

# *Descendants of Genaro Bisignano*

## *Generation No. 1*

1. GENARO<sup>1</sup> BISIGNANO was born in Italy, and died in Italy. He married MARGARITE PENATI in Italy. She was born in Italy, and died in Italy.

Child of GENARO BISIGNANO and MARGARITE PENATI is:

2. i. CATALDO<sup>2</sup> BISIGNANO, b. April 1, 1864, Terravecchia, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy; d. February 5, 1930, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

## *Generation No. 2*

2. CATALDO<sup>2</sup> BISIGNANO (*GENARO*<sup>1</sup>) was born April 1, 1864 in Terravecchia, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy, and died February 5, 1930 in Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Charles & Mary Bisignano., (2) *Death certificate of Cataldo Bisignano*, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA., (3) Death notice of Cataldo Bisignano, Des Moines (IA) Register, Feb. 6, 1930.). He married MARIA RIZZUTI April 1, 1883 in Terravecchia, Cosenza, Italy, daughter of MICHAEL RIZZUTI and FILOMENA SCALISE. She was born March 6, 1864 in Terravecchia, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy, and died December 30, 1950 in Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Charles & Mary Bisignano., (2) "Obituary of Mary Bisignano," Des Moines (IA) Register, Dec. 31, 1950., (3) *Death certificate of Mary Bisignano*, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA, Book 17, Page 34.).

Notes for CATALDO BISIGNANO:

Entered U.S. about 1905. Common laborer.

Census summary:

1925 IA Des Moines, Polk Co, IA

Birth:

Marriage:

Death: Death certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Death notice (Des Moines (IA) Register, Feb. 6, 1930)- Services for Charles Bisignano, age 66, of 213 Granger Ave., will be held at St. Anthony's church Friday morning at 9 o'clock. For further information call McDermott's.

Notes for MARIA RIZZUTI:

Birth:

Marriage:

Death: Death certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Declaration of Intention to become a citizen- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Entered U.S. at Boston, MA, 6/24/1907 on vessel SS Canopic

Obituary- Mrs. Mary Bisignano, 86, of 213 Granger ave., died Saturday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Michael Rizzuti, 1702 S.E. Second ave., after an illness of seven months. Born in Italy, she came to this country and Des Moines 48 years ago. She was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, where services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday. Burial will be in Glendale cemetery. A rosary will be said at 8 p.m. Monday at the Caldwell-McIlhon-Brien funeral home. Surviving besides Mrs. Rizzuti, are three sons, Vincent of Des Moines and George and Orlando of Chicago, Ill.; one sister, Mrs. Michael Leo of Des Moines; 21 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Children of CATALDO BISIGNANO and MARIA RIZZUTI are:

- i. GENNARO<sup>3</sup> BISIGNANO, b. March 22, 1884, Terravecchia, Cosenza, Italy; d. January 30, 1961, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Obituary of Gennaro Bisignano, Des Moines (IA) Register, Jan. 31, 1961., (2) Tombstone of Gennaro Bisignano.); m. LENA SCOTT; b. 1888, Naples, Italy; d. Abt. February 9, 1923, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Notes for GENNARO BISIGNANO:

Census summary:

1920 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA  
1925 IA Des Moines, Polk Co, IA

Obituary (Des Moines (IA) Register, Jan. 31, 1961)- Gennaro Bisignano, 74, of 1303 Sixth ave., was found dead in his home about 10 p.m. Monday by his landlord, Ralph Marasco. Mr. Bisignano was the father of two Des Moines restaurant operators, Charles, who runs Chuck's Italian Restaurant, 3610 Sixth ave., and Alphonse, who operates Babe's Restaurant, 417 Sixth ave. He is also survived by another son, Frank, in California; and two daughters, Mrs. Mary Miller and Mrs. Felicia Kelleher, both of Des Moines. The Polk County medical examiner is investigating the cause of death.

- ii. VINCENZO JAMES BISIGNANO, b. October 9, 1886, Terravecchia, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy; d. January 20, 1959, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Vincent Bisignano., (2) "Obituary of Vincent Bisignano," Des Moines (IA) Register, Jan. 22, 1959., (3) *Death certificate of Vincent Bisignano*, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA, Book 35, Page 912.); m. RAFFAELA ALTOMARI, April 26, 1914, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: *Marriage certificate of Vincent Bisignano & Raffaella Altomari.*); b. May 28, 1884, Belsito, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy (Source: *Birth registration of Raffaella Altomari*, Belsito, Cosenza, Italy.); d. November 30, 1976, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Raffaella Bisignano., (2) "Obituary of Raffaella Bisignano," Des Moines (IA) Tribune, Dec. 1, 1976., (3) *Death certificate of Raffaella Bisignano*, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.).

Notes for VINCENZO JAMES BISIGNANO:

Arrived in U.S. circa 1905. Grocery store proprietor.

Census summary:

1920 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Merchant- delicatessen)  
1925 IA Des Moines, Polk Co, IA  
1930 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA  
1940 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA  
1950 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA  
1960 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Raffaella only)  
1970 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Raffaella only)

Birth:

Marriage: Marriage certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Death: Death certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Obituary (Des Moines (IA) Register or Tribune)- Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at St. John's Catholic Church for Vincent Bisignano, 72, of 1503 Thirteenth st., who died after a cerebral hemorrhage Tuesday at Mercy Hospital. Burial will be at Glendale Cemetery. Mr. Bisignano had lived in Des Moines 50 years. He operated a grocery store at Thirteenth and Clark streets before his retirement in 1950. Surviving are his wife, Raffaele; a son, Frank; three daughters, Mrs. Mary Stephens, Mrs. Rose Gowdey and Anne Bisignano; a sister, Mrs. Michael Rizzuti of Des Moines, a brother, George of Chicago, Ill.; and six grandchildren. The Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. today in Caldwell-Brien Funeral Home.

Notes for RAFFAELA ALTOMARI:

Entered U.S. at Philadelphia, PA on September 4, 1913, on vessel Ancona- Italian line.

Petition for Citizenship- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Birth: Birth certificate- Belsito, Calabria, Italy.

Marriage: Marriage certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Death: Death certificate- Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.

Obituary (Des Moines (IA) Register or Tribune)- Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Theresa's Catholic Church for Raffaele Bisignano, 92, of 1906 Fifty-first St., who died Tuesday of cancer. Burial will be at Glendale Cemetery. Born in Italy, Mrs. Bisignano lived in Des Moines for 60 years. She was a member of St. Theresa's Catholic Church. Survivors include a son, Frank of Des Moines; and three daughters, Anne Bisignano, Mrs. Mary Stephens, and Mrs. Rose Gowdey, all of Des Moines, and 7 grandchildren. Rosaries will be recited at 3 and 7:30 p.m. today at the Caldwell-Brien-Robbins Funeral Home.

Brøderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 1, Ed. 4, Social Security Death Index:

Individual: Bisignano, Raffaele

Birth date: May 28, 1884; Death date: Nov 1976

Last residence: IA 50310 (Des Moines, IA); State of issue: IA

- iii. A. ROSE BISIGNANO, b. March 27, 1889, Terravecchia, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy; d. July 22, 1984, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Michael & A. Rose Rizzuti., (2) Obituary of A. Rose Rizzuti, Des Moines (IA) Register, July 24, 1984.); m. MICHAEL J. RIZZUTI, Abt. 1908, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA; b. 1879, Italy; d. August 16, 1958, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: (1) Tombstone of Michael & A. Rose Rizzuti., (2) Obituary of Michael J. Rizzuti, Des Moines (IA) Register, Aug. 17, 1958.).

Notes for A. ROSE BISIGNANO:

Obituary (Des Moines (IA) Register, July 24, 1984)- Services for A. Rose Rizzuti, 95, of 229 Park Ave., who died of a heart ailment Sunday at Commonwealth Care Center, will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Burial will be at Glendale Cemetery. Mrs. Rizzuti was born in Italy and was a Des Moines resident since 1908. She was a homemaker and was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church and its altar and rosary society. Survivors include four sons, Anthony of Van Nuys, Calif., Charles of Des Moines, Sam of Bettendorf and Louis of Chicago; one daughter, Mary Reischl of Des Moines; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A rosary will be recited at 7:30 p.m. today at Tonini Funeral Home.

Notes for MICHAEL J. RIZZUTI:

Census summary:

1925 (IA) Des Moines, Polk Co, IA

Obituary (Des Moines (IA) Register, Aug. 17, 1958)- Michael Rizzuti, 78, died of coronary thrombosis Saturday at his home, 229 Park ave. Mr. Rizzuti, a retired Des Moines Union Railroad employee, came to Des Moines from his native Italy 56 years ago. Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in St. Anthony's Church with burial at Glendale Cemetery. The Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Monday in Tonini's Funeral Home. Surviving are his wife, Rose, four sons, Charles and Anthony of Des Moines, Sam of Rogers, Ark., and Louis of Chicago, Ill.; a daughter, Mary of Des Moines; five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

- iv. ORLANDO BISIGNANO, b. December 4, 1891, Terravecchia, Cosenza, Italy; d. January 1, 1982, Rockford, Winnebago Co, IL; m. GRACE CICCHELLI, April 23, 1916, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA; b. May 1, 1900, IA; d. July 1986, St. Paul, MN ? (Source: Brøderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 1, Ed. 4, Social Security Death Index).

Notes for ORLANDO BISIGNANO:

Census summary:

1920 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA

1925 (IA) Des Moines, Polk Co, IA

Worked as a manufacturing assembler.

Notes for GRACE CICCHELLI:

Brøderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 1, Ed. 4, Social Security Death Index:

Individual: Bisignano, Grace; Birth date: May 1, 1900; Death date: Jul 1986

Last residence: MN 55102; State of issue: IA

- v. ROSE B. BISIGNANO, b. Abt. 1894, Italy; d. March 19, 1920, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: Death certificate of Rose B. Bisignano, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA.); m. FRANK V. FARGO, Bef. 1914, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA; b. Abt. 1883, Italy; d. Aft. 1925.

Notes for FRANK V. FARGO:

Census summary:

1920 Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Bakery helper)  
1925 (IA) Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (with 2nd wife Ethel)

- vi. FRANK BISIGNANO, b. 1897; d. Abt. July 10, 1922.
- vii. ANNA BISIGNANO, b. 1905; d. June 8, 1926, Des Moines, Polk Co, IA (Source: Tombstone of Anna Bisignano.).

Notes for ANNA BISIGNANO:

Can't find an obituary in either the Des Moines Register or the Tribune.