

# ALFIERI-BUONGIORNO

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This is quite an extended family. We start with **Vincenzo (James) Alfieri** (1866-1902) who married **Maria Buongiorno** (1880-1928) in Montecorvino, Campania, Italy on February 9, 1896. Montecorvino is a hilltop town near Salerno, Italy.

Vincenzo Alfieri immigrated to America in 1887<sup>1</sup>; he married Maria Biongiorno in 1896 in Italy. Maria immigrated to America in 1895<sup>2</sup> (that date may be off by a year or two). They settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Vincenzo Alfieri died in 1902, buried in Philadelphia, PA<sup>3</sup>. His gravestone is written in Italian. In the few short years Vincenzo lived in America, he and his wife Maria had three children: **Joseph** (1898-?); **Carlo** (1900-1931); and **Ida** (1902-1931), all born in Philadelphia, PA. Maria, having three infant boys who were left fatherless, married her second husband, **Giovanni (John) Bocchino**, about 1903. Giovanni was also not in the family for long, as he died in 1908<sup>4</sup>, leaving Mary with 3 more children: **Leonida** (1904-?), **Luisa** (1906-?), and **John** (1908-?).

By 1910 widow Mary now had six children, aged 2 – 12, and had buried two husbands. She was only 30 years old. Her two daughters Leonida Bocchino and Luisa Bocchino were sent to live in Saint Vincent's Home in Philadelphia, PA, where they are found in 1910<sup>5</sup>. In 1910 Mary and her son John Bocchino are living with Mary's brother Luigi<sup>6</sup>. Where are Mary's three Alfieri children in 1910? They would be ages 12, 10, and 8.

Mary married a third husband, **Patsy (Paul) Avitable** about 1910, and had one child with him, **Louis** (1911-?), born in New York City, NY. In 1920 Patsy Avitable made a home for Mary and her children, and Patsy and Mary's baby Louis.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1891," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QVVF-G2BR> : 12 March 2018), Vincenzo Alfieri, 1887; citing NARA microfilm publication M237 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm .

<sup>2</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MJPN-7WM> : accessed 2 August 2018), Mary Aritabbe in household of Patsy Aritabbe, Bronx Assembly District 8, Bronx, New York, United States; citing ED 430, sheet 2B, line 91, family 40, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1142; FHL microfilm 1,821,142.

<sup>3</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 52507300

<sup>4</sup> Find A Grave Memorial#184764329

<sup>5</sup> "United States Census, 1910," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MG6D-XMJ> : accessed 2 August 2018), Louise Bocchino, Philadelphia Ward 40, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 1029, sheet 1B, family , NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 1410; FHL microfilm 1,375,423.

<sup>6</sup> "United States Census, 1910," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X39X-KPY> : accessed 2 August 2018), Luigi Buongiorus, Bronx Assembly District 34, New York, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 1586, sheet 15B, family 256, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 1002; FHL microfilm 1,375,015.

<sup>7</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MJPN-7WM> : accessed 2 August 2018), Mary Aritabbe in household of Patsy Aritabbe, Bronx Assembly District 8, Bronx, New York,

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Patsy was a plasterer in the building construction industry. In 1920 his two oldest stepsons, Joseph and Carlo Alfieri, joined him in his occupation and were both plasterers. The family was living in "Little Italy" in The Bronx.

**Joseph Alfieri**, son of Vincenzo Alfieri and Maria Buongiorno, is the man who raised his family in Baychester. How did Joseph Alfieri meet **Ida Galano**, his future wife? Perhaps it was through the building construction connection; Ida's father, **John Galano**, was also in the construction business. He lived in "Little Italy" in 1910, but was in Baychester by 1920, while Joseph was still in "Little Italy" in 1920. In an interesting twist, John Galano was married to **Catherine Buongiorno**. Are Catherine Buongiorno (John Galano's wife) and Maria Buongiorno (Vincenzo Alfieri's mother) related? They have different parents, but perhaps they are cousins.

Joseph Alfieri and Ida Galano married about 1925<sup>8</sup> and Joseph moved into the house Ida grew up in; he rented a floor from his new father-in-law John Galano. That was at **2305 Boller Avenue**, Baychester, Bronx, NY. The blended family lived in that house through 1940<sup>9</sup> and beyond. They raised three children in that house: **James Alfieri** (1925-1925), who only lived three days<sup>10</sup>; **Gerald Alfieri** (1932-1966)<sup>11</sup>; and **Elaine Alfieri** (1944-2004)<sup>12</sup>. Gerald married in 1956. Elaine married in 1965.

The author grew up in the neighborhood; her sister and Elaine Alfieri grew up together in Baychester in the 1950s and 1960s and remained good friends until Elaine's death.

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United States; citing ED 430, sheet 2B, line 91, family 40, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1142; FHL microfilm 1,821,142.

<sup>8</sup> "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X767-L6W> : accessed 2 August 2018), Joseph Alfieri, Bronx (Districts 751-972), Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 865, sheet 5A, line 8, family 17, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1480; FHL microfilm 2,341,215.

<sup>9</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/KQM8-6VM> : accessed 2 August 2018), Joseph Alfieri in household of John Gallano, Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York City, Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 3-788, sheet 2A, line 12, family 25, 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 2480.

<sup>10</sup> "New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/2WG7-J7H> : 10 February 2018), James Alfieri, 05 Sep 1925; citing Death, Bronx, New York, New York, United States, New York Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 2,168,661.

<sup>11</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JK22-Z5S> : 20 May 2014), Gerald Alfieri, Dec 1966; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

<sup>12</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JP9K-K25> : 20 May 2014), ELAINE M CORELLI, 05 Nov 2004; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).