

Family Group Record for Alfred Nitter MUNSON

Husband		Alfred Nitter MUNSON-[12927]	
AKA	Original Al MUNSON		
Born	2 Apr 1874	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA	
Christened	12 Apr 1874	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA ¹	
Died	3 Feb 1960	Independence, , Buchanan, IA	
Buried	5 Feb 1960	Jerico Lutheran, Jacksonville twp, Chickasaw, IA ^{2,3}	
Father	Halvor Melchiorson MUNSON-[12918] (1846-1918) [MRIN:4172]		
Mother	Anna Jørgensdotter ÅBERGE-[12919] (1842-1915)		
Marriage	25 Jun 1899	Ada, , Norman, MN [MRIN:4175] 4, 5, 6, 7	
Wife		Luvina Mathilde PAULSON-[12928] ⁸	
AKA	Lovine		
Born	28 Nov 1878	Hendrum, , Norman, MN	
Christened			
Died	18 Feb 1911	, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA	
Buried	Feb 1911	Jerico Lutheran, Jacksonville twp, Chickasaw, IA ^{9,10}	
Father	[MRIN:4172]		
Mother			
Children			
1	F	Anna Marie MUNSON-[20855]	
AKA	Anna Mae WOLF		
Born	7 Apr 1899	Rosby, , Beltrami, MN	
Christened			
Died	1935		
Buried			
2	F	Hazel Johanna MUNSON-[18814]	
AKA	Hazel MINCER		
Born	13 Dec 1900	Rosby, , Beltrami, MN	
Christened			
Died	1950		
Buried			
3	F	Emma Ruth MUNSON-[18815]	
Born	22 Apr 1903	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA	
Christened			
Died	After 2000	Omaha, , Douglas, NE	
Buried			
Spouse	Benjamin HARRISON-[20856] (-) [MRIN:7263]		
4	F	Anna Mae MUNSON-[18816] ¹¹	
Born	16 Dec 1905	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA	
Christened			
Died			
Buried			

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Children (cont.)		
5	M	Halvor Roy MUNSON -[12930] ^{12, 13}
AKA	Halvor Roy GRIMSO	
Born	9 May 1907	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA
Christened		
Died	29 Feb 1984	Weatherby, Dekalb, MO ¹⁴
Buried	Feb 1984	Saude Immanuel, Utica Twp, Chickasaw, IA ¹⁵
Spouse	Ardis JOHNSON-[20900] (-) 1935 - , , , IA ^[MRIN:7282]	
6	M	Alfred Leonard MUNSON -[17729]
Born	11 Aug 1910	Lawler, Jacksonville Twp, Chickasaw, IA
Christened		
Died	22 Apr 2000	Fort Smith, , Sebastian, AR ¹⁶
Buried		

General Notes (Husband)

BIOGRAPHY OF ALFRED N. AND LUVINA PAULSON MUNSON

Alfred Nitter Munson was born April 2, 1874, in Jacksonville Township, Chickasaw County, Iowa, the son of Halvor and Anna Aaberg Munson. He attended a rural school near his home and Luther College at Decorah, Iowa.

Alfred was a free spirit, a nomad, always thinking the grass was greener on the other side. He claimed to be a prize fighter known as the "Original Al Munson". As a sparring partner of one of the better fighters, he recalled, "I nailed him a good one ... but he grew a dozen fists and pounded me from all sides!" He also played baseball as a catcher, using no mitt, which was fairly common then.

On June 25, 1899, at Ada, Minnesota, he was united in marriage with Luvina Paulson who was born November 28, 1878, at Hendrum, Norman County, Minnesota. They resided three years at Rosby, Minne-sota where Alfred was operating a saloon and the family was living in the back quarters. This small-town saloon was only marginally successful. A conference with Munson relatives resulted in their moving to the Jacksonville Township farm where Alfred lived until his health failed. (Rosby is on u.s. Highway 2 near Bemidji.)

The family had a nice house and furnishings, with full size rugs in the parlor and dining room. The children remember hanging lamps that were very pretty and could tell their mother loved pretty things. Relatives remember Luvina as a real good cook. There was an organ in the home and the family sang a lot. When Luvina came to Iowa with two little girls, a neighbor recalled that she thought Luvina was the prettiest thing she had ever seen.

Luvina was a hard worker which, at age 30, affected her health.

For over a year she was under the care of a renowned doctor at Chicago. Several times, Alfred went with her to Chicago by train. The last time they went, Leonard was a tiny baby and Luvina had to stay in Chicago. Alfred and the baby came home on an open train in the heat of summer. It was a long ride with a hungry infant and no wife or mother. A neighbor nursed and cared for only-weeks-old Leonard when they arrived home.

Luvina's mother and brother came from Alberta, Canada to help care for her during her last illness. She died at home February 18, 1911 at age 32, and was buried in Jerico Lutheran Church ceme-tery. After her death, the children were placed in the homes of relatives. Hazel, ten, and Leonard, six months, went to Canada to live with Grandma Paulson. Em, seven, and Anna Mae, five, went to New Hampton to live with Grandpa and Grandma Munson. Halvor, three, went to live with Alfred I s Aunt Mary, (Ingeborg Maria Munson Vaala), and her daughter, Mamie (Ingeborg Maria Vaala, later to be "Grimso").

After Leonard moved to Florida, each year around Christmas, Alfred would farm out his team of work horses to one of his broth-ers, Adolph or Carl. He would come to son, Halvor, and say, "Take me to the Decorah Bus Station, I'm going to sunny Florida for the winter." Maybe two weeks later, Halvor would get a phone call from the Decorah Bus Station to come and get him. It might be 20 below zero and snowing, but here was Alfred, without an overcoat, lamenting about the terrible cold of Florida that threatened to freeze the fruit trees. He would stay at Halvor's about four days on his return, and snuggle up to the kitchen oil burner, rub his hands over the top, and tell how cold it was in Florida and how the children there were freezing. Some south Florida homes were not heated. Alfred visited Halvor and his grandchildren at Saude quite often. When he came, he always stayed for two days or more. We knew Grandpa was at our house when we spotted his Ford parked out under the pine trees. We would run home from country school to greet him because we loved him, and because he always came with a bag of candy. Sometimes it was horehound, sometimes it was choco-late drops, but always it was enough to last the whole first day he was there.

I remember Alfred as being six feet tall and having a very erect posture. His bearing was such that could have been a model. He was well read and often read the same library books as Ardis, son Halvor's wife, he and Ardis would discuss the books.

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General Notes (Husband)(cont.)

In his later years, Alfred, too, mellowed. The Munson Reunion was a major event in his life. At one reunion, when offered a beer, he declined saying, "This occasion is too important to drink!" His sense of humor was legendary. When asked why he was in Waterloo, he said, "I saw a doctor. Pretty good fellow. Didn't charge much. Left me enough to get home on!"

Alfred's hearing was quite impaired which he claimed was due to an old boxing injury. Mamie's hearing, in her later years, was somewhat impaired but she and Alfred would visit frequently, each on a totally different subject.

Four years prior to his death, Alfred suffered a stroke, which resulted in loss of his speech. He died at Independence, Iowa, on February 3, 1960, at age 85. Rev. J.H. Preus, pastor of Crane Creek and Immanuel Lutheran Churches, officiated at his funeral services at Perry Chapel in New Hampton. He was buried beside Luvina in Jerico Lutheran Church cemetery.

Written by Alfred Munson Graham

General Notes (Wife)

Luvina was the daughter of John G. Paulson (1848 NOR-) and Martha Paulson (1865 NOR-).

General Notes for Child Halvor Roy MUNSON-[12930]

In April 1930, Halvor Munson was working as a "hired man" for Hans Grimso. In 1934 Halvor was adopted by Hans and Mamie Grimso.

General Notes for Child Alfred Leonard MUNSON-[17729]

Alfred was survived by:

1. daughter - Judith Stewart, Fort Smith, AR
2. son - Don Munson, Miami, FL
3. son - Lee Munson, Little Rock, AR
4. sister - Emma Ruth Harrison, Omaha, NE

Source Citations

1. DeGarmeaux, Rev. Mark, "*Jerico Lutheran Church, 125th Anniversary, 1867-1992*" (Decorah, Anundsen, 1992), Baptisms 1874.
2. Chickasaw County Genealogical Society, "*Chickasaw County, Iowa Cemeteries, Jacksonville Township and part of Utica Townships, Jerico Lutheran Cemetery*" (Des Moines, Iowa Genealogical Society, 1989), page 12 .
3. "*New Hampton Tribune, Obituary*" (New Hampton, Iowa 50659), February 1960.
4. *Marriage Record*, Norman County, Minnesota; Volume 4, page 187; application dated 20 August 1898.
5. *CENSUS: Iowa, Chickasaw County, Jacksonville Township*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphia Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001), 1910 - Jerico Village; SD 4, ED 45, Sheet 6A, Line 33, Dwelling 96, Family 96; 23 April 1910.
6. MUNSON, Paul L., "*Munson Family History, 1812 - 1989*" (Milwaukee, Tech/Data Pub, 1990), page 81.
7. *Mid-term Census*, 1915 - Iowa, Chickasaw county, Jacksonville township, Lawler, Card 428. Widower.
8. *United States Federal Census*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001), 1880 - Minnesota, Polk county, Halstead; SD 3, ED 197, Page 15, Line 5, Dwelling 131, Family 149; 29 June 1880.
9. Chickasaw County Genealogical Society, "*Chickasaw County, Iowa Cemeteries, Jacksonville and part of Utica Townships - Saude Lutheran Cemetery*" (Des Moines, Iowa Genealogical Society, 1989), page 12 .

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10. DeGarmeaux, Rev. Mark, "*Jerico Lutheran Church, 125th Annivarsary, 1867-1992*" (Decorah, Anundsen, 1992), Jerico Burials - Page 7.
11. *CENSUS: Iowa, Chickasaw County, Jacksonville Township*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphia Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001), 1930 - SD 3, ED 19-13, Sheet 3A, line 5, Dwelling 44, Family 44; 9 April 1930.
12. STEWART, J. David, "*Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, 1889-1964, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Saude, Iowa*" (Saude, 1965), page 6 .
13. *United States Federal Census*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, Collego Park, MD 20740-6001), 1930 - Iowa, Chickasaw County, Utica Township, SD 3, ED 19-19, Line 10, Dwelling 159, Family 160; 15 April 1930.
14. *Social Security Death Master File* (U.S. Social Security Administration, Office of Central Record Operation, FOIA Work Group, P.O. Box 17772, North Green Street, Baltimore, MD 21290-7772), # 479 - 44 - 1326; issued Iowa prior to 1955. Halvor Munson.
15. Chickasaw County Genealogical Society, "*Chickasaw County, Iowa Cemeteries, Jacksonville and part of Utica Townships, Saude Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery*" (DesMoines, Iowa Genealogical Society, 1989), page 5 .
16. *Obituary*,, The Fort Smith Times Record; 24 April 2000.