

Ancestor Researcher Bernd Albert BEHRLE – An Obituary

by Tilman Krieg. English by Dr.Rainer Behrle

December 2000 Bernd Albert Behrle died in Baiersdorf close to Erlangen. He probably was the most competent activist in ancestor research of the family BEHRLE from Renchen.

Born 1917 in Duesseldorf he graduated from school and military education at a time where German National Socialism called for people's proof of their Aryan origin. From that time on Bernd Behrle did not only limit his research on simple genealogical data, but he always was interested in the people's curriculum vitae connected with the specific historical and social environment of the respective century. He enjoyed contact with world-wide members of his wider family and travelled with his wife Berthild (maiden name: MENZEN) even to Costa Rica and the United States of America several times.

Consequently his personal genealogical archive filled several meters of documents, references and correspondence and quite a few genealogical tables all handpainted on DIN A3 forms. More than 100 of these tables refer to the family Behrle and demonstrate the tremendous research-results for his own and his wife's family including numerous collateral lines.

Bernd Behrle was born 19.Aug.1917 in Duesseldorf as the son of the engineer Karl Otto Behrle and his wife Elisabeth (maiden name: SCHRADER). Directly after his school education he joined the army, went through the second world-war at the eastern frontline in Russia and North Africa and left the army as a major in general staff in 1945. He married in the same year in Berlin and applied for admission to study mining at the technical university in Aachen, which finally was rejected by the British occupying power. He then moved with his wife to Regensburg to join a construction company where he grew up to the position of the commercial director. Here his daughter and two sons were born. After his retirement in 1982 he fully concentrated on his genealogical research and moved in 1995 with his wife to Baiersdorf, where he could live close to his daughter's family. Bernd Behrle died December 25th 2000.

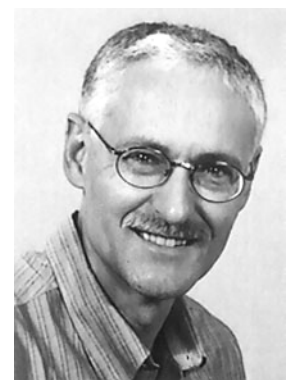
Tilman Krieg, the author of this article, himself is a descendant from the family Behrle. He was in close co-operation with Bernd Behrle since 1998 for his genealogical research and agreed to merge more than 100 genealogical tables of the family Behrle and it's collateral lines into a common digital database now representing more than 1200 descendants in 14 generations after 'Jakob Behrle the elder one' (1610-1672), a landlord of the restaurant 'Kronenwirt' in Renchen. Out of the many collateral lines names such as the family 'von Grimmelshausen' from Renchen, C(o)untzer, Gulat, Kuon and Sartori from Herbolzheim, Schlecht from Oberkirch and Renchen, Geiser from Sasbachwalden, Schuett from Wagshurst as well as Viox from Renchen may be mentioned.



Bernd A.Behrle

Recognising the work done by and in memory of Bernd Behrle these data will now be available to other interested genealogical researchers, who may contact Tilman Krieg, Hauptstr.11, D-77815 Buehl/Baden for any help.

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