

Valeriano (AKA Anthony, Tony) Ancelmo Guadalupe Fraga

Born 4/14/1891, Died 9/7/1982

GrandParents: Jesus Fraga and Maria Calderon

Santiago Sanchez & Josefa Ferreira

Parents: Jose Calderon Fraga & Mercedes Sanchez

Possible History:

The Fraga's arrived in Mexico sometime in the early 1800s. The lineage of Jesus was from Spain. Family was associated with the "Count of Valladolid" who was responsible for the original name for Morelia (Valladolid) before it was changed to honor General Morelos who fought for Mexico's independence.

Their only son was Dad's father Jose. Jose had three sisters; Lupe, Paz & Socorro. Jesus Fraga had a brother named Lamberto who started a town: El Rancho de Jercuaro that he sold to the Ortega family. There was another Fraga called Acuixio.

Maria's brother was Antonio Calderon, the Mayor or important official of Cotzurio. The Calderon's owned the biggest ranch in Cotzurio. The Chavez ranch was much smaller. Andreas Calderon was very wealthy (Not sure if this is Maria's brother or father). In Cotzurio village there were essentially 5 families: Fraga, Chavez, Calderon, Herrejon and Sanchez. The Sanchez family owned an estate named Urundaneo. It was close to Chucandi. The Sanchez family was also in Santa Rita and Santa Inez.

There have been unconfirmed stories of some Austrian blood for Dad and French blood for Mother. If so, it would have happened in this era, around the 1860s, when there was a brief French occupation and then the Austrian Emperor Maximilian who briefly ruled Mexico before he was killed. Austrian and French soldiers did settle in the Morelia area. However, In Onofre's interview he stated that mother's background was from Spain. Also that she was related to the Calderon's who had wealth. He also indicated that the Herrejons had no Indian blood, they were very fair.

Parents: Jose Fraga Calderon and Mercedes Sanchez Sanchez

Some History:

Jose and Mercedes married very young.

Mercedes father was called Santiago Sanchez. Her last names were Sanchez Sanchez so apparently a Sanchez had married a Sanchez. She came from a family of 24, but many died as infants. The children that lived were; Trindad, Sylviano, Juana (Mother of Raphael Cedeno), Mercedes, Lola, Genavivo, Avelina, Vicente, Louis (Pablo Sanchez father), Ignacio, Raymundo, Raphael & Jesus.

Jose Fraga's mother was a Calderon. One of his wife's sisters married Jose's uncle Antonio Calderon. That marriage produced some important people; Andres and Refugio Calderon who became very wealthy. Jose also

had two sisters called Guadalupe and Socorro and one brother.

Jose was known to be very brave and very strong. He was also very violent. He killed some of the Vargas. He was ambushed. (Don't have any details)

The children of Jose and Mercedes (In Birth Order):
(There are some inconsistencies with regard to birth order and number of children)

+Raphael Fraga Wife: Gracia

Children: Poncho, Chol'e, Adelaida, Maria (Concha), Raul, Raphael Jr., Soledad mentioned, unclear.

+Jesus Fraga Wife: Mariana Ortiz (Cousin of Gracia)

Children : Rudolfo, Felipe, Luis, Pablo, Antonia, Mepemciana, Paula, Juana, Maria, Javier, Jose

+Josefa (Pepa) (Previous Josefa died as a baby)
Husband: Jesus Chavez

Children: Baltazar (Died), Melania (Died), Maria (Died), Chavela, Aurora, Gilberto

+Guadalupe Fraga Wife: Juana

Children : Jose, Lupe, Maria, Angelina, Consuela

+Elodia (Died in either 1907 or 1916 of Chicken Pox)

+Alejandro (Died in 1917)

Children: Alejandro Jr. (A Doctor), Aurora (A Special Nurse)

+Valeriano Wife: Martina

Children: Manuela (Died in Mexico 1918), Esperanza (Frances), Erasmo (John), Jose (Joe), Melania (Ellen), Mercedes, Carmen, Manuela (Margie), Hipolito (Paul), Jesus (Jesse), Martin, Daniel

+Felix (Died in the U.S. in 1930 living with Dad)

+Ernesto (Died in the 1950's): Comments from Onfre's translation follows. Ernesto was very nervous and married a very kind and friendly woman. They had two handsome and very brave sons. They lived in Rancho De la Carverona (could this be Carbonera?), near where Grandma Martina had lived. Thieves were trying to steal something from the Ranch at night. Ernesto's wife went out to protect them and was killed. Later on the boys died, possibly of Chicken pox or malaria, and after that Ernesto committed suicide at a young age. Here is a different version of why Ernesto committed suicide: Ernest worked with his Uncle Jesus. A woman told Ernesto that his wife slept with his Uncle Jesus. It was a lie. Ernesto's wife was very pure and honest. The woman was in love with Ernesto, but he was not interested in her. She lied out of spite and jealousy; she was the cause of his death.

+Senaída Husband : Samuel Chavez

Children: Lola, Daniel, Onofre, Maria-Luisa, Elvira, Ephrian, Graciela, Samuel

+**Rosendo (Died at 18)** (Not included in Frances' list.)

Onofre's version of Uncle Ralph's eye patch: "Raphael was a very good man, very respected and very strong, educated and easy going. Everyone was very drunk after a fiesta in Cutzurio. Raphael was trying to sleep out near the school and a devil of a man started a fight and stabbed him in the eye with a knife. He lost his eye and wore a patch after that." The other translation follows, which is slightly different. Raphael inherited from his father Jose. He was head of the town. There is a quote in Spanish "Dominaba los rateros con su palma" that I am interpreting as "He dominated the petty thieves with his hands." Onofre's mother and uncle would talk about what he would do to criminals. He would put them in a big sack used for corn, tie it up and bring them to the police for justice. Raphael was a good man and very respected. People were at a party and getting drunk and rowdy. Raphael asked them to leave in a friendly and courteous manner. A man they called "El Diablo (The Devil)" cut Rafael's face and took out his eye. He lived the rest of his life with one eye. He never fought.

Onofre indicated that this happened in 1934 or 35 during the presidency of Lazaro Cardenas who was responsible for giving the land (ranchos) to the people. This is when many Mexicans returned to Mexico from the U.S.

Onofre also clarified for us the difference between a rancho and a hacienda. A rancho was usually one family and a Hacienda was many ranches, more of an estate.

I might point out at this time that when we had asked Onofre's younger brother Samuel about Uncle Ralph's eye patch we got a totally different and more heroic story. His version had to do with bandits during their Revolutionary war (different time frame than Onofre's version) were trying to find out where they kept their horses and he wouldn't tell them so they took his eye out. Onofre's version seems more likely.

Onofre discussed the Mexican Revolution, which started on Nov 20, 1910, and was eventually the reason Valeriano (my dad) left Mexico in 1919, because of thieves that were known as "Gavillas". The Revolution began when president Madero was killed, Onofre indicated that he was a good man. These new revolutionaries were known as "Alsados". They had no goals or purpose, they just raveled from city to city causing havoc. It was not possible to live in the small towns "Ranchos". Many estates were burned. These "Alsados" took over Cotzurio. People were very poor. They survived on herbs grown on the road.

Valeriano (Tony) Fraga went into the hospital on July 26, 1982. He came home on Sep 1st and died at 5:15 A.M. on Sep 7, 1982.

The information compiled here was from material I had received from my sister Frances (Esperanza) in 1992 and from 2 different recent translations (from Anna Marie and Camille) of an interview Lenny videotaped in

Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico with our Cousin Onofre Chavez, also in 1992.

Compiled by: Daniel E Fraga (youngest son of Valeriano & Martina Fraga)