



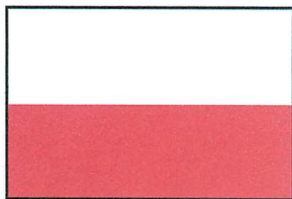
Ireland



Scotland



Germany



Poland



Murray F. Coleman
and Kathleen J. Steil

Family Ancestry

Thomas F. Coleman
May 1, 2016



Dedication

This book is dedicated to my parents, Murray F. Coleman and Kathleen J. Steil. I am publishing it on May 1, 2016, in commemoration of their wedding anniversary. They were married on May 1, 1943.

They lived in Michigan throughout their lives, starting in Highland Park, then Royal Oak, then Ferndale, and finally in Lake Orion, the place where they are buried.

They are loved by their nine children: Larry, Tom, Dan, Gary, Maryann, Cathy, Carolyn, Diane, and Michael. Their spirits live on in all of us. This book is intended to share memories of them and their ancestors, to be enjoyed by us and future generations.

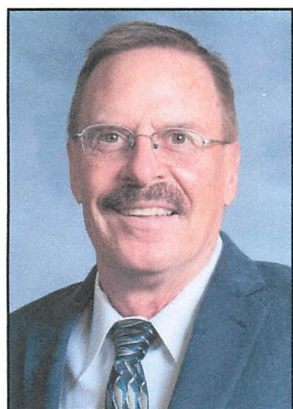


Coleman - Steil

History and Heritage

Murray and Kay and Their Ancestors

by Thomas F. Coleman



My quest to learn all that I could about the histories of Murray Frear Coleman and Kathleen Jannette Steil began in 2010.

When I started my journey into the past, I only knew bits and pieces of the family history of my parents. I knew the names of my maternal and paternal grandparents. Although

I had some information about some of my great grandparents, I had more questions than answers about who they were, where and how they lived, what their religious affiliations were, and what their countries of origin were.

When I was growing up, I had personal experiences of three of my grandparents. My mother's parents, Frank and Catherine Steil, had been a major part of my life. Since my mother was an only child, her parents were able to devote much of their time and attention to the Coleman grandchildren.

My father's dad, Arthur Roy Coleman, died when my father was 11 years old, so I never had the opportunity to meet him. My father's mom, Margaret Coleman, split her time between her daughter Betty's family and her son Murray's family, so the Coleman grandkids saw "Grandma Finney" less often than we did "Grandma and Grandpa Steil." My dad's mother assumed the surname of Finney when she remarried after her husband Roy's death.

As my brothers and sisters and I were growing up, we would occasionally hear our grandparents mention "the old country." But we really knew little about what that meant. We heard them talk about Canada, Scotland, and Germany. There were also occasional references to Ireland. But other than these vague generalities, we knew very little about our Coleman-Steil heritage. We also knew next to nothing about "Grandpa Coleman" who was known to his friends and family members as Roy.

Through this book, which is based on historical materials gathered by me over the past six years, I intend to share what I have learned about the ancestors of Murray F. Coleman and Kathleen J. Steil. I have traced the roots of their parents and grandparents back as far as I could. The Coleman line has roots in Ireland, while the Paterson line originates in Scotland. The Steil ancestors lived in Germany while the Lukaszewski forebearers were citizens of what today is called Poland. So my eight siblings and I are Irish-Scottish-German-Polish Americans.

The nine of us can thank the Irish for our playfulness, the Scotts for our thriftiness, the Germans for our creativity, and the Polish for our perseverance. Most of all, we can thank our parents for giving us life and for raising us the best they could under difficult financial circumstances.

This book is dedicated to the memory of Murray F. Coleman and Kathleen J. Steil. Doing historical research, conducting interviews, organizing materials, synthesizing this information, and writing it all up in short stories has been an intensive labor of love. The book, and associated websites that I have created, are being shared with my brothers and sisters and with my nieces and nephews. I hope they find our family history and heritage to be as fascinating as I do. I also hope they share this family history with their offspring as new branches of our family tree are created by younger generations.

The publication of this book is part of a process of transition – the passing of the responsibility of family history preservation from a Baby Boomer like me to younger family members in Generation Y.

Lindsey Coleman Boyd has agreed to preserve and share the family history materials of our Steil and Lukaszewski ancestors, while Michael Murray Coleman Jr. has agreed to do the same for the Coleman and Paterson branches. Their willingness to assume this responsibility is a great relief to me. Our heritage, and the stories of our ancestors, are worth preserving and sharing with current and future descendants of Murray F. Coleman and Kathleen J. Steil. It has been a privilege to have served as a genealogist for such a large and diverse family.

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The Process of Gathering Information

Long before I started a formal investigation into the family history of my parents, there were bits and pieces of information our parents and other relatives shared with my siblings and I as children and adults. There was conversation about Germany as the national origin of the Steil family. There were also stories about the Paterson family in Canada and Scotland.

But information was mostly lacking about our paternal grandfather, Arthur Roy Coleman. Except for very limited information about a sister of Roy (Jenny Coleman Freer) and our Dad's half-sister Ruth and half-brother Dodd, we knew almost nothing of Roy Coleman and his ancestors or relatives. Roy's childhood and his life prior to marrying Margaret Paterson were always kept vague. Our Grandpa Roy was a mystery man. My siblings and I rarely mentioned his name or heard it discussed by our parents. Us kids referred to "Grandma Finney" (paternal grandmother) and "Grandma and Grandpa Steil" (maternal grandparents), but the words "Grandpa Roy" or "Grandpa Coleman" never passed our lips.



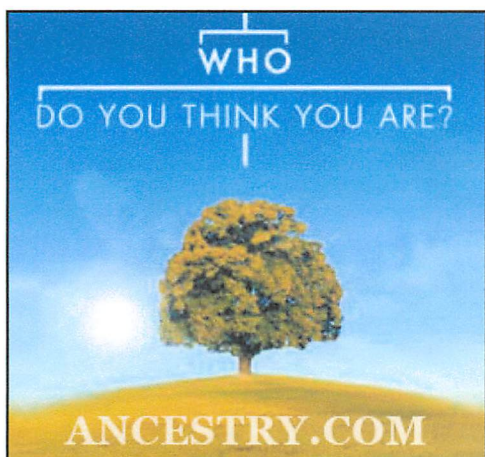
Likewise, nothing was said about our maternal grandparents, Rudolph and Anna Lukaszewski, and their national origin. We were informed that our maternal grandmother's last name was Lucas. The Polish connection was buried in documents that were never shared with us, that is, until the nine of us did a "tour down memory lane" with our Aunt Betty and our mother soon after Mom's 80th birthday celebration.

Our Polish ancestry – which I had suspected for a long time since I had privately discovered a Lukaszewski document at my grandparents home when I was a child, but kept the discovery to myself – was confirmed during that tour. One stop along the way was a cemetery where our maternal grandparents and some other "Lucas" relatives were buried. We stopped at the cemetery office to check on the location of the grave sites. When cemetery staff brought out index cards about the plots, the surname of Lukaszewski was on each card. As we walked to the location of the graves, I pressed my mother on the "ski" part of the name. I pointedly asked her if her mother was Polish. Mom sheepishly replied, "Well, my father would sometimes refer to my mother, in an affectionate way, as 'my little Polish girlfriend.'" There it was – a reluctant confirmation that my maternal grandmother and her ancestors were Polish. This cemetery visit occurred in December 2001. Our mother died two years later, and with her passing went whatever other details about her mother's side of the family that she may have known but had not shared with her children.

Several years elapsed before I felt an urge, a strong attraction, to researching our family history – taking the quest for information about our ancestry to the next level. It was early in 2010 when I started poking around on the Internet to find details about the Steils and Lukaszewskis and Colemans and Patersons. It was during these initial Google searches that I found Clarice Coleman. That connection proved to be invaluable to my investigation into Coleman family genealogy. I often sought information in her 139-page masterpiece – *The Westfall and Coleman Family History* – a book in which she shared detailed family history data, as well as scores of short stories about the lives of our Coleman and Westfall ancestors and relatives.

In May 2010 I found an article on the Internet written by Barbara Starkey. The article was about immigration to the United States from Poland in the 1800s. Mentioned in the article was the surname Lukaschewski. This prompted me to reach out to Barbara for more information. We connected by email and then telephone. I was informed that she lived in the outskirts of Salt Lake City and that he was a genealogist for hire. The Family History Library of the Mormon Church is located in Salt Lake City. I retained her to search for information and documents about my Lukaschewski ancestors. I also asked her to conduct research about my paternal great grandfather Calvert Coleman. She was able to find documents in both of these searches. I incorporated them into the family history archives I was developing.

Clarice and Barbara both advised me to spend some time on the online archives of the Mormon Church. So I went to familysearch.org over and over for several years, mining what I could about the four major branches of my family. This proved to be a very valuable source of information, often giving me links to images of public documents, such as records of births, marriages, and deaths.



It was also in May 2010 that I joined ancestry.com. I paid extra for a membership that gave me access to international records. Over the past six years, I can't count the number of hours I have spent on the website of ancestry.com. This service has been indispensable to my research efforts.

Visits to cemeteries have been part of the process of documenting family history. But those visits were more than academic research. They were a tangible way to physically connect with a historical dimension of my family. Standing at the grave sites, touching the headstones, pulling weeds away from the markers, feeling the breeze passing over the grave

and the sun beating down on the site, saying a prayer for the loved one, sharing the moment with someone who accompanied me – these were all part of the process. These cemetery visits made the connection to my ancestors more real and more intense than mere Internet research could ever do.

Some of the post-2010 cemetery visits involved me alone, while others included a family member. My brother Larry went with me to Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak to visit the grave of our paternal great uncle William Coleman. There were a few visits to Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit, where Grandpa Roy, great Aunt Agnes, Aunt Jean, great Aunt Jenny Freer, and great Grandmother Sarah Westfall Coleman Renton are buried. Larry went with me to Woodlawn on one occasion, while my sister Diane Coleman Rogers and her husband Ray Rogers went there with me another time. Diane and my sister Carolyn Skalnek went with me to Belleville, Michigan to visit the grave site of our great Grandfather Calvert Coleman and some of his Coleman children and grandchildren. My brother Gary helped Ray and Diane install a grave marker at the Trinity Cemetery for our 2x great Grandparents John Peter Steil and Anna Ruhl. Each of these visits was a memorable occasion. I found them to be personally and spiritually enriching. On some visits we went to the cemetery office and obtained documents pertaining to our relatives.

In addition to the Internet research, cemetery visits, and gathering of documents from the library, some of the most valuable information was obtained from face-to-face interviews with family elders and other relatives. During many of these interviews, other family members often attended and listened attentively as the person being interviewed shared information and stories about their memories of people, places, and events.



Tom with Leslie and Marilyn Coleman

Of the descendants of Calvert and Sarah, I interviewed people in several branches. In the Roy Coleman branch, I interviewed Betty Basler (the sister of my father) and Larry Coleman (the oldest child of my parents). I also interviewed and had conversations with descendants of several of Grandpa Roy's siblings. I met with Nancy Barnett and obtained photos from her. She is a descendant of Roy's oldest brother William. I met with many members of the Samuel Coleman branch, another brother of Roy. I did an extended interview of Leslie Coleman and his wife Marilyn at their home in Ypsilanti. My sisters Diane and Carolyn

participated in that interview. I met with my second cousin Bob Coleman and his wife Clarice in Colorado. Bob is a descendant of Roy's brother Claude.

I interviewed descendants of my great grandparents John and Fanny Paterson. My sister Carolyn drove me to Canada where we interviewed my second cousin Bill Stacey and his wife Eva at their home in Chatham, Ontario. Bill is the son of Mabel Paterson who was the sister of our Grandma Finney (daughter of John and Fanny).

I also interviewed two of my mother's cousins in the Steil family. I interviewed Kenneth Steil and his wife Diane at their home in Grosse Point, Michigan. Ken is a child of my Grandpa Steil's brother William. During the same session, I interviewed James Fry and his wife Beverly. Jim is a descendant of Anna Steil Ladensack, my Grandpa Steil's sister. Dorothy Steil, daughter of George Steil, was interviewed at her home in St. Clair Shores. My brother Larry was present for all of these Steil interviews.

After all of this information was gathered – including some 7,365 digital files – it had to be organized and evaluated. Extracting the most relevant information was very time consuming. Although the entire process of research, organizing, and writing was interesting, the most enjoyable part was writing up short stories about the lives of our ancestors – where they lived, and the joys and hardships they experienced in life. Adding the DNA information about myself and my siblings was icing on the cake.

Once bit by the genealogy bug, there is often no recovery. Curiosity about family history can be insatiable. There is always more to learn and more to share. But at some point – and this is that point – it is time to consolidate what is known into a product that is user friendly. Raw data and historical documents are of interest to only the most ardent fans of genealogy. What most people want are stories and photos. So here they are. Enjoy!



Meeting Other Family Historians

My formal search for information about my ancestors began in May 2010. While browsing through the Internet that month I became familiar with the online genealogy services of ancestry.com. I became a member of ancestry.com on May 8, 2010. Two days later, I was doing a general Internet search with google.com and I came across a webpage that mentioned my paternal grandfather, Arthur Roy Coleman. I noticed that the information was posted by Clarice Coleman. I immediately sent her an email, introducing myself as a grandchild of Arthur Roy Coleman and asking her to contact me. Two days later I heard back from her. That was the start of an ongoing genealogy relationship.

Clarice is the wife of Robert Coleman. Robert is my second cousin – a descendant of Claude Coleman who was a brother of my grandfather Roy. When I found Clarice, I struck genealogy gold. I soon discovered that she knew more about the ancestors of my paternal grandfather than anyone on Earth. She had researched the family history of Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall (grandpa Roy's parents and the great grandparents of her husband Bob), both backwards and forwards. Beginning in the 1970s, she spent countless hours over the course of several decades researching Coleman and Westfall family history. Fortunately, I was able to find answers to many of my Coleman ancestry questions in a book written by Clarice on Coleman and Westfall family history.

Clarice introduced me to another branch of the Coleman family – the Samuel Coleman branch. Samuel was another brother of my grandfather Roy. That introduction enabled me to meet about 50 previously unknown Coleman cousins at two family reunions in Canton, Michigan. I was also able to interview the eldest cousin in that branch, Leslie Coleman, and his wife Marilyn.

A few years ago, when my spouse Michael and I were traveling in Colorado, we were able to visit Bob and Clarice at their home in Longmont, Colorado. We had a lovely day together.

I have stayed in touch with Clarice and Bob by email during the past several years. We sometimes exchange new tidbits of family history information with each other. I am very grateful for all the genealogy work they have done and their willingness to share the fruits of their labors with me.

Researching Family History at the Detroit Public Library

by Thomas F. Coleman

On August 10, 2010, I paid a visit to the Burton Collection at the Detroit Public Library near the campus of Wayne State University in midtown Detroit. My sister, Carolyn Skalneek, was my companion and fellow researcher for the day.

The Burton Collection is a compilation of records about the history of Detroit. Among the many genealogical materials are church records, immigration documents, newspaper obituaries, and family histories from the 1800s and early 1900s.

When our search for naturalization records did not produce results, we turned our attention to microfilmed documents from St. Anthony Catholic Church. The Steil family and the Lukaschewski family had been parishioners at St. Anthony.

We found relevant entries as we reviewed church registers for baptisms, marriages, and funerals. Carolyn's digital camera captured images of these pages.

We found entries, in Latin, documenting the baptisms of our grandfather, Frank Steil, and his siblings, Anna, Valentinus (known to us as uncle Bill), and Florence. Then, as now, it is common for siblings of the parents to become the Godparents of the baptized child. George's brother John, was the Godfather of Anna. His sister Elizabeth was the Godmother of Frank, and his brother Valentinus was the Godfather of baby Valentinus (William).

Funeral records for our great grandparents, Rudolph and Anna Lukaschewski, and their daughter Theresa, were also there. They were so young when they died. Rudolph was 64, Anna was 54, and Theresa was 23.

Once we finished with the microfilm, we turned our attention to the card catalogue, looking for any index cards for Coleman, Paterson, Steil, and Lukaschewski. We found a few entries for members of the Steil family.

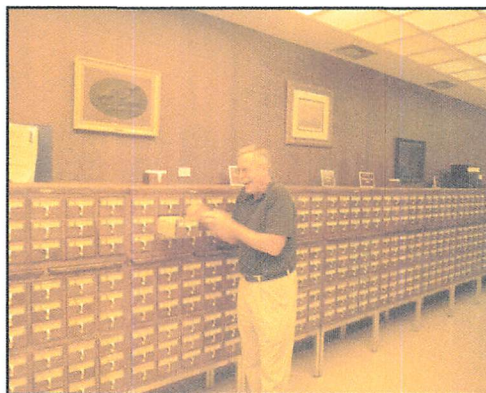
There was an obituary notice for our great grandfather George P. Steil who died in 1939. The notice said that, in addition to surviving children, he had two surviving sisters, Katherine Steil and Mrs. William Stephan, both of Traverse City. That struck a chord with me since I recalled seeing some photos of my mother as a child riding a horse in Traverse City.

There was also an obituary notice for George Steil Jr., our grandfather Frank's brother, who died the

following year. George had been a foreman at the Packard Motor Car Company for 35 years.

Then we found a 1966 clipping about our grandmother, Catherine Steil. The obituary said she had been a Grey Lady, volunteering her services at Providence Hospital for 23 years. The 1981 obituary notice for our great uncle, William Steil, was there. He lived to the ripe old age of 90.

On a happy note, we found a story from the Michigan Catholic in 1998, about the 50th wedding anniversary of James and Dorothy (Steil) Storz. Dorothy was the daughter of George Steil Jr. and the first cousin of our mother, Kay Coleman.



Thomas F. Coleman searching indexes at the Detroit Public Library .

We also found numerous entries for Steil and Lukaschewski households in the Detroit City Directory. The earliest listing for George Steil was in 1881 while the earliest listing for Rudolph Lukaschewski was in 1889.

Our research process then turned high tech. The librarian gave us access to a computer and a database for the Detroit Free Press from 1830 to 1921.

We found two real estate notices, one good and one bad. There was a notice, published in 1877, that our great grandparents, Calvert and Sarah Coleman had defaulted on their mortgage. That was several years before our grandfather, Roy Coleman, was born. Then, in 1895, there was a notice that title to a home on Alexandrine Avenue had transferred to Rudolph Lukaschewski. That was one year after our grandmother, Catherine Lukaschewski, was born. The Lukaschewski family had discovered the American dream of home ownership, not long after they arrived here from Poland.

Carolyn and I laughed when we found several announcements in the Free Press about the C.A.I. girls. When they were in their early 20s, Catherine Steil and her girlfriends created a group known as the Can't Afford It Club. They would rotate meetings from home to home and engage in social and recreational activities that did not cost money. One day they had a sewing bee, another time a sing along, and another day they had a popcorn contest. Catherine was the group's treasurer.

From births to deaths, and from home buying to mortgage defaulting, our day at the Burton Collection paid off handsomely. At a later visit to the library with my brother Larry Coleman, we found additional news articles on the Steil and Coleman families. The Detroit Public Library was a valuable resource.

Murray Coleman and Kathleen Steil

Murray F. Coleman

Murray Coleman was the third and youngest child born to Arthur Roy Coleman and Margaret Paterson.

Roy's first marriage had no children. His second marriage had two children: Dodd and Ruth.

The first child of Roy and Margaret was Jean, then came Betty, and then Murray.

Murray was born in 1920.

Murray's sister Jean died in a car accident in 1923. His father Roy died in 1932.

Murray married Kathleen Steil on May 1, 1943.

He served in the Navy in a non-combat role during World War II.

For about three decades, Murray sold insurance for National Life and Accident Insurance Company.

Despite the financial hardship, he and his wife Kay found a way to take the family to Florida each Easter in the 1960s for a spring vacation.

Murray took an early disability retirement sometime around 1979.

Murray died on August 9, 1984.

Kathleen J. Steil

Kathleen Steil was the only child of Frank William Steil and Catherine Julia Lukaschewski.

Kathleen was born in 1921.

Her parents purchased land in The Bunny Run area of Orion Township in the 1930s. They built a cottage there and became charter members of the Bunny Run Country Club in 1942.

Kay was a housewife, homemaker, and mother of nine children. She worked part time as an Avon sales representative for more than 40 years.

After Kay and Murray moved to Lake Orion, Kay joined the choir at St. Joseph Catholic Church and remained active in the choir for 30 years.

After her husband Murray died, Kay sold their home and moved into a smaller house in Bunny Run. A few years later, she moved into an apartment at Independence Village—an upscale retirement community in nearby Oxford.

For many years, Kay organized monthly dances for older adults in the Lake Orion area.

Kay remained physically active in her later years – walking, dancing, and swimming.

Kay died on November 21, 2005.



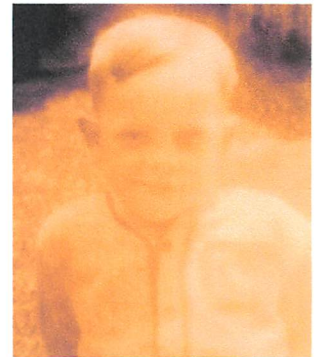
Murray and Kay had nine children: Larry, Tom, Dan, Gary, Maryann, Cathy, Carolyn, Diane, and Michael. They lived in Highland Park where Larry and Tom were born; in Royal Oak where Dan was born; in Ferndale where the other children were born; and in Lake Orion where they resided until they died. They are buried in Lake Orion.



With Grandma Fanny

Murray F. Coleman

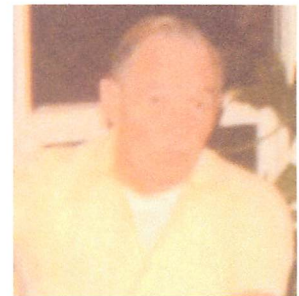
many faces and many phases
with many responsibilities



Baseball at age 7



Family Man



1470 Paul Blvd.



Happy Groom

from Detroit to Royal Oak
to Ferndale to Lake Orion,
Murray was a man on a mission



Blair - Christmas - 1952

TO A GREAT FATHER

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT A MAN THAT HAS MEANT A LOT TO US, MURRAY FREAR COLEMAN.

A FATHER TO US, A GRANDFATHER TO A LOT OF US, A GOOD FRIEND TO US, A LOVING AND CARING HUSBAND AND A TRUE CHRISTIAN. HE FILLED OUR LIVES WITH JOY AND HAPPINESS AND GAVE US THE LOVE THAT WE NEEDED IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GOOD TIMES AND BAD TIMES BUT I KNOW THE GOOD TIMES ARE WHAT WE WILL REMEMBER DAD BY. WE SHOULD ALL REALIZE HOW MUCH DAD HAS ACCOMPLISHED IN HIS LIFETIME. MARRYING A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN 41 YEARS AGO, CARING FOR HER, LOVING AND CHERISHING HER FOR MANY YEARS. THROUGH THEIR LOVE, ALL NINE OF US WERE BROUGHT INTO THIS WORLD. MOM AND DAD SHOULD BE PROUD OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IN PART, WE ARE ALL A REFLECTION OF DAD'S EXPECTATIONS AND I THINK WE DID HIM PROUD.

IN MEMORY OF
MURRAY F. COLEMAN

ENTERED LIFE
July 26, 1920

ENTERED ETERNAL LIFE
August 9, 1984

LORD, OUR REDEEMER, you gave yourself to death so that all men might be saved and pass from death into life. We humbly beg for your most merciful love. Be mindful of your servants who mourn and pray for their dear brother. Forgive him all his sins. Lord, you alone are holy and most compassionate. Through death you opened the gates of life for those who believe in you. Do not permit our brother to be parted from you, but by your glorious power, grant him a place of light, of heavenly joy and peace. You who live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen

LAKE ORION CHAPEL OF
SPARKS-GRIFFIN FUNERAL HOME

WE MUST CONTINUE OUR LIVES WITH THAT PART OF DAD IN US AND REALLY STRIVE FOR OUR GOALS BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT HE WOULD HAVE WANTED. NOW WE MUST BE STRONG AND HELP OUR LOVING MOTHER IN HER TIMES OF NEED.

FATHER, WE ALL LOVE YOU AND WILL MISS YOU EVERY DAY. ALL WE CAN ASK IS THAT GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM.

WE LOVE YOU DAD!



Kay in 1923

Kathleen Steil

a lifetime journey
of challenges and rewards



Kay's First Communion



Kathleen and Murray's Wedding



Kay in 1988

From childhood to modern maturity;
from Kathleen Steil to Kay Coleman;
from Detroit to Royal Oak
to Ferndale to Lake Orion;
Oh, what a gal . . .



Kay at Family Reunion 2000



Sharing Memories of Grandma Kay

December 2010



Love to all family and friends who were touched by grandma Kay! I miss her laughter and warbler singing the most. Her hugs too, and she used to get so mad, well kind of when I would rub her skin on her arms when she got older, but it was soft and made me smile! Xoxo love you!



Grandma was always so sweet and fun. She would always find me something to wear when I came to visit dressed in my Sunday best. That way I could play outside by the lake and walk to the little store and buy candy. She also always had an Avon goodie to give me before I left. Loved her hugs and her laugh.



Grandma Kay was a wonderful lady. I'll always miss her laugh and the way her eyes lit up when she was happy. I miss her hugs too! Grandma had the most warm, comforting hugs that just soothed your soul. Love you Grandma.



I miss being grandma's server at Independence Village...we had some great times. Not only will December never be the same but the remaining 11 months of every year. I love you Gramma!



Baaaaaaaap!

Every time I see a dragonfly or a tchotchke that looks like a dragonfly I know she's watching over me. Miss you Gram!



I lived with Gram one summer. She was the best roommate ever. There was always something cooking, and always a smile on her face. She could even out party me... she was coming in at all hours of the night :) She has a wonderful laugh and a real zest for life! She inspired me to never give up on my dreams! I am still dreaming them! Not to mention the German potato salad!



I remember grandma coming over and telling us tons of stories about all the kids growing up and all the ways the kids got hurt and how many hospital trips they had with the 9 kids. Grandma was such a happy person, she was always laughing and loved to have a good time. I remember doing lemon drop shots with her. She

could hang with us college kids no problem :) We miss you grandma Kay!

Kathleen (Steil) Coleman

Daughter † Wife † Mother † Grandmother
Great Grandmother † Aunt † Cousin † Friend † Child of God

These are the many roles that Kay Coleman assumed during her life with us on earth. She dearly loved each of these roles. She performed them masterfully.

Kay relished quality relationships. Anyone who was fortunate enough to meet her could testify that Kay had an angelic aura glowing with unconditional love.

Catherine and Frank Steil became the proud parents of beautiful baby girl on December 16, 1921. Kay remained a beautiful person, physically and spiritually, throughout her life. She was raised with Christian values and with a respect for traditions and an appreciation of holidays.

Kay eventually met Murray Coleman, a tall and handsome man, who shared her love of music and dancing. They fell in love, married, and brought nine vibrant and unique children into this world. They raised their children well, always encouraging them to do their very best. Many sacrifices were made to provide the necessities for a family which kept growing, and growing, and growing.

Gatherings of family and friends were important to Kay and Murray. Steil family reunions were a special treat, with many great aunts and uncles paying attention to the Coleman kids who loved the hugs, kisses, and games (not to mention the quarters). Outings to the farm of Betty and Casper Basler, Kay's sister and brother in-law, were always an adventure.

Kay enjoyed sharing her children with her close friends, many of whom became Godparents for the Coleman kids. The sounds of laughter, music, and card shuffling filled the Coleman house when it was Kay and Murray's turn to host their friends from the Pinochle Club.

Kay sold Avon products for more than 40 years. After her first six years as an Avon Representative, Kay was able to save up enough money to buy her own car. She was proud of that accomplishment and used it as an example for her children to get part time jobs so they too could earn their own money.

Lake Orion was always a very special place to Kay. In the 1930s and 1940s, it was a getaway for summer and winter recreation. Eventually, Kay and Murray moved with their family from Ferndale and made Lake Orion their permanent home. St. Joseph's Church became a major part of the life of Kay and Murray and family – Murray as an usher; Kay in the choir; weddings of children; baptisms of grandkids; Midnight Mass on Christmas (with family members and her friend Joie coming back to Kay's for coffee and pastries). Easter Sunday; Ash Wednesday; and, of course, attending the funerals of those who were near and dear.

Kay had a lot of respect for the military, having been a war bride herself and having

sons who served in the military. She loved patriotic events such as celebrating on the Fourth of July. She supported the creation of the Veterans Memorial in Lake Orion. She was proud to be an American.

Kay probably invented the concept of "multi-tasking" – she could do several things at one time – talking on the phone, cooking, laundry, and scolding a naughty child – all without skipping a beat.

Kay loved spending the last several years living at Independence Village. The staff were kind and supportive. She became friends with her fellow residents, enjoying their company on a daily basis and going on special outings. She made some very close friendships there.

Kay had planned to host Thanksgiving dinner for her family at her apartment there, but God called her to heaven before she could finish making the carrot pudding she was working on at the time. In fact, the whiskey for the sauce was sitting on the counter and it sure came in handy when her children arrived at her apartment after hearing about her passing. We had a toast to Momma Kay.

Kay's children recall that:

- * She was not judgmental, did not hold grudges, and was very forgiving;
- * She was not a quitter; Kay followed through with her commitments;
- * Despite pressures and stress, she took time to smell the roses along the way;

Kay wishes would have been for us to:

- * Show acts of kindness to others – its more about giving time than money;
- * Be patriotic, just as she was;
- * Gather together for birthdays and holidays; celebrate our lives;
- * Remember to pray, and to sing God's praises as often as we can.

We know that Kay's passing was quick and painless. Although she has left her physical body, her spirit remains in all of our hearts. As the friends and loved ones she left behind, we will honor her legacy by continuing her work. We will keep a positive outlook on life and let music fill our souls. We will dance and be happy.

But the most important way to honor Kay is follow her example. Give the gifts of time, listening, loving and forgiving; remembering that it's the small things that count! We will remember how she chose to live and that will make our hearts smile.

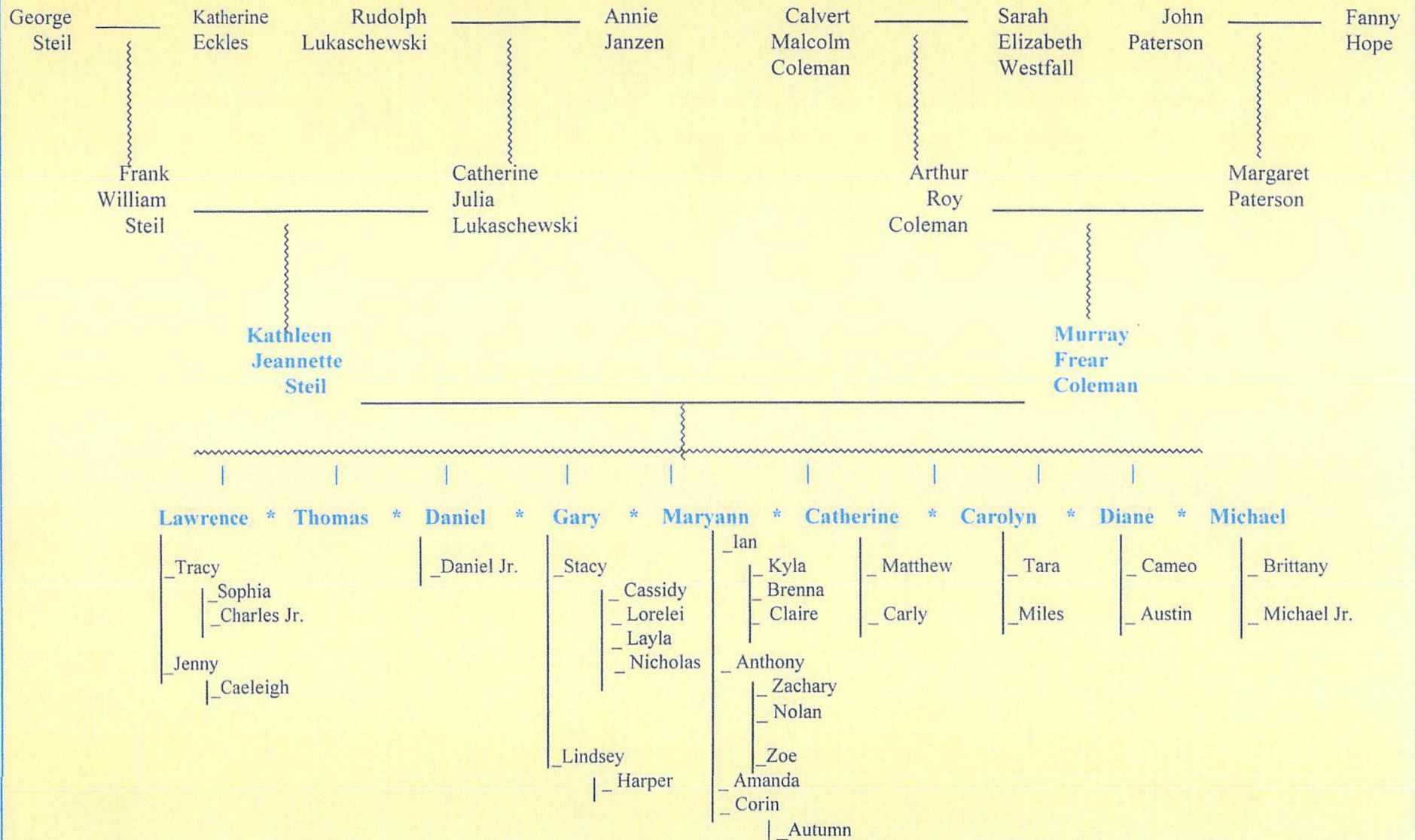
Kay would want us to know that life isn't about days and years. It's what you do with the time and with all the goodness and grace that's inside us. So we will make a beautiful life in her memory and honor.

"Shut the door behind ya. Pass the potatoes. Finish your vegetables. Avon calling. Quit biting your nails. I'll just be a minute." When we hear these phrases, we'll smile and remember mama Kay.

And when we smell the fragrance of lilacs or notice the aroma of German potato salad, then too will we know that Kay is near.

Oh, what a life. O, what a gal. We will miss you Kay. Alleluia and Amen.

Biological Family Lines of Kathleen Steil and Murray Coleman





Christmas 1952 at 3128 N. Blair in Royal Oak



Murray on Blair with Larry, Tom, and Dan

3128 N. Blair – Royal Oak



Kay on front porch with Larry, Tom, and Dan



Murray on porch with Larry, Tom, and Dan



Birthday party in basement of house on Blair Street



Family Reunion – 2000

Kay Coleman and Her 9 Children

Kay's Grandchildren



Family Reunion 1992



Family Reunion 2000

More information on biological relatives of Kathleen Steil and Murray Coleman

Murray Coleman's father, **Arthur Roy Coleman**, known as Roy, was married to Myrtle Fitzgerald in Canada in 1905. She died two years later. He married Florence Curtiss Knapp in Canada in 1909. They had two children, Dodd in 1911 and Ruth in 1909. Oral history said that Florence died, but court records show that Roy filed for divorce in 1916, a few months before he married Margaret Paterson. After Roy and Florence separated, Dodd went to live with Roy's sister Addie and Ruth was adopted by Roy's sister Jenny. Roy and Margaret met at the Ford Motor Company plant in Highland Park, Michigan. Once married, they had three children: Jean, Betty, Murray Jean. Jean died in a car accident at the age of seven in 1923. Roy died at home just after New Years Day in 1932 with his daughter Betty at his side. Roy is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Roy Coleman's parents, **Sarah Westfall and Calvert Malcolm Coleman**, had eight children. Roy was the youngest. Calvert suffered from alcoholism. Sarah left Calvert when Roy was about six years old. The Census reported that on June 1, 1900, Sarah Coleman lived at 888 Greenwood Street in Detroit where she was the head of household (with two sons, William Coleman and Roy Coleman, listed as living with her).

Murray Coleman's mother, **Margaret Paterson**, had three sisters: Agnes Jane (born on March 11, 1883), Isabella Mary (born November 1, 1885), and Mabel (born November 5, 1888). Agnes and Bell never had children. Margaret was born on November 22, 1890. Agnes is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Margaret Paterson's parents, **John Creighton Paterson and Fanny Hope**, were born in Scotland. John was born on October 4, 1857, in Niebie Barnes, Scotland. He died on February 23, 1932 in Chatham, Canada. Fanny Hope was born in Gretna Green, Scotland on November 5, 1855. She died in Chatham, Canada, on October 18, 1944. John and Fanny had been married in Harwith Township, Canada.

Kathleen Steil's father, **Frank W. Steil**, had three brothers and four sisters: George, William, Walter, Alice, Marie, Florence, and Anna. His father, George, immigrated to Detroit from Germany in the mid-1880s. George was a carpenter.

Kathleen Steil's mother, **Catherine Lucaschewski**, had three brothers and three sisters: Frank, Phil, George, Lucy, Helen, and Teresa. Her father, Rudolph, immigrated to Detroit from Poland in the mid-1880s. Rudolph was a laborer.

(Note: Some of this information was gather in December 2001 by Tom Coleman during interviews with Kay Coleman and Betty Basler. Other information, such as Roy's first marriage ending in the death of his wife and his second marriage ending in separation, were obtained from public records found in various online archives.)



John and Fanny Paterson

Parents of Margaret, Agnes, Bell, Mabel, and
Grandparents of Murray & Betty

Murray Coleman's Side of the Family

Scottish and Canadian Heritage



Margaret and Mabel

Betty and Grandma Fanny
Billy, Murray, and Bernice



Arthur Roy Coleman

Father of Betty, Murray, Jean, Dodd, and Ruth



Agnes Paterson

with Dodd and Jean in 1920

from Chathan, Canada to
Highland Park, Michigan
to the farm in Carsonville,
they worked hard and had fun



Betty and Casper Basler
at Coleman home in Ferndale



Arthur Roy Coleman

1884 - 1932

Arthur Roy Coleman was born in Van Buren Township, Michigan in 1884. His parents were Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall. Calvert was born in New York and Sarah was born in Michigan.

Arthur, known as Roy, was the youngest of eight children born to Calvert and Sarah: William (b. 1864), Mary (b. 1866), Samuel (b. 1868), George (b. 1870), Addie (b. 1872), Claud (b. 1875), Jennie (b. 1877). Calvert and Sarah were married December 24, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War era.

The 1900 census shows Roy living with his mother Sarah and his brother William at 888 Greenwood Street in Detroit. He worked as a clerk at Scott Dillon & Co. in Detroit in 1902 and 1903.

Roy must have had an attraction to Chatham, Ontario, Canada since he was married there three times.

The first marriage was to Myrtle Fitzgerald in 1905. Both were 21 years old and both were from Michigan. Roy's occupation was listed as a bookkeeper. There is no record of whether this marriage was terminated or how.

Roy's second marriage was to Florence Knapp in 1909. The marriage was performed in Chatham. The marriage record gave three options as to marital status: bachelor, divorced, widowed. He listed himself as a bachelor. He listed his religious affiliation as Methodist, his occupation as livery keeper, and residence as Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Florence and Roy had two children. Dodd was born in 1910 in Detroit. Ruth was born in 1913. It is reported that Florence died a year or two after Ruth was born, leaving Roy a widower. Roy's sister, Jennie Freer, and her husband, Edgar Freer adopted Ruth. His sister, Addie Skerrett, took care of Dodd for a while and doted on the little boy, according to Addie's son-in-law, Bill Chambers.

Roy married Margaret Paterson in Chatham on May 29, in 1916. Margaret was then residing in Chatham. Roy apparently moved to Chatham and lived there for a few years since his draft registration record shows him as an auto salesman working in Chatham and living there with Margaret Coleman.

The 1920 census shows Roy and Margaret living on Woodward Avenue in Highland Park. With them was Dodd, then 9 years old, daughter Jean, 3 years old, and daughter Betty, 1 ½ years old. Also in the household was Roy's 18 year-old nephew Donald (son of Arthur's brother Samuel) and Margaret's sister, Agnes Murray. The census listed Roy's occupation as auto factory salesman.

In the 1928-29 Detroit city directory, Roy's occupation was listed as manager for Belle Isle Creamery Company. The 1930 census shows Roy and his family living at 16538 Woodward Avenue in Highland Park. This was a

block south of McNichols (6 Mile Road). Living with Roy and Margaret were Dodd (19), Betty (11), and Murray (9). Their daughter Jean had died in an accident in 1923.

In the 1932-33 Detroit city directory, Margaret was listed as a widow. Roy had died in 1932. He was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Murray's children only heard a rare reference to Roy. No mention was made of Roy's siblings other than to Roy's sister Jennie whom Murray occasionally visited at her horse ranch in Orion Township.



Aunt Betty and Gary Coleman at Roy's Grave.

Notes on Arthur Roy Coleman

(father of Murray Frear Coleman)

Data Compiled by Clarice Coleman

(Clarice Coleman is the wife of Robert Coleman: son of Sumner Coleman and Bess Sinkule; grandson of Claud Coleman and Jennie Heath; great grandson of Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall.)

74. **ARTHUR ROY COLEMAN**, son of Calvert M. Coleman and Sarah E. Westfall; b. 22 Oct. 1884, Belleville, MI; d. 1932, Highland Park or Detroit, MI. Roy mar. (1) about 1905 in Canada, to **MYRTLE FITZGERALD**; mar. (2) 17 Nov. 1909, Windsor, Essex Co., Ontario, Canada to **FLORENCE CURTIS KNAPP**, b. Aug. 1881; daughter of Henry M. Curtis and Esther Pomerey. Florence was mar. first to Charles Knapp and had a daughter.

1. Arthur mar. (3) about 1916 in Canada to **MARGARET PATTERSON**.

Children: **COLEMAN** (of Roy Coleman and Florence Curtis Knapp)

i. Dodd H. b. 29 June 1910, MI; d. Aug. 1974, Detroit, MI; (dates per Social Security Death Index); mar. about 1934, to Eileen.

ii. Ruth b. about 1913 (adopted by Jennie Coleman and Edgar Freer)

Children: **COLEMAN** (of Roy Coleman and Margaret Patterson)

iii. Jean b. May 1916, Detroit, MI; d. 7 Aug. 1923 at Highland Park Hospital, accident; buried at Woodlawn Cemetery; source: Skerrett Funeral Home record book

iv. Betty Lorraine b. July 1918, Detroit, MI

v. Murray Frear b. 26 July 1920, Highland Park, MI; d. Aug. 1984, MI (dates per Social Security Death Index)

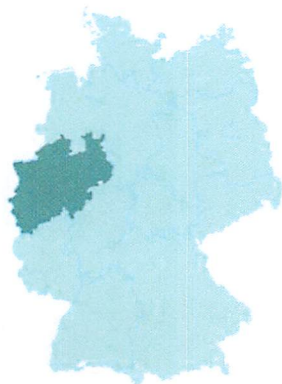
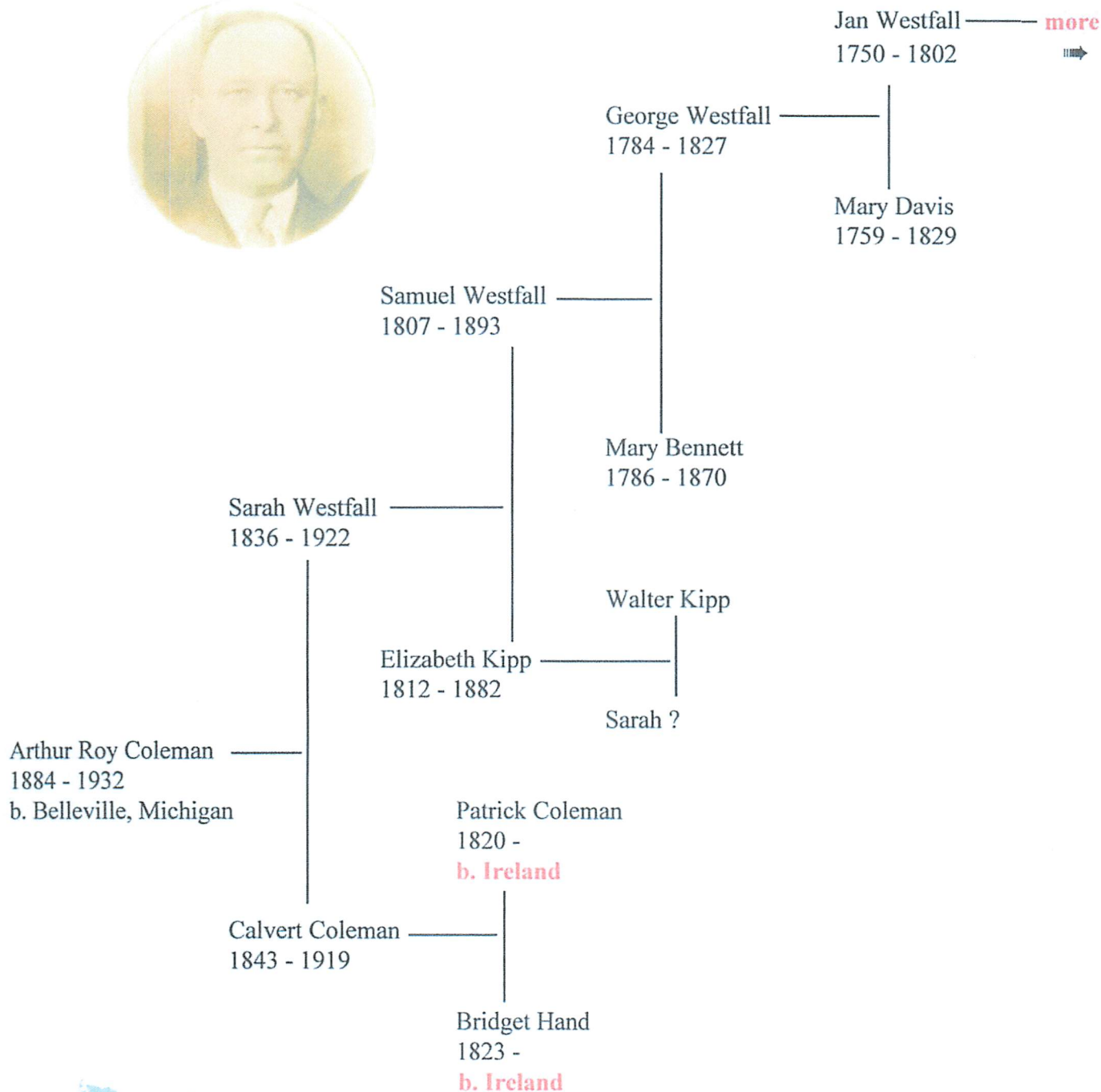
Roy Coleman worked as a clerk at Scott Dillon & Co., Detroit, MI, in 1902 and 1903. He lived with his mother and brothers at 888 Greenwood, Detroit. He married and lived in Ypsilanti, MI, for several years. After his wife, Florence, died, he worked as a salesman for various companies in the Detroit area.

He and Florence had two young children, Dodd and Ruth. When Florence died, Roy's sister, Jennie Freer, and her husband, Edgar Freer adopted Ruth. His sister, Addie Skerrett, took care of his son, Dodd, and doted on the little boy, according to Addie's son-in-law, Bill Chambers.

In the 1920 U.S. Census, Arthur R. Coleman was listed as head of household on Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI. His age was 36 yrs., born in MI, and his occupation was auto factory salesman. His wife, Myra (Margaret), age 27 yrs., was born in Canada; son Dodd, age 9 1/2 yrs., born in MI, occupation was newsboy; daughter, Jean, age 3 yrs. and 8 months, born in MI; daughter, Betty, age 1-1/2 yrs., born in MI; sister-in-law, J. Agnes Murray, age 34 yrs., born in Canada, and manager of a tea room; nephew, Donald Coleman, age 18 yrs., born in MI, occupation was apprentice tool maker.

In the 1928-1929 Detroit City Directory, Arthur R. Coleman and wife Margaret are listed as living at 16538 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI. Roy was a division manager for Belle Isle Creamery Co. His son, Dodd Coleman, lived with them. The 1930 U.S. Census shows the family living at 16538 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI. Listed are Roy, age 46; Margaret age 38; Dodd H. age 19; Betty L. age 11, and Murray F. age 9. Their daughter, Jean, had died in an accident in 1923. In the 1932-1933 Detroit City Directory, Margaret Coleman is listed as "widow of Arthur R." She still lived at the same address on Woodward Ave.

Ancestors of Arthur Roy Coleman

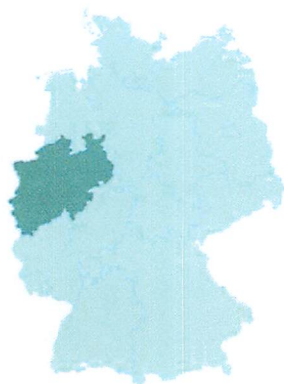
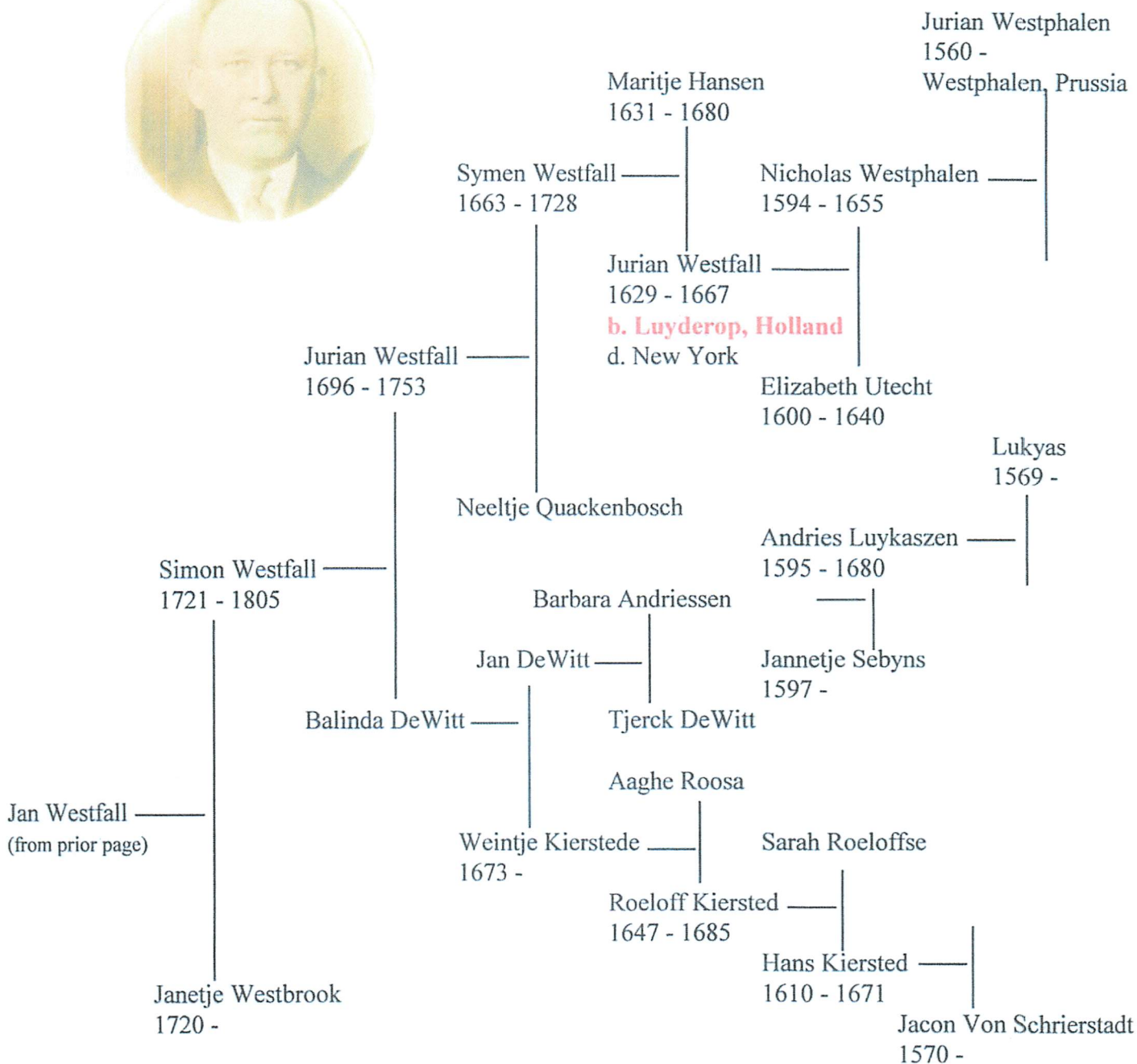


The paternal ancestors of Roy are traced back to 1820 in Ireland (right). His maternal ancestors (Westfall) are traced back to 1560 in Westphalia, a region in the Duchy of Saxony. It later became part of Prussia. The area is now a state (North Rhineland-Westphalia) in Germany (left).



Click on a name for more information about that ancestor.

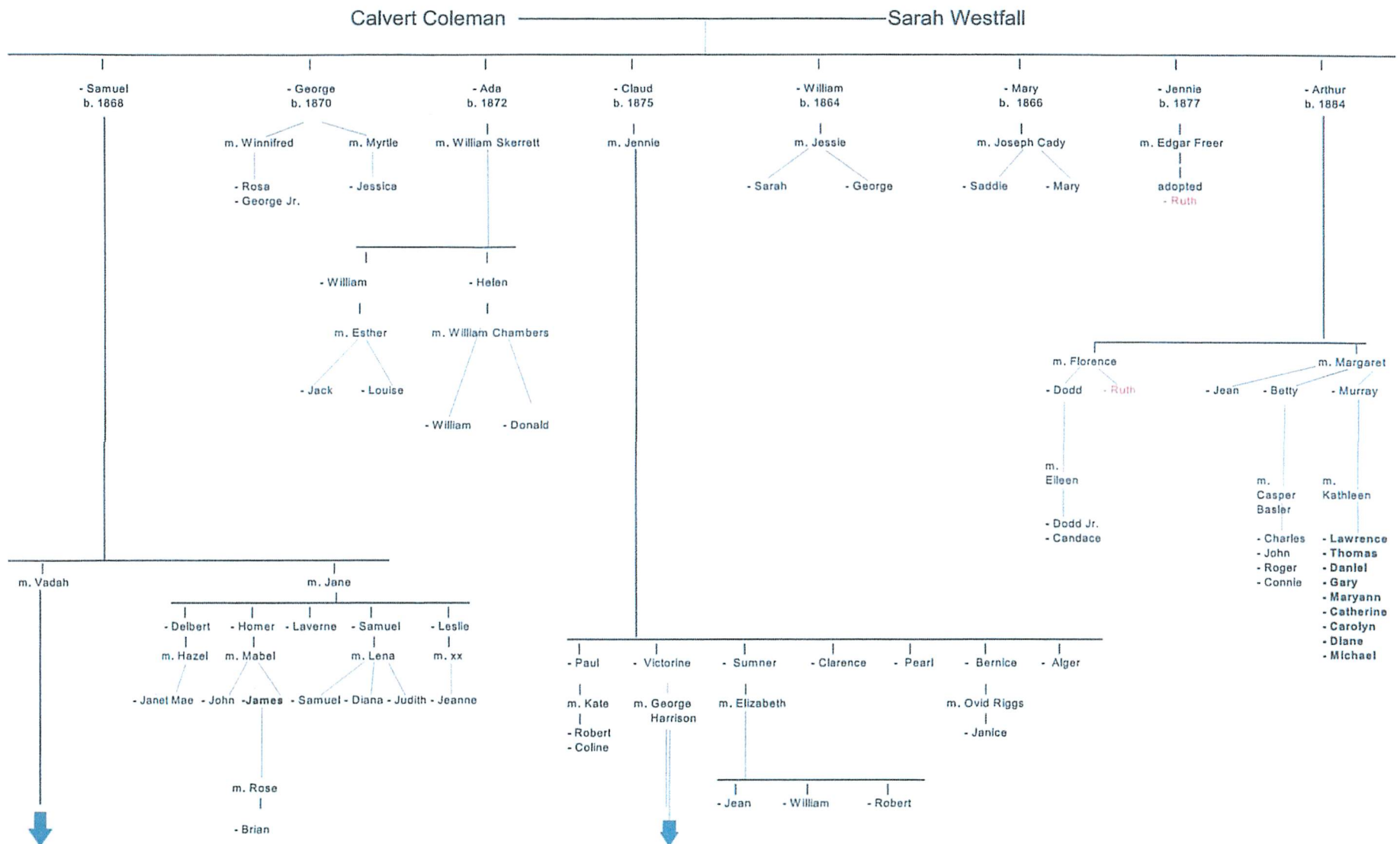
Ancestors of Arthur Roy Coleman (continued)

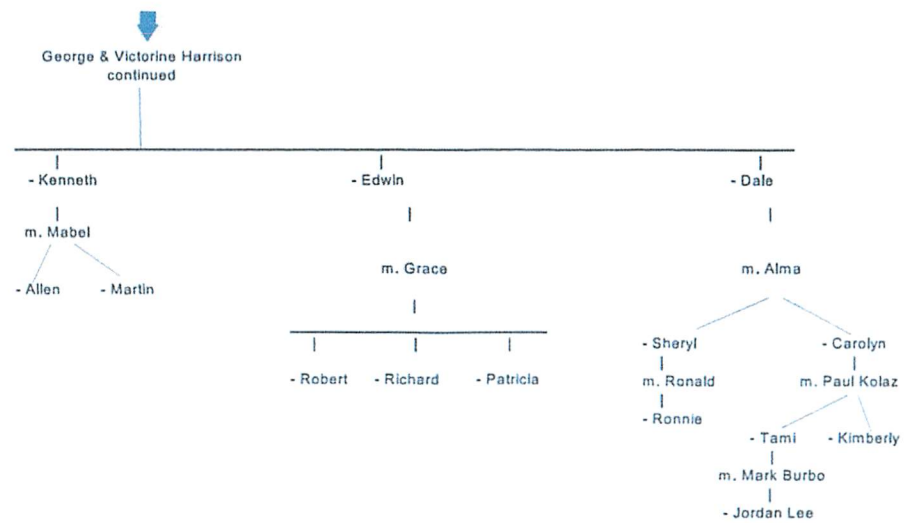
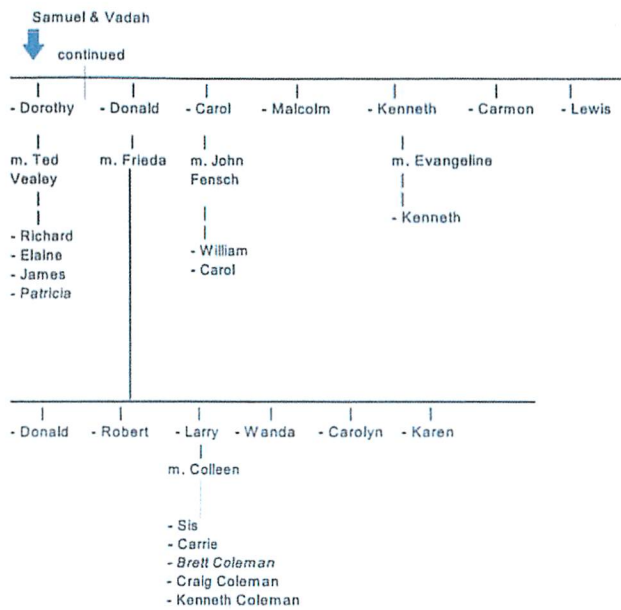


The paternal ancestors of Roy are traced back to 1820 in Ireland (right). His maternal ancestors (Westfall) are traced back to 1560 in Westphalia, a region in the Duchy of Saxony. It later became part of Prussia. The area is now a state (North Rhineland-Westphalia) in Germany (left).



Click on a name for more information about that ancestor.







Margaret Paterson

September 22, 1890 - August 19, 1990

Margaret Paterson was born in Dover Township in Ontario, Canada in 1890. Her parents were John Paterson and Fanny Hope. John immigrated to Canada from Scotland in 1879. Fanny immigrated from Scotland three years later, arriving at the port of New York on May 11, 1882.

Margaret was the youngest of four children born to John and Fanny: Isabella (b. 1883), Agnes (b. 1886), Mabel (b. 1889). John and Fanny were married on May 23, 1882 near Chatham, Ontario, Canada.

The 1891 census of Canada showed Margaret living with her parents, her three sisters, her uncle James Paterson, and her grandparents, James and Jane Paterson.

Margaret's sister, Agnes, appears to be the first of the children of John and Fanny Paterson to move to Detroit from Chatham. The 1910 census shows Agnes working as a chambermaid at St. Lukes Hospital in Detroit. That same year, Agnes married Charles Murray, a manufacturer who lived in Detroit. A border crossing record shows Margaret visiting Detroit in 1912.

Margaret married Arthur Roy Coleman on May 29, 1916. The marriage was performed by a minister from the Presbyterian church, which was the religious affiliation of Margaret's family. Roy was a Methodist. Margaret was then living in Chatham and Roy in Detroit. The couple stated that they intended to reside in Chatham.

Margaret and Roy later moved to Detroit. The 1920 census shows them renting at 3454 Woodward Avenue – about 1.5 miles from the Detroit river. Margaret's two children, Jean (age 3 ½) and Betty (age 1 ½) lived with them as did Dodd (age 9 ½). Dodd was Roy's son and Margaret's stepson. Also in the household was Margaret's sister, Agnes Murray, and Roy's nephew, Donald.

The 1930 census shows Margaret and Roy renting an apartment at 16538 Woodward Avenue in Highland Park, Michigan. Monthly rent was \$40. Living with them was Dodd (age 19), Betty (age 11) and Murray (age 9). Living next door was Margaret's sister, Agnes, along with her friend Ethel Chatrand and her cousin William Kerr, a relative who had immigrated from Scotland in 1927.

After Roy died in 1932, Margaret and her children continued to live in the apartment on Woodward Avenue.

Isabelle Paterson, sister of Margaret and Agnes, moved to the Detroit area to live with her sister Agnes in 1939. The border crossing record shows that Agnes was still living at 16538 Woodward Avenue. Their sister Mabel was therefore the only sibling to remain living in Canada.

Margaret's daughter Betty married Casper Basler. Her son Murray married Kathleen Steil. Daughter Jean had died in an accident in 1923.

Margaret later married Laban "Jack" Finney. Jack died in 1945. Since she had changed her last name from Coleman to Finney, Margaret was later known to her grandchildren as "Grandma Finney."

Margaret and her sisters Agnes and Belle later moved into a house owned by their cousin William Kerr on Hollywood Street in Highland Park. They had to move when William died before he was able to execute a will in which he intended to bequest the house to his cousins.

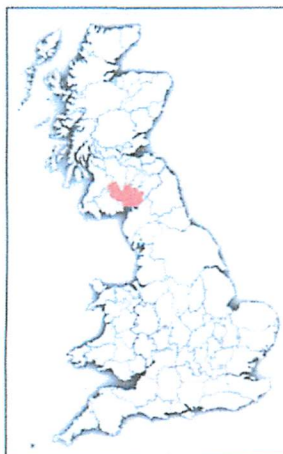
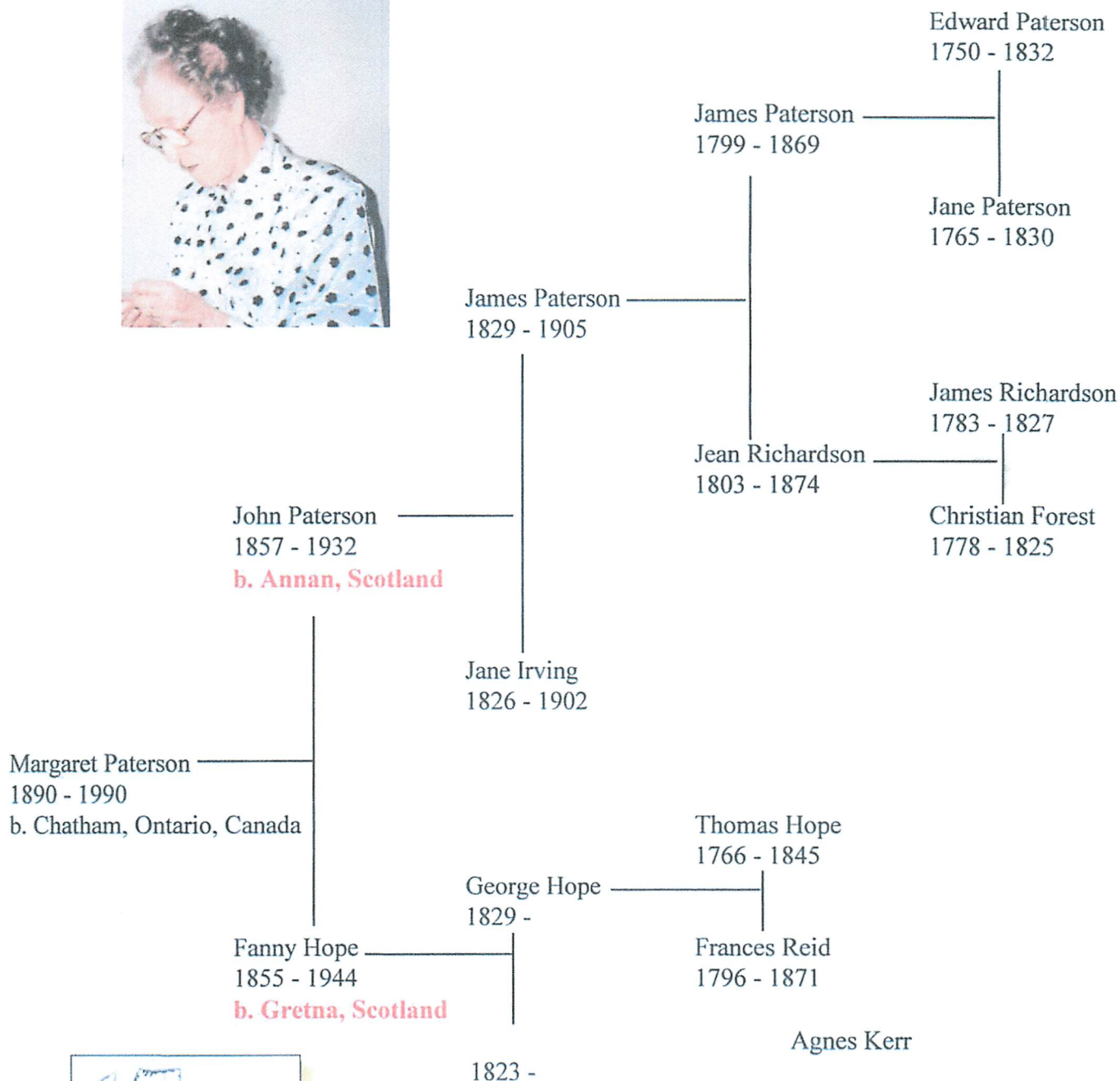
Margaret then lived with her daughter Betty and her son-in-law Casper and their family at the Basler farm in Carsonville, Michigan. She helped look after the Basler children and tended the household garden and fed the chickens. Margaret would occasionally visit the Coleman household in Ferndale, Michigan, and the Colemans would also periodically visit Margaret at the Basler farm. Margaret taught the Coleman and Basler children to respect nature and to be kind to animals.

Margaret eventually became frail and moved into a small group home for elderly women in the Carsonville area. When her health finally failed, she was transferred to a nursing home in the area. Margaret died about a month before her 100th birthday.

Links to documents and photos mentioned above:

[Margaret's 1890 birth certificate](#) / [record of birth](#)
[1912 boarder crossing](#) / [1916 marriage record](#)
 Census records: [1891](#) - [1901](#) - [1920](#) - [1930](#)
 Photos: [Murray and Dan](#) / [Carolyn and Tara](#)
[Jack Finney and Margaret](#) / [Agnes Murray](#)
[Betty, Margaret, Connie, and Coleman kids in 1970](#)
[Eulogy at funeral service](#) / [Memorial tea bag launch](#)

Ancestors of Margaret Paterson



These ancestors are traced back to 1750 in Annan, Scotland. Annan is located in the county of Dumfries, an area in the south part of Scotland. Dumfries is adjacent to the border with England. In the eighteenth century, farmers here raised cattle and sheep.

Click on a name for more information about that ancestor.

MARGARET FINNEY

Eulogy by Thomas Coleman

Thank you God and thank you aunt Betty for this opportunity. It is an honor and a privilege to give this eulogy for Margaret Finney.

Margaret Finney, I love you and we all love you. Even though you are no longer physically present, your true life is everlasting and so is our love for you. We will love you until the day we are eventually reunited with you.

Until then, we will have our memories of you and of our relationship with you. Let us call upon God's spirit to descend upon us now and to rekindle in us those memories as well as our present experience of Margaret Finney.

Who was Margaret Finney? How does she live on in our memories?

She was a strong woman, a kind and gentle soul. She was full of love and joy. Margaret had a great sense of humor. She loved children; she loved animals; she loved all of God's creatures.

Margaret was a good Christian who often professed her love for God. She was a good mother and a wonderful grandmother. She was a survivor, a doer, a participator in life.

Margaret's life spanned a century. She saw it all. She experienced many major life transformations.

On a global scale, she was born near the turn of the century. Margaret witnessed startling changes:

When it came to transportation, she saw the horse and buggy change into automobile travel, then airplanes, then travel into outer space. With respect to communications, life went from radio, to telephones, to television. Margaret saw great social and political changes: from the coming and going of prohibition, to women getting the right to vote, to the emergence of the civil rights movement. On an economic level, she went through the roaring twenties, the depression, and several wars.

On a personal level:

Margaret got married, had children, and raised a family. Her family went from two people -- Margaret and Roy -- to a large family with three branches and many blossoms, all of whom are represented here today.

What is Margaret's message for us today?

Two months ago I asked her to share some words of wisdom. Here is what she said: "It's a good life, as long as you don't weaken."

Margaret is telling us to be strong: physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually. We can look to her as an example of what that means:

- * Tell the truth.
- * Express love for God and for others.
- * Have compassion.
- * Let go of false pride.
- * Be the first to forgive.

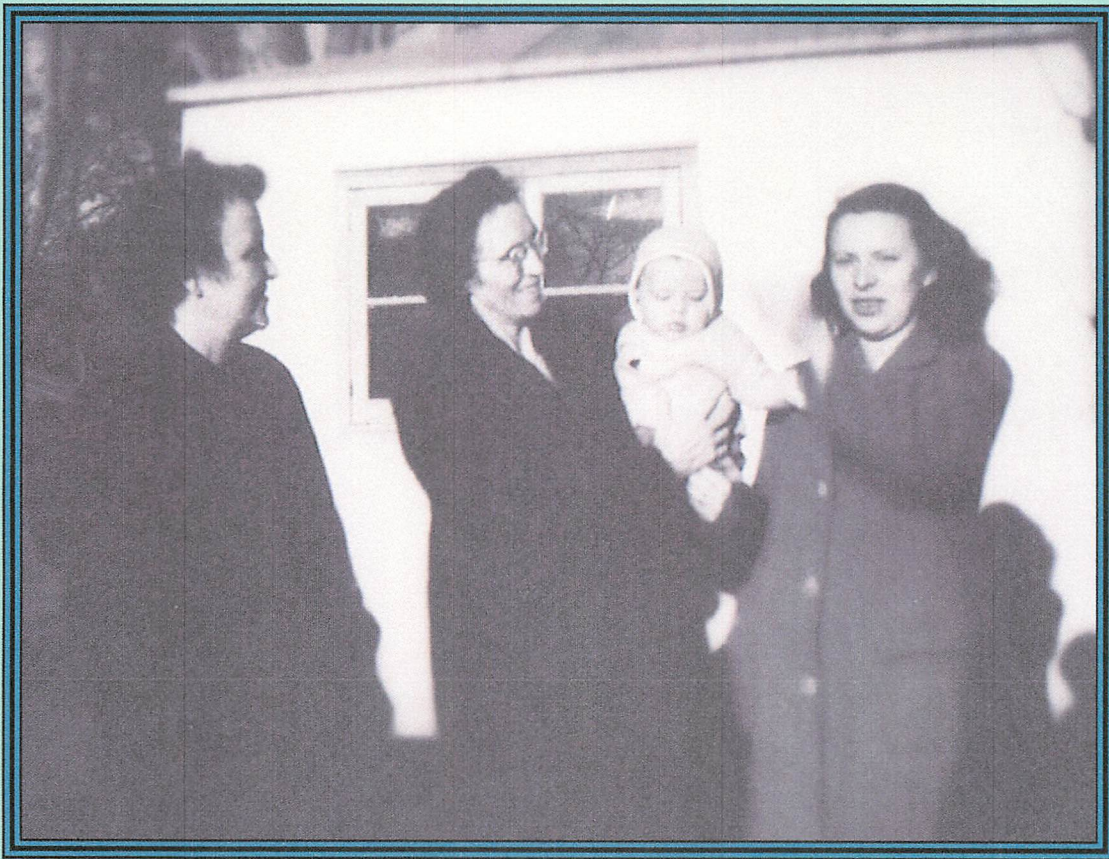
Margaret would not want us to mourn for her. She would want us to show our truth faith and to celebrate her passing to eternal life.

Margaret loved Red Rose tea. As a sign of celebration on September 22 (Margaret's 100th birthday), many of us -- wherever we may be that day -- will display a symbol of our love by releasing a helium balloon with a Red Rose tea bag attached to it to wish her well.

Would all of those present who love Margaret Finney please stand and show your applause for a life well lived. [Standing ovation]

Margaret, you just got a standing ovation from a full house of well wishers.

Grandma, we love you.



Margaret Paterson Finney and her grandson Larry

In this photo, Grandma Finney, as she became known, is holding her grandson Larry Coleman. On the right side of the photo is Larry's mother, Kay Coleman. On the left, is Kay's mother, Catherine Steil.



**Margaret Paterson and
her daughter-in-law
Kay Coleman**

Kay is the wife of
Margaret's son, Murray
Coleman.

After her first husband (Roy
Coleman) died in 1932,
Margaret married Jack
Finney a few years later.
Jack died in 1945. At the
time of this photo,
Margaret's last name was
Finney.



Frank W. Steil

Jan. 16, 1893 - Aug. 18, 1981

Frank Steil was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1893. His parents were George P. Steil and Katherine Ackles. They immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1882 and were followed by his grandparents, John P. Steil and Anna Ruhl, two years later.

Frank was the fourth child of the eight children born to George and Katherine: George (b. 1887), Anna (b. 1889), William Valentine (b. 1891), Frank (b. 1893), Florence (b. 1895), Alice (b. 1898), Walter (b. 1900), and Marie (b. 1903).

Frank grew up on the eastside of Detroit. The Steil family was Catholic and belonged to St. Anthony's parish.

Frank's father George, his grandfather John, and his older brother Valentine (known as William) were carpenters and cabinet makers. An 1891 city directory lists the business name as John P. Steil and Sons. The following year, the directory lists the business as Steil Brothers (carpenters) and indicates that John P. Steil had died the previous year at the age of 62.

In 1899, the city directory shows that the George Steil family lived at 1325 Canton. The cross street is listed as Kirby. A 1900 census document also shows the family at this address and indicates that George was a carpenter.

These documents coincide with information learned during a "trip down memory lane" for the 80th birthday of Kay Coleman (only child of Frank Steil and Catherine Lukaschewski). Along the way, Kay pointed out an old dilapidated store with an apartment above it, stating that her father's family had once lived there.

Frank was an industrious young man. A work permit signed by his father shows that Frank started working in a factory at the age of 15. In 1919, he became a partner in Air Friction Carburetor Sales Company. The following year, a census form lists Frank's occupation, at the age of 26, as a toolmaker.

Frank married Catherine Lukaschewski (then known as Catherine Lukas) on October 28, 1920. The ceremony was performed at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. The invitation indicates they would be living at 362 Fullerton Avenue.

Kathleen Jeanette Coleman was born to Frank and Catherine on December 16, 1921. She was born at home with Dr. George C. Pratt attending. The residence was listed as 2158 Fullerton Street in Detroit.

In 1930, the census shows Frank and Catherine and Kathleen living in a duplex they owned on Fullerton Street in Detroit. The value was listed as \$11,000. It also shows

that Frank was not a military veteran. Although Frank had registered for the draft in 1917, he was never called for service.

Sometime during the 1930s, Frank and Catherine bought several lots in the Bunny Run area of Lake Orion, Michigan. They built a cottage on one of the lots. The cottage became a recreational gathering place for Kathleen and her friends as she was growing up. It also became the venue for annual reunions of the Steil family. After Kathleen married Murray Coleman, they and their children enjoyed the cottage. One of the lots later became the site of a new home for the Coleman family when they moved to Lake Orion from Ferndale, Michigan.

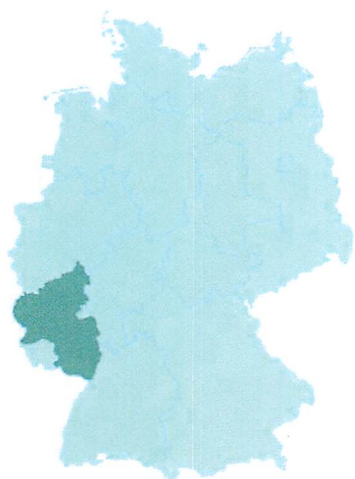
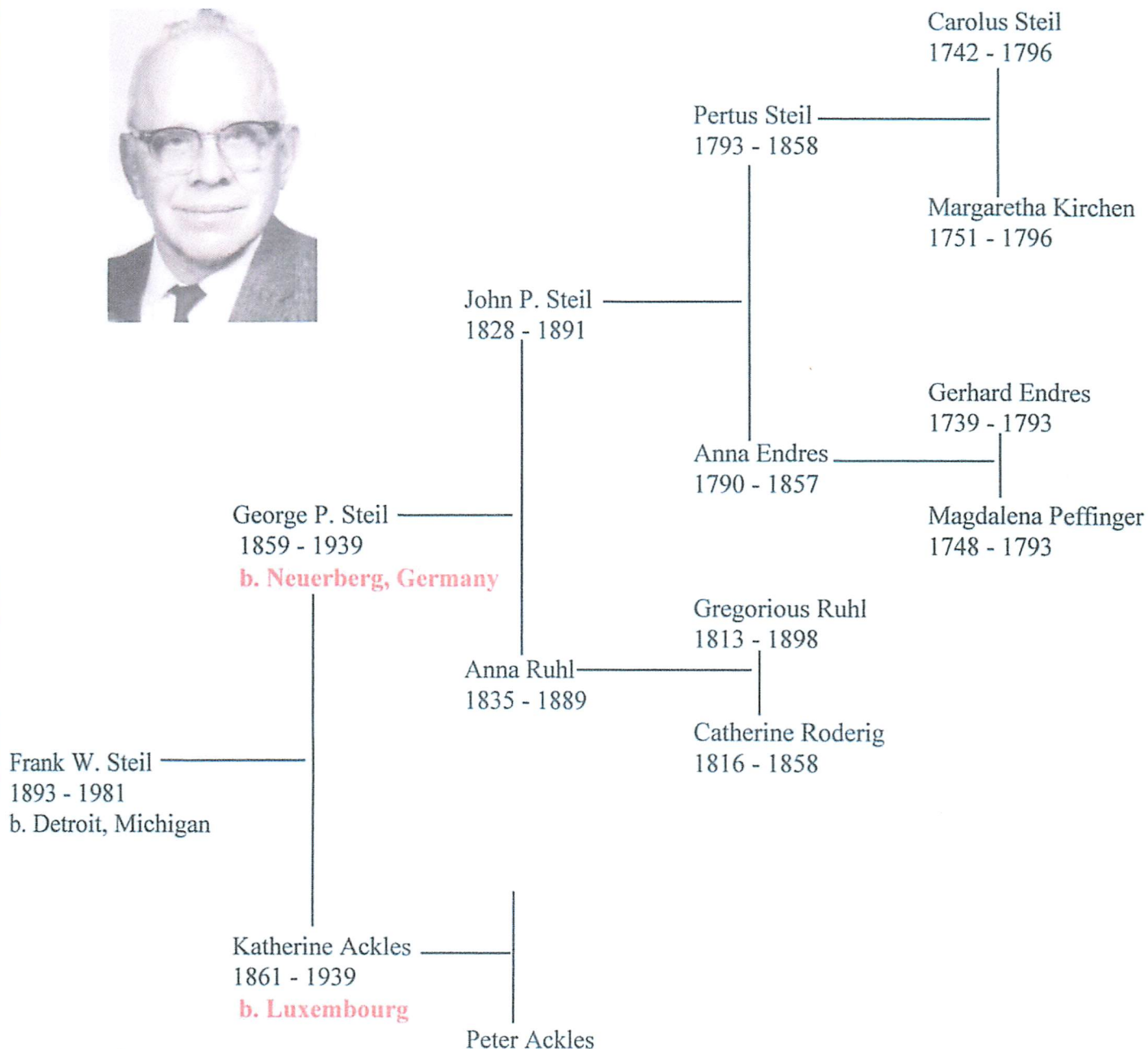
Frank worked for several years at Packard Motor Car Company in Detroit. He later worked as a tool and die maker at General Motors. He retired at the age of 65. Frank died on August 21, 1981, at the age of 88.

Frank was a loving husband, a caring father, and a terrific grandfather. His memory lives on in our hearts.

Links to documents and photos mentioned above:

St. Anthony Parish – [photo](#) – [history](#) – [more history](#)
 City Directories – [1891](#) – [1892](#) – [1899](#)
 Census for George Steil household – [1900](#) – [1920](#)
 Memory Lane: Canton & Kirby – [street sign](#) – [old building](#)
[1908 Work Permit](#)
[1917 Draft Registration](#)
[1919 Partnership Agreement](#)
[1920 Wedding Invitation](#) – [Wedding Photo](#) – [1932 Photo](#)
[1921 Birth Certificate for Kathleen J. Steil](#)
[1930 Census - Frank and Catherine Steil household](#)
 Fullerton Duplex – [house](#) – [Frank, Kate, & Steil Parents](#)
 Tax Forms: [1941 1040](#) – [1952 W2](#)
 Memory Lane: Packard Motor Building – [#1](#) – [#2](#)
 Cottage: [1936](#) – [1952](#) – [1963](#)
[1981 Death Certificate](#) – [Headstone at Cemetery](#)

Ancestors of Frank W. Steil



These ancestors are traced back to 1739 in Neuerburg, Germany. Neuerburg is located at the western edge of Rhineland-Pfalz, a state in the southwest part of Germany and known for its vineyards and wine making. Neuerburg is located about 12 miles from the nation of Luxembourg.

Click on a name for more information about that ancestor.

A Bottle of Wine, Not a Mug of Beer:

The German Roots of the Steil Family

During a "trip down memory lane" in celebration of the 80th birthday of Kathleen Coleman, St. Anthony's Church was one of the places visited by Kay, her nine children, and Kay's sister-in-law Betty Basler. Kay explained that St. Anthony's Church was the place of worship for her parents and grandparents.

Kay's parents, Catherine Lukaschewski and Frank Steil, were married at St. Anthony's Church in 1920. When Frank's father, George Steil, died in March 1939, services were held at St. Anthony's as were services for his mother, Katherine, when she died later that year.

A large memorial marker in front of the church explains that the parish was established in 1857 due to the growing number of Catholics of German descent on the eastside of Detroit. That modest structure was replaced by a larger structure in 1901.

A search of census records documented that George Steil and his wife, Katherine Ackles, immigrated to the United States from Germany about 1882. George and Katherine married in 1886. Their first child, Peter, was born in Illinois the following year. The other seven children were born in Detroit.

George Peter Steil was born in Neuerburg, Germany in 1859. Katherine Ackles was born in 1861 the neighboring country of Luxembourg, about 12 miles from Neuerburg. Records show that George's grandfather, Peter Steil, was born in Neuerburg in 1793 and died there in 1858. All of Peter's six children were born there too. Clearly, the Steil family had its roots in Neuerburg.

Present-day Neuerburg is a small municipality in the state of Rhineland-Palatine in Germany. The town, which sits at an elevation of 640 feet, has a population of about 1,800 people. It lies in a protected valley surrounded by lush green hills and meadows.

During the summer months, Neuerburg is known for its "Musical Summer" with open air concerts of brass bands, amateur pop groups, and folklore dancing. Neuerburg has a mix of urban and country lifestyles.

Neuerburg is only one of many small towns in the Rhineland-Palatine region. Rhineland-Palatine is one of 16 states within Germany and it located in the central southwest part of the nation. The Rhine river runs through the state. The name Rhine comes from the Celtic language and means "raging flow."

Over 500 castles are located in Rhineland-Palatine. Some were built to protect settlements while others were homes for nobility.

Towns in the region celebrate many festivals throughout the year, especially during the wine season during September. Although Germany is known throughout the world for its beer drinking festivals, especially during Oktoberfest, the Rhineland-Palatine region is famous for its vineyards. Residents here love wine more than beer.



In terms of cultivation and export, Rhineland-Palatine is Germany's leading wine producer. Nearly 70 percent of Germany's wine grapes are produced in this state. The famous Reislings come from Rhineland-Palatine.

Every area has its food specialties and this one is no exception. The Rhineland-Palatine region is known for its Saumagen, a bologna prepared with pork and potatoes, sliced and grilled.

Rhineland-Palatine is home to 4 million residents. About 65 percent of the people are Catholic, 25 percent Protestant, and 7 percent have no religious affiliation.

Many Germans from Rhineland-Palatine emigrated to the United States in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The names of towns such as New Paltz, Palatine Bridge, German Flatts (NY) and Palatine (IL) were created by settlements of German immigrants from this region.

The first major emigration to the United States from the Rhineland-Palatine region occurred in the late seventeenth century due to fighting between the French and British known as the War of the Palatine. Immigrants to the United States during this era included the Pennsylvania Dutch.

Trier, located in Rhineland-Palatine, is Germany's oldest city. In the third century, Trier became the capital of the Western Roman Empire and home to Emperor Constantine.

The oldest archeological remains in Rhineland-Palatine are tools from the Stone Age, ranging from 100,000 to 300,000 years old. The ancient Celts, who were among the earliest inhabitants to live in this region, were clearly toolmakers.

Is it a coincidence that Kathleen Steil's father, Frank, was a tool and die maker by trade?

Our Steil Great Grandparents Now Have a Grave Marker.

I have been researching the ancestry of my parents for the past three years. To launch my genealogy hobby, I joined ancestry.com on May 8, 2010.

My research took me in four different directions. My father, Murray F. Coleman, had paternal ancestors from Ireland and maternal ancestors from Scotland. The paternal ancestors of my mother, Kathleen Steil, came from Germany, while her maternal ancestors had roots in Poland.

My maternal grandfather was Frank W. Steil. He was born in Detroit. His father, George Peter Steil, was born in Germany and immigrated to Detroit in 1880, paving the way for his parents, John Peter Steil and Anna Ruhl Steil, to follow in 1884. Several of George's siblings came to America with John and Anna.

John Peter Steil and Anna Ruhl married in Neuerburg, Germany in 1858. They had eight children. George, born in 1859, was the oldest, and Mary Anna, born in 1873, was the youngest. Valentin was a middle child.

Three of the Steil children started families of their own, thus creating new generations of descendants of John Peter Steil and Anna Ruhl. George had eight children, including my Grandpa Frank and my Uncle Bill, Aunt Marie, and Aunt Anna. I never met Uncle George, the oldest, who died in 1940. Valentin had four children. Mary Anna married William Stephan, thus creating the Stephan branch of the Steil family.

John and Anna died only a few years after they arrived in Detroit. Anna died first, in 1889 at the age of 54. John died in 1991, at the age of 63.

My search for their grave sites was tedious and frustrating. It was only after reviewing John's death certificate that I discovered that he was buried at

what was then called "German Lutheran" cemetery. Today it is called Trinity Cemetery, which is located on the East Side of Detroit, close to where the Steil family lived in the 1880s.

Cemetery records confirmed that John Peter Steil is buried in Trinity Cemetery, on the same plot as his son Valentin. After several visits to the cemetery over the course of many months, I finally found a headstone for Valentin.

No grave marker could be found for John or Anna, so I started a campaign to raise funds to create one for them. Our 2x great grandparents – who orchestrated the transition of the Steils from Germany to America – deserved a visible commemoration of their life and death.

Several of their descendants contributed money to this project, including descendants of Anna Steil Ladensack, George Steil, William Steil, Frank Steil, and

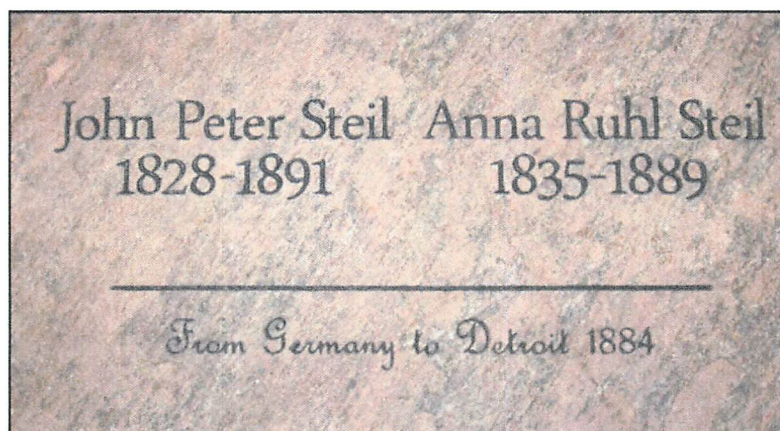
Marie Steil Walker. A descendant of Mary Anna Steil Stephan also made a donation.

My brother Mike Coleman suggested that my sister Diane would be the perfect person to select the stone and have it carved and engraved. She and her husband Ray Rogers, who owns a company dealing with stone, made my vision become a reality.

The grave marker is beautiful. Ray and Diane hope to have it installed in the next few weeks.

What a wonderful collaborative effort this has been. Many thanks to everyone who participated.

Thomas F. Coleman
May 5, 2013



For a larger image of the grave marker, go to:
www.steildfamilyhistory.info/whats-new.htm

Remembering Aunt Marie

by Thomas F. Coleman

After one year of research into the ancestors of my parents, there were still a few gaps in the family tree. One of them was in the Steil family.

My mother, Kathleen Steil, was an only child. But each of her parents had several siblings. So she had many aunts and uncles.

Her father, Frank Steil, had seven siblings. I was able to gather a considerable amount of information about many of them. But there was mostly a void when it came to the descendants of Frank's youngest sibling, Marie Steil.

Fortunately, I had a little bit of firsthand information to build upon. I had met Aunt Marie on a few occasions. Although she and her family lived in Connecticut, she had returned to Michigan to visit sporadically, mostly for funerals and an occasional Steil reunion. However, I don't recall her husband, Bradley Walker, or her children ever coming with her for these events.

My childhood memory of Aunt Marie was that she was a pretty woman with an attractive hairstyle who dressed very nice. Her demeanor was warm and inviting.

I was finally able to meet Uncle Bradley when I was 16 years old. I went to New York for the World's Fair in 1964. Since I was so close to Connecticut, I made it a point to take a train ride to Stamford where they lived in a stately old mansion. She drove a 1956 Thunderbird with a removable hardtop. It was turquoise with a white interior.

I remember that Uncle Bradley was an executive with an advertising firm on Madison Avenue. I think one of his big accounts was Eastern Airlines.

I did not see Uncle Bradley and Aunt Marie again until I was 24 years old. I was living in Los Angeles. My parents came to California for a visit that year and while they were here we drove to Palm Desert to see Aunt Marie and Uncle

Bradley. They had a winter home in Palm Desert.

I never saw either of them again. But my thoughts turned to them when I started working on family genealogy in 2010.

In April 2011, during my Family History Tour, I was given a document from cousin Ken Steil. I took it home but did not really examine it closely until a few months later. Then I realized that the document contained the name and phone number of a daughter of Anna Steil, an older sister of my Grandpa Frank.



I took a chance and called Barbara Ladensack and her husband Ralph Werling. I asked if they had contact information for anyone in Marie Steil's family. They did. As a result, I was put in touch with Marie and Bradley's son Tom and his wife Audrey.

Audrey gave me information about Tom's branch of the family. She also gave me contact information for people who could fill me in about Marie and Bradley's two other children – John and Sally – and their descendants.

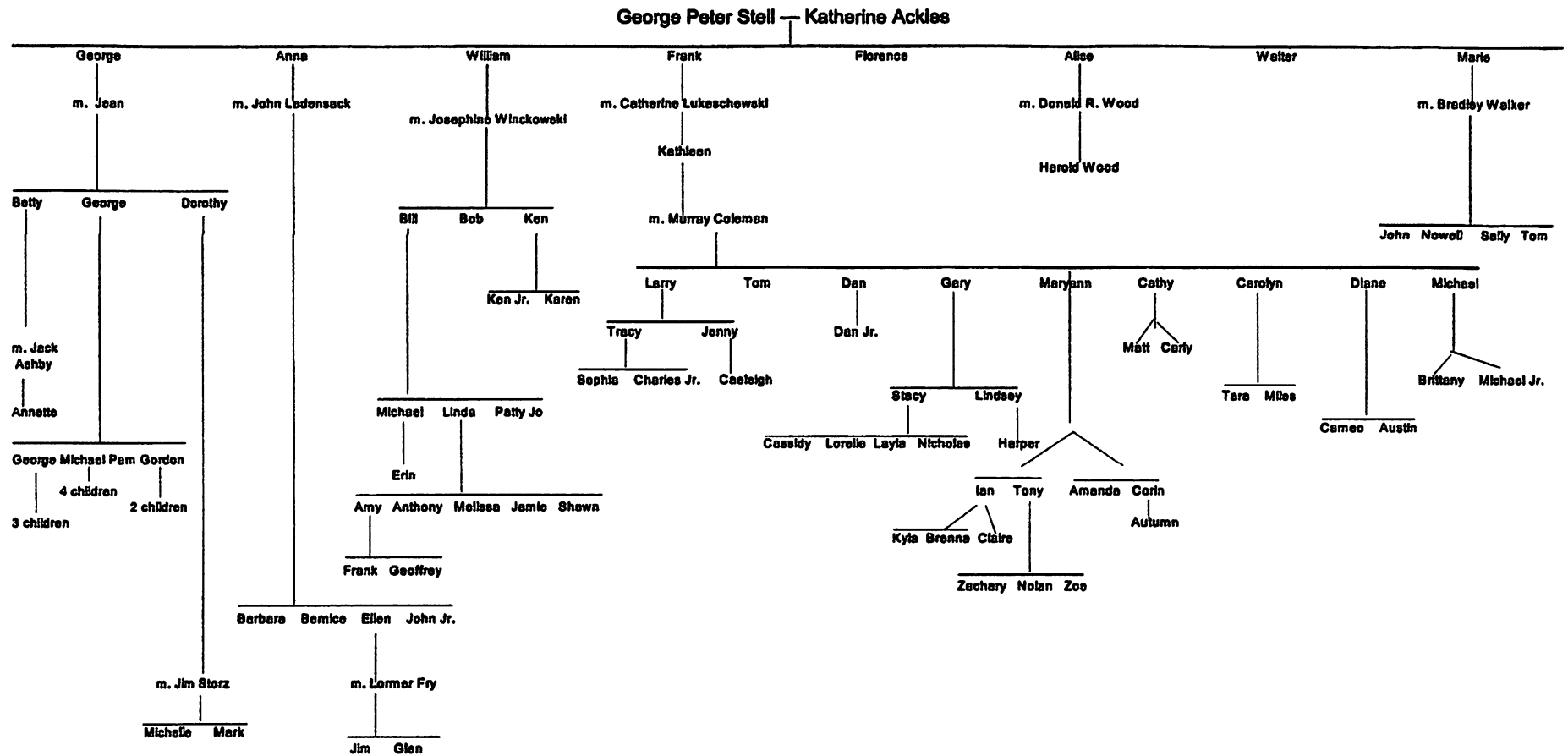
What started out as a bare bones family tree of Bradley and Marie and their three children, now has grown to a list of 15 people, including grandchildren and great grandchildren. And there is more information to yet come.



Someday I would like to pay a visit to Connecticut or New York where most of the Walkers live. I could interview some of the older members of this branch of the Steil family about their memories of their matriarch, Marie Steil, and her husband Bradley Walker.

I am sure there are interesting stories to be told and I would like to add these memories to the family archives. ♦♦♦

(Top photo: Siblings Anna Ladensack, Frank Steil, Marie Walker, and Bill Steil at a family reunion in Michigan. Bottom Photo: Kay and Murray Coleman with Bradley and Marie Walker in Palm Desert.)



**Decendents of
George Peter Steil and Kathrine Ackles**



Catherine J. Lukaschewski

Nov. 25, 1894 - Nov. 18, 1966

Catherine Julia Lukaschewski was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1894. Her parents were Rudolph Lukaschewski and Annie Jenzen. Annie immigrated in 1881 and Rudolph in 1887. They both came here from a German dominated area of what previously was and now is Poland.

Catherine was the third child of seven children born to Rudolph and Annie: Frank (b. 1892), Phillip (b. 1893), Catherine (b. 1894), Theresa (b. 1895), George (b. 1897), Lucy (b. 1899), and Helen (b. 1901). Rudolph and Annie were married in 1891.

Catherine grew up on the eastside of Detroit. The Lukaschewski family was Catholic and probably belonged to St. Anthony's parish.

The 1910 census lists the occupation of Catherine, then 15 years old, as a dressmaker. The census stated that all members of the Lukaschewski household spoke English. However, records show that many of the neighboring households spoke Polish.

Catherine Lukaschewski married Frank Steil on October 28, 1920. The ceremony was performed at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. The invitation stated that "Mr. Rudolph Lukas requests the honor of your presence at the marriage of his daughter." Lukas was an Americanized version of his real surname which was Lukaschewski.

Although Catherine and Frank had been raised on the eastside of Detroit, after they married they established a home on the westside. Their first residence as a married couple was at 362 Fullerton Avenue.

Catherine Steil gave birth to her first and only child, Kathleen Jeanette, who was born to Frank and Catherine on December 16, 1921. The birth occurred at home with Dr. George C. Pratt attending. The residence on the birth record was listed as 2158 Fullerton Street in Detroit.

In 1930, the census shows Frank and Catherine and Kathleen living in a duplex they owned at 2258 Fullerton Street in Detroit. The value was listed as \$11,000. A real estate document also shows the duplex being located at 2258 Fullerton. The duplex was purchased in 1928.

Catherine and Frank lived at 2258 Fullerton until they moved to Royal Oak in the 1950s. Kathleen lived with them on Fullerton until she married Murray Coleman in 1944. Kathleen then moved to Louisiana where Murray was stationed during World War II. When Murray was discharged, he and Kathleen and their son Larry moved into the upper apartment in the duplex, while Frank and Catherine lived below. Tom was born in 1948 while the Coleman family was living with the Steils on Fullerton.

The Coleman family moved to Royal Oak about the time

their third child, Daniel, was born in 1950. A few years later, Catherine and Frank moved to 209 N. Rembrandt in Royal Oak, about two miles from the Colemans.

Catherine was an excellent housewife, mother, and grandmother. She and Frank always had gifts for their grandchildren on birthdays and at Christmas and Easter. They spent a lot of time with the grandchildren at the cottage they built at 88 McGregor in Lake Orion. Frank would teach his grandkids how to build things and make repairs. Catherine would cook, sew, and nurture the grandchildren. They both taught the youngsters how to play card games such as pinochle and Michigan rummy. The attended St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lake Orion.

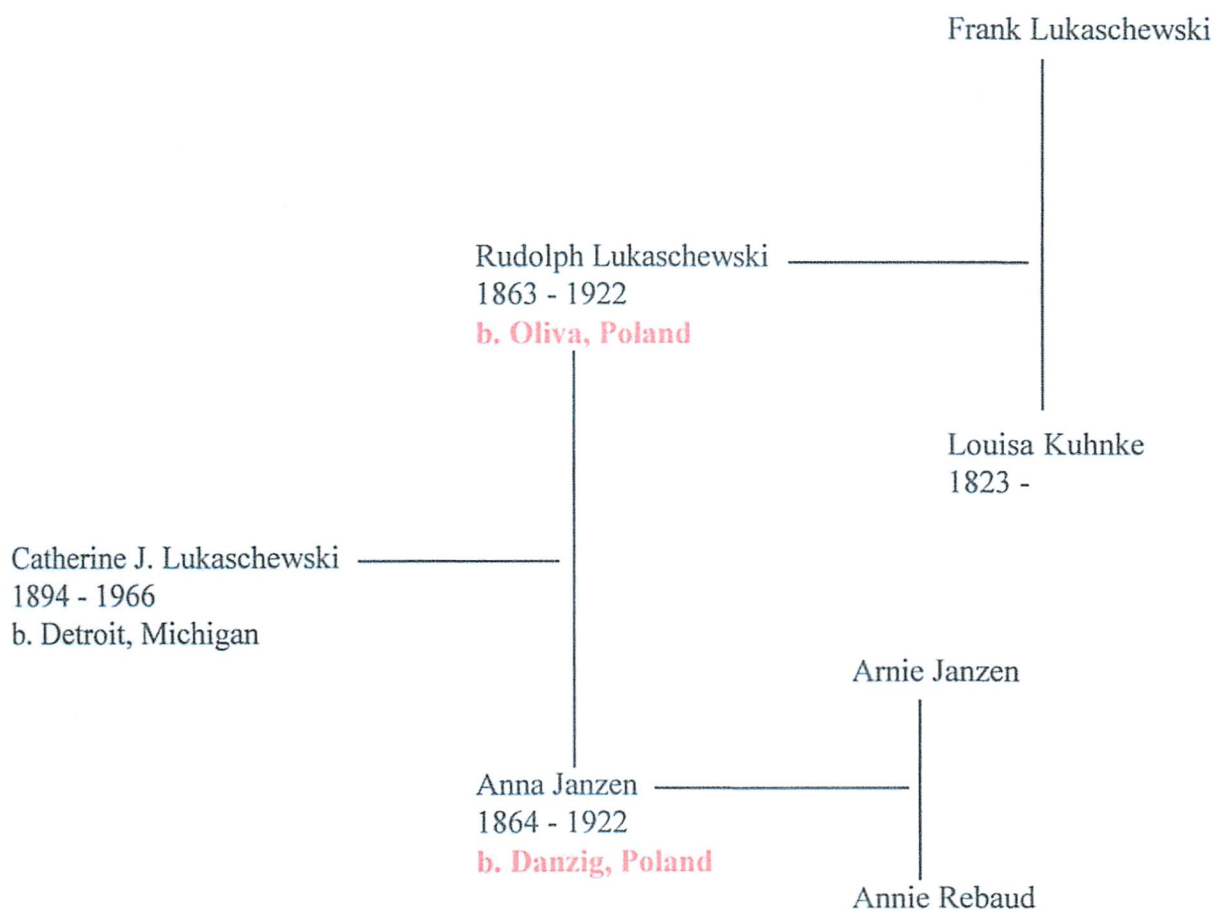
For many years, Catherine served as a Gray Lady. Gray Ladies were hospital volunteers who visited with patients, helped them write letters, read to them, and brought them cheer. Two of her friends, Agnes and Helen, worked at Providence Hospital where Catherine volunteered.

Catherine died of breast cancer in 1966. She took her last breath at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital in Detroit.

Links to documents and photos mentioned above:

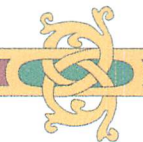
St. Anthony Parish – [photo](#) – [history](#) – [more history](#)
 1920 Wedding Invitation – [Wedding Photo](#) – [1932 Photo](#)
 1930 Census - [Frank and Catherine Steil household](#)
 Fullerton photos – [house](#) – [Frank, Kate, & Steil Parents](#)
[Survey for Fullerton duplex](#)
 Tax Forms: [1941 1040](#) – [1952 W2](#)
 Catherine: [1915](#) – [1922](#) – [1923](#) – [1927](#) – [1932](#) – [1932](#)
[1932 with Timmy](#) – [1932 on right](#) – [1936](#) – [1957 on left](#)
 Cottage: [1936](#) – [1952](#) – [1963](#)
 With grandkids – [Easter 1953](#) – [birthday party](#)
 Birth register: [part 1](#) – [part 2](#)
 Gray Ladies - [stock photo](#) – [history](#)
[Photo of 209 N. Rembrandt taken in 2001](#)
[40th Wedding Anniversary photo](#) – [Various photos](#)
[Last hospital stay](#) – [Cemetery](#) – [Burial card](#)

Ancestors of Catherine J. Lukaschewski



These ancestors are traced back to 1823 in Danzig, Poland, an area inhabited by German-speaking settlers. Taken over by conquering armies from time to time, Danzig has also been part of Prussia and part of the German Empire. Today the city is known as Gdansk, Poland.

Click on a name for more information about that ancestor.



Polish Icing on a German Cake

by Thomas F. Coleman

One of the primary goals for my recent trip to the Mormon Research Library in Salt Lake City was to find out more about my Polish ancestry.

Fortunately, I did make some progress on that, especially with the help of an expert researcher who also has Lukaszewski ancestors of her own.

Some of this information I already had acquired before my trip to Utah. But while I was there I did find the birth record of Rudolph Lukaszewski (my maternal great grandfather) and the marriage record of his parents.

The wonderful woman who I fondly remember as "Grandma Steil" was born as Catherine Julia Lukaszewski. Catherine was married to Frank W. Steil, a talented and loving man whose parents immigrated to Detroit from Neuerburg, Germany.

Catherine's father, Rudolph Wilhelm Lukaszewski, was born in Oliva, Poland in 1863. Oliva is a suburb of a town that was then called Danzig (now Gdansk) Catherine's mother, Anna Janzen, was born in Danzig in 1864.

We do not know whether Rudolph and Anna knew each other before they immigrated to Detroit. Perhaps they did, since the Oliva-Danzig community was small, maybe 2,000 people or so at that time.

When Rudolph was 24, he came to the United States with his mother, Louisa. It was 1887. His brother, Albert, also immigrated to Detroit that year, but it is unclear whether he came on the same ship since his name is not listed on the ship's register next to that of his mother and younger brother.

Passenger records from 1881 indicate that Anna Janzen (Grandma Steil's mother) traveled alone from Hamburg to New York on the Weiland ship. She was only 16 years old. How brave!

Anna and Rudolph married in Detroit on April 25, 1891. The marriage register shows the names of Anna's parents as Arnie Janzen and Annie Reband. Rudolph's parents are listed as Franz Lukaszewski and Louisa Kohnke.

While I was in Salt Lake City, I found the birth record for Rudolph. It shows he was born on April 10, 1863. I also found the marriage record for his parents, Franz Lukaszewski and Louisa Kohnke. They were married in Oliva in 1852. Kohnke is a German surname.

Census records in the United States suggest that Franz and Louisa had five children, but three of them died, probably in Poland. The Detroit City Directory listed

Louisa as the widow of Franz, and since she came to the United States without her husband, it is logical to conclude that he died in Poland before she and Rudolph and Albert immigrated.

The names of the parents of Anna Janzen indicate that Anna was not Polish. Janzen, the surname of her father, is German with some Danish influence. Reband, the maiden name of her mother, is French.

So even though the maiden name of my grandmother, Lukaszewski, suggests that her ancestors were Polish, the Polish influence may be less than the "ski" implies.

Today, the area where her parents were born and raised as children, is Poland. But in the 1800s the primary influence, culturally and linguistically, in Oliva and Danzig was German.

In addition to the heavy German influence on these two adjacent towns, other nationalities have had a major impact on this area. Over the preceding centuries, Danzig was invaded and dominated by Sweden, France, Russia, Germany, and Poland.

Eventually, the city of Danzig was granted the status of a "free state" which meant that it was both a city and a state -- one with residents who were French, Russian, Slavic, Swedish, and German. The German influence appears to have been the most prominent.

Now that I have more information about the ancestors of Grandma Steil, and about the history of Danzig, I would say that her heritage was primarily German, but with some Polish influence. (I wonder whether she used a Polish recipe for the delicious icing on the German chocolate cakes she was famous for baking.)

Her ancestry is much more complex than her maiden name, Lukaszewski, suggests. Although Lukaszewski was the surname of Catherine's father and of her grandfather, the ancestry of Catherine's mother was Danish and French and her grandmother's ancestry was German.

Don't get me wrong. The Polish connection is definitely there, but it is not as dominant as I once thought it was. The German aspect of genetic and cultural makeup of Catherine Julia Lukaszewski is much more prominent.

Perhaps that is why Catherine changed her last name to Lucas as a teenager and why her family attended a Catholic Church in Detroit that was primarily a congregation of German, not Polish, immigrants.

— May 17, 2013



Kate and Frank Wedding Photo

Frank Steil and Catherine Lukaschewski

they made a wonderful life
together



Frank and Kate on Wedding Day



40th Anniversary



Kate and Aunt Alice (right) in 1957

from Detroit to Royal Oak,
with lots of time in Lake Orion
where they created a cottage
for Kay and their grandchildren



A Birthday Party on Rembrandt

The Family History Tour Was a Success

Personal Interviews, Cemetery Visits, and Library Research Yield Positive Results

May 16, 2011

Some 37 family members participated in a variety of events during the Family History Tour that I organized in Michigan and Canada during April 12 to April 21, 2011. Participants were relatives of Murray Coleman and Kathleen Steil, representing several branches of the family tree, including descendents of the Colemans, Steils, Baslers, and Patersons.

My spouse, Michael A. Vasquez, dropped me off at the airport in Los Angeles on the morning of April 12. I was picked up later that day at the Detroit airport by my brother, Larry Coleman. I stayed the first three nights with Larry and his fiancé, Ann Quail.

Larry was my driver and companion on Wednesday, April 13. We visited three cemeteries that day: Oakview in Royal Oak, Woodlawn in Detroit, and Mount Olivet in Detroit. We took photos of the headstones marking the graves of various relatives. In some cases, we took video footage while one of us read short biographical scripts near some of the graves.



Larry looks for the grave of William Henry Coleman

Oakview is the burial site for William Henry Coleman (1864-1941). William was the oldest of the eight children of our great grandparents, Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall. Arthur Roy Coleman, our paternal grandfather, was the youngest of the eight. William lived in Ferndale with his wife, Jessie Croton, and their two children, William and Sarah. Jessie, William, and Sarah are buried in Oakview along with William, although William is the only one with a headstone.

From Royal Oak we drove down Woodward Avenue through Ferndale and stopped just south of Eight Mile Road. Woodlawn Cemetery, the final resting place for

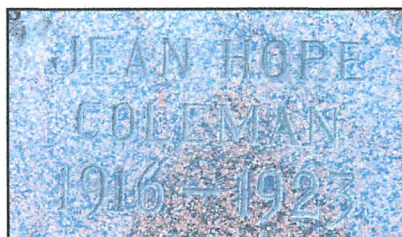
several Coleman relatives, is located across from the former Michigan State Fairgrounds. Larry and I went into the cemetery office to double check the plot numbers for some of the graves we planned to visit.



Visiting the grave of Arthur Roy Coleman in 2001

It had been several years since Larry and I had been at this cemetery. On that occasion – celebrating the 80th birthday of our mother – we were accompanied by all of our siblings and by our Aunt Betty Basler. What we did not know at that time was that, in addition to our Grandpa Roy, our Aunt Jean, and our Grand Aunt Agnes, there were several other Coleman relatives buried at Woodlawn Cemetery too. This time, Larry and I would make sure to look for all of them.

After leaving the cemetery office, Larry and I drove to Section 21-A. The first familiar headstone we saw marked the grave of our Aunt Agnes. The headstone said Agnes Murray since Murray was her surname when she died in 1978. Her maiden name was Agnes Paterson. She was the sister of our paternal grandmother, Margaret, known to us as Grandma Finney although she was born as Margaret Paterson.



Jean was only six when she died

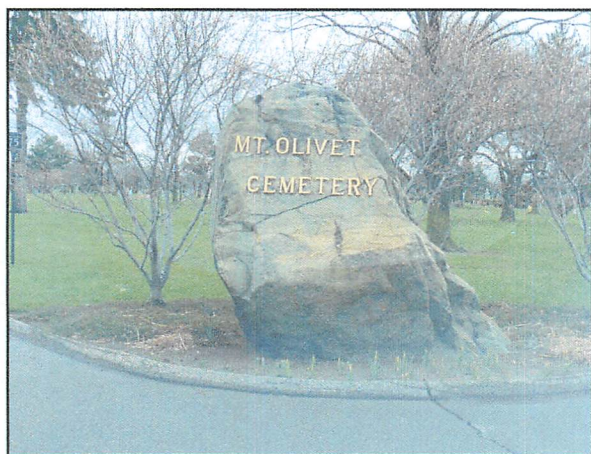
Just beyond were the headstones of Grandpa Roy and his daughter Jean. When I saw Jean's headstone, I realized for the first time that her middle name was taken from the maiden name of Jean's maternal grandmother, Fanny Hope.

Larry and I then moved on to Section 13 of the cemetery. Through my contact with family researcher Clarice Coleman, I had learned our great grandmother, Sarah Westfall, was buried in Section 13 on a plot purchased by Sarah's son-in-law, William P. Skerrett. William had owned a mortuary in Detroit. William's wife, Addie Coleman Skerrett, was a sister to our Grandpa Roy.

When we found Lot 202, I was surprised that there were no headstones for Addie, William, or Sarah. The only marker was a headstone for Ruth Skerrett, a child of Addie and William who died as an infant in 1900.

We later went to the cemetery office and verified that Great Grandma Sarah was buried in grave #2 of Lot 202. But the records showed her as Sarah Penton. Born with the last name of Westfall, she had become Sarah Coleman when she married Calvert Coleman. After she divorced Calvert and married James Renton, she became Sarah Renton. James died in 1918. Apparently through a clerical error at the time of burial, the cemetery incorrectly listed her as Sarah Penton. We had them make a notation of the error on their records.

We then began our search for the grave of Jennie Coleman Freer, a sister to our Grandpa Roy. Jennie had married Edgar Freer. The couple adopted Roy's daughter Ruth shortly after Roy's wife died. Although cemetery records show Edgar and Jennie buried in graves #2 and #3 of lot 83 in Section 2-A, neither of them have a headstone or other grave marker.



Having concluded our visit to Woodlawn Cemetery, Larry and I drove to Mount Olivet Cemetery on the east side of Detroit. We were searching for the graves of relatives on our mother's side of the family. From prior experience, we knew that her father, Frank Steil, and his parents were buried there. We also knew that her mother, Catherine Lukaschewski Steil, and Catherine's parents Rudolph and Anna had graves there too.

I was most interested in finding the grave of Louise Lukaschewski since I had never seen it before or, if I had, I had not realized that, as the mother of Rudolph Lukaschewski, she was my Great Great Grandmother. I was also hoping that we would find the grave of

Rudolph's brother Albert Lukaschewski and his wife Matilda. It is through Albert and Matilda that we are related to Michelle Lukaschewski, someone I recently found through Facebook. Michelle is the Great Great Granddaughter of Albert and Matilda.



2nd Great Grandma Louise was born in Poland in 1822.

With some persistence, Larry and I finally found the Steil plots and the Lukaschewski plots. We took photos of the headstones and did some video taping as we read biographical scripts at some of the headstones.

With our day of cemetery visits having come to an end, we headed back to Larry and Ann's house to prepare for a gathering that would occur there in the evening. Larry would be the first person I would interview during this family history tour. I had invited all of our siblings to come to dinner and to attend the interview. We were also hoping to meet a newly-found cousin, Christopher Coleman. Chris is the son of Duffy Coleman, the grandson of Dodd Coleman, and the great grandson of Arthur Roy Coleman.

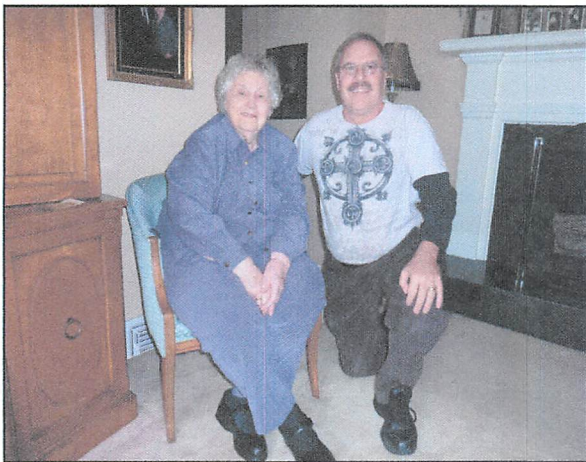
Attending this event was my brother Gary and his wife Camille, my sister Diane and her husband Ray, my sister Carolyn, Larry's fiancé Ann, and our cousin Christopher. The interview went very well.

As with all of the oral histories that I took during the Family History Tour, the interview of Larry was recorded as an audio file as well as a digital video file.



Diane, Chris, Tom, Gary, Larry, and Carolyn

On Thursday, April 14, Larry and I drove to St. Clair Shores for an interview with Dorothy Storz. Born as Dorothy Steil, she is one of the oldest living members of the Steil family. Dorothy's father was George Steil, the brother of our grandfather, Frank W. Steil. Dorothy and our mother Kay were first cousins.

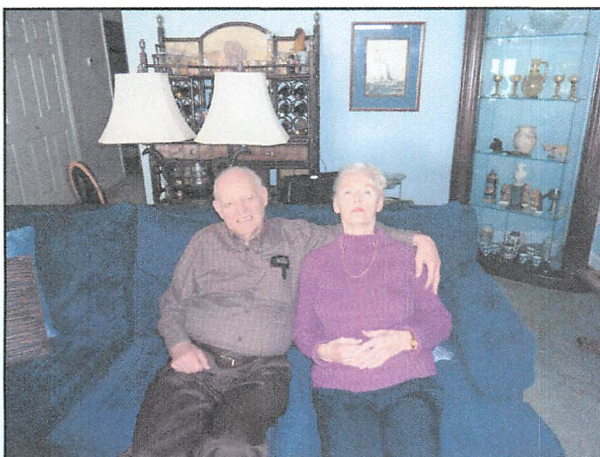


Dorothy Storz in her living room with Tom Coleman

The interview was arranged by our cousin, Ken Steil. We were fortunate that even though her husband Jim had passed away only a few weeks before, Dorothy was willing to do the interview. Dorothy's son Mark, who lives in Cleveland, was able to be there too.

Dorothy shared many memories of her youth, telling us stories about her parents, grandparents, and various aunts and uncles. On display in her living room was a dollhouse she built when she was 80 years old. "I always wanted a dollhouse," Dorothy told us. "It is never too late to enjoy things in life, regardless of your age."

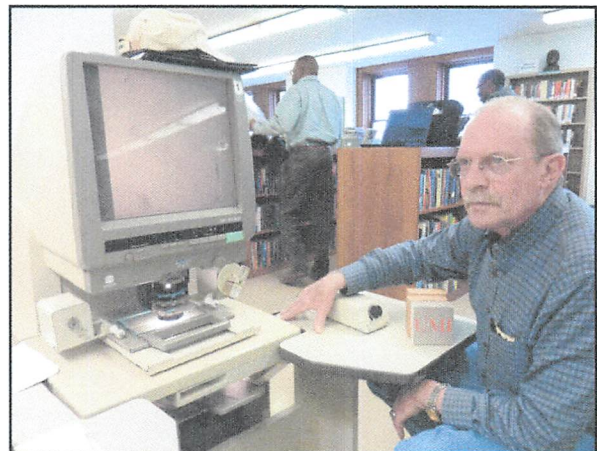
When we finished the interview with Dorothy, Larry and I followed Ken to his house where his wife Diane had prepared a lunch for us. We were joined by Jim and Beverly Fry. Jim's mother Ellen was our mother's first cousin. His grandmother, Anna Steil, was the sister of our grandfather Frank. Anna married John Ladensack.



Jim spoke about the Anna branch of the Steil family

On Friday, April 15, Larry and I went to the main building of the Detroit Public Library on the campus of Wayne State University. The library has a large collection, on microfilm, of issues of the Detroit News dating back to the 1800s.

We had some specific tasks in mind: (1) find a death notice for our Great Great Grandfather John P. Steil; (2) see if there was a news story about the traffic accident that killed Jean Coleman, the sister of our father, when she was a child; and (3) look for a death record for our Grandpa Roy. We succeeded with all three tasks.



Larry Coleman at the Detroit Public Library

Although we found a death notice for John P. Steil, it did not contain any information about where he was buried. Since he was not buried at Mount Olivet like many other Steil relatives, we would have to continue our search for his grave through other sources.

But we really lucked out when it came to Jean Coleman. On the front page of section two of the Detroit News we found a story about several auto accidents that occurred on Sunday, August 5, 1923. The story mentioned that Jean Coleman, then six years old, was hit by a car and was in the hospital with internal injuries. Cemetery records show that she died on August 6. We also found a death notice for Arthur Roy Coleman showing that he died on January 2, 1932.

When we were done with the library research, Larry drove me to the home of my sister Diane where I stayed for the next three nights.

On Saturday, April 16, my brother-in-law Steve Skalnech chauffeured Carolyn, Diane and I to Carsonville where I was scheduled to interview our aunt, Betty Basler, at the home of our cousin Connie and her husband Larry Panduren and Connie's daughter Lisa. Cousin Charles and his wife Jane were there, as were Cousin John and his son Jeff, his daughter Julie and her husband Dennis. My brother Larry and his fiancé Ann, my sister Diane, my sister Carolyn and her husband Steve were there too.

Aunt Betty was in great form. She looked wonderful and, as usual, had a terrific sense of humor. With funny one-

liners interspersed throughout the interview, she had the whole group laughing from start to finish.

Prior to the interview, Connie brought out an old family photo album. Many of the photos were from Aunt Betty's early childhood, with pictures of her brother Murray and sister Jean, her parents, and her maternal grandparents.

As the interview was about to begin, Aunt Betty looked down on a plate of oatmeal cookies on the table in front of her. Just as she started to reach for one, her daughter Connie suggested that she should wait until after the interview was done to have a cookie. As she picked up a cookie and bit into it anyway, Aunt Betty responded: "Don't worry about me, I'm just fine."



Aunt Betty and her son Charles at the kitchen table

When the interview was finished, everyone went out to lunch at a restaurant in Port Sanilac.

On Monday, April 18, my sisters Carolyn and Diane went with me to Belleville and Ypsilanti. In Belleville, we visited Hillside and Otisville cemeteries.



Westfall family grave marker at Otisville Cemetery

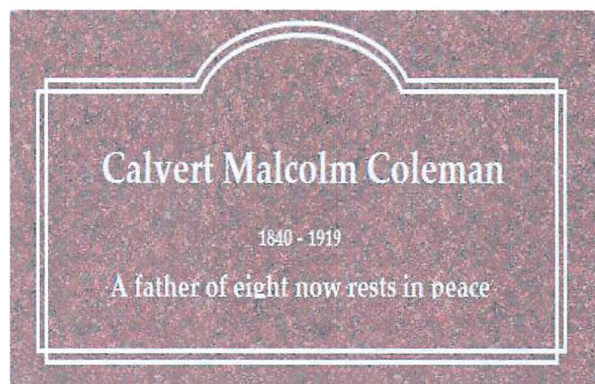
Following instructions from Clarice Coleman, we found the grave marker for Samuel Westfall and Elizabeth Kipp in the Otisville Cemetery. The marker was just as she

had described it: an obelisk topped by an urn.

Samuel and Elizabeth were the parents of our great grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth Westfall. We also paid our respects at the gravesite of Sarah's grandfather (our 3rd great grandfather) Walter Kipp. Walter was born in New York in 1776. He died in Belleville in 1846.

A few miles away, we stopped at Hillside Cemetery. Our top priority was to find the section in which our great grandfather, Calvert Malcolm Coleman, was buried. Again, instructions from Clarice Coleman guided us to the general location where Calvert had been buried in 1919.

Although Calvert's grave is unmarked, cemetery records and historical information suggest that he was buried in Lot 530, a plot purchased by James Pullen for burying single individuals. Pullen, an undertaker, had been a friend of Calvert's for many years. When Calvert died at the Eloise Infirmary, Pullen took pity on his friend and, since no family members stepped forward to take charge, he published an obituary and had Calvert buried.



An idea for a marker for Great Grandfather Calvert

After saying a prayer for Calvert, we located the graves of several other Coleman relatives who were buried in another area of the cemetery. We found the graves of Calvert's son George (1870-1946) and George's son George Jr. We also paid respects at the grave of Calvert's son Claud (1875-1915) and Claude's children Clarence, Sumner, Beatrice, and Alger.



Great Grandmother Sarah deserves a marker too

As I was writing this summary of the Family History Tour, I had a vision that someday our great grandparents, Calvert and Sarah, will each have a grave marker.

When we finished with our cemetery visits, Carolyn, Diane and I headed for Ypsilanti where we were scheduled for a lunch and an interview at the home of Leslie and Marilyn Coleman. At 88, Leslie is the oldest living member of the Samuel Coleman branch of the family of Calvert and Sarah Coleman. Leslie was the son of Samuel. Samuel was a brother to my Grandpa Roy, which makes Leslie my first cousin once removed.

Also attending the lunch and interview were Leslie's daughter Sandra Jean and her husband Charles Sofios. The daughter of Leslie and Marilyn, Nancy Lynn Kowalski, was there too, as was Leslie's niece, Barbara Bureau. We all got acquainted during lunch which was served in the family room.

After lunch, we moved to the living room where the interview of Leslie and Marilyn was conducted. Leslie had an excellent memory of events from his childhood. Marilyn told stories about dating Leslie and of their life together as husband and wife. Nancy and Sandy chimed in from time to time, adding interesting tidbits to the narrative.



Leslie and Marilyn Coleman in their living room

Everyone was moved when Barbara recalled how, after 30 years of wondering about her father, Kenneth Coleman, she embarked on a search for him and they were finally reunited. Kenneth is a son of Samuel Coleman's first marriage while Leslie is a child of Samuel's second marriage.

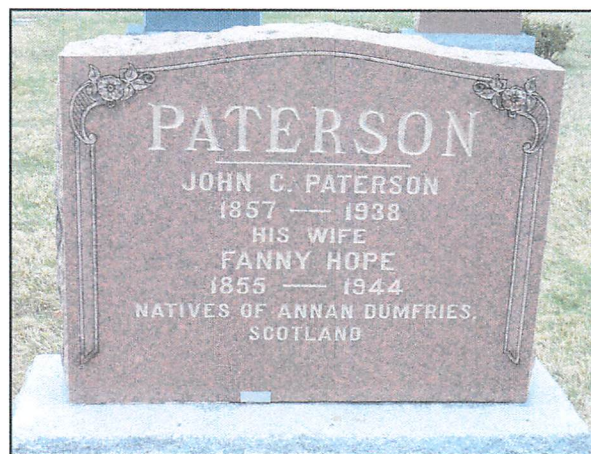
After we returned to Lake Orion, I said goodbye to Diane and then spent the next three nights at the home of my sister Carolyn and her husband Steve.

The next day, April 19, Carolyn drove me to Chatham, Ontario. We left Detroit and crossed the Ambassador Bridge over the Detroit River, arriving in Windsor about 11 a.m. We reached Chatham about an hour later.

William and Eve Stacey live in a beautiful home on the Thames River. William is the son of Bert and Mabel Stacey. William's mother was born as Mabel Paterson, the daughter of John Paterson and Fanny Hope and the

sister of our paternal grandmother, Margaret Paterson.

Since we arrived in Chatham a little earlier than planned, Carolyn and I went first to Maple Leaf Cemetery to visit the graves of our great grandparents, John Paterson and Fanny Hope. John and Fanny were born in Scotland and immigrated to Canada where they married and raised their family.



The Paterson family has deep roots in Scotland

When we arrived at the home of the Staceys, Bill and Eve greeted us and then introduced us to their son Robert and their nephew Richard. Richard had driven down from Sarnia. Richard is the son of William's sister, Bernice. William and Bernice were first cousins to our father.



Robert, Eve, and Bill Stacey, with Richard Fletcher

We looked over some family photos, had lunch, and then conducted the interview of Bill in the dining room. Bill was full of stories about his cousins Murray and Dodd and his uncle Roy. Murray and he were "best friends" when they were young. Dodd was an extremely handsome young man. And Roy way a real character.

He recalled how his Uncle Roy would drive up to their farmhouse in a fancy car, all the while smoking a big cigar. Apparently, Roy would smuggle booze back to Detroit during the prohibition.

Roy must have caught the attention of the authorities since, according to Bill, the FBI once came to the door of Roy and Margaret in the middle of the night at their apartment on Woodward and Six Mile. Margaret stalled them while Roy snuck out the back door, ran down the alley, and rode a streetcar down to the foot of Woodward where he took the ferry boat back to Canada.

When the interview of the Staceys was over, we took photos and then Carolyn and I headed back to Michigan. I slept quite well on Tuesday night, feeling a sense of accomplishment since most of the activities planned for the Family History Tour had occurred as anticipated.

On Wednesday, I drove to Detroit to take photos of headstones I had forgotten to take when we were at Mount Olivet Cemetery the previous week. I also decided to do a little more research to see if I could find the gravesite of our great great grandfather, John Peter Steil.

John was born in Germany in 1828. He married Anna Ruhl and they had seven children, including George who became the father of our Grandpa Frank. George was the first of the Steil family to immigrate to America. Two years later, in 1882, his brother Valentine immigrated to Detroit too. They were followed by their father, John, who came to Detroit with his wife and other four children in 1884.

I knew that John Steil was not buried in Mount Olivet, nor was Valentine. I had learned that John and his family lived at 874 Mount Elliott for several years. So I drove by that location. The lot was vacant, but across the street was a old cemetery. I went to the office and spoke with someone, but he could not find a record for John Steil. He suggested that I find John's death certificate which might disclose where he had been buried.

I drove to Herman Kiefer Hospital in midtown Detroit where one can obtain copies of vital records such as birth and death certificates. I filled out a request form and was told that someone would call me in a few days to let me know if they found a death certificate for John Steil.

I then drove to 29 Geneva Avenue in Highland Park. I looked for the house where Jenny Coleman Freer had lived in 1922 – the house where Great Grandma Sarah had died. It was less than two blocks from the apartment where my dad, his sisters, and their parents had lived at that time. Unfortunately, the house had been torn down.

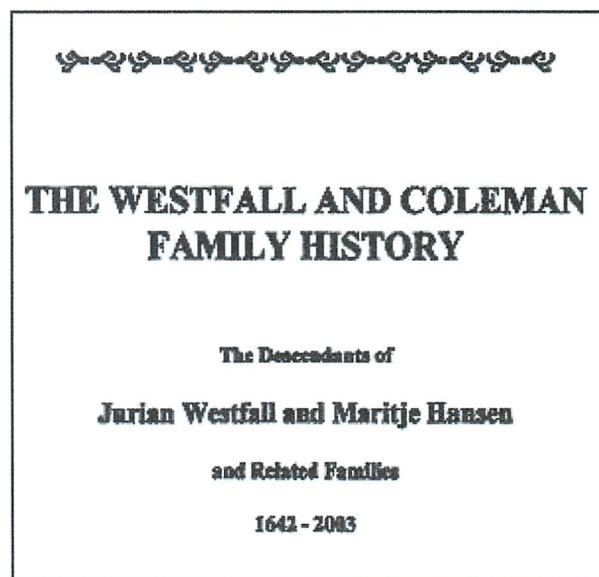
My time was running out. I had to get back to Lake Orion since I had invited my siblings to meet me at Eastlawn Cemetery, the place where our parents are buried. I wanted this gathering at their graves to be the last event on the Family History Tour.

Carolyn and I drove there at 7 p.m. Gary, Diane, Larry, and Cathy were there waiting for us. We greeted each other, talked a bit about our parents, said a prayer, and took some photos at the headstone of their joint grave. My mission was complete.



Carolyn, Cathy, Larry, Diane, Tom, and Gary at our parent's gravesite

The next day I flew back to Los Angeles. On the plane I had an opportunity to review a 161-page book titled "The Westfall and Coleman Family History." It was published by Clarice Koester Coleman in 2003. Clarice is the wife of Robert Coleman. Robert is a grandson of Claud Coleman, who was a brother of our Grandpa Roy.



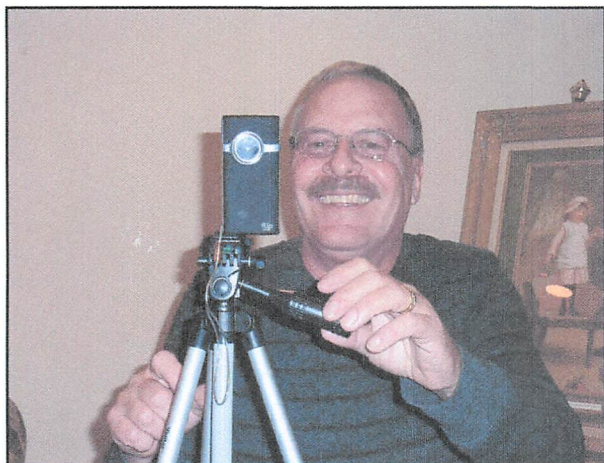
Clarice Coleman published this masterpiece in 2003

Clarice has been researching Coleman family history for decades and this book was the culmination of her work. In addition to dates and locations of births, deaths, and marriages for hundreds of relatives, it also contains short stories about their lives. The more I read, the more impressed I was with the outstanding work she has done.

A few weeks after I was home, I got a call from Herman Keifer Hospital. A clerk had located the death certificate for John P. Steil. I asked her to share one piece of information with me. Did it show where he was buried? Yes, it listed the place of burial as "German Lutheran."

That rang a bell with me. I had previously found two death certificates on the Internet for children of John Steil and Anna Ruhl. One was for their son Valentine. The other for their daughter Katherine. They too were buried at "German Lutheran." Today it is known as Trinity Cemetery. So on my next visit to Michigan, I know I will be visiting that cemetery to pay respect to my Great Great Grandfather, John Steil, and any of his family members who may be buried there too.

Within a few days of receiving this information on John Steil, I got an email message from Renee Steil-Sandoval. She is a descendent of Valentine Steil, who was a son of John P. Steil. I had found Renee through Facebook. Renee supplied me with a dozen or so names of living relatives in the Valentine branch of the Steil family. So the family tree keeps growing. It now has 1901 entries.



Oral history interviews were captured on video

Now that I am home and have had time to review the events of the Family History Tour, I will be uploading materials online at colemanfamilywebsite.com. In addition to this summary, a new section will contain photos of each of the events, digital audio files of each of the interviews, and video footage which can be downloaded for later viewing or ordered as a dvd disc.

A little more than a year ago, our knowledge of the ancestors and relatives of our parents was quite limited. We had little information about the Lukaschewskis. We were not aware that our Grandpa Roy had eight siblings, much less that we had dozens of living Coleman cousins, many of whom reside about an hour from Lake Orion.

We did not have contact with members of the Paterson family for decades. Our connection with the family of our dad's half brother, Dodd Coleman, had been severed around 1970 and we had no hope of reconnecting with them. Our only significant relationship with the Steil

family was through seeing Ken and Diane Steil at our biannual Coleman family reunion.

Through my family history research all that has changed. Ken brought some Steils to our last reunion. Larry and I met with some other Steils during the Family History Tour. Mom's cousin, Dorothy, expressed an interest in keeping contact with our family. Let's make that happen.

I found our cousin, Chris Coleman, through Facebook. Hopefully, he will be invited and will attend Coleman family events in the future. His dad, Duffy, is having ongoing phone communications with our brother Dan.

Last year, Carolyn and Diane and I went to the reunion of descendants of Samuel Coleman where we met dozens of Coleman cousins. Hopefully, other members of the Murray Coleman family will find time to attend the Samuel Coleman family reunion on August 20, 2011.

While my outreach to Michelle Lukaschewski has not yet resulted in a face-to-face meeting with her and some of her family, perhaps that will happen someday. I am sending this summary to her hoping she will share it with her mother, siblings, and other Lukaschewski relatives.

Aunt Betty and her cousin Bernice Stacey used to communicate on a regular basis. They have not seen each other in years, even though they live only about 30 miles apart – with Bernice in Sarnia just across from Port Huron, and Betty a few miles north in Port Sanilac. Perhaps someone in the Basler or Stacey families will arrange for a reunion of the two cousins very soon.

Someday I would like to meet Bob and Clarice Coleman in person. They live in Longmont, Colorado, which is not far from Boulder. Michael and I have visited that area twice now in the last two years. If we are make another trip to Colorado, I would like to meet Bob and Clarice in person.

One specific invitation I am making to members of the extended Coleman families – especially the descendants of Roy, Samuel, and Claud – is to donate money to purchase headstones for the graves of our great grandparents, Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall. It will only cost about \$250 per marker. If people made donations of \$10 or more for this purpose, a headstone could be placed at their gravesites by the end of 2011. This is a modest request considering the fact that, without them, most of us would not be here today. Please contact me if you would like to make such a donation.

I end this summary by expressing my appreciation for and pride in our family heritage which, for many of us, is Irish, Scottish, German, and Polish.

In closing, I send my love and best wishes to all.

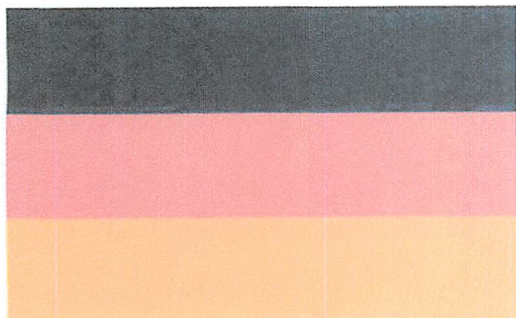
Thomas F. Coleman
(818) 482-4485
tomcoleman@earthlink.net

Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall

Family Ancestry



Ireland



Germany



Greetings to the Coleman Family

Many thanks to Clarice and Robert Coleman for introducing me to Jeanne (Sandy) Sofios, and thanks to Sandy for inviting my siblings and me to the Coleman Family Reunion in Canton, Michigan. This booklet is a gift to our newly discovered Coleman cousins.

It was in my quest for knowledge of Coleman family history that I found Clarice. I was doing research into the ancestors of my paternal grandfather, Arthur "Roy" Coleman, when I came across a website with information about Roy's parents – Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall – and Roy's seven siblings. Clarice created those website pages.

Although Clarice had compiled biographical information on the many descendents and ancestors of Calvert and Sarah, it was noteworthy that she had found very little information about Roy Coleman.

Once I connected with Clarice, she was very gracious in sharing additional information about many members of this large family. In turn, I gave her the information I had about Roy and his second wife, Margaret Paterson, and their children and grandchildren.

I found it amazing that through the years, my brothers and sisters and I did not know our grandfather Roy had so many siblings – and counting their children their and grandchildren, there are about 200 Coleman relatives, living and deceased, whom we had no idea existed.

Clarice advised me that the Coleman family had a reunion each year in Canton, Michigan. Once Clarice told Sandy about this newly discovered branch of the Coleman family, Sandy invited us to attend the reunion. We were delighted to receive the invitation.

This booklet is our way of sharing with our cousins some of the information we have gathered about the Coleman name and the family heritage of our great grandparents Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall.

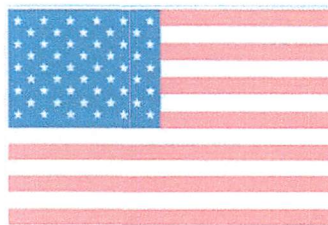
Even though our ancestors immigrated to the United States from Ireland and Germany– and we are proud of our heritage -- Calvert and Sarah and us, their descendents, are United States citizens. We are Americans.

Inside you will find the following:

- * The surname Coleman
- * Ancient ancestors of Calvert Coleman
- * Biography of Calvert Coleman
- * Biography of Sarah Westfall
- * Ancestors of Roy Coleman
- * Descendents of Calvert and Sarah (tree)
- * A short story about Jurian Westfall

Cheers and best wishes to all of our Coleman cousins. Now that we have found each other, let's stay connected.

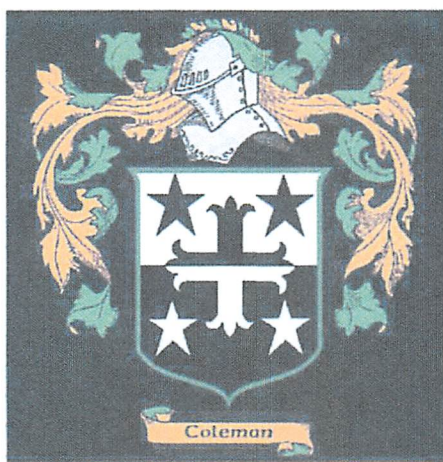
– Thomas F. Coleman
tomcoleman@earthlink.net
(818) 482-4485



For more information about
Coleman family ancestry go to:
www.colemanfamilywebsite.com

The Surname

COLEMAN



While the Anglicized versions of Irish names are familiar to most people, many Irish names have a long and proud Gaelic heritage that is often unknown.

The Coleman surname stems from two distinct Gaelic names O'Clúmháin, derived from the Irish root "clúmh," meaning "Down," or "feathers," and from O Colmain, derived the Latin word "columba," which means "dove."

The illiterate population found in Ireland during the Middle Ages could only define their names orally. The archives that survive today demonstrate the difficulty experienced by the scribes of this period in their attempts to record these names in writing.

Spelling variations of the name Coleman dating from that time include Colman, Coleman, O'Colman, MacColeman, McColeman, Coalman, Coulman, Coleman, Colmen, Coalmen, Colmin, Colmen, Coulmen, Coulmin, Colemin and many more.

The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of Hervicus Coleman, which was dated 1166, in the "Red Book of the Exchequer", Yorkshire, during the reign of King Henry 11, known as "The Builder of Churches", 1154 - 1189.

Source: House of Names

Calvert Coleman

Birth: Aug., 1842
New York State
USA

Death: Mar. 3, 1919
Eloise, Wayne County,
Michigan, USA

Calvert Malcolm Coleman was a son of Patrick Coleman and his wife, Bridget Hand.

He was married 24 Dec. 1863, Van Buren Twp., Wayne Co., MI, to Sarah Elizabeth Westfall, daughter of Samuel DeWitt Westfall and his wife, Elizabeth (Betsey) Kipp.

Cal Coleman worked as a farmer in the Belleville, MI, area for several years. He worked as a laborer while living in Detroit. The family also lived in Belleville, MI, for several years. Cal and Sarah divorced some time between 1900 and 1910. Sarah remarried to James Renton.

Cal died in the infirmary at Eloise, Wayne Co., MI. His funeral was held at the Pullen Funeral Home in Belleville, MI, March 5, 1919.

Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Children of Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall: William H.; Mary E.; Samuel J.; George C.; Addie; Claud E.; Jennie; Arthur Roy. (See the memorial of Sarah Westfall for more information about the children of Calvert and Sarah.)

This memorial of Sarah Westfall was written by Clarice Coleman. Clarice is the wife of Robert Coleman. Robert is the son of Sumner Coleman, grandson of Claud Coleman, and great grandchild of Calvert and Sarah Coleman. Clarice and Bob live in Longmont, Colorado.

The image shows a portion of a death certificate for Calvert Coleman. At the top left, the word "Ireland" is printed next to the Irish flag. To the right, "Calvert Coleman" is printed in red. The form contains several fields with handwritten entries: "BIRTHPLACE" is "New York", "NAME OF FATHER" is "Patrick", "BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER" is "Ireland", "MARRY NAME OF MOTHER" is "Bridget Hand", and "BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER" is "Ireland". A yellow circle highlights the "BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER" and "MARRY NAME OF MOTHER" fields. To the right of these fields, there is a section titled "CONTRIBUTORY" with some handwritten notes and a signature.

Excerpt from Calvert's Death Certificate

Obituary Notice for Calvert Malcolm Coleman

**Daily Ypsilantian Press; Ypsilanti,
Michigan; Sat. March 8, 1919**

Belleville: Calvin Coleman, aged 83 years, died at the infirmary at Eloise, Monday, March 3, 1919. The remains were brought to the undertaking rooms of J.C. Pullen and Son at this place (Belleville) Monday, and funeral services held there Wednesday afternoon. The deceased was well known here having lived in this vicinity for over 50 years. He is survived by four sons and two daughters.

Notes of Clarice Coleman:

Calvert Coleman was usually called "Cal" and it was assumed by most that his first name was Calvin. He also was predeceased by daughter, Mary Coleman Cady and son, Claud E. Coleman.

Sarah Westfall

Birth: Feb., 1844
Belleville, Wayne County
Michigan, USA

Death: Apr. 2, 1922
Highland Park Wayne County
Michigan, USA

Sarah E. Westfall was a daughter of Samuel D. Westfall and his wife, Elizabeth Kipp. Sarah was born in Van Buren Twp., Wayne Co., MI, near the village of Belleville.

She married 24 Dec. 1863, Van Buren Twp., Wayne Co., MI, to Calvert M. Coleman. Sarah and Calvert Coleman lived in Belleville and in Detroit during their marriage. They had eight children.

They were divorced in the early 1900s. Sarah remarried in Apr. 1910, to James Renton. After James Renton died in 1918, Sarah lived with her daughter Jennie Coleman Freer in Highland Park, MI. She died there in 1922 and the funeral was held from the home at 39 Geneva St. Burial was on 4 April 1922, Woodlawn Cemetery on the William Skerrett plot.

Children of Sarah E. Westfall and Calvert M. Coleman:

i. William H. b. 24 Sept. 1864, Wayne Co., MI; d. 2 Aug. 1941, Ferndale, MI; mar. to Jessie Croton

ii. Mary E. b. 9 Dec. 1866, Wayne Co., MI; d. 10 Apr. 1904, Ypsilanti, MI; mar. to Joseph Cady

iii. Samuel J. b. 20 Sept. 1868, Wayne Co., MI; d. 9 Apr. 1933, Ypsilanti, MI; mar. (1) to Vadah Shaw; mar. (2) to Jane Wood

iv. George C. b. 12 Sept. 1870, Wayne Co., MI; d. 30 July 1946, Wayne Co., MI; mar. (1) to Myrtle Wagner; mar. (2) to Winnifred Black

v. Addie b. 1 Feb. 1872, Wayne Co., MI; d. 17 June 1925, Wayne, MI; mar. to William F. Skerrett

vi. Claud Edwin b. 12 Jan. 1875, New Boston, MI; d. 18 Aug. 1915, Belleville, MI; mar. to Jennie Maude Heath

vii. Jennie b. 1877, Wayne Co., MI; d. 15 May 1957, Rochester, MI; mar. to Edgar Freer

viii. Arthur Roy b. 22 Oct. 1884, Wayne Co., MI; d. in 1932, Highland Park, MI; mar. (1) to Myrtle Fitzgerald; mar. (2) to Florence Curtis Knapp; mar. (3) to Margaret Paterson

Records at Woodlawn Cemetery have Sarah's name spelled as Penton instead of Renton.

Burial:
Woodlawn Cemetery
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, USA
Plot: Section 13; Lot 202; Grave 2

This memorial of Sarah Westfall was written by Clarice Coleman. Clarice is the wife of Robert Coleman. Robert is the son of Sumner Coleman, grandson of Claud Coleman, and great grandchild of Calvert and Sarah Coleman. Clarice and Bob live in Longmont, Colorado.

Her life was not easy but she
raised eight wonderful children.
Bless you, Sarah, for your love,
and the courage to cope with
the difficulties of life.

— Clarice Coleman
March 21, 2008

Obituary Notice for Sarah Elizabeth Westfall Coleman

**Daily Ypsilantian Press, Ypsilanti, Michigan; Mon. April 3,
1922; page 1**

Mrs. J. Renton Dies in Detroit / Lifelong Resident of Belleville Passes Away in Detroit Sunday

Word has been received here of the death of **Mrs. Sarah Renton** which occurred in Detroit*, Sunday morning, following an illness of only a week. Mrs. Renton is the sister of Mrs. Julia Dolye, O.F. Westfall, and J.E. Westfall of this city**. Mrs. Renton, who was 78 years old, was born in Belleville and lived all her life there except for the past six months which were spent in Detroit with her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Freer. One other daughter, Mrs. Addie Skerrett and four sons, William, Samuel, George and Roy Coleman survive her***. Her husband, James Renton, passed away three years ago.

Funeral services will be held at the home of her daughter, 29 Geneva Ave., Highland Park, Tuesday afternoon at 2:30. Interment will be in Detroit.

Notes of Clarice Coleman:

*. She died in Highland Park, Wayne Co., MI. In those days if a person lived near or in Detroit, they were often spoken of as a resident there.

**. Since this obit was written in Ypsilanti, it did not mention that she was predeceased by her oldest brother, George D. Westfall of Belleville.

***. She was also predeceased by children: Mary Coleman Cady, and Claud E. Coleman

(After her divorce from Calvert Coleman, Sarah married James Renton. Her maiden name was Sarah Westfall.)

Relationship: Sarah Elizabeth Westfall to Nicholas Jurian Westphalen

Nicholas Jurian Westphalen is the 6th great grandfather of Sarah Elizabeth Westfall

6th great grandfather

Nicholas Jurian Westphalen

b: 1594

Westphalen Province, Germany

d: 1655

Westphalen Province, Germany

5th great grandfather

Jurian Westfall

b: 12 Mar 1629

Luyderdrop, Lyden Province, Holland

d: 01 Jul 1667

Kingston, Ulster, New York, USA

4th great grandfather

Symen Westfall

b: 30 Sep 1663

Kingston, Ulster, New York, USA

d: 1728

Dutchess County, New York, USA

3rd great grandfather

Jurian Westfall

b: 27 Sep 1696

Kingston, Ulster, New York, USA

d: 22 Mar 1753

Augusta, Hampshire, West Virginia, USA

2nd great grandfather

Simon Westfall

b: 30 Jul 1721

Kingston, Ulster, New York, USA

d: 21 Apr 1805

Warwick, Orange, New York, USA

Great grandfather

John DeWitt Westfall

b: 13 May 1751

Sussex Co., New Jersey, USA

d: Nov 1802

Phelps, Ontario Co., New York, USA

Paternal grandfather

George Westfall

b: Jan 1784

Sussex, Sussex, New Jersey, USA

d: Apr 1827

Phelps, Ontario, New York, USA

Father

Samuel DeWitt Westfall III

b: 09 Sep 1807

Phelps, Ontario, New York, USA

d: 13 Dec 1893

Ypsilanti, Michigan, USA

Self

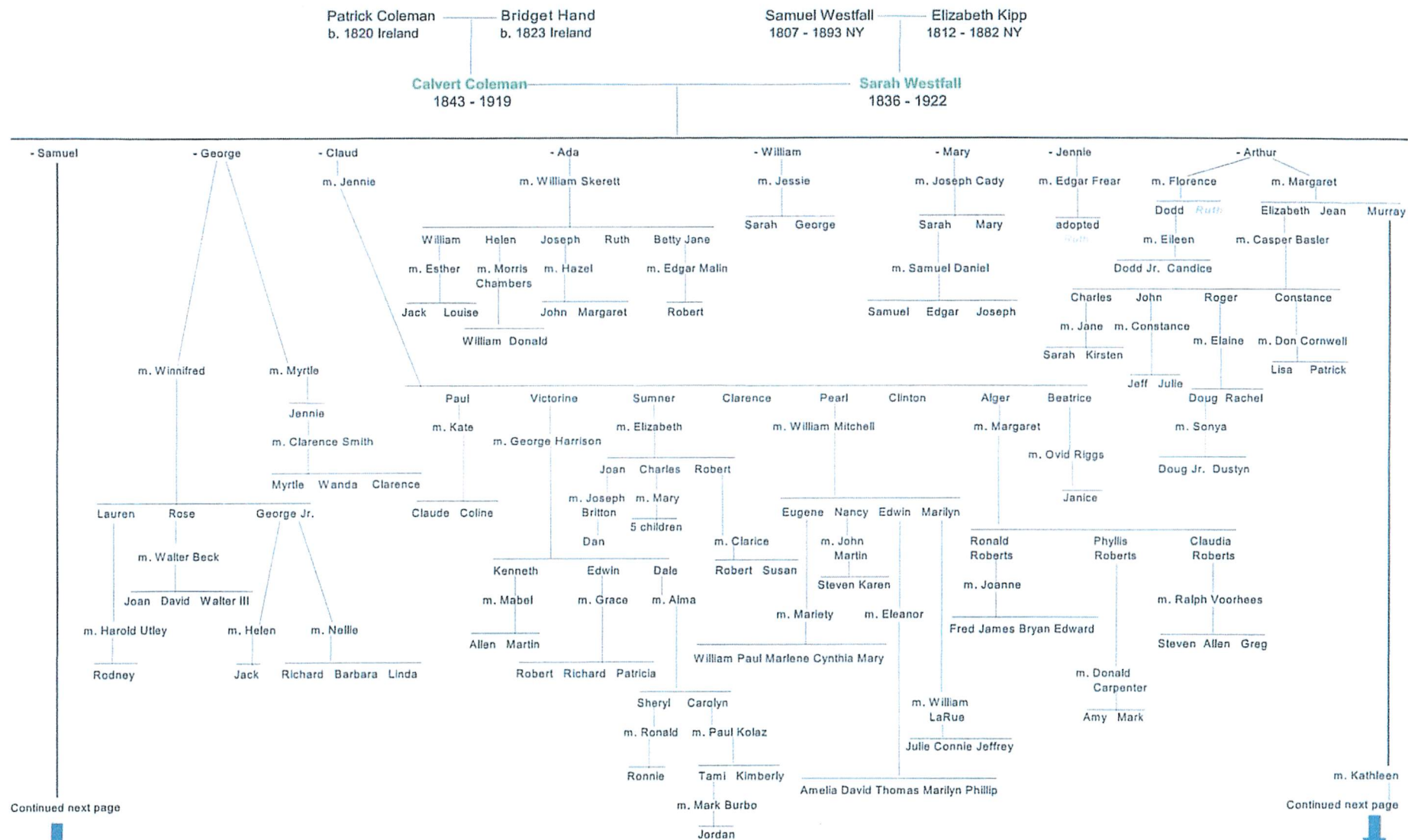
Sarah Elizabeth Westfall

b: Feb 1844

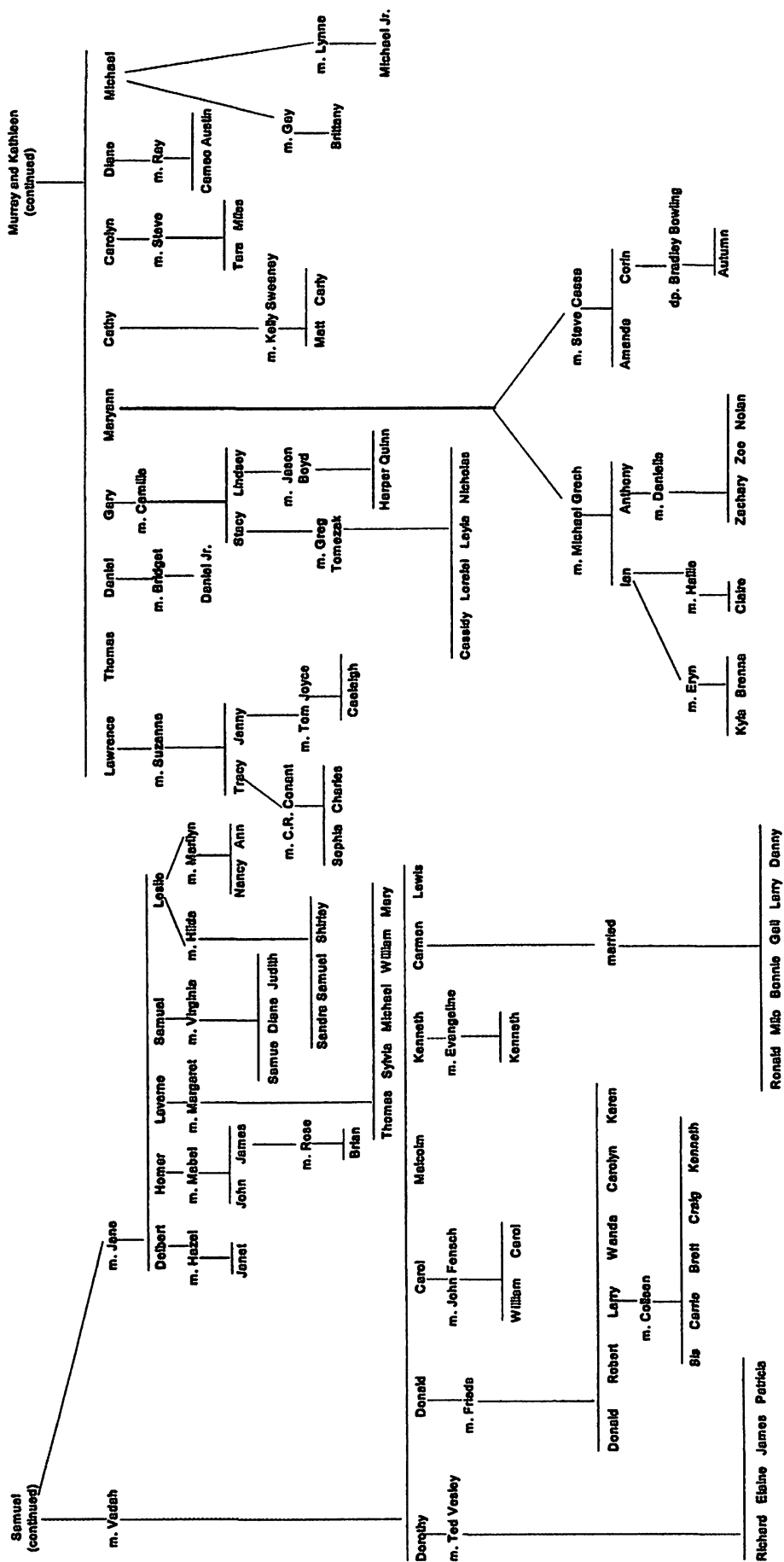
Michigan, USA

d: 02 Apr 1922

Highland Park, Michigan, USA



Descendents of Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall (8-1-10)



William Henry Coleman (1864 - 1941)

William Henry Coleman was the oldest child of Calvert Malcolm Coleman and Sarah Elizabeth Westfall. Calvert and Sarah were married in the midst of the Civil War era – on Christmas Eve in 1863. Nine months later William was born on September 25, 1864.



His wife, Jessie, continued to live in Ferndale until her death at the age of 88, on March 11, 1975.

Jessie outlived her two children. George died on January 21, 1971. Prior to his death, George followed in his father's occupational footsteps, working for many years as a maintenance man for the Ferndale schools.

William was raised as a child on his family's farm in Van Buren Township, Michigan. But farm life was not for William. He left home at 16 and moved to Detroit. By 1890, William was working for the Detroit Urban Railway as a streetcar conductor. The 1900 Census shows his mother Sarah and his brother Roy renting a home with William in Detroit.

He eventually became a motorman for the Railway and worked as such for 20 years.

William married Jessie Croton in Royal Oak, Michigan, on November 10, 1909. The couple soon moved to Ferndale.

Their first child, George Croton Coleman, was born on March 18, 1911. Sarah Elizabeth Coleman, known as Sally, was born the following year.

After retiring from the Railway, William worked as a maintenance man for the Ferndale Board of Education.

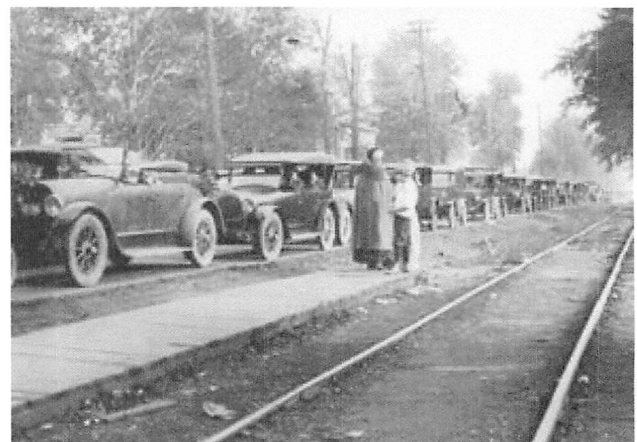
William died in Ferndale on August 2, 1941. He is buried at Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak, Michigan.

Sally died on April 10, 1968. She was married twice and had a child by her marriage to Richard Mason Barnett.

The name and whereabouts of that child is unknown to the Coleman family at this time.

Unfortunately, the children of Murray and Kay Coleman never met these Coleman relatives even though we lived in the same community throughout the 1960s.

Jessie, George, and Sally are buried along with William at Oakview Cemetery.



Traffic jam at Woodward Ave. and 9 Mile Rd. in 1922.

Jennie Coleman Freer (1876 - 1957)

Jennie Coleman was one of eight children born to Calvert Coleman and Sarah Westfall. Jennie was born in Canton Township, Michigan, on November 8, 1876.

Three weeks after her birth, Jennie's parents received notice that they had defaulted on their mortgage and the family farm soon would be auctioned to pay off the debt.

At the age of 18, Jennie married Edgar Freer on July 3, 1894. The ceremony occurred in Detroit. The marriage record mysteriously lists John Coleman as father of the bride. Edgar's father, Arthur, was an Irish immigrant who operated a farm in Macomb County, Michigan.

The 1890 Detroit City Directory listed Edgar Freer as a brakeman for a train. The 1900 directory continued to list Edgar Freer as a resident of Detroit.

According to family historian Clarice Coleman, "Jennie and Edgar had a lifelong interest in horses, both raising them and dealing in their sale. They eventually bought a horse farm in Rochester, Michigan, although they continued to live most of the time in Detroit, and later in Highland Park."

Jennie and Edgar adopted Jennie's niece, Ruth Coleman, daughter of Arthur Roy Coleman and his wife Florence Curtis Knapp. Ruth was born in 1913, two years after her brother Dodd. Apparently, when Florence died about a year later, Roy asked Jennie to care for the child. What initially was a temporary placement eventually turned into a full blown adoption of Ruth by Jennie and Edgar.

According to an obituary story, Jennie's mother Sarah came to live with Jennie,

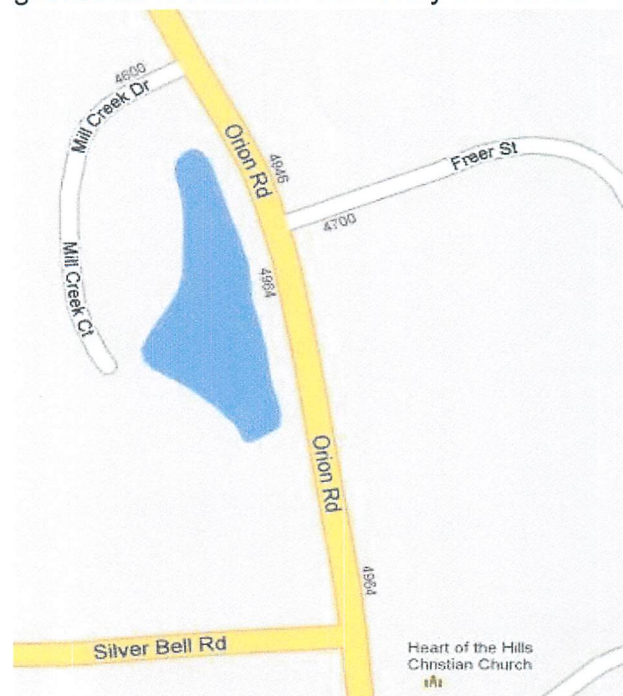
Edgar, and Ruth during the last six months of Sarah's life. Sarah died in 1922 at the Freer home in Highland Park.

A few years after Edgar's death in 1933, Jennie and Ruth moved permanently to the Rochester farm.

Some of Murray Coleman's children recall him mentioning his half-sister Ruth and his Aunt Jennie. These occasional references would occur in the 1960s as the Coleman station wagon was driving along Orion Road on the way home to Ferndale from Lake Orion. He would point to a white farm house and say that he had relatives who lived there.

Dodd Coleman II, known as Duffy, recalls going with his father to visit Ruth and Jennie at their residence in Rochester in the mid-1950s. Dodd Sr. was Ruth's older brother.

Jennie and Edgar are buried in unmarked graves at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.



Freer Street runs off Orion Rd. near Silver Bell Rd.



Betty Lorraine Basler

1918 - 2016

Eulogy

Betty Lorraine Basler graced us with her presence for more than 97 years. She was born as Betty Coleman on August 8, 1918 in Chatham, Ontario. She passed into her current spiritual dimension on March 22, 2016, joining with many relatives and loved ones who have predeceased her.

In order to properly know Betty, it is important to understand her strong love for family – both immediate and extended. Although she inherited her genetic makeup from her Scottish, Irish, and German ancestors, she learned core values and acquired ethnic and religious traditions from her parents, grandparents, and extended family.

Betty's mother, Margaret Paterson, was born in Canada where she grew up in Chatham living with her three sisters (Mabel, Agnes, and Isabelle) and their father John Creighton Paterson and mother Fanny Hope. The Paterson and Hope families both had strong roots in Scotland.

Betty's father, Arthur Roy Coleman, was born in Belleville, Michigan where he was the youngest of eight children born to Calvert Coleman and Elizabeth Westfall. Calvert's parents were born in Ireland. Elizabeth's family lived in the United States since the mid-1600s, having relocated from Westphalia, Germany.

It is no surprise that a recent DNA test shows Betty to be 39% Scottish, 37% German, and 18% Irish.

Betty's parents married in Chatham in 1916. After their marriage, they took up residence in Detroit, Michigan. Their first child, Jean Hope Coleman, was born on July 19, 1916.

Two years later, a family of three became a family of four when little Betty was born. Apparently they had moved to Canada where they lived in Chatham. Betty's father Roy worked there as a car salesman. Perhaps they stayed there until World War I ended on November 11, 1918.

Census records for 1920 show Betty living with her parents in an apartment on Woodward Avenue about one block south of Six Mile Road. Also living in the upper flat was her sister Jean, half-brother Dodd, aunt Agnes, and cousin Donald who was only 18. Her brother Murray was born later that year.

Betty grew up having close connections with her mother's Canadian family, but having little contact with her father's Michigan family. She had no connection with her paternal grandfather Calvert who died at a public infirmary in Eloise. She may have had minor contact with her paternal grandmother Elizabeth who died in 1922 at the home of Betty's Aunt Jenny just two blocks from where Betty lived on Woodward Avenue.

Betty experienced a personal tragedy when her sister Jean died in a car accident in 1923. Jean was

struck by a vehicle on Woodward Avenue, just steps from the apartment building where the Coleman family lived. Traffic accidents were common in that era, with more than 7,000 pedestrians being hit by cars in 1923 alone – hundreds of them being children.

As a child growing up in the 1920s, Betty was used to “watching” radio shows at night with the family or going across the street – literally right across Woodward avenue – to the RKO Uptown Theater for vaudeville shows and silent movies.

Her son Charles Basler recalls Betty telling a story about how she humiliated her brother Murray once when the producers at RKO ran out of talent and asked if anyone in the audience could dance. “I can dance,” Betty shouted out as she offered to perform. She got on the stage, they turned on the music, and little Betty started to move her feet and wiggle around. Her performance was so bad that Murray blushed, sank down in his seat, and hoped that no one would know she was associated with him. Betty didn’t care. She was the star of the show.

When Betty was filmed for a family history video a few years ago, she could not emphasize enough how much she loved her father. She looked forward to Sundays when he did not have to go to work. She would jump in bed with her parents on Sunday morning and snuggle up with her Dad. Oh how she loved him. It was traumatic when she witnessed him die of heart failure at the age of 48 on January 2, 1932.

Betty was only 14 and her brother Murray was only 11 when Roy Coleman died – just three years into the Great Depression. Roy worked at a Creamery and the family counted on his income to survive. It is rumored that Roy made money on the side as a bootlegger, bringing booze to Detroit from Canada. When the paycheck and the side money ended, the family had to struggle to make ends meet. No doubt, this had an impact on Betty who, for the rest of her life, knew the value of a dime and was no stranger to hard work.

Betty married the love of her life, Casper Basler, in 1941. The license was from Sanilac County – farm country – but the ceremony occurred in Highland Park – a city within the city of Detroit.

Much like Lisa Douglas in the television sitcom *Green Acres*, it was “goodbye city life” for Betty Coleman – now known as Betty Basler.

One year later, Casper and Betty had their first child, Charles. Two years later, John came along. The two boys must have been such a handful that Betty and Cap apparently delayed having another child for a few years. Roger was born in 1949. Then, after a pause of seven more years, their one and only daughter, Connie, was born. That was it for the Basler family. A team of six it would be.

The family lived in a farm house on Goetze Road in Carsonville, Michigan. Cap ran the dairy farm and tended to the crops, while Betty ran the household and tended to the children. Betty and Cap were a great team. They not only loved each other, but most importantly they respected each other. They surely must have had their differences occasionally, but their mutual love and respect overcame all challenges and obstacles.

Betty’s mother, now known as Margaret Finney or “Grandma Finney” to the kids, would occasionally come to the farm for short or even extended visits. As a result, the Basler children were able to experience her and bond with her. Eventually, Grandma Finney lived with the Baslers full-time until she had to move to a group home where she could receive better care and be in the company of retirees and widows – people more her own age.

Betty’s Aunt Agnes, with whom she was very close all of her life, spent her last two years living in the Basler household. The years of caring for Grandma Finney and Aunt Agnes are a testament to the generosity of Betty and her husband Casper.

The 1950s and 1960s were very special decades for the families of Betty Basler and her brother Murray Coleman. It was a city/county “foreign exchange” era of sorts – especially during the summers.

Each summer, the Colemans would send a batch of kids up to Carsonville to experience farm living. A few weeks later, the Baslers would return the favor – sending some of their children to Ferndale for a taste of city life. The trip would usually also include some time at the cottage in Lake Orion.

The Coleman kids – Larry, Tom, Dan, Gary, Maryann, Cathy, Carolyn, Diane, and Michael – learned many lessons on these foreign exchange trips. We bonded with our country cousins. We also had our love and respect grow for Aunt Betty and Uncle Cap.

The childhood bonds that were formed with the Baslers have continued over the years. Some of the Colemans have gone up north during hunting season, or for a wedding, or special occasions. Some of the Baslers have come down south for weddings, or family reunions, or other events.

Despite having a long life filled with many blessings, Betty has also been touched by tragedy and experienced loss – much of it during a 15 year span from 1978 to 1993. Her Aunt Agnes died in 1978, her brother Murray in 1984, her mother in 1990, her husband in 1991, and her son Roger in 1993. These blows bruised her heart, but her inner strength – developed in her early years during the Depression – helped her to carry on.

The girl born as Betty Coleman who grew into the strong and beautiful woman known as Betty Basler for all these many decades, leaves behind scores of admirers. We – her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and grand nieces and grand nephews – carry her in our hearts and will remember her for all time.

Although her physical body has expired, the spiritual dimension of Betty Basler is immortal. May her good example and best attributes guide us all as we continue to move through our daily lives. What follows are thoughts from some of us who knew her and in whom her memories endure.

By Thomas F. Coleman
March 26, 2016



She was strong-willed and would take risks when she felt firm about something that she wanted. Once she decided that she did not want to live in a group home for seniors, so she escaped by jumping out the window. They found her hiding in the garage. That's my mom!

– Charles Basler

She always wanted to make me happy. She was so helpful and generous and loving from the time I was young to the end. I think she made me a better mother as I had such a great one as an example.

– Connie Panduren

I love that woman to the moon and back. She enriched my life with her kindness, love, and wonderful stories. I would always look forward to our visits. She would ask about my life and family members with sincerity. Her wonderful sense of humor always came through even in tough times.

– Cathy Coleman

Aunt Betty took the role of aunt seriously with a lot of humor and fun loving expressions. She connected with just about everyone in general because of her non judging ways. She stepped out of her role as a elder to connect with her nieces and nephews as often as possible. She taught me how to live – I mean *really* live -not recognizing age but relationships.

– Diane Coleman Rogers

Aunt Betty was the best aunt ever, always loving and caring. Aunt Betty was a “worker bee” and I had much admiration for her stamina. Oh how she loved to kibitz with my husband Steve. After Dad and Uncle Cap passed on, it was awesome to see the friendship between Mom and Aunt Betty develop, including as travel companions such as the big trip to Hawaii.

– Carolyn Skalneek

I loved Aunt Betty very much. She made the best pecan pie – ever!

– Steve Skalnek

The memory that will always be with me is when Aunt Betty and Mama Kay came to visit us at our house in Kona, Hawaii. We took them site seeing every day. At the end of the day, we can back home and the gals went straight out to the lanai and put their feet up on a chair “cause their dogs were barkin’.” I would go to the lanai and ask “Are you gals ready for a Mai-Tai” and Aunt Betty would say: “Bring it on!”

– Michael Vasquez

She was a perfect mother-in-law to me from day one; and, we lived next door to each other all of our life together!!! Family was very important to her. Of course, she was a very good cook. She was never judgmental of any person.

– Connie Basler

Such a wonderful, bright, fun woman! I wish I had gotten to spend more time with her. We will miss you but know you're having a great time at the family reunion in the sky.

– Michael Coleman Jr.

Heaven has gained the most precious angel. May you rest peacefully Grandma. I'm so thankful for all the great memories I have and smile knowing how excited Grandpa must be to see you! As you would say "LOVE you to pieces."

– Lisa Cornwell

Will miss her beautiful soul and so glad to call her my aunt. What wonderful women we've had the pleasure to have known in our lifetime. She's definitely partying with my grandma and many others today.

– Tara Bureau

We'll miss our gal. Heaven gained another great one with Aunt Betty. I know she's at peace and reunited with Uncle Cap, our grandparents and her loved ones.

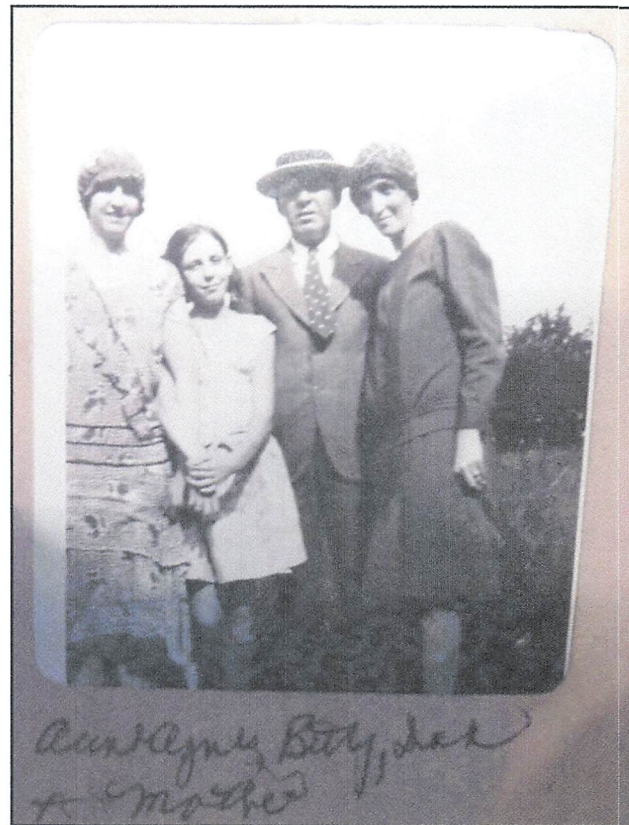
– Carly Sweeney



Memory Lane Photos



Middle: Margaret / Back: Frank, Casper, Gary, Kay, Roger
Front: Carolyn, Connie, Cathy, Maryann, Betty



Left to Right: Agnes, Betty, Roy, Margaret

More Information and Photos:

www.colemanfamilyhistory.info/betty

email: tomcoleman@earthlink.net



Betty and Kay at Family Reunion 2000

My Family's Ancestry: 7/8 Immigrant, 1/8 American

by Thomas F. Coleman

July 4th was always a major holiday when I was growing up. Usually we were staying at our cottage in Lake Orion, Michigan when Independence Day rolled around.

Just like our parents, my siblings and I were "city kids," but we were fortunate that our mother's parents had built a cottage in the countryside where their only child and her husband and children could vacation during the summer months. It was a modest two-bedroom place with an oil-burning stove and without hot water or a shower. A jump in the lake was our daily bath.

July 4th or not, we learned reverence for the American flag. The stars and stripes went up the flagpole each morning and at sundown the flag was taken down, folded neatly, and put away.

Each July, we looked forward to watching the Independence Day Parade in downtown Lake Orion. Even though the town was small, it was big enough to have its own parade.

Sparklers and firecrackers were part of the evening festivities. We would drive to a neighboring town for a nighttime display of fireworks.

What was missing from our commemoration of Independence Day was any historical account of our family ancestry. No mention was made of the role that our ancestors played, if any, in the founding of the United States of America.

Perhaps that was because we were mostly a family of recent immigrants, not a family whose ancestors could be traced back to the early American colonies. We were told that our father's ancestors were from Scotland and Ireland and that our mother's grandparents came from Germany.

Our celebration of the Fourth of July was more generic than personal. We were not commemorating "our" ancestors who were among the "founding fathers" of our nation. It was a general

sense of American pride that permeated our Independence Day.

Had we known the specifics of our family's history, we probably would have acquired more of an attraction to the Statue of Liberty than the Declaration of Independence.

That is not to diminish the significance of the founding of the nation and its break from the domination of England. But for a family where most of its ancestors were recent immigrants, the symbolism of that monument on Ellis Island would have been a more natural fit.

Inscribed on a plaque mounted inside the Statue of Liberty are the words: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe

free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

These words describe most of our ancestors – great grandparents who came to North America from Europe in the 1800s. Our mother's grandparents were from Germany and Poland. They im-

migrated to the United States in the 1880s. Our father's maternal grandparents had no connection to the United States. They immigrated to Canada from Scotland. Our dad's mother was born in Canada, as was his sister Betty.

Our dad's paternal grandfather, Calvert Coleman, had parents who came from Ireland, probably in the 1820s. So our only connection to the "founding fathers" stems from the ancestors of our paternal great grandmother, Sarah Westfall, who our family knew nothing about until 2010 when I started my genealogy adventure.

So when family history is taught to the descendants of Murray Coleman and Kathleen Steil, respect for immigrants should be high on the list of lessons to be taught. After all, we are 7/8 European immigrant and only 1/8 colonial American.



The Impact of a Teenager: Our Earliest Immigrant Ancestor – Jurian Westfall

Researching the ancestors of Murray Coleman soon identified Sarah Westfall as Murray's paternal grandmother. Sarah had married Calvert Coleman and they had eight children, the youngest of whom was Arthur Roy Coleman.

Roy later became the husband of Margaret Paterson and the father of Murray. Murray married Kathleen Steil and they had nine children.

The ancestors of Sarah Westfall, like the ancestors of other grandparents of Murray and Kathleen, were traced back as far as available records would permit.

Kathleen's paternal grandparents were born in Germany and her maternal grandparents in Poland. Murray's maternal grandparents were born in Scotland. His paternal grandfather, Calvert, was born in the United States, while Calvert's parents were born in Ireland.

So Murray and Kathleen would generally be considered second generation Americans. Except for the blood line of Murray's paternal grandmother, Sarah Westfall.

Sarah came from a long line of American-born Westfalls, most of whom had lived in New York state. Research proved that Sarah was a seventh generation American.

Sarah's sixth great grandfather, Jurian Westfall, was born in 1629 in Luyderop, Netherlands. His family had moved there from a Prussian territory known as Westphalia. "North Rhine Westphalia" is now a province in Germany.

At the young age of 13, Jurian sailed from Holland aboard the ship Den Houttuyn, arriving at the port of New Amsterdam (New York) on August 4, 1642. It is not known whether his parents died on the voyage or whether he was an orphan when he started the journey.



Signing of the Peace of Westphalia

Jurian left Westphalia in the midst of what later would be called the Thirty Year War. The religious war began in 1618 and ended in 1648 when the Peace of Westphalia was signed by the Holy Roman Empire and the Kings of Spain, France, Sweden, and the Netherlands.

Upon arrival, Jurian became an indentured servant of Kiliaen Van Raesselaer and was placed in the home of Michael Jansen. Indentured servants were common in seventeenth century America. Under the terms of a three to seven year contract, these immigrants were obligated to work for a particular master in exchange for their transportation to the new world and their lodging once they arrived.

Once the term of his contract was satisfied, Jurian left Jansen's farm in 1653 and bought land in Kingston, New York, where he married Marretje Hansen the same year. They had six children before Jurian was killed by Indians while acting as a guide for soldiers in 1669. One of the children, Symen Westfall, became the fifth great grandfather of Sarah Westfall.

A few years before he died, Jurian and 12 others petitioned Peter Stuyvesant, the Dutch Governor of New York, to establish a church in the area in which they resided. The Governor agreed and a local branch of the Dutch Reformed Church of New York was created.

Jurian Westfall apparently was the only immigrant by that name for a hundred years. He is considered to be the founding father of all Westfalls in New York and those who moved to West Virginia after 1740.

The story of Jurian Westfall is a testament to the power of a teenager and the difference that a single individual can make in the world. One can only imagine the courage it took for young Jurian to leave his homeland and to embark on a three month voyage across the Atlantic ocean to the land of opportunity in America.

Once he arrived in New York, Jurian had other challenges to face, such as fulfilling the terms of his contract as an indentured servant, saving enough money to buy some land, starting a family, and surviving in an area peppered with ongoing battles between native Americans and recent settlers from abroad.

Jurian fared quite well on all accounts, except for his premature death in a clash with local Indians.

Despite this tragic ending, hundreds of descendants of Jurian Westfall should be grateful that this Westphalian teenager mustered up the nerve to come to America. Modern day teens, even adults, can learn a lesson in courage and perseverance from brave Jurian Westfall.

Dangerous Transatlantic Travel:

The Immigration of Fanny and Rudolph

Millions of immigrants traveled from Europe to the United States between 1880 and 1920. They came on ocean vessels powered by steam engines.

The shift from wind-powered to steam-powered ships cut traveling time down from three months to two weeks. But despite the shortened travel time, for most immigrants an ocean voyage involved extreme hardship.

Ships originally designed to carry transatlantic cargo were adapted to carrying human cargo. Other than a wealthy few who could travel in first class accommodations, the overwhelming majority of immigrants crossed the ocean in third class "steerage."

Hundreds of steerage passengers were packed in like cattle. They were provided minimal food and had no privacy. Use of toilets was limited. On many ships, even drinking water was grudgingly provided. Because of overcrowding and lack of sanitary accommodations, fear of catching communicable diseases was well founded.

Despite these deplorable conditions, hundreds of thousands of Europeans made the voyage to America each year. In 1882, for example, nearly 800,000 people arrived from various European nations. Fanny Hope was one of them.

Fanny left Gretna Green, Scotland, in 1882 at the age of 25. She boarded a ship named "State of Florida" which departed from the port of Glasgow, stopped at the port of Larne, Ireland, and arrived at the port of New York on May 11, 1882.

On May 23, 1882, Fanny married John Paterson in Chatham, Ontario. Over the course of the next nine years, Fanny gave birth to four daughters: Agnes, Belle, Mabel, and Margaret. Years later, Margaret married Roy Coleman and gave birth to Jean, Betty, and Murray.

Despite the ordeal of her voyage, Fanny was fortunate to have reached her destination without incident. Other voyages of the State of Florida had serious accidents.

In 1883, the ship collided with another vessel about 12 miles from the shores of New York, leaving steerage passengers shocked and in a state of panic. The following year, an explosion occurred on the State of Florida and the ship sank off the coast of Ireland. Some 130 passengers and crew lost their lives.

If Fanny had died in transit from Scotland to America, she obviously would not have married and would not have had children. Her Coleman and Basler great grandchildren would not be here today. So her good fortune turns out to be our good fortune.

Rudolph Lukaschewski is another immigrant ancestor who experienced the hardships associated with a transatlantic voyage. Rudolph immigrated to the United States in 1887, a few years after Annie Janzen came to America. Both settled in Detroit.

Rudolph and Annie would later marry in 1891. They had several children, including Catherine Julia Lukaschewski. Catherine married Frank Steil and they had one child, Kathleen, who later married Murray Coleman.

Rudolph left his home town of Oliva, Poland, and traveled to Bremen, Germany, where he boarded the S/S Donau. Being of working class origins, Rudolph was undoubtedly one of the hundreds of steerage passengers. They would be segregated into areas for men traveling alone, women traveling alone, and families traveling together.



A few years before Rudolph made his voyage, the Donau had experienced a major fire at sea which put its passengers and cargo in great peril. In 1895, the ship stopped passenger service. It was eventually abandoned by its owners and burnt out in the Atlantic.

From Lukaschewski to Lucas: The Americanization of a Polish Family

As the United States was in the process of transforming from an agricultural to an industrial society, the nation opened its doors to large numbers of immigrants from Europe. According to researcher Julitta Grocholska, Poles were among the first major wave of immigrants to the United States from 1880 to 1930.

The number of Polish immigrants in the 1860s was 30,000; by 1890 it was 500,000. Grocholska explains that the Poles who immigrated to America before 1890 were from German-controlled areas in northern Poland. The city of Danzig, now Gdansk, was located there.

Although Danzig was home to many Polish-speaking Poles, Jewish Poles, and Dutch, the majority of residents were German-speaking. Over the course of many generations, Danzig fell under control of foreign powers, such as Sweden, France, Prussia, and Germany. The city became part of the German Empire in 1871.

From 1871 to 1878, Otto von Bismark, chancellor of the German Empire, instituted a siege of terror against the Catholic Church. Hundreds of priests or bishops were imprisoned or exiled. This was a difficult time for Catholics who lived in German-dominated areas of what had formerly been Poland.

Tired of the political turmoil of endless occupations, and lured by economic opportunities in America, many residents of Poland immigrated to urban areas of the United States in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Many settled in Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Michigan.

Rudolph Lukaschewski and Anna Janzen were residents of German-occupied Poland in the 1870s. Anna lived in Danzig and Rudolph in the town of Oliva. Anna immigrated to Detroit in 1881 at the age of 17. Rudolph, then 23, immigrated along with his parents in 1886.

Rudolph and Anna married in 1891. The marriage record shows the last name being spelled Lukaschewski. From 1894 to 1899, Detroit city directories spelled Rudolph's last name as Lukaszewski.

The census taker in the 1900 census wrote the name down as Lukaszewski. The birthplace of Rudolph, Anna, and Rudolph's mother were all listed as German Poland. Ten years later, the census taker spelled the family's last name as Lukashewski and listed the birthplace of Rudolph and Anna as "Ger German." Some neighbors were listed as being from "Ger Polish." The 1920 census form shows the last name as Lukaschewski and the place of origin as Germany.

A declaration of intention, a document filed by Rudolph with the United States Department of Labor, states that

he was born in Oliva, Germany. His signature clearly shows that he spelled his last name as Lukaschewski. Two years later, his petition for naturalization says he was born in Danzig, Germany, and that he immigrated to the port of Baltimore from the port of Bremen, Germany, in 1887. He signed his name Rudolph Lukaschewski.



Rudolph and Anna

Although Rudolph and Anna had immigrated from an area that once was part of Poland, various records and government documents show that the Polish connection, disclosed once in the 1900 census, disappeared after that. This is not surprising given the fact that Danzig was a city in Poland that was settled by neighboring Germans and that German was the language used by most residents of Danzig up to the 1880s.

But despite the fact that Rudolph and Anna identified with their German heritage and were born into a family that spoke German, the spelling of their last name – Lukaschewski – probably caused people in Detroit to believe that they were Polish.

Perhaps trying to avoid anti-Polish attitudes in Detroit, members the Lukaschewski family began to drop the Polish identifying "ski" from their last name.

The invitation sent by Rudolph for the Catholic wedding of his daughter Catherine to Frank Steil referred to him as Rudolph Lukas. Catherine's brother, Frank, also assumed the last name of Lukas, as evidenced by cemetery records from Mt. Olivet Cemetery where several members of the Lukaschewski family are buried.

Catherine Steil, wife of Frank, mother of Kathleen, and grandmother of Kathleen's nine Coleman children, referred to her maiden name as Lucas. Kathleen's birth certificate lists Catherine Julia Lucas as the mother.

The Lukaschewski name was unknown to the Coleman children until 2001 when they accompanied Kathleen on a "trip down memory lane" for her 80th birthday. A stop at Mt. Olivet Cemetery included a review of cemetery records which showed the name Lukaschewski. When prodded about the name, Kathleen sheepishly told her children that, from time to time, she would hear her father refer to her mother as "my little Polish girlfriend."

Comparison of DNA of Coleman Family Members

Region	Betty	Larry	Maryann	Carolyn	Tom	Mike	Dan	Gary	Diane
Europe West Germany Steil - Westfall	37% Westfall only	36%	53%	60%	64%	36%	39%	64%	66%
Europe East Poland Lukaschewski		12%	13%	14%	10%	11%	22%	15%	11%
Great Britain Scotland Paterson/Hope	39%	20%	20%	1%	3%	41%	21%	9%	<1%
Ireland Coleman	18%	15%	9%	9%	9%	3%	15%	3%	17%
Scandinavia ?	5%	6%	3%	4%	5%	<1%	1%	1%	2%
Iberian Peninsula ?	1%	9%		7%	6%	5%	1%	5%	<1%
Italy/Greece ?			<1%	3%	2%	2%		<1%	<1%
West Asia ?		<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%		2%	
European Jewish ?									<1%
Finland/Russia ?		<1%		<1%			<1%		

Ancient Paternal Ancestors of Calvert Coleman

by Thomas F. Coleman

I recently submitted a DNA sample to determine my paternal lineage. I am sharing with other descendents of Calvert Coleman the results of this test and information provided to me by Ancestry.com.

Paternal Lineage and the Y-Chromosome

A male providing his Y-chromosome sample also represents the DNA of his father, paternal grandfather, and so on up the paternal line. Y-chromosome results are generally identical throughout the paternal line.

Therefore, the DNA sample I gave to Ancestry.com and the test results they found are not only valid for me but for my father, his father, and his father's father, etc. In other words, the results from my Y-chromosome sample would give us valid information about the paternal lineage of my great grandfather Calvert Coleman.

Paternal Ancient Ancestry

The Y-chromosome test provides a look into a man's ancient paternal ancestry through a prediction of his ancient haplogroup, or deep ancestral grouping haplogroups were formed when ancient peoples migrated and branched out from Africa tens of thousands of years ago. As they spread throughout the world and adapted to their new environments, their DNA diversified, creating new groups and subgroups.

Our Paternal Ancestors: The Artisans



My paternal ancestors, and those of Calvert Coleman, belong to the paternal haplogroup known as R1b. Ancestry.com has labeled them as "The Artisans."

The Artisans first arrived in Europe from west Asia about 35,000-40,000 years ago at the dawning of the Aurignacian culture.

This cultural was remarkable for its subtle yet significant technological progress, like the shift from random flint collection to the use of a single stone core to shape flint tools as needed.

Aurignacian decorative beads and jewelry could also be the first sign we have of the uniquely human quality of self-awareness and adornment. Some anthropologists believe that the Aurignacian culture

was the first to paint. The people of this time period left behind fascinating cave paintings in France, Spain and Portugal.

The Ice Age may have played a role in the dispersion of the Artisans. At the peak of the Ice Age, a European ice shelf extended as far as southern Ireland, mid England and northern Germany, completely covering Scandinavia. Most of continental Europe was tundra and the land only supported trees as far south as southern France, northern Italy and areas north of the Balkans and across the Black Sea.

Thus, the Artisans most likely moved south of the tree line for their resources, making permanent homes where their descendants remained even when the ice shelf receded. Others returned north once resources were again available.

The Irish Connection

About 90% of individuals currently residing in Ireland are members of the Artisans. Other members can be found at high rates in the modern day populations of Spain, Portugal, France, Wales, Scotland and England. Based on this observation and other archeological and historical information, it is likely that ancient paternal ancestors of Calvert Coleman populated these areas.

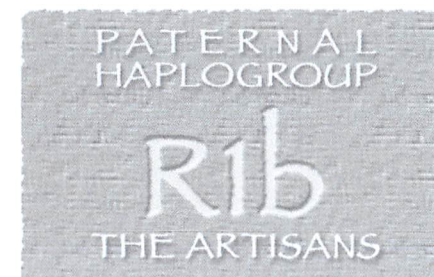


Migration of The Artisans from Western Asia

The Artisans include a genetic group known as the Atlantic Modal Haplotype (AMH), which features greatly among the Irish and Welsh populations. Researchers believe that the genes associated with the AMH moved with the early Celtic migrations. Thus, the ancient Celts probably were paternal ancestors of Calvert Coleman.

PATERNAL LINEAGE TEST RESULTS FOR THOMAS FRANK COLEMAN

Your DNA test results show that you belong to haplogroup *R1b*,
The Artisans.



This map shows the likely migration pathways of your ancient ancestors, The Artisans (haplogroup *R1b*). Your ancestors may have been responsible for the first cave paintings, and probably lived in present-day England, France, Spain or Portugal. To use your test results to build your family tree, visit dna.ancestry.com and learn about other participants with genetic profiles similar to your own.

 ancestry.com | DNA

YOUR HAPLOTYPE

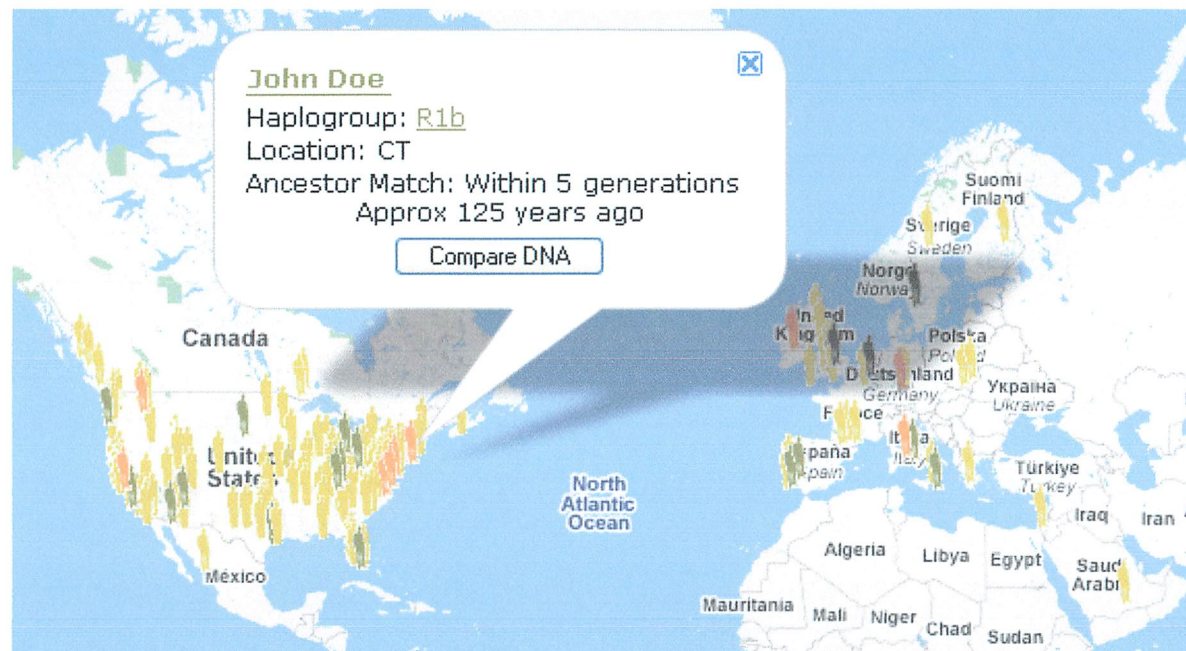
Location	19a	19b	385a	385b	388	389I	389II	390	391	392	393	426	438	439	441	447	448
Value	14	-	11	16	12	13	29	24	11	13	12	12	9	12	14	26	19
Location	449	454	455	458	460	461	463	464a	464b	464c	464d	464e	464f	YCAIIa	YCAIIb	Y-GATA-H4	
Value	29	11	11	17	10	12	24	15	15	17	18	-	-	19	22	11	

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS

Y-Chromosome Results—Location is Everything

At first glance, the numbers that make up your test results may not mean much to you. It's a lot like looking at the whorls on the pad of your finger tip, or the intricate pattern of a snowflake under a microscope. But it's a special bit of information that may hold the answer to some of your ancestral mysteries.

To determine your genetic profile, we took a look at several scientifically established DNA "locations" in your Y-Chromosome test. *Haplotype* is the scientific term for this kind of genetic profile, and we'll call it that going forward. Your haplotype can help you find new genetic cousins and learn about your ancient ancestors. To understand where the numbers which make up your haplotype came from, imagine the DNA locations we tested as different destinations with specific addresses (location markers) on the long ribbon that is your chromosomal DNA. When we're doing your test, we travel down that ribbon, pull up to each address and write down what we find. That numeric value is always unique to your DNA, and the combination of the different values makes up the unique numbers of your haplotype.



An example of a Y-Chromosome DNA test matching map. The "people" icons represent another participant who may share a common ancestor with you. Visit dna.ancestry.com to see *your* matching map online—click each icon to learn more about possible matches.

The haplotype table on your certificate has two rows. The top row, labeled "location," indicates the names of the defined markers for each of the locations (like 385a). We've filled in a numeric value for you at each of these locations, which you can see in the second row, labeled "value".

Your DNA haplotype results are useful only for our database to match you with possible genetic cousins and tell you about your ancient ancestors. Your test results don't tell you (or us!) anything about your hair

color or other personal characteristics. The way we use DNA is very different from what you may have seen on TV or heard about in the past. If you're interested in learning more about the science behind the test, read Part II of this packet, Digging Deeper.

Haplotypes—Play the Matching Game

Comparing your haplotype with another participant's is an objective and accurate way to determine the range of generations in which you and that

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS

participant may have shared a common ancestor.

Our database automatically compares your results with all other participants and lets you know about possible matches. Even if you have only a few close matches now, we automatically compare your results against each new entry in our continually growing database.

Your list of matches starts with participants who are most closely related to you. You'll be able to view the general home locations of participants in a map

Your list of matches starts with participants who are most closely related to you.

like the one on page 1 and see matches between 2-70 generations, as well as an estimate of the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) that you share with your matches. Your MRCA is an approximate number of years since you had a direct ancestor in common. An ancestor match of "approximately 550 years ago" could mean you shared a great-great-great-great-great grandfather.

Genetic Cousins—Exploring the Possibilities

You can unlock your new connections whenever you like. Visit your results on dna.ancestry.com and click on the "Paternal Matches" button, then click on the names of matching participants to see how you

are related. We'll notify you by email when a new participant matching your haplotype is added to our database.

When you find a match, you can contact your genetic cousins and compare family trees using the secure Ancestry.com Connection Service to protect your email address. If you're fortunate, our common ancestor analysis will narrow your search to a time frame, and together, you and your genetic cousin will discover the ancestor who joins your two family trees.

You may be contacted by someone as well. An opportunity to collaborate with your genetic cousins depends on the level of participation you designate online. You may elect to share only your contact name with others or remain entirely anonymous. These preferences are available under "My Account".

Your Ancient Ancestors—Where It All Started

We determine your haplogroup based on your haplotype. Your haplogroup then gives you clues about the life and times of your ancient ancestors from tens of thousands of years ago.

Starting from the point in human history when many ancient ancestral groups migrated out of Africa, discrete populations began to settle in different parts of the world. Over generations, as they adapted to their unique environments, each population's genes became slightly different from the original African group. Some of those differences were random, while

others provided genes for characteristics which let groups thrive in their environments. Taken together, those genetic differences define haplogroups.

Your haplogroup is described by a letter, A through T. Numbers and lowercase letters may also subdivide your haplogroup. Everyone in a haplogroup shares a certain number of values at definitive locations on their Y-chromosomal DNA. We took a look at those locations on your DNA and matched you to a haplogroup.

The Artisans—Haplogroup R1b

You belong to haplogroup *R1b*, The Artisans, who first arrived in Europe from west Asia about 35,000-40,000 years ago at the dawning of the Aurignacian culture. This culture was remarkable for its subtle, yet significant, technological progress. While early



A cave painting from the French Lascaux caves which contain 16,000-year-old Paleolithic art.

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS



Your ancient ancestors likely traveled this path—settling for various periods of time at points along the way.

Aurignacian peoples collected flint for tools at random, they later advanced and managed their resources with sophistication, using a single stone core to shape flint tools as needed. Aurignacian decorative beads and jewelry could also be the first sign we have of the uniquely human quality of self-awareness and adornment. Additionally, some anthropologists believe that the Aurignacian culture was the first to paint. The people of this time period left behind fascinating cave paintings in France, Spain and Portugal.

Other experts believe that the Périgordian culture was prevalent at the time when the Artisans first arrived in Europe. This culture distinguished itself with different technological advances, such as denticulate tools with saw-tooth notches for cutting, smoothing, and polishing.

There are several known subgroups of *R1b*. We're not yet able to tell you which (if any) of these subpopulations you match to, so we'll tell you a little about a few of them. Population genetics is a rapidly advancing field, and new data may allow us to match your DNA to

a specific subgroup in the future. We'll notify you by email if more advanced results become available.

One subgroup of the Artisans, *R1b3* (sometimes called *R1b1c*) is associated with the Cro-Magnons. Based on archaeological excavations, particularly in France, it's believed that the Cro-Magnons wove clothes, built huts and painted.

The Ice Age may have played a role in the dispersion of the Artisans. At the peak of the Ice Age a European ice shelf extended as far as southern Ireland, mid England and northern Germany, completely covering Scandinavia. Most of continental Europe was tundra and the land only supported trees as far south as southern France, northern Italy and areas north of the Balkans and across the Black Sea. Thus, the Artisans most likely moved south of the tree line for their resources during the Ice Age, making permanent homes where their descendants remained, even when the ice shelf receded. Others returned north when resources were again available.

About 70% of individuals currently residing in southern England are members of the Artisans. Other members can be found at high rates in the modern-day populations of Spain, Portugal, France, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Based on this observation and other archeological and historical information, it is likely that your ancient ancestors also populated these areas. The Artisans include a genetic group known as the Atlantic Modal Haplotype (AMH),

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which features greatly among the Irish and Welsh populations.

Some researchers believe that the genes associated with the AMH moved with the early Celtic migrations. Although ancient ancestral Celts were a diverse group, certain mythologies are consistent throughout most Celtic traditions, despite geographic or tribal boundaries. More than 300 Celtic deities have been described, many of which are reflected in classic Roman counterparts. The god Lugh (or Lugus) may have played an important role among those deities. Folklore and storytelling has infused Lugh's



Celtic crosses are often found in Ireland and Great Britain. The general style seen here may be a combination of Christian, Celtic or pagan influences.

character with magic and fantasy, given him credit for thunder and lightening, and placing his stage in the sky.

***R1b1c4* and *R1b1c6* are very specific subsections of the Artisans and are found primarily in Basque populations.**

The widespread acceptance of Lugh in Celtic culture is supported by the use of his name as the root of city names. Lyon, the present-day city in southeastern France, was called *Lugdunum* in Roman times. The city of Leiden in south Holland may also have its roots in the name of the god.

R1b1c4 and *R1b1c6* are very specific Artisan subsections found primarily in Basque populations, but also in Catalan, Spanish, French, British and German populations.

A unique modern day population, the Basque people self-identify as a discrete ethnic group in north-central Spain and southwestern France. Early Basque culture was basically democratic and its pre-Christian religion was formed around a superior female goddess, Mari. A rich mythology of Basque creatures and characters includes imps, giants, dragons, soothsayers and other nature-based deities.

Traditional Basque cuisine was dictated by the mountains and sea surrounding Basque country. Lamb, fish and beans are typical ingredients of a Basque meal. The language associated with the Basque people is *euskara*, which linguists believe exists in a family by itself, and is not related to English or other western European languages.

Members of the Artisans can also be found at high rates in South America. Populations geneticists ascribe this finding to the movement of peoples from Iberia to South America over the last 500 years.

PART II: DIGGING DEEPER

Your DNA Test: Why Y? Thank Dad.

Everyone has 46 chromosomes, grouped into 23 pairs. One pair is the sex chromosomes, which, among other things, determine gender. All women have a pair of X chromosomes (one from each parent). And all men have an X chromosome from mom and a Y chromosome that passes essentially unchanged from father to son, making it ideal for tracing paternal lineage. In many cultures, the surname is also passed from father to son. This fortunate coincidence is what makes tracing your paternal lineage through genetic similarities so powerful for genealogy.

Location markers on the Y chromosome from your DNA sample were analyzed and compared

PART II: DIGGING DEEPER

against other Ancestry.com participants' results to automatically find people closely related to you. So, the first application of your results is to contact possible relatives you wouldn't have otherwise known about. See page 2 for more about how to do this through our service. Additionally, if your traditional genealogy work has led you to potential living relatives—particularly those who share your surname—and you'd like to confirm a connection with those individuals, encourage them to take a Y-DNA test as well. Comparing your results will provide you with an objective and scientific basis for confirming your familial ties.

Alleles & Location Markers—the DNA Details

What is it that makes your information unique? And if it's so unique, why do other people have some of the same information?

Imagine your DNA as a long set of Morse code instructions. Just like one "short" signal and one "long" signal give you a Morse code value (A), your DNA repeats its "signal" in unique ways. Your haplotype has different values based on the number of times your DNA repeats its code in the different locations.

The numeric value given for each location represents a count of repeating sequences of DNA building blocks called bases. DNA is comprised of four bases: Adenine (A), Cytosine (C), Guanine (G), and Thymine (T). Those four bases line up to create a code, much

like the kind of code computer programmers use.

Your Y-chromosome test measures the pattern of base repeats in your DNA code at specific locations. For example, a pattern of AACG AACG AACG would result in a value of "3", because the sequence "AACG" repeats three times.

Your test results, therefore, represent a unique pattern of repeating DNA which is inherited from your paternal lineage.

We record the DNA repeats in each of either 33 or 46 locations—depending on which DNA test you chose—and end up with a very rich message which is your haplotype. Because we look at so many locations, we have many points of comparison. You may match with someone in 15 different locations and you'll still have 18 or 31 values which are unique to you. By looking at so many different locations, we can say something about the degree to which you match with

**We're constantly updating
our data for the most
precise matching
information available.**

another participant. So, are you related? You get more than a "yes" or "no" answer.

When comparing haplotypes, your closest matches will differ at fewer than 2 or 3 marker locations. A "good" match will yield a likely common

ancestor only a few generations back. But you can match up to someone at fewer locations and still discover that you're part of the same haplogroup; your common ancestor may have lived tens of thousands of years ago, or at any point in between.

Rates of Mutation—The Brains Behind Matching

Figuring out how your haplotype matches up with someone else's is more involved than a simple one-to-one comparison of location values. Each of the haplotype locations has a value which is unique to you. And finding that same value at that same location on someone else's haplotype is meaningful. But matching certain location values can be more significant than matching at others.

Why's that?

Certain bits of DNA are passed along relatively untouched from father to son, but other bits of DNA tend to change (mutate) each time they are passed down. The changes are completely harmless, but they're still identifiable. So the DNA at some of the locations we look at tends to change a lot from generation to generation, while DNA at other locations changes very little when it's passed along from father to son. Although they can't know *how* the DNA will change, scientists do know the constant *rate* at which DNA changes at each of the locations. And every location has a different rate of change.

A match in two participant results at a location

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known to have a high rate of change indicates a closer relationship than a match at a location known to have a low rate of change. Statisticians and geneticists have figured out fairly exact odds for change (mutation rates) in the DNA in each of the locations. By using those odds in a calculation, we can tell you just how meaningful a match is, and how closely related you are to another participant.

We're constantly updating our data and statistics to keep them as current as research allows, giving you the most precise matching information available.

MRCA—A Potential Link

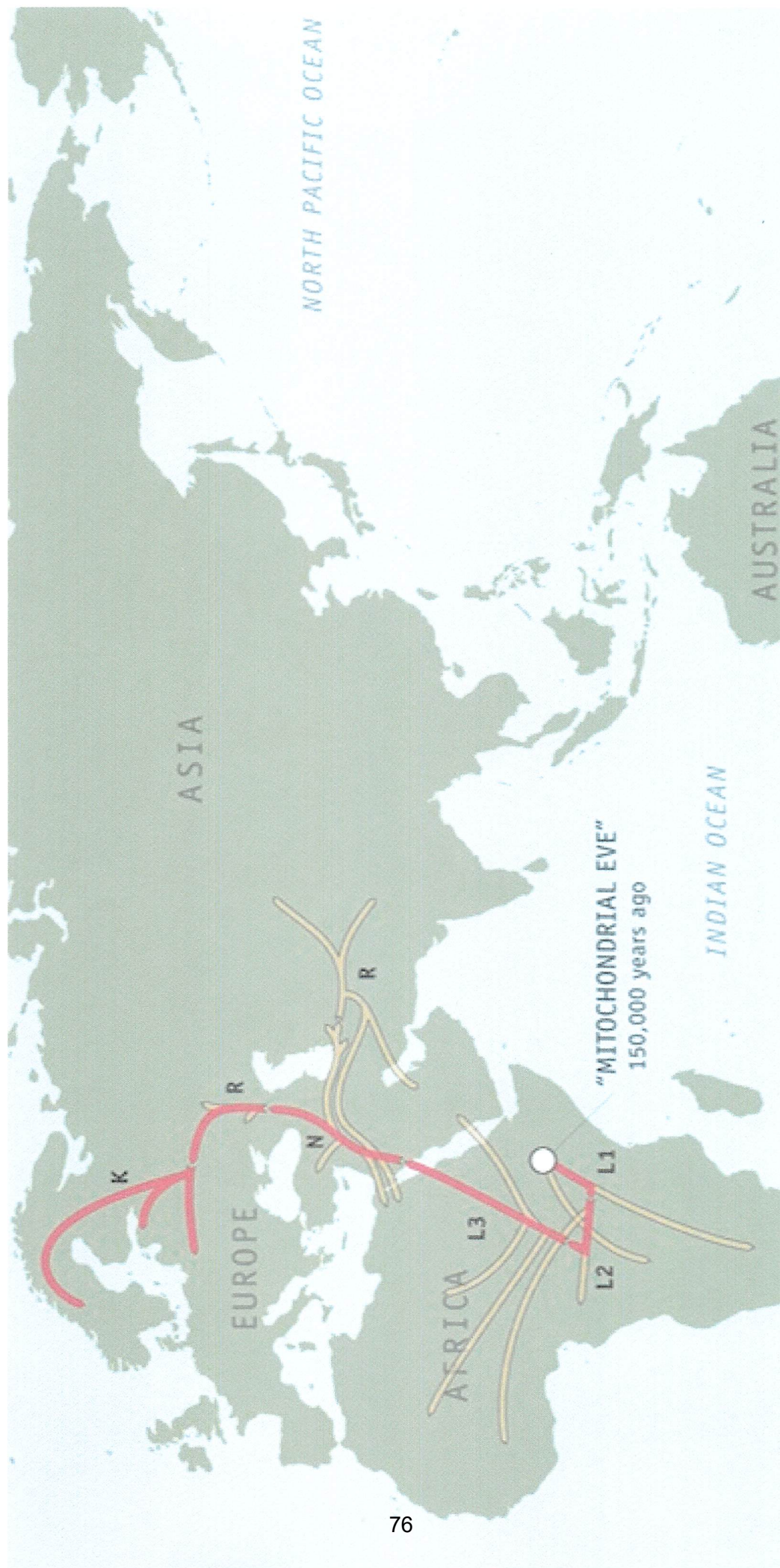
MRCA stands for Most Recent Common Ancestor. It's an important genealogical term and gives you an idea of how many generations in the past you and another participant may have shared an ancestor. MRCA calculations are based on the number of location markers tested (either 33 or 46), the number of matching values, and the mutation rate of the markers. This provides you with a starting point from which you can compare respective family pedigrees with other participants to discover if you indeed share an identical ancestor.

Our MRCA report provides a confidence range from 50% to 95%. At 50% confidence, you have an equal chance that the generational range might be greater than what is stated. The higher the confidence level is set, the broader the generational range. This

information can spark a new trail to a branch of your family tree or confirm or negate a lead you already had. See Part I for more about how to apply your results to build your family tree.

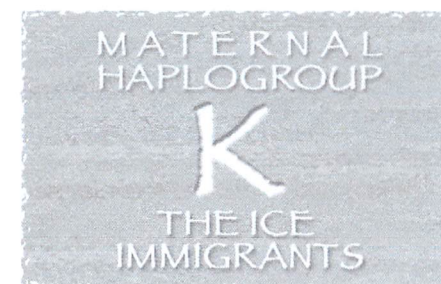
Still Have Questions?

If you have questions about your results, the science behind our tests, or how to connect with potential matches, our website's live chat and email features allow you to contact us directly. For more information, visit our blog at dna.ancestry.com and visit the Ancestry.com Learning Center to see videos about our services.



MATERNAL LINEAGE TEST RESULTS FOR THOMAS FRANK COLEMAN

Your DNA test results show that you belong to Maternal Ancient Ancestry haplogroup K, The Ice Immigrants.



YOUR HAPLOTYPE

Location	Reference mtDNA	Your mtDNA
73	A	G
146	T	C
263	A	G
309.1	:	C
315.1	:	C
16224	T	C
16245	C	T
16311	T	C
16519	T	C



This map shows the migration pathways of your ancient ancestors, the Ice Immigrants, haplogroup K. Your ancient ancestors probably lived in regions between the Near

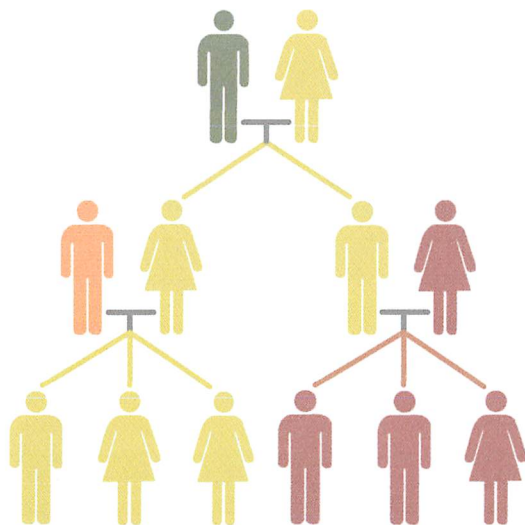
East and Europe. Along with revealing ancestral history, your results may also be used to eliminate certain hypothesized genealogical links. See page 2 for more details.

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS

mtDNA Results—How They Vary

At first glance, the data that makes up your test results may not mean much to you. It's a lot like looking at the whorls on the pad of your finger tip, or the intricate pattern of a snowflake under a microscope. But your results are a special bit of information that may hold the answer to some of your ancestral mysteries.

To determine your Maternal Ancient Ancestry Haplogroup, we took a look at a circle of your DNA known as mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). You can learn more about the function and genetics of mito-



We inherit mtDNA from our mothers. Here the line of mtDNA inheritance is represented by color.

chondria in Part II, Digging Deeper (page 4). Unlike chromosomal DNA, which contains the vast majority of an individual's genetic information, mtDNA is a special sort of DNA. Because mtDNA is not passed from the sperm to the egg during fertilization, our mtDNA comes only from our mother. Thus, your mtDNA results will be consistent among the members of your direct maternal line. In other words, your mtDNA results will be the same for your mother, her mother, your siblings, and so on. However, it's important to note that both men and women have mtDNA.

To understand where the letters and numbers which make up your test results came from, imagine your mtDNA as a circular ribbon. When we're doing your test, we travel down that ribbon, pull up to certain locations and compare your mtDNA sequence at those locations to a reference sequence (established arbitrarily by research scientists). Each location we look at is either "A", "T", "C", or "G", corresponding to the four components of DNA code. If your sequence is different from the reference, we make a note of it. That sequence difference is always unique to your DNA, and the combination of the differences allow us to match you to a haplogroup. Take a look at page 4, in Part II, Digging Deeper, for a more advanced explanation of your test results.

The results table on your certificate has three columns. The first column, labeled "Location," indicates the names of the locations where we found

Location: A Particular Place in the mtDNA Code	Reference mtDNA: The Reference Base at this Location	Your mtDNA: Your Genetic Code at this Location
Location	Reference mtDNA	Your mtDNA
250	T	C

differences in your mtDNA sequence. The second column, labeled "Reference mtDNA" describes the genetic code at that location on the mtDNA of a standard reference sequence. All Maternal Ancient Ancestry Haplogroups are defined in comparison to this one universal reference, established arbitrarily by the original research scientists who sequenced human mtDNA. The third column, labeled "Your mtDNA", shows the differences in your mtDNA when compared with the reference. If you belong to the same haplogroup as the reference, you may not see any data at all.

Your mtDNA haplotype results are useful only for our database to match you with a Maternal Ancient Ancestry Haplogroup. Your test results don't tell you (or us!) anything about your hair color or other personal characteristics. The way we use DNA is very different from what you may have seen on TV or heard about in the past. If you're interested in learning more about the science behind the test, read Part II of this packet, Digging Deeper.

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS

Genealogy—Meaning for the Maternal Line

Your results can be the final answer to certain genealogical puzzles. As mitochondrial DNA is inherited directly from our mothers, there are certain relatives who will always have the same results as you do. If there is a possible relative with whom you think you share a maternal link, you can compare mtDNA results. We can't determine whether you are related more recently than 5,000 years ago, but if you have even one difference, you can be certain you are not related.

Matching to Other Test Participants

Our database automatically compares your results with all other participants. Your Maternal Lineage results will show your closest maternal matches as well as how you differ from those matches.

Even over many, many generations mtDNA does not change much, so it's possible to have a "perfect" match with someone, belong to the same Maternal Ancestral Group and still not be related in a close familial way. However, any differences between your results and those of another participant indicate that you are definitely *not* related. The most common genealogical application of these results is to eliminate the potential link to an individual with whom you thought you had a direct maternal link.

If you're interested in contacting a maternal ancestry match, you can use the secure Ancestry.com

Connection Service to protect your email address. You may be contacted by someone as well. An opportunity to collaborate with other participants depends on the level of participation you designate online. You may elect to share only your contact name with others or remain entirely anonymous. These preferences are available under "My Account".

Our database is growing, so you may discover even more maternal comparisons and matches when you visit in the future.

Your Ancient Ancestors—Where It All Started

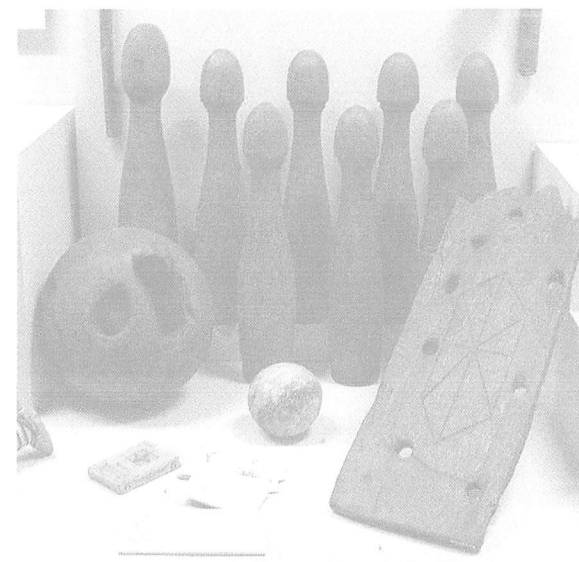
Around 100,000 years ago, a single group of humans began dividing and migrating to form genetically isolated populations throughout the world. Over generations, the new populations' genes became slightly different from the original group and from each other. Some of those differences were random, while others provided genes for characteristics which let groups thrive in their specific environments. A few of these random differences appear in your mtDNA sequence and allow us to associate you with a Maternal Haplogroup—described by a letter and in some cases followed by a number.

We determine your specific haplogroup by comparing your mtDNA sequence to a reference. The differences we find are usually similar or identical to the differences between a known haplogroup and the reference, so we can assign you to that haplogroup.

Haplogroups are usually associated with regions of the world, ancient peoples, and migrations, going back tens of thousands of years. By telling you a little bit about the people associated with your haplogroup, we give you clues to the life and times of your ancient ancestors. You may enjoy reading *The Seven Daughters of Eve*, by Brian Sykes, which offers a rich tale of all of our most ancient maternal ancestors.

Haplogroup K, The Ice Immigrants

You belong to the Ice Immigrants, haplogroup K, which emerged around 50,000 years ago and migrated from the Middle East (Near East) to Europe.



A Basque bowling game.

PART I: AN EASY EXPLANATION OF YOUR RESULTS

The earliest Ice Immigrants were hunter-gatherers whose lives and populations were shaped by migrations forced by the Ice Age.

Notable rates of Ice Immigrants are found among the Druze, a small and distinct religious community residing mainly in Lebanon and Israel. The Druze religion is an offshoot of the Ismaili sect of Islam. They call themselves the “people of monotheism”. The Druze maintain a discrete court system and are officially and internationally recognized.

The Druze symbol is a five-pointed star. Each

point is a different color: green is the universal mind, red is the universal soul, yellow is truth, blue is cause, and white is effect. The number five has special meaning to the Druze.

Ice Immigrants are also found among populations of the Gurage of Ethiopia, who are thought to be descended from Arabian invaders who arrived over 2,000 years ago. Of particular value to the Gurage culture is the *ensete*, a plant resembling a banana. The plant is a dietary staple, but also used ritualistically.

About 10% of Kurds, Palestinians and Yemenites

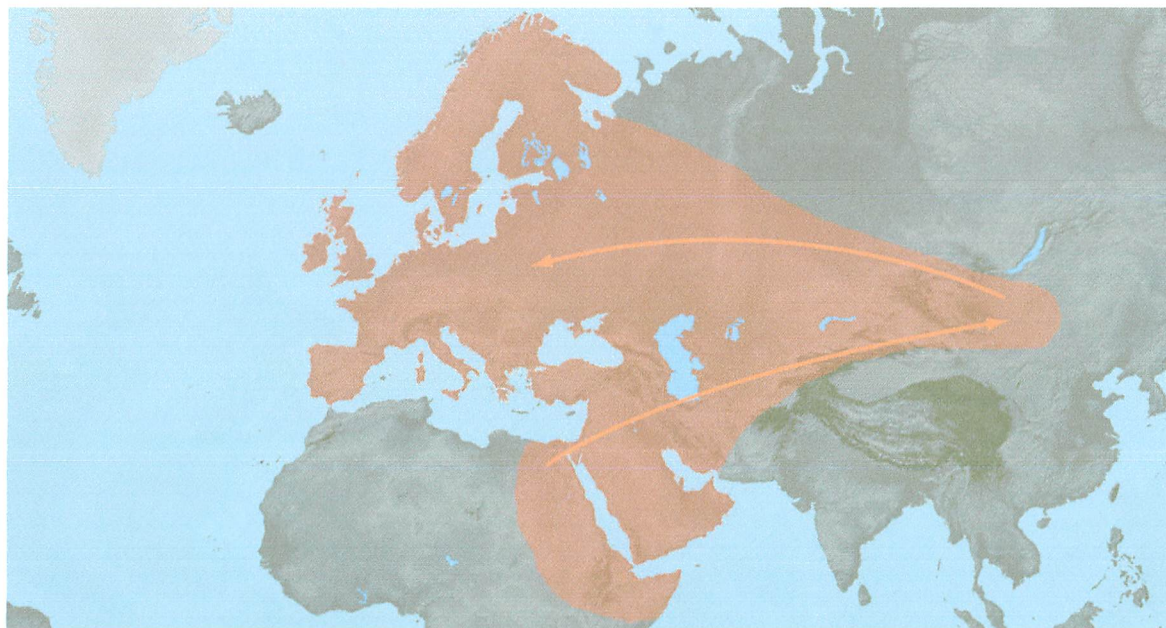
are also Ice Immigrants.

Ice Immigrants can be found in regions as far east as Mongolia, probably representing the first Ice Immigrant migrations. It's thought that some Ice Immigrants moved from this region into Turkey and areas around the Ural Mountains.

Although present day Basque populations do not have a very high number of Ice Immigrants, tests on Basque remains from thousands of years ago reveal that at one time, Ice Immigrants made up large numbers of the population. This finding means you could share ancient ancestry with the Basques.

A unique modern day population, the Basque people self-identify as a discrete and preserved ethnic group in north-central Spain and southwestern France. Early Basque culture was basically democratic and their pre-Christian religion was formed around a superior female goddess, Mari. A rich mythology of Basque creatures and characters includes imps, giants, dragons, soothsayers and other nature-based deities. Traditional Basque cuisine was dictated by the mountains and sea surrounding Basque country. Lamb, fish and beans are typical ingredients of a Basque meal. The language associated with the Basque people is *euskara*, which linguists believe exists in a family by itself, and is not related to English or other western European languages.

The Ice Immigrants are found at notable rates among populations of Ashkenazi Jews from central



Your maternal ancient ancestors traveled this path—settling for various periods of time at points along the way.

PART II: DIGGING DEEPER

and eastern Europe; about 20% of today's Ashkenazi population belong to a particular Ice Immigrant subgroup, *K1a1b1a*.

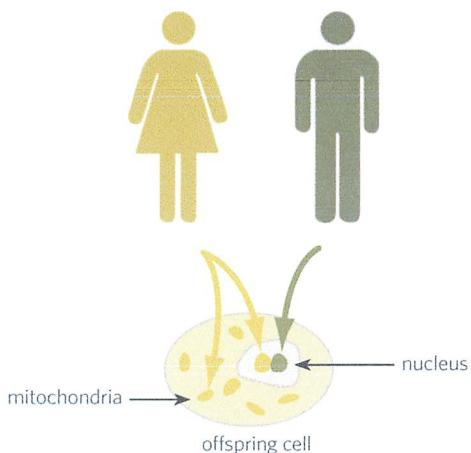
A 5,300-year-old man was discovered in the snowy Alps near the Austrian-Italian border in 1991. He was found to be an Ice Immigrant, not unlike many members of today's Alpine populations. Scientists named him Ötzi.

In *The Seven Daughters of Eve*, author Brian Sykes describes the lifestyle of the Ice Immigrants in a rich narrative surrounding their ancestral mother, whom he calls Katrine.

PART II: DIGGING DEEPER

What is mtDNA?

Mitochondrial DNA, or mtDNA, is a unique kind of DNA. While most of our DNA is contained in the nucleus of our cells as chromosomes, mtDNA and the mitochondria associated with it exist pretty much on their own, floating around inside the cell and outside of the nucleus. Mitochondria act like teeny-tiny organs in the cell, in fact, they are sometimes called organelles. A cell can have hundreds or thousands of mitochondria producing and regulating energy, and in fact, we couldn't survive without them. It's thought that the mitochondria once lived on their



mtDNA is contained in discrete cell organelles, the mitochondria, which are already in the egg at the time of conception.

own, like bacteria. At some point during evolution, our cells incorporated mitochondria into their own physical and functional make up, somewhat like swallowing a super helpful parasite. In any given individual, mtDNA is the same from cell to cell. Because mitochondria still replicate on their own, they need their own special DNA, which exists in a loop (unlike the strands of chromosomal DNA).

mtDNA—Thanks, Mom!

Like the rest of your genetic makeup, your mtDNA is determined at conception. A human egg cell is many times larger and contains thousands more mitochondria than a human sperm cell, in which mitochondria are concentrated in the tail. When the

two cells fuse they create a single fertilized cell, a zygote, and virtually all its mtDNA is from the egg.

Determining Haplogroup—Circular Data

To determine your Maternal Ancient Ancestry, we look at the DNA sequence, or code, in two mtDNA regions, known as the Hypervariable Region 1 and 2 (HVR1 and HVR2). You may know that DNA is made of building blocks called *bases*. Specifically, DNA is comprised of four bases: Adenine (A), Cytosine (C), Guanine (G), and Thymine (T). Those four bases line up to create a code, much like the kind of code computer programmers use. Even though HVR1 and HVR2 are made up of DNA, these two regions serve a strictly structural purpose for the loop of mtDNA; they give proteins inside the cell a place to stick to the loop. Because HVR1 and HVR2 are structural and don't code for anything important, they can contain a lot of "mistakes" or variations in the bases that make up their code, without having any effect on the life of the organism in which they exist. The way a sequence of mtDNA varies at certain locations in HVR1 and HVR2 lets us associate that mtDNA with a haplogroup.

Comparing to a Standard—Revised Cambridge Reference Sequence

As we've mentioned before, we determine your haplogroup by comparing the sequence of your mtDNA with a reference. You may be wondering how

PART II: DIGGING DEEPER

the standard was established and what goes on during the comparison. Scientists at Cambridge University sequenced the mtDNA of a random anonymous individual over 25 years ago. The sequence is called the Cambridge Reference Sequence (CRS).

The scientists figured out every single DNA base that makes up the mtDNA code, which turned out to be 16,569 bases long. About 10 years ago scientists used updated laboratory techniques to re-sequence the same mtDNA, and established the Revised Cambridge Reference Sequence (RCRS).

So, how do you compare? Most of the 16,569 bases are exactly the same from person to person, but the few differences give us enough information to make things interesting. The differences between two mtDNA sequences are based on something the science world calls SNPs, Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms. This just means that a single base position in one sequence is different from a single base position in the next sequence. If part of your mtDNA sequence reads ATC**G**ACT and that same part of the RCRS sequence reads ATC**A**ACT, then the fourth base is the SNP. Your Ancestry.com mtDNA test results show each SNP, by comparing the “mtDNA Reference” (RCRS) sequence to your mtDNA sequence. You’ll see an A, C, G or T at each location. That specific base pair indicates the SNP—the difference in your mtDNA sequence and the RCRS sequence. In some cases the difference we’re looking

at is the addition or deletion of a base pair (instead of a replacement), then you’ll see a line instead of a letter in your results.

What if you don’t have any differences? It just so happens that when the scientists chose an individual at random to establish the CRS standard, they chose someone who belonged to one of the most common haplogroups in Europe. So quite a few people discover that they have no differences in their mtDNA sequence compared to the CRS sequence. You won’t see any locations or SNP base pairs spelled out in your results. This just means you were an exact match to the standard CRS sequence and belong to the same haplogroup as the individual whose DNA was used to establish the standard.

Genealogy—Making DNA Testing Meaningful

As we’ve mentioned before, mtDNA testing is very valuable for unlocking clues about your ancient ancestors. It can also be a powerful genealogical tool to eliminate possible relations through the maternal line. If you’re looking for another way to use DNA testing for genealogy, you can take a Paternal Lineage, Y-Chromosome DNA test. This test can reveal possible familial connections which are more recent than the matches you find with an mtDNA test. Although only men can give a DNA sample for Y-Chromosome testing, a woman can still trace her paternal lineage using a DNA sample provided by a

brother, father, or another paternal relative (for example, a male cousin) and she can treat these Y results as if they were her own.

If you submit a DNA sample for a Y-Chromosome test, your results will include possible participant matches as well as an estimate of the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) that you share with your matches. An ancestor match of “approximately 550 years ago” could mean you shared a great-great-great-great-great grandfather.

When you find a match using your Y-chromosome test results, you can contact your genetic cousins and compare family trees using the secure Ancestry.com Connection Service to protect your email address. If you’re fortunate, our common ancestor analysis will narrow your search to a time frame, and together, you and your genetic cousin will discover the ancestor who joins your two family trees.

Still Have Questions?

If you have questions about your results or the science behind our tests, our website’s live chat and email features allow you to contact us directly. For more information, visit dna.ancestry.com and the Ancestry.com Learning Center to see videos about our services.