

JOHN GRAF HOME

RESOURCE PERSON

Name Mrs. Elgin Graff
Address 2798 Santa Clara Drive
Santa Clara, Utah 84765
Telephone 673-3245

The John Graf Home was built by Frederick Roulett. When he moved away from Santa Clara, he sold his home to John Graf and Emma Hafen Graf. They raised their family in this home and lived their entire lives there. Emma Graf died at the age of 83 on Nov. 20, 1947. John Graf died at the age of 57 on Dec. 11, 1916.

While Emma was living, she let her son Elgin and his wife Vivian Tobler Graf, live in her two front rooms until he could afford to build him his home.

By the time Elgin and Vivian were able to move into their home, they had three little girls, Lorna, Doris, and Emogene who was a two month old baby. Elgin and Vivian moved into their home March 31, 1939 and are still living there today.

John and Emma had a family of 10 children. In their life they had many sorrows, heart aches and tragedies. Emma lost her husband Dec. 11, 1916. She lived to see seven of her ten children die before she did. One of her sons, had a hunch-back, named Walter. He brought a lot of heart ache and care. Another son, Otto, 18 yrs. old, shot himself accidentally. Another son, Kenneth, died from blood poisoning, caused by a mule scraping his foot when he was 8 yrs. old. This happened when his father was shoeing a mule. John had his boy shewing flies with a branch away from the mule so it would stand still. Without thinking, John hit the mule with his hammer and the mule plunged forward and scrapped Kenneth's foot. Blood poisoning set in and he lost his life through this accident.

Their little 5 yr. old girl, Orpha, who had beautiful blonde curls, got a throat disease and died in three days from choking. Their oldest daughter, Charlotta, or as she was called Lottie, married Fred Reber and died from breast cancer on April 16, 1947.

Emma suffered a lot of pain in her older years from Artharitus and also from working so hard to care for the needs of her children. She suffered most of this sorrow without a husband. John was mentally ill from a mule kicking him in the head, so he wasn't himself for years before he died.

Emma loved her children, especially those she had left and her grand children very much. She would do anything for them. The three surviving children were Tessie Graf Reber, Oliver Graf, and Elgin Graf. Emma was a most thoughtful, kind, understanding, unselfish mother and mother-in-law. She was loved by all her family.

After her death, the Max Hunt family moved into the John Graf Home. They raised their family there and then sold the home to Jose Rivera. Jose has really improved the house and the yards. He and his wife are still living there. It is now May 1, 1996.