

Chapter 18: Epilogue

So now we wrap up this genealogical paper trail of our grandparents William and Mary Kuehl. The trail began three generations before our grandparents (1797), and our work ends five generations later (2016). That's nine generations, covering 219 years. Obviously this ending is also a beginning, waiting for the next family genealogist to continue the story.

This book documents how a young man and a young girl traveled from their homes in Prussia to develop prairie lands in Minnesota. And how they married in 1894 near the small village of Wanda MN, made a career of farming, William dying at age 60 and Mary living for another 34 years. Offspring from this marriage now exceeds 115 persons, living throughout the US, with diverse careers, hobbies and interests.



We wrote for the greater Kuehl family. For those of us left in our generation (GEN 6), may this book bring back fond memories. For all of us, the progeny of Mary and William, as we read about our ancestors, and about those in the following generations, the hope is that we'll all be drawn a little closer to one another. Mary and William set in motion generations of families whom we're confident will continue to be proud of their Kuehl history. A goodly heritage is ours. May we continue to share stories as time moves on.

And, when following generations yearn to learn about their ancestors, this book may be informative. Our goal was to give them a sense of generations who've come before them, whose ethics, values, dedication and hope for the future guide us yet today.

Our history shaped us. It's made us who we are. And now, we, in our lives, are shaping those around us, just as they will shape those who follow. Our grandparents William and Mary are gone, but part of them remains ... in you and me, our children, and descendents that follow.

Otto F Bloedow, a bountiful contributor to this book, wrote eloquently in a 1994 poem about past generations influencing our lives and those of future generations. That influence is "the track that remains in humankind." Read a portion of that poem in the adjacent sidebar.

The Track that Remains is in Humankind

**From a poem by Otto F Bloedow
February 1994**

As this planet hurls through space
A place is relative.
Such are places on earth
As they change.
Till all that is left
Is in the memory of our mind's eye.

My mind takes me back to the farm.
My place of birth
Now only marked by a slight rise on the prairie.
The impression of that place
The sounds, smells and sights
remain in me
Till I too pass
Then nothing
Save perhaps how places, events
Have shaped us
And how that experience
Shaped how we dealt with others.
The track that remains is in humankind.

To all who contributed in various way to this book, thank you so much for sharing.

Phyllis

The family of Phyllis Kuehl Zumach & Allen Zumach

Allen & Phyllis *Back row*



Front row left

Family of Elizabeth & Zachary Conklin

Jaina, Emma, Elizabeth, Zachary

Front row right

Family of Nathaniel & Karen Zumach

Nathaniel, Karen
Sylvia (top left on play set) , Nathalie (on lap)

This book is on a digital CD, on the internet, and at the Minnesota History Center

Family stories and photos get forgotten, fade, or disappear. This book is an attempt to preserve some of the Kuehl family history.

Because we live in a digital age, we've created a CD to accompany the book. All chapters on the CD are standard PDF files. These can be viewed on a computer, saved, duplicated, and printed in high resolution.

A copy of the book can be found in the Minnesota Historical Society Library, Minnesota History Center, located in downtown St Paul, Minnesota.

You'll also find the book on the internet, at our personal website - view it, download it, save it, and again, print it in high resolution. As of this writing, you can access the book at: **www.zumach.net**. Look for links that take you to the "Kuehl Book 2016", "Family" or something similar (the exact words may vary if, over time, we update the web site).

Because things on the internet may or may not be permanent, we encourage you to make copies now of the book in digital and printed form. Perhaps we will find permanent internet cloud storage, and then the book can be found through a search. We hope you enjoy this family history album.