

Cheese Cake

By Gertrude Ederle

Crust:

1 box Zwieback (a baby cracker)
3 tablespoons sugar
½ teaspoon nutmeg
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ pound melted butter

Filling:

1 pound cottage cheese (large curd, not creamed)
1 tablespoon flour
3 egg yolks
1 cup sugar
½ cup milk
Small teaspoon vanilla

3 egg whites (beaten)

Pan outside dimensions = 7 ½" by 11 ¼" by 1 ½" deep

- 1) **Crust:** Grind Zwieback into crumbs using a blender (multiple batches). Combine in a bowl with 3 tbs. sugar, ½ tsp. nutmeg & ½ tsp. cinnamon and with the ½ pound melted butter. Pat the zwieback crust into the bottom and sides of the pan, reserving approximately ¼ to ½ cup for topping.
- 2) **Filling:** Mix cottage cheese, flour, egg yolks, sugar, milk & vanilla in a blender – pour into a bowl. Beat egg whites until fluffy and fold into cottage cheese mixture.
- 3) Pour the filling into the pan and sprinkle with the reserved topping.
- 4) **Bake:** 375 degree oven for ½ hour. Cool in oven with door partially open for another ½ hour.

My maternal grandfather, Frank (Francis) John Remy (1988-1954), was born and raised in Manhattan. He was a dentist with an office on 5th Avenue in New York City from the 1920's until his death in 1954. He belonged to a NYC Swim Club. This cheese cake recipe was given to my grandfather by Gertrude Ederle (1905-2003), another member of the swim club. – Nancy Cobean Hassel

On August 6, 1926, Gertrude (Trudy) Ederle became the first woman to swim across the English Channel. Departing from Cap Gris Nez, France, she landed on the shores of Kingsdown in Kent, England in 14 hours and 39 minutes. Only 5 men had successfully swum across the English Channel before her. Gertrude not only became the first woman to swim the English Channel but she also broke the existing (men's) record by 2 hours.

Born to German immigrants, Ederle was raised on the Upper West Side of Manhattan at 108 Amsterdam Avenue, above her father's butcher shop. As a girl, her father taught her how to swim at their summer cottage in New Jersey. By her late teens, she was a champion swimmer and a member of the Women's Swimming Association. Ederle went on to win several medals, including the gold at the Paris 1924 Olympics, and held twenty-nine national and world amateur records by 1925.

The NYC swim club used by both Gertrude Ederle and Frank J. Remy was most likely the *59th Street Recreation Center*. This facility, which included a swimming pool, was in close walking distance from the homes of both Ederle and Remy. It was opened in 1906 and renovated in 2009 as the *Gertrude Ederle Recreation Center*.

Remy: 429 W 50th St, NY, NY

Pool: 533 W 59th St, New York, NY

Ederle: 108 Amsterdam Ave, NY, NY (between 64th & 65th St)