

Honorary Family Members

46th Family Party

"2015"

Fortunata Morelli

1906-1920

Angelina Ventura

1881-1947

FORTUNATA MARIA MORELLI

December 19, 1906-----September 30, 1920

Fortunata Maria Morelli was born on December 19, 1906 in Green River Utah, To Gaetano Morelli and Caterina Ventura Morelli. Fortunata was a vibrant and outgoing young lady. Being the first born daughter of Gaetano & Caterina she was named after her grandmother Fortunata Morelli.

During her brief childhood she grew up in the little town of Green River where she attended her school years. Shortly after Fortunata became a teenager she became ill with an Intestinal Obstruction. On September 30, 1920 at the young age of just Thirteen years & 9 months she passed away at her home in Green River, Utah.

Fortunata was survived by her parents Gaetano & Caterina along with her two younger sisters Della age 11, Lillian age 1 & her four brothers Mike age 10, Emery age 8, Frank age 6 and Henry age 5.

When Fortunata passed away her parents were still very young. Gaetano was only forty three and Caterina was thirty six. It is hard to imagine the pain and suffering the two of them went through losing their oldest daughter while still having six other children under the age of eleven.

The trials and tribulations Gaetano and Caterina overcame after making the sacrifice of leaving their parents and their families behind in Italy to come to America at such young ages and to never see their parents again is unbelievable.

Not speaking the language, having no money and very little education certainly had to be difficult. What a monumental achievement they accomplished in establishing themselves in America and fulfilling their dream.

Gaetano and Caterina went on to have two more children after Fortunata passed away making a total of Nine children. Their story is one of hardship after hardship as Caterina passed away at the young age of forty five while giving birth to their last child Kenneth in 1929. Gaetano lived twelve more years until he died from cancer in 1941 at the age of sixty four.

They are all gone now!!!! They all gave their lives for us.....let us never forget them and their children who became our Parents, our Aunts, our Uncles and our families.

May they all rest in peace & may God bless them for the sacrifices they made for all of us their children, grandchildren & great grandchildren. For it is truly said that.

"FAMILIES ARE FOREVER"





ANGELINA VENTURA

APRIL 11, 1881-----SEPTEMBER 26, 1947

Angelina Ventura was born April 11, 1881 in Spezzano Piccolo, Italy to Anthony Ventura and Filamino Di Cicco . Angelina married Andrea Tropea in Italy at a young age (approx.17) and lived on a farm in Italy. While in Italy she gave birth to their first child Caroline in June of 1900.

Sometime in 1901 at the age of 20 she came to America on her own with her 1½ year old daughter Caroline. Caroline said that her mother told her that she was sick during the sailing from Italy to America. She may have been pregnant at the time, because she gave birth to her second and last child Irma on Feb 7th, 1902 in Pueblo Colorado.

Angelina and Andrea settled in Pueblo Colorado where he worked on his uncle's ranch. They lived in Pueblo for a few years before moving to Green River, Utah where Andrea worked on the railroad. Caroline said that when they lived in Green River she remembers living in a railroad box car. After several years in Green River the family moved to Salt Lake.

In Salt Lake they bought a house at 859 West 400 south, where they raised their children and lived for the rest of their lives. Angelina was the oldest of her siblings and the first one to come to America. After her arrival in America, she encouraged her sister and brothers to come and join her in America.

Angelina was a wonderful daughter, a devoted wife and mother to her children and I'm sure a great sister. Angelina passed away at the age of 66 on September 26, 1947 of cancer.

God bless Angelina and the rest of her brothers and sisters who made the sacrifice of leaving their homeland to come to America for the American dream....