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Dec 8 - 97
Butler, Mo.

Dear Fred;
Merry Christmas!

I really don't know where to begin as I don't know how much information my sister Delores has given you. But here goes.

I'm 73, retired, love gardening and wood carving, my wife Lois and I have seven children, 16 grand-children and 3 great grand-daughters. We tried to do what our good Lord wanted us to do, be fruitful and multiply.

Lois wrote me a few weeks ago. In one part of her letter she called you uncle Fred and another cousin, so when you communicate with her don't hesitate to straighten her out, cause once in while she tends to get (over)

thing screwed up. But I really can't say anything cause she's really trying hard to put our family genealogy together.

Thinking back, as far as I can, we went from wis. to calif. in 1928 lived in Scotia. on the way stopped in San Francisco to see Uncle Frank Davis then to San Rafael to see uncle Merle. Dad worked in the lumber mill for a while then Bertains laundry. Then back to wis. where Dad bought half interest in a farm but lost out in the depression. I can't recall much of what happened then but Dad must have gotten mixed up with some bootleggers trying to save our farm

(2)

anyway we made a quick trip to cal. I can't remember where we visited, but I think it was Fortuna calif. I remember playing with some kids down on the beach, is it possible it was you?

Dad died in 1941 and is buried in Osbury Methodist cemetery 7 miles north west of Elgin, Wis in Vernon county.

I joined the Navy in 1941 was in the Armed guard stationed at Treasure Island, San Fran.

I caught my first armed merchant ship in Seattle went down to Coos Bay picked up a load of lumber which went to Pearl Harbor.

Our paths must have nearly crossed several
over

times, because we used to go through Richland Center all the time when I worked at the Badger Ordnance works outside of Baraboo.

Lois had a hard time with Wis. winters so we moved first to Mo.

then near Mexico. By golly it was dry enough there.

We have been retired now ten years. we bought 7 acres out in the country here in west central mo. Some times I think we started this trend of moving out of the city.

This has been a very quick run down of events in my life, so hope you have a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Love
Lois & Lyle