

## VON TRAPP FAMILY

### Georg Ludwig Ritter von Trapp (1880 to 1947)

#### First marriage and inherited wealth

Trapp married Agathe Gobertina Whitehead,<sup>[12]</sup> the first daughter and third child of Countess Agathe Gobertina von Breunner-Enckevoirth (1856–1945), Austro-Hungarian nobility, and Cavaliere (Knight) John Whitehead (1854–1902), son of Baron Robert Whitehead (1823–1905) who invented the modern torpedo and a partner at the family's Fiume Whitehead Torpedo Factory<sup>[12]</sup> (not, as frequently stated, a niece of the British Government minister St. John Brodrick). The British government rejected Whitehead's invention, but Austrian Emperor Franz Josef invited him to open a torpedo factory in Fiume.<sup>[7]</sup> Trapp's first command was the U-boat *U-6* which was launched by Agathe.

Agathe's inherited wealth sustained the couple and permitted them to start a family, and they had two sons and five daughters over the next ten years. Their first child was Rupert,<sup>[14]</sup> born on 1 November 1911 at Pula while the couple were living at Pina Budicina 11.<sup>[Map 1]</sup> Their other children were: Agathe, also born in Pula; Maria Franziska, Werner;<sup>[15]</sup> Hedwig, and Johanna, all born at the family home the Erlhof in Zell am See;<sup>[Map 2]</sup> and Martina, born at the Martinsschlüssel at Klosterneuburg, for which she was named.<sup>[Map 3]</sup>

On 3 September 1922, Agathe von Trapp died of scarlet fever contracted from her daughter Agathe.<sup>[7]</sup> Trapp then acquired Villa Trapp in Aigen, a suburb of Salzburg, and moved his family there in 1924.<sup>[7][Map 4]</sup> During this period, he delivered several lectures and conducted interviews on his naval career.<sup>[1]</sup>

#### Second marriage

About 1926, Maria Franziska was recovering from an illness and was unable to go to school, so Trapp hired Maria Augusta Kutschera, a novice from the nearby Nonnberg Abbey as a tutor.<sup>[16]</sup> They were married on 26 November 1927 when he was 47 and she was 22.<sup>[7][17]</sup> They had three children: Rosmarie, born on 8 February 1929,<sup>[11]</sup> Eleonore, born 14 May 1931, and Johannes, born 17 January 1939 in Philadelphia.



The Sound of Music -  
The Trapp Family



Lieutenant Georg Ritter von Trapp  
and Agathe Whitehead about 1910