

ST. JOHN

Aaron St. John and Anna Van Riper

4g-grandparents

The Mormon church's Ancestral file identifies Aaron St. John and Anna Van Riper as the parents of Joseph St. John. Further evidence tends to support the father's name and the idea that Aaron had an unidentified first wife but nothing has been found to either confirm or contradict the idea that the first wife's name was Anna Van Riper.

If Aaron and Anna are indeed the parents of Joseph, then, based on 1880 census records for the families of both Joseph and Aaron and the index of the 1870 census, their story goes something like this:

Aaron St. John was born in Ohio about 1822. He became a farmer. Anna Van Riper was also born in Ohio but the date of her birth is unknown. They married in Ohio by about 1846 and had their first child -- Joseph -- in about 1847.

Anna must have died in "middle age" as Aaron had a new wife in the 1880 census. Her name was Adeline and, sixteen years younger than Aaron, she could not have been Joseph's mother. Adeline was also born in Ohio.

Aaron's second known child was born about 1857 in Indiana so the family had moved by then. It is unclear who Aaron's wife was at the time.

The known children of Aaron St. John are:

- Joseph St. John, born about 1847 in Ohio
- Manford St. John, born about 1857 in Indiana
- Oscar St. John, born about 1868 in Indiana
- Mary St. John, born about 1870 in Indiana

Nothing further is known of this family.

Sources and Related Information

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ancestral File
- U.S. census – 1870 index, 1880

Joseph W. St. John and Martha J. Young

3g-grandparents

Joseph St. John was born in Ohio about 1847. By 1857, he moved with his family to Morgan County, Indiana.

When Joseph was 17, he volunteered to serve the Union army in the Civil War. He joined an infantry unit: Company I of the 124th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers. The regiment was mustered in on March 10, 1864 and was soon actively involved in combat, primarily around Atlanta, Georgia and the Carolinas. The unit lost 26 men in battle and 129 to disease by the time it was mustered out on August 31, 1865.

Martha Young was born November 3, 1849 in Martinsville, Indiana. According to her 1880 census record, her father was born in Indiana and her mother was born in Tennessee. Their names are not known.

After the war, Joseph made his living as a farmer. He and Martha were married about 1867 and had three known children:

- Walter St. John, born about 1870
- Willie Ann St. John, born about 1873
- Mary St. John, born about 1877

These five appeared in the 1880 U.S. census for Morgan County.

Joseph's name appears in a Morgan County census index in 1910. According to his gravestone, he died in 1926 when he would have been about 80 years old.

Given the dates on her gravestone, Martha (Young) St. John lived to be at least 92, dying in 1942. Her great-granddaughter, Alice (St. John) Birt, who was born in 1927, recalls that Martha was blind late in life, ate with her fingers and was fond of singing Civil War songs.

Both Joseph and Martha are buried in Centennial Cemetery near Martinsville, Indiana.

Sources and Related Information

- U.S. census records – 1870, 1880 and 1910
- Alice (St. John) Birt
- Gravestones of Joseph W. St. John and Martha J. (Young) St. John
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ancestral File

Walter E. St. John and Julia Tackett

2g-grandparents



Walter and Julia (Tackett) St. John

Walter St. John was born about 1870 in Indiana. He was the oldest child of Joseph and Martha (Young) St. John.

Julia Tackett was born in 1873. Her mother's name was Della (Russell) Tackett but her father's name and fate are unknown. In 1880, Julia, her mother and her older sister Rachel were living with Della's brother Ezra and his family.

Walter and Julia married and had seven sons including Lester (born in 1903), Hubert, Hershel, Vern and Gentry (the youngest). The other two names are unknown.

Walter died in 1958 in Martinsville, Indiana. Julia died in 1965. Both are buried in Centennial Cemetery near Martinsville, Indiana.

Sources and Related Information

- U.S. census records – 1880 and 1910
- Alice (St. John) Birt
- Gravestones of Walter and Julia St. John

Lester St. John and Elizabeth Greenwood

great-grandparents

Lester St. John was born June 24, 1903 in Morgan County, Indiana. He became a chemist by trade and worked for J.I. Holcomb (the company is still in business today as Holcomb & Hoke Manufacturing).

Elizabeth Greenwood was born May 18, 1907, almost certainly also in Morgan County.

Lester and Elizabeth married about 1924 and had five children:



Lester and Elizabeth St. John celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary

A DECADE IN BRIEF

The 1940's

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower serve as U.S. President ✎ The first nuclear chain reaction is produced at the University of Chicago ✎ Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier in major league baseball ✎ The Japanese attack Pearl Harbor, prompting U.S. entry into the second World War ✎ Radar is invented in Scotland ✎ The first Pillsbury bake-off is held

- Marvin St. John, born about 1925
- Alice Marie St. John, born in 1927
- Betty Ann St. John, born about 1928
- Patsy May St. John, born about 1935
- Sarah Jean St. John, born about 1937

Elizabeth died in 1983. Lester died in February 1986 in Beech Grove, Indiana at the age of 82.

Sources and Related Information

- Alice (St. John) Birt

The ST. JOHN line ends with Alice Marie St. John, who married Robert Frank BIRT