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## Joseph Homan

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Birth: Dec. 21, 1828, Germany  
 Death: Jan. 23, 1907  
 Saint Rosa  
 Mercer County  
 Ohio, USA

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Joseph Homan was born December 21, 1828 at Herbern, Westfalen or Westphalia, Germany. Sponsors were Jodoc Henrich Homann and Cath Elis Walterbusch. He was baptised in St. Benedictus Church in Herbern, Germany. He is the son of Bernard Henrich Homan y. Griesdorn and Maria Elis Walterbusch.

He grew up in Germany and was in the Service or Army as it was compulsory for every young man at the age of 21 years to serve 3 years in the Service of his Country. When his brothers, Gerhard and Bernard decided to come to America, he wanted to come with them. Gerhard and Bernard had already served their 3 years in the Service. Joseph was determined to go with them so he made plans. This had to all be kept secret so the authorities could not stop him, as he went AWOL from the Army. So at the time of the departure he had to be at a certain time where the ship was leaving. He could not be there ahead of time. So just when the ship started sailing Joseph jumped on and was then a free man. His brothers were supposed to have hid him in a barrel on the ship. He had no passport, Gerhard and Bernard did. They came over in 1855 according to the passports.

He traveled to St. Rosa, Ohio, where he became a farm hand. In 1857 he married Mary Wertmoeller born 1841, daughter of Henry and Anna Wertmoeller of St. Rosa, Ohio. They made their home with her parents, as she was an only child. The farm they lived on was the first farm east of St. Rosa on the north side of State Route 119. Here he lived all his life.

His first wife died when the 10 child, Philomena, was born on December 9, 1876. She is buried at St. Rosa. he later married Mrs. Margaret Schroeder on November 3, 1881. She died six months after their marriage on March 1, 1882 of pneumonia. He then married Anna Maria Josephine (Wessels) Brunswick on April 17, 1883. She had a son, Ben Brunswick, whom she brought with her to live with the Homans. She died July 18, 1898.

He was a brother of Gerhard Homan of St. Anthony, Bernard Homan of St. Sebastian,

and Carolina Homan May of St. Anthony. Anna Homan Knapschaefer of Coldwater was his niece. Theodore and Henry Homan of Philothea, were his cousins. He was also a cousin of Heinrich Wellman of St. Anthony, and William Walterbusch of Maria Stein. His place was always the first place people would go to when they came from Germany. He always helped them to find work or a place to live when they came to Mercer County. He helped build the St. Rosa Church. He never returned to Germany. People today still say what good deeds he did for the people who came over from Germany. They say he must have been a wonderful man.

Found in Der Stammbaum book. Page 234

Family links:

Spouse:

Margaret *Schraeder* Homan (1830 - 1882)\*

Children:

Mary *Homan* Lindhaus (1858 - 1938)\*

Joseph Homan (1870 - 1954)\*

\*[Point here for explanation](#)

Burial:

[Saint Rosa Catholic Cemetery](#)

Saint Rosa

Mercer County

Ohio, USA

Created by: [Tracy Clark](#)

Record added: Feb 06, 2010

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