

Interview

Makayla came home from school with an assignment to write about an ancestor. After talking to her mother, who was no help at all with genealogy Makayla called her grandmother, Cathy. Grandma Cathy invited Makayla over to look through some old boxes of family papers. In the box Makayla and Grandma found a letter and a photograph.

After reading the letter Cathy began to share more memories with Makayla
Facts from Grandma's Memory

"Richard is my father"

"He grew up in Reading, Pennsylvania"

"I remember attending Grandma Bertha's funeral with my father. I think I was about 10 years old."

"I was born in 1941 so Grandma Bertha must have died about . . ."
Bertha died in 1951

Facts from Letter and Photo

The family lived in Reading for a very long time

Richard was living in 1951

Richard was "like a son" to Bertha and Grandpa

Richard grew up near his Grandparents (Bertha and Grandpa)

"Grandma, is there anyone else who knows more about Grandma Bertha?"

"Let's call my cousin Marvin, he might have more information."

Marvin remembered Grandma Bertha living with his family when he was a little boy.

He shared a copy of the 1940 census with Grandma Bertha living in the household.

Facts from the 1940 census

Bertha was living in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1940

Bertha was living in the household of her son, Charles W Kantner at 221 Cherry St. in Reading, Berks, Pennsylvania

Charles W was born about 1935

Bertha was a widow by 1940

She was born in 1882 in Pennsylvania