COIGNERIES/CONVERSE & REDFERN FAMILY TREE

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Many thanks to Dr. Frederick C. Redfern, Cherie Redfern, Geri Brodzinski and the many family members who generously contributed their time in researching the Coigneries/Converse & Redfern family tree and our many stories.

In addition, special thanks to Erik Matthews of the Architectural & Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland, England and Joe Iamartino, historian, Thompson, CT.

“When we respect our blood ancestors and our spiritual ancestors, we feel rooted.” — Thich Nhat Hanh.

The numbers in the left column, such as 29 (12) means the 29th generation from 1010 (when the family tree starts) and the 12th generation from Deacon Edward Converse (the first direct line family member in America).

The individuals in this tree (without all the stories in this document) are entered in ancestry.com under “Redfern Family” tree, but ancestry.com is fee-based and lineages and relations are somewhat challenging to follow since that site does not identify living relatives.

Any additions or changes are welcomed.
Please send them to me at paul.redfern@cornell.edu.
I do plan to update this document (once in a blue moon).

This document does not have birth dates of the current earthly inhabitants.
I do have another version of this document with birth dates for internal family use only.

Enjoy our family stories, I certainly have.
Thank you one and all,
Love,
Paul Lloyd Redfern
The de Coigneries family were in France before William of Normandy (1028-1087) and were active in its political history. The original seat of the Converse family was in Navarre, France, whence was Roger de Coigneries, who immigrated to England and became Constable of Durham about 1087, at the time of the death of William the Conqueror. One of the residences, in Navarre, France, is known as the Chateau de Conigniers. It was occupied in the 16th century. Also written as Chateuax de Coigniers.

Convers of Horden, Durham, was created Baronet. Sir Humphrey, 8th General, wrote the name Coigners and Sir Christopher, 20th General, wrote the name Conyers. They were Huguenots (followers of John Calvin). In the Massacre on St. Batholomew's Day, 1572, many Converses fell victim to the Papist's rape and Pierre Coigniers, attached to the Court of Henry IV, witnessed the assassination of his kingsman, Admiral Coligny, and left with his wife and two infants for Essus County, England. His son married a wealthy lady and their son was created a Baronet by Charles II. The family motto was: In Deo Solo Confido (“In God Alone I Trust”).

Roger de Coigneries, who was born 1010, was a Chieftain in the army of William the Conqueror at the battle of Hastings or Senlac, England, in 1066. He would fare well after the conquest and receive large estates that formerly belonged to the Saxons who escaped to the lowlands of Scotland as opponents of William of Normandy, who became King of England.

The ancestry of Deacon Edward Convers in England is listed by generations as follows:

1  Roger de Coigneries, to him the Bishop of Durham gave the Constableship of Durham, born in France 1010. He accompanied William the Conqueror in the invasion of England.

2  Roger de Coigneries, lived in Durham, England.

3  Roger de Coiners, 1134-1174, appears to have spelled the name Conyers and was from Horden, Durham County, in the north of England. He was created Baronet and was probably known as Lord of Bishopton.

4  Galfred Coniers, 1231-1238, Lord of Sockburn, Durham, England.

5  John Conyers I of Sockburn. Our family sword, the Conyers falchion, was passed down through the years and is one of only a half dozen medieval falchions to survive. It is on display at Durham Cathedral, Durham England. The handle has a black eagle with wings spread; the other side has the three lions of England. The wooden grip is made of ash. The cross is made of bronze and decorated with dragon motifs. Historians believe it was made 1260-1270. The legend surrounding the sword is that it was wielded by Sir John Conyers when he slew the Sockburn Worm or dragon.
Today, whenever a new bishop takes office at Durham Cathedral (considered the most beloved Cathedral in England), the falchion is presented to the bishop in a ceremony with the following speech, “My Lord Bishop, I hereby present you with the falchion wherewith the champion Conyers slew the worm, dragon or fiery flying serpent which destroyed man, woman and child; in memory of which the king then reigning gave him the manor of Sockburn, to hold by his tenure, that upon the first entrance of every bishop into the country the falchion should be presented.” The Conyers were given a manor at Sockburn-on-Tees.

Lewis Carroll, author of *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There*, grew up on the Tees and as a boy wrote his first verses of rhyme there. Historians believe that Carroll immortalized the legend of the Sockburn Worm in his famous rhyme, “Jabberwocky,” which goes in part, “Beware the Jabberwock, my son! The jaws that bite, the claws that catch! Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun The frumious Bandersnatch! He took his vorpal sword in hand: Long time the manxome foe he sought.”

For Harry Potter fans, Durham Cathedral, where our family sword is on display, provided one of the Hogwart’s classrooms (McGonagaill’s) in one of J.K. Rowling films. A menagerie of animals including baboons and owls were brought in for the scenes shot at the Cathedral. Harry can be seen walking through the cloisters of the Cathedral with his owl.

William de St. Barbara, bishop of Durham, granted the hereditary constableship of Durham Cathedral to the Conyers family.

6  **Sir Humphrey Coigners** at Sockburn, died 1221.

7  **Sir John Coigners II** born 1272 in Northumberland, England and died 1328 at Sockburn. Married Scolastica de Cotam in 1289.

8  **Roger de Conyers** also known as Roger Coigners. Born 1290 Sockburn, died 1323.
9 Sir John de Conyers III, Knight (KG) of Sockburn, Durham also Sir John Conigners. Born about 1323, died at Sockburn in 1395. Married Elizabeth d’ Aton in 1339.

10 Robert Conyers, Esquire, of Sockburn, was also known as Robert Coigners. Born circa 1371, died April 25, 1431. Married Isabel Pert, daughter of William Pert and Joan le Scrope.


12 Sir Christopher Conyers, born 1383 Hornby Castle, in Swaledale, Yorkshire (northern England), died 1456, married Ellen Helen Rollenston, born 1400 at Rolleston, England, died 1444.

13 Sir John IV Conyers, born 1416 at Hornby Castle, died 1490.

14 Sir John V. Conyers, Knight (KG) of the Order of the Garter, born 1445 Hornby, died 1490 Hedgecote Field, married to Alice de Neville, born 1437, Roxborough Castle, Ireland. Sir John was the sheriff at Yorkshire at the time of the War of the Roses and was one of the Warwick’s Captains, looking after Warwick’s lands and interests in Yorkshire.

Sir John V. Conyers’ first son Christopher is buried under an alabaster tomb in South Cowton Church built by Sir Richard Conyers. His second son William became the first Baron Conyers and inherited Hornby Castle. His daughter Margery St. Quentin married yet another Sir John Conyers who subsequently inherited the Castle. Christopher was attorney to Ralph de Neville 1st Earl of Westmoreland, the most powerful man in North England in the late 14th century (the character Westmoreland in Shakespeare’s plays Henry IV and Henry V is based on Neville).

His second wife was Joan Beaufort, a Princess of Blood Royal.

Christopher Conyers is buried in Hornby Church which is located next to Hornby Castle. It is believed that he was responsible for building the North Wing of the Castle. It is uncertain where Sir John Conyers (KG) is buried.

The current owner of Hornby has set money aside for Sir John Conyers’ grave to be properly marked if it can be found. Because of his great wealth and status, British archeologists contacted by Paul Redfern believe that he is buried in one of the major monasteries connected with the family – Fountains Abbey, Easby Abbey, Marrick Priory or Holy Trinity Priory York.
The Church of Hornby in North Yorkshire, also known as St. Mary’s, was rebuilt on the site of an earlier Saxon church. It began about 14 years after the Norman Conquest, around 1080. The oldest parts are the tower. The lower stages of the tower show a combination of Saxon and Norman styles. The Saxon influence is most notable in the third stage of the tower, the original belfry which contains four bells, the oldest of which was originally provided by William, Lord Conyers (1468-1524).

Many fine monuments decorate the church. Stone and alabaster figures and brass images of Crusader knights and their families lie in the chapels. Medieval paintings of birds and foliage decorate the chantry chapel screen. The north aisle’s east window contains original medieval glass from the 14th century.

Paul Redfern has been in contact with the leader of the Council of British Archaeology for Yorkshire excavation team, who reported in July 2011 that the surviving Hornby Castle building was undertaken by Sir John Conyers KG “who played a major role in regional and national politics and had tastes to match!” The British archaeological team has found evidence that the North Wing of the Castle was built by an earlier Sir John Conyers who acquired Hornby in the right of his wife in the 1390s.

The 2010 excavation of the Banqueting House of Hornby Castle, built in the 1760s for then owner Robert Conyers-Dracy 4th Earl of Holderness, led by Erik Matthews of the Architectural & Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland, also found evidence in the form of a stone revetted flower bed, a sand lined path and an open sided motor and tile floored building, of a detached garden of Medieval date. This was securely identified by stratified pottery from the Saintonge region of Western France (center of the French Huguenots where our family originated from) dating to the late 14th Century.

Surviving section of Hornby Castle (south wing and tower) constructed by John Conyers KG in the late 1440s and modernized by John Carr (prolific architect and Lord Mayor of York) for the 4th Earl of Holderness in 1760. The plan is to reopen it hopefully someday. Archeologists are actively digging there.

In 2011, an 18th Century gravel path associated with the landscaping works of Lancelot “Capability” Brown, (considered England’s greatest gardener who designed over 170 parks, many of which still endure), for the 4th Earl of Holderness was uncovered.
Very quickly, beneath, they uncovered the remains of a substantial well-built stone complex yielding significant quantities of high-status Medieval pottery, drinking glass, food bones including venison and boar as well as a range of small finds including a spur used on boots for horseback riding (left) and family dice made out of whale bone dated mid-15th Century (right).

They also discovered in 2011 that the castle had a very rare conduit fed piped fresh water supply system using a mix of elm timer and earthenware pipes which in view of the archeologist “places the building amongst the very highest status in England in view of the shear expense to undertake and maintain this work that dates at the very latest to the mid-15th century.”

The manor house that the John Conyers family lived in existed on the Sockburn estate until at least 1682. There is a large farmhouse on the estate now where English Romantic poet William Wordsworth courted Mary Hutchinson while staying at the farm in 1799. Wordsworth’s friend Samuel Taylor Coleridge also stayed at the farm in 1799 and fell in love with Mary’s sister, Sara, although he was married at the time. It was the Sockburn estate where our family lived that Coleridge wrote his ballad-poem “Love,” dedicated to Sara, which mentions a knight, based on a figure on the Sir John Conyers tomb in the ruined All Saints Sockburn Church.

An avenue of limes at our family’s Sockburn estate

“All thoughts, all passions, all delights, Whatever stirs this mortal frame, All are but ministers of Love, And feed his sacred flame.”

“Love” by Samuel Coleridge (partial, written at Sockburn estate)
Oft in my waking dreams do I
Live o'er again that happy hour,
When midway on the mount I lay,
      Beside the ruined tower.

The moonshine, stealing o'er the scene
Had blended with the lights of eve;
And she was there, my hope, my joy,
      My own dear Genevieve!

The knight in Coleridge’s ballad-poem “Love” is based on Sir John Conyer’s tomb (left) which is located in the ruins of All Saints Church in Sockburn (right). Beneath Conyer’s boot (with spur identical to the spur in the photo from the archeological dig above) is the dead serpent which the family dog is confronting.

William Conyers left the family’s Sockburn estate where Coleridge’s poem was written to his daughter Anne. She conveyed it by marriage to Francis Talbot, by whom it was sold to Sir William Blacket, whom it has descended to the present proprietor. Sockburn Hall built in 1834 is currently on the Sockburn estate as is the farm house. There is a current project to save it.
15 **Reginald Conyers**, birth date uncertain, died at Wakerly, Northampton, 1535. Married *Anna Norwich* in 1525. Through Reginald mother’s tree, the current generation are granddaughters and grandsons of 5 Kings of England:

**King Henry II** (1133-1189) – 24th great grandfather of the current generation  
**King John** (1166-1216) – 23rd great grandfather  
**King Henry III** (1207-1272) – 22nd great grandfather  
**King Edward I Longshanks** (1239-1307) – 21st great grandfather  
**King Edward III** (1312-1377) – 19th great grandfather

The current generation are also cousins of 6 other Kings of England and 1 Queen:  
**King Henry IV** (1366-1413)  
**King Henry V** (1386-1422)  
**King Henry VI** (1421-1471)  
**King Henry VII** (1457-1509)  
**King Henry VIII** (1491-1547)  
**King Edward VI** (1537-1553)  
**Queen Mary I** (1553-1558)

Here is the line from King Edward III to Reginald Conyers:

**King Edward III**  
19th great grandfather of the current generation (the current generation being the 13th generation since Deacon Edward Converse or the next generation after Paul L. Redfern)  
**John of Gaunt, 1st Duke of Lancaster** (1340-1399)  
Son of Edward  
**Joan Beaufort, Countess of Westmorland** (1375-1445)
Daughter of John of Gaunt

**William Neville, 1st Earl of Kent** (1410-1463)
Son of Joan Beaufort

**Alice Neville** (~1437-1470)
Daughter of William

**Reginald Conyers**
Son of Alice

Separately, there is a direct family line from Reginald Conyers through his father Sir John Conyers to King Edward I Longshanks as follows:

**King Edward I Longshanks** (1239-1307)
25th great grandfather of the current generation (the current generation being the 13th generation since Deacon Edward Converse or the next generation after Paul L. Redfern)

**Elizabeth of Rhuddlan** (1282-1316)
Daughter of Edward I Longshanks

**Eleanor de Bohun, Countess of Ormond** (1304-1363)
Daughter of Elizabeth

**Petronilla Butler, Baroness Talbot** (~1387)
Daughter of Eleanor

**Elizabeth Talbot** (1388-)
Daughter of Petronilla

**Margaret Grey** (1381-1454)
Daughter of Elizabeth

**Phillip Darcy, 6th Baron Darcy** (1398-1418)
Son of Margaret

**Margaret Darcy** (1418-1469)
Daughter of Phillip

**Sir John Conyers** (1458-1520)
Son of Margaret

**Sir John V. Conyers, Knight (KG)**
Son of Sir John

**Reginald Conyers**
Son of Sir John

16 **Richard Conyers**, son of Reginald Conyers, born 1526 Wakerly, died 1554. Married Mary Blunt in 1551.

17 **Christopher Conyers** of Wakerly, baptized 1552. Married Mary Halford in 1589.

18 (1) **Deacon Edward Converse** (Conyers) of Wakerly, Northampton, England, was the 18th descendant, born January 30, 1590. He married Jane Clarke, daughter of William Clarke of Thickenham, Worcester. They had a son, Edward, the father of John and Edward of Blaston. Deacon Edward married a second wife, Sarah, and with Sarah and three children, Josiah, Edward and Mary, left England with Governor J. Winthrop's fleet in the ship Lyons. They
landed at Salem Harbor about June 12, 1630. They settled in Charlestown, Massachusetts and founded Woburn, Massachusetts.

Edward Converse’s house, 1640, was the first house built in Woburn, MA (photo 1903). House was located on Main St. Woburn (now Winchester Center, 8 miles north of Boston). Converse Mill was across the street. Believe house was torn down in 1930. A historical marker is in Winchester Center that says “Site of first house – built in 1640 by Edward Converse, who led the party sent out by Charlestown to explore “Waterfield.” Selectman 24-years. Deacon 19 years. Arrested in 1662 for speaking disrespectfully of the King’s letter.” There is also a Converse Bridge marker where Converse Mill was.

A man of more than usual enterprise, in less than a year after settling in Charlestown, Edward established a ferry, the first between Charlestown and Boston. He organized a church, the First Church of Charlestown, on July 30, 1630 and on April 13, 1644 was named 2nd on the first Board of Selectmen of Woburn.

Religion played an important role in Puritan Massachusetts. Every incorporated Town or Parish was required to have a church and pastor. From all that has been ascertained respecting the religious character of Edward Converse, we readily infer that he was a man of strongly marked idiosyncrasies. Prompt, clear-headed, devout, conscientious, outspoken, and unflinching, and yet prudent, self-contained, and uniform, are the adjectives that best describe his whole career. The first birth in Charlestown Village was Increase Winn, son of Edward, born December 5, 1641. Sarah died January 14, 1662, Deacon Edward died August 10, 1663, age 73.

19 (2) Samuel Converse, youngest son of Deacon Edward and Sarah, was born at Charlestown, MA, baptized March 12, 1637, and was killed February 20, 1669, by the water wheel at the corn mill in South Woburn. He is known as Sergeant Samuel Converse, who married Judith Carter, daughter of Rev. Thomas and Mary (Parkhurst) Carter. Rev. Carter was the first minister of Woburn. Mary, his English sister, married a Thompson, who moved to Thompson, Conn.

20 (3) Children of Sergeant Samuel and Judith were Samuel Converse, born at Woburn, 1662. He died in Thompson Parish, Killingly, CT., about 1732. He married Dorcas Pain and Abigail, who died 1689. Samuel and Dorcas had 6 children, all born at Woburn except Josiah of Killingly, CT.

On July 9, 1728, the first public meeting of the inhabitants north of Killingly was held, and Samuel Converse “the first settler near QuinNatisset Hill, still active in public affairs, with four grown sons,” joined in organizing a religious society, which was the second society in Killingly,
called the North Society of Killingly, and two years afterward named Thompson Parish. Samuel Converse, with his four sons, and others, built the meeting house. Samuel was the first settler of Quinnatisset Hill, 1-mile SW of Thompson Hill. The region was rude, rough, and wild and only inhabited by Indians. Since the farm house (“Quinnatisset farm”) and orchard stood near the road to Boston, it furnished rest and entertainment to many a passing traveler.

![Family farm house built in 1716 by Samuel and Dorcas Pain Converse is still standing in Thompson, CT.](image)

Today, the Converse family farm house is located on Ballard Road just south of the intersection with Robbins Road, Thompson, CT. While most historians are same property with no changes, a few are not certain if it is completely original or if some of it may have been rebuilt in the late 1700’s. The house was featured in a 1954 Alan Ladd movie “The Man in the Net” in which a man leaves a comfortable New York job to take up as an artist in a quiet Connecticut town (Information secured from Paul Redfern interview of Joe Iamartino, historian, Town of Thompson, April 11, 2011). The house is currently owned by Bill Barrette.

21 (4) The descent is through Thomas Converse, born 1699, and Martha Clough. Martha was probably a sister of Jonathan Clough, settled in Thompson, CT in 1722, and daughter of Thomas Clough, Senior of Salisbury.

22 (5) The children of Thomas and Martha (Clough) Converse were 9 in number. The descent is from David Converse, born July 2, 1746 in Killington, CT. He married Rachel Elliott, removed and died at Bridgewater, New York, March 1770. Rachel was the daughter of Captain Joseph and Jerusha (Bury) Elliott. David fought in the Revolutionary War.

23 (6) David and Rachel, born February 15, 1759, had 10 children and the descent is via Daniel Converse, the youngest, born 1791. He died 1873. Daniel married Martha Burnham Wolcott, daughter of Roger and Mary Steele Wolcott, of New Haven, CT, where Martha Burnham Wolcott was born in 1794. She died at Chili, NY, in 1853. Martha’s great great great grandfather, Roger Wolcott, was the Royal Governor of Connecticut from 1750-1754. Daniel died in Crittenden, Erie County, NY. He resided in Farmington and Jefferson County, NY.

24 (7) Daniel Converse, born July 2, 1746 in Belchertown, MA and Martha Burnham Wolcott Converse, born February 4, 1794 in Hartford, CT had 10 children, of whom Cyrus Steele Converse was the 4th child, and oldest boy, and from whom descent follows. Cyrus Steele
was born at Bridgewater, NY, September 12, 1819. He died at Chili, NY, July 1, 1900. He was a farmer. Rev. Frederick C. Redfern preached his funeral sermon. Cyrus married Sarah Jane Wooden and Ann Norton. He had 9 children by Sarah and 3 by Ann. The descent is via Cyrus Steele and Sarah Jane Wooden. She was the daughter of James and Eliza (Widner) Wooden, born September 5, 1826 and died November 15, 1868.

25 (8) The descent is via the fourth daughter of Cyrus Steele and Sarah Jane Converse, Martha Eliza Converse, born July 20, 1853. She married Rinaldo Thompson (born October 5, 1852, died May 7, 1923), of Brighton, NY, in 1872.

They resided on a farm on the Genesee River, just south of South Park (Genesee Valley Park), Rochester, NY. Rinaldo was a farmer and later in life a real estate dealer. Rinaldo and Martha had one boy, Vincent, who was born May 13, 1874, and three girls: including Grace (married a Kingsley), born May 5, 1882, Mabel who married Charles Barons on June 14, 1900, and Blanche. Rinaldo died May 7, 1923. When Martha Eliza was in her death bed, she was asked if she was afraid to die. Her answer was, “No, why should I be when I am going to one who has always been my friend and I know he loves me.” Her last words were, “The Lord is my shepherd. I don’t want anything. Meet me in heaven.” Martha Eliza Converse’s younger brother was Willard E. Converse. Williard’s granddaughter was Maxine Converse Deady. Maxine’s son is Patrick Deady who DNA confirms is related to Laure Johns.

26 (9) The descent is via Blanche Myrtle Thompson, who was born as the third child, August 30, 1877 and was an English teacher at Benedict College, the Republican Committeewoman for South Carolina, and was invited to opening of the George Washington Bridge on October 24, 1931. She wrote a personal poem to every member of the family every year for their birthday. She married Reverend Frederick Coachefer Redfern (born December 4, 1866 in West Stockwith, Nottinghamshire, England) on July 9, 1897. Frederick at that time was a senior at the University of Rochester and pastor of the Plymouth Ave. Baptist Church. He met his wife Blanche at the church where she sang in the choir.

Dr. Frederick C. Redfern, an appointee of the American Baptist Home Society, was Dean of Benedict College, Columbia, SC for 16 years and Professor of History and Economics for 8
years (living at 1129 Maple Ave., house still there), and from 1930 to 1933, Professor of Philosophy, Shaw University, Raleigh, NC. Frederick was an early proponent of black rights, knew Fredrick Douglass, the great emancipator and liberator, and was on the platform at the dedication of the Frederick Douglass Monument made by Theodore Roosevelt in 1899 at Rochester, NY.

The Douglass monument is located today at Highland Park and many members of the Redfern family are buried at nearby Mount Hope Cemetery (as is Douglass), including Edwin Carr Redfern (May 2, 1976-April 3, 1935, Fredrick Redfern’s brother), Lucy Edmonds (May 2, 1881-November 9, 1951, wife of Edwin Carr), John Henry Redfern (Frederick’s father), Emma C. Redfern (Frederick’s mother), Frank C. Redfern (Frederick’s brother).

During the summers of 1918-1923, Frederick was the Assistant Superintendent of the Rochester Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and also the Chaplain of the Monroe County Almshouse (1894-1902). He delivered the platform speeches at the South Carolina Republican Conventions of 1922 and 1932, was Chairman of the 1932 Convention, and was a delegate from South Carolina for 3 National Republican Conventions. He was a Mason High Priest and a member of the Knights Templar. In his older years, Frederick wrote, “I used to think life would be uninteresting when one became old but I have found that each decade has its own particular jobs, pleasures, experiences, and interesting problems. It is difficult to assign a premium to youth for life became fuller and richer with the wealth of friends and the treasures of memory.”

Frederick was walking on South Avenue in Rochester when he observed there were no churches in the area and decide to raise the funds to build the 835 South Avenue Baptist Church which still stands today. He preached there and Blanche sang in the choir.

Frederick’s father was John Henry Redfern, born October 29, 1843, son of Charles Redfern (1810-1893) and Elizabeth “Bessie” Carr, buried in Misterton, Nottinghamshire, England, home to the Sherwood Forest and Robin Hood.
Charles was the lock master on the River Trent at West Stockwith near Misterton. Charles farther was William Redfern (born about 1808, West Stockwith, Nottinghamshire; died 1839) and Elizabeth Sykes (born 1814, Gringley on the Hill, Nottinghamshire; died 1839).

William and Elizabeth’s son Thomas Redfern (born 1852) married Maria Flower (born 1854). Their daughter Amy Redfern (1889-1980) married Sydney Harris. Their daughter Margaret Harris (born 1916) married James Thomas Milner (1916-1985). Their daughter Jane (born 1958) was the first family member from England to contact the Redfern’s (Paul Redfern) in America in 2012. She is the great Grimley granddaughter of William Redfern. She was brought up in Misterton and still lives in England.

John Henry Redfern married Emma Coachefer, born April 14, 1846, daughter of William Coachefer (died August 12, 1878) and Millicent Stocks of Messingham (died July 19, 1889). John Henry lived in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, England where he was an iron worker. He and Emma had 9 children: Charles William Redfern, born in Messingham in 1865; Frederick Coachefer Redfern, born at West Stockwith in 1866; Elizabeth (“Lizzie”) Redfern, born at Stockwith in 1868; Richard Stocks Redfern, born in West Stockwith in 1871; Frank Coachefer Redfern, born in Rochester in 1871, lived at 43 Marsh St. and 30 Caroline St. and married Olive Hall (daughter of Albert Hall and Ester Rogers, current relation Dale Rogers has extensive family tree on his website); Addie Redfern, born in 1875 in NY; Edwin Carr Redfern, born in Gates, NY in 1876; Percival (“Percy”) Elmer Redfern, born at Monroe, PA in 1878; and Ethel Grace Redfern, born in 1884 who became Ethel Grace Gleason and settled in Wiloughby, OH.

John Henry Redfern boarded a ship in Liverpool with 14 family members, including Frederick Coachefer Redfern, who was 7, on April 3, 1873 and survived a dangerous and stormy voyage with a broken ship rudder arriving at Ellis Island on April 14, 1873. They settled in Rochester where Emma had family. John Henry operated a blacksmith shop in Gates, NY (he was a blacksmith in England as well); in 1877 he left Rochester for Monroeville, PA to become an oil well operator; and, when oil prices dropped from $4.10 a barrel to 79 cents, he returned to Rochester and became a foreman at Connell and Dengler Machine Co. He also worked at the Washington, DC Navy Yard. Later, John Henry owned his own machine shop where he manufactured bicycles. The family rented homes on Francis and Campbell Streets, bought their
first house at 169 Tremont Street, and eventually settled at 9 King Street, directly behind Susan B. Anthony’s house (located at 17 Madison St.), the legendary American civil rights leader.

Frederick’s brother Richard Stocks was active in real estate in Rochester (committed suicide in April 1933 due to fraud perpetrated by an explorer searching for his nephew, Paul Redfern, and Great Depression losses), Charles William (wife Elizabeth Mary Dormer Redfern and son Arthur Dormer Redfern, a carbon paper salesman, and daughter-in-law Marcella) was an Assistant U.S. Postmaster, and Edwin Carr was a shoe worker who one day decided that endeavor would not get him where he wanted to be, threw down his tools and worked nights selling insurance in order to attend the University of Rochester and Albany Law School. He became a highly successful lawyer “who fought his clients’ battles with courage and tenacity” and also served as Deputy Clerk of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. He lived at 809 East Avenue, Rochester, NY with his wife Lucy E. and son Edwin E. The house is still standing.

Frederick said that the family did well upon their arrival in America because they were “workers.” John Henry’s father, Charles, said the Redfern family traces back to the Isle of Man which is located in the Irish Sea between Cumbria, England and Belfast, Ireland. The Redfern’s spoke Manx, a Gaelic language. The Isle of Man was settled by Celtic tribes and Norse Vikings who assimilated into the Gaelic culture. It was ruled by Scotland and England throughout history and is today a self-governing British Crown Dependency.
The children of Frederick Coachefer and Blanche Redfern are Ruth Dorothea, born March 9, 1900, who had two boys Vaughn and Paul Jennings and started four successful clothing stores, Ru-Velle (Sumter, SC), The Spinning Wheel (Beaufort, SC), Donna Mae’s Shop (Elloree, SC), and The Town and Country Shop (Fairmont, NC), and was one of the first 50 women to enroll in the University of South Carolina (if someone was too poor to afford a wedding dress, Ruth would make it for free); Paul Rinaldo, born February 24, 1902, barnstormer, musician, and mechanical genius, was the first to solo cross the Caribbean Sea by air, leaving Sea Island, Georgia on August 25, 1927 in a Stinson Detroiter bound for South America and last seen flying over the Ornoco Delta in eastern Venezuela; Beulah (“Bee”), born July 23, 1908, who married Arthur Bedenbaugh of Columbia, SC, divorced, and in April 1954 married Frank Goldstein, lived at 36 Sutton Place South in Manhattan and travelled the world as a fashion buyer for Macy’s often with her husband who was in charge of toy buying for Macy’s; and, Isabel Ordina, born on September 18, 1912 in Boise, Idaho as a warm, loving, and spiritual person who worked in her youth at Sibley’s in Rochester and was active at the United Church of Christ, Titus Ave., Irondequoit and later as a volunteer at the Al Sigl Rochester Rehabilitation Center for the mentally disabled. Isabel liked to say “life is a roller coaster; hang on and enjoy the ride” and “when one door closes, another will open.”

The family moved from Rochester to Ohio around 1905 where Frederick served as a minister in Alexandria, Wellston, and Portsmouth, OH. Later they moved to Boise, Idaho where Frederick taught school and eventually became principal of Franklin High School. On May 10, 1911, when Paul was 9 years old, he watched five boys, the “Boise Five,” fly a hand-made glider from the top of Sugar Loaf Hill. The family moved to Columbia, SC in 1914 when Frederick joined the Benedict College faculty.

By 1916, at age 14, Paul Rinaldo had built his first glider and crashed it into a tree on a hill outside of Columbia. At age 16, he built his first plane from cardboard and spare parts and flew it around a cow pasture near his school. He started the first airfield in South Carolina’s capital city. In the early 1920’s he took people up for rides at the Bishopville, SC Fair, barnstormed across the country with his pet monkey, flew under bridges to advertise cigars, and flew for the U.S government spotting stills. Once in Texas he was jailed for buzzing a train. Paul was planning to marry Blanche Cochran of Shelbyville, IN, a successful Chautauqua and lyceum circuit play director, on November 14, 1923, but Blanche, suffering from ill health, committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid before Paul could knock the bottle from her hand (as reported in The Shelbyville Republican, November 8, 1923). Paul later married Gertrude Hildebrandt of Toledo, OH in 1925; Gertrude was born in 1905 in Napoleon, OH and died in Louisville, KY in 1981.

Paul is credited as the first aviator to solo the Caribbean Sea. He had the same dream of making aviation history as Lindbergh. On August 25, 1927 (3 months after Lindbergh landed in Paris), and as reported on the front page of the New York Times and newspapers around the world, Paul took off from Sea Island, Georgia for Rio De Janeiro. He was last spotted flying over Venezuela, possibly pursing his alternative landing site. Seven expeditions attempted to located Paul and his plane, but none were successful.

In 1929, mindful of a fellow trail blazer of the air Redfern, Col. Charles Lindbergh flew out of the club at Sea Island beach, GA and skimmed within 200 feet of the sands and tipped his wings
in tribute to Paul who took off from that beach on his historic 1927 flight. Hundreds viewed this simple tribute to Redfern by Lindbergh who then climbed his ship and resumed his flight along the coastline. In total, over 200 hundred newspaper and magazine articles, including front pages of the *New York Times*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and *Time* magazine, and a 1938 MGM film called *Too Hot to Handle*, starring Clark Gable, captured Paul’s spirit and adventures. Paul is also featured in books such as *Wings of Mystery* by Dale Titler, and more recently, *Myths and Mysteries of South Carolina: True Stories of the Unsolved and Unexplained*, published in 2010 by Rachel Haynie and available on Amazon. Other books are planned.

Two children of Frederick C. and Blanche died in their infancy. *Fred Redfern* was born at Rochester, NY, May 17, 1898 premature and died 10 hours after birth. *Blanche Victoria*, named for the Queen of their home and the Queen of England, was born at Alexandria, OH, October 25, 1903 and died September 28, 1904 of diphtheria. Blanche Victoria is buried at Wellston, OH.
28 (11) The descent is via Isabel Ordina Redfern who married first Carl Lamar Davis on July 13, 1930 in Columbia, SC and second husband, S. (Stephen) Lloyd Redfern. Isabel had two girls by Carl Larmar Davis, Geraldine “Geri” Blanche, born June 11, 1931, at Columbia, SC and Martha Anne, born November 9, 1932, at Columbia, SC. on June 8, 1940.

Isabel then married S. Lloyd Redfern (born August 11, 1908 in Thornhill, Ontario, greater Toronto area, on Yonge Street; died October 9, 1996 in Rochester) on June 8, 1941 in Miami. Lloyd was previous married to Martin E., a department store sales clerk, whose mother was from Switzerland. They married in 1928. Isabel died June 2, 1982.

Lloyd’s mother was Lillian Nora Parkinson (“Nana”); she was born September 16, 1883 in Brighton, Michigan and died February 17, 1973. Lillian’s father was Edward Parkinson, born April 17, 1851 in Thorne, Yorkshire, England, died November 22, 1928 in Thornhill, Ontario, Canada and her mother was Leonora Lyon, born July 20, 1852 in Sykehouse, Yorkshire, England and died March 18, 1937 in Thornhill.

Besides Lillian, Edward and Leonora Parkinson had 6 other children: Hearbet William, born May 24, 1875 in Thorne, England; Harold Edmond, born April 7, 1877 in England; Weila Kate, born October 21, 1878 in England and died September 1959 in London, Ontario, Canada (she had 4 children Dorothy, Gordon, Nora, and Rene Wadell); Eranst born October 19, 1879; Edman (“Unc”), born January 21, 1886 in Alton, Ohio whose mind was affected by WW1 and who lived in an apartment behind Blanche Redfern’s house at 7 King St. in Rochester, NY, and died October 8, 1962; and, Harry, born September 27, 1887. Edward Parkinson’s parents were Ann Armstrong Athway and James Parkinson of Lincolnshire, England and Leonora’s parents were Elizabeth Stanfield of Yorkshire and Thomas Lyon of Lincolnshire.

On February 16, 1904, Lillian, who at that time was living in Thornhill, Canada, married a successful Toronto businessman named John Hudson Chapman, born July 30, 1863, in York, Ontario, Canada. John Hudson was a commercial traveler (travelling salesperson) for the Ontario Wind and Pump Co. which sold steel windmill towers, windmills, steel towers, well drills, and gasoline engines primarily for farming. The company had offices throughout Canada and in Toronto was located at 39 and 61 Liberty Street in the Parkdale area and 925 Logan Street (a 4-story brick building built by the company that was demolished in 2011). The company was owned by the Chapman family and John Hudson’s brother, Joshua Bates Chapman, was the Superintendent and his half-brother, Stephen Henry Chapman, was President for 28 years.


John Hudson’s grandfather was Henry Chapman, born in 1800 in Kent. Henry Chapman married Anne Bates, born May 31, 1804 in Kent (his mother was Sarah Filmer and his family lineage can
be traced back to 13th century Kent) and in 1833 took the ship George Washington to Ellis Island with Canada listed as his destination.

Anne Bates’ brother was Richard Betts who went to Australia in 1830 with his wife Elizabeth. Their ship, the Rockingham, was wrecked coming ashore and the passengers had to be literally dragged to shore. With little protection from the weather, Richard’s wife Elizabeth and baby son died within weeks from dysentery and exposure. Kerri Young of South Australia contacted Paul Redfern in 2012 to share this information about Anne and to explain that Richard Betts was her great great grandfather.

Anne Chapman with their five children in 1834 traveled between West Farleigh, Kent County England and Upper Canada. They sailed on the Vessel Olympia to New York and then travelled to Upper Canada. Henry Chapman with his family became residents in the Township of Vaughan, County of York in June of 1834. The Land Records for the County of York, Township of Vaughan in Ontario Canada show that Henry Chapman on June 24, 1834, purchased 200 acres of farm land known as lot 32, concession 5, deed number 11738. Henry continued to operate this 200-acre farm in Vaughan until his death.

The Land Records for the County of York, Township of East Gwillimbury, Ontario Canada show that Henry Chapman on 2nd of December 1845, purchased 9 acres of land known as lot 106, 1st concession west, deed number 5755. Henry Chapman was a resident of Holland Landing (located an hour north of Toronto) from 1845 to the year of his death in 1874. The land was purchased from Honorable J B Robertson. There is a street marked Chapman on this property and it intersects Yonge Street. Henry sold a portion of lot 106 to the Northern Railroad. The Railroad Station for Holland Landing was built on this property. Henry Chapman was the first station agent in 1853.

This was a busy station in those pioneer days. For the thirsty travelers and local folks Henry had his brewery conveniently located right next to the passenger platform of the Northern Railroad. John Chapman operated the toll gate for Yonge Street at that roadway. This last toll ticket issued for that toll gate is in the Ontario Archives in Toronto.

A family house was on Chapman St. in Holland Landing (possibly it is still there because Chapman St. is a very short with the railroad running across it and there is a very, very old brick house on it). Henry and Joshua, the sons of Henry Chapman senior, made bricks for the local buildings on this same land. Henry Chapman senior died January 19, 1874. Some Chapman family members are buried at Christ Church Anglican Heritage Cemetery in Holland Landing.

John Hudson Chapman, son of Joshua, eventually became alcoholic and died from delirium tremens. Lillian left John Hudson before that with Lloyd, perhaps when Lloyd was five or six or younger, and went to New York City where she trained to be a nurse at Bellevue Hospital.
Eventually, Lillian settled in Rochester in the 6th ward and partnered with or married (undetermined) Robert James Redfern (“Pappy”), born October 5, 1878, died March 1945 on Palm Sunday of a heart attack. He was an automobile salesman, a stock keeper in a machine shop, and also worked as the head usher at the Lowe’s Theater. Geri and Martha Redfern were happy he worked at the theater because they got into the movies for free. Robert James loved art. He immigrated to the US through St. Albans, Vermont in October 1915 at the age of 37.

Lloyd took the Redfern name. Lloyd, Nora, Lily and Robert Redfern lived in a large house at 36 Eastland Avenue, off Monroe Avenue during the depression where they had borders and Lillian cooked wonderful meals for them. Geri and Martha loved to visit Nora at that house because they got to ride her bike and go to Loblaw’s Grocery store and play with the training register. Nora was a cachier as a teen at Loblaw’s. Robert’s World War I draft registration card is dated 1917-1918.

**Robert James Redfern**

Robert James Redfern’s first marriage was to Mary Anne Hutchison (born in Glasgow, Scotland, died January 15, 1952, buried in York Cemetery Toronto, Section 9, Lot 59). Their marriage took place on June 12, 1901 at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Toronto, Ontario Canada.

They lived on King St. Robert James and Mary Anne had five children: Robert James Edward (September 12, 1903 - October 1, 1975), Reginald Frederick (September 15, 1904 - June 1999; Diane Redfern relative), Roy Edgar Howe (January 15, 1907- January 11, 1975), Gladys Marion (December 21, 1910 - November 29, 1997), and Arthur Vincent (born 1916). Mary Anne Hutchinson died January 15, 1952 and is buried at York Cemetery in Toronto, Ontario Canada (Section 9, Lot 59).

Robert James Redfern was a member of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America (Lodge #387) in Toronto. He was also apparently a Mason with the Zeta Lodge, Anthony Chapter. He worked for Ryrie Berks as a salesman, and then joined the Army in 1914 as a Recruiting Officer during WW1. Robert left the Army and moved with Lillian Nora Parkinson to a small town about 35 miles from Detroit, leaving his wife Mary Anne Redfern (Hutchison) and five children in Toronto. Robert and Lillian eventually settled in Rochester.
One of Robert James’ sons – Robert James Edward – married Violet Rosina Sutton on November 29, 1923 at the Church of the Redeemer in Toronto, Ontario Canada. They had four children – one was a son named Gordon Albert Redfern (June 17, 1925 - September 20, 2000 at the age of 75) who married Madeline Barbara Keeling (April 12, 1923 – April 20, 2017). They had one child – a daughter, who is Sekoia Anna Lake – who has been in touch with Paul Lloyd Redfern. Sekoia is the great granddaughter of Robert James Redfern and a certified aromatherapist and the owner of The Little Turtle Company in Peterborough, Ontario.

Robert James parents were Robert George Redfern, a caretaker born in April 1855 in Hollinwood (Town Oldham) Manchester, England, and Margaret Ann Howe, born July 1861, in Ireland. Robert George immigrated to Canada in 1872 and Margaret Ann in 1875. They lived at 51 St. Vincent Street, North Toronto and 64 King Street, East Toronto. Robert George worked as a clerk. Who Robert George’s parents were is unclear: either Robert George (born 1852 in Derbyshire, father James) or Robert George (born 1855 in Oldham Manchester, father Charles). Either could be correct, but Diane Redfern (related to Reginald Frederic Redfern) makes the case for the Derbyshire parentage in the “notes” section of the Ancestry.com in the Schmid Routledge tree.

No direct connection could be discovered between Frederick Coacher Redfern’s family tree and the tree of Robert James Redfern. Though both families emigrated from England, Robert James Redfern came first to Canada whereas Frederick Coachefer Redfern’s family all came directly to Ellis Island. The previous two generations of their families that lived in England lived hundreds of miles apart. Prior to that, there is likely some relation, but none could be documented.

Lillian eventually went to work at Hillside Children’s Center on Monroe Avenue where she served as buyer for more than 25 years and worked into her 70s there. She bought all the clothing for the children. Lillian was a hard worker who held the family together financially.

Nora May married Harold Smalley of Webster, NY (born July 2, 1917, died February 26, 1997) who had two children, Lorrie Marie and Steven Gary.

Harold worked for Kellogg’s Corporation as a welder and at General Railway Signal (now part of Alstom) as a process engineer. Harold’s father was William Smalley (‘Bill’) from Chorley, England. He and his family may have been coal miners. After sailing to Ellis Island, William lived in East Rochester, NY where he worked at a railroad car shop and for RG&E. William married Annie M. Kinley.

Harold’s brother’s name was Donald. He was born in 1922 and grew up with Harold in East Rochester, NY. It is believed that he subsequently lived in Seattle, WA. Nellie Kinley, Annie’s sister, born in 1885, also lived with the family. The entire household – William, Annie, Harold, Donald, and Nellie – were born in England. According to the U.S. Census, the value of their East Rochester home in 1930 was $4,500. Annie died May 24, 1962 at the age of 69 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Penfield, NY. William is buried there as well. He died on September 25, 1979 at the age of 86.
Steven Gary Smalley married Carol Ann Vanden Brul (parents John and Dorothy Vanden Brul) on October 10, 1970 and had three children, Eric Steven, Amy Marie, and Marc Alan. Eric, who worked at Thomson Reuters, married Laura Wilkinson on August 10, 1997 at Webster, NY and had two children, Emily Dorothy, born at Rochester, NY and Ian Eric, born at Rochester, NY. Amy, a teacher in the Pittsford, NY district, married Michael O’Connor on September 26, 1998 in Pittsford and had two children, Craig Michael and Sarah Ann, both born in Rochester, NY. Marc worked at the University of Rochester’s Strong Memorial Hospital.

Lorrie Smalley married Dave Booth. Dave was born to Elwood George and Hazel Booth. Elwood George’s birth name was Dalose Claude Snover and his birth parents were Claude E. Snover, believed to be a shoemaker born March 1, 1892, and Lillian J. Snover of Rochester. NY. Elwood George was adopted by Elmer George and Catherine E. Booth December 21, 1912 when he was 6 months old. Elmer was born in 1886 and was the proprietor of a gas station. Elmer’s parents were George Booth, a milk peddler, born in 1855, and Jennie Booth, born in 1860. Besides Elmer, they had two other children, William R., who was born in 1882 and worked in a chair factory, and Hazel M., born in 1890.

Lorrie and Dave had 3 children: Ilene, Pamela, and Tara. Ilene married David Fetzner. David had two children from a previous marriage, Sarah and Daniel. Pamela married Christopher Linder and had two children, Brittany and Matthew. Pamela and Christopher divorced in 2009. Tara married Erdem Cakemir on May 10, 1966 and had a son, Noah.

Isabel and Lloyd Redfern had 2 children, Cheryl (“Cherie”) was born at Rochester, NY and Paul Lloyd born also in Rochester and lived at 11 Eastbourne Road in Irondequoit. Lloyd Redfern adopted Isabel’s two older daughters and so they are known as Geraldine Blanche Davis Redfern and Martha Anne Davis Redfern. Lloyd and Isabel’s ashes (died June 1, 1982) were spread at their favorite place to walk and play golf, Durand Eastman Park in Rochester where a tree was planted by Isabel’s friends in front of the club house restaurant in her memory (marked by a sign).

Lloyd worked at the Park after he retired from being a manager at Bonds Clothing Stores. He met Isabel at Sibley’s because they both had the same last name and someone mentioned that to him. Isabel was invited to speak at the University of Rochester on “Where Religion and Medicine Meet,” a lecture on the positive impact of spirituality on the healing process.
The descent is via **Geraldine B.D. Redfern (“Geri”)** who married **Gerard Earl Brodzinski (“Jiggs”)** on August 5, 1950, at Rochester, NY. Gerard is the 4th of 8 children of **Hazel (Schrader)** and **Emil Brodzinski** of Rochester, NY. Hazel’s family was from Germany and Emil’s family from Poland. Gerard was born at Rochester NY on August 8, 1929 and died in Windsor, CO on April 21, 2016. Geri was born June 11, 1931 and died October 27, 2018.

They had 4 children: **Yvonne Denise**, born at Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, NC (Note: on May 31, 2000 Yvonne had her name legally changed to Bootsie Yvonne Brodzinski); **Debra Anne (“Deb” or “Debbie”),** born at Rochester, NY; **Gerard (“Tim,” “Timmy,” or “Tom”)** Thomas, born at Rochester, NY; and, **Cathy Lynn**, born at Rochester, NY.

Yvonne married **Kevin Lee Christofel** on September 15, 1973 in Windsor, CO, divorced April 24, 1979. Bootsie Yvonne then married **Thelma Moser**.

Debra married **Ralph Richard Gutierrez** on September 20, 1974, divorced April 15, 1990. Debra had two children, **Brandy Marie** and **Jason Richard**. Brandy married **Jason Homan** on October 3, 1993 and had three children, **Nicholas Aaron Gutierrez-Homan** (adopted by Jason Homan), **Madison Jaelynn Homan**, and **Aubrey Paige Homan**. Nicholas married Andrea Gonzales on May 13, 2014. Andrea had a child by another father named **Zaidyn Gonzales**, and a child with Nicholas named **Jaisyk Gonzales**.

Jason married **Brianne Joiner** on July 26, 2010 and Brianne gave birth to **Berkley Jayden Gutierrez** and **Dayton Lee Gutierrez**.

Gerard (“Tom”) married **Deborah Jo Shreve** on February 17, 1979, divorced December 1999, and had one child, **Christopher Thomas Brodzinski** who married **Elizabeth Ann McPherson** on October 10, 2010 and had 3 children: **Brock, May and Abee**. Gerard’s second marriage was to **Linda Nuss**.

Cathy married **Joel Timothy Aragon** on March 26, 1983.

Geri and Jiggs lived in Rochester, NY at S. Goodman Ave from 1950-1952, at 7 King St. from February to April 1954, at 151 Avis St. from 1954-1959, and at 24 Avis St. from 1959 to 1971. They moved to Windsor, CO on July 1, 1971 when Kodak built a new manufacturing complex there. Geri worked at Kodak from July 1949 (right out of high school) to 1952 when Jiggs entered United States Marine Corps. Geri had her own craft shop from ~1962 - 1971 and did demo's and workshops. Later, she was a nationally accredited flower show judge and conducted flower arranging shows and workshops; a Business Manager at "the castle" in Highland Park, Rochester, NY (Warner Castle, home to the Rochester Civic Garden Center which has a library and sunken garden); and, Office Manager and feed and cattle control at Hergert Land & Cattle Co., Windsor, CO, 1976 - 2001.

Jiggs worked as bus mechanic from June 1948 to September 1950 for Rochester Transit Co. for 40 hours a week while attending high school full time. He then worked 33 years for Eastman Kodak Co., from September 1950 to July 1971, in Rochester, NY, producing and testing color paper and x-ray film, and then worked from July 1971 to December 29, 1983, in Windsor, CO,
as the Supervisor of Color Paper and X-ray Film. Being a "workaholic," he also set pins at the bowling alleys and caddied at Oak Hill Country Club, tested rifles at Crossman Arms, picked beans on farms on free days, worked at gas stations servicing cars, delivered flowers for Baetjer Florist on holidays, and cleaned offices at John T. Nothnagle real estate.

Jiggs was drafted into USMC in February 1952 during the Korean War. Geri joined him after completion of boot camp (Parris Island, SC). When he was assigned to Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, NC, there was no housing available, so they first lived in the Catholic Church in Maysville, NC (they had to "vacate" their living quarters for Sunday mass services). They eventually found an apartment that was comprised of a bed, table and chairs, and a stove located in the utility room, with the furnace, in a tiny house. They shared the bathroom with the elderly owners of the house. On Mondays, they lit a fire around a huge black caldron to heat water to do the laundry and rolled out a beautiful wringer washing machine from the garage. That "apartment" was 60 miles from the base and so when they found a place closer (40 miles), they moved there (Bogue, NC). To do laundry, Geri had to use a concrete slab and a scrub brush. That worked OK for Jiggs' fatigues, but was tricky for her clothes and the sheets. Geri shampooed her hair at the faucet. She got used to ice-cold water pretty soon and very fast shampoos.

Finally, they got housing "on base" (about 5 miles from the gate) at Midway Park. It was a cute little individual bungalow; so different from what they had become accustomed to. They lived there until Jiggs was honorably discharged on February 22, 1954 at the rank of Corporal. After Bootsie was born, his "pay" increased to $32/month and Geri’s allotment was $90/month. Jiggs was in what was referred to as the "motor pool." He had attended school at Montfort Point on base to train for the maintenance of Jeeps. His training enabled him to take apart Jeeps, waterproof them, and put them back together for amphibious landings.

Jiggs was deployed to Viegas, a US military island off the coast of Puerto Rico, 3 times, staying 3 months each time. Each return to the US, they would "practice" amphibian landings. Geri managed each time to make her way down to the beach to watch. When she found out they would be going out into the field for 10 days of "war games," she had to go find him. After all, Bootsie had been born just 10 days previous and she wasn't going to wait for him to see his new daughter.

So, Geri grabbed Bootsie, laid her on the front seat of the car beside her (no seatbelts in those days) and off they went. It's pretty difficult to get on base during "war games," but every time she was stopped, Geri just said "the Major said I could go through." No one questioned her further and she just kept using that line every time she was stopped.

When she finally found Jiggs' outfit, he was ordered to escort her home. Geri just couldn't figure why Jiggs was so quiet. After all, they hadn't seen each other in 3 months. He was in his fatigues and carrying his rifle (a real no-no when exiting the base). When they finally got out the gate, he pulled over, gave her a big kiss and looked at his precious baby girl. Geri asked how he was able to leave the base with her and he said he thought it was because of the way she was dressed. She had on a little pink see-through baby doll nightie. No one wanted to be responsible for this crazy girl out in the middle of nowhere.
The descent is via Martha Anne Redfern, born November 9, 1932, who on April 26, 1952 married Lawrence Ralph Swanson ("Larry"), born June 19, 1932, Minneapolis, MN, died February 3, 1998. Larry worked at Northwestern Bell/AT&T his entire career as a lineman, installer, and communications specialist.

Larry served in the U.S. Navy on a submarine as a Quartermaster Q Seaman from May 1, 1951 until his honorable discharge on May 1, 1955.

Martha gave birth to 3 children.

Scott, Martha, Lynn & Laure

The first child was Laure Anne, born in Minneapolis, MN, who married Lawrence Edward Johns ("Larry"), born in Minneapolis, MN. Laure worked as an administrative assistant at Dayton’s/Marshall Field’s Dept. Store and Target Corp. in Minneapolis, MN.

Martha’s second child was Scott Lawrence, born at Edina, MN, who married Michelle Klein on May 21, 1998 in Minneapolis, MN. Michelle was a sales executive with IBM and a marketing manager with Coopers & Lybrand and IT director with Carlson Companies, and graduated from Cardinal Stritch University. Scott was a 757/767 commercial airline captain with Delta Airlines and was previously with Northwest, Republic, and Midstate Airlines, and G& R Aviation. His B.S. was from the University of Minnesota and he enlisted in US Marine Corps Officer Candidate Training on June 4, 1978 and was honorably discharged as PLC-A Private on June 4, 1980. Scott and Michelle’s four children are: Phillip Daniel Klein, Jenna-Rose Klein, Thomas Karl Klein, and Helen Baine Swanson, and they have several grandchildren.

Martha’s third child was Lynn Renee who married Michael James Gilligan on October 25, 2003 and was previously married to Ronald William Hippie and divorced October 1997. Lynn graduated from the University of Minnesota, and worked at Dayton Hudson/Marshall Field’s/Macy’s and UnitedHealth Group.

Martha had a fourth child who was stillborn on about December 21, 1958. Martha died of a brain tumor when she was 28 years old on April 9, 1961. Larry married Mary Helen Reaney, born in Devils Lake, ND, on October 28, 1961; died November 14, 2017.
Larry’s father was Leonard Fred Swanson, born July 3, 1909, died 1986. Leonard married Nellie Katherine Hall, born August 8, 1909, died August 26, 1966. Mary Helen’s father was Paul Smith Reaney, born October 12, 1896 in Estherville, IA, died 1962 in Devils Lake, ND, married Mae Davis Reaney, born November 21, 1900 in Fairfield, IA, died April 1987 in Devils Lake, ND. Paul Smith Reaney’s father, Samuel Reaney, can be traced back to 18th century Ireland. Mary Helen’s sister was Harriet Paula Reaney, born July 13, 1935 in Devils Lake, ND.

29 (12) The descent is via Cheryl Lynn Redfern (“Cherie”), who married Robert Yomboro (“Bob”) on June 26, 1976 and lived at 320 Spring Street, Wooster, OH, divorced on October 24, 2003. Bob’s father, Santos Giambalvo (name changed to Sundae Yomboro after World War II), was born on October 14, 1914 in Akron, OH and died February 12, 1970; his mother, Antonietta Cecere, was born March 22, 1921 in Apice, Italy and arrived in the New York City from Naples, Italy on February 5, 1947 on the Saturnia.

Cherie taught special education in an elementary classroom for seven years, tutored reading and writing at the College of Wooster, and worked at Wayne County Schools Career Center providing career services for high school students, and providing employment testing for business and industry. She graduated from The College of Wooster with a B.A. in Sociology and from the University of Oregon with a M.A. in Special Education.

Bob and Cherie had two children. Heather Nichole Redfern Yomboro, born in Wooster, OH, graduated with a BA from the College of Wooster, majoring in Spanish and Anthropology (bilingual in Spanish) and worked at JP Morgan Chase in Columbus, OH and at T-Cetra in Hilliard, OH. Zachary Sundae Redfern Yomboro (“Zach”), born in Wooster, OH, graduated from the Art Institute in Pittsburgh with a BS in Visual Effects and Motion Graphics and worked for Lionshare and Distinct Advertising, both near Pittsburgh, PA, editing TV commercials and as a freelance producer.

Heather married Marlon Fernando Martinez Garcia (“Fernando), born in Managua, Nicaragua, on May 22, 2010 at Hemlock Falls, Butler, OH. Fernando attended the National Technical Institute (INTECNA) high school and completed a diploma in auto mechanics and then studied Mechanical Engineering for three years at the National University of Engineering (UNI) and Computer Engineering for four years at the University of Managua.

Fernando’s parents are Fernando Anastasio Martinez Sotelo and Marlene Garcia Delgado. Fernando was raised by his grandparents until his father returned from a student scholarship in Germany with his wife, Birgit Hellmund, and Fernando’s brother, Ernesto Martinez Hellmund. Fernando also has a sister, Martha Elisa Martinez Hellmund. Fernando worked at T-Cetra in Hilliard, OH.

Heather and Fernando had a daughter Rosalyn “Rosie” Annette Martinez-Yomboro and a son Robert Enrique Martinez-Yomboro.

Zach married Stacey Lynn Elizabeth Magda (born at Bloomsburg Area Hospital, Bloomsburg, PA) on August 4, 2012 in Porterville, PA. Stacy has an Associate Degree in Residential Design from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and does environmental work.
Zack and Stacey had a daughter Piper Sundae Magda Yomboro.


29 (12) The descent is via Paul Lloyd Redfern, who married Carol Rose Reynolds on February 24, 1983 at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Binghamton, NY. Paul and Carol had 4 children: Michael Reynolds Redfern (birth name Mario) and twin Maria Reynolds Redfern, born in Santa Maria, El Paraiso, Honduras to birth mother Maria Suyapa Avila Martinez and birth father Santos Alfredo Escoto of El Maguelar, El Paraiso, and cared for by foster mother and teacher Sandra Diaz of El Paraiso; Jesse Reynolds Redfern, born in Binghamton, NY; and, Casey Reynolds Redfern, born in Binghamton, NY.

Casey married Brianna Lee Hunt on September 23, 2017 at Durand Eastman Park, Rochester, NY and had a son named Nolan Casey Redfern. Casey completed his Doctor of Pharmacy degree and is a hospital pharmacist specializing in oncology, ER, and pediatrics in Albany; Michael is pursuing his Doctor of Pharmacy degree as well. Jesse is an OB/GYN PA at Weill Cornell Medicine/New York Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan and Maria is a Care Manager in Schenectady.

Michael and Maria’s grandparents were Ramona (born 1946) and Elias Avila Martinez (born 1931). They had 12 boys and Suyapa and 7 grandsons. Suyapa and her husband were living on a farm in the remote, mountainous region of the Orlancho province in Honduras, Latin America until campesino revolutionaries came with guns in 1987 and took over their farm near Rio Patuka. Suyapa and her husband had to leave everything they had and were extremely poor and, subsequently, could not support the twins after their birth. There were no doctors during her pregnancy and Suyapa was anemic. She had already lost a baby girl prior to the twins due to lack of food. Suyapa subsequently married Jorge Zelaya. They have 3 boys: Oscar Orlando Avila, Carlitos, and Jorgito.

Paul attended Grove City College, Clarion University, and did post graduate studies at Syracuse University and worked as an independent filmmaker and communications manager for Kraft Foods-Thatcher, IBM and CAE, and then as an associate director for over 25 years at the Cornell University Center for Advanced Computing. Carol worked as a supervisor of 11 software engineers at CAE, a Broome Community College math teacher, and a math and computer science teacher at Vestal High School. She completed a B.S. in Math/Computer Science at Binghamton University, M.S. in Computer Science at Syracuse University, and her teaching certificate at SUNY Cortland.
Paul and Carol hosted exchange students through the Georgetown University Central America Scholarship program and were refugee hosts to the Demiri’s, a family of eight who managed to leave war-torn Kosovo on the last C-130 flight. Paul was also active lobbying for democratic rights in Latin America and as a youth athletics coach. Geri Brodzinski, Paul and Carol supported the building of a church in El Charcon, El Salvador in memory of Dr. Frederick Redfern, Paul Rinaldo Redfern, Isabel Redfern, and Martha Anne Swanson.

Carol Rose Reynolds was the 2nd of 4 children of Marian Rose Kowalski, a bookkeeper for the 250-room Mark Twain Hotel and a school aid, and Charles Edward Reynolds, a truck driver for Mobil, born September 10, 1918 and died February 10, 1982, who were married November 30, 1957 at St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads, NY (Charles first marriage was to Alice Mae Conklin of Horseheads on January 11, 1941; they lived at 852 Lake St., Elmira, NY).

Charles Edward Reynolds’ father was William C. Reynolds, a brakeman and conductor on the Erie Railroad who is credited with saving a 4-year-old boy from being killed by a train. William C. lived at 111 Spring St, Elmira; he died July 25, 1949. William’s wife was May Lucas (May’s parents, Edwin and Dora Lucas, are buried at Woodlawn Cemetery, Elmira, NY).

William Reynolds and his father Charles both worked for the Erie Railroad (Erie Depot, Addison, NY)

William C. Reynolds’ father was Charles W. Reynolds, also employed by the Erie Railroad, born 1854, who married Martha Lewis in 1878 and lived in Cameron Mills, NY and Rathbone, NY where they raised 10 children, including Hiram L. Reynolds and Walter J. Reynolds who fought in World War I. Charles W. Reynolds was the 2nd of 5 children of Orange P. Reynolds (other children included Thomas H., Willete J., and Arlin E.).

Orange was born in 1827 and married Margaret Thomas who was born in 1833. They were of Irish and English descent. Orange Reynolds was a carpenter. He enlisted in Company K, New York 86th Infantry Regiment (known as the “Steuben Rangers”), on August, 25, 1862. He fought in the Civil War and was killed at the Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee “Battle of Wilderness” on May 10, 1864 in Virginia, south of the Rapidan River. Left with 5 children and no income, Margaret Thomas married the brother of Orange, Benjamin F. Reynolds, who also served in the Civil War as a musician and was discharged by Captain Chas Hanbough on December 20, 1862 due to a disability. Benjamin was a farmer in Groton, NY prior to enlisting in the same 86th Regiment on August 17, 1861 in Woodhull, NY. Most of the Reynolds’ children were born in or
around Addison, NY and later moved to Rathbone, NY. Many are buried in Town Line Cemetery in Cameron Mills, NY.

Carol Rose Reynolds, born in Elmira, NY has 3 brothers, Steven Edward of Johnson City, NY, (married to Maureen Susan Abrams), Mark Christopher of Horseheads, NY, (married to Susan Marie Kujawski), Paul Charles of Horseheads, NY, and 1 sister, JoAnn Marie Stanton.

Steven Edward and Maureen had 3 sons: Daniel Steven, Nathan William, and Colin Richard. Mark Christopher and Susan had 2 sons: Mark Christopher and Matthew Charles. Paul Charles had 1 son: Jesse James Storch.

Daniel Steven Reynolds married Alexandra “Lexie” Rueckle in May 2014 and had a son named Owen Daniel.

JoAnn Marie and Lynn Bryan Stanton married April 25, 1964 and had 2 daughters, Kelly Lynn, (married Chris Capps on January 19, 1991/divorced, had one child, Lauren Marie, married Don Orcutt on August 18, 1995/divorced, had one child, Bryan Thomas, and then married Paul Spicer), Allison Elaine (married Ralph James “Sonny” Crutchfield on May 5, 1990 and had two children, Patrick James and Samantha Lynn), and one son, Bryan Charles (married Kimberly McDuffie on April 5, 1998/divorced, married Dawn Nisbet on May 19, 2002 and had two children, Jackson Nisbet and Jessica Ann). Lauren Marie Capps married Tyler Edmund Spears in 2019. JoAnn retired as an operating room nurse from Carteret General Hospital (NC). Lynn was in the US Marine Corps from October 1958 to October 1978 and then worked at the Naval Air Depot, Cherry Point, NC from February 1982 to January 2003. They lived in SC, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and NC.

Marian Rose’s parents were Stephen Kowalski (born January 7, 1895 and died March 10, 1969, buried at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cemetery on Legion Rd), and Rose Malnoski (born in August 30, 1888 in Tioga, PA, died December 7, 1963) who lived on a farm on Hibbard Road north of Sing Sing Road in Big Flats, NY through the Great Depression until 1939.

Stephen then worked for General Electric in Elmira, NY making castings for motors and they moved to 208 2nd Street in Horseheads, NY. Stephen Kowalski was studying to be a priest in Kiev, Russia and came to the U.S. around 1912. His mother was Polish and the leader of the church choir and his father was Ukrainian and had his own business shoeing horses. They lived in a large house at Volinskyaya Hybernia (state), Zaslavskoho Yezda (province/county), Shepetivka (city), Calo or Alo Brekul (village where he was born). Shepetivka is located on the Huska River in Western Ukraine 172 miles due west of Kiev. It is an important railway junction with five intersecting transit routes.

Stephen left the Ukraine prior to World War I due to an ethnic cleansing and came to America through Ellis Island. His sister was Sasha who ended up returning to the Ukraine. He had four other siblings, an older brother name Michael, and sisters named Antonina and Olga. Olga married Zolig and settled in the Philadelphia area. Antonina settled in the Toronto area.
Rose Malnoski came up to Elmira from Tioga, PA. Her mother was Anna and her father was called “Jaja” (Polish for grandfather). Stephen and Rose had 5 children, Marian Rose (born in Big Flats, NY) and 4 boys: Edward John, born November 10, 1917 in Buffalo, NY, died February 25, 2010, married to Margaret C. Przymusik on May 29, 1943 (died September 8, 2006) with children Edward Jr. “Sonny” (married Sandra Guilick on June 19, 1968), and Shirley Lorraine born on October 12, 1945 and died August 29, 1953 was a professional boxer in New York City and boxed in Madison Square Garden; Walter (married to Margaret Baker “Peg” (died December 22, 2020) with children Walter Merle who in 1969 operated the carousel at Eldridge Park, Elmira where he met Terry Neily whom he married on January 8, 1977 (subsequently they divorced) and had a daughter, Christina Ann, who was inducted into the Saint Joseph’s University Hall of Fame in 2010 for her athletic prowess on the softball field where she holds numerous batting and pitching records, and Kathleen Louise (married Wayne Miller in March 8, 1979) and had daughter Jessica Margaret; Chester Alexander born August 3, 1922 (married to Kathryn Bucuski, who was a 1947 graduate of St. Joseph’s School of Nursing, died during an operation at in 1972) and had children Mary Theresa and Kathryn Rose; and, Stanley born July 14, 1924 died September 22, 1985, married Kathryn Jansen and had children Patricia Ann and David Paul (who changed last name to Jansen). Patricia Ann married Alan Hammond and had 3 children: Jason Allan, Andrew Scott, and Melissa.

Stan Kowalski, Horseheads, NY policeman and eventual Fire Chief (4th from the left)

Three of the brothers, Walt, Chet, and Stanley, served in World War II. Walt trained for an anti-aircraft unit, at Camp Cook, CA; he served in New Guinea, an island near Australia, and was nearly hit by a sniper. Chet was a private in the coast artillery at Fort Barrancas, FL. Stan finished high school a half a year early so he could join the army. He trained at Camp Maxey, TX; he served as a MP at the China Burma India theater and his appendix was removed in Delhi, India. They all returned safely from the war and settled in the Horseheads, NY area. Ed served as an air corps private in Nebraska and was medically discharged.