



Pictorial Genogram

Family Tree & Brief History

Of the

Brennen and Catalano Families

By Barrington H. Brennen

August 16, 2020

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Introduction to the Progenitors



Pietro (Peter in English) Catalano was born in Sicily, Italy and moved to The Bahamas in 1922 seeking a job as a mason. He worked on the British Colonial Hotel in Nassau.

He was one of three brothers born to Francesco Catalano and Francesca Bontumasi in Sicily, Italy.

For many decades we thought that the correct spelling of the family name was "Catalyn." However, twenty years ago, Uncle Peter, through research, discovered that his father's last name was "Catalano." However, it was changed to Catalyn. Uncle James kept "Catalyn," and the rest the family reverted to "Catalano."

As Great Grampa Pietro (Peter) settled in Nassau, he met and fell in love with **Theresa Major**. However, Theresa's mother, Laila, forbade her to marry Pietro because she said that he will one day abandon her and go back to his home in Sicily.

He never left the Bahamas, but they had four children. He got married to another Bahamian woman with whom he had no children.

When he died in the late 1960s, we took Grammy Major to Kemp's Funeral home to view him in the casket. She stood quietly over the casket. After a long silence she bent over and kissed him on his forehead. Then she did something that surprised us. She reached out and slapped him gently on his cheek while muttering the words: "You should have stayed with me."

Theresa Major's (Grammy Major) parents were **Able and Laila Major**. Able's parents moved to Long Island, The Bahamas, in the 1800s from Scotland as sheep herders. One of Grammy Major's four sisters was Lady Caroline Butler, the wife of the first Bahamian Governor General.

Grammy Major (Theresa) was a stay-at-home mom all her life. Even when her children were adults, she stayed at home with the company of the tobacco pipe. We were all happy when she stopped smoking. She spent hours sitting in a rocking chair beside the back door. She seemed to have enjoyed being alone. Her youngest son, James Catalyn, lived with her and took care of her till her death. It was at her home, which became Uncle James home upon her death, that we had our annual Christmas dinners. Uncle James cooked all the Christmas dinners until five years prior to his death in 2018 when the families began bringing different dishes. The Christmas annual dinner is now being held at Annick and Barry's since 2018.



Alfred Addington Alexander Brennen II (Grampa Brennen), came from a large family of Brennens. An understanding is that five Brennen brothers came from Ireland in the late 1800s. One brother settled on the following Islands: Nassau, Eleuthera, Andros, Bimini, and the Berry Islands. All these brothers had multiple children with black and white Bahamian women. Grampa Brennen's father was **Benjamin Brennen**. However, we also know his official name was

Alfred Addington Alexander Brennen, I.

There seems to be a confusion about the spelling of the name. The different spellings are "Brennen", "Brennan", "Braynen." My research tells me that they are all correct. However, "Brennan" seems to be the original out of Ireland. On the birth certificate of Alfred, II, there are two spellings for his last name "Brennen" and "Braynen". A former Speaker of the House of Assembly in The Bahamas, Sir Alvin Braynen, personally told me in the 1980s the history about the family and that all, no matter the spelling, are related. (See Slide 6)

Mr. Charles Clement Lightbourn, the father of Agnes Lightbourne Brennen, came from Scotland and met a Jamaican Indian and had Agnes. He also had eight other children with eight different black Bahamians.

Not too long after getting married to **Agnes Louise Lightbourn** (Grammy Brennen) on November 19, 1928, he became restless and started traveling. He left Nassau while Grammy Brennen was pregnant with Alfred, III. He travelled to several countries in the Caribbean and several states in the United States—New York, Nashville, Florida, etc. Wherever he lived, he had children with several women totally at least 60 children. At his funeral service, his youngest child was younger than his youngest great grand child. For a short while he worked as a butler for a rich man in New York where he had a few children. While living in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s he accidentally took the life of someone. His brother in The Bahamas was able to get him back to Nassau before it was found out.

To facilitate his dabbling in Witcraft, he often traveled to Haiti. He was able to speak Haitian Creole. He was also a self-proclaimed Bishop of his own church where mostly women attended. He was also a watch jeweler and Justice of the Peace.

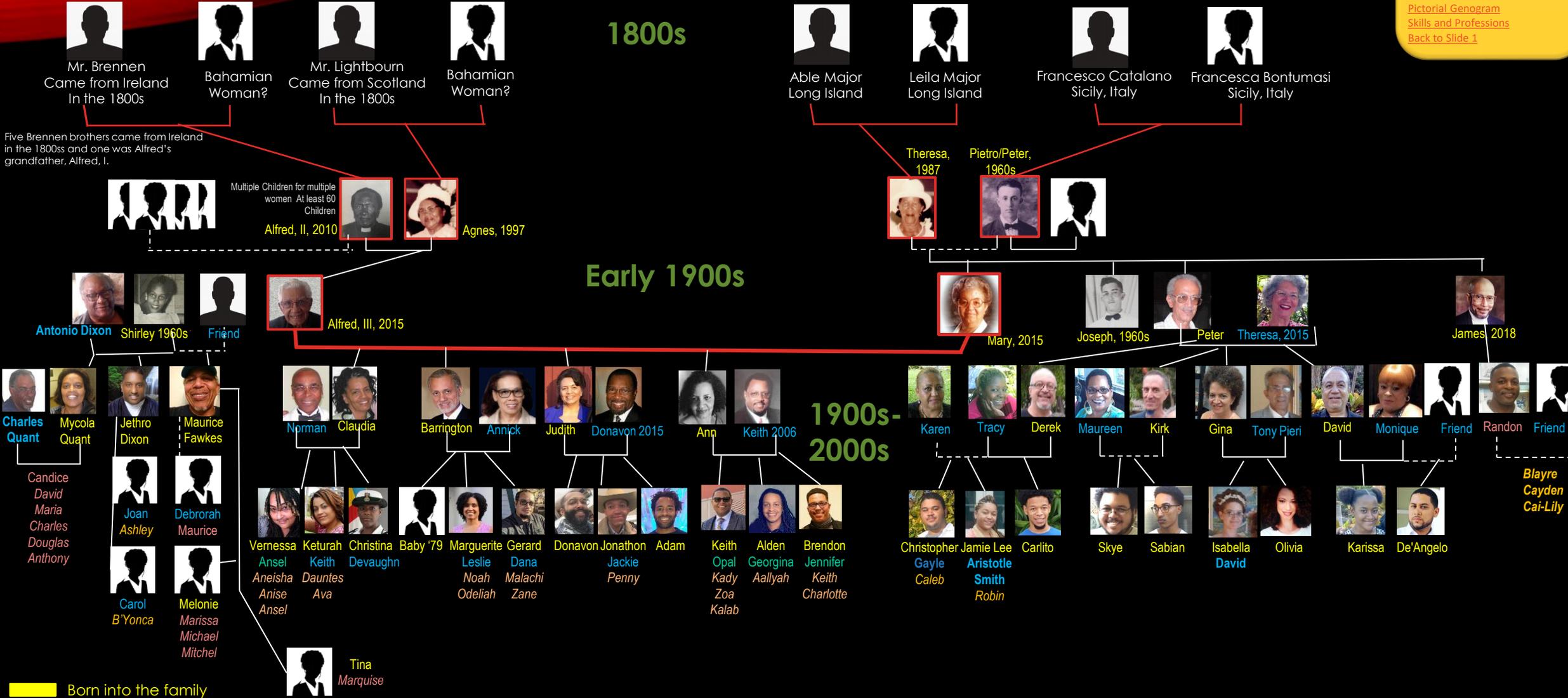
Alfred abused Agnes terribly. Because of this physical and emotional abuse, she moved to Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, on August 9, 1958. She lived there for about 40 years. Grampa Brennen applied for divorce in 1993 but it was never completed. He was a heavy drinker. Grammy Brennen lost about five sets of twins during her pregnancies because of the abuse that usually occurred when he was drunk. She worked as a straw and craft vendor at the International Bazaar, Freeport, The Bahamas. Her son (Alfred, II) moved her back to Nassau to live with him when she began displaying dementia. Grampa Brennen died alone in his rented home on Gibs Corner in 2000.

OUR FAMILY TREE

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BRENNEN FAMILY

CATALANO/CATALYN FAMILY



- Born into the family
- Spouses
- Children of the grand children
- Divorced or never married

Date: Date of death

Nationalities, Languages, Races

Our heritage is culturally and nationally rich.



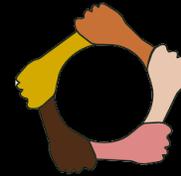
COUNTRIES/NATIONALITIES

1. Africa
2. Bahamas
3. Canada
4. El Salvador
5. England
6. France (Martinique)
7. Ireland,
8. Italy (Sicily)
9. Jamaica
10. Netherlands, W. I. (St Maarten)
11. Scotland
12. Trinidad
13. United States of America



LANGUAGES

1. English
2. French
3. Dutch
4. Greek



RACES

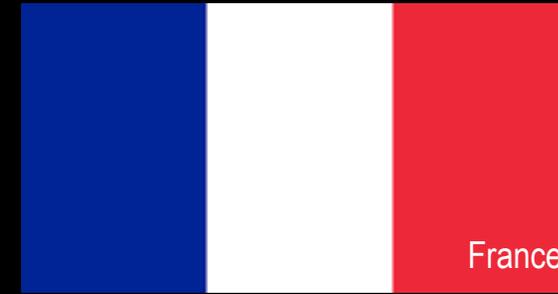
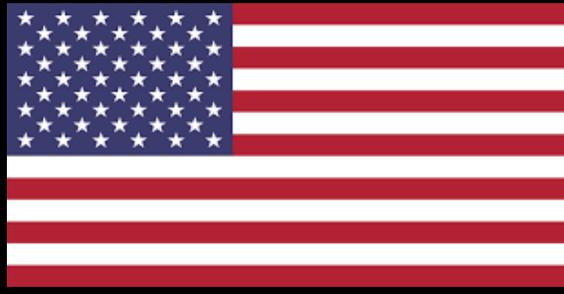
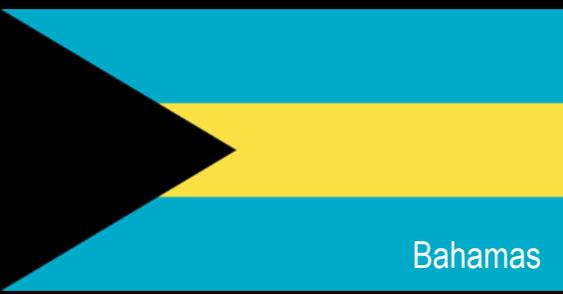
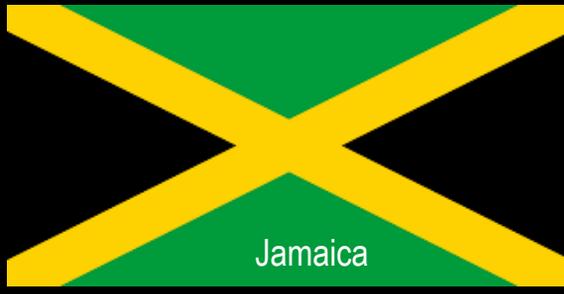
1. Black
2. White
3. Mixed



ISLANDS IN THE BAHAMAS

1. Grand Bahama
2. Cat Island
3. Long Island
4. New Providence

Flags of the Nations In the Family



Names and Dates of Deceased Relatives

Alfred Brennen, II 1906 to 1996– age 90

Agnes Louis Lightbourn Brennen July 5, 1910 to July 12, 1997– Age 86

Alfred Brennen, III, November 15, 1920 to November 23, 2015 – Age 86

Mary Elizabeth Catalyn Brennen, November 12, 1928 to January 7, 2015 – Age 86

Shirley Dixon

Theresa Major February 6, 1900 to August 29, 1987– Age 86

Joseph Catalyn – Age 30ish

James Julius Catalyn, January 6, 1940 to August 18, 2018 – Age 78

Theresa Catalano, March 8, 1937 to April 17, 2015 – Age 78

Keith Albury, August 2, 1957 to January 2, 2006 – Age 48

Winston D. Edwards, August 15, 1948 to February 7, 2016 – Age 67

More About Our Deceased Relatives

These are those not mentioned on Slide 2



Theresa Catalano was born on March 8, 1937 died on April 17, 2015, at Age 78. She was the wife to Peter Catalano we call "Uncle Peter." They had four children, nine grand children and three grand children. She was the one of sweetest persons on earth. She had a gentle spirit. She was kind, gracious and had an infectious smile. She worked at the famous Toy Land Store as Floor Manager on Shirley Street for many years. Then she became the Floor Manager at John S. George. She treated all customers with respect and honor. [SEE MORE](#)



James Julius Catalyn was born on January 6, 1940 and died on August 18, 2018 at age 78. We loved our "Uncle James." He was so giving and caring. He provided all the food for our annual Christmas dinners that lasted for over 60 years. Uncle James was a creative writer and founder of James Catalyn and Friends, a drama cultural group and performed around the Bahamas. His famous production was called "Summer Madness." Uncle James work for the Ministry of Tourism for many decades. In the 1970s he served as the Tourism Officer for The Bahamas in Chicago, USA. He travelled the world promoting The Bahamas [READ MORE](#)



Mary Elizabeth was born on November 12, 1928 and died on January 7, 2015, at age 86. She grew up with her three brothers in St. Matthew's Parish, on Shirley Street, commonly known as "The Pond". She became a teacher at a young age. In January 1944, she joined the staff of Eastern Preparatory School No. 1. She made clothing for her children. She taught all of her children to sew. She loved baking and cooking. She created unique vegetarian diked like the Vege Scallop Salad the resembled the Conch Salad. She was skilled in making decorative sandwiches for weddings and other special occasions. She served the community, church and school with distinction. She became the Vice Principal of Bahamas Academy Elementary School [READ MORE](#)



Alfred Brennen, III, was born on November 15, 1920 and died on November 23, 2015, at age 86. He was the only lawful son to Alfred and Agnes Brennen of Nassau. During his formative years, he assisted his father and mother in their bakery. He took up a trade and learned masonry. As a young man he traveled to many islands to work as a trained mason. One of the projects he was fondly proud of working on was the Princess Margaret Hospital. He often pointed out the decorative masonry art work at its front entrance. Upon completion of the building of the hospital, he was chosen as one of the guides to escort Princess Margaret to view the building named after her. His last job was the Chief Building Inspector for the Ministry of Housing. He was responsible for inspecting all the homes in Elizabeth Estates and Flamingo Gardens. [READ MORE](#)

More About Our Deceased Relatives

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Shirley Dixon was born on She was beautiful and friendly. Her life was cut short due to a serious attack of asthma. She was the only lawful daughter to Alfred and Agnes Brennen. She had one child to a Mr. Fawkes and then married Antonio Dixon with whom she had two children. ([See Genogram](#))



Joseph Catalyn was born on - - - - and died on - - - -. He was known by all at the time as "Uncle Joe." Joe worked as a common laborer but did not acquire much skills. He became addicted to alcohol and was often found drunk on the streets. Barrington's fond memories of Uncle Joe was when he came home to his mother and would play with Barrington. One of the things he would do was hold Barrington upside down by holding his feet and swing him. Uncle was found dead in a home on day in . . .



Dr. Winston Donovan Edwards, affectionately known as "Donnie," died on Sunday night, February 7, 2016, in the Carolina Medical Center Hospital, in Charlotte, North Carolina, of a massive hemorrhagic stroke. He was 67 (born August 22, 1948). Don's parents were Jamaicans who came to The Bahamas in the 1940s to work as missionaries in the Adventist Church. Hence, three of the four brothers were born in The Bahamas—Desmond Edwards (Bahamian Lawyer), Don, and Garth (Chiropractor, Chicago). Donnie started out as a pastor and in 1975 became the Dean of Men at Northern Caribbean University (formally West Indies College) where he met Judith. He also worked as a pastor in Florida and Arizona. In 1996 he obtained the PhD in Counseling Psychology. He was also a gifted musician and tenor soloist.

[READ MORE](#)



Dr. Keith Densel Albury was born on August 2, 1957 on Harbor Island, Eleuthera, The Bahamas. He served the Adventist Church in The Bahamas for almost 27 years as pastor, departmental director, and conference president. He died at the age of 48, on January 24, 2006, after a battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. At the time of his death he was serving as the president of the North Bahamas Conference with headquarters in Freeport, Grand Bahama. Pastor Albury was witty, creative, down-to-earth, intellectual, avid reader, deeply spiritual and a lover of all people. Pastor Albury was well known and respected by governmental leaders, community members and leaders of all faiths and the Adventist Church.

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Skills / Professions Within the Family

1. Artist—Gerard Brennen
2. Armature Artist – Vernessa Rahming
3. Adventurer—Adam Edwards
4. Business Administration – Annick Brennen, Jennifer Edwards
5. Biologist – Jonathon Edwards
6. Blogger – Leslie Samuel
7. Builder – Keith Bryan
8. Caregiver—Claudia Seymour
9. Carpenter/Handy Person – Barrington Brennen
10. Carpenter/Handy Person – Peter Catalyn
11. Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist – Gerard Brennen
12. Chef – Isabella Thompson
13. Custom Drapery & Window Treatments – Annick Brennen
14. Coral Conductor – Marguerite Samuel
15. Computer Science—Skye Catalano
16. Computer Engineering – Alden
17. Croupier , Tony Pieri
18. Dancer, Olivia Piera, Carlito Catalano
19. Director of University Development – Jennifer Edwards.
20. Dressmaking – Annick Brennen
21. Educational Psychologist – Ann Albury
22. Educational Administration – Annick Brennen
23. Educational Research – Annick Brennen
24. Fencing (Chain link) – Charles Quant
25. Graphic and Web Designer – Dana Brennen
26. Hair Stylist – Kirk Catalyn and Keturah Bryan
27. Horticulturist – David Catalyn
28. Interior Design – Annick Brennen
29. Landscaper – Randon Catalyn
30. Life Coach – Leslie Samuel
31. Marketing Specialist – Dana Brennen
32. Montessori Teacher – Vernessa Rahming
33. Motivational Speaker – Barrington Brennen, Keith Albury, Ann Albury
34. Mountain Climber/Guide—Adam Edwards
35. Model—Adam Edwards
36. Naturalist—Adam Edwards, Gina Pieri
37. Night Auditor—Judith Edwards
38. Nurse – Ann Albury, Georgina Albury
39. Organist – Barrington Brennen
40. Ornithologist (Armature) – Gina Pieri
41. Painter – Peter Catalano
42. Patient Attendant – Jethro Dixon
43. Patient Attendant – David Thompson
44. Petty Officer (Defense Force) –Christian Rahming
45. Pianist – Barrington Brennen and Leslie Samuel
46. Police Sargent – Claudia Seymour
47. Professional Trainer – Gerard Brennen
48. Psychiatrist Nurse—Mycola Quant
49. Psychologist-- Marriage and Family Therapist – Barrington Brennen
50. Singer (Bass)—Barrington Brennen
51. Singer (Tenor) Donovan Edwards
52. Singer (Soprano) – Judith Edwards, Marguerite Samuel, Claudia Seymour, Keturah Bryan
53. Science Teacher – Leslie Samuel
54. Social Worker – Opal Worker
55. Tailor— Keith Bryan
56. Teaching / Training – Annick Brennen
57. Taxi Driver – Keith and Keturah Bryan
58. Tree Felling – Adam Edwards
59. Video Technician – Derek Catalano
60. Violin—Marguerite Brennen, Donovan Edwards
61. Vlogger – Leslie Samuel
62. Webmaster – Barrington Brennen
63. Weddings and Events Planner – Annick Brennen
64. Welding --- Norman Seymour, Keith Bryan
65. Writer—Barrington Brennen

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Alphabetical Listing of Family Members

1. **Albury**, Keith
2. Albury, Kady
3. Albury, Kaleb
4. Albury, Zoa
5. Albury, Ann (Brennen)
6. Albury, Opal, (Albury)
7. Albury, Alden
8. Albury, Georgina ()
9. Albury, Aallyah
10. Albury, Brendon
11. Albury, Jennifer (Elyah)
12. Albury, Keith
13. Albury, Charlotte
14. **Brennen**, Alfred, II
15. Brennen, Mary (Catalyn)
16. Brennen, Barrington
17. Brennen, Alfred, III
18. Brennen, Agnes (Lightbourn)
19. Brennen, Annick (Valleray)
20. Brennen, Dana (Brown)
21. Brennen, Gerard
22. Brennen, Malachi (Jackson)
23. Brennen, Alexander
24. **Bryan** Keturah (Seymour)
25. Bryan, Keith
26. Bryan, Dauntes
27. Bryan, Ava
28. Rahming, Davaughn
29. **Catalano**, Francesco
30. Catalano, Robin
31. Catalano, Jamie Lee
32. Catalano, Francesca (Bontumasi)
33. Catalyn, James
34. Catalano, Peter
35. Catalano, Pietro
36. Catalano, Theresa
37. Catalano, Derek
38. Catalano, Tracy
39. Catalano, Karen
40. Catalano, Christopher
41. Catalano, Gayle ()
42. Catalano, Calen
43. Catalano, Carlito
44. Catalano, Monique ()
45. Catalano, Skye
46. Catalano, Sabian
47. Catalano, David
48. Catalano, Karissa
49. Catalano, De'Angelo
50. Catalano, Blayre
51. Catalano, Cai-Lily
52. Catalano, Cayden
53. Catalyn, Joseph
54. Catalano, Randon
55. **Dixon**, Antonio
56. Dixon, Shirley, (Brennen)
57. Dixon, Jethro
58. **Edwards**, Judith (Brennen)
59. Edwards, Adam
60. Edwards, Winston D
61. Edwards, Donavon
62. Edwards, Jonathon
63. Edwards, Jackie ()
64. Edwards, Penny
65. Edwards, Jennifer ()
66. Edwards, Keith
67. Edwards, Charlotte
68. Edwards, Zoa
69. Edwards, Kaleb
70. Edwards, Aallayah
71. Edwards, Georgina ()
72. **Fawkes**, Maurice
73. Fawkes, Melonie
74. Fawkes, Marissa
75. Fawkes, Michael
76. Fawkes, Michel
77. **Seymour**, Norman
78. Seymour Claudia (Brennen)
79. **Rahming**, Vernessa (Seymour)
80. Rahming, Ansel
81. Rahming, Anise
82. Rahming, Aneisha
83. Rahming, Christina (Seymour)
84. **Major**, Theresa
85. **Quant**, Mycola (Dixon)
86. Quant, Charles
87. Quant, Candice
88. Quant, David
89. Quant, Douglas
90. Quant, Anthony
91. Quant, Maria
92. Quant, Charles
93. **Smith**, Aristotle (Catalano)

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Pictorial Genogram

Family Tree

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By Barrington H. Brennen

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