

## [The Lord, Jesus Christ, Can Offer You Many Unique Blessings in Doing Genealogy!](#)

(click [here](#) for a better read)

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!

Two weeks ago, I had a third operation on my right eye in reattaching the retina. The downside is that if there was a cancerous melanoma tumor there, that eye would have been needed to be amputated ASAP! Fortunately, no tumor found and the retina reattachment is still working because there is now already more fuzzy light visible in that eye. But it will take approximately five months longer to fully know that the success of this operation by a very skilled doctor who calls me the "Christmas Miracle." But only after five months when I have another operation to remove the silicone gen that is attaching the retina, will the full potential of vision sharpness be evidently be known at that time. When I first came to this retina specialist, he didn't think it was possible to accomplish anything. In summary, I have been dedicated to the Lord, Jesus Christ, in actively doing my family's temple & family history pursuits now for 52+ years. Success has indeed been a miracle in and of itself when considering all of the limitations that were given to me 1) by my family's resentment for their roots, 2) in dealing with rural Eastern European areas in Poland, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia, 3) not having any Eastern European language skills when my parents had them but would not share with me and 4) the limited financial resources for taking my entire family in 1996, 1998, 2001, 2009 and 2012 to Eastern Europe on a public-school teacher's salary. Which is literally impossible to undertake again in today's world of war-conflicts, COVID, political instability and inflation all now with my four grown children and eleven grandchildren. But with the magic of 360 degree panorama photographs, these authentic memories are still vivid today to share with future generations [here](#). If you are unfamiliar with this website, below are some instructions of how to reminiscence these "remembrance" memories in Poland, Slovenia and Ukraine. On the opening page, just click on each country for a historical journey of 360 degree panoramic photos to view ancestral landscapes, homesteads, cemeteries and much more with 38 "keepsake" photos to realistically view and enjoy. These photographs were taken by our own faithful Facebook Group follower, President Ivan Majc, of Slovenia.



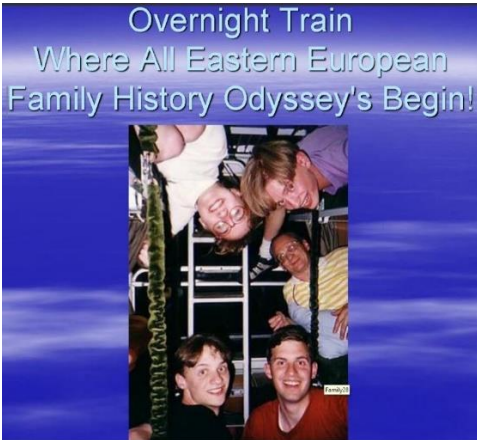
Click on the icon above for 360 degree Virtual Tour

As you click on the icon above, a Google Earth presentation featuring a [360 degree virtual tour](#) with a personal audio/visual commentary opening up a virtual odyssey tour of my Eastern European roots in Poland, Slovenia and Ukraine. This virtual tour can be displayed on computers, tablets and smartphones which makes it compatible like O+ blood with multimedia attributes of interactive Google maps, historical video clips and photo galleries, background music, annotated notes as well as customized virtual panorama connectivity and more!! Thus, making it a "keepsake" presentation for my family, grandchildren and future generations.

Click on the country icons at the top of the opening screen and there's an index to peruse each photograph for each country.

1. For each virtual photo, there is a Google Earth map provided for your convenience in viewing the geographical location from roof top to outer space.
2. On each photo you will find icons for individual photos and/or red balls as hot links to other nearby virtual photographs.
3. Once a still photo is displayed within each virtual photo, click on it and the still photograph will appear in the center and then click on the "I" icon on the tool bar if it is unshaded.
4. By clicking on the "I", a commentary about each photograph will be displayed.

For a good overview of our family's Eastern European roots, click [here](#). On the opening screen, click on [slideshow](#) at the very top-center for a guided slideshow link of 42 slides taken from many trips to Eastern Europe.



Music is very important in my family as we have presented many Church firesides in Eastern Europe (Warsaw Poland 3x, Munich Germany, Ljubljana Slovenia 2x, Budapest Hungary, Moscow Russia, Melbourne Australia, Santiago Chile 2x, Vienna Austria, Rome Italy, and Kiev Ukraine with presentations in the "Spoken Word" format each with a missionary theme in their own native language of that country along with special instrumental music from my family and congregational singing. Here are classic examples of how we incorporated music in our Eastern Europe family history trips by clicking [here](#).

## Closing Comments

Never hesitate to do family history because we all have precious family roots to preserve and share these memories with our family and future generations. Some are easy to identify while some can be very challenging and over time, these memories can literally disappear if we let it occur. Regardless, personal effort over time is needed for family history successes. And when successes come, it is even that much more enjoyable. In my situation, being blessed with a wonderful doctor who on this past Tuesday pronounced that I was the "Christmas Miracle" which was very touching especially since my previous eye doctors didn't share any enthusiasm or optimism but this retina specialist immediately had a personality that was and gave me hope as a patient and as a teacher to emulate to others in this Facebook Group. I strongly believe in God which is so nice when people care about others going far beyond just words but through their actions and thoughts. And I have a deep love for my ancestors because their lives were so different than mine and perhaps even more challenging in Eastern Europe under communist rule. The ongoing 2014 Russia-Ukraine War is a turning point for my family history endeavors personally knowing how disruptive this war is for all of its Ukrainian citizens and my relatives as well as previously in Poland and Slovenia. Regardless of how the closure of this brutal war eventually ends, my heart goes out to this entire country, its people, its culture and life-style with much love and admiration. In Poland during the cold-war period (1947-1991), JAZZ Music was a theme song for its freedom with improvisational attributes from Russian domination/rule, especially with the efforts of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) broadcasts where jazz music was frequently featured. RFE/RL founded in 1949 where journalists report the news in 27 languages in 23 countries where a free press is banned by the government or not fully

established. President Ivan Majc can you share your thoughts of how Slovenia changed when Yugoslavia was divided up into many independent countries after Marshall Tito died in 1980 and when Slovenia declared independence in 1991? Similar to Poland or different?

In the meantime, Merry Christmas to each every one of you and your families and a Happy New Year for 2023 as we all desire good news in this trouble world where God is not necessarily *reverent* by world leaders. I share this genealogy testimony in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen, which has made a huge difference in my life at this particular time of the Savior's birth on December 25th

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