

# SHAMLIAN FAMILY GENEALOGY

1. **SHAMLIAN**, raised silk worms and harvested the cocoons, which were shipped to a clearing house that belonged to a Turkish man; this man was known to the family, and during the Turkish uprising against the Armenians, Luther Shamlia (brother of Edward Shamlia) and his cousins ran from the city and hid, eventually making their way to this man who had done business with their father; asking for help to escape to America, the man told them that their father had a large sum of money on credit; this money made it possible for them to emigrate; later they sent for their mother and brothers and sisters.

## **Children of Shamlia:**

- i. Arossaig Shamlia, died in Armenian massacres.
- ii. Levon (the same as “Leo” below?) Shamlia
- iii. Osanna (Hosanna?) Shamlia, born 1880, died 1963; married Jacob (“Jake”) Gulian, a shoe manufacturer, divorced, three children. Jake later married Betty Kamborian (Betty was brought over from Armenia to marry one of the Shamlia brothers but she fell in love with Jake and divorced the brother (Walter?) to marry Jake); two children, Jacob Jr. and Betsy.

## **Children of Osanna Shamlia and Jacob Gulian:**

- i. Nora Gulian, born 1898
- ii. Mean (“Michael”) Gulian, born 1900; football player, All American in 1923; unmarried
- iii. Grasse Gulian, born 1902, married Dorothy Young, four children, one adopted.

## **Children of Grasse Gulian and Dorothy Young:**

- i. Barbara
  - ii. Judith
  - iii. Patricia
  - iv. Robert (adopted)
- iv. Naomi Shamlia,
- i. Jacob (“Jake”), born 1902?

ii. Albert?

v. Leo Shamlian, married Ziac

**Children of Leo Shamlian and Ziac:**

i. Matilda (“Tilly”)

ii. Rose (“Rosie”)

vi. Luther Shamlian ("Uncle Luther"), born 1894? (1900?), died 1947?, lived in Fresno, California; married Aznife, three children.

**Children of Luther Shamlian and Aznife:**

i. Gregory, born 1922.

ii. Galvin, born 1923

iii. Adam, born 1925

vii. Walter Shamlian, went back to Armenia during the 1920s to find a wife; married Elizabeth (“Betty”), two children.

**Children of Walter Shamlian and Elizabeth:**

i. Unis

ii. Venis

viii. Edward George Shamlian, born October 1886 in Adana, died in 1961, buried at Fresno, California; came to New York from Armenia in 1899; became a U.S. citizen in 1921; a skilled jeweler and watch repairman, he worked for Waltham Watch Company in Boston; prior to World War I, lived in Brighton, a suburb of Boston; to avoid being drafted into the army, he bought an apple farm in Keen, New Hampshire and moved his family there in 1917; in 1918, went back to Brighton, where he rented a third-floor flat on Bracket Street; shortly after 1924, he moved his family to Davenport, Iowa, where he graduated from the Palmer Chiropractic College; in about 1928, moved to Highland Park (rented a house on Lincoln Street), a suburb of Detroit, where his brother-in-law Uncle Paul and other Armenian relatives lived; had trouble as a chiropractor, so went back to watch repair, opening a small shop in downtown Detroit (904 Metropolitan Building, 33 John R. Street); moved to Fresno, California, in 1940, after the children were married. First marriage, 15 September 1910, at Boston, Esther

Bagdikian, born 1894 in Tarsus, Turkey, died 27 March 1943, buried at Fresno, California; four children. Second marriage, date?, Louise , no children.

**Children of Edward George Shamlian and Esther Bagdikian:**

- i. Priscilla Esther Shamlian, born 8 September 1911 at Brighton, Massachusetts, died April 6 1983 at Fresno, California; worked as a sales person at J. L. Hudson Company; later became involved in selling used books from her home; first marriage, 1935, to Haig , divorced in about 1946 (?), no children; second marriage, 27 March 1948, to Gordon Slocum, an engineer; in 1967 lived in Downey, California; two children, both adopted.

**Adopted children of Priscilla Esther Shamlian and Gordon Slocum:**

- i. Keith Slocum
- ii. Lee Slocum
- ii. Louise Mary Shamlian, born 1 December 1914 at Watertown, Massachusetts, died 15 January 1987, 9:30 a.m. (metastatic carcinoma of the breast), at Seal Beach, California; trained as an occupational therapist; married, Saturday, 24 June 1938, at Detroit, Michigan (honey-mooned in Sturgis, Michigan), to Theodore W. Pietsch, Jr., born 23 September 1912, at Baltimore, died at Everett, Washington, 24 August 1993; first residence was a two-room attic apartment in the house of Mrs. Howard at 1229 Tyler Street, Highland Park, Michigan; three children (**see Pietsch Family Genealogy**).
- iii. Gladys Aurora Shamlian, born 1917, died October 4 1991; worked as a maid for a wealthy family, the Booths, who owned the evening newspaper in Detroit and lived in Cranbrook, a suburb of Detroit; with her husband, moved to Los Angeles, California, in June 1938; after her three children were born, she started to take college courses at home and acquired enough credits to go to night school; eventually graduated with a degree in mathematics and got a good job as a computer programmer for TRW in southern California; bought a house in Manhattan Beach, California, which she later sold for \$200,000 and moved to Marina Del Rey; married, April 1938, at Highland Park, Michigan, to William Russell; divorced; three children.

**Children of Gladys Aurora Shamlian and William Russell:**

- i. Chris Russell, born February 1939
- ii. Gary Russell

iii. Bruce Russell

iv. Edward George Shamlian, born 1924; after finishing high school was drafted into the army tank corps division and sent to Europe, took part in the invasion of Normandy, awarded the Purple Heart; married Jean, her third marriage. One child by Edward (Mark), two brought to the marriage by Jean, each from a different husband.

**Children of Edward George Shamlian and Jean:**

i. Ralph

ii. Brian, changed his name to Todd, gay, a movie star of sorts.

iii. Mark