

### My Family Migration History

My family migration history includes my grandparents on both of my parent's sides being born in Mexico. Even though they were born in various states, they settled down to have my parent's in two cities.

My dad was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, oldest of 13 siblings, 5 brothers and 8 sisters. Having this many children is pretty common in Mexico. At a very young age, he had to drop out of his middle school education to start taking care of the other members of his family. He started working and helping his father and mother take care of the ranch they own, which back then had a lot of fields and livestock. At the age of 17, he was offered an opportunity to move to California, United States with one of his friends to start a new life. He took that opportunity and worked as an illegal alien working in agriculture fields. He did this hoping to have a fresh start and possibly send some money back home if he became successful. He did this even knowing that his parents could never leave their home behind to join him.

My mother was born in Calexico, Mexico, having only 2 brothers, an older and younger. However, the younger one passed away in a bad accident at a young age. During the time after the accident, my grandfather left my grandmother to take care of the remaining two children they had together. Even to this day I do not know who he is or how he is doing. My grandmother was able to acquire a job in California as a cleaning lady for a wealthy man. Seeing as she was an illegal immigrant, this man offered to marry my grandmother to have her become a legal citizen in the United States. She agreed with the intention of better securing her children with a better future. This is what usually occurred for people with dual citizenship. Having them be legal citizens would make things much easier in the long run. After all the paperwork was filled out to have her family legal citizens of the United States, they then divorced.

My parents met at a dance in Watsonville, California. My mother was at an 18 and older dance when she was not of age. She was 14 years old at the time while my dad was 21. They married that same year falling deep in love, and had my oldest brother one year in marriage. They have just celebrated there 35 year anniversary together. At this time, they got their first apartment together in Salinas, a neighboring city by Watsonville. They both got jobs in agricultural fields due to their limited education. During this whole time, my grandmother on my mother's side, still lived with them and took care of my siblings and me as we grew up. Eventually, my mother was able to go and get her high school degree

and my father got a driver's license for both commercial and truck vehicles to acquire better jobs. My mother attended a year of high school and was able to take the GED test to get a high school diploma. They both are now pretty well off, and glad to know my family migration history.