

Johann Nicholas Quirin (1714-1788) and Anna Margaretha Bauer (1716-1793)

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The Query Family in Europe:

The Quirin family, the original name of the Query Family, came from Wolfskirchen, a small French village that lies about 66 kilometers (41 miles) west of the Rhine River and about 14 kilometers (8 1/2 miles) north of Sarrebourg. It is located along the German-French border that kept changing hands between France and Germany from 1674-1944; it was considered French territory from 1674-1871 (called Alsace-Lorraine), German from 1871-1918 (called Eisass-Lothringen), and French again from 1919-1940 between the end of World Wars I and II. Wolfskirchen was returned to France in 1944 and is now within the Department of Bas-Rhin in Alsace, France.

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, has microfilmed the Evangelical Church records for this town from 1671-present (with some years missing) and also the civil records from 1794-present. The church records from 1671-1846 are written in German, while the Civil Records from 1794-1882 are in French.

Briccius "Britzius" Quirin is the earliest known ancestor of the Query family. He was born in Wolfskirchen, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France about 1611 and died in Albany County, New York in about 1692. He is buried at Mt. View Cemetery, Olean, Cattaraugus County, New York, where the grave is misidentified as "Precious" Quirin in local records. A second wife, Margaret Lang, is buried next to him. She was born in 1616 in Wolfskirchen and died in 1712 in Albany County, New York.

Britzius Quirin had a child named **Theobald Quirin** who was born in 1645 in Wolfskirchen. Theobald in turn had a son named **Hans Jacob Quirin** who was born there about 1677. Hans Jacob Quirin's second wife was a woman named Anna Margaretha. Anna, born about 1694 in Wolfskirchen, married Hans Jacob on January 9, 1714 at the Wolfskirchen Lutheran Church in Wolfskirchen, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France.

Johann Nicholas Quirin (1714-1788) and Anna Margaretha Bauer (1716-1793):

Johann Nicholas Quirin, son of Hans Jacob and Anna Margaretha Quirin, was born on December 17, 1714 in Wolfskirchen; he received communion at the Wolfskirchen Lutheran Church in 1728 and died in Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland on November 24, 1788. Wife **Anna Margaretha Bauer** was born about 1716 in Germany, and died sometime after October 1793 in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Nicholas Quirin married Anna Margaretha Bauer on May 6, 1742 in Wolfskirchen. In 1752 Nicholas took his wife and children to the city of Rotterdam, South Holland, Netherlands where they boarded the HMS Halifax for their journey to America. After a stop at Cowes, England, the Halifax crossed the Atlantic and arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Friday, September 22, 1752. Johann signed an oath of allegiance at the statehouse as "Hans Nickel Quierin."; Quirin was the spelling the family would use on the majority of documents that were found from that date until the 1780's; "Nicholas" was the given name that Johann went by throughout his life.

The family settled in Rockland Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania where they attended the Christ Lutheran Church that was located on Bieber Creek in Dryville; it was commonly known as the Mertz Church. The family had moved to Maxatawny Township in Berks County, Pennsylvania by 1767, but they maintained membership at the Mertz church in Dryville.

They must have moved to Montgomery County, Maryland by 1778 where a "John Quorden" signed a loyalty oath. On May 8, 1779, Nicholas Query, as he now called himself, purchased a 223 acre farm in Montgomery County known as Maidens Bower, which is about two miles or so south of Darnestown, Maryland and about 4 miles west of North Potomac, Maryland near the Maryland-Virginia

border, a stream called Muddy Creek bisected the farm (now within Muddy Branch Park). Nicholas purchased the property from Samuel Boone, a cousin of frontiersman Daniel Boone, who ran a firearms factory that supplied weapons for the American Revolution. Nicholas and his family built a Grist and Saw Mill on the property.

The Query family were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland which was founded in 1738. Church records show that "Nickolas Querri" took communion there with wife Margaretha on May 19, 1782 and again on June 7, 1783.

John Nicholas Query died in Montgomery County, Maryland on November 14, 1788, age 73. His Will, dated October 13, 1788, was probated on December 15, 1788. In it he made the following bequests to his children: "Sons Daniel and Henry, the whole of my land, to them and their heirs forever to be divided between them, share and share alike so as to make it of equal value to each of them on their jointly paying the following sums of money to their five sisters at the times mentioned, Viz: Fifteen pounds common currency to Mary Ann March within one year after my wife's decease. Twenty-five pounds within one year to Christine Schindler after my wife's decease. Twenty-five pounds to my other three daughters Catherine March, Elizabeth Humbert and Susannah Tice, each like money within one year of my wife's decease".

The Query family burial ground is on this property which is now on the Haywire Farm between Muddy Branch Park and Esworthy Road (13813 Esworthy Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-3315). Mr. Harry Steidle of Germantown, Maryland owned the property in the early 1900s. He sold the farm and a housing development was built on the land. But, he retained enough of it for his own house and the Query Family Cemetery. Of all the Query's buried there, only two stones remained by the 1970s. One has the inscription "Died the 24 November 1788, John Nicolus Query, Was born the 17 of December 1714". The other tombstone apparently belongs to his granddaughter Charlotte, daughter of George Daniel Query. Its inscription reads "CQC, Born July 1801, died April 26, 1826".

Margaretha Query, widow of John Nicholas, took communion at the Evangelical Lutheran Church on May 31, 1789 and again on October 1, 1793, the last time she was known to be alive.

Source: The Family of John Nicholas Query, by Patrick R. Pearsey, 2000.

The known children of Johann Nicholas Query and Anna Margaretha Bauer were:

Maria Elizabeth Query was born about 1741 in Alsace, France and died sometime after 1788. She married **Philip Jacob Humbert** about 1768 in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Philip was the son of Joseph Louis Antoine Humbert (1690-1760) and Barbara Dittmar (1690-1736). He was born on November 19, 1728 in Berks County and died on August 31, 1819 in Augusta County, Virginia.

Catherine Query was born in Alsace about 1743 and died after 1796 in Berks County. She married **John Phillip Mertz** on May 29, 1765 in Berks County. He was the son of Johann Mertz and Anna Romaniin. John was born on October 14, 1738 in Rockland, Berks County, Pennsylvania, and died on January 14, 1804 in Windsor, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Catherine and John are buried at Christ Lutheran Church Cemetery, Bieber Creek, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Suzanne Margaret Query was born on November 10, 1748 in Alsace and died on August 17, 1817 in Floyd County, Virginia. She married **Jacob Tice** about 1776. He was born about 1740 in Frankfurt, Germany and died on April 29, 1824 in Floyd County. Jacob is buried at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery in Floyd County, Virginia.

Anna Maria Query was born about 1752 in Alsace and died sometime after 1797. She married **Johann Georg Valentine Martz** about 1777. He was the son of Johan Martz and Anna Marmsternin. He was born June 2, 1752 in Rockland, Berks County and died on February 22, 1822 in Frederick County, Maryland.

George Daniel Query was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania on August 5, 1754 and died about 1837 in Montgomery County, Maryland. He married **Eva Marie Wilfree** on November 9, 1779 in Montgomery County, Maryland. She was born about 1759 and died about 1835 in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Christina Query was born on July 9, 1757 in Berks County, was christened on July 31, 1757 at the Mertz Evangelical Lutheran Church and died sometime after 1814 in Virginia. She married **Adam Schindler** on June 8, 1783 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick County, Maryland. Adam was born about 1755 in Berks County and died before 1820 in Virginia. The Schindler family moved to Augusta County, Virginia between 1814 and 1817; President Dwight David Eisenhower is a descendant of Christina Query and Adam Schindler.

Johan Jacob Query was born about 1758 in Berks County; he was christened at the Mertz Church on April 16, 1758. It is likely that he died in infancy.

Johann Heinrich Query was born on January 6, 1760 in Berks County and died about 1820 in Montgomery County, Maryland. He married **Anna Maria Stroever** on April 16, 1786 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick County, Maryland. Heinrich, or Henry as he was later known, is listed in the 1790, 1800, and 1810 census records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

query icon



Description: QUEREY, or QUAERA - Per pale Or & Azure a cross moline Gules. [Burke's General Armory, no location specified/blason w/ drawshield]. I really like these arms! I'll use them as icon for those who adopted the name QUEREY