

## DANVILLE, PA

Sept. 11--My Aunt Annie was born in 1896, and died in 1989, making her 93. She was married to Henry Zook, who died 25 years earlier. He was a brother to (skinny) Dave Zook, and also Pre. John Zook who is residing at the Valley View Rest Home.

My maternal grandfather, Joshua Y. Peachey, was married 3 times. His first wife was a Hooley woman from which developed 3 children: John M., my mother Mollie, and Joshua. This woman then died. My mother, being then around 6 years old, was too young to carry household responsibilities. But grandfather married again, a Yoder woman, the sister of the famous J.D. Yoder, that great preacher at the Locust Grove Menn. Church. From this woman there were 4 children, Mose, Becky, Annie and Fronie. Then she also died. But grandfather married another woman, Malinda Stoltzfus, from which were born Rudy and Katie.

Annie resided at the rest home the last few years of her life. She was sick toward the last and could not keep anything down. They consulted together whether they should take her to the hospital, which she overheard, and she shook her head, "No, no, hospital. I want to go home." She died very shortly after that.

Her funeral was held on Sept. 7, exactly 25 years to the day that her husband died. This was told me by Ruth Kauffman, and good friend of the family.

The funeral was held at the church where she was a member. It is a new church which developed from the Valley View Amish Church several years ago. That being the denomination that began in 1809, when there was a disagreement about shunning members who choose to leave. John Zook and Sam Peachey chose to leave the Peachey church rather than tolerate shunning for that reason. They were the same as the Peachey church for quite a few years, but they did build a church building in the 70s. Now when they had church in the house, they could just divide and begin another district, but when you have a building and it gets full you either have to build larger or start somewhere else. So the church that began with John Zook, divided and about half remained and the other half built another building over on the Enos Kurtz farm, just north of the Garver's Store. (Although there has not been a store there for years, the building is still there, and is a landmark.)

This separation was not exactly without differences of opinion, but they

agreed to disagree. David Peight, the grandson of Old Sam Peight, was newly-ordained, and a very innovative young man, a genius when it came to building nice houses. He put some new life in the old system, which resulted in a new building. Another church, but they are very much at peace with one another. This is where my aunt chose to be a member.

The funeral service was inspirational. The leader James Yoder (who stems from Holmes County, Ohio and was delegated to oversee the church, due to some internal misunderstanding) opened the service. They sang a few songs, then David Peight gave the opening. He was followed by Enos Kurtz, the grandson of old Enos Kurtz. The service was all in English except at Annie's request (she had her services all pre-planned), one poem was read in German.

This was read by another young preacher, David, the son of Mahlon Peachey, grandson of "Eema Yonnie". They then proceeded to the Locust Grove graveyard. The burial was the old way. She was buried in a pine box and they let her into the grave with straps, and put short boards down on the rough box, then shoveled dirt on that while we all looked on. Then the congregation sang songs until the grave was filled up.

The Locust Grove Cemetery is very old, and the burial place of the Amish. Its first occupant, the wife of John Zook, the mother of Shem Zook, was pulling flax where the cemetery is now located. She became ill and died the following day. She apparently had a premonition that she was going to die for she requested that she be buried where she pulled flax. Her tombstone reads Magdalena Zug, Starb 1795.

The cemetery has been enlarged several times, and today covers some acreage. But it is not used as much as formerly. The Mennonites and Amish are quite different today in material things, and my father took the initiative and started a separate Amish cemetery on his farm, and many Amish now bury there.

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