

## **Anna Victoria Sandstrom Spitzmiller**

Anna Sandstrom was born on July 28, 1891 in Ostergotlund, Sweden. She arrived in the United States in 1911 where she served in the household of the Governor of Iowa for a year. She was staying with friends, the Levines, in Des Moines, recovering from an appendectomy, and met Gus Spitzmiller at the boarding house where he was staying during the time he was there on a plumbing job. Their romance flourished slowly as it took six years for Gus to win Anna. They were married in Denver on August 28, 1917.



Gus and Anna moved to Fort Lyon, old Bent's Fort, where Gus was employed as a civilian charged with plumbing. They lived there for four years where Erwin, Gordon and Barbara were born.

In 1921 the family moved to Grand Lake, where she operated the Spitzmiller Cabins. She was a Republican committeewoman in Grand Lake for years. A musician and singer, she was active in community affairs, including the drive to build the first Protestant church in Grand Lake.

She died October 12, 1972 in Denver.