

Besides physically he was also mentally very active until his death. His memory was phenomenal and I have had the pleasure to be able to record from his mouth a lot of valuable information and anecdotes about past events in our family.

With him one of the last of his generation has gone. Johan leaves behind his wife, his son, his daughter and son-in-law, three grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

In this column we would like to draw your attention to the family announcements that have reached us. We are very much pleased to present them to you and are grateful to everybody who took the trouble to inform us about the merry and sad events in their and our family.

This also enables our advisor Dick Somsen from Zwolle to keep our genealogical files up-to-date, so that we, in turn, can inform you in Somsen Horizon.

We really appreciate it very much that you send in your family announcements (together with pictures please) to our secretariat: Somsen Foundation, Burg. Wilhelmweg 27 7151 AA Eibergen The Netherlands. info@somsen.org

Born:

09-03-2015: Daymian Erik [7907], s.o. Jeroen Erik Ontijt [7285] and Johanna Hendrika (Marjan) de Graaf [1387]

01-06-2015: Trevor Abel [7911], s.o. David Baxter Stoppleworth [7735] and Jenna Rae Somsen [3635]

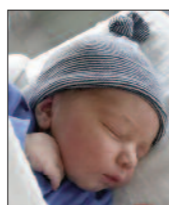
18-09-2015: Yde [7912], s.o. Dirk Christiaan Bulsink [7659] and Marieke Somsen [553]

18-09-2015: Juno Johanne [7913], d.o. Frederik Jan Somsen [551] and Anna Maria (Hanneke) Miedema [7321]

25-02-2016: Jesse Maarten [7922], s.o. Jasper Joseph Hendrikus Maria Krechting [7651] and Evelien Didi Stadler [175]



Daymian Erik
[7907]



Jesse Maarten
[7922]



Yde
[7912]

Married: no entries

Deceased:

09-03-2014: Henriëtte van der Vliet [5244], 93, Hull, IA. USA

01-12-2015: Kyle Richard McConnell-Somsen [7920], 19, Riverside, CA. USA

03-01-2016: Johan Dirk (Johan) Somsen [1085], 89, Aalten

16-01-2016: Gerard Elisa Willem (Gerard) Wijers [178], 83, Ommen

14-02-2016: Berendina (Dien) Somsen-Sellink [1244], 90, Eibergen

08-03-2016: Berend Hendrik (Ben) Somsen [396], 85, Eibergen



Kyle Richard
McConnell-
Somsen [7920]



Johan Dirk
Somsen
[1085]



Gerard Elisa
Willem Wijers
[178]



Berendina
Somsen-Sellink
[1244]



Berend Hendrik
Somsen
[396]

RECEIVE NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL AND COLLECTING E-MAIL ADDRESSES

For a better communication our secretary would like to receive your e-mail address. Please send an e-mail to info@somsen.org

If you would like to receive the Somsen Newsletters electronically would you be so kind as to notify us.

The new Somsen Horizon 30 appears in July 2016. Please send in copy before May 28, 2016.



Somsen

Newsletter 13

March 2016

◆ **Chairman**
Johan Somsen [1089]
Schietaanweg 11
8162 GP Epe
Phone: +31 578629893 / +31 629032484
E-mail: johan.f.somsen@wxs.nl

◆ **Secretariat**
Berto Somsen [423]
Burg. Wilhelmweg 27
7151 AA Eibergen
Phone: +31 (0)545-476 272
E-mail: bc.somsen@kpnmail.nl

◆ **Treasurer / webmaster**
Oscar Somsen [2040]
De Gaullesingel 46
6716 LC Ede
Phone: +31 (0)318 625566
E-mail: info@somsen.org
IBAN: NL 97 INGB 0007 9098 85
BIC: INGBNL2A
In the name of: Somsen Stichting Ede

◆ **Bankaffairs USA**
Stephen D. Somsen [2459]
47231 East Fir Street
P.O. Box 526
Darrington, WA. 98241 USA
Phone: 425 87 98 592
E-mail: ssomsen@aol.com

◆ **Editor:**
Harry Somsen [146]
Doetinchemseweg 30
7021 BS Zelhem
Phone: +31 (0)314 621011
E-mail: somsen@oudzelhem.nl

◆ **Website:** www.somsen.org



The Somsentree in IJzerlo

WILL THERE BE A REUNION IN 2017?

PREFACE



Johan Somsen [1089]

Because we have unfortunately lost our secretary Margriet Iserief-Somsen [2878] we have revised the functions at our last board meeting. Berto Somsen [423] will be our new secretary and Oscar Somsen [2040] will be our new treasurer. In addition he continues to manage the website. Otherwise there are no changes. We are now with a group of six Somsens and with that number we can easily run of our activities.

However, we are faced with problems when we want to organize a possible reunion in 2017. As you may know we started our first Worldwide Somsen Reunion in 1997, which was a great success. In 2002 the American Somsens organized a splendid reunion in Baldwin WI. Five years later it was our turn again and we brought together a lot of Somsens in IJzerlo, the place of our roots and in 2012 we were welcomed in New Ulm MN where American Somsens had organized a beautiful reunion.

The problem that arises now is closely connected with the advanced ages of most of us. Wim and I have been involved in organizing major events from the very start. Harry came to assist us later with a time-consuming task: editor of our publications. And the way it looks now all board members, with the exception of Oscar, are no longer capable of organizing a great reunion. In fact four of us want to "retire" in 2017. We will have done our work then for over 20 years and then it's time to pass over our jobs to future generations. Fortunately Oscar, as a representative of the younger generation, is prepared to carry on



Somsens on the bridge in 2007

and he also wants to organize the next reunion but he can't do this alone. The older board members have promised to assist in minor tasks but we will certainly need new enthusiastic people if we want to have the next reunion.

Elsewhere in this publication you will find a call from Oscar.

I really hope that there are people willing to help us. Do not hesitate to contact one of the board members to sign up.

Johan Somsen [1089]

WANTED: PREPARATORY GROUP WORLDWIDE REUNION

The year 2017 is approaching rapidly. The first requests for information on the following Worldwide Reunion in Netherlands have already reached us. We would like to organize it and we hope, of course, to create a reunion that is fun and interesting. Take a look at our website and see the reports of our previous reunions. But unfortunately the board is not able to organise this alone. Therefore we are looking for 3-4 people who want to think along and who want to assist with the preparations for the reunion. Are you going to help to make this wonderful event possible again?

Please contact Oscar Somsen [2040] or one of the other board members.



DONATIONS EASILY MADE AT WWW.SOMSEN.ORG

Handling Bankaffairs USA for the Somsen Foundation, I have handled donations from 24 different American cousins since 2012.

While I will continue to gladly handle the donations by mail, I wanted to share what I learned myself about making a donation to the Somsen Foundation.

It turns out you don't need to have a PayPal account yourself. From www.somsen.org you simply click on "Donations" on the home-page and then the "Donate" button. Then, simply enter your credit card information, the amount you wish to donate and the purpose of the donation such as "Donation 2016".

Please include your P-number. You can find it on the address sticker of the newsletter.

Your American Cousin,
Stephen Somsen [P-2459]
ssomsen@aol.com



OBITUARY JOHAN DIRK SOMSEN 1926 - 2016

by Johan Somsen [1089]

On 3 January 2016 Johan Dirk Somsen [1085] died at the age of 89. He would have liked to celebrate his 90th birthday on March 16 but the rapid progress of his illness made it no longer possible.

Johan was born as the fourth child in the family of Johan Somsen [1081] and Everdina Wilhelmina te Kamp. He was 9 years younger than the youngest child, Willemien [1187] (Aunt Zus), in the family. He followed like his two brothers, Rudolph [1083] and Willem [1084], his father's footsteps and became a painter. His father had founded a painting business in De Heurne near Dinxperlo in 1911 and Johan worked there for quite some time. Later he started a business for himself and subsequently he became manager of the painting department of Lundia in Varsseveld.

A special period in his life was his stay in the former Dutch East Indies. In the war he was still too young to be admitted to the resistance but when the war was over he was old enough to voluntarily join the army out of idealism to help liberate the people in The Indies. After a training in Aldershot in England he left for the Dutch East Indies with the first battalion storm troopers. He stayed there from 1945 to 1948.

Back in The Netherlands he was married to Meta Catharina Eskes [1206] on 30-12-1948. They had a daughter Josta [2896] and a son, Gilbert [1207].

He retired when he was 60 but he could badly sit still. Whenever people sought his help with a complicated painting job he was ready to help. He did so till he was 80 which was not always in accordance with the wishes of his wife Meta. But it illustrates his enormous vitality that he enjoyed almost all his life.

Apart from being a house decorator he was also a praiseworthy painter. At an early age he applied himself to this art form and after his retirement he enthusiastically took up his brushes again. He also exhibited several times.

When in 1997 the first Somsen Reunion was held he was immediately enthusiastic and ever since he has shown great interest in our family foundation.

In his youth he was already a horse lover and until shortly before his death he was always busy with the horses of his son. At a very advanced age he cleaned the stables, he fed the horses and put them in the field.



Johan Dirk Somsen



Johan during his education