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Henry Bortz

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Henry Bortz

[Incorrect Data]

Born about 1731 in Germany [?]**Son** of [Michael or J Adam Bortz](#) and [Eva M. \(Unknown\) Bortz](#)

[sibling(s) unknown]

Husband of [Lydia Reintzheimer](#) — married [date unknown] [location unknown]**Father** of [Eva \(Bortz\) Moser](#), [George Adam Bortz](#) and [Heinrich Bortz](#)**Died** 1810 in Lehigh Co PA [?]Profile manager: [Katherine Patterson](#) [\[send private message\]](#)
This page has been accessed 259 times.

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<http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Bortz-7> in our [G+ Community](#). Vote
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This person was created through the import of Shortened files.ged on 30 December 2010. The following data was included in the gedcom. You may wish to edit it for readability.

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Search

Searching for someone else?

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 Do you have a GEDCOM? [Register as a guest](#) to have every name searched. It's free (like everything on WikiTree).

DNA

 No known carriers of [Henry's Y-chromosome](#) or [his mother's mitochondrial DNA](#) have taken yDNA or mtDNA tests.

 If you have taken a DNA test for genealogy please [login](#) and enter it.

Comments

For public comments, here are the options:

1. **Public Bulletin Board:** You need to be a [logged-in community member](#) to post bulletin board comments for the family. (Best for comments about Henry Bortz directed to WikiTree users)

Birth

Birth:

Date: ABT 1731
Place: Germany

Removed ABT from Birth Date and marked as uncertain.

Occupation

Occupation: @N1799@

Note

Note: @N4828@
 @N4828@ NOTE
 Possibly Upper Saucon Twp, Northampton Co PA,
 Henry "Buts": 3/5/4.
 Possibly in MacUngie Twp, Northampton Co PA in
 1810.
 1800 MacCongie Twp, Northampton Co PA:
 10401/02101.
 "Bortz Family" From Anniversary History Of Lehigh
 County, Vol. II, Copyright 1914
 There were three Bortz brothers who emigrated
 from Germany before the Revolutionary War and
 landed in Philadelphia. Their names were Henry,
 John Jacob and George.
 Mention is made in Rupp's "Thirty Thousand
 Names of Immigrants in PA," of Ludwig Bortz, who
 was one of the first settlers in this county, but it is
 not known whether he was related to the three
 brothers above named, who arrived at a later
 date.
 These three brothers settled in Oley township,
 Berks county. Later one of them moved to
 Millerstown, now Macungie, and another to
 Longswamp, which is also in Berks.
 Henry Bortz was married to Lydia Reintzheimer in
 Germany. They spent 18 weeks on the ocean in
 coming to this country. When within sight of land
 their oldest child died, but the captain permitted
 them to bring the remains to Philadelphia, where
 the child was buried.
 According to a statement made by Rev. F. J.
 Schantz at the Bortz reunion in Mercer County, in
 1887, Henry Bortz moved from Oley to the head
 of the Cedar creek in Lehigh county. There he
 bought a mill property and built a log house in
 which he resided for a time. Later he moved to
 what is now called Wescoesville. The exact date of
 this removal is not known. There was only one
 small stone building in the place then, but in 1797
 Henry Bortz built a very large stone house, the
 stones of which were hauled a distance of more

*
Correct
data

watching this profile. Limit of 10 per day.)

- 2. Public Q&A: These will appear here and in the [Genealogist-to-Genealogist Q&A Forum](#). (Best for questions about Henry Bortz directed to our genealogy community.)

Ask Question about Henry Bortz

- 3. Private Message: You can also [send a private message to the Profile Manager](#). (Best when privacy is an issue.)

There are no bulletin board comments yet.

than two miles. He built this house for a hotel, and it is the hotel of Wescoesville today.

His family consisted of nine children, six sons: John, Jacob, George, Philip, Henry, Christopher; and four daughters; Maria, Margaretha, Magdalena, and Eva who married John Michael Mosser. Philip Bortz married Lydia Steininger and in 1805 moved to Canfield township, Trumbull county, Ohio. After residing there six months he removed to Ellsworth township, in the same county. His descendants are numerous in Ohio. John Bortz married Mary Kemmerer. He resided near the mill property at the Cedar creek, and had one son, John, and one daughter, who was married, first, to Mr. Unger; second, to a Mr. Ritter; and after wards to John Biery.

Jacob Bortz resided near Buthsville. He was married to a Miss Guth, and had three sons; Peter, Jonas and Edwin, and several daughters, one of whom was married to Titus Kern, of Reading.

Henry Bortz, Jr., was twice married. By his first wife, Catharine Kromer, he had one son, named Nathan; by his second wife, who was a sister of Hon. John Fogel, he had a daughter named Lucy. He died in 1826. He was the owner of the hotel his father had built. In 1827 this property was sold to Philip Wescoe, after whom the village was named Wescoesville.

George Bortz went to Cumberland Valley, Bedford County, married a Miss Smith, and died there. He had no children. After his father's death, his mother, whom was then 95 years old, rode in a heavy covered wagon from Lehigh to Bedford county, to visit her son and her daughter. Having remained there some time, she died at the age of 97 and was buried at French Cove, Bedford county.

Christopher Bortz was born in 1781, and was married to Catharine Ueberroth. His family consisted of five sons: David, John, George, Jesse and Henry; and three daughters: Fyetta, Sophia, and Henrietta.

Maria Bortz was married to Jacob Schantz in 1788. Mr. Schantz resided on the mill property at the head of the Cedar creek. They had three sons: Jacob, Peter and John; and six daughters, who who became the wives of Jacob Heninger, Peter Mohr, Rev. John Helffrich, Jacob Fisher, John B. Shimer, and Charles B. Shimer.

Another daughter of Henry Bortz, Sr., was married to Isaac Larosh and lived near what is now East Macungie. A third daughter was married to a Mr. Schaefer. They lived for a short time in Lehigh county and then removed to French Cove, Bedford county. There Mr. Schaefer died and Mrs. Schaefer married again. Her second husband was Rev. Yeager.

Henry Bortz the elder died in 1810 and was buried at the Lehigh church. The Bortzes were of the Lutheran Faith.

Owen Bortz, a son of Solomon and Maria (Hoffman) Bortz, was born in Upper Macungie township, 1/5/1820, and was reared in Rockland township, Berks county, Pa. In this vicinity he obtained a practical education in the common schools. He remained at home and until he learned the trade of a miller, when he removed to Lehigh county and for seven years conducted a mill. He later became a farmer, achieving a fair degree of success, for many years and during the last years of his life gained a lucrative livelihood by engaging in the coal business at Allentown. He was a traight forward honorable man, and numbered among the valued and substantial citizens of his community. He had five brothers; Gideon, Jonas, William, Nathan, Bennerville and Edwin; and two sisters; Fianna and Caroline. By his marriage to Hannah Wenner, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Strauss) Wenner, and a native of South Whitehall township, Lehigh county, the following children were born; 1) Harrison, who was born 11/15/1844, 2) Louis Franklin, who was born 1/14/1846 3) William, who was born 6/10/1849 and d. 2/9/1854. 4) Maria elizabeth, who was born 5/15/1855.

Mr. Bortz died Dec. 20, 1891, aged 71 years, 11 months and 15 days. Mrs. Bortz died Jan 18, 1889, aged 72 years and 7 months.

Harrison Bortz was born 11/15/1844, in South Whitehall township. In early life he removed to Macungie and assisted his father upon the farm during the summer months and during the winter months attended the common schools in the neighborhood of his home. At the age of fifteen years he entered the classical school at Quakertown and the knowledge thus obtained was supplemented by a course at the Exelsior Normal School at Carversville, Pa. For a period of time following his graduation from the latter named institution he was engaged in teaching school, and with the money thus obtained he entered Muhlenberg College. In the meantime he joined a corps of engineers and for a year practiced surveying and in 1869 entered the employ of the Lehigh Iron Company as outside superintendent. By his thorough knowledge of the craft of an iron master, and the efficiency and faithfulness he displayed in the performance of his duties, he was successively promoted until he became manager and secretary of the works, and after serving in that capacity for a number of years, he was apointed to the position of superintendent. With the exception of ten years, from 1892 to 1902 spent in the employ of the Coplay furnace, he was closely connected with this firm from 1869 to 1904. After severing his relations from the Lehigh Iron Company, he accepted a position as

superintendent of the Rittersville State Homeopathic Hospital, which position he held at the time of his death. He was at one time a director of the Coopersburg Turnpike Company, and the Emaus Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was proprietor of a mining company, operating near Emaus, for several years, and also operated an ore mine in Northumberland county at the same time. Mr. Bortz was a member of the St. Mark's Lutheran church at South Allentown, in which church he was an officer and a liberal contributor. He was one of the organizers who erected this church and the Zion's United Evangelical Church. He was one of the leading members of the South Allentown Society, which at that time erected the present hall, known as the South Allentown Beneficial Society Hall.

Mr. Bortz, while not an active politician, evinced a keen interest in the success of the Republican party; was five times a delegate to the state convention, and was in 1880, a delegate to the national convention at Chicago, which nominated James A. Garfield during the greatest political convention of the Republican party. He was chairman of the county executive committee for four years and served as school director for 24 years, 21 years of which he served consecutively, in a district largely Democratic. He was a personal friend of the late Senator M. S. Quay and Governor James A. Beaver. He had large real estate possessions, but through going bail for others lost heavily.

He was married, 8/24/1867, to Emma H. Sanders, daughter of George H. and Rebecca Sanders, of South Whitehall township, and had children: Ulysses C.; Lillie, who married Wm. L. Guth; Oliver F.; and Harrison O. G.

Ulysses C. Bortz, a member of the firm of Bortz Bros., coal and ice merchants of Allentown, was born 12/1/1867, and was educated in the public schools and later pursued a course at the Allentown Business College. Later he learned the trade of machinist and was employed at this trade for three years. In 1887 he was appointed superintendent of the Lehigh Mining Company, serving that position for two years, when the mine became exhausted. In 1890 he removed to Allentown and was employed with the L. V. Traction Company for seven years; with the John Bowne Grocery Company for seven years, and in 1905 Mr. Bortz and his brother, H. O., organized the firm of Bortz Bros., with offices at 329 Gordon street. The firm employs six men and are the largest dealers in the city.

Mr. Bortz is a Republican in the politics and he and family are members of St. Matthew's Lutheran church. He is identified with the Maccabees and the Knights of the Mystic Chain.

On 7/1/1890, he was united in marriage with Susan W. Wieder, daughter of Tilghman and Mary Amelia (seifert) Wieder, of Emaus, and they had children: Florence, who died in infancy; helen and Mary, twins, who died in infancy; and Ruth.

Oliver F. Bortz, a machinist at South Allentown, was born in 1871, and received his education in the common schools. Later he attended the Allentown business College and then learned the machinist trade, which he since been his avocation. Mr. Bortz is a member of theKnights of the Golden Eagle, the Knights of the Mystic Chain, and he and his family are members of St. Mark's Lutheran church. he is a republican in politics and is the health officer of South Allentown, and also the committeeman of the borough.

His wife was Gertrude M. good, daughter of Preston and Hannah J. good, and their children are: Bessie g., Clifford, and Madeline A.

Harry O. Bortz, a member of the firm of Bortz Bros., was born 11/18/1878. He attended the common schools and later the American Commerical School of Allentown. Later he learned the ribbon weaving trade and was thus employed unil 1905, when he served his relations to become a member of the firm of Bortz Bros. During the last three years of his connection with the silk business he was foreman of the Palace Silk Mill at Allentown, Pa.

Socially he is a member of the Maccabees, Knights of the Gilden Eagle, Jr. O. U. A. M., and since 1896 is a member of the Pioneer Band. He is a Republican in the politics and in 1910 was elected justice of the peace of South Allentown borough and also served as a delegate to different county conventions. He and his family are members of St. Mark's Lutheran church, in which church Mr. Bortz has served as a member of the choir since 1894.

In 1903 he was united in marriage with Catharine M. Kline, daughter of Nathan Kline, of Richmond township, Berks county, and their children are: Mae Erline, Harry Donals, and J. Homer.

Nathan Bortz, son of Henry Jr., was a farmer in Lower Macungie, where he died, aged 68, and was buried at Trexlertown. He married Hettie Detweiler, who died at the age of 78 years.

Elias Solomon Bortz, son of Nathan, a farmer and miller of Lower Macungie township wasborn in Upper Macungie, 9/10/1865. He was educated in the local schools and was employed on the farm until 26 years of age, when he lived for at ime in Allentown. In 1893 he rented the old Riegel farm of 103 acres, owned by James J. Rienhard, located on the Little Lehigh river, which he has since conducted. In 1912 he rented the grist-mill nearby and still manages it. Mr. Bortz is one of the most enterprising farmers in this section and is a member with his family of the Trexlertown Lutheran congregation, and a Republican in politics. He married, in 1893, Sarah, daughter of

Henry Otto. They had nine children: Willis W., deceased; Minnie, Curtis, Werner, Helen, Berry, Victor, Alvin and Willard.

David Bortz, son of Christopher, (1781-1865), born 11/20/1897, was a miller in South Whitehall township. For a number of years he followed farming, but the greater part of his active career was spent in a mill near the almshouse on Cedar creek. He lived retired at Wescoesville for a number of years before his death. He died 5/1/1873, and was buried at Western Salisbury church, of which he was a Lutheran member. His wife, Anna Maria Andreas, was born 10/20/1811, and died 2/6/1902. They had seven children: Caroline, married Henry Hinkel; Harry; Hettie, married Alfred Kemmerer; Frank; Matthias S.; Sarah A., married Jon Laross; and Elias, who died young.

In the Revolutionary War, he was a private in 1781, in Capt. Zerfas Company of the 1st Battalion of Northampton County Militia.

The following written by Rev. William A. Helffrich, (ca. 1885)

"At an early day the Bortz family came into possession of this pearl among the springs and up to this time the best mill property in Lehigh County. The pioneer Bortz had emigrated to America from Europe bringing his family with him. For some time he had lived in the hill sections of Oley, PA. Like many others he had first settled in Oley in order to spy out the land from that point and to find a site for his future home. From Oley he wandered into the Kittatiny Valley, heard of the Cedar Springs, where already there was a small mill. Since the site pleased his fancy and he was rich, he purchased the mill property and much land in the vicinity and took up much vacant land reaching in the direction of and including what is now the village of Wescoesville. At first he operated the mill himself, but moved to Wescoesville where for many years he kept a hotel. He died at a good old age and lies buried at the Lehigh Church, near Alburdis. His aged widow when she was in the nineties, made a long journey in a Conestoga wagon to Bedford County, PA, whither several of her children had migrated. She died and lies buried there. Father Bortz had twelve children, six sons and six daughters, a number of whom had left the region of the Cedar-Creek. "

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