

## **OLE HALVORSON HANDE & DOROTHEA O. SONDRÖL, Charter Members of West Norway Lake Lutheran Church**

Ole Halvorson Hande was the son of Halvor Pederson Torstad-Hande (1803-1875) and Barbro Nilsdatter Hoyne (1805-1882). He was born May 4, 1844 on the Øvre Hande farm Slidre Parish, Vestre Slidre, Oppland, Norway. Ole had four older brothers and two sisters all of whom along with their parents would eventually migrate to America.

Despite being the youngest brother, Ole was the first to leave for America arriving in 1865. Eventually he made it to Rice County, Minnesota where he married Dorothea O. Sondrol on January 1, 1872. Dorothea was born on September 30, 1848 in Vang, Valdres, Norway. Her parents were Tosten and Marit Sondrol.

Ole's brother Halvor Halvorson Hande along with his family and parents migrated to America in 1869 and settled near Norway Lake in what is today section 13 of Arctander Township. That may have been the reason for brother Ole and his wife to move to the Sunburg area which it appears they did some time in the 1870s. They settled on a farm in Kerkhoven Township in Swift County and became members of the newly constructed West Norway Lake Lutheran Church just south of Sunburg.

Ole and Dorothea had ten children

- the oldest of whom was Bestsy M. Hande (1872-1952) who married John Hystad (1869-1944).
- Daughter Marit O. Hande (1873-1926) married Louis Pilstrom (1871-1954) at the West Norway Lake Church, moved to Minneapolis where they are buried in Lakewood Cemetery.
- Halvor Oleson Hande (1875-1902) never married and died at the age of twenty-five.
- Anna O. Hande (1877-1919) married Theodore Frovold (1875-1930) and remained in the Sunburg area their entire lives.
- Ingeborg O. Hande and Tosten O. Hande were twins born on June 6, 1879. They lived only a few months. Ingeborg died on April 23, 1880 and Tosten on September 15, 1880.
- Belle Hande was born June 25, 1881, married William Wenzel and settled in the Fargo, N. D. area.
- Tosten O. Hande (1883-1975) married Louise Flolo (1887-1980) and lived in the local area all their lives.
- Oloff O. Hande (1885-1916) never married and died young at age 30.
- Ole and Dorothea's last child was daughter Dena born May 25, 1877. Dena only reached her ninth year and died on April 18, 1896.

Betsy and John Hystad, Halvor, Anna and Theodore Frovold, the twins Ingeborg and Tosten, Tosten and Louise Hande, Oloff and Dena are buried at the West Norway Lutheran Cemetery. Ole Halvorson Hande died on November 21, 1925. His wife Dorothea died on January 2, 1933. They are both buried at the West Norway Lake Lutheran Cemetery near Sunburg where Ole was a charter member.

Prepared by Marlin Henjum

Sources Consulted

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Nordmenn: The Hande Family in Norway and North America, compiled by D'Arcy Hande, 1979

Minnesota Death Index 1908-2002