



No Picture Available

Born: 1721 Schiersfeld, Germany

Married: Anna Unknown

Died: 1798 Pennsylvania

Parents: Casper Kiefhaber & Anna Eva Unknown

The first of the brothers we will investigate is Conrad Kiefhaber, born in Schiersfeld, Germany about 1721 and is believed to be the son of Casper and Anna Eva Kiefhaber.

Conrad Kiefhaber/Keefauver arrived in the Colonies sometime before 1738; most likely with his younger brother Phillip. After his arrival, Conrad settled in what is now York County, Pennsylvania. According to the Bureau of Archives and History of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Conrad first warranted land in 1738 and again in 1741. York County historical records (of which I have copies) also indicates that Conrad Keefauver died in York County, Pennsylvania in 1798 and that his son, Johann (John) Nicholas Keefauver, settled his estate in 1804. George Kitzmiller, his son-in-law who married Anna Christina Keefauver (Conrad's oldest child) in 1768, and Henry Dewald were among the administrators of the estate. Catherine Keefauver is also mentioned in the document; we believe that she was the daughter of Nicholas Keefauver and granddaughter of Conrad; she later married Anthony Fisk. Henry Slagle, another son-in-law and Magistrate, was given the Right of Administration in a signed document dated Feb. 3, 1798. Henry was also the Bondsman in a document dated Dec. 5, 1798. As we follow the family line we will see how the Keefauvers, Kitzmillers and Dewalds mingled their families keeping a very close relationship for the next 100 years as the families grow and migrate westward.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

According to church records found at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of Hanover, Pennsylvania, Conrad was married to Anna Margaret (surname not known). Church records indicate that Conrad and Anna were the parents of twins; a boy, **Johann Nicholas** and a girl, **Eva Dorothes**, born September 29, 1751. Other church records indicate that Conrad and wife Anna were sponsors for the baptism of Johann Conrad Bott in December of 1759. Johann Nicholas

Keefauver appears later in a 1790 census with Conrad Keefauver. (Pictured below) Conrad would be about 70 + years old at this time and his twins, daughter, Eva Dorothes, and son, Johann Nicholas, would have been about 31 years old. The census form asks: "*Name of free white males over 16 including heads of household; free white males under 16; free white females including heads of families; all other free persons, and slaves,*"(in that order). We can see (below) that at this time it appears that Conrad's wife, Anna Margaret, died sometime before the 1790 census was taken because the census shows only one white male person and one slave living at his residence at that time. Conrad became a naturalized citizen in 1764.

X	Nicholas Keefauver	1	26	0	1	1
X	Conrad Keefauver	1				

1790 Census

Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s

Name: **Conrad Keefaber**
 Year: 1764
 Place: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

According to York County, Pennsylvania Official Warranted Lands Records and West Manheim and Penn Townships, a book published in 1989 by Neal Otto Hively (p. 15, p. 50 and p. 51), Conrad was among the earliest settlers to receive land warrants in this area; he was first warranted land in Oct. 3, 1738—200 acres and again in June 17, 1741—128 acres. Although the spelling of his name in these documents appears as Conrad Perkhaver and Keefhaver (This land was first awarded to William Penn by King Charles II of England in 1681 and then divided by his heirs.)

Conrad also went on to purchase other parcels of land in

York County in 1754. County records also indicate that on

November 14, 1763 Conrad purchased land from George Wain. A year later in 1764 he became a naturalized citizen in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1763

33	Kitzmiller, Martin	"	"	12, Sep.	"	5, Apr. 1774	130.41	"	Kitzmiller	AA. 14. 604	3102.241
32	Keefhaber, Conrad	"	"	16, Oct.	"	6, June, 1800	111.	"	Henry Stiegel	P. 43. 480	2114. 89
64	Kleinfelder,	"	"	Strawbury	"	26, Apr. 1785	111.	"	"	"	"
66	Kufaber, Conrad	"	50.	Manheim	"	July, 1800	73.15	"	Jacob Sachrist	"	"

1764

Conrad and Anna had three children. The first born, **Anna Christina Keefauver**, b. 1746; married **George Kitzmiller** in 1768 and they had eight children. (Former First Lady Barbara Bush is the 9th grand niece of George and Christina Keefauver Kitzmiller)

1. **Anna Maria Kitzmiller**, b. 1769; she married **Jacob Heagey** and they had seven children.
2. **Martin Kitzmiller**, b. 1772; he married **Mary Elizabeth Dewald** and they had eight children.
3. **John George Kitzmiller Jr.**, b. 1775.
4. **Anna Christina Kitzmiller**, b. 1777; she married **Abraham Krise** and they had 10 children.
5. **Samuel Kitzmiller**, b. 1766.
6. **Rachel Dorothy Kitzmiller**, b. 1785; she married **Jacob Dewald** and they had ten children.
7. **Susannah Kitzmiller**, b. 1787.
8. **Margaret Kitzmiller**, b. 1788.

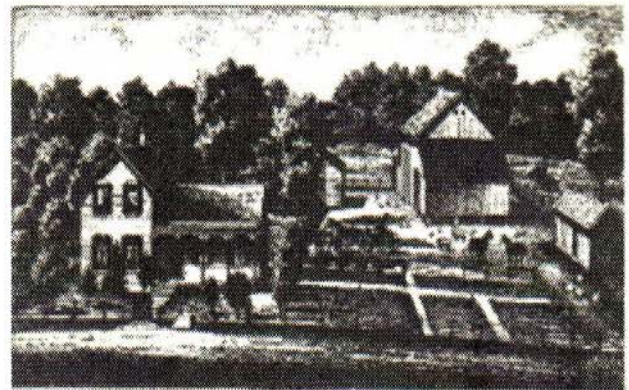
Colonies was around 1721. Adam Forney became grandfather to the children of Johann Nicholas and would be the great grandfather to Nicholas Keefauver Jr. of Tennessee.

Johann Nicholas purchased land in York County, as he was taxed on 250 acres in 1774, 1779 and 1783. Other records indicate that in 1783 Nicholas had eight inhabitants, four cows, and eight sheep on his farm; this is confirmed in the 1790 census. Church records also indicate that Johann Nicholas and Mary Catherine (Forney) Keefauver had the following children: Phillip, b. 1771; Peter, b. 1772; Catherine, b. 1777; Nicholas, b. 1773; John Jacob, b. 1779 and Conrad, b. 1780. Nicholas and his family were living on their own farm when the first US census was taken in 1790.

The Keefauvers were apparently very successful hard working farmers. History records most of them as being farm owners rather than farm laborers. Kiefhabers appear to have owned farms during the fourteenth and fifteenth century. The Keefauver descendants also prove to be excellent farmers and businessmen, as well as “Jack-of-all-trades.” Blacksmithing was also one of the prominent trades mentioned throughout the family history.

The Keefauver Farms in Pennsylvania

History goes on to report that the Keefauver farms became the envy of the countryside. Conrad and the Keefauver family became known as the “Fighting Keefauvers,” according to Henry W. Shoemaker, President of the Harrisburg Pennsylvania Folklore Society’s State Museum. Mr. Shoemaker said, “The Keefauvers of



RESIDENCE OF GEORGE KEEFAUVER, Spc. 36, JOSHUA T. FINCHAM CO. Ill.

Strasbourg in Alsace took up farms over 250 acres each in West Manheim and Heidelberg Township, respectively. They soon had plantations that were the envy of the countryside.” While many of the Keefauvers remained in the Pennsylvania, Maryland and Illinois areas, many packed up their families and belongings and loaded them on covered wagons to travel west to Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia, and eventually as far as Oregon, Washington and California to begin new lives there. Viewing the drawing of the George Keefauver farm in Illinois 1843; it is easy to see why the Keefauver farms were desirable and profitable. George Keefauver is a 1st cousin once removed to Nicholas and Catharine (Forney) Keefauver.

Information above from the book, “The Keefauver Story” by Doug Keefauver pgs. 21-26