

The Fanara - Vinci Family



Alfonso Fanara (1879 - 1946)



Concetta Vinci (1882 - 1977)

Alfonso and Concetta Fanara, and their five children, moved to Rockford, Illinois from Winding Gulf, West Virginia in 1925. Alfonso had been in a terrible coal mine accident which left him blind in one eye and missing a part of one arm. He had a brother named Vincenzo who had been in Rockford for some time, as far back as 1918. Vincenzo owned a corner market on Morgan Street across from St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Vincenzo and his wife Lena, along with their six children, lived at 826 Morgan Street - their house still stands there. Alfonso and family lived with Vincenzo and his family for a short time.

Alfonso made himself quite useful. Although he was blind, he knew his coins quite well. No one could fool him with coins. He always knew whether it was a dime or a quarter, or even a dollar coin. Vincenzo realized this and had him work at the store, which became the Fanara Brothers market. Alfonso and his wife made a new home on Dickerman Street, a few blocks away from Maria's Restaurant on Cunningham Street.

Alfonso FANARA was born October 1, 1876 in Aragona, Sicily and died in 1946 in Rockford, Illinois. He married Concetta Vinci-Castro born February 28, 1891 in Enna, Sicily she died July 9, 1977 in Rockford, Illinois. They married August 1918 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and had the following children.

Rosemary FANARA, born 11 May 1919 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and died 01 April 2006 in Rockford, Illinois. Mary Ann FANARA, born 24 October 1920 in Winding Gulf, West Virginia and died 22 December 2006 in Rockford, IL. Francesca FANARA, born 27 April 1922 in Winding Gulf, West Virginia. (lives in California). Angeline FANARA, born 21 March 1924 in Winding Gulf, West Virginia, and died 02 August 1924 in Winding Gulf, West Virginia. Frank Francis FANARA, born 24 July 1928 in Rockford, Winnebago Co., IL. Still lives in Rockford.

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