 1943. Fully aware of the limited chance of surviving an urgent mission, voluntarily undertaken to prevent a surprise Japanese attack against our forces, Lt. Comdr. Van Voorhis took off in total darkness on a perilous 700-mile flight without escort or support. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

"The Van Voorhis" was laid down on 29 August 1955 at Camden, N.J., by the New York Shipbuilding Co.; launched on 28 July 1956, sponsored by Mrs. Kathryn Van Voorhis, the widow of Lt. Comdr. Van Voorhis; and commissioned at Philadelphia, Pa., on 22 April 1957, Lt. Comdr. Joseph J. Doak, Jr., in command.

--- 2nd Generation ---

2. Walter A.<sup>2</sup> VanVoorhis (91245). Born in Jun 1877 at PA, 17325. He married Lily Simpson (194348), daughter of (---) Simpson (194349) and Alice (---) (194350), in 1903.

The 1910 census of Stillwater, Church Co., NV, pg. 41B, #132, lists Walter A. Van Voorhis 33 PA (parents PA), Lily 28 KS (parents OH), Bruce 2 WA, Wayne 4/12 NV, Alice Simpson 50 OH (mother-in-law, widow, father PA, mother OH).

--- 3rd Generation ---

4. Abraham<sup>3</sup> VanVoorhis (47206). Born circa 1843 at PA, 17325. He married Jennie (---) (78299). He lived in at KS, 66002.

The 1870 census of Iowa Twsp. Doniphan Co., KS, pg. 112, #398, lists Abraham VanVoorhis 28 PA, Jane 30 PA, Curtis 3 PA, Ormond 1 MO. They are listed in the home of Henry Seaser 59 NY, Anna 57 NJ.

Jennie's maiden name is either Curtis or Osmond, and since there are no families named Curtis and tons named Osmond and Osman in Washington Cty, PA, I am guessing Osmond (Ann Nunn). The birthplaces of her five sons cause a puzzle. The first son, Van Curtis, was surely born in Pennsylvania. The second son, David Osmond, was most probably born in Missouri, while the family was enroute from PA to KS, although the 1900 census says PA. The third and fourth sons repeatedly claim PA, so I suppose Jennie could have traveled home to PA to birth them, although such travel was not that common in the 1870's, unless the whole family returned to Pennsylvania between 1873 and 1878. The last son was surely born in Kansas.

The 1880 census of Atchison City, Atchison Co., KS, pg. 252A, lists A. F. VanVoorhis 45 PA (parents PA), Jennie 36 PA, (parents PA), Curtis 13 PA, David G. 11 MO, William M. 6 PA, Walter A. 3 PA, Claude 2 months KS.

--- 4th Generation ---

8. Garrett Townsend<sup>4</sup> VanVoorhis (36004)<sup>1</sup> was also listed as Townsend (36004). Born on 18 Feb 1819 at Washington Co., PA, 15313. He married first Hester Freye (47196), daughter of Noah Freye (75562) and Lucy Colvin (75563), on 20 Oct 1842. He married second Mary Jane Baxter (47197) on 16 Oct 1867. Died circa 1907. He lived at East Pike, Washington Co., PA, 15313.

He lived on the Hickmand Farm on Pigeon Creek and also owned the Richmond farm.

The 1850 census of Washington Co., PA, pg. 157, East Pike Run, #63, lists Townsend VanVoorhees 30 farmer, Hester 28, Abraham 7, Melissa 4.

The 1860 census of East Pike, Washington Co., PA, p. 366, #95, lists Townsend VanVoorhis 41, Esther 40 PA, Abraham, 18, Malinda 13.

The will of Townsend VanVoorhis of Monongahela City, Washington Co., PA, was dated 19 April 1907 and probated 2 July 1907. It mentions wife Mary Jane, son Luther T., son A. F. Van Voorhis (deceased), Jennie widow of his son A. F. Van Voorhis and grandson Van A. Wilkins. The executors were his wife Jane and son Luther.

--- 5th Generation ---

16. Abraham<sup>5</sup> VanVoorhis (32357).<sup>2</sup> Born on 28 Dec 1785 at NJ, 07718, near Roncocas Creek on the Delaware River. He married Ann Watkins (36003) on 11 May 1818. He married Jane Phillips (36007) on 27 Nov 1829. Died on 4 Dec 1871 at age 85. Bur. at Van Voorhis Cem., Carroll Twsp., Washington Co., PA, 15313.

He lived in Monongahela, PA, and was a farmer and stock dealer. The 1850 census of Washington Co., PA, pg. 233, #76, lists Abraham VanVoorhis 64 farmer born NJ (all other birth places not given assume PA) Jane 40, John 14, Emeline 12, Caroline 10, Sarena 8, Cynthia 2. The will of Abraham VanVoorhis of Carroll Twsp., Washington Co., PA, was dated 20 Dec 1870 and probated 13 Dec 1871. It mentions wife Jane who is to receive the mansion house, garden, fruit, cows etc. and \$5000, son John to receive the mansion farm and house after the death of his mother, daughters Emoline Brown \$2700, Caroline Jones \$2700, Cynthia Bently \$2700. Grandsons, heirs of Mary Calvin, my daughter, deceased \$2700 at their majority. The executors were his sons Robert and John, and son-in-law James Jones; witnesses W. J. Alexander and Jos. A. Heron<sup>3</sup>.

The 1860 census of Carroll Twsp., Washington Co. PA, pg. 184, #317, lists Abraham VanVoorhis 74, Jane 34, Caroline 19, Susan 17, Cynthia 12 (all born PA).

The 1870 census of Carroll Twsp., Washington Co., PA, pg. 382, #67, lists Abraham VanVoorhis 85 NJ, Jane 56 PA?

--- 6th Generation ---

32. Daniel<sup>6</sup> VanVoorhees (31129).<sup>4</sup> Born on 8 Jul 1738 at Long Island, NY, 11101. He married Sarah VanVoorhees (31175), daughter of Coert VanVoorhis (30987) and Catherine Filkin (31166), on 26 Apr 1769 at Presb. Ch., Rombout, Dutchess Co., NY, 12524. He married second Mary Newton (31297) on 12 Jul 1780 at German Ref. Ch., Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA, 17044.<sup>5</sup> He married third Nancy Myers (31298) on 1 May 1791. Died

<sup>1</sup>Cemmorative Bio. Record of Washington Co., PA, pg. 1059; Crumrine, *History of Washington Co., PA*, pg. 696.

<sup>2</sup>correspondence with Robert P. Van Voorhis, Finleyville, PA, 1982; B. Crumie, *History of Washington Co., PA*, pg. 696; E. Van Voorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 220.

<sup>3</sup>Washington Co. PA wills, book 9, pg. 692

<sup>4</sup>Elias William Van Voorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 274; E. Van Voorhis, *Ancestry of Wm. Roe Van Voorhees*, pg. 73; correspondence with Mrs. George Smith who states "research by my sister Mary Cooper of Morristown, TN, shows that Elizabeth, John and Daniel, children of Daniel Van Voorhis all married children of Samuel Frye 1729-1814 and Christian Spears"; J. Beers, *Commemorative Biographical Record of Washington Co., PA*, (it says Daniel's first wife was Mrs. Britt; Crumrine, *History of Washington Co., PA*, pg. 695 & 696, which also says that his first wife was "Mrs Britt whose maiden name was VanVoorhis."

<sup>5</sup>correspondence with F. K. Fawcett, Washington, PA, 1934; *Pennsylvania Archives*, Vol. 8, pg. 725.



on 21 Feb 1819 at Washington Co., PA, 15313, at age 80. Bur. at VanVoorhis Cem., Hazelkirk, Washington Co., PA, 15313. He served in the Revolutionary War. During the war he was taken prisoner three times and each time suffering a total loss of his vessel. In one engagement he was leaning against a stanchion of a vessel which was blown away by a cannon ball. He was taken as a prison to a Spanish island from which he escaped but was recaptured. (*The Old and the New Monongahela* pg. 187).<sup>6</sup>

He lived at Rancocas Creek, NJ, along the Delaware River above Camden and in 1785 moved to Pigeon Creek, Washington Co., PA. *The History of Washington Co. PA*, 1882 says Daniel did not bring his family to Washington County until after the birth of his son Abraham. He also lived in Fishkill, NY, and Burlington Co., NJ.

Daniel Voorhis senior and wife Nancy sold to Daniel Voorhis Jr., on 18 June 1810 land on Pigeon Creek which was surveyed for Daniel as assign of Abraham Decker 15 Sept 1784 (deed book Vol. 1V, pg. 519). *Ibid.*, page 520, Daniel and Nancy VanVoorhis sell to Abraham VanVoorhis land that was conveyed to Daniel by Samuel Burnett and his wife Nancy in 1798. *Ibid.*, page 521. Daniel Van Voorhis sells to Isaac Van Voorhis part of a patent which Daniel obtained 1788.

The will of Daniel Vorhis of Fallow Township, Washington Co., PA, was dated 18 Aug 1817 and probated 21 April 1819. It mentions his wife Nancy who is to receive \$300, a horse and the use of one room in the house, son Samuel Newton \$300, daughter Sarah \$1, son John bed and clothing, sons John Daniel and Abraham are to receive all the brass, pewter and Iron that was brought to the family by their mother, my wife Mary, son Abraham to receive a bed, daughter Elizabeth Frye \$500, son Isaac 1/2 the tract of land of 50 acres, son Abraham the other half, Isaac to receive horses, cattle and sheep. The executors were his son-in-law Samuel Frye, son Abraham and Robert McFarland (Washington Co., PA, wills book 3 pg. 276).

--- 7th Generation ---

**64.** Daniel<sup>7</sup> VanVoorhees (30978).<sup>7</sup> Born on 17 Dec 1701, as given in the Van Voorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*. He married Femmetje Bennet (31123), daughter of Jan Adriaense Bennet (66236) and Femmetje Rapelye (66237), on 27 Nov 1724.

The *History of the Dutch Reformed Church of Oyster Bay*, by Stouten, says Daniel made his will 4 April 1768 and that it was proved 13 Feb 1769. Stokes, *The Van Voorhees Family*, says no such will has been found.

--- 8th Generation ---

**128.** Cornelis Coerte<sup>8</sup> VanVoorhees (30035).<sup>8</sup> Baptized on 23 Jun 1678 at Ref. Ch., Flatbush, Kings Co., NY, 11226, parent Coert Stevensz, sp. Thomas Willet, Heylthe Elberts. He married Antje Rapalye (30975), daughter of Daniel Rapelye (72260) and Sara Abrams Clok (72261), circa 1696.

In 1700 Cornelius was ensign of militia at Flatlands (*Documents Relative to Colonial History of NY*, IV pg. 809). CHECK this

On 30 May 1702 John Wyckoff and wife Neltie of Flatbush deeded to Cornelius Coert of same, several pieces of land near Lucas Stevens, Martin Schenck, Peter Nevius and Rutt Joosten. The deed was signed before Coert Stevense, justice (Kings Co. deeds, book I pg. 228 in *New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Record*, Vol. 54, pg. 312).

--- 9th Generation ---

**256.** Coert Stevense<sup>9</sup> VanVoorhees (30024).<sup>9</sup> Born circa 1638 at Drenthe, Netherlands. He married Marretje Gerritse VanCouwenhoven (30028), daughter of Gerret Wolfertse VanCouwenhoven (63164) and Altje Cool (63165), before 1664. Died after 1702.

He was age 22 when he arrived in New Amsterdam on «de Bonte Koe» in 1660. He was a member and deacon of the Ref. Ch. in Flatlands in 1677 and captain of the militia in 1689, and representative of Flatlands in the Assembly held at city hall in New Amsterdam 10 April 1664.

He took the oath of allegiance in September 1687 as Coert Stevense Van Voorhuys, having been in the country 27 years (*Documentary History of New York*, Vol. 1, pg. 660). On 8 Mar 1691 he purchased the real estate of John Tilton in Gravesend and conveyed this property to his son Albert on 20 June 1694. Kings Co. Conveyances II pg. 134 lists deed to land in Flatlands.

In the will of his brother-in-law, John Kiersen, dated 1705, he is listed as Coert "Stevensen." He sometimes signs his name as Coert Stevensen Van Ruinen.<sup>10</sup>

--- 10th Generation ---

**512.** Steven Coerte<sup>10</sup> VanVoorhees (30020)<sup>11</sup> was also listed as Koert VanVoorhees (30020). Born circa 1600 at Hees, Drenthe, Netherlands. He married first Aaltjen Wessels (31253) circa 1625. He married second Willempe Roelofse Seubering (30021), daughter of Roelof Seubering (66386), circa 1649. Died on 16 Feb 1684 at Flatlands, Kings Co., NY, 11226.

He arrived on the ship called "de Bonte Koe" (the Spotted Cow) 15 April 1660 with children aged 22, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 (Holland Society Yearbook, 1902, pg. 13). He is listed on the assessment roll of Amersfort 24 April 1675 with 30 morgans of land, and in Sept 1667 and Sept 1683 with 55 morgans of land (*Documentary History of New York*, Vol. 2, pg. 490 and 497, Vol. 4, pg. 155). He and his wife were members of the Flatbush Ref. Ch. in 1677 (*Misc. Records of Flatbush Ch.*, pg. 43 Frost Collection at Brooklyn Historical Society). F. Van Wyck, *Long Island Colonial Patents*, lists Flatland patents and records of "Steven Coerten" and "Coert Stevens."

<sup>6</sup>Daughters of the American Revolution, *DAR Lineage Books* ([Washington]: the Society, v. 1-166; 1895-1921), Vol. 25, pg. 314, Vol. 27, pg. 206, Vol. 89, pg. 30, Vol. 159, pg. 25. Hereinafter cited as *DAR Lineage Books*.

<sup>7</sup>Henry Augustus Stoutenburgh, *Documentary History of the Dutch Congregation of Oyster Bay*, pg. 642 says his will was dated 1 April 1768 and proved 13 Feb. 1769, (RL 26 F 545); Hazelton says in his notes "no such record in NY wills"; E. Van Voorhis, *The Voorhees Family*, pg. 187; A. Stokes, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 106; J. Beers, *Commemorative Biographical Record of Washington County, PA*, pg. 1058; B. Crumrine, *History of Washington County PA*, pg. 695.

<sup>8</sup>E. VanVoorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 13 & 162; T. Bergen, *Early Settlers of Kings County*, pg. 377; Stokes, *The Van Voorhees Family*, page 65.

<sup>9</sup>E. VanVoorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 12; E. Van Voorhis, *Ancestry of Wm. Roe Van Voorhis*, pg. 15 & 23; A. Stokes, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 51; T. Bergen, *Early Settlers of Kings County*, pg. 78; H. Stoutenburgh, *Documentary History of Oyster Bay*, pg. 641.

<sup>10</sup>*New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. 54, pg. 250, 304, 247, 308, 309.

<sup>11</sup>E. VanVoorhis, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 10; A. Stokes, *The Van Voorhees Family*, pg. 45; *Eldridge - Dutch Ancestry*, pg. 111. A biography of Steven Coert by Daniel Voorhis Grinnell can be found in, *de Halve Maen*, April-July 1966. Charles Voorhis of Brooklyn also wrote an article in *Yesteryears*, Vol. 20, no. 78; *The New Netherlands Register*, Vol. 1, Jan 1911, pg. 11. It provides information on the Bonte Koe.

## Farmhouse on a Pond

By Anna Gerwel

*In conjunction with this article, the author created a short, but quite lovely, YouTube video which can be viewed at: [https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=em-share\\_vid-eo\\_user&v=hL6zzUIJCKk](https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=em-share_vid-eo_user&v=hL6zzUIJCKk) - please take a look.*

Last autumn, my husband Peter and I leafed through Town Topics, a local Princeton newspaper and noticed a unique advertisement: original Dutch Colonial farmhouse, built in the mid-1700s for sale in Franklin Park, NJ. Intrigued, we arrived on a dark rainy October afternoon to see it. A charming farmhouse with dark green shutters and white cedar wood exterior stood hidden among aged trees. It was 'love at first sight' for me and a 'love at second sight' for Peter, (when we visited again on a sunny day). As with most old Dutch farmhouses, it has a Southern exposure. Nestled here for centuries, it neighbors a pond and a thousand acres of preserved wooded area; a long gravel driveway leads to the house and to a separate garage. Old locust, red oak, ash, cherry and magnolia trees surround it. As they say: 'the rest is history;' we moved in several months later.

We decided to learn more about its structure and history. Researching the house's past had one pleasant, unexpected component: wonderful people we met along the way. The building is an example of Dutch Colonial vernacular architecture, known as 'block and wing' structure. Once the original block was built, consecutive rooms were added length-wise. The foundation is constructed of field stones and the house is built with heavy timber. It is designed with H-shaped wooden frames called *anchorbents* set up laterally, creating two floors. Beams and the floors are original to the house. Reconstructed 'Dutch doors' appear in two places in the house. They are characterized by a split dividing them into a lower and upper part of equal size. When the upper door is open and the lower half closed, it 'keeps the children inside, animals outside, allows the breeze and light to come through, while stopping dirt and dust.' The

Dutch doors were in use until the time of the Revolution. They were common in the Netherlands in the seventeenth century, appearing in period paintings. The house also has three sliding pocket doors, two of them downstairs and the third one in the upstairs walk-in closet. Floors throughout half of the house are made of beautifully maintained, foot-wide, pine wood planks. Old oak wood beams, exposed during reconstruction, are visible on both the downstairs and upstairs ceilings. On the upper floor, beams are fastened by wooden pegs. We discovered remnants of an original fireplace in the basement. The kitchen was most likely located there at some point. A newer fireplace, an English design, possibly added in the 1800s, was located on the eastern side of the house and later removed to add space to the rooms. It can be traced by analyzing the irregular cuts in the floor planks according to Janet Foster, a professor at Columbia University. The two rooms in the front part of the house are elegant and more spacious than the rooms in the back, which is typical of Dutch design. They were used for public life - entertaining guests and holding business meetings, whereas the two back rooms served as more private, family living quarters. Although our house is currently located at 18 Wyckoff Place, it was originally on a dirt road running between Butler Road and the farm.

### **History**

Chris, our landscaper, remembers the time when his father used to swim in the pond. At present, children ice skate on it from time to time. Our neighbor Monica told us that an old barn stood next to our house in 1997, when their house was being built. It has since been taken down. Her son Brandon brought us an old horseshoe which he found by our garage.

Jack Field purchased the property in the 1960s when it was an abandoned chicken farm. As remembered by Larry Field, Jack Field's son: 'The house was surrounded by brush, the windows had been shot out by a drunken former tenant, and the chicken coops were falling apart. There was a large swamp in the low area to the rear. My parents, Jack and Jacqueline Field, did a historic renovation and modernization over the next several years. Most of the work was

done by a local legend, Leonard Vliet, who was a farmer, builder and township councilor. My mother, who had considerable artistic ability, did some of the finish work'. Robert Mettler, a local historian, reminisces about Ms. Fields' great attention to detail and perfectionism, which manifested itself in the beautiful restoration.

~  
More details are cited below, from the M.A. Thesis: Domestic Architecture of Somerset by Gary T. Lund, May 1967: 'The photographs of House number eight shows it while it was being completely stripped and renovated with as much accuracy as possible, even to the rebuilding of corner cupboards after an old Dutch pattern. The brick and block foundation was replaced by more comfortable modern materials. The fireplaces and chimneys were restored inside and out.

As I was searching old deeds at the Somerset County Court house, I noticed that several different owners lived in our house in the 1900s for short periods of time. In the 1800s until late 1900s our house was inhabited by the Voorhees family. Peter I. Voorhees, and his wife, Martha Jane VanNostrand, lived here from 1868 until 1905, the year of Peter's death. With the help of Pam Robinson and Marian Meyer of the Somerset County Historical Society, I was able to learn that Abraham Voorhees, a watchmaker, and his wife, Jane Jarvis White, most likely lived here until 1868. Marian used to ride her horse here, when the house was surrounded by fields. Her family, the Suydams, owned farmland in what was then called Pleasant Plains (today's Franklin Park). A Vander Veer map, located at Rutgers University's archives, points to J. Voorhees inhabiting the house in the 1850s. It was probably built by the Garretsons; however I am still in the process of gathering further documentation. One clue was given to me by William Brahm, who wrote a book entitled: *Franklin Township, Somerset County, NJ: A History*. He pointed me toward historic photographs of the house, dated 1905, taken by M.S. Garretson. They matched photo-graphs we were given by Larry Field. Under one of them, I found the following inscription by the

author: 'The original house of my Paternal, Great, Great, Grandfather Stephen Garretson at Pleasant Plains, N.J.

As we look far back in history, the Lenape Indians inhabited the Franklin Park area. They were farmers, growing corn, beans and squash; they gathered local wild fruits and ate fish and game. The word *Lenape* means common, ordinary person, or *of the same people*, in their tongue, called Algonkian. The Lenape who lived on our land included: Hoham, Coponokonickon, Lum-maseecon, Tiptaopaman and Waymutton, so called *Unami* or *people from down the river* as we learned from Jim Wade, a local researcher. The phonetic spellings of their names appear in the old land deeds, which can be found on microfilm at the NJ State Archives in Trenton. In the 1600's the British began acquiring land from the Lenape.

According to Angela Fernan, the president of the Meadows Foundation, 'most of the Franklin Park area was settled in 1710 by Dutch farmers from Brooklyn. It was known as East Jersey and was part of a land grant given to Lord Carteret. When he died his wife sold it to a man named Harrison who in turn divided it into parcels and sold it to the Dutch farmers. In general by the end of the 17th century all the land in Brooklyn was taken. The Wyckoffs, Hagemans, Garretsons, Van Liews, Suydams, Voorhees, Van Cleefs, Van Wickles, and a few more purchased land in New Jersey and gave it to their sons.'

Early Dutch farmers raised all the vegetables grown in Holland: lettuce, cabbage, parsnips, turnips, carrots, beets, radishes, spinach, endives, onions, parsley, leeks among others. They introduced European fruit trees and flowers. The soil in Franklin Park was fertile and the climate mild with a lot of rain, which was conducive to farming. By the mid-1700s, wheat became the main crop. We have invested in many improvements to ensure that this wonderful old house survives for many decades to come.

## Thanks to Ruth A. Yos

By John Turner

The Voorhees line I derive from ended when my mother Marie passed last year. Her mother, Gertrude Voorhees, had two daughters so the name did not pass to any descendants. When I joined the association I was amazed at how many cousins I had! I have accepted the position of Webmaster for <http://vanvoorhees.org/>.

Taking over this job from Ruth has been a pure pleasure. She assisted me in acclimating to the site and its construction. I want to thank her for doing such a thorough job creating a coherent and safe site. During the years she served as webmaster she tended the site and addressed comments and concerns. Her handling of SPAM created from web crawling programs offered a unique and effective solution for a common problem, and certainly one that would have never occurred to me.

Other than changing the webmaster address there has been little for me to do to maintain the site thus far. I did receive a request to add a genealogy site to our research links which was sent through our Facebook page from a youth group. This was done and I have also verified some of the links there, refreshed some, removed a couple that no longer existed, and added some I was aware were relevant to Dutch ancestry.

Notice the Dutch Colonial Society and the Guild of Colonial Artisans and Tradesmen. I am a member of each of these groups. I discovered through the Guild that most Dutch immigrants had a trade in addition to their regular occupation. One ancestor of mine, Garrett Voorhees, was a farmer, teamster and blacksmith. I discovered another that was a farmer and shoemaker. I'm not sure the tendency was to have a hobby, or maybe just a necessity of the time, but I found it fascinating.

I am pleased to accept the position and look forward to serving the association. My background is in Document Management systems and computer software support. I'm currently located in Williamsport, Maryland. In addition to this job I am also a volunteer for Cocorahs, serve on the AIIM C10 and C24 committees, and serve as president for a local SAR chapter. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions.

## Genealogy Update

By Bob Voorhees

A lot of changes are going on in the genealogy world and I'll try and fill you in on some of them. A company by the name of MYHeritage, based in Tel Aviv, Israel, has been aggressively buying up companies over the last few years and is now in a position to give Ancestry.com some competition. Neither company is particularly easy to deal with, (try and cancel a subscription), and the fact that MyHeritage is based in Israel does not help. These companies provide access to genealogy databases and they house millions of family trees submitted by users. If you are a serious researcher you almost have to subscribe to one or the other. I subscribe to Ancestry.com and can't live without it.

You may have seen Ancestry.com television ads, as they attempt to increase their subscriber base among everyday Americans. Along with this campaign they have completely changed the interface to their website. Serious users don't like the changes feeling that "website has been rendered almost unusable by serious researchers." I have yet to form an opinion. In addition, Ancestry.com announced they were dropping support for Family Tree Maker, their genealogy software, and the largest selling genealogy software in the world. At the same time they also announced they were dropping the "sync" feature. With the sync feature users were keeping their family trees on their desk tops with Family Tree Maker and backing up on the Ancestry.com website. Predictably, there was a firestorm protesting these changes as thousands of users wrote in to protest. It makes you wonder what Ancestry.com management was thinking. In any event, Ancestry.com is trying to recover by selling Family Tree Maker software to a third party company which allows the sync feature and establishing an exclusive arrangement with Roots Magic Software to sync their software with Ancestry.com family trees. So these two companies will be syncing their software with Ancestry.com.

We continue to be "comfortable" with our situation regarding Master Genealogy software and our large database that goes with it. Master Genealogist is out of business as scheduled. We have the latest, and last, Master Genealogist software (TMG) running on numerous computers including Windows 10

computers. We don't expect anyone to come up with new software that will be able to run our TMG database. We can live with this. Don't forget we have the first 10 generations in our books and on CD.

## Google Guide for Genealogy

### 1001 Ways to Search the Internet like a Genealogist

In the last several newsletters, I have been sharing that I would be releasing a new resource entitled, "[Google Guide for Genealogy: 1001 Ways to Search the Internet like a Genealogist](#)." Please allow me to dedicate this newsletter to the release of the book.

**Share this email.** Consider sharing this email with your friends, group or association to tell them about the new resource.

#### Book Description

This is a comprehensive 508 page guide for genealogists and family historians to effectively use Google to deliver accurate and relevant search results in seconds. Find hundreds of examples of simple to advanced search queries that you can immediately use and modify. Learn about the skills you need, records you will find, and resources you can use to find available information.

#### Order a Print or eBook Version?

If you would like a print or eBook version of "Google Guide for Genealogy," click on the following link and you will be taken to Amazon. [Link to Amazon](#).

- [Paperback version](#): \$17.99
- [eBook version](#): \$3.99

#### Book Chapters

"Google Guide for Genealogy" will include the following chapters. If you would like details of what is included in each chapter, see the "[Look inside](#)" feature of the book on Amazon.

- Chapter 1: Building a Foundation for Google Research
- Chapter 2: Genealogy Is a Repeatable Process
- Chapter 3: Keep a Research Log and Cite your Sources
- Chapter 4: Qualify Search Parameters with Boolean Operators
- Chapter 5: Google Wildcard Searches
- Chapter 6: Google Search Operators
- Chapter 7: Setting Up Advanced Searches
- Chapter 8: Understanding the Records Found Online
- Chapter 9: Maximizing Website Searches among Database Record Collections

- Chapter 10: Search Queries for Blogs, Government, Libraries, Non-profit and Social Network Websites
- Chapter 11: Advanced Tips and Tricks for Better Genealogy Search Results
- Chapter 12: Google Specialized Search Engines
- Chapter 13: Google Applications for Genealogy
- Chapter 14: Simple Google Search Queries for Home, Work, and Play
- Chapter 15: Searching for Country of Origin Records
- Chapter 16: Google Quick Helps

#### How to Use this Book

In writing this book, I made a few assumptions about who would benefit from the book. This book is for you if,

- You have some experience in genealogy and family history research and want to start searching the Internet for information about your family tree.
- You are an experienced genealogy and family history researcher and want to be more efficient and productive with online research.
- You feel like you have reached a roadblock with online research and are looking for fresh ideas and suggestions.
- You have some experience with a computer and have searched for information on the Internet.

This book was not meant for you to read from start to finish. Each chapter is designed to stand alone. There are a few dependencies you should know about.

- **Chapters 1-5** provides an overview of genealogy research and builds a skill and knowledge for searching on the Internet.
- **Chapters 6-7** will expand your understanding of how to build search queries and provides many examples you can use to broaden and conduct more in-depth searches.
- **Chapter 8** is a review of the type of records you will find online and how you can use the information in your research.
- **Chapters 9-11** focuses and refines your skills for researching databases and websites relevant to genealogy and family history research.
- **Chapters 12-13** reference and explore a variety of high-value Google search engines and applications from the perspective of a genealogist.
- **Chapter 14** is a listing of everyday queries you can use for home, work and fun.

- **Chapter 15** is an in-depth look at how to successfully search for in-country records including the United States.
- **Chapter 16** is a ready reference to highlight principles and queries used throughout the book.

## Would You Consider Leaving A Review on Amazon?

Thank you for taking the time to read "Google Guide for Genealogy." I'm excited for you to start your path to finding available information about your family on the Internet.

If you enjoyed this book or found it useful, I'd be very grateful if you'd post a short review on Amazon. Your support really does make a difference. Once you are on the book site scroll until you see the button, "Write a customer review."

## View Companion Slide Show

Access the slideshow presentation given at RootsTech 2016 by Barry J. Ewell entitled, "[How to Search the Internet like a Genealogist.](#)"

**Follow Barry on Social Media.** Follow Barry on your favorite social media for the latest genealogy and family history tips, tricks, and valuable research insights you can immediately use.

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## Van Voorhees Facebook Page

By Bob Voorhees

We need a volunteer to monitor our facebook page. This would involve acknowledging inquiries and directing them to the proper person. In many cases, that would be me. Let me know if you are interested. My contact info is on page 2 in the VVA Who's Who.

## History at Home: A Guide to Genealogy

by Andrea Davis

Read more:

<http://www.homeadvisor.com/article.show.History-at-Home-A-Guide-to-Genealogy.17370.html#ixzz42XiAYLQS>

Former U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt had a pretty impressive family tree. By blood or marriage, he had ties to 11 other past presidents. While most people aren't related (even by a shoestring) to a single world leader, tracing a family's history is an exciting journey. Genealogy involves searching for the clues that link relatives from one generation to another. There are some professional genealogy researchers, but anyone who researches family history is a genealogist. Some explore their past just for fun. Others, however, are eager to learn more about their personal health history or answer questions about their heritage.

The term "genealogy" is used in two ways. By one definition, it is the search for family history. Genealogists might start by gathering information about their own families and then learn about past generations. The second way the term can be used is to describe the descendants of a specific ancestor. For example, a genealogist compiles a list of all of the descendants of a great-great-grandfather. This list is the genealogy of the great-great-grandfather.

Every genealogist has their own reasons for delving into the family's past. Some are merely curious, pursuing answers to questions, such as why Grandpa's surname is spelled differently from his brother's. In searching for the

answer, the genealogist uncovers more information that inspires continued research. A person who is planning to travel to a location where an ancestor once lived might also want to be more familiar with the family tree before making the trip.

Some people conduct genealogical research for health reasons. A family's history might reveal recurring medical issues or genetic traits that put the individual at risk for certain diseases. Patients can share this information with their doctors and discuss ways to address these concerns. Adoptees frequently choose to learn about their biological family in order to

complete their medical history and to gain a better understanding of their social and cultural identity.

Genealogy can also play a part in resolving legal and financial matters. An attorney might hire a professional genealogist to locate the heir of an estate or find the owner of abandoned property. While discovering an oil well in the family name would certainly be exciting, most family historians are simply interested in building bigger family trees. As the family learns about its past, there are more stories to share, more pictures to swap, and more people at the next family reunion.

To get started, talk to relatives, identify people in family photographs, and read saved documents, such as letters, diaries, journals, newspaper clippings, military records, maps, and legal papers. One way to keep track of generations is with an ancestral chart. This form contains brackets for each generation and space to write in the family members' names along with birth, marriage and death information. Family group sheets are a form for organizing information about a couple and their children. Use a notebook or computer to write out the family stories and sources of information.

## IN MEMORIAN

**Marilyn Joan Brack (nee Van Voorhies) May 15,  
1929-October 9, 2015  
Resided in North Haledon, NJ**

Born in Paterson, Marilyn grew up in Hawthorne and lived most of her life in North Haledon. A former legal secretary for Byers and Byers in Ridgewood, Marilyn was a parishioner of St. Clement's Episcopal Church in Hawthorne. Marilyn volunteered her time and researched her family history at the Van Voorhees Association and the Blauvelt Family Association. She also enjoyed bird watching, nature, raising collies, traveling to Alaska and volunteering at the Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge.



Marilyn was the beloved wife of the late Frederick H. Brack Jr. (2011). Loving sister of the late James Van Voorhies, Thomas Van Voorhies and his wife the

late Lynnora, and Lee Defilippo and her husband Robert. Marilyn is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. She will be sadly missed by "Sweety" and "Blacky".

A graveside funeral service will be held at 2:00 PM on Monday, October 12, 2015 at the Wyckoff Reformed Church Cemetery 294 Everett Avenue, Wyckoff.

## Roger Michael "Mike" Greenlees

“Loving husband, father, grandfather, son and brother”

Mike, 67, passed away September 16, 2014 in Tucson, AZ after a long illness. He was born July 3, 1947, in Los Angeles, CA to Robert M. and Helen L. (Fredrickson) Greenlees. In March 1971 Mike met the love of his life and best friend, Charli Marsh. They were married in October 1972. Mike and Charli have two children, Jennifer and Jason (Lianne) and two identical twin granddaughters, Norah and Ana. After Mike's graduation from high school he went to work for Garrett Corporation near LAX. He joined the United States Marine Corp in 1967 serving in Vietnam as a LCpl with 5th CommBn earning the National Defense Service Meda, Vietnam Service Medal w/2\* and Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device. Upon his honorable discharge from the USMC he went back to work for Garrett Corporation, now Honeywell Aerospace Engines and Systems, remaining in their employ for 42 years. During his employment at Garrett he completed his Bachelor's Degree at the University of LaVerne in LaVerne, CA. In 1998 Mike was transferred to Tucson and retired in 2009. He was a member of the following organizations: American Legion, Life Member of the VFW, Sons of the American Revolution, Garrett Retirees and the Van Voorhees and Van Kouwenhoven Family Associations. Mike and Charli loved travelling, by car, RV, Amtrak, ship, have been in all 50 states and cruised to many exotic places/ports of call: England, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, China, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Samoa, Caribbean, South America and Mexican Riviera. Mike is survived by his loving wife, 2 children, 2 granddaughters, his mother, stepmother, sister-Janet (Charles Yancey), 2 brothers-Dave (Rose) and Jerry (Barbara), stepsister-Liz (Tom Cooper), stepbrother-Frank Goodale (Donna), brother-in-law Joey Jackson, brother-in-law Rockey Jackson (Liane)

and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and twin brother Rich.

No memorial service will be held in Tucson. Mike's ashes along with those of his twin brother will be interred in the family plot at Nowata Memorial Cemetery, Nowata, Oklahoma.

### Marie Ellen "Moni" Voorhies



Marie Ellen "Moni" Voorhies, 83, passed away peacefully on January 7, 2016 in Houston, Texas. Moni is preceded in death by her parents Florence Billeaud Voorhies and Dr. Clayton Voorhies; by her brother Jackie Voorhies, and by her youngest daughter Marie Ellen Levy. Moni is survived by her three sons: Charles R. Parkerson of Lafayette, Louisiana, John D. Levy, Clayton Van Levy and wife Diana all of Houston, Texas; and by her remaining daughter, Lydia L. Lindberg and husband Irving "Kim" Lindberg III of Birmingham, Alabama; her four grandchildren: Tavis Parkerson, Lauren Parkerson, Alexandra Levy and Julia Levy and three great-grandchildren: Caylee Parkerson, Tavis Parkerson Jr., and Karah Parkerson. She will be deeply missed by her loving family and all who knew and loved Moni. A memorial service was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at the Bradshaw-Carter Funeral Home, 1734 West Alabama Street, Houston, Texas 77098. Inurnment in Houston will follow at a later date.

### Alice Loraine Voorhees Myers

It is with a sense of deep sorrow that I write to inform you that my dearest cousin went gently and peacefully to her final rest in God's love on March 5, 2015. She was born on March 8, 1926, in Indiana. Alice and I both became members of the Van Voorhees Association in 2014. This was one of her special wishes and I am so very glad I was able to help her fulfill that wish.

Alice was the daughter of George Clarence Voorhees, Michigan, and granddaughter of Dr. J. Martin Voorhees. She spent most of her life in Rochester, Michigan. She was a devoted wife to Earset Stanley Myers and a devoted wife and grandmother. She was the great granddaughter of George Voorhees and Lydia Ann Gorham Voorhees.

Submitted by Nan Campbell Collins.

### Joan Margaret Voorhees

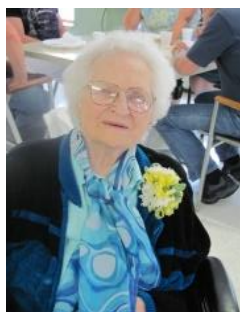
Joan Margaret Voorhees June 10, 1932 - October 28, 2014 Joan Margaret Voorhees was born June 10, 1932, in Kragero Township, Chippewa County, to parents Andrew and Bernice (Sandven) Struxness. She was baptized and confirmed at Kviteseid Lutheran Church in Milan. Joan attended country school at District 50 and Milan High School. On March 9, 1950, Joan was united in marriage to Delmar Ernest Voorhees at Kviteseid Lutheran Church. This union was blessed with five children and over 64 years of marriage. Del and Joan made their home in Appleton. Joan worked in the kitchen at the Appleton High School and at Dew Well Lanes drive-in. Del and Joan also worked together at their greenhouse for a number of years and in 1976, they purchased Dew Well Lanes Bowling Center where they worked together again for 24 years. Joan enjoyed Sewing Club, Milan Birthday Club, Appleton Birthday Club bowling league and her church circle group. She was an honorary cancer survivor. Her many interests include playing cards, camping with family and friends, making quilts for all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and spending time with her family. Joan will be remembered for her beautiful smile and laughter, her caramel roll recipe, coleslaw dressing and vegetable soup. Joan was called home on Tuesday, October 28 at Appleton Area Health Services-Nursing Home. She had attained the age of 82 years, 4 months, and 18 days. She is survived by her husband, Delmar Del of Appleton; five children: Mark (Judy Kammer) of Eden Prairie, Cheryl Voorhees of Morris, Ritchie (Mary) Voorhees of Appleton, Mary Jo (Tom) Hoffman of Morris and Bradley Voorhees of Appleton; 14 grandchildren: Adrienne (Ian) Mendenhall, Jenna (Clint Schiller) Kettner, Kaitlyn Kettner, Nathaniel (Angie) Kettner, Janine (Bryan) Schaffer, Jared (Kara) Voorhees, Joel Voorhees, Michelle Mieka Jo (Nathan) Hoffman, Miranda (Ryan) Arnold, Born: June 10, 1932 Death: October 28, 2014 Maggie (Ben) Chardell, Chris Pesek, Jamey (Michelle) Pesek, Matthew (Jenny) Pesek, and Alison (Matt) Solma; 23 great-grandchildren: Ruby Mendenhall, Alayna Bjerke, Olivia Kettner, Kylie Forslin, Charlie Taintor, Matthew Rautio, Ariana Kettner, Cameron and Jaxton Kettner, Lilly, Lucy, Lola and Liv Schaffer, Zeek, Nettie and Della Voorhees, Nico and Luca Arnold, Mateja and Chloe



Pesek, Riley, and Madison and Taylor Pesek; her sister, Donna Anderson; brothers and sisters-in-law: Leonard (Margaret) Voorhees, Jerry (Janet) Voorhees, and Ward (Carol) Voorhees; many nieces and nephews and her loving Yorkie, Trixie. She is preceded in death by her parents; grandson, Matthew Kettner, infant sister, Arlys; brother-in-law, Elwood Anderson; brothers and sisters-in-law: Bill and Irene Voorhees, Richard and Harriet Voorhees, Donald and Eunice Voorhees, Max Voorhees, Norman and Catherine Voorhees and Pauline Voorhees.

### Irene Deloris Voorhees

Irene Deloris Voorhees June 17, 1917 - October 14, 2014 Irene Voorhees, age 97, of Benson, passed away on Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at the Golden Living Center in Benson. Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m., Friday, October 17, 2014, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Benson. Visitation will be held 5:00 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 16, 2014, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Benson and for one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in the West Bank Cemetery, south of Danvers.



Irene Deloris Voorhees was born June 17, 1917, in Swenoda Township, Swift County, Minnesota, to Gilbert H. and Bertha Amanda (Sandven) Fragodt. She was baptized and confirmed at the West Bank Lutheran Church. She grew up on the family farm south of Danvers and attended District #78 school. On October 3, 1937, Irene was united in marriage to William Voorhees at the Big Bend Parsonage. This union was blessed with more than 60 years of marriage, 6 children, 17 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

She farmed alongside her husband, William, in Swenoda Township, Swift County, until they purchased the farm in West Bank township in 1942. They moved to Benson in 1971. Irene worked at Meadow Lane as the Activity Director, Finger Hut, and the Benson Greenhouse. She was active in the West Bank Lutheran Church in Sunday School and Ladies Aid. Her many interests include music, singing and playing the piano by ear, gardening, quilting, counted cross stitch,

weaving rugs and spending time with family. She was fluent in Norwegian and never lost her ability to converse in Norwegian.

Irene passed away Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at the Golden Living Center, Meadow Lane Nursing Home in Benson, Minnesota. She had attained 97 years, 3 months, and 27 days of age. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gilbert and Bertha; husband, William on September 5, 1998; her oldest child, Roger on May 10, 1975; daughter-in-law, Janice on December 13, 1988; son-in-law, Ray Koosman on April 12, 2008; great-grandson, Caleb Judovsky on September 3, 2009; her siblings Harriet and Eunice Voorhees, Ralph, Donald, Paul, Kenneth, Gerald, and infant twin baby boys (Fragodt). Irene was the oldest of 10 children.

She is survived by her children: Janet Koosman of Willmar, Eldon (Mary) Voorhees of rural Appleton, Karen (Darrel) Hamann of Maple Grove, Marie (Martin) Avelsgaard of Benson, Keith Voorhees of Raymond; grandchildren: Julie (Doug) Kveene, Rodney (Pam) Voorhees, Jodie (Joel) Kaden, Janel (Jody) Skindeliën, Duane (Kim) Hamann, Lisa (Tracy) Koosman, Daniel Voorhees, Amy Roggenbuck, Chad (Amy) Hamann, Sarah (Ken) Dombeck, Nancy Colon, Ryan (Heather) Hamann, Samantha (Dereck) Tessmer, William (Mary Jo) Voorhees, Andrea (David) Dinneen, Alicia (Trevor) Fosso, and Kelsey Voorhees; great-grandchildren: Jeanne (Mitch) Ashburn, Kristina (Jeremy) LaBrie, Andrew (Abbey) Kveene, Jordan and Tristan Voorhees, Colby and Austin Judovsky, Braden Koosman, Joelyn and Jacob Kaden, Jonathan and Jessica Skindeliën, Yaneliz and Eva Colon, Kayla, Matthew and Jenna Hamann, Conner, Corey and Austin Roggenbuck, Abbey and Sydney Hamann, Braden, Colten and Westen Hamann, Lilith Dombeck, and Lucus Tessmer; great-great-grandchildren: Zachary and Emily Ashburn, Lucus, Kennedy, Brooks and Ryne LaBrie, Aiden, Addison, Amelia and Alaina Kveene; special friend, Erik Petersen of Benson; sisters-in-law, Johanna Fragodt of Minneapolis and Vonnie Fragodt of Benson, in-laws: Leonard (Margaret) Voorhees of Danvers, Del (Joan) Voorhees of Appleton, Jerry (Janet) Voorhees of Alexandria, and Ward (Carol) Voorhees of Morris; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

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