The Schaffner Line

In 1852, Eva and Christian Schaffner, immigrated to America from Switzerland, bringing with them a family lineage that can be traced back to the late 1400s.

The Eva & Christian Schaffner Family



Eva Schaffner was the middle child of five born to Johann Schaffner and Barbara Gass. She was born in Anwil (pronounced Onveel), Switzerland - a small village at the base of the Alps in January 1828 and christened on January 27th.





Children of Johann Schaffner and Barbara Gass

Johann Schaffner, christened October 23, 1823 Anna Barabara Schaffner, christened December 26, 1825 Eva Schaffner, christened January 27, 1828 Freidrich Schaffner, christened August 5, 1831 Elisabeth Schaffner, christened July 20, 1835



Christian Schaffner was born on April 6, 1832 in Anwil, Switzerland. He was the youngest of two children born to Christian and Verena Meier.

Children of Christian Schaffner and Verena Meier

A. Maria Schaffner, born May 20, 1830 Christian Schaffner, born April 6, 1832

In addition to his sister, he had six half brothers and sisters, three from his father's first marriage and three from his mother's second marriage.

7th cousins, Christian and Eva were married on December 8, 1851. All together, they had six children. In addition, it appears that Eva had one son, William who was born in Switzerland and there died before marrying Christian. Amelia (my great grandmother), the oldest child born to Eva and Christian, was born during their ocean crossing to America.

The Schaffners immigrated to America in 1852 on board the 566.5 ton ship **Fortitude** out of Havre, France and arriving in New York on June 16, 1852. They first settled near Millersburg, Iowa, and it was there that they remained for fifteen years. Four children were born in Millersburg. In 1867, Eva and Christian moved their family one last time, this time to Odgen, Iowa. It was in Ogden that their last child was born.



Children of Eva and Christian Schaffner

William Schaffner, born 1850 Amelia Schaffner, born 1852 Anna Elisabeth Schaffner, born December 3, 1859 Christian Schaffner, born November 1861 John Henry Schaffner, born March 25, 1865 Mary Ellen Schaffner, born February 4, 1867 Barbara Jane Schaffner, born July 19, 1870

Christian Schaffner died on December 9, 1882 at the age of fifty, after having been in America for more than thirty years. The Ogden Reporter, December 14, 1882 had this to say about Christian Schaffner:

Mr. Schaffner was a man who was respected for his sterling worth and honesty. He was a good neighbor, and all his neighbors unite in saying that he was all that was desired. Having been for 20 years a member of the Dunker Church, he understood fully the injunction "Love they neighbor".

Sometime after her husband Christian's death in 1882, Eva married George Ellis, Jr. This marriage lasted but a few years as Eva died in Ogden on February 3, 1888.