
MANFRED HISTORY AND PRESERVATION

P.O. Box 321 Harvey, North Dakota 58341

Greetings from Manfred!

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Golden Wedding 1935

Ole and Guri Ranum

Husband's Full Name: Ole Juel Ranum

Husband's Place of Birth: Stokkebryn, Nord Aurdal, Valdres, Norway

Husband's Father's Name: Juel Ole Ranum

Husband's Mother's Name: Guri Gulbrandsdatter Ranum

Husband's Siblings' Names: none

Wife's Full Name: Guri Knutsdotter Melby

Wife's Place of Birth: Øystre Slidre, Valdres, Norway

Wife's Father's Name: Knut Olsen Rudi

Wife's Mother's Name: Guri Kristensdotter Melby

Wife's Siblings' Names: Ole, Christian, Knute, Ragnhild, Gulbrand, Marit, Caroline, Martin, Oscar

Children's Names: George, Konrad, Emil, Ida, Clara Gladheim, Gladys Pfundheller

Ole and Guri Ranum

Guri, also known as Julia, was born on February 17, 1862. She grew up on the Melby farm in Rogne, Øystre Slidre, Valdres, Norway and attended the Rogne school and church. In 1881 when she was 19 years old, her parents sold the Melby farm and the whole family emigrated together from Norway to the USA, with the destination of Goodhue County, Minnesota. In 1884, her parents moved to Griggs County North Dakota where they filed on a homestead, but Guri (Julia) did not go there. Instead, she went to live in Lyon County in southwestern Minnesota, where her Aunt Guri (the younger) Melby Opdahl and her husband Anders Opdahl had been living since 1879.

Ole was born September 10, 1858 in Stokkebryn, North Aurdal, Valdres, Norway to Juel O. Ranum and Guri (Julia) Gulbrandsdotter. He came to the USA to southwest MN in 1875, and in 1884 took over the farming operation of his parents at Ghent MN in Lyon County. On May 30, 1885, Guri Melby and Ole Ranum married at Minneota MN. Several of their children were born there: George in 1886-? (Inez Mitchell-2 children.) Konrad Oscar in 1887 known as Oscar, and Emil in 1890-1878 (Katie Babcock-8 children.) The rest of their children were also born in MN: Ida 1892-1895 and Clara 1894-1986 (Mrs. Ole Gladheim-8 children) at Cottonwood, and Gladys 1899-1974 (Mrs. Raymond Pfundheller-3 children) at Madison.

Ole and Guri Ranum and family moved to Manfred by 1900 or before the summer of 1901, as school records for June and July of 1901 indicate their children Oscar and Clara attended School #3 of Manfred Township. Konrad Oscar was confirmed at Vang Lutheran in 1903.

In addition to farming, Ole worked in various positions in Manfred. During 1905-1906 he served as grain buyer for the Ireys Elevator and in 1906 became grain buyer for the Farmers Elevator.

In 1906 Ole became manager for the C. C. Melby general store and in 1911 he returned to the Farmers Elevator as grain buyer. In 1914 Ole became postmaster of the Manfred Post Office, at which time he and Guri took up residency in Manfred during his years as postmaster. He continued in this position until January 30, 1921. He was active in community activities and served on the school board as clerk and also as treasurer of the Manfred Township.

He died in 1906 and is buried at Vang Lutheran Cemetery. Ole and Guri Ranum and family joined as members of Vang Lutheran in 1906. Their daughter Clara was confirmed in 1909 and daughter Gladys in 1913. Ole's parents Juel and Guri Ranum also moved to Manfred and are buried at Vang Lutheran Cemetery; Juel died in 1916 and Guri in 1933. Ole Ranum died March 26, 1938 and Guri October 22, 1938; both also are buried at Vang Lutheran Cemetery.

Wedding Picture, May 30, 1885 Below

