

**The Kugel Family of Byerazino**  
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My husband's paternal family were the Kugels of Byerazino: David Kugel (b.c. 1858), his wife Gita Rosenblum Kugel (b.c. 1860). David's parents were Meyer Kugel and Esther Zeldovitz. David and Gita Kugel had six sons, one daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters who immigrated to the United States between 1906 and 1911. Nothing is known about their life in Byerazino.

The sons were Samuel (Schmerl), Samuel Morris (Saje Miche), William (Wolf), Meyer, Benjamin and Garson. Samuel, the eldest, was married to Fannie Rockowitz and they had two daughters Becky/Betty and Bella in Byerazino. The ships' manifest for Samuel lists his occupation as blacksmith, which is confirmed on his naturalization papers.

The three eldest sons, Samuel, Samuel Morris and William, changed their name from Kugel to Cohen, while father David and the three youngest sons Meyer, Benjamin and Garson retained the Kugel name. No one knows what motivated the three eldest to change their surnames.

In addition, two of David's sisters and a brother also immigrated. The sisters were Yetta Kugel Minkowitz, married to Morris Minkowitz and Ida Kugel Kesden married to Israel Kesden. David's brother Morris has not been found in the US, although he supposedly lived in Rochester, NY in 1940.

The Kugels settled in Rochester, New York. Morris Minkowitz was already there and Samuel Morris Kugel, the first to arrive, stated on the ship's manifest in 1906 that he was going to his uncle Morris Minkowitz in Rochester. It is not known what brought Morris to Rochester.

The Kesdens, who arrived in the United States c. 1892, settled in New York City and Brooklyn before following the rest of the family to Rochester around 1911. All the Kugels except William stayed in Rochester. William moved to Stamford, Connecticut where he remained.

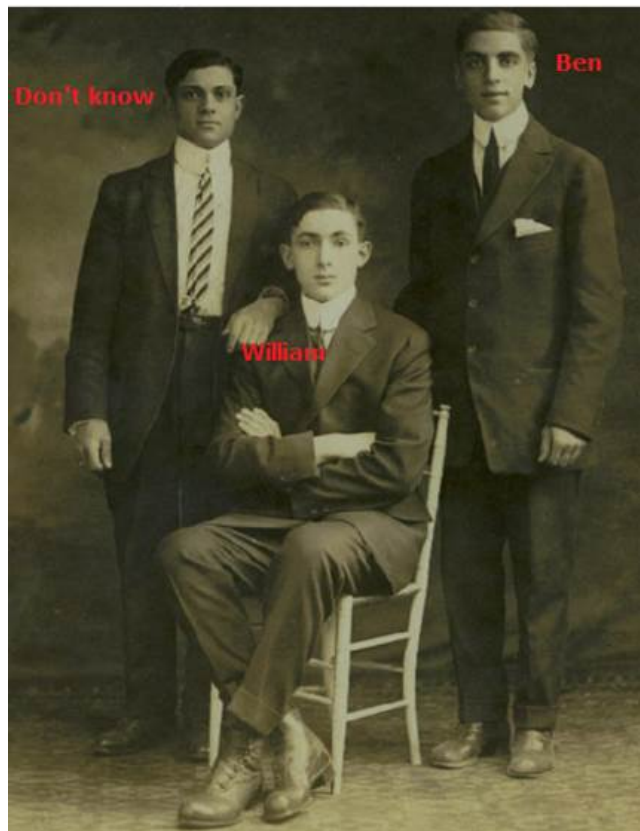


**Gita Rosenblum Kugel and  
David Kugel**

<http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/Byerazino/>



**Gita and David Kugel with  
sons Garson and Ben**



**William and Ben Kugel  
with unidentified man**