

The Fausts: From Weavers to Atom Smashers

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I'm Hugo and the ancestors on my mom's side traveled to the United States of America in 1733 from Hesse, Germany on a journey across the ocean. They were farmers and weavers. Johann Phillip was listed as “Ship Weaver” on the boat Elizabeth which left from Rotterdam to America in 1733.

The “Elizabeth” landed in Philadelphia on 8/27/1733. Phillip was married to Anna Catrina Ruthon 2/18/1726 in Germany. Several of her family also came on the 1733 ship. They came from Hesse in Germany. Hesse was renowned for the manufacture of lace. A great number of Hessians were weavers by trade. Johan Phillip and Anna had their first three children, Jacob, Adam and Henry, in Germany. The remainder of their children were born in America. On 3/25/1738 Phillip bought his first land on Greenwich Township. On 4/15/1743 Phillip bought an additional 250 acres in Berks County, PA. He and his family lived there the rest of his life.

When Phillip died in 1766, at the age of 64, his land went to his sons Henry and Adam. In old history books it states that Johan Phillip and his male descendants were 6 Ft 4 inches tall or over. They were said to be “fearless” yet “God fearing” Almost all of his sons who were of age served in the Revolutionary War.

“Johann Phillip Faust and his family started their journey in 1733 in Hesse, Germany and made their way to Rotterdam in the Netherlands where they boarded a ship named the Elizabeth. They reached America and settled in Pennsylvania near the area of Redding.” my grandpa David Faust stated. “Most of the family were farmers but Johann’s sons fought in the revolutionary war under the command of George Washington.”

There have been many Fausts since then, many engineers and physicists. “Your great, great, uncle Joe Faust, my dad’s brother, made many contributions to scientific breakthroughs and new discoveries . He was on the team that built the Stanford Particle Accelerator. “ said David Faust. The Stanford Linear Accelerator is the “atom smasher”

which splits atoms and allows scientists to study matter at the atomic and molecular level. "The Stanford Linear Accelerator and Great Uncle Joe's' contributions have helped us understand extremely small scale items like quarks and atoms and also very large things like the nature of the universe" says my mom, Allison Faust.

My ancestors on my mothers side came to America before it was even a country. Not only did they contribute to the building of America but they fought in the war that made the country I live in now. I am very grateful that they immigrated to the US and put themselves in a war for the greater good. If they had done one little thing differently, my mom might not have been born or my parents didn't meet, and then I wouldn't even exist.