

Albert Gaetano Thomas Fedeli and Maria Santina Piazzalunga
(1899-1976) (1901- 1994)



My name is Eugene Anthony Fedeli, the son of Albert Gaetano Thomas Fedeli and Maria Santina Piazzalunga Fedeli. My father, Albert, was born in Bolladello, Varese, Italy on September 5, 1899 and my mother, Santina Piazzalunga, was born in Barzana, Bergamo, Italy on January 28, 1901. My father came to America to find work and arrived in New York through Ellis Island on October 19, 1921. Albert traveled by train from New York to Rockford, Illinois. Albert lived with his brother, Andréa Fedeli, on Stanley Street in Rockford, Illinois (this area was known as the Gas House Gang, where most northern Italians lived). My father worked for a paper mill for several years and then returned to Italy to marry Santina on December 5, 1925. After marrying, Albert came back to America to make more money and eventually send for his wife. Santina arrived in Rockford in 1931. Their first home was at 401 Stanley Street. Albert and Santina had two children, Louisa Maria Fedeli was born on January 29, 1934 and myself, Eugene Anthony Fedeli born on January 3, 1936. In 1940, we moved to 1421 Green Street still part of the Gas House Gang Neighborhood.

Time passed, I married Shirley Martignoni on October 24, 1959 we lived for a few months on the corner of Elm Street and Hinkley Avenue. In 1960, Shirley and I moved to 3628 North Court Street where we are presently living.

On September 12 1968, our daughter Lisa Marie Fedeli was born. Many Italian families were moving out from their original neighborhood and in 1970, Albert and Santina Fedeli moved to 703 North Johnston Avenue. Albert Fedeli ended his journey on earth on August 9, 1976 and Santina Fedeli passed on May 10, 1994. On December 1, 1995, Lisa Fedeli married Christopher Peter Hughes; they have one daughter Alexandra Catherine Hughes who was born on September 5, 1999.

Submitted on April 3, 2012 by Gene Fedeli for the Genealogy Project -- Culture and Education Committee of GRIAA- **“Immigration Histories of Rockford Italian Families”**