

DNA CASE STUDY # 1

Joyce's Search for her Birth Family
By Jeanelle Guilbeaux

Background Info.

- Joyce is a 92 year old adoptee and wants to locate her birth family
- Jeanelle Guilbeaux is helping her using DNA testing.
- A DNA Autosomal test has been run at Ancestry.com
 - Initially only distant cousins were identified and they could not be tied back to Joyce's immediate family.
 - A copy of her Ancestry.com RAW DNA data was transferred to GEDmatch.com but again no close relatives were identified.
- Very recently Jeanelle discovered a very close male match on Ancestry.com. 1948 cM and 72 segments.

Background Info.

Average autosomal DNA shared by pairs of relatives, in percentages and centiMorgans

% shared	Total cM shared half-identical (or better)	Relationship	Degree of relationship
100% (Method I)/50% (Method II)	3400.00	Identical twins (monozygotic twins)	Degree 0
50%	3400.00	Parent/child	Degree 1
50% (Method I)/37.5% (Method II)	2550.00	Full siblings	Degree 1
25%	1700.00	Grandparent/grandchild, aunt-or-uncle/niece-or-nephew, half-siblings	Degree 2
25% (Method I)/23.4375% (Method II)	1593.75	Double first cousins	Degree 3
12.5%	850.00	First cousins, great-grandparent/great-grandchild, great-uncle or aunt/great-nephew or niece, half-uncle or aunt/half-nephew or niece	Degree 3
6.25%	425.00	First cousins once removed, half first cousins, great-great-grandparent/great-great-grandchild, great-great-aunt/uncle, half great-aunt/uncle	Degree 4
6.25%	425.00	Double second cousins	Degree 5
3.125%	212.50	Second cousins, first cousins twice removed, half first cousin once removed, half great-great-aunt/uncle, great-great-great-grandparent/great-great-great-grandchild	Degree 5
1.563%	106.25	Second cousins once removed, half second cousins, first cousin three times removed, half first cousin twice removed	Degree 6
0.781%	53.13	Third cousins, second cousins twice removed	Degree 7
0.391%	26.56	Third cousins once removed	Degree 8

Recent Activity

- Jeanelle was able to contact this close match and determined that his name was John age 90 and he is indeed Joyce's half brother.
- A meeting of the two was arranged.



What was learned

- It turns out that John and Joyce both live in Lafayette.
- John knew that Joyce was his half sister but never contacted her because he did not know if Joyce knew that she was adopted.
- They share a common mother but have different fathers. This has solved at least part of the puzzle but we still need to identify Joyce's father.
- As Jeanelle says “Thank God for Ancestry, DNA tests, and good genes!”

The Search for Joyce's Father

- The next logical step would seem to be to test Joyce at FTDNA.com and 23andMe.com to see if a close relative on her father's side has tested there.
- Jeanelle can use the FTDNA Autosomal Transfer Option and transfer a copy of Joyce's RAW DNA data from Ancestry.com to FTDNA.com and it only cost \$19.
- Since the cost is so low and the results will be available almost instantaneously it would seem that the FTDNA transfer is the next logical step.

The Search for Joyce's Father

- Jeanelle could also transfer John's Raw DNA from Ancestry.com to FTDNA.com. Once these FTDNA Autosomal Transfers from Ancestry.com has been completed a FTDNA tool called the **Not In Common With** filter could also prove very valuable. Ancestry.com has a **Shared Matches** filter which is the same as the FTDNA **In Common With** filter but does not provide a **Not In Common With** filter.
- With this tool Jeanelle should be able to identify matches who are related to Joyce but are not related to her brother. These **Not in Common With** individuals will most likely be descendants of Joyce's father. (If both Joyce's father and her brother's father are Acadians then they may be related to each other and this could have a negative effect on the outcome of the **Not in Common With** search.)
- It turns out that that her brother's father was Lebanese and NOT Acadian or French so the **Not In Common With** results should be of value.

DNA Case Studies as a Learning Tool

- After working on this DNA Case Study with Jeanelle I believe that these types of studies can be a great learning tool.
- My plan is to post these studies on our club website so that everyone can learn from them.
- Hopefully people like Jeanelle who propose these studies will keep me posted as to the continuing process that they go through in their search. If so, I would be glad to keep these DNA Case Studies updated so that they can be an ongoing learning experience.