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¹²⁻¹⁻²⁰¹³ The letter from Sweden

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The Letter from Sweden

All letters from "home" did not contain good news

Helgagården 18 July 1915

Dear Uncle,

Peace!

Now I want to write some lines to you, Uncle, and convey a last greeting from our dear Pappa.

His life ended on the 30th of June and he was then allowed to go home to God.

Pappa fell ill on the 6th of June when he got a cerebral hemorrhage, and became lame in half of his body, and then was be bedridden. On Midsummer's Day he became much worse, he lost his ability to speak, and sadly passed away a few days later, very calmly and peacefully. It is so empty after him, so I can not tell you how, but it feels good to have the hope for a reunion, where no partings will ever take place. Yes, may God bless us all.

Soon we may also take leave.

Pappa was buried on 6 July in the Svarttorp cemetery, when a great circle of friends and relatives were assembled to follow him to his last resting place. His age was 78 years, 7 months and 21 days.

Aunt Mathilda could not attend, her health is rather frail, but her daughter and husband came, and stayed here for a couple of days.

We are all in good health and feeling well.

At last our greetings from all of us.

Written in haste by the smallest of Pappa's girls Netzie

Who was Pappa?

The deceased man was Frans Gustaf Valfrid Svensson, born 9 Nov. 1836 in Södra Ralingsås Norrgård in Lommaryd (Smål.), son of Sven Persson and his wife Anna Gustafva Ingesdotter.

In 10 Nov. 1872 he married in Svarttorp the widow Eva Stina Karlsdotter from Helgagården, (b. 9 May 1830 in Svarttorp, died there 20 Feb. 1881). No children in this marriage. On 14 Oct. 1883 he remarried in Lekeryd (Smål.) to Christina Magnusdotter, (b. there 31 Aug. 1853, died 15 June 1894 of heart failure in Svarttorp). The couple had six children, all born i Svarttorp: Valfrid Edvin Johannes (b. 27 Dec. 1883); Lydia Elvira (b. 17 Sep. 1886, died 5 Nov. 1918); Maria Cecilia (b. 29 Jan. 1888, died 1 July 1894 of kidney disease); Alma Elisabeth (b. 22 Mar. 1889); Ester Linnea (b. 4 Nov. 1891, died 28 Dec. 1990 in Nässjö, Sweden); and Nättei Susanna (b. 15 Jun. 1894. The youngest children were not baptized.

Son Valfrid and his sisters Alma and Nättci went to the U.S.

This letter was sent to Frans's brother George Swanson, who lived in Moline, IL.

Submitted by George's descendant Janice Asp. Her e-mail is <jasp441@gmail.com>

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