

Chapter 14. Other Ullians - Related or Not?

Summary

There are at least 3 separate families who are or have been in the U.S. with the very unusual Ullian surname: descendants of Catholic Italian John Ullian (the focus of this report) and his brother Romano; descendants of Jewish Ukrainian Samuel and Sara Bella; and descendants of Catholic Swiss Valentine Ollin/Ullian. Other Ullians who are probably related to our family still live in Italy and South America, and probably elsewhere, but we have no evidence of such relationships. We encourage contacting us with additional information.

Ullian is a quite unusual surname. A study by the U.S. Census Bureau (*Demographic Aspects of Surnames from Census 2000*) shows that it appeared only 116 times in the 2000 U.S. Federal Census (<http://names.mongabay.com/data/u/ULLIAN.html> – viewed 8 Dec 2017). The surname Ullian and its variants exist in the U.S., in Italy, and in other areas into which Italians immigrated, including South America.

There are families in the U.S. with the surname Ullian who we know are related to our family, families who are not related, and others about whom we are uncertain of our relationship.

Perhaps the most widely-known Ullians, though, were fictional. The Ullians in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, season 5, episode 12 (*The Violators*) were a humanoid species interested in serving as historians and archivists by collecting human memories telepathically. One of them got into trouble on the *U.S.S. Enterprise* by mis-using his powers. Unfortunately (perhaps), the authors of this report on John Ullian and Linda Ferraro have no telepathic powers. We are, of course, curious about how and why this name was used in *Star Trek* for a species with those particular powers.

Jewish Ukrainian Ullians

We are not related. In a phone call from Rev. James C. Ullian to John A. Ullian Jr. in 1990, we both learned that we did not share the same ancestry. John informed James of his Catholic Italian ancestry, and James informed John of his Jewish Ukrainian ancestry. We were both surprised to learn that not all of us with the very unusual Ullian surname were related. According to James, who was born into a Jewish family but became a United Methodist minister [*but that's another story...*], his grandfather Jacob, the son of Samuel and Sara Bella Ulansky, came to the U.S. in 1905. Jacob's parents and other family members did likewise at some point. After coming to the U.S. from Ukraine, the Ulansky families adopted the Ullian surname. They settled initially in Massachusetts and New York, and have since moved a great deal, mostly on the east coast – many to Florida, but also to North Carolina, Georgia, Connecticut, and probably elsewhere. This family seems to outnumber our Italian Ullians. James has done a great deal of research on his

Ullian family and invites anyone interested to contact him at J.Ullian@verizon.net or 757-650-4266.



Jacob Ullian, Son of Sarah Bella and Samuel Ulansky.
Born 12 Dec 1882 in Klinty, Ukraine.
Died 4 Mar 1951 in Freeport, Nassau, New York.

Swiss Ullians

There were a few other Ullians in the U. S. when John arrived, in addition to his brothers Antonio and Romano. We are not certain about the relationship of those individuals to John, and thus to us. We have no evidence that John knew of them. We would be grateful for any additional information the reader can provide.

In October 2001, John A. Ullian Jr. exchanged emails with James Roberts about a possible family connection. Unfortunately, we lack current contact information for Mr. Roberts. In one email, Mr. Roberts wrote the following: “My connection to the Ullian family is as follows: My grandfather’s mother was Eva Ullian, born February 1, 1894 in Dubuque, Iowa, she married and moved to Canada. Her father was a Henry Ullian, born December 1868 in Novan, Iowa. He was the son of George Ullian, born in Bern, Switzerland, and an Irish woman named Katherine James. Family history indicates that his father was an Italian sailor, able to speak Spanish and French, eventually settling in Switzerland.”

Henry Ullian is said to have been born in Novan IA in 1868; there doesn’t appear to be a Novan in Iowa, but there had been a Navan (whose post office was discontinued sometime prior to 1918) in Winnieshick County, about 26 miles southwest of Decorah, and very roughly 200 miles north of Centerville IA.

George, Henry's father, was born in Bern, Switzerland, and arrived in New Orleans aboard the *S.S. Pontiac* with his father, Valentine Ollin. Valentine's wife and George's mother, Christine Rossetag, died at sea during the crossing. Valentine Ollin's Ullian descendants were spread over time in North America from Tennessee to Iowa to Alberta and to British Columbia. The information on Valentine's descendants on the following pages provides what we know of this family's genealogy.

Are the "Swiss Ullians" related to our family? We cannot be certain, but it is a possibility. The spelling of this family's surname on documents was primarily Ullian in the U.S. If the family history reported by James Roberts (that George's father was an Italian sailor who settled in Switzerland) is accurate, a connection to Italy is established. The family was Roman Catholic, another connection to Italy and our family. The name Valentine is one that appears in our family. Like our John and his brothers Antonio and (Valentino) Romano, Valentine Ollin's sons George and Valentine went to Iowa, where son Valentine was a "coal digger" in 1870. The reader may wonder about a sailor coming from the foothills of the Dolomite Mountains, but the area of John's birth is only about 60 miles northwest of Venice, once a major sea-power. Further research in Italy and Switzerland might verify a connection.

Descendants of Valentine Ollin (of Switzerland)

Generation 1

1. **VALENTINE¹ OLLIN** was born about 1812 in Switzerland. He died about 1866 in Tennessee, USA. He married (1) **CHRISTINE ROSSETAG** about 1830 in Switzerland. She was born in 1808. She died in 1845 (At Sea). He married (2) **MARY BARBARA SENTI**, daughter of Leonhard Senti, about 1855. She was born on 18 Feb 1835 in Seewis im Prätigau, Graubünden, Switzerland. She died on 05 Feb 1918 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA.

Valentine: His address was Subdivision 19 in Morgan, Tennessee, USA in 1850. He was employed as a Farmer on 13 Sep 1850 in Morgan, Tennessee, USA.

Notes for Valentine Ollin:

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

Lenhardt Sante family enumerated right before Valentine Oleon family in 1850 U.S. Census.

Notes for Christine Rossetag:

Died at sea en route to New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

Valentine Ollin and Christine Rossetag had the following children:

2. i. **GEORGE² ULLIAN** was born on 03 Dec 1832 in Bern, Switzerland. He died on 24 Feb 1898 in Woodward, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He married (1) **KATHERINE UNKNOWN**. She was born about 1830 in Ireland. She died before 1898. He married (2) **SARAH WILEY**, daughter of Adam Wiley and Rosanna Craig, on 28 Feb 1881 in Dallas Center, Dallas, Iowa, USA. She was born about 1836 in Ohio, USA. He married (3) **UNKNOWN UNKNOWN**.

- ii. **UNKNOWN ULLIAN** was born about 1836.

Notes for Unknown Ullian:

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian. Can't guess at first name.

- iii. **CHRISTINE ULLIAN** was born about 1837.

Notes for Christine Ullian:

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

3. iv. **VALENTINE OLLIN** was born on 30 Aug 1839 in Switzerland. He died on 09 Jan 1925 in Rippey, Greene, Iowa, USA. He married (1) **CHRISTINE UNKNOWN** about 1859 in Tennessee, USA. She was born about 1841. He married (2) **SOPHIA K. FAATZ**, daughter of Andreas Vaatz and Margaretha Odenbach, on 12 Jan 1880 in Clay, Nebraska, USA. She was born on 01 Sep 1860 in Russia. She died about 1936.

- v. **CHRISTIAN ULLIAN** was born about 1841.

Notes for Christian Ullian:

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

- vi. **URSULA ULLIAN** was born in 1845.

Notes for Ursula Ullian:

Generation 1 (con't)

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian. 6 months old according to manifest.

Mary Barbara: Her address was Subdivision 19 in Morgan, Tennessee, USA in 1850. Her address was District 13 in Davidson, Tennessee, USA in 1860. Her address was Ward 7 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA in 1870. Her address was Ward 30 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA in 1900. Her address was Ward 20 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA in 1910. She was buried in 1918 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA.

Notes for Mary Barbara Senti:

Lenhardt Sante family enumerated right before Valentine Oleon family in 1850 U.S. Census.

Generation 2

2. **GEORGE² ULLIAN** (Valentine¹ Ollin) was born on 03 Dec 1832 in Bern, Switzerland. He died on 24 Feb 1898 in Woodward, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He married (1) **KATHERINE UNKNOWN**. She was born about 1830 in Ireland. She died before 1898. He married (2) **SARAH WILEY**, daughter of Adam Wiley and Rosanna Craig, on 28 Feb 1881 in Dallas Center, Dallas, Iowa, USA. She was born about 1836 in Ohio, USA. He married (3) **UNKNOWN UNKNOWN**.

George Ullian was employed as a Farmer on 24 Aug 1870 in Montpelier, Muscatine, Iowa, USA. He was employed as a Farmer on 05 Jun 1880 in Des Moines, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He was employed as a Butcher on 24 Feb 1898 in Woodward, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He was buried in Granger, Dallas, Iowa, USA (Robbins Chapel Cemetery).

Notes for George Ullian:

1885 Iowa State Census shows birthplace as Pennsylvania.

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

Notes for Katherine Unknown:

George Ullian and Katherine Unknown had the following child:

4. i. **HENRY E.³ ULLIAN** was born in Dec 1868 in Beaver, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He died in 1938. He married **MARY ELLEN MCGLYNN**. She was born in 1861. She died in 1941.

Notes for Sarah Wiley:

Barnard may be surname of previous husband - Father's surname is Wylie.

3. **VALENTINE² OLLIN** (Valentine¹) was born on 30 Aug 1839 in Switzerland. He died on 09 Jan 1925 in Rippey, Greene, Iowa, USA. He married (1) **CHRISTINE UNKNOWN** about 1859 in Tennessee, USA. She was born about 1841. He married (2) **SOPHIA K. FAATZ**, daughter of Andreas Vaatz and Margaretha Odenbach, on 12 Jan 1880 in Clay, Nebraska, USA. She was born on 01 Sep 1860 in Russia. She died about 1936.

Valentine Ollin was employed as a Coal digger on 20 Aug 1870 in Montpelier, Muscatine, Iowa, USA. He was employed as a Retired in 1915 in Spring Valley, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He was buried in 1925 in Rippey, Greene, Iowa, USA.

Notes for Valentine Ollin:

1870 US Census enumerates him with brother George in Montpelier Township, Muscatine, Iowa.

Arrived in New Orleans from Le Havre on the Pontiac. Ship manifest handwriting for surname is almost illegible, but could be read as Yuyan - phonetically similar to Ullian.

Birth year reported on 1915 Iowa state census as 1842, which also indicated that he was

Generation 2 (con't)

naturalized citizen, and married, with 66 years in U.S. Cannot read/write.

Christine: Her address was District 13 in Davidson, Tennessee, USA in 1860.

Valentine Ollin and Christine Unknown had the following child:

- i. JOHN LOUIS³ OLLIN was born on 04 Dec 1879 in Clay, Nebraska, USA. He married Miranda Phillips, daughter of John Phillips and Lydia Pickett, on 16 Feb 1910 in Des Moines, Dallas, Iowa, USA. She was born about 1886 in Swan, Marion, Iowa, USA.

John Louis Ollin was employed as a Farmer on 16 Feb 1910 in Minburn, Dallas, Iowa, USA.

Notes for John Louis Ollin:

Marriage to Miranda Phillips was his second, her first.

Valentine Ollin and Sophia K. Faatz had the following children:

- ii. MARY ANNE OLLIN was born in Jun 1881 in Nebraska, USA.
- iii. LEONARD WILLIE OLLIN was born on 23 Dec 1884 in Nebraska, USA.

Generation 3

4. **HENRY E.³ ULLIAN** (George², Valentine¹ Ollin) was born in Dec 1868 in Beaver, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He died in 1938. He married **MARY ELLEN McGLYNN**. She was born in 1861. She died in 1941.

Henry E. Ullian was employed as a Farmer in 1916 in Macleod, Willow Creek, Alberta, Canada. He was buried in Twin Butte, Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada (Saint Henry's Roman Catholic Church Cemetery).

Notes for Henry E. Ullian:

Tombstone shows dates of 1863-1938.

1885 Iowa State Census shows him as being born in Muscatine County, Iowa.

Mary Ellen McGlynn was buried in Twin Butte, Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada (Saint Henry's Roman Catholic Church Cemetery).

Notes for Mary Ellen McGlynn:

Birthdate shown in 1900 U.S. Census is Nov 1867.

Henry E. Ullian and Mary Ellen McGlynn had the following children:

- i. GEORGE BURNERD⁴ ULLIAN was born on 09 Mar 1890 in Des Moines, Polk, Iowa, USA. He died on 08 Sep 1969 in Nelson, British Columbia, Canada. He married Frances Fortuna, daughter of Adam Fortuna and Susanna Dudec, in 1920 in Alberta, Canada. She was born on 06 Dec 1902. She died on 03 Mar 1927 in Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada (Fairview Cemetery).

George Burnerd Ullian was employed as a Farm laborer in 1900 in Beaver, Dallas, Iowa, USA. He was buried in Nelson, British Columbia, Canada (Nelson Memorial Park).

Frances Fortuna was buried in Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada (Fairview Cemetery)

Generation 3 (con't)

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Notes for Frances Fortuna:

Born 6 Dec 1902 or 1901?

Echo (Pincher Park newspaper) of 2 [??] Mar 1927 reported that she died in the hospital after giving birth to a son. Survived by husband and 4 small children, her parents, and sisters Miss Bertha and Mrs. Desbins.

- ii. MARY CATHERINE ULLIAN was born on 19 Apr 1892. She died on 14 Apr 1897.
Mary Catherine Ullian was buried in Granger, Dallas, Iowa, USA (Beaver Catholic Cemetery).
- iii. EVA ELIZABETH ULLIAN was born in Feb 1894 in Iowa, USA.
- iv. NANCY I. ULLIAN was born on 10 Sep 1894. She died on 03 May 1897.
Nancy I. Ullian was buried in Granger, Dallas, Iowa, USA (Beaver Catholic Cemetery).
- v. BARBARA ULLIAN was born on 09 Jan 1896 in Beaver, Dallas, Iowa, USA. She died on 02 Oct 1974. She married (1) FRANCIS SPETH. He was born in 1883. He died in 1937. She married (2) GLENN MCLAUGHLIN. He was born in 1891. He died in 1965.
Barbara Ullian was buried in Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada (Fairview Cemetery).
- vi. JOSEPH HENRY ULLIAN was born on 26 May 1898 in Des Moines, Polk, Iowa, USA. He died on 04 Mar 1962.
Joseph Henry Ullian was buried in 1962 in Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada (Cranbrook Catholic Cemetery).
- vii. MARGARET CECILIA ULLIAN was born in Apr 1900 in Iowa, USA.
- viii. ISABELLA ULLIAN was born about 1904 in Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada. She married Leslie Samuel Hurd, son of Albert Hurd and Eliza Jane Green, on 10 Jun 1939 in Kalispell, Flathead, Montana, USA. He was born on 30 Apr 1893 in Stone, Oneida, Idaho, United States. He died on 17 May 1981 in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.
Leslie Samuel Hurd was buried on 21 May 1981 in Fort Macleod, Alberta, Canada.

Other Ullians in the U.S.

In addition to the Ullians in our family, and those we believe to be descendants of the Ukrainian Ulansky/Ullians or the Swiss Ullians, we sometimes see references to Ullians in the U.S. that we cannot place in a family. Further research aimed at identifying all members of these 3 “Ullian” families would assist in determining whether these individuals have different ancestors than those we have identified.

Other Ullians in Italy and Elsewhere

We know that there are Ullians still in Italy, as well as in South America (including Brazil and Argentina). We believe that we are related to them, but have no evidence. Again, further research would be beneficial.

Contact Us!

We strongly encourage Ullians from any of these families to contact us with information on their family.

Linda Wysocki – lindawysocki@yahoo.com

John A. Ullian Jr. – jaullian@gmail.com

David Ullian Larson – dularson@bellsouth.net