

My DNA Match with Brooke Kressel – I’ve never been so mystified

By Burks Oakley II

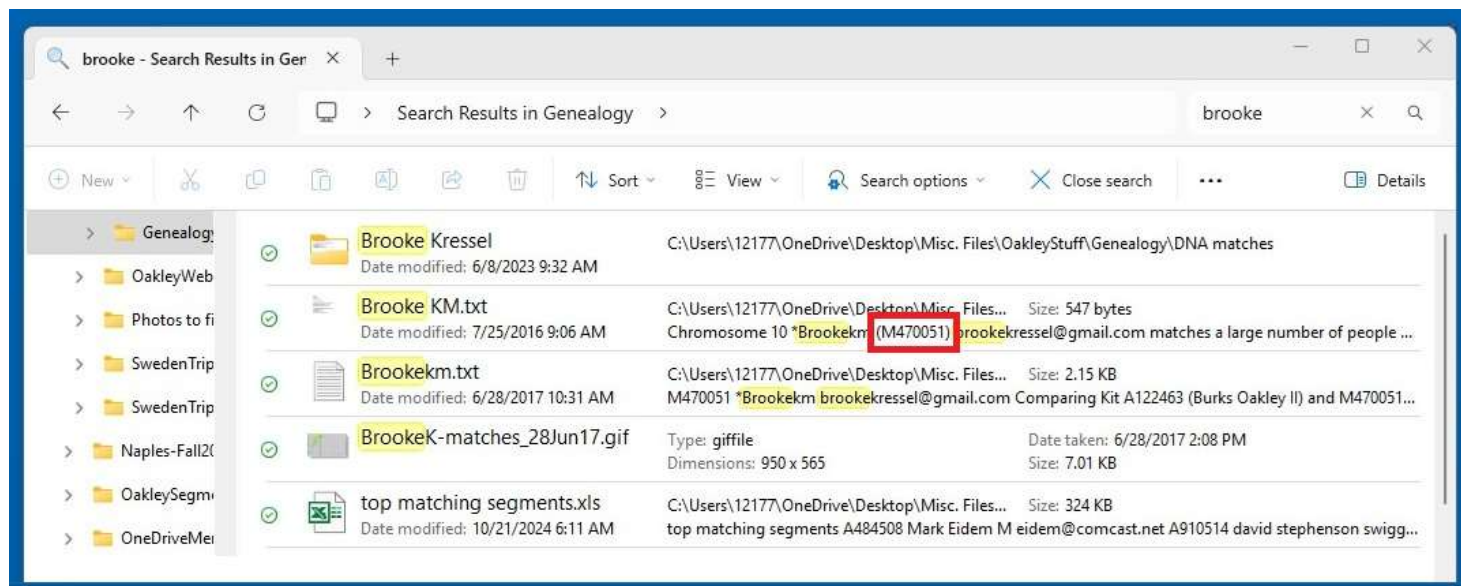
Chapter One – 26 December 2024

Chapter Two – 30 January 2025

Chapter One:

I am interested in genetic genealogy – that is, the use of autosomal DNA to confirm and to extend my family tree. I regularly check the Ancestry.com website to find new DNA matches, and I also use the GEDmatch.com website to examine details about my DNA matches. Unlike Ancestry, GEDmatch provides the ability to view DNA matches at the chromosome level – the exact region on the specific chromosome where two people have a shared segment of DNA.

When I first started using the GEDmatch.com website early in 2016, I listed my autosomal DNA matches in order of decreasing size, and I made notes about each of them – and I saved a number of screenshots and notes on my Windows computer. One of my DNA matches on GEDmatch at that time was with a woman named Brooke Kressel. I just searched my Genealogy folder on my computer, and I found a folder and several files that mentioned Brooke:



Note that Brooke's "Kit Number" (identification number) on GEDmatch.com is M470051. The leading "M" means that her DNA profile came from the 23andme.com website. Since I never had much luck identifying genealogical relationships on 23andme.com, I never pursued my DNA match with Brooke.

Here is a recent report from GEDmatch.com, showing the DNA match that I have with Brooke:

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) [Migration - F2 - A] and Kit M470051 (*Brookekm) [Migration - V4 - M]

Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
10	12,292,344	53,816,171	40.4	4,167	231	138	0.21

Largest segment = 40.4 cM

Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.2

Brooke and I have a relatively-large 40.4 cM DNA match on Chromosome 10. Based on the size of this match, software on GEDmatch estimates that our MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) was 4.2 generations in the past.

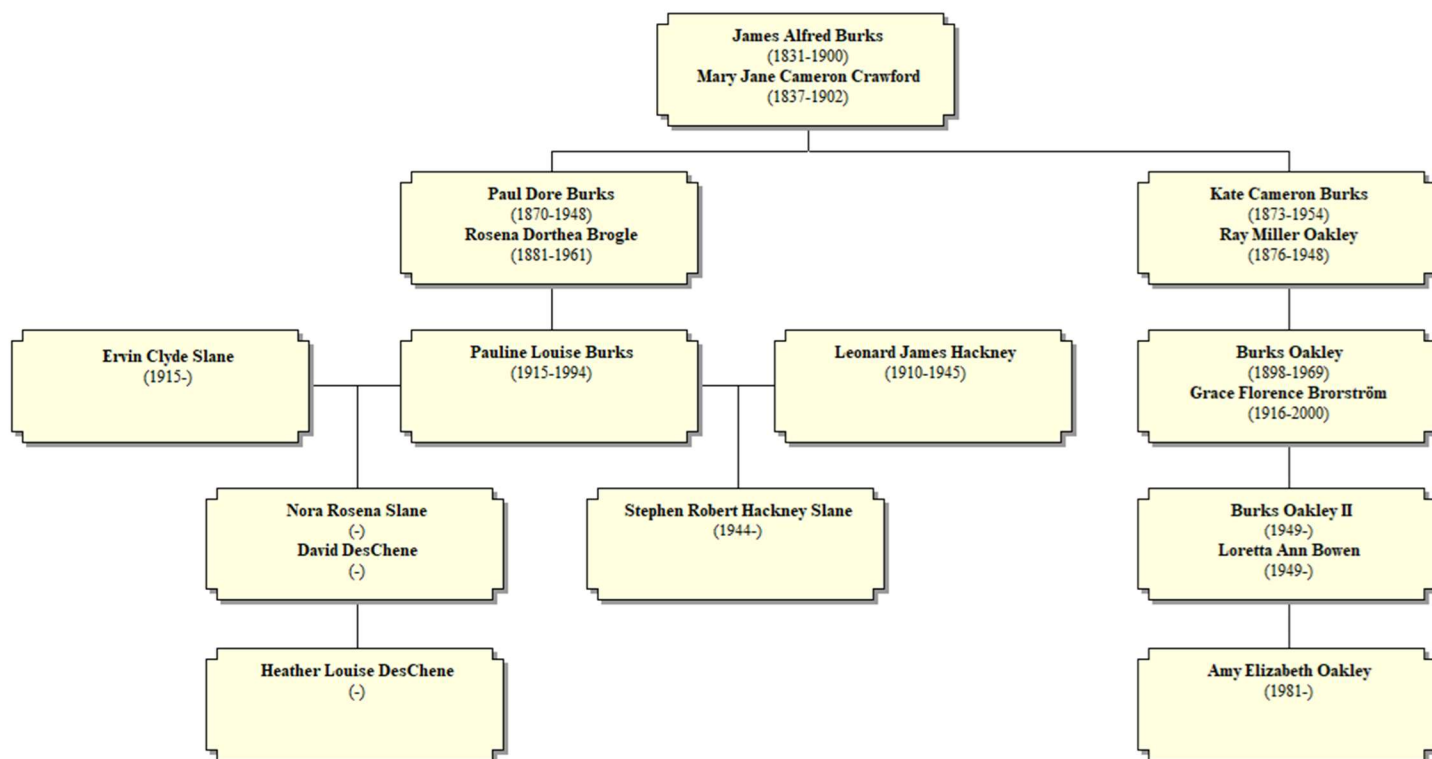
An AI overview from Google gave me "An MRCA of 4 means that the Most Recent Common Ancestor between two individuals is found by going back four generations in their family trees to find the person from whom they are both directly descended; essentially, they share a great-great-grandparent as their closest common ancestor." I should note that two people who share second-great grandparents are third-cousins.

Since GEDmatch.com estimates the MRCA for Brooke and me as 4.2, we could be something like third-cousins once-removed (which would be an MRCA of 4.5).

I really never thought about figuring out my genealogical relationship with Brooke until I was working on my DNA match with Heather DesChene this past April. My narrative about this match is at:

http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/HeatherDesChene_14Apr24.pdf

Heather is related to me on the **Burks** side of my family. Here is a chart showing our genealogical relationship:



This chart includes Stephen Slane, since I also have a large DNA match with him on the Ancestry.com website. Heather, Stephen, and I are all descended from my great-grandfather, James Alfred Burks (1831-1900), and his wife Mary Jane Cameron Crawford (1837-1902).

When I was looking at my DNA match with Heather on the Ancestry.com website, I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. In order to be on this list, an individual has to have DNA matches with both Heather and me that are at least 20 cM in size. This size requirement limits the number of people on the list.

In looking at the “Shared DNA Matches” list for Heather and me, I saw a number of known **Burks** family descendants, including Hal Oakley, Mark Eidem, Hal’s son Allen Oakley, Mike Cascone, Rebecca Post, Gayle Forster, and Don Conyers and his son Trent.

Here is an excerpt from the list of Shared DNA Matches for Heather and me:




You and Heather hdeschene

2nd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side ⓘ

1% shared DNA: 72 cM across 4 segments

[Trees](#)
[Origins](#)
[Shared Matches](#)

Filter by:

☒ Unviewed
☐ Common ancestors

Search | Sort ▼

	Nora DesChene 2nd cousin 313 cM 4% shared DNA Paternal side	 No Trees
	Stephen Slane 2nd cousin 241 cM 3% shared DNA Paternal side	 No Trees
	Brooke Kressel 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 43 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	 Public linked tree 76 People

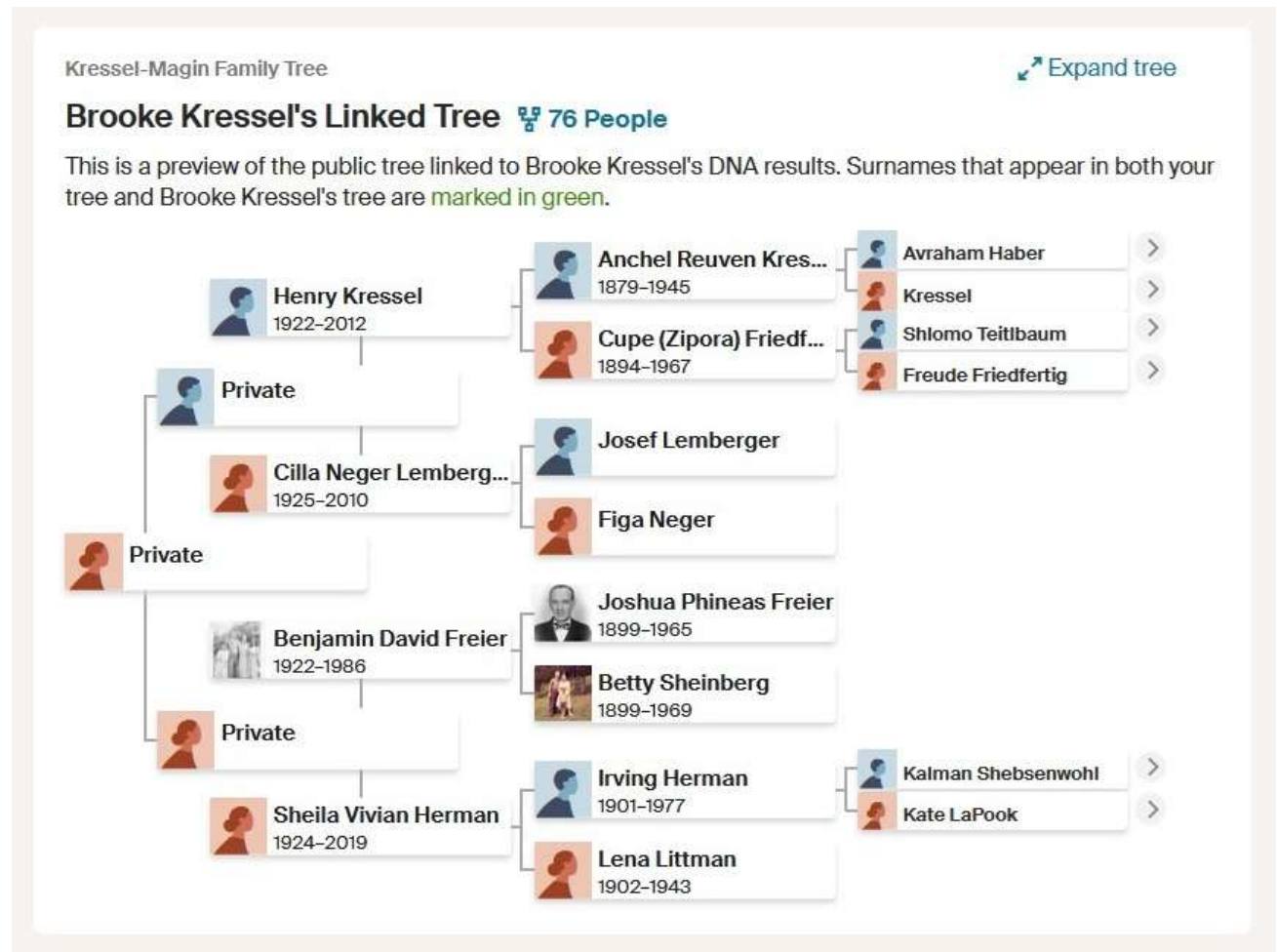
It is not at all surprising to see Nora DesChene on this list, since she is Heather's mother. And it isn't surprising to see Stephen Slane on this list, since he is Heather's half-uncle. Both Nora and Stephen appear in the relationship chart on the previous page. But it was incredibly surprising to see Brooke Kressel on this list. Oh my – she must be a ***Burks-Crawford*** family descendant!

As an aside, note that based on my 43 cM DNA match with Brooke on Ancestry.com, software on that site predicted that we could be third-cousins once-removed. This is essentially the same as was predicted by the software on the GEDmatch.com website.

Since Brooke is now on Ancestry.com, I next looked at our Shared DNA Matches. Much to my surprise, there were 220 people on our list of Shared DNA Matches. This list included Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene, and many other people I had not previously investigated, but who I learned had DNA matches with known ***Burks-Crawford*** family descendants.

I next went on to look at Brooke's pedigree on Ancestry.com, hoping to find the **Burks** family connection. Remember that we could be as close as third-cousins, having a set of 2nd-great grandparents in common.

Here is Brooke's pedigree:



Oh my! I don't recognize any of these names. I decided to look at her eight great-grandparents. In this pedigree, going from top to bottom, they begin with Anchel Reuven Kressel-Haber and his wife Cupe (Zipora) Friedfertig:

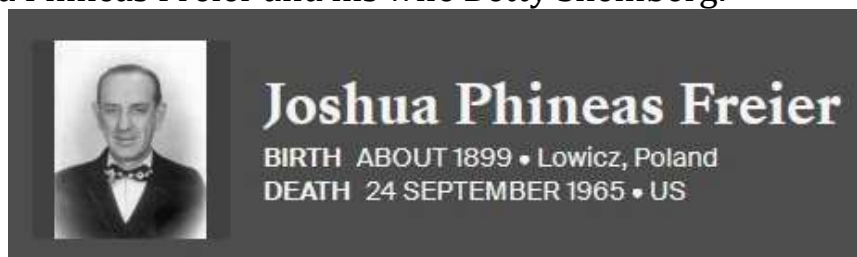




Next are Josef Lemberger and his wife Figa Neger. Since Brooke doesn't have anything about them in her family tree, I looked at their daughter, Cilla Neger Lemberger:



Next is Joshua Phineas Freier and his wife Betty Sheinberg:



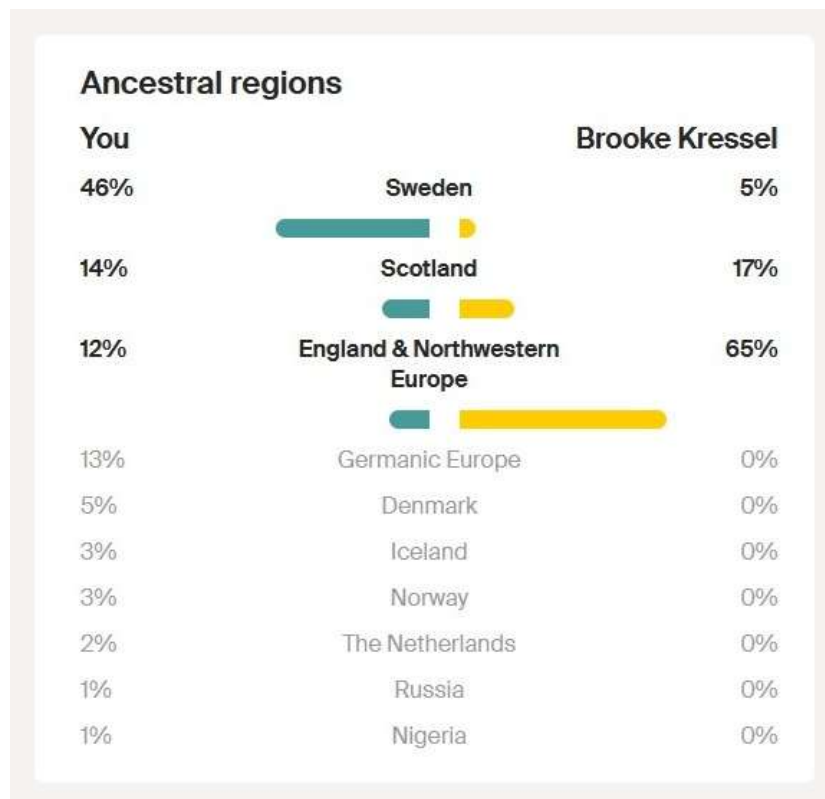
Brooke's last set of great-grandparents are Irving Herman and his wife Lena Littman:





Wow! This isn't at all what I expected. All of Brooke's eight great-grandparents were born in Europe – Poland, Austria, German, Russia, and England. This certainly isn't compatible with Brooke being a **Burks-Crawford** family descendant.

I went on to look at Brooke's ethnicity estimates (what Ancestry.com is now calling "Ancestral Regions"):



I was quite surprised by this. Her ethnicity includes 17% Scotland, and my ethnicity estimate includes 14% Scotland – and Scotland is likely the ancestral home of the **Burks** and **Crawford** families. Brooke's ethnicity does not have any Germanic Europe, yet her direct ancestors in her pedigree chart were from Poland and Germany. The same with Russia – her ethnicity does not include

Russia, yet one of her eight great-grandparents was from Russia. This simply doesn't make any sense to me.

Well, what does this all mean?

On the GEDmatch.com website, Brooke Kressel and I have a 40.4 cM DNA match on Chromosome 10. On the Ancestry.com website, Brooke and I have a 43 cM DNA match.

Based on the size of our DNA match, Brooke and I are likely to be third-cousins or third-cousins once-removed, meaning we share a set of 2nd- or 3rd great-grandparents.

Brooke and I have "Shared DNA Matches" with a large number of ***Burks-Crawford*** family descendants

Brooke's family tree shows that her eight great-grandparents were born in Europe – in Poland, Germany, Russia, Austria, and England. Yet her ethnicity estimates do not reflect this heritage. And it certainly is difficult to reconcile Brook and I having a common 3rd-great grandparent with her pedigree.

I conclude that Brooke is a ***Burks-Crawford*** descendant – the DNA doesn't lie. Since her ethnicity estimates are not compatible with her family tree, it is quite possible that she was adopted.

It would be very interesting to look at Brooke's DNA matches on Ancestry.com and see if I recognize additional ***Burks-Crawford*** relatives. And also look at her largest DNA matches, to see her closest relatives.

Brooke has a family tree linked to her DNA profile on Ancestry.com (the text with her pedigree includes "This is a preview of the public tree linked to Brooke Kressel's DNA results."). This means she should have ThruLines® charts for all of her ancestors in her pedigree. Does she have any DNA matches in her ThruLines®?

Some additional thoughts

Do I have the same Brooke Kressel on GEDmatch.com and Ancestry.com? On GEDmatch, her kit number is M470051:

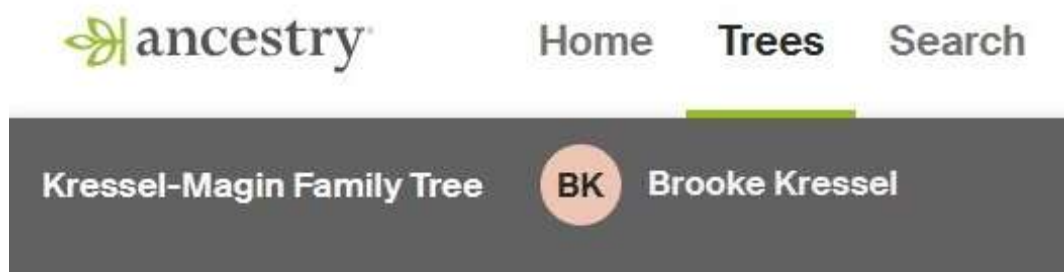
Kit Number: M470051

Name: *Brookekm

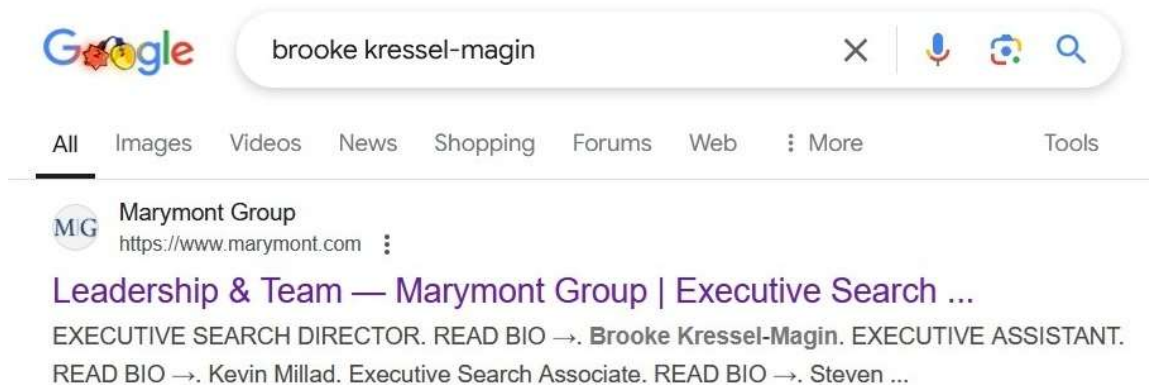
Email: brookekressel@gmail.com

NO GEDCOMs FOUND

She lists her name as *Brookekm. On Ancestry, her family tree is named the “Kressel-Magin Family Tree”:



This is consistent with the “km” in her name on GEDmatch. And a quick Google search on “Brooke Kressel-Magin” (no quotes) turned up:



Finally, I note that I have a 40.4 cM match with Brooke on GEDmatch, where her DNA profile is from 23andme.com and mine is from Ancestry.com. And I have a 43 cM match with her on Ancestry.com. This appears to be the same match.

Overall, I don’t see any red flags that indicate that the person on GEDmatch is not the same as the person on Ancestry.

Chapter Two:

A few days ago, I signed-up for the “Pro Tools” on the Ancestry.com website. These software tools provide additional options for viewing DNA matches (among other things).

I immediately looked at my DNA match with Brooke Kressel, and then I examined our “Shared DNA Matches”. Here is a screenshot of my top two largest DNA matches in this group:



You and Brooke Kressel

3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 43 cM across 2 segments

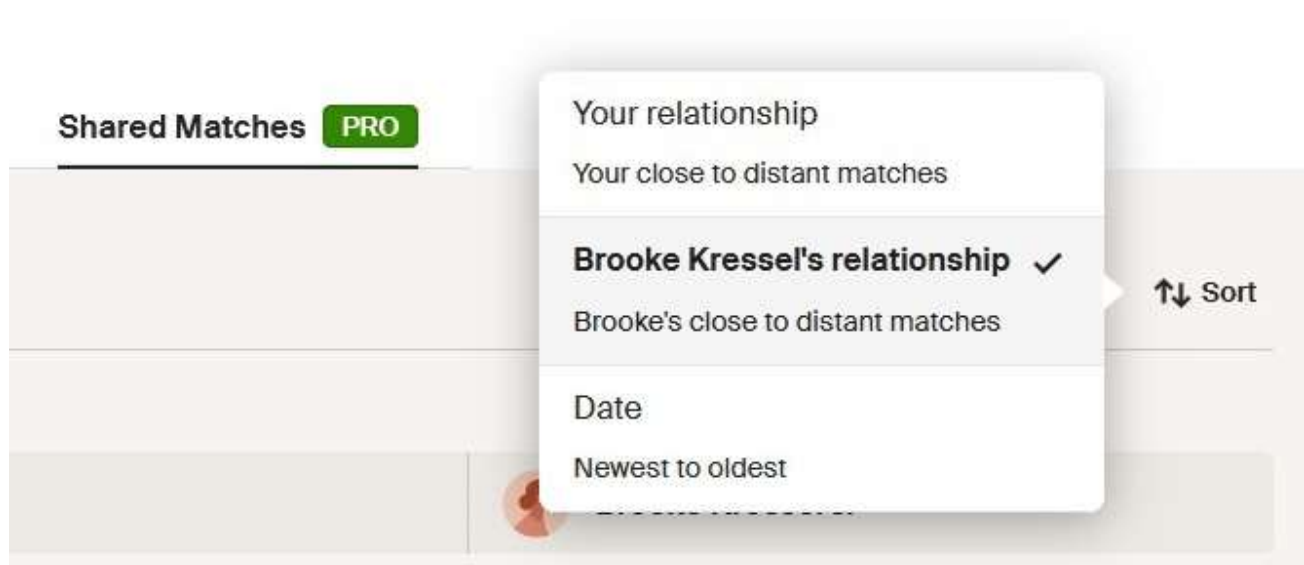
Trees Origins **Shared Matches** PRO

Shared match:	Your:	Brooke Kressel's:
 Nora DesChene ✂️ +	Your: 2nd cousin 313 cM Paternal side	Brooke Kressel's: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 34 cM
 Heather hdeschene 👤 +	Your: 2nd cousin 1x removed 72 cM Paternal side ⓘ	Brooke Kressel's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 23 cM

My two largest shared matches are with Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene. As mentioned in the narrative, Nora is a great-granddaughter of James Alfred Burks and his wife Mary Jane Cameron Crawford. This couple were my great-grandparents, meaning that Nora is my second-cousin.

Note that the “Pro Tools” provides some additional information about these DNA matches, which appears in the right-hand column above. I now am able to see the size of the DNA match that Brooke has with our “Shared DNA Matches”. In this case, Brooke has a 34 cM match with Nora and a 23 cM match with Heather.

One of the other features of the “Pro Tools” is that I also can sort the “Shared DNA Matches” so that I can view them – not just from my perspective – but also from Brooke’s:



Here are our top two “Shared DNA Matches”, but this time sorted by the size of Brooke’s DNA match (from largest to smallest):

You and Brooke Kressel

3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 43 cM across 2 segments

Trees
Origins
Shared Matches
PRO

Shared match:	Your:	Brooke Kressel's:
Elizabeth Lee	+ Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 46 cM Paternal side	Brooke Kressel's: Half sister or aunt 1,655 cM
J.L. Managed by Elizabeth Lee	+ Your: Half 2nd cousin 3x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 24 cM Paternal side	Brooke Kressel's: Half niece or grandniece 882 cM

Oh my! Brooke’s largest match is with Elizabeth Lee – and it is 1,655 cM in size! Based on the size of this match, Elizabeth could be Brooke’s half-sister or aunt.

And Brooke’s second-largest match is with **J.L.**, who appears to be Elizabeth’s daughter. Brooke and **J.L.** share 882 cM.

Elizabeth and I share 46 cM, and **J.L.** and I share 24 cM.

Of course, I next looked at my DNA match with Elizabeth Lee. I examined our “Shared DNA Matches” – and our largest two (from my perspective) were Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene (recall that they are **Burks-Crawford** descendants):

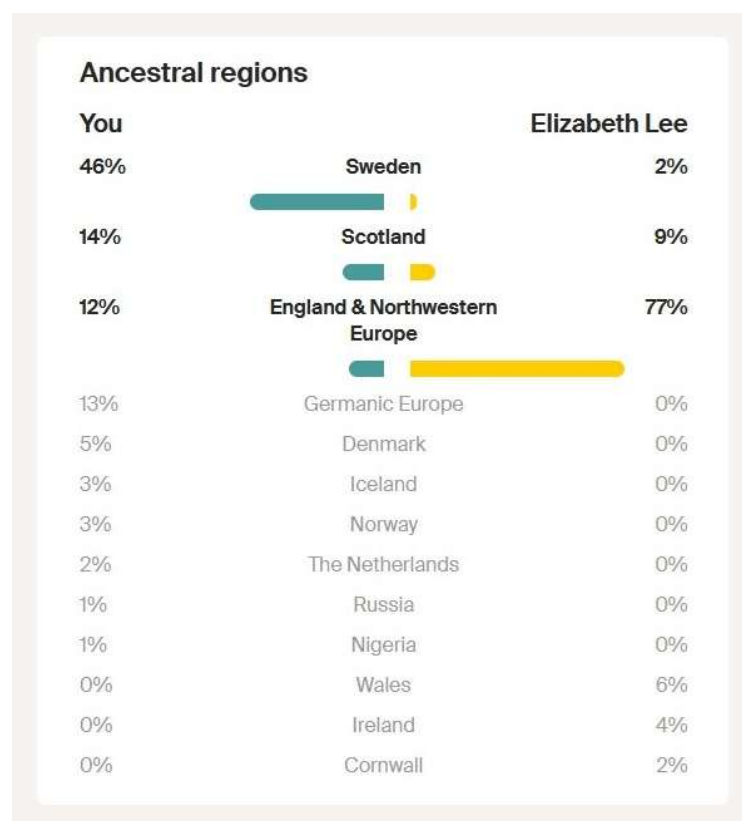
Shared match:	Your:	Elizabeth Lee's:
 Nora DesChene	 Your: 2nd cousin 313 cM Paternal side	 Elizabeth Lee's: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM
 Heather hdeschene	 Your: 2nd cousin 1x removed 72 cM Paternal side ⓘ	 Elizabeth Lee's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 25 cM

Here are our two largest “Shared DNA Matches” from Elizabeth’s perspective:

Shared match:	Your:	Elizabeth Lee's:
 J.L. Managed by Elizabeth Lee	 Your: Half 2nd cousin 3x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 24 cM Paternal side	 Elizabeth Lee's: Daughter 3,474 cM
 Brooke Kressel	 Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 43 cM Paternal side	 Elizabeth Lee's: Half sister or niece 1,655 cM

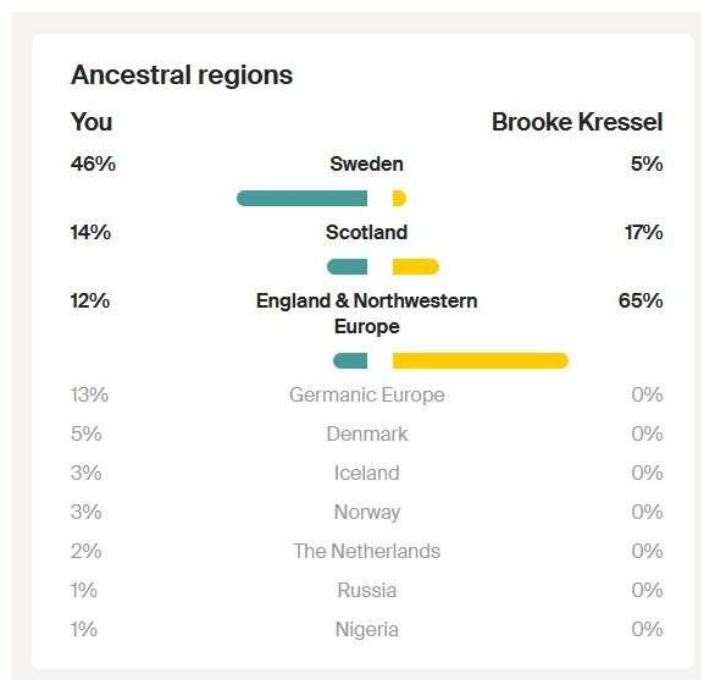
Elizabeth’s largest shared match is her daughter **J.L.** – they share 3,474 cM of DNA. And Elizabeth’s second-largest shared match is Brooke Kressel. Again, the software suggested that Brooke could be Elizabeth’s half-sister or niece.

I also looked at Elizabeth’s ethnicity estimates:



Elizabeth's ethnicity is dominated by England & NW Europe (77%), and she also has Scotland (9%) and Ireland (4%). The latter two could certainly account for her ***Burks-Crawford*** family ancestry.

To review, here is Brooke's ethnicity estimate:



Again, Brooke's ethnicity is dominated by England & NW Europe (65%) and Scotland (17%).

I next looked at Elizabeth's profile information on Ancestry.com:



Elizabeth Lee
Sapulpa, Creek, Oklahoma, USA Age: 30-39

Interested in locating some of my fathers biological family. He was born 15 August 1957 in Little Rock Arkansas. Looking forward to finding new family members.

I went to the free FamilyTreeNow.com website and searched for Brooke Kressel:

FamilyTreeNow.com HOME SEARCH MY TREE

1 Record for Brooke Kressel

People Records	NAME: Brooke Kressel
👤 PUBLIC RECORDS	BORN: Nov 1987
View Details →	AGE: 37
	LIVES IN: Huntington Station, NY
	LIVED: Forest Hills NY, Locust Valley NY, Syosset NY, Springfiel...
	RELATED: Brian Todd Magin, Cheryl A Magin, Chloe N Kressel, James ...

There was only one record for Brooke Kressel. She is 37 years old and lives on Long Island, NY. She is related to several people with the last name of Magin, and her family tree on Ancestry.com is named the "Kressel-Magin Family Tree", so I think I have the correct Brooke Kressel.

At this point, for some unknown reason, I went back to GEDmatch.com. I guess that I wanted to look at Brooke's largest DNA matches on that site. I went to the site and used the One-to-Many tool, and here are Brooke's largest matches:

Kit: M470051 (*Brookekm, brookekressel@gmail.com) [Migration - V4 - M]

Kit	✓	1:1	Name	Email	Largest Seg	Total cM	Gen	Overlap	Date Compared	Testing Company
A241154	☐	A	*Chris Hampton	dch****@yahoo.com	111.6	1688.4	1.5	N/A	2016-10-21	Migration - F2 - A
JM8351438	☐	A	Elizabeth	liz****@gmail.com	109.9	1688	1.5	138581	2021-09-21	Ancestry
A815759	☐	A	*JACrisler	dch****@yahoo.com	111.9	957.3	2	N/A	2016-10-26	Migration - F2 - A
BT1868292	☐	A	*RUATY	Mkk****@yahoo.com	35.7	109.6	3.5	130368	2020-06-27	Ancestry

Oh my! Brooke's second-largest DNA match on GEDmatch.com is Elizabeth! They share 1688 cM of DNA – and recall that the size of this match on Ancestry.com was 1655 cM. This has to be the same Elizabeth.

I then looked at Elizabeth's largest matches:

Kit: JM8351438 (Elizabeth, lizztyler0385@gmail.com) [Ancestry]

Kit	✓	1:1	Name	Email	Largest Seg	Total cM	Gen	Overlap	Date Compared	Testing Company
M470051	☐	A	*Brookekm	bro****@gmail.com	109.9	1688	1.5	138581	2021-09-21	Migration - V4 - M
M550242	☐	A	Melissa Comeaux	the****@yahoo.com	35.7	597.3	2.3	204382	2021-09-21	Migration - V3 - M
A617739	☐	A	*A Frazier	lsp****@yahoo.com	26.9	79	3.8	194128	2021-09-21	Migration - F2 - A

Elizabeth's largest match is Brooke.

Going back to Brooke's largest matches, her #1 match was with Chris Hampton – but note that Elizabeth doesn't have a match with Chris. Neither do I.

I then looked once again at my DNA match with Brooke:

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) [Migration - F2 - A] and Kit M470051 (*Brookekm) [Migration - V4 - M]

Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
10	12,292,344	53,816,171	40.4	4,167	231	138	0.21

Largest segment = 40.4 cM

Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.2

Our match is on Chromosome 10 and is 40.4 cM.

I then looked at my match with Elizabeth – pretty confident that it would be very similar:

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) [Migration - F2 - A] and Kit JM8351438 (Elizabeth) [Ancestry]

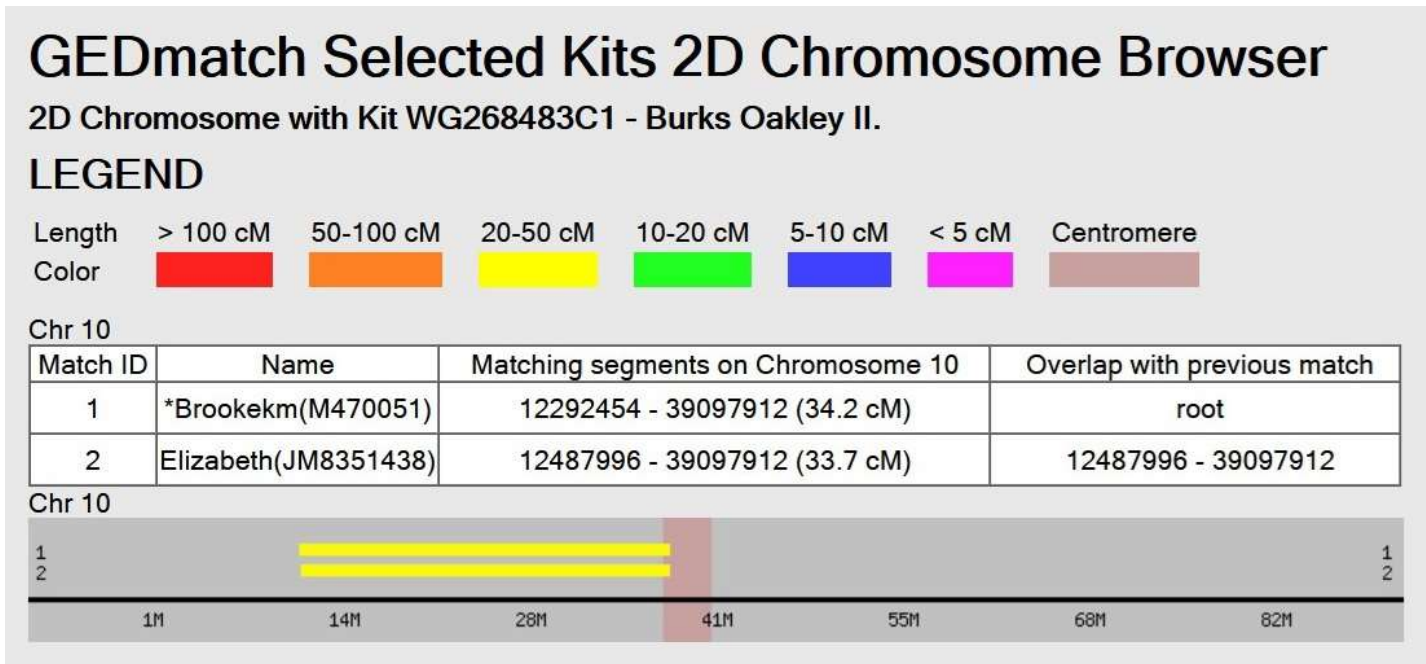
Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
10	12,484,556	52,642,384	39	5,759	227	136	0.31

Largest segment = 39 cM

Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.3

Son of a gun! It sure looks like Brooke and Elizabeth match me in the same location on Chromosome 10. Amazing!

I also used the 2-D Chromosome Browser on GEDmatch to show how Brooke and Elizabeth match me:



Amazing to see how similar their matches are!

I also used the One-to-One DNA comparison tool to see how Brooke and Elizabeth match each other:

Comparing Kit M470051 (*Brookekm) [Migration - V4 - M] and Kit JM8351438 (Elizabeth) [Ancestry]

Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
1	752,721	3,196,680	7.9	212	209	125	0.15
1	7,241,523	85,298,014	97.8	8,008	193	116	0.18
1	92,364,576	178,967,996	65.6	5,947	203	121	0.17
1	195,567,234	249,170,711	80.4	6,407	203	122	0.18
2	18,674	8,724,302	19.5	1,262	190	114	0.19
2	30,614,883	72,433,296	42.8	4,879	199	119	0.17
2	134,965,464	168,761,499	25.2	2,804	199	119	0.16
2	233,953,940	242,929,164	20.1	1,296	201	120	0.18
3	172,395,351	197,817,764	46.5	2,796	200	120	0.18
4	71,566	26,016,156	43	3,067	181	108	0.17
5	141,417,287	180,666,276	61.8	4,772	217	130	0.18
6	175,522	86,874,355	97	10,081	227	136	0.17
6	110,280,618	150,247,274	39	3,843	225	135	0.19
6	161,609,016	170,851,436	18.9	1,462	221	132	0.2
7	38,203,341	159,044,743	129.4	10,563	207	124	0.18
8	164,984	6,982,980	16.4	1,905	212	127	0.21
8	8,094,406	18,205,455	15.2	1,758	207	124	0.19
8	103,550,014	146,250,723	55.7	4,781	214	128	0.21
9	46,587	31,673,588	57.3	5,086	220	132	0.22
10	8,083,888	53,159,076	47	4,653	229	137	0.21
10	126,297,670	135,402,200	23.5	1,502	233	140	0.21
11	12,542,882	31,965,835	25.9	2,060	218	131	0.2
11	116,673,768	124,719,898	14.1	1,098	210	126	0.22
12	191,619	43,300,354	60.9	4,926	238	143	0.21
12	75,888,251	93,692,934	15.1	1,366	237	142	0.18
12	109,833,146	116,228,425	7.7	646	239	143	0.19
12	125,456,505	133,708,729	27.7	1,411	210	126	0.21
13	22,808,216	79,999,716	69.7	6,219	216	130	0.2
13	81,161,963	109,578,566	39.9	3,269	215	129	0.2
14	89,930,507	101,251,989	27	1,734	230	138	0.23
15	20,161,372	67,469,568	68.9	4,964	230	138	0.21
15	69,411,452	97,103,487	45	3,266	211	127	0.21
16	57,677,573	86,075,541	47.9	3,844	216	129	0.2
17	4,073,398	32,339,662	47.4	2,818	214	128	0.21
17	77,461,895	81,036,344	9.3	287	204	122	0.13
18	112,535	30,037,985	59.7	3,468	205	123	0.22
18	68,674,932	77,991,527	24.7	1,354	231	138	0.19
19	267,039	35,624,890	59.9	3,213	214	128	0.19
22	26,337,911	51,181,759	53.1	3,505	199	119	0.2

Largest segment = 129.4 cM

Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 1.5

Wow! They really are close relatives. In fact, software on GEDmatch predicts that their MRCA is 1.5. And what exactly is that?

MRCA is the abbreviation for Most Recent Common Ancestor. I took the following graphic from Blaine T. Bettinger's Shared cM Project website, and then I added a few things to it:



I'll start with the person in the white box marked "SELF". Going from "SELF" back to a grandparent is two generations, as shown by the red line and red numbers. If I start with the person marked "Aunt/Uncle" and go back to the grandparent, that is one generation – again marked in red. The grandparent is the Most Recent Common Ancestor of "SELF" and "Aunt/Uncle". If I average the generations, the average of 1.0 and 2.0 is 1.5 – and that is what GEDmatch reported for Brooke and Elizabeth.

The alternative was a "Half-Sibling" (a half-sister in this case). If I go from the "Half-Sibling" back to the parent, it is one generation, as indicated by the blue line and blue number. The "SELF" is also one generation back to the parent, so in this case, I average 1.0 and 1.0 and get an MRCA of 1.0.

So it seems that Brooke is Elizabeth's niece, which was one of the two possibilities suggested by the software on Ancestry.com. Although I'm still not sure that it isn't the other way around.

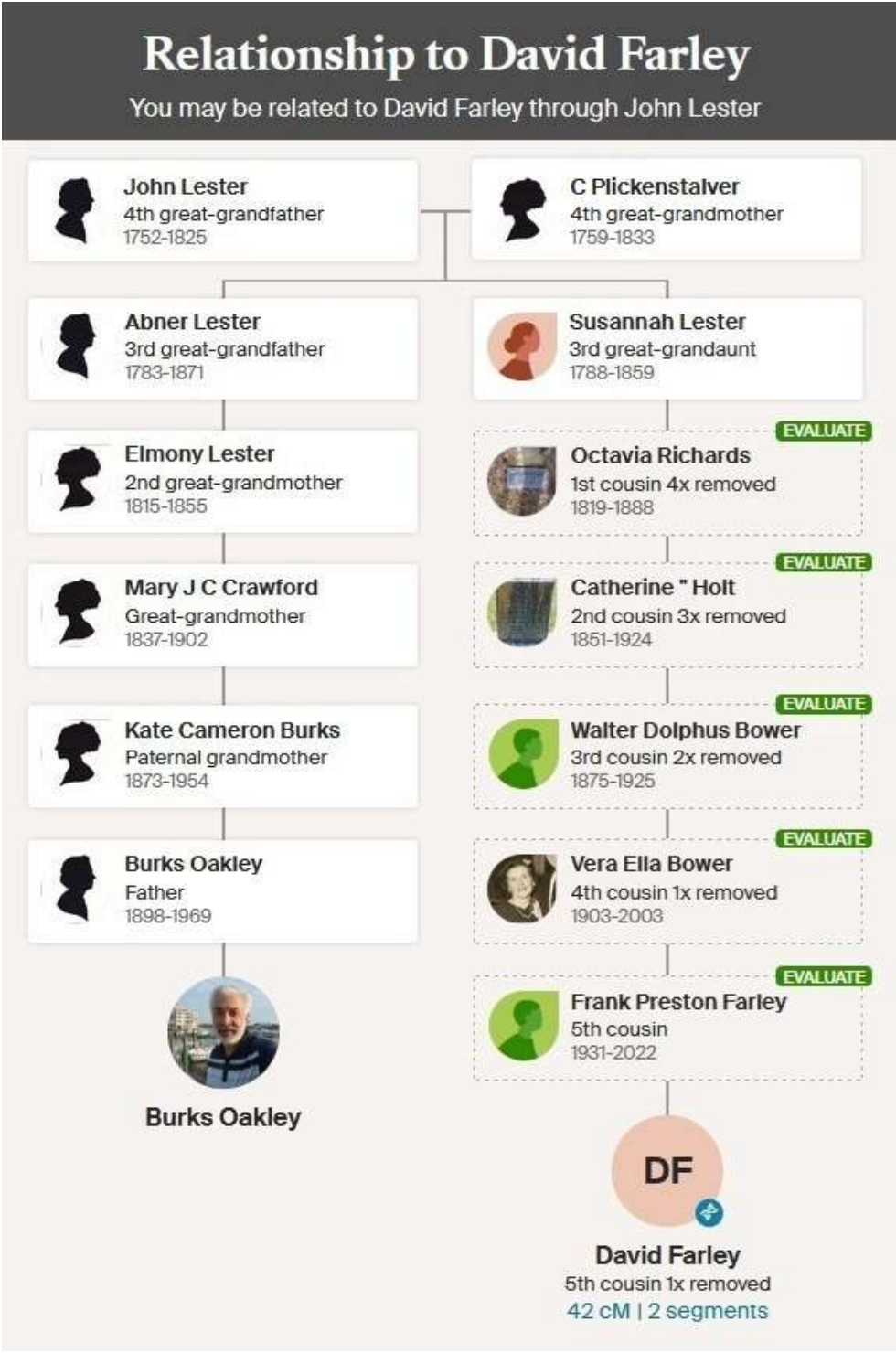
At this point, I'm even more puzzled than before. Since Brooke and Elizabeth are both **Burks-Crawford** relatives, and since the **Burks** family is special to me, I really would like to figure out how we are related.

I probably should have quit here, but I sure am glad that I didn't. I went back to my DNA match with Brooke on Ancestry.com. I looked at our "Shared DNA Matches", which turned out to be sixteen pages long, with twenty matches on each page. I looked through all of the matches, and I found just one where software on the site had identified that I share a common ancestor with the match – and that was David Farley:

 David Farley	  	Your: Distant relationship 42 cM Paternal side	Brooke Kressel's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 24 cM
---	---	---	---

The icon in the red box indicates that Ancestry has identified our (likely) common ancestor.

Here is a chart showing how David Farley and I are related:



David and I both are descended from John Lester (1752-1825) and his wife Catherine Plickenstalver (1759-1833) – this couple were my fourth-great grandparents. Note that on my ancestral line at the left of this chart, Mary Jane Cameron Crawford was a great-granddaughter of the **Lester-Plickenstalver** couple. Mary Jane married James Alfred Burks.

I wrote several narratives about my **Lester** ancestors:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/9A-LesterGenealogy.pdf>

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/9B-ElmonyLester-revisited.pdf>

But I digress....

I should add Elizabeth also has a DNA match with David Farley:

Shared match:		Your:	Elizabeth Lee's:
	David Farley	 Your:	 Elizabeth Lee's:
		Your: Distant relationship 42 cM Paternal side	Elizabeth Lee's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 25 cM

At this point, I know that Brooke, Elizabeth, and I all have DNA matches with David Farley. I know that he and I are both descended from the **Lester-Plickenstalver** couple. And this couple were ancestors of Mary Jane Cameron Crawford, who married James Alfred Burks.

I know that Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene are descended from the **Burks-Crawford** couple, so in turn, Nora and Heather are also descended from the **Lester-Plickenstalver** couple.

Hmmm.... I wonder if Nora DesChene and Heather DesChene have a DNA match with David Farley. Wouldn't that be amazing?!!!

I went back to my DNA match with David Farley. I then looked at our shared DNA matches. And the two largest shared matches (from my perspective) were.....

Scroll down....

Keep scrolling....

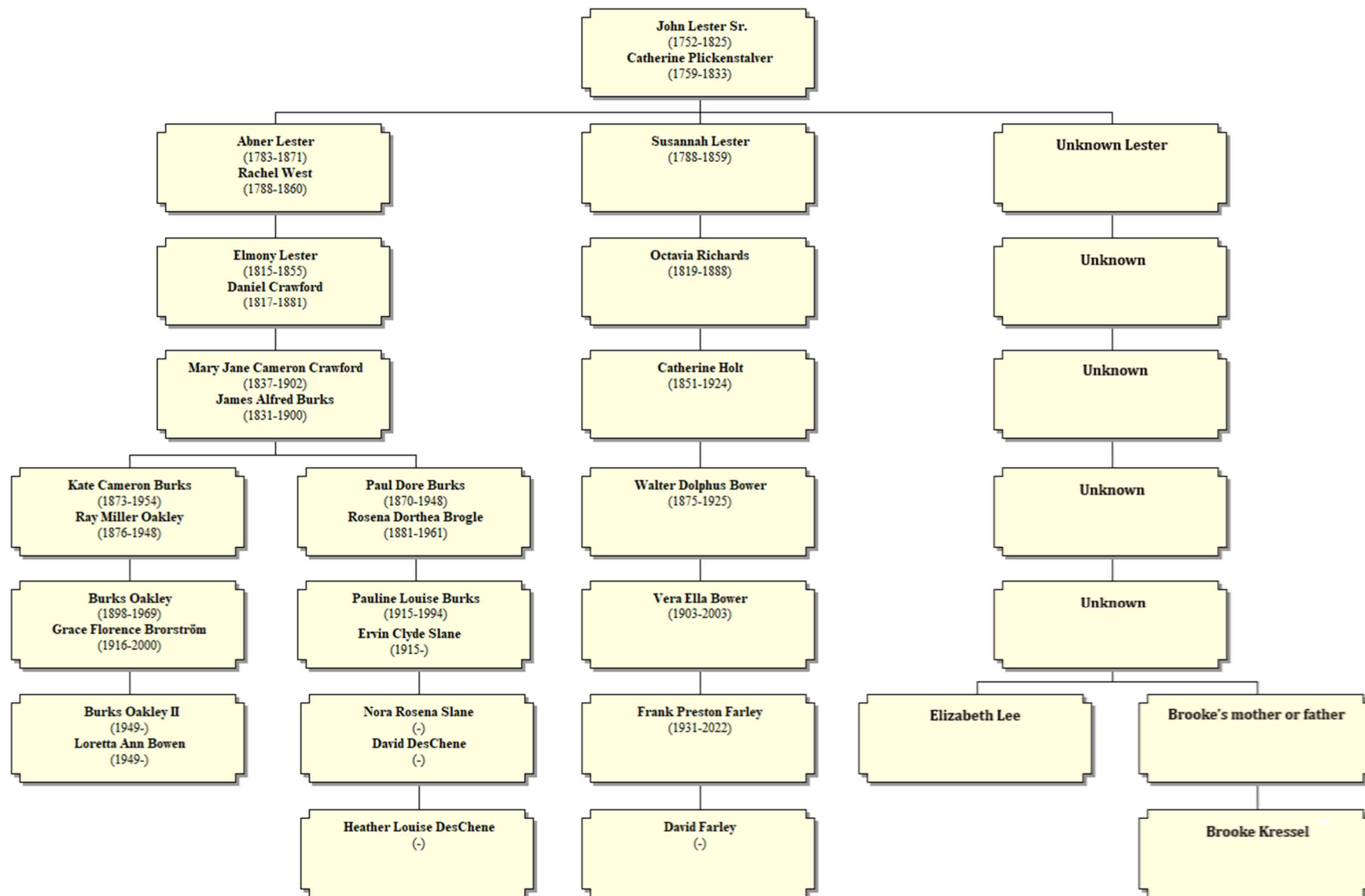
Shared match:	 Your:	 David Farley's:
 Nora DesChene  	Your: 2nd cousin 313 cM Paternal side	David Farley's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 24 cM
 Heather hdeschene  	Your: 2nd cousin 1x removed 72 cM Paternal side ⓘ	David Farley's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 21 cM

OMG!! The two largest DNA matches that David and I share are Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene!

It now appears that Brooke Kressel and Elizabeth Lee are both descended from John Lester and Catherine Plickenstalver. Isn't that a hoot?!!!!

The finding that we all go back to the ***Lester-Plickenstalver*** couple would account for Brooke and Elizabeth's DNA matches with ***Burks-Crawford*** descendants, such as Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene.

I added David Farley to my RootsMagic database, and I created a chart to show the overall relationships. This chart is shown in landscape view on the next page.



In the overall chart on the previous page, I have included a completely unknown ancestral line at the right, going from Brooke Kressel and Elizabeth Lee back to the ***Lester-Plickenstalver*** couple. As I mentioned earlier, I might have it backwards – that Elizabeth is really Brooke's niece.

The key points in the overall chart are that I have DNA matches with Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene, David Farley, Elizabeth Lee, and Brooke Kressel. And they all have DNA matches with each other. And the only way I can account for this is that we all are descended from the ***Lester-Plickenstalver*** couple.

I had originally thought that Brooke and Elizabeth were ***Burks-Crawford*** descendants. I sure was wrong! Our common ancestors really go three generations further back, to the ***Lester-Plickenstalver*** couple.

Well, I guess it could even go further back, to one of the ancestors of either John Lester or Catherine Plickenstalver.

I still don't understand how Brooke's family tree fits with all of this. And how her ethnicity estimates fit with her family tree. And I still have no idea about exactly how Brooke and Elizabeth are related.

I'm still mystified!

Addendum #1 to Chapter Two:

I have other DNA matches on Ancestry.com who also match Brooke, Elizabeth, David Farley, and the DesChenes. One such person is Dickie Carroll:



You and Dickie Carroll

Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 52 cM across 1 segments

Dickie and I share 52 cM of DNA on a single segment. She and I have a shared DNA match with Brooke Kressel:



You and Dickie Carroll

Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 52 cM across 1 segments

Trees Origins **Shared Matches** PRO

Shared match:	Your:	Dickie Carroll's:
 Brooke Kressel + 	Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 43 cM Paternal side	Dickie Carroll's: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 41 cM

Dickie and I have a shared DNA match with Elizabeth Lee:

Shared match:	Your:	Dickie Carroll's:
 Elizabeth Lee + 	Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 46 cM Paternal side	Dickie Carroll's: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 2x removed 47 cM

Dickie and I have a shared DNA match with the DesChenes:

Shared match:	 Your:	 Dickie Carroll's:
 Nora DesChene  	Your: 2nd cousin 313 cM Paternal side	Dickie Carroll's: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 58 cM
 Heather hdeschene  	Your: 2nd cousin 1x removed 72 cM Paternal side ⓘ	Dickie Carroll's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 24 cM

So Dickie Carroll simply has to be descended from the ***Lester-Plickenstalver*** couple, right?

Well, her family tree has herself, her two daughters, and her one grandson. So I struck out on this one....

Addendum #2 to Chapter Two:

I have access to several of my Oakley cousins' DNA profiles on the Ancestry.com website. One of them is Mark Cameron Eidem, who is a son of my first-cousin, Mary Cameron Oakley. It turns out that Mark also has a DNA match with Brooke Kressel:

Mark Eidem ▾

Summary Origins **Matches** Traits

Distant Family



Brooke Kressel

3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin
1x removed
Maternal side
19 cM | < 1% shared DNA

 Public linked tree
76 people

Of course, Mark also has a DNA match with Elizabeth Lee:

Mark Eidem ▾

Summary Origins **Matches** Traits

Distant Family



Elizabeth Lee

Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin
2x removed
Maternal side
19 cM | < 1% shared DNA

 Public linked tree
245 people

Well, of course Mark will have a DNA match with Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene:

Mark Eidem ▾

Summary

Origins

Matches

Traits

Distant Family



Nora DesChene

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

Maternal side

33 cM | < 1% shared DNA



No trees



Heather hdeschene

Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin
2x removed

Unassigned

24 cM | < 1% shared DNA



Public linked tree
11 people

And what would be the odds that Mark also has a DNA match with David Farley?

Scroll down.....

Go to the next page....



Mark Eidem and David Farley

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Maternal side

< 1% shared DNA: 17 cM across 1 segments

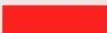
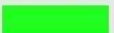
Mark is my first-cousin once-removed. It really is amazing that he has DNA matches with all of the individuals named in this narrative – Brooke Kressel, Elizabeth Lee, Nora DesChene and her daughter Heather DesChene, and David Farley. As I wrote earlier, what a hoot!!!

After writing this, I subsequently learned that Mark has his DNA profile on the GEDmatch.com website. The following screenshot shows that Mark has the same matching segment on Chromosome 10:

GEDmatch Selected Kits 2D Chromosome Browser

2D Chromosome with Kit A122463 - Burks Oakley II.

LEGEND

Length > 100 cM 50-100 cM 20-50 cM 10-20 cM 5-10 cM < 5 cM Centromere
Color       

Chr 10

Match ID	Name	Matching segments on Chromosome 10	Overlap with previous match
1	Mark Eidem(A484508)	6504676 - 29193826 (34.7 cM), 107824629 - 135214479 (51.1 cM)	root
2	*Brookekm(M470051)	12292454 - 39097912 (34.2 cM)	12292454 - 29193826
3	Elizabeth(JM8351438)	12487996 - 39097912 (33.7 cM)	12487996 - 39097912

Chr 10



Incredible!