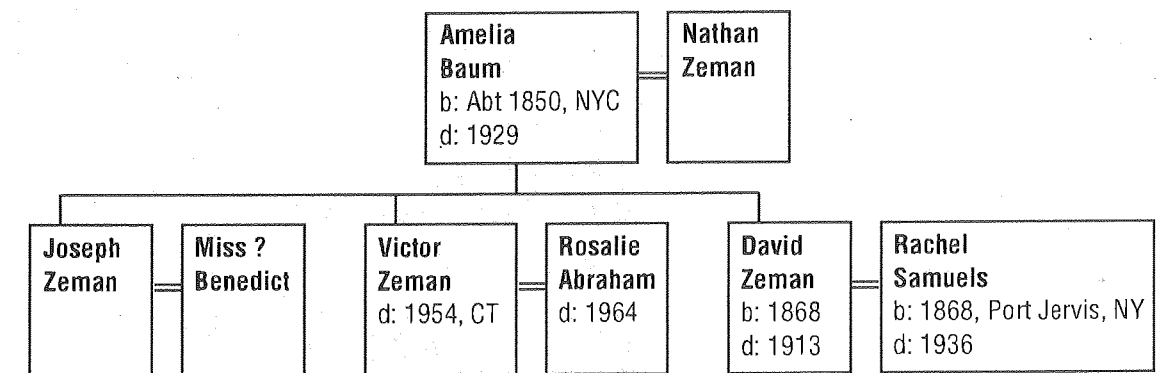


*THE CHILDREN OF
AMELIA & NATHAN ZEMAN*

Amelia Baum married Nathan Zeman (Zemansky) and they had three handsome, personable sons: **Joseph, Victor** and **David**.



Amelia was Nathan Zeman's second wife. According to her great-grandchild, Amelia's three children were born before she and Nathan were married, since they had to wait until Nathan's first wife had passed away. A real 1800s soap opera!

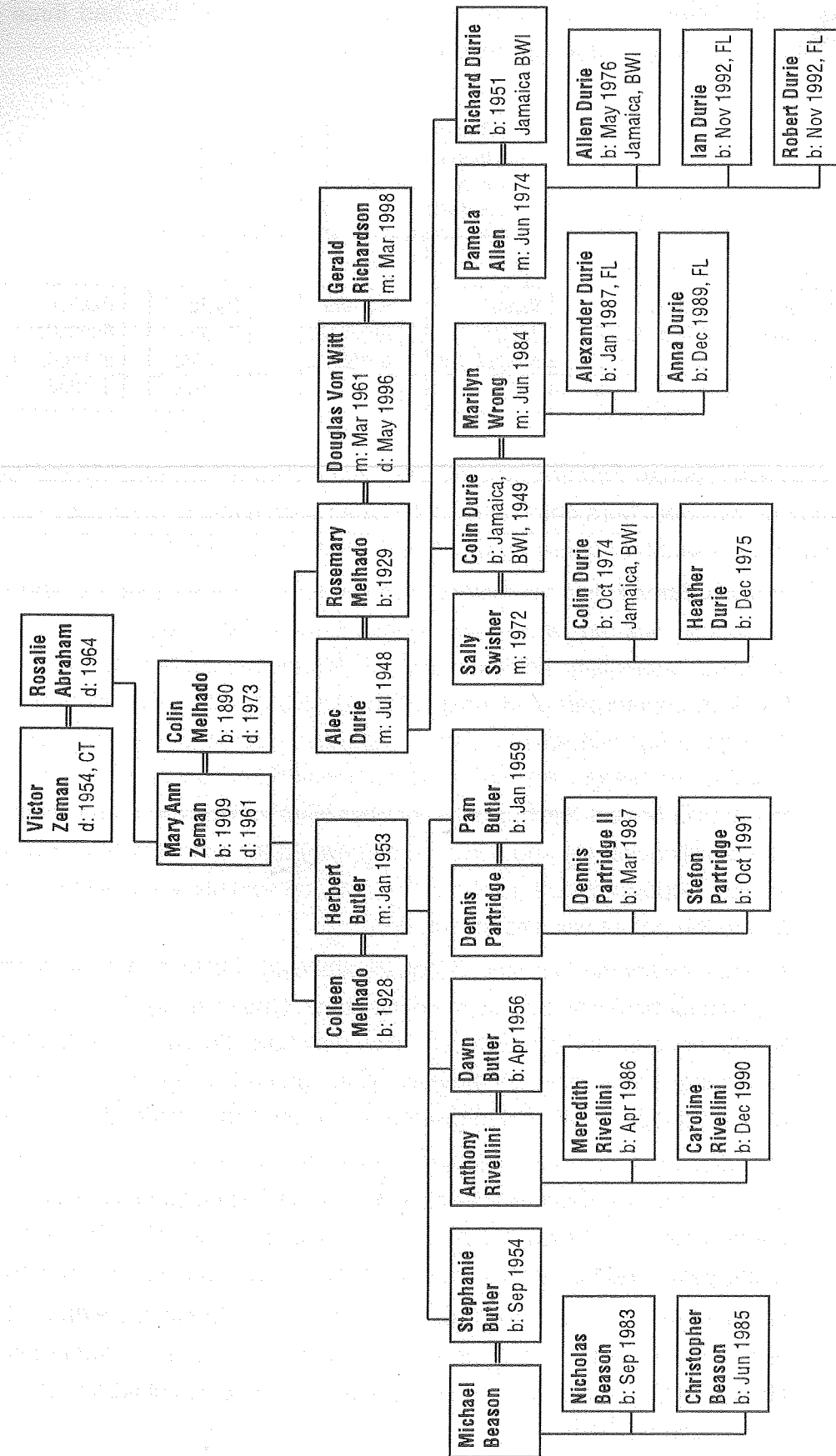
Joseph Zeman, like his mother, was good looking and had a colorful, fascinating personality with an innate love of adventure. He was outstanding in every form of athletics, especially horsemanship. A founding member of US Cavalry C, the Brooklyn counterpart of Manhattan's exclusive Cavalry A, he served in Puerto Rico during the Spanish-American War, where he contracted typhoid fever. During World War One he bought and operated four-masted schooners, one of which he named the *Amelia Zeman*. His business ventures were varied, and one of them nearly made him a millionaire. He and a Frenchman owned the patent rights for neon lights. But the Fire Department set up obstacles, and Joe sold his share of the rights six months before the patent was implemented.

Another 'nearly made it' story is equally amusing. Joe had a beautiful lady friend (not unusual for him) who had been on the stage. One evening she told Joe she needed \$5000, because the producer of a new play had offered her the lead, provided she raised that sum to help get the play 'off the ground'. Joe read the script but wasn't a bit impressed. He refused to give her the \$5000. The play's title was *Rain!*

Joe later went into the molasses business and for a few years was associated with George Roseman, Naomi Crohn's husband, in Philadelphia. He was a devoted son, attentive and generous. He bought his mother a Renault to bring pleasure to her aging years and helped his nephew Frederic through college and medical school.

He married a Miss Benedict and they had a son, **Oscar Benedict**, who became a New York securities broker and analyst. Joe is said to have spent his last years in Hawaii. Although Oscar apparently married and had two children, we have no further information on them.

The descendants of Victor Zeman

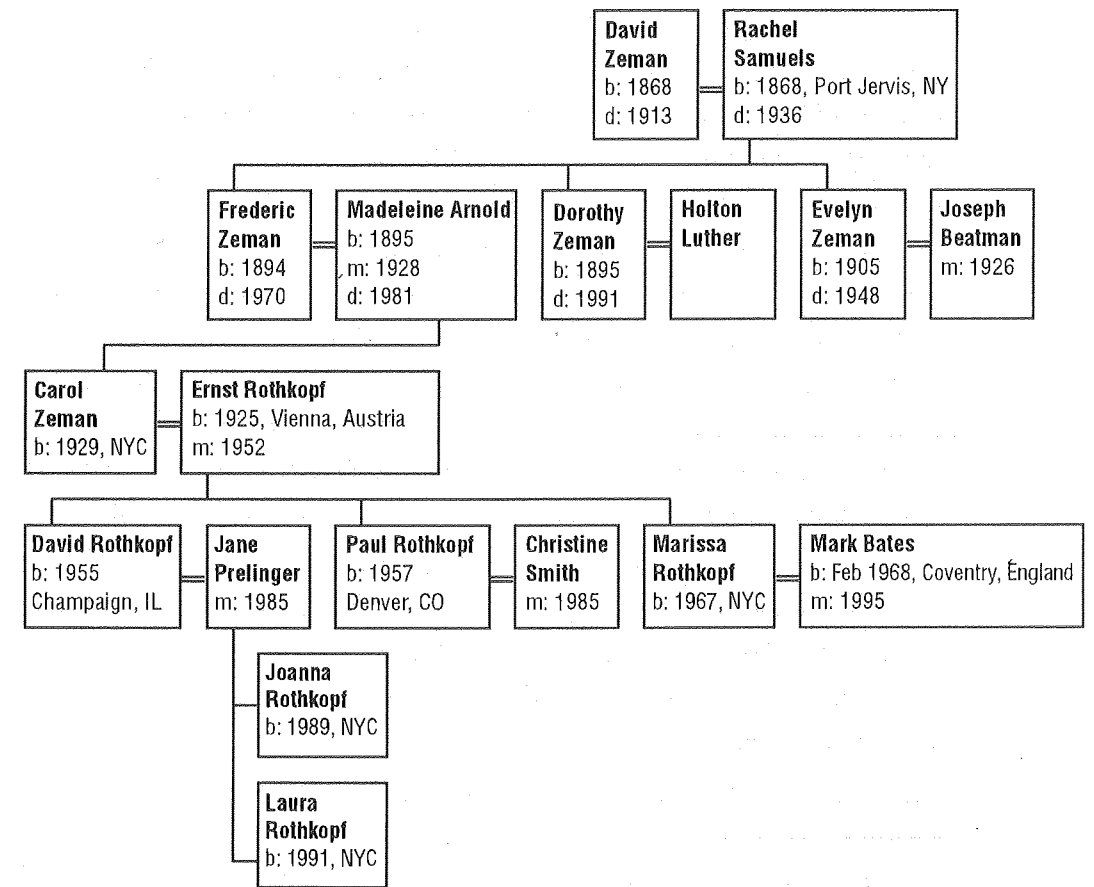


Victor Zeman, like his brothers, was very handsome and charming. As a child, he was very close to Burrill Crohn and Cecil Ruskay. He was the astute businessman of the family; a wholesale dress manufacturer, he was a partner in Charles Solomon & Company, and was the proud owner of a Rolls Royce. Victor left the mercantile field to become a broker on Wall Street, and in 1929 his fortune collapsed. He was only nineteen when he married Rosalie Abraham, aged seventeen, a veritable fashion plate who is remembered as a stunning woman.

Victor's only child **Mary Ann** was an exquisite young woman. She married Colin Melhado, scion of an old Portuguese Jewish family which had settled in Jamaica in the late 1700s. Victor and Rosalie moved to Jamaica to join Mary Ann in the early 1950s. He was known as 'Bumpy' by his children and grandchildren.

Mary Ann and Colin had two daughters, **Rosemary** and **Coleen**. Rosemary and her husband Gerald Richardson divide their time between England and Florida. While we have a detailed tree, we unfortunately lack biographical information.

David Zeman was Nathan and Amelia's youngest son. He spent most of his spare time reading poetry and the classics. He was very artistic, a lover of rare antiques and objets d'art. He attended Columbia University for two years, then married Rachel (Ratie) Samuels. They lived in Brooklyn.



WE REMEMBER: THE BAUM-CROHN-WEBSTER FAMILY 1842-2000

David and his brother Joe opened a factory which produced shirt waists, dresses and infants' wear, and was one of the first to use an electric cutting machine. One 'black Friday' they lost their best customer. Here's how it happened: Joe was an outstanding athlete and had helped found the exclusive Crescent Athletic Club in Brooklyn. He was the only Jewish member. One of his customers, whose name was Larry Abraham, asked Joe to help him join the Club, but Joe replied that this was impossible because of his religion. Furious, he withdrew his account from Zeman Brothers... Larry Abraham was the Abraham of Abraham & Straus!

David was a member of and later became active in Temple Israel (later known as Union Temple) of Brooklyn. He was a close friend of Rabbi Nathan Krass of the Central Synagogue in Manhattan. Ratie was born in Port Jervis where she attended the Dutch Reform Sunday School, since the town had no Jewish community. In Brooklyn Ratie was active in communal affairs and was one of the first presidents of the Council of Jewish Women. They had three children: **Frederic, Dorothy and Evelyn.**

Frederic Zeman was a prominent doctor. His academic achievements and medical testimonials are impressive. But first there was Freddy, our cousin: a powerfully built man with an animated visage and a contagious smile and lots of thick grey hair. He had the Baum warmth and geniality. Like his parents, he loved fine books, porcelain and the graphic arts. He had a lovely home, where he kept, among other beautiful objects, a large jade collection.

He obtained his BA from Columbia College in 1913 and his MD from Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1917. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha (the science honor society). He was an attending staff member of New York's Mount Sinai Hospital.

Frederic took an active interest in geriatrics, the medical and social study of the elderly. He lectured frequently, and published many articles. He was a contributor to the Gerontology section in an edition of Collier's Encyclopedia. He was Chief of Medical Services at The Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged, (The Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews) which has been in existence for more than 125 years, where he founded The Zeman Center for Instruction in the Care of the Aged, and was a highly regarded executive member of the National Committee on Aging.

Fred enjoyed recounting the story of his first surgical operation. In 1912, while travelling in Germany with his grandmother, they met the Cantor of a synagogue in Hanover. The Cantor was also a mohel, and Fred was invited to witness a circumcision. This was his first encounter with surgery. Circumcision and geriatrics – poles apart!

Fred married Madeleine Arnold who had coincidentally briefly been Dr. Burrill Crohn's secretary. She was a member of the Board of the Jewish Family Services for many years and was extremely active in community affairs. She

THE SAGA OF AN AMERICAN JEWISH FAMILY

was also on the Board of Cancer Care, Inc. and the Yorkville Neighborhood Center at the YMHA in New York. They had one daughter, **Carol.**

Carol (Zeman) Rothkopf received a Master's Degree in Contemporary British Literature from Columbia University. She has been an editor and a writer, and is currently finishing *A Flawless Friendship: Selected Letters of Siegfried Sassoon and Edmund Blunden*. She has been the editor of the *Grotier Club's Gazette* (a journal for book collectors and supporters of the book arts in New York) for the past five years. Her husband Ernst is Dodge Professor of Telecommunications and Education at Columbia University. He was head of Learning and Instructional Research Laboratory at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey from 1957 to 1984. Carol and Ernst Rothkopf have three children: **David, Paul and Marissa.**

David Rothkopf received his BA from Columbia University (the fifth generation of his family to attend Columbia) and attended its graduate school of journalism. He founded the New York City Stage Company, an Off-Broadway repertory company. He now heads his own company, Intell:bridge, a consultancy firm in Washington, D.C. He and his wife Jane were divorced in 1999. They have two children, **Joanna and Laura.**

Paul Rothkopf is currently Vice President, On Line Marketing/Advertising, The Sporting News. He is a graduate of Syracuse University. He and his wife Christine were divorced in 1988.

Marissa (Rothkopf) Bates is Vice President of Marketing (network and website) at Oxygen.Com She has a BA from Mount Holyoke College and an MA from Cambridge University. Her husband Mark Bates also attended Cambridge University where he earned his MA degree. He is a partner in Mercer Co., a management consultancy.

Dorothy (Zeman) Luther received her BS and MS in Nutrition from Teachers College, Columbia University, although her first job (1937-1941) put her in charge of tenant selection for nascent public housing in New York City. Only later did she work in nutrition, her chosen field. For the next 23 years she was second in command at the Bureau of School Luncheons for Public and Parochial Schools in greater New York. The Bureau was responsible for 150,000 luncheons daily in 650 schools. Dorothy supervised the purchase, preparation and distribution of these meals, which meant being there at 5:30am to oversee the loading. In later years she worked at an antique shop.

She travelled widely, visiting Europe, South America, Central America and North Africa. She was married to Holton Luther.

WE REMEMBER: THE BAUM-CROHN-WEBSTER FAMILY 1842-2000

Evelyn (Zeman) Beatman was the youngest of David and Ratie's children. She attended Teachers College where she received her BS in Fine Arts. She too taught for a year in Millicent Baum's school. Evelyn inherited her father's artistic sense, designing clothes and decorating homes. After her marriage, she and Joseph lived in Hartford, Connecticut, where she raised Norwegian elk hounds. Her dogs won ribbons on several occasions. Joseph apparently disappeared after using his in-laws' money for bad investments. Unfortunately Evelyn died a young woman.

***THE CHILDREN OF
BERNARD & EVE WEBSTER***