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The Family History of

Calli Jo Godfrey

18 April 2017

Calli Jo Godfrey authored this family history as part of the course requirements for HIST 550/700 Your Family in History offered online in Spring 2017 and was submitted to the Pittsburg State University [Digital Commons](#). Please contact the author directly with any questions or comments: cgodfrey@gus.pittstate.edu

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GENERATION ONE

Calli Jo Godfrey (1994-) was born in her parents' home in Parker, Kansas, in 1994 to **Orval (Joe) Lee Godfrey (1962-)** and **Loretta Maxine Jepson (1963-)**. Loretta did not feel well so went to her bed. When she woke, she was in labor and could not make it to the hospital in the next town. Very quickly Joe delivered their daughter in their own home. After the successful birth was completed, they went directly to the hospital in Garnett, Kansas, where Calli was inspected and newborn medical care was given. They were released that night and returned to their own home with Calli¹.

Calli was born healthy with only one health condition, psoriasis. She had red, scaly skin on most of her body. The doctors could not prescribe anything but Calli, was not treated any different as her other classmates. Her parents owned a house in the middle of the town of Parker, Kansas, where Calli spent nearly all of her childhood. They later rented a mobile home from Anne Johnson, another resident of Parker, Kansas. The family of three lived there from 2007 until 2013. In 2013, Calli moved out of her parents' home although the parents continue to live there today.

Loretta and Joe were both divorcées. Due to this the churches in town did not welcome Loretta. She did not lose her faith and taught her children, Calli, **Brian Andersen (1984-)**, and **Alan Andersen (1981-)** her beliefs in Christianity. When Calli grew, she and her brother, Brian, were sent to the Baptist Church every Sunday morning and Wednesday night. Although their parents were not welcome the children were. They grew in faith in the church and continued to go when Brian graduated high school in 2003 and moved into his own home in Parker, Kansas.

¹ Personal knowledge of the author, Calli Jo Godfrey.

Due to the small population of Parker, Kansas, Calli made friends with the two other children who lived there that were around her age. **Michaela Lea Sharp (1995-)** and **Matthew Bledsoe (1993-2008)** were her two friends in her childhood. Mattie B. as everyone knew him, was born with leukemia and later developed cancer, beating both he was diagnosed with leukemia again when he was 13 and unfortunately passed away. Calli was hurt losing one of her friends especially one that she had spent so much of her life with. Michaela was her very best friend whom she spent nearly every day with since 2000 to 2012. Calli and Michaela spent most nights together in the summer and every single day at school, after school, and on the weekends. They loved to watch television together, listen to music, read books, play video games, and especially shopping on the weekends with Miki's grandfather. They loved to ride mini bikes and four wheelers during the summer and swim the pond behind Miki's grandpa's house. When they entered middle school in 2006, they chose different friends but still chose to hang out with each other. During high school, Calli had a boyfriend who Miki did not like and the two quit spending a lot of time together and had a fight one day. They did not speak again until a year after they graduated from Prairie View High School. They are still close friends who shared their entire childhood together.

In 2000, Loretta and Joe enrolled their child, Calli, in kindergarten at Parker Elementary. Loretta and Joe taught her the subjects she would have learned in pre-school at home. Loretta and Joe were bus drivers for the school district, USD 362. They were home often and had time to teach Calli all the proper education a child needed for the age. They did not have enough income to start Calli in pre-school, therefore took initiative to teach their child. Calli excelled in her kindergarten class. She remembers being the first child to learn to read and her teacher, Miss

Scott, was very proud. She can recall playing on the playground and having fun meeting so many new children.

In December 2002- January 2003 Calli contracted chickenpox. She remembers having the itchy red spots all over her and people telling her to get away from them. She was covered in the dots and resulted in having several small scars on her arms and legs. Calli's brother, Brian, told her every night while she had the chicken pox that she was going to kill her mother if she touched her due to Loretta not having the chickenpox and not having an inoculation for it. Loretta still cared for Calli and did not catch the chickenpox. When school was back in session Calli still had the spots but the school nurse verified that she was not contagious anymore.

Calli excelled in her class and made many friends. She was put into the accelerated reading, math, and history programs. She remembers liking them well as they challenged her made her parents proud. She received many rewards for her Excellency in school as well.

When Calli was not in school she recalls life not being easy. Her family lived in the oldest house on record for the town. The house was large but drafty. She did not have a bed of her own until she was around 17. She slept with her parents until 2000, when she was enrolled in kindergarten. She shared a bedroom with her brother Brian. She slept on a cot next to her brother's bed. She can remember sleeping in several layers in clothes to stay warm. She also remembers sleeping so close to the wood furnace in the family's front room her blanket started to catch fire. She was not harmed but learned not to sleep so close.

They were a family below middle class. Although Loretta and Joe worked full time. In 1999, When Alan, Loretta's oldest child, moved out of his parents' home, they still did not have much money. In 2003, when Loretta's son Brian moved out of the family home, things perked up for Call's parents. They now had three people to care for and obtained better jobs throughout the

years to follow. Although they had fewer people to care for, they were still frugal with their money. Calli remembers spending most days hunting and fishing for food and drinking as little water as possible to conserve on the water bill. She also remembers wearing tattered clothing and being excited when her friend, Miki (Michaela) grew out of her clothes and gave them to Calli. Although these were hardships not many have to experience, Calli was a happy child.

The family owned several horses when money was better. These were Calli's favorite memory of childhood. They owned 5 horses and eventually bought a donkey, from the donkey mating with some of their mares the resulting numbers turned into 5 horses, 1 donkey, and 3 mules. The mules were all sold and gave the family more money to live on. Calli and Loretta rode their horses very often. They rode most days after school and work. One day in 2004 strikes Calli's memory. It was snowy and Joe had gotten a call from the land owner of the pasture the horses were held. She had told him that the fence was down and the horses were starting to leave. Joe asked Calli if she wanted to go to school or put up fence. Like most children, Calli did not want to go to school and volunteered to work the fences. Joe and Calli spent most of the day driving the post into frozen earth and wrapping the electric wire back around the poles. Calli can still remember the smell of the warm hair under the horses' manes as she rode them back to their pasture. Calli continued the happy life of a rural girl all throughout school.

Calli went through middle school with ease at Prairie View Middle School from 2006-2009. She played the saxophone in the school band which made her parents even happier. In 2006, Joe started at the custodian at the middle school as well. Although, most kids would not have liked to have their parents working at their school, Calli did not mind because this meant she saw her father more which she liked.

In 2012, Calli was sent to the library with the rest of her class at Prairie View High School. Another class was in there as well. While Calli was working on a paper for her independent study, a boy was talking quite loudly behind her. This was **Matthew Dean Mackey (1994-)**. She ignored him for the most part until he specifically asked her a question. She turned around to tell him to be quiet but to her astonishment, he struck her as very handsome and started to talk to him instead. Within the week he had asked her to the Junior-Senior Prom at their high school, Prairie View High School. They started dating thereafter. In 2013, Calli moved in with Matt at his home in LaCygne, Kansas. Calli started community college at Fort Scott Community College in Paola, Kansas, that year as well. She had taken a few classes while in high school and was ready to start her real college classes. She also started a new job as a dishwasher at Longhorn Family Steakhouse in LaCygne, Kansas. In 2014, she obtained a job at a Mexican restaurant in Paola, Kansas when the Longhorn Family Steakhouse closed. In September that same year she obtained a new job at which she would stay at for 2 years. She started her work at Tri-Ko Inc. as a vocational instructor for mentally handicapped adults. She was not happy at this job as it was very dangerous for her but she stayed there until she and Matthew graduated from Fort Scott Community College.

Calli and Matthew moved to a small town called Greeley, Kansas in November of 2014. Calli graduated with her associate in science from Fort Scott Community College in 2015. She waited until her fiancé obtained his degree the following year. Calli and Matthew were engaged in June of 2015 and were happily married in her home town, Parker, Kansas, by her childhood preacher, W.R. Workman, in March 2016. In May 2016 Matthew obtained his associate in science. The newlywed couple made plans to move to Pittsburg, Kansas. They were excited to start their new life in a new town striving towards their dreams of rising above the poverty they

both lived in as children. They quit their jobs and moved to a small apartment close to the Pittsburg State University campus. They obtained new jobs in town. Matthew works for Van Beclaeres Machine Shop and Calli works in the University's Special Collections as an assistant to the digital archivist. Calli was studying Cultural History at Pittsburg State University but has changed her mind in her second semester that a business degree would help her find job positions easier when she and Matthew travel back to the Kansas City area. Matthew is studying Mechanical Engineering at Pittsburg State University and is excelling in all his classes. He plans on working for a company in the Kansas City area when his college education is completed due to the proximity to the couple's family.

In Figure 6.4 "Adjusted Family-of-Four Income Medians, by Education," Fischer and Hout show the average/median income of families of four by their education degree. They compare the years of 1950 to 2000 by every ten years and the income scale by \$12,500 to \$25,000 to \$50,000 to \$100,000. The graph shows that the more education a family had, the more money it made.²

Calli Godfrey grew up in a household of 5. Her parents did not have a college education, they had a high school diploma and a GED. They lived in poverty from the 1990s to 2013. The parents could save their money after their children moved into their own homes. Joe and Loretta also obtained stable jobs and moved up in their companies. Calli decided to be the first in the family to go to college to make more money. She witnessed many of her friends' parents making more money than her parents and they were not living in poverty. Her friends had toys and new clothes that Calli did not have as a child. She decided she wanted that for her children since she did not have it for herself.

² Claude S. Fischer and Michael Hout, *Century of Difference: How America Changed in the Last One Hundred Years* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), 146.

Calli spends her days playing video games with her husband. She also loves to watch movies with her dog. Calli's dog, Claire, is large part of Calli's life. Calli helped deliver her neighbor's puppies one hot summer day in July 2007. Calli spent every single day with the three puppies until they were weened. She took two home for herself and found a very loving home for the third. In 2013, Calli's favorite of the two dogs was ran over when Loretta had let them out while Calli was at work. Calli was grief stricken but she still had her other "fur baby". Claire was the survivor leaving Calli to bond with her immensely. They take walks together, car rides, and love to watch television and eat Cheetos together. Calli also likes to read books, related to history, which her favorite area to study. Calli also spends much of her time cooking. Calli learned at a very early age to cook and clean.

Calli can remember standing on a kitchen chair to cook her food, to do dishes, and to do laundry. Although most people see these activities as chores and tedious, Calli loves to do them. Calli has had to comfort friends who thought her husband demanded she be the one to do those things, but Calli's husband offers to help every time.

Calli and her husband have talked about having children and they have decided when they graduate from Pittsburg State University in 2019, they will start trying. This plan has greatly pleased Calli's parents. Calli did not originally want children, but she knows her parents, in-laws, and husband would love to have children. She knows that children are a large package to accept and is ready for the challenge after college. She feels obligated to have children but feels okay about it.

Springfield, Missouri played a crucial role for the Godfrey family. From the time Hugh Godfrey traveled there in the 1970s until Donald Godfrey left on his own accord sometime in his life that is unknown. The generations of Godfreys lived around the metropolis of Springfield,

Missouri, rarely ever in the city itself. It is evident that they travelled here due to the lack of other large cities in the area. Joe Godfrey is on record of being born in Springfield in 1962. Per the census records of the multiple men in the Godfrey family, they were generally laborers and farmers in the rural areas surrounding the city majorly in Pulaski County.

Springfield, Mo. is the third largest city in the state. It is nicknamed "Queen City of the Ozarks". It is home of the famous shootout between Wild Bill Hickok and Davis Tutt. It is a booming city and is in the southern edge of Missouri. Springfield was part of a siege in the Civil War twice-falling into Union hands. The Battle of Wilson's Creek also was a few miles south of the city which is now a National Park.³

³Wikipedia. "Springfield, Missouri." Accessed April 18, 2017. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Springfield,_Missouri

GENERATION TWO

A1a. Loretta Maxine Jepson (1963-)

A1b. Orval (Joe) Lee Godfrey (1962-)

Loretta Maxine Jepson was born the 5th of May 1962 in Kansas City, Kansas, at Providence Saint Margaret Hospital. Loretta's mother was underage throughout her pregnancy and put her child up for adoption before she delivered. **Stanley Roy Jepson (1916-1999)**⁴ and **Doris Lucille (Gill) Jepson (1928-1975)**⁵ adopted Loretta the day she was born. They took her home with no complications to their house in Bonner Springs, Kansas. When Loretta was between 2 and 3, she reported to have remembering her parents asking her if she wanted a brother or sister. She remembers saying a sister and that year they brought home another adopted girl, **Mary Ellen Jepson (1963-)**.

The summer before Loretta entered 2nd grade, her family moved to Mildred, Kansas. They owned a dairy farm there. Loretta and Mary both gave accounts of knowing they were adopted. Loretta reports knowing she "never fit in".⁶ She remembers being cared for and loved by her parents and extending family. She recalls growing up in "a normal rural farm house."⁷ She told the story of her sister being taken by the state due to her biological parents "putting her up for sale."⁸ She claims they were a distant relative of one of her adopted parents. Later, Mary Ellen did her own research and found her biological parents and siblings claiming she found a

⁴ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/QVLN-4SWZ> : accessed 18 April 2017), Stanley Roy Jepson, 1999; Burial, Kansas City, Wyandotte, Kansas, United States of America, Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens; citing record ID 96488639, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

little bit of closure. Loretta tried to find her biological parents when she found out she was pregnant with her first child, but came to a wall when locating the files in the church archives. She reports they were sealed and did not know how to access them. Calli, her daughter, found the sealed files as well only to learn that she must wait until her mother passes to know the contents per the church archival rule.

Doris passed away when Loretta was 12 years old in 1975. She had contacted Hepatitis C and struggled with it until it turned into liver cancer. Loretta reports that she had a very happy childhood and there was endless love until her mother got sick. She says that once her mother got sick there was bitterness and many fights. After her mother passed, the family was very distraught. Stanley turned to alcohol to escape “losing his soulmate.”⁹

Four years after Doris passed, Stanley had met **Bonnie Rhea Dannels (1922-2010)** at a local bar.¹⁰ Loretta reports that love in the house had been lost when her step-mother had entered their lives. She remembers having fights and arguments and vowing to never come back as long as Bonnie was alive. Loretta tells of living with their neighbor, Mr. and Mrs. Bernsten, from time to time until she married James Andersen.

Loretta married James Andersen in 1980.¹¹ Soon after she graduated high school and had her first child, **Alan Robert Andersen (1981-)**. Loretta and Jim moved to the Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, before having Alan. **Brian James Andersen (1984-)** was their second son. They later moved to a home in Springhill, Kansas, to be closer to family. The family made one

⁹ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

¹⁰ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QVK2-4H5S> : 11 July 2016), Bonnie R Dannels Jepson, 2010; Burial, Altoona, Wilson, Kansas, United States of America, Altoona Cemetery; citing record ID 47722412, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹¹ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

more move to Parker, Kansas. Loretta and Jim had marital problems that led to their divorce in 1990. Loretta, Alan, and Brian stayed in their home in Parker, Kansas.

In 1992, Loretta Andersen had met Orval or better known as, Joe. She had got to know him as time went on by hatching his poultry eggs. In 1994, they had been together for a short while leading to their daughter, Calli, being born late that year. Loretta was a bus driver for USD 362 and a farmer from 1990-1996. She then became a bakery manager at Wal-Mart in Paola, Kansas, until 1999. For 3 months in 1999, she was a packer at Simmons. In 2000, Loretta began her current career as a code welder at S&L Inc.¹²

Loretta now enjoys having chickens, pigeons, hunting dogs, her house dog, and her over 35-year-old parrot. She rides motorcycles and took flying lessons. She enjoys being a part of her grandchildren's lives very much. Loretta has tried writing children's books and likes to draw farm animals for her grandchildren. She enjoys fishing on weekend mornings and hunting when she has time. Loretta enjoys reading and playing video games with her son-in-law, Matthew as well.

Orval (Joe) Lee Godfrey (1962-) was born to Donna and Don Godfrey in Springfield, Missouri.¹³ Due to a lack of communication in the family, he does not recall knowing how many times his family had moved. He recalls living in Kansas City, Kansas, area when he was a child. He had an older brother, **Anthony Glen Godfrey (1959-2015)**, an older sister, **Paula Marie Godfrey (1961-)**, and a little brother, **Bruce Alan Godfrey (1967-)**. Joe had been named after his grandfather on his father's side although his mother wanted to name him Joe. Donna still called him Joe and it stuck for the rest of his life.

¹² Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

¹³ Joe Godfrey, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

When Joe was 5, his mother was shot in their home. She died from the wounds she received from the bullet. He reports to have no memory of his mother and no memory of the incident either. Due to the tragic event, none of the children talk about it. Donna had died in 1968 leaving Don to care for 4 children. Don married **Ruby Mae Arne (1926-2006)** in 1969.¹⁴ She had several children as well before they were married. Joe remembers having rough fights with his siblings growing up.

He attended Shawnee Mission North High School. Joe decided to get his G.E.D. instead of graduating though. He then signed on to the army and completed basic. When he was done with basic, he returned to his father's new and permanent home in Parker, Kansas. Joe married Joyce, his high school date and had three children with her. **Shannon Godfrey (1983-)**, **Jacob Daniel Godfrey (1985-1990)**, and **Matthew Godfrey (1987-)**.¹⁵ After Jacob had passed from heart failure, Joyce and Joe filed for divorce. Joe moved around and met a woman named Shannon, they had a son named **Cody Godfrey (1992-)**. They soon broke up their relationship when Shannon wanted to go back to Detroit, Michigan.¹⁶

In 1992, Joe had met with Loretta Andersen. The two quickly fell for each other leading to their only child together, Calli. Joe took on the role of a step-father when he had assumed his place in the household. Together the family of five grew.

Joe Godfrey likes to ride his motorcycle his companion, Loretta. He enjoys helping Loretta in the garden and spending time outside. He loves hunting and fishing as well. Loretta and Joe spend vacations fly fishing at Roaring River State Park in the summer months. Joe loves

¹⁴ Joe Godfrey, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

¹⁵ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/QVK2-ZC8R> : 13 December 2015), Jacob Daniel Godfrey, 1990; Burial, Osawatome, Miami, Kansas, United States of America, Osawatome Cemetery; citing record ID 51121786, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹⁶ Joe Godfrey, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

taking his grandchildren to church and playing with them on the weekends. He loves watching old movies, listening to music of his youth, and looking at muscle cars. Joe loved to spend time with his daughter, Calli, and continues to be a part of her and his step-sons' lives.

In 1999 the eldest of the children, Alan Andersen, graduated from Prairie View High School and joined the military. Like his step-father he decided to come back to civilian life after his basic training. He obtained a career at Wal-Mart in Paola, Kansas. He still works there today. In 2003, Brian graduated from Prairie View High School as well. He chose not to go to college and went to work at a scrap yard in Parker, Kansas. He met his wife the summer after he graduated, Jennifer Fiala. She had two small children with her from a previous marriage. Brian and Jen quickly fell in love and like Joe, Brian assumed the role of a step-father for his girlfriend's children. In 2008, Jen and Brian were married and had their first child. The two lived in Paola, Kansas, and after their second child in 2012 they moved back to Parker, Kansas. A couple years after moving to their home in Parker, Kansas, Brian adopted his two step-daughters. In 2016, Brian and Jen had their final child. Brian has a job at Panhandle Eastern while Jen stays at home with their 5 children and runs a farm. Ten years after Brian had graduated, Calli graduated from Prairie View High School as well. From there she took a new path for her family, continuing to higher education.

GENERATION THREE

A1a1. Doris Lucille (Gill) Jepson (1928-1975)

A1a2. Stanley Roy Jepson (1916-1999)

A1b1. Donna Faye (Rakow) Godfrey (1942-1968)

A1b2. Donald Gene Godfrey (1937-2009)

Calli's maternal grandmother, **Doris Lucille Jepson (1928-1975)**, was not her blood relative.¹⁷ Although Loretta was adopted, she still learned all her life skills from her adopted mother and father. It is not known where Doris was born but it was assumed by Loretta that she was born in Kansas. Doris had two brothers, Jack and the other name is unknown by Loretta. Doris also had two sisters named Margaret and Charlotte. Loretta reports to have been a nosy child and was yelled at when she asked about the other family members too much. She remembers hearing that Doris's brothers had been working for the *Kansas City Star* and had been murdered.

Doris was a cashier at a store when Stanley met her and asked her out on a date. When Stanley returned from World War II, the doctors had told him the chemicals he had experienced had made him infertile.¹⁸ With their desire to have a family and with a strong connection to the Catholic Church, they adopted their two girls in 1963.

Loretta explained that Doris and Stanley were very affectionate and fought very little. She remembers her mother being a waitress and encountered glass that had blood on it which was contaminated with Hepatitis C. This led to liver failure and eventual death in 1975.

¹⁷ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

¹⁸ Ibid.

Stanley Roy Jepson was born to **Hans Kristian Jepson (1872-1937)** and **Lucy Ellen (Hunter) Jepson (1886-1944)**.¹⁹²⁰ He grew up in Douglas, Kansas.²¹ Stanley grew up in a large household. He had many siblings. Pearl, Clara, Ben, Bud, Dolly, Lloyd, Earl, and Wilma. Ben died when he was little. Calli remembers hearing the story her mother told her that Stanley had told Loretta. Stanley and Ben had been playing in an abandoned mine but there was a cave in which resulted in Ben's death.

Stanley joined the military when the call came for World War II. He served years as a sniper on the German front. He became very sick when he developed appendicitis. He was sent to the hospital in Paris to heal.²² When he returned from the war, he found out after many years he could not have children resulting in the adoption of his two daughters, Loretta and Mary Ellen.

Loretta remembers her father being very loving but when his wife died in 1975 she claims he turned to alcohol. She says that he had truly loved his wife and said he lost his soul mate. Four years later though, he had been at a bar, met, and later married his last wife, **Bonnie Rhea Dannels (1922-2010)**. Loretta remembers the last time she saw her father was when her

¹⁹ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QVVT-VSS7> : 13 December 2015), Hans Kristian Jepson, 1937; Burial, Holton, Jackson, Kansas, United States of America, Holton Cemetery; citing record ID 30984806, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

²⁰ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QV2X-4MFY> : 11 July 2016), Ellen Lucy Hunter Jepson, 1944; Burial, Topeka, Shawnee, Kansas, United States of America, Rochester Cemetery; citing record ID 67793610, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

²¹ "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X7Q7-F96> : accessed 25 April 2017), Stanley R Jepson in household of Hans K Jepson, Douglas, Jackson, Kansas, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 7, sheet 9B, line 96, family 224, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 704; FHL microfilm 2,340,439.

²² Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

two boys were young and they had messed with one of Bonnie's doilies.²³ Bonnie had yelled at the boys which upset Loretta resulted in never coming back and her father never meeting his granddaughter, Calli. Stanley passed in 1999, leaving Bonnie to survive him by 11 years.

Calli's paternal grandmother was **Donna Faye (Rakow) Godfrey (1942-1968)**. She was born in Nebraska in 1942.²⁴ Joe Godfrey does not know where his mother was born and there is no family record of any information of her. Calli found a small newspaper clipping when digging through family papers one day. The clipping had something along the lines that Donna had broken her leg and was in the hospital. Although she was in the hospital, she was still responsible for her school work. Attached to the article clipping was a small grainy black and white photograph of a young girl in a leg sling doing her homework.

Donna and Don had been married young and in 1959 had their first child, **Anthony Glen Godfrey (1959-2015)** in Springfield, Missouri.²⁵ They had three more children, Paula, Orval, and Bruce.

Donna and Don had moved to Shawnee, Kansas, in the 1960s. In their home Donna was shot by a .22 pistol. Donna passed away from the wounds. The children all claim to have never heard the gunshot from their parents' bedroom and to this day when asked still do not remember it. There are newspaper clippings of the trial but due to discreteness of the family, they were chosen not to be included. Donna passed away in 1968 leaving Don with their four children.

²³ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

²⁴ Joe Godfrey, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

²⁵ Ibid.

Calli's paternal grandfather was **Donald Gene Godfrey (1937-2009)**.²⁶ He was born to Orville and Mary Godfrey. It is unknown where Donald was born but the family assumes it was in Missouri. Don had four sisters, Bettie, Jaqueline, Shirley, and Georgia. Donald and his siblings attended Central High School in Springfield, Missouri. Due to Donald being the only boy in his family, he was not drafted to World War II. This had upset him at the time but over time it did not affect him.

It is unknown how Don and Donna had met but was very apparent they were young. They had four children together: Anthony Glen (1959-2015), Paula Marie (1961-), Orval Lee (1962-), and Bruce Alan (1967-).²⁷ Don owned a gas station/mechanics shop in the Kansas City area, Kansas. The family does not remember the time frame it was there. In 1968, however, the family changing event had occurred. Don and Donna were heard arguing their bedroom when a .22 pistol had gone off. Don reports that he was getting it out to sell it to a friend and when he laid it on the dresser it had gone off. The children were in the front room and still today, do not claim to have heard it. The police were called and Don was taken as the first suspect. His trial was held and he was found innocent of murder. He remarried the next year to **Ruby Mae Arne (1926-2006)**.²⁸

Don and Ruby moved to Parker, Kansas, in the early 1980s. They owned a small house in the countryside with a few acres. He was a bitter man driving all his children and grandchildren away. He survived Ruby by many years. He died of a heart complication one morning. His daughter, Paula, found him on her daily checkup she had begun when his health started to fail.

²⁶ "United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980-2014," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QKLV-LPP9> : 26 October 2016), Donald G Godfrey, Missouri, United States, 29 Oct 2009; from "Recent Newspaper Obituaries (1977 - Today)," database, GenealogyBank.com (<http://www.genealogybank.com> : 2014); citing Kansas City Star, The, born-digital text.

²⁷ Joe Godfrey, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

²⁸ Ibid.

Calli has one memory of Don, as it was the only time she had ever met him. She remembers sitting out on his porch while her parents went to visit him. He would not let her in his house due to Joe and Loretta not being married. He had never spoke a word to Calli and she was very frightened of him. Calli wishes she could have known one of her grandparents. Although, she did not know her parents' parents, she still had other elderly people that took her in as their grandchild. Her childhood best friend's grandfather became her grandfather though he passed too when she was young. An elderly woman in Parker, Kansas, though quickly opened her heart to Calli. Calli gained much of her religious influence, feminine feistiness, and good taste for food from this woman. Calli misses Norma Johnson very much. Norma became sick in 2014 and requested Calli come see her one last time but, Calli could not bear to see her in a hospital bed and did not go.

GENERATION FOUR

A1a1a. Unknown

A1a1b. Unknown

A1a2a. Lucy Ellen (Hunter) Jepson (1886-1944)

A1a2b. Hans Kristian Jepson (1872-1937)

A1b1a. Unknown

A1b1b. Unknown

A1b2a. Mary Godfrey (1907-1963)

A1b2b. Orville Godfrey (1910-1960)

Lucy Ellen (Hunter) Jepson (1886-1944) was born in 1886 in Nebraska. Her parents' names are unknown.²⁹ The story Loretta told Calli is that, Lucy was a waitress in Nebraska and **Hans Kristian Jepson (1872-1937)** had convinced her to come with him to Kansas. Hans and Lucy were married and had **Pearl, Clara, Ben, Bud, Dolly, Stanley, Lloyd, Earl, and Wilma**. The family story passed down is that Ben and Stanley were playing in an abandoned mine and when it had collapsed, Ben had been killed by it.³⁰

²⁹ "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MF67-3KP> : accessed 25 April 2017), Lucy E Jepson in household of Hans R Jepson, Allison, Decatur, Kansas, United States; citing ED 7, sheet 7A, line 48, family 145, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 529; FHL microfilm 1,820,529.

³⁰ Loretta Andersen, e-mail message to Calli Godfrey, April 18, 2017.

Per the 1910 and 1920 Census, Lucy was living in Allison, Decatur, Kansas.³¹ In the 1930 and 1940 Census, Lucy moved to Douglas, Jackson, Kansas. She could not have had a dull life with nine children. Lucy died in 1944 in Kansas.³²

Hans Kristian Jepson (1872-1937) was born in Denmark to **Hans Axel Jepson** and **Karen Jepson**.³³ Hans A. immigrated to America with his family from Denmark. Hans K. claims to have immigrated between 1887 and 1888.³⁴ Hans K. had a brother Peder also. Hans married Lucy Ellen Hunter later in his life. Together they had nine children. Though they met in Nebraska, he convinced her to move to Kansas. From the family stories, Hans K. Jepson travelled with Wild Bill Hickok and was not home often, though nine children seem to prove otherwise. Though there is no proof to Hans K. travelling with Wild Bill. Stanley told Loretta that is what his mother told him when he would ask where his father was and why he was away often. Hans Kristian Jepson died in 1937 a few years before his wife Lucy Ellen.

³¹ "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MF67-3KP> : accessed 25 April 2017), Lucy E Jepson in household of Hans R Jepson, Allison, Decatur, Kansas, United States; citing ED 7, sheet 7A, line 48, family 145, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 529; FHL microfilm 1,820,529.

³² "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VRKC-H99> : accessed 25 April 2017), Ellen Jepson, Douglas Township, Jackson, Kansas, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 43-7, sheet 1A, line 26, family 6, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 1235.

³³ "Denmark Baptisms, 1618-1923," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XBVP-N72> : 6 December 2014), Hans Jepsen, 25 May 1873; citing ; FHL microfilm 410,324.

³⁴ "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X7Q7-F9H> : accessed 29 April 2017), Hans K Jepson, Douglas, Jackson, Kansas, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 7, sheet 9B, line 91, family 224, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 704; FHL microfilm 2,340,439.

Mary Godfrey (1907-1963) was born in Missouri in 1907.³⁵ She married Orville Godfrey and together they had five children. **Bettie Jane (1933-?)**, **Jacqueline (1935-?)**, **Donald Gene (1937-2009)**, **Shirley Ann (1937-)**, and **Georgia Mae (1940-)** were their children. Mary had lived her life in Pulaski County, Missouri, per census records. Pulaski County, Missouri, was named after a Polish soldier who fought in the American Revolution.³⁶ Pulaski County, today has over 50,000 residents.

Orville Godfrey (1910-1960) was born in Missouri to **Dollie Mary (Henson, Grass) Godfrey (1880-1968)**.³⁷ From the U.S. Censuses, Calli has gathered some interesting information about Orville's birth. His mother had been Mary Henson then married Charles Grass. They had four children together. Dollie had Albert, Bryon, Orville, and Carl. In 1920, they all had the name Grass. In 1930, Orville and Carl were Godfreys. In 1910, Dollie was labeled as divorced and a servant for the Godfreys. By 1920, Dollie was married to Isaac Godfrey. Isaac adopted Dollie's children as his children.

³⁵ "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/K77R-196> : accessed 26 April 2017), Mary Godfrey in household of Orville Godfrey, Richland, Liberty Township, Pulaski, Missouri, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 85-3, sheet 11B, line 76, family 283, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 2142.

³⁶ Wikipedia. "Pulaski County, Missouri." Accessed April 28, 2017.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulaski_County,_Missouri

³⁷ "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/K77R-19D> : accessed 26 April 2017), Orville Godfrey, Richland, Liberty Township, Pulaski, Missouri, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 85-3, sheet 11B, line 75, family 283, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 2142.

GENERATION FIVE

A1a1a1. Unknown

A1a1a2. Unknown

A1a1b1. Unknown

A1a1b2. Unknown

A1a2a1. Unknown

A1a2a2. Unknown

A1a2b1. Hans Axel Jepson (?-?)

A1a2b2. Karen Madsen (?-?)

A1b1a1. Unknown

A1b1a2. Unknown

A1b1b1. Unknown

A1b1b2. Unknown

A1b2a1. Unknown

A1b2a2. Unknown

A1b2b1. Dolly Mary (Henson) Godfrey (1880-1968)

A1b2b2. Isaac Godfrey (1874-1926)

Little is known of Hans Axel Jepson and Karen Madsen Jepson. They immigrated with their two known children Hans Kristian Jepson and Peder Hensen Jepson between 1887-1888.³⁸

Dolly Mary (Henson) Godfrey (1880-1968) was born in Camden, Missouri.³⁹ Although not much is known of Dolly's early life, her later life is more colorful to speculate in.

About in 1897, Dolly married **Charles Grass (1867-1910)**. They had four children together: Albert, Bryon, Orville, and Carl. In 1910, Dolly had been divorced and remarried **Isaac Godfrey (1874-1925)**. Dolly served the Godfreys as their servant.⁴⁰ She married Isaac and became the wife of the house. Isaac quickly had her children's names changed to his as well.

Isaac Godfrey was born to **Hugh Godfrey (1829-1931)** and **Susan (Sawyer) Godfrey (1830-1901)** in Missouri in 1873.

Isaac said he did not know how to read or write in the censuses although Dollie and all her children could.⁴¹ Isaac had been married before to **Martha Eakins (1875–1910)**. They had

³⁸ "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X7Q7-F9H> : accessed 29 April 2017), Hans K Jepson, Douglas, Jackson, Kansas, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 7, sheet 9B, line 91, family 224, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 704; FHL microfilm 2,340,439.

³⁹ "United States Census, 1910," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/M2BG-GBB> : accessed 26 April 2017), Dollie Grass in household of Hugh Godfrey, Liberty Ward 2, Pulaski, Missouri, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 76, sheet 7A, family 133, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 806; FHL microfilm 1,374,819.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

two children, **Lura Marie (1896–1990)** and **Mary Caroline (1898–1991)**. Martha passed in 1910, later in the same year, Isaac married Dollie.

Isaac Godfrey's father was **Hugh Godfrey (1829-1910s/1920s)** and **Susan (Sawyer) Godfrey (1830-1901)**. Hugh had travelled from North Carolina to Missouri after Isaac was born. In North Carolina, the Godfreys had become a prominent family. They first established themselves in the state when **Francis Godfrey (1613-1675)** travelled from Gainsborough, United Kingdom.⁴² Francis was born in Gainsborough, United Kingdom, then travelled to Barbados, West Indies, where his son **William Godfrey (1658-1697)** was born.⁴³ Francis and his family travelled to the Carolinas from Barbados, West Indies, and the family stayed there for about 300 years. The direct line to Calli has four generations of men named Thomas after William until the last one had Hugh in 1829.⁴⁴ Hugh moved from Perquimans, North Carolina, the home of his ancestors for 300 years, to Glaize, Missouri in the early 1870s. Hugh married his wife, Susan, in the 1851.⁴⁵ Hugh served for the Union in Illinois for the Civil War.⁴⁶ In 1861, Susan had her first child in Indiana and several more in Indiana. Four years later they had their child Isaac and more after him in Missouri. Hugh worked as a farmer then as a liveryman. He

⁴² "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V5V7-9D4> : 30 December 2014), Francis Godffray, 09 Aug 1613; citing GAINSBOROUGH,LINCOLN,ENGLAND, reference ; FHL microfilm 0599503 IT 4.

⁴³ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVLG-3RY9> : 13 December 2015), William Godfrey, ; Burial, , , , , Unknown Godfrey plot; citing record ID 102695726, Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

⁴⁴ "United States Census, 1900," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/M384-KR5> : accessed 27 April 2017), Hugh Godfrey, Liberty Township (north part) Richland city, Pulaski, Missouri, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 114, sheet 1B, family 11, NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1972.); FHL microfilm 1,240,882.

⁴⁵ "North Carolina Marriages, 1759-1979," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/F8RR-Q6N> : 29 December 2014), Hugh Godfrey and Susan Godfrey, 23 Dec 1857; citing Perquimans County, North Carolina, reference 2:3VL9XGP; FHL microfilm 370,650.

⁴⁶ "United States Civil War and Later Pension Index, 1861-1917", database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/NH8M-HJH> : 24 March 2016), Hugh Godfrey, 1907.

moved to Liberty, Pulaski, Missouri, and then died in Miller, Missouri between the 1910s and the 1920s.

Here is a link to Mexico Missouri message., May 13, 1909, Image 6. This was a newspaper written with a small article involving **Isaac Godfrey (1874-1925)**. The article explains that Isaac was convicted of burglary and larceny was serving ten years. His wife had passed away leaving their four children in the care of Isaacs's father, **Hugh Godfrey (1829-1910s/1920s)** who was 84 years old at the time. The governor Hadley gave early parole to Isaac to care for his children and elderly father due to exceptional behavior in the petitionary.⁴⁷

This is an interesting piece of information given. This was a sad circumstance that happened to the Godfrey family in 1909. Without an early release the children may have been placed in homes anywhere in the country and would not have had the care of their biological family. This was indeed a special circumstance that would not happen today. In this current century, if a parent is in custody and their other parent passes, the child or children would have been put into another family member's care or in a foster home.

Although the Godfrey family seems to have a gloomy past, Loretta seems to have made the sun shine on her cloudy one. This combination created a child with small and poor beginnings into an adult who strives for the best and will stop at nothing to achieve her dreams.

⁴⁷“Missouri News,” *Mexico Missouri message* (Mexico, Audrain County, MO), May 13, 1909.