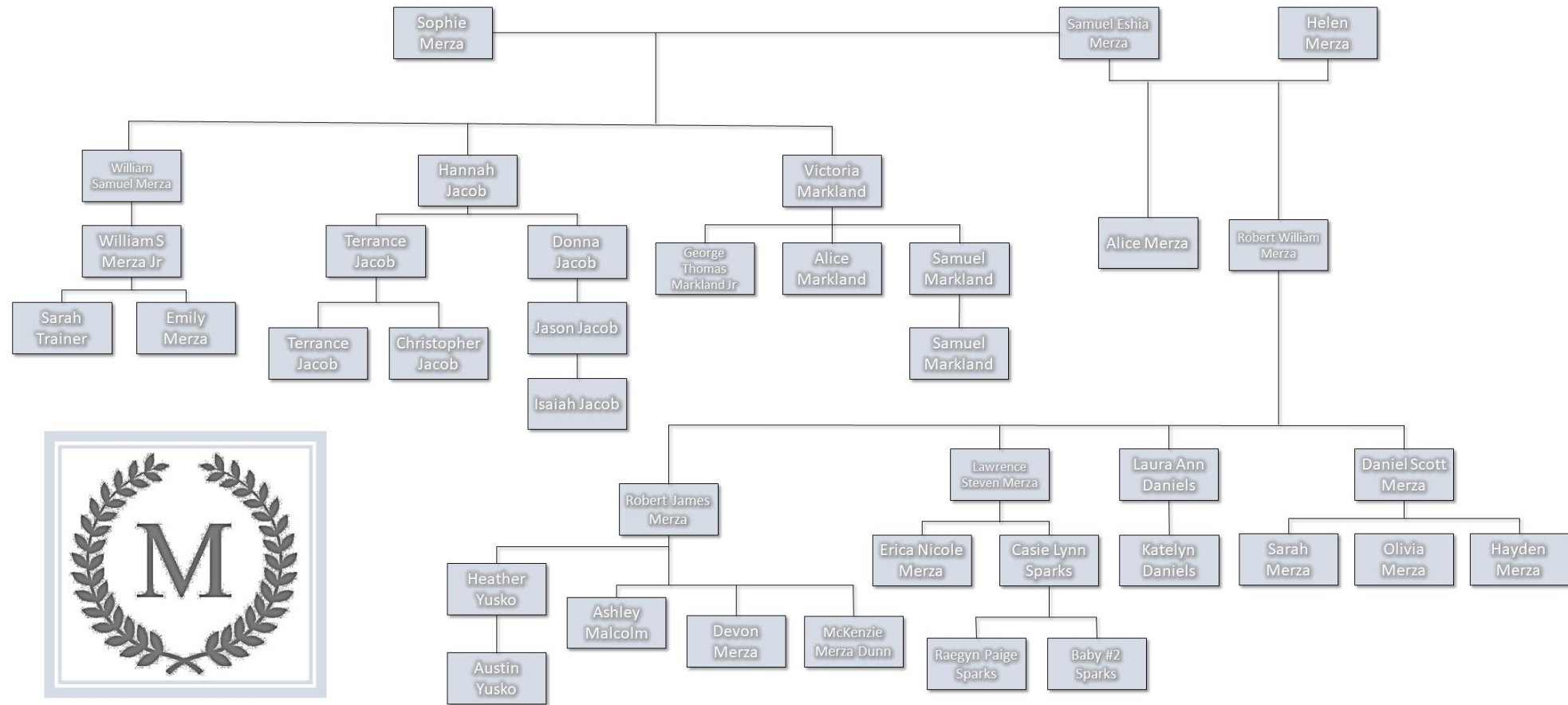


# Merza Lookback

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Breakdown to the Merza lineage highlighting some pivotal moments of this growing family

# The Merza Family



# Coming to America

THIRTIETH CENTURY OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELIGION	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	STATUS	DATE
Samuel Eshia Merza	35	M	Persian	Christian	High School	Contractor	Immigrant	1909
Sophie	32	F	Persian	Christian	High School	Homemaker	Immigrant	1909
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

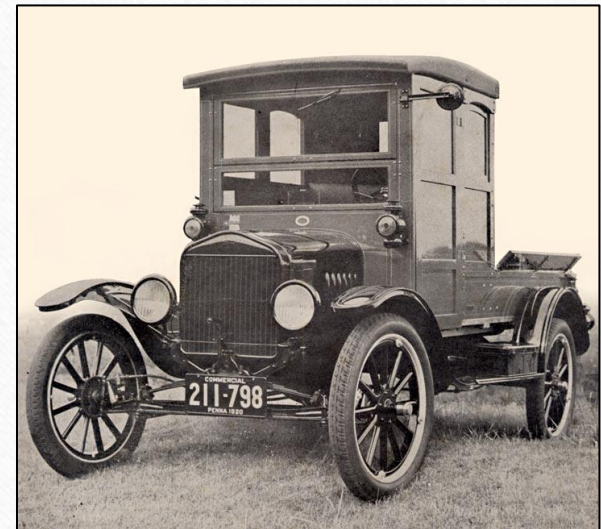
- Pronounced *mɜːrʒə* or *miər'zɑ*; Persian: میرزا is a royal and noble title meaning *Prince*
- Merza name was brought over to US in 1909 by Samuel Eshia Merza
- Samuel was a Christian minister looking for religious freedom as Middle Eastern region was mostly Muslim
- Samuel and his first Wife, Sophie, settled in New Britain, Connecticut where they purchased a home and settled down.
- Their family home became a place for new immigrants to stay while establishing roots in US
- Samuel continued services at local church and was a self-employed contractor

# First Generation Merza's

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Samuel's first wife Sophie was killed tragically in a vehicle accident and was survived by her husband and three children. Samuel remarried Helen and together had two children:

- Sophie and Samuel had William, Hannah and Victoria
- Helen and Samuel had Alice and Robert



# Overview of Originating Roots



Sophie Merza

(1893 - 12/24/1927)

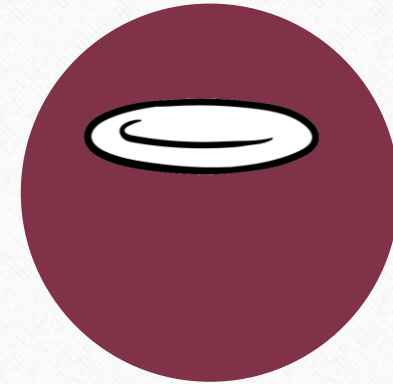
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wife of Samuel and mother to three children
- Passed away in automobile accident



Samuel Eshia Merza

(1897 - 01/06/1957)

- Born in Persia and came to US seeking religious freedom



Helen Merza

(08/22/1903 - 06/01/1976)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of Samuel and mother to two of her own in addition to the three Sophie was survived by

# Sophie and Samuel's Legacy

## William Samuel Merza

(09/28/1913 - 01/05/1987)

- Fought in US Army during WWII and helped free France of the Germans
- His wife, Mary Gorecki was born in 1916 and passed on 02/02/1981

## Hannah (aka Henny) Jacob

(03/26/1919 - 2014)

- Had two children who have children of their own bringing lineage into 4<sup>th</sup> generation (in terms of US timeline)
- Her husband, Avis B Jacob was born 1906 and passed in 1981

## Victoria (aka Sert 'Serttow' meaning little one in Assyrian) Markland

(01/17/1921 - 10/30/1980)

- Had three children and though they did not continue to expand lineage, they stay involved with community
- Her husband, George Markland was born 08/12/1917 and passed 04/27/1981



# Helen and Samuel's Legacy

Samuel and Helen were married in Havana, Cuba



## Alice Merza

(01/22/1930 - 03/23/1947)

- Passed unexpectedly in high school and thought to have had a genetic related heart condition

## Robert William Merza

(02/19/1934 - present)

- Was last and remaining child born of the Samuel's children
- His wife. Patricia Arlene Bradley, was born 11/17/1933 and they currently reside in Florida

# Robert William Merza's Legacy

*Robert Merza was born to Samuel and Helen making him part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Generation American Family.*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Generation

*Taking advantage of the GI Bill, Robert attended college at UConn where he pursued an engineering path which was up and coming for this time*

## Education

*While working at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, Robert met Patricia Arlene Bradley. After falling in love, the two got married in March 1964.*

## Romance

*With all four of Robert and Patricia's children growing up, getting married and having children of their own, the Merza legacy goes on. Currently, the legacy is at its fourth generation.*

## Legacy Goes On

## Military Life

*Robert was in the Navy and was stationed in different areas around the US. He was sent to Portsmouth, Virginia then to St. Albans Hospital outside NY during the Korean War. He spent his time as a hospital corps man.*

## Early Career

*Robert worked majority of his engineering career for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft where he learned how to design and test jet engines.*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation and 4 Kids

*Robert fully adopted Patricia's only child at the time, Robert James Bradley. Patricia and Robert brought into the world twins (Lawrence and Laura) along with Daniel in their 2<sup>nd</sup> pregnancy.*





# Collage of Merza's

*“The family is the test of freedom; because the family is the only thing that the free man makes for himself and by himself.”*

-- Gilbert K. Chesterton

# Where Do We Go From Here?

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- With Samuel only having two sons, the fate of the Merza name lies heavily on both William and Robert's side (1<sup>st</sup> Generation).
- Not all great grandchildren of Samuel have their heart set on having families of their own which puts pressure on the only two who can traditionally carry on the Merza legacy: Devon and Hayden Merza (3<sup>rd</sup> Generation).
- Only time will tell how this name will carry on.

