

Dear Billie,

I was glad to receive the e-mail message from you. It gave me a reason to send this message to you on a subject that was my favorite subject in school, history. For a long time I have been especially interested in our family history. I have collected many stories and photos about it. For instance, your great-great Baggrman grand parents came from Holland. Our name means dredge-man and it was a very respected occupation. There are hundreds of miles of canals in Holland. Most of these canals were below sea level and had to often be cleared of soil. Your great-great grandfather on my mother's side of our family came from Germany. He came alone at the age of sixteen. The family name is Peters. During this most humble early life he worked in a little country store in Bay, Missouri. He then had a small grocery store on 14th in St Louis. He then founded a large drygoods/clothing store at 14th and Warren Streets, St Louis. I remember going to the store when I was a small boy. During this period, my Grandpa Peters bought into Peters and Miller Shoe Company it was a wholesale shoe company. Grandpa Peters bought out Miller and changed it to a shoe manufacturing company. Several years later he joined three other shoe companies to found International Shoe Company large shoe Company in St Louis. Later he became one of the founders of International Shoe Company, in St Louis. The company later became the largest shoe manufacturing company in the world.

So here is a chapter of our family history.

Love, Grandpa B.

November 11, 2003

HIST 10