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Will/Grundy Genealogical Society

honors a pioneer,

John Valentine Ullrich,

who lived in Grundy County in 1869.

John Valentine Ullrich (born Johann Valentin Ulrich) was the son of Michael Ulrich and Regina Elizabeth Lehmann. His birth occurred on the 21st day of December 1842 in the Duchy of Gotha, Saxony (Germany). The Ulrichs came to the United States when John was a year old, making the voyage in a sailboat according to information included in his obituary. The voyage took 13 weeks. The family settled in Quincy, Adams County, Illinois, where John was educated and grew to manhood.

On 8 May 1861 he enlisted in the Union army, serving in Co. C, 16th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, attaining the rank of corporal of his company shortly thereafter. After three years of service, he was discharged at Chattanooga, Tennessee. He then returned to Quincy and was there married on the 2nd of November 1865 to Anna Keiser, who also was born in Germany.

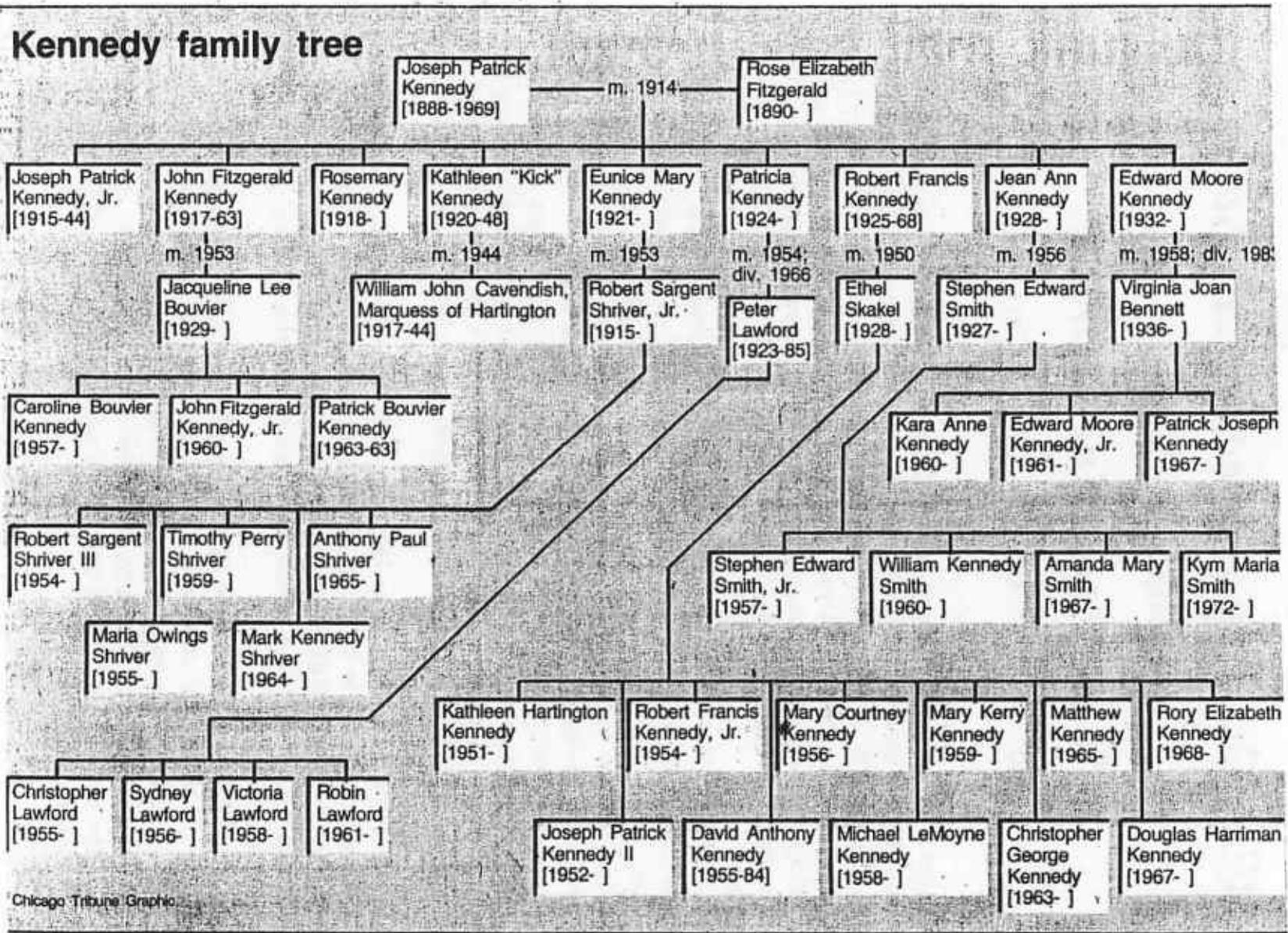
The 1870 Federal census of Grundy County lists John, Anna and their first two children residing in the 3rd ward, City of Morris. Four other children were born to them between the years 1870 and 1877. John's occupation is given as blacksmith. At one time he was also employed as a machinist at the Coleman Hardware Company in Morris.

Anna (Keiser) Ullrich died in 1880. In 1885, on the 4th day of May, John married Agnes Klocker, the daughter of Nicholas and Catherine (Schmitt) Klocker. She was born 24 June 1858 at Roppenzwiller, Alsace-Lorraine. She came to the United States in 1884, settling almost immediately in Morris. She and John were the parents of five children.

Sometime prior to 1900 the Ullrichs moved to a farm in Wauponsee Township, south of Morris. In addition to farming, John continued his work as a blacksmith. Except for a couple of years spent in Wilkins County, Minnesota, he lived the remainder of his life on the farm, where he died 5 July 1921. He had been a member of the Masonic order and one of the veteran members of Darveau Post, Grand Army of the Republic.

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY





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