

THE PLESE FAMILY

George Plese and Antonia Stefonich were both born and married in Lokve, Austria. They had four known children.

JULIANNA PLESE - was born in Lokve, emmigrated to the United States and married John Briskey. They had twelve children. Her history is documented separatly.

BOB PLESE - emmigrated to the United States and worked in the coal mines. He married Pauline Chopp and they had one son Robert, who was born in Ronald, Washington. They moved to Illinois shortly after Robert was born and started a business there. Robert married, had several children and lives in Los Angeles, California. In later years, Bob and Pauline sold their business and moved to Los Angeles to be near their son. Pauline died of diabetes and Bob died later in a nursing home. He was well into his 90's.

MATT PLESE - came to the United States about the same time Bob did. He worked in the coal mines across the states. He married Laura Klarich and had a daughter Sophia. Laura had a second daughter, who died shortly after birth. Laura died shortly after and is buried with her daughter in the Roslyn cemetary.

Matt was injured and due to drinking too much and lack of care, died of blood poisoning. He is buried in Butte, Montana. Sophia, orphaned at age 5, was raised by her grandparents, the Klarich's. Although they had custody of her and she was never adopted, she was raised as Sophia Klarich. She married Alex Wasisco and had three children. Alex died and is buried in the Roslyn City cemetery. Sophia lived in Ronald, Washington until her death and is also buried in the Roslyn City cemetery. The three children, Alex, Larry and Julianna all live in and around the Puget Sound area.

GEORGE PLESE - was the youngest of the Plese children. He married in Lokve and had three children, two daughters and one son. After World War I, George emigrated to Canada. He came on a cattle freighter by way of Cape Horn. He didn't try bringing his family over, since times were too hard. He worked in the lumber camps, got cedar poisoning and was laid up for nine months, but continued to send money home to his wife and children.

The Briski family tried to get him to the United States, that required proof that they could care for him and they were unable to provide that. He lived out his life in Kamloops, B.C. Canada, a lonely man and never saw his family again. His son was killed in World War II, his daughters and wife live in Lokve.

May 1990 MN/bd