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Jean Baptiste Bechaud

Memorial Photos Flowers

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Birth: Oct. 31, 1846, Germany
 Death: Apr. 20, 1922
 Fond du Lac
 Fond du Lac County
 Wisconsin, USA

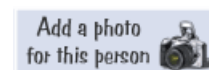
Fond du Lac Daily Reporter, Thursday April 20, 1922. JOHN B. BECHAUD DIES, AGED 75. Well Known Businessman of City Succumbs to Long Illness. LEAVES SIX CHILDREN. John Bates Bechaud, aged 75 years, prominent in Fond du Lac business circles for many years, died at 2:50 o'clock this afternoon after an illness of a year, which had been acute for the past two months. He had been a resident of Fond du Lac for 53 years. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made. Mr. Bechaud was born in Germany Oct. 31, 1846, his parents immigrating to America in 1851. The father, John P. Bechaud, conducted a hotel in Fond du Lac for four years after the family arrived in America, later removing to a farm. The son remained with the father until 1871, when he joined with his brothers, Adolph and Frank H. Bechaud, in the organization of the Bechaud Brewing company. Serving as a private in the Sixth Michigan Cavalry from the date of his enlistment in 1864 until the close of the Civil war, Mr. Bechaud served with another Michigan cavalry regiment in the West until his discharge in 1866. He was affiliated with the Elks, Eagles and Masonic order. The surviving relatives are the widow, Mrs. Mary Bechaud, and three sons and three daughters, Mrs. M.H. Nelson, Mrs. M.H. Boudry, Mrs. P.L. Kolb, and Rudolph and Louis Bechaud, Fond du Lac, and Armand Bechaud, Chicago.

Fond du Lac Daily Commonwealth, Thursday April 20, 1922. J.B. BECHAUD IS DEAD, WAS FAILING FOR LONG PERIOD. End Comes at Residence Near 3 O'clock. WAS A CIVIL WAR VETERAN. John B. Bechaud, one of Fond du Lac's prominent citizens and businessmen, died at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the residence 108 South Union street. He had been in failing health for some time. Mr. Bechaud was born Oct. 31, 1846 in Germany, and came to this country in 1851. Mr. Bechaud on acquiring his majority followed agricultural pursuits until 1871 when he became associated with his brothers, F.H., and Adolph, in the brewing business. He served as vice president of the Bechaud Brewing Co. He was a member of the Masons, Elks, Eagles and National Union. He served as a member of the city common council and the school board.

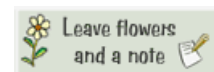
Fond du Lac Daily Reporter, Friday April 21, 1922. BECHAUD RITES FROM TEMPLE OF MASONIC ORDER. Funeral of Late Resident to

Added by: [Jean Fugate](#)Added by: [Jean Fugate](#)

Cemetery Photo

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be Held on Sunday Afternoon. FORMER CITY OFFICIAL. Funeral services for John Bates Bechaud, pioneer resident and former city official, who died Thursday afternoon at the family home on South Union street after a prolonged illness, will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. from the Masonic temple. The body will lie in state at the temple from 10:30 Sunday morning until the hour of the funeral in the afternoon. Although the many friends of Mr. Bechaud had realized for some time that his chances for recovery were slight, the news of his death came as a shock to them. Numbered among these legions of friends were many children of Wilson school, who had become warm friends and acquaintances of the aged man, who greeted them almost daily from the veranda of his home opposite the school. Mr. Bechaud was a native of Germany, having been born at Franfhein, Lower Bavaria on the Rhine, on October 31, 1845. He came to this country with his parents when six years of age and the family located at Taycheedah. Here Mr. Bechaud took up the brewery trade and the "old brewery" now used as a storage for state camp purposes, has long been a historic spot in the Town of Taycheedah. When the Civil war broke out Mr. Bechaud enlisted and served with distinction and merit during the years of strife. Upon his return he engaged in business with his brother, the brewery being located where the present Bechaud plant obtains. Mr. Bechaud took an active interest in city affairs and for many years occupied various public offices, being alderman, president of the council, and also president of the school board. Fraternally he was affiliated with the Masons, Elks and Eagles. He was a thirty-second degree Mason. Besides his widow he leaves three daughters, Mrs. Josephine Nelson, Mrs. Ida Boudry and Mrs. Amelia Kolb, all of this city, and three sons, Rudolph, Louis and Armand. Two sons, Walter and Pierce, died several years ago. Mr. Bechaud also leaves a brother, Armand, who resides at Chelalis, Washington. Friends are asked to omit flowers.

Fond du Lac Daily Commonwealth, Friday April 21, 1922. MASONIC RITES FOR J.B. BECHAUD. Body will Lie in State at Temple on Sunday Until Funeral. IN POOR HEALTH FOR YEAR. The funeral of John B. Bechaud, prominent Fond du Lac businessman who passed away yesterday afternoon, will be held at the Masonic Temple at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Members of Fountain Lodge No. 26, F. & A.M. will have charge of the services. The body will be taken to the Temple at 10:30 o'clock and will lie in state until the hour of the ceremony. A body of Knights Templar will escort the funeral cortege to Rienzi cemetery where the deceased will be buried. Friends are kindly asked to omit flowers. The survivors besides the widow, Mrs. Mary Bechaud, are three daughters, three sons and one brother. They are Mrs. Josephine Nelson, Mrs. Ida Boudry, Mrs. Amelia Kolb, and

Rudolph Bechaud, all of this city. Louis and Armand, the other two sons are residing in Chicago. The brother, Armand, is engaged in business at Chehalis, Wash. Mr. Bechaud went to the front with the Sixth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry in 1864. He served until the close of hostilities. Subsequently he was transferred to the first Michigan Cavalry and sent to the west to protect settlements from Indian depredations. He was discharged at Detroit in 1866. In addition to being affiliated with both the chapter and the commandery of the Masonic order he was a member of the Elks and Eagles. He had been in poor health for the past year but has been only seriously ill for the past two months.

Fond du Lac Daily Commonwealth, Monday April 24, 1922, p. 5. JOHN B. BECHAUD BURIED AT RIENZI. The funeral of John Bates Bechaud, pioneer businessman of Fond du Lac was held at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Masonic Temple, with Fountain Lodge No. 26 in charge of the exercises. W.H. Everling acted as worshipful master. There was a Knights Templar escort. A handsome floral display surrounded the casket. Bearers were P.A. Friess, Charles H. Anderson, George B. Sweet, Simon Schaefer, A.J. McCreery, and G.W. Watson. A Templar escort accompanying the body to Rienzi Cemetery was composed of L.A. Williams, H.C. Dittmar, Frank Storm, W.F. Strang, W.H. O'Hara and Wm. DeSteese. Those attending the funeral from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Orth, Milwaukee; Miss Anna Sullivan, New London; Mrs. George Graf, Ripon, Armand Bechaud, Chicago. Masonic rites were observed as commitment took place at Rienzi Cemetery. Singing at the temple was furnished by Mrs. Knocke and Mrs. Murray, while Mrs. W.F. Taylor played the accompaniment. There was a large attendance at the temple exercises.

Milwaukee Sentinel, Jan. 17, 1884, p. 2, c. 2. The Day's Fires - A Fond du Lac Brewery Burned - Work of the Flames Elsewhere. Fond du Lac, Jan. 16 - Bechaud Bros.' brewery, the largest structure of the kind in this locality, was consumed by fire this evening incurring a loss of \$30,000, with an insurance of only about \$15,000. Aside from the mammoth brick structure, 9,000 bushels of barley and malt was consumed and about 1200 barrels of beer. A young man, 22 years of age, known as the cellar-boy, is supposed to have been in the building at the time the fire started. No cause can be given for the origin of the fire, but is supposed to have been incendiary. Bechaud's brewery was built in 1871, and enlarged from time to time.

Milwaukee Sentinel, Jan. 20, 1884, p. 9, c. 2. The Bechaud Bros. will rebuild their brewery, which burned Wednesday night, as soon as possible. The cause of the fire still remains a mystery.

Milwaukee Sentinel, Feb. 9, 1886, p. 8, c. 1.
Fire at Fond du Lac. Fond du Lac, Feb. 8. – At an early hour this morning fire was discovered on the premises 515 and 517 Main street, which caused a loss of about \$4500, portion covered by insurance. The former was occupied by Martin F. Sasse as a boot and shoe store, and the building owned by Charles Reuping. Mr. Sasse valued his stock at \$5000, which was insured with Louis Handt in the following companies: San Francisco \$1000, North America, \$1000, Milwaukee Mechanics, \$1000. The building was valued at about \$1800, and will prove almost a total loss, it being insured for only \$500 in the Continental. The other building was the property of Bechaud Bros. The ground floor was used as a saloon and the upper floor by Mertz & Stolt, cigar manufacturers. The building was insured for \$700 and the stock and fixtures for \$500, the former in the American, Philadelphia, and the latter in the Continental. Mertz & Stolt carried \$500 insurance on stock and fixtures, \$300 of which was in the Orient and \$200 in the Traders'. The building and contents were also insured with Mr. McDermott. It is believed Bechaud's loss will amount to \$2000 and Mertz & Stolt's to \$300.

Milwaukee Sentinel, July 17, 1890, p. 8, c. 2.
Bechaud Bros., of Fond du Lac, sold 3500 tons of ice to the Indianapolis Brewing company for \$11,000.

Family links:

Parents:

Jean Pierre Bechaud (1811 - 1876)
Mary Josephine Bechaud (1816 - 1909)

Spouse:

Mary Ann *Kraemer* Bechaud (1853 - 1933)*

Children:

Josephine M. *Bechaud* Nelson (1874 - 1962)*
Ida Anna *Bechaud* Boudry (1876 - 1950)*
Walter John Bechaud (1878 - 1897)*
Rudolph Adolph Bechaud (1879 - 1929)*
Louis Jean Baptiste Bechaud (1881 - 1942)*
Armand R Bechaud (1883 - 1951)*
Amelia Frances *Bechaud* Kolb (1889 - 1973)*
Jean Pierre Frank Anton Bechaud (1895 - 1918)*

*[Calculated relationship](#)

Burial:

[Rienzi Cemetery](#)
Fond du Lac
Fond du Lac County
Wisconsin, USA

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Created by: [Michael J. Petrie](#)
Record added: Jun 02, 2012

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