

CARUANA FAMILY HISTORY



The union in marriage of Salvatore Caruana and Carmella Latino in Aragona, province of Agrigento, Sicily generated the Caruana family that immigrated to the United States and eventually settled in Rockford, Illinois.

Luigi, the second son, of Salvatore and Carmella Caruana, arrived in New York City on April 1, 1907 being the first of the Caruana Family to do so.

Luigi's parents and their other seven children, Alfonzo, Vincenzo, Giuseppe, Giovanni, Maria, Calgero and Vincenza followed Luigi to the United States and made their home in "South Rockford.

Salvatore and Carmella' family has developed a family tree that continues to grow from the first generation as follows:

Alfonzo who married Dominica Alfano and sired Carmella, Salvatore (Sam) (Irene Dobratz), Maria (Harold Benjamin) and Angelo (Josephine Vascellaro).

Luigi married Anna Ferruggia and they had a daughter, Carmella who married Salvatore (Sam) Gugliuzza.

Vincenzo was a 25 year old bachelor who tragically was electrocuted in a factory accident.

Giuseppe married Elvira Canova and their children are Carmella (Giuseppe Cipolla), Salvatore (Sam) (Katherine Cavallaro) and Rose (Alfonzo Spoto).

Giovanni wed Josephine Gullo and from that marriage came Carmelina (Joseph Manalli) and Salvatore (Sam) Caruana.

Maria was unmarried and had no children but raised and cared for her nephew Salvatore (Sam) after his mother Josephine died and during his long illness.

Calogero and Adelina Canova (sister to Elvira) were wed and had a son Samuel (Sam) (Shirley Siedenstrand)

Vincenza married Salvatore Marino and had two children Carlo (Antoinette Marchese) and Margaret (Rowan Amerine).

The following generations carry, among others which continue to grown with the weddings of the newest generation, the family names of Caruana, Benjamin, Gugliuzza, Coletta, Rolston, McGraw, Cipolla, Spoto, Manalli, Amerine, Hanson, Koteski, Jarvi, Doyle, Levine, Foster, Thomas and Connell.

The Caruana family has contributed men who served honorably in the military from World War II, Korea and Viet Nam and during peace time.

One of our family, Salvatore (Sam) Gugliuzza was a three time State boxing champion fighting under the name Sammy Fisher.

Today we can number educators, business owners, police men, fire men, sport's writer, construction industry and the first State licensed Architect of Italian descent in Northern Illinois.

The Caruana family has certainly come a long way and proudly has contributed much to Rockford and the Italian community, from humble beginnings in Aragona, Sicily.

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